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Her Majesty Queen Máxima Visits PKSF

Her Majesty Queen Máxima of The Netherlands, also the UN Secretary General's Special Advocate (UNSGSA) for Inclusive Finance for Development, visited PKSF on November 16, 2015. Queen Máxima is the second queen who visited PKSF. Before Queen Máxima, Her Majesty Queen Sofía of Spain visited PKSF on 2004. Queen Máxima visited Bangladesh to create public awareness regarding the inclusion of common populace in the financial process.

Prior to her visit, the special envoy of Her majesty, Ms. Henry Jacklin and her team visited PKSF and held meeting with PKSF Managing Director in connection with the visit of Queen Máxima.

Her Majesty visited PKSF on November, 17, 2015. The Chairman and the Managing Director of PKSF warmly welcomed her. She stayed at PKSF from 1:45pm to 3:15pm. In honour of and as desired by her, PKSF organised a roundtable on *The Future of Microfinance Institutions in Bangladesh*. Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, PKSF chaired the roundtable. HE Leoni Margaretha Cuelenaere, Dutch Ambassador to Bangladesh; HE Mr. Sheikh Mohammed Belal, Bangladesh Ambassador to The Netherlands; PKSF DMDs, President of ASA, ED of BRAC, Acting MD of Grameen Bank, EDs of a number of PKSF POs and a number of HM the Queen's aides were present in the roundtable. Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, Managing Director, PKSF, delivered the welcome speech.



In her speech, Queen Máxima expressed her deep satisfaction over the performance of PKSF in the last 25 years in the field of income generating activities and appreciated different programmes and projects of PKSF and its POs. She particularly appreciated the human-centric approach of PKSF and she also mentioned that Bangladesh has already set an example in inclusive financing to alleviate poverty from the society.

The chief executives of some Partner Organisations of PKSF also spoke in the roundtable. In the concluding speech, Mr. Abdul Karim, MD, PKSF recalled his memories in Netherlands and expressed his gratitude to Queen Máxima for visiting PKSF. During her visit in Bangladesh, Queen Máxima spoke in a seminar on 'Inclusive Financing'. She also met Sheikh Hasina, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of the Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh.

PKSF Newsletter

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

PKSF Bhaban

E-4/B Agargaon
Administrative Area
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar
Dhaka-1207

Phone : 880-2-9126240-3

880-2-9140056-9

Fax : 880-2-9126244

e-mail : pkfsf@pkfsf-bd.org

Web : www.pkfsf-bd.org

Field Visits

- PKSF Chairman Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad and Managing Director Mr. Md. Abdul Karim visited different activities of ENRICH programme being implemented by **Naria Unnayan Samity (NUSA)** from October 28-29, 2015. Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin, Deputy Managing Director (Admin. & Finance) accompanied the team. During the visit they attended the ENRICH Development Fair organised by **NUSA** and joined a meeting to exchange views with local civil society members. PKSF Chairman inaugurated the fair by releasing pigeons and enjoyed the display in different stalls. A free medical camp was also organised on the occasion of the fair, where a total of 335 people received free medical treatment. PKSF MD distributed scholarships to the poor meritorious students. Later, the local artists performed a group song on the importance of sanitation.



- On October 29, 2015, PKSF Chairman and Managing Director visited the head office of **Shariatpur Development Society (SDC)**, a Partner Organisation (PO) of PKSF. The Chairman laid the foundation stone of the construction work of the permanent office of **SDC**. Mr. Md. Mashiar Rahman, General Manager, PKSF accompanied the Chairman and MD during the visit.

- From December 19 to 21, 2015, PKSF Chairman Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad and Managing Director Mr. Md. Abdul Karim joined a Children Fair organised by **Zamzam Bangladesh** and witnessed different activities of ENRICH programme being implemented by **Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS)** in Sylhet. Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin, Deputy Managing Director (Admin. & Finance), accompanied the Chairman and MD during the visit.

On December 20, 2015 PKSF Chairman attended the Children Fair as chief guest while Managing Director and DMD present as guest of honour. They distributed school uniforms to the students and computers, sewing machine, wheel chairs to the selected members of PO.

On the same day, the PKSF Chairman, MD and DMD visited ENRICH education centres and ENRICH Development Fair. In the fair, the participants demonstrated different components of ENRICH including health, vegetable and Bashok plant cultivation, beggar rehabilitation, vermi-compost production and different income generating activities. A total of 119 mothers and

children received free medical treatment during the fair. The team then joined ENRICH Ward Coordination meeting organised by TMSS at Tetli union. They also held a separate meeting with the members of civil society, freedom fighters and elderly citizens. In the meeting, TMSS Executive Director Dr. Hosne-Ara Begum expressed her gratitude to PKSF for its pro-people programmes and projects.

- PKSF Managing Director Mr. Md. Abdul Karim visited different activities of **Integrated Development Foundation (IDF)**, a PO of PKSF in Wagga Union in Chittagong from November 7 to 8, 2015. Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin, Deputy Managing Director (Admin. & Finance) accompanied the MD. They held a meeting with the senior officials of **IDF** and visited an ENRICH home, a satellite clinic, a beggar rehabilitation centre and an education centre.

In Wagga union, there are 25 ENRICH education centres. Apart from this, 4 deep tube wells have been installed, and 10 beggars have been rehabilitated in the Union.

