

## Annual Project Report

<b>Project name</b>	Dalit/Adibashi Rights, Empowerment & Access towards Mainstream (DREAM)
<b>Location of project</b>	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.
<b>Implementing organisation</b>	Association for Rural Cooperation (ARCO)
<b>Duration of project</b>	January 2017-December 2020
<b>Reporting period</b>	January 2018-December 2018
<b>Total project budget</b>	6,77,42,978 BDT
<b>Annual project budget</b>	1,75,52,774 BDT
<b>Annual project costs</b>	1,74,88027 BDT
<b>Author of report and date of submission</b>	Sajal Kumar Chowdhury (ED) 20 January 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, VOCATIONAL & EDUCATIONAL 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

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ARCO has been implementing Dalit/Adibashi Rights Empowerment and Access towards Mainstream (DREAM) Project in North-west regions of Bangladesh since 2009. Its goal is to ensure dignity of Dalit and Adibashi community through social inclusion. It was projected to cover 6484 PooCs in total by 2020. The project interventions approach and working methods, and transversal themes aim to change in political, legal framework, social and economic development, social inclusion, and dignity of Adibashi and Dalit people. All the programs were intervened through striving for systemic change, HRBA, inclusive market development, Diapraxis, and Phase in/out strategy to reach the envisaged outcomes. The aspects of gender, resilience building, and conflict sensitivity were considered in programming. The activities were conducted according to the target as per field activity operational guidelines, and thereby achievements have been reached during the reporting periods.

Advocacy workshops, meetings, social audit, and other relevant activities were conducted at Communities, Union Parishad, Upazila and District Administration purposively to reach the envisaged results and outcomes. The project development strategies were shared and claimed to address the situation of Dalit and Adibashi communities. It has been accepted by all authorities after visiting and conducting meeting of Deputy Commissioner with PooCs on 4 June 2018, where all the high officials of District and Upazila administration took part. He assigned the respective Officers to solve the problems of accessing safety net, education, health, housing and rehabilitation, Khash land, water bodies, micro-finance, capacity building of producers, TVET, etc. Accordingly, an action plan of integrated approach was developed to promote their socio-economic status

In total 3612 PooCs have got access various services from various department. Both public and private sectors have become sensitive and playing a vital role to provide their services. During the reporting period, 466 PooCs got VGF, 46 old aged allowance, 21 Maternity allowances, 283 education allowances, 176 education stipend 85 food for work (Govt. and NGO), and 28 women received widow allowances. 33 marginalized Adibashi farmers received agriculture subsidy card, 47 VGD, 17 disable allowance, 7 community solar, 53 housing, 207 vulnerable allowance, 101 latrine, 22 tube-wells and immunization 252. Warm clothes distributed to 853 extreme suffered people of cold wave in January of this year with the support of Banks and Social Activists. Four (4) Adibashi households have setup bio-gas plants from DYD. Around 1000 PooCs have health facilities from DHFP, Surjer Hashi clinic and community clinic.

During this reporting period we have analysed meeting minutes, claim analysis, personal observation, Training by panel lawyers, awareness session, advocacy meeting and noticed that around 35% PooCs have aware about land rights and their entitlements. Now they have taken initiatives to collect their land related legal documents and communicated with Upazila land officials regularly. We have motivated them to lease land for agricultural purpose. Now they have claimed for their land ownership to respective department. Especially local govt (union Parishad) has played an important role to solve the land conflict. In this reporting period, Dalit and Adibashi PooCs have access to transfer rights-2 hectares and Use rights-12 hectares. Local administration, community people and mainstream people jointly undertook some security measures such as combating of drug business, installation of solar panel in the community, etc. for the security concerned of PooCs. HRPC also have emphasized on security of Dalit and Adibashi people and involved in arbitration process as connectors to improve non-violence situations.

Around 74% PooCs perceived their income increased. Their savings in banks, sanitation, living standards, brick bond houses, use of new technology, etc. have been increased. It observed that 28 bull-fattening producers developed their brick bond shed and 56 chicken producers developed the chicken production shed to expand their regular business. In addition, the choices of sustainable livelihoods have been increased and the producers have undertaken value addition measurement to making profits such as production of Vermi compost. The

conducive environment in Banks created for the producers' saving and access to finance for business expanding. Access to finance for producers is increasing. Job linkage and startup earning of 24 TVET youths have been increased and engaged in decent jobs. The project activities have resulted to gain some unintended achievement such as setup bio-gas plant and Vermi compost fertilizers, which added values of making more profits of their bull fattening business.

In spite of having country wide Rahinga crisis, national election and different claims of opposition parties, the program interventions were not interrupted due to Diapraxis, the administrative support and harmonizing the activities and strategies with government agenda in access to services and combat the illegal trade of drug. Job quota withdraws, amendment movements, movement for road have been created the panic amongst the leaders of Adibashi and Dalits in terms of exclusion from the ongoing opportunities. The recorded cold wave did not create disaster like situation rather than the PooCs were able to cope with the situation by learning session, information sharing and training. The producers' products were not extremely affected as well as the severe mortality of chickens is not observed (it was MR 8.14) and dead of cows were not reported. The project is in the track in terms of expenditure and completed activities.

