

Quarterly project update/report (July-September 2020)

Project name	Dalit/Adibashi Rights, Empowerment & Access towards Mainstream (DREAM)
Project number	610-404
Location of project	Adamdighi Upazila under Bogra district, Cheragpur, Mohadevpur and Enayetpur union at Mohadevpur Upazila, Patnitala, Patichora and Nazipur 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	1,57,98,336 BDT
Reporting period	July 2020- September 2020
Author and date of report	Shukla Mukherjee, Project Manager, DREAM Project, ARCO. 10.10.2020

Table of contents

ABBREVIATIONS	3
1. CONTEXT REVIEW	4
2. PROGRESS OF ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS.....	5-7
3. LESSONS LEARNT	7-8

ABBREVIATIONS

ARCO = ASSOCIATION FOR RURAL COOPERATION

DREAM=DALIT/ADIBASHI RIGHTS, EMPOWERMENT AND ACCESS TOWARDS
MAINSTREAM.

MFI = MICRO FINANCE INSTITUTE.

POOCs = PEOPLE OF OUR CONCERN.

TVET= TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TRAINING

VCA = VALUE CHAIN APPROACH

VDC = VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

HHs= HOUSEHOLDS

BDT=BANGLADESH TAKA

SMC=SCHOOL MANAGEMET COMMITTEE

D/A=DALIT AND ADIBASHI

VGf=VULNERABLE GROUP FEEDING

VGd= VULNERABLE GROUP DEVELOPMENT

NGO=NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

COVID= CORONA VIRUS DISEASE

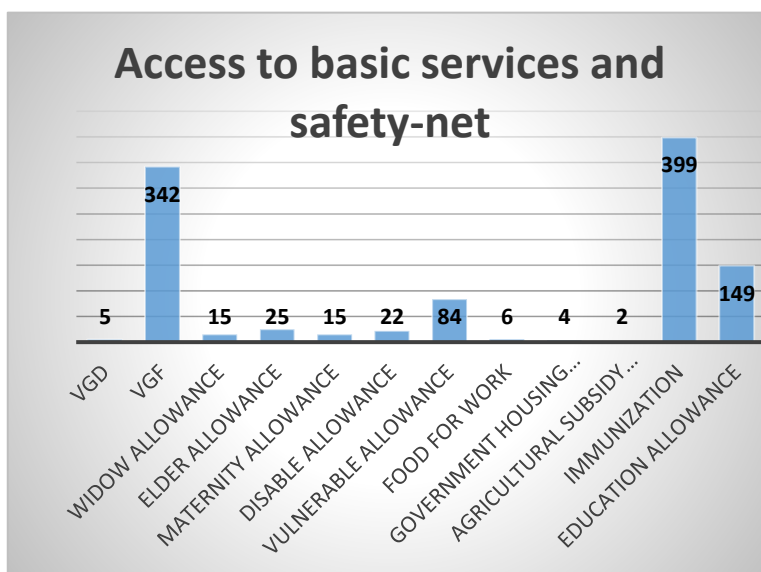
NNMC= NETWORK OF NON-MAINSTREAMED MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES

PIDIM = PROMOTING INCLUSION OF DISCRIMINATED GROUPS THROUGH INSTITUTIONAL
MECHANISMS

1. CONTEXT REVIEW

Like other countries, Bangladesh has been crossing a very crucial period due to COVID-19 pandemic. It affected the economy of our PooCs directly as well as of all people. As our PooCs lost their work, they could not sell their products at reasonable price where as they could not buy their daily living things at affordable price, youth lost their job, some took loans at high interest from money lenders but could not refund to till and their overall situation have been almost remaining same. The project has conducted advocacy workshop, lobbying and linkage with relevant actors and duty bearers to enhance for Access to service during pandemic, motivational sessions with TVET participants and communication with new producers for doormat production, communication and discussion with market actors and producer for a better functioning for market initiatives, value chain financing workshop for access to business expansion, linkage with different agencies/private sectors for wage employment, low cost affordable green technology, meeting with local elites for education sponsorship collection, linkage with land office and legal aid support for land recovery etc. to overcome this vulnerable situation and ensure their rights and improve their economic condition.

A number of 1068 PooCs had received safety net and basic services like VGD, VGF, elder allowance, widow allowance, maternity allowance, tube well, latrine, immunization, education allowance etc. 32 producers received loan of BDT, 22,25,000.00 from different banks, 125 producers increased their medium income through Bull fattening (80 producers), Chicken rearing (15 Producers) and Doormat production (30 producers) (source: production cycle management). 10 youths have received training and linked with job in local agencies on different trades (mason 7, hair cutting 2 and electrician 1 youth) who have been earning BDT, 7,000.00 on average. A number of 20 PooCs have accessed 1.6 hectare of land user rights and 18 PooCs have accessed 1.23 hectare transfer rights of their land. A number of 12 claims have been made and 9 claims have accepted. A number of 2 PooCs were included in school management committee.



