



1. Project Name : **Regional programme for scaling up the multi-Sectoral Approach for Nutrition Smart Villages in Bangladesh.(NSV)**
2. Project Duration : **December 01, 2020 to December 31, 2023 (Phase-II).**
3. Implementing Area : Kobakhali and Merung Union of
Dighinala Upazilla, District: Khagrachari, Bangladesh.
4. Donor Name : **Welthungerhilfe, Germany.**
5. Total budget of the project : **BDT: 2,76,53,000/-** [Euro: 276,530, USD: 337,230]

6. Project Summary :

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to food and nutrition security amongst women of reproductive age and young children from vulnerable and food insecure families., At the Anando project areas, the project targeted 45 Nutrition Smart Villages covering 9,820 households with a population of 49,038, where women are 9,086 in the age group of 15-49 years and 2,400 children in the age group of 0-5 years who will be benefited from the participatory learning and action cycles & agricultural demonstrations, improved care practices leading to improvements in nutrition, dietary diversity, hygiene and health. Moreover, 60 village level community service providers from agriculture, health & nutrition and WASH will be capacitated for advocating and pushing forward a better multi-sectoral integration and convergence of government development programmes with regards to nutrition at local level. On the other hand, 108 higher level government staff will be sensitized on the importance of the multi-sectoral approach to fight against hunger and malnutrition through better integration between agriculture, nutrition and WASH interventions. The project promotes nutrition smart villages through strengthening community institutions and Farmer Field Schools, prepare & implement nutrition sensitive micro planning (NSMP), and conducting Participatory Learning and Action cycles (PLA). The project started at the last quarter of 2018 and it is continuing different activities are: LANN PLA-cycles, Nutrition camp through govt. support, opened

WhatsApp group within 46 CSP and staff, Kichuri and Nurimix distribution, Soap distribution, IEC materials distribution, Prepared leaflet on different recipe and also feeding and cooking guideline, Create awareness on COVID-19 (hand washing practice, maintaining social distance, wearing mask etc.), Distribution of hand sanitizer, mask, gloves and PPE within staff and community service provider (CSP), Providing different types of summer seeds at HH level, developed two subsystem (fodder cultivation and composting) in SIFS, given technical support for winter seed harvest and processing, established linkage with mPower for getting technical assistance etc. were major interventions of the project.

7. Goal of the project :

To contribute to food and nutrition security (SDG 2) of vulnerable and food insecure families in Nepal, Bangladesh and India.






8. Major objectives/Output :

- ✚ The multisectoral approach to food and nutrition security is consolidated and institutionalized in cooperation with government agencies.
- ✚ Knowledge management platforms are established to guide and facilitate multisectoral programming.
- ✚ Identified best practices in nutrition smart villages are scaled up through extensive policy advocacy, capacity building and technical support.

9. Major Activities :

- ✚ Train and give handholding support on safe feeding practices and WASH
- ✚ Promote Sustainable Integrated Farming Systems
- ✚ Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) meeting sessions and village planning
- ✚ Prepare District Master Trainers Team
- ✚ Studies on efficacy of multi sectoral approach
- ✚ Pod casts and Radio broadcasts
- ✚ Set up a knowledge management platform
- ✚ Conduct Joint workshops, conferences & Advocacy campaigns for awareness
- ✚ Good practice e- Manual
- ✚ Media/Community fellowships, internships
- ✚ Support Regional/ National level networks for promotion of multi sector approach
- ✚ Scale evidence based multisector approach interventions through the government
- ✚ Provide technical support to Non-Government development organizations and CSRs
- ✚ Demonstrate ICT based monitoring and tracking system for the governments
- ✚ Build capacities of elected members/ people's representatives

