



ANNUAL REPORT

(JANUARY 2019 - DECEMBER 2019)

Community-led Replicable Model of WASH and food security toward stunting-free children's health & life.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SPACE has implemented *Ecological & Local Solution for Stunting Prevention among Poor Children by Empowering Mothers in hard to Reach High Barind Tracts of Bangladesh* project funded by AsharGan, Onlus, Italy to strengthen mother's capacities to manage their children healthy ensuring easy access to nutritious foods and safe water at their reach.

crisis. This report presents yearly progress information of activities performed during the period of January to December 2019. The project is ongoing of implementation at 3 villages (Amarak, Gokul, Nadaikrishpur) of Chapai Nawabgonj Sadar Upazila in Chapai Nawabgonj district for January 2018 to December 2020. During the mentioned period, SPACE has implemented the activities followed by the agreed work plan. The major performed activities of this year are Awareness Rising: Installation of WASH Facilities, Farming Plot Self-Demonstration Involvement: Children to Adult dissemination –CAD, Schools WASH Sessions, Court Yard meeting, Community Meeting & Training, Eco –Toilet Setting up, Eco-Fertilizer Selling Upgrading.

The project aimed at reducing child mortality and morbidity rate among poor people of Chapai Nawabgonj Sadar sub-district.

The activities were divided into two phases:

- i) Awareness phase;
- ii) Installation phase.

The implemented activities are briefly narrated in the following:

- *Awareness Activities:* The awareness activities included sensitization meeting and community ignition, courtyard sessions, popular theatres, child to adult disseminations, development of IEC/ BCC Materials etc. The project successfully organized and conducted 100% activities during the project period. In consequence of the implemented activities, over 80% target people can share 3-5 WASH messages and practice 2-3 hygiene disciplines although the issues are related to behavioral changes. The awareness activities included over 85% of the target people except the children of <5 age.
- *Hygiene Education at community:* Hygiene education is considered as one of the important means of behavioral change of the community people. 4748 households have been covered by hygiene sessions during the project period. Results of hygiene education, although contributed much in enhancing knowledge levels of people and practice levels are also satisfactory. Field findings reveal that around 62% households practice improved hygiene in the areas personal, households and community levels, especially in hand-washing, water hygiene, food hygiene, waste disposal and cleaning living environment.
- *Installation Phase:* There was a target of installing 15 Eco-Toilets during project period. The project could successfully install 100% of targeted installation, which have contributed in increasing access safe water provision among 55 children, men and women from 15 poor households.

Major Activities: Baseline & end line survey, formation of CBOs & mother's club, Training, awareness & hygiene promotion, Installation of Eco-toilets, Small farming and Homestead gardening, Develop market chain, Rainwater harvesting, Waste management and recycling, Installation of Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS), Micro-nutrient distribution, de-worming, ANC, Referral and PNC services, Child Birth Registration, Monitoring & reporting etc.

Expected outputs:

- a. Almost 100% people in the project villages can clearly share 5-7 messages on effects of fecal diseases, malnutrition, sustainable sanitation through Eco-toilets, recycling and reuses of wastes in productive areas;
- b. 100% children in the project villages are registered and brought under growth monitoring by frequent weight measurement;
- c. 150 UDD (Urine Diversion Dry) Toilets constructed at 150 extremely poor households by cost-sharing strategies,
- d. 440 waste recycling units, 440 Improved Cooking Stoves (ICS), 440 Homestead Gardens and 44 small organic farming through full cost paid by the target people are installed at 100% households;
- e. 100% households in project villages catch using utensils what they have and use rainwater for drinking, cooking and domestic purposes during rainy seasons;
- f. 10% households (44) in project villages demonstrate Ecological farming without using chemical fertilizers and synthetic pesticides by their own costs;
- g. 100% households use human urines as organic fertilizers to their mango & fruit trees, and marketing those. No synthetic pesticides and chemical fertilizers would be used there;
- h. A favorable market-chain for EcoSan products (Fertilizers generated from human urine and feces, wastes and vegetables & fruits) has been developed in the project areas;

ABBREVIATION

CAD	Children to Adult Dissemination
DC	Deputy Commissioner
GD	Group Discussion
KII	Key-Informant Interview
LGI	Local Government Institution
NGOAB	NGO Affairs Bureau
SMC	School Management Committee
SPACE	Society for People's Action in Change and Equity
UNO	Upazila Nirbahi Officer
UP	Union Parishad

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1. Introduction:

SPACE has achieved deliberate activities for the 2nd year (January-December 2019) of the project Ecological & Local Solution for Stunting Prevention among Poor Children by Empowering Mothers in hard to Reach High Barind Tracts of Bangladesh.

