



# Annual Report 2011-2012





#### **Uttaran Annual Report 2011-2012**

#### **Editor**

Shahidul Islam

#### **Panel of Editors**

Aminur Rahman Bablu Fatima Halima Ahmed Gayanath Sarker Mohammad Mamun-ur Rashid

#### **Members**

Abdul Khaleque Abu Musa Benedict Poresh Sardar Gazi Zahidur Rahman Gourango Nandi Haridas Malakar Hasina Parvin Jahin Shams Sakkhar Kazi Babar Ali Md. Ashraful Islam Md. Shahidul Islam Obidul Haque Polash Pijush Kanti Baroi Sk. Tariquzzaman Shadhona Rani Guho Shambhu Choudhury

#### Published in

December, 2012

#### Published by



#### Printed by

Runic

3/4-A, Purana Paltan, Sabbir Tower (7th Floor)

Dhaka 1000, Tel 01819 480147 email: runic\_sumon@yahoo.com

### Content

| Director's Message   | 4                                      |
|--|--|
| Uttaran at a Glance  | 6                                      |
| Working Area   | 7                                      |
| Introduction   | 8                                      |
| Chapter 1: Rights and Social Justice Programme 1.1 Land Rights and Access to Public Resources  | 9<br>10                                |
| 1.2 Human Rights and Legal Aid Services 1.3. Good Governance and Democratization   | 13<br>17                               |
| Chapter 2: Climate Justice, Adaptation and Food Security Programme 2.1 Climate Justice 2.2 Adaptation 2.2.1 Tidal River Management 2.2.2 Coastal Biodiversity Conservation 2.3 Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture               | 18<br>19<br>20<br>20<br>22<br>24       |
| Chapter 3: Human Development 3.1. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) 3.2. Nutrition 3.3. Health Services 3.4. Education Program 3.5. Library Based Education: Gono Granthagar 3.6. Institute of Development Research & Training (IDRT) | 27<br>29<br>31<br>32<br>33<br>36<br>37 |
| Chapter 4: Integrated Rural Empowerment and Development 4.1 Institution Building & Strengthening 4.2 Micro Finance through Savings and Credit Facilities   | 39<br>40<br>41                         |
| Chapter 5: Disaster Emergency Response and Risk Reduction 5.1. Emergency Flood Response 5.2. Campaign for Safeguarding the Flood Victims 5.3. Disaster Risk Reduction  | 43<br>44<br>47<br>48                   |
| Chapter 6: Publications  | 49                                     |
| Chapter 7: Financials  | 53                                     |

### **Director's Message**

From the beginning, Uttaran always wanted to be a people centered organization and I think we have achieved this goal. Uttaran started its activity in a small village named Jatpur under Tala upazila of Satkhira district. When I started this organization, I was concerned on social inequalities and discrimination of lower class and religious minor people. The religio-ethnic minority had no access to education, proper health facilities and even they were socially excluded. After fighting against these social barriers up to 26 years, it is reduced significantly. Uttaran believe that there are no majority or minority, no upper or lower class.



Primary reason for our success is our determination to take into consideration people's views and ideas in designing and implementing our programs. People in Satkhira district face a host of issues relating to improvement of their daily life. These issues include lack of fresh water, access of ownership of land, lack of education, lack of rural institutions etc. It should be noted that the problems of the people of the southwest region of Bangladesh are facing in their daily life are related to global challenges and development issue. One example is the consequences of climate change. The leading scientists both in Bangladesh and abroad that the climate change will have far reaching negative consequences on the livelihood and life pattern of the people of this region. Uttaran in collaboration with government and donor community is preparing the people to adapt with climate change, building alternative livelihood opportunities and to be resilient. On the other side, Uttaran facilitating to distribute khasland and khas water bodies among rural landless poor people in collaboration with the government of Bangladesh and civil society organizations to empower them. It is my pleasure to note that Uttaran's projects in this area has received attention and praised from local people, donor community as well as national policy makers.

One of the major impairments in social and economic development of Bangladesh and particularly in this region is lack of institutions to articulate people's demand and to mainstreaming the extreme poor people into the power platform of rural Bangladesh. Uttaran being aware of this challenge from its inception is heavily focused in setting up and running primary organizations. Uttaran already set up a model of building primary organizations in delivery development services and improving social and economic development for the extreme rural poor people through primary organizations that are now working and involved with various programs and projects. Now they have their own forum to raise their demands and to become active player in development process. These primary organizations address and improve two basic elements of development for the common people such as land and water. The activities and success of Bhumi Committee (Land Committee) and Paani Committee (Water Committee), two civil society committees facilitated by Uttaran, has received attention from national policy makers as well as international donor community. The existing environmental challenges in working areas especially water logging problem slow down their daily life and sustaining their self effort in building and organizing family institutions. Uttaran through its own researches and studies became aware that indigenous solution to water logging problem in southwest region of Bangladesh is a pre-requisite for overall development process and with that view over last 20 years working with one indigenous solution to water logging problem known as Tidal River Management (TRM). The scientific validity of TRM is recognized by Bangladesh Water Development Board and it is sufficiently proved by Water Board's decision to accept TRM as a viable solution to water logging problem of southwest part of Bangladesh. This is one example of Uttaran's own initiative to address environment issue which is recognized by national policy makers as well as donor community.

Under the spirit of holistic strategies, Uttaran believe that education is a right that must be ensured to common people in changing their social and economical base better. When Uttaran started its work then there was only one school and no college in Tala upazila under Satkhira district. Now many schools and colleges providing quality education. Uttaran has generated market competition among schools and colleges in Tala to perform their best in national level examinations for higher, higher secondary and degree level education. Uttaran has set up and running two primary schools, one high school, two technical schools and one degree and honors level college in Satkhira and Khulna district. In addition, to engage national level policy makers and donor community to address local level development initiatives, Uttaran has set up and running a training centre in Tala upazila that has already achieved national recognition.

A large number of people of Bangladesh do not even know the word of 'human rights'. Against this backdrop, Uttaran is playing a pioneer role in promoting human rights and empowering women in this region of Bangladesh through its primary organizations and legal aid programms. Uttaran is also introducing Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in rural Bangladesh. Now the donor community as well as human rights community in Bangladesh recognized Uttaran's pioneering role in preserving and empowering human rights and women that they are working with very closely with us to implement national level programs and campaign in southwest region of Bangladesh.

I sincerely thanks the beneficiary, our supporter both in Bangladesh and overseas as well as professionals, politicians and civil servants for their support in Uttaran's endeavor to uplift the extreme poor people of this region of Bangladesh. I wish success to all of our development friends and supporters and hope that they will continue their support to Uttaran in its endeavor to change the lives of marginalized community people of Bangladesh.

Thank you

Shahidul Islam Director, Uttaran

Chalide

### **Uttaran at a Glance**

Uttaran, which means 'transition', in Bangla language, is a people centered organization using a rights based approach to alleviate poverty, diversify livelihood opportunities and empower poor communities throughout the southwest region and gradually expanding to other parts of Bangladesh. The core focus of Uttaran programs are human rights, land rights and agrarian reform, community based river basin management, sustainable water management, adaptation to climate change, ecological agriculture and food security.

#### Vision

A society with gender, class and caste equality

#### Mission

Equip the disadvantaged people with the tools needed to deal with their social, environmental, health, economic and cultural issues and concerns.

#### Goals

- · Eradicate poverty by creating enabling environment for income, asset base for the poor
- Promote environment friendly sustainable agricultural practices
- Ensure education, health services to the underprivileged and extreme poor
- · Ensure people's participation and good governance
- · Ensure quality of life in time of natural and artificially created disaster
- · Promote equality, human rights and social justice

#### **Strategies**

- Organization and capacity building for the poor
- · Ensure sustainable livelihood practices for women and poor
- Ensure women and poor's entitlement to social services (education, health, safety net)
- · Raising voice, influence and agency of poor through advocacy, campaigns, lobbying and networking
- Mainstreaming of rights, gender and inclusion issues
- Building pro poor partnership
- · Result Based Management (RBM) practices

#### Year of Establishment

1985

#### **Legal Status**

Registered with the NGO Affairs Bureau – Reg. No. 255; Date-08/01/1988 (Renewal on 06/01/2008) Department of Social Service (DSS)-Reg. No- Satkhira 6/85; Date-05/03/1985 (Renewal on 18/01/2007) Registered with the Micro-Finance Regulatory Authority - License no. 01366-02704-00277 Registered with Joint Stock Company-Societies act no. S-11188; Date-31/05/2011

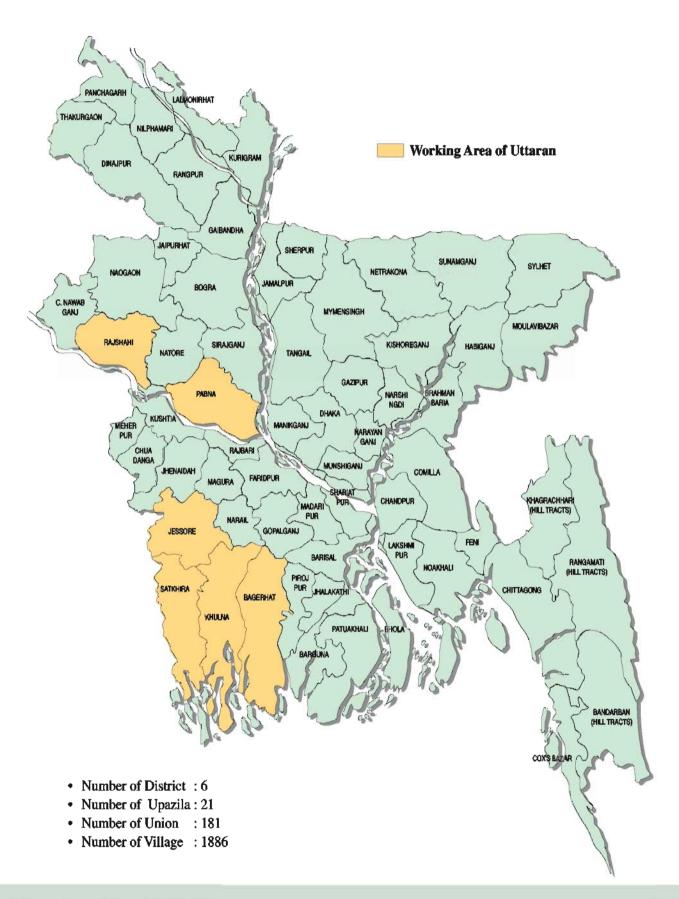
#### Offices

Head Office-1, Regional Offices-3, Centre Offices-24

#### Staff

503

### **Working Areas**



### Introduction

In Bangladesh approximately 31.5% people live under the poverty line and in southwest region it is more than 36%. It is very much remarkable that 21% of the extreme poor people are living in south-west region of Bangladesh. Uttaran is one of the largest non profit social development organization in this region, committed to helping families in poor and marginalized communities to improve their lives and achieve sustaining victories over poverty. It inclusively works with landless especially women, outcastes, untouchables, religion-ethnic minorities and extreme poor communities of the region. Uttaran has started its journey in 1985 from Satkhira, is now directly implementing multiple programme to improve socio-economic condition of extreme poor and marginalized people at Satkhira, Khulna, Jessor, Bagerhat, Rajshahi and Pabna districts of Bangladesh.

For implementation of its programme Uttaran takes multiple strategies and approaches, i.e., institution building of poor people and their capacity building; Synergy of rights and need based approaches; Perform advocacy on various social, economic, health, environmental and cultural issues and concerns towards policy change; Provide formal, non-formal and technical education; Provide access to resources to eradicate poverty and underdevelopment; Gender; Establish linkage, network and partnership; Conscious and serious involvement of women, children, religio-ethnic minorities, outcaste, untouchables, landless and persons with disability directly in the whole development interventions and processes; Climate resilience and risk reduction etc.

In this year, Uttaran has been implementing the synergy of rights and needs based approaches to ensure and uphold the fundamental rights of the people especially the powerless and voiceless poor in its working areas while taking gender, environment and good governance as its crosscutting strategies in all its development programs. Uttaran, without denying, has experienced immense challenges in both institutional and programme level to sustain its initiatives. Nevertheless, cohesive and strong teamwork among the staff and key stakeholders of the organization, Uttaran surmount them positively and remained strong to move forward. Peoples' participation and ownership are another essential factor for all these endeavors and successes. It is then recognized that the prevailing context of the

southwest region requires broader yet critical perspectives. Thus, it posed a serious challenge among key development actors, in particular, with the government in partnership with the private sectors, NGOs and civil society to work together to sustain the efforts towards fairer and pro-people development in the region in the light of human rights and social justice.

Currently the organization is covering more than 75,000 direct programme participants. Of which 70% are women and 33% are outcaste, untouchables and religio-ethnic minorities. In addition, in 2011, 10 upzillas of Satkhira, Jessore and Khulna districts were seriously affected by flood. More than 40,000 affected households were supported with foods, shelter and others emergency needs from Uttaran. Despite hazards in 2011-12, the organization has implemented the ongoing programme or project activities successfully. A significant achievement of Uttaran from 2004 to June 2012 is that 21,531 landless programme participants have made their access to 11.867.39 acress of state owned khasland and water bodies under Uttaran's rights and social justice programme. The market value of these land is around BDT. 5,933,695,000 (£ 5394681.81). Uttaran is not only transferring the khashland to the poor, but also transferring improved production technologies and financial resources. From July 2010 to June 2012, a total of 13,417 extreme poor households were provided (as a grant) with improved agricultural technologies like livestock rearing, fish culture, crop production and vegetables cultivation. In order to increase the income of extreme poor beneficiaries, assets of BDT39,16,552 has been transferred in last year among 1064 families for operating climate adaptive livelihood activities through shiree funded project. Uttaran has been operating a network covering entire coastal region from Cox Bazaar to Satkhira, 33 NGO members in total 11 coastal districts. Uttaran formed and facilitates a number of formal educational institutions in Satkhira for providing quality education among poor and marginalized community people. Other than that Uttaran is currently operating many projects under its programme and at the same time received support from the multiple funding agencies to implement new projects. The details of each programme of Uttaran are describing in following chapters.



