

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**Reporting Period**

**July 2010 to June 2011**



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## INTRODUCING USS

### *Background*

Ulashi Sreejony Sangha, acronym USS, is a non partisan, non profit and non government voluntary organization. Betrabati is the name of a small river flows over the Sharsha and Jhikargacha Upazilas of Jessore District, South-East part of Bangladesh. Due to many reasons Betrabati got steam less and become dead. As a result the both sides of the river had to face the irrigation problem in need. Not only in cultivation, has the environment also been effected. To preserve the human friendly environment and smooth cultivation in the effected zone, one initiative was seek from the existing government. For that, one project named Ulashi Sharothi, Jodunathpur Project, supported by the local government, in the 8 unions situated in the both sides of Betrabati River, was started in 1<sup>st</sup> November 1976. The main objectives of the project was to re-excavate the river; increase the production of IRRI rice ensuring sufficient irrigation; increase the diversified agro production; creating employment opportunities through different projects ; ensuring the participation of civil society in the development initiatives. This initiative was significantly appreciated in the rural economic as well as national economy. The activities and the achievement of the project were praised worthy by the national and international media, donor agency and development partners. After the completion of the projected activities, USS got institutional shape on 10<sup>th</sup> January 1984 by some devoted leading organizers of the project, to complete the other needs of the society.

### LEGAL STATUS AND REGISTRATION

USS got its registration under the registration authority of Department of Social Welfare in 1985 in the name of Ulashi Sreejony Sangha and the number is Jess-6/85. USS confirms it's enlistment under the authority of NGO Affairs Bureau in the year 2000 which registration number is 1604. USS is enlisted with many reputed network and committees in the development sector.

Table 01: Legal status and registration

Registration Authority	Registration Number	Date of Registration	Renewal Date
Department of Social Welfare	Jess-06/85	9 May, 1985	N/A
NGO Affairs Bureau	1604	21 December, 2000	21 December, 2010

### VISION

Address all kinds of discrimination and ensure pollution free environment in Bangladesh, where all citizens will live with dignity and freedom.

### MISSION

Strengthening the capacity of poor people and empower them through establishing self-managed institution by using locally available resources in an environment-friendly way to improve livelihood.

## OBJECTIVES OF USS

- To build capacity on social and economical development
- To organize and build community based organization
- To promote livestock and pisciculture.
- To promote livelihood, gender equality, human rights and good governance.
- To establish adolescent, landless, fishermen, marginal and ethnic groups' rights.
- To protect on environment and water sources of Bangladesh.
- To educate on primary health care, sanitation promotion, HIV/AIDs and arsenic mitigation.
- To promote primary and non-formal education
- To break down culture of silence through excising own culture.
- To promote and exercise proven technology on sustainable agricultural development.
- To assist the income generating activities.
- To undertake different action research on development.

## USS MAIN AREA OF INTERVENTIONS

- Institutional Development
- Disaster management
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Education
- Health, Hygiene, Sanitation and Water Supply
- Emergency response to Disaster
- Environmental development & Climate Change
- Gender & Women Development
- Water & River issues
- Human Rights & Advocacy
- Development of Minority/ethnic group
- Development of Adolescent group
- Community Mobilization & Local Resource Management
- Development for the Person with Disability
- Training
- Vocational Training
- Micro Finance
- Cultural Activities
- Research
- Networking

## MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

USS has been attaching high priority on good governance, accountability and transparency, operating according to the approved constitution of the organization; it has got three types of organizational structures namely:

- General body
- Executive body
- General administration

### *General Body:*

USS is proud of its General Body comprising a group of highly qualified and experienced professionals and dignitaries of the society. The General Body, consisting of 19 members organizes at least one general meeting annually in a transparent and democratic manner all the way. The General Body approves the activities of the Executive Body.

### *Executive Body:*

The Executive Body elected by the members of the General Body for 02 Years, is comprised of 7 members. It is the supreme authority to frame policies and guidelines to run the organization. The Executive Director, appointed by the Executive Body, plays the role of Secretary of the Executive Body in accordance with the recognized rights and responsibilities of the designation.

**General Administration:**

Executive Director (ED), the functional/ administrative head of the organization, is responsible for overall management and administration of USS as well development and implementation of its different programs/ projects and related activities along with his professional staff. Executive Director is accountable to the President and Executive Body of the organization.

