



Livelihood Assistance Program

Case Study Draft on Livestock Development Project Sep 2009 – Distt. Khairpur, Sindh

Studies have shown that on average a poor farmer owns around 2 to 5 acres of land, and depends on agriculture and livestock activities for his primary source of income. The extremely poor, who don't own any land and have no access to water to irrigate the land, are dependent on labour or livestock activities as their primary source of income. Due to lack of skills and knowledge of livestock development and production, these people are not able to benefit much and thus suffer from an intergenerational cycle of poverty.

Considering this, OSDI selected two villages named as Jan Mohd Vandiar and Goth Kot Pur Bux Banbharo situated in district Khairpur, Sindh for an in-depth assessment survey. After the survey results, a total number of three families were indentified and a Livestock Development Project was designed accordingly. The goal was to empower the people of Shambani Balouch community of village Jan Mohd Vandiar and Banbharo community of village Goth Kot Pur Bux Banbharo.

The project was initiated under OSDI Livelihood Assistance Program in September 2009 in line with the Eid ul Azha sacrificing tradition. A total amount of Rs. 126,000 was dispersed to three families, two from Balouch community and one from the Banbharo community. Each family was given a total amount of Rs. 42,000 to purchase animals.

To educate these families, a number of workshops in collaboration with the local vet were conducted. A participatory approach was adopted throughout these sessions to help these families understand livestock development and production. This close consultation and proper guidance developed a better understanding among the families about health and medication of their animals for example. Because of the good health of the livestock, the animals were sold for higher prices and the families were able to return their loan.

GulBhar Banbharo, after selling five goats acquired a profit of Rs. 12,650. He utilized Rs. 12,000 for cultivation purposes and the rest was consumed in poultry feed, fruits and transportation costs. Similarly, Abdul Ghani after selling 3 oxen earned a profit of Rs. 9,995 out of which Rs. 3,500 was spent for cultivation purposes, Rs. 6000 was used for purchasing a doe (female goat) and the remainder paid his grocery bills. After selling 4 sheep and 3 goats, Abdul Hadi got a profit of only Rs. 6,079 since he insisted on sending some animals to Lahore against the advice of OSDI. He used Rs. 6000 for land cultivation and purchasing seed for his wheat crop and rest was used for personal expenses.

The project was successful due to its excellent timing in line with Eid ul Azha's sacrificing tradition. The first project has helped in creating trust and understanding among the OSDI team and the Banbharo & Balouch communities. Due to the success of this project, the OSDI team is working in close collaboration to design Phase II of the Livestock Development Project. The team is evaluating more families and more variables to be included in the project in the future and in order to improve the lives of Banbharo and Balouch communities and help provide the means for sustainable livelihoods.

