

Quarterly project update/report (July-September 2019)

Project name	Dalit/Adibashi Rights, Empowerment & Access towards Mainstream (DREAM)
Project number	610-404
Location of project	Adamdighi Upazila under Bogra district, Cheragpur union, Mohadevpur sadar union and Enayetpur union in Mohadevpur Upazila, Patnitala union and Patichora union under Patnitala Upazila of Naogaon district.
Implementing organisation	Association for Rural Cooperation (ARCO)
Duration of project	January 2017-December 2020
Total project budget	6,95,64,212 BDT
Annual project budget	1,86,23,374 BDT
Reporting period	July 2019- September 2019
Author and date of report	Shukla Mukherjee, Project Manager, DREAM Project, ARCO. 10.10.2019

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ABBREVIATIONS

ARCO = Association for Rural Cooperation.
BMDA =BORENDRA MULTIPURPOSE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.
BRDB = BANGLADESH RURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD
CCA= CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION
CDMC=COMMUNITY DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
DHFP = DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING
DRR = DISASTER RISK REDUCTION.
FMD=FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE
HAP = HUMANITARIAN ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNERSHIP
HOB=HEKS OFFICE BANGLADESH
HRBA=HUMAN RIGHTS BASED APPROACH
IGA= INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES
MFI = MICRO FINANCE INSTITUTE.
MOU =MEMORANDAM OF UNDERSTANDING.
NGO=NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION
PCVE=PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY VISIONING EXERCISE
PG=PRODUCER GROUP
PMM=PARTICIPATORY MARKET MAPPING
POOCs = PEOPLE OF OUR CONCERN.
RSSC=RURAL SALES & SERVICE CENTER
TVET= TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TRAINING
UDMC= UNION DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
ULD=UPAZILA LIVESTOCK DEPARTMENT
ULO=UPAZILA LIVESTOCK OFFICER
UNO=UPAZILA NIRBAHI OFFICER
UP = UNION PORISHAD
UZ = UPAZILA
VCA = VALUE CHAIN APPROACH
VDC = VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
DYD=DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
RAKUB=RAJSHAHI KRISHI UNNAYAN BANK
DREAM=DALIT/ADIBASHI RIGHTS, EMPOWERMENT AND ACCESS TOWARDS
MAINSTREAM.
UCEP=UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
BDT=BANGLADESH TAKA
TTC=TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER
SMC=SCHOOL MANAGEMET COMMITTEE
D/A=DALIT AND ADIBASHI
CLTS=COMMUNITY LED TOTAL SANITATION
SDG=SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
VGF=VULNERABLE GROUP FEEDING
VGD= VULNERABLE GROUP DEVELOPMENT
NGO=NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION
SDF=SOCIAL DEVELOPEMENT FOUNDATION.

1. CONTEXT REVIEW

In the developing world, Bangladesh is playing a vital role as a developing country. Bangladesh's economy is growing up day by day. To meet up the domestic demand, the manufacturing and infrastructure sector is growing rapidly. It is also excelling in the pharmaceuticals, steel, food processing and tele-communication sector. Bangladesh has been trying to attract investments from foreign countries and companies. Bangladesh's GDP is growing with a rate of 7.3% in 2019 according to Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. Per capita income of Bangladesh 1203 US dollars last updated in November 2019 according to the world bank. Considering the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, the government of Bangladesh has taken many initiatives and plans. But, still there are no specific plan of actions for the most excluded groups like Dalits and plainland Adibashis. Even, there are no reflection in the national budget for the current fiscal year, as there is no specific allocation for these group of people. So, it will be very difficult for the government of Bangladesh to achieve the targets of SDG keeping Dalit and Adibashi people off the track of development. Dalit and Adibashi people living in the North-western part of Bangladesh face manifold discriminations. They have very limited access to basic services. They are victims of discrimination in accessing services i.e. access to land, education, health, safety-net, access to finance etc. We know that, most of the Adibashi community people have involved as agriculture day laborer. Four months of the year have their work. Most of the time they are unemployed at their workplace. At this time, they have no alternative occupation. So, they are living under poverty line. There is no remarkable participation in local govt as well as national level. They are always using as a Vote bank. They have no proper land related document. Sometimes, land grabbers have been taking control over them.

