

Annual Report 2010

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**Printed by:
Genius Computers**

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Preface

It gives me immense pleasures to present the Annual Report 2010 of Northern Development Foundation (NDF) to all of you. It carries the views of overall progress of annual activities and preface of the organization. I would feel myself proud if my curious readers predict it as readable and meaningful.

We are new has started our journey to do something better than the older in development areas. We do works on Instant Need Address approach for the poor and enable people. We give the full appearance of expected objects helping the men and women who try hard to obtain it but can't. Our development participants are twice in size this year as people might have taken our approach and intervention policies very affirmatively as light.

I would like to convey my thanks to chairmen and the executive team members of the organization. My thanks also go to my colleague who directly involved in implementation of organizational views very hardly. We believe that there might by some mistakes in our report. We will be happy if you kindly correct us putting your valuable comments. We also expect your kind suggestion and cooperation as we are new in the development field.

With the best regards

Prodip Chandra Pramanik

NDF At a glance:

Northern Development Foundation (NDF) is a Non-Government, Non-Political, Non-Profit making, Non-Religious humanitarian organization established in December 2009 with few initiatives and sincere efforts of some young social reformists. Developing the socioeconomic status of the poorest through building capacities, knowledge, skill etc. were the key objectives of the organization. NDF started working with very few people who are extremely poor, hunger, deprived of rights and dignity in the beginning. Now numbers of beneficiaries are increased in twice by this year 2010. The organization has been implementing its development works in 4 unions of Gaibandha Sadar Upazila. These are Capacity Building, Training & Education, Income & Employment Generation, Health & Sanitation, Disaster Risk Mitigation and Management programmes.

NDF has believes in integrated and participatory development frameworks approach and we try to make our development plans accordingly.

Basically Gaibandha is very much prone to disaster and poverty. The three big rivers such as the Bramhaputra, Jamuna, Teesta and their big and small tributaries have been flowing over this district which creates sudden and forceful flooding and river erosion al most every year. Monga (seasonal food crisis) is another phenomenon for the people of this district that expose extra burden to the community people. There are 118 chars (Sandy Island) in Gaibandha. The people who live in the chars have to survive fighting with devastating flood, river erosion, cold wave, drought, tornado, monga (seasonal food crisis) and inverse natural calamities. They have been deprived from basic rights too as government's facilities are not reached yet among the char's people. NDF recognized the dismal situation and started working with such helpless group from last two years to bring lasting positive changes in their life. The most priority based development activities that NDF is implementing are; poverty eradication, women empowerment, gender equality, health and sanitation, human rights, disaster risk reduction, improvement of destitute, and employment creation etc.

Legal status:

Name of Department	Registration No.	Date
Directorate of Social Welfare Department	Gai/Sadar/1308/2010	01-12-2010

Goal:

Developing socio-economic condition of the poorest through enhancing their own capacities and knowledge and bring them on a development platform so that they could seek rights and opportunities by their own.

Our Vision:

NDF desires to have poverty and violence free equitable society that could ensure every hopes and prosperity of people.

Mission:

Helping out the poor by aspiration of the credo “the organization for meeting the needs of destitute” NDF works with poor and destitute, vulnerable, excluded and all other disadvantaged groups of people particularly the women, men, children, and tribal. It works to bring lasting positive change in the life of its target people. NDF always emphasized equal participation of women and men to establish balanced society with promotion of women role in social activities and find innovations in women works particularly in income generation activities to stimulate their economic condition and social position.

Objectives:

NDF has the following objectives:

1. To find out the destitute & poor in the working areas and make them united on NDF's development pattern and strengthen capacities to find access to all over services and resources;
2. To create employment opportunities and income scope integrating skill, resources and technologies to ensure sustainable livelihoods;
3. To reduce suffering and losses affected by natural disaster and promoting community resilience to cope with natural disaster;
4. To reduce the child and mother mortality rate promoting better health services in the rural areas;
5. To build balanced society by eliminating all forms of violence and inequality;

Working areas:

NDF has been working in the following unions and upazila in Gaibandha district;

