



Prepared By
Dr. ABM Shazzad Hossain
T.M. Abdullah-Al-Fuad

NDP Bhaban, Bagbari, Shahid Nagar
 Kamarkhanda, Sirajganj-6703
 Bangladesh

Editor
Md. Alauddin Khan
 Executive Director

Published: December 2015
 Published by: Research and Documentation Cell
National Development Programme-NDP

www.ndpbd.org



NDP IMPACT SERIES-02

National Development Programme-NDP

Dedicated towards improving livelihoods of the poor people



Livelihoods Improvement in Char Lands



The family members have also access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. Children have returned to school. The family regularly saves. Their health has much improved than earlier. Rubiya's family is among the hundreds of families under the NDP-CLP project who has challenged poverty.

Livelihood improved and resilience capacity enhanced of Rubiya's family with relatively a very short span of time. This year the family was well protected from flood. Her homestead has become like a vegetable garden as many kinds of vegetables are growing on it. Beef fattening has become her important income generation activity. She is also rearing chickens. Now the



Rubiya Khatuan, a 32 year old landless poor housewife was struggling with poverty and natural disaster in Jagaptura char of Bhuapur Upazila that situated inside the mighty river Jamuna. Erosion pushed Rubiya to shift her house several times. The family had to starve very often, as their little income was insufficient to manage the 7 member family that consists of her husband Bashed Mia, 2 sons and 3 daughters. Even if the family manages to improve a bit but the river erosion and flood bring back to the same position again. Rubiya was desperately finding a way to get out of this situation but was repeatedly failed. The Chars Livelihood Programme (CLP) came as sunshine and the family was selected as one of the Core Participant Households (CPHs). The integrated 8 components of the program have enabled Rubiya to change her live and livelihoods. According to Rubiya 'I have finally been able to break the vicious circle and improve my situation and without CLP it was never ever possible'.

Rights and Empowerment

Domestic violence against woman is very common incident in our society. How a right step can create heaven on the earth' Ms. Ranjina's story is one of the examples of such event under the 'NDP-CVAWG project'. Ranjina lives with her husband in Chak Gopinathpur village of Tarash Upazila under Sirajganj District. Once, Ranjina was beaten mercilessly by her husband, Mr. Zamrul, due to a very trifle matter. Her head was seriously injured. She was forced to leave her husband's house. Ranjina was learned to keep silent 'when husband bits' from the society. She thought it was



the end of her conjugal life. Considering her fate – she left husband's house and went back to her parent's home. Fortunately, there was a Nari Nirjatan Proti-rodh Group of NDP-CVAWG project in that village. A girl of the village informed the group. Finally the group

took initiatives to admit Ranjina at Tarash Upazila Health Complex and file complaint to the UP Chairman.

A noticed was served to both parties for mediation and arranged an Alternative Dispute Resolution at the UP Bhaban. After hearing of both parties the UP

made a negotiation. Mr. Zamrul admitted his fault. He also gave a written commitment not to do such in future. Ranjina forgave her husband and came back to her own home. Reunion of Ranjina couple is a remarkable example of protecting violence against women and making peaceful conjugal life.



Sustainable Health & Nutrition

Salma is a poor inhabitant of Gobindo Patol village under Ratankandi Union of Sirajganj Sadar. Her Husband Shah Alam is a garments worker lives in Dhaka. During the screening by CNW she was identified as moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) with 20.6 cm MUAC (mid-upper arm circumference) because of early marriage and too early pregnancy. Then she got referral slip to get service from CNC under the FSUP-N project, supported by EU and WFP implemented by NDP.

From CNC Salma received BCC education and cooking

demonstration. Fortnightly she received 3.15 Kg WSB+ with 0.28 gram V. oil. Salma gave birth a healthy and cute baby of 2.9 Kg weight.

Under the project intervention, Salma's



family also received seeds and agricultural tools to grow organic vegetables. Since then they have been cultivating satisfactory amount of vegetables to fulfill their need of nutrition. Salma is dreaming a glorious future for her daughter. She started saving money for her education. She is on the way to grow large scales vegetables production to ensure enough nutrition and financial contribution for her family.



