# 1 Significant Change Story – Osi Tanata

Title of story: **“Growing big**”

*I used to be a member of a community project. But I left the community project in anticipation of disputes that might occur within the community project. However, upon hearing that Osi Tanata was giving training to the grass roots, I attended some of the Osi Tanata training of project management and book keeping and train the trainer.*

*After the training I went back to my village and mobilised my family members to venture into organic gardening. I decided to set up my own family project on organic gardening. Despite not having funding from any agency I ventured into setting up this small project with only the knowledge that I got from Osi Tanata. We set up our organic garden growing cabbages, capsicums, greens, tomatoes, aibika, chillies and other things.*

*Currently I am thankful for what I learned from Osi Tanata, and am using it. Today my project is progressing well. We have sold many of the produce from our organic farm. For example, for a bed of cabbage, I am getting around 100 Kina (local currency). Now we have spent the money to buy clothes and many other basic needs. Apart from generating income for our families and the surrounding villages; we have enough surplus to feed our family and others. Also some of the money is being used to start other projects such as a trade store.*

*It is significant to me because at first I had no knowledge to run a project. Today I have a good project running and the income from this project is being used to sustain the livelihood of my family.*

#2 Significant Change Story– Osi Tanata

Title of story? **“We are developing now”**

*I did the train the trainer, book keeping, and some training on raising poultry.*

*There have been very big changes – we are developing now.*

*The community poultry project has been operating for about 3 years now. We now have 2 vacancies for women to take on this project as I have come to work at the mission station. The chickens are good and healthy – people know the chickens are good quality and they come to buy them from the road – we are going to put a sign up. We do it all ourselves now, the money from selling the chickens is used to buy stock feed. We have had about 8 rounds of chickens now.*

*We have generated a pool of money – 2,000 Kina – that people can borrow from. They borrow money for school fees and things and pay back in instalments. People use this to pay for school fees. I think there are about 20 families who have loans. (From different factions) .They pay an extra 10% back into the fund.*

*We want to help each other – we have an aim to develop ourselves. We are getting help; this money is being used to help our children and the widows in the community. We teach them how to feed the small chickens. Those who are looking after the chickens get paid 50 Kina when the batch of chicken’s are sold. Now several families have set up family chicken projects – we taught them how to do it – even some boys are doing it. There are about 4 families with chickens of their own – they have about 50 chickens.*

*Families in the community are coming up – they are wearing better clothes and they are healthy and the children are in school. We have one woman in grade 7. Before the project many children were not going to school – now they are more interested.*

*Now people are eating quality chickens and getting protein, and I think this project will go on helping the community.*

#3 Significant Change Story– Osi Tanata

Title: **“Building Peace”**

*I began to be involved with Osi Tanata in 2001 when I came to attend a weeks training of Community Instructors Training (CIT). . Before I came in for the training I had anticipated starting a piggery project. Also at that time the young men in my community were still very much resistance supporters, and I needed to do something constructive to get their hearts to soften and to busy their hands before we leaders started to talk about peace and reconciliation.*

*After the CIT course, I put together a proposal for a Chainsaw project in which Oxfam NZ funded as a community activity. We started very slowly, but because the group was determined to make a go of it, it suddenly fell in place and so the work became known and requests started to flow in from neighbouring villages.*

*The group was first involved in cutting timber and erected a permanent house for Bartholomew, their new team leader, followed with the construction of classroom for the Community School. Cutting timber for another community was undertaken by the project as well as for our community. Osi Tanata helped us to sow the seeds of peace within ourselves and extend that peace to other neighbouring villages.*

*This project is not only extending its services to a broader and wider community groups but is extending its goodwill, peace, trust and friendship to its recipient communities. The benefits are trickling further with peace building.*

*I see Osi Tanata as an organisation that has assisted us to foster the peace process in our community and has strengthened the relationships we hold with other communities. The chainsaw project has been a tool that has assisted to pave the way for peace and reconciliation between the 2 neighbouring communities. It has brought back trust and friendship between my community and our neighbouring community.*