

Chapter-IV

SECTOR - A: CO-OPERATIVE AND EXTENSION SERVICES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Project No: 1

RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION MEASURES (RIDJCM)

Principle : Everyone has the right to employment as a means to realize other basic rights.

Background : The project started in 1979. The present three-year phase of the project started in January 2005. The reporting year is the second half of the second year (from July to December, 2006) and the first half of the third year (from January to June, 2007) of the project. The "Rural Infrastructure Development and Job Creation Measures (RIDJCM)" project has five components: (i) Rural/Earth Works, (ii) Rainwater Harvesting, (iii) Installation of Drinking Water Tubewells, (iv) Distribution of Water Sealed Latrines, (v) Ring-wells and Tara-pumps.

Donors : MISEREOR / Zentralstelle, Germany

Staff Strength:

		<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Total</u>
Regular Staff :	Central :	3	1	4*
	Regional :	28	3	31*
Volunteers :		29	1	30
Total:		60	5	65

(* For all projects under DMD sector)

Expenditure : Foreign Partners' Contribution : Tk. 12,155,496

Local Partners' Contribution : Tk. 3,866,386

Total : **Tk. 16,021,882**

Objectives :

The RIDJCM project has a specific goal that the primary stakeholders avail themselves of short-term employment in the lean period in order to promote development of rural infrastructure including water and sanitation.

To achieve the above goal the project has the following main objectives:

- To prevent waterborne diseases with improved health and hygienic condition of the primary stakeholders by increasing their habits of using safe drinking water and water sealed latrines.
- To improve the rural communication system especially the road communication in the intervened areas for the target people.
- To increase the agricultural production of the primary stakeholders through improving the

condition of lands and ponds in the target areas.

- To increase and raise the participation and sense of ownership among the community people towards the project outputs as they can identify their local problems and know the planning and implementation of possible solutions.

Achievements:

The following statistics of targets and achievements of the RIDJCM project are from the two different project years, i.e. from July to December, 2006 (second half of the second year) and from January to June, 2007 (first half of the third year):

Sl. No.	Major Activities	Achievement as on June, 2006	Target for 2006-2007	Achievement in 2006-07	% of Achievement	Cumulative as on June, 2007
1.	Re-construction of Road	1,164	19	17	89	1,181
2.	Re-excavation of Pond	557	21	16	76	573
3.	Construction of RCC (Pucca) Bridge	112	5	5	100	117
4.	Construction of RCC Pipe Culvert	1,001	0	0	0	1,001
5.	Construction of Box Culvert	134	8	8	100	142
6.	Construction of Iron Structure/Wooden Bridge	132	1	1	100	133
7.	Construction/Repair of Embankment, Dam & Dyke	72	6	6	100	78
8.	Re-excavation of Canal	13	1	1	100	14
9.	Construction of Water Drain	8	0	0	0	8
10.	Fallow Land Development	9	9	9	100	18
11.	Rain Water Harvesting - Construction of Reservoir	38	12	12	100	50
12.	Installation of Ring Well	1,239	9	0	0	1,239
13.	Installation of Tara Pump	667	11	0	0	667
14.	Sinking of Drinking Water Tube-well	22,828	184	127	69	22,955
15.	Distribution/Installation of Water Sealed Latrine	100,622	2,209	1,212	55	101,834
16.	Length of Road (km)	1,616	15	13	88	1,629
17.	Short-term/Direct Beneficiaries	3,273,304	66,004	59,668	90	3,332,972
18.	Long-term/Indirect Beneficiaries	10,612,128	109,902	97,832	89	10,709,960
19.	Volume of Earth Works (cft)	340,144,519	3,636,371	3,003,486	83	343,148,005

Impact :

Through implementing the above activities of RIDJCM project the following impacts have been created on the stakeholders:

- ❖ The constructed roads, bridges and culverts have improved the communication system in the respective rural areas. Now the people, especially the elderly people, children, sick and disabled persons, pregnant women of the project area can move easily without any difficulties. Farmers can mobilize their agricultural products to get better prices.

- ❖ From the re-excavation of canals, the farmers are using canal water for irrigation as much as they need, which is improving their agricultural production as well as increasing their food security. The excavated ponds are being used for the scientific fish cultivation that has mitigated their nutrition deficiency and it helped to address their family needs. It has also enhanced their purchasing power.
- ❖ The overall health and hygienic condition of the projected areas has improved through the use of safe drinking water and sanitary latrine. The villagers are using shallow, semi-deepset and deep tubewells for safe drinking water. In the Barind tracts, villagers are using safe drinking water from the ringwells and tara pumps. The health condition of the villagers has become better now. Water-borne diseases have decreased.
- ❖ Realizing the significance of using sanitary latrines and safe water, many neighbors of the project beneficiaries have initiated to install and use sanitary latrine and tube-well for safe drinking water at their own cost. Therefore the overall hygienic condition of the projected areas has also been improved.
- ❖ Target beneficiaries/Project Committee members can identify their problems and share all the problems in the group meetings. The participation of women in planning, implementing and evaluating of the RIDJCM project has increased.

Conclusion:

The Rural Infrastructure Development and Job Creation Measures (RIDJCM) project has the significant impact on the economic and health situation of the group members of the DEEDS, IHDP, ICDP, GDP and UCPEP. This project is an important supplementary initiative that holds the groups and communities together by taking up infrastructure development projects. Besides, the RIDJCM provides the people of the remotest areas with water and sanitation facilities to improve the health situation. It also provides employment for the poor group members during the lean period of the year. This project also makes indirect contribution towards the empowerment process by way of strengthening group cohesion, unity, solidarity and practical experience in project planning, implementing and monitoring during project implementation and to look after the repair works after the completion of projects.

Community ensures safe drinking water

Rizia Begum (21), wife of Muktar Ahmmed from Vill: Mohajerghona, Union : Baroitalli, *upazila* : Chakaria Dist : Cox's Bazar. Muktar Ahmmed is a landless farmer and has no land except the homestead for living. Their family fully depends on the small income of her husband. The inhabitants of the Mohajerpara are poor. Most of the families are in the same condition. They



had no tube-well in their locality. The people of this locality don't have the capacity to sink a tube-well. Usually, the people of the area use small canal and pond water for their daily household chores and they collect drinking water from a tube-well which is located far away. Due to unsafe water her family and children were suffering from various water borne disease. Sometimes the tube-well owners refuses to allow her to take water and in the rainy season it is very difficult for them to collect water from that tube-well. In their group meeting she came to know that Caritas provides tube-well where there is a lack of sources of getting drinking water. Having this information in detail they discussed the matter and all decided to install a tube-well. Rizia was selected to look after the tube-well issue. She organized her group members and neighbors and collected counterpart contribution from them and applied to Caritas. Accordingly, a tube-well has been provided by Caritas. They received the materials from Caritas and installed by their own contribution. Now, they drink and use tube-well water for domestic purposes from this tube-well. 'Now we are not afraid of diseases like diarrhea, dysentery and Jaundice, etc, she said happily.

Rizia added, 'we jointly contributed tube-well installation cost. Partnership concept grows among ourselves. Unity and solidarity also strengthened among the community and the group members. No body will claim ownership of the tube-well alone'.