Improvement of Quality Education

Khanmorich is like a traditional union of Bhangura Upazila under Pabna district which is situated in the famous wetland called Chalan Beel. It is marked by under development and inaccessible road communication. Literacy rate is very low due to poor infrastructure and schooling facilities. Deprivation continued from generations to generation unless effort like Gobindopur Shishu Bikash Kendra, one of the ECCD centers of the SHOUHARDO II program, intersected in the circle. The establishment of Early Child Care and Development (ECCD) centers is an task directed at quality education and gender equality in the long run, through pre-schools that introduce a learning process

and preparation for entering formal schooling that has been traditionally denied to girls. In addition, parenting session was held for parents for emphasizing girls education. A total of 35 ECCD centers operated under SHOUHARDO II Program. There were 60 learners in each center with



two shifts: 1st shift enrolled with 30 learners of SBK (shishu bikash Kendra) and the 2nd shift with 30 learners of pre-schooling. The initiative was managed by community initiatives. They had shown a higher level of commitment to education of their children. A boat was purchased by their own contribution to facilitate ferry children

between school and home. The community has generated a savings fund to run the ECCD even after the closing of the project. 7-member CMC runs each ECCD, who look after the overall management. Regular meeting was also held with the mothers/parents. The ECCD well prepared

the children to enter into government primary school. The ECCD learners are comparatively doing very well in the primary schools. The Gobindopur Shishu Bikash Kendra is not only learning center for the small students but also example for many of us as a whole 'how a small initiative can create a big difference'.

Disability and Development

Can a disable woman be a business woman? It is extremely difficult but Shimu Akhter Shimu (25) inhabitant of Mirpur, Sirajganj Sadar, Sirajganj had achieved such a status. She has established herself as a successful entrepreneur. She challenged all social and economic barriers. Being a person with disability (PWD) and woman, in the current social con-

text and attitude towards PWD and to woman it was not so easy. Her father was unwilling to send her junior high school being fear of denial of future job from employer and worried about her marriage.



First, Shimu had overcome barrier against disability with the social mobilization, counseling, PRT service from NDP's Disability and Development Programme (DDP). She received a wheel chair from the project. She also received skill training and loan fund to run business. The invincible Shimu is now successfully running a Coal Mill (local fire-wood manufactured from rice husk). Over the time her business has flourished and the company owns a small truck (pick up van) to transport the goods. Shimu is now blessed with two kids and enjoying happy conjugal life. She has set example for other PDWs.

Food Security Enhancement

Ms. Lucky has become 'lucky' after a long struggle. She was a poor housewife of Chilgacha village under Sirajgonj Sadar Upazila. Her husband Ashraful, being a day labourer was unable to support the 5 member family that includes their 2 sons and mother-in-law. Lucky had to bear the burden of maintaining the family while her husband went to work in Narshindi district as migrant day labourer. Children had to discontinue education being unable to bear the costs. Lucky was desperately seeking for an opportunity of window to escape from such a painful situation. At first she was enlisted in ultra-poor project (UPP) member under the NDP-MFP. She was taking loan and rearing poultry and livestock. Under NDP-Ujjibito project, funded by PKSF 'commercial poultry farming' has

