



# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## DISASTER RESILIENT PONDS

**CONTEXT:** The Thankur pukur (pond) in Hawalbhangi village of Atulia union has been used by the local community as a safe water source since the British period. Irregular maintenance, the erosion of the banks and silting of the pond had reduced the reservoir's capacity. During Cyclone Aila the pond failed completely due to inundation with saline water which led to a severe water crisis in this village.

**DESCRIPTION:** The urgent demand for safe water was addressed by collective action to bail out the saline water, excavate the saline layer and raise the embankment by 6 ft (Tk. 60,000) with a 3-ft brick perimeter wall (Tk. 110,000) to protect against future tidal surges, install a fence to limit potential contamination (Tk. 3000), renovate the pond sand filter (Tk. 20,000), appoint a users' committee and caretaker paid from user charges (Tk. 7,000).

The pond was originally 155 x 160 ft. An additional PSF (1,400 liters and four taps) was added and elevated to meet the high demand for water (Tk. 20,000). A low-cost latrine was also made nearby for those spending considerable time collecting water.

A management committee implemented this program, signed a MoU with the pond owner, and appointed and monitored the caretaker's performance. A usage fee of Tk. 5 and Tk. 10 per month was collected from poor and rich households, respectively. Shyamnagar UP's have replicated this approach in 169 local ponds using food for work (Kabikha) and own source revenues.



Renovation of Thakur pukur pond, Hawalbhangi village, Atulia union.



### INDICATORS:

- Pond and PSF has safe water (even after the floods) and is expertly operated and maintained.
- The Union Parishad has replicated this good practice for other ponds within its jurisdiction.

### STRENGTHS:

- Collective decision by community with oversight provided by local government.
- Durable banks of the pond are above the maximum height of salt water tidal surges.
- Income generation is from user charges and the produce grown on the perimeter fence.

### CHALLENGES:

- Removing the salt intrusion from the pond, the filter, and clay was extremely difficult.
- Regular operation and maintenance is essential to manage the PSF.
- Appropriate vegetation is essential to protect the high banks from erosion.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** B. M. Fazal Mahmud, Atulia Union Parishad Chairman, Shyamnagar, Satkhira, mob: 01711668017.

**Upazila:** Sabbir Ahmed, Shyamnagar UNO, Satkhira, sabbir.ahmed52@yahoo.com, mob: 01712240919.

**Support:** Md. Saifur Rahman, Shushilan, Shyamnagar, Satkhira, mob: 01712238194.

Rashed Hyder, WaterAid, rashed@wateraidbd.org, mob: 01730095584.





# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## RETRO-FITTING WATER & SANITATION FACILITIES IN CYCLONE SHELTERS

**CONTEXT:** In Gumantoli village of Ishwaripur Union, the brick and mud school was often inundated during the tidal surges associated with cyclones. As a result, a two story cyclone shelter cum primary school was constructed under a Kuwait Funded Project. The school is located on the 1st floor however people suffered during a disaster because the water and sanitation facilities were on the ground floor.

**DESCRIPTION:** The main components of this activity were to construct water and sanitation facilities on the first floor of the shelter for those housed during a cyclone. The design of the interventions needed to consider the people to be housed in these shelters, as well as the number of students and teachers when there is no emergency.

One male latrine, one female latrine and one delivery chamber with latrine and water facilities were retro-fitted to the 1st floor of the shelter (Tk 100,000). To ensure safe water, a rain water harvesting system of 8,200 litres capacity with a filtration chamber was also constructed (Tk. 50,000).

The School Management Committee (SMC) collected a no-objection letter (NOC) from the government with the support from the Union Parishad. The SMC contributed 5% of the total cost of the upgrade and also took the primary responsibility for the construction. A management committee has also been formed to manage the operation and maintenance of the systems.



Latrine with tube well



Baby delivery chamber



Rainwater harvesting system

### INDICATORS:

- The Rainwater Harvesting System (RWHS) is providing safe water (even after cyclone).
- The latrines are kept clean and maintained properly (even after cyclone).
- The Union Parishad has replicated this practice in other cyclone shelters within their jurisdiction.

### STRENGTHS:

- Decision by community, SMC with UP.
- WATSAN facilities are context specific.
- RWHS installed in water scarce areas.
- Baby delivery chamber within the shelter.

### CHALLENGES:

- Technical support is essential during the renovation and re-construction.
- Regular operation and maintenance is essential to manage the interventions.

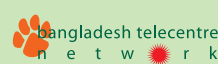
### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Sadikur Rahman, Chairman, Ishwaripur Union Parishad, Shyamnagar, Satkhira, **mob:** 01715398520.

**Upazila:** Sabbir Ahmed, Shyamnagar UNO, Satkhira, sabbir.ahmed52@yahoo.com, **mob:** 01712240919.

**Support:** Saifur Rahman, Shushilon, Shyamnagar, Satkhira, **mob:** 01712238194.

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# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## DISASTER RESILIENT LATRINES

**CONTEXT:** The tidal surge from Cyclone Aila inundated and destroyed many household latrines. In some union parishads (UPs), latrine coverage was reduced overnight from 100 percent to practically nil. Low cost renovation of these latrines involved the conversion of pit latrines into offset pour flush latrines and the development of a locally available jute fiber-reinforced concrete building material.

**DESCRIPTION:** The conversion of pit latrines to flush latrines can improve the resilience of the substructure to inundation. The development of a reinforced cement material sought to improve the resilience of the superstructure.

Latrine renovation required a plastic pan (Tk. 25), U bend (Tk. 12), 4 feet length of PVC pipe (Tk. 56), bamboo poles (Tk. 200), jute-reinforced cement (Tk. 260) and labor – a total cost of Tk. 865. All households dug or repaired existing sludge pits, installed covers to make them anaerobic, and installed an offset pan.

For the superstructure, the jute fabric was soaked in a cement-water solution, hung with a bamboo pole and fixed to a bamboo frame for the walls. The roof was also hoisted in the similar fashion. The cement was cured properly to gain its full strength. This construction material is strong, relatively light, and attractive. This could be easily decorated and deployed in other building applications.



Jute fabric reinforced cement superstructure



### INDICATORS:

- Support only provided to hard-core poor in remote areas who previously had a latrine.
- This approach is replicated by richer households and others at their own cost.
- Latrines are being operated and maintained in a hygienic manner.

### STRENGTHS:

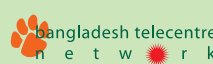
- Simple technology; can be easily replicated.
- Low cost, locally available and transportable.
- Households can use gunny bags and cement, which are easily available, for construction.
- Durable, ensures privacy, and is attractive.

