

Press release

Forum Syd & Swallows delegates visited DEW field & farmer organization

A daylong meeting and field visit was held on 20, November 2012 at Baruamari village of Gouripur upazilla and Boira village of Mymensingh sadar by the official delegates of Forum Syd and Swallows. The meeting & visit was attended by Annica Sohlstrom, Secretary General, Maria Kempe, Head of program, Margoth Sonnebo, Program Officer, Forum Syd, Monica Erwar, Director, Swallows, Cecilia Ward, Communication officer, Swallows and two interns of Swedish university. Swallows Dhaka office representative Shuily Haque and Sadia Sultana also present in this meeting. Mr. Shah Abdus Salam, Executive Director, Dew had constructive meeting with them & represent about Development Wheel (DEW).

Forum Syd and Swallows delegates required to know DEW working area and program experiences in project implementation. They also mentioned what they assume about partner and what is requisite for next long term partnership. Mr. Shah Abdus Salam explains about the DEW earlier period and currently running programs. He discussed on the main focused area such as sustainable livelihood, women rights and fair trade programs. He focused on sustainable livelihood program like APONE project and shared previous experience of SLIPP project successes. He said DEW always prefers farmer wants who are providing our daily food by sacrificing their best time and wages. But problem is that they are the most overlooked person in this society and also they don't get fair price of their product.

Firstly, Forum Syd & Swallows delegates visited Boira village under Mymensingh sadar. Then they meet with the farmer organization and talked with the farmer directly. They wanted to know why they formed group and how they maintain their collective action. Mr. Mukul Hossain, Secretary of that farmer organization said the importance of group and how they got competence from their collective action as well as they got rights from public & private service provider. After discussion Forum Syd and Swallows officials visited some demonstration plot of currently running Agricultural Rights Program (ARP) activities for small grand during July to December, 2012. They visited Bottol gourd, bean and egg plants demonstration field. They also want to know what the production cost of that field is, why they establish demonstration plot and how they minimize the production cost of their crop. Then they went to Baruamari village of Gouripur upazilla and get together with both male & female group of that village.



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DEVELOPMENT WHEEL (DEW)



Meeting session with Forum Syd & Swallows delegates at DEW regional office, Mymensingh



Field visit of Forum Syd and Swallows delegates at Boira village, Mymensingh sadar