

**NATURAL RESOURCES SYSTEMS PROGRAMME**  
**Project R 8083**  
**Strengthened Rural Services for Improved Livelihoods in Bangladesh**

***FINAL TECHNICAL REPORT<sup>1</sup>***

**Annex C.2**

**Field Study of Rural Knowledge and Information Systems  
in North-east Bangladesh**

Report and analysis  
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## **Acronyms**

BADC	Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation
BS	Block Supervisor (field staff of DAE)
DAE	Department of Agricultural Extension
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
FIVDB	Friends in Village Development Bangladesh
GO	Government Organization
KIS	Knowledge Information System
MTR	Mid Term Review
NGO	Non Governmental Organizations
NRSP	Natural Resources Systems Programme
PETRRRA	Poverty Elimination Through Rice Research Assistance
PPS-BD	PRA Promoters' Society- Bangladesh
UP	Union Parishad

## Summary

This report covers a study carried out in the North East (NE) of Bangladesh of poor rural people's knowledge and information systems (KIS), as part of the project *Strengthened Rural Services for Improved Livelihoods in Bangladesh* (R8083), funded by DFID's Natural Resources Systems Programme (NRSP). It was particularly concerned to explore the ways in which access to and use of information relates to rural services which impact on livelihoods.

Throughout, the study was carried out in close collaboration with the projects partner organisation in the NE, namely Friends in Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB).

The study was carried out in two phases, the first in April 2003 (KIS-1) and the second in November 2003 (KIS-2). The second phase was the result of a finding of NRSP's mid-term review of the project that the first study in the NE lacked a sharp poverty focus, as well as covering a rather small sample in relation to the wide range of livelihood sources on which poor people in the NE were believed to draw. The second phase of fieldwork was preceded by a revision of the fieldwork protocol and the associated field sheet. A sample for KIS-2 was drawn which aimed to enable differences to be explored between KIS in remote and less-remote locations, between the very poor and the less poor, between women and men, and between beneficiaries of the partner NGO and non-beneficiaries. In respect both of its fieldwork methodology and also its sample, KIS-2 is regarded as having generated more robust findings than KIS-1.

In KIS-1 the fieldwork team interacted with 11 groups and 162 people in all; in KIS-2, 24 groups were involved (8 of them women-only) and a total of 243 people.

KIS-2 began with a well-being analysis which was based on descriptions and criteria set by the respondent groups. These characterised 'poor' people as typically having very little land, as depending on day labouring, share-cropping, small business; and as having assets of a few livestock, and a house of bamboo, straw and CI sheet. 'Extreme poor' people typically are said to work as day labourers, rickshaw pullers, share croppers or even beggars, to be landless (maybe without even have their own house/homestead), and to have their physical strength as their main asset; possessions may be confined to mats and bedding, and possibly a few chickens.

11 'themes', and 36 'strands' of information were identified by the respondents as important to them. The six most important *themes* were (in order of scoring): agriculture knowledge, health knowledge, vegetable cultivation, employment opportunity, education, poultry rearing. Women scored health knowledge and vegetable cultivation higher than did men. Men scored agricultural knowledge and employment opportunity as the most important.

In case of *strands*, highest priority was given to the following topics under the themes of agriculture and health:

Agriculture. Strands: seed, fertiliser, pesticide,

Health. Strands: health service providers (good treatment at low cost), food and nutrition.

Narratives of how specific pieces of information have been accessed and used were recorded in order to identify (in a highly empirical sense) which information *sources* and *channels* are most used, and also what information is most commonly transacted or exchanged. Only a minority of respondents (20%) were able to say they had accessed and used information on any of the themes or strands mentioned. However examples were given of successful application of information on preservation of rice seed and fertiliser application rates and placement. Sometimes information could not be used because it was not clear (in terms of the – written or broadcast - language through which it was accessed), or was incomplete (e.g. it had been gathered from a radio programme and there was no opportunity for querying or verifying). Some information was not useful because it related to benefits which were hijacked by vested interests (e.g. free issue of rice seed, government purchase of rice at a guaranteed price).

As far as channels of information are concerned, 12 channels in all were identified. *Visits by field staff* of development agencies were regarded as clearly the most important. In FIVDB villages the *FIVDB field staff* were the single most important channel; in 'non-FIVDB' villages, FIVDB was also regarded as an important information provider, but *staff of government departments* were relied on also. Next to interaction with staff of development agencies in the village, *visits to the local agencies' office* were important. *Personal contact with neighbours* was also rated as important. All of these interpersonal

channels were rated higher than any of the mass media - radio, television, print (newspapers, posters, books and pamphlets). Of the mass media, radio was rated the most important. Training was scored relatively highly, and was said to be effective because it usually gives the opportunity to develop skills hands-on and also because it gives very complete information.

Examples were given of favourable impact on livelihood of accessing information from different organizations, including vegetable and rice cultivation, and health and hygiene. On the other hand some narratives were recorded of information which had negative impact as a result of its being applied. Mention was made of a particular radio programme on planting of papaya tree and fish cultivation, which led to adoption of the broadcast technology and its subsequent failure.

Several participants mentioned that they have modified information before applying it. – which indicates the beginnings of a potentially successful process of information access, adaptation and further dissemination. No clear cases of this were traced in this study; but phase II of the project, which will involve action-research of a series of 'information interventions' will provide the opportunity for this.

These studies of KIS in the NE of Bangladesh clearly indicates that the people, whether closely involved with any development organization or not lack day-to-day information which they need for the improvement of livelihood. They value face-to-face means of accessing information well above media-based means of communication. The insights gained from this study and a similar one in the NW form the starting point of the action-research-based second phase of project R8083.

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## 1. Background

This report covers a study carried out in the North East of Bangladesh of poor rural people's knowledge and information systems, as part of the project *Strengthened Rural Services for Improved Livelihoods in Bangladesh* (R8083), funded by DFID's Natural Resources Systems Programme (NRSP).

The project R8083 was set up following a need identified in a previous NRSP project, namely *Feasibility of Integrated Crop Management (ICM) in Bangladesh* (R7600), for a decision-support system capable of strengthening farmers' access to information on ICM-related technologies. The goal of R8083 is the output (4-6) of the NRSP high potential logframe, namely

'Efficient systems for the provision of rural services to the poor developed and promoted'.

R 8083 investigates in particular the role of access to knowledge and information in enabling poor rural people to access services<sup>1</sup>. The particular output<sup>2</sup> of the project, which this study addresses is:

'Understanding established of the instruments and mechanisms by which people obtain information from available sources, the perceptions that different client groups have of the quality of information itself and the reasons for choosing information sources.'

Similar studies were carried out in both the north-west and north-east of Bangladesh, these being two of three 'focal areas' of the DFID/IRRI PETRRA (*Poverty Elimination Through Rice-Research Assistance*) project is operating. The work in the north-east was carried out by the members of the PRA Promoters' Society - Bangladesh (PPS-BD), with support from the concern NGO and collaborating partner organization in the north-east region, i.e. *Friends In Village Development Bangladesh* (FIVDB). The report aims to summarise results collected from two rounds of fieldwork, in April and November 2003.

Conducting two survey-rounds was not a pre-planned approach but resulted on account of several reasons. Firstly, the initial survey round involved observations in only 12 locations (villages) due to resource limitations at the time of the fieldwork. This amounted to a case-study approach, since a considerable diversity of livelihoods was identified at the time the sample for the study was drawn and an attempt was made in sampling to represent most of these; thus some doubt was cast on the scope for generalizing from the findings of this study. Secondly, it was noted during R8083's Mid-Term Review (MTR) in July 2003 that the participants of this study were a mixture of different socio-economic classes of people. Focus appeared not to be given directly on the poor segment. To fill up the gaps and incorporate the voices of the poor it was decided that another knowledge and information systems study (KIS-2) will be conducted focusing on the poor and extreme poor of the North-East region during November 2003. In the event, the two-rounds of survey work was valuable since lessons learnt in the first round were used effectively to improve both sampling and field procedures in the second round.

The KIS-1 and KIS-2 studies were conducted during April 13-23 and November 8-23, 2003 respectively (see schedule in Appendix 6.3 and 6.4). The methodology is covered in section 3 below and the main findings in section 4. It is necessary however first to outline the work of the project's partner organization (PO) in the North-east, namely Friends in Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB). This is because:

1. the studies covered FIVDB's working area
2. they aimed to trace differences in knowledge and information between FIVDB programme beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, as well as
3. differences in knowledge and information between the various locations ('clusters') in which FIVDB works
4. a second phase of the project will be based on the PO's activities as an information provider and will also draw on the findings of the KIS study.

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<sup>1</sup> The purpose of R8083 is 'Instruments and mechanisms of information exchange that enable better availability of Integrated Farm Management knowledge highly relevant to the improvement of rural livelihoods identified, tested and promoted to enhance provision of rural services primarily in Bangladesh and in other high potential areas in South Asia'.

<sup>2</sup> Output 4

## 2. Work of the Partner Institution (FIVDB)

FIVDB has 6 Cluster Centers (CC) or Sub-offices in three districts. Four are in Sylhet district (3 in Sadar Upazila and 1 in Zakiganj Upazila), 2 in Sunamganj district (1 in Sadar Upazila and the other in Bishamvarpur Upazila), 1 in Moulavibazar and 1 in Nasirnagar Upazila under Brahmanbaria district. Two of these CCs have been formed newly, namely Bishamvarpur and Nasirnagar. Activities of PETRRA sub-projects on Rice cum Duck are limited to three Upazilas viz., Sylhet Sadar, Sunamganj Sadar and Moulavibazar Sadar.

FIVDB has four major programmes:

- a) *Integrated Financial Services Program (IFSP)*: mainly provides financial support through micro-credit to the project people.
- b) *Livelihood Enhancement Program (LEP)*: this is the biggest programme of FIVDB that covers major activities for the poor people, which are Homestead gardening, Poultry, Duck hatchery, Poultry, Broiler, Livestock, Fish culture, CAGES<sup>1</sup>, Pigeon, Goat lending and sewing center/ Women's Advancement Unit (WAU). PETRRA project<sup>2</sup> is within LEP.
- c) *Child Education Program (CEP)*: this programme is mainly for the children of the area where there are no school facilities in the villages. A School Management Committee manages the School.
- d) *Functional Literacy Programme (FLP)*: this is an adult literacy programme run to provide education support to the local adults.

The KIS studies relate mainly to those involved in the Livelihood Enhancement Programme.

FIVDB works for those who can manage food for only three months a year from their own production and sell labour for the remaining nine months. Their working area is selected through feasibility studies using PRA tools. Emphasis is given on the areas where there is a greater concentration of the target population.

A three-year target of 360 new households per year involving in FIVDB programmes was set for the period 2001-2003. Each year 60 households are selected from each cluster centre. A pre-condition for joining the FIVDB work programme is that the households must be interested to work on at least three activities (chosen from the following: Homestead vegetable garden, Duckling, Local hen, Broiler, Pigeon, Fish cultivation, Fish pond, Cages, Nursery, Hatchery and Goat/Lamb). Each household must also have minimum land / pond requirements for associated activities. FIVDB provide support for 12 months /1 year only. In addition to their credit program, FIVDB provides technical (seed, duckling etc.) support and inputs to its members.

Unlike with project R8083's partner organization in the north-west, i.e. Rangpur-Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS) who use an institutional approach to their work by involving a minimum of 25 families in 'primary groups' and working only with such groups, the approach by FIVDB in the Livelihood Enhancement Programme is that homestead extension activities are undertaken with individual families<sup>3</sup>. They sometimes begin with only 1 or 2 families in a village. Thus a village which is regarded as 'an FIVDB village' for purposes of the KIS study may have only a very small fraction of families who are involved in non-credit related activities. In most cases (villages) FIVDB covered 2-25 families only under 1-3 activities of the Livelihood Enhancement Programme.

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<sup>1</sup> i.e. Fish culture in cages in open water bodies (a project of CARE-Bangladesh)

<sup>2</sup> FIVDB is a partner of PETRRA implementing farm trials of the rice- duck technology (see footnote on next page).

<sup>3</sup> This individual approach dates from 1997 when it replaced a group-based approach. Reasons for the change were to give more emphasis to an individual's potential and resources, and also to avoid 'elite capture' of the working and governance of groups.

### 3. Study methodology

#### 3.1. Development of the field methodology

Short field visits to the North-west in April and November 2002 allowed a draft methodology to be set up for the field work. This involved adapting several PRA tools to the task of exploring issues of access to information and preferred information channels and sources. Previous (published) experience in this field was found to be limited, but was drawn on where possible (e.g. Salamon and Engel, 1998, Ramirez 2000, Rolls et. al. 1996, Lawrence 1999, Garforth 2001<sup>1</sup>). Pre-testing of the field methodology was carried out only in the North-west, and the same approach (and the same field record sheets) used in the North-east (NE). Annex 1 shows the form used to capture the field information for the North-west (in January 2003) and for the first-round of field investigation in the North-east (KIS-1, in April 2003). In KIS-1 a case-study approach was adopted (see section 1 above). This was largely a response to the resources then available for this project activity, and to the perception that there was a wide diversity of livelihood sources in the North-east. 12 locations (villages) were selected for the study by a purposive sampling process (see 3.2 below), with the expectation that it might be problematic for the findings to be generalized.

In KIS-2, the field record sheet used during the KIS-1 study was reviewed, modified, renamed as 'field record sheet' (earlier called the de-briefing document) and pre-tested (in October 2003) before finalizing. The pre-testing was conducted in 3 villages under Sylhet Sadar upazila covering both FIVDB and Non-FIVDB working area. The sequence and time required for each session was tested carefully. Availability of participants during Ramadan was also considered. In addition to de-briefing, well-being analysis was done to identify the real poverty level of each participant group. The field-record sheet used in the KIS-2 study is shown in Annex 2. As far as sampling for KIS-2 was concerned, a larger sample was drawn (made possible by additional funding from NRSP) and stratified according to two variables which were hypothesised to have an important effect on information access, namely remoteness/accessibility and (relative) poverty/wealth. KIS 2 also ensured that some women-only groups were interviewed without the intervention of men (whereas in KIS-1 interviews with women's groups often attracted some men).

Details of the sampling in both studies are given below.

#### 3.2. The sampling process in KIS-1

The sampling procedure for the KIS-1 study was carried out in consultation with FIVDB members during a workshop just before the beginning of fieldwork in April 2003. The intention was to select some 'FIVDB villages' (in which the LEP was active) and some others in which FIVDB was not active (termed a 'control'). Among the FIVDB villages the intention was to include some in which the PETRRA rice-duck sub-project<sup>2</sup> was being implemented (since this project appeared to offer a case study of a research and development activity generating information about a livelihood opportunity, which would disseminate through existing networks and/or could be actively promoted via new information interventions).

The first step involved identifying the main livelihood systems (occupations) of LEP beneficiaries (the very poor and/or landless) and of PETRRA target population (the poor) in each of the three districts of the NE in which FIVDB works. These livelihood systems were then ranked within each district and within the two sub-groups of "landless" and "poor". The top three ranks are shown in Table 1 below.

Although rice production ranked first as the main livelihood source in each district, it was decided to 'distribute livelihoods' between districts so as to capture some of the diversity in livelihoods in the NE region. It was also proposed by workshop participants that the FIVDB as well as PETRRA working areas be represented in the sampled villages. The matrix in Table 2 shows (in the shaded areas) a list of all villages corresponding to the chosen livelihoods within each district, in which FIVDB is active, and those in which the PETRRA rice-duck sub-project is implemented.

<sup>1</sup> See also Project R8083 Inception Report, May 2002

<sup>2</sup> A 'sub-project' is a farm-based (adaptive) research activity sponsored by PETRRA. FIVDB is implementing one PETRRA sub-project (in collaboration with BRR1), to investigate rice-cum-duck technology (i.e. introduction of ducklings in newly-transplanted rice fields, to provide a favourable environment for the growing ducks which at the same time fertilise the rice, control weeds and eat insect larvae).



**Table 1. Top three livelihoods systems in districts in the north east, as ranked by FIVDB staff**

	<b>Sylhet</b>	<b>Sunamganj</b>	<b>Moulavibazar</b>
<b>Landless</b>	Sharecropper (Rice) - 1	Agriculture laborer (Rice) - 1	Agriculture laborer - 1
	Fishing – 2	Fishing - 2	Sharecropper - 2
	Chicken rearing - 3	Duck Rearing - 3	Veg. gardening - 3
<b>Poor Farmer</b>	Sharecropper - 1	Sharecropper - 1	Sharecropper - 1
	Veg. gardening - 2	Day laborer - 2	Own land Farming - 2
	Duck rearing - 3	Bamboo/Cane handicraft - 3	Fishing - 3

The proposal was to sample from each district one village from each of the 3 most important livelihood systems, so as to give 9 FIVDB/PETRRRA villages, and then to select another 3 villages to represent the control villages, i.e. villages where there were no FIVDB or PETRRRA activities. In the event it was decided to cover only two villages in Sylhet in order to make some time available for working with information providers identified by the village PRAs. Thus the shaded cell for 'vegetable cultivation' in the Sylhet district was dropped. Having identified FIVDB/LEP and PETRRRA villages and linked these to predominant livelihood sources (i.e. the shaded cells of Table 2) one village was selected randomly from each of the cells. Selected villages are shown in bold in Table 2).

In choosing the control villages, it was noted by FIVDB staff that it would not be easy to find villages in the locations of those listed which were not affected by one or more of FIVDB's programmes other than the LEP. It was therefore agreed that the presence of the (widespread) FIVDB Child Education Programme in a village should not prevent it being chosen as a control. It was further agreed that control villages should be chosen at the cluster centers using maps and lists available there, while at the same time utilizing the knowledge of FIVDB staff at the cluster centers.

