

# Annual Report 2017



Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha

# Annual Report 2017

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## Editors

Ripan Chakma

## Associates

Sujash Chakma

Shyamal Bikash Chakma

Sukiran Chakma

Minuching Marma

Ripul Chakma

## Graphics and Design

Tangsree Color System

## Cover

Ripan Chakma

## Photographs

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## Message from the Chairperson



I am very glad to hear Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha (TUS) is going to publish the annual report-2017. I hope this Annual Report-2017 gives a glimpse of the year of works in 2017 with both successes and failures. During this reporting period TUS has implemented five projects such as Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project, Livelihood Development Grants Management Project, Protection and Promotion of Natural Resource Management systems in CHT (2 & 3<sup>rd</sup> phase) and Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh project. TUS has been working as a non-political organization in the Chittagong Hill Tracts since its establishment in 1997 aiming to build the capacity of grassroots communities towards improving their livelihoods and addressing socio-economic development issues through a participatory approach. Thus, TUS achieved an image and acceptance to various partners, government, development actors, stakeholders and community peoples as peoples oriented development organizations in the CHT.

This year, we faced several challenges for achieving our desired target and objectives. However, we believe that we were also able to take some basic steps towards the fulfillment of our vision.

Hence, I would like to take the opportunity to express our gratitude to all esteemed development partners, stakeholders, donors, local administration, government agencies and others for their heartfelt cooperation. And I would also like to thank my colleagues of TUS and EC members for showing their dedication and commitment to bringing out the success in our work. I hope this will continue to turn our vision into reality.

Shyamali Chakma (Ms.)

## Message from the Executive Director



Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha is about to steps into its 21<sup>st</sup> years as a non-governmental, non-profit and people-oriented organization. As an organization for community development TUS is accountable to the communities, stakeholders and development partners to disclose information regarding our activities. I hope this Annual Report-2017 describes an overview of works, achievements and learning in 2017.

In 2017, we focused on livelihoods, natural resource management, traditional knowledge and good governance to build the capacity of grassroots communities towards improving their livelihoods and addressing socio-economic development issues through a participatory approach. In this period TUS team has implemented 'Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project', 'Livelihood Development Grants Management Project', 'Protection and Promotion of Natural Resource Management systems in CHT (2&3<sup>rd</sup> phase), and 'Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh project'.

In 2017, we involved in different Partnerships, Networks, and Campaign Programs like Durbar network, Bangladesh Indigenous People Network on Climate Change and Biodiversity (BIPNetCCBD) and Chittagong Hill Tracts Women Organization Network (CHTWON).

Through these activities, we worked for community peoples towards achieving our Vision, in which all people have the opportunity and capability to participate in the development process. We look forward to extending helping hands to the entire development partners, stakeholders, government, local government institutions, traditional institutions, media and donors in carrying forward our mission.

Ripan Chakma (Mr.)





## ***Vision***

*To establish a society based on the values of social justice, equity and freedom, in which all people have full and effective participation in development process.*

## ***Mission***

*To build up the capacity of the grassroots communities, especially the disadvantaged and marginalized communities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, towards improving their livelihoods and addressing other socio-economic issues in a participatory approach.*

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## Acronyms

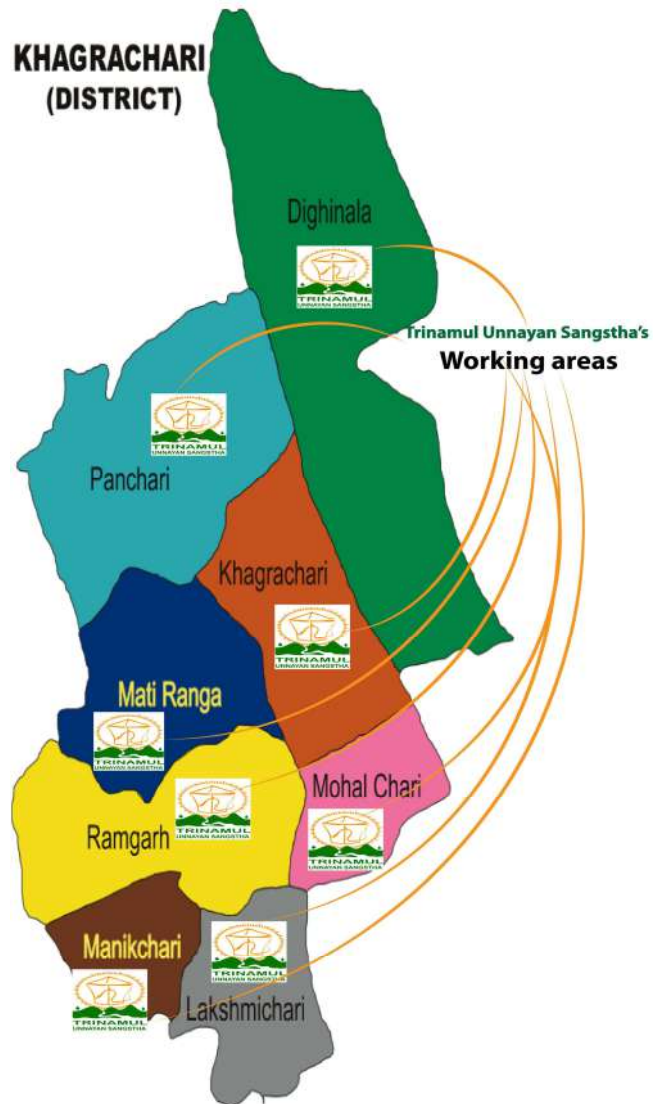
ADB	: Asian Development Bank
CD	: Community Development
CI	: Community Infrastructure
CHT	: Chittagong Hill Tracts
CHTRC	: Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council
CHTRDP-II	: Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project
CHTDF	: Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility
CSF	: Community Solidarity Fund
GoB	: Government of Bangladesh
HDC	: Hill District Council
HYSAWA	: Hygiene promotion Sanitation and Water supply
MJF	: Manusher Jonno Foundation
NGO	: Non-government Organization
PDC	: Para Development Committee
PPNRM	: Protection and Promotion on Natural Resource Management Systems in CHT
PPSP	: People's Participatory Strategic Planning, a process for creating community development plans
SECAIB	: Strengthening Ethnic Communities Access to Information in Bangladesh
SLR	: Secured Livelihood Rights
TUS	: Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha
UNO	: Upazila Nirbahi Officer
UP	: Union Parishad
UNDEF	: United Nations Democracy Fund
UNDP	: United Nations Development Program
UzP	: Upazila Parishad

## Program Overview

Particular	Upazila	District	Donor
<b>Livelihood Program</b>			
Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project	Khagrachhari Sadar, Dighinala, Panchhari, Mohalchhari, Matiranga, Manikchhari, Laxmichhari and Ramgarh	Khagrachhari	ADB and GoB
Livelihood Development Grants Management Project	Khagrachhar Sadar and Panchari	Khagrachhari	UNDP
<b>Natural Resource Management Program</b>			
Protection & Promotion on NRM Systems in CHT(2 <sup>nd</sup> Phase)	Khagrachhari Sadar and Dighinala	Khagrachhari	Misereor, Germany
Protection & Promotion on NRM Systems in CHT(3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase)	Khagrachhari Sadar and Dighinala	Khagrachhari	Misereor, Germany
<b>Governance Program</b>			
Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh	Khagrachhari Sadar, Panchhari, & Dighinala upazila.	Khagrachhari	MJF and TCC



## TUS working area



## Livelihood Program



## Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project (CHTRDP-II):

### Introduction:

This annual report provides a brief overview of the program commenced under the agreement signed between MoCHTA and Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha Joint Venture [TUS in association with ALO, Kabidang, KMKS, and ZKS] for the social mobilization activities in Khagrachhari District (package-3). The services intend to provide CHTRDP-II with a realistic knowledge and skill base which can provide a unique combination of proven participatory development operation experience with specific expertise in social mobilization in Khagrachhari Hill district.

### Background:

The Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) comprising of Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban Districts is geographically isolated and ethnocultural unique from plain-land Bangladesh. The CHT has been devoid of significant externally-financed development interventions for the past decades particularly during a 20years insurgency, which ended with signing of the CHT Accord in 1997. Following the signing of the CHT Accord, ADB initiated development activities under Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project (CHTRDP). The loan closed in September 2009. After successful completion of the CHTRDP in September 2009, ADB approved a project preparatory technical assistance (PPTA) in January 2010 to help the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs (MoCHTA) formulate the Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project (CHTRDP-II).

#### ***The project at a glance:***

*Project Title: Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project.*

*Funded by: ADB & GoB.  
Project Duration: From 23 Dec'2013 to 30 Jun'2019.  
Working area: 9 Upazilas of Khagrachhari district.  
No. of unions: 38 unions.  
Sub-projects: 201  
No. of Staff: 27 (Male-19, Female-08).*

The Asian Development Bank initiated an infrastructure oriented development of the region through the Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project (CHTRDP). This project was successfully completed in September 2009. A follow-up project titled Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project (CHTRDP-II) has been initiated and its implementation process has begun with the establishment of a project office. In this connection, a contract has been signed between TUS Joint Venture and Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs (MoCHTA) on 24 December 2013 to perform the activities of service packages-3 under the project titled "Second Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project". The experts of the TUS joint venture are working to achieve its social mobilization objectives. To ensure the implementation of beneficiaries at the grassroots level, the project has included a component on Social Mobilization through NGOs in each of the three districts. This has been clearly elaborated in the Terms of Reference (TOR). TUS Joint Venture appreciated the clarity in the formulation of the TOR and has duly agreed to serve in this regard.

**Project duration:** 24 December 2013 to 30 June 2019.

**Purpose of NGO Services for Social Mobilization:**

Social mobilization for the Project will be provided by NGOs as part of project output. The purpose of NGO services are --

- (i) To provide implementation services for Project Management Office (PMO), PMO (Roads), and District Project Management Offices (DPMOs) for all aspects of implementation of community infrastructure (CI), watershed management (WM) and micro agribusiness development (MAD),
- (ii) Capacity building and strengthening beneficiary communities through their involvement in infrastructure development and watershed management,
- (iii) Providing adequate support for micro agribusiness development (MAD) to poor rural households to improve their incomes through capacity building of local producers, marketing and improved agriculture production and
- (iv) To work in close coordination and with technical expertise of project implementation consultants (PIC).

**Working Area and Beneficiary:****Coverage area:**

District	Upazila	Union	No. of Subproject
Khagrachhari	8	38	200

**Upazila wise Beneficiary (Based on 200 Sub-projects):**

Upazila	No. of Subproject	Total Beneficiary (HH)				
		Chakma	Marma	Tripura	Bangali	Total
Khagrachhari	33	1041	585	682	0	2308
Panchhari	34	2023	197	594	15 Snatal	2829
Dighinala	22	2597	0	36	5	2638
Matiranga	28	141	572	1176	1410	3299
Mahalchhari	28	1603	424	147	2	2176
Ramgarh	18	12	1137	520	176	1845
Laxmichhari	19	478	710	1	0	1189
Manikchhari	18	12	1011	205	0	1228
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>7907</b>	<b>4636</b>	<b>3361</b>	<b>1608</b>	<b>17512</b>

**Performed Major Activities:**

In this reporting period, TUS project team has performed the project activities in close cooperation with community peoples, government line departments, agencies, local government institutions, traditional institutions and achieved significant success in the areas of nine Upazilas in Khagrachhari hill district. Its major achievements are given below:



### **Community Mobilization:**

TUS Joint Venture Team performed the mentioned activities by conducting a series of consultation meetings. Mainly the major activity is feasibility report preparation. So, the team performed some activities for report preparation. The activities are – 1. To orient the beneficiary like PDC's member, LCS's member and other stakeholders at PDC level on project goal and objective; 2. Conduct meetings at PDC level for PDC/CBO formation and community profiling; 3. Conduct consultation meetings at PDC level for Feasibility study report preparation activities like resource identification through mapping, problem identification & prioritization and intervention selection; 4. Assist to DPMO engineer on technical feasibility study; 5. Motivate the community on the need for land acquisition and agreement for land donation; 6. Provide training for capacity building of PDC/CDC/LCS members and other relevant stakeholders; 7. Provide motivational session to the community on ensuring their participation in implementation, operation and project management; 8. Provide awareness sessions to the community on project sustainability and making a future action plan. All kinds of activities were done through a process of consultation, FGD and courtyard meeting. The major steps for Feasibility Study are given bellow under the operation process for CI Implementation.



*Figure 1 Consultation meeting at Sapmara Tripura para*

### **Selection of beneficiary communities/sub-projects:**

The team of TUS JV made arrangements to verify the general feasibility of the selected para (according to longlist) for working. The team used a checklist as a matrix which indicates the para feasibility for sub-projects. The matrixes are indicated in CI guideline and also provided to the team through the workshop. The matrix is given bellow-

- Para has finally been considered for being-
  - i) Distance within 5km from all season.
  - ii) There are more than 20 HHs in subproject
  - iii) No irrigation canal was constructed during phase-1 of this project and
  - iv) Less than 50% are entitled to free rationing from GoB.
- Except for village access facilities, Paras that fall into the following categories will not be eligible as beneficiaries for other CI interventions:
  - i) Villages that have had irrigation projects from CHTRDP-I;
  - ii) Those who receive free rations from the Government.



