

Hard-work Pays off

In order to facilitate the rural communities to improve their living conditions OSDI initiated to educate the under-privileged people about creating sustainability. To ensure food security and provide an easy access to fresh and healthy vegetables the Kitchen Garden project was initiated.

In which beneficiaries having 250 sq yards of land in their household would be provided seeds by OSDI to grow vegetables. Chanesar s/o Muhammad Soomar Hajano is a beneficiary from village



Jamal Hajano, district Matiari who cultivated vegetables in his home.

Chanesar had 0.75 acre of land which was fallow/barren. Due to his low financial income this he did not have the money to cultivate anything there. OSDI representatives mobilized him to sow vegetables and he prepared the land with his self efforts and motivation. Under OSDI's guidance he developed keen interest to work on this waste piece of land. And he dug a 12 feet well for water in his home. From which he got 2 bores of about 7 feet, after that he fixed an electric

motor pump of two horse power with 1.5 inch pipe, costing the expenses of about PKR 45000.

After that the cultivated land was irrigated with water, and the first crop of maize was sown in land.

He divided his piece of land into two parts, about 600 feet were left for KG cultivation and the remaining portion was left for Maize cultivation. As a result Chanesar earned about PKR 26000 from his maize crop.

And from KG cultivation he ran his kitchen by consuming vegetables, in spite of that he earned PKR 30000- 35000 as a saving amount. Meanwhile OSDI also mobilized him for the sowing of Savory plants (*used for the making of wooden houses*). These plants can be sold in the commercial market and can make a handsome earning of about PKR 15000 - 20000.

The beneficiary led out to motivate other members to initiate KG cultivation, including his brother Toto, his eldest son Wali Muhammad and nephew Nazeer s/o Pahalwan, to engage them for help in KG cultivation. Currently their KG plot measures about 1800 feet.

The remaining plot was used for onion nursery, and saved approximately PKR 14000 (*seasonally*)

OSDI had been providing them seeds for KG since the 5th phase. Now, they are mobilized for getting their own seed. Today, Chanesar practices to sow his own seeds.

With the start of KG 6th phase he sowed seeds of spinach. OSDI agriculture experts suggested him to sell the surplus spinach at local market, by this he earns PKR 100 per day. In a short period of 3 months he has earned approximately PKR 9000.

Along with, KG he has also cultivated alfa alfa, a fodder crop for animals; and on selling it in the local market and he successfully saved PKR 8000.

In the current phase of KG, he continues to sow okra, cluster bean and rich gourd. The production of okra is obtained on alternate days. He next plans to sow chilies on his remaining plot.

The continuous cultivation has increased the value of his land, and it can be sold at approximately PKR 7-8 hundred thousand.