

Annual Report 2014-15





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LoCOS -Loving Care for the Oppressed Society

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Message

This is the 18th year of LoCOS as a development organization working for the development of the underprivileged, marginalized and disaster affected people of the southwest coastal region of Bangladesh. It is a cliché to articulate how severely vulnerable the region is and how much endangered the poor people of this area. LoCOS, a very small grassroots organization with limited resources and man power, has been trying its utmost to secure a better living condition for the people of this region by implementing different programs to strengthen the community's coping capacity to fight against the catastrophic and unforgiving situations.

The Annual Report (2014-2015) of LoCOS describes the activities, target and achievement that accomplished during the period. The report may interest, persons to have a bird's eye view about LoCOS. During the period of implementation LoCOS have faced different challenges and took measures to address of those challenges.

During the period, LoCOS has implemented Agricultural development, disaster and climate change resilience, food security, water and sanitation issue of project. In the period we are able to directly impact near about 10000 people of Dacope and Batiaghata Upazila through our development projects.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our community, group leaders and civil society members for their aspiration and endeavor towards making the change of the community. Our heartfelt thanks to the government officials, National and International donors for their moral, technical and financial support. Specially thanks to our board members and colleagues for their continuous support.

We would thankfully accept any comments and suggestion from our well- wishers of this report.

Deb Prosad Sarker
Executive Director

Acronyms

APCDRR	Action for the Participatory and Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction
BARCIK	Bangladesh Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge
BNF	Bangladesh NGO FOUNDATION
BRRI	Bangladesh Rice Research Institute
CBO	Community Based Organization
CSRL	Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods
CDPC	Community Disaster Preparedness Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DMC	Disaster Management Committee
EPI	Expanded Program on Immunization
FLACEP	Farmers Led Agro Biodiversity Conservation and Empowerment Program
FLADP	Farmers-led Agricultural Development Program
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
LoCOS	Loving Care for the Oppressed Society
PVS	Participatory Variety Selection
PVCA	Participatory Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
PC	Program Coordinator
VGd	Vulnerable Group Development

Local Terms

Sajina	Local name of Morunga plant
Chadi	Large bowl locally used, made of mud
Parishad	Committee
Maund	A unit of weight used in Bangladesh it is a few grams less than 40 kg
Amana	A kind of native paddy
Lakh	Local unit of number, consists of 100 thousands
Bigha	Local land measurement unit (.0747494 Bigha= 1Ayer)
Gher	Local name of fish farm
Ganz	Local entrepot of trade
Mahajan	Traditional money lender

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LoCOS at a Glance

1.1. Background of LoCOS

LoCOS-Loving Care for the Oppressed Society, founded in 1998 by some concerned, dedicated and humanitarian social workers, development practitioners and benevolent local youths, has been working and contributing for a comprehensive and sustainable development for the underprivileged, marginalized and disaster-hit people of the Southwest Region of Bangladesh. This organization focuses and emphasizes on the activities that are conducive to reducing poverty; ensuring food security, health and education; building self-confidence of the community's occupationally marginalized rural poor people by arranging technical support for income generating activities; establishing equal rights for men and women; raising issue based awareness; and guaranteeing sustainable agriculture through biodiversity conservation involving local community in the shape of non-profit, non-government and voluntary approach.

1.2. Legal Status

Registration Authority	Registration Number	Date of Registration
Department of Social Welfare of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh	Khulna- 758/98	December 06, 1998
NGO Affairs Bureau, Bangladesh	2798	July 8, 2013
European Union (PADOR Registration)	Europe Aid ID # BD-2010-EAE-0702933842	2010

1.3. Vision

An environmentally sound and economically independent society

1.4. Mission

Raising socio-economic status, environmental condition and rights of underprivileged people of the society

1.5. Objectives

- Improve food security and livelihoods of vulnerable communities in South-west coastal region of Bangladesh;
- Sustainable agricultural development and conserve bio-diversity focusing saline affected areas;
- Safe water, Sanitation and Hygiene promotion ;
- Climate Change adaptation and mitigation at grassroots level;
- Promotion of renewable energy at grassroots level;
- Disaster Risk Reduction, preparedness and responses;
- Improve good governance and human rights situations;
- Improve education and health & nutrition condition.

1.6. Governance Structure

- **General Body:** LoCOS has 21 members General Governing body where 9 members are female. The General Body elects 7 members from the 21 members for the period of two years as Executive Committee. The Secretary of the Executive Committee acts as the Executive Director of the Organization.
- **Executive Committee:** The Executive Committee has the effective control of the Organization by organizing meetings every 4 months interval. It approves the accounts, the budget, all policies and procedures and the organization's Programs/projects.
- **Advisory Committee:** LoCOS has an Advisory Committee consisting of 3 members who remain on their post for 2 years and their main purpose is to give technical advice to run the organization.