**Table 2. Villages listed by FIVDB workshop participants according to their main livelihoods**

Cluster Project Main Livelihood	<b>Sylhet</b>		<b>Sunamganj</b>		<b>Moulavibazar</b>	
	FIVDB (LEP)	PETRRRA	FIVDB (LEP)	PETRRRA	FIVDB (LEP)	PETRRRA
Chicken Rearing	Bongshidhar Dewaner Chok Lalkhan Tongi <b>Kollagram</b>					
Duck Rearing		Bongshidhar Dewaner Chok <b>Lalkhan Tongi</b>	Brahmongaon Shotrumordon Mahmudpur Shibpur	Shotrumordon Mahmudpur Shibpur	Manikhaor Dughar	Manikhaor Dughar
Fishing	Bongshidhar Lalkhan Tongi Kollagram		Brahmongaon Shotrumordon Mahmudpur <b>Inatnagar</b> Ujanigaon	Brahmongaon <b>Shotrumordon</b> Mahmudpur		
Vegetable Cultivation	Bongshidhar Lalkhan Tongi Kollagram				<b>Aloha</b> Komlakolosh Jagatshi Amtoil Mashkandi	
Share-cropper (Rice)	Bongshidhar <b>Dewaner Chok</b> Lalkhan Tongi Kollagram		Brahmongaon Shotrumordon Kathoir Shibpur	Brahmongaon Shotrumordon Kathoir Shibpur	Manikhaor Agnoshi Dughar Udarai <b>Shitasree</b> Radhakantopur Bhujbol	<b>Manikhaor</b> Agnoshi Dughar Udarai Shitasree Radhakantopur Bhujbol

(Selected villages are shown in bold)

In the actual field work, the researchers therefore covered 11 villages, but interacted with 12 groups since in one village, the respondents were divided into two groups according to whether their main occupation was agriculture or not. The distribution of villages across the three upazilas, across FIVDB and control villages and the gender of groups participating is shown in Table 3.

**Table 3: Distribution of villages selected for KIS-1 study**

Upazila	FIVDB/PETTRA			CONTROL	Total*
	Male	Female	Mixed	Male	
Moulavi Bazar			3	1	4
Sunamganj Sadar	1		2	1	4
Sylhet Sadar	1	1		1	3
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>

(\*see Table 2)

### 3.3. The sampling process in KIS-2

Considerable discussions took place between UK partners, PPS-BD and FIVDB staff, to determine the most appropriate sampling procedure to use in the second round of survey work. The Project R8083 mid-term review had highlighted the need to ensure that different poverty groups would be captured in the sampling process employed. This concern was addressed at the stage of sampling locations and at the point of selecting respondents for the focus group discussions. As in the first round, there was attention to sampling both FIVDB targeted villages and non-FIVDB villages. Consideration was also given to selecting locations that were felt to be rather remote and those that were felt to be not so remote, since it would be useful to also explore information flows in fairly remote areas.

Thus the sampling process for the KIS-2 study was finalized by the project after reviewing the findings of the first KIS study in the north-east and previously used de-briefing document. A one-day workshop was organized on November 8 2003 in the head office of FIVDB in Sylhet, with the participation of senior and field level staff of FIVDB and the KIS study team, to draw up a sampling frame and select a sample. The procedure was as follows:

1. The KIS-2 was to be conducted in three FIVDB cluster areas in the three districts of the north-east. Three Upazilas were therefore selected purposively for the study. Out of these, 2 (Moulavi Bazar Sadar in Moulavi Bazar District and Sunamganj Sadar in Sunamganj District) were used for the first KIS study (KIS-2). In KIS-2, Zakiganj Upazila in Sylhet District was chosen (rather than Sylhet Sadar), considering it as more remote and less influenced by a long-term FIVDB presence (since FIVDB had opened its cluster center in Zakiganj only in 2002).
2. From each cluster area / Upazila, only the unions in which FIVDB works were considered, *excluding* those covered in the first KIS study in April 2003. These unions were listed by FIVDB staff.
3. The FIVDB staff then classified their working unions according to location ('remote' and 'less remote'); one union of each type was then selected purposively, with the aim to maximize the contrast between the two categories.
4. In each of the unions FIVDB staff listed all villages and classified each village as:
  - 'poor' or 'less poor' (not rich), and as
  - 'FIVDB' and 'non-FIVDB' working villages.

(It is relevant to mention here that the FIVDB staffs were unclear about the poverty status of the people of the non-FIVDB villages. Also that a few villages were excluded because of rich majority.)

5. Finally one village was selected at random from the 3 x 2 x 2 x 2 combinations shown in the matrix in Table 3, resulting from consideration, for each of 3 districts, of:
  - remote/not so remote locations,
  - poor/less poor villages,
  - FIVDB/non-FIVDB villages.

Table 4 provides full details of the selection with the selected villages (24 in total) shown in bold. The arrows indicate the category to which the corresponding village actually fell as found during field work. Figures in brackets give the code number set for each selected village. The final numbers of villages and male/female groups visited is shown in Table 5.

After selecting villages for KIS-2, a time schedule for the field work was developed with the consent of the FIVDB staff. The concern FIVDB staffs were asked to organize a group of 10-12 people according to the selected criteria in each village.

**Table-4: Selection of Unions and villages for KIS-2 study**

**1. Sylhet district: (Zakiganj Upazila)**

Unions	MANIKPUR (Remote Union)		KAS KANAKPUR (Less remote Union)	
Villages	POOR	LESS POOR	POOR	LESS POOR
<b>FIVDB Villages</b>	Balla Chalia Kapon Eolasar Kashara Jeapur Kanagram Matargram Rasulpur Sirajpur <b>Suranandapur (1)</b>	Khalada Pania Dargah Baharpur Fultola Jarailtola Mohammadpur <b>Shahajalalpur-F(2)</b>	Hatidahar <b>Kaista kapon-F(5)</b> Nogor Kandi	<b>Kas Kanakpur (6)</b> Biabail
<b>Non FIVDB Village</b>	Harai Trilochan <b>Eka purba (3)</b> ←	Sharanga Deb <b>Oashar-F (4)</b>	Chhattish <b>Pukra (7)</b> ←	<b>Mamar Khali (8)</b>

**2. Moulavi Bazar district: (Sadar Upazila)**

Unions	GIAS NAGAR (Remote Union)		MOSTAFA PUR (Less remote Union)	
Villages	POOR	LESS POOR	POOR	LESS POOR
<b>FIVDB Villages</b>	Anikali Bara <b>Karim Nagar (9)</b> →	Bhujbal <b>Radhakantapur (10)</b>	Matukpur <b>Jagatsi (13)</b> Fathepur Kamla Kalas	Ajmiru <b>Birbali (14)</b> → Daskhin Sampasi Jagatsi (Part)
<b>Non FIVDB Village</b>	Daria Mahal <b>Ranabhim (11)</b>	<b>Banika (12)</b> Bara Bhim Gayes Nagar	<b>Sree baur (15)</b> Kuchar mahal Gharua	Mostafapur <b>Baur gharia (16)</b> ↓

**3. Sunamganj District: (Sadar Upazila)**

Unions	SHIMULBAK (Remote Union)		MOHANPUR (Less remote Union)	
Villages	POOR	LESS POOR	POOR	LESS POOR
<b>FIVDB Villages</b>	<b>Noorpur (17)</b> Keshabpur Chandpur	<b>Terrahal (18)</b> Mukta Khai	<b>Nar killa (21)</b>	<b>Katair (22)</b>
<b>Non FIVDB Village</b>	<b>Sardarpur (19)</b> ↓ Dhanpur Akta Para Bahadurpur Chak Ukargaon Kandargaon	Amria <b>Jib dara (20)</b> Magura Tular Band Dalagaon Khidirpur	Nawagaon <b>Santipur (23)</b> → Taj Nagar Chanditior Jagjibonpur Sakhaiti Ulutulu ←	Uttar Narayanpur <b>Joy Nagar (24)</b> → Chuapur Darar Gaon Dewan Nagar Kalaiya

Note: Arrow indicates the change in levels identified during actual field study (e.g. from *poor* to *less poor* or *FIVDB* to *Non-FIVDB* and vice versa)

**Table 5a: Category of villages selected for KIS-2 study**

Study area/ Villages	Remote union				Less remote union				Total villages
	Poor Village		Less poor Village		Poor Village		Less poor Village		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
FIVDB	2		1	2	1	2	1	1	<b>10</b>
Non FIVDB	3	2	1	1	4		3		<b>14</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>

**Table 5b: Comparison of samples in KIS-1 and KIS-2**

	<b>KIS-1</b>	<b>KIS-2</b>
<b>Selection criteria</b>	Livelihoods, FIVDB involvement PETRRA involvement	Poverty status Remoteness/accessibility FIVDB involvement
<b>No. of villages – FIVDB/PETRRA</b>	8	10
<b>No. of villages – control</b>	3	14
<b>No of groups</b>	12	24
<b>Male group / participants</b>	6 / 112	16 / 160
<b>Female group</b>	1 / 18	8 / 83
<b>Mixed group</b>	5 / 32	Nil
<b>Total groups/participants</b>	12 / 162	24 / 243

### 3.4. The fieldwork methodology in KIS-1

In both stages of the fieldwork, the interaction was based on discussion with a 'focus group', which was initially formed with the help of FIVDB staff in each village.

In KIS-1, we were fairly relaxed about the membership of the focus group, although our brief to FIBDB was that we aimed to interact with poor people (coincide with the FIVDB target beneficiary population). In KIS-1, the following topics were explored with each group (as a whole) using the methods indicated (see also Appendix 1).

#### **Topic**

Identification of participants' main occupation, education and landholding  
Information needs  
Information gaps and sources  
Identification of information channels  
Evaluation of information channels  
Evaluation of information sources

#### **Method**

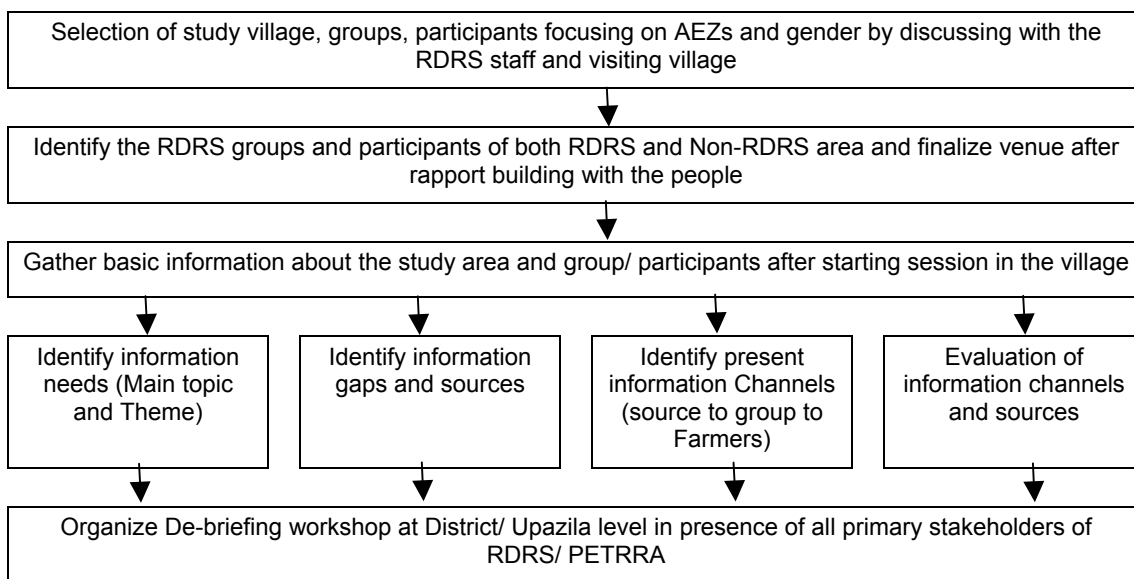
Questionnaire, generating list  
Spider chart, scored  
Matrix scoring (using show of hands)  
Thematic map  
Pair wise ranking  
Matrix scoring (using pocket chart)

Size of group ranged between 10 and 20; one group (of artisans, identified as meriting a separate interview from the main group) was as small as 5.

In all the exercise took some 3 hours per group. Participants were offered a payment of Tk 80-100 (relating to the seasonal daily wage locally) and also a lunch box (which sometimes was eaten together with the team, sometimes taken home).

While conducting session the facilitator's team had to encounter some problems related to methodology. For example, during discussion on information gap participants raised their hand those who received information from different sources. But it was difficult to check instantly what information they have received from whom, which may take very long time. Use of pocket chart also took long time because everyone had to brief separately during scoring.

**Process flow chart of KIS-1:**



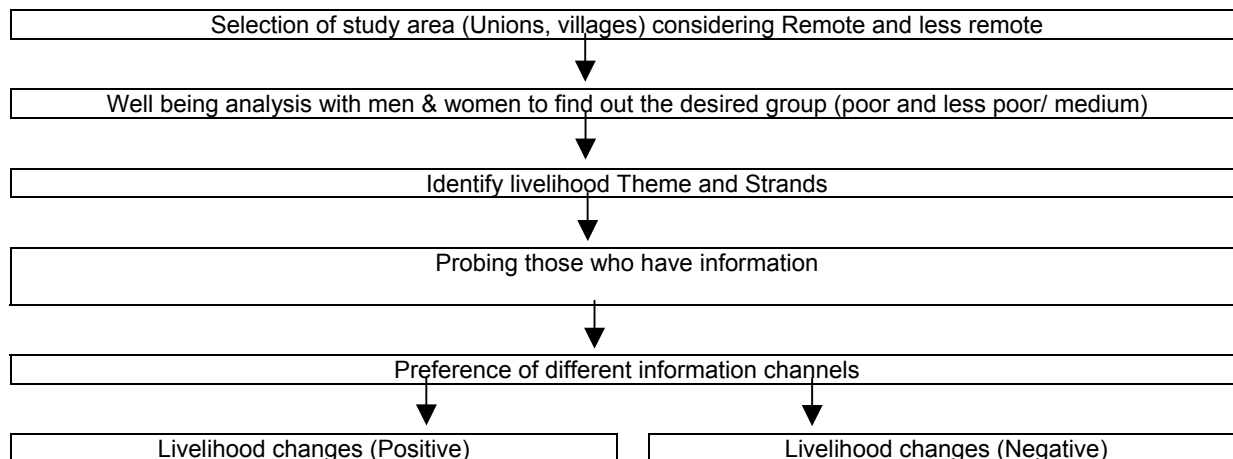
**3.5. The fieldwork methodology: KIS-2**

In KIS-2, in view of the comments of the MTR, an attempt was made to position more accurately the members of the focus group in an income and wealth spectrum. Further, it was seen that opportunities had been missed in KIS-1 to trace ways in which specific pieces of information had been accessed and used by participants. Indeed this was something which it was difficult to do in a relatively large group. Also, in KIS-1 we discovered that we had worked with groups of males and mixed-gender groups but with only one group of women alone. We believe that this was the result of males (husbands and family members) joining in a group, which had intended to be a women-only group. This is not to say that in some of the mixed gender groups women had failed to participate in the discussion, but a mixed-gender group was clearly not an effective way to explore gender-specific knowledge and information networks or issues of information access particularly affecting women.

In KIS-2 therefore, we resolved to:

- Identify the income and wealth status of the people we were interacting with,
- Work with smaller groups than in KIS-1,
- Work with single-gender groups,
- Explore in detail how specific pieces of information had been accessed and used in the experience of group members.

**Process flow chart of KIS-2:**



A 7-step process of interacting with the groups was therefore adopted (which however did not take longer per group than the 3 hours used per group in KIS-1):

1a. *Well-being analysis*: participants were asked to identify the different *levels of well-being* amongst families of the village (poor, medium rich etc.) and to identify *criteria* (e.g. land-holding size, housing condition, etc) used to allocate each family in the village into one of the well-being categories. Choice of these criteria was left to the participants initially, although the facilitators ensured that at least land-holding and occupation were included, to achieve comparability across groups. The number of well-being categories varied from two to five see section 4.1 below), while the number of criteria put forward ranged from 4-7, and was modally 6. A two-way matrix was set-up on flip-chart paper showing poverty groups by criteria used for allocation. Finally the actual characteristics of each criterion that participants use for allocating families into poverty groups were noted in the cells of the matrix (see table-6 in page 17 for example).

1b. After completion of the well-being exercise *each participant identified into which well-being category their own household fell*. If not all of those present fell into a single category, the team asked those belonging to one category (the “less poor” in some locations and the “poor” in others) to form a separate sub-group (or core-group, made up of people of similar income and wealth status). This sub group only took part in steps 2-6 (below). The remaining participants were requested to keep quiet and observe the process, but were brought in again to the discussion in step 7.

2. *Information about the ‘poverty’ group*: the characteristics of the core group were then recorded (see the field sheet in Annex 2), and

3. *Information about the ‘poverty’ group members* individually was recorded: education level, land holding, income source / occupation, and involvement with development NGOs<sup>1</sup>

4. *Scored diagram of livelihood themes and strands*: this was constructed by the core group, with the chart being drawn by the facilitator or by a literate member of the group.

5. *Individual experiences of participants who had accessed information*: this consisted of a series of probing questions designed to identify particular pieces of information which participants had been able to access, to trace what use they had made of this information and then to identify any benefits they had gained (or problems faced) in using the information. The intention was that the activity with the group at this step should be in effect a semi-structured interview; the questions in the field sheet (Annex 2) serving as prompts for the facilitator.

6. *Preferences for different information channels*: this was recorded via pair-wise ranking as in KIS-1.

7. *Positive and negative livelihood changes*: this final stage of the focus group discussion involved the whole of the group, including those who had taken part in the well-being analysis at the beginning of the team’s visit to the village but who had not formed the core group. It was a fairly wide-ranging discussion, which aimed to elaborate the general context within which the explorations with the core group had taken place, and which aimed to link the livelihood changes which participants perceived to information needs. This last objective was not successful in all cases, although the exercise was usually a satisfactory way of ending interaction with the group.

