



# Quarterly Newsletter

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## Special Loan Program to Combat the Challenges of Covid-19



Like other countries across the globe, the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic has its severe impact on the economic activities in Bangladesh as well, affecting lives and livelihoods of people and pushing a large number of them below the poverty line. A fund of BDT 500 crore allocated in favor of PKSFB by Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina greatly helped it take immediate measures to minimize the sufferings of the affected people. PKSFB is implementing different programs to tackle the challenges of the pandemic across the country within its own means. Mention may be made of 'Livelihood Restoration Loan (LRL)', which has a special and flexible nature. PKSFB, through the LRL, has made use of the BDT 500 crore to restore economic activities and create self-employment opportunities for the Covid-19 victims. Beyond the assistance extended to the entrepreneurs under different PKSFB credit programs, the LRL has created scopes for financial inclusion of various groups including trained and unemployed youths and returning migrant workers.

PKSFB received the 1<sup>st</sup> installment (BDT 250 crore) of the stimulus package of the government on 23 August 2020 and has completed disbursement to the Partner Organizations (POs) within a month. Up to December 2020, the POs in total disbursed BDT 273 crore among 84 thousand people that include marginal and small farmers (76%), small and cottage industry entrepreneurs (16%), and trained and unemployed youths (8%). The average loan size under the LRL is BDT 32,500 and the recovery rate is 100%.

The remaining BDT 250 crore of the stimulus package is expected to be disbursed from PKSFB to POs and POs to field-level shortly. In view of the past experiences in facing the challenges of similar nature, PKSFB is confident of achieving success in helping people distressed by Covid-19.

PKSFB organized meetings at frequent intervals with the POs for on-field experiences to take future action plans. Senior officials of PKSFB participated in these meetings. Executive Directors of the POs acknowledged the contribution of the LRL program to restoring economic activities of the rural micro-entrepreneurs.

## Fisheries and Livestock Unit

Established in 2013, the PKSF Fisheries and Livestock Unit (FLU) regularly disseminates appropriate farming technologies, ensures capacity development of farmers and helps establish value chain and marketing systems for fisheries and livestock products and by-products. The Unit looks after the supply of breeding and preventive veterinary materials, designing and management techniques on aquaculture and animal husbandry activities etc.

The program participants of the Fisheries and Livestock Unit of PKSF are engaged in rearing of broiler chicken, colour broiler, Sonali chicken and Pekin duck for ensuring safe meat production. To ensure effective market linkage of chicken, duck and turkey meat produced by the participants, the FLU is helping establish 'livestock product sales centers' in different parts of the country.

The average weight of a broiler chicken is about 1.5-2 kg, Pekin duck 2.5-3 kg, and turkey 4-5 kg, which makes them beyond the purchasing capacity of the poor and the low-income people. So they cannot afford these essential animal protein sources. Against this backdrop, the FLU has established 'livestock product sales centres' through its Partner Organizations (POs). From these centers, a consumer can purchase small amounts of meat (i.e.



from 100 gm/as per their need). An effective market linkage has been created through this initiative for the program participants. Moreover, it has increased the intake of animal protein by the poor. So far, six POs of PKSF have established 'livestock product sales centers' in five districts – Joypurhat, Dinajpur, Satkhira, Magura and Noakhali.

## Environment and Climate Change Unit

### Agreement Signing on ECCCP-Flood

PKSF is implementing field-level activities of the Extended Community Climate Change Project-Flood (ECCCP-Flood) financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF). In this regard, PKSF signed project implementation agreements with 09 Partner Organizations (POs) on 10 and 19 November 2020. Mr Md Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director of PKSF, signed the agreements on behalf of PKSF while the Executive Directors of the respective POs signed on behalf their organizations.

### Training

- Under ECCCP-Flood, a 3-day training program was arranged on 'Project goal and objectives, selection of beneficiaries, and effective implementation of the project' for 80 newly appointed officials of 09 POs. The training was conducted in 3 batches – on 20-22 November, 23-25 November, and 27-29 November – at the ESDO Training Center in Adabar, Dhaka in compliance with the health directives on Covid-19. Mr Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah, Managing Director of PKSF, inaugurated the program through a virtual platform.
- The 'Strengthening the Capacity of PKSF, Executive Entities (EEs) and Implementing Entities (IEs) for Effective Participation of GCF Activities in Bangladesh' project is in operation under the Readiness Support Mechanisms of the GCF to increase the access of government organizations



including PKSF to the GCF. From 03-08 October 2020, the project organized a 5-day training for 18 officials of 09 POs (Executive Entities of EEs) at the office of Padakhep Institute of Development Management in Dhaka.

- Moreover, a 5-day training on increasing capacity of GCF projects' preparation and implementation was arranged for 18 officials of 14 government organizations from 22-26 November 2020 at Bon Bhaban Conference Room in Dhaka.
- As a part of providing preliminary ideas and creating awareness on the GCF, PKSF arranged another training workshop for the officials of the Ministry of Forest, Environment, and Climate Change on 07 November 2020.

## Developing Inclusive Risk Mitigation Program

A virtual meeting to kick off ‘The Project for Developing Inclusive Risk Mitigation Program for Sustainable Poverty Reduction (IRMP)’ – financed and technically supported by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) – was held on 21 December 2020. PKSF is the implementing organization of the project. Mr Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah, Managing Director; Mr Golam Touhid, Deputy Managing Director; and other PKSF officials concerned attended the meeting.

On the other hand, Ms Chieko Yokota, Director, Office for Gender Equality and Poverty Reduction, JICA Head Quarter Japan; other senior officials of JICA head office and Dhaka Office; and representatives of JICA expert team of IRMP represented JICA in the meeting.

The five-year IRMP project was launched in March 2019. This kick-off meeting was delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The objective of the project is to provide financial and non-financial services to the poor to mitigate the risks of the adverse effects of climate change. To ensure successful implementation of these services, the project will improve capacity and prepare necessary policies and institutional frameworks of the Partner Organizations (POs).

The working areas of the project are: flood-prone areas in the Teesta and the Brahmaputra river basin of Rangpur division; the coastal areas of Khulna, Barisal and Chattogram divisions that are vulnerable to cyclones and tidal surges; Haor areas of Sylhet division; and drought-prone regions of Rajshahi division.

## Ibrahim Khaled is No More: We Deeply Mourn



Mr Khondkar Ibrahim Khaled, a former Deputy Governor of Bangladesh Bank, noted banker and economist, and a former General Manger of Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) passed away on 24 February 2021. He was 80 (Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji’un).

Mr Ibrahim Khaled was the first General Manager (1990-1993) of PKSF. As elsewhere during his career, in PKSF too, he displayed his qualities of dedication and efficiency with which he led his team and ably contributed to PKSF’s evolution into an apex development organization of Bangladesh. Later, Mr Ibrahim Khaled was closely associated with PKSF as a member of its General Body (2010-2017) and Governing Body (2011-2017). He played an active and significant role in the planning, diversification and qualitative enrichment of PKSF’s activities. PKSF officials of all levels recall Mr Ibrahim Khaled with deep respect and gratitude.

