



Sindh Education Foundation signed the Memorandum of Understanding

24th Oct 2016: The school in Shikarpur district, Malhee and Jacobabad district, Nawab Khan Burirro were established in the most populated areas of the district; what started from one room as a temporary learning Centre now has a proper infrastructure. OSDI successfully exited Shikarpur and Jacobabad by signing a

Memorandum of Understanding to officially hand over the financial and administrative responsibilities to Sindh Education Foundation for the sustainability of the project.

Ted Talks at SZABIST

9th Oct 2016: Aasim Siddiqui, the Founder Trustee of OSDI was given the honor of presenting at the Ted Talk at SZABIST University. He spoke about his endless efforts since the past seven years of eradicating poverty in Pakistan, which also is the first sustainable development goal, identified by the UN. He was touched by the country's socio-economic situation and the urge to improve the status-quo of the country motivated him to put the CSR funds to a good use. He made OSDI's main goal to improve the lives of the people as he believes: 'If you are trying to do something good, miracles will happen'.



8th phase of Livestock Development Project (LDP) successfully completed in Mardan

10th September 2016: The 8th phase of the project was successfully completed in Mardan. In total 25 beneficiaries were provided livestock in consultation with veterinary doctors. The beneficiaries were satisfied by the money disbursed to them, by the purchase price of the animals and by the selling price of the livestock. The beneficiaries purchased livestock on a low market price, reared it and then sold the animals on Eid-ul Azha and made a profit on them.



13th phase of Agricultural Development project successfully completed in Jacobabad

30th April 2016: Jacobabad witnessed the 13th successful phase of the Agricultural Development Project. The program was carried out in four villages: Alan Jat, Jawain Khan Burirro, Muhammad Siddique Arain and Nawab Khan Burirro of district Jacobabad.

100 beneficiaries were benefitted from the success of the project. The total loan disbursed was PKR 4.2 million. Two types of wheat seed variety (local seed and chemically treated seed (TD1)) were cultivated. Average per acre production of the local seed was 18 Maunds per acre and the average production of the chemically treated seed was 31.4 Maunds per acres. Total production of the wheat crop was 6,584.5 maunds in 244 acre.



Deworming activity conducted in Schools

30th April 2016: The third round of School Based Deworming Program (SBDP) was conducted in April 2016. Students along with the teachers and other staff members were educated on the importance of hygiene and how to take care of their personal hygiene. Inoculation of anthelmintic was given and students were also provided with nutritional supplement.

Kitchen Gardens blooming well in district Matiari

16th June 2015: In the focused village of Jamal Hajano in district Matiari, members of the Kitchen Garden Project (KG) expressed happiness about the upcoming Ramadan season. According to Mr. Wali Muhammad, "Every year we witness a raise in the market prices during Ramadan. However, this year we need not worry as we have plenty of fresh vegetables for our consumption and that too free of cost".



Most beneficiaries have sown cluster beans, round gourd, ridge gourd, ladyfingers and apple gourd in their backyards. Beneficiaries not only consume these vegetables themselves but also share them with their neighbours and friends.

Those who exceed the vegetable production prefer to sell their produce in the market to generate some extra income.



Second dose of Hepatitis vaccination conducted in village MSA

12th June 2015: The health staff of OSDI arranged for the second dose of Hepatitis vaccination in the vulnerable community of Muhammad Siddique Arain in district Jacobabad on Thursday, 4th June 2015. The promotional activities for the medical camp had begun one week earlier.

Before the provision of the vaccinations, an awareness session on health and hygiene was conducted for the entire community during which people were briefed about safety measures. Following this, OSDI's dispenser vaccinated the male members of the community and the females were attended to by the Lady Health Workers (LHWs).

A total of 122 people were vaccinated during this campaign.

General Medical Camp set up in village Jawan Khan Burirro

9th June 2015: On Wednesday, 27th May 2015, a General Medical Camp (GMC) was organized in the focused community of Jawan Khan Burirro in district Jacobabad. The qualified health team of OSDI informed the villagers three days before the activity.



villagers three days before the activity. The lady doctor treated 42 patients during this camp. Most of the patients complained of suffering from seasonal diseases such as fever, flu, cough and a few had gastric issues. The health staff also delivered a session on the necessity of maintaining health through hygiene to create awareness amongst the community members.

The villagers thanked OSDI for organizing this GMC in their village.



Awareness Session conducted for ADP beneficiaries on Soil Testing

5th June 2015: OSDI organized a one-day awareness session on soil testing in village Jawan Khan Burirro in district Jacobabad. The purpose of this was to have a discussion with the beneficiaries regarding soil analysis reports.

OSDI's agro expert explained in detail the different types of soil and the various techniques needed to enhance productivity of the crop, such as through soil amendments, change of fertilizer, nutrients and supplements. Beneficiaries were also provided guidance regarding land preparation, crop handling and pesticide (disease) management.

The agro expert also answered the queries of ADP beneficiaries in detail and assured OSDI's full support in providing them assistance. The beneficiaries appreciated the efforts of OSDI in conducting this informative session.



Distribution of Syllabus Books in GBPS village Jamal Hajano

2nd June 2015: The students of the OSDI supported Government Boys Primary School in village Jamal Hajano in district Matiari have recently been provided syllabus books for the new academic year.

The district team of Matiari coordinated with the Government's Education Department to provide the books, which were received enthusiastically by the happy and hardworking students.

On this occasion, class teachers appreciated the ongoing efforts of OSDI to provide quality education in the community.



OSDI finances a beneficiary for Bricks Making Business

30th May 2015: Under its Small Rural Enterprises Project (SREP), OSDI has financed a 37 year old beneficiary named Sardraz Khan living in the underprivileged community of Saeedabad, district Mardan. He is the only bread earner for a family of 7 members. As a laborer he used to work at a block construction plant earning only PKR 7,000/- per month.

He was unable to fulfill the day-to-day requirements of his family because of his low income and upon finding out about OSDI's micro-financing project he shared his intention to initiate a small bricks and blocks preparation business in his own village Nawa Kheli in district Mardan.

OSDI provided him PKR 97,880/- to purchase material and equipment to set up this business. It is estimated that with this financial assistance Sardraz would be able to generate PKR 17,213/-per month, giving him a monthly increase of PKR 10,213/- over his former income, which should greatly improve the living conditions of his family.

Sardraz is thankful to OSDI for providing him a loan to finally fulfill his dreams.



Hepatitis camp held in village Sukhio Mir Jatt 26th May 2015: Under the Hepatitis Prevention & Control Program a one day medical camp was set up in the vulnerable community of Sukhio Mir Jatt in district Matiari. 40 people were screened and vaccinated against the disease.

One patient was discovered as being Hepatitis B positive and 13 were suffering from Hepatitis C. The qualified health staff of OSDI provided medicines to the ailing patients and further referred them for

treatment.

To date 8897 people have been screened, 8553 people have been administered with vaccination shots and 142 patients are being treated under this program of OSDI.

One Day Training conducted on Data Management

22nd May 2015: Recently a one day training session was organized at OSDI's Shikarpur office for the health staff working in districts Jacobabad and Shikarpur. The primary aim was to educate the Lady Health Workers (LHWs) and Dispensers working at OSDI regarding data handling & compilation.



The health staff was informed by a trainer of the significance of gathering and maintaining data to process it for further use.

The trainer not only used theoretical methodologies but also arranged for a group activity to ensure the content

was being understood.



USAID Team visits OSDI's supported GBPS - Jamal Hajano

19th May 2015: On Thursday, 14th May 2015, a team of professionals from USAID along with a representative from the government's Education Department visited OSDI's supported Government Boys Primary School in village Jamal Hajano in district Matiari.

92 students were present in the school at the time of this surprise visit and the officials visited with the intention of conducting a survey measuring the quality of

education being imparted at Government schools in Bhanotth.

The team comprised of 3 representatives from USAID and a Government officer. The teachers informed the visiting team about efforts made by OSDI to renovate the school infrastructure, construct a new classroom and distribute health & hygiene kits, school bags and stationary.

First Hepatitis camp organized in village Muhammad Siddique Arain



15th May 2015: In the community of Muhammad Siddique Arain in district Jacobabad, OSDI organized the first Hepatitis camp on Wednesday, 6th May 2015. The core aim of this was to provide treatment to patients with this disease and vaccinate the remaining community.

OSDI initiated the Hepatitis Prevention & Control Program under the Chief Minister's Initiative for

Hepatitis free Sindh. A total number of 122 people were screened and vaccinated and treatment was provided to the Hepatitis positive patients.

Out of the 44 males and 78 females screened, 5 males and 2 females were identified as Hepatitis B+ while 7 males and 5 females were diagnosed as Hepatitis C+. The qualified health staff of OSDI administered the patients with the first dose of medicine.

This was followed by an awareness session which was meant to mobilize the community to consume clean drinking water and focus on hygiene.



Distribution of Mosquito Nets in district Matiari

12th May 2015: Mosquitoes tend to multiply during the rainy and humid seasons, increasing the incidence of mosquito-borne diseases such as malaria in these times.

OSDI has been making efforts to help protect underprivileged communities from this disease by conducting health & hygiene awareness sessions every week and collaborating with the District Government to

fumigate entire communities.

On Thursday, 30th April 2015, OSDI distributed mosquito nets and net cans in the focused community of Sukhio Mir Jat in district Matiari. 70 vulnerable households have been facilitated under this initiative of the Malaria Prevention & Control Program with 50% of the contribution being made by them and 50% by OSDI.

Representatives of Community Based Organization, district government officials, teachers and OSDI's staff were present during this event.



Kitchen Garden (KG) Awareness Session in Mari Muhammad Khan

8th May 2015: To educate students about the importance of healthy and nutritious vegetables in their daily diet, OSDI organized a kitchen garden awareness session in the Government Primary School in village Mari Muhammad Khan in district Matiari on Thursday, 30th April 2015.

The primary purpose of this session was to inform the students about vegetable sowing and irrigation practices, the ways of identifying pests and how to implement remedies and precautionary measures. The

students enjoyed learning new methodologies for vegetable cultivation and harvesting. OSDI's official in charge of the Education Program, the District Head of Matiari, members from the Community Based Organization and Government teachers also attended the event.



The Agro Expert at OSDI asked the students questions regarding vegetable identification, nutrients and ways of consumption. Practical demonstration was also performed to show the proper sowing methods to the children. The students took keen interest in this science activity.



Annual Results announcement and Textbooks distribution in Jacobabad

5th May 2015: To appreciate the efforts of hardworking students in the final exams, OSDI organized an Annual Results Announcement Ceremony on Thursday, 30th April 2015. The event took place in the OSDI supported Government Primary School in village Jawan Khan Burirro, district Jacobabad.

Students of kindergarten and grade I thoroughly enjoyed the event and were glad to see their parents, teachers and members of the OSDI formed village organization celebrating their success. Schools Bags and stationery items were also distributed by OSDI on this occasion.

The ceremony began with a few verses from the Holy Quran, after which students participated in a debate competition and a quiz competition. This was followed by refreshments for all guests and attendants. A senior official of OSDI applauded the efforts of both students and teachers.



Educational awareness session held in village Badam

2nd May 2015: In the high hills of Mardan in Khyber Paktunkhwa lies the village Badam - one of the focus villages of OSDI. Since intervention in this community began, the organization has been striving to create positive impact by enlightening people about the

importance of education.

On 24th April 2015, the Head of District Mardan organized a meeting to make the villagers aware about the significance of education in their lives and the lives of their children. Almost 80 students currently study at the Temporary Learning Center (TLC) built by OSDI in Badam Primary Model School (BPMS) where quality primary education is being delivered.

Parents, community elders and village organization (VO) were invited to share their views on the education awareness efforts and encouraged to increase the enrollment of children in school.



Learning through Informal Modes of Teaching

29th April 2015: To make the learning experience more fun and interactive, formal and informal classroom activities were encouraged by OSDI with the assistance of a representative from ACTED, an international NGO.

On 23rd April 2015, this representative visited OSDI's supported Government Primary School in village Jawan Khan Burirro, district Jacobabad to share educational

play tools with students and involve them in informal learning methodologies. The 63 students at this school benefited from this experience.



School Books Distributed in OSDI Primary Model School

28th April 2015: In a ceremony arranged on 22nd April 2015, the students from Nursery to Class 5 of OSDI Primary Model School Malhee were given course books. OSDI approached the Government AEDO to facilitate the students with the syllabus books for the new academic calendar.

The Government provided 10 sets of books for Nursery students, 40 book sets for Class I, 20 book sets for Class II, 24 book sets for Class III, 8 book sets for Class IV and 9 book sets for students of Class V. Community representatives, teachers and parents were present at this occasion and appreciated this initiative of OSDI and the government.



Breast Cancer Awareness session attended by District Matiari Team

24th April 2015: The District Team of Matiari attended a Breast Cancer awareness session on Saturday, 18th April 2015. The event was organized by the DCO office to highlight the health issues of women suffering from this dreadful disease.

Representatives from the social sector, members of government organizations, female politicians, health officials and educationists were present. Altogether people from 12 non-governmental organizations

participated in the awareness session. The participants were informed about the health camp held in district Mirpurkhas in which 192 females were diagnosed as Breast Cancer positive and their treatment has already been initiated free of cost.

It was also stated that the Government subsequently plans to screen the females of district Matiari. The Government officials requested for the support of all the participants to make the female health awareness campaign a success in Matiari district.



Annual Examination Results 2015 have been announced

21st April 2015: The dedicated students of OSDI Primary Model School, village Malhee, and the Government Primary School, village Godho Shar in district Shikarpur happily attended the annual result day along with their parents and teachers. The ceremony took place on 16th April 2015 in which a senior official of OSDI was invited as a chief guest.

In order to boost the morale of hard-working students so they may study harder, cash awards and prizes were distributed. The cash prizes were awarded to Baby Sanam who scored the highest position in the OSDI Primary Model School and to

Ghulam Mustafa who scored the highest position in the Government Primary School. Students who performed well in studies and extra-curricular activities were also given souvenirs such as school bags and geometry boxes.

The community applauded the efforts of OSDI in constructing a school in Malhee village and in making quality education accessible to their children.



Maternal & Child Health-care training session conducted in district Shikarpur

17th April 2015: Maternal and Child Health-care are matters of great concern for the people residing in the rural communities of Pakistan. OSDI has been making efforts in its focused villages to mobilize the Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) and Dais to educate them about

the safe delivery procedures.

The participants were informed about basic knowledge of pre and post natal procedures, utilization of medical equipment and essential medicines. Referral points for high risk patients were also

discussed during this training. The doctor also emphasized on the importance of adequate nutritional intake by the expecting mother and on the need to maintain the overall hygiene of the patient and the child while performing the delivery.

During this four day training the participants were given instruction through theoretical and practical sessions to ensure comprehension. The practical demonstration session was conducted in Ganga Bai Government Hospital in district Shikarpur.

The District Health Officer was also present along with the TBAs, Dais, Lady Health Workers (LHWs) and OSDI's health staff at this occasion.



Kitchen Garden flourishes well in village JKB and NKB

14th April 2015: The primary aim of OSDI's Kitchen Garden Project (K.G) is to provide food security and income generation to the vulnerable households.

People with nominal incomes, no assets and insufficient food supply opt to grow Kitchen Gardens in their courtyard or backyard's vacant space.

Most beneficiaries chose to grow spinach, coriander, cauliflower, tomato, onion, lady finger and green chillies at home. A few beneficiaries exchanged their home grown nutritious vegetables with their neighbours in exchange for other types of edibles or gifted them while the majority consumed the produce.

The people of village Jawan Khan Burirro and Nawab Khan Burirro, district Jacobabad enjoy having easy access to healthy and nutritious home grown vegetables



Training Session on Livestock Management conducted in district Matiari

10th April 2015: The third phase of the Livestock Development Project (LDP) has recently been implemented in the vulnerable communities of district Matiari. In order to facilitate the selected beneficiaries under this project, the district team of Matiari organized a training session to educate the LDP members about

livestock rearing practices.

OSDI's appointed veterinary doctor conducted this session informing the members about fattening, herd increase, income generation, de-worming, vaccinations, overall health monitoring and feed preparation of animals.

Members were also given practical demonstrations in the livestock shelters along with theoretical explanations by the veterinary doctor. In the end, the LDP members thanked OSDI for conducting this livestock management session and vowed to utilize the skills learned.



Annual Examinations conducted in Jacobabad and Shikarpur district

6th April 2015: Recently, annual examinations have been conducted to monitor and evaluate the performance of students in the focused districts of Jacobabad and Shikarpur. Students appearing in the assessment were from the OSDI Primary Model School in village Malhee, from OSDI's Temporary Learning Centers (TLC) in Godho Shar and Nawab Khan Burirro and from the Government Primary Boys School in village Jawan Khan Burirro in district Jacobabad.

Out of the 156 students enrolled in the OSDI Primary Model School 141 appeared in the annual examination 2014-2015 and 54 students from TLC in Godho Shar, district Shikarpur attempted the tests. The students were assessed on English, Sindhi, Mathematics and Drawing.

Representatives of OSDI's district teams and teachers invigilated the students during the assessments.



OSDI initiates work in district Jaffarabad

3rd April 2015: In our mission to create positive change in the lives of the truly marginalized communities of Pakistan, OSDI recently conducted the first General Medical Camp (GMC) in village Shahmeer Mastoi, district Jaffarabad in Balochistan. The village comprises of around 140 under-privileged households.

It was a day-long pre-planned activity which involved trained paramedical staff, doctors and the health team of

OSDI treating over 350 ailing patients from the vulnerable communities of adjacent villages as well.

OSDI conducted an extensive door-to-door marketing campaign and informed the community about the organization of the health camp in their village where patients would be treated and provided free medicines. The dedicated health staff at OSDI witnessed a huge turnout of people during this one day GMC in village Shahmeer Mastoi, where 111 male and 229 female patients were successfully examined and treated.

The entire community of village Shahmeer Mastoi and adjacent areas thanked OSDI for making an effort to come so far and facilitate them with medical assistance. People prayed whole-heartedly for the success of our ongoing and upcoming projects in the future.



Classroom inauguration in Government Primary School, village Jamal Hajano

31st March 2015: OSDI has been actively working to highlight the significance of education in the focused communities since intervention began. As a result of constant mobilization the number of out-of-school children has decreased.

On 25th March 2015 a classroom was constructed in the Government Primary School in Jamal Hajano, district

Matiari. 10% of the contribution was made by the community and OSDI met the remaining expense.

Before intervention only 35 students were enrolled in this school of which only 25 students were regular attendants. Today 135 students are acquiring quality education due to OSDI's relentless efforts. The teacher appointed by OSDI monitors the regular attendance of every student.

Representatives from the Community Based Organization (CBO), village elders, parents, teachers, students, community representatives and members of Alif Ailaan were present with OSDI's district team to witness the inauguration of the classroom.



Oral Examinations conducted in Matiari

27th March 2015: On 21st March 2015, an oral exam was conducted in OSDI's supported Government Primary Boys School in village Mari Muhammad Khan, district Matiari. The examination was administered by officials from the government's Education Department and by

representatives from Alif Ailaan.

Students were asked various questions relating to their studies and were graded accordingly by the government's education team. Every child answered each question with confidence. In the closing remarks the representative from Alif Ailaan stated that, "He felt really happy with the progress made by the students of this school as it today stands amongst the top 4 best schools amongst the entire union council which has more than 50 schools under it".

The government officials appreciated the efforts of OSDI and its teachers for guiding students towards progressive learning.



2nd session of Hepatitis Vaccinations in village Jawan Khan Burirro

24th March: Under the Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program, OSDI provides screening, vaccinations and treatment to its entire focused communities. In district Jacobabad the villagers of Jawan Khan Burirro had previously undergone screening tests and patients suffering from Hepatitis B or C were facilitated with further treatment.

The remaining community was inoculated against the hepatitis disease. On Tuesday 17th March 2015, almost 100 males, females and children were provided vaccinations by OSDI in the second session of Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program in the Jawan Khan Burirro community.

The entire village appreciated the efforts of OSDI in creating awareness about this disease in their community.



OSDI finances Gul Sher Kori for food cart 20th March

2015: In the focused community of Mari Muhammad Khan lives Gul Sher Kori, a 25-year-old educated young man. He is an unmarried youth belonging to a family of 8 members and has been left handicapped in one leg because of polio.

Kori approached OSDI seeking financial assistance under its Small Rural Enterprises Project (SREP) so he may initiate a food cart business within his village. OSDI

financed him PKR 23,270 and he made a contribution of PKR 3,000, bringing the total cost of initiating a food cart business to PKR 26,270.

Gul Sher informed OSDI that he earns approximately PKR 1000 per day by selling food items and is able to generate a profit worth PKR 300 daily. He is grateful to OSDI for enabling him to earn independently.



Livestock Development Project (LDP) - Phase 3 begins in District Matiari

17th March 2015: Recently, Phase 3 of the Livestock Development Project (LDP) has been initiated in district Matiari. OSDI has financed 26 beneficiary households to purchase 36 oxens, 11 calves, 1 buffalo, 6 she-goats, 2 he-goats, 1 he-goat kid and 5 she-goat kids during this phase.

Through the LDP vulnerable households would be trained to further improve their income generation and asset creation to progress towards sustainability. OSDI's appointed veterinary doctor facilitated the beneficiaries with expert opinions and recommendations regarding the purchase of animals in the market. They are also given further instructions and information regarding best

animal rearing practices for fattening, herd increase, de-worming, vaccinations and other relevant activities.

These beneficiaries are thankful to OSDI for helping them make a respectable living.



Patients treated at PHC in Mardan

14th March 2015: Since its inception, the Primary Healthcare Center (PHC) set-up in district Mardan has treated over 7,602 ailing patients in the vicinity. The qualified health staff of OSDI has provided primary medical assistance to patients suffering from RTI, abdominal problems, skin diseases, eye infections, fever, malaria, tuberculosis, diabetes, cardiac issues, hepatitis and liver issues.

The health staff regularly promotes the PHC through announcements made from the local mosque and by informing people in community gatherings of the existence of the healthcare centre and the medical assistance offered. On 13th March 2015, OSDI's health staff facilitated 48 patients of which 23 were males, 18 were females and 7 were children.

The Primary Health-care Center (PHC) of OSDI also provides Extended Program for Immunization (EPI) inoculations to children.

GMC took place in district Jacobabad

12th March 2015: Only 60 households reside in the under-privileged rural community of Muhammad Siddique Arain, district Jacobabad. Unavailability of health infrastructure and lack of access to any medical facility nearby made it tough for the ailing patients to survive. Realizing the dire need of health facility in the village OSDI initiated to organize General Medical Camps (GMCs) in the village.



The qualified doctor along with the supportive health staff team of OSDI; treated 47 patients at the GMC held on Wednesday, 11th March 2015. In order to inform the entire community about the GMC being set-up, OSDI's health staff made vigorous efforts to do active marketing and promotion of the GMC two days prior so, more number of people could avail treatment from the health

facility.

The community of Muhammad Siddique Arain is thankful to OSDI for extending its primary medical facilitations to its village and treating the ill patients.



Maternal & Child Health-care (MCH) community awareness sessions conducted

6th March 2015: OSDI has been making active efforts to mobilize the females of district Jacobabad regarding safe practices for Maternal and Child Health-care. The dedicated Lady Health Workers (LHWs) of OSDI conduct regular sessions in female gatherings to inform the community women about precautionary measures, medical check-ups, consumption of healthy and nutritious food during pregnancy days.

In villages Muhammad Siddique Arain and Jawan Khan Burirro, district Jacobabad, female awareness sessions were conducted by the LHWs of OSDI; to brief the village females about the significance of maternal and child health-care. Later on, a session was also conducted to highlight the importance of personal health and hygiene. The community women appreciated the efforts of OSDI to provide a platform where female health issues are easily addressed.

Similar sessions are also being conducted on regular basis across the other focused districts of Shikarpur, Matiari and Mardan as well.

Kitchen Garden Project (K.G) - Phase 9 Initiated in district Matiari

3rd March 2015: In our efforts to provide food security to vulnerable households in district Matiari, OSDI recently initiated Phase 9 of Kitchen Garden Project (KG). A total number of 56 underprivileged beneficiaries have been selected to sow vegetables in their courtyards or backyards.



As a positive outcome of continuous guidance and training regarding best vegetable sowing practices beneficiaries have become sustainable to afford the vegetable seeds on their own now. However, OSDI will still facilitate them with technical guidance and training.

Most of the beneficiaries have chosen to cultivate apple gourd, cluster beans, okra, round gourd, rich gourd and

tomato vegetable seeds in their Kitchen Gardens (KG). Some people have even sown fruits in their Kitchen Garden plots. Thus beneficiaries enjoy not only an easy access and availability of healthy and nutritious fresh vegetables in their home but, also have garden-fresh fruits to eat.

about basic precautionary measures that ought to be considered before proceeding with the delivery.

On the fourth day the participants were taken to a Maternal and Child Health-care center in Hala for practical demonstration to provide guidance about the safety steps that should be taken prior to delivery.

More than, 11 Traditional Birth Attendants (TBSs) participated in the second phase of Maternal & Child Health-care Program training. The participants were actively involved in group activities, brainstorming exercises and group discussions. They were also briefed about handling of critical situations in which both the mother and child's life is in dire risk. The Health representative of OSDI also informed the participants about Hepatitis disease and its effects on health.



Representatives of other social sector organizations were also invited to attend this training. The TBAs and other participants appreciated the efforts of OSDI in organizing this training.



Education survey conducted in Jacobabad

16th February 2015: In the targeted community of district Jacobabad, OSDI recently conducted an education survey. The purpose of this survey was to mobilize the community to send their children to school and know about the out-of-school children details.

The representatives of OSDI went from door to door to carry out this study. The villagers were briefed about the significance of education in improving the life of an individual. The community was asked to get their children enrolled in the Temporary Learning Centers (TLCs) which have been built to provide access to primary education.

The village elders and parents promised OSDI representatives that they shall get their children enrolled in school soon.



First Hepatitis Camp arranged in village Jawan Khan Burirro

13th February 2015: The first session of Hepatitis Prevention & Control Program was initiated on 11th February 2015 in the focused community of Jawan Khan Burirro in district Jacobabad. According to the Baseline survey conducted by OSDI in 2013, this village comprises of a total number of 60 households with a population of approximately 390 people.

OSDI in co-ordination with the District Government first screened the people and those identified as hepatitis positive cases were referred for further treatment. During the two days medical camp, almost 327 people were vaccinated against the virus. 60 patients were identified suffering from hepatitis C and 12 patients had hepatitis B.

The health representatives also conducted a session on health and hygiene awareness on this occasion. The community of Jawan Khan Burirro thanked OSDI for its support and guidance to stay safe from this disease.



School Based De-worming Activity in Saeedabad schools

6th February 2015: In village Saeedabad, district Mardan, OSDI provided School Based De-Worming (SBDW) medicine to students of Government Primary Boys School and Government Primary Girls School. This precautionary activity was conducted to de-worm the school age going children from being a victim of infection due to parasitic worms.

A total number of 379 students were given a dose of zytel syrup, out of which 199 children were from boys' school and 180 girl students. At the end of the session each child was given a packet of milk to stay healthy. OSDI's district team informed the students about the significance of health & hygiene in order to live a good life.

The parents, teachers and community elders appreciated the community awareness efforts of OSDI and its role in creating sustainability.



Toilet Construction in village Gul Burirro

3rd February 2015: In order to facilitate the underprivileged people of village Gul Burirro in district Shikarpur, OSDI in collaboration with the community has constructed 13 toilets. Properly built toilets would serve to increase awareness about the significance of sanitation and hygiene in the village.

50% of the construction cost was managed by OSDI and the remaining 50% was contributed by the community from its Community Development Fund (CDF).

The people of Gul Burirro are happy to have properly built sanitation facility in their village for the first time.



Community Awareness Sessions on Malaria in district Matiari

30th January 2015: Lack of hygiene in the surrounding can cause Malaria which is a severe illness caused by mosquito bite. In OSDI's focused communities, the people are informed to keep themselves and their homes clean.

