shiree
QUARTERLY
REPORT
January - March 2012
ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

APPG All Party Parliamentary group
BHH Beneficiary Household
BIDS Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies
CEO Chief Executive Officer
CFO Chief Financial Officer
CHT Chittagong Hill Tracts
CMS Change Monitoring System
CSR Corporate Social Responsibility
DAE Department of Agricultural Extension
DC District Commissioner
DSU Decision Support Unit
EEP Economic Empowerment of the Poorest
EPRG Extreme Poverty Research Group
GoB Government of Bangladesh
HIES Household Income and Expenditure Survey
IAP Independent Assessment Panel
IGA Income Generating Activity
MA Management Agency
MDGs Millennium Development Goals
MIS Management Information Systems
MjF Manusher Jonno Foundation
MoU Memorandum of Understanding
NGO Non Governmental Organisation
NSC National Steering Committee
OPR Output to Purpose Review
Shiree Stimulating Household Improvements Resulting in Economic Empowerment
SLPA Simultaneous Impact and Learning Process Assessment
TORs Terms of Reference
UPPR Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction (Programme)
WATSAN Water and Sanitation
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SCOPE OF THE REPORT

This report covers the period from 1st January to 31st March 2012, the first quarter of Year Five of the implementation phase of the Economic Empowerment of the Poorest - Challenge Fund (EEP/shiree). After an introductory commentary by the shiree Senior Management Team, progress against each of the four programme outputs is reported, followed by updates on Management and Finance.
MESSAGE FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

During the first quarter of 2012 the programme was operating at close to peak capacity with 36 live projects (9 Scale, 27 Innovation) through 32 NGO partners working with well over 100,000 beneficiary households in 5 distinct and very different regions (Coastal Belt, NE Haors, NW, CHT, Dhaka urban). In addition all CMS instruments were functioning, the research agenda expanded with the recruitment of 6 more research officers (doubling the number) and the stream of advocacy activities continued to build momentum.

Significant events during the quarter included:

- NSC endorsement of 6 Scale Fund Round One, Phase 2 proposals allowing progression to contracting
- 3 Scale Fund Round 2 projects transitioning from inception into full implementation
- A major CMS survey exercise incorporating socio-economic and anthropometric surveys for all 9 Scale Fund NGOs as well as final impact surveys for 12 Innovation Round 1 and 2 projects
- Preparation for the launch of a new shiree website
- The first visit by the UK Secretary of State for Development to a shiree sub-project
- A lesson learning workshop hosted by Innovation Fund partner, Shushilan
- Further lesson learning and experience sharing events including a strong EPRG meeting and a visit to BRAC’s Gender Quality Action Learning Programme
- Finalisation of the proposal for a nutrition component that will supplement all 9 Scale Fund projects over the final 3 years of the programme
- A major review of programme resourcing as follow up to the MTR undertaken during late 2011
- Other Mid Term Review follow up activity including a review of graduation criteria

The shiree portfolio has evolved to include sub projects at very different stages of implementation. The new Scale Fund Round 2 and Innovation Fund Round 4 projects are facing the challenge of targeting and selection, with verification exercises confirming that the programme continues to successfully target the poorest of the poor. For the original 6 Scale Fund projects the focus is on issues of IGA sustainability and more generally securing a continuing trend of improvement in the livelihoods of beneficiaries who have progressed through initial economic empowerment interventions.

The research and advocacy agenda is exploiting this depth and breadth of programme implementation experience. For research, the intention is to establish a virtuous circle through which implementation feeds learning that in turn enhances intervention design and management. Advocacy, in the sense of engagement with actors external to the programme, must play an increasing role as many of the determinants of successful graduation are beyond the scope of direct programme interventions (eg access to health services or safety nets).

This trend towards increasing interdependency and interaction across the programme elements will continue. The challenge for the Management Agency is to maximise the potential of this
complex and dynamic mix while sustaining the core activities of operational and financial management. The experienced and highly motivated shiree team, the solid partnership with NGOs and the established systems and processes are the foundation of continued programme effectiveness.

At the end of the quarter, while some key preconditions for the smooth implementation of the programme plan up to Dec 2015 are yet to be put in place (final confirmation of the nutrition component and resolution of a broader programme funding gap), shiree is well set up to achieve its strategic objective of lifting 1 million Bangladeshis out of extreme poverty.

Finally, the quarter saw the merger of Harewelle Intl into the larger Ecorys group of companies. The shiree team is looking forward to interacting with colleagues from the new parent company and developing the potential of this strategic partnership.