The project intervention has increased the empowerment of PooCs in access of basic services and resources of public and private sectors responsively. The linkage of PooCs with public and private sectors were increased and thereby it engaged the PooCs in holistic development process. It was shared the strategy, action plan and monitoring protocol of Cheragpur model village development to the highest authorities of district administration addressing the rights based requirement of PooCs. It was accepted, and accordingly the Deputy Commissioner of Naogaon visited PooCs on 4 May 2018, where most of the higher officials took part to observe the real situations and problems of deprivation from development needs. On spot, the DC provided strategic directors and assigned responsible officials to solve the problems within a timeframe. It has promoted a dynamic shape of accessing safety net and other extension services from public and private sectors. In the reporting period, it is observed that a significant number of PooCs got safety net and other extension services more than previous (VGF, VGD, Maternity allowance, Old aged allowance, Widow allowances, Food for work, Agriculture subsidy card, Warm cloths, Education allowance, Education stipend, Disable allowance, Community solar, Housing facilities, Vulnerable allowance, Sanitary latrine, Tube-well, Immunization, Micro finance for business development, etc.).

The capacity of VDC's leader and women's empowerment have been increased and accordingly they had membership in local forum (Adibashi forum, Horijon Oyokka Parishad, etc), and linked with national level platform such as NNMC and other networks (KOKAS, Jatio Adibashi Parishad). In the platform, they got the scope of playing an influential role as well as influencing local authority's accountability and transparency in accessing rights and entitlements of Adibashi people. During the reporting period in total 30 PooCs (Male-24 Female-6) are involved in various committee such as school management committee, Mondir committee, ward committee for promoting their rights and entitlements.

The producers are empowered to deal their business. In addition, they feel conducive environment in market where they sold most of their products. It created the access to micro finance from Bank with low interest. The 52 producers received micro-finance for business expanding. It has increased the producers' savings in Banks, access to quality inputs of low cost, micro finance for their business development and products selling in mainstream markets.

## 2. POSITIONING THE PROJECT IN THE HEKS/EPER COUNTRY/PROGRAM

ARCO has been implementing DREAM project in North-west region of Bangladesh with the aim to ensure dignity of Dalit and Adibashi community through social inclusion. The project interventions have systematically addressed the approaches of striving for systemic change, Human Right Based Approach, inclusive market development, Diapraxis and phase in/out strategy harmonizing. In the intervention of year 2019, the approaches contributed significantly to reach its outcomes' results. In the year, a number of new lessons learn are realized also, and these are very important for sustainable development of ethnic minorities.

The project intervention has increased the empowerment of Poocs in access of basic services and resources of public and private sectors responsively. The linkage of Poocs with public and private sectors were increased and thereby it engaged the Poocs in holistic development process. It was shared the strategy, action plan and monitoring protocol of Cheragpur model village development to the highest authorities of district administration addressing the rights based requirement of Poocs. It was accepted, and accordingly the Deputy Commissioner of Naogaon visited PooCs on 4 May 2018, where most of the higher officials took part to observe the real situations and problems of deprivation from development needs. On spot, the DC provided strategic directors and assigned responsible officials to solve the problems within a timeframe. It has promoted a dynamic shape of accessing safety net and other extension services from public and private sectors. In the reporting period, we observed that Poocs have got safety net and other extension services more than previous (VGF, VGD, Maternity allowance, Old aged allowance, Widow allowances, Food for work, Agriculture subsidy card, Warm cloths, Education allowance, Education stipend, Disable allowance, Community solar, Housing facilities, Vulnerable allowance, Sanitary latrine, Tube-well, Immunization, Micro finance for business development, etc.).

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The producers are empowered to deal their business. Also they feel a conducive environment in market where they sold most of their products. It created the access to micro finance from Bank with low interest. The 52 producers received micro-finance for business expanding. It has increased the producers' savings in Banks, access to quality inputs of low cost, micro finance for their business development and products selling in mainstream markets. The market actors such as vaccinators, pravets, egg suppliers, chicks' producers, traders, etc. have been developed, and they are providing their business services in both mainstream and poocs' communities, which has fostered the inclusive market system development and diapraxis. Job linkage and startup earning of 24 TVET youths have been increased and engaged in decent jobs. The business development of bull fattening, chicken rearing, doormat production and job placement has upheld their food security situations increasing their income. It has increased the producers' capability of farm management of bull fattening and chicken rearing, and undertaking disaster risks reduction perceiving their climate variability and undertaking real time decisions, which has increased the profit making of their products.

