

## **FINAL Evaluation Report**

### **“PEOPLES LED RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER JUSTICE PROGRAM ”IN BANGLADESH” (10-PRI-153)**



**Evaluation team: Mr. Rajon kanti Talukder & Mr, Sheikh khalquzzaman.**

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## **Acronyms and abbreviations**

AECID The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation

BARCIK Bangladesh Resource Center for Indigenous Knowledge.

HG Home Gardening

UN Women United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

(MDGs) UN Millennium Development Goal's

PVS participatory varietals selection trials

IGA income generational activities

SRI System of Rice Intensification

TBA Traditional birth attendance

NSDP National Strategic Development Plan

## ***Executive summary***

**This evaluation is to examine the results and effects of the project** “PEOPLES LED RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER JUSTICE PROGRAM ”IN BANGLADESH” (10-PRI-153).The exercise aims to assess both the progress and general outcome of the implementation of the project; assess the extent to which the project objectives and expected outputs were achieved within the framework of the gender perspective; address the limitations and constraints relating to the project outcomes; and make recommendations for improving the implementation of the project.

The evaluation will address the questions of effectiveness, efficiency, appropriateness, impact, and viability/sustainability, according to the specific criteria shown on the Assessment Management Manual for Spanish Cooperation, and on the Terms and References published by Cives Mundi and BARCIK.

The proposed project will be aimed at the needs of the target and beneficiary group, especially at women head of household, to help them to improve the access to agricultural innovation and supporting services and establish gender justice in Society. This project will help all families in project area from the Kalmakanda, Netrakona districts in the region of Dhaka Bangladesh to improve their political, Economical and social self determination of the women of the Muslim, Garo and the Hajong Communities in the 24 Village under four Union (Kharnoi, Lengura, Nazirpur, kalmakanda Sadar)at Netrakona whilst promoting active participation of women both in the decision making in Community Level.

## ***Methodology***

The study examined the level and quality of results and effects of the project along five criteria: appropriateness, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and viability/sustainability. It employed a mix of research strategies to gather information from participants and stakeholders: participatory strategic workshop, focus group discussions, key informant interviews, site visits, and review of documentation. This evaluation employed methodology which follows the philosophy of Spanish cooperation evaluation, whose guiding principles contained in the Assessment Management Manual or Spanish Cooperation (DGPOLDE, 2007) are participation, learning, and incorporating lessons learned from experience, usability, and transparency.

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## ***Findings***

The impact of this project was strongest on the beneficiaries’ self-confidence which

was developed from out of their meetings, trainings and interaction among themselves and with other stakeholders and exchange visit; changes of behavior and attitude on women's gender role, and optimism for the future. The project had provided a means for people to increase their political, social and economic conditions through increasing livelihood alternatives in increasing food security, agriculture, awareness activities in which they have utilized their land to an increased extent, and change their male dominant culture and exacting injustice. The project provided opportunities for people specially Female to change their mindset and to utilize the family resources, in which people made better use on the existing plots of land, and community resources in which people could use their financial resources to serve the need of the community and to benefits in the form of saving interest. The project has transformed people. A very powerful and transformational statement: "Now I am involved with income. I spending my time this shop which was provided by BARCIK. My children's now going to school regularly .I can give food them regularly. Farmer group did change my life and that of my happy family's."

Exchange visit to other provinces to witness the success of others proved to be very efficient and inspiring. Without the visits, they would not probably have any justification/motivations to set up and determine to sustain one. After the visit, they discussed together how people they visited—who they perceived not any better than them—could make it happen, and they felt that not having farmer group or female group established and sustained was not right for them

For the beneficiaries who took the project activities seriously have reaped the benefits from joining the project, while other who have not yet changed their mindsets still have not yet reaped the benefits. However, the examples set by the successful farmers and Gender role are hoped to inspire others to follow. Also, it would take some time before people would change their traditional mindset about pursuing their traditional ways of agricultural practice and Gender Justice in Society

The fact that the project did not provide any subsidy to the beneficiaries while the existing activities of other NGO project provided subsidy to their beneficiaries was first of all perceived as an uphill to overcome. However, it proved to be more efficient after the project staff and beneficiaries succeeded in their efforts to train and to help set up the groups.

The number of women participating in the project was very encouraging as more women joined the project activities, while some of which were empowered. Women beneficiaries have been provided a new lens in looking at seeing opportunities they never seen as such, for example, they kept themselves busy joining other activities in the projects including the women's groups, farmer promoters, home gardening (HG), seed collection, seed fair, child education. Also, women were equipped with knowledge which they aimed at starting new small businesses. However, they still needed supports to add value to their products.

Women have improved their confidence in public participation and dealing with family matters. Some women have transformed their family lives by putting an end to domestic violence and gained considerable confidence in village and commune levels. Women are informed about the concept of gender, gender justice, and reproductive health. However, some women still found it not yet sufficient to be on their own or to be able to resolve problems in their family. The short time project in establishing women's group could be an explanation of not having enough time, while an 24-month project, if implemented time increased more, could still be considered not sufficient to transformed a deeply-rooted Kalmakanda's tradition of men's superiority. Moreover, staff's lack of proper agriculture training was also a

contributing factor in setting up, and providing training to, Farmer's group. as they may not be so sure this matter, as it was first supposed to be under responsibility for a agriculture officer who was recruited and then resigned after one year. And this time one internal staff of BARCIK is responsible for that but he is staying far distance from kalmakanda office. Sometimes it makes problem. No budget in the project to support the higher education of girls students, Backwardness and remote by nature of the working fields is also some how created hindrances in proper implementation of the activities for the staffs due to facing difficulty and sometimes get injured physically. Moreover, the delay in fund injection and the rush nature of activities at the target areas made staff and beneficiaries feel confused.

Community people understood the value of reciprocity in the form of borrowing and lending money among themselves and were proud that they did not have to pay much money for seed's or cultivation and did not get loan to outside their community, while in return, money only circulate in their community.

Sustainability was one of major concerns for the beneficiaries and project staff for many farmer groups and women's groups. The current successful farmer groups which have transformed individuals and families will sustain as the members have got the benefits from being in the group, and wisely exploit from the group. Women's groups were considered very low in terms of sustainability, as the groups were established late in the project period for the veil and there were not enough time to strengthen the group.

However, sustainability regarding benefits for individuals who have been transformed will be in a long run, as the knowledge gained, the inspiration provided and the actual benefits received from joining the project activities will be there. Gender mainstreaming was done mostly in farmer and women group meetings, agricultural trainings, Gender justice training, reproductive health and awareness session about early marriage, Dowry, child education, Safe maternity, child care, immunization and primary health care related in field area

The project proved to be highly appropriate for the project's target areas as local authorities have included project activities in community development and investment plan. Local population involved in this project were invited to involve in various meetings organized by local authority, while local authority representative joined in many of the meetings, seed fair, agree bio-diversity fair with beneficiaries of the project. This also will be a component for project sustainability.

### **Recommendation**

The evaluation recommend that the project to focus on ensuring the achievement of expected results, institutional strengthening and capacity building at communitarian and institutional level.

### **Project development**

It is important to implement activities as planned, without too long delay, to avoid frustration by project staff and beneficiaries through having to conduct too frequent activities in a very sticky schedule. Fund injection should be done on a timely manner to ease the project activities to go as planned. Project staff's capacity for implementing project activities need to be strengthened and built regularly.

Technical know-how and transparency in farmer's groups needed to be built and regularly monitored. A follow-up system should be in place among the target beneficiaries. And the project should have a longer life-span to give more time for the follow-up on agricultural activities. Project needs to make sure there is good cooperation with other NGOs working in the area to avoid overlapping activities and to complement or reinforcement people's knowledge/awareness among themselves

rather than competing against one another.

### **Gender**

Gender specialist should remain with the project for the whole period in project Area. It is very important that project coordinator also have training on gender issues and gender sensitivity, and staff provided enough guidance especially related to women's group.

Make sure that both husband and wife had the opportunities to take part in the groups at least once or twice during the course of the project, so that men and women are on the same page regarding new concepts provided by the project activities, and it would make it more convenient for both husband and wife to discuss what was trained and together how to put them into practice. And participant should selected different groups. if always same participant participated different training or meeting its made conflict in group.

### **Income generation**

Provide concrete training to beneficiaries about creating more income-generation activities—small businesses—during the off-season from cultivation. Small business conscious should be paid attention to. There should be staff who understands quite well the concept of small business and there should be a mechanism to motivate people to start up small business and monitor their activities regularly from the outset.

### **Risk management**

As the project area is vulnerable to flooding, the project should incorporate disaster risk management and climate change awareness-raising, or connect to NGOs or authority working in that matter to provide some trainings or knowledge to the target community.

### **Coordination and complementarily with other stakeholders**

Project needs to make sure there is good cooperation with other NGOs working in the area to avoid overlapping activities and to complement or reinforcement people's knowledge/awareness among themselves rather than competing against one another.

## **I. Introduction**

Bangladesh is a thickly populated country. There are many villages where government health, education services are not sufficient enough. Almost all of the villages are situated in the remote area. So the peoples of the remote villages could not get proper primary education, health care. Pregnant women cannot get the proper treatment due to lack of poor transport system. Moreover, almost all villagers of the working areas are illiterate, and not concern about the health care facilities. Specially women are vulnerable of different kinds of violation.

Netrakona is district of Bangladesh. and it is a flood plain agro ecological zone and situated in the north-Eastern part of Bangladesh. Kalmaknada is one of the most marginal area in Netrakona. Most of the people in this area live on agriculture, natural resources and day labor. Kalmakanda is a Bengali and Indeginous Rural. Bengali (Hindu & Muslim), Hajong are paternal and Garo's are Matrilineal community but all of them are the part of male-dominant culture and Patriarchal discrimination.

“PEOPLE’S LED RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER JUSTICE PROGRAM” IN BANGLADESH (10-PRI-153). was Implemented by the Spanish organization CIVES MUNDI in partnership with Bangladesh Resource center for Indigenous Knowledge (BARCIK) with funding support from AECID.

The project Implemented in twenty four villages: Six in Kalmakanda Union, Six in Lengura Union, Six in Kharnoi Union and Six in Nazirpur Union. The Total population in six village at Kalmakanda is 1821. BARCIK is Involved with 1271 population. The Total population in six village at lengura approximately 3178 of total rest of 921 are Indigenous people . BARCIK is directly Involved 250 female and 120 male. In six village of Kharnoi the total population is 1950 . BARCIK is involved with the 560 women and 180 male person of total population. In Nazirpur Union BARCIK mainly facilitated and cooperated all rural people.

This project mainly facilitated and cooperating rural people of project area through different types of crop seeds, livelihood support and primary healthcare, education, health rights and gender issues initiatives. BARCIK has been focused and prioritized rural women to increase their involvement in the homestead gardening, used barren land for crop production, increased organic methods, hygienic sanitation for families, ensured access to government support and services, Increasing children education and motivated for primary healthcare.



### I.1. Objectives of the evaluation

The aim of this evaluation is to analyze and evaluate the project's outcomes against the approved project logical framework as reflected in the approved project proposal: "Peoples led Rural Development and Gender Justice Programme, Bangladesh ." ("Phase II") (see Annex A). The Specific Objective of ` Increasing the political, Economical and social self determination of the women of the Muslim, Garo and the Hajong Communities in the 24 Village under four Union (Kharnoi, Lengura, Nazirpur, kalmakanda Sadar)at Netrakona whilst promoting active participation of women both in the decision making in Community Level. .

#### The evaluation address the following aspects:

- Assessed both the progress and general outcome of the implementation of the project.
- Assessed the extent to which the project objectives and expected outputs were achieved within the framework of the gender perspective.
- The limitations and constraints relating to the project outcomes.
- Make recommendations for improving the implementation of the project.

### I.2. Scope and focus of the evaluation

The evaluation will address the questions of effectiveness, efficiency, appropriateness, impact, and viability/sustainability, according to the specific criteria shown on the Assessment Management Manual for Spanish Cooperation, and on the Terms and References published by Cives Mundi and BARCIK.

The evaluation, according to the specific criteria shown on the Assessment Management Manual for Spanish Cooperation and as indicated in the ToR, (**Annex 1**), has especially looked into the issues of Appropriateness Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, and Viability/Sustainability of the project.

- ✚ **Appropriateness:** the analysis of the adaptation of the results and goals in the project to the context in which it has been implemented.
- ✚ **Effectiveness:** The measurement of the scope of the specific goal and the results of the activities in the target areas and in the period of the implementation without taking into account its cost.
- ✚ **Efficiency:** The measurement of the results obtained with regard to the resources used (financial, material, technical, natural and human).
- ✚ **Impact:** The effects that the project has on the community in general.
- ✚ **Viability/Sustainability:** The degree in which the positive effects of the intervention will continue once the external help is finished is to be measured.

The geographic coverage of the evaluation has been the village of Kalmakanda, Netrakona districts, and cover also the communes and villages of those districts were

the project has been implemented.

### **I.3. Methodology**

This evaluation employed methodology which follows the philosophy of Spanish cooperation evaluation, whose guiding principles contained in the Assessment Management Manual or Spanish Cooperation (DGPOLDE, 2007) are participation, learning, and incorporating lessons learned from experience, usability, and transparency. Thus, the assessment carried out was characterized by promoting a participatory approach to the stakeholders and to pursue a holistic perspective in their analysis strategy, focused around concretized criteria in the evaluation matrix. Therefore, it was decided to offer a participatory methodology that ensures the involvement of the main stakeholders implied

in the design, execution and implementation of the project (planners, managers, political representatives, organizations, partners, beneficiaries, etc..), All this utility seeking both the process and the results to be obtained, especially looking for learning and lessons learned that can be incorporated into future planning. This opinion will be sought through interviews, surveys, focus groups discussion, Case study, strategic participation workshops and in site visits.

The stakeholders involved in the evaluation have been ONGD Cives Mundi, BARCIK , Project staff, Gender Focal point, Local Authority and stakeholders, provincial Department of Women Affair, beneficiaries (women and men).

Regarding the integral perspective, the evaluation has combined different sources of information and has applied different study skills, both quantitative and qualitative. Thus, from the quantitative side, there were a comprehensive analysis of existing documentation on the project (monitoring reports, baselines, project design document, etc) and other strategic documents. From the qualitative side, there have been held interviews and fieldwork on site visit, where we have visited some communities where the project have been implemented for evaluation of results and objectives achieved by it. Similarly, participatory techniques are used to collect information by conducting a strategic participation workshop.

#### **Data collection tools:**

This section lists the various data collection tools used in the evaluation. The objective pursued was use different sources of information to cover a same content and assessment objectives, so that the findings and decisions made are well contrasted

by triangulation of methods.

### **1. Participatory Strategic Workshop:**

The evaluation of the project contemplated the realization of a participatory workshop with key stakeholders in the project: women group's, farmer groups, community councils and local staff in order to carry out a joint reflection on the main achievements and weaknesses of the project and the development of a series of suggestions or proposals for improvement and recommendations of such interventions.

Through the use of cards as visual aids, they collated the written contribution of ideas of the people attending and draw conclusions in a participatory manner. The realization of such participatory workshop is a particularly useful tool for the assessment of results and objectives achieved in the implementation of a project and its main limitations and restrictions.

The Workshop report can be found in **Annex 2**.

### **2. Interviews and focus group discussion:**

Interviews with various stakeholders and key informants at the target areas of implementation were carried out in order to obtain relevant information to triangulate findings on the following objectives and content of the evaluation:

- ✓ Degree of compliance with the main objective, specific objective, expected results and activities.
- ✓ Quality assessment criteria
- ✓ Project life cycle assessment
- ✓ Project limitations and restrictions
- ✓ Recommendations.

These interviews were carried out using a questionnaire structured in the following parts (**Annex 3**):

A. Introductory questions

B. Quality assessment criteria

C. Level of compliance with the expected results, specific objective and main objective.

An informal focus group were organized with beneficiaries( women and men) and members of the saving groups, farmers organization and women groups. Apart from

the discussions on the predetermined topics (which were the same of the interviews), the focus group discussion provided the opportunity to the participants to raise issues that were not addressed in other techniques.

**3. Case Study:** During the project period project has been supported equipments for 155 vulnerable rural women's are increasing their livelihood through IGA. After receiving the support women's are increasing their livelihood day by day. They are sending their child both of boys and girl's to the school. they are better than the before. The Case study of the project people can be found in **Annex 6**

**4. Site Visits for meetings with:**

- ✓ Responsible for the entities (partners and other local entities involved in the project)
- ✓ Local authorities (commune's councils) that will serve to assess the sustainability of the project.
- ✓ Farmer's organizations, women groups.
- ✓ Other key informant.

**I.4. Limitations and constraints of the evaluation**

There are some limitations and constraints in the evaluation process that need to be taken into account:

A constraint of this evaluation was the lack of participation by some key informants. Some of the target beneficiaries as well as authority in Netrakona district were not able to join the evaluation because they were busy with the activities of seed plantation on field in another areas and the After election most of the people busy with different activities.

achieved by the project.

### Project house holder photo



## II. Context of interventions (Actual progress under Key Result Areas).

The aim of the project, To contribute to alleviate poverty in Bangladesh through the social, economical, political empowerment of rural and indigenous women. the specific objective of `Increased the political, economical and social self-determination of the women of the Muslim, Garo and Hajong communities under the project area (Kalmakanda sub district, Netrokona District, Bangladesh)`. The aim of the project, as we mentioned before, was to address the needs of the 24 villagers especially women that make up the target and beneficiary groups, principally women head-of-households, to gain improved access to agricultural innovations, supporting services and strengthened gender justice and try to aware and establish gender equality concept.

To achieve this objective, the project posed the following expected results:

**R.1. The Women of the union's of Kalmakanda Upazila are aware of their rights and protect actively their interest,** For that purpose there were planed the provision of foster community coalition, raise awareness about gender justice and equal rights, capacity building for men and women about gender equality, gender

rights and rights advocacy.

**R.2. Community and other stakeholders are informed and positive attitude on the issues of rural and Indigenous women,** to create the positive attitude especially Indigenous women they are organize awareness raising among the communities and service providers, dialogues about gender based violence with the participation of women and men , research on Garo women traditional knowledge in climate change responses, publicize and disseminate information for further intervention.

**R.3 Improved Economic conditions/livelihood option for the primary stakeholders(rural and Indigenous women) of the target communities,** by assisting biodiversity based crops/vegetable seed collection, cultivation and livelihood improvement, knowledge and local seed resources exchange and share, women livelihood Improvement and food security, assessment of existing income generational activities and options, strengthen regional center and supporting network. Community people and relevant department meeting to express their demand for support and step empowering women through their groups.

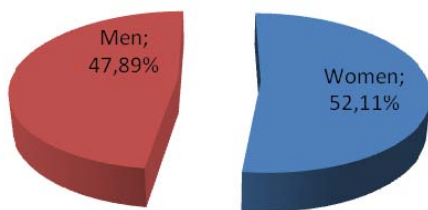
**R.4. The security and health conditions of the more vulnerable women of target communities are improved.** For that purpose the project aimed to work in kalmakanda to realize a research about traditional medicinal practices and medicinal plants used, workshop to analyze and share the results of the research, raise awareness among adolescents about gender, sexual and reproductive health and development. organize training for the health promoters and facilitate regulars meetings of women groups about leadership, basic health, sexual and reproductive health, legal rights, gender equity and prevention of trafficking .awareness session with high schools students about gender based violence and gender equality, to mobilize them as change actors in their families, awareness raising to get access to government health service.

**R.5. The project is successfully managed and coordinated, to ensure adequate skills of project staff regarding agro biodiversity,** gender and development, the availability of updated baseline data on the situation of women, appropriate project management, monitoring and evaluation system.

In **Annex 4** is shown in a table the activities and the degree of implementation as stated in the Technical Justification or Final Report.

- 1256 farmers (978 women; 78%) received 59 training, workshop TOT out of 46. The Topic of this workshop and training Community Coalition Building, Networking, agro biodiversity conservation and gender justice. Organic fertilizer and organic pesticide preparation and uses, Ecological Agriculture, Indigenous Knowledge, workshops on women's human rights, medicinal plants, importance of medicinal plants, TOT with health promoters. reproductive health, legal rights, health rights, gender equity, traditional medicinal plants and practices, staff capacity building,

Graphic 1. Percentage of men and women who have received training on agricultural innovation techniques , Gender Issues and Reproductive health.



**Comment [s2]:** Raquel My Diagram is not Working So can't mentioned here women; 78%) But don't worried I will do it tomorrow.

- 22 dialogues and gathering out of 14 on alliance against women torture, Rokeya day, World Women Day, about gender based violence, Agro-biodiversity Conservation and Gender Justice, World Indigenous Day, Fruits and wood tree, International age day have been organized out of 5 and the total number of participants was 2030 (female=1463 ; male=567).
- 8 seed fair have been organized at the village & union level and 171 community peoples ( female-143 & male-28) participated and they exchange their seed resource and message about the seed availability and seeds perseveration with each others 326 farmers have collected 17 kg of 22 types of vegetable seeds form seed fair and farmers to farmers seed exchange. The exchanged and collected seeds were- sweet gourd, bitter gourd, snake gourd, Indian spinach, Tard long bean, Ridge gourd, Amaranth, lalshak, cucumber, sponge gold, ladies finger, Egg plant, Jute, Muskmelon, Wax gourd, Bottle gourd, Bean, Mug pulse, coriander, Tomato, Chili, Brinjal and Reddish. Sweet gourd, bitter gourd, snake gourd, Indian spinach, Tard long bean, Ridge gourd, Amaranth, lalshak, cucumber, sponge gold, ladies finger, Egg plant, Jute, Muskmelon, Wax gourd, Bottle gourd, Bean, Mug pulse, coriander, Tomato, Chili, Brinjal and Reddish.
- 33 discussion session have been organized out of 30 on reproductive health, legal rights of reproductive health, gender equity. Total of participants=837 (female-698 ; male-139). Female were 83% . organized 16 health campaign on World Aged Day and provided health service to 1114 aged peoples where female was 775 and male 339. Female was 70% .
- Project supported 155 vulnerable women's are increasing their monthly income and change their livelihood status and empowering. They are earning 1500-2000 taka average per month.
- 2 case study published out of 2 (100% executed). A case study on "Garo

women roles and traditional knowledge in climate change responses' (200 copies) and women's agro-biodiversity and gender justice-"Kalmakanda Darpon" (1500 copies) and distributed 1185 (105+1080=1185) copies to the community members.

