

Project completion report on

Farmers' organization strengthening project FOsSP

July 1 to December 31, 2012



Project co-financed and implemented by:



কেন্দ্রীয় কৃষক মৈত্রী
KKM
কৃষকের অধিকার আদায়ের মোর্চা



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List of Acronym and their expanded forms

AAB	ActionAid Bangladesh
KKM	KendrioKrishok Moitree
GAFSP	Global Agricultural Food Security Program
CSISA	Cereal system initiative for South Asia
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CLP	Char Livelihood program
LFS	Small farmer group under IAPP program
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
USD	United stead dollar
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FOs	Farmer Organizations
POs	Producer Organizations
UN	United Nation

Executive summary:

As food producers, farmers and their organizations have a pivotal role across the globe because they constitute a vast majority of poor segment of the population and are vulnerable to food insecurity. Given the fact that almost 18.2 million families in Bangladesh depend on agriculture for their livelihood they are faced with many challenges such as recurring floods, drought, salinity, cold wave and soil erosion, limited access to markets, lack of availability of sustainable agricultural technology and fulfillment of their basic rights. Nevertheless, it is possible to lift production, improve food security if the Farmers' Organizations (FOs) are developed into major agents of change. Unfortunately this potential remains untapped.

As per specific objectives and expected results the project was intended to initiate a board-based farmer's platform. In doing so, it was necessary to understand the gaps in leadership capacity of FOs so that they can get critically involved in food security related investment programme and raise their voices in the process of decision-making. This initiative was kicked off through partnership between Action Aid Bangladesh and AsiaDHARA with the support from IAPP Project, Asian Farmers Association AFA, and Food and Agricultural Organization- FAO.

As part of the above mentioned initiative, a variety of FOs and NGOs and CSOs engaged in organizing and mobilizing these FOs were met in Kurigram and Patuakhali district. The methodology of the exercise included consultation workshops and visits to FOs in the above mentioned two districts. The consultation and organization visit focused on the following areas: (i) general overview; (ii) organizational management, decision making processes and accountability; (iii) funding and sustainability; (iv) networking and linkages; and (v) capacity constraints and potential solutions.

While many FOs had sound technical knowledge, they lacked skills in terms of institutional development, networking and leadership. During project period farmers' organizations are learned the above issues, they need further follow-up support for moving forward to influence government agriculture policies to be poor farmers friendly.

1. Project Description:

Strengthening Kendrio Krishok Moitree (KKM) for Enhancing Solidarity among Farmer Associations in Bangladesh, in short FOsSP: AAB project had been operational during July to December, 2012. The project was co-financed by AsiaDHARA and Actionaid Bangladesh. The project was proposed to empower the poor and marginalized farmer leaders in order to make policy interventions in the food security projects, particularly GAFSP (Global Agriculture and Food Security Program). The project was located in two selected districts of the country namely Kurigram and Patuakhali.

As per the objectives, the project interventions were centre around the development of leadership and advocacy capacity of KKM and replication of this initiative by KKM in other neighboring geographical areas. This project was an initiative to create advocacy space for the KKM and other farmers' organizations so as to ensure that farmer' choices and options are included in the ongoing food security projects. The project has put its effort for a broad based solidarity initiative and for this purpose broad based farmer platforms have been initiated in the selected two districts which will predominantly involve the rights and inclusion of women farmers in the policy interventions designed under KKM framework.

FOsSP: project aimed to *initiate a broad-based platform through KKM for addressing food and nutrition security issues of small-holder farmers in Bangladesh*. The project has critically engaged primarily six union based farmers' alliance Kendrio Krishok Moitree (KKM) of Kurigram and Patuakhali and their membership: 180 village based farmer organizations, and the potential farmer leaders identified during the farmers organization mapping exercise in two project implementation districts. And the peer group members covered during message dissemination

In order to achieve the above mentioned goal, the project intended to ascertain the following objectives:

- To strengthen KKM and enhance understanding among the members and leaders, especially women, on the implication of food security projects and importance of building solidarity among the producer organizations for sustainable food and livelihood security *where women empowerment is central*.
- To develop KKM as a catalyst in ensuring effective participation of producer organizations in designing, implementing and monitoring of food security projects initiated by government or donors.
- To initiate development of broad based regional forums of the producer groups where KKM plays is the lead in advancing solidarity and action to end poverty through local, regional and national level advocacy.

The objectives set forth above were expected to produce following outputs/results:

- KKM and other farming communities/producer organizations are aware about the impacts of food security related projects and benefits of solidarity among the groups on their lives and livelihoods;
- Leadership capacity of federation members of KKM and other producer organizations is strengthened both at local and regional levels;
- KKM and other farmers organizations are able to identify their demands for protecting their interest related to food security and are able to bargain and claim their demands;
- KKM developed a process/mechanism for regional broad based platform in solidarity with other producer groups in the respective regions.

2. Accomplishment of activities under project components

In order to achieve the above objectives, the project has implemented around a range of activities under specific project components which are being categorically described below.

2.1 Mapping/scoping of farmers/producers organizations

Specific Activities:

2.1.1 Developed data collection tool/instrument for mapping exercise

2.1.2 Mapping of the potential farmer/producer organizations on Kurigram & Patuakhali District

2.1.3 Prepared a data base of the potential farmers' organizations, their nature of work and future strategy

2.1.4 Report generation on mapping exercise

Activity summary:

The mapping exercise was conducted to establish a baseline to understand the status and mandate of various farmer organizations/producer groups at the sub-administrative unit (upazila and union) level. It has covered two selected regions (Kurigram and Patuakhali) under GAFSP projects (Rangpur and Barisal). A semi-structured questionnaire (Annex-1) was developed for information collection. The information was collected in the following broad heads:

- General Identifying information of interviewee and the producer organization
- Organizational mandate, norms, values and objectives
- Organizational membership pattern
- Organizational management, decision making process, transparency and accountability mechanism
- Source of finance
- Networking and outreach
- Strength and weakness &
- Future planning

For conducting mapping exercise, potential farmers / producer organizations were listed down primarily based on the secondary information provided by AAB local program partners and different local stakeholders. The list was validated with the respective department of government in both at Kurigram and Patuakhali district. Thereafter, during the field work of mapping many other potential organizations were also identified based on the information provided by other interviewed farmers.

Based on the findings of mapping exercise, along with KKM, other potential farmers' organizations have been selected as participants in line with the areas of food security project interventions.

Brief coverage of mapping exercise

A total of 39 FOs in Kurigram and 50 FOs in Patuakhali were covered and total 49 farmers in Kurigram and 55 farmers in Patuakhali were interviewed during the field exercise.

2.2 Capacity Building of KKM and other producer organizations *Specific Activities:*

2.2.1 Organized two workshops on 'Food Security in Bangladesh – Requirements and Rights of Marginal Farmers' in Kurigram and Patuakhali

2.2.2 Conducted two ToT on 'Organizational Management, Leadership Development & Networking' for the potential KKM and other producer organizations leaders

2.2.3 Advocacy capacity building for KKM and other farmer organizations

Activity summary:

In order to create policy space for the farmer organizations, it is crucially important to develop advocacy skills, precisely the negotiation skills of KKM and other allied farmer organizations. Considering this significance, the project had taken two activities, 3.2.1 Orientation workshop on food and nutrition security projects; 3.2.2. ToT on Organizational management, Leadership Development and networking.

2.2.1 Orientation workshop on food and nutrition security projects:

Two workshops titled 'Bangladesher Khaddo Nirapotta, Prantik Krishoker Odhikar O Koronio Bishoyok Kormoshala (Food Security in Bangladesh – Requirements and Rights of Marginal Farmers)' were organized each in Kurgram and Patuakhali Districts. Participants were selected from the interviewed farmers through the mapping exercise. The workshop participants were selected prioritizing the GAFSP project and KKM coverage i.e. 1/3 from IAPP, 1/3 from KKM, and 1/3 from other producer organizations. The participants were oriented around the approach, philosophy and political economy of food security projects so that they can develop a thorough understanding about the different components of food security projects and situate farmers face in the project process. Participation from government service providing departments (Specially Crops, Livestocks, Fisheries, Extension and Social Welfare Department) were also successfully ensured with an aim to make a space for dialogue initiation to protect poor and marginalized farmers' rights. During these workshops an effective sharing session were done in-between the govt. officials and grassroots farmer leaders on their rights and services and how to make it more farmers friendly specially for the small holder and marginal farmers in order to ensure food security for the large population as well the farmers in Bangladesh.



Pic: Orientation Workshop in Patuakhali

2.2.2 ToT on Organizational management, Leadership Development and Networking

While advocacy capacity building is important to create policy space for farmer organizations, development of leadership capacity of KKM and other farmer organization is equally important to drive people towards advocacy actions. For this purpose, two batches of Training of Trainers (ToT) were conducted in both Patuakhali and Kurigram District for the potential farmer leaders titled 'Organizational Management, Leadership Development & Networking', that they can act as change agents for effective dissemination of leadership and advocacy skills among the grassroots farmers. In line of this objective, participants were initially oriented about the basics of advocacy skills and eventually about practical advocacy strategies for making farmers capable of negotiating with policy stakeholders in pursuing the agenda of farming communities. This is to mention here that, to avoid overlapping and initiate the 3.2.3 Advocacy capacity building for KKM and other farmer organizations, the ToT module and sessions were fixed accordingly.

Brief of the ToT are stated below:

The 1st batch of ToT was carried out in Patuakhali District from 8 to 10 October, 2012; & The 2nd batch ToT was carried out in Kurigram District from 20 to 23 October, 2012

Participants and organizations represented

1st Batch: A total of 31 participants attended the course from 7 Upazilas and 15 organizations. Among the participants only 8 were female.

The names of the Upazilas are: Kalapar, Bauphal, Galachipa, Dashmina, Patuakhali Sadar, Mirjaganj, and Dukmi. The names of organizations are: Bongo Nodi Gono Gobeshona Dol, Dash Para LFS Krishok Dol, ICM Club, Bangladesh Farmers Association, Nobojibon, IAPP, BRDB, Krishok Mayitri, CODEC, Upokulio Jana Kallyan Federation, BRAC, GGD, WAVE Foundation, and Speed Trust.



