

Muhammad Alam – Enhancing Crop Yields



Muhammad Alam is a beneficiary of Agriculture Development Project (ADP) which is the backbone of OSDI's Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP). Alam belongs to the village of Haji Ibrahim which is located in the union council of Wayaro in district Lasbela (Baluchistan). The houses in this community are scattered.

Before OSDI's intervention, his financial condition was very low due to high dependency and low income levels. He worked as a farmer on own land but had to share the crop profits with his partners. As the profits were divided hence, he barely managed to improve his financials. It was very difficult for him to survive and feed his all family members on low monthly income. After OSDI's intervention, he has managed to generate some savings by giving the fourth portion to his partner.

Alam's life improved through OSDI intervention; with the ADP grant he received for one cropping cycle of cotton in the 4th Phase of this project. OSDI has provided him agro inputs in the form of high yielding seeds, tillage amount and fertilizers. He has also participated in regular capacity building trainings from OSDI. The agro expert made him aware about land preparation techniques, advance farming methods and linkages development with agriculture department which has brought substantial improvement in his farming skills.

He utilized the agro inputs properly and implemented his learning on his cotton crop and with the help of these efforts the crop produce on his land increased. He ranks high amongst the Phase-4 farmers in obtaining one of the highest per acre production from cotton crop of 20.33 maunds per acre. He has yielded, 61 maunds of cotton produce from 3 acres of farmland. According to Alam, he could not obtain such fruitful results before due to the traditional farming techniques he practiced earlier. Furthermore, repaid his debts from the income generated and managed to cultivate 2 more acres of land on which he grew tomatoes on 1 acre and wheat on the other.