

National Urban Poverty Reduction Programme (NUPRP)



April – September 2020

UNDP Bangladesh

Contents

Acronyms	
Executive Summary	5
Results Achieved	2
<i>A. COVID-19 Response</i>	7
<i>B. NUPRP</i>	10
<i>A. Output 1: Improved coordination, planning and management in program towns and cities</i>	11
• Progress against Output 1 Indicators	13
<i>B. Output 2: Enhanced Organisation, Capability and Effective Voice of Poor Urban Communities</i>	14
• Progress against Output 2 Indicators	16
<i>C. Output 3: Improved Well-Being in Poor Urban Slums, particularly for Women and Girls</i>	18
• Progress against Output 3 Indicators	22
<i>D. Output 4: More Secure Land Tenure and Housing in Programme Towns and Cities</i>	23
• Progress against Output 4 Indicators	24
<i>E. Output 5: Improved Resilient Infrastructure in and Serving, Low-Income Settlements</i>	25
• Progress against Output 5 Indicators	29
<i>F. Cross Cutting Areas: Innovations, Gender, Disability, M4i, Operations, MAU</i>	31
• Innovations	31
• Gender	32
• Disability	33
<i>G. Managing for Impact (M4i)</i>	34
<i>H. Communications</i>	36
<i>I. Mutual Accountability Unit (MAU)</i>	38
<i>J. Operations</i>	39
<i>K. Challenges</i>	40
<i>L. Lessons Learnt</i>	41
<i>M. Case Studies</i>	
• Case Study 1:	42
• Case Study 2:	44
• Case Study 3:	46
• Case Study 4:	47

Acronyms

CAP	Community Action Plan
CCVA	Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment
CDC	Community Development Committee
CHDF	Community Housing Development Fund
CLMNCC	City Level Multisectoral Nutrition Coordination Committee
CO	Community Organisation
CPC	Community Purchase Committee
CRMIF	Climate Resilient Municipal Infrastructure Fund
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease of 2019
FCDO	Department for International Development
DPP	Development Programme Proforma
EFM	Early and Forced Marriage
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
GBV	Gender Based Violence
HDRC	Human Development Research Centre
HR	Human Resources
IFCA	Institutional and Financial Capacity Assessment
NUPRP	Livelihoods Improvement Programme for Urban Poor Community Programme
LF	Logframe
LG	Local government
LGD	Local Government Division
LGI	Local government institutions
LTAP	Land Tenure Action Plan
M4i	Managing for Impact
MAB	Municipal Association of Bangladesh
MAU	Mutual Accountability Unit
NUPRP	National Urban Poverty Reduction Programme
N&WBC	Nutrition & Women Friendly Business Corner
NPD	National Programme Director
PG	Primary Group
PIC	Programme Implementation Committees
PPRC	Power and Participation Research Centre
SBCC	Social and Behaviour Change Communication
SAC	Social Audit Committee
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SCC	Safe Community Committee
SCG	Savings and Credit Group
SEF	Socio-Economic Fund
SENF	Socio-Economic and Nutrition Facilitator
SIF	Settlement Improvement Fund
TLCC	Town Level Coordination Committee
ToT	Training of Trainers

TNA	Training Needs Assessment
TPB	Town Programme Board
TSC	Town Steering Committee
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UPP	Urban Poverty Profile
UPPR	Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
VLM	Vacant Land Map
WPA	Ward Poverty Atlas
WLCC	Ward Level Coordination Committees

Executive Summary

Bangladesh has been urbanizing rapidly, with the urban population expanding by 35 percent between 2001 and 2011, at an annualized growth rate of 3 percent. Presently, more than 30 percent of the national population reside in urban areas which is expected to increase to more than half of the country's population by 2050. Poverty remains a major issue in urban Bangladesh with urban poverty headcount being 21.3 percent (versus a national rate of 31.5)¹. Nevertheless, due to population size, the substantial number of urban poor is high, at over 9.4 million.

Against this backdrop, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched a five-year national programme (2018-2023) to reduce urban poverty, *the National Urban Poverty Reduction Programme (NUPRP)* in partnership with the Local Government Division (LGD), Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives (MLGRD&C), the Government of Bangladesh, and the Department for International Development (FCDO). The programme aims to support balanced, sustainable and pro-poor development for up to 4 million poor people: dwellers of slum and low-income settlements comprising some 1.2 million households living in urban areas. The programme will contribute to more effective and inclusive urbanisation by working across three different levels of interventions: (i) the community level, (ii) municipal level, and (iii) national level. The programme is being implemented in 20 Towns (12 City Corporations and 8 Pourashavas) across the Country with a focus on the most marginalized populations, particularly women and people with disabilities. The programme addresses complex as well as interconnected issues under **five broad Outputs**, including:

- Urban Governance and Planning (Output 1),
- Citizen's Participation and Community Mobilization (Output 2),
- Economic Development and Livelihoods (Output 3),
- Housing and Land Tenure (Output 4), and
- Infrastructure and Basic Services/Climate Resilient Infrastructure (Output 5);

The programme aims to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 that call for 'leaving no one behind'. The five interrelated components of NUPRP will contribute in achieving the SDGs, particularly the following: *SDG-1: No Poverty; SDG-5: Gender Equality; SDG-6: Clean Water and Sanitation; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; SDG-11: Sustainable Cities & Communities and SDG-13: Climate Action*. The NUPRP will also contribute to achieving *more than 50 of the SDG targets* through improvements in the livelihoods and living conditions of urban poor people.

The United Kingdom (UK) is providing up to £60 million over 6 years (2016 - 2022) to support the programme's implementation. Up to £20 million of this is from the International Climate Fund (ICF). The UK contribution mainly consists of technical and financial assistance for physical and social improvements in urban slums. The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has committed to provide up to £10 million through a combination of financial and in-kind support. UK funding is structured to reduce over time, with an exit strategy agreed between stakeholders.

The year 2019 saw increased momentum across the programme interventions. However, the steady progress was halted by the *onset of the COVID -19 pandemic* in March 2020. COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on implementation of field-based interventions since the inception of the nationwide lockdown starting from end March. Due to the *movement restriction*, many of the field-level activities had to be temporarily suspended, which has delayed overall project implementation and achievement of targets.

¹ as per the HIES (2010),

The [2020 Annual Work Plan](#) had to be revised, particularly budget allocation and targets of indicators in consultation with donors and government counterparts.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a notable [impact on business operations and continuity](#) of the NUPRP office at HQ/City level particularly because of the extended periods of lockdown. Most staff have been working from home since 26 March 2020 and a [change of work modality](#) has brought new challenges for human resource management. While staff safety is absolutely the highest priority, many efforts were made to avoid significant delay of project implementation by [using digital technologies](#). Meetings and trainings have been conducted remotely with use of [virtual means of communication](#), i.e. Zoom, while domestic travels have been restricted. Field monitoring has also become difficult due to travel restrictions. However, remote monitoring with use of phone, Zoom, and Skype has been conducted particularly for the COVID-19 responses. [Procurement](#) has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. National and international supply chains have completely been disrupted, resulting in severe delays in the delivery of goods. A scarcity of raw materials sourced from international markets has also affected production of regular items in the local markets.

Meanwhile, it also opened a new avenue for NUPRP to respond to this unprecedented crisis and support the [marginalized populations](#) at the grassroots level who have been adversely affected by COVID-19. NUPRP implemented the [three-month DFID supported multipronged COVID emergency response](#) spanning from [End March – May 2020](#) covering multiple interventions – Communication and Outreach; Establishing Handwashing Facilities and Hygienic package; Strengthening Coordination Function; Food Assistance; Sensitization and Capacity Building of Health Officials; Data, research and third-party monitoring and Operations. Despite operating in such a challenging environment, NUPRP ensured timely delivery of essential humanitarian relief and services for the COVID-affected beneficiaries across all 19 Cities /towns. [Globally, the three-month response became UNDP’s first ever large scale COVID response on the ground.](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic also opened [new windows on partnerships](#) to enable NUPRP to intensify its efforts to the COVID-19 response across the Country. NUPRP’s COVID Response capitalized on the existing extensive network of urban poor in 19 Cities including an outreach of around 1200 community staff working at the forefront of the urban poor settlements. NUPRP leveraged its grassroots level presence, resources and its network with the Urban Local Government to effectively respond to COVID-19 epidemic. UNDP was also able to enhance the capacities of local authorities in terms of their community outreach, service delivery especially through offering infection prevention gear for frontline staff.

The [Recovery Phase](#) of the programme will focus on closely working with the Urban Local Government to build resilience of urban poor to future crisis and shocks, strengthen livelihood and wellbeing and contribute effectively to eradicate poverty and reduce inequalities.

Some of the [key highlights of the 6-month period](#) are -

- a. Successful implementation of [first ever large-scale emergency response](#) for nCOVID-19.
- b. [DFID transition to FCDO](#) -From 1st September 2020, DFID was merged and became part of a new organization co-created with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office called the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). As a result of the necessary prioritization following a significant cut to DFID’s overall budget for this financial year (April 20 to March 21), NUPRP had to reduce its overall budget by £5.5m. The cut has been made across all NUPRP activities including reducing the level of infrastructure investments this year. FCDO and UNDP management agreed that there will be no official announcement of the budget reduction until next year, nor seek amendment of

the DPP, as it may be the case that the overall programme budget remains broadly on track given the additional £3m already provided in March 2020 to NUPRP for COVID-19 emergency response and conditional cash transfer. It is likely that an additional £4m for this financial year will be made available to NUPRP for nutrition-related and climate resilient infrastructure activities, provided the programme can absorb this additional funding this year.

- c. Reprogramming of 2020 Annual Workplan including revision of Budget and logframe to adjust the targets.
- d. Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 on urban poor to inform the reprogramming.
- e. The second National Project Steering Committee (NPSC) meeting was held on 28th September 2020 through ZOOM under the Chairmanship of Mr. Helal Uddin Ahmed, Senior Secretary, LGD of the MoLGRD&C. The NPSC acknowledged the project progress and appreciated nCOVID response which was implemented with the financial support of UK's FCDO. It was also agreed to start low cost (affordable) housing in four Cities on a pilot basis through GoB fund.
- f. Regional Collaboration on Climate Resilience - The UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub (BRH) has embarked on an urban resilience collaboration with NUPRP to localize the 2030 agenda of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and striving for progress through the framework of the Paris Agreement (the NDC) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Under this support, one of the NUPRP city (two coastal cities are identified, either Cox's Bazar or Patuakhali) will establish a resilient urban master plan. The local context within Bangladesh can incorporate this master plan into an existing plan to integrate and improve priority elements of the SDGs, the National Determined Contributions (NDC), and the Sendai Framework.

Results Achieved

A. COVID-19 Response

Impact Level: *The spread of the COVID-19 pandemic is contained in the Urban Settlements through Government led response to safeguard human rights and ensure social cohesion among urban poor.*

NUPRP contributed significantly in containing and preventing the rapid transmission of COVID-19 pandemic in the urban poor settlements through Government led response managed by the City level Task force. As of August 2020, **274,525** confirmed cases and **3,625** deaths (as of 16th August 2020 – IEDCR Bangladesh) have been reported.

All the 19 Cities/Towns coordinated with the Stakeholders and Government Departments to undertake the preventative measures in the urban poor settlements. NUPRP, through its COVID -19 response, was able to reach out to a total of 265,752 Registered Primary Group members who were most vulnerable households amongst the urban slums, including Households with people with disabilities (39,084 - 15%); Households headed by aged people (25,298 - 10%); Households with under 5 year children (70,683 - 27%); Households with pregnant women (9,741 - 4%); Households of ethnic minorities (12,745 - 5%) and single woman headed households (89,955 - 34%).

Outcome Level (Municipal level) - *Local Governments are supported to plan and deliver vital basic services rapidly in an inclusive.*

At the *Municipal Level*, NUPRP was instrumental in supporting the Urban Local Government to plan and deliver vital basic services to the urban poor rapidly through an inclusive approach to mitigate sources of tension. The Impact Evaluation Report (August 2020²) states that:

- **89%** of the affected population were **satisfied on access to services and information** provided by the local government and the programme.
- **70%** of the Urban Local Government used the **NUPRP database for relief activities** for urban poor.

Outcome Level (Community level) - Access to basic human rights by urban poor and social cohesion is maintained during the COVID crisis.

At the *Community level*, NUPRP with its extensive network of human resources and community based organizations in the urban slums across 19 Cities/Towns made a significant contribution in enabling the urban poor and their representatives (that is, community leaders) to access basic human rights and to maintain social cohesion during the COVID crisis. The Impact Evaluation Report (August 2020) states that:

- **100%** of urban poor have been practicing handwashing at the community and household level.
- **25%** of registered Primary Group Households, that is, a total of 77,560 Households received food/cash assistance out of the total 310,000 registered Households across 19 Cities/Towns. Out of these, 3,246 Households were from High Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), 14,314 Households from medium MPI and 60,000 Households from low MPI.

