



SHOUHARDO II NEWS

Strengthening Household Ability to Respond to Development Opportunities II

A Quarterly Newsletter

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PREFACE

Dear Friends,

SHOUHARDO II is pleased to share with you the 2nd edition of its Newsletter. Our theme this time is "Monitoring and Evaluation" where we provide information on the many innovative M&E initiatives the Program has taken since its inception in June 2010. SHOUHARDO II relies heavily on its information systems as a Program as large, complex, and diversified cannot be managed effectively without reliable information informing the various stratas of management of how the Program is unfolding. Information is extensively used to make critical decisions on shaping changes required in the Program, as well as for reporting purposes. Additionally, we also continue to provide some interesting case studies and lessons learnt over this quarter.

It is with sorrow I take this opportunity to announce I will be leaving the SHOUHARDO family at end September 2012 to start my new position as Head of the Food, Livelihoods, and Justice Unit at Head Office in CARE USA, Atlanta USA. This is an exciting position where I will be working with the Water and Sanitation, the Food and Gender, and the Economic Development sections, as well as the large Access Africa Program reaching 30 million beneficiaries in 39 African countries, and strategic partnerships with the World Wild Fund, Cornell University, and the climate change network - PECCN.

I will always look back at the past six years of my life from the time I took over as COP of SHOUHARDO in mid 2006, to my time now in September 2012 as COP SHOUHARDO II, undoubtedly as one of my most exciting periods in my professional life. The dedication and professionalism of our staff, our implementing partners, our technical partners have been incredible, and together with the unwavering support of our GoB partners has resulted in some of the most impressive impact anywhere in the world. I have no doubt that SHOUHARDO II will continue to bring such impact. And finally, my respect and gratitude to all the beneficiaries we work with- they are an inspiration to us all, through whose hard sacrifice we are all living in a better world.

From me and for the last time, happy reading and should you have any questions or comments please forward these to Monjur Rashid (Knowledge Management Coordinator) at monjur@bd.care.org or info@bd.care.org.

Best Regards,

Faheem Khan

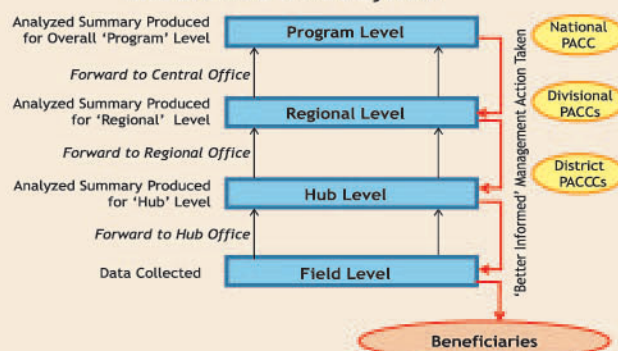
Chief of Party, SHOUHARDO II Program



MONITORING & EVALUATION IN SHOUHARDO II

SHOUHARDO II M&E system is designed to promote and ensure reflective practices throughout the program implementation period. Knowledge management and learning approaches and techniques in this Program have ensured both upward and downward accountability and uptake of lessons learned. SHOUHARDO II has employed a wide variety of methods and techniques for data generation including Well Being Analysis (WBA), Household (HH) Sample Survey, Basic Information Tracking Sheet, Management Score Sheet, PNGO Performance Assessment Sheet etc. SHOUHARDO II is using two customized software, Beneficiary Tracking System (BTS) and Distribution Management System (DMS) for compiling the data generated from fields and producing reports. For checking the risk and error access to these software are restricted for general program persons.

SHOUHARDO II M&E System



SHOUHARDO II M&E system funnels the data collected against 23 output level indicators to higher level indicators namely i.e. 5 Strategic Objectives (SOs) (Livelihood; Health, Hygiene and Nutrition; Empowerment; Institutional Strengthening & Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptions).