10. Impact of the project :

-  Nutrition Camps sensitizing the mothers of malnourished children on infant feeding hygiene and care practices. SAM are referred to the hospitals/Nutrition rehabilitation centres.
-  Nutrition garden and Sustainable Integrated Farming System(SIFS) is to helping families improve their dietary diversity and reduce market dependence.
-  Linking Agriculture and Natural resources with Nutrition(LANN+) PLA meetings are promoted to ensure knowledge and behavior change through actions at the village level.
-  Nutrition Sensitive Microplanning are developed to improve the quality of agriculture, livelihoods, health, nutrition and sanitation services and infrastructure.
-  The project has engaged with existing community-based institutions such as Self-Help Groups, farmers groups and committees mandated under the Government programs, e.g. the Village Health, Nutrition and Sanitation Committees. These groups/committees have been empowered and strengthened to provide leadership, connect the villages with the relevant government departments and plan/monitor the nutrition and WASH interventions.

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Case study - 1

Mrs. Hosnaara Begum- a Community Service Provider as Nutrition Champion

Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) is hilly, terrain and forest dominated area. It has about 62% households in the region irrespective of ethnicities are living below absolute poverty line, while 36% are hardcore poor. This is one of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable regions in terms of chronic hunger during rainy season, conflict between multi-ethnic population, poor market infrastructure, deforestation, land degradation and soil erosion arising from tobacco cultivation in sloping land, slash and burn cultivation etc

Welthungerhilfe in collaboration with FIVDB, supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), initiated the project titled 'Regional programme for promoting a multisectoral approach for Nutrition Smart Villages in Bangladesh.' where partner Anando promoting 30 Nutrition Smart villages in Dighinala upazila under of Khagrachari district. The working area is very remote, reaching there through passing many hills and most of the people are vulnerable due to regular income earning sources and limited access to Govt services like health, nutrition, agriculture. During starting the project, in December 2018, Welthungerhilfe's partner Anando 's field staff identified a total of 899 MAM/SAM child identified overall project areas.

In January 2019 Hosnaara Begum was selected as potential and dedicated Local Community Service Providers (CSP-Nutrition/Health) due to her practical advance knowledge & skill regarding health and nutrition aspect living in the Basamerung village Merung Union under Dighinala Upazila. She got several trainings from project such anthropometry measurement of child, nutrition camp,



nutrition garden, support system of MAM/SAM child. She also works with 180 families in the village of Basamerung with 76 children aged 0 to 5 years. The nutrition status of child and mothers are also very poor in this village. Accordingly, a total of 34 SAM & MAM children identified through anthropometry measurement in collaboration with government health department. Hosnaara is 35 years old, Secondary School Certificate (SSC) pass and has five members' family. She received all type of nutrition related training which is provided by Anando, NSV Project such as child screening, conduct nutrition cam, LANN PLA, referral management system, IGA activities, etc. But she never forgets her duties and responsibilities during the period of COVID-19 situation.

During COVID 19, Hosnaara become very worried about the health status due to proper fooding of the child who attended earlier nutrition camp. Then with the support of project she decided to cook Khichuri

(one of the best menu/recipes of the nutrition camp) in his houses and accordingly distribute to each of the MAM/SAM child households through home visit. As it is a challenging work during COVID-19 situation. But Hosneara takes challenges to overcome her village against COVID-19. At first he knows details about COVID-19 and takes good initiative to prevent COVID-19 of her family members. She is working 3 to 4 hours per day in her village for awareness raising on COVID-19. Such as distributing IEC materials about COVID-19, techniques of hand washing, personal hygiene, one to one counseling, to helping relief SAM/MAM family by Govt. and also follow up activity of nutrition camp (distributing Khichuri) for feeding in MAM/SAM child in her villages. She is travelling around 2-3 km within the village by walk and also further travelling 2 times for distributing khichuri in SAM & MAM child. She put hand gloves, musk and using hand sanitizer and maintains social distance all of her family member follows it as well. She delivered some message about COVID-19 during the home visit those are:

- Always wash hands with soap and clean water at least 20 seconds.
- When coughing and sneezing - covers your mouth with tissue and throws tissues into closed bin immediately. If you don't have tissue, sneeze into your flexed elbow.
- If you have symptoms of coronavirus, avoid contact with people. Keep at least 3 feet distance
- Don't panic and stay calm if you or your near and dear ones have symptoms. Most of the people do recover from COVID-19 disease. Please report to the nearest health center as soon as you feel any symptoms.

