

ENRICH Insights: WAVE's ENRICH Experience







Enhancing
Resources and
Increasing
Capacities of Poor
Households
towards
Elimination of their
Poverty-ENRICH



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Executive Summary

Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of Poor Households towards Elimination of their Poverty-ENRICH strives towards a vision of ensuring human dignity and freedom for all through adopting a uniquely designed integrated holistic development approach. WAVE Foundation as one of the implementing partners of ENRICH Program supported by Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation-PKSF has turned it out to be its benchmark of success. The extraordinary success of WAVE's ENRICH Program is evident in the qualitative changes in the lives and livelihoods of the program participants, expansion of the program in other areas and frequent exposure visits at program/working area as well as in the extensive replication of its best and innovative practices by other partner organizations. This publication is a humble intent to portray the visible and measureable impact of ENRICH Program on its participants through the active voices of the beneficiaries and other important stakeholders like people's representatives, government officials and so on.

Integrated development requires multifaceted and inclusive approach, therefore ENRICH has six components as follow; Health, Education, Social Development, Environment & Agriculture, Economic Development and Skill Development & Employment Generation. This publication aims at revealing the achievements of each of the components.

Before the initiation of ENRICH Program in Simanta Union, people were prone to subscribe to unscientific medical solutions and religious healers. Health component of ENRICH program through its static clinic at office level, satellite clinics at community level and special health camps have brought sustainable changes in the medical behavior of the constituencies of Simanta Union. Since health services are open to all, pregnant women, adolescent girls, children and people of all walks of life get quality medical services under ENRICH Program. This publication includes the active voices of the various beneficiaries and stakeholders. The literacy rate of Simanta Union is 36.55% which is likely to be lesser in poor and disadvantaged communities. Research shows that the school drop-out rate among poor and disadvantaged children is high as they usually go to school without preparing their home-tasks and their ignorant parents cannot be of any help in this regard. As a result out of fear these children quit school. Education component of ENRICH offer quality education in the form of Pre-primary Schooling and School supportive Education. The impact is obvious in the enhanced academic result and lessened school dropout rate. Here in the publication the bright faces and voices of the students, guardian and teacher will tell us a lot about the story.

Simanta Union has been declared to be under hundred percent sanitation coverage. Social Component of ENRICH Program has significant contribution in this achievements. Before the initiation of the program, only 15% of the households had hygienic latrines. The component also work on tube-well installation for safe water at community and household level, eco-friendly Bandhu Chula promotion and social awareness raising. Other notable activities of this component are beggar rehabilitation and advocacy with local government on important social issues. As a consequence of advocacy initiative, a bridge and few culverts have been constructed by LGED which were long-held demand of the common people.

Environment and Agriculture Component has been playing an important role in promoting organic farming and introducing eco-friendly scientific agro technologies to the farmers. The major activities under this component are: providing agro prescription to the farmers; promoting Vermi-compost and quick compost instead of chemical fertilizer; medicinal plant Basok cultivation, introducing eco-friendly technologies like Sex Pheromone Trap and Porous Pipes and so on. Farmers are now oriented to the culture of organic farming while the yields and well-being have increased significantly.

All development pursuit eventually depends on the availability of the capital. To that end, ENRICH has an Economic Development Component. This component aims at providing affordable and flexible loans on various purposes. As a result of the activities of this component, few entrepreneurs have evolved who are inspiring many. The success stories of the bright entrepreneurs are also illustrated in this publication.

Technical skill development and employment generation of the people is one of the significant aspects of holistic development. Skill Development and Employment Generation Component has already created examples in capacitating people and making them self-reliant. While providing IGA trainings to poor and marginalized women, this component puts equal emphasis on youth employment by providing them required skill trainings and tagging them with relevant recruiting entities.

Other significant additions of WAVE Foundation in the ENRICH Model like ENRICH Home, ENRICH Center, Women-friendly Participatory Open UP Budget and Advocacy on Important Social Issues have been making significant contribution to bring dignity and freedom to the lives of the concerned program participants. ENRICH Home has become an examples for development practitioners that home as the base social unit could be self-sufficient and source of income through making efficient utilization of the available resources. ENRICH Center has turned out to be the hub of GO-NGO service deliveries and interactivity between common people and the local government. Women-friendly Participatory Open UP Budget is giving voices to the women particularly poor women in the development planning through incorporating their demands and dreams as well as helping these women to materialize their dreams by providing them with training and technical assistances. This pro-woman practice has got significant attention from like-minded organizations. Advocacy on Important Social Issues again has been contributing to participatory and people-centric governance. This initiative has some bright stories to tell which are also covered within this publication.