- PKSF Managing Director Mr. Md. Abdul Karim visited **Deep Unnayan Sangstha**, a PO of PKSF at Hatiya, Chittagong on November 12, 2015. Mr. Md. Fazlul Kader, DMD, PKSF, accompanied the MD. During the visit, Mr. Karim attended the opening ceremony of Radio Sagor Deep, a community radio of the PO, as the special guest. PKSF, under its LIFT project, provided loan grants to establish the radio station with a view to reducing the risk of disaster vulnerabilities of the people in the coastal area.



- The MD visited **Wave Foundation** at Chuadanga from November 13-14, 2015. Mr. Akond Md. Rafiqul Islam, General Manager and Mr. Zaman Khondoker, AGM, PKSF accompanied the MD. During his visit, Mr. Karim laid the foundation stone of the head office of **Wave Foundation**. He also attended a staff conference on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Foundation. In his speech, Mr. Karim gave his observation on different area-based income generating activities including black Bengal goat rearing in Chuadanga, flower cultivation in Godkhali, crab culture in Satkhira and fish drying in Dublarchar. He also emphasised on the business cluster-based value chain development and training for unemployed youth under SEIP project. He distributed scholarships to 12 students of



the PO member families. He visited a black Bengal goat breeding farm.

- Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, MD, PKSF visited Cox's Bazar from December 26 to 27, 2015. Mr. Dilip Paul, Deputy General Manager, PKSF, accompanied the MD during the visit. Mr. Karim held a meeting at Mukti Cox's Bazar office with the chief executives and high officials of 13 POs, working in Cox's Bazar district. In the meeting, the representatives of the POs asked for treating Cox's Bazar as a priority area in implementing all PKSF programmes and projects.



- On October 22, 2015, Mr. Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director (Operations-1) visited the activities of **Protyashi**, a PO of PKSF. During the visit, he conducted a training on 'Monitoring and Supervision in implementing Agrosor Loan', as the resource person. The area managers and senior branch managers of the PO participated in the daylong training.



- On November 26, 2015, Mr. Kader, Professor Kajutu Shuji, Senior Advisor, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); Mr. Henry Scheyvens, Area Leader, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES); Professor M.A. Baqui Khalily, Executive Director, InM and Mr. Zahir Uddin Ahmed, Deputy Coordinator, CCCP visited the microcredit operations of two POs, **RRF** and **Ad-Din** at Ramnagar and Rupdiya branches in Jessore. They also visited the CCCP activities implemented by

Satkhira Unnayan Sangstha in Kaligonj upazila of Satkhira district.



- Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin, Deputy Managing Director (Admin. and Finance), PKSF, visited **JAKAS Foundation** and **Joypurhat Rural Development Movement (JRDM)** and **Ahead Social Organisation** in Joypurhat and **Gram Unnayan Karma** in Bogra from December 11 to 13, 2015. He discussed on the progress and different aspects of ENRICH programme run by the POs in Joypurhat.

On December 12, Dr. Jashim witnessed different activities of ENRICH programme including Bashok plant and poison-free vegetable cultivation being implemented by **JAKAS Foundation**. He visited a free medical camp and two education centres under ENRICH programme and a month-long sewing training session under UPP-Ujjibito project. He also distributed sewing machines to the members of POs.

On December 13, he visited different activities of ENRICH in Kola Union of Bodolgachi upazila in Naogaon district. He handed over a cow with calf, four lambs, one rechargeable rickshaw-van and cash to two beggars under beggar rehabilitation programme. He also inaugurated family-based sanitary latrine distribution scheme.



Dr. Jashim visited different activities of ENRICH programme including satellite clinics, education centres, distribution of free medicine, papaya and vegetable seeds in Khetlal upazila of Joypurhat district, being implemented by **Ahead Social Organisation**.

On the same day, he visited a house of a beggar and also witnessed bashok plant cultivation and vermi compost production, being implemented by **Gram Unnayan Karma**.

Community Climate Change Project (CCCP)

Community Climate Change Project (CCCP) under Bangladesh Climate Change Resilience Fund (BCCRF) is a climate change adaptation project that aims to enhance the capacity of selected communities to increase their resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change. A total of 41 Project Implementing Partners (PIPs) of CCCP are working in 36 climate vulnerable upazilas in 15 districts of Bangladesh.

Under the CCCP, a total of 346 household plinths and 2 flood shelters-cum-community grounds have been raised, 206 deep tube-wells, 770 tube-wells and 1360 sanitary latrines have been installed and 1152 improved cooking stoves have been distributed in the project areas.

A total of 1704 beneficiaries have received technical support and training in goat/sheep rearing, 600 in poultry rearing, 53 in crab culture and 400 beneficiaries in vermi-compost.

Foreign Delegates visit CCCP working areas

On 17 November, 2015, a team of Heads of Missions of some European countries and European Union delegates, visited the severely saline-affected Shyamnagar and Kaliganj upazilas of Satkhira district which are covered by some mitigation and adaptation measures and initiatives of Community Climate Change Project (CCCP).



Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, Managing Director, PKSf, accompanied the delegation. The team members were: H.E. Mrs. Hanne Fugl Eskjeer, Ambassador, Embassy of Denmark; H.E. Mr. Pierre Mayaudon, Ambassador and Head of EU Delegation; H.E. Mr. Mario Palma, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Italy; H.E. Dr. Thomas Heinrich Prinz, Ambassador, Embassy of the Federal Republic Germany; H.E. Mr. Eduardo de Laiglesia y del Rosal, Ambassador, Embassy of Spain; Mr. Jean-Pierre Poncet, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of France; Mr. Paul Eastwood, Team Leader, DFID, British High Commission; Mr. Mario Ronconi, Minister Counsellor & Head of Unit-Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation.

Ms. Sarah Cooke, Country Representative of DFID Bangladesh, visited the CCCP activities in Kaligonj upazila of Satkhira district being implemented by Satkhira Unnayan Sangstha on November 25, 2015. She expressed her satisfaction over the activities of CCCP.

Publication

The third edition of CCCP Communiqué and 41 brochures of all the Project Implementing Partners have been

published from the CCCP Project Management Unit (PMU).



Midterm Evaluation

The Midterm Evaluation Report of CCCP was published on October 29, 2015, by CASEED, a local consultancy firm. The report stated that the activities implemented under the CCCP project are satisfactory. The report also found that the achievement of the project is above 50% against the target.

Workshop on “Half yearly Progress Review and Future Planning”

A workshop on “Half yearly Progress Review and Future Planning” was held on December 17, 20 and 21, 2015 at PKSf Bhaban with all 41 PIPs of CCCP. Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin, Deputy Managing Director (Admin. & Finance), Mr. Golam Touhid, Deputy Managing Director (Operations-2), PKSf and Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque, Project Coordinator, CCCP were present in the workshop. The workshop participants discussed on the progress of PIPs, activities and the challenges they face to implement the sub-projects.



Additional Financing Agreement with 11 PIPs

Since CCCP received \$ 0.5 million (BDT 3.85 crore) from World Bank as additional financing, it has already provided BDT 3 crore to 11 high performing PIPs to implement the project. The 11 PIPs are: Nazrul Smriti Sangshad (NSS), Unnayan Prochesta, Nowabanki Gonomukhi Foundation (NGF), Moushumi, Ashrai, Dak Diye Jai (DDJ), Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK), Jagrata Juba Sangstha (JJS), Janjira Samaj Kallyan Sangstha (JSKS), SKS Foundation, and National Development Programme (NDP).

ENRICH Highlights

PKSF has been implementing a programme titled **Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of Poor Households towards Elimination of their Poverty (ENRICH)** since 2010. The core aim of the programme is to restore human dignity of the poor households with the elimination of poverty. Currently, ENRICH is being implemented at 150 Unions of 62 districts in all 7 divisions of the country with the cooperation of 111 POs of PKSF.

ENRICH Centre

To organise the monthly meeting of the ward committee an 'ENRICH Centre' is being constructed in each ward of the ENRICH union. In the first phase, a total of 167 ENRICH Centres have been set-up in 20 unions. Now the



ENRICH ward committees regularly hold meetings in these centres. These centres have already evolved as the centres of development in the respective areas. A research done by a professor of Dhaka University, referred to the ENRICH centre as a unique and effective innovation of ENRICH programme. At present, the construction work of another 234 ENRICH Centres in 26 unions is under way.

Progress of ongoing activities

Health Service

At present 261 Health Assistants and 1,751 Health Volunteers are providing health care services in 144 unions through 110 POs. In October-December, 2015 quarter, a total of 25,876 health cards were sold while 3,452 static clinics, 672 satellite clinics, 82 health camps were organised under ENRICH.

Educational Assistance Programme

To provide educational assistance to around 1,35,100 students in 2016, a total of 5,000 evening education centres have been set up in 150 unions by 111 POs. Students attendance registers have already been distributed to all the



education centers. Moreover, for lively and joyful learning 4 supplementary books (stories, poetry, physical exercise, sports & fine arts) have already been supplied to all the education centres.

Vocational training and youth development

Five technical training institutions have been selected to provide scholarship-based technical training to 759 youths. Training of 80 youths in 3 trades has been successfully completed in October-December, 2015. Training of another 40 youths is underway. In October-December, 2015 a total of 43 young individuals have found employment opportunities and another 14 found self-employment through ENRICH.

Bandhu Chula and Solar Home System

In October-December, 2015, a total of 2,921 environment-friendly improved cooking stoves titled 'Bandhu Chula' and 2,181 Solar Home Systems have been installed .



Freedom Fighters Programme

Free health cards for the families of all freedom fighters living in the ENRICH unions have already been provided. Moreover, a letter conveying the greetings of the Victory Day signed by the honorable chairman of PKSF has been sent to 2,632 Freedom Fighters living in 137 ENRICH Unions.

Loan Disbursement Programme

The loan disbursement target from PKSF to PO level in ENRICH Unions for the FY 2015-16 has been set at BDT 85 crore. Up to December 2015, BDT 41.72 crore has already been disbursed to the POs.

Special Savings Programme

A total of 2,503 members have deposited BDT 1.04 crore in their respective bank accounts till December, 2015. In October-December, 2015, 45 members have received savings with the matching grant of BDT 16.65 lac after maturity.

