

2022

ANNUAL REPORT



ASHRAF FOUNDATION

Tarnibas Road, South side of Mohela College, Chaugachha Bazar,
Post. Chaugachha -7410, Dist. Jahore, BANGLADESH.

Phone : +88-0247777-1664, 1729 Cell : 01714064115, 01711-150419

Fax : +88-0247777-1729, 1729, E-mail : ashraffoundation18@gmail.com



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January - December 2022

Editorial Advice :
M. Rasel Ashraf

Edited by :
Mamunur Roshid Bakul
Gulshahana Khatun
Ratna Khatun

Design by :
M. Rasel Ashraf

Graphics by :
M. Rasel Ashraf

Published by :
Ashraf Foundation
Jessore Road, Chowgacha Bazar,
Post: Chowgacha-7410, Jessore,
BANGLADESH.

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Governance committee of Ashraf Foundation**List of the General Body**

Md. Titumer Rahman
 Iqbal Ahamed
 M. Rasel Ashraf
 Mrs. Rehana Parvin
 Md. Motahar Hossain
 Palash Kumar Pal
 Mst. Lotus Sultana
 Md. Yousuf Ali
 Dr. Mr Mostanisur Rahman
 S.M Zahid Siddique
 Md. Rabiul Islam
 Md. Mostafijur Rahaman
 Munshi Lutfar Rahaman
 Golam Mostafa
 Sufrina Khatun Urmi
 Md. Obaidul Hoque
 Mrs Nurunnahar Lili
 Mr. Sukur Ali (Nunu)
 Md. Abdul Mannan
 Md. Musfiqur Rahaman
 Md. Abdul Satter

List of Executive Committee

Name	Designation
Md. Titumer Rahman	Chairperson
Iqbal Ahamed	Vice-chairperson
M. Rasel Ashraf	General Secretary
Mrs. Rehana Parvin	Treasurer
Md. Motahar Hossain	Executive Member
Palash Kumar Pal	Executive Member
Mst. Lotus Sultana	Executive Member



Message From the Executive Director Desk

Greetings & thanks for Annual report 2022. It is our pleasure that the organization **Ashraf Foundation** has been passed its 30 years of its operation. And has learnt more from the long journey to provide services to the rural poor people, destitute women, and disabled children and socially handicaps towards their capacity building, socio-economic development as a catalyst role. **Ashraf Foundation** mission has been providing support service to achieving its vision with pre-planned strategies and actions. The mission has been implementing major programmatic area of works that are distributed within 80 unions and 07 Pourashavas of 24 Upazilas under 08 Districts of Bangladesh. 155 staff members have been putting their day to day support to implementation of program activities in the field with more skill, effective methods and methodologies. **Ashraf Foundation** now is a trusted name of NGO, which is working in the area. Moreover, 08 direct partner members have been involved in its programs and or projects directly. That significant achievement inspired us to go forward. In this report, we confidently stated according to programs. We hope that this report have been covered each and every area of our programs and project activities as well as achievement during the year 2022. By this time, our aff teams have been developed their knowledge, confidence and implementation through participating in implementation of activities, training, workshop, meeting, seminar etc. We are hopeful that we have been forwarded our mission to achieving the vision of **Ashraf Foundation**.

I would like to thanking our partners those who are contributing us by financially, technically, equipment and supporting the organization as a hole. Again I also thanks to our members of both General Committee (GC) & Executive Committee (EC) for their counseling and Executive Committee for their continuous cooperation, wise direction in time. It is my proud thanks to them that our stakeholders those who are most cooperative, energetic, motivated and actively participated in the process of development launched for them.

We think, we had come forward day to day, but we are appreciating any kind of suggestions and recommendations to develop this report as well as **Ashraf Foundation**.

If anybody or any organization can get a small benefit from the report that will be a great pleasure for my team members and me and it will be courageous for further forward steps.

I am very much thankful for all those who are worked hard to prepare this report.

M RaseL Ashraf
Executive Director
Ashraf Foundation

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Inception:

Ashraf Foundation was established in the year 1991 by a group of young men and women aimed at help the poor and underprivileged peoples of the society to improve their overall socio-economic status. It is founded on a set of believes concerning the basic problems of the rural people like-illiteracy, ill health, unemployment, oppression/ civic inertia & environmental hazards. Peoples have their inherent power to solve their own problems, but they lack opportunity, resources & civic rights. The development philosophy of **Ashraf Foundation** is essentially humanist, holistic and people-centered approach that aim to empowering people through develop their potential inherent powers (intellectual, productive, physical & political/organizing) to enable them to take responsibility of their self-reliance and sustainable development.

Vision, Mission, Goal and Objectives:

a. Vision of Ashraf Foundation :

The vision of **Ashraf Foundation** is to develop a society, which is socially just, ecologically sound and more satisfying in human terms than growth obsessed society of today.

b. Mission of Ashraf Foundation :

Mission of **Ashraf Foundation** is enabling the poor people through developing their potentials in such a way that they can identify their problems, its root causes and ensure participation in planning and resource management for their self-development.

c. Goal of Ashraf Foundation :

The goal of the organization is to improve quality of life of the poor and the community people so that they can take part in development process.

d. Objectives :

- To organize the target peoples into group to develop unity, solidarity among them and thus develop a collective strength and institutional bases so that can ensure their individual and collective development.
- To help them develop their consciousness and awareness about their position in the social system.
- To help them develop their self-image, self-confidences and creativity and thus make them fit for their desired changes.
- To rehabilitate the disable of the society through proper supports and services.
- To provide technical, training, and credit supports to group members for initiating income-generating activities towards improve their economic condition.
- To provide other support and services in the process of their socio-economic condition.
- The target people can ensure the maximum and appropriate utilization of the available local resources for their development.
- Aware people about drug abasement and anti-trafficking against women and children.

