

Char Development and Settlement Project (CDSP B) Bangladesh

Project Information Dissemination Campaigns (PIDC) 2020

Technical Report No 3

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Government of Bangladesh / IFAD / Government of the Netherlands

Implementing Government Agencies:

Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB)

Ministry of Land (MoL)

Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)

Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE)

Forest Department (FD)

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1. Introduction

CDSP has, since its start in the 1990s, aimed to reach the poor and disadvantaged segments of the population in the project areas. Before the start of its activities, the living standard of the vast majority of the population in the project area was below the poverty line, and most households were landless, or small and marginal farmers. CDSP applies specific criteria for selecting beneficiaries of land settlement and land titling, social forestry and agricultural development, to ensure it benefits the most disadvantaged and vulnerable households. Gender is an important dimension in all project activities.

The project approach to be followed by CDSP-B (AF) will, in essence, be modeled on the experiences gained during the implementation of the successive phases of CDSP. This approach is characterized by an emphasis on people's participation through the establishment and strengthening of Field Level Institutions (FLI) and effective coordination of contributions from key service providers (both GoB institutions and NGOs) with the requirements of the Field Level Institutions (FLI). FLIs facilitated by the Project include Water Management Organizations at different levels (WMG, WMA and WMF), Social Forestry Groups, Tubewell User Groups, Farmers' Forums, Labour Contracting Societies and Micro Credit & Savings Groups. In each of these groups a specific gender balance is assured.

The project technical assistance team has been mobilized with senior team members on July 1st, 2019 and subsequently remaining mid-level and support staff were fielded from October 13th, 2019. The initial task of the team is to conduct a campaign for sharing information on project detail status with stakeholders., With this aim, a total of 16 "Project Information Dissemination Campaigns (PIDC)" have been launched in all project areas of CDSP-B (AF) including possible future areas identified by feasibility studies during CDSP IV, with the support of stakeholders' representatives and local implementing agencies.

2. Objective and description of PIDC under CDSP-B (AF)

A project information dissemination campaign (PIDC) involves meetings with stakeholders' and beneficiaries' participation, sharing the overall concept of the Char Development and Settlement Project-B (AF), its background, objectives, implementing agencies, funding donors and design of activities, and identifies priority needs on an area basis in the project. During the implementation period, the Ministry of Land DPP has been approved by the government, hence a significant participation of MoL concerned officials of the districts of Noakhali and Chattogram were actively involved and participated in these campaigns.

The PIDC has been organized in the whole project area considering the convenience of stakeholders to ensure maximum participation by women and men. Location wise the campaign was as follows:

CDSP I:	05
CDSP II:	05
CDSP III:	01
CDSP IV:	03
Possible V:	02

In the campaign, it was observed that all the people of the project area were found to be in a festive mood which was very encouraging and the project received strong support from representatives of Local Government Institutions, that is Union Parishad Chairmen, Members, local political leaders irrespective of party, Field Level Institutions, local elites, teachers, imams, and general beneficiaries.

Stakeholders at all levels of local institutions were very enthusiastic about the return of CDSP to their area. This was seen in participation and attendance at meetings, a total of 5,307. The highest attendance in one campaign was 890. Among the participants, 34% were women and 66% men.

The meetings were planned to get two specific outcomes from the audience:

- Show whether or not they are happy about the return of CDSP by raising hands.
- Identify four priority activities by consensus.

In reply they have stood up and raised their hands and replied in a loud voice: 'Yes'. In reply, in 16 PIDCs sixty priorities have been identified by consensus; these are:

Sl #	Priorities	Frequency
1	Operation & maintenance: breach of embankment, canal re-excavation, pond re-excavation, sluice, road etc,	16
2	Protection against river bank erosion	11
3	Land settlement	08
4	Deep Tubewell and sanitation	07
5	Health support: hospital	05
5	Education: high school	04
6	Outbreak of cattle Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)	02
7	Boundary dispute	02
8	Land compensation	02
9	Cyclone shelter	01
10	Noakhali-Urir Char cross-dam	01
11	Rehabilitation of eroded households to Urir char	01
12	Total	60

The ratings of priority needs mostly depend on the particular area; O&M of road, embankment breach, sluice and canal re-excavation, cluster village shed repairing and pond re-excavation etc. rated highest priorities followed by protection against river erosion, land settlement, WatSan, education and others.

It may be noted from field observation, cluster villages established by a Government programme are seriously facing a number of acute issues. These are house repairs, pond re-excavation and maintenance, scarcity of drinking water and sanitation and, of course, land - for those who did not get land in the earlier period.

An exception, in the possible CDSP-V area, was a specific item of intervention found in Char Maksumul Hakim. Everyone demanded only one thing, that is for link road improvement from the embankment to CDSP Bazar / Cyclone Shelter to be paved with Herring Bone Brick (HBB).

Women's participation in Urir Char

Women's participation in Urir Char is very limited compared to the other areas of CDSP I-IV. So this indicates that women's involvement in Urir Char needs more work from the project team.

Implementation potential of priority activities

Health and education are not included in project interventions and little can be done by the project except some support for registration of Primary Schools established in multipurpose cyclone shelters to become recognized by Government departments.

O&M of infrastructure related to BWDB, LGED and DPHE could be considerable except protection against river erosion. It is expected that the project team may have a better understanding of the processes of river erosion after the planned hydro-morphological study.

WatSan issues could be resolved as sufficient DTW installations have been planned together with single pit latrine distribution.

Land distribution. The programme in the Land DPP is considerable and has a target of 6,000 households for land distribution during the project period.

Lumpy skin disease has already been brought under control by TA team expert with the support of para vets trained in an earlier phase.

Land compensation and cyclone shelter issues could be resolved, it is hoped, according to project procedures after approval of DPPs.

Noakhali – Urir Char cross-dam and rehabilitation of eroded families to Urir Char are beyond the scope of the current phase.

3. Project Information Dissemination Campaigns by Location

3.1. Samitir Hat, Uri Char

Date: 27-01-2020
Location: Samitir Hat, Urir Char
Chairperson: Md. Mustafa Soudagor Vice Chair WMG-3
Total Participants: 625: women: 75; men: 550
Attended MoL project officials: Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), Assistant Commissioner (Land) Companiganj, Noakhali, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Assistant Commissioner (Land) Sandwip, Chattogram

TA Team members: Deputy Team Leader (I), Land Settlement Adviser, Assistant Land Settlement Adviser, NGO Sector Specialist, Project Area Coordinator, Urir char, Project Engineer, Gender Field Coordinator

Local participants: UP Chairman, UP members, WMG members, school teachers, NGO representatives, local political leaders

Objective of Campaign: Project information dissemination campaign meeting with all level stakeholders/beneficiaries' participation, sharing overall concept of Char Development and Settlement Project-B (AF) background, objectives, implementing agencies, funding donors, design activities and identification of priority needs by area.

Specific project objectives: To consolidate the achievement in char development of earlier CDSP phase I–IV and preparation of future investments in char development in the South Eastern Delta.

Focal points of discussion: Objective, project name, period, area, population, donor, project components and implementing agencies (IA), NGO activities under TA team and

LGED, activities of IA, TA team mobilization and activities, gender participation and involvement, impact, challenges of the project etc.

Welcome address: Md. Liaquat Ali Khan, PAC-U, and CDSP-B (AF), welcomed all participants and announced that today is a milestone for Urir Char - Representatives of two district administrations have attended this PIDC. Then he requested the district and upazilla level project officials from MoL of Noakhali and Chattogram and Technical Assistance team of the project to introduce themselves.

Mr. Liaquat expressed thanks to the representatives of LGIs and FLIs for their support in organizing the campaign. He also pointed out, the people of Urir char are very fortunate that all concerned district administration officers attend the campaign to discuss about details of land distribution procedure in Urir Char.

Mihir Kumar Chakraborty, Deputy Team Leader (Infrastructure) TA team, initiated discussion and welcome the representatives from MoL and people of Urir Char attending the campaign. He has declared that good news is waiting for Urir Char people to be announced by LSA and project officials from MoL.

After introduction the DTL(I) discussed in detail project objectives, donors' contribution, project area, total households (HH), population, project components and implementing agencies, and the activities of all agencies, challenges and possible strategies to be undertaken for solutions. The following are the highlights of the discussion:

Project name: Char Development and Settlement Project - Bridging (Additional Financing): CDSP-B (AF)

Duration: 3 (three) years: July 2019 –June 2022

Donors: a) Bangladesh Government (GoB)
b) UNIFAD
c) The Kingdom of the Netherlands (GoN).

Project area and location: CDSP I,II,III,IV and some activities in a proposed future area: Char Mozammel (Monpura Upazilla, Bhola) Char Kolatali (Tazmuddin Upazilla, Bhola), Dhal Char (Hatiya and Tazmuddin) and Char Maksumul Hakim (Companiganj Upazilla).

Area, Households, Population

Total area: 74,000 ha; target benefited area 40,000 ha

Total households: 84,000; target: 57,000

Population: 515,000

Implementation agencies:

1. Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB)
2. Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)
3. Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE)
4. Forest Department (FD)
5. Ministry of Land (MoL)

The Technical Assistance team has the role of support in monitoring and implementation of the project. Special arrangement: Hydro-morphological study of Meghna Estuary, modelling and quality control to identify the potential for future project areas and institutionalization for sustainability.

Key speaker: Md. Rezaul Karim, LSA, CDSP-B (AF) declared to the meeting that the Government DPP is approved to implement the land distribution program with an estimated 6,000 (six thousand) families with about 4,000 in Urir Char. He further mentioned that the demarcation of the boundary line between Noakhali and Chattogram districts will be finalized as per the decision taken in 2016, by the Hon. Minister, Land Ministry, and the process including survey work is continuing in Urir Char.

Then he initiated discussion about the detailed procedure of the land settlement program of the project. He said that the land settlement and titling activities, to be executed in Urir Char have to be carried out in a transparent way under the government. These activities will be implemented by the Ministry of Land (MoL) by the DCs of Noakhali and Chattogram districts. Settlement and land title (Khatian) activities in Urir Char under Companigonj Upazilla of Noakhali and Sandwip Upazilla of Chattogram district will be processed under the government existing policy.

He informed the participants that the first stage, Plot-to-Plot survey (PTPS) activities of the government owned (Khas) land would begin the next day in Urir Char under the project. He introduced all the selected Bador Amin / surveyors, group by group in the meeting and requested everyone to co-operate with them for smooth execution of the work. ***He requested to all the beneficiaries; not to propose any type of unfair facilities or bribe to them during the survey period, which will be seriously punishable for both parties in future.***

ADC (Revenue) from Noakhali district Mr. Md. Abu Yusuf welcomed the participants and thanked them for attending the meeting and informed that this meeting is very important for the people of Urir Char, considering the land settlement. He mentioned some activities are already being undertaken from the land settlement program. The plot to plot survey will start from tomorrow and all concerned surveyor teams are already in Urir char. The boundary demarcation works are ongoing. We have several meetings at

district and ministry level to facilitate smooth implementation. As the Government has announced that every household will be ensured land and a home, so everyone has a responsibility to cooperate and support the project activities for successful implementation. He also mentioned during the process of land settlement and boundary demarcation, any illegal or corruption activities cannot be tolerated. All of you know the land department will allot khatians free of cost except for the government stamp cost. Hence it is an earnest request to all people of this area to support project staff during implementation time.

Mr. Bidorshi Sombodhi Chakma, UNO from Sandwip Upazilla initiated discussion with thanks to TA team and local participants for their support in organizing this meeting having a huge attendance. He mentioned that LSA and ADC (Rev) Noakhali have already discussed in detail about the activities to be undertaken in Urir Char related to settlement and boundary demarcation. From now on our land officers and staff will continuously supervise and monitor all activities in the area. He requested to inform any problem, misappropriation and bribe immediately to the land people and TA team.

Mr. Md. Eashin AC (Land) Companigonj and Mr. Md. Mamun AC (Land) Sandwip Upazilla also requested to all the participants to co-operate in PTPS activities for doing the work transparently and authentically. They have informed that all the landless people who are now living in the Government Khas land will get land title according to government policy. Also, to enhancement of boundary demarcation survey work at Urir Char is under process through DLR and Survey Department of Bangladesh. They requested all beneficiaries/local people of both districts to cooperate with this programme and to respect the Government decisions on the selected demarcation boundary line at Urir Char in future. Then the DTL (I) asked participants whether they all want to support CDSP-B (AF) and requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with a loud voice: 'Yes'.