1.7 Geographical Area Coverage

Name of District	Name of Upazila	Number of Unions and Pourosva	Remarks
Khulna	Batiaghata	7	
	Dacope	10	
	Dumuria	10	
Kurigram	Fulbari	6	

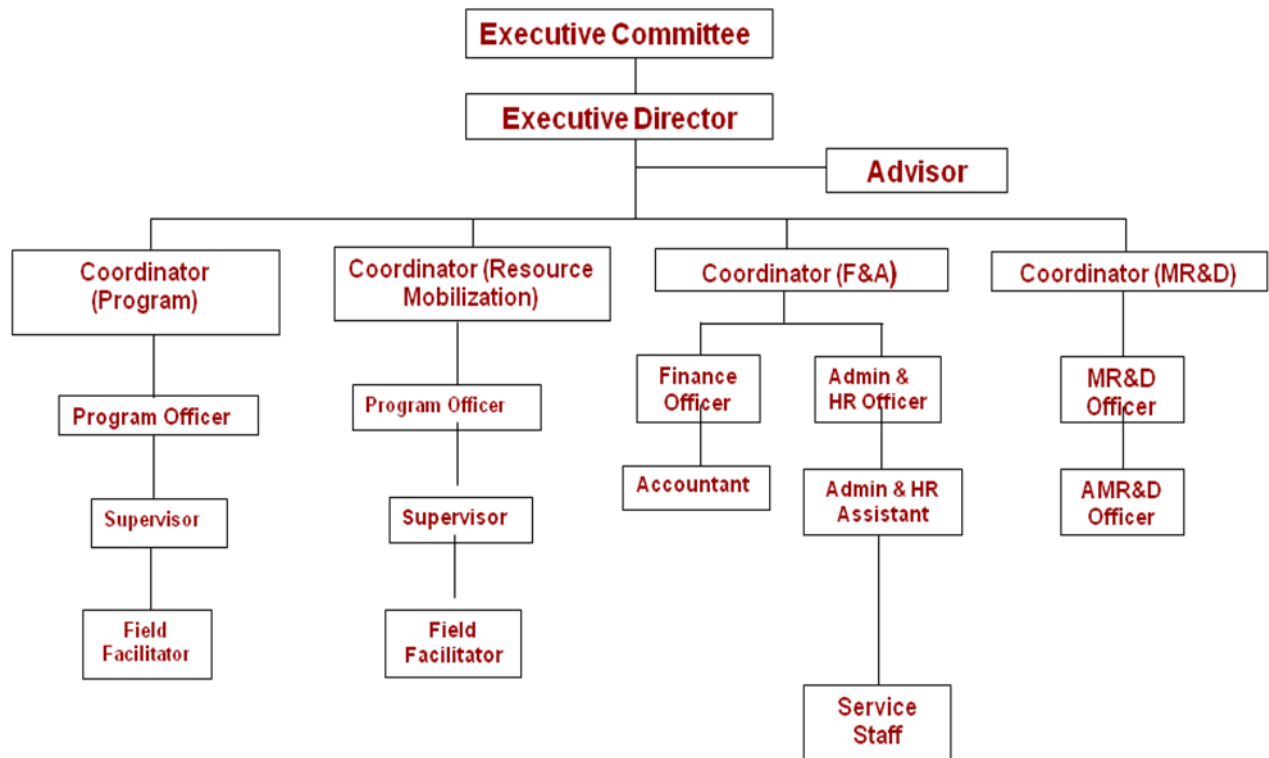
1.8 Membership, Partnership and Networking

Name of Body	Theme/Focus	Year of affiliation	Position of the organization
CSRL-Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihood	Access to Natural Resources	2008	Member
Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh-ADAB	Coordination of NGOs	2001	Executive Member
KHANI Action-Aid	Food Security	2010	Member

