

Assessment of the Activities of Paribesh Unnayan Parishad engaged under ICZMP (2012-2015) at SAGAR ISLAND, West Bengal

Name of the GP: Dhaspara Sumatinagar -1

Name of the NGO: Paribesh Unnayan Parishad (PUPA)

Overall Objective of the consultancy: To enhance capacity of the Poor families (women self-help groups) and to increase on a sustainable basis the incomes of the poor, improving their access to credit as well as basic social services.

A.0 Project activities

Sl	Tasks / Deliverables	Quantitative		Anything noteworthy / significant to report (100 -120 words maximum per point)
		Target	Achievements	
I.	Mobilising & Organising Groups	150	152	<p>Meetings/Workshop/Aware-ness programme(during 2012-1015 PUPA achieved to reach 152 SHGs : (2341 members,120 female groups:1795 members)</p> <p>During last two & half years, PUPA mobilised and identified those groups where poor HHs were present, and achieved to reach all the Sansads (15) of DS-I GP, Sagar Island, as per guideline by SPMU. The main focus of all the programmes and activities were to organise the poor people for their livelihood development and also to involve in EPA activities.. PUPA focused on SHG management, accounting, savings & loan, as well as skill-based training related to income generation activities, exposure visits for learning, Mela for showcasing the various livelihood opportunities based on enterprise development (individual/ groups), etc.</p> <p>Total families in 6 villages of DS-I GP are 4316 with a total population of 22171 of which SC population is 8645 (40%), 4731 falls under Minority(21%), and 8795 are general, BPL HH number is 1807 (42%) as per RHS (2005) [NGO estimated 2349 HH: 656 very poor & 1693 poor(54%)]. Dominating figure for SC & minority community and the BPL percentage indicate marginalised condition of most of the community members.</p> <p>Identification of poor</p> <p>During PRA exercise, PUPA conducted 64 <i>Para meetings</i> with a participatory approach to understand the scenario as per indicators provided by SPMU.As a result of the PRA exercises, we achieved to identify that 435 HHs are very poor and 995 HHs are poor at 15 Sansads.</p> <p>Gender analysis: Total groups involved 152 with 2341 members, of which 120 Female groups with 1795 members, 8 male groups with 114 members, and 24 mixed group with 226 female and 206 male members.</p>
i)	Meetings/Workshop/Aware-ness programme (GP Level, Sansad level, Public, Group-based)			
ii)	Identification of Poor HHs			

2.	GP Wise Household and CBO data Collection			
2.a	Identification of Poor HHs	1807 HHs (Govt. data)	2349 HHs (PUPA)	<p>Conducted 64 Para meetings with a participatory approach to understand the scenario as per indicators identified for the DS-1 GP by SPMU.</p> <p>Total families in 6 villages of DS-I GP are 4316 with a total population of 22171 of which SC population is 8645 (40%), 4731 falls under Minority(21%), and 8795(39%) are general, BPL HH number is 1807 (42%) as per RHS (2005) [NGO estimated 2349 HH: 656 very poor & 1693 poor(54%)].</p> <p>Dominating figure for SC & minority community and the BPL percentage indicate marginalised condition of most of the community members.</p>
2.b	CBO & SHG Profile	152	62	This profile is a summary of most of the information of individual member with her/his photograph required for livelihood improvement. Another
3.	Capacity building and skill development programmes			
3.a	Strengthening of Groups (Capacity Building of the community Members & Staff)	152	152	<p>Two hundred and thirty two (232) days programme including PRA meetings, sansdad & Panchayet level meetings, TOT Training on Group management & accounts, livelihood issues, awareness programmes, exposure visits, Mela, etc. involving 152 Groups and 1518 members and all the project staff.</p> <p>Exposure visit at Bagnan Mahila Bikash credit cooperative society & Bolpur Loka Kalayan Parishad, Bilati Gram Panchayet, Elambazar (experience gathered on GP level Cluster and Block level Fedaration).</p> <p><i>As a result of continuous support in various forms, particularly training & follow-up meet, a group of 15 Community level Resource Persons have been developed, who are able to conduct Training Programmes and act as support staff of the implementing agency</i></p>
i)	TOT on group dynamics and book-keeping	2	2	
ii)	Refresher training			
iii)	Exposure visit for trainer's team			
iv)	CBO Expert (CRP)			
3.b	Quick Rating of all SHGs by the PUPA staff			<p>Quick Rating is a method to measure the strength of the groups. Four indicators (meeting, attendance, savings and loan repayment) were applied for review the status of groups. On the basis of quick rating, we tried to know the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the groups (SWOT analysis). According to the identified weaknesses, we gave them support to the SHGs for their capacity building on group management and account related issues.</p> <p>As per identified weakness, we gave them support for their capacity building. The trainings were given in two modes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process mode (hand holding training with one or two SHGs at field level) • Event mode (It is a handholding training event with 10-20 SHG leaders) <p>The basic objective of the training was capacity building of the members of SHGs on group dynamics,</p>