Climate change is a major problem in the world. This year our working area was not faced flooded. But due to the effect of cyclone, our working area have faced many crisis especially agriculture production have been damaged. So, if any major disaster occurs in our working areas, our PooCs can not handle this situation strongly without support of govt and non govt organization. We know that, Bangladesh govt already has developed various policy related to DRR and Climate Change but Bangladesh govt. did not keep there specific policy for Dalit/plainland Adibashi.

Above these situation and overcome process of Dalit and Adibashi communities in north west of Bangladesh, In the working area of DREAM project has been implementing various activities to improve their situation. During this reporting period, DREAM project has conducted various advocacy program with relevant department as per needs of community people, conducted awareness session among VDC, Adolescent group, producer group and Disaster management group, linkage with govt. and private sector for skill development training, linkage with job sector, conduct district level workshop where discussed about how to involve Dalit/Adibashi in SDG platform, conducted youth conference, conducted social audit for access to basic services from govt and non govt. department, value chain activity and linkage with market actors, linkage with MFI and bank for access to finance, demonstration of low cost affordable technology as pilot basic, meetings with union disaster management committee etc.

Above these activities our PooCs knowledge have been increasing day by day about various issues. Some of our PooCs are communicating with local govt without support of partner. They have been claiming their Rights and entitlement to relevant department and they have got various support from the local govt. Some govt. officials are starting to pay their visit to Dalit and Adibashi community. They have directly observed problems of D/A. So, they are known about Dalit and Adibashi issues and they have been sensitizing more than previous time. So, our PooCs have got more facilities from relevant department.

***** Please categorize the information accordingly here. There are a lot of information, but they are not well-organized. Also use some more info-graphics (chart, bar diagram, pie-diagram etc.**

A number of 577 PooCs had access to basic services (VGD,VGF,education allowance,widow allowance, tube-well,latrine ,community solar panel etc. from govt and non govt. organization. Number of 01 PooC have included in up standing committee and 32 PooCs have included in various committee such as temple

committee, village discipline, club committee, Bazar committee. Belpara community, Mohadevpur had communicated with union parishad for water. In response, the union parishad have provided them a water supply project and ensured water among 38 families through three water supply points.

In a total of 702 PooCs have got medicine with free of cost from the health and family planning department and around 578 beneficiaries received free health care from the Sujer Hashi clinic, Upzila health complex, community clinic and 251 children and adolescent got immunization. During this reporting period, our PooCs awareness have been increasing comparatively about their education issue through the six SMC meetings, linkage with education department and mother forum meeting. Now most of the students have been receiving education without discrimination. Education dropout rate is decreasing gradually. Some students have improved their educational situation getting better marks in their examination.

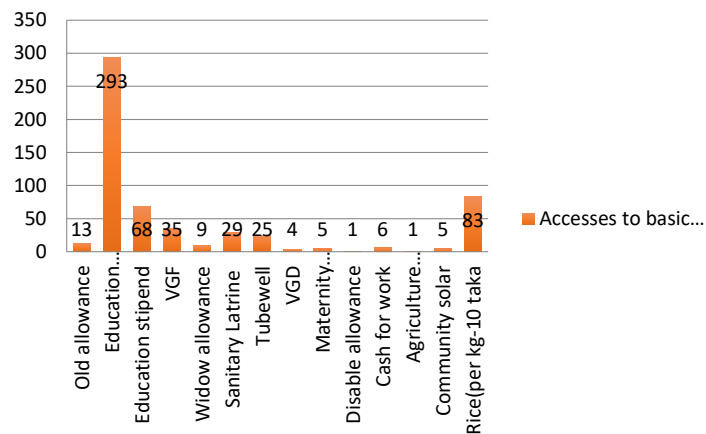
Besides, getting access to basic services our pooCs have received some other supports from various departments like around .046 kilometer road construction has been completed at Patnitala community, Rishipara community at Cheragpur have got 50,000 BDT from union parishad for temple construction,

A number of 311 PooCs have received legal and formal initiatives to obtain land rights.

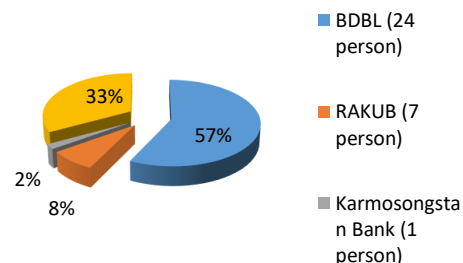
So that PooCs are communicating regularly to land and tohsil offices to access their kharijnama and solving their land problems as well as use of khas land. During the reporting period, 56 PooCs have access to 12.89 hectares land (user rights) and 24 PooCs have access to 2.41 hectares land (transfer rights).

