

# Caritas main on-going Projects at a Glance

## Theme- 1: Human Resource Development through Education, Formation and Capacity Building

### 1. Caritas Development Institute (CDI)

Provides both short and medium term training courses to social workers and leaders on social analysis and development issues. In-depth study and evaluation of projects are also conducted. Research with an applied nature is an integrated component. A three-month long Diploma Course on 'Social Analysis and Development' has been added to CDI courses from 2008.

### 2. Technical Schools (Regional and Mobile)

Provide an opportunity to young poor boys and girls to ensure professional skill for life through a six-month vocational or trades training school, in carpentry, mechanical, electrical, plumbing work, etc. under the Mobile Trade project and one year course in the seven Regional Technical Schools.

### 3. MAWTS (Mirpur Agricultural Workshop and Training School)

Started as a workshop for repair and manufacture of agricultural machinery it is now essentially a training school, which offers Diploma in Engineering Course for four years, Long-Term Mechanical Course for 3 years, Trade Course for one year and Instructor Course for one year. MAWTS has a well-equipped Production Unit to produce a variety of goods on customer demand. The main aim is to create an industrial environment within the institute to provide on-the-job practical training and to cover the expenses for trainees. It has also a Research and Development Cell that rendered remarkable services to various organizations in the past and is continuing to do so.

### 4. Bandarban Technical Training School (BTTC)

A project for vocational trades training, aimed at diversification of occupations of tribal boys and girls, from *jhum* (slash & burn) cultivation to other possibilities like carpentry, tailoring and electrical work to improve/change their way of life from nomadic to a more settled one. A further improvement of infrastructure and facilities of BTTC has been planned from 2009.

### 5. Underprivileged Children Preparatory Education Programme (former Feeder Schools)

The programme was initiated to aware and mobilizes the community to understand the significance of education and to ensure their participation in children education. As a result enrolment and school going habit developed in Caritas working areas. More than 500 schools were established so far in Caritas working areas and among these some were nationalized and some were merged as registered school. Still more than 300 schools are run by Caritas. The project has been creating the opportunities of quality primary education to the children of rural communities who are deprived of education for want of consciousness of parents, poverty and lack of school nearby as well as contributing to the government's effort of Universal Primary Education. In the meantime, a model of Child-centered Interactive Teaching Learning is introduced to enhance the quality of education.

### 6. Caritas Education Programme (CEP)

This programme has a number of projects, which strive to bring about time-befitting changes and reforms in the arena of education. With a view to enriching teachers' professional skills both short and long term training courses, seminars and workshops are arranged. Nowadays erosion of moral values has become a serious problem. In order to minimize ethical decadence Moral Education (known as Education To Reality - ETR) training is imparted to teachers and youth.

There are opportunities for pupils to take part in extracurricular activities and neighbouring educational institutions are involved in year-round interaction on specific issues.

Under this programme, support to poor and needy students, especially to *Adivasi* students in the forms of monthly grants to meet the expenses for tuition fee, food, lodging, education materials including books are provided.

### 7. Youth Formation Activities

Development of a nation depends upon all-round formation of Youth. Young people are the life-blood of every nation. Development of a nation depends upon the all-round formation of youth. Therefore, this project is

continuing its efforts for proper formation and development of the youth through different activities for them organized in schools, regions and dioceses.

#### **8. Literacy and Health Care Programme (Notre Dame College -Dhaka)**

The project began in 1972 with a principle that those who live in slums by compulsion are no less human and in fact deserve greater attention. The main objectives of this project are: i) to build up school-going habits among destitute and slum children of Dhaka and to give them primary level education; and ii) to provide medical and preventive health-care services for them and their families.

