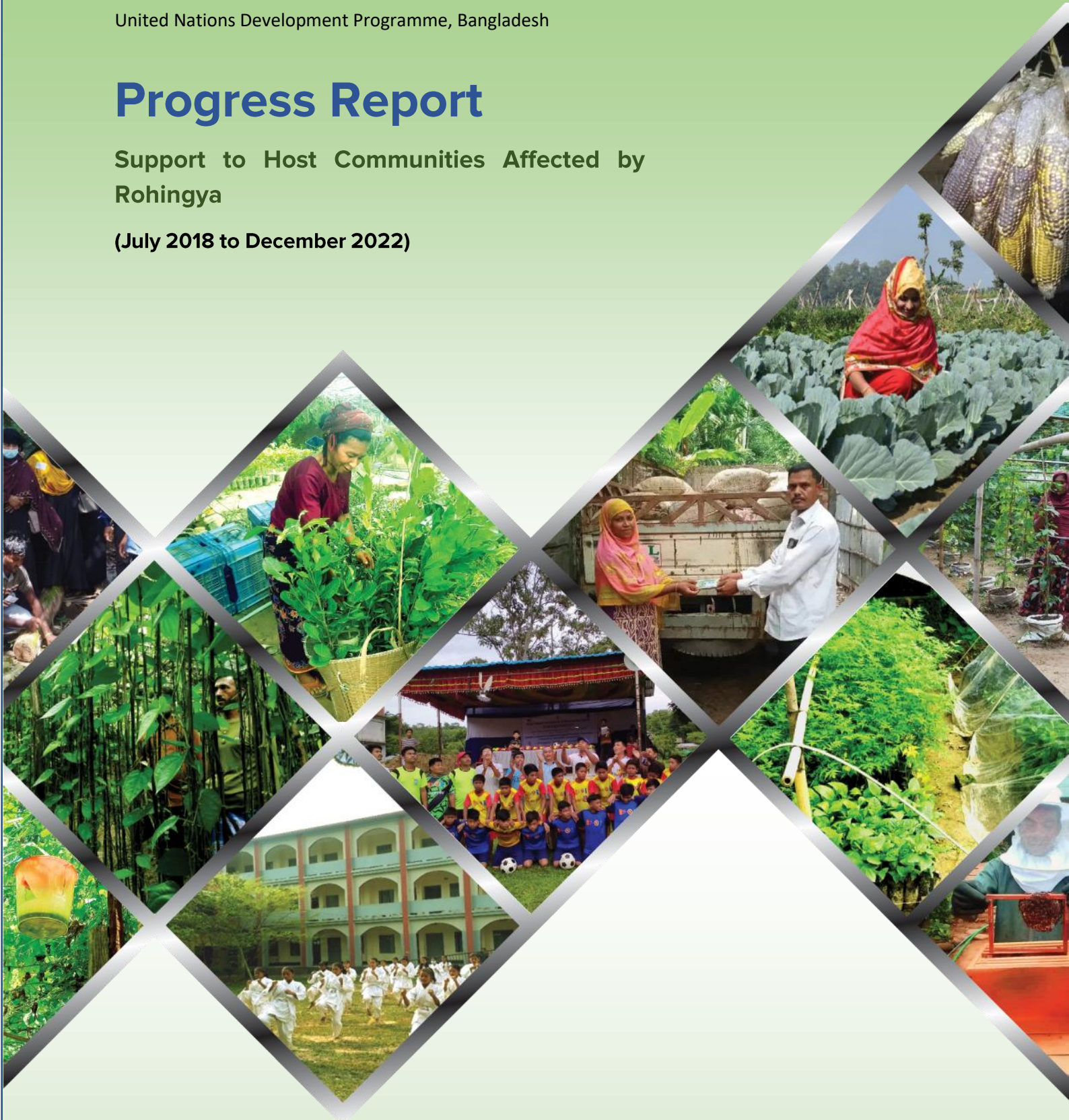


United Nations Development Programme, Bangladesh

# Progress Report

Support to Host Communities Affected by  
Rohingya

(July 2018 to December 2022)



**EMBASSY  
OF DENMARK**  
*Danida*



**Prepared for Danish International Development Assistance (DANIDA)**

**Prepared by Strengthening Inclusive Development in Chittagong Hill Tracts (SID-CHT), UNDP**

IDB Bhaban (7<sup>th</sup> Floor), Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207

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**Acronyms:**

BDT/Tk	Bangladeshi Taka
BTOR	Back to Office Report
CARP	Community Aquaculture Resource Person
CBO	Community Based Organization
CHT	Chittagong Hill Tracts
CHTDF	Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility
CLW	Community Livestock Worker
CPW	Community Poultry Worker
DAE	Department of Agricultural Extension
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DFFSEs	District FFS Experts
DFO	District Fisheries Officer
DKK	Danish Kroner
DLS	Department of Livestock Services
DO	District Officer
DoF	Department of Fisheries
DWG	District Working Group
FA	Field Assistant
FF	Farmer Facilitator
FFS	Farmer Field School
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
HDC	Hill District Council
HH	Household
IFM	Integrated Farm Management
IFM-FFS	Integrated Farm Management-Farmer Field School
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MLI	Market Linkage Initiatives
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoCHTA	Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs
NGO	Non-Government Organization
SID-CHT	Strengthening Inclusive Development in Chittagong Hill Tracts
SLL	Season Long Learning
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
ToF	Training of Facilitators

ToT	Training of Trainers
UAO	Upazila Agriculture Officer
UDCC	Union Development Coordination Committee
UFFSC	Upazila Farmer Field School Coordinator
UFO	Upazila Fisheries Officer
ULO	Upazila Livestock Officer
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USD	United States Dollar
UzDCC	Upazila Development Coordination Committee
VFA	Veterinary Field Assistant

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## 1. PROJECT SUMMARY

<b>Project No:</b>	000111449
<b>Project Title:</b>	Support to Host Communities Affected by Rohingya Influx project, Bangladesh (SHARIP)
<b>Project Start Date:</b>	1 July 2018
<b>Project End Date:</b>	31 December 2022
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	1 July 2018 to December 2022
<b>Project Budget:</b>	DKK 58 Million (USD 9.18 million for Cox's Bazar and Bandarban)
<b>Executing Agency:</b>	Strengthening Inclusive Development in Chittagong Hill Tracts (SID-CHT), UNDP Bangladesh
<b>Responsible Ministry:</b>	Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs (MoCHTA)
<b>Project Area</b>	7 Upazilas of Bandarban and 3 Upazilas of Cox's Bazar
<b>Beneficiaries covered:</b>	1,800 communities (987 communities in Bandarban and 813 communities in Cox's Bazar) covering a total of 54,000 households
<b>Project Objective:</b>	To strengthen the socio-economic condition of poor households of the host communities affected by the Rohingya Influx in 10 Upazilas of Bandarban and Cox's Bazar.
<b>Project Outcomes</b>	Outcome 1: Agricultural production increased and diversified in targeted communities. Outcome 2: Agroforestry production increased sustainably. Outcome 3: Social cohesion increased.
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Supradip Chakma National Project Manager, SID-CHT, UNDP Email: supradip.chakma@undp.org

## 2. INTRODUCTION

Bangladesh hosts one of the largest refugee populations in the world, with over 943,000<sup>1</sup> Rohingya refugees living in congested camps in Cox's Bazar after fleeing atrocities in Myanmar. This has put an immense strain on the surrounding host communities in Cox's Bazar. To address this problem, one of the four strategic objectives in the Joint Response Plan (JRP) for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis is to support sustainable livelihoods for host communities and mitigate potential tensions. The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also aim to end poverty, protect the planet from environmental degradation, and ensure food security. Agriculture is a vital sector in Bangladesh, contributing almost 15% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employing approximately 41% of the workforce<sup>2</sup>. It is a priority of the government to increase agricultural productivity and income of small-scale food producers, particularly women, to achieve specific SDG targets<sup>3</sup>.

The 'Support to Host Communities Affected by Rohingya Influx Project (SHARIP)' is a crucial initiative that contributes to achieving both the JRP and SDGs by improving the socio-economic conditions of 54,000 poor and vulnerable farmers through 1,800 'Integrated Farm Management-Farmer Field Schools (IFM-FFS)' and by enhancing the knowledge and skills of host community residents to strengthen social cohesion in 7 Upazilas of Bandarban Hill District and 3 Upazilas in Cox's Bazar District. In July 2018, DANIDA and UNDP signed a DED, which extends the SHARIP project until December 2022 and broadens both its substantive and geographical scope. The project's overall progress is reported against the revised Results Framework in the DED. The following sections have described the major results achieved during the project duration, with a focus on the results of 3 outcomes generated through different project components.

## 3. OVERALL PROGRESS OF SHARIP

The SHARIP Project aims to improve the socio-economic condition of poor households in the host communities affected by the Rohingya influx in ten Upazilas across Bandarban and Cox's Bazar districts. To achieve this goal, the project has set three major outcomes, and the significant results of these outcomes are highlighted below:

### ***Outcome 01: Agricultural production increased and diversified in targeted communities.***

- The project established 1,800 Integrated Farm Management-Farmer Field Schools (IFM-FFSs), engaging 53,340 farmers, with 79% of them being women.
- 93.7%<sup>4</sup> of the beneficiaries applied additional farming components and improved farming techniques.
- 95% of IFM-FFS farmers applied improved technologies on their farms, leading to an 86% increase in production.
- A total of 53,340 farmers with 79% of them being women completed the IFM-FFS and/or agroforestry sessions.
- The project developed 32 Master Trainers for running Training of Farmer Facilitators (ToF), with 22% of them being women.
- The project selected and developed 563 Farmer Facilitators, with 59% of them being women.

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<sup>1</sup> Report on Rohingya Refugee Crisis Feb 2023, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OCHA

<sup>2</sup> Report on Quarterly Labor Force Survey (QLFS) 2015-16. 2017, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Planning

<sup>3</sup> SDG target 2.3 aims to double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples and family farmers, including through knowledge, inputs and access to markets.

<sup>4</sup> According to Mid Term Review Report. The data will be updated further after completing the endline evaluation.

- The project conducted 3,767 monitoring visits and provided technical follow-up support to the IFM-FFS communities by different government line departments (*DAE, DLS, DoF*).
- The project organized 365 monitoring visits to support the IFM-FFS communities by local Government Institutions (*Union and Upazila Parishads*).
- The project trained 97 farmers with 42% of them being women, on high-value agroforestry products during the project period.
- The project established 43 collection points to connect with buyers or dealers and sell produces, 84% of which are still operational. Around 35% of the collection point's management committee members are women.
- 97%<sup>1</sup> of the participating farmers (including 79% women) have access to quality inputs for their agricultural productions.

#### **Outcome 02: Agroforestry production increased sustainably**

- A total of 1,005 hectares of land have been brought under the agroforestry plan, with more than 88.5% of beneficiaries adopting homestead food production.
- 1,800 IFM-FFS drafted their community Agroforestry Development Plans (ADP) and started implementing social agroforestry practices.
- The project distributed 35,746 saplings to support the implementation of farmers' ADP in their households.
- The Tree + Livestock + Crop model has been selected as a suitable ADP model, while Tree + Crop has been the secondary choice in the project areas.

#### **Outcome 03: Social cohesion increased**

- 21 Local Volunteer Mediators Forum (LVMF) were activated and supported beneficiaries in the project area.
- 1,754 disputes have been mediated in both Bandarban and Cox's Bazar districts, of which 225 disputes that have been mediated mainly are on domestic violence.
- About 78% of IFM-FFS farmers participated in the courtyard sessions, where they were confident in addressing disputes and conflicts at the household and/or community level.
- 5,122 youths participated in social cohesion activities and have reported actively applying their knowledge to enhance social cohesion at their local area.
- 61,280 households received direct livelihood support to cope with the COVID-19 crisis.
- 838,008 households received information on COVID-19 on the potential negative impact of COVID-19 related to social cohesion.
- 77% of participating households engaged in various community groups/ forums.
- 6,903 courtyard sessions were organized for IFM-FFS members to enhance their knowledge on leadership, conflict management and gender equality.
- 303 events were specifically conducted by engaging youths in promoting social cohesion, tolerance, and conflict prevention.
- The project carried out 344 awareness-raising activities on social cohesion.

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<sup>1</sup> According to Mid Term Review Report. The data will be updated further after completing the endline evaluation.



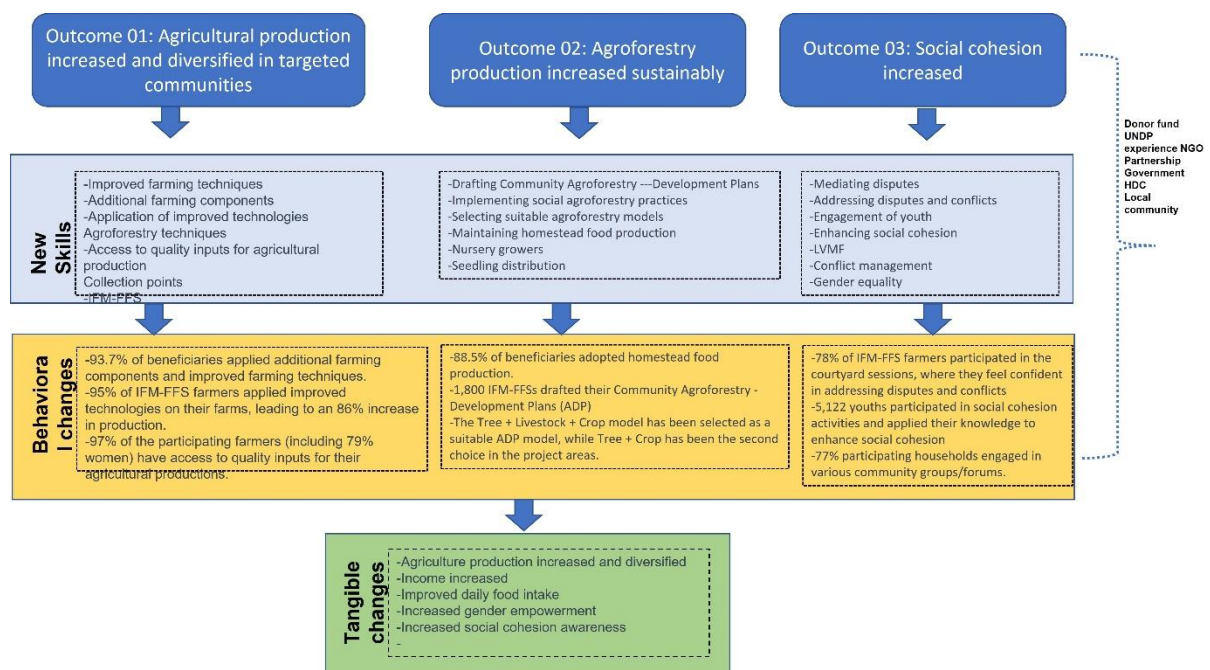
**Linking with the Theory of Change:**

The project was designed with a clear Theory of Change (ToC) that laid out the expected inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes and impact. The project team appropriately utilized the inputs, such as funding and technical expertise, along with other support systems such as engagement with government line departments to carry out the planned activities, which resulted in specific outputs, outcomes and impact.

