



Submission
of
Mid-term Report
of
Cow Rearing for Livelihood Improvement
in the selected Slums of Sirajganj Pourashava
Under the
**Urban Management of Internal Migration due to
Climate Change (UMIMCC)**

District: Sirajganj

Reporting Period: November 2019 – January 2020

Submission to:

Team Leader

UMIMCC Project

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

PO Box - 6091

Gulshan 1, Dhaka

Submitted by:



National Development Programme-NDP

NDP Bhaban, Bagbari, Shahid Nagar

Kamarkhanda, Sirajganj-6703

Tel: 88+0751-63870-71; Fax: 0751-63877

E-mail: akhan_ndp@yahoo.com, Website: www.ndpbd.org



07 April 2020

To:

Team Leader

UMIMCC Assignment

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

PO Box - 6091

Gulshan 1, Dhaka

Subject: Submission of midterm report of Cow Rearing for Livelihood Improvement in the **selected slums of Sirajganj Pourashava** under the **Urban Management of Internal Migration due to Climate Change (UMIMCC) assignment.**

Dear Sir,

Greetings from NDP! National Development Programme (NDP) has been implementing Cow Rearing Component for livelihood development in the Selected Slums of Sirajganj Pourashava assignment since 1st November 2018 under the Urban Management of Internal Migration due to Climate Change (UMIMCC) assignment funded and supported by GIZ. The objectives of the assignment is to improve living conditions of climate related migrants, vulnerable urban poor and EU-returnees in selected urban areas through the generation of resilient livelihood options. NDP is implementing cow rearing component in order to improve resilient livelihood of the selected beneficiaries in the slum areas of Sirajganj Pourashava. I sending the mid-term report of the project for your kind information and action.

If further information is required, please let us know and we would be happy to provide you accordingly.

With best regards,

Md. Alauddin Khan

Executive Director

Enclosed: The report and enclosures.



TABLE OF CONTENT

Cover page		
Cover letter		
Abbreviations		
01	Introduction and background	6 : 7
02	Goal of the assignment	7 : 7
03	Objectives of the assignment	7 : 7
04	Duration	7 : 7
05	Activities	7 : 8
06	Expected outcome/ results of the assignment	8 : 8
07	Target and achievement at a glance	8 : 9
08	Details of the activities	10 : 26
9	Major achievements and findings of the assignment	27 : 30
10	Major strong and weak side of the assignment	31 : 31
11	Major implementation challenges faced	31 : 31
12	Recommendations	32 : 32
13	Conclusion	32 : 33

Annex-I: Beneficiary database.

Annex-II: List of beneficiaries.

Ann -III: Program pictures.



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADL	:	Activities of Daily Living
AIDS	:	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CAV	:	Community Agriculture Volunteer
CBO	:	Community Based Organization
CBR	:	Community-based Rehabilitation
CHV	:	Community Health Volunteer
CLS	:	Community Legal Services
CRA	:	Community Risk Assessment
CRC	:	Community Resource Center
CSO	:	Civil Society Organization
CVAW	:	Combating Violence Against Women
DM	:	Disaster Management
DMC	:	Disaster Management Committee
DMP	:	Disaster Management Plan
DPHE	:	Department of Public Health and Education
DRR	:	Disaster Risk Reduction
DSW	:	Department of Social Welfare
DUNS	:	Data Universal Numbering System
DWA	:	Department of Women Affairs
ECCD	:	Early Childhood Care and Development
ENRICH	:	Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of Poor Households
GoB	:	Government of Bangladesh



HH	:	Household
IGA	:	Income Generating Activities
MRA	:	Microcredit Regulatory Authority
M4C	:	Making Markets Work for the Chars
NDP	:	National Development Programme
NGO	:	Non Government Organization
PADOR	:	Potential Applicant Data Online Registration
PWD	:	Persons with Disabilities
SAM	:	System for Award Management
SME	:	Small and Medium Enterprise
SSNP	:	Social Safety Net Program
STD	:	Sexually Transmitted Disease
UP	:	Union Parishad



1. Introduction and background:

Sirajganj is the disaster stricken district in Bangladesh due to its physical existence. The climate change has contributed to increase the intensity and frequency of natural disasters. The area of the district is about 2,498 square kilometers. The mighty river Jamuna has flown near the eastern boundary of the district from north towards south making the district vulnerable to flood and river erosion. The Jamuna is the one of most unpredictable rivers in the world due to its topographical factors. Now flood can be forecasted but erosion is still unpredictable, despite technological advancement. Almost every year natural disaster like flood, river erosion, draught and cold wave hit this area and increase sufferings of the poor grassroots people. Poor and disadvantaged women are more vulnerable to disasters than men due to the conditions that predispose them to severe disaster impacts.

Sirajganj district consists of 9 Upazila with 82 Unions and a total of 28 Unions are in isolated riverine land called Char. The total population of the district is 3,220,814 of which male 1,613,173 and female 1,607,641. Livelihood of grassroots people of the district depends on agriculture. About 70% of the people are involved with agriculture. There are only 183,220 hector of agricultural land in the district. Agriculture sector is the most affected by climate change.

According to district administration's source 32% people of the district is illiterate and most of them are women. Unemployment rate is very high in the district. Due to climate change people become climate refuge and force to migrate from rural area to nearby Sirajganj district town in search of jobs and take shelter in the slums area. These slums areas are either public or private land having very poor living condition and very little livelihood opportunities. There are several slums in Sirajganj Pourashava area, where thousands of people are living. Women do not have opportunity to involve in any income generation activities. Women are mainly involved in managing household activities. Even though they take some income generation activities but those are also vulnerable to disaster. To improve the livelihoods of the poor people living in the slums area of Sirajganj Pourashava area, it is important to give them a better income generation activity which will be safe from climate change and disaster affects. The assignment aims at creating resilient livelihood options in Bangladesh. It is one component within the programme and intends to contribute to the creation of sustained pathways out of poverty in most vulnerable areas through simultaneous investments in livelihoods and social security for long-term resilience. It adopts a "push-pull" strategy that helps poor people move towards diversified livelihood opportunities, whilst creating demand or pulling people into the formal economy and democratic system via private sector value chains and markets, and access to institutional services and governance processes. The assignment also contributes to minimize impacts of forced climate displacement and internal/cross-border migration, including specific targeted interventions for the reintegration of returnees from the EU.