### CHALLENGES:

- Construction in wet weather is difficult
- Proper curing is required for 10-14 days
- Operation & maintenance of flush latrines is very different from pit latrines

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** B M Fazal Mamud, Chairman, Atulia Union Parishad, Shyamnagar, Satkhira, mob: 0171166-8017.  
Kanchan Kumar Dey, Secretary, Shyamnagar Sadar Union Parishad, Shyamnagar, Satkhira, mob: 01712212554.  
**Upazila:** Sabbir Ahmed, Shyamnagar UNO, Satkhira, sabbir.ahmed52@yahoo.com, mob: 01712240919.  
**Support:** Md. Saifur Rahman, Shushilan, Shyamnagar, Satkhira, mob: 01712238194.  
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# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES

**CONTEXT:** Volunteers motivated by free will rather than the desire for material or financial gain, or pressured through the application of external social, economic or political forces, play a vital role in disaster preparedness and response. Volunteers can build the resilience of local communities and make vital links to external support services in the face of escalating risks.

### DESCRIPTION

**Warning:** Information flows from the government information cell to the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) to the youth volunteers to the community committees that disseminate this information at the local level through various means.

**Relief:** BDRCS maintains a savings of Tk. 1 lakh for relief services. In the event of a disaster, needs are estimated, food & water purchased, packaged by youth volunteers, transported to community committees and disseminated to those in need.

**First Aid:** BDRCS trains the youth volunteers and the community committee in first aid and counseling services. In the event of a disaster, they undertake rescue operations, administer first aid and offer counsel to those adversely affected.

**Blood Donor:** Youth volunteers and community committees register their blood type with BDRCS. These volunteer will provide blood if a suitable donor cannot be found.

**Preparedness:** BDRCS youth volunteers and community committees play a key role in training, community development and also undertake emergency preparedness activities.



Volunteers assist in distribution and first aid preparation training sessions



### INDICATORS:

- Early warning volunteer system alerted all community members of impending emergencies.
- Volunteers are well connected to external systems for robust preparedness and swift response.

### STRENGTHS:

- Trained volunteers are the first responders & hence the best response against disasters.
- Established volunteer teams create bridges between government agencies & NGOs.
- Well organized and trained volunteers can prepare communities to meet future risks.

### CHALLENGES:

- Effective volunteer services demand well managed recruitment, training and support
- Volunteer management requires policies in disaster preparedness and response.
- Linking volunteers to support services and advice is difficult but essential.

### CONTACTS:

**Agency:** Md. Modaser Ahmed, BDRCS, Bagerhat, Unit Level Officer, mob: 01716674119.

**Support:** Alex T Sen, Swiss Red Cross, srcinfo.bangladesh@gmail.com, mob: 01713364799.







# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## SOCIAL SAFETY NET

**CONTEXT:** Economic deprivation can contribute to environmental degradation. For example, the absence of a social safety net means that it is not possible to restrict fishing during the breeding season without inflicting further suffering on the most vulnerable. In this context, Ujjal Mohanganj has sought to strengthen environmental and social safeguards that deliver improved economic benefits for everyone.

**DESCRIPTION:** Ujjal Mohanganj is built on the philosophy of 'saving in the good times to overcome the hard times'. Under this program local government mobilized all citizens to refrain from fishing during the breeding season. In preparation for the inevitable deprivation over 50 cooperatives of 100 persons were established as self-help groups that sought to improve the targeting of government services.

During peak season each member deposits Tk. 100 per month with the cooperative. Interest free loans are made available to members (with no repayments required during the lean season). Installation of a sanitary latrine, ensuring primary education, preventing child marriage and dowry are pre-requisites for cooperative membership. Members are encouraged to examine and build internal relations (**bonding**), relations with other communities (**bridging**) and relations with their natural & institutional environment (**linking**).

Regulating fishing during the breeding season has increased local fish stock by three to four times. The greater number of mature fish has increased income for fishermen and food sufficiency for the poor. Members now operate a business called 'Nityadine Ujjal' which sells essential commodities to members at reasonable prices. Ujjal Mohanganj is now linked to veterinary and medical services, the cultivation of organic fertilizer (Dhanchya) and excavation of canals.



Some cooperative & fisherman members



### INDICATORS:

- A people's cooperative for self-help and improving the targeting of government services (veterinary & health) is combined with environmental regulation (organic fertilizer & regulation of fishing).
- Relations between community and government administration have been transformed.

### STRENGTHS:

- Delivers environmental conservation, social equity & economic development together.
- Self-help cooperatives are willing and able to undertake a broad range of works.
- Strengthens the self-confidence of citizens.

### CHALLENGES:

- Ensuring sustainability of the program.
- Maintaining the self-help cooperatives as a bottom-up democratic forum of citizens.
- Separating the role of the UNO and local government for oversight.

### CONTACTS:

**Upazila:** Kazi Abed Hussain, UNO, Mohanganj, Netrokona, **mob:** 01716269426.

**Cooperative:** Mohammad Eklas Uddin, Ujjal Mohanganj, Cooperative President, Mohanganj, Netrokona, **mob:** 01725427649.





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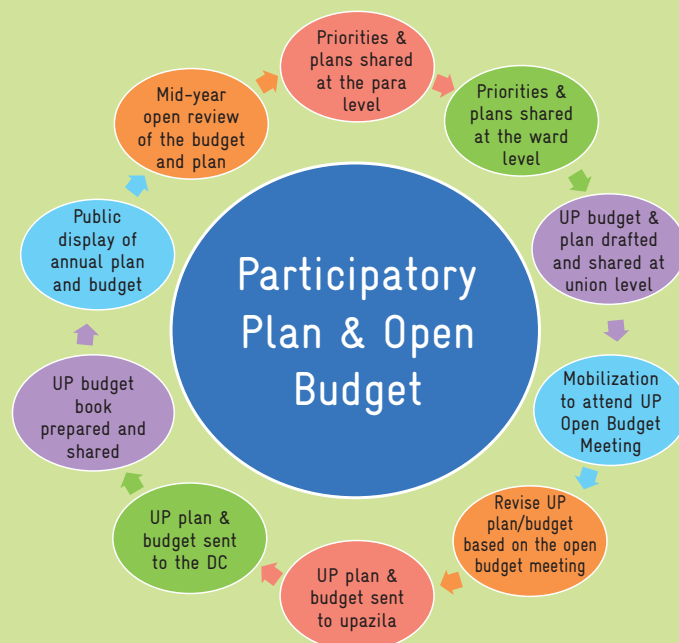
## OPEN BUDGET MEETING

**CONTEXT:** UPs in Bangladesh are required by law to conduct open budgets. By-and-large this has not occurred and not unsurprisingly own source revenue collection by UPs is also very low. Participatory planning and open budget meetings were initiated in 2003 in Tarash under the Sirajganj Local Governance Development Fund Project (SLGDFP) supported by UNDP / UNCDF from 2001/6.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Open Budget process starts with a draft plan and budget prepared by the UP based on consultations at the para and ward level. This draft is shared with people in an open budget meeting where people can raise questions, receive explanations and propose amendments.

After finalization and approval, the budget is made available to the public (budget book, public boards, newspaper). An open review of the execution of the budget is also undertaken in the middle of the year.