Then he asked what the four priority needs of this particular area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Boundary dispute solution within this phase
- Land settlement within CDSP-B (AF) phase
- Noakhali – Urir char cross dam
- Education: establish a high school

Comments from participants: Local elites and representatives participating in the discussion thanked all project team members and the concerned government department for including the area under CDSP-B(AF) and expressed happiness, mentioning that after a long time they will get land settlement from the government

through this project. They assured that they will extend all support in implementation of project activities and will benefit from demarcation of boundaries. With land titling and demarcation all participants requested the project team for more good news and hoped that effort would be made to ensure that the Noakhali-Urir char cross dam will be undertaken very soon.

Conclusion of the meeting: The Chairperson thanked all the participants who attended from Urir char and all project team members including government officials from Noakhali and Chattogram district on behalf of the people of Urir char. He extended thanks to all again and announced the end the meeting.

Before closing the meeting there was a Q&A session conducted by LSA TA team

Q 1: Md. Samsul Haque, Secretary, Urir Char WMG-3

The district boundary demarcation is the main issue of Urir Char. How long will it take for a solution of this acute issue?

Answer: In response, LSA informed that a team from DLR office Dhaka and survey department are working in this area and hopefully the demarcation issue will be solved within a very short time by this survey team in Urir Char.

Q 2: Md. Dulal Mia Ex UP member, Urir Char

Wanted to know about ceiling of Khas land per family which? will be given from the project

Ans: In reply LSA said that according to Government. circular every landless family will be given maximum 1.5 acres.

Q 3: Md. Abu Taher, local political leader asked about the erosion problem in the south eastern part of Urir Char. Whether the project has any program to solve the problem?

Ans: He was informed that there is no programme at present from the project; however the problem may be raised to the concerned authority for consideration.



Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Noakhali & Project Team in PIDC

3.2. Bangla Bazar, Urir Char

Date: 27/02/20
Location: Bangla Bazar, Urir Char

MoL representatives: Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), Assistant Commissioner (Land), Companigonj Noakhali, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Assistant Commissioner (Land) Sandwip, Chattogram.

TA Team members: Deputy Team Leader (I), Land Settlement Adviser, Assistant Land Settlement Adviser, NGO Sector Specialist, Project Area Coordinator, Urir Char, Project Engineer, Gender Field Coordinator.

Chairperson: Md. Jamsed Alam, Ex UP member, Urir Char
Total participants: 410; women: 15, men: 395
Local participants: LGI representatives, FLI members, School Teachers, NGO representatives, local social leaders and people.

Key speaker: Md. Rezaul Karim, Land Settlement Adviser

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Welcome address: Md. Liaquat Ali Khan, PAC-U, and CDSP-B (AF), welcomed all participants and announced that today is a milestone for Urir Char as representatives of the district administration have attended the PIDC. Then he requested introductions from the district and Upazilla level project official from MoL of Noakhali and Chattogram and Technical Assistance team of the project. Mr. Liaquat expressed thanks to the representatives of LGIs and FLIs for their support in organizing the campaign. He also pointed out that the people of Urir Char are very fortunate that all concerned district administration officers attended the campaign to discuss details of the land distribution procedure in Urir Char.

Mihir Kumar Chakraborty Deputy Team leader (I) TA team, initiated discussion and welcomed the people of Urir Char attending the campaign. He explained the project as in the previous meeting.

Mr. Rezaul Karim, the key note speaker, discussed about the overall objectives of the land settlement program of the project CDSP-B (AF). He stated that land settlement and titling activities have been started in a transparent way according to government policy in Urir Char. These activities will be implemented by the Ministry of Land (MoL) with the

DCs of Noakhali and Chattogram districts. Settlement and land title (Khatian) activities are undertaken in Urir char under Companiganj Upazilla of Noakhali and Sandwip Upazilla of Chattogram. The plan is to complete about 4,000 families within 3 years during the project period. He further stated that the demarcation of the boundary line in between Noakhali and Chottagram districts will be finalized as per the decision taken in 2016, by the Minister, Land Ministry, and the process includes survey work now still continuing in Urir Char.

He also pointed out that as per government rule each family will get maximum 150 decimals, both wife and husband equally. The women will be named first in the Khatian. If widowed, separated, or divorced, she will get 100% land in her name. The first stage, Plot-to-Plot survey (PTPS) activities of the government owned (Khas) land will begin tomorrow, the 28th February in Urir Char. He introduced all the selected Badar Amin/surveyors, in the meeting and requested all to co-operate and support them for working smoothly. He also disclosed to all the beneficiaries ***not to provide any type of unfair facilities or bribe to them during the survey period, which will be seriously punishable for both parties in future if proved.***

Mr. Md. Abu Yusuf ADC (Rev) Noakhali also participated in the discussion and urged all inhabitants of Urir char to extend their support to the survey team of the government and CDSP team and participate to accomplish the activities successfully. He mentioned that the government is committed to ensure provision of land to all landless peoples and house sites for all families, so as to accomplish land distribution of a maximum 150 decimals / landless family to all the households living in Urir char within this project period. He hoped that, after a long time this opportunity will be a milestone for all people in Urir char. However, Mr. Yusuf again warned everybody not to become involved in any corruption in the whole process of PTPS to land khatian distribution. They also announced that all the landless people who are now living in the Government khas land will get land titles according to government. policy.

The boundary demarcation survey work at Urir char is now ongoing through DLR and Survey Department of Bangladesh. All beneficiaries are requested under both districts to cooperate in this program and to respect the Government decisions on the selected demarcation boundary line in future.

Mr. Bidorshi Sombodhi Chakma UNO and Mr. Md. Mamun AC (Land) Sandwip and Mr. Md. Eashin, AC (Land) Companiganj Upazilla, participated in the information dissemination campaign. All concerned officials requested all the participants to cooperate in PTPS activities so that the work can be carried out transparently and authentically. They also repeated that the land will be distributed according to the

government rule, hence no need to give any money to the surveyor for this process. They also warned that any sort of illegal transaction will be treated seriously if it is proved.

Then the DTL (I) asked the attending participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and requested to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked what for four priority needs for this particular area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Boundary dispute solution within this phase
- Land settlement within CDSP-B(AF) phase
- Hospital for health security
- Protection from river erosion

Comments from participants: Some of the participants expressed thanks to the TA team members and the concerned government department for including the Urir Char area under land settlement of CDSP-B (AF). They also said that after implementation of the land settlement program, the people will benefit.

Every speaker from participants was happy and pointed out that Urir Char area was also under CDSP-IV but land settlement/titling activities were not included during that phase. Now all the beneficiaries are very happy for including the area in the settlement program under CDSP-B (AF). They hoped that after implementation of the land program and demarcation line, long pending issues between Noakhali and Chattogram, all stakeholders will benefit and the area will be sustainable for development in all respects. It is hoped that a long standing issue of demarcation and land ownership could be resolved during this CDSP phase.

Chairperson: Mr. Jamsed Alam thanked all the participants for attending the meeting and extended support to make it a success. He also thanked all organizers including all level government officers from both Noakhali and Chattogram and TA team members for taking initiatives to organize such an extraordinary program in Urir Char with the concept of mitigating long pending issues of demarcation of both districts. He hoped that TA team and concerned department will be able to resolve the issues and implement the programs of CDSP-B (AF) in consultation with local administration. He, on behalf of the people of the area, assured the land department and TA team to cooperate and extend support during implementation of CDSP concept and project activities and declared the meeting ended. Before closing by Chairperson invited an open Q/A session from all participants:

Q1: Mr. Abdur Rahim, UP Chairman, Urir Char requested CDSP authority and concerned department to demarcate boundary line for the first time. He wanted to know the latest status of boundary demarcation activities.

Answer: In reply LSA, TA team, stated that a team from the DLR office Dhaka and Survey Department is already working in this area and hoped the demarcation problem will be solved within a very short time within the CDSP–B(AF) phase in Urir Char.

Q 2: Md. Ali, Secretary WMG-02 Urir Char wanted to know about the maximum amount of Khas land each family will get under the project

Answer: LSA told that according to the Government circular it is 1.5 acres/per landless family.

3.3. Haji Idris Bazar

Date: 23/12/2019

Location: Haji Idris Bazar complex, Char Nangulia

Attending TA Team members: Deputy Team Leader (Development), Deputy Team Leader (Infrastructure), Mr. Ben Witjes, Country Director Mott Macdonald, Ms. Hilde Witjes, Land Settlement Advisor, Gender and Nutrition Advisor, ALSA, NSSs, PA, NCs, PAC, PE and GFs.

Chairperson: Mr. Nurul Amin Member, UP Ward No 7, Mohmmadpur Union Parishad, Upazilla Subarnachar, Noakhali.

Total participants: 890; women 350, and men 540

No. of Samaj: 65

Participants: UP representatives (LGI), representatives of field level institutions; such as WMG, TUG, Farmers' Organization, Social Forestry Group, LCS representatives, NGO staff and microfinance members, School/Madrasha teachers, Imams of Mosques, Local leaders/elites , all level of stakeholders; women and men.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key speaker: Md. Bazlul Karim, Deputy Team Leader (Development)) introduced the TA team members and welcomed all for participation in the Project Information Dissemination Campaign (PIDC) organized by the Technical Assistance team of CDSP-B (AF) with the support of LGIs, FLIs, and local representatives. He started discussion with the background of CDSP-B (AF) remembering the tremendous support by the people of the coastal chars in all previous phases of CDSP since 1994 and also during Land Reclamation Project (LRP) in early 1980s. Hence in continuation of success of all

phases the GoB and the donors agreed to start this phase with the objective to identify most climate change affected chars for future phases of CDSP, with special consideration of the recent challenge of river erosion in some parts of the area. He explained the project as in the previous meeting. It was also announced that agriculture, and social livelihood will be implemented by the LGED through selected NGO(s). The concerned NGO specialists participated and discussed in detail regarding planned activities.

The Gender component will be implemented by the TA team with the aim of involving women in NGO groups and improving their skills through various training sessions. Microfinance loan support will be provided so that all families in the project area have an additional earning member in each household and are empowered in participatory decision making in all respects. In earlier phases women got a land Khatian jointly for each family; women and men with 50% sharing where the woman's name was given first. The women who were separated, widows, divorcees and women headed families got 100%. In this phase the government has a plan to distribute Khatians to 6,000 families in the same procedure.

DTL (D) stated that in CDSP-B there have been added some new concepts and technologies such as Agricultural Communication and Information Technology, commercialization of agriculture and livestock, and Artificial Insemination for livestock. All the participants were urged to come forward, so that everybody is part of these significant upcoming developments of the coastal area.

Mr. Rezaul Karim, Land Settlement Adviser, discussed the land program and overall settlement procedure of land titling up to getting Khatian. He stated that although the distribution of Khatian in CDSP-IV was almost completed, in some mouza of Char Nangulia are remaining Khatians. Related activities would be undertaken in this phase during the next three years. Deputy Commissioner Noakhali, who is also a Project Director will work for Noakhali and Deputy Commissioner (Chattogram). Additional PD will work for Urir Char Chattogram part and their field level staff with the support of TA team will carry out this land settlement process for final hand over to the landless.

On behalf of the district administration, concerned Assistant Commissioner (land) will undertake the process of settlement to be finalized after all procedures such as publishing of area wise draft list as to plot to plot survey. Based on the approved documents AC land will make the arrangement for the Khatians will be distributed in a formal ceremony. LSA TA team specifically pointed out that no extra cost is required except TK 300-500 for the stamp of the deed. Hence, he warned the meeting not to give

any money to any official, middleman, brokers, or to any fraud for getting land Khatian. Otherwise if it is proved, any illegal activity will be brought under law and order.

Then the DTL (D) asked the participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and he requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked for the four priority needs of this particular area. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Health facility: hospital
- Land titling; Khatian distribution
- Education; establishment of a high school
- River protection

Mr. Ben Witjes participated in the discussion. He greeted everyone and expressed thanks to see their wholehearted participation in the campaign. He mentioned that he had never before come across such a big assembly of project people in any workshop. He said that he is happy to visit the project for the first time and to participate in the workshop. He has been overwhelmed by visiting the project areas for the past two days. He expressed his gratitude to all level of stakeholders for extending their support resulting in the development of the project in CDSP-IV area in all respects of their livelihood. He also mentioned that we will work for three years in the current project, but he concluded by saying that our efforts to prevent river erosion in the interest of the project will continue in this phase as mentioned by the DTL (D).

Ms. Hilde Witjes thanked all the participants of the meeting and was interested to find the discussion so interactive. She was astonished to see the huge participation of project stakeholders. She was also very satisfied that such a large number of women are participating in such a remote place in Bangladesh. Now she has seen why the CDSP is a successful project in all phases. She also shared her last two days experience in the field and has seen the different aspects of development in the area and the supportive attitude of the people. She extended her best wishes to all present at this memorable experience.