To increase the strength, capacity, competency and ensuring the sustainability of the organization, one Management Committee was formed with the higher officials of USS. Management Committee is basically conscientious to produce the action plan of any kind of project and programs following the vision, mission of the organization and instruction of the Executive Director, as well as involves in execution

**Ongoing projects of USS:**

*Table 02: Ongoing projects of USS*

Name of projects/program	Major Program Focus	Geographic coverage (Name of District & Upazila)	Budget in Taka	Duration	Donor Name
Supporting Household Activities for Hygiene Assets and Revenue (SHAHAR) IFSP Project, Jessore Pauroshava	Institutional strengthening, Community mobilization, Maternal Health, Nutrition, women empowerment, neonatal health, child health	Upazila - Jessore sadar, District -Jessore	15489784	2000-2013	CARE-Bangladesh (USAID)
Sanitation, Hygiene Education and Water Supply Project(GOB-UNICEF) project	Sanitation , Hygiene & safe water suppl , Maternal Health neonatal health, child health	Upazila –kalia , District –Narial	21302222	2007-ongoing	DFID, DPHE, UNICEF
Coastal Livelihoods Improvement through Maximizing Adaptations towards Environment (CLIMATE)	Community based adaptation, Maternal Health neonatal health, child health women empowerment livelihood improvement, Disaster preparedness child sponsorship	Upazila –Dacope District –Khulna	6360830	2009 - 2019	Action aid Bangladesh
Raising Peoples Voice for CARP & Climate Justice	Adoptive agriculture climate justice , agrarian reform , awareness building	District : Jessore , Narail , Gopalganj , Madaripur, Sirajganj, Munshiganj, Chapainowabgonj	6860760	2008-ongoing	Oxfam-GB

Name of projects/program	Major Program Focus	Geographic coverage (Name of District & Upazila)	Budget in Taka	Duration	Donor Name
		, Nator Upazila; Jessore sadar Mokshedpur, Madaripur, Sadar, Sreenagar , Rohaonpur , Tarash Boraigram.			
Emergency Food Security and Livelihood support in the Cyclone Aila affected region in Bangladesh	Food security and improve livelihood	Upazila –Dacope District –Khulna	69500000	14 <sup>th</sup> May, 2011 – ongoing	ECHO and Actionaid Bangladesh
A disaster resilient Future: mobilizing communities and institution for effective risk reduction (DIPECHO-VI)	Disaster risk reduction	Upazila –Dacope District –Khulna	5368106	2011-2012	ECHO and Actionaid Bangladesh
Poverty Reduction by Increasing the Competitiveness of Enterprise (PRICE)	Farmers training, entrepreneurship development	Upazila – Jikorgacha District –Jessore	1066800	2010-12	USAID
Microcredit	Economic development of poor, women empowerment	Upazila : jikorgacha Districts: Jessore	6,13,39,000	2000-ongoing	Own fund

The above table shows that USS has managed all of the project and activities effectively and efficiently. USS has worked very efficiently after Cyclone SIDR and AILA, 2007 & 2009 respectively in collaboration with Govt. and different international donors. This also proves the competences of USS works to manage any volume of activity properly in a professional way.

***ACTIVITIES OF USS FROM JULY 2010 TO JUNE 2011 AT A GLANCE***

**Emergency Food Security and Livelihood Support in The Cyclone Aila Affected Region in Bangladesh Undertaken by USS Supported by AAB And Funded by ECHO**

***Project Objective:***

To contribute to the recovery of the food security and livelihood situation of the severely affected HHs in the Aila affected region in Bangladesh.

***Specific Objective:***

Ensure that all severely affected HHs meet basic food needs without having to resort to negative coping strategies and give them the capacity to strengthen their own livelihoods.

***Result 01:*** 2017 Targeted households have increased income, through the cash for work activity, for food security in the hunger period.

**Result 02:** 2017 Targeted households have sufficient income, through the cash for training activity, for food security in the hunger period.

**Result 03:** Income for livelihood restoration has increased for all targeted 957 households through specific cash grants.

**Result 04:** Local and national level advocacy to ensure delivery of government recovery initiatives and the promotion of a lesson learning culture on consortium led disaster recovery responses.















**Project Intervention:** To contribute to the recovery of the food security and livelihood situation of the severely affected HHs in the Aila affected region in Bangladesh, This project design the following intervention.

- Cash for Work
- Cash for Training
- Agricultural Grant, and
- Unconditional Grant.

*Description of activities for CFW*

Cash-for-Work is a short-term intervention used by humanitarian assistance organizations to provide temporary employment in public projects (such as repairing roads, clearing debris or re-building infrastructure) to the most vulnerable segments of a population. The methodology is relatively new, but its use has become increasingly common in food insecure, disaster-affected or post-conflict environments.

*Table 03: Different CFW intervention taken by the project*

Sl.	Types of Scheme	No. of Scheme	Achievement Sl.
01	ECHO Village (Plinth Raising)	03	 52 family surviving safely  5000 people could take shelter in case of any disaster  land can be used for tree plantation  Agriculture land improvement to farm  15 new ponds (3 for drinking & 12 for aquaculture) developed
02	Road Reconstruction	03	 2500 people could take shelter in case of any disaster  Land can be used for tree plantation  Agriculture land improvement to farm (3000 acre)  7 ponds for HH uses for aquaculture.
03	Ring Embankment	01	 82 family serving safely  Protect 40 acre agricultural land from  450 people could take shelter in case of any disaster  Land can be used for tree plantation  Agriculture land improvement to farm

*Progress and achievements*

In this activity, USS try to involve reconstructing those infrastructures by CFW activities which will help the affected HHs to get their previous happiness and help them to ensure their food security and enhance livelihood status by provide cash. These are: plinth rising of 03 groups of

houses (total 52) which named at ECHO Village, 02 damaged roads reconstructed, 01 ring dam reconstructed. All the intervention has already been completed.