Working Development Approaches, Strategies & Development Partners of Ashraf Foundation:

a. Development Approaches:

- Participatory development.
- Building partner /sister organization.
- Partnership collaboration–networking.
- National and international development organizations.
- Democratic culture at grass-roots.

- Community based resource management.
- Indigenous knowledge based development.
- Holistic development.
- Right based.
- Strengthening grass–root level civil society, culture at grass–roots Decentralization Gender mainstreaming.
- Grassroots civil society builds up.

b. Strategies :

The organization works as an animator, stimulator and cooperator in the process of development and improvement of the situation of the target peoples. The organization intervention supports and services are guided on the principal “build on what they have and people themselves build their own fortunes.

- The organization works both in the urban and rural communities.
- The poor and underprivileged peoples are the target peoples of the organization.
- The development need comes from the beneficiaries and thus the organizations programs are the need basis of the beneficiaries.
- Sustainability and self-sufficiency are given priority in the programs.
- People’s participation in the programs is considered as very much important.

c. Development Partners :

- Ecologically vulnerable community.
- Destitute women (divorced, widows, shrimp fry collectors, deserted women, heads of women-headed households, women of families victimized by man eating tigers).
- Marginal and landless farmers.
- Mowal (honey collectors), Bawali (wood collectors) and Zele community.
- Disabled community.
- Indigenous and minority community.
- Youth and adolescent community.
- Women and children.
- Civil society.
- Universities and research institutes.
- Local elected representatives, clubs, CBOs , NGOs, Sectoral Agencies of the Govt.

Policy Framework of Ashraf Foundation:

- Ashraf Foundation’s development endeavors principally focus on poorest of poor destitute women outcastes, indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities and Hard core poor (HCP) community. The issue of their development is the first priority. Ashraf Foundation works to empower resource poor community at all levels-community, social and national levels.
- Ashraf Foundation works for conservation of environmental resource base.
- Ashraf Foundation takes up all development initiative taking gender perspective into consideration.
- Ashraf Foundation takes up development programs taking economic, social, political and cultural equity into consideration.
- Ashraf Foundation takes up all development initiatives taking sustainability of development partners into consideration.
- Ashraf Foundation works to ensure availability local resources and government facilities in the interest of the resource poor people.
- Ashraf Foundation proceeds from project to program.
- Ashraf Foundation implements development programs through networking and development partnership.

Governance :**Decision Making:**

According to constitution of Ashraf Foundation, general members of the organization play vital role in any decision making for the organization. Any decision adopted by majority member in the annual general meeting, the Executive Committee is constitutionally bound to follow their decision and implement it.

Executive Committee interprets, implement, follow-up, evaluates the decisions of the General Committee and report them back after their task is over. Executive Committee takes the decision and gives decision within the guideline set by the General Committee. Director of the organization implements the decisions taken by the Executive Committee and by other set rules and responsibility given upon him as per constitution. He is accountable to the Executive Committee.

Transparency and Accountability:

The responsibility of all project staff is distributed according to implementation plan and need of the project and their duties and responsibilities are prescribed in their job description. Executive Director is responsible for appoint, termination, suspensions, promotion, demotion and increment of staff. All project staff is reportable and accountable for their activities directly to the Coordinator. Project Officer / Branch Managers during their monthly meeting provide their activity and financial reports, which is received and evaluated immediately. New responsibility is again given upon him/her when planning for the next month. This is an on-going process of responsibility and accountability for all organization staff.

Executive Director is accountable for his/her performance and progress to the Executive Committee. The Committee gets overall report of the activities and finance of the project in their regular meeting, where the Committee reviews and evaluates his/her past quarter activities and progress of the work assigned for the period. The Executive Committee is accountable to the General Committee that meets annually to review the progress of the projects and financial matters.

Project Management System:

The Executive Director invites the implementation plan in detailed from the Branch Manager after approval of any project. The staff of the Branch Offices prepare detail action plan with distribution of responsibility. Executive Director is responsible to look after and supervise both project activities and financial management. He is assigned by a Coordinator to supervise the project activities and staff. Chief accountant of the organization is responsible to maintain all financial records and reports. The project activities reports and accounts of Ashraf Foundation are computerized.

Every month the Branch Managers submit their written report to the Assistant Director by specific printed forms. After completion of all reports submitted by Branch Managers, a monthly report of the program activities is published for internal uses. Simultaneously, monthly financial report is prepared for the organization. Annual report is the basis of all these monthly activity and financial reports of the organization.

Legal Status:

Ashraf Foundation is duly registered with Directorate of Social Services, NGO affairs Bureau & Europe AID which is presenting below:

S.L	Name of the Concerned Department/ Institute	Registration No.	Date of Registration
01	Department of Social Welfare	Jashore - 232/92	30/06/1992
02	NGO Affairs Bureau	1192	05/10/1997
03	PADOR Europe Aid	BD-2012-EKU-2211437071	22/11/2012

Management Structure of Ashraf Foundation :

Ashraf Foundation is democratic in nature as per approved constitutions of the organization. The organization has the following three principal management organs:

- General Body
- Executive Committee
- General Administration

General Body :

General Body is the highest body of Ashraf Foundation and consists of all the general members of the organization. The total number of member of the general body is 21. General meeting is held with general members at least once in a year. But if necessary, it can summon emergency meeting. In the general meeting policy and activities of the Executive Committee is approved. The member of the General Body will pay regular monthly subscription; actively take part in each meeting of General Committee and different social work. The General Committee will form the Executive Committee and will approved annual budget.

Executive Committee :

The members of the General Body elect 7 member Executive Committee (EC) for the period of two years. The EC sits once in a quarter to look after the activities of the organization and takes necessary decisions. The Committee is responsible for overall management of total program/project implemented by the organization. The responsibility of the Committee are to create income sources and maintain accounts, budget preparation, bank account operation, participate in bi-monthly and special meeting, deposit and fixed assets and liquid assets. The Executive Director plays the role of the secretary of the Executive Committee as per his right of designation. But the Director has no right of casting vote in the election of the committee formation.