Conclusion: Finally, the Chairperson expressed his satisfaction and recollected the development work of the CDSP and contribution for development in all aspects. He mentioned that we cannot think how the CDSP team gave efforts in land distribution, tremendous road communication, ensured water and sanitation, and increased agricultural development. Within 2-3 years, every family became self-sufficient in year round food production in place of 3-4 months availability before CDSP. Moreover he is hopeful for the current program and expressed strong assurance to extend overall

cooperation on behalf of the people of the area for the successful implementation of the project. Expressing hope, he announced the end of the workshop with special thanks to Ben and Hilde and thanked everyone for attending. Open discussion and QA session:

Q-1. Md. Abdur Rahim, Char Uria Mouza wanted to know if the land occupied by him was surveyed in the name of another household, earlier; he has less land in his name, how this can be solved?

Answer: The issue is related to the land department. Before CDSP the land was given in settlement by the land offices.

Q-2. Md. Abul Kalam, village Char Clerk. Landless settlers did not get land during settlement before CDSP, instead the land was illegally occupied by wealthy men, who do not live here but have taken the land (land titling) on paper; how can the landless people get that land back?

Answer: The case is the same as the previous question. They got Khatians issued by the land department before CDSP, so the case should be solved by the DC Noakhali office.

Q-3. Babul Howladar, West Char Uria. How can I get my father's land registered in my name?

Answer: According to the land title deed, family members are the owners of land. However, for any queries you are to contact with the AC land office.

Q-5. Are you going to construct a road adjacent to Idris bazar to the Aladdin Samaj?

Answer: LGED and TA team members will visit your proposed area; after spot verification, priorities will be considered and if the criteria are fulfilled, the works may be undertaken.

Q-6. Nur Uddin Khokon, Char Uria. In the rainy season, water inundated South of Char Uria bazar, do you have a plan for a new canal for improvement?

Answer: The project has a canal re-excavation program. If found suitable according to the selection criteria, the intervention may be considered.

Q-7. Mohammad Alauddin, market committee. Haji Idris Mia market goes under water in the rainy season due to lack of drainage facility, do you have any program for drainage improvement for the market? And will the road from Haji Idris market to Bhunduri market be paved?

Answer: we have to consider that the project period is only 3 years and has limited resources, especially in the CDSP IV area where there has been a lot of work done on road communication. Hence you will agree with us that in this phase a large area has to be covered where priority needs to be given to areas other than your area, so it may not be possible to do road development. But regarding congestion of drainage work this may be considered after visiting the proposed site.

Q-8. Ajifa Khatun, WMG member. CDSP has provided land, DTW, sanitary latrines, bridge-culverts, cyclone shelters, training facilities, credit facilities etc. In CDSP this time what facilities are planned for women's communities?

Answer: It is a good question; yes, like previous phases most of the interventions are incorporating women oriented activities such as gender and nutrition, water and sanitation, microcredit system, poultry and livestock, homestead agriculture, various training courses on income generating activities, as have been mentioned.



Beneficiaries' participation in PIDC

3.4. Munshirhat Primary School premises

Date: 31/12/2019
Location: Munshirhat Cyclone Shelter
Chairperson: Md. Shahabuddin UP member
Participants' #: 430; women: 150, men: 280
No. of Somaj: 55

Attending TA Team members: DTL (D), G&NA, PAC, NSS, PA, AO and WMO/GF.

Local participants: WMO members, NGO group members, SFG group members, TUG group members, FF members, School and Madrasha teacher, Imam of Mosque, local elites and UP Chairman and Members.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Welcome address: Mr. Mijanur Rahman, Project Area Coordinator, CDSP-B(AF) welcomed all participants and thanked them attending. In this introductory discussion he

has highlighted the background of CDSP start-up and overall support of the local population. He has also requested appropriate cooperation and support during implementation as in earlier phases.

Key speaker: Md. Bazlul Karim, Deputy Team Leader (Development) CDSP-B (AF) introduced the TA team members and welcomed everyone. He started his discussion on the background of the CDSP-B (AF) with remembering the tremendous support by the people of the coastal chars in all previous phases of CDSP since 1994 and during Land Reclamation Project (LRP) in the early 1980. He discussed detailed project objectives, and activities as in previous meetings.

Then the DTL (D) asked attended participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support, and requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with a loud voice: 'Yes'.

Then he asked what the four priority needs of this particular area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Water logging in different areas
- Outbreak of animal disease like lumpy skin disease in cattle
- DTW and sanitation facility in cluster village houses
- Embankment breach maintenance

Regarding disease outbreaks in poultry and livestock, Sector Specialist Dr. Jannatul Naim gave a technical briefing on Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) in the meeting to control the disease and assured the meeting that within 2-3 days the TA team will distribute a technical leaflet on these details with symptoms and treatment. One paravet was there, and he also assured to follow up every day in these areas. About 1,000 leaflets were distributed and with regular follow up by Dr. Jannatul, within a very short period it could be under control.

Comments from participants: At the end, some of the participants thanked the TA team members and the concerned government departments for including this area under CDSP-B (AF). They also said that after implementation of all the programmes mentioned by the speakers at the meeting, the project people will definitely benefit. They also mentioned that the work done in the previous phase was of a high quality. They are very happy to know about the involvement of local people in strengthening FLIs.

Conclusion of the meeting: Mr. Shahab Uddin in his closing speech expressed thanks to the CDSP project team and the participants for attending the meeting. He said that he agrees with the comments and questions from all participants demanding that the needs of their respective areas should be addressed. He has also assured support for the

project team as everyone attended meeting and committed their support. He then declared the meeting ended with thanks again.

Question and Answer:

Q 1: Md. Shahab Uddin UP Member. Is there any plan to construct a saline water control embankment towards the river side?

Answer: Joint field checking by BWDB and TA team after approval of DPP will be performed and, on the basis of necessity, it will be considered.

Q 2: Abdul Khaleque WMG member. Is there any scope to implement all types of work by the LCSs?

Answer: All implementing agencies have their own rule/guideline for issuing a percentage of work to the LCS. So, following this principle, work will be distributed to the LCS.

Q 3: Mizanur Rahman UP Member. In our locality there is a huge scarcity of drinking water and we need DTWs. Is there any scope to provide the DTWs as needed?

Answer: After initiating the implementation of project activities, field verification will be conducted. Depending on this, necessary steps will be taken on the basis of importance.

Q 4: Md. Nur Nabi, WMG member. Is there any plan for re-excavation of silted-up khals; Karim, Momtaz, Zillar and Gopal Khals?

Answer: Yes, there is provision for canal excavation, but work will be undertaken after field verification by BWDB and TA team considering the priorities. The necessary steps will be taken on the basis of importance.

Q 5: Kamal Uddin, WMG member. Is there any scope to repair/maintain the sheds/houses of cluster village, re-excavate silted ponds and address scarcity of DTW?

Answer: In reply, you have mentioned three interventions; firstly, the project has no provision for repair/maintenance of shed/house, secondly; no provision of pond re-excavation. With regard to DTW, according to urgent needs this should be considered after field verification

Q 6: Mizanur Rahman UP member. In our locality there is a scarcity of pit latrines and DTW. Is there any scope to provide these where needed?

Answer: Both the interventions are very important, and the project has provision; after field verification by DPHE and TA team, the necessary steps will be taken according to government rules.

Q 7: Md. Abul Hossain Biswas, WMG member. We are very anxious about riverbank erosion. Is there any plan/program to control the riverbank erosion by CDSP-B?

Answer: In CDSP-B there is no plan for construction of riverbank protection work at this phase. The project has a plan to continue the morphological study of the Meghna river for proper assessment of river bank erosion. You can request your concerned peoples' representatives to take up this issue with the government for immediate action. Also,

there is a proposal of BWDB for riverbank erosion protection under review by the government.

Q 8: Md. Lal Mia Sareng WMG president. In recent times there is a very infectious disease (LSD virus) outbreak among local cattle and farmers have faced huge financial loss due to their lack of knowledge of disease management. Is CDSP–B going to take any initiatives to overcome this problem?

Answer: Considering the fatal situation of local farmers, very soon a leaflet on Lumpy Skin Disease will be developed by the TA team expert and as soon as possible, this will be distributed in the affected area. The TA team expert also assured that under CDSP-B phase, trained paravets will be assigned for support in their area. She also gave her contact number for any veterinary emergency.

Q 9: Mrs. Kamrun Nahar Begum, WMG member. Is there any service related to poultry vaccination in CDSP-B phase?

Answer: Yes, CDSP-B phase is going to provide a poultry vaccination service by training up women as poultry workers in the local field area, so they can earn money by providing vaccination work with support of the TA team, which will decrease the mortality rate of local poultry.

Q 10: Siraj Master WMG member. How can we reduce the mortality rate of local back yard poultry? What can we do to manage this disease?

Answer: In CDSP-B phase poultry workers will be supported by providing training and equipment, so that they can vaccinate the local poultry and reduce mortality rate, as well as giving advice on how to prevent these diseases by door to door service.

3.5. Polder 59/3C, Musapur Union

Date:	24/12/2019
Location:	Moulavir Bazar Primary School premises Polder 59/3C
Chairperson:	Moulavi Abdul Qayum Bahar, Member UP, Musapur
Participants:	300; women: 215; men: 85

Local participants: Local elites, NGO group members, WMG members, School and Madrasha teachers, UP members, SFG members, Imam of mosque, NGO and Forest Department representatives etc.

TA members: Adviser KMME, NSSs, PA, NCs, SFC, PAC and PE.

Welcome address. Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, Project Area Coordinator of CDSP-B (AF) in his welcome address highlighted the background of CDSP start-up in polder 59/3C from Miar Hat to Musapur. He referred to the WMG activities of a large water management

catchment area and overall support of the local population in organizing the campaign. He recollected a comment of a foreign delegate that it's a 'beautiful garden of BWDB'. After a long time since CDSP-III or CDSP-IV, the project has been undertaken in this project phase. Hence, we request the participants and urge them to extend support and cooperation during implementation.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Keynote speaker: Mr. Kiron Sankar Sarker, Advisor (KMME), CDSP-(AF) welcomed the participants and expressed thanks for support in organizing the campaign. He introduced the TA members and representatives of the Forest Department. After introductory remarks, he started discussion about the detailed project objectives and activities.

Comments of participants: Some participants commented that after CDSP II no project and departments continued for development work like CDSP. As a result, people of this area suffered. In future after CDSP what will be the fate of the development of the general people?

In response to various comments of the participants, the keynote speaker said that after completing the CDSP project based activities, this work should be continued by the local concerned department. In the case of CDSP-II polder of 59/3C, this was no exception. They were supposed to be maintained or executed by the relevant Government Department. As a result, the CDSP project, after a long time, realized the issue, and again the area has been included. Therefore, CDSP is seeking cooperation of all for the successful implementation of works.

Main issues, challenges: distribution of khas land among the landless, re-excavation of canals, non-availability of drinking water, sanitation, uncontrolled river erosion, modernization of cultivation and salinity, women-friendly employment, women's development training, rehabilitation of widows, training for income generating programs and launching of financial loan assistance projects.

Conclusion: The Chairperson of the campaign expressed regards and welcomed the fact that CDSP has planned to come back here after a long time. The issues which are mentioned in the meeting are the burning issues of people in this community.

We know that the community here is poor. The biggest demand is for drinking water and sanitation facilities. Women have no income generating activities. If we get support, then training in tailoring, fish training etc., we all will support CDSP during

implementation of activities as mentioned. Finally, on behalf of all those present in the closing address he expressed strong assurance of overall cooperation in the successful implementation of the project. The meeting ended with thanks to everyone.

Questions and Answers:

Q 1: Md. Robiul Haque, president of WMG. 01. Is CDSP taking up any work in resolving drinking water and safe sanitation crisis in the 59/3C polder area?

Answer: Yes. After initiating the implementation of CDSP-B (AF) activities, after the field investigation, the necessary steps will be taken for sinking DTW and distribution of single pit latrines to every family on priority basis.

Q 2: Mrs. Nur Jahan, a member of Musapur union ward No 7, 8 & 9: Many drainage culverts have been damaged in her working area. Will there be any opportunity to re-build culverts?

Answer: Yes. During the implementation of CDSP-B (AF) activities, after the field inspection, the necessary steps will be taken on the basis of importance.

Q 3: Mrs. Fajjun Akter, Housewife, of Moulavi bazar area of Musapur. Women spend here more idle time; will there be any initiative for women's development?

Answer: Yes. Project has interventions for women's training in various income generating activities supported by microcredit facilities to the women including tailoring training. After initiating CDSP-B (AF) activities, the activities will be undertaken.