According to the result 01: 2017 Targeted households have increased income, through the cash for work activity, for food security in the hunger period.

This is a great achievement to take initiative at the hunger period and ensure food security of those people. Some beneficiary also influence to plinth raise individually after the cash for work activity.

Achievements of this intervention include:

- 134 families surviving safely
- 7,950 people could take shelter in case of any disaster
- Agriculture land improvement to farm (more than 4000 acre)
- 15 new ponds (3 drinking water & other 12 for aquaculture)

**Pictorial view of Cash for work activities at different Scheme**



Figure 01, 02: The previous and present situation of a pond (drinking water) which was silted during Aila in ECHO Village



Figure 03, 04: Women engagement at development process

**Coastal Livelihood Improvement Through Maximizing Adaptation Towards Environment (CLIMATE)-LRP-37 undertaken by USS supported and funded by Action Aid Bangladesh**

The project is being implemented from May, 2009 in 5 villages named Sutarkhali, Nolian, Kalabogi under Sutarkhali Union, Kalinagar, Sreenagar under Kamarkhola Union, Dacope Upazilla, Khulna District.

Major program focus of this project: Community Based Adaptation, Maternal Health Neonatal Health, Child Health, Women Empowerment, Livelihood Improvement, Disaster Preparedness, Child Sponsorship.

**Objectives of this project: To protect the coastal livelihood from the disaster vulnerability and climate risk.**

**Targets and achievements of this project**

*Output of this Project:*

**Output 01: Efficiency enhancement of family, community, local government and institution to adapt with climate change and disaster vulnerability.**



**Table 04: Activity description**

Sl no	Activities	Target		Achievement		Differences		Comments
		Yearly	Quarterly	Quarterly	Till now	Yearly	Quarterly	
01	Orientation with UPs and UDMCs on environment, WR, disaster and climate risk (from CCA-DRR) and refreshing their roles and responsibilities.	02	01	01	-	100%	100%	No Enough finance in due time and will be implemented later
02	Training on family label disaster preparedness for circle participants	800 participants	800 participants	800 participants	525 participants	40%	40%	Remaining part will be finished later
03	Awareness building on disaster risk for the sponsorship family	600 family	150 family	200 family	350 family	---	---	150 in each quarter
04	Orientation on climate change and disaster risk reduction for community leader	4 batch (100 people)	-	-	-	-	-	This will be implemented later
05	Development of water and drainage system for adaptation with climate change and disaster risk reduction	Block Sanitation 2	02	02	--	100%	100%	No Enough finance in due time and will be implemented later
06	Advocacy on disaster forecasting, cyclone shelter, river	2 times	2 times	--	--	100%	100%	No Enough finance in due time and will be

Sl no.	Activities	Target		Achievement		Differences		Comments
		Yearly	Quarterly	Quarterly	Till now	Yearly	Quarterly	
	erosion, and cyclone							implemented later
07	Orientation on disaster and climate change related co-curriculum to school teacher	1	1	---	---	100%	100%	No enough finance in due time and will be implemented later

**Output 02: Livelihood based group formation for ensuring food security of poor and rural people and training on salinity endurance rice cultivation and sustainable agriculture farming technology.**

*Table 05: Activity description*

Sl no.	Activities	target		achievement		different		comments
		yearly	Quarterly	Quarterly	till now	yearly	Quarterly	
01.	Group formation including farmers, fishermen's, baowaly and maowaly	10	10	10	10	---	---	
02.	To inform about resource management for sustainable agriculture and food security	100 people (4 batch)	02 batch	02 batch	-	50%	50%	Not getting enough finance in due time and will be implemented later
03	Coordination meeting with forest department and local services providing agencies	4 time 20 people	1 times 20 people	1 time 22 people	1 time 22 people	---	25%	Not getting finance in due time and will be implemented later
04	Monthly meeting among members of reflect circle	50 people	10 people	10 people	16 people	--	--	--

**Output 03: Formation of reflect circle and self dependant group on purpose of the empowerment of woman, awareness building on human rights, climate change and disaster vulnerability.**

*Table 06: Target and achievement of reflect circle*

Sl.	Program	Past Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Woman	Man	Total
02.	Conduction of reflect circle	16	26 circle	26 circle	910 people	875	35	910
03.	Formation of spouse forum	08	18	10	350	7	343	350
04.	Spouse meeting	23	18	10	350	7	343	350
05.	Action point implementation	29	10	7	350	215	135	350
06.	Woman participation in IGA	----	20	17	20	10	10	20
07.	Formation of deposition team	10	6	6	210	210	0	210
08.	VGD	145	50	23	50	50	0	50 people
09.	Meeting regarding climate change, woman empowerment etc	455	200	152	200	200	0	200