Born on 4 July 1941 in Gopalganj, Mr Ibrahim Khaled obtained his Master’s degree in Geography from the University of Dhaka and MBA from the Institute of Business Administration (DU). In 1963, he began his banking career at the then Habib Bank.

In his long and active career, Mr Ibrahim Khaled was the faculty

member of Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management; Chairman and Managing Director of Bangladesh Krishi Bank; and Managing Director of Pubali Bank.

Mr Ibrahim Khaled was a member of a taskforce on ‘Financial Sector Reform’ under the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh in 1990; an Emeritus Fellow of Unnayan Shamannay; a Life Member and former Vice-Chairman of Bangladesh Economic Association; Secretary General of Bangladesh Society for Training and Development; and a Life Member of Bangladesh MBA Association. In 2010, he also led the committee formed by the government to investigate into the matters of the stock market crash.

In 2011, Bangla Academy awarded Fellowship to Mr Ibrahim Khaled. He was also awarded the ‘Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah Gold Medal’ in 2009 and the ‘Khan Bahadur Nawab Ali Chowdhury National Award’ in 2013 for his outstanding contribution to the banking and economic sectors of Bangladesh. He earned laurels for the outspoken comments, honesty, prudence and patriotism he showed in his analysis of the socio-economic affairs of contemporary Bangladesh. Many considered him as the lighthouse of the banking sector in Bangladesh.

Mr Ibrahim Khaled was the Director, Chairman of the Executive Committee and Member of the Trustee Board of Central Kochi-Kanchar Mela – the oldest organization for the juveniles in Bangladesh -- from 2000 onwards. He always put efforts in organizing children and adolescents to ensure an enlightened future generation.

The mortal departure of Mr Ibrahim Khaled is an irreparable loss for the PKSF family. We pray for eternal peace of the departed soul and convey deep sympathy to the bereaved family.

In operation since 2010, the ‘Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of Poor Households towards Elimination of their Poverty (ENRICH)’ program of PKSF is currently being implemented in 202 Unions of 64 districts in all 8 divisions of the country through 115 Partner Organizations (POs) of PKSF. Around six million people from about 1.3 million households receive different kinds of services including primary healthcare, nutrition, education, sanitation, skill training and appropriate loans. The development approach of the program has earned laurels from all quarters at home and abroad.

### Health, Nutrition & WASH

A total of 2,650 Health Visitors and 375 Health Officers are working relentlessly to provide healthcare services to the program participants. In October-December 2020, a total of 1,58,011 people received healthcare services through static clinics, satellite clinics and health camps.

### Education Assistance Activity

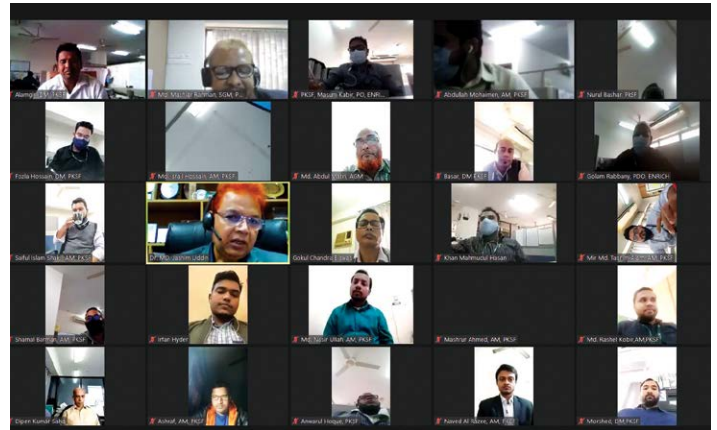
Currently 1,73,314 students are taken care of in 6,629 Education Assistance Centers in 202 ENRICH Unions. As a result, the drop-out rate at the primary level in the program areas has come down to 0.06%. Following the government instructions during the COVID-19 pandemic, ENRICH Education Assistance Centers have remained temporarily closed since March 2020. Currently, 818 Education Assistance Centers have resumed their activities – with the permission from local administrations – maintaining social distancing protocols.

### Skill Development

**Youth in Development:** Around 02 lac youths are engaged in this component. Till December 2020, a total of 98,942 youths received a video-based two-day training on ‘self-realization, leadership development and duties of the youth’.

**Webinar:** To mark the birth centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the ENRICH program arranged drawing and essay writing competitions for its youth platform. The purpose of the competition was to revive the ideals and philosophy of Bangabandhu as well as the spirit of the Liberation War among some 2.5 lac youths in 202 Unions across the country. Participants submitted their creative works to the respective POs by 15 December 2020. After primary evaluation, top 10 participants were selected in each category. In order to discuss various issues related to this competition, a webinar was arranged by the ENRICH unit of PKSF on 13 December 2020. PKSF Deputy Managing Director Dr Md Jashim Uddin presided over the webinar. Around 300 people, including representatives from almost all the POs in ENRICH Unions, took part in the webinar.

Dr Jashim, in his speech, appreciated the youths for their contribution to societal development, including their efforts to curb the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic by creating social awareness.



He also said that such competitions would give the youths an opportunity to learn more about Bangabandhu and Bangladesh. No contemplation about Bangladesh is possible without Bangabandhu as the two entities are inextricably connected, added Dr Jashim.

### Financial Assistance

**Special Savings:** In October-December 2020, a total of 136 members deposited BDT 1,04,930 in their respective bank accounts. So far, 2,388 members received BDT 3.23 crore as grants from PKSF.

**Loan Disbursement:** ENRICH offers three types of credit services -- Income Generating Activities Loan (IGAL), Livelihood Improvement Loan (LIL) and Asset Creation Loan (ACL). In October-December 2020, a total of BDT 60.01 crore was disbursed as loans among the ENRICH members.

### Environment & Climate Change Adaptation

**ENRICHed Home:** The concept of ENRICHed homes has emerged from the program’s focus on the best utilization of the existing resources of each household. In this quarter, 45 homes were transformed into ENRICHed homes, taking the total number to 13,673 homes since the inception of the activity.

**Bandhu Chula and Solar System:** ENRICH promotes eco-friendly and renewable technologies. In line with this, improved cooking stoves (locally known as Bandhu Chula) and solar home systems are introduced as an important component. A total of 52,097 Bandhu Chulas and 73,128 solar home systems have been provided to the program participants so far.

## Pathways to Prosperity for Extremely Poor People (PPEPP)

Jointly funded by the UK's FCDO (formerly known as DFID) and the European Union (EU), the Pathways to Prosperity for Extremely Poor People (PPEPP) – in short 'Prosperity' – program aims to lift two million marginalized people out of extreme poverty in the next 10 years. It also supports the development of stronger national institutions and systems to deliver the public and private services for the extremely poor people to become resilient and prosper thereby. PKSF is implementing this multidimensional program in three climate-vulnerable regions of Bangladesh.



### Emergency Cash Transfer

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic that has affected the lives and livelihoods of the extremely poor, an initiative has been taken to provide emergency cash support – BDT 3,000 per household per month for three consecutive months – to 30,727 extremely poor households of 17 Unions in 10 districts. The first installment of this initiative has been successfully completed. Around 98.5% of the cash has been transferred digitally.

