

NEWSLETTER

Organization For Social Development Initiatives
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ICPSD 2017

Founder Trustee of OSDI, Mr. Aasim A. Siddiqui participated as a “Plenary Speaker” in the 4th International Conference on Poverty and Sustainable Development 2017. The event was held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) between 5th & 6th December 2017. He spoke on “Poverty Alleviation through Sustainable Development”.

The two days event was organized by The International Institute of Knowledge Management in Movenpick Hotel. Nearly, 35 participants attended this conference from more than 10 countries.

Introduction

Life has never been easy for the people living in the rural areas of Pakistan. Lack of basic living facilities, low income generation opportunities, illiteracy, unhygienic conditions, inaccessibility to quality health-care facilities and poor sanitation practices act as hurdles in uplifting vulnerable communities from the vicious cycles of poverty. To make the matters worse usurious debts keep building upon making economic instability a regular nightmare for the poor.

In 2009, a group of professionals gathered to form Organization for Social Development Initiatives (OSDI), a social policy think-tank ngo primarily aimed to create sustainability in the lives of the rural households of Pakistan. Since then, OSDI has been functioning under its three flagship approaches i.e.-Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP), Community Development Program (CDP) and Food Security Program (FSP).

The core objective of each of these tools is to help create economic stability through income generation, capacity building, asset creation, increasing literacy and providing food safety along with lowering the monthly expenditure through facilitating the beneficiaries with quality health-care, infrastructure facilities and promoting hygiene practices amongst the communities.

Future Interventions

To boost income generation within the focused communities, implementation and expansion of Livestock Development Project (LDP) shall take place in the newly identified communities of district Mardan (KPK) in the coming days. Recently, a survey has been conducted in district Mardan (KPK) on Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP) based on which beneficiaries shall be selected.

Furthermore, new Temporary Learning Centers (TLCs) shall soon be built in the vulnerable villages of Akhundara, district Mardan (KPK) and Chib Sheikh village of district Lasbela (Baluchistan) under the Community Development Program (CDP). Health-care activities shall soon initiate in new villages of Mardan district; to provide primary medical facilities to the rural people.

Moreover, Solar Water Project (SWP) shall be placed in Kareer Goth of district Lasbela (Baluchistan); soon after which trees shall be planted as a part of NRM (Natural Resource Management) to beautify the area. Intervention in selected villages of district Thatta (Sindh) is also expected to commence in the upcoming days.

Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP)

Livestock Development Project (LDP)

First phase of LDP has been successfully initiated in the vulnerable communities of district Lasbela (Baluchistan). The project aims to empower the dilapidated families of OSDI's following focused communities i.e.- Muhammad Bux Goth, Faqera Goth, Bano Hussain Goth and Miru Suleiman Goth. Under LDP, 20 beneficiary households have been provided 48 goats which include 40 does and 8 bucks altogether. As all the does purchased were pregnant hence, 7 newly born kids also accompanied their mothers upon distribution of livestock to the beneficiaries. Later on, 19 more kids were born in the respective beneficiary homes.

The health of each animal given was thoroughly checked and approved by OSDI's appointed veterinary doctor prior to its purchase. All beneficiaries have been donated 2 does for herd increase and food security whereas 2 bucks per village have been given away for reproduction. OSDI also trained the beneficiaries about best animal rearing practices including fodder preparation for fat-fattening, silage preparation, shed maintenance and disease prevention, etc. to keep the livestock distributed healthy.



OSDI's appointed veterinary doctor checks the physical health of the livestock prior to purchase

Community Development Program (CDP)

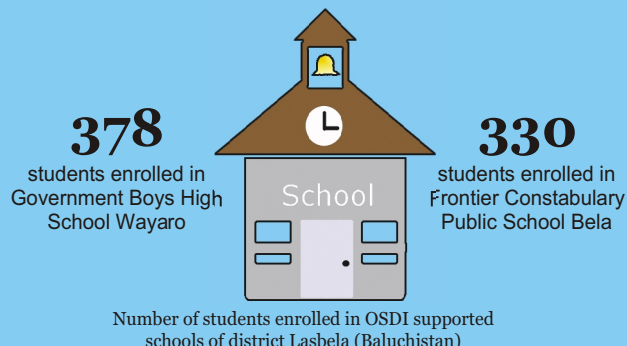
Education



Senior management of OSDI distributes goody bags to students of GBHS Wayaro

OSDI achieved its two major milestone projects of education during this quarter; inauguration of the newly revamped Government Boys High School (GBHS) building in U.C. Wayaro and inauguration of the newly constructed academic block building of Frontier Constabulary Public School (FCPS), Bela in Baluchistan.

On 12th September 2017, Mr. Mujeeb ur Reman, Deputy Commissioner, District Lasbela (Baluchistan) along with Colonel Juneed Akbar, Commandant Awaran Militia (Baluchistan), and Manager Programs of OSDI Mr. Sheheryar N. Khan inaugurated the GBHS, Wayaro. Students of GBHS performed on various skits, tableaux, songs and speeches during the occasion. Later on, goody bags were distributed to students.



A view of Inauguration ceremony of GBHS Wayaro

The Founder Trustee of OSDI, Mr. Aasim A. Siddiqui accompanied by other representatives of senior management visited GBHS and FCPS on 14th September 2017 and spent some time with the students of both the schools.