Q 4: Md. Main Uddin, Balua Diarra. Is there any plan for re-excavation of silted canals, small development works and distribution of latrines be done through the local administration?

Answer: It is informed that in the implementing government agencies such as BWDB, LGED, DPHE FD and local appointed NGOs will directly implement the work with the support of TA team and FLIs representatives.

Q 5: Md. Enayet Ullah community elite of Musapur. Outside of Choto Feni River, there are some large accreting areas, will this char be covered by afforestation? Also, some land grabber already occupies this accreted land; if it is true; how can this land be owned by the destitute landless households?

Answer: After initiating the implementation of CDSP-B activities, the issue may be informed to the concerned authority for necessary action.

3.6. Char Majid

Date: 10/12/2019
Location: Char Majid CDSP Site Office premises
Chairperson: Abul Bashar Monju, UP Chairman, Purbo Char Bata
Total participants: 265; women: 150, men 115

Local participants: Local elites, NGO group members, WMO members, school and Madrasha teachers, UP members, TUG members, LHR promoter, Imam of mosque, NGO representatives etc.

Attending TA Team members: QCE, PACs, NSSs, PE, NCs and GFC.

Welcome address: Mr. B.A. Siddiqui Project Area Coordinator of CDSP-B (AF) in his introductory address welcomed all the participants and thanked them for their support in organizing this campaign and for attending the meeting. Mr. Siddiqui introduced all the TA members to the audience. He highlighted the background of CDSP B(AF) start-up and the support of the local communities at all levels to implement activities and the contribution of beneficiaries for the success of previous phases. He requested them to participate in the discussion in line with their views, comments, suggestions after address of keynote speaker of the meeting.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key note speaker: Md. Moinul Islam Quality Control Engineer TA team initiated the discussion by welcoming participation in the Project Information Dissemination Campaign (PIDC) organized by the Technical Assistance team of CDSP-B (AF) with the support of LGIs, FLIs, and local representatives. He started discussion on the background of CDSP-B (AF), remembering the tremendous support by the people of the coastal chars in all previous phases of CDSP since 1994 and during Land Reclamation Project (LRP) in early 1980s. He discussed the detailed project objectives and activities.

Then the QCE asked participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and requested them to show this by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with a loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked what their four priority needs of this particular area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Cluster village house repair and maintenance
- WatSan in cluster village
- Road maintenance and culvert
- River bank erosion

Closing address by Chairperson: At the end of the question and answer session the chairperson of the meeting expressed heartiest thanks to CDSP team to organize the meeting. Among CDSP officials he mentioned Md. Liakat Ali Khan, Md. Mizanur Rahman, Md. Zulfikar Aziz and Nahid Farhana Sumi about their past good memories of work with CDSP-I. He also welcomed Md. Siddiqui as a new coordinator and gave

promise to keep Char Majid WMG as having highly active FLIs. For this he will need CDSP cooperation. He also supported local demands coming from the question session raised by the participants and gave emphasis to tube well installation, maintenance work for road reconstruction, latrine issues for cluster villages of CDSP I. He also mentioned growing population and the increasing number of households in the area. He recollected memories of CDSP about 24 years back and appreciated good quality work by the project in previous phase of CDSP. He also mentioned a bad impression of the land settlement program at field level. As a result, some people did not get land Khatian in the Char Nangulia polder until now. He said that the river erosion issue is not under the control of Government or CDSP; this requires a natural way to change the river flow of the Meghna.

He also mentioned that the char areas are basically dependent on an agricultural economy and there is potential for different types of farming so he requested help and advice by experts in agriculture, livestock, fisheries from CDSP for agricultural development. He expressed thanks to the CDSP livestock expert for sharing her valuable information about treatment of the recent Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) virus outbreak in cattle. He mentioned that they have lots of demands, but they will be very happy if CDSP can do some development work according to their budget allocation. Again, he cordially welcomed CDSP people and gave assurance of cooperation with the project as agreed by raising hands with other people of the meeting. Finally, the chairperson declared the end of the meeting with thanks to everyone.

Question and Answers:

Q 01: Sheik Nurullah, Gram Police. Wanted to know whether the project has any plan for road maintenance from Kuddus market to No. 5 killa (1 km) and Karim Bazar to embankment road, as people are facing trouble due to damaged road.

Answer: Project Engineer Mr. Zulfiqur Aziz replied that they along with LGED will visit the area and recommend according to priority and available budget.

Q 02: Golam Kibria UP member. He said that 15 cluster villages of CDSP-I phase need some repair and maintenance of houses, especially latrines, and also road maintenance. Is there any provision of these works in CDSP-B phase?

Answer: Project Engineer replied that, after survey the decision will be taken and some tube wells and latrines may be provided, distributed in the cluster village area.

Q 03: Md. Zakir Hossain, WMG member. Is there any support from CDSP-B on how to improve local cattle breed at the char and to ensure quality semen availability? How to prevent the recent endemic outbreak of LSD virus in local cattle (Lumpy Skin Disease) which caused a great economic loss for local farmers, also is there help and advice on treatment of the disease?

Answer. NSS (Poultry & Livestock) Dr. Jannatul Naim replied that there will be activities for local cattle breed development and quality semen supply by development of local resource persons. Trainings will implemented by CDSP-B poultry and livestock program at this char. She also shared the preventive measures and prescribed treatment for LSD affected cattle owners.

Q 04: Aleya Begum, Vice President WMG and UP member. Demands for repair and maintenance of cluster village houses of CDSP-I area and road maintenance of 15 CV houses at Char Majid.

Answer: Project Engineer replied that in this phase there is no repair program for houses. Regarding road maintenance, initiative will be taken after survey and budget approval; according to project provisions, maintenance can be undertaken.

Q 05: Liton Das. Demanded road maintenance of No. 4 killa road, and a culvert is also needed on that road.

Answer: Project Engineer replied it will be decided after survey and budget provision.

Q 06: Jesmin Akhter, Ex health worker, SSUS. Is there any activity in CDSP-B related to health and nutrition?

Answer: Gender Field Coordinator replied that the gender and nutrition program will be started very soon along with family nutrition activities in the project area.

Q 07: Zakir Hossain, member WMG. How can we get better seed?

Answer: In reply Mr. Liakat Ali NGO coordinator replied that we can help to collect quality seed from local BADC dealer/company dealer and they will get it easily.



Yes, they support CDSP-B (AF)

3.7. Char Ziauddin

Date: 10/12/2019
Location: Khalil Chairman Bazar, Char Ziauddin, Subarnachar, Noakhali
Participants: 280; women: 130, men 150.
Chairperson: Mr. Abul Kalam Safi Ullah, landless leader, Char Ziauddin.
Special guest: Ms. Amena Begum, Chairman's Adviser and president Moutubi khal WMG.

Local participants: Local elites, NGO group members, WMG members, school & Madrassa teachers, UP members, SFG members, TUG members, LHR promoter, FF members, Widows of CDSP research plot, Imam of mosque, NGO representatives etc.

Attended TA members: G&NA, PAC, NSSs, PE's, SFC, PA, ALSA, GFC, and YP.

Welcome address by Mr. Alauddin project Area Coordinator of CDSP-B (AF.) In his introductory speech, he highlighted the background of CDSP start-up and the overall support of the local population for support and cooperation in organizing the campaign. He also remembered the support of CDSP IV and contribution of local communities during implementation activities at all stages of project.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key speaker: Mrs. Rahima Khatun, Gender and Nutrition Advisor, CDSP-B (AF) introduced the TA team members and welcomed them for participation in the Project Information Dissemination Campaign (PIDC) organized by the Technical Assistance team of CDSP-B (AF) with the support of LGIs, FLIs, and local representatives. She started her discussion on the background of the CDSP-B (AF) with remembering the tremendous support by the people of the coastal chars in all previous phases of CDSP since 1994 and during Land Reclamation Project (LRP) in early 1980s and explained the current objectives and activities.

She also expressed thanks to women for their participation and hoped in future for even more participation following the outstanding performance of women in previous phases. The project received an ***“IFAD Gender Award 2017” for Asia and Pacific countries.*** Hence, in continuation, this phase will also include gender and nutrition activities. The gender component will be implemented by the TA team with the aim of involving women in NGO groups and increasing their skills through various training sessions. Subsequently microfinance loan support will be provided so that all families of the project

area should have an additional earning member in each household, with empowerment for decision-making in all respects.

Mr. Wolfgang Duifhuizen, YP welcomed all those attending and expressed that he is very happy to see a huge participation of beneficiaries proving the relation, cooperation and support between the project people and stakeholders. He has joined only a few months back but by this time he has gained experience from the project in practice how the people are innovative and sincere in performing the best lessons learnt from the project. He mentioned that the people of project area are very cordial in their behavior and very cooperative. He also mentioned that he is supporting some special activities *of* Hydro-morphological study of the Meghna Estuary, modeling and quality control to identify the potential sustainable future project area and institutionalizing the CDSP.

Then the G&NA asked participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with a loud voice 'Yes'. Then she asked what the four priority needs of this particular area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Protection against river erosion
- Land Khatian distribution
- WatSan facilities
- Cyclone Shelter

Special guest speaker: Ms. Amena Begum, a local womens' leader, expressed regards and thanks to CDSP TA team for undertaking this area in the current phase of the project. She recollected the development of this area which was unthinkable and unimaginable for all beneficiaries. Activities carried out in CDSP IV period were a milestone in the history of Char Ziauddin. She specifically mentioned the skill development of every woman who is nowadays self-reliant and an additional income contributor in her family. She also acknowledged that she has now become well known to everyone with the support of CDSP. She is hopeful that this phase will continue their effort for development of the area. Finally, she requested the staff to give importance of those issues already discussed by the participants.

Closing by Chairperson: Finally, the Chairperson Mr. Abul Kalam Safi Ullah in his closing remarks thanked the CDSP project and the TA team for their development activities in the earlier phase. He expressed commitment to the overall cooperation of all in the successful implementation during ongoing project; CDSP Bridging. He mentioned that in the earlier phase it was requested and expected by the people of this area that a cyclone shelter would have been built, however he reminded and requested again to

construct a cyclone shelter at Zia bazar adjacent to the primary school in this phase. After discussion then he closed the meeting with thanks to the participants of the area.

Question and Answer session before closing:

Q 1: Latifa Khatun and Mofiz Mia landless (Dunbar Somaj, Moradona). Landless people living in Dabna area did not get land, this time will they get it?

Answer: Land settlement does not have any program in those areas. You can communicate with local land settlement office.

Q 2: Shahabuddin Shikdar, businessmen. Does the project have any program for construction of 19-vent sluice at Jarirdhona?

Answer: Project Engineer (PE) replied that in this phase there is no program of construction of this sluice.

Q 3: Hossain Mia, member, WMO. Any program for upgrading BC paved road from Zia bazar to Mohiuddin bazar?

Answer: PE said that after field verification by LGED and TA team considering priority and fund availability, it may be possible.

Q 4: Some families yet to get Khatian in Char Baggar Donna area, will they get it now?

Answer: ALSA replied that the area is under '*sub-judice*' and no land settlement is planned for this area.

Q 4: Maulana Ghulam Sarwar, Imam, Char Ziauddin. Will Siddique Chairman Bazar be developed like Khalil Chairman Bazar?

Answer: PE replied that there is no program of market development in this phase.

Q 5: Do you have program for installation of DTW and latrines in Dabna of Char Mohiuddin area?

Answer: PE replied that after field verification considering priority and DPHE criteria DTW and latrines may be installed in those areas.

Q 6: Maleka Begum, member, WMO, polder somaj. In the polder somaj area, drainage congestion is serious in the monsoon period. To solve the problem, can a culvert be constructed?

Answer: PE replied that may be possible according to available fund for drainage improvement.