- 4 posters have been published out of 2 (200% executed). 6000 copies of poster have been published and 5219 distributed to community peoples, govt. and non govt. offices, schools and sister organization.
- Organized 5 meeting with govt. and non govt. service providers out of 4. (125% executed). Total 113 Govt. & Non Govt. delegates and the community peoples participated at the meeting where female-49 and male-64. Female was 43%.
- 4 sharing workshops on baseline survey report have been organized in this year and 86 community members participated where female-75 and male-6. Staffs also shared the survey result in the community groups meeting and individual dialogue at the community level.
- 8 exposure visits provinces were conducted to Nursery preparation, Farmer's field day, Vermin (Earth worm) Compost preparation, Participatory Rice Varietals Selection (PVS), Home Gardening (HG) innovations. These visits have had the participation was 93(female=40 ; male=53).
- Completed an assessment of existing income generational activities and options (IGA) of Kalmakanda peoples in last year
- BARCIK Netrakona Regional Centre (3 rooms tin shed) building construction have been completed on BARCIK's own land. The centre is used various purposes like- meeting, training, workshop and gathering etc. Centre users are local farmers, fisher folk communities, other occupational groups, youth and women, student solidarity groups, CBOs, NGOs, university students etc. In this year (2nd year of the project) the centre have been used for 40 purposes and 589 men and womens (female=321; male=268) from different organization and communities members stayed over night at the center to participate at the training, workshop, meeting etc.. Female were 54%
- 16 participatory varietals selection trials (PVS) out of 16 (100% executed) on Boro, Aus and Amon rice seasons have been setup and 330 local rice varietis and 26 vegetable varieties were under trials.  
Organized 13 farmers field day on Amon, Boro and Aus rice season on the basis of rice varietals trials and 370 farmers (Male=213 & Female=157).

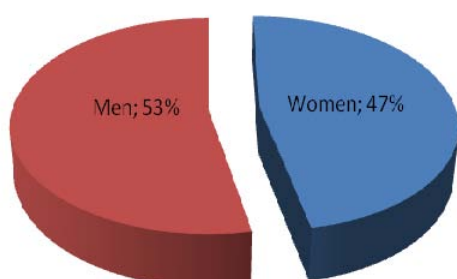


Female were 42%.

17 Kg of 22 item vegetable seeds have been collect and exchange with 326 farmers to promote the farmers to preserve seeds.

- 36 awareness sessions have been organized out of 21 with the students of local high schools and Madrasha and the community people on early marriage, family planning., Importance of tree, Disability, autism, violence against women, stop early marriage to mobilize, transform and practice in their families/societies. 1085 students have participated and female were 696 and male 389. Female were 64.15%.

Graphic 2. Percentage of women and men who participated in the demos and visits made



Comment [s3]: 64.15%

### III. Findings and conclusions

#### A. Level of compliance with the main objective, specific objective and expected results

##### General objective of the project

To contribute to alleviate poverty in Bangladesh through the social, economical, political empowerment of rural and indigenous women.

Judgment: The general objective of the project was achieved and could be a good model for long-term sustainability as beneficiaries were provided more livelihood alternatives in increasing women participation, in which they have utilized their social, economical, political sector to an increased extent. project has been focused and priorities rural women to increased their families, homestead gardening, strengthening seed exchange among women, ensuring arsenic free safe drinking water, ensuring access to government support and services, increasing children education, motivated for primary health care.

For beneficiaries who wished to increase their food security is now provided access to get information and technical support from the Farmer group, Female are engaged income which, as a result, had means to increase their livelihood alternatives. The fact that they were trained to go organic on their agricultural farming and home garden not

only helped them to cut down expense but also promote sustainable use of natural resources. And Women in Bangladesh in disadvantaged for long time so it's little bit difficult to established gender equality. Therefore, the project has contributed to eradication of poverty and women unfairness. Nevertheless, due to attributions and contribution problems, it is not possible to quantify the achievement of this general objective.

### **The specific objective of the project**

The specific objective of the project was Increased the political, economical and social self-determination of the women of the Muslim, Garo and Hajong communities under the project area (Kalmakanda sub district, Netrokona District, Bangladesh)

This specific objective was highly achieved for the target beneficiaries as farmers and venerable social groups, especially women. As they have manifested in the field work carried out for the evaluation, they have increased their economic and social conditions through increased food production, home gardening as they were applying agricultural techniques and improving their home garden as well as turning useful waste around their house into income-generation stuff; and through increased income, as by joining the farmer and women groups, they not only make money from interests.

### **Expected result 1**

The expected result 1 was **“The Women of the union’s of Kalmakanda Upazila are aware of their rights and protect actively their interest”** The community peoples of the project areas are well aware about coalition building, networking, agro-biodiversity conservation and gender justice more than before. During this reporting period 17 female formed a women's group. Now a total 17 groups have been formed in the project area (last year 16 and 2nd year 1). Farmer's are practicing diversify crop cultivation. They have been developed a good network with govt. and non-govt. service providers and working together. Now increasing women’s involvement in the agriculture sectors more than before . farmers has been making vermi compost and practicing organic agriculture. The people came to know about alliance against women torture, the legal punishment of women torture, importance of Rokeya day, the rights of the indigenous people, importance of agro bio-diversity and also shared their opinion and demand on that day.

However, it would take some time before people would change their traditional mindset about pursuing their traditional ways of agricultural practice.

### **Expected result 2**

The expected result 2 was **“Community and other stakeholders are informed and positive attitude on the issues of rural and Indigenous women”** This was proved to be a great achievement for beneficiaries after as they could have been received regular health service from different kind of GO’s published case study on "Garo women roles and traditional knowledge in climate change responses" and women's agro-biodiversity and gender justice-"Kalmakanda Darponand NGO’s. Indigenous women in the targeted areas improved as a result of women joining women’s groups. However, the short time base set up of women’s groups have made it difficult to see the improvement, as they were trained but the groups were not strengthened enough during the project period. Officials from the provincial department of women affair and local authority including commune and village expressed their appreciation to women joining the groups.

### **Expected result 3**

The expected result 3 was “**Improved Economic conditions/livelihood option for the primary stakeholders(rural and Indigenous women) of the target communities**”.

The project provided goat, pig, poultry rearing, bamboo craft, grocery materials, tailoring machine, cloths etc. vulnerable women to improve their livelihood. The women headed family tried to lift up their family status after receiving the income generating support. So far we collected following numbers of assisted women impact result. Few of them multiplied their income while others are trying their best. Supported families increased their monthly income. They gathered knowledge about indigenous culture, knowledge, peoples’ led development program, and community based women’s group activities. People participated in both of the fairs were able to share and exchange agricultural knowledge and local seed resources and interact with each other.

They also came to know about the available seeds supply in the area. As a result of the seeds fair farmers are encouraged to preserve and exchange seeds with each others. Some farmers make/develop seeds bank in their own houses.

### **Expected result 4**

The expected result 4 was “**The security and health conditions of the more vulnerable women of target communities are improved.**” Project provided primary health care support to the community members of the remote areas and reduce maternal and child mortality rate. Vulnerable women took part in this training and gather their knowledge about traditional birth attendance (TBA), family planning, primary health care, cause of born disable and autism baby, child care after birth. After completed the training medical kit box have been distributed to the health promoters. adolescents and students came to know about the types of gender based violence at family and society level, need to gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and development. They can widen up their insights, foresights and promise to take responsibilities to change the family, society and country as well. Through the sharing session about practices and situation of medicinal plants the project people came to know the importance of trees, advantage of small weeds, medicinal plants, importance of its preservation, and type of uncultivated plant need for medicine, what will be the situation of world if all of the trees vanish from world. People increased their knowledge regarding sowing the medicinal plants and photography by herbarium..

The community people are aware about govt. and non-govt. health and social safety net services in the area and learnt about the process and way to access to the service and benefits.

### **Expected result 5**

The expected result 4 was “**The project is successfully managed and coordinated, to ensure adequate skills of project staff regarding agro biodiversity**”. Local authorities have included project activities in commune development and investment plan. Local population involved in this project were invited to involve in various meetings organized by local authority, while local authority representative joined in many of the meetings with beneficiaries of the project. Project staff participated in coordination Meeting and shared their findings with others and find out the proper solution against field problems. Project is properly coordinated, monitored and evaluated with the inclusion of gender mainstreaming. They also shared the best practices and success of farmers’ activities with each others and gather their

knowledge. The facilitation skills, data collection, communication skill of the staff members have increased. After received training, staffs are facilitating community level training, workshop and discussion session very well. They are capable to provide necessary technical support to the farmers on varietal trials and agriculture related issues.

Table 1. Level of achievement of general objective, specific objective and expected results.

	Pretty acceptable	Acceptable	Not acceptable
<b>General objective</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Specific objective</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Expected result 1</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Expected result 2</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Expected result 3</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Expected result 4</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Expected result 5</b>	<b>X</b>		

## **B. Quality Assessment**

### **a. Effectiveness**

As far as the objective of the project is concerned ‘Increased the political, economical and social self-determination of the women of the Muslim, Garo and Hajong communities under the project area (Kalmakanda sub district, Netrokona District, Bangladesh)’

, it is considered effective as it did provide beneficiaries involved with project activities the training on sustainable agriculture Home Gardening (HG), Gender equality, violence against women, Health and education right’s which led them to improved social security and enhanced livelihood options. Beneficiaries could achieve this on the basis that they utilize on their existing land to a maximum level, and while there is a lack of credit, it could make use of their membership in the farmer group & female group to borrow money with less complicated procedure and lower interest rate compared to their previous practice of borrowing from the bank. When they have money, they were eager to put in the farmer group to earn more interest and at the same time provide better access to credit for those in need.

The project was effective in ensuring gender equality. Target beneficiaries received training on agricultural innovations including System of Rice Intensification (SRI), soil conservation, and Home Gardening (HG), Gender equality, violence against women, Health right’s while 9,78 women (78%) of 1,256 beneficiaries were members participated training and workshop in Kalmakanda at Netrakona District.

In gender matter, 1 women community group of 17 members have been formed in this reporting year. (16 community groups have been formed in the last year in different villagees where 11 were female groups and 5 were the combine groups of male and female. Total members of the groups are 505 where the number of the female members are 422 and the rest

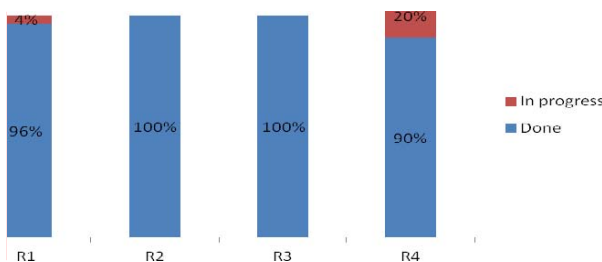
are male. Now, total community groups is 17 (female=12 and combine=5) and total groups member is 505 (male=84 ; female=421). 17 groups conducting their meeting on monthly basis. Female were 83%.

the women's groups were established quite late at a later time of the project period because the society of Bangladesh is not very comfortable for women. But now women are aware about their rights and ready for objection.

But the lack of the project of a social bindings which was Religion perspective and the negative mentality of female participation. They always thought women have less opportunity to earn money due to huge household works. The belief that Man are more important than women. Project staff were very much familiar with the framework of gender perspective. It was a good sign for this project.

Regarding to effectiveness in the implementations of activities, the project included the implementation of all activities which have been performed 100%.

Graphic 3. Percentage of activities realized and unrealized per expected results



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However, the effectiveness of the project was not achieved everywhere the project reached out. For example, in some families, women who were trained of the sustainable agriculture, TOT for health promoter's, Gender right's wanted to apply knowledge on their field and family but were not agreed by their male relatives (including husbands or sons who are the main labor). And because the time of the project was short (24 months), it was hard to measure its effectiveness. Influential factors include short time period of the project, delay in some activities because of the delay in fund injection, the rush in providing trainings once funding was injected to meet the deadline for scheduled activities.

#### **b. Efficiency**

The means for implementing the project including the exchange visit to other provinces were necessary to reach good level of efficiency. All project activities were important for the achievement of the results. While project activities of providing training on SRI, creating saving groups and women's groups were important to increase food security and enhance livelihood options, the exchange visit proved to be an inspiration to keep beneficiaries who joined the visit committed with the tasks in hand and as a motivation to join the group, to help set up one for others and to keep going with the existing ones.

Some beneficiaries lamented about the little financial and other incentives provided to them at the beginning of the project while nothing was provided as subsidy in saving groups or seeds provided in starting to apply new agricultural techniques or home gardening. However, the results beneficiaries realized made them satisfied. Some of them had to spend some of their own money during the visit and buy seeds by

themselves, but they were reported to be happy to do so, seeing the results they achieved at the end of the project. Moreover, the committed and hard-working project staff played important roles in motivating beneficiaries to volunteer from the beginning and kept them going.

Project staff took a good care in making sure that women joined the groups they helped to create including agricultural trainings and saving groups, where the number of women was more than that of men. This means women were empowered in gaining more knowledge in agriculture and gender equality, women right's and in socio-economic, political sphere of Farmer groups.

The number of staff the staff members were not able to go to the field (Working area) due to the natural disaster such as the roads goes under water, swollen in the river, sudden flood in the area. Main transport boat is not available in Kalmakanda union, so that staffs could go to the field in due time. As a result the staff members had to re-scheduled working time depending on the needs and demands of the people affected in those incidents with an extra working hour.. Also, late fund injection and the rush activities to be completed after the delay made the project activities both late and urgent.

Both staff and beneficiaries reported that the project period should be longer for up to four years or more. For agricultural work, to be more effective, beneficiaries needed to be trained and followed up and showed in accordance with seasonal calendar. The late and the rush activities meant that project activities could not follow seasonal calendar properly. Plus, beneficiaries deserved a second opportunity if anything went wrong in their first attempt. the time of seed sowing in the seedbed for Boro rice season seed was affected by cold injure. So the farmers had to collect local rice varieties of seeds from different place that's why the collected seed were affected by transport injure. As the result farmer's trials result of few places was not good.

Having women's groups established towards the end of the project made it less likely to connect well to the existing activities and project staff seemed to be frustrated in not being to perform well enough while they were enthusiastic with other project activities.

The fact that the project did not provide any subsidy for all the beneficiaries while the existing activities of other NGO project provided subsidy to their beneficiaries was first of all perceived as an uphill to overcome. However, it proved to be more efficient after the project staff and beneficiaries succeeded in their efforts to train and to help set up the groups.

### **c. Appropriateness**

The project was highly appropriate within the context of CM, BARCIK and AECID, as the project gave a opportunity for the beneficiaries to fight socio-economic and political environment and exclusion, working for the environment and sustainable development, promoting education rights, health, culture and food security by improving the quality of life of disadvantaged individuals and groups, through increased capacity and improved

opportunities in their communities. Moreover, the project was also highly appropriate in regard to the priorities in the policies of development in Bangladesh stated in the government's rectangular strategies phase II and national strategic development plan in poverty reduction, elimination of gender inequality and civic participation in good governance. Bangladesh National Council for Women's goal was to promote rights, status, roles and welfare of Bangladesh women to enable them to live happily and prosperously. It also was in line with the National Plan to Prevent Violence on

Women 2009-2012 whose policy was to protect women's human rights, improve the living conditions and wellbeing of women and their families.

As stated in background, context and justification to this project, the project clearly was appropriate to be a priority for the beneficiary groups, as they had not harness to the maximum their available resources in their community to fight against poverty and social inequality. Women were prioritized as seen in the number of more women than men joining in the trainings and farmer groups, while the women's groups are composed of mainly women.

The objective which aimed at To contribute to alleviate poverty in Bangladesh through the social, economical, political empowerment of rural and indigenous women. the specific objective of "Increased the political, economical and social self-determination of the women of the Muslim, Garo and Hajong communities under the project area (Kalmakanda sub district, Netrokona District, Bangladesh)"—woman being subject to domestic violence and gender-based violence. The problems were addressed through the provision of technical know-how in agriculture and in political and socio-economic sector through farmer groups, as well as soft skills in gender issues. This had strengthened the capacities of beneficiary groups for both women and men, while at the same time, the overall objective had justified the project.

#### **d. Impact**

The impact of this project was strongest on the beneficiaries' self-confidence which was developed from out of their meetings, trainings and interaction among themselves and with other stakeholders , seed fair, agree-bio diversity fair, exchange visit; changes of behavior and attitude on women's gender role, and optimism for the future. The project has transformed people. A very powerful and transformational statement: "I spending my time this shop which was provided by BARCIK. My children's now going to school regularly .I can give food them regularly. Farmer group did change my life and that of my happy family's."

In some targeted areas, in farmer and female group members have been working together in unity, and they are very helpful, and understanding. They gave priority to those who badly needed the money, while the request for late payment was taken into serious consideration with a lot of understanding. Some groups prioritized widowed women to take loans to buy seeds for agriculture. A good sense of community building and reciprocity in the commune was felt and enhanced.

Gender mainstreaming made easy when beneficiaries found it a success in group and agricultural production and other small businesses. They had beliefs and it was more convenient to talk about other gender-related topics.

Determination and commitment from BARCIK staff was praised by everyone involved including beneficiaries and local authority. They wished, if the project was to start over again, to have the same staff to come and work with them.

The declaration is that they now know how to save money and see the benefit of money making money through getting interests and their participation in farmer and female groups helped them get more money to invest.

Beneficiaries who joined the exchange visit to other provinces were very much inspired to make things happen in their communities. Without the visits, they would not probably have any justification/motivations to set up and determine to sustain one. After the visit, they discussed together how people they visited—who they perceived not any better than them—could make it happen, and they felt that not having one saving group established and sustained was not right for them.

Villagers who joined BARCIK project without getting subsidy from the very beginning took ownership of the activities and groups they belong. The fact that the project implemented differently from other NGO projects by not providing subsidy could prove to attract the most committed members in the community. Once they were there with the current satisfactory results, they were proud and optimistic about their future.

With a lack of cooperation and participation from local authority, it may lead to the lack of the mechanism in place when conflicts arise.

For groups with members as chief or deputy chief of the village, the communication flow to local authority was much better than those without them as members.

Some village chiefs as a member did not find it beneficial but also a way to build better communication with villages and their well-being and demands.

Women have been praised and recognized in terms of their active roles in not only project activities but also meetings with local authority.

Not only they earn more from different livelihood options, they even cut down the spending on vegetables, small business and conscious about saving money to put more in farmer group.

Improved economic opportunities have cut down stress of many people who were in debt, now focusing their energy in alternatives with optimism. Access to credit service helped transformed some women's lives, while still other women who were involved in the project did not find ways to change the family situations. BARCIK activities were integrated into commune development plan. Domestic violence was decreased in village and in the commune.

Community people understood the value of reciprocity in the form of borrowing and lending money among themselves, and were proud that they did not have to pay interests to outside their community, while in return, money only circulate in their community.

#### **e. Sustainability/Viability**

Sustainability was viewed differently in accordance to different project activities. For SRI, home gardening Gender equality, violence against women, Health and education right's and livestock, which was regarded as adding flavor to the traditional ways of life, there was high hope that beneficiaries would gain more experiences from their experiments and in a long run will be more sustained through making the best use of environmental resources.

However, sustainability was one of major concerns for the beneficiaries and project staff for many female groups and women's groups. The current successful female groups which have transformed individuals and families will sustain as the members have got the benefits from being in the group, and wisely harness from the group. Women's groups were considered very low in terms of sustainability, as the groups were established little bit late in the project period and there were not enough time to strengthen the group.

However, sustainability regarding benefits for individuals who have been transformed will be in a long run, as the knowledge gained, the inspiration provided and the actual benefits received from joining the project activities will be there. The capacity built for such groups and individuals will be viable for them, though there was a need to refresh and to sharing experiences with other groups.

Gender mainstreaming was done mostly in farmer and female group meetings and agricultural trainings, but that was done under the assistance of NGO staff. Few of farmer groups and women's groups have disappeared or become very inactive during



the evaluation period.

There was a favorable trend in sustaining the benefits for current beneficiaries and other new members who were not involved during the project period. For example, more and more people became interested in joining the groups, some people even register their other family members to be members of the farmer groups, so they could start to save and earn interest since they are very young.

Another aspect of sustainability is when the project activities were incorporated into commune development and investment plan, which means they became one of the regular focuses of commune development.

Table 2. Level of achievement of the quality assessment criteria.

	Pretty acceptable	Acceptable	Not acceptable
<b>Effectiveness</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Efficiency</b>			<b>X</b>
<b>Appropriateness</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Impact</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Sustainability/Viability</b>		<b>X</b>	

#### IV. Lessons learned

The project has increased the number of women in project activities. For that increased garden's in the poor family. Women are directly involved in their garden and they are selling their production. Some of Men also helping women for their garden and giving space to share their ideas and other's. However, there is still a need for men to really take part, especially in gender training and in the awareness of consequences of domestic violence. Men need to be reassured that they would not be inferior just because they stop committing domestic violence, but rather it would be a reputation gained for himself and for the family.

In applying new agricultural techniques, it should be noted that when women came to join the training, they sometimes found it hard to convince family members especially husband and sons (who are the main labor for agricultural work). In contrast, if men were in the training and decided to apply new agricultural techniques, they could make it happen immediately.

Increased awareness on seed preservation, keep own variety, use barren land and exchange seeds and protect garden. women keeping seeds in their home for preservation. Making organic manure in home. women keeping seeds in their home for preservation. Making organic manure in home. They are also involved in process of making organic manure.