Andrew Mitchell, Secretary of State i.e. Minister for International Development of UK visited shiree beneficiaries of Save the Children (Prodipon) on January 16, 2012.
PROGRESS AGAINST OUTPUTS

**Total shiree Beneficiary Household Coverage**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Type</th>
<th>BHH Target</th>
<th>Q1, 2012</th>
<th>Cumulative Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scale Fund Round 1 (Phase 1)</td>
<td>82,850</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>85,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale Fund Round 2</td>
<td>43,000</td>
<td>11,870</td>
<td>13,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation Round 1</td>
<td>6,650</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation Round 2</td>
<td>5,410</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation Round 3</td>
<td>7,160</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>1,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation Round 4</td>
<td>5,550</td>
<td>1,050</td>
<td>1,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>150,620</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,162</strong></td>
<td><strong>113,835</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OUTPUT 1 – PROVEN APPROACHES TO IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOODS OF THE EXTREME POOR TAKEN TO SCALE BY LARGE NGOs**

The Scale Fund includes projects at very different stages of their life cycle. Round 2 projects - Caritas, Concern and Oxfam - have selected a first set of beneficiaries and are preparing for major interventions in the coming quarter. Round 1 Phase 1 projects are at a closing stage and have been working closely with shiree’s Operations, Finance and Management teams to develop proposals, budgets and plans for a second phase. Round 1 Phase 2 contracts will maintain monitoring oversight and the potential for top-up support to Phase 1 beneficiaries while expanding beneficiary numbers utilizing the learning from Phase 1 and delivering significant efficiency gains. Phase 2 contracting received NSC endorsement in January 2012, CARE signed in March and the remaining NGOs are at the final stage of negotiation and expected to sign in April 2012.
The table below highlights progress in beneficiary selection and asset/cash delivery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale Fund Round 1 and 2</th>
<th>Total BHH Target</th>
<th>Cumulative HH Selection</th>
<th>No of HH Selected during Q1, 2012</th>
<th>HH received asset in Q1, 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CARE</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSK</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>11,795</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETZ</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>9,163</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAB</td>
<td>16,850</td>
<td>16,909</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCF-UK</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,279</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UTTARAN</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>11,965</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caritas</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>6,310</td>
<td>4,481</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concern</td>
<td>22,500</td>
<td>2,849</td>
<td>2,849</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxfam</td>
<td>10,500</td>
<td>4,540</td>
<td>4,540</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>125,850</strong></td>
<td><strong>98,810</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,870</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,094</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key developments from each Scale Fund NGO are highlighted below.

**Scale Fund Round 1 (SFR 1)**

**Dushtha Shasthya Kendra (DSK)**

- During this quarter the project selected 73 BHHs, conducted 1702 courtyard sessions, transferred assets to 989 BHHs, and disbursed startup capital to 208 BHHs.
- Between January and March 1521 BHHs received old age/disability stipend, with 755 pregnant or lactating mothers receiving a stipend.
- 6 community water points were built, as well as 4 community latrines.
- In February a fire affected 3 shiree BHHs in Rayenbazar, while in March in Boubazar 70 beneficiaries had their houses destroyed by fire. DSK responded with humanitarian aid in both situations, utilizing contingency funds.
- In January 2500 blankets were distributed to the most vulnerable beneficiaries during cold weather.
- Binayak Sen, a respected local economist and researcher, conducted an empirical review of the project’s Phase 1, highlighting the significant gains made by DSK beneficiaries, presenting the findings at a workshop in March.

**Practical Action Bangladesh (PAB)**

- The project has successfully reached its target of planned training for 16850 BHHs, with 15043 BHHs receiving multiple training.
- A research project was conducted with Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University (HSTU), with whom an MoU was signed. The project is focused on sandbar cropping. A collaborative research on sandbar cropping with Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI) also started at Mohipur sandbar spot at Gangachara Upazila. BARI scientists set experiments with four hundred (400) pheromone traps in the field for controlling insect pests, especially fruit fly.
• The Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) provided 95 Pheromone trap for 25 sandbar farmers in Kurul sandbar spot in Lalmonirhat district.
• There were a number of visitors to the project during this period including the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute, an Ethiopian Government Delegation and the All Party Parliamentary Group of MPs.

**Save the Children**

• Linkages were established for 598 BHHs with different organizations for safety net support, health and education services and short term - works for employment.
• Stakeholder assemblies in 55 locations were conducted to help further solidify linkages. Actors involved include BHHs, Community Support Groups, UP Members and Local elites.
• Lesson learning events were organized for 486 Community Support Groups (CSG), 178 Community Mentors and 76 staff in order to capture the different levels of experience, learning and successes of project implementation.
• Three GO-NGO coordination meetings were held in three Upazilas. 90 representatives from GoB and NGOs participated and both parties committed to work together and support each other for the bettention of BHHs.
• The project had a number of visitors during this period. In January the project was visited by Andrew Mitchell, UK Secretary of State for International Development. The project was also visited by Myleene Klass, an ambassador for Save the Children UK. As well as these, the RDCD midterm review team, a ULAB researcher, Oxfam and IDE all visited.

**Care**

• During the reporting period, a total of 733 primary participants were supported with asset transfers. This quarter BDT 2,331,119 was distributed among the primary participants to support their business plans.
• The final 'Annual Reflection and Learning Workshop' of SETU Phase-1 was held in January.
• Community business capacity building was conducted by Nijera Cottage and Village Industries (pvt. Ltd) focused on product quality, marketing, referencing, costing and pricing. There were a range of participants - Directors, Artisans, Workers and other technical people) a total of 32 people, 29 of whom were female.
• During the reporting quarter, the UP Chairmen and members of different Unions conducted a UP planning workshop and a 'Self Evaluation Workshop'. In these events the UP bodies evaluated the previous year's work and developed the coming year's work plan.