In nutshell, this active case study-based publication strives to capture people's journey towards the ENRICH aspiration of going beyond all un-freedom. However, freedom is not a static idea and it requires continual revival, revision and replications. The success of WAVE's ENRICH Program in Simanta Union has been inspiring which has inspired its expansion to other three Unions. Many stakeholders have opined in this publication that the positive effect of ENRICH should spill-over to other areas and encompass greater number of people.





About ENRICH Program

ENRICH is a flagship program of Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation- PKSF that aims at household-focused poverty reduction through holistic approach. According to many, ENRICH is 360° approach to development and a shift in the development paradigm. ENRICH is a program conducted at the grassroots level focusing for overall household development of the poor. The program targets poor families, working with them to enhance and maximize the utilization of their resources and skills. ENRICH aims to alleviate poverty not only through income generation but through a holistic approach targeting other crucial aspects of human life including health, education, youth development, community development, etc, the goal being sustainable development driven by the people themselves. It also helps and creates mechanism for them to work with relevant institutions and larger communities for effectively preparing for responses to natural disasters and put in place a new and effective method of GO-NGO collaboration for development from below. The program run in a community based complete development approach to fulfill the basic needs and constitutional rights of the community. Honorable Chairman of PKSF, Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, pitched the idea of ENRICH Program. The program is specially designed to ensuring asset and skill development of the poor families through family-based integrated development approach. Among the 143 targeted unions of Bangladesh, WAVE Foundation has been implementing the program in four unions: Simanto & Banka union of Jibonnagar upazilla and Parkrishnapur-Madna union of Damurhuda upazilla in Chuadanga district and Jamirta union of Singair upazilla in Manikgonj district. It is notable here that, initially WAVE started to implement the program in Simanto union. Based on its successful implementation, results and positive impact in the respective community, PKSF has provided support to expand this program in three more said unions. In this publication we have focused on the overall achievements of the program of Simanto union under Jibonnagar upazilla in Chuadanga district.

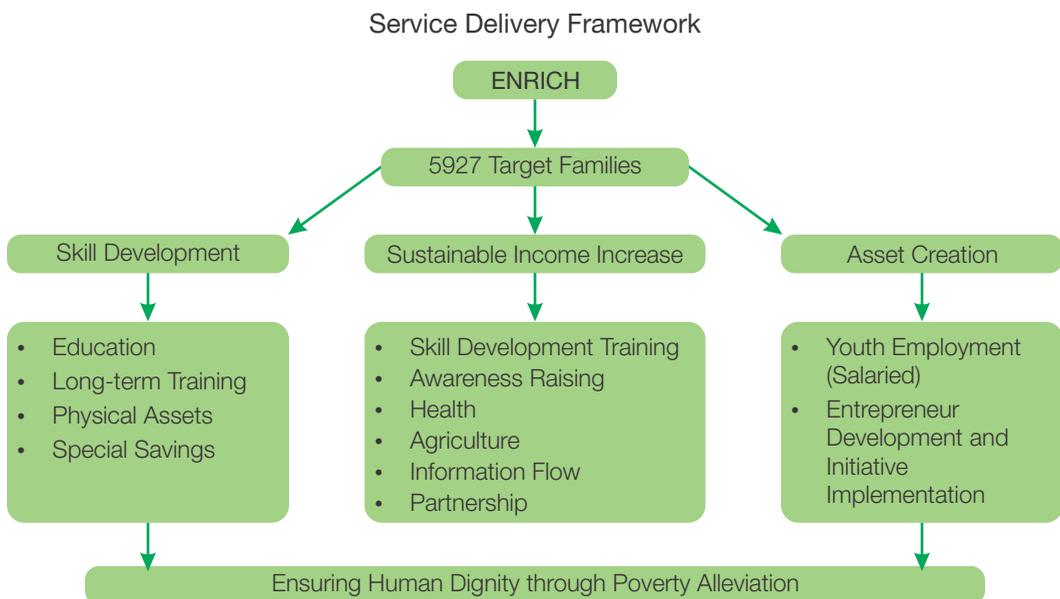
The special features of the program are: People-centric and family-based development program; Multifaceted and integrated development strategy to alleviate poverty; Close collaboration with local government; Interventions are designed by identifying constraints through 360° approach; Innovations of the community and implementing organizations are adequately acknowledged through incorporating them in the program design and Flexibility in the approach allows to adapt in changing scenarios; The specific objectives of the program are as follows:

- To ensure capacity of poor households for sustainable poverty reduction by proper utilization of their own resources.
- Increasing entrance in education, health and nutrition
- Taking proper steps so that the poor household can play appropriate role in recovery from natural calamities and the next rehabilitation by working with local people and the relevant organization.
- Increasing role of GO/NGO for sustainable poverty reduction and development from grass root level.

