



Livelihood Improvement Project Project Completion Report (29 Sep – 30 Oct' 2015)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PIDS has since long, established its integrity through their devoted efforts for the uplift of rural, urban and peri-urban poor and disadvantaged. Its collective conscious responses are well recognized and has led to enormous success in bringing assistance through empowering and enabling initiatives for raising the quality of life of the people of Balochistan and has far reaching results. The indicators all point towards sustainable development if organizations sincere in helping this province-integrate their efforts to support PIDS's cause.

OCSD is proud to be part of PIDS' Livelihood Enterprise Development Programme conducted simultaneously in 4 Union Councils of Loralai, under this program 40 females were given one month advance Tailoring and Embroidery Skills Training by establishing Vocational Training Centers and Production Centers (VTPCs) with the provision of assets to ensure sustainability. LSO's formed by PIDS provided valuable support in facilitating us at the field level. OCSD has diverse experience in skill development projects and has seized upon any opportunity where it can use its experiences to deliver the best possible results for the purpose of alleviating poverty by enabling beneficiaries to become self-reliant and earn and supplement their household income through the dignity of labor, application of their skills and abilities.

Balochistan is rich in human resource and it is further complimented by the hard work, resilience, determination and unwavering sprit of people who rise to ever occasion with enthusiasm- we all must contribute our best efforts in helping these people reach a point where they are no longer constrained by the lines of poverty –which we strongly feel is the root cause of all social ailments and this depravation has done more damage in Balochistan than anywhere else.

In the implementation of this project we received advise, guidance and valuable support from **Mr. Aimal Khan, Project Coordinator PIDS** and we are profoundly gratified for his help and faith in us and the bright future of the people of Loralai. We express our sincere appreciation to a person who is involved, completely sincere and highly aware of the subtle nuances that define enterprise development.

We take this opportunity to thank PIDS for inviting us to forums where we gained valuable insight and we sincerely hope our partnership will endure and collectively sharing the same vision –we continue to help, heal and restore this province of its lost glory. Your kindness is unparalleled on behalf of the people of the 40 beneficiaries- we thank you for your faith in us.



Irfan Alamgir Khan, Executive Director, OCSD



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Organization Name	Organization for Community Services and Development (OCSD)
Project location (village, union council, Tehsil and district)	4 Union Council of Loralai district, Balochistan UC
No. of Direct & Indirect Beneficiaries	Female: 40 Direct Households: 300 Indirect
Brief description of project objective:	<p>The problem in Balochistan is not just political or strategic – it is humanitarian. A vast majority of the people in the province in rural and peri-urban areas and in its Baloch-dominated central and southern regions – live below poverty line with next to no means of earning a livelihood. They have minimal access to education, health, roads, electricity and other means of communication. Most of them have never heard about a flush toilet, a sewerage disposal system and running tap water. Their ramshackle abodes are as basic as the temporary shelters in a badly run refugee camp and their belongings as nominal as those of any asset-less group of people in a war-ravaged country. It is a humanitarian crisis that can be resolved and all means deployed to reach the people- who through their indomitable courage, resilience, faith and determination have proved time and time</p>

	<p>again that how contributory they are towards any effort made to make their living conditions bearable. The people are involved, responsive and have an inbred sense of accepting responsibility for the betterment of their lives.</p> <p>The Project aims to develop skills of 40 females through community based and managed skill enhancement program. The course is designed to raise understanding of participants for utilizing their skills to run home based livelihood supporting enterprises, by using new and creative designing of product range that create a niche for them in the market thus supplementing their income and improving their quality of life. The Project will identify centers that have the maximum potential of willing participant's to ensure establishment of production centers and further development of their skills through provision of mechanized machines and renewed trainings.</p>
Project duration:	One moth (29 September – 30 October 2015)



PLANNER

- Procurement of Assets i.e., Sewing, Pico, Overlock and Embroidery Machines along with Raw Material and all other tools for VTPCs
- Area Assessment with the help of members of LSOs of Each UCs to have potential sites for the establishment of VTPCs
- Electricity / load shading observed as major constraint during assessment phase as there has been no electricity almost at each site
- Provision of Generators in addition to finalized assets by OCSD
- Develop a capability to monitor trends in poverty range security status and its determinants especially with respect to impacts on vulnerable groups;
- Design and implement training and other capacity building activities in the selected areas, coordinate all statistics data collection, analysis and related activities
- Produce training materials and user's manual for Community/Village Organizations already formed by PIDS, established and sign undertaking/ agreement for management of VTPCs
- By providing assets establish 4 VTPC's at selected areas within the stipulated time frame and identify need of the area through informed discussions on economic security, learning responsiveness towards advanced and creative designing of products that can be achieved by upgrading their skills
- Stay updated on progress, priorities and constraints

PROCUREMENT OF ASSETS



ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL SITES



POTENTIAL TOWARDS LONG-TERM IMPACT

Loralai has a rich heritage and is home to some of the most proficient trainers in Tailoring and embroidery – an art that the girls are inherently good at, a finesse that is passed through generations of expertise. The education level is moderate, however the girls are quick to absorb and indicate a high level of intelligence and interest. Turn out at the VTPC's was quite satisfactory. LSOs extended their full support and they have provided space for establishing Vocational Training and Production Center (VTPC) with the provision of assets inclusive 1 month Training of Trainers cum Products Producers will remain continue functioning of these VTPCs for their sustainable income generation.