**NETZ**

• 4800 BHHs from AMADER Phase 1 will be included in the EU supported STEP UP project under NETZ livelihoods programme - focusing on assets, a revolving capital fund and a flexible savings fund.
• The project has identified a number of Social Opinion Makers (SOM) from the same communities and Human Rights Defenders (HRD) from the Upazila level. During the reporting period, sharing meetings were organized between the BHHs, SOMs and HRDs. As a result strategies were developed to access highly-needed services and the BHHs are starting to benefit from service providers.
• In the AMADER project 63% of the BHHs are living on khasland without having valid documents. Through regular advocacy activities by the PNGOs’ staff at local level, 382 applications have been submitted by 443 BHHs during the reporting period in order to obtain khasland.
• A learning visit to India with NETZ staff and three innovation fund partners – Puamdo, Boss and Aid Comilla – was conducted focusing on agriculture, irrigation and forestry.

**Uttaran**

• A number of cross NGO learning visits took place during this period. Project staff visited IC and CNRS, while OXFAM, IDE and Save the Children visited Uttaran’s working areas.
• A survey focused on graduation and khasland possession was completed during this period, taking data from all BHHs and a final report is currently being developed.
• A mass vaccination of animals has been in operation in all Upazilas which has resulted in almost no livestock mortalities (from the last 3 months a total 42 vaccination camps were held in 8 Upazilas)
• All targeted BHHs (11,812) have to date received IGAs.

**Scale Fund Round 2 (SFR 2)**

**Caritas**

• During the reporting quarter Caritas selected a total of 4881 BHHs, these were verified and accepted by the shiree team.
• CMS 1 baseline data has been collected with 4795 BHHs following a two day orientation. Data is currently being processed.
• During CMS 1 the project team has assessed the IGAs appropriate for beneficiaries. Caritas also developed an input purchase and distribution plan and as per the schedule input distribution will start from mid April, considering Jhum cultivation season.
• Training has begun with 41 younger household members (sons, and 15 daughters) from 41 BHHs on topics such as tailoring, mechanics and electrics.

**Oxfam**

• During the reporting quarter Oxfam submitted a total 4540 HH list in two slots (1st slot 1118 HHs and 2nd slot 3422 HHs in January and February respectively). These were verified and approved by shiree.
• A training course was conducted for both Oxfam and its PNGOs on Economic Empowerment in January. Based on Oxfam’s experience, this training was designed to develop an understanding on IGA selection and how to develop HH level business plans.
• A two days Orientation on CMS1 organized for staff of Oxfam and partners was conducted. Following this, the survey questionnaire was finalized and data collection is ongoing.
• 32 Participatory Capacity Vulnerability Assessment (PCVA) sessions were conducted at a village level, attended by representatives from the Union Parishad, local decision makers,
teachers and religious leaders. The focus was on assets and household protection from disasters.

- A total of 2626 BHHs were involved in Cash for Work schemes during this period.

**Concern Worldwide**

- 3096 BHHs extreme poor households were selected, verified and approved by shiree and the project shall now begin major activities with these households.
- Project inception workshops were conducted at 3 districts and 6 Upazilas. All of the workshops were attended by District and Upazila level government officials, public elected representatives, local people, media personnel, and EEP/Shiree etc.
- The staff foundation training for all 104 staff was completed and ESEP accountable grant agreement documents were shared with PNGOs.

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**OUTPUT 2 – INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO IMPROVE THE LIVELIHOODS OF THE EXTREME POOR TESTED, EVALUATED, AND SUCCESSES READY FOR SCALING UP**

The Innovation Fund (IF) also contains projects at very different stages of their life cycle. This is the second quarter of the final year for IF Round (IFR) 1 and 2 projects, while many of IFR 3 projects enter their second year and IFR 4 projects come up to midway through their first year. IFR 1 and 2 beneficiaries are seeing increased income, savings and reinvestment, and NGO activities are focused on establishing linkages to ensure sustainability.

IFR 1 and 2 projects have entered into a completion phase during which much effort is going into consolidating lessons from the projects with a view to informing potential scale-up decisions.

**Innovation Fund Round 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Innovation Fund NGO</th>
<th>Total BHH Target</th>
<th>Cumulative BHHs selected and verified</th>
<th>HH received cash/asset for IGA</th>
<th>HH received training/IGA support *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aid Comilla</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,598</td>
<td>1,365</td>
<td>2,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNRS</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Hill</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>2,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HKI</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>2,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC (Sunamganj)</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>2,683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHUSHILAN</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,650</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,748</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,515</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,336</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[* HH received training for more than one IGA support]
HSI Sunamganj

- Beneficiaries continue to gain from their IGAs. This quarter income was over 5 times higher than it was for this quarter last year, and there is a strong trend of reinvestment.
- A total of 28 BHH got registration for permanent access to khas land on about 950 decimals of land (worth BDT 66,50,000).
- 202 (20% of total BHHs) received different safety net facilities from respective UPs. 36 tube wells were installed and 245 pit latrines, in collaboration with different projects or organizations.

