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Increased **equitable access** to income for both women and men, and **nutritious food** for women, men, boys and girls



SHOUHARDO III purpose I aim to increase overall income of the participants through agricultural production, access to wider markets, investment in diversified income sources including off-farm activities, and increased utilization of financial services.



USD \$76 [July-August 2019 (FLAIRb)]



USD \$121 [September 2020 (RMS R-5)²]

Monthly income of participant household (HH)

61.4%

of respondents increased production¹



Climate-smart technologies used to overcome shocks: garden, seedling production in poly-bags, production. raised beds and pits, sack gardening methods etc. continue their production

SHOUHARDO III promoted the adoption of diversified income sources to minimize adverse effects when one income source, or a single crop, is affected by any kind of shock. The life skills training that the participants received- such as business planning, communication, negotiation, and problem-solving- have enabled them to better deal with market actors, private and public service providers. The program also mobilized Micro Seed Dealers and Micro Seed Retailers who supported participants in accessing quality inputs.



92.1%

households had access to market compared in FY20 to the 27.71% in FYI 7⁴



98.5%

respondents were involved in value chain activities⁵

SHOUHARDO III supported participants to engage with vegetable producers, collectors and traders, to act as a group to ensure quality seeds, saving time and resources between markets and program participants, especially aiding women participants. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the program worked to facilitate linkages through mobile phones between the Local Service Providers seeking support with big companies, such as ACI, Lal Teer, Brac and Aftab.



9,500

youth trained on employability skill, including basic soft skills, specialized trade skills, and employment linkages through job fairs.



1,500

Skilled youth were **connected to national companies** specializing in the food industry, electronics and garments.



5,222

youth were **linked to other local-level employment opportunities** with an average monthly income of USD \$177.



693

formation of new VSLAs In FY20

658 of the total VSLAs started the second cycle of operation as they found the savings very useful in meeting their financial needs.

The VSLAs served as a lifeline for 12,321 female members who received their share-out in an average of USD \$20 each. A number of the VSLAs stood beside the vulnerable people of their communities by allocating from the social fund and from personal contributions, which includes help during the pandemic. A total of 65 VSLAs provided money and relief goods to 478 HHs; the in-kind assistance was valued at USD \$648, to meet their necessities.



Future plan

Considering the sustainability of the VSLA as a financial solution in the community, the program conducted a pilot to develop a functional model of village agents/ Sanchay Sathis. 15 village agents were developed in FY20 and immediately started forming VSLAs independent of the program, setting up 39 groups by the end of FY20. SHOUHARDO III will expand this for the broader sustainability.

1. Fostering Learning and Adaptation in Resilience Building (FLAIRb)

2. Participant-based Sample Survey

3. 434 of 660 of respondents FY20 PaBS

4. FY20 PaBS 633 of 660 of surveyed households reported

5. In FY20, 359 of 365 of survey respondents