The raising of holding tax is directly linked to the quality of this open budget process.



### INDICATORS:

- Ward level meetings initiated in February and the entire process completed by May each year.
- Citizen payment of holding tax is a good indicator of the quality of the planning process.

### STRENGTHS::

- Increased own source revenue collection
- Increased accountability to citizens for budget formulation and expenditure.

### CHALLENGES:

- Involving the opposition and marginalized people during participatory planning.
- Maintaining the process across elections.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Khalilur Rahman Talukder, Chairman, Deshigram Gurbipol Union Parishad, Tarash, Sirajganj, **mob:** 01715015877

**Upazila:** D. M. Atiqur Rahman, UNO, Tarash, Sirajganj, **mob:** 01712013985

**Support:** Ashim Saha, Sirajganj District Facilitator, LGSP-LIC, ashim12003@yahoo.com, **mob:** 01716163554



15/12/2010



# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## UPAZILA WOMENS FORUM

**CONTEXT:** Women UP members are often marginalized in the decision making process as well as in leadership of development activities initiated by the UPs. The lack of specific responsibilities together with patriarchal attitudes limits their contributions to development in the UP. Within this context the Upazila Women's Forum in Tarash was established in May 2003 as an outcome of the Sirajganj Local Governance Development Fund Program (SLGDFP) supported by UNCDF/UNDP from 2001-06.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Upazila Women's Forum is non-profit, non-governmental voluntary organization. This forum comprises of both the former (24) and the current (24) female UP members.

The overall objective of the forum is to work together to address the problems faced by female UP members. The forum enables female members to support each other in advocacy for the elimination of dowry, early marriage, women's oppression.

The forum has supported:

- income-generating training and micro-credit to poor women without interest (from their savings fund).
- 1/3 budget allocation by women and oversight of project works by female members
- The distribution of VGD cards by female members

The Women's Forum has grown and evolved into an accepted platform within the community for women's development. Women have a greater understanding regarding the power of collective voice and the application of that collective voice to bring about changes.



Upazila women's forum members at work



Income generating activities

### INDICATORS:

- Holding regular meetings and recorded all Minutes.
- Improved understanding of roles and responsibilities by women members at UP council.
- 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the ADP fund is being managed by women members.

### STRENGTHS:

- Women members can share their problems and assist each other to raise their voice.
- Women members gain confidence to address the challenges in their UP.

### CHALLENGES:

- The institutionalization of the forum and the patriarchal patterns of resistance.
- Coordination between the forum and women members of the Upazila Parishad.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Monowara Begum, Female Member, Baruhas Union Parishad, Tarash, Sirajganj, mob: 01735861535.

**Upazila:** D. M. Atiqur Rahman, UNO, Tarash, Sirajganj, mob: 01712013985.

**Support:** Ashim Saha, Sirajganj District Facilitator, LGSP-LIC, ashim12003@yahoo.com, mob: 01716163554





# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## MISTER 100%

**CONTEXT:** The policy goal of 100% commenced in the Omar Majid Union Parishad (UP) with the achievement of 100% sanitation. Through the Horizontal Learning program the UP gained exposure to many other good practices that have then been transferred into further 100% successes. Many of these achievements have been replicated by other UPs in the Rajarhat upazila.

**DESCRIPTION:** Omar Majid has deployed its social and legal authority to leverage improved quality of services in: 100% sanitation (achieved in 2004) and sustained through ward task forces, hygiene education and installation of public latrines with support from WaterAid and a local NGO, MJSKS.

100% registration at birth (achieved in 2007) and subsequently introduced as a pre-requisite for the enrollment of children in school.

100% screening of tubewells: All 4506 tubewells were screened in 2008 as learnt from Chowgacha upazila and replicated in Omar Majid UP with support from DPHE and MJSKS.

100% tubewells protected with concrete platforms (more than 2500 tubewells in 2008) with support / funds of households, DPHE, UP, MJSKS and WaterAid.

100% enrollment of children in school (achieved in 2009) with the support of all line departments in the upazila, all schools and CBOs.

100% of the people can sign their name (with thumb prints no longer accepted as a receipt for any UP service).

100% holding tax collection target for 2009/10 (learnt from Tarash) passbooks issued to all households and linked to all UP services.

100% households in 8 eco-villages have a safe tube well and latrine, a home garden and composting system.

Omar Majid's target is the eradication of hunger and poverty by 2012



Household identification number



Home vegetable garden

### INDICATORS:

- No household is without a latrine; no water source is uncolored or unprotected; health clinic data shows a reduction in diarrhea; every child has a birth certificate and every child above 6 year can cite their school name; no household is without a taxation number and passbook; and 100% tax revenues against assessment

### STRENGTHS:

- Irrespective of the jurisdiction or practice, the target is to ensure nil exclusion.
- Success in one practice seems to have bred the confidence to try the next new practice.
- Joint commitment of UP & citizens with the strong monitoring & support of the upazila.

### CHALLENGES:

- The UP chairman is the primary driving force behind these successes.
- The persistence of extreme poverty might undermine sustainability at any time.
- The weak presence of NGOs and CBOs limits access to social and technical resources.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Abdul Hakim Khandoker, Omarmajid Union Parishad Chairman, Rajarhat, Kurigram, mob: 01716438160.

**Upazila:** Md. Rahinul Islam, UNO, Rajarhat, Kurigram, urajarhat@moestab.gov.bd, mob: 01916429284.







# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

**CONTEXT:** Union Parishads of Tarash upazila in Sirajganj district initiated a Local Government Association (LGA) to improve relations between UPs, learn from each other and to amplify their collective voice. The LGA in Tarash was established in May 2003 as a result of the Sirajganj Local Government Development Program (SLGDFP) supported by UNCDF/UNDP from 2001-06

**DESCRIPTION:** The elected representatives of all eight UPs in Tarash upazila formed the LGA in the belief that the development of some UPs would be hollow without the development of all UPs.

Elected Chairman, one male and one female member from each UP are members of the LGA. The Chairman and Secretary of the LGA are elected for five years by the members. This LGA has made a formal application to the Directorate of Social Welfare for registration.

The LGA is a forum for coordination, learning and joint advocacy. Significant achievements of the LGA include:

- Allocation of funds to the Tarash upazila womens forum.
- Distribution of standard tax card formats amongst UP members.
- Allocation of a total of 5 lakh Taka to one UP (from all UP funds) so that it could secure project funds totaling 25 lakh.
- Improved accountability through internal audit by the LGA.
- Deployment of 3 UP secretaries to assist the underperforming UPs access performance grants.

UPs from Karimganj upazila in Kishoreganj district visited Tarash and subsequently established the Karimganj Development Committee (an adapted version of LGA).



UP representatives at Tarash Sadar.



LGA Chairman with UP Chairmen

### INDICATORS:

- Regular minutes of the LGA meetings and the carrying out of timely election.
- Evidence of support by the leading unions to lagging unions on various activities.