The comparative advantages in KIS-2 were that;

- a. The real poor was identified at the beginning of the session using well being analysis. As a result there was almost no scope of mixing of different categories of people,
- b. Background of the villages were recorded to get a clear picture of the area,
- c. Participants got the scope to identify themes based on their needs, which was absent in the KIS-1 because focus was on agriculture and rice considering the PETRRA project
- d. Scope was made for probing the reply whenever people said that they have information

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<sup>1</sup> this was intended to serve as a cross-check on the general information which had initially identified the village as ‘FIVDB’ or ‘non-FIVDB’, and also to identify any other NGOs which are active in the locality, possibly as information providers.

- e. Influence of information (positively and negatively) on the livelihoods of the poor people were recorded.

Development of the methodology for KIS-2 was done mainly during a 3-day period of field piloting in the NE during early October 2003. A total of 4 groups were met with and successive versions of a field sheet tested and evaluated (and various approaches to the groups similarly evaluated). Eventually a field sheet and process were finalized which covered all the steps 1-7 above, and appeared to have the advantages over the KIS-1 noted at (a)-(e) above. An example of the field sheet is in Appendix 2.

### 3.6. People's participation

Participation of people was to some extent better in FIVDB villages than in control villages but no big variation was observed. In remote areas it was very difficult to get information from the people. Participants sometime mixed up the importance of the topic being discussed compared to needing information about that topic. They expressed their dissatisfaction on some service providers and mentioned acute problems they are facing currently due to lack of complete information. Female participants took part as actively as male participants. In some control villages participants failed to mention the information strands corresponding to themes they selected as important information needs in their livelihoods.

In some villages presence of local leaders and/or the elite created problems in the participation of others in the group. For example they tried to manipulate the people's views.

Participants per FGD varied between 6-12. Depending on the discussion each FGD continued on an average for about 2.5 hours.

The table below shows the number of groups and participants the main categories used in sampling, i.e.

remote – less-remote location

FIVBD – non-FIVDB villages

Men's – women's groups.

**Table 6: Number of groups and participants in the different strata sampled in KIS-2**

	FIVDB groups				Control groups				Total	
	Villages/ Groups	Men	Villages/ Groups	Women	Villages/ Groups	Men	Villages/ Groups	Women	Villages/ Groups	Men+ Women
<b>Remote unions</b>										
Poor	2	16	0		3	32	2	21	7	69
Less poor	1	10	2	22	1	10	1	10	5	52
<b>Less remote unions</b>										
Poor	1	11	2	20	3	42			6	73
Less poor	1	11	1	10	4	28	0		6	49
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>243</b>

### 3.7. Profile of villages sampled

In KIS-1 villages were selected randomly focusing the livelihoods of the poor and very poor people. Eight villages were selected from the FIVDB working area and the rest 3 as control. In selecting FIVDB villages' emphasis was given on the PETRRA (rice cum duck) project area. Considering the importance of two different important livelihoods of Muktir Chak, (a control village) under Sylhet sadar upazila was divided into two. Villages selected for the study were mostly composed of 'resource-poor-' and 'poor' Access to knowledge and information was inadequate in most of the villages. FIVDB villages were found to some extent better than that of control in terms of information access.

Villages selected for KIS-2 composed of inhabitants of different categories i.e. 'rich', 'medium', 'poor' and 'extreme poor'. Out of 24 villages, respondents of 14 villages were predominantly poor and those in the other 10 were medium/less poor. FIVDB is currently working in 10 villages, out of 24. Among the 14 control villages some were covered by FIVDB before under its credit program abandoned later on. In some control villages primary schools were constructed by the FIVDB. Villages covered by the FIVDB are

comparatively more exposed to knowledge information e.g. Sree Baur village under Moulavi Bazar. It was also found the same for the villages nearby the main road or have frequent contact with the town/headquarter e.g. Kas kanakpur village under Zakiganj. On the other hand control and remote villages have less access to the knowledge information e.g. Joy Nagar village under Sunamganj Sadar Upazila.

### **3.8. Profile of responding participants**

In KIS-1 main livelihoods sources were considered as the basis for the selection of participants. FIVDB participants identified five different livelihoods sources of the resource poor and poor. (*chicken rearing, duck rearing, fishing, vegetable cultivation and share cropping of rice*) In total 162 people took part in the discussions. Out of those 112 were men and the rest 50 were women. Only 41 men took part from 3 control villages. Five groups out of 12 were mixed of women and men. Access of women to information sources found less than men.

In KIS-2 24 sessions were conducted in 24 villages. In total 243 people participated in the well being analysis (100 FIVDB members and 143 control village people). Out of those 160 were men and 83 were women. After carrying out the well-being analysis, 190 finally took part in the focus group discussions. In 8 villages women took part and in the rest 16 villages men only. Out of 135 poor participants 47 were women and 88 men. On the other hand out of 55 in medium/less-poor groups 24 were women and 31 Men. The ratio of poor to medium/less-poor was 100:44 and that of women to men 100:168. People of remote areas have less complete information than less remote areas.



## 4. Findings of the study

### 4.1. Well being analysis

The methodology of the well-being analysis is described above (section 3 - methodology). The groups at first identified different levels of people living in the village. In most cases four levels of poverty / well-being were identified: 'Rich', 'Medium/less poor' 'Poor' and 'Extreme poor'. Some villages identified only three levels. Because classification was based on the focus group's own set criteria, the specific levels and criteria identified differed from one village to another. Thus respondents in 3 villages did not identify a 'Rich' category and in 13 villages no 'Extreme poor' category was identified (Appendix-6.6). Terms used to describe the categories differed slightly. In one remote village, namely Banika in Gias Nagar union, participants identified three levels with different names: *upper medium*, *lower medium* and *poor*.

Criteria which could be used to classify village households into different well-being groups were initially suggested by the participants themselves. All 24 groups mentioned housing condition, and most mentioned land holding size and occupation. In cases where the group did not mention land holding size or occupation, the field researchers suggested these criteria so as to have a consistent basis on which to compare the groups. Other criteria mentioned by the groups were household resources, i.e. assets (17 groups), education (1 group) and food intake (1 group).

The extreme poor are mostly landless people with very small homesteads or they live on land owned by others or the government (illegally). Of the 12 villages where the extreme poor were identified, only 1 village mentioned that the group had any land, i.e. 3-5 bighas (approximately 1 to 1.5 acres). Day labour was identified as an occupation for the extremely poor by 9 of the groups, and begging was identified by 6 of the groups. Other occupations identified as characterizing the extreme poor were sharecropper (1), housemaid (2), rickshaw puller (1), fisher (1). Receiving *jakat* (money set aside by other muslims according to muslim law for the poor) was also identified as a means by which extremely poor people survive.

'Land' means agricultural land. Almost all people have a homestead, sometimes incorporating a very small plot of land, which is considered separately. General concept in the village in Bangladesh is that "*The more the amount of agricultural lands the richer the people*". Land ownership by rich people was said to range between 10 and 300 bighas (*1 bigha=32 decimals=0.32 acre*)<sup>1</sup>. Medium/less-poor people's land-holding was said to range between 1 and 30 bighas, although focus group participants of one village (8-Mamar Khali) said that the medium-level people are involved with small business and don't possess any land. Poor people are said to possess a very small amount of land, ranging between 0.5 to 7 Bighas. In village Jib Dara (20) land holding by the poor is larger, up to 12 bighas. This is because land in haor (marshy low land) areas land is cheaper and there are also government (Khas) lands possessed by the people. Extremely poor people are generally landless i.e. have no agricultural land; some even don't have homestead land and reside on other's land or on government land. Again in Jib Dara (20) extremely poor people have 3 to 5 Bighas of land. That is why they don't call them landless.

Occupation of the people also varies according to level. In Sylhet many people stay abroad. Some of them are in the Europe (UK, Italy, America and some are in the Middle east countries (Qatar, Saudi Arabia) and some in south east Asia (Malaysia). Many rich people fall into this category. Other occupations of rich people are big business, govt. job, rent out shopping center / modern market, and agriculture. They generally lease out land to other people or do cultivation with tractor. Medium level people go abroad to do laborious job, sometimes paying their travel costs by selling their agricultural and even homestead land. Sometime the manpower broker cheats them. They have other occupations of medium-level people are agriculture, small business, sharecropper, and petty job. The common occupations of the poor and extreme poor people are day labour, rickshaw pulling, and small business. On the other hand extreme poor people also do begging.

Housing condition of people varies according to levels. Rich people have building or brick wall with CI sheet roof. Construction of modern design house with a very big gate and boundary wall is the status symbol of the rich in Sylhet. Medium people have brick wall with CI sheet roof or Bamboo wall with CI sheet roof. Poor people have bamboo or earthen wall with CI sheet roof. The groups identified that the

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<sup>1</sup> In Sylhet rich people are said to possess land ranging from 10 to 100 Bighas, in Moulavi Bazar it is 10 to 300 Bighas and in Sunamganj 10 to 120 Bighas.

extreme poor have houses with walls made of bamboo fence and roofs of straw and polythene. In Sunamganj house of all levels are made of a special type of straw coated by mud and roof with CI sheet. Regarding use of CI sheet roof participants explained that now they cannot cultivate sufficient straw because of excessive use of fertilizer in the agriculture field. On the other hand various type of CI sheets are available in the market with very low price and it continue 3-4 years without any maintenance cost. So people try to manage to buy CI sheet despite all their hardship.

Resources (i.e. consumer goods, items of physical capital) provide other criteria to identify well-being levels. Rich people have transport (microbus), tractor, motorcycle, cows/buffaloes, plough, gold ornaments, colour TV, freezer, air conditioner, generator and rented market/shopping center in the town. Medium-level people have furniture, bicycle, cows, plough etc. Poor people have few cows, but goats and chicken. The resources of the extreme poor were identified to be cane mats and bedding, while one group mentioned that they could also have a few chickens.

Rich people continue their education up to university level, medium up to higher secondary and poor up to primary school. Now medium level families are more advanced in education than the rich. Very poor people are becoming aware about education and sending their children (both boys and girls) to school. This may be to get free wheat and stipend from the school.

Food intake is a criterion set by one group to identify well-being levels. Every family was said to take three meals a day. Rich take meat and fish every day, and frequently take food in good restaurants with all family members. Medium-level people take meat and fish occasionally. Poor people take vegetable regularly but fish occasionally. Extreme poor people take vegetable and dry fish. Some participants mentioned that the rich people offer good food to their poor neighbours but the poor cannot afford to buy fish or meat.

The following table (table 7) gives a synopsis of the well-being analysis, table 8 give more detail about perceptions of land holding by members of the different well-being / wealth categories, and table 9 summarises occupations said to be associated with the different categories.

**Table 7: Compilation of well being analysis of 24 villages**

Criteria	Well-being category			
	Rich	Medium	Less poor	Extreme poor
Land holding (Agricultural)	10-300 Bighas	1-30 Bighas	0.5-12 Bighas	Landless / only homestead
Occupation	Stay abroad (Europe, USA) Big business, Agriculture (Lease out), Govt. job	Stay abroad (ME), Agriculture, business, petty job,	Day labour, Agriculture, small business, share cropper	Day labour, Beggar, Rickshaw puller, very few share cropper
House	Building, Brick wall with CI sheet roof	Brick/ Bamboo/ Earthen wall with CI sheet roof	Bamboo/ earthen wall with CI sheet roof	Bamboo wall with low cost CI sheet or straw roof
Resources	Transport (Microbus), Tractor, Motorcycle, 5-6 cows-Buffalos, Plough, gold ornaments, Colour TV, Freeze, Air Conditioner, generator and rented market/ shopping center in the town	Furniture, Bi-cycle, 2-3 cows, plough etc. The poor people have few cows, goat, chicken	Few 1-2 cows, goat, 4-5 chicken	Chickens, bedding
Education	Post graduate	HSC	Primary	Very few up to Primary school
Food intake	3 meals with meat and fish. Take food in the restaurant with all family members	3 meals with vegetable and sometime fish and meat	3 meals with vegetable and fish occasionally	3 meals with vegetable and dry fish. Sometime get good food from rich neighbours

**Table 8: Pattern of land holding by different well-being categories in the 3 Districts (in bigha)**

District	Rich		Middle / less-poor		Poor		Extreme poor	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
Sylhet	10	100	5	20	1	7		
Moulavi Bazar	10	300	2	30	0.5	3		
Sunamganj	6	144	1	24	2	12	3	5

**Table 9: Distribution of occupations by different well-being categories**

Occupation	Rich	Middle/ Less poor	Poor	Extreme poor
Agriculture	11	17	9	
Abroad UK/Europe	9			
Abroad ME	11	8		
Big Business/B	9	8		
Business small	1	11	3	
Service	8	8	2	
Lease out Land	10	1		
Fish Cultivation	1			
Share Cropper		3	5	1
Carpenter			1	
Day Laborer		2	21	10
Driver			2	
Helper			1	
Vendor			1	
Rickshaw puller			2	1
House Maid			4	2
Mason			1	
Fishing			1	1
Stone collector			1	
Seasonal Business			1	
Beggar			1	6

## 4.2. Identification of themes and strands

The FGD participants identified 11 themes and 36 strands. The 11 Themes are; Agriculture in general, Rice cultivation, Vegetable cultivation, Betel nut cultivation, Poultry, Fish, Health, Tube well/ Safe water, occupation, Education and Credit. Compilations of Themes by category of villages are in table 10.

The FGD output indicates that people need more information on agriculture, closely followed by health. Out of 24, 21 villages express need for information on agriculture and 19 villages on health. They also explained that cultivation is their day-to-day activities and they survive on it. They mentioned, “*We start our day with agriculture and go to bed with the dream of maximum production*”. To keep their crop safe from natural disasters (*diseases, cold, insect attack and floods*) and increase production they need information on inputs, modern knowledge, technical skills and marketing. Their livelihoods mostly depend on the production of crops. Those who do not have cropland are interested to know about poultry and livestock. Some interested to know about commercial poultry, which is a rising small-scale industry of Bangladesh. Decreasing trend of agricultural production making the people interested for alternative employment. People with some education are not interested to cultivate land. They always look for jobs and business. About 169 male participants of 7 FGDs expressed their interest to get job information.

Women were more interested to have information on health and vegetable cultivation / kitchen gardening than men. They also interested about information on education. Women of Bangladesh in general and particularly rural areas are most vulnerable to health and nutrition. Lack of information, access to health services and awareness made them dependent on the unhealthy practices. Even many of them don't know about modern family planning practice and immunization to children/ new born babies. Their lives

become at risk during pregnancy period. All these factors cause them to become interested about health information. Government has introduced *Food for Education* for the all primary school students and stipend for the girls' students. This made the women becoming interested for education of their children.

While identifying strands they again preferred agriculture. Seed, fertilizer, pesticides, credit, and modern knowledge on agriculture were the important strands. In health sector, information on good doctor, good hospital, good treatment and cheap/ less cost were considered as the important strands.

**Table 10: Identification of themes by village types and score**

Theme	FIVDB Villages			Control Villages			TOTAL
	# of villages mentioned & (score given)			# of villages mentioned & (score given)			
	Men	Women	TOTAL	Men	Women	TOTAL	
1. Agriculture (General)	4- 180	1- 20	<b>5- 200</b>	10- 575	1- 50	<b>11- 625</b>	<b>16- 825</b>
2. Rice cultivation				1- 30		<b>1- 30</b>	<b>1- 30</b>
3. Vegetable cultivation		3- 180	<b>3- 180</b>	1- 20	1- 60	<b>2- 80</b>	<b>5- 260</b>
4. Betel Nut leaf cultivation				1- 25		<b>1- 25</b>	<b>1- 25</b>
5. Poultry/ Livestock	3- 50	1- 10	<b>4- 60</b>	2- 35	1- 40	<b>3- 75</b>	<b>7- 135</b>
6. Fishing				1- 5		<b>1- 5</b>	<b>1- 5</b>
7. Health	5- 180	4- 180	<b>9- 360</b>	8- 285	2- 65	<b>10- 350</b>	<b>19- 710</b>
8. Tube well		1- 25	<b>1- 25</b>		1- 50	<b>1- 50</b>	<b>2- 75</b>
9. Occupation	3- 55		<b>3- 55</b>	4- 114		<b>4- 114</b>	<b>7- 169</b>
10. Education	3- 35	3- 85	<b>6- 120</b>	1- 15	1- 6	<b>2- 21</b>	<b>8- 141</b>
11. Credit				1- 25		<b>1- 25</b>	<b>1- 25</b>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>5- 500</b>	<b>5- 500</b>	<b>10- 1000</b>	<b>11- 1129</b>	<b>3- 271</b>	<b>14- 1400</b>	<b>24- 2400</b>

### 4.3. Access to information on strands

The FGD participants mentioned 36 strands but their access to information is very poor. People of less remote union had more information than that of remote union having less contact with the upazila. On the other hand villages having poor families has less information than less poor area. According to the participants, poor people always engaged in selling labour, for which they don't need any information from outside. They don't have time and interest in collecting information on their daily necessities e.g. health, education, poultry etc. They are dependent on their limited knowledge and information available within their reach (village & neighbours).

Access of women to information on strands is extremely poor because of social and religious control. In Sylhet generally women (Muslim) are not allowed to go out and collect information. Male family members are the main source of information. That is why women are dependent on the men in getting information. Only in few cases they get information from their neighbours.

### 4.4. Use of information

Very few people received information by a range of different sources and channels. In FIVDB villages, people having information varies between 0 to 40%. Individually only few people had information on each strand.

In control villages, access to information is limited because of people's non-involvement with development activities. Interestingly, very few information providers have contact with the rural people. They are dependent on the neighbours and input dealers in getting information. In addition, few of them have contact with offices like DAE. On the contrary, they have serious complaints about government staff support/ visit of government field staff (specially agriculture and health). They also mentioned that NGOs do work in areas with good communication and where they can run their business (people mentioned business because many NGOs are working on credit mainly for their own benefit, not providing any services to the poor). Remote areas always neglected by both GO and NGOs.