### Inclusion Process of Extremely Poor Households

The extremely poor household selection under the Main Implementation phase of the Prosperity program is at the final stage. So far, over 2.66 lakh households have been primarily identified through Participatory Extremely Poor Identification Technique (PEPIT), a unique tool developed by the Program combining FGD and Social Mapping, and household census. As of December 2020, household census in 175 out of the 188 Unions (under the coverage of Prosperity) has been completed.

The household selection process is being conducted through 159 Prosperity units established across the working areas in 15 districts. Some 1,400 staff and 530 enumerators of 19 POs are engaged in this activity. So far, 854 Prosperity Village Committees have been formed, organizing around 30,000 extremely poor households. These HHs are now receiving livelihoods, nutrition and community mobilization support under the Program.

### Multidimensional Services for Prosperity Participants

The Prosperity program has started scaling up appropriate livelihoods support across the working areas. Its key focus is to create nutrition-sensitive and climate-smart IGAs including homestead and commercial gardening, fish farming and livestock rearing. Besides, orientation programs on market linkage and skills development training on off-farm activities like tailoring and bamboo/cane crafts are provided to the Program participants.

To prevent outbreak of animal diseases, vaccination and distribution of deworming medicines for cattle are going on. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, these activities are being conducted on a limited scale.

As part of nutrition interventions at the household level, the Program is now mapping the nutritional needs, focusing mainly on the first 1,000 days of newborns as well as malnourished children (under 5 years of age), adolescents and pregnant and lactating mothers. In addition, healthcare services are being provided in health camps arranged at the community level.

Different sessions on Behavioral Change Communication were arranged through various platforms – Youth Forums, Kishor-Kishori Clubs and PWD Forums – formed under the Community Mobilisation component of PPEPP.

### Integrated Orientation on Prosperity Village Committee

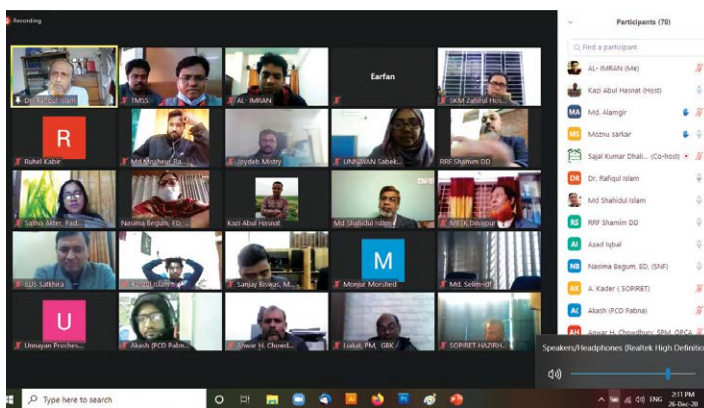
A five-day virtual orientation on 'Prosperity Village Committee (PVC)' was organized for the field officers of the Prosperity-implementing POs. The first phase of the orientation was organized from 10-12 November 2020, while the second from 18-19 November. The sessions covered a wide range of topics, including objective, formation and the scope of work of the PVCs; roles and responsibilities of the field officers in operating the PVCs; interventions under the Livelihoods, Nutrition and Community Mobilisation components; Disaster and Climate Resilience, Disability and Women Empowerment Leading to Gender Equality etc.

### Field Visit

Under the Prosperity program, both on-site and off-site monitoring systems have been in place to ensure proper implementation of Prosperity. Due to the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, the field-level activities are being conducted duly following the health directives of the government. In October 2020, officials of both PIU and PKSF mainstream programs visited field-level activities of the POs on a limited scale.

## Promoting Agricultural Commercialization and Enterprises (PACE) Project

PKSF's 'Promoting Agricultural Commercialization and Enterprises (PACE)' project – jointly financed by PKSF and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) – has been in operation since 2014. Along with providing financial services to microentrepreneurs, PACE implements different value chain and technology transfer sub-projects to promote different potential farm and non-farm economic sub-sectors. So far, PKSF has undertaken 74 value chain sub-projects in different geographical locations of the country to promote different potential business clusters. A total of 3,11,619 micro-entrepreneurs and other value chain actors are receiving various technical, technological and marketing supports under these sub-projects. Besides, 25 technology transfer sub-projects are in place to provide appropriate technological support to 20,338 micro-entrepreneurs/farmers. According to the evaluation of IFAD based on the overall performance of the project, PACE has been ranked second among all the IFAD-funded projects in the world.



### Annual Review Workshop

On 01 November 2020, the annual review workshop of PACE was organized online to review the activities of value chain sub-projects. Presided over by Dr Akond Md Rafiqul Islam, Senior General Manager of PKSF, the workshop was attended by officials of PACE project of PKSF and 69 representatives of Partner Organizations (POs). The workshop discussed the issues to identify the challenges – arising due to the spread of Covid-19 pandemic – and to determine way outs to overcome the challenges. It also reviewed implementation status of 14 protocols of ME activities supplied by PKSF. Besides, the workshop reviewed constraints in input supply, production, distribution and marketing of the respective business clusters, and determined strategies to overcome these constraints.

### Additional Financing and Extension of PACE

The IFAD Executive Board has approved extension of PACE for two years (up to 31 December 2022) and an additional finance of USD 18 million to mitigate negative impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the worst affected microenterprise sub-sectors. This is the first COVID-19 response of IFAD in the world.

### Halda River Declared as 'Bangabandhu Fisheries Heritage'

The Government of Bangladesh has declared the Halda River, the only natural fish spawning ground of the country, as the 'Bangabandhu Fisheries Heritage' on the occasion of the birth

centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. As a result, from now on, nobody can catch fish or aquatic animals from this river without the consent of the authorities concerned. PKSF – through its PO Integrated Development Foundation (IDF) – is implementing special value chain activities under the PACE project to restore the fish-breeding environment of the Halda River.

### Genome Sequencing of Fish Species of Halda

Genome sequencing of three carp-type fishes – Rui, Catla and Mrigal – and dolphins has been completed under a value chain intervention being implemented through IDF. Genome sequencing of these species will help undertake activities to promote Halda breeds of carp fishes maintaining genetic features. The 'Halda River Research Laboratory' – with the assistance of the value chain sub-project of PACE – conducted the genome sequencing study in collaboration with Chattogram Veterinary and Animal Science University.

### Establishment of 'Palli Meat'

A native chicken processing center named 'Palli Meat' has been established by Gram Unnayan Karma (GUK), a PO of PKSF, under the value chain development sub-project titled 'Expansion and market development of native chicken rearing'. 'Palli Meat' is the first initiative of processing and marketing of safe and halal native chicken meat in Bangladesh. Through this enterprise, consumers are getting processed meat of native chicken easily.

## Sustainable Enterprise Project (SEP)

PKSF is implementing the ‘Sustainable Enterprise Project (SEP)’ – jointly financed by PKSF and World Bank – to enhance marketing and brand development capacity of the microenterprises as well as to promote environment-friendly sustainable business practices in Bangladesh. SEP is providing necessary support to 40,000 Microenterprises (MEs) from the agriculture and the manufacturing sectors. So far, 65 sub-projects have been initiated under the project.

