

2006-2007

ANNUAL REPORT



Eco-Social Development Organization (ESDO)

www.esdobangladesh.org



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Contents

A message from the Executive Director	2
About ESDO	3
Organizational Development	5
Monitoring and Evaluation	7
Resource Generation and Mobilization	8
The year in Review	10
Micro Finance Programme: A successful strategy to fight against Monga	12
Social Development Programme: A successful reflection of United efforts of Hardcore poor	14
Food Security and Disaster Management Programme: enabling Destitute women to regain their dignity	16
Agricultural Development Programme: A Pathway towards fulfilment of the dream of marginal farmers	20
Rights and Governance Programme: A Vigilant Guard for protecting violence against women, Children and extreme minority	23
Education Programme: A mason for Making enlightened Human being	27
Health, Nutrition and Environment Development Programme: A struggle of the malnourished mother and Children for survival	29
Human Development Programme: Appropriate Skills are the weapon for Poverty Reduction	30
ESDO Enterprise : Unique Activity for Empowerment of Vulnerable women	31
Policy formulating Structure	32





A message from the
Executive Director

ESDO throughout its long journey since inception has constantly been endeavouring to enhance its capacity as a people's centered Organization. ESDO has been stimulating its organizational capacity in providing advocacy supports, rights-based programming and support services to its program participants to address the critical needs for their significant and sustainable development.

In pursuing its vision and mission, ESDO has been engaged in development of integrated approaches with effective combination between different sectoral programs. The fiscal year 2006-2007 has also been proved to be a successful and productive year for ESDO evidenced with continuous expansion of its programs both in terms of the budget as well as their geographic & population coverage. This year, ESDO has received the award of "Best Micro-Finance Institution of the Year 2006" from the citi bank n.a. usa. No doubt this is a great achievement for ESDO and its program participants. ESDO has improved its services further both in terms of the volume of services as well as the quality of the services.

In line with the present development trends, ESDO has established and reinforced strong network and collaboration with relevant stakeholders as well as adjusting its strategies for enhancing the capabilities of the deprived people in terms of dealing with Micro-Finance, Social Development, Food Security and Disaster Management, Agricultural Development, Rights and Governance, Education, Health, Nutrition and Environment, Human Development. ESDO puts its efforts for empowering the participants to solve the problems that affect their lives and to cooperate with each other to resisting oppression and exploitation. To sustain the success in true sense, it has been ensuring synergistic efforts of the community allies through participation of all sections of people in every steps of the development process. The community allies are considered to be the catalyst to contribute in the sustainable development process through their active participation from planning and designing to monitoring and evaluation. This has resulted to remarkable successes and significant achievements in 2006-2007.

This report documents ESDO's efforts for the year 2006-2007, the success of which belongs to a great extent to the program participants and the resource sharing partners. ESDO expresses its deep gratitude to them along with its dynamic policy formulating body and the dedicated staff members.

Wishing an equitable society free from all discriminations.

Md. Shahid Uz Zaman
Executive Director

About ESDO

Historical Background

A group of young social workforce of Thakurgaon District initiated ESDO primarily in order to support the 1988 flood victims. Afterwards the close association and involvement with the community especially with the disadvantaged section of the society inspired them to feel and realize that a planned and organized effort is imperative to change the fate of landless and the poorest people in general and the women in particular. Out of the urge and their heart-felt realization, ESDO emerged as a social institution in northern part of Bangladesh.

Vision

An equitable society free from all discrimination.

Mission

Reduction in income poverty and human poverty of the people in ESDO's working area through undertaking massive income generation activities, literacy program, nutrition and health program, human rights and good governance program giving proper importance to environmental protection and regeneration. ESDO firmly believes and is actively involved in promoting human rights, dignity and gender equality through people's social, economic, political and human capacity building. Women in general and children are the core and central focus of its activities. Strengthening the organizational capacity carries importance to ensure quality of its services. Extending its services to the ultra poor is its main manifesto.

Establishment- 3rd April 1988

Legal Status

1. Registered with the Department of Social Service in 1988
2. Registered with the NGO Affairs Bureau in 1993 (Renewed 2003)
3. Registered with the Directorate of Family Planning in 2000

Management

A General Body governs ESDO. General Body elects a 7-member Executive Committee (EC). EC provides policy guidelines. The Executive Director guides the team members/ staff in order to complete the day to day activities of the organization.



Participants selection criteria (in general)

- Poor & disadvantaged people , especially women and children
- Who earn livelihood by selling manual Labour
- Extreme Minority, Ethnic group and Indigenous people.

Networking

Center for Women and Children Studies (CWCS), Child Labour Elimination Action Network (CLEAN), Forum for Regenerative Agricultural Movement (FORAM), Network Against Oppressed Women (NAOW), Credit and Development Forum (CDF), NARI Forum, Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE), Thakurgaon NGO cell, Consumer Association of Bangladesh (CAB), Early Childhood Development Network (ECDN), Indigenous Education Forum (IEF).

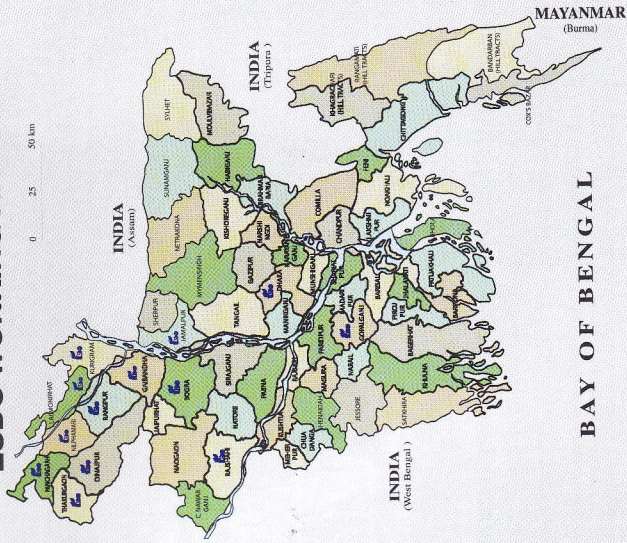
Development Partners

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), World Food Programme (WFP), CARE-Bangladesh/USAID NGO Forum for DWSS/Water Aid, Local Government Engineering Department(LGED), Bangladesh Bank, European Commission (EC), Bureau of Non-Formal Education, Manusher Jonno Foundation(MJF), International Organization For Migration (IOM), PLAN-Bangladesh, Social Development Foundation (SDF), World Bank, Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), Noyantara Communications/USAID, Asian Development Bank, Bangladesh NGO Foundation.

ESDO's on going Working Area

Name of district	Name of upazila
Thakurgaon	Thakurgaon Sadar, Pirgani, Baliadangi, Haripur and Ranishankail
Panchagarh	Panchagarh Sadar, Tetulia, Debiganj, Atowari and Boda
Dinajpur	Dinajpur Sadar, Birganj, Kaharole, Bochaganj, Fulbari, Hakimpur, Birampur, Birol, Parbotipur
Rangpur	Rangpur Sadar, Kaunia
Gaibandha	Gaibandha Sadar, Sadullahpur, Fulchari, Sundarganj, Shoghata, . Gobindaganj and Palashbari
Bogra	Kahala
Jamalpur	Jamalpur Sadar, Dewanganj, Bokshiganj
Nilphamari	Nilphamary Sadar, Domar, Syedpur and Dimla
Lalmohirhat	Lalmohirhat Sadar, Hatibandha, Patigram, Kaliganj
Kurigram	Kurigram Sadar
Rajshahi	Durgapur
Dhaka	Dhaka City Corporation (Hazaribag)
Gopalganj	Tungipara
13	44

ESDO WORKING AREA



BAY OF BENGAL

Organizational Development

Planning of ESDO

Planning means the process of setting goals, developing strategies and outlining tasks and schedules to achieve the goals. ESDO believes that 'a good plan is 50% of the work done' and a project can never succeed without proper planning. To ensure that expected results are achieved, ESDO always follows a 3-stage systematic planning process, which includes:

- 1) Strategic Plan.
- 2) Business Plan and
- 3) Annual Plan.

