

Quarterly Report 2

October – December 2013



January 2014



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Acronyms

AI	Artificial Insemination
AR	Annual Review or Annual Report
ASP	Agricultural Services Provider
ATP	Asset Transfer Project of CLP-2
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
BCC	Behaviour change communication
BDO	Business Development Officer
BQ	Black Quarter
BRAC	formerly Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee, an NGO
BRC/C	British Red Cross / Crescent
CB	Capacity-building
CBC	Char Business Centre
CDD	Centre for Disability in Development
CDMP	Comprehensive Disaster Management Project
CDS	Community Development Supervisors
CID	Char input dealers
CLP-2 (or CLP)	Chars Livelihoods Programme, Phase 2
CLS	Community Legal Services, another DFID-funded programme
CP	Core Participant
CPHH	Core Participant Household
CPK	Char Pushti Karmi, char nutrition workers
CSK	Char Shasthya Karmis, char health workers
Danida / DANIDA	Danish Aid
DCSC	District Coordination Sub-Committee
DEMOs	Data Entry and Monitoring Officers
DFID-B	Department for International Development (Bangladesh Office)
DLS	Department of Livestock Services
DNIP	Direct Nutrition Intervention Project of CLP-2
DPP	Development Project Proforma
ED	Executive Director
EEP	Economic Empowerment Programme (also known as Shiree)
EPRG	Extreme Poor Reduction Group of DFID-B
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FAPAD	Foreign-Aided Project Audit Directorate

FBG	Fodder Business Group/s
FFD	Farmer Field Days
FIVDB	Friends in Village Development, Bangladesh
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
FY	Financial Year
GBF	Grameen Bikash Foundation, a CLP provider
GBP	Great Britain Pound Sterling
GBS	Grameen Bikash Sangstha, a CLP provider
GDFL	Grameen Danone Foods Ltd
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GMC	Group Management Committee
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
GIZ	German aid agency
GPS	Global Positioning System
HDU	Human Development Unit
HQ	Headquarters
HS	Hemorrhagic Septicemia
ICS	Improved Cook Stoves
iDE	A Special Service Provider to the CLP in the Market Development area
IEP	Infrastructure and Employment Project
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IMED	Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division
IML	Innovation, Monitoring and Learning Division of CLP
IMNCS	Improving Maternal, Neonatal and Child Survival
IMO	Implementing organisation
ISP	Irrigation Service Provider
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
LBG	Livestock Business Group/s
LSP	Livestock Services Provider
LTP	Land Tenure Project of the CLP
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
M4C	Making markets work for the chars
M4P	Making markets work for the poor approach
MBG	Milk Business Group OR Meat Business Group
MDG	Millennium Development Goals

MDU	Market Development Unit of CLP
MFI	Micro-Finance Institution
MLU	Market and Livelihoods Unit of CLP
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSP	Maxwell Stamp PLC
NARI	National Agricultural Research Institute
NGO	Non-government organisation
OD	Open defecation
PEC	Programme Executive Committee
PHC&FP	Primary health care and family planning project
PHD	Partners in Health and Development, a CLP provider
PIC	Programme Implementation Committee
PKSF	Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation – a semi-autonomous government body providing funding to microfinance partners.
PM	Programme Memorandum
PM	Programme Manager
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PROSPER	Promoting Financial Services for Poverty Reduction (a DFID-funded programme)
PSPM	Pre-Season Planning Meeting
PSC	Programme Steering Committee
RDA	Rural Development Academy, Bangladesh
RDCD	Rural Development & Cooperative Division (of the Bangladesh Government)
SD	Social Development
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SDU	Social Development Unit
SME	Small and Medium-scale Enterprise
SSP	Special Service Provider
ToT	Training of Trainers
TW	Tube well
ULC	United Leasing Company
UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund
UP	Union Parishad
UPPR	Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction, a DFID-supported programme
UPS	Uninterruptable Power Supply
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

VDC	Village Development Committee
VfM or VFM	Value-for-Money
VSL	Village Savings and Loans
VSO	Village Savings Officers
VSS	Village Savings Supervisors
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WiFi	A technology term meaning "wireless computer network" or "wireless local area network." It was invented as a play-on-words using Hi-Fi (high fidelity) as inspiration.

Introduction

The period covered by this report (October to December 2013) represents the second quarter of the new CLP financial year and leads to the programmed peak of activity at the CLP. The quarter is traditionally concerned with the cash-for-work activities undertaken by the Infrastructure and Employment Project (IEP) and the start of asset transfers. Given the costs associated with IEP and asset transfer, this is also a period of high cash disbursement.

Team Leader Overview

This has been the most difficult quarter for work and financial activities experienced to date by CLP-2. The Deputy Team Leader will speak to the political turmoil and near anarchy situation reigning throughout the quarter in the CLP work districts as well as in Bogra where the CLP secretariat is based. While management, with support from the donors, has tried to mitigate the impacts of the turmoil, it would be dishonest to say that activities, beneficiaries and staff of the CLP have not suffered considerably.

While previous quarters have been marked by sporadic "hartals", the current quarter has seen most weeks blighted by three, even four, consecutive hartal days, and such days have been marked by increasing levels of intimidation and violence. To make the situation worse, the opposition parties have added transport blockages around the country, especially at the entrance/exits from Dhaka.

The effect of hartals has been that CLP management has experienced severe problems in moving between Dhaka and Bogra, between secretariat and field, and even from homes in Bogra to the RDA campus. We are particularly concerned about quality control issues and have asked our IMO partners to step up internal controls (char- and union-based movement has been only moderately impacted). Furthermore, hartals have led to the cancellation of more than half of cattle markets, seriously restricting asset purchase. The CLP is also being impacted by problems experienced by union/upazila bank branches in providing sufficient cash. This has had knock on effects to the CLP major cash-based field activities (IEP and asset transfer).

In an attempt to mitigate as many impacts as possible, the CLP has moved to working flexi-weeks. For example, following the thrice-cancelled microfinance workshop, the workshop was held for participants over a weekend. All travel has occurred only on an "as needed" basis with most journeys between Bogra and Dhaka occurring over the weekend. CLP has also funded rooms for staff at the RDA guesthouse to ensure that the secretariat could function relatively normally. When managers have been blocked in Dhaka or in the Uposhohar district of Bogra, work and meetings have occurred at convenient locations such as homes. For all these and many other attempts to keep the CLP functioning, I thank all staff and partners for their kindness and understanding.

Encouragingly, the quarter was not all gloom. In fact most activities are well on track, as shown at the annual half-year Progress Workshop. The workshop is traditionally held towards the end of the quarter (in late November / early December) and involves an internal, detailed review of progress and budgetary spend against the work plan. Data presented have allowed the programme to modify targets and financial needs at this approximate halfway point in the FY as well as redistribute any unspent funds from the responsiveness fund. The result of the review was mostly highly positive with almost every annual target being raised, especially for the big ticket items. Funds for increased targets were found within the annual budget; testimony to the continued drive for value for money undertaken at the CLP. The programme awaits formal donor approval for the increased targets and minor fund reallocations.

In the field, the start of the quarter coincides with the end of the rains and a rapid fall in river levels. It is also traditionally a time for the verification of the new cohort of beneficiaries. However, as reported in the previous quarterly report, the Partnerships Director was able to complete verification considerably earlier than usual allowing many activities to begin sooner (e.g. beneficiary

group formation and IEP both started in September rather than in October). In contrast, asset transfer (predominantly cattle purchase) could not begin any earlier due to the timing of the Eid festival that fell in mid-October and pushed up cattle prices.

Throughout the period, CLP senior managers and donors met on many occasions while CLP provided donor colleagues with weekly updates of hartal impact. By such regular updates and briefing, the CLP has kept our donors up to date with major issues and concerns.

CLP and donors also worked with Michael Samson, consultant tasked with advising on a CLP-2 impact assessment exercise. The result of discussions has been an agreement (to be confirmed by the donors) that an impact assessment will start in early 2014. The methodology and objectives of the study are welcomed by the CLP team.

The only major area of work concern during the quarter for the CLP was the "bolt-on" Direct Nutrition Project. The project is managed centrally by DFID with activities under programme management. Details of activities, work plan, staffing and budget were developed in 2012. As reported in the last annual report (July 2013), CLP undertook all activities related to staff recruitment, material/equipment procurement and training precisely as indicated in the original work plan. However and equally for our colleagues at UPPR and EEP, the start of field activities were delayed while an independent monitoring organisation, contracted by DFID, completed the baseline survey. Survey completion was late resulting in CLP only receiving approval to begin activities in October 2013. Further, and very serious, the independent team decided to exclude as controls around 23,000 CLP beneficiaries. The delays in completing the baseline survey and the enormous number of households latterly excluded for control purposes mean that progress and spend are well behind target. Further, the CLP was obliged to make redundant over 170 of its recently recruited and trained nutrition workers. CLP remains firmly against the use of excluded controls in a development scenario and has asked DFID to reconsider their use, particularly in such enormous numbers.

Despite the negative impacts of hartals on CLP activities, some notable achievements are to be recorded (explained in detail in the relevant sections of this report):

- 4,749 households were raised on plinths by infrastructure during IEP, in excess of the 4,600 target and despite hartal restrictions. The unit also installed 19,694 low cost latrines (target 16,043), installed 1,500 tube wells (target 1,278) and added 3,797 concrete aprons to existing tube wells (target 3,239). IEP employed 9,796 workers slightly missing the target of 10,950 but provided the equivalent of 303,860 person-days of work, 1% over target;
- The Human Development unit (HDU) achieved or beat almost all relevant targets with the exception of the Direct Nutrition Project, for the reasons stated above. Of particular note was the outreach of health activities which dealt with 20% more patients than anticipated;
- HDU also saw 541 new Village Savings and Loans groups created (target 473);
- Among Livelihoods activities, 3,590 assets were purchased for new core households (cohort 2.5), a shortfall of 1,410 households caused uniquely by the hartal impact on cattle markets. While this shortfall is regretted, it should be recovered before the end of the CLP FY and, importantly, is still sufficient to meet the relevant logframe target of January 2014.
- Relatively minor shortfalls were also seen in training provided to households related to homestead gardening and livestock husbandry. The former was identified at the November review and more personnel resources applied to recover the majority of the shortfall. The latter is purely related to hartal-related shortfalls in asset purchase – training is not provided in the absence of livestock;
- Milk, fodder and meat marketing together with poultry-rearing activities occurred close to target;
- IML contracted out several surveys but did see some delays from hartals, related to movement to and in the field. Good progress was made in the review of graduation criteria, while strong support was provided to the Michael Samson missions, referred to above.

- The communications strategy progressed well with many new reports and news items appearing on the CLP website;
- Finally, the Finance and Procurement Division continued to ensure rapid payment of invoices despite localised banking difficulties;
- Partnerships progressed in the quarter, despite hartals disrupting travel. Of note was the agreement by Grameen Communications to bring their health activities into the districts of Tangail, Pabna and Jamalpur (districts where BRAC primary health project is currently unable to replace the CLP). Activities by British Red Cross / Red Crescent on chars in Kurigram began with livelihoods activities targeting around 1,000 households who do not qualify as core participants of the CLP. The SNAD Foundation undertook repairs of harelip / cleft palate for sixteen char residents proposed by CLP. Considerable interest was shown by Tesco to use some of their corporate responsibility funds to restart up to 15 CLP learning centres;
- Finally, several of CLP's IMO's are expanding microfinance support to the chars, specifically in support of CLP market development activities.

The CLP received fewer visits during the quarter. However, despite hartals, we did receive several notable visits from: Colonel Stuart Cattermull (Defence Attaché at the British High Commission), Dr Rowan Mactaggart (Practice Leader for Livelihoods & Rural development at MSP), Mr Duncan King (Managing Consultant – Livelihoods and Rural Development, Maxwell Stamp); Linda Aaslien (Microfinance specialist, Maxwell Stamp); and Mr Peter and Mrs Andrea Hylands (Managing Directors of Creative Cowboy Films).

The major management-related activities in the upcoming quarter are to receive the donor-led Annual Review (9-23 February) and complete the recruitment of a new Team Leader.

1.2 Deputy Team Leader's Overview

The politics of Bangladesh have been in turmoil during the entire quarter with the major contention being the structure of government that should lead the country into national assembly elections in January 2014. The opposition BNP demands a traditional (for Bangladesh) Caretaker Government while the Awami League-led Grand Alliance government wishes to continue in power until the elections. The Awami League changed the law on Caretaker Government in 2010, arguing that such an arrangement was no longer necessary. While it is therefore lawful for the AL to continue in power, it is strongly opposed by the opposition.

This extreme difference of opinion has led to highly confrontational and violent politics with a rapid deterioration in law and order. The government has been slow in taking necessary punitive action against activists of the opposition alliance. Militants have caused continuous violence leading to many deaths of innocent people and considerable damage to public and private property. Hartals and road blockades by the opposition alliance have been frequent and increasingly long and controversial. In certain parts of the country the situation has approached anarchy. Hartal-like conditions have even begun to be imposed at the char and village level, which has not happened previously. CLP also experienced some losses of equipment, either totally or partially attributable to hartals, for example a boat being burned and a motorbike damaged / destroyed by picketers.

If proper political negotiations do not occur soon, democracy in Bangladesh is at risk and worse hostility will likely occur.

Despite the current political unrest and many problems for the finance sector, Bangladesh has been able to maintain a comparatively stable economy. The main strengths of the Bangladesh economy are agriculture, export of ready-made garments and the remittance of workers employed abroad. The country's efficient macro-economic management, existing monetary policy and good production of food grains has resulted in export growth, a deceleration in inflation, and sustained moderation in price pressures. The nation's foreign reserves have grown to US\$18 billion and last year's GDP growth was around six percent. Bangladesh has made significant progress towards

achieving the poverty reduction targets set by the MDGs. However, the financial sector is likely to record underwhelming earnings in 2014 if the political situation does not improve.

The political situation in the country, often at its worst in the NE districts where the CLP is active, has created problems for travel, banking and meetings/workshops. The holding of District Coordination Sub-Committee (DCS) meetings have suffered in most districts during the present and last quarters due to the chaotic political situation in the country.

However, the CLP is pleased to announce that the Revised Development Project Pro-forma (RDPP) was successfully developed by the relevant government bodies with key assistance from the CLP and DFID.