### STRENGTHS:

- UPs can share good practices and assist each other to replicate these practices.
- Better understanding on resource sharing within the upazila.

### CHALLENGES:

- The Institutionalization of the LGA and the resistance of government officials.
- Coordination between the LGA and the Upazila Parishad.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Mr. Mansur Rahman Bacchu, LGA Chairman & Tarash Sadar, Union Parishad Chairman, mob: 01712138243.

**Upazila:** D. M. Atiqur Rahman, UNO, Tarash, Sirajganj, mob: 01712013985.

**Support:** Ashim Saha, Sirajganj District Facilitator, LGSP-LIC, ashim12003@yahoo.com, mob: 01716163554.





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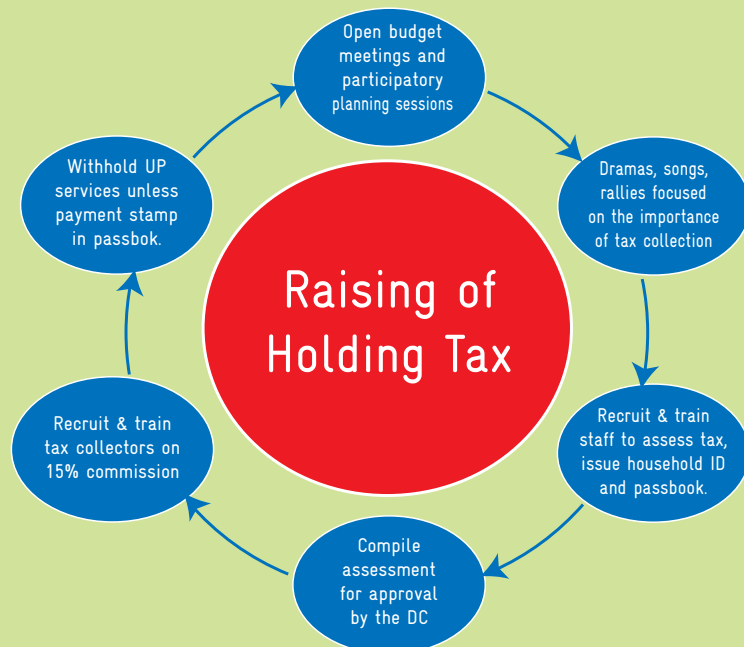
## RAISING OF HOLDING TAX

**CONTEXT:** The raising of holding tax through participatory methods commenced in Tarash under the Sirajganj Local Governance Development Fund Project (SLGDFP) supported by UNDP/UNCDF from 2001/6. The GoB revised Model Tax Schedule and nationwide comprehensive tax assessment & collection strategy (January 2004) also contributed to Tarash's success in increasing holding tax.

**DESCRIPTION:** The incuase collection of holding tax commences with the quality of the open budget process. Mobilizing citizens to pay local taxes is much more effective when they choose how that money will be spent.

Staff are recruited to mobilize households, undertake tax assessments, issue unique IDs and passbooks.

After approval by the DC, appointed tax collectors issue tax payers with a receipt and stamp in their passbook. The UP maintains a ledger and duplicate receipt so that UP services (i.e. birth certificate, food for work) can be withheld against tax payment.



### INDICATORS:

- Increased holding tax collection as evidenced in the UP budget.
- Households are carrying their tax passbook when accessing UP services.

### STRENGTHS:

- Increased accountability to citizens for budget formulation and expenditure.
- Increased budget for local public priorities.

### CHALLENGES:

- The tax threshold of 500 taka is too low.
- Increasing citizen participations in the planning & spending of the UP budget.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Khalilur Rahman Talukder, Chairman, Deshigram Gurpitol Union Parishad, Tarash, Sirajganj, mob: 01715015877.

**Upazila:** D. M. Atiqur Rahman, UNO, Tarash, Sirajganj, mob: 01712013985.

**Support:** Ashim Saha, Sirajganj District Facilitator, LGSP-LIC, ashim12003@yahoo.com, mob: 01716163554.





# BRIEFING NOTE

## HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

The Horizontal Learning Program is a union parishad (UP) led peer-to-peer learning initiative facilitated by the Government of Bangladesh and supported by development partners. Under this program local governments connect with each other to identify, share and replicate the good practices of their peers.

**Definition:** Horizontal learning is an outcome-oriented process that supports the innate human ability to acquire tacit skills through copying the very best of what others do.

**Outcome:** Horizontal learning facilitates peer-to-peer networks that build confidence and encourage innovation. This enables momentum for governance reform to be built from the bottom up.

**Impact (Dec. 2010):** Open budgets in 111 UPs have resulted in a 60% increase of own source revenues. Oversight of almost 80,000 arsenic tests has enabled 51 UPs to ensure arsenic safe water for 650,000 people. Promotion of sanitation and hygiene has enabled 48 UPs to achieve 100% sanitation status. The creation of women's forums has increased female participation and livelihoods in 29 UPs. UCCM in 70 UPs is shifting the role of LG from provision to that of ensuring the quality of services for all. These are just some examples of the 23 good practices being replicated through the horizontal learning program.

**Process:** Horizontal learning is a structured process to enable each local government to:

- **Connect:** To reach out across conventional boundaries to identify with the essence of our peers.
- **Appreciate:** To look for the best in our peers and to identify our own 'good practices' with indicators.
- **Review:** To visit the best practices of peers and assess against their own indicators of success.
- **Apply:** To replicate some of these best practices of peers - in my own way, in my own context.
- **Transform:** Collectively reform policies and institutions on the basis of the most replicated practices.

**Environment:** Horizontal learning appears to work best in domains where knowledge is tacit rather than codified and in systems where excellence may be stifled by bureaucratic procedures.

**Self-Refining:** Under horizontal learning, good practices continue to be identified, refined and adapted leading to the continued improvement in the quality of these best practices.

**Value Added:** Horizontal Learning is a bottom-up tacit learning process that complements conventional capacity building approaches.

**Limitations:** The key limitation of horizontal learning is that external agents cannot impose anything (i.e. best practices are determined by peers and policies leveraged by the peer-to-peer collective).

	Capacity building	Horizontal learning
Starting point	Deficiencies exist	Capacities exist
Targets what...	Needs strengthening	Is already working
Who teaches	Experts	Peers
Who decides	Program	Self selection
Why	To meet standards	To address my needs
Where	Classroom	Field based
What knowledge	Codified knowledge	Tacit knowledge
Result	Increased capacity	Increased confidence







# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## POURASHAVA INFORMATION & SERVICE CENTRE

**CONTEXT:** Although located in a remote district of Bangladesh, the Meherpur pourashava has introduced various public accountability initiatives that include a Digital Display Board (daily information on latest issues), Citizen Charter (having conducted a citizen report card), Complaint Box (at the pourashava entrance with follow-up in council meetings) and Tax Collection (computerized registration and billing) and established the Pourashava Information and Service Center (PISC) to provide the citizen access to information.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Meherpur Pourashava Information and Service Centre (PISC) comprises of 4 desktop and 1 laptop computers with internet connections, a printer, a photo printer, a digital and a video camera, a web cam, a scanner and a photocopy machine. The centre is housed in the pourashava and fully financed from own sources.