Chapter

Rights and Social Justice Programme Uttaran believes that empowerment of poor women and men by establishing their rights can ensure a just and equal society. This will ensure their rights to participate so that they can claim their needs and influence the decision making process by which has impact on their lives. Uttaran knows that establishment of democratic right helps to build marginalized peoples' demand is a major step to access their rights. Uttaran follows both right and need based approaches to achieve development but focuses mainly on the right based approaches. The major components of the right based programme of Uttaran are - Land Rights and Access to Public Resources, Human Rights and Legal Aid and Democratic Governance. The activities of the reporting year are as follows:

### 1.1 Land Rights and Access to Public Resources

One of the significant learning of Uttaran is to transfer assets and increase the access of people to public resources so that control over resources can consequently bring an end to the vicious cycle of poverty. Several initiatives were taken by Uttaran in the year of 2011-2012 to transfer resources like – khasland (public land) and khas water bodies, livestock, support for small business, house to the ultra poor etc. Uttaran carried on its journey of changing the livelihood of people by assisting thousands of households (HHs) with such initiatives. The following is detailed activities of year of 2011-2012:

### Achievements in Land Rights and Access to Public Resources

In line with Constitutional Provision and Government Policy, Uttaran has made tremendous achievements in ensuring land rights and access to public resources of the ultra poor. Up to June 2012, with the facilitation support of Uttaran, 21,531 landless HHs have made their access to 11,867.39 acres of khasland and water bodies from the Government. Among them, 3225 HHs have received 2392.25 acres of khasland as permanent basis, 14,804 HHs have been provided with 4796.1 acres of khasland as temporary basis and 4679.04 acres of khas water bodies have periodically been leased out to 3502 HHs.

#### Strategies for Establishing Land Rights

Uttaran believes landlessness is a major factor behind the cycle of poverty which afflicts the population of southwest Bangladesh. Ensuring rights to land can



A workshop on Impact on Shrimp Land Policy

sustainably eradicate poverty and with the existing khasland in the southwest Bangladesh, it is possible to provide half-an-acres of land to each landless household. Thus since outset of the organisation, Uttaran strategized land-rights for the landless as one of its key intervention area. Uttaran actively involved with the Upazila and District level Khasland Committees since 1988 and facilitated effective engagement of Union Parishads (UPs), Upazila (UZ) and district level administration, civil society, media and the wider communities. The programme approach included building allies and network with likeminded organizations, organizing landless groups and federations, providing legal aid to landless poor, engaging civil society and enhancing capacity of the journalists dedicated to the landless issue. Uttaran formed and facilitate a civil society organisation named Bhumi (land) Committee which helps to recover khasland and establish landless people's right. This committee exists in ten upazilas. There is a central committee which plays an important role in identifying, acquiring and distributing the khasland and water bodies. Other than that Uttaran jointly work with 10 local NGOs for implementing land rights activities in southwest region of Bangladesh.

Uttaran is implementing two projects regarding the aspect of transferring productive assets to the extreme poor HHs; one is Asserting Popular Access and Rights to Resources (APAR) project funded by Manusher Jonno Foundation/UKAid and the another is Sustained and Expanded Effort to Make the Ultra Poor out of Extreme Poverty by Transferring Assets, Cash and Skill in an Integrated Approach (SEMPTI) project funded by shiree/UKAid.

#### Case Study 1:

#### Abdul Jalil Sana and 57 landless families received khasland in Assasuni upazila of Satkhira

The river Gutiyakhali used to flow through the village Durgapur of Ashshuni Sadar Union under Ashashuni Upzilla of Satkhira district. Now it is like a small cannel. The alluvial land of Gutiyakhali river had been taken by Government as agricultural khasland category and was distributed among the landless people.

Abdul Jalil Sana (32), son of Md. Jofel Sana received a piece of khasland on the river side of Durgapur village with the assistance of Uttaran Manusher Jonno Foundation funded APAR project. He has two sons and a daughter. His sons study in class nine and five respectively and the girl is in class one now. Previously Jalil Sana had no land. His father is also landless and living with his other sons and daughter in the village of Mirzapur of Assasuni Sadar union. As a day labour, poverty was no exception in his life. He could not even manage food for his family regularly. Jalil Sana along with his mother came to know that many landless people were settling in the alluvial land of the river Gutiyakhali. They found that already 15 to 20 families settled there. He talked to the others



Jalil Sana is receiving his land record from honorable Minister for Health & Family Planning Dr. AFM Ruhul Haque.

settlers and marked a piece of land to possess. Some of the land grabbers warned the inhabitants to leave the land and go somewhere else. The landless settler did not know the legal procedure of registering the land.

At that time in 2010, APAR project staff Nasima Khatun visited that place and had a meeting with them on land rights issue. Then Uttaran formed two primary groups named 'Sundarban' and 'Niharika landless primary organisation' at that village. Jalil Sana became the member of 'Niharika landless primary organisation'. In 2011 these two groups were linked with the Union Gono Unnyan Federation and the Civil Society Committee 'Bhumi Committee' and with the help of the federation and Bhumi Committee, Jalil Sana and their group member applied for khasland on a permanent basis to the Assistant Commissioner (AC-land) land office.

Uttaran provided technical assistance to prepare the map, case file and other related documents and submitted these documents to District Agricultural Khasland Settlement and Management Committee. Through vigorous advocacy and communication, the Government officials approved the applications of the groups and the land registry office registered their land. In 14 August, all 57 families of 'Sundarban' and 'Niharika landless primary organisation' received their land deeds from Honorable Health Minister AFM Ruhul Haque. On that day Jalil Sana received a deed of 3 decimal khasland. Uttaran provided BDT 3,000 (interest



free loan) to each khasland receiver family in order to encourage the productive use of the land or enhancing their income. The wife of Jalil Sana started chicken and goat rearing with the money. Jalil Sana also procured a van-rickshaw from their family savings. Through this van-rickshaw he earns more. Presently, his monthly family income is more than BDT8000. His children are going to school. He wants to build better future of his children. Jalil Sana and his family are not landless anymore. Jalil Sana and other 47 families of the mentioned two groups had built tin-shed houses with the help from the government. Sanitary latrines were installed in every house. The UNO helped them to set up a school for the local children.

#### **APAR Project:**

Uttaran is implementing Asserting Popular Access and Rights to Resources (APAR) project to establish the rights of the resource poor people including the religio-ethnic minorities who are largely bypassed by both the public sector development agencies and NGOs. In particular, the project is devoted to ensure the accessibility of landless HHs to government owned lands and water bodies. Under APAR project, from April 2004 to June 2012, 13106 landless HHs achieved accessibility to 10202.39 acres of khasland and khas water bodies. Among them, 2795 landless HHs have got permanent settlement over 2070.68 acress of khashland, 8018 landless HHs have got temporary lease over 3984.51 acres of khashland and 3139 landless. HHs have been allowed 4342,20 acres of water bodies as temporary land settlement from the government.



Within the reporting year from July 2011 to June 2012, 1217 landless HHs have established their legal rights on 488.02 acres of khashland and khas water bodies with the support of APAR project. Among them 314 landless HHs have got permanent settlement over 152.21 acres of khasland, 774 landless HHs have got temporary lease over 236.82 acres of khasland and 129 other various categories of landless fishing families have got lease over 98.99 acres of khas water bodies.

#### **SEMPTI Project:**



Under Sustained and Expanded Effort to Make the Ultra Poor out of Extreme Poverty by Transferring Assets, Cash and Skill in an Integrated Approach (SEMPTI) project, till now 8425 landless poor HHs have their accessibility to 2215 acres of khasland & khas water bodies. Among those poor HHs, 2658 female headed HHs have been able to establish their accessibility to 460.355 acres of land.

Within this reporting year, altogether 3762 landless HHs have made their access to khasland of 548.13 acres. Among 3762 landless families, 3566 families have taken possession over 456.97 acres of land as temporary land settlement; 48 landless HHs have got permanent settlement over 37.57 acres of land and 148 landless HHs have taken possession over 53.59 acres of water bodies. Among the benefited HHs, 1443 female headed HHs have been able to establish their rights on 179.72 acres of land.

#### Case Study 2:

#### Freedom from poverty: A new life

Reshma Begum (25) is a housewife. Her husband Mannan Morol (30) is a landless and extreme poor day labourer. They are living at Par-Ramnathpur village under Paikgacha upazila of Khulna district. They lived in a small hut which was in a dilapidated condition. Mannan Morol did not have the ability to manage three meals a

day for his family let alone reconstructing the house. Regular work was very hard to find. When Uttaran-shiree partnership SEMPTI project started working in that area in 2009, Reshma was selected as a beneficiary of the project as her family's monthly income was less than BDT. 2,000.

She became a member of the primary organization named 'Joyjatra Bhumiheen Nari Sangathan' along with other seventeen landless women in her village organized by Uttaran. From the beginning, she regularly attended the meetings of the primary organization. As income generating assistance, she



received 4 sheep worth of BDT. 6,500 along with green vegetables of BDT. 6,200 for small business. She also received vegetables seed, fruit sapling for cultivation and ring slabs for a sanitary latrine from the project. Reshma started sheep rearing and Mannan became involved in green vegetables business.

From the weekly meetings of the primary organization, Reshma became aware of her rights and land entitlements. She even attended a training session on khasland and she applied to Paikgacha land office for entitlement of a plot of khasland for permanent settlement. With the project's assistance, she was able to successfully complete the process of getting a plot of khasland and she received 100 decimals (one acre) of land on permanent basis from the government. The current valuation of her land is about BDT. 1,400,000. Reshma and Mannan started agriculture, aquaculture including shrimp cultivation and homestead garddening. They have already started earning good profit from their production. Within two years, four sheep multiplied eighteen sheep. The family income is increasing day by day. Now every year they sell their produced vegetables, crop and fish at around BDT. 125,000 per year. They have repaired their house, bought a goat, made some furniture, bought one mobile set and some ornaments for Reshma. Now they are planning to make a concrete house.

The struggling days of Reshma and Mannan have ended. Their fight to overcome all the hurdles related to poverty is now over. The IGAs and the plot of khasland have given them the opportunity to finally move out from the vicious circle of poverty.

#### 1.2. Human Rights and Legal Aid Services

Uttaran is dedicated to address human rights challenges like racial discrimination against religio-ethnic minority community people, socioe conomic inequalities against marginalized groups, gender inequality, injustice in emergency response, violation of human rights, lack of transparency in judiciary, attack on human rights defenders and brutality of law enforcement agencies faced by the disadvantaged people of the southwest region in Bangladesh.

Uttaran has a Legal Aid Unit for providing support for marginalized people. Uttaran provides legal literacy, mediation support, litigation support in lower and higher courts, engage civil societies with the Government for policy advocacy, building alliances with the like-minded human rights organizations and create excluded community's access to legal system. Other activities like training on human rights, raise awareness through organizing cultural events, human chain, mass gathering on existing law and legal issues for demanding justice are also organized by Uttaran. At the village level, the human rights and legal literacy activities target the marginalized people especially the religio-ethnic minority community and women. Without the basic knowledge of law and legal system, the poor people cannot protect themselves or others in their communities. In 2011-2012 Uttaran implemented two projects funded by European Union and Misereor Germany for human rights and legal aid activities, These are:



Project on Creation of Sustained Institutional Capacity of Religio-ethnic Minority Communities in Southwest part of Bangladesh through a Participatory Process of Building organization/platform to Defend and Promote Human rights of these Communities:

Uttaran implemented this project with the financial support from European Union. The project started in April 2010 and ended in December 2011. Uttaran implemented this project jointly with Bhumija Foundation. This project was implemented in 10 Upazillas of Satkhira, Khulna and Jessore districts.

Main objective of the project was to promote and protect human rights of religio-ethnic minority communities particularly of ethnic women and children living in the southwest part of Bangladesh. Nearly 30% of the population of Southwest region belongs to these communities. They are discriminated in all sorts of development activities by the developers, Government and law makers. They are excluded from the development activities and most often severely exploited as an effect of age old Caste System. They had no access to education, health services, other public services, Government lands and property. They could not exercise their due rights.

Uttaran and Bhumija Foundation organized these communities with the point of view to unite them for raising their demands to the stakeholders and encouraged them to form Southwest Indigenous Community Rights Defenders' Platform (SICRDP). As a result, SICRDP in ten Upazillas and one central Committee in Satkhira were formed with the leaders of these communities. Regular training, meeting and workshop were held to enhance the capacity of the leaders. After the formation of the platforms, the leaders realized that they need convening committees to strengthen the unity among the members to raise their voice. The platforms gave opportunity to the communities in raising their demands to the

government, policy makers and developers. Since its formation, the committees have been holding quarterly meetings where participants discussed agendas related to their rights and responsibilities. The following activities were implemented through this project to promote human rights in the area.

The project developed a rights literacy toolkit which was used in village level workshops where traditional leaders and other community members took part. The men and women of the targeted communities took part in the workshops. The toolkits discussed different issues such as land rights, rights to other natural resources like water bodies, education, untouchability, early marriage, violence against women, alcoholism, cleanliness and hygiene among the project participants as part of the rights literacy initiative. Moreover posters and leaflets were developed on the issues of education, land rights, rights to manage natural resources, untouchability, early marriage and violence against minority women. The IEC materials created wide interest among the local community people regarding the deprivations and rights of the indigenous communities. The IEC materials and folk songs have generated wide awareness as they were easy to use and delivered the messages well among the project participants.

Several sensitization workshops and seminars were arranged for the minority community leaders and representatives. Meetings were held with the local educated elites to sensitize them on economic, social and cultural barriers confronting the ethnic minority men, women and children. It is believed that through these meetings, a congenial atmosphere already was created in the areas where the exploitation on the religio-ethnic communities by the majority community members have reduced.

In addition to this, a number of meetings were held with the members of local School Management

Committees (SMCs) in order to motivate them to include representatives from the indigenous communities in the SMCs. Other meetings were held regarding the deprived and discriminated conditions of the religio-ethnic children which caused them to drop out more from the school education. These meetings were arranged to sensitize the local communities to treat deprived children with equal respect and dignity as the children from the majority community.