Her village goes to locked down by villagers. Nobody can move outside the village and Government strictly follow it. Social distance maintains so difficult. Most of the SAM/MAM mother was not interested to come's out from their home. She feels proud for serving her villages during the global crisis period. She thinks that now her village is safe from COVID-19 for her responsibilities. She cooked (khichuri) following community-based Cooking in her house and delivering it to the MAM/SAM child homes two days of a week as part of the follow-up after the nutrition camp. She maintenance proper hygiene during prepare cooking. After cooked she distributed among the household maintained proper social distance. She gets every working day 300/- BDT as honorarium for doing the whole tasks from the project which is inspired to come work during COVID-19. Her dream we will be won the fight against COVID-19 as early as possible by ensuring GO and NGO services accordingly. She is now become a real nutrition and health champion CSP of her village for support the MAM/SAM childs, so that there will be no malnourish children will exist in this village.



Case study - 2

Mrs. Momena Begum- a Community Service Provider: Agriculture Champion

Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) is hilly, terrain and forest dominated area. It has about 62% households in the region irrespective of ethnicities are living below absolute poverty line, while 36% are hardcore poor. This is one of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable regions in terms of chronic hunger during rainy season, conflict between multi-ethnic population, poor market infrastructure, deforestation, land degradation and soil erosion arising from tobacco cultivation in sloping land, slash and burn cultivation, etc.

Welthungerhilfe in partnership with Anando, supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), initiated the project titled 'Regional programme for promoting a multisectoral approach for Nutrition Smart Villages in Bangladesh.' where Anando promoting 30 Nutrition Smart villages in Dighinala upazila under of Khagrachari district. The working area is very remote, reaching there through passing many hills and most of the people are vulnerable due to irregular income earning sources and limited access to Govt. services like health, nutrition, agriculture. During inception of the project, in December 2018, Welthungerhilfe's partner Anando's field staff identified a total of 899 MAM/SAM children in the overall project area.

In January, 2019 Momena Begum was selected as potential and dedicated Local Community Service Providers (CSP-Agriculture) due to her practical advance knowledge & skills regarding agriculture aspects living in the Head Quarter village under Merung Union in Dighinala Upazila. Momena is 29 years old, class nine pass and has six members' family. She got several trainings from Nutrition Smart Village project such as Sustainable Integrated Farming System (SIFS), Vegetables production technology, improved poultry rearing, Seed collection and storage, facilitation technique, etc. She also works with 113 families in the village of Head Quarter with 59 children aged 0 to 5 years. The nutrition status of children and mothers are also very poor in this village. Accordingly, a total of 25 MAM/SAM children identified through anthropometry measurement in collaboration with government health department.



At recent she never forgets her duties and responsibilities during this period of COVID-19. During COVID 19, Momena become very worried about the homestead nutrition garden status due to lack of giving proper technical support, distribution of different summer vegetables seeds, collection and storage of winter vegetables seeds, etc. By this time, she thought that some quick growing leafy vegetables seeds has to distribute within the 25 HHs (who have MAM child) for getting early production. That's why, she distributed some leafy vegetables seeds within the targeted HHs. The vegetables are as Indian spinach, Red amaranth, Kangkong and Amaranth. This types of vegetables given production within 20 to 25 days.

Now, 25 HHs are getting vegetables production from their homestead nutrition garden and meet up their daily required nutrition for reducing malnutrition which was helped by Momena, as a community service provider (CSP) of NSV project.

