

**AGRICULTURAL RIGHTS PROGRAM (ARP)**  
**ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT**

**DECEMBER, 2013**

Submitted to



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## **ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT**

**Name of Organization: Development Wheel (DEW)**

**Name of the project: Agricultural Right Programme (ARP)**

**Project Reporting Period: 01 January to 31 December, 2013**

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<b>Project period:</b> <b>01 January to 31 December, 2013</b>	<b>Support funding received (Taka):</b> <b>SEK: 160582</b> <b>BDT: 1889084.61</b>
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### **Short description of the Project: (one brief paragraph)**

Development Wheel (DEW) started Agricultural Right Programme (ARP) in Mymensingh supported by The Swallows India Bangladesh from 2013. This project aims to create an environment where farmer can assert their rights. To achieve this aim initially DEW organized farmer of Mymensingh sadar and Gouripur upazilla and formed 30 new groups (30 farmer in each group) and 20 old groups. Then we organized a need assessment Focus Group Discussion (FGD) where discussed on their problem and how this project will run in their community. DEW informed them, we will act as a facilitator in order to get support as well as service from public & private service provider by themselves. For that reason DEW provided different technical training through Upazilla Agriculture Officer, Upazilla Livestock Officer, Soil Scientist etc to the all farmer groups. That training tried to ensures better linkage with Govt. Department and farmer understood where they can get service. Besides, DEW got emphasis on organic practice for each & every ARP farmer. All are instructed to do pit compost in their household which they are not practiced before joining with us. DEW initiated a *Tricoderma* compost to produce organic fertilizer with the technical support of Bangladesh Agriculture University, Mymensingh. To reduce access use of inorganic fertilizer, DEW started Soil test for ARP farmer with the help of Soil Resource & Development Institute, Mymensingh. So, now farmer can easily understand how they will get benefit from this project. They demanded to arrange different technical training. In this year, DEW only organized them in a common umbrella. After that our targets is developing them as an active & strengthen Farmer Organization.

## **Update of Stakeholders analysis:**

In this project, there are two type of stakeholder present. Such as

### **1. Primary stakeholder**

- NGO Affairs Bureau
- District Commissioner (DC) office
- Upazilla Nirbahi Office (UNO)
- Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE)
- Department of Livestock Service (DLS)
- Upazilla Fisheries Office (UFO)
- Soil Resource Development Institute (SRDI)
- Bank
- Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC)
- Input supplier
- Union Porishod (UP)

### **2. Secondary stakeholder**

- Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU)
- Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture (BINA)
- Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI)
- Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI)
- Bangladesh Sugarcane Research Institute (BSRI)
- Upazilla Women Affairs office
- District Commissioner office
- Upazilla Co-operative office
- Seed Certification Agency (SCA)
- Market Committee
- Audit farm
- Food supplier
- Printing press

**Primary stakeholder participation matrix to prioritize opponents:**

Power to influence the decision	10		UNO/DC							
	9									
	8									
	7		BADC					DAE		
	6						DLS			
	5				UP		DFO			
	4			Market Committee						
	3									
	2				SRDI		Input seller			Food supplier
	1					BANK				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

**Level of interest in the project**

**Evolution of context (Project working area):**

In the project area, small and marginal farmers faced discrimination in accessing government service including fertilizer distribution, soil testing, production training, agricultural subsidies and loans, production advice, registration etc. They get low quality inputs and low prices and they incur higher costs of transportation, rental of equipment, machines and storage. This project is working on this context. DEW started linkage with those stakeholders who can provide this service for the small and marginal farmer. Such as for getting quality input material, farmer can directly communicate with Upazilla Agriculture Officer who provides certification to those fertilizer & seed dealers. This year our farmers are informed about that information where they get service and where they have to claim for their rights. The farmer of boyar village under sadar upazilla informed us they knew who adulterated and spoil their seed and fertilizer. But till now they did not get chance to take any action. They realized to do something against them and it's possible only by the strong and active farmer organization. The farmer of Baruamari village under Gouripur upazilla planned to submit a memorandum to Upazilla Nirbahi Office for taking initiative to the accused trader. Because this upazilla Nirbahi officer committed in Agriculture fair that he will stop any unfair means from his upazilla.

## **1. Target group**

### **a) Number of women and girls reached by the project?**

In this project, 566 numbers of women and 65 girls are directly reached.

### **b) Number of men and boys reached by the project?**

In this project, 733 numbers of men and 136 boys are involved.

### **c) Are you reaching other community people through your project? If yes then how did you reach them?**

Yes, DEW is reaching other community people through their different project activities. Most of the time DEW organized training for project farmer but during technical training by govt. Technical person, huge people gathered in training session. DEW provided thirty persons refreshment for one event. That community people demanded to attend that training without taking any food. They took advice from technical person. DEW organized awareness raising cultural program and agriculture fair where community people attended and enrich their knowledge to see different cultivation practice of ARP project farmer.

### **d) Describe the target group.**

Our main target group is small and marginal farmer. There are many target group reached by this project. Such as upazilla agriculture office, livestock office, UNO office, Union Parishad, soil testing office, Bangladesh agricultural university, DC office, input seller, dealer, market committee, food vendor etc.

### **e) How has the target group participated in the project (for example in planning, implementation, monitoring the work etc)?**

Target group helps us in planning and implementation of this project activity. If we want to organize any event in any village, we sat with local farmer groups where we can arrange it. Then the farmer suggested us where & how can we implement it. In this regard, DEW organized agriculture fair at Gouripur upazilla. We wanted to organize it at raigonj bazaar but our farmer suggested it to organize in front of Barek's homestead. Because that time blockade was going on country wide. If DEW organize fair at bazaar area then some unwanted situation may occur like someone claim subscription for the event by unethically. Finally DEW organized this event successfully according to follow their instruction.

Besides upazilla agriculture & livestock officer provided technical training to ARP farmer and increased field monitoring at project working area more than before. There was a rumour sub-assistant agriculture officer-SAAO (field worker) do not visit field regularly. They informed to the Agriculture officer and he instructed SAAO to ARP field visit on regular basis. He also agrees to provide suggestion on agriculture related issues over phone. Now lead farmer can easily communicate with agriculture officer. On the other hand, soil resource station assist our farmer for soil testing and input seller provided agricultural inputs in project area.