Output Level

The Output wise results are outlined below –

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Achievement
Output 1: Urban Local Government has stronger Coordination Mechanism in place to respond to COVID-19 crises			
1.1 Number of Cities/Towns with a functional multi-sectoral, multi-partner coordination mechanism for COVID-19 preparedness and response.	0	20	18
1.2 Level of engagement by the NUPRP Town teams at the City/Ward level Taskforce Meeting to coordinate COVID response.	0	City Task Force - 20; Ward Task Force - 534	High 50%; Medium 20%; Low 30%; City Task Force - 18; Ward Task Force - 439
Output 2: Health officials have access to Protective Measures at the facility level			
2.1 Number of health personnel and workers who received complete set of PPE.	0	430	605
2.2 Number of Cities health officials and workers who have undergone the online training of COVID19 of DGHS, GOB.	0	200	385
Output 3: Independent monitoring Mechanisms in place to track the progress in hard to reach areas			

² Third Party Monitoring for COVID-19 Response for National Urban Poverty Reduction Programme, The Nielsen Company (Bangladesh) Limited, 2020

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Achievement
3.1 Number of Cities/Towns who undertook 100% pre verification for relief assistance.	0	19	19
3.2 Number of Cities/Towns reporting on M&E Trackers for Weekly Reporting.	0	19	19
Output 4: Fast tracked systems operationalized to respond to COVID-19 response			
4.1 Number of Hygienic Package procured (Raincoat; Gumboot; Hand Sanitizer; Hand Gloves; Mask).	0	Raincoat - 1,300; Gumboot - 1,300; Hand Sanitizer - 5,200; Hand Gloves - 65,000 Mask - 35,000	Raincoat - 1,129; Gumboot - 1,129; Hand Sanitizer - 4,715; Hand Gloves - 56,450; Mask - 42,265
4.2 Number of communication materials procured (Poster, Festoon, Sticker and Booklet).	0	Festoons - 37,000; Booklets - 5,000; Posters - 130,000; Stickers - 160,000	Festoons - 14,580; Booklets - 3,400; Posters - 77,500; Stickers - 155,000
Output 5: Urban poor and Stakeholders have increased awareness to cope with COVID- 19			
5.1 Proportion of people reported increase in their level of awareness on COVID 19.	0	100	100
5.2 Number of Articles published by the print & digital media.		15	22
Output 6: Communities are adopting safety measures to ensure protection from infection			
6.1 Number of Town staff using Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) gear to undertake field operations.	0	1,034	1,034
6.2 Number of Handwashing Corners that are accessible to people at the Household/CDC area.	0	2,367	3,256
6.3 Number of people who have access to soaps for handwashing from NUPRP.	0	2.2 million	2.6 million
Output 7: Urban poor have access to social safety nets to sustain food security and livelihoods			
7.1 Number of households who are most vulnerable to COVID-19 have received livelihood support, e.g. cash transfers, food basket, etc.	0	77,586 (Food Basket - 7,900; Cash Transfer - 69,668)	77,560 (Food Basket - 7,900 Cash Transfer - 69,660)

B. NUPRP

Outcome 1: GoB and actors working in the urban space are more coordinated and strategic in their approach to inclusive, climate smart urban development.

At the National level, NIUPRP has initiated the process to collaborate with the Municipal Association of Bangladesh (MAB) on decentralized local planning, governance and to influence the national policy tools. However, the signing of formal partnership agreement has been delayed due to COVID-19 pandemic. The Mayors' platform will be mobilized to start policy dialogue with the Government on Urban Chapter of the 8th Five Year Plan immediately after signing the agreement. Meanwhile, a joint narrative has been prepared with FCDO and UNDP on Urban Social Protection in order to bring the major development partners together for formulation of mutually agreed Urban Social Protection Policy in line with the National Social Security Strategy. UNDP has provided inputs in Chapter 9: Urban Development Strategy of the forthcoming 8th Five Year Plan with a view to making the plan more pro-poor and inclusive.

Outcome 2: Municipal Authorities more effectively manage and deliver inclusive, climate smart urban development.

At the City level, significant progress has been made towards promoting inclusive governance, pro-poor planning and improving financial management capacities of the urban local government. During COVID-19 response, Town Level Coordination Committees and City Development Coordination Committees worked closely with the City Task Force and District Administration in COVID-19 emergency response.

Outcome 3: Urban poor communities are more resilient and empowered to articulate and demand their needs.

Urban poor are now more active in 19 Cities /Towns, especially after having organized themselves under 44,220 Primary Groups, 2,597 Community Development Committees (CDC) and 190 CDC Clusters and 14 Town Federations to raise their collective voices with the duty bearers for accessing basic urban services. The capacity building initiatives have resulted in 54% of the CDCs performing at moderately effective level. Moreover, 260,404 Savings and Credit Group members under 16,649 Savings and Credit Groups have accumulated total £3.09 million savings which is helping their members to respond to their crisis situations. The capacity building initiatives have also enabled the 320 Community Leaders and 185 COs, and SENFs to develop 430 Community Contract of SEF Grants and established 144 Nutrition and Women Friendly Business Corner. Total 7,702 Pregnant and Lactating Mothers and 7-24 Children have received monthly conditional food basket and are now able to improve their nutrition intake. Based on CAP findings on priority community needs, CDCs prepared a total of 1,251 SIF contracts of USD 9.44 million under SIF-2018, 2019 and 2020 to improve their living condition as of the reporting period.

Output 1: Improved coordination, planning and management in program towns and cities

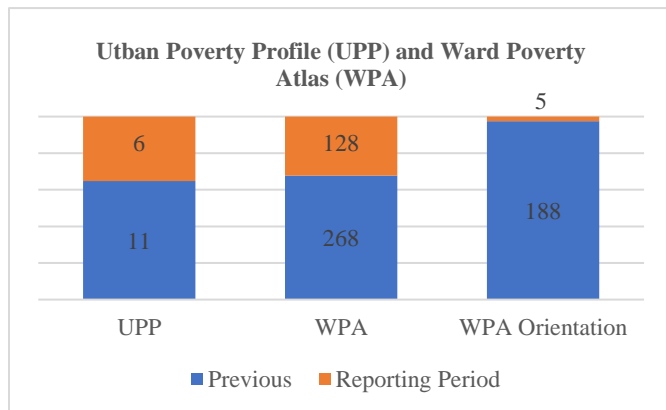
National Urban Platform established to influence National Urban Policy

NUPRP has initiated collaboration between Municipal Association of Bangladesh (MAB) and UNDP for decentralized urban local governance and planning to influence the national policy on inclusive urban development. Signing of the formal collaboration agreement with MAB has been delayed due to extended nationwide lockdown, limited mobility and access due to COVID-19 pandemic. The Mayors' platform will be mobilized to start policy dialogue with the Government on Urban Chapter of the 8th Five Year Plan immediately after signing the agreement.



Ward Poverty Atlas and Urban Poverty Profile (UPP) Developed

During the reporting period, Urban Poverty Profile (UPP) has been developed for 6 Cities including Cox's Bazar, Cumilla, Gazipur, Gopalganj, Noakhali, and Saidpur based on the results of the poverty mapping, priority poverty indicators and feedback from the stakeholders. In total, UPP has been completed in 17 Cities as of this reporting quarter. In order to orient the Ward-level stakeholders on the poverty conditions and build a collective understanding on the Ward poverty status, a Ward Poverty ATLAS (WPA) has been prepared for every Ward. Within the reporting period, Ward Poverty ATLAS has been developed for 128 Wards with a cumulative reaching 396 WPAs. During the reporting period, orientation has been provided only in 5 Wards due to COVID-19 pandemic.



Ward Committees, Town Level Coordination Committees, Standing Committees Activated

NUPRP has been playing a critical role in strengthening the decentralized urban local governance through Ward Committees by engaging them in the Ward level pro poor planning and development. During the reporting period, 22 Ward Committees have been activated in Cox's Bazar and Saidpur. As of this reporting period, total 98 Ward Committees have been functional across 8 municipalities.

All 8 Municipalities have operationalized Town Level Coordination Committees (TLCC) with representation of community leaders from the urban poor slums. During the reporting period, they actively participated in COVID-19 response together with the district administration and other agencies.



Local Government conducting Standing Committee Meeting in Rangpur and Faridpur



TLCC and Ward Committee Meeting in Noakhali

During the reporting period, 3 Standing Committees on Women and Children, Disaster Management and Poverty Reduction and Slum Development. were operationalized in 4 Cities including Khulna, Mymensingh, Rangpur, and Sylhet. During the COVID-19 emergency response, the Standing Committee on Disaster Management worked intensively with the City Task Force of COVID-19 emergency response.

City- and Ward-level Programme Management Structures established

During the reporting period, City Steering Committee has been formed in Gazipur that brings to a total of 19 Steering Committees across the Cities/Towns. A City Project Board has recently been formed in Barisal that leads to completion of 20 City/Town Project Boards across the Cities/Towns. Despite the challenging situation, 26 Programme Implementation Committees (PIC) have been formed in 7 Cities/Towns including Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Cumilla, Gazipur, Narayanganj, Rangpur, and Saidpur with a cumulative total of 337 PICs across 19 Cities/Towns. In order to build the capacity of the members of the PICs, orientation training has been provided only to 8 PICs in 5 Cities including Cumilla, Dhaka North, Dhaka South, Gazipur, and Patuakhali.

City and Ward Level Programme Management Structure and Orientation

Decentralized Governance Structures	Number of Cities during Reporting period	Cumulative as of September 2020
City /Town Programme Board (CPB/TPB)	1	20
City Steering Committee	1	19
Programme Implementation Committees (PIC)	7 (26 PIC)	19 (337 PIC)
Orientation training for PIC	5 (8 PIC)	19 (256 PIC)
Orientation training for CSC/TSC	0	16

Coordination Mechanism for COVID-19 strengthened

According to the Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD), NUPRP actively engaged and supported the COVID-19 Task Force set by the Urban Local Government as a coordination mechanism at the City-corporation/Municipality level under the leadership of Mayor. NUPRP facilitated to activate the relevant Standing Committees such as Standing Committees on Education, Health and Protection System as well as

continued to maintain linkage with the Government of Bangladesh’s District Multi-sectoral Coordination Committee (DMCC) and District Rapid Response Committee (DRRC).

Through consistent engagement at the COVID-19 Task Force at the City level (across 18 City Corporations and Municipalities except Barisal and Dhaka South) and at the Ward level (439 Ward Task Force), NUPRP was able to contribute in effectively coordinating the COVID-19 response in consultation with various stakeholders and communities. For example, the Mayor and City Councillors extensively used the Beneficiary List from the NUPRP Management Information System (MIS) to target the most vulnerable urban poor who were worst affected by the COVID outbreak. This enabled to avoid duplication during relief support provided by different agencies and maximise the coverage with limited resources. The Impact Evaluation Report states that the level of engagement by the NUPRP Town Teams varied with 50% reported as High; 20% as Medium and 30% as Low.

Progress against Output 1 Indicators

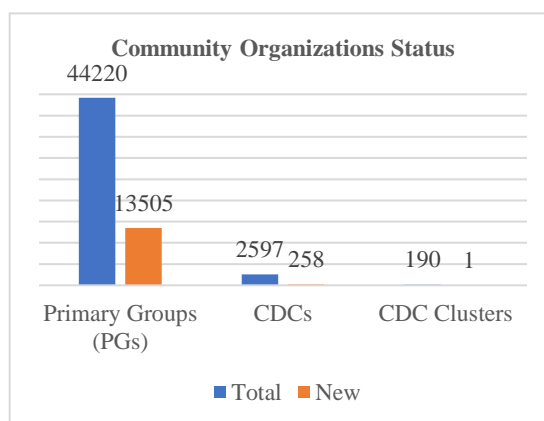
2020 LF Milestone	Progress
<p>Indicator 1.1: Level of engagement by Municipalities and City Corporations for inclusive climate resilient urban development (Mahallah and poor settlement mapping, community action planning, city-wide plans and budgets).</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Milestone: High-5, Medium – 10, Low – 5</p>	<p>While moderate progress has been made against this indicator due to the COVID -19 pandemic, significant progress was made in coordinating with the City level COVID Task Force.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mahalla and poor settlements mapping have been completed in 18 cities with spontaneous engagement of the municipality and the community. ▪ A total of 1,335 CAPs across 19 cities have been prepared with active engagement of the Ward councilors and endorsed by the respective Ward Councilors. ▪ During COVID-19 Although the usual meetings/workshops were suspended during due to COVID -19 pandemic, the councilors extensively engaged with the poor communities in the “Ward Task Team on COVID-19” which was formed as per the Government Directives.
<p>Indicator 1.2: Number of Paurashava with functional decentralized committees (Disaster Management Committee/Town Level Coordination Committee/Ward Committee) with representation from Town Federation/CDC Clusters/CDCs.</p> <p>Baseline: 0 Milestone: 5</p>	<p>Significant progress has been made against this indicator in in creating space for dialogue between the communities and the local government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ With technical assistance from NUPRP, all 8 Municipal Authorities have activated the Town Level Coordination Committees (TLCC). All 8 municipalities have activated 98 out of 99 (99%) Ward Committees. ▪ The Disaster Management Committees have been fully activated in 5 Municipalities, partially activated in 2 Municipalities and one is yet to be activated. However, once COVID emergency is over, municipalities will fully activate the Paurashava Disaster Management Committee as per the Standing Order of the Government.
<p>Indicator 1.3: Number of Cities/Towns with Pro Poor and Climate Resilient Urban Strategy under implementation</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p>	<p>Moderate progress has been against this indicator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preparation of the Pro Poor and Climate Resilient Urban Strategy requires some prerequisite assessment that includes participatory poverty mapping and the climate change vulnerability assessment. The assessments have been completed in 12 Cities and another one will be completed by December 2020.

2020 LF Milestone	Progress
Milestone: 13 (Stage 1 ³)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty Mapping is already completed in 18 Cities/Towns and it will be completed in all 20 Cities/Towns by end of October 2020. A pilot - Pro Poor and Climate Resilient Urban Strategy – will be implemented in one city by December 2020.

Output 2: Enhanced Organisation, Capability and Effective Voice of Poor Urban Communities

Urban poor mobilized to establish a strong community voice for improved access to services

During the reporting period, despite COVID-19 pandemic, a total of 13,505 Primary Groups (PGs), 258 Community Development Committees (CDC) and 1 CDC Cluster have been established. As of date, a total of 44,220 PGs, 2597 CDC and 190 CDC Clusters and 14 Town Federations have been established across 19 Cities/Towns. These community-based organizations constitute 53% old and 47% new members. Of the total PG members, 42% actively participates in community managed Savings & Credit activities. Through these community organizations, NUPRP has reached out about 2.38 million (76%) urban poor population against its total direct coverage target of 3.15 million urban poor population. The programme has mobilized total 642,284 members across 19 Cities/Towns so far and out of them 502,032 members have been registered through online MIS, which is 78% of total mobilized members.