Females being the key figures in their households hold a strong position to enable motivation in the entire family to stay safe from this disease. On 19th January 2015, OSDI's health staff gave community awareness sessions on Malaria to 20 females of Mari Muhammad Khan village.

OSDI's health staff briefed the females about the symptoms of Malaria and preventive measures that can be taken to avoid this disease. The training was appreciated by the participants and they thanked OSDI for sharing such useful information with them.



Distribution of Stationary and Sports Kits in OSDI's built Malhee School

27th January 2015: Physical fitness remains a crucial factor in a child's healthy development. On 20th January 2015, OSDI distributed sports kits to OSDI Model Primary School Malhee and OSDI's adopted Government Primary School in Godho Shar village.

Both the schools were given two sports kits each, which included 2 wickets, 1 packet of balls, 2 bats and 2

badminton rackets. Regularly coming students were also awarded with pencils and other useful stationary items to increase their motivation.

The teachers and excited students of both the schools thanked OSDI on receiving the sports material.



General Medical Camp conducted in village Nawab Khan Burirro

23rd January 2015: In the focused district of Jacobabad, OSDI arranged a GMC on Wednesday, 21st January 2014 for the community of Nawab Khan Burirro. A total number of 30 patients were treated by the lady doctor from which 29 were female patients and 1 was a male patient.

Dai's who had shown interest in learning best practices

about the Maternal and Child Health-care Project were also invited at the GMC to have briefing. The Lady Doctor enquired from these Dai's about the safety measures taken by them during performing a delivery and explained them better about the safety precautionary measures in detail. The community females also discussed about their problems with the doctor.

OSDI's district team mobilized the community to send their females to this GMC and also informed them about the training of Dai's in their village to treat the maternal patients in a better way. The villagers appreciated this initiative of OSDI as there was no nearby facility available for the pregnant females of the community to go and discuss their health problems.

Matiari Fields visited by Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia (LANSA) Team

20th January 2015: OSDI's focused district Matiari was visited by representatives of an international donor funded programme. The delegates represented a national partner for LANSAs called, "The Collective for Social Science Research". This research programme is based on evidence that nutrition



improvement has been slow or stagnant in the region despite economic growth and agricultural advances. The overarching objective of LANSAs is to create the evidence base for generating positive impacts of agriculture on nutrition in South Asian countries including Pakistan.

OSDI's district team briefed the representatives about the Kitchen Garden Project and Livestock Development Project. Later the representatives were introduced with the local community where the beneficiaries told the Research Team about the positive impact made by OSDI after intervention in their village. K.G beneficiaries said that due to OSDI's intervention in their village they are now able to utilize home grown fresh vegetables and

fruits rather than purchasing them from the market. As a

result not only has the nutritional intake improved but so has the daily expense of buying vegetables and fruits minimized.

In the end, a representative concluded that, “Though they have visited various communities across Pakistan; but no where have they witnessed, such kind of mobilization”. He appreciated the efforts being made by OSDI on its focused villages.

TLC inaugurated in village Allan Jat



16th January 2015: In the far-fledged area of Jacobabad is a village called ‘Allan Jat’. Before OSDI’s intervention in this community 95% of the children were out of school. As there was no school nearby the village; the parents refrained to allow their children to travel distances.

Recently, OSDI has successfully established the first Temporary Learning Center (TLC) in the village in which more than 68 children have been enrolled in this TLC so far. This healthy initiative of opening the closed doors of education has given the community a new ray of hope for a better tomorrow.

Recently, OSDI has successfully established the first



There was only one literate person in the entire village of Allan Jat but now due to the opening of TLC there is a ray of hope for children. The people of Allan Jat thanked and appreciated the efforts of OSDI in establishing this TLC. They promised to send their children regularly to the TLC and would actively provide their assistance for the promotion of education in the village.

Best Kitchen Garden Awards Distributed in Matiari

9th January 2015: OSDI acknowledged the hardworking beneficiaries of Kitchen Garden Project – Phase VII by awarding them with shields for the second time in district Matiari this year. These beneficiaries not only worked day and night to grow different types of vegetables in their Kitchen Gardens but also succeeded in gaining good amount crop produce.



The K.G Award Ceremony comprised of first, second and third positions. Beneficiaries from the focused community of Mari Muhammad Khan, district Matiari were very enthusiastic to be rewarded with such positive acclamation. The district team of Matiari also gave a session on the effects of malnutrition on the community’s health and motivated the people to grow

K.G in their homes. The villagers were told about how

K.G Project is helping them to create food sustainability.

Such awards serve; not only as an inspiration to the local community, but, also inspire the villagers to think differently.



OSDI Provides School Furniture in District Matiari

6th January 2015: Recently, OSDI's supported Government Boys Primary School in village Jamal Hajano, district Matiari has been facilitated with schoolroom furniture. The management of OSDI along with the active support of the local community and the district Government succeeded in purchasing 1 chair, 1 teacher's table and 10 desks for the students.

The School Management Committee Fund was utilized by the school and the local community also contributed a sufficient amount for the noble cause. OSDI's contribution more than 60%.

The community was thankful to OSDI for initiating the task to purchase furniture as earlier students used to sit on the ground and study.



Second Session of Mathematics Training held for OSDI's School Teachers

02nd January 2015: The management of OSDI arranged for a second session of Mathematics Training for Teachers from 29th – 31st December 2014 in the focused district of Shikarpur. OSDI's hired Teachers from the districts of Jacobabad, Khairpur and Shikarpur were invited to attend the three days training session.

The expert trainer hired by OSDI informed the participants about various teaching techniques and methodologies to teach the students better. The teachers were asked to solve mathematical problems and were taught to design the subject syllabus.

The teachers appreciated the efforts of OSDI in arranging this workshop which helped them understand the subject technicalities and they promised to apply their learning's in class. OSDI's hired trainer, Ms. Zahida Maheen, said the teachers were very co-operative and willing to learn new methodologies throughout the session.

Community Development Fund Utilized in Mari Muhammad Khan, district Matiari

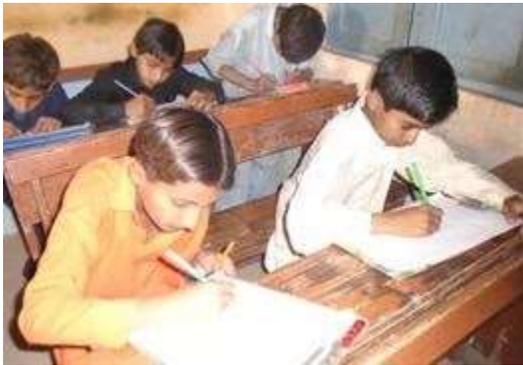
30th December 2014: The community of Mari Muhammad Khan was facing severe difficulty in transportation of goods from one place to another as the main route connecting the entire village with the highway was broken due to the standing rainwater. As a result almost 262 households were unfortunately affected.



Upon the mutual consensus of the villagers OSDI constructed a 700ft (L)*10ft (W) passage for the under privileged community of Mari Muhammad Khan. 50% of the contribution for the construction came from Community Development Fund (CDF) and 50% contribution was made by OSDI.

The CDF was also utilized in the purchasing of classroom furniture for the OSDI's supported Government Primary School – Mari Muhammad Khan. In this 1 chair, 1 teacher's table and 12 desks for students were bought. OSDI once again contributed 50% along with the remaining 50% from the CDF amount.

The village elders, CBO and Parents have highly appreciated the efforts made by OSDI in creating positive impact in their lives.



Students of Matiari Appeared in Midterm Exams for the First Time

26th December 2014: OSDI organized the Midterm assessments in the focused district of Matiari. The students of OSDI's supported Government Boys Primary School - Sukhio Mir Jat, Government Primary School - Jamal Hajano and Government Primary School - Mari Muhammad Khan appeared in the exams.

100% attendance was observed throughout the midterm

tests. The tests comprised of Sindhi, Urdu, Science, Maths, Social Studies, Drawing, English and Islamic studies. OSDI's district team also invited the Government's Education Supervisors to attend the examinations and witness the efforts of OSDI in their region.

Parents appreciated the contribution of OSDI towards enhancement of education in their region.





Second Phase of School Based De-Worming Session held in district Mardan

23rd December 2014: In the mountainous region of district Mardan, OSDI conducted the second phase of School Based De-Worming (SBDW) project in Badam Primary Model School and Government Primary School Badam. A total number of 138 students were provided a dose of the de-worming syrup.

Students were given a session on the necessity of Health & Hygiene and were asked to keep themselves clean in order to stay safe from diseases. Parents, Teachers and Community elders were present on the occasion to witness the efforts of OSDI in improving lives. Later on, the students were distributed a packet of milk by OSDI’s Health representatives.



The enthusiastic students vowed to focus more towards their studies and promised to attend school regularly.



OSDI organizes Quran Khuwani for Victims of Peshawar School Blast

19th December 2014: In order to stand united with the unfortunate victims of Peshawar’s Army Public School students, OSDI organized Quran Khwani in its district office of Shikarpur and Jacobabad simultaneously.

OSDI’s district team participated alongwith the Teachers of OSDI’s Primary Model School Malhee. The participants wore black bands on their shoulders to show their support with the ill-fated innocent children killed during this sad incident.

On this occasion, special prayers were made for the families of the deceased students and their loved ones as well.

Second Midterm Exams conducted in OSDI's Supported School in Jawan Khan Burirro 16th December 2014: In the focused district of Jacobabad, OSDI intervened in the under-privileged community of Jawan Khan Burirro and reopened the Government Primary School in it. Currently, 80 students are enrolled in this school and the regular attendance ratio is almost 90%.



OSDI's teacher dedicatedly teaches the students and motivates the community to send their children to school regularly. The second midterm examinations took place recently in which students appeared in the Sindhi, Maths and English Language assessments.

The students performed well during the tests and most of the children scored maximum marks. The management of OSDI takes pride in moving

prosperously forward in improving lives.



First Midterm Exams conducted in village Nawab Khan Burirro - TLC

12th December 2014: Recently, OSDI organized First Midterm Examinations in the Temporary Learning Center (TLC) of village Nawab Khan Burirro, district Jacobabad. A total number of 60 enrolled students attempted the Sindhi, Maths and English Language tests.

The students were excited to appear in the test for the very first time in their life. 10 students were from Class I

and the remaining 50 students who appeared in the assessment were from Kindergarten class. Both the OSDI's appointed teachers in the Nawab Khan Burirro TLC appreciated the efforts of the students in performing brightly during the examination.

The enthusiastic students vowed to focus more towards their studies and promised to attend school regularly.



Maternal & Child Health-care session conducted in district Matiari

02nd December 2014: OSDI initiated Maternal & Child Health-care Program in collaboration with PPHI (People's Primary Health Initiative) to create awareness in expecting mothers about the safety measures that should be taken during pregnancy period. The monitoring of health of the newly born/unborn child during and after delivery is very important and should not be neglected.

In the focused village of Sukhio Mir Jat, district Matiari, OSDI's Lady Health Worker conducted a session on Maternal & Child Health-care on 24th November 2014. 20 females were enlightened at this session and they were briefed about the precautionary measures that must be taken during these days.

OSDI's LHW also briefed the females to maintain their personal hygiene and drink clean water to stay healthy. All participating females thanked OSDI for sharing such valuable information with them.

Fumigation Activity conducted against Malaria

28th November 2014: Under its Malaria Prevention & Control Program, OSDI conducted Fumigation activity in the focused communities of Old Zarkhel and Godho Shar, district Shikarpur. On 27th November 2014, OSDI's Health officials in collaboration with the Government's Health department fumigated these under-privileged villages.



Malaria awareness sessions and marketing activities were conducted five days prior in both the communities before Fumigation took place. People of both the villages were grateful to OSDI for its contribution towards creating Health awareness in their communities.



3rd Hepatitis Prevention Camp held in district Jacobabad

25th November 2014: Under its Hepatitis Prevention & Control Program, OSDI organized the 3rd Dose of Hepatitis B Prevention Campaign in the focused village of Nawab Khan Burrio, district Jacobabad. On 18th November 2014, OSDI's health officials vaccinated a total number of 384 people from the community, out of which 179 were male and 205 were female.

OSDI's appointed Lady Health Worker (LHW) immunized the females and the males were inoculated by the Dispenser. Later on, the community was given a session on Health & Hygiene (H&H) in which awareness and benefits of Hepatitis B vaccination were told.

The community of Nawab Khan Burirro was thankful to OSDI for spreading the awareness and taking precautionary measures against this disease.

Children's Day Celebrated in district Jacobabad

21st November 2014: OSDI celebrated Children's Day in the focused community of Jawan Khan Burirro, district Jacobabad on 20th November 2014 with the students of recently built Temporary Learning Center (TLC). Students enthusiastically participated in various activities organized by the class teacher.



Children enjoyed being involved in different types of activities such as Milli Naghma competition. Few students even made speeches and narrated poems in front of their fellow classmates, teachers, OSDI's district representatives and community members. On this occasion the District Team of OSDI had also arranged for a Drawing competition amongst students. The community of Jawan Khan Burirro, vowed to send their children to school in order to educate them.

In the end refreshments were offered to all students, parents, teachers and community members by OSDI. **Classroom Constructed in village Jamal Hajano**

18th November 2014: A classroom has recently been constructed in the OSDI's supported Government Primary School, in village Jamal Hajano, district Matiari. Realizing the importance of education, the community enthusiastically joined hands with OSDI to contribute towards the construction of classroom.



Before OSDI's intervention, only 35 students were enrolled in this school. Today, 135 students are acquiring quality education due to OSDI's involvement in this school. OSDI has also appointed a full time teacher to provide quality education. To develop students' interest towards education they are being taught through both formal and informal modes of education.

The community of Jamal Hajano appreciated the efforts of OSDI to create sustainability in their lives.



First Session of Polio Inoculation held in district Jacobabad

13th November 2014: OSDI has initiated the first session of Polio immunization in co-ordination with the Government's Health officials, in the focused communities of Allan Jat, M. Siddique Arain, Jawan Khan Burirro and Nawab Khan Burirro in district Jacobabad.

During this three days activity, which took place from 10th – 12th November 2014, a total number of 232 children were inoculated against this disastrous disease.

OSDI takes pride in achieving 100% of the target, as each and every child from within these four villages has been given the dose of vaccination against polio.



K.G flourishes successfully in district Matiari 7th November 2014: Beneficiaries who have sowed vegetables under the Kitchen Garden Project (KG) in the district of Matiari have been successful in growing good quantity of produce. Many beneficiaries have become sustainable enough to purchase seeds on their own now.

According to a KG beneficiary, Mr. Mithal Rajer from village Jamal Hajano, "We had some empty space in our backyard but had no idea about Kitchen Gardening. Under OSDI's leadership, we learned how to cultivate vegetables and utilize the barren space. Today we are thankful to OSDI for guiding us towards sustainability. Now, we not only consume fresh vegetables from our Kitchen Garden but also share it with our neighbors and sell it in the market.



Distribution of School Bags and Text Books in Khairpur TLC

4th November 2014: OSDI established the first and only Temporary Learning Center (TLC) for girls in the focused village of Kamal Khan Lashari, district Khairpur in March 2012. This platform was established to impart primary education to female students of the community. Students are being taught Sindhi, English and Mathematics by OSDI's appointed teachers.

Last week, OSDI arranged to distribute Text books to 59 students from Nursery, Class I and Class II. School bags were given to all students along with stationary items such as pencils, eraser, sharpener, geometry box and copies (a one-line copy and a three-lined copy). The students were excited to receive the School bags and Textbooks for themselves and thanked OSDI wholeheartedly.

The Girls' TLC is functioning under full capacity and the community of Kamal Khan Lashari appreciates the efforts of OSDI in creating awareness about female education in their village.



General Medical Camp held in village Badam

31st October 2014: OSDI provides medical assistance to the under-privileged focused communities where lack of health facilities are observed. On 24th October 2014, OSDI organized a General Medical Camp in the village of Badam, district Mardan, (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa).

The doctor treated a total number of 17 patients who were suffering from various diseases. Due to the changing weather patients mostly complained about fever, backache and chronic diseases.

On an average 15-20 patients are provided medical assistance in these General Medical Camps held in district Mardan.



First Mathematical Assessment conducted in village Jawan Khan Burriri

27th Oct 2014: The focused community of Jawab Khan Burriri, district Jacobabad has around 65 households. Due, to irregular attendance of the Government school teacher, the education of the children suffered. On request of the community OSDI appointed a teacher, who worked hard to increase the enrollment of students in the Government Primary School and ensured regular attendance of each student.

On 13th October 2014, a mathematical assessment was conducted for the first time. The students were asked about counting from 1- 150 and multiplication tables from 1- 12. Overall, 40 students were present to participate in the test. OSDI's teacher, made each child sit with a distance of 3 feet.

After the test, the students exchanged test papers and checked the answers.

Parents of these students were also invited on the test day to witness the results. Parents were very happy to see the performance of their children and thanked OSDI for appointing a dedicated teacher. The efforts of the teacher were highly appreciated.

The parents ensured the OSDI's district team that their children would come to school regularly and they also promised they would make efforts to continue their children's education up to university level.



OSDI Participated in an Education Rally

24th October 2014: Recently, an education rally was organized by Alif Ailaan in district Matiari. The aim of this walk was to create awareness about the necessity of education and to demand re-opening of non-functional government schools within the district.

OSDI's District Officials, Teachers, CRs and Community Members enthusiastically participated in this rally. Members of the civil society, local organizations and social activists from district Matiari were also present to support the cause. The participants held banners, play cards and chanted slogans.



First Phase of School Based De-Worming Campaign held in District Jacobabad

21st October 2014: In the under-privileged communities of Allan Jat, M. Siddique Arain, Jawan Khan Burirro, and Nawab Khan Buriro in district Jacobabad, OSDI has successfully completed the 1st Phase of School Based De-Worming Campaign.

The activity was planned for two days in which a total of 301 children have been Dewormed. Firstly, the children were given a session on Health and Hygiene before being given a dose of the De-worming syrup. OSDI's Health officials provided a demonstration on hand-washing activity, and briefed the children about its benefits, which is to protect them from different abdominal diseases.

The children performed the hand-wash activity themselves. Later, each child was given a 250ml Milk pack by OSDI. In the end a soap and towel was also provided to the school teacher



to facilitate the children to wash their hands properly.



Global Hand-washing Day Celebrated in District Matiari
 17th October 2014: Students of OSDI's Adopted Government Primary School, in village Jamal Hajano, district Matiari celebrated the Global Hand-washing Day with great enthusiasm. The Lady Health Worker (LHW) of Matiari briefed the children about the significance of Health & Hygiene in their daily life.

Approximately, 78 children were present during the activity in which the LHW told them to wash their hands with soap before every meal and after using the toilet. The students were engaged in an activity and were later asked questions about Health & Hygiene.



The class teachers appreciated the active participation of all students.

Polio Immunization held in District Shikarpur
 14th October 2014: In the focused district of Shikarpur, OSDI in collaboration with the District Government provided Polio Immunization doses to 843 children.

Altogether, 175 children were vaccinated from the targeted community of Malhee, 298 children were from village Gul Burriro, the children from Godho Shar were 190 and 180 children were from village Old Zarkhel who given the inoculation dose against this disease.



By the Grace of God, OSDI has successfully provided 100% Polio Immunization dose to the children within its focused communities in district Shikarpur.

Polio Vaccination Successfully Completed in District Matiari

10th October 2014: The children belonging to the focused communities of Sukhio Mir Jat, Jamal Hajano and Mari Muhammad Khan, district Matiari were vaccinated against Polio disease.

Overall, 673 children were vaccinated from these communities from which 275 children were from Sukhio Mir Jat, 270 children were from the village of Mari Muhammad Khan and 128 children were from the community of Jamal Hajano.

People from these focused communities thanked OSDI for its efforts in creating social awareness against such disease in their district.



LDP Beneficiary Earns a Handsome Profit

6th October 2014: Sultan Rasool s/o Ali Rasool is a poor resident of village Saeedabad in the district of Mardan. Being the only bread-earner for a family of 10, he was selected as a deserving candidate for Livestock Development Project.

OSDI provided him two oxen's worth PKR 65,000/- for fattening purpose. Rasool took good care of them and sold them at high prices during Eid ul Adha season.

On selling both the oxen's Rasool earned a profit of PKR 52,000/-. He and his family are thankful to OSDI for facilitating them with healthy animals.



School Based De-Worming Phase III in District Shikarpur

3rd October 2014: In the focused communities of Old Zarkhel, Gul Burirro, Godho Shar and Malhee in district Shikarpur, OSDI has successfully completed the 3rd Phase of School Based DeWorming Campaign. The activity was planned for two days in which a total of 461 children have been de-wormed.

The children were given a session on the importance of health and hygiene. The children performed the hand-washing activity by themselves. School Teachers were given soaps and towel for the students.



The community elders, school teachers, village organizations and OSDI's district team officials were present to witness the De-worming session. Each child was provided with a dose of De-worming syrup and a packet of milk. Parents thanked the OSDI team for its efforts.

2nd Hepatitis Camp Organized in District Jacobabad



30th September 2014: In the village of Nawab Khan Burirro, District Jacobabad OSDI organized the second dose of vaccination against Hepatitis B disease.

Few patients were referred to the District Health Office for PCR test by the Government Doctor. A session on female health and hygiene was also conducted during the camp to create awareness about factors affecting the health of the females and advantages of Hepatitis vaccinations were also briefed. A total of 183 males and 242 females were inoculated against Hepatitis B during this camp.

The villagers appreciated the efforts of OSDI in creating awareness about Hepatitis.

Furniture Provided to General Medical Camp in District Matiari



26th September 2014: Approximately 30 people are treated on average in the fortnightly General Medical Camps organized in the focused villages of Sukhio Mir Jat and Jamal Hajano in the district of Matiari.

OSDI's Lady Health Worker (LHW) and Health Assistant facilitate the Government Doctor to provide medical assistance to the ailing patients.

On 23rd September 2014, OSDI provided 4 plastic chairs, a wooden chair, wooden table, side screen, examination table, iron cupboard for medicines, pedestal fan and water cooler. The furniture was handed over to the Community Based Organization (CBO) by the OSDI's District Team officials. The community thanked the District Team for facilitating them.



Sania – Ladies Convenience Store

23rd September 2014: Recently, OSDI has financed a 25 year old lady, residing in the village of Sukhio Mir Jat, district Matiari to open up a ladies convenience store. Being abandoned by her husband Sania lives with her parents. She has acquired education till middle level and has also done a beautician course. To earn some extra income she even stitches clothes.

In an urge to do more to secure her finances, Sania approached OSDI to grant her some financial assistance to open up a small store in her house for ladies. Since, there was no ladies convenient store in the village, females had to travel to Hala city.

The total estimated budget for this SREP business was PKR 30,700. OSDI provided her financial assistance worth PKR 25,700. Sania contributed 20% down payment which is PKR 5,000.

On 22nd September 2014, Sania – Ladies Convenience Store was officially inaugurated by OSDI's district team.



School Based De-worming Activity – Phase III

19th September 2014: In our efforts to create awareness on the importance of health and hygiene in all focused communities. OSDI has successfully completed the third phase of School Based De-worming in the villages of Sukhio Mir Jat, Jamal Hajano and Mari Muhammad Khan in district Matiari.

Children belonging to the age group of 5 – 15 years were given a dose of the de-worming medicine.

Students of OSDI's Supported Mari Muhammad Khan Government Primary Boys School, Marvi Fellowship Girls School Mari Muhammad Khan, Jahan Khan Fellowship Girls School Sukhio Mir Jat, OSDI's Adopted Government Primary Boys School Sukhio Mir Jat, Tulip Fellowship Girls School Jamal Hajano and OSDI's Supported Government Primary Boys School in Jamal Hajano were first given a session on Health and Hygiene before being given a dose of the de-worming syrup.



Government officials, Teachers, Representatives from the Community Based Organizations and Community Representatives also attended this event. A total of 532 children have been de-wormed in this phase.

Later on, each child was given a packet of milk by OSDI.



Beneficiary grows 104 maunds of Cotton

16th September 2014: As the picking of cotton crop is ongoing these days a beneficiary has successfully grown 104 maunds of cotton on 5 acres of farmland.

Gulsher, a resident of Mari Muhammad Khan village, district Matiari is thankful to OSDI for financing him the loan and training him with best agriculture practices to improve his crop yield. Naik Muhammad is another beneficiary from village Jamal Hajano, who

has grown 125 maunds of cotton on 5 acres of farmland.

It is so far observed that there are no weedicide problems with the crop. The beneficiaries are very happy with such healthy production of crops on their fields.



OSDI arranges Mobile Medical Camp in District Jacobabad

12th September 2014: OSDI organized the second General Medical Camp in the district of Jacobabad on 3rd September 2014. The entire community of village Jawan Khan Burrero was mobilized to participate and get free medical check-up. GMC was held at the OSDI supported Government Primary School.

52 patients were treated by the health staff. From which 8 patients were referred to the DHQ Jacobabad, as they suffering from eye infection, joint pain, kidney stone,

hepatitis, anemic asthma and skin disease. The community was also mobilized for the upcoming Hepatitis camp.

The villagers were happy to get free medical consultation from the doctor and thanked OSDI for providing them medical assistance on their door.



Students given session on K.G under Science Subject

9th September 2014: In the focused community of Mari Mohammad Khan, OSDI's agro expert delivered a session on K.G project to students of Government Boys Primary School. The primary objective of this session was to educate the children about the importance of nutrition in their daily lives. Teachers highlighted the

significance of fresh vegetables and fruits to the students under the subject of science.

A total of 89 students were present to learn from the agro expert about sowing, implementing and planting techniques. The children were asked about the vegetables name and were asked to identify them. Knowledge about the necessity of vitamins, proteins and minerals in staying healthy was shared with the children. In the end the teachers gave them home assigned about different types of vegetables.

The children remained excited throughout the session and promised to start K.G in their homes as well.



OSDI Initiated First Hepatitis Prevention Camp in District Jacobabad

3rd September 2014: In the focused village of Nawab Khan Burirro, district Jacobabad OSDI has recently initiated its First Hepatitis Prevention Camp. The purpose of this camp was to create awareness in the local community about the disease and provide

medical assistance to suffering patients.

Government official - Dr. Liaquat Ali Abro joined the camp and gave awareness sessions to males and females about Hepatitis and Health & Hygiene. Due to active community mobilization by OSDI health officials and community representatives more than 300 people attended the session.

Almost 478 patients were inoculated after screening from which 28 were diagnosed with Hepatitis B+ and 22 were Hepatitis C+. The community appreciated the efforts of OSDI in providing them medical assistance.



Syllabus Books Distributed in OSDI Primary Model School Malhee

01st September 2014: OSDI successfully achieves another milestone in creating sustainability in the lives of underprivileged children.

On Saturday, 30th August 2014, the Government's Education Department provided syllabus books to be distributed amongst students of OSDI Primary Model School Malhee.

The Assistant Education Officer of Taluka Khanpur, Mr. Rab Nawaz was also present at the occasion. Books were distributed to 111 students. The remaining 66 students would be provided books shortly.

Teachers and students were very happy to receive the books and thanked OSDI and the Government officials for facilitating them to



study with devotion.



First Mobile Medical Camp in District Jacobabad

29th August 2014: Last week, OSDI initiated the first General Medical Camp (GMC) in the focused village of Siddique Arain in the district of Jacobabad. The awareness campaign for the medical camp had begun four days prior to the event. The health officials made an announcement in the village mosque and went from door to door informing every household to get free check up done.

The GMC took place in the Government Primary School where 40 patients were treated. Few patients were prescribed medicines by the doctor on nominal rates. The health staff checked blood sugar of patients on doctor's prescription. 6 patients were referred to the District Health Quarter Jacobabad as they were affected by chronic diseases, Hepatitis, TB and Skin disease.

During GMC, the health staff also mobilized the villagers for the upcoming Hepatitis Camp which would be held in a few days. The community appreciated the initiative of OSDI for providing them medical assistance through GMC in their village and thanked the health officials on their efforts.



ADO Education visits OSDI Primary Model School Malhee



26th August 2014: In the recently built OSDI Primary Model School Malhee, district Shikarpur the Government officials paid a surprise visit to meet the teachers and students on 23rd August 2014. The ADO Education - Mr. Rab Nawaz Bhayo along with Education Supervisors, Mr. Abdul Sattar Shiekh and Mr. Abdul Sattar Arain came to the school.

