

# ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Year of  
Biodiversity



Lok Sanjh Foundation



## Acknowledgments

This report is an outcome of the Lok Sanjh Team work and struggle through the year to meet targets and making difference in the life of those who are still marginalized in 21st century.

I am very much thankful to all LSF staff and especially like to pay tribute for having their struggles being fruitful. Their contribution – was remarkable. It is impossible to mention their contribution in this brief space.

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## ED's Note

Lok Sanjh celebrated 2015 as the year of Bio-diversity and remained unique to create impact and change at scale. We are extremely proud of our work at the grass root level, which has helped thousands of small farmers to transform their lives in one way or another that still a never-ending struggle to lever large scale positive change for the small poor farmers.

We are helping farming communities to practice climate smart agricultural as the best livelihood strategy and in getting access to energy resources through a variety of approaches, ranging from solar lights to clean and wood efficient cooking facilities to save their time and energies. Lok Sanjh had been arranging technical briefs and services of the experts to help farmers understand the climate smart agriculture practices in a more tailored way.

We struggled to advocate for pro-farmers policy options to use and safeguard agricultural biodiversity for a sustainable food security for those who need it most. We are now seeking to use our expertise in 'building back better' to help ensure the revival of rural economies in a way that engages communities to reflects their needs.

Through the year we had been organizing the exhibitions, conferences and food festivals to raise public awareness on why agricultural biodiversity matters, and how the private sector and other scientific institutions can play a role in it.

This report highlights our achievements and give insight into the innovative ways through which we helping the poor farming communities to eradicate poverty. The report also highlights the vital role that small farmers play in food security, natural resource management, and how they maintain agricultural biodiversity to make family farms more resilient and productive to improve the ecosystem services.

The acievements for the year 2015 are great and we are deeply grateful to everyone who has supported us over the period. We look forward to 2016 for more steps towards small farmers Justice and to engage with partner organizations, civil society, governments, and the private sector with an exciting journey.

Finally i would like to thank all those who have supported us over the past year and specially to our generous donors who make this progress possible. I also take this opportunity to thank all our Board Members for their continued commitment.

With best wishes and Happy New year

Dr. Farzana Shahid  
Executive Director

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# About Us





## Vision

The organization envisions an enlightened rural society, where end beneficiaries may have choices to exercise and enjoy their rights. They should have access to services without discrimination and can enjoy freedom, dignity and respect for each others and environment.



## Mission

People-centered development to reduce poverty, enhance food security through strengthening local democracy, empowering women and sustainable use of natural resources.



## Goal

To develop rights based programs to promote just development by developing food production systems based on economic, social and political justice.





### Core Values

Development with equality and equity  
Human dignity  
To create an environment of respect

To address needs of the marginalized  
Accountability to partners  
Working with innovation

### Strengths

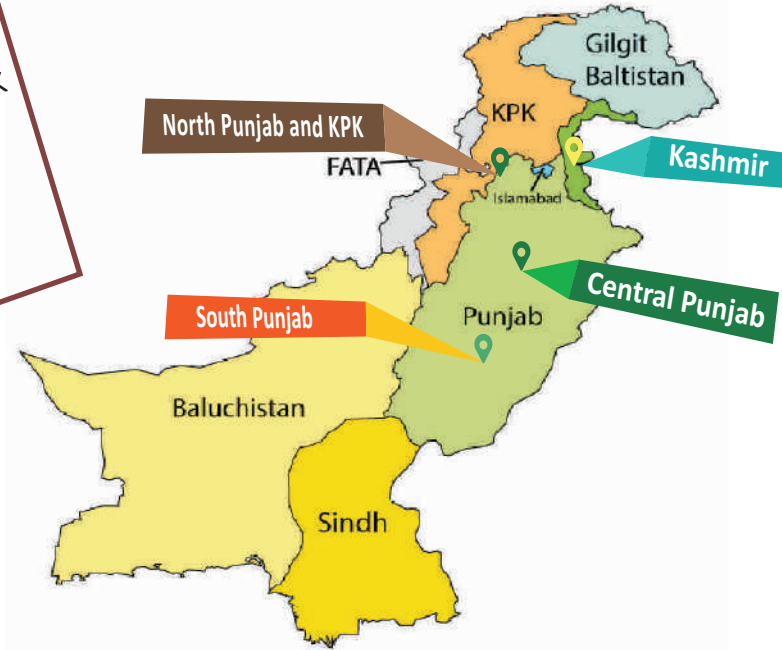
- LSF is only organization in the country, which is potentially contributing on Organic agriculture to revive traditional economies among farming communities.
- Developing biodiversity based ecological models of agriculture to showcase the success models.
- Established adequately strong relationships both at the national and international level to raise voices of the most marginalized groups.
- Bringing South Asian communities together by enhancing people to people interactions and linkages in order to augment knowledge and experience sharing for ensuring sustainable livelihoods.



### Geographical Focus

Lok Sanjh is working in four agro-ecological zones:

1. Mountain Agriculture - Kashmir
2. Dry land Agriculture - North Punjab and KPK
3. Rice Based Agriculture - Central Punjab
4. Cotton based Agriculture - South Punjab



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## Livelihood Intensification Through Farmers Trainings



## Crop Diversification

Crop diversification is intended to give a wider choice in the production of a variety of crops in a given area so to expand production related activities on various crops and to lessen risks. Lok sanjh has introduced this concept in its working areas and mobilized farming communities to shift from traditionally grown less remunerative crops to more remunerative crops. For example the olive and sisal plantation has been introduced as a national need to be less dependent on external resources. This is adding to the profitability and resilience/stability in farm income of small farmers in barani punjab. Further it is to reduce the risk factor of crop failures due to drought or less rains. This is helping in the areas where farmers are facing some soil problems as well.



***Kousar bibi from Village Parwana is a role model and has organized her 12 kanal of land to work with Lok Sanjh. Before working with LSF, she only used to produce Wheat grains from that land but now she is practicing diversified farming and has cultivated vegetables on a part of land (5 marla). She has planted olive plants on edges and any extra land not to be utilized by vegetables or crop. She is now master trainer in her cluster village to motivate farmers for sustainable farming. She is proud of her learnings/ experiences and shares that in dehqan assemblies and forums organized by Lok Sanjh. Her income visibly has increased from growing the vegetables, that she is spending on the education of her children. She has also registered herself in value addition training and is aiming to develop small business of value added products.***

## Introduction Of Sisal: A Golden Revolution

Sisal is a new fibre crop, introduced by Lok Sanjh. This is a climate efficient crop and can bring a golden revolution for the small farmers especially in the rainfed areas. Two hundred women farmers have been trained to develop the sisal nursery. The task is done in coordination with the Range Research Institute of National Agricultural Research Center (NARC), Islamabad.