Confusion in perception, as there have been two different groups coming to persuade people to go chemical to gain more while NGOs trying to persuade them to go organic.

In SRI, it needs to give time for project beneficiaries to experiment on their land.

During project implementation period, most of project beneficiaries were not willing to use all their land for the new techniques. Women have less opportunity to earn money due to huge household works. The belief that Man are more important than women. However, for those who have started applying the techniques have seen the results, and were willing to exploit more land.

The monitoring conducted by the project staffs has been essential for the function of the Farmer group as well as the rules developed for each group by the members under the facilitation of the project staffs.

For target areas with good communication between the project staff and local authority were the venues where project activities to be conducted were closed to commune office and project staff met often with the local authority. However, when the venues where project activities to be conducted were far from commune office, the communication seemed to be remote. Without proper communication or coordination between project staff development activities will slow down.

## **V. Recommendations**

After analyzing the project development and the above conclusions and lessons learned we present some recommendations focused on ensuring the achievement of expected results, institutional strengthening and capacity building at communitarian and institutional level.

### **Project development**

@In Project area no women get farmer's card. This card assists farmers getting agro loans. It is also not known that if male farmers have ever got the card as well.

@If health Worker or family planning worker attend health related program would be more effective for the Community.

@Fund injection should be done on a timely manner to ease the project activities to go as planned.

@Project staff's capacity for implementing project activities need to be strengthened and built regularly.

@Technical know-how and transparency in saving groups needed to be built and regularly monitored after the project ended as they were important to sustainability. Otherwise, they could expire easily, as it had happened very frequently in the past with project activities supported by other NGOs.

@Make sure that the follow-up system is in place among the target beneficiaries some time after the project ended to make sure that beneficiaries were still capable to manage the established activities without the presence of NGO staff. This is also important for the currently successful ones. Without follow most of thing is worse.

@The project should have a longer life-span (3-5 years) to give more time for the follow-up on agricultural activities. Otherwise, there could only be one-off of everything related to agriculture, as most farmers work the field only once a year.

### **Gender**

Gender Equity is basic human rights. BARCIK mandate is to contribute to Indigenous Knowledge and rural development Women produce most of the food that is consumed locally. This Project Working for reducing gender inequality leads to falling infant and child mortality, improved nutrition, higher economic productivity and faster growth. For the global community, gender equality is also a commitment, embedded in international human rights agreements and in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This Project needs to address the situation of women in rural communities.

Gender specialist should remain with the project for the whole period of the project. That person should be supported by the NOGOs staff and the project coordinator. It is very important that project coordinator also have training on gender issues and gender sensitivity.

@Staff should be provided enough guidance about the project activities including guidelines and procedure in setup of women's groups and have the permanent support

of a gender specialist. Gender work with the team is essential.

@Make sure that both husband and wife had the opportunities to take part in the groups at least once or twice during the course of the project. More and more women joined the groups, so men need to have knowledge on gender and know what it is like about the activities of other groups, so that the couple can forgive and help each other better.

@It should be noted that when women came to join the training, they sometimes found it hard to convince family members especially husband and sons. In this regard, It is necessary strengthening the women's capacities to negotiate inside their families as part of the gender trainings.

@Women's group: many women participate for the sake of participation while most of the decisions were made by men (their husbands). It needs to make sure that men and women together join the trainings or other activities, so that women did not have to come back to explained what we taught from trainings, while understanding that in this culture, men are not supposed to be preached/lectured by the wife. Applying knowledge without a good understanding will only make things worse, like men would translate woman's knowledge application as defiant behaviors, thus, leads to even more violence to maintain their masculinity.

@ Stop the violence against women and girl's and to sensitize male person more to stop the Gender violation

### **Income generation**

Provide concrete training to beneficiaries about creating more income-generation activities—small businesses—during the off-season from cultivation. Small business conscious should be paid attention to. There should be staffs who understands quite well the concept of small business and there should be a mechanism to motivate people to start up small business and monitor their activities regularly from the outset. To Ensure the Market the market access. for women and ensure the fair trade for the poor production

### **Risk management**

As the project area is vulnerable to flooding, the project should incorporate disaster risk management and climate change awareness-raising, or connect to NGOs or authority working in that matter to provide some trainings or knowledge to the target community.

### **Coordination and complementarily with other stakeholders**

Project needs to make sure there is good cooperation with other NGOs working in the area to avoid overlapping activities and to complement or reinforcement people's knowledge/awareness among themselves rather than competing against one another.

## Annex 1: Terms of Reference for project final evaluation



Evaluation proposal: Cambiar el título del proyecto en todas partes. “Peoples led rural development and Gender justice program” (10-PR1-153.

### 1. EVALUATION PROPOSAL

The aim of this evaluation is to analyze and evaluate the project's outcomes against the approved project logical framework as reflected in the approved project proposal:

#### **“People led rural development and Gender justice program**

The evaluation will:

- Assess both the progress and general outcome of the implementation of the project
- Assess the extent to which the project objectives and expected outputs were achieved within the framework of the gender perspective.
- Consider the limitations and constraints relating to the project outcomes
- Make recommendations for improving the implementation of the project
- Take into consideration the recommendations made on the BARCIK evaluation report

in order to address whether they have been incorporated or not during the implementation process of BARCIK.

The geographic coverage will be 4 union in Kalmakanda, at Netrakona. They will be covered Taranagar, Phulbari, Ghoragoan, Rajnagar, Kathalbari, Kalapani in Lengura Union, Bamongaon, Bonbera, Anchengri, Kachugora, Domdama, Ranigaon villages under Kharnoi Union, Patimunji, Chanduail, Nagdhora, Kuarpur, Bishara and Rongshingpur villages under Kalmakanda Sadar Union, Dilura, Betua, Boroinda, Kantapur, Rahimpur and Bheluatoli villages under Najirpur Union.

The evaluation will address the questions of effectiveness, efficiency, appropriateness, impact, and viability/sustainability, according to the specific criteria shown on the Assessment Management Manual for Spanish Cooperation, and on the Terms and References published by Cives Mundi and BARCIK

### **1. Methodological proposal**

This evaluation employed methodology which follows the philosophy of Spanish cooperation evaluation, whose guiding principles contained in the Assessment Management Manual or Spanish Cooperation (DGPOLDE, 2007) are participation, learning, and incorporating lessons learned from experience, usability, and transparency. The study examined the level and quality of results and effects of the project along five criteria: appropriateness, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and viability/sustainability. It employed a mix of research strategies to gather information from participants and stakeholders: participatory strategic workshop, Transaction, focus group discussions, key informant interviews, site visits, and review of documentation. This evaluation employed methodology which follows the The participatory Rural appraisal (PRA)

### **Gender justice program**

From experience, usability, and transparency. Thus, the assessment to be carried out, is characterized by promoting a participatory approach to the stakeholders and to pursue a holistic perspective in their analysis strategy, which will focus around concretized criteria in the evaluation matrix. Therefore, it was decided to offer a participatory methodology that ensures the involvement of all stakeholders in the design, execution and implementation of the project (planners, managers, political representatives, organizations, partners, beneficiaries, etc). All this utility seeking both the process and the results to be obtained, especially looking for learning and lessons learned that can be incorporated into future planning. This opinion will be sought through interviews, surveys, focus groups discussion, strategic participation workshops and in site visits. The stakeholders involved in the evaluation will be:

- AECID
- CIVES MUNDI
- BARCIK
- Local School
- Local other's Development organization (BRAC, Pari, world vision, Sabalamby, World vision, Karitas )
- Union parishad
- Local Agriculture office (AO)
- Project Staff
- Gender Focal point at commune level
- Commune councils, local Authority and stakeholders.
- Beneficiaries

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Regarding the integral perspective, the evaluation will combine different sources and study skills, both quantitative and qualitative. Thus, from the **quantitative side**, there will be a comprehensive analysis of existing documentation on the project quarterly and annual progress reports, approved project proposal and reformulations, Documentation of livelihood strategic exploring women Knowledge on rural women's livelihood strategies. Mid term assessment report -January 2013), External Evaluation Report for the Project peoples led rural development and Gender justice program, (October 2013), Kalmakanda darpon, 2013.

3 time fieldwork on site visit, where we will visit some selected communities where the project is implemented for evaluation of results and objectives achieved by it. Similarly, **participatory techniques through observation, Transaction, focus group discussion (FGD), Interviews, Case study, discussion, workshop, Meeting**, are used to collect information,

The study techniques and data sources to be used in the assessment are:

#### 1. Analysis of socio-economic and institutional context of Bangladesh and its development priorities

The objective of this activity is to synthesize existing information, primarily the main indicators and major conclusions derived from the analysis of the country have been other stakeholders, in order to highlight the major issues facing Bangladesh and its development priorities. It involves, among others, the following:

- Millennium Development Goals of the UN
- Documentation of livelihood strategic exploring women Knowledge on rural women's livelihood strategies.
- Mid term assessment report -January 2013)
- External Evaluation Report for the Project peoples led rural development and Gender justice program, (October 2013)
- Kalmakanda darpon, 2013
- Research on traditional medicine plants: taxonomy, uses and community perception, September 2013.
- Memorandum of Agreement for the Implementation of the Project.
- Annual Report 2011-2013

## **2. Comprehensive analysis of existing documentation on the project**

In order to know the results and objectives achieved by the project, will analyze the existing documentation on it (formulation documents, monitoring reports, Intermediate and Final reports and baselines, etc.).

**3. Data collection tools:** The consultant(s) or consultant firm will adopt appropriate methods such as (a) a review of available secondary data; (b) a semi-structured interviews; (c) focus group discussions with women and men; (d) Case Study (e) direct observation and other participatory assessment tools open Discussion, Transect etc.

### **3.1. Participatory Strategic Focus Group discussions:**

Evaluation proposal : Peoples led Rural Development and Gender Justice Programme (10-PR1-153)

4 To be conducted with the main stakeholders involved in the management of the project AECID, Cambodia, NGO Cives Mundi and local NGO partner BARCIK , Local School, Local other's Development organization (BRAC, Pari, world vision, Sabalamby, World vision, Karitas ), Union parishad, Local Agriculture office (AO), Project Staff, Gender Focal point at commune level, Commune councils, local Authority and stakeholders local authority and beneficiaries at each province with the aim of carrying out a joint reflection on the main achievements of the project and the development of a series of proposals to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, appropriateness, impact and visibility / sustainability as well as challenges and main suggestions of such interventions.

The realization of such participatory strategic focus group discussion is a particularly useful tool for the assessment of results and objectives achieved in the implementation of a project and its main limitations and restrictions.

### **3.2. Interviews:**

Key informants (stakeholders) at the target areas of implementation to obtain key information for evaluation, such as, design, implementation processes, monitoring of activities and results achieved and, especially, on compliance with the quality criteria included in the Evaluation Matrix as evaluation criteria,. These interviews were carried out using a semi-structured questionnaire.

### **3.3. Site Visits and meetings:**

- Visit a FG sites of each target province
- Meet with Farmers and Female group members, commune council, local NGO facilitators and local DW staff involved in project.
- Other key actors

## **ASSESSMENT PHASE: PRODUCTS AND TASKS**

Evaluation is structured, following the directions set out in the Terms of Reference, in four phases:

Evaluation proposal : "BARCIK: Evaluation proposal : Peoples led Rural Development and Gender Justice Programme (10-PR1-153)

### **5 PHASE I: Methodological approach**

**Product 1. Technical proposal evaluation and final work plan.** This will involve the following tasks:

**Task 1:** Initial document review for the purpose of understand and refine the object of evaluation and its context. Be identified and shall obtain documentary sources of information relevant to the evaluation. Will develop a list of identified and received documents.

**Task 2:** Identification of sources of information and key stakeholders.

**Task 3.** Specification of the Evaluation Matrix. Review, adjust and modify if necessary the initially proposed evaluation matrix, containing the criteria and final evaluation questions and a set of indicators to consider.

**Task 4:** Proposed final work plan: realization of the techniques and tools used for the collection of information, phases and timeline.

**Task 5:** Design of data collection tools, ensuring the reliability of the sources and the rigor of the processing and analysis.

**Task 6:** Consensus on evaluative action to follow with the NGO Cives Mundi and AECID and implementing NGO partners.

## **PHASE II: Study of documentation**

### **Product 2: Preliminary assessment report.**

**Task 7:** Analysis of available documentation concerning this project.

**Task 8:** Identification and review of documentation regarding the context of kalmakanda Netrakona and the national, regional and local development strategies.

**Task 9:** Analysis of other strategic documents.

**Task 10:** Identification, review and analysis of the documentation relating to the intervention under evaluation (formulating documents, design, monitoring, specific agreements, identification studies, baselines, etc.).

Evaluation proposal : Evaluation proposal : Peoples led Rural Development and Gender Justice Programme (10-PR1-153)

**Task 11:** Identification and selection of a representative sample of communities and activities to visit during the fieldwork in Netrakona.

**Task 12:** Writing and delivering the preliminary assessment report.

## **PHASE III: Fieldwork**

### **Product 3: Fieldwork Report**

**Task 13:** Conducting interviews with key informants in kalmakanda Netrakona.

**Task 14:** Realization of participatory strategic focus group discussion.

**Task 15:** Visits to selected communities.

**Task 16:** Analysis of the results obtained.

**Task 17:** Writing and delivery of fieldwork report, including a report on the activities undertaken.

## **Task 18: Analysis of the Case Study**

### **Task 19: Organize workshop**

## **PHASE IV: Analysis and conclusions**

### **Product 4: Final evaluation report.**

**Task 18:** Prepare and submit to Cives Mundi and AECID of the draft assessment report.

**Task 19:** Return and discussion of the draft report with Cives Mundi and AECID.

**Task 20:** Transposition draft all considerations arising from their socialization.

**Task 21:** Preparation and writing the final report, and the executive summary with the main results of the evaluation.

The evaluation team will summarize in an assessment report: findings, conclusions, recommendations and lessons learned. Success and challenges as well of lesson learn, will be presented in order to improve the quality of intervention orientated to identify good and bad practices.

Evaluation proposal : Evaluation proposal : Peoples led Rural Development and Gender Justice Programme (10-PR1-153)

**7** The evaluation team will ensure that the findings come from data collected and the analysis performed. Therefore the conclusions have a rational relationship to the findings and recommendations consistent with the conclusions. The recommendations will be realistic, operational and pragmatic, and will take into account the circumstances in the context of Spanish Cooperation in Bangladesh, which may- i

Comment [s6]: is it okay?

**The Final Evaluation Report, as stated in Terms of Reference, has the following structure:**

- Content
- Acronyms and abbreviations
- Executive summary

### **I. Introduction**

1. Objectives of the evaluation
2. Scope and focus of the evaluation
3. Evaluation method used
4. Limitations and constraints of the evaluation

**II. Context of the intervention:** Description of the intervention as per project log frame and progress

**III. Findings and conclusions:** Presentation of findings and conclusions relating to the evaluation questions

**IV. Lessons learned:** Lessons learned that may have implications for the future of similar project interventions

**V. Recommendations:** Presentation of recommendations for improvements in the subsequent implementation of the project.

**VI. Annexes**

Evaluation proposal : Peoples led Rural Development and Gender Justice Programme (10-PR1-153)

## 10 TENTATIVE ITINERARY FOR THE EVALUATION

It is estimated that the implementation of this assistance requires 25 working days from the award contract. The timing of these phases is not rigidly linear, and overlap of the same should be due circular nature of the approach. The table below shows the tentative work plan for the evaluation:

**Comment [s7]:** I am highlighting the all day in red mark. would you please check this day is proper for my proposal?

**Table 1. Tentative work plan**

**PHASES AND TASKS** Duration Person responsible

### Methodological approach

- General briefing and introduction of evaluation mission with Cives Mundi
- Initial document review
- Identification of sources of information and key stakeholders
- Specification of the Evaluation Matrix.
- Design of data collection tools
- Final work plan proposal
- Work plan submissions to Cives Mundi and BARCIK for approval, along with the tools propose to conduct the evaluation.
- 3 days Consultants

**Comment [s8]:** ¿

### Study of documentation

- Identification and review of documentation regarding the context of Bangladesh.
- Analysis of other strategic documents.
- Identification, review and analysis of the documentation relating to the project
- Identification and selection of a representative sample of communities and activities to visit during the fieldwork in Bangladesh.
- Analysis Mid Term Evaluation Report
- 3 days Consultants

### fieldwork

- Conducting interviews with key informants in Bangladesh.
- Realization of strategic participation workshop.
- Travel to the selected areas to conduct the evaluation
- Analysis of the results obtained.
- 8 days Consultants

Evaluation proposal : "BARCIK: Peoples led Rural Development and Gender Justice Programme (10-PR1-153)

Writing and delivery of fieldwork report.

## ANALYSIS & CONSLUSIONS

Prepare and submit to Cives Mundi and AECID of the draft assessment report.

5 days Consultants

Return and discussion of the draft report with Cives Mundi and AECID.

1 day Consultants

Transposition drafts all considerations arising from their socialization.

2 days Consultants



Prepare and submit the Final evaluation report 3 days Consultants

# **EVALUATION TEAM:**

**The evaluation team is composed of two consultants. Mr. Rajon Talukder, Mr, Sheikh khalquzzaman.**

The coordination of the evaluation will be undertaken by Mr. Rajon Talukder who will be the interlocutor with Cives Mundi and AECID.

The tasks of gathering information, analyzing it, design methodology and tools, reporting and quality control of products and reports according ToR, will be assumed by both consultants.

**Note:** During the implementation period of the evaluation, the evaluation team will hold meetings and continuous contact with Cives Mundi and BARCIK to enrich assessment findings and results of the evaluation.

# **BUDGET:**

The lump sum budget for this evaluation work is **US\$ 3.300** € as proposed in the TOR. In this amount is included all costs incurred by the external evaluation team's assessment



## **Guidelines for NGDO project and agreement evaluations**

### **DAC EVALUATION SHEET**

Title	“PEOPLES LED RURAL DEVELOPME NT AND GENDER JUSTICE PROGRAM ”IN BANGLADES H” (10-PRI-153)	Place	BARCK Implemented the project in 24 Village under 4 Unoin at kalmakanda, Netrakona District, Dhaka Bangladesh		
Sector Type of evaluation	External Evaluation	Subsector Cost (€)	3300 euro		
Intervention date	23 December	Executor agent		Beneficiarie s	
Evaluation date		Evaluator	The evaluation team is composed of two consultants. Mr. Rajon		

Intervention background and general goal Evaluation principles and objectives	Talukder, Mr, Sheikh khalquzzaman.	
	<b>Final Evaluation of the project.</b>	
Methodology and tools	<p>Assess both the progress and general outcome of the implemen project</p> <p>Assess the extent to which the project objectives and expected c achieved within the framework of the gender perspective.</p> <p>Consider the limitations and constraints relating to the project ou</p> <p>Make recommendations for improving the implementation of the</p> <p>Take into consideration the recommendations made on th evaluation report</p>	
Conclusions and recommendations according to evaluation criteria of the intervention (the evaluated ones will be included)	Effectiveness	The measurement of the scope of the Specific Goal and the results of the activities in the target areas during the period of the implementation project without taking into account its cost
	Efficiency	The measurement of the results obtained with regard to the resources used (Financial, material, technical, natural and human).
	Appropriateness	The analysis of the adaptation of the results and goals in the project in the context of the implementation of the project. It is important to take into account: a) the problems and needs of the beneficiaries; b) the national and/or local policies of development; c) other synergies in performances for cooperation amongst project members, both complementary or competitive; d) the policies, goals and priorities, for cooperation and development of the AECID; e) the technical and financial capacities; and f) the conception of the term and the sense of the word "development".
	Impact	The effects that the project has on the community in general. Its measurement: a) it is not confined to studying the scope of foreseen effects; b) it does not limited to the analysis of the effects wanted; and c) it is not restricted to the study of these effects on the beneficiary population.
	Others used criteria	The degree in which the positive effects of the intervention will continue once the external help is finished is to be measured. How the parties institutions and/or beneficiaries are going to sustain the project initiatives in charge.
Specific conclusions	Gender equality is an important indicator of social justice. but Women still today spend most of their times in doing household activities being hindered by socio-cultural structure, rules &	

Specific recommendations	<p>regulation, belief, behavior, religious fundamentalism and patriarchal family structure to free themselves this sorts of monotonous works and play vital role in other development activities. all the women in those villages are deprived and facing discrimination in employment, health, education, rights and dignity. for that reason BARCIK working this area from helping CIVES MUNDI. This project has been focused and prioritizing rural women to increase their involvement in the homestead gardening ,Increasing organic methods, hygienic sanitation for families, using barren land for crop production, ensuring arsenic free safe drinking water, strengthening seed exchange among women, ensuring access to government support and services, Increasing children education and motivating for primary healthcare. If CM and AECID Work here again hope this evaluation can helps to formulate plans to design next activities aimed at addressing the needs and problems of the communities and staff which is good for our project implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the education right's of both girl's and boy's for all economic classes.</li> <li>• To Ensure the Market the market access. for women and ensure the fair trade for the poor production</li> <li>• To ensure livestock support for organic production.</li> <li>• To strengthen the cultural-economic and social relationship and bondage between Bengali and Indigenous communities.</li> <li>• Staff should be provided enough guidance about the project activities including guidelines and procedure in setup of women's groups and have the permanent support of a gender specialist. Gender work with the team is essential.</li> <li>• Make sure that both husband and wife had the opportunities to take part in the groups at least once or twice during the course of the project. More and more women joined the groups, so men need to have knowledge on gender and know what it is like about the activities of other groups, so that the couple can forgive and help each other better.</li> <li>• It should be noted that when women came to join the training, they sometimes found it hard to convince family members especially husband and sons. In this regard, It is necessary strengthening the women's capacities to negotiate inside their families as part of the gender trainings.</li> <li>• Women's group: many women participate for the sake of participation while most of the decisions were made by men (their husbands). It needs to make sure that men and women together join the trainings or other activities, so that women did not have to come back to explained what we taught from trainings, while understanding that in this culture, men are not supposed to be preached/lectured by the wife. Applying knowledge without a good</li> </ul>
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	<p>understanding will only make things worse, like men would translate woman's knowledge application as defiant behaviors, thus, leads to even more violence to maintain their masculinity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop the violence against women and girl's and to sensitize male person more to stop the Gender violation</li> <li>• In Project area no women get farmer's card. This card assists farmers getting agro loans. It is also not known that if male farmers have ever got the card as well.</li> <li>• If health Worker or family planning worker attend health related program would be more effective for the Community.</li> <li>• Fund injection should be done on a timely manner to ease the project activities to go as planned.</li> <li>• Project staff's capacity for implementing project activities need to be strengthened and built regularly.</li> <li>• Technical know-how and transparency in saving groups needed to be built and regularly monitored after the project ended as they were important to sustainability. Otherwise, they could expire easily, as it had happened very frequently in the past with project activities supported by other NGOs.</li> <li>• Make sure that the follow-up system is in place among the target beneficiaries some time after the project ended to make sure that beneficiaries were still capable to manage the established activities without the presence of NGO staff. This is also important for the currently successful ones. Without follow most of thing is worse.</li> <li>• The project should have a longer life-span (3-5 years) to give more time for the follow-up on agricultural activities. Otherwise, there could only be one-off of everything related to agriculture, as most farmers work the field only once a year.</li> <li>• Need land rights in the government khas land and to protect the land rights of Indigenous peoples.</li> <li>• Stop aliens and invasive specie and to ensure to protect local biological.</li> </ul>
Intervention agents	<p>Mr. Rajon Kanti Taluker</p> <p>Mr, Sheikh khalquzzaman.</p>

## Annex 2. Workshop report

Participatory Strategic Workshop report of the context of the final evaluation of the project "PEOPLE'S LED RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER JUSTICE PROGRAM "IN BANGLADESH" (10-PRI-153)



### INTRODUCTION

The report reflects the contributions of those attending two workshop held on 13 January, and 14 January 2014 at Kalmakanda sadar and BISHARA in Netrakona. The aim of the workshop was conduct a joint reflection on the main achievement, weakness of the project and development of a series suggestions and proposals for improvement and recommendation of such interventions.