After the formal inauguration of the newly constructed academic block building of FCPS; Mr. Siddiqui participated in an exclusive function organized by the management of the school. The enthusiastic event comprised of songs, speeches and tableau by the students. Mr. Siddiqui distributed special gift hampers to the winning contestants of OSDI's inter-school competition, "Mera Pakistan Say Ahd e Wafa Kia hai?". The competition was announced by the management of OSDI during the Independence Day Celebration function held on 12th August 2017.

To further his support towards the cause of education, Mr. Siddiqui announced donation of student furniture in the 6 newly constructed academic block classrooms of FCPS, Bela.

The furniture was delivered on 29th October 2017 in which 30 student's desks and 60 chairs had been donated. 120 students can easily be accommodated on this furniture.



Founder Trustee of OSDI, Mr. Aasim A. Siddiqui while giving the gift hamper to the winning contestant



A view of the construction site of OSDI's TLC being built in Arab Seray, district Mardan (KPK)

Mr. Wahid Shakir, District Education Officer (DEO), district Lasbela inaugurated the newly refurbished Science Lab in GBHS, Wayaro on Friday, 27th October 2017. He applauded the efforts of OSDI in upgrading the school's facilities by providing Science Lab Equipment and improving the quality of education.

In the newly selected focused villages of district Mardan (KPK), OSDI conducted an Education Survey in Arab Seray community from 13th to 16th October 2017. There are 116 school age children residing within this vicinity.

Due to unavailability of any educational facility in this village, most of parents refrained from sending their children to school in another village; mainly fearing from the stray dogs, inappropriate travelling passages, etc. OSDI has initiated to construct a 2 classrooms based Temporary Learning Center (TLC) in this community. This TLC shall also have 2 washrooms for both boys and girls, separately. Upon completion of the infrastructure, OSDI shall appoint 2 male teachers for the students to begin the learning process.

Health-care

During this quarter, OSDI re-organized a General Medical Camp (GMC) in the cluster village of Peprani, U.C. Wayaro, district Lasbela (Baluchistan) on 18th October 2017. The GMC was held in collaboration with Frontier Constabulary, Awaran Militia (Bela). Previously, the first GMC of OSDI took place within the same vicinity in the month of February 2017.

The qualified doctors appointed by OSDI provided free medical consultations, treatment and medication to 421 ailing patients who attended this GMC from various far flung areas of district Lasbela. In this one day GMC, 225 female patients and 196 male patients were administered with medical facilitations.

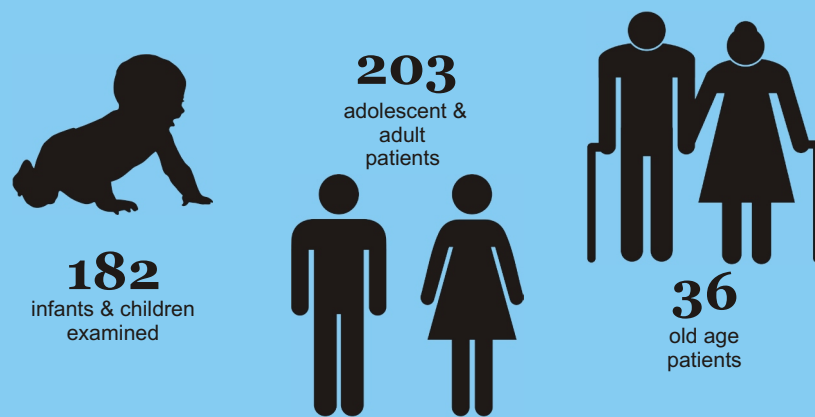
Majority of the patients complained of RTI (Respiratory Tract Infection), GIT (Gastro Infection Tract), Anemia and Muscular Pain. It can be concluded that these illnesses might be an outcome of the malnutrition and unhygienic conditions due to the poor living standards.



An ailing patient being treated at OSDI's GMC held in Peprani, District Lasbela (Baluchistan)

The Boys Scouts of Government Boys High School Wayaro for the first time extended their voluntary support for crowd management and handling.

Moreover, training sessions on health & hygiene were conducted for both males and females separately by OSDI's Social Mobilizers to educate the audience about simple ways to keep themselves and their surroundings clean in order to stay healthy and fit.



Age wise representation of patients from GMC Peprani

Food Security Program (FSP)

Kitchen Garden Project (KG)



A glimpse of fresh and healthy home-grown turnip in the KG of Miru Suleiman village

In the deprived focused community of Miru Suleiman, district Lasbela (Baluchistan), OSDI initiated Kitchen Garden (KG) as a pilot project during the month of September 2017. Under this project, 20 vulnerable households have been supported with seedlings and seeds of Spinach, Coriander, Turnip, Brinjal and Green Chillies. Few of the beneficiaries have preferred to grow Maize for fodder preparation of their livestock.

KG aims to provide a food safety net to the poor beneficiaries by facilitating them with sufficient vegetables for self-consumption or selling purpose. By having an easy access to healthy and nutritious vegetables at their doorstep these beneficiaries are able to become food secure.

PKR 1200 – PKR 1500 per month savings per household is made through lowering of monthly kitchen expense levels as a result, more savings would enable these beneficiaries to better living. In near future, OSDI aims to expand this project to more vulnerable communities residing within the focused districts.

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