

Report on Quarterly Dialogue Meeting

Date : 28 October 2018

Place : MKP project office, Baliadangi, Thakurgaon

Participants : Staff of Department Agriculture extension, CSO members

No. of Participants: Female-18, Male- 31, Total- 49

Introduction:

As part of its efforts, Civil Society Organization Strengthen Democratic Governance project being implemented by Manab Kallayn Parishad-MKP with the financial collaboration of European Union and technical assistance of NEZ-Bangladesh and Bread for the World, organized quarterly meeting between Baliadangi Upazila Civil Society Organization (CSO) and different local service delivery entities inter alia Baliadangi Upazila administration and Baliadangi Upazila Agriculture Extension Department at the compound of Baliadangi Upazila Agriculture Extension Department on 28th October, 2018. The event was prominently focused on a sustainable service delivery mechanism of different local level service delivery institutions towards targeted beneficiaries.

Description:

The quarterly meeting was presided over by Mr. Momtazur Rahman-President of Upazila CSO committee while Mr. Md. Sumon Ahmed- Baliadangi Upazila Agriculture officer was present as chief guest. In his welcome address, Mr. Monjurul Tarik-Field Coordinator of SCOSDG-explicitly narrated goal, objectives, outcomes and operational mechanism of the project. Later, the officials/representatives of Baliadangi Upazila Agriculture Extension Department highlighted different ongoing services of their departments for grassroots people. Mr. Md. Sumo Ahmed, Upazila Agriculture Extension Department, in his speech conveyed his sincere thanks to Manab Kallayn Parishad-MKP for organizing such an event. He went on further saying that the activities executed at Union Parishad are being carried out at Upazila level through coordinating manner. He said that his department has been implementing various projects for boosting agricultural outputs. He further stated that none can be deprive of services as the present world is information based. He said each block consisted of 12 groups and their members are entitled to receive services from pertinent institutions. He said the audience that anyone can become member of the group through registration but must have agricultural tool cards. However, those who have not the same cards are requested to communicate with Deputy Assistant of Upazila Agriculture Department to have the cards. In the open discussion session, Md. Rofiqul Islam-CSO member-said that many poor and marginal farmers in our village got mustard seed but plants are scarcely visible there. So, the seed should have been distributed through group

based instead of individuals making a scope for transparency and accountability. In response to this, Upazila Agriculture Officer said that they can take instant steps if written complaint is lodged. Here, Mrs. Monowara Begum-CSO member-said “my card has been lost & I gave Tk. 250 to have a new card. In reply, Upazila Agriculture Officer said that it is mandatory for our office to provide card free of cost to the recipients so there is no need for money to have card. Again, he requested her to communicate with his office to receive her card. Mr. Abdul Zabbar-CSO member-said that he received lemon and orange saplings from Agriculture Extension Department but unfortunately, the orange plant did not bear fruit while the produced lemon have no demand in the local market. In reply, the Agriculture officer said that creating a wider awareness on better quality of lemon need to be launched.

Achievement:

- Spontaneous participation of government officials
- Participants were aware of different service provisions
- Development of mutual cooperation

Challenge:

- Work load of department

Report on Quarterly Dialogue Meeting

Date : 29 October 2018
Place : MKP Training Center, Thakurgaon
Participants : Staff of Palli Biddut Samiti, CSO members

No. of Participants: Female-18, Male- 25, Total- 43

Introduction:

Civil Society Organization Strengthen Democratic Governance project has been being implemented by Manab Kallayn Parishad-MKP with the financial collaboration of European Union and technical assistance of NEZ-Bangladesh and Bread for the World. As part of its mandate, a quarterly meeting between service providers and service recipients was held on 29th October, 2018 focusing on a sustainable service delivery provision of different service delivery entities towards targeted beneficiaries.

Description:

The event was presided over by Mr. Abdul Fatif-president of district CSO while Mr. Abu Asharaf Md. Sahel-General Manager of district Palli Biddiuth Samity- was present as chief guest. In his welcome speech, Mr. Rashedul Alam-Project Coordinator of COSSDG project-narrated different aspects of fostering a greater understanding and wider awareness building process among common people and solving multifarious problems at field level by arranging this dialogue session. Later, the General Manager of Palli Biddiuth Samity said narrated the ongoing services towards the people. He went on further saying that his department has relentlessly been working to bring whole Thakurgaon district under electrification coverage in line with government decision to cover entire Bangladesh under electrification network by 2019. He said that Palli Biddiuth Samity, Thakurgaon has not approximately 3,00,000 electricity consumer. During the open discussion session Mr. Nazmul Islam wanted to know that whether the Palli Biddiuth Samity mikes the electricity installation facilities by means of official procedure. In reply the General Manager said that his office always mikes across the Union regarding the pertinent issue. Mr. Momtazur Rahman said that sometimes consumers have to pay bribe to officials for installing electricity collection and if reluctant to pay bribe they have to wait for year after year citing some examples. In replying to this, the Assistant General Manager said that there is no bribery practice resorted to by the officials of his department whatsoever. But some unholy quarter for lining their own pocket has been carrying out this practice by alluring the common people and thus accentuating their unnecessary harassment. At one stage of the open dialogue session, Mrs. Mousumi Rahman said that consumers are required to submit their land document to have electricity collection but sometimes it reveals that some consumers do

not possess land documents. In that case what remedial measures the Palli Biddiuth Samity has, she sought to know. In reply, the officials said that a nationality certificate from the local Union Parishad Chairman is required as an alternative means. Mr. Setaur Rahman-CSO member-highlighted different inconsistency activities of the the Palli Biddiuth Samity. In this connection, the relevant officials admitted that there have been some problems at field level and said that all of us have to be conscious to present this bad practice. Later, Mr. Abdul Latif in his concluding address said that this dialogue session paved the way for solving our lingering programs and thanked all participants for their overwhelming participation in the discussion meeting.

Achievement:

- Spontaneous participation of government officials
- Participants were aware of different service provisions
- Service providers were aware of different problems at field level

Challenge:

- Work load of department

Report on Quarterly Dialogue Meeting

Date : 31 October 2018

Place : Women affairs office hall room, Ranisankail, Thakurgaon

Participants : Staff of Women affairs office, CSO members

No. of Participants: Female-22, Male- 22, Total- 44

Introduction:

As part of its efforts, Civil Society Organization Strengthen Democratic Governance project being implemented by Manab Kallayn Parishad-MKP with the financial collaboration of European Union and technical assistance of NEZ-Bangladesh and Bread for the World, organized quarterly meeting between Ranishankail Upazila Women Affaires Department and CSO members on 31st October 2018. The event was focused on shaping a sustainable service delivery provision of different service institutions within the targeted beneficiaries.

Description:

Mrs. Abeda Sultana-Official of Ranishankail Upazila Women Affaires Department-present in the event as chief guest while Mr. Setaur Rahman-president of Upazila Civil Society Organization (CSO)-presided over the meeting. In this welcome address, Mr. Rashedul Islam, Project Coordinator of CSOSDG project-explicitly presented goal, objectives, activities, outcomes and operational operandi of the project together with objective of the quarterly meeting before the distinguished audience. Later, the officials of Ranishankail Upazila Women Affaires Department narrated the ongoing services of their department. In her speech, Mrs. Mrs. Abeda Sultana said her department provides VGD cards to the eligible people and gives 30 kilogram of rice to each card holder for every month by taking Tk. 200 as savings money from each recipient under this project. However, the money will subsequently be returned back to the same recipients so that they can purchase some essential things in the future. Furthermore, her department provides maternal allowance, disable allowance, soft loan, association registration, and impart skills development training on Income Generating Activities (IGAs). She went on further saying that those deprived women who have successfully overcome their hindrances under the National Development Program will be provided with national awards for their tremendous contribution to ensuing women rights in the country. Finally, Mrs. Abeda Sultana sought questions from the participants. Mr. Setaur Rahman-CSO member-said Ranishankail Upazila Women Affaires Department takes money as mortgage from the trainees. Is there any provision in the stated department for taking the mortgage in its existing policy? In replying this, Mrs. Abeda Sultana said the mortgage money is refundable based in line with the approval of Upazila Nirbashi Officer. At one stage of the question-answer session, Mrs. Shouli Begum said that it is very difficult for girl trainees to give money as mortgage. Mrs. Abeda Sultana replied that girls are

given time to pay mortgage. Mrs. Munira Begum-CSO member-said is there any service provision for twin baby. Replying to this, Mrs. Abeda Sultana said if the baby is 8 month old, it deserves maternal allowance. Finally, president of the dialogue session concluded the event by giving his sincere thanks to all.

Achievement:

- Spontaneous participation of government officials
- Participants were aware of different service provisions
- Development of mutual cooperation

Challenge:

- Work load of department