DFID Team Visits PRIME Activities

A team of DFID Bangladesh visited the activities of PRIME, a project of PKSF, in cyclone AILA and SIDR-affected households at Satkhira on November 25, 2015. Ms. Sarah Cooke, Country Representative of DFID Bangladesh led the team. The other team members were: Mr. Mohammad Roqibul Islam, Programme Manager, Growth and Private Sector Development; Ms. Helen O’Conor, Climate Change and Environment Adviser; Mr. Dan Ayliffe, Humanitarian Adviser; Ms. Syeda Masarrat Quader, Private Sector Adviser and Ms. Nafisa Ziauddin, Programme Manager, International Trade and Development of DFID.

The team witnessed different livelihood activities under Programmed Initiatives for Monga Eradication (PRIME) that include vegetable culture in sacks, quail rearing, eel fish fattening, duck rearing, crab fattening and handicrafts. They also witnessed a training programme on crab fattening as well as the market linkage system of crab and eel-fish. They also observed satellite clinic services, adolescent group meetings and general health camps under Primary Health Care Services of PRIME. The team visited safe drinking water supply project under DFID-

funded LIFT programme in the salinity-prone Shyamnagar area. Ms. Cooke appreciated the overall field level progress of PRIME and LIFT programmes of PKSF. She expressed her satisfaction on the visible impact of PRIME interventions on the life of the helpless ultra-poor who almost wretchedly lead a life of struggle and uncertainty in these critically vulnerable areas.

Mr. Golam Touhid, Deputy Managing Director, PKSF; Mr. A.Q.M. Golam Mawla, General Manager, PKSF; Dr. Sharif Ahmed Choudhury, Deputy General Manager, PKSF accompanied the team during the visit.



Pigeon rearing under PRIME

Livestock rearing has become very difficult due to salinity and fodder deficiency in the coastal areas of Bangladesh. Moreover there is a lack of employment opportunity in the monga-affected area. In this context,



pigeon rearing has been identified as a specialized Income Generating Activity (IGA) under PRIME from FY 2014-15 for the members of the coastal areas as well as remote areas of Jamalpur. Each household was initially provided 10 pair of pigeons and cash for food and housing of pigeons. Besides, there is a scope of soft loan for the members to meet the additional expenses of the pigeon demonstration farm. Pigeon rearing has become a profitable business and additional income of the ultra poor households. A total of 207 pigeon demonstration farms have been set up so far and more will be set up in near future.

Seminar on Inclusive Insurance

PKSF organised a seminar on *Inclusive Insurance* (e.g. microinsurance) at PKSF Bhaban on November 25, 2015. Dr. M. Aslam Alam, Secretary, Bank and Financial Institutions Division, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Kazuto Tsuji, Senior Advisor, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), attended the seminar as chief guest and guest of honour respectively. Mr. Henry Scheyvens of Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan; Mr. Hiroyuki Tomita, Senior Representative, JICA, Bangladesh and Professor M.A. Baqui Khalily, Executive Director, Institute of Microfinance (InM), were present in the seminar as special guests.



Presided over by Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, PKSF Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, Managing Director spoke in the seminar. Senior executives of PKSF, representatives of MFIs and development agencies including ADB and DFID attended the seminar.

Potable Water Supply in Salinity-prone Area: A New Opportunity

Scarcity of potable water is soaring at Dacope and Koira upazilas of Khulna and Shyamnagar and Ashashuni upazilas of Satkhira due to high salinity. PKSF, under its LIFT programme, has set up reverse osmosis desalination plant to supply low cost potable water to the poor households at Dacope and Shyamnagar under its LIFT programme.

Ad-din Welfare Centre, a PO of PKSF, has set up an electricity driven reverse osmosis plant in Dacope with a cost of BDT 7.50 lac. Per day production capacity of the plant is about 500 litres. The production cost of each litre water is BDT 0.40 which is being supplied to the local community at BDT 0.75.

Besides, the water is also supplied to distant poor households by rickshaw-vans at BDT 1.0 per litre.



Members of well to-do-families also buy potable water from the plant at a low cost. Demand of water reaches its peak during drought season (November-May). In view of high demand of potable water, there is a need to establish more water supply plants in the salinity-prone area where electricity is available.

Ujjibito Activities

The Food Security 2012 Bangladesh- Ujjibito project is being implemented since 2013 in 1724 unions of 28 districts in Barisal, Khulna, Rajshahi and Chittagong divisions through 38 Partner Organisations (POs) of PKSF. 3,25,000 women-headed and ultra poor households are being provided assistance to come out of extreme poverty.

Adolescents Girls Club

Ujjibito has established *Adolescent Girls Club* to promote awareness on reproductive health and hygienic practices, nutrition, women empowerment, early marriage, dowry and birth registration among the adolescent girls.

44 Adolescent Girls Clubs have been established so far. The adolescent girls meet at least once a week in the club. Each fortnight, the Programme Officer (Social) meets the members of the club and discusses various social issues. The club members also take part in debate and perform cultural items in the weekly meetings. Under the supervision of club members and collaboration with the guardians, an early marriage and dowry prevention committee is being formed in each of the club. Every year,

at least one satellite clinic/ health camp is being organised and regular communication with the community clinic is maintained through the Programme Officer (Social). A girl, aged 12-18 years, can be a member of the club. Each member has to deposit BDT 5 a fortnight. Funding and the expenses of the club are managed by the club itself. The POs only provide technical assistance to the club.