Picture: Mock Session taking and Group Work during ToT 1st Batch in Patuakhali

2nd Batch: A total of 25 participants attended the course from 7 Upazilas and 5 organizations. Among the participants only 7 were female.

The names of the Upazilas are: Chilmari, Ulipur, Vurungamari, Kurigram Sadar, Nageshwari, Rajarhat, and Ghoraghat, Dinajpur District. The names of the organizations are: IAPP, Krishok Moitree, RDRS, CLP, CARE, Chakirbasha Federation.

ic: Mock Session and Group Work by the Farmer Leaders during ToT 2nd Batch in Kurigram



The overall ToT course curriculum was:

Content	Methods
Introduction and inauguration	Discussion in pair, write down on card and presentation
Pre course assessment of the participants	Question and answer
Current status of farmers in agriculture sector	Question and answer, plenary discussion, experience sharing
Effective organization	Question and answer, plenary discussion, small group work on situation analysis
Leadership	Question and answer, plenary discussion
Organizational transparency and accountability	Small group discussion, presentation and plenary discussion
Wider network of farmers' organizations	Question and answer, plenary discussion, small group work on situation analysis
Continued: Wider network of farmers' organizations	
Strategy to secure farmers' rights	plenary discussion, small group work on case analysis
Activity planning	Small group work by organization
Post training assessment of participants	Question and answer
Closing	Lecture

2.3 Leadership capacity building

Specific activity

2.3.1 Dissemination of messages and capacity building of peers on organizational management, leadership development and networking to protect rights of the producer organization through the potential trained farmers leaders

2.3.2 Developed a training module on 'Organizational Management, Leadership Development & Networking' for the farmers for leadership and advocacy capacity building

Activity Summary

It was planned during proposal stage that the leadership capacity building will gradually multiply the capacity building efforts in different producer organizations once it is led by a group of KKM members. In this context, the capacity building was primarily targeted to the KKM with the understanding that they will take lead in building capacity of their fellow farmers' organizations at the latter stage in different geographical locations. This effort will subsequently contribute to the process of building larger platform and solidarity ground for farmers' organizations.

Through previously mentioned ToT activities and workshops, potential farmer leaders has made some action plan to disseminate the information as they have gathered from the project interventions to create a broader farmers' platform with an aim to protect farmers rights for effective contribution to ensure food security of the country. A follow-up were done by AAB to

track the progress and to gather field responses. It was found that, the farmers are eager to know but they need more strategic support and guidance at this stage to become skilled in leadership.

Leadership initiative taken by the trained farmers' leaders to make aware & organize fellow group mates and farmers for farmers' rights & Interest

In Kurigram: Total 692 farmers (425 (61.4%) through group meeting and 267 (38.5%) individually) has been reached;

In Patuakhali: Total 2581 farmers (2452 (95.00%) through 50 group meetings and 129 (4.99%) individually) has been reached.

2.4 Initiative for building broad based regional platform of the KKM and allied producer groups
Specific activity

2.4.1 Two regional broad based farmers'/producers' platform have been initiated in Patuakhali and Kurigram District

Activity Summary

A space has been created for broad based farmer's platform led by the KKM members. Union based Krishok Moitree has initiated dialogue with the like minded farmers' organizations/producer groups in their respective region to establish a coordination mechanism towards building a regional platform of the producer groups. Some of the project interventions like the workshop and ToT event has found helpful regarding network building among the farmers. In kurigram district, a general committee has been formed to organize the farmers at grass root level and also a six member's executive committee to steer the process. In Patuakhali district, no such committee has formed yet but the farmer leaders are reported to work to organize the farmers as grass root level keeping contact with each other. This platform has intended to work on issues related to food security through enhancement of agricultural productivity, improved access to market for agricultural input and marketing of their own product at fair prices intended to reduce discrimination and realizing poor farmers' right to food and livelihood security.

2.5 Learning-sharing workshop

Specific Activity

2.5.1 One central level Learning Sharing Workshop with selected leaders from the regional forums inviting central level duty bearers/policy makers of relevant sector, representative from International/National NGOs active in farmers advancement, CSO, Media/UN organization representatives.

Activity Summary

A workshop on "Farmers' perspective on food and nutrition security with focus on integrated agriculture productivity project" (Workshop report as Annex-4) was held at the ActionAid Office, Dhaka Bangladesh on 12 December 2012. The workshop was organized by Action Aid Bangladesh and Kendrio Krishok Moitree - KKM with the assistance of Asian Farmers Association (AFA) with support of Agricord through AsiaDHRRA. The strategic objective of this workshop was to take stock of wider society and find out the areas of common concerns and create a ground for solidarity initiative to push policy agenda for protecting the interests of farming communities and bring necessary change in the programmatic and policy interventions of ongoing food security project.

The specific objectives of the workshop were:

- Share results and capture lessons learned from the implementation of “Strengthening farmers organizations” project
- Share updates about the implementation of the IAPP and its technical component managed by FAO
- Recommend a broad outline of forward looking strategies for effective implementation of IAPP and its TA component, specifically for 2013

There were 23 participants (18 male, 05 female), including 07 leaders of farmers groups in Kurigram and Patuakhali district, leaders of 13 civil society organizations, 1 journalist, 1 representative each from Food and Agriculture Organization- FAO, and Asian farmers Association. Farmers’ Organizations (FOs) and other organizations precisely the CSOs/NGOs working on the issue of food security has shared their thinking and field findings through an effective participation. During the daylong workshop, issues related to the identification of the following were discussed:

1. Strategic challenges and options in capturing farmer’s perspectives
2. Potentials and limitations to incorporate farmers’ voice and
3. Exploring common ground of government, FAO and CSOs perspective on the process of involving farmers in the development and implementation of food security projects.

To be precise, this learning-sharing workshop has explored the potentials of farmers’ ideas and innovations and suggest for their inclusion in the ongoing programme design.

3 Monitoring and assessment

3.1 Activity monitoring & regular budget tracking: In order to effective delivery and tracking the result, an M&E framework was prepared by the Sustainable Agriculture (SA), FRSL team of ActionAid Bangladesh (AAB). Considering the 5 months project duration and limited staff, the SA team was considered the output mainly for effective delivery of activities. The SFOs project intern (Sayed Shakil Mannan, MS) and KKM leaders has supported the SA team for regular information collection as well quantitative and qualitative. The M&E framework followed for effective implementation is given as Annex-5.

The budget tracking was done by the AAB finance person.

3.2 Project Assessment: The project assessment was carried by the Monitoring, Evaluation & Accountability (ME&A) unit of Programme, Quality & Impact (PQI) Department of AAB (Report attached as annex-6).

3.3 Final report generation:A project report has been prepared as per project completion.

4 Challenges

- The short project duration was the major challenges during implementation. It needs reasonable duration of time to initiate such movement since a mass behavioral change is the thrust of such mass gathering and collective movement. Since the project was a piloting, based on the learning this is crucial to plan for next step for a wider coverage since the vibration has already started through the interventions at field level.
- The mapping exercise on FOs was conducted in a very short period of time so there is a chance that some potential FOs’ remained unnoticed. Here, KKM has to work further on this issue to cover most of the prospective actors.

- Considering the legal entity and the level of growth and capacity of KKM, Action Aid Bangladesh has provided strategic directions and back up support so as to capacitate KKM in dealing day to day operational activities. But, so far, the geographical barrier seems to be the major obstacle for communication among the FOs in both regions.
- The FOs need to be more skilled on delivering the messages in a structured way i.e. following training manual for training purpose in order to keep homogeneity and same standard among all groups. It is better to make a skilled pool of trainer group as early as possible unless they may lose interest.
- During implementation, among the field level raised issues, the market problem or the decrease in product price has come out as common. Farmers' need support on this issue to find a better solution for marketing their daily products. Because, without profit they cannot afford to give time and spend for some wider interest.
- Still there is lack in female representation, especially in leadership role. For some social norm and the patriarchal mindset, women often hesitate to express and implement their opinion for mass. Though very limited number of women presence was there considering the men, the project has endeavored to promote women leadership at its all level of implementation. Moreover, our government does not recognize the female as farmer also. So, female farmers need much attention in leadership building process to raise their voice to the decision makers.
- And above all, this initiative of leadership building should be carry on for some more time as KKM and other FOs are not that much skilled now to spread their learning to the neighboring fellows, they need further nurturing on how to negotiate with different stakeholders.

5 Recommendation

Following the major recommendations:

- There should be representatives of farmers and NGOs during project planning, implementation and evaluation of food security project of Bangladesh and ensure there is real farmers' representation at every level of intervention.
- Though KKM and other farming communities/producer organizations are now conscious about the impacts of food security related projects and benefits of establishing solidarity among the producer groups, yet they need to exercise these skills and in that connection some external support needs to play a key role to provide tactical guidelines so as to keep the progress on track at this stage.
- Need to open information flow by media, newspaper and mobile on new initiatives of production, processing and marketing of agricultural products.
- Should be clear on agricultural budget allocation to the farmers representative and clear distribution mechanism of agricultural subsidies to the small and marginal farmers
- Should protect agricultural land from industry and urbanization. i.e clear land/crop zoning.
- Consider agriculture is a dignified profession to the young generation.
- Use local expertise in the various training and capacity building activities. There are many NGOs in Bangladesh with training skills on agriculture, farmers' development, and organization development. UBINIG has expressed interest to conduct food safety and sustainable agriculture for farmers.
- Support organizing and networking efforts of farmer leaders in the project areas as well as exchange of information and learning among themselves

6 Financial Report:

(Exchange Rate has been taken from <http://www.hsbc.com.bd> and expenditure of each month has been calculated with the rate of that particular month published in the mentioned website)

Action Aid Bangladesh										
Strengthening Kendrio Krishok Moitree (KKM) for Enhancing Solidarity Initiative among Farmers Association in Bangladesh										
Fund Utilization Status										
Period: 01 July'12 to 31 Dec'12										
Item Description	Budget		Actual		Balance		Contribution		Utl %	
	BDT	USD	BDT	USD	BDT	USD	AAB	AsiaD HRRRA	AAB	AsiaD HRRRA
Programme Cost (Capacity Building, Workshop, Advocacy and Other)	779,000	11,040	779,737	11,051	(737)	(10)	0	11,051	-	100%
Staff Cost	172,000	2,438	170,831	2,421	1,169	17	2,421	0	99%	-
Travel & Meeting Cost	150,000	2,126	166,683	2,362	(16,683)	(236)	0	2,362	-	111%
Administrative Cost	56,200	796	36,578	518	19,622	278	0	518	-	65%
Total Cost	1,157,200	16,400	1,153,829	16,353	3,371	48	2,421	13,932	99%	100%
Indirect cost (including Monitoring, HR and others) 7%	69,054	979	67,908	962	1,146	16	0	962	-	98%
Grand Total	1,226,254	17,379	1,221,738	17,315	4,516	64	2,421	14,894	99%	100%

Note: Budgeted rate and Reporting rate are same. 1 USD = 70.5591 BDT.