SEP – a unique project across the globe – is focusing on both environmental and financial sustainability of the MEs. The project is providing support to the MEs so that they can add value to their production, marketing and after-sales service. Besides, the Project Management Unit (PMU) is meticulous in the screening process of the proposed sub-project activities. The PMU also conducts regular community consultations through the Partner Organizations (POs).

The 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SPCN Evaluation Committee was held on 14 October 2020 and the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting on 10 December 2020 through a digital platform. Mr AQM Golam Mawla, Deputy Managing Director of PKSF chaired these meetings. The committee recommended 8 sub-projects in the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting and another 8 sub-projects – taking the total number to 65 – in the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting for approval.

On 28 October 2020, the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Technical Evaluation Committee was held to evaluate the Detailed Sub-Project Proposals (DSPPs) – submitted by the POs. Dr Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, Director (Environment and Climate Change) of PKSF chaired the meeting attended by external technical experts and PKSF officials.

On 09 December 2020, Mr Christophe Crepin, Practice Manager, South Asia, Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy (ENB), the World Bank, had a virtual meeting with PKSF’s Managing Director Mr Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah and Deputy Managing Director Mr Md Fazlul Kader. Mr Zahir Uddin Ahmed, Project Coordinator, SEP; Ms Suiko Yoshijima, Task Team Leader (TTL)-SEP, the World Bank; and Mr Iqbal Ahmed, Environmental Safeguards Specialist, the World Bank also participated in the meeting.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Progress Review Meeting was held virtually from 29-30 December 2020. Officials of 43 sub-projects presented the progress of the sub-project activities. Dr Akond Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Senior General Manager of PKSF, chaired the meeting. Mr Zahir Uddin Ahmed, Project Coordinator, SEP, discussed on the ways the sub-projects can work towards achieving environmental sustainability.

Currently, SEP is implementing a new sub-project on Jamdani. On 30 December 2020, a meeting was arranged with the micro-entrepreneurs of the Jamdani sub-sector. PKSF’s Deputy Managing Director Mr Md Fazlul Kader and PMU officials of SEP participated in the meeting. Considering the environmental



impacts, the meeting discussed about providing assistance to Jamdani micro-entrepreneurs to enhance their business capacity.

A number of inception workshops on different sub-projects were arranged in this quarter. In these workshops, the sub-project officials under SEP discussed about different aspects of the sub-projects with the members from local administration, community members and micro-entrepreneurs. Unnayan Procheta, NDP, POPI, ESDO, CCDA, PMK and JCF arranged their inception workshops in this quarter.

Till December 2020, around 7,000 micro-entrepreneurs under different sub-projects of SEP received training on different issues including skill development, technology transfer, environment-friendly practices, post-harvest management, design and book keeping, factory management and environmental practices. In addition, some 1,500 staff from different sub-project branches received training on SEP’s project document, EMF, SMF and TPF documents, environmental practices and screening.

Moreover, ecological farming techniques using multi-cropping system were implemented in the Fruits (Banana, Pineapple and Mango) sub-sectors and ecological cow rearing were introduced in the Beef Fattening sub-sector in Kustia in this quarter.

Environmental Management Guidelines have been prepared for 10 small enterprises under the Sustainable Enterprise Project (SEP). These guidelines will be finalized after reviews by relevant experts. In this regard, a virtual consultation meeting on ‘Environmental Management Guidelines for Dyeing Water of Handloom Factories’ was arranged on 08 December 2020. Mr Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah, Managing Director of PKSF, presided over the meeting. Dr Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, Director (Environment and Climate Change) PKSF, moderated the open discussion session. The meeting was attended by representatives from various ministries, government institutions, research institutes, universities, development partners, PKSF’s POs, and businesses.

## Uplifting the Quality of the Lives of the Elderly People Program

PKSF is implementing the 'Uplifting the Quality of the Lives of the Elderly People Program' as a special initiative under the ENRICH program in 218 Unions (including 183 ENRICH Unions) through 106 Partner Organizations (POs). The program serves 4, 05,800 elderly people – 2,06,596 female and 1,99,204 male.

### Major Activities in October-December 2020

- **Union and Ward Elderly Committees:** There is a central Union committee in each Union and each Ward has a separate elderly committee. Ward and Union committee meetings are held every month. So far, 42,329 Ward committee meetings and 4,775 Union committee meetings have been held. However, in this quarter, no such meeting was held due to the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **Old Age Allowance:** 100 selected elderly people from a Union each receive BDT 500 per month as an old age allowance. In this quarter, BDT 2.19 crore was disbursed among 7,200 female and 7,400 male elderly. From October 2020, PKSF has suspended the disbursement of old age allowances in 46 Unions that have been enlisted in the old age allowance program of the government in the FY 2020-21.
- **Distribution of Assistive Equipment:** So far, 33,848 blankets, 1,18,611 walking sticks, 881 wheelchairs, 6,289 umbrellas, 11,463 pieces of warm clothes and 5,622 commode chairs have been distributed among the ailing elderly people.
- **Funeral Assistance:** On demise of indigent elders, a one-time financial assistance of BDT 2000 is provided to the family of the deceased for their funeral. In this quarter, 507 families received this support to defray funeral expenditure of the poor. Since inception, 8,330 families have received this support.
- **Best Senior Citizens and Best Children Awards:** In recognition of their commendable contribution to society, 3 elders are honored in each Union, and 3 best children receive awards for taking proper care of their parents. In this quarter, 134 elderly persons and 164 children got this award putting the total number to 2,537 and 13,237 respectively.
- **Healthcare Service:** So far, 2.10 lac elderly persons received



healthcare services from satellite clinics arranged in 35 Unions under the program's coverage.

- **IGA Training:** Till now, 15,111 elderly persons received training on different Income Generating Activities (IGAs) on duck, chicken, goat and cow rearing as well as small trading.
- **Loan Program for the Elderly:** To help the capable and enthusiastic elderly persons, an elderly-friendly loan policy is in place. So far, BDT 18.5 crore has been allocated as soft loans and BDT 7.5 crore has been disbursed among the POs. Besides, the POs disbursed BDT 8 crore as loans among the program participants.
- **Social Centers for the Elderly:** Till now, 98 social centers have been constructed in the Unions to ensure social dignity for the elderly and establish an elderly-friendly atmosphere.
- **Other Activities:** Two National Platforms -- 'Platform for the Elderly, Bangladesh' and 'Bangladesh Dementia Friend's Committee', spearheaded by PKSF, are working to realize the program's objectives and goals as well.

### PKSF's Meeting with IMF Representatives

On 6 December 2020, representatives of PKSF exchanged views with the officials from the Washington and the Dhaka offices of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in an online meeting. PKSF's Managing Director Mr Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah, Deputy Managing Director Mr Md Fazlul Kader and General Manager Dr AKM Nuruzzaman participated in the meeting. Besides, representatives of the Institute of Inclusive Finance and Development (InM) and the Small and Medium

Enterprise (SME) Foundation also took part in it.

The meeting discussed about the policy-making aspects – considering impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic – of fund disbursement in the Cottage, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (CMSME) sector. There were also discussions on different issues of Bangladesh regarding employment creation, income, food security etc.