The assignment will assist the poor households of Sirajganj Pourashava slum areas to beef /cattle fattening within their limited space using hydroponic grass cultivation that will increase their income and improve their livelihoods.



National Development Programme (NDP) has been implementing Cow Rearing Component for livelihood development in the Selected Slums of Sirajganj Pourashava assignment since 1st November 2018 under the Urban Management of Internal Migration due to Climate Change (UMIMCC) assignment funded and supported by GIZ. The objectives of the assignment is to improve living conditions of climate related migrants, vulnerable urban poor and EU-returnees in selected urban areas through the generation of resilient livelihood options. NDP is implementing cow rearing component in order to improve resilient livelihood of the selected beneficiaries in the slum areas of Sirajganj Pourashava.

Under the assignment, the initial plan was to provide support beneficiaries for cattle fattening through transferring one fattening cattle to each of the 80 beneficiary households. The budget allocated for procurement of a fattening cattle was insufficient. After discussion with GIZ, the assignment changed its decision and planned to provide support for cow rearing instead of beef fattening.

Normally beef fattening is a 6 month cycle. The beneficiary rears the cattle for six months, makes it healthy and sells it to market. So, from beef fattening income is expected more or less within 6 months. But from cow rearing, it takes relatively longer time as income comes from selling of milk. The cow has to be mature to be pregnant and it takes 10 months to give birth baby calf.

2. Goal of the assignment:

Improve living conditions of the climate-migrants vulnerable families living in the slums of Sirajganj Pourashava.

3. Objectives of the assignment:

- (a) To increase income and assets of vulnerable households specially women in the selected slums of Sirajganj Pourashava
- (b) To demonstrate resilient livelihoods options to the people living in the slum areas.
- (c) To empower women through involving them in income generation activities.

4. Duration: 15 months (November 2019 to January 2020)

5. Activities: The major activities of the assignment are:

- Selection of vulnerable slums where climate migrated people are living
- Selection of 80 beneficiaries/ households from the selected slums
- Formation of groups with 15-25 beneficiaries in each group
- Conduction of weekly sessions at the group level



- Re-organize /development of module on cattle fattening including rearing and promotion with value chain.
- Provide support for grass production (vertical fodder/Hydroponic/Plantain/Napier grass seed and tray distribution for grass production) and distribute shed, resilient floor and local improved pot for food consumption.
- Provide training to 58beneficiaries on Cattle/Beef fattening and cattle rearing.
- Support beneficiary to develop a business plan, value chain plan and cost-benefit analysis.
- Provide support to beneficiaries for cattle purchase.
- Maintain “vaccination and deworming card” for every cattle.
- Organize vaccination campaign and deworming.
- Provide training to beneficiaries on “leadership development and financial management”
- Provide micro-credit linkage support to the beneficiaries for cattle rearing.
- Organize linkage development workshop with local service providers and government departments.

6. Expected outcome/ results of the assignment:

The assignment will generate the following outcomes/ results:

- Resilient Livelihood with increased income of the respected Household beneficiary.
- Improve network through entrepreneurship development.
- Established linkage among business community, LGI and CDCs
- 70% women of the target group will be involved in the process.
- 25% of the households have escaped from extreme poverty.
- Target beneficiary will be empowered and participated in family and institutional decision-making process.

7. Target and achievement at a glance:

SI No.	Description of activity	Target	Achievement	Remarks
01	Staff recruitment	02	02	M=02, F=0



02	Office setup	01	01	
03	Slum Selection	11	11	Selected by third party
04	Household identification, data collection and farmer selection	80	80	F-80
05	Organized selected HHs into Producer group	80	80	F-80
06	Formation of Cow rearing farmers group	05	05	
07	Assignment Inception Meeting	01	01	80 (M-57, F-23) Jointly organized by NDP & VERC
08	Training for Cow rearing feeding, house management, treatment and business plan (beneficiary)	80	80	At field level 3 days and at Pauroshava hall room 1 day
09	Female Cow Distribution	80	80	
10	Monthly Farmers group Meeting	72	72	
11	Monthly staff meeting	15	15	
12	Training on Grass cultivation for Cow rearing Farmers	80	80	
13	Regular monitoring feed and feeding (Times)	0	04	
14	Training on Business Plan development	80	80	
15	Support to Fodder Cultivation, Feed and Fodder	80	80	Plastic net=100/125ft Wheat burn=10kg Rice burn=8kg, Straw=25bundle, fodder=5bundle
16	Preparing Beneficiaries Profile and distribution to beneficiaries (HHs)	80	80	
17	Market Linkage Development Workshop	1	1	Jointly organized by NDP & VERC
18	Training on Leadership development and Financial Management	1	1	
19	Yearly Closing Workshop	1	1	
18	De-worming Support	80	80	Continuing
19	Vaccination support	80	80	Continuing



8. Details of the activities:

8.1. Staff recruitment

Two fulltime staff worked under the assignment; Assignment Coordinator (PC)-1 and one Field Facilitator (FF)-1. The staff members were recruited following the recruitment policy and procedures of NDP. Both the staff had long time experience in implementing similar assignments.

8.2 Office setup

At the beginning of the assignment a assignment office was setup at the assignment area i.e in Sirajganj Pourashava. NDP had office in Sirajganj Pourashava area and it shared office space for the assignment and provided necessary furniture. The assignment staff moved to the field from the assignment office on regular basis.

8.3 Household identification, data collection and beneficiary selection

One of the important activities of the assignment was to select beneficiary. To select the expected beneficiaries a rigorous process was followed. Stakeholders including Pourashava, local commissioners, community people and beneficiary's participation were ensured. The beneficiaries of the assignment are those households who have lost their homestead or livelihood due to climate change effect and migrated from rural to urban area and taken shelter in various slums of Sirajganj Pourashava area. Community consultation was done to primarily identify the potential beneficiaries. Based on the primary list household survey was carried out using a formed developed in consultation with the local representative of GIZ. Beneficiary database is enclosed as **Annex-I**. Based on the survey results households were categorized and most vulnerable and poor households were selected based on the prioritized list. The main prioritization criteria were:

- Poor and extreme poor households.
- Have no permanent income source.
- Previous experience on cattle rearing and agriculture.
- Willingness to cattle fattening and grass cultivation.
- Women headed households.
- Potentiality of rearing cow.