Observance of International Disability Day

On December 3, 2015, TMSS, a PO of PKSF, observed the International Disability Day 2015. To mark the day, TMSS brought out a rally and held a discussion meeting at its Bogra office.



Research Study

As an Apex micro finance institution of the country, PKSF has been disbursing agricultural and seasonal credit through its POs since long. To assess the risks in agricultural and seasonal credit in the context of credit operations and its prevention PKSF has decided to conduct a study under the research division.

The study has been conducted on the basis of both primary and secondary data. For primary data collection 12 Key

Informant Interviews (KIIs) and two Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted on 12 MFIs and POs of PKSF. Secondary data have been collected from articles review, evaluation and project completion reports, project documents, PKSF annual reports, etc. The study identified different risks in agricultural and seasonal credit disbursement. The study has also made some recommendations in reducing the risk in agricultural and seasonal credit disbursement.

Promoting Agricultural Commercialisation and Enterprises (PACE)

Feasibility Study to establish crab hatchery in Bangladesh

In order to increase the production of crab and develop the crab farming sector, PKSF has taken initiative to establish crab hatcheries in the coastal region of the country. In view of very successful crab culture in Vietnam, PKSF has decided to bring the technology from Vietnam. Under the joint financing of PKSF and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the transfer of crab hatchery technology will take place under PACE project.

PKSF conducted a feasibility study through the Center for Education and Community Development (CECD), a Vietnamese development organisation. 5-member team of CECD conducted the study in three coastal districts, Cox's Bazar, Satkhira and Patuakhali from November 25 to December 09, 2015. The expert team visited the relevant areas and approved the construction of hatcheries there.

Workshops

PKSF and Development Alternatives Incorporated (DAI) jointly organised two linkage workshops in Jessore and Barisal on December 13 and 15, 2015 respectively. The objective of the workshop was to build better coordination between the members of USAID supported Agricultural Value Chain (AVC) project and PKSF POs regarding financial and technical assistance.

The financial products of Micro Finance Institutes (MFIs) and activities of AVC project were presented at the workshops. Mr. Akond Md. Rafiqul Islam, General Manager (Operations) and Mr. Habibur Rahman, Manager (Operations), attended the workshops on behalf of PKSF.



Officials of DAI, selected MFIs and members of AVC project attended the workshops.

Meeting to identify task for Jamdani development

To expand the traditional Jamdani industries through indentifying potential value chain development activities, a discussion meeting was held with the renowned fashion designer Bibi Russel at PKSF on November 1, 2015. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Md. Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director (Operations-1), PKSF. Officials of PACE project also attended the meeting.



SEIP Activities

The newly launched project *Skills for Employment Investment Programme* (SEIP) has recently formed a Project Management Unit (PMU) consisting of 15 staff to implement the project activities. A 4-day foundation training has been provided to the PMU members on project implementation plan, rules and working procedures of PKSF. SEIP started its journey on May 7, 2015 to generate employment by providing demand-driven skill development training to eligible participants selected from low income households of the country. 84 Partner Organisations have been selected to implement the SEIP project. A series of

workshops has been conducted with the POs to finalise the details of the trainee selection process. In view of the overall institutional capacity, 22 reputed training institutions have been selected to provide quality training to the selected trainees in different regions of the country.

The Finance Division of the Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh (GoB) is working as the executive agency of the project with an aim to develop demand-driven workforce through training to place them into self and wage-based employment at home and abroad. Asian Development Bank, Government of Bangladesh and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) are jointly financing the project. In the first phase, PKSF plans to create employment opportunities for 10,000 young people by providing them skills training. Under the SEIP project, the youths belonging to the families connected with micro-credit programmes of PKSF will receive three and six-month long technical and vocational training on 15 areas.



Training

Training courses held during October to December, 2015

Course Title	Level of Trainees	No. of Batches	Days	No. of POs	No. of Trainees	Venue
Advanced Microfinance and Institutional Management	Senior & mid-level officials	3	3	48	54	PKSF & InM
Financial Product Design and Diversification	Senior & mid-level officials	2	3	26	29	PKSF & InM
Monitoring and Evaluation	Senior & mid-level officials	5	3	66	95	PKSF & InM
Strategic Planning for NGOs/MFIs	Senior & mid-level officials	2	5	23	38	PKSF & InM
Internal Audit for Operation of NGOs/MFIs	Internal auditors	2	5	25	35	PKSF
Accounts and Financial Management	H/O Accountants	2	3	30	35	PKSF
Savings and Microcredit Management	Mid-level officials	6	5	104	118	InM
Training of Trainers	Mid-level officials	2	5	34	35	InM
Accounts and Financial Management	Accountants: Branch Office	9	4	109	177	InM
Group Dynamism in Poverty Alleviation: Savings and Credit Management.	Field workers	28	5	104	674	15 different venues in and outside Dhaka
Small and Medium Enterprise Management and Operations	Field workers	12	5	60	273	9 different venues in and outside Dhaka Dhaka
Value Chain Development, Project Design & Management	Mid-level officials of POs under PACE project	4	5	48	86	PKSF & InM
		77	---	677	1649	

Training for the officials of Non-POs

A training was organised for 21 field level officials of Caritas Bangladesh on *Microcredit Operation & Financial Management* from December 6 to 10, 2015 at PKSFBhaban.