Community Action Plans (CAP) implemented

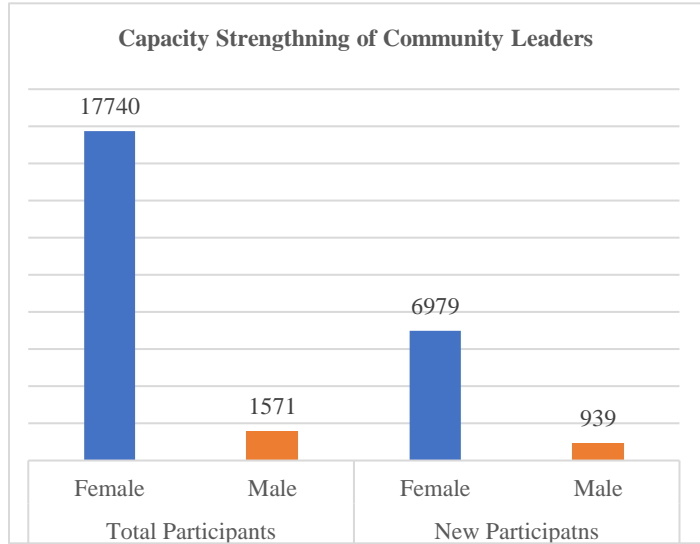
Community Action Plan (CAP) is a community led participatory and inclusive planning process that empower the urban poor communities. CDCs have developed total 1,448 Community Action Plans across 19 Cities/Towns enabling the poor to identify and prioritize their needs. During the reporting period, total 411 new CAPs were prepared by the CDCs with support of NUPRP. Following the CAP findings, 932 CDCs developed and implemented their community development plans as of September 2020 for community infrastructure and socio-economic development. Another 450 CDCs have planned to develop community infrastructures following CAP findings by 2020. It shows that 64% CDCs already implemented their CAP related to infrastructure and socio-economic development. CAP findings are being integrated with the Ward Action Plans and City Action Plans to seek financial support from city authorities to address unmet needs of the communities.



Capacities of the leaders of Community Organizations strengthened

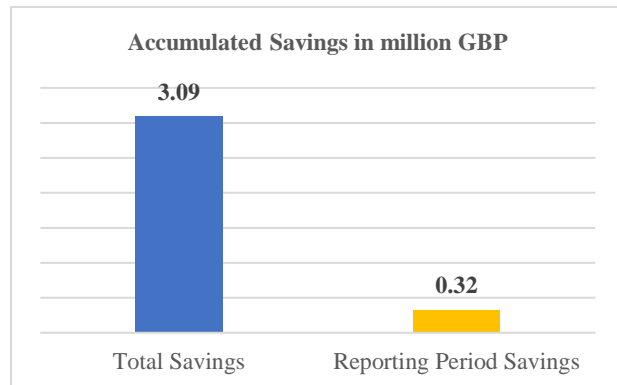
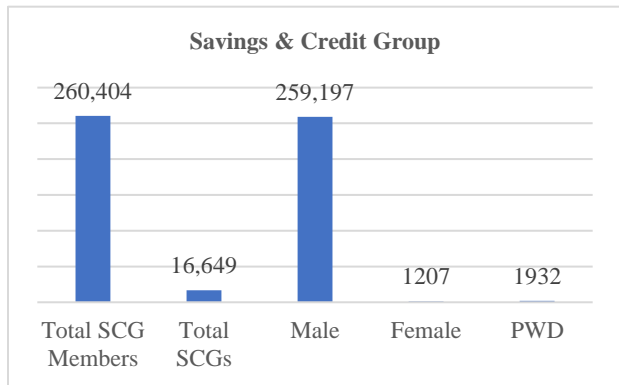
³ Stage 1 - Assessment Reports developed and shared.

As of reporting period, 1264 batches of trainings were organised for the 19,311 leaders of the community organisations on various issues i.e. Savings & Credit management, Savings and Credit Accounting & Auditing, Community Action Plan, Organisational Development & Management, Leadership & Group management, Anti-fraud, vision & mission development etc. Among the participants, there were 92% (17,740) female and 8% (1571) male. During the reporting period, **total 399 batches** of trainings were conducted for 7,918 (6979 female and 939 male) community leaders.



Capacities of Savings & Credit Groups (SCG) Strengthened to Cope with Stress

NUPRP has mobilized total **260,404 SCG members** under 16,649 SCGs. Among them, 99.5% (259,197) are female; 0.5% (1,207) are male. There are 1,932 People with Disabilities (PWD) among the group members. During the reporting period, total 6,860 new members (female-6,860 male-0) have been enrolled in SCGs. The total accumulated savings amount as of reporting period is **£ 3.09 million** and during the reporting period, **£0.32 million** additional have been saved across the 19 towns.

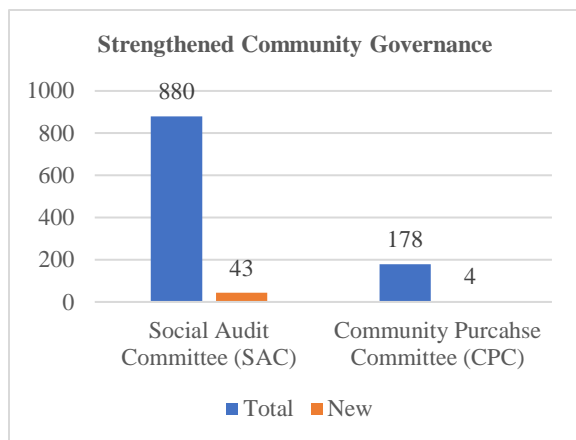


Capacities of the leaders SCGs and CDCs were strengthened on Savings & Credit Management, Accounting & Auditing training to enhance their skills for managing savings & credit activities effectively. SCG members started utilizing savings, total 2.38 million GBP (77%) have been distributed among the members as loan for Income Generating Activities (IGAs), housing, social and emergency purpose.

Digitalizing Savings & Credit Groups to Ensure Accountability

The web-based MIS software to enable data storage and to ensure, adequate control mechanisms have been established have been piloted and will be scaled up by December 2020. Three batches of staff orientation in 20 Cities/towns for preparing CDC-wise savings & credit data to feed in the software has been completed in the pilot phase. Scale-up of the software has been planned to complete in two -phases.

Community Governance Mechanisms Enhanced to Promote Accountability of the Community Leaders



NUPRP has been facilitating various mechanisms to promote good governance among community organizations. These will ensure accountability of Community Leaders to the Community Members and other stakeholders. These processes include - Community Purchase Committees (CPC), Social Audit Committees (SAC), an in-built Beneficiary Feedback Mechanism in online MIS, Community Score Card Assessment and Bi-Annual Election. Total 880 Community Purchase Committee and 178 Social Audit Committees have been formed in 19 Cities/Towns. During the reporting period, 43 CPCs and 4 SACs have been formed across the Cities/Towns. Capacities of

SAC and CPCs have been strengthened to deliver their defined responsibility. Technical assistance in developing the Election Guideline has led to bi-elections being held for a total of 837 CDCs and 11 CDC clusters. During the reporting period, election for 390 CDCs and 1 CDC Cluster were held. A Community Score Card assessment guideline has been developed and will be piloted in two cities and scaled up in next year.

Psycho-Social Counseling Support Provided to Cope with nCOVID 19

Amidst COVID-19 pandemic people are passing every day in fear, tension and uncertainty of life. This is more eminent for the poor people living in urban slums who lost income and assets in the wave of COVID-19 pandemic and struggling for mere survival. To help the poor communities to cope with the adverse impacts of the COVID -19 pandemic and resulting trauma, NUPRP has prepared a Psychosocial Counseling module which has rolled out across the cities.



Progress against Output 2 Indicators

2020 LF Milestone	Progress
<p>Indicator 2.1: Percentage of Community Organisations (a) CDCs; (b) CDC Clusters (c) Federations whose performance is judged "Moderate and fully effective " on an objective and agreed scale to assess institutional effectiveness as a result of capacity building.</p> <p>Milestone: CDC: Fully -5%, Moderately- 65% CDC Cluster: Fully -10 %, Moderately- 65% Town Federation: Fully -5%, Moderately- 45%</p> <p>Baseline:</p>	<p>NUPRP conducted its first annual performance assessment of the community structures in 2019. In total 1,472 Community Development Committees (CDCs), 178 CDCs Clusters and 13 Town Federations were assessed on a range of functions. According to the assessment results, 0.7% CDCs are fully effective while 52.8% are moderately effective. Around 2.2% CDC Clusters fully effective and 48.9% are moderately effective. None of the Town Federation till date are fully effective level as they have been recently established, however, 27.3% are moderately effective.</p>

2020 LF Milestone	Progress
CDC: 0.5% CDC Cluster: 0% Town Federation: 0%	
Indicator 2.2: Percentage of CDCs implementing Community Actions Plans (CAP) based on the Guidelines. Milestone: 35% (1,141) Baseline: 0	Significant progress has been achieved against this indicator during the reporting period. Total 1448 Community Action Plans (CAP) have been developed by the CDCs in 19 Cities/Towns which is 86% against this year milestone target. Of the total CAPs, 932 CDCs (64%) have implemented CAP findings for infrastructure and Socio-economic development issues. Moreover, CAP findings are being integrated in Ward Action Plans (WAP), and city level planning process to address the unmet demand of the community by the local government.
Indicator 2.3: Number of Savings & Credit Group (SCG) members and their effectiveness to address shocks and stresses. Milestone: 218,400 (SCG-18,200) Baseline: 12, 864(SCG-1072)	Progress against this indicator has been good. NUPRP has mobilized total 260,404 SCG members under 16,649 SCGs which is 91% of SCGs against this year milestone targets. Total accumulated savings is £ 3.09 million and during the reporting period £0.32 million savings have been accumulated across the 19 towns. Though overall savings progress is significant, but it has been disrupted during the reporting period due to COVID-19 pandemic.

The following Table presents a Summary of Achievements (for the reporting period and cumulatively) for key Indicators.

Indicator	Achieved up to Sept 2018	Achieved Oct 2018 to Sept 2019	Achieved Oct 2019 to Mar 2020	Achieved April to September 2020	Cumulative Achievement as on March 2019
Number of new Community Development Committees (CDC) formed in 19 cities (Old +New)	47 CDCs	286 CDCs	345 CDCs	258 CDCs	936 CDCs
Number of existing CDCs reactivated	1057 CDCs ⁴	506 CDCs	0 CDCs	98 CDCs	1661 CDCs
Number of CDCs completed Savings & Credit Audit	0 CDCs	1082 CDCs	0 CDCs	419 CDCs	1501 CDCs
Number of SCG members participated in the Savings & Credit activities	55,620	88,858	109,066	6,860	260,404
Total Amount of Savings Generated by SCGs	0.04m GBP	1.46m GBP	1.27m GBP	0.32m GBP	3.09m GBP
Number of CDCs Completed CAPs	0 CDCs	782 CDCs	167 CDCs	499 CDCs	1448 CDCs
Number of CDCs and Clusters leaders received capacity building training	0 Leaders	7817 leaders	3298 leaders	8196 leaders	19,311 ⁵ Leaders
Number of Town Federation leaders received capacity building training	88 Leaders	20 Leaders	170 leaders	132 leaders	410Leaders ⁶
Nos of CDC conducted their Bi-Annual election	0	0	447 CDCs	390 CDCs	837 CDCs

⁴ 68 CDCs evicted from Dhaka North, Dhaka South, Mymensingh and Chattogram

⁵ One leader participated in multiple training courses

⁶ Each Federation leader participated into 5 mandatory training

Nos of CDC cluster conducted Bi-Annual Election	0	0	10 Cluster	01 CDC cluster	11 Cluster
Nos of Federation conducted Bi-Annual election	0	0	0 Federation	0 Federation	0 Federation
Number of staff TOT Training completed on different training modules	0 Module	09 modules	06 Modules	02 Modules ⁷	17 Modules
Number of Federations receiving training on 6 mandatory ⁸ trainings	09	9 Federations	4 Federation	05 Federation	13 ⁹ Federations
Number of capacity building modules developed for Community Organisations	19	6 modules	02 Guideline	02 Modules	27 modules
Number of Federations developing their own organisational profile	09	9 Federation	04 Federation	All done	13 Federations
Number of Social Audit Committee formed	0	101	73	04	178 SAC
Number of Community Purchase Committee Formed	0	521	316	43	880
Number of Social Audit Committee members received training	0	505	365	20	890
Number of Community Purchase Committee Received Training	0	2605	1430	215	4250
Number of Community to Community Learning visits completed	0	17	12	0	29

Output 3: Improved Well-Being in Poor Urban Slums, particularly for Women and Girls

A. Livelihood Improvement

Socio - Economic Fund (SEF) 2020

In spite of COVID-19 pandemic, 430 SEF contracts covering 17,490 shortlisted grantees were prepared by the CDCs and approved by the Programme Implementation Committee (PIC) at the Ward-level and through the Town Programme Board (TPB) across 19 Cities. Once approved at the City level, the 430 contracts were approved by the Programme Executive Board at NUPRP Head Quarter. The shortlisted grantees including 5,723 Apprenticeship, 8,525 Business and 3,242 Education grantees



have been finalized through household verification. The full amount of Business grants i.e. BDT 91,792,750 (USD 1,083,100) has been



transferred from city's account to Cluster account and it will be gradually distributed to the grantees following standard procedure between October to November 2020 across 19 Cities/Towns. The tranches of Apprenticeship and Education will be disbursed between

⁷ Training conducted through Zoom

⁸ The mandatory training includes 1) Visioning 2) Action Planning 3) Organisational Development & Management 4) Savings & Credit 5) Anti-Fraud and 6) Savings & Credit Accounting & Auditing training

⁹ Federation leaders participated several training programme

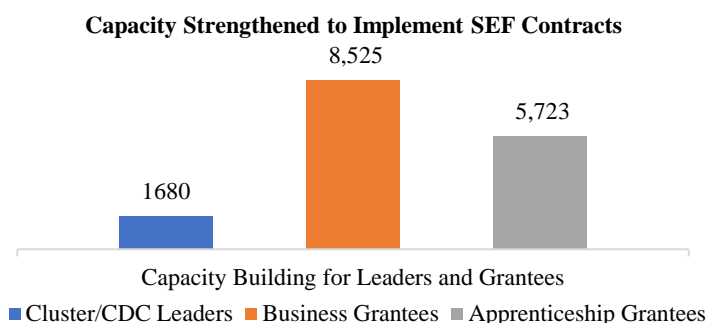
January-June 2021. The Cluster will then disburse the grants to the grantees on a monthly basis and the process will be completed by end of September 2021. The second tranches of Apprenticeship grants and Education Grants of 2019 has also been transferred to cluster accounts and to the institutions and grantees in phased manner.