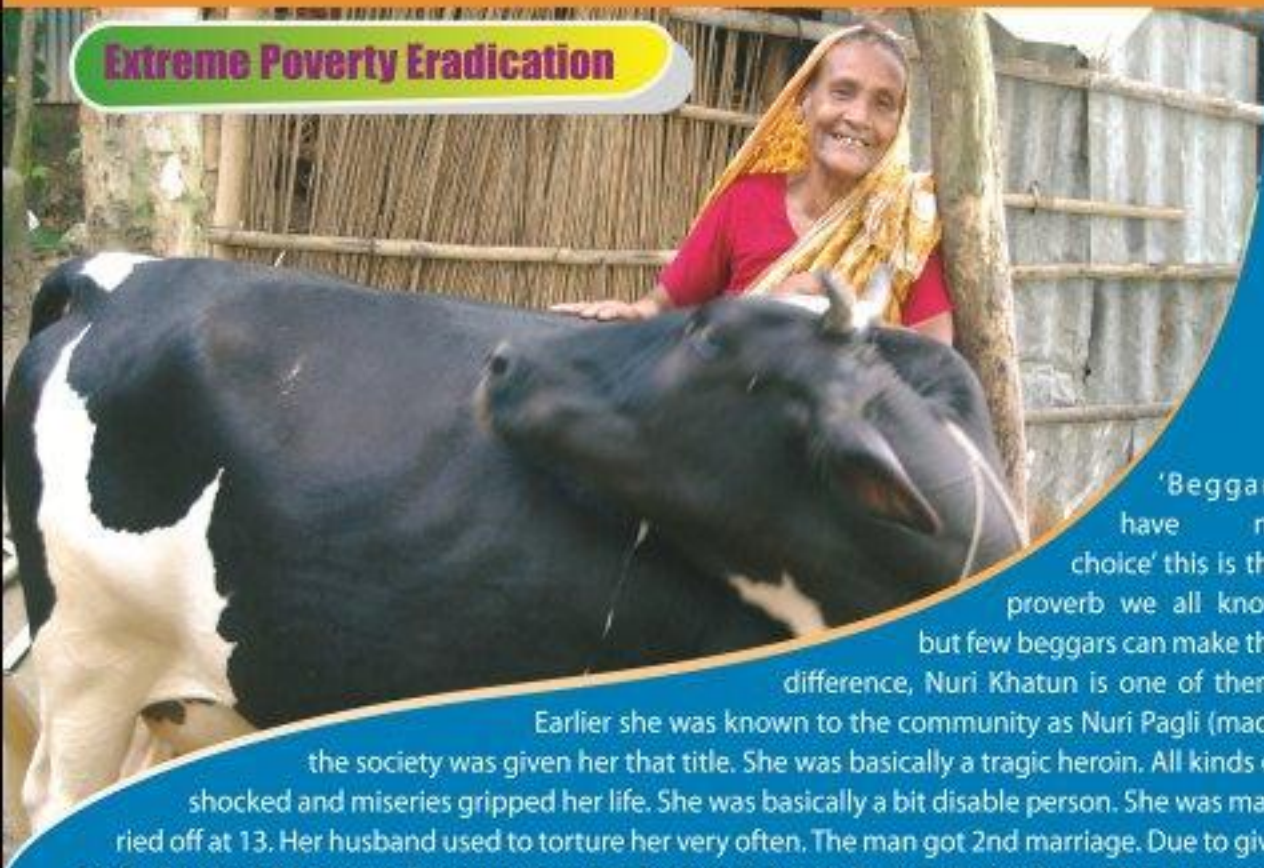


changed the total socio-economic condition of Lucky's family. She received Tk. 20,000 as grant from the project to expand the business. She rears poultry in 45 days cycles. So far she has completed 8th batches and earned net profit of Tk. 64,000. From that time she did not have to look back. Children are returned to

school and family is food secured. Solvency comes to the family as a result of hard labor. Most of her time passes nurturing poultry farms and livestock, and it seems like nurturing of her long-cherished dream.



Extreme Poverty Eradication



'Beggars have no choice' this is the proverb we all know but few beggars can make the difference, Nuri Khatun is one of them.

Earlier she was known to the community as Nuri Pagli (mad); the society was given her that title. She was basically a tragic heroin. All kinds of shocked and miseries gripped her life. She was basically a bit disable person. She was married off at 13. Her husband used to torture her very often. The man got 2nd marriage. Due to give birth of a girl child she was forced to leave her husband's home. Nuri started to live with her parents. The last shelter was also gone when her parents also died. In such circumstance Nuri started begging and has been doing it for the last 40 years. She used to roam and beg with shabby tattered cloth and broken faces. No one gave a second look and did not care whether she lives or dies. Nuri and her daughter were in total hapless and hopeless.