				<p>leadership, administration and Accounts related issues, like general meeting, attendance, emergency meeting, annual meeting, book keeping, savings in financial institution, etc and introduction of economic activities for their sustainability.</p> <p>Achievements (shown in Table below): Our intervention leads to increase of A ,B & C grades, while the decrease of D grades remarkably</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Period</th> <th rowspan="2">Name of GP</th> <th rowspan="2">No. of Sansda d</th> <th rowspan="2">No. of Group involved</th> <th>A</th> <th>B</th> <th>C</th> <th>D</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2012-13</td> <td>DS-I</td> <td>15</td> <td>152</td> <td>39</td> <td>34</td> <td>30</td> <td>49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013-14</td> <td>DS-I</td> <td>15</td> <td>152</td> <td>44</td> <td>59</td> <td>38</td> <td>11</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Period	Name of GP	No. of Sansda d	No. of Group involved	A	B	C	D	2012-13	DS-I	15	152	39	34	30	49	2013-14	DS-I	15	152	44	59	38	11
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				2012-13	DS-I	15	152	39	34	30	49																	
2013-14	DS-I	15	152	44	59	38	11																					
3.c	Organised groups for livelihood development programme (IGP)	50	61	<p>Conducted TOT programmes on IEP for 50 Candidates(two batches) to have clear understandings and develop skills on income Enhancement Planning Process (IEPP) and preparation of Income Enhancement Plan.</p> <p>300 SHG members were sensitised on IEP. We follow the process listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At first the social mapping and resources mapping was done through PRA. • Done local market survey. • Organized meeting on IEP in groups. • Identify the main sources and hidden sources of income of the group members and concern families. • Organized meetings on IEP sensitization with displaying the pictorial charts regarding budget making and profit & loss a/c calculation. • Through the SWOT analysis, final lists of new entrepreneurs have been prepared. • The individual business schemes have also been finalized. <p>Still now, PUPA with active participation of groups, finalized 61 IEP proposals for group / individual economic activities and submitted to SPMU. Yet to receive support.</p>																								
3.d	Bank linkage	152	152	The new groups open Bank account. They were trained about accounts and informed about various credit availabilities/ scheme. Updating more than 120 old Accounts.																								

4.	Identification & execution of EPAs by capable group(s)			
4a.	Identification & execution of EPAs by capable group(s)	28	15	<p>Need-based Entry Point activity, for infrastructural development of the local area to improve the quality of life of the coastal community, is an important step as per project guideline. PUPA has followed some steps to achieve the goal during EPA preparation and implementation. Those are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted para meeting in targeted sansads to understand the needs. • Prioritization of the needs. • Discussion with Panchayet to know whether it's in their plan or not • Selection of SHGs for implementation • Prepared the proposal and vetting from engineer. • Submission of the proposal to SPMU • After approval from SPMU, CBO started their work as per SPMU guideline. • Overall monitoring by PUPA, a social audit team and CBO members. <p>Three tube wells completed 100% and 6 tube wells and 6 brick roads are under construction process. For 12 Brick roads and 1 tube well first instalment received from SPMU.</p> <p>Total 28 Groups involved</p>
4b	Monthly review meeting with staffs and SHG leader and Social Audit members	6	6	This process involves the local people so that it becomes a participator activity which is the first step in Ownership & Institutional development.
5.	Initiation of IEP and its implementation for Economic enhancement			
5a	Initiation of Economic activities	2	2	Intensive training, demonstration and enhancing the production & productivity of croplands and allied sectors, with focus on creation of employment opportunities and alleviation of poverty. Promoting Small and micro-enterprises (SMEs) with bank linkages

