PRE-INTERVENTION
Sindh Agricultural and Forestry Workers Coordinating Organization – SAFWCO – in collaboration with UNICEF has implemented several WASH interventions in district Naushahroferoze. Providing access to improved WASH facilities to the target population, one of the core component of the program is WASH in Schools. SAFWCO has provided improved WASH facilities to schools to access safe drinking water, improved sanitation facilities and hygiene education that encourages the development of healthy behaviors for life. Poor sanitation, water scarcity, inferior water quality and inappropriate hygiene behavior are disastrous for infants and young children and are a major cause of mortality for children under five.

Water and sanitation hygiene facility is complimented with group hand washing facilities for the students to practice it for behavior change. The waste water of WASH facilities possess threat and may form stagnant ponds within schools. Water stagnation can be major environmental hazard, Malaria and dengue are among the main dangers of stagnant water, which can become a breeding ground for the mosquitoes that transmit these diseases.

INTERVENTION
To address the above issues, SAFWCO has adopted the approach of tree plantation as a part of school improvement plan. Trees are planted on the course of waste water to prevent water stagnation. It has dual impact on the environment, it prevents water stagnation and provide fresh oxygen. Member of the wash clubs
in schools were given sessions on the importance of tree plantation and role of trees in human lives.

Social mobilization team kept the record of participatory approach and planted some trees with students to avoid water stagnation in the schools to prevent health hazards. WASH club members played the role of gardeners for growing trees and provide adequate organic fertilizers. Sharing his views teacher said that before plantation school look like desert area, after plantation stagnant water disappeared and made school safe for students.

More the 2000 different plants were planted in schools to build and better environment and prevent waste water stagnation. In context with Sindh weather and soil, Neem tree and Eucalyptus trees were planted in excessive numbers, as eucalyptus water consumption is 15 to 20 liters per day that serves the objective of plantation since water table is raised in Sindh province. The soil chemistry suits the plantation of eucalyptus as well. Some researchers suggest that eucalyptus has possess the characteristics of heat tolerance. Members of wash clubs and school teachers take care of the plants.

Moreover, SAFWCO do not suggest planting Conocarpus because there have been studies that point in the direction that Conocarpus causes allergies in humans who live nearby. Most importantly, its roots, when they grow deep underground in search of water, damages the infrastructure.

**IMMEDIATE OUTPUT**

- Around 30 plants per school has been planted to avoid water stagnation within schools.
- More than 70 schools were intervened in green school initiative program for tree plantation.
- Wash clubs were provided the sessions on importance of tree in human life and tree plantations to promote the practices within villages.