The evaluation of the project included the realization of a participatory workshop with key stakeholders in the project: women's groups, farmer groups, and local staff .

Through the use of cards as visual aids, they collated the written contribution of ideas of the people attending and draw conclusions in a participatory approach. The realization of such participatory workshop is a particularly useful tool for the assessment of results and objectives achieved in the implementation of a project and its main limitations and restrictions. Most of the village women is not able to write. So they gave their opinion in house and one person wrote that.

One workshop, held in Kalmakanda, was attended by 12 people who are involved in the project and another one held in BISHARA was attended by 18 female with beneficiary involved in the project (Table 2).

### WORKSHOP CONTENTS

Below are the work plan and the issues addressed during the workshop.

#### 1. Introduction

Presentation by the evaluator of the project evaluation: objectives, methodology and characteristics and objectives and work plan of the workshop.

**Table 1.** Work plan of the workshop

Schedule on Workshop	
9,00	Introduction
9.30	Individual work destined to know: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Main achievements of the project</li> <li>- Weaknesses and improvement aspects.</li> <li>- Quality assessment criteria.</li> </ul>
10,30-11,00	Tea Break
11,00-11,45	Working group to prepare proposals and recommendations for improvement
11,45- 1.30	Exhibition in plenary groups work
1.30	Lunch & Closing

## 2. Presentation of workshop participants:

Attendees were invited to introduce themselves stating their name and relationship to the project.

**Table 2:** List of people attending the workshop

SL. Number	Name	Position	Village	Upazila	Distirct
1	Alpona Nafak	Field facilitator	Ranigoan	Kharnoi	Netrako
2.	Md. Sohel Rana	Field facilitator	Bonbera	Kharnoi	Netrako
3	Soma Mrong	Field facilitator	Chengni	Lengura	Netrako
4	Munna Rangdi	Field facilitator	Taranogar	Lengura	Netrako
5.	Nandan Hagidak	Field facilitator	katthalbari	Lengura	Netrako
6	Parboti Rani Singha	Field facilitator	Kalmaknda	Kalmakanda	Netrako
7	Momata Begum	President of women's Farmer group Vice President of women's farmer group.	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
8	Mosammot Aysha		Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
9	Salema Begum	Secretary	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
10	Mosammat Nasima	Assistant secretary	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
11	Parvina Ara	Accountant	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
12	Ajupha Begum	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
13	Nurnahar Akter	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
14	Rina Akter	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
15	Ador Banu,	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
16	Pustak banu,	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
17	Dipon Rema	Field facilitator	Goragoan	Kharnoi	Netrako
18	Bonna Jambil	Field facilitator	Nalchhapra	Nazirpur	Netrako
19	Jholmal Maria Khangstia	Associate field facilitator	Kalmakanda	Kalmakanda	Netrako
20	Siddikur Rahama	Field facilitator	Kalmakanda	Kalmakanda	Netrako
21	Gunjan Rema	Office Assistant	Gobindapur	Kharnoi	Netrako
22	Majeda,Begum	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
23	Parula khatun	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
24	Julekha Begum	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako

25	Afsana khatun	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
26	Mosammat Minara	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
27	Musammat Kalpona,	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
28	Musammat Khudeja	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
29	Musammat Ambia	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako
30	Manuara Begum	Member of women's Farmer group	Bishara	Kalmakanda	Netrako

### 3. Individual work destined to know:



#### 3.1. Main achievements of the Project.

The first issue to be addressed in the workshop was related to the vision of the attendees about the main achievements of the project. The facilitator asked the participants to expose the main achievements of the project.



The responses of workshop participants can be grouped around the following themes:

#### 1. Improved women's empowerment and gender equality

- Women are participating in planning and Implementation of different Activities.
- Recognized women as farmers
- Reduce daily quarrel in family. Men do not torture female like before. Most of the family is passing their life with happiness.
- Made a positive public opinion about women participation.
- Gender training to women's group
- Women came to the importance of reproductive health and take care of it.



- Have women to have their business
- Increase knowledge and awareness through gender training
- Women become more capable in leadership and making right decisions
- Women become more courageous
- Women gained more knowledge about society crisis
- Give space for women to meet, discuss and express their opinions
- Gender mainstreaming in project activities, in meetings, in trainings and ToT
- Women's Farmer groups established at the community
- Women got goat, bamboo, thread, spade, machete, grocery materials, tailoring machine, cloths, pig, nursery etc. After getting the support many women headed family improved their livelihood through increasing their family income.
- Decreased access to governmental support and services for the poor people.
- Women know about Legal Rights and Gender Equality.

**2. Improved the access to capital for agricultural investment and small enterprises enforcement through establishing of Farmer groups:**

- Village people are encourage cultivating diverse vegetables in their courtyard and earning additional income by selling them in the market.
- They are savings in the farmer group.
- The fact that farmer groups really help farmers to cut down taking loans from outside
- Farmer groups have been organized into communal pillars, which are able to help to developing agriculture
- Farmer stops borrowing money from outside the group.
- Have unity, save time and increase income (Farmer group)
- Project staff are very capable and helpful to the community and farmer and women group
- Confidence and prosperity gained through farmer groups
- Farmer groups committees have their capacity strengthened and the process of the groups were supported, though there was no financial subsidy
- Farmers can have access to more investment capital
- Now they Know how to save money
- Help villagers to be more confident on themselves regarding money and easy to borrow and pay back
- Farmer groups established at the community
- Increased awareness on seed preservation, keep own variety, use barren land and exchange seeds and protect garden.
- Available organic plant

**3. Improved the quality and quantity of agricultural products**

- Home stead garden available in their home.
- Protected garden and seeds are available
- They Know how to make natural fertilizer, food for livestock,
- They Know how to grow rice and vegetables and raise livestock with quality
- Some farmers changed their behaviors and habits
- Have good ideas and follow right techniques in their work
- Villagers got to know more about the importance of home-growing
- More and more farmers know about SRI and start to apply them
- Increased local seed variety at community level
- Reduced market and company dependency
- Revived seed exchange culture

- Avoided hybrid seed
- Preserved agro-biodiversity
- Women knows how to make cow dung, mixed organic, compost , green manure and vermi compost.

#### **4. Improved capacity building and social cooperation**

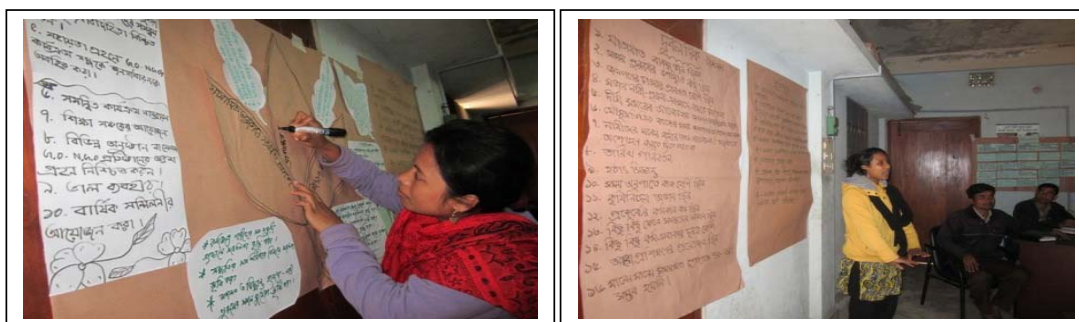
- More opportunities to participate with other groups
- Brave to communicate with outsiders including authority
- Dare to speak out
- Interaction between Local People, Civil Administration and Beneficiaries has been increased.
- Know how to do community organizing and association organizing
- Learn how to be a facilitator in big/small meetings
- Leadership strengthened
- local farmers about preserving local variety seeds, reduce market dependency of seed and to recognize women as farmer,
- Develop culture of cooperation
- Increased access to governmental support and service for the poor people.
- The project was a real good mastermind at local communities where they reached out
- Better communication and relation with others in the communities, committee of farmer groups through face-to-face meetings and through phones.
- Provision of agricultural techniques help farmers to have more food security and income.
- Get to know more friends/people, making it more convenient in communication with others
- Know how to monitor the work and provide advice to local level
- Gain knowledge through workshops, big and small meetings, exchange/study visit and direct hands-on experience.
- Most of the farmers become self-confident
- Gain more knowledge and experience to improve themselves
- Gain knowledge about gender, agricultural techniques and bookkeeping
- Some farmers become farmer promoters
- Villagers become more closed and friendly
- Sharing and exchanging experiences with others
- People become more cooperative and help each other
- Women and Men Worked together in PVS in field.
- Community Inter relationship has been increased.

#### **5. Improved Reproductive health salutation after Training**

- Trained up midwife and health worker at the village level
- Increased the number of couple who are interested for family planning.
- Developing primary health service for the community peoples
- Reduce maternal mortality rate
- Reduce child mortality rate
- Few Couple is practicing family planning Methods and using condoms and pills
- Reduce the negative side of safe birth attendance (delivery)
- Provided primary health service such measuring BP, weight, sugar test of diabetics
- Referred critical patient such pregnant women to health complex or others suitable health service station

- Aware community people regarding primary health care
- Community became aware about physical and mental changes during the adolescent period, challenges of this period, preparation for this time etc
- Mid Wife trained about health care during pregnancy..
- people are getting primary treatment from health promoters.
- In crease Medical facilities in their communities.

### 3.2 Weaknesses and improvement aspects.



The facilitator asked participants to indicate the weaknesses or areas for improvement of the project. The responses of workshop participants can be grouped around five themes:

#### 1. The time allotted to the project is reduced.

- The project period was too short, Two years is very short time for develop communities.
- The project should be continued.
- Group leaders find it difficult to explain the members when the project ended very fast
- Some farmer groups were closed because the short period of time did not allow them to have capacity in maintaining the groups.
- It took much time than generally needed to get NGO Bureau clearance and due to delay of the fund transfer. The project needed to shift some of activities from planned month to next months that were related to finance which created additional workload to the staff members.

#### 2. Shortfall in project implementation and staff assigned to the project

- Limited financial support for farmers
- No regular review/reminder to female.
- NO project officer of agriculture in project area. One are responsible for that but he is living far.
- Sometimes staff members of the project got injured by motorcycle, bi-cycle,

auto rickshaw, boat accident and slip down from Bamboo Bridge and had to take proper treatment and bed rest.

- Lack of boat for communication (not available of boat t) in the rainy season made it difficult to perform a regular visit to the remote rural villages (low land area).
- Moreover, the staff members were not able to go to the filed (Working area) due to the natural disaster such as the roads goes under water, swollen in the river, sudden flood in the area. Main transport boat is not available in Kalmakanda union, so that staffs could go to the field in due time. As a result the staff members had to re-scheduled working time depending on the needs and demands of the people affected in those incidents with an extra working hour.

### 3. Weakness of knowledge acquired

- *Not all target beneficiaries/villagers have understood project activities yet because it was short time for understanding, they still depend much more on the NGO staff.*
- *Knowledge on agriculture is still limited*
- Sometimes field worker confused about the management discussion.

### 4. Lack of communication and cooperation with stakeholders, provincial departments and authorities

- It should be improved and build better cooperation with stakeholders, local departments and authority.
- Improve working structure at the local level, more staff and accountant.
- From the time of seed sowing in the seedbed for Boro rice season seed was affected by cold injure. So the farmers had to collect local rice verities of seeds from BARCIK Maddhanagar and BARCIK Netrakona field. that's why the collected seed were affected by transport injure. As the result farmer's trials result of Beluatali and Lengura was not good.
- Training or any workshop's results depend on follow-up. Without Follow up everything is meaningless.
- Some community people demand different facilities from NGO.

### 5. Weakness of women's groups

- Women have less opportunity to earn money due to the huge household works. They still belief that man are more important than women.
- Women's group are not yet strong
- Most of the Garo Women have land ownership. But they are powerless in decision making.
- Women still today spend most of their time in doing household activities.
- More trainings for women to help them become more brave
- There should be a gender expert in the province
- We need to focus more on women's livelihood as they make very little income
- Many women are illiterate, so they find it difficult when making decision
- Many Women's did not break up the social bindings.



### 3.3. Quality assessment criteria.

The facilitator asked attendees to indicate in which two criteria have performed the best and the worst results. Previously the facilitator briefly explained each of the proposed quality criteria.

<i>Quality criteria</i>	<i>Best results</i>		<i>Worst results</i>	
	<b>Votes</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>%</b>
Effectiveness	13	30	0	0

<i>Quality criteria</i>	<i>Best results</i>		<i>Worst results</i>	
	<b>Votes</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>%</b>
Efficiency	7	22	6	20
Appropriateness	8	30	3	10
Gender Mainstreaming	6	19	12	40
Impact	6	19	7	23
Viability/Sustainability	3	10	2	07
<b>Total</b>	30	100	30	100

The opinions on the positive assessment of the quality criteria are quite consensual, although in some cases there is a divergence of views, such as on the efficiency with 7 votes in the box for best results and 6 in the box for worse. Still, most of the attendees believes that quality criteria which have out performed are Impact (30) and effectiveness (13) Appropriateness (8 votes).

Moreover, in the opinion of the participants, the criteria on which there has been compliance worst are the Viability / Sustainability ( 2votes) and Gender mainstreaming with 12 votes.

### 4. Working group to prepare proposals and recommendations for improvement of such of interventions

Participants were divided into 4 groups composed of 3 or 4 people. The topics were the weaknesses or work areas for improvement of the project which participants had noted previously. Each of the groups was given a subject to work. To do this, previously the facilitator grouped the weaknesses indicated by participants in areas that summarize. The topics covered were: Improving gender equality, strengthening the relationship between

project staff, beneficiaries and authority, improving sustainability of such kind of project and how to make the project implementation effective.

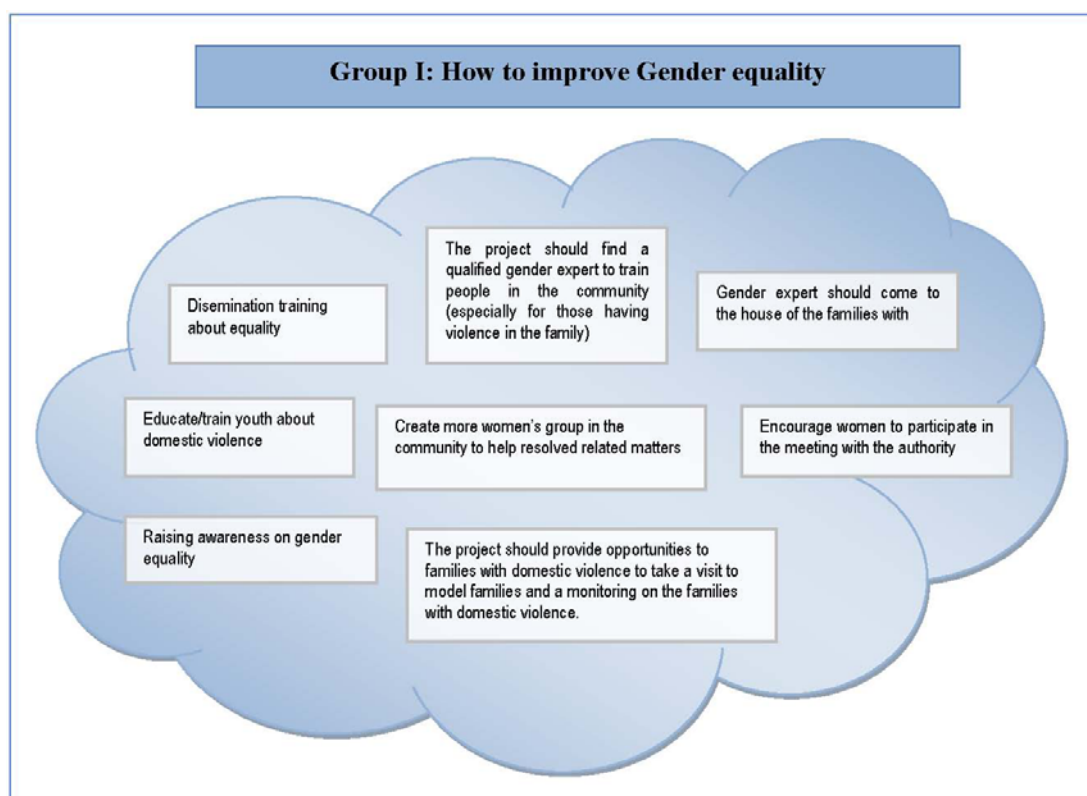


## 5. Exhibition in plenary of the groups work

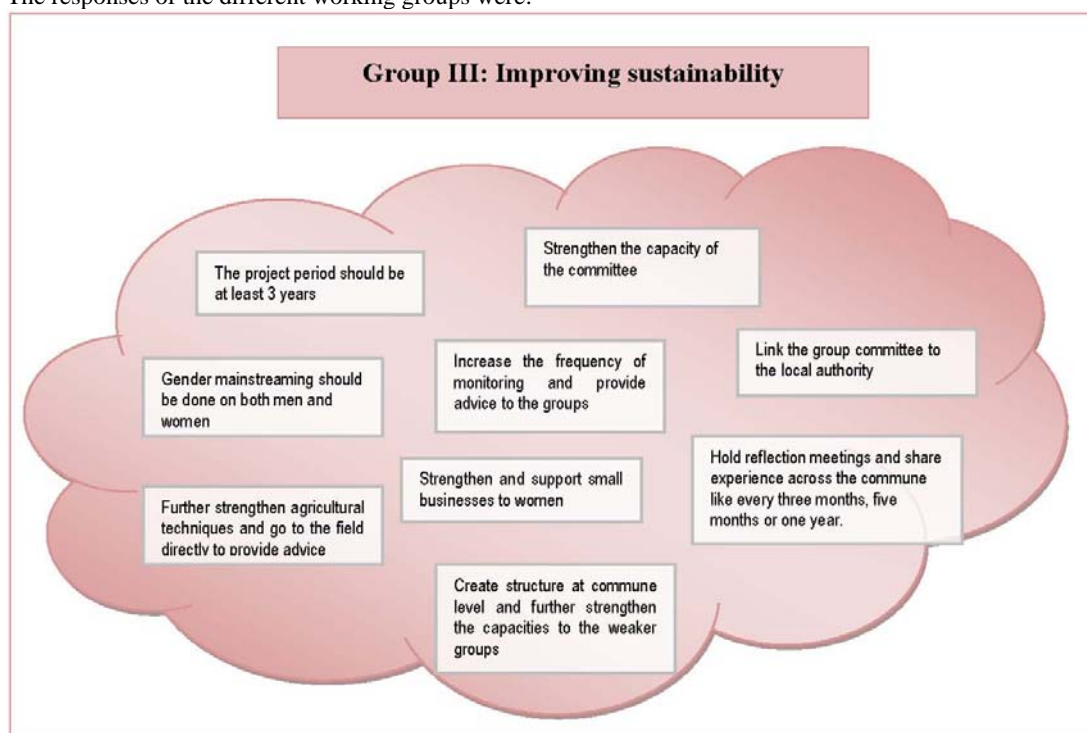
Later, each group chose a representative to present their responses in plenary.