, funded by the AsharGan, Onlus, Italy. This project sites are located in three villages (Amarak, Nandaikrishapur and Gokul) of Sadar Upazila of Chapainawabgonj district of Bangladesh.

The projected location of the mission is in Gobratola Union of Chapainawabgonj Sadar Upazila of Chapainawabgonj district. The High Barind Tract (HBT) is different from other parts of the country due to its undulating topography having compact and low fertile soils. The region experienced high temperature with limited soil moisture storage along with low and erratic rainfall. Moreover, no river/water bodies are present within the HBT. In addition, vegetation is scanty compared to other parts of the country. These situations make the area drought prone along with poor crop productivity. Thus, the area's livelihood is often vulnerable to climate change particularly to drought. Drought is a critical issue for the Barind Tract, which generally has lower rainfall. Higher temperatures may subject larger areas to drought because of climate change. Drought has severely affected the climate-sensitive agriculture sector, affecting food production, water resources, and human health particularly in sanitation and hygiene programs. Major investments over the last two decades in the Barind Tract were made to assist adaptation against drought and increase agricultural productivity. But, assets especially on water, sanitation and hygiene were insignificant compared to the other parts of the country.

In these settings, safe water, sanitation and hygiene practices among almost all the people of the area are very hard and challenging. They usually go for unhygienic defecation in the water seal broken unhygienic latrines and open places as they cannot flush and clean the latrines cause uneven crisis of water, particularly during dry seasons starting almost from December to Early June. They also cannot hygienically wash their hands due to unavailability of safe water and improved knowledge.

Project Goal: Empower poor women for actively participating in improved Family health and nutrition to stunting prevention and protection of poor children to achieve defined targets of SDG.

Purpose: 497 children, 840 adolescents, women and 813 men from 440 extremely poor households of 3 villages under Gobratola Union of Sadar Upazila of Chapainawabgonj district have come out from severe health risks causing massive fecal diseases and the effects of malnutrition by December 2020.

Specific objectives:

- a. Enhance knowledge on women empowerment, family health, sustainable agriculture, nutrition, stunting prevention and child protection among the target communities;
- b. Increase access to gender sensitive, comfortable and environmentally friendly affordable and sustainable WASH & organic farming & marketing facilities among targeted poor households;
- c. Strengthen capacities of target people on improved O&M, management, recycling, safe handling and reuse of treated human excreta in farming and economic activities.

2. Activities Performed during the Year 2019 (January-December)

Considering the background of the project and local backgrounds of the project areas, SPACE has been determined to address the project purposes tailed by the project documents and guidance. As a part of this, SPACE has, in the meanwhile implemented the following activities during the reporting period.

a. Eco-san toilet Installation

In the project period total 15 Eco-Toilets were constructed at Nandhaikresnopur covering 15 Family and tptal 71 population among them female is 36, male 32 and 03 Children. The community are very happy to receive the Toilet. They said that these toilets will be another income source, as a result they will be economically benefited. The users always kept the toilets neat and clean same as like their own house keeping.



b. Training:



In the period total 2 Training on O&M for 2 days were held with the 59 participants among them Female was 38 and male was 17 & 4 children.



c. : Sensitization meeting with local leaders:



participated in the meeting

A Sensitization sharing meeting on Ecological Sanitation with the participation of local administration, local leader, civil society was organized in the project period. The UNO was the chief guest and Upazial women Vice Chairman was the Special guest and Union Chairman was the chaired of the meeting. Mainly the meeting was organized by the marginalized community / Ethnic community of the project area. Total 600-650



2.4. Awareness program:



Children to Adult Dissemination (CAD):

During the reporting period total 18 CAD session were facilitated with the selected children of selected village. In the dissemination session total 234 (99 boys and 135 girls) participants were present.