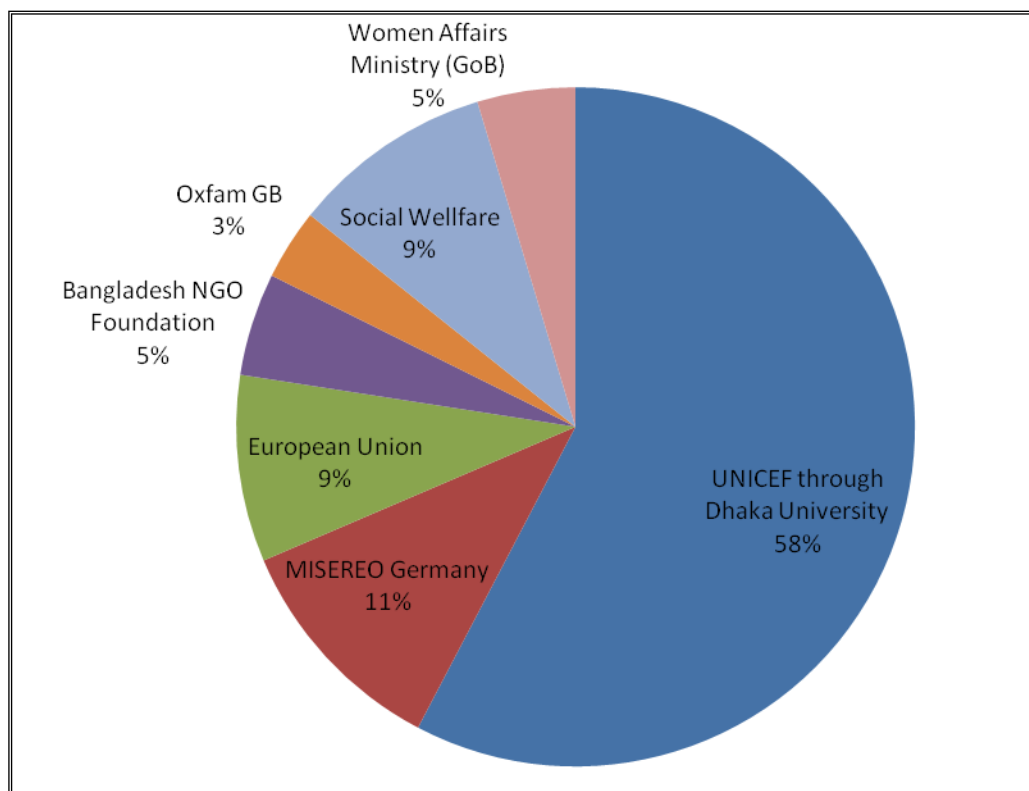
1.9 Human Resource

Level	Head Office Staff	Field Office Staff	Total Staff
Senior Management	05	04	09
Mid Level Management	5	24	29
Volunteer	10	10	20
Support Staff	01	01	2
Total Staff:			60

1.10 Structure of the Organization



1.11 Financial Support from Donors



Ongoing Project

Name of the Project	Location	Duration		Donors
		Start date	End date	
Farmers-led Agricultural Development Project	Dacope and Batiaghata Upazila under Khulna District	July 2013	June 2016	MISEREOR, Germany
Up scaling Managed Aquifer Recharge for Providing Community Water Supply in Saline Areas	Dacope and Batiaghata Upazila under Khulna District	July 2010	December 2015	UNICEF through Dhaka University
Integrated Fish Cultivation in the Paddy Field	Batiaghata Upazila	April 2007	December 2015	Bangladesh NGO Foundation
Campaign on Recognizing Women's Contribution in Food Security of Bangladesh	Khulna District	October 2014	June 2015	OXFAM
Vulnerable Group Development Programme (VGD)	Fulbari Upazila under Kurigram District	March 2015	December 2016	Govt. of Bangladesh – Ministry of Women's Welfare

Development Interventions

Sustainable environment management and climate change adaptation

Collection preservation and
spread out of 80 varieties of paddy seeds

Distribution of 63 varieties of paddy seeds
among 315 farmers

Production of 750 maunds of
native paddy

Since 2009 LoCOS has been working with sustainable agriculture among the South-west coastal people of Dakope and Batiaghata Upazilla Under Khulna district in Bangladesh. Due to climate change, LoCOS works for the collection and preservation of different varieties of extinguishing paddies and other native seeds. Usually this year during the Amana season, 472 kg of paddy seeds of 63 varieties has been distributed among 315 farmers. Seven hundred and fifty maunds of paddy was produced as the local farmers cultivated these distributed seeds on 17 acres of land.

Funded by MISERIOR – Germany and supervised under the ‘Farmers Led Agricultural Development Project’ the work of collection and preservation of local varieties of Amana paddy has been continuing. With the initiative of farmers’ organization, on the 50 percent land of PVS plot every farmer chooses his variety of paddy with participatory variety selection. Besides, under farmers leadership, mini PVS plot activities has been conducted with 10 paddy varieties.



Morunga, Vermicompost

Distribution of morunga branch

Jharbhanga: The Sajina/Morunga Village

Morunga is a much nutrition enriched vegetable which keeps man free from different kinds of diseases. Morunga itself is a kind of saline tolerant vegetable. It has the capacity to adapt facing with the natural disaster risk and salinity. That is why in the coastal region, people cultivate Morunga as a part of planting different saline tolerant vegetables, fruity and woody plants.

In 2009 due to the massive devastation of Aila, different varieties of crops have been extinguished at Kamarkhola and Sutarkhali union of Dakope upazilla like other areas of Bangladesh. So to revive local farming, LoCOS distributed almost 1500 Morunga branches among 350 families in 15 villages. LoCOS planted Morunga at 10 institutions including the union parishad, mosque, temple and madrasah. Besides 25 farmerettes have been trained all day long on Morunga cultivation to make Jharbhanga village of Gangarampur union as Morunga village. It was funded by MISEREOR-Germany under Farmers Led Agricultural Development Project. After receiving the training the trainees planted more than 500 Morunga branches in almost every house of the village. Now to the farmers of Jharbhanga village, Morunga cultivation is a way to generate extra income.