**Table 11: Themes, strands and have information on strands**

Strands	FIVDB villages			Control villages		
	# Village	Total Respond.	Have information	# Village	Total Respond.	Have information
<b>1. Agriculture:</b>						
Seed	5	54	11 (20%)	10	103	17 (17%)
Fertilizer	4	42	4 (10%)	9	91	15 (16%)
Pesticides	5	54	4 (7%)	7	70	9 (13%)
Irrigation	3	31	2 (6%)	1	11	0
Modern knowledge on Agriculture	3	33	8 (24%)	6	63	10 (16%)
Agricultural credit	1	10	1 (10%)	1	8	0
Equipment	1	11	2 (18%)	1	12	0
Soil test	1	11	2 (18%)	1	8	0
Govt. facilities	1	11	1 (9%)			
Paddy preservation	1	11	0			
Market information	1	11	0	1	8	1 (13%)
Agricultural Labour				1	11	3(27%)
Tree plantation				1	10	0
<b>2. Vegetable: Seed</b>	3	30	9 (30%)	2	20	4 (25%)
Fertilizer	2	20	5 (25%)	1	10	3 (30%)
Modern knowledge on Vegetable	1	10	3 (30%)	3	30	7 (23%)
Market information				1	10	2 (20%)
<b>3. Poultry/ Livestock:</b>						
Medicine	1	10	0	1	10	3 (30%)
Disease/ Treatment	2	16	3 (19%)	1	10	5 (50%)
Livestock/ Cow variety	3	27	0	1	10	2 (20%)
Training on Poultry farm				1	10	2 (20%)
<b>4. Fishery:</b>				1	10	0
<b>5. Health: Doctor/ Hospital</b>	5	48	1 (2%)	6	59	3 (5%)
Knowledge on food & Nutrition	5	47	5 (11%)	3	29	10 (34%)
Medicine	3	27	1 (2%)	4	42	1 (2%)
FP	1	10	4 (40%)	2	20	6 (30%)
Arsenic	1	10	1 (10%)	1	10	3 (30%)
Treatment	2	22	5 (23%)	3	30	0
Sanitary latrine	2	20	4 (25%)	1	10	0
Less cost	1	11	0	1	11	0
Health care	3	32	6 (19%)	1	10	3 (30%)
<b>6. Tube well: Arsenic test</b>	1	10	3 (30%)	1	10	3 (30%)
<b>7. Occupation:</b>						
Business information	2	22	0	4	41	2 (5%)
Job information	2	21	0	4	41	0
Go abroad/ Broker	1	11	0	2	19	0
Skill development training	1	10	0	1	8	0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>143</b>	

Participants mentioned that they have **used 29 items** of information but failed to use **12 items**. Reasons of not using information were lack of completeness, inability of the recipient in using information, clarity and correctness. Some examples, they learned from radio programme on the collection and preservation of rice seed. They used that information and become benefited. One participant contacted with the DAE office and got some valuable information on the use of right proportion of fertilizer in the rice field. He used that information and production of rice has increased. Regarding non-use of at least **10 items** of information they cited some examples. In one case the local UP informed that they **were** going to distribute rice seed free of cost. A **participant** went to the UP office to collect seed, **but** after waiting for about 4 hours he was told that all seed had been distributed before.

Four participants from FIVDB villages and nine participants from control villages mentioned that they have modified the information because it did not match with the reality. This indicates the beginnings of a potentially successful process of information access, adaptation and further dissemination. No clear

cases of this were traced in this study; but phase II of the project, which will involve action-research of a series of 'information interventions' will provide the opportunity for this.

#### 4.5. Channel preferences

The participants have mentioned at least 12 channels in receiving information. Participants of FIVDB villages mentioned that they prefer staff visit as important channel in receiving information. Because they can explain and discuss with the staff, staff can give them new knowledge through demonstration. They also prefer training and contact office as next important channels for receiving new information.

Though they received much information from radio but they did not preferred because broadcasting time does not match, sometime language not understandable, cannot ask questions/ clarification. **On the other hand television has the advantage that they can see images and this can aid understanding even when language is not so clear.**

**Table 12: Channels used and preferences**

Upazila	VILLAGE		Radio	TV	Contact Office	Staff visit	Miking	News Paper	Text Book	Training	Dealer	Signboard	UP	Neighbor	
	Code-Sex	Name with category of participants													
FIVDB	01	Suranandapur-RP	2	0	1	3									
	06	Kas kanakpur-LRLP			2	3	1							0	
	09	Karim Nagar-LRP	0	1		5								0	
	13	Jagatsi-LRP													
	17	Noorpur-RP													
	<b>Sub-total:</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>							
	02-F	E.Shahjalalpur-RLP				1			1	1					
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP													
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP				0									
	21-F	Nar killa- LRP			1							0			
	22-F	Katair- LRLP				1					2				0
	<b>Sub-total:</b>					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>					
<b>Total:</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>					
Control:															
	03	Eka Purba-RP	3	2							1	0	3		
	07	Pukra-LREP													
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP									1			0	
	14	Birbali-LRLP		0	1										
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	1	2	3	3		1							
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP			1					2				0	
	18	Terrahal-RP													
	19	Sardarpur-RP													
	20	Jib Dara-RLP													
	23	Santipur-LRLP	3		2			0				1		4	
	24	Joy Nagar-LRP													
	<b>Sub total:</b>			<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
	04-F	Oashar-RP													
11-F	Ranabhim-RP	0	1											2	
12-F	Banika-RLP				1			2	0						
<b>Sub total:</b>				<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>						<b>2</b>	
<b>Total:</b>			<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>			<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	

## 5. Impact on livelihoods

During KIS-2 participants were asked about the changes in livelihoods resulting from access to information (Step-7a & 7b of Field record Sheet). Out of 24 villages, 14 have mentioned that they somehow become benefited by receiving information directly or indirectly. Out of those 14 villages, at least 3 mentioned that the benefit came from the development of infrastructures not information. People of both FIVDB and Non FIVDB villages gained equally from the information and development initiatives. No big differences were observed between these two categories of villages. The only difference is that the members of FIVDB villages received more information from FIVDB. Men have more information than women. Women's mobility is very much limited and controlled by men, thus women's access to information is almost insignificant (see point 4 of Appendix-7).

### 5.1. Positive impact

In 11 out of 24 villages, participants in the survey have mentioned that they benefited by receiving information which proved to be important. 28 participants from 8 villages (# 01, 02, 04, 06, 08, 14, 15, 22) mentioned that they got information on aspects of agriculture from different organizations including cultivation of vegetable, modern rice cultivation, and tomato production. Incomes of those people were reported to have increased significantly. Similarly 10 participants from 5 villages mentioned that they benefited from using information on health and hygiene.

**Table13: Benefit of receiving information**

Theme	Information received	Benefit derived
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seed preservation</li> <li>Modern agricultural knowledge</li> <li>Vegetable cultivation</li> <li>Tree plantation</li> <li>Fish cultivation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knowledge increased</li> <li>Production increased</li> <li>Income increased</li> <li>Reduced dependency on others</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health &amp; Hygiene practice</li> <li>Awareness on Arsenic contamination</li> <li>Use of FP contraceptive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do health &amp; hygiene practice</li> <li>Aware about use of Arsenic contaminated water</li> <li>Practice use FP contraceptive method</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awareness on education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send children to school</li> </ul>

### 5.2. Negative impact

Some information had negative impact on the users. In all, participants in 6 villages mentioned that they incurred loss as a result of using the information. For example, two participants in one particular village mentioned that they listened to a radio program on plantation of papaya tree and fish cultivation. They tried to use that information but at the end the trees and fishes died. Reasons of failure could not be detected. They suggested that the information was not properly followed or might be incomplete. Another participant mentioned that they heard in the TV that government is allotting Khas land among the poor families. Accordingly they went to the AC land office and DC office to submit application. After running for about 4 months, finally the DC office informed that government did not make any circular relating to that particular District to distribute Khas land to the poor.

Some reasons mentioned by the participants **as barriers to their information access are:**

- Information not clear to the people
- Incomplete information
- Lack of resources in using information
- Information not accessible
- Information channel not accessible/ useful.

**Appendix1: De-briefing document used in KIS-1**

**Strengthened Rural Services for Improved Livelihoods in Bangladesh  
(NRSP Project R8083)**

**KIS PARTICIPATORY EVALUATION IN THE NORTH-EAST OF BANGLADESH**

**DE-BRIEFING DOCUMENT**



**Strengthened Rural Services for Improved Livelihoods in Bangladesh  
(NRSP Project R8083)**

**KIS PARTICIPATORY EVALUATION IN THE NORTH-EAST OF BANGLADESH  
DE-BRIEFING DOCUMENT**

Upazila/Thana: \_\_\_\_\_

Identification Number <sup>1</sup>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>		
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Village: \_\_\_\_\_, Union: \_\_\_\_\_, Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Facilitator: \_\_\_\_\_ Co-Facilitator: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FOCUS GROUP**

(Circle appropriate answer where relevant)

Group Gender:            1=Male;            2=Female

Group Type:            1=FIVDB;            2=Control

If FIVDB,            (a) Date of joining: \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

(b) Which FIVDB Extension Officer is in charge of Group: Crops (✓)


Has anyone in group been involved with external research/development activities? 1=Yes; 2 = No.

If YES, give details (e.g. PETRRA, FLE, etc):

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Information concerning farmers present in the sessions. For yes/no answers, yes = ✓ and no = x.

<sup>1</sup> For fieldwork in the North East, the ID number should start with the letter NE, followed by sequential numbers 01, 02, etc.

R8083 FTR Annex C.2: Field Study of Knowledge and Information Systems in North-east Bangladesh

Name	Education level (CLASS)	Reading ability? (✓ / X)	Own cultivable land? (✓ / X)	Rent land? (✓ / X)	Income source (or occupation)	
					Main Source	Secondary Source <sup>1</sup>
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						
9.						
10.						
11.						
12.						
13.						
14.						
15.						
16.						
17.						
18.						
19.						
20.						

<sup>1</sup> This last column may be left blank if there is only one occupation

**2. INFORMATION NEEDS**

Sketch diagram of main topic (crop-focused) and all the information needs (themes) corresponding to this, as identified by the group. Show the allocation of 100 seeds into ALL themes. Select for further discussion only 5 of these at most, i.e. the most important ones.



Key points raised during the discussion (e.g. *reasons for allocating a higher number of seeds to one particular theme*)

**Notes:**

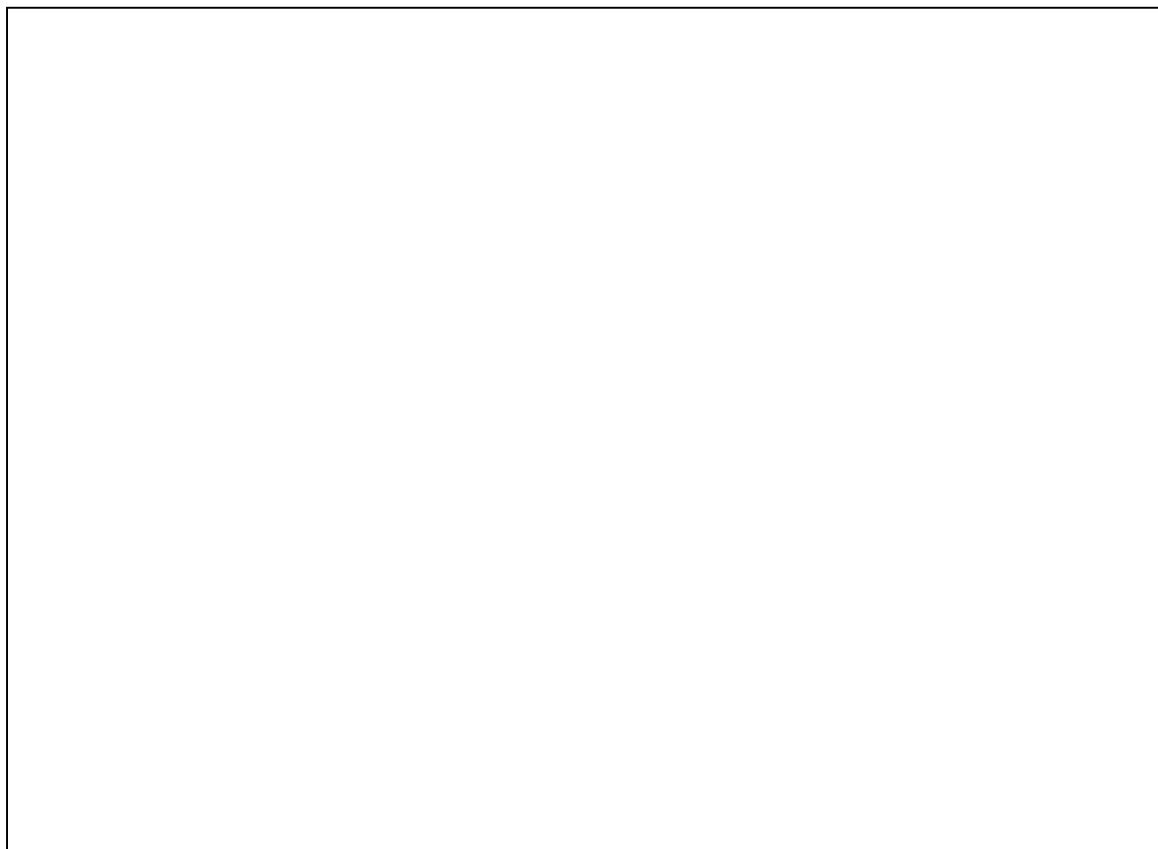
**3. INFORMATION GAPS AND SOURCES**

THEMES	Most important types of information needed within theme (maximum=5)	Have you ever received this information	No. of votes	If <b>YES</b> , from whom/ where, did you get this information? If <b>NO</b> , from whom /where, would you <i>expect</i> to get this information? (If unknown, then write, " <i>don't know</i> ").
1.	1.	Yes		
		No		
	2.	Yes		
		No		
	3.	Yes		
		No		
	4.	Yes		
		No		
	5.	Yes		
		No		

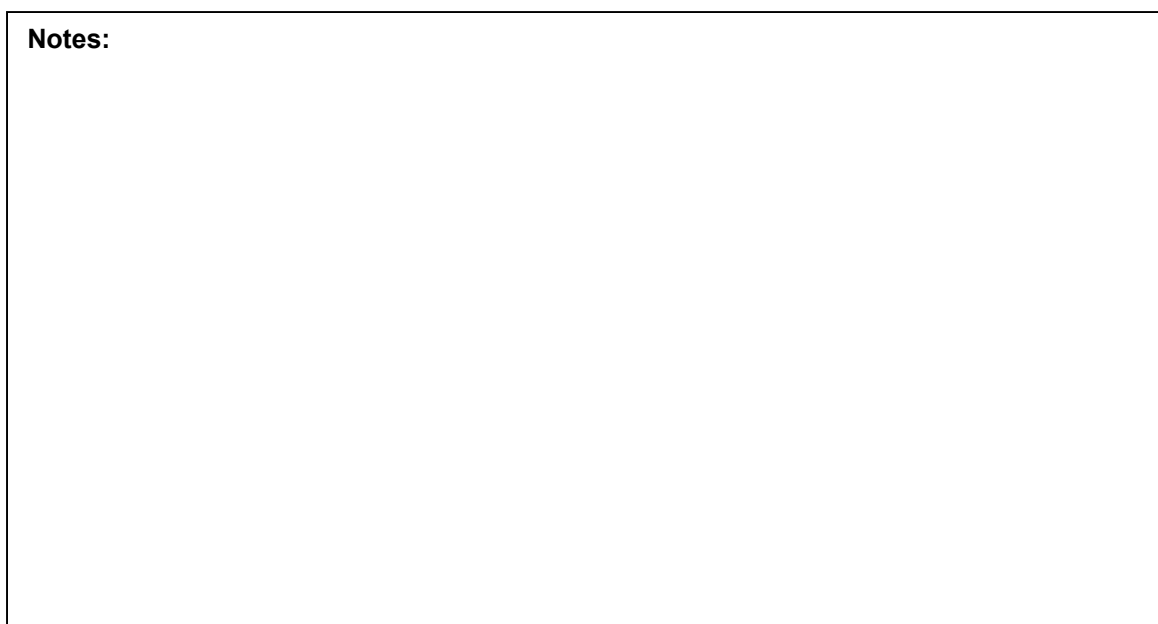
Notes: Especially on partial information and unused information, including reasons why not used (continue additional sheet if necessary)

#### 4. INFORMATION CHANNELS

Ask the participants to explain how they are getting information from different sources/ medias. Ask them to show on the ground by drawing a flow chart in two steps. Step one is how they receive the information from different sources/ medias. Step two is how they are disseminating those information to the next lower level or neighbouring farmers. Sketch the flow chart below.



**Notes:**



**5. EVALUATION OF INFORMATION CHANNELS (MEDIA)**

Construct a matrix with all identified information channels from the flow chart. Carry out Pairwise ranking and record below (Add rows/ columns as necessary)

Information media/ means	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	X									
2	X	X								
3	X	X	X							
4	X	X	X	X						
5	X	X	X	X	X					
6	X	X	X	X	X	X				
7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Score obtained</b>										

**Notes:** (*Reasons of preferences*)

**6. EVALUATION OF INFORMATION SOURCES:**

Use pocket chart to construct a matrix of INFORMATION and SOURCES (as many as has been identified) and facilitate participants to score individually using seeds (maximum 5 seeds per source). (Add rows and columns as necessary). In each cell of the matrix, record both the total score from everyone who voted and the number of persons who voted. Express this in the form of (total/number voting). So for example, if there were 18 persons in the group, and two small cards and 62 seeds were found in one pocket, then enter **62/16**.

