

ANNUAL REPORT

Development Wheel (DEW)

2016-17



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Abbreviation

AFTF	Asia Fair Trade Forum
ARP	Agriculture Rights Programme
APONE	Alleviation Poverty in North East Bangladesh
BAPA	Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon
BARC	Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council
BAU	Bangladesh Agricultural University
BADC	Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation
BFT	Bangladesh Fair Trade
BMP	Bangladesh Mohila Parishad
BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
CBOs	Community Based Organisations
CSOs	Civil Society Organisation
CDP	Community Development Program
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
DFID	Department for International Development
DAE	Department of Agriculture Extension
DEW	Development Wheel
DoF	Department of Fisheries
DoL	Department of Livestock
EC	Executive Committee
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FO	Farmers' Organisations
EU	European Union
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
GC	General Committee
GDP	Gross Domestic Production
GNP	Gross National Production
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
HYV	High Yielding Variety
HR	Human Rights
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
LGI	Local Government Institutions
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NAP	National Agriculture Policy
NGOs	Non-government Organisations
OVI	Objectively Verifiable Indicators
PME	Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategic Paper
PKSF	Polli Karma Shahayak Foundation
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
RBA	Rights-based Approach
SAP	Sustainable Agriculture Programme
SLIPP	Sustainable Livelihood in Poor Producer
SAP	Strategic Action Plan
SMC	School Management Committee
SVAW	Stop Violence Against Women
SAFTA	South Asian Free Trade Area
SRDI	Soil Research Development Institute
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
UADC	Union Agriculture Development Committee
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UASC	Union Agriculture Standing Committees
UN	The United Nations
UP	Union Parishad
USAID	United States Assistance for International Development
VAW	Violence against Women
VDC	Village Development Committee
VGd	Vulnerable Group Development
VGf	Vulnerable Group Feeding
WFTO	World Fair Trade Organization
SAN	Sustainable Agriculture network

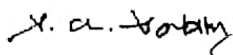
Message

It is hard to believe that it has been eighteen years since the founding of Development Wheel (DEW). DEW is working for Sustainable livelihoods for poor and marginal producers in Bangladesh, Human Rights and good governance and promoting Fair trade for disadvantaged and poor producers in the sector of agriculture and handicrafts. Since the beginning, DEW has continued to grow and change in response to changes in the needs of the public demand.

Based on very successful implementation of different livelihoods projects like SLIPP, APONE, ALO, ARP now DEW is implementing three new sustainable livelihood and rights projects in Mymensingh and Tangail **“Farmers Rights Project-FRP”, “Digital Literacy for Small Farmers”, “Women Farmers Campaign”, Sustainable Supply Chain of Kenaf in Bangladesh”** with the support of GIZ/BMW, Swallows India Bangladesh, Ministry of ICT and Oxfam. These projects will ensure sustainable livelihoods for poor and marginal communities, particularly women, in Northern Bangladesh through improvements to small-scale agriculture by organizing and linking them to information, skills, services and markets. The year 2016 and 2017 was also eventful with the organization because **“Agricultural Rights Program (ARP)”** in Mymensingh district supported by The Swallows India Bangladesh, Sweden started its 2nd phased program for next five from 2017-2021, title of the new phase is “Farmers Rights Project”-FRP. The objective of this project is to promote a more enabling environment for landless, small, marginalized and women farmers to enjoy their rights.

In 2016-17, DEW focused on programme and project promotion and increased its networking horizon to involve Govt. and private sector stakeholders in serving the purpose so that more people may change their livelihood through this development activity. DEW remains dedicated to lifelong learning, a commitment to democracy, citizen involvement and the rule of law, as well as women empowerment. Bangladesh has some enabling legal framework, policy and convention regarding women rights but despite these women’s rights are being violated everyday. Majority people are not aware of existing legal aspect and support system to challenge the unjust. That’s why DEW started working to reduce domestic violence against women. DEW is working as a lead organization in Mymensingh to increase awareness of mass people by We Can campaign program. DEW has a number of change makers who are committed to change themselves, their immediate environment or family and bring change in their society to make it violence free. DEW emphasizes on women participation in every sector of the development programs by the organization where should 40% - 50% are women and 10% are ethnic minority.

We are grateful to our General Council and Executive Committee members for their policy direction, valuable suggestions and guidance to move forward in the right direction. Thanks to our skilled and hardworking staff members for successful implementation of our development activities. I would also like to thanks to our donors, who have been the major funding source of DEW since its inception because DEW is a noncredit organization. At this occasion, I am pleased to thank GIZ-BMW, Swallows India Bangladesh, Ministry of ICT, We Can, CSRL, GROW, World Fair Trade Organization-WFTO, WFTO-Asia, Ecota Fair Trade Forum, People Tree-Japan, GoB institutions with gratitude. Another significant achievement of the organization to achieve UNCCD accreditation in this year. Again, I also remember the sincere cooperation of partner NGOs and other local stakeholders like our farmers groups, producer groups and associations, change makers, district and Upazilla alliances for effective execution of various activities.



Shah Abdus Salam
Executive Director

Chapter-1

Introduction

Development Wheel (DEW) is a non-profit development organization, providing different forms of support to the poor and disadvantage people, producer groups of agriculture and handicrafts sector in Bangladesh for improving their livelihood security. In addition, DEW is enhancing scopes of skills & small enterprise, developing self-employment opportunities for the underprivileged people both in rural and urban areas.

Development Wheel (DEW) founded in 1996 by a few development professionals and researchers to promote self-help poverty alleviation initiatives of the poorest households of Bangladesh. The basic focus of the organization is to work for the promotion of agriculture and the Arts and Crafts sector of Bangladesh through facilitating the development of small enterprises with an aim to generate sustainable self-employment opportunities for under-privileged rural and urban people. Besides that, DEW is also active in the fields of climate change, livelihoods security, agricultural promotion, gender issues, essential service, sustainable livelihoods, human rights and good governance in partnership and collaboration with different international and national organizations.

The organization has continued its efforts towards creating awareness among the target people with the ultimate objective of ensuring their welfare and rights. Main focus of the organization is to develop a culture of Human Rights, promotion of Fair Trade, Sustainable agriculture and Livelihood Security for the marginalized communities.

DEW Vision:

A society where all people will enjoy equal rights, equitable access to employment, adequate resources necessary for their livelihood and where they will live in dignity.

DEW Mission:

DEW is dedicated to improve security of livelihood of the poor segments of society by increasing their participation (particularly women) in small-scale economic activities including arts and crafts by providing a range of business and life skills development services.

Our Approach: Our approach is right based, integrated and partnership approach.

Working Areas of DEW:

Bangladesh has seen good economic growth over the last 25 years. However, despite steady annual growth of 5-6%, the poor are not remarkably benefited yet. Bangladesh is still one of the world's least developed countries. According to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) 2010 household survey, 31.5 percent of the total population lives below the poverty line – including 17.6 percent who are said to be 'extremely poor'. Poverty is also increasingly geographically concentrated. Poverty at the national level does not reflect the significantly different poverty levels between rural and urban areas and across districts. The poverty rate is highest in rural areas, at 36 per cent, compared with 28 per cent in urban centers. Many people have an inadequate diet and suffer from periods of food shortage. Half of all rural children are chronically malnourished and 14 per cent suffer from acute malnutrition. Till now 84 per cent of people survive on less than \$2 a day. Inequality in the distribution of income has increased. Poverty alleviation of the nation depends on proper distribution of wealth. Dissemination of information and knowledge on critical developmental issues continues to remain an important component of DEW's activities.

Bangladesh is considered as a developing economy. Yet, almost one-third of Bangladesh's 160m people live in extreme poverty. In the last decade, the country has recorded GDP growth rates above 6 percent due to development of agriculture, remittance and garment industry. Although three fifths of Bangladeshis are employed in the agriculture sector, three quarters of exports revenues come from producing ready-made

garments. The biggest obstacles to sustainable development in Bangladesh are overpopulation, poor infrastructure, corruption, political instability and a slow implementation of economic reforms.

The fact that economic growth has failed to translate into accompanying rates of poverty reduction and that large section of the population – notably the rural poor – have not shared in the benefits of economic growth is of serious concern. The challenge facing Bangladesh today is not so much the redistribution of wealth but the redistribution of the new livelihood opportunities that are emerging. The growth of the middle-class presents an opportunity for marginalized producers in the domestic market. With steady economic growth the middle-class and its purchasing power are beginning to grow. And in a country with 160 million people even a small middle class represents a significant market. However poor communities need support to make the most of these opportunities because they face many constraints and barriers, most importantly lack of skills, resources, information and knowledge.

The organization targeted greater Mymensingh districts of Northern Bangladesh. Although greater Mymensingh districts are not the poorest districts, they have below average per capita GDP and have been largely overlooked by various donor-funded projects. The rural populations are excluded from these industries and remain very poor. Mymensingh, Netrokona, Sherpur and Jamalpur have been identified as the poorest districts of Bangladesh and are also known for their uneven distribution of resource.

The main reasons for the selection of these districts include large number of poor and marginalized people, the presence of MSEs, a growing demand for BS and extension services, and potential for significant and measurable impact. Trade can play an important role in preventing poor producers from being further marginalization. The challenge is to empower the poor and disadvantaged rural population to exploit the opportunities and work towards eliminating poverty. One of the reasons that rural areas of Bangladesh have been excluded from the benefits of economic growth is because they lack the basic infrastructure for trade. This includes: a lack of affordable, easily accessible and high quality BS; lack of entrepreneurship attitude; lack of market information and understanding market situation, lack of proper education, lack of adequate nutrition etc.

Greater Mymensingh districts are geographically well placed for a feasible supply of their products to the capital city. There are good road linkages towards Dhaka and therefore easy marketing opportunities. The region is agriculturally also more productive than average (self-sufficient with food), but lower position in terms of wealth ranking shows that income-generating opportunities are not developed yet. A recent study showed that the average daily income for entrepreneurs in urban areas of Mymensingh was less than €2.5 which would be rather less in rural areas. We, thus, need to make business more productive and profitable.

We believe that improving socio-economic conditions of Bangladesh would be easier if educated professionals come forward with commitment. Since greater Mymensingh districts belong to the top of the national poverty map, DEW has contextualized the regarded areas with serious concentration as its working areas. Again, DEW has also given priority over the Char and Haor land areas of greater Mymensingh where life and livelihoods both are more vulnerable due to lack of infrastructure, access to information and services. Some other districts like Jessore, Bogra, Tangail, Manikganj, Gazipur and Dhaka City Corporation areas are also incorporated within the intervention mechanism of DEW with understanding the very needs. Again, DEW by virtue believes an equal development atmosphere throughout the country. Both rural and urban poor communities of Bangladesh are, therefore, interlocked within the policy intervention of DEW where the conventional development programs are ignored largely.

DEW has also been employing efforts at Savar the prominent peri-urban area of the capital city of Dhaka where the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) is located. A large number of low-wage labors are available there and working at garments and other factories while the number of women is relatively higher among them. Thousands of female workers are selling their labor mostly at garments where they are distressed and migrated from different rural areas. And, these poor migrated people are living there in a very cozy and unhealthy environment and thus facing hazards on many levels at every-now-and-then. DEW has targeted

them to improve their living conditions and making the community aware peoples of environmental hazards created by the EPZ and other industries.

Besides that, as a Certified Guaranteed Fair Trade organization, one of the main objectives of DEW is to promote arts and crafts of the country through capacity building of the poor and distress artisan groups, providing product development, design, and quality control support to the producer groups and also facilitating pre-finance, market promotion, market access and ensuring fair price of their products. DEW is continuously trying to create sustainable employment with increased income-generation opportunities for the disadvantaged poor producers of both rural and urban areas. By the time DEW has formulated number of groups with producers of selected district areas including Sharsha and Jhikorgasa Upazillas of Jessore, Gheor and Dhamrai Upazillas of Manikganj, Delduar Upazilla of Tangail, Sherpur Upazilla of Bogra and Sharishabari Upazilla of Jamalpur. Producers of those areas are relatively skilled enough of making high quality basketry, terracotta and hand embroidery products. Members of those groups, thus, have found a way to increase their income and to improve their socio-economic condition under different development initiatives placed by DEW. Arts and Crafts groups includes hand embroidery, terracotta, ceramic, different kind of basketry made of palm leaf, dry grass, Hogle, bamboo, cane, kisa etc. With various measures, DEW is supporting those producer groups for increasing their skills and capacities on product development, design, and quality control techniques along with pre-finance, access to both national and international markets of USA, EU, Australia, UK, Japan, Germany, Korea etc. for their products. DEW also provides skill development training support to other fair trade organizations both nationally and internationally.