General Administration :

The Executive Director is the Chief Executive of the organization and is responsible for overall administration of the organization. He is accountable to the Executive Committee and executes projects and programs by a number of program and administrative staff, workers and the professionals. Ashraf Foundation has a good number of permanent staff, temporary staff and volunteers. There are two types of staff such as head office staff and field level staff. The field level staff are responsible for implementing all planned and project activities in the working areas. The staff of the central office are responsible to the Executive Director.

Staff Strength :

Ashraf Foundation has a good number of staff (full time and part time) and volunteers. There are central office staff and project staff. Ashraf Foundation promotes the principle of staff participation, team work and innovative experiments, to achieve and maintain a high quality of services in the program/organization. The organization has a good number of staff. It has a total of 65 different level staff who is working in different areas of Bangladesh.

The staff related information is given below :

Particulars	Male	Female	Total
1. Full –time paid staff	29	16	45
2. Project / Incentive paid volunteer workers	50	20	70
Total	79	36	115

List of Donor Organization

The following national & intonations provide supports it implement various development activities of the organization.

Our Present partner	National /International
IFAD /PADAKHEP Consortium	International / National
Liliane Fonds / DRRRA	International / National
Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM) / IFAD	International / National
Ministry of Health & Family Planning,	National
Human Development Foundation (HDF)	National
Department of Women & Child affairs	National
NGO Forum for Public Health	National

Previous partner	National /International
JICA/ LGD	International / National
Europe Union / WAVE Foundation	International / National
Sight Saver International (SSI) & Uttaran	International / National
Europe Union / AID	International / National
BRAC	International
BRAC-NCU	International
Department of Forestry	National
Training on Technology Transfer (TTT)	National
Jation Protibandhi Unnayan Foundation	National
Ministry of Primary & Mass Education	National

National & International Memberships:

AS our strategic plan it is important to build linkage to other national & or international likeminded organization to exchange ideas, technologies, views, resources and many more. This is a continuous process of awarding membership to those who are locally internationally involved in development activities. Up to date enormous membership were received of linkage of membership stood the followings.

Sl. No.	Name of Organization	Location
01	Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB)	Dhaka/ Jessore
02	Association for Land Reform & Development (ALRD)	Dhaka, Bangladesh
03	Campaign for popular education (CAMPE)	Dhaka, Bangladesh
04	CSA For SUN	Dhaka, Bangladesh
05	Coordinating Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh (CCHRD)	Dhaka, Bangladesh
06	Child Sight Network	Dhaka, Bangladesh
07	GARNET- South Asia	Dhaka, Bangladesh
08	Good Governance (Supro)	Dhaka, Bangladesh
09	Governance Coalition	Dhaka, Bangladesh
10	National Forum of Organization Working Disabled	Dhaka, Bangladesh
11	PADMA Network	Khulna, Bangladesh
12	PlaNet Finance	Paris, France

Sl. No.	Name of Organization	Location
13	PADAKHEP Consortium	Dhaka, Bangladesh
14	Society for Sustainable Agriculture in Bangladesh	Dhaka, Bangladesh
15	Trafic Watch Bangladesh (TWB)	Dhaka, Bangladesh
16	Upazila Agriculture Extension Committee (UAEC)	Chowgacha, Jessore
17	People's Health Movement (PHM)	Bangladesh Circle
18	Poverty Elevation Alliance (PEA)	Jessore, Bangladesh

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Capacity Development Program

a. Institution Building :

The groups at grassroots level are at the heart of Ashraf Foundation's poverty reduction and sustainable development efforts. Ashraf Foundation believes that without the institution of poor or disadvantaged people poverty reduction & sustainable development is not possible. Group formation is the vital in order to enable the poor people to carry out the socio-economic programs for their self-development, poverty alleviation and build up a just society. Ashraf Foundation also initiates some basic disciplines to be practiced by each group. The organization mainly works through group and non-group approach. It organizes the target beneficiaries into groups and reaches development supports and services to the beneficiaries through the groups. In some cases like Education programs, the organization works through non-group approach.

The main objectives of this program are to build up the unity, strength and formation of capital through savings of the poor and disadvantaged people at the grassroots level.

Ashraf Foundation mobilizes the landless and poor into groups at the village level. The selection of the target area is the first steps towards group development. Ashraf Foundation initial selection of the villages, Ashraf Foundation has carried out an informal survey in each village to identify the target people. Then, Community Organizer (CO) initiates individual contact and informal discussion with the target people. This helps the target people to become aware about their right and the need for their unity and united action. Each group consists of 20 - 30 group members. The group members meet once a week to discuss different issues and facilitate credit operations, various socio-political and legal issues that impact their lives, including social inequality and injustice, discrimination and violence against women, harmful side of Arsenic. During the reporting year 2021, Ashraf Foundation has organized 6514 target group members into 264 groups in its working areas. Out of the total 04 are the male and 260 are the female groups.

Mutual understanding among the members is increasing gradually through group meeting, training and annual conference. Leadership capacity of the group members is increasing due to organizing and participating in planned activities. Organized group has also been helping to raise their voice against deprivation, oppression and exploitation of social system towards talking responsibility of self-reliant and sustainable development through access in structural development and decision-making process at different level.

b. Aquaculture Development Project (AqDP):

Ashraf Foundation has been implementing Aquaculture Development Project under the supervision of Lead NGO Padakhep Manabik Unnayan Kendra with the assistance of IFAD and Department of Fisheries. All upazilas of Jessore district had selected as the project area for Ashraf Foundation. It has been covered 76 villages under 8 upazilas and the total number of beneficiaries is 6400 under 280 groups. There are two especial groups namely i) Pond Aquaculture Group (PAG) and ii) Community

Development Group (CDG) has been formed to implementing this project. Each group of PAG is consisted of 20-25 members & CDG is consisted of 25-30 members.