7 Annexure

7.1. Annex-1 Checklist for mapping exercise

Producer/farmer organizations Mapping Exercise

(Farmers' Organization Strengthening Project;

Implementing Partner: ActionAid Bangladesh & Agricorn)

Information Collection checklist (Questionnaire)

Information Collection Date:

General Information for Identification

Name of Interviewee:

Position Hold in Organization:

About Organization:

1. Name of farmer/ producer organization			
2.	Full Address of Organization:	2.1.	Registration Status: Yes/No
		2.2.	Name of registration providing institution:
		2.3.	Registration Number:
3. Date of establishment:			
4. Organization's Contact person's name, telephone number and email:			

5. What is the background of forming this organization?

6. What is the objective of your organization?

7. What is the primary requirement to be a member? (eg. Cultivate specific crops/ female/land requirement/ landless etc)

8. Total number of members of your organization

8.1. General member:	Male:	Female:
8.2. Executive Committee member:	Male:	Female:

9. What type of services do you provide for your members and for society?

Organizational Management, Decision Making Process and Accountability Mechanism

10. How does the executive committee form and how do they select the EC members?

11. How does the executive/management committee work? What type of rules and regulations are followed?

12. Is the organizational leadership change after certain time? After how many days the change happens?

13. How do you prepare budgets and how do you plan the projects?

14. How do you preserve your financial records and information? Do you have any rules and regulations regarding record keeping in your organizational constitutions?

Finance and sustainability

15. How do you raise your fund for day to day expenditure/regular organizational maintenance and conducting development activities?

15.1. If the fund is raised by the endowment/savings of the members then please state the process briefly.

15.2. If your organization is maintained through some other support, then please brief on what type of support you are getting at present?

16. If your organization is being maintained through some other supports, then in case of its absence, whether your organization will survive? If not, then why?

17. What is your organization's future planning for sustainability?

Networking and outreach

18. How does your organization keep connection with input distributor and product market?

18.1. What benefit does your organization gain for this connection? How do you distribute these benefits among the members?

19. How does your organization keep connection with government and non-government extension service provider/projects and programme planning organizations?

Name of service/projects and programmes	Name of service provider/projects and programme planning institutions	Where do you need to go to get such service/projects/programmes (detail description of places)?

Strength and weakness

20. What strengths do you think your organization has to meet the requirements/ necessities of members?

20.1 Do the members have had any kind of training services? If yes, then please explain.

Name of training	Who has provided?	Time length of training period (days)	(Years)

21. What future risks are there in front of your organizations? And how you will manage this?

Future Planning

22. Do you have any planning to increase capacity and skill of your organization and members? If yes, then what type of skill do you want to increase (Please specify)?

23. If you are a general member, then please express your feelings about your organization.

24. Any other comments

Name of interviewer:

Designation

Farmers Organizations Strengthening Project-AsiaDHARA

7.2. Annex-2 FOs covered in mapping exercise in Patuakhali & Kurigram

District	Name of Upazila	#Union	#Village	Name of FOs	Total Number of FOs covered	Farmers interviewed per FOs	Total number interviewed
Kurigram	Sadar	7	10	Shibrampur Rangatipara Krishok Math School - RDRS., Muktaram Krishok Math School -RDRS., Belgacha Shomajkollayan Shongstha (RDRS), Shener Khamar LFS, Boraibari LFS, Mollapara LFS, Boropak LFS, Shorkar Para LFS, Shodar Para Purush Dol, Kayim Boraibari Shimulpur Krishok Shongothon, Keya para Mohila Shongothon, Shobondoho Purush Shongothon	12	1 (2 in 1 case)	13
	Rajarhat	5	8	Chakirbasha Federation - RDRS, Rajarhat Prani Shahtho Kormi Association, Nakhabda Shenpara Bagher Bazar LFS, Rotigram LFS, Chandamari LFS., Khuliatari LFS, Purbo Debottor LFS,	6	1 (2 in 1 case)	7
	Phulbari	1	3	Purbo Nondir Kuthir KrishokMath School - RDRS, Nondir Kuthir KrishokMath School - RDRS, Shimulbari ShaplaBohumukhi Unnoyon Jonokollyan Shongstha - RDRS.	4	1	4
	Vulungamari	2	3	Falguni Mohila Dol - CLP	1	2	2
	Nageshwari	3	4	East Balatari LFS, Bhangamoor LFS, Neterpaar LFS,	3	1	7
	Ulipur	4	12	Bhonnatari Misro Shongothon, Paruler Par Misro Shongothon, Moktarpara Misro Shongothon, Boiragipara Misro Shongothon, Kolatipara Joba Dol, Taripara Shimul Dol, Ulipur Prani Shastho kormi association, Majhbiltari Purush Shongothon, Jomuna Kamarpara LFS, East Shib Bari Hindu Para LFS,	10	1 (2in 3 cases)	13
	Chilmari	3	3	Beparipara LFS, Montola LFS, Matikata LFS.	3	1	3
Total	7	25	43		39		49

Farmers Organizations Strengthening Project-AsiaDHARA

District	Upazila	#Union	#Village	Name of FOs	Total Number of FOs covered	Total Nos of farmers interviewed per FOs	Total number interviewed
Potuakhali	Dashmina	2	5	Bangladesh Farmers' Association, Nobojibon, Kaunia LFS, North Char Hosnabad LFS, East Dashmina LFS.	5	1	5
	Bauphal	6	6	Dashpara LFS, Bilbilash LFS, Shaneshwar Sharbik Gram Unnoyon Shomobay Shomiti Limited, Shaneshwar Sharbik Gram Unnoyon Shomobay Shomiti Limited, Shaneshwar ICM Krishok Club, Boro Dalima Adorsho ICM Club, Ekti Bari Ekti Khamar' - 5 no. Word Choto Dalima Gram Unnoyon Shomiti.	7	1 (2 in 1 case)	8
	Mirjaganj	2	4	CSISA (IRRI) Project, Choilbunia LFS, Doklakhali LFS, Ekota LFS	4	1	4
	Potuakhali Sadar	4	5	East Gabua LFS , Chaltabunia LFS , West Sharikkhali LFS , CSISA , CSISA (World Fish) Project	5	1	5
	Golachipa	4	6	Kalikapur Mohila Dol, Boro Gabua LFS, SAP Bangladesh, North Goiatola LFS, North Paanpotti Shushomoy Krishok Dol, Muradnagar Mohila Shomiti, Boro Gabua Bokul Shomiti.	6	1 (2 in 1 case)	7
	Kalapara	9	16	North Goiatola LFS, Goiatola Mostakpur Krishok Shomobay, Roshnabad Projapoti Nari Shongotho, Baintola Misro Shongothon, 11 no. Haowla Adorsho Krishani Shongothon, Poshor Doyel Krishani Shongothon, Mithagonj Union Krishok Moyitri, Lala Krishok Moyitri, Neelgonj Krishok Moyitri, Upokulio Jonokollayan Shongho, Lota Chapali Union CSISA SEMEt Project, CSISA, Jomuna Gono Gobeshona Dol, Jagroto jubo Shongho (JJS), Bongo Nodi Gobeshona Dol, Krishok Attonirvorshil Dol, South Chungapasha Shushomoy Krishok Dol , Londa Adorso Krishok Dol	18	1 (2 in 4 case)	22
	Dumki	3	4	South Pangashia LFS, Char Borobdi LFS, Rupashia LFS, CSISA.	4	1	4
Total		30	46		50		55

7.3 Annex-3 ToT completion report



Assignment Completion Report

on

Development of training modules and conduction of ToT on Organizational Management, Leadership & Network



November 2012

Submitted to
ActionAid Bangladesh

Participatory Management Initiative for Development (PMID)

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

ActionAid Bangladesh's FoSHoL (Food security for sustainable household livelihoods) project facilitated to develop a platform of farmers' organizations named Kendrio Krishok Moitree (KKM). KKM lead 813 village based farmers organizations spread over 6 remote and agro-ecologically vulnerable districts of Bangladesh. Main purpose of formation of KKM was to empower farming communities for realization of envisioned goal of increasing food and nutrition security among farming families belonging to smallholder farmer organizations, specially women; and to advocate for farmers rights both at local and national levels. Additionally there are many farmers' organizations not covered by the KKM, but represents farmers community.

In order to create policy space for the farmer organizations, it is crucially important to develop advocacy skills, precisely the negotiation skills of KKM and other allied farmer organizations. Considering this significance, this process will require to undertake advocacy capacity building initiatives for farmer organizations. Prior to that, the farmers' organizations will be oriented around the approach, philosophy and political economy of food security projects so that they develop a thorough understanding about the different components of food security projects and situate farmers face in the project process. In tune with this understanding, ActionAid took initiatives to orient about the basics of, organizational management, leadership, networking & advocacy skills and eventually about practical strategies for making farmers capable of leading, negotiating with policy stakeholders in pursuing the agenda of farming communities.

In order to build capacity of the KKM and other farmer organizations on the above issues, ActionAid engaged Participatory Management Initiative for Development (PMID). PMID designed and conducted a training on Organizational Management, Leadership & Network Development for the members of KKM and selected producer organizations at Patuakali and Kurigram District.

1.2 Objectives

Overall objective of the assignment is to reenergize the members of KKM and selected other producer organizations to work with a comprehensive understanding about the practical situation and dynamics of grassroots peoples' organizations and to network with other national and international farmer organizations.