Finally 80 HHs were selected as beneficiary of the assignment. All the beneficiaries are female. The list was approved/ endorsed from the local Commissioner and Mayor of Sirajganj Pourashava. The 80 households were selected from 11 slums of 06 Wards of Sirajganj.



Based on the household survey and primary data of the selected households it has been observed that 8 HHs are female headed, 05 persons are disable in 80 HHs. Selected all beneficiaries have available space for cow rearing and all have previous cow rearing experienced. All selected households are climate migrant and poor and/or hard core poor. All the HHs had income level under 10,000 BDT per month. List of beneficiaries are enclosed as **Annex-II.**

Si. No.	Slum Name	Ward No.	Total HHs	Gender			Remarks
				Male	Female	Transgender	
01	Soyagobindo (Khan Shaheber Math)	05	5	10	13	0	Female H-1 Disable-0
02	Chak kobdash para (Wapda Ring Badh to Fakir para)	7	5	14	9	0	Female H-0 Disable-0
03	Ranigram –Mondir r Pashe	7	10	18	20	0	Female H-0 Disable-1
04	Zanpur Railpara	8	1	3	3	0	Female H-1 Disable-0
05	Ekdala Punorbashon	9	5	7	15	0	Female H-0 Disable-0
06	Ekdala – South Side of Punorbashon (Razzak Koshai Slum)	9	6	11	16	0	Female H-3 Disable-1
07	Goyla-Wapda Badh Side(From Bot tola to Shoshan Ghat)	9	5	9	12	0	Female H-0 Disable-0
08	Char Raypur-Raily Kuthi	13	10	21	29	0	Female H-0 Disable-1
09	Char Malshapara	14	13	31	26	0	Female H-0 Disable-0
10	Char Mirpur	14	5	11	14	0	Female H-0 Disable-0
11	Puthiabari-Dokhin (China Badh Side)	14	15	32	40	0	Female H-1 Disable-1
	Total		80	167	197	0	Female H-6 Disable-4

The households were very happy to be selected as beneficiary. However, there was also unhappiness among those who were not being selected. There was also criticism from the other Commissioners whose areas are not being come under the assignment intervention. Due to very small amount of support the assignment had to choose limited area.



8.4. Formation of Cow rearing farmers group

Formation of groups with the participation of the selected beneficiaries was one of the important activities of the assignment. Regular inter-actions among the beneficiaries and assignment staff are considered as important for development. In order to provide socio-economic information, mobilize assignment support, knowledge sharing, capacity building and regular interactions groups were formed. The 80 assignment beneficiaries were organized into 5 groups depending their close vicinity. The groups were named in order to identify them easily. The table below shows details of the groups including their location:

Group no.	Name of Group	No. of Group member	Ward no	Name of Slum
01	Joba Mohila Dall	16	05 ,07& 08	Soyagobindo Pramanik Para (Jubli Bagan, Duli Para & Khan Shaheber Math) & Zanpur Rail Para, Ranigram Mondirer Pashe
02	Doel Mohila Dall	21	09	Chak Kobdas Para (Wapda Ring Badh to Fakir Para) & Ekdala Punorbashon Goyla- Wapda Badh side (Bottola to Shashan Ghat) & Ekdala south side of Badh side (Razzak Kosai Slum)
03	Golap Mohila Dall	10	!3	Char Raypur Ralikuthi
04	Jamuna Mohila Dall	18	14	Char Malsapara (Kolatola & Chowdhury para), Char Mirpur (Roton Home to Shahjahan Home)
05	Shapla Mohila dall	15	14	Puthiabari south (China Badh side to Moti Shaheber Ghat)

8.5. Assignment Inception Meeting:

A formal assignment inception meeting was organized in order to inform all the stakeholders about the assignment, its goal, objectives, activities and implementation process. The objectives of the meeting was to inform the stakeholders about the assignment and onboard them in assignment implementation and make sure their support and cooperation in order to ensure proper implementation of the assignment. The inception meeting was jointly organized by NDP and VERC, the two implementing partners of the assignment in Sirajganj Pourashava.

One 30 January 2019 a assignment inception meeting was held at Sirajganj Pourashava in its 'Climate Change Adaptation Conference Room' with the chair of Mr. Abdur Rouf Mukta, Mayor Sirajganj Pourashava. Commissioners and officials of the Pourashava, GIZ representative, NGO representatives, beneficiary and other stakeholders attended the meeting. Details of the UMIMCC assignment was presented by Mr. Mohammad Aktaruzzaman, Advisor-Monitoring and Technical Coordination, UMIMCC Assignment, GIZ. Assignment detail was presented by Mr.



Md. Jahid Kamal, Assignment Coordinator, NDP. After the presentation open answer and question session was conducted in order to further clarify the queries of the participants. The assignment inception meeting program was moderated by Mr. S. M Shah Alom, Slum Development Officer (SDO) of Sirajganj Municipality.

There were participants from different level of officials, Municipality, Councilors and Secretary of Municipality, representative of Department of Social Welfare, Sirajganj, representative of department of Upazila Livestock, Sirajganj Sadar Upazila, climate change migrants people, town Federation Representatives, women chambers of commerce representatives, president of Sirajganj Press Club and another media personnel, local elite, assignment related service providers, GIZ representatives, focal person and assignment staff of NDP and VERC.



A view of inception workshop/ meeting

The participants got clear information about the assignment and they become aware of the assignment including assignment duration, type of assignment beneficiaries, working area, selection criteria, type of support to be provided by the assignment to the beneficiaries, their specific roles and responsibilities to implement the assignment, especially the role of Pourashava and NGOs, etc. This was a very successful event. The participants, especially the Mayor committed to extend his support for proper implementation of the assignment. As a result of the successful events the Pourashava recognized that the assignment is very important in order to support the residents of their municipality those who are in vulnerable condition due to climate change.

