

Ulashi Sreejony Sangha (USS)
Jessore

Improved Resilience of Small Farmer through Access to Market and Adaptive Practices-
Project

Six Monthly Progress Report (May' 2014 to October' 2014)

Ulashi Sreejony Sangha works to achieve improved livelihood security for poor and vulnerable women, men and children from hazard-prone marginalized communities in southern part of Bangladesh through an integrated approach that increased the productivity through resilience of agricultural system, bio-diversity conservation and emergency response to disaster from the beginning. As a part of this vision USS, launching a project funded by CAFOD-UK titled "Improved Resilience of Small Farmer through Access to Market and Adaptive Practices" from May, 2014 in Sadar, Jhikhorgacha and Monirampur sub-district of Jessore district and Dacope sub-district of Khulna district. In this project area 900 nos. direct beneficiaries were selected through baseline survey and distributed them as sub-district wise for year-1 which were mentioned below-

Technology Adapted	Jessore Sadar	Jhikhorgacha& Monirampur	Dacope	Total Participant
Multiple crop	80nos.	40nos.	80nos	200nos.
Unseasonal crop	140nos.	100nos.	40nos.	280nos.
Flower cultivator	-	120nos.	-	120nos.
Salt tolerant	-	-	100nos.	100nos.
Vermi compost	80nos.	40nos.	80nos.	200nos.
Total				900nos.

The intended direct beneficiaries were disaggregated by gender and the proportion were mentioned below-

Women%	Men%	Boys%	Girls%	Total%
60	36	1.53	2.30	100

The main objective of the project was to increase the livelihood status of poor and vulnerable people through increasing their income from resilience agriculture and access to market for their sustainability and live with dignity to the society. To achieve this objective below mentioned activities according to **Grant Agreement Document in year 1** were done by the reporting period:

Major activities:

Sl. No.	Activity Budget Line	Achievement
3.1	<p>Staff orientation & capacity building on (technical, crops, livelihoods etc.)</p> <p>Baseline survey</p>	<p>A seven days long staff orientation will be facilitate by PC and creative farmer Md. Yousuf Ali (Consultant of Winroack International funded Project) where LIOs and other staffs were oriented on project activities and as well as basic agricultural technical term, its definition, marketing and livelihood in theoretical and also in practical through field visit. That's why all of them were gathered knowledge and perform in the field better.</p> <p>Developing a baseline form with the help of USS core team members and CAFOD personnel by a series of work and practicing it by team members through field test. Total 900 nos. group members were selected simultaneously by LIOs of the project and then 22 nos. groups were formed from our working area. Before selecting village and participants our team considering feasibility study through FGD and KII (Key informant interview).</p> <p>In case of village- Feasibility of vegetable production land, tertiary elite para, lack of market access and lack of access to govt. and private sectors different social safety net packages.</p> <p>In case of participants- 60% female including landless women, divorce and widow. In addition persons with disability, aged and ethnic community who are also involved in farming practice but not getting support will be included in this project.</p> <p>Beside this all the hardcopy of baseline form were preserved in office file and the softcopy of database were under process and assume that it would be completed by November'2014.</p>
3.3	Capacity building training to multi crop farmers	<p>In these activity 200 nos. participants out of 200nos. of the project area were received training on multiple crop production system, its major pest and disease control and also how to profit from it? The major learning's of the participant from the training was to cultivate multi crops in a specific area of land in same time in a planning way and thus they were benefitted from it.</p> <p>Their existing practice was to cultivate single vegetable in a homestead or land but in this training they gathered knowledge on how to</p>