Development Programme of DEW

- Human Rights and Good Governance
- Sustainable livelihoods through small scale agriculture
- Agricultural Rights
- Environment and Climate Change
- Promotion of Arts and Crafts through Fair trade
- Non formal Education for Disadvantaged Children
- Campaign for My Rights on Quality Primary Education
- Female Farmers Campaign and land rights
- Gender equality and women empowerment
- Social Action Research
- Development Internship Programme

Sectoral Specialization

DEW is active in the fields in partnership and collaboration with different international and national organizations. The main sectors of specialization of this organization are as follows:

Gender and Development Programme:

Bangladesh has the second highest rate (87%) of domestic violence in the world. The incidence of domestic violence, murder, snatching, women and children trafficking, rape, acid throwing is getting increased alarmingly day by day. Development Wheel (DEW) has identified through its long involvement in implementing various projects in the greater Mymensingh districts that the rate of infringement of women rights and various forms of violence against them are much higher in the remote areas of the districts than any other parts of the country.

DEW has implemented a Campaign program named 'WE CAN CAMPAIGN TO END ALL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN' in Mymensingh which was supported by Amrai Pari Nari Nirjaton Protirod Jote. The

project aims to reduce social acceptance of Violence against Women and enhance the process of gender equality, peace and commitment at sphere of human lives through creating a social movement by the local community. Now we have 20,000 change makes in Mymensingh with electronic database and most of them are young generation those who really want positive change of our community. We also have Mymensingh district alliance to protect violence against women in Mymensingh and upazila alliances to give them ownership of the project. DEW is also working with the institutions in Mymensingh aiming to institutionalize the issue.



Observing together International Women's Day at central Shahid Minar

Women Farmers Campaign in Bangladesh: Development Wheel (DEW) as a member of CSRL, GROW, OXFAM GB carries out a campaign focusing on women farmers' contribution and recognition in Food Security of Bangladesh. The focused areas of the campaign would be a new venture for promoting women farmer's rights through engagement of wider population of the country. The initiative will provide rural women farmers a platform to showcase their achievements in feeding their family on limited land and the influence of climate change. Unfortunately women in Bangladesh don't have land rights who are contributing a lot to food security and national economy.



Female farmer's campaign meeting is going on and khas land mapping by the female farmer group members

This campaign is being organized to raise mass awareness about women's contribution made to the national and household level food security, to celebrate and recognize women's contribution in household and national level and mobilize public opinion towards the recognition of women farmers' contribution and need

for policy measurers to promote women's rights as farmers because they are contributing a lot in the sector. After completion of the campaign, 7 female farmers from 7 divisions will be awarded through a national level ceremony. Already DEW women farmer Ruma Akhter from Char Anandipur, Mymensingh has been awarded divisional level award. As a role model, those champions would act as the ambassadors for promoting rural small holders women's rights.

Sustainable Livelihoods through promoting Small Scale Agriculture

Alternative Livelihood Options-ALO Project:

Development Wheel (DEW) successfully delivered this project in October 2016. The “**Alternative Livelihood Options-ALO**” project period was from April 2012 to October 2016 co-funded by the UK aid and Big Lottery Fund UK.

Goal: Reduced poverty and more sustainable livelihoods for poor and marginal communities in Bangladesh

Purpose: Reduced poverty and more sustainable livelihoods for poor and marginal communities in Mymensingh, Sherpur and Netrokona districts through improvements of small-scale agriculture

Project Area: Mymensingh, Sherpur and Netrokona districts

Duration: Four years (November 2012 to October 2016)

Co-funded by: Big Lottery and Traidcraft Exchange

Implemented by: Development Wheel (DEW)

Partner Organization: GRAMAUS, RDS and SUS

Target Group:

Direct: 6,000 households and their families. 40% women-headed (2400) and 30% ethnic minority group (1800). With an average family size of five, 30,000 people will be directly benefited in total.

Indirect: 300 service providers X 50 farmers. Therefore, the 300 service providers will go on to provide benefits to a further 15,000 farmers and their families (60,000).

Our objectives:

1. Creating and building the collective power of small and marginal farmers
2. Increasing recognition of farmers needs amongst Government and private sector stakeholders
3. Improving farmers' production practices and market access
4. Reducing farmers' vulnerability to environmental and financial shocks and stress

Key Outcome and Objectives of the project:

Farmer groups/associations formed and strengthened leading to increased capacity and collective actions which improves access to resources, reduces cost of production, enhances business performance and achieves improved terms of trade & income.



Organizing small and marginal farmers into groups ; raising their voices and enabling them to utilize their collective power, negotiate and attain their rights and services from other stakeholders (public and private service providers, local authorities and other value-chain actors).

Increased provision of affordable and appropriate public and private business services for farmers leading to improved production practices, increased productivity and increased income for farmers.



Raising awareness among public and private sector bodies and local authorities of the problems facing small and marginal farmers.

Increased access to and use of climate adaptation practices leading to better crop yields/production, improved environmental sustainability and reduced vulnerability to natural disasters benefitting small and marginal farmers in the target districts.



Establishing linkage between service providers and farmer groups to ensure farmers' access to appropriate and affordable agricultural services to help them improve cultivation practices, increase productivity, reduce costs and improve quality.

Marginalised and disadvantaged farmers have their rights promoted leading to effective participation in representative bodies, attainment of business services, and improved systems of agricultural governance.



Ensuring sustainability of people's livelihoods. The project assisted farmers to adapt their cultivation practices and helped them increase group savings so they are more resilient to shocks and stresses, especially natural disasters and climate fluctuations.

Overall evaluation of the project by the external consulting company Innovation that the findings suggest the project to have achieved a high degree of success across various parameters. The conceptual framework and design of the project along with Traidcraft Exchange's prior experience in similar projects and lessons learnt from them allowed for addressing the constraints identified and realizing the project's desired outcomes. The project was successful in adapting to the volatile political situation that was in effect throughout the country in 2012 thereby in offsetting possible negative impact.

The success of the project in meeting its targets is reflected in various facets such as the increase of income of the beneficiaries (an average increase BDT 44,842 in 4 years), strong linkages between the beneficiaries with various stakeholders (especially with public and private service providers), well-functional agro-associations and their active roles as support organizations for the farmer community, capacity building of the beneficiaries particularly with regard to lobbying and advocacy, and implementation of a continuing savings scheme (total savings accumulating to BDT 42,436,965 including matching fund) for the farmers that subsequently reduces vulnerability to potential environmental and market-related shocks. Although empowerment and a strong collective voice of the farmers have been achieved in general by the project, this is particularly significant and noticeable when it comes to women (50% of the beneficiaries; 4034 female beneficiaries in total) and the ethnic minority- Garo (23% of the beneficiaries including both male and female; 1,865 beneficiaries in total). The project increased its initial target of 6,000 beneficiaries to 8,034 beneficiaries in its 3rd year which is justified by adaptive management. Overall, the project design and implementation sets the bar higher than any of DEW's previous projects, and can be considered a model for similar projects in the future.

Achievement against Outcomes assessed by the external consulting company

Achievements against a set of Indicators of 4 Outcomes with reference to targets are given in Table-1.

Table 1 Summary of Project Outcomes and Milestones

Outcome	Indicator	Logframe Target	Final Evaluation
1. Farmer groups/associations formed and strengthened leading to increased capacity and collective actions which improves access to resources, reduces cost of production, enhances business performance and achieve improved terms of trade & income.	1. Farmer groups taking collective actions (e.g. bulk purchase of inputs and/or equipment)	240 groups (Initially 135 , increased at year 3)	240
	2. Target farmers seeing a 15% decrease in cost of selling/getting produce to markets.	80%	80%
	3. Target farmers seeing a 30% increase in sales.	80%	80%
	4. Target farmers seeing a 30% increase in income from agriculture.	80%	85%
	5. Target farmers perceiving improvement in Terms-of-Trade negotiated with buyers/suppliers (based on data from baseline of farmer priorities).	80%	78%
2. Increased provision of affordable and appropriate public and private business services for farmers leading to improved production practices, increased productivity and increased income for farmers.	6. Farmers satisfied (price and quality) with services from public and private service providers (including 40% female and 30% ethnic minority).	80%	85%
	7. Target farmers seeing a 30% increase in productivity.	80%	83%
	8. Target farmers seeing a 15% decrease in production costs.	80%	86%
	9. Target farmers seeing a 40% increase in profits.	80%	85%
3. Increased access to and use of climate adaptation practices leading to better crop yields/production, improved environmental sustainability and reduced vulnerability to natural disasters benefitting small and marginal farmers in the target districts.	10. Target farmers adopt at least one environmentally sustainable production practice.	80%	90%
	11. Target farmers adopt at least one additional crop and/or at least one additional livelihood practice.	80%	95%
	12. Target farmers perceive benefits from the use of climate adaptation practices (e.g. inter cropping, water harvesting etc.)	50%	80%
	13. Target farmers seeing a 30% reduction in distress sales.	30%	90%

Outcome	Indicator	Logframe Target	Final Evaluation
	14. Target farmers perceive reduced vulnerability to shocks and stresses including natural disasters.	80%	80%
4. Marginalized and disadvantaged farmers have their rights promoted leading to effective participation in representative bodies, attainment of business services, and improved systems of agricultural governance.	15. Farmer associations with representation on relevant government agriculture committees	4 Associations	10
	16. Farmer groups accessing resources and services (e.g. provision of services from public/private service providers, local government grants).	80%	100%
	17. Farmer groups feel able to negotiate with key stakeholders (e.g. government bodies, service providers, buyers).	80%	100%
	18. Improvement in government policies (extension services policies and farmer representation policies), which promote the interests of small farmers, negotiated by district associations.	4	0

Impact of the project measured by the external consultants

Introduction: Impact of ALO has been widespread and visible for beneficiaries and stakeholders. With group mobilization approach, the project has also impacted the organizations involved in implementing this project, while the project goals of reducing vulnerability and empowerment of beneficiaries have reached beyond the project's scope to generate interest among non-beneficiaries.

Income: Average annual income rose to BDT 44842 (GBP 403.98). The field study revealed that this significant increase in income was achieved due to the following reasons:

- *Diversification of income sources:* beneficiaries have started to diversify their income sources through project activities utilizing a greater integrated farming system. Along with agriculture, many of them have adopted livestock rearing or pisciculture as additional livelihood options. This diversification also helps in reduction of risks especially for poor farmers.
- *Engagement of women in economic activities:* Women have been seen to efficiently use their savings fund for investing in various income generating activities. Poultry and goat rearing have been found to be the most popular activities for women. Apart from livestock, some women have been found to be investing in small multipurpose shops, handicrafts or petty trading etc.
- *Higher productivity and low input costs:* Around 75% people have experienced a 30% increase in productivity and 80% beneficiaries have decreased their production cost by 15%.

Safety measures and collective actions: As both safety measure and collective action, ALO set the strategy of building a group savings fund to be started and maintained by the group themselves. The plan was to ensure the beneficiaries have an emergency fund, which they can use instead of informal loans or micro-financing loans – which have higher interest rates and rigid payback terms. The rigid payback terms often lead to distress sales as farmers used to sell off their produce as early as possible to

make loan repayments. With group savings, all beneficiaries were now protected against these vulnerabilities since each member had the option of taking small loans, when required

Diversify production and/or adopt more environment friendly cultivation practices: According to field investigations, around 90% beneficiaries have been found to adopt at least one environment friendly cultivation practice promoted by the project with the intention of continuing it. For example, farmers are using soil testing to determine the amount and types of fertiliser required for their soil and crop and applying those fertiliser in right quantity. This helps in conservation of environment by avoiding leaching and draining of excessive fertiliser, in addition to decreasing costs for the farmers.

Women Empowerment: With their time intensive group-based approach, ALO has enabled the beneficiaries to raise their collective voice and use their social capital to address common challenges. Groups have developed the habit of internally meeting and discussing individual issues on a regular basis, significant impact can be seen in the communication skills of beneficiaries with other stakeholders. From input selling retailers to government officials, there was common consensus that beneficiaries now keep in contact with them and ask for help. The level of confidence among the beneficiaries is reflected in their ability to communicate clearly their needs and requirements. This is especially significant for women who generally do not maintain a social circle outside their own family, let alone have professional interactions. The women have been capacitated to now call upon the government officers directly for advice and some even go to input retailers to purchase their own inputs for their homestead gardening activities promoted by the project. Some of the attributes of women's empowerment are:

Women Empowerment Achievements by the project

Attributes of Women Empowerment	Achievements
Social empowerment	Participation of women and men from the identified household groups; socially disadvantaged households especially women headed households are included in project activities and benefits sharing; higher negotiation skills and bargaining capacity at household level
Economic Empowerment	Increase in the household income, and complimenting nutritional security; savings of the Self-help Groups (SHGs); healthy internal lending and repayment among the members of SHGs; diversification of livelihoods; increase in incomes, an emergency fund for needs
Environmental empowerment	Knowledge about crop diversification and livelihood diversification, newer agricultural technologies that don't harm the environment
Knowledge empowerment	Outcome and impacts of various trainings, capacity building, exposure visits, technical supports provisions in enhancing knowledge, skills and capacity of the communities; knowledge in new agricultural and farming technologies; etc.

