

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

**Presentation to:
Asian Social Solidarity Academy-ASSE
SSE Academy
June 19, 020**

**Presented by:
Shah Abdus Salam
Executive Director
Development Wheel and DEW Crafts
www.dewbd.org**

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 establish 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. Siddiqur 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.

Context

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.

...Livelihoods security for marginalised community

- 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 ect. Projects with the support of UK Aid, European Union, Big Lottery Fund, GIZ-BMW, USAID-Winrock International, Oxfam ect. 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



..Livelihoods security for marginalised community



Meeting with tribal group members

..Livelihoods security for marginalised community

Methodology/Approach

Regional Associations

Advocacy to influence govt. policy

District Associations

Sharing knowledge/expertise

Gov. Agri. Officers

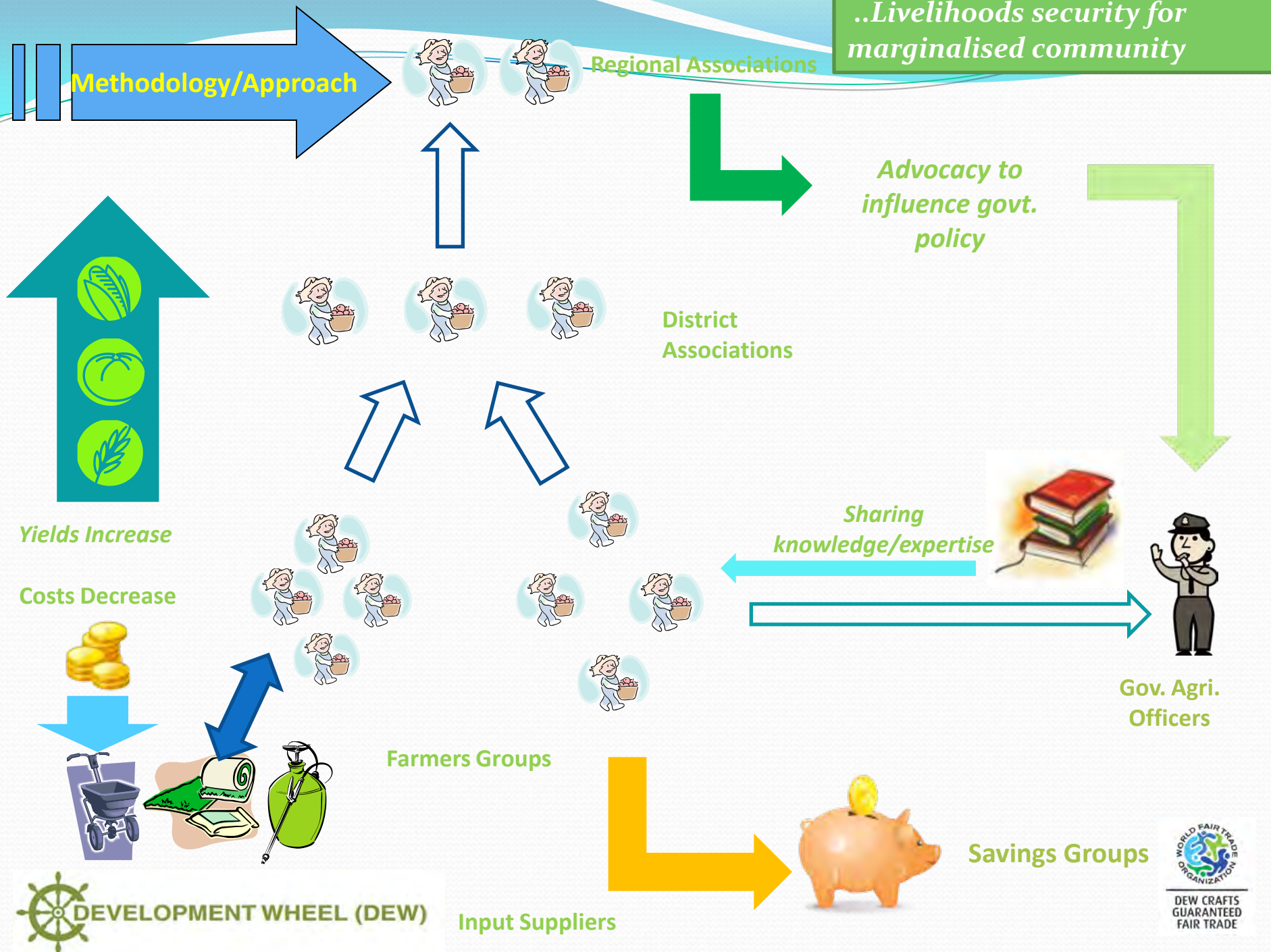
Farmers Groups

Savings Groups

Input Suppliers



DEVELOPMENT WHEEL (DEW)