In this reporting year, the team of TUS JV visited 200 Paras (According to the long list provided by DPMO) at 8 Upzilas of Khagrcachhri district inspecting the matrixes are indicated in CI guideline.

#### **Para Development Committee (PDC) formation:**

TUS has to form a PDC at sub-project in each Para before Project implementation. Regarding PDC formation TUS JV team generally assists the traditional leader to organize a consultation meeting at Para level regarding PDC formation or reformation (if required). Considering the PDCs of CHTDF based on their functional status, the community peoples decided whether the existing PDCs should be reformed or new PDC will be



*Figure 2 FGD at Katarung para in Dighinala*

formed. The decision was actually taken by the majority people's reflection on their opinions in the

said consultation meeting. In this process the team of TUS JV considered the following factors: i) The existing PDC not functional as per requirements of CHTDF; ii) There were manifold PDCs in the village; iii) Majority residents of the villages expressed their dissatisfaction over the PDC's activities and performance; iv) There was no PDC at all. The committee of the PDC reformed consisting of 9 to 11 members where 30% membership reserve for female including at least one key post among chairperson, vice-chairperson, general secretary and treasurer position. The positions of a PDC are; i) Chairperson-1; ii) Vice-Chairperson-1; iii) General Secretary-1; iv) Treasurer-1; v) Members -5—7.

**Output:** In this reporting Year total 16 Para Development committees (PDC) formed by the TUS team and cumulatively total 209 where 30% membership reserved for females from one key post among chairperson, vice-chairperson, general secretary and treasurer position.

#### **Consultation meeting for Para Profiling:**

TUS JV team facilitates to conduct the meeting and try to consult the community on project activity. Through consultation meeting, community peoples help to prepare in village Profiling. In this session, PDC organizes open discussions where the community peoples both male and female participated spontaneously. The main objective of Para Profiling is to find out the present condition of the sub-project. The community tried to identify the existing resources, facilities and its usage, status of social responsibility, economic growth, problems and development interventions of the respective villages. Gender, social safeguards and land tenure issues are also discussing in consultation meetings.

**Output:** In this reporting year TUS facilitates to organize consultations meeting in 17 subprojects for village Profiling. And it is prepared in 17 village profiles through the help of PDC & community people. Till this reporting year cumulatively total of 210 consultation meetings conducted for village profiling and cumulatively prepared total 146 para profile/village profile.

**Feasibility Study report preparation:**

TUS Joint Venture Team has to conduct a series of consultation meetings at the PDC level for Feasibility study report preparation. The team has to perform some activities for feasibility study report preparation at the PDC level. The activities are resource identification through mapping, problem identification & prioritization and intervention selection etc. Through consultation meeting, PDC selects the interventions were TUS JV team assist. According to the CI guideline, PDCs will be prepared a feasibility study report with the assistance of the TUS JV team. But the focal person of SM-NGO has to draft the feasibility study report instead of PDC due to incapable of PDC with following prescribed formats and project guidelines.

It's mandatory to consider the existing resources, location, designing of intervention, potential impacts, and benefits. In this regard respective PDCs and SM-NGO have considered the following subjects- 1) Due Diligence Report where applicable a Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan (LARP), 2) Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), 3) Environment Management Plan (EMMP), 4) O&M plan. It is noted that respective PDCs considered environment and indigenous people's culture, customs, norms and value systems to minimize any adverse impacts on the proposed project. During feasibility study report preparation and finalization respective PDCs and SM-NGO have to follow PIC guidelines and format. According to guideline respective PDCs organize some consultation meetings at PDC level for problem identification & prioritization, technical feasibility study, land agreement, Bank account opening & community contribution etc. After completing the report by the respective focal person (Field project staff) and PDC Supervisor and Lead Supervisor review the feasibility study report as final. Then SM-NGO submits the feasibility study report as a project proposal to Bangladesh Regional Mission (BRM) through DPMO & PIC for approval.

It is noted that the technical report including design and budgetary supports are provided by DPMO engineers.

**Output:** In this reporting period total of 36 technical feasibility studies submitted to PMO through DPMO and cumulatively total 200.

**Village mapping for resource identification:**

The village mapping is also a part the of feasibility study. Because, a map gives a pointer of existing resources or facilities of a village which makes it easier to identify the Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT) of the respective village.

After completed socio-economic survey and PDC formation there organizes a consultation meeting at the sub-project level for village mapping. Generally, TUS JV team assists to PDC to conduct a consultation meeting where ensured community peoples both male–female participate.

In this session, the following steps have done by SM-NGO together with community people- 1. Transect walk; 2. Venn diagram; 3. Aspiration Assessment; 4. Problem Identification; 5. Final Sketch Resource map. The objective of this session to identify the geographical image, existing natural resources, facilities, communication & village access road/footpath, livelihood status, socio-economic status of the villager and other institutions etc. After completion, the mapping it gives a glimpse of existing resources or facilities of the village.



*Figure 3 Consultation meeting at Gagan Chandra para*

Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and plenary sessions were conducted with the participation of both male and female.

During the Mapping process, all types of logistic and resources (both tangibles and intangibles) were made available, so that the community peoples were enjoyed preparing the village map. They sketched their resource position and indicated in the map where all households were identified and referred for detailed data.

**Output:** In this reporting period a total of 17 village mapping completed and cumulatively total 210. In the maps, all types of resources and assets were identified and indicated by the community peoples.

#### **Consultation meeting for problem identification:**

Consultation meeting at the para level on problem identification and prioritization is also a part of the feasibility study. Through this consultation meeting, the community can identify and prioritize their problems through sort out their actual need for their socio-economic development.

In this meeting, the TUS JV team briefs the project objectives, selection criteria and related procedures for the selection of interventions for the understanding the villagers clearly of their crying needs as problems under CI component (small-scale water resources infrastructure). The main objective of problem identification was to identify the problems that they faced always. After this, the community peoples participate in focus group discussions (FGD) in Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRA) way and plenary meetings for identifying problems. The community people both male and female participate in FGD and open discussions. After completing group work, they shared their

identified problems in an entire session. At last the community peoples prioritize their actual problem through for this project.

**Output:** In this reporting period total consultation meeting conducted a total of 18 for problem identification and cumulatively conducted a total of 208 consultation meetings until this reporting year.

#### **Intervention selection & Prioritization:**

After identifying the problems, the community selects the intervention that can eliminate the existing problem. The team carried out awareness- raising campaigns on intervention selection, planning, design and implementation together with the beneficiaries of respective PDCs. After completing campaigns, the community peoples select the intervention based on community demand regarding identified problems. In this case, the team considered Indigenous Peoples (IPs) safeguard policy i.e. FPIC (free, prior and informed consent) during the intervention selection process. The community peoples prioritized some rules and guidelines as per CI guideline. As per CI guideline the interventions have to be for



*Figure 4 Consultation meeting at Dewan para*

i) must boost direct economic development; ii) benefits majority of the community, especially the target vulnerable group; iii) Economically viable and technically feasible; iv) ensure availability of technical inputs or resources or expertise; v) environment & culture friendly; vi) Easy for implementation, operation and maintenance; vii) Sustainable/lasting impacts. During intervention selection the team discuss the following subjects with villagers - 1) Due Diligence Report where applicable a Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plan (LARP), 2) Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), 3) Environment Management Plan (EMMP), 4) O&M plan.

**Output:** In this reporting period total consultation meeting conducted a total of 18 for selecting the propose intervention which can help to eliminate the existing problems of the Sub-project. So, cumulatively conducted a total of 208 consultation meetings till this reporting year.

The most selected and prioritized interventions (Under CI component- small scale water supply) were:

- Water supply for drinking water (Tube well and deep well).
- Irrigation canal or Deep well with power pump or generator.
- Agriculture equipment like power tiller.
- Communication (Village footpath, small scale culvert).



**Consultation Meeting for FSR preparation:**

Generally, the Joint Venture team assist to PDC to organize consultation meeting at para level on Village mapping, problem identification & prioritization, final intervention selection, Technical feasibility study for drafting feasibility study. PDC tries to ensure community participation both male and female from each household. During the consultation meeting those agendas discuss details and make collective decision taking the opinion or vote of the participants on intervention selection and project site selection. PDC members visit the project side with all beneficiaries if required. They discuss and define the operation and maintenance rules for the proper use or implementation of the project. After that PDC submits their draft notes to SM-NGO to prepare a feasibility study report in PIC prescribed format.



*Figure 5 BRM monitoring visit*

**Output:** In this reporting period total consultation meeting conducted a total of 10 for FSR preparation. So, cumulatively conducted a total of 200 consultation meeting till this reporting year.

**Assistance for Technical Feasibility Study to DPMO:**

This part is mainly done by the DPMO staff. During the reporting period the SM-NGO team always supported to DPMO engineers for conducting technical feasibility study. The respective PDCs organized consultation meeting on technical feasibility study and the team assist to PDCs and DPMO. Generally, community discusses with technical team on their problems and proposed intervention. The technical team visits the proposed side of the intervention in need. The technical feasibility study was done following some guidelines and policy such as CI, GENDER, LAR and IPs safe guard policy. During consultation meeting, some important issues were shared with community peoples. The issues were-

- The estimated cost of the sub-project should be maximum BDT 13, 00,000 or USD 14,280.
- The proposed sub-project should be benefited the target beneficiaries, particularly more marginalized and vulnerable ethnic groups;
- Irrigation system cost will not be more than \$1,000 per hectare;
- Village water supply beneficiaries will not be less than 35 households;
- Village water supply cost will not be more than \$100 per household;
- Village access road costs will not be more than \$24,000 per km.

**Output:** In this reporting period total of 30 technical feasibility studies done by DPMO engineer and cumulatively total 200.



### **Consultation Meeting & Land Agreement:**

Due to the compensation and IPs safeguard policies of ADB, the land donation agreement is a part of FSR. So, through a consultation meeting, the land donation agreement process was shared with land donors and beneficiaries. After the technical feasibility study, the donor of land from beneficiaries signed in judicial stamp paper for land donation against the intervention construction. During the consultation meeting, it was shared that the PDC concerned authority will sign the contract on sub-project works. The whole process was facilitated by the TUS JV team under the supervision of the DPMO engineers.



*Figure 6 Establishment Para Map*

**Output:** In this reporting period a total of 36 signed the land agreement between land donor and PDC and cumulatively total 200.

### **Community participation in Implementation, Operation & Project Management:**

#### **Ensure Contribution through Bank Account:**

As per CI guidelines, the respective PDC is responsible to collect community contributions from beneficiary for operation and maintenance and deposit it in PDC's Bank account. So, the TUS JV team motivates and facilitated to PDCs to open a bank account by paying BDT 10,000.00 (Ten Thousand) as community contribution. PDC starts the project work after ensuring 50% contribution in PDC's Bank account and rest of contribution deposit before complete the sub-project work or goods supply. It is noted that the amount of community contribution will be used in O&M for sustainability in the future.

**Output:** Till these reporting year cumulatively opened 197 Bank accounts by PDCs executives. In this reporting year, total 109 bank accounts opened out of 197. Some of PDC opened bank account with paying the full contribution (BDT10, 000) and some of paying half contribution (BDT 5,000) during opening the account. Till this reporting year total contribution money deposited BDT- 19, 45,000.00 in PDC's bank account.

#### **PEC Formation:**

PDC is responsible for the formation of a procurement evaluation committee (PEC) to evaluate and process procurements for the construction of the intervention. PEC committee has to follow some steps such as site selection, RFQ/tender invitation & contractor selection, follow up the construction

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work according to design, define the O&M rules for post-construction and sustainability. TUS JV team facilitates to PDC to form PEC formation through consultation meetings at the community level. PDC form a Procurement Evaluation Committee (PEC) to implement all kinds of construction work and goods supply. PEC invites the quotation for the contractor and evaluates the quotation. Then it submits to PDC for necessary action. After analysis the documents PDC submit the evaluation report to DPMO for review and taking action on construction work.

**Output:** Till this reporting year cumulatively 167 PEC formed by PDCs executives. In this reporting year total 73 PEC formed out of 167 where the construction and supply work has done.

### **Operation & Maintenance Committee Formation:**

The respective PDC is responsible for follow up the construction work according to design, define the O&M rules for post-construction and sustainability. TUS JV team facilitates PDC to form O&M committee formation and orient the beneficiary on the significant of O&M through consultation meetings at the community level. PDC form an operation & maintenance (O&M) committee to follow-up management on implemented interventions and take necessary step for sustainability. This O&M committee defines the rules with the beneficiary's idea through a consultation meeting.

**Output:** Till this reporting year cumulatively 94 O&M committees formed by PDCs executives. In this reporting year total 34 O&M formed out of 167 and the rules of management defined.

### **Intervention implementation:**

The intervention work starts after completing some major activities such as Bank account open ensuring community contribution, PEC formation, completed RFQ/tender invitation and Evaluation, MOU sign between contractor & PDC and giving work order to the contractor for Implementation. In this section, the team assists to PDC in quotation circular & evaluation, MOU sign between contractor & PDC and quality ensure in construction work.