Sl. No.	Activity Budget Line	Achievement						
		<p>cultivate different vegetables in same land in same time such as example:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="786 353 1444 719"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="794 365 938 434">Main crop</th> <th data-bbox="938 365 1225 434">Additional crop</th> <th data-bbox="1225 365 1436 434">Repellent crop</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="794 434 938 707">Brinjal</td> <td data-bbox="938 434 1225 707">Chilli (In border side),Red amaranth, Coriander, Radish, Knolkhal, Onion, Garlic etc.</td> <td data-bbox="1225 434 1436 707">Marigold, Garlic, Coriander etc.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Thus they get varietal vegetable and spices from same land in a specific time and also reduce insects by repellent crop for safe environment. The training packages were conducted by DAE professional and as well as by PC.</p>	Main crop	Additional crop	Repellent crop	Brinjal	Chilli (In border side),Red amaranth, Coriander, Radish, Knolkhal, Onion, Garlic etc.	Marigold, Garlic, Coriander etc.
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3.4	Capacity building training to unseasonal crop producer	<p>In these activity 280 nos. participants out of 280nos. of the project area were received training on unseasonal crop production system, its major pest and disease control and also how to profit from it? In this training participants were gathered knowledge on unseasonal vegetables which were more beneficial for farmers if they adapted it. Because this type of vegetables (Such as potato) were come to market early, residual soil fertilizer used in next crop so that production cost is low. The major learning's of the participant from the training were to probability assessment in context of other part of Bangladesh and how to cultivate. The training packages were conducted by DAE professional, creative farmer and as well as by PC.</p>						
3.8	Input support(seed, vermin compost & seedling) to unseasonal crop producer	<p>In these activity we were provide participants seed, pesticide according to their community need for their better production. Although chemical pesticide was injurious to health and environment but we were provide them such kind of materials due to save themselves from another financial disaster. In lebutola area of Jessore sadar there were vast infestations by insect named leda poka and foot rot disease to cabbage field. As a result they were deprive and hopeless. They spray pesticide after a day interval and also applied the technology of mechanical control by hand picking but couldn't control because of their cropping pattern. They cultivate same crop in same time for</p>						

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		<p>several years. As a result we went there and heard from them about the measures to control the pest and realize that they were uses a pesticide Proclen (Trade name), a product of Syngenta for long time and thus the pest grow resistant against it. Finally we invite Bayer Crop Sciences a multinational Company and set a trial with the combination of Belt 10gm and Desis 10ml mixed with 16L water sprayed it to the participant's field including community people and finally after one day later we saw the result come.</p> <p>Beside this we have planned to provide organic pesticide preparation training to every group and expect that then chemical pesticide uses frequently lower day by day.</p>

Linkage and networking:

As a part of coordination we have linkage and network with several governmental, autonomous and non-governmental institutions to link target deprived communities for getting benefits or packages. Such as -

From BARI: We have linkage and network with BARI from the beginning and attend in the coordination meeting in RARS (Regional Agricultural Research Station) Jessore where we have focused our community people as they were becoming ultra poor and live in risk condition. So we were request BARI to stand beside them for providing different agricultural packages as community need. As a result 23 nos. group member along with community people were received **Seed potato production technology training** and also each participants of the training will get seed potato in last of nov'2014 from them.

In addition we have tried to sign a MoU between BARI and USS with the connection of this project.

From FAO: We have arrange a collaboration work of Khulna Divisional Workshop with Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in Jessore district for awareness raising of community people under the govt. safe food act 2013, where our project participants were attend and involve them to produce a safe food zone(Initially around 30 bigha of land) at lebutola union. In this workshop district commissioner of Jessore, Mayor of Jessore Pourosova, Civil Surgeon along with other relevant govt. officials, local elites and as well as civil society were present there. In the closing session of the workshop honorable Mayor announce that he will create two or more safe food corner for the consumer in the Jessore town for safe food producers group.

At present our group members of Lebutola union under sadar upazilla of Jessore district developed a committee with the leadership of Mohon Kumur Ghos and have taken steps to produce safe food.

From IRRI: In dry season most of the land of Dacope Upazilla under Khulna district was uncultivated due to changing weather pattern such as salinity. They don't know about the

modern technology, variety and changing cropping pattern. In our project there was no budget to provide training for their capacity development. So we have discussed with IRRI Khulna hub office as they were worked with salinity and have experienced on that issues. They assure us to provide training by their expert to our groups without having any honorarium.

From Union Parisad: As a part of coordination we have linkage and network with local government institution such as Union Parisad to link target deprived communities for getting benefits or packages. As a result we were uses their hall room as training venue where possible without any cost. Beside this we were involve them in our different program as guest for proper distribution of input to the target groups as they were local elite and elected peoples representative of the Local Government Institution.

Constraints:

Selection of community and participant according to project criteria were faces some problems by political pressure in some area like Godkhali.

Cropping season was a constraint in short duration project.

Religious conservativeness was also a constraint major in female group formation.

Successes:

Political pressure in Godkali controlled through voice rising of community. When community poor people known that some bad king protect project staff for not formed group in their village and demand money, then they faced together with them and finally they back. As a result a best practice consisting exceptional example in that area.

Learning's:

In coastal area community people win disaster and hunger through their mental strength which need to follow by everyone.

Report prepared by

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