				and networking with business & consumer partners. Business started at SHG members' own level taking loan from the Group's account. (Clothes & Batik printing) . In addition, cultivation of Gobimdabhog rice and earning money after selling the same in local market.
5b	Preparation of business plan for CBOs	75	61	75 Plans submitted and 61 approved, contract signed, yet to receive the fund.
6	Facilitating & Improving the community's access to basic social services , Govt. schemes & facilities			
6a	Facilitating & Improving the community's access to basic social services , Govt. schemes & facilities			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Linkages with Govt. Schemes. Jana dhana Yajana, Vaccination of animal husbandry (BLDO), Agriculture development Office (ADO), Department of fishery block level etc 2) Linkage with Rural Self Employment Training Institute (UBI, Rajpur) for skill development training and subsequent loan for business development. 3) Trained SHG members are able to make their group vibrant in long run. 4) Women are also able to participate in social issues and development. 5) Women are capable of accessing and negotiating with local PRIs, Bank and other line departments. 6) Panchayat Cluster/ Federation will be formed and managed by SHGs leaders for providing facilitation support to member SHGs on Group Dynamics and linkages development. 5) Financial Services - savings, credit, insurance, safe investment and other financial services; 6) Business Development services – training, marketing, value addition, business plan, skill development, etc.
7.	Enhancement of the Environment consciousness			
7a..	Organise awareness programme on climate change, Disaster management, Biodiversity conservation, women empowerment, malnutrition, health & hygiene , Health camps, etc.	14	14	<p>Considering the importance of creating awareness regarding various environmental & social issues, PUPA achieved to organized 14 awareness programmes up to March, 2015 on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Biodiversity Conservation and women empowerment</i> • <i>Awareness campaign on 'World No Tobacco Day</i> • <i>Awareness campaign on World Earth Day & Environment Day.</i> • <i>Climate resilient Adaptation and introduction of resource mapping.</i> • <i>Climate Change: Adaptation for Disaster Management</i> • <i>Environment and clean village</i> • <i>Women's day</i> • <i>World no Alcohol day</i> • <i>Health hygiene & Hand wash</i>

8.	Skill-based training (Betel vine, Poultry, Fishery, Integrated Farming System, Vermicomposting, Tailoring Animal Husbandry, Organic Farming, Batik printing Nursery, Paper bag Making, etc.)	19	17	Build capacity of SHG members so that they are able to execute the business successfully. Provide important information and input to help to execute the business smoothly. Nursery raising, Maintenance and Plantation with focus issues on avenue , fruit, mangrove and medicinal plants skills Using Bio Fertilizer, Marketing Skill, Seed Selection, Integrated Farming System, SRI Process, Local Seed Conservation, Crop Carting, Grafting: A NURSERY Business started at Gobindapur village (Ma Jamuna SGSY). Similarly, Batik printing training led to initiation of enterprise development by another SGSY at Gobindapur village, who started selling their product at MilanMela (21-22 March,15)
9.	Formation of GP Level Sub-Cluster, Cluster, Federation at Block level	15	13	This process is at infancy. All the earlier committee are not functioning at all. We organised several meetings and, so far, 13 committee reorganised, two yet to organise.
10.	Assistance to CBOs for maintaining books of accounts and etc.	152	120	We supported completely 120 groups in updating and maintaining their books of account with resolution writing and updating others books (like hand book, savings book, loan books and cash book, etc.). Other groups are in the process of doing so.