During the reporting period, Ashraf Foundation has organized 2400 female beneficiaries into 120 Pond Aquaculture Group (PAG) and 4000 female beneficiaries into 160 Community Development Group (CDG). The organization has provided varieties IGA's training such as Pond fisheries, Prawn fish, Polly culture, Poultry rearing, livestock, Vegetable cultivation, nursery pond management, handicrafts, etc. to female group members support during time.

Perseverance can change life " Somity is the key to success" says Morium

Morium is an ideal housewife. She is happy couple with their 04 children. Mrs Morium Begum is a name of successful woman of that Jhikorgacha village of Jhikorgacha upazila in Jessore district. Md Barkot Ali, husband of Morium a day labor and had been passing their life with poverty, illness,



unemployment, insecurity of available resource, access to common resources was their regular problem. In the year 2022 Morium Begum has been joined within Ashraf Foundation's Aquaculture Development Project. As an active member of her group. She has gets training on Aquaculture Development & management of spawn. And she established a fishery in pond of their home yard. Morium and her husband's jointly started to operate the fishery successfully. Ashraf Foundation 1st year operation of pond she gets net profit of Tk-10,000/-. For the 2nd year they have

been benefited more and now they paid up their settlement of loan regularly. Nursery pond are another component that they incorporate this year and profit has calculated Tk 75,200/-. With this profit, they have been expanded their hatchery. Thus, they engaged themselves in their self-employed enterprise and finally they have been passing their peaceful life with their three children those who are studding in a school. Now they are passing their life with joy, happiness and dignity.

Environment Development Program :

Bangladesh is a small country with a lot of problems. The environmental condition is gradually decreasing due to human interference. Once, there was small forest in every area of Bangladesh. The people of the adjoining areas are directly dependent on the forest. The natural forest has destroyed due to high consumption of fuel wood by the surrounding people. Deforestation is proceeding at an alarming rate and habitats for both flora and fauna is also being destroyed. Environmental problem has made the daily life of community people embarrassing. The organization has taken different programs like mass awareness program, afforestation program and social mobilization to change this problem. The environment development program is comprised of two programs: roadside tree plantation and nursery development. The main objective of the program is to provide support for environmental and ecological protection and regeneration through active participation of poor community people.

a. Road Side Tree Plantation :

Ashraf Foundation has started Roadside tree plantation at Jessore district with the support of Department of Forest in 1997. During the last reporting period, the organization has used 19.22 km road for the plantation. A total of 15,000 seedlings have planted beside the road for afforestation. There have 50 caretakers for caring after the planted trees. Presently, 30 nos. caretakers have been provided with incentives / remuneration for their services. The roads are covered with the trees. Bio-diversity has increased in the project site due to tree plantation. The poor community people are using the timber and leaf as fuel. Most important thing is that soil erosion of the road has decreased due to this plantation.

b. Cultural Programs :

Ashraf Foundation has been working with the poor people those how are illiterate. It is not easy task to raise awareness on different important issues among them. It is not possible to disseminate messages among them through written form. Learning or awareness rising of this group through cultural function can be accelerated. To serve the purpose Ashraf Foundation has organized a regular cultural team, consisting of 30 members, with the promising local young stars. Side by side, the organization maintains a good liaison with the local performers for different cultural activities. During the reporting period, Ashraf Foundation organized as many as 155 functions and 135 dramas in the group level in the field area. Through this process, HIV/AIDS, legal support, human rights, fish culture, etc. related messages has disseminated among the community people.

**Education Program**

Education is a matter of human rights and a condition for social enhancement and is also a necessary and fundamental prerequisite for social justice, development and peace. But unfortunately almost half of the total population in Bangladesh is still captive under the curse of illiteracy. Literacy for All is a human right and is essential for human resources development. The constitution of the country has clearly spelt the kind of the basic education the country must have and it enjoins upon the government to impart such education within a given time frame. Increasing rural poverty coupled with landless and unemployment forced most of the people to pay little attention to education. Illiteracy is one of the greatest impediments to progress in Bangladesh. Thus, poverty is seen as a condition of powerlessness of rural poor. Ashraf Foundation has been implementing non-formal and formal education program to remove illiteracy and develop skill of the citizen particularly for the disadvantaged people. Ashraf Foundation has been implementing three different types of projects i.e. Child Education, Adult Literacy and Eradication of Hazardous child labor in Bangladesh. The main objective of the education program is to supplement national efforts towards building an illiteracy-free society, which ultimately helps the poor to be active participants in the sustainable development process.

a. Child Education :

Ashraf Foundation has been working with the child education program since 1995 with the financial support of BRAC-ESP to develop school going habit/interest among the children to go to formal school. At present, Ashraf Foundation is implementing the child education program with the support of BRAC. The BRAC Non Formal Primary Education (NFPE) model was initiated as a 3 year program for children between the ages of 8+ and 10 years. Those children who never enrolled in any school or

who had dropped out from the formal schools. Ashraf Foundation has established 10 education centers in 01 upazila.

The limited class size is 30 students, which help to special care between the teachers and student. The students of Ashraf Foundation schools are mostly the children of the resource poor and landless. 100% teacher of the Ashraf Foundation schools are women and local. All teachers are provided with 12 days long basic training under the management of BRAC. In the school 30 children sit on mats



arranged in a large U shape. A total of 300 learners have been receiving every facility for learning through 10 education centers during the reporting period. The education giving from classes.

Fisheries & Agriculture Program:

Bangladesh is a country of Rivers, Beels and Haors, even though the country is facing severe shortage of fishes and fish-products. The main reasons for this shortage are lack of proper knowledge for fish production, unconsciousness and disobedient fishermen, tenure systems of Beels and Haors, un-conscious villagers dwelling surrounding the Beels and Haors etc. Ashraf Foundation has been given special attention to increased fish production through utilizing these huge and non-cared resources. The fisheries program of the organization is a package program and consists of open water fish-culture, cage aquaculture and rice fish culture.