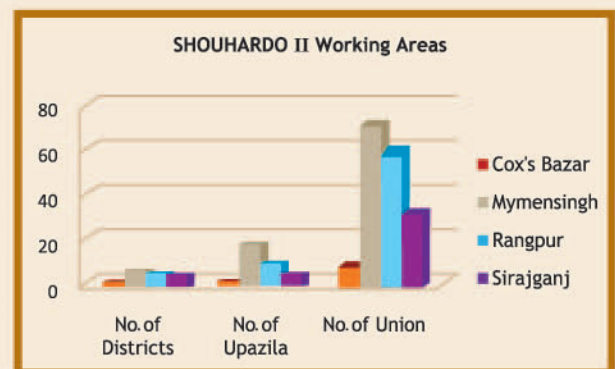
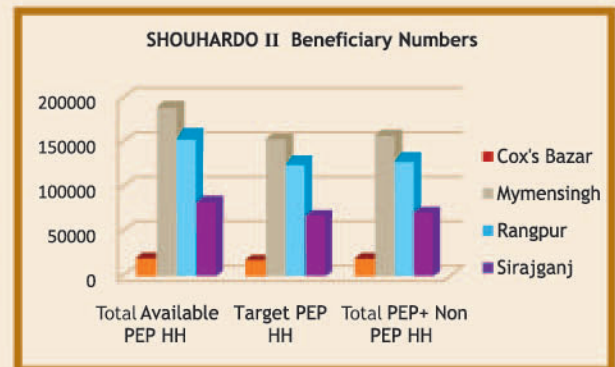
Grading sheets against the SOs shows an amalgamated score for each indicator and highlights areas where the Program is lagging, and areas which are excelling. To ensure information is produced and effectively used, M&E

system summarizes the information and summary sheets are shared with different tiers of GoB, as well as national level Program Advisory Coordination Committee (PACC). All findings also shared with the beneficiaries regularly.

Program Areas and Beneficiaries Selection Process

SHOUHARDO II Program intends to select the direct beneficiaries from the poor and extreme poor (PEP) HHs in the poorest and the most marginalized districts applying a comprehensive process and tools. This Program initiated the process to identify most vulnerable villages through Focus Group Discussions with UP bodies, NGO representatives, GoB representatives, community people and preparation of social maps. In order to identify the poorest and vulnerable people and more about their conditions the Program used WBA. It contributes to make the selection process effective, transparent, develop ownership of local community, visualize the process and track changes over the period in terms of HH well-being groups, position, poor and non-poor concentration etc. WBA has not only facilitated the program for capturing the most poor/vulnerable HHs, it has also given a basis for addressing the diverse range of priority issues that affects the lives of the PEP people.

WBA sessions have been conducted in all villages those are identified as extremely vulnerable through UP level consultation process. People from the community were invited in the sessions who can provide best possible information about the socio-economic condition, horizontal-vertical relationship of the people in the community. Participation of all class and people from different part of the catchment areas were ensured. Participants showed physical appearance of the village by drawing a location map on the ground and provided information about socio-economic status, occupation, dependency relationship, etc. of all the villagers. The Master Beneficiary List for SHOUHARDO II Program prepared from WBA by fulfilling the selection criteria and all the beneficiaries become registered under this Program.



Source: SHOUHARDO II Baseline Report, 2011

INSPIRED STORY: DREAM COME TRUE

Comprehensive homestead development (CHD) is a holistic approach of interactive exchange among vegetable gardening, plantations and poultry. CHD of SHOUHARDO II Program ensures maximum production around the year by optimum use of open space surrounded by any homestead through environmental exchange management techniques. This case study illustrates the benefits of CHD.



Nasir Uddin's geese family

Photo: Akhter Hossain

Raumari upazila of Kurigram district is one of the most vulnerable and isolated upazilas in this district. One of the poor villagers, Nasir Uddin, from Tapurchar village was having a hard time making ends meet. A day labourer, Nasir Uddin and his four family members did not regularly have sufficient food for survival. So crises and the consequences of those crises were their constant companion.