### **Theme- 2: Establishment of Social Justice and Human Rights through the Capacity Building of the Poor, of the Women and of the Ethnic Communities**

#### **9. Development Extension Education Services (DEEDS):**

Development Extension Education Services (DEEDS) was initiated in 1979 in 24 *Upazilas* with the objective to organize the landless poor and powerless people of the grassroots level. The ultimate goal has been to make landless and marginalized households self-reliant through their own organizations. In 1991 DEEDS extended its services in another 27 *Upazilas*. The target group approach as opposed to community approach was introduced to organize the poverty-stricken poor. Peoples' Organizations, named as *Sangathans*, formed under this programme are now taking over responsibilities from Caritas. The process for phasing over will continue until 2010.

#### **10. Integrated Human Development Project (IHDP)**

IHDP began in 1990 as a separate project aiming to promote Socio-Economic and Cultural development of the poor and marginalised *Adivasi* community of the Barind Tract by imparting non formal education i.e. training, meeting, seminar & workshop and to help the primary groups to build Peoples Organization (POs). For the empowerment of the members and strengthening the traditional community organisation (*Dighori, Pargana, Baishi*) of the *Adivasi* at village, Union & *Upazila* level this special program has been being implemented. IHDP has been merged with DEEDS since 1997.

#### **11. Improvement of Living Standard of the Hardcore Poor of Sandwip (ILSHP)**

With a view to alleviate the sufferings of the poverty-stricken people of Sandwip, especially of the hardcore poor, Caritas and Social Development Initiatives (SDI) jointly started **Improvement of Living Standard of the Hardcore Poor of Sandwip (ILSHP)** in 2002. The 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of the project with a new name *Disha* (find out the way towards empowerment) will start from July 2009 aiming to emphasis on Animation, Mobilization, Beneficiaries' Capacity Building, Legal Awareness, Linkage, Lobbying and Advocacy supports and support to ensure Access to Government Resources.

#### **12. Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children through Awareness Building**

The main objectives of this project are to raise mass awareness about the effect and consequences of trafficking; rehabilitate the victims of trafficking in the society; prevent trafficking through collaborative response; and involve local NGOs in anti-trafficking drive.

#### **13. Justice and Peace Programme**

The aim is to build processes and mechanisms for addressing the issues of justice and peace and create awareness on human rights at the grassroots level. This project started in 2002. For the initial years the project was known as Human Rights Education Project (HREP).

#### **14. Gender and Development Programme (GDP)**

To empower the powerless women folk and to reduce gender discrimination in order to build gender responsive society to live with human dignity. The project is, at present, in the process of establishing gender focused and financially sustainable Peoples Organizations and making gender responsive Caritas projects.

#### **15. Integrated Community Development Projects (ICDP)**

Caritas has a total of seven ICDPs to motivate and organize ethnic communities of greater Mymensingh, Dinajpur, Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Barisal, Rajshahi, Gazipur, and in the Chittagong Hill Tracts by way of training, income generation and awareness on health and education for integral human development.

#### **16. Employment Creation Through Sericulture (ECTS)**

To encourage rural landless poor to involve in various phases of sericulture activities, starting from cultivation of mulberry trees to production of silk cloth for employment opportunities. The project is run from its own income.

### **17. CORR--The Jute Works**

CORR-The Jute Works (CJW) is a women's non-profit handicraft marketing & exporting trust working for rural destitute women. The CJW was established in 1973 to achieve the following main objectives: i) to promote and assist in the formation of handicraft producers as economically viable groups; and ii) to organize rural destitute women and provide them with skill education for producing handicrafts as a supplementary source of income for their socio-economic development. The organization (strongly follow vision of 'Fair Trade' and a pioneer in the movement) became self reliant in 1984 and till now run from its own income.

## **Theme - 3: Health and Care**

### **18. Support to Eye Hospitals of Bangladesh National Society for the Blind (BNSB)**

Support to Bangladesh National Society for the Blind (BNSB) for its hospitals, mobile eye camps, school sight testing, ophthalmic training and nutrition research centre. Intra ocular lens (IOL) implantation is being rapidly introduced.