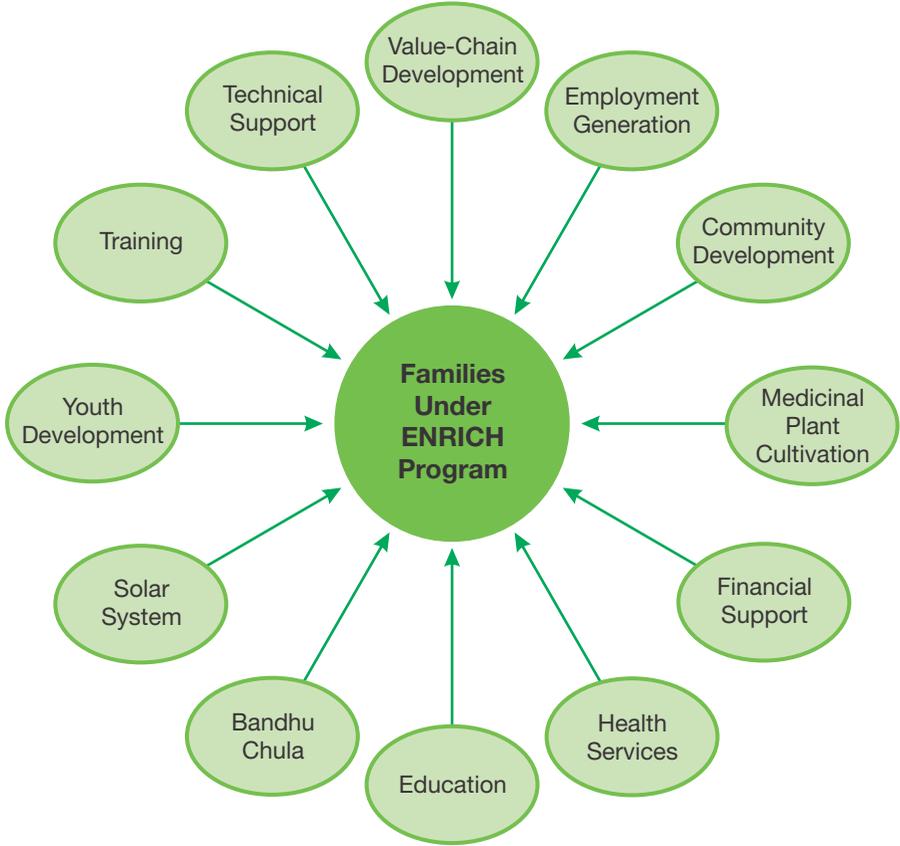
A total of 7235 households and 29386 population (among them 1166 rich, 3258 middle class, 1963 poor & 848 hardcore poor households) live in Simanto union where our direct targeted households are 5927 (middle class, poor & hardcore poor). However the health and education services are open for all including community level infrastructure development interventions like: sanitary latrine & tube-wells in social institutions and culverts on different village roads to safe the crops from water logging. The major service components of the program are: Education; Health; Environment and Agriculture; Economic Empowerment; Social/Community Development and Skill Development & Employment Generation Employment.

About ENRICH Model

ENRICH is a 360° approach to development. The overall goal of the program is to ensure human dignity and freedom by gradually reducing poverty in a sustainable manner. It is clearly focused to alleviate poverty not only through income generation of a household rather through a holistic development approach targeting other crucial aspects of human life including health, education, environment & agriculture, social, youth development, community development, etc, the goal being sustainable development driven by the people themselves. The following diagram shows the clear picture of the model how it is exceptional and effective.



Services under ENRICH Program





Components of ENRICH Program

ENRICH Program has six major components as follow;

- Health
- Education
- Social Development
- Environment and Agriculture
- Economic Development
- Skill Development and Employment Generation





Health Component

Critical health issues of poor people at grass-root arise not only because of their financial insolvencies but also for the undeveloped rural infrastructure. Health being the foundation of all other development gets utmost priority in ENRICH Program. ENRICH program intends to bring quality health services at the door step of the poor program participants. Particularly maternal and neonatal health, nutrition, wash and hygiene are some of the major areas of interventions.

Every family under the program gets a health card through which all the family members can avail diversified health services provided under the program. Satellite clinics conducted at community level by MBBS / specialist doctors a weekly basis. Static clinics conducted by program Health Assistant (Paramedic) at office level daily. Special Health Campus one eye, diabetic etc. organized at community level by the specialist doctors.