The PISC offers a range of services that include: public examination results, job circulars, university admission and scholarship forms, passport and visa information, access to information on rights and medical services, photocopying, e-mailing, photographs, internet browsing and computer training. The operator has been trained by BTN and NILG and maintains an excellent website of all recent activities of the pourashava (see <http://meherpurmunicipality.com>). The PISC is open 24 hrs/day but peak hours are between 7-9 pm.

The PISC receives approximately 30-40 customers per day and the average fee is 5 taka per customer. The initial response to the PISC has been so overwhelming that an adjoining building is being renovated solely for the PIC and an extra operator has been employed.

The unique feature of the PISC is the 'help desk' telephone number that anyone can call to inquire about any service. Any complaints can be placed in the complaint box (checked daily at 12 pm).



Digital display board



Citizen charter

### INDICATORS:

- Increased PISC revenues indicate that more customers are accessing public information services.

### STRENGTHS:

- Link of PISC to the 'Help Desk' phone line and the complaint box for feedback.
- Excellent access of citizens to the PISC in the pourashava premises on a 24 hours in seven days of the week basis.

### CHALLENGES:

- To sustain the responsiveness of the PISC down to consumers for information services.
- To bridge the gap between high demand for IT services and low connectivity in Meherpur.

### CONTACTS:

**Pourashava:** Md. Motassim Billah Motu, Meherpur Pourashava Mayor, Meherpur, [meherpur\\_municipality@yahoo.com](mailto:meherpur_municipality@yahoo.com), mob: 01732944070.  
**Operator:** Md. Sanowar Hasan, PISC LDA, Meherpur Pourashava, Meherpur, [hasandipu@gmail.com](mailto:hasandipu@gmail.com), mob: 01911353269.



15/12/2010





# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## UNION COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING (UCCM)

**CONTEXT:** Under the Local Government (UP) Act, 2009, Union Parishads must organize monthly meeting. To supplement and strengthen the UP the Participatory Rural Development Project-2 (PRDP-2) implemented by JICA and Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BRDB) has initiated holding of Union Coordination Committee Meeting (UCCM) to improve cooperation among the UP, National Building Development (NBD) extension workers of line departments of the Government, non-government organizations (NGO) and the community people.

**DESCRIPTION:** The PRDP-2 initiated UCCM seeks to strengthen coordination at the local level. During this 2-3 hour “mini-parliament”, the Government and NGO field workers report on the progress of their programs and formulate their work schedules for the next month.

### Composition of UCCM:

- (1) UP functionaries (UP Chairman, Members and Secretary)
- (2) NBD extension workers and NGO workers at union level
- (3) Representatives of Village/Gram Committee
- (4) Union Development Officer, Member Secretary of UCCM

### Regular Agenda:

- (1) Confirmation of resolution of last UCCM
- (2) Report of UP activities
- (3) Report of line departments and NGO activities
- (4) Report of Village Committee
- (5) Arrangement of visit of NBDs.

A Gazette Notification issued by the government ensures the establishment of UCC and monthly meetings in 15 project unions.



UP as a “one stop” service centre



UCCM Meeting

### INDICATORS:

- All UP functionaries, NBD/NGO extension workers and village representatives are present.
- Reports made by all stakeholders and the needs of village representatives are discussed openly.
- Concrete decisions on future actions/meetings/visits are agreed with a consensus of all members.

### STRENGTHS:

- UCCM strengthens the Union Parishad complex as a ‘one stop service center’.
- UCCM promotes transparency amongst UP, NBD, NGO and village members.
- UCCM improves feedback and response to improve service deliver for citizens.

### CHALLENGES:

- UCCM to openly discuss all UP activities (i.e. ADP, relief, LGSP, standing Committee).
- A legal framework (i.e. gazette notification) is needed to institutionalize the UCCM.
- In non PRDP-2 Unions the role of the UDO in the UCCM must be played by UP Secretary.

### CONTACTS:

**Upazila:** Md. Mamun-ul-Hasan, Kalihati UNO, Tangail, unokalihati@moestab.gov.bd, mob: 01914479777.

**Support:** Md. Hasanul Hoque Molla, ARDO, BRDB Kalihati, Tangail, hasanul\_hoque@yahoo.com, mob: 01712713655.

Mr. Hiroki Watanabe, PRDP-2, JICA, watanabe5331@hotmail.com, mob: 01713064635.



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# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## 100% ENROLMENT IN SCHOOLS

**CONTEXT:** Rajarhat Upazila in Kurigram district was the first upazila in Bangladesh to declare itself 100% sanitized in 2004. In line with the government's target of 100% enrolment in schools by 2010, Rajarhat is now seeking to be the first upazila to achieve universal enrolment of all six-year-old children. The unity of purpose at the upazila level and the effective monitoring and coordination by the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) has galvanized support for this initiative from all sections of the society.

**DESCRIPTION:** By targeting 100% everyone is expected - and enabled - to enroll their children in school. The process is as follows:

**Gather:** together all government and non-government stakeholders.

**Define:** 100% enrolment targeted in grade 1 in any madrasa, private, public & NGO schools.

**Assign:** catchments areas and enrolment responsibilities to teachers.

**Identify:** the number of children currently not enrolled in any school.

**Understand:** the barriers that prevent children from going to school (such as timings, books, disabilities, employment, poverty, hunger).

**Address:** the barriers (i.e. distribute biscuits, scholarships and graded stipends to mothers, initiate pre-primary schooling, subsidize books).

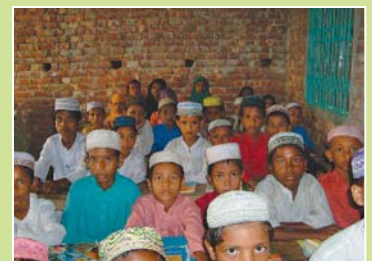
**Motivate:** the parent, village and school committees via rallies, yard meetings and mothers' gatherings under UP and upazila leadership.

**Limit:** access to UP services unless parents have their child in school.

**Monitor:** progress via weekly visits by the education officers, follow-up of any three consecutive absentee days and a monthly meeting of UNO with line departments & headmasters.



School attendance in Rajarhat



### INDICATORS:

- **Macro:** Birth registration of children above 6 in the UP is equal to the number of children enrolled in school.
- **Micro:** Every single child above 6 is enrolled in a school and every child can cite the name of their school.

### STRENGTHS:

- Inclusion of all schools, line departments and NGOs to achieve 100% enrolment.
- Monitor enrolment by upazila and follow-up on any three consecutive days of absence.
- High awareness of parents to send all children (not just their own) to any school.