Orientation session for BCS officers

A half-day orientation session titled *Programmes and Activities of PKSFB in Poverty Alleviation* was organised on November 11, 2015 for 43 BCS officers at PKSFBhaban.



In-country training for PKSFB officials

10 PKSFB officials participated in a training session on *Income Tax and Vat Management* organised by Bangladesh Institute of Management (BIM) from October 25 to November 05, 2015.

Dr. Sharif Ahmed Chowdhury, DGM (Livestock), Mr. A. K. M. Nuruzzaman, DGM (Operations) and Mr. Dipen Kumar Saha, AGM (Operations) attended a workshop on *Macroeconomic Stability, Private Sector Development and Economic Growth* on December 14-15, 2015, at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Dhaka. Bangladesh Bank and United Nations Development of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) jointly organised the workshop.

5 top-ranking PKSFB officials attended the 9th biennale of Bangladesh Animal Husbandry Association and an international seminar titled *Safe Milk for Healthy Nation* at Krishibid Institution, Dhaka from December 10-11, 2015.

Foreign delegates at PKSFB

Mr. Godfrey Chamwaita Chitambo, Executive Director, Zimbabwe Association of Microfinance Institutions (ZAMFI) and Mr. Brian Zimunhu, Managing Director, Zimbabwe Microfinance (ZMF) visited Bangladesh from October 17 to 23, 2015. They visited the field level activities of three PKSFB POs namely, Sajida Foundation, Dhaka and IDF and YPSA in Chittagong to have a first hand idea about PKSFB programmes and projects.



Mr. Kajuto Tsuji, Chairman, Consultative Group to Assist Poor (CGAP) and Mr. Henry Scheyvens, Area Leader, Natural Resources and Ecosystems, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan, visited PKSFB from November 25-27, 2015.

International exposure visit

PKSF Chairman Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Managing Director Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, DMD (Operations-1) Mr. Md. Fazlul Kader, DGM (Livestock) Dr. Sharif Ahmed Chowdhury and, Executive Director of Nowabanki Gonomukhi Foundation Mr. Lutfor Rahman Chowdhury participated in an exposure visit on *Climate Change Adaptation Programme and Hatchery (Crab & Fish)* at the Center of Education and Community Development in Vietnam from October 11-16, 2015.

Mr. Mahmud Hasan, Manager (Operations) and Mr. A. K. M. Rashedur Rahman, Deputy Manager (Operations) attended a course on *Innovative Strategies for SME Development (ISSD)* under Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) scholarships from November 16, 2015 to January 8, 2016 while Mr. Md. Ashraful Huq, Manager (Operations) and Mr. Abul Kalam Azad, Manager (Operations)

participated in another course titled *Training of Entrepreneurship and Promotion of Income Generation Activities (TTEPIGA)* under the ITEC at the National Institute for Micro Small and Medium Enterprise (NIMSME), Hyderabad, India from November 29 to January 22, 2016.

Mr. Mohidul Islam, Financial Analyst (Planning and Budget) and Mr. A. B. M. Aljaber Hirok, Procurement Specialist, attended in a workshop titled *IFAD Financial Management and Procurement* from November 25-28, 2015 in Hanoi, Vietnam. IFAD organised the workshop under the PACE project internship programme.

Internship

Two students worked as interns at PKSF from October to December, 2015. One of them is from Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and other is from Bangladesh International Institute, Dhaka.

MoU and Agreement Signing

- A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between PKSF and Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) on November 30, 2015 at PKSF Bhaban. Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin, Deputy Managing Director (Admin. and Finance) and Dr. Bhagya Rani Banik, Director (Training and Communication) signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organisations. Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, Managing Director, PKSF was present during the signing.



- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between PKSF and J. K. Memorial Hospital on December 07, 2015 at PKSF Bhaban. Mr. Md. Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director (Operations-1), PKSF and Md. Jahangir Alam Khan, Chairman, J. K. Memorial Hospital signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organisations. Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, Managing Director, PKSF was present during the signing.

Under the MoU, members of the Partner Organisations (POs) of PKSF and their family members will get healthcare services from J. K. Memorial Hospital, Raozan in Chittagong at a special rate.



- A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between PKSF and Institute of Microfinance (InM) to assess the impact of ENRICH programme on November 11, 2015. Mr. Md. Ziauddin Iqbal, General Manager (Administration) and Dr. Taufiq Hassan, Joint Director (Research and Knowledge Management) signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organisations.

- Another MoU has been signed between PKSF and InM to assess the impact of LIFT programme on November 29, 2015. Mr. ATM Hemayet-Ur-Rahman, AGM (Administration) and Mr. Abdul Hai Mridha, Senior Joint Director (Training & Administration) signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations.

PKSF Participates in Bangladesh Development Forum 2015

The Bangladesh Development Forum (BDF) was held at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka from November 15 to 16, 2015. Economic Relations Division (ERD) organised the fair. Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, inaugurated the forum, in which PKSF also took part. Honourable Prime Minister visited the PKSF stall and exchanged greetings with the PKSF officials.