The impact of such intensive health activities can be measured from the shift of people's health-seeking behavior; from traditional to scientific health-seeking behaviors. There is a sharp decrease in child and maternal mortality rate. Health awareness at family level has also enhanced.

Numeric Highlights (From 2010 To 2015)

Health Card Distributed	Service Received through Static Clinic (Number of People)	Service Received through Satellite Clinic (Number of People)	Special Health Camps Organized	Service Received through Health Camps (No. Of People)	Eye Operated (Number of People)	Deworming Tablets Distributed	Nutrition Box Distributed
5461	5810	12335	16	2519	46	73700	7200



The health card is very helpful to me and my family. When I was pregnant I received good care from the health assistants and doctor. And in the post-pregnancy period, me and my children are properly cared and advised. Now I know how to take care of myself and my kid. Health Assistant visits my home once in a month and takes update. We also can take service from satellite clinics.

Selena Khatun, *Goyeshpur, Jibonnagar, Chuadanga*



Working in ENRICH Program as a doctor is like the dream of childhood to serve people coming true. And the impact is so obvious. Now we have fewer crowds in Upazila Health Complex since a large number of people are getting quality services at their door-step. For this reason, now we are able to provide good services to our patients.

Abu Hena Mohammuduzzaman,
Residential Medical Officer, Jibonnagar
Upazila Health Complex. Complex



Previously people especially women of my area would go to traditional and religious healers for health issues. Now ENRICH satellite clinic brings specialist doctor and people are getting quality health services at the door-step. This change in health-seeking behavior of the people is very important.

Bulibuli Khatun, *Woman UP Member, Notunpara, Simanta Union, Jibonnagar*



My left eye was operated two years ago in the ENRICH Eye Camp. Now I can see much better through the left eye than before. Now I am facing trouble with my right eye. I would be extremely pleased if I can get the same support for my right eye from the ENRICH Eye Camp.

Rabia Khatun, *Goyeshpur, Jibonnagar, Chuadanga*



Education Component

The ENRICH education component is aimed at upgrading the quality of primary education, decreasing the school drop-out rate and ensuring enrollment of all children in the school. To that end, forty education centers are functioning in the program/working area. The education centers provide pre-primary as well as school supportive education to the underprivileged children six days a week. In the last five years, 4622 underprivileged kids have received these services both in the form of pre-primary and school supportive education. The centers equally emphasize creative growth of the children alongside intellectual growth. For this reason, music, dance, drawing and poetry recitation are considered as integral part of the curriculum. The impact of this initiative is evident in the increased presence of kids in the schools, bright academic result as well as lessened school drop-out rate.

Numeric Highlights (From 2010 To 2015)

Functional Education Centers	Total Number of Students	Number of Guardian Meeting Organized	Decrease in the Primary School Dropout Rate	Current Drop Out Rate at Primary Level
40	4622	12335	12%	0.19%



Coming here I enjoy a lot. Our Apa (Teacher) is very helpful and very friendly to us. She helps us preparing the home tasks for the school. Now I can go to school without any fear. I have many friends here. The School Supportive Education is both fun and learning experience for me. I want to be a teacher after the end of my education.

Gita Rani Das, Class Two, Shakharia, Simanta Union



I love coming here. Before coming here I was always afraid to go to school. Because I used to go there without preparing my home tasks since I have nobody in my family to help prepare my home tasks. But now Apa helps us prepare the home tasks for the school. Now I enjoy going school. I also love the cultural class here. Coming here is fun!

Mowmita Das, Class Two, Shakharia, Simanta Union



My daughter Shapla is a student of class two. The School Supportive Education has been really helpful to her. With the assistance of this she has stood first in class two. For family like us where most of the family members are ignorant and cannot help kids in their education, this is a really a blessing. I also observe that Shapla enjoys the sessions even more than school. I request to extend the service up to at least class five.

Kakuly Khatun, Gurdian, Goyeshpur, Simanta, Jibonnagar



I love helping kids prepare their home tasks. For the under-privileged family this has been a great support which also contributes to decrease the school drop-out rate. Now I am very happy that kids go to school without fear. Furthermore, we also care the creative growth of the kids. Currently we support kids up to class two. But guardians often request me to extend the service.