Local Market Assessments for Pro-poor Economic Development Strategy Conducted

During the reporting period, Local Market Assessments were conducted in 5 Cities/Towns including Cumilla, Cox’s Bazar, Saidpur, Barishal, and Dhaka South to identify economic and employment opportunities at town level. Through these assessments, different town level stakeholders including formal and informal employers, opportunities of employment and required skill, skill providing organizations, local trade, and market system have been identified. Each of the towns will develop town level Pro-Poor Economic Development Strategy according to the findings of these assessments and take interventions accordingly.

Capacities to prepare and implement Socio-Economic Fund (SEF) Contracts Strengthened

Capacity building sessions organized for the CDC Clusters led to strengthened capacities of more than 400 CDC Cluster leaders & 1,280 CDC leaders on Socio Economic Fund across 19 towns to select grantees, carry out verification processes and implement the funding modalities. All 8525 Business and 5723 Apprenticeship grantees were oriented to identify skill and business opportunities in 19 towns.



Emergency Food Assistance to Urban Poor During COVID-19

In order to ensure access to food during the extended lockdown and subsequent loss of livelihoods of many daily wage labourers, NUPRP in collaboration with the Local Government provided Food Assistance as an interim measure to around 77,560 poor households. Using the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) score, the extreme poor households were selected on a priority basis for the food assistance as the resources available were limited. Other criteria such as persons with disability, single woman households, pregnant and lactating women were also used to target for the food assistance on a priority basis in order to reach out to the most vulnerable populations. Two rounds of pre verification was carried out to ensure food assistance was appropriately targeted to the identified households, avoid duplication, identify the families who had migrated and avoid misuse of the support. The rigorous verification was carried out to ensure due diligence was taken to reach out to targeted households through a mixed approach of using mobiles in high risk red zones and through physical house to house visit amidst COVID-19 pandemic.

B. Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Early and Forced Marriage (EFM)

Capacities of Safe Community Committees (SCC) to prevent VAWG Strengthened

During the reporting period, 41 Safe Community Committees (SCC) has been formed and members of SCCs were trained on roles and responsibilities on preventing VAWG and EFM IN 9 Cities/Towns. SCC play a crucial role in resolving 12 cases of domestic violence.

Safeguarding Reporting Mechanism Established

Gender Focal Persons have been selected in each town to support SCC in monitoring, follow-up and resolving GBV cases in respective communities. Based on the project specific Safeguarding Policy, a GBV

reporting mechanism has been introduced at the community level. Around 45 cases has been reported and 12 cases have been addressed at the community level by the SCC.

C. Nutrition Improvement

Capacities built on Nutrition

- Trained 219 CDC Cluster leaders and frontline workers on Nutrition Grants Mechanism including beneficiary selection, verification, community contract preparation and implementation.
- Trained 320 CDC Cluster leaders on basic nutrition, maternal nutrition and infant and young child feeding.
- Trained 144 entrepreneurs to operationalize Nutrition & Women Friendly Business Corner to distribute food baskets along with basic nutrition services amongst the targeted pregnant and lactating mothers, and 7-24 months children.



Nutrition Beneficiaries Registered

Trained 144 entrepreneurs to operationalize Nutrition & Women Friendly Business Corner to distribute food baskets along with basic nutrition services amongst the targeted pregnant and lactating mothers, and 7-24 months children.



Nutrition & Women Friendly Business Corners Established

During the reporting period, trained entrepreneurs established 54 N & WBC in 9 new Cities of phase C.

Food Basket under Conditional Cash Transfer Provided

In total, 7,702 Pregnant and Lactating Mothers and 7,702 Children of 7-24 month of age have received monthly regular food basket in 10 Cities of A & B phases. Around 91% of the



beneficiaries are consuming food basket according to the prescription. Another 9 Cities of phase C have selected 2,767 Pregnant and lactating mothers for receiving food basket under the Conditional Cash Transfer/Nutrition



Voucher. To take this forward, 76 Community Contracts have been developed and approved by the Project Management for distribution of food basket from October 2020.



Nutrition Counselling Conducted

- Total 22,705 Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers received individual counseling on nutrition by SENF on nutrition issues e.g. maternal health and nutrition, exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding, antenatal and postnatal care, growth monitoring and promotion, etc.
- Total 9,226 nutrition education sessions were organized for 60,795 members of 4,053 Primary Groups (PG) across 19 Cities.

Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) Children Screened

Total 9,520 Children of age 7-24 month has been screened by MUAC tape at their household level. Total 212 children with Severely Acute Malnutrition have been identified and referred to the nearest SAM center of the Government.



Tippy-Tap and Handwashing at PG HH level Established

A total 3,265 Tippy-Tap were established at the households of Pregnant & Lactating Mothers and 5,620 handwashing demonstration sessions was conducted where 12,742 Lactating Mothers, young children and adolescent girls participated.



City Level Nutrition Governance Strengthened

To strengthen the Local Governance on Nutrition, with support of NUPRP, 17 Cities have organized quarterly meetings with their City Level Multisectoral Nutrition Coordination Committee (CLMNCC) for implementing city level multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan during the COVID-19 pandemic.

World Breastfeeding Week 2020 Commemorated

The World Breastfeeding Week 2020 - “Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet”- was commemorated in collaboration with National Nutrition Services (NNS), IPHN, DGHS, Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation (BBF), Local Government Division (LGD), City Corporation, Municipalities, Community Organization, and City/town level Multisectoral Nutrition Coordination Committees (CLMNCC). Through this campaign, NUPRP reached out to 45,000 urban poor people with messages on the importance of breastfeeding.

Social Campaign on Adolescent Nutrition Organized

Campaign on nutrition were organized engaging local adolescent girls and boys for creating awareness on adolescent nutrition. Total 440 campaigns were organized wherein 8,040 local adolescent girls and boys participated.

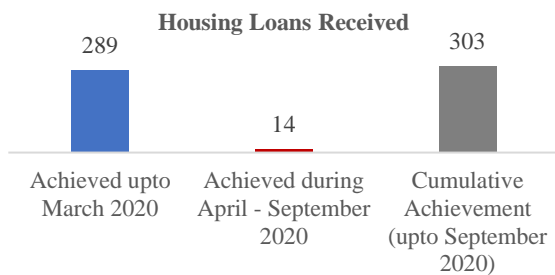
Progress against Output 3 Indicators

2020 LF Milestone	Progress
<p>Indicator 3.1: Percentage of education grantees completing the academic year in which they receive the grant (which contributes to Early Marriage Prevention)</p> <p>Milestone: 85% Baseline: 0</p>	<p>This indicator is still in progress, but the following activities have been completed during the reporting period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,241 Education grantees selected and verified in 19 Cities; • Community contract developed and approved by the PIC, TPB and Programme Executive Board for 19 Cities. • Second tranche of grant amount for 14,000 plus grantees disbursed across 15 Cities shortlisted in 2019.
<p>Indicator 3.2: Number of (a) pregnant and lactating women up to 6 months (b) Children (7-24 months) accessing Nutrition Cash Transfer Grants.</p> <p>Milestone: 9000 Baseline: 0</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7,702 Pregnant and Lactating Mothers and Children (7-24 months) have received monthly food basket by accessing conditional cash transfer/nutrition voucher.
<p>Indicator 3.3: Number of Safe Community Committees (a subset of CDC Cluster) working with social service providers to address VAWG and early marriage issues</p> <p>Milestone: 206 Committees Baseline: 0</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of reporting period, 157 Safe Community Committees (SCCs) have been formed and during the reporting period, 41 safe Community Committees have been formed. • Oriented SCC members on roles and responsibilities to prevent gender-based violence.
<p>Indicator 3.4: Number of people who have utilized (a) Business Development Grant; (b) Skill Building Grant</p> <p>Milestone: Total 12,500 [Business 8,000 & Apprenticeship 4,500; (20% M, 80% F)] Baseline: 0</p>	<p>The indicator is still in progress and the utilization status will be assessed in October 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,723 grantees identified for Apprenticeship Grants in 19 Cities • 8,525 grantees identified for Business Grants in 19 Cities • Pre-verification conducted in 19 Cities for 17,490 SEF grantees by using mobile Apps. • Community contracts developed and approved by the PIC, TPB and Programme Educative board for SEF grants in 19 Cities. • SEF funds transferred to CDC Cluster Account via City Account.

Output 4: More Secure Land Tenure and Housing in Programme Town/Cities

Community Housing Development Fund (CHDF)

At the beginning of 2020, NUPRP planned to establish CHDF as legal entity in 5 City Corporations (Chattogram, Khulna, Mymensingh, Narayanganj and Rajshahi) and to disburse seed capital for housing credit to about 1200 poor households. But COVID crisis changed the priorities and compelled to focus more on livelihood support activities than housing activities. Therefore, about 84% of budget allocated for housing finance was transferred to other Outputs that were dealing with SEF, Nutrition and SIF activities. Hence, CHDF activities have been significantly reduced in 2020. However, total target for CHDF remains unchanged and have been adjusted during the extended 16 months till June 2023. During last 6 months, existing CHDFs in Chattogram, Narayanganj and Rajshahi operated with limited capacities and disbursed housing credit to 14 households amounting to about



BDT 25 lakhs. In addition, 3 guidelines have been developed which will be used to train CHDF Management Committee for making them professionally capable to handle credit operations of CHDF. These guidelines include: i) Guidelines for Election of CHDF Management Committee, ii) Vision, Mission, Objectives, Strategies & Action Plans (VMOSA) guidelines to prepare business development plan of CHDF, and iii) Guidelines for Governance Structure & Operation Management

Action Plan of CHDF. Additionally, registration documents have been prepared for Chattogram CHDF and it is expected to be registered by November 2020.

Land Tenure Security and Low-Cost Housing

For low-cost housing, lands have already been selected in 8 Municipalities. Kushtia Municipality Authority has transferred the land to the project while progress is still underway in other municipalities. With technical assistance from NUPRP, digital land survey, land use master plan, and architectural layout have been developed for Cox's Bazar, Chandpur and Gopalganj. Architectural design and indicative cost estimation for Chandpur and Gopalganj sites have been completed. During the PSC meeting, master plan and architectural design for Chandpur and Gopalganj as well as Low-cost Housing Guidelines have been endorsed. It is expected that the construction will start in 2 municipalities (Chandpur & Gopalganj) for around 680 housing units by December 2020. This will ensure land tenure security for 680 poor households.



Progress against Output 4 Indicators

2020 LF Milestone	Progress
<p>Indicator: 4.1. Number of Community Housing Development Funds (CHDF) established as legal entities.</p> <p>Milestone: 2- Stage 3 6- Stage 1& 2</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p>	<p>Due to reallocation of Budgets to other Outputs, targets for most of the indicators has been reduced for 2020. Milestone for this indicator has been reduced to 2 cities from 5 cities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish CHDFs as legal entities, registration process completed in 1 City (Narayanganj) • Registration documents prepared in two Cities (Chattogram and Rajshahi) • Election of CHDF Management Committee will be completed in two other Cities (Narayanganj and Sylhet) by October 2020.
<p>Indicator 4.2. Number of Households using their CHDF loan for climate resilient housing (ICF KPI 4)</p> <p>Milestone: 400</p> <p>Baseline: 215</p>	<p>Milestone for this indicator has been revised to 400 from 1500 since no seed capital will be provided to CHDFs from NUPRP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to COVID crisis, credit activities of existing CHDFs have been impacted significantly. Despite this, Rajshahi CHDF continued meticulously and disbursed CHDF loans to 10 households. • During the reporting period, about BDT 25 lac housing credit has been disbursed to 14 poor household in 3 Cities (Chattogram, Narayanganj and Rajshahi).
<p>Indicator 4.3 Number of Households with climate resilient housing (a) New Housing; (b) Upgraded Housing</p> <p>Milestone: 300- Stage1</p> <p>Baseline:0</p>	<p>Significant progress has been achieved for this indicator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacant lands have been selected for new housing in all 8 municipalities under NUPRP. One municipality (Kushtia) already transferred land to the project. • Master plan and architectural design has been finalized in two municipalities (Chandpur & Gopalganj) where around 680 new housing construction is expected to start by December 2020. • Cost estimation has been prepared for Chandpur & Gopalganj.
<p>Indicator 4.4: Number of Cities/Towns with Land Tenure Action Plans implemented (based on Vacant Land Mapping for pro poor housing)</p> <p>Milestone: 2-Stage1</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p>	<p>Due to COVID crisis, no significant progress was achieved against land tenure action plans. Targets have been shifted from 2020 to the remaining project period due to budget transfer to livelihood supporting activities. However, land tenure action plan workshop will be conducted in Gopalganj by December 2020 subject to travel restriction policy.</p>

The following Table presents a Summary of Achievements (for the reporting period and cumulatively) for key Indicators.