During the process of implementing the project activities and achieving the planned outputs, the project also fostered new skills and behavioral change among the project beneficiaries. For example, the establishment of 1,800 Integrated Farm Management-Farmer Field Schools (IFM-FFSs) engaged a large number of farmers, including women, and provided training on improved farming techniques and agroforestry practices. As a result a high percentage of beneficiaries applied these new farming components and techniques, which led to 86% increase in production.

Similarly, the project's efforts to increase social cohesion at the targeted communities resulted in a range of behavioral changes such as increased participation with in community groups and forums, engagement of youths in activities promoting social cohesion, and increased confidence among farmers in addressing disputes and conflicts at the household and/or community level. These behavioral changes, in turn, produced tangible impacts that aligned with the ToC that was proposed at the beginning of the project, such as increased agricultural production, sustainable agroforestry practices, and enhanced social cohesion in the targeted communities.

Overall, the project's ability to produce the expected outputs, outcomes and impact was supported by the development of new skills and behavioral change among the beneficiaries, which was an important part of the project's Theory of Change.



#### 4. DETAILED PROGRESS OF SHARIP

### Outcome 1: Agricultural production increased and diversified in targeted communities

The SHARIP project achieved significant progress towards its goal of increasing and diversifying agricultural productivity in the establishment of 1,800 IFM-FFSs with the participation of 53,340 farmers (including 79% women). While the project was not implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic, the first phase demonstrated the potential of the IFM-FFS model for marginalized households in terms of food security and income generation. The project showed that the IFM-FFS plays a vital role in educating marginalized farmers and inspiring them to take on new farming endeavors. As a result, 95% of IFM-FFS respondents applied new farming practices and components, resulting in a 60%<sup>1</sup> increase in food production. The main causes of low production and use of modern farming components and techniques were identified as a lack of access to quality agricultural inputs and a lack of means/resources to implement the technologies. The IFM-FFS graduates demonstrated improved their communication skills and farming techniques, which positively impacted production.

The farmers benefited noticeably from the IFM-FFS sessions, which enhances production. The farmers could remember and quickly apply the IFM-FFS lessons after participating in several study plots. For instance, learning plots on establishing vermicompost, improved hatching pans and farmyard manure production, as well as experiencing the advantages boosted the farmers' desire to put to use what they learned to practice at home.

The IFM-FFS learning cycle- which prioritizes "learning by doing" and the demonstration of improved techniques through learning plots- is well-suited to marginalized farmers with limited educational levels. This approach ensures that the learnings are relevant, as IFM-FFS farmers choose modules that are appropriate for them. The ongoing capacity building of Farmer Facilitators through multiple training sessions, field-level backstopping support from Master Trainers, and regular experience-sharing events also enhances their knowledge and facilitation skills. These Farmer Facilitators then inspire IFM-FFS farmers to apply the lessons they've learned at their homestead gardens and farm fields. Additionally, regular monitoring visits by GoB line department officials, Union, and Upazila Parishad representatives add value to IFM-FFS implementation and encourage members to use IFM-FFS techniques at their farm activities and showcase their results to visitors. While IFM-FFS farmers emphasize the value of being connected to GoB agricultural services to further increase the production, the project has made significant progress in achieving its outcome of increasing and diversifying agricultural productivity.

#### Indicator 1.1: % increase in productivity (hen eggs, chicken meat, vegetables, fruits, fish) in IFM-FFS households

Indicator	Cumulative targets by 2022 <sup>2</sup>	Targets achieved	Remarks
		Result (MTR report)	
1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: hen eggs <sup>3</sup>	20%	57%	The figure will be updated at the endline evaluation
1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: chickens <sup>4</sup>	30%	68%	
1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: vegetables	25%	67%	
1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: fish	30%	67%	
1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: fruits	20%	39%	

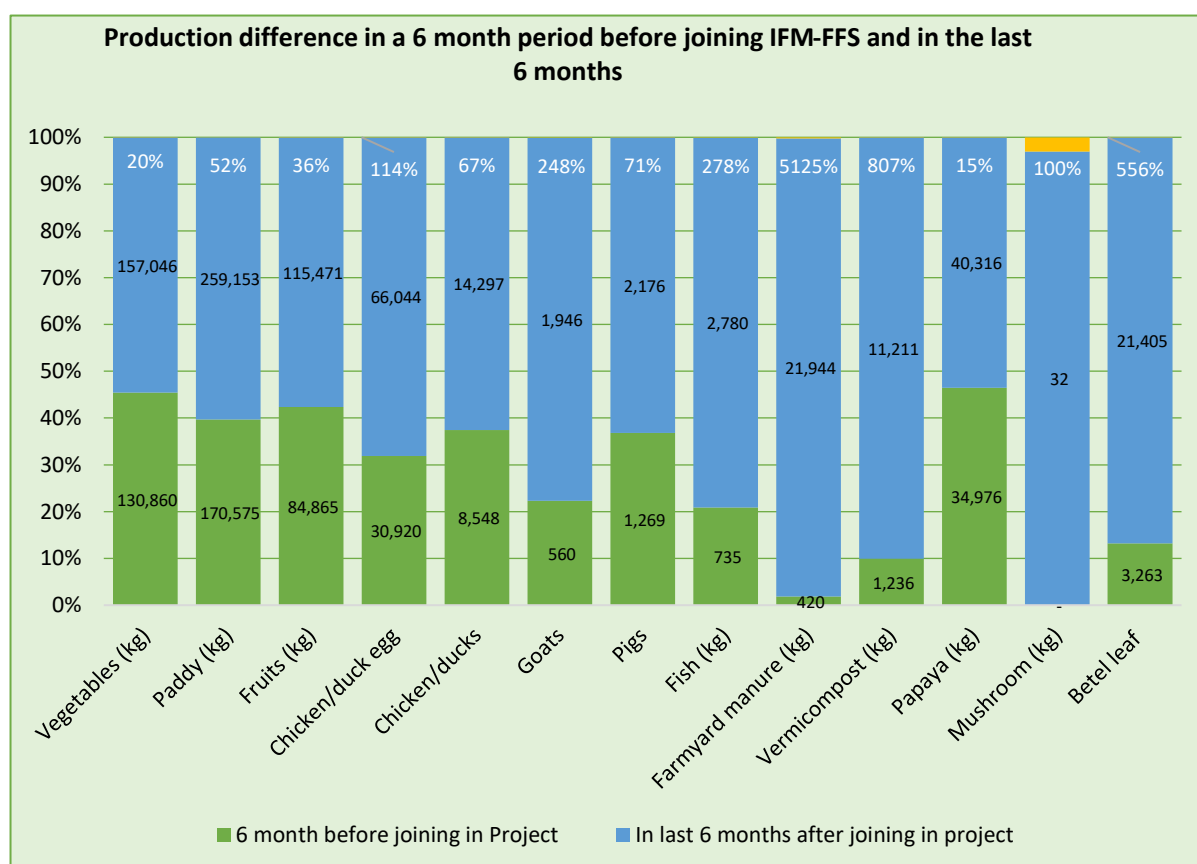
<sup>1</sup> According to Mid Term Review Report. The data will be updated further after completing the endline evaluation

<sup>2</sup> These targets are to be reached by 2022

<sup>3</sup> The target achievement includes duck eggs

<sup>4</sup> The target achievement includes ducks

The IFM-FFS farmers enhanced their agricultural productions based on all learning topics covered by the IFM-FFS modules, according to the internal outcome assessment. This demonstrates the effectiveness and applicability of the IFM-FFS learning methodology, which was simple for farmers to replicate at their homestead areas. Overall, the production was increased by 52% in the last 6 months compared to prior to joining the IFM-FFS. This is consistent with the MTE's findings. The bar graph below (which will be updated by the end line data) depicts the estimated rise in production across items. The most notable growth is shown in production of fish, goats, poultry and duck eggs. Other high-value crops, such as betel leaf, have also increased significantly.

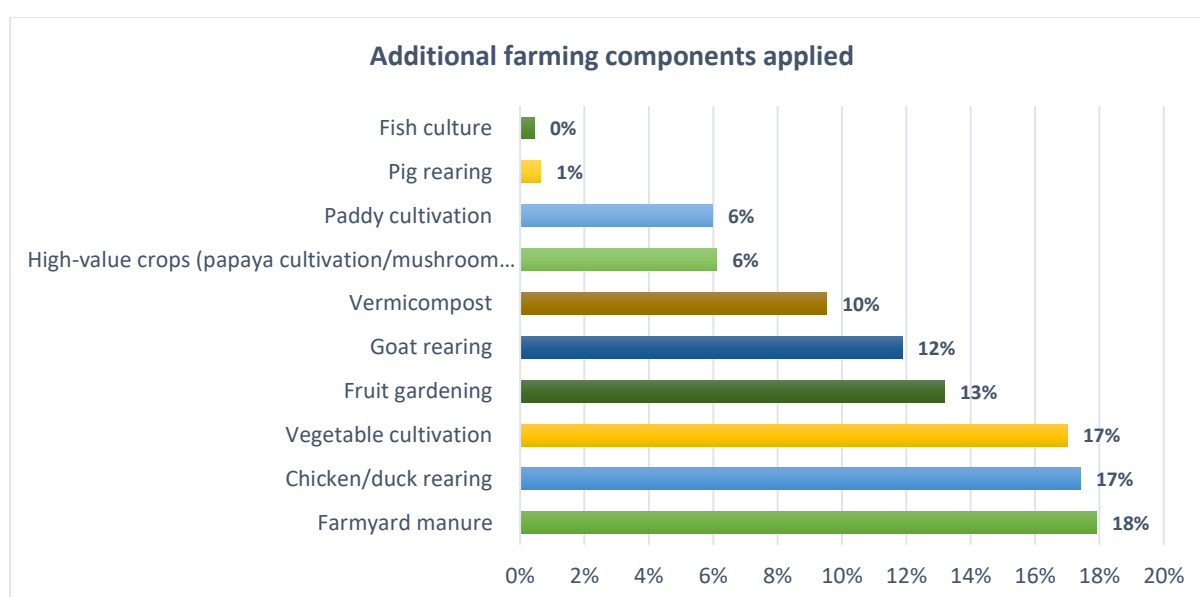


**Indicator 1.2: 75% of IFM-FFS participating households apply additional farming component and improved farming techniques**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved. Result (MTR report)	Remarks
1.2: 75% of IFM-FFS participating households apply additional farming components and improved farming techniques	75% / 40,500 HH	94.95% / 50,620 HH	Figure will be updated at the endline evaluation

The internal assessment conducted by the Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) shows that the IFM-FFS program has been successful in diversifying agricultural production. The assessment found that 97.4% of farmers in Cox's Bazar and 92.4% of farmers in Bandarban have expanded their farming components after participating in IFM-FFS sessions. This exceeds the original goal of having 75% of farmers use more inputs and better techniques. The program has been successful, with 95% of beneficiaries having applied additional farming components and improved farming techniques, which covers 50,620 households.

The IFM-FFS learning component provides farmers with an opportunity to diversify their farming practices by introducing them to new species or varieties. This component has been successful, with 59% of farmers incorporating this knowledge into their practices. Through exposure to new technologies and practical sessions focused on new species/varieties suited to their communities, farmers have shown an increased interest in using new farming components and techniques. This is reflected in the two bar graphs below, which illustrates the most frequently adopted new farming elements and enhanced farming methods after joining the IFM-FFS. The data shows that the most popular additional farming components were farmyard manure (18%), chicken/duck rearing (17%), vegetable cultivation (17%), and fruit gardening (13%), all of which were taught during the IFM-FFS program. This demonstrates that farmers are eager to learn and apply new techniques to improve their farming practices.



**Indicator 1.3: 80% of households who have received farming input packages as part of SHARIP's COVID-19 response report to have resumed their agricultural production disrupted by COVID-19**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved. Result	Remarks
1.3: 80% of households who have received farming input packages as part of SHARIP's COVID-19 response report to have resumed their agricultural production disrupted by COVID-19	80% of 38,300 HH	94.95% / 50,600 HH	

A total of 52,600 beneficiaries received COVID-19 solidarity packages consisting of various summer and winter vegetable seeds, which helped enhance vegetable production during the pandemic and benefited the livelihood of disadvantaged farmers. The MTE study revealed that the FFS farmers who received the Solidarity Packages were overwhelmingly pleased (69.2%) or moderately satisfied (30.8%), consistent with the status report and actual field verification conducted with the farmers. This satisfaction level was used as an outcome indicator (1.3), which showed that 80% of farmers were able to restart agricultural production with the input assistance from the solidarity package, meeting the project's goal. The COVID-19 response to the project was highly successful, providing crucial farming inputs that helped vulnerable farmers to sustain their livelihoods during the pandemic.