Following were the training components on sisal crop,

- Orientation of Sisal Crop, its usages and processing
- Agronomy of Sisal plantation
- Nursery Development
- Transplanting techniques
- Developing Sisal Nursery
- Product making from Sisal Fiber



- Operating sisal decorticator to extract fiber

Almost 100 sisal nurseries have been developed so far.

The initiative is helpful to secure economic returns to women farmers in more challenging environment and in stabilizing land and local environment reducing soil erosion. With more research, trainings, and private sector linkages, the proposed project aims at strengthening women farmers and entrepreneur's space in Sisal value chain. Some women have been trained in development of sisal products and marketing strategy.



## Olive Cultivation For Rainfed Areas

Lok Sanjh has introduced the cultivation of olive trees with the help of NARC and PODB by supporting farmers with free imported varieties of olive plants in its project areas and women farmers were given a detailed training in this regard.

Thousands of plants were distributed and women were trained in,

- Importance of Olive Plants
- Planting trees
- Fruit collection from plants
- Olive plant management



## Soybean Cultivation: A Livelihood Opportunity

In Pakistan soybean is non-conventional oilseed crop which means that still it needs greater effort to bring it to the farmer's field as a regular crop. Rapid soybean demand increased in the last three decades due to rapidly growing poultry industry.

Lok Sanjh Foundation in collaboration with National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC), organized a training for the potential soybean farmers and also provided best quality certified Soybean seed to the poor small farmers. Farmers were also trained on land preparation, sowing, crop rotation, weeds control, disease and pest control and harvesting of soybean.

This has helped in reducing the crop risk of rainfed farmers and enabled farmers to enhance their incomes.



## Local Seed Initiative

Like every year, Lok Sanjh Foundation in collaboration with NARC distributed wheat seeds to small poor farming families that were not having good quality seed to grow wheat. This always strengthens local production of high quality seeds and the adoption of new varieties. The improved seeds are selected and adapted to AJK conditions; they do not need large amounts of fertilizers or pesticides. Lok Sanjh's aim is to reach sustainability in seed multiplication and prepare the transition towards privatization and better marketing.



## Distribution Of Grain Bins

Small farmers generally keep their wheat grain for home consumption in jute sacks. The wheat food grains are usually stored at the farm in specially constructed mud bins, protected by a cover, inside the house or in the open courtyard. Wheat may also be stored as a heap covered by straw, mud and dung plastered, loose in a room, or in bags, metal bins, baskets and pots. To reduce the chances of wheat grain spoilage, Lok Sanjh distributed steel grain bins to needy women farmers in its project area.



*Ms. Aliya Bibi of village Mujhoi, Kashmir is happy to store her wheat seed in the steel grain bin as grains remain safe until sowing in the field. She*

*told that a concrete or mud storage structure can absorb water and allow the water vapours to pass through, and in case of a jute bag, the bio-chemical changes and mould attack are minimal, but the risk of insect infestation increases. Therefore, steel grain bins proved to be the best seed saving technology in her home and village.*



## Greening The Mother Land

### Tree Plantation

Twice in year, LSF distributed thousands of Shadow and fruit of Lemon, Citrus, Orange, Banana, Grapes, Pomegranate, Guava, and Olive plants to the farmers to develop orchards and shade their homes and fields. Farmers were trained that how these trees recharge ground water, retain soil nutrients, and prevent soil erosion's. Canola and vegetables were intercropped between fruit orchards to generate more income and food from same land.



### Training on Tree Plantation

Following trainings were organized,

- Cultivation and management of fruit trees.
- Quality production of fruits and vegetables.
- Value addition for sustainable supply to market



## Rainwater Harvesting

Dry areas suffer not only from limited rainfall but also 'natural leakage'—90% of rainwater is lost directly or indirectly, effecting the agriculture or domestic use. Water harvesting is a easy-to-use low-cost and environmentally-friendly way to recover a large part of this lost water.

In the rainfed areas where climate change is posing serious threats by depleting the existing water resources, Lok Sanjh has supported and educated farmers.

To use this intervention for crop production to produce sufficient food for the families.



*Shamim Akhtar, a 50 Years old women from village soak district Fateh Jang has 24 Kanal of land but a very low income due to shortage of irrigation water. Later on she got registered with Lok Sanjh Foundation, started kitchen gardening and then got support for the rain water harvesting. This has proved successful to manage with her kitchen garden twice in a year. Now she is not only able to feed the family but also earning some income.*



## Drip Irrigation

LSF has introduced an other form of water harvesting i-e roof water collection, water ponds and drip irrigation system. These interventions are helping farmers to increase their food and income.

## Knowledge Intensification Through Farmer Field School

Traditionally knowledge dissemination has been done for extension of technology transfer and passing on relevant information to farmers. After the green revolution technologies the situations has become more complex where farmers need to adjust to a changing situation -such as crop protection, soil management and animal health. But now this approach has been inadequate, for many reasons.

To address this need Lok Sanjh has introduced Farmer Field Schools for disseminating information and technologies to build the farmers' capacity to analyse their production systems and identify main constraints. They are also trained to test possible solutions to adapt the most suitable practices to their farming system.



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## Women Empowerment Through Just Development



## Empowering Women To Secure Family Food

Lok Sanjh work with the most marginalized and vulnerable women farmers to build their capacity to implement and maintain their kitchen gardens, that is helping to improve their family food security and nutrition. This is a three time activity in one year and women are being able to earn and save some money. In order to sustain this effort, Lok Sanjh linked communities with government line departments for technical support and marketing of vegetables. To supply quality seeds to smaller farmers in more remote locations, Lok Sanjh also arranges seasonal seed distribution in the project areas.