B.0 Human Resource Status

- Please give us details from the senior-most (in terms of responsibilities) person downwards:

Sl	Designation	Name of the staff	Educational qualification	Working experience	Remuneration per month	Present roles and responsibilities	Competency areas
1	Programme Manager	Dr. Amales Misra	Ph.D., Dip (ICZM), Univ. of New Castle, UK	More than 15 yr.	10024.00	<p>Development of weekly & monthly plan of work Finalising documentation methodology & implementation procedures.</p> <p>Conducting monitoring and evaluation of project achievements against targets</p> <p>Coordination and cooperation with other staff & SPMU to fulfil all administrative actions necessary to deliver the programme and meet project accountability needs.</p> <p>Developments of the livelihoods team providing leadership management training and capacity building as necessary.</p>	Planning the activities, Documentation, & Reporting, Skill on Vermicomposting & organic manuring

2	Coordinator	Vacant					
3	Lilelihood Coordinator	Dwijendra Das	BA, MSW	6 Years	18820.00	<p>Ensure proper procurement of EPA related material by the concerned CBO following community contract manual and community financial manual and other guidelines.</p> <p>Develop a plan for marketing of the group / group members based on their product /activity</p> <p>Operationalize the EPA and IGA plan with CBOs</p> <p>Explore and Develop new market, contact and expand marketing outlet of CBO products.</p> <p>Access existing marketing infrastructure of the Government/ non-Government and link the same with CBO</p> <p>Involve in a field base study its analysis, collection of data and information from the field and on-site support and monitoring of EPA and IGA.</p> <p>Access Government facilities for CBOs.</p> <p>Ensure support from FIs (Banks) to the identified CBOs', assist in preparation of Business Development plan.</p> <p>Plan, organize skills, marketing related trainings, with trainer.</p>	15 sansad of DS-1 GP
4	Training Coordinator	Dayal Bhunia	B.A.	7 Years	18820.00	<p>Based on capacity Building Strategy, plan, training programme, develop design and training materials in consultation with other members of the project and responsible person of the SPMU team of the project.</p> <p>Conduct training programme and prepare training report along with Follow-up plan.</p> <p>Facilitate follow up of training like on-site / hand holding support at the CBO level with Field Facilitator</p>	15 sansad of DS-1 GP

5	Accountant	Manas Giri	B.com.	10 Years	15050.00	<p>Maintain accounts related to project</p> <p>Provide on-site guidance and support to maintain CBO/SHG/CIG accounts especially for IGA, EPA.</p> <p>Assist in preparation and consolidation of group based monthly accounts</p> <p>Send monthly SOE (account statement) to SPMU and/or certified, Audited statem</p> <p>Maintain supporting documents with respect to Audited Statements and may able to submit the same to SPMU when it is being asked to do so.</p> <p>Communicate with the financial wing of SPMU team as and when required.</p>	15 sansad of DS-1 GP
6	Documentation MIS Cordinator	Vacant					
7	Field Facilitator	Saheba Khatun	H.S.	6 Years	7525.00	<p>Assist CBOs in implementation and follow-up of EPA as per procedure</p> <p>Facilitate groups which include poor women, organize men/women, explain the concept of group based development, system and functioning of groups.</p> <p>Keep in touch with local stakeholders like Gram panchayat, Banks, local market.</p> <p>Work in close cooperation with other team members, documentation person, trainer, P&M person and team leader.</p> <p>Attend group meetings and assist them, provide regular on-site, ongoing support to improve internal functioning and external linkage for Development</p> <p>Involve in a field based study, collection of data from the field and on-site support and</p>	Sansad- 1,11& 12
8	Field Facilitator	Sukharanjan Mondal	H.S.	5.5 Years	7525.00	- do-	Sansad-5,6 & 7

9	Field Facilitator	Nibedita Das	B.A.	5.5Years	7525.00	- do-	Sansad- 8, 9& 10
10	Field Facilitator	Prabodh Pramanik	B.A.	5 Years	7525.00	- do-	Sansad- 13, 14 & 15
11	Field Facilitator	Sudipti Halder	B.com.	5.5Years	7525.00	- do-	Sansad- 2,3 & 4

C.0 Situational analysis of your operational areas under the Project (please refer to the present context only) (in 350 words)

During the initial stage after taking the responsibility of the ICZM project at DS-I GP, Sagar Island, we analyse the secondary data and also made some field observation for assessing the conditions of the existing Groups (SGSY/SHG) in the GP concerned. Demography was reinvestigated (but age-wise data could not be collected), total HHs in the GP was 4316, Population 22171, of which SC population is 8645 (40%), 4731 falls under Minority (21%), and 8795 (39%) are general, BPL HH is 1807 (42%) as per RHS (2005), NGO estimated 2349 HH: 656 very poor & 1693 poor(54%)].