Shushilan

- In this quarter 669,361 BDT was accumulated by 922 BHHs in their group based flexible bank accounts. Some BHHs have opened individual bank accounts from their earnings.
- 100 BHHs leased 2025 decimals of land for Rabi crops and BRRIdhan- 28 at Barguna.
- 197 BHHs received refresher training on their area based innovations and IGAs. A total of 522 group awareness building sessions were also conducted.

Green Hill

- A market linkage workshop on ginger, turmeric and vegetables was conducted to link different actors, discuss problems and identify mechanisms for improvement.
- 2 Crop Collection Points were established in this quarter, and collection point management committees were also established.
- Visits included one by shiree CEO.
- Market conditions for sale of turmeric have been very challenging compared to the previous year.

Helen Keller International

- This quarter 70 beneficiaries were involved in post harvest food processing activities, such as jujube, olive, amla and garlic pickle, banana chips and puffed rice. They supplied those in different sales & display centres and sold in the local market.
- An advocacy workshop on health and social safety nets was held in January, involving Upazila representatives, UNDP and other government officials.
- There was emphasis during this quarter on solidifying market linkages. A technical linkage was established with BADC, local seed suppliers to ensure sustainability after the project closes. Similar linkages and events were also held with other market actors, such as buyers and middle men.

CNRS

- During this quarter most of the winter crops have been harvested and the farmers have started sowing second/summer crops. As a result, the beneficiaries received a good income from winter crops - mainly cereal crops - which is helping them in the current low period.
- 139 further BHHs got DCR in this quarter for 27.8 acres khas land in Dharampasa Upazila
The project hosted a number of external visitors including the Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture Extension (DD-DAE), CLP, CNRS and Uttaran.

AID Comilla

Training continued during this quarter – 387 women were trained on heifer management and marketing, while 467 courtyard sessions were conducted on water, hygiene, health, sanitation and different social issues (dowry, violence against women etc.). 3 days refresher training was also given to paravets.

36 assets (calves) were distributed among 36 secondary BHHs and stipend (feeding cost) was distributed to 1372 beneficiaries.

Innovation Fund Round 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NGO</th>
<th>Total BHH Target</th>
<th>Cumulative BHHs selected and verified</th>
<th>HH asset/Cash Support</th>
<th>HH received IGA/Training*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ActionAid</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>3,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IC (Rangpur)</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>2,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MJ SKS</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>1,904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDP</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1,060</td>
<td>1,055</td>
<td>2,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUAMDO</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>2,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKS</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1,016</td>
<td>984</td>
<td>1,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,410</td>
<td>5,487</td>
<td>5,449</td>
<td>14,332</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[* HH received training for more than one IGA support]

NDP

NDP launched a vaccination campaign to immunize all livestock. NDP has also developed eight poultry vaccinators from the 42 mothers' groups to ensure poultry vaccinations in the whole project community.

There has been an emphasis this quarter on building wider linkages. Linkages have been established between BHHs and local Community Clinics, Department of Agricultural Extension, and Department of Livestock for accessing treatment facilities, crop production services and vaccination and referral services. Linkages were also developed with others NGOs such as GUK. The project is working with the local government to give beneficiaries access to 40 days work program as income generating activities.

The nutritional supplementation trial programme was concluded during this quarter. Results of the impact analysis are forthcoming.

SKS

In this quarter, the project BHHs produced and sold more than six metric tons of strawberries, worth BDT 1159690. They earned a total of BDT 2386790 from vegetables,
other fruits and IGAs. Their total income in this period was 3546480 or BDT 3604 per BHH, excluding their family consumption.

- 99 BHHs received support for different IGAs worth BDT 473874.
- SKS developed Local Service Providers and linked with the DAE.
- The project has had a number of external visitors including the Upazila Agricultural Officer, Dr. Abdul Kader, Professor, Bangladesh Agricultural University, district representatives of the Machranga and the Somay (TV satellite channel) documenting strawberry production, and also Dr Abdul Momen. Professor, Department of Economics, Dhaka University.

**MJSKS**

- Vaccinations and deworming of BHH livestock was carried out by Local Livestock Workers (LLW).
- In this quarter supplementary IGA procurement was completed for 24 BHHs. A final 363 BHHs also procured a final asset – goat, sheep, chicken, duck or small business – from their final BDT 6200 allocation.
- 50 cattle were artificially inseminated in this quarter. Another 28 cattle were repeat inseminated. 21 of the cattle were inseminated naturally.