*Abida Bibi, a farmer from North Punjab, says that since she is working with Lok Sanjh and is trained in seed saving, vegetable farming, making natural composts and organic fertilizers. She is very happy to get fresh vegetables for her family and she sells the surplus and earning Rs 3,500/month. She is also able to save seeds for next season to reduce her market dependency.*

*Similarly Aliya from Kashmir is producing enough vegetables to feed her family sufficiently. The small scale Kitchen Gardening program has clearly changed the daily lives of this couple.*

## Labour Saving Tools To Empower Women

Millions of the world's small women farmers have limited access to farm energy, mechanization and the most basic of agricultural and agri-processing tools.

These constraints arise for a range of reasons, including poverty; low levels of education, lack of access to agricultural tools; cultural perceptions and lack of adequate market research particularly in relation to tools used by women farmers with limited purchasing power.

To address the issue the Lok Sanjh has distributed many labour saving tools to improve the work of small women farmers and reduce the labour intensification of their agricultural tasks.



## Farmer Business School

### Food For Long

Lok Sanjh has trained small farming communities to use the solar dryers for a cost effective food drying with zero carbon emission and food for longer period without nutrient loss.

### Certificate Courses

With the purpose of enhancing smallholder farmers' entrepreneurial skills and basic understanding of different issues related to agricultural markets, Lok sanjh has initiated the farmer business school approach to link small farmers with Local Institutions and Markets chains. Following courses have been completed during the year.

- Tunnel farming
- Poultry and goat farming
- Local Seed initiatives
- Forest Nursery Training
- Canola Oil Extraction



## Kisan Open University

The Kisan Open Learning Systems is helping small farmers to acquire the skills, knowledge, and incentive that are the basis of their livelihood, i-e “lifelong self-improvement plan and a process on moral education as well. The change in their attitudes and their lifestyles is the first sign to count on their understanding the educational messages and helping to keep records and improve on their trade activities as well.



## Objectives

- To educate small farmers on basics of production systems that can bring a revolution in their livelihood opportunities and scale up agriculture systems.
- To train farmers on low cost climate efficient technologies and by adopting innovative methods to enhance efficiency at farm level.
- To train farmers on basic accounting and numeracy skills for market negotiating.



## Livestock & Dairy Development Courses

(Duration: One Semester)

1. Local goat breeding program
2. Live stock management Network
3. Insemination & curative services.
4. Research on Livestock Promotion
5. Small credit and marketing access.
6. Animal Disease prevention & control.
7. Milk and meat production skills
8. Support value addition/processing
9. Standards for dairy & meat products
10. Food safety & security
11. Uplift program for the Small-scale Producers
12. Livestock technicians
13. Continuing education for livestock business farmers



## Rural Business Development Courses

(Duration: One Semester)

1. Introduction to Agribusiness
2. Agricultural Market Price Analysis
3. Basics of livestock management
4. Dairy Cattle Production
5. Agribusiness Management
6. Accounting
7. Risk Management in agribusiness
8. Building relationship with Consumers, Producers & Markets
9. Basic economics of agricultural Production
10. Value chain and value addition
11. Organic Agriculture
12. Water and energy Management
13. Farm Labor and resource management
14. Agricultural safety education and training
15. Farm management and accounting methods
16. Computer applications in agribusiness
17. New agribusiness opportunities.

## Short Courses

(Duration: One Semester)

1. Soil management
2. Seed saving techniques
3. Fertilizer application
4. Irrigation and drainage channels
5. Weed control, harvesting
6. Post harvesting techniques
7. Addressing low yield issues
8. Managing Organic inputs
9. Managing Labour cost
10. Pests and diseases control
11. Skilled labour requirement
12. Accessing credit facilities with low premium
13. Crop rotation techniques
14. Water management



## Short Training Courses

(Duration: One Semester)

1. Sustainable and productive farming
2. Sustainable Production Techniques
3. Soil Health and Fertility
4. Traditional rural pharmacy
5. Pest control Management.
6. Plant and crop disease control
7. Pesticides use and its safety
8. postharvest loss Handling
9. Water management
10. Riparian Management
11. weed control
12. soil fertility
13. plant nutrition
14. Animal Husbandry



## Vocational Training Centers

The women lack access to financial resources and have limited opportunities to gain education, knowledge, and skills that can lead to economic advancement. Inadequate policy frameworks and inequitable gender norms also often create barriers to women's economic advancement.

Lok Sanjh has addressed the issue by starting five centers of Vocational training both in North and South Punjab for rural poor women with the objective to,

- To train women to run small business in rural area.
- To prepare women for small and medium-sized enterprises.



## Organic Markets By The Poor

Through the year Lok Sanjh organized markets for the poor and linked it to the urban consumers that allow farmers to sell a wider variety of produce to the consumer at a higher profit margin. While traditional corporate grocery stores sell the same types of produce to consumers year-round and act as middle-men, taking a large portion of profit from the farmers.

At farmers' markets, farmers have the power to choose which produce to offer to the consumer, and receive the full profit from the sales. This enables farmers to grow and sell a much wider variety of fresh, in-season produce.



## Women Enterprise Development

LSF is educating and training small women farmers to manage the domestic poultry keeping, and develop small enterprises to empower themselves economically. This initiative is to promote income-generating activities and the creation of micro-enterprises among rural women that can be replicated in other parts of Pakistan. The major emphasis is on “learning by doing” through a combination of workshops and field work. Following were accomplished as part of this program.



## Domestic Poultry And Goat Promotion

- Shed management
- Local feed preparation
- Vaccination pattern
- Local treatment of diseases

After successful completion of trainings, women were provided with poultry sheds and poultry birds so they can easily manage the domestication of birds.



*Farhat Bibi of Village Gari Dopatta is very happy for the poultry support by lok sanjh and feel that her life has been transformed through commercial production of indigenous chickens. She is continuously receiving support from LSF for proper vaccination and on average, she earns Rs 1,000/month from the sale of eggs. Now she has the plan increase the number of birds for the next season.*

## Cook Stoves: Saving Lives And Trees

Usually the rural women in Pakistan burn wood to cook family food and mostly use an open or a rudimentary cookstove in the center of the home, Which is dangerous for developing respiratory illness. It is also increasing deforestation, soil erosion, mudslides and a threat to healthy ecosystem.

Lok sanjh has introduced and distributed fuel efficient stoves as part of the climate smart agriculture practice to make both the women and forest healthier.