Total groups 248 (SGSy-145; SHG-103) with members 2143, Cluster-1 & Sub-cluster-10. Grading led to approval of revolving fund to limited Groups, However, number of SGSY & SHG taken up **viable economic activities are very low**. In spite of governments & NGOs' efforts, poor remains poor, and they are the real sufferer of natural hazards (storms, floods, saline water intrusion, irregular rainfall, etc.).

The past situation was as summarized below:-

1. Groups were not strengthened enough to manage themselves, to maintain the accounts, to link with local Banks. They remained dependent on external help for every group activity, particularly updating their Accounts Books (this activity was done by paying money).
2. Group's members were not aware of the importance of **cost-benefit sharing system** for the sustainable developmental process of the community.
3. Loan repayment was not regular, moreover, there was a tendency among some leaders to mis manage the fund resulting in loss of trust among the members.
4. Not a single case was identified amongst the group members starting business by taking loan from own Group or Bank

Situation at present:-

As a result of para level PRA exercises, we achieved to identify that 656 HHs are very poor and 1639 HHs are poor. Identified 152 Groups where very poor & poor HHs are present, though nearly 100 HHs are still left out.

During quick rating exercises, we identified several vulnerable groups who need sustained support. Moreover, we made a positive change in improvement of quality of several groups, as perceived by the data given above (3b)

As a result of meeting, workshops, Exposure visits, Training Programme (TOT on SHG management & Livelihood issues), various skill-based trainings, Hand-holding supports, we are able to develop Community Resource Persons amongst the Group members and also from the community in general (**Annexure-I**) who could do well as Trainers.

Awareness programmes, Padajatra, Mela organized during the intervention period, raised the general consciousness on various social & environmental issues, as well as possible livelihood issues.

The fair (MILAN MELA held on 21-22 Feb.,15) was the culmination of the different Training and Capacity Building exercises (e.g. SHG management, bank linkages, business & entrepreneurship development, vocational training: poultry, pisciculture, betel leaf cultivation, organic farming, paper made crafts tailoring, food processing, Batik printing and so on targeted especially towards the SHG women) organized by PUPA under ICZMP for the last two and a half years.

D.0 Statement of your Organisational Competency (a SWOT analysis with particular reference to this consultancy) (in 400 words max.)

Strength:

1. Paribesh Unnayan Parishad is chaired and guided by Dr. S.Mitra, Lecturer (Selection Grade) in Economics, with expertise in Experimental Economics & Interpersonal Communication, and other two members of executive Body, Dr. A.Misra, Secretary and Dr. Rina Chakraborty, Vice-president are trained in ICZM from the University of New Castle, UK.
2. PUPA has experience of working in other livelihood projects in the same locality.
3. The present staff members of ICZMP are all local boys and girls, except the Accountant, The staff members are motivated and reached a level of competency to continue the project with support from **Community Resource Persons** (Group members) who have developed their capacities during our past two and half years of intervention.
4. Since most of them are associated with the project for over a year, they have developed a feel of the area and nature of the tasks.

Weakness:

1. Communication Skills in English is poor among the staff members resulting in delay in submitting reports, as reports have to be corrected and then submitted.
2. Since appointments in the project are of temporary nature, efficient staff members keep on changing jobs.

Opportunities:

1. It has given the organisation the opportunity to interact with community members of DS 1 and assess their needs and aspirations.
2. This particular project has given the organisation the facility to work in an area, that is, livelihood development, in which it has been working for some times now. It has participated in two SGPs of UNDP and livelihood programme funded by DST, Govt. of India.