1) Strategic Plan

Strategic plan is a long-term plan by which the organization determines and plans its strategic activities for a longer period, based on the results of a comprehensive review of its past experiences, current status of the organization and the development trends of the country. ESDO considers following steps in developing strategic plan.

- Use of ESDO's constitutional mandates as the basis and guiding tools to formulate activities and strategies.
- Analysis of past experiences including successes, failures and key lessons learned
- Analysis of the current strengths and weaknesses of the organization
- Analysis of the current development trends of the country and opportunities and
- Outlining the process of making strategic choices in respect of development fields/sectors.

Active participation of representatives of all stakeholders including project beneficiaries, participants, staff and partners is ensured in developing the strategic plan of the organization.



ESDO's current strategic plan is developed for a five-year period which included the following:

- Major choice of the development sectors/fields (Food Security and Disaster Management, Micro Finance, Training etc.)
- Specific target groups
- Specific instruments (financial service versus non financial service)
- Institutional choices
- Expansion versus maintaining size
- Financing choices

2) Business Plan

ESDO's Business plan is developed at an interval of every three years, which helps to operate the activities of the organization smoothly. ESDO's current business plan is developed through the following major steps:

- Review of the strategic plan
- Review of past performance
- Review of opportunities
- Plan for designated period
- Financial plan and fund raising strategy
- Documentation

3) Annual Plan

ESDO's yearly plan is developed every year taking into consideration of the strategic plan as well as business plan and the priorities for the particular year for which the plan is developed. The yearly plan includes the following components:

- Project wise activity plan
- Sectoral activity plan
- Organizational development plan
- Financial plan

Because of the fact that ESDO undertakes new projects taking into consideration of the above mentioned systematic planning process, the process enables the organization to continue it's development activities without serious interruption even if a donor withdraws its fund after a certain period.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The definitions and principles:

Monitoring is an important set of assessment process that enables the programme implementers and the relevant stakeholders to assess and judge whether the programme interventions and strategies are on the right track to reach the set goals and objectives. On the other hand, evaluation is an important tool used at certain interval to assess the impact and outcome of development interventions and draw lessons to facilitate development of future interventions and strategies in line with those lessons. Evaluation is the systematic determination of merit, worth, and significance of something or someone. Evaluation must follow some systematic guiding principles as follows:

- Systematic inquiry
- Competence
- Integrity of the entire evaluation process
- Respect for people
- Responsibilities for general and public welfare (The American Evaluation Association)

Taking into consideration of these principles, ESDO evaluates its programs and projects at different times. Mid-term and final evaluations are mandatory for each and every program and project.

ESDO M & E Team:

ESDO facilitates monitoring as an essential tool for the program management to measure effectiveness of its programs both quantitatively and qualitatively, which enables the management taking necessary corrective measures in time. Based on its programmatic approach ESDO follows a participatory monitoring method. This participatory monitoring is conducted by:

- The personnel of ESDO
- Representatives of the community people.

Both qualitative and quantitative data are collected using various participatory monitoring tools such as interview, observation, field visit, etc. as part of regular regular monitoring. Activities of all projects are monitored on monthly and quarterly basis by the respective project supervisors (manager, coordinator). Besides this ESDO has a skilled and experienced monitoring team. This team monitors the project/program activities quarterly and submit report to the Executive Director and places the same to the quarterly coordination meeting. The meetings reviews and discusses the monitoring findings and based on that management undertakes necessary actions to improve the planned activities.

To ensure quality monitoring and evaluation ESDO's Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) team is guided by Dr. Muhammad Samad, Professor, Institute of Social Welfare and Research, University of Dhaka and Mr. Abdur Rashid, Lecturer, Department of Social Science and Language, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University, Dinajpur. The Executive Director of ESDO directly supervises the M&E unit, which is responsible for monitoring and evaluation of ESDO's own programs and projects as well as the projects/programs of other NGOs. Generally, the final evaluations are conducted fulfilling the donors' requirements.

ESDO Audit Team:

To ensure donor compliances and efficient use of program budgets, ESDO employed a group of qualified professionals and formed an 'Internal Audit Team', works under the direct supervision of the Executive Director. This group conducts periodic audits of all the projects and programs and submits reports to the Executive Director with copies to the concerned Project/Program Manager or Team Leader and Sector Coordinators. Concerned Managers/Sector Coordinators are responsible to ensure that necessary corrective measures are taken by the project/program in time. The audit team conducts follow up audits as well to see if the correctives measures are taken.





Resource Generation and Mobilization

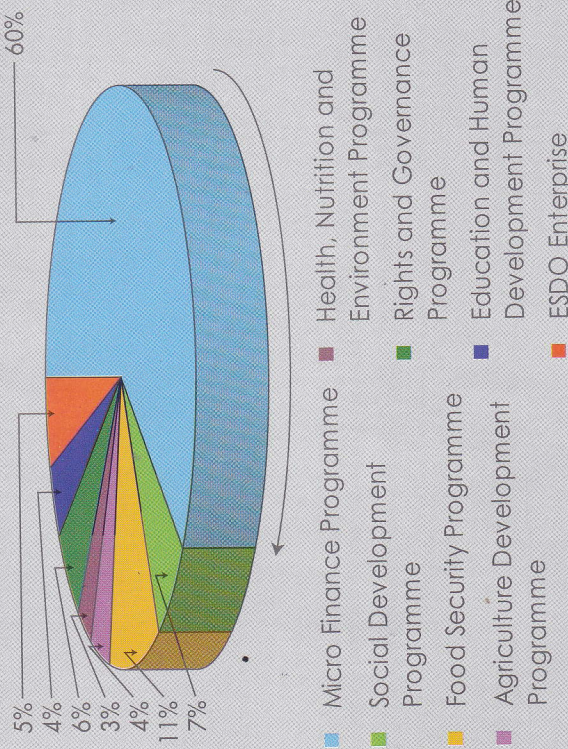
Human Resource

ESDO believes that efficient staff is a significant parameter of organizational strength. The ESDO considers them as the most valuable resources. A total of 3080 staffs had been working with ESDO at the end of 2006-2007. Among them 766 were regular staffs 1847 were project staff and 467 were contractual staffs, Of the total staff, 53 were working in the Central Office and the rest 3027 were working under the Regional and other Offices. Among the total staff 1399 were female and 1722 were male .

Staff recruitment

A total of 332 personnel were appointed throughout the year. Among them 282 staff were recruited on regular basis, 50 staf were recruited as project staff . Among the recruited staff 52 were female and 280 were male.

Value of ESDO's Programme by Sector (2006 - 2007)





Toha Khan Zaman & Co.

Chartered Accountants

ECO-SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (ESDO)		
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2007		
PARTICULARS	30-06-2007	30-06-2006
PROPERTY AND ASSETS:		
FIXED ASSETS		
INVESTMENTS:	32,551,717	18,985,069
FDR on PF, Workers Insurance & Patishala	3,300,000	0
FDR Savings	32,633,002	30,368,078
FDR Surplus	7,811,846	6,959,050
Investment on FDR (Gratuity)	457,980	200,000
Loan Loss Provision Investment (LLPI)	9,760,506	2,935,984
Depreciation Fund Investment (DFI)	2,786,214	1,949,793
Disaster Management Fund Investment (DMFI)	1,624,805	1,021,138
CURRENT ASSET:		
Loan Paid to Beneficiaries	371,127,586	185,019,700
Staff Vehicle Loan Account	5,341,105	3,649,862
Advance to Staff	3,038,516	1,122,760
Advance for Office Rent	15,000	114,300
Program Advance	423,650	0
PF Loan to Staff	697,977	0
Receivable Account	17,000	0
Loan to Prime Project (Contra)	19,227,693	25,926,392
Closing Stock	1,600,700	0
Cash and Bank Balances	5,209,273	614,755
	82,780,966	41,739,330
	580,780,908	320,606,211
FUND AND LIABILITIES:		
FUND ACCOUNT		
SAVINGS FUND ACCOUNT	43,384,384	34,612,244
STAFF SECURITY FUND ACCOUNT	100,853,134	61,140,775
STAFF GRATUITY FUND ACCOUNT	4,613,135	3,130,808
LOAN LOSS PROVISION RESERVE (LLPR)	635,522	361,629
DISASTER MANAGEMENT FUND (DMF)	9,729,133	2,935,984
MEMBER LOAN INSURANCE	1,624,805	1,021,138
WORKER'S INSURANCE FUND	227,565	0
PROVIDENT FUND	438,099	0
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Loan from PKSF Funded Micro Finance Program (Contra)	4,319,657	0
Loan from Bangladesh Bank	1,600,700	0
Loan from PKSF:	425,535	1,276,605
Temporary Loan	376,887,388	191,678,912
Provisions for Expenses	36,000,289	24,379,206
	41,382	68,910
	580,780,908	320,606,211