They visited the classes and asked questions from students. Even the syllabus being taught was monitored by them. Later, they committed to facilitate the students with the syllabus books of Class 1.

The efforts of OSDI's management in running this school were appreciated by the Government officials and positive feedback was given about this initiative.



Sessions on Maternal and Child Health-care in district Matiari

23rd August 2014: In the focus villages of Jamal Hajano and Mari Mohammad Khan, district Matiari OSDI health staff visited pregnant women and invited them to attend the sessions on Maternal and Child Health-care. It was ensured that each and every expecting female was approached by going from door to door.

OSDI's health officials briefed the females about the necessity to have their regular check-ups done every month for not only their own safety but also of the child in the womb. Rather than sitting back and not discussing their health condition with anyone. The females were also informed how timely vaccinations could save them from various illnesses such as Hepatitis C.

The health officials motivated the females to have their free check-up done at the OSDI's Mobile Medical Camp (GMC). Mothers of the newly born children were asked to get their babies vaccinated as soon as possible.



Gul Jamil: Progressing towards Sustainability

20th August 2014: In the village of Badam, district Khyber Pakhtun Khwa resides Gul Jamil, a 33 year old, cancer survivor.

OSDI considering him as a potential candidate for SREP financed him to open up a Grocery shop in his village.

Today, his shop is prospering and he is progressing towards sustainability. He has kept a freezer in his store. In which he has started to sell Cold Drinks now which are available in all sizes from small, regular and jumbo size bottles. Along with this Jamil has also kept fresh vegetables and fruits as well. On average his daily sales have reached PKR 1000 – PKR 1200 and he is able to save PKR 500 – PKR 600 a day. More than this, he has successfully paid his 11th loan installment to OSDI as well.

He is very happy with his life now. As he is able to provide his family with better living conditions and thanks OSDI for changing his life completely.



Badam Primary Model School Celebrates Pakistan's Independence Day



15th August 2014: Similar to the previous year, OSDI's built Badam Primary Model School once again marks the Independence Day celebrations in district Mardan on 14th August 2014. The aim was to create awareness about independence and highlight its importance in students to nourish patriotism and devotion in them.

OSDI's district officials decorated the entire school with National Flags and Banners in two days. Teachers worked hard with students to help them prepare speeches, tablo and comedy skits. Students were allowed freedom of expression and full opportunity to perform at the stage.

The event began with Tilawat, preceded by Hamd and Naat. After which, standing ovation was done in respect for the National Anthem by all present. National songs were sung by participants to encourage patriotism. The students delivered speeches on various topics like Independence, Education, Green Homeland, Freedom of Speech etc in Urdu, Pashto and English languages.

Some participants entertained the audience with comedy skits which were very much applauded. OSDI's staff also delivered speeches on the topic of independence. More than 200 people attended the event including Students, Parents, Teachers, Community and OSDI staff. In the end, sweets were distributed to all.



OSDI arranges a Magnificent Event in District Matiari to mark Independence Day

15th August 2014: In order to highlight the significance of 14th August 2014 amongst students OSDI's District Team – Matiari organized a mega event in Government Primary School in village Mari Muhammad Khan.

The celebrations began with minor festivities in OSDI's supported Government Primary School in village Jamal Hajano and Government Boys Primary School in village Sukhio Mir Jatt. After which the students from both these schools joined the crowd in OSDI's supported Government Primary School Mari Muhammad Khan.

The celebrations in each school began with recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, followed by Hamd and Naat. Raising of National Flag, signing of the National Anthem and patriotic songs by students.

An awareness rally was also organized from OSDI's supported Government Primary School Mari Muhammad Khan to OSDI's supported Marvi Fellowship Girls School. In which students held placards and flags highlighting the importance of Pakistan's Independence Day.

All community members including notables of the village, CBO's members, CRs, Government, Teachers, Parents, OSDI's staff and Students enthusiastically participated in this event. Students were given sweets in the end of the event by OSDI's district officials.



68th Independence Day of Pakistan was commemorated at OSDI Primary Model School Malhee

15th August 2014: The recently built OSDI Primary Model School Malhee, in district Shikarpur celebrated the 68th Independence Day with a lot of zest and zeal. Students, Teachers and Parents were excited to be a part of the prestigious day festivity.



Kalimullah Soomro, a student of class four began with reciting a few verses from the Holy Quran. After which National Anthem was sung by all students. The teachers worked hard to prepare students for speeches highlighting the immense efforts of Quaid e Azam and his ideology for a separate Muslim state.

Students from OSDI supported Government Primary School in village Godho Shar, also actively participated in the event. It was observed that after the efforts of few years students are not only improving in their studies but also in the extra-curricular activities. Awareness of self hygiene and cleanliness taught has made a remarkable impact on them. Parents happily appreciated the valuable efforts of OSDI in making this event memorable for their children. Later, sweets were distributed to mark the end of the celebration.



Celebration of Independence Day in District Khairpur

15th August 2014: OSDI organized Independence Day celebrations in the Temporary Learning Center of village Kamal Khan Lashari, district Khairpur. The event began with Tilawat e Quran then National Anthem was enthusiastically sung by all.

The children enjoyed singing Patriotic songs showing their love and respect for the country. An exclusive tablo was also prepared by students with the help of their class teachers followed up by a quiz competition.

More than 50 students participated in the event alongwith their Parents. The villagers thanked the OSDI team for organizing such an event for their children. OSDI's district officials distributed biscuits, cakes and sweets amongst students in the end.



Exclusive Celebrations on 14th August 2014 in District Jacobabad

15th August 2014: In the Temporary Learning Center of village Nawab Khan Burirro, district Jacobabad OSDI organized an exclusive event for the students and parents of the community. Students of OSDI's supported Government Primary School, village Jawan Khan Burirro were also invited to participate in the Independence Day celebrations.

Teachers enthusiastically played their role in preparing students for different extra-curricular activities such as reciting Tilawat and Naat, singing of National Anthem, engaging children in Games such as Tug of war/ Rope war, Sack Race and Arm wrestling. Drawing competition and a Quiz Competition was also organized. Students of both schools energetically participated in all activities.

All students came neatly dressed with bright smiling faces. OSDI officials distributed flags, badges and sweets amongst students. Parents were very happy to see their children enjoying and actively participating in Educational and Physical activities. The community thanked OSDI for holding such an event and appreciated the efforts made to enhance capacity building amongst students.



Field Monitoring Visit in District Shikarpur 04th August 2014: OSDI's Manager Programs, Ms. Asma Qureshi paid a visit to village Gul Burrirro, district Shikarpur to monitor the agricultural fields on 19th July 2014. The purpose of the visit was to meet the farmers and know about the farming techniques. In order to maintain the quality of the crop and also ensure an increase in its production. So, the beneficiaries may grow healthy crops and earn more from it.

Manager Programs enquired from the agro beneficiaries about the production of rice crop and its seed germination. She assured that OSDI's agro experts would take all possible initiatives to help them increase their rice produce. The beneficiaries were also told that OSDI's agro experts remain available for co-operation and guidance to all farmers alike. Some agro members also discussed their issues regarding the use of weedicides and urea.

The community appreciated the assistance of OSDI and Ms. Asma on travelling from Karachi to meet them. Such visits increase the confidence of the local community on OSDI.

OSDI conducts Water Testing in district Khairpur

31st July 2014: Clean drinking water not only keeps us healthy but also saves us from various devastating diseases. Unfortunately, in most of the under privileged villages, people do not have access to clean drinking water. On 15th July 2014, OSDI's team conducted water testing in focus villages of Jan Muhammad Vandiar, Mulko Wahan, Pir Bux Bhambro and Kamal Khan Lashari in district Khairpur.



OSDI's team took water samples from various places in these villages. The community was also asked about the water quality issues in their area. The people requested OSDI to build a water tank and make pipeline connections for them.

Later, the water samples were sent to water testing laboratory in Sukkur for more details.



Kitchen Garden is a Blessing in the month of Ramadan 28th July 2014: Fresh vegetables and fruits serve too be a blessing in the holy month of Ramadan. In the villages of Jamal Hajano and Mari Muhammad Khan, district Matiari the Kitchen Gardens are producing handsome amount of eatables for beneficiaries.

Mohammad Mithal Rajar, a beneficiary had been financed a loan for hand pump too set up kitchen garden. Today, he is witnessing a healthy growth of rich gourd, cluster beans, okra and chilies in his home. And in future, he intends to increase the size of his kitchen garden and sow a wide variety of vegetables.

The beneficiaries of village Mari Muhammad Khan said that in the Holy month of Ramadan they use their home grown vegetables and fruits. It has become a lot convenient for them to prepare food for Sehri and Iftari. According to Sajid, another beneficiary who has been financed a hand pump loan for his kitchen garden said that he has sown okra, cluster beans and rich gourd in his garden. And, is waiting for the vegetables to grow and ripe.

OSDI's initiative to provide food security to these under-privileged communities has started to bear fruit now.



Demonstration on Water Purification in district Khairpur

24th July 2014: In the villages of Mulko Wahan and Pir Bux Bhambro, district Khairpur, OSDI's district officials conducted a session on water purification. The need and importance of clean drinking water was highlighted during these sessions. The community was informed about the positive effects of safe drinking water on their health, especially of children.

Due to the unclean drinking water these people consumed, a good amount of money was spent treating illnesses which left these people with more expenditure rather than any savings.

OSDI team demonstrated the community the water purification process and briefed them about the procedure of making the drinking water safe by using water purifier. 10 liters of water was purified by a sachet of water purifier. After mixing the water for 5 minutes the water became clean and drinkable. Each family was given 16 sachets of water purifier.

The community appreciated the efforts made by OSDI in facilitating them and creating awareness.



OSDI facilitates Health and Hygiene sessions for 566 beneficiaries

21st July 2014: In the month of June 2014, OSDI conducted several sessions on Health and Hygiene to mobilize the focused communities on cleanliness. The OSDI district officials in Shikarpur, Khairpur, Mardan, Matiari and Jacobabad addressed males, females and children to inform them about the importance of clean drinking water, hand-wash before and after every meal, especially after using the toilet, and need for hygiene after sanitation. A total of 566 beneficiaries were trained during these sessions conducted by OSDI.

The villagers were informed about various infectious diseases such as diarrhea, hepatitis and malaria which could result due to poor hygiene awareness. Mainly such sessions are conducted in schools to update maximum number of children. Students are taught how to cut nails, brush their teeth, take bath and keep their surroundings clean by OSDI team. Such awareness campaigns would play an effective role in training the focused communities on how too improve their lives.



Kitchen Garden Blooms in district Matiari

17th July 2014: In the village of Mari Muhammad Khan, district Matiari beneficiaries of Kitchen Garden project are benefitting from a healthy production of vegetables and fruits. Amongst, the hand pump beneficiary's financed by OSDI is Mr. Sajad Hussain who has successfully prepared his

land due to the availability of water now.

He has also made the ridges for the easy flow of water in the land prior to cultivation. He is hopeful with the joint efforts of OSDI he would be able to witness a good production of vegetables in his kitchen garden.

Another beneficiary of kitchen garden in the same village is Mr. Lemon, who has a production of 15 kgs, okra in every three days. From which he sells 20kg - 30kg in the market every week and is able to make a good living. He plans to sow more such vegetables in future.



Teachers Training in District Shikarpur 14th July 2014: Teachers are considered to be the most important asset in building up a nation. Further enhancement of teaching practices and skills development is very crucial for delivery of quality education.

Mathematics training was recently organized for the OSDI school teachers in district Shikarpur from 7th to 10th July 2014.

11 teachers of OSDI actively participated in this four day training session from district Shikarpur, Khairpur and Jacobabad. The trainer, Ms. Zahida

focused exclusively on teaching mathematics from simplification and multiplication of fractions too mental math exercises and problem solving. It was also witnessed that the OSDI's hired trainer gave individual attention to each teacher and shared ways to improve teaching methodologies.

The overall response of the teachers regarding the training was positive. Based on the feedback received, OSDI will schedule further such trainings for the teachers.



OSDI Finances Hand Pump Loans in district Matiari

10th July 2014: Recently, OSDI has initiated a pilot project in the district of Matiari in which beneficiaries who lack access to clean drinking water are financed small loans of PKR 15000 each for the installation of Hand-pump. It is ensured that the beneficiary selected for this grant is deserving and more people would benefit from it. Rather, than only the beneficiary and his family.

OSDI's district officials supervise the entire process from purchasing of material to water bore and installation of the water motor. These Hand-pumps not only give an easy access of clean drinking water to the beneficiaries but also facilitates them in the Kitchen Garden.

So, far four beneficiaries have been granted the loan in this project. And they have successfully prepared their lands and sowed chilies, cluster bean, okra, rich gourd, round gourd. The land for tomato is also prepared and sowing will be begin from August, 2014.

PCR and CBC tests conducted for Hepatitis Patients in district Khairpur



07th July 2014: OSDI has been working for the past three years in the district of Khairpur to facilitate the Hepatitis patients in the community alongwith the government. On 24th of June 2014, 15 previously screened and identified patients were taken to the DHQ Khairpur by the OSDI district officials to have the PCR and CBC tests conducted.

8 patients were from the village of Kamal Khan Lashari, 4 were from village Mulko Wahan and 1 patient was from village Jan Muhammad Vandiar. The Hepatitis patients were given free medicines by the government doctor and OSDI facilitated the patient's logistics and tests.

The patients appreciated the constant efforts of OSDI to provide medical assistance to them on time.



Opening of Spare Parts and Puncture Shop

3rd July 2014: Asghar Ali is a 25year old, educated youth who lives in village Old Zarkhail, district Shikarpur. And he is the only bread earner for his family of three. Recently, OSDI under its Small Rural Enterprise Project has financed him to open a spare parts and puncture shop.

Ali was disbursed a loan of PKR 51,256 to purchase the material and upgrade the shop. It is expected to earn an estimated profit of PKR 7,500 and CDF will

be 10% of the total amount. This strategy was instrumental to gear up the income-generation opportunities in the area and to make good profit.

By taking the initiative of selling motor cycle spare parts in his shop the monthly income of Ali would increase by PKR 1700. In this way he will be able to provide a better future to his children. Similarly, the residents of Old Zarkhail are happy and relieved to have this shop with usual needs in the center of the village and now they do not have to go a mile away to get their bikes fixed and purchase spare parts.



OSDI organizes First Summer Camp in District Matiari

27th June 2014: In order to celebrate the summer vacations and raise the morale of team spirit in children OSDI initiated its First Summer Camp in the focus villages of Mari Muhammad Khan, Jamal Hajano and Sukhio Mir Jatt in district Matiari. Amidst active teachers and smiling faces of children this summer camp began from 9th June 2014 and lasted till 24th June 2014.

The OSDI's district officials engaged children in various activities and campaigns such as Cleaning campaign, Indoor and Outdoor Games, Plantation, Drawing Competition, Speeches and Roll Play. A special award ceremony was also organized to mark the end of this year's Summer Camp and reward the successful achievers' to give air to competence and team spirit amongst children. A large representation of the community was observed to acknowledge the efforts of OSDI and participating children.

The community appreciated the overall concept of engaging children in healthy activities and providing them a platform to enhance their creativity. Such initiatives taken by OSDI not only highlights the importance of education in a child's live but also serve to create awareness within the community.





Soil Bank Constructed in district Jacobabad 17th June 2014: In OSDI's focus village of Nawab Khan Burriro, district Jacobabad the villagers were quite disturbed due to the flow of waste water which came and destroyed their fields every now and then. Due to the unavailability of the Soil Bank to act as a barrier to stop the flow of this stingy water.

OSDI along with mutual co-operation of the villagers moved a step forward to build a Soil Bank in the village. The construction team and an Excavator

Machine were hired by OSDI. After a hard work of 2000/hrs and continuous monitoring by the district officials this task was successfully completed.

The OSDI district official was informed by the agro members about the advantage of this Soil Bank as its preparation would serve the villagers a dual advantage one would be the protection of Crops and another would be in the protection of Fishes. The villagers of Nawab Khan Burriro community were very grateful to OSDI for its timely cooperation in saving their fields.



Livestock Development Project initiated in district Mardan

13th June 2014: Under the Livelihood Assistance Program, OSDI launched its Livestock Development Project Phase VI in district Mardan. After an extensive evaluation of the beneficiaries' past performance on the project, a total of 22 animals were given to 13 well-trained individuals.

A veterinarian went along with beneficiaries to properly examine the animal before purchasing. In

this regards, nine oxen, ten cows for fat-fattening whereas three female goats for herd-increasing were purchased from the local market. These animals will be provided with veterinary assistance, regular medical check-up, vaccination and deworming producers to improve livestock health and generate higher revenue after selling on Eid-ulAzha.

The community of district Mardan much also appreciates OSDI's Livestock Development Project as it is also a profitable program that helps them to meet both ends.



Immunization Drive against Measles in OSDI focused villages'

9th June 2014: A vaccination program against Measles prevention was organized by OSDI along with the Government's Health department.

It also included an Extended Program on Immunization. However, due to its epidemic, special immunization campaign is launched across Sindh by injecting anti measles vaccine to the children.

OSDI's hired lady health worker, dispenser ensured smooth management of the program through door-to-door mobilization in order to take children of the targeted age group to a fixed camp in focus villages.

District team and teachers at school also raised awareness among children and parents regarding importance of the preventive vaccine. OSDI's Primary Health Center and school were the centerpoint for vaccination at this campaign.

OSDI's tireless effort in order to facilitate government in anti-Measles drive in focus districts of Sindh was much appreciated by the community.



OSDI Presents - Best Kitchen Garden Award

5th June 2014: Over a period of three years, district Matiari has been doing tremendously well in Kitchen Garden project. People are remarkably benefitting from the last eight phases and purchasing seeds of their own. Fresh vegetables and fruits are now easily accessible and available in their home. OSDI organized an Award Ceremony in order to appreciate the efforts and boost the morale

of the beneficiaries' devotion towards managing their Kitchen Garden's.

OSDI's Matiari team initiated, "**Best Kitchen Garden Award Ceremony**" for the first time. In this regard, first prize was given to a lady w/o Hadi Bux resident of village Jamal Hajano. She was over whelmed to receive the award, initially she was not willing to cultivate Kitchen Garden inside her home since her husband lives in other village due to work. But this vegetable garden came as a blessing for her. Now instead of purchasing the vegetables from the market; she goes to her backyard

to get her vegetable supplies. Another award was given to Kitchen Garden CR who manages his own kitchen garden and also provides assistance to the villagers in managing their garden.

Beneficiaries were very happy to receive acknowledgment in front of whole village and appreciated the incentive of OSDI in helping them to minimize their expense on food.



Inauguration ceremony of OSDI Model Primary School

3rd June 2014: The inauguration ceremony of OSDI Model Primary School Malhee was conducted under the esteemed supervision of Founder Trustee, Mr. Aasim Azeem Siddiqui. It was inaugurated on 23rd May 2014. A girl from class I presented a speech about their three year school journey and thanked OSDI for their utmost dedication in provision of a school in village Malhee, district Shikarpur.

Children from all classes participated in a program and presented tableaus on the promotion of education and health and hygiene. OSDI Model Primary School in village Malhee is an outcome of dedicated leadership and team building which has resulted in mobilizing the community and motivated children to attend school. Now to expand the horizon, the committed teaching staff has been hired to smooth out the school management. Further, children were excited to participate in extra-curricular activities and their dedication was worth observing.

OSDI's Manager Programs distributed certificate of excellence amongst teachers on organizing such a great event and preparing children for the program. Assistant Manager Programs distributed Ajraak as a token of appreciation to the chief guest. Dignitaries present at the ceremony were Supervisor of Education, In-charge Civil Hospital, In-charge Polio program. A large number of community representatives, members of village committee and parents attended the inauguration ceremony.



OSDI organizes Academic Award Ceremony in district Matiari

30th May 2014: In the district of Matiari, OSDI adopted Government Boys Primary school to promote educational awareness in the under-privileged village of Mari Muhammad Khan. Since, its adoption in 2013, the ratio of school going children in this village have increased from merely 15 students to 90 students.



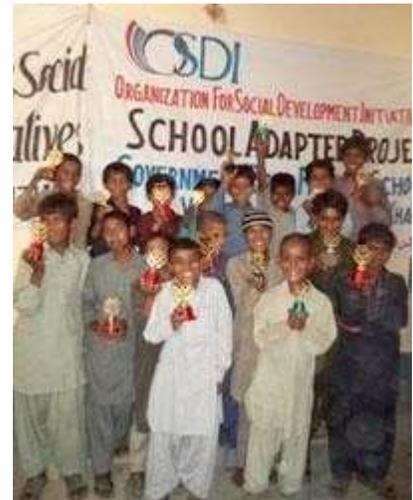
Recently, OSDI organized an academic award ceremony on 29th May 2014, for the first time to celebrate the position holders of annual examinations. Students who performed well were given trophies to further encourage them to study more with dedication.

OSDI distributed medals as a token of appreciation, too boost the morale of regularly school attending students. The children were over

whelmed and were happy to attend the event. Students were also provided with biscuits at the end of the ceremony.

OSDI staff, teachers, CRs, CBO and community of Mari Muhammad Khan participated in the event whole heartedly. It was also announced at the end of the event that a summer camp would be initiated for duration of 15 days in June. In which coloring, painting, drawing, gardening and various games would be planned for children to engage in activities and have fun.

The parents of students in Mari Muhammad Khan appreciated the initiatives taken by OSDI in transforming the school to a model school in which the children came with happy faces regularly.



Shikarpur - Annual Examinations conducted in OSDI Schools

7th May 2014: In the focused district of Shikarpur, the annual examinations have been conducted in OSDI schools. As per academic calendar, a well designed question paper was prepared by dedicated school teachers and provision of answer sheets was made sure to facilitate the students.

School staff worked extensively to carry out the activity as per schedule. The question paper was designed in such a manner that understanding of the students regarding subject could easily be evaluated. The children were happy to appear in exams, wearing new school uniforms and shoes.

The District Education Officer, Shikarpur visited the examination hall and appreciated the devoted services of OSDI team. He also asked verbal questions from the students and checked their answer

sheets. EDO Shikarpur has also announced to provide reading and writing material for the children enrolled.

The children were punctual and confident in their learning to appear before the exam. Newly enrolled students also appeared in the oral examination.

Overall, 211 students; 55 girls and 156 boys from Class I, II and III took written tests for English, Mathematics, Science, Sindhi, and Islamiat subjects; and a total of 81 student enrolled in the nursery class appeared in oral and drawing exams.



The smile and contented feeling of being promoted to new classes was unique to witness.



Student of the Week' Activity in OSDI Model School Malhee

6th May 2014: To acknowledge the status of cleanliness and personal hygiene, OSDI Model School, Malhee has started a campaign called 'Student of the week' in which children who come neat and clean were appreciated and awarded with school badges.

The students were given a week to demonstrate their best behavior practices, and actively participate in classroom discussions and come neat and clean to school maintaining the health and hygiene status.

Every week, each student is encouraged to be the featured student of the school. Winning a title from the school administration is a real boost for the student's in developing their confidence, especially, when everybody is gathered to be present during school assembly. This campaign was initiated to address the behavior change and safe practices.

Character building of the child is also focused in the designed planned which can be traced from the everyday activities of the students. To build moral character of a child it is a primitive component of personality development. This activity also helps to build competitive environment and good spirit among children. Health and hygiene quiz has created awareness regarding healthy activities and improved practices.



Monday is the day allotted for this campaign. This means it is time for the announcement of Student of the Week! Children wait for whole week to get entitled and are excited to know which child is star of the week.



In persuasion of winning the title, every child tries to do his best and ultimately one who is more proactive takes the title home. This activity makes students healthier and helps actively participate in academic as well as in extracurricular activities which results in low absenteeism.

After education and health awareness programs, considerable improvement has been observed in sanitation. Apart from their personal hygiene, students are taking care of their surrounding cleanliness and also motivate their parents to follow the same practices in their home. OSDI district team and teachers' regular follow-up elevating the standard of education in the focus villages.



Launching of a grocery shop in Mardan 30th April 2014: Under OSDI's Small Rural Enterprise Project, the young and energetic Amir Ijaz, previously running a confectionary store has now started a grocery shop.

He has opened this grocery shop in village Saeedabad, district Mardan.

Amir is a 20 year old, educated youth who had dreams, but reality came as a shock to him. After

completion of intermediate from college, he had to start working in a small confectionary store to make both the ends meet.

He worked hard for his idea to open up a grocery shop which was evaluated and accepted by OSDI due to the high demand in his village.

Today, Amir successfully earns PKR 5000 – PKR 6000 monthly out of PKR 60,000 loan. Being the eldest among his siblings and he feels proud to be an influential member of the family.

This is an example of how; OSDI is transforming lives of people, and contributing in their dream of initiating their own business.





Distribution of School Uniforms & Shoes in district Shikarpur

27th May 2014: OSDI has recently inaugurated its five-room building of a school in district Shikarpur which is a ray of hope for the inhabitant of village Malhee.

Three years back when OSDI started working with in this district, the children used to study under a make shift leave shade. The transformation is not

merely focused on behavior change and academic essentials but would also provide financial support, to construct avenues for the future leaders.

After the infrastructure of the school was upgraded, in a formal ceremony organized by OSDI the distribution ceremony of school uniforms and shoes took place.

Education District Officer (EDO) was invited as the chief guest. The community provided 50% monetary contribution to show their active engagement and participated in the event to highlight the performance OSDI made so far in their area.



OSDI Shikarpur team mobilized focal persons through community meetings to ensure regular attendance of children in the school. The children are happy and excited to be in the new school building. They are enthusiastic to wear new uniforms and they pledge to study with more dedication.



First Academic Year of Badam Model Primary School

25th April 2014: Badam Primary Mode School (BPMS) celebrates its first academic year in March 2014, by successfully achieving its goal to create education awareness in district Mardan.

In order to mark its annual celebration, OSDI had organized a program in the Badam School. Students from all classes prepared different skits

and tableaux, speeches in Pashto, Urdu, and

English.

A student of class I who stood 2nd in her class presented a speech on the topic “war will be won by pen”, her speech was appreciated by all present. In recognition of their good grades, position holders were awarded with medal and trophies.

To appreciate the utmost devotion of the community representatives, token of appreciation was presented to them. A large number of people including community elders, parents and relatives of children, village committee representatives attended the celebration.

OSDI's first ever Temporary Learning Center (TLC) in district Mardan is gaining popularity and children from different villages are getting enrolled in BPMS. Admissions are open for the next batch and enrollment has reached from 100 to 180 children.

The community is proud to have BPMS in village Badam under OSDI's flagship; they believe OSDI made quality education financially possible and parents belonging to lower-segment can also



send their children to school without hesitation.

OSDI organizes three day “Education Training” in district Matiari

25th April 2014: ‘Right To Play’ is an international organization that uses the transformative power of play to educate and empower people facing adversity.

OSDI arranged for a trainer from Right To Play to educate and empower the teachers and community representatives in district

Matiari. It was three day training session which took place

from 1st to 3rd April, 2014.

This training focused on guiding the teachers and community representatives to build better life skills amongst their students and improve their teaching methodologies. Main life skills focused in this training were on how to improve co-operation, communication and building better social cohesion amongst the teacher and the student.

The OSDI-appointed facilitator told the attendees about RCA (Reflect, Connect & Apply) Method, Active Learning Method, Inclusion (Special Child) Person with disability, Safety Check in classroom, The Model of Feedback and Assessment Method.

A segment on lesson planning for the students was also included on the last day of the training. In this segment, the emphasis remained at using active



learning methodologies in the schools.



Beneficiary Harvests 225 Maunds of Wheat Crop

18th April 2014: In the district of Matiari, Mari Muhammad Khan a focus village of OSDI resides Mitho s/o Allah Bux. He is a bread earner for his five family members. His success story relates that after being indebted for more than two years, prosperity has finally knocked his door.