8.6 Training on Cow rearing feeding, house management, treatment and business plan for Cow rearing farmers (batch)

The cow rearing training is one of the most important activities of the assignment. The assignment Cow Rearing for Livelihood Improvement in the selected Slums of Sirajganj Pourashava Under the Urban Management of Internal Migration due to Climate Change (UMMCC) is to improve livelihood and resilience building of the 80 selected households those who are affected by climate change affects. The assignment intends to improve the livelihoods and build resilience



of the beneficiaries through promoting cow rearing. In order to manage the income generation activity well the beneficiary should have knowledge, skill and capacity to rear the cow well. Most of the beneficiaries do have some knowledge on cow rearing but in order to ensure good return/profit they should know improve management practice including well feeding, health care and source of good food/fodder and sources of the services. They should have good linkage with the market actors including backward and forward market linkages. In order to ensure those needs the training was organized. The objectives of the training are:

- Provide common message on importance of cow rearing.
- Provide essential knowledge and skill on cow rearing and improved management practices.
- Provide knowledge of service requirements and service providers.
- Sharing information of challenges of cow rearing and marketing.

The training was organized at field level in 4 batches. Average 20 beneficiaries received the training in each batch. The duration of the training was 4 days in total of which 3 days were conducted at community level and 1 day at Pourashava office. The training was mainly facilitated by technical personnel who have sufficient knowledge on cow rearing. Core staff from NDP and Upazila Livestock Officer was hired as resource person to conduct the main technical session of the training.

Major topics of the training:

- Introduction of NDP and GIZ
- Shortly brief on UMIMCC Assignment
- Objectives of the training
- Cow rearing practices
- Good quality of animal
- Feeding practices, good feed/fodder and fodder production
- Housing management
- Treatment, vaccination, de-worming, etc.
- Marketing and market linkage
- Cost-benefit analysis and business plan.
- Preparation and plan development.

Batch	Date	Venue	Participants
1st	22.06.2019 - 24.06.2019	Laily (Bodiuzzaman) House, Charmalshapara, Wno-14	23 persons
2nd	25.06.2019 - 27.06.2019	Kanchon (SukurAli) house Puthiabari near China badh, Wno-14	22 persons
3rd	29.06.2019 - 01.07.2019	Rajia(AbulKalam) house, Ekdala South side of punorbashon (Rajjak koshai slum), Wno-9	21 persons
4th	02.07.2019 - 04.07.2019	Noorjahan (Late.Fotik Sarker) house Ranigram mondirer pashe, Wno-7	14 persons



A view of cow rearing training



A view of cow rearing training

All the participants received the training well. From the training they got a good understanding about improve management practice of cow rearing. The participants were very happy to



receive the training. Before receiving the cow the beneficiary had to complete several activities including completion of cow shed (repair maintenance or construction). It has been observed that all the participants had properly done the initial activities and completed full preparation to receive the cow and rear the cow. The training was very successful as a result all the beneficiaries' still successfully and efficiently rearing their cattle.

8.7. Cow shed/house completion

After completion of the training the beneficiaries were asked to complete their cow shed and place where the cow to be kept and reared. Keeping place for cow is very important for its health, safety and security. Urban slums often face space scarcity. People even live in a small size of land/house. But as an important condition of cow rearing the beneficiaries completed cow shed. The shed and pavement were constructed as per instruction provided in the training. The place should be enough to keep the cow. The fencing should be good and well protected. The floor should be paved and be sloppy so that it can be cleaned easily. It should have manzer to keep feed and water for cow. The assignment staff regularly discussed with the beneficiaries, providing motivation and providing technical support ensured good housing for the cow of each beneficiary households before handover the cows to the beneficiary households.





8.8. Tri-party MOU Signing

Before distribution of heifer to the beneficiaries MOU was signed among the main three stakeholders that include (a) NDP as First Party, (b) Beneficiary as Second Party and (c) Pourashava as Third Party. The main objective of the MOU is to ensure ownership of the animal with few obligations and proper nurturing of the animal that helps to achieve the objective of the assignment. The first party would handover the heifer as per the assignment conditional support and ensure mobilization. The second party (Beneficiary) as the key stakeholder should maintain some issue including: they should not sale the heifer, they will maintain proper feeding, health caring and nurturing of the cow. The third party (Pourashava) will oversee the issue as a local guardian and reserve rights to take any legal action if any violates any clause of the MOU. All the clauses of the MOU were discussed with the beneficiaries at the group meetings. Before distribution of the heifer the MOU was signed by respective beneficiary, NDP representative and Pourashava representatives. Even before the distribution of the animal the MOU clauses were repeatedly. All the beneficiaries gladly signed the MOU and pledged to abide by the clauses of the MOU.

8.9. Cow Purchase and Distribution

NDP selected a vendor following appropriate financial procurement process in consultation with GIZ finance team and management. The vendor supplied the required number of heifers on specific dates. NDP organized formal distribution ceremony to handover the cattle to the beneficiaries. Under the assignment, the initial plan was to provide support beneficiaries for cattle fattening through transferring one fattening cattle to each of the 80 beneficiary households. The budget allocated for procurement of fattening cattle was insufficient. After discussion with GIZ, the assignment changed its decision and planned to provide support for cow rearing instead of beef fattening.

A total of 80 heifers were handover to 80 selected beneficiaries. A formal distribution ceremony was organized to distribute the cattle among the beneficiaries. Cow distribution ceremony was held on 15 October 2019 at the premise of Sirajganj Municipality. Sayed Abdur Rouf Mukta, Mayor Sirajganj Municipality was present as chief guest. Mr. Md. Alauddin Khan Executive Director NDP and Mr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman representative of GIZ were also present as special guests. Other participants including Pourashava Counselors, local elite, government officials, government officials, community people, NDP staff and other stakeholders were also present at the event. Before handover the asset to the beneficiaries the chief guest and other special guests gave their valuable speech to the beneficiaries for proper rearing of the animals for the betterment. All the speakers mentioned that the support provided by the EU/GIZ through Pourashava and NDP is a special type of support to enhance their resilience against climate change. Those who are receiving the support are lucky. Although it is a small initiative but a kind



of pilot initiative, its success will help to expand this kind of support to a large number of beneficiaries.



The picture shows heifer distribution. Executive Director, NDP, M. Aktaruzamman, GIZ Representative, SDO & Councilors Sirajganj Pourashava.

8.10. Monthly Farmers group Meeting

Conduction of group meeting was one of the important activities of the assignment. The 80 beneficiaries were organized into 5 groups. The groups were mobilized to sit every month in a certain place for holding discussion on cow rearing and other socio-economic issues. The group worked as a platform for holding discussion, sharing problems and seeking solutions based on information and/or experience of other members. The main objectives of the group meetings were to learn and solve cow rearing related problems of the beneficiaries, build linkage and cooperation among the members and build group cohesion. A total of 56 group meetings were conducted over the reporting period. Average attendance of the meeting was more than 87%. All the group meetings were held successfully. It helped to strengthen linkage and cooperation among the beneficiaries as well as raising awareness on cow rearing issues. The information shared in the meetings helped beneficiaries to better management of their cow.