Distribution of Chadi to spread out Vermicompost Fertilizer

Only way to produce poison free vegetable is using organic fertilizer and pesticide. So LoCOS organized the farmers to save them from the catastrophe of using chemical fertilizer and pesticide. LoCOS motivated the farmers to use organic pesticide, produced locally from different herbal plants by the farmerettes. Now the farmers motivated producing organic fertilizer are no longer dependent on chemical fertilizer. Besides now they cultivate crops using vermicompost fertilizer.

LoCOS Patronized practical training for four farmers on producing vermicompost fertilizer from the work areas Kabutarkhali, Mathbaria and Pirojpur of BARCIK. Since then farmers are cultivating worms in their own houses and producing vermicompost fertilizer which they have been using to produce their own crops. Among those farmers Basudeva Mandal of Shukdara village succeeded in cultivating worms. Also farmers of nearby Jharbhanga village got inspiration in cultivating worms watching his success. Watching the farmers' interest at 2014 LoCOS practically trained 25 farmerettes of Jharbhanga village in producing worms and vermicompost fertilizer. Successful vermicompost producer farmer Basudeva Mandal also assisted the training. After the training, local farmers purchased worms. Besides LoCOS provided rings to 14 farmers for cultivating worms. Number of worms has been increasing and fertilizer is being produced by each farmer. During this time local farmers sold 14 kg worms to the farmers of neighbouring villages. Almost 1450 kg fertilizer already been produced which is used in local farming.

Case story:**Producing Vegetables with vermicompost fertilizer****Farmer Basudeva Mandal now Independent**

Using vermicompost fertilizer in vegetable farming Basudeva Mandal become Independent. Basudeva Mandal from Sukhdara village of Surkhali union under Batiaghata upazilla became self dependent using vermicompost fertilizer in vegetable farming. In 2013 he received training on worm cultivation from work area of Mathbaria-Pirozpur's Kabutarkhali village. First he collected worms and since coming home he started producing vermicompost fertilizer. Since then he started producing vegetables using his own vermicompost fertilizer. In 2014 he cultivated egg plants and different varieties of bitter gourds fully using vermicompost fertilizer at the isle of one bigha gher. This year he bought a cow of taka 20,000 selling vegetables cost taka 38,000 and with rest of the money he bought food for his fishes of the gher. Farmer Basudeva said previously I was very much used to cultivating vegetables using chemical fertilizer of no good benefit but then I had been farming using vermicompost fertilizer and market fertilizer was of no use. Now I earn much from vegetable cultivation and also I am getting benefitted from fish farming. Watching his success, farmers of nearby Jharbhanga village also interested in cultivating worms. Basudeva is selling worms to them and above all this small farmer is financially independent now.

Providing Training

Spread out of adaptive Kinds of crops
with adverse environment

3000 Village women
prepared coping with Disaster Risk

LoCOS has been working to cope with disaster and risk of climate change. During this time farmers have been provided various training to spread out saline tolerant local agriculture. Funded by MISEREOR-Germany under Farmers Led Agricultural Development Project, 100 local farmers have been trained on Morunga cultivation, producing vermicompost fertilizer and pesticide of different herbals 312 farmers of 15 organizations have been trained on research and spread out of local varieties of Amana paddy. Also they have been trained on value chain process for the agriculture extension system.

Besides with the assistance of Bangladesh Governments Ministry of Women under destitute womens development programme, 2749 destitute village women have been trained on disaster risk management. Through training these women got the knowledge of disaster orientation, disaster risks, coping with the risk of natural disaster, supply and storage of food to reduce disaster risk, health message and problems of women's community in natural disaster and its solution.



Fair of Village Seeds

Exchange of 123 seeds of different Kinds and Varieties

A fair has been arranged by LoCOS to exhibit and exchange different varieties of native extinguished seeds. Usually this year also 112 local farmers and farmerettes have participated in this fair with their preserved seeds. In each stall at least 20 to 190 sort of fruity, woody and vegetable seeds have been exhibited. One of the best ways to nicely present and spread out any programme in front of the people is fair. Farmers bought, exhibited seeds and they have exchanged 123 sorts of seeds among themselves.



Digester Management

With 120 school students forming
School Voluntary Squads

10,000 People aware of Climate Change
induced adaptive mechanism of Risk Reduction

300 People of 20 CDPC
working to cope with Disaster

Bangladesh is a disaster prone country. Specially its coastal area of the south has been severely affected due to cyclone, flash flood, water logging and salinity induced pollution. Due to these hazards life, resources and environment get severely damaged, life and livelihood became stagnant and people here fall into great suffering. To overcome this situation humanitarian aid is necessary. To cope with this mainly it is necessary to prepare the local people. Well regulated knowledge of disaster risk management and information might increase the capability of local people to cope with disaster risk. And using this self capability they can reduce disaster risk very much.