INFORMATION	INFORMATION SOURCES						
<b>TOTAL:</b>							

**Notes:** (*Reasons of high or low score*)

Any further comments about the group or key points emerging from the group discussion:

## Appendix 2: **Field Record Sheet used in KIS-2 (Sample)**<sup>1</sup>

**Strengthened Rural Services for Improved Livelihoods in Bangladesh  
(NRSP Project R8083)**

**KIS INVESTIGATION [2] IN THE NORTH-EAST OF BANGLADESH**

**FIELD RECORD SHEET (Revised November 2003)**

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<sup>1</sup> This is a 'worked sample' the text in bold italics was entered by the facilitators either during the group interview or shortly afterwards



**Strengthened Rural Services for Improved Livelihoods in Bangladesh  
(NRSP Project R8083)**

**KIS INVESTIGATION [2] IN THE NORTH-EAST OF BANGLADESH**

**FIELD RECORD SHEET (Revised November 2003)**

Upazila/Union: **Zakiganj/ Manikpur Union (Remote)** Identification Number:

<b>NE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
-----------	----------	----------

Village: **Suranandapur (FIVDB, Poor)**

Date: **November 09, 2003**

Facilitator: **Enamul Huda**

Co-Facilitator: \_\_\_\_\_

**STEP 1. WELL-BEING ANALYSIS**

To be carried out with people invited by FIVDB field staff

Enter below the output of well-being analysis with the group, from field flip chart.

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Samani (Rich)</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Daridra (Extreme poor)</b>
Total families (60)	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>5</b>
Agricultural Land	<b>80-90 Bighas</b>	<b>15-20 Bighas</b>	<b>2.5-0.5 Bighas</b>	<b>No agri. Land</b>
Occupation	<b>Big business, Agriculture</b>	<b>Agriculture, service</b>	<b>Agriculture, Day labour</b>	<b>Day labour</b>
House	<b>4-6 Pucca/ brick Houses</b>	<b>Bamboo fence with CI sheet roof</b>	<b>Bamboo fence with straw roof</b>	<b>Bamboo fence with straw roof</b>
Food intake	<b>3 full meals with meat &amp; fish and nice breakfast</b>	<b>3 meals sometime with meat &amp; fish</b>	<b>3 meals with vegetable, fish &amp; dry fish</b>	<b>3 meals with vegetable &amp; dry fish</b>
Resources	<b>Microbus, Motor cycle, gold</b>	<b>Furniture, Bi-cycle</b>	<b>Cane made mat for sleeping</b>	<b>Cane made mat for sleeping</b>
Status of participants			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Badrul Haque</i></li> <li>2. <i>A. Gafur</i></li> <li>3. <i>Nurul Haque</i></li> <li>4. <i>Mohibor Ali</i></li> <li>5. <i>Shihab Uddin</i></li> <li>6. <i>Hossain Ahmed</i></li> <li>7. <i>Saad Uddin</i></li> <li>8. <i>Tara Mia</i></li> <li>9. <i>Abdul Ahad</i></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Atik</i></li> </ol>

***The participants were of poor category and they survive on cultivation of rice and vegetable in the riverbank including day labour in agriculture.***

**STEP 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE 'POVERTY' GROUP**

(Tick appropriate answer where relevant)

Group Gender: 1=Male (✓); 2=Female

Group Type: 1=FIVDB (✓); 2=Control

Which is the 'poverty category' of members of this group, from the well-being analysis: **Poor**

Which FIVDB Extension Officer: **Younus Laskar, Programme Organizer, Livelihoods Enhancement Programme (LEP), FIVDB. (During KIS study he was found absent. FIVDB staff informed that he made an accident with his motorbike and now hospitalised a month before).**

What is the involvement of members of this group with FIVDB: **FIVDB had credit programme with this group in 1992 but failing to realize the outstanding credit they have closed down their programme.**

Has anyone in the group been involved with external research/development activities? If yes, give details (e.g. PETRRA, FLE, etc): **No involvement with any other programme of FIVDB**

Involvement with other organisations? If yes, give details: **No other NGOs are working here and the participants have no involvement with any other organizations (GO/NGO)**

Make notes on the village below (location, recent events, problems etc.)

***This is a small village Suranandapur situated on the bank of the river Surma. This is the remotest village in the Union. It is surrounded by India on three sides. Frequent changing of river course caused severe land erosion in the village. The only approach road to the village is about to disappear in the river.***

***People of the village are very poor and depending mostly on agriculture (mainly cultivate vegetable and rice). Because of its location and lack of road communication no NGO interested to work in this village other than FIVDB. No staffs of government department (Agriculture, Health etc.) visit this village. FIVDB started working in this village in 1992. They formed groups with the poor people and provided credit. But failing to realize the outstanding loan money they made the groups abandoned.***

***The village is lack of electricity. Ten families have cheap radio but no TV. The only government primary school is located in the extreme border of the village.***

## STEP 3: INFORMATION CONCERNING EACH MEMBER OF THE POVERTY GROUP.

For yes/no answers, yes = ✓ and no = x.

Name	Education level (CLASS)	Area of cultivable land (& units)?	Rented land? (✓/X)	Income source (or occupation)		NGO involvement
				Main	Secondary <sup>1</sup>	
1. Md. Badrul Haque	V	2 Bighas	✓	Mason	Agriculture	FIVDB
2. Atiqur Rahman	IX	-	X	Carpenter		FIVDB
3. Abdul Gafur	IX	2.5 Bighas	X	Agriculture		FIVDB
4. Nurul Haque	-	2 Bighas	✓	Agriculture		FIVDB
5. Mohibor Ali	IV	1 Bigha	✓	Agriculture		FIVDB
6. Shahib Uddin	VI	2 Bighas	X	Agriculture		FIVDB
7. Md. Hosen Ahmed	IV	1 Bigha	✓	Agriculture		FIVDB
8. Md. Saad Uddin	III	0.5 Bigha	✓	Agriculture	Carpenter	FIVDB
9. Tara Mia	III	0.75 Bigha	✓	Agriculture		FIVDB
10. Abdul Ahad	SSC	1.5 Bigha	X	Agriculture	Private Service	FIVDB

Note: SSC- Secondary School Certificate, 1 Bigha - 32 decimals

**Out of ten participants nine were poor and one (Atiqur Rahman) was found extreme poor. Main occupations of 2 participants were non-agriculture. They grow vegetables and rice on the crop field and on the riverbank.**

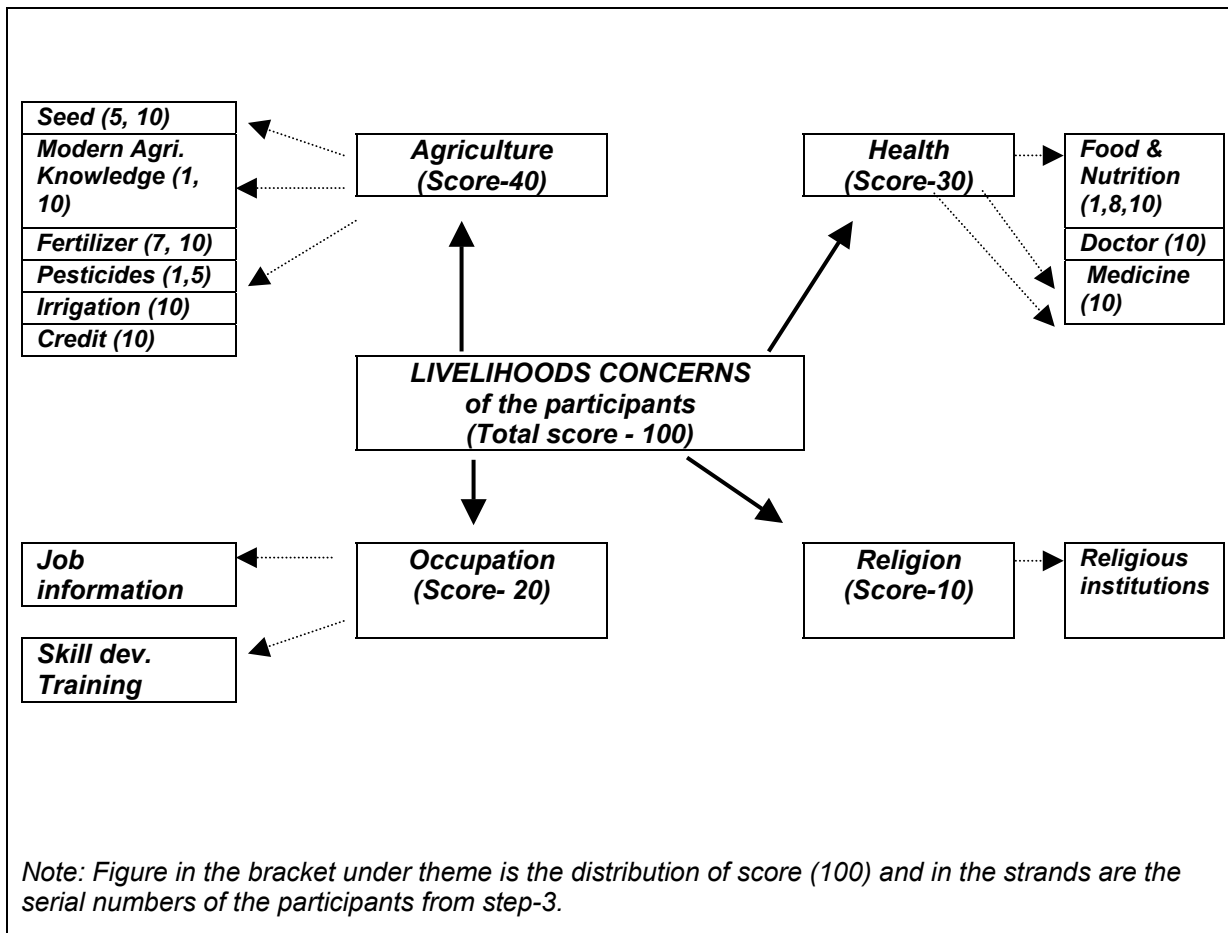
**Though FIVDB has closed down their credit program still people believe that they are working with FIVDB. They are also planning to continue the savings program without FIVDB support.**

<sup>1</sup> This column may be left blank if there is only one occupation

**STEP 4: SCORED DIAGRAM OF LIVELIHOOD THEMES AND STRANDS**

Ask participants to identify sectors (agriculture, health etc.) on which they need information to improve their livelihood. Draw a diagram of these and of themes within each sector, and strands within each theme. Ask group to score these by allocation of 100 seeds into ALL themes.

Ask respondents to show (by raising their hands) if they had ever received information on ANY of the strands identified. NOTE DOWN THE NUMBER SAYING “YES” close to where the theme had been noted on the flip chart, e.g. Y=6 (use serial nos. of participants from step (3) above).



Additional information/ clarification (continue on back of page if necessary)

*The participants mentioned four themes including religion. Regarding getting information they were found mostly concerned about agriculture. During discussion it was found that they have very poor information on every theme. Only one participant (10) had some information on agriculture and health as he is serving in a shop in Sylhet town. They informed that their income from agriculture is decreasing day by day because of many reasons e.g. non-availability of seed, high price of fertilizer and pesticides and lack of knowledge on modern cultivation techniques. Only 1 has some contact with DAE office in Zakiganj. That is why they are looking for alternative job/ income source and related training.*

*Because of poor communication and lack of knowledge they do not get proper treatment. Staffs of government health department do not visit the village. The participants got some information on food & nutrition from the FIVDB staff and radio.*

*The Participants also found curious about the information on religious institutions to make their children educated on religion.*

**STEP 5: PROBING QUESTIONS WITH THOSE WHO SAY “YES” (in STEP 4)**

Choose up to 4 strands of themes which received high scores and/or number of respondents saying “yes” (from step 4)

Discuss what detailed pieces of information were received and who provided it; records details in the mini-tables and then discuss the questions below each table

Theme	Agriculture		Strand	Seed	
How many respondents	Which respondents	What information		From whom?	Way in which information was received
<b>2</b>	<b>5, 10</b>	<b>1. How to collect seed from the field and preserve 2. Govt. seed is always good</b>		<b>- DAE (UAO) Zakiganj</b>	<b>Radio Contacting DAE office</b>

**The participants have used information received from the Radio and DAE. They mostly collect seed from their own crop and purchased some from the government department (BADC). Now they don't depend on the market for seed. They follow instruction of radio in collecting and preserving seed from the own crop.**

**They have saved money by using seed from the own field. On the other hand seed purchased from BADC gave more yield than before (about 8 mounds per acre).**

Theme	Agriculture		Strand	Fertilizer	
How many respondents	Which respondents	What information		From whom?	Way in which information was received
<b>2</b>	<b>7, 10</b>	<b>Use of right proportion of Phosphate, Potash &amp; urea in the rice &amp; vegetable increase yield</b>			<b>Radio &amp; TV</b>

**Having listening from radio and watching TV in the town they decided to use right proportion of fertilizer in their crop field. They used the fertilizer in rice, eggplant and potato. They got very good result. The production has increased about one-third than that of last season.**

**Because of this information their income also increased. They also mentioned that the information provided in the radio and TV was clear and not difficult for them to understand.**

Theme	Health		Strand	Food & nutrition	
How many respondents	Which respondents	What information		From whom?	Way in which information was received
<b>3</b>	<b>1, 8, 10</b>	<b>Benefit of taking more vegetable and fruits (more local orange than foreign apple &amp; grape)</b>		<b>FIVDB staff &amp; Radio</b>	<b>Radio &amp; Science book of class-2</b>

**They listened very carefully in the radio about the benefit of taking more vegetable and taking locally grown orange than apple and grape will keep the body healthy and disease free. Accordingly they have practiced and got very good result. Now the diseases are less than before.**

**One participant mentioned that he got and learned the same information from a science book of class-2. They became benefited having that information.**

**STEP 6: PREFERENCE FOR DIFFERENT INFORMATION CHANNELS (MEDIA)**

Ask what channels do respondents prefer for receiving information? Construct a matrix with these channels (maximum 6) to identify their overall preference. Use only channels, which have been mentioned in step 5.

Media	<i>Radio</i>	<i>Visit office</i>	<i>Visit of field staff</i>	<i>TV</i>		
<b>1. Radio</b>	<i>X</i>	<i>Radio</i>	<i>Visit of field staff</i>	<i>Radio</i>		
<b>2. Visit office</b>		<i>X</i>	<i>Visit of field staff</i>	<i>Visit office</i>		
<b>3. Visit of field staff</b>			<i>X</i>	<i>Visit of field staff</i>		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>		

**NOTES**

*They listen radio but they prefer visit of field staff is more important. Field staff can see the situation during visit, give information to the concern people and can demonstrate in the field.*

*They can also collect information from the office. Officer can explain in detail about the information. But the offices are far away from their village and need travel expanses, which they cannot afford.*

*The village has no electricity and they don't have TV. They depend on radio for any information.*

### **STEP 7A: LIVELIHOOD CHANGES (Positive)**

Involve **all** members of the “poverty” group (not only those who responded “yes” in step 4 and who therefore played most part in step 5 and 6)

Ask the group “Have any of you made any changes in the past 3 years that improved your livelihood?” (*Example – Began growing vegetables to sell at the market because a new road allowed this*).

Ask respondents to describe the change and explain the reasons for the change?

Was the change above influenced by some information you received?

- 1. One participant informed that planting trees could give more income in future. He planted 20 tamarind trees last year. The present value of those trees is about Tk. 2,000. He never knew it before. This information has opened his eyes for future savings by planting trees.***
- 2. Another participant informed that he got information from radio on cultivation of carp fish in the pond. Accordingly he decided to cultivate local carp in his pond investing Tk. 400 about 2 years back. The present value of the fish will be about Tk. 1,200. He said, I have been benefited with this information. I will tell to my other neighbour to cultivate fish in thire pond.***

### **STEP 7B: LIVELIHOOD CHANGES (negative)**

Ask the group “Have any of you faced any problem in the past [3] years that had a bad effect on your livelihood?”

Continue with some probing for those who respond.

Ask respondents to describe the change and explain the reasons for the change, focusing on questions of whether there are information needs, which might have been met to mitigate the impact of the change.

***No such problem occurred that affected our livelihoods.***

**Appendix 3: Time schedule of KIS-1 field study in the NE**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Study area</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
April 12 2003 (Saturday)	FIVDB Sylhet	KIS team's travel to Sylhet (evening flight of Biman)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John, Huda, Arif, Sumita, Ainun;</li> <li>Stay at Hotel Anurag</li> </ul>
April 13, 2003 (Sunday)	FIVDB Sylhet	Planning meeting with FIVDB	Venue is confirmed by Malik Anwar of FIVDB
April 14, 2003 (Monday)	Sylhet district	Reconnaissance of selected villages: preparatory work (Half day)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both the teams</li> </ul>
April 15-16, 2003 (Tuesday-Wednesday)	Sylhet district	<p><b>Village-1:</b> Session with Farmer's group (male/ Female) of FIVDB + draw sample for household interviews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household interviews with sampled households</li> <li>Informal discussion with information providers</li> </ul> <p><b>Village-2:</b> Same as Village-1  <b>Village-3:</b> Same as Village-1  <b>Village-4:</b> Same as Village-1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session in control village (Non FIVDB)</li> <li>Feed back to FIVDB staff on the findings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Farmers joined with FIVDB in late 2002 and 2003 will be involved in the session</li> <li>If female farmers are not interested to participate then only male farmers will be involved</li> </ul>
April 17-18, 2003 (Thursday-Friday)	Sunamganj district	<p><b>Village-1:</b> Session with Farmer's group (male/ Female) of FIVDB + draw sample for household interviews</p> <p><b>Village-2:</b> Same as Village-1  <b>Village-3:</b> Same as Village-1  <b>Village-4:</b> Same as Village-1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session in control village (Non FIVDB)</li> <li>Feed back to FIVDB staff on the findings</li> </ul>	
April 19, 2003 (Saturday)		<i>Review, analyze and finalize de-briefing notes of Sunamganj district</i>	
April 20-21, 2003 (Sunday-Monday)	Moulavi Bazar district	<p><b>Village-1:</b> Session with Farmer's group (male/ Female) of FIVDB + draw sample for household interviews</p> <p><b>Village-2:</b> Same as Village-1  <b>Village-3:</b> Same as Village-1  <b>Village-4:</b> Same as Village-1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session in control village (Non FIVDB)</li> <li>Feed back to FIVDB staff on the findings</li> </ul>	
April 22, 2003 (Tuesday)		<i>Review, analyze and finalize de-briefing notes of Moulavi Bazar district</i>	
April 23, 2003 (Wednesday)	Sylhet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workshop with PETRRA Focal area members at FIVDB training center, Khadim Nagar, Sylhet</li> <li>Team leaves for Dhaka in the afternoon</li> </ul>	

Note: Two teams comprising 2 in each will work simultaneously in all three districts.