Toha Khan Zaman & Co.
Chartered Accountants

1.00 Figures have been rounded off to the nearest taka.
2.00 Annexed notes form part of the accounts.
3.00 Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated, Dhaka
30 September 2007

The year in Review

Overview and outputs

In 2006-2007 ESDO managed Programmes in 13 Districts of Bangladesh, directly reaching over 1.27 million poor and vulnerable people. Different need-based programmes are aimed to enhancing the capabilities of deprived people in terms of micro finance, social development, disaster facina, food security, agriculture, gender, health, nutrition and environment, rights & governance, education & human development, and with empowering them to solve the problems that effect their lives and to cooperate with each other to resisting oppression and exploitation. The undertaking of such self-initiated and autonomous actions are the important achievement in a context where the deprived people are dependent on their livelihood and social security.



Table 1: Summary of Performance-2006-2007

Sl.No	Activity	Event	Beneficiary/Participants	f	Female	g	Total Loanee Member	101,077
01	Area Coverage							92,342
a	Regional/branch offices	175						1987
b	Total District covered	13						90355
c	Total Upazila	44						
d	Total Municipality covered	34						
e	Total Ward covered	146						
f	Total slum covered	221						
g	Total Union covered	253						
h	Total Village covered	3985	540767					
i	Total Household covered		2788208					
j	Total population covered							
02	Micro Finance Program							
a	Total Group	5440						
b	Male	141						
c	Female	5299						
d	Total Group Member		103182					
e	Male		2138					
03.	Social Development Program							
a	Social Assistance Program							
b	Total no. of Hardcore poor household						12434	12434

Micro Finance Program : A successful strategy to fight against Monga

Micro-credit is the largest program of ESDO in respect of staffing, geographic & population coverage, budget and belongingness which was started in 1991. Starting the journey with one single project, it has now winged with 10 sister projects to supplementing and complementing income earning scopes and opportunities at different strata of business approaches both in the rural and urban communities for eradicating extreme poverty and hunger and to foster dignity and quality of life of poor and vulnerable people, with particular focus on women. PKSF being the largest funding agency for ESDO's micro-finance program has been continuing to provide both financial and technical assistance to ESDO for strengthening the implementation strategies to make the program more effective in respect of eradicating poverty. Following are the major components of ESDO's micro-finance program:

- a) **Rural Micro Credit (RMC)**- It has started in 1991 specially designed for rural women and poor by organizing group and establishing savings scheme; including loan distribution for their income-earning activities like different agro-based enterprises small businesses. As of now the participants of this project are engaged with 77 trades with skill and practical knowledge.
- b) **Urban Micro Credit (UMC)**- ESDO has started it in Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Panchagarh, Syedpur and Haragachh Pourashava with the financial support of PKSF in order to providing required microcredit support to the urban poor and vulnerable with skills, knowledge and regular follow up support.
- c) **Participatory Livestock Development Project (PLDP-2)**- This project has been implemented in Thakurgaon Sadar, Ranisankail, Baliadangi, Pirgoni and Haripur upazilas of Thakurgaon district and Boda, Debigonj and Tetulia of Panchagarh district with the financial support of PKSF and Asian Development Bank. Prime objective of the project is to enable poor and vulnerable increasing productivity and income by receiving microcredit support and required skill training for cow and poultry rearing, beef fattening and breeding.
- d) **Micro Enterprise (ME)**- This project is developed and implemented with a view to providing knowledge, skill, information and requisite credit support to the small entrepreneurs for creation of self-employment and increase of their income through improving the quality of the products and developing functional linkage with the relevant market actors (buyers). The project is being implemented in Thakurgaon sadar, Pirgoni, Haripur, and Ranisankail of Thakurgaon district, Panchagarh sadar of Panchagarh district and Dinajpur Sadar of Dinajpur district with funding support from PKSF.

e) **Financial Services for the poorest (FSP)**- This project has its speciality in supporting the poorest of the ultra core poor, destitute and extreme poor by providing minimum financial support with facilitative follow-up, training and package support for raising their income and improving the livelihoods. The project is being implemented in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila only with funding support from PKSF.

f) **Micro Credit for Ultra Poor Program (UPP)**- This is also a special project for the ultra poor to gaze how they are earning income financially and meliorating livelihoods. This project has been implemented at Thakurgaon Sadar, Ranisankail, Baliadangi, Pirgonj & Haripur of Thakurgaon, Boda, Debiganj, Tetulia, Panchagarh Sadar & Atowary of Panchagarh and Birgonj Upazila of Dinajpur district with the financial support of PKSF.

g) **Micro Finance For Marginal and Small Farmers Projects (MFMSFP)**- This project is just to provide agricultural technical assistance and soft loan to the marginal farmers who can't afford requisite expenditure during cultivation of agricultural crops with a view to enable them increasing their production. The project is being implemented in all five upazilas of Thakurgaon district and is funded by PKSF.

Housing Credit- This project is especially designed for the greater interest of the poor people who are unable to build a minimum standard house to linein. These households are being supported by providing long-term (10 years) soft loan with the funding support of Bangladesh Bank operating at Thakurgaon Sadar, Pirgonj and Haripur upazila under Thakurgaon district.

Table-2: Portfolio Analysis of ESDO Micro Finance Program: 2006-2007

Portfolio Information	RMC	UMC	MEL	FSP	PIDP	UPP	MFMSFP	Seasonal	LRP
Number of branches	10	12	6	3	20	42	13	22	25
Number of active members	6791	10386	788	3736	20190	57177	4114	1032	2906
clients/ borrowers	6230	8672	721	3487	17926	51682	3624	840	2906
Number of Field Organizer	18	36	6	12	77	187	15	0	0
Number of full time staff	28	62	10	19	127	264	16	0	0
Average number of borrowers per branch	623	722	120	1162	896	1230	278	38	116
Average number of members per branch	679	866	131	1245	1010	1361	316	47	116
Loan Portfolio									
Loan disbursement	41393000/-	120202000/-	56602000/-	16383000/-	134044000/-	270210000/-	47623000/-	14299000/-	4665700/-
Number of loans	7300	10060	885	3845	20810	60449	5200	1577	3270
Average loan size	5670/-	11949/-	63957/-	4261/-	6441/-	4470/-	9158/-	9067/-	1427/-
Total loan outstanding	28128933/-	65473595/-	33202316/-	8072072/-	66421439/-	134666756/-	22670636/-	4713056/-	452939/-
Current loan									
outstanding	25356738/-	64578413/-	32850522/-	6197898/-	64494705/-	131649356/-	22628511/-	4604886/-	452939/-
Overdue loan									
outstanding	2772195/-	895182/-	351794/-	1874174/-	1926734/-	3017400/-	42125/-	108170/-	0
Average outstanding balance by beneficiaries	4515/-	7550/-	46050/-	2315/-	3705/-	2606/-	6256/-	5611/-	1581/-
Total loan loss provision	2756690/-	1422901/-	346095/-	1037336/-	1279366/-	2538196/-	251161/-	51458/-	45930/-
Savings									
Cumulative total savings balance	6996723/-	18851134/-	6543740/-	1996127/-	21801690/-	38027933/-	5468869/-	835386/-	387
Productivity and quantitative indicators									
FO	18	36	6	12	77	187	15	0	0
Portfolio per FO	1562719/-	1818711/-	5533719/-	672673/-	862616/-	720143/-	1511376/-	0	0
Portfolio in branches	2812893/-	5456133/-	5533719/-	2690691/-	3321072/-	3206351/-	1743895/-	214230/-	183718/-



Social Development Program: A successful reflection of united efforts of hardcore poor

The government of Bangladesh visualizes 50% decline in the number of people below the poverty line by 2010 following the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (I-PRSP 2003). To achieve this goal, SIPP and SAP have focused on four areas:

- a) Expanding the scope for pro-poor economic growth through expanding income and employment opportunities for the poor;
- b) Fostering human development for the poor;
- c) Providing social safety nets for the poor against various anticipated or unanticipated income (consumption) shocks; and

d) Favorably influencing participatory governance by enhancing the voice of the poor and strengthening women's empowerment.