### CHALLENGES:

- Many children rely on stipends and biscuits but this is not available in madrasas.
- Limited education projects and reduction of NGO presence in Rajarhat upazila.
- Moving from 100% enrolment, to 100% attendance, to 100% quality education.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Abdul Hakim Khandoker, Omarmajid Union Parishad Chairman, Rajarhat, Kurigram, mob: 01716438160.

**Upazila:** Md. Rahinul Islam, Rajarhat UNO, Kurigram, unorajarhat@moestab.gov.bd, mob: 01716427284.

Rizwanul Hoque, Rajarhat Education Officer, Kurigram, rizwan\_ueo@yahoo.com, mob: 01711387484.





# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## SHATODAL PEOPLE'S CENTRE

**CONTEXT:** In 1996, a motivated group of young people commenced a self-help initiative to expand the access to information. They believed that the extension of information as a right had the power to change lives. The experience with mobile phones in Bangladesh being a testament to the power of information and appropriate technology to transform the lives of common people.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Shatodal People's Centre comprises of two parts:

1. Information Centre (9 hrs/day, village location, 4 computers): safe access to information for women, children and community groups.
2. Media Centre (16hrs/day, market location, 2 computers): offer dynamic information services to the UP and citizens on demand.

Volunteers contribute to provide the following information services:

- Uploading UP data on the Birth Registration Information Software.
- Managing of the UP email address on behalf of the UP.
- Providing pictures to farmers for opening their Bank Accounts.
- Providing official photography services for major local events.
- Providing relevant data for UP coordination meetings.
- Accessing and publicizing the fertilizer distribution schedule.
- Publishing the VGD and VGF lists for citizens within the UP.
- Assisting citizens to access information (i.e. student exam. results university application forms).
- Computer training & internet access based on the ability to pay.
- Use of CD learning tools (i.e. education & income generation)

The unique feature of this information centre is the reliance on volunteerism with all services provided by members "not deputed but devoted".



Shatodal information & media centres



### INDICATORS:

- All citizens (irrespective of age, gender, caste) have improved access to information as a basic right.
- UP is receiving information services that enable it to improve local governance.
- Access to information services is increasing the accountability between the UP and their citizens.

### STRENGTHS:

- Youth volunteers provide a range of services to increase access to information.
- The bond of trust built between the information centre and the citizens and the up.

### CHALLENGES:

- To build the trust necessary to collect and enable access to the right information.
- To advocate that "access to information is not political but a right of everyone".

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Shirajul Islam, Chairman Arobpur Union Parishad, Jessore Sadar, Jessore, arobpurup@gmail.com, mob: 01712073799.

**Operator:** Arifuzzaman, UISC Volunteer, Arobpur Union, Jessore Sadar, Jessore, arifuzzamans@yahoo.com, mob: 01740514153.



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# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## CHILD-TO-CHILD HYGIENE BEHAVIOR CHANGE

**CONTEXT:** Good hygiene lies at the very heart of total sanitation. Good hygiene is embedded in systems of culture and belief and therefore it is difficult to instill sustained behavior change. In an attempt to instigate change at the very lowest level, Plan Bangladesh is supporting school sanitation and household hygiene education through a Child-to-Child (C2C) approach in 83 schools of Sreepur upazila.

**DESCRIPTION:** The goals, strategy and process of implementation were determined with the upazila sanitation taskforce, and shared with the union & ward sanitation taskforces to select one primary school.

Two teachers (one male and one female) selected by the School Management Committee (SMC), Community Based Organization (CBO) and teachers are trained as resource teachers.

Four students from each class (two girls and two boys) nominated by the students are organized into a School Action Team (SAT). They receive training on the six steps in the C2C approach.

1. **Analysis:** of the situation to identify the challenges.
2. **Collect:** more information on selected issues.
3. **Share:** information collected and plan of action developed.
4. **Implementation:** of the developed plan of action.
5. **Evaluation:** of the achievements against the plan of action.
6. **Re-plan:** to achieve total coverage to address the issues.

Children are motivated to mobilize the community through theater performance, slogans, rallies and songs. Progress is monitored by the SAT and shared with students, teachers, SMC, CBOs, WTF and UPTF.



Clean latrine awareness  
at Bapta, Kawraid



Hand washing skit at Nij  
Khujakhani school

### INDICATORS:

- School campus, class-rooms and school toilets are clean.
- Children and community people are aware of the hygiene messages and practice good hygiene accordingly.
- School toilets are used by all students and teachers during school time.
- Household toilets are used by all members and toilets are clean.

### STRENGTHS:

- Children are excellent motivators for change in other children and adults.
- The changed behavior of children instills this change for the next generation.

### CHALLENGES:

- To sustain the motivation of the children's leadership of the SAT.
- The frequent transfer of resource teachers undermines program sustainability.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Nur Mohammad Fakir, Chairman, Gosinga Union, Sreepur, Gazipur; mob: 01712126460.

**Upazila:** Debashis Nag, UNO, Sreepur, Gazipur, phone: 06825- 51002, mob: 01915875874.

**Support:** Md. Abdul Quddus, Plan Bangladesh, [abdul.quddus@plan-international.org](mailto:abdul.quddus@plan-international.org); mob: 01712538430.

Prashanto Sharma Roy, Plan Bangladesh, [prashanto.roy@plan-international.org](mailto:prashanto.roy@plan-international.org); mob: 01712241397.



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# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## LOW COST RAIN WATER HARVESTING

**CONTEXT:** After Cyclone Aila all water sources were contaminated with saline water. Water tankers and boats were unable to reach remote locations with emergency supplies. When WaterAid saw that a large number of poor people were gathering drinking water in plastic shopping bags or using thin plastic sheeting spread over any temporary structure, it decided to support this approach.

**DESCRIPTION:** The cost of conventional rainwater harvesting is generally high (>Tk. 12,000) and is dependent on access to both land and galvanized roofing materials, which often excludes the poor.

The low-cost rainwater harvesting system comprises one large poly-fabric sheet (15'-00" x 12'-00") with loops/eyepoints and four or six 200-liter motka (clay jars) often used for grain storage. This costs approximately Tk. 1,850 (poly-fabric sheet: Tk. 1,050; four clay pots with covers: Tk. 4 x 200 = 800).

Households can place this poly-fabric sheet over any structure (that is, thatched roofs, courtyards). The corners of the sheet are turned over to create a gutter that funnels the rainwater into the clay storage jars. Households are educated about the importance of placing pots in safe places, using clean dipping tools, cleaning the pots regularly, replacing the pot covers, and using cloth filters to strain the rainwater. They are also told to remove the plastic sheet during the dry season.



The system in use in Munda para, Shyamnagar upazila, Satkhira district



### INDICATORS:

- Distribution is only to hard-core poor in remote areas with no other safe source of water
- This low cost rain water harvesting system is replicated by richer households at their own cost

### STRENGTHS:

- Low-cost and portable system.
- Easily fixed on rooftops or courtyards (and can protect the poor from leaking roofs).
- User friendly and made from locally available materials.
- Water is cool, covered; O&M costs are low.