As per CI guideline, PDC invited quotations from qualified contractors and the quotation opened in presence of contractor by procurement Evaluation Committee (PEC). The PEC evaluated the quotation and submitted to PDC to take necessary step after preparing and signing the evolution report. Then PDC reviewed the report together with supporting documents and sent it to DPMO for concurrence. After received the required concurrence and approvals from DPMO, HDC and PMO, MOU signed between PDC & contractor. And then PDC awarded work order to the contractor. The whole of these processes has done guided by the NGO with technical assistance under supervision of DPMO/PIC engineers. During implementation, the work team assists PDC and DPMO to manage the work properly. During implementation, the interventions PDC's requirement have considered strongly by SM-NGO as per FSR. SM-NGO also tried to ensure the LCS involvement in construction work if required.

### Facilitation in Village Access Road Construction:

In this reporting year, one HBB Roads have completed in Khagrachhari Hill district under village access road construction component. The road is **Karalyachhari Mukh to Karalyachhari Headman Para HBB road**. This road is located under Union: 3 No. Keyenghat, Upazila: Mahalchhari, District: Khagrachhari.

The work volume detail is i). Effective length 1900m, of HBB road construction including drainage structures.; (ii) L- drain; (iii) U- drain; (iv) Guide wall; (v) Double vent Box culvert(Chainage-1784.0m); Total budget is BDT-9,508,965/=.

### Community Involvement under Village Access Road:

PDC organized several times community level meetings from the beginning of this activity and discussed details on how community can involve. The interventions have identified, designed and implemented by the communities through the PDC consultation meeting and SM-NGO assisted on it.



*Figure 7 Monitoring visit by PD*

### HBB Road Construction:

There was proper alignment for construction and can move vehicles in the dry season. According to villagers, it becomes unfeasible during the wet season due to muddy and slippery. This earthen road renovated by Union Parishad by RMP (Road Managed Project) in 2014 for the demand of this area's people. The community of this locality feels pleased to CHTRDP-II for taking the necessary initiative of construction on it. So, they give support to SM-NGO and DPMO to carry the required activity for approval and construction.

According to the design of FSR, the HBB road the construction work started through a layout by the respective contractor in present of SM-NGO and DPMO engineers. The effective length of this road is 1900 meters. During construction work SM-NGO assists PDC to monitor the construction work and technically supported by DPMO engineers. There constructed L-Drain & U-Drain-95m, Guide wall-100m and a Double Vent Box culvert (Chainage-1784.0m) along with HBB road. PDC formed an LCS group who engaged in some non-technical works such as earth cutting, carrying materials etc.

### Beneficiaries:

There are seven Para(s) in the catchment area of the proposed road and all are in the eastern side of this road. The people of those paras have to use this road for marketing their produces. According to consultation meeting, there are a total of 386 households and total population is around 1794 (Male

907, Female-887) in the villages of the road catchment area. The villagers of those Para are Chakma ethnic community.

**O&M committee:**

For making sustainability of road preventive maintenance is mostly essential. Generally, road maintenances are classified into two categories namely emergency and periodic. Considering the nature of CHTRDR-II road pavement, there will put a signboard at each entry point mentioned a maximum weight limit for each vehicle type.

CDC of this road formed a 'Road Maintenance Committee' consisting of 9 members both male & female where consider 30% of women members. It is noted that CDC has decided for all users to take care of on-road as maintenance. All are responsible for maintenance check the road monthly during the normal period and once after every heavy rainfall voluntary. CDC defines some rules in writing as O&M rules for this HBB road maintenance.

To ensure financial viability for the execution of operation and maintenance plant, the community development committee (CDC) opened a Bank account (A/C No. - 42251, Trust Bank, Khagrachhari, Date: 29.01.2017) where deposited BDT10, 000 as community contribution. This amount primarily will be used for post operation and maintenance.

**Result/Benefit:**

After construction the road the community benefited in different ways that are some seen and some are unseen. They benefited in travel time saving for visit to market, hospital and offices of service rendering departments. The village shared that after having improved road they able to save 30 minutes for each trip. They benefited in mobility and transportation comfortable with neighboring villages, market place and receiving health facilities (Upazila and district hospital) in all weather. The students, Elders, children and female are specially getting benefits in comfortable transportation now.

After construction the road, they also benefited in cost saving in carrying during marketing the agricultural produces. They can easily sell their produces in time and getting real cost from agricultural products. The production is increasing in the locality due to increase mobility by the service providers that encourage the farmers.

After construction of the road, they are getting benefit in value edition of land. The prize of land is getting high then before after road construction due to mobility from out siders.

Overall result is that income source is increasing of the villagers through small business, production of agricultural produces, develop communication system etc. Otherwise, the service of government & non-government facility on education, health & treatment etc. is getting in time. So, the social economic condition of the villager is moving to forward after construction this HBB Road.

**Organize participatory rural appraisal and village mapping training:**

Second Chittagong Hill Tract Rural Development Project also considered the community participation in all the sub-projects. Main objective of this training is to create opportunity for community participation and aware them to act positively in development work. Secondly, ensure sustainable development through community participation in decision making, problem identification, prioritizing, planning and implementation.

TUS Joint Venture team organizes PRA and village mapping training at the PDC level as a major activity. TUS joint venture team organizes the Village Mapping training programm (4 days long) at PDC level with the supported from PMO. The village mapping is a part of the feasibility study and it gives a glimpse of existing resources or facilities of a village. During this training, Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and plenary sessions were conducted with the participation of both male and female. And all types of logistic and resources (both tangibles and intangibles) were made available. So, the community people enjoy this training.

In this reporting year, the team completed 58 training through applying PRA tools as per target of 200. It is noted that the TUS team completed 200 Village mapping Training in this reporting year. Under this reporting year total of 1450 (Male-749 and Female-701) participants participated in the training. They participated spontaneously and shared their idea in all sessions. There conducted session and group work on Map sketching; Resource data provide & presentation in the training. After completing 4 days training session, the team developed 58 Village Maps at brown papers and all maps submitted to PIC, Rangamati for digitalization.

After digitalized, all maps have set up at PDC level where found the location of PDC and the description of the community’s livelihood condition.

**Quarter wise of 2017 the PRA training details are given bellow-**

Quarter	No. of Training conducted at PDC level	Participant		
		Male	Female	Total
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, January- March,2017	15	179	196	375
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, April-June,2017	43	570	505	1075
3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter, July-September,2017	0	0	0	0
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter, October-December,2017	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>1450</b>

**Organize Participatory Village Workshop:**

Second Chittagong Hill Tract Rural Development Project also considered community participation including the local & traditional leaders in project implementation.

The content of this workshop are-



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- Identify the participation area during intervention implementation and how community people involvement (type of participation)
- Identify the existing benefit and how to increase more benefit for community people.
- Identify the management system of community people on implemented interventions for sustainable development.
- Experience sharing & learning and suggestions from the participants

And main objective of this workshop is

- Enlighten the progress of the CHTRDP-II project activity.
- Analysis of the achieved result by the project beneficiaries.
- Ensure community participation in project implementation and ensure sustainable development through community participation in decision making, problem identification, prioritizing, planning and implementation
- Develop capacity building through project implantation.

### **CHALLENGES & RECOMMENDATION**

#### ***Challenges:***

There are some limitations and challenges during the implementation of the planned activity. Some of the challenges are presented below:

- Regarding the tendering process, contractor selection and intervention change against approved FSRs done by DPMO or PDC/ Contractor without informing the responsible Field Facilitator or SM-NGO's Staff.
- The technical feasibility study was not completed in time which delayed finalization of the FSRs. But time is limited to submit all FSR within June, 2017.
- Village participatory workshop at Upazila level & PDC level Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Training both are extra loaded for staff which was time bounded beside the project work (as per contract).

#### ***Recommendation:***

- Timely coordination on tendering process, contractor selection and subproject implementation from DPMO is much needed that can make the field operation efficient and effective.
- DPMO should be sensitized the contractors on Gender and LCS mechanism.
- Increased PMO and PIC's visits at PDC level during and after completion of the subproject.
- PDC must be preserved the completion report at the PDC level.

### Case Study-1: Safe drinking water supply increased women's income

School Para is a remote village situated on a mid-hill at 1no Khagrachhari sadar union, Khagrachhari upazila in Khagrachhari district. It is an 8 KM distance from Khagrachhari town. The total population is 452 (M-226, F-226) with 91 households of Marma ethnic communities. The socio-economic status of the village is poor. The main occupation is agriculture and day labors. The villagers also involved in agroforestry like timber plantation, cash crop production i.e. ginger, turmeric, pineapple etc. The women involved in the small scale of poultry and livestock farming. Villagers informed that, there is one woman -headed household in the village that she is poor and day labor. Among 91 households, 32 households have about 50 acres of plough land under title & customary tenure system. The villagers used vehicle when they go outside basically to go market.



*Figure 8 Before intervention: A woman collecting drinking water from the earthen well.*

Safe drinking water is the main problem for the community. There are only 4 tube wells in the village under personal ownership. The existing tube wells are not sufficient for 91 households. The second problem is no permanent irrigation system to cultivate their land *in Boro Monsoon*. They depend on the rainy season to cultivate their land and have to hire power pump from outside of the village.



*Figure 9 After intervention: Women can collect drinking water from water reservoir tank*

Mrs. Nauma Marma, treasurer, PDC said *"We have to collect water from an earthen dug well for domestic purposes and fetching safe drinking water from tube well*

*which is time consuming to them. They suffer to collect drinking water in the rainy and dry seasons because of the dug wells went submerge by rainwater and dried up water level at dry season."*

Through the CHTRDP-II Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha (TUS) in assistance with technical team of DPMO installed 4 Sallow Tube Well (STW) and on Deep Tube Well (DTW) to ensure safe drinking water and irrigation in boro season as well as vegetation for adjacent homestead areas and established one water reservoir tank at middle point of the village.



*Figure 10 Before intervention: A woman washing pitcher for collecting water*

Mrs. Apruma Marma, PDC member said, *"Now they are drinking safe water and using safe water for domestic purposes i.e. cooking, bathing, washing hands and other purposes in the kitchen. Before, the villagers used water from earthen well's water for cooking and other household chores which resulted illness in several time. She also added that before installation of deep tube well it took time around 20-25 minutes per trip for fetching water from the earthen well that time women and girls felt insecure to collect water due to violence against girl or*



*Figure 11 After intervention: A woman collecting water from the water reservoir*

*unexpected occurrence by the outsider of the village."*

Mrs. Nauma Marma, Treasurer, PDC said *"After implemented the sub-projects intervention the villagers getting water facility and brings a change among villagers especially in women members. Now, they can collect water easily within 10 to 15 minutes which saves time. The women can give attention to their children and regular works for income generation activities. Now, women can give more time in small scale of poultry and livestock farming which increased income of households. Thus*

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*the economic condition of the villagers is changing gradually. She shared that the water born disease is mostly removed from the village which appeared two or three times before. She also added that the women members are making a fund collecting BDT 5.00 (five taka) of each household per month for operation & maintenance purposes of Deep tube well and water reservoir tank."*

Mr. Aongthoyai Marma, Chairperson, PDC said, "Now we organize PDC meeting bimonthly. In the meeting, we inform to all PDC members about the present condition of the intervention and take necessary step for proper management and make sure local contribution around BDT. 5 (Five taka) for each household to create a fund for operation and maintenance purposes. He requested to convey his thank to the project team of CHTRDP-II including ADB and government of Bangladesh for providing the sub-project interventions.

### Livelihood Development Grant Management Project

#### Introduction:

Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha in partnership with CHTDF-UNDP implemented "Chittagong Hill Tract Watershed Co-Management Activity(CHTWCA)" for Mong circle areas from 01 January to 30 September 2015 covering 10 Village Common Forest (VCF). TUS implemented the project successfully on time then TUS awarded the said project again from 04 January to 31 December 2016. During the project period TUS project team couldn't able to coverage 2 VCFs due to VCFs' land demarcation and ownership. Thus, CHTDF-UNDP has taken initiative to become under coverage of the rest 2 VCFs under CHTWCA project.

#### Project Objective:

- I. Households in the targeted VCFs with additional income options in Mong Circle areas.
- II. VCF communities with improved management to address vulnerability

**Project Period:** 23 March 2017- 26 September 2017

**Project Budget:** BDT. 41,05,000

#### Project Area:

Sl.no.	Upazila	Name of the VCF	PDC covered
1	Khagrachari	Kamalchhari Headman Para VCF	06
2	Panchari	Shah moni Shanti Vila Natun Mough Para VCF	12

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### Beneficiaries covered:

Targeted total number of HHs			
General HHs	Vulnerable HHs	HHs for Water facilities	Water facilities
241	103	31	3
383	168	30	3
624	271	61	6

### Project Area covered:

SL	District, Upazila and Union	Name of VCF	Targeted total number of HHs					Remarks
			General HHs	Vulnerable HHs	HHs for Water facilities	Water facilities number	Contingency fund	
1.	Khagrachhari, Khagrachhari sadar, Kmalachhari	Kamalchhari Headman para VCF	241	103	31	3	n/a	
2.	Khagrachhari, Panchhari, Chengi	Shah moni Shanti Vila Natun Mough Para	383	168	30	3	n/a	
Total		985	624	271	61	6		

### Performed Major Activities:

#### Community mobilization process:

The community mobilization has started with a community project induction of relevant project inventions, activity sharing along with related documents in individual community areas at VCF level. In the meeting, community people, community leaders, older people, traditional leaders were invited while women's participation was in the main focus of the meetings. Most of the meetings were chaired by government institution representatives and sometimes by Headman of respective Mouza. There were presences of representatives of all PDC and VCF executive committee members. Eventually, in some cases, VCF President also participated as a key person in the meeting.