### **3. CONTEXT: OBSERVATION ON THE PROJECT ENVIRONMENT**

#### **3.1. POLITICAL SITUATION AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

It observed a spate of countrywide violent attacks against secular bloggers, academics, rights activists, foreigners, and members of religious minorities in the last few years. In the year 2018, it observed countrywide Rahinga crisis, movement of job quota amendment, and claims of opposition parties for free, fair and credible national election. Lastly, there was an enormous discussion on creating level playing fields of all parties for election campaigns rather than civil societies were worried about the countrywide security of religious minority communities according to experiences of extremists attract to them. In the contexts, the PooCs felt panics and the potentials threats of extremists. In addition, the government's anti-drug movement has been started and has been going with '0' tolerance to combat drug production and business. The movement has created a positive impact in the community beyond the intra conflict to tackle the situations. It has positively impact of combating open drug business, which was observed in the communities and created intra conflict in the communities during reporting period. In addition, two PooCs combated drug business reported in the last year and UP chairman undertaken actions to rehabilitate them facilitating to access to finance from RAKUB as referee. It is notably to say that it has created the potentiality of growing up next generation free from drug.

The government actors, law enforcing agencies and local government bodies were so sensitive to control the panic situations and play pivotal roles for keeping the peace and security. They have undertaken institutional response to harmonize the development issues of NGOs to reach the country in line of middle-income countries. The strategies developed in this view and ARCO has been a part of this. ARCO model village development strategies of improving living standards of Adibashi and Dalit communities have been accepted by Deputy Commissioner and are going to implement jointly under the patronization of government authority. The strategies and action plan are effectively addressing to solve the problems of accessing safety net, education, health, housing and rehabilitation, Khash land, water bodies, micro-finance, capacity building of producers, TVET, etc. The implementation of laws, policies, and strategies has maximized the opportunities of social inclusion of Adibashi and Dalit people with respect and dignity.

#### **3.2. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS**

The problems of accessing safety net, education, health, housing and rehabilitation, Khash land, water bodies, micro-finance, capacity building of producers, TVET, etc. have been addressed to promote inclusion of Dalit and Adibashi people and Diapraxis with common consensus of ARCO, mainstreaming communities, public and private actors, market actors, etc. An integrated action plan has been developed in this regard, which is being monitored by Deputy Commissioner assigning the specific tasks to the government authorities. It has increased the Adibashi and Dalits people's access to the services of both public and private sectors. 396 PooCs got the services of VGF, 23 old aged allowance, 2 Maternity allowances, 54 education allowances, 79 food for work (Govt. and NGO), and 11 women received widow allowances. A total of 33 marginalized Adibashi farmers received agriculture subsidy card. Warm clothes distributed to 853 extreme suffered people of cold wave in January of this year with the support of Banks and Social Activists, which contributed to improve their socio-economic status. Women mobilization has been increased and took part in different livelihood promotion training organized by DYD, and ULO.

The awareness about land rights and their entitlements has been increased among 35% PooCs, which has increased the using rights on Adibashi communities on 12 hectares land and transferring rights on 2 hectares land. It has increased the economic status of 74% PooCs as a result of increasing practical knowledge on value chain activities, business development, building linkage with BANK, ULO, DYD, and MFIs, developing vaccinators, Paravet, increasing chicks' production, increasing DRR capacity building, linkage with output markets' buyers, etc.

It increased social inclusion of PooCs as a result of social mobilization, and linkage building with public and private sectors. In total 74% PooCs perceived their income increased. Their savings in banks, sanitation, living standards, brick bond houses, use of new technology, etc. have been increased. It observed that 28 bull-fattening producers developed their brick bond shed and 56 chicken producers developed the chicken production shed to expand their regular business. In addition, the choices of sustainable livelihoods have been increased and the producers have undertaken value addition measurement to making profits such as production of Vermi compost. The conducive environment in Banks created for the producers' saving and access to finance for business expanding. Access to finance for producers is increasing. Job linkage and startup earning of 24 TVET youths have been increased and engaged in decent jobs. The project activities have resulted to gain some unintended achievement such as setup bio-gas plant and Vermi compost fertilizers, which have added values of making more profits of their bull fattening business. The total interventions contributed to inclusions of producers within public and private service providing systems in view of profit making in their business more than previous. It increased the integrated approach in bull production to uphold their profit making.

