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ORGANIZATION FOR SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

# Newsletter

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## Introduction

Majority of Pakistan's population lives in the rural communities. Life is very challenging for the people living in these communities. There are many factors that directly or indirectly affect the living circumstances of these rural people. Low socio-economic opportunities, inter-generational debt cycles, political instabilities, strong feudal systems, natural catastrophes; besides, illiteracy, food insecurity and poor health-care are the many reasons that act as hindrances from letting these susceptible people to improve their lives.

Organization for Social Development Initiatives (OSDI) is a non-profit organization formed as a CSR initiative of Marine Group of Companies to help empower these under-privileged rural communities of Pakistan. For more than a decade, OSDI has been playing a pivotal role in creating a positive change in the lives of vulnerable households under the umbrella of its three approaches i.e. Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP), Community Development Program (CDP) and Food Security Program (FSP).

## Community Development Program (CDP) Education

Acknowledging the earnest efforts of OSDI to promote the cause of education in district Lasbela (Baluchistan); the management of OSDI's supported Government Boys High School in Union Council Wayaro donated slates and ink for the students of OSDI's built Temporary Learning Center (TLC) in Chib Sheikh community. These items along with school bags and stationary pouches comprising of a ruler, eraser, sharpener and pencils were distributed amongst all the 57 students of TLC Chib Sheikh by District Education Officer (DEO) - Mr. Naveed Hashmi.

Adult literacy classes have also begun in full swing in this TLC during the evening hours in which 12 uneducated youth are acquiring basic literacy skills. The class is held daily between 7:00pm to 8:30pm as these young men are either laborers, rickshaw drivers or farmers that work during the day hours.

To build upon the capacity of both our appointed teachers in this TLC; OSDI regularly invites trainers to impart knowledge with our teachers so they may enhance their teaching pedagogies. During this tenure, a training session was conducted by Mr. Muneer - Training coordinator at UNICEF. Besides this, representatives of district team Lasbela - Mr. Rashid Butt stays in close coordination with the concerned education department to inform them about all the ongoing activities and details.



Picture 1: Young Adults while attending the Adult Literacy Classes

OSDI has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) to mutually collaborate towards uplifting the number of student enrollments in district Lasbela (Baluchistan). The goal is to build schools in deprived areas where there is no accessibility to education to improve the literacy levels across the district. Another goal is to renovate and refurbish the already available government schools. Active mobilization campaigns shall also be run to focus on female education.

Students of OSDI's built Temporary Learning Center (TLC) in the vulnerable community of Arab Seray in district Mardan (KPK) participated in the first term examination. It was the first assessment activity that took place in this school. As a positive incentive from OSDI to further motivate these students the achievers received notebooks and stationary items as souvenirs.



Picture 2: MoU Signing between OSDI and NCHD

An education survey has also been conducted in the community of Baizad Banda to check the education vulnerability. It was observed that amongst 127 children in this community nearly 112 children were out-of-school. The only educational facility available is at a distance of 4kms from this village. This is a long distance to travel for minors; especially in a mountainous region; hence, parents are reluctant to send their children to school.

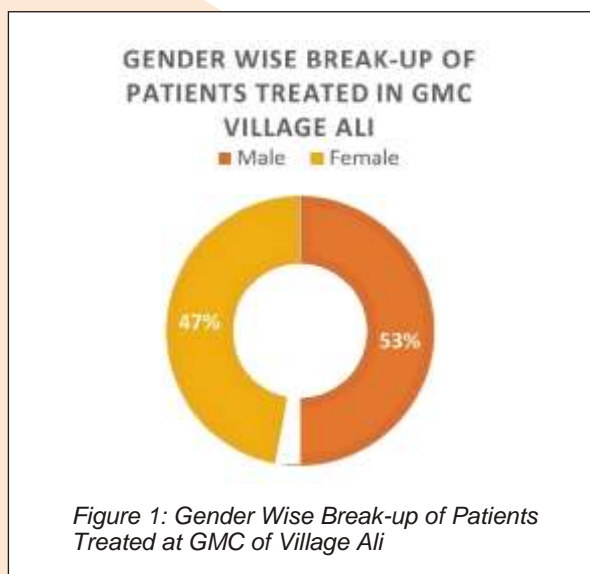


Figure 1: Gender Wise Break-up of Patients Treated at GMC of Village Ali

## Health-care

In Union Council Palo Dheri, district Mardan (KPK); OSDI organized a one day free General Medical Camp (GMC) in the month of September 2018. The medical camp was held in the main Hujra of village Ali. Nearest health facility for the people of this village was in Rustam city located at a distance of 3kms approximately.