8.11. Monthly staff meeting

Regular staff meeting was held over the assignment period. The objectives of the staff meeting was to analyze progress of the earlier month and prepare plan for the next month. Senior staff members of NDP also participated in the meetings. A total of 15 staff meeting was held over the assignment period. The staff also share in the meeting about their field findings, challenges encountered and achievement made. The staff meetings helped to properly planning.

8.12. Beneficiary Training on Fodder Cultivation:

Provide training to the beneficiaries on fodder cultivation was one of the important activities of the assignment. Fodder cultivation is considered very important for cow rearing. Although the beneficiaries had limited access to land for grass cultivation but in order to proper nutrition to cow there is no alternative of green grass. Production of grass is less costly than purchasing grass. The beneficiaries can easily cultivate grass when they have access to land and know cultivation techniques and available inputs for grass cultivation. In order to create awareness among the farmers on green grass feeding and cultivation knowledge the farmers were given training on fodder cultivation. The objective of the training was to provide technical knowhow in order to promote green grass cultivation by the beneficiaries in and around their homestead. The training provided knowledge and techniques on green grass cultivation including demonstration of grass cultivation inputs. Selection of appropriate grass considering seasonality is very important. The participants were given 2 days training on fodder cultivation. The training was mainly facilitated by technical person of the subject. Training venue was District Livestock department hall room, Sirajganj. Training resource person were Dr. Md. Aktaruzzaman Mia, District Livestock Officer (DLO), Dr. Harun-ar- Rashid, Upazila Livestock officer, Sirajganj Sadar Upazila Livestock department and Dr. Md. Toufiqul Haque, Livestock Officer NDP.

The main topics of the training are:

- Introduction
- Shortly brief on UMIMCC Assignment
- Training objectives
- Different type of fodder
- Field selection and preparing and soil test
- Process of fodder production and production rate
- Different modern method of fodder production
- Different type of fodder nutrition
- Fodder processing and marketing
- Produce fodder production plan
- Training evaluation

Organized and Conducted 02 batch training on Fodder Entrepreneur on 30 June 2019 during the reporting period. There were participated 80 fodder entrepreneur



Training Facilitate by DLO Sirajganj and Livestock officer NDP

Sl.	Name of Training	Duration	Type of Training	Output	Remarks
01	Business plan development	2 days (4 hours per day)	Field level training	Module	
02	Grass cultivation (vertical/ Hydroponic, Niparier cutting or Jambura seed, etc)	3 days (4 hours per day)	“	Module	
03	Beef/Cattle fattening and improve cattle rearing	3 days (4 hours per day)	“	Module	
04	Leadership and financial management	2 days (4 hours per day)	“	Module	



A view of Fodder Cultivation Training

8.13. Fodder cultivation, Feed and fodder support

The beneficiaries were given feed and fodder support in order to meet the immediate need of the fodder for their cow. The cow required extra nutrition. The beneficiaries did not have money to buy feed from the market. Each beneficiary was given 10 kg wheat burn, 8 kg rice burn, 25 bundle straw and 5 bundles green grass. Each beneficiary was also given 100/125 ft plastic net for fencing of the grass field. A total of 80 beneficiaries received the support. In distributing the support an event was organized. Fodder cultivation, feed and fodder support distribution program had held on 14 November 2019 at UMIMCC assignment office, Masimpur, Sirajganj. Mr. S M Sah Alom, Slum Development Officer Sirajganj Municipality and Senior officers NDP



attended to the distribution ceremony. The beneficiaries were happy to receive the support. Support helped the animal to gain good health.



Beneficiary carrying distributed feed and fodder

8.14. Beneficiary Training on Business Plan Development:

The assignment beneficiaries were given training on business plan development. The main objective of the training is to ensure profitability from the cow rearing activity. For any business to be successful, the cost of operation should be kept minimum and selling output in better price. In order to facilitate this process business plan is very helpful. With the assistance of the business plan, the beneficiary can think on this process. The one-day training was organized on 20 November 2019 at the Pourashava Hall room to provide a clear understanding of several issues including what is business plan and why it is important. The major topics of the training includes issues to be considered for cow rearing, input and output markets, financing to the business, risks & risk management and potentiality of the business, collection of inputs and services in relatively lower price and selling of the produce in better prize, total income and expenditure, record keeping, etc. All the 80 beneficiaries received the training. The participants got a good understanding about the business to make it profitable. It has been observed that all the beneficiaries are managing their cow rearing business well. The resource person of the training was Dr. Md. Toufiqul Islam, Livestock Officer (VCDP) Assignment NDP and Md. Jahid Kamal PM NDP-UMIMCC Assignment.



A view of Business Plan Development Training



A view of Business Plan Development Training

8.15. Market Linkage Development Workshop

A market linkage development workshop was organized jointly by National development programme (NDP) and Village Education Resource Center (VERC). The workshop was held at Sirajganj Municipality Climate Change Adaptation Conference Room on 18 December 2019. The workshop was chaired by Mr. Motiar Rahman, Assistant Director of Department of Social Welfare of Government of Bangladesh. The main objective of the workshop was to facilitate linkage building between beneficiaries and service providers so that the beneficiaries get required services from the services providers when they need it. Both beneficiaries and different service providers were present at the workshop. There were participants of program different level officers of Municipality, Councilors, representative of Department of Social Welfare, Department of Upazila Livestock, Press-club, other stakeholders and service providers. The workshop was successfully completed. It paved a way to build linkage between beneficiaries and service providers especially government department and local service providers. It has been observed that the beneficiaries do know where to go for which services and in the mean time they have secured some services. The service providers are also aware that UMIMCC assignment beneficiaries are to be given services.