**f) Number and Name of working area ( District/ Upazilla/ Union/ Village)**

District Name	Upazilla Name	Union Name	Village Name	Total Village Household	No of Household you worked with
Mymensingh	Sadar	Boyra	Boyra	2640	150
		Char Ishwardia	Char Annandipur	806	150
			Char vobanipur	1161	150
		Burorchar	Bartipara	583	90
			Kustiapara	712	90
		Gouripur	Vangnamari	Baruamari	884
	Dohakhola		Chandropara	670	90
			Shrirumpur	506	90
			Char Ghoramara	650	90
	Khamar singjani		850	90	
	Bashati		674	90	

**2. Objectives of the project**

**a) Are there any visible sign that change is taking place in the direction of the set objective?**

There are few visible sign that change is taking place in the direction of the set objective. Each group made their own signboard by their own fund (50 groups x 300 TK = 15000 BDT) and they have group meeting resolution book where they started record keeping. Farmer got support from department of Agriculture Extension. Golam Hossain, farmer of Gouripur upazilla got mango seedlings and sprayer machine. Dulal Bepari, farmer of char ghoramara got brinjal demonstration plot and Guti (granular) urea from DAE. In the project area farmer are united now. Recently the farmers of Bashhati village under Gouripur upazilla stop one female farmer's domestic violence with the help of UP chairman. Our lead farmers started organic compost in their homestead. The farmer of Boyra village demanded vermi-compost fertilizer which increases organic practice.

**b) What quantitative and qualitative indicators show that the project targets have been reached?**

DEW didn't reach project target till now. In this year, DEW started organizing our farmer and tried to linkage with service providers such as DAE, DLS, SRDI, BAU etc. Our farmer group started working as an organization because they didn't work together before. They are interested to take led (become president or secretary) in a group. Each farmer organization has seven or nine member of an Executive committee. They are habituating sit together and

keeping record of their meeting discussion. Last year DEW demonstrated how they can get meeting & keep resolution. This year DEW expects they can do this by themselves without taking any help from us.

**c) Explain the methods/process that you have practiced towards achieving the project objective.**

To achieving the project objective DEW did so many activities with farmer and tried to increase their participation & included them in implementation of this project. DEW sat together so many times and tried to understand them this is their community and they have to active for their better livelihood. DEW trained them through technical person & govt office in order that they can establish linkage whether we are present or not. To build strong leader in both upazilla DEW had a plan. DEW made some lead farmer who can arrange so many farmers together in a short time or those have wide acceptance in farmer level. DEW motivated them providing some training, demonstration plot establishment, establish information centre, pit compost and *Tricoderma* compost preparation support. Then they are motivated and try to create an environment though everyone can get this by themselves.

**3. Results**

**a) Were activities carried out as planned during the year 2013? Please fill up the following table:**

Activity (2013) (Planned and exchange gained Budget activities )	Output
<b>Result: 1 Independent Farmers organizations are established, strengthened and functioning and support from Duty bearers increased.</b>	
Village Selection (New Villages)	Selected twelve village of sadar and Gouripur upazilla
Village Survey (New Villages)	Conduct survey on selected twelve village
Farmers Group Formation (New Villages)	Formed 50 groups at two upazilla
Group meeting with farmers (New Villages)	Fifty farmer group meeting was held
Formation farmer Organization (New Villages)	Formed 15 farmer organization (sadar-7 & Gouripur-8)
Provide support to arrange monthly / quarterly EC meeting of FO	Fifteen EC meeting was held
Provide support to arrange annual GC. meeting of FO	One annual GC meeting was held

Provide support to arrange quarterly meeting of FO coalition	Four quarterly Farmer organization meeting was held
Provide support to arrange annual & quarterly planning meeting of FOs	Four quarterly Farmer organization planning meeting was held
Provide support to arrange quarterly planning & review meeting of FOs	Four quarterly Farmer organization planning & review meeting was held
Develop and strengthen Information & Education Centre	Established two information & education centre at two upazilla
Information collection and dissemination	information collection & dissemination material was not developed
IEC materials development and distribution	IEC material was not developed
Training on Agricultural Rights of Farmers	Thirty groups farmer training was held on agricultural rights where 900 farmer (men 449 and women 451) attended & UAO facilitated the training
Training on Leadership of FO leaders	One day farmer training was held on leadership where 29 farmer (men 19 and women 10) attended
Training on Gender in Agriculture for male and female	One day farmer training was held on gender where 28 farmer (men 23 and women 5) attended
Training on Organizational management and development	One day farmer training was held on organizational management & development where 30 farmer (men 22 and women 8) attended
Training workshop on Community PME system	One day farmer training workshop was held on community PME system where 20 farmer (men 17 and women 3) attended
Training workshop on Advocacy, Lobby & Linkage Development	One day farmer training workshop was held on advocacy, lobby & linkage where 30 farmer (men 13 and women 17) attended
Day observation	DEW observed world environment day (5 June) and world human rights day (10 December)
Provide support to arrange annual farmer conference	Annual conference and agriculture fair was held jointly at Char ghoramara where 325



	farmer (men 259 and women 66) attended
Awareness raising - through cultural events	Awareness raising cultural program was held at Char ghoramara where 99 farmer (men 59 and women 40) attended
<b>Result: 2</b>	
<b>Increased ecosystem based agriculture</b>	
Provide support to Demonstration of organic farming practices, seed production and arrange field days	Four demonstration plot established on organic practice
Exchange/exposure visits( Both staff and farmers & within and outside ARP)	Two exchange visit was held at BSRI, BARI and Char annondipur village where 18 farmer, Dew intern and three staffs attended
Farmers training on seed production & preservation	Fifteen groups farmer training was held on seed production where 450 farmer (men 240 and women 210) attended & SAAO facilitated the training
Training on Home gardening	Fifteen groups farmer training was held on home gardening where 450 farmer (men 209 and women 241) attended & SAAO facilitated the training
Training on Soil Health Development (Advanced farmers of FO)	One day farmer training was held on soil health where 30 farmer (men 21 and women 9) attended & Scientific officer of SRDI facilitated the training
Training on IPM/ICM and organic pesticides	One day farmer training was held on IPM where 30 farmer (men 22 and women 8) attended & UAO facilitated the training
Documentation & dissemination of sustainable agricultural practices	One day & two groups farmer training was held on organic manure & pesticide preparation where 40 farmer (men 24 and women 16) attended & UAO facilitated the training
Provide support to arrange agriculture fair	Agriculture fair was held at char ghoramara where UNO, DD, UAO, VS and 208 farmer (men 137 and women 71) attended
Provide support to conduct farmer led	Established three farmer led action,