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 (%) ex-penses on ex-pected 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: 1,21,000 BDT Out put (1.1-1.3.11)	Spent Amount: 1,16,291 BDT (96%) Out put (1.1-1.3.11)		
Output indicator 1.1.1: # of Official claims made / accepted reflecting the interests of PooCs	Target: 3rd Quarter, 2020 Made claim : 3 accepted claim : 1 (As per M&E plan, our total annual target is Claim made : 10 and accepted is : 5 where we have devided by 4 quarters, then we calculate the quarterly target.)	Our PooCs made 12 claims such as access to safety net and basice services, road construction, pond binding etc. and 9 claims have implemented (safety net and basic services,road constrution,pond binding etc).				We will capaciate our PooCs regarding their rights and entitlements. We will assist our VDC members to build linkage with local govt. and upazila administration for getting their rights. We will grow leadership of our PooCs for raising their voices
Expected output 2.1: Adibashi people are aware about the laws related to land monitoring mechanism.			Total plan budget: 42,000 BDT output :(2.1,2.1-2.2.2)	Spent Amount: 40,723 BDT (96.96%) output :(2.1,2.1-2.2.2)		

Expected output 3.2 Social interaction with mainstream neighbors :			Total plan budget: 1,42,000 BDT out put :(3.1.3.2-3.1.3.2.5)	Spent Amount: 1.35,359 BDT (95.32%) out put :(3.1.3.2-3.1.3.2.5)		
Output indicator 3..2.2: 80 % PooCs children don't experience discrimination at school (by teacher, other students)	Target 3rd Quarter, 2020 2%children don't experience discrimination (As per M&E plan, our total annual target is 5% where we have devided by 4 quarters, then we calculate the quarterly target.)	During this period, all schools have been remaining closed. So, it is very difficult to measure the discrimination level. Our previous cumulative achievement is 95% of PooC's children do not experience discrimination at school by the teachers and other students				We will conduct awareness session with SMC and as well as school going children parents to include the SMC committee. We will build good relationship with the mainstream parents towards Dalit and Adibashi students
Expected output 4.1: Increased regular income D/A through VCA			Total plan budget: 2,17,166 BDT out put (4.1.1-4.1.35)	Spent Amount: 1,40,168 BDT (65%) out put (4.1.1-4.1.35)	Due to workload of our PooCs(Paddy cultivation and harvesting season), they could not spend their time to attend the training. So, we could not implement this activity (Low cost affordable green technology and doormat training) in this quarter.	We will revise our plan and implement it in next quarter.
Output indicator 4.1.3 : # of PooCs who increased their practical knowledge on VCD through specific trainings and on VCD supporting areas	Target 3rd Quarter, 2020 : 25 producers have practical knowledge on VC (As per M&E plan, our total annual target is 100 where we have devided by 4 quarters, then we calculate the quarterly target.)	In this quarter, 32 producers have increased practical knowledge on VC				We will capaciate our producers through doormat production and new technology We will arrange value chain financing workshop for getting subsidy (4% interest) which is provided by government through government banks.
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 3rd Quarter, 2020: 5 PooCs thanks to TVET and job mediation. (As per M&E plan, our total annual target is 15 where we have divided by 4 quarters, then we calculate the quarterly target.)	10 youths thanks to TVET and starting their job in the local agencies (mason, saloon and electrical trades)				We will increase linkage with different local agencies for TVET training as well as their job. When the TVET institutes will start their training courses, we will link them with the TVET institutes.
Outcome 6 Capacitated communities in coping COVID-19 pandemic through capacity building, enhanced social protection, market engagement and other development initiatives.	Target: 3rd Quarter, 2020 Hygiene kit distribution= 1983 HHs Food distribution=595 HHs	Hygiene kit distribution= 1983 HHs Food distribution=595 HHs	Total plan budget: 8,22,605 BDT out put (5.1,5.2,5.3)	Spent Amount: 7,91,653 BDT (96%) out put (5.1,5.2,5.3)		Due to COVID-19 pandemic situation, this outcome is created.

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. Community own initiative can create positive atmosphere for accessing their rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Mind set-up of duty bearers will be changed. ❖ They will get more services ❖ Rapport building with duty bearers ❖ Rapid solve the problem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Less allocation as per their requirement ❖ No specific policy for D/A people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ We will share statistical data of D/A about their vulnerability. ❖ We will do advocacy in favor of D/A people for getting more services. ❖ We will work with policy level through the support of NNMC and PIDIM. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Project Officer, Advocacy officer ❖ Continuous process around the year 2020

2. Resilient community could reduce their vulnerability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ D/A will have increased income and savings. ❖ They will have increased access on land and natural resources. ❖ Community infrastructure will be developed. ❖ Community will have DRR plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lack of proper knowledge of D/A about resilience ❖ Lack of access to finance. ❖ Govt. has no specific plan for D/A. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ We will strengthen discussion regarding this policy with Disaster Management Committee and relevant government departments for being more sensitized to create this policy. ❖ We will do advocacy with government departments for accessing natural resources (Khas land, pond etc.) ❖ We will work for develop their skill regarding income generating activities. ❖ We will do advocacy for infrastructure development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Project Officer, Advocacy officer, Community Development organizer, Project Manager ❖ Continuous process around the year 2020
3. Self-employment of TVET graduates is more effective than institutional job.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dropout rate of youth will be decreased. ❖ Their income will be sustainable ❖ Their acceptance will be increased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Banks and MFIs aren't interested to provide more than a certain amount of loans without legal documents of land. ❖ Business reputation for Adibashi youth could take longer time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ We will increase capacity of graduated youth through motivational sessions and exposure visits. ❖ We will organize value chain financing workshop for TVET graduates. ❖ We will build linkage with TVET graduates and market actors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ TVET Officer, Market Development Manager. ❖ <i>Continuous process around the year 2020</i>