It was observed through the formation meetings that they were excluded from the development activities as their participation and representation in different government administrative local bodies and service providing agencies were inadequate. These communities realized that through enough representation in national and local administrative bodies, they will be included in development activities. Keeping this in mind, 18 leaders contested in Union Parishad (UP) election in 2011 and 4 of them were won. There representation in SMC, cultural organization and public institutions has been increased at a satisfactory level.

Apart from these, meetings were held with the local Upazilla administration on local level demands and to influence them to ensure land rights, access to public services and political rights of the indigenous communities. These meetings were arranged by the SICRDP, the platform agency of the indigenous communities.

## Sustaining Capacity Building of the Grassroots people of the Southwest Bangladesh for Claiming and Exercising Rights:

With the support of Misereor Germany, since April 2005, Uttaran has been implementing the project named Sustaining Capacity Building of the Grass root People of the Southwest Bangladesh for Claiming and Exercising Rights. Through this project Uttaran committed to protect the constitutional rights and privileges as a human being of the poor, landless, religious or ethnic minority community to the lowest tier of societal hierarchy structure in the southwestern part of Bangladesh. With a view to reduce the oppression and violence against women, Uttaran, under the project, arranged two one-day-workshops on Domestic Violence & Justice for the union federation members. Total 50 members participated and got introduced to family court, inheritance, divorce, polygamy; matrimonial maintenance, dowry etc. form the workshop.



Rally on International Human Rights Day

In 2011-2012, Uttaran provided training to 1711 programme organisers on basic legal issues. Within the reporting period. Uttaran initiated to develop 170 legal volunteers. These volunteers are rich in legal senses and ideas so that they can individually play the role of a supplementary lawyer. In the fiscal year 2011-12, Uttaran conducted multiple training sessions under which trainings were provided to 150 members on basic human rights, 150 members on common interest articulation, 120 persons on dispute resolution, arbitration and mediation, 120 members on gender equity, human rights and justice and 132 on ethnic minority rights. Moreover, workshops were arranged for on domestic violence and on land law, untouchability and justice. Additionally, Uttaran arranged programme like celebrating international human rights day, orientation for 27 journalists from root level on human rights, fellowship for a journalist etc.

Uttaran has formed an alliance called Network for Asserting Human Rights (NAHR) including civil society groups, NGOs and different organizations of the society which aim at organizing and empowering the civil society and build consensus against any kind of violation of human rights. In 2011-2012, Uttaran facilitated NAHR to organize massive campaign and consolidate public opinions against any occurrence of human rights violation in order to organize and strengthen them for improving human rights situation. Within the reporting year, NAHR conducted different types of public awareness building activities to combat trafficking in women and children, domestic violence, acid violence etc. Several rallies were also organized in Tala upazilla under this programme.

#### Case Study 3:

#### Legal aid brought smile to many like Resma

Resma Khatun is an inhabitant of Tala upazila of Satkhira District. She has one sister and a brother. Her father, Mansur Ali Gazi is a small businessman and the only earner of the family. Resma was married to Abdul Rahim, son of Abdul Gofur, inhabitant of Atghora village of Monirampur upazila of Jessore district. After 6 months of their marriage, her husband started to create pressure on Resma to bring BDT. 50,000 from her father as dowry. She had no other way rather than telling it to her father. As a consequence, her father borrowed BDT. 35,000 from Grameen Bank and gave it to Rahim. Even this could not satisfied Rahim and he started to torture her physically



and mentally. Subsequently Resma's father managed the remaining BDT. 15,000 and requested to Rahim not to torture upon Resma anymore. After two and half years of this incident Resma gave birth of a child. This time, Rahim asked her to bring BDT. 100,000 from her father to ensure his permanent employment. Considering the miserable condition of her father, Resma refused to go to her father for this purpose.

As a result, she was often beaten by her husband. When Resma's father came to know about this, he went to the Rahim's parents and asked them to solve this. But this back fired. Rahim threw out Resma out of the house. Resma's father requested Rahim several times but Rahim remain persistent on his decision. Finding no other alternative, Mansur Ali Gazi filed a case against Rahim in the court. The court sentenced 2 years imprisonment to Rahim for it. Uttaran provided all the necessary legal aid support to Resma Khatun through its legal aid project with Misereor Germany

#### Legal Support through Sustaining Capacity Building of the Grassroots people of the Southwest Bangladesh for Claiming and Exercising Rights:

In 2011-2012, through Misereor Germany funded project, Uttaran provides legal aid support to the deprived people. The cases which cannot be solved in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), are preferred to be settled in courts through litigations. Moreover, some disputes remain pending in the lower court and then reach the High Court. Uttaran provides legal assistances in such cases under this project. Uttaran has formed shalish Committee (Arbitration Committees) in almost every village under this project coverage. Most of the members of these committees are female. Uttaran organizes regular training programme for the committee members in order to aware them about existing laws. During this reporting period. 72 litigations were resolved through arbitration, where these committees played important roles. Additionally, 23 shalish were resolved out of a total of 26. Dowry, maintenance of minor, physical assault and women and child rights related cases were solved through these Shalish. In Lower Court, 40 cases were filed where 22 cases were resolved. In High Court, out of 21 cases, 11 cases were solved. Most of the cases were criminal and civil. Within the reporting year, Uttaran provided legal support to 25 innocent prisoners who were in Satkhira Central Jail and proved their innocence in higher and lower courts. Besides, the organization distributed winter

clothes for 20 convicts and gave sanitary napkins to 20 female prisoners.

#### Legal Aid through APAR Project:

During the reporting period, by implementing APAR project 122 Shalish were received where 114 were resolved. Through this Shalish process, 376 landless families received 56.87 acres of khasland. Out of 179 Lower Court cases, 34 cases were resolved where 204 beneficiaries got access to 123.30 acres of khasland. In High Court 14 cases were filed, among them 6 cases were resolved where 257 landless families got access to 207.60 acres of khasland.

#### Legal Support through SEMPTI Project:

During the reporting period, by implementing SEMPTI project 9 Shalish were taken place to solve the khasland matter. Out of 9, 3 Shalish were settled. Through the Shalish settlement process 32 landless beneficiaries of Uttaran received 18.14 acres of khasland. In Lower Court, 21 cases were going on to settle the issue of 1223.04 acres of khasland among 1250 landless beneficiaries. Through Lower Court case support, 609 landless peasants received 488.03 acres of khasland. In High Court 11 cases were filed to resolve 202.94 acres of khasland for 194 families. In High Court 5 land related cases are going on.



#### 1.3. Good Governance and Democratization

Uttaran works for promoting good governance and democratic practices to empower the rural poor and marginalized groups.

#### Strengthening Union Parishad

With view to strengthen UPs, Uttaran administers various programmes which accelerate the ability of the elected representatives of the UP. This aims to aware the elected representatives of UPs about their institutional duties and responsibilities and increase consciousness for mobilizing and utilizing the local resources for the interest of the respective rural communities. Uttaran is facilitating Union Parishad to work for the exclusion of existing gender discriminations. Taking into consideration of all the above issues, Uttaran conducts training programme and organizes workshops for the UP members to develop their capacity and create awareness to establish gender equality.

Within the year 2011-2012, Uttaran organized four workshops (day-long) on good governance with the participation of 239 UP representatives. Additionally, four other workshops were organized on arbitration, village court and land laws. As well, Uttaran conducted a lot of publicity so that people come to know about the manual of Union Parishads.

#### Capacity Development of Union Parishad

So far Uttaran provided training to 285 UP representatives on khasland & water bodies recovery & distribution, 287 representatives on climate change adaptation & disaster management and 218 representatives on gender and women rights. In last year alone 180 UP representatives received trainings on khashland and water bodies recovery and distribution, 128 UP representatives received trainings on climate change adaptation and disaster management and 110 UP representatives received trainings on gender development and women rights.

### Rights-based Programme through Participation of UP Representatives

In 2011-2012, Uttaran facilitated 52 UPs in conducting various programmes and for eradicating gender discriminations, combating domestic violence against women, abolishing dowry system, establishing the rights of women and children, making access to health and sanitation, establishing the rights of landless people in khashland etc. During the reproting year, Uttaran provided training to 140 UP representatives on gender equity and 60 UP representatives on preventing domestic violence.

#### Gender Equality and Development of Participatory Good Governance

Uttaran's mission is to bring women to the mainstream society in order to empower them and establish gender equality. In 2011-2012, Uttaran organized 104 events (campaigns, meetings and round-table discussions etc.) in 52 Union with women groups in order to encourage them joining the local government council through elections.

#### Consciousness for Good Governance and Campaigning in Mass Media

For achieving its institutional mandate, in 2011-2012 Uttaran took initiatives for consciousness development of women and establishment of good governance. Moreover, the organization did media campaign and a fellowship was provided to a journalist as a part of this. The journalists published reports on violence against women. Till now, more than 30 thousand people from 392 villages of 52 unions of Satkhira, Khulna and Jessore districts are aware about violence against women and good governance as well as raising their voice to reduce misreporting up to zero level.



Chapter 2

Climate Justice,
Adaptation and Food
Security Programme

The southwest coastal region of Bangladesh is a vast and unique eco-system. This tidal wetland is very productive and inhabits much diversified natural resources. Sundarban, the largest mangrove forest lies south of this tidal wetland where the illusive Royal Bengal Tiger thrives. The mangroves provide a lot of natural resources including firewood and timber, honey, Golpata etc. The estuarine river that flows through this wetland has very rich, diversity and aquatic and marine species. This abundance of natural resources of this tidal flood plain is the main reason why so many people have settled in this area. But in the last century, due to advancement in technology and over exploitation of natural resources, this productive eco-system constantly under threat. Along with the climate change issue, the problem is going to become worse. The frequency and intensity of natural disasters are increasing day by day with this changing climate causing massive destruction on the natural resources and on human life. The once productive area will deplete to a level of no return, if no intervention taken. Keeping all these in mind, Uttaran has been working for climate justice, adaptation and food security in the southwest coastal region of Bangladesh, with a name to reduce the impact of climate change.

#### 2.1 Climate Justice

Climate change is one of the greatest environmental, social and economic threats for Bangladesh.

Bangladesh is expected to be one of the worst sufferer climate change, especially it will be most awful in the southwest coastal region. Uttaran, as a leading NGO of the region, is raising voice of the people to claim climate justice. As part of this action, Uttaran is implementing several projects on climate justice.

#### Raising Peoples Voice for Climate Justice

Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Jessore, Narail, Gopalgonj, Pirojpur, Jhalokathi, Barguna, Patuakhali, Shariatpur, Chandpur, Bhola, Feni, Noakhali, Laksmipur, Chittagong and Cox Bazar are known as coastal districts of Bangladesh. This area is always facing natural disaster like flood, river erosion, cyclone and tidal surge, salinity and water logging. On the other hand, salinity intrusion, see level rise, deforestation and over exploitation of natural resources are increasing day by day. Marginal and small farmers are most affected due to these disasters. This has resulted a change in cropping pattern and other livelihood activities of the coastal population. Sundarban, which protects the people of the southwest coastal region, is going to be badly damaged due to this changing climate. Realizing this awful situation, under the leadership of Oxfam GB



Round table on Tidal River Management

with the assisting of over 250 organizations have been initiated and implemented a program known as Campaign for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods (CSRL). Oxfam GB is the member secretary of this network. To implement the program smoothly this network is divided into eight parts Bangladesh. One part of this campaign is known as Coastal Area Campaign Group. Uttaran is leading this Coastal Area Campaign Group. From Satkhira to Saint Martins – all coastal districts are included within the Coastal Area Campaign Group. 33 NGOs are member of Coastal Area Campaign Group.

The objectives of campaign are:

- To create awareness among civil society on the issue of climate change.
- To raise people's voice for sufficient planning to encounter climate change impact.
- To raise people's voice in order to ensure necessary funding to encounter climate change impact,
- To raise people's voice to reduce the amount of carbon emission reduction.

During the year 2011-2012, there were seven more individual campaign topics along with the regular activities. Based on the individual topics seven fact sheet/booklet has been published. The documents were Uttaran on Kapotakhho river, HumanityWatch on Kacha Khal, Progoti on Adi Jamuna, Prantozan trust on Lakutia Roy Khal, NSS on Shubondhi dam, LoCOS on Amtala river and SPS on Shakabai Khal. The project arranged 6 Trainings for enhancing abilities to encounter the blow of climate change. Six livelihoods fair have been organized in six different places where farmers are demonstrating their products and exchange the view to others with the active participations of DAE (Department of Agricultural Extension).



In the reporting period, at least 4000 people directly participated in the demonstration on demanding climate justice. More than 12000 people indirectly aware on climate change situation through this demonstration. 450 persons directly participated in the orientation on climate change adaptation. At least six hundred thousand people participated in the rural livelihood fair. People of the concern area are now more vocal on access to common resources. Local government institution i.e. Union Parishad have taken the issue like open water body should be open for all.

#### 2.2. Adaptation

#### 2.2.1 Tidal River Management

Community based river basin management has been another long term work of Uttaran which has resulted in ecological restoration of rivers in southwest coastal region and scaling up of indigenous water management knowledge and practices. Southwest coastal region, over the last several decades, witnessed imposition of structural solution of river management at the cost of traditional practices. Uttaran worked closely with local communities to learn and successfully persuade the national and international policy makers to adopt indigenous water management practices, such as Tidal River Management (TRM) to solve the waterlogging crisis in the region. TRM has been accepted by the first PRSP as priority method for river management in the region. Uttaran advocacy, together with the community platform, the Paani Committee, has ensured community participation in the decision-making process. Uttaran successfully advocated persuading the national and international policy makers to accept the need of formation of Multi-stakeholder Forum (MSF) for river management in the region.