action research, seed preservation, multiplication & exchange	research, seed preservation and organic Tricoderma compost fertilizer production centre
Training on improved livestock rearing	Fifteen groups farmer training was held on improved livestock rearing where 1500 farmer (men 869 and women 631) attended & ULO, VS facilitated the training
Training on climate change adaptation in agriculture	Two groups farmer training was held on climate change adaptation where 50 farmer (men 42 and women 8) attended & UAO facilitated the training
<b>Result: 3</b>	
<b>Creating opportunities to promote organic products</b>	
Develop guidelines and strategies for marketing	One meeting was held on crop production & marketing system at Boyra village where 21 farmer (men 21) attended
Product survey and market mapping	Two meeting was held on crop production & marketing system at Baruamari & raigonj village where 43 farmer (men 40 and women 3) attended
Linkage development with existing market channel	Two meeting was held with two upazilla market committee where 27 farmer (men 24 and women 3) & committee member attended
Seminar with farmers, LGIs, CSOs, media, market actors	One day seminar was held on agriculture rights where DD, UAO and 30 farmer (men 24 and women 6) attended
<b>Result: 4</b>	
<b>Partners' capacity enhanced on farmer's rights and knowledge management for sustainable agriculture</b>	
Training on Project implementation and management	One day staff training was held on project implementation & management where 9 staff (6 men & 3 women) attended
Training on Financial Management	One day staff training was held on financial management where 10 staff (7 men & 3 women) attended

Training on Advocacy Campaign	One day staff training was held on advocacy campaign 9 staff (6 men & 3 women) attended
Training on Sustainable Agriculture	Two times two days staff training was held on sustainable agriculture where 6 staff (3 men & 3 women) attended
Training on Leadership Development	One day staff training was held on leadership development where 9 staff (6 men & 3 women) attended
Training on organizational behaviour and sustainable development	One day staff training was held on organizational behaviour and sustainable development where 6 staff (3 men & 3 women) attended

**b) Detail any deviations from the project plan.**

Yes, there was little deviation from the project plan. DEW planned for preparation of IEC material for farmer. But DEW did not do that due to excess expenditure of other events. This year DEW will prepare this material for farmer. DEW also planned for arranging monitoring & evaluation training from currency gain budget. But we didn't do that due to farmer demanded different training.

**C) Describe other positive and negative effects of the project (beyond those that were planned).**

**Positive Effect:**

- Farmers got demonstration plot from DAE ( Brinjal & mango plot)
- Farmer produce organic or compost fertilizer by themselves (244 farmer practicing organic farming )
- Farmers initiate crop diversification in their field and also maintain crop rotation (growing different crop in same piece of land)
- Organize climate change awareness raising campaign program such as Krishani sova, Establish hat corner at char annandopur. Amsor, farmer of that village got place at hat/bazaar with negotiation of hat committee.
- Scientific Officer, SRDI assured our farmers that he will help our farmer while they come to the SRDI for soil test. DEW think this practice will help to increase more linkage building with service provider.

- Upazilla agriculture officer suggested us to linkage with district information centre where farmer can get monthly agriculture newsletter, leaflet, and folder for year round by giving only 50 Taka charge per person.

**Negative Effect:**

- Farmers expectation is too high in terms of refreshment, conveyance
- For attending any meeting of CARE project farmer got 600 BDT but in our project DEW didn't do that. Sometime farmers becoming demotivated.

**d) Fill in the following information as per the LFA of the Project:**

Expected results/objectives	Indicators	Progress/Outcome achieved in 2013	Means of Verification	Assess and explain why the expected outcome/progress is above, below or equal to expectations.
<p><b>Result: 1</b> Independent Farmers organizations are established, strengthened and functioning and support from Duty bearers increased.</p>	<p>1.1 Independent farmers' organizations established by 2016 with 50% female members and at least 40% in the EC. 1.2 Essential FOs policies/bylaws (gender, management, advocacy, etc.,) developed by 2016; 1.3 95% of the FOs remained functional as per by laws; 1.4 90% of UASC</p>	<p>-Establish FO with 42% female (631 out of 1500) and 31% in GC (60 out of 194) and 32% in EC (44 out of 135).  -Developed a manual on group operation.  -50% FOs are functional based on their activity &amp; participation.  -Didn't attend at</p>	<p>Direct individual or group interview, field visit, Half yearly report, Monitoring format, farmer group and organization register,</p>	<p>This is first year of this project. So DEW got emphasis on organizing and forming. Then we will start democratizing practice in group. -FO will develop their policies or laws, DEW already sent them guideline  -Because it's not easy to reach each and every farmer by two staff. So DEW is trying</p>

	meeting arranged and keeping records	UASC meeting		- DEW didn't do any plan on union Parishad standing committee because there was no activity plan or design
	1.5 Farmers received available agricultural supports and services from the government by 2016;	-Few farmer got granular urea (80), demo plot (3), sprayer machine (1) from DAE and loan from bank (130).		
	1.6 90 % of farmers are aware of their rights and have relevant information.	-100% farmer informed but 50% farmer aware of their rights (through agriculture right training)		-One training doesn't ensure awareness of all farmers. Need practice or awareness campaign
	1.7 90% FOs have regular effective linkage with relevant duty – bearers	-25% farmer maintain linkage with duty bearers (46 farmer received training & 27 farmer attended govt. program)		-Lead farmer communicate with govt. But laggard farmer not interested to go to duty bearer.
	1.8 90% FOs took initiatives to claim rights by 2016	-20% farmer are ready to claim their rights (Lead farmer)		-They informed but need more time to claim their rights
	1.9 At least 30% women participated in FO activities;	-Women participated 31% in GC and 32% in EC		-women are participating but slowly raising their voice
	1.10 Capacity of farmer organization on	-They are now at preliminary stage. They organizing		- DEW made some leader who can lead the community

