

EVALUATION

OSDI has now been in operation for approximately 5 years. Earlier this year, at the conclusion of its 5 year poverty alleviation program, the organization conducted extensive evaluations of its Livelihood Assistance, Community Development and Food Security projects to understand the progress that had been made in the target areas and the milestones that had been achieved.

Results show that average total incomes, average income per capita and average discretionary incomes have increased for the beneficiaries as well as the control group. This is also reflected in increased assets and improved living structures. The impact was found to be distributed unevenly across all villages- however this was attributed towards external factors such as market prices for crops varying in different regions and differences in climate.

Livestock and agricultural incomes have been found to be far higher for the beneficiaries as compared to the control group. Growth in agricultural productivity varies, again due to price and climate factors in the production season. Nonetheless, agricultural production is now higher than both baseline and control groups.

Health expenses have declined due to the preventive measures that OSDI has taken in setting up general medical camps (GMCs), Maternal Healthcare Projects, Malaria Prevention and Control Projects, and educating the community about the importance of effective WASH methods.

In conclusion, The Impact Assessment Report shows how OSDI's programs have had a tremendous impact- both on the day to day lives of the beneficiaries and on the village communities as a whole.



CONFERENCES

2015 was a pivotal year for sustainable development. As the United Nations met for the 70th annual session of the UN General Assembly in New York, the international development arena welcomed the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals. The 3rd International Conference on Sustainable Development was held by the Earth Institute at Columbia University and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) to offer evidence based solutions for furthering the SDGs. OSDI participated in the poverty alleviation panel with insights on financial inclusion of smallholder farmers alongside fellow panelists that included the First Lady of Panama Lorena Castillo. Keynote speakers at the conference included Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia and one of the authors of the SDGs; Her Excellency Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, the President of Malta, His Excellence Paul Kagame the President of Rwanda and Her Excellency Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the President of Liberia.

From the 18th - 20th of November the European Microfinance Platform and the Luxembourg government hosted the annual European Microfinance week with the year's theme being 'Financial Inclusion for Sustainable Development'. Over 450 practitioners, advisors, investors, academics and representatives from the European banking community convened at Abbaye de Neumünster in Luxembourg for the event. OSDI participated in the plenaries with insights on microfinance and the necessity of ensuring sustainability in the process. In the coming months, OSDI will continue to lead a poverty action group with members of the European microfinance community.

OSDI Founder Trustee, Mr. Aasim Siddiqui, speaking at the ICSD 2015 in the panel on ending extreme poverty with Her Excellency Lorena Castillo de Varela the First Lady of Panama and Dr. Dileni Gunewardena, a scholar and economist at the Brookings Institution.



UPDATES ON AREAS OF WORK

LIVELIHOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LAP)

To empower poor households living in the areas of Pakistan, OSDI has initiated the Livelihood Assistance Program (LAP). The primary aims of this program are to reduce poverty by facilitating income generation and asset creation in under-privileged communities and to empower them such that they are capable of leading improved lives. This project also intends to enhance the livestock rearing skills of vulnerable households along with providing an extra income generation and asset creation source.

Phase 7 started in Feb 2015 in which a total number of 129 beneficiaries were provided animals by OSDI. Before starting the project, beneficiaries were provided training regarding the practices of livestock rearing. OSDI also hired a vet to regularly monitor the health and condition of these animals and to provide guidance to the beneficiaries throughout the project period.



DISTRICT	BENEFICIARY HOUSEHOLDS	LIVESTOCK PROVIDED
Shikarpur	27	39
Jacobabad	39	56
Matyari	26	63
Mardan	38	99
Total	130	257

The beneficiaries sold their animals on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha. In this phase of the LDP in district Mardan, 38 beneficiaries were provided 99 animals in total worth of PKR 2,177,000. From which 9 beneficiaries were from village Badam, 1 from Pir Sai and the remaining 28 were from focus village of Saheedabad. In which 6 female goats, 16 calves, 59 cows and 18 oxen were given for selling purpose. After paying back 100% loan, beneficiaries earned PKR 1,185,350 profit in total. On average PKR 5,212 was earned by each beneficiary over the period of 6 months.