Climate change is a real and growing threat to the existences of the communities in southwest coastal

region, according to IPCC reports, is one of the most vulnerable to climate change induced sea level rise because of low elevation of land in the region and high population density. Uttaran has been working closely with local communities to identify new and resilient crops, efficient methods and sustainable technologies that will help the most vulnerable to adapt, continue livelihoods and response to climate hazards. Over the years we learned from communities that indigenous knowledge and practices provide most resilient path to face the challenges unleashed by climate change. In southwest coastal region, the key to climate change adaptation is sustainable water resource management and through our work on community based river basin management we have been successfully facing the perils of the sea level rise. Most important strategy is the indigenous water and river sediment management practice in the region, which is named by water "experts" as Tidal River Management (TRM). To put it simply, TRM is effective management of river flow and sediment management to raise land level on low basins in the catchment areas of the rivers. TRM has been successfully implemented in a number of beels (low floodplains). Uttaran's persistent advocacy over the years has persuaded national and international policy makers to adopt TRM are the major strategy for river management. TRM has the potential to be replicated in hundreds of beels (low floodplains) in the region, and perhaps, in tropical deltaic regions in other countries as well.

#### Advocacy and Campaign on TRM

One of the major area of implementing effective TRM is participation of the local people. Keeping this in mind, Uttaran formed and facilitate a civil society organization named Paani Committee. Through Paani Committee Uttaran is playing a vital role on the advocacy and campaign on TRM. Additionally, through

massive advocacy from Uttaran and Paani Committee, Government policy makers have already adopted TRM as the tool to fights against the water logging condition and the changing climate of Southwest region of Bangladesh. The following is the detail activities on TRM during the reporting period:

Meetings on Re-excavation of River Kabadak: Two meetings were arranged at Uttaran-IDRT in the last reporting year on reviving the dying Kabadak river. The first one was held on 27 September, 2011. The main topic of discussion was mitigating the water logging crisis through implementation of TRM and re-excavation of Kabadak river. On 22 November, 2011, a meeting with Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) was held. In that meeting BWDB announced that the Government of Bangladesh has approved the project to implement TRM on Pakhimara Beel on Kabadak river basin area, with a total budget of BDT. 2,615,483,000. The project is still ongoing.

Discussion with the Representatives of Misereor Germany: A group of representatives from the Misereor Germany came to Uttaran to visit its programme. On 17 March, 2012 Paani Committee organized a meeting with 14 members of that group and discussed with them about the problems of the rivers flowing across the region. The Paani Committee members from Tala, Dumuria, Paikgachha and Debhata were present in the meeting. The committee asked for financial support to save 11 rivers of southwestern Bangladesh including Shalta, Betna, Morichchap etc. which are almost dead because of sedimentation. They urged for implementing the TRM process to solve the problem.



Discussion Meeting with the Representatives of Misereor Germany

River Basin Visit and Sharing the Findings with Deputy Commissioners: A team formed by the Paani Committee visited the river basin of the Betna to justify the possible aspects of implementing the TRM. The team visited the Bayarbathan-Nehalpur basin areas near Nehalpur Sluice Gate, 12 kilometers south to Binerpota Bridge. The leaders discussed on the construction of a dam in the northern side of Baliya Sluice Gate. In order to implement TRM on Betna river basin area, the team worked for selection of suitable basin area for implementing TRM. The team also examined the condition of the sluice gates, river banks and the surrounding brickfields. The information collected will be used for implementation of TRM on Betna river basin area in the near future. This information was shared with the Deputy Commissioner of Satkhira district and he committed that all the necessary helps will be provided if Uttaran will impernent TRM on the Betna river basin area.

Organizing Press Conference, Round Table
Discussions and Publication on Water logging: A
group of local people protested against implementing
TRM on the Hari river basin area. The main reason was
that the Government failed to ensure people's
participation while implementing TRM and all the
farmers did not receive the compensation money. Under
this situation, a press conference was organized by Paani
Committee at the Jessore Press Club during the last
reporting year. Here the causes of protest were discussed
and through this, the importance of implementing TRM
was again discussed with the opposing people.

There was a round table discussion on "The Importance of TRM to Remove Water Logging from Southwestern Bangladesh' in Khulna on 28 June 2012. The discussion was organized jointly by 'NTV', a private television channel, and the Paani Committee. The Administrator of Khulna Zilla Parishad, Sheikh Harunur Rashid was the Chief Guest in the round table discussion. It was presided by ABM Shafiqul Islam, the President of Central Paani Committee. The distressed people from Manirampur, Abhaynagar and Keshabpur upazillas were also present in the meeting.

In 2011-2012, Uttaran published a booklet on water logging in Tala Upzilla and the alternative drainage plan to attract the policy maker on the issue and raise the awareness of the local people. Additionally, a booklet was published by Uttaran on the water logging problem of the river Kabadak and its destructive impact on society, economy and environment.

#### Sustainable River Basin Management (SRM): Adapting Climate Change in the Southwest Bangladesh

Uttaran is implementing a three years long project named 'Sustainable River Basin Management (SRM): Adapting Climate Change in the Southwest Bangladesh' with the support from Misereor Germany to run river basin management activities effectively. There were preparatory meetings to reform the four Paani Committees of Tala, Dumuria, Paikgachha and Debhata based on Shalta, Betna and Marichchap basins. There was a press conference to encounter the water logging and environmental problems in the locality. The objective of the conference was to present the demands and views of the people so that the concerned authority could step forward to accept the necessary role.

The following issuess were raised in the conference:

- To begin the arrangement required for implementing TRM in the suitable river basin
- To remove all kinds of barriers from the drainage line
- To re-excavate the rivers and canals and to activate the sluicegates
- To make sufficient rehabilitation and employment in the locality

#### **Exposure** visit

On March 1 2012, a 65 member group of the Department of Environmental Science and Management (DESM) of North South University visited the TRM site in Bhabadha area on the Hari river basin, under the course of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which was lead by Mr. Jakariya,



Exposure Visit of North South University

Associate Professor of DESM of North South University. The group visited the area to gain knowledge on TRM and its importance for the south west coastal region of Bangladesh. Mr. Hashem Ali Fakir, secretary of Panni Committee, briefed the group on how TRM is implemented. He also showed the group a successful TRM project on Beel khukshia. Additionally a Focus Group Discussion with the local people was organized in a nearby village.

#### 2.2.2 Coastal Biodiversity Conservation

The Southwest coastal region of Bangladesh is ecologically rich due to the existence of the world's largest mangrove forest and has a high diversity of flora and fauna. As a result of climate change and destructive extraction of natural resources, many species have already extinct or in the verge of extinction. Under these circumstances, Uttaran came forward to conserve the coastal ecology with different interventions and operational tools.

### Coastal Biodiversity Conservation through Creating AIG Facilities

With the financial support of Arannyak Foundation, an USAID project in Bangladesh, Uttaran is trying to conserve the biodiversity under the project titled 'Coastal Biodiversity Conservation through Creating AIG Facilities'. Major activities include promoting and introducing the practices and raising awareness of the local community on wise and sustainable use of coastal wetlands; modification and introduction of innovative cultivation pattern through land shaping and introducing eco-friendly livelihoods and conservation of rain and run off fresh water in many places for mitigation of salinity through advocacy campaign.

Uttaran is developing a model for retention of surplus fresh water during the monsoon to meet the needs of fresh water. During the reporting year 2011-2012, a total number of 600 members of POs were facilitated to perform eco-friendly activities to conserve the coastal biodiversity and improved livelihood. During the reporting year, 489 female members were provided with BDT1239041 as interest free loan to operate eco-friendly livelihood options like indigenous chicken and duck rearing, mixed vegetable gardening, homestead horticulture and plantation of mangrove species. Uttaran also celebrated International Biodiversity Day and World Environment Day during the reporting period.

### Homestead Agro forestry through Improved Management Practices

The project titled "Homestead Agro Forestry through Improved Management Practices" started in May 2007 and continued till April 2012 with the financial assistance of Arannyak Foundation. Within 2011-2012, the major activities performed were homestead biodiversity conservation of the project areas, conserve and restore many endangered species in and around the homestead through engaging the rural people, particularly the women; empowering thousands of

women to build a strong ground for conservation of seed; development of mass awareness about biodiversity conservation in two upzillas under Satkhira district; improve the livelihood of poor people through IGA and enriching ecosystem of the locality through homestead forestation.

The specific outputs generated during the reporting year included (i) IGA enhanced income of the poor households and (ii) Efforts from the community people to restore endangered species enhanced.

#### Case Study 4:

#### Now Rafiqul Islam Morol found an alternative way of his livelihood

Rafiqul Islam Morol is a farmer living in the village Mohondi of khalilnagar union of Tala upazila under Satkhira district. He has four members in his family which includes his wife, daughter and son. In 2007 Uttaran started a project titled "Homestead Agro Forestry through Improved Management Practice" through

Arannayk Foundation in this area and he was selected as a beneficiary of this project. The objective of this project was to upgrade the biodiversity conservation through engaging community people in practicing agro-forestry in their homestead areas and to cultivate indigenous species of plants as an alternative livelihood practice. Another objective of the project was to create a strong sensitization and awareness on planting and conserving indigenous species of flora among the communities. Under this project, Rafigul with the



facilitation of Uttaran, started to plant different species of trees including fruit bearing species, timber producing species and herbal and medicinal plants. Five different species of 35 timber producing trees, six species of 25 fruit trees and three species of 15 medicinal plants were planted by Rafiqul on his homestead garden and surrounding the pond. Rafiqul received training on plantation and management homestead agro forestry, fresh water aquaculture and livestock rearing from Uttaran. It has been five years since he started planting the trees During the reporting year, he earned BDT. 5,000 by selling Sajna (a vegetable). Additionally, the fruits that he received from his trees served his family's nutrition demands. Both of his children are now going to high school. After 2 to 3 years, he will be able to earn yearly BDT. 150,000 to BDT. 200,000 just by selling fruit and timber.



### 2.3 Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture

Uttaran is working to achieve an ecologically and economically sustainable agricultural system in Bangladesh that recognizes the sovereign rights of the farmers on land, water, seeds, fertilizers, agricultural services, technologies and agricultural species. It promotes such an agricultural practice and management system that is operated within the capacity of available resources, economically viable both now and in the future, responds to the needs for healthy and high quality food products and takes into consideration of the ecological and social impacts of production upon present and future generations.

### Advancing Sustainable Indigenous Agriculture in Southwest Bangladesh (ASIA) Project

Advancing Sustainable Indigenous Agriculture in Southwest Bangladesh (ASIA) project started in April 2011 with the funding support from Misereor Germany. The main target of this project is to restore indigenous agriculture farming on a sustainable basis towards food security. Within the reporting year, with representatives from farmers of all selected 8 villages, a farmers' solidarity alliance structure was formed and named Krishi Moitree Committee. Firstly 38 Farmer's Groups were formed involving 365 farmers from 8 villages as the part of formation of Krishi Moitree Committee or farmers' solidarity alliance structure. All 8 committees or alliances met 6 times accordingly, where a series of issues were discussed: superiority of indigenous agriculture; importance of practices of indigenous agriculture, better food security through indigenous agriculture; actions for conservation and protection of natural environmental resources, restoration of extinct agricultural resources and species of the region, climate adaptive agricultural

technologies; selection of indigenous crops and progress of Participatory Variety Selection (PVS) were the major discussed issues.

Additionally, 15 exchange visits and two exposure visits were arranged with the participation of 365 farmers to observe the indigenous agriculture production practices and discussions among them about the things that they observed during the visits. Programme sites of Misereor partner of BARSIC were included under exposure visits. A total of 3 Union Level seed fairs were organized in 3 villages under the project area. In the seed fair, altogether 168 types of seeds of different indigenous paddy varieties including Aush balam, Aush Khusni, Zira dhan, Kotoktara, Kalbori, porangi, Jotibalam, Munor etc; vegetable varieties like red Amaranthus, Sweet Pumpkin, White Gourd, Lady's finger, Cuntry Bean, Arum, etc. and oil seeds and pulses like Mustard, Sesame, Mungbean, etc. were demonstrated in different stalls.

With the view to multiplication of the seeds of different indigenous crop varieties like Aman paddy and early Robi season vegetables, 6 Participatory Variety Selection (PVS) plots were established at the project villages involving six interested farmers. The project awarded 15 best performing farmers for their encouraging practices of indigenous crops selecting them from 38 farmers. During the reporting period, a total of 6 'Field Days' were organized at the harvesting period of the crops of PVS plots with the participation of the farmers living in surrounding villages.

### Expansion of the Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia" (CSISA)-Bangladesh

With the financial assistance from USAID through IRRI and WorldFish, the Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia in Asia-CSISA project implemented in Batiaghata and Dumuria upazillas of Khulna district.

The main goal of the project is to contribute towards widespread delivery, participatory fine-tuning, adaptation of improved varieties, production technologies, and natural resource management for cereal and fish systems in order to improve productivity, income, and resilience to mitigate risk.

In 2011-2012, the project supported to establish adaptive research trials to test, validate, and refine newly developed agronomic practices for cereals and aquaculture practices for fish. In this process, the organization included 250 families for promoting stress tolerant rice varieties, in particular, the saline tolerant rice varieties to combat the effects of climate change along with fish culture. During the reporting period, Uttaran promoted 12 rice varieties which are tolerant to drought, salinity, flood etc. It successfully completed boro season and established seedbeds of aman rice up to June 2012. During the reporting period of the project, a total of 250 farmers on the basis of the baseline survey were provided with training on rice, fish and shrimp production.

The Upazilla Fisheries Officer and Aquaculture Development Officer of WorldFish jointly provided this



training. Specific areas of training were as follows:

- Storing up carps by advanced methods in enclosures
- Mixed farming of shrimp and carps in freshwater & vegetable farming in the isle of land
- · Fish farming in small family ponds

There are 10 schematic farms (Demo farms) which have been made for a practical display of the advanced farming method to the learners.

#### Case Study 5:

Technologies change life: The story of Hetalbunia and Hatbati

Hetalbunia and Hatbati are the two villages of Batiaghata upzilla of Khulna district. Agriculture, aquaculture, fishing are the main professions of the people of these villages. Salinity is the main problem of Agriculture. In

dry season farmers are mostly dependant on T. Aman cultivation for rice. Unfortunately farmers are habituated to traditional agricultural practices and as a result they do not get the optimum yield. Uttaran started CSISA-IRRI-Uttaran partnership project in these areas in the year of 2011-2012 and provided training to 200 farmers on 'Aman Rice Cultivation' in Batiaghata Upzilla. The project also gave seed support of high yielding and saline tolerant varieties like, BR 23, BRRI dhan41, BRRIdhan 53, BRRI dhan54, BINA dhan-8 etc.