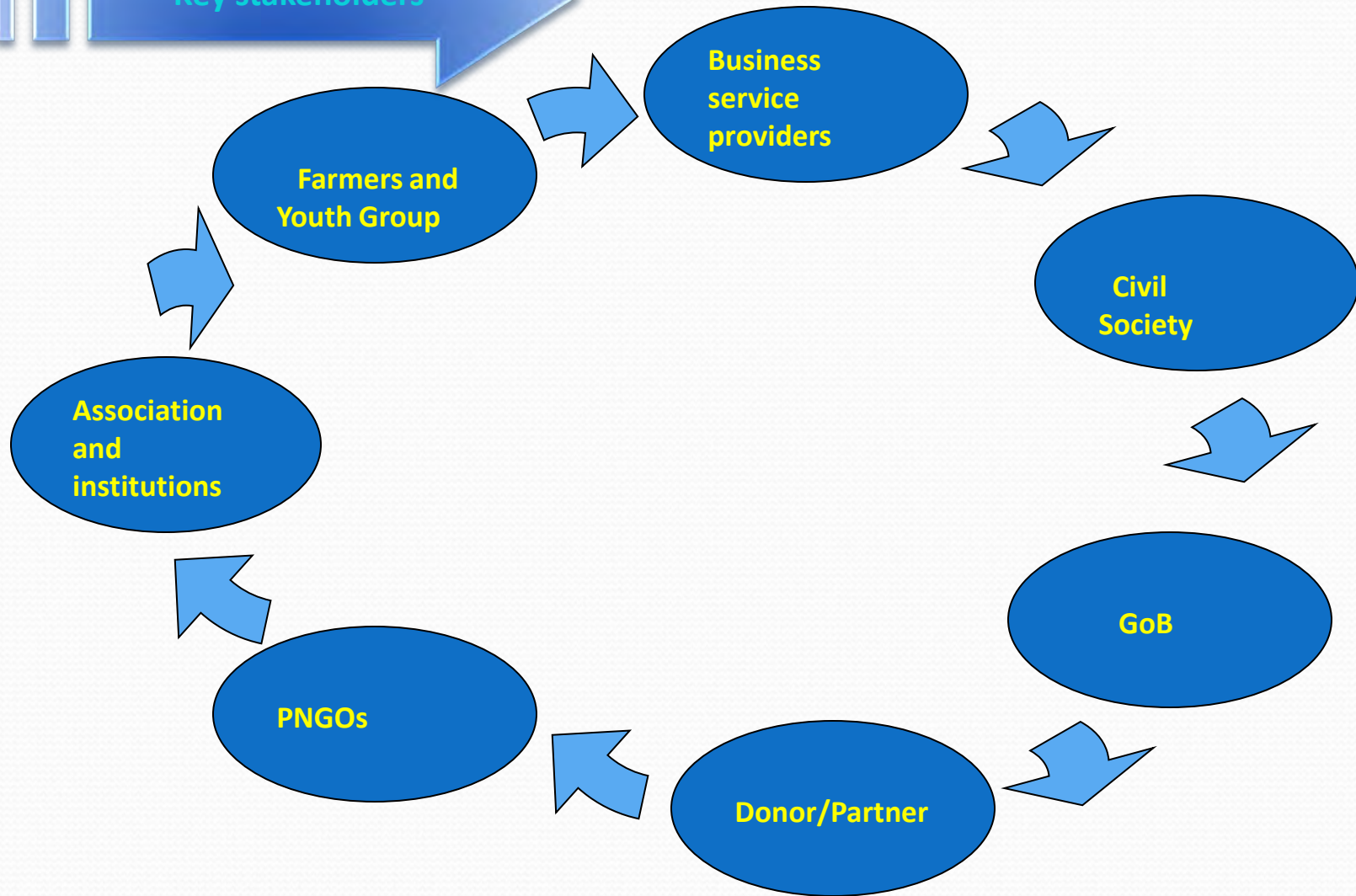


...Livelihoods security for marginalised community



...Livelihoods security for marginalised community

Key stakeholders



Farmers Rights Program-FRP

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**

...Livelihoods security for marginalised community

Our activities in the field



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

...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

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 Farmers 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 greeter Mymensingh districts.