**Output 04. Formation of youth association: The two youth association has been formed that will do work on environment, disaster and climate change issue.**

*Table 07: Activity description*

Sl no.	Activities	Target		Achievement		Different		Comments
		Yearly	Quarterly	Quarterly	Till now	Yearly	Quarterly	
01	Formation of youth association	02	02	02	02	--	--	Lack of budget and initiative of field level

**Output 05. Development of the quality of primary education: To enhance the quality of primary education some program has been run in the working areas. These are:**

*Table 08: Activity description*

Sl No.	Activities	Target		Achievement		Different		Comments
		Yearly	Quarterly	Quarterly	Till now	Yearly	Quarterly	
01.	Conduction and establishment of child development centre through	01 batch	01 batch	01 batch	01 batch	--	--	

Sl No.	Activities	Target		Achievement		Different		Comments
		Yearly	Quarterly	Quarterly	Till now	Yearly	Quarterly	
	sponsorship and pre-school based training							
02	Establishment of children club	8 school 8 club	8 school 8 club	5 school 5 club	5 school 5 club	40%	60%	Remaining part will be implemented later
03	Formation of school management committee	09	02	01	02	20%	40%	

**Implementation of Action Point:** The following activities have been implemented through the members 26 reflect circle in the working areas. Such as:

*Table 09: Implementation of action point*

Action Point Name	Achievements
Children birth registration	46 children
Hygiene latrine installation	204
Pond reconstruction	12
Early marriage protection	6
Supported through vegetable cultivation	39 people
Health services ensured	328
Provided VGF	62 people
Reconstruction of embankment	3

**Pictorial view of Climate Change-LRP-37 project**



**Figure 07: Meeting with school management committee**      **Figure 08: In writing session of field level problems in brown paper**

**Sanitation, Hygiene Education and Water Supply Project (GOB-UNICEF) project undertaken by USS supported by DFID, DPHE, UNICE**

**Major program focus of this project: Sanitation, Hygiene & safe water supply, Maternal Health neonatal health, child health.**

The project is being implemented from 2007 in Kalia Upazilla, Narail District. We worked with the activities such as folk show, video show, drama, training, installation of safe water, SSHE construction, orientation etc.

In 2007 during the baseline survey the sanitation survey coverage of the project area was 24.28%. After project implementation in June, 2009 it was 71.50% and in October, 2009 we achieved 100% sanitation coverage and continuing till June, 2011.

There are various activities, being implemented in the working areas. These are described below until June 2011:

To mobilize community, 245 PARA action committee have been formed, 26 WATSAN fair have been arranged, community meeting has arranged in presence of 43000 woman and man, 245 team have been formed including under five child mother etc.

To promote safe water supply system the programs have been implemented in the working areas. Such as:

*Table 10: Program description*

SI No.	Program Description	Achievements till June 2011
01	Number of installation of new water sources	335
02	Number of good platform of water sources are present	342

To promote school sanitation and hygiene education, the programs have been implemented in the working areas. Such as:

*Table 11: Activity description*

Activity description	Achievements till June 2011
Reconstruction of water sources and latrine have been done	In 15 primary school
Only Reconstruction of water sources	In 15 primary school
New installation of water sources and latrine	In 30 primary school
Only New construction of water sources	In 30 primary school
Latrine: Minimum 01:Only for girls and only for boys	In 24 primary school
Solid waste management are present	In 136 primary school
Solid waste management are present	In 24 high school

To promote safe water, sanitation and hygiene education, 4679 coordination meeting of WATSAN committee was completed. The number of developed latrine is 41447 and number of underdeveloped latrine is 241 until June 2011 in working areas.

**A Disaster Resilient Future: Mobilizing Communities and Institution for Effective Risk Reduction (DIPECHO-VI) undertaken by USS supported and funded by ECHO and Action Aid Bangladesh**

The project is being implemented from March, 2011 in Sutarkhali and Kamarkhola union under Dacope Upazilla, Khulna District.

**Project Objectives:** To enhance the resilience of communities vulnerable to Natural Hazards in Bangladesh. The aimed of the project is to reduce the risk of people who are vulnerable to recurring floods, cyclone and earthquake through disaster preparedness. The project seeks to establish a partnership of all four key stakeholders i.e. Community, Local Govt, NGOs and Government in managing disaster risks

**Project Aim:** The project is aimed to reduce the risk of people who are vulnerable to recurring cyclone through disaster preparedness and seeks to establish a partnership of all four keys stakeholders i.e. Community, Local govt. NGOs and govt. in managing disaster risks in the project area.

**Progress activities of this project**

***Social Mobilizing:***

Disasters have been and remain as the major hindering factor to the national growth and cause of poverty. In the threat of climate change, frequency, intensity, during and geographical coverage of flooding have been increased and likely to increase further. In that case the proposed project proposal “A Disaster Resilient Future: Mobilizing Communities and Institutions for Effective Risk Reduction” has been taken for the effective risk reduction of the project area. USS mobilized the project area where they communicate with the community people who are very vulnerable, UDMC, SMC, CBOs as well as minority of the community and PWDs.