Abdul Mannan Sheikh is a 52 years old farmer of Batiaghata village who received training and seeds



from IRRI and cultivated his 33 decimals of land. He told the training was a great opportunity for him to learn more about modern agricultural technologies. Moreover, the seed provided by the project increased his Amon production. Around 25 percent production of Aman has increased from previous year.

#### **Food Banking**

With the financial assistance of Manusher Jonno Foundation, under APAR project, Uttaran is operating food banking program to ensure food security during lean period which is managed by Gono Unnayan Federation. During the lean season of 2011-2012, among the members of food bank, food grains were distributed from three food banks in Kaliganj, Debhata and Assasuni upazillas under Satkhira district. Each of the account holders was provided with 140 Kg of paddy as per policy of the food bank.

According to the guidelines of the food bank, the account holders need to give the paddy back in next harvesting season when paddy is low-priced in the market and it was seen that major quantities of distributed paddy were returned during the next harvesting season. According to the policy of food bank, an additional 5 per cent paddy has to be returned against the amount of received paddy as weight loss coverage and beneficiaries are willing to provide it.

### Access to Improved Production Technologies and Financial Resources

For better utilization of khasland Uttaran APAR and SEMPTI project is not only transferring the khashland to the poor, but also transferring improved production technologies and financial resources. Up to June 2012, a total of 13,417 participants were provided with improved agricultural technologies like livestock rearing, fish culture, crop production and vegetables cultivation. In order to increase the income of beneficiaries, assets of BDT. 3,916,552 has been transferred among 1064 families.

#### **Vulnerable Group Development Programme**

During the reporting period Uttaran implemented a project titled "Vulnerable Group Development Programme (VGD) for 2011-2012 cycle" in Koyra and Rupsha Upazilas of Khulna district. 4,803 direct ultra poor VGD women in Koyra and Rupsha Upazilas of Khulna district received monthly food ration for the household and a development support services (inclusive of life skills and income generating skills training, savings and access to credit) for a cycle in 11 months. Department of Women Affair's, (GoB) provided a fund to Uttaran for implementing this project.



# Chapter 3

**Human Development** 



Bangladesh as smaller economic country has been substantial progressed since 1990 than would have been predicted based on their human development index performance. But this does not explores clear scenario. Yes, it is true that progress has been made in most of the indexes but in reality more progress need to be achieved in different areas like education, access to safe drinking water and sanitation, nutrition and health, human skill development etc.

In the southwest region of Bangladesh, the socio-economic processes that shape vulnerability can also be seen in the history of large-scale shrimp farming. The availability of brackish water created new areas of shrimp farming on a large scale. Southwest region is now facing severe and chronic water logging as aftermath of the unplanned coastal embankment project implemented in 1960s in the backdrop of the then green revolution. Naturally in this area, numbers of ground water aquifers are few due to shortage of heavy sand particle beneath the ground rather this area is with abundance of fine particle of sands. Because of the excessive extraction of ground water through deep tube well irrigation. aquifers of this area contaminated by arsenic and further affected by decrease of water level under the ground. Arsenic is now has become a major problem of this area. The adverse effects of the ill planned embankment, changes of the courses and discharges of river-flows, irresponsive shrimp cultivation, sea level

rise, arsenic contamination, and climate change have further worsened the living conditions of the people especially among women. The sources of safe drinking water are extremely affected and become scarce that utilize major portion of the days working hours to fetch safe, saline free and arsenic free water from distance area. The situation of most women in the region is getting acute further everyday due to absence of sanitary latrines, women have to use open space or nearby bushes for defecation between dawn and after sunset. Significant number of women in the areas is seriously getting ill because of abnormal health and sanitation practices. The current practices has changed the entire community that resulted to increasing water and air borne diseases, of which, the community has become vulnerably prone. The region is facing with worsening health scenario as depicted by increasing child mortality, low rate life expectancy, increasing cases of water-borne related cases like diarrhea, typhoid, dysentery etc due to lack of health facilities, infrastructure supports on safe drinking water and sanitary latrines, and health and sanitation awareness/education. Health is viewed to be one of the major factors of the income erosion of the poor people. Most of the children are now going to school but left behind to get quality education. Uttaran has been working for a long time to answer the question of noble laureate in economics Amartya Sen - "What is it like to be a human being?"

#### 3.1. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)

The major projects implemented on water, sanitation and hygiene provided both software and hardware services to the targeted beneficiaries. Details of those projects are presented below:

#### Sustainable Effort to Ensure Access to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation in Southwest Bangladesh

From January, 2011 this project started with the financial assistance of Simavi, a Netherland based NGO, with a purpose to increase use of safe water and sanitation amongst 105,658 poor and socio-economically marginalized people of Satkhira, Khulna and Bagerhat Districts. The project is jointly being implemented by Uttaran, JJS and AOSED where Uttaran is playing the role of a leading agency. Uttaran is implementing this project in Satkhira district, JJS is in Bagerhat and AOSED is in Khulna district.

During the reporting period, 405 village-based WASH Committee was formed which arranged fortnightly meeting to discuss about availability of sanitation facilities as well as access to safe drinking water, sources of sanitation materials in low cost and seeking service related to sanitation and safe drinking water from Union Parishad and Upazila Department of Pubic Health and Engineering (DPHE). The project arranged training for Union based WASH Committee on Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation. It also arranged training for 154 members of the Village-based WASH committee on management and leadership. The project set up 11 Pond Sand Filter (PSF) in project area which have made access to safe drinking water for around 8,850 people from 2000 families. A total of 9 Rain Water Harvesting Plants were set up in 9 educational institutions in the project area to make access for the students to safe drinking water during their school time. The project also set up 8 deep tube-wells in two communities from where more than 1500 families are collecting safe drinking water. With the view to proper operation of drinking water sources, the project provided training to 59 respective members on repairing, maintenance and management of the installed drinking water sources.

Alongside these hardware works, Uttaran administered the works of re-excavating and developing 18 ponds as the sources of drinking water.



Representative from Simavi visited Uttaran's Program area

Through the project, BDT. 75,000 was disbursed among nine sanitary equipment producers as interest free loan and established nine village sanitation centers and placed 27 demonstrations on sanitation and safe water technology. During the reporting period, 24 sanitary latrines were installed in 24 educational institutions. As a result of this, around 3600 girl students in 24 educational institutions have got the access to sanitary latrine during their school time. The project constructed and developed 9 Village Sanitary (VS) centres during this reporting period in the project area to ensure low cost latrine for the poor people.

During the reporting period, World Water Day was observed. 3 WATSAN fairs with collaboration of Upzilla & Union WASH committee were organized in project area. Uttaran arranged three human-chains, memorandum submission to the Upzila level officials and sanitation fair. Draft Union Action Plans on safe drinking water and sanitation were prepared by Union Parishads in the project area within the reporting period.

#### Case Study 6:

#### Students are getting the access of using sanitary latrine

Boroshanta Register Primary School established in 1969, is situated at Boroshanta village of Parulia union in Debhata upzila under Satkhira district. It has total 202 students with male 104 and female 98 and 3 teachers in

which 2 male and 1 female. This school had only one latrine which was in condition to use and it was being used by only teachers. The students had no latrine to use in school time. Hence students had to defecate in open places during their school time which caused bad effect on their health. Even though the teachers and students knew about WASH, they could not practice this. As the school is situated in a remote area of Bangladesh, insufficient amount of fund was allocated for this school by the Government and this was certainly not enough to construct a latrine. Therefore, for a long time students of this school had been suffering from this problem. After the starting of Uttaran's WASH project in this area, Uttaran arranged regular Bi-monthly meeting with teachers of educational institutions. In the Bi-monthly meeting, teachers had given the list of school for setting up latrines from the hardware supports activities of this project. According to the list, this project had set up 10 sanitary latrines in 10 educational institutions within November and December of 2011. In this way Uttaran set up a sanitary latrine for female students of Borosanta Register Primary School. For building this sanitary latrine,



this School Management Committee had taken part through providing labors in the form of carrying materials from the main roads to construction site and digging whole. They also supplied food for the workers. Overall their contribution was more than 20% of the budget for building this sanitary latrine. Now School Management Committee and teachers are very pleased that students of this school have got a sanitary latrine and especially students are relieved mentally and physically from the sufferings that they had without having a latrine. Female students of Boroshanta Reg. Primary School are no longer worried about their defecation during their school time. Having the access to use sanitation facilities through the hardware support of Uttaran's WASH project, they are very pleased and they don't have to use unsanitary ways which caused them irregularity in school and the sufferings from various water born diseases. Proshanto Kumar Sharkar, President of School Management Committee and Mizanur Rhaman, Head Teacher of the school, both of them have said that Uttaran's WASH project have solved their problem and they are very much grateful to this project. They also said that now our students will be regular in school and they will keep their health well by using this sanitary latrine.

#### Uttaran - shiree Partnership Project

SEMPTI project has a component on water, sanitation and hygiene. Within the reporting period, 4225 project beneficiaries were provided with training on use of safe drinking water which includes source of drinking water, collection procedures and methods of purification and preservation of safe drinking water. Uttaran also arranged training for 3549 households on using sanitary latrine which includes hand wash, cleaning of latrine with water after use and importance of water sealed latrine maintenances. Altogether 503 potential primary organization members were provided with Health and Hygiene education. During the reporting period, under the project, 325 sanitary latrines with 3 rings and one slab were distributed among 325 beneficiaries households.

#### Enhancing Quality of Primary Education through School Feeding Programme

The project "Enhancing Quality of Primary Education through School Feeding Programme" is being implemented in Jhikargacha Upazilla under Jessore district with the financial assistance of European Union through Primary Education Directorate (GoB). One of the focus areas of this project is hygiene component. Within the reporting period, in each of 72 schools, one hand washing campaign was organized having 49,108 students as participants with the view to improve standards of hygiene behavior of the school children on a sustainable basis. The message was transferred to the parents through the children. Community people and the parents of the school students were also part of the hand washing campaign.



#### 3.2. Nutrition

Uttaran is implementing different nutrition programs targeting mostly the children and pregnant mothers. The organization addresses the problem of malnutrition through different intervention.

#### Nutrition Interventions under Enhancing Quality of Primary Education through School Feeding Programme:

European Union through Primary Education
Directorate (GoB) provided financial support to Uttaran
for implementing a project titled "Enhancing Quality of
Primary Education through School Feeding
Programme". This project involved providing fortified
biscuits to thousands of government primary school
students under Jhikargacha upazilla of Jessore district
to improve the nutritional status of the school children,
with a special emphasis on the poor and ultra poor
children by accessing them to dietary food, particularly,
the fortified biscuits.

Within the reporting period, during each school day, on an average 49,108 students of 72 beneficiary schools were provided with a daily snack in the form of a 75 gm packet of fortified or nutrient enriched biscuits at 450 kcal/100 gm. During the reporting period, 339 tons of biscuits were distributed among 49,108 students.

One of the activities of this project is school vegetable gardening and disseminates this activity at the household level of the school children to improve the consumption of vegetable by the children to reduce their malnutrition.

#### **Nutrition Interventions under Laser Beam Project:**

With financial assistance of Helen Keller International, a project named "Laser Beam" is being implemented in the southwestern part of the country, particularly in five unions of Debhata upazilla and 10 unions of Kaligonj upazilla under Satkhira district. The objective of the project is to improve the nutritional status of the marginalized people, particularly the pregnant women and children. Up to June 2012, remarkable progresses were achieved by the project which includes 40 village model farms and 150 primary organizations (20 members in each organization), establishing vegetable gardens at 2400 family courtyards, rearing hybrid poultry, building awareness on gender, maternal and child health and nutrition during pregnancy etc. In addition, seeds and saplings of different vegetables and plants were distributed. The project initiated to make 60 centres for marketing the vegetable and other products. As a whole 1440 families and 24 Village Model Farm (VMF) were provided with trainings, technical assistance and quality agricultural inputs. Among these families, 1192 members have established vegetable gardens at their homestead using improved technologies and 248 members have established common vegetable gardens.



#### 3.3. Health Services

From the very beginning Uttaran has been providing primary health care services, particularly preventive health care to its members. There are government run hospitals and health centers at union and upazila levels, however, preventive aspects of health services tend to be ignored. Therefore, Uttaran felt an urgent need to devise a preventive health care mechanism to provide health services to the millions of poor as well as to raise their general awareness about preventive health care skills. These measures are in place as to help reduce the child mortality rate and increase the average life expectancy of the population.

The program has undertaken innovative strategies to carry forward an effective health intervention with the partner-communities such as building and strengthening partnership with Local Government/UPs and Local Administration, grassroots mobilization,

massive education and media Campaign and network building with CBOs, Civil Society and Local NGOs. Uttaran selects an individual from among the primary organization members as health volunteer and also provides training for promoting their capacity on primary health care. Health Volunteers, in their turn, discuss the acquired skills and share the ideas with other members during the weekly meetings of the primary organizations. Through this process, other members also learn the basic skills of preventive health care. A central nursery was established to propagate different varieties of seeds, saplings of vegetables and sapling of fruits and trees as well. Additionally village nursery, homestead gardens also established to encourage consumptions to meet household nutritional level and generate income.



#### 3.4. Education Program

There is no alternative of education for bringing overall development of the society. Uttaran has been implementing various programmes in order to educate the behindhand group of people in institutional education from the very beginning of its emergence. The education programme includes formal education, technical education and library programme and internet based education program on information & technology. Moreover, Uttaran has necessary programmes to continue education in emergency disaster situation.

#### Improvement of Quality of Primary Education:

Uttaran has remarkable contribution to improvement of quality of primary education in Bangladesh. The organization considers 100% Net Enrolment Rate (NER), 100% Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) and 100% Completion Rate and decrease Repetition Rate up to zero percentage, Dropout or rate up to zero percentage and absenteeism up to zero percentage. During the reporting year, activities on improvement of quality of primary education were going on using different approaches. Key interventions were distribution of fortified biscuits, organizing handwashing campaign, organizing de-worming campaign and establishment of vegetables gardens at the school campus. Due to this interventions, tremendous progress were observed in improving the quality of education of the selected 72 primary schools. Net enrolment rate (NER) has been increased up to 93%, gross enrolment rate (GER) up to 100% and completion rate up to 80%. On the other hand, repetition rate, dropout rate and absenteeism decreased up to 20%.