**Appendix 4: Time schedule for KIS-2 field study in the NE**

District	Upazila	Date	Unions	Villages covered by study teams	
				E. Huda	Sumita & Arif
		07/11/03 Friday	Arrival of KIS study team at Sylhet		
Sylhet	Zakiganj	09/11/03	Manikpur	1. Suranandapur	2. Shahajalpur (Female)
		10/11/03		3. Eka Purba (Female)	4. Oashar (Female)
		11/11/03	Kas Kanakpur	6. Kas Kanakpur	5. Kaistakapon (Female)
		12/11/03		7. Pukra	8. Mamar Khali
Moulavi Bazar	M. Bazar Sadar	13/11/03	Gias Nagar	9. Karim nagar	10. Radhakantapur (Female)
		14/11/03 Friday	Data compilation –Off day		
		15/11/03	Gias Nagar	11. Ranabhim	12. Banika
		16/11/03	Mostafapur	13. Jagatsi	14. Birbali
		17/11/03		15. Sree Baur	16. Baur Ghoria
Sunamganj	Sunamganj Sadar	18/11/03	Shimul Bak	17. Noor Pur	18. Terrahal
		19/11/03		20. Jib dara	22. Katair
		20/11/03	Mohonpur	23. Santipur	221. Nar Killa
		21/11/03 Friday	Data compilation- off day		
		22/11/03	Mohonpur	19. Sardarpur	24. Joy Nagar
		23/11/03	Data compilation- off day & Back to Dhaka		

## Appendix 5: List of FIVDB staff attended in the pre-fieldwork workshop

Sl. No.	Name of the participants	Designation / Organization
1.	Shamik Shaheed Jahan	Associate Director, FIVDB
2.	Malik Anwar	Coordinator (Poultry), FIVDB
3.	A. K. Sahmim	Senior Program Organizer, FIVDB
4.	Fakhrul Khan	Program Organizer- FIVDB Sylhet
5.	Ranasindhu Talukder	Program Organizer, FIVDB Moulavi Bazar
6.	Neehar Singha	Program Organizer, FIVDB Sunamganj
7.	John Best	UK
8.	Enamul Huda	Study Team member, PRA Promoters' Society-Bangladesh
9.	Rabiul Hasan Arif	Study Team member, PRA Promoters' Society-Bangladesh
10.	Sumita Choudhury	Study Team member, PRA Promoters' Society-Bangladesh

## Appendix 6: Compilation of findings from KIS-2

### Compilation of well being analysis- FIVDB (KIS on November 07-23, 2003)

(Page-1 of field record sheet)

#### Well being analysis: Land holding

Upazila	VILLAGE		Land holding (in Bighas) by Poverty Level (1 Bigha= 32 decimals)			
	Code-Sex	Name with category of participants	Rich	Medium	Poor	Extreme poor
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	80-90	15-20	2.5-0.5	Landless
	02-F	E. Shahjalalpur-RLP	X	5-6		Landless
	03	Eka Purba-RP	X	2-10	0.5-1	Landless
	04-F	Oashar-RP	50-100	5-10	Homestead	X
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP	40-100	2-8	Homestead	X
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>	12-100	5-10	1-2	50% have Homestead
	07	Pukra-LREP	X	10	5-7	Homestead
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP	10-50	-	2-7	X
Moulavi Bazar Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	20-200	2-7	1-2	Landless
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP	50-60	4-30	Homestead	X
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP	20-300	10-15	0.5-3	Homestead
	12-F	Banika-RLP	20-30 <i>UM</i>	5-10 <i>LM</i>	Homestead	X
	13	Jagatsi-LRP	10-300	2-8	Homestead	Landless
	14	Birbali-LRLP	25-35	5-15	1-2	X
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	15-35	2-5	Homestead	X
Sunamganj Sadar	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP	40-100	5-15	Homestead	Landless
	17	Noorpur-RP	24-36	8-14	2-5	Homestead
	18	Terrahal-RP	10-60	8-10	3- Landless	X
	19	Sardarpur-RP	24-144	2-5	Homestead	X
	20	Jib Dara-RLP	42	24	6-12	3-5, landless
	21-F	Nar killa- LRP	10-18	8-10	5- landless	X
	22-F	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>	25-120	1-15	0.5-Landless	X
	23	Santipur-LRLP	36-60	12-24	2-3	X
24	Joy Nagar-LRP	6-24	2-4	Homestead	X	

**Note:** F- Female, Italic name- FIVDB village;

RP-Remote Poor, RLP-Remote Less poor, LRP-Less remote poor, LREP- Less remote extreme poor, LRLP-Less remote less poor; *UM*-Upper medium, *LM*-Lower Medium

**Well being analysis: Occupation**

Upazila	VILLAGE		Occupation by Poverty Level			
	Code	Name	Rich	Medium	Poor	Extreme poor
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	BB, Ag,	Ag, S,	Ag, DL	DL, Bg
	02-F	E. Shahjalalpur-RLP	X	SB	DL, SC, D/H	DL, Bg, HM
	03	Eka Purba-RP	X	B, Ag, AME	SC, DL	DL
	04-F	Oashar-RP	S, AME	S, Bs	DL, V, Rp, HM	X
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP	AME, S, LO	S, Bs, SC	D, Rp, C, DL, HM	X
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>	AUK, S	AME, Ag, Bs	DL, Ag	DL, Bg
	07	Pukra-LREP	X	AME, Bs, Ag	Ag, SC, DL, Bs	DL, SC
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP	AUK, LoL	Bs	S, Ag	DL, SC
MB Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	AUK, B, Ag	AME, Ag, Bs	Ag, DL	DL, Bg
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP	AUK, LoL	AME, S, B	DL, HM	X
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP	AUK, BB, Ag	S, Ag, Bs	DL, Bs	DL
	12-F	Banika-RLP	AME, LoL	M, B, AME, S, Ag	DL, Bg, HM	X
	13	Jagatsi-LRP	BB, AUK, LoL	Ag	DL	DL, Bg
	14	Birbali-LRLP	AUKME, BB, LO	Ag, B, LoL	Ag, DL, Bs	X
Sun Sadar	15	Sree Baur-LRP	AME, Ag, Bs, S	Bs, Ag, S	DL, SC	X
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP	AUK, B, S, LoL	AME, S, B, Ag	M, DL, SC, S	DL
	17	Noorpur-RP	Ag	Bs, Ag	Ag, DL	DL, Rp
	18	Terrahal-RP	AUKME, Ag, LoL	Ag, Bs	DL, Fishing, StC	X
	19	Sardarpur-RP	LoL, Ag, AME	Ag, DL	DL, Bs	X
	20	Jib Dara-RLP	AME, Ag, B	AME, Ag	Ag, DL	F, DL
	21	Nar killa- LRP	Ag, S, LoL	Ag	Ag	X
	22	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>	S, AUKME, FC	S, B	DL	X
	23	Santipur-LRLP	AME, Ag	Ag, SC	DL, Ag	X
	24	Joy Nagar-LRP	S, B, AME	B, Ag, SC	DL	X

**Note:** F- Female, Italic- FIVDB, **RP**-Remote Poor, **RLP**-Remote Less poor, **LRP**-Less remote poor, **LRLP**-Less remote less poor

**Ag**- Agriculture, **AME**-Abroad Middle East, **AUK**- Abroad UK/USA, **B**-Business, **BB**- Big business, **Bg**-Beggar, **Bs**- Business small, **C**-Carpenter, **D/H**-Driver/ Helper, **DL**-Day labour, **F**- Fishing, **Fc**- Fish cultivation, **HM**- House maid, **LoL**-Lease out land, **M**-Mason, **Rp**-Rickshaw Puller, **S**- Service, **SC**-Share Cropper, **StC**- Stone collector, **V**-Vendor,

**Well being analysis: Housing status**

Upazila	VILLAGE		Housing status by Poverty Level			
	Code	Name	Rich	Medium	Poor	Extreme poor
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	B	BmWCI	BSR	BSR
	02-F	E. Shahjalapur-RLP	X	BrWCI	BmWCI	BSR, BPR
	03	Eka Purba-RP	X	BrWCI	BSR	BSR
	04-F	Oashar-RP	BrWCI	BmWCI	BSR, BmWCI	X
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP	B	BrWCI	BmWCI	X
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>	B	BrWCI	BSR	BSR
	07	Pukra-LREP	X	BrWCI	BSR	BSR
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP	BrWCI	BmWCI	BmWCI	BmWCI, EWSR
MB Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	B	BrWCI	BmWCI, EWCI	BSR
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP	B	BrWCI	BSR	X
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP	B	BmWCI	EWCI	BSR
	12-F	Banika-RLP	B, BrWCI	BrWCI, BmWCI	EWCI, EWSR	X
	13	Jagatsi-LRP	B,	BrWCI	BmWCI,	BSR
	14	Birbali-LRP	B, BrWCI	BrWCI	BmWCI,	X
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	B, BrWCI	BmWCI, EWCI	BSR	X
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP	B, BrWCI	BrWCI, BmWCI	BmWCI, BSR	BmWCI, ESSR
Sun Sadar	17	Noorpur-RP	BrWCI	BmWCI	SWSR	SWSR
	18	Terrahal-RP	BrWCI, BmWCI	EWCI	BSR	X
	19	Sardarpur-RP	BrWCI,	EWCI	EWSR	X
	20	Jib Dara-RLP	EWCI	EWCI, BmWCI	SWCI	SWSR
	21	Nar killa- LRP	BrWCI, SWCI	BrWCI, SWCI	BrWCI, SWCI	X
	22	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>	BmWCI, BrWCI	EWCI	SWSR, EWCI	X
	23	Santipur-LRLP	BrWCI, EWCI	SWCI, SWSR	SWSR	X
	24	Joy Nagar-LRP	BrWCI,	BmWCI	EWCI	X

**Note:** F- Female, Italic- FIVDB, RP-Remote Poor, RLP-Remote Less poor, LRP-Less remote poor, LRLP-Less remote less poor

**B**-Building, **BrWCI**- Brick wall with CI sheet roof, **BmWCI**- Bamboo wall with CI sheet roof, **EWCI**- Earthen wall with CI sheet roof, **EWSR**- Earthen wall straw roof, **BPR**- Bamboo with Polythene Roof, **BSR**- Bamboo wall with straw roof, **SWCI**- Straw wall CI sheet roof, **SWSR**- Straw wall with straw roof

**Well being analysis: Resources**

Upazila	VILLAGE		Resources by Poverty Level			
	Code	Name	Rich	Medium	Poor	Extreme poor
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	T, MC, GO	Fr, BC	-	-
	02-F	Shahjalapur-RLP	X	2-3-CB	-	DCh
	03	Eka Purba-RP	X			
	04-F	Oashar-RP	CB, PI, TT, LoL	LoL, 1-2 CB	DCh	X
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP	GO, T	2-3 CB	DCh	X
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>				
	07	Pukra-LREP	X			
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP	TT, 2-1 CB,	MC	CB	DCh
MB Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	T, Mr, GO, F, TV, AC	CB, BC, TV, Rd, CP		
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP	T	2-10 CB	DCh	X
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP				
	12-F	Banika-RLP	T, TT, 6-7 CB	CG, DCh	DCh	X
	13	Jagatsi-LRP	T, TT, CB, PI	1-2 CB, PI, Tr	CB	
	14	Birbali-LRLP	Rh, T, TT, CB, Fi	CG, DCh, B	1-2 CB, DCh	X
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	F, TV, VCP, MC, GO, Rh	BC		X
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP	T, CB, LoL, Rh	CB, DC, T, R, PF	CG, DCh	4-5 DCh
Sun Sadar	17	Noorpur-RP				
	18	Terrahal-RP	PT, P, CG, DCh, MCw	CG, DCh, P	DCh	X
	19	Sardarpur-RP				X
	20	Jib Dara-RLP				
	21	Nar killa- LRP	Th, MC, CB	MC, DCh	CG, DCh	X
	22	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>	LoL, C, RM	CG, DCh	DCh	X
	23	Santipur-LRLP				X
	24	Joy Nagar-LRP	CB, G	MCw, PI	DCh	X

**Note:** F- Female, Italic- FIVDB, RP-Remote Poor, RLP-Remote Less poor, LRP-Less remote poor, LRLP-Less remote less poor

**AC-** Air condition, **BC-**Bi-cycle, **CB-**Cow/Buffalo, **MCw-** Milking Cow, **CG-** Cow goat, **CP-** Cassette Player, **DCh-** Duck-Chicken, **Fr-** Furniture, **F-**Freeze, **Fi-**Fish cultivation, **G-**Seed Godown, **GO-** Gold ornaments, **LoL-**Lease out land, **MC-**Motor Cycle, **Mr-** Market, **P=**Plough, **PF-** Poultry Farm, **PI-**Poultry, **PT-** Power Tiller, **R-**Rickshaw, **Rd-** Radio, **Rh-** Rent out house, **RM-** Rice Mill, **T-**Transport, **Th-**Thresher, **Tr-** Trees, **TT-** Tractor, **TV-**Television, **VCP-** Video Cassette Player

**Well being analysis: Education**

Upazila	VILLAGE		Education by Poverty Level			
	Code	Name	Rich	Medium	Poor	Extreme poor
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP				
	02-F	E. Shahjalalpur-RLP	X			
	03	Eka Purba-RP	X			
	04-F	Oashar-RP				X
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP				X
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>				
	07	Pukra-LREP	X			
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP				
MB Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP				
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP				X
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP	Post Grad.	SSC	Primary	Primary
	12-F	Banika-RLP				X
	13	Jagatsi-LRP				
	14	Birbali-LRLP				X
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	Post Grad.	HSC	Primary	X
Sun Sadar	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP	Degree	Post Grad.	High school	Primary
	17	Noorpur-RP				
	18	Terrahal-RP				X
	19	Sardarpur-RP				X
	20	Jib Dara-RLP				
	21	Nar killa- LRP				X
	22	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>				
	23	Santipur-LRLP				X
	24	Joy Nagar-LRP				X

**Note:** F- Female, Italic- FIVDB, **RP**-Remote Poor, **RLP**-Remote Less poor, **LRP**-Less remote poor, **LRLP**-Less remote less poor, **HSC**-Higher Secondary Certificate, **SSC**-Secondary School Certificate

**Well being analysis: Food intake**

Upazila	VILLAGE		Food intake by Poverty Level			
	Code	Name	Rich	Medium	Poor	Extreme poor
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	3M-Meat-Fish	3M occasional meat, fish	3M veg., fish, dry fish	3M veg., dry fish
	02-F	Suranandapur-RP	X			
	03	E. Shahjalalpur-RLP	X			
	04-F	Eka Purba-RP				X
	05-F	Oashar-RP				X
	06	Kaista kapon-LRP				
	07	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>	X			
	08	Pukra-LREP				
MB Sadar	09	Mamar Khali-LRP				
	10-F	Karim Nagar-RLP				X
	11-F	Radhakantapur-RLP				
	12-F	Ranabhim-RP				X
	13	Banika-RLP				
	14	Jagatsi-LRP				X
	15	Birbali-LRLP				X
	16	Sree Baur-LRP				
Sun Sadar	17	Baur Gharia-LRLP				
	18	Noorpur-RP				X
	19	Terrahal-RP				
	20	Sardarpur-RP				X
	21	Jib Dara-RLP				X
	22	Nar killa- LRP				X
	23	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>				X
	24	Santipur-LRP				X

**Note:** F- Female, Italic- FIVDB, **RP**-Remote Poor, **RLP**-Remote Less poor, **LRP**-Less remote poor, **LRLP**-Less remote less poor



## 2. Status of participants of KIS-2 study

Upazila	VILLAGE		FIVDB			Control
			Joining date	Contact officer	Activities & Involvement	# Involved with NGO
	Code-Sex	Name with category of participants				
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	1992	Helal Ahmed APO-RCD, PETRRA	Credit Prog. Stopped	
	02-F	E. Shahjalalpur-RLP		Mustafa, Field Worker- Credit	Credit, Veg. garden, Mid-wife training, Poultry vaccine	
	03	Eka Purba-RP				
	04-F	Oashar-RP		Taslima, HW	Health awareness	
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP		Monwara Begum, HW	Credit, Health	Shimantik-Health
	06	Kas kanakpur-LRLP	1992	Younus Laskar, PO, LEP	FIVDB school, Health, Credit, Agriculture,	
	07	Pukra-LREP			FIVDB school	
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP				
Moulavi Bazar Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	Jul 2002	Helal Ahmed APO, RCD- PETRRA	PETRRA-RCD, Goat rearing, Tree plantation	
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP		Helal Ahmed APO, RCD, PETRRA	PETRRA-RCD	
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP		Rina Rani Paul Health Worker		1-GB, 3-CARITAS
	12-F	Banika-RLP		Juthika, Health Worker		
	13	Jagatsi-LRP		Helal Ahmed APO	Agriculture-Veg. seed only	
	14	Birbali-LRLP				Previously RCD-FIVDB
	15	Sree Baur-LRP				1-BRAC Credit Prog.
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP				
Sunamganj Sadar	17	Noorpur-RP				
	18	Terrahal-RP				
	19	Sardarpur-RP				
	20	Jib Dara-RLP				
	21-F	Nar killa- LRP			Digesh, Field worker, Credit	Previously with BRAC
	22-F	Katair- LRLP			Credit, Education, Tree plantation, Vegetable gardening	BRDB- Credit Prog.
	23	Santipur-LRLP				
	24	Joy Nagar-LRP		Digesh	Credit Prog.	Previously with BRAC