## 4. PROGRESS, RESULTS AND CHANGES

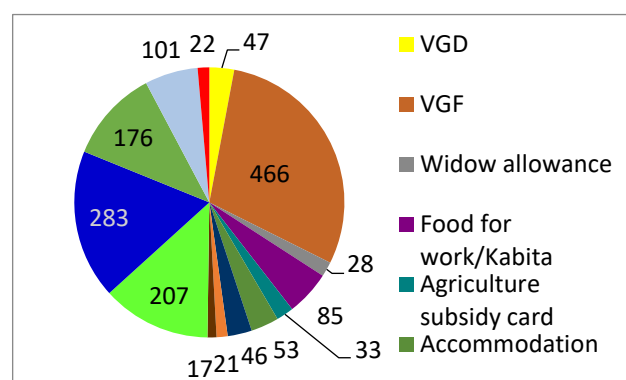
### 4.1. PROGRESS OF KEY ACTIVITIES / INTERVENTION LINES

**Outcome-1: Dalit and Adibashi have increased enjoyment of equal rights:** Regarding their rights and entitlement, the PooCs awareness has been increased and they are well informed as a result of playing responsive roles of duty bearers in access to information. Union Parishad and Upazila Administration played very positive roles in access to services, which has been increasing the enjoyment of equal rights of Dalit and Adibashi with mainstreaming communities. On the other hand, the knowledge and capacity of PooCs, especially the leaders of VDC has been increased regarding the services entitled for the marginalized people. VDC's movement to claiming their rights and services are observed, where claims are accepted by the concerned authorities.

During the reporting period, a significant number of PooCs received the services from public and private service providing institutions. More specifically, it is reported that a total of 466 PooCs have VGF, 47 PooCs got VGD, 46 old aged allowance, 21 Maternity allowances, 283 education allowances, regular education stipend-176, 85 food for work (Govt. and NGO), 28 women received widow allowances, 53 PooCs (Govt-4, Non-govt-49) received housing facilities, 207 PooCs have got vulnerable allowances, 101 PooCs have got latrines from the public health and NGO (Govt-30, NGO-71), 22 tube-wells (Govt-8, NGO-140) have installed in the community for safe water, 7 community solar have installed in the important places of the community which are in the track of M & E plan.

33 Adibashi farmers received agriculture

subsidy card. Warm clothes were distributed to 853 extreme suffered people of cold wave in January of this year with the support of Banks and Social Activists. Four (4) Adibashi households have setup bio-gas plants with the support of micro-finance of BDT. 30000, and Subsidy of BDT. 5000 to setup it from DYD. Around 1000 PooCs have got health facilities from the Department of Health and Family Planning, Surjer Hashi clinic and community clinic. Department of Health and Family Planning have been providing medicine free of cost and Surjer Hashi clinic provide medicine at 12% discount.





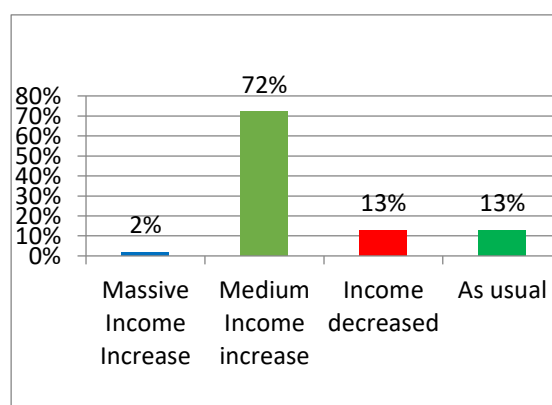
During this period, the VDC submitted at total of 37 Claims to respective authorities for road construction, graveyard, electricity, education allowance, solar, agriculture subsidy card, tree plantation, water supply, warm cloths, sanitation, land ownership, TVET, bundle of pond ,temple repair, safety-net, culvert, drug, speed breaker etc. In total 18 claims are accepted by the authorities on the issue of agriculture subsidy card, water& sanitation, Roads construction, temple, TVET, safety-net, drug, warm cloths).

During the reporting period in total 30 PooCs (Male-24 Female-6) are involved in various committee such as school management committee, Mondir committee, ward committee for promoting their rights and entitlements.

**Outcome-2: Increased access to land for Dalit and Adibashi:** During the reporting period around 35%PooCs have aware about land rights and their entitlements and the leaders of VDC have been able to move ahead to establish their ownership and control over land. It has been increasing their rights to access, ownership and control over their land. In this reporting period, 144 PooCs have access to transfer rights-2 hectares and Use rights-12 hectares. The Assistant Commissioner (AC) land played proactive roles in access to land.

**Outcome-3: Improved security and non-violence through improved relationship with mainstream people :** Local administration, community people and mainstream people have been sensitized about the security of Dalit and Adibashi people. Upazila Nirbahi Officer and Union Parishad Chairman have been concerned regarding the security and peace building. In the reporting period, some initiatives are observed to undertake with HRPC regarding this as follows:

- Local administration, community people and mainstream people jointly have taken initiatives for drug prevention and removed gambling which improved security and non-violence in the community.
- Installation of 7 solar panels provided by UP and PIO in view of security (especially women and adolescent girls) for movement at night. As the community, especially girls and women feel more secured in moving in the community at night than previous time.
- HRPC committee are actively involved in local level Arbitration, were it has emphasized on security measures of Dalit and Adibashi people, especially introducing rules of laws in combating domestic violence, child marriage, and land related complication. It has increased the non-violence practices in the community. Consequently, non-violence situation in the community is improving day by day.
- Now most of the dalit and Adibashi children have enrolled in formal school and received education without discrimination with the mainstream children.
- By arranging vaccination camp, social sports and cultural events, participating in open budget meeting, social arbitration and other social activities dalit and Adibashi PooCs have improved their relationship with their mainstream neighbors.
- Now most of the dalit and Adibashi community have a good control on drug business and consumption. Most of the communities have consumed drugs only in their religious and cultural events.
- Dalit and Adibashi people have aware about the demerits of early marriage and rate of early marriage is decreasing proportionately.



