

OUTPUT

After 2 years of implementation, the Project has achieved following favourable output.

Effective & Efficient Service Delivery

Since rural services are coordinated at Union level according to villagers needs, wastage and duplication of service at village level is avoided. From service providers point of view, they can now address and contact more people than before through UCCM platform, therefore, we witnessed that NBDs increasingly find it easier to identify recipients for their services. Also Union Parishad are mandated to perform 10 compulsory and 38 optional tasks, the UCCM offers UPs an opportunity to express areas of cooperation and collaboration they require from NBDs and NGOs perform their proper role in assisting local development.



Transparency & Accountability of Activities

Since agents of service delivery are required to inform timing of their visits to village representatives at UCCM, it enhances the accountability of rural services delivery. NBDs have become more responsive to villagers and well aware of the services available at the hands of the providers



Mobilisation of Local Resources :

As a precondition of approval of the micro-infrastructure scheme, VCs are asked to clear their arrear and current union taxes. In addition, every household in the village are to contribute, at least on-day voluntary labour of equivalent to amount in cash as a substitute of labour equivalent to around 20% of the total cost of the scheme.

Creation of Social Capital :

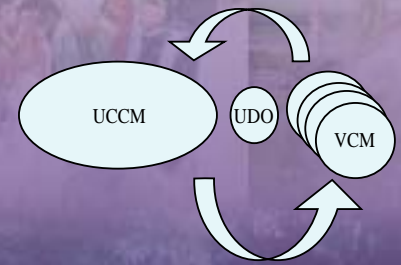
VCM and the UCCM are platform for interaction among the service providers and the recipient. Good friendship and relationship developed among the villagers and NBDs due to regular meeting and increased interaction. The villagers began to seek advices on day-to-day basis.

Success story of Daskhin Chamuria VC

After the implementation of the PRDP project under the initiative of the VC the villagers built four roads, two bridges, one ring culvert and one box culvert. They have their own VC meeting hall. Now they have a public library, a post office in the village. There are 23 ponds under fish cultivation in the village; out of these 17 are the by product of road construction with support from the project. The poultry and cattle are vaccinated regularly with the help of the Livestock Department. The entire village is covered under EPI and most of the people safe drinking water. More than 90% of couples have adopted family planning and 70% use improved latrines. Vegetable cultivation increased along with social forestation. 100% boys and girls attend school. People go to the Library and read more regularly. PRDP interventions have motivated the people to reduce their dependency on outside assistances. They now believe that self help is the best help.

More Information
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Participatory Rural Development Project



JICA Japan International Cooperation Agency



Bangladesh Rural Development Board

Background

Participatory Rural Development Project (PRDP) is a pilot project under Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB). It was launched in 4 unions at Kalihati Upazilla in Tangail district since 2000 with technical assistance from JICA. PRDP advanced the basics from the foregoing action research called JSRDE (Joint Study on Rural Development Experiment) that has been implemented by BARD - Kyoto university team under JICA's Joint Study Programme for the period from 1992 to 1995. Since Rural Service delivery tended to be centrally planned and implemented in Bangladesh, and wastage and duplication of services are witnessed in rural areas, it has proposed a unique mechanism called "Link Model" to streamline rural service delivery by better linking the village communities with union level administration. "Link" means; (1) Vertical link between Union and Villages; and (2) horizontal link among Union Parishad members, Nation Building Departments Officials and Village representatives.

The main objectives of the project are;

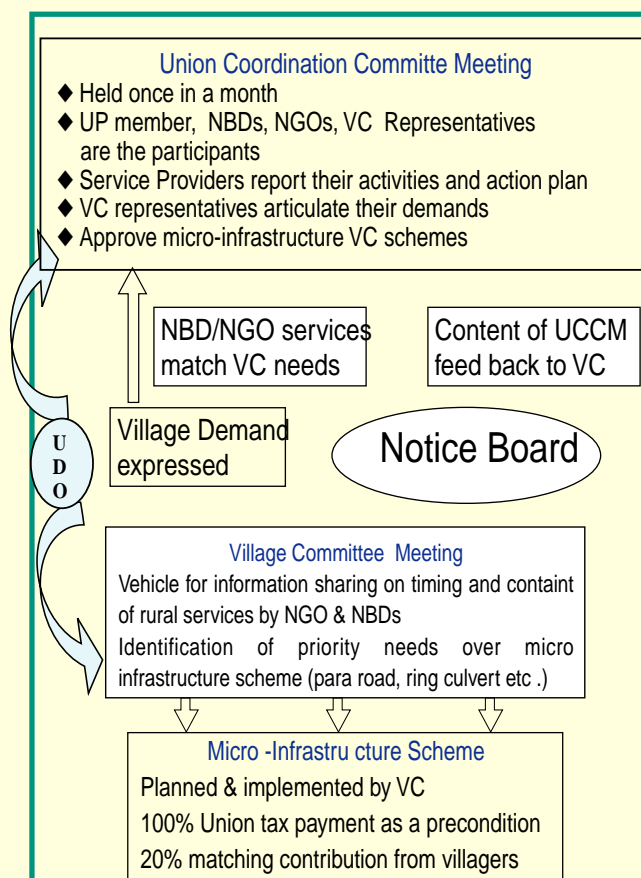
- ◆ To develop, strengthen and institutionalize coordination and cooperation ensuring transparency and accountability.
- ◆ To promote social capital and facilitate utilization of existing resources both physical and human.

The immediate objectives are;

- ◆ To promote and strengthen vertical and horizontal linkage between the service providers and community people.
- ◆ To design and implement micro infrastructure schemes through participation by community both physical and financial.

Key Components of Link Model;

- ◆ Union Coordination Committee (UCC) and Union Coordination Committee Meeting (UCCM)
- ◆ Village Committee (VC) and Village Committee Meeting (VCM)



UCCM :

PRDP established a simple coordinating mechanism called Union Coordination Committee Meeting (UCCM). UCCM comprises public officials (NBDs), all UP members and village representative at the project Union. This is a monthly forum where agents who are responsible for providing rural services (public officials, NGOs, Union Member) report each of their activities during the



their beneficiaries (i.e. representatives from villages). At the same time representatives from villages express types/volume/timing of service their village require so that rural services match to the vilager's needs.



Village Committee is an informal body, composed of 15-30 members selected on the basis of consensus among the majority of village community. Each VC has a chairman, vice-chairman and secretary. One representative is sent to attend the UCCM every month to articulate demand from the village as well as to report information back to the village he/she represents. It also functions as a vehicle to materialise various village needs specially micro-infrastructure schemes.

UDO

Union Development Officer acts as the link pin between the service providers and the recipients. This is a new position, deployed from the project. The UDO assists the UP Chairman to conduct UCCM, facilitates VC formation, and maintains notice boards.

NOTICE BOARD

In PRDP, UCCM, VC and Notices Board function as server of information. Notice boards have been installed at the important point of the project villages /timing of their visit to the village, with information concerning input at the hands of the NBDs and

MICRO-INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEME



The VCs Initiate Planning at the local level through discussion in their monthly meeting VC. makes design, cost estimate cost and submit it to the UCCM for approval. As a precondition for UCCM approval,