During this reporting period, 30 VDCs have received training on CLTS. So that, they became aware about their hygiene and sanitation and made community plan. They are now taking initiatives according to this plan to build latrines themselves. 29 PooCs have already built their latrines and others are doing process of building their latrines.

Accesses to basic services



Access to Finance 35,75,000 BDT



In this reporting period, practical knowledge of our 32 PooCs have been increased in different sectors through the VCA activities such as bull fattening, native chicken rearing and doormat production who have completed their production cycle successfully. As a result, their regular income has increased. In total 35 producer group members have received business plan and entrepreneurship development training through the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) of nourish feed. As a result, the producers became capacitated to increase their business as well as preparing their business plan. During this reporting period, 60 PooCs sold a number of 85 bulls, 20 PooCs sold 1890 chicken and 35 PooCs sold 850 doormat. For that reason, their average profit in bull is 9792 BDT, chicken is 115 BDT and doormat is 35 BDT. The chicken mortality rate is 4.20 in this quarter which was 4.52 in last quarter. For developing their business, 62 PooCs have received 35,75,000 BDT as loans from different banks and MFIs. Besides, our PooCs have been involving in various income generation activities such as homestead gardening, tree plantation, moringa tree, vermi-compost, napier grass, hydroponic, mud ell culture, Mushroom as new initiatives which are increasing their income and reducing the impact of drought. In this quarter, 29 youths (Male 12, Female 17) have been linked with different TVET institutions. They have been receiving training on motorcycle service mechanics, electricians, consumer electronics, driving with maintainance, welding and tailoring cum garments. 11 youths who have completed their trainings in last quarter, are now engaged in RFL and Shobhon group as workers. As a result, they have been earning 9,000 BDT on average per month. Among them 2 youths have been dropped out from their job due to night shift duty.

2. PROGRESS OF ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

Project log frame follow-up matrix at output level

Intervention logic of the project (copy from logframe)	Planned target value (copy from YPO or M&E plan, as appropriate)	Achieved target value (1 st and 3 rd quarter)	Planned budget for expected out-put	Actual (%) expenses on expected output	Explanation on deviations	Steering Decision
Expected output 1.1: Policy makers acknowledged rights of Dalit and Adibashi and initiated supportive policy recommendations			Total plan budget: 435,000 BDT Out put (1.1-1.3.11)	Spent Amount: 4,29,102 BDT (98.64%) Out put (1.1-1.3.11)		

Output indicator 1.1.1: Official claims made / accepted reflecting the interests of PooCs	Target 2019 Made 10 accepted: 3	We have made 5 claims on the issue of safety net, Education allowance, land ownership, Access to finance, community solar to relevant department and they have accepted 5 issues .				Through the awareness session and advocacy program, we will increase awareness of our PooCs about their constitutional rights. (political, civil, social, cultural and economic). We will assist to our PooCs, for effecting communication and build relationship with duty bearers for getting to the basic services. We will grow leadership of our PooCs. So, they can raise their voices and claim their rights.
Output indicator 1.1.2: ...					...	...
Expected output 1.2: ...			...	...	...	...
Output indicator 1.2.1:					...	...
Output indicator 1.2.2: ...					...	...
Expected output 2.1: Adibashi people are aware about the laws related to land monitoring mechanism.			Total plan budget: 90,500 BDT output :(2.1,2.1-2.2.2)	Spent Amount: 91440 BDT (101.60%) output :(2.1,2.1-2.2.2)		

Expected output 3.2 Social interaction with mainstream neighbors :			Total plan budget:210000 BDT out put :(3.1,3.2-3.1.3.2.5)	Spent :204838 Amount: BDT (97.54%) out put :(3.1,3.2-3.1.3.2.5)		
Output indicator 3..2.2: #% PooCs children don't experience discrimination at school (by teacher, other students)	Target 2019 :85%children don't experience discrimination	Through observation, school visit, SMC meeting and FGD, we noticed that 85% children don't experience discrimination at school (by teacher, other students) during the reporting period.				
Expected output 4.1: Increased regular income D/A through VCA			Total plan budget: 683863 BDT out put (4.1.1-4.1.35)	Spent Amount: 688331BDT (101%) out put (4.1.1-4.1.35)		
Output indicator 4.1.3 : # of PooCs who increased their practical knowledge on VCD through specific trainings and on VCD supporting areas	Target 2019 :100 producers have practical knowledge on VC	During this quarter, 32 producers have increased practical knowledge on VCA				We will have linkage with govt and private sector for capacity building on VC activities for our PooCs. We will arrange regular learning session and exposure visit for their practical knowledge development to discuss about project cycle management and business development strategy. We will motivate to relevant department for arranging a special training to increase their capacity.
Expected output 4.2						