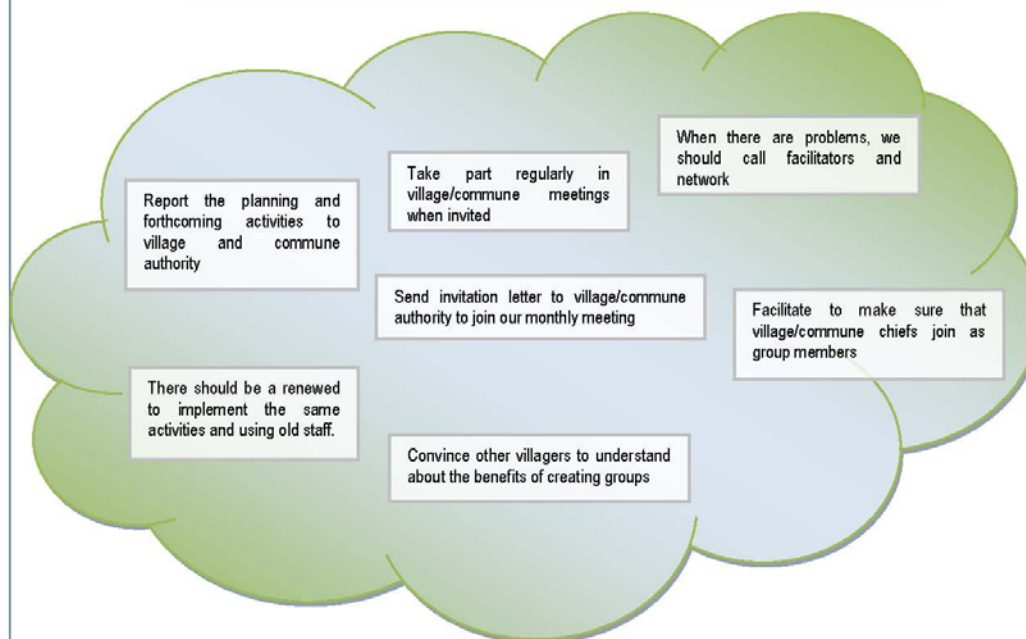




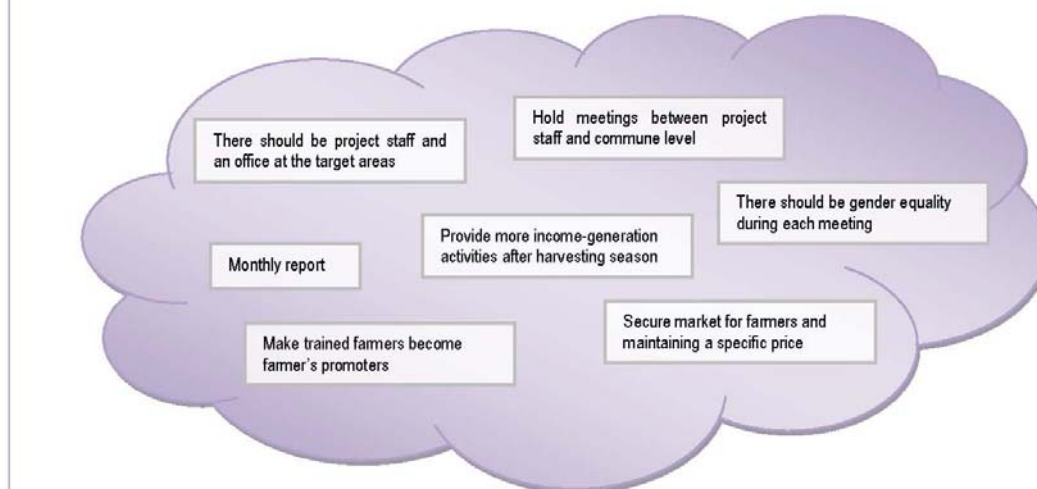
The responses of the different working groups were:



### Group II: Strengthening the relationship between project staff, beneficiaries and authority



### Group IV: To make project implementation effective





## 6. Closing.

Finally, the facilitator thanked the attendees for their participation in the workshop on the evaluation of the project "PEOPLE'S LED RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER JUSTICE PROGRAM "IN BANGLADESH"



## Annex 3. Interview script with key informants

*Interview script with key informants in the context of the evaluation of the project "PEOPLE'S LED RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER JUSTICE PROGRAM "IN BANGLADESH"*

### INTRODUCTION

This section includes the script for conducting the interviews with key informants and the proposal of interviewees.

According to the evaluation matrix presented, interviews with key informants should seek the views of respondents on the following objectives and content of the evaluation:

- ✚ Degree of compliance with the main objective, specific objective, expected results and activities.
- ✚ Quality assessment criteria
- ✚ Project life cycle assessment
- ✚ Project limitations and restrictions
- ✚ Recommendations.

These objectives and contents have been taken into account in the design of the script for the interviews.

As key informants to interview, it is proposed to include people who have been particularly linked to project tasks, through its management or implementation, such as:

It will conduct a test interview to identify potential improvements and changes to be made in the same: duration, adequate compression of the questions, order of questions, etc. Also, the interview will be adapted, as far as possible, to the knowledge of the person on the project.

### Interview script

#### **INTRODUCCION**

The person conducting the interview presented in abbreviated form the following contents:

Personal presentation

Introducción Presentación de la Evaluación: objetivos, metodología, y características.

Presentation of the evaluation: goals, methodology, and characteristics.

[Clarify confidentiality and possible transmission of results].

Exposure of the contents of the interview (Introductory questions, evaluating the results of the main objective, specific objectives and expected results, evaluation of the quality criteria).

Duration of interview: Approximately one hour

#### **RESPONDENT INFORMATION**

Some of this data will be known prior to perform the interview. In any case, be reflected in the report of the interview.

Name:

Contact phone:

Email:

Relationship of the project evaluated:

Organization to which he/she belongs:

Role in the organization:

Role of the organization in the project:

#### **INTERVIEW INFORMATION**

Date:

Place:

Start time:

End time:

Comments:

Person conducting the interview:

The report of the interview should collect information on all the questions of the script.

Sometimes, the respondent, in the course of the conversation, can show his/her opinion on issues having to do with several questions at once. In such cases, the person conducting the interview should request confirmation to the interviewee about his/her opinion.

#### **A. INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS**

1. Could you tell me, on a scale of 0-10, what is your level of knowledge of the Project.

*Level of Knowledge of the project    Assessment*

0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

✚ Can you describe briefly what was your relationship with the project?

- ✓ We are working for the development. In that sense the objectives of BARCIK & DSK are some.
- ✓ This project mainly works on traditional issue. BARCIK is mainly working on ultra poor people. This is a very good work. In that sense it matches with the work of BRAC.
- ✓ BARCIK discussed the school children about nutrition and health consciousness. In that sense I know BARCIK.
- ✓ Barcik has given me axe and bamboo. After selling the bamboo made things we sustain our livelihood.
- ✓

✚ What aspect of the project do you feel more satisfied?

- ✓ Women development and women health sector condition is not good in that area. So that type of project is necessary in this area.
- ✓ If this project covered more area it will be far better.
- ✓ They have conducted just a program with school. May be they had just budget for one program. If we can arrange this types of program again and again the children of the school will be more benefited.
- ✓ Many NGOs are working in this area. They are so good. We cannot discuss mental and physical change of adolescent girls and boys easily. But NGO can discuss about it without any confusion. Though schools are mainly responsible for it but NGOs are mainly conscious about that topic so this type of discussion should be done on regular basis.
- ✓ If the project is vast it creates more opportunity. If they work on a particular village and after sometime if they work on another village we can understand the difference.

✚ What has been lacking to the project?

- ✓ They gave things to some people. They do not give things to all people. What will be their benefit?
- ✓ They have dissatisfaction about the life –support. That’s why we should increase the number of life support. Otherwise it should not be provided.
- ✓ Sometimes it is told that one should provide rural people for training. We also send people. Suppose sometimes we send attendant for training. We also send people to achieve our goal. After coming back many of them don’t do this work .I don’t like it.
- ✓ Sometimes we have to arrange program suddenly. Sometimes we have to dismiss it. It will also disrupt image.

- ✓ Women have to go outside at any time. I don't like it. They have to work suddenly. There is no pre-planned procedure.

✚ What external aspects have influenced in the implementation of the project?

- ✓ This is a small project. Two years is not enough for development. This project made a vast influence. That's why the donor should increase the time limit.
- ✓ Many researches has been done on agriculture. There are many villages where people are not farmer. It will be better for them if more work is done on education, health and communication system.

## B. LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE EXPECTED RESULTS, SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE AND MAIN OBJECTIVE.

2. Please, evaluate, on a scale of 0-10, what has been, in your opinion, the level of achievement of the expected results of the project?

Level of achievement of expected results	Assessment										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
R.1 The Women of the union's of Kalmakanda Upazila are aware of their rights and protect actively their interest										9	
Community inter relationship increased. Communal harmony has increased through the workshop. Villagers of project area. They are aware about the effect of gender violence and as a result there is a change has been noticed in the community. Female group are now participating in the discussion, sharing, and decision making process at the meetings and also at the family level. Gender based violence has decreased compare to the initial stage of the project in the area. Now they are aware about the problem of society and they know the way to solve the problems. They know about gender, type of violence at family, society and state levels, root cause of gender based violence, loss of women contribution to the family, society and state for gender violence, action need to remove gender violence, duty of male person, girls education.										8	
R.2 Community and other stakeholders are informed and positive attitude on the issues of rural and Indigenous women											
Community members gather knowledge about indigenous practices of climate change adaptation strategies in indigenous knowledge. Community members gather knowledge about indigenous practices of climate change adaptation strategies in indigenous knowledge. Indigenous people also participating mainstreaming program. Most of the time women's of the rural areas are tortured mentally, physical and also victim of sexual harassment by the men members but now it is reduce. Little bit than the before.											

**R.3 Improved Economic conditions/livelihood option for the primary stakeholders(rural and Indigenous women) of the target communities**

6

The people of kalmakanda doing good in Agriculture. Specially vulnerable women to raise their voice in agriculture. After this project specially after getting the support from project they are increasing their livelihood day by day. Indigenous women come out from village for link up the market. They were participated seed fair, agree biodiversity fair . some of women received capacity building training. Now they are connected income and they are participating in family as a decision maker. In working area women men worked together in the PVS field. Increased awareness on seeds preservation, keep on variety, use barren land, exchange seed and protect garden. Homestead garden is available in every village.

*Level of achievement of expected results Assessment*

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

**R4. The security and health conditions of the more vulnerable women of target communities are improved.**

7

Increase Medical facilities in project area. the trained women are providing primary medical support's among the communities, They also earning money and they are very happy. Few couple is practicing family planning methods and using anticipative methods. Women are talking pill men are using condom. and sharing experience each other. The villagers got knowledge about some water born diseases, symptom and prevention of these diseases and the way of safe the children from the diseases. Community became aware about physical and mental changes during the adolescent period, challenges of this period, preparation for this time .Mid Wife trained about health care during pregnancy. for that the death rate of children is reduce than the first of project.

**R5. The project is successfully managed and coordinated, to ensure adequate skills of project staff regarding agro biodiversity**

8

The relation between community and BARCIK is very high. In a short Farmer's depend on organic resources. With the Involvement of this project Many farmer adopt the technique related with sustainable agriculture. Most the farmer's of working area's are told that "BARCIK not provided materials, loans but to recognize our work, how to improve our agriculture system." Most of the farmers of project areas depend on market for seeds. Women are key preservers of diverse seeds from agriculture history. But women's have not recognition as farmers. In order to aware the local farmers about preserving local variety seeds, reduce market dependency of seed and to recognize women as farmer. Now No doubt about project importance.

3. The specific objective of the project was “Increased the political, economical and social self-determination of the women of the Muslim, Garo and Hajong communities under the project area (Kalmakanda sub district, Netrokona District, Bangladesh)”. On a scale of 0-10, what has been, in your opinion, the level of achievement o the specific objective?

*Level of achievement of specific goal    Assessment*

0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10  
7

*Explain your answer, please*

4. The general objective of the project was: “To contribute to alleviate poverty in Bangladesh through the social, economical, political empowerment of rural and indigenous women.”. On a scale of 0-10, what has been, in your opinion, the level of achievement o the general objective?

*Level of knowledge of main goal    Assessment*

0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10  
7

*Explain your answer, please*

- The livelihood of rural people in project area is rapidly change. Specially In agriculture we are seeing all people appreciate this project. And all the are very upset for the short time of this project. In a short people increase their knowledge about agriculture, health right’s education and some of vulnerable women is starting small business to take help form BARCIK. it’s little bit heard In rural area man and women working both. But in meeting and different program they coming,. it’s true all women are not participated in discussion but they are coming. Social change is long time process so it’s not possible to everything but it will be change one day. For that project should be longer for rural development.

5. Please, indicate your degree of agreement with the following statements

*Totally  
disagree*

*Totally  
agree*

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	DN/DA
1. "The project's objectives were realistic"										9		
2. "The expected results were realistic"								8				
2. "The activities under the project were consistent with the objectives"										10		

**6. What external circumstances have influenced the results of the project activities?**

- ✚ Participation of community in education system will reduce the dropout rate
- ✚ The education system will easily reach to the grassroots section of the society as the community will take part in the system.
- ✚ Economic drawback of the community will not much effect in the education of their children.
- ✚ The scenario of political disharmony might be positively changed.
- ✚ The impact of natural calamity might be handled.

**7. If you were to approach a new project on socio-economic improvement and improvement of food security and rural vulnerable social groups, what goals you would be marked?**

✚ **"Community Response in gender empowerment"**

**C. QUALITY ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

In the evaluation of the proposed project we analyze based on several quality criteria. We'd like your opinion about the extent taken into account such criteria in the design and execution of the project. We would like you to tell us what your level of agreement with each of the following statements:

	Totally disagree										Totally agree	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	DN/DA

1. "The project has been adapted to the problems and needs that sought to resolve"

8

2. "Project activities  
have corresponded with  
the priorities and needs  
of the target  
population"

Because this project tried to understand the demand of local people. Without people's demand project can not bring any success for community.

*Totally disagree*

*Totally agree*

*Totally disagree*

*Totally agree*

*Totally disagree*

*Totally agree*

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 DN/DA

7

3. "The project has  
contributed to  
strengthening the  
capacities of the  
beneficiaries groups  
(women and men)"

Many communities have been developed in the field area. They male farmer and female farmer received training about gender equality, human right's, violation of women, TOT of Health service, agriculture, agree-bio diversity and IGA etc. Through the training they gather the lot's of information and knowledge about the social problem and know how to overcome from this. SO they are try to solve their family and social problems and getting govt. and non govt. organization provided social safety and net health services with free of cost and minimum cost. They also start small business and working field together (Man & Women). They earning money, they sending their child regularly, they can collect food regularly, so they are passing life better that the before. As a result Gender discrimination is reducing day by day in the community level. Women are participating in their family level decision



making and a good percent women are participated different meeting, workshop, training and IGA related activity. If Men was not allowed that it's really difficult for women to came out for female.

4. *"The objectives, activities, outcomes and impacts of the project are consistent with each other."* 8

5. *"The project is appropriate with regard to the development priorities of Bangladesh"* 6

6. *"The project has been suitable for the development priorities of the AECID"* 5

7. *"The project responded to the priorities included in the planning documents of CM and BARCIK"* 7

8. *"The project was a priority for the beneficiary groups"* 10

9. *"The project has been well managed"* 9

Yes this project overall incorporate the demand of beneficiary group. Bangladesh is a highly populated, Illiterate and poor country. Poverty is the common scenario in everywhere in Bangladesh. Due to illiteracy and poverty the gender discrimination remain in every society in Bangladesh. Poverty eradication is one of the vital precondition for the holistic development of a country, another this is women vulnerability. Women constitute half of population of a country. for Gender equality and equity Bangladesh should take lot's initiative, but they can't did it for their limitation. But as per MDG goal we have to do this. So All development organization goal's and objective moral are same. All are working for development of world. As per development sense this a proper initiative for rural people.

10. *"The implementation of the project can be considered satisfactory"* 8

11. *"The relationship between the results achieved and the resources invested can be considered satisfactory"* 7

12. *"The results and activities of the project has reached the majority of institutions, stakeholders and people initially planned"* 6

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 DN/DA

13. *“The time for the implementation activities has been adequate”*

5

14. *“The project’s monitoring has been adequate”*

6

People said that the project time limit was not enough. The project time limit should be increased.

15. *“The project has made good use of natural resources”*

7

16. *“The project has successfully incorporated a gender perspective”*

9

17. *“The project activities have contributed to create equal opportunities among women and men within the target areas”*

7

18. *“The project has contributed to improving the status and position of women in their communities”*

8

Women are now more active and aware about their rights and responsibilities. They are now organized and capable of protesting and resisting domestic violence’s. It has developed good relationship with government (GO’s) and non-government (NGO’s) development organization officials. Now women are directly involving with the income generating activities in their family and outside of the family. They are going to union council getting social safety net services (VGD, VGF, disable allowance, nutrition allowance for women’s & Childs, food for work, one time support for poor peoples, aged allowance, freedom fighter allowance etc.). They are getting opportunity to receive deferent types of training like beautification, housekeeping, tailoring etc. through upazila social welfare department and women’s affairs department. They have been getting agriculture equipment support through upazila extension office. Now they can discuss their health related problems with doctors and getting proper treatment. Peoples are avoiding early marriage and dowry.

10

19. *“The Project doesn’t damage the essential aspect of the culture of the beneficiary groups”*

9

20. *“The results of this project can be successfully transferred to other areas and institutions”*

The main purpose of this project is to foster Indigenous and present’s women’s social political and economical empowerment. In Bangladesh the main problem between Indigenous people and Bengali people are that their different cultural practices. But the main similarity is both are dependent in agriculture, This project obeyed their culture. The project disseminate to travel around to the links

between Indigenous Knowledge and socio economic and gender justice in the context of climate change. This project always show picture previous and present disaster of climate change, the impact of climate change and how to avoid the bad impact of climate change view of their culture and practices. And in short time Indigenous people and Bengali received it very well. so The result's of this project can be successfully transferred to other areas and Institution.

21. *"The positive impact of the project on the target population and context can be considered to be satisfactory"*

8

The communities are aware about their rights. Their mutual relationship among themselves and with other stakeholders has increased. It is the facts that even if BARCIK does not continue working in the area the few people obviously will be able to enhance the peoples led development initiatives and gender justice process in their families and societies to ensure their sustainable livelihood and sustainable natural resources management. If the project is sustain one or two year more community will be able to established gender justice in society.

22. *"The project design has ensured its*

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 DN/DA

7

*viability"*

Please indicate the most positive and negative aspects from the point of view of viability

**Positive:**

peoples cordially accept the program and project staffs. Now women are think that they are also farmer. Women is participating out side of home. The project emphasizes on peoples' perception and importance of their knowledge. Some part of society are motivated and sensible now about their male-souvenirs attitude. Delegates of local government administration, officials and non govt. peoples to peoples sharing process  
Now good number of women's have participated actively in the project activities. They can think and involve in talking/sharing any idea and contribute to change their families, societies scenario. They come out from their restricted drawback social and religious customs. They understand project program are helpful for them, they started to talk and participate actively which gradually increases their numbers in the meetings and workshop. The rural poor women's proved that they can increase their family income through minimum support and involvement with IGA. Today the women are more active in the meetings and others programs in comparison to the initial stages of the project. Now the participation of women is very high in the meeting and sometimes their participation level is higher than the participation of men.

**Negative**

The weak sides of the project which could be, Different social and educational background and experience of staff members leading them to take time understanding the approach and working process of BARCIK.. Short time of project. sometime's lack of coordination between field worker and coordinator level. No budget in the project to support the higher education of girls students. Backwardness and remote by nature of the working fields is also some how created hindrances in proper implementation of the activities for the staffs due to facing difficulty and sometimes get injured physically. Staffs turn over occurs because of the project duration  
No budget to organize health campaign and support medicine to poor patients

23. “The technology transferred by the project could be taken on by the beneficiaries without bigger problems”

24. “The organization that manages the intervention have adequate capacity once the external support is over”

### QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT OF QUALITY CRITERIA

As a summary of the quality assessment criteria, I would like you valued, on a scale of 0-10, to what extent the project has been given a satisfactory result in the following criteria:

Grupos de criterios		Criterios de calidad										Valoración
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 Criteria related to the project design	Appropriateness								7			
	Viability									8		
	Management quality									8		
2 Criteria related to project implementation												
3 Transversal criteria	Effectiveness								7			
	Efficiency									8		
	Monitoring							6				
	Environmental Mainstreaming								7			
	Gender Mainstreaming										9	

*Grupos de criterios Criterios de calidad Valoración*

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Cultural Diversity								7			
4 Criteria related to the impact of the project	The transferability							6				
	Impact									8		
	Sustainability									8		
.....												
.....												

# **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Finally, we would like your opinion to know what recommendations you would make to CIVES MUNDI for future interventions:

- To ensure the market access for women and ensure the fair trade for the poor producers.
- Ensure market facilities for the handicraft and small and cottage industries production.
- Ensure deep water rice seeds and also the climate tolerant seeds.
- Organize training for pond fish culture for specially youth and women.
- To use the hillock and border areas upland for Ginger-Turmeric and mixed fruit production.
- Aware male person to promote family planning methods and increase the use of family planning items.
- Ensure land rights in the government Khas land and to protect the land rights of Indigenous peoples.
- Ensure the education rights of both girls and boys for all economic classess.
- To strengthen the cultural-economic and social relationship and bondage between Bengali and indigenous communities.
- Ensure primary healthcare rights and ensure access to the governmental medical services.
- To extent the project duration.