After that, a Household review and IGA finalization community meeting was organized at para level (18 communities under project coverage; under 2 new VCFs) with participation in all community members. During the meeting project staff have brought a project summarization of grants number and amount based on CHTDF guideline and steps. Then a group exercise has conducted for selecting actual IGA promised to



Figure 12 Assets distribution at Aungja para panchari

vulnerable households that are not vulnerable to the VCF which is not environmentally harmful and VHHs can get the IGA and enjoy rearing comfort. After completing the IGA selection an Action Plan on IGA **implementation** has developed of the proposed IGA e.g. poultry & pig rearing etc based on rearing/farming needs, asset and management issue for time and physical labor by grant recipients. A realistic discussion has made with all stakeholders for using the VCF development grant that will not be harmful to anything to do for example; any embankments in VCF site and adjacent areas and any harmful activities for wild animals and biodiversity.

In terms of IGA selection and vulnerable household finalization a day long livelihood package orientation and project formulation workshop was organized in community areas at the VCF level. There were participated community people, traditional leaders from para level and participated local government institutions representative and there were also present Headman or his nominated person of the meeting.



Figure 13 Cheque distribution ceremony at Ashish Hall room, TUS office

Various deliverable activities were conducted in community areas such as meeting, workshop, training, community information sharing session, monthly PDC meeting along with bimonthly VCF meeting, rapport building, Focus Group Discussion, some guideline development facilitation meeting of grant utilization, assessments etc.

**Project Proposal Development process:**

The following steps have been followed for project proposal development for VCF and livelihood Development grants

- Organized Introductory (rapport building) meeting in selected VCF site
- Organized orientation on livelihood packages at community/PDC level and
- Selected beneficiary HHs following the guideline provided by CHTDF
- Facilitated VCF community HHs for selection of A/IGA and prepare IGA implementation plans
- Formation/reformation Para Development Committee or Para committee (where there is no PDC) under VCF to implement livelihood related activities of the project
- Formation of livelihood sub-groups with vulnerable and general HHs in the VCF communities (at least 2 sub-groups in each PDC/para)
- Facilitated VCF committees/PDCs in developing project proposal on livelihood development/ income generating activities
- Arranged Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between PDC/ VCF communities and Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha for livelihood support.



*Figure 14 Conducted training on climate change*

**Summary of VCF and Livelihood Development Grants:**

The project has been implemented in four types of grant/fund but grant for vulnerable household is a remarkable intervention by the project in VCF areas. It is notable that the vulnerable household selected from the sect most dependent on forest and poorest of poor in community forest areas. As soon as the VCF committees have submitted project proposal to Trinamul NGO with provided prescribed format by CHTDF regarding five types of grants and fund. After that Trinamul has called a PIC meeting with relevant stakeholders/members of the meeting. The PIC member has selected by partner organization and district CHTDF representative were presented as an observer. Executive body members of the partner organization have also participated in the meeting. The meeting was endorsed the submitted project proposal where came from respective VCFs; concerned with respective Headman's and approved the grants and permission to disburse in VCF account with a signing of MoU in between Trinamul and concern VCF committee. There are also generated tranche basis grant segment regarding approved grant amount of PIC which is already regulated in meeting minutes.

**Support transfer modality:**

The supports were provided to the target communities in two modalities; a) Purchase of materials and livestock supports and distribution under TUS management b) General funds are transferred to PDC accounts and Para Development committees will disburse the amount as per the requirement of the general HHs.

We have experienced women are mostly engaged in cattle rearing and farming, some cases in small trading and gardening etc and sustainability rate is high. Respective para committee/PDC has developed a purchase committee for ensuring IGA products at community level. Basically purchase and partner staff is attended as technical support. Before purchasing a market analysis which discussed in livelihood package orientation workshop that rechecks again where the best quality of product will take place and suitably travelled all purchase committee members and will get a better variety. It is mentionable here before distributing the product livelihood volunteer has organized an important informal training session of sub sector based IGA training in community areas for vulnerable households. Finally, they can decide which variety and technical method is more comfortable and sustainable and LVs demonstrated to other gardening technology also.



*Figure 16 Livestock distribution ceremony at Bhuachari Marma para, Khagrachharisadar*

livelihood volunteer is responsible for engaging people to



*Figure 15 Livestock distribution ceremony*



### **Monitoring and quality control mechanism of livelihood development grants:**

Project staffs have oriented on M&E rules and responsibilities of grant disbursement process and accessibility by cluster, CHTDF at Rangamati and also a project staff (Grant monitoring & reporting officer) is responsible for grant monitoring. But significantly all project staffs at all levels are responsible for grant disbursement and grant tracking. The project coordinator is the key person for handling program deliverables and PIC is supporting to approval and endorsement, senior management of the organization and project staffs are also responsible for grant disbursement and livelihood monitoring. *It is notable that a project monitoring framework has submitted to CHTDF in BID time with the original Project Proposal.*

### **Process and progress the VCF development grants:**

TUS has organized an orientation session for using VCF development fund with all stakeholders in VCF committees. Commonly the organization has provided information how VCF committee will responsible to preserve VCF and management along develop a monitoring process. It is notified that the VCF committee already has developed VCF development plan for an annual basis and a five year long strategic plan; for urgent requirements it has to revise and taken new decision with regulation. Each VCF committee (Shah Moni Shanti Bhila Notun Mogh Para, Kamalchari Headman Para) has received forty thousand taka (40,000/-) for VCF development from TUS. Therefore, the VCF committees had organized individual planning session for estimating and budget the proposed activities with complete written regulation. The organization has approved the activities with consult CHTDF district office. They have been consulting with project engineer for construction related issues where VCF committee have chosen boundary pillar and concrete made name plate to place in VCF adjacent areas.

### **Success stories/community voice/stakeholders voice:**

- Voice of VCF committee representatives:  
*Mr. Shanti Moy chakma , Chairperson shah Moni shanti Bhila Natun Mough Para VCF, said ``We are pleased getting benefit and facilities from the LDGMP project which should be run continually more than 5 years and more community peoples get benefit and facilities as a grant, training etc``*
- Voice of local government institution/ Leaders:  
*Mr. Kalachand Chakma chairman of Chengi union, Panchari Upazila, Khagrachhari-LDGMP Project helping to protect the VCF and balancing environment for which increasing water flow and green environment. And also community people getting benefit individually to increase their family income. So, I am grateful and thanks to Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha and CHTDF-UNDP implementing such type of project.*
- Voice of PDC representatives: *I am very pleased that Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha and CHTDF-UNDP implementing the LDGMP project where we are getting grant individually to increase our family income. I wish that this project will be continued which help to protect forest, balance environment and increase family income of VCF dependent family through IGA said by Mr. Suichanu Marma chairperson of Khyandong Para PDC under Kamalchari headman Para VCF.,*



- **Voice of PDC representatives:** *I am very pleased that Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha and CHTDF-UNDP implementing the LDGMP project where we are getting grant individually to increase our family income. I wish that this project will be continued which help to protect forest, balance environment and increase family income of VCF dependent family through IGA said by Mr. Suichanu Marma chairperson of Khyandong Para PDC under Kamalchari headman Para VCF.,*
- **Voice of beneficiary:** *I have got one pig from this project which will be more helpful to increase family income said by Mrs. Sakroy Marma Khyandong Para Development Committee under the Kamalchari Headman Para VCF.*

### **Lesson learned and challenges:**

Among the hurdles faced by the project team, the most remarkable one was the facilitation of the transportation of materials for construction work of water facilities. Some of the sites were located at 9 hours walking distance and there were no transportation facilities at all. The team had to walk along the natural streams for miles and cross high hills. This circumstance not only consumed time and an extra amount of money, but sometimes also demanded a compromise with quality. Very few mason teams were eager to face the hazard of traveling so long in such rough and risky terrains, making the scheduling very challenging for the project team.

Community ownership and positive attitude of the administrative sects involved with forest conservation are the most persuasive actors for VCF conservation. The grant supports and water facilities ease the hardship of forest dependent people, but in the heart, few of them realize that livelihood supports are truly linked with VCF conservation. This gives the impression that, when project will phase out and rules will be slackened off, the VCF communities may go back to previous practices of forest resource extraction. So, making the key actors sensitized and keeping motivated still remain as a big challenge.

### **Sustainability**

There are huge numbers of livestock available with the communities as a result of the intervention, around half of which are for long term rearing purposes. This is an added community asset to uplift livelihood status and fights vulnerability. Some entrepreneurs, who were supported in the reporting period increased income. These are expected to sustain in the long run and reduce the dependency of the VCF communities on the forest resources.

### **Conclusion**

The approach of supporting the VCF communities with alternative livelihood development elements is now a proven effective approach. But, in some circumstances, the support volume was not adequate for achieving the objectives. Hence, the initiative should step up for a longer term and more vivid and realistic plan for the VCF areas, which will form its base upon the learning and achievements of the current intervention.

**Natural Resource Management Program**



## Protection & Promotion of NRM systems in CHT (2<sup>nd</sup> Phase):

### Introduction

The Chittagong Hill Tracts comprises of the three Hill Districts of Bandarban, Rangamati and Khagrachhari and located in the South-Eastern part of Bangladesh. It shares a common international border with Myanmar and India (the states of Mizoram and Tripura). The region is largely hilly and mountainous, with the principal rivers following between hill ranges, forming fertile valleys that constitute most of the fertile lands for paddy cultivation.

The population of the region is diverse ethnically; in total 15 ethnic groups inhabit the region including the Bengalees who are the majority. Each of the ethnic groups has a distinct language and traditional lifestyles. The total population of the region is about 1.5 million, living in an area of 13,295 square kilometers which constitutes about one-tenth of the territory of Bangladesh.

The geographical landscape of the CHT is very narrow with stiff hill so there is limited cultivable land available, and the proper management of natural resources is essential for poverty reduction amongst rural hill communities. In this context, 'Protection and Promotion of Natural Resource Management Systems in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (phase-2)' project aims to revive and strengthen the social ownership over natural resources through indigenous agroforestry practices in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. It is mentionable that the PPNRM project started in April 2007 and continued in June 2017, with financial support from MISEREOR, Germany.

### The Goal of the Project

To revive and strengthen the social ownership over land and natural resources through indigenous agroforestry practices in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

### Project Purpose/Objective

To work with communities involving community/traditional leaders to enhance their capacity for the development and implementation of the Community Action Plan on sustainable management of natural resources at the community level in Khagrachhari Hill District.

### Specific Objectives

1. Enhanced capacity of the community people, to adopt with climate change problems and its consequences.

#### **Project at a glance:**

*Project Title: Protection & Promotion of NRM systems in CHT(phase-2).*

*Funded by: Misereor.*

*Project Duration: From 01 Jan'2014 to 30 Jun'2017.*

*Working area: Khagrachhari sadar and Dighinala upazila.*

*No. of unions: 2 unions.*

*No. of villages: 10*

*No. of Staff: 05 (Male-04, Female-01).*

2. Protected and Promoted Natural Resources through the development and implementation of renewable energy program widening the use and understanding of the available technologies.
3. Reduced dependency on Natural Resources through proper NRM and initiating alternative development options.

#### Target Beneficiaries:

The primary target groups of the project are 10 (Ten) villages in Dighinala and Khagrachhari Sadar Upazila in Khagrachhari Hill District of the CHT region.

#### Performed Major Activities:

The report glimpses the overall project cumulative update for the project period from 01 January 2017 to 30 June 2017. In this reporting period TUS project team has performed the project activities in close cooperation with community peoples, government line departments, agencies, local government institutions, traditional institutions with significant achievements are given below:

#### Training on Soil treatment to increase fertility:

During the reporting period, training on “Soil treatment to increase fertility” was organized by TUS. It was arranged on 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017 at the village level in Jorabroddge Para. A total of 20 (M-14, F-6) Community people from 4 villages received the training. The main objective of the training was to teach how to improve, from the technical side, the soil treatment of both vegetable and paddy land.

**Outcome:** This training creates awareness and improves knowledge on better use of soil to increase fertility.



#### Training on Water and Fertilizer Management:

With the support from Government Line Departments, TUS conducted two day-long training session on ‘Water and Fertilizer Management’ on 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at Village level at Kangarimachara , Kabakali union under Dighinala Upazilla. 3 of PDCs around 20(M-13, F-7) participants received the training during this reporting period. It’s a noteworthy initiative by TUS and Line Department (Govt. Wings) for the communities. Mr. Atul Bihari Chakma, Sub-Assistant Agriculture Officer (SAAO), from Dighinala Upazilla Agriculture office and also engaged as a Ast. master trainer by Khagrachhari Hill District Council (KHDC) facilitated the

Figure 17 A training on water and fertilizer management



trainings. The main purpose of the training was to increase communities' awareness of using chemical Fertilizer and Water management.