Being an OSDI beneficiary, he took a loan of PKR 50,000 few months ago and repaid the full payment by selling two buffaloes. After the grant of another

loan he cultivated wheat on 3 acres of farmland. As a result of his hard-work and proper monitoring of the crop Mitho has successfully produced 225 maunds of wheat which is a remarkable average.

He is also a member of OSDI's Kitchen Gardening Project and has been growing vegetables at home. OSDI's programs are designed in a manner to uplift the lives of under-privileged citizens and provide them sustainable development to improve their lives.



World Health Day Celebration Held in District Jacobabad

OSDI Jacobabad division has launched its health care projects on World Health Day in District Jacobabad. To create awareness among vulnerable rural communities of Sind, a day-long awareness campaign was carried out in the targeted communities of district Jacobabad.

Children were briefed through pictorial banners regarding importance of general health and hygiene such as the benefits of having a daily breakfast, bathing and washing of hands before every meal and after using the toilet. Behavior Change Communication (BCC) practices were emphasized through the active demonstration of proper handwashing techniques.

Importance of clean drinking water was also taken into account in order to ensure children to be safe from abdominal diseases. Implementation of safe practices in daily lives was the take home message for the children. Towels, soaps and nail cutters were given by OSDI to the school management to ensure the continuation of sanitary practices among children.



The targeted communities have also shown great interest in the campaign and actively participated in all the activities.



Session on Safe Drinking Water in Shikarpur

OSDI's dedicated team visited the village of Old Zarkhel in district Shikarpur to conduct a session on the need and importance of safe drinking water. The team also demonstrated water purification process using PURE sachets.

villagers about the safe drinking water and later they told them about the necessity of water purification and its benefits on our health.

Initially, the OSDI team informed the

The community was given 440 PURE sachets, and encouraged to use it for a healthy lifestyle. The villagers appreciated the positive initiatives of OSDI in improving their lives. A community representative Taj Mohammad Pathan requested the OSDI team on behalf of the villagers to conduct such awareness sessions and demonstrations on water purification process amongst females as well.



Hence, the session for females on water purification and its importance would be conducted next week by the OSDI staff.

Financial Literacy Training held in District Matiari

OSDI conducted a three day, Financial Literacy Training (FLT) workshop in the district of Matiari. This FLT was initiated as a refresher course for the villages of Sukhio Mir Jat, Jamal Hajano and Mari Muhammad Khan where

previously the training took place a year ago.

All the attendees were presented with handouts which contained the textual and visual content to convey the main prescriptions of the content. The overall attendance in all three villages was 100%

and the community appreciated the efforts of OSDI in creating awareness about the saving and budget planning through a narrative of “Sikhoo – a villager”.

As handling finances is a day to day issue of every household.

As a result of last year’s training the community of Mari Muhammad Khan initiated to contribute in monthly B.C. after which all participants were able to purchase or fulfill their required needs. This year again they vowed to contribute a small portion of their income in community development and help their fellow villagers to ease their loans burden.



OSDI aims to make its focus communities independent and autonomous. So the villagers realize their responsibilities towards the community and create

awareness.



Success Story on Micro-Credit Finances A beneficiary of Small Rural Enterprises Project (SRE), Mukhtyar Muhammad has been making sufficient profits from his grocery shop in village Badam, district Mardan. OSDI gave him a loan of PKR 10,000, a year ago.

He has paid-off the actual credit, and also generously contributed in the Community Development Fund (CDF) which is 10% of the total amount. He even purchased a camel for his father to transport firewood to Rustam.

Mukhtyar is happy to see its running shop and feels blessed to have an asset of his own. He also works as a social mobilizer and attends village committee meetings on a regular basis. He aims to increase the size of his business and stock more grocery items to serve his local market.

He often shares his success story with the community and motivates them to change their lives by seeking micro-credit finances. This story comes as an achievement of OSDI in contributing to change lives of the under-privileged.

Today, a mason’s life has completely transformed and he now owns a running business. SRE project helps the educated youth of rural communities to come forward and initiate their business so they come out of vicious trap of poverty.



OSDI's baseline survey successfully conducted - Khairpur & Shikarpur

A descriptive cross-sectional survey was conducted in focused districts of Khairpur and Shikarpur. In order to gauge OSDI's penetration and its impact on creating change in the lives of villagers in the province of Sindh.

OSDI conducted a month's aggressive research prior to initiating this baseline survey. Comparisons were drawn to set and measure our achievements on completing five working years in these rural communities.

In the first phase of this survey, district Jacobabad was solely covered; after doing so successfully. We began phase two, focusing on Shikarpur and Khairpur districts. With the efforts of our capable team we have successfully achieved our target in these areas as well.

OSDI's baseline survey has been designed into two parts: firstly is a questioner for males which has been designed to focus on the minute details of asset-creation which includes Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP). On the other hand, there is a questioner for females which covers the Community Development Program (CDP) and Food Security Program which includes: household expenses and their break up, accordingly. In addition to this, it covered the daily nutrition count of the beneficiary and their household.



The same ratio of data was used in order to get the required details from OSDI's beneficiaries and control group for the comparative study from eight focus villages.

A team of 12 enumerator, eight males and four females were trained in order to conduct this extensive survey within 10 days. The village's profile was also designed to execute a needs assessment and list down the recommendations to evaluate the stance.



Rally on : "Sindh Education is in Crisis"

In Pakistan, 25 million children are out-of-schools due to scarcity of resources and poverty. In response to the lack of access to quality education, Alif Ailaan has organized a campaign rally entitled "Sindh Education is in Crisis". OSDI's Matiari team participated in a walk protesting to raise voice on the issue of non-functional government schools. The walk started from Hala round-about to Dargah

Chowk. The emphasis of the banners was on the demonstrators demanded for functional government institutes in the remote areas of Sindh.

Under the School Adoption Project which aims to resume primary school education, OSDI has formally adopted two schools in district Matiari and Shikarpur - Sindh. By formally adopting the non-functional government school, OSDI renovated the school buildings and hired local educated youth to teach in these schools to improve the quality of education. A large number of representatives from local organizations, social activists, teachers and community representatives were holding play cards and chanting slogans.



Enrollment Increase: Separate classes of girls & boys started

Godho Shar school was previously being used as a warehouse for livestock feed. After OSDI's penetration, the adoption process was implemented with the consensus from the community who were eager to commit, on managing the school and making it sustainable. We initiated the classes with 20 students at school. Currently, 70 children are being educated in this school, out of which we have 50 boys and 22 girls.

The continuous mobilization of Shikarpur team, brought out-of-school children to the class-rooms and from last week separate classes for girls & boys have also begun in this adopted school of Godho Shar. Increase in enrollment has also led new teachers being hired in this school. Skills acquired through primary education helps these teachers to run everyday tasks in an organized manner.

Dedicated staff and Community Representatives are continuously involved in community meetings and mobilization the villagers to send their children to school.



Celebration of International Women's Day in District Matiari

To commemorate international women's day, district health department organized a three-day campaign in coordination with local non-profit organizations in district Matiari. In this regards, OSDI set-up a hepatitis screening and vaccination stall to provide health-care services to the women who have lack of access to medical care. Altogether, 17 women were screened whereas one woman was found positive with Hepatitis C virus. A referral was made to DHQ Matiari for further investigation. Moreover, individuals who

were found non-infected were injected with Hepatitis B vaccination during the camp. OSDI, hired Lady Health Worker (LHW) who conducted an awareness session to highlight the preventive measures of hepatitis and distributed informative material among all. To acknowledge the efforts of community women, who have excelled positively in their respective fields were awarded with a shield. A large number of people from government and local community attended the program.



Distribution of Qingqi Rickshaw in district Matiari

OSDI initiated Small Rural Enterprises Projects (SRE) to provide micro financing to benefit small businesses and create more sources of income for unemployed educated youth in the rural areas of Sindh and Khyber Paktunkhwa.

Mr. Kando Mir Jat, is a bread earner of five, and he used to ride an old and damaged qingqi rickshaw in the village of Sukhio Mir Jat, district Matiari. Due to low wages earned most of his income was spent on repairing the rickshaw now and then. Hence, with OSDI's support and financial assistance of PKR 70,000 provided to him. He has purchased a new qingqi rickshaw, contributing PKR 30,000 from his own pocket. Moreover, the district team has trained him on basic book keeping, planning of business and saving strategies to ensure smooth implementation and execution of this project for him.





OSDI presented its poverty alleviation model Keeping up with the tradition of ongoing learning and knowledge sharing process, through training and development programs, the District Head of Mardan participated in an International conference. It was based on the agenda of “Emerging Horizons of Agriculture Extension for Sustainable Rural Development”, which was held under the esteemed supervision of



University of Faisalabad. OSDI’s representative shared, “OSDI’s model of poverty alleviation”, which highlights OSDI’s threepronged approach in all focused villages. The paper was highly appreciated by national and international experts and they offered their full support and collaboration to OSDI in improving lives of the under-privileged.



OSDI’s TLC in district Jacobabad

The first Temporary Learning Center (TLC) has been temporary set-up in village Nawab Khan Burririo in district Jacobabad. Since, there were no schools established within the vicinity the children were unaware of health and hygiene conditions. Initially the classes started with 50 students being enrolled, and gradually within a week, the enrollment reached to 62 students. OSDI’s TLC began its operations on February 18, 2014. The district team made efforts to mobilize the community; as a result the

children are now coming neat and clean to

school. Two teachers are hired from the focus village to teach subjects such as English, Urdu, mathematics and science. The community has provided autaaq for school. Furthermore, they even contributed stationary and written material to ensure full support in this project. Parents are very happy to send their children to school. OSDI is continuously making efforts to create change by providing 100% enrolment in the focus villages.



Abandoned School Repaired in Village Mari Mohammad Khan

Renovation of a damaged and neglected government school has been successfully completed by OSDI in the focus village of Mari

Mohammad Khan, district Matiari. The

community participated by providing labor services, refreshments to the workers, and also installed a hand pump in the school. The school has become operational again since December 2013. Schools bags and stationary were also provided to students by OSDI as an incentive to increase enrolment. To ensure clean drinking water in the school premises, aqua tabs have been provided. Two water coolers, glasses & stand have been placed for the children, which are regularly cleaned and maintained by the new school management consisting of Community Representatives. Periodic committee meetings are conducted to ensure regular attendance of the children in school.



A joint Mobile Medical Camp & Health and Hygiene Session

To provide primary healthcare to communities who do not have access to quality services, medical camps are held fortnightly in village Jamal Hajano, district Matiari. A visiting doctor examines and treats approximately between 20 and 50 patients in one camp. Major diseases identified include skin infection, viral fever, and water borne abdominal diseases. After

necessary first-line treatment, patients who need further care for cases such as hyper-tension and eye infection are referred to District Head Quarter Hospital in Hala city.

Health and hygiene awareness sessions are also conducted by a lady doctor and OSDI's Lady Health Worker along with demonstration on the proper use of aqua tabs given by OSDI. Behavioral change practice is emphasized with active demonstration of proper hand washing techniques. Personal hygiene and significance of clean drinking water in relation to water borne diseases are highlighted.



Aquatabs Distribution campaign in focus villages of district Khairpur

Access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation facilities to the targeted communities is the primary objective of OSDI's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Project. To clean microbiological contamination, an aqua tabs distribution campaign was carried out in focus villages of Khairpur. As per the execution plan OSDI staff and Community Representatives distributed 11250 aquatabs' strips among 250 households for 30 days in collaboration with World Health Organization. . A preliminary

session regarding aquatabs benefits and their usage at household and community level was carried out by health staff. Brief discussion on water born disease, especially diarrhea & dysentery was done and explained about causes, prevention, and their first line treatment. Emphasis was made on safe storage of drinking water and proper sanitation measures as a joint approach. Community showed their great interest and volunteer participation in the campaign.



Blood Sampling Camp in focus villages of district Shikarpur

A one day blood sampling activity was arranged at Primary Healthcare Center Shikarpur to cater Hepatitis B and C positive individuals registered in OSDI camps. 61 patients from three villages including Old Zarkhail, Malhee, and Godho Shar were undergone blood sampling test for PCR by health assistant and qualified dispenser. PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) is more sensitive and advance blood test that provides information and give physicians a significant

lead in the treatment strategy of the hepatitis disease. All essential measures were taken to maintain the safety, sterilization, and retained cold chain to transport the samples to District Head Quarter Hospital. Community Representatives played a major role to enhance community participation and PHC staff also disseminated information on the causes of disease and specific prevention.



Farmers Training on Modern Agriculture Techniques in Wheat & Sunflower Cultivation

To create awareness on modern techniques and best practices in agriculture, OSDI organized a training workshop on cultivation of wheat and sunflower seeds in collaboration with ICI (Pvt.) Ltd. in district Shikarpur. The focus of the training was sunflower cultivation and the benefits of crop rotation. Multimedia

presentations were used to make training simple and clear for OSDI's focus farmers. Improved farming techniques, best practices in irrigation, and high-yielding seeds for increased production were some of the topics under discussion. Farmers also shared their concerns on slow seed germination, low production, deficiency of micro-nutrients in soil, and its impact on crops. Agricultural experts also discussed solutions for better yield and profitability of the sunflower & wheat crops along with their climate suitability. Beneficiaries are now equipped with the knowledge that can enable them to increase agriculture production with improved techniques. Moreover, using the hybrid seeds and fertilizers would help to increase production per acre.



Capacity Building of Field Staff on Data Collection & Management

OSDI organize a follow-up training of field staff for capacity building in order to implement the Livelihood Assistance Program. Participants discussed the format for assessment of beneficiaries and were given training on documentation skills, data collection, data verification, and data entry. OSDI's staff from Khairpur, Shikarpur, and Jacobabad participated in the training. A demonstration of the same in the form of a role play was conducted to improve the understanding of the staff regarding effective communication in the field. It was also emphasized to acquire accurate data as per the production cycles, so that OSDI's efforts can bear fruit.



OSDI Schools Recognized as Model Schools by Alif Ailaan

OSDI in collaboration with Alif Ailaan organized an educational awareness seminar in district Matiari at the government's primary school in village Mari Mohammed Khan. This school has been recently renovated by OSDI. The community participated in the event to highlight success and challenges within education in their area. OSDI supported schools of

Jamal Hajano and Mari Muhammad Khan were recognized by Alif Ailaan as model schools in district Matiari. OSDI's teacher from the school in Mari Muhammad Khan and OSDI's Community Representative from Jamal Hajano were rewarded an ajrak for their devotion in bringing children to school daily. In this program, an education committee was also formed at the Union Council level to assist the community in general and resolve issues related to education. OSDI's staff including, teachers, lady health worker, community representatives, and others attended the program.



Kitchen Garden Phase V in Khairpur The fifth phase of Kitchen Garden has been successfully implemented in district Khairpur. 87 families participated in the sowing activity held last week. OSDI's agricultural expert provided assistance to the beneficiaries by distributing vegetable seeds, humic acid, and fertilizer. Community representatives' assisted OSDI in implementation. Beneficiaries who have been a part of the Kitchen Garden project for more than one phase purchased seeds and prepared land on their own. The community appreciated OSDI's continuous efforts to alleviate poverty and promote sustainability. Seasonal

vegetables grow for a minimum of four months but many families consume vegetables up to six months from their gardens.



School Renovation in Village Mari Mohammad Khan

OSDI facilitated the renovation of a government school in district Matiari by repairing the floors, fixing the walls, constructing a restroom, and painting the entire building. The community bore around 20% of the costs as a testament to their commitment to improving Education services in their village. OSDI's field staff mobilized focal persons through community meetings to ensure

regular attendance of children in the school. In the first week of the school restoration, the enrollment increased from 15 to 60 students. To encourage regular attendance and punctuality of students, children are provided with up to date books and stationary items. Parents are eager to send their children to the school on a regular basis and OSDI is actively working to ensure 100% enrollment of out of school children in the focus villages.



Completion of Vaccination drive in village Godho Shar

To administer the final and the third dose of Hepatitis B vaccination, a two-day camp was set-up in village Godho Shar in district Shikarpur. 268 individuals were administered with the vaccination in the camp. Regular health promotion campaigns along with disease-specific awareness sessions on behavioral change were also conducted by health staff. OSDI district team and Community Representatives did the marketing for the camp to ensure maximum participation of villagers. OSDI staff and District government Shikarpur have provided

technical assistance.

A joint maternal health workshop by OSDI and



Marie Stopes Society

To improve maternal health and well being a subject specific awareness workshop was done in coordination with Marie Stopes Society in villages Jamal Hajano and Mari Mohammad Khan, district Matiari. 110 women, especially those of child bearing age, were the targeted group for discussion on common gynecological and maternity problems. They were taken into confidence and sensitized about family planning procedures, products, and promised further

assistance through OSDI staff on periodic basis. OSDI's Lady Health Worker and female Community Representatives of both villages were active in gathering and motivating the group. In the end Marie Stopes Society also distributed multivitamins and supplementary tonics to incentivize participants.



Hepatitis drive has concluded in village Malhee

8,056 patients have been screened and vaccinations through OSDI's Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program in total. In order to conclude hepatitis drive in village Malhee, a two day camp was set-up in district Shikarpur. 318 individuals were given the third dose of Hepatitis B vaccination. Out of these, 167 were females and 151 were males. An awareness session was held to highlight the preventive measures of hepatitis; beneficiaries were also told about the relationship between cleanliness and prevention of the disease. OSDI will continue follow-up visits and

interventions as per plan to prevent communities from re- infection and catching disease. OSDI is determined to cover 100% of the focus villages by bridging essentials gaps, mobilizing communities, and ensuring safe practices.



Kitchen Garden in district Jacobabad

64 families have joined the Kitchen Garden Project from new focus villages selected in district Jacobabad. Under the Food Security Program, OSDI helps vulnerable families achieve a balanced nutritional intake and a steady supply of fresh vegetables from their backyards to their kitchens. Selected families who meet the vulnerability criteria are assisted in preparing uncultivated land inside or near their homes to grow seasonal vegetables. A demonstrative training on land preparation and sowing was conducted by OSDI

agricultural expert. OSDI has provided the selected families with agriculture inputs such as seeds, fertilizer, and humic acid to start their kitchen

garden.



Distribution of water purification tablets in focus villages

OSDI partnered with World Health Organization to provide water purification tablets to focus communities in district Khairpur. In village Kamal Khan Lashari, 30 sachets of water purification tablets were distributed to eliminate microbiological contamination in water. In this regard, OSDI district team along with health staff conducted an awareness session on safe drinking water and hygiene. The incidence of water borne diseases and preventive measures were explained to the women in the

community. A joint demonstration on using water purification tablets at point of use (such as matkas or other plastic containers that can cause microbiological contamination) was conducted by OSDI's Lady Health Worker and Female Social Mobilizer.



Selection of Beneficiaries in Jacobabad for the LAP

OSDI has included 4 new focus villages in district Jacobabad to run its poverty alleviation programs. The new focus villages are Nawab Khan Burriri, Allan Jat, Mohammad Siddique Arain, and Jawan Khan Burriri. After completing the baseline survey in the focus villages, assessments were

done at the household level and according to the criteria of each program, beneficiaries are being selected. 100 families will be financed to cultivate wheat in the upcoming season under OSDI's flagship Agriculture Development Project. Families who fall under the poverty line and have up to five acres of land to cultivate will be given agriculture inputs and extensive training on best practices so that they can generate higher yields and sustainably improve their incomes.



Kitchen Garden Phase V Sowing in Matiari

Kitchen Garden Phase V implementation has successfully started in district Matiari. Under the supervision of OSDI's agriculture expert, beneficiaries have prepared their land and started sowing seeds to grow their own vegetables. In this phase, seeds of Cabbage, Spinach, Turnips, Tomatoes, Reddish, and Carrot are being sowed. This is the third phase in which beneficiaries are buying seeds and preparing land on their own. OSDI

provides fertilizer, humic acid, training, and continuous monitoring to see if vegetables are growing successfully. Each season of vegetables lasts between 4 and 6 months, ensuring a steady supply of home-grown vegetables, fulfilling daily nutritional requirement of women and children, and reducing monthly food expenditures of the beneficiary households.



Second Dose of Hepatitis B Vaccination in Shikarpur

OSDI is in collaboration with district governments in Sindh vis-à-vis the Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program. A two day camp was arranged to carry out the second dose of Hepatitis B vaccination in village Godho Shar. 334 patients were vaccinated who had been found noninfected and had received the first dose earlier. The turnout was 100% in the second dose camp. Out of the 334 individuals, 134 were males and 199 were females.

After ICT (strip method screening) those patients who were found positive went through the ELIZA test. 19 blood samples of identified patients were collected and carefully transported to the District Headquarter hospital.



Routine CBC & SGPT estimation of under treatment patients in Khairpur

A monthly medical checkup along with laboratory investigation of Hepatitis patients was conducted in the District Headquarter hospital in Khairpur. Dr Saliha, a medical officer at the district Hepatitis Center examined the patients and their reports, and briefed them about recommended daily nutritional intake. After Complete Blood Count and SGPT estimation, treatment for Hepatitis B was started for 18 infected patients in village Kamal Khan Lashari. F4 patients of Hepatitis C and D were also given this treatment.

Dengue Awareness Seminar in district Matiari

Dengue virus usually erupts during rains and spread more in rural areas. In this regard, the District Health Department in Matiari along with OSDI's support organized a Dengue Awareness Seminar. OSDI provided assistance with the aim to increase mass awareness regarding prevention of dengue virus. EDO Health appreciated OSDI's continuous efforts in improving healthcare in district Matiari. At the end of the program, students pledged to continue dengue awareness campaign. Doctors, representatives of international organizations and other dignitaries from the development sector along with OSDI staff attended the program.



Cleanliness of Water Tank in Pir Bux Bhambro



A 108 feet long pipe was installed to drain waste water away from the common sitting area of the community in village Pir Bux Bhambro, district Khairpur. To avoid harmful effects of stagnant water; additionally, a cemented tank was constructed for livestock animals to drink water from a separate place. The village community organized a cleanliness campaign to clean the water tank and highlight the importance of health and hygiene. As community of Pir Bux Bhambro is regularly using aquatabs to clean their drinking water, and they understand the importance of health and sanitation in their daily lives. OSDI's field staff along with Community Representatives participated in the activity.



Coloring Competition with Health and Hygiene Awareness Session

A joint activity of coloring competition plus a health and hygiene session was organized in OSDI's adopted school in village Sukhio Mir Jat, district Matiari. This was the first activity of its kind for the children in the school where they were provided drawing books and stationary items such

as color pencils, crayons, and other material. Major purpose of this competition among the student was to encourage creative skills and competitive spirit. Children thoroughly enjoyed the activity and showed keen interest. A hygiene awareness session was also conducted to highlight the importance of cleanliness, daily bathing, and dental care. In the end of the session, a small quiz was arranged to evaluate the learning abilities of the children during the activity.

School bags distribution ceremony School bag distribution took place over two days in the schools



of focus villages of Matiari. Reading and writing material was distributed among 140 children including notebooks, pens, pencil, chalks, and slates. 13 out-of-school children in Jamal Hajano school were also enrolled on this day. Parents, community representatives, teachers, and the local headmaster attended the ceremony. Children pledged to attend regular in classes and work hard.



Meeting with district staff and Community Representatives

A meeting of field staff and Community Representatives (CRs) was conducted by Manager Programs in district Shikarpur. The agenda of the meeting was to give updates on the current status of each program, Standard Operating Procedures, timelines of activities, monitoring frameworks, and steps needed to be taken for exit strategy. They were also briefed on identifying households who have successfully reduced poverty in various ways and can serve as role model families. OSDI role model

families are Community Representatives' families that have experienced transformative socio-economic

progress through OSDI's interventions. Future of each of the programs was discussed in the meeting as well. For example, Village Committees comprised of Community Representatives have been formed to build capacity within the communities to continue these poverty alleviation programs.



Classes resume after summer vacations

OSDI's adopted schools and Temporary Learning Centers have resumed classes after summer vacations. Children were excited to return to school after one month of vacation. The re-opening of the schools coincided with the celebration of Independence Day. Currently, subjects such as English, Sindhi, Mathematics, Pakistan Studies, Urdu, and Islamiyat are being taught six days in a week.

Children are focusing on

their basic literacy skills

through active learning and participation. Teachers, Community Representatives, and OSDI's field staff motivate and mobilize focal persons through community meetings to ensure regular attendance of children to school. Parents are satisfied that their children are attending school on a regular basis and OSDI is working actively towards nurturing a culture of literacy in its focus villages.



OSDI's new school successfully completed

OSDI provides access to primary education to out-of-school children in rural communities. After observing a great turnover in its flagship Temporary Learning Center in village Malhee, OSDI has constructed a five room concrete school building for the children in this focus village. The school construction was monitored closely to ensure safety measures and quality services, such as drinking water and toilets, were being provided. Periodic meetings of the Village Committee in Malhee were convened during the school's construction to communicate the responsibility of the community towards the



newly constructed building and motivate them to send their children to school. To promote the need for education among children and their parents, activities are also arranged to engage parents and village elders. Parents and community pledge to keep the area clean and ensure better hygiene of their children. This community genuinely needed a school and determined to make OSDI's school a success.

Celebration of Independence Day in OSDI's school, Shikarpur



Independence Day celebrations were organized at the newly constructed school in village Malhee in district Shikarpur. On the 67th Independence Day of Pakistan, OSDI school's students put together an event for the focus village. Students celebrated the completion of yet another academic year at their

school and pledged to be part of a prosperous Pakistan. The students actively participated in the celebrations and remembered the heroes who have laid down their lives for the independence of Pakistan. The program started with a march parade and hoisting of the flags. To show their solidarity on this occasion, the children were wearing green and white. A quiz competition also took place amongst the students and prizes were awarded to the winners. At the end of the program, sweets were distributed amongst the students who took an oath towards becoming honest and responsible citizens.



First ever celebration of Pakistan's Independence Day in village Badam

Pakistan's Independence Day was celebrated with much enthusiasm at the newly inaugurated Badam Primary School in district Mardan. This was the first ever celebration of Independence Day in the village according to the community. The program started with recitation from the Holy Quran along with Naat-khwani, and was followed by students and parents singing the national anthem. Teachers and students made patriotic speeches highlighting the importance of 14th August with special focus



on the life of Pakistan's national heroes. A role play and speech competition was also arranged to develop the spirit of competition among students. Winners of the competition were awarded with medals and trophies. In order to build a sense of responsibility and discipline among students, OSDI started the Clean Badam Village Campaign on Independence Day. Students,

teachers, parents, OSDI's field staff, and members of Village Committee participated removing litter and waste from the streets of the village. Moreover, the students promised to keep it clean to improve health and hygiene in their community.

Formation of Village Committee in Mardan



In order to make programs sustainable, OSDI engages Community Representatives in all focus villages. Together, Community Representatives from one village form a Village Committee whose responsibility is mobilization, monitoring, and management of projects. Recently, a Village Committee is formed in district Mardan which comprised of Community Representatives selected to monitor and assist OSDI's projects in the district. The meeting was chaired by Manager Programs and the committee was briefed regarding projects' Standard Operating Procedures. During the meeting, extensive briefing was given on the role and responsibilities of the Village Committee with regards to the current and future programs. At the end of the meeting, an oath taking ceremony took place in which token of appreciation was presented to all the Community Representatives to mark their commitment.



Blood sampling of Hepatitis patients under treatment

OSDI staff carried out a campaign in three focus villages to collect the blood samples for Complete Blood Count (CBC) test in district Khairpur. The patients of villages Mulko Wahan and Jan Mohammad Vandiar come to Ranipur were gathered at OSDI district office for blood sampling in order to evaluate the status of general health and side effects of Interferon treatment. OSDI health assistant and lady health worker briefed them about the importance of health & hygiene, as well as daily nutritional requirement of hepatitis patients. The

patients of village Kamal Khan Lashari those who are also under treatment had their blood samples taken after a door to door campaign and subsequently, transported to a laboratory in Khairpur.