## Output 1.1: Enhanced knowledge and skills of communities, farmers, Farmer Facilitators, local service providers, and monitors on improved agricultural practices.

Achieving outcome 1 was made possible by the accomplishing the key results under this output. This improved the knowledge and abilities of Farmer Facilitators, communities/farmers, local service providers (CLW, Nursery Growers, Community Aquaculture Resource Persons), GoB line department officers, and Union and Upazila Parishad representatives as monitors of IFM-FFS activities in the area of improved agricultural practices. Higher capacities of the project's main target groups and the creation of connections between them led to the farmer's use of new farming components and technologies, as well as the increased productivity and income.

According to field findings, the effectiveness of the IFM-FFS farmers was directly correlated with the knowledge and facilitation abilities of the Farmer Facilitators. The Farmer Facilitators typically demonstrate a high degree of commitment by implementing the IFM-FFS knowledge at their fields, and in some cases, by developing creative initiatives. The Farmer Facilitators served as role models for IFM-FFS farmers and, occasionally, adjacent farmers, encouraging them to put what they have learned into practice.

The farmers were putting new knowledge into practice through IFM-FFS sessions and ongoing follow-up support, such as producing compost, using an improved hatching pan (*Hazol*), using hand pollination technique in cucurbit vegetable cultivation, etc. The production and income increase results clearly showed that the farmers acquired new knowledge and abilities through the IFM-FFS to improve their living conditions. As a result, the ability to withstand the detrimental effects of the Rohingya influx increased.

To the advantage of the IFM-FFS farmers, the initiative increased the capability of local service providers such as Community Livestock Workers (CLWs), nursery growers, and Community Aquaculture Resource Persons (CARP). As shown below, most trained CLWs, nursery growers, and CARP begun to support the IFM-FFS communities by conducting livestock vaccination campaigns, offering tree saplings, and offering primary aquaculture services to the IFM-FFS communities.

The potential of the IFM-FFS model for marginalized farmers, particularly female farmers, has been made clear to GoB line department officials and local government representatives. Through their involvement in the process of monitoring the work being done at the field, they have advised farmers on matters of production and livelihood, and the farmers, in turn, have been sharing information about their challenges and priorities with government representatives. In Bandarban, it has been noticed that GoB officials frequently select our skilled Farmer Facilitators to carry out initiatives or activities the local areas. There are numerous examples of how the connections between government representatives and farmers have increased farmer income opportunities, such as selling vermicompost.

### Indicator 1.1.1: Number of farmers who have completed the IFM-FFS and/or agroforestry sessions, at least 50% of women

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved. Results	Remarks
1.1.1: Number of farmers who have completed the IFM-FFS and/or agroforestry sessions, at least 50% women	54,000 (50% women)	53,340 (79% women)	All FFS does not enroll 30 Farmers, especially in Bandarban due to low size of households in the village.

The project aimed to provide training to 54,000 farmers in Integrated Farm Management-Farmer Field School (IFM-FFS) and/or agroforestry sessions. However, finally 53,340 farmers (79% of women) had completed the training sessions, falling just short of the original target. The IFM-FFS and agroforestry sessions were designed to provide farmers with knowledge and skills on sustainable agricultural practices, diversification of crops, and homestead gardening, among other things. The training was intended to improve the socio-economic conditions of poor households in host communities affected by the Rohingya influx in Bandarban and Cox's Bazar districts.

**Indicator 1.1.2: Number of Master Trainers developed and running Training of Farmer Facilitators, at least 30% of women**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved. Result	Remarks
<b>1.1.2: Number of Master Trainers developed and running ToF, at least 30% women</b>	30 (30% women)	32 (22% women)	

A total of 32 Master Trainers played a vital role in enhancing the project's sustainability by working directly with the Farmers Facilitators to build their capacity on integrated farming and agroforestry development and social cohesion-related aspects, providing backstopping support and technical advisory services to the farmers. The trainers assisted them in establishing study plots, securing quality farming input, and establishing linkages with the market. The target of having 30% female Master Trainers wasn't entirely achieved. Due to frequent travel to the field location at a very conservative location, it has been challenging to attract female Master Trainers, especially in Cox's Bazar.

**Indicator 1.1.3: Number of Farmer Facilitators developed and conducted IFM-FFS sessions, at least 40% of women**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Result	Remarks
<b>1.1.3: Number of Farmer Facilitators developed and conducting IFM-FFS sessions, at least 40% women</b>	563 (40% women)	563 (59% women)	

The project successfully achieved the set target for this indicator. The project completed all the remaining ToTs (Training of Trainers) for Farmer Facilitators from the first and second phases. The total target of 563 Farmer Facilitators, with 294 in Cox's Bazar and 269 in Bandarban, was achieved, and the inclusion of women exceeded the initial target of 59% with 40%. The Farmer Facilitators experienced continuous support in the field from Master Trainers, and regular coordination meetings were held to further enhance their skills. This indicator's success shows the project's commitment to building the capacity of the Farmer Facilitators, particularly women, who play a crucial role in promoting sustainable farming practices and improving the livelihoods of rural households.

**Indicator 1.1.4: Number of local service providers (LSP), i.e. Community Livestock Workers and Community Aquaculture Resource Persons, providing support to communities, at least 30% of the LSPs being women**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Result	Remarks
<b>1.1.4: Number of local service providers (Community Livestock Workers and Community Aquaculture Resource Persons) providing support to communities, at least 30% women</b>	80 (30% women)	102 (20% Women)	

A total of 20 Community Aquaculture Resource Persons (CARPs) have been trained, but only 2 of them were women. Out of 102 trained CARPs and Community Livestock Workers (CLWs), 101 were providing vaccination and technical advisory services to both IFM-FFS and nearby communities. Unfortunately, only 20% of these service providers are women, which is below the target of at least 30%. One of the reasons for this shortfall is that women show less interest in becoming CLWs, as the job requires frequent travel within the remote local areas. Conservative norms and concerns about women's safety and mobility are also factors that deter women from taking up this profession.

In addition to providing primary animal health care services, the CLWs also advise farmers on serious cases and direct them to the Department of Livestock Services at the Upazila/district level when necessary. Despite the gender disparity in the workforce, a total of 124 vaccination and deworming campaigns have been carried out by the CLWs, benefitting approximately 4,295 IFM-FFS beneficiaries. The table below shows an overview of these campaigns.

# of campaigns	# of IFM-FFS covered	Estimated # of IFM-FFS HHs benefitting	# of livestock vaccinated /dewormed		
			Cattle/buffaloes	Goats/sheep	Hens/ ducks
124	229	4,295	8,411	5,818	15,945

Small-scale, marginalized farmers are underinformed and had minimal access to extension services like livestock vaccination. Through the project, locals are becoming accustomed to receiving services from the CLWs at a low cost and having direct access to them whenever necessary. Access to these services, however, is still challenging to come by daily. 39% of the IFM-FFS farmers indicated having access to immunization services in the internal outcome assessment. Although it must be emphasized that the MTE covered other service providers besides those trained in the local service sector, 21% of respondents acknowledged the availability of services from local service providers.

**Indicator 1.1.5: Number of monitoring visits by Government line agencies (DAE, DLS, DoF) and follow up support made to IFM-FFS communities.**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Result	Remarks
1.1.5: Number of monitoring visits (DAE, DLS, DoF) and follow up support made to IFM-FFS communities	3,080	2,927	

The IFM-FFS field visits provide multiple benefits to the beneficiaries. Firstly, the presence of GoB representatives at technical sessions allows for clarification of any technical concerns that may arise, which the Farmer Facilitator may not know or understand. Monitoring visits also offered an excellent opportunity to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the Farmer Facilitators, and gave farmers immediate advice on enhancing knowledge application, ultimately leading to increased productivity and income. Secondly, the farmers had the opportunity to seek direct solutions to issues related to agricultural production, livestock, fisheries, agroforestry, pest, and disease management, etc. Internal assessment found that, female farmers also reported feeling more comfortable approaching GoB line department representatives to discuss issues during these visits. However, the long-term impact on improving the rapport between farmers and GoB line department representatives remain to be determined.

Observation and suggestions from line department officials following their visits to the IFM-FFS include:

- The IFM-FFS approach, using local languages, study plots, and learning-by-doing techniques, was aiding farmer's learning.
- The majority of Farmer Facilitators had a good rapport with IFM-FFS farmers, which is crucial in encouraging them to apply the IFM-approach at their own homes.
- To enable inclusive discussion during sessions, Farmer Facilitators require a greater technical understanding regarding diseases, insects, and vaccinations. Some also require additional backstopping support.
- To help farmers overcome barriers to investing in production, there was a need to increase the learning input, including the use of organic pesticides and high-quality seeds.

**Indicator 1.1.6: Number of monitoring visits organized to support IFM-FFS communities by local Government Institutions (Union Parishad, Upazila Parishad)**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Result	Remarks
<b>1.1.6: Number of monitoring visits organized to support IFM-FFS communities by local Government Institutions (Union and Upazila Parishad)</b>	304	487	

A total of 487 monitoring visits were conducted by Upazila and Union Development Coordination Committees (UzDCC/UDCC) to the IFM-FFS, with the fulfillment of its total target. These visits were effective in raising awareness among U(z)DCC members about the benefits of the environmentally friendly IFM-FFS approach and the potential of simple yet effective technologies to enhance productivity. They also provided farmers with a platform to discuss their challenges, such as accessing quality seeds, fertilizer, poultry, fish feed and other inputs. The U(z)DCC members suggested including a component in the project that provides agricultural machinery, tools, and equipment to farmers and scaling up agroforestry by planting more trees in vacant land and providing community farmers with saplings/seedlings.

**Indicator 1.1.7: Number of functional IFM-FFS groups, with at least 50% of the group members being women**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved. Result	Remarks
<b>1.1.7: Number of functional IFM-FFS groups, at least 50% women</b>	1,800 (50% women)	1,800 (79% women)	

By the end of the project, a total of 1,800 IFM-FFS groups were established and were functional, benefitting 53,340 farmers, of which 79% were women. However, the effectiveness of these groups relies on how well the farmers apply the lessons learned and the factors that influence IFM-FFS functions. The role of Master Trainers and Farmer Facilitators, as well as monitoring visits by GoB line departments and U(z)DCC members, were significant factors. In addition, the creation of study plots, timely payment of operating costs, post-learning support to individual farmers, and Farmer Field Days, and exchange visits were important contributing factors.

By the end of the project, four exchange visits were organized in Bandarban and Cox's Bazar with 189 participants, of which 49% were women. These visits provided an opportunity for Farmer Facilitators to share their learnings, good practices, and innovative methods. Thirteen Farmer Field Days were also conducted, with the participation of 776 farmers, of which 58% were women. These Field Days served as a platform for IFM-FFS members to inspire other farmers in their communities and neighbouring areas to adopt new farming technologies and improve their livelihoods through



integrated farming. Moreover, Farmer Field Days provided an important avenue for interacting with GoB line department officials and U(z) DCC members.

**Indicator 1.1.8: Number of IFM-FFS modules printed**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Results	Remarks
1.1.8: Number of IFM-FFS modules printed	12	14	

The target was achieved in 2021. As mentioned in the 2021 Annual Report, two additional IFM-FFS modules on cow and pig rearing were developed in the extended phase. Hence the total number of modules was 14 covering 53 session topics. These modules were printed and given to all the Farmer Facilitators during the ToF. The Farmer Facilitators used these modules while taking sessions in the IFM-FFS.

**Indicator 1.1.9: Number of farmers growing high-value agroforestry products, at least 50% being women**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Result	Remarks
1.1.9: Number of farmers growing high-value agroforestry products, at least 50% being women	360 (50% women)	393 (49% women)	

A total of 393 farmers were trained (of which 49% are women) on high-value agroforestry products. The trainees were primarily farmers from the phased-out IFM-FFS and old Farmer Facilitators with an existing small, high-value agroforestry production. The training focused on improved production technology, pricing, and marketing as small-scale farmers in the project areas usually do not get a fair price for their products. The products covered were dragon fruit, cashew nut, coffee, *baromashi* mango, citrus fruit, and drumstick. A register for monitoring production and sale after the training were provided to the farmers.

**Output 1.2: Market linkage and access to quality farming (including agroforestry) inputs enhanced**

A total of 27 collection points were established through this project and 16 old collection points (in Bandarban) are facilitated for agricultural produces marketing. The collection points played an important role for marginalized farmers who often have limited production capacity and no storage facilities. By pooling the products of nearby IFM-FFS and other farmers, the collection points provided a route for group marketing, and the collection point committee members often acted as information links between farmers, buyers, and government services, e.g., The prices of farming inputs and the quality of those inputs were important factors in determining the success of a farm. According to the internal assessment, 79% of IFM-FFS farmers were connected to buyers or dealers and also sell to them.

The provision of farming seeds as part of the COVID-19 solidarity package given earlier, along with the training and participation of local service providers (CLWs, nursery growers, CARP, and input sellers), was proven to be strategic and advantageous for the farmers in terms of enhancing access to high-quality farming inputs. On one hand, it has raised farmers' awareness of the advantages of high-quality seeds, saplings, and livestock vaccination and deworming, leading to increased demand for these services in places where access was previously difficult. On the other side, the rising demand is giving local service providers more prospects for employment.

**Indicator 1.2.1: Access of participating farmers to high-quality farming inputs (including agroforestry), at least 30% of these farmers are women (disaggregated by location)**

Indicator	Cumulative targets by 2022	Targets achieved Results	Remarks
<b>1.2.1: Access of participating farmers to high quality farming inputs (including agroforestry), 30% women</b>	60% / 32,400 farmers (30% women)	63% / 33,602 farmers (79% women)	

The project's effort to improve rural farmers' access to high-quality farming inputs had a positive impact. However, the internal outcome assessment revealed that 63% (target was 60%) of the participating farmers (including 79% women, where the target was 30%) had access to quality inputs. The project's mandatory module on agriculture in the IFM-FFS curriculum, which covered topics such as identifying high-quality inputs and communication channels with input sellers and government services, has been helpful in this regard. Additionally, training for input sellers and follow-up activities to strengthen the linkage between the farmers and the input sellers, including nursery growers trained by the project, helped IFM-FFS farmers to improve their access to high-quality inputs.