	<p>leadership and advocacy, M&amp; E has been developed;</p> <p>1.11 Wage gap between male and female reduced by 2016;</p>	<p>farmer and started linkage with service provider.</p> <p>- DEW could not able to work on wage gap reduction</p>		<p>but they have to plan to do advocacy</p> <p>-Because less female farmer working against wage at project area</p>
<p><b>Result: 2</b> Increased ecosystem based agriculture</p>	<p>2.1 Seed production and preservation increased at the community level;</p> <p>2.2 Increased uses of organic manure and pesticide by 2016</p> <p>2.3 Decreased use of chemical fertilizers, hybrid/market seeds and pesticides by 2016;</p> <p>2.4 Women's participation in seed processing, organic manure and pesticide preparation increased;</p> <p>2.5 Climate resilient</p>	<p>-Established two seed preservation centre and 244 farmers practiced organic manure in their homestead</p> <p>-244 farmers decreased use of chemical fertilizer and 3 farmer did soil test</p> <p>-Most of the female farmers keep their household waste in pit and producing pit compost.</p> <p>-275 farmers using their own seed and produced 17,050 Kg organic manure &amp; 38 Litre pesticides where women are more active.</p> <p>-Climate resilient</p>	<p>Direct individual or group interview, field visit, Half yearly report, Monitoring format, farmer group and organization register.</p>	<p>-It's not easy to reduce chemical fertilizer use because large area of production</p> <p>-women are active in household level. They are directly related to household wastage &amp; organic manure use</p> <p>-Climate is not</p>

	<p>seed identified and produced</p> <p>2.6 Climate change adaptation practices increased</p> <p>2.7 Increased knowledge of partners on mapping of different tiers of stakeholders and existing policies in the country on seed rights</p> <p>2.7 Household increased their food security</p>	<p>seed was not produced</p> <p>-Burorchar village farmer used flood tolerant variety of tomato.</p> <p>- DEW Mapped power and interest of stakeholder in this project but not related to seed right</p> <p>-Increased home gardening practice in homestead (32 home garden established)</p>		<p>affected severally like as southern part</p> <p>-Aware farmer using this variety</p> <p>-Lack of understanding how to do mapping</p> <p>-did not prepare any producer record format or system</p>
<p><b>Result: 3</b> Creating opportunities to promote organic products</p>	<p>3.1 FOs completed market maps by 2016;</p> <p>3.2 Linkage among producer, consumers established by 2016</p> <p>3.3 FOs' negotiation capacity on organic product enhanced</p> <p>3.4 Quality seed</p>	<p>- DEW did survey at community level about what they are growing and where selling their product</p> <p>-Establish linkage with market committee and producer (5 meeting held)</p> <p>-Farmer started organic practice and they suggested others to increase organic practice</p> <p>-Some lead farmer</p>	<p>Direct individual or group interview, field visit, farmer group and organization register</p>	<p>-Lack of market and market mapping related information. We can build good relation with market committee but need policy &amp; practice to manage.</p>

	<p>(preserved seeds)and organic products' demand increased by 2016;</p> <p>3.5 FOs have access to market map</p> <p>3.6 Household income increased by 15% by 2016</p>	<p>(275 farmer) used preserve seed for their vegetable cultivation</p> <p>-Didn't have access to market map</p> <p>-House hold income increased but DEW didn't maintain any producer record</p>		
<p><b>Result: 4</b></p> <p>Partners' capacity enhanced on farmer's rights and knowledge management for sustainable agriculture</p>	<p>4.1 Management and front line staffs' capacity enhanced by 2016</p> <p>4.2 A comprehensive and integrated monitoring system developed and functional;</p> <p>4.3 Staffs are confident on advocacy campaign and performing actions as per plan;</p> <p>4.4 Staffs prepared reports, monthly, quarterly and annually as per plan</p> <p>4.5 Management decisions are organized and systematically documented;</p>	<p>-Front line staff capacity enhanced due to attend several training by the swallows</p> <p>- DEW didn't form any monitoring system</p> <p>-Staff are confident on advocacy campaign because they did huge event with local institutions</p> <p>-Staff are maintaining all report but not properly or more detailed</p> <p>- DEW could not able to maintain proper documentation</p>	<p>Direct individual or group interview, field visit, farmer group and organization register</p>	<p>- DEW need to develop proper reporting format which would be result or outcome based. DEW is planning this from new year and also plan for monitoring &amp; evaluation process.</p>



	<p>4.6 Financial reports produced regularly and accurately by partners;</p> <p>4.7 Core management policies and systems are in place and implemented in partner organizations (financial, monitoring and HR);</p> <p>4.8 Program management decision making process include optimal level of participation of target group and partner organizations.</p> <p>4.9 The secretariat is supporting the partner organisations with capacity building to ensure a successful program</p>	<p>-Financial reports submit regularly but with late due to maintenance account based in Dhaka</p> <p>- DEW has financial &amp; HR policy but don't have any monitoring policy</p> <p>-Program management decision was made properly</p> <p>-Secretariat suggested us about outcome or result based activity. So got more emphasis on that issue.</p>		
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### Overall Impact:

Farmer understood that they have good opportunity to increase their knowledge and capacity to work together. They also knew how and where they can get better services. Besides government service provider are involving with them in different events. So this project is helping them to reach service provider and know how improved agricultural technology for increasing their production & decreases production cost as well.

### 4. Risk assessment and risk management

<b>Risks as given in the decision memorandum</b>	<b>Results / management How was this risk managed?</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Political unrest</li><li>• Natural disaster like flood or heavy rainfall</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Faced many problems while moving to the field. Planned for working on holyday and sometime we had to cancel some activity such as Community Mobilizer didn't attend on basic ToT training which was held in Dhaka.</li><li>• Flood affected our Bouror char village but farmer using flood tolerant variety of tomato &amp; pulse.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New disease &amp; pest infestation in farmers field</li><li>• Demotivated farmer</li><li>• Bad perception of local govt. Official (UNO, chairmen etc)</li><li>• Trained or old staff turnover</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No new disease &amp; pest infestation occur in field. When farmer faced any problem about some disease of rich and brinjal plant, then they communicated directly with upazilla agriculture officer.</li><li>• Building strong leader/lead farmer in every village. Maintain transparency &amp; sharing with farmer while organizing any event.</li><li>• Invited in different activities which brought good relation with them. Due to invitation of UNO in agriculture fair, he was impressed and committed us to help about any happen in his area</li><li>• Staff turnover occurred during the project period. We tried to recruit local staff for sustaining staff.</li></ul>

**a) During the progress of the project, have you reassessed your rating of the likelihood of the risk arising and the danger it represents?**

Yes, DEW has reassessed of the chance to the risk arising and danger it represents.