A walk organized by OSDI on World Hepatitis Day

OSDI organized a walk on World Hepatitis Day on July 28th 2013, to raise global awareness of Hepatitis B & C and encourage prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. Approximately, 18 million



people in Pakistan are living with Hepatitis. If left untreated or unmanaged, Hepatitis can lead to advanced liver scarring and other complications, including liver cancer or liver failure. Every tenth person in Pakistan is believed to be suffering from Hepatitis. OSDI arranged a walk within taluka Head Quarter hospital Khairpur; it started at the hospital ground and ended at the district Hepatitis Center. Hepatitis Focal person of district Khairpur addressed the participants and highlighted the preventive measures that can be taken against viral Hepatitis and also briefed them about the need of early screening and

vaccination. OSDI health staff along with the government officials attended the walk and pledged to eradicate this disease from the focus districts.

Training on Successful Poultry Farming in Rural Communities

An awareness session on poultry handling was conducted in village Mari Mohammad Khan, district



Matiari. 30 beneficiaries from the village participated in the training. Poultry expert appointed by Mahvash and Jahangir Siddiqui Foundation briefed the participants about the importance of appropriate feed and its timing, and also suggested that the birds removed from the cages to allow for more walking time during the day. Moreover, it was recommended that proper hygiene should be maintained especially in the chicken coops and feeding area. To protect the birds from heat, suitable shading for the birds should be ensured. In the end of the program, community was briefed about the measures to take in order to guard birds from

potential diseases that can occur especially in summer.



Small Rural Enterprise Project - Grocery Shop Financed in Mardan

Under the Small Rural Enterprises Project, OSDI finances educated youth to start up business along with providing training and managerial support. A loan of PKR 55,000 has been given to a young man to set up a grocery and vegetable shop in Badam village. He is a cancer survivor with an amputated lower limb and surviving on a prosthetic leg. The shop is now converted into a mini market with the help of OSDI, where grocery items are well stocked. The residents of the

village Badam no longer need to travel long distances to acquire groceries includes wheat, pulses, rice, beans, cooking oil, tea, soap, washing powders, milk packets and electric accessories and vegetables and due to extension service, his income has increased to PKR 6000 per month.

Kitchen Garden Project Phase IV Concludes in Matiari



The fourth phase of the Kitchen Garden Project is nearing conclusion as the season is about to end. From the 6 different seeds provided, apple guard, bitter guard, okra and beans have yielded the highest production for the beneficiaries in Matiari. The Kitchen Gardens assisted 62 households in growing vegetables that saved them over PKR 150 per vegetable each week. Moreover, from second phase onwards beneficiaries started purchasing seeds and fertilizer on their own and cultivating vegetables with the PKR

5,000 per household saved in the previous phase. The households are able to share the vegetables with their neighbors, which further strengthens relations within the community.



Hepatitis Prevention & Control Program's Follow-up Campaign in Shikarpur

A one-day camp was set up to follow up on the Hepatitis Prevention & Control Program in village Malhee, district Shikarpur. The purpose was to administer first dosage of vaccination to 104 new individuals that had screened negative for Hepatitis B in the last camp. Another 92 patients were given the second dose. OSDI's appointed Lady Health Worker and dispenser went door-to-door in order to extend follow-up facilitation. Disease specific health awareness regarding

causes, preventive measures, and treatment options were also shared with the community to accelerate prevention..



Temporary Learning Center transformed to a formal school building

The first Temporary Learning Center has been successfully operational with the support of the local community since February 2011. Initially, 15 students were enrolled in the temporary set-up of the school in village Malhee, Shikarpur. Gradually

enrolment was increased and students' count has now reached

to 151. The registered strength in this school reflects the interest of the community. OSDI is now improving the status of Temporary Learning Center into a formal school building. The foundation has been laid; new infrastructure will have five classrooms, separate toilets for girls and boys, hand pump with a motor along with additional basic necessities. Routine classes in the schools will be started from mid-July



2013.



staff by

Health and Hygiene Awareness in Matiari

To raise the importance of personal hygiene, twohour awareness session was organized in each of the focus villages of district Matiari. Daily bathing, brushing teeth and hand washing were specially emphasized activities during the program. To impart basic techniques among students, a practical demonstration on hand washing and brushing was carried out by the health

involving students. Importance of washing hands before or after meals was briefed through pictorial charts. Moreover, nail cutters were also provided to children in groups to explicate the significance of clean fingernails to hygiene. OSDI district team, teachers and community representatives have also participated in order to motivate students. Children showed great interest and actively participated in all the activities. Milk packets were distributed as an incentive at the end of the session.



School based de-worming Phase II in Shikarpur

School based de-worming phase II was successfully organized in the focus villages of district Shikarpur. Three hundred and ninety two children were de-wormed in the campaign. Health & hygiene sessions were conducted and emphasis was on physical health, oral hygiene, and cleanliness of their surroundings. Pictorial banners were displayed in order to motivate children and to encourage the continuation of sanitary practices in their daily lives. Teachers, parents and community representatives along with the district team

attended the program.

Inauguration of OSDI's Badam Primary Model School in Mardan

Under the Community Development Program, OSDI's Badam Primary Model School was inaugurated in the focus village Badam in district Mardan. To understand the importance of education in our daily lives, particularly in the focus areas, the need for Badam Primary School was identified in order to cater to the out-of-school children. OSDI has established its third Temporary Learning Center which is the first Temporary Learning Center in district Mardan. An inauguration of the first Temporary



Learning Center in Mardan was done by Manager Programs. Seventy two children were enrolled on the first day of the school, out of which 42 were boys and 30 were girls. Books and course materials will be provided free of cost for the first 100 children that are enrolled. Educated youth from the focus village have been hired and trained to impart basic skills such as Mathematics, English, and Urdu. Manager Programs, OSDI's staff, the district team and a large number of parents, and community representatives attended the inauguration ceremony.



Two-day school based de-worming Phase I in district Mardan

Phase I of a two-day school-based de-worming activity has been successfully completed in district Mardan. Five hundred and ninety five children were inoculated in two of the focus villages of district Mardan. Anti-parasitic syrup Zental was given to the children ranging from the age of 5 to 15 years in the de-worming campaign. Health and hygiene sessions were demonstrated by OSDI's doctor in order to raise mass awareness regarding personal hygiene, sanitation and oral & physical health. Milk packets were also distributed among the

students of the focus villages. Manager Programs along with OSDI's staff, visiting doctors, the district team, and health personnel also attended the program. BCC (Behavior Change Communication) practices were emphasized through the active demonstration of proper hand washing techniques.



Chinchy Rikshaw in Shikarpur

Under the Livelihood Assistance Program, Small Rural Enterprises phase II has also been started by providing affordable loans to two unemployed educated youth. OSDI has financed two young men to purchase and run chinchy rikshaws in district Shikarpur. The routes were identified at the time of project planning, budgeting, feasibility and evaluation. Because of the high demand of chinchy rikshaw in nearby localities, two candidates qualified for the loan. Initial 20% of the payment has been made by the candidates and remaining amount has

been financed by OSDI. The first-three months are installment free. The projects of Small Rural Enterprise project helps in establishing small businesses to the educated youth by creating a new source of income to help them become self-sufficient and pull themselves out of poverty.



Mardan General Medical Camp

OSDI weekly medical camp had setup in village Badam in district Mardan. 42 patients were provided with health services in terms of consultation, physical checkups and treatment. Medicines were available on subsidized cost at the camp. Referrals were made to secondary and tertiary hospitals for further evaluation and treatment. Out of these, 9 patients were male, 26 female, and 8 were children. The common illnesses that were diagnosed during the camp were fever, diarrhea, abdominal pain, eye infection, and respiratory cases. OSDI's visiting doctor,

dispenser, lady health worker, community representatives along with the district team have assisted in the successful organization of the camp.



Chinchi Rikshaw in Shikarpur

Under the Livelihood Assistance Program, Small Rural Enterprises phase II has also been started by providing affordable loans to two unemployed educated youth. OSDI has financed two young men to purchase and run chinchi rikshaws in district Shikarpur. The routes were identified at the time of project planning, budgeting, feasibility and evaluation. Because of the high demand of chinchi rikshaw in nearby localities, two candidates qualified for the loan. Initial 20% of the payment has been made by the candidates and remaining amount has been financed by OSDI. The first-three months are installment free. The projects of Small Rural Enterprise project helps in establishing small businesses to the educated youth by creating a new source of income to help them become self-sufficient and pull themselves out of poverty.



Distribution of school uniforms and shoes

A ceremony was held at the Temporary Learning Center in village Kamal Khan Lashari, district Khairpur to distribute school uniforms and shoes. To reward regular attendance and punctuality of students, 104 girls were provided with school uniforms and shoes. The parents, community representative, volunteers, and district Khairpur team were present at the ceremony. In the new academic year, 129 girls have enrolled. Parents were delighted to see their children being rewarded on their full attendance; this helps motivate them to continue this practice.



Kitchen Garden phase I has launched in district Mardan

Kitchen Garden Program has launched in district Mardan for the first time. OSDI agricultural expert and district Mardan team arranged demonstrative training on land preparation, and sowing of vegetables seeds. The training was successful as 13 beneficiaries prepared unutilized space of land in their homes for the first time. The vegetables sown in this season include green chilli, bitter gourd, sponge gourd, okra, and egg-plant. The low availability of vegetables in the focus communities due to scarcity of water further contributed to the success of the Kitchen Gardens.



Three-day school based de-worming Phase II in district Khairpur

A three-day school-based de-worming campaign was organized in the focused villages of district Khairpur. 750 children were inoculated in 10 focus schools of Ranipur and Sobhodoro focused villages. In this regard, anti-parasitic medicine for children in the form of syrup Zentel was given by the health team. Water-borne and oro-fecal contamination causes abdominal worms and leads to problems such as anemia, vitamin A deficiency, malnutrition,

slow mental, and physical growth of a child that ultimately affects the overall health of the children and

their school attendance as well. Health and hygiene sessions were also conducted to increase mass awareness regarding importance of personal hygiene, sanitation, and oral & physical health. At the end of the activity, milk packets were also distributed among children in all focused schools. Parents, teachers, volunteers, community representative, OSDI district team & health staff and other health officials from different organization attended the program.



Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program Continues in Shikarpur

OSDI took the Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program to village Malhee in district Shikarpur under the Chief Minister's Initiative for Hepatitis Free Sindh. OSDI launched this program in 2010 and till today 6482 individuals have been screened while 6292 individuals have been vaccinated in total. In a two day camp in Malhee, 461 people were screened and vaccinated; out of these 224 were male and 237 were female. 40 cases turned out to be positive in total. 13 Male and

4 female patients were vaccinated against

Hepatitis B; and Hepatitis C treatment was given to 8 male and 15 female patients in the local hospital. The results of the test were taken to District Headquarter in Shikarpur. OSDI has facilitated the campaign in terms of screening material, logistics, and qualified human resource .



Kitchen Garden Phase IV

Under the Food Security Program, Kitchen Garden Phase IV has been successfully implemented in district Matiari and Khairpur. 61 families from Matiari and 60 families from Khairpur have prepared their land for Kitchen Gardens inside their homes. This is the first time village Mulko Wahan in district Khairpur has also been included in the program. Under the supervision of OSDI agricultural expert, females

in a household are trained to prepare land &

provided with seeds, fertilizer, and pesticides where necessary. In this season include okra, bitter gourd, spung gourd, bottle gourd, brinjal or egg plants, and beans have been cultivated.

Kitchen Gardens have helped families utilize empty space inside or near their homes and put it to productive use. Usually, the seasonal vegetables grow over the period of four months but several families were growing vegetables up to six months. Kitchen Gardens assist families by reducing their monthly food expenditures by up to PKR 5,000 over four months, and by improving their daily nutritional intake in the form of home-grown healthy vegetables .



Pilot

Poultry

Project

Poultry Farming Project has been successfully implemented in the village Mari Mohammad Khan in district Matiari. OSDI has initiated this project in collaboration with Mahvish and Jahangir Siddiqui Foundation with the aim of enhancing incomes of poor vulnerable household with an additional PKR 100 per day. In its initial phase, 80 families have received 27 hens and 3 roosters each along with proper cages and one month of feed. To facilitate egg collection and transportation of eggs to the market place,

educated youth from the same community have been hired. Once collected, the eggs will be delivered to the retailer shops in Hyderabad/ Karachi regions daily.

Livestock Development Project

Phase V

Successfully Implemented



The fifth phase of Livestock Development Project has been successfully implemented in all focus districts. A veterinary doctor along with Community Representatives from each village went to successive cattle markets for livestock purchasing. Each beneficiary has been provided with 4 male-goats for fat-fattening & income generation, and one female goat for asset creation & herd increase to 38 families in district Mardan, Khairpur and Matiari. 19 families in Khairpur opted to purchase 2 oxen for fatfattening along with one female goat for herd increase.

Livestock

Development Project has started with four families for the first time in district Shikarpur. OSDI appointed veterinary doctor is in charge of regular health checkups, de-worming, and immunizing the animals. Our field staff regularly monitors health and weight of the livestock. The male animals will be sold after fat-fattening on Eid-ul-Azha so that the beneficiaries can make a profit.



Farmers Cultivate Sugarcane with Record Profits

Seven farmers cultivated sugarcane crop for the first time in 2012-2013 under the Livelihood Assistance Program in district Khairpur. The farmers harvested a record production of over 520 mounds on average, generating high revenues and savings that would not have been possible had they cultivated their usual crops. On average, these 7 farmers made a profit of Rs 9,348 with OSDI's assistance. This bumper crop enables farmers to pay off their loans and invest in assets. Based on the tremendous success, an additional 11 farmers have been financed to cultivate

sugarcane in the coming year.



OSDI adopts non-functional school, regular classes commence in village Jamal Hajano

OSDI has adopted a non-functional school in coordination with Education department, Government of Sindh in village Jamal Hajano, district Matiari. Over the last decade, this school had deteriorated in terms of quality of education and children attendance. After adoption, regular primary classes run by educated youth in the

community have started again since February. Lessons range from English, Urdu & Mathematics to Sindhi & Islamiat. At the inauguration, stationary items such as pencils, color box, text books, and copies were distributed amongst the enrolled students to rally their motivation.



School Renovation and Expansion in district Matiari

In Mari Mohammad Khan, OSDI assisted in adding 2 classrooms as well as renovating existing building of the Marvi Fellowship School. Nearly half of the capital cost was borne by the community and the contractor also contributed in terms of extra steel, sheet, & concrete which were required for the construction. To supervise construction, a committee

consisting of OSDI staff and community representatives was formed to purchase material and monitor labour work. The zealous response of community to send their children to school is an indicator that people understand the importance of education and are willing to contribute to improve capacity in the existing infrastructure.





Pakistan Day Celebration in Shikarpur

Pakistan Resolution Day was observed with great zeal and zest in OSDI's school of district Shikarpur. The Program was started with the recitation of Holy Quran and national anthem; students participated in parade, marching, and flag

hoisting to celebrate this day. To foster healthy competition among children national songs, naat, sindhi poetry, and speech competition were arranged. Students were shown photographs of Pakistan's historic leaders so that they can learn about them. To make the day memorable sweets was given to every child and the winners of the competition received trophies.



Pakistan Day celebrated in district Khairpur

To highlight the significance of Pakistan Resolution day, a program including theater, quiz competition, speeches, and a presentation on the life of Pakistani national heroes was arranged in village Kamal Khan Lashari, district Khairpur. Pigeons were also released to show the message of unity and peace. Children wearing white and green dresses presented a small play on Pakistan Day as well. A great number of children from all the schools run by OSDI actively participated in the event. To raise importance of personal

health, a hygiene awareness session was also conducted.

Medal and trophies were awarded in an award ceremony to

the position holders to appreciate the efforts in organizing this event.



Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program – Mass Screening in district Shikarpur

OSDI has been facilitating the government's Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program by organizing mass screening, vaccination, and follow-up treatment in all its focus villages. A two day camp was arranged at village Old Zarkhail in district Shikarpur in which 476 patients were screened. Out of these, 426 patients were vaccinated against hepatitis B whereas 51 patients took the ELIZA test through blood sampling to confirm presence of the virus in positive cases. The results of the test were taken to District

Headquarter Shikarpur. Dr Shaukat Memon who is

the focal person for Hepatitis in Shikarpur visited the camp and briefed the community on the causes of Hepatitis as well as prevention and treatment options available at the district hospital.

District health team, community representatives, and OSDI appointed health staff ensured smooth management of the campaign.



Primary School Girls in village Kamal Khan Lashari sit for exams for the first time

97 girls in village Kamal Khan Lashari district Khairpur sat for government administered annual examinations through OSDI's Temporary Learning Center. Successfully setting up the first girls' school in this village, effectively running it for a year, and preparing the students for final exams with victorious results has been a great achievement for OSDI. Assistant District Official Education (ADOE) Khairpur monitored the examination schedule and a teachers' team was sent to conduct papers. 47 girls from Class

1, 2, 3 took written tests for English, Mathematics, Science, and Islamiyat subjects; and another 50 girls enrolled in the nursery class appeared in oral and dictation exams. The parents are happy to see their daughters getting an education and getting promoted to a higher grade. Government officials also appreciated the effort to increase female literacy levels in poor communities of Sindh.



Providing Access to Safe Drinking Water

With the help of PCRWR, water boring was done to conduction water quality tests at multiple sites and on multiple depths in village Pir Bux Bambhro, district Khairpur. After exploring a number of locations, a site was identified at 50 feet depth with acceptable Totally Dissolve Solutes (TDS) levels as per parameters set by WHO and PCRWR. Community was under severe distress in order to get clean drinking water; the people have to travel a great distance to get water as there was no viable option in the village. After identification, a motor, hand pump, and water tank were also

installed to supply safe drinking water to the households in the village.



School-based De-worming Program - Phase II

School-based De-worming Phase II was organized to cater school-going children in all the focus villages of district Matiari. In a two-day activity, OSDI's head office and district teams, including a doctor, paramedics, field staff, and village Community Representatives gave de-worming medicine to 750 children and provided awareness sessions on health and hygiene.

To evaluate the progress of weekly health and hygiene sessions done by OSDI, a small quiz was also conducted. In order to motivate children to practice the same guidelines at home, small kits consisting of tooth brush, mouth wash, milk packets were distributed at the end of the program .



Appointment of Community Representatives in All Focus Districts

It has been 3 years since we started Organization for Social Development Initiatives (OSDI) to carry out much needed research on poverty alleviation in an effort to build a model for sustainable development in rural Pakistan. We have come half way by successfully implementing programs that aim to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty for nearly 20,000 individuals in 15 focus villages across Sindh and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa.

Under the Livelihood Assistance Program, we have financed small-holder farmers to cultivate various crops over using modern techniques, agriculture experts, scientific know-how, and continuous training and guidance. Over seven cycles of financing, we have witness a doubling of crop yields and a 100% loan repayment rate. Under the Community Development Program, we have mobilized communities to identify gaps in Education, Health, Water & Sanitation, and worked with them to implement sustainable solutions. Lastly, under the Food Security Program, we are imparting skills and assets to communities that will improve their daily nutritional intake and also serve as safety nets in times of socio-economic shocks.

Under the Livelihood Assistance Program, we have financed small-holder farmers to cultivate

OSDI is now shifting focus on our exit strategy to make each community sustainably self-sufficient by gradually transferring assets & ownership of resources, and empowering community representatives to manage each project.

In light of the exit strategy, Community Representatives for each project in each village have been identified and appointed. Their profiles are being evaluated so that OSDI can transform their families into model citizens in the village and empower them enough to manage projects for years to come. Over the next year, the Community Representatives will be organized into Village Communities who will be made responsible for management and monitoring of programs.

A general meeting was conducted by Manager Programs to highlight the role and responsibilities of community representatives and to elaborate on the importance of emphasized to introduce coordination between the community and OSDI. During the meeting, souvenir bags with notepads, calendars, and stationery were presented along with ajraks to the community representatives to symbolize their new designation.



Bi-Annual Field Staff Training

This year OSDI's bi-annual field staff training was organized to build capacity by developing Tools for Successful Implementation of Sustainable Development Projects. The inhouse training workshop took place from January 29, 2013 till January 31, 2013 at OSDI's head office in Karachi. The three-day training was conducted to enhance skills of our field staff and equip to communicate upcoming plans for OSDI's program. All participants received a certificate at the end of

the training session and the best performers were rewarded to increase motivation and energize OSDI staff.



Water Drainage Pipeline in Khairpur

To improve deteriorating sanitation conditions, OSDI has installed water drainage pipeline for the benefits of community in village Pir Bux Bambhro, district Khairpur. A 108 feet long pipe was installed to drain stagnant water away from the common sitting area of the community. Also a small cemented tank was constructed for livestock animals so that they can drink water from a separate place away from the communal area. The community contributed in the

installation of drainage system, volunteering through their plumbing skills and paying for 30% of the project cost.



Successful Implementation of Agriculture Phase 7, Rabi Season

Agriculture Phase VII has been successfully implemented in all four focus districts of Sindh. This time OSDI introduced has modern techniques to ensure maximum yields for the small holding farmers. For example, crop rotation and crop diversity have been implemented to increase land fertility, generate more income, and to decrease risk of bad weather & low production. OSDI's dedicated agriculture expert is

supervising and supporting cultivation of various crops in the four districts including desi sindhi wheat, maxi wheat, chickpeas, sugarcane, grams, mustard, barley, fodder, and canola seeds. Furthermore, intercropping of canola, wheat, and sugar cane on the same land by OSDI's farmers ensure higher chances of increasing income from agriculture.



Kitchen Gardening in Matiari

42 households in district Matiari have been taking 3-4 kilograms of spinach every three to four days from the kitchen gardens they have cultivated inside their homes with OSDI's assistance. Each season of vegetables lasts over 4 months and helps these households save Rs 100 to 120 per week. These households are fulfilling nutritional requirements and also promoting this practice in their neighborhood by sharing vegetables with them.

Campaign to Minimize Negative Effects Of Cold Weather in Khairpur

OSDI did a campaign to minimize negative effects of cold weather on livestock by providing multi vitamins that build immunity. With the assistance of OSDI's appointed vet, 27 animals were injected with Ivermectin, an anti parasitic agent to kill worms present in the Gastro Intestinal Track (food passage). Farmers were also given training on livestock feed suitable for the winter to keep animals safe from the cold.



Safe Blood Transfusion for Hepatitis Patients, district Matiari

A preliminary mobilization campaign was launched to rectify anemia so that Hepatitis positive patients can be treated in village Jamal Hajano district Matiari. With the objective of completing the recommended specific treatment for Hepatitis, a stepwise estimation of Complete Blood Count (CBC), blood grouping, and cross matching along with screening tests was done for both voluntary blood donors and the recipients of blood at Tehsil Head Quarter Hospital

Hala. Safe transfusion was made possible to seven hepatitis patients under the supervision of doctors, paramedics, and OSDI health personnel.



Kitchen Gardening Phase III in Shikarpur district In Shikarpur district, Kitchen Gardening Phase III has been implemented in 20 households. Spinach, tomato, cauliflower, bitter guard, and turnip were cultivated in kitchen gardens inside the beneficiaries' homes under the supervision of OSDI's agriculture expert and community representatives. These vegetables are expected to produce food for a minimum of four months. For this phase land had to prepared again as the heavy rains in October destroyed the previously cultivated vegetables.



OSDI, in collaboration with Jubilee Insurance Limited in Sindh

OSDI, in collaboration with Jubilee Insurance Limited, organized a two-hour session on "Micro Health Insurance for Low Income Families". To attract the community towards the informative workshop, a medical camp was also conducted in the focus communities. These sessions happened over a period of three days, where a visiting

doctor treated 424 people in district Shikarpur and 500 people in Khairpur. Community members were eager to learn about potentially signing up for the micro health insurance policy and actively asked questions in the session.



6 day Teacher Training Program

The teachers in OSDI schools attended a six day Teachers Training Program in Hyderabad with the support of Sindh Education Foundation. The content was designed to impart training on early childhood education, health education, and primary curriculum development. OSDI organizes regular skills development and capacity building trainings for its teachers so that the quality of education improves in its focus communities.



OSDI facilitated a de-worming activity in Khairpur, Sindh

Under the Livestock Development Program, OSDI facilitated a de-worming activity with the collaboration of the Khairpur Department of Husbandry, Government of Sindh. OSDI hired a veterinarian doctor who injected a dose of de-worming medicine with the help of drench gun to 26 young goats. This will help prevent worms that germinate

in the body of animals. These worms can lead

to a variety of diseases in animals such as cough, diarrhea, dysentery anemic condition, weight loss, de-hydration, shock, heart attack etc.



Medical camp in Sukhio Mirjat, district Matiari

OSDI set up a medical camp in the focus village of Sukhio Mirjat, district Matiari. A visiting doctor and lady health worker hired by OSDI treated 25 patients in one afternoon. Common symptoms and diseases detected during the camp were fever, cough, high or low blood pressure, Hepatitis, and body pains.



Ultrasound camp in the Basic Health Unit in village Jan

Mohammad Vandhiar, district Khairpur OSDI has set up an ultrasound camp in the Basic Health Unit in village Jan Mohammad Vandhiar, district Khairpur. A visiting professional sonologist Dr Shahzad Dayo along with lab technicians and medical equipments rendered their services for the camp. 37 patients have been screened so far and their blood samples were collected as per the requirements of Hepatitis B & C screening tests.

The medical staff of Basic Health Unit (BHU) and Primary Health Center (PHC) provided assistance in the activity. Community Representatives proactively participated and were supportive throughout the camp.



A joint effort of OSDI and District Health Department Matiari against Hepatitis

District Health Department in Matiari and OSDI organized a seminar on Chief Minister’s Initiative for Hepatitis Free Sindh. OSDI provided financial assistance in order to increase awareness regarding Hepatitis and its treatment facilities among rural communities in district Matiari. Dr Zahid Memon

appreciated OSDI continuous efforts for Hepatitis prevention activities. DCO Matiari, EDO Health, Hepatitis Program Manager Sindh, Hepatitis focal person Matiari, government doctors and other dignitaries from social sector also attended the awareness seminar. Dr Akram Ghuman conducted a session on Hepatitis signs and symptoms and Dr Ayaz Memon’s session highlighted the preventive measures against Hepatitis. Hepatitis Awareness Seminar made information about Hepatitis and available



treatment centers accessible to rural communities.



OSDI facilitated polio vaccination drive in Mardan

OSDI facilitated a polio vaccination drive in mid-October in all OSDI focus villages in Mardan helping to inoculate 1,788 children under the age of 5. In OSDI focus villages Syedabad, Pirsai, Badam, Nawakaly polio vaccinations were given to 154 infants and 1,634 children. OSDI is facilitating the government campaign to eradicate polio by field teams made up of a lady health worker and a dispenser to communities in Mardan.



Kitchen Gardening Phase III in district Khairpur

Kitchen Gardening Phase III has been successfully implemented in village Kamal Khan Lashari, district Khairpur. Thirty five families participated in the sowing activity held last week. OSDI assisted them in growing their own vegetables inside their homes by providing seasonal vegetable seeds, fertilizers, humic acid and gardening expertise to the beneficiaries. This season the households’ kitchen garden will consist of Cabbage, Turnip, Spinach, Ridge Gourd, and Bitter Gourd. OSDI’s field team along with

an agriculture scientist trained the community members on vegetable gardening. The community was appreciative of the continuous assistance of OSDI in increasing their access to nutritious vegetables in their daily diet and helping them improve their health.



Outbreak of Acute Watery Diarrhea in village Waatani Taluka Sobho Dero district Khairpur

OSDI raised awareness of the importance of sanitation to good health, in collaboration with the World Health



Organization (WHO), in the village

of Waatani Taluka Sobho Dero in the district Khairpur, of Sindh. The OSDI team, in a two-day campaign, went door-to-door explaining to people how crucial cleanliness is to their overall well-being, instructing them to use boiled water or aqua tabs when drinking water, and to adequately clean their utensils before use to limit the spread of bacteria. As a consequence of unsanitary practices, bacteria can result



in the prevalence of various diseases, one such being the outbreak of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD). OSDI assessed the conditions of the vicinity and the drainage system, and concluded that they were not as sanitary as they ought to be. Consequently, bacteria formulate as a result of the contaminated conditions, resulting in the possible causation of water borne diseases ; symptoms of which include fever, vomiting, headaches, diarrhea and sometimes blood in stool . Therefore, individuals should be taking preventive measures such as utilizing clean and purified water, keeping livestock away from their cooking areas, and ensuring the cleanliness of their utensils. The OSDI team distributed 10,000 aqua tabs, 3,000 Sachets, 100 water carriers and Jerry cans and Information Education Communication (IEC) material provided by WHO. Two hundred and twenty four families were educated

further about health and hygiene awareness and the community overall had a positive response to the briefing, assuring OSDI staff that they would continue hygienic practices in the future. During the visit, many people were found in bed, diagnosed as suffering from gastroenteritis and a single case of cholera was also found which usually causes sudden death, but no mortality has occurred during this outbreak of AWD. Patients were given medical attention and were asked to go to the Rural Health Center (RHC) as early as possible.