### CHALLENGES:

- Hard to transport clay jars to remote places.
- Total storage of pots is only 800 litres (that is, water should be used only for drinking).
- Storage capacity will not last all year round.
- Storage pots need to be cleaned at one-month intervals to limit the growth of algae.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** S M Jaglul Hyder, Chairman, Shymnagar Sadar Union Parishad, Shyamnagar, Satkhira, **mob:** 01712009804.  
Kanchan Kumar Dev, Secretary, Shyamnagar Sadar Union Parishad, Satkhira, **mob:** 01712212554.  
**Upazila:** Sabbir Ahmed, Shyamnagar UNO, Satkhira, sabbir.ahmed52@yahoo.com, **mob:** 01712240919.  
**Support:** Md. Saifur Rahman, Shushilan, Shyamnagar, Satkhira, **mob:** 01712238194.  
Rashed Hyder, WaterAid, rashed@wateraidbd.org, **mob:** 01730095584.



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# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## ARSENIC MITIGATION OPTIONS

**CONTEXT:** The LGD-JICA project "Sustainable Arsenic Mitigation under Integrated Local Government System in Jessore" equipped UPs to undertake arsenic screening and develop various mitigation options.

**DESCRIPTION:** UPs conduct pay-for-use arsenic tests with field kits (50 Tk. per test). If the source is safe (unsafe) the owner receives a green (red) receipt and their water source is painted green (red).

1. **Well switching:** to nearby safe sources is the cheapest and most common mitigation option (when all sources are screened).

**Contact:** Md. Abdur Rashid, Singhajhuli UP, mob: 01911460641

2. **Deep tube well (DTW):** is suitable if 20' clay (30' silt) layer divides the shallow aquifer (unsafe) from a safe deep aquifer. To prevent vertical flow the casing is sealed with cement between the layers.

**Contact:** Md. Shofiqur Rahman, Mohishakura UP, mob: 01718611580

3. **Pond Sand Filter (PSF):** requires a min. 3' clay layer under the pond. Gravel (up flow), sand (down flow) chambers are installed and chlorine added to the clear water. Suitable for 60-80 H/Hs.

**Contact:** Md. Abdur Rahman, Phulshara UP, mob: 01731476550.

4. **Dug Well Sand Filter (DWSF):** is suitable where >3' sand layer is located between clay layers > 3' deep. Requires an observation well to check water quality & level. Suitable for 20H/Hs.

**Contact:** MS Nasima Akhter, Phulshara UP, mob: 01734140138

5. **Arsenic Iron Removal Plant (AIRP):** removes arsenic (<50 ppb) with iron. Filter consists of a sedimentation tank with aeration tray & channel, gravel & sand filter chambers. Suitable for 60 H/Hs.

**Contact:** Md. Hashem Ali, Shinghajhulu UP, mob: 01912521374

6. **Piped water supply (PWS):** Surface water is pumped into a tank, filtered through gravel/sand units, chlorine added and clean water pumped into an overhead tank. Supply by pipe reaches 400 H/Hs.

**Contact:** Md. Amjad Hossain, Dhuliani UP, mob: 01736292326.



Well switching & Deep Tube Well (DTW)



Pond Sand Filter (PSF)



Dug Well Sand Filter/Arsenic Iron Removal Plant



Piped Water Supply (PWS)

### INDICATORS:

- Water consumed by people is tested and is always safe from arsenic and bacterial contamination.
- Monthly fee is collected from users for operation and maintenance of safe water sources.

### STRENGTHS:

- Multiple options enable the appropriate choice for the appropriate context/price.

### CHALLENGES:

- Some of the mitigation options are beyond the capacity of local stakeholders.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Abdus Salam, Chairman Chowgacha Union Parishad, Chowgacha, Jessore, mob: 01712266803.

**Upazila:** Md. Shakhawat Hossain, UNO Chowgacha, Jessore, unochowgachha@moestab.gov.bd, mob: 01715181913.

**Support:** Md. Rezaul Karim Razu, Coordinator, JICA, Jessore, mob: 01711402009, tel: 0421-68427 (off).



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# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY VILLAGE

**CONTEXT:** After the successful achievement of 100% sanitation, the people of Baladangi village in Khansama sought to make their village environment-friendly respecting everyone's rights to education, hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, livelihood, cultural heritage and social harmony.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Environment-friendly village concept brings together many local actions to transform the lived environment.

**Drainage System:** All citizens working together to construct drainage systems using bamboo, plastic sheeting, ropes, PVC and concrete.

**Composting:** of all biodegradable waste is producing organic fertilizer to reduce synthetic fertilizer dependence and a clean environment.

**Sanitation:** The elimination of open defecation, disposing of child's faeces to sanitary latrine and washing of hands with soap or ash is resulting in reduced diarrhea.

**Water Management:** Households construct tube well platforms and drain waste water to home gardens or ponds (cultivating Thai Magur fish).

**Environment:** All roads are repaired, roadside tree plantation with ponds cleaned and renovated.

**Social:** Village declared as free of child labour, early marriage, women abuse, polygamy and divorce. All children in the village attend school.

**Nutrition:** Improve mother & child health via cooking demonstration to prepare low cost but nutritious food, kitchen gardens & mushroom cultivation.



Low cost Drain and compost production



### INDICATORS:

- 100% of households and schools are using sanitary latrines.
- 100% of households compost biodegradable waste and sanitary disposal of wastewater.
- 100% of households have a kitchen garden.
- 100% children are enrolled in school and home based learning centers.
- 95% of tube wells are protected by a sanitary platform.
- Everyone has a birth registration card and access to a clean 'lived environment'.

### STRENGTHS:

- Many low cost replicable practices combined to transform the lived village environment.
- Good integration with different programs.
- Interpersonal relation among the villagers improved.

### CHALLENGES:

- Sustaining the practices of the community.
- Linking this local village-led initiative with the mainstream development agenda.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Abdul Hamid Mondal, Chairman, Bherbheri Union Parishad, Khansama, Dinajpur, **mob:** 01722251938.

**Upazila:** ATM Ziaul Islam, Khansama UNO, Khansama, Dinajpur, [ziaatm15307@gmail.com](mailto:ziaatm15307@gmail.com), **mob:** 01720563929.

**Support:** Md. Abdul Mannan, Plan Bangladesh, [abdul.mannan@plan-international.org](mailto:abdul.mannan@plan-international.org), **mob:** 01718541757.







# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## SANITATION TASKFORCE ACTIVATION

**CONTEXT:** To achieve 100% latrine coverage the Union Parishads and Upazila administration have taken the lead role. This commenced with reforming and activating the Sanitation Task Forces at the Upazila level (1), the Union level (9) and the Ward level (81). Para Action Teams (702) were subsequently established comprising of government officials, teachers, religious leader, representatives of NGOs, local elite, UP members etc.