**HSI – Rangpur**

- In this quarter, a total of 290 BHHs received assets and working capital support for starting their supplementary IGAs by which 86 BHHs received goat/sheep; 101 BHHs received vans, 103 BHHs received working capital for various types of IGAs like grocery shop, handicrafts, hand fan making, barber shop, land lease, cloth business, fish business, cycle maker, ferry, wood business and rice business.
- A total of 40 BHHs received support for land lease with a view to year round crop production. They leased a total of 571 decimal of land through project support of BDT 7500 and their own contribution.
- 3 further households affected by a riot in two villages under Chatra union of Pirganj Upazila were rehabilitated through asset distribution in this quarter.
- 22 biogas plants for cooking are in operation, covering 87 BHHs, while 5 lighting plants are in operation, covering 92 BHHs and 150 non BHHs.

**PUAMDO**

- During this quarter 267 BHHs purchased 267 livestock (fattening, milking) worth BDT 1950000. Of this the project supported BDT 1303500 and the rest was contributed by the beneficiaries.
- From 526 BHHs there was average earning of BDT 6998 in this quarter, a majority are reinvesting in livestock and 90 BHHs leased/redeemed or purchased a total of 1721 decimals.
- Dialogue with local government continues, and the project conducted an advocacy meeting with the Chairman of Baligata and Dhoranji on safety net issues.
Action Aid Bangladesh

- In January and February project beneficiaries harvested a total of 13.512 metric tons of crops.
- The project continues to strengthen linkages with market actors, local service providers and other NGOs to ensure the sustainability of interventions.
- 54 formal cluster/group committees were formed with Project beneficiary households.

Innovation Fund Round 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NGO</th>
<th>Total BHH Target</th>
<th>Cumulative BHHs selected and verified</th>
<th>HH asset/Cash Support</th>
<th>HH received IGA/Training*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADD</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOSS</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concern</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUK</td>
<td>1160</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan Bangladesh</td>
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<td>501</td>
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<td>676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCF-USA</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSS</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7,160</td>
<td>1,966</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>1,324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[* HH received training for more than one IGA support] 

PLAN

- During this period a savings scheme has been established which enables children to deposit and withdraw from different DICs. A total of 325 street children are depositing savings and the total amount saved is BDT 158802 which is BDT 489 on average.
- 97 street children completed vocational skill training courses during this period and 29 street children got jobs after completion of vocational training
- ID cards were distributed to targeted children
- A relationship has been developed with Qube, who are planning to donate computers and internet access to each Drop in Centre (DIC).

ADD

- During this quarter 5 trained beneficiaries got jobs in different garment factories in Bounibadh.
- ADD staff visited 4 garments factories to follow up on employment progress and explore the possibility of further working together.
- 6 beneficiaries received training in Tejgaon PANAH center while 7 beneficiaries received training from Bouniabadh PAANAH center on garments sewing operation.
Save the Children

- A total of 65 peer groups have been formed during the reporting month, with 12-15 adolescent girls in each group. An average 25 learning sessions have been facilitated in each peer group on adolescent life skill, disaster management, health and hygiene, saving and business planning skill by peer educators.
- Peer educators received comprehensive training on facilitation and peer group management.

GUK

- 74 BHHs were selected and verified by shiree in this quarter. 93 further BHHs were selected and submitted to Shiree for verification.
- GUK organized project briefing sessions at 3 new unions of Gaibandha Sadar Upazila.
- 205 BHHs (Female-84, Male-121) family development plans were prepared in this quarter and input support will be started from April 2012 at the household level.

BOSS

- In this quarter 242 selected BHHs were approved by Shiree after verification.
- 104 BHHs received IGAs worth of BDT 452093, with a broad range of IGAs, and beneficiaries also started homestead gardening.
- In this quarter, BHHs groups have saved BDT 28740 as a part of weekly savings scheme and BDT 431615 was reinvested by BHHs on different IGAs.
- To strengthen local linkages, four dialogue sessions were organized with the Union Parishad. Five members of BHHs were found employment in a local cotton mill by the project.

SSS

- 5 units of three-tier and 5 units of two-tier farming structures were completed during this quarter.
- 3 on-board trainings on tier farming were arranged for 72 trainees in January and these were conducted by Upazila fisheries officer, Upazila livestock officer and Shidhulai agriculture officers.
- 48 BHHs were supported for the leasing of 600 decimal of land for the cultivation of sugarcane and intercrop with potato, onion etc. Seeds, fertilizer and other inputs were supplied for this.

Concern

- The Ananda Bazar central kitchen was moved to Malibagh Chowdhurypara, to date it is working with 2 Mobile Food Carts and two handheld boxes, these are operating in Bangabandhu Stadium and at the University of Dhaka. A third Cart was stolen by a beneficiary.
- CMS 1 data has been uploaded by the project team and a list of new beneficiaries is being identified for Mirpur area.
Innovation Fund Round 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NGO</th>
<th>Total BHH</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Cumulative BHHs selected and verified</th>
<th>HH asset/Cash Support</th>
<th>HH received IGA/Training*</th>
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<tr>
<td>Eco-Dev</td>
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<td>650</td>
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<td>750</td>
<td>379</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>7,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,429</strong></td>
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Project orientation and shiree induction workshops for project teams of Green Hill, Tarango, PRIP Trust, Handicap International and Save the Children were conducted during the reporting report.