**b) How have the risks been identified? How are the risks assessed? How were decisions made regarding risk management and by whom?**

Risks have been analyzed based on country context during the project period. DEW informed about the political situation of our country. That brought us to make a situation base or alternative planning. Our top management did a meeting on this issue. We also assessed our working areas election time condition and talked with lead farmer what can we do for avoiding any dilemma. All are decided to help us as much as possible in this regard. Finally Executive director suggested us to complete all activities before election.

**c) In what way have preventative risk management efforts affected the organisation's capacity to manage risks?**

Preventative risk management efforts affected the organization's capacity. DEW is not a big organization. It's working at north east part of Bangladesh with few staff. When any risk occurred in the field area then staff felt unsecure. If we take any preventive measure to manage risk, its break learning process of staff to know how actually happened anything. Like an example, swallows organized a ToT training for ARP staff during the countrywide blockade time. Our field staff missed this training. DEW believed they miss a lot of information or knowledge which could help them for implementation of this project properly.

**5. Target areas – Rights-based work**

Please state the principal area/s in which the project has achieved change.

- Social level                       Organisational level                       Individual level

**Social level: Where significant changes have been achieved, describe the way in which the project has:**

**a) Changed structures and processes that discriminate against individuals and groups (e.g. the work of authorities, legislation and political decisions).**

There are no significant changes have been achieved in structures and processes that discriminate against individuals and groups. But formation of farmer group in the village is well known for all people. They are practicing everything in organizational manner. They formed group & have committee. Everyone united together in different issues. They are trying to get monthly meeting on regular basis. But till now they are not habituate to do this. They are dependable on field staff. Now we need to do practice by them.

**b) Changed discriminators attitudes and values.**

Discriminators attitude has not changed significantly but increased relationship among them. Service providers are helping our farmer if they face any problem regarding agricultural issues. Market committee interested to help our farmer. Upazilla livestock & agriculture

officer are visiting our field. At upazilla level they are helping our farmer where they want to get any information or service. Sometime they recommended for them.

**c) Increased the target group's participation and influence over decisions that affect their lives.**

Project has increased target groups participation in different activities. Government service providers provided technical training to our farmer. Female farmer are more vocal then before. One female farmer of Dohakhola demanded the livestock rearing training which is very crucial for women who rear livestock in their homestead. In an event, meet the farmer at char annondipur village, one female farmer asked many question to livestock officer to know what she will do on cow's foot disease.

**Organisational level: Where significant changes have been achieved, describe the way in which the project has:**

**a) Strengthened democracy (structures and processes) within the partner (your) organisation and/or the organisation of the target group.**

Dew management gave emphasis on field demand which come from field as well as community. Dew staff got freedom in implementation of this project because they arise some issues and management got it. After analyze Dew accepted those best solution. In farmer organization, farmer formed group and elected group committee by voting verbally. New year we have a plan to form new group and association committee through election process.

**b) Increased the partner (your) organisation's efficiency in strengthening the rights of the target group and in affecting decision makers (provide examples of methods, approaches and capacity).**

Swallows provided so many training such as gender, right based approach, advocacy, basic ToT etc for partner's capacity building. DEW staff attended those training which helped to disseminate information, farmer organization formation and their capacity building also. An example we got Gender training from Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK). In our project activities we used same training to our farmer at their level. That training was very successful because if our farmers consider gender issue in their work then they will increase their wellbeing properly.

**c) Improved cooperation with other organisations or authorities.**

During the project period, cooperation with the government has increased satisfactorily. Staff went to other swallows partner organization and understood their activities. We visited

BARSIC, Manikganj and attended a biodiversity fair. Based on this experience we organized an agro fair at Dhohakhola under Gouripur upazilla.

**Individual level: Where significant changes have been achieved, describe the way in which the project has:**

**a) Strengthened women's, men's, girls' and boy's awareness of their rights and/or enhanced their self-confidence.**

- Farmers are united in different issues (Farmer of Gouripur claim to UNO for establishing a cold storage in their locality).
- Increased men & women participation in family affairs. They are sharing each other and increased family bonding.
- Female farmers voice raising (demanded livestock rearing training).
- Increased organic practice (244 farmers started pit compost & 5 farmer started *Tricoderma* compost fertilizer preparation at their homestead)

**b) Strengthened women's, men's, girls' and boy's ability to assert their rights and participate in important decisions.**

- Collective & negotiated action by farmer (50 groups made their own FOs signboard & bought meeting resolution book by their own fund and 80 farmer got Granular Urea from DAE)
- Rapport building with govt. service provider (UNO, UAO, ULO visited working area & farmer as well)
- Communicate with Agriculture officer over phone
- Increased sub-assistant agriculture officer's visit in working area

## **Gender**

**What changes has the project contributed to in terms of:**

**a) Changing structures, attitudes and behaviours that discriminate and stigmatise people in society on the basis of their gender?**

This project contributed to change attitudes of organization on the basis of gender. We know about preference of swallows in terms of gender. So that during recruitment of field staff we consider one staff must female. In our every step of project activities we considered this issue and got emphasis. Female farmer participation was not good during starting in this project. We did so many activities and agriculture related work which widely accepted by the women. They are more vocal now. We provided livestock rearing training which demand comes from them. In the organizational management training one of women farmer said,

“Brother, we are informed about the importance of group formation and why we will form it. But besides i need to know how i can free our duck, chicken & livestock from disease.”

We do believe, this woman got opportunity to tell about her problem then she told us. By doing this if we may create this kind of situation to raise women voice in the society. Then the gender role will help those farmer or decrease men and women gap which will ensure their well being as well as increase decision making in every sector of the society.

**b) Equality within the organisation (your organization as well as in Farmer organization)?**

DEW considered equality in every step of this project. We have 42 percent female beneficiary and 31 percent are in their executive committee. In executive committee most of the female are holding cashier or savings related position. Because they are taking their family's good with the help of their husband.

**c) Capacity to assert their rights or increased influence on decisions that are important to them?**

They are not fully capable to assert their rights from public and private service provider. They only informed about their rights and know where they can get. Now they are accumulating their strength then they will claim their rights.

