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## SUCCESS STORY

# INCREASED TRUST AND COMMITMENT

The Sindh Community Mobilization Program (CMP) leverages the Sindh Basic Education Program's (SBEP's) construction announcements to establish relationships with communities and begin fortifying the future of education in the Sindh Province.



*Newly enrolled children with the Headmaster and member of teaching staff of GBLSS Kouro Goth*

CMP's community-based approach is already witnessing positive short-term impacts at the community level.

After the recent groundbreaking ceremony at the GBLSS Kouro Goth, 13 new students, including seven girls, have enrolled at the school. The event helped to increase local parents' trust for the school and their level of commitment of its staff.

The announcement that the Government Boys Lower Secondary School in Kouro Goth would be newly constructed received positive reactions from its community members. The school, which is part of the first SBEP package of schools designated for construction, is the only one selected to be demolished and constructed anew. To leverage the momentum brought on by the announcement, CMP has quickly worked to engage the community, including holding a groundbreaking ceremony on February 17.

CMP's activities in Kouro Goth Village, including the groundbreaking celebration, have already had significant impact. Thirteen children have recently enrolled at the school, including seven girls. The Headmaster, Mr. Gulzar Muhammad Phulpoto, expressed surprise at these recent enrollments: "Rarely do we get new enrollments in February."

"My parents saw drawings of the new school and came to the big celebration when the building work started," said 10-year-old Farhana, one of the new girls enrolled. "They didn't allow me to go to school before. Now they're letting me go after watching the children from the school singing, dancing, and acting. They thought the children were great and the school must be good."

Mr. Gulzar Muhammad Phulpoto confirmed that other parents gave the same reason for recently enrolling their children at the school. "Some of the new boys come from Kamal Dero, which is over a kilometer away. Their parents heard about the ceremony and decided to send their boys here because they thought the school must have enthusiastic teachers. They said the teachers at Kamal Dero often don't turn up to work." The Headmaster thanked USAID and CMP for all their support. "All of this has made such a difference."

Photo by: USAID/CMP