Beneficiary selection criteria of all IF-4 projects were finalized with the support of shiree operation team and according to these selection criteria 4 partner NGOs selected potential beneficiaries and another 4 partners are involved in beneficiary selection process. A total of 1679 BHHs were submitted (Eco. Dev-400 HHs; Tarango-379 HHs, Green Hill-600 HHs and iDE 300 HHs) and all were approved by the team. The remaining IFR 4 projects will submit next month.

A two day Orientation on CMS1 was organized for staff of IFR 4 partners (Eco.Dev, Green Hill, Tarago and iDE). The shiree team facilitated the orientation and field exercise of the questionnaire, providing a hands-on practice opportunity. After orientation, the survey questionnaire was finalized. For those NGOs with verified beneficiaries, CMS1 data collection is ongoing, and IGA plans are being developed.

**OUTPUT 3 – INCREASING CONSISTENCY IN THE UNDERSTANDING, SHARING AND APPLICATION OF APPROACHES TO ADDRESSING EXTREME POVERTY**

During this period the shiree team closely supported the development and implementation of CMS 1 with new partner NGOs, while the CMS 3 annual nutritional and socio-anthropometric survey was conducted with Scale Fund partners. In consort with the CMS 3 survey, end line surveys were also conducted with Innovation Fund Round 1 and 2 partner NGOs. A number of new research officers and associates were appointed and working papers and life histories continued to be developed. A comprehensive terms of reference (ToR) was developed for the roll out of CMS 2 and an EPRG was also held in February.
This period saw a shift in management of shiree’s Change Monitoring System (CMS) towards NGOs. Bilateral meetings with each Scale Fund partner were held during this quarter, with work plans developed emphasizing NGOs/projects responsibility for data collection, entry, analysis and report preparation.

**PROGRESS IN SPECIFIC CMS COMPONENTS**

**CMS1 is the baseline survey or ‘household profile’**

A new CMS1 questionnaire was designed in English and translated into Bangla. Orientation on the questionnaire and data collection methods was carried out for 2 organizations of SFR 2 and 4 organizations of IFR 4. The new CMS1 questionnaire is easily compatible with CMS3 and provides opportunities to analyze women’s ownership in terms of income, savings and assets. Both the Scale Fund organizations who received the orientation have already started data collection among their selected and shiree verified beneficiary households. Development of data entry software is progressing.

**CMS2 is a monthly snapshot of all BHHs across the entire shiree portfolio**

CMS 2 piloting continued for the entire reporting period. A draft roll out plan and new questionnaire were prepared on the basis of NGO feedback. A draft ToR has also been developed for procuring consultancy services to develop a new mobile based application and capacity building support.

The roll out plan outlines a comprehensive system to enable CMS2 data collection at a large scale using Android based mobile handsets. This is an upgrade from the pilot phase Java based phones. Android handsets provide a more efficient user experience with touch screen interfaces and also higher processing speeds. They also have higher memory capacity which makes them more resistant in case of bad network or server disruption. The handsets will also enable further applications, increasing the future potentiality of the system.

**CMS3 is a panel survey based on statistically significant sample of all scale fund beneficiaries. It involves a socio-economic survey along with an annual anthropometric survey.**

During the reporting period an annual socio-economic and anthropometric panel survey was carried out in all 9 organizations of scale fund rounds 1 and 2, involving 28 enumerators, 9 research assistants and other shiree staff. Data entry of these organizations was also completed during the field survey. The draft panel survey report of July 2011 was also completed by Prof. Nick Mascie-Taylor of Cambridge University during this quarter. It has been decided that now onwards only annual CMS3 surveys along with anthropometric surveys will be carried out in all 9 scale fund organizations.

**CMS 4: participatory reflection sessions**

The first CMS 4 interventions are scheduled for April. A number of NGOs completed the self-review workshops from the final 2011 CMS 4 round in January.
CMS 5: life tracking studies

During this period research officers worked to finalize their first set of tracking studies. At the end of February each gave a presentation on some of their key findings and received feedback from Lucia Da Corta from the University of Bath. The 36 reflection on the intervention documents are at the last stages of editing before being published through the website.

During the orientation of the new research officers in early March, the five new researchers were given in depth training into life histories. They began conducting focus group discussion in the following weeks before selecting their six beneficiaries and conducting the life history research.

It was decided that the innovation fund research officers would work with other shiree partner NGOs in order to enrich their findings by drawing on the experiences of others. For this purpose iDE opted to work with the two Save the Children innovation fund projects, whilst ADD selected Handicap International and Help Age International.

CMS 6: NGO Monthly output reporting

NGOs continued to report monthly data during this period, which was used to meet internal needs and external reporting requirements – including for GoB reporting.