**Environment**

**a) How has the project help change discriminatory structures and attitudes surrounding access to natural resources?**

This project area is located beside the Bromoputro River. Based on this river our farmer did agricultural production. Farmer of Burorchar village are greatly affected by this river though they are producing plenty of vegetable in this area. This project helps to reduce excessive use of pesticide in the field which ultimately go to rive and harmed to fisheries. Through this project each and every activity, DEW suggested to increase organic practice for crop production which has good impact on soil, water and environment. This project assists to change farmer attitude along with practical use of organic practices. Farmer started crop rotation in their field. Farmer of Bashati village Mr. Dulal produced brinjal every year in same piece of land. This year he did cabbage because he learns from agriculture officer that if he changes crop or make gap one year then it increases soil health and crop production.

**b) What positive and/or negative effects has the project had on the environment?**

Farmer was aware about excessive use of inorganic fertilizer and now our farmer (3 farmer did soil test) started use of recommended fertilizer doze through soil test. This practice

reduced excessive use and improves soil health. In our agriculture policy, they stated good management practices on soil, water and environment. After knew this, farmer of Dhohakola such as prantosh voumik, sunil voumik, dulal bepari, abdul barek are interested to know more about policy. Our planned activities had no negative impact on environment.

**c) How has the project strengthened awareness regarding environmental issues among the target group, in Partner (your) organisation and in society?**

This project has strengthened awareness regarding environmental issues among the target group specially farmer organization. DEW organized different training for building farmer awareness such as climate change, organic pesticide, ICM, IPM, Soil health etc. DEW observed world environment day with ARP farmer jointly at upazilla level which theme was THINK.EAT.SAVE. We organize a krishani sova at char annondipur under CSRL campaign program where government service providers attend & advice to farmer. Mr. Ziaur, farmer of bashhati village producing organic pesticide. He used Nim seed oil pesticide on his cabbage field instead of chemical pesticide which preserves our natural beneficial insect. Rural people are well informed about the use of inorganic practice. They believe it will bring bad impact on environmental and society also. Upazilla agriculture officer always suggested farmer to practice organic farming.

**6. Key development issues**

**Golam Hossain awarded from DAE in District Tree Fair'2013**

Golam Hossain is a resource farmer of Agricultural Rights Program (ARP) living at Gouripur upazilla of Mymensingh. He awarded and got a sprayer machine from a ten days district tree fair which was held at Mymensingh sadar. He awarded to show a giant jackfruit in the fair which produce in his homestead. Department of Agriculture (DAE), Fisheries and Livestock office of Mymensingh jointly organized an Agricultural Technology and Tree Fair on 27<sup>th</sup> June to 05<sup>th</sup> July, 2013 at press club, Mymensingh.



## Organized Krishani & Hat sova at Char Annondipur

DEW organized krishani sova and hat sova with hat corner as a part of CSRL program for getting profitable price which supported by Oxfam GROW. Upazilla agriculture officer, livestock officer, bank manager and farmers attended in the sova. Female farmer asked to the agriculture officer on profitable price of their product. She also ask to bank manager how they can open bank account with 10 Tk. Government service provider narrate issues and explain how they can get this service. In hat corner, a ARP farmer of char annondipur got place for selling his product at Joy Bangla Bazaar with the help of local government and hat committee. A small agreement was signed with farmer and hat committee in the meeting.



Government officials addressing profitable price on Krishani & Hat sova at char annondipur

## Women club & adda at char annondipur

DEW established a women club at char annondipur under Let Her Decide & Participate (LHDP) project which supported from Oxfam. ARP farmer attended this club and get together with discuss on different awareness raising issue for women specially violence against women.



Focal person reciting awareness raising booklet to the rural women



## Program Activities Photograph:



Celebrating world environment day and organized awareness raising folk song cultural program



Farmers Agricultural Rights training by UAO and staff training session in Mymensingh



Ms Ella de Voogd, Embassy of the kingdom of the Netherlands First Secretary, Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights visited ARP farmer group at Chandrapara, Dhohakhola, Gouripur





Soil health development training by SO, SRDI and IMP/ICM training session by UAO



Monthly farmers group meeting session and Community Mobilizer presence in the meeting



Collective action farmers' group through signboard and agriculture information centre



Farmers Organization Management & Leadership Development Training session by CM





Home gardening and seed production & preservation training session by SAO



Veterinary surgeon livestock rearing & UAO providing organic pesticide preparation training



Meeting session with farmer organization at Gouripur upazilla



Market survey at Boyra village & Gouripur farmer exchange visit to char annandipur





Demonstration plot establishment on organic vegetable cultivation



Farmer organization visit and field monitoring by Executive Director of DEW



Field monitoring by the swallows Dhaka office at DEW regional office & char annondipur



Human rights day observation and quarterly planning meeting of farmer organization



Upazilla Nirbahi Officer inaugurated the agril fair & annual conference at Gouripur upazilla

## 7. Other

### a) How has project management within your organisation worked? What can be improved?

DEW is implementing three livelihood projects at Mymensingh with cooperation of national & international donor. Those entire projects have strong project management & support such as staff & vehicle. Project coordinator of ARP project is responsible for implementation of this project but another project PC also help, monitor and cooperative with that project farmer organization. Executive Director has monitored this program by regular field visit and attended different training and events. He always gave advice and direction to smooth running of this project.

We have to improve and prepare a strategic plan to implementation of this project together. How we can achieve project outcome and activities should follow result based management system.

### b) Within the project and in other projects of your organization have you also cooperated with other organisations/institutions in the region?

DEW has been working for improve small and marginal farmers well being in Mymensingh region. We are working with Amrai Pari Paribarik Nirjato Protirodh Jot on domestic violence against women. We did awareness raising campaign at school level during March & November campaign. In different issues we communicated with local organization that are working with farmer and right based work such as Mati Bangladesh, BLAST, GRAMAUS, RDS, SUS, and Trinomial Unnayan Somitiy (TUS) etc. Sometimes swallows partner organized different program regarding fair or training or exchange visit. DEW attended and disseminates that regions information or knowledge to our farmers. DEW organized so many training for farmer capacity building with coordination of Department of agricultural

Extension (DAE) who play great role in Bangladesh to transfer technology among all farmers. It was not easy for service providers to cover all upazilla for providing better service. But they are coordinating with us for better coverage of our farmer. DEW is trying to increase this coverage by doing this program which also directly helps to our agricultural development.