**Outcome:** *This training has increased awareness on the use of safe quantity of chemical fertilizer for tree plantation and irrigation system. The farmers have learned new techniques and more efficient ways to use water without waste.*

### Regional Seminar

TUS Organized a Regional Seminar with all PPNRM beneficiary member and project area traditional leaders (Karbari, Headman) in 26.06.2017. Title of the seminar was jum crap seed and Underwood vegetable management by peoples. The aim of this seminar was to encourage villagers on tree plantation/stream site plantation over fallow lands and to increase the productivity of jum cultivation with sustainable and stable way for establishing permanent residents of jumiya's. Especially gave importance on the short, middle and long periodic production of local crop variety.

### Mouza Advisory Committee Meeting.

The Mouza Advisory Committee (MoNAC) consists of the Mouza headman of the area, PPNRM Project Coordinator, 1 Union Parishad member (selected) from the areas, 2 Karbaris, 1 CBO representative and 1 teacher. The committee advises communities on land utilization and registration processes through customary laws.



During the reporting period, in two Upazillas, Mouza Advisory Committees met for 4 times. Meetings were held for Komalchari and Khagrachharisadar respectively 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at Khagrachharisadar Headman Office. Another Upazilla is Dighinala where the meetings were held on 28 June 2017 at Dighinala Upazilla Headman Office. The main purpose of the meetings was to strengthen and develop strategies for ensuring land rights of the project beneficiaries. During the meetings, the following decisions were taken:

- Mouza headman will allocate 0.30 acres of land for each landless jumia family in the area.
- Community members will pay tax on their jum land to ensure land ownership.
- PDCs will handle overall development activities.

*Figure 18 A seminar on Natural Resource Management Practices*

### Para Development Committee (PDC) Meetings

Each of the para committee arranged meeting twice a month for the smooth implementation of the project. In the meeting all PDC members discussed about Community Solidarity Fund (CSF), Women Self Help Group (WSHG), and Primary Education Problem in the village as per the Community plan of the project. During the period, the Line Department from the government wings supported and advised the communities in different development concerns such as; how to registered land and know the legal rights on NRM; provision of knowledge on seed collection and preservation in different season; awareness session; Importance of CSF Saving; Homestead Gardening; Stove or burner, solar pineal, bio-gas plan; Compost and fertilizer management, Herbal pesticide on Individual health care. Mixed Fruits Gardening issue also been discussed during the meeting and considered as one of the very important issues in all PDC areas that year.

The communities participated in the selection of the area for the community agro-forest development, together with development of sapling and tree plantation at 10 PDCs. As decided by the group during the meeting, they selected Dighinala Upazilla Rejabchara, Jarabridg and Khatrapur for Mixed Fruits Gardening, while Khatrapur , Krishnataala, Nalkata Kangerimachara para and Khagrachhari sadar Christen para; Betchari para; Jayadar para were selected for the establishment of community agro-forest land and Village common forest (VCF).

As planned, TUS organized training at village level and at the TUS branch office. Two participants from each PDC for 10 villages participated in the training/workshop. It is mandatory for the participants to share the training knowledge at village with PDC members during meeting so that the same knowledge can be transferred to the communities.

The following table gives a brief overview of the meetings held during the last six months:

Sl	Name of Para	No of Meeting	Remarks
1.	Katrapur para	6	
2.	Jarabridge para	6	
3.	Nalkata para	6	
4.	Rizavchara para	6	
5.	Krinsnataala para	6	
6.	West Katrapur para	6	
7.	Christian para	6	
8.	Apper Betchari Christian para	6	
9.	Jayador para	6	
10.	Kanggorimachara	6	

**Day observation – World Women day 2017:**

As part of PPNRM activities, a different day observation was done during this reporting period. *International Women Day* (8 March) was observed at Upazilla and village level. The main purpose of the activities was to raise awareness and to share information to the community people for a better understanding of Indigenous Women’s various issues of resource management by the people and state mechanisms. The World of work is changing, With significant implications for women. On one hand, technological, advances and globalization bring unprecedented opportunities for those who can access them. On the other hand, there is growing informality of labour, income inequality and humanitarian crises.



Figure 19 Day observation on world women day

**A Case study-2: Water availability leads to better lifestyle at Kangorimachora**

PPNRM Project area consists of 10 villages which are located in the remote South-East reaches of Dighinala Upazila, Khagrachhari sadar Upazila under Khagrachhari District in a region known as the Chittagong Hill Tracts. In the 10 villages, a total of 542HHs reside, most are farmers or day-laborers or Jumia (depending on jum cultivation). Ethnically, all of the beneficiaries are indigenous – mostly Chakma. The indigenous peoples of these villages continuously faced marginalization and human rights abuses over the last half a century as the migration of plain-lands population has increased putting pressure on land and resources.



Figure 20 Children taking bath by gravity follow system(GFS)

Kangorimachora, one of the project village, is located 15 kilometers away from Dighinala Upazila. In the village, there are 500 people out of whom 30% are children, 60% are farmers, 40% are Jumia. In recent years, 30 HHs stepped into

fruit farming. For all the sects, transportation and water are the two crucial needs. The village has no direct village access road to the main road. It is divided into two Sects-Upper part and lower part. For water, villagers of both parts depend on Kangoromachora, a stream that comes from the natural forest near the '2 tilla' police camp. As the soil type is very rocky and rough, there is no tube well in Kangorimachora village. The ring wells (3) installed in lower Kangoimachora is around a half kilometer away, which is 30 minutes walking distance in hilly terrain. 30 HHs of the Upper Kangorimachora used to collect drinking and household water from the natural collection point, which is near to 3-4 HHs. For 32 HHs, the collection point is located at 20 minutes walking distance.

But, there is a natural pond in the upper stream, which is around 1500 feet away from the village. From the field visit observations and consultations, it was realized that if a reservoir is installed near the pond and a supply line is brought to the Upper Kangorimachora Village, 40 HHs can get water easily.

To ease water collection at Upper Kangorimachora, TUS decided to consult the villagers on alternatives and utilization of Community Action Plan implementation funds for the water option. After several sessions of consultations, communities agreed to the idea and decided on the suitable locations for the water collection points. Then, TUS arranged for an engineering feasibility study and found it feasible for a 'Gravity Flow system' water option. GPS machine was used for precise reading of the altitude of the important sites. The social feasibility study also revealed that, at least 85 women and 35 children will be benefited out of the scheme who belong to 40 HHs.

In the second half of the year 2016, TUS started the construction of the water option. Carrying the construction materials and types of equipments to the hilly area was very challenging. The system constitutes of a suction unit, filtering drum, reservoir tank, delivery pipes and water points. The filtering unit contained layers of sylhet sand, brick clinkers, coals and tube well filtering pipe. The suction pipe was 1500 feet of length up to the filtering unit, which was set near the reservoir. Several delivery pipes were set to deliver the water to the collection points as decided by the engineer in consultation with the villagers.

The water quality of the system was almost as good as tube well water in general assessment. Some HHs even did not hesitate to take the water without boiling. The system allowed women of 40 HHs to get water easily, which save their water collection time. It also reduced health hazards which occur due to water collection in rough hilly terrains even by ill health and pregnant women. In some places under the catchment of the system, cultivation at the homestead is made easier and year round, which was previously done for 3 months a year. The system also contributed to the sanitation of the village, as water scarcity in the area barred hygiene practices and sanitation.

One of the villager Mrs. Badhimila Chakma says, *'I had to walk a minimum half a mile and cross two hills for water collection. Sometimes it took me hours, as I had to stay in the queue. I could not carry enough water for proper sanitation. But we are getting enough water in front of my house which itself is located on the top of a hill. Now it is like a magic that water collection has become so easy and simple!'*



## Protection & Promotion of NRM systems in CHT (3<sup>rd</sup> Phase):

### Introduction

The Chittagong Hill Tracts is situated south-eastern part of Bangladesh and vegetated with hills, valleys and rich biodiversity. The population of the region is similarly diverse and has eleven distinct ethnic communities with distinct cultures and customs. The diversity of the communities displays the harmony of living being together at the same place. The geographical landscape of the CHT is very narrow with a stiff hill so there is limited cultivable land available, and the proper management of natural resources is essential for poverty reduction amongst rural hill communities. In this context, 'Protection and Promotion of Natural Resource Management Systems in the Chittagong Hill Tracts' (PPNRM) project aims to use the indigenous practices of local communities to revive and strengthen traditional natural resource management systems in target areas. The project PPNRM started in April 2007 and will be continued till June 2019, with financial support from MISEREOR, Germany.

#### **Project at a glance:**

*Project Title: Protection & Promotion of NRM systems in CHT (3<sup>rd</sup> phase).*

*Funded by: Misereor.*

*Project Duration: From 01 Jul'2017 to 30 Jun'2019.*

*Working area: Khagrachhari sadar and Dighinala upazila.*

*No. of unions: 2 unions.*

*No. of villages: 10*

*No. of Staff: 05 (Male-04, Female-01).*

### The Goal of the Project

To sustain the value of natural resources and organic farming through agro-ecological practices and joint actions in Khagrachhari.

### Project Purpose/Objective

To promote organic, eco-friendly and sustainable agro practices and keeping the streams and stream side forests of the project areas alive through linking them as the foundation of community water supply system.

### Specific Objectives

1. Enhanced capacity of the community people, to challenge the use of highly toxic pesticides in agriculture.
2. Protected and Promoted water and forest resources through demonstrating practical use of surface stream water and the forests in the stream root areas for community water crisis mitigation.
3. Reduced dependency on Natural Resources through proper NRM and initiating ecofriendly development options.

### **Project working areas and beneficiaries**

PPNRM piloted in Khetrapur para and Jorabridge para, two villages in Khabakhali Union of Dighinala Upazila (sub-district) in Khagrachhari district for 3 years. After the successful completion of this phase, the project was extended for the next 3 continuing years. Subsequently, seven more villages have been covered under the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the project. At present, the projects are now covering a total of 10 villages. It has new target beneficiaries of 544 families along with 151 families from the pilot phase.

Families and beneficiaries were selected on the basis of their:

- dependency on jhum cultivation;
- remoteness and water crisis;
- lack of access to basic services; and
- willingness to adopt hill farming through joint collaboration

### **Performed Major Activities:**

The report glimpses the overall project cumulative update for the project period from 01 July 2017 to 31 December 2017. In this reporting period TUS project team has performed the project activities in close cooperation with community peoples, government line departments, agencies, local government institutions, traditional institutions with significant achievements are given below:

#### **Para Development Committee (PDC) Meetings**

The para development committee arranged meetings in 6 July, 9 August, 5 September, 5 October, 6 November and 10 December 2017 for the smooth implementation of the project. All PDC members discussed about: Community Solidarity Fund (CSF), Women Self Help Groups (WSHG), and getting support from Line Departments. Besides, the Community Action Plan(CAP) including stream site plantation, homestead gardening, conservation of stream forests root areas, water crisis mitigation, importance of CSF savings and multi-tier orchard gardening also been discussed during the meeting.

#### **Support for Homestead Gardening/cash crop**

In this reporting Period TUS completed preliminary works to support beneficiaries for homestead gardening. There were 16 HHs selected for homestead gardening support from different 7 (seven) villages, Dighinala and 4 HHs from different 3(three) villages from Kamalchhari union, Khagrachhari Upazila. The beneficiaries were selected through house hold survey.

#### **Support for NRM demonstration center**

TUS established the Trinamul Centre for Research and Demonstration to promote and protect natural resource management systems, agro-forestry and bio-diversity in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Through the centre's establishment we aim to contribute to the preservation of local species, and provide space for teaching, learning, and research on agro-forestry, bio-diversity and natural resource management issues in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The centre will offer a variety of programs, including training on eco-friendly hill farming, horticulture and agro-forestry practices. In

the centre we demonstrated local variety species of trees, bamboos, medicinal plants and herbs. Through this project we demonstrated Trinamul green energies and technologies. In this reporting period, we supported this center for maintenance i.e. cleaning the garden, fencing garden, repair dam to protect from cows and goats.

#### **Establishment of bio fertilizer and pesticide production plant**

In this reporting period, the TUS project team selected beneficiaries and site to establish a fertilizer production center at Durga Karbari para in Dighinala upazila. The group members of the fertilizer production plant consisting of 5HHs selected for training on how to produce bio fertilizer and its management.

#### **Poultry Support for community women**

In this reporting period, the TUS project team selected 11 HHs for poultry support. TUS management is very much hoping to see women's interest in Poultry Firm. TUS encourages egg production as an extra income generation. The project location/working area is suitable for this initiative.

#### **Community Seed Bank**

TUS promotes community seed banks and encourages community women to preserve local seeds during harvesting period. During the reporting period there selected 10 women to preserve the seeds and traditional materials & equipment.

#### **Day observation**

As part of PPNRM activities, different national day observations were celebrated during this reporting period. On 15 August and 16 December the national mourn day and Victory day celebrated jointly with Government and National & Local NGOs at Upazila & village level. The main purpose of the activity was to raise awareness and to share information to the community people for a better understanding of various issues. The community volunteers and project staffs were participated in the events. They aware and realized about the significance of the days.