### **19. Rehabilitation and Empowerment of Visually Impaired Persons (REVIP)**

The project started in July 2006 based on a principle that rehabilitation and empowerment of the visually impaired persons is a moral responsibility of the community. The main objectives of the project include: i) to make the mass people aware of the curable eye diseases, means and source of necessary treatment to ensure preventive measures related to blindness issues; ii) to initiate steps in order to ensure access of the visually-impaired children to education; and iii) to rehabilitate the visually impaired persons in their own community with due dignity and respect.

### **20. Rural Eye Care Awareness and Prevention Program (RECAP)**

With a vision to ensure better eyesight through providing eye treatment and to create awareness among parents, teachers, students and community people on blindness prevention. Caritas Bangladesh started the RECAP in 2006. This project has been implementing with the partnership of BNSB Dinajpur, BNSB Mymensingh and eight partner NGOs of Andheri - Hilfe in the greater Rajshahi Division.

### **21. Under-Fives & Maternity Clinic (UFMC)**

Since 1979 Under Fives and Maternity Clinic Project (UFMCP) of Caritas Bangladesh has been continuing its services, both curative and preventive among 4000-targeted families in 31 villages under four Unions namely Padrishibpur, Niamoti, Rongosree and Bhorpasha of Bakerganj *Upazila* under Barisal district. Its service includes medical check up, pathological tests, Electro Cardio Gram (ECG), Ultrasonography and Ambulance service for transporting of serious patients to and from the clinic.

### **22. Leprosy Centre & TB Control Project (Dajpur and Khulna)**

- Treatment and rehabilitation of the Leprosy patients;
- Treatment of the TB patients; and
- Outreach programmes.

### **23. Reproductive and Child Health Development Project (RCHDP)**

The project started in 2002 aiming to improve reproductive health situation of the targeted communities. This project rendered services (such as reproductive health training, counseling, youth training, sebok service) to Caritas projects, other network, forums and peoples' organization.

### **24. Safe Motherhood Project**

The objective of the project is to decrease the rate of maternal and infant mortality and morbidity; and to decrease the incidence of pregnancy occurring before the woman is 18 years old.

### **25. HIV / AIDS Prevention Project**

The direct stakeholders of Caritas (staff members, partner group members and volunteers) become well informed about HIV/AIDS issues and by following developed HIV/AIDS policy are responsive towards prevention and mitigation of HIV/AIDS suffering.

#### **26. Bangladesh Rehabilitation and Assistance Centre for Addicts (BARACA)**

A residential centre for treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts. The addicts who seek such help are provided with therapeutic and psychotropic treatment for their recovery. The centre motivates the addicts in their struggle against the use of drugs.

#### **27. Development Initiatives for the People with Disabilities (DIPD)**

The main objectives of the DIPD are: to sensitize the teachers and others to integrate the People With Disabilities (PWDs) in the Mainstream Education, Vocational Training Institutes and society; to create a positive attitude towards the PWDs through raising awareness in the community; and to mainstream disability as a cross-cutting development issue in all Caritas programs/projects.

Besides, there is a centre at Rajshahi Regional Office to provide poor and physically handicapped peoples with artificial limbs and braces, so that they may lead a comparatively active life.

#### **28. Assistance to Charitable Dispensaries/Clinics**

This project provides medicine and basic medical equipment to charitable dispensaries and clinics and vaccine for immunization of children. Besides, this project educates the rural poor about health care, nutrition and childcare.

### **Theme-4: Ensure Ecological Sustainability through the Appropriate Use of Natural Resources and Capacity Building in Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Management.**

#### **29. Horticulture Development Project**

To help the tribal families for achieving improved socio-economic condition by ensuring permanently settled on own land through collective actions including practice of eco-friendly and sustainable agriculture for their livelihood shifting from traditional *jhum cultivation*.

#### **30. Improvement of Livelihood through Sustainable Agriculture (ILSA)**

The project started in July 2006 in the Coastal Areas under Khulna Region and in the Barind Tracts under Rajshahi Region with the main aim to increase farm productivity and income of the poor and marginalized families through appropriate diverse cropping system in the field and homestead by building women's capacity to sustain improved environment friendly agricultural ecologies.