The main objective of this program is to improve the economic and nutritional status of the group members through fish cultivation activities as well as increase the national fish production.

a. Open water fish culture:

During the period Ashraf Foundation has re-excavated two ponds with the support of Food Assisted Fisheries Sector Rural Development Project-II under Department of Fisheries. The organization has handed over the said pond to 08 women beneficiaries for fish cultivation. It has also provided necessary training and credit support to them for meeting the running cost. The information about the open water fish culture is District -1, Upazila- 1, Village- 2, No of Pond- 2 and area-1.386 Ha.

b. Rice Fish Culture:

Rice fish culture is a new concept in our country and widely practicing by the farmers at present. Fishes are cultivated in the rice fields along with the paddy. A level of water is needed for growing paddy at the field and fishes are cultivated in that water of the paddy field. The farmers get two items simultaneously from the same field one is crops and another is fish. Thus, the farmers get an extra income from their paddy fields. During the year 2022, the farmers have produced 100579 kgs. Fishes through 424.07 acres of land under 25 plots. Information on land area, farmers involved and quantity of fishes produced in the year 2022.

c. Smallholder Agricultural Competitiveness Project (SACP) :

Smallholder Agriculture Competitiveness Project (SACP) is being implemented under the Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM). DAM mandated to oversee and develop the marketing system, which is dominated by the private traders. It operates under the Market Regulation Act-1964 (amended in 1985). The vision of DAM is to contribute to national economy through the management of interrelated agricultural marketing system and the development of agricultural business environment with producers, traders, and consumers. In this project, DAM serves under the Component 2. This 'terms of reference (ToR), is being prepared within component 2 for the outsourcing of Farmers Training on Business Management Skills of High Value Crops (HVCs) where smallholder farmer groups of the project area along with related market intermediaries will receive

the training through outsourcing firm' DAM officials and SAAO's will also be trained through FAO and will participate in farmers' training as resource persons.

Project Area:

Ashraf Foundation will be implemented in 01 district of 01 division covering 01 upazilla and 8 unions in the southern region of Bangladesh. Table Given as below:

Division	District	Upazila	Name of Union
Khulna	Bagerhat	Fakirhat	

Training Objectives:

The objective of the training is to enhance the capacity of farmers in Business Management Skills of high value crops (HVC). Keeping in line with this broad objective, the specific objectives of the training, not limited to, are stated below:

- a) To impart training to farmers including DAM officials at project areas based on training manual by deploying experienced and capable trainers.
- b) To identify the need of the farmers and customize the training modules duly considering the local context, if necessary, to best serve the farmer queries.
- c) To assist farmers to develop strategies to identify target markets, map potential buyers, and understand the price dynamics, seasonality and encourage for entrepreneurship.

Tentative Outcome:

Ashraf Foundation is providing consultancy services to achieve the following tentative outcomes:

1. Conduct 60 batch training for Farmers on “Business Management Skills” at Fakirhat upazila of Bagerhat district.
2. Provide training to 1500 farmers (25farmers/batch) on “Business Management Skills” at Fakirhat upazila of Bagerhat district.
3. Create awareness to 1500 farmers on Business Management Skills (BMS) through the training.
4. Provide training to teach 1250 farmers about agro product marketing.

Training Preparation:

Ashraf Foundation followed the objectives from the TOR, which provided by SACP-DAM, as a part of this consultancy. We provide Ashraf Foundation developed schedule, modules, handouts, presentation slides, training plans in consultation with respective person of SACP-DAM. Ashraf Foundation deployed the field level staff (trainer for facilitation, training officer, monitoring officer). Ashraf Foundation also communicated with the responsible person (Upazilla Agricultural Officer, Sub Assistant Agricultural Offrcers, Marketing Facilitator etc.) of the field level bbefore starting the training program.



Ashraf Foundation organized and facilitated a total thirty-day long farmers training on “**Business Management Skills**” under **Smallholder Agricultural Competitiveness Project (SACP)**, DAM Component on 06 April 2021 to 14 June 2022 at Fakirhat upazila under Bagerhat district. Training participants selected by Mr. Manik Mahamud, Marketing Facilitator, SACP-DAM collaboration with DAE. Total number of participants who attended the training program is 1500. Out of which 1052 are male and 448 are female. All training venues were union level like: Union Parishad/ School/ Farmers Yard etc. Training started from 8:30 am to 4:00 p.m. Ashraf Foundation provided two snacks, lunch, bag, note pad, pen and hand note for all participants. In each training 5 trainers were facilitated in the training season. Four facilitators from Ashraf Foundation and another one facilitator from DAE & DAM.

Women Development Program:

Bangladesh is a densely populated country. Half of the population is women. So, equal participation of women is needed to uplift the family status and society. There are little efforts has been made, so far, to change the discrimination against women and for removing ideological and attitudinal barriers against women it's important to active participation in a meaningful development process. However, it is imperative that there is growing recognition of the critical importance of women both at national and local level. The organization has given more priority and thrust in all its activities to women development issues, more precisely equality among men and women in their daily living and livelihood.

The main objective of the program is to empowering women to be active participants in their own development and restoring rights through building organization, acquiring management, leadership, skills of implementing income generating activities, legal aids support and policy persuasion.

a. Gender & Development :

Gender & Development Program is initiated since August 2002 and Ashraf Foundation arranged some consciousness raising training and workshop between some underdeveloped beneficiaries for strengthen women's empowerment. Primarily, it is practiced only on 08 villages under Chowgacha Upazila & gradually it would be increased. Under this project, 175 group members are involved for making awareness gender sensitivity, gender equality, strengthen women empowerment and equal participation on national level activities.