## Annex 4. Activities carried out and degree of implementation

### R1.01: Improved quantity and quality of the agricultural and ranching products achieved

	<i>ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT</i>	<i>Degree of implementation</i>	<i>OBSERVATIONS</i>
R1 Activities			
<i>R.1 A1</i>	<i>Foster community coalition</i>	100%	<p>11 workshops have been conducted out of 7 (157% executed). The total number of participant was 289 where female 193 and male 96. Women participation was 67%. The community peoples of the project areas are well aware about coalition building, networking, agro-biodiversity conservation and gender justice more than before. During this reporting period 17 female formed a women's group. Now a total 17 groups have been formed in the project area (last year 16 and 2nd year 1). Farmer's are practicing diversify crop cultivation. They have been developed a good network with govt. and non- govt. service providers and working together. Now increasing women's involvement in the agriculture sectors more than before.</p> <p>9 Trainings and workshops for staff and community members have been conducted out of 8 (112% executed) . The total number of participants was 111 where female 55 and male 56. Women participation was 50%. 16 farmers (female-3 and male-13)has been making vermin compost and practicing organic agriculture.</p>
<i>R1.A.2</i>	<i>Raise awareness about gender justice and equal rights</i>	100%	<p>Organized 8 sessions out of 7 sessions (114% executed). The total number of participant was 207 (female=177; male=30). Female participation was 85%</p> <p>1 women's community group of 17 members have been formed in this reporting year. (16 community groups have been formed in the last year in different villages where 11 were female groups and 5 were the combine groups of male and female. Total members of the groups are 505 where the number of the female members are 422 and the rest are male. Now, total community groups is 17 (female=12 and combine=5) and total groups member is 505 (male=84 ; female=421). 17 groups conducting their meeting on monthly basis. Female were 83%.</p> <p>Community peoples are more aware about early marriage, eve teasing and they has been united</p>

R1.A3	Capacity building for men and women about gender equality	100%	<p>against early marriage, dowry and eve teasing. They could able to stop a early marriage in Beluatali village.</p> <p>14 workshops on equal rights of men and women and gender equity have been organized out of 8 (175% executed). Total number of the participants: 355 (male=69; female=286). Female participant was 81%.</p> <p>10 dialogues and gathering have been organized out of 5 (80%executed) and the total number of participants was 1722 (male=514; female=1208)</p> <p>-1 gathering on alliance against women torture-2012. Total number of the participants was 90 (male=13; female=77). Female participants was 90%</p> <p>-1 gathering on Rokeya day and 87 participant attended (male=3; female=84). Female participants was 97%</p> <p>-1 gathering on World Women Day. Total number of participants:146 (male=11; female=135). Female participants was 92%</p> <p>-1 dialogues on Agro-biodiversity Conservation and Gender Justice. Total number of participants:25 (Male=7; Female=18). Female participants was 72%</p> <p>-1 Media briefing arranged on the problem of gender related issues of Kalmakanda rural area. 21 Journalist and community leaders (male=6; female=15) attended. Female were 29%</p> <p>-1 Gathering held on World Indigenous Day. 135 community members (male=52; female=83) attended. Female were 61%</p> <p>-1 Fruits and wood tree fair have been arranged. 54 community members (male=50; female=4) attended. Female were 7%</p> <p>-1 Youth gathering on agro biodiversity conservation and gender justice. 25 youth (male=16; female=9) attended. Female were 36%</p> <p>-1 gathering and health campaign on International Age Day, 2013 (1st October, 2013). A total of 1,114 age peoples (male=339; female=775) attended</p>
R1.A4	Capacity building for women about their rights and rights advocacy	100%	<p>6 capacity building workshops on women's human rights have been organized out of 4 (150% executed) and 152 community members (Female 126; male 26) participated and gather their knowledge about women's human rights. Female participation was 68%.</p>

**Result 2 Community, service providers and other stakeholders are informed and positive attitude on the issues of rural and indigenous women**

R2. I.1	Published 4 case studies and 4 posters on women's rights and disseminated;	100%	R2.SV1.1 The 4 case studies published and distribution list R2.SV1.2 The 1 posters published and distribution list R2.SV1.3 Meeting minutes, participants list + Photos
R2.I.2.	Research findings disseminated on "garo women roles are traditional knowledge in climate change responses" ;	100%	R2.SV2.1 200 COPY Research report R2.SV2.2 Booklet R2.SV2.3 Distribution list of report and booklet disseminated the research result with 149 community members (female-107 and Male-42) through 6 workshops. Female was 72%.
R2.I.3	At least 720 persons increase their awareness about gender based violence and women roles in agro biodiversity.	100%	12 dialogues have been conducted out of 9 (133% executed) about gender based violence with the participation of women and men and 308 community members participated where female=255; male=53. Female was 83%
R2.A1	Awareness raising among the communities and service providers	100%	2 case studies published on "Garo women roles and traditional knowledge in climate change responses' and a women's agro-biodiversity and gender justice- "Kalmakanda Darpon" punished 1700 copies (200+1500) and disseminated to 640 communities (105+535=640) and service providers. 4 poster published on Agro-biodiversity and gender equity with calendar, water crises, agriculture and women and uncultivated food and medicinal plants and distributed to 5219 copies of 4 poster to the community peoples. 5 meetings have been arranged out of 4 (125% executed) to raise awareness among the communities and service providers (GO's and NGO's) and 113 community members and service providers ( Female=49 ; Male=64) participated. Female were 43%
R2.A2	18 dialogues about gender based violence with the participation of women and men	100%	12 dialogues have been conducted out of 9 about gender based violence (133% executed). Total of 308 community members participated ( female=255; male=53;). Women participation was 83%.
R2.A3	Realize a research on	100%	Research result published as a case study (book) 200 copies named "Garo women roles and



*"Garo women roles and traditional knowledge in climate change responses" publicize and disseminate a report with results and recommendations for further interventions*

*traditional knowledge in climate change responses" in English and disseminated to 105 community peoples, researchers, social leaders, cultural academy, school and colleges.*

*6 workshops have been organized to disseminate and share the research result at village level at three unions (Kharnoi, Lengura and Nazirpur) and 149 people ( Female=107; Male=42) participated. Participants gather their knowledge about indigenous practices of climate change adaptation through the research results sharing. Female participants were 72%*

**Result 3. R3. Improved economic conditions/livelihood options for the primary stakeholders of the target communities**

**R3.I.1**    *20 demonstration plots of rice and other crops have been established and 300 families get required seeds for cultivation ;*    100%

16 participatory rice and vegetable varietals selection trials plots have been setup out of 16 (100% executed). 303 local rice variety demonstrated in 12 rice trials plots. 6 varieties of chili, 4 varieties of Brinjal and 10 vegetable varieties demonstrated in 4 plots. 13 farmer's field day have been arranged based on Amon rice season-2012, Boro and Aus rice seasons-2013 demonstration plots. Total 370 community members participated ( female=157; male=213). Female participants were 42% 326 farmers have exchanged and collected 17 kg of 22 types (Sweet gourd, bitter gourd, snake gourd, Indian spinach, Tard long bean, Ridge gourd, Amaranth, lalshak, cucumber, sponge gold , ladies finger, Egg plant, Jute seedling leaf, Muskmelon, Wax gourd, Bottle gourd, Bean, Mug Bean, coriander, Tomato, Chili, and Reddish) of vegetable seeds. The aim was to ensure the availability of seeds, reduce market dependency for seeds, encourage the seed exchange and seed conservation practices and increased livelihood through vegetable cultivation in the homestead and fallen land.

**R3.I.2**    *20 local seed fair and 1 agro biodiversity fair held by the end of project year;*    100%

8 Local level seed fairs out of 8 (100% executed). Total number of 171 community members and service providers participated where female 143 ; male 28. Female participants was 84%. Farmers displayed their seeds on the 139 seed stall. They were able to share and exchange agricultural knowledge and local seed resources and interact with each other. Now the farmers of the working areas are aware about seed and they conserving and exchanging seed each others. A good number

			of women farmers were participation with seeds stall.
<i>R3.I.3.</i>	<i>10 exposure visit for local communities in BARCIK' s other field sites arranged with the participation of women and men</i>	100%	<p>8 exposure visits have been arranged out of 6 expose visits (133% executed) and 93 (female-40 ; male-53) farmer's participated. Female 43%.</p> <p>-1 exposure visit on Nursery preparation</p> <p>-1 exposure visit on Farmer's field day (Amon season- rice, 2012)</p> <p>-1 exposure visit on Vermin (Earth worm) Compost preparation</p> <p>1 Exposure visit on strengthening community groups, marketing system and women empowerment</p> <p>-1 Exposure visit of Cumilla University team on Community groups and Peoples led development (PLD)</p> <p>-1 Strengthening community groups, Zara lemon, Tejpat {Casia leaf}, betel leaf cultivation and marketing system and women empowerment</p> <p>-1 Exposure visit on Participatory Rice Varietals Selection (PVS) in the Aus season</p> <p>-1 Exposure visit on strengthening community groups, women empowerment, Run social movement through women's group, mixed cropping and agro-forestry program</p>
<i>R3.I.4:</i>	<i>1 study document available on the situation of IGA and marketing in the project areas</i>	100%	<p>Participants have gathered knowledge regarding organized farmer's field day, Varmin compost preparation (Earth Worm Compose) and nursery management. After the visits participants are preparing varmin compost, 3 farmers setup 3 separate nursery in their homestead area an a farmer set up a lemon garden. Farmer's can able to organized farmers field.</p> <p>Study done in the last year. Field staffs share the IGA and marketing study documents with the community members in the issue based discussion at the groups meeting and individual dialouges. Study results have been available in community peoples</p>
<i>R3.I.5:</i>	<i>At least 150 vulnerable women improved their livelihoods;</i>	100%	<p>76 vulnerable women have been supported out of 71 (107% executed) from 28 villages for their livelihood improvement.</p> <p>Women in the village usually do not involve in any income generating activity outside of their house. So the livelihood support helps the total 76 women to improve their livelihood gradually.</p>

R3.I.6:	<i>BARCIK Netrakona Regional Centre well equipped providing technical services.</i>	100%	<p>The materials support were- Cloths, sewing machine, Goat, Glossary shop, Small craft, Boar, Duck and. Women's 100%. Last year project supported 79 women's. So 155 women's are increasing their monthly income and change their livelihood status and empowering. They are earning 1500-2000 taka average per month.</p> <p>BARCIK Netrakona Regional Centre (3 rooms tin shed) building construction have been completed on BARCIK's own land.</p> <p>Centre is using various purpose like- meeting, training, workshop and gathering etc. Centre user are local farmers, fisher folk communities, other occupational groups, youth groups and students solidarity groups, CBOs, NGOs, university students etc. In this year (2nd year of the project) the centre have been used 40 purpose and 589 men and women's (male=268; female=321) from different organization and communities members stayed. Female were 54%</p>
R3.A1	<i>Biodiversity based crops/vegetable seed selection, cultivation and livelihood improvement</i>	100%	<p><i>16 participatory varieties selection trials (PVS) out of 16 (100% executed) on Boro, Aus and Amon rice seasons have been setup and 330 local rice varieties and 26 vegetable varieties were under trials.</i></p> <p><i>Organized 13 farmers field day on Amon, Boro and Aus rice season on the basis of rice varieties trials and 370 farmers (Male=213 &amp; Female=157). Female were 42%</i></p> <p><i>17 Kg of 22 item vegetable seeds have been collect and exchange with 326 farmers to promote the farmers to preserve seeds.</i></p>
R3.A2	<i>Biodiversity based agricultural knowledge and local seed resources exchange and share</i>	100%	<p>8 seed fair have been organized at the village &amp; union level and 171 community peoples ( female-143 &amp; male-28) participated and they exchange their seed resource and message about the seed availability and seeds perseveration with each others. 326</p> <p>farmers have collected 17 kg of 22 types of vegetable seeds form seed fair and farmers to farmers seed exchange. The exchanged and collected seeds were- sweet gourd, bitter gourd, snake gourd, Indian spinach, Tard long bean, Ridge gourd, Amaranth, lalshak, cucumber, sponge gold , ladies finger, Egg plant, Jute, Muskmelon, Wax gourd, Bottle gourd, Bean, Mug pulse, coriander, Tomato, Chili, Brinjal and Reddish. Sweet gourd, bitter gourd, snake gourd, Indian spinach, Tard long bean, Ridge gourd, Amaranth, lalshak, cucumber, sponge gold , ladies finger, Egg</p>

			plant, Jute, Muskmelon, Wax gourd, Bottle gourd, Bean, Mug pulse, coriander, Tomato, Chili, Brinjal and Reddish.
R3.A3	Women's livelihood improvement and food security for 150 women	100%	76 vulnerable women have received material support through the project out of 71 from 28 different villages to improve their livelihood.  (107% executed)
R3.A4	Assessment of existing income generational activities and options	100%	Completed an assessment of existing income generational activities and options (IGA) of Kalmakanda peoples in last year
R3.A5	Strengthen the regional centre and supporting network	100%	Building construction have already been completed and it is using for various purpose.  (100% executed)
R4. The security and health conditions of the more vulnerable women of target communities are improved			
R4.1 1	study done about traditional medicinal practices and status of medicinal plants		A study have been done about traditional medicinal practices and status of medicinal plants at the working area and finaly documented. Organized 10 workshops to share the study result with the community peoples at different villages in four unions. A total of 243 comprising female and male 51 192 participated. Female participants were 79%  Participants shared their experiences with each other and gather knowledge about the different types of medicinal plants, importance of medicinal plants and its uses for diverse physical problems. Local Kabiraj and Researcher of BARCIK Dhaka office facilitate the workshops. Through the research result sharing the attended community members came to know about the important of medicinal plants, important of is preservation and its uses for the treatment of various diseases.
R4.2.	200 women improve their leadership and knowledge about health and at least 10 women are trained as health promoters		3 TOT training out of 3 (100% executed) for health promoters have been conducted and 66 women's participated. After the training necessary medical aid box have been provided through the project for health promoters. Women 100% 2 refreshers training have been conducted and 58 health promoters participated and shared their experiences with the doctors and revised necessary techniques of the service. Each health promoter has served about 10-15 poor people's on average in a month so far in the community area. Most of the services was to measure BP and measure body weight, measure diabetes, measure fever and

		<p><i>advice taking medicine and assist in safe delivery. 33 discussion sessions have been conducted out of 30 (110%executed) on reproductive health, legal rights, health rights, gender equity. Total number of participants=839 (female=702 ; male=137) women's and health promoters has increased their skill about primary health care and TBA. Women's 84%. 16 health campaign have been conducted at 16 venues and provided health services to 1114 aged peoples in the project area. Female was 70%</i></p>
R4.3:	10 sessions with students of local high schools held on violence against women, stop early marriage to mobilize them to transform their families/societies	<p><i>7 awareness sessions have been organized out of 5 (140% executed) with the students of local high schools and Madrasha on violence against women, stop early marriage to mobilize, transform and practice in their families/societies. 349 students have participated and female were=238 and male =111. Female were 68%. After attending the sessions students have increased their knowledge regarding Women's Rights, CEDAW declaration, Bangladesh Women development policy, legal support for women's through government and non-govt. organization, women's rights and security related laws and impact of dowry, early marriage, eve teasing and drug addiction.</i></p>
R4.4:	Awareness created among at least 200 persons in the community so that they can do advocacy with government to activate the clinics and get access there.	<p><i>Organized 5 meeting with govt. and non govt. service providers out of 4. (125% executed). Total 113 Govt &amp; Non-Govt delegates and the community peoples participated at the meeting where female-49 and male-64. Female was 43%.</i></p> <p><i>After the meeting community peoples (patients) are going to the GOs and NGOs health clinic and offices and getting health and others services. 30 rural poor peoples received health service like family planning advice and contraceptive, Iron tab, Vitamin tab, tab-Napa Iron tab, pregnancy check up, treatment of uterus problem, period problem, measure blood pressure, saline, antibiotic and gastric tab., Gastric and warm tab, free of cost treatment for TB disease, low cost for child delivery etc.</i></p> <p><i>5 women's participated in the three months long beautician and housekeeping training with the support of the government's social welfare department. 3 women's got job after the training. On the other hand, 20 poor women have been selected to receive the 3 months long training on</i></p>

R4.A1:	Realize a research on traditional medicinal plants and practices in Kalmakanda	<p><i>tailoring through Social welfare department, Kalmakanda upazila which will start on 1st November, 2013 at Kharnoi union office. Study report of traditional medicinal plants, practices and status of medicinal plants have been published and disseminate to the community members.</i></p>
R4.A2:	Workshops to analyze and share the results of the research	<p><i>10 workshops have been organized out of 10 (100 executed) at villages level in four unions to share the research result of the research on traditional medicinal plants and practices and 243 community members (female-192 male-51) participated. Local Kabiraj and researcher of BARCIK Dhaka office facilitated the workshops. Through the research result sharing the attended community members came to know the important of medicinal plants, important of is preservation and its uses for various diseases treatment purpose.</i></p>
R4.A3	Raise awareness among adolescents about gender, sexual and reproductive health and development	<p><i>Through these sessions the attended adolescents came to know about gender role, meaning of gender, role of girls and boy child in the family, physical and mental changes during this period, what they should do during this changes, role of sexual organ, keeping neat and clean of this organ, maintaining good and moral life. They also have been informed that adolescent is best period for every human being, keeping their reproductive health fertile and safe. The aim of the session was to aware them regarding reproductive health, early marriage, dowry and taking care of themselves.</i></p>
R4.A4	Training for health promoters and facilitate regular meetings of women groups about leadership, basic health, sexual and reproductive health. legal rights, gender equality and prevention of trafficking	<p><i>After receiving the TOT training health promoters have providing health service to the rural community peoples. They advice the community peoples about primary health care, taking care of pragnent women and new born baby. They suggest critical patient to go to the health complex for better treatment. Through the refreshers training 58 health promoters were revising their learning and clarify their lackings about health care. Through this sessions participants have been aware about reproductive health, impact of dowry and early marriage. Reproductive health related problems of the project areas peoples are reducing day by day. Community women's are counseling with each other about reproductive health, early marriage, dowry, gender equality and hyman</i></p>

- R4.A5 Organize awareness sessions with high schools students about gender based violence and gender equality, to mobilize them as change actors in their families
- R4.A6 Awareness raising to get access to government health services

*trafficking to reduce those problems in their family and societies.*

*Health promoters of the project area provided health service to 1114 aged peoples through health campaign.*

*Through this program attended adolescents and students came to know about the types of gender based violence at family and society level, need to gender equality, sexual and reproductive health and development. They can widen up their insights, foresights and promise to take responsibilities to change the family, society and country as well.*

*The community people are aware about govt. and non-govt. health and social safety net services in the area and learnt about the process and way to access to the service and benefits.*

*5 women' has received 3 months skill training on beautification and housekeeping and 3 women's have been got jobs. They are trying increase their livelihood and their income.*

*20 rural women got opportunity to participants 3 month long training through Social Welfare Department. The training will start from November.*

*The peoples of the project area getting the health and others services from deferent GO's and NGO's after the meetings.*

*Now they are going to the GOs and NGOs health clinic and offices and getting health and others services.*

*30 rural poor peoples received health service like family planning advice and contraceptive, Iron tab, Vitamin tab, tab-Napa Iron tab, pregnancy check up, treatment of uterus problem, period problem, measure blood pressure, saline, antibiotic and gastric tab., Gastric and warm tab, free of cost treatment for TB disease, low cost for child delivery etc.*

*On the other hand, 20 poor women have been selected to receive the 3 months long training o tailoring through Social welfare department, Kalmakanda upazila. Training will start 1st November, 2013 at Kharnoi union office.*

***R5. The project is successfully managed and coordinated with a gender sensitive approach***

- R5.1. Increased skills of at least 25 staff members to facilitate gender activities and deal with gender issues effectively
- 6 staffs capacity building training/ workshops have been arranged out of 3 (200% executed) on program orientation and planning, Agro-biodiversity conservation, climate change and gender justice and Gender and development. A total 106 project staffs (Avarege-18, female-10 & male-8) participated. Training were;*
- 2 workshops were on Program planning and orientation. Total number of participant was average 16 (female=8 and male=8). Female participants was 50%*
- 2 workshops-trainings were on agro biodiversity conservation and gender justice. Total number of participant was average 17 (female=8 and male=9), Female participants was 47%*
- 2 trainings were on gender and development. Total number of participant was average 19 (female=8 and male=11), Female participants was 58%*
- R5.2. 1 baseline report available on the project site with data about the situation of men and women in the communities before the project;
- In the last reporting year a base line survey have been conducted and shared with the community peoples of the project area. 4 sharing workshops on baseline survey report have been organized in this year and 86 community members participated where female=59 and male=27. Staffs also shared the survey result in the community groups meeting and individual dialouge at the community level. The report is available in the communities.*
- R5.3: Gender analysis process conducted, data about gender roles and activities, access and control to resources and basic needs and strategic interests are avaiable
- Project staffs have been organized 4 workshops to share the result of gender analysis on Kalmakanda project area. A total 81 community members (Female=75 and Male=6) participated and increased their concept about gender condition of the project areas. Workshops were very helpful for the community peoples to change their behaviors against gender discrimination. Female participants were 93%*
- R5.4: 18 monthly staff coordinatin meeting and 6 quarterly monitoring sessions held to continue the project properly;
- Avarege 16 field staffs attended in 12 monthly staffs coordination meeting and shared the field experience. They shared their success and failurs with each other. They find the cause of failurs and way of solve through discussion in the meeting.*
- On avarege 20 field staffs attended in 4 regional level quarterly monitoring meeting and shared the*



		<p><i>field findings and find out the strategy to implement the program activity more effectively. Learning form these meetings helps the field staffs to be more capable to implement the program effectively.</i></p>
R5.5: 1	external evaluation report available.	<p><i>Project have conducted two external evaluation on April, 2013 and October, 2013. Evaluation report have been submitted in Bangla (Bengali). Summary of evaluation report also polished in English.</i></p>
R5.A1	Ensure necessary skills of the local staff about agro biodiversity, gender and development	<p><i>Organized 6 staffs capacity building training/workshops on program orientation and planning, agro-biodiversity conservation, climate change and gender justice and development and workshop on Gender and development. A total of 106 project staffs (Average female-10 and male-8) participated. Training were;</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>2</i></p> <p><i>training were on Program planning and orientation. Total number of participant was average 16 (female=8 male=8), Female participants was 50%</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>2</i></p> <p><i>trainings were on agro biodiversity conservation and gender justice. Total number of participant was average 17 (female=8 male=9), Female participants was 47%</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>The</i></p> <p><i>remaining 2 trainings were on gender and development Total number of participant was average 19 (female=8 male=11), Female participants was 58%</i></p>
R5.A2	Ensure the availability of relevant and updated data about the conditions and needs related with gender in the area	<p><i>The data and report of baseline survey and gender analysis are available in the project area. Organized 4 workshops to share the update data about the condition and needs related to gender condition in the area which is based on the results of gender analysis and base line survey. 81 community members (Female=75 and Male=6) participated. Through the sharing session participants came to know the real condition of gender and needs.</i></p>
R5.A3	Ensure the project is properly coordinated, monitored and evaluated with the inclusion of gender mainstreaming	<p><i>Project is properly coordinated, monitored and evaluated with the inclusion of gender mainstreaming. All the field staffs have discussed about gender issues in the community issue based discussion (in groups &amp; individual) for gender mainstreaming.</i></p>

**Annex 5. List of interviewed**

No	Name	Sex	Organization/Relationship with project	Position
1	Mr, Ranjon Saha	M	DSK	Supervisor
2	Selina khatun	F	Nazirpur	Community leader
3	Nandan Hagidag	M	BARIK, Nazirpur	Community Facilitator
4	Soma Mrang	F	BARCIK, Lengura	Community Facilitator
5	Bonna jambil	F	BARCIK, Nazirpur	Community Facilitator
6	Ruhida khatun	F	Beneficiary, Baroinda	Farmer group member
7	Safia Khatun	F	Beneficiary	Leader of farmer.
8	Kamrun nahar	F	Kalmakanda girl's high School, Kalmakanda.	Head Teacher
9	Mojibur Rahaman	M	Karitas, EIPLR	Community development Facilitator
10	Oindrila chokrabarti	F	Kalmakanda pailot high school	Assistant Teacher
11	Tobarak Hossain Shammem	M	BRAC	Senior upazila manager
12	Mohammad Shahidullah,	M	Upaziala social service	Upazilla Social Service Officer
13	Parboti Singha	F	BARCIK, Kalmakanda	Facilitator
14	Jhalmal Maria	F	BARCIK	Supervisor.
15	Afjal Hossain	M	department of women's affairs,	Upazila officer.