OSDI Celebrates Global Hand Washing Day to promote hygiene in the village of Kamal Khan Lashari, Khairpur

Global Hand Washing Day is a campaign devised to create global awareness about the importance of cleanliness to hygiene, and to promote the sanitary practice of hand washing and the benefits it entails. OSDI mobilized their staff to conduct a two-hour session on the importance of hand washing and its impact on good health and hygiene. OSDI, with the collaboration of WHO, distributed 248 soap

bars among TLC & Government Boys Primary School children. A demonstration was made to show them the proper way of practicing and preserving hand sanitation, exemplifying that washing their hands with soap removes bacteria much more effectively than simply using water. The containers of water were taken by the Khairpur team in order to provide clean water and to assist in the demonstration of proper hand washing. OSDI had brought pictorial charts that displayed relevant facts in order to help children gain a comprehensive understanding of the information. Moreover, nail cutters were provided to participating children in groups to explicate the importance of nail cutting and clean fingernails, to hygiene. By observing this day, OSDI has increased the awareness and understanding of the necessity of hand washing and sanitation as an effective, affordable method of preventing the spread of bacteria and diseases around the world. About 2.2 million children aged 5 die every year from diarrheal diseases or pneumonia. Hand sanitation is not only simple and inexpensive, but washing with soap can reduce the incidence of diarrhea by 30% and respiratory infections by 21% among children aged 5 years. The campaign is dedicated to raising



awareness of hand washing with soap as a key approach to disease prevention.



Multiple boring Projects in Mulko Wahan Khairpur

In Mulko Wahan, there are 140 households with a total population of 1300 people and in order to get clean drinking water they have to travel a great distance from their village to obtain water for daily use. OSDI is assessing the quality of ground water in their village because the soil has been contaminated from nearby Sugar Mills' effluents. Water boring that had

initially been done at 40 feet was producing water that was bitter-tasting and contaminated with chemicals. In order to find a ground source where there is less contamination, water testing is being done at multiple locations and at multiple depths with the help of PCSWR and WHO. Thus far, we

have discovered that there is one particular spot in the village 80 feet beneath the ground where water is relatively less contaminated with acceptable levels of Totally Dissolved Solids (TDS). The community is appreciative of OSDI's efforts as safe drinking water is critical to good health and is a basic and vital necessity that cannot be undermined.



Three-Day Relief Medical Camp for Rain Affectees

Considerable destruction has occurred following the rainfalls in Shikarpur and people have been displaced from their homes and compelled to remain outside, inhabiting the same space as their livestock. No adequate primary necessities are available. OSDI has distributed

200 tents in the focus villages of Malhee, Gul Burrio, Godha Sher and Old



Zarkhyel. Therefore, individuals are being provided with shelter where household infrastructure, livestock and crops have been significantly damaged. Moreover, OSDI staff briefed the affectees regarding the installation of tents and facilitated the needs of the displaced families in setting up temporary replacements for their homes.



Three-Day Relief Medical Camp for Rain Affectees

OSDI had set up a three day medical camp in the focus villages Godo Shar, Old Zarkhyel, Malhee and Gul Burrirro in the district of Shikarpur. OSDI's visiting doctors and team served the patients in the rain affected region with the utmost dedication and attentiveness. 902 patients came to the Medical Camp from locations nearby where medical assistance was limited or unavailable. The free medical care provided by OSDI's visiting doctor was a beneficial incentive for them to travel from their respective villages. Common illnesses that were observed during the camp

were fever, Asthma, TB, Hepatitis, diarrhea, Renal Stone, Malaria, skin and eye diseases. The patients in all communities were very appreciative of the initiatives taken by OSDI and grateful for the free medical care that was provided to them in their time of need.



Result of the Financial Literacy Training Helps Farmers Manage Their Saving emerges in the form of Investment in the Retail Shop

To impart cost budgeting techniques among villages, OSDI successfully completed the “Financial Literacy Training Helps Farmers Manage Their Savings” in the village Mari Mohammad Khan of the district Mititari in Sindh. Through this training, participants have learned to organize collective savings, fostering community participation while increasing their financial understanding and improving the stability of their economic conditions. OSDI staff

demonstrated means of monetary saving, budgeting, banking and investment techniques through pictorials and analogies with which people could relate and therefore, better comprehend what they were being taught. Consequently, as a result of this training, the villagers started the committee system after attending this financial workshop in their respective villages. There are 52 people who participated in this ‘Weekly Committee’. This is done through a lucky draw whereby one member gets to access community savings every week. Mr. Akber Khaskheli received this week’s committee money and he invested this money in a retail shop by purchasing grocery items. The ‘Weekly Committee’ initiative promotes saving and communal harmony as members sit together to discuss challenges and successes.

OSDI provided vaccination of Enterotoxaemia in district Khairpur

OSDI provided Enterotoxaemia vaccinations (ETV) in the focus villages of Pir Bux Banbhro, Jan Mohamad Vandiar and Kamal Khan Lashari, in Khairpur. OSDI is facilitating this initiative with the



collaboration of the Khairpur Department of Husbandry, Government of Sindh which provided the vaccinations. OSDI’s veterinarian injected a dose of 0.5cc of Enterotoxaemia to decrease the risk of morbidity and mortality among the animals, particularly during the monsoon season. ET occurs due to the presence of a bacteria called Bacteria Pastusllea Chunvai which causes an infection to permeate the animal. This infection leads to a variety of symptoms such as bloody diarrhea, blood in stool and high fever which consequently result in the

death of those affected animals. Routine medical care for the relief of fever, flu, skin disease, and ailments caused by puncture wounds to the foot were also treated by the vet during the visit.



Demonstrative Training Regarding Transplantation of Rice Seeds in the district of Shikarpur, Sindh

In Malhee village, within the Shikarpur district of Sindh, a demonstrative training on transplantation of rice plants was conducted by the OSDI Agriculture expert for the assistance of the OSDI targeted families in the methodology of advance farming. In the training session,

the Agro expert taught farmers to transplant rice seedling and its proper timing. The farmers were also told about the advantages of row plantation and the mandatory distance to be kept between plants for better growth. By maintaining appropriate distance, the plants receive maximum space for growth and expandability. The emphasis was more on receiving adequate sunlight and proper air circulation among crops as the sunlight provides a preventative means of crop destruction from pest infiltration and air circulation enables healthy growth. A practical demonstration of transplantation of rice plants by an agricultural specialist enabled farmers to gain a better understanding of how to maintain their crops.



Financial Literacy Training Program in Jamal Hajano & Mari Muhammad Khan, Matiari



OSDI organized a One Day Training Program in our focused villages Jamal Hajano and Mari Mohammad Khan, Matiari in the province of Sindh. The basic purpose of this exercise was to guide our beneficiaries about effective monetary handling and give them an understanding of budgeting, savings, investment ideas, banking loans etc. The objective of this session is to provide training on subjects such as

Financial

Literacy to impart cost budgeting techniques, and to assist people in minor ways by helping them develop habits of individual savings essentially aiding the community at large. The fundamental thought has been to promote active participation by the general public because it fosters not only the betterment of the living standard of one's household but it plays a vital role in the growth of the rural economy. This can prove to be a useful tool in bringing about a positive change in the life of people living in close-knit rural communities.





Agriculture Phase VI- OSDI provided pesticides to the farmers

OSDI financed 81 families for cotton crop on a total of 283.5 acres of land in Khairpur and Matiari, districts of Sindh. The crop has now reached the Cotton Boll formation stage which is considered as a very crucial phase of the crop because different pests attack on plants during this period of time. Therefore, we have started taking precautionary measures against different pests like Brown Thrip, Black Thrip, Jasad, Whitefly and Mealybug. To protect crops from the harmful effects of the

seasonal pests in our focused districts and to avoid any loss that can

occur because of these attacks, farmers were provided with the recommended pesticides by

the OSDI agricultural panel of experts in the pest affected areas.



OSDI Medical Camp in our focused village Old Zarkhyel, Shikarpur District, Sindh

OSDI setup a Medical camp in its focused village of Old Zarkhyel, Shikarpur District, Sindh. In Medical camp, OSDI Consultant Doctor endowed Free Health check-Up that includes Blood Pressure testing, Weight Check, Generic Consultancy and medicine prescription. People were

ambiguously regarding health issues they were facing after

getting

consultancy from the OSDI Visiting Doctor they promise to take extra care of their health and surroundings for better health conditions. It is the peak season for rice cultivation but despite of having harvest season, a number of villagers attended the camp facility and appreciated the efforts of imparting health services by OSDI.





Polio Campaign Walk in Ranipur, Khairpur district Sindh

OSDI organized Polio Campaign Walk in Ranipur, Khairpur district Sindh. In the continuation of our previous practice, this year OSDI with the collaboration of Cluster organizations started up an 'Awareness Walk' for Polio eradication in its focus districts and helped Pakistan in abolition of this disease. The purpose of the campaign was to spread awareness among masses about the importance of Polio drops. The walk started from the Rural Health

Center (RHC) Ranipur to the Ranipur Press Club. Banners

were placed to guide people about the hazards of restraining children from having drops. Polio is the only way to protect children and those children who are vaccinated against Polio lead healthier life. Abbas Baloch, DCO Khairpur started the Polio Vaccination by providing Polio drops to the children. OSDI Team along with the district officials, Cluster organizations attended the rally.



3 Day Teachers Training Workshop in Shikarpur

A 3 day Professional Teachers Training Workshop was held at the OSDI Shikarpur district office from 3rd July to 5th July in which 3 OSDI staff teachers underwent training by an OSDI hired master trainer. The objective of the workshop was to improve the overall teaching skills of the trainees. During the three day intensive training sessions the trainee teachers were instructed on lesson planning, record

keeping, registration of students, teaching in various languages, teaching multi grade classes among other topics. To track progress a pretraining and post-training evaluation of all the teachers was also taken. The newly acquired skills in improved teaching methods and techniques will help the 3 TLC teachers to impart better quality education to their students in the future.



Inauguration of the Irrigation Channel Project in Nawakally

The Irrigation Channel Project was inaugurated in the presence of OSDI staff and the community of Nawakally. Prayers were held for the success of the project at the inauguration site by the community elders after which the excavation work started.

Currently half of the community farmland is dependent on rainwater for irrigation, The farmers who grow wheat on this land are restricted to cultivate only 15 mounds of wheat per acre which sells for Rs 1,000 per mound. After completion of the Irrigation Channel Project, crop yields are expected to increase to 30 mounds per acre, doubling the productivity and incomes of the beneficiaries.

Furthermore, a steady source of water would enable the beneficiary farmers for the first time to grow two cash crops instead of one that would significantly improve their livelihoods. The project would irrigate up to 50 acres of community farmland supporting 35 households.



Award ceremony for best performing OSDI employee in bi-annual training workshop

During the recent inauguration of the Irrigation Canal Project in Nawakally, a certificate and shield for outstanding performance in OSDI's bi-annual training was presented to Samar Taj who currently serves as a dispenser at OSDI's Permanent Health Center located in Saeedabad, Mardan District.

The 4 day bi-annual training workshop was held in Karachi from June 25 to June 29, where OSDI field staff and FMOs were taught on the importance of financial literacy by OSDI hired master trainers. Issues such as savings, budgeting, and tracking monthly expenses were covered among other things during the training. Skills and knowledge acquired in this workshop would be of great help to OSDI field staff in assisting their focus communities in better management of their financial affairs in the future.



Training of Farmers on Livestock Breeding by Sindh Government Livestock Department in Khairpur OSDI in collaboration with the Sindh Government Livestock Department held a training workshop for its Livestock Development Project members. The training took place at a buffalo farm where the trainees were instructed on the best livestock grazing methods and techniques by district livestock officials. Training focused on nutrition, proper livestock medical care and maximum revenue generation from livestock.

The Livestock Deputy Director in acknowledgment of OSDI's efforts under the Livestock Development Program pledged to vaccinate all livestock animals in OSDI focus villages free of charge as well as conducting routine medical checkups of the animals in OSDI's program in Khairpur.. District level officials have expressed interest to collaborate in similar ventures in the future with OSDI to promote better livestock grazing.



Small Farmers in Shikarpur Trained on Best Agricultural Practices

45 farmers in Shikarpur district who are a part of OSDI's Livelihood Assistance Program receive microcredit for agriculture inputs in every crop cycle along with soil testing and guidance on improving yields. For the current rice crop, the farmers received training from OSDI's agricultural scientist on seed sowing was provided to the attendees, optimum usage of fertilizer and other soil nutrients such as humic acid. After the training, the farmers were provided

with seeds, fertilizer, nutrients, and cash to start ploughing their land. OSDI's field staff will be responsible for providing constant monitoring and feedback till the rice crop is harvested and sold.



Tailoring Business Starts in Matiari

OSDI has initiated a Small Rural Enterprises Project to create more sources of income and higher levels of income in rural areas and promote the importance of education through widened opportunities. After comprehensive data collection and interviews the best candidates have been selected and the first small business has been started in Sukhio Mirjat village in Matiari district. Fareeda wanted to start tailoring services in her village as she already possessed the skills but lacked the opportunity to fulfill her dream. With the help of an affordable loan, OSDI helped her purchase a sewing machine, materials such as thread, buttons, and lace, design books and a chair to start a small stitching business at her home. In addition, OSDI gave her training on basic book-keeping, business and saving planning and

to ensure her business would be successful.



Hepatitis Prevention & Control Program in Matiari

In collaboration with the Chief Minister's Initiative for Hepatitis Free Sindh, the Hepatitis Prevention & Control Program was initiated in February 2010 and gradually has been expanded to all four focus districts in Sindh and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa. In the past two years OSDI has succeeded in screening 6,315 and vaccinating 6,158 individuals against the fatal disease. OSDI facilitates the Hepatitis campaigns by providing staff, volunteers, doing follow ups and giving hygiene awareness in our focus villages. OSDI continued the Hepatitis drives in May 2012 in Jamal Hajano village in Matiari district. During the two-day campaign, 614 people were screened for Hepatitis B and C and 604 vaccinated for Hepatitis B out of which 10 and 5 cases of Hepatitis B and C have been detected respectively. All the identified cases

are scheduled for pre-treatment tests and further treatment.



Water testing done in Mulko Wahan village

OSDI extensively tested the water sources in our focus villages in Khairpur district last week. The results have been shocking revealing severe problems in the quality of water making it in some places unacceptable to use. In the village of Mulko Wahan neither aquatabs nor life-straw filters can be used to purify the water so OSDI is looking into other sustainable solutions to provide clean and safe water to the village. The OSDI team in collaboration with WHO collected samples from multiple water sources for testing and levels in turbidity, chloride, hardness, sodium, sulfate, fecal coliform, and microbiological contamination all exceed the standards making the water smelly, dirty, and soapy. In addition, hardness can cause renal failure, affect kidneys, and fecal contamination can cause gastritis,

diarrhea, vomiting and other water borne diseases. Water pollution is a problem in rural areas and by providing access to clean water many diseases can be avoided, the quality of life improved, productivity increased and medical costs decreased.



Adopted School Opens in Sukhio Mirjat Village

OSDI has adopted a previously non-functional government primary school for boys in Sukhio Mirjat village in Matiari district. 55 students, 20 girls and 35 boys, have enrolled after door-to-door mobilization by the OSDI team. The building has been fully renovated and two classrooms are ready to cater to the children in the area. Posters and charts on the walls create an inviting and motivating environment for learning. The community has donated a hand pump to the school and boring was done by OSDI. OSDI has also provided a water cooler, stand, and glasses in addition to informing the

teacher on the use of water

purifying tablets to ensure access to clean drinking water for the students. OSDI has started the tradition of morning assembly which includes prayer and play as an attraction for the small students

who have shown keen interest in the activity. On the first day of school, each student was given a school bag with a slate, chalk, pencils, copies, and books to make sure their first experience with education is positive and enjoyable.



Wheat crop successful in Matiari in Agricultural Project Phase V

OSDI financed 160 families for wheat crop in the winter of 2011-2012 covering 574 acres in all focus districts in Sindh. The wheat was fully fertile at the end of April and the harvest has finished in Matiari, Khairpur, and Shikarpur. This year the wheat crop has seen a tremendous growth in output especially in Matiari district. During the fifth phase of financing agriculture for smallholding farmers, OSDI introduced improvements in the inputs such as seeds, bio fertilizer, humic acid and weedicides after soil testing and

consultation with an agricultural scientist. The average production in Matiari for OSDI farmers was 53 mounds per acre with one farmer harvesting 80 mounds per acre. On average, families earned approximately Rs 47,000 over the period of 6 months. This bumper crop enables farmers to pay off their loans and have savings.



OSDI sponsors a student for Pakistan Young Leaders' Conference 2012

OSDI has sponsored a female student, Syedda Anum Zainab to attend Pakistan Young Leaders' Conference in Islamabad in April 2012. PYLC is a platform for young minds that offers an opportunity to promote realistic change in Pakistan. Over 200 participants gathered together to debate and discuss practical solutions on Pakistan's current issues. Anum Zainab was honoured with the certificate "Hope of the Future" for her active participation in her committee, Media & IT.



WASH Project Finishes in Jamal Hajano in Matiari

OSDI started the construction of 150 toilets in Jamal Hajano village in Matiari district in February 2012 in collaboration with Mahvash and Jahangir Siddiqui Foundation. The project aimed at improving the sanitation in the flood affected village to decrease the number of water-borne diseases caused by clean water mixing with waste water. The first part consisted of building 150 toilets with plastering, commodes, roof, door, and septic tanks. On the final day hygiene kits were distributed including a bag with

towels, toothbrushes, hand wash soaps and shower gels, nail cutters, and dishwashing soap to emphasize the importance of hygiene to one's health.



Pakistan Day Celebrations in the TLC in Khairpur: OSDI has recently started a Temporary Learning Center with 97 girl students in the village of Kamal Khan Lashari in Khairpur district. Previously only a government school for boys existed in the community despite the parents continuously lobbying the government and other NGOs for a separate girls' school. Within the first week of opening, registrations rose from 60 to 97 girls in OSDI's TLC.

program included parades, national songs, a presentation

on the life of Quaid-e-Azam, speeches, and an award ceremony for the winners of the day. OSDI also took the opportunity to give the students a session on health and hygiene. To make the day memorable sweets and leaflets were given to every child and the winners of the competition received big trophies.

To make education a good experience and fun, OSDI team organized a Pakistan Day Celebration last week. The



Polio Campaign in Ranipur:

OSDI's relentless efforts to eradicate polio have seen nearly 3,200 children inoculated in the past three months in all focus districts. This week OSDI facilitated a polio campaign during a festival in Ranipur in collaboration with UNICEF and WHO. A three-day polio drive received plenty of attention and OSDI's team successfully vaccinated 485 children on the first day and 319 children on the second day. The team has taken its work passionately to cover as many children as possible during the festival.



The Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program in Shikarpur:

The Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program by OSDI is improving lives in rural areas by screening and vaccinating individuals for the fatal disease. OSDI has succeeded in vaccinating nearly 6,000 people in the past two years in response to Chief Minister of Sindh's Initiative. Preventive steps have continued in Gul Burrirro village in Shikarpur district at the end of February 2012 where the third and last dose has been successfully provided to 390 females and 313 males. OSDI staff makes the effort to visit homes of

elderly and disabled people to

ensure everyone is protected from Hepatitis B. In addition, the treatment of the Hepatitis B or C positive individuals has started for 22 patients.



Livestock Purchase in Matiari and Khairpur for Phase IV:

This week the purchasing of goats for Livestock Development has taken place in Matiari and Khairpur where OSDI team has selected goats that will fetch higher prices for farmers when they sell them around Eid-ulAzha. Each of the 22 families has been provided 4 male goats for fattening and 1 female goat for milk production and herd increase. In total 110 goats have been provided. For this phase, the main improvement in the project is introducing a fattening process with special compound fodder that will

ensure maximum weight gain of the animals. The breed has also been changed to Kamori for herd and Pateri for fattening.



TLC for Girls Opened in Kamal Khan Lashari Village:

The village of Kamal Khan Lashari in Khairpur district has long lacked an opportunity for girls to receive education as only a government school for boys exists. OSDI has therefore opened a Temporary Learning Center for girls on March 2, 2012 with the help of the local community that provides the space and their full support to the project. OSDI has reached 70 non-school going girls aged between 5 to 10 years who have never stepped inside a school before. Due to the flux of students enrolled, two classrooms with two teachers are ready to provide better start on life and hopes of a brighter future for the young students.



Adopted School in Godho Shar Village Opens:

OSDI has adopted a non-functioning government school in Godho Shar village in Shikarpur district. The school started operations on March 1, 2012 after renovation and hiring of teachers was completed by OSDI. Teachers enrolled students in Godho Shar after many years of the school being closed due to inter-community clashes. Many positive changes, such as full attendance and mixed classes, can be seen and students are enthusiastic about learning. The classes started with 11 girls and 9 boys and the enrollment of more students is currently taking place.

It is very encouraging that for the first time girls from Godho Shar village are given the opportunity for education.



Wheat Crop Improves in Agricultural Project Phase V:

OSDI has financed 160 families for wheat crop this winter covering 574 acres in all focus districts in Sindh. In this phase some changes were made in inputs such as including seeds, bio fertilizer, humic acid and weedicides, after soil testing and consultation with the agro expert. A visit to the field in Matiari showed that the changes in input are paying dividends. The wheat financed by OSDI was twice the size to wheat cultivated with traditional methods, the colour was brighter and there were no gaps on the field indicating that there will be higher crop yields during harvest.



WASH Project Launched in Jamal Hajano Village in Matiari:

OSDI, as part of its flood relief efforts, has recently started the construction of 150 toilets in the flood affected village of Jamal Hajano in Matiari district. Currently 25 toilets are completed to the roof level with block masonry and plaster. 10 more toilets are to be finished by the end of this week and the rest are expected to be ready within 75 days. Furthermore, 50 septic tanks will be installed to manage the waste water. It is vital to improve the sanitation in the rural areas as contaminated water is a major cause for

diarrhea, hepatitis and dysentery. Water is contaminated when clean water mixes with waste water, especially with human excreta.



Polio drives commence in all focus districts:

A polio campaign was launched at the end of January in all OSDI focus villages in Khairpur, Shikarpur, Matiari, and Mardan districts with a total of 2,284 children under 5 years of age inoculated.

The latest polio drive reached 424 children in Shikarpur district including students enrolled in OSDI's Temporary Learning Centre. In Khairpur district 696 children and in Matiari 793 children were vaccinated. Similarly, 371 children were vaccinated against the disease in Mardan

district in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa. This new phase brings the total of polio immunizations in the past 2 months to 3,192 children.

Food and Nutrition Kit Project in Matiari district: The Food and Nutrition Kit (FNK) project has



successfully drawn to a close in Mari Mohammad Khan village in Matiari district with 22 previously food insecure households getting proper nutrition for the first time. OSDI partnered with Microdrip Pvt. Ltd to improve food security through the provision of seeds, fertilizer and a drip irrigation system for growing staple vegetables in the home gardens of selected households. In addition, OSDI provided training to the beneficiaries on best vegetable cultivation practices. For 6 months the households have successfully secured a steady supply of vegetables including okra, cluster beans, zucchini, green chili and pumpkin which has

significantly

reduced monthly expenses on food. In the best case, a family of 15 members was able to produce various vegetables for 8 months with only one kit which improved the quality and quantity of their daily meals. Other residents of the community, who did not fall under the FNK food security program, have also started to imitate the beneficiary households in growing their own vegetables, too.



Agriculture Development Project Phase IV in Shikarpur:

OSDI has successfully completed the fourth phase of Agriculture Development Project in Shikarpur with the harvest of the rice crop of 25 small-holding farmers in the district. OSDI has quadrupled the yields of the farmers through continuous guidance and training in best farming practices, and through financing farm inputs such as highyielding seeds, fertilizer and rent for tractors all of the farmers. The beneficiaries of the project have witnessed a substantial increase in per acre yield up to 76 mounds from

19 mounds previously on average, with a total

production of 5,565 mounds for all the farmers. With a substantial bumper crop achieved through subsidized farm inputs and training, farmers have been consistently enjoying higher incomes and better standards of living through OSDI's Agricultural Development Program.



Mobile Health Camps:

Lack of access to qualified healthcare in many of the focus villages resulted in OSDI organizing regular mobile health camps to provide timely medical service for commonly occurring diseases. Jamal Hajano and Sukhio Mir Jut villages with their surrounding communities in Matiari district have extensively benefitted from the camps as a total of 672 patients have received diagnosis, treatment and referral to further treatment since April 2011. Due to popular demand, the mobile health camps are organized on a weekly basis in Jamal Hajano village. In December two

camps were held with a turnout of 43 patients. The

most common treated diseases include diarrhea, eye and skin infections, fever, asthma and Hepatitis. In addition to focusing on basic health care, the camps try to create awareness regarding health and

hygiene in the villages. As a result, OSDI has seen a marked decline in communicable and water borne diseases which has led to significant decrease in health expenditures and an increase in savings for many households.



School-based De-worming Project:

Since the inception of the school-based de-worming project in October 2011, it has been warmly received by students, teachers, and parents alike. The project reached 2,000 children in all the OSDI focus villages in Khairpur, Shikarpur, and Matiari districts. In addition to providing de-worming treatment, the project also emphasizes personal hygiene by teaching students proper hand wash, nail hygiene, dental care, and the importance of physical activity and daily bath. In January 2012 the project was extended to Shikarpur district where 623 students were

provided with the de-worming treatment and knowledge of hygiene. Moreover, the children have been provided nutritional supplements in the form of milk and biscuits during all school visits. OSDI has now successfully finalized the project in the three focus districts in Sindh and reached its aim to diminish digestive diseases among children.



Hepatitis Prevention and Control Programme in Khairpur and Mardan:

The Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program by OSDI has been a tremendous success and in its almost 2 years of existence it has helped improve nearly 6,000 lives. OSDI successfully battles Hepatitis B and C in Shikarpur, Matiari, Khairpur, and Mardan districts where in total 5,701 have been screened and 5,554 vaccinated for the fatal disease.

Preventive steps against Hepatitis have continued in Khairpur and Mardan districts in the OSDI focus villages in the month of December. To the residents of Jan Mohammad Vandiar, Pir Bux Bhandro, and Mulko Wahan villages in Khairpur district, Hepatitis B vaccinations were given to a total of 1,754 people. The camps organized by OSDI have succeeded in completing all 3 vaccinations for every Hepatitis B negative individual in the villages. In addition, the treatments have commenced for 52 patients with Hepatitis C in Saheedabad village in Mardan district.



Food Security through Livestock Animals:

OSDI has provided female goats along with kids for herd increase and asset creation to nearly 70 food insecure households in Khairpur and Matiari. The households selected include female-headed households, widows and people with disabilities who are vulnerable to socioeconomic shocks and suffer from malnutrition due to an impoverished diet. A total of 106 livestock animals have been provided out of which 61 are adult female goats and 45 are kids.

The milk from these goats can be used to produce butter, yogurt and other dairy products to improve the nutritional intake of these households. These goats also serve as food security in times of hardship and economic loss. Moreover, in time when their herd increases it provides vulnerable households with savings and assets in the long term.



Government School Adoption in Matiari and Shikarpur:

OSDI, in its efforts to provide quality education in its focus communities, has adopted two government schools in Godho Shar village in district Shikarpur and Sukhio Mir Jutt village in district Matiari.

The government school in Godho Shar before OSDI's adoption was non-functional and being used as a local storage of crops. With help from the local District Education Officer, OSDI has reopened the school for the Shar community. Renovation and cleaning has been done to the school along with the recent appointment of a school teacher. The adopted OSDI School is scheduled to be active in the coming months.