International Voluntary Services (IVS), Khulna has organized training for the staff of different organization to develop their capacity on Gender & development. IVS invited Ashraf Foundation to provide 4 staffs for the training due to the good communication and working relationship. Accordingly, Ashraf Foundation has provided staff for developing their skill and knowledge. after this, Ashraf Foundation has also conducted 9 training & 7 workshops for 205 women on gender & development issue at the local level for increasing understanding level.

b. Handicrafts Program:

Under this project, vulnerable women are provided with vocational skill training on sewing and handicraft making. Then they were supported by required credit for undertaking and operating their IGAs. Ashraf Foundation has selected destitute, divorced and similar type of the women who are dependent on their poor and poorest parents as unexpected burden as beneficiaries for the program. Ashraf Foundation has been implementing the project in Panishara, Ganganandapur and Gothkhali union under Jhikargacha upazila and Jhikargacha Pourashava. During the year 2022, a total of 465 women beneficiaries were provided training for developing their skill on the specific trade. The organization has been helping the women for marketing their products.

Due to the activities of the organization, awareness on women rights has raised among the people of all concern. The organized women group members being involved in different economic and social actions, which serve their practical as well as strategic needs of women. Further, it helps them to

solve the problems of women in particular and to find out ways and means to combat the problems they faced.

c. Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) :

Bangladesh government has taken some worthy steps to strengthen the women folk through reducing poverty and empowering them. Department of Women affairs funded Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) Program has made a way to develop the poverty ridden VGD card holder women. Ashraf Foundation is working as an implementing partner of VGD program since August 2011. At present it is working in Sharsha Upazila under Jashore district. The main objective of this project is to build up the income-generating capacity of VGD women and empowering them socially and economically through training on Life Skill, Entrepreneur Development and IGA.

Key Activities & Achievement in 2021

Activities	Achievement
Personal Hygiene & Cleanliness	2260 participants
Disaster Risk Management	2260 participants
Food & Nutrition of the mother & Child	2260 participants
Women empowerment training	2260 participants
IGA training	2260 participants

Income Generating Activities and Entrepreneurship Development :

The Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) program is the largest social safety net program of the Government of Bangladesh that exclusively targets ultra poor households and Ashraf Foundation is working as a catalyst of this project. Ashraf Foundation aims to improve the socio - economic status of VGD women and trying to make best effort in materializing it. Ashraf Foundation provided 6 day long Income Generating Activities and Entrepreneur Development Training among 2260 women regarding hens and duck rearing, cows and goat rearing, vegetables gardening, food and nutrition, using local resources. The training includes individual and partner entrepreneurship development. This training resulted into significant reduction of poverty of the beneficiaries.

Life skill Training :

Under VGD program, Ashraf Foundation has provided basic training on life skill to make aware the beneficiaries about Disaster and Risk Mitigation, Health and Cleanliness, HIV/AIDS, Food and Nutrition and Women Empowerment among 2260 VGD card holders in 125 batches (each batch consists of 25-30 beneficiaries) and the training duration was 3 days long. Motivated by Ashraf Foundation, every woman is savings ten taka per week and forty taka per month. They are saving money spontaneously. Besides, Ashraf Foundation provided Staff Training among 12 staffs to make them efficient and skilled for the project.

Refreshers Training:

Ashraf Foundation provided 2 day long Refreshers Training among 2260 beneficiaries on Life Skill, Entrepreneur Development and Income generating activities. Ashraf Foundation reviewed the training regarding disaster and risk mitigation, health and cleanliness, HIV/AIDS, food and nutrition, women empowerment and income generating activities in the Refreshers Training.

Health Services Program (HSP):

The health program is one of the oldest programs of the organization. Majority of the people in the rural areas of Bangladesh is poor and illiterate. Over 50 million people of the country are living below the poverty line and outreach of the essential health care services. The existing health care system is not working well and has little acceptability among the community people. Less than 40% of the population has access to modern primary health care services beyond immunization and

family planning. Women and children is worst victim of the system. Different water born and contaminated diseases infect the community people.

The main objective of this program is to raise awareness on health and sanitation related issues of the people of working area and establishes self-reliant health system for preventing diseases.

a. Community Based Health Services (CHS):

Health services are provided to the community people through Information campaign, Message dissemination and providing clinical service in 10 villages of Jhikargacha upazila and 10 villages of Chowgacha upazila. The project is targeted especially for the women and children of the beneficiary households. The organization has been arranging health camp for the group members and other community people in Chowgacha upazila of Jessore district. Ashraf Foundation has established a medicine shop adjacent to the head office. So that the poor group members can easily buy medicine in competitive price. During the reporting year 2020, Ashraf Foundation has disseminated different health related messages among the group members through group meeting. It Health camp has organized twice in a week. Some poorest and devastated people have got free medicinal support from the shop. A total of 752 group members' families have received support through the above-mentioned process.

b. Safe Water & Sanitation Project :

Ashraf Foundation has been implementing water supply and sanitation program for improving the safe water supply situation and sanitation system. Ashraf Foundation has been raising awareness on health and environment among the neglected poor people in Chowgacha and Jhikargacha upazila under Jessore district with the technical and financial support of BRAC and NGO-Forum for Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation. It has also been disseminating the importance of safe water and sanitation related messages among the group member during group meeting. Under this project, Ashraf Foundation has established two Village Sanitation Centers (VSC) at two villages of Chowgacha upazila. One VSC is located at Uzirpur village and another VSC is located at Muktarpur village of Dhuliani union under Chowgacha Upazila. These two VSCs have the capacity to produce 1200 sets of sanitary latrines per year. During the reporting period, a total of 1200 piece slab & 2100 piece ring produced where 1120 slab & 1705 ring have sold. The ring and slab have distributed among the group members and other community peoples of the project villages.

e. Awareness Campaigning on HIV/AIDS:

Bangladesh is no more an HIV/AIDS free country, but HIV/AIDS is not yet a health problem in Bangladesh. Looking at the gravity of the HIV/AIDS problem prevailing all over the world, one must not, however, think it wise to remain inert. The best time to prevent a disease is before it is upon us with its full grip and prevention is only weapon in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Ashraf Foundation has been running awareness raising campaigning on STD/HIV/AIDS since August 2007. In 2021, Ashraf Foundation has organized a number of meetings and workshops at local level, and has observed AIDS day. The target groups under this program are group members, student, youth group & general people. About 9100 people of different group received different messages about HIV/AIDS from Ashraf Foundation.