2. Operations Division

2.1 Overview

As anticipated the quarter saw an increase in the level and intensity of political agitation by opposition political parties driven by the General Election (held on 5th January 2014) and the outcome of verdicts of the 1971 War Crimes Trials. Late November and in particular December were most impacted with three to four days or more of each working week affected by violent hartals (strikes) and/or road blockades, increasing to 6 days per week of hartals / blockades as the election date got nearer. This prevented free movement of CLP and IMO / SSP staff and caused materials (CLP inputs, e.g. cattle, seeds, medicines, cement, bricks, etc.) to be unavailable or less available at markets and suppliers. Banks at times ran out of money as it could not be transported, and *char* farm goods (crops, milk, and meat) could not be sold / transported from farm to mainland markets.

The overall effect of the above on people as well as the CLP was frustration, loss of earnings / income (which severely impact on the poor who rely on day labouring), and the unpredictability ('what next' and 'when would it all end and return to normal') of the day to day situation. While the hartals / blockades have impacted on CLP daily operations to function 'normally' during the quarter, this has not prevented the programme from continuing delivering activities and inputs (field level operations) on the *chars* which were less affected by hartals / blockades, due primarily to their geographical location as islands. At the time of writing this overview hartals and blockades have stopped and CLP operations are returning to normal. However, uncertainty remains and the unpredictability as to what action opposition political parties will take following the election results continues as a risk for the future.

Given the above context majority of activities and outputs across all three Operations Division Units are by the end of the second quarter of the CLP financial year well on track. This is due to the determination of CLP and its partners to continue operations where and when possible, and through flexible working arrangements. In the Infrastructure Unit 9,756 households were employed (IEP) during this lean employment (*monga*) period raising 4,749 plinths, providing an average 27 days employment per person. Only one member a household was allowed to work so that the maximum number of households had access to employment / income to feed their families. 19,694 low cost latrines were installed using whole community wide approach reducing the level of open defecation within communities and improved WASH outcomes. 1,500 tube wells and 3,797 concrete aprons / platforms around tube wells were also installed.

Within the Human Development Unit 1,376 SD groups conducted regular weekly group meetings with the CPHHs of cohorts 2.4 and 2.5, 406 adolescent groups (both boys and girls) held their bi-monthly meetings and 204 Village Development Committees (VDCs) conducted their monthly meeting during the quarter. For Cohort 2.5, 617 new Social Development groups were established along with 94 Village Development Committees and 187 adolescent groups (94 girl groups and 93 boy groups). Unfortunately due to political unrest only 4 out of 39 Community Melas (fairs) were held. The CMs raise *char*-dwellers' awareness of social issues like negative effects of child marriage, polygamy, dowry, divorce, gender relation and violence against women issues etc. through performance of drama, folk songs, advice.

A total of 133 emergency grants (each of Tk. 2,000) were distributed to households affected by river erosion, domestic fire, and other emergencies during the quarter. Safety net grants under the Infrastructure Employment Programme (IEP) were distributed to 2,821 households; while 14,936 blankets were distributed among CPHHs of cohort 2.5 and the recipients of community safety-net and IEP safety net grant recipients during the severe cold weather in December 2013.

To achieve improved WASH outcomes, which was a recommendation from DFID CLP Annual Review 2013, CLP has agreed with UNICEF to provide and fund technical support to CLP under a 6-month

project, with Practical Action Bangladesh (PAB) as the facilitating agency. The project started 1st November 2013 and ends 30th April 2014. A joint action plan was developed, and 18 staff from Practical Action Bangladesh have been deployed, with 13 staff based at CLP IMO offices in the eight districts. Between 21st and 27th December, nine project launching workshops were held in the eight districts, attended by 126 people from PAB, CLP and the IMOs. The two-day workshop allowed all parties to understand and discuss joint action plan, their role in the project, and what will be achieved as improved WASH outcomes.

HDU have also held 1,661 fortnightly satellite clinics where CLP Paramedics and *char* health workers (CSKs) together provided 114,632 consultations for core and non-core participants. The direct nutrition intervention project (DNIP) is finally in full swing after baseline survey delay with 1,951 pregnant women, 1,868 breastfeeding mothers, 6,308 complementary feeding children, and 8,463 adolescent girls receiving visit and counselling from 472 *char* nutrition workers (CPKs). In addition, 378,805 iron and folic acid tablets (IFA) have been provided, along with 91,460 de-worming tablets. CLP has also agreed two referral centres for DNIP participants at the local level; one with Terre des Homes (TdH) in Kurigram and Rangpur Community Medical College and Hospital in Rangpur. These two centres will provide necessary treatment and support to the potential patients from 10 IMOs of Rangpur and Kurigram districts. As outlined in the Team Leader's overview it is most unfortunate that 130 control villages (23,000 CLP beneficiaries) will be excluded from participating and benefitting from the DNIP, and that 171 CPKs have had to be made redundant from 31st December as a consequence of the evaluation methodology being used.

In the Markets and Livelihoods Unit (MLU) 3,590 CPHHs (71.8%) procured assets against the target for the quarter of 5,000. The figure achieved is lower than the target because fewer cattle markets were held and, if held, fewer cattle were available to buy than normal due to the impact of hartals / blockades. This however will not affect the January 2014 log frame ATP milestone from being achieved, and it is anticipated that the annual target of 13,472 will be met by 30th June 2014. Cattle training target was under-achieved as it is related to procurement of assets. Other livelihood activities such as cattle vaccination and de-worming, AI, home gardening, and poultry rearing have all been impacted by the political unrest, but are near (just under) to achieving the target outputs set for the quarter. In the LSP project 18 community livestock vaccination camps were held, with a total of 9,380 cattle and 1,610 sheep / goats vaccinated. A new key initiative was taken to establish a number of Core group level demonstrations in the *chars* seeking to showcase improved cattle husbandry and management with an emphasis on concentrate feed and high yielding fodder demonstration (demo). A total of 160 cattle husbandry and management demos and 360 high yielding fodder demos were established in the cohort 2.4.

All producer business groups have now been established in MLU's three market development projects – a total of 120 milk business groups (MBGs), 96 livestock business groups (LBGs), and 96 fodder business groups (FBGs). These three projects are providing improved technical and market opportunities support to about 7,800 *char* milk, meat and fodder producers in total to improve their business productivity, profits, competitiveness, and access to market opportunities. During the quarter all three projects continued with technical training, yard meetings, and fodder demonstrations. However, political unrest disrupted some training and prevented visits from taking place, market linkages creation / strengthening, produce from being marketed / transported to the mainland, and the availability of input supplies (cattle feed, medicines, seeds).

The short-term Dairy Consultant Dr Nasir Javed completed his assignment on the Milk Market Development Project in October, and presented his findings to the CLP management and milk team (CLP and IMOs staff). The formal report on the assignment was published in November, and the CLP are actively implementing its recommendations to strengthen outcomes and sustainability for dairy value chain on the *chars*.

A major requirement to achieve sustainable market development and mainstreaming of market access and opportunities for milk, meat and fodder producers is access to finance to cover costs of production (to pay for improved inputs such as concentrate feed, fodder, medicines, seeds, fertiliser, etc.) and investment in more productive assets. As there are no banks on the *chars* and microfinance is minimal, *char* people rely on moneylenders ('sharks') for finance who charge extortionate interest rates of up to 120%. To address this constraint CLP is proactively using the markets approach to engage IMOs (CLP NGOs) who already provide microfinance as part of their business operations to extend their microfinance activities to make available where requested finance to CLP milk, meat and fodder business group producers, as well as M4C crop producer group members. CLP has implemented two access to (micro) finance workshops (12th September and 23rd November) to promote this initiative, and is currently working with its partners including M4C to organise the access to finance (A2F) initiative to support IMOs develop and provide loan products to these business groups.

2.2 Infrastructure Development

The whole of Bangladesh experienced political unrest and turmoil in this quarter, especially during the last two months of the year. Hartal and road blockade imposed by the opposition political parties disrupted activities. IMOs faced hurdles in transportation of staff and materials required for WATSAN works. Banks could not provide cash to IMOs as they could not carry cash from one place to another to feed the account-holders' demands. This caused delay in procurement of construction materials and payment of workforce employed for earth work. IMO staff worked on many weekend days and late hours to cover the delay and disruption. With all these constraints and hazards IMOs, however, were able to achieve the target and kept the momentum rolling.

The following table shows progress against key infrastructure targets for the period October – December 2013.

Indicator	October – December '13		FY 2013-14 (July '13 – June '14)		% progress towards yearly target
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement (6 months)	
Plinth Raising	4,600	4,749	15,000	4,809	32%
Pillar with flood mark	115	107	115	119	103%
Low cost latrines	16,043	19,694	41,100	21,492	52%
Shallow TW	1,278	1,500	3,500	1,524	44%
Platform around TW	3,239	3,797	8,100	4,154	51%
GPS coordinates*	10,000	10,321	30,000	15,943	53%
Arsenic test of TW water*	4,000	2,668	8,000	3,856	48%
Persons employed in IEP	10,950	9,756	10,950	9,756	89%
Equivalent person days of employment	300,000	303,860	300,000	303,860	101%

Infrastructure and Employment Project (IEP) – plinth raising during the lean season

Eighteen IMOs and 14 Union Parishads (local government) were contracted to generate employment for poor people through plinths raising works during the lean employment season (October-December 2013). Wage rate for moving earths was raised by 15% this year as the overall rural wage rate has considerably increased in the last couple of years. CLP pays premium wages in the wet/lean season as compared to dry season as people can move less earth due to its wetness. The labourers in Tangail and Pabna district get higher wages due to better employment opportunities and close proximity to Dhaka. The project was closed on 31st December.

9,756 people (703 women) got employment for an average of 27 days during this lean season. The percentage of women employment was low as compared to previous years as women were scared to go out for works because of the political unrest and most importantly for unsafe working environment. Many innocent people falling in the middle of political clashes were killed during this period. Apart from that the political turmoil had little impact on IEP works, though the labour payment was very irregular. The people and the wider community were very happy and thankful to CLP as the very poor and vulnerable to employment got employment within their village when they could not move out for work to towns and cities. Considering the vulnerable condition of the poorest people CLP did not miss a single day to start the dry season (Jan-May) plinth works. As many as 9 IMOs have started dry plinth works on 1st January last which usually starts in third week of January.

The labourers (both male and female) earned daily income ranging between Tk. 200 to Tk. 409. A total of Tk. 79 million was paid as wages for moving earths. Plinths for 4,809 households were raised under this IEP. 303,860 equivalent person days of employment was offered to 9,756 poor households. Only one member from a household was allowed to work so that maximum numbers of households get access to employment.

Improving Access to Sanitary Latrines

Grant agreements were signed in July 2013 with 16 IMOs to install 41,100 low cost latrines in this fiscal year. CLP provided subsidy in cash and kind worth Tk. 1,145 for each latrine and the targeted households spent on an average Tk. 1,800 towards the cost of wall retaining measures, fencing, roofing and raising latrine plinths above flood line (by non-core households whose plinth is not raised). During this quarter 19,694 households have installed a sanitary latrine above flood line.

To date 21,500 latrines have been installed in the first six months of the year. Transportation of construction materials (e.g. bricks, cements sands etc.) was disrupted due to hartals and road blockade. However, the IMOs managed to overcome the situation through working late hours and weekends. The community-wide approach is helping to stop open defecation, which is having a positive impact on health and nutrition.

The Human Development Unit of CLP is providing education on water, sanitation and hygiene to households through the social development module lessons. To achieve effective behaviour change and better water and sanitation outcome the CLP has signed MoU with UNICEF, Bangladesh. Practical Action (PA) has been awarded a contract to train CLP-IMO staff on WATSAN behaviour change and to further develop communication materials. PA is in the field now and providing training to IMO staff and some selected stakeholders like adolescent group members, Char health and Nutrition workers.

Improving Access to Improved Water

Under the revised water policy the CLP is prioritising core households in providing access to an improved water source, replacing the previous policy of community-wide open targeting. Two surveys were carried out; one in May-June 2013 and September-October 2013 to investigate the access to improved water of cohorts 2.1 to 2.4, as well as action needed to provide them easy access

to improved water.

It was ascertained from the study that repair and changing some parts of existing tube well in addition to installing new tube well and platforms would be a cost effective option for providing access to improved water. It was concluded from the survey findings and further validation by supervisory teams that if CLP provides subsidy for 3,500 tube wells (including head change and re-sinking) and install 8,100 platforms (including GI pipe extension/change) around existing old tube wells, 97% core participant households (2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4) will get access to improved water. It will also provide access to improved water to 55,000 non-core households. CLP has decided to implement all of the above mentioned water improvement options and grant agreements have been signed with IMOs to implement the work in this fiscal year.

To date 1,524 shallow tube wells and 4,154 concrete platforms with minor changes of parts have been installed. The remaining work to cover cohorts 2.1 through 2.4 will be done in the next two quarters.

Stipend transfer through mobile SIM cards:

6,842 new core participants from 2.4 cohort in 87 villages are getting their monthly stipends through mobile from July 2013. They will continue to receive their monthly stipends till June 2014.

CLP could not maintain the payment schedule of stipend transfer through mobile SIM in this quarter due to opposition political parties' hartals and transportation blockade. CLP could not deposit stipend amount to bKash (the service provider) bank account on schedule date and eventually the participants did not receive the transfer on time. The bKash agents could not honour participants' demand due to lack of funds. But that was not a big problem. All participants got their cash out though not on first demand. IMO staff was vigilant and no extra charges were paid.

Infrastructure activities for the next quarter

The following table shows key infrastructure targets for the period October – December 2013.

Indicator	Target for next quarter (January– March 2014)
HH Plinth raised	5,313
# of female HH members benefiting from raised plinths	10,340
# of male HH members benefiting from raised plinths	10,328
Low cost latrines installed	9,970
# of female members with access to sanitary latrines	19,403
# of male members with access to sanitary latrines	19,380
Shallow tube well installed	601
TW platform installed	1,225
# of female members accessing improved water source	11,831
# of male members accessing improved water source	11,817
GPS coordinates recorded	10,000
Arsenic test of TW water	2,500

More specifically, the most significant activities/deliverables for the unit are shown below:

Unit	Significant Activities
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household plinth will be raised above 0.6m of highest flood line. Low cost latrines (consisting of bamboo basket or clay rings or other materials to protect sand walls, concrete platforms with pan and water seal) will be installed for all households (core and non-core) in selected villages. Shallow tube wells will be installed to provide improved water access. Concrete platforms will be constructed around privately owned shallow tube wells to improve the water quality. Repair of old tube wells (changing pump head and extension of GI pipe etc.) will be done to improve the water quality. GPS coordinates of infrastructure points (plinth, TW, platform, latrine) will be recorded. TW water will be tested on arsenic.

