

Introduction

For the people living in the rural areas of Pakistan; life is not as easy as it seems. These rustic communities have long been deprived of basic living facilities. From low financial empowerment caused due to lack of income generation opportunities or inter-generational debt traps, illiteracy, malnutrition, health issues and hygiene awareness; people living in these areas daily fight for their survival. Unavailability of clean drinking water is the most dreadful concern amongst all the missing facilities. To make the matters worse political instability and natural catastrophes also contribute towards making the situation challenging.

Organization for Social Development Initiatives (OSDI) is a social policy think-tank NGO, which was formed in 2009 to help create sustainability within the lives of these under-privileged communities. We aim to promote the human dignity and integrity of work; by empowering the focused communities to be the change they want to see. Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP), Community Development Program (CDP) and Food Security Program (FSP) are the trio approaches formulated by OSDI to help facilitate the susceptible communities to progress towards sustainable living.

Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP)

Agriculture Development Project (ADP)

First phase of agro has begun in the newly selected focused community of Sayarani Goth and Miru Suleiman Goth in district Lasbela (Baluchistan) in which 20 farmers have been facilitated to grow cotton crop on 3 acres of land per farmer. Tillage amount worth PKR 5,400 has also been provided to each farmer for land preparation. Urea and DAP shall be provided in the upcoming days. To ensure smooth execution of this project, an Agro Management Committee (AMC) has also been formed by OSDI. All the committee members, have been nominated by the villagers themselves based on their credible reputation. OSDI plans to cultivate 60 acres of farmland during this phase.

Break-up of Farmers in ADP Phase - I District Lasbela	
Villages	No. of Farmers
Sayarani Goth	18
Miru Suleiman Goth	2

Table 1: Number of Farmers Facilitated in ADP Phase I District Lasbela

Livestock Development Project (LDP)

Healthy livestock relates to a strong food security system and is considered as an essential means for asset creation in a rural household. Livestock rearing is considered to be an excellent source of food supply, nutrition and income generation. In district Mardan (KPK), OSDI nominated 20 susceptible beneficiary households to participate in the LDP in the month of July 2018. Each family was facilitated with a calf. Since, these animals have matured now they are ready for breeding and milk production.

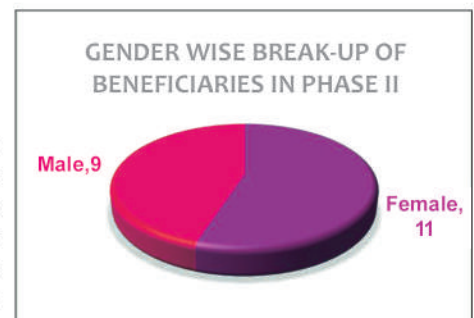


Figure 1: Gender wise break-up of Beneficiaries facilitated in LDP Phase II-District Lasbela



LDP - Phase II Beneficiary along with his goats

Health of all these animals was checked in March 2019 in which they were also weighed and measured. Soon they shall start reproducing.

Second phase of LDP has successfully been initiated in the deprived communities of Sayarani and Mangyani Goths wherein, 20 vulnerable families located in the revenue village of Retalara, U.C. Wayaro in district Lasbela (Baluchistan) have been supported. The community of Sayarani Goth comprises of 5 small settlements called, Saleh Goth, Yousuf Goth, Bilal Khaskheli Goth, Umrani Goth, and Sayarani Goth. Altogether, 40 pregnant does and 8 bucks have been distributed amongst both these communities. OSDI appointed a vet to have all the animals de-wormed prior to distribution.

Community Development Program (CDP)

Education

To check upon the learnings of the youth enrolled in the “Adult Literacy Classes” held during the evening hours in the TLC of Chib Sheikh; OSDI’s Team Leader – Mr. Rashid Butt paid a surprise visit and conducted a speaking, reading and writing tests of all the learners enrolled. To his surprise, not only the youth scored well but, they also read few lines from the local newspaper. Mr. Butt appreciated the efforts of TLC teachers on their hard work to have contributed effectively in helping improve lives of these once illiterate youth.

In February 2019, District Education Officer (DEO) of Lasbela (Baluchistan) has generously provided 800 course books for the students of OSDI’s built Temporary Learning Center in the revenue village of Chib Sheikh and for OSDI’s other upcoming TLCs. These course books are on the subjects of English, Maths, Islamiyat and Urdu for students of Nursery, grade 1, grade 2 and grade 3. During this quarter, the two classrooms based Temporary Learning Center (TLC) built by OSDI in the community of Chib Sheikh has been formally handed over to National Commission for Human Development (NCHD). From now onwards, the school shall be monitored and operated under the leadership of the authority. Responsibilities of the school were transferred in the month of March 2019, in the presence of senior government officials, dignitaries, community members and parents of students studying in this school. Moreover, students who scored high grades during the final yearly examination held from 18th – 23rd February 2019 were also awarded with prizes for their achievement. The TLC has also been upgraded to grade 2 as the passed out students of grade 1 have gone to a new class.