## **Annex6: Case Study**

### **Brief of the activity**

Kalmakanda under Netrakona is among the most backward and deprived sub-district though it is blessed with natural beauty. The Swamusary River flows over it making the cultivable lands fertile due to the frequent deposition of silt every year during the monsoon. Kalmakanda is also rich in community diversity; Bengali, Garo, Hajong and some other ethnic communities live side by side in this sub-district. They practice their distinct culture, heritage and language with full of freedom! The people, whom I met while visiting villages and having informal interaction with, are very friendly and possess a healthy mentality towards each other's tradition, custom and culture. This has led them having a harmonized co-existence in the area! There are some local and national NGOs such as BRAC, Caritas, World Vision, Swabolomby, PARI, Grameen Shakti, which have been working to facilitate these people promoting their right, improving their socio-economic status, providing health and sanitation services etc. But the range and intensity of service delivery is too small to reach to and meet the needs of the communities! Thus the number of poor, deprived, and illiterate people is still huge here. Number of health service delivery organization, educational institutions and some other required infrastructures are too small for a sub-district compared to other sub-districts in Bangladesh. However, there are some government services and facilities for the community although for being illiterate, people have a minimum access to those. This project starts working in this sub-district in 2012 in four unions namely; Kalmakanda Sadar, Kharnoi, Lengura and Nazirpur unions. I went there last month to learn and to have an informal interaction with those people that BARCIK closely works with! Visiting these villages has inspired me to write their account to uphold their survival struggling, using their own strength, and in some cases compromising with the nature and human settings! Nonetheless, it is to be mentioned that the information used in this article has been extracted through observation, informal interview, and in some cases, documents and reports taken from BARCIK.

### **Case no-1**

#### **Mothi Gharga meets success in practicing sustainable agriculture**

Mithi Ghagra lives in Taranagor village under Lengura Union of Kalmanad.. The village is close to Indian border and the big mountains and hills of Meghalaya state of India are clearly seen from the village! Being surrounded by those hills and mountains, the natural setting of this village is really beautiful as beautiful the minds of the people living there! However, Mothi Ghagra is a Garo farmer. He has four children. He has been farming vegetable from a long time using his indigenous knowledge! He adopts organic method of farming which he inherited from his father. His wife also helps him much in this regard. In the recent past, it was difficult for him to produce crops in his small amount of cultivable land having 4 kids to feed. Thus he produces crop in sharecropping basis and farm various local varieties of vegetable (6 types of beans, kidney beans, carrot, gourd, tomato, potato including other leafy and green vegetable) and spinaches. Mothi Ghagra uses his own conserved seeds and knows the technique to prepare compost fertilizers and organic pesticides from herbs and medicinal plants! Farming diverse and chemical free vegetable has enabled him to have a special attention from the consumers he mentioned. He said, "When I take my vegetable to the market for sale, people stop me from the way and ask for vegetable!

Sometime, I even do not need going to market for sale”. “People like my vegetable because they know that these vegetable have been produced in an environment friendly way and without the use of chemicals. Once a consumer buys the vegetable, he from that day, regularly asks me to keep some vegetable for him every day”-he



added! Selling vegetable all the year round has at least boosted the economy of Mothi Gharga. Now he does not need to be worried for food of his family. He could buy all necessities needed for a family to function well. The income he gets from selling vegetable has enabled him to buy rice and other needs for his family. When asked why chemical fertilizers and pesticides were not used by him? He said, “Chemicals fertilizers and pesticides kill the natural fertility of the soil. The crops which are farmed using these chemicals are harmful for human health as well”. “Today humans are being attacked by

different and several new diseases and these diseases are the consequences of using chemicals in crop production.” Besides, chemicals are contributing to environmental deterioration. There were so many herbs, trees and wild plants in the past in the area but due to using chemicals in the fields, we have lost most of them today”- he added. According to him, “Consuming vegetable does not mean that one’s gets nutrition unless those vegetable are chemical free”. According to him, if all farmers take initiative farming organic vegetable and practice crop rotation, some day we would be able restoring the loss of organic matter of the soil which happened due to the intensive use of chemicals. Mothi Ghagra, however, mentioned that the facilitation of BARCIK has inspired him much. He admitted that BARCIK provided him some materials (Nets, seeds, and other materials needed for vegetable farming) to continue his organic vegetable farming properly. The facilitation and material assistance of the organization has helped him producing more crops as he could protect his crops from the attack of livestock he mentioned. It is not that Mothi Ghara learns the organic farming from BARCIK but it is BARCIK who learns from him and inspires him doing this very job. Nonetheless, being criticized by his fellow farmers for not using chemicals has been eased when BARCIK comes to support and inspire him! Today, he could accumulate BDT 6000 to 7000 per month selling vegetable. Seeing his success in farming vegetable without using external inputs has inspired other farmers in his village who in the recent past criticized him. He is now known as an ideal farmer in his village.

## Case-2

### **Md. Motalib is now an ideal for other farmers**

Md. Motalib is a poor farmer and works in other lands to earn his livelihood in spite of having his own lands amounted to some 2 acres. He lives in Veluwatoli village under Nazirpur Union. Conducting activities placing the communities in



the centre of the designed activities has brought some positive results in the villages that BARCIK directly works and in some cases, other villages where farmers occasionally interact with peasant communities that BARCIK directly works with. Md. Motalib, one of the success farmers at Bheluwatoli village. His success in adopting sustainable agriculture has inspired the other farmers of his village and one farmer from Phulbari village of Lengura union! Md. Motalib participates in every single program BARCIK arranges to inspire people adopting environment friendly agriculture, to aware people about environment, importance of Gender equality in the family, climate change impact, importance of biodiversity as well as to facilitate people on other right based issues. With the facilitation of BARCIK, Md. Motalib adopts the technique to prepare compost, compost from earthworms and other technique associated with sustainable agriculture. He uses the fertilizers in his crops' fields. BARCIK provides him support to initiate nursery of local varieties of trees and medicinal plants as well. Now he has nothing to buy from the market for agriculture practices. He has his own seeds, own fertilizers and organic pesticides. He even sells the surplus compost in the market that ensures additional cash in hand.

On the other hand, in order to reduce the use of water, he initiates Robi crop production instead of water intensive Boro rice during winter. This way, he ensures the proper use his land which attracts other very much too. However, seeing his success in agriculture, farmers namely Abdur Rahim, Halim, Saidul Islam of his village and Md. Motaleb from Phulbari village came to him for advice. They are now also trying to practice sustainable agriculture abandoning the energy intensive one. But it will take time for them to start the initiative in full swing they said. Md. Motalib said, "Being attached with BARCIK has helped me much. I believe, it is the sustainable agriculture that ensures our right on agriculture as we can keep our own seeds and is good for environment as well." He went on saying, "BARCIK came to me not to provide materials, loans but to recognize my work, to support me. This kind of facilitation has increased my confidence that I am in the right tract practicing the sustainable agriculture which our ancestors did". Farmer Ali Hossein, age of 50 from Bamongoan village also practices sustainable agriculture. Including him Motalib, Halim, Mothi and some other farmers hope that seeing their success in adopting sustainable agriculture, someday other farmers in the area will come forward to imitate this environment friendly agriculture that ensures biodiversity conservation and environmental sustainability which also, with no doubt, brings good result for the farmers, environment and the agriculture sector itself.

### **Case-3**

#### **Nasima Akter receives more respect and more cooperation from the society**

We do not need cash but inspiration and facilitation to learn to work for ensuring our own livelihood"- said Nasima Akhter of Bheluwatoli village under Nazirpur Union of Kalmakanda who received midwife training arranged by BARCIK in 2012. After having the training, she tries to translate the learning into reality. According to her, she has already directly supervised the delivery of three infants and provided first aid treatment to the poor and marginal communities from her and other villages. She does not take fee for that but people being pleased with her services sometimes do give her honorarium. Because, if they consult doctor for a minor disease, they need to cross a

long distance investing both labor and cash. So, it is convenient for them to support her! But the most pleasing thing for her is that she could contribute to serve the poor and marginal people alike her, who most of the time could not afford consulting doctor when get sick. Other thing that makes her proud is that her new role has changed her status in the society and her family as well. Her husband supports her and feels proud of her. People surrounding her house and village respect her and treat her as their 'doctor'. Nasima can undertake test to know the level of pressure, diabetes, weight, and pregnancy and could advise villagers to adopt sanitation and other health related issues. Women from her village now are very much benefited having her as they can share their problem with her which they would not be able to share to male doctors due to the existing social system in villages! Nasima Akhter is aware of her right as well.

Nasiam Akter has three daughters and all of them are going to school. Her husband has a little amount of lands and the produces he gets from the lands could only meet their food demands. Thus the family somehow suffers to meet the other needs for lack of cash in hands. But the training she Nasima received from BARCIK has paved the families way for earning additional cash that is used to educate children and meet the materials need of the family.

The same thing I found in Bamongoan village under Kharnoi Union visiting the house of Orchana Mrong, a Garo woman. She, alike Nasima Akhter received midwife training in 2012 arranged by BARCIK. Now she makes the proper use of the learning



by serving the poor and marginal community of her and other nearby villages. She also has directly supervised the delivery of one infant in her village and provided first aid health services to the villagers when required. She said, "When someone gets fever, pears paring, cough, stomach disorder, it is me whom people would come to consult. Sometimes, I feel proud of myself thinking that I could come to their services. The

people treat me as they would treat the physicians in the hospital and this treatment shames me sometimes as I am not a doctor. I just know to provide first aid treatment. But this service seems huge to the people. They sometimes pay honorarium for those services". Orchana Mrong also produces vegetable in her homestead garden being facilitated by BARCIK. She farms diverse local varieties of vegetable and spinaches. Farming vegetable in an organic manner has enabled her to meet her family demand. In addition, she sells the surplus in the market that ensures extra cash for her family as well. Being in touch with BARCIK, Archana Ruram and Nasima Akhter think that they have discover their own way to live using their knowledge, skills and potentiality. This kind of mental supports and facilitations could never be measured in term of cash. Thus they realize that they do not need cash or material that makes them dependent on others throughout their life but timely, appropriate support, recognition and facilitation that arouses their confidence to ensure their livelihood and well-being



of their families using their knowledge and skills. They are really grateful to BARCIK for helping them discovering their very strength!

#### Case-4

##### **Sarothi Hajong is confident enough to make a difference in the society**

The village Bonbera is located near the border belt of India. There are 15 Hajong families in the village along with 2 Garo families. These people are totally dependent on natural resources for their livelihood. Sarothi Hajong is a well-known figure in the village due to her environment friendly initiative to earn her livelihood being supported and encouraged by BARCIK. The woman has 3 kids who are now studying in primary school in different classes. Her husband is a farmer. He cultivates rice in most of their 64 decimal of lands. Sarothi Hajong in the same time tries to produce vegetable in the homestead lands. But due to lack of capital she could not do this thing properly because when she farms vegetable in her homestead the livestock of others come there and eat her vegetable. For that reason she could never produce good yields. She feels that if she could have a fence she could easily prevent the attack of livestock and reduce the damage. However, being affiliated with BARCIK, she shared her problem regarding producing vegetable. BARCIK assessing her needs thus provided her nets and some other materials that could speed up her vegetable cultivation. Getting the materials, Sarothi Hajong made the proper use of them. She made a fence around her vegetable garden and then produced diverse vegetable. Thus last year, she yielded huge amount of vegetable from the garden. Meeting her family demand and sharing with her neighbors, she sold the surplus vegetable in the market which ensured her cash in hand. With this cash she bought books, pens, bags and other needs of her school going kids and used the cash to meet their other familial needs.

In her garden she produced vegetable such as gourd, beans, cucumber, wild potato, leafy vegetable, ladies finger, eggplant, tomato and some other wild vegetable that indigenous people consume. He husband also practices sharecropping to ensure food security of their family. Before getting materials support from BARCIK, Sarothi Hajong totally depends on her husband's income to lead her family but when she got the materials and produced vegetable in wide range she herself could earn cash and



this has reduced the pressure on her husband. Now Sarothi Hajong is leading at least a sufficient life. She does not depend on others for her livelihood. She said, “The support and encourage from BARCIK has changed my life. Now I am able to buy things for my kids and contribute in the family income. I have conserved seeds of vegetable that I got from BARCIK. Cultivating with these seeds has enabled me to reduce the production cost as well.” “Seeing my success in farming vegetable in a friendly and sustainable way some other women in the village have come forward to learn from me. Thus I discover that the facilitation of BARCIK has enabled me not to improve my livelihood process but also the social status of mine”- she added. Sarothi Hajong participated in every activities and program arranged by BARCIK aimed at creating mass awareness on biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, equal rights of men and women and other right based activities. Thus she is aware about her rights, the importance of biodiversity and other positive things associated with her life and livelihood.

#### **Case-5**

##### **Mala Mrong makes the proper use of her lands**

Mala Mrong lives in Kochugara village. Her husband is a retired teacher and farmer. Mala Mrong has 4 children and all of them have got married and form separate family. Mala Mrong and her husband possess a huge amount of land but except cultivating rice they could not use the lands for various agriculture purposes. When asked them why they do not farm vegetable in the fallow lands? Mala Mrong said that they tried several times to do that but could not meet success due to the disturbance of livestock of others. It is to mention that people of this village let their livestock grazing here and there and there is no punishment for the owners if their livestock damage crops of others. So, in spite of having lands, Mala Mrong did not use the homestead lands for vegetable cultivation. However, BARCIK provided her bamboo, nets, seeds and other materials for ensuring the proper use of her lands. Having these materials, with the help of her husband, Mala Mrong started to produce diverse vegetable in her lands in an organic way. She does not use chemical fertilizers and pesticides in her lands. She rather uses compost fertilizers that her husband prepared in a big hole. Mala Mrong produces Guard, sweet guard, chili, spices, bean, kidney bean, ladies finger, spinaches in those lands where a bamboo fence was made around. According to her, she has already sold huge amount of vegetable and earned BDT 16,000 last year after meeting family demand and exchange with relatives and neighbors. This accumulated money has helped her to maintain her family well she mentioned.

Mala Mrong is happy and grateful to BARCIK for helping to pave her way of earning additional cash. In this regard her husband Victor Dibra said, “I like the way BARCIK supports people. It is not a big amount but the material support to help the people to continue their works properly.” He further said, “BARCIK before providing support to people it makes an assessment if these people could make the proper use of the support. According to me it is a very workable strategy of the organization. I saw almost all of the people who have received supports from BARCIK have made a good





progress”. However, Mala Mrong is now able to use most of her lands. Her husband cultivates various local varieties of rice while she produces diverse local vegetable. The produces they make together have helped them to maintain their family very well. According to them, every poor people need support to make a positive change in their life. Hence the initiative of BARCIK should be imitated by other NGOs who have been providing many supports for the grassroots people.

#### Case-6

Musamat Hafeza Begum. She lives in Chanduail village of Kalmankanda. Her husband, Md. Abul Khayer is a farmer and farms rice and other agricultural crops in their 24 Katha of lands. Hafeza Begum has two children, a son and a daughter. Her



daughter has recently appeared for the SSC exam. Hafeza received material assistance from BARCIK. The assistance include: Bamboo, net, Mug, seeds and other things that could help her producing vegetable properly. Getting the assistance Hafeza with the help of her husband made a dais near their house with bamboo and farm diverse vegetable there. Due having the assistance and making dais, Hafeza harvested more crops last year compared to the previous years. She

earned TK 6000 selling vegetable after meeting her family needs. She also shared her crops and vegetable with her relatives and neighbors.

Hafeza Begum uses compost fertilizers in her vegetable garden and when the crops are attacked by different pests she used organic pesticides prepared from the medicinal plants. She learned this technique from BARCIK she said. The vegetable that she farms the whole year include: gourd, sweet gourd, cucumber, eggplant, ladies finger, potato, corola, chili, bean, kidney been and some other leafy vegetable and spinaches. It is not that they have not been producing vegetable in the past but the assistance and advice from BARCIK has helped the couple to double the production. According to them, it is BARCIK who has opened their eyes to make the proper use of their assets and resources.

Hafeza Begum is now a happy housewife. Being able to contribute in her family has enabled her to get sincere treatment and respect from her husband. Her husband consults with her when any important familial decision is to be taken. This practice and attitude of her husband has made her confident and happy. She said, BARCIK is like my friend. BARCIK comes to me to assist, to advice and to learn. The attitude of BARCIK staff and the way they treat us has made me confident to confront and share my problems.” Because of this assistance and increased confidence of mine now people around my house come to me now and then for advice and for seeds. I advise and give them my conserved seeds and if they have any, I collect that from them as well. Now we have a very friendly relation with all people in our village and it is BARCIK who has shown us this way”-she added.

## Case-7

### Nazma Akter produces more vegetable

Nazma Akter is a woman farmer. She lives in Chanduwail village of Kalmankanda sub-district of Netrakuna. Her husband Zakir Hossein is also a farmer. Nazma and Zakir have 2 daughters and they are studying in primary school. The couple has only 3 and half *Katha* of land where rice is cultivated in 2 *Katha* and the rest is homestead land. Due to having small amount of land, this couple has been facing various problems to maintain their livelihood and educate their kids. The produces they harvested from the 2 *katha* of land tough helps them to meet their rice demand but when comes to meet the other necessary things for their family, they have to struggle



or take loan from the credit NGO or landlord to meet that. This rather helps them reducing problems make the problem more acute due to they have to pay the high interest! Besides, for lack of capital and having little knowledge they could not make the proper use of their homestead land. However, when Nazma Akter attended in

various program arranged by BARCIK in the village or heard from others about making homestead garden she tried to communicate with BARCIK.

This communication has a bit changed her life she said. BARCIK assessing the needs of the couple advise them to farm vegetable in their homestead land which remains fallow for a long time. BARCIK thus provided Nazma with seeds, Bamboo, nets and some other things needed for farming vegetable. Besides, BARCIK took initiative to train and give her knowledge about sustainable agriculture which composes of making compost fertilizers, conserving seeds of local varieties and making organic pesticides from herb and medicinal plants. This facilitation helped Nazma very well. Now she could prepared compost fertilizer from the household wastes and cow dung. She has learned the technique to make organic pesticide as well. There are many local varieties of rice and vegetable in her collection and conservation today. She needs nothing to buy from the market for farming vegetable and rice.

Nazma Akter now can produce vegetable properly and could ensure family vegetable needs. She also distributes the vegetable to her relatives and neighbors and this practice has enabled her to develop good relationship with them. On the other hand, she sells the surplus vegetable in the market and this ensures her an income of TK 2000 per month. She produces almost of kinds of vegetable and spinaches and among the vegetable includes: Tomato, potato, chili, bean, kidney bean, gourd, sweet gourd, wax gourd, ladies finger, eggplant and some leafy vegetable. Being facilitated and assisted in various ways, Nazma Akter is very grateful to BARCIK. She said, “Before

meeting BARCIK, every day we face problem and worry on how we could meet our demand. But today we have not to worry much. Farming vegetable has made me able to meet the other necessary things for my family needs and buy things needed for my kids' schooling. People around my house, seeing my success in farming organic vegetable have tried to replicate in the homestead and they come to me for advice. This leads me to feel respected in the village. Besides, my husband also inspires me much and he is happy with what I have gained so far."

#### Case-8

##### **Shahorbanu now sells more goods**

There are many women in the rural area who try their best to maintain their family being involved in various income generating activities after doing their very household works. Some of them get involved in farming vegetable, rearing livestock, bamboo cane work, day labor and run small grocery shop in the village. Shahorbanu of Kuwarpur village under Kalmakanda sub-district of Netrakuna has been running a small grocery shop in her village for a long time. But for lack of capital she could not earn profit in contrast to her labor work! She said, "People of the village need many thing but I could not get these things in my shop due to lack of cash. So, when they do not get these things they go to the market and seldom come to my shop my goods remain unsold".