## Skills for Employment Investment Program (SEIP)

PKSF has been implementing the Skills for Employment Investment Program (SEIP) -- jointly financed by the Government of Bangladesh, Asian Development Bank (ADB), and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) -- since May 2015. Under the two phases of the project, training courses are offered on 17 trades through 38 partner training institutes in 31 districts. Currently, under Tranche-2 of SEIP, training activities are being conducted on 15 trades, and Tranche-3 will start in July 2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, training activities under SEIP remained halted from 18 March 2020. Later, from 01 December 2020, upon the instructions from SDCMU, training activities under the project were resumed following the Covid-19 health directives of the government.

**Extension of Tranche-2:** The duration of Tranche-2 of the project has been extended by a year – till December 2021 – due to the Covid-19 pandemic. On 25 November 2020, SDCMU and PKSF signed an amendment to the agreement in this regard.

**Progress of Training and Employment Creation:** Up to December 2020, a total of 19,968 trainees (female-3,172 and male-16,796) completed their training. Of them, 13,393 youths have found employment and the employment rate is 77%. It is to be noted that, 268 trainees have found overseas employment. In addition, PKSF, under SEIP, has provided BDT 7.2 million as start-up loans to 128 youths to help them engage in self-employment.

**Agreement Signing on Tranche-3:** On 28 December 2020, PKSF signed an agreement to implement Tranche-03 of SEIP with the Government of Bangladesh. Mr Md Zahidul Haque, Executive Project Director (Additional Secretary), SEIP, Finance Division signed the agreement on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh and Mr Md Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director on behalf of PKSF. The duration of Tranche-03 will be from July



2021 to December 2023. A total of 12,000 regular trainees will receive training on different trades under this tranche. Moreover, discussion with SDCMU is underway to finalize the business plan to provide training to 2700 trainees on Caregiving trade and 1000 trainees (Persons with Disabilities) on suitable trades.

## LIFT Program

The ‘Learning and Innovation Fund to Test New Ideas (LIFT)’ – an innovative and diversified program of PKSF – has been in operation since 2006 for financial inclusion of the extremely poor and disadvantaged communities.

Currently, 34 innovative initiatives are being implemented in 34 districts through 56 organizations – 43 Partner Organizations (POs) of PKSF and 13 non-POs. LIFT emphasizes on involving the ultra-poor of 16 sub-categories – identified by PKSF – with mainstream development activities.

LIFT has financed establishment of seven community radios to connect marginalized people with the integrated development process. LIFT has established 20 desalination plants to address potable water crisis in the coastal area. The program also continues to expand and replicate potential initiatives.

LIFT has introduced an inclusive financing, capacity building and social awareness advocacy program for the poor people with disabilities. Under the initiative, participants receive technical training for self-employment and physiotherapy at a minimal cost.



Moreover, an initiative has been taken under LIFT for students with hearing and speech impairments in Saidpur upazila of Nilphamari district. As of now, three specialized schools are educating students through using ‘Sign Language’. Besides, hearing aids and other assistive materials have also been distributed among persons with disabilities in the working areas of LIFT.

## Microenterprise Development Project (MDP)

PKSF has completed implementation of the ‘Microenterprise Development Project (MDP), with USD 50 million as loan and USD 0.50 million as Technical Assistant grant from Asian Development Bank (ADB), to create sustainable employment for the poor by increasing size and productivity of microenterprises. Implementation of this 2-year project (01 January 2019 to 31 December 2020) was completed before the closing time. The project was implemented in 64 districts through 2,393 branches of selected 77 Partner Organizations (POs) of PKSF. So far, BDT 779 crore loan has been disbursed to 56,901 microentrepreneurs. The microenterprises, with financial and technical support from the project, created self and wage employment for 1.42 lac people.

### Loan Agreement with ADB

In view of the successful implementation of the project, ADB is providing additional USD 50 million as loan and USD 0.50 million as Technical Assistance grant to help restore the economic activities of the microentrepreneurs affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

In this regard, a Loan Agreement was signed between the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and ADB on 21 December 2020 while a Project Agreement was signed between PKSF and ADB. Ms Fatima Yasmin, Secretary, Economic Relations Division (ERD), Ministry of Finance, signed the Loan Agreement on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh while Mr Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah, Managing Director, signed the Project Agreement on behalf of PKSF. Mr Manmohan Parkash, Country Director, Bangladesh Resident Mission, ADB signed both the Agreements on behalf of ADB.

Among others, Mr Arijit Chowdhury, Additional Secretary, Financial Institutions Division; Dr Pear Mohammad, Additional Secretary, Economic Relations Division; Mr Md Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director, PKSF; Ms Syeda Amina Fahmeen, Deputy Secretary, Economic Relations Division; Ms Mursheda Zaman, Deputy Secretary, Financial Institutions Division; Dr Akond Md Rafiqul Islam, Senior General Manager, PKSF; Dr Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Project Coordinator, MDP, PKSF; and officials of ERD, PKSF and ADB were present at the virtual signing ceremony.



According to the Loan Agreement, USD 50 million loan will be provided to 30,000 microentrepreneurs to create sustainable self and wage employment for 75,000 persons. Besides, USD 0.50 million Technical Assistance grant will be provided for ongoing activities of PKSF like use of mobile phone-based technology as a means of business transactions and financing for microenterprises; marketing support to microenterprises through e-commerce/f-commerce platforms; business cluster development and capacity development activities. Duration of the project will be two years under this additional financing.

## Innovation for Public Services

PKSF has a 5-member Innovation Team formed in accordance with the ‘Innovation Strategic Plan and Evaluation Guideline 2015’ outlined by the Cabinet Division. The team develops an annual innovation strategic plan and attempts have been made to implement the plan in every financial year. Reports of all activities were uploaded on the PKSF website up to December 2020. PKSF regularly organizes seminars, workshops and training on innovative ideas for its officials.

The representatives from PKSF regularly join the monthly review meeting on innovation – organized by the Cabinet Division and Financial Institutions Division (FID) – and present the progress of innovation activities of PKSF. The annual assessment of PKSF’s innovation activities for the FY 2019-20 and the action plan of PKSF’s innovation activities for the FY 2020-21 have been prepared and sent to the Financial Institutions Division.

## Program for Adolescents

The 'Program for Adolescents' has been in operation as a mainstream program since July 2019 in 230 upazilas of 59 districts of the country through 69 Partner Organizations (POs). So far, 1691 youth clubs – comprising about 50 thousand members – have been formed. Till now, 2058 yard meetings and 1353 group-reading sessions were organized. Besides, sanitary napkins were distributed among 29 thousands adolescent girls. Different activities of the 'Program for Adolescents' in October-December 2020 are given below.

### Raising Awareness and Practicing Good Values

On 4 November, **Satkhira Unnayan Sangstha (SUS)** organized a discussion meeting and a rally to raise awareness against drug abuse and terrorism at Bhomra Kishore-Kishori Club in Satkhira district.

On 17 November, **Jagorani Chakra Foundation** organized a courtyard meeting on good values development and set up a complaint box at Lebutala Kishore Club in Jashore Sadar. In addition, meetings and campaigns against child marriage, sexual harassment, violence against women and children, and dowry were also organized.