Activities	Achieved up to March 2020	Achieved April – September 2020	Cumulative achievement (as on September 2020)
SWOT Analysis Workshop for CHDF completed in cities	4	-	4
Guidelines for CHDF Capacity Building	1	3	4
Number of CHDF accounts audited	2	-	2
Number of AGM of CHDF completed	1	-	1

Activities	Achieved up to March 2020	Achieved April – September 2020	Cumulative achievement (as on September 2020)
Number of HHs received housing loans for new house and upgradation	289	14	303
Low-cost housing guidelines prepared	1	-	1
Digital survey completed for housing construction site	2	1	3
Master plan developed for cities	1	1	2
Detailed design of low-cost housing unit and cost estimation prepared for Gopalganj and Chandpur	1	1	2

Output 5: Improved Resilient Infrastructure in and Serving, Low-Income Settlements

SIF Contracts 2018 Implemented

The implementation of 121 SIF Contracts of USD 0.622 million have been completed over a period spanning 2019 and 2020. Of the 121 SIF Contracts, there were 100 contracts in Khulna, 16 contracts in Mymensingh and 5 contracts in Chandpur. About 99% of the work has been completed so far and the remaining 1% will be concluded after completing post survey of 25 contracts. Chandpur & Mymensingh already finished 100% of their SIF 2018 work. The progress against the planned targets are stated below:



Name of the City/Town	Footpath (m)		Drain (m)		Drain Slab (m)		Twin Pit Latrine (No)		Community Latrine (No)		Shallow Tube well (No)		Remarks
	Plan	Comp	Plan	Comp	Plan	Comp	Plan	Comp	Plan	Comp	Plan	Comp	
Khulna	10136	10765	1643	1795	295	517	631	599	0	0	0	0	98%
Chandpur	551	431	758	483	93	136	21	19	1	1	0	0	100%
Mymensingh	1702	1697	1122	1014	1202	992	41	47	0	0	23	25	100%
Total	12389	12893	3523	3292	1590	1644	693	665	1	1	23	25	99%

SIF Contracts 2019 Implemented

Total 673 SIF Contracts based on CAPs were prepared and approved in 2019 amounting to 5.4 million USD. Under 2019 SIF interventions, the second and final installment of these 673 Contracts was transferred to the 13 City/Towns. The progress of implementation has been delayed due to covid-19, however, all 2019 contracts across 13 Cities/Towns will be complete by November 2020. The intervention wise summary with progress are shown in the table below:

SL. No	Planned	09 A & B Cat. Towns	04 C Cat. Towns	Total	Completion	Percentage of Completion	Remarks
	Schemes 2019						

1	Single/Twin Pit latrine (159 Single Pit latrine & 3336 twin pit latrine)	2705 nos.	790	3495 nos.	10 Single pit latrine & 2331 Twin pit latrine completed.	67%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
2	Septic Tank of different user no	16 nos	0	16	All 16 Septic Tanks completed	100%	Fully done
3	Community Latrine	28 nos	0	18	All 26 Community Latrine completed	64%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
4	Footpath	65235 M	31902 M	97,137 M	72531 M completed	75%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
5	Drain	24102 M	13,500 M	37602 M	28984 M completed	77%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
6	Drain Slab	20925 M	13,749 M	34,674 M	25333 M completed	73%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
7	Shallow Tube well	76 nos	0	145 nos	132 Completed	91%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
8	Deep Tube well	257 nos	68 nos	325 Nos	163 completed	50%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
9	Deep Tube well with Submergible pump	91 nos	78 nos	169 nos	166 nos completed	98%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
10	Tube well Platform	293 nos	175 nos	468 nos	395 completed	84%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
11	Bathroom	316 nos	47 nos	366 nos	317 completed	87%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
12	Staircase for hilly areas	04 nos	0 nos	04 nos	04 completed	100%	Fully done
13	Guide Wall as Slope protection	01 nos	0 nos	01 nos	1 completed	100%	Fully done
14	Dust bin	28 nos	0 nos	28 nos	25 completed	89%	Will be completed by Nov 30, 2020
15	Community Resource Centre	01 no	1	02 nos	0 completed	40%	01 in both Kustia & Patuakhali.
16	Streetlight	22 nos	20 nos	42 nos	48 completed	114%	Completion becomes more through variation order

Some Glimpses of Before and After of SIF Interventions



SIF Contracts under 2020

Total 457 SIF Contracts of 3.42 million USD based on CAPs were prepared in 2020 out of which 1.71 million USD is planned to be executed in 2020 across 19 City/Towns. As of reporting date, 276 SIF contracts have been approved including 217 Single pit Latrine, 876 Twin pit latrine, 02 Septic tank, 04 Community Latrines, 179 Deep tube well, 14 Deep tube well with submergible pump, 37 KM footpath, 12 KM Drain with slab, 65 Community bathrooms, 32 Street lights & 14 m Staircase **which include 62% of the total contract value i.e. USD 2.1 million.** Around 50% amount of these contracts will be sent to the Cities/Towns as 1st instalment.

CRMIF Schemes

Two planned schemes of 2019 are being implemented in Khulna and Chandpur in 2020. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the progress of these two schemes have been delayed. The beneficiary coverage for these 02 schemes will be around 9700 persons. The Chandpur scheme constitutes 277 m RCC road with 368 m RCC drain of a total amount of BDT 4,309,995 wherein Chandpur Municipality is contributing an amount of BDT 431,000 as 10% matching fund. The Khulna scheme is comprised of 306 m RCC roads with 02 RCC cross-u drain and 168 m brick drain with 308 m Tree plantation with a total amount of BDT 733,4796 wherein 10% matching fund is being contributed by Khulna City Corporation. Both the schemes are being implemented through community contracting.

With the CRMIF implementation guideline being finalized followed by a Training of Trainers in February 2020 for the Municipality Engineers and Infrastructure Officers of targeted 08 City/Towns, a CRMIF task team will be established. Long listing of interventions will be prepared based on CCVA and other Disaster Management Committee recommendations. Schemes will be shortlisted and finalized through stakeholder consultations based on contextual priorities and necessary environmental screening.

In 2020, the CRMIF schemes are under the process of selection in 04 targeted Cities/Towns including Khulna, Chandpur, Cox's Bazar and Chattogram. City/Town Task Force has been established and once the interventions have been selected, necessary environmental screening will be done. Once schemes are finalised, necessary Drawing/Design/BoQ will be prepared done and based on the total costing, matching fund from the city authorities will be made.

Safe Hygiene Practices Promoted to Prevent COVID-19 Transmission

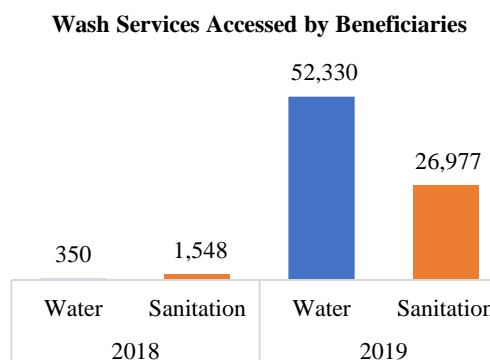
In coordination with the Urban Local Government and Community Leaders, NUPRP was instrumental in preventing the rapid transmission of COVID-19 in the crowded urban slums by installing Handwashing Facilities across strategic locations for the poor which was one of the key preventive measures as many poor do not have access to water. A nominal fixed amount of BDT 10,000 was provided to the Community Development Committees who took the lead in identifying the strategic locations and established 3,256 Hand Washing at the community level for poor to access. Meanwhile, the consistent awareness campaign through the community leaders and frontline staff



resulted in installing 2,341 Tipi-Taps at the household level with their own initiative and resources. Additionally, total 2,637,178 soap bars were distributed to households across all 19 Cities/Towns. A total of 519,045 households planned for soap bar distribution including both register and mobilized PG members. However, based on the community demand in some towns soap bar were distributed to some marginal groups like orphans and sex workers. On an average 4 soaps bar distributed to each household and the average size of households is around 4 persons. In other word, one soap distributed per person. The composition of sex ration of these households is female-51% and male-49%. These decentralized measures through community-based approaches helped to sustain the initiatives with stronger ownership and leadership. The Impact Evaluation Report states that an increase in the handwashing practice amongst the poor during the 3-month COVID response. The distribution of soaps also reinforced the hygiene practices amongst the people. Post NUPRP supported COVID respond period, the Community leaders have been maintaining the handwashing corners with soaps through their own resources.

Quality Assurance of Construction Work of SIF Interventions

- The Field Engineer, Clusters and Federations leaders regularly monitored the quality of SIF interventions.
- For the Tubewells (TW), boring depth with appropriate dia of PVC/other pipes as mentioned in the specification, proper capping and ensuring sand traps etc are followed.
- For the Deep TW with submergible pump, the depth of the suction pipe is also ensured with fixing of quality submergible pumps of required capacity.
- The necessary water quality tests are in process as these need to be sent the sample to the DPHE (Department of Public health Engineering) or NGO Forum Testing Laboratory but due to COVID-19, the process has been suspended now. However, by this time, 87 water quality tests were conducted for 87 water interventions. For the water options, NUPRP is following safely managed water sources by ensuring accessibility, availability, travel/queuing time and free from contamination specially from e.coli and ensures other chemical parameters are within the acceptable limit as per WHO/Bangladesh standards like Arsenic, Fluoride etc. Moreover, for coastal area, NUPRP is also ensuring TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) within the acceptable limit specially for salinity issue. In addition, from Water Safety Plan (WSP) point of view, NUPRP is not only ensuring access to safe water sources but also focussing on safe collection, carrying, storage and consumption as well. Safe water option does not mean consumption of safe water by the targeted beneficiaries. That's why, these



important stages (safe collection, carrying, storage, consumption) have been incorporated in the Nutrition awareness activities.

- For sanitation, NUPRP is implementing Shared Improved Sanitation following the sanitation ladder. But for the shared sanitation technology, NUPRP is ensuring hygienic sanitation options. Moreover, to avoid ground water table pollution, NUPRP is ensuring that the vertical distance from the bottom of the pit is at least 02 m above from the ground water table and horizontally, pit latrines are constructed at least 10-15m distance from the nearby water source though sometimes it becomes very challenging due to space limitation in urban slums. Other than pit latrine, NUPRP will also construct septic tank, community latrine, bathroom etc. Moreover, NUPRP will supply 12 Vacu-tugs in 06 City/Towns for fecal sludge management. These City/Towns were chosen based on availability of Fecal Sludge management plant (FSTP).
- For concrete work like footpath, drain, drain slab, twin pit latrine, community latrine, mixing ratio (1:2:4) of the concrete with necessary compaction is properly ensured. For MS rod, it is checked that no cracks on the surface of the rod; and the area of the bar at any section should not be less than 80% of design bar area.
- For every SIF work, NUPRP is ensuring good quality construction materials with good workmanship. This is being achieved through proper training to the CDC leaders with the procurement committee members about the quality of good materials and training to Mason for good workmanship. Moreover, in addition to NUPRP staff, CDC/Cluster Leaders, Municipality Engineering staff are also helping to ensure the quality of SIF work. In addition, all the hardware interventions are being implemented adhering to the necessary drawing/design/Bill of Quantities.

Progress against Output 5 Indicators

2019 LF Milestone	Progress			
<p>Indicator 5.1: Number of people with access to climate resilient (i) safely managed drinking water, and (ii) sanitation facilities which are hygienic, gender & disability friendly.</p> <p>Milestone: Water: 100,402 Sanitation: 234,031 Baseline: Safely drinking Water: 14,004 Sanitation: 14,004</p>	<p>During this reporting period, due to COVID-19 pandemic, planned physical progress was not achieved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For SIF 2019 Contracts, the majority work of water interventions like Shallow TW, Deep TW, Deep TW with submergible pump, Platform, Washroom, Small Pipe Networking etc. have been completed during this reporting period covering almost 21506 people & upto now, the cumulative achievement is 79,331 people • Under 2019, during this reporting period, major sanitation work have been completed like Single/Twin pit latrine, Community latrine, Septic tank,etc. which covered almost 1590 people and up to now, the cumulative achievement is 29,111 people. • In addition, considering Fecal Sludge Management cycle, NUPRP already procured 12 Vacu-tugs (08 vacu-tugs with 2000 L capacity and rest 04 with 1000 L capacity) which will be distributed to the targeted 06 Cities/Towns by Mid-November, 2020. The 01-2000 L Vacu-tug will support almost 12000 persons per year and 01-1000 L vacu-tug will support 10,000 people per year. The vacu-tugs will be provided in 06 six different Cities/Towns where Fecal Sludge Management treatment plant exist. 			
	SL	Town	VACUTUG-1000LTR (Nos)	VACUTUG-2000 LTR (Nos)
	1	Khulna City Corporation	-	2

	2	Kushtia Pourashava	-	1
	3	Faridpur Pourashava	1	1
	4	Gopalganj Pourashava	1	1
	5	Chattogram City Corporation	2	2
	6	Saidpur Pourashava	-	1
		Total	4	8
<p>Indicator 5.2: Number of people supported to cope with the effects of climate change through SIF and CRMIF (ICF KPI 1)</p> <p>Milestone: 222,930 Baseline: 0</p>	<p>Good progress has been made against this indicator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For SIF 2019 Contracts, the work of non-WASH interventions like Footpath, Drain, Drain Slab, Staircases, Guide Wall, Dustbin, Community Resource Centres, Street Light etc. were completed within this reporting period which covered almost 102,995 people with cumulative total of 134,163 people. For 2020, the CRMIF intervention selection process is ongoing under 04 Cities/Towns. 			
<p>Indicator 5.3: Number of Cities/Towns with improved capacity of Municipalities to manage climate resilient infrastructure Programmes.</p> <p>Milestone: 19 City/Towns Baseline: 0</p>	<p>NUPRP jointly with City/Municipality officials are implementing SIF interventions and CRMIF infrastructures. While these infrastructures are designed, Climate resilient issue is considered as one of the important aspects of designing. Moreover, City/Municipality officials also monitor the Infrastructure during implementation. CRMIF interventions take into consideration the extreme weather conditions, resulting hazards and the adaptive capacity of the particular community. CCVA with Infrastructure assessment plays an important role to select the CRMIF schemes and accordingly, make that climate resilient. City/Municipality Officials are trained on both SIF & CRMIF infrastructure planning and implementation process. However, as per joint planning & implementation of both SIF & CRMIF schemes, it is expected that all targeted Cities/Towns have improved capacity to manage the climate resilient infrastructures.</p>			
<p>Indicator 5.4: Number of Climate Resilient Infrastructure Programmes in Cities/Towns (Climate Resilient Municipality Infrastructure Fund).</p> <p>Milestone: 06 City/Towns Baseline: 0</p>	<p>02 Programmes (01 in Khulna & 01 in Chandpur) were selected based on the CRMIF implementation guidelines in December-2019 which are being implemented in 2020. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the progress of these 02 schemes have been slow.</p>			

Planned Activities and Key Targets for The Period October 2020 - March 2021

The following Table presents the key activities for the next reporting period:

Planned Activities for October 2020– March 2021	Key Target
Approximately 181 SIF Contracts under 2020 & 250 SIF Contracts under 2021 Preparation of 20 City/Towns under 2020/2021 (Based on completion of CAP)	431 SIF Contracts