2.3 Human Development

Please note that after the half-yearly review workshop in November 2013 some of the targets of Human Development Unit were revised for the current FY. The following table shows the progress against key Human Development Unit targets for the period October - December 2013.

Indicator	(October–December 2013)		(July 13 – June 14)		% Achieved (FY)
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
Social Development					
# of SD groups formed	624	617	624	617	98.88%
# of VDCs formed	95	94	95	94	98.95%
# of adolescent girls groups formed	95	94	95	94	98.95%
# of adolescent boys groups formed	95	93	95	93	97.89%
# of couples received 1 day orientation on gender sensitivity	6,860	8,356	16,460	11,046	67.11%
Social Protection					
# of people receiving community safety net	1,264	1,257	1,356	1,257	92.70%
# of people receiving incapacity and vulnerability grants	2,042	2,821	2,200	2,979	135.41%
# of emergency grants provided	250	133	1,500	719	47.93%
Health					
# of satellite clinics conducted	1,824	1,661	6,700	3,421	51.06%
# of patient consultations	91,200	114,632	336,000	111,125	67.19%

Indicator	(October–December 2013)		(July 13 – June 14)		% Achieved (FY)
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
Village Savings and Loan					
# of core VSL groups formed	345	486	624	486	77.88%
# of non-core VSL groups formed	128	55	624	55	8.81%
Direct Nutrition Intervention					
# of pregnant women visited	1,679	1,951	2,354	1,951	82.88%
# of 0-6 m children visited	3,005	1,868	2,326	1,868	89.30%
# of 7-24 m children visited	7,851	6,308	6,773	6,308	93.13%
# of adolescent girls visited	12,785	8,463	8,867	8,463	95.44%
# of IFA tab distributed to pregnant women (PW)	127,170	126,408	588,172	164,452	42.65%
# of IFA tab distributed to breastfeeding women	157,350	111,102	561,428	142,748	20.68%
# of IFA tab distributed to adolescent girls	172,680	141,295	600,692	175,076	22.36%
No. of DW doses to children of 12-59 m	19,432	13,011	49,774	13,011	26.14%
No. of DW doses to adolescent girls	12,785	5,919	32,626	5,919	18.14%
No. of DW doses to other household members	142,388	72,530	209,163	72,530	34.68%

2.3.1 Social Development

During the quarter, 617 Social Development (SD) groups were formed against the target of 624 with 13,667 Core Participants Households (CPHHs) of 2.5 cohort. A total of 94 Village Development Committees (VDCs) and 187 adolescent groups (94 with girls and 93 with boys) were formed which is slightly less than the target. A total of 1,376 SD groups conducted regular weekly group meetings with the CPHHs of phase 2.4 and 2.5, 406 adolescent groups (both boys and girls) hold their bi-monthly meetings and 204 Village Development Committees (VDCs) conducted their monthly meeting during the quarter. Members of VDCs and adolescent groups continued playing significant roles in their respective villages for achieving "open defecation free" status, reducing the incidence

of early marriage and dowry, ensuring birth registration, and increasing the enrolment of children in schools etc. In addition, VDC members also contributed in solving family conflicts, problems associated with plinth-raising e.g. plinth location, sourcing earth etc. Adolescent groups formed Peer Groups and conducted awareness sessions with them to raise awareness of the need to stop "eve-teasing" in the villages and ensure personal hygiene at individual and household level.

A contract was issued to RUPANTAR (an NGO) for performing drama and pot song on social issues in 38 Community Melas (CMs). A total of four CMs were held, including one special event in honour of a journalist team from Australia and Dr Rowan Mactaggart, a senior colleague from MSP, London office. The remaining CMs were postponed because of the prevailing political unrest. The objective of the CMs is to raise awareness of social issues like the negative effects of child marriage, polygamy, dowry, divorce, gender relation and violence against women, amongst others.

Under the CLP's broader partnership approach, UNICEF agreed to provide technical support to CLP for improved Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) outcome and impacts for six months. They contracted Practical Action Bangladesh (PAB) for this and they (PAB) started their activities from November 2013 and by this time, nine project launching workshops were organised with all IMOs across eight districts. CLP handed over a set of its SD modules and WASH-related IEC materials to PAB and held a series of meetings with them to review those materials and develop a joint Action Plan (AP) and monitoring tools.

In addition to these, a number of trainings were organised for capacity building among the beneficiaries as well as IMO staff during the reporting period. These were as follows.

- A total of 119 CDOs and 6 CDSs received four days of Training of Trainers (TOT) on SD modules to develop their facilitation skill for delivering sessions to the beneficiaries at weekly group meetings, organised by the IMOs. The trainings were jointly facilitated by the IMO Training Officers and the CLP District Social Development Managers (DSDMs).
- A total of 15 batches of three-day residential training were held on Capacity Building for VDC members.
- Nine batches of three-day residential training on Awareness Raising for adolescent groups were held.
- A total of 8,356 couples received training on gender sensitivity.
- Training on gender sensitivity and disaster management given to 656 non-core males in CLP working villages.
- A total of 100 Opinion Leaders received training on gender issues, water, sanitation and responsibilities of citizens, among other topics.
- Refresher training was arranged for 109 adolescents groups.
- A total of 70 batches of refresher training held for VDC members.

2.3.2 Social Protection

A total of 133 emergency grants (each of Tk. 2,000) were distributed during the quarter to households affected by river erosion, domestic fires, and so on. A total of 2,821 households received safety net grants under Infrastructure Employment Programme (IEP). During the same period, CPHHs collectively helped 1,257 poor households under the community safety net project. Moreover, 14,936 blankets were distributed among the CPHHs of cohort 2.5 and the recipients of community safety-net and IEP safety net grant recipients during the severe cold weather in December 2013.

2.3.3 Health

The target for fortnightly satellite clinics was 1,832, against which 1,661 were held (90.7%). Paramedics and Char Shasthya Karmis (CSKs) together provided 114,632 consultations for core and non-core participants against the set target of 91,200 (125.7%). During the same period 4,203

Health and Nutrition Education (HNE) sessions were conducted by the CSKs against a target of 3,648 (115.2%), where 107,672 participants attended against a target of 72,960 (147.6%).

Based on the MoU signed by the CLP and BRAC this year, BRAC has continued providing health services in the phased-out villages and gradually expanding their coverage. This is an on-going activity, to be continued by both CLP and BRAC.

Other achievements of the health project are as follows:

- Four-day basic training on the health project for 89 newly recruited CSKs from nine IMOs;
- A total of 152 CSKs in six batches from 16 IMOs received a four-day training session on C-IMCI;
- Personnel from Partners in Health and Development (PHD), the Specialist Services Provider (SSP) for health project, continued paying field visits to provide technical support and on-the-job coaching to Paramedics and CSKs.

2.3.4 Village Savings and Loan

The major activities undertaken by the VSL project during the quarter include the following.

- A total of 541 VSL groups (486 core and 55 non-core groups) were formed with total of 12,011 members (10,684 core and 1,327 non-core members). These groups have started conducting their fortnightly meetings (both share and loan meetings).
- A total of 771 groups (497 core and 274 non-core groups) shared out their capital at the end of the 1st cycle (first year). The average share out money per group and member was approximately Tk.63,303 and Tk.2,846 respectively. All these groups started their second cycle with an initial seed capital of Tk.9,244,276.
- A total of 790 groups (465 core and 325 non-core groups) have shared out their capital at the end of 2nd cycle (2nd year). The average share out money per group and member is approximately Tk.79,487 and Tk.3,618 respectively. Out of total 790 groups, 757 have started their third cycle with an initial seed capital of Tk.7,558,427 while 33 groups discontinued due to river erosion and migration to other chars.
- A total of 14,182 Group Management Committee-GMC members (both core and non-core) in 699 batches received one-day training on VSL Group Management.
- A total of 186 selected GMC members completed one-day internal learning visit.
- A total of 722 (core 560 non-core 162) VSL boxes delivered to 17 IMOs.
- Purchase order given for 500 VSL boxes & received total 118 boxes from the vendor.
- A total of 500 set kits for VSL boxes purchased.

2.3.5 Direct Nutrition Intervention

During the quarter under review CLP started nutrition work (inputs distribution and counselling) in full swing in all the villages other than 130 villages kept for control. As CLP will not provide any nutrition support in 130 control villages 171 CPKs will be discontinued from January 2014. Considering the reputation of IMO, CLP and DFID, CLP management had meetings with IMO EDs and PMs to take effective measures to discontinue 171 CPKs from January 2014 in order to avoid any likely negative impacts.

The key activities of this quarter are summarised below.

- 472 CPKs facilitated one-to-one counselling to targeted HHs in all IMOs. A total of 1,951 pregnant women, 1,868 breastfeeding mothers, 6,308 complementary feeding children, and 8,463 adolescent girls were visited and counselled.
- A total of 378,805 IFA tablets distributed -126,408 to pregnant women, 111,102 to breastfeeding mothers and 141,295 to adolescent girls.

- CLP organised a day-long orientation for household listing survey for Nutrition Supervisors (NSs) and Nutrition Officers (NOs) and all IMOs conducted the orientation for their CPKs in 2.5 area. However, the survey is yet to completed.
- All NSs and NOs received one day orientation from CLP on de-worming and they delivered it to the CPKs to implement the activity in field.
- A total of 13,011 de-worming doses to children of 12-59 m, 5,919 de-worming doses to adolescent girls, and 72,530 de-worming doses to other households were distributed/ provided.
- A day-long meeting was held with NSs and NOs to brief nutrition project activities and to prepare work plan for the current quarter on DNIP.
- CLP organised 2 batches of 3 day-long refreshers training for NSs and NOs and hold a quarterly review meeting with them.
- CLP identified two referral centres at the local level; one with Terre des Homes (TdH) in Kurigram and another is Rangpur Community Medical College and Hospital in Rangpur. These two centres will be able to provide necessary treatment and support to the potential patients from 10 IMOs of Rangpur and Kurigram districts.
- All IMOs conducted monthly meeting with CPKs as per plan.
- A Nutrition Project Guideline for CPKs was prepared; now waiting for printing.

2.4 Human Development Activities for the Next Quarter

The following table shows key HDU targets for the period January – March 2014.

Indicators	Target for Next Quarter (Jan-Mar, 2014)
<i>Social Development</i>	
# of adolescent boys' groups formed	1
# of couples received 1 day orientation on gender sensitivity	5,414
<i>Social Protection</i>	
# of people receiving community safety net	99
# of people receiving incapacity and vulnerability grants	0
# of emergency grants provided	250
<i>Health</i>	
# of satellite clinics conducted	1,872
# of patient consultations	93,600
<i>Village Savings and Loan</i>	
# of core VSL groups formed	138
# of non-Core VSL groups formed	569
<i>Direct Nutrition Intervention</i>	
# of pregnant women visited	2,354
# of 0-6 m children visited	2,326
# of 7-24 m children visited	6,773
# of adolescent girls visited	8,867
# of IFA tab distributed to pregnant women (PW)	223,597
# of IFA tab distributed to breastfeeding women	219,169

Indicators	Target for Next Quarter (Jan-Mar, 2014)
# of IFA tab distributed to adolescent girls	250,122
# of DW doses to children of 12-59 m	614
# of DW doses to adolescent girls	273
# of DW doses to other household members	5,872

2.5 Markets and Livelihoods Unit (MLU)

Quarterly Report for the period of October 2013 – December 2013

2.5.1 Livelihoods Development Projects

The following table shows progress against key Livelihoods activity targets for the period October '13 – December '13.

Indicators	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
a) Asset Transfer:					
# of CPHHs received assets	5,000	3,590	13,472	3,590	27
# of CPHHs received cattle as primary asset	4,905	3,509	13,132	3,509	27
# of CPHHs received cross-bred cattle as primary asset	383	330	1,280	330	26
# of CPHHs received local cattle as primary asset	4,522	3,179	11,852	3,179	27
# of CPHHs received land lease as primary asset	75	75	270	75	28
# of CPHHs received other assets as primary asset	20	6	70	6	9
# of CPHHs received stipends (for 1st time)	4,000	3,230	13,472	3,230	24
b) Home Gardening:					
# of CPHHs completed HG training	0	0	13,472	0	0
# of person days HG training provided to CPHHs	17,000	16,333	29,776	24,655	83
# of CPHHs received vegetable seeds	11,175	10,786	12,800	10,786	84
# of CPHHs received all tree saplings	0	0	12,297	0	0
# of CPHHs established compost pits	5,236	4,430	12,328	4,430	36

Indicators	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
# of vegetable pits established by CPHHs	44,267	43,273	51,200	43,273	85
# of plinths planted with grass / fodder	0	0	12,028	0	0
c) Livestock:					
# of CPHHs completed livestock training	0	0	17,774	9,134	51
# of person days livestock training provided to CPHHs	14,000	12,497	61,147	27,136	44
# of cattle vaccinated (4 doses)	470	367	14,752	6,854	46
# of cattle de-wormed (3 doses)	0	135	11,526	135	1
# of cattle artificially inseminated	500	302	4,034	953	24
e) Poultry rearing:					
# of CHHs received inputs supports to model rearer	147	21	985	21	2
# of CPHHs received training on backyard poultry rearing	0	2,064	13,472	2,064	15
# of CPHHs completed training on model poultry rearing techniques	0	0	1,571	571	36
# of person days training received by CPHHs on poultry rearing	7,947	7,512	35,931	19,403	54
# of poultry vaccinators received Inputs supports for poultry vaccination	96	47	135	47	35
# of poultry vaccinators received training on poultry vaccination techniques	96	52	135	52	39
Livestock Services					
# People completed training as Livestock Service Providers (Paravets)	24	24	80	24	30
# of person days field training for Livestock Service Providers provided	700	571	2,560	928	36

Indicators	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
# of livestock vaccination camp organized at community level	20	18	100	18	18

Asset transfer

During the quarter, a total of 3,590 CPHHs procured asset against the target of 5,000. Among them majority (3,509) procured cattle out of which 3,179 CPHHs bought local cattle and 330 CPHHs bought cross bred cattle. The achievement was lower than the target because several cattle procurement schedules were postponed by the IMOs due to country wide hartal/blockade during the quarter. A good number of bulls under cohort 2.4 were sold during the quarter. A total of 5,923 CPHHs (36% of total CPHHs) under the cohort purchased bulls and among those 2,800 (47% of the total bulls) were sold. The average gross profit per bull was Tk. 6,755 over the period of 7.5 months i.e. the monthly income was Tk.879. The profit margin was comparatively lower because many CPHHs had to spend more money for feed purchase during the flooding period (August – September, 2013). The cattle feed price became higher during the period, as a result they were bound to sell their cattle at lower prices. Besides some CPHHs brought cattle to Dhaka for selling during Eid festival expecting higher price but they received low price because cattle price was lower in Dhaka during the latest Eid festival. A large number of cattle crossed the border from India which influenced the cattle price in Bangladesh during the Eid festival. However, many of the CPHHs re-invested money for cattle purchasing and land leasing by this time. In addition, the MLU continued to provide support like cattle feeding, housing, management and healthcare to 16,309 CPHHs under cohort 2.4.

