

Case Study:

Oxfam GB Hand Pump Scheme OF
Mohammad Hassan's Village Union
Council Kishingi.

Oxfam GB Drought Response Program (DRP) has been implementing water interventions in partner ship with ECHO to bring water closer to vulnerable women whose only access to water is 5 to 6 km from their home. This has meant that water collection has become the single greatest burden on the lives of rural women. .

This is the story of Mohammad Hassan's Village some 45 km east of Nushki and situated some 20 km's distance from the Afghan border. The total number of households in the village are 14 with a total population of 112 individuals. The landscape is characterized by a series of hills that stretch northwards to the Chaman border. .

Traditionally the livelihoods of the village were dependent on livestock and rain fed agriculture, however both livestock and agriculture have been badly affected by 5 years of acute drought. Prior to the drought, each household had 30 to 1000 goats and sheep and between 1-2 acres of land. However, the acute drought has resulted in livestock losses in excess of 90 % and the total disruption of agriculture. As a result men have been forced to turn increasingly to daily waged labor as the only viable livelihood option. The increased number of people seeking waged labor has resulted in a significant drop in wage levels.



Photo 1: *Children are getting water in Mohammad Hassan village and their mothers are happy now at home doing household work. Photo by: Mumtaz Zehri Watsan Engineer.*

Jamal Khatoon is a woman of 42 years and according to the villagers is one of the most vulnerable women of Mohammad Hassan's village. Every day Jamal Khatoon rises at 6.00am and travels two hours to a spring (Porchangi Spring) six kms from the village up in the mountains. Jamal Khatoon has a husband, 4 girls (Hameeda, Nazia, Bibi Safia, Amara) and 2 boys Sawali and Jameel.

In her own words, Jamal Khatoon describes her day; " I was the only one to wake up in the early morning (6:30 am) and prepare my donkey to fetch 80 liters of water for my family. After 2 hrs travels I reached the spring and filled 4 containers of 20 liters, I start my journey again towards my house where I continue my household responsibilities e.g. prepare lunch for my family and look after my children.

schemes because Mashki has many more women forced to spend so much of their time collecting water when they should be looking after their families.



Photo 2: Jamal Khatoon is telling her terrible story of fetching water from 6 km away

The water collection is very difficult and latterly when I reached home my children were weeping from hunger and it crushes my spirit. Often I find myself wondering why I married with an unlucky man who can't provide enough water for my family. I am just wishing for water and not for other facilities. I have on women dieses, which I can't tell you (Oxfam Engineer).

The new Oxfam pump has made me immeasurably happy and I thank God that my burden has been lifted and now my small kids can fetch water in 20 minutes and I have enough time to do my other households activities. The other good work Oxfam did for us is washing plate where we can easily wash our clothes. These two things (Hand pump and Washing Platform) are big achievements for us. I always ask the other women to pray for Oxfam for such nice work. We all pray to God almighty for Oxfam for helping poor people in far flung areas and really Oxfam is good and I urge Oxfam to continue their water



Photo 3: This whole house for 8 family members where Jamal Khatoon is giving her interview to Oxfam GB Watsan Engineer.