3.8. Sundalpur Polder 59/3C, Companigonj

Date:	9/12/2019
Location:	Sundalpur UP complex, Polder 59/3C
Chairperson:	Md. Nurul Amin Rumi, Chairman of Sundalpur UP
Participants:	170: women 50, men 120

Stakeholder participation: UP Chairman and members, local elites, WMG members, school teachers, NGO representatives, SFG members and people of the area

TA members attending: Quality Control Engineer, Assistant Land Settlement Adviser, Project Area Coordinator, NGO Sector Specialists, and Gender Facilitator

Welcome address: **Md. Liaquat Ali Khan**, Project Area Coordinator, in his introductory address welcomed all the participants and thanked them for support in organizing this campaign and attending the meeting. Mr. Khan introduced all the TA members to the audience. He highlighted the background of CDSP-B(AF) start-up and the support of the local communities at all levels in implementing activities and the contribution of beneficiaries for the success of previous phases. He welcomed all the participants to the meeting and requested them to participate in the discussion in line with their views, comments, suggestions, after discussion of keynote speaker.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key speaker: **Md. Moinul Islam Quality Control Engineer** TA team initiated the discussion by welcoming everyone for participation in the Project Information Dissemination Campaign (PIDC) organized by the Technical Assistance team of CDSP-B (AF) with the support of LGIs, FLIs, and local representatives. He started discussion on background of CDSP-B (AF) with remembering the tremendous support by the people of the coastal chars in all previous phases of CDSP since 1994 and during Land Reclamation Project (LRP) in early 1980. Hence in continuation of success of all phases the GoB and the donors agreed to start this phase. He discussed the detailed project objectives, donors' contribution, project area etc. Then the QCE asked participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with a loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked for the four priority needs of this particular area. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- WatSan facilities
- Health facilities: hospital
- Drainage congestion solution
- Agricultural activities

Main issues, challenges and outcome: local stakeholders participated in the meeting. They have discussed a lot of issues of their area, as follows: distribution of Khas (government) land among poor people, re-excavation of canal and O&M of embankment, crises of drinking water and sanitation, river erosion, modernization of cultivation, women's development training on income generating activities with loans.

Comments and feedback from participants: In the concluding session, some of the participants thanked the project people and the concerned government departments for including their area under CDSP-B (AF). The participants agreed to help and cooperate during project implementation. They also mentioned that after implementation of the project interventions, all stakeholders will benefit.

Conclusion of the meeting: The Chairperson thanked all TA team members and participants for attending and for support in organizing the meeting. He hoped that the TA team and concerned department will implement the programs in consultation with local administration and LGIs. He assured the project of all support during implementation and declared the meeting closed with thanks to all participants.

Questions and answers:

Q 1: Md. Mojibur Rahman Tutul UP member of Ward No. 2 Sundulpur. He wanted to know whether wards no. 1, 2 4 & 9 are included in the project?

Answer: In reply, he was informed that, yes, the mentioned areas have already been included partly.

Q 2: Abul Kalam Master, schoolteacher wanted to know whether Noakhali district board and district administration are now involved in the Noakhali khal excavation program?

Answer: In reply we do not know about the current khal excavation program.

Q 3: Mrs. Tahura Khatun of Jagdananda village wanted to know if the WatSan, poultry and dairy treatment program in her area will be implemented?

Answer: In reply, Ms. Jannatul Naim, NSS (P&L) informed that these programs have already been included in CDSP-B (AF).

Q 4: Mrs. Fatema Begum of Ward No. 2, Sundalpur UP drew attention to the fact that, due to re-excavation of Noakhali khal, there is drinking water scarcity and insufficient water availability problem for homestead users in the area and she wanted to know whether DTWs are included in the project?

Answer: In reply, Mr. Motaher Hossain, NSS informed her that sufficient tubewells and sanitary latrines will be provided in the area under the project.

3.9. Kaladur Bazar site office premises

Date:	19/11/2019
Location:	CDSP IV site office Kaladur Bazar Char Nangulia
Chairperson:	Md. Nizam Uddin Babul, President of Char Nangulia WMA.
Participants:	275: women: 110; men 165
No. of Somaj:	50

Local participants: WMO members, NGO group members, SFG members, TUG members, FF members, social workers, Local Government Institution representatives, School and Madrasha teachers, Imam of Mosque, local elites, UP Chairman and Members and beneficiaries.

Attending TA team members: Deputy Team Leader (D), Land Settlement Adviser, Assistant Land Settlement Advisor, Project Area Coordinator and Gender Facilitator, NGO Sector Specialists.

Welcome address: Mr. Mizanur Rahman Project Area Coordinator initiated the introductory discussion, highlighted the background of CDSP-B (AF) start-up and thanked all participants for overall support and appropriate cooperation in organizing the meeting.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key speaker: Md. Bazlul Karim Deputy Team Leader (Development), CDSP-B (AF) initiated the discussion with welcome and thanks for the participation in the campaign. He has started the discussion on the background of the CDSP-B (AF) and recalled the tremendous support by the people of the coastal chars in all previous phases of CDSP since 1994 and during the period of Land Reclamation Project (LRP) in the early 1980s. Then he introduced the TA members attending the meeting and explained its purpose. After introduction the DTL (D) has chronologically discussed the detailed project. During the discussion the DTL (D) gave a brief on planned activities of each IA to be undertaken after getting final approval of DPP by the Government. He informed that in CDSP-B(AF) some new concepts and technologies have been added such as Agricultural Communication and Information Technology, commercialization of agriculture and livestock, artificial insemination. DTL informed the meeting that the gender component will be implemented by the TA team with the aim of involving women in this phase also as in CDSP IV, which had a tremendous participation and contribution to their family income in all respects.

Then the key speaker asked the participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and requested them to show by raising hands; all participants raised their hands and expressed support with a loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked for the four priority needs of this particular area. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Protection from river erosion
- Land Compensation money for dyke construction
- Remaining land titling during this phase
- Health support

Comments by the participants: All participants attending the workshop committed by raising their hands to extend their cooperation and support during implementation which will be continued as in previous project phases

Conclusion of the meeting: Chairperson thanked the TA team and participants for participating in the meeting. He requested the TA team to ensure that the remaining families receive land Khatian distribution during this project period. On behalf of the participants he assured that no illegal money transaction will happen for land distribution. Finally, he has also assured all support during the implementation period of the project and declared the meeting closed with thanks to all.

Questions and Answers:

Q 1: Aleya Begum, South Nangulia WMG. In Hajipara area construction of one road is very essential. So, is there any plan to include this road for construction?

Answer: After verification and receiving satisfactory report, construction program of Hajipara road may be included in CDSP program

Q 2: Amena Begum, South Nangulia WMG. At Hajipara area adjacent to Abdullah's home over Nangulia khal one culvert/bridge construction is very essential to link with adjacent areas. Can you include this culvert/bridge for construction?

Ans: After verification and receiving satisfactory report, construction program of Hajipara road may be included in CDSP program.

Q 3: Rojina Begum, beneficiary. One DTW was provided for 10 families by CDSP-IV, but at present it is not sufficient considering increasing households and population. Is there any scope to provide one DTW for adjacent 5 families during the current program?

Answer: One team will check and verify the condition of previous DTW and how these are maintained. After visiting the area by DPHE and TA, requirement will be assessed. If the result is satisfactory, it may be considered.

Q 4: Md. Abul Kashem, President of Kaladur bazaar Committee. We are very much under threat of riverbank erosion; do you have any plan/program for controlling the riverbank erosion by CDSP?

Answer: In CDSP-B there is no plan for construction of riverbank protection work at present, however we are undertaking a hydro-morphological study of the Meghna river for proper assessment of the riverbanks. So far it is noticed that a proposal from BWDB for bank erosion has been submitted, hence you can request and inform your concerned LGI representative to support this at higher levels of the government.

Q 5: Md. Nirab Hossain, beneficiary. When will the people get their compensation money for land for construction of embankment?

Answer: Compensation money will be paid by BWDB through DC (MoL) after DPP approval by the Government so all are requested to wait until approval of DPP.

Q 6: Md. Helal Uddin Dorbesh Khal WMG. Is CSDP going to take any action now in resolving land disputes settled by CDSP-1.

Answer: CDSP-B will not work on land settlement in this area. To resolve land issues, it is suggested to contact with land settlement office.

Q 7: Md. Foyez Ahmed, South Katakhal Khal-1 WMG. Which area /Mouza of land will be given settlement by the CDSP-B ?

Answer: In five Mouzas settlement work will be performed during CDSP-B: a) Urir Char, b) West Urir Char, c) Purbo Char Majid, d) Dokhin Char Majid, e) Part of Char Majid.

Q8: Md. Hossain Laxmi Khal WMG. Is there any plan for settlement of Char Noman and Char Laxmi Mouzas?

Answer: In Char Noman and Char Laxmi Mouzas maximum land settlement activities have been completed by the Government earlier. For these reasons CDSP-B has no plan for land settlement activities in this area.

3.10. Parishkar Bazar

Date: 19/11/2019

Location: Parishkar Bazar, CDSP-I and II Areas Site Office

Chairperson: Md. Abul Kalam Azad, President WMG of Char Baggar Dona-II.

Participants: 180; women: 70; men 110.

Local Participants: Local elites, NGO group members, WMG members, School and Madrasha teachers, UP Members, SFG members, TUG members, LHR promoter, FF members, widows of LRP research plot, Imam of mosque, NGO representatives and beneficiaries.

Attending TA team members: Advisor (KM & ME), G&NA, YP, QCE, PACs, NSS, PE, SFC PA, ALSA, NCs and GFC.

Welcome address: Mr. Alauddin, Project Area coordinator of CDSP-B (AF) welcomed all the participations and highlighted the background of CDSP start-up and the overall support of the local population during previous phases CDSPI, II, III and IV He mentioned that the previous phases were successful in implementation because of the efforts given he requested the audience to continue their support at all stages of project implementation.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key speaker: Md. Moinul Islam Quality Control Engineer welcomed everyone for attending the campaign and thanked all those who extended their support in organizing the meeting and making it successful. He introduced the TA team members and welcomed them. In continuation of the success of all phases, the GoB and the donors agreed to start this phase with the objective to identify the most climate change affected chars for a future phase of CDSP considering the recent challenge of river erosion in some parts of the area. He discussed the strategy and planned activities. During discussion all TA team members responsible for their respective components gave a detailed brief on planned activities of each IA and TA team. The Adviser KM&ME explained that this area has a long history and the initial stage of the Land Reclamation Project started work in the early 1980s. We are very lucky that the then Team Leader, Mr. Andrew Jenkins, is now working with us again after 40 years.

Then the key note speaker asked the participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and requested them to show by raising their hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with a loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked what the four priority needs of this particular area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Protection from river erosion
- Re-excavation of canals to solve water logging
- Sinking DTW and sanitation in cluster village
- Cluster village pond re excavation

In the last part of the open discussion Mr. Kiron Shankar Sarkar in response to various questions of the participants said that after completing the CDSP project based activities, Government departments will continue their respective work/activities through their field staff, with the support of local government representatives and FLI of the project.

Conclusion: Finally the Chairperson on behalf of the meeting in his closing address expressed strong assurance of overall cooperation in the successful implementation and announced the closing of the campaign, thanking everyone for their presence.

Questions and Answers

Q1: Md. Abul Kalam, President of Udayan Samity no 3. Is CDSP going to take any action now in resolving land disputes settled by CDSP-II?

Answer: In reply, the CDSP is not working on land settlement in this area, but all land disputes are under the AC (Land) and you can solve them with his office.

Q 2: Md. Serajul Haque Khokon, a member of the 19 Samity. The land which was transferred free of charge to the 897 members of the association, was settled by CDSP

in the year 1997. There has been no further survey of the land so far. Will the CDSP be re-surveying?

Answer: The answer is that there will be no re-survey by the CDSP, but it will be re-surveyed by the government after the prescribed time according to the official rules.

Q 3: Md. Sana Ullah Bachchu WMG secretary of CBD-I. The ponds have been filled up in almost all the cluster villages, will the ponds be re-excavated?

Answer: After starting the implementation of CDSP-B (AF), activities will be considered during the field investigation, and the necessary steps will be taken on the basis of importance/priority.

Q 4: Md. Sirajul Haque, president of the local Char Jubilee Union, Bangladesh Awami League. Is the rehabilitation of the field, canal and development works and distribution of latrines to be done through the local administration?

Answer: In response it is stated that in accordance with GoB official rules the local concerned departmental offices will be working in parallel.

Q 5: Md. Aminul Haque, Head Teacher of North Char Bagar primary school. The bridge on the canal of Punkah bazar was damaged, will it be re-built?

Answer: During the implementation of the project, after the field investigation, the necessary steps will be taken on the basis of importance and priority and also budget provision.

Q 6: Md. Abul Kalam president of the landless pledge association. There is huge loss of field crops due to the breach of embankment in the shop area of Budhia and going into the river from wave action. Will this breach be rehabilitated?

Answer: During the implementation activities after the field investigation, the necessary steps will be taken on the basis of importance and priority by BWDB.

Q 7: Mrs. Mohsena Khatun, widow of research plot of LRP/CDSP. The canal next to the research pond was filled up and drainage congestion occurred during the rainy season. Can the ponds be re-excavated?

Answer: After the field investigation, the necessary steps will be taken on the basis of importance but note that there is no provision of pond re excavation.

Q 7: Mr. Abdul Matin ward No. 4, Char Jubilee UP. Whether the re-excavation of canal, development work, irrigation etc. will be done in parallel with local UP?