One year ago, Nasir Uddin's family was selected as a CHD recipient of the SHOUHARDO II Program. Later he took part in 3 day training and received input supports. He expressed his desire to the Village Development Committee (VDC) for goose instead of chicken or goat as input support under the CHD package. They started their journey with 4 semi adult geese and 1,326 BDT of which 500 taka was Nasir's own contribution. He also received seeds, a fishing net, and saplings as additional support from CHD. Within one and half months Nasir's geese started to lay eggs. As per their plan they hatched all eggs and got 35 goslings. They earned 3,000 BDT by selling 13 goslings and 4,000 BDT by selling vegetables produced from their home gardening. After six months Nasir's family has amassed assets of 23,580 BDT.

SHOUHARDO II CHD support has opened his eyes on overcoming poverty through ensuring proper utilization of a small amount of resources. Now they are dreaming about being a solvent family by the end of the program period.

-Abdul Alim, Field Facilitator, MJSKS

COMMUNITY INITIATIVE: VDC ESTABLISHED ECCD CENTRE

Early Child Care for Development (ECCD) Centre of SHOUHARDO II is a pre-schooling approach to bring transformational changes on traditional power structures and cultural norms for 4-6 years aged children. It is a holistic approach to child care as well as physical, mental, emotional and social development of a child at a very early stage of age by creating a friendly learning environment.

Villagers of Uttar Ronarchar from Derai upazila under Sunamgonj district are mostly belong to PEP groups. No education facility exists in this village. Children are used to go a nearby village for their primary education. In this circumstance SHOUHARDO II has started their program in this village.

In a VDC meeting the members raised the issue of education facility for the children of their village as they heard and saw SHOUHARDO II supported ECCD centres in other villages. The Community Facilitator of ASD agreed with their demand but expressed the limitation of targeted ECCD centres, which was already fulfilled for Derai upazila. VDC members discussed the issue and took the initiative to establish an ECCD centre by their own. They formed a committee, accumulated 1500 BDT and contacted the UP chairman for his assistance to establish the ECCD. UP Chairman proclaimed consensus with their initiative and contributed 1500 BDT to establish the centre. VDC rented a house for 3 years and appointed a teacher to run the ECCD. The VDC committee decided to collect 30 BDT per month from each guardian to pay the remuneration of the teacher. The centre has started functioning and the VDC is expecting technical and logistical support from SHOUHARDO II Program for future continuation. Social mobilization made the dream come true of establishment of an ECCD centre named 'Alor Pratik' (symbol of light) at Uttar Ronarchar village at last.



Children of ECCD in Rornarchar village

Photo: Md. Sakawat Hossain

-Dipika Rani Mojumder, Community Facilitator, ASD

SOME EVENTS NEWS

USAID Provided Food Assistance to Bangladesh

On 26th June 2012 the off-loading of a shipment of wheat was organized in Chittagong. It was made possible by US Government 'Food for Peace program', through its development agency USAID. His Excellency US Ambassador (in Charge), Mr. Nicholas Dean and USAID Mission Director, Mr. Richard Green officially handed over this wheat shipment. On behalf of Bangladesh Government, Mr. Ahmed Hossain Khan, the GoB's Director General of Food has accepted this food assistance. Mr. Nick Southern, Country Director, CARE Bangladesh and other distinguished guests were present in the occasion.

The Ambassador (in charge) said that since Bangladesh's independence in 1971, USA has provided over \$5.8 billion in assistance to Bangladesh for its development work. The GoB's Director General of Food thanked US Government and its development agency USAID for providing food assistance to Bangladesh. The wheat assistance under Food for Peace program of USA, which has started from 2010, will continue till 2015.



US Ambassador (in charge) is handing over the food

Photo: Rajon Chandra Saha

State Minister of Home Affairs Visit SHOUHARDO II Program

On 18th May 2012 a nutrition support, sono-filter and tree saplings distribution for SHOUHARDO II Program beneficiaries was organized at Jatsakini union under Bera upazilla, Pabna. Pregnant and lactating mothers from Maternal Child Health and Nutrition beneficiary group assembled there to receive nutrition support. Honourable State Minister of GoB for Home Affairs, Advocate Shamsul Hoque Tuku was present in the occasion as Chief Guest.