The lack of availability of high-quality seeds and fertilizers means that many farmers in rural areas still do not have it. Through the collecting points, the project started to address issues. High-quality input sellers were invited to sell their produce at certain collecting points. At other collecting points, the management committee helped a group of farmers to buy seeds and offered advice on good seeds to the farmers. The MTE acknowledged that the IFM-FFS farmers and trained quality input sellers had a better connection to some extent

***Indicator 1.2.2: % of new collection points operating (bulking and trading) on an average twice in a week, with at least 30% women in leadership roles (disaggregated by location)***

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Results	Remarks
<b>1.2.2: % of new collection points operated (bulking and trading) on an average twice in a week, with at least 30% percent women in leadership roles</b>	80% of 56 new collection points (30% women)	84% of 43 collection points (35% women)	16 old collection point in Bandarban district also facilitated in the project (12 new CP in Bandarban+15 new in Cox's Bz+16 old CP in Nabdarban )

To address the challenge of limited production among marginalized and poor farmers, there was a need to explore innovative approaches that can help to increase their productivity. This included providing access to better-quality inputs, training on new farming techniques, and exploring alternative marketing strategies. Furthermore, efforts were made to identify and address the root causes of limited land availability, which could include issues such as land tenure, access to credit, and the impact of climate change on land use patterns. By addressing these underlying factors, it may be possible to help farmers increase their productivity and improve their livelihoods over the long term.

By the end of the project, 84% of new collection points operated (bulking and trading) on an average twice in a week, with at least 35% women in leadership roles. In terms of women in leadership roles, 35% of the members in the collection point management committees are women (Bandarban 21%, Cox's Bazar 49%).

The table below shows the status of the functioning collection points in the reporting period:

## Status of Collection points in Bandarban:

S.N	Name of Collection point	Union	Upazila	No of IFM-FFS communities covering	No of non-IFM-FFS communities covering	IFM-FFS community farmers	non IFM-FFS community farmers	No of businessman connected/involved	Number of market days in a week	Total annual transactions in BDT
1	Jobiiram Para Collection Point	Alikadam Sadar	Alikadam	4	1	90	30	7	3	700,000
2	Himchuri Para Collection Point Porichalona Committee	Faitang	Lama	4	2	30	20	1	2	210,000
3	Chairman Para Collection Point Porichalona Committee	Aziznagar	Lama	4	2	25	10	1		300,000
4	Repar Pari Bazar Collection Point	Choikyong	Alikadam	4	1	70	30	5	3	350,000
5	Tulatul Collection Point	Dochori	Naikhyongchari	5	5	50	50	10	4	100,000
6	Bamhatir Chora Para Collection Point Porichalona committee	Fasyakhali	Lama	4	1	70	20	3	2	250,000
7	Meularchor collection Point Committee	Lama sadar	Lama	4	2	30	15	2	2	260,000
8	Brickfld Para Collection Point Porichalona Committee	Gajalia	Lama	3	2	45	20	2	3	300,000
9	Chararkul Para Collection Point Porichalona Committee	Naikhyongchary Sadar	Naikhyongchari	5	5	40	25	5	3	100,000
10	Both Toli Para Collection Point Poichalina Committee	Sonaichori	Naikhyongchari	4	2	70	30	15	3	100,000
11	Athuimong Para Collection Point Porichalona Committee	Baishari	Naikhyongchari	7	2	300	60	10	3	100,000
12	Baishfhari collection Point Porichalona Committee	Ghumdhum	Naikhyongchari	3	2	90	25	12	2	100,000
13	Noya Para Collection Point Porichalona Committee	Noyapara	Alikadam	3	2	80	30	6	7	500,000
14	Owwaig Para collection point porichalona committee	Kuruk Para	Alikadam	4	2	45	25	3	1	170,000
15	Dardari Haspatal Para Collection Point Porichalona Committee	Rupshipara	Lama	4	2	45	15	2	3	300,000
16	Keyabonna Para krishak Collection point	Sarai	Lama	4	2	50	20	1	2	350,000
	<b>Total</b>			<b>66</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1130</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>4,190,000</b>

## Status of Collection points in Cox's Bazar:

Name of collection point, Union and Upazila	# of times a week it operates	# of IFM-FFS linked to CP	# of non-IFM-FFS farmers linked to CP	# of farmers/producer groups linked to CP	Weekly transaction in CP		Additional facilities provided by CP (e.g. good quality seeds and fertilizer)
					Volume in kgs	In Taka	
Ramu	3	13(135)	200	Group not visible	3500	87,500	Advice, Inputs, Storage, Sapling, Verme compost, Carrying Van, venue for meeting
Ukhiya	2	10(75)	150	Group not visible	1200	30,000	Advice, Storage, market information, Carrying Van
Teknaf	2	7(100)	60	Group not visible	400	10,000	Advice, Storage, Market information, Carrying Van
<b>Total, reporting period</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>30(310)</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,100</b>	<b>127,500</b>	

It is clear from the internal outcome assessment that there was still much work to be done in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the collection points, as well as increasing farmers' production levels to a point where they have excess produce to sell. The reasons for farmers not using collection points as a sales outlet include the lack of nearby collection points and the preference for selling in the local market. However, the MTE revealed that significant progress has been made in improving market linkages and income opportunities for IFM-FFS farmers, with 79% of them being connected with buyers/traders and selling their produce to them. Nonetheless, efforts to improve collection points and enhance market linkages should continue in order to further improve farmers' livelihoods.

**Indicator 1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (i.e. nursery growers / women entrepreneurs doing value addition at local level/high value crop producers / beekeepers / vermicompost producers) providing support to communities, at least 20% being women**

Indicator	Cumulative targets by 2022	Targets achieved Result	Remarks
<b>1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (nursery growers) providing support to communities, 20% being women</b>	65 (20% women)	75 (13% female)	
<b>1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (women entrepreneurs doing value addition at local level) providing support to communities, 20% being women</b>	150 (20% women)	30 (100% women)	Women were not interested in Cox's Bazar.
<b>1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (high value crop producers) providing support to communities, 20% being women</b>	90 (20% women)	30 (30% women)	Women were not interested in Cox's Bazar.
<b>1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (beekeepers) providing support to communities, 20% being women</b>	90 (20% women)	29 (24% women)	Not feasible in Cox's Bazar
<b>1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (vermicompost producers) providing support to communities, 20% being women</b>	60 (20% women)	63 (60% women)	

Trainings were conducted for female farmers on value addition and vermicompost produce. Since then, the focus has been on establishing new IFM-FFS and training Farmer Facilitators, hence the final target was met (63%). Rest of the target was not met as women had less interest in agro-based enterprises. The reason given for not meeting the target is that women had less interest in such

enterprises. This could be due to a variety of reasons, such as lack of awareness, inadequate training and support, limited access to resources and markets, social and cultural barriers, among others.

To assess how far the 50 nursery growers were trained and participated in establishing and managing their nurseries, a small survey was carried out among the nursery growers at Cox's Bazar and among the Master Trainers and Upazila IFM-FFS Coordinator in Bandarban. The survey gave an indicative status of the nurseries in the May-July season:

	# of nurseries covered	Estimated # of farmers benefiting	Average income (BDT)	# of seedling raised
Ramu, Cox's Bazar	4	2,266 (IFM-FFS farmers: 842)	1,547,500	180,680
Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar	2	4,100 (IFM-FFS farmers: 3,750)	13,000 <sup>1</sup>	107,220
Teknaf, Cox's Bazar	5	3,555 (IFM-FFS farmers: 355)	1,972,300	217,175
Lama, Bandarban	3	1,966 (IFM-FFS farmers: 442)	347,500	50,240
Alikadam, Bandarban	2	2,100 (IFM-FFS farmers: 350)	230,000	40,120
Naikhyongchari, Bandarban	3	1,555 (IFM-FFS farmers: 355)	372,300	35,180
<b>Total/Average per nursery</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15,542</b> <b>(IFM-FFS farmers: 6,094)</b>	<b>235,926</b>	<b>33,190</b>

The survey also revealed that the Farmer Facilitators play a significant role in encouraging the farmers to purchase quality seedlings from these nurseries and in ensuring that the farmer receives quality seeds at a relatively cheaper cost. Because of this, the IFM-FFS farmers had easier access to high-quality seedlings from a local nursery and can usually do so for less money. This was supported by the internal outcome assessment, which reveals that 87% of IFM-FFS farmers claim to have improved access to seedlings. The income of nursery growers has dramatically increased, and for some nursery producers, it has practically doubled. Some nurseries struggle with poor infrastructure since some nursery growers don't have the money to fix it.

A total of 29 honey beekeepers (24% are women) trained during the reporting period. The target of 20% women's inclusion was met; however, the cumulative target could not be achieved. The need assessment for honeybee keeping, including feasibility at Cox's Bazar district, revealed that Cox's Bazar has limited scope for honey bee keeping..

**Indicator 1.2.4: Number of farming households affected by COVID-19 have received quality farming input to restore their agricultural production**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Results	Remarks
1.2.4: Number of farming households affected by COVID-19 have received quality farming input to restore their agricultural production	48,300	52,600	

This indicator was achieved in 2020 with a total of 52,600 farming households receiving quality farming input. During the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a significant number of farming households that were negatively impacted and unable to continue their agricultural production. To help these households recover and continue their farming activities, an initiative was taken to provide them with high-quality farming inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and other necessary supplies. This program

<sup>1</sup> Six nursery growers in Ukhiya did not keep record and were therefore not able to provide an estimated income.

aimed to restore their production capacity and help them regain their livelihoods. The program was able to reach and provide support to 52,500 farming households, which could help ensure food security and economic stability for these communities during the pandemic.

## **Outcome 2: Agroforestry productions increased sustainably**

Agroforestry was a crucial component of the project, along with IFM-FFS, and various activities were undertaken to achieve this outcome. Key stakeholders, staff, Master Trainers, Farmer Facilitators, and IFM-FFS farmers received training on agroforestry concepts, models, planning, and management, making them knowledgeable and aware of the importance of agroforestry. The project emphasized the agri-silviculture and agro-silvo-pastoral models/systems, which were preferred by the communities. Efforts have been made to engage IFM-FFS farmers in developing their site-specific Agroforestry Development Plans (ADPs) in a participatory manner, prioritizing actions, and implementing their preferred agroforestry systems at the community level. As IFM-FFS farmers gradually implement their ADPs and utilize their knowledge of agroforestry, more results have been generated.

### **Indicator 2.1: Increase in area of lands (in ha) under firewood, bamboo and vegetation coverage**

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Cumulative target by 2022</b>	<b>Targets achieved Results</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>2.1: Increase in area of lands (in ha) under firewood, bamboo and vegetation coverage</b>	1,000	1005	

The progress in bringing land under vegetative cover was closely linked to the effectiveness of the IFM-FFS sessions on agroforestry, assistance provided to the farmers to prepare ADPs, and linking farmers with the local nursery growers.

### **Output 2.1: Improved knowledge and skills of community people on agroforestry system**

Agroforestry, though a new concept to IFM-FFS farmers in the project area, has been practiced for a long time under different names and concepts. Through their participation in IFM-FFS sessions, local farmers improved their knowledge and skills on agroforestry and its management practices, including location-based tree selection, mulching, pruning, and water, fertilizer, and pest management. They learned to analyze their homestead and community areas, prioritize actions, and developed ADPs before implementing their preferred agroforestry systems at community and household levels. As a result of this newfound knowledge, farmers used vacant land to plant tree seedlings and improved the management of existing trees and forest plants, leading to concrete results in the project area.

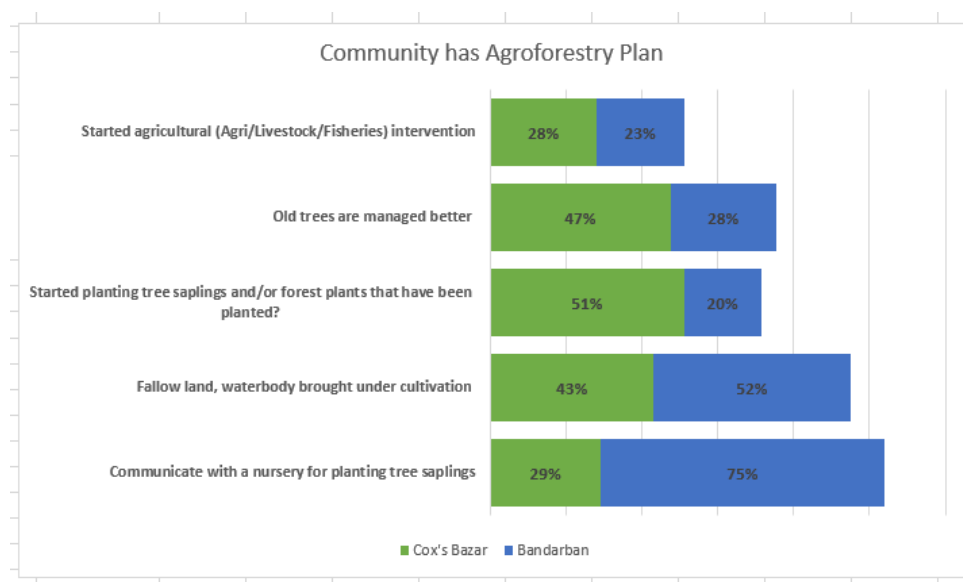
The training and involvement of other stakeholders, particularly GoB line department officials and nursery growers, had also played a critical role in enhancing the knowledge and skills of IFM-FFS farmers. The training of GoB line department officials in agroforestry and integrated farm management led to a deeper understanding of the potential for these initiatives in supporting sustainable livelihoods and restoring the environment, which was under immense pressure after the influx of Rohingya refugees. The trained nursery growers helped farmers to further enhance their knowledge about tree and forest plant management.