Farsina Khatun, Education Assistant, ENRICH Education Center, Shakharia



Social Component

Social component is intended to ensure the social development of the targeted community. Installation of tube-well and hygienic latrines at different institutions, advocacy with relevant authorities for infrastructural development of the targeted area, environment friendly Bondhu Chul installation at household level, promotion of solar energy, activating village court and standing committees, beggar rehabilitation, sensitization on maternal and neonatal health through court-yard meeting and announcement, undertaking social actions for social change, hosting different service deliveries through ENRICH Centers are some of the major activities under the social component. Initiatives under the social component are accelerating the infrastructural and socio-economic development of the project area. Simanta Union has been declared under 100% hygienic sanitation coverage.

Numeric Highlights (From 2010 To 2015)							
Bondhu Chula Installation	Number of ENRICH Center Established	Sanitary Latrine Installation at Family Level	Sanitary Latrine Installation at Community Level	Tube-well Installation at Community Level	Pipe Culvert Establishment	Bridge Renovation	Beggar Rehabilitated
1069	09	1549	47	92	20	01	10



Initially I was little hesitant to take Bondhu Chula. I used to cook in the traditional stoves. Now, this Bondhu Chula is bringing lot more benefits to me. My kitchen is now smoke- free, neat and clean. The use of fuel wood has also reduced. Seeing the advantages, many of my neighbors are adopting this.

Rekha Khatun, ICS Subscriber,
Goalpara, Simanta, Jibonanagar



Me and my husband used to beg together for our livelihoods. My mother was also a beggar. ENRICH has given us this grocery shop. We have also got goats, cattle, sanitary latrine, tube-well and vegetable seeds. Now with the income from this grocery shop and other supports, we live with dignity. We don't beg anymore.

Sakina Khatun and Zakir Hossain,
Rehabilitated Beggar, Horihornagar
Simanta, Jibonnagar



This solar is a magic. I need not to pay electric bill every month. At the beginning I was not aware but now I have been enjoying the benefits of solar. Seeing this in my tea stall, many of my customers now ask me about its details.

Abul Kalam Azad, Solar Subscriber,
Dhannokhola, Simanta, Jibonnagar



The ENRICH Program has been doing excellent job so far in my Union. The activities like infrastructure building, health, education and agriculture is praiseworthy. The most important part is they maintain a very sound coordination with us. I particularly appreciate the beggar rehabilitation program. So far, ten beggars have been rehabilitated. I would request PKSF to extend this activity.

Abul Hannan, UP Chairman,
Simanta Union, Simanta, Jibonnagar



Environment and Agriculture Component

Environment and Agriculture Component deals with the eco-friendly agriculture development of the targeted area through providing agro technical services and environment-friendly agro technologies like sex pheromone trap and porous pipe to the farmers; helping farmers establish quick compost and vermin-compost plant; distributing quality seeds and plants among farmers; providing training; setting up demonstration; developing entrepreneurs for Guti Urea and promoting economically viable spice cultivation among farmers. The impact is visible and measureable in the positive changes in the lives and livelihoods of the targeted farmers.

Numeric Highlights (From 2010 to 2015)

Basok Plant Planted	Number of Families Received Vegetable Seeds	Number of Farmers Received Agro Technical Services	Vermin-compost Plant Installed	Number of Sex Pheromone Trap Distributed	Number of Porous Pipe Distributed	ENRICH Home Developed	Number of Goats Vaccinated
35600	2916	4093	85	677	479	40	10108



I used to use chemical fertilizer on my crop lands before knowing vermin-compost. The difference is obvious. It is safe, cost-efficient and effective. I can sell the extra fertilizer to nurseries at good price. Now other farmers have become interested in this organic fertilizer. I often mentor them in establishing plants.

Mohammad Mojjamel, Compost Plant Owner, Shakharia, Simanta, Jibonnagar.



When I started planting Basok plants at road side, I did merely for beautification of the road and environment conservation. I didn't expect any financial return from it. But see, apart from everybody's appreciation now I get financial benefits from here. ACME and Square are now taking these Basok leaves from us at good price. Other people are also encouraged to plant Basok in fellow land.

Asia Khatun, Basok (Medicinal Plant) Value Chain, Shakharia, Simanta, Jibonnagar



I produce the largest and most fresh Brinjals in my locality. The secret is the agro advices of program personnel and my hard work. I also use eco-friendly technology like sex pheromone trap. I am happy that my hard work has paid me off.

Abdur Razzak, Egg-plant Farmer, Goyeshpur, Simanta, Jibonnagar



I am from a poor and big family. I have got no inherited land. But as I started gourd farming on leased land my fortune has taken an about turn. The agro-tips and eco-friendly technologies have made a real difference. With the profit I have bought a piece of land. I am also planning to expand my farming area.