Following were the key issues of the social mobilization:

- i. Communicate with local government representatives, e.g. UP Chairman/members;
- ii. Mobilizing with UDMC representatives and local elites;
- iii. Mobilizing with SMC, CBOs of the respective Unions
- iv. Identify most vulnerable area with the involvement of local community;
- v. Collection the union based different information from the respective union;
- vi. Compare the information from respective union with the Upazila based information
- vii. Build up rapport building with Community people, local elites, local journalists, Upazila administration and union parishad etc
- viii. Find out the vulnerable families living with female heads of households, those with children, physically challenged, elderly etc

From the social mobilization, the project staff got very clear impression on the above issues. They also learnt about information collection process, problems and challenges of the project activities etc. The local government representatives were involved in the process of ward wise information finalization. After social mobilizing, the project staff ensured the following:

- i) Coordination with the local governments, e.g. UP chairman/members, UDMC, UzDMC, SMC, CBO etc
- ii) Community consultation
- iii) Identification of the most vulnerable and damaged areas
- iv) Maintain a simple database to register the details of the area information

**Project introduction meeting and FGD at community level:**

In the reporting month total eight (8) communities Introductions Meeting was conducted in different areas of the project. In the introduction meeting at community level project based basic information like project name, project objectives, donor organization, associated organization,

project duration, project budget, project activities, beneficiaries, project area etc are discussed elaborately.

**Orientation and meetings with religious leaders at the community level and disaster management committee (UDMC):**

In the meeting project based basic information like project name, project objectives, donor organization, associated organization, project duration, project budget, project activities, beneficiaries, project area etc are discussed elaborately. The religious leaders as well as mosque and mandir committee were very interested about the project because they didn't know that how the role on disaster preparedness activities to them. In the meeting representative of AAB and USS project staffs were present and provided the training session where the fatalisms were discussed.



**Figure 08: Project Inception Meeting with Kamarkhola Union Disaster Management Committee (UDMC).**



**Figure 09: FGD with community people**

**Raising Peoples Voice for Climate Justice undertaken by USS as leading NGO supported by Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods (CSRL).**

**Major program focus: Adoptive agriculture, climate justice, agrarian reform, awareness building.**

**Background**

Bangladesh is facing the climate change worse and for which they are not responsible. Concerning the issue with support of OXFAM GB we conducted advocacy and campaign for climate justice. The campaign was based on the memorandum submission and climate poverty hearing. Climate poverty hearing was consisted in regional and Climate Poverty Hearing. USS is working as leading NGO in this Beel Campaign Group.

The objectives of the campaign were as follows:

- i. To make a call to national government on issues of CC;
- ii. To raise peoples voice for sufficient planning and funding to encounter CC impacts;
- iii. To call forward to developed countries to ensure necessary funding for climate change preparedness
- iv. To support to a global call for carbon emission reduction, and the local issue was Beel Conserve.

Activities of Beel Campaign Groups which are as follows:

**Lobby Meeting:** 8 lobby meeting were organized with the parliament member of 8 districts to expose the local campaign issue based on agricultural development activities, sustainable development of rural livelihood, climate change issues, Beel conservation etc to the Govt. and influence the Govt. to take initiatives in these regards.

**Innovative Demonstration:** The 8 innovative demonstrations were implemented for removing any defined problems by informing the policy maker, including the general people, supporting affected people to fulfill their rights during the campaign.

**Grameen Jibonjatra Mella:** The four Grameen Jibon Jatra Mella were observed during the campaign in four Districts to aware the large number of agricultural based dependent people regarding climate change issues and climate adaptation.

**Agricultural Hearing and Symbolic football/HaDuDu Match:** Four local agricultural hearing and one regional agricultural hearing was organized during campaign to aware the agricultural based local people regarding their rights and two Symbolic football matches were organized to increase awareness on climate change and misuse of Beel during campaign period.

*Table 12: Implementing activities*

Activities	Target	Achievement	Date	Place	Implementing Organization
Coordination Meeting	2	2	23 July,10	Beel Campaign Group Secretariat, USS Jessore.	BCG
			23 January ,11	Proshikha Training Center, Koitta, Manikgong.	
Lobby Meeting	8	8	15 January; 11 March, 11	Boraigram, Natore Singra, Natore.	BUS
			2 March,11	National Parliament	
			27 March,11	Lohagora, Norail	Shabolombi
			4 March,11	Circuit House , Madaripur	MMUS
			26 December, 10	Circuit House , Jessore	USS (leading NGO)
			25 March,11	Monirampur, Jessore	
27 March,11	Jessore				
Innovative Demonstration	8	8	6 March,11	Gomostapur, Chapainawabgong	BRDC
			27 February, 11	Tarash, Sirajgong	NSKS
			10 Narch,11	Kanaikhali, Nator	BUS
			22 January, 11	National Press club	Onneshon
			23 December, 10	Ujani, Gopalgong	CSD
			28 February, 11	Norail	Shabolombi
			25 February,11	Madaripur	MMUS
18 December, 10	Monirampur, Jessore	USS			
Grameen Jibonjatra Mella	4	4	17, 18, 19 January. 11	Boraigram , Natore	BUS
			10,11,12 January , 11	Basudebpur, Ujani, Gopalgonj	CSD