As a result of the interventions undertaken by Uttaran in 2011-2012, attractiveness of the primary school children, in particular the low performer and poverty stricken children towards the schools was created. Moreover, the learning capability and more

attentiveness of the primary school students of the selected schools towards the studies and education were remarkably enhanced that would ultimately be contributing to enhance the enrolment, attendance and completion rates at the primary level of education.

#### 3.4.1. Formal Educational Programme

Uttaran has outstanding contribution to provide formal education to the people living in the remote area of southwest Bangladesh. For this purpose, the organization established a number of formal educational institutions. These are Samakal Madhyomik Bidyaloy (from class I to class X); Shaheed Muktijoddhya College (from class 11 to honours level); Shitirtho Primary School, Aatshoto Bigha Non-registered Primary School (from class I to class V); Paruliya Trade School and Chuknagar Trade School. These educational institutes are operated and controlled according to government rules and regulations. Uttaran has been providing every possible assistance to make the teaching method easier, develop the infrastructures and improve the quality of the teachers hence achieving quality education. Details of the formal education delivered by the organization is presented in the following section of the report:

#### **Shishutirtho Primary School:**

Shishutirtho Primary School was established by Uttaran in 1995, is considered as a model among the primary level schools in Tala upazilla under Satkhira district. Shishutirtho has an objective to strengthen the educational foundation of countryside children by creating opportunity for them to study from play group to class five. There are 250 students who has been studying here now under the guidance of eight experienced teachers. Shishutirtho is one of those 21 schools in the whole country which are very successful in achieving hundred percent first divisions in 2010. The success rate was also hundred percent in 2011-2012



Students of Shishutirtho Primary School

too. In addition, six students earned government scholarships in 2011. In 2011-2012, the students of Shishutirtho have obtained very glorious results in the Primary School Certificate Examination. This was only possible because of the priority that Uttaran give to quality education. To ensure this extra care is provided to the students by the teachers even after school time without any cost. This support is especially focussed on the weak students. The school does not receive any government fund and run its own expenses but only a little amount comes from the tuton fees.

#### Atshotobigha Non-registered Primary School:

Since 2003 Uttaran has been operating its academic activities of Atshotobigha Non-registered Primary School. It has been established by Uttaran for the children coming from landless families. There are 175 students in this school who have the opportunity to study up to the five grades (from class I to class V). Till now the school does not have any government grant. There are four teachers who regularly perform their duty to run the school.

#### Samakal Madhyomik Bidyapith:

Uttaran started its journey through establishing Samakal Madhyomik Bidyapith in 1985 Uttaran's first education initiative was to establish a secondary school. Priority was given to the enrollment and equal treatment of students from outcaste, religio-ethnic minority groups. The school now enrolls students in class 1-10 and follows the government curriculum. In addition, students are given the opportunity to gain knowledge topics such as development issues, discrimination, exploitation, human rights, history of liberation, environmental issues, etc. Untouchables, outcastes, and especially female students are enrolled



Samakal Madhyomik Bidyapith

on priority basis. The school owns three acress of land within its campus and consists of 19 rooms including office, library, science labratory, computer room and 13 classrooms.

The table below shows the enrollment status of primary and secondary school of the year of 2011 and 2012.

| Primary Section |    |    |    |    |    |       |  |  |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|-------|--|--|
| Classes         |    |    |    |    |    |       |  |  |
| Year            | I  | П  | Ш  | IV | V  | Total |  |  |
| 2011            | 33 | 27 | 28 | 28 | 30 | 146   |  |  |
| 2012            | 39 | 36 | 30 | 29 | 18 | 152   |  |  |

| Secondary Section |    |     |    |    |    |       |  |  |
|-------------------|----|-----|----|----|----|-------|--|--|
| Classes           |    |     |    |    |    |       |  |  |
| Year              | VI | VII | ۷Ш | IX | X  | Total |  |  |
| 2011              | 91 | 91  | 91 | 46 | 46 | 365   |  |  |
| 2012              | 88 | 73  | 80 | 71 | 42 | 354   |  |  |

The academic performance of the school is very good. Since the beginning of the school, results of the public examinations have always been excellent. During 2011 and 2012, 91.66% and 95.23% of the total examinees successfully passed SSC examination.

#### Shaheed Muktijodhya Mahabidylaya:



Teachers of Shaheed Muktijodhya Mahabidylaya

Shaheed Muktijodhya Mahabidylaya is an eminent and reputed higher secondary and tertiary education institute in the region. The institute was established in 1994 as an intermediate college for conducting Higher Secondary Certificate Course: Grade 12. This program was created with the financial support of of Shahidul Islam (Director, Uttaran), who was awarded as scholarship for Asoka Fellowship and received support from a Japanese doctor named Dr. Nobukatsu Ishikawa and Italian Father Luigi Paggi and CIDA. Additionally 1 national NGO named Proshika and the contribution of local community helped to start this college in remote area. In 2001, the college came out as a full-fledged education institution offering degrees in a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Business Studies (BBS), It is because of this programme that the marginalized, especially outcaste minorities, untouchables, women and landless students are receiving a special opportunity to complete their

education. In each year, both in the higher secondary and tertiary education levels, 93% of the students of the tertiary level and 86% of the higher secondary level successfully passed, which is around 25-35% higher than the national level. The college authority supplements the government curriculum with the extra-curricular education including social issues such as discrimination, exploitation, human rights, history of liberation, and environmental issues. During the reporting period, Mr. Yoshiki Takeshima, a Japanease retired businessman, is contributing a lot in this scholarship programme. At present there are 20 students in HSC level and 5 students in honours level who are receiving this scholarship from Mr. Yoshiki Takeshima. From 2008 this college started Peace Program for the students and teachers by getting support from a Japanese citizen Dr. Nobukatsu Ishikawa.



Students of Chuknagar Technical School

#### **Vocational Education:**

Uttaran has established two technical schools, one in Chuknagar in Khulna district and the other at Parulia in Satkhira district. The schools are designed for people from poor communities who have dropped out of school during classes 6-10. In these schools, students have the opportunity to learn a variety of skills, generally over a period of 6 months. The schools offer classes in carpentry, mechanics, electronics, tailoring, and typewriting



# 3.5. Library Based Education: Gono Granthagar

Uttaran wants to spread the interest for education among people from all levels. So the organization runs library programme alongside the school programme. For this purpose, Uttaran is operating two Gono Granthagars (public libraries) in Tala and Chuknagar. These are library based in-house services and community based outreach services. Libraries major educational activities are being implemented include book reading and reference services; ICT services including training on computer and internet usage and social awareness in free of cost. After the course, certificates were issued for the learners. Major activities of Gono Granthagars achomplished in 2011-2012 are as follows:

## **Education on Information & Communication Technology**

During the reporting year Gono Granthagars were providing free public access to computer and Internet related services. The in-house setting provided computer and internet education to 60 young people per day. The outreach setting provided computer and internet education to 90 young people per day. Gono Granthagars provided the training graduates with job placement services after training.

Gono Granthagars also provided in-house and community level outreach information and communication services on different socio-economic development issues like - agriculture, fisheries, livestock, marketing, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition, social justice, job searching and admission in higher education. Within 2011-2012, both in-house and outreach settings collectively provided information and communication services to 125-150

persons every day, those who are classified as women and men from vulnerable and disadvantaged social strata, small and marginal farmers and educated young people from marginalized families.

#### **Book Reading and Reference Services**

Major activities under book reading and reference services are book reading competition, book lending and references services.

Book Reading and Lending: Each of the two libraries consists of at least two thousand books along with several national and local daily newspapers. The aveage number of regular readers were 130-160 per day. Around 32,000-45,500 persons were benefited from the library.

Book Reading Competition: With a view to encourage the habit of reading of book among students, three Book Reading competitions were organized in 2011-2012 with 4,500 students as participants. This programme is effectively improving the level of knowledge among the students and finally improving their human quality.

Social Awareness: There is an active readers' forum in the library. This forum is termed as Pathok Forum in Bangla. They observed or celebrated different events on national and inernational days and arranged social consciousness activities including human-ties and rallies etc. in the last reporting year. Moreover, the readers' forum's volunteers helped in distributing relief among the flood affected people.



# 3.6. Institute of Development Research & Training (IDRT)

Uttaran has a training centre called Institute for Development Research & Training (IDRT) at Tala upazila under Satkhira district. There is one big conference room and two training rooms at IDRT. IDRT is well equipped with projector, white boards, display boards, multimedia, photo copier, computer, internet serves, chair and tables. There is accommodation facility of 72 participants at a time. There is big dining room and food cooking facilities.

## **Trainings**

Various trainings are provided to the primary organization members for making them conscious and improving their skills. From July 2011 to June 2012, total 1199 persons (male and female) participated in 36 trainings programmes on various subjects. Among them 694 were female and 505 were male. The training programmes are divided into two parts – social development and skill development. Social



Dining place of IDRT

development trainings are combined with leadership development and group management; gender and development; land related laws and management and creating law cadres etc. On the other hand, skill development trainings are provided to administer different income based activities.



Hostel building of IDRT

#### Meetings

Within July 2011 to June 2012, a total 115 meetings were organized on different issues where 5255 persons (male and female) participated. Mostly, the training issues were associated with different projects implemented by Uttaran. Among these participants, 3042 participants were female and 2213 participants were male, most of the participants are either the staff or the beneficiaries of different projects of Uttaran.



Workshop with Journalists

#### Workshops

Within July 2011 to June 2012, a total of 139 workshops were organized on various socio-economic issues addressed by different projects of Uttaran. Major issues include: Human Rights, Democracy and Good

Governance, Gender and Women Rights; Disaster Risk Reduction; Capacity Building and Local Civil Society; Skill Development; Disaster Management; Arbitration and Village Court; Land Rights, Responsible Governance and IGA. The numbers of participants of those workshops were 7,389 mostly the staffs and group leaders of different projects operated by the organization.

#### Seminars

During the reporting year, a total of 15 seminars were organized on various development issues. Major issues include: Pure Drinking Water & Water-Logging; Water Management in Shalta and Betna River-basin; Land Laws & Management; Jolmohaal Management; Water Logging and Way of Alternative Drainage; Development of the river Kabadak; Accessibility of Landless People in Shalish and Village Court. A total of 1000 participants attended the seminars. The participants were the Uttaran's project staff, members of Paani and Bhumi Committees and program participants of Uttaran.



Chapter 4

Integrated Rural
Empowerment
and Development

The overall goal of Integrated rural empowerment and development programme (IRED) is to reduced poverty and improve socio-economic condition and income opportunities of marginalized rural community through holistic and integrated community development interventions. The main goal of this programme is to build and strengthen capacity of the poor for sustainable development and enable them to participate in the mainstream of development and to provide access on micro-finance to reduce poverty and foster self-help development.

The two fundamental intervens of this programme are building and strengthening institutions and micro-finance through savings and credit facilities.

## 4.1 Institution Building & Strengthening

Uttaran is continuing its commitments to organize the underpreveliged women and men regardless of socio—cultural affinity or religion.

In 2011-12, Uttaran continued formation of Primary Organization (PO) and Gono Unnyan Federation (GUF). The programme strengthen POs to become active and empowered agents of development by consolidating them into vertical network.



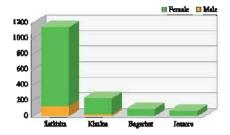
The present spread of Uttaran IRED is in 562 villages of 73 unions geography of 12 upazilas in Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat and jessore district. The programme is being manged by 14 centre offices. A total of 36407 household members from 36407 households was organized through this programme intervention. It is noted that, in 2011-12 a total of 10,884 new members was included and on the other hand 9804 members were droped out from this programme. District wise household coverage is described below.

#### **Primary Organisation Formation and Mangement:**

The Primary Organizations (POs) consists of 20-30 members with diversified beneficiaries of women, religio-ethnic minority communities, dalits communities, differently abled people, landless etc. An

execuitive committe of five members is formed to make the primary organization functional. A total of 1543 POs has been formed and functioning through this initiative. It is mentioned that, in 2011-12 Uttaran formed only 127 new POs under this programme.

#### Primary Organization by District



These POs are formed in homogenous groups, as a result there are separate men and women centered POs. District and sex wise PO related information is showing in the following bar diagram.

The POs are organizing meetings at weekly basis at the village level. At weekly meeting the members discussed about their need and challenges, and they also found out possible solutions of their problems. Uttaran provided leadership and organization management training to all the PO leaders.

# Vertical Network through Gono Unnyan Federation (GUF) Formation and Mangement:

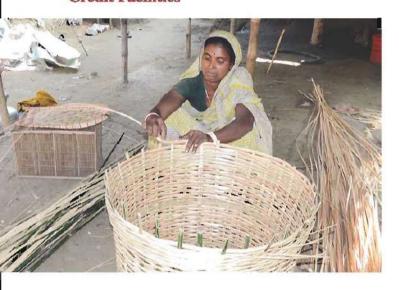
Uttaran has established a network of POs at three tiers taking the landless people as its major concern. These POs are operated under the network of 'Union Gono-Unnayan Federation' at Union and 'Upazilla/Centre Gono-Unnayan Federation' at centre office/upazila level. Altogether 52 Union Gono-Unnayan Federations are formed in 52 Unions



Monthly Meeting of a Gono-Unnayan Federation

and 9 Upazilla Gono-Unnayan Federations are formed in 9 Upazillas. The Union GUF committe is comprised of 11 PO leaders of related unions. They organized regular meeting at bi-monthly basis. The Upazila/Centre committe is also comprised of 11 members and they organized meeting at quarterly basis at the centre office level.