#### **Progress of Outcome-4 (Improved livelihood and economic status of Dalit and Adibashi through VCA and TVET:**

In the year, 74% PooCs perceived change in their income, which has contributed to improve their livelihoods and economic status. The field monitoring data revealed that 2% PooCs perceived massive (up to 30%) increase, 72% perceive medium (up to 20%) and 13% perceived as usual (up to 5%) increase of their annual income. But, 13% PooCs perceived their income decreased. The income increased their living standards, amount of saving in banks

and NGOs after meeting their regular consumptions, brick bond houses, sanitation and uses of technology. It observed that 28 bull-fattening producers developed their brick bond shed and 56 chicken producers developed the chicken production shed to expand their regular business. In addition, the choices of sustainable livelihoods have been increased and the producers have undertaken value addition measurement to making profits such as production of Vermi compost

The most significant factors contributing to increase income are the increase of practical knowledge on VCD, access to finance for PooCs to startup and expand the business; products selling in mainstream markets and the trained youths are engaged in job placement. The inclusive market system development contributed to profits making of their business more than previous year. In the reporting period, the project intervention increased practical knowledge of production management and market amongst 172 new producers against the yearly target (100).

The 224 producers extended their business receiving micro-finance from Banks Government sectoral department (DYD) and MFIs. 52, 3 and 45 bull-fattening producers received micro finance from Banks, Government sectoral department (DYD) and MFIs respectively. 124 chicken rearing producers received MFIs. The producers of bull fattening and chicken rearing sold about 88% products in the mainstreaming market. The bull-fattening and chicken rearing producers made BDT. 460 more profits/cycle than previous year on average. 5 doormat producers started up doormat production and each earned BDT. 600 per week producing 15 doormats in a week. The project placed with jobs of 24 unemployed youths through TVET, who are earning BDT. 2500-6500 per month.

Indicators	Target	Achieved	Variance
Practical Knowledge increased on VC	100	172	72
% of products sold in mainstream market	75%	88%	13%
% of producers received micro finance	310	224	-86
Job placement of youths by TVET	21	24	3

#### 4.2. INTENDED AND UNINTENDED RESULTS

- Four (4) Adibashi households have setup bio-gas plants with the support of micro-finance of BDT. 30,000, and Subsidy of BDT. 5000 to setup it from DYD. The bio-gas plants have been contributing to reduce women's care work in fuel management, and produce the byproducts (organic fertilizers, fish feeds, vermi-compost)
- Strategies for the developing living standards of Adibashi and Dalit Communities developed and accepted by District Administration, which have been implementing to reach the outcome indicators patronizing by government officers.
- Vermi compost production developed and expended by bull-fattening producers, which has increased their byproduct income.
- Using of Vermi compost in agriculture field has been increased and potentiality of green technology such homestead or farm-based vegetable gardening is developing.
- Potentiality of Vermi production business has been developed and its market has been increased
- 33 Adibashi farmers received agriculture subsidy card from union Parishad.
- A total of 5 producers have received Chari from Department of Agriculture to extend Vermi Compost in the working areas
- 2 producers received a package support of goat and cow rearing from Department of Upazila livestock

- During the reporting period, a number of girl's football team formed in the Dalit and Adibashi community. The girls have played regularly in their community and already two matches held in the open ground. As a result, mass people have gradually realized that girls are not burden of the family they are important resource of the family and as well as in the society. To inspire their spirits Police Super of Naogaon district have distributed 20 set jersey to the Enayetpur Girls football team. Being motivated by the Adibashi girls team mainstream girls showed interest to play football.

#### 4.3. BENEFICIARIES / POOC

Beneficiaries (per targeted subgroup)	Organizations (if applicable)	Families / households	Individual persons
Youth group ...	30 group	1701	811
Leaders of local organizations	30 VDC	1701	390
producers	31 producer Group	469	469
Women entrepreneurs	54	54	54
Community Disaster management Group	30 group	1701	450
<b>Total</b>			

#### 4.4. WORKING APPROACHES / METHODS

The project activities have systematically promoted the approaches of striving for systemic change, Human Right Based Approach, inclusive market development, Diapraxis and phase in/out strategy, which have sensitized the stakeholders towards the rights and entitlement of PooCs.