Activities	Target	Achievement	Date	Place	Implementing Organization
			29, 30, 31 December. 10	Mulia Narail	Nobanno
			10,11,12 March,11	Bakra, Jhikorgacha	USS (leading NGO)
Local Agricultural Hearing	4	4	13 March, 11	Khoirabad, Gomostapur, Chapainawabgong	BRDC
			3 February. 11	Tarsh, Sirajgong	NSKS
			15 March, 11	Sreenagor, Munshigong	Onneshon
			13 February. 11	Kumri, Lohagora, Narail	Shabolombi
Regional Agricultural Hearing	1	1	12 March, 11	Bakra, Jhikorgacha	USS (leading NGO)
Football Game	2	2	20 January, 11	Gomostapur, Chapainawabgong	BRDC
			4 February, 11	Shologhor, Sreenagor, Munshigonj	Onneshon



Figure 10: Regional agricultural hearing meeting



Figure 11: Lobby meeting with Mustofa Faruk, Mohammad MP of Jessore-2

Poverty Reduction by Increasing the Competitiveness of Enterprise (PRICE) Project undertaken by USS supported by USAID. Project is being implemented in Jikorgacha, Jessore.

Major program focus: Training on potato & egg plant cultivation for farmers based on modern technology and business purpose.

### Background

Farmers are poor and they are sufferings various constraints like inadequate skill and less technical knowledge of improved management of egg plant and potato cultivation, high prevalence of pest and disease attack on egg plant and potato, farmers possess minimum skill for pest and disease management, limited access to quality inputs, less access to the market information, having no idea about contact farming, poor understanding on fruit maturity, proper harvesting and post harvest technique, having less information about marketing linkages and fair price, lack of access to formal credit facilities, unsafe and hazardous use of pesticide that is poisoning threat to health and

environment, inadequate and poor storage facilities, inadequate institutional support from government and non- government organization.

Addressing the above constraints USAID funded PRICE project entered in to partnership with Krishak Bandhab Karmasuchi (KBK). The project came in to active role October-2010 dealing with technical constraints of Krishak Bandhab Karmasuchi (KBK) and 450 (150+300) egg plant and potato contact farmers for enhancing their skill and knowledge through training and providing field based hands- on technical support to the farmers and establishing linkage with different input suppliers. From the very beginning of the project Krishak Bandhab Karmasuchi (KBK) was sorted out the constraints by a survey and listed the priorities of activities. Accordingly Krishak Bandhab Karmasuchi (KBK) responses to the farmers demands. As a result Krishak Bandhab Karmasuchi (KBK) some extent was able to meet the requirement of inputs like quality seeds, inorganic and organic fertilizer, hands on technologies to the farmers for better production of potato and egg plant.

### Objectives

To increased the production of potato and egg plant by application of modern farming technologies such as sterilization of soil, use of quality seeds, reliable seed sources, new variety, preparation of organic manure (compost/ quick compost/ farm yard manure), germination and purity test of seeds, preparation ideal seed beds, seed treatment, management of seed bed, grafting of egg plant seedling, strengthened IPM practice, use of pheromone trap, less use of pesticide, soil management, water management, fertilizer management, pest and disease management, pre and post harvest management.

*Table 13: Implementing training programs*

Training On	Date	No. Of Farmer	Woman	Man
Potato Cultivation	8 January 2010- 1 February 2011	300	77	223
Egg plant	12 April 2010- 25 April 2011	150	9	141

Providing assistance of Krishak Bandhab Karmasuchi (KBK) to improve the following activities:

- Providing guidance and hands-on training to potato and egg plants farmers for skill development on sterilization of soil, use quality seeds, reliable seed sources, new variety, preparation of organic manure (compost/ quick compost/ farm yard manure), germination and purity test of seeds, preparation ideal seed beds, seed treatment, management of seed bed, grafting of egg plant seedling, strengthened IPM practice, use of pheromone trap, less use of pesticide, soil management, water management, fertilizer management, pest and disease management, pre and post harvest management etc.
- Hands on training on solarization of soil of the field, and seed beds, grafting techniques and pheromone trap to the farmers.
- Assisting the farmer to determine harvesting time and improved harvest and proper, management of post harvest.
- Help the farmers about the methodology of maintaining of quality egg plant and potato in the farms.

- Training the farmers and farming staff for sorting, grading and proper packaging at farm level before transport to market.
- Assist the farmer (KBK) and farmers to establish market linkage.

The following activities were done during January-June, 2011.