## Together For Health Rights

Lok Sanjh regularly organizes health camps in all its working areas that turned out to be a major health seeking point for women who are often marginalised in a rural community. To date, more than 3000 women have been benefitted at the health camps.

says Kaneez Bibi, a mother of three at a health camp in a village of north Punjab " when I heard about the health camp in our village I came to avail the services. The doctor here has told me that I have low blood pressure and gave me free medicines," The other women say, "We are poor; my husband cannot afford the travel cost to hospitals which are located in remote locations. It is very difficult for him to take me and my little children to the health centre for any treatment.

The health camps are a good opportunity to discuss the women health and address their concerns. During this year we have held over 6 health education sessions with over 600 women in the camp. We teach them about safe health practices as well as benefits of treatment with local herbs.



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## Research, Advocacy And Awareness



## Dehqan Assemblies

### District Dehqan Assembly

Latest figures from the UN state that about 805 million people in the world, or one in nine, suffer from hunger. Currently, smallholder farmers account for about half of this figure, although they grow 70% of the food. Our planet is facing detrimental climate change and loss of biodiversity.

Therefore Lok Sanjh is advocating for Organic Agriculture at large as a viable solution for many of the world's pressing problems. Lok Sanjh closely monitor all food and agriculture related policies and conclude that “there is a great need of capacity building of small farmers to develop organic ecological systems that save them from food insecurity. In this regard many Village, Provincial and district assemblies are organized through the year.



## Women Dehqan Assembly In Kashmir

More than 100 female farmers from different villages participated in the event to discuss the issues like,

- Seed quality issues
- Crop diseases
- Livestock issues (Diseases, Shed Management)

Director General ESMA appreciated the work of Lok Sanjh in AJK and he assured their cooperation to help in solving farmers problems regarding agriculture.

## Women Dehqan Assembly in District Chakwal

The assembly concluded that Organic Agriculture is the only solution for small farmers with low-cost inputs to enhance local biodiversity, and provide a premium return on investment, to empower farmers to restore and uphold their food security.



## Public-Private Partnership To Transform Agriculture

Agriculture is always based at the community level where the strengths of the public and private sectors complement each other in providing information and advisory services that address the needs of farmers and rural communities. However, there are key obstacles that must be overcome, including clarifying public/private sector roles, developing solutions to poor infrastructure, and generating sufficient awareness of services for farming communities.

Therefore, Lok Sanjh is creating an environment conducive to small farmers' entry to organic export markets, through low-cost certification schemes and trusted organic food control systems in Pakistan. Lok Sanjh stands is potentially engaged in public-private partnership to dialogue on these issues.



## Research To Support Agriculture Development

Although for many years the primary objective of agriculture research has been to increase the yields and production but it has recently evolved to contribute in increasing resilience, improve nutrition and women empowerment. Lok Sanjh in collaboration with the universities is involved in research to find out that how to increase production, incomes, nutrition and living conditions of family farmers—who make up the large majority of farmers in Pakistan. The research initiatives are helping to improve productivity, increase agricultural incomes, and to change agricultural practices. Lok Sanjh impact assessments have shown that it is one of the most effective investments when it comes to increasing agricultural production.



## Center For Climate Smart Agriculture Practices

Impacts of climate change on agriculture threaten both food security and agriculture's pivotal role in rural livelihoods. It is already negatively impacting agricultural production globally and locally and climate risks to cropping, livestock and fisheries are expected to increase in coming decades, particularly in low-income countries where adaptive capacity is weaker.

To address the issue LSF has developed a complete model of Climate Smart Agricultural Practices to help farming communities in developing a low cost local agriculture systems. It is creating a participatory learning environment for small farmer's livelihood strategies and the communities are involved to learn and replicate the models by using local resources.







## Natural Remedies To Help Beat Illness

Many of the locally grown herbs can provide natural and safer remedies to common ailments. These remedies have become increasingly popular as the expense and hassle of conventional medicine continues to rise.

Beyond the convenience, home remedies have found favor with a public that wants to take a more holistic approach to its ailments. LSF has developed a Herbal Garden (Demonstration plot) to demonstrate production drying, processing and packing activities.



## Dehqan Times and Kissan Dharti

The press has contributed to the growth and development of the society and the media played most significant role towards promoting the political, social cultural, agriculture and economic aspirations of the nation. It is believed that the media motivate the people as well as ensure participation in the growth and developmental process apart from informing and educating members of the society. In this context, Dehqan times( a fortnightly newspaper) and Kisan Dharti (a monthly magazine) are regular publications of Lok Sanjh with the purpose to spread information regarding policy development and factors affecting the Agricultural policies. This is also helping to provide information/news and educate farmers on specific areas of development.



## Forums And Seminars

Lok sanjh organize forums and seminars as a part of its strategy to support small farmers rights and to build momentum for collective action on food security and sustainable agriculture. Bringing together experts and practitioners from government, business, civil society, farmers' organisations, research and academia, the activity provides a platform for shared learning and discussion on the role of agriculture in addressing the global food security challenge and advancing sustainable practices.

1. “Organic Agriculture in Pakistan”
2. Indigenous Enterprise Development to Improved rural Livelihoods”
3. Clean Energy Initiatives: Community Based Adaptation
4. Solar Energy, Going Green
5. Dialogue for Developmen.

This also highlight the challenges and opportunities that private and public sectors face in developing and promoting sustainable food supply chains that increase food production, preserve natural resources and fight hunger at the local, national and global level.



### Forum On “Mountain Agriculture & Issues”

This concluded that the initiatives for the promotion of mountain agriculture, can bring a positive change in the uplands of Pakistan. It is needed to move from need based development to opportunity led development, by marketing of different crops & products for bringing a positive change in the climate of mountains.