Planned Activities for October 2020– March 2021	Key Target
Following CRMIF guideline, prepare the Community Contracts of 04 schemes under 2020 for 04 targeted City/Towns	04 City/Towns
Orientation of all Mayors/CEOs about the CRMIF guideline	08 City/Towns
Continue implementation of 673 -2019 SIF activities & 457 SIF schemes under 19 City/Towns of 2020	1130 Contracts under 19 Cities/Towns both for 2019 & 2020.
Continue Implementation of 2019 CRMIF interventions under 02 City/Towns	Khulna & Chandpur
CDCs and relevant local government officials trained on the implementation process/Guideline of SIF under 2021	45 out of total 90 batches
CDCs and relevant local government officials trained on management and maintenance of SIF infrastructure under 2020 & 2021	45 out of total 90 batches
Train the 815 CDC Office bearers on SIF Infrastructure construction under 2021	45 batches out of total 115 batches
Train Mason on SIF infrastructure construction-2021	05 batches out of total 30 Batches
Distribution of 12 Vacu-tugs to the targeted 06 City/Towns	12 Vacu-Tugs in 06 City/Towns
Hire Consulting Firm for CRMIF to assist the town teams on long listing, short-listing, e-tender document preparation, environmental screening etc.	01 Consulting Firm for CRMIF
Complete the CCVA with Infrastructure Assessments under 06 cities/Towns by CEGIS	06 City/Towns
All task Committees/Longlisting/Short listing/Environmental Screening for CRMIF 2020 will be done	04 City/Towns
Number of Town/Cities in which CRMIF Programmes are identified for 2020 (More Cities/Town will be included under CRMIF grant following both models of Community Contracting and PPR 2008).	04 City/Towns

Cross Cutting Areas: Innovations, Gender, Disability, M4i, Communications MAU, Operations

Innovations

- ***Regional Collaboration For Climate Resilient Infrastructural Plan***

The UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub (BRH) has embarked on an urban resilience collaboration with NUPRP to localize the 2030 agenda of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and striving for progress through the frameworks of the Paris Agreement (the NDC) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Under this support, one of the NUPRP city (two coastal cities are identified, either Cox’s Bazar or Patuakhali) will establish a resilient urban master plan. The local context within Bangladesh can incorporate this master plan into an existing plan to integrate and improve priority elements of the SDGs, the National Determined Contributions (NDC), and the Sendai Framework. The Urban Resilience collaboration will assist municipal governments in forming road maps to ultimately establish a resilient urban master plan. The key elements of the Road Map will comprise of the following:

- Consensus about what the resilient urban master plan is for the municipality based on locally specific context and consultations with relevant stakeholders;

- Baseline analysis of risks and sources of vulnerability that undermine the achievements of the SDGs, the NDC and Sendai Framework;
- Outline of hazard and risk assessments to be undertaken to inform future investment needs;
- Baseline analysis of the existing institutional arrangement and an analysis of barriers in developing and delivering on an integrated urban resilience master plan;
- Baseline analysis of existing financing arrangement for local development and an outline of the proposed financing plan for implementing the master plan;
- Capacity building requirements of key stakeholders;
- Stakeholder engagement plan for developing a resilient urban master plan;
- Timeline for developing the master plan.

Under an overall technical guidance from the UNDP regional advisory team, BRH will provide a national consultant support to the NUPRP for six months and the consultant will ensure the establishment of road maps in a participatory manner, awareness of local stakeholders are heightened in the process, and the roadmap is widely accepted as guidance with which to help the municipality move towards the development of a resilient urban master plan. It is imperative to have a strong technical approach that thoroughly integrates the 3 development frameworks mentioned. To continue to expand the provision of support to Municipalities, lessons learned must be incorporated for further efficiency and effectiveness.

- ***Integration of Community Action Plan (CAP) in to Ward and City Development***

Community Action Plan (CAP) are interlinked with the infrastructures, housing and socio-economic interventions plan. CAPs are being included in Ward and City/Town development plan to bridge the gap between infrastructure investment provided by NUPRP and community demand. It will create more ownership among the City/Municipality LEBs/Officials to the community needs and mobilize necessary resource to meet the needs of poor community.

- ***Local Employment Generation through SIF and CRMIF Work***

While implementing the SIF infrastructure, CDC leaders normally prefer to engage local skilled/unskilled labours to provide employment opportunity to local people. While implementing the comparatively bigger infrastructure through CRMIF, provision will be made to engage local unskilled labour in construction of CRMIF Infrastructure.

- ***Using digital Social and Behavioral Change Communications to promote Nutrition***

A module based on digital SBCC materials for individual & family counseling on nutrition has been developed for counseling and sharing the information with beneficiaries.

- ***WASH in crowded urban slums:***

Due to the huge demand of toilets, NUPRP started planning/implementation of network latrines due to space scarcity in slum areas. A septic tank of sufficient capacity or ABR would be connected from about 12-15 household latrines. Municipality is providing the space for the septic tank construction.

Gender

Gender equality and empowerment have been central to NUPRP and gender issues have been effectively mainstreamed across all programmatic approaches. The project has achieved the following during the reporting period.

- All the beneficiaries of COVID-19 response were female and about 19% of the households who received WASH and Foods Assistance Support were female headed households who are basically single mother.

- The programme also supported in empowering the women and enhancing their leadership capacities through consolidating and strengthening the community-based organizations – Community Development Committees (CDCs), Federations and Clusters (99% community organizations leaders are women). The Programme also engaged 40% to 50% men along with women in developing 525 Community Action Plans across Category A Cities/Towns. The COVID response was facilitated by the urban poor women and their leaders including - distributing soaps, installing hand washing points, transferring cash transfers for food assistance, distribution of food baskets and distributing dignity kit in collaboration with UNFPA – to respond to the priority needs of women and girls during emergency response.
- NUPRP facilitated the process of women’s economic empowerment through several initiatives as well. 100% of women beneficiaries received SEF grants for business development, while 80% grantees are women and young girls for both apprenticeship and education grants.
- Supporting the establishment of 131 Nutrition and Women Friendly Business Corners enabled total 7,702 of pregnant and lactating mothers along with children to access conditional food baskets.
- Around 44% male and 56% female community members have been able to access the SIF interventions. NUPRP technical support has ensured that the designing and construction of the SIF facilities are gender responsive.
- A project specific Safeguarding Policy and reporting strategy has been drafted while Gender sensitive messages has been developed and disseminated among cities to understand the impact of COVID 19 from gender lens.
- Around 115 more Safe Community Committees have been formed focusing on preventing Violence Against Women and Early child Marriage.
- Guided by the respective Gender Focal Persons (GFPs), a GBV reporting mechanism has been established at the community level. The SCC was supported to resolve about 12 GBV cases in respective communities. In addition, between June to August 2020, around 45 of cases has been reported and addressed at community level through multiple channels.

Disability Inclusion

The project has taken initiatives to integrate disability issues across its approaches and interventions in order to make the programme more inclusive and respond to the needs of the marginalized populations. The project has taken the following actions on disability issues during the reporting period.

- Following disability inclusion strategy and action plan, the project has deployed a town level disability focal person in each town. The town level disability focal person is nominated from the town team who will facilitate disability inclusion issues at town and community level.
- During COVID-19 response, priority has been given to the households with disabled persons. All the Primary Group Households with disabled members were covered in COVID-19 support for food and soap distribution. About 20% of Households who received food assistance support were households with Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).
- 226 Primary Group Households who have persons with disability (7%) have been selected, verified in 19 Cities for education grants of 2020. Around 980 Primary Group (PG) Households who have persons with disabilities have received second tranche of education of grants in 15 Cities 515 PG Households who have persons with disabilities (9%) have been selected, verified in 19 Cities for apprenticeship grants and 682 PG Households who have persons with disabilities (8%) have been selected, verified in 19 Cities for business start-up grants.
- The project has promoted disabled friendly water and sanitation options across Cities. During this reporting period, 1290 (6%) PWD were able to access water intervention like Shallow Tube-well (TW), Deep TW, Deep TW with submersible pump, Platform, Washroom, Small Pipe Networking etc. and 80 (5%) PWD were able to access sanitation options e.g. Single/Twin pit latrine, Community latrine.

- Initiated the process of developing partnerships with National level and City/Town level disability-focused organizations and service providers.
- Incorporated disability issues in MIS and prioritized PWD them in the process of SEF, SIF and Nutrition Grants for ensuring their inclusion.
- Developed and finalized Disability Inclusion Strategy for NUPRP.

Managing for Impact (M4i)

COVID-19 Response

Along with regular Monitoring and Evaluation activities, one of the major focus of M4i during the reporting period was on COVID-19 response monitoring and evaluation. To ensure adequate monitoring of the emergency response and ensure accountability at all levels, NUPRP promptly established M&E mechanisms in place to collate inputs from across 20 Cities/Towns. This includes:

- Rapid Assessment across 19 Cities/Towns
- City wise Weekly Tracker to monitor the delivery of the emergency initiatives
- COVID -19 Response Logframe
- Weekly Reporting to FCDO/FCDO and UNDP CO
- Weekly Dashboard to demonstrate the comparative analyses across Cities/Towns
- Weekly Newsletter to demonstrate the coverage of the Response
- Pre and Post Verification of the Cash Transfer for Food Assistance
- Impact Evaluation of the COVID Response using Remote Data collection

Disaggregated data from the NUPRP MIS was used to prioritise in targeting the most vulnerable population who have been adversely affected by the COVID 19 outbreak.

Socio-Economic Impact Assessment Undertaken

A Socio-Economic Impact Assessment has been conducted with the objective to (i) to understand the short term, medium term and long-term impact on the urban poor communities under NUPRP across 20 Cities/Towns; (ii) to explore who the “new poor” are as a result of the COVID outbreak and what support they need; (iii) to identify the priority needs and opportunities across all the key Output areas and other related areas to inform the recovery phase under NUPRP reprogramming for 2020 and beyond; (iv) to review the Methodology of the Impact Evaluation and how it will be impacted by the emerging ‘new’ poor as a result of the COVID outbreak. The draft report with findings and recommendation have been shared with UNDP and FCDO to inform the reprogramming process.

Quarterly Steering Committee on Impact Evaluation Organised

Two Steering Committee Meetings have been organized in Q2 and Q3 to share the findings from the consolidated Baseline Survey and Socio-Economic Assessment. Key approval was also sought from the Committee on key M&E milestones of 2020.

Logframe Revised in Context of COVID 19

Addressing the implications of COVID-19 on the programme and changes in the programme context, the logframe has been revised in consultation with NUPRP Output leads and FCDO with a focus on revising the targets. The progress data in the logframe was updated from the consolidated Baseline Survey (covering 15 Cities/Towns), Socio-Economic Impact Assessment and MIS as of August 2020. A detailed Monitoring and Evaluation plan was developed for the revised logframe.

Activities Under Impact Evaluation Organized

Third Round of Baseline- Based on the approval from the Impact Evaluation Steering Committee, the third and final round of Baseline was initiated in September to cover four Category ‘C’ Cities including

Noakhali, Cox’s Bazar, Saidpur and Gopalganj. After completing the necessary beneficiary selection in these Cities s which is necessary for baseline sample frame, HDRC started field survey from last week of September 2020 and will share a consolidated full Baseline Survey Report by mid October 2020. Barisal has been dropped from the Baseline survey due to delayed programme implementation. During the baseline survey, additional data on Socio-Economic Assessment will be collected which was not previously covered in these Towns.

Annual Longitudinal Outcome Monitoring (ALOM)

The progress of progress towards Outcome level results will be collected annually through the ALOM along with some qualitative indicators. The select indicator set has been approved by the Impact Evaluation Steering Committee. The Inception Report has been finalized including the tools and methodology for ALOM. Three rounds (2020; 2021; 2022) of ALOM has been planned under the contract with the Consortium of HDRC and ISS. In 2020, the ALOM will be initiated for the first time to report against the logframe. The 1st round of ALOM will be completed by Mid-November 2020 in order to feed the findings into the upcoming FCDO Annual Review tentatively scheduled by end November.

Online Management Information System (MIS) System

The Online Management Information System established under NUPRP was revamped to make it more harmonized, comprehensive and to respond to the emerging needs of programme. Some of the key highlights are -

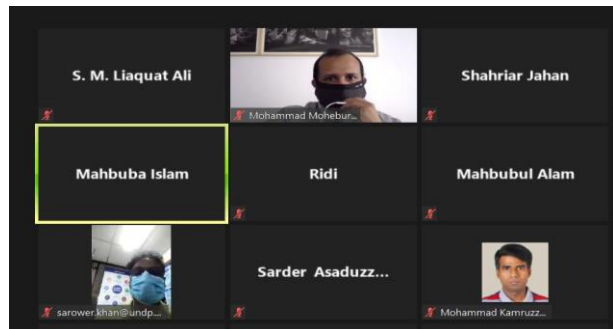
a. Primary Group Member Registration Conducted

As of September 2020, about 500,000 PG Household members have been registered in 19 Cities on the online MIS. The online MIS provides a summary of the PG Members profile (livelihoods, age, gender, deprivations and location) by synthesizing all the data flowing from the Cities/Towns. Data shows that NUPRP has distributed around 60,000 Grants till date and selected another 18,000 Grantees. PG Member registration is the backbone of the NUPRP as it forms the basis for selection of beneficiaries for grant allocation. It has been an effective monitoring tool used to facilitate and monitor the programme implementation.



b. Online Training on PG Registration Conducted

Due to extended nationwide lockdown and restricted movement due to rapid COVID transmission, M4i continued to increasingly use the digital platform to organize the online refresher trainings for all Town staff covering Primary Group Registration, Verification and quality Assurance of the data.



c. Monthly Trackers for Outputs Disseminated

Output wise Monthly Trackers are developed and used on a monthly basis to track the performance of the programme against the key interventions. The physical and financial progress of SEF/SIF are being tracked on a regular basis along with other output areas. The PMF has been digitized and will be updated on a monthly basis by the Cities/Towns. This can serve as a useful Management Tool by the Town/HQ Teams to track progress and address bottlenecks.

COVID-19 Cash Transfer Post Verification Conducted

Food Assistance Cash Transfer was provided to 68,764 poor households across 19 Cities/Towns. M4i conducted 100% post verification of the COVID-19 cash transfer to assess the payment status in early June 2020. In total, 549 CF and SNEF, 93 Community Organizers and 69 Town level staff members were trained on post verification through Zoom conference during COVID-19 lockdown. Out of 68,764 cash transfer grantees, 61,682 grantees were verified and remaining 11.7% had migrated across 19 Cities/Towns.