## Appendix 7: Output of 24 FGDs

### 1. Preference and use of information channels:

Upazila	VILLAGE		Radio	TV	Contact Office	Staff visit	Miking	News Paper	Text Book	Training	Dealer	Signboard	UP	Neighbour	
	Code-Sex	Name with category of participants													
FIVDB	01	Suranandapur-RP	2	0	1	3									
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>			2	3	1							0	
	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	0	1		5								0	
	13	Jagatsi-LRP													
	17	Noorpur-RP													
	Sub-total:		3	1	3	11	1								
	02-F	E.Shahjalapur-RLP				1			1	1					
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP													
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP				0									
	21-F	Nar killa- LRP			1							0			
	22-F	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>				1				2				0	
Sub-total:				1	2			1	3						
TOTAL:			3	1	4	13	1		1	3					
Control:	03	Eka Purba-RP	3	2							1	0	3		
	07	Pukra-LREP													
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP								1				0	
	14	Birbali-LRLP		0	1										
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	1	2	3	3		1							
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP			1					2				0	
	18	Terrahal-RP													
	19	Sardarpur-RP													
	20	Jib Dara-RLP													
	23	Santipur-LRLP	3		2			0				1		4	
	24	Joy Nagar-LRP													
	Sub total:		7	4	7	3		1		2	2	1	3	4	
	04-F	Oashar-RP													
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP	0	1										2	
12-F	Banika-RLP				1			2	0						
Sub total:			1		1			2					2		
TOTAL:			7	5	7	4		1	2	2	2	1	3	6	
GRAND TOTAL:			9	6	11	17	1	1	3	5	2	1	3	6	

## 2. Participants of the sessions:

Category of participants	FIVDB villages and participants		Control villages and participants	
	Villages- Male	Villages-Female	Villages- Male	Villages-Female
<b>Remote Union:</b>				
Poor	2- 16	0	3-32	2-21
1. Less poor	1- 10	2- 22	1-10	1-10
<b>Less remote Union:</b>				
1. Poor	1- 11	2- 20	4- 42	
2. Less poor	1- 11	1-10	3-28	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>5- 48</b>	<b>5- 52</b>	<b>11- 112</b>	<b>3- 31</b>

## 3. Detail of Themes and strands mentioned:

Theme & Strands	FIVDB			Control		
	# Village	Total Respond.	Have information	# Village	Total Respond.	Have information
<b>Agriculture: Seed</b>	5	54	11 (20%)	10	103	17 (17%)
Fertilizer	4	42	4 (10%)	9	91	15 (16%)
Pesticides	5	54	4 (7%)	7	70	9 (13%)
Irrigation	3	31	2 (6%)	1	11	0
Modern knowledge on Agriculture	3	33	8 (24%)	6	63	10 (16%)
Agricultural credit	1	10	1 (10%)	1	8	0
Equipment	1	11	2 (18%)	1	12	0
Soil test	1	11	2 (18%)	1	8	0
Govt. facilities	1	11	1 (9%)			
Paddy preservation	1	11	0			
Market information	1	11	0	1	8	1 (13%)
Agricultural Labour				1	11	3(27%)
Tree plantation				1	10	0
<b>Vegetable: Seed</b>	3	30	9 (30%)	2	20	4 (25%)
Fertilizer	2	20	5 (25%)	1	10	3 (30%)
Modern knowledge on Vegetable	1	10	3 (30%)	3	30	7 (23%)
Market information				1	10	2 (20%)
<b>Poultry/ Livestock:</b>						
Medicine	1	10	0	1	10	3 (30%)
Disease/ Treatment	2	16	3 (19%)	1	10	5 (50%)
Livestock/ Cow variety	3	27	0	1	10	2 (20%)
Training on Poultry farm				1	10	2 (20%)
<b>Fishery:</b>				1	10	0
<b>Health: Doctor/ Hospital</b>	5	48	1 (2%)	6	59	3 (5%)
Knowledge on food & Nutrition	5	47	5 (11%)	3	29	10 (34%)
Medicine	3	27	1 (2%)	4	42	1 (2%)
FP	1	10	4 (40%)	2	20	6 (30%)
Arsenic	1	10	1 (10%)	1	10	3 (30%)
Treatment	2	22	5 (23%)	3	30	0
Sanitary latrine	2	20	4 (25%)	1	10	0
Less cost	1	11	0	1	11	0
Health care	3	32	6 (19%)	1	10	3 (30%)
<b>Tube well: Arsenic test</b>	1	10	3 (30%)	1	10	3 (30%)
<b>Occupation:</b>						
Business information	2	22	0	4	41	2 (5%)
Job information	2	21	0	4	41	0
Go abroad/ Broker	1	11	0	2	19	0
Skill development training	1	10	0	1	8	0

## 4. Livelihood changes (24 villages)

Upazila	VILLAGE		Positive changes	Negative changes
	Code	Name		
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	Planting trees & fish cultivation gave cash benefit	No problem occurred
	02-F	E. Shahjalalpur-RLP	Increase of veg. production	No problem occurred
	03	Eka Purba-RP	Continue higher education	Use radio information- loss in fish & trees died.
	04-F	Oashar-RP	Use modern agricultural knowledge- production increased	No problem occurred
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>	Modern knowledge has increased rice & tomato production	Sweet gourd plant died using wrong information Loss Tk. 60,000 using wrong information to send son abroad
	07	Pukra-LREP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP	Increased rice production using modern knowledge	No problem faced
MB Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	Save people from Arsenicosis by using information on Arsenic contamination	TV information on distribution of khas land to poor was not useful Radio information on Papaya plantation was not complete & useful
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP	People become more aware about hygienic practice	
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	12-F	Banika-RLP	<i>Livelihood improved with new road construction</i>	Reduce land fertility and insect attack on rice
	13	Jagatsi-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	14	Birbali-LRLP	Improved road condition, modern knowledge on agriculture, Information on Arsenic contamination and iodine deficiency	Could not solve the problem of diseases in Aman rice Tomato
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	Use of information on FP helped to limit family size	No problem faced
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP	Increased job opportunity. People aware about the benefit of education	High cost of poultry feed.
Sun Sadar	17	Noorpur-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	18	Terrahal-RP	People aware about the benefit of education. Improved housing condition	Population increased, wages increased but price of daily essentials also increased
	19	Sardarpur-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	20	Jib Dara-RLP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	21-F	Nar killa- LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced (hailstorm)
	22-F	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>	Learned about health & hygiene practice. New infrastructure developed	House damaged by cyclone in 2003
	23	Santipur-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	24	Joy Nagar-RP	No changes occurred	Crop attacked by insects. Hailstorm damaged Boro rice

Note: **F**- Female, **RP**-Remote Poor, **RLP**- Remote Less Poor, **LRP**- Less remote Poor, **LRLP**- Less remote Less Poor

## 4.1 Livelihood changes: FIVDB village

Upazila	VILLAGE		Positive changes	Negative changes
	Code	Name		
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	Planting trees & fish cultivation gave cash benefit	No problem occurred
	02-F	E. Shahjalalpur-RLP	Increase of veg. production	No problem occurred
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>	Modern knowledge has increased rice & tomato production	Sweet gourd plant died using wrong information Loss Tk. 60,000 using wrong information to send son abroad
MB Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	Save people from Arsenicosis by using information on Arsenic contamination	TV information on distribution of khas land to poor was not useful Radio information on Papaya plantation was not complete & useful
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP	People become more aware about hygienic practice	
	13	Jagatsi-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
Sun Sadar	17	Noorpur-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	21-F	Nar killa- LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced (hailstorm)
	22-F	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>	Learned about health & hygiene practice. New infrastructure developed	House damaged by cyclone in 2003

## 4.2 Livelihood changes: Non- FIVDB

Upazila	VILLAGE		Positive changes	Negative changes
	Code	Name		
Zakiganj	03	Eka Purba-RP	Continue higher education	Use radio information- loss in fish & trees died.
	04-F	Oashar-RP	Use modern agricultural knowledge- production increased	No problem occurred
	07	Pukra-LREP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP	Increased rice production using modern knowledge	No problem faced
MB Sadar	11-F	Ranabhim-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	12-F	Banika-RLP	<i>Livelihood improved with new road construction</i>	Reduce land fertility and insect attack on rice
	14	Birbali-LRLP	Improved road condition, modern knowledge on agriculture, Information on Arsenic contamination and iodine deficiency	Could not solve the problem of diseases in Aman rice Tomato
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	Use of information on FP helped to limit family size	No problem faced
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP	Increased job opportunity. People aware about the benefit of education	High cost of poultry feed.
Sun Sadar	18	Terrahal-RP	People aware about the benefit of education. Improved housing condition	Population increased, wages increased but price of daily essentials also increased
	19	Sardarpur-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	20	Jib Dara-RLP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	23	Santipur-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	24	Joy Nagar-RP	No changes occurred	Crop attacked by insects. Hailstorm damaged Boro rice

## 4.3. Livelihood changes: Male

Upazila	VILLAGE		Positive changes	Negative changes
	Code	Name		
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	Planting trees & fish cultivation gave cash benefit	No problem occurred
	03	Eka Purba-RP	Continue higher education	Use radio information- loss in fish & trees died.
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>	Modern knowledge has increased rice & tomato production	Sweet gourd plant died using wrong information Loss Tk. 60,000 using wrong information to send son abroad
	07	Pukra-LREP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP	Increased rice production using modern knowledge	No problem faced
MB Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	Save people from Arsenicosis by using information on Arsenic contamination	TV information on distribution of khas land to poor was not useful Radio information on Papaya plantation was not complete & useful
	13	Jagatsi-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	14	Birbali-LRLP	Improved road condition, modern knowledge on agriculture, Information on Arsenic contamination and iodine deficiency	Could not solve the problem of diseases in Aman rice Tomato
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	Use of information on FP helped to limit family size	No problem faced
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP	Increased job opportunity. People aware about the benefit of education	High cost of poultry feed.
Sun Sadar	17	Noorpur-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	18	Terrahal-RP	People aware about the benefit of education. Improved housing condition	Population increased, wages increased but price of daily essentials also increased
	19	Sardarpur-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	20	Jib Dara-RLP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	23	Santipur-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	24	Joy Nagar-RP	No changes occurred	Crop attacked by insects. Hailstorm damaged Boro rice

## 4.4 Livelihood changes: Female

Upazila	VILLAGE		Positive changes	Negative changes
	Code	Name		
Zakiganj	02-F	E. Shahjalalpur-RLP	Increase of veg. production	No problem occurred
	04-F	Oashar-RP	Use modern agricultural knowledge- production increased	No problem occurred
	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
MB Sadar	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP	People become more aware about hygienic practice	
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	12-F	Banika-RLP	<i>Livelihood improved with new road construction</i>	Reduce land fertility and insect attack on rice
Sun Sadar	21-F	Nar killa- LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced (hailstorm)
	22-F	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>	Learned about health & hygiene practice. New infrastructure developed	House damaged by cyclone in 2003

**4.5 Livelihood changes: Remote villages**

Upazila	VILLAGE		Positive changes	Negative changes
	Code	Name		
Zakiganj	01	Suranandapur-RP	Planting trees & fish cultivation gave cash benefit	No problem occurred
	02-F	E. Shahjalalpur-RLP	Increase of veg. production	No problem occurred
	03	Eka Purba-RP	Continue higher education	Use radio information- loss in fish & trees died.
	04-F	Oashar-RP	Use modern agricultural knowledge- production increased	No problem occurred
MB Sadar	09	Karim Nagar-RLP	Save people from Arsenicosis by using information on Arsenic contamination	TV information on distribution of khas land to poor was not useful Radio information on Papaya plantation was not complete & useful
	10-F	Radhakantapur-RLP	People become more aware about hygienic practice	
	11-F	Ranabhim-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	12-F	Banika-RLP	<i>Livelihood improved with new road construction</i>	Reduce land fertility and insect attack on rice
Sun Sadar	17	Noorpur-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	18	Terrahal-RP	People aware about the benefit of education. Improved housing condition	Population increased, wages increased but price of daily essentials also increased
	19	Sardarpur-RP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	20	Jib Dara-RLP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	24	Joy Nagar-RP	No changes occurred	Crop attacked by insects. Hailstorm damaged Boro rice

## 4.6 Livelihood changes: Less remote

Upazila	VILLAGE		Positive changes	Negative changes
	Code	Name		
Zakiganj	05-F	Kaista kapon-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	06	<i>Kas kanakpur-LRLP</i>	Modern knowledge has increased rice & tomato production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sweet gourd plant died using wrong information</li> <li>Loss Tk. 60,000 using wrong information to send son abroad</li> </ul>
	07	Pukra-LREP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	08	Mamar Khali-LRP	Increased rice production using modern knowledge	No problem faced
MB Sadar	13	Jagatsi-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced
	14	Birbali-LRLP	Improved road condition, modern knowledge on agriculture, Information on Arsenic contamination and iodine deficiency	Could not solve the problem of diseases in Aman rice Tomato
	15	Sree Baur-LRP	Use of information on FP helped to limit family size	No problem faced
	16	Baur Gharia-LRLP	Increased job opportunity. People aware about the benefit of education	High cost of poultry feed.
Sun Sadar	21-F	Nar killa- LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced (hailstorm)
	22-F	<i>Katair- LRLP</i>	Learned about health & hygiene practice. New infrastructure developed	House damaged by cyclone in 2003
	23	Santipur-LRP	No changes occurred	No problem faced



## Appendix 8: Compilation of detailed narratives collected in KIS- 2 (from Field Record Sheets)

### 1. Themes and strands: (step-4, page-4 of FRS)

- NE 01 Preferred agriculture as most important theme (40). They do not get necessary information on different issues of agriculture. Still 4 participants mentioned that they received some information on fertilizer, pesticides. Some of them received information on health. They need information on occupation and religion.
- NE 02 Health is perceived as most important theme (50). 3 participants have responded on the practice of health and hygiene; and sources of good health service provider as well. On the other hand 5 participants claimed some knowledge on seed and plantation issues on agriculture theme. Safeguarding crops from the attack of insects is the area where no one could respond. Only one participant responded on education.
- NE 03 Participants identified only two themes (agriculture and health) on which they need information. They are poor and face lot of troubles while they are sick and that influenced them to put highest priority on health sector (60). Only two participants, out of six, have some information on health issues like availability of doctors / hospital, one on medicines and two on food and nutrition. Five participants have expressed some information in agriculture issues like seeds, pesticides. One participant (5) appeared exclusive of any information.
- NE 04 Preferred vegetable gardening as most important theme (60) and poultry as second one. 3, 4 and 5 participants have some knowledge on fertilizer, quality seeds and vegetable gardening respectively. Likewise 5 participants have information on the poultry disease and 3 on the necessary medicine for poultry farming. Women are widely involved in vegetable cultivation and this provides them food intake and additional income as well.
- NE 05 Identified four themes and scored highest (50) for the health sector considering the most important one they need information. 2 participants have some knowledge on good health practice and 4 on the use of contraceptives. They practice contraceptive and because of the side effects husbands are dead against of using contraceptives. They rather prefer new pregnancy than using contraceptives. Second important theme they identified is education where they need intensive information in order to raise awareness and capacity building of the group members and children as well. But none of them have any information on education. Vegetable gardening and poultry rearing have been put equal emphasis (10) and at least 3 of them have some information but need more relevant information.
- NE 06 Participants identified 5 themes of livelihood (agriculture, health, livestock, education and occupation) and rated agriculture on top (40). Five participants have some information on seed, modern agro-technology, soil testing and govt. facilities for increased production. None could give any information on paddy preservation, fertilizer, irrigation and marketing of the products. They need information on livestock, job opportunities, health, food intake, nutrition and education for improvement.
- NE 07 Preferred most important theme was agriculture (50). Participants do not have information on related aspects of agriculture. But 4 participants have some information on fertilizer and 2 on insecticides. Some of them have shallow knowledge on health and hygiene and occupation as well. They need more information on treatment facilities and medicine; and also on job opportunity.
- NE 08 Agriculture particularly rice cultivation is the preferred most important theme (75). And Local variety is most commonly used and participants have no information about other variety of rice except BR-11. They need more information on the strands they identified Betel nut cultivation they think as promising theme to bring impact on livelihood if they have more knowledge on marketing of the product.
- NE 09 Out of the mentioned themes (agriculture, health, poultry/livestock and education) participants preferred agriculture (50) as the most important one. They don't have necessary information about diverse aspects of agriculture. Still 2 participants have

- some information on seed, 1 on pesticides and 1 on irrigation. They have some knowledge on health and nutrition and almost no information on education and poultry/livestock. They appear reluctant to gain information from different available sources.
- NE 10 Preferred health (50) as the most important theme (health, education and arsenic) of the livelihood concerns. Rice is the main crop but women are not involved in it. Health is the important concern for them but lack necessary information. They also put importance on adult education. Arsenic mitigation is another area they need information.
- NE 11 Participants preferred agriculture as the most important theme and put highest score (50). They don't have necessary information on any of the themes (agriculture, health, education, occupation, job in abroad). Still 1 participant has some information on seed, 2 on fertilizer, 3 on agriculture labour and 1 on mechanical cultivation. They need information on the entire themes including sending son abroad, which is one of the important sources of income in Sylhet.
- NE 12 Participants equally emphasized on health (50) and arsenic contaminated tube well water (50) as theme of the livelihood concerns. Four participants have some knowledge on nutrition, 3 on health and hygiene practice and 3 on methods of contraception. They need more information on both of the themes mentioned. None have any information on arsenic.
- NE 13 Preferred agriculture (50) as the most important theme and then health (30) and occupation (20). But they do not have any information on any of the theme and strands they mentioned. They showed no interest about the activities of FIVDB or any other sources. They need information on all the themes and strands.
- NE 14 Participants preferred agriculture (50) as the most important theme between two others like health (25) and credit (25). They do not have necessary information on agriculture. Only two have some information on modern cultivation but no one has any information on pest management, HY variety of potato and tomato. Three have some information on family planning and arsenic and iodine salt. Three have some knowledge on sources of credit but none on the types of credit available in the locality.
- NE 15 Put highest importance on agriculture (35) and that follows occupation (30), treatment (20) and education (15). Participants have some information on seed and pesticides, knowledge on food and nutrition and technical education. Also few have information on treatment and occupation as well. They need more information for all the themes and strands.
- NE 16 Preferred agriculture (70) as the most important theme and put the highest score. Livestock (30) is the next one. They do not have necessary information on diversified issues of agriculture and livestock. Still 3 participants have some information on modern cultivation, 3 on use of fertilizer, 1 on quality seeds in agriculture them and 2 on the hi-breed cow and 2 on poultry farming.
- NE 17 Participants mentioned health (70) and livestock (30) as two themes and preferred health as the most important. They do not have any information on the themes and strands they mentioned. It is a remotest village and participants have shallow knowledge on GO/NGO efforts. There is the need of information in order to involve people in development activities.
- NE 18 Through in depth probing participants somehow could mention agriculture, health, fish farming, poultry farming and information on work as the theme of livelihood and preferred agriculture (40) as the most important one. But they do not have any information on the strands they mentioned. They could not find anyone who can provide information.
- NE 19 Participants could mention two themes (Agriculture-60, Health-40) and seven strands but failed to provide any information on the strands further. However they have preferred agriculture as the most important theme.
- NE 20 Three themes were mentioned by the participants as livelihood concerns and put highest score on agriculture (45). Out of seven strands only one participant had some information on good market on the business theme. Participants did not receive any information from any sources.
- NE 21 This women group preferred agriculture as the only and most important theme. Three participants have some information on quality vegetable seeds and use of fertilizer. They want to learn more about quality vegetable for better production.