As a member of UNHCR's Livelihood Working Group, we share our progress with all LWG partners and actively seek their support in expanding the sphere of our interventions to make it prominent and inclusive.

OCS D has good links at boutiques, tailors and other shops and we would be actively sharing list of our trained manpower with both government, international NGOs, donors for their sustained support in locating opportunities for them. We would recommend that extended certification courses be delivered to raise their level and pave the path for their success in the future.

The training to strengthen the capacity of the trainees require sustained measures i.e., advanced level courses, incentives to best performing beneficiaries and inclusion/promotion of their products by prominent NGO's that have established art and craft centers. We would be consistently seeking paths, maps to guide them towards a self-reliant and economically sound opportunities.



Based on preliminary assessment of field monitoring the sites with their performance rating is as under:

Union Council	Attendance	Training Delivery	LSO Support	Overall Rating
Kuch Amakzai	Good	Good	High	4
Uryagai	Good	Good	High	4
Torthana	Good	Good	High	4
Mekhtar	Good	Good	High	4



Our training plans as a norm are certificate courses as we feel that this facilitates a beneficiary in the long term development and for securing loans if they want to set up home based business.

The training will contribute towards supplementing the income of 40 households directly and the rent to community based training centers will in all likelihood greatly benefit the recipients bringing relief to them in short term range with possibility of increase in per capita income- provided the centers are registered at TTB for similar trainings and with PIDS or OCSD as

VTPC's. This would pave the way for interventions that other organizations may wish to make in different sets of program addressing environment, food security, Health, WATSAN and WASH. The centers are provided with all amenities to facilitate the training sessions, the environment is enabling and conducive for free association and maximum absorption of training outline to acquire skills through synchronized and effectively designed modules.



ROLE OF LSO's- GAPS

The LSO's are supportive and we feel that PIDS has gained massive support of the locals through their active participatory measures and their sustained efforts to alleviate the poverty in the region, the results are visible and promising

OCSD signs partnership agreements/MOUs with LSOs, VO's, CBO's and other stakeholders in area where it works. We work in close collaboration with these community representatives and seek their support on ground level by involving them in all project activities.

As it is normal in every community based practice – some LSO's adopt a dominant behavior to retain a control on the project, which is quite understandable in economically depressed areas and even in normal income areas. At some point, we need to be resolute in our stance that irrespective of personal feelings, we are concerned about the larger interest of these beneficiaries and that to us they mean the entire world, so our firm position has to be respected by the LSO as we represent the lowest lows and the highest highs of the community and that we are all in this together for a common goal to end- eliminate-eradicate the deprivations of poverty-



OVOP- One Village One Product



OCSD to promote the art and craft of Balochistan has established Tehzeeb, a display center at its premises, a mini display of products would be placed at all major sites of high public traffic i.e Banks, Restaurants, Hotels, Airport etc. Its first range of product from Loralai would be displayed for maximum exposure and we would request PIDS for the use of its official logo.

MONITORING

The OCSD team has extensive experience in livelihood sector and are sensitive to the needs of participants, they exercise highest code of conduct and utilize their expertise to guide and advise where required.

After establishment of VTPCs, during one month training OCSD team conducted field monitoring visits at all four sites on weekly basis and provided all required on site support to the trainers as well the trainees as they got opportunity through this project the first time to get trained and use Pico, Overlock and Machine Embroidery.



IMPACT

The VTPC's along with one month training will partially contribute towards supplementing the income of 40 households directly and the rent to community based training centers will in all likelihood greatly benefit the recipients bringing relief to them in short term range with possibility of increase in per capita income. This would pave the way for interventions that other organizations may wish to make in different sets of other programs.

Establishment of Vocational Training Production Centers VTPC's through provision of Assets to LSOs/trainees who have excelled and have shown marked inclination can help ascertain durable outputs. We would stress that best performing VTPC's are considered as priority for future interventions – the effectiveness of the program can only be truly gauged once production centers and strong link with Market, Ministry of Manpower and labor Development, social welfare department is affirmed. A list of skilled trainees would be maintained and shared with relevant departments for future placement in their poverty alleviation umbrella.



OCSD-PIDS Production Centers at 4 UCs of District Loralai:

OCSD established Vocational Training and Production Centers (VTPC's) at easily accessible areas with high density of beneficiaries, i.e., in localities that have primary facilities like power, water and secure environs (in and round mosques, schools, hospitals, markets, main road). These centers are equipped with mechanized sewing machines for Pico, Overlock, intricate machine embroidery. The centers would also serve as a Community information desk disseminating info about PPAF-PIDS interventions in Loralai and how best the community can make productive use of these provisions to enhance their living standards. It would thus maximize and highlight PIDS's efforts in the region.

These Production centers could and would be utilized for different skill upgrading/enhancement trainings and would act as a resource/display center as well.

After establishment of VTPC's and successful completion of 1-month training OCSD has handed over the VTPCs to LSOs of the respective UCs of Loralai District with the stipulation that trainings would be continued through LSOc/VOC/COs and products are evolved to supplement/ensure income generation. OCSD would explore possibilities of sustained funding's of these centers through other donors until such time the community reaches self-sufficiency to run these centers on their own.



A pictorial view of Vocational Training-Production Centers VTPCs



A pictorial view of Vocational Training-Production Centers VTPCs