The newspaper clipping is from 'Daily Khabarnama Muzaffarabad'. The main headline in Urdu is: **پاکستان میں پہاڑی زمین کے فروغ کے لیے کوئی اقدام نہیں اٹھایا جا رہا ہے**. The sub-headline reads: **شہر کے پہاڑوں پر پیدا ہونے والی غذائی اجناس منجانب میں پیدا نہیں ہو سکتیں کیونکہ وہاں کی آب و ہوا پاکستان کے دیگر علاقوں سے مختلف ہے، مستعدہ فورم سے خطاب**. The article text includes: **ہمیں یہ حقیقت تسلیم کرنا ہوگی کہ ہم قدرتی وسائل کا بہتر انداز میں استعمال نہیں کر رہے، جبکہ ہمارے پاس قدرت کی جانب سے پیش کیا ہوا خزانے موجود ہیں، عمران اشرف اسلام آباد (سٹاف رپورٹر) لوگ ساچھو گاؤں میں پہاڑوں کی زراعت کے حوالے سے** **تعمیراتی توجہ دے رہی ہے۔ شہر کے پہاڑوں پر لگنے والے پھولے کسانوں کے حقوق کے تحفظ اور ان کی علاج و بہبود کے لیے کوشش جاری رکھیں گے۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار روڈی بزنس ڈیولپمنٹ اور پاکستان ویتھان آسٹری کے چیئرمین ڈاکٹر شاہد شہید نے**

Below the text is a photograph of a forum with several participants speaking into microphones.

## Forum On Climate Smart Agriculture

A forum on “Climate Smart Agriculture” was organized with the objective to create awareness and share LSF's experience in climate smart agriculture among various stakeholders and effort remained very successful. Dr. Gerlined(program officer, South Asia Desk, germany) from bread for the world also participated in the forum.



## Conferences And Festivals

### International Conference On Natural Fibers

LSF organized Conference on Natural Fibers engaging stakeholders from cotton industry at International level. Participants were from, Pakistan, Tanzania, Nepal and Bangladesh,

The conference was a great success to encourage all the stake holders working on Cotton and Govt and research departments got fully convinced to support Lok Sanjh Foundation in all aspects of cotton production. It emphasized that there is a need to cater growing needs for which cotton and sisal are the best options.



## Harvest Festival

Harvesting celebration is a traditional festival in rural areas of Punjab, Pakistan that bring a lot of happiness and relaxation for farmers upon the successful harvest.

Keeping in view this Lok Sanjh every year organize this event for the farming communities.

In 2015 it was organized in collaboration with National Agriculture Research Center, Islamabad where partners from Govt. Civil Society, NGOs, Universities and donor community participated.

The event proved to be very successful and also covered the new initiatives of lok Sanjh like,

1. Exhibition of Farm to Fashion textile industry
2. Sisal crop diversification, an effort to bring a golden revolution in Pakistan.
3. Jaggery product, Investing in sugar cane growers.
4. Clean energy initiatives of solar, biogas and wood-efficient stoves.

## Harvest Festival



## International Cotton Conference On Farm To Fashion

Lok Sanjh Foundation organized an International Cotton Conference “ From Farm to Fashion” in Izmir, Turkey with support of Oxfam Novib Pakistan and other partners included SESRIC-Turkey, Better Cotton Initiative (BCI), Nazilli Cotton Research Institute, Coventry University- UK , Textile Exchange-UK RBDC and Kato Rani.

Main objective of the conference was to share pakistan experience with other major cotton producing countries to highlight the cotton production trends, challenges and investment opportunities that would shape the future of cotton industry.

More than 100 representatives of different cotton producing countries participated in the conference, that will help opening up new avenues of collaborations to mobilize resources in support of small farmers in Pakistan.





## Rice Diversity Festival (PAN AP)

To mark the International Youth Day, Lok Sanjh in collaboration with PAN AP organized a rice festival in which young women farmers demonstrated 40 dishes of rice with different recipes. The activity was a part of the PAN AP YORA campaign.



## Traditional Food Fair

To promote Food and Nutrition through agrobiodiversity means to promote the traditional food cultures at grass root level.

This is an important tool to promote food sovereignty as they take place within people's own socio-cultural settings.

In this regard, Lok Sanjh on quarterly basis organizes cooking competition among the women farmers, where women farmers exhibit traditional foods to emphasise the importance of local food and nutrition security. The community and the participants highly appreciated the value of neglected/forgotten traditional foods. The strategy has helped to ensure the improved integration of traditional foods and agroecological farming into national food security plans.





## Festival On Defending Diversity

Bio diversity based ecological agricultural encompasses the variety of animals, plants and micro-organisms which are necessary to sustain key functions of the agroecosystem, its structure and processes in support of, food production and food security.

"Lok Sanjh has well recognised this need, its features, problems and distinctive solutions" and therefore plans some actions to promote the conservation of agricultural biodiversity and ecosystem at all levels.

This year, Lok Sanjh in collaboration with NARC, FAO, Cimmyt, and Oxfam Novib organized a diversity festival where four thousand farmers participated.

The diversity festival organized by lok sanjh help sustain the local conservation and traditional knowledge of small-scale food providers, especially women that defends the food supplies in the face of climate change. Wheat seed distribution to four thousand farmers was also done in this mela.



## Networking And Lobbying

Agricultural information interacts and influences its productivity in a variety of ways. It helps to informed decisions regarding management of land, labour, livestock, capital. Agricultural productivity can arguably be improved by relevant, reliable and useful information and knowledge. Hence, lok sanjh creates the agricultural information through networking with the like minded organizations and disseminate this knowledge to farmers so they can make better decisions and benefit from market opportunities and manage their production systems accordingly.



## Participation In Agri-Expo 2015

lok LSF participated in the event at Pak-China Friendship with the purpose to promote agriculture industry in Pakistan that remained a good learning opportunity for the organization.

## Visit To Agricultural Research Institute, Peshawar

Lok Sanjh made a visit to the institute to explore the outreach opportunities and mutual cooperation. An MOU was also signed for the future collaboration of agricultural activities



## Memorial Reference For The Renowned Journalist

Lok Sanjh organized memorial reference in honour of late journalist and a social activist Ms Najma Sadeque. Representatives of all segments of society attended the event to pay tribute to countless and determined efforts of Najma Sadeque for women's rights, labour rights, food security, environmentalism and opposing the forces of imperialism and capitalism.



## Baseline Survey Of District Chakwal

A baseline survey was carried in district chakwal to select the most poor farming communities and to help them in their agricultural activities. The finding conclude that,

The poor health and education facilities, an increase in population, declining crop yields, increasing human diseases, small farm sizes, lack of firewood, increased soil erosion, and poor extension services were reported as the main problems in rural areas of Chakwal by the farmers.



## Launching Of Livelihood Project In District Chakwal

Lok Sanjh Foundation launched a livelihood project in District Chakwal to help small farming communities to improve their livelihood. Ten villages have been selected to work till end of the project.