Two Classrooms based TLC constructed by OSDI in Sayarani Goth

In the distant community of Sayarani Goth, OSDI has constructed a two classrooms based TLC along with a washroom facility. Currently, there are 150 out-of-school children in this village. As per the MoU signed between OSDI and NCHD in the previous quarter, OSDI has built two TLCs in Faqera Goth and Hashim Goth. There are 60 students enrolled in Girls Feeder School of F.G. and 30 students in the Boys Feeder School of H.G. School Equipment and Furniture to facilitate students and teachers of 4 NCHD schools as also been donated by OSDI. Moving on, acknowledging OSDI’s efforts, National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) has provided sports items and gifts to OSDI for the students of TLC Chib Sheikh and Sayarani Goth. Final examinations were held from 16th – 22nd March 2019 for the first time in the TLC of Arab Seray in district Mardan (KPK). Course books for the students of this TLC have been provided by the government.

Health-care

To better facilitate the ailing people of district Lasbela (Baluchistan), OSDI has collaborated with National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) to work towards overcoming Malaria disease within the region. NRSP is currently functioning on Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria project (GFATM). NRSP teamed-up in OSDI’s organized Free General Medical Camp (GMC) held in Chamasara to conduct Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs). The purpose of this test was to check on the diagnosis of malaria infection. NRSP brought 8 RDTs kits for testing purposes and upon diagnoses; the malaria positive patients were provided with free anti-malaria medication and referrals were made accordingly. Nearly, 387 patients were checked and treated by OSDI’s appointed doctors during this Free GMC.



Check-up of Patient being done at GMC in Chamasara

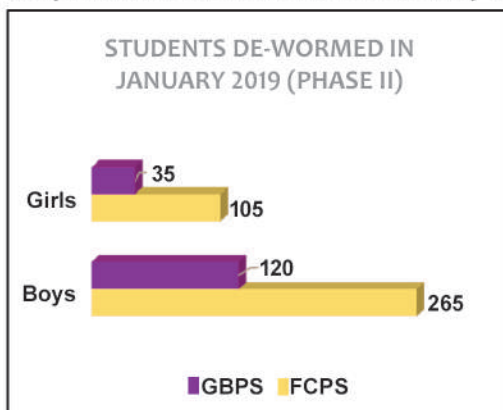


Figure 2: Break-up of Students De-wormed in January 2019 District Lasbela

In addition to the students of 6 schools de-wormed during the month of November 2018, OSDI extended the School Based De-Worming (SBDW) campaign to 2 more educational facilities in district Lasbela (Baluchistan). These were Frontier Constabulary Public School in Bela and Government Boys Primary School in Bocheri community.

525 students from both these schools were bestowed with a dose of de-worming medicine and the students were also facilitated with 250 ml of milk packs as a nutritional supplement. During this activity that was held in the month of January 2019, in total 385 boys and 140 girls were aided. Soon after the de-worming session, OSDI’s health team conducted health & hygiene awareness sessions to educate the students about safe practices for healthy living.

Natural Resource Management (NRM)

100 more plants have been donated by Hingol National Park during this quarter. This generous donation was handed over to the 20 vulnerable households of Kareer Goth, in district Lasbela (Baluchistan). The plants received from Hingol National Park consist of Conocarpus, Jamun (Black Plum) and Peepal (Fig Tree) species. Each family has been provided with 5 plants to grow. OSDI has facilitated this community with a Solar Water project (SWP) in the previous quarter. During this timeframe, OSDI has also participated in the World Forestry Day event; celebrated in Baluchistan Residential College (BRC) in district Lasbela.



Plants donated by Hingol National Park distributed to community of Kareer Goth.

Water Nearby Homes Project (WNH)

Villages	Number of HH
Prrang Dara	30
Boday Qabar	25
Lower Baizad Banda	30

Table 2: Number of Households to be facilitated in WNH project in District Mardan

Formation of new Water Management Committees (WMCs) have taken place in the newly selected communities of district Mardan (KPK). These committees have been formed in Lower Baizad Banda village, Boday Qabar village and Prrang Dara community. 85 poverty-struck households shall avail the facility of clean drinking water under this project. The committee members on behalf of their respective villages have also shown eagerness in community's contribution to make this project a success. Drilling of bore has begun in Chamasara Goth, U.C. Kehnwari in district Lasbela (Baluchistan). 30 vulnerable households located in 3-4 scattered communities shall avail clean water from this facility.