Women beneficiaries have been found to be engaged in economic and social activities. That gives them high degree of self-motivation to continue project activities. Women beneficiaries reported to have better social recognition and importance after ALO. They also reported that the family members now admire them as they are now financially contributing in the family.

Training has also had a tangible and positive impact as the farmers retained and applied the learning relevant to their agricultural practices. In general, the impact of training is likely to last, driven by the general progress in the surrounding areas and the visibility of the profits within a short period of time. In particular, training on poultry vaccination has had strong long-lasting impact.

Highlights of ALO Impacts

- Increase of income and creation of higher social capital
- Empowerment of target members particularly women, and recognition of women at family and community levels
- Impacts on Stakeholders and general community
- Impact of implementing agency
- There are unintended or spill over impacts like forming groups and establishing linkages by neighboring farmers, technology transfer
- Mobility and exposure of the target groups and neighbors increased
- Households are now more food secured, uptake of nutritious food, use sanitary latrine, children are going to schools etc etc.

The strongest impact has been generated in the linkages with government officials with improved relationships. The savings fund is likely to remain and grow after ALO providing better safety mechanisms to the farmers in the future.

Social Inclusion: The impact on community has been positive for women's groups and ethnic minority groups. For women members in female and mixed groups, engaging regularly in group activities has developed their communication abilities, allowing them to vocalize their opinions and influence decision-making in their neighbourhood. In addition, these beneficiaries also mention having greater support and acceptance from their spouses who now value their ability to contribute to the household income as well as help them with sharing their learning from the trainings. This has led to a more progressive society in these villages where the female ALO members have shed their conservative attitudes and engaging themselves in their households as well as their neighbourhoods in a more influential role with decision-making abilities.

As for ethnic groups, the impact is stronger yet intangible. The communicative skills built by working with ALO have enabled the Agro members to engage not just their group members but others in their community. Especially in the Bengali-tribal mixed groups, working together for the last 3 years has negated generations of mistrust and misunderstandings between them due to cultural differences. Increased communication and interactions with other private and public service providers has reduced the social gaps between the Agro group members and general community members, thus negating some of the social prejudices they usually face. This can be seen with Agro members working together with minimal hassles despite some Agro members not knowing Bangla thus being unable to communicate with the larger Bengali speaking community who do not speak Agro language.

Impact on other Stakeholder: For all stakeholders involved with ALO, the impact has been positive and recognized by them. Government officials appreciate their involvement in the design and execution of project activities especially trainings. They also appreciate the focus on agriculture practices and some government officials mention using lessons learned from ALO in implementing activities in their own project groups. Private sector stakeholders like retailers and traders opined the strongest impact is growth of their customer base; which has clear positive business impact.

Impact on General Community: Compared to the overall population in the working districts, ALO beneficiaries make a very small percentage. As such, the impact on general community has been minimal. Neighbors to ALO group members have shown interest in their activity and in some areas, stated interest to join in the current ALO group members. This has been discouraged by beneficiaries themselves and would not be advisable from a project perspective also. Increasing the group members beyond 30 would mean the group becomes too large to control and maintain unity. On the other hand, each member has made equal contribution to the group savings, which has led to their group savings fund. Any new member would have instant access to this fund which other members might resent. Thus, it has been suggested that those community members form their group members and mirror the activities of ALO groups. In addition, the Sherpur Sub-district association has also taken steps to start working with 3 new groups outside of ALO who have shown interest to be part of ALO groups' Sherpur Sub-district association.

Impact on Implementing Organizations: DEW have prior experience in group mobilization strategy implemented in the Mymensingh region (except Netrokana). Of the three CSOs partners two were old, except SUS who was assigned for implementation in Netrokana. Therefore impact of implementing ALO has been more on management, consolidation and monitoring of the project. Group grading, recording collective actions and their values, collecting information on associations' actions, etc. are some of the many reports initiated by Traidcraft Exchange to keep a result-oriented drive throughout the project's duration. All these have helped develop their abilities to not only implement these kinds of projects, but also to measure the right impacts for self-evaluation as well as promoting their success.

"Honestly, I didn't know that soil needs testing for crop cultivation. Thanks to ALO, I have introduced soil testing at our family land. I am now more interested in agriculture and encourage others. We also didn't try agricultural activities with other groups of RDS. I will try to introduce agricultural activities in old and new RDS groups from now on". Mr. Nurunnabi, CSO-RDS

Impact Attribution: Changes regarding the social capital, collective voice and better linkages with government officials can be completely attributed to project impact as it would not have occurred otherwise. In addition, empowerment of women, raising collective voice and developing skills for leadership, lobbying and advocacy would not have occurred without the group mobilisation strategy of ALO. The increased understanding between men and women in mixed groups as well as Garos and Bengalis is another impact which is unique and fully attributable to project activities and design.

The project areas have been progressing in terms of agri-tech in a significant way. In the project areas in terms of vegetable production, crop diversification (especially in Mymensingh), fisheries in Sherpur and Dhobaura, while livestock particularly poultry throughout entire working areas. Fisheries have boomed as a sector in recent years in the entire project areas. Thus, even without ALO, it was likely the beneficiaries would adopt these changes as a follow up of APONE project in some areas. However, the change would have taken a longer time for the small farmers to actually adopt these practices. In a way, ALO hastened the process of accessibility to inputs for their agricultural development. Farmers remain vulnerable to shocks like environmental challenges (floods, late/early rain, political turmoil, etc.) as well as market shocks (bumper harvests driving down prices, new product varieties produced in other divisions gaining popularity in market, etc.). Previously, they could still weather these challenges with additional high interest loans taken from informal sources or micro-financing institutions but with the inability to repay back in time or sometimes not at all thus perpetuating the cycle of poverty. Now, they can get the same protection against these sudden challenges with help of loans from group savings fund which they manage and maintain.

'Rural small farmers transforming cattle rearing as large dairy farm with the help of government service providers; the story of Tahsadduk Alom.'

Technical support and advices in rural agro-farming sometimes comes up with substantial improvement in farming practice/techniques and in the living standard as well. Such is a story of Md. Tahsadduk Alom who started dairy-farming in consultation with local livestock officer. Tahsadduk (42), living in the village Borodashpara of Kochapur union in Haluaghat, Mymensingh, has a typical farming household. He used to rear 1 local breed cow. However, daily milk yield from his local cow was so low that the farming was subsistence farming to Tahsadduk. 4-6 liters of

milk produced from his cow served only daily family consumption but no business purpose was there for rearing the cow.

In early 2013, Tahsadduk became a member of Borodashpara Krishipannya Utpadok Samity, a producers group formed under ALO. The project provided a number of training as regular project activity-- one of which was on livestock farming and disease management. Upazilla Livestock Officer (ULO) conducted the training where a technical detail of livestock rearing was discussed. Participating in the training, Tahsadduk came to know about the improved cross breed cow rearing and higher yield of milk of such cows compared to local (breed) cow. Tahsadduk got interested in cross breed cow rearing and contacted ULO further and discussed in detail. According to his advice, Tahsadduk purchased 2 cross breed cows; one Holstein Friesian breed and



Figure 1: Tahsadduk Alom taking care of his dairy farm

one Australian breed milk cow for BDT 33,000 and 66,000 respectively. Eventually he started to get the results. The Friesian cow started producing 14-15 liters and the Australian one as 8-9 liters of milk daily. Tahsadduk has now 4 milking cows yielding 35-40 liter of milk a day and 2 young cows (calves) which are expected to give birth in one to one and half year. He uses Artificial Insemination (AI) instead of local bull insemination. He impregnated his two young cows with improved breed insemination from which he expects to produce 20 liter of milk a day each. He retains female cows for producing milk and fattens bulls in improved technique. In the previous year Qurbani Eid (marked with sacrifice of cattle) he sold one bull for BDT 70,000. And all these are done in a close consultation with the ULO; Tahsadduk maintains a good relationship with him. Tahsadduk says, *"Rearing cross breed cow is not possible without consultation with cattle doctor (livestock officer). These breed cows require systematic rearing practices with care for diseases. All I have achieved just became possible because of good advice from cattle doctor."*

Tahsadduk dreams of increasing the farm as a commercial farming. He applied for a trade license, 'Khamar Registration' from the District Livestock Office. The registration will give his farm a legal entity. He plans to apply for loan to financial institutions after the registration is completed and grow the farm bigger. Tahsadduk plans to capitalize the linkage with government service providers which were not even dreamed by him before. He says, *"Previously I used to stand outside of livestock office and took service, however, now I talk to livestock officer directly and discuss about my farm more in detail."*

Tahsadduk plans to grow the farm bigger in coming future. He believes he will get technical support from the livestock office. His business oriented plan gives him motivation for work more and think innovative.

Spill-over Impact: Project beneficiaries have reported that other people from the same geographical community are showing interest to form groups having affiliation with ALO project. Also many of them attended training sessions and workshops enthusiastically.

Again many neighbours, even officials and elites are trying to replicate the technologies and practices being adopted by the ALO beneficiaries. For example, on observing the soil testing and its benefits, many people are showing increasing interest in testing soil before planting of a crop.

Mobility and exposures of the ALO farmers has scaled up. Many farmers are now members of different related committees/forums, and getting facilities/benefits of various projects and organizations including government ones. Almost all ALO households are now food secured; children go to school, there is increased use of sanitary latrines—as revealed in the FGDs.

Agricultural Rights Program-ARP:

DEW is implementing “Agricultural Rights Program (ARP)” in Mymensingh district which is supported by The Swallows India Bangladesh, Sweden. The title of this program is making the Collective Voice of Small and Marginal Farmers Heard. The objective of this project is effective participation of poor and marginal farmers in Mymensingh in decision making processes so they can attain their rights from public and private stakeholders and improve their income from agriculture.



Group meeting and group training is going on

Goal: To create an environment for the farmers to assert their rights

Vision: Farmers are enjoying a happy life in a sustainable environment irrespective of gender, caste, religion, background, disabilities and other constraints.

Purpose: Enhanced farmers’ rights in sustainable agriculture through independent farmers’ organisations.

Results: Independent farmers organisations established, strengthened & functioning, and services providers supports increased

Project Area: Mymensingh (Mymensingh sadar and Gouripur upazilla)

Duration: Four years (January 2013 to December 2016)

Target Group: Total Beneficiary : 7500

- Direct Beneficiary : 1500 (Male-894 and Female-606)
- Indirect Beneficiary : 6000 (Male-3600 and Female-2400)

This projects 1st phase has been over in December 2016 and 2nd phase for 1st of January to 31st December 2021 has been started. The project name has been changed and now its name is Farmers Rights Programme.

Climate Change and Sustainable Rural Livelihood:

Climate Change is now evolving as a burning issue throughout the world. Bangladesh is one of the worst victims of Climate Change. We have been experiencing frequent natural disaster including severe cyclones like

Sidor, regular flooding, short monsoon period, irregular pattern of rainfall, drought and other climatic shocks very frequently, causing serious damage to life and property.

To combat the adverse impact of climate change on the Char dwellers, DEW is actively working to promote adaptation technologies. DEW supports vulnerable groups by providing them with sustainable livelihood technology and runs awareness programs through conducting research, training, IEC materials, rally, etc. DEW also organizes rural livelihood and agricultural biodiversity fair, demonstration, human chain, public hearing, memorandum, promoting sustainable agriculture practices, new adaptive innovations etc.

Education Program for Disadvantaged Children:

DEW maintains a non formal education program (DEW Community School) at Savar, Dhaka by its own resources to provide quality primary education and enroll in the mainstream primary education system for underprivileged children of garment worker and low income working mothers.



Environmental Programme:

DEW has been implementing Urban Peripheral Environment Improvement Project with the financial assistance from UNDP since the beginning of 2004. The overriding objective of the project is to reduce environmental pollution of Savar Export Processing Zone areas promoting broad-based initiatives for waste management and enhancing environment friendly practices of the concerned factory owners, EPZ authorities and community people. In view of this, the project facilitates factory and domestic solid waste management activities by organizing Environment Watchdog Committee of civil societies and local government representatives to build their awareness on environment issues.

Promotion of Arts and Crafts through Fair trade:

Empowerment of Grassroots Artisan Groups; DEW is actively involved in creating sustainable employment and income generating opportunities for the disadvantaged artisan groups in rural and urban areas through promoting their arts and crafts in the Fair Trade markets.



Many new products has been developed by the women artisan group members of DEW which has been exported to international market

The Arts and crafts Promotion Program of DEW assists poor women in using their traditional craftsmanship to develop demand driven handicrafts and provides them with the market linkage support to ensure fair return of their products. DEW is an active member of World Fair Trade Organization- WFTO. DEW's arts and crafts groups produce hand embroidered products, Jute, terracotta, ceramic and different kinds of baskets made of palm leaf, hogla (dry sea grass), bamboo, cane , kisa (dry grass born in the river island) etc. DEW assists groups to acquire necessary technical skill in product development provides design and quality control support, facilitates pre-finance and also markets their products in local and international markets including USA, Europe, Australia, UK, Japan, Sweden, Germany, Korea and Italy etc. DEW also provides skill development training support to other fair trade organization within and outside the country.