The agenda of the sessions are:

- **No money is used for cleaning the Eco-Toilet:** The cleaning materials like Harpic are not used for cleaning the Toilet. Only one pot water is essential for cleaning the floor of the toilet with one piece of used clothes. Sweeper Need not call for Sweeper / cleaner to empty the pit after full fill with faces. Toilet owner can easily clean the pit
- **Produced green fertilizer:** The green fertilizer is produced by faces, finally the fertilizers were used as alternative of Chemical fertilizer. So, the green fertilizer is more applicable for field and vegetable crops
- **Campaign of Personal Hygiene:** The agenda is more important for each student, regularly maintained the issues such as wash the hand before eating and after the defecation, cut your nail, bathing regularly. Always Wear the clean cloth as a result wealth health and healthy mind

So such thing are learnt from the session and students shared the learnings with their parents and friend as a agent of Change Maker.

2.5 School Session:

During the reporting period there are 12 Unions in this Upazaila. Out of 12 Union one is named



Gobratola. There are three villages named Amarak, Gokul & Nadai. In the project location there 24 School Sessions were facilitated among the students. Total 480 Students were present in the sessions among them 190 boys and 290 girls were attend. The topics were in the sessions are



- Always Keeping your home neat & clean:
- Always ware clean clothes for health wealth:
- Excess water is not required for cleaning the Eco-Toilet.

The selected students of the school were received the session, so for large coverage the trained students had facilitated the topics with their other students or friends. After receiving the session, the students are going to their home and sharing with their parents and others on the said issues that were learned from school. They represented the change maker of performance.

2.6 Community Meeting.:

In the project period 12 Community Meeting were held in during the period in the location of Amarak, Nadai & Gokul villages. Usefulness of Eco-Toilet and preserving the Rain Water as safe drinking water was the main agenda of the meeting. Total 380 participants were in present among them 290 was female and 90 was male.



2.7 Court yard meeting:

During the period total 24 Court yard meeting was organized with the active participation of community female groups In the session total 288 female were present among them 07 adolescent girls were also attend the meeting.



In the meeting 3 main agenda were discussed such as

(1) Faces fertilizer: It is the latest green fertilizer, if the fertilizer is used properly in the field, there will be not need additional chemical fertilizer, as a result the farmers will be more benefited by using the Eco-Fertilizer.

(2) Using ash or dust : These are using after defecation was the another most important topic in the session. If the user use ash after defecation, no odd will be smelled and faces will be decomposed by fertilizer through the ash, Ash is the important materials for decomposing the faces.

(3) Rain Water harvesting: The system for drinking was the very important topic in the meeting. During the dried session drinking water was seen very crises and using other purpose also, so for mitigating the crises of water must be keep rain water in to their home

(4) Safe Environment: I the session the safe environment was discussed with the respected community people for sustainable climate change establishment.

2.8 House to House meeting:

In the period total 24 House to House visits / small meeting were held by the project staffs. Eco-Toilet construction. It's cost sharing and importance were discussed during the house hold visiting.



The topics of the HH visits are discussed as below:

(1) It is the latest green fertilizer, if the fertilizer is used properly in the field, there will be not need additional chemical fertilizer, as a result the farmers will be more benefited by using the Eco-Fertilizer.

(2) These are using after defecation was the another most important topic in the session. If the user use ash after defecation, no odd will be smelled and faces will be decomposed by fertilizer through the ash, Ash is the important materials for decomposing the faces.

(3) The system for drinking was the very important topic in the meeting. During the dried session drinking water was seen very crises and using other purpose also, so for mitigating the crises of water must be keep rain water in to their home

2.9. SMC Meeting:

Under the Project period total 6 School Managing Committee (SMC) meeting was held in the Amarok and Gokul Primary School. The meeting was held in periodically and the teacher & Guardian were committed to supervise the education of respective schools for ensuring the proper schooling education and such practicing to their home. In the meeting had to inform the SMC for the regular teaching and Hygiene practices.



