Livelihoods Security for Small Scale Producers in Bangladesh in line with SSE Principals

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Welcome to Development Wheel and DEW Crafts

An endeavor for -
...Upholding a culture of human rights and good governance
...Livelihoods security for marginalized communities and
...Fighting poverty through promoting Fair Trade.

DEW is established in 1996 with a vision to have a society where all people will enjoy equal rights, equitable access to employment and adequate resources necessary for their livelihoods and will live in dignity.

Approach: Right based and partnership. Creating equal opportunity for women and men (50%+50%) including 10% ethnic minority.
The Board of DEW

- Mr. Lutful Kabir, Chair
- Prof. Syed Shariful Islam Ph.D., Vice Chair
- Mr. Shah Abdus Salam, MSS, Secretary General
- Prof. Ainoon Naher Ph.D., Treasurer
- Prof. Siddiquur Rahman PhD, Member
- Mrs. Bertha Gity Baroi, MBA, Member
- Mrs. Selima Akhtar, MBA, Member
Three Major Program areas of DEW

- **Human Rights and Good Governance**
  - Gender and development
  - Good governance-women rights

- **Sustainable Livelihoods**
  - Small Scale Agriculture
  - Agriculture Rights
  - Agri-business
  - Environment and Climate Change
  - Non-formal Education and Right to Quality Primary Education

- **Promotion of Art and Crafts through Fair Trade**
Some imagers of our activity

Field activities of DEW: Group meeting, field visit, massive plantation, farmers conference and agri fair, compost preparation, staff capacity building etc.
Agriculture is the prime means of livelihoods of the people of greater Mymensingh districts (north east BD). About 87% of the farmers are small and marginal in this areas. The livelihoods and economic status of the targeted population (landless marginalized and smallholders) are so vulnerable that they cannot afford the costly external/market input to introduce capital intensive modern agriculture. They are also deprived to get fair return of their products. But gradually productivity of their soil is in declining trend and profit margin is narrowing down for their further marginalization with environmental problems.
Livelihoods security for marginalised community

Challenges in the small scale agriculture in Bangladesh

Over the period DEW has been experienced on small scale agriculture in Bangladesh through implementing a significant numbers of livelihoods project and we have identified following challenges:

- Limited skills and access to services, resources, information, technology and markets.
- Farmers are not united and they don’t have platform to raise their voice.
- Lack of interest amongst private sector actors in supply and demand side small-scale agriculture.
- Poor bargaining and negotiating capacity amongst farmers.
- Need for climate adaptive and environment friendly agricultural practices.
- Lack of preparedness to mitigate against shocks or stresses (financial, environmental, etc).
- Depletion in ground water levels resulting in high costs of irrigation.
- Declining soil fertility through excessive use of chemical fertilisers and pesticide.
- Poor policy implementation and lack of awareness amongst farmers of the benefits available.
- Farmers are very busy with their work and difficult to get their time.
- Duty bearers are busy with their time, expecting incentive from event and maintaining top down process.
DEW has been implemented Sustainable livelihoods for poor producers in Mymensingh and Netrokona-Bangladesh SLIPP, “Alleviating Poverty in North East Bangladesh”, “Alternative Livelihood Options-ALO”, “Sustainable Supply chain of Kenaf in Bangladesh” “Women Farmers Campaign” “CSRL”, Asia Farmer to Farmer project etc. Projects with the support of UK Aid, European Union, Big Lottery Fund, GIZ-BMW, USAID-Winrock International, Oxfam etc. from 2006-2016 in the greater Mymensingh districts.

We have directly working with around 25,000 small farmers (25,000x5=125,000) in Mymensingh, Netrokona, Sherpur, Tangail and Jamalpur districts.

- We have farmer groups, Upzila Farmers Association, District Farmers Association and Regional Farmers Association
- We have established linkage with public and private SPO’s with the groups and associations
- Groups have around 50 million taka savings of the self-help groups including our match funding
- Establish market linkage with farmers to Paikars and arotdar
- Established collective buying and selling practice to save cost and time
- 17 small farmers from our group elected as a UP members including 7 female members
- Develop leadership quality from female farmers
- We have provided assets to the associations for their sustainability
- All the groups and associations are active and sustainable now as a self help group
Meeting with tribal group members
The Development Wheel (DEW) illustrated in the diagram highlights the engagement of various stakeholders in a process aimed at improving livelihoods security for marginalized communities. This process involves the following key components:

1. **Methodology/Approach**
   - **Yields Increase**
   - **Costs Decrease**

2. **Stakeholder Engagement**
   - **Farmers Groups**
   - **Regional Associations**
   - **District Associations**
   - **Savings Groups**
   - **Gov. Agri. Officers**
   - **Input Suppliers**

3. **Knowledge/Expertise Sharing**
   - Sharing knowledge/expertise is crucial for increasing yields and decreasing costs, thereby enabling advocacy to influence government policy.

4. **Advocacy for Policy Influence**
   - The process emphasizes advocacy to influence government policy, ensuring that the benefits of increased yields and decreased costs are realized.

5. **Livelihoods Security**
   - The ultimate goal is to secure livelihoods for the marginalized community, ensuring sustainable and equitable development.
Livelihoods security for marginalised community
Key stakeholders

Farmers and Youth Group

Association and institutions

PNGOs

Donor/Partner

Civil Society

GoB

Business service providers

...Livelihoods security for marginalised community
Goal of the Program:
Contribute to the empowerment of poor, landless and marginalised farmers in alignment with government investment plans and SDGs so that they can claim and enjoy their entitlements and rights.