Adolescent Club members under **Shotoful Bangladesh** distributed winter clothes among the poor and walking sticks among people with special needs in Rajshahi on 26 December. On 09 November, a discussion meeting was held in Paikpara, Paba, Rajshahi Adolescent Club to stop child marriage, dowry, violence against women and children, corruption and terrorism, corona virus prevention and hygiene, health and sanitation.

**Grameen Jana Unnayan Sangstha** organized a debate competition and a discussion meeting on 14 December on 'Social Awareness and Good Value Development' at Bhola Sadar Charsamaiya Adolescent Club.

**Dabi Moulik Unayan Sangstha** organized a discussion meeting to raise awareness against dowry, domestic violence, suicide, violence against women and children at Kushadanga Kishori Club in Hapania Union of Naogaon Sadar upazila on 14 December.

On 17 December, **Nabalok Parishad** arranged a discussion meeting and an extempore speech competition on prevention of child marriage and development of good values at Garibpur Uttarpara Kishori Club.

**Integrated Development Foundation (IDF)** inaugurated a library and organized a discussion meeting on the importance and necessity of library at Kadurkhil Kishori Club at Kadurkhil Union of Boalkhali upazila in Chattogram on 14 December, with the theme 'There is no age limit for education'.

On 24 December, **Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF)** distributed masks among the members of Ujalpur Bagan Para Kishori Club in Sadar upazila of Meherpur district. Besides, the adolescents of Faltita Kishori Club in Fakirhat upazila of Bagerhat also distributed hand-made masks to 22 families.

### Nutrition and Healthcare

On 4 November, **Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF)** arranged discussion meeting on menstrual healthcare services and distributed sanitary napkins at Atraka Kishori Club in Fakirhat upazila of Bagerhat.

On 19 December, **Jagorani Chakra Foundation (JCF)** arranged a health and nutrition camp at Uttarpara Kishori Club, Fultala, Khulna. In addition, on 20 December, **JCF** organized free blood grouping camp; health and nutrition camp; and distributed



sanitary napkins at low cost at Lebutala South Para Kishori Club in Lebutala Union of Jashore Sadar upazila.

In this quarter, free blood grouping camps were arranged by different POs including **OSACA** on 21 December at Mahmudpur Kishore Club in Sadar upazila of Pabna; **Dushtya Shashthya Kendra (DSK)** on 22 December at Arapara Sarah Primary School, Guchhagram Model School, Aparajita Kishori Club and Pahari Kishori Club; and **Shariatpur Development Society** on 24 December at Shingair Kishori club in Shariatpur Sadar upazila and at Gobindpur Kishori Club in Madaripur Sadar upazila.

On 24 December, **JAKAS Foundation** organized a discussion program on adolescent health and distributed sanitary napkins at low price at Jamalpur Kishori Club and Ramchandrapur Kishori Club in Joypurhat.

### Leadership and Life Skill Development

On 10 November, **OSACA** organized a workshop on 'Career Development, Leadership Development and Savings Attitude of Adolescents' at Mallpara Adolescent Club in Sadar upazila of Pabna.

On the occasion of Eid-e- Miladunnabi, discussion programs were arranged on 'the childhood of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW)' by **Mamata** on 15 December at Halishahar Adolescent Club in Chattogram and **Protyashi** on 20 December at Karaiyaghona Kishori club in Chakaria of Cox's Bazar.

### Cultural and Sports Activities

On the occasion of the Victory Day, **IDF** organized different sports and cultural competitions on essay writing, patriotic songs, dances and rope jumping on 19 December in Rangamati and Bandarban. A total of 160 teenagers from twelve clubs participated in these competitions.

On 21 December, **PCD** organized drawing, essay writing and poetry recitation competitions in Chatmohar upazila of Pabna district on the occasion of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's birth centenary. The members of 11 Kishore-Kishori Club participated in these competitions.

## Low Income Community Housing Support Project (LICHSP)

PKSF and National Housing Authority (NHA) have been jointly implementing the Low Income Community Housing Support Project funded by The World Bank (WB) since 20 October 2016 to improve the living conditions of the low income community people residing in selected municipalities and city corporations of Bangladesh. Seven Partner Organizations (POs) of PKSF are implementing the housing loan activities in 13 towns under Part-3 of this project titled ‘**Shelter Lending & Support**’.

As of 31 December 2020, PKSF -- through its 7 POs -- disbursed BDT 1065.50 million as loans to 4603 borrowers for construction of new houses and extension or repair of the existing ones. In the October-December quarter, BDT 187.30 million was disbursed to 1925 borrowers as loans. Up to December 2020, PKSF disbursed BDT 22 million to 7 POs as grants. In spite of the Covid-19 pandemic, loan recovery rate at the field level is 95%.

Due to travel restrictions enforced in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, a team of the World Bank carried out a Virtual Implementation Support Mission from 27 October - 12 November 2020. The objectives of the mission were to provide implementation support to PKSF, review progress against project targets, and assess how challenges posed by Covid-19 can be addressed in the best possible way. The WB Mission also discussed on the ways to help the Covid-affected LICHSP borrowers through strengthening their income generating activities.

During the Mission, a virtual progress review meeting was held on 3 November 2020. The WB mission team and senior officials (including the Executive Directors) of 7 POs attended the meeting. Mr Golam Touhid, Deputy Managing Director of PKSF presided over the meeting. The World Bank Mission rated the project activities of PKSF as ‘**Satisfactory**’.

## ABASON Loan

PKSF has undertaken different initiatives to create employment opportunities and ensure holistic development of the poor in the country. In line with this, PKSF has been implementing a housing program titled ‘ABASON’ out of its own fund to improve the living conditions of the target disadvantaged people since 01 January 2019. Currently, a total of 16 Partner Organizations (POs) of PKSF are implementing the program

through 67 branches located in 33 upazilas of 16 districts.

As of 31 December 2020, PKSF -- through 16 POs -- has disbursed BDT 366.30 million as loans to 1382 borrowers for construction of new houses and repair or extension of old ones. In October-December 2020, BDT 48.80 million was disbursed as loans to 372 new borrowers along with the old ones.

## Rural Microenterprise Transformation Project (RMTP)

### Meeting on ‘Product Mapping’

On 2 November, 2020, a meeting was held to determine the initial strategy of ‘Product Mapping’ under ‘Rural Microenterprise Transformation Project (RMTP)’. Presided over by Mr Md Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director of PKSF, the meeting was attended by Mr Dewan AH Alamgir, Consultant and Team Leader, RMTP Mission, IFAD; Dr Akond Md Rafiqul Islam, Senior General Manager, PKSF; and other PKSF officials concerned.

### Supervision Mission of RMTP

An IFAD Supervision Mission evaluated the progress of different activities of RMTP from 15-29 November 2020. It was the first Supervision Mission of RMTP. The 6-member mission, led by Mr Dewan AH Alamgir, evaluated the progress of microenterprises and other activities under the project. Presided over by Mr Arijit Chowdhury, Additional Secretary of the Financial Institutions Division, Ministry of Finance, the online wrap-up meeting of the

Mission was held on 29 November 2020. The Supervision Mission expressed satisfaction over the progress of RMTP and provided important and effective suggestions regarding implementation of various activities under RMTP.