#### **31. Natural Resource Management Project (NRMP)**

The NRMP started in July 2007 for sustainable management of natural resources and improvement of living standard of the targeted beneficiaries aiming to transfer the technology between the neighboring families.

#### **32. Adivasi Fisheries Project**

The project started in January 2007. The main objective of this project is to enhance skills and knowledge for fish and rice production and associated enterprises so that the *Adivasi* project participants are able to double their family income.

#### **33. Enhancing Resilience and Adaptive Capacity for Vulnerable Community to impacts of Climate Change**

The main goal of the project is to make the project participants enabled to take better adaptive action to limit the adverse effects of climate change on their livelihoods. The project carrying out the following main measures to achieve the goal:

- Adaptive capacity development of the community;
- Alternative Income Generating Activities for livelihoods (Agriculture, Afforestation, Aquaculture);
- Initiate Pond Sand Filter (PSF) technology; and
- Surface water preservation.

#### **34. Enhancement of Adaptive Capacity of Drought Vulnerable Community in the North West Region of Bangladesh**

With a view to reducing the risks and vulnerability of the area this community based adaptation project started in July 2007. The main objective of the project is to improve understanding and awareness of the selected community and stakeholders about the present and future drought impacts on their lives and livelihoods, associated risk and vulnerability and to improve coping mechanism and enhance adaptive capacity of the vulnerable community, particularly of the poor, marginal group and women to address drought impacts, related risks and vulnerability.

### **35. Emergency Disaster Management Program (EDMP)**

To assist the disaster-affected communities with immediate food and non-food items, crop recovery supports, reconstruction works as well as creation of employment opportunities through cash for works like cleaning homesteads and ponds; reconstruction of village roads; canal re-excavation; embankment repairing; installation of water and sanitation facilities; low cost houses construction; professional support (e.g. distribution of boat and fishing nets, rickshaws, vans, cows, sewing machines), repairing of existing cyclone shelters and construction of flood/cyclone shelters.

### **36. Strengthening the Community for Disaster Risk Management (SCDRM)**

To strengthen the capacity of the disaster vulnerable community through building disaster management structure and linking the structure with local government as well as facilitating the community for the preparation and implementation of community based disaster risk management plans through networking and local resource mobilization.

### **37. Strengthening of Arsenic Preparedness and Mitigation Project (SAPMP)**

To equip the communities, leaders of Caritas-formed group members, development allies and civil society members with technical skills to tackle arsenic related problems through awareness raising, capacity building for making arsenic test, patient management and to provide arsenic free and safe drinking water sources for the vulnerable communities of the arsenic contaminated areas.

### **38. Shelter for the Poorest Women and Children (SPWCP)**

To improve the existing living conditions, social security and human dignity of the shelterless poor, especially of women led families by providing a complete house with a set of water sealed latrine on their own homesteads or on the lands donated by others.

## **Other Projects**

### **39. Teg O Sheba Abhejan (TOSA) or Lenten Campaign**

Lent is the period of self-purification and for creating a greater awareness of the need to share what we have, not just from our surplus but from our own needs. The TOSA is an annual campaign organised for creating awareness among the people, irrespective of caste and creed, for sharing with others. The funds collected through the campaign are used for supporting various development projects.

### **40. Discretionary Fund Grants**

Caritas Directors' Discretionary Fund has been instituted to deal with small but urgent issues, for which normal procedures to obtain Executive Board's permission cannot be followed. The fund is utilized for purposes that are of short duration, such as seminars, training, individual cases that deserve charity, as well as minor proposals for experimentation and innovation.

### **41. Caritas Employees Solidarity Fund**

To express concern for the poor and destitute and assist our less fortunate brethren with Caritas staff members' own voluntary monthly contributions. This program is for immediate help to the destitute helpless people of the society. Each staff member working under Caritas is serving the needy and poor people voluntarily by giving his/her own generous contribution in this project. It improves the livelihood condition of the poor people especially through its house repairing, income generation and other financial supports. This fund also creates an opportunity for the poor and meritorious students for going a step ahead for education.