

Char Development and Settlement Project Phase IV

Social and Livelihood Development on Coastal Chars

Social & Livelihood Support

The focus of the CDSP IV Social and Livelihoods Support (SLS) component lies on the social and economic development of the households situated in the five chars, with a special emphasis on women and children. Approximately 28,000 households were thought to inhabit the five chars, so far 27,654 have been identified.

The support program consists of 6 sub-components: 1. Group formation, Micro-finance and Capacity Building, 2. Health and Family Planning, 3. Water and Sanitation, 4. Legal and Human Rights, 5. Disaster Management and Climate Change, and 6. Homestead Agriculture and Value Chain Development. Late 2014 two new sub-components were added: Poultry & Livestock, and Fisheries.

These sub-components are implemented at field level by four partner NGO's (PNGO's). Brac (Char Nangulia, Noler Char, Caring Char, Char Ziauddin), Sagarika Samaj Unnayan Sangstha or SSUS (Char Nangulia, Noler Char, Caring Char), Dwip Unnayan Songstha (Char Nangulia, Noler Char), and the Society for Development Initiatives or DSI (Char Nangulia, Urir Char). Each PNGO works in all the program's sub-components.

Sub-components

1. Group formation, Micro-finance and Capacity Building

Micro-credits are expected to make a big impact on the livelihoods front. The four selected PNGOs have vast experience with implementing microfinance programs. All households are brought under the program. Participants are investing in livestock, poultry, petty trade, shops and crops. The sub component is covering 25,915 (94%) households from all chars, in 976 groups. Almost Tk 60,31 million savings have been collected and almost 37,000 loans were disbursed for a total of nearly Tk 503 million. The total member coverage by loans is 78%. Nearly 17,500 beneficiaries that are involved with income generating activities received training on their trade from the NGO's.



2. Health and Family Planning program

As health services were very poor in the project areas, the project team adopted the National Health Strategy to implement this sub-component. In total 195 Traditional Birth Attendants (TBA's) were trained for Mother and Child Health care and they get refresher training monthly. 2,600 Local elites receive orientation on health care, 130 Village doctors are trained and provided with one day orientation. During the

project period 37,440 health forums will be conducted. ORS, de-worming tablets, contraceptives and micronutrients are distributed on a large scale. 13 Static and mobile clinics are functioning for daily practice, one in each PNGO branch.

3. Water and Sanitation

Access to safe water and sanitation are critical factors for good quality of life. Since the start of the project, access to safe drinking water has improved significantly in the project areas. So far 1030 Deep Tube Wells (DTW's) have been installed with 1154 Tube well User Groups (TUG's) established. Two care taker families have been trained for each DTW and have been supplied with a DTW repairing kit. 100% Of the char inhabitants now have access to safe drinking water. Additionally 9,700 single pit latrines have been distributed to the beneficiary families to improve the sanitation situation on the chars.

4. Legal and Human Rights

The main objective of this program component is to provide group members access to information on 7 basic laws, disseminating the laws through legal literacy classes, raising awareness about legal rights, and empowering the poor, especially women, both legally and socially by encouraging them to take legal action. So far 2300 meetings were held that touched on these essential social subjects.

5. Disaster Management and Climate Change

To raise mass awareness on disaster management and climate change in the project area, selected group members are trained on disaster mitigation and preparedness. The trained members disseminate the issues to the other people in the community. So far 2000 beneficiaries were trained on the subject. Other activities under this component are house strengthening, plinth raising and trainings on improved cooking systems and on bio-digester.

6. Homestead Agriculture and Value Chain Development

This sub-component is implemented to reduce malnutrition and to increase the income of households by agricultural production of beneficiaries through technology transfer, using demonstration plots. So far over 6,200 individuals received training on fruits and vegetables, and 3,000 people on high value crops. Additionally 21,000 fruit saplings were distributed among the farmers. CDSP IV also implements a value chain development program to increase the income of farmers through agricultural production and linkage with wholesale markets.

Latest information and contact details

If interested in the latest CDSP IV news and progress updates, please visit our website on www.cdsp.org.bd.

For questions or comments please contact us directly through:

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