Specific objectives of this assignment are:

- leadership skills of members of KKM and selected other producer organizations at local and district level are strengthened
- KKM and other farmers' organizations are able to identify their demands for protecting their interest related to food security and are able to bargain and claim their demands
- KKM able to facilitate the process/ mechanism for broad based platform in solidarity with other producer organizations (POs)

1.3 Outputs

- A training module in Bangla for Training of Trainers (ToT) on organization development, leadership development and network building among the farmers organization.
- Conduct two batches of Training of Trainers
- A report in English

2 Activities performed:

In order to achieve the objectives of this assignment and generate outputs, a set of activities have been performed by PMID. The descriptions of the activities performed are mentioned below:

2.1 Training Needs Assessment:

I. Review of relevant documents:

PMID has collected relevant documents from ActionAid and others sources to design the training. The documents include the following, but not limited to:

- The National Food Policy 2006
- The National Fisheries Policy 1998
- The National Livestock Development Policy, 2007
- National Women Development Policy, 1997 revised in 2004 and 2011
- The National Agriculture Policy (NAP) 1999
- Right to Information Act , 2009

II. Consultation with ActionAid personnel

Respective personnel of ActionAid Bangladesh were consulted about the project objectives and expected outcomes of the training.

III. Assessment of status of farmers' organization and farmers' existing knowledge:

PMID consultant participated a day-long workshop with the farmers organizations organized by ActionAid at Kurigram. During the workshop the consultant observed the response of the participants and assessment their level of understanding and organizational practices. The consultant also consulted the stakeholder from agriculture sector during the workshop while they attended there.

2.2 Training participants:

The training has been designed for the members of KKM and other listed Farmers' Organizations located in Patualhali and Kurigrame districts.

2.3 Designing Training Course

- i. Training Objectives Setting
- ii. Determination of Training Contents and Sub-contents
- iii. Selecting Training Methods
- iv. Selecting and Developing of Training Materials/ Aids
- v. Setting Training and Session Duration
- vi. Training Schedule

2.4 Training Conduction

i. Training Dates, Duration

1st Batch: Three days, from Oct 8 – Oct 10, 2012 at Paruakhali

2nd Batch: Four days, from Oct 20 – Oct 23, 2012 at Kurigram

ii. Participants and organizations represented

1st Batch:

A total of 31 participants attended the course from 7 Upazilas and 15 organizations.

Among the participants only 8 were female.

The names of the Upazilas are: Kalapar, Bauphal, Galachipa, Dashmina, Paruakhali Sadar, Mirjaganj, and Dukmi. The names of organizations are: Bongo Nodi Gono Gobeshona Dol, Neelganj Krishok Mayitri, Dash Para LFS Krishok Dol, ICM Club, Bangladesh Farmers Association, Nobojibon, IAPP, BRDB, Krishok Mayitri, KODEK, Upokulio Jana Kallyan, BRAC, GGT, Weave Foundation, and Speed Trust.



2nd Batch:

A total of 25 participants attended the course from 7 Upazilas and 5 organizations.



Among the participants only 7 were female.

The names of the Upazilas are: Chilari, Ulipur, Vulungamari, Kurigram Sadar, Nageshwari, Rajarhat, and Ghoraghat.

The names of the organizations are: IAPP, Krishok Mayitri, CLP, CARE, Chakirbasha Federation

iii. Training Venue

Residential training venues were selected for both the courses. It helped participants and facilitators to concentrate entire training period and establish good rapport. It also provides opportunities to learn from each other in an informal manner.

Course one: Patuakhali

Course two: Kurigram

iv. Facilitators & Resource Persons

Two fulltime facilitators facilitated the courses. Both the facilitators are quite experienced in participatory methods. Besides, concerned government officials of Patuakhali and Kurigram were also invited as resource persons. Mr. Amirul Islam and Ms. Shamsun Naima Rahman of Sustainable Agriculture Program Policy and Campaigns, ActionAid Bangladesh coordinated and guided the assignment.

3. Training Sessions conducted

The following session were conducted during the training course:

Course one: Patuakhali

Days	Content	Methods
Day 1	Introduction and inauguration	Discussion in pair, write down on card and presentation
	Pre course assessment of the participants	Question and answer
	Current status of farmers in agriculture sector	Question and answer, plenary discussion, experience sharing
	Effective organization	Question and answer, plenary discussion, small group work on situation analysis
Day 2	Leadership	Question and answer, plenary discussion, case study
	Organizational transparency and accountability	Small group discussion, presentation and plenary discussion

Days	Content	Methods
	Wider network of farmers' organizations	Question and answer, plenary discussion, small group work on situation analysis
Day 3	Panel discussion with sector actors	Panel discussion
	Strategy to secure farmers' rights	plenary discussion, small group work on case analysis
	Activity planning	Small group work by organization
	Post training assessment of participants	Question and answer
	Closing	Lecture

Course two: Kurigram

Days	Content	Methods
Day 1	Introduction and inauguration	Discussion in pair, write down on card and presentation
	Pre course assessment of the participants	Question and answer
	Current status of farmers in agriculture sector	Question and answer, plenary discussion, experience sharing
	Effective organization	Question and answer, plenary discussion, small group work on situation analysis
Day 2	Leadership	Question and answer, plenary discussion
	Organizational transparency and accountability	Small group discussion, presentation and plenary discussion
	Wider network of farmers' organizations	Question and answer, plenary discussion, small group work on situation analysis
Day 3	Continued: Wider network of farmers' organizations	
	Strategy to secure farmers' rights	plenary discussion, small group work on case analysis
Day 4	Activity planning	Small group work by organization
	Post training assessment of participants	Question and answer
	Closing	Lecture

4. Participants Learning Evaluation

Pre and post training assessment of participants:

The facilitators assessed the level of knowledge, skills and attitudes of the participants both at the beginning and at the end of the courses. The purpose of the assessment was to measure the improvements in terms of training objectives by the end of the courses. This assessment also helped the facilitators to identify the participants who lack most and give more attention to them. Facilitators also adjusted the methods and allocated time on a limited sale on each of the sub-contents based on the pre assessment finding. The assessment indicated a higher level of understanding among the KKM members.

The glimpses of the findings of pre and post learning assessment are given below:

Learning areas	Pre-test	Post-test
Farmers' Rights	Participants responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demands from government and NGOs • Getting quality seeds • Getting agricultural equipments at low price • Loan with low interest • Quota for farmers in government job • Dignity of farmers in the society • Getting agricultural products easily and at low price 	Participants responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The farmers' demand for benefiting the farmers that secure them • Government allocation to secure the farmers benefits • Equitable distribution of resources • Opportunity to contribute to the society and nation • Value the farmers in the society • Appropriate support for capacity building • Loan without interest • Quota for farmers in government job
	<p>Conclusion: Though most of the participants, particularly the KKM members, had understanding about Farmer's Rights, but a couple of new issues added during post assessment. This particularly includes demands to government and equitable distribution of resources and to get value in the society.</p>	
Effective Organizational Management:	Participants responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular meeting and keep regulation • Regular savings • Correct accounts and keeping files • Participation and decision 	Participants responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organization maintains transparency, accountability, democracy and participatory decision making • Regular meeting • Each of the members know the status of bank accounts

Learning areas	Pre-test	Post-test
	making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to talk by all members • Be respectful to each other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All follow the constitutions
	<p>Conclusion: during pre-assessment a portion of the participants, mostly KKM members could mention the activities that a good organization should do. However during post assessment all the participants focused on organizational governance i.e. transparency and accountability.</p>	
Participatory Leadership	Participants responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work all together • Importance to the opinion by all • Influence • Motivate • Maintain communication and good relation with members • Leader develops members as like him/her 	Participants responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision making through a participatory process, where leader alone does not take decision • Motive members to participate and learn • Create an environment where all can talk freely • Leader do not consider himself/ herself special, rather consider as equal member like others
	<p>Conclusion: It has been identified that some of them had good understanding about a participatory leadership before the course. However some participants lacked appropriate knowledge.</p> <p>During pose assessment, most of the participants focused on creating a favorable environment and facilitate a process where members participate and grow.</p>	
Networking: strategy for securing rights	Participants responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To know about the rights • Where to go to get services • Inform appropriate authority • Maintain good relation with government and non-government • Organize movement • Organize meeting and seminar and invite them and discuss 	Participants responses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forming wider network of farmers' organizations • Maintain good relation with government and non-government • Acquire correct knowledge about rights – particularly the related laws • Work to implement related laws • Be united and organized for communicating and negotiating with authority

Learning areas	Pre-test	Post-test
	<p>Conclusion: a few participants could mention some of the strategies during pre assessment, however most were not clearly mentioned the strategies. During post assessment, they emphasized about increased knowledge about related laws and ne united by forming wider network for negotiation.</p>	

5. Course Evaluation

Informal evaluations of the courses were conducted during and after the courses through discussions with the participants. It revealed that most of the participants found satisfied with the training learning's, used materials and methods. They also expressed their happiness for efficient facilitation and training management. Even they found very willingness to participate in these types of training in future. All most all participants gave thanks to organizers for good quality and sufficient food, tea and snacks and also for accommodation. A strong recommendation came from the participants that, this training course is also needed for others small farmers' organizations they formed at grassroots level.

6. To be delivered

- A training module in Bangla for Training of Trainers (ToT) on organization development, capacity of leadership development and network building among the farmers organization.
- A report in English

7. Recommendations

After conducting of the two training courses the Consultants, based on the learning, have come to the following recommendations. These recommendations might be beneficial for arranging such course in future or for wider replication. The recommendations are:

- i. An in-depth training needs assessment is recommended to design such types of training. These types of training will build on participants' existing knowledge, skills and attitudes as well as organizational practices.
- ii. Further follow-up of the training is a must to keep the initiatives of the participating organizations continued at local level.
- iii. In order to carryout gain benefits out of the initiatives at local level, external support is required at the initial stage.