SDF has conceptualized a social investment program addressing critical issue as outlined in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) of the Government of Bangladesh which includes the following contributory factors to chronic poverty in Bangladesh:

- Limited access of the rural poor to the basic services and key infrastructures;
- Limited human capital development;
- Limited success of existing poverty program; and
- Poor local governance.

With the support of World Bank- Social Development Foundation, ESDO is continuing the Social Investment Program Project (SIPP) and Social Assistance Project (SAP) in Jamalpur and Gaibandha districts.

Social Investment Program Project:

Social Investment Program Project (SIPP) has been implementing at all the 07 upazilas covering 700 villages of Gaibandha district since June 2003 with the financial assistance of World Bank and under the direct collaboration of Social Development Foundation (SDF). The coverage has been reduced to 60 villages during the period 2006-2007. Main activities of this project are- Social, physical and structural development like roads, bridge, culvert and other community places construction with the direct participation, supervision and monitoring of the community people, community consultative support services by exercising selected tools of participatory rural appraisal, CAP preparation, VDC Formation and PIC Formation.

Social Assistance Project (SAP)

Social Assistance Project (SAP) is being implemented at Jamalpur Sadar, Bokshigonj and Dewangonj upazilas under Jamalpur district since 2005 with the financial assistance of World Bank and under the direct collaboration of Social Development Foundation (SDF). Main objective of the project is to provide skill for improving quality of life and livelihoods by implementing various entrepreneurs training and social mobilization for awareness building, income earning, hygiene & sanitation promotion and safe water supply including advocacy and lobby for poorest of the poor class for realizing/uplifting their rights.

Table-3: ESDO Social Development Program: 2006-2007

Program	Projects	Working Area (district)	No. of participants	Donors/ Development partners
Social Development Program	01. Social Investment Program Project (SIPP)	Gaibandha	19553	World Bank-Social Development
	02. Social Assistance Program (SAP)	Jamalpur	48005	Foundation (SDF)

Achievement

- Total villages covered 250 of 25 unions under 5 upazila in two project districts.
- A total of 56272 people are directly benefited from this project of which all HHs are poor and hardcore poor.
- Jibikayan group formation # 748 in Gaibandha area and in Jamalpur # 1066
- Total savings collected Tk. 199606 in Jamalpur district and Tk. 203762 in Gaibandha District.

Food Security and Disaster Management Program:

Enabling destitute women to regain their dignity

Food insecurity in Bangladesh is a complex phenomenon with many causes. Some of these causes are technical and can be addressed by improved technologies, training and inputs. But the deeper, underlying causes are non-technical. Though ESDO's food security strategies encompass both types, the non-technical causes tend to be more challenging, as they involve in deeply-rooted rights and governance issues.

Food Security Program, one of the highest prioritized programs of ESDO considering the perspective of this area where about 50% women, children and men take

one meal in a day abstaining long fast that continues 5 months out of 12 in a year. So it has the prime importance, significance and rational to implement this programs and in this perspective, ESDO is implementing following sister projects under this program in the greater interest of ensuring food security, availability of food and daily in taking nutritious food practices / balance diet by the households members for providing requisite calorie and improvement of their quality of life, (including adult education and package support for income earning and livelihoods) as food is the vehicle to minister daily life. The Sister projects are as follows:

- a) **Integrated Food Security Program (IFSP)**- ESDO has been implementing this project at Panchagarh Sadar, Tetulia, Debigoni, Atowary and Boda Upazila under Panchagarh district with the financial support from the World Food Program (WFP) and LGED. Prime components of this project are (1) Food For Assets (FFA) (2) Food For Training (3) Community Nutrition Initiatives (CNI). Target population of this projects are Children under 6 to 24 months, lactating and pregnant mothers and malnourished children to provide them nutritious food to mothers and blended food for children including awareness building and social mobilization.
- b) **Food Security for the Vulnerable Group (VGD) Women and their Dependants (FSVGD)**- ESDO has been implementing this project at Thakurgaon Sadar, Ranisankail, Baliadangi, Pirgonj and Haripur under Thakurgaon district with the financial support from the World Food Program (WFP) and European Commission with the objectives to foster food and nutrition to the vulnerable, destitute women including support for income earning activities and literacy for improving their quality and dignity of life and livelihoods.
- c) **Strengthening Household Ability to Respond to Development Opportunities (SHOUHARDO) Program**- The led and demand driven project Strengthening Household Ability to Respond to Development Opportunities (SHOUHARDO) is implemented in Lalmonirhat District since January 2006 and up to date for gaining field experience, need assessment, deeper analysis of problem in 50 village and 10 slum. The goal of the program is to reduce food insecurity of 14616 poor households of Lalmonirhat district. SHOUHARDO is a food security program dealing with diversified wings of livelihood security.



We visited ESDO's head office and had discussions with the senior staff about its microcredit and other development, poverty alleviation activities. We also visited several micro credit borrower groups and had thus a fairly good impression about ESDO's activities. ESDO's activities are focusing on the hardcore poor who have so far been outside the microfinance activities. ESDO is thus attempting to provide inclusive financial services to all sections of the poor population of the area.

We also had an opportunity to be present at the award ceremony held in connection with ESDO's eighteenth anniversary. Hearing the success stories of some of ESDO's borrowers was inspiring. The musical performance by the students of Eco Pathshala and others made the evening a very enjoyable occasion.

Thakurgaon
2nd April, 2006

Fakhruddin Ahmed
Managing Director,
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Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed

Honorable Chief Advisor, Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh
(Former Managing Director, Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation - PKSF)

Table-4: ESDO Food Security and Disaster Management Program: 2006-2007

Sl. No.	Program/ Project	District	Upazila	No. of Union	No. of Beneficiary	Donors
01.	Integrated Food Security PROGRAM (IFSP)	Panchagarh	Panchagarh Sadar Tetulia Debigonj Boda Atowary	03 02 03 03 03	1200 800 1200 1200 1200	EC-WFP
02.	Food Security for the Vulnerable Group (VGD) women and their Dependents (FSVGD)	Thakurgaon	Thakurgaon Sadar Baliadangi Pirgonj Ranisankail Haripur	19 8 10 8 6	3230 1500 1700 1600 1500	EC-WFP
03.	Strengthening Household Ability to Respond to Development Opportunity (SHOUHARDO)	Lalmonirhat	Lalmonirhat Sadar Kalgionj Haribandha Patgram	4+1 02 05 03	5446 1497 4620 3053	Care-USAID
Total		03	14	80	29806	

IGA Skill Training under FSVGD, IFSP and SHOUHARDO Project:

To develop skill of the vulnerable women, ESDO implemented Skill development training in IFSP and FSVGD. In training program each participant received skill training which are selected by them. After successfully completion of skill training ESDO provides micro credit for ensuring their food security. The table shows the information including name of trade and number of participants within 2006-2007 reporting year.

Table-5: IGA Skill training under FSVGD and IFSP Project:

Sl. No.	IGA Skill Training Trade	FSVGD	IFSP	SHOUHARDO	Total
01.	Agriculture	388	5600	90	6078
02.	Livestock	5380	5600	1500	12480
03.	Handicraft	1472	5600	0	7072
04.	Small trade	1530	5600	0	7130
05.	Food processing	807	0	0	807
Total :		9577	22400	1590	33567

Some unique activities of SHOUHARDO program:

Under agricultural thematic areas: 1,652 project participants received training on vegetable cultivation and involved in vegetable production, 250 participants received training on field crop cultivation, 992 participants received comprehensive homestead development training, 1500 participants received poultry rearing training, 42 participants received nursery development training, 405 participants received on roof top vegetable cultivation training, 1500 participants received fish culture training and all trained participants involved themselves in respective events.