Human Rights & Good Governance :

Improvement of local government or decentralized governance is increasingly being recognized as a tool to achieve good governance at all levels. Local government in Bangladesh has remained to be an immensely potential but underutilized structure. Even though there has been constant demand for strengthening local government and delegation of power from the center, effective steps are yet to be designed implemented. In order to address the inherent weaknesses of the local governance and make public institutions more accountable and responsive, it is necessary to promote public support for reform and accountability of public institutions at all levels.

With the objective of project is to demand driven and responsive delivery of social justice and services through strengthening UP standing committees, village courts and mobilizing rights holders in Southwest Bangladesh.

Promote Rights and Inclusion of Disabled children for their Empowerment (PRIDE) :

Not available health related physiotherapy, occupational therapy, ADL training, Speech, therapy & behavioral support in the chougachha upazila area. But govt. hospital provides by medical treatment & less limited drugs support. Private clinic is very costly medical treatment service in this area. But District level area is long distance (28 k.m) now available therapy service & very costly private clinic or others service provider. However "Protibondhi Seba O Sahajjo Kendro" which provides free treatment is situated in District level. In Chougachha union there are 05 primary school, they only can distribute book and attendance wise given biscuit for one packet per student, those movement are make available by Government. No other organization could not here in the same activity. Ashraf Foundation established 15 sub centres to provide therapy services in Chowgacha Union & Municipality area. CWDs receive therapy services weekly in sub centre. As a new concept community people attached it with ginger. In local level we try to maintain communication with our stakeholders. Most of the time we receive positive support from them. Sometimes stakeholders provide us venue support, logistic support & also maintain follow up after program. They show positive mind towards PWDs. At first their mind was not so soft. Our communication & motivation make them flexible. We have to organise few workshop with stakeholders according to project design. Our stakeholders attend those workshops & assure that they will try their best to implement program successfully.



Results Achieved of PRIDE Project :

- IRP form develops for 265 CWDs; 18 Children improve their head control; 12 Children improve their sitting balance; 09 Children improve their standing activities; 15 Children improve in walking activities; 09 Children improve their ADL activities; 11 Children improve their functional mobility; 15 children improve their communication; and Improve accessibility for CWDs in community level;
- Mobility improve & increase functional ability for 10CWDs.
- Seizure is in under control for 25 CWDs.
- Service is ensure for CWDs. Caregivers are inspire to provide therapy
- CWDs receive health services in priority base.
- 100 SWDs attend school regularly & improve their study.
- 88 SWDS improve eminence of study.
- SWDs receive opportunity in institution. Improve their educational environment & decrease dropout rate.
- School students spread their knowledge in family & society. As a result a vast population become aware.
- Awareness build up among teachers which will be create a congruent environment for SWDs.
- YWDs family involved in homestead gardening.
- Participant assure to provide support.
- Increase self-confidence & grow mental refresh.

On skill development through homestead gardening

Introduction:

State is promise-bound to full fill the basic rights of the citizen. Employment service is one of the basic rights of the citizen. Peoples with disabilities are not outside of these rights. But most of the cases it is found that Peoples with disabilities are being deprived and neglected from these rights. To create opportunity & make them self dependent we take few develop in program. According to this case we arrange skill development training. The expert facilitated the training. The training used a range of participatory techniques of which experience sharing, question & answer, brain storming. Hence it was observed that the overall training process was very effective and the overall training was efficiently managed by Upazilla agriculture officer & a staff of Ashraf Foundation. We hoped that the trainees will able to uses the training learning in their respective field.

Objectives of the activity:

- The broad objective of the training is to help the people homestead gardening. The specific objectives of the training are to:
- To know about homestead gardening
- To know how to prepare land & use it
- To know about season of gardening & can collect good vegetables
- To know marketing chain of excess vegetables

Description of the activity performed:

Ashraf Foundation with the financial support of SLF Netherland, arranged the skill development training. The training was started through registration, welcome and introducing each other. Have short discussion on the goal and objectives of the project. Than training start event wise

Methodology of the training :

The training emphasized some suitable participatory methods like field visit, practical, experience sharing, discuses, lecturing, question and answers, brain stemming which were able to create a real learning environment and captured a lot of lessons. The trainees also provided their feedback which was collected using a session evaluation and overall training management.

Learning:

- Homestead gardening system
- Vegetables collection system
- Marketing chain of excess vegetables

Outcome of training:

- Training venue was well decorated with decoration and environment of training class was nice and learning full.
- Lecture was given in language matching with the level of participants
- The training has two segments practical section and theoretical discussion.
- Pre evaluation questions had been filled with in training class
- Good relationship established among trainer & participants
- Participants assure to implement training in their moorlands.

Closing Session:

A formal training closing session was organized by project team through sharing disabled people learning. The facilitator shows the pre & post test result and formally end training.

Results:

after the end of the training participant become self dependent & they are inclined mind to implement the training

Training Program :

In order to develop a qualified, skilled and capable human resource, there is no alternative of training for the project staff as well as project beneficiaries. Training is an important subject for implementing any program and manpower development successfully. It is one of the potential ways for knowledge and skills transfer to others. Human development and practical skill development training are working as a basic tool for empowering the poor women and men. Ashraf Foundation imparts demand-driven training courses for its staffs, beneficiaries and staffs. And Women has been received training from Ashraf Foundation and other organizations. The program is to build up the capacity of rural poor people through increasing their knowledge, skill and changing attitude towards socio-economic development.

