

Newsletter

OSDI's Introduction

Organization for Social Development Initiatives is a social policy think tank that works towards the eradication of poverty through sustainable development. In order to alleviate poverty OSDI has identified three approaches: Livelihood Assistance Program, Community Development Program & Food Security Program to empower rural communities by providing them with socio-economic facilities.

Conference

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. Pakistan is a poverty stricken country with most of its population residing in the rural areas. 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 indulged in extensive reading and analyzing of the poverty-stricken regions of Pakistan and understood the importance of education, lack of capital and good health, that was essentially missing in these areas. 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'.

Livelihood Assistance Program

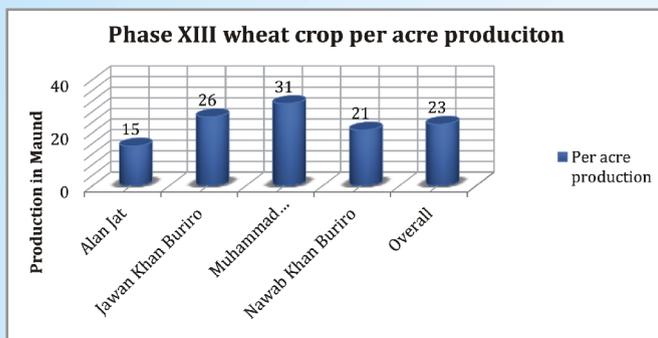
Agriculture Development Project

Jacobabad witnessed the 13th successful phase of the Agricultural Development Project, which was completed in April 2016. The program was carried out in four villages: Alan Jat, Jawan 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.

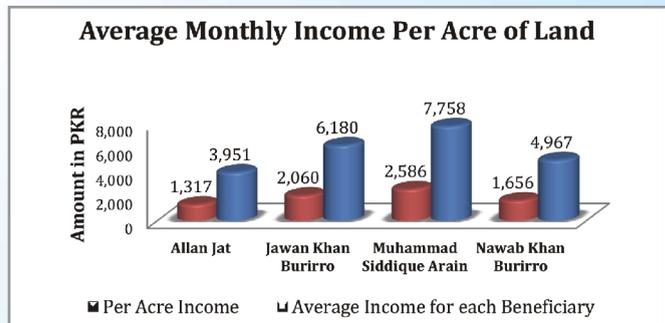


Assessment of Beneficiaries in ADP



The chart demonstrates the per acre production of wheat in the four focused villages of Jacobabad. Production was highest in Mohammad Siddique Arain and lowest in Alan Jat because of the difference in the seed variety and scarcity of water.

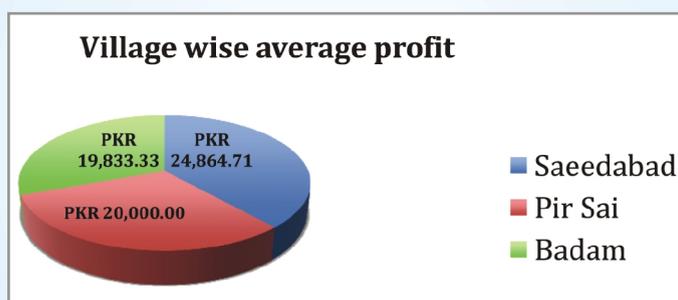
The chart shows the average monthly income per farmer according to the area of land. Beneficiaries in Muhammad Siddique Arain had the highest income on the crop.



Livestock Development Project

After 7 successful phases, the Livestock Development Project initiated the 8th phase in district 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. Following chart projects the average profit made on the average loan disbursed to the farmers.



Education

Education is an essential part for a community and every individual has a right to basic education. To overcome this void, OSDI tapped into the rural areas of Pakistan and established two schools for the underprivileged children deprived of primary education.

The school in Shikarpur district, Malhee, was established in 2011. There are 166 students enrolled in the school at the moment. The school in Jacobabad district, Nawab Khan Burirro was established in 2016 and currently hosts 126 students. These schools 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. Both schools in Malhee and Nawab Khan Burirro host students from various other settlements around the area as there is a lack of educational institutions in the nearby areas.

After a successful exit from Shikarpur and Jacobabad a Memorandum of Understanding was signed to officially hand over the financial and administrative responsibilities of the schools between OSDI and the Sindh Education Foundation for the sustainability of the project on 24th October 2016. Sindh Education Foundation has further given the management of the school to Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO), that will ensure the smooth running of both the schools by looking into all the operations, training of the teachers and other technicalities associated in running an educational institution. Bearing the performance of both the schools, Sindh Educational Foundation's intention is to increase the school's status from primary to elementary.



Mr. Khayal-ud-din LDP Member



MOU Signing between OSDI and SEF

Health

Under the umbrella of Chief Minister's Initiative for hepatitis free Sindh and the district health department, OSDI established its hepatitis prevention and control program in four villages of Jacobabad: Jawan Khan Burriro, Mohammad Siddique Arain, Allan Jat and Nawab Khan Burriro. As a follow up of mass screening camps a routine investigation on hepatitis positive patients was conducted in April 2016 in DHQ hospital Jacobabad and currently 12 hepatitis C & B positive patients are still under treatment till to date. To improve the health of pregnant women basic training on taking care of the pregnant women and safe practices was conducted. A total 15 indigenous TBAs and health workers were registered for the program trained and linked with local health authorities in order to bridge the maternal healthcare gaps.

School Based Deworming Project is planned biannually in all schools in Jacobabad. The third round of 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.



Vaccination of Hepatitis in village Jawan Khan Buriro

TB Prevention & Control program was launched in Jan 2016. A mass level screening of targeted communities was carried out in all focus villages. Approximately 615 individuals were screened after filtration through general medical camps. Weekly positive individuals were further referred to district TB control units of Jacobabad.



School Based Deworming Activity

Three glorious years with Montpelier

In 2016, OSDI ended its partnership with Montpelier Foundation. This was a three year partnership with interventions in Livelihood Assistance Program, Community Development Program & Food Security Program.

Since the commencement of the new partnership, OSDI has supported low-income ménage to increase their yields and to exhaust the unutilized piece of land by financing them through Agricultural Development Program. In total 500 beneficiaries in the Agriculture development project and 39 beneficiaries in the livestock development project were benefitted. OSDI has introduced the farmers in the Jacobabad villages to hybrid seeds by training them to use modern techniques in order to increase their agricultural productivity.

A number of health care initiatives were established mostly covering primary health care, preventive health and targeted diseases, which were prevalent in the community.

In the department of education, a school was constructed in Nawab Khan Burriro village. Initially there was no proper school in the four focus villages before OSDI's intervention in these villages.



Newly Constructed School In Nawab Khan Burirro

Future Intervention

A baseline survey was conducted in Balochistan, Lasbela in June 2016. This survey was conducted to evaluate the socio-economic situation of the inhabitants of the designated area. Triangulation methodology was employed to gather data from 167 households with 84 women respondents and 83 male respondents across 21 villages in the district. The data gathered incorporated information on the infrastructure of the villages, demographics, income and expenditure of the community and available status of basic health, education and water facilities for the inhabitants. OSDI is looking forward to start work in Lasbela in the following months.

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