Livestock training

A total of 12,497 person days training on livestock rearing were provided to CPHHs from cohort 2.4 and 2.5 against the target of 14,000 person days. The target was under achieved as it is related with procurement of asset.

Stipend distribution

In this quarter, 3,250 CPHHs received first time stipend against the target of 4,000. In this case, achievement was also lower than the target as it is related with procurement of assets. A total of 6,798 CPHHs in cohort 2.4 have received their stipends through mobile cash transfer provider bKash during this quarter. Rest of the CPHHs in cohort 2.4 has received their stipend in cash through the usual master roll system.

Vaccination and de-worming of ATP cattle through voucher scheme

During the period, a total of 367 cattle under cohort 2.4 were vaccinated against the four major diseases of Anthrax, Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Black Quarter (BQ) and Haemorrhagic Septicaemia (HS) while the target was 470. Achievement was lower than the target as some bulls were sold by the CPHHs before completing four doses of vaccines. A total of 135 cattle under cohort 2.4 completed a 3rd dose of de-worming in advance, which was not targeted

Artificial insemination

A total of 302 cattle were artificially inseminated with improved semen against the target of 500. Achievement was lower than the target as fewer cattle than expected were in heat during the quarter. A total of 191 cows gave birth to AI calves and 1,192 were at various stage of pregnancy.

Calf feed vouchers were distributed to the CPHHs that had AI calves. The unit organised meetings for artificial insemination technicians at different locations in the quarter. Markets and Livelihoods Development Supervisors (MLDS), Livestock Officers (LO) and Business Development Officers (BDO) of the respective IMOs participated in the meeting. Officials from local Government Department of Livestock Services (DLS) and BRAC were also attended in the meeting. The objective of the meeting was to discuss and share about field problems, performance of AI technicians, include new AI technicians under the project and prospects of artificial insemination (AI) in the CLP2 working areas. A total of 85 AI technicians participated in the events.

Poultry rearing

Under cohort 2.5, a total of 21 CPHHs received inputs such as cash support for purchasing hens and improved poultry shed-making costs against the target of 147. The target was not achieved due to the lack of quality hens in the *char* markets because of cold weather and political unrest in December 2013. A total of 2,064 CPHHs under cohort 2.5 received training on backyard poultry rearing during the quarter in advance although it was not targeted. On the other hand 7,512 person-days training on poultry rearing were provided to participants under the poultry project, against the target of 7,947. A total of 47 poultry vaccinators received input support such as poultry vaccination kits under cohort 2.5 against the target of 96. On the other hand 52 poultry vaccinators received training on poultry vaccination techniques against the target of 96. The achievement was lower in both cases because enrolment of CPHHs under cohort 2.5 was slightly delayed. A total of 158 Poultry vaccinators, 1,219 model poultry rearers and 10,855 general poultry rearers under cohort 2.4 continued to receive support such as advice, training and different inputs. The average monthly income of poultry vaccinator and model poultry rearer was Tk.1,045 and 871 respectively during the quarter.

Homestead garden

In this period, a total of 10,786 CPHHs received vegetable seeds for cultivation in homestead area against the target of 11,175. The target was slightly under-achieved as the plinths of those CPHHs were under construction during the period. The distributed vegetable seeds were planted in 43,275 vegetable pits for creeper vegetables against the target of 44,267. Besides, 4,430 CPHHs established compost pits against the target of 5,236. The achievement was lower because IMOs do not report unless CPHHs are paid for compost shed even if it is completed. Moreover, CPHHs under cohort 2.4 continued to receive training and support for vegetable cultivation, seeds preservation, fruits tree management, compost production and its utilization etc.

Homestead gardening training

A total of 16,333 person-days of training on homestead gardening were provided to CPHHs under cohort 2.4 and 2.5 against the target of 17,000 person days.

Cattle husbandry management and fodder demonstration

An initiative was taken to establish a number of Core group level demonstrations in the chars seeking to showcase improved cattle husbandry and management with an emphasis on concentrate feed and high-yielding fodder demonstration (demo). A total of 160 cattle husbandry and management demos and 360 high-yielding fodder demos were established in cohort 2.4.

Livestock Services Providers Project

During the quarter, 24 targeted people completed 15 days' training in three different phases (7 days, 5 days and 3 days) in different periods as Livestock Service Provider (LSP). In each training one month interval was given for the LSP to gain practical knowledge working in the community. They were under close observation and follow up by the relevant field level staff who also assisted in practical learning. They are also involved in different extension work and primary preventive measures of livestock in the locality. A total of 571 person days field training were provided to

Livestock Service Providers and relevant staff against the target of 700. The achievement was lower because of restriction on movement due to national political unrest/ blockade during the period. A total of 18 community livestock vaccination camps were organized against the target of 20 during the quarter. The main objective of event was to introduce newly developed LSPs in the community people and core programme participants' level. As a result newly developed LSPs will be able to carry out his activities in the community easily. A total of 9,380 cattle and 1,610 sheep/goats were vaccinated against different cattle and PPR vaccines through community vaccination camps. Two camps were not possible to organize because of unavailability of cattle vaccines in Upazila Livestock Offices. Livestock Service Providers (LSP) under cohort 2.4 areas continued to receive support like advice, technical knowledge, primary treatments and inputs.

2.5.2 Other Activities implemented during the quarter

Training module development

The technical training modules on livestock rearing, homestead gardening and poultry rearing were revised. The revision was required due to inclusion of some ideas and technology into these projects. These modules are to be used by the IMO level staff for the conduction of CPHHs training. Meanwhile draft copies of the modules have been supplied to them and final versions are in the press.

Annual Work Plan and Budget preparation

The Annual work plan and budget for FY 2013 -14 was revised considering the increased number of CPHHs. The draft budget for the FY 2014 -15 and FY 2015 -16 (Up to March, 2016) were prepared. Four new district level staffs (District Markets and Livelihoods Officer) were recruited and three District Markets and Livelihoods Coordinators (DMLC) were promoted as District Markets and Livelihoods Manager (DMLM) during the reported period.

2.5.3 Livelihoods Development activities for the next quarter

The following table shows key Livelihoods Development targets for the period January – March 2014:

Indicator	Target for next quarter (Jan'14 – Mar'14)
<i>a) Asset Transfer:</i>	
# of CPHHs received assets	7,000
# of CPHHs received cattle as primary asset	6,847
# of CPHHs received cross-bred cattle as primary asset	805
# of CPHHs received local cattle as primary asset	6,042
# of CPHHs received land lease as primary asset	120
# of CPHHs received other assets as primary asset	33
# of CPHHs received stipends (for 1st time)	6,500
<i>b) Home Gardening:</i>	
# of CPHHs completed HG training	7,255
# of person days HG training provided to CPHHs	11,290
# of CPHHs received vegetable seeds	1,634
# of CPHHs received all tree saplings	0
# of CPHHs established compost pits	6,756

Indicator	Target for next quarter (Jan'14 – Mar'14)
# of vegetable pits established by CPHHs	6,176
# of plinths planted with grass / fodder	0
<i>c) Livestock:</i>	
# of CPHHs completed livestock training	500
# of person days livestock training provided to CPHHs	18,126
# of cattle vaccinated (4 doses)	3,346
# of cattle de-wormed (3 doses)	7,359
# of cattle artificially inseminated	1,019
<i>e) Poultry rearing:</i>	
# of HHs received Inputs supports to model rearer	815
# of CPHHs received training on backyard poultry rearing	9,300
# of CPHHs completed training on model poultry rearing techniques	0
# of person days training received by CPHHs poultry rearing training	11,280
# of poultry vaccinators received Inputs supports for poultry vaccination	39
# of poultry vaccinators received training on poultry vaccination techniques	39
<i>Livestock Services</i>	
# People completed training as Livestock Service Providers (Para-vets)	22
# of person days field training for Livestock Service Providers provided	800
# of livestock vaccination camp organized at community level	80

The Unit has several livelihoods priorities during the next quarter (January – March 2014):

1. Continue Asset Transfer Project with CPHHs under CLP2.5;
2. Implement cattle husbandry and fodder demonstration at Core household level;
3. Continue support to develop model poultry rearer and poultry vaccinator;
4. Continue establishment of homestead garden under CLP 2.4 & 2.5;
5. Distribution of printed updated training materials.

More specifically, the most significant activities/deliverables for the Unit are shown below:

Unit	Significant Activities
Markets and Livelihoods	<u>Asset Transfer</u> Basic technical training for CPHHs; CPHH orientation meetings; Purchase of assets for CPHHs; Implement cattle husbandry and fodder demonstration;

Unit	Significant Activities
	Distribution of stipends and monitoring to be continued.
	<u>Homestead Gardening</u>
	Establishment of vegetable garden in homestead;
	CPHHs training on vegetable & vegetable's seed production and preservation;
	CPHHs training on compost production and fruits tree management;
	Distribution of vegetable seeds;
	Establishment of compost pit.
	<u>Livestock</u>
	CPHHs training and refresher training on livestock rearing;
	Vaccination and de-worming of cattle procured by CPHHs;
	Artificial Insemination (AI) activities to be continued;
	Establish AI Travis in the community level;
	Meetings with AI technicians, DLS and BRAC officials.
	<u>Poultry</u>
	Building and demonstration of model houses;
	Selection of Poultry Vaccinator;
	Provide training and inputs to the new Poultry vaccinators;
	CPHHs training on poultry rearing;
	<u>Livestock Services;</u>
	Provide training and inputs to the new Livestock Service Providers;
	Provide refresher training to existing Livestock Service Providers;
	Organise vaccination camp at community level.

2.6 Market Development Projects

2.6.1 Milk Market Activities

The following table shows the progress against key output targets of the milk market project for the period of October–December, 2013:

Indicators	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
<i>Formation of Milk Business Group (MBG)</i>					
# of Discussion meeting with target community farmers	39	39	84	84	100
# of Follow up meeting and MBG formation	55	55	84	84	100

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Indicators	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
# of Need analysis meeting	75	75	84	84	100
# of Orientation session on milk market scenario	70	76	84	77	92
# of Yard meeting with new MBG members	200	210	1344	263	20
# of Yard meeting with old MBG members	170	172	432	172	40
# of Follow up discussion with 1-yr old MBG members to capture market linkage improvements	0	0	36	0	0
# of Graduation meeting with MBG members	0	0	36	0	0
<i>Promotion of Access to Feed and Fodder</i>					0
# of Capacity building events for input suppliers	0	0	21	0	0
# of Linkage meeting with input suppliers between mainland and char	2	2	8	2	25
# of Demo of fodder plot	140	147	168	157	93
# of Results demo on fodder cultivation	10	9	84	9	11
# of Exchange visits to fodder fields	2	0	11	0	0
<i>Promotion of improved AH Practices and Vet Services</i>					
# of Training on improved cattle rearing and fodder production for MBGs	63	60	252	60	24

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Indicators	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
# of Refresher training on improved cattle rearing and fodder production for old MBGs	15	18	36	18	50
# of Demonstration on cattle husbandry and management practice	110	112	179	116	65
# of Result demonstration on cattle husbandry and management practice	0	0	84	0	0
# of Linkage meeting with medicine traders and retailers	5	0	12	0	0
<i>Improving Milk Supply Network</i>					
# of Linkage meeting between producers and selected collectors and profiling of collectors	30	29	84	29	35
# of Capacity building training for potential milk collectors	0	0	2	0	0
# of Cross visit for MBG to collective / other milk supply system	3	3	9	3	33
# of Linkage meeting between milk collectors and informal / formal processors	2	2	10	2	20
<i>Develop Char-based informal Milk Processor</i>					
# of Capacity building events for the selected potential processors	2	0	10	0	0

Indicators	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
<i>Promotion of Access to Finance</i>					
# of Introducing Micro Financing Institutes (MFIs) with MBGs and supply side actors	5	6	84	6	7
<i>Development of CBC</i>					
# of CBC committee formation	0	0	9	0	0
# of Capacity building events of CBC committee	6	2	24	2	8
# of CBC committee planning meeting	6	4	24	4	17
# of Exposure visit to effective collection point and institutional buyers	4	0	13	0	0
# of Institutional linkage workshop with MBG, buyer and input sellers	8	0	22	0	0
# of CBC future planning meeting with Goala, informal / formal processor, LSP	8	0	21	0	0

MBG formation and other key interventions

The targeted number of new MBG formation (84) was completed within this reporting quarter. These groups are receiving different intervention activities, such as: 77 sessions on milk market dynamics in their respective areas; and 263 yard meetings on different technical aspects of increasing milk productivity of cow. During this quarter, 157 fodder demonstrations were established among the MBG members, promoting the importance and benefit of sufficient green and fresh fodder consumption by dairy cattle. A total of 60 batches of technical training on improved cattle rearing and fodder production were offered to MBG members. Out of the total target of 179 demonstrations on improved cattle husbandry and management practices, 116 were established by this quarter.