Ashraf Foundation has established a training center at Chowgacha Head Office for organizing training, workshop, seminar, conference, meeting research activities. It has made every facility available in the training center for conducting training classes effectively. Till date, Ashraf Foundation has provided skill development training to 4583 group members and consciousness raising training to 3475 group members. Out of total member 25 Youth Training on Improved Dairy Cattle Management Techniques for youth Entrepreneurs supported by USAID funded Asia Farmer-to-Farmer Program, Winrock International. Among the trainees nearly 90% were women beneficiaries.

The beneficiaries are showing their skill and a potential in income generating activates. They are involving them with different trade based activities in their own locality. Family income of the group members is increasing gradually.

Future Plan

All the time Ashraf Foundation follows not rigid but continuously changing strategy for the implementation and also for the development process we have to work with the changing world keeping up with its demand consequently we are introducing deferent new program and initiative for the betterment of beneficiaries. For the upcoming days we are going to lunch the following program.

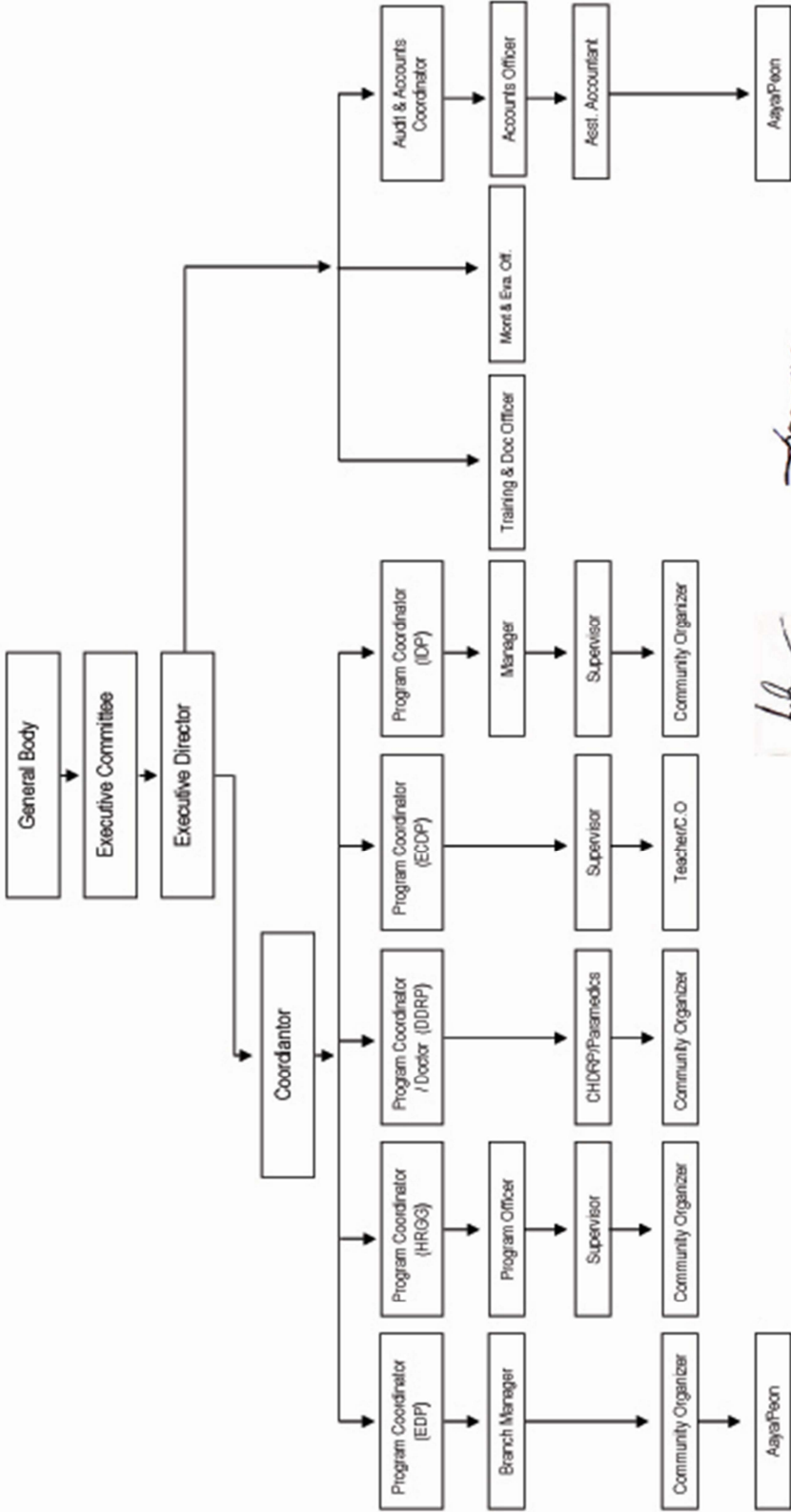
Research and Demonstration :

Believing the adage "Before you profess, practice yourself", Ashraf Foundation began the research to develop more sustainable and productive technology, m1anagement practices and production method, that is asks to follow. The objective is to measure the possibility of success and the risk involved before they are handed off to the poor group member's do not face any financial debacle later. Beside, the group theoretical knowledge acquired from various training. Programs to be complemented with practical skill. Ashraf Foundation will wants to Research about, Ecological Agriculture, Fisheries, Small Holder's Sustainable Livelihood.

Renewable energy development :

Bangladesh is developing country. Here products of electricity capacity are not sufficient. On the other hand electricity supply are not reach every village. So, come of poor villagers are not benefit from this electricity. Ashraf Foundation thinks problem. So Ashraf Foundation will wants to research about renewable energy development by Bio-gas & solar energy system. That's from benefit under poor villagers.

ORGANOGRAM OF ASHRAF FOUNDATION (AF)



(Signature)
 श्री आश्रफ फाउंडेशन
 चैरमैन/प्रिंसिपल
 आश्रफ फाउंडेशन
 कोटा, राजस्थान ।

(Signature)
 श्री आश्रफ फाउंडेशन
 कोटा, राजस्थान ।