Current projects/programs:

Current other projects/programs:

Name of the Project/Programme	Focus of the Project /Program	Output/ Outcome	Donor/ Partner	Working Area	Time Frame
HerRespect	To unlock the full potential of women working in global supply chains through workplace programs promoting health, financial inclusion, and gender equality	-Domestic and work violence against women will be reduce -Garment workers will get sexual harassment free working environment -Gender sensitive community will be ensured	We Can/BSR	Savar EPZ area	October 2016- On going
Digital literacy for small	Initially 120 farmers will get digital literacy training	The intended project seeks to transform Small Farmer (Including	Ministry of ICT, govt. of	Mymensingh	July-2017-unc-

farmers	including 50% women	50% women) through Digital Literacy Training for harnessing potential of ICT in Agricultural development of Bangladesh. The initiative will substantially contribute in integrating Small Farmers with a Digitally-empowered Knowledge Economy	Bangladesh		2018
Sustainable Supply Chain of Kenaf in Bangladesh	-Trained 960 farmers on best management practice -Training on Sustainable Agriculture Standreds-SAN -Sustainable value chain of Kenaf to BMW, Germany	-To increase the kenaf production by the poor and marginal farmers through enhancing the farmer's technical knowledge related to kenaf production, ensure access to quality seeds, services and marketing facilities and environmental protection. -Providing training on SAN Standers and Best Management practices on Kenaf production and ensuring value chain to BMW to buy Kenaf from DEW producers for their sustainable livelihoods.	GIZ/BMW	Tangail sadar, Gopalpur and Mirzapur upazila	September 2015-March 2017
Women Farmers Campaign in Bangladesh	promoting women farmer's rights through engagement of wider population of the country	Establish women farmer's contribution and recognition in Food Security of Bangladesh	Oxfam GB	Mymensingh	On going
Research on Poverty Reduction and Women Economic Leadership: Role, Potentials and Challenges of Social Enterprises in Asia	- Research is conducted in Bangladesh, India, Thailand and Philippines - Describe the current state and context of social enterprises in each of the four countries - Analyze how and to what extent social enterprises may have contributed to poverty reduction and women economic empowerment over the past five to 10 years - Assess the role and potentials for social enterprises to emerge as a key player in poverty reduction and women's empowerment in the next 10 years	-40 page country reports on roles, potentials, and challenges faced by the emerging social enterprise sector as a key player in accelerating poverty reduction and women empowerment in Asia. -30-page regional report on roles, potentials, and challenges faced by the emerging social enterprise sector as a key player in accelerating poverty reduction and women empowerment in Asia. -Dissemination of research outputs during ISEA-organized and Oxfam –supported Conference on Accelerating Poverty Reduction Through Social Entrepreneurship	Oxfam/ISEA	Bangladesh	July 2013-Sept. 2014
Lets Her Decide and Participate-LHDP	-Building a strong base of women leadership from personal to political level -Developing active citizens to take a visible stand	-Women's confidence increased to challenge injustice and inequalities and claim rights and entitlements and increased participation in decision making processes in formal and informal structures.	Oxfam GB	Mymensingh	On going

	<p>against GBV</p> <p>-Ensuring accountability of the service providers such as police, judiciary and medico-legal</p> <p>-Developing strong women's solidarity and networking from local to national level to monitor the state interventions</p>	<p>-Developed social collective stand of women and men to challenge the incidence of Gender Based Violence (GBV) and increase sensitivity of the service providers to increase access of survivors of GBV to the justice system.</p> <p>-Women and organisational staff in Oxfam & Partner NGOs are clear on Women's Transformational Leadership (WTL) (social, cultural, political and economic) and agree to promote gender equality.</p>			
Alternative Livelihood Option-ALO	<p>This Project aims to improve the livelihoods of small-scale farmers in Bangladesh by organising and linking them to information, skills, services and markets that will reduce cost of production, increase productivity and improve access to resources.</p>	<p>Poor, disadvantaged and marginal farmers in Mymensingh, Netrokona and Sherpur districts in northern Bangladesh face a series of challenges, which cause multiple problems e.g. low yields, high costs, low prices, crop failure and distress sales. This project will address these problems through a number of outcomes leading to reduced poverty and sustainable changes for the most disadvantaged people in terms of better livelihoods, improved ability to exercise their human rights, and increased access to and use of natural resources. These changes combined will enable disadvantaged and marginalised communities in Mymensingh, Netrokona and Sherpur to sustainably reduce their levels of poverty.</p>	Big Lottery Fund, UK	Mymensingh, Netrokona and Sherpur	On going
Giving Voice: Making the collective voice of small and marginal farmers heard	<p>Reduced poverty and more sustainable livelihoods amongst poor and marginalised communities in northern Bangladesh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building of farmer groups and associations • Training public and private service providers • Strengthening links between farmers groups and associations, and local authorities, public and private service providers and other government bodies 	Swallows India Bangladesh-Sweden	Mymensingh	On going
My Rights Campaign for quality primary education	<p>-To ensure quality primary education</p> <p>-Capacity building of teachers and student council members</p> <p>- Campaign and advocacy at policy level</p>	<p>Advocacy to govt. level to ensure and secure quality primary education at countrywide</p>	Oxfam Novib	Dhaka	On going
Feasibility study for enterprise development for poverty alleviation,	<p>Creating business opportunity for huge number of un-employed youth in Bangladesh</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping study • Find out opportunities • Action plan development 	DANIDA-Embassy of Denmark	Dhaka and Mymensingh in Bangladesh and Kampala,	On going

employment generation				Kenya	
Strengthen Movement to advance Women human rights and Gender Equality	Creating responsive urban governance and to promote women's human right and involving women in the decisions making process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce early marriage • Reduce violence against women especially domestic violence • Reduce sexual harassment • Increase political participation/empowerment of women 	Steps Towards Development /Oxfam Novib, Royal Netherlands Embassy, Swiss Development Cooperation.	Dhanmondi, Kalabagan, Newmarket Thana under Dhaka City Corporation	October 2009-2014
Community Mobilization Programme to End Violence against Women in Mymensingh	Promoting local network/platform to combat domestic violence against women and achieving greater understanding and consensus towards curbing violence in the greeter Mymensingh district	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce domestic violence against women in greater Mymensingh region through establishing supporter groups and change makers • Organizing social movements with the active support of the different actors aiming to establish human and women rights. 	Oxfam	Dhanmondi, Newmarket Thana under Dhaka City Corporation	October 2009-Ongoing
Promotion of Fair trade organizations in Bangladesh	Creating market access of Fair trade products to the EU countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create market access in EU • Develop product catalogue • Develop database of buyers • E-commerce 	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Peoples Republic of Poland	DEW and its producer groups	On going
Nonformula Education for disadvantage children	School based education for disadvantage children's in peri urban areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide quality basic education • Reduce droop our rate • Mainstreaming • Job creation 	World of Good, USA	Saver, Dhaka	On going
Community Mobilization Programme to End Violence against Women in Mymensingh	Promoting local network/platform to combat domestic violence against women and achieving greater understanding and consensus towards curbing violence in the greeter Mymensingh district	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce domestic violence against women in greater Mymensingh region through establishing supporter groups and change makers • Organizing social movements with the active support of the different actors aiming to establish human and women rights. 	Oxfam-GB	Mymensingh district And Dhaka city corporation areas	2008-on going
Climate change and Sustainable Livelihoods	Raising voices of the char dwellers for Market access of their products and to inshore Fair Price for them, find coping strategy to adapt climate change issue.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce market exploitation of the poor of the poorest producer communities living in the char areas • Raise their voice and inshore Fair Trade for them • Address the exploitation and effect of the climate change issues in the national level 	Oxfam-International	Jamalpur, Mymensingh and Tangail district	2008-on going

Chapter-2

Major Activities performed during this year:

A. Sustainable Livelihoods Program:

DEW Organized different capacity building training, workshop, meeting, exposure visit ect. under its Agricultural Rights Programme-ARP

Development Wheel (DEW) started Agricultural Right Programme (ARP) in Mymensingh supported by The Swallows India Bangladesh from 2013. This project aims to create an environment where farmer can assert their rights. To achieve this aim initially DEW organized farmer of Mymensingh sadar and Gouripur upazilla and formed 50 groups (30 farmers in each group among 40% female farmers). Then we organized a need assessment Focus Group Discussion (FGD) where discussed on their problems and how this project will run in their community. DEW informed them, we will act as a facilitator in order to get support as well as service from public & private service provides by them. For that reason DEW provided different technical training through Upazilla Agriculture Officer, Upazilla Livestock Officer, Soil Scientist etc to the all farmer groups. That training tried to ensures better linkage with Govt. Departments and farmer understood where they can get service. Besides, DEW got emphasis on organic practice for each & every ARP farmer. To reduce access use of inorganic fertilizer, DEW started Soil test for ARP farmer with the help of Soil Resource & Development Institute, Mymensingh. So, now farmer can easily understand how they will get benefit from this project. They demanded to arrange different technical training. In this year, DEW only organized them in a common umbrella. After that our targets is developing them as an active & strengthen Farmer Organization.

DEW organized home gardening training for women farmers

Women farmers are the most important person in our county because they are providing food for whole nation. But they are not being recognized their proper worth in our society. Women farmers face so much discrimination in accessing government services including fertilizer distribution, soil testing, production advices, agricultural subsidies & loans.

Development Wheel (DEW) organized farmer training on home gardening on November 2013 at Mymensingh sadar & Gouripur upazilla as a part of Agricultural Rights Program (ARP). About 900 farmers in 30 groups where as 449 male and 451 female were participated in this training. Training session was facilitated by Sub Assistant Agriculture Officer (SAAO) of Gouripur & Mymensingh sadar upazilla. During training session Sub Assistant Agriculture Officer (SAAO) discussed on importance of vegetable cultivation, improved cultivation practices on brinjal, summer tomato, cabbage, cauliflower, bean, Bottol gourd, cucumber etc. They describe modern technologies (sex pheromone, mridha water trap, molasses or chitagur trap, bishtop, light trap, stric or glue trap,

reflection trap etc) of vegetable cultivation. They also got emphasis on organic pesticide culture like neem seed oil, go-chena, bishkatali leaf, tobacco leaf and preparation of bordex mixture.



ARP farmers are working in the field

DEW Organized Training on Agricultural Rights of Farmers

Development Wheel (DEW) organized a field based training session in the group of the framers under its Agricultural Rights Program (ARP) supported by The Swallows India and Bangladesh at Mymensingh Sadar and Gouripur Upazila, Mymensingh on 05 to 20 June, 2014. The name of the training was “Training on Agricultural Rights of Farmers.”

The main objective of the training was to know the agricultural rights of farmer in order that they can attain their rights from the public and privet service provider and strengthen as a strong farmer organization to get those rights. Mrs. Rubina Yeasmin, Upazilla Agriculture Officer (UAO), Mymensingh Sadar and Mr. Shahjahan Seraj, Upazilla Agriculture Officer UAO, Gouripur Upazilla was present as trainer in the program and trained up the farmers. About 900 farmers in 30 groups where as 485 male and 415 female were participated in the training program. In these sessions the trainers discuss about agriculture policy and give the sense about their rights in agriculture. They also talked about how to produce and preserve seeds, benefit of soil testing and how to spread fertilizer on the land or give to plants and even the different types of diseases of plants and uses of pesticide. DEW Field Facilitators of ARP project conducted the program and assisted the trainers to continue the training sessions.

DEW organized IPM/ICM training for farmer organization

Development Wheel (DEW) organized two days farmer training on IPM/ICM on 21 to 22, September 2013 at DEW learning centre, Mymensingh as a part of Agricultural Rights Program (ARP). Thirty farmers of from Gouripur & Mymensingh sadar upazilla were participated in this training. Training session was facilitated by Mr. Shahidul Islam, Upazilla Agriculture Officer, Mymensingh. During training session upazilla agriculture officer discussed on improved cultivation practices on brinjal, summer tomato, cabbage, cauliflower, bean, Bottol gourd, cucumber etc. They also discussed on the insect and pest control of mentioned vegetables such as fruit & shoot borer, cutworm, aphid, Jessed etc. They describe modern technologies (sex pheromone, mridha water trap, molasses or chitagur trap, bishtop, light trap, stric or glue trap, reflection trap etc) and mentioned few beneficial insect (*tricogramma*, *bracon* hebitor, green less wing, lady bird beetle and mites) of vegetable cultivation. They discussed on disease of vegetable cultivation such as bacterial leaf blight, early & late blight, little leaf, leaf spot etc. they mention what is the difference between fungal & viral disease of crop. They also got emphasis on organic pesticide culture like neem seed oil, go-chena, bishkatali leaf, tobacco leaf and preparation of bordex mixture.