#### **Conclusion**

Through this project increased community awareness of sustainable NRM practices, increases the role of women in decision-making processes and raised the importance of collective savings to implement development activities. In doing so, it hopes to contribute and achieve success to the project goal of using the indigenous practices of local communities to sustain the value of natural resources and organic farming through agro-ecological practices and joint actions in Khagrachhari.

# Governance Program





## Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh (AWRAIB)

### Introduction

Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha, a local NGO based in Khagrachhari Hill District has been implementing the project "Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh (AWRAIB)" since April 2017 in support with Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) and funded by The Carter Center (TCC). Access to information (ATI) is a fundamental right and critical for the exercise of basic socio-economic and political rights. A recent study conducted by TCC and MJF demonstrated that women are unable to exercise their right of access to information with the same frequency, ease and rate of success as men. AWRAIB work with communities, whose members all women in 24 villages in three Upazilas.

### Project Overall Goal:

Increased economic empowerment & fulfillment of rights for women through a meaningful right of access to information.

### Working Area coverage:

- | Upazila:              | Six Union:  |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Khagrachhari Sadar | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Golabari Union</li><li>○ Perachara Union</li></ul>      |
| 2. Panchari Upazila   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Panchhari Sadar Union</li><li>○ Latiban Union</li></ul> |
| 3. Dighinala Upazila  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Bowalkhali Union</li><li>○ Kabakhali Union</li></ul>    |

### Performed Major Activities:

In this reporting period TUS project team has performed the project activities in close cooperation with community peoples, government line departments, agencies, local government institutions, traditional institutions with significant achievements are given below:

**Project at a glance:**  
*Project Title: Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh (AWRAIB)*

*Funded by: Manusher Jonno Foundation.*  
*Project Duration: From 01 April 2017 to 31 August 2019.*

*Working area: Khagrachhari Panchari & Dighinala Upazila.*  
*No. of unions: 6 unions.*  
*Women Groups: 24*  
*Direct beneficiaries: 240 (Male-0, Female-240),*  
*No. of Staff: 04 (Male-02, Female-02).*

**Inception workshop at Panchari Upazila:** The Upazila level inception workshop was held on August 21, 2017 at Upazila Conference Hall in Panchhari Upazila Parishad, Khagrachhari under “Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information project” supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation and the Carter Center.

Mr. Sorbottom Chakma, honorable chairman of Panchari Upazila Parishad was present as chief guest and Ms. Ratna Tanchangya, Vice Chairman Panchari Upazila Parishad, were also present as special guests. Mr. Ripan Chakma, Executive Director of TUS delivered a welcome speech and presented a project brief to the audience while Mr. Md. Abul Hasem, Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Panchari Upazila chaired over the session. There are 38 participants (male-25 and female-13) were participated from government line departments, local government institutions and traditional institutions at the workshop.



*Figure 21 Mr. Abul Hashem, UNO, Panchari delivering a speech on RTI*

From local government institution Mr. Kiran Tripura, Chairman, Latiban Union Parishad, Md. Najir Hossain, Chairman, Panchhari Sadar Union Parishad, Mr. Rupen Chakma, member, Latiban Union Parishad, Ms. Hiramoti Barua, Panchari Sadar Union Parishad and Ms. Sujata Chakma, member, Latiban Union Parishad; from government line department Mr. Babul Hossain, Upazila Rural Development Officer, Mr. Alauddin Shekh, Agriculture Extension Officer, Dr. Rezwana Ahmed, Medical Officer of family planning, Ms. Kanika Khisa, Assistant Upazila Education Officer, Ms. Babli Khisa, Assistant Programmer, ICT, Mr. Ratna Kanti Roaza, Upazila Cooperative Officer and Mr. Priya Kanti Chakma, Upazila Fishery Officer; from print and electronic media Ms. Joyanty Dewan, correspondence, the Prothom Alo, and Mr. Shajahan Kabir Saju, Correspondence, the Jonokontha; from traditional leaders Ms. Newkrai Marma, Karbari; from women groups Ms. Dipa Chakma, Ms. Aparajita Khisa, Ms. Kalpa Rani Tripura, and Ms. Rehana Begum and other stakeholders were present in the workshop.

During the open discussion session Ms. Ranta Tanchangya, Vice chairman Panchari Upazila Parishad, Mr. Kiran Tripura, Chairman, Latiban Union Parishad, Md. Najir Hossain, Chairman, Panchari Sadar Union Parishad, Mr. Rupen Chakma, member, Latiban Union Parishad, Ms. Hiramoti Barua, Panchari Sadar Union Parishad, Ms. Kanika Khisa, Assistant Upazila Education Officer, Mr. Ratna Kanti Roaza, Upazila Cooperative Officer, Ms. Joyanty Dewan, correspondence, the Prothom Alo, Mr. Shajahan Kabir Saju, Correspondence, the Jonokontha; and Ms. Aparajita Khisa group member were participated and shared their opinion.

Mr. Sorbottom Chakma, honorable chairman of Panchari Upazila Parishad delivered a speech as chief guest and said, *“We welcome to Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha for their good initiative, we are not aware for getting and receiving information though it is an important issue in Bangladesh. A person he doesn’t know what he wants and where he goes for information. Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha is working to aware the peoples regarding right to information so, you all are requested to cooperate them for the greater interest of the country”.*

Mr. Md. Abul Hasem, honorable Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Panchari Upazila delivered a closing speech, *“as per the right to information act-2009 we, all are obliged to deliver information who wants. But there is a clause some secret information is restricted to provide by this act for the purpose of security and sovereignty of country. This is a good initiative by Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha, so, I am requesting all government officials and Union Parishads to cooperate with Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha to successful the interventions”.*

#### **Day Observation of International Right to Know Information:**

The day observation of International right to know the information was held in Khagrachhari sadar on 29 August 2017 under the “Advancing Women’s Right of Access to Information (AWRAI)” project. The project is supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation and the Carter Center. For the purpose of celebrating day observation of international right to know information the Socheton Nagorik Committee(SONAC), part of Transparency International of Bangladesh (TIB) and District administration organized rally, information fair, art competition and discussion session.

There are 300 participants from different schools, NGOs, government departments, and CBOs were participated in the rally, information fair, art competition, and discussion session. Mr. Jatindra Lal Tripura, honorable state minister of Tribal Refugee & IDP Rehabilitation Taskforce, CHT was present as chief guest and Mr. Md. Rashedul Islam, Deputy Commissioner of Khagrachhari Hill District was present as a special guest while Professor Dr. Sudin Kumar Chakma chaired the session.



*Figure 22 TUS’s stall at RTI fair in Khagrachhari sadar*

Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha participated at rally and information fair of the event. At the same time TUS organized a discussion session at Ashish Hall room, TUS. There are 36 participants (male- 16 and female-20) participants from different groups and staffs of TUS.

Mr. Sujash Chakma, Program Manager, Facilitated the session and Mr. Ripan Chakma, Executive Director of TUS delivered welcome speech and presented documentary films on right to information.

Ms. Ashiya Begam, Ms. Rangyabi Chakma, Ms. Neusong Marma, Ms. Gouri Mala Tripura, Ms. Marjina Begum, and Ms. Tatuli Marma were participated and shared their opinion in open discussion.

### **Inception workshop at Dighinala Upazila:**

The upazila level inception workshop was held in August 30, 2017 at Upazila Shilpa kola academy in Dighinala Upazila Parishad, Khagrachhari under "Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information project" supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation and the Carter Center.

Mr. Naba Komal Chakma, honorable chairman of Dighinala Upazila Parishad was present as chief guest and Ms. Gopa devi Chakma and Susomoy Chakma, Vice chairman Dighinala Upazila Parishad, were also present as special guests. Mr. Sujash Chakma, Program Manager, TUS facilitated the workshop while Md. Sheikh Shahidul Islam, honorable Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Dighinala Upazila chaired over the session.



*Figure 21 Discussion on International Right to know day*



*Figure 24 Mr. Naba Kamal Chakma, Chairmaan, Upazila Parishad delivering a speech during inception workshop at Dighinala*



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Mr. Ripan Chakma, Executive Director of TUS delivered welcome speech and presented project brief to the audience. There are 30 participants were participated from government line departments, local government institutions and traditional institutions at the workshop. From local government institution Mr. Chayan Bikash Chakma, Chairman, Boalkhali Union Parishad, Md. Jahangir Hossain, Chairman, and Ms. Ambia Kathun, member, Kabakhali Union Parishad; from government line department Dr. Jawaharl Lal Chakma, Upazila Livestock Officer, Mr. Nirupon Chakma, Upazila Youth Development Officer, Mr. Triratton Chakma, Upazila Cooperative Officer, Mr. Nitu Chakma, Upazila Family Planning Officer, Ms. Aborna Chakma, Upazila Fishery Officer, Mr. Rakon Chakma, Upazila Election Officer, Ms. Jharna Chakma, Assistant Upazila Education Officer, and Ms. Anuka Khisa, Upazila Women Affairs Officer; from print and electronic media Mr. Palash Barua, Correspondent, Prothom Alo, and Mr. Zakir Hossain, Correspondent, Kalerkantho; from traditional leaders Ms Aruna Chakma, Karbari; from women groups Ms. Nilufar yesmin, Ms. Alo Rani Chakma, Ms. Malini Tripura, Ms. Bipurata Chakma and Ms. Ranaka Dewan, and other stakeholders were present in the workshop.

During the open discussion session Ms. Gopa devi Chakma, Vice chairman Dighinala Upazila Parishad, Susomoy Chakma, Vice chairman Dighinala Upazila Parishad, Mr. Chayan Bikash Chakma, Chairman, Boalkhali Union Parishad, Md. Jahangir Hossain, Chairman, Kabakhali Union Parishad, Dr. Jawaharl Lal Chakma, Upazila Livestock Officer, Ms. Ambia Kathun, member, Kabakhali Union Parishad, Ms. Alo Rani Chakma, and Ms. Malini Tripura were participated and shared



*Figure 22 Inception workshop at Dighinala*

their opinion as well as advice. Mr. Naba Komal Chakma, honorable chairman of Dighinala Upazila Parishad delivered speech as chief guest and said, *“Right to information is an important crucial issue in Bangladesh. You know very well once upon a time Bangladesh was champion five times as corrupted country. Now, our position is in fifteen, it’s seemed that we are gradually improving and still we have to go forward. It is very important useful act to reduce corruption from Bangladesh. So, you all are requested to cooperate Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha to successful such kind of initiatives”.*

Md. Sheikh Shahidul Islam, honorable Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Dighinala Upazila delivered closing speech, *“the government of Bangladesh is very cooperative and dedicated to reduce corruption from Bangladesh. That’s why the government passed Right to Information Act in parliament in 2009. This*

*Right to information act-2009 allows getting information but exempted some special department for security and sovereignty of country. This is a nice initiative by Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha, they are assisting the government. So I am requesting all government line department officials and Union parishad chairmen to cooperate Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha to successful the project”.*

### **Inception workshop at KhagrachhariSadar Upazila:**

Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha conducted upazila level inception workshop on September 13, 2017 at Upazila conference room in KhagrachhariS adar Upazila Parishad, Khagrachhari under “Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information project” supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation and the Carter Center.

Mr. Chunchumoni Chakma, the honorable chairman of Khagrachhari sadar Upazila Parishad was present as chief guest, Ms. Beauty Rani Tripura, Vice chairman Khagrachhari sadar Upazila Parishad and Mr. Ranik Tripura, Vice chairman Khagrachhari sadar Upazila Parishad, were also present as special guests.

Mr. Ripan Chakma, Executive Director of TUS delivered the welcome speech and presented project brief to the audience. There are 46 (male-30 and female-16) participants were participated from government line departments, local government institutions and traditional institutions at the workshop.

From local government institution Mr. Tapan Bikash Tripura, Chairman,

Perachara Uinion Parishad; from government line department Mr. Sohag moy Chakma, Upazila family planning officer, Mr. Sharat Kumar Tripura, Upazila fishery officer, Mr. Zakaria Chowdhury, Upazila



*Figure 26 Mr. Chunchumoni Chakma, Chairman, Upazila Parishad, Khagrachhari sadar delivering a speech at inception workshop*



*Figure 27 Inception workshop at Khagrachhari sadar*

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Rural Development Officer, Mr. Sonthosh Kumar Tanchangya, Upazila Coordinator, EBK, Mr. Alak Barua, Upazila Social Service Officer, Mr. Utpal Chakma, Upazila Cooperative Officer, Ms. Siningdha Talukder, Youth Development Officer, Ms. Champa Chakma, Women Affairs Officer, and Mr. Prabin Chakma, Upazila Education Officer; from local institution Mr. Tapan Bikash Tripura, Chairman, Perachara Union parishad and Ms Kraiu Mogini, member, 3no Golabari union parishad; from traditional institution Mr. Ukko Sign Chowdhury, Headman, Golabari mouza; from NGOs Ms. Shefalika Tripura, Executive Director, KMKS, Mr. Abdul Mannan Akash, Area Manager of TIB, Mr. Debashis Chakma, PO, TUS, Ms. Usang Prue Marma, TUS, Mr. Tushar Kanti Kisha, TUS, Ms. Umenu Marma, TUS, Mr. Suvashish Chakma, TUS; from print and electronic media Mr. Mohammad Jaharul Alam, District correspondent, Bangladesh Protidin; and from groups Mr. Gyanendra Tripura, Ms. Nayan Tara Chakma, Ms. Rangabi Chakma, Ms Sagorika Chakma, Ms. Anta Devi Dewan, Ms. Tatali Marma, Ms. Neoma Marma and Ms. Gouri Mala Tripura were present in the workshop.