- Conducted meeting with Krishak Bandhab Karmasuchi (KBK) officials for up grading field information. Field supervisor also attended there.
- Counseling with farmers use of healthy seedlings of egg plant and collection of potato seed from reliable seed sources.
- Participating in sharing meeting with contact and neighbor farmer, Field supervisors and KBK officials to knowing their field's problems guided them with proper solutions.
- Demonstrated with possible solutions in presents Field supervisors at the farmer's fields.
- Visited contact and neighbor farmer's field, identify field problems given their possible solutions and followed up given suggestion.
- Demonstrated different technologies such as land selection, land preparation, sprouting potato seed, seed cutting, seed treatment, sowing method, earthing up, top dressing, irrigation etc.
- Demonstrated pest control using IPM and hand picking.
- Demonstrated post harvest care such as sorting, grading and packaging of Egg plant for marketing and transportation.
- Demonstrated to control fruit and shoot borer of egg plant by hand picking.

**Output of the training on potato cultivation:**

In 2009 the farmers obtained the production of potato 2400-2800 kg per bigha. After completing training, the trained up farmers obtained the production of potato 4000-4800 kg per bigha in 2010.

**Output of the training on egg plant cultivation:**

In few past years the farmer's was lost their eagerness to cultivate egg plants because of impact of diseases. As a result, they were facing the loss of egg plant. After completing training on egg plant, they were interested in cultivating egg plant. In 2010 the trained up farmers obtained the production of egg plant 138000 Kg from 115 Bigha land.

### *Pictorial view of PRICE Project Activities*



**Figure 12: Scrotal Advisor of PRICE project delivering his space at inauguration ceremony of Krishok Bandhob kormoshuchi**



**Figure 13: Team leader, Horticulture PRICE project, delivering his space at training program**

### **Supporting Household Activities for Hygiene Assets and Revenue (SAHAR) IFSP Project, undertaken by USS, supported by CARE- Bangladesh and USAID in Jessore Pauroshava.**

**Major program focus: Institutional strengthening, Community mobilization, Maternal Health, Nutrition, women empowerment, neonatal health, child health.**

**Objectives: To improve the livelihood of urban slum poor people and to ensure food security, and its continuation in the Jessore Pauroshava.**

#### **Activities of SHAHAR Project:**

**Under this Project, USS works for livelihood development of most threatening and poor part of the Urban Slum and its continuation.**

#### **Community Mobilization and Institutional Strengthening:**

**Community mobilization and institutional strengthening is considered as the heart of the component of SHAHAR Project. Different initiatives has been continued to ensure the economical sustainability as well as to establish the rights of the poor and under privileged target group of USS from the very beginning. Human Rights, Sanitation, River and Environment fortification are the major component of the organization. USS believes, only financial support can not ensure the human development. Believing this belief, USS confirms different sessions regarding human rights among the all IGA groups from commencement period. Motivation and awareness on different national and international issues are being continued. The civil society feels proud to attend in that kind of discussion and meetings.**

**Besides, locally collected oral saline were distributed among 450 families and increased awareness on birth registration and developed working plan for the development of the area through CRMC. Through CRMC an early marriage protection, drain cleanness, culvert excavation, and Human chain program on reconstruction of Voirab River were organized.**

#### **Days Observance:**

National and internationally declared days have specific appeals on specific issues. Understanding the importance of different Days, USS took initiatives to observe the declared Days with proper honor. During the last fiscal year, USS observed the following Days.

*Table 14: Days observance*

Sl. No.	Name of the Day	Observed Date
1	International Labour Day	1 May
2	World Environment Day	5 June
3	Sanitation Day	1 October
4	Human Rights Day	10 December
5	Victory Day	16 December
6	International Mother Language Day	21 February
7	World Women Day	8 March

#### Classification of CRMC Leaders:

*Table 15: Classification of CRMC*

Name of CRMC	Member			Economical Status	
	Male	Female	Total	Poor	Middle Class
East Barandi Para	7	6	13	9	2
City College Molla Para	2	9	11	11	-
Nath Para	3	7	10	10	-

#### CRMC School:

Education is promoting among the poor school going children (4-14) who stopped their education. 30 students are studying at now. Among them 13 are female and 17 are male. From 2001 to 2010, 361 students have been graduated through this school. Among them 162 were male and 199 were female. At present, 98% students are attending in the school regularly.

#### Training:

Vocational training such as embroidery, block, electrical, mechanical and emboss etc were given among the youth both male and female. 257 youth were trained among the 300 which was fixed as target. Tools were distributed among the 230 vocational trained youth.

#### Micro Credit and Development Program

USS has been implementing Micro Credit and Development Program to support the target people under the projects mainly through the SHAHAR project office of Jessore Municipality and Jhikorgacha area offices. There is a credit policy following on Savings, Credit, Insurance and others.

Savings, Tk. 10/member/week are collected during the weekly meeting through the group leaders. Along with the savings amount, Tk.1/member/week is also collected as insurance. Insurance amount and facility are available to the target group of project. Credit supports goes to the organized group members.