List of participants of the ToT held at Patuakhali

Date : Oct 8 – Oct 10, 2012

Organized by ActionAid Bangladesh

Sl	Name	Organization	Upazila
1.	Md. Nizam Uddin Kamal	Bongo Nodi Gono Gobeshona Dol	Kalapara
2.	Alauddin Shikdar	Neelganj Krishok Mayitri	Kalapara
3.	Md. Miaz Uddin Mujibor	Dash Para LFS Krishok Dol	Bauphal
4.	Md. Nurul Alam Miah	ICM Club	Bauphal
5.	Kazi Anisur Rahman	Bangladesh Farmers Association	Dashmina
6.	Nirmal Chandra Krittonia	Nobojibon	Galachipa
7.	Mosharef Hossain	IAPP	Kalapara
8.	Md. Mizanur Rahaman	Neelganj Krishok Mayitri	Kalapara
9.	Abul Hossain	BRDB	Bauphal
10.	Md. Babul Haoladar	IAPP	Dashmina
11.	Md. Nur Sayed Khan	Krishok Mayitri	Kalapara
12.	Mosammot Morzina	Krishok Mayitri	Kalapara
13.	Ruma Debi	KODEK	Galachipa
14.	Khadija Begum	IAPP	Bauphal
15.	Jaynal Abedin	Upokulio Jana Kallyan	Kalapara
16.	Abdul Motaleb Mridha	IAPP	Potuakhali Sadar
17.	Md. Forkan Choukidar	IAPP	Potuakhali Sadar
18.	Md. Shameem Mollik	IAPP	Mirjaganj
19.	Md. Bellal Hossain	IAPP	Galachipa
20.	Aminul Islam	BRAC	Kalapara
21.	Mosammot Shanina Akhter Chobi	GGT	Kalapara
22.	Lipi Begum	Krishok Mayitri	Kalapara
23.	Kohinur	Krishok Mayitri	Kalapara
24.	Doli Rani	Krishok Mayitri	Kalapara
25.	Haoa Begum	Krishok Mayitri	Kalapara
26.	Md. Faruk Haoladar	IAPP	Dumki
27.	Abdul Momin Dewan	IAPP	Dashmina
28.	Gilam Mostafa	IAPP	Dumki
29.	Sohrab Hossain	Weave Foundation	Potuakhali Sadar
30.	Md. Lal Miah Mridha	Speed Trust	Dashmina
31.	Md. Nur Islam	IAPP	Potuakhali Sadar

List of participants of the ToT held at Kurigram

Date : Oct 20 – Oct 23, 2012

Organized by ActionAid Bangladesh

Sl	Name	Organization	Upazila
1.	Md. Abdul Latif Bepari	IAPP	Kurigram Sadar
2.	Mosammot Ambia Begum	Krishok Mayitri	Kurigram Sadar
3.	Mosammot Nurjahan	Krishok Mayitri	Kurigram Sadar
4.	Abdul Mojid	IAPP	Chilmari
5.	Md. Rafiq	IAPP	Ulipur
6.	Mosammot Chaina	CLP	Vulungamari
7.	Mosammot Banesa	CLP	Vulungamari
8.	Md. Nurujjaman	Krishak Mayitri	Kurigram Sadar
9.	Md. Hafijur Rahaman	IAPP	Nageshwari
10.	Md. Emdadul Haq	IAPP	Nageshwari
11.	Md. Ashraful	IAPP	Ulipur
12.	Md. Saidujjaman	Krishok Mayitri	Kurigram Sadar
13.	Sri Monosha Chandra Modok	Krishok Mayitri	Kurigram Sadar
14.	Md. Rafikul Islam	IAPP	Rajarhat
15.	Md. Haybor Ali	Krishok Mayitri	Ulipur
16.	Parul Rani	Krishok Mayitri	Kurigram Sadar
17.	Ismot Ara	IAPP	Rajarhat
18.	Md. Saiful Islam	Krishok Mayitri	Ulipur
19.	Md. Nasir Uddin	Krishok Mayitri	Ulipur
20.	Md. Akkas Ali	Krishok Mayitri	Ulipur
21.	Md. Azizul Islam	CARE	Rajarhat
22.	Md. Babul Hossain	IAPP	Kurigram Sadar
23.	Mosammot Rina Akhtar	Krishok Moyitri	Ghoraghat
24.	Md. Abdul Aual	Krishok Moyitri	Ghoraghat
25.	Md. Mokbul Hossain	Chakirbasha Federation	Rajarhat

7.4 Annex-4 Learning sharing workshop report:

Workshop report on Farmers' Perspectives on Food and Nutrition Security IAPP in Focus



Organizer:
ActionAid Bangladesh
House 09, Road 128, Gulshan-01 Dhaka

কেন্দ্রীয় কৃষক মৈত্রী
KKKM
কৃষকের অধিকার আদায়ের মোর্চা



act:onaid

The Workshop on “farmers’ perspective on food and nutrition security with focus on integrated agriculture productivity project” was held at the ActionAid Office, Dhaka Bangladesh on 12 December 2012.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- Share results and capture lessons learned from the implementation of “strengthening farmers organization “project
- Share updates about the implementation of the IAPP and its technical component managed by FAO
- Recommend a broad outline of forward looking strategies for effective implementation of IAPP and its TA component, specifically for 2013

There were 23 participants (18 male, 05 female), including 07 leaders of farmers groups in Kurigram and Patuakhali district, leaders of 13 civil society organizations, 1 journalist, 1 representative each from Food and agriculture organization- FAO, and Asian farmers Association . Attached here is the participants’ list as annex.

The workshop was organized by Action Aid Bangladesh and Kendrio Krishok Moitree - KKM with the assistance of Asian Farmers Association (AFA) with the support of Agricord through AsiaDHARA.

During the daylong workshop, issues related to the identification of the following were discussed:

1. Strategic challenges and options in capturing farmers perspectives
2. Potentials and limitations to incorporate farmers’ voice and
3. Exploring common ground of government, FAO and CSOs perspective on the process of involving farmers in the development and implementation of food security projects.

The 1st half of the workshop was devoted to the discussion on the experience and lessons learned from the implementation of the “strengthening farmers’ organization Project”. The 2nd half was devoted to capturing the idea of the way forward to initiate a broad-based platform for addressing food and nutrition security issues of small-holder farmers in Bangladesh.

The workshop was concluded by enthusiastic comments from the participants. Evaluation of the workshop by participants was positive, and progress over the next will indicate the impact of campaign for future perspective.

Experience and Lessons Learned from Strengthening Farmers Organization (SFO) Project:

SFOs project initiated a broad based farmer’s platform at two project areas: Patuakhali and Kurigram district. During project period, about 65 (41 men and 15 women) farmers leaders received ToT on organization management, leadership and networking, which led them to create linkage with government and nongovernment organizations.

The farmers leaders who were present during this workshop shared their views and ideas and made commitment to extend their assistance to others farming community. They learned from the project activity why and how they can build effective farmers organization. They learned about farmers rights and where they should claim their rights. They said that now they are called by government organizations and agricultural extension departments are asked to share their ideas on current development activities.

The farmer leaders also shared their unpleasant learning regarding input distribution and extension services, saying that respective government departments consider political identity. Farmers’ organizations are created by government agencies for the purpose of particular project design fulfillment and there is no long term vision exercise prior to developing a farmer’s organization. Farmers’ organizations evolve with the hope of input or cash benefit; there is no

ethical or political orientation from the very beginning of organization development. That's why the very nature of the FO is very fragile nature and the FO evaporates with the duration of project ending.

Secretary General of KKM Mr. Alauddin emphasized that for effective farmer platform, we need representation from Ward—Union—Upazila, District and then National organization. Some of the farmer leaders also expressed that it is essential to get registration from the government authority for long term existence of the farmers' organization.

Executive director of AVAS- Barisal Ms. Rahima Sultana Kajal expressed her opinion that now the young field workers and farmers are very enthusiastic and that we need long term program planning for food security rather than small project.

Ex BAPA executive director Mr. Muhidul told that we need a long-term integrated approach through which the entire people of a target community are guided to adopt sustainable rural livelihood for them to live in harmony preserving the natural environment and bio-diversity of the area. For this particular work government must do it.

Mr. Talib Basher Noyaon executive director of Unnayan Dhara added that registration of farmers' organization is harmful. In the name of registration some farmers' organization is introduced for illicit activity which is not helpful to the growth of an effective farmer organization. He suggested that if needed FOs can register from ILO or government as trade organization.

IFSN global coordinator Mr. Shahidur Rahman expressed his opinion that we need to be more specific and organized if we want to see the effective and sustainable farming system. In Bangladesh plenty of farmers organizations evolved by the GO and NGOs initiative but maximum is disappeared due to no specific direction of economic development of individual farmers. If the farmers have no financial benefit from their organization the FO becomes an illusion to them.

He added that, Government budget for agriculture is presently less than 5%; it should be at least 10% and the budget should include sustainable farming actions. Land right is another complicated issue and small farmers do not have lands. Market is trapping small and marginal farmers. Farmers are always cheated from market by middlemen and market syndicates. With respect to farmers' actions, they need to have their own seed bank and local market; they also need to have water resource management and stop extracting water from ground.

He informed that we have two types of farmers – one type is having own land -they are 7-8 million and others are landless minimum 20 million. So we need to set first if we want to organize producer organization or farmers' organization. In other side we have to consider the production methods and marketing system. We need to think our women farmers interest as 70% of small farmers are women and they suffering their recognition from the state. Thus, farmers need to improve food production by adopting sustainable agriculture as well as agro-ecological approach.

Executive director of PMID focused the issue of existing government policy of agriculture. He suggested that we need to review government policies and create pressure group for implementing the existing services and policy benefit among the farmer community.

Mr. Zakir Shain from Krishoker Sor (farmer's voice) said we should consider our traditional practices of agriculture and that he is scared to follow the western agricultural practices that not considering the situation. He informed that we produced excess food for the 7 billion people but the multination company agents are always says we need more production.

Dr. Sobhan from UBINIG pointed that they have around 2700 variety of local rice and we need to protect our native varieties. Chemical farming destroyed our soil and water resources and also organic vegetation. So, now the time to go back to organic and sustainable farming practices for

keeping our civilization. Cuba is the example of urban agriculture now. Once Cuban agriculture was contaminated by chemical but they realized organic culture is the only way for long term sustainable agricultural production. Now they are food self sufficiency by practicing organic farming. Interesting information is that about 79% of its agricultural production is urban agriculture. Cuba is now the pioneer of urban agriculture.

We had the golden history of sustainable agriculture but now we are engaged in poison based farming. Our agriculture is 5000 year old heredity of culture, we had different variety and type of crop but now we practicing mono culture only rice. We forgot our oil, spices, fruits, cereals because of the green revolution. We need to return to mixed farming and vermi compost for sustainable soil development.