Upon the arrival of the State Minister, Regional Coordinator Mr. Khaleque Zaman SHOUHARDO II Program briefed him about CARE-B and SHOUHARDO II Program. After the briefing, State Minister addressed the public where he thanked CARE-B, NDP, USAID and GoB for implementing such a good program on food security. Later, he distributed nutrition support, Sono-filter for arsenic free safe drinking water and tree saplings among the beneficiaries. After hearing about the ECCD activities the State Minister announced to provide school dress for all students of two ECCD schools.



State Minister is giving speech while visiting SHOUHARDO II Program

Photo: Md. Faruq Hossain

Exploring SHOUHARDO II Program in USA

To let American people know about SHOUHARDO Program, Chief of Party, Faheem Khan and Technical Manager, Syeda Ashrafiz Zaharia Prodhon attended a tour in Washington DC and other States of USA. The Objectives of this tour was to share with the American public, elected Congressional Representatives and Senate Offices of the success of the SHOUHARDO program and how US Taxpayer money is contributing to alleviate poverty on a global scale. During the tour (May 1 to May 12, 2012), they were given orientation in Washington DC, attended a teleconference with print and electronic media of both local and national level and participated in a workshop on "Maternal Health and Women Rights". At these conferences, US Government/USAID Officials, Congressmen, Corporate Donors, and CARE Volunteers attended to hear about the successful function and impacts of SHOUHARDO Program. This outreach was an important step in relaying the work SHOUHARDO team is doing for nutritional support, along with women's empowerment initiatives, to reduce child stunting.



Conference with media people at
National Press Club Washington DC, USA

Photo: Syeda Ashrafiz Zaharia Prodhon

SHOUHARDO II Win Prize in 'Agriculture Fair'



State Minister is visiting
SHOUHARDO II stall

Photo: Mithu Rani Chowdhury

SHOUHARDO II Program has received a prize from 'Agriculture Technology and Tree Fair-2012'. The fair was organized by Agricultural Extension Department, Gouripur, Mymensingh on 23rd June 2012 and continued for 3 days. Dr. Cap. (Rtd.) Mojibur Rahman Fakir, Honourable State Minister of GoB, Health and Family Welfare inaugurated the fair. UNO, Upazila Parishad Chairman & Vice Chairmen, and other distinguished guests were also present in the occasion.

The Minister visited different stalls. While visited SHOUHARDO II stall he showed his keen interest to different activities of SHOUHARDO II, especially on the CHD model. He expressed his high satisfaction regarding SHOUHARDO II activities and collected a set of SHOUHARDO II publication materials. He suggested the government officials to

cooperate with & replicate the CHD model in other areas. A total of 23 stalls of agriculture producers, private entrepreneurs, tree nursery owners and forest department displayed their products and services.

'Service Fair' Organized at Ullahpara

A 'Service Fair' was organized in 12th June 2012 by Ullapara upazila administration in cooperation with SHOUHARDO II, CARE Sirajganj Region, at Bora Pangasi union. The purpose of the exhibition was to offer and widen the horizon of the union level GoB departments' services to the community for better understanding and utilization. The event was graced by the presence of Atul Sarker, UNO, Ullapara as Chief Guest. Upazilla level Agriculture Extension Department, Health & Family Planning Department, Livestock Department, Social Welfare Department, Union level Health and Family

welfare Centre, Information Service Centre, and other local organizations displayed and rendered their available services in the fair.

A large number of people from surrounding villages attended the fair and received information & services. Union Parishad facilitated on tax issues and its importance on community development. As a result, around 300 tax payers paid tax in the fair. This fair has become one of the most exceptional and prominent promoters of GoB services at doorsteps of the community people.

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