2.10 Tea stall Meeting:

In the period total 14 Tea stall meeting were organized with the 280 participants , the agenda



of the meeting was (1) Faces fertilizer is the latest green fertilizer, if the fertilizer is used properly in the field, there will be not need additional chemical fertilizer, as a result the farmers will be more benefited by using the Eco-Fertilizer. (2) Using ash or dust after defecation was the another most important topic in the session. If the user use ash after defecation, no odd

will be smelled and faces will be decomposed by fertilizer through the ash, Ash is the important materials for decomposing the faces. (3) Rain Water harvesting for drinking was the very



important topic in the meeting. During the dried session drinking water was seen very crises and using other purpose also, so for mitigating the crises of water must be keep rain water in to their home.

2.11 Eco-Toilet Visit:

A sharing workshop with local administration and local government representative UNO , AO,SAO & UP Chairman/Member was present the meeting in the community of ethic / tribes community with the

active participation. In the meeting the Upazial Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Chapai Sadar sub-district was the chief guest in the meeting and also Upazila women vice chairman was also present the meeting. Total 400 participant was active participated and finally visited

ECO-san toilet and advised farmers to use faces vegetable garden and other crops.



2.12 Rain Water Harvesting options:



In the period the technic of water harvesting options from roof or top of the roof were facilitated with total 150 family in the target location. The agenda of the meeting the system is always Iron and Arsenic free. Easily the community could be used with the rain water to another purpose.



2.13 Highlights of events (Major Focusing/findings):



- Using 100% UDD Toilet at HH level
- Green Fertilizer are sold and using properly.
- Without chemical fertilizer the community people are using green fertilizer and urine in the field of vegetable and tree plantation in their own land.



3.0 . Major Challenges

- Cost Sharing from Community people or Community participation for construction on Ecological -Toilet due to poor ethnic community.
- Human Excreta (Faces) / green fertilizer Sell.

4.0 . Steps for overcoming challenges:

- Rapport building with community people or closely working with them for better performing the project.
- Assistance by community peoples of selected location
- Re-scheduled the program for better performing.



5.0. Learnings:

- Experience Sharing with Community people on Eco-San Toilet is easier to replication.
- To involvement of local administration is easier to extension the project activities and sustainability.



6.0.. Innovation:

- ☐ Low cost sharing for beneficiaries
- ☐ Using green fertilizer to the land for cultivation.

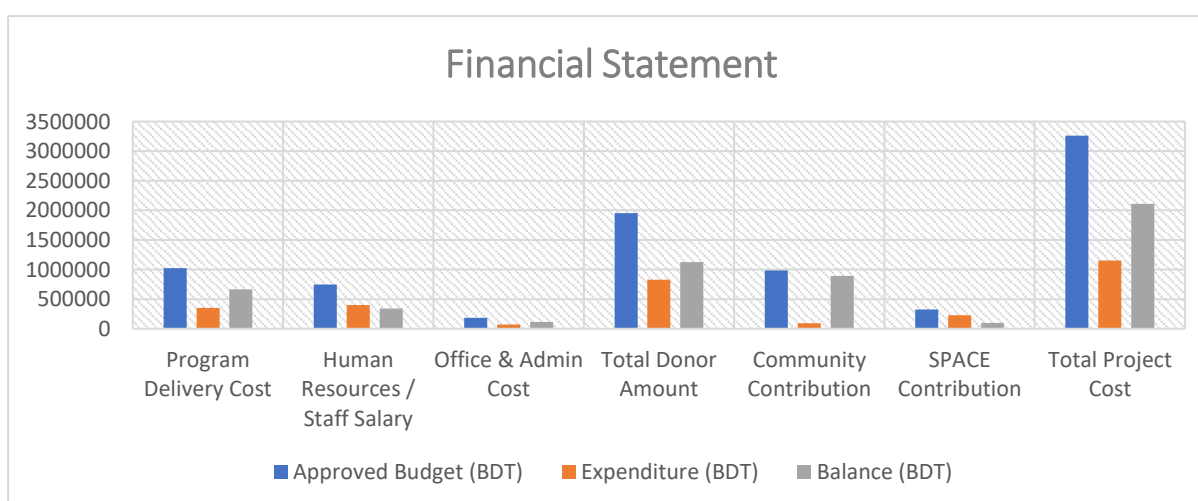
7.0. At a glance Progress of the period of January-December, 2019