PKSF participated in the forum and took the opportunity to showcase its ongoing activities of poverty alleviation through employment generation. PKSF displayed an infographic titled "PKSF: People's Partner for Sustainable Progress" which

projected various PKSF programme and project activities being implemented across the country. Different publications, newsletters, documentaries were also displayed at the PKSF stall during the forum.



Credit Operation Status of PKSF

Loan Disbursement to POs

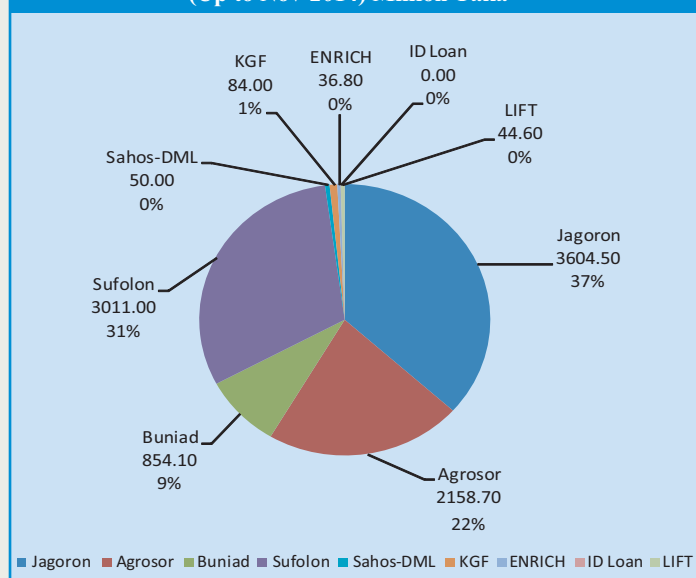
During the financial year 2015-16 (from July to November 2015), loan disbursement from PKSF to the POs (Partner Organisations) is BDT 11782.44 million. Cumulative loan disbursement from PKSF to the POs is BDT 228344.52 million, as of 30th November 2015 and the recovery rate of loan from the POs to PKSF is 99.13 percent. A summary of PKSF's cumulative loan disbursement and loan outstanding as of 30th November 2015 is presented in the following table.

Programmes/Projects	Loan disbursement (Cum. in million Tk.) (PKSF to POs)	Loan outstanding (in million Tk.) (PKSF with POs)
Mainstream Microcredit (including ID loan)		
BUNIAD	16177.90	3231.47
JAGORON	99194.39	18386.46
AGROSOR	34026.40	11026.11
SAHOS	678.20	220.75
SUFOLON	56486.70	5000.97
KGF	3321.50	703.00
ENRICH	1114.05	808.18
Others (including ID Loan)	2930.73	20.83
Total (Mainstream)	213929.86	39397.76
Projects		
EFRRAP	1122.50	15.59
FSP	258.75	0.00
LIFT	541.58	206.36
LIFT Non-PO	70.72	29.10
LRP	803.80	0.55
MFMSFP	3619.60	118.90
MFTSP	2602.30	3.60
PLDP	593.91	0.00
PLDP-II	4130.19	87.47
Others (including ID Loan)	671.32	0.02
Total (Projects)	14414.66	461.58
Grand Total	228344.52	39859.34

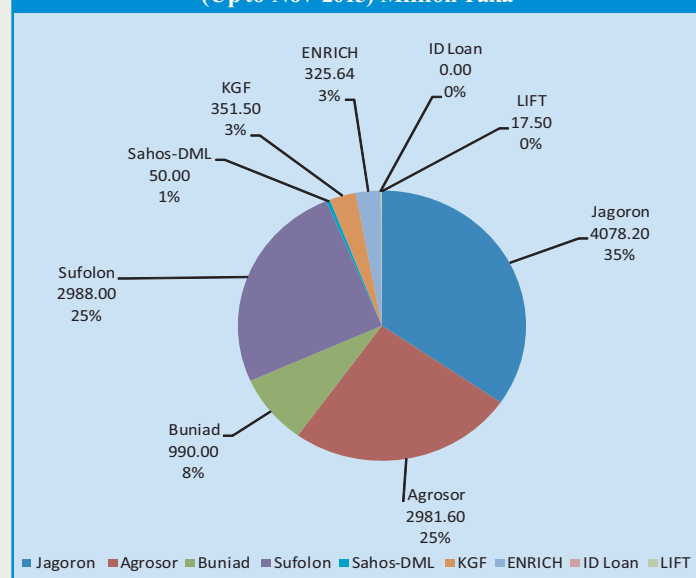
FY Loan disbursement (In Million BDT) PKSF to POs		
Programmes/Projects	Loan Disbursement (FY 2014-15) Up to November-2014	Loan Disbursement (FY 2015-16) Up to November-2015
Buniad	854.10	990.00
Jagoron	3604.50	4078.20
Agrosor	2158.70	2981.60
Sufolon	3011.00	2988.00
Sahos-DML	50.00	50.00
KGF	84.00	351.50
ENRICH	36.80	325.64
ID Loan	0.00	0.00
LIFT	44.60	17.50
Total	9843.70	11782.44

Loan Disbursement to Borrowers: During the financial year 2015-16 (from July to November 15), loan disbursement from POs to the Borrowers is BDT 99.93 billion. Cumulative loan disbursement from POs to Borrowers is BDT 2069.85 billion and the recovery rate of loan from borrowers to POs is 99.67 percent. As of 30th November 2015, the number of borrowers is more than 8.79 million of whom 91.26 percent are women.