A view of the market linkage development workshop



A view of the market linkage development workshop

8.16. Beneficiary Training on Leadership Development and Financial Management:

All the beneficiaries were given one-day leadership development and financial management training. The assignment had organized the 80 beneficiaries in to 4 groups and each group had leaders for proper management of the group that help to implement community level activities in a better and systematic way. The group members selected their group leaders including Chairperson, Cashier and Secretary. The leader of the each group was given the training. The objectives of the training was to enhance their capacity so that they can properly guide its members and provide support to carry out the assignment activities in a systematic way. The topics of the training include what is group or organization, who is leader, why leadership is important, characteristic of a good leader, roles and responsibilities of the group leader, building group cohesion, problem solving, social issue handling, financial management, etc.

Discussed topics:

- Introduced to NDP & GIZ
- Shortly brief on UMIMCC Assignment
- Training Objective
- What is group or organization
- What is leadership
- Responsibilities of Chairperson and Secretary
- What is Financial Management
- Responsibilities of President and Secretary
- Maintain Financial Management and Liason with LSP
- Responsibilities of Cashier to maintain Income and expenditure.

All the 80 beneficiaries received the training. The participants got a good understanding about the need of leadership development and financial management. It has been observed that all



the groups were doing well. The leaders are able to manage their group activities well. The resource person of the training was Area Manager of NDP and Md. Jahid Kamal PM NDP-UMIMCC Assignment.



The photograph shows a view of the Leadership Development and Financial Management training

8.17. Year Closing Workshop:

A year closing workshop was also held On 30 January 2020 at Sirajganj Municipality Climate Change Adaptation Conference Room where Mr. Abdur Rouf Mukta, Mayor Sirajganj Municipality chair the workshop. One of the objectives of the workshop was to inform the stakeholders especially the Pourashava about the progress made by the assignment over the assignment period and seek their cooperation for the coming days in order to make sure that the beneficiaries get full cooperation and support to run their cow rearing activity successfully. All the stakeholders representatives including Pourashava personnel and beneficiary representatives participated. A presentation on the progress of the assignment was done, where success and challenges of the assignment was shared with the participants. All the participants were very happy to learn the progress made by the assignment, especially when they learn that all the 80 cows are in good health condition and the beneficiaries are very happy to get the support. One of the important recommendation made by the participants were to increase coverage of the assignment. They also suggested to continue follow-up of the beneficiaries so that the gain made under the assignment so far should be continued and it lead to building resilience of the climate migrant of the assignment.



8.18. Preparing Beneficiaries Profile and distribution to beneficiaries (HHs)

During the reporting period we had prepared beneficiaries level profile and delivered to the 80 Cow rearing farmers HHs for record keeping and maintenance on Cow rearing, housing, treatment and management. Beneficiaries profile support to the Cow rearing farmers easily understand their loss and profit of Cow rearing. Profile can be used a monitoring tool for NDP and GIZ.

8.19. Linkage development

We had established/developed linkage development between Cow rearing farmers and institutions, organizations and local service providers through implement varieties events like meeting, training, workshop, orientation, seminar, interview and discussion session. We had developed linkage between Cow rearing farmers and Upazila livestock department, Sirajganj Pourashava, Fodder entrepreneur, local livestock doctors, Fodder producer, local livestock businessman, like minded NGOs and finance functioning NGO.

9. Major achievements and findings of the assignment

Major observation:

- Their family incomes have increased.
- It has come to realize that social status increases as family wealth increases.
- Membership with various service organizations has increased.

At the assignment ended situation details of the report are summarized below.

(1) The Household Income data is summarized through the Pie Chart below:

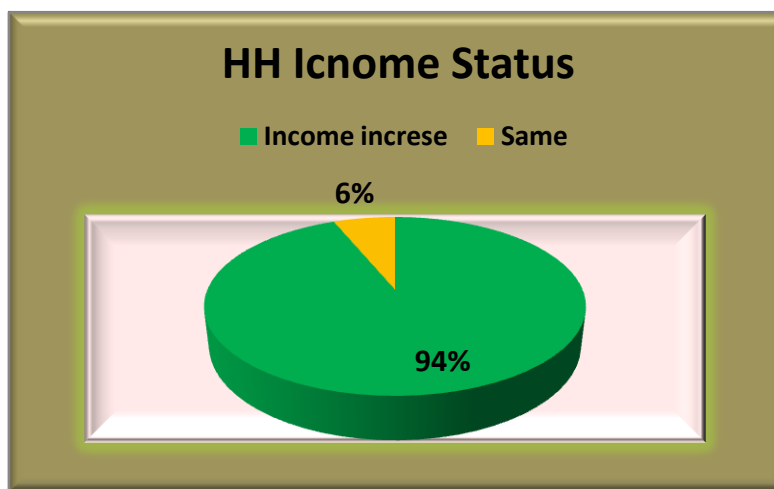


Chart no- 01

- 94% householders have increased family income.
- 6% family have remains same.

(2) Target beneficiaries have Cow Rearing shed so the preset status below the pie charts no 02

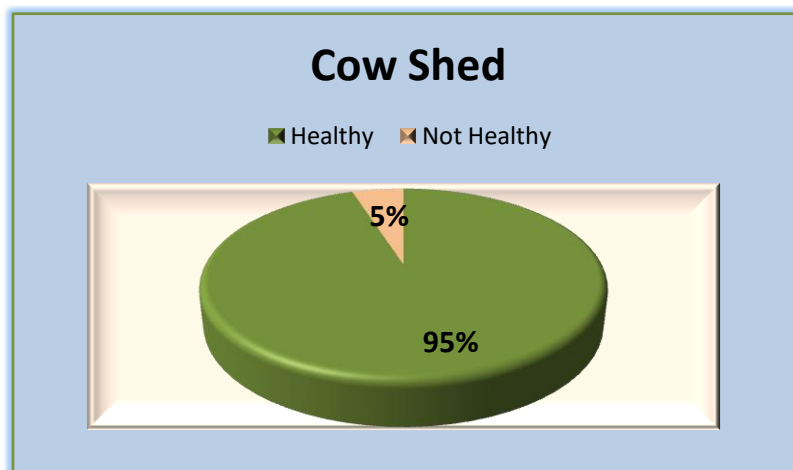




Chart no- 02

- ✚ Most People have cows for their livestock shed.
 - ✚ There present status of them is shed healthy 95% and not healthy 5%.
- (3) Target people have cows and the current average price of a cow is BDT 27,650.
- (4) Cost of rearing cow of each beneficiary: straw 30%, feed 67%, other 1% and medical expense 2%.
- (5) Most of the beneficiaries had hard time to maintain the costs of rearing cow: survey shows 87.7% beneficiaries problems, 10% beneficiaries faced some and 2.5% beneficiaries did not face any problem.
- (6) 92.5% of beneficiaries cultivate grass and 7.5% do not cultivate grass.
- (7) The experience of rearing cows is illustrated through the pie Chart below.