The activities include, kitchen gardening, organic vegetables, compost making, use of neem pesticides. Women and men farmers were motivated and convinced to adopt biodiversity techniques in vegetable growing, tree plantation and multi-cropping.



# 5

## Capacity Building



## Staff Trainings

### Workshop On Risk Management

The Risk Management workshop was organized for BftW Pakistan Partners from 1-2 December 2015 at Dubai. The key resource persons for the workshop was Mr. Sanjay Patra, Director FMSF, Mr. Sandeep Sharma, Head Programme Desk, and Aarti sharma FMSF, India.

LSF senior staff participated in the workshop. It was a great learning for the partners to determine the various risks associated with their organizations and devise ways to integrate risk management strategies into their project planning phase.



## GALS (Gender Action And Learning Systems) Training

LSF also participated in a workshop organized by Oxfam Novib to build capacity of partner organizations to understand GALS and use it as a tool to develop gender balanced development strategies and programmes. The basic steps started from household to community level to help them achieve their goals according to the vision developed.



## Exposure Visits

### Tanzania Visit

A team of Lok Sanjh staff, crop scientists of National Agricultural Research Center and researcher from Arid Agriculture University visited Tanzania to study the sisal crop, its growing business and to meet with representatives of sisal industry and government departments for a collaborative effort to sisal crop. Meetings were held with Tanzania Sisal Board, Katani Pvt Ltd and Milingano sisal research institute. Later on a follow up visit to Tanzania was made to sign an MOU with Tanzanian Sisal Board for Future Knowledge sharing, Research and Technical Assistance. As a result the research had been able to design and develop the sisal decorticator



## Visit to Nazilli Cotton Research Institute, Turkey

Although for many years the primary objective of agriculture research has been to increase the yields and production but it has recently evolved to contribute in increasing resilience, improve nutrition and women empowerment. Lok Sanjh in collaboration with the universities is involved in research to find out that how to increase production, incomes, nutrition and living conditions of family farmers—who make up the large majority of farmers in Pakistan. The research initiatives are helping to improve productivity, increase agricultural incomes, and to change agricultural practices. Lok Sanjh impact assessments have shown that it is one of the most effective investments when it comes to increasing agricultural production.



## Visit To Nazilli Cotton Research Institute, Turkey



## Participation In BCI Annual Members Meeting

LSF team participated in the Annual members meeting of Better Cotton Initiative in netherland and exhibited its various products developed under Kato Rani – An All women cotton value chain.



## Staff Retreat

Annual staff retreat was organized to strengthen the team — integrating new staff members and energizing the employees. This remained successful for the team to learn and practice a very positive working environment and develop the desired interaction with each other.



6

# Sisal Programme



## Trainings On Sisal Nursery Development

Sisal program has been initiated in ten villages of District Chakwal and 210 women have been registered and trained in sisal nursery development. Training and capacity building was done in collaboration with Range Research Institute of National Agricultural Research Center (NARC), Islamabad.

Several Farmer field day were organized where staff and farmers collectively worked on sisal suckers collection. Around 4500 sisal suckers has been collected and planted so far that are growing successfully in the fields of farmers. Award money was distributed among farmers who successfully planted sisal nurseries.



## Sisal Advisory Group Meeting

A Forum was held at the Department of Fiber Technology, Faculty of Agriculture Engineering, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad to create awareness among students and faculty members for undertaking future research on sisal crop for the betterment of farmers in marginal areas. More than 60 students of textile and fiber technology participated in the forum. The forum was concluded with a positive response from the participants that this has helped in creating interest in crop that is water efficient and can be source of income generating.





## Sisal Stake Holders Alliance Meeting

Sisal Stake Holders meeting was organized in Faisalabad and attended by subject Specialists, researchers, academics, expert of Fiber Technology, civil society, textile and Private Sector, farmers, Importer, Exporter and the local Media. The meeting aimed to discuss recent development in sisal and discover different processing and marketing structure keeping in view the national and international market setups. Sisal Stake Holders Working Group was established and focus was on Structure and collaboration and coordination among the group.

## Private Sector Engagements

Lok Sanjh arranged a meeting to engage the private sector for promotion of sisal production and processing. The meeting was attended by Subject Specialists, OXFAM-NOVIB, LSF, Pakistan Jute Mills Association (PJMA), Textile Mills, academia, students, researchers of Fiber Technology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF), PMAS-AAUR, Ayub Agriculture Research, Private Sector, farmers, Importer, Exporter and Media. The participation and interest shown by the representatives of private sector i.e. PJMA, Textile and other stakeholders in sisal development was encouraged by the LSF to engage them in the development process.



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## REEL - Cotton Farmers Training Programme



## Stakeholders Meeting On REEL Cotton

A Stakeholders Meeting on “Clean Cotton Production and Promotion Strategies” was organized at Layyah. The Main Purpose of meeting is to introduce REEL (Responsible Environment Enhanced Livelihood) Cotton program with relevant Stakeholders, visualize to discuss Cotton Processing Chain and to make the REEL cotton Program more smart by integrating services from diversity of stake holders.

Problems faced by the farmers were discussed; including negligible support from agriculture extension department, seed issues, pesticides problems and marketing monopoly of ginners.



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## Better Cotton Initiative



## Launching BCI In Bahawalnagar

After successfully BCI in Toba Tek Singh, Lok Sanjh took the initiative to launch Better Cotton Initiative in Jag, Leyya and Bahawalnagar. The project aims to improve the work status of cotton farmers and to produce clean and healthy cotton.

The project will register more than 15000 farmers and 30000 hectare of cotton crop area. The farmers are trained on, maintaining soil health, different methods of compost making, pest scouting, IPM techniques, efficient use of irrigation water, maintaining natural habitat and to follow decent work for a respectable livelihood.



## BCI Standard Trainings

Different techniques and methods have been extended to the farmers like use of Neem bio-pesticide, Nicotin spray, pheromone traps, light trap and cultural control. Different water scouting technique were also shared with the farmers to increase water efficiency. The farmers have shown excellent feedback and response after these trainings by the Lok Sanjh Foundation.



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Kato Rani



## Kato Rani ( All Women Cotton Value Chain)

### Cotton Production Trainings Of Farmers

Almost 500 women have been registered and trained on principles of clean cotton production and more than 200 rural women have been capacitated on cotton processing techniques (spinning, weaving and stitching) through training program.