3. However, the scope of this project is much bigger and time span longer. These have given the opportunity to develop specialised capacity among staff members and community members whose services can be utilised as and when required, instead of depending on external experts.
4. By working in a team in community livelihood development programme of the ICZMP, the staff members have developed a sense of social responsibility and leadership. This was clearly revealed during the saline water intrusion in some parts of Sagar Island in July, 2014. The staff of the project along with other staff of PUPA organised relief work on their own, providing food and water to affected community members in Muriganga1, Boatkhali in Dhablat GP and Govindapur (in DS1). Later medical camps were also organised and essential medicines were distributed. The emergence of community leadership would not have been possible but for this project.

Threats:

1. One big challenge in the programme is developing the external market links for the products produced by the SHG members. Since Sagar is an island without road connectivity with the mainland, transportation of goods is a serious problem. Owing to higher transportation cost, the products lose market competitiveness.
2. Another important challenge in infrastructure is lack of electricity connection in the interior areas of the island. Consequently, better and cost efficient technologies cannot be used and production activities are primarily restricted to day time only increasing the opportunity cost of labour. Cold storage facilities for perishable products (like betel leaves) not available leading to distress selling.

However, neither problem is insurmountable. The challenge lies in finding out effective solutions.

E.0 Considering your past experiences under this Project, state three things that your organisation will do differently during the next 3 months and beyond? (in 350 words)

1. Formation and strengthening of Sub-cluster at Sansad level, Cluster at GP level and Federation at Block level or as per suggestion of SPMU/ SRLM, will be given priority.

- i) As per identified need PUPA already started the process of mobilization of the SHG members to Business level cluster. PUPA conducted several sansad level meeting with SHGs to formation the clusters at Sansad level. In next three months, PUPA will work on formation and strengthening of Sub-cluster at Sansad level, Cluster at GP level.
- ii) For this purpose, and also considering the importance of mobilisation and inter-group mixing, activities in this direction will be continued. Community Resource Persons, identified and trained during our past intensive capacity building programme, will be exposed to future training & CBO support programmes so as to enhance their capacities further as well as to work as a Support-Group (Community Mobilisers) to the NGO concerned.
- iii) Poor members who are still left out will be taken care of for inclusion in the project activities.
- iv) Quick rating and hand holding support will also be continued for maintaining as well as enhancing the strength of the groups.

2. **Linkages with Bank, cooperative Societies, Panchayat, Block office and other line departments with CBOs for loans, schemes or market linkages**

Groups started production after training, such as, Batik, Tailoring goods, Food processing products, Organic vegetables, Aromatic rice, Domestic/Household Art items, etc. will be encouraged & supported further for enterprise development.

3. Initiative will be taken to establish a **Community Development Centre** at Gobindapur, where, a One-storied building owned by DS-I GP remains vacant. The Groups of Gobindapur village is informally using this space for batik training as well as production.

This will help the concerned groups to enhance their production for business purpose. PUPA Will develop the linkages with Bank, cooperative Societies, Panchayat, Block to get various facilities including loan for business, training, banking service, market linkages etc.

F.0 Any other points you would like to mention (in 250 words)

1. We assisted 110 Groups from our GP for linking with Anandadhara scheme by filling up a prescribed form received from Block SGSY Supervisor.
2. **Changing in leadership (Empowerment):** Now in some SHG, the members are empowered to change their leaders, if they were not happy with leaders, like Matangini SGSY, Sibsakti SGSY, Kalimata SGSY etc.
3. By working in a team in community livelihood development programme of the ICZMP, the staff members have developed a sense of social responsibility and leadership. This was clearly revealed during the saline water intrusion in some parts of Sagar Island in mid- July, 2014. The staff of the project along with other staff of PUPA organised relief work on their own, providing food and water to affected community members in Muriganga1, Boatkhali in Dhablat GP and Govindapur (in DS1). Later medical camps were also organised and essential medicines were distributed. The emergence of community leadership would not have been possible but for this project.
4. Those who are extremely poor are not associated with any group (mostly). They mainly earn their living through daily labour (if not begging). If we concentrate only on SHGs/GROUPS, and big business, then most of the real poor may remain untouched
5. We started publishing NEWSLETTER (E-News) from the very beginning
6. We made a Climate resilient public opinion survey
7. WE started preparing Biodiversity Register for the village **Gobindapur**



Secretary: Dr. Amares Misra

Name NGO: Paribesh Unnayan Parishad

Date: 19.03.15