Under health and nutrition thematic area: 59 participants received training on basic training to health volunteer on HHN, 9 participants received training of parenting, 1 participant received basic training on SBK for Care Giver. On the other hand, 5 popular theater were organized on HHN issue, 200 participants participated in orientation to husband and guardian on safe motherhood, 4 participants received basic training for parenting Facilitator health and the project distributed 100 set sanitation equipments.

Under Empowerment thematic area: 12 facilitators received TOT on Educating knowledge Adequate Transformative Action (EKATA), 03 staff s received Refresher training for Circle facilitator, 01 participant received Community Resource Center (CRC) training, 01 set education and playing materials was distributed. 07 participants received orientation for Chairman / UP Members on Setup (Strengthening, Education through Union Parishad) implementation. The project observed women day at 5 Upazilas. The project observed 01 fair under promotional activities thematic area.

Under hardware activities: The project developed 3 market ground and installed 40 latrines

Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Activities: To improve the health and nutrition status of the malnourished pregnant and lactating mother, SHOUHARDO undertook commodity distribution program along with nutritional awareness building training too. **Each malnourished and pregnant mother gets 12kg. wheat 1.5 liter vegetable oil, 0.5 kg. Peas.** Total 3909 pregnant and Lactating mothers are the participants of the program.

Disaster Management Program: Natural disaster is very common in Bangladesh. A large number of people become the victims of drought, flood, cyclone and river erosion on a regular basis. To reduce the vulnerability of the victims, ESDO has initiated disaster preparedness program. People are given education and training about how to cope with the disaster. To facing the disaster and reduce the vulnerability, disaster management and preparedness issue is a cross-cutting issue in all its development activities. ESDO has been continuing 3 types of disaster preparedness programs. These are: (i) Strengthening Disaster Management Preparedness (DMP) Committee, (ii) Emergency Disaster Response Program (iii) Long Term Disaster Preparedness Program.

Table -8: At a Glance ESDO's Disaster Preparedness Program

Sl. No.	Name of Program	Name of Activity	Donor	Working area
01.	SHOUHARDO	Strengthening Disaster Management	CARE-USAID	Lalmonirhat
02.	Social Investment	Strengthening Disaster Management Program Project	Preparedness (DMP) Committee, Social Development	Gaibandha
03.	Social Assistance	Strengthening Disaster Management Program (SAP)	Preparedness (DMP) Committee, Social Development	Foundation (SDF)
04.	Programmed Initiative* for Monga Eradication (PRIME)	Monga Eradication	Preparedness (DMP) Committee, Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)	Jamalpur
05.	Livelihood Restoration	Emergency disaster response Program (LRP)	Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)	Foundation (SDF)
06.	Natural Disaster Response Program	Flood, Tornado, Drought, Cold wave, Cyclone response	Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)	Lalmonirhat
			PKSF, Kochoy University-Japan, SDF, ESDO own fund	Gaibandha
				Nilphamari
				Nilphamari, Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram,
				Panchagarh, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Rangpur,
				Nilphamari, Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram,
				Panchagarh, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Rangpur,
				Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Gaibandha

Agricultural Development Program: A pathway towards fulfilment of the dream of the marginal people

Agriculture remains the mainstay of the Bangladesh economy, with nearly 80 percent of the rural population working in the agricultural sector. However, more than 50 percent of all farmers own less than one acre of land and the numbers of landless sharecroppers are growing. Although Bangladesh is virtually self-sufficient in rice production, agricultural productivity remains low as a result of overcultivation in some areas and inefficient land use in others. A typical rural family consumes only a fraction of the recommended amount of vegetables and fruits, leading to mineral deficiencies and malnutrition.



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Table-9: ESDO- Agricultural Development Program 2006-2007

Program	Projects	Working Area(District)	No. of Participants	Donor/ Development partners
Agricultural Program	1. Participatory Livestock Development Project (PLDP)	Thakurgaon, Panchagarh	20190	ADB/PKSF
	2. Small Scale Water Resource Development Sector Project (SSWRDSP-II)	Thakurgaon, Panchagarh, Dinajpur	18000	ADB/LGED
	3. Integrated Area Development Project (IADP)	Gopalganj	2000	DAE
	4. Micro Finance For Marginal and Small Farmers Projects (MFMSEF)	Thakurgaon	4114	IFAD/PKSF
	5. Agricultural Farm	Thakurgaon	open	Own
Total	5	3	44304	

1. Participatory Livestock Development Project (PLDP)

The Participatory Livestock Development Project (PLDP) has been implementing with the assistance of Palli Karma Shahayak Foundation (PKSF), Department of Livestock (DoL) and DANIDA for socio-economic upliftment of the poor through increasing productivity of livestock. The project has been implementing since 1998. In the economy of Bangladesh, livestock plays an important role. About 3 percent GDP comes from the livestock sub-sector and about 20 percent of the rural population full-time employed in this sector. Livestock rearing is an important activity in the rural areas for creation of employment and generation of rural income particularly for the landless, unemployed youth and destitute women. With minimum effort and investment, development of livestock is possible within a short period of time. Since the sub-sector currently has extremely low per bird and per animal production of meat, milk and eggs. The growth potential of livestock depends on effective solution of several major problems e.g. ensuring feed supply; combating diseases; improving animal breed; and improving management practices. ESDO has been implementing the project with a view to address the issues. The project has been introducing modern methods of production, educating farmers and building a supportive infrastructure. ESDO provided technical support as well as micro-credit support to the beneficiaries.

Table-10: Training information of PLDP: 2006-2007

SL No	Name of training	Numbers of Participants Training Received
1.	Poultry worker	21
2.	Chick Rearer	03
4.	Duck Rearer	01
5.	Pullet Rearer	01
6.	Egg seller	05
7.	Commercial Boiler	12
8.	Goat Rearer	4423
9.	Beef Fattening	414
10.	Pig Rearer	15
11.	Buck Rearer	01
12.	Milky Cow Rearing	132
13.	Heifer rearing	2431
14.	Mini Hatchery	01
15.	Feed Seller	02
16.	Commercial layer	02
17.	Fodder Cultivation	03
18.	Nursery	04
19.	Vegetable Cultivation	01
20.	Buffalo Rearing	01
Total		7473

2. Small Scale Water Resource Development Sector Project (SSWRDSP-II)

Rearer

The project Second Small Scale Water Resources Development Sector Project (SSWRDSP-II) has been implementing with the assistance of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) since December 2002 in the 5 Districts namely Panchagarh, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur Cox's bazar and Netrokona. Local stakeholder driven and resultant community managed small-scale water resources subprojects are seen as an effective means to reduce poverty. The SSWRDSP-II envisages improving on the existing participatory process in establishing community-based Water Management Association (WMA). The objective of the SSWRDSP-II is to reduce poverty through the increase of sustainable agricultural and fishery production. The specific objective of the project is to develop sustainable stakeholder-dived small-scale water resources management systems with special attention to the poorer section of the population.

The main activities of the project are:

- Motivation Campaign: Facilitating a mass level motivational campaign at the proposed subproject concept, strategies and its probable impact on the livelihood of the local people.

- Establishing the Water Management Cooperative Association: Organizing the beneficiaries, women, project affected persons and cross section of people living within the subproject into a Water Management Cooperative Association (WMA) and assisting the beneficiaries to establish a sound management system within the cooperative in a reasonable time frame.
- Assist the committee to prepare by-laws and get legal entity
- Facilitating Quality Control During Construction: Facilitating the WMA to sign an implementation agreement with LGED and assisting the WMA in ensuring quality construction of subproject structures.
- Socio-economic Development: Assisting the WMA in identifying and implementing measures that promote socio-economic development amongst the local stakeholders that reduce poverty.
- Capacity Development: Assisting in developing operation and maintenance of the subproject independently.