Through 20 Community, 300 people of Disaster Preparedness Committee have been prepared to cope with disaster risk. Not only with their self preparedness but also through public gathering, public drama and disaster exercise; they made aware almost 10,000 disaster prone local people of what is to be done, adaptive strategy to reduce disaster risk of climate change during disaster, pre disaster and post disaster period. One hundred and eighty destitute women, backward and disable people of LoCOS' work area Kamarkhola of Dakope upazilla and Dakope union have been prepared through training to cope with disaster risk. Also 20 students from each institution, in total 120 students of the work area have been prepared through different training as School Voluntary Squads who will engage themselves instantly to serve the people in disaster time.

Through the supervision of LoCOS a project titled as **'Action for Participatory and Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction'**, funded by European, Union starts in 2012 and ends in 2014. As a result of implementing this project awareness on disaster increased, paddy farming revived at previous stage, saline water shrimp cultivation halted, people are cultivating fresh water fishes instead of shrimp cultivation, plantation and vegetable cultivation increased; hens-ducks and cattle, goats have been farmed, people became aware of preserving the Sundarbans and mangroves on the river bank, people are choosing alternate livelihoods, environment of education revived, people know about disaster signals and taking actions accordingly, engagements to preserve resources increased, knowledge of adaptive strategy increased, practice of folk culture increased and traditional village games are reviving slowly.



Food security and livelihoods

Fish Cultivation: Production of 10,000 kg Fish

With the assistance of Bangladesh NGO Foundation, in 2014 LoCOS provided training to 50 poor farmers from 9 villages of Gangarampur and Batiaghata union of Batiaghata upazilla on (fish cultivation on paddy field) cultivation of paddy and fish on the same land, during same period. After the training 50 farmers were provided 350 kg fish fry of Rui, Katla and Mrigel fish (local name of different carp fishes), fish feed and lime to prepare the gher. This year almost 4000 kg fishes have been produced in these farms.

Only fish farming on a land provides 06 months meal to a farmer, but simultaneous production of fish and paddy on the same land provides whole year's meal to a farmer. Producing excess food farmers play a major role in country's food security. Besides during this period 5500 kg of fishes have been produced at LoCOS owned farm which was sold at taka 1518,100. It is not only an income generating sector of LoCOS but also contributes in food security of the country.

Production of 300,000 eggs

To produce meat and egg from small to large scale, poultry industry has been growing in the villages and ganzes. Poultry is one of the major industries in Bangladesh. LoCOS has been working to expand this industry from the society to family and individual level. To expand poultry industry, different types of training have been provided to the people of work area. As a result, from the small scale to large scale, people are producing egg and meat. Besides under the supervision of LoCOS, 2500,000 hens are now giving eggs. This year these hens provided almost 300,000 eggs that was sold almost at taka 1888,000. Meeting the demand of local markets, this egg was sold to the wholesale market of district town. Mainly the need of local people's nutrition has been met from this poultry industry. Thus local people are getting their necessary nutrition in a less cost.



VGD

2749 of the Destitute Women provided Food Assistance and Training

Two thousand seven hundred and forty nine of the Destitute Women provided Food Assistance and Training to improve Life Standard With the assistance of Bangladesh Government's Women Ministry, LoCOS has been working as an implementing agency of Vulnerable Group Development Programme (VGD) to provide food assistance and different types of training to improve life standard among 2749 destitute women. The purpose of this programme is to assist in meeting the day to day need of increased food consumption, provide training to increase marketing skills and marketable goods, creating interest to accumulate initial capital through depositing and creating as an earning person through providing opportunities to get credit and making capable to include in running development programme. Also the purpose was to promote positive attitudinal development and assisting in empowerment of the women through practical lessons and other human development skill trainings.

To positively develop the poverty laden and destitute village women so that successfully overcoming the existing food insecurity, malnutrition, economic insecurity and status of lower social respect; they can be capable of uplifting their status above the extreme poor level.