Human Rights based Approach focused on (i) empowering the ethnic people and (ii) making the duty bearers responsive towards the ethnic minorities by the project activities to reach it results. It promoted the better realization of their rights and demands of public and private sectors' services. Thereby a number of initiatives undertaken supported by VDC leaders for accessing safety net and other extension services from public and private sectors. It has built the linkages of VDC with government sectorial departments in access to institutional services for the most marginalized PooCs. Especially, the PooCs have received the services of safety net, education, health services, micro-finance, inputs of value chain activities, TVET of youths, etc. The administration has been playing vital roles because of harmonizing the project with the government issues after the visit of district commissioners with all sectorial department. DC conducted three meeting in three (3) communities. According to the problems, he has assigned the tasks to the officers of each sector to solve the problems.

A number of learning sessions and training on livestock rearing levered from public and private sectors to increase practical knowledge on value chain. It built linkage with BANK, ULO, DYD, and MFIs, developing vaccinators, Paravet, increasing chicks' production, increasing DRR capacity building, linkage with output markets' buyers, etc.

The mobilizations of PooCs have been increased to get learning and have the financial services to setup their business. Backward and forward market linkage as well as value chain approach increased to foster the profit-making initiatives. Match making within producers and input suppliers of public and private sectors will be facilitated for promotion and application of improved agriculture technology, quality and improved input services through crowding of input suppliers, access to market information, and risks assessment of its application for lowering the production cost. A total of 52 producers have secured loan from Bank, DYD and MFIs in this quarter. The 88% products of producers have sold in the markets with fair prizes. The input supply flows have been increased to minimize the production cost about BDT. 1000. There have been created a number of scopes of graduating VDC as a result of inclusion with the

public and private sectors. The ongoing approaches have created the scope of applying other approaches such as integrated bull fattening culture, advocacy, and disaster risks reduction to foster the ways of achieving project's outcomes.

#### **4.5. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

##### *Gender*

DREAM project considers Gender issue in all its activities and wants to create a gender-balanced situation in the dalit and Adibashi community. It is highly emphasized to ensure the participation of women in power structure and decision-making process. All the VDC of dalit and Adibashi community have formed with the proportionate rate of men and women in the executive bodies. Therefore, the women can take part in all the development activities of the community. It raises the voices of women inside the community. Traditionally Dalit and Adibashi women have involved in income related activities. However, they have no power to spend the money without consent/permission of their husbands or male members of the family. Nowadays a common awareness is rising among the community people about gender equity. The male members of the family have shared all the matters with his partners and the women also started taken part in the family decision making process gradually. Through value chain activities women have various technical training from Upazila livestock department and work as vaccinator. Now 29 women vaccinators work for native chicken and ducks for their own community and mainstream community. They collected vaccine from ULO office with their own initiatives and delivered various vaccines to the native chicken of producer group members as well as their neighborhood. They are sharing their learning's to the PG members. The project also arranges a series of learning /awareness session to VDC/ PG members through the support of SPA and other actors. On the other hand, adolescent girls have inspired to develop themselves for their own community development. They campaign against various types of social issues as like early marriage, drug addiction, sanitation, using safe water etc. They also motivated children for going school. During this reporting period DREAM project arranged three batches training on Gender development in the participation of 78 men and women PooCs. In case of promoting leadership within women, projects have successfully been included women in the power hubs, which have influence to governance of that particular community. In total 6 women enrolled in School Management Committee. During the reporting period, a number of girl's football team has formed in the Dalit and Adibashi community. The girls have played regularly in their community and already two matches held in the open ground. As a result, mass people have gradually realized that girls are not burden of the family they are important resource of the family and as well as in the society.

##### *Resilience building*

Weather is changing day by day due to global climate change. It influenced also in our north-west part of Naogaon district. Each year many disasters have occurred such as flood, cold wave, drought, water logging, storm, earthquake and thundering. The probability of occurrence for different hazards are different but impact on PooCs lives and livelihoods are high since they still lack knowledge, information and capacity. The DREAM project has done social mappings, hazard identifications, adaptation strategy and seasonal calendars. The communities have come with a CDRRP endorsed by UDMC and developed contingency planning at its area. The plan of CDRRP is under process of integration of project planning and activities to make them able to cope during disaster.

During the period, 75 PooCs and volunteer of new community have received training on disaster risk reduction. Now all the community people assessed their disaster risk and practiced five tools of disaster risk reduction. Now they have identified their hazardous area and develop plan. On the other hand, our community people naturally have taken some techniques to cope with disaster risk. Such as during heavy cold and drought period PooCs covered their seedbed, vegetables plot, and plough disaster adaptive crops to mitigate disaster losses. During this period DREAM project have arranged various meetings with upazila

agriculture department and Borendra Development authority. The relevant department provides orientation to PooCs how and when cultivates land to adopt disaster and climate change situation. Our PooCs have involved in homestead gardening, vermi-compost, Trycho compost activities. They have installed biogas plant, which helps to CCA and fuel management of their family. Total 685 PooCs (PG members, CDMC, volunteer etc) were oriented to undertaken DRR measures to protect their production and reduce the losses of benefits. Still capacity buildings of all the communities are not same level according to the nature and unconsciousness of our PooCs and geographical area.

