

Introduction

Lack of economic stability creates several hurdles for survival for the people living in the rural communities. Low income generation and limited opportunities results in suppression of these people which closes the doors of economic prosperity, rise in literacy levels, awareness about better living standards and access to quality primary health-care. Besides these fundamental necessities being food insecure is another issue these people have to deal with in their daily lives. Many of the vulnerable households fail to serve two times meal to its family members on daily basis.

Organization for Social Development Initiatives has taken upon itself to provide realistic and doable solutions to uplift the economic conditions of the deprived class to inculcate sustainability in their lives.

Under the umbrella of our three core programs i.e. Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP), Community Development Program (CDP) and Food Security Program (FSP); OSDI has initiated several sub-projects for capacity building, asset creation and food security. Each of our projects; aims to lessen the burden of usurious debts from our beneficiaries' lives helping them live better with independence and dignity.

Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP)

Livestock Development Project (LDP)

Livestock rearing is the second most common income generating source in the rural areas of Pakistan after agriculture. Many people find it as a means to overcome poverty as it helps in food security and asset creation.

In district Mardan (KPK), OSDI has initiated the first phase of LDP in its newly selected communities. The livestock were distributed in the month of July 2018. During this phase, 20 vulnerable households have been facilitated to nurture the livestock provided by OSDI. Nearly, 5 families had been selected from the susceptible communities of Akhundara, 7 from Shatori, 5 from Arab Seray and 3 from Beroch area. It was ensured that the first child of each livestock provided would be donated to another vulnerable family in order to create a multiplier effect. The beneficiary selection was made on the low monthly income generating levels and high dependency ratio; where each household's average monthly income was estimated at PKR 7,000. Family size of each household was 8 people. Through participation in OSDI's Livestock Development Project it is expected these households shall move towards sustainability; thus improving their lives.

Vaccination of livestock in district Mardan has once again took place against the "Ghunddari disease". Nearly 461 cows, oxens and buffaloes have been inoculated with the precautionary medicine during this tenure.



Distribution of livestock in District Mardan

Small Rural Enterprise Project (SREP)

Lack of opportunities and growth in the rural communities leads to depression and other complexities in the unemployed and educated youth. OSDI provides an equal opportunity to such capable individuals to live their dreams by helping them to initiate their own businesses via SREP.

Under this project, vulnerable youth having no land or any other source of income are empowered to share their business ideas. Upon checking the business probability; OSDI's team further smoothens these business plans and provides optimum guidance such as financial literacy trainings, understanding of consumer needs and developing resource management.



SREP beneficiary Intikhad Ali sitting in his OSDI supported grocery shop

During this quarter, OSDI facilitated 4 energetic youth from the communities of Arab Seray, Akhundara and Shahtori. 2 deserving males and 2 females have been selected and facilitated to initiate their own grocery stores. In the upcoming days, process monitoring would be done by the Monitoring & Evaluation team of OSDI to observe the sustainability creation in the lives of these 4 vulnerable households.

Community Development Project (CDP)

Education

Temporary Learning Center (TLC) of Chib Sheikh community was successfully inaugurated during this quarter. Due to OSDI's frequent social mobilization campaigns and one-to-one meetings with the people; 56 out-of-school age going children were enrolled and are now acquiring quality primary education. OSDI has also facilitated these students with course books. During the summer vacations a solar system has also been set-up to generate electricity; due to which ceiling fans and light bulbs can work.

Both the male teachers appointed by OSDI in this school have been using various teaching pedagogies to engage and motivate the students. As a

result students are actively participating in their learnings. Young illiterate males have also started attending the classes after school hours to learn about Basic Adult Literacy. Understanding the application of different learning strategies involved in adult learning processes; OSDI organized a Teacher's Training workshop in collaboration with NCHD in district Lasbela. Primary aim of this training was to acquaint the teachers with "Basic Literacy Skills" to help them impart education to young adult learners. Area identification of highly vulnerable communities was done in district Lasbela to enhance parameters of OSDI's education project; in this regard surveys were conducted in the communities of PiniLadho and Sayarani Goth. A School Management Committee (SMC) has also been formed in Sayarani Goth.

Students of OSDI's second TLC in Arab Seray community of district Mardan were facilitated with school uniforms to promote equality amongst them. It was also for the first time 'Parents Day' was celebrated in this school. Due to OSDI's constant advocacy the government has accepted to construct a proper school in Arab Seray community and make it functional. As previously committed, students of Faiz-ul-Islam school were also provided with uniforms.



Independence day celebration at TLC Chib Sheikh

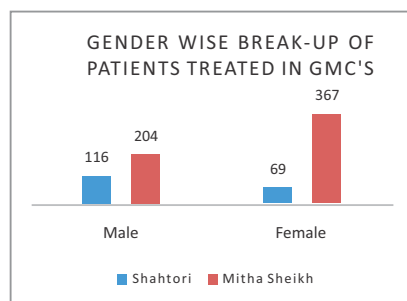


Figure 1: Gender Wise Break-up of Patients Treated in GMC's

Health-care

During this quarter, free General Medical Camps (GMCs) were held in each district. 756 patients were treated and consulted by OSDI's appointed doctors and free medicines were also provided to the ailing people. The GMC in Shahtori community of district Mardan (KPK) was held in May 2018 in which 185 patients were facilitated. On the other hand, in district Lasbela (Baluchistan) 571 patients availed the treatment in July 2018.

Most common diseases diagnosed in patients were GIT infection (Gastro Intestinal Tract), RTI (Respiratory Tract Infection), Musculoskeletal Pain and Viral Fever. These

health issues can be related to the lack of community awareness on living hygienically and consuming safe water and clean food. Besides this, being illiterate about safe sanitation practices, hand-wash or maintaining physical and environmental cleanliness also negatively affects the health of the people. Respiratory issues can also be due to the impurities in the air and unavailability of plants to refresh the atmosphere. In June 2018, a generous donation of medicines was given to Frontier Constabulary Baluchistan (F.C.) for the free treatment of ailing people in their hospital.