Answer: In reply, it was stated that the GoB department and local administration will work in parallel and to avoid duplication of work in coordination with LGIs and local administration.

3.10. Noler Char

Date: 18/11/2019

Location: Noler Char CDSP Site Office premises

Chairperson: Nurul Asab Sumon, Administrative Chairman Caring Char
Participants: 212: women: 80, men: 132

Attending participants: UP members, local elite, NGO staff & group members, FLI members, School and Madrasha teachers, TUG members, LHR promoter, Imam of Mosque, and stakeholders and beneficiaries.

Attending TA members: DTL (D), G&NA, QCE, PACs, NSSs, PE, NCs and GF

Welcome address: Mr. B. A. Siddiqui, Project Area Coordinator of CDSP-B (AF) in his introductory address welcomed all the participants and thanked them for attending the meeting. He welcomed all the participants and requested them to participate in the discussion in line with their views, comments and suggestions after discussion by the keynote speaker.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key speaker: Md. Bazlul Karim DTL started the discussion with the background of CDSP-B (AF) remembering the tremendous support by the people of the coastal chars in all previous phases of CDSP since 1994 and during Land Reclamation Project (LRP) in the early 1980s. He outlined the planned activities and roles of agencies.

Gender and Nutrition Adviser: Mrs. Rahima Khatun informed the meeting that the gender component will be implemented by the TA team with the aim of involving women in NGO groups and increasing their skills through various trainings.

Project Engineer informed the meeting that the project is very concerned about erosion of these areas. Hence in this phase it has been decided to conduct a Hydro-morphological survey of the Meghna estuary to find out future possible areas and identify vulnerable erosion areas.

Then the DTL (D) asked whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with a loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked what the four priority needs of this particular area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Protection of river from erosion
- Quick payment of land compensation to affected families for dyke
- Education: establish a high school
- Health facility: Hospital

Comments by local community: Mr. Shamim Miah, Fisheries Secretary, Huar Khal WMG started by recollecting his own experiences with work and mentioned that CDSP already did lots of work for us and the area as a whole, for the project people in CDSP IV. We became prosperous from being ultra-poor. Every family/woman has received training and obtained self sufficiency in food, cross dam, sluice, DTW for drinking water, sanitary latrine in each family, road communication with every area connection and cyclone shelter and land for each family after 20-25 years. But unfortunately for us at present we are facing an unseen problem. We are under threat again from river erosion. For sustainability of these infrastructures and development he urged the project to take appropriate intervention to save livelihood and assets of these areas.

Harun-ur- Rashid, member WMG gave a very good impression about CDSP work carried out in previous phases of CDSP in their area and cited many examples of interventions and quality of all work done with the involvement of FLIs during the implementation period. Therefore he urged the people of this area to extend all support to CDSP-B activities.

Closing remarks by Chairperson. At the end the Chairperson of the meeting Mr. Nurul Asab Sumon Administrative Chairman Caring Char Administrative Area expressed his heartiest gratitude and welcome to CDSP TA personnel for organizing the meeting. He also thanked Mr. Siddiqui of PAC and promised to keep Noler Char WMG as a place with highly active FLIs needing CDSP support and cooperation. He also supported the local demands by participants and emphasised tube well installation, maintenance work for road reconstruction, latrine issues. He recollected his memories with CDSP about 24 years ago and appreciated the good quality work done during previous CDSP phases. He also informed the meeting that the char areas are basically depend on agriculture and have potential for different types of farming so he hoped for continued support and advice from our different project experts of all disciplines such as engineers, specialists in agriculture, livestock, fisheries etc, from CDSP for development of his own area. Again, he cordially welcomed CDSP people and declared the meeting closed. Before closing, all participants were invited to take part in a question and answer session.

Questions and Answers

Q 1: Shamim Miah, Fisheries Secretary, Huar Khal WMG. CDSP already did lots of work for us and our area. Now we are very much under risk and threat from river erosion, is there any provision in CDSP-B for upcoming protective works e.g. placing of CC blocks to stop river erosion?

Answer. DTL (D) replied that there is a program of hydromorphological survey to be conducted by CDSP-B to know the actual reasons for river erosion and its future

movement, which had been discussed.. But there is no program of placing blocks from the project in this phase.

Q 2: Md. Alauddin, President Milon khal WMG. He asked about compensation money for people who suffered because of the retired embankment issue and how long it takes for affected families to receive this compensation money.

Answer: DTL (D) informed that the project and all concerned, Government, BWDB, and DC Noakhali know about the suffering of affected people. Hopefully they will get the compensation money as early as possible but after approval of project BWDB DPP by the Government which is under process.

Q 3: Ms. Nazma Begum Cashier WMG. Is there any provision for bank protection by block dumping in CDSP-B to combat river erosion?

Answer. DTL (D) replied that a hydromorphological survey will be conducted by CDSP-B to know the actual reason for river erosion and its future movement.

Q 4: Parul Begum LCS member. She wants to know is there any provision of more LCS work in this CDSP-B phase as earlier?

Answer: In reply it was mentioned that yes, there is also provision of LCS work in the upcoming phase.

Q 5: Md. Gufran Miah UP Member. Is there any provision for road culvert maintenance works and canal re-excavation in Noler Char area?

Answer: Md. Zulfikar Aziz, Project Engineer replied that after survey, the project will decide to do this type of maintenance work and canal re-excavation depending on budget and priority.

Q 6: Babul Miah, Member FF. How can we get better seed?

Answer: In reply Mr. Liakat Ali NGO Sector Specialist said that concerning quality seed we can help farmers to collect from local BADC dealer/company dealer and they will get it easily. For information he pointed out that in nearby Thanahat two dealers have been appointed by BADC. All farmers can collect their required seed from them in all cropping seasons.

3.11. Char Elahi Polder 59/3C

Date: 13/11/2019

Location: Char Elahi UP premises, Polder 59/3C

Chairperson: Mr. Mahram Ali, Ex-Chairman, Char Elahi UP

Total participants: 220; women 90; men 130

Participants: UP Chairman, UP members, Local elites, WMG members, School Teachers, NGO representatives, SFG members.

TA team members attending: Deputy Team Leader (D), Project Area Coordinator Gender Facilitator, NGO Sector Specialists, and Project Agriculturist

Welcome address: Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, Project Area Coordinator of CDSP-B (AF) in his welcome address highlighted the background of CDSP. He referred to the WMG activities of a large water management catchment area and overall support from the local population in organizing the campaign. He mentioned that after a long time the project has now undertaken work in this project phase and requested the participants to extend their support and cooperation during implementation. He is also happy to recollect that most ex-UP chairmen and members are supporting and attending the campaign.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key speaker: Md. Bazlul Karim DTL(D) TA team, CDSP-B (AF) introduced the TA team members and welcomed their participation. He explained the planned activities, challenges and possible strategies to be undertaken. Then he asked the participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and he requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked what the four priority needs of this particular area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- River erosion and protection
- Rehabilitation of breached embankment
- Rehabilitation of eroded households in Urir Char
- Health complex: hospital

Comments from LGI and FLI representatives: Some of the participants took part in the discussion and expressed their satisfaction to include this area in the current phase. They mentioned that the CDSP means ensured quality development in the project area. As the project comes to work in this area after a long time, there will be the assistance and support of poor people irrespective of whether they are marginal farmers, demo farmers, fish farmers, poultry and livestock farmers etc. And especially women participation's in all FLIs and NGO groups will be ensured with provision of technical IGA training with microcredit to all households. People will also get the benefit of safe drinking water and improved sanitation. Everyone who has participated has assured their commitment to the organizers and TA members for extending support in implementing project works.

Conclusion of the meeting: In his concluding remarks, the Chairperson mentioned that the people of this area are suffering from various problems. However, he is very hopeful and happy that CDSP will start work in this area again to resolve the priority problems.

It's an opportunity. Then he thanked the CDSP project and the TA team and expressed commitment to the overall cooperation of all in successful implementation of the project and ended the meeting. Before conclusion the Q&A session was conducted by the keynote speaker

Questions and Answers

Q 1: Helal Member wanted to know that khal excavation will begin, so connecting bridge and culvert may avoid disconnecting the community; is there any program in this regard?

Answer: it was informed that all the activities mentioned are being done by Government department and BADC, and so they will do it.

Q 2: Kamal Uddin UP Member, asked whether the CDSP has any relation to the ongoing project with the canal excavation programs?

Answer: In reply, it was informed that CDSP has no connection with the ongoing project and canal excavation work.

Q 3.1: Maya Akhter UP Member. Is there a program of land titling for widows in the ward or in the area, will this be given?

Answer: Sorry, the project has no land titling in this Mouza in this phase.

Q 3.2: Again, she asked, is there any program to construct the Urir char - Noakhali cross dam in the CDSP project?

Answer: In this phase, there is no program of cross dam from Urir Char to Noakhali.

Q 4: Kasem Member asked that the river side along the canal is being destroyed; there is no protective work to prevent river erosion, is there any related work in the project?

Answer: In reply, no protective work is included in this phase.

Q 5: Md. Yunus Miah asked there is no cyclone shelter and very few DTW on the West side of Urir Char area; is there any opportunity to install these?

Answer: In reply, the meeting was informed that regarding cyclone shelters it may be considered after verification according to priority and needs considering requirements of the area. Regarding DTW, this may be considered after field verification of population/households of the area and distance to existing functioning tube wells sunk earlier.

Q 6: Mr. Khurshed Alam wanted to know whether the Government land given with Khatian in the Urir Char area will be resettled again?

Answer: In reply, the concerned ministry, the Land Department will take decision as per existing land distribution rules.

3.12. Boyer Char

Date: 13.11.2019

Location: Mainuddin Bazar CDSP Site Office premises

Chairperson: Md. Mosfiqur Rahman Murshed

Participants: 210: women 60, men 150

Local participants: Local elites, NGO group members, WMG and WMA members, School and Madrasha teachers, UP members, SFG members, TUG members, LHR promoter, FF members, Imam of Mosque, NGO representatives and local beneficiaries.

Participating TA team members: Adviser (KM&ME), Quality Control Engineer, Gender & Nutrition Adviser, Project Area Coordinators, NGO Sector Specialists, Project Engineer, Social Forestry Coordinator, Assistant Land Settlement Adviser, and Gender Facilitator.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Welcome address: Mr. Alauddin Project Area Coordinator of CDSP-B (AF) initiated discussion and welcomed all participants and highlighted the background of CDSP start-up and the overall support of the local population. He informed that the project team is very happy to start this phase and requested cooperation and support during implementation as in the earlier phase.

Key speaker: Mr. Md. Moinul Islam Quality Control Engineer CDSP-B (AF) introduced the TA team members and welcomed the participation. He explained that it has been agreed to start this phase and also identify the most climate change affected chars for future phases of CDSP considering the recent challenge of river erosion in some parts of the area.

Ms. Rahima Khatun, Gender and Nutrition Adviser expressed her gratitude and thanks to everyone for attending including the women participants and hoped in future for more participation as she has been informed by her colleagues about the outstanding performance of women in previous phases.

Social Forestry Coordinator Mr. Zaher Chowdhury discussed briefly the activities of forest department such as the formation of social forestry groups, community afforestation, foreshore plantation and participation of groups, sharing of community etc.

Then the G&NA asked participants whether they want CDSP-B (AF) support and requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with loud voice 'Yes'. Then she asked what are the four priority needs of this particular area. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Protection of bank erosion immediately
- O&M of Chatla khal sluice as priority
- Ensuring quality seed availability
- All canal re excavation

At the end of the open discussion Mr. Kiran Shankar Sarkar, Adviser K&MEA CDSP–B (AF), in response to various questions of participants, said that the TA team is very happy because the people of this area were found eagerly waiting for this phase. Also, he mentioned that the performance of Boyer char was appreciated at all times. He pointed out that the CDSP project based activities will be implemented with the support of the beneficiaries, Members, LGIs and local administration as it was in CDSP-III. Hence CDSP is seeking the cooperation of all for the successful implementation of planned works.

Conclusion of the meeting: Finally, the chairperson gave a closing address on behalf of all those present and expressed strong assurance of overall cooperation in the successful implementation of the project. He also pointed out that the project should give preference to implement the activities as discussed and announced the end of the campaign meeting with thanks to everyone.

Question and Answers:

Before closing an open discussion was held, conducted by G&NA.

Q1: Dalim Chandra Das (Farmers Forum). How can we get good quality paddy/vegetables seed and irrigation facilities in boro season?

Answer: In reply Mr. Liakat Ali, NGO Coordinator, informed that there are some BADC seed dealers and company seed dealers for good quality of paddy and other vegetable seeds. He also said that in the coastal area ground water irrigation is not allowed by the government.