Component-wise Loan Disbursement in FY 2014-15 (Up to Nov-2014) Million Taka



Component-wise Loan Disbursement in FY 2015-16 (Up to Nov-2015) Million Taka



About PKSF

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) was established in 1990 with the aim of poverty alleviation through employment generation. Apart from providing financial and technical assistance to the underprivileged segment of the society, PKSF has played a vital role in creating employment opportunities through inventive operational activities. Over the last two decades, PKSF has set some non-conventional and distinctive examples in the process of implementing development activities. PKSF has further broadened its various mainstream programmes and projects with the understanding of its responsibilities to make poverty alleviation a reality.

Present Governing Body of PKSF

Dr. Qazi Kholiqzaman Ahmad	Chairman
Mr. Md. Abdul Karim	Member (Managing Director, PKSF)
Dr. Pratima Paul-Majumder	Member
Dr. A.K.M. Nurun Nabi	Member
Mr. Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled	Member
Dr. M.A. Quassem	Member
Ms. Nihad Kabir	Member

Editorial Board

Advisers	: Mr. Md. Abdul Karim Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin
Editor	: Professor Shafi Ahmed
Members	: Masum Al Jaki Sharmine Mridha Sabrina Sultana

Book Post

The 26th Annual General Meeting

The 26th Annual General Meeting of PKSF was held on December 23, 2015 at PKSF Bhaban. Dr. Qazi Kholiqzaman Ahmad, Chairman, PKSF presided over the meeting. The members of the General Body present at the meeting were: Dr. Pratima Paul-Majumder, Dr. A. K. M. Nurun Nabi, Dr. M. A. Quassem, Mr. Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled, Ms. Nihad Kabir, Mr. Md. Fazlul Haque, Professor M. A. Baqui



Khalily, Dr. Bondana Saha, Ms. Bulbul Mohalanabish, Mr. Md. Emranul Haque Chowdhury, Begum Razia Hossain, Mr. Ishtiaq Uddin Ahmad, Mr. Nazir Ahmed Khan, Dr. Nazneen Ahmed, Professor Shafi Ahmed, Mr. Munshi Faiz Ahmad, Begum Monowara Hakim Ali and Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, Managing Director, PKSF.

PKSF Chairman spoke at the beginning of the meeting. He presented the role of PKSF in establishing human dignity through poverty reduction and self employment with the implementation of multi-dimensional

programmes including ENRICH. The members lauded different initiatives of PKSF and made some important suggestions for further diversification of the activities.

The Managing Director submitted the progress report on the realization of the resolutions of the last General Meeting. The

meeting largely expressed its satisfaction over the progress of activities. The Audit Report of FY 2014-15, prepared by MABS & Partners Chartered Accounts, was placed at the meeting. The meeting approved the report after detailed discussion.

The meeting re-nominated five private members of PKSF General Body, Dr. M. A. Quassem, Mr. Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled, Ms. Nihad Kabir, Professor M. A. Baqui Khalily and Mr. Ishtiaq Uddin Ahmad as members of PKSF General Body again for the next two years. The meeting also nominated three members of General Body, Dr. M. A. Quassem, Mr. Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled and Ms. Nihad Kabir as private members of PKSF Governing Body for next two years.

PKSF Governing Body Meetings

The 199th meeting of the Governing Body of PKSF was held on October 26, 2015. Dr. Qazi Kholiqzaman Ahmad, Chairman, PKSF presided over the meeting. The members of the Governing Body present at the meeting were: Dr. A. K. M. Nurun Nabi, Dr. Pratima Paul-Majumder, Mr. Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled and Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, MD, PKSF.

The meeting approved the agreement between PKSF and Beijing HuXinCheng Investment Management Centre (BHIMC). The meeting also decided to import modern crab culture technology from Vietnam for establishing small and sustainable crab culture hatcheries in the coastal areas by small entrepreneurs. The meeting also granted loan of BDT 139.10 crore in favour of 16 Partner Organisations.

In the meeting, the result of a research titled "Employment Creation through Microcredit Programmes Supported by PKSF and Others: The Cases of TMSS and JCF" conducted by PKSF Research Division, was presented.



The 200th meeting of the Governing Body of PKSF was held on December 23, 2015. Dr. Qazi Kholiqzaman Ahmad, Chairman, PKSF presided over the meeting. The members of the Governing Body present at the meeting were: Dr. A. K. M. Nurun Nabi, Dr. Pratima Paul-Majumder, Dr. M. A. Quassem, Ms. Nihad Kabir and Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, MD, PKSF.

The meeting discussed about the Audit Report of FY 2014-15 and recommended to place the report at the 26th Annual General

Meeting for its approval. The meeting also granted financial grants in favour of AK Khan Healthcare Trust and Sir William Beverage Foundation to generate global-standard nursing assistants and caregivers.

The meeting also granted loan of BDT 103.70 crore in favour of 7 Partner Organisations. The meeting largely expressed its satisfaction over the progress of PKSF activities.