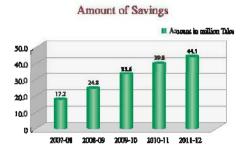
# 4.2 Micro Finance through Savings and Credit Facilities



Micro finance activity has elaborated in 2 wider ways: savings and micro-credit. The detail description of these two activities have been given bellow:

#### Savings and Capital Mobilization

Savings is one of the most effective means of capital mobilization. In line with the fact, Uttaran continuously encourages the PO members to accumulate their own savings. The total amount of savings accumulated by these POs from July 2011 to June 2012 is BDT. 44,138,252, which was BDT. 39,749,564 till the year ended on June 2011. The bar chart shows the trend in savings accumulation for the last five years. The habit of continiously saving is improving and increasing. Members are utilizing their savings to improve their



quality of life, household income, security during recurrent disasters (flood and water logging) and health emergency situations.

#### Micro-Credit for Income and Employment Generation

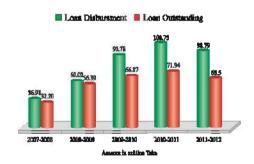
Right based approach of Uttaran in development intervention is a way of reaching to the ultrapoor people, yet an integrated approach is followed by it to meet the demand of development inputs of its PO

Sectorwise Loan Distribution for IGA

4000 Penale Male
3000
3000
2000
1000
500

members, where financial assistance of various forms is an essential requirements. To increase the income of PO members Uttaran has disbursed BDT. 98,791,000 among 14,320 members during the year 2011-12. Among these borrowers, majorities are women; only 872 are men and rest are women. The rate of credit realization is 98.34%. The income generating activities include agriculture, livestock, small business, handicraft, fish culture, poultry farming and others. Sector wise loan disbursement is shown in the above chart.

In the year of 2011-2012, both disbursement and outstanding amount has dicreased. In FY 2010-11 total amount of money disbursed as loan was BDT 108,752,800, which decreased in the FY 2011-12 and the amount of loan disbursement was BDT. 98,791,000.



The bar diagram is showing the amount of loan disbursement and loan outstanding in last 5 years. Due

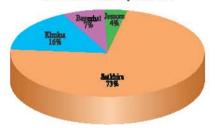


to the sudden flood and consequent water logging, from July to December 2011, almost all the upazillas of

Satkhira district and some parts of Khulna district were severely submerged. In that circumstance, Uttaran postponed the realization of loan installment considering the ineffable sorrows and sufferings and disruption of the livelihood process of the affected people. So, the amount of money distributed as loan in FY 2011-12 was less than earlier FY.

A distinctive aspect of our micro finance programme is the credit plus approach – in addition, to providing loans and training, we have developed an integrated set of services that work to strengthen the supply chain. Uttaran's micro finance programme distinguishes between two categories of loans – Micro-finance with and without of interest. The present outstanding balance of Uttaran micro credit programme is BDT. 72,834,011 and closing loan borrowers are 18640.

Loan Borrowers by District



# Case Study 7:

#### Rahima Begum is now happy with her cows

Rahima Begum, wife of Abul Kashem Fakir is living in Jatpur village of Tala Upazila under Satkhira district. She is 46 years old. Rahima Begum is a member of Nijera Shikhi group of Uttaran. In 2008 she became a group member of Nijera Shikhi group and received different social and skill development training from Uttaran. She

regularly saves money also. After having one year membership with Uttaran she saved BDT. 4,000 and received a loan of BDT. 4,000. With this money she bought a cow. Rahima and her husband is working hard and give special care to look after their cow. After 14 months of having their cow, they got a calf. From then she started to get in an average 2 to 3 kgs. of milk everyday. She sold one portion of milk which helped to meet her family needs and her family members also started to drink milk regularly. This was very much helpful to fulfill their family members' nutrition requirements. After one year her cow gave birth again. From then in an



average she started to receive 3 to 4 kgs. of milk. Her income was increased. Through this process she could manage nutritious fodder for her cow. Then she sold first baby of her cow and received BDT. 16,000. By using this money she leased out 8 decimal of land. Now everyday in an average she is getting BDT. 150 by selling milk and earning a handsome amount of money by producing two times rice from her leased land.



# Chapter 5

# Disaster Emergency Response and Risk Reduction

As our country is situated in the coastal belt, a notable portion of our land area is of the same height as the sea level. So there is a fear that a part of our total land area would go under water as the sea level would rise because of climate change. Besides, natural disasters are the common phenomena of this region and occur regularly. Floods, cyclones, tidal surge, etc cause damages to people's life in many ways. With the changing climate the frequecy and the intensity these disasters have increased immensely. Moreover, a vast area of Khulna, Satkhira, and Jessore is facing water logging crisis since the last 20 years. Uttaran is concern of this climate hazard which would be a severe crisis in future. Uttaran is implementing a variety of programme to save people from this disastrous situation. Uttaran's primary organizations' leaders and members, selected members of NGOs and CBOs, UP/LEBs members and likeminded individuals received training on disaster preparedness, mitigation and management to increase awareness and capacity at reducing the impact of calamity and preparing community in terms of instituting effective coping mechanisms in times of any emergency situation. The organization has been working closely with the District and Upazila Administration, LEBs, Civil Society and CBOs in the area and building their capacity.

#### 5.1. Emergency Flood Response

In 2011, 10 Upzilla of Khulna, Satkhira, Jessore and districts were seriously affected by flood. Uttaran provided emergency support in these affected areas.

#### Uttaran

Uttaran provided plastic sheet among 4,000 flood affected families from its own fund.



Emergency Relief Distribution

#### Beneficiaries Reached By Sector - Uttaran

| Support Provided                                       | Coverage   |  |
|--|--|--|
| NFI  | 9,020 families   |  |
| Plastic sheet for temporary shelter                    | 8,737 families   |  |
| Number of latrine                                      | 1,197 latrines cover 11,970 families                           |  |
| Number of Tube well                                    | 145 tube wells cover 7,250 families                            |  |
| Child Friendly Space (CFS)                             | 25 CFS cover 625 children and 75 pregnant and lactating mother |  |
| Food support   | 22,510 families  |  |
| Cash for work and cash for training                    | 8770 families  |  |
| Number of house repairing                              | 210 houses cover 210 families                                  |  |
| Hygiene support  | 10,680 families  |  |
| Clothing support                                       | 1,200 families   |  |
| Mobility support (walking stick)                       | 1,200 families   |  |
| Cash donation for women H/H with school going children | 240 families   |  |
| Books and education materials                          | 750 children   |  |
| Number of Schools (support for schools restoration)    | 10 schools   |  |



#### Save the Children UK

i. Uttaran implemented a project funded by Save the Children UK known as, "Monsoon Flood Induced Emergency, Bangladesh". The project was implemented in 16 most affected unions of Tala, Debhata and Satkhira Sadar upazila of Satkhira district. Through this project 1,220 households got emergency shelter support of plastic sheet and got other supports like mosquito net, sauce pan with lead and aluminum pitcher. This project also installed 462 emergency latrines. The project continued one month starting from August 20, 2011 and ended in September 19, 2011.

ii. From 15 September, 2011 Uttaran started to distribute four liters vegetable oil, three kgs of wheat and 0.5 kg lentils to 20,000 families of six Upzilla of Satkharia district and two Upzilla of Khulna district. Uttaran completed its relief distribution on 5 October 2011. After completion of the first phase of relief distribution, Uttaran had a surplus of 1295 kgs. of wheat and 226 kgs. of lentil. With an approval from CARE Bangladesh, Uttaran distributed this surplus amount of food among 129 families and each family received 10 kgs. of wheat and 1.75 kgs. of lentil. In total 20,130 families received this food support. Save the Children UK provided the support to Uttaran through CARE SHOUHARDO project

iii. From October, 2011 to February, 2012 Uttaran successfully operated a project titled 'Emergency assistance for households affected by flooding in Bangladesh' with a support from Save the Children UK-ECHO. This was a six month project. This project was implemented in Tala and Debhata Upzilla of Satkhira district in south-western Bangladesh. The project benefited 28,500 people (5,700 households with 5 family members per household) with cash transfer (cash for work, cash for training), package of non food items (NFI), shelter and WASH support. The support

includes following:

- 23,500 beneficiaries (4,700 households) in cash transfer (cash for work, cash for training)
- 28,500 beneficiaries in water sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH)
- 1,050 beneficiaries in shelter and
- 28,500 beneficiaries in NFIs

iv. From March 2012 Uttaran implemented a project titled "Early recovery and rehabilitation support for the households affected by flood and waterlogging in Bangladesh" with a support from Save the Children UK -ECHO. This was a five month project. The project was implemented in Tala Upzilla of Satkhira district. Through this project 3,770 household received cash for work support for 40 days and their female members especially pregnant and lactating mother received cash for training support and through this training they earned money. Female headed households, especially divorced, separated or abundant women received both cash for work and cash for training support.

v. From 27 August 2011 to 15 January 2012, Save the Children UK opened 25 Child Friendly Space (CFS) in 3 unions of Tala upazila under Satkhira district to protect the children and uphold their rights. The implementing partner for this project was Uttaran. The project was implemented by targeting flood affected children along with their parents to strengthen their ability to improve internal capacity to sustain their normal life and reduce vulnerabilities. The targeted children were receiving equal opportunity to remain in the CFS and also receiving food support. Through this project, 625 children and 75 pregnant and lactating mothers received food support.

vi. From 15 October, 2011 to 31 December, 2011 Save the Children UK initiated another fund titled "Children Emergency Fund". Through this project man headed families with school going children were getting cash for work support. If the father of a flood affected child got employment opportunity, then he was not being forced to send his child for work. 200 man headed families were getting per day 1.5 GDP equivalent taka for cash for work activity. They received this support for 20 days. 240 woman headed households received cash transfer support amounting £ 45.83 for setting up a grocery shop or poultry business or any other business. Through implementing this project woman headed families income were increased and they were able to send their children to school. In 2011 flood, some poor students lost their books and other educational materials. This project supported these types of students by providing books and other educational materials. 750 poor students received this support. Through this project, 10 School Management Committee received support to restore their schools. Each school were getting 100 pound support for this purpose.

#### HelpAge International

In 2011 flood, Uttaran with financial support from HelpAge International implemented a project titled "Emergency Support for the Flood Affected Elderly Citizens of Southwest Region of Bangladesh". This project was implemented in 11 union of Tala Upzilla of Satkhira district. Through this project 1,200 elderly people received plastic sheet support for temporary shelter, dry food (Rice-30kgs, Pulse-06 kgs, Potato-12 kgs, Oil-06 kgs and salt- 03 kg), health and hygiene support i.e each family got 15 pieces of ORS, 03 kgs bleaching powder and 155 pieces of WPT. Additionally targeted families got clothing support as well. This was a one month project starting from August 20, 2011 and ended in September 19, 2011.

#### Mennonite Central Committee USA

From 25 August, 2011 Uttaran started to implement a project titled "Emergency Humanitarian Assistance for the Flood (2011) Affected People of Southwest Coastal Region of Bangladesh" with the support from Mennonite Central Committee USA. Through this project 2,600 flood affected families of 11 union of Tala Upzilla of Satkhira district received emergency support like plastic sheet for temporary shelter, WPT and sanitary napkins. 200 emergency latrines and 80 tube wells were also installed under this project which ended in 24 September, 2011.

#### **Trocaire Ireland**

Trocaire Ireland provided a funding support to Uttaran for food, temporary shelter, WATSAN and health and hygiene support among 300 HHs of two unions of Tala Upzilla of Satkhira district. Through this project, the selected HHs received plastic sheet for temporary shelter and dry food like rice 45 kg, oil 4 kg, pulse 5 kg, salt 2 kg, sanitary napkin, soap -3, WPT -100, ORS - 10 and 28 drum bleaching powder. Moreover, 60 latrines and 15 tube wells were installed. The project started from September 5, 2011 and ended on October 4, 2011.

#### **Canadian High Commission**

Canadian High Commission provided funding support to Uttaran for implementing a project titled "Emergency Support for the Flood Affected People of Southwest Region of Bangladesh". Through this project 880 families of Tetulia and Islamkati union of Tala Upzilla of Satkhira district received dry food like rice - 30 kg, pulse - 4 kg, oil - 2 litre, suji - 2 kg, salt - 1 kg, sugar - 2 kg., potato - 4 kg and clothing for women and children. Along with that, 3 pieces of soap, 100 WPT, 10 ORS. and 56 drums bleaching powder were distributed in the camps. The project started on 25 September, 2011 and ended on 15 November, 2011.



First Secretary of Canadian High Commission Mr. Maherali Alnoor and Tetulia Union Parishad Chairman Mr. Miajan Morol were distributing relief goods among the flood affected families

# Japan Overseas Christian Medical Cooperative Service (JOCS)

From 25 August, 2011 Uttaran started to implement a project titled "Emergency Support for the Flood Affected People of Southwest Region of Bangladesh" with a support from Japan Overseas Christian Medical Cooperative Service (JOCS). Through this project 200 flood affected families of Tala union of Tala Upzilla of Satkhira district received plastic sheet for temporary shelter and 80 latrines were installed. This project ended on 24 September, 2011.



#### UNICEF

Uttaran provided non food item support among 2,100 flood affected households in Tala, Jalalpur and Khasra Union of Tala Upzilla of Satkhira District. It was funded by UNICEF. It started from 1 September 2011 and ended in 6 September 2011. Under this project, around 1,562 female HHs and 538 male HHs received support like plastic sheet for temporary shelter, cooking utensils, clothes, ORS, candle etc.

#### Manusher Jonno Foundation

Manusher Jonno Foundation provided an emergency support to Uttaran from their contingency fund. Through this fund Uttaran distributed plastic sheet for temporary shelter among 717 families of Tala Upzilla under Satkhira district.

# 5.2. Campaign for Safeguarding the Flood Victims

Due to the climate change effect, intensity of the disasters in the region has been increased. Major disasters include cyclone, tidal surge, flood and drought. The poor people are the major victims of these disasters. Emergency responses from the local level, particularly from the local office of the state government's administration are not satisfactory. Uttaran along with other civil society organizations had conducted massive advocacy on this issue to the policy makers. In the following section, a brief on that is given:

#### **Emergency Meeting on Flood Water Drainage**

The members of the Paani Committee organized an emergency meeting on protection of dam and flood water drainage. They discussed on the water flow and trend of drainage of flood water and found out emergency measures need to be taken for quick

drainage of water and protection of dam. Especially, the leaders played an important role to remove water through the Nomiya Sluice Gate.