Longlisting and pre-verification of SEF 2020 Grantees Conducted

Long list of total 121,152 SEF grantees for 2020 have been generated through the online MIS and shared with respective Cities/Towns for short listing of most vulnerable grantees for SEF grants across 19 Cities/Towns. After completing the short listing, pre-verification of all shortlisted candidates has been conducted using mobile based application. M4i imparted training to all CF and SENF on use of mobile application for verification through Zoom conference.

Nutrition Long-list shared

A long list of total **14,508** pregnant women and lactating mothers has been generated from nutrition registration data of online MIS for 19 Cities/Towns. From the long list, finally **9,973** Nutrition Conditional Cash Transfer grantees have been selected in 19 Cities/Towns.

Knowledge Sharing Sessions organised

M4i also organised and participated in a series of knowledge sharing sessions to share lessons from Evaluations within UNDP and globally –

- Regional Webinar on M&E system within the COVID Response under NUPRP.
- Global Webinar on fostering dialogue on evaluation reflections from UNDP support to local governance to countries in crisis.
- Country level Webinar on Evaluation of the COVID Response under NUPRP
- Project Level Webinar on Socio Economic Assessment findings

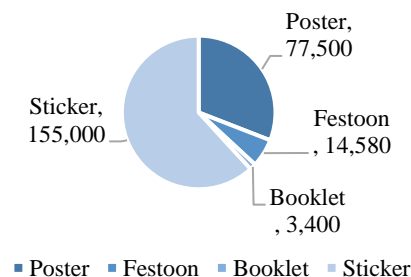


Communications

During the reporting period, communication initiatives mostly focused on COVID-19 emergency response with some regular communication and outreach initiatives. Highlights of communication works are outlined below -

In order to promote awareness and influence the socio behavioral change amongst the urban poor and the government officials, NUPRP undertook massive mass awareness campaign to disseminate key messages on COVID-19 prevention across 19 Cities/Towns through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) and Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) materials (posters, festoons, booklets, stickers). Based on the needs of the target audience, appropriate communication mediums were used including loudspeaker announcement in slum areas, local cable TV operators, local media, sharing

IEC Materials Distributed in Cities



periodic SMSs to Registered Primary Group Members, advocacy with media forum (press release in daily newspapers) and media broadcast (e.g.-ETV) and social media (36 social media contents were produced from PHQ). A total of 14,580 Festoons; 3,400 Booklets; 77,500 posters; 155,000 Stickers on COVID-19 have been used to increase awareness level among the slum populations across 19 Cities. Promoting preventive measures against COVID-19 using these multimedia communications enabled NUPRP to reach out to approximately 3 million urban poor across 19 cities. On social media, 2,387 posts have drawn 3,863 comments and 96,291 reactions on the NUPRP Facebook page during March to May 2020. The Impact Evaluation Report states that 100% of the sample population who were interviewed reported an increase in their level of awareness on nCOVID-19 which resulted in enhanced level of socio behavioral change, for example, handwashing, installing tipi taps at the household level, wearing masks and so on.

Private Ekushey Television and state-owned Bangladesh Television aired stories on DNCC food distribution initiatives and food assistance distribution programme of Chattagram City Corporation. Three official photo posts, three videos have so far been launched highlighting FCDO assistance. Give examples

In *Gazipur*, the Honourable Member of parliament (Ms. Shamsun Nahar) participated in awareness campaigning through inauguration of hand washing point at community level.

In *Khulna*, Hon'ble Mayor had shared NUPRP supported COVID activities with the Prime Minister during the divisional level COVID-19 coordination meeting which was telecasted/published by different electronic, print and social media.

In *Cox's Bazar*, Municipality Authority installed large LED Screen to broadcast COVID-19 health safety measures including UNDP produced video masses.

Globally, the FCDO supported COVID Response was widely acknowledged by the Senior UNDP officials including UN Secretary General António Guterres in an Op-Ed on UN News global webpage and UNDP Asia and the Pacific broadcast on YouTube.

Dissemination of messages for awareness campaign using multiple channel like Audio Visual Telecast, Loud Miking, Short Message Service (SMS) along with print media like Poster, Festoon etc. was found very effective in COVID response to build awareness of the urban poor communities, especially in the lockdown situation when printing of communication materials was very difficult and limited.

In the areas of regular communications and outreach initiatives of the NUPRP, some activities had been planned but were postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic situation. Project orientation for journalists in respective city corporation and municipalities (Sylhet, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Kushtia, Chandpur) has now been rescheduled in the last quarter.

A result-oriented video documentary has been produced on CRMIF project in Khulna City Corporation to showcase project interventions in the areas of climate-resilient infrastructure. A visiting UK Senior Minister and other key audiences highly appreciated the documentary. A project introductory video has been completed during this period. NUPRP supported a by Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) along with Healthy Bangladesh and UNDP Bangladesh Country Office. A consultant has been engaged to make the NUPRP website disable-friendly and accessible to persons with disabilities. Social media monitoring and



posts continued this period (Apr 1-Sept 30). 4,425 posts were made in the facebook group page with 12,847 comments and a total of 213,972 reactions.

Mutual Accountability Unit

During the reporting period, the **Mutual Accountability Unit (MAU)** continued to focus on promoting an ethical and accountable work culture, evaluating its internal control systems, responding to allegations of fraud and non-compliance and supporting corrective actions, wherever required. Major accomplishments of MAU for the reporting period are as follows:

a. Allegations of Suspected Fraud Cases Addressed

MAU conducted initial assessment of 10 allegations of fraud and non-compliance cases which were reported to FCDO. Four factfinding missions were completed and the results were communicated to the Project Manager for review, whereas factfinding of three more cases are still in progress. The team finalized two factfinding reports conducted in previous reporting period and shared them with FCDO and responded to their queries. The team has been following-up the progress of the action plans made on factfinding recommendations.

b. Spot Check and Other Oversight Activities Conducted

During the reporting period, MAU conducted four spot checks, both in-person and remotely, in project's four town offices-Chandpur, Mymensingh, Sylhet, and Khulna- to assess the adequacy and functioning of the internal control system of managing their resources. The Unit also conducted physical verification of fixed assets of project's Head Quarter to verify the existence of the assets and the internal controls systems on fixed asset management. These oversight activities of the Unit contributed to promote accountability and strengthen the internal control systems of the project.

c. Anti-Corruption Awareness and Capacities Enhanced

During the reporting period, MAU provided daylong anti-corruption refresher training to more than 100 frontline staff of three towns-Sylhet, Narayanganj and Cox's Bazar. In addition, the unit oriented 120+ staff of different levels (coordinators, town managers and officers/experts) on accountability mechanisms, key fraud risks and mitigation measures and lessons learned to improve anti-corruption awareness among the team. Besides, MAU developed Anti-Corruption Guidance that was issued by the senior management of the project to all project staff, community leaders and relevant city officials to. These continuous efforts have been contributing to develop an anti-fraud culture among the team at all levels of the project.

d. Anti-Corruption Materials Developed and Disseminated

MAU developed five sets of 'Do's and Don'ts' for project staff, community leaders, beneficiaries, Purchase Committee members and Social Audit Committee members, and disseminated them amongst the team to guide them what to do/not to do to manage corruption. Moreover, the Unit developed internal control review checklists along with associated guidance note on nutrition grant management and revisited previously developed checklists (SEF and SIF grant management, city/town level internal control systems). These checklists have been shared amongst the town team to help them evaluate the internal control compliance system of CDCs, Clusters and Town offices. The unit developed whistleblowing policy of the project and shared it among the team. Besides, it developed anti-corruption clauses to incorporate them in MoU to define the responsibilities and obligations of city authorities on fraud management of CHDF Fund. These anti-corruption materials and tools contributed to provide guidance, improve vigilance and enhance capacity of the team on overall fraud management system of the project.

Operations

Human Resources

Total staff Onboarded till 30 th September 2020	Staff joined from 1 st April 2020 – 30 th September 2020
130	07

Name of the position	Total Onboarded till 30 th September 2020	Onboarded from 1 st April 2020 – 30 th September 2020
Community Facilitator	442	34
Socio Economic and Nutrition Facilitator	387	28

Name of the position	Total No. of CO UNV to be hired	No. of CO till Mar'20	Onboarded during Apl'20 – Sep'20	Current CO till Sep'20
UNV Community Organizers (CO)	134	126	08	134

Procurement

Procurement for the value of \$2,740,834 including COVID-19 response was completed during the reporting period.

Fast Tracked Systems Operationalized to Respond to COVID-19

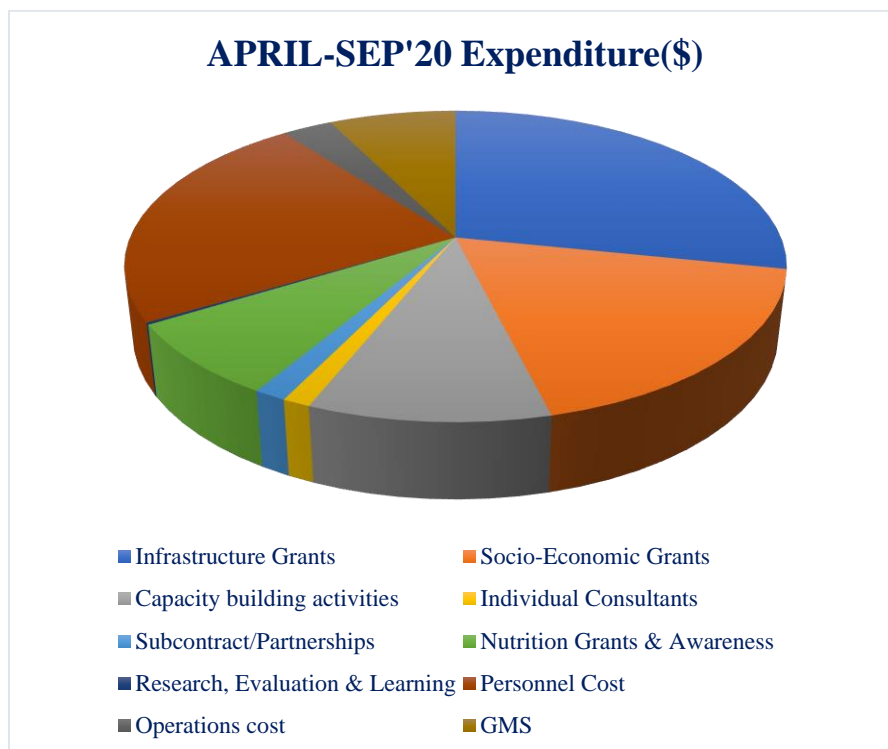
For the emergency response, NUPRP adopted a fast track procurement process and along with the Country Office, formed a Shopping Team comprising of relevant staff to assess the local market and to procure all necessary precautionary materials while also ensuring the best value for money. In order to reach out swiftly to the communities and to ensure value for money, the Shopping Team centrally procured large scale Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) including 42,265 Masks, 56,450 Hand Gloves, 1,129 Gumboots, 4,715 Hand Sanitizers, 2.6 million Soaps. Fast tracked procurement also led to procuring large scale communication materials i.e. 77,500 posters, 14,580 festoons, 3,400 booklets and 155,000 stickers within short span of time.

Financial Management

NUPRP has received \$ 33.2M for the period covering March 2016-September 2020 and the expenditure is \$ 31.6M for the same period which is 95% of total fund received. The Expenditure for April-September 2020 is \$ 7.25M and summary is given below:

Category	April - Sep'20 Expenditure (\$)
Infrastructure Grants	2.05 M
Socio-Economic Grants	1.3 M
Capacity building activities	0.72 M
Individual Consultants	0.08 M
Subcontract/Partnerships	0.10 M
Nutrition Grants & Awareness	0.55 M
Research, Evaluation & Learning	0.01 M
Personnel Cost	1.68 M

Operations cost	0.21 M
General Management Service	0.54 M
Total	7.25 M



Challenges

- **Suspension of routine NUPRP interventions** – All planned programme delivery at town level have been delayed due to outbreak of COVID 19. In order to make up for the time lag, contingency plan had been prepared. Amidst the lockdown, alternative work modalities had been implemented to continue the operation and other preparatory activities like community mobilization and Primary Group registration, shortlisting for socio-economic grants, nutrition education and so on.
- **Inadequate time, noncooperation from city authority** and undue political influence on community priorities hamper timely and quality implementation of programme activities. Town team, especially Town Manager regularly updated progress and challenges of programme implementation. City authorities are being involved in programme planning and implementation process to gain their ownership. City authorities are being increasingly involved in field visit.
- The extended COVID pandemic can lead to misuse **and depletion of group savings** which could ruin the savings and credit group. Oversight mechanism has been strengthened through introduction of online based Savings and Credit management system. At the same time, the capacity of frontline staff and community leaders has been strengthened on regular monitoring reporting of Savings and Credit Operation. To this end, orientation of CFs and COs on Savings and Credit operation and monitoring, reconciliation and monitoring of CDC savings and credit group account periodically, spot checking by town team and audit of savings and credit positions by social audit committee is being conducted regularly.

- The extended, rapid COVID transmission has increased the demand **for grants** amongst the poor urban households due to job loss, price hike and deteriorating economic condition. Within the context of COVID, the programme activities has been reprogrammed including the revision of budgets to address emerging priority needs including livelihood and nutrition activities.
- **Non-Availability of Qualified Vendors for Procurement** – Due to extended lockdown since Mar-April 2020 resulting from the COVID -19 outbreak, it has been a challenge to find vendors for procurement including printing, within limited span of time. Most of the suppliers and manufacturers couldn't open their office/factory due to lockdown. There was limited stock of readily available supplies for distribution.
- **Restricted Movement of Staff Amidst Lockdown** – With the extended lockdown and rapid transmission of COVID -19, the movement had become restricted and therefore, arranging adequate logistics for distribution of response materials across the Cities/Towns had been a challenge. Furthermore, the time and cost of transportation has increased substantially than the usual time.
- **Limited Functions of Committees Established under NUPRP at the Urban Local Government Level** – Due to the COVID-19 lockdown, it was not possible to keep fully functional of all the committees (like Ward Committees, Town Level Coordination Committees, Standing Committees, Ward-level Task Force on nCOVID-19, City Level Disaster Management Committee etc.).
- **Crisis aggravated by Cyclone Amphan** – Tropical cyclone Amphan aggravated the situation by calling for additional emergency initiatives across the coastal cities. It was challenging to coordinate the emergency response activities maintaining social distance and safety and security measures. Furthermore, the attention of city authorities has been divided between COVID-19 response and the cyclone Amphan urgency.