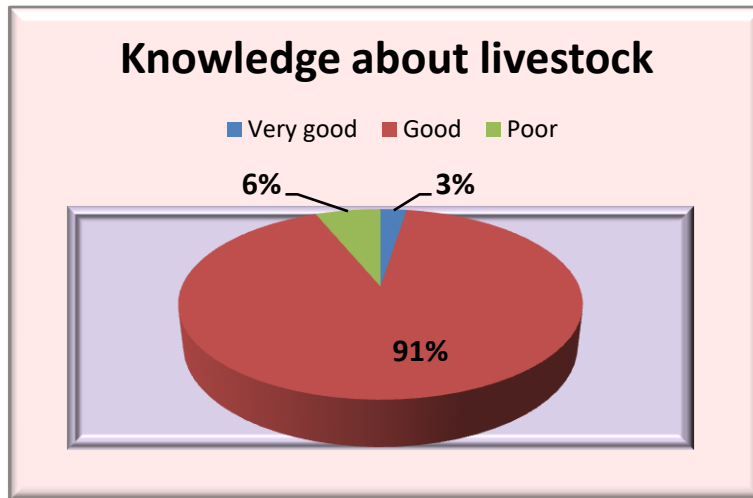


Chart no- 03

- ✚ Every member has experience on rearing cows.
 - ✚ The beneficiaries have very good experience on cow rearing: 3% have very good experience, 91% have a good experience and 6% have poor level of experience.
- (8) Cow disease status in below the pie chart.

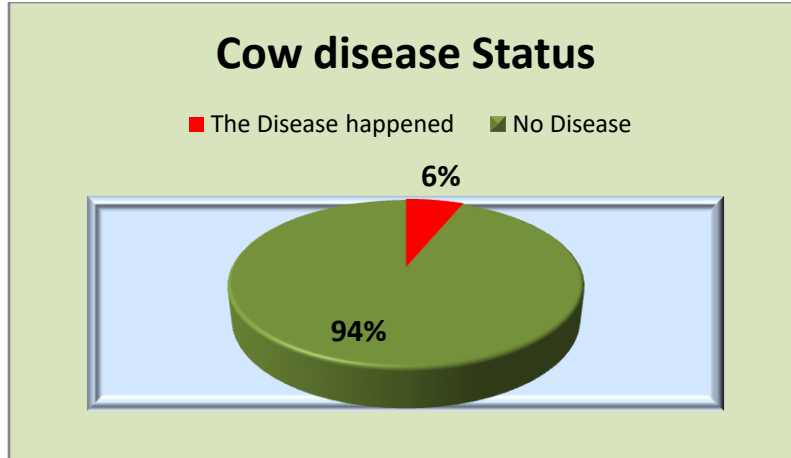


Chart no- 04

✚ 94% of the cows were healthy and 6% of the cows became ill.

- (9) 89% beneficiaries in the future, will go to Upazila Animal Husbandry office/ DLO to take treatment and 11% beneficiaries will go to LSP for treatment of animals.
- (10) During the assignment, there was no problem in treating cow's disease.
- (11) 98.75% beneficiaries have completed vaccination during the assignment. But 1.25% beneficiaries not completed vaccination.
- (12) 90% of the members said they would go to the Upaaila Animal Husbandry office for treatment of cows in future. The rest of the 10% embers said they would go to the LSP for treatment.
- (13) 100% of members said their income increased by raising cows and on average BDT 1,939.
- (14) All members said their joining the assignment has improved the economic condition.
- (15) All members said their joining the assignment has improved the social status.
- (16) During the Assignment in communication increased with the service men or institution. So how confident you self below the bar Chart.

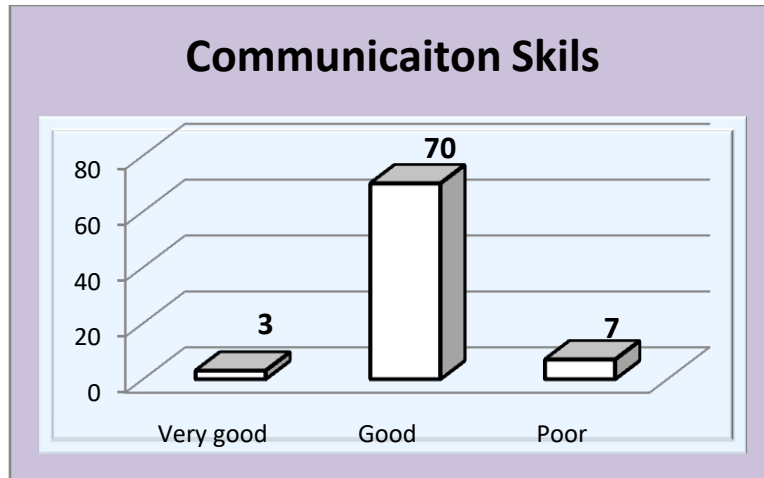


Chart no- 05

- ✚ 4% members have very good communication confident with different organizations.
- ✚ 87% members have good communication confident with different organizations.
- ✚ 9% members have poor communication confident with different organizations.

(17) Confidence among the beneficiaries to independently manage their activities.