Assessment of IFR1 & IFR2 projects and Lesson Learning Reports

Lesson Learning reports have been started for each IFR 1 and 2 NGO, collating project documents and CMS findings. Connected to this field surveys of all 12 IFR 1 and 2 projects were carried out to assess impact against the baseline and assess potentiality to scale up. Field surveys were managed by the shiree team using trained enumerators and Research Assistants of PNGOs. The survey questionnaire was designed by a faculty member of Cambridge University and most of the data entry was also completed during the field work.

CMS 3 survey in Chittagong Hill Tract
Example findings from CMS2 Pilot Phase II

CMS2: Household income changes over the three months (Jan'12 vs. Mar'12)

Total household visited: January: 7,370 March: 4,553

CMS2: Household Savings changes over the three months (Jan'12 vs. Mar'12)
Graduation
The DSU has continued its work on developing shiree's understanding and position on graduation from extreme poverty. A draft working paper was produced following field testing in an urban context and is in the process of being reviewed by the shiree team and DFID.

Extreme Poverty Research Group (EPRG)
The sixth EPRG was held on the 26th February at Summer Place in Baridhara. The event welcomed a high level of participation from shiree Scale and Innovation fund partners, DFID and other DFID-funded extreme poverty programmes including BRAC and UPPR (47 participants in total).

The morning started with Lucia Da Corta presenting shiree's CMS5 tracking studies, the methodology behind them and the value they hold in understanding processes of graduation from extreme poverty. Four research officers from Scale Fund projects then presented a case study from each of their life histories, followed by questions from the audience. Kishore Singh of UPPR presented on extreme urban poverty indicators, exploring the comparison between urban and rural extreme poverty and differences in the struggles the extreme urban poor have to face. His presentation was followed by Khaleda Khanome from BRAC who presented her findings from BRAC’s Gender Equality Action Learning Programme and its impact on intergenerational poverty.

Working Papers
During this period all six Scale Fund Round 1 research officers continued conducting research for their second working paper (Phase 2). A midway sharing session was conducted at the end of February with Lucia Da Corta from the University of Bath to discuss early experiences and provide feedback. This phase of research is expected to be finished by May when a phase three of research packages is due to start with all 12 research officers (Scale and Innovation Fund).

Practical Action Bangladesh also finalized their first working paper, entitled “Accessing and Retaining Access to the Sandbars by the Extreme Poor: Experiences from the Practical Action Project” during this period.

Recruitment of new Research Officers
The three new Scale Fund projects (Oxfam, Concern and Caritas) recruited research officers and research associates during this period. In addition to this a selection of Innovation Fund NGOs from round three and four (ADD, IDE and Eco-Development) were also funded to appoint research officers to boost the research outputs across the Innovation Fund. To date all have been recruited with the exception of Eco-Development, and this is in process.

Other research activities
Shiree provided logistical and technical support to a researcher through the University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh, to explore climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction understanding and practices in Shushilan, Save the Children and Uttaran.

Two Master students from Harvard University were involved in conducting an analysis on the potential of real time management information (CMS2).
OUTPUT 4 - POLICY AND PRACTICE AT LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS SHOWS INCREASING RECOGNITION OF THE NEEDS OF THE EXTREME POOR

A number of important new relationships have been formed to push forward Shiree’s advocacy work during this quarter.

- Shiree developed an advocacy steering committee to foster collaboration and learning across DFID’s extreme poverty programmes.
- MoUs with the Government of Bangladesh progressed. Draft MOUs were sent to the Department of Agricultural Extensions, Department of Youth Development, Department of Livestock and Fisheries. Discussions with these departments are progressing. The current advice of the Project Director is to convene a cross ministerial meeting with concerned departments to expedite signing of MOUs.
- Private sector engagement continues. Meetings were held with several private sector companies to explore synergies. Discussions related to the upcoming fair were also discussed. Companies include: Queue, Airtel, AK Khan, IDLC, MTB, CityCell.
- Health sector engagement has developed. Shiree are exploring potential partnerships with Standard Chartered Bank, and the Sightsavers International assisted project “Dhaka Urban Comprehensive Eyecare Project (DUCCEP)” to restore avoidable blindness in urban slum areas in Dhaka city.

New shiree website
Key communication outputs:

- Changemaker documentaries. Ten videos on change makers across the country were aired on national television. Estimated several million viewers watched this and learnt about the activities helping the poorest. Those videos are available on the YouTube channel of shiree [http://www.youtube.com/user/povertytube](http://www.youtube.com/user/povertytube)
- Op ed campaign continued. Several op eds were printed in Daily Star and an agreement was made to print op eds in Bangla in Prothom Alo.
- New shiree website. A new website is to be launched by May 2012, intense preparatory work for this was conducted during this period.

In addition to this shiree has continued its work encouraging research students and working with academic institutions. 20 students from a BRAC policy advocacy course visited beneficiaries of the Aid Comilla project.
Recruitment
An Accounts Manager joined the team in February. The Accounts Manager is responsible for maintaining and monitoring grantee NGOs budgets, ensuring financial transactions operate in an effective, transparent and efficient manner. Along with other team members a key role is ensuring that there is no fraud or corruption in any financial activities within shiree and partner NGOs. The Accounts Manager reports to the CFO.