District	Upazila	Name of Union
Gaibandha	Gaibandha Sadar	Kholahati Kamarjani Ghagoya Malibari
Total: 01	01	04

Beneficiaries:

Name of Upazila	Name of Union	Male	Female	Total
	Kholahati	122	212	334
	Kamarjani	96	188	284
	Ghagoya	102	224	326
	Malibari	85	167	252
Total:	04	375	791	1166

NDF has been working for the development of poorest community who are suffered from innumerable problems. NDF's development participants have the following criteria;

- Widow, divorced and abandoned families
- Landless, assets less marginal farmers
- Women headed families depending on child earning
- Families having with disabled children
- Families who are vulnerable to disaster
- Families who are suffered from temporary food crisis;
- Flood and river eroded families

Human Resource:

SL.no.	Type of staff	Total	Male	Female
01	Executive Director	01	01	-
02	Programme Officer	02	02	-
03	Field Organizer	08	04	04
04	Volunteer	19	11	08
	Total:	30	18	12

The Core Programmes of NDF:

1. Capacity Building Programme
2. Training and Education Programme
3. Income and Employment Generation Programme
4. Health, Nutrition and Sanitation Programme
5. Disaster Suffering and Risk Mitigation Programme

Capacity Building Programme:

NDF under this programme generally mobilize poor and destitute to make target beneficiaries united in group. Accordingly it tries to build capacities enhancing their own skill, knowledge and possibilities. The civil society person, some CBOs and local governments has appreciated the initiatives of NDF and have extended their helping hands in implementation. This programme contains awareness creation activities, social mobilization and human resources development interventions. This also includes group formation, committee and forum building activities etc.

Group Formation and Saving Accumulation:

NDF has been forming groups with participation of target beneficiaries since its journey to work. Basically a group contains 20-25 members. Every group of the organization generally set meeting once a week. In the group meeting, each beneficiary member saves Tk. 20 (twenty taka) to generate their saving amount. They also listen various topics on development issues.

To ensure transparency of saving account, NDF emphasis joint Saving Account to keep the saving money in the Bank. NDF collects savings of which 9% interest is given to the beneficiaries by end of the year. The organization has formulated an easy withdrawn policy of saving money so that beneficiary can have their money with in a day to get their problem solved quickly. According to the information of December 2010, beneficiaries of the organization have saved a total of Tk. 14, 20,500 and withdrawn Tk. 1, 22,400.

Group Session:

Group session is held ensuring participation of beneficiary household's members in every month. It's like court yard meeting to increase awareness and knowledge of group members round year. Development worker carries flip chart with booklets to organize the session. This year, nos. 27 awareness sessions are held on personal hygiene education, 22 on women human rights, 13 on disaster preparedness and management, and 17 sessions on homestead vegetable gardening.

Sharing meeting with Group Leaders:

This year, a sharing workshop with UP representative and local elites has been organized during end of this year in NDF campus. The aim of holding workshop was to be self evaluated whether NDF is run on truck. We have discussed about some on-going activities in the workshop and noted some valuable comments and suggestion comes from the participants.

Advocacy:

NDF generally do the advocacy works with government sectors to attain different types of services for their target population. Being made a survey on water and sanitation it has enlisted some important name of beneficiaries from working areas and sent to Govt. Public Health dept. as we are told early in the year. We often discuss the matter with them so that some latrine and tub-well for most needed beneficiaries is ensured.

Training and Education Programme

Training is very important for developing human skills and knowledge. Therefore NDF puts equal emphasis on this program from the beginning. Training makes man perfect to overcome any situation. This year, NDF has provided 7 training courses for beneficiaries and 2 training courses for our staff members utilizing own fund.

NDF believes that education is the key point for the development of the rural people and children. Therefore the organization has been trying to undertake education programme especially for school dropout children and illiterate adult women and men.

Training on Human Rights:

This year, NDF has organized 03 daylong 3 separate training courses on human rights development issue where a total of 104 participants from groups, local elite, up representative, teachers etc have been attended. In this training course, the participants imparted lessons on basic knowledge of human rights and they also got known about how the right issue is incorporated in the development.