During the open discussion Mr. Abdul Mannan Akash, Area Manager of TIB, Mr. Sohag moy Chakma, Upazila family planning officer, Mr. Prabin Chakma, Upazila Education Officer, Ms. Shefalika Tripura, Executive Director, KMKS, Ms. Rangabi Chakma, Group member, Mr. Ukko Sign Chowdhury, Headman, Golabari mouza were participated and Mr. Ripan Chakma, Executive Director moderated over the session.

Mr. Abdul Mannan Akash, Area Manager of TIB said, "We observed that in Khagrachhari sadar upazila parishad there is no nameplate of the authorized designated officer. So, we decided to make nameplate for the authorized designated officer at upazila level, if TUS interested for this initiative then you are most welcome".

Mr. Sohag moy Chakma, Upazila family planning officer said, "the government officials are not interested to delivery information willingly due to work load. This is the main fact for implementing the right to information act 2009. This scenario not only in Khagrachhari but also overall of country that's why TUS has taken initiative to gear up the process. As per the presentation I became to know that TUS are going to work with women only, why not male. I think most of community peoples including male are not aware at a standstill regarding access to information. So, I am requesting TUS to include male also in the project intervention".

Mr. Prabin Chakma, Upazila Education Officer said, "We visit school and meet with parents and teachers Association regularly. During our meeting we share much information to them but the community peoples do not come to get information from our office".

Ms. Shefalika Tripura, Executive Director, KMKS said, "Who will be group members in this project. The group member should be vocal and trained because the community peoples do not know about the process of VGD, TR and Kabikha (Kajer binimoye khadyo)".

Ms. Rangabi Chakma, group member said, "I would like to thank TUS to give us the opportunity through this involvement. She added that I think our responsibilities are more important rather than male, because we have to know more otherwise how we can teach our children".

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Mr. Ukko Sign Chowdhury, Headman said, "As traditional institution we serve land related services to the peoples but we do not know well about right to information act 2009. We tried to provide services to peoples what we have".

In the closing session Mr. Ranik Tripura, Vice- chairman, Ms. Beauty Rani Tripura, Vice-chairman and Mr. Chunchumoni Chakma, Chairman of Khagrachhari sadar Upazila Parishad delivered speech as special and chief guest.

Mr. Ranik Tripura said, "We should know which institution provide which services then we can claim and enjoy services".

Ms. Beauty Rani Tripura said, "We implement different sub projects through union parishad but not sufficient than demands. She added that we provide solar panel to schools, mosques, temples and pagodas. We, is assistance with department of social service and women and child affairs distribute VGD and VGF cards, different allowances such as pre and post-natal allowances, aged allowances etc".

Mr. Chunchumoni Chakma said, "At first I have to decide which I want, if you go to grocery shop we have to ask product specifically otherwise the shopkeeper would be confused. The access to information process also almost same, if you want to know information just we have to claim specifically otherwise you could not get it or it may be denied by the authorized designated officer. So, this is good initiative by TUS, I would like to thank TUS for such kind of good intervention. If you need my hands for this intervention you can come any time without hesitation, I am always with you."



*Figure 28 Mr. Konjari Chowdhury, Chairman, KHDC, delivering speech*

### **District level inception workshop:**

Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha conducted district level inception workshop on September 27, 2017 at conference hall of Hill District Council, Khagrachhari under "Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information project" supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation and the Carter Center, Bangladesh.



Mr. Kongjari Chowdhury, the honorable chairman of Hill District Council, Khagrachhari inaugurated the workshop and was present as chief guest, Md. Rashedul Islam, Deputy Commissioner, Khagrachhari Hill District, Md. Nuruzzaman, Chief Executive Officer of Hill District Council, Khagrachhari and Mohammad Toufiqul Islam, Senior Assistant Superintendent of Police were also present as special guests while Mr. Ripan Chakma, Executive Director of TUS presided the workshop.



Figure 23 Md. Rashedul Islam, DC, Khagrachhari delivering speech

Ms. Sumana Mahmud, Chief of Party of the Carter Center, Bangladesh and Mr. Md. Shahin Kauser, Deputy Program Manager of Manusher Jonno Foundation delivered speech. Mr. Sujash Chakma presented project brief to the audience. There are 55 (male-31, female-24) participants were participated from government line departments, local government institutions and traditional institutions at the workshop.

In the workshop the participants were present from government line departments Mr. Adin Chakma, Upazila Education Officer, Ms. Ratina Chakma, Agriculture Extension Officer, Mr. Md. Monirul Islam, Deputy Director, Mr. Kriti Bijoy Chakma, Probation Officer, Mr. Shaiful Islam Chowdhury, Assistant Director, Social Services Office, Mr. S.M. Aunik Chowdhury, District Information Officer, Department of Information, Ms. Rokeya Begam, Town Social Services Officer. Ms. Jina Chakma, representative of District



Figure 30 District level inception workshop

Women affairs, Mr. Biplob Barua, Deputy Director of family planning, Mr. Abdul Mannan kabir, Deputy coordinator, youth Development; from local government institutions Mr. Kanti Bikash Chakma, Member, Perachara Union Parishad; from traditional leaders Mr. Ukyashain Chowdhury, Headman, Golabari Mouza; from print and electronic media Ms. Joyanty Dewan, correspondence, the Prothom Alo, and Mr. Saikat Dewan, District correspondence, the daily star, Mr. Abu Taher Muhammad, general secretary,

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Khagrachhari Press Club; from NGOs Mr. Abul Mannan Akanda, Area Manager, TIB, Ms. Shefalika Tripura, ED, KMKS, Mr. Mathura Bikash Tripura, ED, ZKS, Ms. Sue Ching Thui Marma, ED, Fowara, Mr. Tanmoy Chakma, ED representative of Kabidang; from Ms. Sumana Mahmud, Chief of Party of the Carter Center, Ms. Taslima Akter, Program Officer, TCC, Bangladesh and Mr. Md. Shahin Kauser, Deputy Program Manager of Manusher Jonno Foundation; from women groups Ms. Ragabi Chakma, Ms. Newsa Marma, Ms. Nangkra Mog, Mr. Ashiya Begam, Ms. Marjina Begam, Ms. Bipurika Chakma, Ms. Aparajita Khisha, Ms. Gorimala Tripura, Ms. Sanumya Marma and other stakeholders.

In the open discussion session Md. Rashedul Islam, Deputy Commissioner, Khagrachhari Hill District, Md. Nuruzzaman, Chief Executive Officer, Md. Toufikul Islam, Senior Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mr. Abul Mannan Akanda, Area Manager, TIB, Ms. Ratina Chakma, Agriculture Extension Officer, Mr. Md. Monirul Islam, Deputy Director of social service department, Mr. S. M. Aunik Chowdhury, District Information Officer, Mr. Ukyashain Chowdhury, Headman, Golabari Mouza,

Ms. Sumana Mahmud, Chief of Party of the Carter Center, Ms. Taslima Akter, Program Officer, TCC, Bangladesh and Mr. Md. Shahin Kauser, Deputy Program Manager of Manusher Jonno Foundation were participated and shared their opinion.

Mr. Kongjari Chowdhury, the honorable chairman of Hill District Council delivered a speech as chief guest and said, *"I hope and expect you can step forward backward community specially women and children in the district through sharing the research's findings and learning. In our Khagrachhari district many NGOs are working on education, health, livelihood etc. which is very important for community, society and nation. In that sense, I would like to say TUS has undertaken a good project. I become convince regarding the successfulness of the project when the poor rural women and children really benefited and empowered our society and nation utilizing and sharing the acquired knowledge through this project. Hence, MJF is working for a long time that's why I would like to thank MJF for their contribution. If we work together in coordination and consultation with other local and national NGOs, then we could be to avoid overlapping. Khagrachhari Hill District Council organized bimonthly coordination meeting with NGOs regularly but I observed that some NGOs are absent in regular basis in the coordination meeting. Today, I am inaugurating the inception workshop and I hope this workshop would be successful."*

Md. Rashedul Islam, Deputy Commissioner, Khagrachhari Hill District shared information regarding right to information act 2009. He added that as per the right to information act 2009 all government department, agency, semi government organization, autonomous body or institution, non-government organization, international organization and government project unit are liable to provide information accept some exempted departments of government such as DGFI, NSI, DB etc due to sovereignty of the country. He also shared the process of application, the applicants whom, where and how way have to go for getting information. He also shared that the information commission roles, functions, power and process of the judiciary. He also shared that when he was in the Ministry of land as an authorized designated officer that time he faced some cases hearing in information commission. Basically, women need not to go to information commission just you have

to send an objection letter infamous of Chief Information Commissioner by post. Today, I am very much happy to present here, if you need my assistance and cooperation you can come to my office.”

Md. Nuruzzaman, Chief Executive Officer, Hill District Council, Khagrachhari(KHDC) said, “Today we discussed and identified many barriers for getting information from government departments. Here, all government officials are present so that I am requesting to all of you to update the nameplate of designated officer’s and citizen charter. I observed that the project emphasis the women and children I think this is a good initiative under taken by TUS. Just I want to share with you that few days ago; we have completed a recruitment process by KHDC. In this process we are given priority to the women where the ratio is 80% female and 20% male. Now, we have to identify what are the main problems in our region. I think education is the main problem in Khagrachhari district. So that we have to give emphasize in education sector which is very important and related to women empowerment. He also added that as a government officer our responsibility should be high because we are the highly privileged group in the country so that we have to more responsible to provide to information to peoples.”

Md. Toufikul Islam, Senior Assistant Superintendent of Police, Khagrachhari said, “From the beginning we know that knowledge is the power than money is power, now information and communication is power. Now the government establish model thana as a pilot basis for getting better services though we have limitation.”

#### **Day observation: International Right to Information Day at Panchari Upazila**

A half day discussion session was organized by TUS as part of observing the international Right to information Day at the Upazila Hall room of Panchari Upazila. The meeting was presided by the UNO of Panchari while the chair of the chief guest was ornamented by Mr. Sorbottom Chakma, Chairman, Panchari Upazila Parishad.

At the beginning of the discussion, Mr. Sujash Chakma, Program Manager kept the welcome speech and addressed the theme of the Day. He mentioned the historical background and relevance of the theme with the context of Panchari upazila. He added that, without the process of empowering women with information, other mechanisms cannot sustain effectively in the long run.



*Figure 31 RTI Day observation at Panchari upazila*

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Mr. Shahin Kausar, DPM, MJF pinpointed the local level problems women usually face regarding receiving service from the supply side. He also mentioned the names and importance of some departments and which work very closely with the rural women which include women and child affairs, social service, health, education and agriculture extension.

Taslina Akhtar, PO, The Carter Center addressed the gender dimension of the information need and access. She identified the leaders among the participants and checked their experiences and concerns.

Sumona Mahmud, Chief of Party, The Carter Center expressed the need of good leadership among the women seeking information and services. She cited some key roles the leader women can play in the ground and how this can be linked with the union digital centers and other government information outlets.

Mr. Md. Abul Hasem, UNO, Panchari expressed his appreciation for the intervention undertaken by TUS with support from MJF and the Carter center. He emphasized on the linkage building of information seekers with the union support centers, which are the result of the foresightedness of honorable prime minister as part of building digital Bangladesh. He also mentioned that he is keen to coordinate the efforts of the government officials and NGO officials of Panchari Upazila to render quality services to women and other information and service seekers.

Among the public representatives, Vice chairman of Panchari Upazila, Chairmen of Panchari and Latiban Unions gave speeches and assured that they will leave their doors open to women, who need some special services and contribute to the family to a great extent.

Upazila Education Officer, Upazila fisheries Officer and other Upazila officers shared their ongoing activities and future plans to the audience. They also pointed out the hurdles for which the general people get harassed while seeking services.

Women representative and adopted women member of the Upazila Parishad shared that, there is information gap even at Upazila Parishad level, as the women member is still not assigned with specific chart of authority and responsibilities. But as a woman leader, she personally seeks information from the line departments and Parishads as well as helps other women.

In the open discussions participated by most of the woman participants and in the preset speeches, the speakers expressed their hope that, the discussion session will help the women build confidence and increase mobility regarding access to information and service.

### **Day observation: International Right to Information Day at Dighinala Upazila**

A half day discussion session was organized by TUS on 28 September 2017 as part of observing the international Right to information Day at Shilpokola academy of Dighinala Upazila. The meeting was presided by Mr. Sukiron Chakma representative of TUS while the chair of the chief guest was ornamented by Mr. Nabakamal Chakma, Chairman, Dighinala Upazila Parishad.



At the beginning of the discussion, Ms. Minuching Marma, the Project Coordinator delivered the welcome speech and addressed the theme of the Day. She mentioned the historical background of the theme with the context of Bangladesh and Dighinala upazila. She added that, without the process of empowering women with information, other mechanisms cannot sustain effectively in the long run.