3. Integrated Area Development Project (IADP)

ESDO has been implementing Gopalgonj, Madaripur, Shariatpur and Pirojpur Integrated Area Development Project (IADP) with the assistance of Department of Agriculture Extension since May 2002 in Tongipara Upazila under Gopalgongj District. The project mobilized the small farmers and provided them training. The main activities of the project are: beneficiary identification, Training, Development and Graduation of Marginal & Landless Group (MLG) and Small Farmers Group (SFG).

4. Micro Finance for Marginal and Small Farmers Projects (MFMSFP)
It is just to provide Agricultural technical assistance and soft loan to have the bumper production by the marginal farmers who do not provide requisite expenditure during cultivation of agri crop and non agri business. During the period, the following participants received issue based training:

Table-11: Training information of MFMSFP: 2006-2007

District	Upazila	Name of Training	Number of Participants
Thakurgaon	Thakurgaon sadar, Balliadangi, Pirgoni, Ranisankail	Issue based training	2088
		Non crop based training	1143
		Crop based training	458
Total	4		3689

6. Agricultural Farm

Realizing this practical situation ESDO initiated agriculture development project by 5 agricultural components funded by itself in the current year. The components are as follows:

1. Eco Agriculture farm
2. Livestock Development Project
3. Pisciculture
4. Re-generative agriculture
5. Pond re-excavation and fish culture.

Rights & Advocacy Program: A vigilant guard for protecting human rights violation in every stage

Rights are inalienable inherent and intolerant which are not negotiable to others and fosters everything requires for every men, women and children recognized by the national and international instruments and charters. ESDO gets upper hands to rights oriented activities which are for establishing human rights, legal rights, family laws, women rights and gender rights. ESDO practices and nurses the following projects under this program:

Table-12: ESDO Rights & Advocacy Program: 2006-2007

Program	Projects	Working Area (District)	No. of Participants	Donor/ Development partners
Rights and Advocacy Program	01. Hazardous Child Labour Reduction Movement(HCLRM)	Panchagrah, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Nilphamary, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Rangpur and Gaibandha	62000	Manusher Jonno
	02. Child Labour Elimination Action Network (CLEAN)	Panchagrah, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Nilphamary, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Rangpur and Gaibandha	Open	Manusher Jonno
	03. Counter Trafficking Interventions in Prevention and Prosecution for Victims of Trafficking in Persons in Bangladesh	Thakurgaon, Panchagarh, Dinajpur	41985	International Organization for Migration (IOM) Ministry of Labour.
	04. Eradication of Hazardous Child Labour Project (2nd Phase)	Dhaka City Corporation Government of Bangladesh Thakurgaon and dinajpur	300	
	05. Promotion of Rights for Adibashies and DALITS Improvement Program (PRADIP)	Panchagarh Thakurgaon	999	HEKS – ZURICH (Technical Assistance) USAID/MSS Steps towards
	06. Human Rights and Education Program (HREP)		Open	
	07. Capacity Building of Arban and Rural Governance for Protection of Women Rights		Open Development	
	08. Popular Theater Program	Gaibandha ,Jamalpur, Thakurgaon panchagarh	Open	SDF and WFP Bangladesh NGO Foundation
	09. Protection and promotion of Human Rights		Open	
Total			104285	



1. Hazardous Child Labour Reduction Movement(HCLRM)

The **Hazardous Child Labour Reduction Movement(HCLRM)** was implemented with the assistance of Manusher Jonno (MJ) in Panchagrah, Thakurgaon, Dinajpur, Nilphamary, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Rangpur and Gaibandha district. The project started from August 2006. The direct beneficiaries of the project are 62000 households. The goal of the project is to reduce hazardous child labour from northwest region of Bangladesh through mobilizing the community (e.g. parents, employers, etc.) and improve the quality of local social institutions (e.g. Union Parishad, School, Mosque, etc.) to take action against child rights violation and reduce child labour in a time-bound manner. The project has been implementing in order to withdraw the children from the hazardous stone works as well as prevent the younger siblings from being dragged into the labour market at their tender age.

Awareness raising, provision of non-formal education, recreational facilities, vocational training, health care and health education have been provided to the children. Awareness, skill training, micro-credit, health care and health education have been provided to the parents. 29 NFE Centers were established where 1747 children were enrolled for education in 2 shifts in each center with 30 students in each shift. Vocational training on various trades was also provided to 13-17 years old children. After imparting the skill training, they were also assisted to have job placement in non-hazardous sectors. The parents were given awareness, skill training and micro-credit support in order to initiate alternative income generation, which could supplement the income of the children who they were stopped from the stone crushing works income. Community people were mobilized to create greater movement against child labour through a wide range of activities. The children were assisted to be mainstreamed to the formal schools directly or after completion of non-formal education. Different committee are formed like Child Rights Protection Committee (CRPC), Child Rights Protection Forum (DCRPF), DistrictChild Rights Protection Forum (DCRPF Central Child Rights Protection Forum (CCRPF) with the participation of stakeholders in order to monitor the child rights situation and sustain the project activities in the project area.

Table-13: Progress of the project as of June: 2006-2007

Sl. No.	Activity	Achievement	Participants
01	Child Rights Protection Committee (CRPC)	208	2434
02	Child Rights Protection Forum (CRPF)	48	718
03	DistrictChild Rights Protection Forum (DCRPF)	01	20
04	Child Rights Protection Forum (CCRPF)	01	25
05	Training for Child Rights Protection Committee	02	40
06	Building construction for Community Resource Centre (CRC)	16	Open
07	Quarterly Meeting in different level (CRPC)	208	2434
08	Quarterly Meeting in different level (CRPF)	48	718
09	Innagation workshop	32	2348
10	Child Brigade	02	203
11	Interaction meeting with employer association	14	392
12	Meeting with local government	07	168
13.	Health camp	01	145

2. Child Labour Elimination Action Network (CLEAN)

For creating greater alliance against child labour as well as promoting child rights Child Labour Elimination Action Network (CLEAN-Network) was formed with the participation of the same objective-oriented NGOs working greater Rangpur and Dinajpur Districts. The purpose of the CLEAN-Network is reduction of child labour in order to protection and promotion of child rights through collaborative effort. A total of 40 organizations are the present members of the network. The network organizes workshops, seminars, share information and sensitize Govt. Departments for taking responsibility of child rights promotion.

3. Counter Trafficking Interventions in Prevention Protection and Prosecution for Victims of Trafficking in Persons in Bangladesh
ESDO is conducting CTI project with the support of International Organization for Migration (IOM). The main goal of this project is to strengthen anti-trafficking interventions in prevention, protection, rescue, voluntary repatriation, reintegration and prosecution for victims of trafficking in persons in Bangladesh.

Achievements

More than 1 (one) lac people, different stakeholder in border areas, bazar committee members, local leaders, religious leaders, teachers, students and LEB representatives have already been aware of counter trafficking in Thakurgaon, Panchagarh and Dinajpur district.

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Upazila	No. Union
01.	Thakurgaon	05	51
02.	Panchagarh	05	40
03.	Dinajpur	06	47
Total	03	16	138

4. Eradication of Hazardous Child Labour Project (2nd Phase)

To eradicate of hazardous child labour in Hazaribug Dhaka Metropolitan, ESDO has been implementing the project since November 2006 funded by Ministry of Labour and Employment. The objective of the project is to provide the children meaningful non-formal education to develop their potentiality, provide skill development training to develop their capacities and linkage with Karma Sangsthan Bank for credit disbursement and rehabilitate the children in their normal life. Number of hazardous childrens are 300.

Achievements

Sl. No.	Name of Activities	Achievement
01.	Baseline survey	300
02.	NFP center establishment	10
03.	No. of NFP children	300
04.	Parents meeting	08

5. Human Rights Education Program.

To educate regarding the human rights among the community of boarder area, ESDO has been implementing Human Rights Education Program at 6 unions of Atowary upazila, Panchagarh district and 1 union of Thakurgaon district. We have 100 human rights group consisting of 25-26 members. Per Community Educator supervised 4 groups. The project coordinator with the assistance of resource person conducted TOT session to the Community Educators and 25 Community Educators conducted 8 sessions on several topics like Dowry, Women and Child Trafficking, Good Governance, etc. To establish community participatory monitoring, 28 village watch group, 7 union monitoring watch group, and 1 Upazila group have been formed.