Health & Hygiene (H&H)

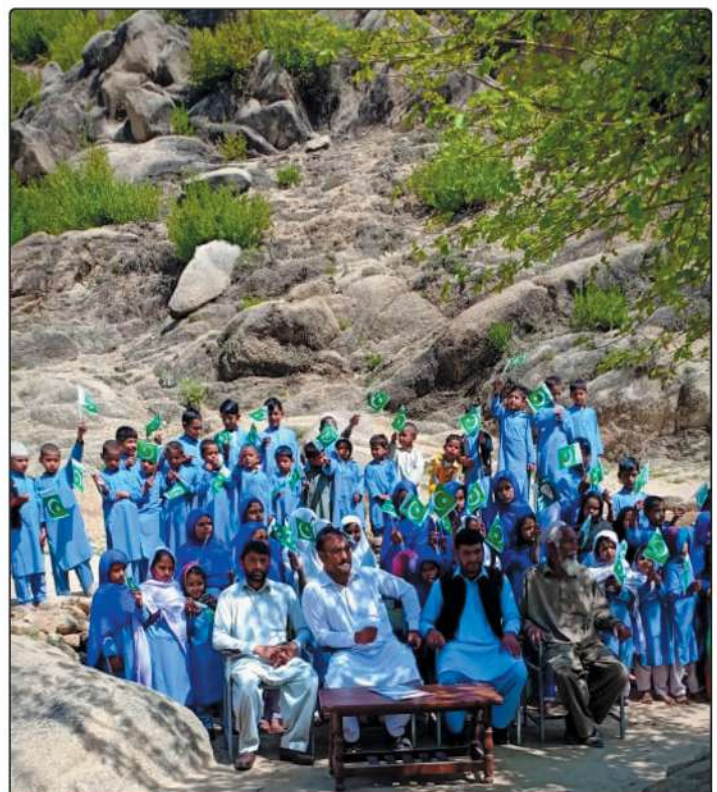
100 females and 60 males have been educated on the importance of health & hygiene awareness during the Free General Medical Camp set-up at Chamasara Behri stop, U.C. Kehnwari, Tehsil Utthal in district Lasbela (Baluchistan). The purpose behind conducting this session was to train the people about safety measures for healthy living.

Food Security Program (FSP)

Kitchen Gardening Project (K.G.)

In the focused communities of Bohaar, Miru Suleiman Goth, Kareer Goth, Bano Hussain Goth and Sayarani Goth; OSDI has provided vegetable seeds to 40 susceptible households. These seeds include Lady Finger, Ridge Gourd, Coriander and Pumpkin.

Due to the vegetable seeds provided, beneficiaries can now save up to PKR 100 – PKR 150 per day on their daily purchase of vegetables.



Students of TLC in Arab Seray Celebrating the World Water Day & Pakistan Day on 23rd March 2019 in which awareness sessions were given on Environmental Hygiene and importance of Water

400+

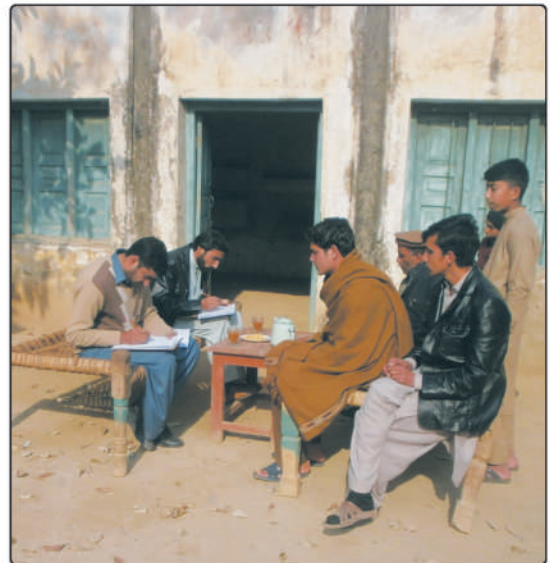
Beneficiaries to be facilitated under K.G. Project (Estimated)

End-line Survey in District Mardan

Exit from the focused communities of district Mardan (KPK) was done during this quarter. Since the projects, had concluded successfully an end-line survey was conducted by OSDI's Monitoring & Evaluation team to analyze the positive changes that had been created prior to proceeding towards other vulnerable areas in this district. It was observed that as compared to the average distance for water fetching was reduced from 3.2km to 0.3kms.

Similarly, a reduction in time was also seen from 6 hours to merely 4 minutes for water fetching, due to OSDI's intervention. 75% increase in monetary value was seen under LDP and an increase of 80% in average monthly income for SREP beneficiaries was noted. SREP beneficiaries were able to create assets worth PKR 91,200. Student's enrollment ratio reached 88% as compared to the 53% enrollments in baseline.

Average health expenses reduced from PKR 1,824 to PKR 9. Nearly, 1940 fruit and non-fruit trees have been distributed amongst the beneficiary households. Due to OSDI's advocacy, 12 youth have been employed and approval of 2 government schools have been made in Akhundara and Arab Seray.



Beneficiary being interviewed during End-line Survey in District Mardan

Future Interventions



Securing the Future for a Better Tomorrow !

OSDI's sustainability creation projects shall soon be initiated in the newly selected targeted communities of district Lasbela and Mardan as per the community need and demand. Suitable interventions shall also begin in district Thatta (Sindh), a much awaited area of focus.

Provision of safe water, imparting quality education and health-care along with hygiene awareness sessions shall remain the primary areas of concern for community uplifting. Beneficiaries shall also be aided with opportunities for economic development so they may improve their lives, accordingly.

To further create a food safety net to help in overcoming their day-to-day food shortage or inaccessibility of food; Kitchen Garden project would be initiated.

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