Nasir Hossain, Gourd Farmer, Shakharia, Simanta, Jibonnagar



Economic Development Component

Economic Development Component is one of the major components of the integrated service of ENRICH Program. Diversified and flexible loans are provided for income generation at family level on Income Generating Activities-IGA, Asset Creation, Bondhu Chula, Black Bengal Goat Rearing, Beef Fattening, Hosing, Standard Living, Tube-well Installation, House Renovation, Medical Treatment, Handicrafts, Micro-entrepreneurship and so on. The loan amount ranges from 10000/- to 1000000/- taka. In the past five years this component has helped people making qualitative changes in their lives and livelihoods by creating micro-entrepreneurs.

Numeric Highlights (From 2010 to 2015)	
Number of Borrowers	Loan Outstanding
2936	41452865/-



I started this shop when I was a fresh grad student. I lacked required capital initially. The credit support certainly helped me a lot by providing necessary capital. Now, I have completed my graduation alongside running this shop. My average monthly income from the shop is thirty to thirty five thousand taka.

Abdul Momin, Owner of Grocery Shop, Shakharia, Simanta, Jibonnagar



As a youth I failed in various ventures and lacked required capital to start IGA from the beginning. I took loan from the program and purchased two cattle. Gradually I started making profit and the number of cattle increased. Now I have eight cows worth 5 lakh taka. I have a dream to establish a big cattle firm.

Ohidul Islam, Benipur, Shimanta, Jibonnagar



When I started conjugal life, our shanty house comprised lot of holes in its roof. During winter and rainy season we had to suffer a lot. We did not have the money to build a safe home. Now with the housing loan we have built this home. With my kids and husband I live happily here.

Tania Khatun, House Owner, Goyeshpur, Simanta, Jibonnagar



After my husband died, I wanted to contribute to my son's family somehow. Then I heard about the loan and bought one doe and a goat with the first installment. Now I have twenty two goats. I am happy that I am still productive. My daughter in-law now respects me because I can earn from goat rearing and support the family.

Maleka Begum, Black Bengal Goat Rearer, Horihornagar, Simanta, Jibonnagar



Skill Development and Employment Generation Component

Enhancing the capacity of the targeted participants and helping them becoming self-reliant is an integral part of what is intended under this component. Targeted participants particularly poor women get skill development trainings on various IGAs and Trade Courses like Tailoring, Computer and Mobile Servicing, Goat Rearing, Beef Fattening, Spices Cultivation, Fish Cultivation, Use of Guti Urea, Integrated Pest Management and Agro Product Processing. Participants after receiving trainings are utilizing their skill to improve their livelihood status and standard of living. Few participants have already made glaring examples. The component also puts equal emphasis on youth employment and self-employment. Youths get financial and technical assistance to make their dream come true. The youths who are interested in employment are tagged with concerned organizations and companies after capacitating the youths and making them eligible for a job.

Numeric Highlights (From 2010 to 2015)

Number of People Received Tailoring Training	Number of People Received Computer & Television Servicing Training	Number of People Received Goat Rearing Training	Number of People Received Training on Use of Guti Urea	Number of People Received Training on Fish Cultivation	Number of People Received Training on Agro Product Processing	Number of People Received Training on Medicinal Plant Cultivation	Number of Youths Tagged With Employing Entities
28	20	689	416	450	16	1143	03



I am from needy family. After passing SSC Examination I was in complete dark about my future. Then thanks god! I received long term training on refrigeration. This training has developed me as a confident and capable individual. I have started my own servicing shop at Jibonnagar upazila headquarter. My monthly net income is now 12000/- taka. I am grateful to WAVE's ENRICH Program.

Al Mamun, Beneficiary of Youth Employment Initiative (Refrigeration Training), Gongadapur, Simanta, Jibonnagar.



I was never an attentive student. I gave up studying after completing primary education. During my adolescence I was confused and considered spoiled by my surroundings. But this mobile servicing training has suddenly changed the perceptions of me and others about myself. Now I run this Mobile Servicing Shop. I earn decent amount to support me and my family. Now I get respect from my surroundings.

Saddam Hossen, Beneficiary of Mobile Servicing Training, Goalpara, Simanta, Jibonnagar



Being physically disable I always fell short of confidence and dignity. On top of that I was considered as burden to a poor family. When I heard about the Tailoring Training of ENRICH I become interested. After the training I also have got this sewing machine. Now I work at home. I get ample orders from the surroundings to support myself.