A farmer leader asked why the government is now encouraging them to do sustainable organic practices when before they were promoting chemical agriculture. AFA Secretary General Esther Penunia said that this is the result of the work of many civil society organizations from the national up to the international levels who have consistently pushed for sustainable agriculture in decision making arenas, through various researches, on-ground initiatives and campaigns. So, CSOs we must continue this advocacy work.



Asgar Ali Sabri, Director- Program policy campaign of Action Aid concluded the first half of the workshop with some specific points, which is required to remove for future food security and successful farmers' platform building.

1. Farmers are facing identical crisis
2. Farmers are confusing the way of sustainable farming technique
3. Lack of unity and specific target of farmers community
4. New liberal economy or market economy

FAO Technical Component and Activity Plan for 2013:

Consultant of FAO Mr. Imanun Nobi Khan presented the information of IAPP TA component detail. He stressed that GoB received USD 50 million in 2010 from Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP) for the Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project (IAPP). Objective of the overall IAPP is to sustainably enhance productivity of agriculture in two agro-ecologically constrained and economically fragile areas Rangpur and Barisal. IAPP Components is, technology generation (research: BARI, BRRI, SCA, BFRI), technology adoption (extension: DAE, DoF & DLS), irrigation and water management (BADDC) and technical assistance for capacity development.

He added the mapping and capacity need assessment of the FOs of the country done by FAO TAC of IAPP

Salient shots of FO Mapping

Throughout the country there are around 163000 FOs that are associated with numerous extension agencies in different typologies

Name of the agencies	Working with number of FOs	Types of groups
Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE)	43765	crop based FOs

Department of Livestock Services (DLS)	4489	livestock and poultry based FOs
Department of Fisheries (DoF)	3020	open water body, private pond, inshore marine fishing community
Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC)	18073	Water User Groups
Char Livelihoods Programme (CLP)	2272	extreme poor farmers of Chars
Social Development Foundation (SDF)	3262	village Institutions (Vis)

The Mapping study revealed 82853 FOs as farmers cooperatives legally registered with Department of Cooperatives (DoC) have been associated with different agencies like Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB), Samabay Bank (Cooperative Bank), Bangladesh Milk Producers Cooperatives Union Ltd., Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Bangladesh Academy of Rural Development (BARD), Rural Development Academy (RDA), etc.

Capacity Needs Assessment

Score	Constraints with FOs	Capacity needs/Business Services
36	Lack of skill (organizational) organization management skill financial skill business service skill project management skill market linkage skill	Capacity needs related to organizational management training for selected ExCom members those in turn will act as Master Trainer financial management training for selected ExCom members advance skill training on area specific potential business services, market linkage development, negotiation, networking, lobbying and advocacy
19	Lack of information about market at FO FO not capable to gather market info FO cannot compete with large/medium local market actors	Capacity needs related to: establishing one stop information center at FO on market, technology, etc.
18	Price distortion at primary market Distorted price offered by syndicate during peak harvesting season Farmers have to sell produces immediately after harvest to repay credit Farmers are not interested in group/bulk marketing Lack of skill of lead farmers (Executive committee) to translate economy of scale	Capacity needs related to: generating alternative income just before and during peak harvesting season formation of bulk buying and selling group within FOs
12	Lack of skill (technical) Lack of skill on appropriate modern technology for value adding in crop, livestock, poultry, fisheries and agro-forestry sub-sectors Technology mostly owned by absentee farmers (rich)	Capacity needs related to: technology that reduces cost women friendly technology (less drudgery) establish Common Facility Center at FO
10	Rural elite capture often disrupts FOs in delivering community supports	Capacity needs related to: facilitation skills of extension agent in forming FOs using best practiced participatory processes

8	Problem with access to credit	Capacity needs related to: writing bankable business proposal writing develop linkages with MFIs and SME bank for Ex.Com
7	Lack of agribusiness attitude for group business	
6	Lack of purchase power of farmers	

After the presentation, there was a good exchange of discussion on what can be proposed for the IAPP and the technical assistance component. The following were the major recommendations from the participants:

1. There should be representatives of farmers and NGOs during project planning, implementation and evaluation of food security project of Bangladesh and ensure there is real farmers' representation at every level of intervention.
2. In line with this (number 1 above), it should be clear who is the NGO and the farmer representative in the national and regional management /steering committees of IAPP.
3. Need to open information flow by media, newspaper and mobile on new initiatives of production, processing and marketing of agricultural products.
4. Should be clear on agricultural budget allocation to the farmers representative and clear distribution mechanism of agricultural subsidies to the small and marginal farmers
5. Should protect agricultural land from industry and urbanization. i.e clear land/crop zoning.
6. Consider agriculture is a dignified profession to the young generation.
7. Use local expertise in the various training and capacity building activities. There are many NGOs in Bangladesh with training skills on agriculture, farmers' development, and organization development. UBINIG has expressed interest to conduct food safety and sustainable agriculture for farmers.
8. Support organizing and networking efforts of farmer leaders in the project areas as well as exchange of information and learning among themselves

Thanks goes out to the Action Aid Bangladesh staff for their incredible and efficient support in helping organize the workshop.

Prepared by

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Farmers’ Perspectives on Food and Nutrition Security I APP (Integrated Agricultural Productivity Project) in Focus

Organized by:

Action Aid Bangladesh and Kendrio Krishok Moitree - KKM

with the assistance of

Asian Farmers Association (AFA)

with the support of

Agricord through AsiaDHARA

12 December 2012

Venue: ActionAid, House# 19 Road# 128, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212

Objectives:

- Share results and capture lessons learned from the implementation of Strengthening Farmers Organization Project
- Share updates about the implementation of the IAPP and its Technical component managed by FAO
- Recommend a broad outline of forward looking strategies for effective implementation of IAPP and its TA component, specifically for 2013

Time	Content
09.00- 09.30	Registration (with Tea)
09.30- 09.45	Welcome and introduction of participants Introduction of consultation
09.45 10.15	Presentation : Strengthening Farmers’ Organization Project
10.15- 13.00	Strategic challenges and options: capturing farmers perspectives
13.00- 14.00	Lunch
14.00-14:30	Updates of IAPP Implementation 2012 – Potential and challenges to incorporate farmers voice
14.30- 15.00	Updates of FAO Technical Component– Potentials and limitations to incorporate farmers voice
15.00-16.0 (with Tea)	Discussion / Proposals : 1) on IAPP implementation 2) on Technical Component for 2013 or beyond
16.00-16.50	Exploring common ground - Government perspective - FAO perspective, CSOs perspective - Ways Forward : Action points for 2013 and beyond
16.50-17.00	Concluding and Vote of thanks

7.5 Annex-5 M&E Framework

Project: Farmers' organization strengthening project (Duration: July to Nov, 2012)		
Funded by: AsiaDHARRA		
Broad Areas	Indicators	
	Operational Indicators	Coverage indicator:
Goal		
To initiate broad based platform through KKM for addressing food and nutrition security issues of small-holder farmers in Bangladesh		
Objective		
1) To strengthen KKM and enhance understanding among the members and leaders, especially women, on the implication of food security projects and importance of building solidarity among producer organizations for sustainable food and livelihood security where women empowerment is central	Potential KKM participants, especially women are showing their leadership capability in organizational development as well sharing their knowledge and learning regarding food security and relevant project among their peers	
2) To develop KKM to encourage (as a catalyst in ensuring) effective participation of producer organizations in designing, implementing and monitoring of food security projects initiated by government or donors	KKM are playing active facilitation role to communicate and coordinate with other like minded producer organizations to share information and raising their concerns on designing, implementing and monitoring of food security projects initiated by government or donors in their respective regions	
3) To initiate development of broad based regional forums of the producer groups where KKM takes the lead (plays is the lead) in advancing solidarity and action to end poverty through local, regional and national level advocacy	Broad based regional/district forums are created in participation of like minded producer organizations where KKM taken lead role	
Outputs/Results		
1. KKM and other farming communities / producer organizations are aware about the impacts of food security related projects and benefits of solidarity among the groups on their lives and livelihoods	Potential FOs are selected through mapping exercise in Kurigram and Patuakhali region to build capacity for addressing food and nutrition security issues of small-holder farmers	# Potential FOs selected through mapping exercise in each regions with characteristics; # Direct members of KKM/village/union/region; # Direct members of others FOS/village/union/region

Farmers Organizations Strengthening Project-AsiaDHARA

	KKM are oriented and became knowledgeable about the approach, philosophy and political economy of food security projects	# Direct KKM participants are covered through formal orientation facilitated by the trainer members; # KKM members are playing role as peer to share knowledge on approach, philosophy and political economy of food security projects
	Other FOs/producer organizations have got knowledge on food and nutrition security issues from KKM peers	# FOs/producer organizations per regions have received formal orientation from the KKM peers
	A networking platform is created among KKM and other farming communities / producer organizations for knowledge and idea sharing and group mobilization to improve their lives and livelihoods	# Fos/producer organizations are communicating each other for learning sharing
2. Leadership capacity of federation members of KKM and other producer organizations is strengthened both at local and regional levels	# Potential KKM leaders are trained and skilled on Leadership development and organizational management issues in order to disseminate their expertise among other KKM group members as well among other Fos	# KKM members/leaders are trained as trainer/peer; # Direct KKM participants are covered through formal orientation facilitated by the trainer members; # Fos/producer organizations per regions have received formal orientation from the KKM peers
	% /evidence of KKM members became knowledgeable and practicing leadership and good management practices in their organizations	
	% KKM members are playing role of peer locally in terms of knowledge sharing and leadership development among the producer organizations for addressing food and nutrition security issues of small-holder farmers	
	Evidence of leadership engagement at local and regional level among the members of KKM and other prouder organizations to build solidarity among the like minded organizations for sustainable live and livelihood	
3. KKM and other farmers organizations are able to identify their demands for protecting their interest related to food security and are able to bargain and claim their demands	% KKM and other farmers organization members are capable to analyze their situation and identify their scopes and needs	