### **Indicator 2.1.1: Number of IFM-FFS communities implementing Agroforestry Development Plans (disaggregated by location), with at least 30% of the community members involved in drafting the Plans being women**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Targets achieved Results	Remarks
<b>2.1.1: Number of IFM-FFS communities implementing Agroforestry Development Plans, 30% women</b>	1,800 (30% women)	1800 (79% women)	

1,800 IFM-FFSs drafted their community Agroforestry Development Plans (ADP) and implemented the social agroforestry outlined in the ADPs.

IFM-FFS farmers received 2 comprehensive training sessions on agroforestry covering concepts, planning, and management. Subsequently, Farmer Facilitators helped the farmers in developing their ADPs, which included an assessment of the current situation of the proposed site, identifying areas for improvement, selecting the appropriate agroforestry model, determining input requirements, and identifying the source of inputs and the implementation start date. According to the internal outcome assessment data, various activities were initiated to implement the community ADPs, including tree sampling for nursery (54%), new cultivation in fallow land and waterbody (40%), and tree planning (38%). The data also indicated that IFM-FFS farmers established strong linkages with local nursery growers to implement their ADPs effectively.

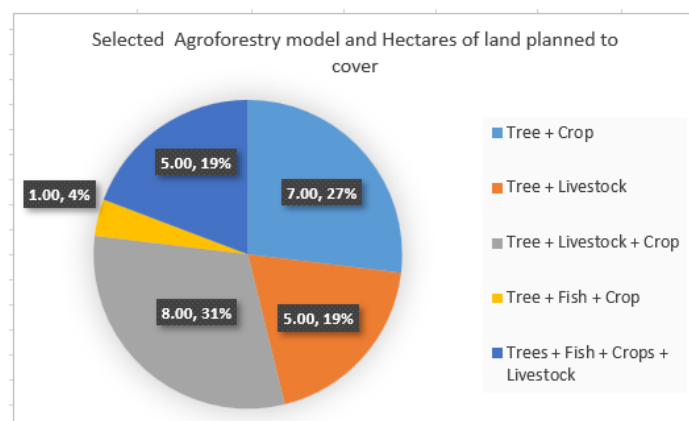


**Indicator 2.1.2: % of trained farmers implementing improved agroforestry systems (disaggregated by location). At least 50% of these farmers are women**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Result	Results
<b>2.1.2: % of trained farmers implementing improved agroforestry systems, 30% women</b>	80% of 54,000 farmers (30% women)	53,340 Farmers (79% women)	

By the end of project, all enrolled farmers drafted ADPs and received at least 5 sapling to implement their ADP at the households. 53,340 trained farmers prepared their individual ADPs, by active support of FFs.

Through the project’s internal outcome assessment it was found that, tree + livestock + crop was selected as suitable ADP model while tree + crop found as secondary choice in the study areas. Moreover, 1,005-hectare lands have been selected for vegetation coverage.



### Indicator 2.1.3: Number of seedlings distributed to implement Agroforestry Development Plans

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	Targets achieved Result	Remarks
2.1.3: Number of seedlings distributed to implement Agroforestry Development Plans	133,200	235,746	

This indicator was added for the extension phase. However, in the project's first phase, seedlings were provided to each IFM-FFS farmer to kick-start the implementation of their Agroforestry Development Plans (ADP). Over the years, its total achievement is 235,746.

### Outcome 3: Social cohesion increased

The project implemented different social cohesion interventions to reduce social tension and disputes by conducting courtyard sessions, forming LVMFs, involving youths with youth camps and sports, and forming progressive religious dialogues and forums. This project mediated 1,754 disputes which were mainly on domestic violence. This mediation process was possible to execute because 21 LVMFs were operationally active in the project area. About 5,122 youths (total target was 2,500) actively engaged in social cohesion activities. In addition to this, 77% of participating households (target was 60% HHs) was engaged in IFM-FFS and CBO groups, where a significant number of members actively participated in social cohesion activities. 344 different events such as International Women’s Day, International Peace Day, Cultural Diversity Day, and World Water Day were organized covering 4,389 (60% female) participants. Therefore, these activities helped the community to increase social cohesion in the project areas.

### Indicator 3.1: Number of disputes/conflicts mediated by Local Volunteer Mediators Forums (LVMFs)



1,754 disputes/conflicts were mediated by Local Volunteer Mediators Forums (LVMFs) in both Bandarban and Cox’s Bazar districts. The LVMF members worked actively to mediate disputes in their working areas. They conducted the mediation regardless of the place, gender, or religion. While sometimes the LMVF visited the challenging areas, sometimes, people reached out to them. Overall, the positive impact can be seen in these areas to a point that people trusted the mediation process of our LVMF members and was motivated to follow their mediations properly. Mediation success has been mostly found on the cases related to land, domestic violence, and marriage issues.

Members, who are locally trustworthy faces from their respective areas, are the key factors to addressing the local disputes. Consequently, the LVMF members were aware of the scenarios of their respective areas and on how to conduct mediation and reach a proper solution with the participation of both parties. Among other considerations, as the process is totally free and the result of this mediation process brings a win-win situation for both parties, people gradually have more trust in the LVMFs.

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
3.1: Number of disputes/conflicts mediated by Local Volunteer Mediators Forums (LVMFs)	1,000	1,754

The total target for the number of disputes mediated by the LVMFs was exceeded, which indicates the popularity of the LVMFs in the target areas.

**Indicator 3.2: % of farmers participating in the courtyard sessions organized for the IFM-FFS report that they feel confident to address disputes and conflicts at household and/or community level**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
3.2: % of farmers participating in the courtyard sessions organized for the IFM-FFS report that they feel confident to address disputes and conflicts at household and/or community level	70%	78%

The courtyard sessions were proven to be effective in empowering the IFM-FFS farmers to address disputes and conflicts at both household and community levels, with an impressive 78% of farmers participating, while the target was 70%. Through these sessions, farmers gained the necessary skills and knowledge to resolve conflicts in a peaceful and constructive manner, improving social cohesion and fostering a more harmonious community. The high participation rate was an indication of the importance of conflict resolution in the project areas, and highlights the success of the project in promoting peaceful and productive interactions within the community.

As the communities in the project’s operation areas are very conservative and less educated, changing their beliefs and thoughts will take time. Most of their conflicts were related to domestic violence or related to land. Sometimes they also get involved in financial conflicts as well. The courtyard sessions on social cohesion and conflict encouraged them to restrain themselves from conflicts. Through these sessions, they learned about different kinds of domestic conflicts and different methods and techniques of managing them. They learnt the negative impacts of any conflict on their social and personal lives and how this can ruin social cohesion. Therefore, the beneficiaries were convinced by the conflict management process that they learned from those sessions. After attending those sessions, they started observing any kinds of small domestic conflicts or disputes or simple chaos which can affect social cohesion. The continued courtyard sessions with the communities played as the vital factor in addressing the local disputes, which also inspired them to address disputes around them and their families.

Sometimes they sought support from their elders from the neighborhood or other influential people like schoolteachers and religious leaders to make the results further acceptable and trustworthy. Sometimes, the community mobilizers encountered weather-related challenges as it rains in the working areas. The beneficiaries shared some feedback as mentioned below:

Rojina Begum, a member of Zarna Para IFM-FFS in Teknaf, expressed how the courtyard sessions helped her gain mediation techniques that can be used to address conflicts in the household and community level. **She emphasized the effectiveness of the methods and how they can be quickly applied to resolve disputes.**

Khurshid Begum, a member of Purba Doriar Dighi Poachim Para IFM-FFS in Ramu, shared that she learned about social cohesion and the various reasons for conflicts in the community during the session. **She expressed her willingness to disseminate this knowledge to the people in her surroundings.**

Rabeya Akter , a member of Pagler Bill’s IFM-FFS in Ukhiya, mentioned that she learned a great deal about social cohesion from the session. She highlighted how social cohesion is not only enriching one's knowledge but also a practical tool in daily life. **She expressed the belief that maintaining social cohesion would create a friendly society.**

***Indicator 3.3: Number and percentage of youths participating in social cohesion activities report actively applying their knowledge to enhance social cohesion in their local area***

The project engaged 5,122 youths (total target was 2,500) in social cohesion activities, empowering them with knowledge and skills to enhance social cohesion in their local areas. These youths actively applied their newly acquired knowledge, spreading awareness and building stronger, more resilient communities. Through their efforts, the impact of the project extended beyond the participating farmers, reaching a broader audience, and promoting a culture of peace and confidence building in the project areas.

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
<b>3.3: Number and percentage of youths participating in social cohesion activities report actively applying their knowledge to enhance social cohesion in their local area</b>	2,500 youth (75%)	5,122 (78%)

As more than one-third of the society is youth in the project areas, youth activities and thoughts impacted to these working areas directly. On the contrary, while the women are still not allowed to come forward in these conservative societies, our female participants participated in various activities by convincing their parents and by breaking social taboos. Their learning from these activities increased their confidence in getting aware of their rights and helped them to actively participate in promoting social cohesion. After participating in these activities, they also became aware of the harms of drugs, the negative impact of early marriage, respect for the rights of women, coexistence with different communities and religions, the importance of women empowerment and gender balance.

These events and training motivated the youths to reshape and rebuild their lives . Furthermore, the engagement of local LVMFs in these events motivated them to participate in the promotion of social cohesion. It is evident that involving them in more developing activities and youth-based events and programs increased their involvement in bringing change.

The main challenges in arranging youth-related activities were to convince the teachers to allow school premises for the event arrangement and also to let the students participate in the events because of the long break of regular school activities due to the pandemic. Another challenge was convincing the parents of the girls mostly because of their conservative and religious mentalities. In our society, the opinions of young minds were usually not accepted. So, if we can continue conducting these types of awareness-creating and skill-developing activities as a continuous process for a long time, if we can make visible the changes because of these activities, then the others who are still refraining their children to participate in such activities will consider their thoughts.

Some feedback from field:

**Tahamina Akter**, a student of Hnila Girls High School in Teknaf, initially felt surprised to hear about Martial Arts training for girls. She used to think that martial arts were only for boys. However, after being informed by her teacher that it was essential for both genders, she shared it with her grandmother, who initially did not support her but later came to understand its importance in keeping her safe.

**Khin Ma Wang**, a student of A.K. Azad High School in Ramu, used to think that boys could do things that girls couldn't, and society might call her out if she protested against a bad deed like a boy. However, after receiving martial arts training from UNDP/NGO, she overcame her fears and learned to protect herself and others. She expressed her gratitude to UNDP for providing her with the opportunity to learn martial arts.

**Mr. Nurul Absar**, the Upazila Academy supervisor in Teknaf, commended UNDP for its multi-level project, which includes martial arts training, debate training and competitions, and other youth-related activities. He acknowledged the significance of these activities in building a nation and expressed his hope that they will be widely implemented in schools from next year.

**Indicator 3.4: Number of households who have received direct livelihood support to cope with the COVID-19 crisis**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
3.4: Number of households who have received direct livelihood support to cope with the COVID-19 crisis	48,300	61,280

61,280 households received direct support in order to cope with the challenges and impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on their livelihoods. This support included financial assistance, distribution of food and essential supplies, training and capacity building, and other forms of aid aimed at helping families to maintain or improve their income and overall well-being during the pandemic. The support provided to these households was intended to mitigate the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and helped them recover from any negative effects it may have had on their livelihoods.

This indicator highlights the achievement of providing livelihood support to farming households affected by the COVID-19 crisis. The support was mainly provided in 2020, with cash support being given to beneficiaries in Cox's Bazar in early 2021. A total of 2,791 beneficiaries received BDT 3,500 each. Additionally, one NGO distributed masks and hand-sanitizer to protect households and IFM-FFS. As a result, a total of 61,280 farming households (target was 48,300 HHs) received livelihood support in the form of food, cash, COVID-19 hygiene items, and quality farming inputs. This initiative helped vulnerable farmers to cope with the pandemic's economic impacts and sustain their livelihoods.

**Indicator 3.5: Number of households who have received information on COVID-19 on the potential negative impact of COVID-19 on social cohesion**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
3.5: Number of households who have received information on COVID-19 on the potential negative impact of COVID-19 on social cohesion	96,600	838,008

Information related to COVID-19 and its potential negative impact on social cohesion was disseminated among 838,088 households, while the target was 96,600 households. The aim of this activity was to raise awareness among the project beneficiaries and their families about the potential negative impacts of COVID-19 on social cohesion and community relationships. This information was provided through various channels, such as community meetings, radio broadcasts, leaflets, and posters, to ensure that it reached a wide range of households. The goal of this effort was to mitigate the potential negative impact of COVID-19 on social cohesion and maintain community harmony and stability during the pandemic.

**Output 3.1: Communities have enhanced capacities and skills in conflict resolution, gender and youth engagement contributing to limiting negative effects of the Rohingya influx**

Through this project, the LVMF members were known in their respective areas and local people believed them for their neutral conflict mediation. Before starting the project, the members of the LVMFs were not aware of the proper mediation process. So, in most cases, their conflict management process was traditional. Most of the conflict was arbitrated by the court so poor people received bias against their arbitration. Through the project activities like LVMF formation, training, refreshers training and regular monthly coordination meetings were helped to enrich their skills of mediation. They learned the new and precise methods of mediation. On the other hand, as the process was totally free and the result of this process brought a win-win situation for both parties, so people were more faith gradually to their mediation process. Also, through various programs and activities of the project, the LVMF members tried to convince the people to maintain cohesion and harmony in society by changing their attitude towards any issues and broadening their perspective and thoughts.