Objective:
Development of strong Farmer Organizations (FOs) that are motivated and capable to work independently and can represent farmer’s issues and interest at local or national level.

Perspective:
Rights-based and RBA approach

Outcome of the project:
- Increased institutional capacity of FOs to function efficiently
- Increased knowledge of FOs about available resource, opportunities from government facilities and climate resilient sustainable agriculture.
- Increased socio, economic and psychological empowerment of Women Farmers
- Enhanced capacity of marginalized community for facilitating social movement through advocacy platform at grassroots level to national level
- Enhanced capacity of partners on RBA approach
Our activities in the field

Happy farmers: Agri fair, women entrepreneurship, field demonstration, partners meeting

...Livelihoods security for marginalised community
...Livelihoods security for marginalised community
Best practice of FRP

- Compost and Farm Yard Manure (FYM) preparation
- Soil health testing and using LCC
- Organic farming practices and replications
- Organic fertilizer and pesticide preparation
- Inter cropping, mulching, relay cropping and pollination for sustainable agriculture
- Adaptive variety cultivation for addressing climate change
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practicing
- Collective buying and selling
- Group savings
- Good rapport with public service providers
- ICT knowledge for small farmers to get access to information

...Livelihoods security for marginalised community
Digital Literacy for Small Farmers

Objectives:

Development Objective
The intended project seeks to transform Small Farmer (Including 50% women) through Digital Literacy Training for harnessing potential of ICT in Agricultural development of Bangladesh. The initiative will substantially contribute in integrating Small Farmers with a Digitally-empowered Knowledge Economy.

Immediate Objectives:
1. To focus on leveraging ICT for benefit of Small Famers through real-life applications for improving farm productivity and enhancing profitability;
2. To empower Small Farmers to avail e-services extended by Govt. and others agencies and create a significant positive impact to our agrarian economy as a whole.
Digital literacy for small farmers

ICT training in-house and in the field
Women Empowerment Programme

Name of the Programme:
Community Mobilization Programme to End Violence Against Women

Objectives:
Promoting local alliance/network/platform to combat domestic violence against women and achieving greater understanding and consensus towards curbing violence in the greater Mymensingh districts.
Participants of the Change Makers Assembly in Mymensingh

...Promoting culture of Human right and Good Governance
Promoting culture of Human right and Good Governance

...Upholding a culture of human rights and good governance

Our Strength:

- 20000 Change Maker with electronic Database
- Well organized district Alliance
- Strong and established grass - root Network
- Experienced on Human rights and Good Governance along with Skilled Staff team
- Experienced on many lessons and learning
- Good reputation of DEW amongst Community
- Strong Relationship with local Stakeholder, institutions and Civil Society
- Organizational profile and
- Leading We Can in Mymensingh division as a lead organization
Welcome to DEW Crafts
Background of DEW Crafts:

DEW Crafts is a sister concern Social Enterprise of Development Wheel aiming to promote art and craft sector of Bangladesh and sustainable livelihoods for poor and marginal producer groups of DEW Crafts. As the DEW consider that only agricultural products can not reduce poverty permanently so we need to lead the way for enterprise for market access to resources, skill, knowledge and network in market for contributing to growth of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) effectively.
Non-profit Development Wheel (DEW) since 1996

For Profit

Strategic Business Unit - SBU

Social Enterprise
DEW Crafts since 2016
DEW Contribution to the sector of Art and Crafts in Bangladesh and Asia Region

- DEW Crafts is a Certified GUARANTEED Fair Trade organization by the World Fair Trade Organization-WFTO since 2016
- Network/ Affiliations Membership:
  1. World Fair trade Organization-WFTO, WFTO in Asia (Ex-Board secretary and Director),
  2. Ecota Fair Trade Forum (Vice chair and ex-chair),
  3. Banglacraft (National network of crafts producing organizations)
  4. Aid to Artisan (USA), Ethical Fashion Forum and NEST GLIDE-USA ect.
The strategy

What to do?

- Establish a Center for Design, Development & Production of Quality Local Crafts using Semi-mechanised Technologies, Machinery & Equipments
- Establish A Digital Craft Design Center using Computerized Technology for Craft Design & Prototype Development
- Establish an e-Commerce / Online Sales Platform for Bangladesh Crafts (like https://www.novica.com/)
- Establish a Network of Small Artisans Group and assist them in Market Development
- Regularly Organise Capacity Development Programs for Small Artisans, Producer Groups
- Assist in Participation in International Craft Fairs (specially Ambient and World Fair trade Organization-WFTO)
- Establish an Sales Outlet within the Craft Center

For whom?

12 low income producer groups of DEW Crafts

How?

Facilitate sustainable market access opportunity for local and international market
DEW Crafts Covers Producer groups in Bangladesh

Gazipur, Jessore, Manikganj, Tangail, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Mymensingh, Bogura and we have plan to start working with groups in other places of the country.

The artisan posses indigenous knowledge and skills, no use of intermediate technology, less concern on international quality, no market access

Number of beneficiaries: 412 producer group members/entrepreneur in handicrafts sector and 24000 in agriculture sector including self help groups, upazila, zila and regional producer association.
Intermediate partner groups (Those who participate in and benefit from the Action Programme in order to better help the intended beneficiaries)

- DEW Producer groups
- World Fair Trade Organization-WFTO
- WFTO Asia
- Nest Artisan Glide
- National Fair Trade network- Ecota Fair Trade Forum
- Banglacrafts (National body of Crafts producing org.)
- Supply chain actors
- Leave No One Behind-LNB 2030 Goals
Few images of DEW Crafts
SDG Goals which we are directly contributing to 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10 and 13.
Questions?
Thank You