On 30th May 2018, inauguration of the newly renovated and refurbished District Head Quarter (DHQ) Hospital emergency room was done by OSDI. The up gradation was made on the special request of the senior management of the district government. OSDI donated hi-tech machines and medical equipment to better facilitate the patients. Along with this a proper reception and waiting area was also constructed by OSDI.

Water Nearby Homes (WNH)

Water scarcity issues are very common in the rural communities of Pakistan. In district Mardan, OSDI initiated to provide a water supply scheme to the 40 households of Upper Badam region. The only water facility available to these people was a natural fountain however, upon drying up; the community was dependent on the villagers of the Lower Badam region who allowed them to avail water only 5 hours in a day from the water bore facility.

In the mountainous community of Akhundara, U.C. Palo Dheri, OSDI intervened to do a bore and install a water tank to facilitate the 35 households. After successfully digging, 230 ft deep water was extracted.

Moving on, towards district Lasbela, OSDI has planted a water storage tank in the community of Moosa Goth, within the revenue village of Bohaar upon the request of its people. BBCM (Broad Based Community Meeting) has been held in the community of Moosa Goth to discuss and highlight the role and responsibilities of the community members. OSDI has installed a drip irrigation system within this community to grow vegetables.

As for the water project of Kareer Goth it is in the final phase of completion as of now.



Boring ongoing in Akhundara

SWP installed in Areas	District Name	No. of Households	Water Tank	Capacity to Store (Liters)	Bore	Liters of Water Extracted (Per Day)
Upper Badam	Mardan	40	yes	6,000	-	-
Akundara		35	yes	1,000	yes	10,800
Bohaar	Lasbela	20	yes	6,000	-	-

Table 1: Details of SWP installed in Focused Communities

Natural Resource Management (NRM)

Village Name	District	No. of Households	Total Plants Donated
Shaturi	Mardan	110	1100
Surkhabi		48	480
Akhundara		36	360
Moosa Goth	Lasbela	20	100

Table 2: Total Plants Donated in Focused Communities

5 non-fruit plants. The family size in each household was 10 members.

Similar to the previous year, Hingol National Park in Baluchistan donated 100 plants to OSDI during the month of August 2018. These seedlings were distributed amongst the community of Moosa Goth which have been facilitated with a water storage tank by OSDI.

Besides this, plantation activity has also been conducted in the OSDI's newly built Temporary Learning Center (TLC) of Chib Sheikh.

The first phase of plantation activity was initiated in Mardan district. During the plant distribution activity held in April 2018, nearly 1940 seedlings were donated within the vulnerable communities of Shahturi, Surkhabi and Akhundara. Each household within these villages was facilitated with 5 fruit and



Plants being distributed in District Mardan under NRM project

Food Security Project (FSP)

Kitchen Garden Project (KG)

The vegetable seeds distributed amongst the focused communities of district Mardan shall start blooming soon. However, as of now the vegetable and fruit seeds and seedlings distributed amongst the selected villages of district Lasbela have grown tall. These seedlings have matured into young trees and are now producing fresh and nutritious vegetables and fruits. Amongst the 90 households facilitated from Bano Hussain Goth, Faqera Goth and Miru Suleiman Goth beneficiaries are now able to save upto PKR 3000 - PKR 4500 per month on purchase of vegetables and fruits. The hot temperatures in these villages have also lowered upto some extent. And as a positive outcome families who had earlier abandoned these communities are now returning back.

Vegetable seeds have also been distributed amongst the students of Government Boys High School in Wayaro, Government Middle School in Ahora and TLC of Chib Sheikh on 14th August 2018. The goody bag provided to each student consisted of few sweets, national flag, badge, pencil and a packet of vegetable seeds. Brinjal, cucumber, spinach, coriander, turnip, carrot, bottle gourd, lady finger, lettuce, raddish and bitter gourd were the vegetable seeds given away.



Bottle Gourd plant in Miru Suleiman Goth

To better facilitate the people living in our focused communities OSDI initiated to



Drip Irrigation System implemented in Moosa Goth

implement an efficient water management system along with the support of Lok Sanjh Foundation. This pilot project was initiated in the focused villages of Moosa Goth and Miru Suleiman Goth during September 2018. Mr. Gulfam Dogar Program Coordinator (LSF) and senior management of OSDI initiated the project on 6 plots of 300 sq. meters each within these two villages. Vegetable seeds were planted on each plot which includes spinach, carrots, coriander, bottle gourd and turnip within the kitchen gardens.

It is the first such facility of its kind in which eatables can be grown on small farmlands which have low water levels. The drip irrigation system has been

set-up via line drip in which 100 liters of water drum is connected to gradually fulfill the water supply of the plants. In the initial phase only 5 families per community have been facilitated. The number of households can increase based on the success ratio of the project.

Future Interventions

New areas for intervention are being explored in the tough region of Baluchistan where OSDI can intervene with its projects to create sustainability and improve lives of the deprived people. In near future, a Temporary Learning Center (TLC) shall be initiated and completed in Sayarani Goth.

More, water projects are expected to begin in the focused communities of Mardan district and efforts would be made to engage the young adults in Basic Literacy Programmes. The TLC in Sab-e-Maira community has been postponed as of now. Vulnerability levels of other villages are being reviewed to carry on with the necessary steps.

The Non-Objection Certificate (NoC) is still awaited in Thatta region (Sindh). The delay in obtaining the permission is due to the holding of General Elections because of which government officials have been switched.

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