#### *Conflict sensitivity*

Conflict always considered as a hinder for sustainable developments. There are many intra and internal conflicts exist in the Dalit and Adibashi community. Those conflicting issues are land grabbing, drugs business, water body, superstitions, leadership etc. There are many connectors and dividers are existing in the community who accelerate the conflict may vanish or may arise. In the power structure, the participation of dalit and Adibashi representative is extremely poor. So, a psychological conflict and hesitation has confined them towards development. DREAM project has identified their conflicts and aware themselves to handle intra and internal conflicts of the community. They have discussed those conflicting issues regularly in their VDC meetings and take necessary actions for conflict resolution. They have jointly taken initiatives with the mainstream community for the improvement of socio-economic environment of their surroundings. DREAM projects also take initiative to include them in power structure especially in the up standing committee, school management committee, bazaar committee etc. to raise their voices and claim their rights according to their needs. The project also maintains the influential relationship with local administration and deals the conflict issues with the help of local administration. It has increased social accountability by improving transparency and information sharing about projects towards PooCs and the wider public and establishing functioning complaint mechanisms in the communities.

#### **4.6. FINANCIAL STATUS**

<b>Description</b> <i>(as per the lines of the approved budget)</i>	<b>Total yearly expenditure</b> (CHF)	<b>Total yearly budget</b> (CHF)	<b>Variance</b> (%)
Admin costs	17524.35	17625.73	101.38
Personnel costs	139072.31	139628.59	556.28
Project costs (activities)	72961.36	73222.67	261.30
Investment	1592.44	1533.33	-59.11
Evaluation	956.56	960	3.44
Audit	1066.67	1066.67	00
Other			
<b>Total project costs</b>	<b>233173.69</b>	<b>234036.99</b>	<b>863.29</b>

#### **5. IMPLEMENTATION SET-UP**

The project is implementing in two north-west districts like Naogaon and Bogra of Rajshahi division of Bangladesh. The project is an integrated multi-dimensional project. The project has a wide range of actions, from the community to the national level with intensive work. The DREAM project staff set-up is good for project implementation. There is being a Project Manager (PM) who is responsible for overall project implementation. There is two project officer, one monitoring & evaluation officer, one advocacy officer and one admin & finance officer whose are reportable to PM. There is a Market Development Manager who is reportable to ED. There are two market development officers whose are reportable to MDM. There are some frontline staff like seven Community Development Organizer (CDO), six



Child and Adolescent Development Organizer (CADO) and eight Community Facilitators (CF), whose are reportable to PO but close relation with all technical staff.

## 6. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOLLOW-UP

<p>Challenges/Risk</p> <p>C 1: Political situation is not favorable for our project activities.</p> <p>C2: Favorable policy are not available for Dalit/Adibashi people</p> <p>C3 : Bank are not interested to distribute loan among our PooCs without mortgage</p> <p>C4: Our PooCs have not enough resilience to reduce the gigantic disaster risk.</p> <p>C5 : Govt Services are not sufficient according to the demands of Dalit and Adibashi</p>	<p>Coping strategies and expected added value:</p> <p>S1: We will aware our PooCs so that they cannot involved in political issue which creates unrest situation</p> <p>S2: we will show the Dalit and Adibashi issues and discuss situation through the various advocacy programs, regular counseling, field visit and communication.</p> <p>S3:.We will build up a good relationship with the respective Bank authority &amp; MFI for loan sanction without mortgage.</p> <p>S4: we will arrange awareness session and training for build, their capacity and We will build linkage between PooCs and govt. official department to include representative of Dalit and Adibashi in DRR committee to get opportunity from govt. department.</p> <p>S5: We will sensitize govt officials to Dalit and Adibashi and getting priority basis different govt services.</p>
<p>Opportunities:</p> <p>We have many opportunities to get networking membership at national and international level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Govt. officials more sensitized about Dalit and Adibashi issues. (Such as safety net, health, education, provide training etc.) than before, time.</li> <li>• The organization has a good relationship with local administration.</li> <li>• MFI and Bank authority have sensitized to provide loan to Dalit and Adibashi PooCs for VCA.</li> </ul>	<p>Capitalization strategies and expected added value:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since govt. officials are sensitized on Dalit and Adibashi issues, so therefore, we will arrange more advocacy workshop in local and district level to include those issues in govt. policy with values. As a result Dalit and Adibashi get opportunity then before time and their participation will increase.</li> <li>• We will get opportunity to work for the development livelihood of Dalit and Adibashi by implementing successful value chain program with the help of other donor project</li> <li>• We will build linkage between PooCs and MFI institution, build capacity of our PooCs, motivate our PooCs to use the loan money in the right trade and repay the loan money.</li> </ul>