### Product Development Centers

Six product development centres have been established in Toba Tek Singh to train 200 women who have been provided with spinning wheels and stitching machines. These women have been trained in weaving and stitching and now engaged to develop Kato Rani products to be presented to market.

## Weaver s' Network

A weavers' network has been established under the name of Kato-Net. Members are trained about fair-trade principles and decent work rules so they can improve their working environment and livelihood. This helps weavers get the idea of prevailing international quality standards, decent work principles and other requirements.



## Kato Rani Products And Marketing

Following products are developed by the Kato Rani,

- Table Runner Mats
- Bedcover Set
- Kurtas
- Shawls
- Stoles
- Sofa Cushion Sets
- Floor cushions
- Khais



Kato Rani is successfully marketing its products at different platforms. Products are displayed at different exhibitions, forums and festivals to showcase their creativity special attention and gaining.

*Shahida Bibi, a mother of six is living in a Village of Toba Tek Singh (TTS) with her husband, 6 children and mother in law. She used to work as a maid in houses and was sometimes treated badly for small irrelevant reasons. She had to face the hard time just because of her family since she was the only person to feed 9 lives. Previously she had the stitching skills and wanted to use such skills for earning more money but due to fewer resources and tight budget she couldn't get her own sewing machine. LSF identified this talented and well-mannered lady during the baseline survey and after small demonstration she got selected as a trainer. Now she's one of the best skilled person among all other at the center. Now she can sew cloths for the family and take stitching order for her livelihood. She has a hope of better living and future for the children and someday somehow she will be able to support her children education as well. She is dreaming to open her own sewing center*



## Policy Dialogue Clean Cotton Production

This was attended by policy makers, cotton ginners associations, agriculturists, researchers, scientists, professors and students to discuss following;

1. Clean cotton technologies and challenges in Pakistan
2. Natural dyes and cotton fibre quality
3. Challenges of clean cotton ginning
4. New climate and pest resistant seed varieties need to be develop and introduced cotton growth.
5. Seed Companies supplying low quality and adulterated cotton seeds need to be delisted by the government.
6. Cotton ginning quality need to be improved.
7. Natural dyes may be used in textile industry for high demand in export market.

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# Empowering The Sugarcane Growers



## Clean Sugarcane Production:

Registered farmers have been trained in clean sugarcane production on, land preparation, use of FYM, quality and quantity of seed requirement, sowing methods, irrigation frequency, pest management, use of pesticides and natural methods, mechanical and manual weeding, harvesting and hoeing methods.





## Sugarcane Products Development

LSF engaged Rural Business Development Centre (RBDC) which helped in developing various value added Gur products i.e. plain Gur, Gur powder, Ginger Gur, Sesame Gur, peanut Gur, cane syrup and Gur preparations. RBDC also played an important consumers. Gur Producers Association (GPA) – a farmers body is look after affairs of the gur centres in TTS. Currently, farmers have been linked with PARC Agro tech Company (PATCO), (Pvt) Ltd, that operates outlets for agro. This has created a great hope for small sugarcane growers to earn more money.





## Policy Dialogue On Sugarcane:

A dialogue on “Policy options for Sugarcane Growers” was organized with the objective to discuss issues faced by sugarcane growers, available alternatives and policy options.

Over 50 participants including, representatives of farmer organization i.e. Anjuman-e-Kashtkaran, KPK, Gur Producers Association (GPA), Toba Tek Singh, media, academics, FAO, Oxfam Novib, private business and consumers attended the meeting.

Certificate course Suggestions included;

- To form small GPAs at grass roots level.
- The full sugarcane price should be fixed by the government on the basis of sucrose content and with profit to the farmers.
- Community Radio can play an important role in advocacy and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) may be contacted for initiating advocacy.

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## Monitoring, Evaluation Accountability and Learning





## Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability & Learning (MEAL)

To monitor the effectiveness of the programs run by the Lok Sanjh, increased supervision to enhance results and outcome a strong M&E has been developed and implemented. The feedback is regularly incorporated in the staff planning and shared with all on quarterly basis.

Lok Sanjh Continue to monitor its progress periodically in a participatory way through collaboration with partners, communities and independent evaluators to get the feedback of the programs.

The process has been an evolution from a traditional implementation-based approach toward new results-based approach. Which is essential to ensure the good governance, accountability, transparency, development impact, delivery of tangible results and sustainable socioeconomic development.

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## Governance of th Organization



## Governance Of The Organization

Lok sanjh is governed by a board of directors comprising of development professionals, intellectuals, academicians, and activists. The Board provides vision and intellectual support and is the apex decision making body of the organization with seven honorary members.

During 2015, two meetings of BOG were held to discuss following issues,

1. CDA Challenges for Office Building
2. Change in Board Members
3. Political Challenges.
4. Review of Staff Turn Out and LSF Pay Scales.
5. AOB

### Participants

1. Mr. Abdul Haleem Asghar, Board Chair
2. Dr. Anwar Shaheen, Member
3. Dr. Shahid Zia, Member
4. Ms. Kulsoom, Member
5. Ms. Tanveer Akhtar, Member