WASH, Health & Nutrition

Fresh Water, all the Year

2200 People Drink Safe Water

In LoCOS' work area almost 2200 people could drink safe water through the management of underground water. Local vulnerable people of Dakope work area and Batiaghata upazilla got the facility of safe drinking water through 06 Managed Aquifer Recharge sites. This year work of more 17 sites has been done. In future 11964 people will get the benefit of safe drinking water through these sites. Since 2010 LoCOS has been working to implement the project titled as 'Up scaling Managed Aquifer Recharge for Providing Community Water Supply in Saline Areas' with the technical assistance of Dhaka University and finance of UNICEF. Researched by Dhaka University, this MAR system is a unique method in the context of Bangladesh. In this system, rain water of pond or roof has been filtered artificially and entered underground through pipe. Gradually this fresh water mixes with the salty ground water decreases its salinity and turns into drinkable fresh water. These MAR sites are to be handed over to the communities if they seem to be safe after the testing of EC, pH, Temperature, Turbidity, Arsenic, Iron and other factors. One management committee has been formed in each MAR site with 05 people as chairman, secretary, cashier and other 2 acting members. One caretaker has been elected with the opinion of this committee and other water users. With his own initiative the caretaker learns all the detail of site management from the community mobilizer and technical supervisor. In the light of past experience, the caretaker works for the site with his/her responsibility. Once in a day he writes the abstraction of meter reading on a data sheet provided by Dhaka University. If any problem is seen in supervising the site the caretaker informs it to the committee. Members of the committee solve it discussing with other water users.



For the supervision of the site, in each month site users deposit their fixed amount to the cashier. Cashier makes everyone understand the ledger in monthly meeting and with their decision remaining cash is being deposited to him.

Regarding the supervision and management of MAR project, 08 advocacy meeting occur with the stakeholders in 7 unions and one municipality of the work area. Based on upazilla, two advocacy meetings occurred. In these meetings, with 69 women and 197 men, 266 people participated. Nine thousand and seventy two people have been aware of safe water and its sources, safe water planning and sanitation through 432 tea stalls and field group discussions. Four thousand six hundred and fifty three students have been provided practical lessons of healthy sanitation management and safe water through school sessions. Besides 23 community mobilizer visited 1272 possible mar site user families 5088 times and observed their real situation of safe water planning and sanitation. Based on observation, involving these families with the community, over all hundred percent sanitation is being ensured.

Maternal and Child Health Care Centre **Provide Health Care to 720 People**

Usually like other years LoCOS provided primary health care and medicine free of cost to 720 women and children. At Gangarampur office, on the first Sunday of English calendar, LoCOS provides services including children vaccination, TT vaccination to the pregnant women and women of 15-49 years of age, growth monitoring, ANC PNC services, provides birth control materials, IUD, injecting people, counseling and motivating to the women and children. Through satellite clinic LoCOS provides such services to all people. Due to these services maternal and infantile death rate decrease in this work area and people easily get rid of general diseases.

Besides at Batiaghata upazilla LoCOS has been assisting with government's different kind of health service programmes.



Good Governance

Women Farmer's Forum: 200 Farmerettes Organized

To conduct campaign programme for good governance, farmerette forum has been formed at Batiaghta upazilla that include the issues like recognition of farmerettes in farming, establishing specific sales centre in the market for the produces of farmerettes, providing equitable price with other issues. This forum was formed at the April of 2015 with the assistance of nongovernment development organizations LoCOS and OXFAM.

Being organized under the title of 'Nari Krishak Forum', almost 200 women of 07 unions have been working to establish good governance in agriculture; including insitutional recognition of the women to contribute in agriculture and food security, creating awareness at the policy making level to save the right of the farmerettes and taking due action in campaigning, taking the farmerettes ubder government subsidy and introducing familial agriculture card, making up-to-date women's legal right to the assets, ensuring open access right of the farmereettes in the labour market; taking effective steps to ensure market value and prevent inequity in income and expenditure, women's empowerment according to national agricultural policy 2013, ensuring women's participation in production and marketting and in income opportunities, providing same wage for same job to the farmers and farmerettes, allotting fixed place in the market to sell agro products of the farmerettes and other issues.

In 2015 spreading out second phase of national campaign to preserve rights of the farmerettes; farmerettes conducted different motivational session and lobby meeting with the participation of respected MP, local government and market management committee.

Campaign: Allotting places to sell produces of the farmerettes

Batiaghata upazilla parishad and market management committee allotted fixed places in the headquarters market to sell the produces of the farmerettes. Now the farmerettes can sell their produces in this allotted place. As a result of advocacy and campaign programme of LoCOS and Nari Krishak Forum, concerned authority allotted this place.

In last June 2015 upazilla administration, Batiaghata union parishad and upazilla parishad allotted fund to construct this market space for the farmerettes. This allotment was given due to the campaign of LoCOS and local farmerettes through different types of motivational session and lobby meeting with respected MP, local government and market management committee, young society and representatives of the civil society.



Active Union Disaster Risk Management Committee

LoCOS worked to activate the disaster management committee and to inform the people about works of this committee. Under the project 'Action for Participatory and Comprehensive Disaster Risk Reduction' funded by European Union, LoCOS trained the disaster management committees of Kamarkhola and Dakope upazilla arranged meetings to share opinions. Through these activities, responsibilities of the disaster management committees increased. Committee became more active. Local people have been informed about the works of this committee. Local people and management committee are aware of mutual responsibilities to establish good governance during disaster period. With the assistance of LoCOS, union disaster management committee prepared risk evaluation papers (CRA) for two unions that was already handed over to the upazilla disaster management committee and district administration. Surely this report will play a vital role to cope with future disasters.