	Evidence of solidarity actions taken by KKM and nearby producer organizations to address their demands in order to secure their livelihoods	
	Evidence of collective actions facilitated by KKM and other FOs to bargain and claim their interest and demands to relevant stakeholders to secure their livelihoods	
	Evidence of collective actions taken by the KKM and other Fos to bargain and claim their interest and demands with relevant stakeholders of food security projects	
4. KKM developed a process/mechanism for regional broad based platform in solidarity with other producer groups in the respective regions	# Dialogue organized by the UKKM with the like minded FO/producer organizations in respective regions to establish a coordination mechanism towards broad based platform of producer groups	# Representatives per FOs participated in dialogues
	Process/mechanism documentation of KKM based on suggestions of others like minded FOs from dialogue session in order to develop a regional broad based platform with other producer groups in the respective regions	

7.6 Annex-6 Assessment report:



Project Title: Strengthening Kendrio Krishok Moitree (KKM) for Enhancing Solidarity among Farmer Associations in Bangladesh

Introduction:

This project has been designed and implemented based on Kendrio Krishok Moitree (KKM). KKM is a platform evolved out of a four year project of Action Aid Bangladesh called FoSHoL (Food security for sustainable household livelihoods). KKM is the central level federation of two tier farmers' own institution being built through project initiative aiming to increase food and nutrition security among farming families belonging to smallholder farmer organizations , specially women ; and to advocate for farmers rights both at local and national levels. For creating critical engagement with various policy stakeholders, farmers, producers, agro traders around farmers' rights and making their choice and options work for sustainable food security through a dialogical process, a broad based farmers' platform was considered crucial for this process. This project was implemented as to overcome some limitations and strengthen KKM having geographical coverage and grassroots activism such as given the fact that KKM has been providing technical and organizational support, the member organizations particularly at the village level was to be self-sufficient in running their enterprise as an economically viable entity. Given the fact that KKM had a geographical expanse around 6 districts, further horizontal expansion of existing federations was required to strengthen farmer's voice in terms of realization of their rights and entitlement to services. Furthermore, this geographical coverage of KKM intervention is not enough to challenge the existing power and injustice hindering the self-sustained growth of farmers and their organizations. The initiative targeted towards strengthening the capacity of KKM around organization development, leadership capacity building and exchange of information about ongoing agriculture and food security projects spearheaded by KKM would create a policy space for farming communities. The Completion assessment of Strengthening Kendrio Krishok Moitree (KKM) for Enhancing Solidarity among Farmer Associations in Bangladesh implemented July to December, 2012 with the limited short span of time. The regional broad based farmers' platform is initiated to compressive framing and planning of further action. The project having inadequate quantitative base, the mission sought to analyze and synthesize the project's experience with a view to learning lessons for future interventions in the country.

Objective of the study:

The main purpose of the assessment of Sstrengthening Kendrio Krishok Moitree (KKM) for Enhancing Solidarity among Farmer Associations in Bangladesh is to assess project performance and progress against plans and objectives which would inform future strategic direction.

Specific objectives

- i. Assess the change of the program on poor and marginalized farmers and their organizations,
- ii. Capture the main learning that has taken place and feed into the next program strategy.

Project objectives and design

Objectives and components

The goal of the project was to initiate a broad-based platform through KKM for addressing food and nutrition security issues of small-holder farmers in Bangladesh. Its objectives were:

- To strengthen KKM and enhance understanding among the members and leaders, especially women, on the implication of food security projects and importance of building solidarity among the producer organizations for sustainable food and livelihood security *where women empowerment is central*.
- To develop KKM as a catalyst in ensuring effective participation of producer organizations in designing, implementing and monitoring of food security projects initiated by government or donors.
- To initiate development of broad based regional forums of the producer groups where KKM plays is the lead in advancing solidarity and action to end poverty through local, regional and national level advocacy.

Expected output:

- KKM and other farming communities/producer organizations are aware about the impacts of food security related projects and benefits of solidarity among the groups on their lives and livelihoods;
- Leadership capacity of federation members of KKM and other producer organizations is strengthened both at local and regional levels;
- KKM and other farmers organizations are able to identify their demands for protecting their interest related to food security and are able to bargain and claim their demands;
- KKM developed a process/mechanism for regional broad based platform in solidarity with other producer groups in the respective regions.

Project participants:

The project was located in two selected districts of the country namely Kurigram and Patuakhali. Two areas representing six union based farmers' alliances (180 farmer organizations and their groups). These alliances included KKM (Union level KKM and their leaders, village level KKM small farmers group and their members), likeminded village and union level other farmers' organization and their leaders and members, Producer group (village and union level farmers involved in seed production, seed processing and seed business community).

Project Component:

The project, as appraised, consisted of five components:

- (i) Mapping/Scoping of Farmers/Producers Organizations: The mapping exercise was meant to establish a baseline to understand the status and mandate of various farmer organizations/producer groups at the union level. Based on the findings potential farmers' organizations would be selected. Besides, this would also endeavor to find out organizations with best practices.

Capacity Building of KKM and other producer organizations: In order to create policy space for the farmer organizations, it is crucially important to develop advocacy skills, precisely the negotiation skills of KKM and other allied farmer organizations. Through the project activities the farmers' organizations have been oriented around the approach, philosophy and political economy of food security projects so that they develop a thorough understanding about the different components of food security projects and situate farmers face in the project process. Leadership Capacity Building:

- (ii) The capacity building has initially targeted to the KKM with the understanding that they will take lead in building capacity of their fellow farmers' organizations at the latter stage

in different geographical locations. This effort will subsequently contribute to the process of building larger platform and solidarity ground for farmers' organizations

- (iii) Initiative for broad based regional platform of the KKM and allied producer groups: Union based Krishok Moitree has initiated dialogue with the likeminded farmers organizations/producer groups in their respective region to establish a coordination mechanism towards building a regional platform of the producer groups to intend to work on issues related to food security through enhancement of agricultural productivity, improved access to market for agricultural input and marketing of their own product at fair prices thus reducing discrimination and realizing poor farmers' right to food and livelihood security.

and

- (iv) Learning-Sharing of their innovative ideas and practices: This workshop has involved Farmers' Organizations (FOs) and other organizations precisely the CSOs/NGOs working on the issue of food security to explore the potentials of farmers' ideas and innovations and suggest for their inclusion in the ongoing programme design.

Assessment Methodology:

In order to pursue the evaluation study methodically keeping conformity with the objectives a 3-members team of evaluators from Monitoring, Evaluation & Accountability team (Program Quality and Impact) and Sustainable Agriculture team (Food Rights and Sustainable Livelihood) including one project participants spent 2 days in the project area as part of the field investigation. The field visit took place during the last week of December 2012.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), group meetings and in-depth interview of various stakeholders including the project staffs were conducted to critically understand the implementation process and achievements of the project. Suggestions relating to future strategic directions relating to improving the implementation process were sought from both staffs and various stakeholders involved in the process.

Before getting into the field and activities level, the evaluation team had to go through an extensive documents review including the reports and documents related to project activities and evaluation framework provided by the project personnel to get an overview of the project as well as the whole process of the operation and management of activities.

The techniques of data collections were as follows:

Primary source

a. Interviews with questionnaire:

Used for interviewing target groups/Participants

b. Focus Group discussion (FGD):

Used for obtaining both individual and collective understanding the beneficiaries about the change and progress being taken place as far as the programmatic interventions are concerned. These are conducted separately for different groups.

Secondary source

Desk Review:

Reviewed key documents available such as project document (proposal, M&E framework, mapping exercise report, training and workshop report, follow up report) and other related documents as deemed important.

Limitation of the study:

In general there are some intrinsic limitations associated with evaluating such

- Rights-based projects as a significant part of the process is involved with the understanding of the concepts and translating it into practice. Conceptualizing the ideas and issues from a rights based perspective is highly important for project of this kind. Often it is very difficult to evaluate the level of understanding and perception of stakeholders as far as the idea is concerned. Performance of activities often may not grantee the perfect level of understanding. The present evaluation is no more and exception from this reality.
- During the assessment weather was a factor which affects the process to due to excessive fog, cold temperature and shout span of day time and the assessment team got less time for field work.
- Distance of project participants and groups was one of the big concern for which the team could not meet adequate number of project participants within the limited time.
- In some cases, the team had to face problem unavailability of the participants in the scheduled time. The team could not meet some of the potential farmer leaders as it was a busy cultivation time and even some farmers from KKM as they were busy with the election of their executive committee. Again, the team could not reach in the field as per schedule time due to political crisis as the there was a strike during the assessment period and the team faced transportation problem. Unavailability of the scheduled participant at the eleventh hour happened in Sadar upazilla in Kurigram.

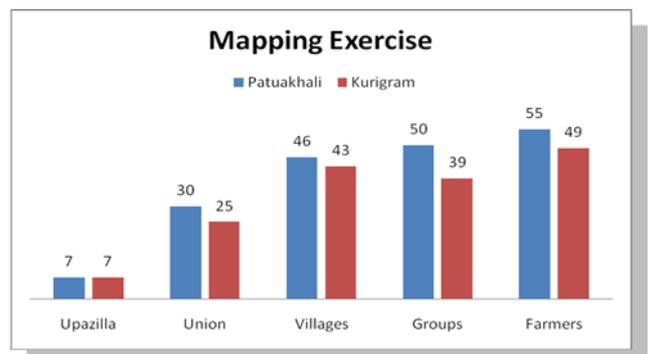
Findings against stated output:

Based on desk review, field observation, and discussion/meeting with various stakeholders including project staffs, the evaluation team critically analyzed the trends of the project activities. The theoretical understanding and framework was applied while analyzing the trends. It should be noted here that the evaluation team did not categorically analyzed each and every activities of the project rather it categorized various activities under various sub-heads in order to measure the achievements and progress related to it. Moreover, the team was more concerned about the outputs of project activities rather than outcome as the project implemented within a short period of time. Though the project faces time constrains almost all components were meet during the project span and the project had to extend time for 1 month for implementing the planned activities due to some external factors.

- **Output 1: To strengthen KKM and enhance understanding among the members and leaders, especially women, on the implication of food security projects and importance of building solidarity among the producer organizations for sustainable food and livelihood security *where women empowerment is central.***

Identified potential farmers’ representatives:

A mapping exercise was done in the two regions. The mapping exercise was done in 2 district covering 104 farmers, 14 Upazillas, 55 unions, 89 villages and 89 groups. Through the mapping exercise 56 number of farmers (M-41, F-15) were selected for ToT though the extensive assessment of individual and organization. In the mapping



exercise farmers' organization of KKM and others organizations were not clearly segregated.