HEALTH

The access to primary health-care is the right of every individual. However, people living in rural areas are deprived of this right either due to the unavailability of health-centers and qualified doctors or financial incapacity to afford treatment. In most cases these reasons lead to death that is otherwise preventable. OSDI aims to facilitate its focused communities by providing them primary health-care within the reach of the village people.

Primary Health Care units (PHCs) have been setup by OSDI in the villages of Old Zarkhail, UC Zarkhail, District Shikarpur and village Syedabad, UC Rustum, District Mardan. These are equipped with basic medicines along with support staff, a doctor, a dispenser and a lady health worker serving about 16 villages located in and around the area. In total, 13992 patients have been examined and treated.



OSDI is running a Hepatitis B & C Prevention and Control Program in villages within the districts of Matyari, Khairpur, Shikarpur, Jacobabad Sindh and Mardan. This has been under the supervision of district government Sindh and KPK respectively. The beneficiaries are informed about the causes, preventive measures and treatment of hepatitis through flyers, posters and banners. Screening (ICT) and vaccinations have been conducted with the total number of people screened at 9340 and the total number of people vaccinated at 8953. 870 individuals were found to be infected and over 500 have been treated. OSDI has also initiated a School Health Program in 4 OSDI TLCs of the focused villages of Mardan, Shikarpur, Khairpur and Matyari. This program currently consists of approximately 800 students.

General Medical Camps are being conducted on a weekly basis to provide basic health care with a Total of 8144 patients examined and treated. OSDI has also conducted a Maternal Health Program in Matyari, Khairpur and Shikarpur with approximately 2000 women catered to. Biannual rounds of The School Based De-Worming project have been conducted in all focused villages of Khairpur, Matyari, Shikarpur, Jacobabad and Mardan, KPK. A total of 6030 students were De-wormed. OSDI continues to work on National Polio Day activities in all the focused villages along with government teams and on every drive approximately 1600 children are being inoculated with polio drops. The Provision of safe drinking water & sanitation is one of the major interventions of OSDI through distribution water filters and aqua tabs in collaboration with WHO and PCRWR Sindh. Health and Hygiene awareness programs are being conducted periodically, focusing on schools and community hubs. On average 500 participants are attending health awareness programs on a monthly basis.

EDUCATION:

Within the Matiari district, OSDI has exited from the schools of Jamal Hajano and Mari Mohammed Khan. At the time of exit, these two schools were ranked 2nd and 3rd out of 52 schools in UC Bhanoth in an Education survey that was conducted by the government department. OSDI facilitated the construction of an additional classroom for the school at Jamal Hajano.

A three day teacher training session was completed from July 30 - August 1, 2015 for all the Jacobabad teachers. The course was carried out over 18 hours. The focus of the training was to teach subject content for science and to train the teachers in using active learning techniques and practical exercises in teaching Science. The last day of the training was to train the teachers in the use of multi-grade teaching techniques.

Currently, in Shikarpur OSDI is facilitating the construction of a school building in Godho Shar. This is being varied out under The MPCL (Mari Petroleum Company Ltd).

OSDI's TLC in Mardan has recently completed a four year primary education program where over fifty students successfully completed their primary exams and were awarded certificates issued by the DEO. These students have now enrolled in a government run secondary school where they will continue their education. OSDI wishes them the best of luck on their path to higher education.

The newly started TLC (Temporary Learning Centre) at Allan Jut now has 72 students. OSDI is now working to locate a suitable plot for the construction of a proper school building at Allan Jut.

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FUTURE PROGRAMS

A baseline survey was conducted in four villages in the Jaffarabad district in Balochistan. This aimed to provide quantitative and qualitative information on demographics, sources of income; expenses, loans and assets; details on education, health, hygiene and sanitation; agricultural and livestock productivity; use of energy; gender mobility and household decision-making.

OSDI's program design for any intervention in Jaffarabad will be designed based on the findings of this survey. Further, this baseline data will be used to as a comparison point to assess the impact of future interventions.

The team at here at OSDI would like to thanks its partners, donors and beneficiaries for a successful and fruitful year. We wish you a very happy new year.



PICTURE GALLERY



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