### Online Training

A day-long online training on ‘Value Chain Analysis and Value Chain Sub-Project Designing’ was organized on 26 December 2020 under RMTP. A total of 60 participants -- 06 PKSF officials and 54 PO officials (01 from each PO) -- received the training that provided guidelines and techniques to select potential high value agro-products of livestock, poultry, fisheries, horticulture and crop sectors. There was discussion on the overall concept of value chain development, sub-sector selection strategies, SWOT analysis, challenges of the value chain and strategies to overcome them. The training also discussed on activities to be taken under value chain interventions, budgeting, M&E and sustainability of value chain interventions.

## Social Advocacy and Knowledge Dissemination Unit

The Social Advocacy and Knowledge Dissemination Unit conducts different social development activities to establish equality and equity for the ultra-poor, the poor and the underprivileged. Considering the Covid-19 pandemic, the Unit has brought some changes in its regular activities, which is visible in its work plan for FY 2020-21. Instead of mass gathering, the Unit has prioritized alternate ways to reach people.

In FY 2020-21, the Unit conducted different development activities at 34 Unions in 19 upazilas of 19 districts. It has informed the Partner Organizations (POs) about the work plan for FY 2020-21 through virtual meetings.

In this FY, advocacy on prevention of early marriage and general health directives has been given utmost priority. At least 2 signboards on these issues have been placed in every Union of the working areas.

Besides, the POs are announcing general health directives through loudspeakers in remote areas that reached even to those who can't read. In addition, the Unit is extending awareness raising activities on disability, gender equality, safe food, violence against women and children through different community radio programs.

The Unit has taken a program to assist persons with disabilities to get 'Shuborno Nagorik Card'. This program identifies people with disabilities and includes them in the government survey program.

As part of this program, meeting on 'Inclusion of People with Disabilities in Government Survey' was arranged by 'Shatophul Bangladesh' on 30 November 2020 in Bagmara upazila and by 'Self-help and Rehabilitation Program (SHARP)' on 2 December



2020 in Dimla upazila. These programs were organized following the health directives on Covid-19.

Local Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNOs), members of the local government bodies, social welfare officers along with the representatives of the POs and local civil society were present in these meetings.

## Research

The Research Unit of PKSf was engaged in three research works during October-December 2020. The Unit also provided required technical assistance on conducting baseline survey for the Rural Microenterprise Transformation Project (RMTP), midterm evaluation and sectoral studies for the Sustainable Enterprise Project (SEP), final evaluation for the Promoting Agricultural Commercialization and Enterprises (PACE) project, and market survey and Randomized Control Trial (RCT) for the Inclusive Risk Mitigation Program for Sustainable Poverty Reduction (IRMP) project. The Unit works as the focal point for PKSf's integrity-related activities.

Recently, the Research Unit has conducted a study in collaboration with SEP titled 'Interim Assessment of

Sustainable Enterprise Project of PKSf' intended for the World Bank Mission. For this study, primary data were collected from 299 respondents through questionnaire survey and 25 FGDs from 22-26 November 2020.

From 07 October to 08 November 2020, field-level information was collected for a study titled 'Agricultural Technology Transfer and its Impact on Productivity and Livelihoods: Experience from Farmers and Branch Level Activities' through a structured questionnaire.

Moreover, the draft of a study titled 'Setting-up Appropriate Rate of Service Charge for Microenterprise Loan Program' was prepared in this quarter under the supervision of Mr Md Fazlul Kader, Deputy Managing Director of PKSf.



### Training for PO Officials

The Training Cell of PKSf has brought changes in its mode of operations due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Instead of classroom-based training program, PKSf has launched a 4-day online training course on ‘Operation Management in Covid-19 Situation’ for the senior and mid-level officials of the Partner Organizations (POs) to address the challenges that the POs are facing in implementing their day-to-day activities during this pandemic. Up to December 2020, a total of 747 officials of 162 POs received this online training in 32 batches.

Furthermore, a number of virtual meetings with the respective officials of PKSf and its POs were arranged to extract effective demands for training against the backdrop of Covid-19. Based on the feedbacks from these meeting as well as well the responses received from the participants of the above-mentioned trainings, the Training Cell is developing three new online training modules – ‘Stress Management’, ‘Microenterprise Situation Analysis’ and ‘Agrosor Loan Assessment and Risk Management’. Training on these modules are set to be launched soon. The overall objective of these courses is to better equip the PO officials for managing their activities both at office and in the field during this pandemic following the Government and the PKSf-issued guidelines.

### Internship

In view of the Covid-19 pandemic, arrangements have been made to offer online internships. Students are using online platforms like Zoom and Messenger to complete their internship work under the guidance of their respective supervising officers of PKSf. In October-December quarter, 3 students from Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) and 10 from different departments of the University of Dhaka were pursuing their internships at PKSf.

### In-Country Training

In October-December 2020, a total of 324 officials participated in a virtual orientation program while 26 officials received training at PKSf Bhaban.

Subject	No. of Participants	Duration	Organizer
Orientation Training	15	17-19 November 2020	PKSF
Training on ‘E-Nothi Software’	11	18-19 November 2020	PKSF and A2i
Virtual Orientation on ‘E-Nothi Software’	324	22-26, 29 November 2020	

### Training on SDGs

PKSF organized a daylong online training on 12 November 2020 for the officials of its Partner Organizations (POs) to enhance their knowledge on different aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Dr Md Jashim Uddin, Deputy Managing Director of PKSf, conducted the first session that dealt with definitions and concepts of the SDGs. Highlighting the success of Bangladesh in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), he emphasized on the need for ensuring sustainability and good governance in effectively designing and implementing SDG-related activities.

Mr Md Monirul Islam, Joint Secretary of SDG Cell at the Prime Minister’s Office, made a presentation on SDG Goals, Targets and Indicators, SDG Mapping and M&E Framework.

Mr Md Alamgir Hossain, Deputy Director of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, conducted a session on SDG’s localization and assessment tools and the tracking process of SDG progress.

A total of 40 officials from 20 POs received the training. They actively participated in the open discussion session.