Sl	Activities (All)	Progress	
		Project target	Achievement (2019)
1	Sensitization meeting with local leaders	1	1
2	Awareness activities	12	12
3	Training	2	2
4	UDD Toilet installation	30	15
5	Conduct awareness & Hygiene promotion activities		Non budgeted events
**	School Session	12	12

**	Court Yard Meeting	24	24
**	Children to Adult Dissemination -CAD	18	18
**	Community Meeting	12	12
**	Tea Stall Meeting	14	14
**	SMC Meeting	6	6
	House to House Meeting	24	24
	Faces(sell)	0	21
	Demo Plot	0	13
6	Rain Water Harvesting system at HH level	150	150

8. Budget Statement:

Sl#	Head of Expenditure	Total Approved Budget (BDT)	Total Expenditure (BDT)	Balance (BDT)	Burn rate (%)
01	Program Delivery Cost	1023231.66	354861.00	668370.66	34.68
02	Human Resources Cost/ Staff Salary	747000.00	403500.00	343500.00	54.02
03	Office and Admin Cost	183594.93	71426.88	112168.05	38.90
	Total Donor Amount	1953826.59	829787.88	1124038.71	42.47
	Community Contribution	984800.00	94060.00	890740.00	9.55
	SPACE Contribution	324500.00	228000.00	96500.00	70.26
	Total Project Cost	3263126.59	1151847.88	2111278.71	35.30



9. Case Study

Eggplant / Brinjal Cultivation with Eco-Fertilizer / Green fertilizer

Introduction: Eco -san Toilet is an environmentally friendly Toilet.



Its not harmful for environment, it is used always as benefited issues for community not only health issues. An active woman of Nadai village named SANTI tells her story on the benefits of Eco-San Toilet. Shanti (45) ID-3/762



lives in a minority as a tribes (SAWTAL) community with her husband Mr. Ashit das others 6 members in her family. Before the project starting, she has a uncovered or covered with a polybag toilet which was not hygienic toilet and bad smelled was found always. As result during the period sickness was the daily phenomena and had to go to doctor for treatment with Diarrhea, and Dysentery and others diseases. Total Annually BDT 3000 had to spend for medication. Her some relatives were denying to night hall to her house due to an unhygienic toilet. So, said that a un happy life was being continuing.



After receiving the Eco-Toilet: Shanti was constructed an Eco-San Toilet with the project contribution in her location. She used the toilet with her family in emerged happiness. Beside these she also had used the Eco-



fertilizer / green fertilizer and proceed urine in her brinjal garden. Now she was led a 30 decimal vegetable land from her neighbor for cultivating brinjal through using the Eco-fertilizer. Tremendously she got a bumper production of Brinjal / Eggplant by her land. As a result, huge production of Brinjal was found. With the production she sold the products after mitigating her family demands and neighbor's.



Total BDT 4000 was safe from her 30 decimal land using Eco-fertilizer and urine without spraying pesticide and chemical fertilizer. Now Shanti's family is happy to mitigate her family demand of vegetable as nutrition food and distributing to her neighbor's, at the same time she earned BDT 20000 from vegetable filed that was the maximum contribution to



bright laugh.

her family to address the poverty. Finally, Shanti is laughing a

10. Conclusion:

The project has been successfully compelled with the coordination of community people, local leader, local government department and relevant other stakeholder has able to disseminate project objectives and obtain the qualitative & quantitative aspects of the project activities which are executed in the existing time period. So, SPACE tries to change the vulnerable situation of the underprivileged community people and bring equity among the poor people where support from the AsharGan, Onlus, Italy makes the activities very empathetic.