Training on extension approach for the milk market team

The milk project team (inc. IMO-BDOs) received a 1-day residential training in Bogra on 'how to approach farmers', facilitated by the dairy consultant, Dr. Nasir Javed. The training covered some of the major extension methodology for knowledge transfer to the char farmers, like how to organise a meeting and ensure farmers' attention, how to gauge the farmer considering Demographics and Psychographics, how to manage cultural differences, different types of communications and how to overcome communication barriers, among others.

Module development on 'Improved Practices of Dairy Cow Rearing'

A technical handout on improved practices of dairy cow rearing has been developed for the use of IMO-BDOs at the field level. The module covers different aspects of better management practices of dairy cattle to achieve increased lactation period, shorten dry stage and reducing calving interval. This will be a technical guideline for the BDOs while conducting training / yard meeting sessions with the MBGs.

Strategic workshop on LSP engagement and KPIs for BDOs

The CLP milk project team (Secretariat and District) gathered at CLP HQ and participated in a three-day workshop. This aimed to develop strategies on engaging char-based Livestock Service Providers (LSPs) to provide assistance to the IMO-BDOs. A particular focus was engaging relevant LSPs in the Milk project areas to monitor and provide weekly follow up visits to MBG members' houses. The objectives of these visits are to ensure that dairy cow husbandry and management practices improvements are implemented, desired outcomes are achieved and these improvements will sustain after the project exits. In this workshop, some clear outcome (impact) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were finalized for BDOs to report on a monthly basis from the next quarter. In this way, the KPIs will allow the milk project to receive feedback on practice-change progress, to make timely operational decisions where and when required, and to be able to measure progress and changes taking place as a result of the milk project activities.

Dialogue for creating access to finance provision in the chars

Access to finance is one of the major requirements for sustainable market operations in the chars. From this understanding, the CLP milk project started doing piloting village savings and loans associations (VSLA) models with a few milk business groups. Anecdotal references show that these business groups are doing well with these models. However, CLP has also tried to engage other sources of financing in the chars, e.g. our existing IMOs which have microfinance components. CLP has encouraged them to extend their microfinance coverage and include our market business groups (meat, fodder and especially milk as well as agriculture crops of M4C project) so that sustainable business opportunities can flourish in the chars.

As a continuation of gathering the IMOs to let them understand the theme of access to finance (A2F) CLP organised two microfinance workshops (one held at the end of 1st quarter and another in the mid of reporting quarter) attended by partner and non-partner IMOs and other projects' representatives. At this moment there are a large number of business group members in the chars who are ready to use different loan products to start and expand their businesses. This is a key point for a microfinance organisation. There is a good chance that that microfinance operations could be self-sufficient in much less time than normal when moving to a new area (2 – 3 years) if they begin operating on the chars soon. The CLP milk market team, along with the existing microfinance component of CLP, are working together to organise the A2F initiative. CLP IMOs which currently offer microfinance are the target microfinance providers, while CLP will act as a central regulation and quality control body. Discussions among the organizations are going on and there will be clear agreement between the organisations to carry out activities in the field. Under this initiative CLP are developing a draft MoU that will be signed between CLP and MFIs (partner/non partner IMOs) which will contain rules and regulations to be followed. However, the present political situation has delayed the process. Activities will begin again in earnest once there are fewer hartals and blockades.

Note:

- Some of the planned activities like linkage meeting/workshop involving other market actors, cross visits are underachieved due to the unusual political situation (like Hartal, Blockade, Local Strike, etc.).

- The unrest political situation largely affected direct field level monitoring of the CLP district staff.

2.6.2 Milk Market Project – Key Achievements

- Average milk production has increased between 10% and 50%.
- MBG members and milk collectors are now better knowledgeable on improved cattle rearing and management practices and hygienic and safety issues during milk collection, carrying and handling period, respectively.
- Overall, cultivating high-yielding fodder has increased. At least 40% of MBG members have started cultivating Jumbo grass.
- A better business interaction has been generated among other milk market actors like LSP, feed/input seller, milk collector, etc.
- In many working chars, supply of ready feeds was initiated (like Lalmoni Agro, AIT, Aftab, BRAC, Siddiq, TEER, and veterinary medicine companies)
- Some CBCs have started liaison and business coordination among milk market actors for different inputs and services in their respective chars like de-worming, vaccination, treatment, milk price negotiation, ready feed availability, better business relation among LSPs, of Goalas and input dealers.
- In Rangpur region, community-based milk collection points have been created in four working chars. The average milk collection in these points is 30 litres/day in each. In this way, MBG members are getting average Tk. 2 - 4 more per litre than previously. However, political conditions have affected milk prices, with reductions to the farmers.

2.6.3 Milk Market Project Target for the Next Quarter (Jan–Mar 2014)

The following table shows key targets of the milk market project for the period January–March, 2014:

Indicator	Target for next quarter (Jan–Mar, 2014)
<i>Formation of Milk Business Group (MBG)</i>	
# of Orientation session on milk market scenario	7
# of Yard meeting with new MBG members	572
# of Yard meeting with old MBG members	136
# of Follow up discussion with 1-yr old MBG members to capture market linkage improvements	17
# of Graduation meeting with MBG members	4
<i>Promotion of Access to Feed and Fodder</i>	
# of Capacity building events for input suppliers	10
# of Linkage meeting with input suppliers between mainland and char	6
# of Demo of fodder plot	12
# of Results demo on fodder cultivation	74
# of Exchange visits to fodder fields	8
<i>Promotion of improved AH Practices and Vet Services</i>	
# of Training on improved cattle rearing and fodder production for MBGs	131

Indicator	Target for next quarter (Jan-Mar, 2014)
# of Refresher training on improved cattle rearing and fodder production for old MBGs	15
# of Demonstration on cattle husbandry and management practice	48
# of Result demonstration on cattle husbandry and management practice	53
# of Linkage meeting with medicine traders and retailers	10
<i>Improving Milk Supply Network</i>	
# of Linkage meeting between producers and selected collectors and profiling of collectors	55
# of Capacity building training for potential milk collectors	1
# of Cross visit for MBG to collective / other milk supply system	3
# of Linkage meeting between milk collectors and informal / formal processors	8
<i>Develop Char-based informal Milk Processor</i>	
# of Capacity building events for the selected potential processors	6
<i>Promotion of Access to Finance</i>	
# of Introducing Micro Financing Institutes (MFIs) with MBGs and supply side actors	33
<i>Development of CBC</i>	
# of CBC committee formation	9
# of Capacity building events of CBC committee	21
# of CBC committee planning meeting	19
# of Exposure visit to effective collection point and institutional buyers	2
# of Institutional linkage workshop with MBG, buyer and input sellers	10
# of CBC future planning meeting with Goala, informal / formal processor, LSP	2

2.6.3 Meat Market Activities

The following table shows the progress against key output targets of the meat market project for the period of October-December, 2013.

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Indicator	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
<i>Char Business Center Development</i>					
# of Livestock Business Fair	0	0	4	0	0
# of CBC Committee Formation	16	16	18	18	100
# of CBC Committee Capacity- Building	12	12	48	12	25
# of CBC Sensitization Workshop	0	0	18	0	0
# of CBC Committee Planning Workshop	30	31	66	31	47
# Exposure visit to effective Collection Points and Institutional Buyers	5	0	33	0	0
# of Institutional linkage workshop with MBGs, FBGs, Buyers, Input Sellers, etc.	8	0	48	0	0
# of CBC / LBG Planning Workshop	30	50	66	50	76
# of CBC / FBG Planning Workshop	30	53	66	53	80
# of CBC / Paiker Planning Workshop	30	38	66	38	58
# of CBC, private service agency, Govt. organization workshop	0	0	18	0	0
# of Phase out workshop	0	0	24	0	0
<i>Livestock Business Group (LBG) Development</i>					
# of LBGs Formation	8	8	36	36	100
# of Production and sales planning meeting (PSPM)	90	94	102	94	92
# of Improved breed capacity building from lead producers	16	16	36	16	44
# of Improved breed linkage workshop between LBGs and private farms	2	2	18	2	11
# of Market literacy workshop series	6	6	36	6	17
# of Rearing Workshop Series	10	0	72	0	0
# of Paiker linkage workshop with LBGs	10	4	36	4	11
# of Institutional Buyer Workshop	12	0	48	0	0

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Indicator	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
# of Concentrated Feed Demonstration and Farmers' field day (FFD)	40	43	120	59	49
# of Firm to Farm forum support	5	0	18	0	0
# of Rearing workshop for poultry	0	0	66	0	0
# of Rearing workshop for Goat	0	0	66	0	0
<i>Paiker Network Development</i>					
# of mapping out the potential paikers/institutional buyers	35	36	54	76	141
# of Paiker/Institutional Buyer Linkage Workshop	1	1	16	1	6
# of Capacity-building on rearing and management	0	0	8	0	0
# of Facilitate char / mainland exposure visits and demonstrations	0	0	18	0	0
# of Linkage workshop among CBC and poultry output market actors (char and mainland)	5	5	66	5	8
# of Linkage workshop among CBC and Goat output market actors (char and mainland)	5	5	66	5	8
<i>Tailored Financial Product for Meat</i>					
# of Capacity building of local Community Based Organizations / Micro Financing Institutes on device loan product(s) to meat cattle business	1	1	2	1	50
# of Loan product orientation workshop	1	1	1	1	100
# of Orientation workshop for CBCs on loan product	5	5	48	5	10
<i>Institutional Buyer Engagement</i>					
# of Linkage workshop with CBCs and LBGs	5	5	66	5	8
# of Linkage workshop with Paikers	0	0	16	0	0
# of Market Literacy workshop with CBCs and LBGs	0	0	18	0	0

Indicator	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
# of CBC / LBG toolkit development	0	0	1	0	0
<i>Commercialization of Manger Service</i>					
# of Identify the potential manger service providers or interested client	5	7	8	7	87
# of Linkage workshop with CBCs and LBGs	12	13	48	13	27
# of Manger service promotion (FFD)	0	0	96	0	0
<i>Alternative Energy (biogas) Promotion</i>					
# of Service provider identification	2	8	2	8	400
# of Orientation workshop between service providers and CBCs	0	0	48	0	0
# of Demonstration of biogas plant	0	0	8	0	0

Note:

**Some of the planned activities are underachieved due to the unusual political situation (like Hartal, Blockade, Local Strike, etc.). It also largely affected field visits by the private sector actors.*

2.6.5 Meat Project – Key Achievements

Service Providers having improved business knowledge

A total of 246 potential Paikers (whole salers) (180 for year 1 and 66 for year 2) and 104 (75 in year 1 and 29 in year 2) Char Input Dealers (CID) are identified and linked with LBGs, fodder business groups (FBGs) for provision of better services. It has been observed that around 64% of Paikers (83% for year 1 and 40% for year 2) could improve business knowledge in respect of increasing client base, better linkage with other paikers, mainland buyers, better involvement in market promotion etc. Paikers are also providing better services and advice to the LBGs on improve diet, cattle selection criteria, information on mainland demand etc. Similarly, 69% (49% in year 1 and 23% in year 2) CIDs could sold the quality inputs (cattle feed, vet medicines, fodder seeds etc.) and have been offering embedded services like advice on improve diet, vaccination and de-worming to the LBGs.

Business groups having access to finance

Until now, 230 (125 in year 1 and 105 in year 2) LBG member households received loan from three Financial Institutions (ULC-114, NDP-30, GUK-65 and PGBSS-21) for beef fattening purpose.

Number of LBG members with increased profit

Around 2,356 LBG members (1,386 in year 1 and 970 in year 2) have increased profit from selling their fattened bull. These members have made an average net profit BDT 7,849 per bull (BDT 7,642

in year 1 and BDT 8056 by this quarter) following a 3-4 month rearing cycle.

LBG participants meeting on a regular basis

On an average 95% attendance of LBG members is observed in formal meetings on a regular basis.

Additional investment by private sectors on the chars

Data shows that around BDT 10,31,417 (Tk. 4,10,000 by GUK-G, 55,000 by NDP, 46,2,417 by ULC and 104,000 by PGBSS) has been invested by the MFIs (local and national NGOs) as access to finance in the chars. The access to finance has significantly accelerated the cattle business at farm gate level on chars. Besides, around BDT 1,86,286 has been invested by private input companies (AIT, ADVANTA, Lalmoni Agro, Novartis, Misham Agro) for the capacity building of LBGs, FBGs, CIDs and Paikers on cost sharing basis (average 10-30% of actual cost).

Households getting benefit by selling livestock

Around 2,356 livestock producers (970 in year 2 and 1,386 in year 1) on chars have been benefited from a 'significantly improved' method of selling their livestock through an active involvement of CBCs and paikers (both mainland and char) in the local and mainland markets.

2.6.6 Meat Market Project Target for the Next Quarter (Jan-Mar 2014)

The following table shows key targets of the meat market project for the period January-March, 2014.

Indicator	Target for next quarter (Jan-Mar, 2014)
<i>Char Business Center Development</i>	
# of Livestock Business Fair	2
# of CBC Committee Capacity-Building	18
# of CBC Sensitization Workshop	18
# of CBC Committee Planning Workshop	18
# of Institutional linkage workshop with MBGs, FBGs, Buyers, Input Sellers, etc.	24
# of CBC / LBG Planning Workshop	16
# of CBC / FBG Planning Workshop	13
# of CBC / Paiker Planning Workshop	10
# of CBC, private service agency, Govt. organization workshop	12
<i>Livestock Business Group (LBG) Development</i>	
# of Improved breed capacity building from lead producers	10
# of Improved breed linkage workshop between LBGs and private farms	16
# of Market literacy workshop series	12
# of Rearing Workshop Series	36
# of Paiker linkage workshop with LBGs	14
# of Institutional Buyer Workshop	24
# of Concentrated Feed Demonstration and Farmers' field day (FFD)	60

Indicator	Target for next quarter (Jan-Mar, 2014)
# of Firm to Farm forum support	18
# of Rearing workshop for poultry	18
# of Rearing workshop for Goat	18
<i>Paiker Network Development</i>	
# of Paiker/Institutional Buyer Linkage Workshop	7
# of Capacity-building on rearing and management	8
# of Facilitate char / mainland exposure visits and demonstrations	18
# of Linkage workshop among CBC and poultry output market actors (char and mainland)	13
# of Linkage workshop among CBC and Goat output market actors (char and mainland)	13
<i>Institutional Buyer Engagement</i>	
# of Linkage workshop with CBCs and LBGs	13
# of Market Literacy workshop with CBCs and LBGs	10
<i>Commercialization of Manger Service</i>	
# of Linkage workshop with CBCs and LBGs	35
# of Manger service promotion (FFD)	48
<i>Alternative Energy (biogas) Promotion</i>	
# of Orientation workshop between service providers and CBCs	24
# of Demonstration of biogas plant	2

2.6.7 Fodder Project Activities

The following table shows the progress against key output targets of the fodder market project for the period of October-December, 2013.