In addition to this, the HR department is in the process of recruiting another Accounts Manager to support the nutrition Intervention.

Staff Appraisal
From January management began implementing staff appraisals. These are designed so that all staff are provided with feedback by colleagues and line managers on areas of strength, where there is space for development and what support is required by management.

To facilitate this appraisal process the HR Manager prepared individual appraisal forms for all staff by reviewing ToRs, and sharing with staff for comments and additions. Staff distributed his/her own form among appraisers, who then submitted the marked forms to the HR Manager to consolidate marks and comments. Interviews for all staff with their respective Line Manager in the presence of the HR Manager will be started in April. Staff will be asked to judge their average for each criterion and share their views or comments.

Volunteer/Intern
A volunteer joined shiree in March. She will work directly under the guidance of the Head of Advocacy and will be responsible for translation of communications work between Bangla and English, and for contributing to other key advocacy and communications activities. She reports to the Communications Manager.
FINANCIAL REVIEW

The CEO and CFO have undertaken a fundamental review of shiree programme resourcing over the entire 8 years (i.e. 4 years historical analysis and 4 years projection). A report and proposal has been submitted to DFID and there were several review and feedback meetings during this quarter. The team also supported Harewelle in the preparation of budgets for the nutrition component, expected to be approved for contract amendment in the second quarter.

Fund disbursement
During this quarter the finance team disbursed a total of GBP 2,083,875. This included GBP 1,578,313 to nine Scale Fund Round 1 and 2 NGOs and GBP 505,562 to 27 Innovation Fund Round 1-4 NGOs. GBP 307,379 was disbursed as Management and Lesson Learning costs including GBP 4,597 disbursed to support the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG).

The finance team assisted in preparation of CMS3 and 12 IF I and II NGOs end line survey budgets, vehicles and other support over the survey period. The monthly accounts of EEP/shiree were checked and prepared by the finance team and the final versions forwarded to Harewelle International Ltd.

Budgets
All Scale Fund Round 1 Phase 1 NGOs had their budgets reviewed and approved for a fourth quarter. During this period the NGOs – CARE, Uttaran, Save the Children, Practical Action and DSK had their Phase 2 budgets, project memoranda and log frames reviewed by the team. CARE signed on the 7th of March.

IFR 2 partner Puamdo had their budget reviewed and a contract amendment for the 3rd year extension was signed in January. Budgets for IFR 3 partner NGOs were reviewed and meetings held with Concern, Save the Children, PLAN, ADD and BOSS.

A no cost MoU extension to complete planned 2011 activities was signed in February between shiree and PET for the All Party Parliamentary Group on extreme poverty.

Internal audits
During the period, the finance team conducted internal audits for SF 1 NGOs Uttaran, Save the Children UK, PAB, CARE Bangladesh, NETZ Bangladesh for year 3, IF 3 NGOs CWW, SC. and Plan Bangladesh.

Draft reports on Scale Fund Round 1 NGOs were shared with the respective partners, and feedback for some has been received. In IFR 2, a draft report was sent to Puamdo, received comments and has been finalised. For IFR 3, draft reports were commented on and finalised for ADD, Plan and BOSS, SSS draft is yet to receive a management response.
External audit reports

EEP/shiree finance team is in the process of finalising the external audit report of Three Scale Fund NGOs for the second year, while those for DSK, PAB and NETZ have been completed. The team is also in the process of finalising the external audit reports of eleven Innovation Fund NGOs for the second year. Finalised external audit reports have been completed for HKI, ICI, CNRS, NDP, Aid Comilla, Shushilan, MJ SKS, SKS and ICII for their second year of the project. Finalisation of those for AAB and Green Hill is ongoing.

External audit of EEP/shiree

EEP/shiree and PMTC shared the Terms of Reference with DFID and Harewelle International Limited for the period of January - December 2011. It was decided by the team that the audit will be conducted by the previously selected audit firm - S.F. Ahmed & Co, who were appointed by PMTC in March.

Other

In addition, the team continued to report as required to the GoB. Induction workshops were held for SFR 2 and IFR 4 NGOs on finance. Shiree also procured 5 laptops, 2 printers and 2 UPS during this period.

Visit to BRAC’s Gender Quality Action Learning (GQAL) Programme
ANNEX 1: DISTRICT AND BENEFICIARY HOUSEHOLD COVERAGE MAP

Where EEP/shiree works
District and Beneficiary Household Coverage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Type</th>
<th>BHH Target</th>
<th>Progress</th>
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<td>Scale Fund-Round 1 (Phase 1)</td>
<td>82,850</td>
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<td>Scale Fund-Round 2</td>
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<td>Innovation-Round 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150,620</td>
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LEGEND:
- Scale Fund-Round 1
- Scale Fund-Round 2
- Innovation Fund-Round 1
- Innovation Fund-Round 2
- Innovation Fund-Round 3
- Scale -1 and Innovation
- Scale -2 and Innovation
- District Boundary

Data source: MIS unt, EEP/shiree, March 2012
## EEP Workplan

### Operations

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