### Organizing Press Conference Claiming the Emergency Assistance for Flood Victims

During the reporting period the vast area of Khulna, Satkhira and Jessore has been flooded due to heavy rainfall. The Paani Committee arranged a press conference at Satkhira Press Club in order to inform the people and the government about the dreadfulness of the disaster. Alongside, they demanded immediate supply of relief and sufficient food, sanitation facilities etc. They also addressed the security issue and lack of food for cattle in the shelter centers too.

### Organizing Rallies and Processions Claiming the Emergency Assistance for Flood Victims

The Paani Committee arranged a rally on 23 August 2011 at Chuknagar with the participation of the flood affected people. Baarvasi Songhoti Mancho, a civil society organization of Khulna, expressed solidarity to the committee and the speakers claimed to officially declare the water logged area as a disaster stricken area. On the next day, the Paani Committee and Baanvasi Songhoti Mancho submitted a joint memorandum to the Prime Minister through the Divisional Commissioner which included the demands of the affected people and the necessity of emergency interference of the government. Brihottor Khulna Unnayan Songram Committee declared their solidarity with the people there. Another mass procession took place in Chuknagar on 28 August 2011. Uttaran also administered relief collection and distribution programmes in the affected areas. The members of the Paani Committee participated Uttaran's relief activity.

#### 5.3. Disaster Risk Reduction

### Participatory action towards resilient schools and education system (PARSES phase II):

During the reporting year, Uttaran implemented a project targeting to continue academic activities of primary and secondary schools in emergency situations in disaster affected areas. The project was funded by UNICEF through ActionAid Bangladesh. The second phase of PARSES project started in Shyamnagar and Tala upazillas under Satkhira district. The program supported 40 schools among which 3 high schools and 17 primary schools were in Tala upazilla; 1 high school and 19 primary schools were in Shyamnagar upazilla. Under this program several activities were conducted including repairing of 10 most disaster prone schools;

inclusion of the schedule of Participatory Vulnerability Analysis (PVA) to the school based development plan of the government, mock drill and interactive theatre for consciousness development on disaster preparedness etc. Moreover, trainings on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Education in Emergency (EIE) were provided to students and other stakeholders in school, union, Upzilla, district levels. In addition, the project performed awareness raising interventions for students, School Management Committee (SMC), Parents Teachers Association (PTA), community, officials and disaster management committee to make them aware about the importance of continuing DRR and EIE process. District level education clusters were reformed in order to continue educational activities during disasters.

## Case Study 8:

# The return of Chandnimukha Registered Primary School by the help of PARSES Project and community



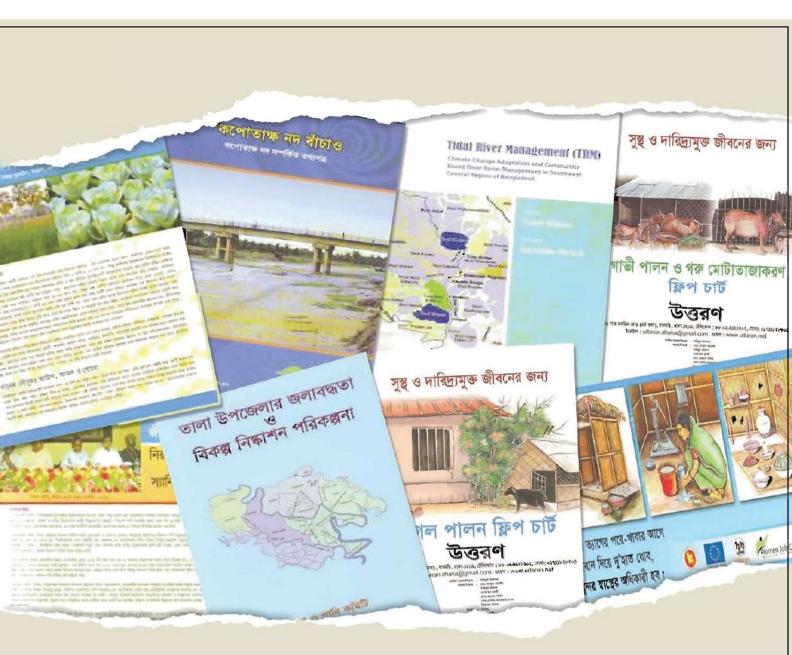
The cyclone-damaged school



Present scene of the school

Through implementing PARSES Phase II project, community helped to change the educational environment of Chandnimukha Purbapara Rgeistered Primary School. The school was established on 15 October 2004 near the WAPDA dam on the bank of Kholpetuya river in the village Chandnimukha under Gabura union of Shyamnagar upazilla in Satkhira. The school was registered on 06 July 2010. There are three female teachers, a male teacher and 227 students (109 boys and 118 girls from class one to five) in the school now.

The Cyclone Aila hit on 25 May 2009 and destroyed Chandnimukha Purbapara Registered Primary School's infrastructure. The parents of the students of this school and community people lost their houses, cattle, and other livelihood options. They could not repair the broken school because of their financial constraint. The teachers, SMC and community members agreed to start the school in an alternative place. The PARSES Phase II project implemented school-based PVA in this school. Besides, upazilla and district level PVA implementation and financial assistance enabled the school to stand up and run again. Day by day, student admission, attendance and rate of success have been increased. There were 319 students in total (152 boys and 167 girls) in 2011. The number increased in 2012 and now there are 357 students (176 boys and 181 girls).

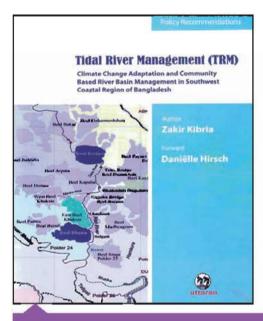


Chapter 6

**Publications** 

The organization emphasizes on publications to ensure proper implementation of socio-economic development interventions undertaken for overall development and increasing the quality of life of its beneficiaries. Publications are effective tools for reforming the thoughts of the people including service receivers and providers. Publications like booklet, newsletters, posters, stickers and leaflets are usually disseminated to wider community on a regular basis to let everyone know that how the organization is contributing to development.

The publications of Uttaran provide valuable information and create images to its beneficiaries, employees, development partners, civil society organizations, government agencies and local government institutions. Details of booklet, newsletters, poster, sticker and leaflets published by Uttaran within the year of 2011-2012 are presented in the following section.



Booklet on TRM



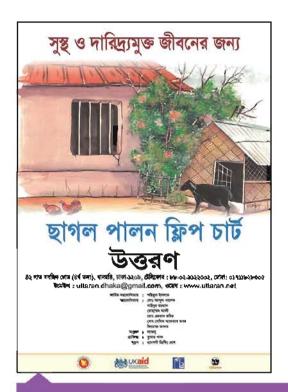
Newsletter on sustainable agricultural technologies

তালা উপজেলার জলাবদ্ধতা প্র বিকল্প নিষ্কাশন পরিকল্পনা উন্তরণ ও পানি কমিটি তালা, সাতকীরা

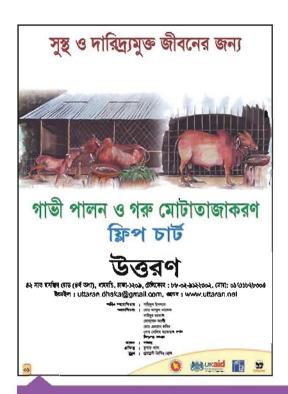
Booklet on waterlogging situation of Tala upazila with alternative solutions



Newsletter on safe drinking water and sanitation



Flipchart on goat rearing



Flipchart on cow rearing and fattening





Poster on School Feeding Program to attract the primary school children

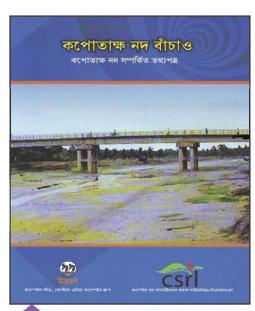


Flipchart on vegetable gardening in school spaces





Fact Sheet on people's right to access natural resources





Booklet on restoration of Kapotaksho river



# Chapter 7

# Financials Statement

## UTTARAN Flat-B1, House-32, Road-10/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209

## **Balance Sheet**

As at June 30 2012

| Particulars               | Note -     | Amount in Taka |             |
|---------------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|
|                           |            | 2011 - 2012    | 2010 - 2011 |
| Fund and Liabilities:     |            |                |             |
| Fund Account              | 10.00      | 132,401,393    | 156,456,338 |
| Advance Foreign Donation  | 11.00      | 34,781,989     | 26,222,967  |
| Current Liabilities       | 12.00      | 14,328,408     | 11,549,573  |
| Group Member Savings      | 13.00      | 44,057,762     | 39,749,564  |
| Loan Loss Provision       | 14.00      | 6,350,716      | -           |
|                           | TOTAL: TK. | 231,920,268    | 233,978,442 |
| Property and Assets:      |            |                |             |
| Fixed Assets              | 15.00      | 126,306,796    | 130,969,282 |
| Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) | 16.00      | 63,464,613     | 71,935,311  |
| Loan and Advance          | 17.00      | 8,779,796      | 15,677      |
| Security Deposit          |            | 350,000        | -           |
| Cash and Bank Balance     | 18.00      | 33,019,063     | 31,058,172  |
|                           | TOTAL: TK. | 231,920,268    | 233,978,442 |

Shalide

Hmofold Coordinator (A&F)

Signed in terms of our separate of even date annexed.

Date: Dhaka, Bangladesh September 25, 2012 RAHMAN ANIS & CO. Chartered Accountants

## UTTARAN Flat-B1, House-32, Road-10/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209

# **Income and Expenditures Accounts**

For the year ended June 30,2012

| The second control of | NTOAC      | Amount in Taka |              |
|---|------------|----------------|--------------|
| Particulars   | Note       | 2011 - 2012    | 2010 - 2011  |
| Income:   |            |                |              |
| Donor Grants  |            | 217,600,103    | 283,772,375  |
| Micro Credit Program  | 5.00       | 10,539,434     | 10,914,278   |
| Bank Interest   |            | 440,339        | 596,077      |
| Other Income  |            | 249,695        | 80,053       |
| Uttaran Local Income  |            | 2,765,034      | 5,359,460    |
| IDRT Contribution   |            | 4,000,000      | -            |
| Uttaran Contribution  |            | 676,974        | -            |
|   | Total: Tk. | 236,271,579    | 300,722,243  |
| Expenditure: Personnel Cost   |            | 53,191,335     | 53,078,447   |
| Program Cost  |            | 162,765,533    | 228,137,533  |
| Administrative Cost   |            | 17,856,883     | 18,759,482   |
| Bank Charge   |            | 224,180        | 193,492      |
| Contingency   |            | 546,142        | 251,699      |
| Overhead Cost   |            | 3,990,769      | 7,759,668    |
| Loan Loss Provision   |            | 1,541,686      | 7,755,000    |
| Depreciation  |            | 6,951,577      | 7,654,681    |
| Surplus transfer to Fund Account  |            | (10,796,526)   | (15,112,759) |
| Sapin ambivi w i ma isocont   |            | 56             | (13,112,137) |
|   | Total: Tk. | 236,271,579    | 300,722,243  |

Shaw dul Director

Coordinator (A&F)

Signed in terms of our separate of even date annexed.

Date: Dhaka, Bangladesh September 25, 2012 RAHMAN ANIS & CO. Chartered Accountants

## UTTARAN Flat-B1, House-32, Road-10/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209

# **Receipts and Payments Accounts**

For the year ended June 30,2012

| D. C. L.                    | 77.4       | Amount in Taka |             |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|
| Particulars                 | Note       | 2011 - 2012    | 2010 - 2011 |
| Receipts:                   |            |                |             |
| Opening Balance             | 19.00      | 31,058,172     | 21,438,009  |
| Grant Received              | 20.00      | 226,159,125    | 300,922,944 |
| Uttaran Local Income        | 21.00      | 2,765,034      | 5,359,460   |
| Micro Credit Program Income | 22.00      | 10,539,434     | 10,914,278  |
| Bank Interest               | 23.00      | 440,339        | 596,077     |
| Other Income                | 24.00      | 249,695        | 80,053      |
| Micro Credit Program Loan   | 25.00      | 131,607,095    | 128,365,987 |
| Accrual for bills payables  | 20.00      | 589,006        | -           |
| IDRT Contribution           |            | 4,000,000      | -           |
| Uttaran Contribution        |            | 676,974        | -           |
| Loan Received               | 26.0       | 15,719,382     | 26,449,882  |
| Fund account                |            |                | 4,230,170   |
| Gratuity Received           |            | 2,312,914      | 1,758,607   |
|                             | Total: Tk. | 426,117,170    | 500,115,467 |
| Payments:                   | 1000 004   |                |             |
| Personnel Cost              | 27.00      | 53,191,335     | 53,078,447  |
| Program Cost                | 28.00      | 162,765,533    | 228,137,533 |
| Administrative Cost         | 29.00      | 17,856,883     | 18,759,482  |
| Bank Charge                 | 33.00      | 224,180        | 193,492     |
| Contingency                 |            | 546,142        | 251,699     |
| Overhead Cost               |            | 3,990,769      | 7,759,668   |
| Capital Cost                | 30.00      | 2,289,091      | 8,072,885   |
| Total: Program Cost.        |            | 240,863,933    | 316,253,206 |
| Loan Account                | 31.00      | 30,799,446     | 25,116,141  |
| Micro Credit Program        | 32.00      | 118,137,114    | 127,310,368 |
| Security Money Deposit      |            | 350,000        | _           |
| Gratuity Refund             |            | 2,947,614      | 377,580     |
| Closing Balances            | 34.00      | 33,019,063     | 31,058,172  |
|                             | Total:Tk.  | 426,117,170    | 500,115,467 |

hawdu Director Amonton

Coordinator (A&F)

Signed in terms of our separate of even date annexed.

Date: Dhaka, Bangladesh September 25, 2012 RAHMAN ANIS & CO. Chartered Accountants





Flat-B1, House-32, Road-10/A, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka, Bangladesh Phone: 88 02 9122302, Mobile: 880 1711828305 email: uttaran.dhaka@gmail.com, web: www.uttaran.net