Moreover, during the field visit, she has started one to one meeting for winter seed collection and storage and also given technical support to each of the MAM/SAM family for homestead nutrition garden. As it is a challenging work during COVID-19 situation. But Momena takes challenges to overcome her village against COVID-19. At first she knows the details about COVID-19 and takes good initiative to prevent COVID-19 from her family members. She is working 3 to 4 hours per day in her village for follow up the activity of homestead nutrition garden and also awareness raising on COVID-19. Such as techniques of hand washing, personal hygiene, one to one counseling, to helping relief of SAM/MAM family by the Govt. etc. She is travelling around 2-3 km within the village by walking. She wears hand gloves, mask and using hand sanitizer and maintains social distance that all of her family member follows it as well. She also delivered following messages about COVID-19 during the homestead garden visits such as always wash hands with soap and clean water at least for 20 seconds, when coughing and sneezing - covers your mouth with tissue and throws tissues into closed bin immediately, If you don't have tissue, sneeze into your flexed elbow, If you have symptoms of coronavirus, avoid contact with people. Keep at least 3 feet distance, Don't panic and stay calm if you or your near and dear ones have symptoms. Most of the people do recover from COVID-19 disease. Please report to the nearest health center as soon as you feel any symptoms.

Her village goes to locked down by villagers. Nobody can move outside the village and Government strictly follow it. Maintaining social distance is so difficult. Most of the SAM/MAM mother was not interested to come out from their home. She feels proud for serving her villages during this global crisis period. She thinks that now her village is safe from malnutrition due to affected by COVID-19 for her responsibilities. She maintains proper social distance, mask, hand wash, hygiene during the seed distribution, seed collection and storage and given technical support. She gets every working day 300/- BDT as honorarium for doing the whole tasks from the project which is inspired to come work during COVID-19. Her dream is that we will be won the fight against COVID-19 as early as possible by ensuring her responsibilities and also support from GO and NGO services accordingly. She is now become a real agriculture champion CSP of her village for given support to the 25 MAM/SAM family. So that round the year vegetables cultivation will continue by its own in their homestead area and fulfill their nutrition demand.



Case study - 3

Increased hand washing practices by community led hand washing station

ANANDO has been implementing “**Nutrition Smart Villages**” project since September 2018 at Nagujja Karbari para, under Dighinala Upazilla in Khagrachari with the financial supported from the Welthungerhilfe, Germany. The village is located 26 Km. far away from upazilla town which is also a very hard to reach areas. The communication and transportation system in this village is very undeveloped and expensive. The only Chakma ethnic minority community peoples where 233 families consisting of 1200 peoples are living there. Accessing the safe drinking water is the great challenges in this village as it is hilly area. The people of the village have to work hard as well as spending more than 03 hours in a day only to collect drinking water. As a result, most of villagers are affected by different water born disease especially mother and child. And it is also mentionable that a significant number of child (06-36 months) were found as a SAM/MAM. To overcome the situation, the village named Nagujja Karbari para was selected by Anando/WHH to implement the NSV project activities. At first, project team has developed one self-help group in the name of “**Chameli Pusti**” self-help group. When the Corona virus were spread out to all over the country and during that time more than 60% villagers of Nagujja Karbari para were infected by Covid-19. Later it is revealed that lack of water for hand washing is one of the major reason to infect by corona virus.



We all know that, we have to wash our hand over and over to keep us safe from Covid-19. But they didn't do the hand washing practices due to water crisis. To solve this problem, self-help group leaders met together where NSV project team were also present and planned to establish one community led hand washing station at the entrance of the village with support of NSV project and in collaboration with the villagers. Finally, Anando has established one community led hand washing station and formed one water management committee to function the washing station. One of the members of Management Committee has contributed the electricity cost round the year. On the other hand, Water management committee has collected Tk. 20/month from every member as a savings for its repair and maintenance.

Right now, a total of 233 families (1200 peoples) have been ensured to get access the save drinking water from community led hand washing station. So, community led hand washing station is playing an effective role to access the save drinking water and to prevent COVID-19 along with other diseases. Now all the villagers are very happy with the initiative of WHH and Anando's to establish the community led hand washing station.

Some Photo of NSV Project