Shahorbanu, however, last year received livelihood support from BARCIK so that she could run the grocery shop properly. However, with the minimum financial support, she bought goods and things for her shop that the villagers used to ask from her. After this, Shahorbanu finds that villagers come to her shop every day for their needs instead of going to the market. The increased sale has enabled her to accumulate TK 1500-2000 per month. She tries to make her shop a big one with the income she generates. Besides, with the income, she has bought livestock and has taken mortgage of lands from others she said.

Shahorbanu has 5 children (3 sons and 2 daughters). One of her daughter studies in class 4 and the other kids of her have got married. She has only 6 *Katha* of land where her husband and sons produce rice and vegetable in the whole year. But the produces are not enough to meet their food demands. Thus her husband also practices sharecropping and ensures that the family members do not starve. But being able to run the grocery shop has now enabled Shahorbanu not to get worried much about food and other things. She said, "BARCIK has not given us a huge amount of cash alike other NGOs but the minimum needs for making our business or work properly. The organization does not only help us, facilitates us but it tries to learn from us which has helped us to be very frank with BARCIK staff here".

## Case-9

### MIKKRAKA shows women the way to be self-reliant

Different Organizations though have different rules and principles yet the main objective of those organizations is to be united! The women organization from Taranagar village of Kalmankanda under Netrokuna district also has its own objective and goal and among the very objective of the organization is to combat problem together! Some members of the organization have visited occupational organizations in Sylhet and Tangail with the facilitation of BARCIK. Visiting and having close interaction with those organizations these people gained experience and knowledge on how they could form their own organization. However, coming back from the exposure visit, they replicate the learning by forming their own organization. The name of their organization is 'MIKKRAKA'. It is Garo language which means Risen English.



According to the member and secretary of the organization, the main objective of the women organization is get united and help each other to solve problems associated with their life and livelihood. There are 15 members of the organization where Lina Nongmin has been selected as president and Sabina Rongdi has been selected by those women as secretary of the

organization. The organization started its journey in 2012. However, with the objective to produce fresh and poison free vegetable; these women have taken initiative to farm vegetable in an organic way which also they learned from the exposure visit. Due to having no land to get their objective done, the secretary of the organization, Sabina Rongdi initially gave her 6 decimal of lands for experimentally producing vegetable in an organic manner. Thus these women dug and prepared lands by themselves and collected local varieties of vegetable seeds from BARCIK and farmed. However, within 6 months, they have succeeded to harvest some vegetable from the lands and each member of the organization shared the vegetable among them leading them to meet their vegetable demand. Due to farming the vegetable in small amount of land, these women have harvested 10 KG of ladies finger, 40 KG of leafy vegetable and spinaches and some 20 KGs of other vegetable.

They have a planning of farming vegetable in wide ranges in near future. Some members have agreed to devote their lands for that purpose. The members of the organization comprise of Indigenous and Bengali. According to them, if they wish



they could increase the members of their organization. But they did not do that because, they want this type of new member who is ready to work and dedicate herself to help the organization flourish in near future. The members of the organization meet every month and discuss about their problems and the probable way get their problems solved. Thus in the meeting they do not only discuss on how to produce vegetable but also other social and cultural issues also get their place there. These women want to get aware about their rights and things associated with their life and livelihood and that is why they named the organization 'Risen' they said. They are grateful to BARCIK for assisting them to get aware on things related with their life and livelihood. Sabina Rongdi thus said, "We are now aware about our rights and we believe if we are united we could contribute to solve different problems of the society. By forming the organization we aim to establish our rights and get united to contribute a harmonized society in the area and that is why both Bengali and Garo women are members of the organization".

#### Case-10

##### **Md. Motalib realizes the importance of sustainable agriculture**

Md. Motalib lives in Fulbari village which is far away from Kalamakanda. The village is close to India border belt and one needs to walk on foot to reach to the village. But in spite of the remoteness, the dealers of multinational seeds and pesticides companies reach there and inspire farmers to abandon their indigenous



knowledge based sustainable agriculture. The dealers allure farmers that if the use hybrid seeds and chemical fertilizers & pesticides, they could harvest huge amount of crops! Thus most of the farmers of the village practice commercial agriculture for several years. Md. Motalib is among of the farmers! He said,

"Farming with the seeds prescribed by the dealers and using chemical fertilizers and pesticides I found that I could produce double of crop for the first time. Thus I got accustomed to the agriculture practices but after several years, I discovered that my production cost increased every year. Selling the produces in the market I could not earn profit rather sometimes I have to count loss for that." He further said, "Sometimes during the cultivation I face problems to get good and quality seeds on time. Sometimes, I got seeds but after planting those seeds did not germinate leading me to let those lands fallow for sometimes."

There are some farmers in the nearby village of Phulbari and Md. Motalib sometimes interacts with them. These farmers suggested him to contact with BARCIK. However, meeting with BARCIK, Md. Motalib collected few local varieties of vegetable seeds and farm those in his lands. This time he produced some vegetable and as advised by

BARCIK he keeps the seed of those vegetable with him. Md. Motalib, with the facilitation of BARCIK meet with some successful farmers from Taranagar, Bhelowatoli and other village and learn the technique of making compost fertilizers as well as collected seeds of diverse vegetable and rice from them. Getting those seeds, he tried to farm them instead of hybrid one! That year, he produced average yields and he was surprised when he went to market for selling those vegetable! Knowing that these are chemical and poison free vegetable, people of all classes bought them. Md. Motalib said in this regard, “When I started to produce vegetable in an organic way, I discover that the sale of vegetable increased and the vegetable could be conserved for some days as well. But when I produce vegetable using chemical and external seeds I could not keep the vegetable for several days due to they get rotten within few days”.

After starting to use local seeds and compost vegetable Md. Motalib also discovered that his production cost has reduced as he needs not buy seeds, fertilizers and pesticides from the market. He only needs to engage his labor for producing those vegetable. Thus when he sells those vegetable he counts lot of profit he said. According to him every month he earn TK 6000 thousands by selling different kinds of vegetable. His wife also helps him very much he said. She keeps the accounts of his vegetable sale and helps him to work in the vegetable garden. He said that today he has diverse seeds from his collection and conservation. Farmers from his village come to him for seeds and for advice as well he said. According to him, having own seeds has enabled him to make the proper use of his lands and could produce vegetable on time. Md. Motalib has only homestead lands amounted to some 20 decimal. He produces vegetable from the lands of others which he takes lease in each season in exchange of cash. He four daughters and both of them studies in primary schools. He hopes that someday he could purchase lands with the accumulated cash he gathers from vegetable sale. He is grateful to BARCIK and those farmers who help him with experience and knowledge.

## Case-11

### Himaly Ghagra plans to rear more livestock

Himaly Ghagra is a poor Garo woman. She lives in Kanthalbai village of Kalmakanda under Netrakona district. Her husband is a day labor and does day labor work in Khulna. He comes to the village twice a year. Thus Himaly Ghara has to struggle hard for maintaining her family. She has a daughter who studies in class nine in Lengura



high school of Lengura Union. Himaly Ghagra has only 3 Katha of homestead land and she tries to produce vegetable in those lands but could not harvest good crops due to the disturbance of livestock and due to being absent in her house during the day time being involved in day labor work.

In the absence of her husband she has play double role. She has to oversee her lands and homes and do household work including helping her daughter getting education. But sometimes, she fails to run the family well due to lack of cash in hand. Thus for that she has to work in the house of others. BARCIK seeing her hardship to run a family last year provided her two small pigs for rearing. It is mentionable that rearing pigs is an easiest work for women in the village as they have only to give food and tie the livestock with trees. So, doing household works and providing foods and water for the pigs, Himaly could easily go outside for searching work. She said, "I need only to provide food and water for the two pigs. The food comprises household waste, rotten foods, curry and some other wild spinach.

The provided pigs have grown up within 10 months and Himaly hopes that she can earn about TK 20,000 selling the pigs. She has planned to repair her house, buy bamboo for making fence around her vegetable garden so that livestock (Cow, goat chicken) could not harm her vegetable and buy another 3 small pigs to rear for the following price. She decides to sell the pigs during the x-mas eve and in this time the price of pigs is comparatively high. She said, "If am able to sell the pigs during Christmas, I will be able to earn good amount of money as this time the price is high. I will first repair my house with the cash and buy other small pigs for rearing". She further said, "I have a plan to produce vegetable in my homestead land but the disturbance of livestock has spoiled my plan. So, I will try to buy bamboo and net to make a fence around my house and produce vegetable with the rest of cash which I will earn selling the livestock." According to her, poor people need a minimum support to be enabled to continue their work. BARCIK by providing the 2 small pigs for her has helped her a lot for making sincere effort to improve her livelihood. She said, "The livestock that BARCIK provided me will enable me to shape my future life and livelihood well." According to the oral contract, after the pigs give birth, she will have to provide one another poor women. Himaly remembers this and she will give one small pig to other poor women out of the 3 pigs she plans to buy after selling the two grown up pigs.

#### Case-12

##### **Ayesha Khanom is a good 'doctor' for the villagers**

Ayesha Khanom lives in Bishara village of Kalmakanda under Netrakuna district. Her husband, Shabir Uddin is a famer although they do not have any land for cultivation. Her house is built on the land that her sister gave her. She earns her livelihood by selling medicine from village to village. The medicines she sells comprise herbal and aliphatic one that she buy from the Pharmacy. Ayesha Khanom received training on midwife provided by BRAC an NGO long day ago and served as health servers for many years. She tries to professionalize the learning and experience as health servers but somehow she feels she lacks confidence and needs to sharpen her knowledge on child delivery and primary health service. Thus having the opportunity to attend a 3-day midwife and health training arranged by BARCIK, Ayesha Khanom refreshes her previous concept on child delivery and gained confidence.

In the training she got a medical kit box comprises 26 health materials from BARCIK.



This box has helped her lot she said. When she goes to village people come to her for medicines and treatment and seeing the box with her people started to believe her and keep faith on her she said. Besides, the training she gained was provided by the health specialist and she learned lot of things from them. This learning helps her to do service in more organized way. She said, “Frankly to say I do have knowledge on child delivery as I attended training arranged by BRAC and worked as health

workers for many years. But the learning I gained in the recent training has sharpened my knowledge. I am not afraid to supervise any child delivery today and if I see any complicated cases, I suggest taking the patient to hospital.”

Ayesha Khanoom knows the use of various medicinal plants as well. She also provides medicinal plants to her patients based on their needs and demands. She knows to measure the pressure, diabetic, pregnancy checkup, weight as well. She has already supervised 5 child deliveries after receiving the training arranged by BARCIK and found that she could do the service better than the past. After receiving the training and getting the health kit box she discovered that the sale of her medicines has increased. She earns 3-4 thousands every month selling medicines and providing primary health treatment. She provides health treatment and sells medicines in her village and that of nearby villages. People of these villages called her “Doctor Apa”. She has already bought two rickshaws for her husband and son with the accumulated income she gained from her profession. She has also repaired her house with the cash. She said, “People say that I did well in the training and did well in the treatment. Sometimes I have to do some complicated thing also. When I ask the pregnant women going to hospital in case of complicated case, they do not afford to do that and asked me to do whatever I know. This sometimes makes me scare and feel that I am educated I could study more to improve my knowledge”.

Ayesha Khanom has 8 children. Among them two children are presently studying in school and the rest have got married. Previously Ayesha Khanom served as midwife in Sylhet for 20 years.

#### Case-13

##### **Hasina Khatoon is able practicing her traditional occupation**

Hasina Khatoon is a poor woman. Her ancestors did bamboo cane work to earn their livelihood. So this is her traditional occupation and she knows the technique to make products from bamboo. Her husband, Abdul Elim is day laborer. They have only ½



Katha of homestead land. So, they do not have enough land to cultivate rice. They run their family from the income her husband earns doing day labor work as well as the minimum cash she accumulates selling bamboo products. According to her, if they have material (Bamboo) they could make more bamboo cane products and could sell in huge amount. There is high demand of these products in the area but for lack of capital they could not make enough products.

BARCIK after learning the case of Hasina and did assessment to justify for livelihood support provided her bamboo and thread. Hasina getting the materials made bair (one kind of basket use for fishing), basket, Kula and other bamboo cane products with huge quantity. Her husband also helps her to make those products when he comes back from his work. Thus last few months (April-July) she earned TK 7000 selling those products. She said in this regard, "I used to make bamboo products previously. But the materials assistance from BARCIK has enabled me to make more



and sell more. I earned some cash selling the products which is the first ever big amount I earned selling the product." "I have saved the cash and have already taken mortgage of lands of others. We will produce rice there. I have also bought bamboo so that I could continue the work" She added. Today women of her village are very much inspired by the way she has able to lead her life. She said, "People come to me to learn the technique and I teach them so that they too could improve their livelihood."

Hasina Khatoon is a member of an organization which they form after being motivated by BARCIK. The name of the organization is 'Bair Shilpo Sangathan'. The organization has 30 members and most of them are women. They formed the organization with the following objectives:

1. Save money
2. Assist to solve various problems of the members
3. Get united and
4. Get advice from the experienced and skilled farmers and other occupational groups for solving social and financial problems.

Hasina Khatoon is now leading comparatively a sufficient life. She is happy as she could continue her traditional occupation being supported and assisted by BARCIK. She thinks it is the assistance of BARCIK that leads her to revive her occupation and that is why she is very thankful to BARCIK. She is also happy as her success has inspired other women to choose the bamboo work as their occupation. She is very keen to learn about technique that leads her to maintain her life and livelihood well. Thus she attends in various activities and program of BARCIK and is now aware about environment, gender equality, biodiversity and right of women. She said, "I want to learn more so that I can make a sustainable living and contribute to bring peace in family, society and state."

#### Case- 14

##### **Bur: a traditional fishing trap practiced indigenous community in Kolmakanda**

Bur (fishing trap) a traditional way of fish harvesting from open river and stream is practiced by indigenous Garo community in Karnoi and Lengura union of Kolmakanda upazila in Netrakona district. Bur is made by special types of wild vines and leaves, twisted and rolled that are used as floating trap is placed into the river or stream supporting by a stick with the help of rope. Fish usually moves reverse direction of the current take shelter in it and consider the trap as their natural habitat thereafter harvesting is done. The way of harvesting is unique, all on a sudden the Bur is carried out in the bank and loosens the vines.



Thus the fishes are separated. The trap is usually put at evening and collection is done at morning by 8-9 am. Local fish species like *air*, *puti*, *tangra*, *baim*, *gochi* and crab are harvested from the bur.

Bur is the traditional way of fish harvesting for indigenous community and especially women play major roll. The way the marginal community are catching fish not only for their own consumption but excess portion is sold at nearby market. This environment friendly practiced is supporting the nature and keeping natural fish source alive.

#### Case-15

##### **Fortune favors for Alauddin Ali through cultivating vegetable**

Alauddia Ali, a bicycle mechanic suffering poverty as his income is not sufficient to maintain family expense. He lives with wife and 4 sons and 3 daughters at



Bamangaon village in Karnain union under Kolmakanda upazila of Netrakonsa district now has become solvent through cultivating diverse vegetable. He realized rice cultivation in his small 8 decimal of land is no more profitable. It pushed him to start vegetable cultivation. Started back in

2005 with 8 decimal of lands now extended an area of 40 decimals at present. He cultivate radish, red amaranth, spinach, Gourd, egg plant those attract customers as it produced by organic manure. Besides his regular work as mechanic at day time he had to work his garden at night. His wife helps him a lot by preparing seed bed, harvesting and seed preservation. Alauddin Ali received training from GBC (Garo

Baptist Convention) on vegetable cultivation. Once Alauddin's main challenge was to maintain his family expense now he bought a motor bike to use as rental to increase daily income. He earned Tk 35000 from vegetable selling except own consumption this year.

#### Case-16

##### **Preparing Bamboo made fishing gear: earnings and sufferings two sides of a coin**

Bamboo made fishing gear has been is one of the main income sources since 60 years back of poor people living in Valuatoli village of Nazirpur union of Kolmakanda upazila under Netrakona district. In favour of low lying land, the area is full of fish during monsoon. Motaleb Hossin is one of them who produce Bair (a hand made fishing gear) for his livings. The life of Bair producers is not solvent as the cost of bamboo goes up and marketing depends season and depth of water in monsoon. Though, it is one of the ways of earning but causing some troubles as well. Especially, women plays vital role in preparation often the have to suffer back pain as they work long hours at a starch in sitting.



#### Case-17

##### **Entrepreneurship of rural women demand marketing**



Small cottage is suffering a lot across the country and nothing exception for Zayed Khatun (30) of Koyerpur village in Kolmakanda upazila. Zayed a poor women has been trying a lot to find scope of earnings to support her husband. Fortunately, found a light at the end of the tunnel. She received skill in preparing

hand bag, wallet, and purse from one of her friend but theses produce unsold yet. She

pointed that, retail price and cost of raw materials are so close that affect badly for marketing.

#### Case-18

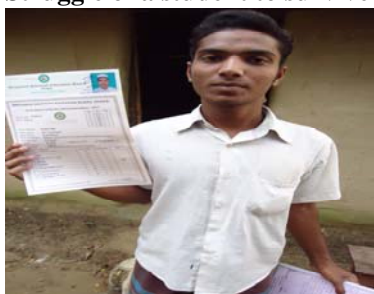
##### **Momta Begum's diverse kitchen Garden**



Momta Begum (32) a house wife of Bishara village living with 3 daughters and husband now increased family earnings from diverse vegetable cultivation round the year in her 8 decimal of lands. Her share cropper day laborer husband and daughter help in many ways. Started in 2010, she then earned a total of taka 2000 by selling vegetable apart family consumption. She cultivate radish, red amaranth, spinach, Gourd, egg plant in using vermin compost and control pest attract by bio pesticide. She hopes to more in the coming next years.

#### Case-19

##### **Struggle of a student to survive family**



Tariqul Islam(17) a student of Secondary School at Valuatoli village of Nazirpur Union under Kolmakanda upazila of Netrakona district trying hard for economic solvency and pursuing education against all adverse condition. He has two sisters and four brothers including him. As Tariqual's parents have no agricultural land except homestead they have to lease land to cultivate. Tariqul is the elder son of his family and usually need to play major role of earning with his father. Despite all unfavorable condition, he achieved remarkable success in JDC(JuniorDhakil Certificate) exam .

#### Case-20



##### **Hard labour changes Sarothi Hajong's fate**

Once homeless Sarathi Hajong now found address at Bonbera village of Karnai union



of Kalmakanda upazila in Netrakona. Her family's only earning was selling of fire woods that were collected from neighboring Meghalaya forest in India. She started rearing heifer in 2003, and bought a heifer at costs Tk1500 and also started homestead vegetable cultivation simultaneously. She earned taka 24000 by selling 3 heifer within 2 years. Using the money, she purchased a piece of land for vegetable cultivation in 2009. Now she owns a total of 64 decimal of land that is bought by selling milk, vegetables and cow. Now she is rearing 4 cows but limited scope of housing for them.

#### Case-21

##### **Villagers joint Initiatives for own development**

Koarpur village of sadar upazila of Kolmakanda in Netrakona is engulfed by water and become disconnect totally due to its downstream location. This village is divided



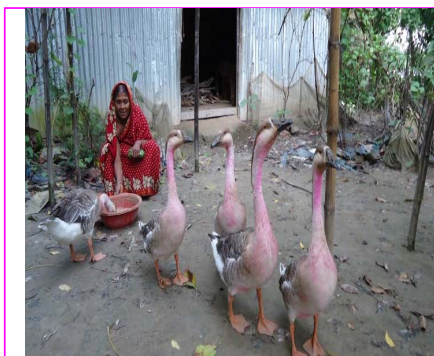
by Goneswari River from main road which make trouble to reach the village. Boat is the main means of travel and transportation therein monsoon. That time communication between houses in villages is done by boat and bamboo made pool which is difficult for children and elderly people.

There is no electricity and schools in the village. In improving the worst condition, 32 enthusiastic people of the village trying together and formed a group. They engaged a person to drive boat in monsoon paying money they from the villagers that enable poor students to reach school. They also built a road across the village for easy movement. These initiatives are appreciated by all.

#### Case-22

##### **Duck farming: A ray of hope for Anura Begum's life**

Anura begum (45) a house wife with three daughters and one son of Chandual village



of Kolmakanda upazila has changed her life by rearing ducks. In 2009 she started with four ducks and earned some money within one year by selling 10 ducks and some eggs. The earnings supplement her family income. Her deem to expand her farm earning more to support her husband. Unfortunately she had not enough money to purchase ducklings and

its accommodation. She was supported with 100 ducklings. She earned Tk 10,000 within one year. Anura Begum now rearing 300 ducks aiming to earn taka 30,000 at the end of the year.

#### Case-23

##### **Natural water collection for drinking is tuff for people in Kolmakanda**

Goneswari River is the main source of drinking for inhabitants of 15 village of indigenous community of Karnoi and Lengura union of kolmakanda. The Goneawari river originated from upstream in Maghalaya state of flows numerous branches across the adjacent Karnoi and Lengura plays vital role for drinking as well as irrigation in boro rice season. The way the people collecting drinking water from traditional way is hard as they need to make pit on the bank of the river or just beside the small streams and wait to fill by infiltrated water. Then strain with cotton cloth to get fresh water that ready for drinking. This is done by women member of the family and is often helped by their kids partially. Due to ground water depletion and presence of gravel tube well doesn't work and ground water also contaminated by iron that taste bad.



#### Case- 24

##### **Rural women involved income generating activities**

A total of 84 rural women of Chandual village in Kolmakanda upazila under Netrakona district have formed a group with aim to reduce poverty. Therefore they



involved income generating activities jointly through accumulating saving and managing it their own since 2009. Initially they were provided some conditional money as it should back but could spend their own plan and accumulated money in weekly basis. The money was used in several

enterprises like purchasing cow, rickshaw, goat, small business, and land leased for

vegetable cultivation etc. which are successfully running. At present they accelerate savings so that able to expand their endeavor as planned.

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