Ripna Khatun, Beneficiary of Tailoring Training, Goalpara, SImanta, Jibonnagar



I received Beef Fattening Training from ENRICH. This certainly helps me to contribute to my family in a productive way. I have sold four cows and spent the money on the construction of house. Me with the help of my family have a plan to start a bigger farm.

Sofura Begum, Beneficiary of Beef Fattening Training, Goalpara, Simanta, Jibonnagar



Innovative Initiatives

There are few features of this program that have generated well-being for the project participants, attracted keen attention from its stakeholders and inspired extensive replications. The features are as follow;

- ENRICH Home
- ENRICH Center
- Women-friendly Participatory Open UP Budget
- Advocacy on Important Social Issues

ENRICH Home

ENRICH Home is an innovation of WAVE Foundation. The idea of ENRICH Home is aimed at making home the source of income generation and asset creation toward poverty alleviation by making the optimum use of the available resources. Households being the base unit should be the foundation of collective development. The elements that make a home ENRICH Home are: eco-friendly Bandhu Chula, Health Card, tube-well for safe water, hygienic latrine and cleanness. The income-generating components of ENRICH Home are: vegetable garden, spice cultivation, goat rearing in slatted house, cattle rearing, indigenous livestock rearing, vermin-compost and quick-compost plant, fodder cultivation and indigenous fruit orchard. The social attributes of ENRICH Home are: gender sensitivity, women's empowerment, free from early marriage, polygamies and child labor, family planning and social affinity. Currently, there are 60 ENRICH Homes in the working area which have become a benchmark of success for ENRICH Program. The income and wellbeing of these families have increased sustainably. Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation-PKSF has been motivating its other project implementation partners to replicate this ENRICH House Model. So far, 86 representatives of 43 partner organizations have come to exposure visit at WAVE's ENRICH Program area where the major concentration was on ENRICH Home.



I really have lot to take care and cheers about. My husband helps me a lot to take care the whole bunch. My home contains all the elements that make a home ENRICH Home. The amazing thing is now my home has become the source of income and nutrition for me. The vegetables, fruits, eggs, milk and other livestock that I produce here can be sold at good price after meeting the demand of my family.

Nirful Begum, ENRICH Home Owner,
Goyeshpur, Simanta, Jibonnagar



My joy knows no bound when my neighbors call my home ENRICH Home and try to follow my model. My home has not only become source of income but also a home where women are treated equally and respectfully and valued for their contribution to the family. The home is providing fresh vegetable, fruits and milk for my grand-children. My husband helps me while I take care of the animals. I want every home to be ENRICH Home.

Tahmina Khatun, ENRICH House Owner,
Koya, Simanta, Jibonnagar

ENRICH Center

Union is the base administrative stratum of Bangladesh. A Union Parishad consists of nine wards. On an average, there are 30000 people live in a union boundary. That is more than 3000 people living in a ward. Union parishad is local level government body. It is governed by an elected chairman, nine elected representatives from nine wards and three elected women from three reserved seats. Under the current setting, there is hardly any room for active people's participation in the development planning and implementation which undermines the accountability and responsiveness of local government. There is no common place either for the community people for effective information sharing, development debate, dispute settlement and governmental/non-governmental service delivery. Under this circumstance, the necessity of establishing a community interactive centre in each ward of a Union becomes immensely important to empower people and give voice to their dreams and aspirations. To that end, WAVE Foundation in joint collaboration with Union Parishad and Community has established nine ENRICH Center in nine wards of Simanta Union (Jibonnagar Upazila) in 2012 under ENRICH Program.

ENRICH Center are run through a tri-party partnership of community, Union Parishad and WAVE Foundation. These apolitical, interactive and community-owned Centers have been playing a pivotal role in bringing people together under single umbrella, involving them in development planning and implementation, resolving disputes more efficiently, making people aware of their rights and obligations as well as hosting governmental/non-governmental service delivery. Every ENRICH Center has a General Committee consisting of 25-30 Members (minimum 40% Female) and an Advisory Committee of 03 to 05 ex-UP Members or Contestants and local elite who are entrusted with lobbying with key service providing organizations and fund raising. Furthermore, sub-committees are formed with youth and leadership preferences for specific initiative implementation (Agriculture, Education, Health, Preventing violence against women and Social Development).

In the last four years ENRICH Centers have set examples as an interactive center that bring community people together for facilitating people's critical engagement in the development process & making people aware of their rights and obligation. This success has inspired PKSF to recognize these centers as ENRICH Centers and replicating this model in 43 other unions of Bangladesh.