KKM members are playing peer role

A total of 56 farmers' representatives or leaders were trained. From the ToT workshops among the farmers' representatives 25 leaders were committed to disseminate the knowledge learnt from the workshop. Out of 25 representatives 18 took initiative for delivering the information among the farmers' organizations and individual farmers or producers. 24 KKM farmers through the direct project intervention and few more through peers sharing members are playing role as peer to share knowledge on approach, philosophy and political economy of food security projects.

Knowledge on approach, philosophy and political economy of food security projects from ToT the trained peer leader disseminated learning among 3273 farmers of which 88% were in group session/discussion and rest 12% through individual discussion (79% were covered in Patuakhali and rest 21 % covered in Kurigram). **Out of 3273 farmers 2136 were the direct KKM participants (359 in Kurigrama and 1767 in Patuakhali).** The target for peer education was achieved 100% in Patuakhali where it was 38% in Kurigram. This included 68 farmers groups (50 groups from Patuakhali and 18 groups from Kurigram). This is information based on the telephonic follow up by the ActionAid staff.

It was observed that the village level small farmers groups understanding were comparatively less as the groups were not oriented by the peer leader effectively and successfully due to lack of skill for disseminating the ideas properly. Effective communication and communication budget hindered the process, especially with the other farmers' organization as they were lack in motivation due to time and communication constrains.

Scope for Networking platform is created among KKM and others farming communities or producers organizations

The idea about the regional broad based platform was introduced through the mapping exercise among the farmers' organization both KKM and other organizations. In the ToT workshop participants were got orientation about the platform and the benefit from it. Mostly KKM union level leaders were aware about the impacts of food security related projects and benefits of solidarity among the groups on their lives and livelihoods and realized the necessity for coming under a common umbrella. From FGD, it was revealed that the farmers are interested and planning for initiate the activity as a common platform to protect farmers' rights, but the time and budget is the main obstacle they are facing since the areas are distant in scattered geography. At the same time they also feel that the project intervention time was too short for such motivation and yet they need to increase their knowledge level and negotiation skill to carry out the activities

- **Output 2: Leadership capacity of federation members of KKM and other producer organizations is strengthened both at local and regional levels.**

Potential leaders were trained on Leadership development and organizational management issues

During project period, about 56 (41 men and 15 women) farmers leaders received 2 ToT on organization management, leadership and networking, which led them to create linkage with government and nongovernment organizations in two regions. These included participants from 14 Upazillas and 20 farmers' organizations. The farmers leaders gave commitment to extend their assistance to others farming community to disseminate their knowledge and ideas that they learnt from the Tot.

The peer dissemination occurred mostly in KKM trained participant's own group (mostly union level) where in village level small groups were insignificant. The peer leader got insufficient time

after the workshop, moreover it was the busy crop sowing season and some of the Union KKM were busy with election of their executive committee. Again in the small group of other farmers' organizations information dissemination and awareness is less than the KKM village level farmers' group. Even the trained peer leader (other organizations') had less motivation.

Evidence of KKM members became knowledgeable and practicing leadership and good management

From the ToT a total of 56 farmers' representatives or leaders were trained. In the ToT workshop the farmers' representatives set target for 25 leaders to disseminate the issues learnt from the workshop. Out of 25 representatives 18 took initiative for delivering the information among the farmers' organizations and individual farmers or producers were playing role of peer locally in terms of knowledge sharing and leadership development among the producer organizations for addressing food and nutrition security issues of small-holder farmers. A total of 3273 farmers and 68 farmers' organizations were covered by the peer leader in the two regions.

It was found in Union level KKM that they had the plan to visit village level KKM farmers groups' during their group meeting to share knowledge and information among them. In this regards the UKKM made list of executive committee members for distributing areas and groups to visit. In Pandul UKKM under Ulipur Upazilla in Kurigram the assessment team found such list. They have plan to share Union level activity and initiatives among the village level groups. UKKM maintain regular meeting of the executive committee, keep resolution, have bank account etc. The UKKM undergo election in regular interval/after every two years, running agro business (set up mobile agro shop in Pandul Bazar), producing seeds etc. Organize Union level rally, human chain and ensure participation of village level farmers' groups representatives through dissemination information and initiatives. UKKM preserve the paper clipping of their joint initiatives (Rally, human chain, gathering etc.) UKKM also prepare reports of event and send it to ActionAid.

The UKKM are practicing mainly in their own organization, for developing village level organization and other organization they have lack in skill and experience. Communication mechanism among the KKM leaders and other farmers' organizations was not clear.

- **Output 3: KKM and other farmers' organizations are able to identify their demands for protecting their interest related to food security and are able to bargain and claim their demands**
- KKM members have the understanding about the problem of the farmers in their own locality such as inadequate supply of seed and fertilizer, lack of agricultural -equipment, undersell of agro products, river erosion, floods, draughts etc. They also emphasis on that the farmers' community are ignored and the lack of Dignity of farmers in the society. In identifying farmer's demands for protecting their interest related to food security and livelihood security was insignificant.
- Farmers' organization lacked in information regarding environment consequences, techniques of natural harvesting, land and food security and mitigation techniques, new initiatives of production, processing and marketing of agricultural products and govt. policies related to agriculture and farmers rights.
- In the project period significant collective actions facilitated by KKM and other Fos to bargain and claim their interest and demands to relevant stakeholders to secure their livelihood and food security were not observed as the project participant got limited time after the workshop and orientation for collective action and claiming rights. In this period

KKM members participated in world food day observation and raised demands in favor of farmers' interest, specially the demand for recognition of women farmer.

- **Output 4: KKM developed a process/mechanism for regional broad based platform in solidarity with other producer groups in the respective regions**

Scope for broad based platform in solidarity with other producer groups in the respective regions is introduced

The prospect of farmers' organization common platform was introduced in the ToT and workshop. More or less the farmers' representative disseminated among their respective groups and in some cases individuals. Again, the organization working for farmers interest expressed positive intension for the platform for the sake of farmers rights and welfare through workshop on Farmers' Perspectives on Food and Nutrition Security was organized by KMM. In the Learning Sharing Workshop the leaders of farmers groups of both regions, leaders of 13 civil society organizations, journalist, representatives of FAO and Asian farmers Association participated.

Dialogue to establish a coordination mechanism towards broad based platform of producer groups were not held during the project period by the UKKM with the likeminded FO/producer organization in respective and other regions. KKM and other farmers groups could not manage to meet together as KKM members were busy with election and the other farmers' organizations had lack of motivation and constrains of budgetary provision for communication and meeting together. The participants and leaders had scant of understanding for forcing the platform. But they thought that farmers' rights and demand could be achieved through collective effort. Again time is also a factor for the groups and leaders to moving forward with the platform.

Monitoring Effectiveness

The project followed the frame work and the activities were done accordingly. Systematic monitoring could not be followed as the working areas were scattered and due to its remoteness. Again, the project had limited staffs to supervise the two scattered area and numbers of farmers and groups within a short period most of the follow up were done over phone. In result of this, the flow of data from the field was inadequate and project output and indicator could not be tracked properly.

Recommendations

1. Motivation of the Group and the peer Leader: For functioning the platform motivation among the participants is essential. All the participants should have clear idea about the broad based farmers' platform, its objective, benefits and future plan of action. There should be provision of regular visit by the KKM leader to village level small groups and the other farmers' organization and to ensure regular engagement in mobilizing them for farmers; interest and claiming rights.
2. Skill development for facilitating of the potential leaders: As the peer leader is playing a vital role to force the platform, they need skill development for facilitating the groups and conveying messages, information and sharing best practices among the groups. Training and capacity building initiative should be taken for the peer leader due focus on managing organization, food and livelihood security; advocacy, mobilization and communication; regional platform, goal objectives and its functions.
3. Technical support: Advocacy and campaign issues should be identified based on the needs of the marginal farmers and producer community. AAB should provide technical

- support and make linkages with other national level alliance/network for influencing policy makers as well as skill building of the farmers and producers groups.
4. Regular communication among the groups: A comprehensive plan should be developed regarding the working relationship with Krishak Moitree and other farmers and producer groups and federation. A series of dialogue or workshops is needed to develop for such a plan. It has the highest potential to bring the livelihood and food security issue of the regions to the national level while making a strong bent of solidarity among them. For the inception period of the platform, a budgetary provision for communication for the groups and peer leader may reinforce the move.
 5. Specification the platform: There should have a strategic plan of action for the platform where roles and responsibilities of responsible persons/position will be clear and the engagement of farmers and producer groups will be clearly demarked. The farmers and the group will have the common idea about the platform which will also help for the motivation of the groups. Orientation should be done in the group level.
 6. Cross learning: To meet the regional platform Cross learning sharing will play vital role for the broad based farmers' platform to come to a common consent and setting future plan for the move.
 7. Group mobilization and dialogue with stakeholder: To keep interests' farmers representatives should have to set in government project in planning and implementation level and union and upazilla level agricultural committee. Regular dialogue with the duty bearers could create opportunity for such engagement and for this group mobilization have to be increased. Women Participation has to improve as women are in centre of the project's goal by ensuring active participation in group level.
 8. Information update: There should have adequate information to farmers and their organization about environment friendly cultivation techniques, livelihood and food security mitigation techniques, govt. policies related to agriculture and farmers rights; production, processing and marketing of agricultural products. The groups should be provide necessary documents, videos, paper, leaflet, poster and internet access for the free flow of information so that it could be helpful for advocacy and claiming rights.
 9. Monitoring and supervision: As the platform is growing monitoring and supervision is essential for the inception period. Dedicated and adequate staff provision will be beneficial for achieving the goal of the project, as the project had limited staffs to supervise the two scattered area and have numbers of farmers and groups.
 10. Adequate time needed: For effective delivery by the group leaders, to carry out the objectives and to establish sustainable mechanism of the platform, to bargain their demand and policy advocacy to reform and formulation of farmers' friendly policy and working environment four month is not enough and adequate time is essential for effective outcome. As the process involved in change the attitude of duty bearers, policy maker and the farmers, at least three to five years will be need for such change.

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