- NE 22 Preferred vegetable gardening (70) as the most important theme. Three participants have some knowledge on vegetable gardening and seed preservation as well. Also in health sector two participants have information on health practice and one has some knowledge on sanitation and hygiene. They need more information on the above mentioned strands.
- NE 23 Agriculture being the most important theme received highest score (60) and health the next important one scored 40. Participants with the existing information invest their time for a dream of maximum production and that was expressed as “ *we start our day with agriculture and end our day with a dream of maximum production of crop in the season.*”
- NE 24 Participants rated agriculture as the only important theme of livelihood concerns. Two participants have some information on modern cultivation and two on HY seed.

## 2. Receive and used information: (step-5, page-5 of FRS)

- NE 01 Two participants received information on seed from DAE, 2 on fertilizer use from Radio-TV and 3 on benefit of taking vegetable from FIVDB & Radio as sources. They have successfully used all those information and did not face any problem in using information
- NE 02 Two participants received information on practice of health and hygiene from the reading of textbook of school children and training of FIVDB. Three on the information sources of service providers through discussion with the pharmacy owner, neighbor and doctor. They used the information successfully without facing any adverse situation.  
Also three participants received information on the methods of plantation from neighbour, FIVDB training and relatives. Apart from these they also use their own experience. They found good result in domestic use and earning money by marketing fuel.
- NE 03 Four participants referred UP Chawkidar as the source of information of receiving good quality seeds form the UP while the same number of participants received information on the proper use of fertilizer from the dealers and durbar programme in the Radio. Previously they were not selective in collecting seeds and using fertilizer. Use of different pesticides for different crops has been learnt from the dealers and Radio programs, which they did not know before. They were benefited significantly through the information and that resulted increased production.  
Two participants mentioned that they learned through Radio and signboard erected on the roadside about the free treatment facilities in the govt. hospitals. They avail the services but sometimes they need to pay bribe for that.
- NE 04 Five participants received information on the process and methods of vegetable cultivation through discussion with the neighbours and relatives, 4 on the preservation of seeds from the relatives and family members and 5 on the proper knowledge on the diseases of poultry. They practice their knowledge and take advice from the neighbours and experts. They did not face any problem in using the information. However they need more information on modern methods of vegetable cultivation and poultry farming.
- NE 05 Four participants have gained knowledge on using suitable contraceptives from the clinic and NGO (*Shimantik*), 2 on knowledge on health and hygiene practice from the NGOs (*FIVDB & Shimantik*), 3 on seed preservation from FIVDB and 3 on the device of protecting poultry from the diseases from the neighbours. Women are suffering from side effects of contraceptives and gradually being reluctant in using contraceptives. They also find problem in maintaining proper hygiene and sanitation because of poor financial condition.

- NE 06 5 participants received information on the use of imported tomato seeds and BR – 39 rice variety from the DAE and FIVDB through home visit of staff. 3 received information on modern cultivation process of vegetables through bi-monthly magazine of the AIS of DAE and 2 from the FIVDB and DAE through field staff on the importance of soil test before broadcasting rice. They have used the information and productions have been doubled. 3 reported having information on vaccination of children in the EPI camp through miking by the government health department. These provided opportunity for EPI vaccination of less than 5 children of the poor families.
- NE 07 Four participants received information on the use of fertilizer in the vegetable gardening/tree plantation from Radio. They used the information and expecting better result both in orange and tomato production. 2 received information on the proper use of pesticides from the UAO through visiting UAE's office in Zakiganj and yet to use the information.
- NE 08 Two participants received information on the use of fertilizer and sources of collecting quality fertilizer from the dealer and booklet and three participants on the preservation process and sources of quality seed collection from the dealer for rice cultivation. They have used the information and did not face any problem rather got better result than before. Two participants received information on the better production and marketing of betel nut. Using the information they got more production but not confident about getting fair price in the referred new market.
- NE 09 Two participants received information on rice cum duck program through home visit of FIVDB field staff. They used the information and did not use any fertilizer and pesticides as instructed. They expect more production (8 maunds per bigha). One participant received information through discussing the neighbours on the control of insects. He used the information and all the insects have been killed.
- NE 10 Three participants received information on hygiene practice from the FIVDB and health worker of govt. health dept. through meeting and discussion and three participants on alternative options and mitigation of arsenic from the FIVDB and UP through meeting. They practice hygiene but do not maintain properly because of ignorance. After screening of the arsenic affected tube well they have stopped using tube well water. Three participants responded on the need of education but they had no information about facilities and related requirements.
- NE 11 Three participants received information on availability of agricultural labour from the neighbours through discussion and two received information on the proportionate use of urea in the rice field through Radio/TV. Previously they used urea randomly but after applying the gained information they have been benefited significantly.
- NE 12 Four participants received information on the sources of adequate nutrition and 3 on the benefit of using sanitary toilets from USS (NGO), textbooks and through training. They practice the information and got benefit. Also 3 received information from the govt. health worker's home visit about the suitable contraceptive methods and allowable duration of using one particular method. They are yet to practice the information.
- NE 13 N/A
- NE 14 Two participants received information on proper seed plantation and rice cum duck program from the neighbours and FIVDB through discussion, 3 from neighbours on sources of credit, 3 on the dangers of arsenic water and deficiency of iodine and 3 on the use of different contraceptives through training and TV. Using information on seed and rice cum duck program two participants got more production. People are conscious and avoid using arsenic water, consume iodized salt and developed favourable attitude towards use of contraceptives. They expressed their willing for more information.
- NE 15 Three participants received information from the DAE through contacting office about seed distribution by the govt., two on importance of eating vegetables every day through Radio and TV and two on use of Neem leaves as insect killer from the DAE through visiting affected field. They practiced the information and got good results. They are interested to transfer the knowledge to others.
- NE 16 3 participants received information on the methods of increased production from the DAE and relatives through discussion. They were not happy with the DAE / BS staff because the BS are busy with the rich. Three participants received information on proper utilization of fertilizer from DAE and neighbours through visit and discussion.

- They prefer getting information from GO/NGO staff than the neighbours. They think neighbours can't give proper information. Two received information on the training of poultry farming from neighbour. They expressed the need of training on poultry farming.
- NE 17 N/A
- NE 18 N/A
- NE 19 N/A
- NE 20 Only one participant received information about cloth business particularly from where good cloth could be purchased at a reasonable price for selling in the local market with good profit margin. One neighbouring businessman provided the information through letter correspondence. The participant could not start the business due to lack of fund. He was confident that the business would have been profitable.
- NE 21 Three participants received information on seed preservation and sources of collecting quality seeds from BRAC, FIVDB and dealers through visiting office and discussion. Three participants reported that they purchased fertilizer from the dealers and did not get any information about proportionate use of fertilizer. It is a remote and backward village and seldom they find outsiders. Participants also expressed grievances about the irregular visit of FIVDB staff.
- NE 22 In vegetable gardening theme three participants received information from relatives and FIVDB through discussion and field visit on the high production method. Three participants received information on the process of seed preservation from relatives. In health theme two participants received information on taking care of pregnant women and one on health and hygiene through training in the BRAC center.
- NE 23 Three participants received information from the neighbouring farmers about availability of rice seed in BADC. But they could not collect seed from BADC because as per rule BADC did not sell single item seed. Authority compelled farmers to buy a package of three items. On the other hand two participants received information on use of pesticides to save crop. They practiced the information and got instant benefit.
- NE 24 Two participants received information on proper use of fertilizer and methods of plantation through visiting BADC office. Also two participants received information on HY variety seeds from BADC. Generally they collect seeds and pesticides from BADC but they never received detail information on the related issues.

### 3. Preference for different information channels: (step-6, page-6 of FRS)

- NE 01 Mentioned four channels (Radio, Visit office, visit of field staff and TV). But they preferred visit of field staff more because field staff can see situation physically, give information and demonstrate in the field. The village has no electricity and TV.
- NE 02 Participants referred three channels (Textbook, training and staff visit) of information dissemination. However they put priority on training since there are scopes of sharing the information in the group.
- NE 03 Radio, TV, dealers and UP are referred by the participants as the channels of information. According to them TV is more effective but they prefer Radio since many of them have it. UP can communicate any message quickly at any time if they wish.
- NE 04 Woman participants preferred discussion as the only channel of information since their access to other channels is restricted traditionally.
- NE 05 There are no other channels to compare except discussion.
- NE 06 Participants referred four channels of information (staff visit, neighbour, miking and visit office) and they preferred staff's home visit as most effective. Because during visit staff can see the problems at the site, discuss the problems, identify knowledge gap and suggest necessary actions needed.
- NE 07 Mentioned two channels (Radio and visiting office). They preferred Radio, as it is most accessible for the common people.
- NE 08 Among neighbour and dealers they preferred dealer as the good channel of information. Pictorial booklet will be useful media for the common people, who can read. They also mentioned discussion as another important channel but did not compared with others.
- NE 09 Mentioned four channels but preferred FIVDB staff visit as the important channel because they visit village regularly and demonstrate the new knowledge at the site.

- NE 10 No specific channel of information the participants mentioned but they opined, discussion and meetings with the field worker might help them learning necessary things.
- NE 11 Three information channels (Radio, neighbour and TV) have been mentioned by the participants but they prefer information from the neighbours since they can see the practice on the spot and get further information through asking them on relevant issues.
- NE 12 Participants mentioned three channels of information and preferred book as the main source of information since they can read. They opined further that frequent and regular home visit by field staff would be more effective if it happens.
- NE 13 Participants mentioned that they enjoy TV and radio program but they preferred announcement in the mike as most important channel for dissemination of information among the people.
- NE 14 Though participants prioritized visit office but they prefer staff's visit because villagers can ask questions, explain problems and can get demonstration at the site.
- NE 15 Mentioned five channels (Radio, TV, staff visit, contact office and news paper) of information. They rated equally the staff visit and contacting office but finally preferred staffs visit as most effective one. Because they can discuss problems, ask questions, get practical demonstration on the issue.
- NE 16 Participants have referred three channels of information (DAE, training, neighbour) and they preferred training since they can learn in groups and share ideas with others. They don't like to see any DAE staff like the present BS who is ineffective.
- NE 17 They failed to refer any channel of information but they opined that miking in the locality might be effective media to disseminate information to the mass people.
- NE 18 N/A
- NE 19 N/A
- NE 20 Participants did not get information from any media / channel. They have no contact with any development organization / program (GO/NGO). They opined that UP would be good source of information since people visit UP office off and on. One mentioned signboard as the information channel.
- NE 21 Participants preferred office contact as dependable channel because they found better germination rate if they collected seed from the office. Dealers do not carefully maintain the preservation process.
- NE 22 Training being the preferred channel of information where participants could get practical learning. Visit other's vegetable field can provide scope of sharing information at the site.
- NE 23 Participants mentioned five channels of information (contact office, dealers, neighbours, newspaper and radio) and preferred neighbours most because of instant and clear information. Dissemination of information through neighbours is quick and dependable than others.
- NE 24 Visiting office the participants mentioned as the only media of information.

#### **4. Livelihood changes (step-7A, page-7 of FRS)**

- NE 01 One participant received information on tree plantation and expected that he would be benefited after selling the matured trees. Another participant got information on the fish cultivation and he started carp cultivation in the pond, present value of the fish will be Tk. 1,200
- NE 02 There are tangible positive changes in the volume of vegetables production for the beneficiaries of FIVDB since there is provision of training on vegetables gardening. Changes in the practice of health and hygiene, rearing livestock, etc. are also worth mentioning.
- NE 03 One participant stopped sending daughter after completion of primary education because of poverty. One day he learnt about the girls' stipend program of the govt. and admitted her daughter in the high school again. She is now continuing her education and he is happy with govt. policy.
- NE 04 Unused lands have come under vegetable cultivation and because of the use of quality seeds and appropriate fertilizer volume of production has increased significantly. However they suffer sometimes because of adulterated fertilizer.
- NE 05 Participants could not put forward any remarkable positive change that happened

- during last three years time.
- NE 06 Two participants highlighted the positive impact on cultivation of high yielding rice and tomato. One participant (4) mentioned that he harvested 16 mounds (BR-39) per bigha in place of 9-10 mounds production he had before. Another participant (1) mentioned that after receiving information from FIVDB for the first time he cultivated high yielding tomato and sold Tk. 8,000 in one season which was a bumper earning.
- NE 07 The participants observed no positive impact during the earmarked time period.
- NE 08 Production of rice has increased significantly.
- NE 09 One participant (4) informed that some people from the Arsenic mitigation program visited his village last year and marked tube wells with red colour, which had arsenic water. Now people do not drink water of those tube wells and are saved from the danger of Arsenic problem.
- NE 10 Increased awareness are there for both adult and children education. They are aware about the worse effect of open defecation.
- NE 11 Participants could not mention any major positive change that happened during the last 3 years.
- NE 12 Participants referred that during the last 3 years road communication have improved, new houses been built, literacy rate and income increased and people are involved in diversified occupation.
- NE 13 No positive impact they could name.
- NE 14 Road communication improved, modern cultivation system has been introduced and increased awareness about arsenic hazard and iodine deficiency.
- NE 15 One participant mentioned that having information on contraceptive (pill) through listening radio program he has been practicing it. There is no side effect and he is happy with the FP method. He wished if he had the information 2/3 years before it would have been much better to limit the family size.
- NE 16 Income increased and school enrollment increased.
- NE 17 They could not mention any positive impact happened during the time.
- NE 18 Number student in primary school increased, number of semi pucca house increased and local infra structure improved.
- NE 19 N/A
- NE 20 No positive impact they could mention.
- NE 21 No positive impact of the information observed by the participants in recent time.
- NE 22 Villagers learnt practicing health and hygiene, increased livestock and improvement of infrastructure like new market have been identified as the positive impact.
- NE 23 Participants could not mention any positive impact of information.
- NE 24 No positive change the participants observed.

##### 5. Livelihood changes (step-7B, page-7 of FRS)

- NE 01 No negative impact of information observed by the participants
- NE 02 Participants could hardly mention any negative impact. However they desperately feel the need of the facilities of good education center to be initiated by the GO/NGOs for their children in order to improve awareness and capacity building.
- NE 03 One participant started fish cultivation in his pond listening the radio program but some days later all the fish died and he does not know the reason yet. Same sad experienced unveiled by another participant. He planted papaya tree having information from the radio. But all his papaya trees died and he is not aware of the reason of such death of the papaya trees.
- NE 04 This women group did not observe negative impact of the information.
- NE 05 Family size is getting larger, suffering from different types diseases is yet to minimized and cost of living going up constantly.
- NE 06 One participant (3) reported that his sweet gourd started decomposing before maturity and used urea-adulterated water as per suggestion of one co-farmer. But it affected negatively and all the plant died.  
Another participant (2) was cheated by a fraud manpower agency amounting Tk. 60,000 in the name of sending his son to Malaysia for job.
- NE 07 No negative impact of information observed by the participants.
- NE 08 Participants could not remember any negative impact occurred during the mentioned time.

- NE 09 One participant (Abdul Kader) ran after getting khas land for 4 months listening news from TV but failed because the news was applicable for the area where there was khas land. Another participant (Akbar Mia) mentioned that he cultivated papaya in his land listening agriculture program in the radio. He was not successful because the information was not sufficient and the seed he used was not quality seed.
- NE 10 Severe hailstorm in 2002 destroyed many houses and huge amount of rice fields. That resulted acute food shortage in the area.
- NE 11 No negative impact they could remember to share.
- NE 12 Insects destroyed aman crop last year. Arsenic was detected in the tube well water
- NE 13 No negative impact they could name.
- NE 14 Aman rice had been the subject of "LAHORI" attack that decreased production. Tomato production decreased because of the unknown disease.
- NE 15 The participants identified no negative impact.
- NE 16 Activities of local registered cooperatives closed and sufferings of the poor increased. Flood in 2001 caused sufferings of the poor.
- NE 17 The participants could refer no negative impact.
- NE 18 Wages of day labour increased but prices of the daily necessary also went up. Cyclone of the last year damaged huge number of houses.
- NE 19 N/A
- NE 20 The participants had observed no negative impact.
- NE 21 Hailstorm destroyed huge quantity of crops and that had negative impact over supply of food locally.
- NE 22 Cyclone in June 2003 damaged some houses.
- NE 23 The participants gave no negative information.
- NE 24 Boro crop was damaged by hailstorm and attack by insects as well during last year.