Improved professional skills of D/A					
Output indicator 4.2.1: # of PooCs employed thanks to TVET and job mediation	Target 2019: 30 PooCs thanks to TVET and job mediation. .	In this quarter in total 29 youth people are involved in training and 11 youth have got jobs.			<p>We will increase conversation session with trainee as well as their parents to reduce dropout rate.</p> <p>Linkage with different TVET institution for training and job mediation.</p> <p>We will search the suitable and friendly environment institute for their sustainable job.</p> <p>We will have linkage with MFI and Bank for access to finance for the business development of youth.</p>

3. LESSONS LEARNT

Lessons learnt	What opportunities are implied by the lessons learnt?	What challenges are implied by the lessons learnt?	Steering decisions for improving project implementation	Responsibility/ deadline
1. More opportunities will be created if government officials directly analyze the status of our PooCs through the field visit, so, they will be more sensitized about Dalit and Adibashi issues.	<p>Will be improved relationship between duty bearers and our PooCs</p> <p>PooCs will have direct communication with duty bearer and submit the claims to relevant departments.</p> <p>PooCs will have received more opportunities than previous time.</p>	<p>Workload of duty bearers.</p> <p>Lack of positive mindset up of bearers and local influential leader.</p>	<p>Through the regular communication, rapport building and various advocacy programs, we will encourage the govt. officials to increase visit at the field level so that government officials can directly monitor the situation of our PooCs.</p> <p>We will assist to our PooCs, for effecting communication with duty bearers for getting to the basic services.</p> <p>We will evolve and nurture our PooCs for improving their leadership . So, they can raise their voices and claim their rights.</p>	Community Development Organizer, Project Officer, Advocacy Officer, Project Manager Within 2019 and continuing regular basis.

2. If our PooCs directly submit their claim to the government /non govt departments, they get more benefits.	<p>Govt. officials will be more sensitized about D/A issues. They will consider their issues on priority basis.</p> <p>PooCs will be get more facilities from relevant department than previous time and their dignity and relationship will be improved with duty bearers.</p>	<p>There are no specific policy for D/A.</p> <p>Lack of knowledge of D/A about this policy / issue</p> <p>Bureaucratic Complexity and mind setup.</p> <p>Safety-net services are limited than needs.</p>	<p>We will increase knowledge of our PooCs about their rights and we will deliver information in the right time to our PooCs.</p> <p>We will encourage our poocs for regular communication with relavant departments. As a result, they will submit their claims and their rights and entitlements will be ensured.</p>	Community Development Organizer, Project Officer,Advocacy Officer, Project Manager. within September,2019 and continuing regular basis.
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3. Number of TVET participants will increase if we ensure their job placement in right time.	<p>Increased number of TVET participants and job placement is being ensured.</p> <p>Through the TVET activity, they will increase their income and it will help them to improve their livelihood and dignity.</p>	<p>They are not interested to work in night shift.</p> <p>Starting salary is less than their expectation, but due to mind set up they show less interest about this issue.</p>	Motivation and regular counseling with youth and their parents and linkage with different TVET institute for receiving training and ensure 100% job placement.	TVET Officer, Project Officer, Advocacy officer, Market Development Manager, Project Manager. Within September,2019
4. Increasing income through climate adaptive livelihood by introducing green technology.	Income of PooC has been increasing and maintaining healthy environment.	Natural disaster such as flood, cyclone, storm etc.	Develop capacity of PooCs to reduce the risks of disasters through conducting sessions on DRR.	Community Development Organizer, Project Officer, Project Manager. within September,2019 and continuing regular basis.
5. Increasing access to finance of PooCs through the extension field visit of different Banks and MFIs	PooCs have easy access to finance in different Banks and MFIs with increased amount of loans.	Banks and MFIs aren't interested to provide more than a certain amount of loans without legal documents of land.	<p>Deposit pension schemes (DPS) are being opened in different Banks.</p> <p>Increasing visits to Adibashi communities by Bank and MFI officials.</p>	Market Development Officer, Market Development Manager, Project Manager within September,2019