



## Summary of CLP Output Targets & Expected Gender Access

### Background

The Chars Livelihoods Programme (CLP) works with extreme poor HHs living on island *chars* in northwestern Bangladesh, and aims to improve the livelihoods of over one million people. The programme targets 67,000 of the poorest households (known as CPHHs) to receive a comprehensive package that includes a variety of services and support to develop their livelihoods. This includes transfer of an income generating asset worth Tk 16,000<sup>1</sup>.

Other *char* households (HHs) also benefit from the CLP's activities. Activities such as plinth raising, cash for work, savings groups, market development training and access to CLP facilitated services (such as healthcare and veterinary services) are open to non-CPHHs.

### Targeting Women

The CLP specifically targets women to be the "point of contact" between the CLP and the household. This means that it is an adult woman from the household who is the recipient of the asset transfer, stipend etc, and who participates in the training and social development groups. This strategy aims to increase and strengthen the position of women within the household, empowering them by enabling them to contribute more significantly to household income and decision making. In general, these women not only tend to be marginalised within the household but also in the wider community.

This brief summarises output targets for key CLP outputs, as well as providing an indication of how many female (women and girls) and male (men and boys) household members will benefit from each intervention<sup>2</sup>.

### Raising HHs on Plinths

Floods occur in Bangladesh almost every year, and the low-lying *chars* are at particular risk. Floods often force people to migrate to different areas on the *chars* with their family members and assets.

As part of the CLP's activities to reduce the environmental vulnerability of *char* HHs, the CLP raises homesteads on



raised plinths approximately 60 cm above the highest recorded flood level.

The CLP has the following targets for raising plinths:

# HHs to raise on plinth by 2016	85,000
Estimated # female headed HHs benefiting	17,850
Estimated # female HH members benefiting	170,000
Estimated # male HH members benefiting	170,000
Estimated # CPHHs raised <sup>3</sup>	56,667
Estimated # non-CPHHs raised	28,333

### Infrastructure and Employment Project

The CLP conducts the majority of its plinth raising activities using local labour. Much of this work is done through the infrastructure and employment project (IEP), a cash-for-work project implemented during the *monga* (hungry) season. IEP is used to deliver raised plinths and provides crucial employment to HHs during a time when labour demand is traditionally very low. Up to 35% of job cards are reserved for women, and typically 2/3 of participants come from CPHHs.

The CLP has the following targets for IEP:

# of people employed	70,000
# of women employed	10,500
# of men employed	59,500
# of person days work	1,750,000
Estimated # CPHHs employed	46,666
Estimated # non-CPHHs employed	23,333
Estimated # female headed HHs benefiting	14,700
Estimated # female HH members benefiting	128,520
Estimated # male HH members benefiting	123,480

### Providing Access to Clean Water

Clean water is necessary for good health, hygiene and is also related to nutrition, but access to clean water is limited on the *chars*. Although tube-wells are present, the water is often not clean. Water quality can be affected by insufficient depth, lack of a concrete platform or poor location (e.g. close to a source of contamination or susceptible to flooding).

<sup>3</sup> the ratio of CPHH to non-CPHH raised is typically 2:1

<sup>1</sup> This is the value of ATP provided to cohort 2.3, which began in December 2011. Cohorts 2.1 & 2.2 received an asset worth Tk 15,500.

<sup>2</sup> Gender estimates are based on the following assumptions, which have been drawn from baseline survey data of CPHH in cohorts 2.1 and 2.2:

21% of HHs are female headed;

Average family size is 3.6 members;

51% of the population is female

# Chars Livelihoods Programme

Reducing Extreme Poverty on the Riverine Islands of North West Bangladesh



Access to clean water is defined by the CLP as: a household having access to a tube-well with a concrete cement platform which is on a raised plinth and within a 10 minute round trip. The CLP installs tube-wells for some HHs on their raised plinth (including concrete platform) with the condition that up to 8 HHs (core or non-core) will be allowed access to that tube-well. The CLP also provides the concrete platform only (to prevent groundwater contamination) to those HHs who have a tube-well but do not have a concrete cement platform or have a broken platform, with a condition that up to 4 HHs (core or non-core) will be allowed access to that tube-well.