Figure 32 RTI day observation at Dighinala Upazila

Ms. Happy Chakma, Assistant Upazila Education Officer shared their services and ongoing activities. She added that they are providing stipend to students through on line system. There is a problem in on line system to add mobile phone number but some guardians have no mobile numbers access. The guardians usually use relatives or neighbor's numbers that's why they do not get information in just time and deprive.

Ms. Happy Chakma, Assistant Upazila Education Officer shared their services and ongoing activities. She added that they are providing stipend to students through on line system. There is a problem in on line system to add mobile phone number but some guardians have no mobile numbers access. The guardians usually use relatives or neighbor's numbers that's why they do not get information in just time and deprive.

Mr. Hesmilton Chakma, representative of social service shared they provide a prenatal allowance, aged allowance, disabled allowance and provide service to orphan children through orphanage programme.



Figure 24 RTI day observation at Dighinala upazila

Mr. Md. Mubak Hossain, member, Boalkhali Union Parishad shared they are providing services through union digital centers, death and birth certificate, citizen certificate, trade license etc.

Ms. Nilufar Yasmin, group member from Sudin member para asked that if a woman victimized physical violence where and how they can get help.

Ms. Nilufar Yasmin, group member from Sudin member para asked that if a woman victimized physical violence where and how they can get help.

Ms. Anamika Tripura, group member form Suresh Headman para asked that we are informed on access to information because we are engaged with TUS but most of the rural women who are illiterate and not engage with any development agencies how they can be informed.

Mr. Nabakamal Chakma, Chairman, Dighinala Upazila Parishad expressed his appreciation for the good initiative undertaken by TUS with support from MJF and the Carter center. He added that access to information is a basic right of peoples which related to socio-economic and political rights. That's why we have to know information because the information is the power of the world to enhance the decent lives of the disadvantaged and marginalized peoples. So, we have to claim information for socio-economic empowerment.

In the open discussions participated by most of the woman participants and in the preset speeches, the speakers expressed their hope that, the discussion session will help the women build confidence and increase mobility regarding access to information and service.

### **Courtyard meeting**

Courtyard meeting is the key and regular activity in the AWRAIB women group for the project running. TUS included Multi group members like para committee, para kendro school's staff, former women UP member and others in the process of the women group information. TUS has been trying, in collaboration with GOB line department to make a functional bridge between the line departments and the information seekers and to build up women group capacity so that they can communicate with GOB line department officials in their own needs. In this process, according to plan, AWRAIB project organized Courtyard meeting at the community Level. A total of 72 courtyard meetings were conducted in Panchari, Dighinala and Khagrachhari sadar upazila under this objective.

### **Meeting with Different Stakeholders on RTI:**

For the reporting period Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha conducted 3 Stakeholder meetings on 11, 17 and 20 December 2017 with government officials, chairmen of Upazila and Union Parishad as well as CSOs at Panchari, Dighinala and Khagrachhari sadar Upazila. In Khagrachhari sadar Upazila, Mr. Chunchumoni Chakma, honorable chairman of Khagrachhari Sadar Upazila Parishad was present as chief guest and Mr. Syed Samsul Tabrij, Upazila Nirbahi Officer also present as special guest. In Panchari Upazila, Ms. Ratna Tancanga, honorable Vice Chairman of Panchari Upazila Parishad was present as chief guest. In Dighinala upazila,

Mr. Naba Komal Chakma, honorable chairman of Dighinala Upazila Parishad was present as chief guest and Gopadebi Chakma honorable Vice-Chairman of Dighinala Upazila Parishad was present as special guest. Mr. Ripan Chakma, Executive Director of TUS chaired those meetings at Khagrachhari sadar and Panchari upazila and Mr. Sujash Chakma, Program Manager of TUS chaired the meeting at Dighinala upazila. A total number of sixty- three (male: 51 and female: 12) participants were present at those meetings. In the meeting the representative of women & children affairs, Family Planning officer, Assistant upazila Education officer, Upazila Secondary Education officer, Upazila Rural Development officer, Upazila agriculture extension officer, Town Social Service officer, Upazila livestock officer, Upazila Cooperative officer, Upazila statistics officer and Upazila youth development officer, Women Networks, TIB, CSOs and opinion leaders were present.

In open discussion most of the government officials participated and shared their opinion and barriers regarding delivering information to the applicants. There some important decisions were taken by the participants as follows:

1. To update the name to the authorized officer(information) of each department including CSOs.
2. Each department will create information desk or corner for authorized officer regarding RTI related documents for delivering information,
3. Each department will make nameplate for the authorized officer where TUS and TIB will provide technical assistance.

#### **Awareness Campaign at Upazila Level:**

Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha conducted an Awareness Campaign at Upazila Level with CBO and CSOs on December 14, 2017 at Ashish Hall Room, TUS, Khagrachhari Sadar Upazila, Khagrachhari under "Advancing women's Right of Access to information Project" supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation and the Carter Center. There are 30 (male: 26 and female: 04) participants were participated from CSO & CBOs member's. The participants also participated in open discussion.

#### **Capacity development training for CSOs on RTI:**

Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha has organized two days long capacity development training at Gairing hotel from 18 to 19 December 2017. The Executive Director of TUS inaugurated the training accordingly. Total 30 representatives from CSOs, CBOs, entrepreneurs of union parishad (IT person or information center) and secretary of Union Parishads



participated in the training.

*Figure 34 Capacity development training for CSOs on RTI*

#### **Learning**

- Enhanced knowledge on RTI through information dissemination and sharing.
- To overcome the language barrier, TUS facilitated the local language and Bangla.

#### **Challenges**

- Due to unrest in the local political context, some activities could not be implemented in due time which include RTI related documentary film show program and Union level Meeting.
- Project Coordinator and Project Officer take the workload in 3 Upazilas. This is too difficult to conduct the court yard meeting, day observation at a time in 3 Upazilas.

## Conclusion:

The management of TUS realized that, the achievement targets are still far to reach and the team is working very hard to improve in the areas of efficiency, reporting quality and coordination. Also there is a need staff and equipment's for smooth implementation, all activity clear Guideline and RTI good examples. We believe that each of the intervention will add good value to the betterment of the women access to information of the marginalized people of CHTs and thankful to MJF, USAID and The carter center to come up with such a good initiative and allowing us to take an active part.

## Partnerships, Networks and Campaign Programs

### Networks

In 2017, TUS was involved in different Networks like as Durbar network, Bangladesh Indigenous People Network on Climate Change and Biodiversity (BIPNetCCBD) and Chittagong Hill Tracts Women Organization Network (CHTWON).

### Our Existing Partners

- Assistance for the Livelihood of the Origins
- Kabidang
- Khagrapur Mahila Kalyan Samity
- Zabarang Kalyan Samity.

## Organizational Resources

### Conference Hall

TUS has a conference hall available for hire to individuals or organizations. The hall is well equipped for workshops, training and meetings. A generator and multimedia projector are available as well as catering service can be arranged.

### Trinamul Centre for Research and Demonstration

TUS established the Trinamul Centre for Research and Demonstration for promotion and protection of agro-forestry, biodiversity and natural resource management systems in the Chittagong Hill Tracts in 2009. The centre is situated in the Golabari union in Khagrachhari Sadar. It is a green and hilly area, about four kilometers from Khagrachhari town. Through the centre's establishment we aim to contribute to the preservation of local species, and provide space for teaching, learning, and research on agroforestry, biodiversity and natural resource management issues in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The centre will offer a variety of programs, including trainings on eco-friendly hill farming, horticulture and agro-forestry practices. The centre well- furnished and demonstrated by Trinamul green energies and technologies. All of you are invited to visit our centre.

### Our Staffs

Total staffs: 22 (Female-08 and Male-14)

#### A. Senior Management Staffs

- Mr. Ripan Chakma- Executive Director



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- Mr. Sujash Chakma- Program Manager
- Mr. Sukiran Chakma- Project Coordinator
- Mr. Shyamal Bikash Chakma- Lead Project Supervisor
- Ms. Prity Chakma- Project Supervisor
- Ms. Minuching Marma- Project Coordinator

### B. Management Level Staff:

- Mr. Tuhin Chakma- Project Officer
- Mr. Debashish Chakma- Project Officer

### C. Finance and Admin Staff:

- Mr. Rumen Chakma, Coordinator Finance and Admin (in charge)
- Mr. Manir Ketan Chakma, Accounts Officer
- Mr. Evesh Chakma, Finance and Admin Assistant.

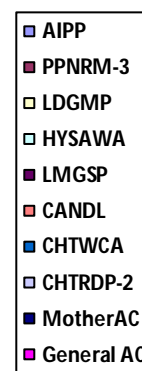
### Our Governing Bodies

- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| - Ms. Shyamali Chakma    | - Chairperson       |
| - Ms. Chameli Tripura    | - Vice- Chairperson |
| - Mr. Dipujjal Khisa     | - General Secretary |
| - Mr. Kollol Roaza       | - Treasurer         |
| - Mr. Lalasa Chakma      | - Office Secretary  |
| - Mr. Kamaleshwar Chakma | - Member            |
| - Mr. Mrachathoai Marma  | - Member.           |

### Our Finances

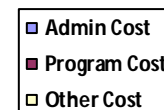
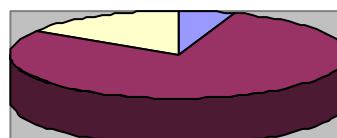
#### Funds

In the 2016-2017 financial years, we received **BDT. 31,054,310** to implement the program intervention. The majority of the funds come from donor agencies including national, international and government agencies. We look for funds from partners or donors who share our vision, values and commitment in the CHT peoples. We raised fund from our general committee members, supporters and well-wishers to cover our core expenditures.



#### Expenditure

In the 2016-2017 financial years, our expenditure was **BDT. 23,878,791**. TUS's most significant expenditures were program costs and staff salary with more than 90 % of funds going to these.



**TRINAMUL UNNAYAN SANGSTHA (TUS)**  
**CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR FROM 01 JULY 2016 TO 30 JUNE 2017**

RECEIPTS	Notes	2016-2017	2015-2016
<b>Opening Balance:</b>			
Cash in Hand		27,749	
Cash at Bank		3,203,421	
FDR A/C		3,250,000	
Balance lying with close project		1,833	5,809,259
<b>Foreign Donation Received:</b>			
MISEREOR, GERMANY	8.00	2,553,782	
UNDP		10,110,496	16,009,017
<b>Local Income Received:</b>			
Donation		422,176	
Bank Interest		2,213	
CHTRDP II		7,608,423	
Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF)		1,249,018	
Event Management		476,135	9,757,965
<b>Others Received:</b>			
Office rent		106,416	
Communication		20,707	
Electricity		12,225	
Projector Rent		4,000	
Admin cost		103,097	
Overhead/Profit		165,494	
Member fee		5,440	417,379
<b>Contribution from:</b>			
Staff		146,185	147,904
<b>Loan Received From:</b>			
PPNRM	6.02	250,000	
Staff welfare Fund		515,000	
CHTWCA		515,000	
Event Management		200,000	
Sagormoy		9,000	
Suvashis		9,000	
Pradip		12,500	
Dhananjoy Chakma		12,000	
Samiran Chakma		9,000	
Bakul Dutta Chakma		6,000	
Jothishree Chakma		30,000	
Manir Ketan chakma		18,000	1,585,500
		1,585,500	3,388,526
<b>Total Taka</b>		<b>31,054,310</b>	<b>39,655,709</b>



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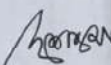
A B S Chowdhury & Co.  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS


**PAYMENTS**


<b>Administrative Cost</b>	<b>9.00</b>	1,126,716	1,773,322
<b>Program Cost</b>	<b>10.00</b>	18,603,326	23,569,892
<b>Capital Expenditure:</b>			
Furniture/Fixture/Equipment		33,450	
Camera		42,350	
		75,800	30,000
<b>Donation Transfer to:</b>		1,660,429	3,935,592
<b>Loan Paid to:</b>	<b>6.03</b>	1,991,000	3,295,026
<b>Transfer to:</b>			
ZKS		-	568,874
FOWARA		421,520	-
<b>Closing Balance :</b>	<b>6.01</b>		
Cash in Hand		8,211	
Cash at Bank		3,915,475	
FDR A/C		3,250,000	
Balance lying with close project		1,833	
		7,175,519	6,483,003
<b>Total Taka</b>		<b>31,054,310</b>	<b>39,655,709</b>

Attached notes form an Integral part  
of these Financial Statements.

Signed as per our annexed report of even date.

  
Finance & Admin.  
Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha

  
Executive Director  
Trinamul Unnayan Sangstha

  
Md. A B Siddique Chowdhury, FCA  
Principal  
A B S Chowdhury & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

Dated, Dhaka  
28 November, 2017



## Annual Report-2017

### Our Existing Donors

In 2017, we received fund from our donor like as Government of Bangladesh, ADB, Misereor, Germany, tebtebba, Manusher Jonno Foundation and CHTDF-UNDP.



Asian Development Bank



মানুষের জন্য  
manusher jonno  
promoting human rights and good governance



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