332 patients were treated for free of cost and were provided with free medicines by qualified doctors and paramedical staff appointed by OSDI. Majority of the patients in this medical camp suffered from (18%) Gastro Intestinal Infection (GIT), Musculoskeletal Pain (17%) and 14% from Respiratory Tract Infection (RTI).

Another free General Medical Camp was organized in the community of Sayarani Goth in the union council of Wayaro in December 2018 in which 659 patients were treated and facilitated with free medicines. Patients attended the medical camp from multiple settlements which included Suleiman Goth, Chandio Goth, Dalok Goth, Faqera Goth, Mangiyani Goth, Yousuf Goth, Chakhora Goth, Bilal Goth, Jano Goth, Muhammad Bux Goth, Raza Goth, Retalada, Ishaq Goth, Abdullah Goth, Soomar Goth, Achra Goth and Aqil Goth.

Gender Wise Break-up of Patients Treated in GMC Village Sayarani	
Male Patients	Female Patients
343	316

Table 1: Gender Wise Break-up of Patients Treated in GMC Village Sayarani

Second phase of School Based De-Worming (SBDW) activity in focused schools of district Lasbela took place during November 2018. The activity was conducted during December 2018 for the students of district Mardan.



Picture 3: School Based De-Worming activity in District Mardan

OSDI's health-care team provided each student with a single dose of de-worming medicine (zyntel syrup) and distributed a 250ml of milk pack. Awareness sessions on safe health and hygiene practices were conducted by the social mobilizers and health assistant of OSDI to educate the students on various

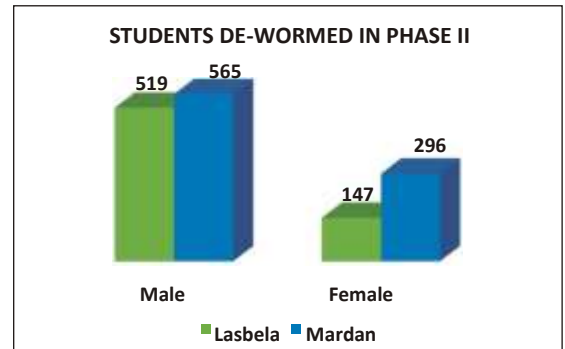


Figure 2: Students De-Wormed in Phase II

ways to keep themselves and their surroundings clean. The activity was held across 6 schools of district Lasbela in which 666 students participated. Altogether, 861 students from 7 schools of district Mardan were given a dose of de-worming medicine and milk pack.

## Health & Hygiene

375 individuals from the focused communities of district Lasbela (Baluchistan) were mobilized regarding the importance of health & hygiene to live a healthy life. An awareness raising campaign was run by OSDI's health-care team during the month of October 2018 in which people from 15 villages/areas of Union Council Wayaro were acquainted with various health & hygiene maintaining practices such as water purification, washing of kitchen utensils, avoid ghutka, environmental hygiene and most important personal hygiene. The awareness session was held across the following areas - Utthal city, Siyarani Goth, Siyarani Baloch Goth, Sukkan, Ahora, Chak Ahora, Janu Goth, Hussain Goth, Ishaq Goth, Ishaq Mandra Goth, Miru Suleiman Goth, Janu Sheikh Goth, Issa Bucheri Goth, Retalara and Faqera Goth. Altogether, 19 training sessions were held amongst which 3 sessions also took place in Government Primary School of Issa Bucheri community, NCHD supported school in revenue village of Retalara and a Madarrasa in Miru Suleiman Goth.