Lesson learnt

- The NUPRP being a complex multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral and multi-city programme, requires **enhanced coordination, linkage and partnerships** at all levels to address the complexities in implementation at various phase of the programme.
- The City authorities have limited capacities to implement the pro - poor urban reduction interventions due to insufficient budget, human resources, institutional capacities and political will. However, the programme has adopted appropriate approaches to **build the institutional and technical capacities** but require long term support.
- NUPRP's evidence on **poverty profiling (mapping)** and other assessment findings will be key to link Local Government priorities and contribute to overall poverty alleviation of cities as a part of their public commitments
- Lack of approved **urban sector policy** and other policy instruments undermine or neglect the urban poverty initiatives undertaken by the local Government. The programme will work with national platforms such as MAB and BUF to influence the urban sector policies and Urban Chapter of the Eighth Five Year Plan.
- **Critical Reflection of First Ever Emergency Response** – NUPRP has made a significant contribution in responding to its first ever large-scale emergency response. In order to be a more effective player, NUPRP needs to critically reflect on the various actions to ensure that the programme and its staff are well equipped to respond to future emergencies.
- **More Coherent Approach** – A more holistic approach needs to be adopted to respond to the multidimensional needs of the urban poor who are worst affected including assessing and responding to their immediate and recovery needs. A more unified response to pandemics should be developed rather than diverse disconnected strategies.
- **Community Engagement** – It was increasing important to engage the community leaders in finalising the list of beneficiaries for emergency relief as it reduced duplication of relief support and enhance

efficient utilization of limited resources. Key stakeholders were kept aware of the transparent selection process to avoid duplication and misuse. Gaining the and sustaining the confidence and trust of the community was essential to an effective response.

- **Food Assistance Coverage** – Given the rapid transmission and extended nationwide lockdown, the livelihoods of slum dwellers have been adversely affected. Multiple agencies including the government provided immediate relief in terms of food assistance. The food assistance strategy covered the following considerations -
 - Ensured a broad coverage of the most vulnerable families including 100% of the Households receiving High and Medium MPI scores.
 - Households with low MPI scores were equally affected by the epidemic and have lost their livelihoods. Therefore, there was a need to revisit the relevance of the Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index as a criterion for food distribution.
 - Ensured a harmonized approach in the food distribution aligned with the government relief and other agencies like BRAC which is BDT 1,500 to avoid discontentment among the communities, reduced the cost and broadened the coverage of the vulnerable population.
 - Digital cash transfer even though has been challenging reduced the fiduciary risk and transaction costs, for example for being used for political issues and getting resources diverted to non NUPRP communities.
 - Content of the food Basket was given considerable attention as it not all households are homogeneous and had to be tailored to meet the needs of the poor.
- **Online Management Information System** – NUPRP was able to leverage and capitalise on the existing online database system to target the beneficiaries and monitor the progress. The MIS has been instrumental in using the disaggregated data for selecting the vulnerable groups including MPI score, people with disability, single women headed households, aged people, pregnant and lactating women and so on.
- **Multimedia Communication Strategy** – Dissemination of messages for awareness campaign using multiple channel like Audio Visual Telecast, Loud Miking, Short Message Service (SMS) along with print media like Poster, Festoon etc. was found very effective in COVID response to build awareness of the urban poor communities, especially in the lockdown situation when printing of communication materials was very difficult and limited.

Annex 1 – Case Studies

Case Study 1: CDC Empowers the Marginalized Urban Poor

Sweeper Para CDC has total 115 Group Members. Amongst them, there are 35 *Harijan* (lower cast Hindu) families who are living over 80 years in the land belonging to BL College – a renowned education institute of **Khulna**. Predominantly, these families have been involved in cleaning work of the college facilities. They also work as sweeper of septic tanks, barbers, and gardeners in the city area. The other families of the CDC are mainly Muslims and employed in College as lower-class workers. On an average, a family of six member earn around BDT 5000.00 per month. They have to earn from other work to maintain family but due to COVI-19, their income has dropped recently.

Total 100 Group Members participated in Savings and Credit Group of the CDC. Up to September 2020, they have a saving around BDT 300,000 (US\$ 3,500 Approx.). Usha Das, 37-year-old – single woman headed household of Surma PG said ***‘I am keeping 200 taka each month regularly since the end of 2017 and have a total savings of BDT 6800 now. My father has a small grocery and I will invest my savings to make our business bigger.’***



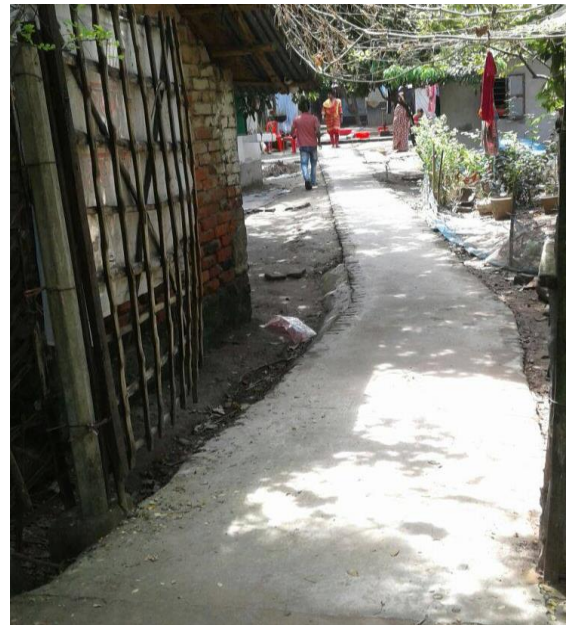
Members of harijan community with savings book

While all the children of *Harijan* families are now attending school, however, they continue to face stigma and discrimination. The students feel ashamed in school because of the name of their neighborhood – ‘Sweeper para’. School friends don’t visit their house, people from other communities hesitate to join any social/family programme and they cannot get married with other community members. Subarna Das, 38-year-old Vice Chairperson of the CDC is a Cleaning Assistant of a school reported ***‘My children are studying at different level in school and college. They suffer from inferiority complex because of our area name – Sweeper Para even though we are not involved in sweeping. They can’t invite friends and their friends also don’t like to visit our place. Earlier we even couldn’t enter the temple but now situation has changed. We are planning to change the area name and hopefully it will work positively’.***

The CDC has revised their Community Action plan in June 2019 to improve their livelihoods and living environment. In the revised Action Plan, they prioritized 13 latrine, 475-meter footpath, 200-meter drain, drain slab, drinking water supply, bathroom for ladies, pond re-excavation, tube-well site repairing, streetlamp and waste bin for improving their living conditions.

They also prioritised social issues including preventing Early Marriage, Violence Against Women & Girls (VAW&G), Drug Addiction, Employment for Youth & Person with Disability (PWD), Child Labour, etc.

The CDC has been awarded a community contract in 2019 from NUPRP to meet the priority demands identified in Community Action Plan. Under the contract, 95-meter footpath, 4-meter drain, 10 Twin Pit Latrine have been constructed. Along with these infrastructural improvement, 11 female Primary Group members received business grant, 3 women received apprenticeship grant, and 8 students (6 girls and 2 boys) received education grant both for reducing drop out under 2018 and 2019 SEF grant. Around 4 pregnant women and lactating mothers of the CDC are receiving conditional cash support for improving nutritional intake and all the pregnant women and lactating mother are receiving individual and group counselling regularly.



Footpath constructed at *Sweeper para* CDC under 2019 SIF grant

These grantees have been selected from the most vulnerable households based on the Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) score. *Sweeper Para CDC* is one of the 283 CDCs in Khulna city who have been mobilized and are being empowered to are supporting urban poor for improving their livelihoods and living environment. With support from NUPRP, the CDC members of Sweeper Para can now dream of a better life without social exclusion and economic hardship.



Group counselling regarding nutrition activities by SENF at *sweeper para CDC*

Case Study 2: Udibari CDC Takes the Lead in Improving the Living Conditions in their Community

Udibari Community Development Committee (CDC) has now 320 members under 16 Primary Groups (PG). In early 2019, when the CDC was formed, there was only 8 PGs. It was very challenging to mobilise households to join PG. Intensive mobilization efforts helped to form another 8 PGs. The CDC's activities are running very smoothly nowadays as LG representatives and local leaders are supporting them at every stage.

The CDC is located at the Sarder para under ward – 18 of **Kushtia Municipality** and belongs to *Rupsha CDC Cluster*. Most of the families of the community are fisherman. During the fishing season, they work as day labourers for fishing and in the remaining time, they engage in fish trade – buy fish from the wholesale market and sell to different areas or catch fish from the canal/ river in the morning and sell in the afternoon. This helps them to earn on an average BDT 350.00 and earning is irregular which can cause financial challenges. So, they are in need of savings for no-income days. Realizing the importance of savings, they started saving money regularly in their CDC for managing shocks and emergencies. Upto September 2020, they have cumulative savings around 133,000 BDT (US\$ 1,570 Approx.) and have initiated loan activities. Nine members of the CDC have already received loan amounting to BDT 1.3 lakh.



Members with agreement and cheque of receiving loan from CDC

Bishoka Rani Biswas – age 40 years – shared - ***‘I am a savings member of the CDC and have kept 2250 taka. As we don't get loan from bank or NGO, I requested for loan to CDC office bearer. I feel so good getting 20,000 taka from our own money. I already have started refunding and hopefully will be able to refund all money from the profit of our business.’***

In addition to promoting savings amongst the CDC members, the CDC prepared their Community Action Plan (CAP) in May. In the CAP, they prioritized their infrastructural needs for - latrine, footpath, meter drain, drain slab, drinking water supply, bathroom, tube-well site repairing, streetlamp and waste bin – to

improve their living conditions. The CDC also helps to create awareness on social issues e.g. preventing early marriage, violence against women & girls (VAW&G), drug addiction, creating employment for youth & person with disability (PWD), preventing child labour, nutritional, behavioral and medical support to pregnant and lactating mother; eye care for elderly, grant support for continuing education and starting small business for generating income, etc.

Over the period of one year, they have managed to get small social and financial support from NGOs, community groups and city corporations. Along with this small support, they have been awarded community contract in 2019 from NUPRP to meet their priority needs. Under the contract, 659-meter footpath have been constructed.



Before & after - one of the 8 constructed footpaths at Udibari CDC under 2019 SIF contract

Salma Khatun, a leader of *Bakul Primary Group* said, ***‘The footpath has been constructed near our house which benefitted us immensely. Previously, during monsoon, road used to get submerged under water and covered with mud and moving around by foot was very difficult. Rickshaw, van could not run through the road and all these had a negative impact on our life. Recently, after constructing this road, we can move outside for regular activities easily without any problem. We are very much thankful to NUPRP, CDC leaders, and Municipal Authority.’***

Along with these infrastructural improvement, 7 female PG members received business grant, 6 females received apprenticeship grant, and 3 students received education grant both for reducing school dropout under 2019 SEF grant of NUPRP. Around 5 pregnant women and lactating mother of the CDC are receiving conditional cash support for improving nutrition condition and all the pregnant women and lactating mother are receiving individual and group counselling regularly.



These grantees have been selected from most vulnerable households based on the Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) score. Receiving the SEF contract, *Rupsha CDC Cluster* requested *Udibari CDC* to select most suitable beneficiaries from its primary groups.

Case Study 3: Improving Nutritional Intake through Conditional Cash Transfer

Shikha is a malnourished mother of a 13-month-old boy who resides in Methor Potti CDC of Anirban Cluster under ward 03 of Dhaka **North City Corporation**. Her mother-in-law, Ayesha is a widow, enrolled as a member of Koyel Primary Group in 2018. At that time, Ayesha had a family of 3 members which has now become a member of 5 but their income remains the same. Ayesha's only son, Babu married Shikha in May 2018, a teenage girl from the same community. Shikha dropped out of school from Class 5 in 2016.



Shikha with her mother in-law and baby



Shikha, proudly holding the nutrition support card.

Shikha was only 14 years old when she got married and became pregnant. On 10 September 2019, she gave birth to a boy. Being a teenager and too young to be a mother, Shikha had to take care of a baby without any proper knowledge and advice. For the first 6 months, she didn't face any big challenge, however problems emerged when the kid needed supplemental feeding. Shikha, with lack of experience, knowledge and money for taking care of a child, went through various malpractices and superstitions. Soon, her child started growing malnourished.

Shikha got registered as a Nutrition Beneficiary with NUPRP as a mother of a 6 months old child. After the initial screening and verification, she got finally selected for nutrition grant support. Since then, she is receiving regular counselling and nutrition support from NUPRP. As part of the grant, so far, she has received 8 instalments of nutrition food baskets in last 4 months. The nutrition basket contains 30 eggs, one kilo lentil and one litre fortified edible oil. Her baby has now recovered from malnourishment and is growing up properly.

Shikha is very happy with nutrition support and grateful to the programme. She told, *“It was nearly impossible for me to feed my child properly without the support of NUPRP.”*

Case Study 4: Improving Livelihoods through Conditional Cash Transfer

Mrs. Nupur is a member of Krisnachura Primary Group of Choto Paris CDC under Anirnban Cluster of Dhaka North City Corporation,. She joined the Primary Group in 2018. Nupur lives in the Mirpur area with her husband and two sons. Jamal Hossain, her husband, serves as a daily cleaner of DNCC struggling to maintain his family with his meagre income. Moreover, their younger son is a disabled person.

Nupur was awarded Business Grants of BDT 10,000 from NUPRP under the Socio-Economic Fund (SEF) 2019 Grant. Nupur learnt dress making on her own before her marriage. After marriage, she remained a housewife and continued to raise her family. Especially, when her second child was born and started showing signs of disability, she had to spend more time him. She hardly got time to move out of the house. She bought a refurbished sewing machine with the grant money and spent some for her disabled child's treatment and care.



Soon, she started sewing dress for her neighbors and start earning. The family now have additional income which is helping them to survive. Besides, she also saved some from the income and contributed some money to buy a rickshaw van for husband to sell vegetables in the neighbourhood. Nupur is living a better life than before. She dreams of having her own dress making shop that will support her in maintaining family, continuing education and treatment of her children.