Indicator	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
<i>Fodder Business Group (FBG) Development</i>					
# of FBG Formation	38	38	66	66	100
# of Production and sales planning meeting (PSPM)	66	66	66	66	100
# of Farmer / livestock producer field day (FFD)	0	0	66	0	0
# of Demonstration plot development	50	60	66	60	91

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Indicator	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
# of Linkage workshop with input seller	20	24	66	24	37
# of Fodder production training	8	8	66	8	12
# of Silage training of trainers	0	0	2	0	0
# of Silage training of trainers (FBG level silage training)	10	15	66	15	23
# of Planning workshop with LBGs	15	14	66	14	21
<i>Char-Mainland Green Fodder Linkage Development</i>					
# of Mainland haat exposure visits	20	4	66	4	6
# of Capacity building of lead fodder producers.	20	4	66	4	6
# of Mainland green fodder promotional campaigns (char and mainland) incl. milk business groups	35	10	114	10	9
<i>Char Input Dealer (CID) Development</i>					
# of Identification and selection.	10	10	54	29	54
# of Capacity building of CIDs	0	0	16	0	0
# of Linkage workshop with CBC committee.	30	32	48	32	67
# of Linkage workshop with mainland input sellers.	5	5	16	5	31
# of Linkage workshop CBC and Financial Institute (FI)	0	0	12	0	0
# of CID and Private sector agency (PSA) coordination meeting	0	0	18	0	0

Indicator	October – December'13		FY 2013 – 14 (July'13 – June'14)		% Achieved
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
<i>Irrigation Service Improvement</i>					
# of Identification and selection of Irrigation Service Provider (ISP).	12	12	54	53	98
# of Technology piloting	2	2	18	2	11
# of Linkage workshop with CBC and FBG.	10	11	48	11	23
# of Linkage workshop with char ISP and mainland technology suppliers	0	0	8	0	0
<i>Green Fodder Chopper Machine Commercialization</i>					
# of Identification of potential entrepreneurs	5	4	48	4	8
# of Identification of chopper machine producer	2	0	8	0	0
# of Capacity building of chopper machine producer	0	0	1	0	0
# of Linkage meeting between entrepreneurs and chopper machine producers	0	0	16	0	0
# of Promotion of green fodder chopper machine	0	0	48	0	0

Note:

**Some of the planned activities are underachieved due to the unusual political situation (like Hartal, Blockade, Local Strike, etc.). It also largely affected field visits by the private sector actors.*

2.6.8 Fodder Project – Key Achievements

Inclination of green fodder cultivation on chars

By this quarter, around 140 community farmers (non-FBG) started green fodder cultivation covering 11.94 acres of land; 40 Kg green fodder seeds were sold in working chars of Rangpur during this quarter.

Number of service providers having improved business knowledge

Around 103 CIDs are identified and better linked with business groups for the provision of better services. Among them, 60% CIDs have started selling quality inputs (seeds, Fertilizer, pesticides, etc.) with embedded services like advice on fodder production, fertilization, irrigation, etc. to the FBGs. Also, 59 CIDs are already linked with mainland dealers for procuring quality inputs from chars.

FBG members' households with increased profit

In this quarter, already 22 households increased their profit by selling high-yielding green fodder, although floods and river bank erosion made green fodder cultivation difficult in this period.

Average increase in profit

Data shows that average 30% increase is achieved in each business groups' investment in inputs and services.

Additional investments by private company to extend the business on chars

During this quarter, ADVANTA already invested around BDT 8,000 based on the accelerated cattle business in working chars (beyond their financial contribution in training module preparation).

Knowledge enhancement of the business group members

Around 738 households were able to describe qualitatively greater control over their economic resources like in decision-making on selling of cattle, understand selling time/season, etc.

Increases of char produce being sold on the mainland

An estimated 1,290 kg of char fodder was sold on the mainland.

2.6.9 Fodder Market Project Target for the Next Quarter (January – March 2014)

The following table shows key activity targets under fodder project for the period of January – March, 2014.

Indicator	Target for next quarter (Jan-Mar, 2014)
<i>Fodder Business Group (FBG) Development</i>	
# of Farmer / livestock producer field day (FFD)	48
# of Linkage workshop with input seller	42
# of Fodder production training	42
# of Silage training of trainers	2
# of Planning workshop with LBGs	34
<i>Char-Mainland Green Fodder Linkage Development</i>	
# of Mainland haat exposure visits	32
# of Capacity building of lead fodder producers.	44
# of Mainland green fodder promotional campaigns (char and mainland) incl. milk business groups	36
<i>Char Input Dealer (CID) Development</i>	
# of Capacity building of CIDs	4
# of Linkage workshop with CBC committee.	16

Indicator	Target for next quarter (Jan-Mar, 2014)
# of Linkage workshop with mainland input sellers.	7
# of CID and Private sector agency (PSA) coordination meeting	8
<i>Irrigation Service Improvement</i>	
# of Linkage workshop with CBC and FBG.	37
# of Linkage workshop with char ISP and mainland technology suppliers	4
<i>Green Fodder Chopper Machine Commercialization</i>	
# of Identification of potential entrepreneurs	44
# of Identification of chopper machine producer	8
# of Capacity building of chopper machine producer	1

3. Innovation, Monitoring and Learning Division

During this quarter IML continued with its regular activities. IML was particularly focused on data collection for the Annual Socio-Economic survey and the Nutrition Status Survey, both of which were carried out during November and December. The team were also very busy finalising the first draft reports of IML's three key recent research studies:

- the effectiveness and sustainability of CLP's Village Development Committees (VDCs);
- the impact of CLP on the disaster resilience of char communities; and
- the use of mobile technology in development and its application within CLP.

In addition, IML have continued to maintain high levels of quality content dissemination through our website and social media accounts as well as designing our new participant tracking initiative.

3.1 Annual Socio Economic and Nutrition Status data collection

In this quarter IML started two major surveys – Annual Socio Economic Survey and Nutrition Status survey. Both surveys will collect information from the same HH's. The sample size is 3,450 which includes all CLP cohorts and a control group.

IML called for an open tender to recruit for these surveys. A number of firms participated in the bidding process and following a strict evaluation process IML selected GBF for the Annual Socio Economic Survey and Eminence for the Nutrition Status Survey.

The Annual Socio Economic questionnaire contains information regarding CLP's six thematic areas – Livelihoods, WASH, Empowerment, Nutrition, Food Security and Graduation. This survey data will also be used to update the Logframe. On the basis of this Annual Socio Economic survey data a number of research studies will be conducted this year.

The Nutrition Status survey purely relates to core anthropometric indicators of mothers and children under five years old. Data collection has been completed and the final database will be submitted by the contracting firm on 20 January 2014. During the data collection period IML arranged several monitoring field visits by our Data Entry and Monitoring Officers (DEMOS) to ensure the quality of the data.

3.2 Output and Household Monitoring

Grameen Bikash Foundation (GBF) continued as CLP's bi-monthly data collection contractor. IML implemented a strict monitoring system during the data collection period at field level with our DEMOs. To improve the quality of bi-monthly data, IML started double data entry.

3.3 Outcome monitoring and research

During this quarter, one research report was published on our website: "Asset Values: Why are some households doing better than other?" A further three reports were completed and are currently in the final proofing stage. They are expected to be on the website by end-Jan 2014.

3.3.1 Asset Values Research

The research published on the website was based on data from two outlier groups of previous CLP participants. One group has built up significant assets while the other group has not, and, in some cases, has fallen back to being assetless. A study was undertaken to analyse the causes for such different outcomes. Members of each outlier group were identified and then a survey carried out with members of the two groups. They were asked to show diagrammatically the history of their assets since leaving the CLP. To complement the survey, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were also held with randomly selected previous participants of the CLP.

Managing cattle correctly, combined with investment in land, is considered the most significant route to success; over 70% of those interviewed cited good cattle management, while over 40% cited the combination of both cattle and land investments as important. Other forms of investment diversification also have positive impacts such as investing in grocery shops or starting a tailoring business.

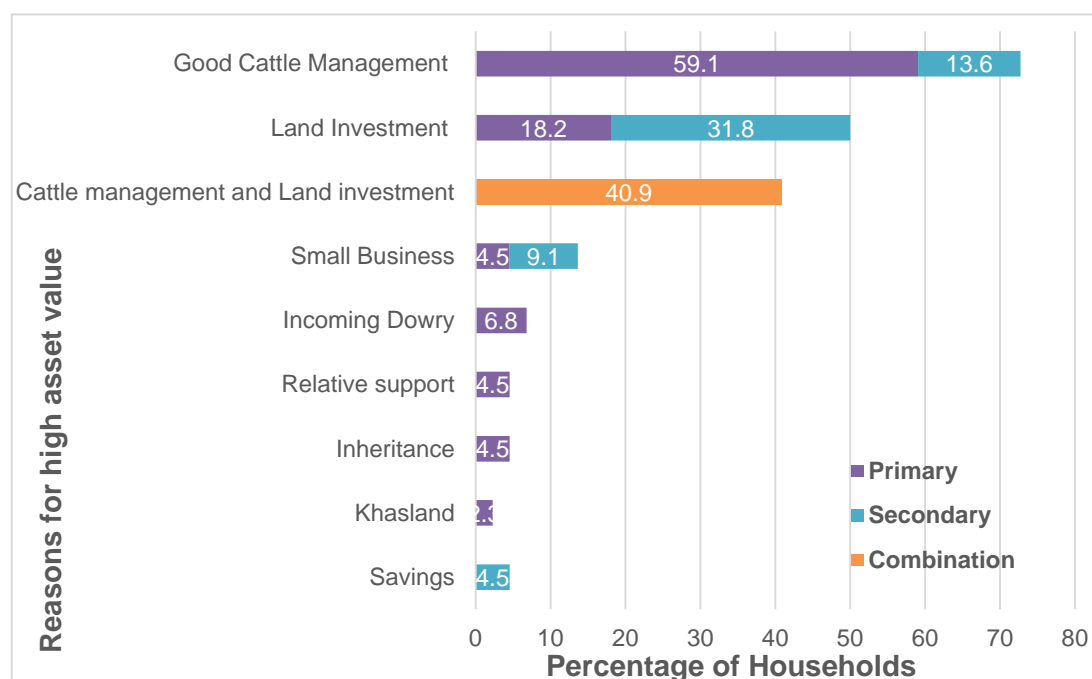


Figure 1. Reasons for high asset value

The main reasons for difficulty can be placed in two categories: natural and person-centred. Natural causes are due to shocks from outside the control of the participant household that cause a loss of assets, such as flooding or river erosion. Person-centred causes were due to participant's decisions that caused the loss of their assets. These decisions include: investing poorly, for example in businesses in which the participant had little knowledge; or paying dowries.

The results of the study show that diversification of assets provides substantial resilience to shocks and stresses that commonly affect char households. When a disaster struck a successful household and destroyed an asset, they had productive assets in other forms. Households with low asset values had often invested only in land, meaning that when flooding destroyed it, they had no other assets to use in order to restore their asset base. Some participants also made poor cost-benefit analyses leading to poor reinvestment decisions. Both the 'high asset value' and the 'low asset value' groups mentioned the impact of dowry, although the impact was significantly greater in the low-asset value households.

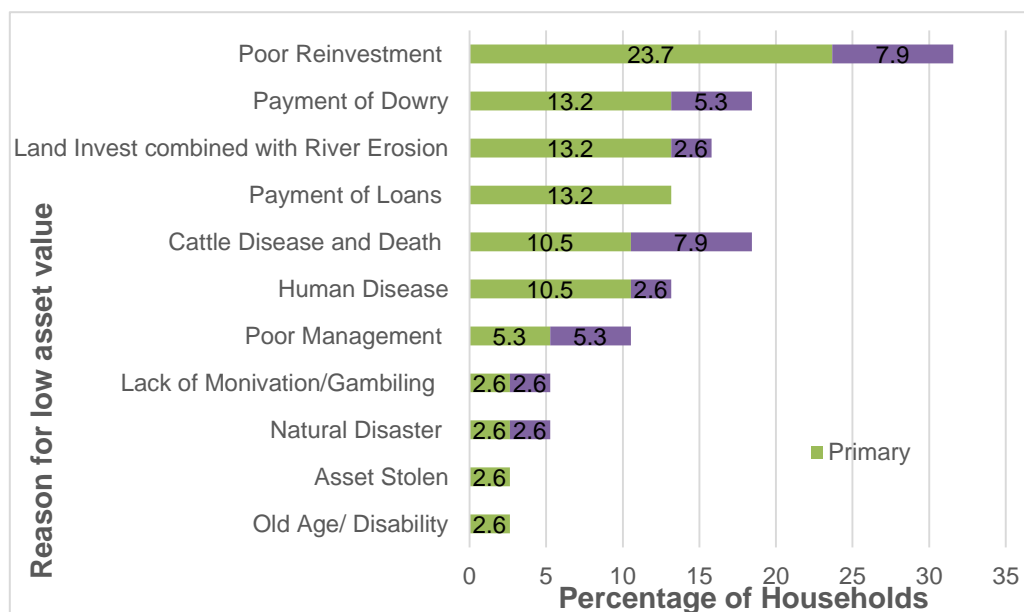
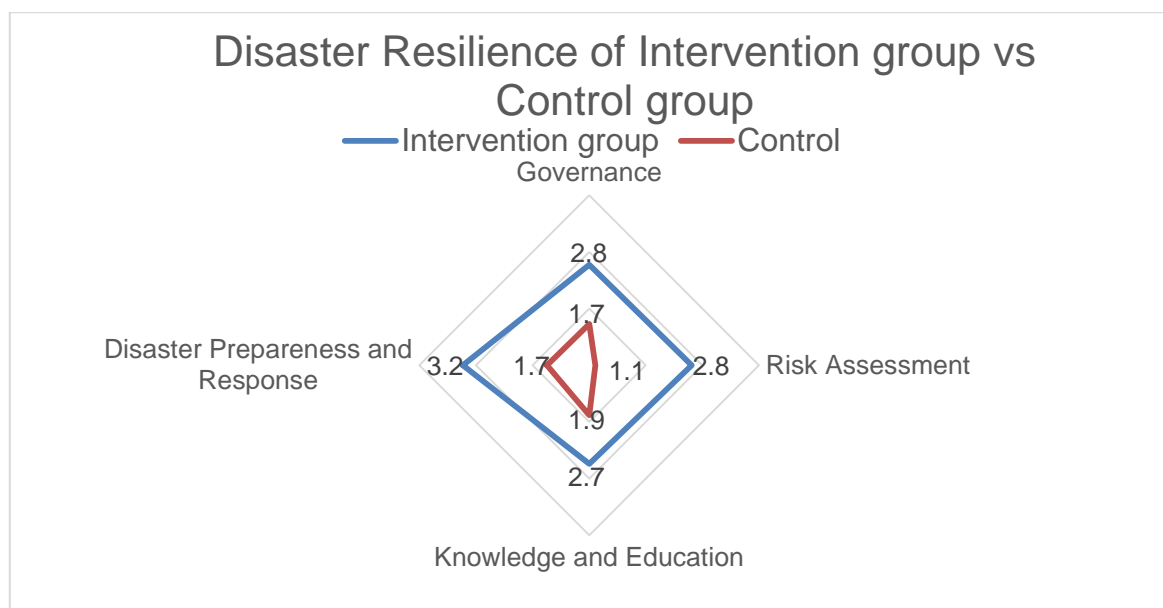