Many agriculture fair organized by DEW in the different programme areas

Development Wheel (DEW) organized folk song campaign on agricultural rights for farmers under its Agricultural Rights Program (ARP) supported by The Swallows India and Bangladesh at char Anondipur, Mymensingh on 09 May, 2014. This program was chaired by Mr. Amsar Ali, Farmer; char Anonndopur, Mr. Moazzem Hossein Feroz, Union Parishad Member was chief guest and Mr. Hasim Uddin fakir and Mr. Prodip Kumar Pundit, Teacher were the special guest of the campaign program. So many local people (men 59, women 40) of this village were also present in the campaign. As a part of awareness raising program through folk song by local Baul group regarding agricultural rights. Baul group sang so many songs on this issues and project coordinator also discussed on farmers rights in agriculture. He also discussed on sustainable agricultures technique for farmers



Female farmers are harvesting products from the field

DEW organized exposure visit for farmers:

In September 2013 a group of ARP farmers and DEW staffs, intern went on an exposure visit to the regional Bangladesh Sugarcane Research Institute (BRSI) and the Horticulture Research Centre at Gazipur district. The purpose of the visit was to introduce the ARP farmers to new agricultural research that can enable them to diversify their own agricultural practices and in turn diversify their livelihoods. This is also a way of bridging the gap between small-scale farmers and government authorities. In addition to this, it was also an important opportunity for capacity building of DEW's staff. At the Bangladesh Sugarcane Research Institute the group attended a briefing session on sugarcane cultivation and intercropping, held by Mr. Mostak Ahmed, scientific officer.

At the nearby Horticulture Research Centre the group was shown around the premises by a scientific officer from the Horticulture. The research centre is conducting comprehensive research on various fruits, vegetables and grain crops. An environmentally friendly method of killing off pests in rice seedlings consists of the practice of covering the seedlings with a plastic tarp for 4-6 weeks. A small-scale greenhouse effect works its magic leaving the seedlings ready for cultivation. The research centre possesses a demonstration paddy of organically grown rice. The green colour of the organic rice was indistinguishable from the conventionally grown rice in the background paddy. An aqua-phonics system with shallow waters suitable for catfish cultivation was situated in front of the organic rice paddy. Overall, it proved to be a fruitful day of learning. The ARP farmers and the DEW staff alike brought with them new ideas and thoughts on agriculture.



Agriculture fair by Female Farmers Campaign to recognize their contribution on food security and land rights

Organized annual farmer's conference & agricultural fair under Agricultural Rights Programme-ARP:

Annual farmer's conference & agricultural fair under Agricultural Rights Program (ARP)" was held at Chorghoramara village, Douhakhola union, Gouripur upazilla on 30 December 2016. This program was organized by Development Wheel (DEW) with the support of The Swallows India Bangladesh. 325 farmers (men 259 and women 66) from 15 farmers organizations were participated this conference & fair from Mymensingh sadar & Gouripur upazilla.



Demonstration plot and agriculture fair

The meeting was inaugurated by Mr. Shah Ikbal Hossain, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer (UNO), Gouripur upazilla along with Mr. Shahjahan Seraj, Upazilla Agriculture Officer UAO, Gouripur Upazilla, Upazilla Livestock Officer, Gouripur and project coordinator. In farmer conference Project Coordinator said, DEW is implanting Agricultural Rights Program (ARP) with poor and marginalized farmers at mymensingh sadar & gouripur upazilla. He also said the overall concept of this project is effective participation of poor and marginal farmers in decision making process. So they can attain their rights from public and private stakeholders and improve their income from agriculture. So that DEW is working for marginal farmers to build their capacity and develop farmer's organization to ensure their sustainable livelihoods. DEW is also trying to reduce production cost of the farmers, increase production, and raise their income and employment generation through their knowledge building. Our commitment is to build a knowledge based farmers community with strong organization and networks. This will help them to improve cultivation practices, reduce production costs and increase productivity. DEW is committed to work for marginalized farmer community in our country to establish their rights. He also mentioned that we need to build more cooperation between Go, NGO and private sector to solve problems in our agriculture sector.

At the end of meeting, Mr. golam hossian, Leaders of farmer organization also thanked to DEW & Swallows for arranging this meeting & expected sustainable way to build their capacity to establish their rights. At last he concluded the meeting and thanks to participant for attending the conference.

ARP farmer organization has organized a day long fair entitled as “Agro Fair-2013” on 30 December 2016 at the premise of Chorghoramara High School premise under Gouripur Upazilla of Mymensingh District. The fair is organized, as a part of the Agricultural Rights Program, with view to create mass awareness and also to encourage the mass people for practicing sustainable agricultural practices in order to bring a total reform on agriculture, adaptation on climate change issues.

Mr. Shah Iqbal Hossain, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer (UNO), Gouripur upazilla as the chief guest has announced the grand inauguration of the fair with delight. Among many others distinguished personnel's, Dr. Anisur Rahman-principle Scientist of Bangladesh Soil Research and development Institute and Mr. Shahjahan Siraj the Upazilla Agriculture Officer of Gouripur have been present in this grand occasion. Again, the spontaneous participation of the local farmers as well as people of various level of that local area has made the fair more lively.

Celebration of Human rights day' 2017

DEW observed Human rights day 2017 in collaboration with other right based NGOs in Mymensingh. Part of the mission of DEW is a commitment to upholding farmer's rights in order that they can attain their rights from the public and privet service provider and strengthen as a strong farmer organization to get those rights. The grand opening of this year's Human's Rights Day festivities began at 10.00 am on with a big rally from krisnochura Chattar to Town Hall More. After finishing the rally a cultural and discussion program was started which was full of various musical and dramatic performances by Udichi cultural group, Baul Group in Town hall, Mymensingh.



DEW observed Human Rights Day

Linkage building with District Agriculture Information Centre

DEW started to create opportunity for ARP farmer and linkage with district agriculture information centre, Mymensingh. DAE officials announced that ARP farmer can get agricultural information easily in their respective group if they are joining or get membership of this service. DAE officials committed that if group member are interested to do so then they will get BDT 550 (\$ 7) discount for 30 persons group. On the other hand each farmer may member by providing only BDT 50 for whole year. By getting this membership farmer will informed agricultural information on monthly basis. They will get agricultural newsletter, new technologies folder, poster etc directly to their home

address. Many farmers of Gouripur & Sadar upazilla started processing to get membership of this service. We would expect all farmers will reach in this service.



Celebrating International environment day, distributing tree sapling and rally by the farmers

“Digital Literacy for Small Farmers”

1.0 Background and justification

1.1 Rationale

Agriculture is the prime mover of the Bangladesh economy, providing largest employment to just under half the workforce and contributing around 20% towards national GDP. A significant proportion of those involved in agriculture are Small Farmers - who are the backbone of our agricultural economy. As Bangladesh Agriculture substantially shifted towards commercial Agribusiness, the importance of Digitally Literacy of Farmers is of utmost importance. Now the small farmers are more actively incorporated in product value chains. There are sporadic “supply-driven” attempts to provide ICT-enabled agricultural information support and other e-services by Govt., NGOs, private sectors etc. Need of the time is a structured initiative for Digital Inclusion of Farmers community and without which the goal of Vision 2021 for a Digital Bangladesh will be far from its targets.

Bangladesh: Agriculture Sector

During the fiscal year 2012 -13, the broad agriculture sector contributed 16.77% to the total GDP. The contributions of crop, fishery, livestock and forestry subsectors in GDP were 9.4 9%, 3.68%, 1.84% and 1.76% respectively. The provisional estimates show that contribution of the broad agriculture sector to GDP in 2013-14 would be 16.33% (BER 2014). Nearly three fifth of the agricultural GDP comes from the crop sub-sector; the other contributors in order of magnitude are fishery, livestock and forestry. Apparently the share of the Agriculture sector in GDP decreasing despite country’s population has been doubled, alarming decrease of arable land, frequent natural calamities, floods, increase in salinity the sector has made a remarkable stride as follows:

- 3rd in Vegetable production with highest increase globally (5%); 90% seeds of 60 types and 200 varieties are locally produced and 34% increase in export;
- Globally 4th in Rice production with remarkable increase in per hectare production and no import of rice in the last 5 years;
- Globally 4th in Fish production with 135 time increase in export;
- 9th in Mango production;
- Livestock's share in agricultural GDP is gradually increasing since 2011-12. Production of egg, milk and meat also increased substantially.

“Digital Bangladesh” lacks viable examples of largely benefitting small farmers rather represents a different form of “Digital Divide” in terms of underutilized power of ICT for Agricultural Applications despite the success of Govt. to establish last mile connectivity for ICT and the advent of 3G Technology with ever decreasing price of ICT Tools, Equipments.

EMPLOYED PERSONS IN SELECTED SECTORS				
INDUSTRY/ SECTOR	NUMBER OF EMPLOYED, 2013	SHARE OF MALE WORKERS	SHARE OF UNSKILLED WORKERS	SHARE OF INFORMAL WORKERS
ECONOMY (ALL INDUSTRIES)	58,072,936	71%	92%	87%
AGRICULTURE	26,189,986	66%	100%	98%
PHARMACEUTICALS	79,042	87%	22%	85%
LEATHER	90,696	76%	99%	89%
ELECTRONICS	13,854	89%	62%	85%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	79,723	88%	63%	70%
TOURISM (HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS)	871,081	86%	95%	91%

SOURCE: CALCULATIONS USING DATA FROM BANGLADESH BUREAU OF STATISTICS 2015. LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2013

1.2 Recent developments in Bangladesh on ICT

Bangladesh is positively experiencing a rapid digital transformation with wider use of computer, internet, mobile and various digital technologies. The ever increasing usage rate clearly supports the facts of its utility and value to mass people. With the favorable Government Policies encouraging e-Business, e-Payments, ever growing mobile phone customers base (more than 12 Crore), internet users (6.39 Crore), popularity of social networks and its country-wide coverage with new 3G Technology and remarkable successes in establishing more than four thousands Union Information Service Centers (UISCs), really paving the way to remove the barriers of Digital Divide to a large extent. Govt. has prioritized to bring the whole country under Digital Network and build capacity of majority population on Digital Technology and its applications in day-to-day activities.

DIGITAL BANGLADESH AND VISION 2021

The country has made major strides in achieving its vision of Digital Bangladesh. The data of the Access to Information (A2I) Programme shows that more than 4,000 digital centres provide 60 kinds of public and private services, including computer trainings, land registrations, public exam results, government form downloads, birth and death registrations, online university admissions, employment information, and mobile banking. The centers have already served people 12 crore times with services like registration of seven crore births, and more than 20 lakh overseas job-seekers have had services from the digital centers. Around 10,000 young ICT entrepreneurs have become self-reliant in the 4,547 union digital centers and the entrepreneurs earned Tk 140 crore. By 2016 all union digital centers would be connected via fibre optic cable with one mbps Internet connection. Besides, there was a plan to set up call centers at the village level. The government is now producing 500 mobile phone apps to deliver government services instantly to people and the work to introduce e-office was about to be completed. Moreover around one lakh WiFi zones would be set up across the country with the help of China.

1.3 Gap Analysis

Availability of agricultural information, knowledge and services are plenty. Never the less, digital divide is still affecting a considerable portion of agricultural communities particularly small farmers who are digitally marginalized. Therefore, it is important to examine the existing applications. This gap analysis will pave the way for designing and developing new farm oriented tools based on the recent advances of ICT so that this knowledge and services will be easily accessed and fully exploited by small farmers for their benefits.

Globally small farmers who are supported by appropriately designed ICT-enabled services for their farming activities by making good use of available information, knowledge, existing information systems and tools have increased their productivity to great extent. In Bangladesh national extension system with its vast network coupled with private sector players are continuously providing similar services. Small Farmers play an important role in food production and distribution, having major participation in important farming activities such as budgeting, planting, harvesting, up to marketing of the produces. Another part of our agriculture is the less visible and hardly recognized is the role of Women. Despite women's significant role in Agriculture, they remain "invisible" in a largely perceived male-dominated job. Though rural women are considered to be active actors in farming, their real contributions to local food production and to the rural economy remain highly undervalued. Women collectively play crucial roles in fighting hunger not only within households, but on a larger scale, by ensuring the nutrition and food security of the nation.

But what is lacking is a systematic approach for a proper **Digital Inclusion of Small Farmers** through structured Capacity Building Program for Small Farmers so that they become Digital Literate in day-to-day agricultural applications and also is capacitated in using e-services, e-commerce applications, existing portals etc. Unfortunately, small farmers in Bangladesh represents a very low percentage and left technologically behind ignoring ICT and could not efficiently increase their income despite Govt. effort for developing infrastructure for last mile connectivity and implementation of Digital Vision 2021.