Training held on Early Marriage Protection:

NDF has organized the training for group members on early marriage prevention to get the beneficiary participants aware on bad impacts of early marriages and dropout education. Two separate courses have been organized on this issue this year. After being trained, the participants have been sharing their knowledge and learning among others in the group.

Staff Development Training:

As near all the staff of NDF are new, we thought, we should have a plan to provide some training to our staff so that they can implement our field activities properly. This year we organized two courses though needs were more than that we addressed. We organized 01 training course on Group management and 01 course on Rural Water and Sanitation Improvement for our staff members.

Income and Employment Generation Programme

Self-employment creation and generation of income among target beneficiaries is the main objective of this component. NDF tries to improve family's gross income thus economic empowerment can be made easily. For this, the organization put emphasis on family-based self-employments scheme. Though resources are limited, we have tried to give some assets, seeds, cash and training support to our beneficiaries. Now many of our beneficiaries developments are begun which they had not earlier.

Vegetable seed distribution:

NDF has the views to each home would be a firm. NDF is working towards the goal. This year, it has distributed seeds to 210 poor families with multiple seeds packets. We have given VG production catalog along with field visit and compost to the group members. We have been working for promoting vegetable consumption in HH level to ensure nutrition.

Training on vegetable gardening:

NDF has provided 3-daylong trainings for producer group on improved technologies and methods of vegetable cultivations. By this training we have tried to enhance skill and capacities of producer group to produce better production of vegetable as they can supplies available vegetable in the local market.

Microfinance:

NDF generally provides soft loan to the poorest under its microfinance scheme. NDF this year has provided Tk. 250,000 among 145 people. The organization generally provides various types of soft loan especially on agricultural scheme. This is an easy and quick loan process that can be given within day after application to the consumer. The consumers repay it at ending of the year and for which 6% interest only selected.

Health, Nutrition and Sanitation Programme

NDF has initiated to implement the health programme in the 5 unions of Gaibandha Sadar Upazila. Under this programme, the organization organizes nutrition session, health awareness session, sanitation and hygiene education campaign etc. The organization also implements motivation works to encourage community people to install low cost sanitary latrine and tub-well to ensure sound health and sanitation environment in the working areas of NDF. As we know, there are huge lacking prevailed in health services of GoB and private sectors. The poorest suffers from want of food and nutrition. As a result, the target group suffers from malnutrition, night blindness, anemia and other harmful disease. This dismal situation is become a burden over the large extent population of Gaibandha district.

Awareness session:

NDF has been organizing numbers of awareness session on personnel hygiene education and primary health care issues in the group session. A total of 13 sessions have been organized this year on safe drinking water. Being learned from the session, many of our groups members are now more aware then before are practicing proper hygiene practice in their home and community.

Latrine distributed:

NDF has made a survey on water and sanitation and made a list of most wanted HHs from the working area. Then we enlisted some important name of beneficiaries under Latrine Distribution Scheme.

Tub-well distribution plan

Like distribution of Latrine, NDF has made a survey on water and sanitation and made a list of most wanted HHs from the working area. Then we enlisted some important name of beneficiaries under Tub-well distribution Scheme.

Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation

Gaibandha is very poverty and disaster prone areas in northern part of the Bangladesh. People almost every year have to suffer most from disaster consequence as the main three rivers have been flowing over this district. People during monsoon have to face forceful flood and river erosion. Moreover, cold spell, tornado, drought, desertification and monga (seasonal food crisis) also bring extra burden to life of poorest families. Vulnerability and sufferings are increasing day to day as they do not have adequate knowledge and preparedness. To reduce the sufferings of affected people NDF has been implementing relief and rehabilitation programme so that people can easily cope themselves with inverse situation.

Disaster volunteer team formed:

NDF this year has formed disaster volunteer team in its working areas especially in Kamarjany and Gidary unions so that it can face the rescue operation quickly. A total of 9 teams have been formed this year. Each team is consisting of 12-15 committed young. We have planned to provide them training on disaster preparedness and management in the next year.

Limitation / Challenges:

- We like to do something for the people; however we do not have external financial support except member's donation.
- Leading NGOs in the working areas sometime dominate the small NGOs; even they discouraged us not to continue.