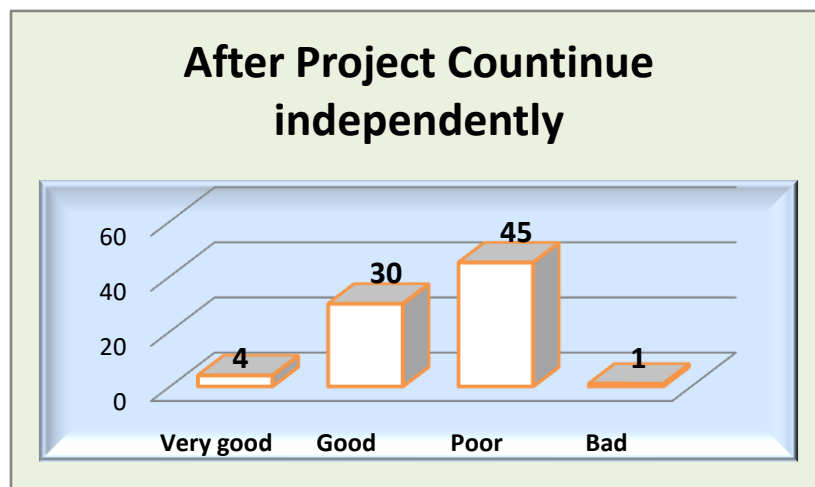


Chart no- 06

- ✚ 5% beneficiaries after the assignment have very good confident to manage their assignment independently.
- ✚ 38% beneficiaries after the assignment have good confident to manage their assignment independently.
- ✚ 56% beneficiaries after the assignment have poor confident to manage their assignment independently.
- ✚ 1% beneficiaries after the assignment have bad confident to manage their assignment independently.



10. Major strong and weak side of the assignment

Strong Side	Weak side	Could be better
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive attitude of Pourashava authority, especially Mayor and SDO • Selection of most Vulnerable Wards and HHs Selection • Not direct cash transfer (assets transfer is better idea) • Beneficiaries contribution to build cow shed • No mortality of cows so far. • Support of GIZ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment duration too short. • Only 6 wards and 80 HH's selected out of 15 Wards and thousands of Vulnerable HHs. • Long time took to purchase and handover the heifers to beneficiaries • Insufficient amount for cattle purchase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long duration of the assignment • Include more Wards and vulnerable HHs • Provide cash to beneficiary to purchase heifer • Increase budget for assets purchase. • Provide life skills and IGA related training to beneficiaries • Specific guide line for assignment implementation.

11. Major implementation challenges faced

- The project faced challenge to select 80 beneficiary households out of thousands of poor people living in various slums of Sirajganj Pourashava. Especially the challenge came from the local Commissioners.
- At the initial stage of the project primarily selected HHs from different slums of Sirajganj Pourashava. While the beneficiary selection process was on going, a consulting firm was given responsibility for mapping slums. Unfortunately the firm did not list several slums in Sirajganj Pourashava. As a result of it we had to cancel the beneficiaries who were selected from the dropped out slums. This was a huge challenge from the side of local Commissioners. The issue was raised many stakeholders meetings.
- The poor budget of BDT 20,000 to purchase a cattle was not sufficient to purchase a calf for fattening purpose. The sudden price hike was the main reason of the challenge.
- The purchase of cattle through vendor was also a challenge. On the one hand the budget was poor, on the other hand nearly 15% VTA/Tax was applicable to the purchase when the purchase is done through vendor.
- One of the main struggles was the late to hand over the heifer to beneficiaries, as it took long time to purchase and hand over them to the beneficiaries. The selected beneficiaries completed cow shed by their own cost and had to wait about 7/8 months to receive the cattle.
- 15 month duration of the project is not sufficient to see results from cow rearing.



12. Recommendations

Implementing partner:

- Maintain regular communication with the beneficiaries in order to ensure proper management of cows.
- Conduct regular group meetings in order to maintain group cohesions.
- Conduct regular meetings with beneficiaries in order to promote awareness on socio-economic issues including proper management of cows and solving problems.
- Regular monitoring of the beneficiary households so that the beneficiaries cannot sale cows.
- Continuous motivation of the stakeholders and service providers to ensure support to the beneficiaries.
- Ensure technical support required for cow rearing of the project beneficiaries.
- Regular communication with Pourashava authorities to promote support towards the beneficiaries.
- Collection and analyze of regular information from the beneficiaries about management, disease, treatment, AI, etc including expenditure and income from the cows and take action as necessary.

Pourashava:

- The Pourashava authority, especially the Commissioners should regular monitor the beneficiaries in order to support to beneficiaries and ensure that no beneficiary can sale cows and proper management of their cows.
- Provide support from the Pourashava in order to improve their livelihoods.
- The Pourashava can organize coordination meetings with all stakeholder.

Beneficiaries:

- The beneficiaries should maintain proper housing of their cows in order to maintain healthy environment for the cows and protect from thefting.
- The beneficiaries should take proper care of their cows including feeding, treatment, vaccination, AI, etc..
- The beneficiaries should cultivate grass cultivation to reduce cost of rearing cows.

GIZ

- Extend project period in order to sustain the results the project has already made and to see the actual contribution of the project towards making livelihood resilience of the climate induced beneficiaries.
- Maintain regular coordination with NGO, Pourashava authority and beneficiaries.



13. Conclusion

Although the assignment has generated significant results in terms of increasing value of the cattle but in real term they did not gain yet any return from the income generation activity. The assignment wanted to see improvement of the livelihoods of the beneficiaries. Until and unless income gains from the IGA, it is not possible to see livelihood change. Thus it is important to support to the beneficiaries up to that time when the activity will bring income to see livelihood change from the cow rearing activity.

Without further nurturing, the good results achieved by the assignment may be lost and sustainability of the assignment will be at stake. Unfortunately, the assignment time is going to end by 31 January 2020. After the cattle transfer, the assignment has been able to provide only 3/4 months support. Although they have been given training on cow rearing and grass cultivation and given support to build linkage with the department of livestock. But within this short time period of support, it is really difficult to come to conclusion that the beneficiaries would be able to manage all those activities independently, if assignment support is withdrawn. The previous experience suggests that livestock / livelihood assignment timing should ideally be minimum 3 years, to make livelihood improvement of the poor people and make the development sustainable.

The beneficiaries of the assignment are slum dwellers and they are even more vulnerable than rural poor. Without close monitoring, they might sale their animal at any time due to their vulnerability. If anyone sales their cattle it would not possible to see livelihood change. Although there was an agreement with them, and the local Commissioner of the Pourashava suppose to monitor the issue, but in reality the Commissioners are very busy person and over times they might forget the issue. Thus to protect the sale of the heifers, it is important to ensure close monitoring to the beneficiaries and the cattle. To ensure proper management, feeding, vaccination it is also required to continuously support the beneficiaries and closely follow-up their activities. Considering the above issues the assignment duration should be extended another 2 years and 5 months (February 2020 to June 2022). We expect that most of the cows will be pregnant by December 2020 and give birth of calf by October 2021 and another 6 months for milking period (November 2021 to June 2022).