## Water Nearby Homes (WNH)

The solar water project (SWP) has successfully been installed in the far-fledged community of Kareer Goth in district Lasbela (Baluchistan). The village is located in a rough and mountainous region which is almost at a distance of 55kms from Utthal city. The community lacks infrastructure of any kind; there are no plants due to water scarcity; hence, the atmospheric temperature is very hot in summers. Upon the request of the local community; OSDI has facilitated these people with provision of fresh water. Currently, the water extracted is upto 25 - 30 liters per minute. The village comprises of 20 vulnerable households. Prior to OSDI's intervention, the villagers availed water from a nearby spring and incase it dried out then females had to travel a distance of 4 - 5 kms to fetch water.



Water extraction from SWP facility in Kareer Goth

In district Mardan (KPK), the community of Akhundara was facilitated with a bore and cemented water storage tank base by OSDI in the previous quarter. During this tenure, the community has been provided with a plastic water storage tank having the capacity to store 1000 liters of water. The storage tank has the capacity to fulfill the water needs of 20 households at a time. Moving on to Arab Seray community, OSDI has successfully installed a hand-pump facility. Similar to Akhundara, a bore, cemented water storage

base and plastic water storage tank was installed in this village too. The water storage tank has the capacity to store 1000 liters of water in it.

## Food Security Program (FSP)

### Kitchen Garden Project (KG)

OSDI in collaboration with its partner Lok Sanjh Foundation has implemented an efficient water management system in the focused community of Miru Suleiman as a pilot project. This was initiated on experimental basis to observe the suitable growth



Picture 5: KG Plot Preparation using Drip Irrigation Technology

of vegetable plants under drip irrigation system as compared to the normal flow of water through putting plastic sheets and making water channels.

The water facility has been provided by OSDI in the community of Kareer Goth; selection of 5

beneficiary households Table 2: KG plots prepared using Drip was done to initiate Irrigation Method

Village	KG plots Prepared	Land Harvested (sq. ft.)
Kareer Goth	5	1200
Miru Suleiman	2	480

Kitchen Gardening (K.G.) outside their homes. Initially, beneficiaries chose to grow mustard, coriander and radish within their kitchen gardens. A beneficiary has also grown maize in his kitchen garden for the purpose of

animal fodder. The aim of this project is to help lower the monthly expense levels and enable the beneficiary households to generate some savings on monthly basis. Per day cost of vegetable consumption per household is estimated at nearly PKR 100 - PKR 150.

## End-line Survey in District Lasbela

During this quarter, an end-line survey was conducted in the focused communities of district Lasbela (Baluchistan). The aim was to gauge the progressive growth in the susceptible communities before and after intervention of OSDI. It was observed that 53% of the families had their children enrolled in schools due to OSDI's intervention. These out-of-school children were previously engaged in water fetching. The water management committees (WMCs) formed by OSDI have managed to collect PKR 65,000 as maintenance funds for water projects. As compared to the previous 4% there is now a raise of 17% in income generation of families facilitated under livestock development project. The 61 households facilitated under kitchen gardening project are availing fresh and nutritious vegetables upto PKR 2,365 per month from outside their homes. The overall enrollment has increased to 28% due to OSDI's positive interventions. Health expenditure has reduced from PKR 1,159 to PKR 174 per patient on an average. Following the foot-steps of OSDI's advocacy the partner organizations such as Hasan Jamot Welfare Foundation has implemented 3 solar water projects in the communities of Lakhra, facilitating almost 70 house-holds altogether. A concrete school building has also been constructed by Global Partner for Education (GPE), a project of World Bank in the susceptible community of Joosa Goth. Currently, 80 out-of-school children are acquiring quality education there. Moreover, renovation of 2 primary schools by UNICEF and implementation of solar panels by NRSP within the focused community of Bohaar have also taken place.

## Future Interventions

In the upcoming months, OSDI shall keep focusing on fulfilling the basic living needs of the rural communities of district Mardan and Lasbela respectively. The primary areas of focus shall remain contributing towards improving the water poverty issues, creating livelihood opportunities through LAP, raising health and hygiene awareness, mobilizing communities towards facilitating their children with education. Another important area of focus shall be providing solutions to overcome food insecurity mainly through Kitchen Garden project. Moreover, efforts are also being made to acquire the NoC (Non-Objection Certificate) from district Thatta

(Sindh) soon after which intervention shall be initiated.

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