Farmers Operate Self dependent Credit activities

Taking taka nine and half lakhs as credit, 77 farmers are leading productions

Since 2009 to revive Farmers Led Agricultural Development System, LoCOS formed 15 organizations, organizing backward men and women till now. For the last six years, member farmers of these organizations practiced organic farming, cultivating local native crops, seed preservation, and use and prepare organic pesticide and being aware of different rights they formed a pro deposit attitude. Farmer organizations themselves formed capital depositing monthly rate of payments. In the mean time Sabuj Mahila Samiti deposited taka 103,000, Gondamari Krishak Shangathan taka 130,000, Jharbhanga Krishak Shangathan taka 260,000, Nari Unyan Samiti taka 70,400 and Golap Mahila Samiti deposited taka 40,000. Every organization operated credit activities among themselves forming capital through the bank account. Last year 77 farmers took taka nine and half lakhs as loan from these organizations. Taking as loan, farmers spent his taka in agro production. Profits from the credit are distributed among themselves. Since working with self dependent deposits and credit activities, local farmers got rid of the vicious circle of credit from the mahajan and NGOs. All these things contributed in their empowerment.



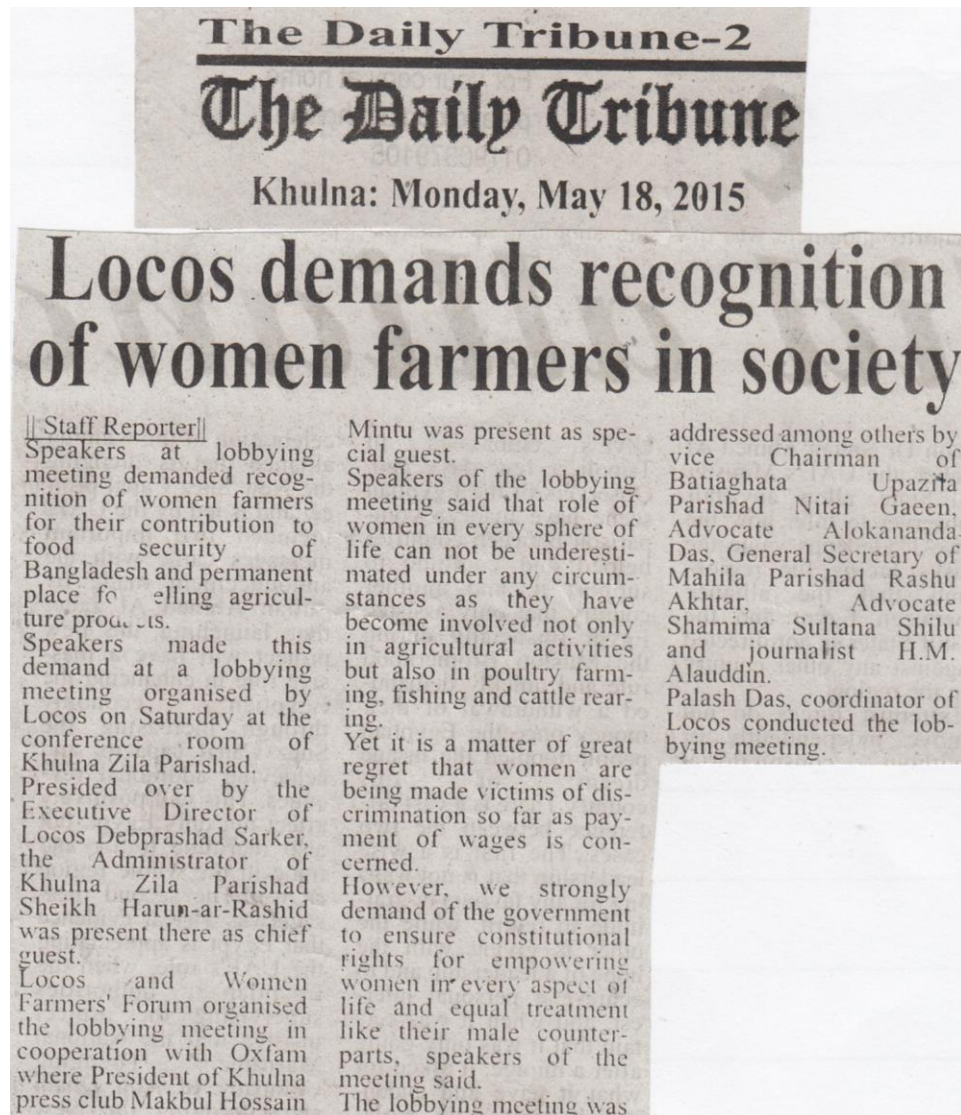
Achivement

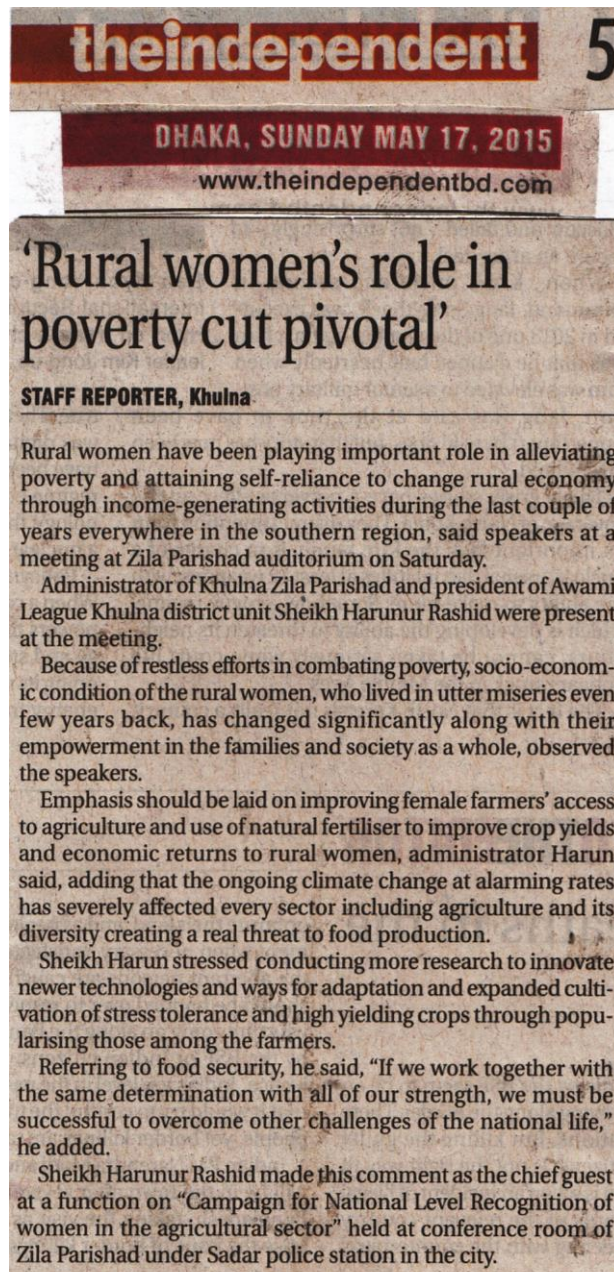
- Collection, preservation and spread out of 80 varieties of paddy seeds; distribution of 63 varieties of paddy seeds among 315 farmers; production of 750 maunds of Amana paddy from this seed; exchange of 123 varieties and kinds of seeds through seed fair;
- Distribution of 1500 Morunga branches among 350 families; Production of Morunga in hundred percent family of Jharbhanga village of Batiaghata; the village declared as Morunga village;
- Distribution of worms and chadi to spread out vermicompost fertilizer; sales of 15 kg worms to 30 farmers of nearby village; production and utilization of 1450 kg fertilizer in local farming;
- Through training, spread out of adaptable kinds and varieties of crops with adverse environment; preparation of 3000 women to cope with disaster risk;