Through the courtyard sessions and other project activities where the people were involved, like inter-religious dialogues and day observance events, they learned how to promote social cohesion and keep peace among neighborhoods and communities. They are now skilled in managing conflicts within themselves and motivated not to create bigger chaos for minor issues. In case the conflicts get bigger than their capacity, they now know where and how to get proper solutions. As there was no LVMF before, they used to go to the nearest police stations for every type of dispute resolution. But after getting involved in these project activities, and as there are LVMFs now, they are gradually becoming aware of their responsibilities towards their families and communities.

The youths of the project areas were not aware of keeping social cohesion. They were not much aware of the violence and other social crimes like child marriage, drug addiction, drug business, Eve-teasing, polythene usage, etc. Females were not confident enough to defend themselves from misbehaving and harassment and were not aware of their rights. After getting involved in project activities like youth campaigns, martial art training, etc., they are progressively becoming aware of the negative impacts of domestic violence, child marriage, drug addiction, polythene usage, etc. They learned how to maintain gender equality. They learned to be sensible to promote social cohesion among the communities by being friendly to each other through various activities of our project. They learned to

think out of the box to practice future youth leadership and promote respect for cultural diversity, volunteerism, team building, etc.

Because of the Rohingya influx, the affected area's social structure was changed. With increasing pressure on existing resources and a lack of proper planning to promote cohesion between Rohingya and host communities, the relationship between both communities is still not smooth. Through the continuation of different activities of SHARIP, communities were becoming aware of the conflicts and all other harmful activities threatening social cohesion. The people of the host communities are gradually understanding the benefits of peace and harmony among the societies. They started trying the peaceful co-existing process. Formation of LVMF, is providing them training in mediation and enriching their skills in conflict management and mitigating conflicting issues with the concern of each party which has undoubtedly helped to spread positivity and to keep peace among Rohingya & host – communities. IFM-FFS are also aware of the issues of domestic conflicts, which are harmful to maintain social harmony. Through the project activities, they learned to manage conflicts independently to keep peace among the communities. Youths have been spreading social cohesion with their friendly behavior and leadership attitudes and protesting criminal activities around them.

**Indicator 3.1.1: % of participating IFM-FFS households engaged in various community groups/ forums**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
3.1.1: % of participating households engaged in various community groups/ forums	60%	77%

With 77% of participating households ( target was 60% HHs) were engaged in IFM-FFS and CBO groups, where a significant number of members actively participated in social cohesion activities. These dedicated individuals not only attend courtyard sessions but also disseminate the knowledge they have gained to other community members. They were crucial in assisting the LVMFs in conflict mediation and helped to organize a range of events such as international day observations, street dramas, and inter-religious dialogues. Moreover, when required, they performed various types of social work as volunteers in their community. Overall, the contributions of IFM-FFS members play a vital role in promoting and fostering social cohesion in their areas.

**Indicator 3.1.2: Number of Local Volunteer Mediators Forum (LVMF) operational at Upazila and Union level, with a particular focus on domestic violence and with presence of at least 30% women in the LVMF executive committees**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
3.1.2: Number of Local Volunteer Mediators Forum (LVMF) operational at Upazila and Union level, with a particular focus on domestic violence and with presence of at least 30% women in the LVMF executive committees	10 (30% female) / 1,000 conflicts	21 (1,237)

21 LVMFs (target was 10 LVMFs) were fully operational and actively mediating conflicts in the project areas. So far, these active LVMSs have helped to mediate 921 domestic violence cases, out of 1,237 conflicts in both districts.

Through the mediation process, people were getting more faith in LVMFs and more reliability in solving any domestic violence. Mediation, conflict management, and awareness on maintaining social cohesion by mitigating domestic violence were the key responsibilities of the LVMF members than their regular political or other careers. The people come to the LVMF members for mediation. However, sometimes the LVMF members visited places if they get the report of conflicts or

possibilities. They visited to make a positive solution to the conflict and end the chaos. Their mediation process and active participation in awareness-raising activities helped them increase social cohesion.

**Indicator 3.1.3: Number of courtyard sessions organized for IFM-FFS members to enhance their knowledge on leadership, conflict management and gender equality**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
<b>3.1.3: Number of courtyard sessions organized for IFM-FFS members to enhance their knowledge on leadership, conflict management and gender equality</b>	7,000	6,903

This project organized a total of 6,903 courtyard sessions to enhance the knowledge of IFM-FFS members on key topics such as leadership, conflict management, and gender equality. These sessions served as a platform for members to learn and discuss these topics in an interactive and participatory manner. By engaging in these sessions, members developed the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively manage conflicts and promote social cohesion within their communities. The focus on gender equality also helped to empower women and promote gender equity in decision-making process. Overall, the courtyard sessions played a vital role in enhancing the capacity of IFM-FFS members and promoting positive social change.

The courtyard sessions mainly were conducted on two topics – One session was “Social Cohesion and Conflict – reason and impact,” and the second session was “Conflict and Conflict Management”. Beneficiaries learned about the benefits of maintaining social cohesion, the reasons of conflicts and their effect on families and societies, and how to manage the conflicts with their profound knowledge. They applied the knowledge to mitigate conflicts between their families and their surroundings. Wherever they faced conflicts, they discussed with the conflicting persons or parties to understand the situation according to their learning; they tried to identify the actual reason for conflict and then tried to convince both parties on a single point to solve the conflict. Sometimes they involved the local seniors or influential figures to make some acceptable solutions for both parties. The conflicts they tried to solve were mostly related to minor domestic violence, like disagreement with in-law’s, with spouse, complication with children, domestic livestock-related issues, land, or crops-related issues, etc.

**Indicator 3.1.4: Number of events specifically targeting youth and their engagement in promotion of social cohesion, tolerance and conflict prevention**

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
<b>3.1.4: Number of events specifically targeting youth and their engagement in promotion of social cohesion, tolerance and conflict prevention</b>	250	303

The project organized a total of 303<sup>1</sup> events specifically aimed at engaging youth in promoting social cohesion, tolerance, and conflict prevention. These events included workshops, discussions, and cultural activities, which helped raise awareness among the youth on the importance of social cohesion and its role in promoting peaceful co-existence within their communities. The youth participants were also given opportunities to engage in community service activities and volunteer work, which helped them develop leadership skills and contribute positively to their society. Overall,

<sup>1</sup> The types of activities are: youth camps, youth campaigns, debating trainings/competitions, football tournaments, martial arts trainings/competitions, cultural programs for schools and student exchange programs.

these events provided a platform for youth to actively participate in promoting social cohesion and conflict prevention in their communities.

The youths of the project areas were unaware of maintaining social cohesion before the project started. They were not much aware of the violence and other social crimes like child marriage, drug addiction, polythene usage, etc. Females were not confident enough to defend themselves from misbehavior and harassment and were not aware of their rights. After getting involved in project activities like youth campaigns, innovative youth camps, martial art competitions, debate competitions, etc., they have been becoming aware of the negative impacts of domestic violence, child marriage, drug addiction, polythene usage, and so on. They learned how to maintain gender equality and be sensible to promote social cohesion among the communities by being friendly to each other through various activities of our project. They learned out of the box way if thinking to practice future youth leadership and promote respect for cultural diversity, volunteerism, team building, etc.

***Indicator 3.1.5: Number of initiatives taken by the community groups/ forums (World Environment Day, International Women’s Day, World Peace Day, World Water Day, Human Rights Day) at Upazila level observed with engagement of all relevant stakeholders***

Indicator	Cumulative target by 2022	End result
<b>3.1.5: Number of initiatives taken by the community groups/ forums at Upazila level observed with engagement of all relevant stakeholders</b>	300	344

344 (Target was 300) social cohesion awareness-raising activities<sup>1</sup> were carried out. The estimated number of participants was 4,389 (60% female), comprising youth representatives, community members, government officials, teachers, journalists and LVMF and IFM-FFS members.

The project celebrated various international days such as International Women’s Day, International Peace Day, Cultural Diversity Day, and World Water Day through rallies and discussion programs. These events provided an opportunity to bridge international and local perspectives on the challenges faced in the project areas, including issues related to gender inequality and gender-based violence. These issues have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic, with reports pointing to a worrying increase in domestic violence and child marriages. These activities helped disseminate key messages to community members about different international days, highlighting the importance of promoting gender equality, peace, cultural diversity, and water conservation.

Street drama in local languages was a useful means to communicate important knowledge and messages about gender-related issues, drug problems, human trafficking, etc., particularly in areas with low educational levels and where women’s movement was restricted. Therefore, the audience’s feedback was positive, particularly in Bandarban. Similarly, the inter-religious dialogues were appreciated by the participants. Messages about how different religion’s view tolerance and peaceful coexistence are shared, and, in some cases, specific incidents of conflicts between people or communities with different religious beliefs were discussed.

<sup>1</sup> The types of activities are: LVMF trainings/exchange visits, international day observation programs, street drama and inter-religious dialogues.

## 5. LESSONS LEARNED, CHALLENGES AND ACTION TAKEN

### ***Major lessons learned found:***

- IFM-FFS has been proven as a good model for benefitting marginal farmers who have limited land but can produce multiple crops, particularly vegetables and fruits, by using their homestead. The model has been successfully replicated by many non-FFS farmers in the project area. This could be the replicable model to support marginal farmers elsewhere in the country through mainstreaming and scaling up.
- Technical farmers can better understand and learn from project field school and can adopt those improved practices at their homestead. Group learning through study plot demonstration is a good technique for learning and adapting, and the same technique can be adopted elsewhere for agricultural extension work.
- The FFS sessions were more relevant to the local contexts, which increased the interest of the farmers, and learnings were easily adopted by the farmers. This was proven as a good technique to transfer technology from school to field in the remote and backward areas
- Accessing quality farming inputs continues to be a challenge in the project area. Despite training provided by the project to the farmers and input sellers on quality farming inputs, many farmers are not eventually linked with the sellers, mainly due to the distance between farmers' homes and the sellers' shops. But organizing input related coordination meetings at the Union level between farmers and input sellers worked well. These have the potential to be replicated making the collection points hub for interaction between farmers and the input sellers.
- The involvement of local political leaders in LVMF has worked positively to influence the disputant parties and gain their trust to approach LVMF for the solution. This also mitigated political conflicts threatening the safety and security of the local people
- In some events and groups in the social cohesion component, it was a challenge to ensure female participation, particularly in culturally and religiously conservative areas of Cox's Bazar, where female participation in public events is generally not encouraged. The strategy of planning female-only events (e.g. martial art training and football tournaments) and making alliances with gender-equality sensitive teachers has proved successful.

### ***Challenges and action taken:***

- The COVID-19 situation, subsequent lockdowns and local Union Parishad elections affected the implementation of the project as field movement and gathering of larger number of project participants was restricted. The fact that most of the planned targets were reached despite the challenges is largely attributed to the good relationship built with GoB line departments and local administration. An example of this is that the project was allowed to continue the martial art trainings and distribution of post-learning support and tree saplings to IFM-FFS farmers in Cox's Bazar after discussing appropriate precautionary measures and in some cases taking written consent from parents and the local administration.
- The COVID-19 and lockdown situation meant that some of the planned activities had to be modified. Residential trainings for Farmer Facilitators, for example, were not possible in the first half of 2021 which reduced the quality of the trainings. Master Trainers could also not provide the planned level of backstopping support in the field. Instead, support was provided over phone, through video calls and Union-wise online meetings organized in Messenger groups, which proved to be a workable substitute for field-level backstopping support. In Bandarban, collection point management committees played a very supportive role by regularly contacting buyers and updating IFM-FFS farmers about the price over phone.



- As also noted by the MTE, keeping of record/accounts by farmers, nursery growers, CLWs etc. is a challenge for providing more accurate data on increase in production and income. New formats for record keeping were developed for use in the extended phase and distributed to training participants. For IFM-FFS farmers, they are encouraged to keep record, but it is not made mandatory due low educational level of many of the farmers.
- It is not uncommon for the LVMF members to face threats or harassment, as also confirmed in the FGDs. This was mitigated by involving political leaders to avoid confusion or spreading of rumors, and to ask the disputing parties to bring their trusted leaders to the mediation meetings. The exchange visits organized for the LVMFs also provided an important avenue for discussing challenges related to carrying out work as LVMF member.
- There is no in-built mechanism in the project to continuously engage the youth after their participation in various youth-targeted events, as also highlighted by the MTE. To address this, youths are encouraged to organize themselves in youth forums and local CBOs from where they can engage themselves in social cohesion promotion.
- In some events and groups of the social cohesion component it was challenging to ensure female participation, particularly in culturally and religiously conservative areas of Cox's Bazar where female participation in public events are generally not encouraged. The strategy of planning female-only events (e.g. martial art trainings and football tournaments) and making alliances with gender-equality sensitive teachers has proved successful.
- Working in a language diverse region as Bandarban poses a challenge to communicate the sometimes technical nature of IFM-FFS sessions to the Farmer Facilitators. To mitigate this, the Master Trainers tried to use different local dialect (Bengali, Chittagonian and Marma). The Marma being major ethnic community in Bandarban other ethnic groups usually understand Marma dialect.

## 6. VISIBILITY & COMMUNICATION

A detailed visibility and communication guideline is included with partner agreements to ensure visibility and communication, making visibility and communication a key part of the project. As part of the visibility strategy, different banners were used in meetings, workshops, and observation events, e.g., International Women's Day, Cultural Diversity Day, and World Environment Day, containing project messages along with Danida, UNDP, and GoB logos. The organization of e.g., youth campaigns and Farmer Field Days is another way to increase the visibility of the project as these events are attended by neighboring communities, government officials, and local elected representatives.

## 7. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

The project management and partnership setup remain the same as the 2021 Bi-annual Report. SHARIP is managed by the SID-CHT project of UNDP with the Ministry of CHT Affairs. The project is managed through the National Execution (NEX) Modality, where the GoB takes the lead role in implementation and monitoring. From MoCHTA, a National Project Director (NPD) directly oversees the project activities and a National Project Manager (NPM) is engaged in implementing the project from UNDP's side. Bandarban Hill District Council (BHDC) is the key implementing partner for this project in Bandarban. In Cox's Bazar, the NGO Practical Action is the implementing partner for the IFM-FFS and agroforestry components. For the social cohesion component, the implementing

partners are GRAUS (Gram Unnayan Sangathan) in Bandarban and ACLAB (Alliance for Cooperation and Legal Aid Bangladesh) in Cox's Bazar.