In Sukhio Mir Jutt, a signing ceremony was done in the presence of local officials for school adoption of another school. Here, enrollments of students are under process after which the school will resume classes.



Primary Healthcare Centre in Mardan:

OSDI has inaugurated a fully functional Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) in Saeedabad, UC Rustum, district Mardan in December 2011. This area has been without a health facility for years with the nearest clinic being 5 kilometers away. The additional cost of transport to and from this clinic meant that entire communities in Saeedabad were left without adequate access to healthcare. The PHC opened by OSDI is well-equipped with medical facilities along with a qualified staff of doctors, paramedics and supporting field staff to dispense quality healthcare to the community. This

PHC will be instrumental in providing primary healthcare including awareness on preventative healthcare, diagnosis and treatment of commonly occurring diseases, as well as referrals for further treatment of patients.

To provide easy access and extensive coverage, OSDI is subsidizing the cost of treatment and consultation for the focus community. This is OSDI's second PHC since the successful operation of the first one in district Shikarpur



Kitchen Garden Project:
 A Kitchen Garden Project has been started to provide households has been introduced in all OSDI focus villages in Sindh. Kitchen Gardens are set up within the confines of a family's home to provide food security with home grown vegetables that will supplement their daily nutritional intake.

113 households possessing a space of approximately 240 square yards have been provided seeds, fertilizer and pesticides to grow vegetables for their own consumption. A combined 26,400 square feet are being utilized for subsistence vegetable farming under the project. Through the Kitchen Garden Project beneficiaries will have a reduction in their daily expenses while also improving their nutrition.

subistence vegetable farming under the project.



Aqua Tab Distribution:
 Aqua tabs (water purification tablets) have proven to be very effective in dramatically reducing the incidence of waterborne diseases in OSDI focus villages. To further increase the access to clean water to focus communities, OSDI has distributed an additional 196,000 Aqua tabs to 652 households. The beneficiary villages where the Aqua tab distribution has taken place in the month of November and December include Old Zarkhel and Gul Burririo in Shikarpur district, Pir Bux Bhambro and Mulko Wahan in Khairpur district and Sukhio Mir Jut in Matiari district. The distributed Aqua tabs have a combined capacity to purify 196,000 liters of water for the beneficiary households, which is more than sufficient for the entire households' consumption needs.

distributed Aqua tabs have a combined capacity to purify 196,000 liters of water for the beneficiary households, which is more than sufficient for the entire households' consumption needs.



School Health Initiative:
 The two Temporary Learning Centers (TLC) set up in Shikarpur have recently had their enrollments increased from a 100 to 150 students. They have been providing literacy to the children in Malhee village at subsidized cost. Apart from academic education, students in the TLCs are also benefitting from health education and hygiene awareness, as part of OSDI's School Health Initiative .

Jerrycans are water filtration systems in the shape of 20

liter plastic containers that purify water. One container has the capacity to filter up to 20,000 liters of water.

Under the project, screening and treatment of diseases is scheduled for the TLC students at regular intervals by OSDI appointed medical staff. They are also given awareness on issues pertaining to their health such as nutrition, preventative care, hygiene and substance abuse. All of the children have

been receptive of the health education being imparted in these schools leading to a positive change in their behavior and habits relating to health and hygiene. Programs such as School Health Initiative ensure that the children of the community grow up to be healthier and productive citizens of their communities.



Clean Drinking Water in Schools of Khairpur:

OSDI has provided 8 schools located in its focus villages in district Khairpur with a clean drinking water facility in the form of Life-saver jerrycans.

Half of these jerrycans have been given to 4 schools in Jan Muhammad Vandiar; 3 have been given to schools in Mulko Wahan and 1 has been given to a school in Kamal Khan Lashari. OSDI staff conducts routine visits to monitor the usage of jerrycans and to ensure proper maintenance of the jerrycans. They are engaged in a continuous campaign to

make clean drinking water accessible to the most vulnerable communities in rural Sindh.

Jerrycans are water filtration systems in the shape of 20 liter plastic containers that purify water. One container has the capacity to filter up to 20,000 liters of water.



School-based De-worming Project:

A school-based de-worming project to mitigate the incidence of digestive diseases among children has been initiated in all focus villages in district Matiyari and Shikarpur. A total of 699 students in district Matiyari and 679 students in district Khairpur have been provided with de-worming treatment. The children have also been provided nutritional supplements in the form of milk and biscuits. The project received immense support from the parents, students and teachers. OSDI plans to extend this

project to all children in its focus districts. Jerry cans are water filtration systems in the shape of 20 liter plastic containers that purify water. One container has the capacity to filter up to 20,000 liters of water.



Agriculture Development Project Phase IV:

With the harvest of summer cotton and rice crops, OSDI has successfully concluded Phase IV of its Agricultural Development Program. 79 farmers were the beneficiaries under the program out of which 25 farmers were selected from Shikarpur district, 29 from Khairpur district and 25 from Matiyari district. Through OSDI's financial assistance in form of affordable financing for agricultural inputs and thorough guidance on modern farming techniques, 79 rural households had significantly higher crop yields and incomes. OSDI has experienced a repayment of 76% in

Phase IV which proves that by building trust in communities, a real difference can be made rural households. OSDI continues to support these farmers by extending credit to cultivate wheat in Phase V.



Polio Vaccinations in Khairpur District in October 2011:

As part of our continued commitment to reducing healthcare expenditures and improving the quality of life, OSDI facilitated polio vaccination drive in Khairpur district. A total of 591 children, comprising of 360 boys and 231 girls, have been successfully immunized from polio in the villages of Mulko Wahan, Jan Mohammad, Vandiar, Pir Bux Bhambro and Kamal Khan Lashari. A meeting was convened between OSDI staff and local government health

officials where OSDI's help was sought in sending lady health staff to villages where assistance was required.

OSDI sponsors three students to attend International Youth Conference & Festival 2011:



OSDI has sponsored three students from Balochistan to attend International Youth Conference and Festival in Islamabad -happening this weekend! We wish Kaleem Tareen, Faisal -Malghani and Jahangir Bazair all the best and hope that they will -be bright stars for Balochistan's future. The IYCF is an international forum for youth leaders to share ideas, discuss issues and find creative solutions to global challenges. The previous IYCF was a resounding success with 250 attendees from across Pakistan and 12 other countries.

Flood Relief Efforts in Badin:



Monsoon rains wreaked havoc in District Badin in the month of August and September severely affecting 700,000 inhabitants. OSDI, in close coordination with PDMA, District Government and UN-OCHA, has been involved in relief efforts for the affected in these trying times. Distribution of food essentials such as rice

and daal as well as non-food items such as blankets, mosquito repellent, and ORS have been distributed among 500 floodaffected households comprising of a total of 4,000 beneficiaries in Taluka Badin and Taluka Tando Bago. Vulnerable households including minority groups and female headed households are being prioritized in OSDI's relief efforts. Current relief efforts in District Badin will be channelized to become a part of OSDI's broader strategy to rehabilitate the flood affected households on a firm footing in due time.

Livestock Development Project Phase III:



With the coming of Eid Ul Azha, farmers who received loans from OSDI for the Livestock Development Program are benefitting immensely from the opportunity to sell the animals for a sizeable profit. The program, currently in its third phase, has 15 members in Khairpur who have been able to do animal fattening using loans and training provided by the OSDI. Five livestock farmers Mai Hawa Malecha, Umro Malecha, Shamir Malecha, Hadi Baloch and Abdul Ghani Baloch have already sold their cattle for a hefty profit. All livestock animals are expected to be sold as Eid ul Azha approaches. Loans are distributed under the Livestock

Distribution Program to enable farmers to procure livestock. The farmers have also been provided training and knowledge in best cattle rearing practices after which they can sell of their animals for a profit on Eid ul Azha. Many of the animals purchased under this program also supplement the dairy consumption of the beneficiary households reducing their monthly food expenditure.

Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program in Shikarpur and Mardan:



among the population. All the identified cases are scheduled for further treatment.

OSDI has overseen a very successful Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program in its focus villages with nearly 6,000 people screened and vaccinated for this fatal disease in camps organized by OSDI. Hepatitis inoculations have commenced in OSDI focus villages in district Mardan and Shikarpur in the month of October. A total of 722 individuals have been screened and vaccinated in village Gul Burrio in district Shikarpur out of which 21 and 41 cases of Hepatitis B and C have been detected respectively. Similarly, a total of 482 people have been screened and 473 been vaccinated in Mardan district. 69 cases of Hepatitis B

Maternal and Child Health Training Project:



mothers to be etc. They were also provided with basic equipment and medicine to conduct their field activities in dispensing health care. OSDI collaborated with Peoples Primary Health Initiative (PPHI) for this program and the trained participants will be monitored for six months.

Untrained and unsafe methods of child delivery are the primary reason for high maternal mortality in rural areas. To improve maternal health, OSDI is implementing a Maternal and Child Health training project in Khairpur district, which would soon be replicated in all of OSDI's other focus districts as well. 10 carefully selected participants, consisting of village mid-wives, dais and Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs), were trained through theoretical knowledge, field visits and demonstrations by OSDI appointed maternal health specialists. During the six day training program the participants were trained on safe maternal health practices such as sterilization of equipment, basic health care for

Completion of IOM One Room Shelter project in District Shikarpur:



of their new homes in a dignified manner.

A significant milestone has been achieved with the completion of 568 One Roof Shelters in UC Zarkhel in District Shikarpur. The program undertaken by OSDI in collaboration with IOM initiated reconstruction of shelters for the flood victims that were left destitute in the wake of the floods. Special priority was given to vulnerable households such as female headed households and senior citizens. All the shelters have been designed as per the specifications of Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) with location, climate and risk mitigation in mind. All of the 568 beneficiary households under the program have moved in the new shelters and can rebuild their lives in the safety and privacy

OSDI participation at the Second Global Agri-knowledge ShareFair in Rome, Italy:

OSDI participated in the Second Global Agri-Knowledge ShareFair held at the IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) headquarters in Rome from September 26 to September 29, 2011. Highlights of the conference included very successful meetings with IFAD, intense knowledge sharing on agriculture and livestock, and OSDI getting mentioned on the IFAD website. IFAD has announced a \$40.2 support program rural Punjab as part of its broader commitment to improve

rural household livelihoods and incomes globally. OSDI's founder trustee Aasim Siddiqui and Senior Policy Advisor were extensively quoted on IFAD's website during the visit. The full text of the article can be found here:

<http://www.ifad.org/media/press/2011/65.htm>



Polio Vaccination Facilitated By OSDI:



OSDI has played an instrumental role in realizing the dream of a Polio Free Pakistan by facilitating Sindh Government's polio vaccination drive in all of its focus districts.

In the month of September, OSDI provided support in 8 villages in districts Shikarpur and Khairpur where its field staff oversaw the vaccinations of 979 children in total.

A total of 379 children were vaccinated against the polio virus in the villages of Old Zarkhel, Gul Burriri, Godho Shar and Malhee.

16 students from OSDI's Temporary Learning Centers were inoculated. Polio vaccinations were also administered in OSDI's Primary Healthcare Center located in Shikarpur. In Khairpur, 600 children were inoculated in the villages of Kamal Khan Lashari, Mulko Wahan, Pir Bux Bhambro and Jan Mohammad Vandiar.

Polio vaccination drives are a part of OSDI's continued efforts to decrease rural expenditures on healthcare and consequently reduce poverty.



Independence Day Celebrations in OSDI's TLCs:

Spirits were high during the Independence Day celebrations held at the Temporary Learning Center (TLC) in Shikarpur district. Students enthusiastically participated in the festivities displaying their patriotism for Pakistan. OSDI chose this occasion to donate shoes and uniforms for all the 102 students in the TLCs.

The district EDO Zameer Ahmed also delivered a speech on the occasion, lauding OSDI's efforts in provision of quality education

to the children of the community. He also pledged full support and cooperation with OSDI in the field of public education in this regard.

Encouraged by OSDI's commitment to education other families from the village also promised to enroll their children in the TLCs in the near future. The hallmark of the event were the smiles of the school children who were overjoyed on being the proud owners of a new uniform and shoes to wear to school.

Distribution of Tool Kits for Shelter Construction:



The One Room Shelter project of IOM in conjunction with OSDI for rehabilitating flood victims has been a resounding success. Owing to IOM's emphasis on self empowerment, tool kits were distributed among 568 beneficiaries of One Roof Shelter Program in the month of July. The distribution of these tool kits was undertaken by OSDI's field staff in Shikarpur.

The tool kits were distributed at the various village committees setup under the project in the villages of Old Zarkhyel, Qazi Patti & Waqarabad. The tool kits contain basic construction tools that help in house building and other masonry work.

The tool kits have enabled many of the beneficiaries to become self reliant and not depend on laborers to complete the construction work. Measures such as provision of these tool kits go a long way in empowering the local community and restoring their sense of confidence and dignity.



district and 374 children in Shikarpur district.

Towards a Polio Free Pakistan:

In July 2011, OSDI has facilitated the vaccination of 1,898 children in its focus districts of Khairpur, Matiari and Shikarpur. 796 children have been vaccinated in Khairpur district, 728 children in Matiari

Moving forward there are plans to set up a permanent facility within OSDI's Primary Healthcare Center in Shikarpur to administer polio vaccines and other immunization programmes by OSDI field staff. Vaccination coverage is going to be extended to surrounding villages as well as OSDI's focus villages in districts Shikarpur, Khairpur and Matiari.

OSDI commemorates World Hepatitis Day - July 28 2010:



Hepatitis B & C claim an estimated 100,000 lives globally every year. In Pakistan alone there are approximately 16 million people who are estimated to be afflicted with this deadly disease. A disproportionate number of Hepatitis cases are found in rural areas due to absence of quality healthcare and poor hygienic conditions. OSDI under its health programs places strong emphasis on prevention and control of Hepatitis. In the preceding months extensive campaigns have been conducted in OSDI's focus villages in Matiari and Khairpur screening, diagnosing and treating 4,500 beneficiaries.

In commemoration of World Hepatitis Day on July 28, OSDI held walks followed by seminars to create awareness for Hepatitis in Khairpur, Shikarpur and Karachi. Flyers and banners were distributed among the enthusiastic crowd consisting of district health officials, health personnel, OSDI staff and the general public during the hepatitis awareness walks. Health officials delivered insightful speeches emphasizing the need for prevention and control of the disease on an individual as well as a national level.

As part of OSDI's commitment in eradicating Hepatitis, there are plans to implement Hepatitis prevention and control programs in Shikarpur and Mardan districts in the near future.

Agriculture Development Project – July 2011:

OSDI has financed 93 farmers in districts of Khairpur, Shikarpur and Matiari for the Agricultural Development Project under Livelihood Assistance Program. In light of successes of

the previous three crop cycles, these farmers have been provided with interest-free credit for cotton and rice cultivation in Kharif season. Out of these, 30 farmers are from Khairpur, 33 are from Matiari and 30 are from Shikarpur district.

These interest free loans are being used for the procurement of agricultural inputs such as seeds, f

ertilizer and rent for tractor. Plans of financing more farmers for the next crop cycle through this program are already underway. Planned month for harve of the cotton crop is to be at the end of October. Workshop are regularly conducted by OSDI field staff during the Agricultural Development Programs that involve knowledge sharing of modern agricultural techniques that garner interest and enthusiasm by the farmers.

In the absence of OSDI's interest free loans, the local farmers were at the mercy of local money lenders who charge exorbitant rates. The farmers now have residual savings which were previously spent in repaying usurious debt. OSDI monitoring staff has noted significant increases in crop yields as well. OSDI emphasizes the need to send children to school as a condition for beneficiaries to receive continued financing. Because of this the children of these farmers can look for a brighter future through their schooling.

Hepatitis B & C Prevention and Control Program: July 2011:

Provision of quality healthcare is a guiding principle in OSDI's agenda. In this regard, OSDI has been working in conjunction with Sindh government under Chief Minister Initiative for Hepatitis Free Sindh in an extensive Hepatitis B & C prevention and control campaign in the districts of Khairpur and Matiari.

The program broadly comprises of three phases:

- 1) Screening
- 2) Vaccination
- 3) Treatment

More than 4,500 people from the villages of Sukhio Mir Jat, Mari Mohammad Khan in Matiari district and Kamal Khan Lashari, Jan Muhammad Vandiar, Pir Buksh Bambhro and Mulko Wahan in Khairpur district have been the beneficiaries of the campaign.



Significant headway has been made in Sukhio Mir Jat and Mari Mohammad Khan in Matiari district with successful completion of screening and vaccination.

A total number of 873 individuals comprising of 439 males & 434 females were screened while 862 people were vaccinated in Mari Muhammad Khan Village. A successful screening and vaccination of 826 people comprising of 357 males and 469 females have

been accomplished in Sukhio Mir Jat.

Treatment of Hepatitis B & C positive patients with regular interferon has been completed in Sukhio Mir Jat and is in progress in Mari Mohammad Khan.

Plans are underway to provide second line treatment with peg interferon to resistant cases in Sukhio Mir Jat and the introduction of Hepatitis campaign in the village of Jamal Hajano in the month of September.

In Khairpur district, four villages are being assisted by OSDI in the Hepatitis program. Mass Screening and first dose vaccination has been done in the villages of Kamal Khan Lashari, Jan Muhammad Vandiar, Pir Buksh Bhambro and Mulko Wahan.

Screening of 799 people comprising of 402 males and 397 females has been accomplished, with 756 people subsequently vaccinated in villages Jan Mohammad Vandiar and Pir Buksh Banbhro While in Mulko Wahan screening of 925 (male 424 and female 501) has been completed with a total of 862 vaccinations.

After a screening of 968 individuals (comprising of 498 males and 470 females), 864 were administered vaccines in the village of Kamal Khan Lashari after which treatment has been initiated there.



There are further plans to move ahead with the remaining second and third vaccination dosages in the village of Jan Muhammad Vandiar, Pir Buksh Bambhro and Mulko Wahan after Ramadan.

There are plans to implement Hepatitis Prevention and Control campaign in Shikarpur and Mardan districts in the near future.

It has been observed that there is a high prevalence of Hepatitis in these districts. Prevention and control goes a long way in ensuring better health for the local communities. Healthcare takes up a substantial portion of the meager incomes in these village communities. By providing free or subsidized healthcare to the village communities, OSDI aims to reduce the burden of health care related expenditures. While in the long run ensuring healthier standards of living for the 7 villages in Matiari and Khairpur districts.

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General Medical Camps: July 2011:

Deprivation of basic healthcare in villages across Pakistan leaves even the most common diseases untreated. Villages of Sukhio Mir Jut and Jamal Hajamo, in Matiari district are two such villages where there is total absence of basic health infrastructure. OSDI has devised a program of setting up fortnightly general medical camps there. The primary objectives of this measure are:

- 1- Provision of standardized basic medical care at subsidized cost.
- 2- Creating awareness of health and hygiene among the village community.
- 3- Routine medical checkups at regular intervals of people seeking medical aid.



A competent team of doctors, paramedics along with village volunteers have been mobilized to ensure the proper provision of health care in both villages.

To date, OSDI staff have examined, diagnosed and treated approximately 250 patients in Sukhio Mir Jut and Jamal Hajano for commonly occurring diseases such as diarrhea, respiratory tract infections, high fever, eye infections as well as potentially fatal diseases such as hepatitis, diabetes, tuberculosis etc. The influx of patients to the General Medical Camps is steadily rising as people are getting aware of the necessity of modern health

care.

So far a total of 4 of these General Medical Camps have been conducted in Sukhio Mir Jut and Jamal Hajano. There are tentative plans to set up General Medical Camps in adjoining villages deprived of basic health amenities as well.

In the near term, OSDI aims to bring improvement in dismal health standards of these villages by its General Medical Camp initiative .While in the longer term, OSDI plans to transform these General Medical Camps into Permanent Health Centers equipped with all the basic health facilities.

The General Medical Camps have become an indispensable necessity to the village communities of Sukhio Mir Jut and Jamal Hajano. Patients seeking treatment in these remote villages have to trek long distances to seek cures for the most common diseases, which causes an undue increase in their expenditures and hardships. Often patients during the course of their journey, fall prey to bandits and other criminals, further aggravating their plight.

Projects like general medical camps have a huge positive impact on the lives of these village communities. Not only does the timely assistance of primary health care uplift the health standards of the people but also brings a welcome reduction in their health expenditures.

Livestock Distribution Project:



Economic hardship tends to exacerbate the issue of malnutrition in many rural communities. Malnourished families, especially infants, may be prone to many diseases and other medical afflictions which substantially increase household healthcare expenditures. It has also been observed that widows in rural Pakistan are particularly vulnerable having limited access to income or other assets and facing other cultural constraints making their families food insecure. OSDI prioritizes providing food security as a major tool in poverty alleviation. In this regard, Livestock Distribution Project was initiated for the widows of the village of Jamal Hajano.

A total of 44 goats, 22 milk giving adult goats and 22 kids, were procured and donated to 22 widows in Jamal Hajano to meet their food security needs. These goats are primarily for daily consumption of these households in terms of dairy products such as milk, butter, yogurt and *lassi*. The Livestock Distribution Project in due time would provide a significant boost in their nutritional intake and make these 22 families food secure.

It is expected that this project will significantly decrease the widows' overall household expenditure in the short term. In the longer term, the successful rearing of the female goats would lead to herd increases and subsequently, asset creation in these female headed households.

OSDI plans to replicate the project on a boarder scale, in which the households deemed the most vulnerable or food insecure would be provided with livestock animals to uplift the quality of their nutritional consumption and to enable asset creation in rural Pakistan.



OSDI First Training Course: Measuring Impact: Tools for reporting, documentation, monitoring and evaluation:



A two-day training course on “Measuring Impact: Tool for reporting, documentation, monitoring and evaluation” was held from June 3 to June 4, 2011 at OSDI’s Head Office in Karachi. The objective of the training was to make field staff, based in different focus areas, familiar with the tools designed for reporting, documentation and monitoring and evaluation purposes. The training was also aimed at highlighting the importance of the field staff’s role at organizational and program level. The different sessions held by the Karachi team emphasized the

key role of field staff’s feedback in making a project a success. Topics covered during the course were Social Mobilization, significance of Field Data Collection, Standard of Procedures of programs, specific updates in the design of the Livelihood Assistance Program and Basic Health Provision Theory & Practice. To make the training interactive and fun, several team building exercises were incorporated. These exercise played a key role for keeping the participant active throughout the sessions.



Three members of the field staff, namely Mr Moula Bux from Matiari, Mr Farzand Ali Sheikh from Khairpur and Mr Mehran Khan Pathan from Shikarpur were presented with the award of OSDI Star by Aasim Siddiqui. In his closing speech, Mr Siddiqui emphasized to share the success stories in order to identify future projects.

All participants received training certificate at the end.

183 households to receive support through Life-Saving Emergency Shelter Program:



UN-OCHA approved funding for OSDI's Life-Saving Emergency Shelter Program for village Jamal Hajano, UC Bhanot of District Matiari, Sindh. The objective of the program is to address the security, safety and physical needs of people affected by floods of 2010 through provision of adequate shelter assistance. The program will provide shelter assistance to a total number of 183 households/1,456 people.

Shelter assistance is being provided to families whose houses were either completely destroyed or suffered significant damage. Ensuring gender equality, the priority has been given to the vulnerable households which includes; female headed households, elderly women group and people with any disabilities or households with heavy dependency.

In line with the UN shelter and settlement standards, this project will ensure safe and adequate shelters, measuring 16.5x13.5x12 ft in size, through the provision of material and the necessary technical support. This will ensure direct provision of services and items along with the injection of cash into communities through cash for work activity. The program expects an active participation from the focused communities by building ownership among the targeted beneficiaries.

Five families in Matiari successfully overcome debts:



The success of Wheat Project-I was recently achieved in our focus village Mari Mohammad Khan in District Matiari. This village has joined the Agro Phase-III run by OSDI in November 2010.

A total number of 12 families were introduced to the program to help them overcome their debts and improve their standard of living. Specially tailored assistance was provided to these families along with resources for their further improvement of agricultural production. The main aim was to create a sustainable source of income and savings through proper cultivation of the 52.5 acres available.

The most notable success was the increase in yield (expected to be 20 mounds per acre), which reached a stunning 22 mounds per acre on average. The average profit created by share-croppers has reached Rs. 31,826 and an even more extraordinary profit of Rs. 71,000 was achieved by two small landowners in the village. The great results of this project have enabled all families to return their interest free loans and helped five of the families to overcome their overall debts.

Distribution of Clothes and Blankets in Shikarpur:



Recently the OSDI team distributed clothes and blankets among households in several villages that include Old Zarkhyel, Malhee, Gul Burriro, Godho Shar and Yar Mohammad Shar Village of Union Council Zarkhyel tehsile Khanpur. District Shikarpur.

Due to the high volume of occupants and limited supply of clothes and blankets in the initial phase, OSDI is planning to undertake this again in the coming future.



At

present, one suit for men, one suit for women and one suit for children was distributed in each vulnerable household in OSDI's focused villages. Jackets, bed linen and blankets were also packed and distributed among the needy families.

In total, 1075 items have been distributed in 480 households with 244 clothing items for men, 480 clothing items for females, 222 clothing items for children, 129 blankets and 129 bed sheets.

Livestock Development Project, Phase III:



After the success of phase I & II of Livestock Development Program – OSDI has initiated phase III with the sole objective of empowering the under - privileged people of selected communities and help them achieve sustainable livelihood , s income enhancement and food security by providing them the through appropriate means & resources and hence help to raise their living standard . In lined with the EID UL AZHA's sacrificing tradition, T t he program has been launched in early March 2011 in village Jan Mohd Vandiar, Goth Pir Bux

Banbharo, Kamal Khan Lashari and Mulko Wahaan of Dist rict t. Khairpur. A total number of 15 families including four old have

been selected for this project.

The project has begun with the purchase of livestock from the capital provided to the selected households through Micro Finance micro-financed by OSDI. A total number of 66 animals have been purchased in which 27 are oxen, 15 she goats and 24 are goats. These identified families are expected to raise and feed their livestock till it is time to sell them i.e. before Eid ul Zu Azha. This strategy is expected to work through a three - pronged way approach: i.e. an increase in the monthly income of targeted families, contribution towards asset creation by these focused households; and an attempt on part of the project beneficiaries to come out of the debt cycle. A participatory approach similar to the like previous phases has also been adopted during this phase in this one expecting OSDI team to whereby OSDI will work in close collaboration with the se focused families while ensuring livelihood and food security on a sustainable basis.



Life-saving Emergency Shelter Solution Program, District Matiari:

With the objective of providing security, safety and physical protection to flood affected population while specifically addressing the shelter needs of vulnerable groups i.e. widows/female headed household, OSDI has initiated a Life-saving Emergency Shelter Solution Program in village Jamal Hajano, UC Bhanot, District Matiari. Bhanot has been declared as one of the priority UCs for Relief and Rehabilitation purpose by Govt. authorities.

The project will ensure one room shelter assistance with a measurement of 12X12ft in size to the identified vulnerable households. With the help of the Community Representative Group (CRGs) and OSDI field team members, a total number of 22 households have been identified as widows/female headed households expecting to benefit around 145-150 individuals as project beneficiaries.

Temporary Learning Center (TLC):



Considering the absolute absence of any schooling facility in and around the area, the Temporary Learning Centers (TLC) project has been initiated by OSDI in the village Maleehi, Tehsil Khanpur, District Shikarpur in Feb 2011. With two TLCs established, the objective of the program is to provide basic literacy skills to those children who have never been enrolled in any formal or informal institution.

Since the targeted communities had existing cultural constraints they did not send their children to schools located far away from their village, especially girls. Autaaqs (*common sitting area of*

local families) were selected for the project ensuring an equal access to basic education facility to girls and boys. The Soomro and Burriro community voluntarily provided their Autaaqs to set up the TLCs during the day. With help of active community members, these Autaq's were renovated by OSDI to cater to requisite needs. The teachers from within the community have also been provided training.