Q2: Md. Alauddin WMA secretary. How can we get part of the work from LGED and BWDB through LCS?

Answer: In reply, the Project Engineer informed that in official rules local IA is responsible for implementing their work as per DPP of BWDB, DPHE and LGED. There are provisions for LCS work which may done partly by the local WMO.

Q3: Md. Hafez sardar WMA president. He asked; is there any program for maintenance of Chatla sluice for periodic repair and maintenance work to protect the embankment?

Answer: In reply the Project Engineer said that in accordance with the DPP maintenance program, work will be done as in the yearly routine under O&M activities.

Q4: Md. Ariful Islam, local elite, asked whether there is any program of permanent protection from riverbank erosion?

Answer: In reply the Quality Control Engineer said that in CDSP–B (AF) phase there is no plan for construction of riverbank protection work at the moment. But we are continuing morphological study of the Meghna River for proper assessment of riverbank erosion. To expedite further you can also request local Government representatives to take necessary action immediately.

Q5: Md. Abu Syed Member UP. In cluster village about 20 to 25 community ponds require re-excavation and can you arrange to get quality fish fingerlings?

Answer: In reply Md. Sajjad PE said that after the field investigation and initiating the implementation by agencies, necessary steps may be taken on the basis of importance. In addition, Mr. Mozammel NSS Fisheries announced that we can provide information on how to get best quality fingerlings from Government hatchery.

Q 6: Mrs. Yeasmin Akhter Munni, Secretary of Tankir khal-2 WMG. How we can receive training on women’s rights, violence against women and protection against early marriage

Answer: In reply Mrs. Rahima G&NA informed the meeting that there are provisions for a legal human rights program in this phase also, hence we will arrange training on the interventions you mentioned during implementation of the gender aspect.

Q 7: Mrs. Jakiya Begum President, Tankir khal-2 WMG. Do you have a plan to form a women’s development forum and arrange training for them?

Answer: In reply, Mrs. Rahima G&NA informed that necessary steps will be taken to arrange training on gender aspects at implementation time. In this phase there will be a good number of training opportunities for women in various interventions so all these activities will be implemented with the support of FLIs.

3.13. Nobagram

Date: 12/11/2019
Location: Nobagram Cyclone Shelter, Chiringa Bazar
Chairperson: Md. Nurul Hague, President of Nobagram WMG
Participants: 280: women 120, men160
No of Somaj: 58

Local participants: WMO members, NGO group members, SFG, Madrasha teacher, Imam of Mosque, local elites and UP Chairman and Members, general farmers and all stakeholders of the project area.

Attending TA team members: DTL (D), QCE, PACs, NSS, PA, NCs and GF.

Welcome address: Mr. Mijanur Rahman Project Area Coordinator, CDSP-B (AF) welcomed all participants and highlighted the background of CDSP start-up and overall support of the local population. He also requested cooperation and support during implementation as in earlier phase.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key speaker: Md. Bazlul Karim, Deputy Team Leader (Development) CDSP-B (AF) introduced the TA team members and welcomed the participants. He explained the planned activities.

Mr. Moinul Islam QCE has briefly informed the meeting about the major planned activities of infrastructure of BWDB, LGED and DPHE of this phase. He also mentioned these activities will be implemented after approval of concerned DPPs of respective departments which are in active consideration by the Government.

Then the DTL (D) asked the participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) with support and requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with a loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked what the four priority needs of this particular area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Water Logging in different areas
- DTW and sanitation
- Outbreak of animal disease like lumpy skin disease of cattle
- Construction of embankment and canal re-excavation

Regarding the outbreak of disease in the Poultry and Livestock Sector, Specialist Dr. Jannatul Naim gave a technical briefing at the meeting on control of the disease and assured the meeting that within 2-3 days, TA team will distribute a technical leaflet on these details with symptoms and treatment. One paravet was attending there. He also assured to follow up every day in the area. However, about 1,000 leaflets had been distributed and with regular follow up by Dr. Jannat, within a very short period it could be controlled.

Conclusion of the meeting: The Chairperson of the meeting in his closing speech mentioning the demand raised by the local participants to be considered during implementation. He also showed his concern about the outbreak of lumpy disease in cattle. Finally on behalf of all those present in the closing address the chairperson expressed strong assurance of overall cooperation in the successful implementation of the project, then announced the workshop closed, thanking everyone present.

Questions and Answers. Open discussion and questioning led by the key speaker

Q1: Abdul Khaleque, President of Gangchil-1 WMG. Is there any plan to construct a saline water control embankment towards the river side?

Answer: In joint field checking by BWDB and TA team, after approval of DPP, this may be selected on the basis of priority and budget provision.

Q2: Abdul Goni, President of Char Kalmi WMG. Is there any scope to implement all types of work by the LCS?

Answer: All implementing agencies have their own rule/guideline for issuing work to LCS, so following these principles, work will be distributed to the LCS.

Q 3: Murad Hossain, Secretary of Kolmi WMG. In our locality there is a huge scarcity of DTW. Is there any scope to provide the DTW as needed?

Answer: After initiating the implementation of CDSP-B (AF) activities, after the field verification, the necessary steps will be taken on the basis of importance and DPHE rule.

Q4: Bachhu Mia, political leader. Is there any plan to install DTW for irrigation purpose?

Answer: In CDSP-B, there is no arrangement providing DTW for irrigation,

Q 5: Md. Alauddin, President of Gangchil WMA. Is there any plan for re-excavation of silted-up khals?

Answer: Yes, the project has provision, during the implementation of project activities, after field verification, the necessary steps will be taken on the basis of priority.

Q6: Abdul Baten Shahed, President of Gangchil-2 WMG. Is there any scope to repair the sheds of cluster village, re-excavate the silted-up pond and address the scarcity of DWT?

Answer: There is no provision for shed repairs and pond re-excavation. After field verification, the necessary steps will be taken on the basis of importance for DTW installation.

Q7: Abdul Mannan, Chairman of Dhansiri Union. Is CSDP going to take any action in resolving land disputes in land settled by CDSP-1?

Ans: The CDSP-B will not work on land settlement in this area. Any affected family has to resolve this with the Land Settlement Office.

3.14. Char Kolatali

Date: 18/12/2019
Location: Char Kolatali Abason Bazar premises
Chairperson: Mr. Salauddin Ahmed. Member Monpura UP
Participants: 275: women 30, men 245

Local participants: Local elites, NGO group members, WMG members, School and Madrasha teachers, UP members, Imam of Mosque, NGO representatives etc.

Attending TA members: SFC, PAC, NSSs

Welcome address: Mr. Zaher Chowdhury, Social Forestry Coordinator, CDSP-B(AF.) in his introductory speech welcomed all the participants and apprised them of the background of CDSP–B(AF). He expressed thanks to all stakeholders for support in attending the meeting. Mr. Zaher introduced all the TA members to the audience and urged the local communities at all levels to implement activities and he acknowledged the contribution of beneficiaries for the success of previous phases.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Key note speaker: Mr. Basedul Alam Siddiqui Project Area Coordinator of CDSP-B (AF) initiated his discussion by outlining the bridging project and interventions to be undertaken during the project period of three years. Then he urged all the participants to extend their support during implementation of the project activities.

Conclusion of the meeting: The Chairperson of the meeting Mr. Salauddin UP Member extended a heartily warm welcome and thanks to CDSP personnel for organizing the meeting. He also mentioned and expected them to consider the local demands which may arise in Q&A, emphasizing DTW installation, road construction, and latrine issues for the char area. He also said that the char areas are basically dependent on an agriculture economy and there is potential for different types of farming. He therefore requested help and advice from different experts (agriculture, livestock, fisheries etc.) from CDSP for agricultural development of this area.

Finally, on behalf of all those present, in the closing address the Chairperson expressed strong assurance of overall cooperation in the successful implementation of the project. He then announced the closure of the workshop, thanking everyone. Before closing there was a Q&A session.

Questions and Answers

Q1: Mr. Amin, UP member. He wanted to know when CDSP will start their planned activities and what support will be provided by CDSP in their area?

Answer: Mr. Zaher Chowdhury replied that some activities such as Cyclone Shelters; earthen roads, DTW installation, single pit latrines etc will be implemented after DPP approval by the Government.

Q2: Md. Zafar Ullah Miah Ex UP Member. He asked in which areas tube wells, single pit latrine and road construction will be undertaken.

Answer: Mr. Siddiqui replied that after survey by concerned department with the support of TA team, depending on priority areas, these may be implemented.

Q3: Md. Monir Hossain local elite. Is there any support from CDSP-B on how to Improve local cattle breeds in the char and ensure quality semen availability there?

Answer. Mr. Abul Basher, NGO Coordinator, replied that there will be activities for local cattle breed development and quality semen supply by a local resource person. Development and trainings will be implemented by CDSP-B poultry and livestock program in this char.

Q4: Mr. Kalam, UP member, has demands for road construction and also needs a culvert in his area.

Answer. Mr. Siddiqui replied they will decide after survey and on the basis of priority after the area analysis.

Q5: Md. Shafiqul Islam ex- member UP asked, how can we get good seed?

Answer: In reply Mr. Liakat Ali NGO coordinator said that on quality seed the project can help them to collect this from local BADC dealer / company dealer and they will get it easily.

3.15. Maksumul Hakim (possible CDSP V area)

Date: 03/03/2020
Location: Char Maksumul Hakim
Chairperson: Mr. Kamal Uddin Sagor, Mohmmadpur UP member
Participants: 355: Women: 105. Men: 250

Participants: Local elites, NGO group members, UP members, School and Madrasha teachers, Imam of Mosque, NGO representatives.

Attending TA team members: Deputy DTL (I), DTL (D), PAC-N, PE-N

Welcome address: Mr. Mijanur Rahman, area coordinator of CDSP-B (AF) welcomed all participants and explained that, though we do not have a full program in this area, and with the interest of stakeholders and at their request, the CDSP TA team has arranged to share the planned activities to be implemented in this general area. He highlighted the background of CDSP start-up and stressed the overall support of the local population.

Focal point of discussion: Objective of campaign, project name, project period, project area population, donors, project component, implementing agencies, TA team, NGO activities of implementation agencies, *possible activities in proposed CDSP V area*, TA team challenges of the project.

Overall / Specific Objectives of Campaign and Focal Points: as for previous meeting.

Keynote speaker: DTL (D) Md. Bazlul Karim introduced the TA team members and welcomed the local participation in the Project Information Dissemination Campaign. He discussed the detailed project objectives and activities. He explained the project area and location: CDSP I, II, III, IV and some activities in proposed future areas including: Char Mozammel (Monpura Upazilla, Bhola) Char Kolatali (Tazmuddin Upazilla, Bhola), Dhal char(Hatiya and Tazmuddin) and Char Maksumul Hakim (Companiganj Upazilla).

He also pointed out that all the interventions and activities are to be implemented in the core area of the project such as CDSP I, II, III, and IV area, and the project has some specific programmes in the proposed CDSP V area. In the CDSP IV phase some priority activities have been implemented here such as Cyclone Shelters, roads, culverts, WatSan etc. In this phase we have also some planned activities such as value chain programme of watermelon, vegetables, WatSan and some infrastructure.

Special speaker: Mr. Mihir Kumar Chakrabarti, Deputy Team Leader (I) expressed thanks to all participants and expressed thanks to local people for maintaining well the Cyclone Shelter built in the last phase. Apart from these previous works, 10 km earthen road, 3km HBB road, 5 box culverts, 10 U-drains, 20 DTW and 20 km of roadside plantation have been provided for in the plan for this phase. One more cyclone shelter with DTW and sanitation is also planned.

Then the DTL (D) asked attended participants whether all participants want CDSP-B (AF) support and requested them to show by raising hands; in reply all participants raised their hands and expressed support with loud voice 'Yes'. Then he asked what the four priority needs of this area are. After detailed discussion by the participants, these are:

- Link road from old embankment to CDSP bazar (highest priority)
- Registration of primary school by the concerned authority
- Land titling; Khatian distribution
- River protection

Conclusion of the meeting: The chairperson initiated his discussion with an appeal and request on behalf of the people of Char Maksumul Hakim to consider as a priority their demand for a connecting road from the old embankment to CDSP bazar. Finally, on behalf of all those attending the Chairperson expressed strong assurance of overall cooperation in the successful implementation of the project. He then announced the end of the campaign with thanking everyone.

Questions and Answers:

Q1: Mr. Shahab Uddin wanted to know when CDSP will start their upcoming activities and what support will be provided by CDSP-B in their area?

Answer: DTL (I) informed that CDSP-B will start field activities after DPP approval by the Government which is under process. Some DTW installations, single pit latrines and some other priority work may be provided in this area.