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## Financial Position 2015

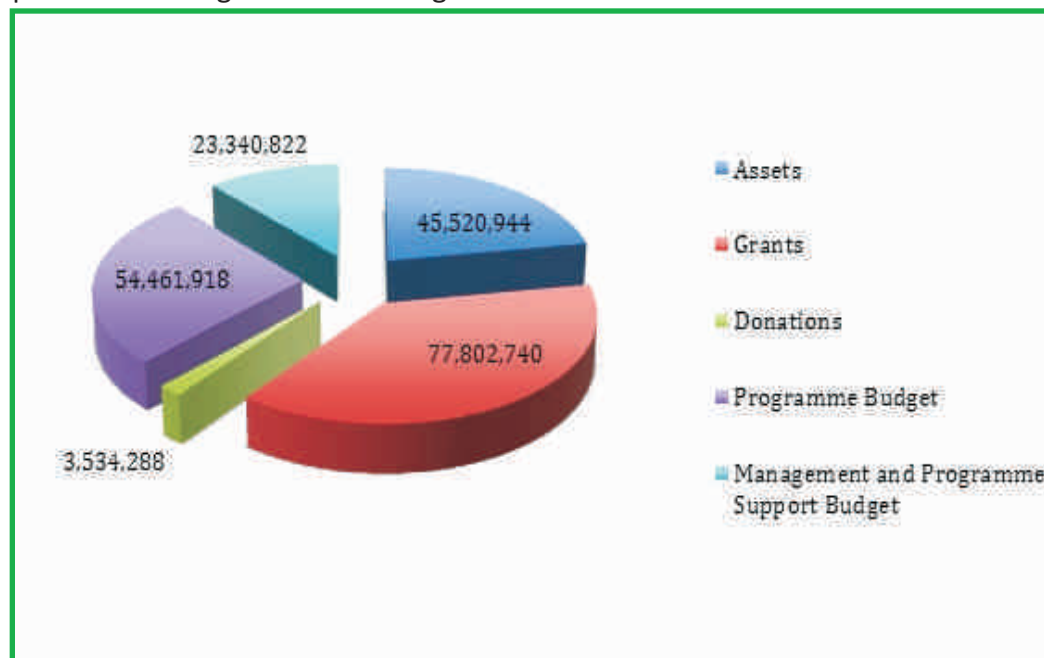


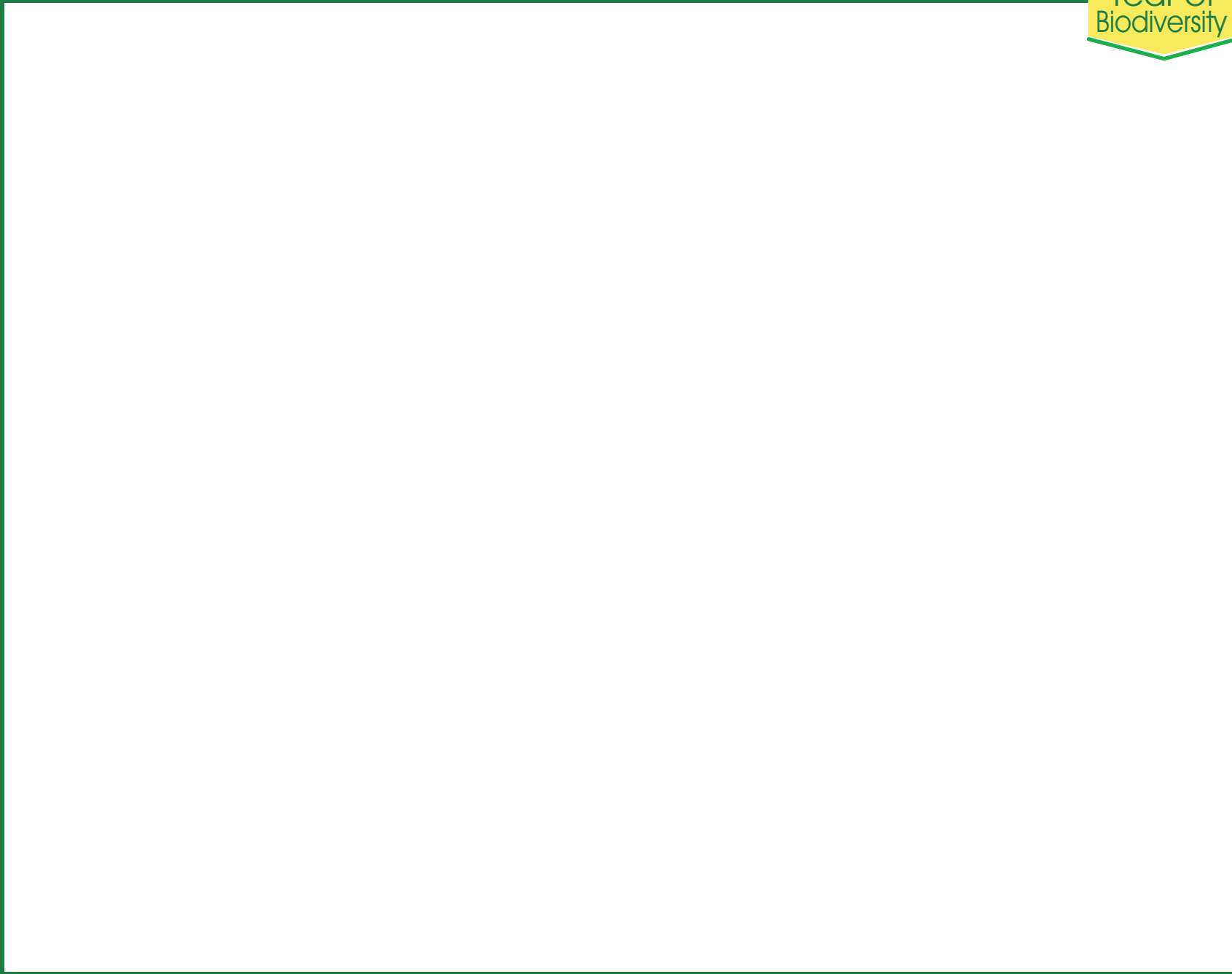
## LSF FINANCIAL POSITION 2015

In 2015, Lok Sanjh strengthened its work on specialized value chains and organic products development and entered into new alliances to support this work. The organization is pursuing its objective to regenerate rural economies through various initiatives on rural enterprise development and empowering small farmers.

LSF as a member of Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) has expanded its farmers training programme for cotton farmers in South Punjab to reach 35,000 farmers which is a big achievement in two years.

For 2016, LSF is looking forward to strengthen its work on climate smart agriculture, economically empower farmers through developing rural enterprises and linking farmers with organic markets in towns and cities.





# Our Organic Pride

**A) Non perishable Organic wheat and flour, Organic rice, garlic, onions, honey, potatoes, pulses**

**please note that Honey is packed in ½ Kg bottles and not less than that now a days but will be available in small quantity in couple of weeks.**

**B) Perishable**

**Organic eggs, Milk, Khaas Gur, all seasonal vegetables.**

**C) Seed Pack for different and seasonal herbs.**

**D) Neem pesticides and organic fertilizer to encourage urban agriculture+ trainings on demand.**

**Every time the rate is as per market price.**

**Delivery mechanism depends on regular or occasional demand.**

**The price will be a little higher if delivered at individual door steps**

**Please Contact for more information at,**



**Lok Sanjh Foundation**

**Contact us:**

**0334 5245424**

**51 2154770-1-2**