There are a total number of 110 children in that community who had never been enrolled in any school, who have been provided an access to basic education. It is very encouraging to note that the total enrollment so far were 45 (5-12 years old) and 41 (5-10 years old) in TLC I and II respectively. Following the curriculum of Sindh Textbook Board, the teachers appointed by OSDI conduct 4 hour classes, 6 days in a week.



Extending cooperation to the program, the local Executive District Officer (Education) has also donated some textbooks to these TLCs.

“Hepatitis B & C Prevention and Control Program“ in village Kamal Khan Lashari, District Khairpur, Sindh – March 2011:



After the successful implementation of OSDI's Hepatitis B & C Prevention and Control Program in District Matiari, the program has now been launched in village Kamal Khan Lashari under Chief Minister's Initiative For 'Hepatitis Free Sindh' in collaboration with District Government Health Department in Khairpur.

Prior to the launch of the program, the beneficiaries were informed about the causes, preventive measures and treatment of hepatitis by means of flyers, posters and banners. Conducted by the respective field staff, these awareness raising seminars were held from 27th Feb to 2nd March 2011. The three days campaign was started on 3rd March 2011. A total number of 951 individuals were screened (ICT) and 827 were vaccinated. Out of these 951 individuals, 104 (62 Male & 42 Female) were Hepatitis B positive and 11 (5 male and 6 female) were Hepatitis C positive.

Phase I of the program has been completed during which mass ICT screening of both Hepatitis B&C and vaccination of all Hepatitis B negative individuals have been carried out, including individuals who were either Hepatitis C positive or negative. The individuals who have been found ICT positive will go through the ELIZA test for further confirmation. The remaining two doses of Hepatitis B vaccine will be given to all the Hepatitis B negative individuals of Phase I with the gap of one month in each dose.



Primary Health Care Centre (PHC) in village Old Zarkhel, District Shikarpur:



To minimize the regular health expenditures and hence improve the living standard of poor people in rural areas, a Primary Health Care unit (PHC) has been setup by OSDI in village Old Zarkhel, UC Zarkehl, District Shikarpur. With the objective of providing primary health care facilities to the local people, a PHC equipped with basic medicines is functional from 28 th Feb 2011. Along with supporting staff, a doctor along with a dispenser and a LHV has been hired and appointed by OSDI. With about 15 villages located in and around the area, the PHC is expected to benefit about 16000 people covering approximate

2000 households. The PHC is also expected to decrease the major diseases in the areas such as Diarrhea, Typhoid, skin infections, Malaria, therefore minimizing the regular health expenditures of local people and contributing towards an improved standard of life.

Life-saving Emergency Shelter Solution Program, District Shikarpur:



To provide security, safety and physical protection to the flood affected population, OSDI has initiated a “Life-saving Emergency Shelter Solution Program” in 9 villages located in UC Zarkhel, District Shikarpur. With a total project duration of six months, the program funded by IOM will benefit a total number of 591 households while ensuring a safe and adequate one room shelter assistance. The major focus will be on assisting those whose houses in the targeted villages have been completely destroyed or heavily damaged with a special emphasis on shelter needs of vulnerable groups i.e. female headed households, elderly women group and households with heavy

dependency and people with any mental or physical disabilities.

As project methodology, the design principles define by IASC (Inter Agency Standing Committee) Pakistan Floods Shelter Cluster will be followed as a standard criteria for Life-Saving Emergency Shelter Assistance Program. Indicators such as appropriate location, risk mitigation, resource effectiveness, climate, socioeconomic and culture suitability have been given high preference. These designs will ensure physical protection from climate conditions, social and economic suitability and resource management, for example, by using salvaged material.

The names of targeted villages are Haji Shah Mohd (Zarbelo), Punhal Kashelo, Sajan Burriro, Bhanran, Godho Shar, Maleehi, Gul Burrirro, Old Zarkhel and Qazi.

Water Boring Project- Sukhio Mir Jut Matiari - Jan 2011:



Considering the fact that more than 75% of the water consumed in village Sukhio Mir Jat, Distt. Matiari is brackish (as per PCRW & PCSIR water testing reports), OSDI has completed a water boring project in the village in Jan 2011. The objective of the project is to provide a safe drinking water resource at village level for drinking, cooking and reduce the occurrence of water borne diseases and minimize health expenditures. The project is also aimed at decreasing local women's hardships in fetching water from faraway places and lessens their household workload. Benefitting a population of about

1,334, this project ensures access to safe drinking water to 198 households. As per water boring standards, the selected land was excavated 80 feet in the two targeted settlements named as Paricho and Sunani. To extract the ground water with an electric motor, two (8X8 feet each) two water tanks have been constructed. With two taps attached, each water tank can store more than 7000 liters of waters hence provide access to local populace in the area.



One of the highlighting features of the project is to create social cohesion within the community. Besides OSDI's implementing role, people of village Sukhio Mir Jat actively participated and shared about 15% of the cost.

The completion of the project has allowed 198 households to have an easy access to safe drinking water and reduce the occurrence of water borne diseases hence minimize health expenditures and raise their standard of living.



LIFE SAVER JERRYCAN DISTRIBUTION - Providing safe drinking water to the rural areas of Sindh - Jan 2011:

Supporting OSDI ongoing initiative of providing safe drinking water in remote areas, Mahvesh and Jahangir Siddiqui Foundation has donated 50 Life Saver Jerry Cans. Benefitting

a total number of 870 households, OSDI has distributed these Jerry Cans in six (6) villages of Distt. Shikarpur, Khairpur and Matiari in Jan 2011. The targeted villages include Kamal Khan Lashari, Mulko Wahan, Jan Mohd Vandiar, Old Zarkhel, Gul Burrioro and Jamal Hajano.



In order to maximize the benefits and to cover the large population, these jerry cans have been distributed at community level. About 17 households will be sharing one Life Saver Jerry Can. Having the capacity of cleaning 15000 liters of water, 50 Jerry Cans will be cleaning 750,000 liters of water while providing access to safe drinking water to 870 households for a period of 3-4 months.

Hepatitis B&C Screening, Vaccination and Eradication Program- Mari Mohd Khan- Matiari Sindh- Jan 2011:



After the successful completion of the Hepatitis Prevention and Control Program in Sukio Mir Jat with the collaboration of Government of Sindh, the project was also initiated in village Mari Mohammad Khan, District Matiari. The campaign began in the 1st week of January 2011.

Phase I of the program was completed effectively during which mass ICT screening of both Hepatitis B&C, vaccination of all Hepatitis B negative individuals, and blood sampling of all Hepatitis B & C positive cases were carried out for the ELIZA test. The individuals who were found ELIZA positive were further checked for PCR status and are under treatment (Phase II). The remaining two doses of Hepatitis B vaccine were given respectively to all the Hepatitis B negative individuals of Phase I with the gap of one month in each dose.

A total number of 873 individuals with 439 males and 434 females were screened. From these screened ones, 10 (3 males and 7 females) and 32 (16 male and 16 females) individuals were found Hepatitis B & C positive, respectively. This is also important to mention here that one female was found coinfecting. The ICT test filtered 43 individuals as Hepatitis B & C positive, and they were therefore referred for the ELIZA test. The Eliza test confirmed 12 (8 B positive, 3 C positive and 1 Coinfecting) individuals as positive who then went through the PCR test. After PCR 4 individuals have been finally confirmed as positive, out of which 1 is B positive and 3 are C positive. These 4 infected ones are currently under treatment.



Link Road project- ensuring a bright future for the people of Badam-(Mardan-KPK):



OSDI has recently completed a Link Road project in Badam village of District Mardan, KPK. The objective of the project is to promote economic and social development for the villagers and provide access to nearest market and enable transportation services. The road has been built to benefit not only the people of Badam but also to provide access for the rest of the population to such a remote area . The road spans over a length of 1 and ½ kilometers.

One of the highlighting features of the project is to create social

cohesion within the community. Besides OSDI's implementing role people of Badam actively participated and shared 49% of the cost. The completion of the link road is a way forward towards development for the villagers of Badam, Mardan. Easy and timely access to Rustam Market via the link road will create a new way of income generation through reduction in time loss. In addition, tractor trolley, Pick-ups and Motor Rickshaws will be able to come into the village for transporting goods and passengers accordingly. The road is means of providing faster and cheaper access to schools, markets and healthcare facilities for the villagers. The link road project is a step forward ensuring poverty alleviation and sustainable development for the villagers of Badam.



WHO donates Aqua Tabs -24-12-10:



WHO has donated 19000 aqua tabs to support OSDI's ongoing initiative on awareness and provision of safe drinking water. OSDI has distributed 18930 aqua tabs to around 4000 people of villages Mari Mohd Khan, Sukio Mir Jat and Jamal Hajano of District Matiari. Each tablet filters 10 liter of water per day more than sufficient for household consumption. The objective of the

program is to provide an easy and speedy access to safe drinking water and decrease the risk of water borne diseases. The remaining 70 aqua tabs will be distributed soon.



OSDI field staff was trained by WHO technical team with a focus on the proper usage of aqua tabs along with a one day training session at WHO regional office in Hyderabad. The project began with a safe drinking

water awareness campaign and was successfully carried out in the mid of December. These tablets will be used along with the Life straw filters distributed earlier by OSDI in October.

Life Straw Water Filter Distribution -29-10-10:



Water borne diseases such as Diarrhea, Scabies, Typhoid and Malaria are very common and one of the major root causes in rural areas of Pakistan. In light of this a life-straw water filter distribution project has been developed by OSDI in order to provide clean and safe drinking water to the villagers. Total numbers of 14 villages across district Khairpur, Shikarpur and Matiyari have been selected from Sindh. In order to raise awareness on importance of safe drinking water OSDI carried out an illustrative awareness campaign before the distribution of life straw water filters.

The current plan, spanning over a time period of 19 days, started on 5th Oct and ended on 25th Oct 2010. Selection of villages was done on the basis of microbiological, physical (turbidity, hardness, colour) and chemical analysis of water testing reports and the areas which were heavily affected by the floods and monsoon rains recently. In phase I, a total number of nine villages from Distt. Shikarpur, Khairpur and Matiyari were selected. 872 Life straw water filters were distributed benefitting the same number of families. Amin Sheikh, Wari Goth and Godho shar in this phase were the villages affected by floods whereas Malacha Community, Malhee and Old Zarkheyl were the rain affected areas. Awareness campaigns with reference to water borne diseases were carried out followed by distribution of life straw water filters distribution in these areas to provide access to clean drinking water. The use of these filters will prevent the spread of communicable diseases and will also minimize the health expenditures of the villagers.



Phase I, as per plan, has been completed. Life saver Jerry Canes will be distributed in Phase II which is under process and expected to be implemented soon.



Flood Relief Operations - 25-09-10:

Due to the massive destruction caused by the monsoon floods in 2010, OSDI undertook flood relief operations in mid-August 2010 in Khyber Pukhtoon Khuwa (KPK) and Sindh. The relief activities lasted until September 30, 2010 with OSDI's field teams supervising and ensuring a regular supply of food, shelter, health and medical assistance to flood affectees. We have estimated that 3,555 beneficiaries/300 households have been targeted under

the organization's Flood Relief Operations in Sindh.

Specifically, OSDI focused its efforts on 3 districts in Sindh – Shikarpur, Khairpur, and Matiari – and Distt. Charsadda in KPK. Initially, damage and health assessment surveys were conducted in order to evaluate damages to infrastructure, livestock, and crops as well as to evaluate affectee’s existing health conditions to ensure that they receive proper care.

In order to cater to people’s most urgent needs, a “Relief Pack,” consisting of 29 food and other necessary items, was distributed to multiple families. Designed for a family of 8 to 10, the pack’s major food items included flour, milk, lentils, potatoes, sugar, tea and a number of spices (approximately a 10 day food ration). Basic medicines included were Disprin, Panadol, and ORS. The other necessary items included were a burner, flood mats, mineral water, jerry cans, dishwashing bar soaps, body soaps, match boxes, dates, candles, biscuits, cakes, kerosene oil and empty bottles for kerosene oil. In addition to the relief pack, a total number of 300 tents have been distributed in Shikarpur, Khairpur, and Matiari. Each tent is 12’ x 14’ and can hold 8 to 10 members of a family.



While OSDI has closed down its immediate relief activities in these areas, based on the field team’s feedback, survey data and the OSDI Management visits to the areas, rehab plans are being developed and implemented accordingly.

Relief efforts by OSDI:



The recent heavy rain falls and floods in the country have left thousands homeless and stranded in the catastrophe. In view of the large scale of the calamity, OSDI immediately planned out an emergency relief operation to help the affected in Sindh and Khyber Pukhtoon Khwa province. Pakistan International Container Terminal has contributed generously to OSDI to support the relief operation.

In Sindh, since OSDI is currently working in seven villages of district Shikarpur and Khairpur. The relief activities were immediately directed to these two areas. Most of the villages in

Shikarpur have been flooded severely including our focused villages of Malhee, Gul Burrioro and Old Zurkhel. People have lost their livelihoods, crops livestock and belongings and have fled from their homes to higher ground. A huge population of the devastated is gathered at the link road outside of Shikarpur in search of shelter and food. In view of this a camp has been set up besides the road which is currently providing relief to approximately 800 people. 67 tents have been set up and relief packages including necessary essentials like food items, clean drinking water, utensils, medicines and stoves have been distributed among the families.



Similarly in Khairpur District, the people of our focused villages

of Jan mohd Vandiar, Goth Pir Bux Bhonbharo, Mulko wahan and Kamal Khan lashari have suffered because of heavy rain falls. These households are also being provided relief items specially food for immediate relief. However other villages in the same area, which were closer to Indus river have been swept away because of the heavy floods. Due to the magnanimity of the devastation another camp has been set up near the village Sobhedhero, which is providing relief to approximately 400 people affected by heavy rain and floods. 33 tents have been set up at the camp and relief items have been distributed among the families to provide immediate relief.

OSDI has been able to provide relief to more than 1000 people in these areas. Due to the intensity of the disaster at Shikarpur, a second relief operation is being planned to provide relief to 2000 more people. Our relief teams will be setting up 200 more tents and carry out distribution of relief items at our Shikarpur by the end of next week.

In Khyber Pukhtoon Khwa province, OSDI has also provided necessary relief items to help the flood affected at Charsadda.

Community based Sewage and Lavatory Program in PIRSAI:



Recently OSDI completed a two part sanitation project in the village of Pirsai in Mardan District of Khyber Pukhtun Khwa province. Water and sanitation conditions were extremely poor in the village. The dirty sewage water from homes and shops flowed to the village street, villagers passing by and children playing in the streets came across this dirty water regularly, causing health hazards to the inhabitants. This problem further intensified during the rainy season when the contaminated water flowed back into the houses.

The project was initiated in the month of June and was effectively concluded in approximately 20 days. The first part of the project involved a construction of 2,500

ft. sewage line. The 12"x12" line runs from the centre of the village to a previously constructed 12 ft. deep septic tank. The community contributed roughly 59% of the cost by means of contributions and labour costs and the rest of the expenses were borne by OSDI.

The second part of the project involved construction and complete renovation of 10 washrooms in different village localities. OSDI oversaw the renovation of 8 lavatories in Govt. Primary School for Boys, Govt. Primary School for Girls, Madrassah for Girls and the village mosque. Moreover two new restrooms were constructed near the village awami hujra. The work on the toilets has had a positive effect on the welfare of the villagers.



The construction of the sewage line has for the first time prevented the accumulation of monsoon rain water on the streets allowing the villagers a rare opportunity to appreciate the beauty of their village.

Hepatitis screening prevention and eradication Campaign:



In an attempt to combat the rising number of hepatitis cases in Sindh, OSDI initiated a hepatitis screening, eradication and prevention project with the collaboration of the Government of Sindh. The focused village for the project was Goth Sukhio Mir Jut, UC Hala in the district of Matyari in Sindh.

The campaign began in the last week of February 2010, and was spread over a series of six camps during which screening and vaccination was carried out. ICT, ELIZA and PCR tests were performed for identifying the hepatitis B and hepatitis C virus carriers.

The three doses of vaccination were also carried out during the camps and the last dose of vaccination was carried out in the last camp in the first week of June.

Besides the members of Sukhio Mir Jut the camp was visited by residents from six neighbouring villages as well.

Prior to the program a large scale awareness seminar was run through which the masses were informed about the causes and treatment of hepatitis by means of flyers, posters and banners.



As a motivation tool to mobilise the villagers flour bags (each weighing 2 kg) were distributed to participants at the end of every camp.

The camps screened a total of 826 individuals of which 211 were children under the age of 15 (the ratio of male to female was 115: 96). In all 715 individuals received hepatitis vaccination (the ratio of male to female was 314: 409) and a total of 103 patients were deduced to be suffering from Hepatitis C virus. The infected Individuals were referred to the Government treatment program at the Hala where they are undergoing their treatment.

Livestock Development Project Phase II in Sindh:



Following the success of the 1st phase of our Livestock Project, which is a part of our Livelihood Assistance Programs; OSDI has initiated the second phase of the program. Our objective of the project continues to be the same i.e. to empower the underprivileged people of Shambani Balouch community of village Jan Mohd Vandiar and Banbharo community of village Goth Kot Pir Bux Banbharo and help them achieve sustainable livelihoods by raising their income levels and by providing them with the means and the tools to enable them to improve their living conditions so they can break free from the poverty cycle over a period of time.

The project came into effect in the month of February 2010. The duration of the project is six months and is expected to conclude in the month of August 2010. Workshops on health of the livestock from the previous project were repeated and a series of new workshops on nutritional aspects and shed construction for the livestock in order to produce healthier animals were also conducted in collaboration with Livestock & Dairy Development Board (LDDB) and the local vet. The project will hopefully enable the families to foresee a rise in their monthly incomes. We hope to capacitate the focused families in expanding their skill set on livestock



development and production

encompassing health, nutrition, medication, shelter and other such factors involved in looking after and raising of the livestock.

Mardan Survey, OSDI's Success - 08-03-2010:



On 18 th February, 2010, OSDI's management visited the rural areas of Mardan district, N.W.F.P. where the OSDI team had been conducting surveys in the villages of Badam, Mian Gul Killay, Naway-killi, Pir Sai and Sayedabad.

Our visiting management was overwhelmed by the poor health conditions of the local inhabitants and found the situation to be unnerving and disheartening. Upon first glance, the principal problem being faced was the deplorable standard of sanitation. Water laden with waste was observed flowing freely on the pavements/passages instead of on appropriately established

infrastructure. Animals and young children were playing on these pavements/passages indicating an enormous hazard to their immediate health. An alarmingly high number of these people were cases of untreated Hepatitis, and suffered diarrhea and dysentery issues because of the extremely poor sanitation conditions.

Ray of light in the midst of the mountains:

However the most promising reality discovered was the urge to educate the young. Every child and youngster met by the team was studying in the local schools and had aspirations to become an engineer or an army officer. Such enthusiasm is a sign of hope and prosperity for the future generation of Pakistan.

The management met with the local families at Pir Sai and took note of the extremely poor and marginalized families surviving on zakat/ charity and support from the relatively better off relatives. These people wanted to help themselves and sought an opportunity to improve their own lives; one such case was of a young female named Nazo. She lived in a mud house with her mentally challenged husband and a widowed aged mother-in-law. They like many other families had no regular income and survived from local support. However she suggested that she could stitch and could make her ends meet if she had a sewing machine. These families despite living in poor conditions did not seek for a penny but wanted an opportunity pull themselves out of poverty.

Upon noticing such commitment and valor the visiting team decided to distribute sewing machines to capacitate the families like Nazo's, and empower them by enabling them to have an immediate source of sustainable income.

OSDI team distributed 10 sewing machines to such families like Nazo; 3 in Badam, 3 in Naway-killi, 2 in Pir Sai and 2 in Sayedabad.

The OSDI team has completed its survey in the district of Mardan in the N.W.F.P. Province and the survey has already begun in the Gilgit Baltistan Province.

Firewood Project:



OSDI launched the Firewood Project, under the Livelihood Assistance Program, in the village of Nomal, Gilgit Baltistan at the end of 2009. Unlike many villages in Gilgit, Nomal has access to electricity but still does not have access to gas, which is among the basic necessities in our lives today. OSDI's project was initiated with the goal of enabling a household to improve their income generating ability by providing them the appropriate means and tools to help them in raising their income and thus their standard of living.

The project began in December 2009 and spanned over a period of three and a half months. One family was selected for this particular initiative, with the project being



divided into six cycles and each cycle lasting over a period of 14 days. An initial interest free loan was provided to buy a portable wood cutting machine to chop the large logs into smaller chunks throughout the day so they could



easily be used as firewood. The profit from the first cycle was then reinvested into buying wood for the second cycle, continuing until the fifth cycle. Due to the increased availability of firewood, this family was also able to hire a local part time worker on daily wages to assist in the firewood business.

The project was a practical example for the villagers to learn from this one family and use the same techniques to generate income and pull themselves out of poverty. This initiative not only helped the family in need improve their own conditions but also provided local employment opportunities for the locals, helping instigate economic activity in the village. Such income generating techniques not only add to household income levels but also help ensure sustainable livelihoods of families, and lead to sustainable development for entire communities.

Rice and Wheat Cultivation:

Under the Livelihood Assistance Program, OSDI began an Agricultural Development project in the village of Malhee in the District of Shikarpur. Most of the villagers in Malhee earn their income primarily from livestock, labour, and agricultural activities.

The people primarily work on the lands of other owners, and are unable to generate enough income to invest on land cultivation. Thus they are forced to depend on local loan providers who hand out loans with high interest rates. As a result, most villagers end up caught in a debt cycle throughout their lives and give a vast percentage of their share of the produce to these loan merchants in an attempt to overcome their debts. The end result is that the farmer is left with very little produce for domestic consumption and is not able to generate enough revenue to sustain a decent living.

Seeing this common practice, OSDI identified three indigent households to give loans to in order to cultivate wheat. The project was initiated in the month of May (2010) and spanned over a period of five and a half months. Informal meetings were held to guide farmers about the significance of using appropriate methods and techniques relevant to using fertilizers, using the right kinds of seeds, as well as the advantages of using a tractor, etc. The farmers were then able to use the right quantity of fertilizers, improved seeds, good quality pesticides etc., which resulted in overall higher yields.



The focused families utilized the profits to pay off their loans and to cater to their domestic needs.

The increase in returns was attributed to the farmers being able to use the necessary quantity of fertilizers and new seeds, which they were unable to do before due to the high interest rates ranging from 30-70%. The provision of appropriate means and resources not only helped the focused families to improve their own livelihoods, but also enabled them to generate a sustainable source of income.

OSDI's vision Global Acceptance - 08-03-2010:

We are intensely delighted to announce the publication of an article titled '**Fighting Poverty through Sustainable Development in Pakistan**' written by our own Maheen Haider and Aasim Siddiqui on the official website of Himalayan Consensus Certified. The article discusses the dual challenges, poverty and

hopelessness, faced by Pakistan . It also describes the steps and measures adopted by OSDI to overcome such obstacles to allow Pakistan a chance to prosper as a thriving nation.

The article can be viewed through the following link:
<http://www.himalayanconsensus.org/articles/himalayan-consensus-in-pakistan-fighting-povertythrough-sustainable-development-in-pakistan>.

Rural House Hold And Community Assessment Survey - 11-02-2010:

The OSDI team, at present is in the process of developing a comprehensive questionnaire for the purpose of administering an in-depth survey on the focused rural areas of Pakistan. The survey will help us analyze the livelihoods and living conditions of the rural poor of Sindh, N.W.F.P. and Gilgit Balistan and implement programs ensuring sustainable development.

We wish to implement efficacious and effective sustainable livelihood and community development projects. The survey covers a range of aspects and has been categorized into household and community assessment. They both asses various conditions prevailing in these areas like means of livelihoods, (agriculture, livestock), water and sanitation, education and health facilities, basic utilities and road infrastructure etc at both household and community level.

The questions in each of these sections are skillfully designed to gather extensive data aligned with our vision to aid our team in promoting sustainable development. This will improve the living conditions of the impecunious families by the aid of necessary resources and empower them via increased economic activity and community development projects.

The survey is expected to start by the mid of February in the rural areas of Mardan and Gilgit and will be conducted in the focused villages of Sindh subsequently. OSDI's future programs as a result of the survey will provide the means and the right tools to the poor in order to create a sense of responsibility among them so they can take appropriate initiatives of helping themselves. We will work towards installing long lost hope of a better life in these communities and endeavor to restore the sense of pride and dignity in their lives.

Success in the Livestock Sector - 21-01-2010:



OSDI's Livestock Project, part of the Livelihood Assistance Program was initiated in the villages of Jan Mohd. Vandiar & Goth Kot Pir Bux Banbharo. People from these communities lead a semi-nomadic life and their livelihoods are largely dependent on livestock and agricultural activities. Our goal behind the project was to financially empower the underprivileged people of Shambani Balouch community of village Jan Mohd Vandiar and Banbharo community of village Goth Kot pir Bux Banbharo. The projects were designed to raise their income levels so they can break free from the debilitating cycle of poverty. We aimed to provide them with the means and the tools to enable them to

improve their livelihoods. Three families were selected for this project.

The project began in the month of September, 2009 with the purchase of livestock from the capital which was provided to them through Micro Finance by OSDI. The 3 families raised and fed the livestock until it was time to sell them. During the course of the project we were actively involved with the families. OSDI frequently conducted workshops in collaboration with the local veterinarians to teach the project committee about livestock development. Due to these workshops, people began to take better care of their animals in terms of health and nutrition and thus witnessed remarkable results. The duration of the program was 2 months, successfully ending in the month of November around Eid Ul Azha to maximize sales revenue. After all the deductions including the repayment of the interest-free loan, it was seen that the families were left with a significant profit.

Due to the accomplishment of this project, the OSDI team is working in close collaboration with the focused families and is developing the 2 nd phase of the livestock development project. The team is also evaluating more families to be included in the project in the future and additional variables in order to ensure that the livelihood assistance program will help improve the lives of the Banbharo and Balouch community in order for them to achieve a sustainable livelihood.

Empowering Farmers in Sindh - 21-01-2010:



The Agriculture Project Phase I in Sindh is taking place in the district of Ranipur, in the villages of Jan Mohd. Vandiar, Goth Pir Bux Banbharo and Mulko Wahan. The people of this area are mostly dependent on livestock and agricultural activities to support their families. OSDI's goal is to help these people improve their livelihood strategies so that they are able to increase their income from the same assets that they are working with. Our team works closely with the target communities in order to assess the roots of poverty. After this assessment, we were able to develop a tailor-made strategy to gradually increase income through improved farming methods

as well as giving them access to interest-free credit. Before OSDI loans, these villagers were simply reusing old seeds and were unable to afford proper inputs like fertilizer and new seeds. With money to buy better quality seeds and inputs, the results of the crops are expected to be much higher. There are a total of four families participating in this project. Since its commencement in November, the land has been ploughed, cultivated and fertilized. The project is expected to yield its results by the month of April next year.

A similar project has been initiated by our team in Sindh, in the district of Shikarpur, in the village of Malhee. Our goals and aims behind this project are similar to those of the project launched in Ranipur district. There are a total of 3 families participating in this project. Since its commencement in the month of November, the lands have been ploughed and cultivated. Seedlings are visible in the fields at this time, which is surely a good indicator of the impending success of the project. The project is expected to yield positive results by the middle of 2010.

Sustainable Livelihood Projects in Gilgit - 21-01-2010:



OSDI has launched 2 projects in the Gilgit region, in the villages of Nomal and Rahimabad. These projects are referred to as vegetable project and the greenhouse project. Each project has one family in the region.

The family that has been provided with the loan for the vegetable project has planted two vegetables, spinach and potherb. The family has already begun to reap the benefits; they have plucked and sold the vegetables four times. We are expecting a full return of the loan in the coming months.

The family participating in the greenhouse project invested their loan in the building of a fully functional greenhouse and preparation of seedlings of green chilies, green peppers, capsicums and tomatoes. This greenhouse will allow the family to produce seedlings year round despite the external weather conditions. This project will not only benefit the family but also aid the community as they would be able to purchase higher quality seedlings. After the completion of the greenhouse the seedlings were sowed on December 1st of 2009 and the loan is expected to be repaid by the first quarter of 2010.