Participants of the Change Makers Assembly in Mymensingh

...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



DEW Crafts



**DEW CRAFTS
GUARANTEED
FAIR TRADE**

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.



---Milestone

**Non-profit Development Wheel (DEW)
since 1996**



**Strategic
Business Unit-
SBU**



For Profit



**Social Enterprise
DEW Crafts since
2016**



DEW Crafts



**DEW CRAFTS
GUARANTEED
FAIR TRADE**

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:
 - i. World Fair trade Organization-WFTO, WFTO in Asia (Ex-Board secretary and Director),
 - ii. Ecota Fair Trade Forum (Vice chair and ex-chair),
 - iii. Banglacraft (National network of crafts producing organizations)
 - iv. Aid to Artisan (USA), Ethical Fashion Forum and NEST GLIDE-USA ect.



DEW Crafts



DEW CRAFTS
GUARANTEED
FAIR TRADE

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

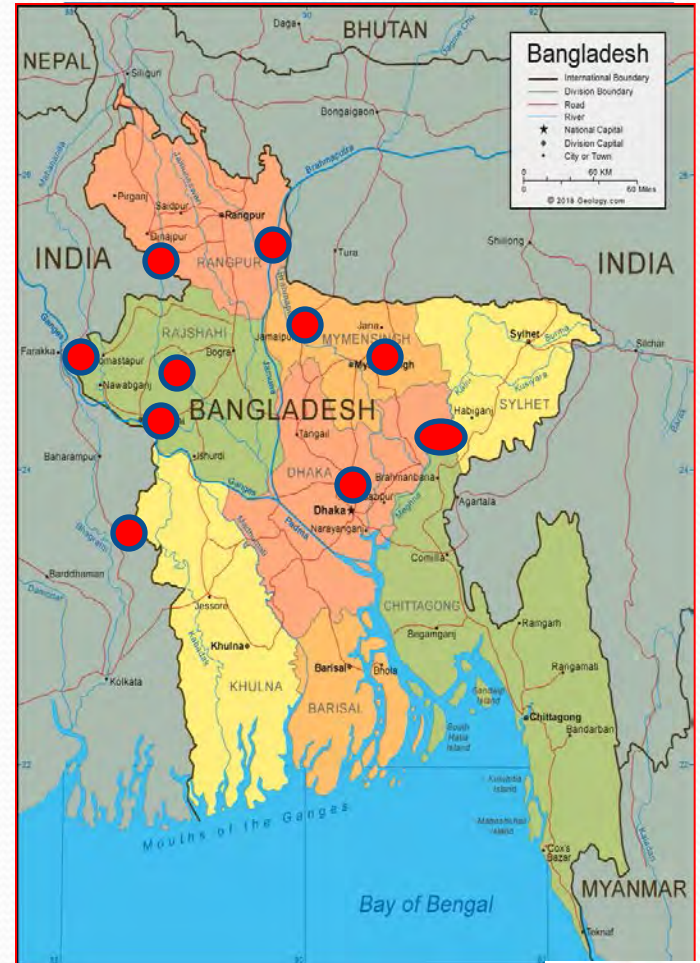


DEW Crafts Covers Producer groups in Bangladesh

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 possesses 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.



---Wider community benefits

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



DEW Crafts



**DEW CRAFTS
GUARANTEED
FAIR TRADE**

Few images of DEW Crafts contd...



SDG Goals which we are directly contributing to 1,2,3,4,5,7,8, 10 and13

THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development



#GLOBALGOALS

Questions?



DEW Crafts



DEVELOPMENT WHEEL (DEW)



**DEW CRAFTS
GUARANTEED
FAIR TRADE**

Thank You