Figure 2. Reason for low asset value

3.3.2 Disaster Resilience Research

A study was undertaken this quarter to measure the impact that CLP has had on the disaster resilience of communities. The methodology for this study used a mixed methods approach. Quantitative data was collected using questionnaires and then a score card was created. Key Informant Interviews were then performed to collect qualitative data to give a deeper understanding of the findings. It was found that the CLP programme dramatically improves the overall disaster resilience of communities in the thematic areas of disaster knowledge and education; disaster preparedness and response; disaster governance; and disaster risk assessment with households scoring significantly higher in all themes, as can be seen in the figure below.



It was also found that women gained more disaster resilience than men during the CLP support package. This was expected as all CLP core participants are women. Men however still grew in disaster resilience. There is understanding also on the chars that there are specific roles that Non-Governmental Organisations and Government need to play and each actor is not expected to address all aspects of disaster resilience. A lot of disaster resilience legislature has only recently been introduced to Bangladesh at the national level so all actors will need time to get to grips with the laws and create their own policies.

3.3.3 VDC Study

During the quarter a draft report assessing the effectiveness and sustainability of CLP's Village Development Committees (VDC) was completed. As part of the data collection, a sharing workshop was held with IMO staff at the CLP Secretariat. The aim of the workshop was to assess the capacity of the VDCs as effective and sustainable institutions from the point of view of our IMO's. This workshop had the added value of strengthening communications and partnerships between IML and our field staff. Questionnaires, FGDs and KIIs were carried out with previous and current CLP participants. Results from the study revealed that VDCs were effective in achieving many of their objectives; notably 75% of active VDCs had experienced at least one success in the prevention of early marriage, prevention of familial conflicts and improving the status of health hygiene and sanitation in their village, with 50% making achievements related to improved infrastructure. Results from the study demonstrated significant differences between active and non-active VDCs. In relation to disaster resilience, 75% of active VDCs had a disaster response strategy in place compared with 33% of non-active VDCs. Additionally active VDCs overall rated CLP trainings higher than non-active VDCs. The results from this study, particularly the differences noted between active and non-active VDCs will allow CLP to assess predictors of VDC sustainability and incorporate these into our programme operations. The analysis indicates that sustainability of the VDCs drops off quite rapidly after CLP support ends. Between 12.5% and 20% of VDCs appear to be sustainable one to two years after CLP phases out. The final research report is expected to be completed by the end of January 2014; this will make recommendations.

3.3.4 Mobile Technology Research

In contribution to the 'learning' component of IML, explorative desk research was carried out with a focus on mobile phone technology. A draft report of the study was completed during the quarter. The study reviewed five key areas: primary health care, family planning and nutrition; microfinance; market information; agricultural extension; and disaster resilience. Current programmes in Bangladesh were reviewed, and their relevance and applicability to CLP was assessed. Results from the study indicated the potential to incorporate programmes within CLP in areas of primary health care, family planning and nutrition, and agricultural extension. In other areas it was recommended that CLP keep abreast of any future developments and continue to follow up current leads that may provide further opportunities. A final draft is expected to be completed by January 2014.

3.3.5 Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA)

During the quarter, DFID accepted the Cost-Benefit Analysis Report produced by Phillip White. The study reported that the Programme has total discounted costs (including imputed beneficiary costs as well as all DFID/DFAT and Government costs) of £188 million, and provides discounted benefits totalling £333 million. Net present value (NPV) is therefore £145 million, and the benefit-cost ratio (BCR) is 1.77. This is a very positive assessment, suggesting that CLP offers good value for money, and that CLP-2 as a whole has the potential to provide satisfactory returns on investment over the coming 15 years or so. Separate CBAs undertaken for the Programme's main 'value-generating' activities also all suggest healthy returns.

3.4 Market Development Monitoring

Following the roll-out of the new strategic and implementation plan for market development M&E (July 2013-June 2014), significant monitoring activities were carried out during this quarter to understand the outcomes of the milk, meat and fodder market development projects.

In the milk sector, this included re-designing the outcomes survey, training enumerators and collecting data from over 900 milk business group members. The Access database was also updated to reflect changes to the questionnaire and to continue to deliver secure and efficient data management.

In the meat and fodder sectors, questionnaires were also re-designed to streamline the data collection process. Data was then collected from over 700 meat business group members and 400 fodder business group members. Access databases were also updated for both the meat and fodder sectors, to reflect these changes.

Several meetings were held with iDE discussing M&E operational and data entry / cleaning issues that surfaced during the quarter. These will be tracked over future quarters.

3.5 Verification

Data Management Aid (DMA) continued as the CLP's verification contractor. The company's task is to verify, on a monthly basis, a sample of 5 to 10% of outputs delivered by the IMOs. They are responsible for verifying the quality and quantity of reported outputs i.e. outputs that were delivered during the previous month, and reporting their findings back to IML. Findings are shared immediately with the Operations Division so that activities can be adjusted where necessary. This is also a useful tool for deterring potential leakage. As one might expect, a few relatively minor issues were identified which prompted follow up action by the respective Units.

IML also maintained the Risk Incidence Register that tracks all risk-related problems that occur, detailing the background of the incident, action taken and lessons learnt. So far, seven incidents have been recorded, of which four have been resolved, while three are in process.

3.6 Communication

Regular update of communication materials

Regular information dissemination takes place on CLP's Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter pages. This involves three original pieces of content generation per week and one retweet on Twitter. As a team, a photo of the week is identified, which is uploaded once a week to CLP's Facebook and Flickr page.

The Communication Unit's success in achieving its weekly social media targets was patchy since overall monitoring began on 27 October 2013, as shown in the table below. Close monitoring will continue in 2014 and the Communications team will ensure that targets are met in 2014.

Social Media Update Tracking	No. of weeks targets were met	Total number of weeks	Percentage achievement
Twitter	10	10	100.0%
Facebook	8	11	72.7%
LinkedIn	9	11	81.8%
Flickr	6	11	54.5%

Verification Short video

Following the IML Director's participant verification visit to Kurigram District in September, a short video was produced. The video takes the viewer on an interactive journey through the beneficiary household selection and verification process. It provides an insight into the situation on the chars and describes the criteria participants are selected against to be a part of the CLP. Examples of verification interviews that took place are included as well as conversations with char residents. Due to the complex nature of the CLP, this video aims to provide a simplified and visual overview of the context of the chars and an insight into the type of work CLP is involved with and why it is so important.

CLP Blog

IML recently launched its blog. The objective of the blog is to create brief profiles of staff from all levels of CLP and give them an opportunity to write about their work. This aims to improve internal communication and awareness of staff and their activities. Further, it creates a human face to CLP for our external audience. This is a continuous project. Six blogs have so far been completed with many new blogs in the pipeline.

CLP Timeline

The CLP timeline contains the chronological phases of CLP's activities; from the very beginning of participant selection & verification to the graduation level. This timeline provides a clear and brief overview of CLP's working areas, key intervention packages, challenges and possible outcomes.

Audience Analysis

Our audience analysis consisted of five key areas: an internal stakeholder analysis; an analysis of our social media audiences; a donor stakeholder analysis; Government of Bangladesh stakeholder analysis; and details of other EPPs in Bangladesh. We hope that this exercise will enable us to make our communications more relevant to the needs of our internal audiences and help us connect, share information and collaborate better with external audiences, nationally and internationally.

News Stories

During this quarter 28 news stories were published on the CLP website, covering significant events, awareness raising days and media mentions of the programme. Some notable news stories:

- A news story, opinion piece and info graphic were published for the International Disaster Reduction day.
- In celebration of the UN's International Day for Rural Women an opinion piece was published along with a timeline detailing the life of one of our participants
- News stories were also published on International Aids day and International Breastfeeding week; focusing on our IMOs' activities on these days.

The 2013 calendar year saw 47 news stories published on the website – more than double the number published during the 2012 calendar year.

Briefs

Three updated briefs were finalised within this quarter.

- **Developing Markets for the Chars:** The brief describes how CLP carries out its Market Development activities on the chars. It provides details on CLP training activities and institutions (Char Business Centre and Business Group) and the microfinance opportunities CLP facilitates to build sustainable markets for milk, meat and fodder sector.
- **Improving Health and Nutrition:** This brief summarises the activities of the CLP aimed at improving the health and nutrition status of the char dwellers.
- **Social Development:** The Social Development brief gives an overview on the social development curriculum CLP provides to our participants. It also gives short descriptions on our groups' e.g. social development group, village savings and loans, adolescent groups and others that CLP facilitates on the chars.

Website Redesign

IML began redesigning the CLP website during this quarter. The priorities of this redesign are to: ensure the content is clear for our audience; ensure the navigation of the website is simplified; improving the overall design; and update the donor logos. As a result of the procurement process an experienced website design firm was selected and work is underway.

CLP Quiz

The CLP quiz aims to convey information about the programme to our website visitors in an interesting and interactive way. The tool comprises a number of questions with multiple choice answers. After each question further details relating to that area of the programme are provided.

Workshops, Seminars and Meetings

A half day Communications Capacity Building workshop was held on the 7 October 2013. The objectives of the workshop were: to strengthen communication knowledge and skills within the team; to understand the importance of good communication and in having a communication's strategy; and to identify common weaknesses that exist within communication. Presentations were given by the team, each member describing how they would define 'good communication' and presenting an example to support their definition. The IML Director then presented on the strengths and weakness relating to different communication frameworks. Common mistakes and weaknesses found in communications were highlighted and different approaches to writing were explored. The second half of the workshop took the form of a practical session. This provided the opportunity for the team to explore the various approaches described in the first session.

On 13 November 2013, a full-day research methods workshop was held with the IML team. The objective of the workshop was to improve the overall research capacity among the team in order to

increase the efficiency and quality of current and future research studies. All team members presented on a different area of research methodology: research design; quantitative research; qualitative research; and mixed methods. Presentations included information on: methods and tools; sampling strategies; and analysis. Time was given for feedback and questions after each presentation.

IML also arranged a six month progress review meeting. In this meeting all operation units: IML; and Finance and Administration presented their progress status against the work plan and budget. In this meeting the budget and action plan was revised to achieve the target.

Facilitating visits to the chars

The film-making company Creative Cowboys visited Bangladesh during December, and were taken to a community mela in Sirajganj, close to the headquarters of the local IMO Manab Mukti Sangstha (MMS). The one-day visit was slotted in during almost continual hartals and allowed Peter and Andrea Hylands to interview CLP participants and take video and photos of the colourful mela event. They published an article on their blog¹ about their experiences. Creative Cowboys were accompanied by the IML Director, as well as the Team Leader and Partnerships Director.

3.7 Plan for the next quarter

- Prepare documents for Annual Review and Impact Assessment team
- Update logframe.
- Start new contract for Customer Satisfaction Survey
- Analyse all data from the annual, baseline and nutrition surveys.
- Begin three studies: WASH; Khash land baseline; and Women's Empowerment.
- Produce five briefs including Bangla versions.
- Start participant tracking.
- Start implementing the GapMinder project. This is an initiative to generate interesting and interactive graphics and presentations (including video) using CLP's current and historical data to illustrate outcomes and impacts over time, both for individual households, but also looking at average values.
- Organise communications strategy workshop.
- Three capacity building trainings for IML staff and two for IMO staff.
- Organise a monthly sharing meeting with other operational units.
- Organise an exposure visit for the IML team.
- Release a tender for video shorts.

¹ http://www.creativecowboyfilms.com/blog_posts/raising-our-land-chars-bangladesh

4. Policy, Partnerships and Governance Division

The major achievements of Policy, Partnerships and Governance Division are as follows:

4.1 Market and Livelihoods Activities

As reported in the previous quarter the Markets and Livelihoods Unit of the CLP and the **SDC funded M4C project** continued cooperating with each other in different aspects of market development and exchanging ideas and experiences, information, report and documents and participating in the meetings, workshops, seminars, etc.

iDE has scaled up their good work in the **meat and fodder sector**. They are making good progress on arranging microfinance not only for the meat and fodder group members but also for milk group members.

United Leasing Corporation (ULC) developed a few **loan products** which can be used by other IMOs which already engaged or will be engaged in microfinance business. The CLP is encouraging the IMOs to provide microfinance services to the potential clients in the chars, especially the different business group members.

The CLP continued the discussions with **Grameen Danone Foods Ltd (GDFL) and Rangpur Dairy** for establishing effective partnership in the milk sector so that the milk producers get better price.