ENRICH Centers have become the hub of GO-NGO service deliveries and people's get together

Women Friendly Participatory UP Budget

Women constitute the half our population. Reflection of women's dreams and innovation in our development planning and implementation is scarcely found apart from some negligible representation of privileged women at the national level. At the grass-root level, Union Parishad is the base administrative stratum which is closest to the common people and can give voice to their demands. But within the current setting, UP planning and budgeting is not participatory. Particularly, women and youths are deprived of the benefits and do not get sufficient allocation from the UP budget for their development due to lack of women representation at that level and awareness of the mass people. Whereas, being the foundation, Union Parishad could be the stratum where the revolution should begin by reflecting dreams of the commoner in its planning and budgeting with special focus on the women's needs.

To that end, WAVE Foundation intends to create model Unions that adequately acknowledge and involve its constituencies in planning and budgeting process with particular emphasis on women. This urge of participatory and women-friendly budgeting has been incorporated with ENRICH Program. Simanta Union under Jibonnagar Upazila has been preparing participatory and women-friendly budgets since 2006-07 fiscal year. Women and people of all walks of life participate in the budget preparation meeting. Separate fund for women development and skill trainings is allocated. Constituencies particularly women in this union receive skill and income generating trainings and equipment supports as per budget provisions which are contributing to the qualitative changes in their life and livelihoods. Honorable District Controller of Chuadanga is inspiring other Unions to replicate this practice. In fact, Simanta could be examples for the 4500 Unions of Bangladesh because a women-friendly Union Parishad is the foundation for a women-friendly and prosperous Bangladesh.



Being physically challenged my opinions and choices usually never get priority. When I heard about the Woman-friendly UP Budget became interested. I went to the preparatory meeting with other women. We raised voice about our rights. The tailoring training was a result of our recommendation in the budget meeting. I also got this machine from the UP. Now I earn just enough to support myself.

Kanta Khatun, Beneficiary of Women-friendly Participatory Open UP Budget, Sakhariya, Simanta.



Women-friendly Participatory Open UP Budget has brought lot of authenticity and accountability to what we do for people. Particularly women are benefitted. Apart from being part of budget formulation process, women receive various IGA trainings to be self-sufficient. I think, this initiative is positive for everyone concerned.

Robiul Islam, UP Member, Simanta Union, Jibonagar Upazila

Advocacy on Important Social Issues

Advocacy on important social issues is an innovation of WAVE Foundation incorporated in the ENRICH service delivery model. This initiative being pro-people and participatory has brought few mentionable successes contributing to the collective development of the targeted community. For instance, the width of bridge at Changkhali Road of Goalpara under Simanta Union was only 06 feet. Due to the narrowness of this bridge and its poor drainage system, 500 bighas of cultivable land around the bridge used to be submerged during rainy season and heavy rainfall. Poor farmers were the worst victim of the said inconvenience. Considering the circumstances, ENRICH Program of WAVE Foundation along with local elites started advocacy on the bridge with relevant authority. After prolonged effort, the bridge has been constructed by LGED. The present 19 feet wide bridge has resolved the long-held drainage problem. This is like dream come true for the poor farmers. During the rainy season, farmers no longer face huge crop loss.



Before the construction of this bridge, we faced huge loss of crops due to water lodging during the rainy season. The construction of this bridge has become a blessing for the farmers. In this rainy season even after huge rainfall our crops did not submerge. We farmers would like to thank WAVE for the step.

Sumon Miya, Farmer and Beneficiary of this Bridge, Goalpara, Simanta, Jibonangar



I am aware that WAVE Foundation has been implementing ENRICH Program in the Simanta Union. The cooperation and coordination between us and the program personnel is quite remarkable. We share insights and collaborate in different areas. I would like ENRICH to expand its activities in the rest of the Upazila area.

Abu Mohammad Abdul Latif Amol,
Upazila Chairman, Jibonangar Upazila

Conclusion

ENRICH Program aspires to lead people towards freedom and dignity by channelizing them going beyond all un-freedom. 'Freedom of Choice', 'Equity', 'Inclusiveness', 'Human Rights', 'Solidarity', 'Respect for Nature', 'Shared Vision' and 'Responsibility' are the principles that ENRICH strives to advance. This integrated and inclusive approach of development requires extensive replications and value additions towards creating a just and prosperous Bangladesh.

Photo Gallery



Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, PKSf; Md. Abdul Karim, Managing Director, PKSf and Ms. Pauline Tamesis, Country Director, UNDP at ENRICH site



Representatives of Different Partner Organizations in Exposure Visit

Photo Gallery



Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, PKSf at ENRICH site



Representatives of DFID and PKSf at ENRICH site

Let There Be Abundance and Joy!



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