Hands on firm training on digital literacy for female farmers group members

Development Wheel (DEW) is a non govt. organization founded in 1996 by a few development professionals and researchers to promote self-help poverty alleviation initiatives of the poorest households in Bangladesh. The main focus of the organization is to work for the promotion of the sustainable livelihoods for small scale Agriculture and Arts and Crafts sector producers in Bangladesh through facilitating the development of small enterprises with an aim to generate sustainable self-employment opportunities for under-privileged rural and urban people. Besides, DEW is also active in the fields of climate change, livelihoods security, agricultural promotion, women empowerment, human rights and good governance in partnership and collaboration with different international and national organizations with a vision to have a society where all people will enjoy equal rights, equitable access to employment and adequate resources necessary for their livelihoods and will live in dignity. DEW is a Guaranteed Fair Trade Organization. DEW has been implemented and implementing several livelihoods projects in greater Mymensingh districts.

2.0 Completed Activities:

2.1 Group selection:

DEW has build technical capacity of above mentioned Small Farmers, facilitated access to quality Farm Inputs (Seeds, IPM Materials, Biofertilisers etc) through linkage with Private Input Suppliers, provided technological support and organised Buyers-Sellers Meet. The resultant impact is that the target region has emerged as a new Agri/ Horticulture Production Clusters in Mymensingh with small farmers from the neighbouring regions are also participating in the same. Further the new 4-lane highway connecting Mymensingh with Dhaka has worked as a catalyst to help emerge the region as a new hub for Agricultural/ Horticultural products. Improved accessibility has facilitated influx of large number of Buyers from Dhaka and different parts of Bangladesh.

DEW is piloting this project with a very small and limited resource and has been selected 4 farmer groups (30x4=120) under char areas of Mymensingh sadar and Gouripur upazila. Each group has 30 group members of small and marginal farmers including 50% female farmers.

2.3 Basic Orientation on Computer, Internet, Tab, Mobile Phone;

Small Farmers of above mention upazilas (50% women) under this **Digital Literacy of Farmers Project** envisages equipping themselves with Simple-to-Learn Computer Skills and Easy-to-Apply proven ICT Tools and Applications (APPs) for:

- i. Yield-enhancement, Cost-efficient Farm Management, e-Traceability Data Storing, Knowledge on Post-Harvest Operations (including Processing, Preservation, Packaging & Marketing), Utilize Weather Data for managing Drought, Flood & Climate Change;
- ii. Profiling of Farmers for availing bank Credit, Insurance and Govt. incentives, subsidies and e-Services;
- iii. e-Registration for Contract farming, Value Chain Partnership etc.

Different type of e-Agri Services are being introduced by the Govt. and the Private Sector but there is a dearth of truly equipping Small Farmers on use and apply ICT Tools and Applications. Along with hands-on Training on Computer and the emergence and convergence of Computer, Internet, Mobile, Tabs etc. have opened vast opportunities for envisaged **“Digital Farmers”**. Taking account of them we have completed Class-room based Training 2 groups (30+30) farmers among them 50% are female farmers. Now our staffs are providing them hands on training in the field with Laptops, Web-enabled Learning, Mobile-based Lessons & Apps (Applications for Specific Agricultural Management Tools) which will help in Continuous Learning and larger outreach.



Class room based training is going on

Aim of the class room based training is to provide them basic orientation on digital literacy to get access on ICT where many apps are available to solve their problems which they are facing in their everyday life. After receiving 5 days class room based training orientation they are going back home and our staffs are visiting then on regular basis to provide on the on/hands on training on their problems. DEW staffs are providing hands on training using Tab and Lap top. Young farmers (male and female) are now a day's using touch screen cell phone and they are really interested to get ICT access to improve their cultivation techniques, solve different problems regarding farming and to increase yield to generate more income to improve their livelihoods.

After receiving the training orientation and take into account the existing e-Services and applications developed for Agriculture; now most of the trained farmers are using introduced agriculture apps like Krishi Projukti Vander, Krishoker Janala, Gobadi Poshur Bibhinno Rog O Protiker, Gavi Palon o Prothikar and Goru Mota Taja Koron which

are suggested by the DAE in Mymensingh. DEW is also planning to introduce them access to market information's apps to them which is suitable for them.

DEW purchased one Lap top, 4 Tab, internet package for the farmers and trainers to provide class room based training and on the job training in the field.

After receiving 2nd installment of the project DEW will organize 2nd batch of the training for more 2 groups (30+30) farmers. Through this small pilot project small and marginalized farmers are getting ICE access which is one on the great opportunity for them and will contribute to achieve no one behind by the SDG goals by 2030.



Field-level Training on-Farmers' site using Laptop/Tab and help relate Class room learning with Real-life Farm cases and applications

5.2 Collaborating institutions:

DEW is collaborating with leading ICT Service Providers, DAE, along with its in-house resources.

5.3 Previously we had a plan to complete the pilot project by December 2017, but considering field situation and follow-up activities we are now planning to extend project period up to March 2018. Salary of the project staff for additional 3 months will be contributed by the organization.

Sustainable Supply Chain of Kenaf in Bangladesh Project

Introduction and Summary:

Sustainable Supply Chain of Kenaf in Bangladesh is a one year pilot project with the support of GIZ and BMW. Main goal of the project is to increase the quality kenaf production by the poor and marginal farmers living in the Tangail district through enhancing the farmer's technical knowledge related to kenaf production, ensure access to quality seeds, maintaining SAN standards, achieving

SAN certification, capacity building and sustainable market access of their product kenaf. The project was funded by GIZ.

Relevance:

Farmers in Tangail are very poor and isolated and consequently have very few livelihood options. Agriculture, which is the main source of income, is extremely vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change. Most households have small pieces of agricultural land, while others have small ponds and livestock. However they are unable to use these resources effectively because they face a number of problems, which this project has been addressing. In order to achieve the aim of the project several interventions have been taken simultaneously: (i) Creating and building the collective power of small and marginal farmers: 960 small and marginal farmers have been organized into 24 groups. This has triggered the interest of public and private service providers to network with small farmers through these groups for sustainable supply chain of Kenaf which they are producing in their field. The project facilitated effective best management practices, SAN standards and group operation training for 24 group leaders and rolled it out to the 24 groups; (ii) Increasing recognition of farmers needs amongst government and private sector stakeholders: The project raised awareness amongst public and private sector bodies and local authorities of the problems facing small and marginal farmers through different workshop, meeting and focus group discussions (iii) Improving farmers' production practices and market access: Linkages have been built between producer to exporter and farmer groups through meeting, practical training session and mentoring support. (iv) Reducing farmers' vulnerability to producing quality Kenaf production. *Farmer groups are also being directly linked with exporter National Fiber Company-NFC and NFC send them to DRAXLMAIER, Germany to make it board which is buying by the BMW to use them in to their I3 model environment friendly cars dash board, side board and interior decoration.*

Total activities	Achievement (Upazila based)
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Farmers selection and group formation total number of group 8x3=24	Tangail sadar upazila=08 Ghatail upazila =08 Gopalpurupazila =08
Total farmers in the project=960	Tangail sadar upazila=320 Ghatail upazila =320 Gopalpur upazila =320
Training Total number of training=48	Tangail sadar upazila=16 Ghatail upazila =16 Gopalpur upazila =16
Participated in Training Total number of farmers participated in training=1765	1756 farmers participated in the training sessions.
Farmers courtyard meeting Total number of courtyard meeting=179	Tangail sadar upazila=50 Ghatail upazila =63 Gopalpur upazila =66
Participated in courtyard meeting Total number of farmers participated in courtyard meeting =5824	5824 number of farmers participated in the courtyard meeting
Trial plot (seed production) Total number of trial plot=02	Kenaf seed production Piloting demonstration plot in Gopalpur upazila =02
Demonstration plot Total number of Demonstration plot =11	Ghatail upazila =6 Gopalpur upazila =5
Training for Trainers ToT tow times	Received ToT 24+24=48 farmers

- Field and Office Setup:** The project has been selected 3 upazilas under Tangail districts. The upazilas are Tangail sadar, Gopalpur and Mirzapur. We have set up 3 upazila based field office for our field staffs but unfortunately there was no sitting arrangement for field offices and staffs. In May 2016 GIZ approved allocation for field office staffs sitting arrangement like chair, table and book self and accordingly we have provided office furniture's for our staffs.
- Farmers Training and ToT:** Farmers received technical training on kenaf production. Scattering seeds in land for kenaf been finished in March and April 2016. Now, there are kenaf plants are growing in the fields. There are meeting for farmer in every month been organized in Ghatail, Goplapur and Tangail sadar. There are training, meeting and field visit held regularly on Best Management Practices of Kenaf production and SAN standards. The ToT-I and II, meeting and field visit were organized by GIZ, DEW. Representatives from GIZ head office; Rain Forest Alliance, BMW and DRAXLMAIER were present in the ToT-II and field training and visit from 16th to 19th of May 2016 at Tangail and Ghatail. Second

phase of two days long ToT has been held in BURO Tangail training center at Tangail, 24 farmers group leader, group administrators and representatives from GIZ HQ, Bangladesh country office, DRAXLMAIER, Rain forest Alliance, BMW and DEW ED was present in the event. The training and field visit was participatory and interactive and BMW and DRAXLMAIER representative distributed the training completion certificate to the participants.



DRAXLMAIER and BMW representatives in the ToT for farmer group leaders

- There were hands on trainings from Rain Forest Alliance on gap analysis for farmers group in Tangail sadar on 19th of May and Ghatail on 18th of May 2016 and field visit afterwards on the same days. For an example, the farmers should be aware of the significance of forest, ponds, trees, wild animals and natural elements in their community for conservation of biodiversity in their community following SAN standards. The farmers were taught for practicing SAN principles during gap analysis by representative from Rain Forest Alliance and Executive Director of Development Wheel (DEW) at Tangail sadar and all the delegates at Ghatail.
- 11 pilot farmers' are been selected for production of kenaf demonstration with 1 Bigha (14,400 sq feet) land each for Best Management Practices of Kenaf Production and SAN Standards in Gopalpur and Ghatail. There are land measurement been completed 7 farmers from 11 farmers for production of kenaf demonstration in May 2016.
- The training sessions ware organized and facilitated by GIZ, Rain Forest Alliance, BMW, DRAXLMAIR and Development Wheel (DEW). The training sessions were interactive and well managed to make it effective.
- The delegation visited Deputy Director of DAE and had a nice sharing meeting with them. Also have a nice meeting with Kenaf traders and wholesalers at Tangail those who are supplying Kenaf to NSE.
- **Group level training:** Filed administrators trained farmer's regarding next process of kenaf after planting been finished because harvesting begin approximately four months after planting. The plants are harvested after there are flowers on kenaf. The stalks bundles need to be in water for 20 days (Approx). Then Kenaf fibre would be collected from stem. The farmers received training on harvesting of kenaf production. Farmers had been busy in the

beginning of May for harvesting BRRI 28 and 29. There are 8 groups in each district with 40 numbers of farmers in each group.

- Farmers are trained on ditch making for disposable and non disposable waste management according to SAN principles. According to the SAN standards of Rainforest Alliance farmers are in practice to create impact on the environment for conserve the biodiversity and create an impact against deforestation. Because biodiversity has direct impact on forest ecosystem. Simply plating trees cannot create a direct impact on forest eco system. Forest ecosystem consists of all kinds of plant species that Nature provides. Most of the time, forest ecosystems are controlling the climate and help reduce the global warming; water vapor rises in the air from forest; forms clouds and rains. In addition, the trees from forests emit oxygen and pollutant nitrogen dioxide is absorbed by enzyme rich soil of a forest and releases harmless nitrogen. Forest also reduces the amount of carbon dioxide in environment.
- The Rain Forest Alliance was trying to ensure a good quality environment with applying SAN standerds and techniques of using land, water and forest. As a result, there would be a well organized environment which will work against deforestation.
- At the same time, the farmers are taught new and most appropriate techniques for growing kenaf in these sub districts for practicing sustainable agriculture. Field administrators helped them understand the significance of the biodiversity of animals, birds, natural elements in the environment and community.
- **Ongoing mentoring:** Ongoing mentoring was held on in the field from DEW and GIZ. Mr. Tazul Islam and Mr. Lutful Kabir from GIZ and Shah Abdus Salam from DEW were present at the training session and workshop at Goplalpur and Tangail sadar.
- Kenaf farmers are struggled to find good quality seed with right price in this year because of scarcity of seed in the market. Price of the seed also hiked 200-300% in this year which is a big challenge for the Kenaf farmers. So that all the farmer group members are demanding for seed to us with good quality and fair price.