## Credit Operations

### Loan Disbursement to POs

During the financial year 2020-21 (up to December 2020), the amount of loan disbursement from PKSF to POs (Partner Organizations) was BDT 21.79 billion (Table-2). The cumulative loan disbursement from PKSF to POs stood at BDT 407.93 billion (Table-1) and the recovery rate of loan from POs to PKSF was 99.40%. A summary of PKSF's loan disbursement and loan outstanding as of December 2020 is given below:

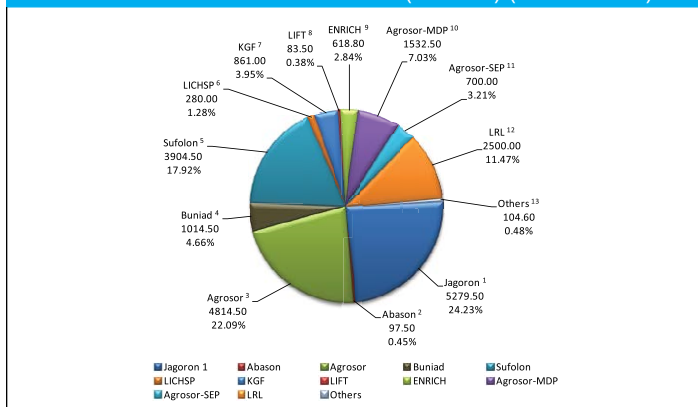
Programs/Projetes	Cum. Loan disbursement (in million BDT) (up to Dec-2020)	Loan outstanding (in million BDT) as of Dec-2020
<b>Mainstream Programs*</b>		
Jagoron	151058.59	21052.56
Agrosor	74910.70	16075.66
Sufolon	100512.10	5034.00
Buniad	27536.20	3027.77
Sahos	1014.20	11.50
KGF	10928.50	1090.00
ENRICH	8891.83	3577.00
LIFT	2029.62	810.70
SDL	593.00	241.65
ABASON	347.50	309.32
Other (including ID Loan)	5738.79	2661.94
<b>Total (Mainstream):</b>	<b>383561.02</b>	<b>53892.11</b>
<b>Projects**</b>		
EFRRAP	1122.50	13.69
FSP	258.75	0.00
LRP	803.80	0.55
MFMSFP	3619.60	91.90
MFTSP	2602.30	3.60
PLDP	593.91	0.00
PLDP-II	4130.19	87.47
LICHSP	1058.00	916.07
Agrosor-MDP	5661.16	4820.17
Agrosor-SEP	3810.00	3271.00
Others (including ID Loan)	703.77	67.80
<b>Total (Projects):</b>	<b>24363.99</b>	<b>9272.25</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>407925.01</b>	<b>63164.35</b>

Loan disbursement in FY 2020-21 (In Million BDT)		
Programs/Projects	PKSF to POs (July to Dec 2020)	POs to Clients (July-Aug 20)
Jagoron	5279.50	26546.06
Agrosor	4814.50	17441.89
Buniad	1014.50	1063.47
Sufolon	3904.50	7029.03
KGF	861.00	531.00
LIFT	83.50	322.85
ENRICH	618.80	827.24
Agrosor-MDP	1532.50	152.24
Agrosor-SEP	700.00	371.60
LICHSP	280.00	30.07
ABASON	97.50	12.39
LRL	2500.00	0.00
Other	104.60	7126.13
<b>Total:</b>	<b>21790.90</b>	<b>61453.98</b>

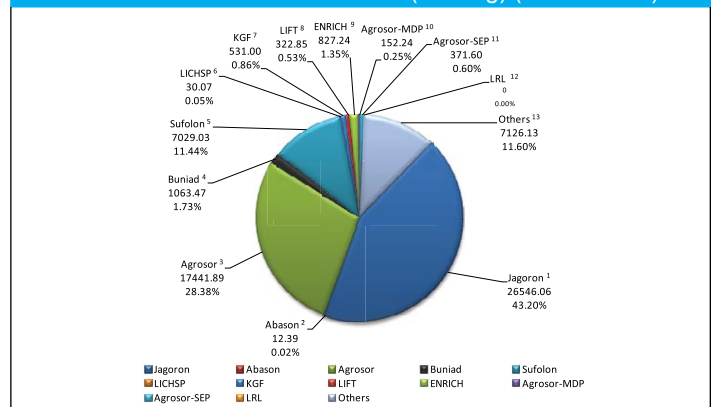
### Loan Disbursement from POs to Clients

During the financial year 2020-21 (up to August 2020), the amount of loan disbursement from POs to Clients was BDT 61.45 billion (Table-2). The cumulative loan disbursement from POs to Clients was BDT 4105.73 billion and the recovery rate of loan from Clients to POs was 99.13%. Up to August 2020, the amount of loan outstanding of POs with Clients stood at BDT 320.83 billion. At the same time, the number of members was 14.23 million of whom 90.62 percent were women.

**Component-wise Loan Disbursement :  
PKSF to POs in FY 2020-2021 (Jul-Dec) ( Million BDT)**



**Component-wise Loan Disbursement :  
POs to Clients in FY 2020-2021 (Jul-Aug) ( Million BDT)**



## 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 three decades, PKSF has set some non-conventional and distinctive examples in the process of implementing development activities. PKSF has further broadened its various mainstream programs and projects with the understanding of its responsibilities to make poverty alleviation a reality.

## Governing Body of PKSF

Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad	Chairman
Mr Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah (Managing Director, PKSF)	Member
Ambassador Munshi Faiz Ahmad	Member
Mr Arijit Chowdhury	Member
Ms Parveen Mahmud	Member
Ms Nazneen Sultana	Member
Dr Toufic Ahmad Choudhury	Member

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## Book Post

## Webinar on Completion of PPEPP's Inception Phase



The Program Implementation Unit (PIU) of the Pathways to Prosperity for Extremely Poor People (PPEPP), in short 'Prosperity', program initiated its yearlong Inception Phase, with piloting in 17 randomly selected Unions, to test the targeting and intervention modalities before the full-scale rollout in April 2020.

A webinar titled 'Completion of the Inception Phase of PPEPP' was organized under the 'Prosperity' program on 9 December 2020 to disseminate the learnings from the Inception Phase to a wider audience. PKSF Chairman Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, also a renowned economist and a proponent of human-centered development, presided over the webinar. Mr Abdur Rouf Talukder, Senior Secretary of the Finance Division, Ministry of Finance was the Chief Guest of the program attended by more than 300 participants including government high ups; representatives of the FCDO, the EU, development partners and Partner Organizations (POs) of PKSF; academicians; experts on extreme poverty; local Deputy Commissioners (DCs) and Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNOs) of the respective working areas of 'Prosperity'.

Mr Mohammad Moinuddin Abdullah, Managing Director of PKSF, delivered the welcome remarks. Referring to the advancement of Bangladesh towards becoming a middle-income country, Mr Abdullah hoped that the 'Prosperity' program would make significant contributions to achieving the UN-sponsored Sustainable Development Goals and the 7<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan of the Government of Bangladesh.

PKSF Chairman Dr QK Ahmad said, "If people are poor or extremely poor, it is mainly because they lack choices, and PKSF is relentlessly working to expand their choices and develop their capacity to earn their livelihoods and come out of poverty in a sustainable manner".

Ms Judith Herbertson, Development Director, FCDO Bangladesh and Mr Maurizio Cian, the Head of Cooperation of the Delegation of the European Union (EU) to Bangladesh lauded the progress of Bangladesh in poverty reduction and reiterated their commitment of uninterrupted support to poverty alleviation programs in the country.

Mr Abdur Rouf Talukder, the Chief Guest, appreciated the multidimensional poverty alleviation interventions, made and planned under the 'Prosperity' programme, that address the root causes of poverty in a sustainable way.

The webinar also discussed the spread of Covid-19 as well as the necessity of undertaking specialized development programs to address the crises and needs of the ultra poor. The importance of multidimensional poverty alleviation programs like 'Prosperity' has now gone higher than ever before, speakers at the event commented. They also emphasized on the need for adopting appropriate techniques and tools for ensuring sustainable poverty alleviation of the target people under the 'Prosperity' program.