Q2: Md. Kamal Hujur said that there is an earthen road constructed earlier by CDSP in our area and it is a most important road for this char. So, is there any scope for construction for BC or HBB during the CDSP-B?

Answer: That may be considered after proper field verification based on priority budget.

Q3: Md. Ibrahim Maji. Is there any plan for land settlement and when will these activities be started?

Ans. DTL (D) replied that in this phase there is no plan for settlement activities. Hopefully in the next phase land settlement activity may be included.

ANNEX: Lessons Learned from other experience for agricultural development

1. Introduction

This Annex provides a short overview of the current situation of agriculture in the CDSP chars based on literature, conversations with farmers and other relevant actors and expert opinion and also raises some matters relevant for continuation of agricultural development activities under CDSP-B (AF).

The current project plan of CDSP-B (AF) is to develop and strengthen farmer organizations by providing them with institutional support to set up field demonstrations and organize field days. Alongside institutional support, an external partner will be found for creating mobile phone-based agriculture and communication information technology (ACIT) to make information more accessible to farmers. All these activities together will then be used to strengthen the supply chains for selected crops in the area.

The current Covid-19 crisis proves once more that activities to ensure food security and strong food supply chains are critical in for communities everywhere, especially in areas where infrastructure access is limited, and a great part of the population is in possession of few resources to adapt to setbacks.

2. Current Agriculture in coastal chars of CDSP

Observations have shown that due to project interventions of CDSP people have access to land titles, road networks, WATSAN and development support. Most areas under CDSP are characterized by the fact that most land is owned by smallholder farmers under Khatian (land title deed) distribution done under CDSP. Many people depend for most of their income on agriculture and livestock or are working for farmers as day labourers (p. 6 TR19, p. 34 TR22). Those who received land titles have been allocated up to a maximum of 0.6 ha (150 decimals). The title is shared equally between the senior woman and senior man in each household.

2.1. Current land use in CDSP areas

Most land in the coastal chars is used for paddy cultivation in the rainy season and for other field crops in the dry season. In CDSP I, II and III areas oilseeds are cultivated on quite a large area, as the demand for soybean in the area is high, since there is a biscuit factory nearby and poultry farms use it for feed. In the CDSP IV areas the cropping patterns are still less diverse, but the area in use for field vegetable cultivation is growing (TR25). Overall CDSP IV area had a cropping intensity of 130% when the project started; paddy farming is dominant with 87.2% *aman* (monsoon season rice), 16.3% *boro* (winter season rice) and 0.4% *aus* (early summer rice). The areas under pulses (12%) and vegetables (6%) are relatively low, but growing in importance (table 17, p. 19 TR22).

The level of mechanization in most areas is still quite low, but the majority of farmers use hired power tillers for land preparation. Investments in agriculture are mostly covered with loans given by NGOs but share cropping and informal lending from relatives is also still common (TR25 and field observations).

A major change agent in vegetable farming in Char Nangulia has been the spreading of the *Sorjan* system. This system is the cultivation of vegetables on raised beds which grow on trellises placed over the ditches between the beds. Ridges are about 60 to 90 cm high, which means the crops are kept above the water, even during the wet season. The ditch between ridges holds water for six to eight months per year and can be used to keep fish as well as being a source of water to irrigate the crops. Here farmers also widely use pheromone traps to control fruit flies in gourds/cucumber and breed fast-growing mono-sex tilapia fed with modern fish feed (TR 25).

2.2. Agriculture constraints

2.2.1. Agronomic

Salinity

The coastal char areas are a difficult place for farming as, even when empoldered, soil salinity remains high due to capillary rise of saline groundwater (Smedema & Jenkins, 1987). This phenomenon is mostly present in rabi (dry) season cropping December to April and in Kharif 2 (aman) paddy if there are dry spells of more than 10 days.

Desalinizing these soils with subsurface drainage is not feasible as the soils of fine texture (silty clay loam) have very strong capillary properties. Other options such as flushing with fresh water, does have some effect, but requires high volumes of fresh water during times of water scarcity. The only viable option according to Smedema & Jenkins (1987) to achieve a long-term decrease in soil salinity is placing deep drains (> 1.5m) at a wide spacing. In most chars, if not happening naturally, this may be enhanced by occasional dredging of khals.

Seasonal submergence

Submerged land is common in many coastal (char) areas. Farmers will often describe these events as 'Nooner Pani' (literally salty water) or tidewater, as opposed to rainwater which can also cause submergence. In this case, when the plant is submerged during pollination and the pollen grains are washed away, it is not the salt in the water which causes the yield loss but the short duration submergence (by tidewater) which is the problem (Jenkins, personal communication).

Pest problems

Farmers and experts in the area report many pest control problems: stem borers are common on many crops as well as fruit flies and aphids. In times of waterlogging leaf rot and fungal diseases also spread rapidly. Many farmers spray pesticides without considering the likely crop losses; this may suggest a lack of knowledge on how to use

agrochemicals. Reports indicate that many farmers use crop protection chemicals indiscriminately and the effects on human and ecosystem health may be quite profound.

Soil fertility

During the field visits done by Wolfgang Duifhuizen on 17th-19th February 2020, findings report that pesticide and urea fertilizer use is quite high. Most farmers state that they do not use any compost and/or manure for various reasons; this may be unavailability of manure, or that the preparation of manure for field application takes too much work, or that the manure is used for fuel.

As when chemical fertilizers are applied without regard to required nutrient ratios, the effects can be profound. Both in India and Bangladesh there are many reports of farmers using vast amounts of urea, which brings NPK ratios out of balance. In most cases the Indian Ministry of Agriculture will recommend applying NPK in a ratio of 4:2:1, but farmers often apply NPK in a ratio of 8.3:3.2:1 (IFPRI discussion paper 01517). Observations in in CDSP areas report similar ratios of fertilizers being used.

In previous phases of CDSP, the DAE has done field training with farmers on using leaf color charts (LCC) for paddy crops as a tool to know when to apply nitrogen fertilizer with the right timing. The LCC is a simple chart showing leaf colours from dark green to yellow. During the growing season from three weeks after transplanting until flowering, farmers check to see which colour on the chart their own rice crop matches; if this colour is too low (yellowish) the farmer will then apply a certain amount of urea and check again 5 days later for response. The goal of this LCC is to limit over-application of nitrogen fertilizer. So far this has not been very successful, as many farmers still resort to their own ideas of how to deal with paddy leaves turning yellow due to a nitrogen deficiency.

2.2.2. Land access

Besides issues regarding agronomic management of crops, losing land to bank erosion also poses a big threat to many farmers living in the chars adjacent to the Lower Meghna and Urir Char channel. This may result in farmers withholding investment in their land. In addition to that, in many of the proposed CDSP V areas, most farmers do not possess long-term access to land rights as they are still occupying government land. Currently a project campaign is taking place for land titling in Bhumihin Bazar area in Char Nangulia and on Urir Char. For the planned CDSP-V areas there is not yet any provision to undertake such a campaign, since only some interventions are planned there under CDSP-B (AF) like WATSAN, roads and cyclone shelters.

2.2.3. Market access

The availability of services in remote locations may be a constraint in some cases. Good quality seeds in some chars are said to be problematic as no trusted seed dealers are to

be found there. Most farmers sell their fresh produce either at the nearest market area or keep it stored at home and sell to traveling vendors over time. Market access may be difficult in underdeveloped chars such as Maxmul Hakim; transport of crops to the nearest market is costly or vendors do not visit these localities.

2.2.4. Gender issues

To address gender inequality CDSP-IV has put efforts into increasing women's participation in Field Level Institutions (FLIs) and under CDSP-B (AF) gender awareness training has started. The overall observations show that despite the conservative values of people in the chars, women are taking more control over homestead agriculture and marketing of their produce. The CDSP-B (AF) TA team will continue these efforts by providing different training sessions, and workshops to strengthen gender equality among FLI's. The goal is to have 50% women's participation in all FLI's supported by CDSP-B (AF). Currently women's participation in Farmers Field Schools is 46%, Social Forestry Groups 39% and Water Management Groups 42% in the CDSP area.

Also, it is important to keep in mind that observations of Technical Assistance staff from CDSP as well as the Blue Gold Project (BGP) show that in rural Bangladesh when holding meetings with men and women, women are likely to give different answers than when meeting with a group of exclusively women. This should be kept in mind when planning interventions. In group meetings it can be helpful to address certain questions to women specifically.

3. Lessons learnt in other projects

3.1. Blue Gold Project (BGP)

In the BGP there are several years of experience gained in Value Chain Development (VCD) programs; like that planned for CDSP. In this project the aim is to improve water management for agriculture in the polders of Southern and Southwestern Bangladesh. Their findings suggest that stimulating WMGs or other existing groups of farmers to buy inputs jointly is very effective, as in a group they have bargaining power which enables them to buy inputs at a lower price or get access to inputs only sold by dealers further away. It should be noted however, that in the polders of BGP there has been a development aiming to encourage farmers to synchronize their HYV aman cropping and thus require exactly the same inputs for their main summer crop.

3.2. Centre for Development and Innovation Practices- Leaf Colour Chart

As stated in paragraph 'Soil fertility' under 2.2.1, many farmers over-apply urea. One tool proposed by a research paper of Islam (2014) as well as IRRI, suggest that using colour charts for paddy may encourage farmers in South Asia to apply urea at the right time, when needed, thus reducing wastage of fertilizers. This will be beneficial for the local

environment as well as a reduction of production costs for farmers. The results of Islam (2014) indicate that training on the use of LCC for paddy may decrease urea use and increase yields significantly. As this measure is provenly a very good tool to reduce urea overuse, it would be good to consider how to implement this tool for in CDSP taking into account lessons learnt in the previous attempt to teach farmers in using LCCs.

4. Planned interventions

4.1. Existing plans

The agriculture program in the CDSP-B (AF) Inception Report includes the following:

- Development and/or strengthening of farmer organizations. Members of Farmer Forums will receive training and field trials, or demonstrations will be done on small plots. The respective farmers will receive the inputs to conduct the demonstrations. Later, field days will be organized to share knowledge and experience with farmers of adjacent area to see practical performance of intervention.

- Development or incorporation of mobile phone based ACIT together with a relevant partner organization to help farmers get informed on technologies, treating animal and plant diseases, building market linkages and market information. A survey done under CDSP IV already concluded there is a high demand for information on control of pests and (crop) diseases.

- Develop improvements for the value chain of selected commodities. To do so, an overview will be required of which crops to target at specific locations. Once this is done field trials done by FF's and the ACIT to be made available can be complemented to tackle the key constraints on the field to consumer trajectory of selected crops.

3.2. Elaboration of plans (in draft Development Project Proforma)

Specific elements of the program are planned to improve the accessibility of high-quality seed and other inputs as well as to provide training to farmer groups.

The technical training sessions will consist of:

- value chain awareness for households and Small / Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Value Chain mapping;
- preparation of business plan for Households and SMEs;
- training on business economics;
- post-harvest management (processing, grading, packing) and inputs for producer groups;
- vermi-compost making;
- cross-learning visits.

In addition to organized training, investments in VC development and creating demonstration plots will be facilitated by LGED and the TA team. This will consist of:

- strategic investment plan between SMEs and farmers' groups;
- workshops with retailer, lead farmer, wholesaler of upstream market, company representative, NGO representative;
- mentoring and monitoring of value chain activity;
- VC contract signing and investment plan;
- hub centre establishment;
- demonstrations (vegetables, fruits, vermi-compost, quick-compost).

The target group for all of these efforts will be the 15,000 members of 85 different FF's in the entire CDSP-B(AF) project area, which comprises almost 20% of all households in the area. During CDSP-B (AF) various workshops will be organized by LGED, PNGO's, the TA staff and other organizations in which FF representatives will be invited to attend practical training.

Glossary

ACIT	Agriculture Communication and Information Technology
Aman	Monsoon season rice paddy crop
BGP	Blue Gold Project
CDSP-B (AF)	Char Development and Settlement Project – Bridging (Additional funding)
Char	Riverine or Coastal Island or Peninsular formed by accretion
DPP	Development Project Proforma
FLI	Field Level Institution
HYV	High Yielding Variety
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
Khal	drainage channel in/between char lands
Kharif	refers to monsoon season or summer crop
Khatian	Land Title Deed
LCC	Leaf Colour Chart
LGED	Local Government Engineering Department
Robi	refers to dry season or winter season crop
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
(P)NGO	(Partner) Non-Governmental Organization
TA-team	Technical Assistance team
TR	Technical Report
VCD	Value Chain Development
WATSAN	water, sanitation and hygiene

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