#### IGA Disbursement:

Availability capital is the first condition for starting any IGA. So USS arrange fund for the target group to meet their financial requirement for establishing the respective enterprise. The main objectives of USS for credit support to the target female group are:

- To increase the regular income of the family
- To create alternative employment /self employment
- To ensure the participation of women group in the national development/GDP
- To help the women to establish their admiration in the family
- To establish the women’s dignity to the society and
- To ensure the participation women in the decision making.

*Table 17: Important Sector for Credit Support*

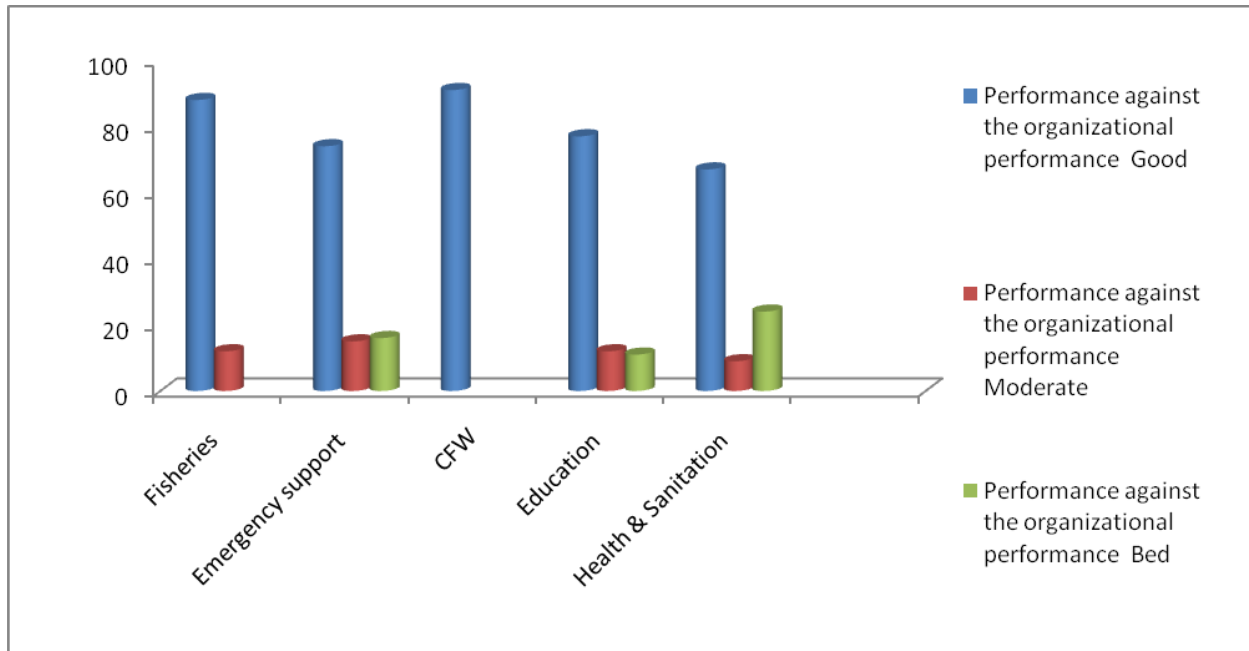
* Shari Marketing	* Tea Stall	* Milking Cows Rearing
* Vegetable Shop	* Grocery Shop	* Homestead gardening
* Rice Business	* Making of Paper Bags	* Poultry Rearing
* Van/Rickshaw Driving	* Fish Marketing	* Fish Culture
* Timber Business	* Cookeries Marketing	* Handicraft
* Stationary Supply	* Fruit Business	* Rice Production
* Rice & Husk Business	* Sanitary Products	*

During reporting period the bellow mentioned microcredit functions have been completed.

Total Groups	Total Members	Total Loanee	Total Savings	Total disbursed amount	Total Realization including service charge	Total Balance	Realization rate (%)
54	1198	1108	2812861	75744000	76485232	7298297	98.44%

#### Organization Performance:

USS conducted different activity through the year 2010-11, as USS like to work with community here community view is used to justify the performance of the organization in different sector. It is revel that maximum people of the communitly give satisfactory answer towards activity of the organization.



**Climate change & Research and communication cell :**

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**Moni, A Hauqe., Hossain, Sarwar. 2010. Cyclones In relation to Climate Change: Strategy and Action Plan. International Confer-ence on Bangladesh Environment 2010 by BEN and BAPA. Jan 3-4 2009.**

**Hossain, Sarwar., Hoque, Aminul., Hossain, Quazi. 2010. Socio Economic Impact and Need Assessment of Recovery and Rehabilitation of Cyclone Aila. Published by Ulashi Sreejony Sangha (USS).**

**Khan, Hossain., Hossain, Sarwar. 2010. River Management through Participation of Local People: A Study on Chitra River of Narail, Bangladesh. Published by Ulashi Sreejony Sangha (USS) and Action Aid Bangladesh.**