The CLP has set the following targets for providing clean water:

# HHs with access to clean water by 2016	55,000
Estimated # female headed HHs benefiting	11,550
Estimated # female HH members benefiting	110,000
Estimated # male HH members benefiting	110,000

## Providing Access to Sanitary Latrines

Sanitation is a key element in maintaining good health. The CLP considers the latrine to be sanitary when it has: a concrete slab with plastic pan and intact water seal, a pit supported by an internal structure (such as a bamboo cage) and adequate superstructure to provide privacy. Until 2010, the CLP provided fully subsidised slab latrines (including cement platform, cement rings, plastic pan & superstructure) to CPHHs. Beginning in the 2011/12 financial year, the CLP modified its approach and now only provides a subsidy to meet part of the cost of lower cost latrines, but the subsidy is open to all HHs in CLP working villages (not just CPHHs). The HHs are responsible for the remaining cost including the superstructure, bamboo cage and digging a pit. HHs on raised plinths receive a subsidy of Tk. 400 and HHs not on raised plinths receive Tk. 650 (slightly higher to reflect the additional cost of raising the latrine on its own plinth).

The CLP has the following targets for providing sanitary latrines:

# HHs with access to sanitary latrines by 2016	58,000
Estimated # female headed HHs benefiting	12,180
Estimated # female HH members benefiting	116,000
Estimated # male HH members benefiting	116,000

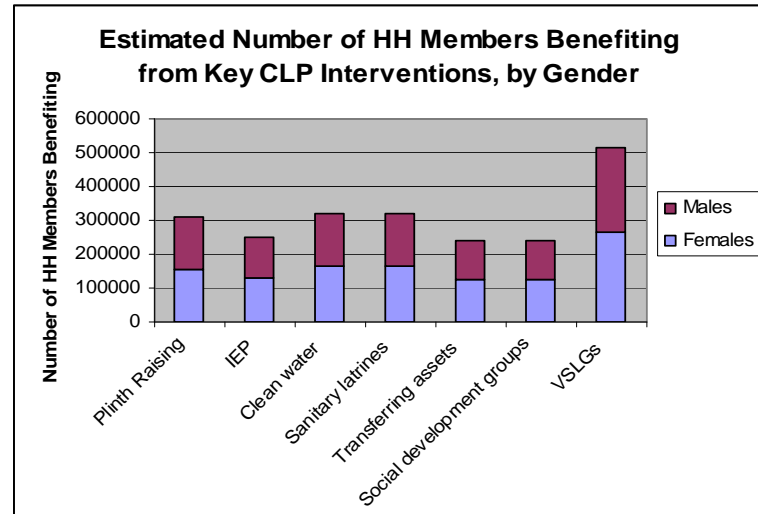
## Transferring Income Generating Assets

The goal of the asset transfer project is to develop CPHH livelihoods by providing each household with an asset that can generate income. The beneficiaries choose the asset (95% choose cattle). The value of the asset is currently set at Tk 16,000. HHs also receive stipends, training and other support to allow them to generate the maximum productivity from the asset.

The CLP has the following targets for asset transfer:

# HHs to receive assets by 2016	67,000
Estimated # female headed HHs benefiting	14,112

Estimated # female HH members benefiting	134,000
Estimated # male HH members benefiting	134,000



## Facilitating Social Development Groups

CLP core participants form groups of 18-25 women from CPHHs, and meet weekly for 18 months to learn about topics such as: health and hygiene; family planning; civil rights and responsibilities; disaster preparedness and savings & loans.

The CLP has set the following targets for SD groups:

# of groups to be formed by 2016	2,688
# HHs that will participate	67,000
Estimated # female headed HHs benefiting	14,112
Estimated # female HH members benefiting	123,012
Estimated # male HH members benefiting	118,188

## Establishing Village Savings & Loans Groups

VSLGs are groups of women, each of whom regularly contribute to a savings fund. This fund is then used as a source of loans for members. The CLP facilitates VSLGs for two years, after which they are expected to become independent. All groups consist of 15-25 members. The CLP facilitates separate VSLGs for core and non-core CPHHs.

The CLP has set the following targets for VSLGs:

HH type	# HHs that will participate	Estimated # female headed HHs benefiting	Estimated # female HH members benefiting	Estimated # male HH members benefiting
All HHs	143,135	unknown	262,796	252,490
CPHH	67,000	14,112	123,012	118,188
Non-CPHH	68,281	unknown	125,363	120,447

Prepared by Arshad Hossain & Reuben Blackie, IML.