The CLP is in close contact with the **DANIDA-funded Agricultural Growth and Employment Programme and its Farmer Field Schools**. It is expected that fruitful partnership in the agriculture sector will be developed once their DPP is approved sometime in the next quarter.

The British Red Cross (BRC) provided post-disaster livelihoods support to about 1000 households in 3 upazilas of Kurigram district. CLP provided guidance and information to BRC in designing the project and in developing the beneficiary selection criteria.

Following the first **microfinance workshop** in Rangpur with participants from CLP, PROSPER, PKSF, M4C, iDE and 12 IMOs of CLP another workshop took place in Bogra in November. Objective of the workshop was to increase access to finance for potential clients of chars especially the different group members (milk, meat and fodder). CLP received some positive responses from the IMOs.

M4C started piloting 4 VSL groups in their areas following the earlier discussion between the CLP and M4C project. Prior to that a few M4C staff visited CLP VSL activities and also received training from CLP on VSL.

4.2 Human Development Activities

Following the signing of a formal MOU between BRAC and CLP, BRAC completed the **selection of community health workers** and recruitment of staff as required for covering the areas where CLP is no longer working. After completion of few batches of basic training of staff and health workers BRAC already started providing health services in some areas and will start doing so in other areas soon after completion of training. As of 31 December 2013 BRAC selected and trained 189 Shasthya Karmis (Health Workers) 347 Shasthya Sebekas (Health Service Providers) 176 new born health workers and recruited 33 staff. Currently BRAC is providing health services in 232 villages of 56 Unions in 15 upazilas of 3 districts. From January another 32 villages will be covered.

The discussion with UNICEF led to a very fruitful partnership for improving the WASH outcomes. **UNICEF contracted an organization called Practical Action Bangladesh (PAB)** for six months starting from November 2013 to provide technical assistance to CLP and its IMOs. The PAB completed recruitment, orientation and deployment of required staff, conducted 9 launching workshops at the district level and currently undertaking a training needs assessment for staff and volunteers. The total cost of this 6-month project is little over than Tk. 22 million and CLP's

contribution will be only Tk. 3 millions. A formal MOU will be signed between CLP and UNICEF once the prevailing political unrest is over.

UNICEF provided **training** to CLP IMO staff on Child Protection in Emergencies and Child Protection Rapid Assessment. This training was jointly organized by UNICEF and Ministry of Women and Children Affairs in the second week of October 2013. Among others, one representative from each of the 17 IMOs benefitted from this training.

The CLP assisted Maxwell Stamp Ltd in preparation and submission of a **proposal to TESCO** for funding to run at least 15 **learning centres** for 4 years. If the proposal is accepted a total of 450 children will get primary education (up to Grade V) in four years' time.

In the previous quarter the **SNA Foundation operated 6 cleft lip/palate patients** of chars-dwellers totally free of cost. During the quarter under review another 10 patients were operated. It is expected that the SNA Foundation will conduct a few Eye and Dental Camps in the chars in the next quarter.

In December the IML and Partnerships Directors had a meeting with **Global Communication Center (GCC)**, a sister concern of Grameen Phone, regarding **conducting/operating mobile health clinics** in the CLP working villages of Pabna, Tangail and Jamalpur districts. The GCC responded positively and CLP already provided a list of its working villages of the above 3 districts. Once the prevailing political turmoil is over CLP will organize a field visit for GCC personnel.

In October the Partnerships Director had a meeting with **EngenderHealth** concerning a possible collaboration in the field of **family planning**. EngenderHealth may provide training to the CLP health project staff (Paramedics) on the injectables and will also work to ensure smooth supply of injectables. At the request of EngenderHealth CLP already provided a list of its Paramedics, functional Community Clinics and Union Health and Family Welfare Centres in CLP working areas.

4.3 Advocacy activities

The eight organisations contracted this year to implement the **Land Tenure Project (LTP)** are making satisfactory progress in providing khas (government-owned) land to the landless people of the chars.

The **partnership with CLS** is going well. Following the 2-days training Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA), a partner organisation of CLS, provided the training module for all the 10 Land Support Officers who participated in the training programme.

4.4 Priorities for the next quarter

As always, the CLP remains open to additional partnership opportunities, but in particular the following issues will be addressed in the next quarter:

- Continue pushing for additional land title to be allocated
- Integrate legal/advocacy activities with CLS and its local partners to begin to bring legal services.
- Continue discussion with GDFL, Rangpur Dairy, DANIDA, etc. for different services/partnerships.
- Keep close contact with BRAC regarding expansion of their health services in the chars.
- Continue exploring opportunities with IMOs and other microfinance branches and products expansion on the chars.
- Keep close liaison with UNICEF and Practical Action Bangladesh to bring meaningful progress in improving WASH outcome.
- Continue discussion with Global Communications and EngenderHealth regarding health and family planning services.
- Follow up with Maxwell Stamp Ltd and TESCO for funding of 15 learning centres.

- Follow up with the organisation "One Dollar Glasses" to test the feasibility of bringing their spectacle-production machines to the chars as a social business to supplement health activities.

5. Finance

The quarter was extremely important for Finance division despite facing the ongoing political turmoil. Efficient fund management in light of the availability of funds was the most important task to ensure continuous and flawless disbursement systems to support programme activities. This quarter usually sees the maximum disbursement period, so fund availability and fund transfer were critical, but extremely difficult to manage given the political disruptions. However, the Division successfully overcame all the probable risk factors by developing and executing various contingencies. Continuous engagement with the banks and utilizing the weekends were important instruments in this regard. These initiatives were well appreciated by stakeholders as there was no complaint of serious fund crisis amongst the partners. Other pre-scheduled activities for the quarter also became very unpredictable due to the political unrest but Finance organized all those activities taking the benefit of weekends.

Before starting the quarter, the division completed all necessary financial analysis and reporting from the previous quarter. The division carried out all those tasks of analysis and reporting both from CLP and partners' end and shared the result and recommendation to stakeholders. Finance also circulated the fund use report to all internal units to help them craft their future activities and they also fulfilled the demand of producing ad-hoc financial analysis and report as per the request of different units.

The division successfully disbursed approx £4.63 million during the quarter. After finishing the first quarter successfully, it became essential to revise the Draft Project Proforma (DPP) as per the progress trend of the programme and to meet the requirement of donors and government agencies. To facilitate the initial process of revising the DPP, Finance re-analysed all the financial data related to the cost centres and helped the management team to re-estimate the budget of CLP 2. These were essential in order to put accurate financial data for the revised DPP.

Following the tradition of yearly fund reconciliation session with the IMOs and partners, the mission was accomplished with the assistance of various financial reports produced by CLP and partners.

Finance coordinated and liaised with CLP's internal units to deliver periodic fund forecasts against the target of the financial year to the clients. The division also responded to a special request from the donors for health expenditure from CLP1 to the present. Because the various cost centres of the health component have changed over time, Finance needed to consolidate all the financial data into a separate template, before providing it to DFID-B.

As is the usual strategy of the Finance division, a day-long training session was organised on existing Tax & VAT rules of Bangladesh, which was the integral part of the division's approach to capacity building for IMOs. A significant part of the training was practical experience by going through some relevant case studies. The country's Tax & VAT practices change frequently as part of government's due diligence. The Division played both its role and duty by addressing those objectives during the training session.

One of the very noteworthy tasks was added to the regular activities of the division was to maintain an on-going fund reconciliation analysis throughout the year, especially to track the remaining balance of the existing budget and to plan prudently how that budget shall be used for rest of the CLP 2 period.

5.1 Contracts & Procurement

5.1.1 Contracts

The quarter was a busy one, with large fund disbursement requirements from the field. Contracts therefore received a considerable number of invoices from all the units of CLP and processed them for payment after thoroughly checking financial and non-financial information. The template of

invoice tracking system has been slightly modified: the end date of each individual contract is now mentioned clearly, to make the scheme more reliable.

The major tasks carried out by contracts section during the quarter are given below:

- The exercise of Total Cost Transfer Ratio (TCTR) has been carried out and updated regularly to allow the ratio of various cost centres to be swiftly reviewed.
- A new template for separating value-generating cost and non-value-generating costs has been introduced in the section.
- Contracts continued to produce monthly contract information update report which is an integral part of the month end report that helps to see an overview of the fund disbursement status.
- Contracts has initiated work on a performance tracking system through which individual contractors' periodic performance can be evaluated and monitored with the help of relevant units.
- Health expenditure data report using the information from both CLP1 and CLP2 has been produced and forwarded to Finance for further checking and preparing the final report as per DFID's requirement.
- Different contracts regarding consultancy services were issued and various amendments dispatched as per the requirements of different units.
- Request for Proposals (RfP) were issued among the IMO's regarding the agreement for Access to Improved Water during the dry season of the year and pre-contract negotiation has been carried out.
- Contingency cost centre of IMO Management contract was under monitoring throughout the quarter and very few approvals were delivered to use the fund as part of CLP's internal control and VfM strategy.
- Various ad hoc reports such as contracts update status and upcoming fund delivery schedule based on contractual information were produced as per the necessity of different units to assist them in doing better fund management.

5.1.2 Procurement

Procurement has been the most critical risk centre throughout the quarter due to the unstable political scenario. It became almost impossible to keep all aspects of the supply chain running in the turmoil as transportation as well as all courier services stopped delivering their services because of the blockades and strikes. In this situation, like Finance, Procurement also explored alternative solutions and tried to maintain the requisitions of goods and services. Collecting deliveries from Dhaka dispatching materials at weekends were useful partial solutions to the problem.

Activities during the quarter are given below:

- For the first time, CLP was approved to carry out some procurement items on behalf of the Crown Agents by DFID and all the initiatives were successfully completed during the quarter with essential transparency and due diligence.
- Annual procurement plan has been updated due to the requests received from different units to make some addition and deletion.
- Quarterly procurement status report from all the partners have been received at CLP's end and the overall task of analysing the reports were done accordingly to conduct further audit on the observations.
- A significant amount of money (GBP 26,415) has been recorded in the VfM register by initiating proper negotiation sessions with different service providers.
- The most challenging job during the quarter to distribute the blankets among the beneficiaries was done with proper arrangements and the section closely monitored and took necessary steps to minimize the risk factors of the overall distribution.

- The section positively took part in different meetings set for distributing nutrition input and taking other crucial decisions on nutrition procurement throughout the quarter.
- Procurement also initiated the selection procedure of some consultancy service provider and became very successful to come out with new suppliers at relatively low cost.
- The Procurement section made a presentation on their activities and progress at the Six Month Review.

5.2 Administration

The Section's key challenge during the quarter was to dispatch various project materials to the field to ensure smooth operational activities. The section used various strategies to fulfil its duties and managed to ensure that products were delivered to all destinations. The maintenance of CLP's vehicle fleet was properly addressed on a regular basis. All meetings and seminars that could go ahead were arranged as per the requirement of relevant units. Last but not the least, Admin continued to extend its required services for the extension of visas and relevant papers/documents of senior team members.

5.3 IT

IT section continued to configure all the laptops and desktops received during the quarter and handed them over to the users. Some IT equipment like printers and network cables was re-arranged for maximum use of the resource. Others regular activities including networking & help desk supports were carried out as normal.

6. Short-term Consultancies

CLP received no short-term consultancy visits during the quarter.

7. Next Quarter's Activities

The January to March Quarter (Q3) sees the continuation of full-scale activities for Cohort 2.5. Major items of work will include the following.

- Annual Review during February 2014.
- Infrastructure activities will continue to focus on plinths, installing low-cost latrines, installing tube wells and upgrading existing facilities as necessary, and arsenic testing.
- The Human Development Unit will concentrate on gender sensitivity orientations, health clinics and consultations, continuing VSL group formation and operations, and activities related to the direct health intervention.
- The Livelihoods Unit will continue with asset transfers and stipend distribution, carry out livestock training of CPHHs, implement cattle husbandry and fodder demonstrations, continue support and training to the poultry project and homestead gardening, and continue training LSPs.
- The Milk Marketing Project will focus on yard meetings with new MBG members, train MBGs on improved cattle rearing and fodder production, introduce microfinance institutions to MBGs and supply side actors, and continue organising linkage meetings.
- The Meat Project's main activities will include: CBC planning and other workshops; Livestock Business Group workshops; concentrated feed demonstrations and farmers' field days; Paiker development activities; and activities around commercialising the manger service.
- The Fodder Project will: continue business group activities such as farmer field days and workshops; conduct capacity building of lead fodder producers and conduct exposure visits; carry out Char Input Dealer workshops; organise linkages workshops for irrigation service improvements; and identify potential entrepreneurs for the green fodder chopper machine commercialisation activities.
- The IML Division will focus on: preparations for the Annual Review; begin three research studies (WASH, Khas land baseline; Women's Empowerment); organise a communications strategy workshop; continue participant tracking communications activities; update the website; release a tender for a series of video shorts; and analyse all data from the annual, baseline and nutrition surveys.
- For the Policy, Partnerships and Governance Division, the major areas of focus will be: continuing the khas land project; integrate legal/advocacy activities with CLS and its local partners to begin to bring legal services; continue discussion with Global Communications and EngenderHealth regarding health and family planning services; follow up with Maxwell Stamp Ltd and TESCO for funding of 15 learning centres; follow up with the organisation "One Dollar Glasses" about possible opportunities for their spectacle production machines on the chars as social businesses; and continue exploring opportunities with IMOs and other microfinance branches and products expansion on the chars.
- The Finance Division will: continue to implement high quality financial, disbursement and contract services; and continue leading on VFM activities.

Annex 1: Financial Tables / Diagrams

Activities	Annual Budget (GBP in Million)	Approx Expenditure as at 2nd Quarter, Q2 (GBP in Million)	Approx Achievement as at Q2 (%)
Infrastructure Unit	4.48	2.32	52%
Livelihoods Unit	4.69	3.13	67%
Market Development Unit	0.99	0.43	43%
Human Development Unit	2.69	1.70	63%
Innovation, Monitoring and Learning	0.37	0.14	38%
IMO Implementation	0.81	0.38	47%
Response Fund	0.05	-	0%
Management Contract	2.00	0.90	45%
Total	16.08	9.00	56%

Note: Financial charges (UK & Local) allocated in various components.