A dedicated team of SID-CHT, UNDP led by the Chief of Livelihoods and NRM and the Chief-Gender and Community Cohesion are fully involved in supporting implementation, monitoring, and guiding the field activities. Other team members in Rangamati support SHARIP, including a Programme Officer-Livelihoods, a Programme Officer-Monitoring and Evaluation, and a Technical Coordinator-FFS training and quality. In Bandarban, the District Manager and District FFS Expert of SID-CHT, and in Cox's Bazar, a District FFS Officer and an Upazila Facilitator under the overall guidance of the Advisor on Women and Youth Resilience in CHT carry out technical backstopping support to implementing partners as well as the day-to-day supervision and monitoring of field activities in the districts.

The district project team in BHDC comprises 18 full-time dedicated staff, and Practical Action has 20 full-time dedicated staff (Master Trainers, Market Development Officers, and Upazila FFS Coordinators/Mobilizers, M&E Officers, etc.) working on the agriculture/agroforestry component. GRAUS and ACLAB also have dedicated teams 18 and 14 staff members, respectively (Project Coordinators, Community Mobilizers, M&E Officers etc.), implementing the social cohesion component and assisting in monitoring learning support to the IFM-FFS (the latter is applicable for ACLAB only).

The district UNDP team and implementing partners collaborate closely on everything from planning, activity implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Monthly coordination meetings are held with the partners, and almost daily communication ensures smooth collaboration and timely backstopping support.

## **8. MONITORING AND REPORTING**

Similar to the project management and partnerships section above, the monitoring and reporting mechanism remains the same as described in the previous report. The project has a systematic monitoring and evaluation mechanism in all places i.e., community level through monthly reports of the Farmer Facilitators, Upazila, and District level through implementing partners' M&E mechanisms and finally at SID-CHT District and regional level. Similar to the project's first phase, sessions and capacity development trainings were conducted for implementing partner staff in the extended phase, albeit less comprehensive as the partners remain the same as in the first phase. A baseline was conducted among the new IFM-FFS members in the latter half of 2021.

Throughout the reporting period and as part of the monitoring process, project staff of implementing partners, government line departments, Union and Upazila Parishad representatives and SID-CHT, UNDP staff monitored the progress of the project through site visits. In February, representatives of the Danish and the Swiss Embassy visited project sites in Cox's Bazar to observe IFM-FFS activities and meet with project participants to learn how they benefit from IFM-FFS learnings. They also discussed with the community people how they are affected by the Rohingya influx in their areas and how the project helps them cope with the influx's impact. During periods of COVID-19 lockdowns, field level monitoring by the SID-CHT team, and to some extent also partner staff involved in monitoring, was limited and supplemented by online and telephone discussions.

To further improve reporting and incorporate changes to the Results Framework, updated partner monitoring, and reporting tools were developed, which provide more detailed guidance on how to reflect not only quantitative but also qualitative results of the work carried out. Online sessions and in some cases, physical M&E workshops on the new tools were held with the partners, and detailed feedback to the partner reports was provided in a continuous effort to improve the analysis of

progress and results. Finally, monthly coordination meetings between UNDP and implementing partners continue to serve as an important monitoring instrument.

## 9. EXPENDITURE

This is an interim financial report, which will be updated after the finalization of the CFR-2022 in June 2023.

Host Community Project Financial Report (Interim)			
Line Items	Donor Budget (DKK)	Donor Budget (USD)	Expenditure up to 31.12.22 (USD)
Output 1.1	23,804,588.00	3,658,528.07	3,532,501.08
Output 1.2	2,103,085.00	323,223.22	213,664.95
Output 2.1	981,974.00	150,919.62	355,592.54
Output 3.1	6,619,002.00	1,017,274.68	1,246,058.14
NGOs and LoA	4,220,875.00	648,706.45	373,399.46
Communication, Planning, M&E	1,447,263.00	222,429.91	106,453.72
Total Programme	39,176,787.00	6,021,081.95	5,827,669.88
Technical Advisory	565,408.00	86,897.58	89,417.64
SID-CHT Operational and HR	13,761,509.00	2,115,006.86	2,300,985.07
Total HR and Operation	14,326,917.00	2,201,904.44	2,390,402.70
GMS - 8%	4,296,296.00	660,297.90	661,594.75
Total Budget & Expenditure	57,800,000.00	8,883,284.29	8,879,667.33
Total Fund Received	\$		8,883,284.29
Total Project Expenditure up to Dec'22	\$		8,879,667.33
Remaining Fund	\$		3,616.96
Note: USD 1 = DKK 6.506603 (DKK 57,800,000 / USD. 8,883,284.29)			

## ANNEX 1: OVERVIEW OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF TARGETS

Overview of achievements of targets					
Reference Table	Indicator	Cumulative Targets in RF by 2022	Baseline	Total Target achieved by Dec 2022	Remarks
Development Engagement Objective-1	<b>Objective 1: To strengthen the socio-economic conditions of poor households of the host communities affected by the Rohingya influx in ten Upazilas of Bandarban and Cox's Bazar districts</b>				
Impact Indicator-1.1	1: % of participating households have increased annual net agricultural income, with at least 50% of IFM-FFS members being women	75% / 40,500 HHs (50% women)	14,000 BDT	91.6%  (76.1% women)	Will be updated by End line data, which is underway
Impact Indicator-1.2	2: % of female farmers enrolled in the IFM-FFS report feeling more empowered	50% / 27,000 Framers	5%	Control over HH income- 44.9% Increased decision making- 44.7% Mobility to access market- 35.1% Impart knowledge 35.2% Leadership position 32.4%	Will be updated by End line data, which is underway
Impact Indicator-1.3	3: % of participating households with improved capacities to cope with the situation of Rohingya influx	50% / 27,000 HHs	0%	46%	Will be updated by End line data, which is underway
Outcome-1	<b>Outcome 1: Agricultural productions increased and diversified in targeted communities</b>				
Outcome indicator-1.1	1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: hen eggs[1]	20%*	300 eggs	57%	Will be updated by End line data, which is underway
Outcome indicator-1.1	1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: chickens[2]	30%*	24Kg	68%	Will be updated by End line data, which is underway
Outcome indicator-1.1	1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: vegetables	25%*	85 Kg	67%	Will be updated by End line data, which is underway
Outcome indicator-1.1	1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: fish	30%*	7 Kg	67%	Will be updated by End line data, which is underway
Outcome indicator-1.1	1.1: % increase in productivity in IFM-FFS households: fruits	20%*	20 Kg	39%	Will be updated by End line data, which is underway
Outcome indicator-1.2	1.2: 75% of IFM-FFS participating households apply additional farming component and improved farming techniques	75% 40,500 HH	0% 0	95% 50,673	Will be updated by End line data, which is underway
Outcome indicator-1.3	1.3: 80% of households who have received farming input packages as part of SHARIP's COVID-19 response report to have resumed their agricultural production disrupted by COVID-19	80% of 38,640 HH	0%	100% 52,600 HH	It will remain same.

Overview of achievements of targets					
Reference Table	Indicator	Cumulative Targets in RF by 2022	Baseline	Total Target achieved by Dec 2022	Remarks
Output 1.1	<b>Output 1.1: Enhanced knowledge and skills of communities, farmers, Farmer Facilitators, local service providers, and monitors on improved agricultural practices</b>				
Output indicator 1.1.1	1.1.1: Number of farmers who have completed the IFM-FFS and/or agroforestry sessions, at least 50% women	54,000 (50% women)	0	53,340 (79% women)	This is the actual figure base on 1800 FFS. All FFS does not enroll 30 Farmers, especially in Bandarban.
Output indicator 1.1.2	1.1.2: Number of Master Trainers developed and running ToF, at least 30% women	30 MTs (30% women)	0	32 (22% women)	
Output indicator 1.1.3	1.1.3: Number of Farmer Facilitators developed and conducting IFM-FFS sessions, at least 40% women	563 FFs (40% women)	0	563 (59% women)	
Output indicator 1.1.4	1.1.4: Number of local service providers (Community Livestock Workers and Community Aquaculture Resource Persons) providing support to communities, at least 30% women	80 (30% women)	0	102 (20% women)	Females have demonstrated less interest in CLW and vaccination activities because it necessitates frequent travel and large animal vaccination.
Output indicator 1.1.5	1.1.5: Number of monitoring visits (DAE, DLS, DoF) and follow up support made to IFM-FFS communities	3,080	0	2,927	Two visits are not accomplishable in some isolated locations, like Bandarban and St. Martin.
Output indicator 1.1.6	1.1.6: Number of monitoring visits organized to support IFM-FFS communities by local Government Institutions (Union Parishad, Upazila Parishad)	304	0	487	
Output indicator 1.1.7	1.1.7: Number of functional IFM-FFS groups, at least 50% women	1,800 (50% women)	0	1,800 (79% Women)	
Output indicator 1.1.8	1.1.8: Number of IFM-FFS modules printed	12	0	14	Two additional Modules are developed in Extended phase.
Output indicator 1.1.9	1.1.9: Number of farmers growing high-value agroforestry products, at least 50% being women	360 (50% women)	0	393 (42% women)	
Output 1.2	<b>Output 1.2: Market linkage and access to quality farming (including agroforestry) inputs enhanced</b>				
Output indicator 1.2.1	1.2.1: Access of participating farmers to high quality farming inputs (including agroforestry), 30% women	60% (32,400 farmers) (30% women)	5%	63% (33,604 farmers) (79% Women)	
Output indicator 1.2.2	1.2.2: % of new collection points operated (bulking and trading) on an average twice in a week, with at least 30% percent women in leadership roles	80% of 56 new collection points (30% women)	0%	84% of 43 collection points (35% women)	New and old Collection points

Overview of achievements of targets					
Reference Table	Indicator	Cumulative Targets in RF by 2022	Baseline	Total Target achieved by Dec 2022	Remarks
Output indicator 1.2.3.a	1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (nursery growers) providing support to communities, 20% being women	65 (20% women)	0%	75 13% women	
Output indicator 1.2.3.b	1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (women entrepreneurs doing value addition at local level) providing support to communities, 20% being women	150 (20% women)	0%	30 100% women	Not done in CXB
Output indicator 1.2.3.c	1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (high value crop producers) providing support to communities, 20% being women	90 (20% women)	0%	64 (45% women)	
Output indicator 1.2.3.d	1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (beekeepers) providing support to communities, 20% being women	90 (20% women)	0%	29 (24% women)	Not done in CXB CXB is not feasible for honey bee training.
Output indicator 1.2.3.e	1.2.3: Number of new agroforestry-based small enterprises (vermicompost producers) providing support to communities, 20% being women	60 (20% women)	0%	96 (52% Women)	
Output indicator 1.2.4	1.2.4: Number of farming households affected by COVID-19 have received quality farming input to restore their agricultural production	48,300	0%	52,600	
Outcome-2	<b>Outcome 2: Agroforestry productions increased sustainably</b>				
	2.1: Increase in area of lands (in ha) under firewood, bamboo and vegetation coverage	1,000 Hec	0%	1,005	
Output 2.1	<b>Output 2.1: Improved knowledge and skills of community people on agroforestry systems</b>				
Output indicator-2.1.1	2.1.1: Number of IFM-FFS communities implementing Agroforestry Development Plans, 30% women	1,800 (30% women)	0%	1800 (79% Women)	
Output indicator-2.1.2	2.1.2: % of trained farmers implementing improved agroforestry systems, 30% women	80% of 54,000 farmers (30% women)	0%	88.25% 5,3340 farmers 79 % Women	
Output indicator-2.1.3	2.1.3: Number of seedlings distributed to implement Agroforestry Development Plans	133,200	0%	235,746	
Outcome-3	<b>Outcome 3: Social Cohesion Increased</b>				

Overview of achievements of targets					
Reference Table	Indicator	Cumulative Targets in RF by 2022	Baseline	Total Target achieved by Dec 2022	Remarks
Outcome indicator-3.1	3.1: Number of disputes/conflicts mediated by Local Volunteer Mediators Forums (LVMFs)	1,000*	0%	1,754	
Outcome indicator-3.2	3.2: % of farmers participating in the courtyard sessions organized for the IFM-FFS report that they feel confident to address disputes and conflicts at household and/or community level	70%*	0%	78%	
Outcome indicator-3.3	3.3: Number and percentage of youths participating in social cohesion activities report actively applying their knowledge to enhance social cohesion in their local area	2,500 youth (75%)	5%	5,122 (78%)	
Outcome indicator-3.4	3.4: Number of households who have received direct livelihood support to cope with the COVID-19 crisis	48,300	0%	61,280	
Outcome indicator-3.5	3.5: Number of households who have received information on COVID-19 on the potential negative impact of COVID-19 on social cohesion	96,600	0%	838,008	
Output-3.1	<b>Output 3.1.: Communities have enhanced capacities and skills in conflict resolution, gender and youth engagement contributing to limiting negative effects of the Rohingya influx</b>				
Output indicator-3.1.1	3.1.1: % of participating households engaged in various community groups/ forums	60%	0%	77%	
Output indicator-3.1.2	3.1.2: Number of Local Volunteer Mediators Forum (LVMF) operational at Upazila and Union level, with a particular focus on domestic violence and with presence of at least 30% women in the LVMF executive committees	10 (30% female) 1000 conflicts	0	21 921 domestic 1237	
Output indicator-3.1.3	3.1.3: Number of courtyard sessions organized for IFM-FFS members to enhance their knowledge on leadership, conflict management and gender equality	7,000	0	6,903	
Output indicator-3.1.4	3.1.4: Number of events specifically targeting youth and their engagement in promotion of social cohesion, tolerance and conflict prevention	250	45	303	
Output indicator-3.1.5	3.1.5: Number of initiatives taken by the community groups/ forums at Upazila level observed with engagement of all relevant stakeholders	300	53	344	



## ANNEX 2: CASE STORIES

### Case story 1: IFM-FFS learnings help to cope with the Rohingya influx.

Afera Begum, a member of Maddhom Goyalmara IFM-FFS in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar, shared how her improved farming skills helped her family overcome the difficulties caused by the influx of Rohingya refugees. Before joining the IFM-FFS, her husband was the sole breadwinner and earned around BDT 6,000 per month as a day laborer. However, the influx of Rohingya caused a significant decrease in his income, as a large number of Rohingya offered themselves as day laborers, leading to a drop in daily wages and demand for local day laborers. Afera's family was struggling to meet basic needs due to the



situation, compounded by deforestation and high demand for groundwater in her area, causing price hikes on commodities and transportation costs. Fortunately, Afera joined Maddhom Goyalmara IFM-FFS, and she started raising chickens, building an improved chicken house, and using Hazol technology. She also encouraged her husband to participate in agricultural activities, and they started producing fertilizer and cultivating vegetables on leased land. Within a few months, their monthly

family income increased to BDT 10-12,000, giving them hope for a bright future. Afera said, "Once I was scared when thinking about the future, but now it is exciting as I have plans to expand my agricultural activities. My husband and I can now bear the educational expenses of our children while also meeting other basic family needs."