## 7. PROJECT EXIT / CONTINUATION PLAN

It has mentioned that project will not phase out entirely at a time. The project will adopt a graduation model, which will work as guideline of phasing out of communities. According the phasing out criteria when a community will reach at level 4 (whatever the time needed) the project will stop direct assistance to the community. There will be VDC that will get legal status and the VDC will run their activities independently. Meetings will be organized to hand over responsibilities officially to the VDCs ensuring the presence of local government people. Handover process will be with relevant parties: the departments, ministries etc.

## 8. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The project follows comprehensive monitoring approach to ensure the quality of project and to ensure objective oriented implementation by producing expected results. Different tools, formats used to collect process data and compiled at different steps. Indicators, Base value, Target value, Cross cutting issues, working methods, assumption/risk, intervention logic and YPO to be considered for the project to attain expected outcome. For the field observation, pre-defined monitoring questions, which seem strategically most relevant for the success of our project.

Qualitative Participatory methods used to monitor target and achievement of field level. Staffs are Practicing MSC to find out expected and unexpected changes. Project staff prepares report of their routine monitoring data to his/her Supervisor. Data is collected on six months and yearly basis. Monitoring & Evaluation Officer and Field staff collected Data through visible impact mobile apps and FGD, PCM, checklist, KII, case study, interview, field observation etc. The core staff of the project evaluates the project staff performance in yearly basis through relevant formats. On the other hand, DREAM project monitor the VDC activities or status by using graduation model

**Evaluation:** The project has planned to carry out Annual review after completion of first year and Third Quarter of second years of the project by using its own expertise internally. ARCO follow the five DAC (Development assistance committee) criteria. These are 1) Effectiveness, 2) Efficiency, 3) Impact, 4) Relevance, 5) Sustainability. ARCO Propose that DAP will be carrying out an Evaluation of the project at the end. The Evaluation would consider major assumptions to establish causal relationship between input, output and outcome.

## 9. LESSONS LEARNT AND STEERING DECISIONS

Lessons learnt / focus areas	Steering decisions	Deliverables / expected outcomes	Deadlines	Responsibilities
Improve sanitation situation of Dalit and Adibashi community through CLTS	we will conduct CLTS training in the community	Community have been established 100% sanitation and reduced diarrheal and water bone diseases .	Within October 2019	Project Officer, Community Development organizer, Child and Adolescent Development Organizer, Project Manager
Homestead and farm Gardening in the light of CCA	we will aware our PooCs for homestead gardening. As a part of bull-fattening, Vermicompost is integrated and aims to expand homestead and farm gardening.	Established CCA and contributed to their livelihood.	Within July 2019,	Project Manager, Market Development Manager, M&E Officer, Project Officer,Market

Lessons learnt / focus areas	Steering decisions	Deliverables / expected outcomes	Deadlines	Responsibilities
Legal aid support for land recovery by panel lawyer(Khariz)	We will aware our PooCs to collect land related document and assist to communicate regularly with land officials.	PooCs have access to land rights (transfer rights).	within June,2019 and continuing regular basis	Community Development Organizer, Project Officer, Advocacy Officer, Project Manager.
Inspire PooCs to cultivate Kuchiya Fish for CCA	We will assist our poocs to communicate govt fishers department and linkage with other NGO department.	Established CCA which contributed to their livelihood	We will accomplish the activity within November,2019	Community Development Organizer, Project Officer, Advocacy Officer, Project Manager.
Establish and expand doormat in rural Dalit and Adibashi area Promotion of diversity of handlooms	we will involve the participation of the rural Dalit and Adibashi people.	Income have been increased and changed their livelihood.	Within December 2019	Market Development Manager, Project Officer, Market Development Officer, Advocacy officer, Community Development Organizer.
Increasing the number of TVET participants and ensure their job placement	Plan is conducted and a TVET officer will be appointed and assigned to fostered the idea.	Income have been increased and changed their livelihood.	Within December,2019	TVET Officer, Project Officer, Advocacy officer, Market Development Manager, Project Manager.
Low cost affordable green technology	Conduct plan Budget is allocated to accomplish the idea.	Established CCA which contributed to their livelihood	Within 3rd quarter, we will accomplish the activity	Project Officer, Market Development Officer, Market Development Manager, Project Manager
Cattle insurance for bull fattening business	Discussion is going on and a draft MoU is developed	Income have been increased and changed their livelihood.	Start up 1st Qurt.	MDM and PM

## 10. ANNEXES

Annex A: Financial Report (→ FFAG)

Annex B: Log frame Follow-up Matrix

Annex C: Case Study of Promising Practice / Innovative Working Approach