Dew Executive Director attended SIDA networking meeting at Sweden, FK partners meeting at Bangkok and world trade fair at Rio, Brazil. He also disseminates all information and experience to our farmer and staff as well. DEW also implemented CSRL project campaign in this project area where char land farmer got more awareness regarding climate change issue.

## **8. Write down about and Challenges and the lessons learnt and future direction (recommendations) during the project year of 2013.**

### **Challenges:**

- Keep organizing farmer is a great challenge
- Recently DEW arranged farmer association election. Defeated farmer may try to demotivated newly organized farmer groups
- DEW faced challenge to spend unspent money within short time and during country wide blockade.
- Some lead farmers are known about our working strategy. Some time they wanted to negotiate or stimulated us directly.
- Some international organization (CARE, World Vision) providing asset in our working area where as in our project we don't
- Rise of religious extremism & Social instability due to Political unrest
- Due to patriarchal barrier women are not willing to disclose domestic violence
- Lack of inner force among farmers and beneficiaries
- Dependable mentality of beneficiaries by other organization
- Sometimes fund was collected at end of time line, so the process takes more time. The procedure of fund management took time more.

### **Lesson learned:**

- In few situations field staff did not maintain or mobilize lead farmer. They made divergence regarding on some issues. That time top management had to involve minimizing the situation.

- Community Farmers are not self-sufficient because they are habituated to depend on project, free cost of seed, fertilizer & fencing.
- Absence of beneficiaries at meeting/orientation/sessions for harvesting of paddy or their regular agricultural activities.
- The total time of capacity building process was short noticed and informed. So organize campaign event and participating in workshop was very challenging to organizer.
- Farmers need vegetable seeds and input materials supports timely.
- Good relation or linkage with public service provider such as DAE, DLS, DoF, SRDI, BAU, and BINA etc can help our farmer to get new technology.
- According to farmer wants, we have to arrange any events. Most of the time DEW try to arrange meeting or training as per our time which may create many problem with them. So, we need to given prior farmers want and demand.
- Upazilla agriculture officer may play vital role to farmers capacity building as well as increase agricultural knowledge and technology
- Farmers are not receiving all information from training. So need to arrange practical training for them like soil test, integrated pest management (IPM) etc.
- Young farmers can easily understand about gender related information. Then they can understand to their all community people.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Two field staff is not adequate to cover two upazilla. Without vehicle support it's becoming difficult to mobilize them. Need one more staff to reach all beneficiaries.
- Political unrest may hamper regular field activities. So need alternative plan.
- Previous program design fixed our activities. Such as training program are scheduled. Till have no way to arrange demand based activity design.
- Stop potential staff drop out
- Establishing good rapport may decrease unfair means with farmer organization.
- We are making new program design or training by using currency gain money which will bring better coverage of strengthen farmer organization.



**9. 3 Case Study/Change story with pictures (One must be based on Advocacy related work)**



**A female farmer of Development Wheel's Agricultural Rights Programme**

Runa has lived in the same place for 30 years. She is married with a family of 8 members, including five daughters and one son (the three eldest daughters are the children of her husband). She gets up at 5am and goes to bed at 11pm, working all day. Last year, Runa joined Development Wheel's ARP, Agricultural Rights Programme. Before that she was growing different types of vegetables on a small scale. Economic conditions were difficult and she had to go to the market to purchase chemical fertilizer and pesticides. Development Wheel (DEW) organised training on how to make one's own compost fertilizer. Runa explains that this skill has changed her agriculture and improved her economic condition. The initial construction cost of the compost was expensive but in the long-term it is actually saving her money, Runa estimates that she saves up to 40 % of what she used to spend on chemical fertilizers. Now she has access to her own compost which gives her a certain degree of sovereignty over her food production. Sometimes she uses some chemical fertilizer but in small, appropriate dosages. The money Runa saves from using her own compost fertilizer is used to grow more crops which can be sold at the market place, as well as diversify the family's food intake. Runa's husband sells the produce at the market, and he is a very active ARP farmer, often organising meetings and keeping the farmers together. Runa is now growing green papaya, green chilli, brinjal, radish, ginger and lemon on a larger scale than before. DEW has taught her about her rights as a farmer, rights she was not aware of before. Runa describes how she now feels closer to service providers, since DEW has educated her and the other ARP farmers on how to access local governments and their services. It is a strong and confident woman standing before the interviewer. Strong and confident, with an improved economic situation, but the family is still facing economic hardship. The three eldest daughters are already married, and one daughter helps out at home, whilst the son and the fifth daughter go to school. Runa dreams about raising chickens for eggs, and to keep cows for milk. This could improve their economic situation



even more, and perhaps enable Runa to buy a shop for her son. If DEW could offer such training in the future she would be very excited about learning how to keep chickens and cows.

### **Amsur Ali: A farmer in rural Bangladesh**



Md. Amsur Ali lives in Char Anandipur with his wife. He is the father of five children, three of which are from a previous marriage. Amsur is 60 years old and he has been a farmer for almost 40 years. After joining Development Wheel his livelihood is gradually improving. He now plans the growing seasons more wisely and he has learned how to make his own compost fertilizer. There is a tall jambura tree next to his house, and before Amsur started using his own compost fertilizer the jambura of that tree were too sour, but now they are really tasty. The jackfruit tree bears more fruit, and the vegetables grow better. Not only is he saving money by using his own compost fertilizer, the yield is increasing. Amsur has also noticed that if he uses too much chemical fertilizer, the soil gets degraded, which is another reason why he prefers to use compost fertilizer.

Some time ago a permanent place for marginal farmers of the CSRL campaign, was established at the local market place. Amsur explains that he and the other farmers who are involved with Development Wheel have always had access to the market, but sometimes they would have to sell their produce at the roadside, thus not being as visible as other farmers.

There has not been enough space for them. With the establishment of the permanent Hat Corner this has changed. Now the farmers feel certain that they have a place to sell their produce at, which makes them feel a degree of safety. Everyone knows that they are involved with Development Wheel, and their cooperation has made them more confident.