What are the SAN Standards:

1. **Improved Kenaf Productivity and Quality:** Kenaf productivity and quality of product has been increased after getting training on SAN standards and best management practices. In the view of the farmers and buyers that this is the first time they produced this kind of quality Kenaf in their field after practicing SAN standards.
2. **Waterways Protection:** Farmers are very much aware to protect their waterways from the pollution to preserve biodiversity in their areas.
3. **Wildlife Protection:** Farmers are protecting wild life in their village. They are not killing fox and other animal, birds in their area after getting training on SAN standards.

4. **Soil Health Protection:** Farmers are now concern about their soil health condition. They are not using any chemical fertilizers in their land without any recommended by the agriculture extension dept. and now they are using their compost fertilizer in their land.
5. **Waste Management:** Farmers are preserving their solid and liquid waste in their homestead to produce compost fertilizer for their land. Every farmer's house has 2 preservation detach at their homestead.
6. **Hired Labor and Child Labor Protection:** Farmers are not using any child labor and sending their children's to school regularly. Hair labors are getting fair payment, extra care and dignity as a day labor now in the areas because they are now aware about the issue through training.
7. **Farmer and Worker Safety:** Farmers are now aware on worker safety including them because they are also working in the Kenaf field. Unfortunately till there are some problems we have seen in our field visit. There are some sharp pins like things in the body of the Kenaf tree and the tree is tall like 7-10 fit long. When farmers harvest the Kenaf they got injury in their skin and one king of insect also injuring farmers leg, shoulder, hand and back of the body which need to attention by the project to insure safety of the farmers in the next season.
8. **Community Involvement:** Farmers community is more aware and involved now to maintain SAN standards with their collective efforts.
9. **Farm Planning and Record Keeping:** All the farmer groups has their own social mapping done by them, keeping production related records and other records like meeting group minutes, training materials and also booklet provided by our staffs. Some pictures from the field:

Key Achievements:

The project organized 960 small-scale farmers into 24 groups in 3 selected sub-districts under Tangail district and facilitating them to utilize their collective effort to produce quality kenaf production, protecting and promoting biodiversity in their farming areas and partially attain their rights and services from other stakeholders (public and private service providers, local authorities and other value-chain actors).

Sustainability:

The project has been promoting group approach and organized 960 farmers into 24 groups. The approach is cost-effective and sustainable as it enables service providers to reach large

numbers of farmers, and empowers farmers to maximise production capacity and quality, negotiate lower input costs, access services and lobby for getting premium price of their producers. This approach has been successfully implemented in several DEW livelihood projects.

Training the Trainer approach is very effective and has a multiplier effect to the transfer of knowledge and skills to large numbers effectively and leaves behind a skilled resource that can help continue replication. The project has promoted this approach in capacity building activities for farmers groups.

The project has engaged farmer groups and group leaders and built their confidence and capacity to maintain SAN and best practices continue working effectively with farmer groups and market chain actors. This will help ensure that outcomes and outputs made by the project continue and multiply after the project comes to an end. But it is really unexpected for all the actors related with this project regarding sudden phase-out of the project. Usually piloting for any development project creates opportunity for any action in the field based on outcome of the pilot project. DEW organized phase out workshop for farmer groups in Gopalpur, Ghatail and Tangail sadar because of sudden project phase out decision taken by the back donor BMW. It was really unfortunate and frustrating for an implementing organization who is working very closely with the farmer groups in the field. Farmer groups only got best management practice and SAN standards training through this project. Now they are practicing in their field to achieve SAN certification which was ultimate goal of the pilot project but unfortunately before getting the SAN certification the project has been closed without having any exit plan. So sustainability of this project will be under threat.

Future prospects:

There is huge prospects and potential to carry forward this project with expansion opportunity because Kenaf/Jute (Golden Fiber) is one of the main natural fiber in the globe. So we need to find opportunity to promote this project to existing 960 trained farmers to get SAN certification and include more farmers to train them on SAN and best management practice to promote and protect bio diversity in their areas and cultivation practices for our future generation and sustainable livelihoods for small and marginal farmers.

We would welcome any donor/partners to come forward to finish this unfinished project and expand this concept to many more farmers in our country.

Case Studies:

Case-01

MD. Iqbal Hossain is very glad to get good price from Kenaf production after getting DEW's training

Case: MD. Iqbal Hossain (61)



MD. Iqbal Hossain lives in Kakoya village of Tangail Sadar Upazila. He is the son of late Kadam Ali Sarkar and late Saleha Begum. He is the 7th son among 10 brothers and sister. Before coming DEW in his village he did not care about kenaf production because buyers said, kenaf is low quality jute with thick fiber and gave low price. But after coming DEW in his village he got training and realized that Kenaf can be qualityful Jute and create demand if we produce it maintaining some easy processes. From training of DEW he learnt amount of seed, fertilizer, water, time of giving fertilizer and growing duration and

cutting time of kenaf. Also could know the Jute rotten process. Before his jute was not good color and good quality. Because he put the jute in water and gave soil and Water Hyacinthon and this process made the jute dusk, inattractive and bad in quality. And he got low cost in the market. Now after putting the jute into the water he cover it with polithin then give soil and Water Hyacinthon on it. Now his jute is nice in color and attractive. On the other hand if the water is becoming black due to Jute rotten process and make impact in the jute color then he washes the jute in the Tamarind water and clean the jute again in the clean water. Then the Jute become good in color and attractive and he can get good price. Before coming DEW in his village he got TK. 1400/Man (40 kg) but now he get 2200 or 2300/Man (40 Kg). Previously his jute was bad in color so he did not get good price. Also before he used too much seed and growth of kenaf plant was very bad due to short space for grown up and he cut the jute lately for more growth. So Jute became harder and bad quality and he got lass price. Besides he could learn meny things from DEW's training such as now he knows how to make compost from domestic waste and save money and clean the environment. Now he uses mask and gloves when he gives chemical fertilizer. Before he did not use musk and gloves and suffered from breathing difficulties and itching. He also knows he should not kill wild animal and need to save them for the environment. Above all he is very glad to have good price fromKenaf production.

Case -2

Now I know how Kenaf can be profitable and my responsibility for the environment

Case: Abdus Sabur Talukdar (58)



Abdus Sabur Talukdar lives in Birsingha village of Ghatail upazila under Tangail district. He is the son of late Alhaz Mojibur Rahman and late Saleha Begam. He is the sixth child of 9 sisters and 5 brothers. He thinks kenaf project of DEW is blessings for farmers in his village because they never thought Kenaf could be a profitable products. They used to produce it in a small spaces without expectation. But after comming DEW in his village he and other farmers were came to know, Kenaf can be profitable crop very easily. Now he knows the cultivation process of Kenaf. Before he did not know the cutting time, amount of seed, fartilizer, gap between seeds/plants, proper height of kenaf for cutting, system of making compost from domestic waste and save money, jute rotten process

with attractive colour. Now he knows everything and can able to get bumper harvest from Kenaf cultivation and good profit. Now he produce kenaf in 1 bgha land and his kenaf creats demand to buyer because he learnt all process from DEW training to make jute attractive and be profitable using very easy method. He cultivates Kenaf in a environment friendly way. He uses natural method to kill bad insect like: he sprays neem water to kill the insects also he uses kerosene spraed rope around the Kenaf cultivated land so bad insectes named "dew" die when they try to enter the land. He is happy to know and use this easy process because he loves to work for good environment and good health. He works to remove river erosion so grows tree as much as he can, he does not kill wild animal, works for the cleanliness so makes hole in the earth for domestic waste and makes compost from this domestic waste, also he uses gloves when he work in field and it protects him from sore, before comeing DEW he suffered sore severly in his hands and did not use gloves. Though he loved enviroment but did not know how he can safe it by small work. But after getting training from DEW he came to know his responsibility for the environment. He said, this project help me to learn proper system of kenaf cultivation and my responsibilities for the environment. If we can get good seeds timely then no one stop us good profit from Kenaf.

Case-3

MD. Fazlul Haque increased Kenaf cultivation because now he knows it is profitable

Case: MD. Fazlul Haque (55)



MD. Fazlul Haque lives in Barotiya village of Gopalpur upazila under Tangail district. He is the son of late MD. Abdul Hamid Sarkar and late Hamida Khatun. He is the second child among 2 brothers and 3 sisters. He has been cultivating kenaf for 10 years but he never benefited from kenaf cultivation before coming DEW in his village. Because he did not know how to cultivate kenaf, the time of cutting, the amount of seed, fertilizer according to land size. So he did not get good crop from kenaf cultivation. This time he thought Kenaf is not a profitable crop so one

should not be much interested to produce it. So he used to cultivate Kenaf in a very small land near his house and used much fertilizer and seeds. After coming DEW in his village he got training on Kenaf cultivation and after that he got very good profit from kenaf. In his word now *I cultivate Kenaf in 1 Bigha land it gives me 2 times profit than rice. Before i did not know the process of giving fertilizer. amount of seed, water, even i did not know that kenaf is not grow well where water is logged and did not know how to remove logged water. Now I know the process of cultivation and kenaf have become my dream crop because it gives me great hope to get good profit. On the other hand kenaf cultivation needs small amount of fertilizer/ compost and grows fast so cultivation of Kenaf save cost and time.* He is also happy to know the process of making compost from household waste management. He made two hole beside his house. In one hole he puts household waste and he puts cattle waste in other hole. And he can use this compost to produce various vegetable and crops and can save money also it makes his household clean. Now he knows the process of jute rotten and can get much money by selling them. Because now buyer likes much his kenaf than before and give him good price. Before he never use gloves for using chemical fertilizer so it made sore in his hand and body and needed to visit doctor. Now he uses gloves and never washed his hand and gloves in the open source of water because he knows and practices the SAN standard for safe environments and good health. He knows one should not kill wild animal, everyone need to grow trees instead of cutting them, children should go to school; they are not for giving labor in the field. He loves to grow kenaf and maintain SAN standard because both are good for him.

Some images in the field of Kenaf project:



Group work in the TOT



Social mapping by the farmers



Seed distribution for demonstration plot for seed



Group level training



Kenaf field



Group meeting



Kenaf harvesting



Harvesting of Kenaf



Sun drying and harvesting of kenaf



Inauguration of buying Kenaf from the field by NFC



Buying Kenaf from the field and transport to Narayangonj by NFC



Mock audit by external consultant



Group training in the field



Harvesting and emergence



Harvesting Kenaf after emergence



Sundrying of Kenaf and receiving training module on SAN



Defoliation of Kenaf in the field after harvesting and Kenaf in the field



Kenaf harvesting from the field



Group training in the field



Buying Kenaf by the NFC from the farmers village



Buying Kenaf by the NFC from farmers door



Kenaf storage by the NFC at their central godown



Chopping Kenaf before exporting them to Germany



In the field



In the field with GIZ, BMW and Draxlmayer representatives



In the field



In the field



In the field



Group picture with farmer group leaders, BMW, DREXLMAYER, Rain Forest Alliance, GIZ and DEW representatives



Kenaf tree, flower and seed

B. Human Rights and Good Governance Program

Organized Human chain to protest against countrywide rape & killing

Paribarik Nirjaton Protirodh Jot Mymensingh organized a Human chain to protest against countrywide recent incidence like rape & killing and to make a precedent punishment of rapist on 11.00 am, 12 January 2013 at Shahid Feroz Jahangir Chatter, Mymensingh. Supporting with We Can and Development Wheel (DEW), many political leader, teacher, student, NGO & Human Rights representative were attended in that human chain.

In Human chain, leaders said that we have to increase social awareness to protect this type of crime. Government has to play more accountable role to restrain such crime. Advocate A H M Khalekuzzaman, Chairman of Paribarik Nirjaton Protirodh Jot, Advocate Emdadul Haque Millet, Advocate Sadik Hossain, Advocate Moazzem Hossain Babul, Advocate Nazrul Islam Chunnu, Chairman of Mohila Parishad Ferdous Ara Helen, Advocate Sibbir Ahmed Liton, Ataul Karim Khokon, Principle Alhaz Ziauddin Shakir, Fahmida Yasmin Runa, Nasrin Ahmed, Sajeda Begum Saju, Nurul Kabir and other leaders were participated in Human Chain program.



DEW observing international women's day at Mymensingh and Dhaka

Celebration of International Women's Day' 2013

The theme of this International women's day'08 March, 2017 observed by DEW at Mymensingh and Dhaka. Many organizations, women and man participated including huge numbers of girl students from the University of Dhaka and others to celebrate international women's day 2017. Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, Minister of Women and Child affairs, Women leaders, activists were there including some European Ambassadors. All the peoples were present at the central shahid Minar at 11:00pm on 7th Mach and stated programmes like cultural programme and opining to celebrate International Women's at 0 hour of 8th March.