**DESCRIPTION:** According to the 2003 GoB circular, sanitation task forces were established in the Upazila (UZTF), Union (UPTF) and Ward (WTF) to achieve 100% sanitation by 2010. This started with:

**Advocacy Meetings:** at Upazila level in presence of all government officials, all UP chairman, local elites and journalists.

**Exposure visits & training:** for unions to understand the potential and then build their capacity to implement total sanitation.

**UP planning workshops:** with elected representatives, religious leaders, rural engineers, latrine producers, teacher, children etc

**Para Action Teams (PAT):** established in each cluster within each ward to mobilize people and resources.

1. Para progress was submitted by the PAT to the WTF.
2. Ward progress was submitted by the WTF to the UPTF.
3. Union progress was submitted by the UPTF to the UZTF.
4. Upazila progress was submitted by the UZTF to the District.



Planning Meeting of Union Taskforces



### INDICATORS:

- Regulation book of the different taskforce committees.
- Documents related to plans and reports on progress.
- Documentation of resolutions with different taskforce members.

### STRENGTHS:

- Initiative guided by the Government of Bangladesh sanitation circular 2003.
- Government commitment and sanitation movement amongst the people.

### CHALLENGES:

- Co-opting people into the taskforces and mobilizing all taskforces members at a time.
- Maintaining the regulator meetings with the different sanitation taskforces.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Abul Hasem, Chairman, Gazipur Union Parishad, Sreepur, Gazipur, mob: 01718961455.

**Upazila:** Debashis Nag, UNO, Sreepur, Gazipur, phone: 06825-51002, mob: 0915875874.

**Support:** Md. Abdul Quddus, Plan Bangladesh, abdul.quddus@plan-international.org; mob: 01712538430.

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# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## UNION PARISHAD LED ARSENIC SCREENING

**CONTEXT:** After visiting the GoB-JICA arsenic mitigation project in Chowgacha upazila, the Ranihati UP in Chapai Nawabganj Sadar upazila mobilized support for an arsenic mitigation approach based on 100% screening, mixed water usage, and the switching to alternate safe water sources—at almost no cost. The upazila parishad has supported a similar approach in all 14 UPs in Chapai Nawabganj Sadar.

**DESCRIPTION:** A vibrant partnership amongst many actors includes:

**Union Parishad:** Mobilizes all stakeholders (public and private, community and households) verifies the quality and the inclusiveness of the process.

**Households:** Pay Tk. 10 for arsenic tests & receive free mechanic if they protect register handpumps for Tk. 20 annually.

**UNICEF/DPHE Mobilizers:** Test and mark wells (enter test data/date) and conduct hygiene training.

**Local Mechanics:** Provide free maintenance to registered sources; use salvaged parts for handpumps owned by poor households. UP provides remuneration to the mechanic from the fund, generated by the handpump registration.

**UP/Ward Arsenic Committee:** Conduct spot checks on water sources, passbooks (for arsenic testing & registration of handpump), mechanic services, and UP registration records.

**DPHE Engineers:** Provide technical support and regulate the quality of the testing and marking process.

**HYSAWA Project:** Design/ funding of arsenic test kits and reagents.

**District Hospital:** Access to provide care for arsenicosis patients.

**UNO:** Coordinates the arsenic program at the upazila level.

**DASCOH:** Offers technical, advocacy, patient management & financial support.

**Cost Sharing:** 15% upazila, 15% source owner, 10% UP (14 UPs), and 60 % HYSAWA Project.



Arsenicosis patient



Field testing for arsenic

### INDICATORS:

- 100% of drinking water sources (hand pumps) are screened and marked for arsenic.
- 100% of 'green' drinking water sources have a sanitary platform for well protection.
- 100% of drinking water sources are satisfactorily operated and maintained.
- 100% of all drinking water sources (hand pumps) are registered.

### STRENGTHS:

- Strong partnership of all partners by the UP.
- Reaches beyond arsenic to start addressing bacterial, O&M, and source sustainability.
- Can potentially offer local level consultancy services to other UPs and projects.

### CHALLENGES:

- Salary payment of the mechanic may result in weak accountability to household
- May be difficult to replicate in areas with partners.
- Need higher level verification processes to validate the arsenic field test kit results.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Abdul Latif, Ranihati Union Parishad Chairman, Chapai Nawabganj Sadar, Chapai Nawabganj, **mob:** 01713724052.

**Upazila:** Md. Monirul Islam Patwary, UNO Chapai Nawabganj Sadar, Chapai Nawabganj, **mob:** 01711460833.

**Support:** Md. Zahirul Islam, Project Manager, DASCOH, Chapai Nawabganj Sadar, Chapai Nawabganj, **sdsdchapai.dascho@gmail.com, mob:** 01730072807.



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# FACT SHEET HORIZONTAL LEARNING PROGRAM

## 100% SANITATION

**CONTEXT:** A Government of Bangladesh survey (Oct. 03) in Sreepur upazila recorded latrine coverage at 46%; open defecation was common, diarrhea was rampant at different times of the year and the ill-health of productive family members posed a serious risk to the livelihood of the poor. Based on their experience in Vitipara village, Plan Bangladesh (in collaboration with Dhaka Ahsania Mission) sought to achieve 100% latrine coverage in Sreepur Upazilla through the Dishari Project.

**DESCRIPTION:** Triggering is initiated by external agents with the belief that communities have the capacity to address their own problems if paras are ignited to move in that direction via the following:

**Transact walk:** with the community to identify the places where people go for defecation, with a focus on open defecation sites.

**Community mapping:** using local materials to create a local map of the area identifying the major sites where people defecate.

**Excreta calculation:** to estimate the excreta that each individual deposits per week, per month, and per year in the local environment.

**Flow diagram:** to track where the excreta goes and how it enters the food chain so people become aware how much shit they are eating.

**Decision making:** allow the community to choose its own solutions to address the problem, without prescribing latrine options.

At the end of the ignition process community members engage with local entrepreneurs and the Union Parishad to sustain ODF status.



Social mapping



### INDICATORS:

- 100% households with access and using a hygienic latrine.
- Documents related to the ignition process are maintained at the para level.
- Latrine maintenance occurs on a regular basis and people are aware of hygiene behavior.

### STRENGTHS:

- The whole community is mobilized with all citizens (including women & children).
- Enables cause and effect to be visualized.
- Leaves behind well trained para leaders.

### CHALLENGES:

- The durability of low cost latrine options.
- The initial high motivation for change is sometimes difficult to maintain.
- A risk of prescribing latrines as the solution.

### CONTACTS:

**Union Parishad:** Md. Badal Sarker, Bormi Union Parishad Chairman, Sreepur, Gazipur, **mob:** 01713543915.

**Upazila:** Debashis Nag, Sreepur UNO, Gazipur, **phone:** 0682551002, **mob:** 0915875874.

**Support:** Md. Abdul Quddus, Plan Bangladesh, [abdul.quddus@plan-international.org](mailto:abdul.quddus@plan-international.org), **mob:** 01712538430.



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