This is one step towards improving Amsur's livelihood. However, he explains that he is facing the threat of climate change on a daily basis. The rain is irregular and very unpredictable. He says that he is very confused about the weather nowadays, and a group of villagers, who gathered around, agree loudly; they are all confused. Sometimes there is too much rain at the wrong time, or like now when there is not enough rain and Amsur must irrigate his land every 1-2 weeks. This demands a water pump that runs on fuel which he must purchase at the market. It is time consuming and costly in the long run. Amsur is very interested to learn more about climate change and adaptation methods. Amsur sees a future where he and his family is a climate resilient family, having learned how to cope with and adapt to climate change. But for this to be possible, Amsur and the other farmers need training, knowledge and resources.

## **Exposure visit at Research station of Bangladesh**



Farmer and staff are visiting regional sugercan institute at Gazipur



Scientific offier addressing the aquaponic system at horticulture centre, Gazipur.

On the 26 of September'2013 a group of six ARP farmers, three DEW staff and one DEW intern went on an exposure visit to the regional Bangladesh Sugarcane Research Institute (BRSI) and the Horticulture Research Centre at Gazipur district. The purpose of the visit

was to introduce the ARP farmers to new agricultural research that can enable them to diversify their own agricultural practices and in turn diversify their livelihoods. This is also a way of bridging the gap between small-scale farmers and government authorities. In addition to this, it was also an important opportunity for capacity building of DEW's staff.

At the Bangladesh Sugarcane Research Institute the group attended an interesting lecture on sugarcane cultivation and intercropping, held by Mr. Mostak Ahmed, scientific officer. It was pointed out that the FAO (Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations) recommends that the annual sugar intake per year and person should be 13 kilograms. As of today, Bangladesh is unable to meet the domestic demand for sugar, thus large quantities of sugar are imported.

BSRI have been working extensively on developing sugarcane varieties that are suitable for the Bangladeshi climate and the local growing conditions. This is an ongoing process. BSRI has developed 41 high yielding sugarcane varieties. The research institute has developed varieties that are resistant to various threats such as floods, red rot, water logging, and droughts etc.

Sugarcane typically takes 12-14 months to mature, which is a long time to wait for revenue for a small-scale farmer. However, farmers can use the technique of intercropping when cultivating sugarcane. Basically, between the rows of sugarcane the farmer can grow rice, and when the rice is harvested there can grow potatoes, and then mung beans. There are various crops that are suitable for this, such as garlic, onion, cauliflower etcetera. The main point is that a farmer who is growing sugarcane can grow other crops through intercropping which provides the farmer with an income in the meantime, until the sugarcane is ready to be harvested. The technique is suitable for single rows and paired rows both. To gain access to BSRI's sugarcane varieties farmers must participate in a training session where they are instructed on the specific cultivation practices as well as the appropriate use of fertilizers and pesticides.

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

## 10. Glossary of selected Acronyms, Abbreviations and Local Terms

- ❖ **ARP:** Agricultural Rights Program (ARP)
- ❖ **ASK:** Ain O Salish Kendra, a rights based organization working for human rights
- ❖ **BADC:** Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation
- ❖ **BARCIK:** Bangladesh Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge, a national NGO
- ❖ **BARI:** Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute
- ❖ **BAU:** Bangladesh Agricultural University.
- ❖ **BDT:** Bangladeshi Taka
- ❖ **BINA:** Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture
- ❖ **BLAST:** Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust, a national NGO working for rights
- ❖ **BRRI:** Bangladesh Rice Research Institute
- ❖ **BSRI:** Bangladesh Sugarcane Research Institute
- ❖ **CARE:** an international organization
- ❖ **Char:** a river bank area which soil is sandy
- ❖ **CM:** Community Mobilizer, project staff
- ❖ **CSRL:** Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods, a campaign program addressing climate change for char livelihood rural people
- ❖ **DAE:** Department of Agricultural Extension, upazilla level office who transfer agricultural technology to farmers' level
- ❖ **DC:** District Commissioner, Head of district level administration
- ❖ **DEW:** Development Wheel (DEW)
- ❖ **DLS:** Department of Livestock Service, upazilla level office who transfer livestock technology to farmers' level
- ❖ **DoF:** Department of Fisheries, upazilla level office who transfer fish related technology to farmers level
- ❖ **EC:** Executive Committee, Each farmer organization has nine member of EC
- ❖ **ED:** Executive Director
- ❖ **FAO:** Food and Agriculture Organization
- ❖ **FGD:** Focus Group Discussion
- ❖ **FO:** Farmer Organization, ninety to one hundred fifty people in each FO
- ❖ **GC:** Group Committee, each group have three member of GC
- ❖ **GRAMAUS:** Gramin Manobik Unnayan Songstha, a national NGO
- ❖ **GROW:** GROW is Oxfam's campaign to fix the global food system.
- ❖ **Guti urea:** Granular Urea, use in rice field
- ❖ **Hat sova:** Gathering of farmer at local market (selling place)
- ❖ **HR:** Human Resource

- ❖ **ICM:** Integrated Crop Management, Technique for managing crop in integrated manner
- ❖ **IEC:** Information, Education & Communication
- ❖ **IPM:** Integrated Pest Management, pest management technology
- ❖ **Jambura:** a bangle name of Pomelo fruit
- ❖ **Krishani sova:** Female farmers gathering
- ❖ **LHDP:** Let Her Decide and Participate, a project based on women empowerment
- ❖ **NGO:** Non-Government Organization
- ❖ **RDS:** Rural Development Songstha, a national NGO
- ❖ **SAAO:** Sub-Assistant Agriculture Officer, field level worker who provide information & technology to grass root level farmer
- ❖ **SO:** Scientific Officer
- ❖ **SRDI:** Soil Resource and Development Institute, research station providing soil test
- ❖ **SUS:** Sabalamby Unnayan Somity, a national NGO
- ❖ **ToT:** Training of Trainer
- ❖ **Tricoderma compost:** a fertilizer by using bio-agent suspension named tricoderma
- ❖ **UAO:** Upazilla Agriculture Officer, upazilla level officer providing agricultural information
- ❖ **UASC:** Upazilla Agriculture Standing Committee
- ❖ **ULO:** Upazilla Livestock Officer, upazilla level officer providing Livestock information
- ❖ **UNO:** Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, upazilla level local administration officer who manage whole upazilla
- ❖ **UP:** Union Parishad, smaller category of local administration than upazilla
- ❖ **VAW:** Violence Against Women, a activity of alliance stopping domestic violence through campaign
- ❖ **Vermi-compost:** a fertilizer by using earthworm