NDP-ENRICH program funded by Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

enlisted Nuri under its 'beggars rehabilitation activity' in 2013. She also took

it as a last opportunity of her life. The project sanctioned Tk. 100,000 in her name. She planned to make house, purchase cow and bull with the money.

Accordingly she purchased Holstein Friesian Cow with a calf with BDT 59,000 and a Cross-bred bull costs BDT 17,000. Rest of the money she used to make a house. Now Nuri does not beg any more. Her busy days passes by collecting grasses, feeding the animals and taking care of them. She is earning Tk. 6,500 per month from the milk selling, after consumption. She sold the bull and took lease 25 decimal agricultural land. She also opened a small unit of Nakshi Kantha (hand stitching bed sheet) making business. She also employed few women to the work. Days have changed so remarkably to Nuri that from a 'mere beggar she has become a decent lady'.

Market Development for Poor

The life and livelihood of Jaheda Begum has changed due to effective input and output market linkage. She was one of the poor char dwellers of Sanbandha village of Khas Rajbari union under Kazipur Upazila. Agricultural activity, especially cultivation of chili, was her main source of income. Quality and quantity of her produce was very poor as a result she did not get good price. Due to lack of quality inputs like seeds and fertilizer as well as technical know-how the yield was poor. Inadequate knowledge on post-harvest management and ineffective linkage with buyers resulted to low yield and less market price. Jaheda became member of the NDP-M4C project in 2013. The project worked with input companies and their retailers to make available quality inputs to the char producers and transfer technical knowl-



edge by the input retailers on a regular basis and on a sustainable scale.

The farmers of char lands used to cultivate chili in broadcast method which delays their farming and sometimes the crop damage by flood. With the technical assistance of Matel Agro Ltd, a partner of M4C, Jaheda cultivated chili using seedling method. Last season she was able to harvest chili earlier than usual time. She har-

vested 480 kg green chili but usually she used to get 280 kg in the same plot. Through the linkage building with ACI, PRAN and ACI Cropx companies she also received technical support and knowledge from local businessmen on post-harvest management. As a result the yield was much and quality was good and thus got good price. A good linkage has been established with various market action and agro service providers. As a result she regularly gets market and pre and post-harvest management information. The life and livelihood of thousand farmers have changed, like Jaheda Begum, due to effective input and output market linkage with the intervention of NDP-M4C project that is implemented with the assistance of Swisscontact/ SDC.



Economic Development

Rubi Begum (55) is an inhabitant of Rashombari village of Shajadpur upazila of Sirajganj Districts. With the support of NDP Micro Finance Programme funded by Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) she owns a dairy farm that has 135 cows and calf. Now she gets milk from 65 cows and 400 liters of milk is produced every day. She is a member of Milk Vita Cooperative and the milk goes to Dhaka. 5 people are engaged in collecting food and fodder, feeding the animals, milking the cows and carrying milk to the 'Milk Collection Center of Milk Vita'. Rubi and her husband Mr. Momtaj are also busy in managing the dairy farm. She is very happy to reach such a bigger scale from out of nothing.

Ms. Rubi was married off with Momtaj, a day labor and at that time they had nothing. At first she purchased a cow by selling her ornaments, which she received during the time of her

marriage. By selling milks of the cow she purchased another cow within a year. She recognized that there was a good business opportunity and a dream is created in her mind to be owner of a dairy farm. But due to lack of fund she could not enlarge her farm. She approached to couple of NGOs for credit support but they offered her very small amount of money. In 2011 Ms. Rubi became member of NDP's Micro-finance programme. At first she received Tk. 100,000. She is a good borrower and thus she received



loan with increased amount and in September 2015 she received Tk. 1,000,000. She is one of the top clients of NDP who received such a bigger amount. Rubi has ambition, courage and entrepreneurial quality. NDP's financial support has enabled her to materialize her dream. According to Rubi 'it was

not possible to maximize my farm without NDP's support'. She deposits Tk. 5,000 per month in NDP. She now owns 10 acres of agricultural land. She is very well-known and respected by all in her society. A new horizon has been created in her life with the support of NDP's Micro-finance programme.