6. Capacity Building of Urban and Rural Governance for Protection of Women Rights

To protect and establish women rights and promote of Urban and Rural Governance, ESDO has been implementing the project in Thakurgaon Sadar upazila since 2004 funded by Steps towards Development. Objectives of the project are to ensure access of women in community service delivery, activate the rural governance ensure women rights and protect women violence.

7. Promotion of Rights for Adibashis and DALITS Improvement Program (PRADIP)

To Improve Human Rights Status of 58 DALITS and 941 Adivashis (Total 999) and Improve Economical status of 225 vulnerable households through Advocacy, Skill Training and Support Service, ESDO has been implementing the project since January 2006 as pilot program by Technical Assistance of HEKS – Zurich.

Objectives of the project are:

- 999 extreme minority's families especially women member (Adibhasis (indigenous) people, DALITS within Thakurgaon and Dinaipur district will have been introduced with their human rights, laws and entitlement.
- 999 household will be capable to afford support services from Govt. Health complex, Department of Agriculture, Livestock's, Fisheries and Social Welfare, Public health, NGO services and services will be enhanced to the extreme minority communities.
- At least 999 families will improve their economic status through capacity building and under taking Income Generating Activities (IGA).
- At least 284 Adolescent will receive vocational training and engage in non hazardous work
- 1 (one) Community Based Organization (CBO) will be established to continue their activities.

8. Popular Theatre Program

Using indigenous cultural forms to hasten development process is one of ESDO'S many unique innovations. As an effective motivational tool for raising people's awareness against various social injustices as well as asserting their rights Popular Theatre Program has proved its success. ESDO institutionalized the approach and brought such activities under EPTG.

Over the years ESDO extended the use of these traditional cultural forms to fight fundamentalism, uphold true spirit of liberation war, and women rights.

The EPTG program has the following components:

- Grassroots cultural troupe formation among the poor in rural and urban area
- Popular Theater staged at grass root level, day observance, fair.
- Celebration of national and international days.
- Organized performances and fairs.

09. Protection and promotion of Human Rights :

To protect and promote human rights in the border area of Panchagarh district. ESDO has been implementing the project since May 2007 funded by Bangladesh NGO Foundation. Working area of the project is 22 villages of 11 unions under 2 upazilas (Panchagarh sadar and Tetulia). Activities of the project are: awareness building on human rights establishment, human rights volunteer group formation, network building at grass root level to reduce human rights violation, information dissemination regarding human rights violation to the mass people.

Eucation Program: A mason for making enlightened human being

Education is the burning question and topmost priority that has been recognized by the national and international community and ESDO also addressed the same as its highest priority and pivoting the same approach and appeal implementing following project as there is back load and lowest rate of education in the working region and has been operating different interventions related to boosting quality education and universal education. ESDO is merely the pioneer in the sector of introducing educations for all and dissemination of quality education strategies and approaches in this region and as part of the same ESDO has been nationally awarded as highest performer by the president in 1996 under department of Non-formal Education. Under this program umbrella, ESDO has been operating following projects:

Table-14: ESDO-Education Program: 2006-2007

Program	Projects	Working Area (District)	No. of Participants	Donor/Development partners
Education Program	1. Eco Pathshala	Thakurgaon	1,150	Own
	2. Educating Parents on Early Childhood Development (EPECD)	Panchagarh	2,000	Neyantara/ USAID
	3. Post Literacy and Continuing Education and Human Development (PLCEHD)	Thakurgaon, Gaibandha and Bogra	4,500	DNFE
	4. Sustainable Education through Community Participation (SECP)	Lalmonirhat	9516	Plan-Bangladesh
Total			17,166	

1. Eco Pathshala

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."

-William Butler Yeats

Eco Patshala is a benchmarked Pre Primary (Kindergarten) school to Junior Secondary school (K1-8 grade), based in Thakurgaon, Bangladesh. Established by the Eco Social Development Organization (ESDO) – a group of professionals committed to raising the benchmarks for education and delivering value to the entire learning community – the Academy is positioned for a dynamically changing world.



We recognise the challenges of an inter-dependent and competitive world and the need for our children to adapt and excel in it. We believe an education system that stimulates children to use their multiple faculties and think in connected ways, can better prepare them for success.

To that end, we have developed a highly experiential and contextual curriculum based on interdisciplinary teaching methods. Our motivated faculty will interpret this dynamic learning model using the school's exceptional resources and facilities. By adopting a creative and collaborative approach to learning, we will provide children with opportunities to realise their full potential and excel anywhere.

Some unique characteristics

Nurture Individuality: we believe that each child is unique and has infinite potential. We will provide multiple opportunities for students to discover and demonstrate their competence and develop their distinctive identities.

Provide Maximum Exposure: we offer students and teachers a width of exposure and a culture that inspire creativity. Through this, we endeavour to prepare them for the opportunities and challenges of a globally connected world.

Inculcate Passion for Excellence: we aim for the highest standards across all areas of growth and development of the learning community. Instill Integrity: we cultivate a sense of fair play, accountability and transparency in everything we do.

Encourage Sensitivity: we respond to and encourage sensitivity to each other's cultures, individual needs and differences. We especially foster awareness and respect for the environment.

Foster Dynamism: we will be an evolving institution that constantly assesses and refines our systems and processes.

2. Educating Parents on Early Childhood Development (EPECD)

To increase awareness about health, nutrition, hygiene, early childhood development, child rights etc. among the parents, ESDO has been implementing EPECD Project at Panchagarh district sponsored by Noyantara Communications-USAID from October 2005.

To create encouraging environment at the family level in order to support the full flourishing of human potential from early childhood is the main objective of the project.

3. Post Literacy and Continuing Education and Human Development (PLCEHD)

ESDO was the pioneer organization for piloting Post Literacy and Continuing Education Project in Haripur Upazila under Thakurgaon District. At the end of the project an evaluation was done by of ESDO on the project, which was lauded by various quarters. Since then ESDO has been implementing the PLCHDP project in 3 northern district.

4. Sustainable Education through Community Participation (SECP)

The SECP has been implementing at Hatibandha upazila under Lalmonirhat district sponsored by Plan international. There are numbers of interventions like parenting, Sishu Bikash Kendra, preschooling, sapan are involve in the program.

Health, Nutrition & Environment Development Program: A straggle of the malnourished mother and children for survival

Unsafe water, lack of sanitation, and poor hygiene cause diarrheal diseases, a leading cause of death for children under the age of five. In both urban and rural areas, the lack of sanitary environment exacerbates the effects of poverty and malnutrition. Eco Social Development Organization (ESDO) continues its mandate for holistic development of rural populations in the areas of health, education, livelihood skills, water and sanitation. Besides mother & child healthcare services, the developing needs of adolescents of Northwest region of Bangladesh have received increased focus.

a) Advancing Sustainable Environmental Health (ASEH)- This project has been commencing to implement from April 2004 to till date with the assistance of Water Aid/ NGO Forum

for drinking water supply and sanitation among 08 union of Thakurgaon Sadar Upazila under Thakurgaon district with the aim of 100 percent sanitation coverage, standard hygiene and sanitation practices by the family member and popularizing use safe water for all purpose of all family member among catchments area. This project also emphasized about water quality, awareness raising and social mobilization, installation of water points by counter part sharing and practices of standard hygiene and sanitation to protect from water bond disease and arsenic contamination. The main activities under this project are: VDC formation, VDC meeting, VDC Formation, Court Yard Meeting, Menstrual Hygiene Session, Session with Adolescent Group, Rally, Child Group Activities, Film show, School Hygiene Session, Solid Waste Management, Waste Water Management, Cultural Activities, World waterday observation, Watsan Inventory, Environmental Technology Demo, Capacity Building Training, Sate Water and activities and Sanitation activities.

b) Pilot Project on Mother and Child Health Care- Social Development Foundation (SDF) is funding for this project since 2004 to till date and operating its activities at Sundargonj upazila under Gaibandha district with a package services like, maternal child health care, clinical and non clinical services for limited curative care and simple operation like cleft bleak, cleft palate and ANC, PNC services by the trained Birth Attendant and establishing village level Pharmacy and Village Development Committees.

c) Sanitation Hygeine and Water Supply Project (SHEWA-B)- Sanitation Hygiene and Water Supply Project is implementing at Tetulia Upazila under Panchagarh district since January 2007 with the assistance of Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE) . The activities are: base line survey, personal hygiene practice, promotion, sanitation, latrine installation, safe drinking water utilization, discussion on sanitation at school and school management committee meeting, community latrine installation at public place (Market, School, UP premises).