International Women's Day observation



C. Non formal Education for Disadvantaged Communities

Celebrating International Literacy Day

Development Wheel (DEW) is a national level NGO working for Human Rights and Good Governance, Sustainable livelihoods, Fair trade, Advocacy and campaign for ensuring human rights and education in Bangladesh from 1996. At this connection DEW with the help of “Amar Odhikar Campaign (AOC)” and “Oxfam Bangladesh” organized a Rally and “Literacy and Primary Education Dialogue “on the occasion of International Literacy Day, September 8, 2014 at Upazilla Parishad Auditorium, Savar. Mr. Touhid Jong (Murad), M.P was present as the Chief Guest of the Event. Beside that Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Mr. Kabir Hossain Sardar, Upazilla Education officer, Mr. Taposh Sarkar, Vice Chairman, Savar Upazilla Mrs. Rokeya Haq was in the honorable guest panel. A concept paper was formed and presented by Assistant Upazilla education Officer, Ms. Afia Choudhury on the theme of this year literacy day “Literacy will bring peace and prosperity”. The paper was an overall evaluation of education system of Savar Upazilla and full of related information. Over hundreds of Teachers, student, local leaders, government and non-government officials, and local journalist participated in the event.

On that morning chief guest Honorable parliament member Mr. Murad Jong joined the event on 10 am with a rally a crossing the Upazilla Parishad, Savar. After the rally the main dialogue event started with the welcome speech from Upazilla education Officer, Mr. Taposh Sarkar. He talked about the present education situation and upcoming changes in Savar Upazilla. Then Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Mr. Kabir Hossain Sardar and the vice chairman, Mrs. Rokeya Haq gave their speech one by one. They said education can be the only way to progress of any country. Both of them appreciated DEW and AOC for their initiative to ensuring the education right to people of Savar Upazilla. They advised DEW to increase their working area around the Upazilla. After that Shah Abdus Salam, Executive Director (DEW) thanked the Honorable Member of Parliament Mr. Murad Jong for giving his valuable time and all Upazilla Parishad Officer for their kind support. Mr. Shah Abdus Salam said, Over the world education is the prime right which is being provided by government, but in our country still we have to fight for getting proper education as our officer and responsible person does not doing their part of job. DEW along with AOC and Oxfam GB took initiative for ensuring right to education by campaign and advocacy at both local and national level and expecting help

form our policy level. He finished his speech by thanking Assistant education officer, Ms Asfia Choudhury for her nice and realistic thematic paper presentation. Finally Chief Guest Mr. Murad Jong M.P delivered his speech. He said we have achieved 100% enrollment of primary education. But now it is time to ensuring the quality of education. He thanked DEW and said it is tough for our government to maintain everything. If organization like DEW and AOC take initiative to pushing government process then it is really appreciable. He finished his speech by advising teachers to give their full afford to their noble job. The event was finished by distributing refreshment among the participant.

DEW observed Child Rights Week 2016:

On 4th October 2016 DEW with the help of AOC and “Oxfam Bangladesh” organized a seminar following a discussion session at Dendabar Govt. Primary School, Savar. On the occasion of Child Rights Week 2016 DEW took an initiative to celebrate a day with the member of student council of Savar Upazilla. The principles, SMC members and Officers of Upazila primary education office was also joined the event. Mrs Rasheda Begum, member of local govt., Savar Union , Mrs. Farzana Shelly, Assistant Education Officer, Savar Upazila was present as at the event. Development Wheel (DEW) as an active partner of the initiative has started their journey together with AOC from this year, 2016. DEW is leading Dhaka district to ensure the **quality primary education** and implement rights of every child. For this purpose DEW has organized signature campaign, meetings and conference with teachers, students, guardians, GOB & local leaders at local level.

The event started on 11am at morning with the national anthem sang by the students. Mr. Taposh kumar Sarkar, Education Officer, Savar Upazila gave his honorable speech to the children who were present on that day. He said these kids are our future so we have to nourish them for our own sack. He thanked to DEW and AOC for taking such an initiative to celebrate child rights week 2016. After his speech Mrs Rasheda begum gave her speech. In her speech she promised to help all the school authority ensuring their students right in Savar Upazila. After her speech Mrs Farzana Shelly, Assistant education Officer, Savar Upazila gave her speech elaborating about child rights week-2016. She said “there are so many rights from which children of Bangladesh are being deprived. It is tough for us to solve all of them but as we are working with primary education, our goal should be ensuring the rights which are related to primary education and we will do that to our best. Later she facilitated the session “Capacity Building of student Councils” where she tried to discuss their role. After the session a sharing session was held where member of student council, teachers, SMC members and other present people talked about it. Finally the event was finished by distributing refreshment among the participant.

DEW Celebrated World Teachers’ Day 2016

On 11th October, 2016 DEW with the help of AOC and “Oxfam Bangladesh” organized a seminar following a discussion session at Rajabari Govt. Primary School, Savar. On the occasion of World Teachers’ Day 2016 DEW took an initiative to celebrate a day with the teachers of primary school of Savar Upazilla. The principals and teachers of more than 130 primary school of Savar Upazila, member of teacher’s union, and officers of Upazila primary education office and Health complex were present at the event. Also Campaign team manager from AOC, Mr. M. Shahidul islam joined the event on that day.

The event started on 12pm at noon with the speech from the chief guest, Mr. Taposh kumar Sarkar, Education Officer, Savar Upazila. He thanked to DEW and AOC for taking such an initiative to celebrate World teachers Day 2012 as it is still not well-known in our country, even our primary level teachers does not know about such a day which belongs to them. After his speech Ms. Tasnia Tasnim, assistant teacher of Chakulia Govt. Primary school presented her paper which she prepared on the basis of our request. In her paper she presented the emotions and feelings of primary school teachers. Also mentioned the treatment they deserve from the society, the socio economical situation and also the achievements of them. The paper was appreciated by all of the participants as it was the reflection of their own life.

Later some of the teachers came out voluntarily and shared their feelings, talked about their rights. Some of them recite their own poem and story which was highly appreciated by everyone. Finally Mr. Shahidul Islam, Team Manager, AOC said some words to everyone. He shared the activities related primary education operating by AOC around the country. Also the future plans and activity of AOC and DEW in Savar Upazila. He thanked everyone for their support and participation and requested for further support to implement quality primary education in Bangladesh. The event was facilitated by Mr. Nazrul Islam, Chairperson of Savar Teacher's Union. The Whole event was so live and appreciated by everyone.



Dew organized a seminar on World Teachers' Day 2016

D. Promotion of Grass-root Artisan Groups through Fair Trade DEW observed World Fair Trade Day 2016:

World Fair Trade Day observation is an annual program of Fair Trade Movement. It was first observed in 4th of May, 2002. Since then, all over the world including Bangladesh observes this precious event every 2nd week of May. ECOTA Fair Trade Forum as a national networking body of Fair Trade Organizations observed the **World Fair Trade Day 2016** through launching a seminar on Saturday, 11 May, 2013 at 12:00pm at St. Joseph Higher Secondary School, 97 Asad Avenue, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207. Theme of the World Fair Trade Day 2013: **“Strengthening Fair Trade Relationships”**.

Mr. Shah Abdus Salam, Chairperson, ‘ECOTA Fair Trade Forum’ and Executive Director of Development Wheel (DEW) announced the formal instigation of the seminar. The Chairperson welcomed to all the respected guests for joining the World Fair Trade Day. The respected Guests-Dr. Harold B. Rodriguez, Principal, St. Joseph Higher Secondary School, the Executive Committee members of ‘ECOTA Fair Trade Forum’ Ms. Bertha Gity Baroi, Vice Chair Person, Mr. Monjurul Haque, Member, Ms. Tanu Dey, Member,

Mr. Subrata Saha, Member, the respective delegates of Member Organizations of ECOTA, the representative of artisans, producers, entrepreneurs group, the students of St. Joseph Higher Secondary School and the social thinkers and believers were present on the following day. The programme mainly aims to disseminate the importance of Fair Trade to the young generation and to promote the youth to work as a **change maker** for our country and society.

Beginning of the seminar, the Chair requested the entire present guest to express deep solemn for the ‘Savar Tragedy’ and to remain **‘One minute Silence’** for the untimely death of thousands of workers of those garments factory that collapsed on last 24th April of 2013. The Chair stated that, this incident is not acceptable for our country and this unjust, unfair trade should be stopped immediately. In his speech, the Chair briefly described the history of Fair Trade Movement at international and as well as at national level. At present, Fair Trade based organizations (NGOs) of the country are engaged with research work, studies on craft production and marketing strategy for understanding the future prospectus of artisanship and Endeavour to bring out those crafts people from the poverty circle, He added. It is worth mentioning that, the presence of producers, artisans, entrepreneurs and the school children made the programme a significant attraction. The producers, entrepreneurs from CORR The Jute Works, DEW, Swajan Crafts, Kumudini Handicrafts, BRAC Arong and Hathay Bunano shared their thoughts and experiences which enhanced the whole programme. The entire programme was decorated with:

- Presenting Documentary Movie on ECOTA Fair Trade Forum Activities
- Power point presentation on “Fair Trade- Bangladesh & Global Perspective”
- Arranging a cultural show by presenting a “Drama” on Ten Standards of Fair Trade Principle, performed by the **Women Artisans of “CORR the Jute Works”**
- Displaying eye-catching, ecstatic Fair Trade crafts of the Member Organizations of ECOTA.



Agent of Change: WFTO day 2016

DEW Learning Center at Mymensingh and Sherpur:

DEW has been established its Learning center at Mymensingh regional office to provide development training, seminar, workshop and accommodation facilities for DEW participants, staffs and other development organizations. Capacity of the training hall room is for 25-30 participants with all the support services like computer, printer, multimedia, internet, food and 2 A/C and 2 non A/C guest rooms.

In Sherpur district office we have similar arrangements but we don't have any A/C guest room there. We have 3 non A/C guest rooms with training facilities like Mymensingh office there.

Chapter-3

Activities of DEW through photograph:



Phase out preparatory workshop of ALO project



Final dissemination seminar of ALO project

...Fighting poverty through promotion of Fair trade



Producer at work: hand embroidery by female artisan group



WFTO audit is going on for Certified Guaranteed organization



DEW participated WFTO Asia regional conference



DEW Crafts



**DEW CRAFTS
GUARANTEED
FAIR TRADE**

DEW Crafts awarded Certified GUARANTEED Fair Trade Organization



DEW Crafts participated Fair Play Forum, a USA based crafts sector development network

...Livelihoods security for marginalized Communities & Human Resource Develop



District Producer Association Election at Mymensingh



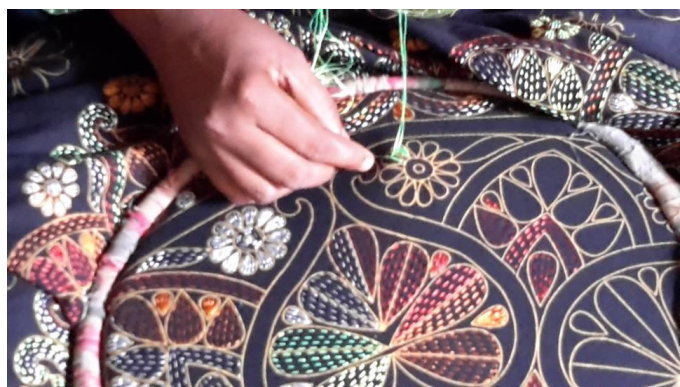
District Farmers Association Election at Netrokona district



DEW invited to participate FK Norway organized south-south exchange programme partnership workshop seminar at Mumbai, India



FAO delegation visited DEW bamboo crafts group at Tangail



Artisan at work

...upholding a culture of human rights and good governance

Achievement

DEW has been awarded UNCCD accredited member and participated UNCCD COP13 conference at Ordos, China



With newly elected Chair of UNCCD and Mr. Markose



With UNCCD CSO Network members

We are Deeply Mourn



Professor HKS Arefeen
Chair
Development Wheel (DEW)



We have lost of Boar Chair Prof. HKS Arefeen on 24th December 2016 by severe heart attack. He was an eminent anthropologist of south Asia, personally he was me teacher in university of Dhaka and my mentor. DEW family is deeply mourn on his sudden untimely death and he will be always with us.

The Executive Committee of Development Wheel (2012-14):

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Sex	Profession
01	Professor Dr. Ainoon Nahar	Chairperson	Female	Teaching, Professor of Anthropology Jahangirnagar University
02	Prof. Dr. Syed Shariful Islam	Vice chairperson	Male	Teaching, Professor, head and Dean of the Faculty of Public Health and Informatics Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical university
03	Mr. Shah Abdus Salam	Founder and Secretary General	Male	Sociologist, Development professional
04	Mr. Sk. Golam Kibria	Treasurer	Male	Business, Managing Director Ken Business Corporation
05	Mr. Lutful Kabir	Member	Male	Development Consultant 30 years working experience with GIZ
06	Ms. Bertha Gitee Baroi	Member	Female	Fair Trade Director Coor the Jute works
07	Ms. Selima Akhter	Member	Female	Consultant Garment Sector Specialist



DEW Board meeting at DEW office meeting room

Chapter-5

Audit Report 2016-2017

Enclosed

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