- Forming School Volunteer Squads with 120 students; 10,000 people aware of adaptive strategy of the risk reduction of climate change; 300 working people of 20 CDPC to reduce the risk of climate change;
- Production of 10,000 kg fish and 3 lakh eggs from 3000 hens;
- Providing food assistance and training to improve life standard to 2749 destitute women; creating interest for the collection of initial capital of investment through deposit;
- Safe water for 2200 people of the vulnerable areas; awareness of 9072 people through tea stall session and FGD regarding safe water and its sources, safe water planning and sanitation; conducting school sessions to provide practical lessons to 4653 students of 23 institutions regarding healthy sanitation management and safe water;
- Providing health services to 720 people through maternal and children health service centres; people easily get rid of the general diseases, maternal and infantile death rate decreases in the work area through these services;
- Forming farmerette forum at Batiaghata upazilla, more than 200 farmerettes organized; through advocacy and campaign allotment of places in the market for the produces of the farmerettes;
- Activation of disaster management committees of two unions through arranging different trainings, workshops and meetings.

Lesson Learn

- Farmers can contribute very much in the agriculture if they get technological and informational assistance;
- MAR project is disaster resilient and locally suitable to get fresh drinkable water;
- As a result of forming self dependent group and credit activities local farmers' NGO dependence decreased and they are getting benefitted;
- People get involved and sustainability of the programmes increases if development;
- Programmes are being taken with the opinion/consents of the local people;
- As a result of knowing about the benefits of vermicompost fertilizer, local farmers are getting interested cultivating this worm.

Testimony of LoCOS' Activities in National & Local Press







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