D) ESDO Community Hospital (established in 2002), is a 10 bedded non-profit hospital of Thakurgaon. The hospital is committed to serve the underprivileged community without any considerations of caste, creed and religion. ESDO Community Hospital provides comprehensive health and development services to over 1,50,000 underprivileged people living in urban slums and rural areas, in and around Thakurgaon. Services include primary health care, preventive and curative care. Directorate of Health, Government of Bangladesh, recognizes the Hospital.

d) Community Nutrition Activities (CNA)- Community Nutrition Activities (CNA) is implementing at Gaibandha Sadar, Sundargonj, Palashbari, Gobindagonj, Shaghata upazila under Gaibandha district since May 2007 with the assistance of World Food Programme (WFP). The activities are: base line survey, BCC session conduction, blended food distribution among the malnourished pregnant and lactating mothers.



Human Development Program: Appropriate skills are the weapon for poverty alleviation

Due to the changing context of the development sector as well as the emergent need to build the capacity of the development workers in facing the new challenges in the development field, ESDO provided different types of trainings to its staff at country and abroad level in the year 2005 within its limited resources. The key training contents were: project Management, Institutional Development and Organizational Strengthening, Group Dynamic and Micro Finance Management, Effective Management training Income Generating Activities, Livestock Rearing and Project Management, Foundation training for Newly Appointed Staff, PRA and Project Approach, Financial Management, Accounts and Office Management and so on.

As part of a staff development initiative, a 6 member team comprising ESDO's senior level and mid-level staffs visited the Hazardous Child Labour Reduction programme of the MV Foundation, Hyderabad, Andra Pradesh India.

Alongside the training programme, orientations of the new staff and discussion meeting as well as sharing of knowledge & information on the organizational issues were organized to build up the capacity of ESDO's staff. Besides these programmes, senior level staffs of ESDO participated in different seminars, symposium at national and international level. In addition, ESDO revised the mechanism relating to its HR policies and rules in the year 2006-2007.

Throughout the year, a total number of 1315 staffs were imparted with various type of trainings to enhance their capacity.

As the outcome of the staff development initiatives, the staff who received training and participated in the development process became competent and skilled in their concerned working area. They became capable in relation to effective programme planning, implementation, programme and organizational management and contributed effectively in solving problems relating to their professional responsibilities.



ESDO's Skill Development Training for Beneficiaries: 2006-2007

For any type of development work, training is the most important part. No success has been overcome without training. It is very necessary to train the beneficiaries for sustainable development. Through training program, awareness will be increased among the beneficiaries as well as they improve their skill and it also increases their income level. Training and human development sector is one of the major sector of ESDO. Under this sector, ESDO provides a series of different types of training. These are:

- Awareness raising
- Social issues
- Life skill development
- Income generating

Training Plan:

ESDO is experienced to develop training plan with sufficient information by which the trainer can conduct training in a lively environment and participant can share information regarding the training topics. On the other hand these training plans are very helpful to monitor and evaluate the training program.

Table-15: At a glance Staff Development Training: 2006-2007

Sl. No.	Name of Training	Male	Female	Total
01.	Group Dynamics and Micro Finance Management	05	20	25
	Foundation training for new staffs	79	442	521
03.	Micro Finance Management for Ultra Poor Program	33	136	169
04.	Livestock Rearing and Project Management	47	8	55
05.	Micro Finance for Marginal Farmers	30	0	30
06.	Community Teacher learning course	20	50	70
07.	Training for ASEP Project staffs	10	18	28
08.	Orientation on MFMSPP Field Organizer	0	28	28
09.	Basic agricultural Technology training	01	24	25
10.	Pre service training on Project Activities (HCLIRM)	08	31	39
11.	Training on Advocacy	04	22	26
12.	Training on Financial Management	13	48	61
13.	Training on Participation of Grass Root People in Union budget preparation	07	24	31
14.	Training on Accounts Management for PNGO staffs	08	14	26
15.	TOT of project staffs	60	121	181
Total		325	986	1315

ESDO Enterprise: Unique activity for empowerment of vulnerable women

Imparting sustainable development, scope and facilities and dissemination of expertise by means of exposure to other and livelihood through the same intervention/initiation, ESDO has incorporated the following projects under this program umbrella:

Aroni An effective instrument of ESDO for fighting Monga

Every year, the poor of extreme north west of Bangladesh have to under go a very critical time from mid September to mid November. During this period, there exists no work, no employment, no income. As a result, the poor have to remain half-fed, and sometimes they do not have any food to live. Locally, this starvation like situation is named Monga. It is also considered a famine like situation.

There are inadequate development interventions both from Govt. and Non-Govt. levels to address Monga. These interventions can not bring a remarkable change for them to overcome Monga. In order to tackle Monga, more employment opportunities are required throughout the year. With this idea in mind, aroni is evolved. It has brought about a considerable change for the poor in their livelihood through access to occupational training, capacity building and creation of an enabling environment to grow their confidence.

Aroni a bangla term, means glittering stone by means of which fire is created. This fire is the symbol of light and hope.

ESDO, the target Non-Government Organization in the extreme north of Bangladesh, has been undertaking integrated development programmes to improve the living standard of the poor since its inception in 1988. aroni has already attained considerable success in reducing monga through implementation of rural handlooms and handicrafts projects. Its women groups are also engaged in various income and employment generation projects. aroni has got its own skilled designers, trainers and quality control cells to support these groups in enhancing their occupational capacity.

Now employment is there throughout the year. Women are making rural handicrafts such as nakshikantha, bags, decorated bed sheets, cushion cover, mats and different artistic products.

aroni also maintains quality of its products. Its skilled designers and trainers are working with sincerity & commitment.



POLICY FORMULATING STRUCTURE

The policy decisions of ESDO are made by Executive Committee (EC) which is elected from and by the General Committee.

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Md. Shafiqul Islam

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Member

Mrs. Nazma Akhter

Vice-Principal

Little Scholars Tutorial Home

Wary, Dhaka

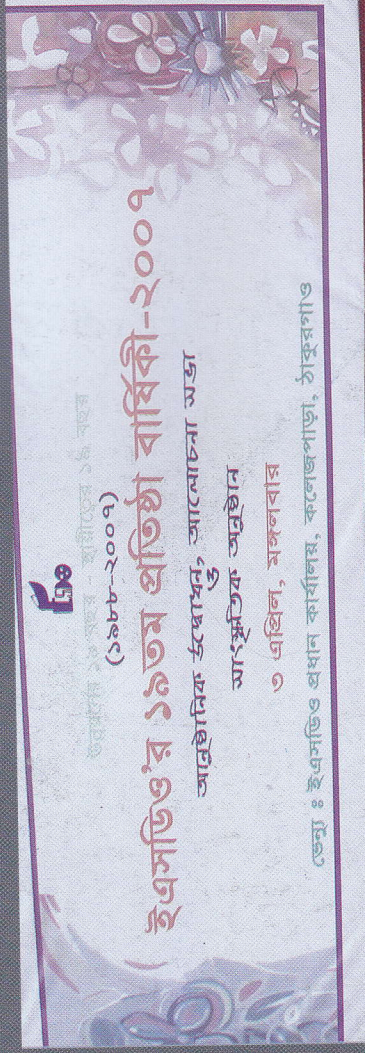
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We seek an equitable society free from all discriminations



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