

Upazila level workshop on good practice identification

Date: 30 November 2020

Place: BRDB Hall Room, Nachole Upazila

Participants: 50 of 4 unions (including guests and host)

Program overview presenter: Israt Jahan, MCB, DASCOH

Moderator: Selim Reza, Area Coordinator, DASCOH



The horizontal learning program is a peer-to-peer learning method initiated by National Institute of Local Government (NILG) partnering with Water Aid Bangladesh along with other development partners in Bangladesh which is financially supported by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). DASCOH Foundation is an implementing partner of Water Aid Bangladesh. The program has a potential motto to engage a union to district level public representatives. It also strategically promoting the respective pool of union Parishad members to identify good practices from their own course of development issues and extend cooperative motives through horizontal learning. The activities of HLP will broadly be thought out institutionalized through NILG that will actively support the local government institution to identify good practices, select, implementation through allocating own budget, evaluate and attainability to present in policy makers platform.

On 30 November 2020, a workshop was organized at Nachole upazila on the basis of 4 workshops held at the 4 union parishads level. Key selective participants of union parishad, representatives of NGO and upazila parishad, journalist of Nachole upazila and DASCOH representative were present. Khadija Begum, UNO (in charge) and Abdur Rashid Khan, Mayor addressed as chair and special guest respectively. In the entire tenure, individual speech, participatory dialogue and group works happened to take out gist point and lead the main discussion towards.

Participants enrolled from 4 unions (Nachole, Kasba, Fatehpur, Nizampur) of Nachole upazila under Chapai Nowabganj district (Mayor, Nachole Upazila; 1, UNO (incharge); 1, UNO Office; 3, Union Chairmen; 4, Union Secretary; 4, Union Parishad Members; 24, NGO representatives; 5, Journalist; 1, DASCOH representatives; 5, RRDB; 1, Education; 1)

Objective: The workshop was objected to encourage Horizontal Learning among the Union Parishads (UPs) of Nachole upazila under Chapai Nowabganj district through identification of existing good

practices jointly by the UP and Upazila representatives and thereby strengthen cooperation among the Upazila, UPs and local administration.

Specific objectives:

1. Inform about horizontal learning
2. Identification of good practice
3. Activity planning
4. Allocating budget from individual institute for implementing the good learnings
5. Prepare factsheet and
6. Plan for arranging exchange visit of experience sharing

Scheduled discussion: The entire workshop has been propelled with the scheduled time and activities (schedule is attached herewith as annex). UNO, Nachole Upazila delivered a welcome and objective sharing speech to take the present participants on the same page. She expresses her gratitude and thank all for the present in time. She also expects that the total time will be used appreciated according to workshop objectives. After that moderator of the workshop, invited all for individual introduction and walked into the scheduled discussions. She presented the program overview highlighting Horizontal Learning Program (HLP) definition, objectives, and intervention priorities and covering areas in Bangladesh as well as in Chapai Nowabganj district with all other associated activities explaining ins and outs while participants raised voice to be clarified.

Group work and union wise presentation:

Every participants in the groups actively participated in the group activities. They contributed with key points on union based good practice identification in pair conversation then with whole group members. That expedite the workshop objectives a step ahead. Above all union wise final compiled poster paper have been by group leaders through individual presentation.



Presentation of compiled good practices: All the participants were seen active in presenting their points in favor of selecting good practices that will contribute union development issues. They identified and written down good practices in a sheet (attached herewith) of all unions among them 5 key good practices have been chosen through interactive technics of casting vote of all's participation. All participants took a red tip and approached one by one to cast their votes placing as per individual choice. After accomplishing the session, indicators of the selected good practices have been elicited from the participants and write down against each identified good practice for tracking in further course of action in program.

Compiled good practices after casting vote:

1. Identify the animal slaughtering place at union level during Edul Adha
2. Earn revenue from mango cultivation of the unions
3. Construct centrally one Shaheed Minar at football field /Club premises against 10 schools

4. Construct public toilet at main hat of the unions
5. Install hand washing system at union level

Open discussion: The selected good practice were discussed openly in participation of all union chairmen, secretary and members. It was appreciated by all to exchange their own learnings. Some of them earnestly picked one or more practices for their own union development. Union chairman stood to be clarified on how the good practices have been adopted by the respective union. What is the appropriate process they apply to exercise the practice.

Strength: The following strengths are depicted from the workshop;

1. Venue
2. Participants attendance and participation in workshop activities
3. Supportive motif of UNO and Mayor
4. Multimedia support and electric supply
5. Over all arrangement

Challenges: The workshop have the following challenges;

1. Upcoming UP election
2. Changing Up body may hamper the program activities
3. Budget allocation of respective UP for identified good practices

Recommendation: The workshop have the following recommendation to overcome the challenges;

1. Arrange orientation after election at union level
2. Arrange workshop at upazila level after election

Learnings:

1. Participants identified their good practices
2. Participants have tendencies to adopt the good practices
3. They agreed to walk with the process of HLP

Closing speeches: Mayor, Nachole Upazila delivered his speech in favor of Horizontal Learning Program (HLP) and the overall arrangement. He said that DASCOH did a good job other projects of DASCOH at the Nachole upazila as per my knowledge goes. He refers HLP is no exception in the upazila. He invites all the union chairman and members to come one umbrella and work together in the development of individual union. Adaptation of the identified good practices will certainly transform the union's image. He said on identified good practice such as; select a suitable place of sacrifice (korbanir Jaiga) in the union level is very importance, will be supported by him while and whenever needed. Appraising for good works always brings better results, he added it pointing to all present chairman, members and other participants.

Speech of UNO, Nachole Upazila delivered her closing speech focusing the importance of time. She requests every present participants to utilize their time in best possible ways to bring about change in their life. She alerted about the ongoing scenarios of COVID 19 pandemic effects and request all to maintain the hygiene rules to stem from being affected. Revenue collection from sessional mangoes, is a good identification sign. She invited the union representatives to adopt the identified good practices in need, horizontal learning program is an ultimate support to draw change into the holistic developments of unions.

The workshop was ended with good note of Mayor and UNO and present chairman in the upazila. Hoping the identified good practices will be incorporated into budget line of respective unions and next workshop will bring a good record of implementing effort for the same.

Photos



Identified good practices of Nachole Upazila through voting