### Case story 2: How a collection point makes a difference in Alikadam, Bandarban

Jubiram Para Collection Point, located in Alikadam Upazila, Bandarban, has been instrumental in improving the economic well-being and quality of life for the people in the surrounding areas. Before the establishment of the collection point, farmers like Mr. Atirma Tripura and Mr. Newauchig Marma



faceted challenges in earning a proper income from their land. They had no proper storage facilities for their produce, and accessing the market was difficult, resulting in economic losses. However, after joining the SHARIP project, they received training on collection point roles and regulations, as well as marketing strategies.

This knowledge helped them to cultivate various types of fruits and vegetables, and sell them at the right price at the collection point, as traders now come and buy the stored crops at a good price. Unsold crops can also be sold daily at the collection point. Thanks to the collection point, Mr. Atirma and Mr. Newauchig were able to sell their crops and fruits, earning BDT 175,000 and BDT 95,000, respectively, in this winter and rainy season. They are now very happy because they can easily sell their crops at the collection point without having to worry about finding buyers in the market. Overall, the establishment of the Jubiram Para Collection Point has greatly improved the economic situation of the local farmers and their families.

### Case story 3: LVMF mediation process recognized by the legal system

Haronur Rashid Sikder, the General Secretary of the Whykong LVMF in Teknaf, Cox's Bazar, has established himself as a proficient mediator, with the Teknaf police frequently referring disputes to him for resolution at the local level in Whykong Union. Mr. Sikder's expertise was recently recognized by the legal system when he mediated a conflict between two brothers, Sayed Hossain Selim and Nur Hossain, who were both vying for the same shop plot in the Nayabazar area of Whykong UP. After Nur Hossain filed a case with the Teknaf Thana police, they referred the case to the Whykong LVMF. With the support of two representatives from each party and all necessary documentation, Mr. Sikder mediated the conflict and determined that Sayed Hossain Selim should be granted the plot, with Nur Hossain required to hand it over within six months. Despite this resolution, Nur Hossain subsequently rejected the outcome and filed a case with the Cox's Bazar District Court. The Judge presiding over the case asked Mr. Sikder for information about the LVMF and its conflict management and mediation processes. After hearing from all parties and verifying the necessary documents, the Judge declared that the decision and mediation made by the Whykong UP Mediator Forum was accurate and appropriate, granting the same decision that had been determined by the LVMF. Mr. Sikder takes pride in this success, acknowledging that it is a testament to the entire LVMF's expertise and dedication.



### Case story 4: Woman empowerment through farming

Ms. Khotija Begum (38) had been struggling to support her large family of seven, including three girls and two boys, before she joined Horinmara IFM-FFS in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar in 2019. Dependent on her husband's small business, the family's income was barely sufficient to cover their daily needs, let alone their children's education. Fortunately, Khotija's life took a turn for the better after joining the IFM-FFS.

Through the IFM-FFS sessions, Khotija acquired knowledge and skills that significantly improved, increased, and diversified her agricultural production. Her farm became a source of self-reliance, and her husband now fully recognizes her abilities. With the help of her husband, Khotija now produces compost and keeps more chickens. She is growing peppers, gourds, and other vegetables, earning BDT 25-30,000 last year after meeting her family's needs. Together, Khotija and her husband run a business: she produces bottle gourd seeds, and he sells them in the market, earning them an additional BDT 12,000 last season.



Last year, Khotija's husband helped her obtain a loan from the bank, and they started breeding cows and goats. So far, they have made a profit of about BDT 25,000. Additionally, Khotija uses manure and kitchen waste to produce vermicompost, saving her costs of buying fertilizers from the market. She has also sold vermicompost worth about BDT 7,000 in the market, in addition to the BDT 12,000 earned from breeding.

Khotija's husband now trusts her farming skills and relies on her for agricultural decisions. He has also stopped interfering with her spending and respects her decisions. Khotija has spent part of her earnings on her children's education, household expenses, and farming investments, while saving the rest. She has become a role model in her community, demonstrating how a woman can empower herself and change her family's livelihood.

### **Case story 5: Journey towards group approach to vermicompost entrepreneurship**

Ms. Hasina Akter (38) is a success story of the SHARIP project in Ramu Upazila, Cox's Bazar. She started her journey as an IFM-FFS member and set up a study plot on vermicompost production in her farm in March 2020. With just one cemented ring and 250 worms, Hasina used vermicompost in her vegetable plots and achieved higher and healthier yields. This caught the attention of other farmers in the area who were interested in setting up a vermicompost unit on their farms. Hasina responded to the demand by setting up another ring and selling worms to other farmers and IFM-FFS members. She was enrolled as a Farmer Facilitator the same year.



Hasina's efforts paid off when she sold 1 kg of worms for BDT 10,000 to the Ramu Cantonment, which prompted her to enlarge her production by setting up an additional seven rings. She now coordinates with 20 enlisted farmers, and together they have 51 cemented vermicompost rings. Their earnings from the worms and compost have reached BDT 265,000. Hasina acts as the liaison with customers, which include farmers in the community, Upazila Agricultural Office, Ramu Cantonment, and larger farmers.



With her success in vermicompost production, Hasina plans to expand her operation by adding 40 more rings and packaging the vermicompost to supply fertilizer shops. Her dedication and hard work have not only provided financial benefits for her family but also inspired other farmers in her community to follow her example. Hasina's story is a testament to the potential of small-scale agriculture and the benefits of empowering farmers with knowledge and resources.

### **Case story 6: CLW and nursery grower trainings spark entrepreneurship development**

Mr. Mohammad Ashab Uddin (30) is a remarkable Community Livestock Worker (CLW) in Alikadam Upazila, Bandarban. Before attending the CLW training, he had no education or capital to start his own business. He worked with his father at their farm, and their earnings were insufficient to properly support his family. However, the CLW training came as a blessing for him, and he is now working as a helping hand of the Department of Livestock, providing vaccination support to the community.



Ashab Uddin's hard work and dedication have made him a trustworthy person among the community members. He charges 20-50 BDT for poultry vaccination or primary treatment and 100-300 BDT for domestic animals such as cows and goats. He has a good relationship with the Upazila Livestock Office for disseminating vaccination support. On average, he

vaccinates almost 600-700 poultry and 70-80 goats, as well as 20-30 cattle every month. He also provides primary treatment to many livestock animals.

Ashab Uddin's monthly income is around BDT 15,000, which has enabled him to expand his own poultry farming. The CLW training has opened his eyes and enabled him to fulfill his dream of becoming an entrepreneur. He hopes that his sincerity and hard work to establish himself as a successful entrepreneur will inspire the younger generation.

### **Case story 7: A tiny collection point turned into a market**

Dochori Uttarkul, a remote village in Kacchapia Union of Ramu, Cox's Bazar, faces challenges with the selling of agricultural products due to the absence of a nearby market. With the nearest larger market being around 15-30 km away, farmers are burdened with time and travel expenses, costing between BDT 40 to 100 per trip, with some places taking up to three hours by local vehicle.



To address this challenge, a collection point was established in the area in late 2021, managed by a committee of 15 members consisting of farmers, traders, local people, input sellers, and six IFM-FFS members, including six females. A member of the local Union Parishad was also selected as an advisor. The collection point operates daily, meeting local demand, and supplies products to different marketplaces including Ukhiya, Chittagong, and sometimes even Dhaka.

The establishment of this collection point has brought benefits not only to the farmers but also to the local traders. The farmers can now sell their products easily, saving time and travel costs. Meanwhile, local traders no longer need to go door-to-door to collect products.

The collection point supervisor, who is also a trader, keeps a record of the products sold, their quantity, and the farmers' information. According to the register, 3,600 – 3,800 kg of vegetables and 25-30 chickens are sold per day. Fruits like papaya and banana are also popular items, with 4-5 sacks of papaya and 60-70 bunches of bananas sold each week. The sales record shows that this collection point is gradually turning into a thriving marketplace.

### **Case story 8: Successful LVMF mediation in Whykhong, Teknaf**

Mr. Abdus Salam (62) is a businessman in Whykhong Union, Teknaf, who sells fresh vegetables. He had a land dispute with his brother, which stemmed from their parents not having distributed family land before their death. Mr. Salam's brother had threatened him to forget about his rights to the land and the situation escalated when Mr. Salam's nephews came to his house with a group of people, beat his family members, and threatened to kill him. The police were called, but they left the scene without providing help due to the overwhelming number of people on Mr. Salam's brother's side.



After being unable to get justice through other means, Mr. Salam learned about the Whykhong LVMF and approached the General Secretary for help. The General Secretary mediated the dispute by calling both parties to his office and listening to their individual perspectives. Although Mr. Salam is

unsure of what was said during the mediation, he is grateful for the outcome. His brother divided the land between them, stopped harassing him and his family, and the dispute was resolved peacefully.

Mr. Salam expresses his gratitude to the Whykong LVMF and praises the organization for its free service. He believes that if the LVMF continues its activities, the common people of Whykong Union will have a chance to live in peace and obtain their rights.

### **Case story 9: A Vulnerable Poor Lady Turns Back Utilizing IFM-FFS Learning**

Anjumanara Begum, a 40-year-old woman from Hatirghona Para of Holudia Palong Union in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar, faced many challenges after her husband abandoned her and her two children. Anjumanara had to rely on day jobs to get by and take shelter at her father's small veranda. But things started to change for her when she was invited to join a group of 30 IFM-FFS members to learn more effective agricultural practices.



After going through season-long training on homestead space planning, goat keeping, poultry rearing, and vegetable cultivation, Anjumanara was inspired to put her new skills into practice. She grows over 20 varieties of crops and produces enough vegetables for her family's needs. She also earned 4,500 BDT by selling pumpkins and coriander. With the money, she purchased a goat and began raising two chicks, which has now grown to three goats, two new babies, and fifteen chickens.

Thanks to the training, Anjumanara is no longer a day laborer. Her 7-year-old daughter goes to Madrasas, and she supported her son's marriage and apprenticeship in masonry work. Anjumanara hopes her daughter will continue her education and is planning to set up a vermicompost production plant with one or two rings. She also plans to purchase a cow to improve her livestock income.

### **Case story 10: IFM-FFS Member Miraju Akter Promotes Organic Farming**

Mrs. Miraju Akter is a 35-year-old farmer who lives in Raicha Ghona Bazar Para, Sadar Union, Bandarban Sadar Upazila. She has two sons and two daughters, and her husband and sons are also engaged in agriculture. Although Mrs. Akter comes from a family of farmers, they did not benefit from modern farming techniques and often struggled to produce a good yield of crops such as tomatoes, beans, bottle gourds, snake gourds, and eggplants.



However, her situation changed in September 2021, when she joined an IFM-FFS under the Support to Host Communities Affected by Rohingya Influx Project, jointly implemented by BHDC and SID-CHT-UNDP. The Farmer Facilitator, Mrs. Rina Akter, formed a Farmer Field School and conducted sessions among the members. Mrs. Akter became interested in applying new farming techniques to her vegetable garden, particularly after learning about homestead gardening, vegetable cultivation, and integrated farm management.



Mrs. Akter has two cattle at her house, which she uses to prepare vermicompost and farmyard manure organic fertilizer for her vegetable fields. By using organic fertilizers, the cost of chemical fertilizers and pesticides has decreased compared to the past, resulting in lower production costs. During the winter, she earned 12,000 takas by cultivating bottle gourd on 6 decimals of land, 35,000 takas by cultivating beans on 20 decimal lands, and 5,000 takas by cultivating pumpkins on 5 decimals of land. In total, she earned 52,000 takas from winter vegetables.

Encouraged by her success, Mrs. Akter started growing summer vegetables such as bitter gourd and cucumber. She hopes to earn 25,000 takas by selling bitter gourd and 40,000 takas by selling cucumber in the Bazar. She also earned 3,000 takas by selling red amaranth, water amaranth, and radish leaves in bed method. In total, she expects to earn 70,000 takas from summer vegetables.

In the last 9 months, she earned 3,750 takas by selling 250 kg of vermicompost organic fertilizer. She no longer uses chemical fertilizers in her vegetable cultivation, and she plans to continue cultivating her vegetables organically. She found that organic farming increased productivity, improved the longevity of vegetable plants, and retained the original taste of vegetables.

Mrs. Akter sells her organic vegetables at the "Organic Shoshay Bhandar" shop in Bandarban, introduced to her by Farmer Facilitator Rina Akter. She is proud of her accomplishments as a member of the Farmer Field School and is grateful for the help of her husband and children in farming. She can keep the money from selling vegetables and use it for her family's needs.

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