### Qualitative Monitoring of Shiree Interventions: CMS5 Intervention Tracking - CMS5 End-line

**Reflections on the Intervention (3) for Ashraful Islam**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Shiree Q2 Research on Extreme Poverty in Bangladesh</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Author</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Institute</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CMS 1 Reference</strong></td>
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**Interviewee name**
- **Name:** Ashraful Islam
- **Sex:** Male
- **Age:** 50 (Y)
- **Ethnicity/Religion:** Bangladeshi Muslim

**Union, Upazila and Zila**
- **Current Address:** Upazilla: Gongachara, Zilla: Rangpur, Division: Rangpur
- **Permanent Address:** Upazilla: Gongachara, Zilla: Rangpur, Division: Rangpur

**Date of Interview**
- July 01, 2015

**Well-being Status**
- **Sep-Oct 2010** (Just before the intervention): Working Extreme Poor (2)
- **April 2012** (after 18 months of intervention): Working Extreme Poor (2)
- **Jul-Aug 2013** (after 34 months of intervention): Working Extreme Poor (2)
- **Jun-Jul 2015** (after 56 months of intervention): Moderate Poor (3)

**Livelihoods before and after the intervention**

**Before the intervention**
- 1. **Ashraful**
  - Agriculture labor
- 2. **Wife**
  - Agriculture labor
- 2. **Domestic servant** (work post-harvest processing, cleaning, cloth and utensil cleaning)
- 3. **Daughters**
  - Live on domestic service

**After the intervention**

- 1. **Ashraful**
  - Agriculture labor
- 2. **Wife**
  - Agriculture labor
- 2. **Pumpkin cultivation in pit methods on sandbar.**
- 3. **Cow rearing on share**
- 3. **Domestic labor**
- 3. **Daughters**
  - Live on domestic service

- 1. **Ashraful**
  - Agriculture labor
- 2. **Wife**
  - Agriculture labor
- 3. **Elder daughter (20 Y)**
  - Married
- 4. **second daughter (14 Y)**
  - Married
- 5. **Third daughter (10 Y)**
  - Work as a domestic servant
- 6. **Forth daughter (7 Y)**
  - Work as a domestic servant
INTRODUCTION:

Ashraful, 50 years old agricultural labor comes from an extreme poor family. His father died of while he was a child. After his father's death, the family fell in big trouble as he was (father) the main earner. His mother took a job (domestic servant) to survive the family. The family did not inherit any family property as they had not any financial savings or other physical assets. Due the financial hardship, he (Ashraful) had to take informal job (agricultural labor) in his childhood. The family had to survive on very little income. Due to the devastating river bank erosion of the mighty river “Tista” the family lost all their belongings and had to take shelter on the embankment. His elder brother got married and got separated from their joint family composition. He (Ashraful) was able to make some savings. However, the family faced a health shock as his mother got sick. She had to go through surgical procedures which require notable monetary cost. Ashraful got married to a girl named “Tahura”. His wife was an energetic woman and contributed much to the family through working as an agricultural labor. They had five children. Due to the larger family size, they were hardly managed to survive themselves. Even, they used to undergo starvation. As a way-out, they decided to send
their elder children (daughters) to a rich family as domestic servants. In 2009, he had been selected as Shiree project beneficiary by Practical Action Bangladesh (PAB)’s intervention. He had received a total of BDT 14373 till 2011 both in cash and training.

**WELL-BEING STATUS OF THE FAMILY AT THE ENDLINE:**

The well-being status of the family was measured by three basic elements i.e. diets, employment and assets (income generating). We have described what extent the family corresponds to three elements.

The family well-being of the family has improved over the years. The family had managed to create some savings and had invested for leasing in 3 bigha of farming land. They are growing paddy in that land which increase their food security and created scope for self-employment. They have also improved their diet. In below we are providing a chart describing the family well-being based on three elements – Diet, household assets and employment. We presented all three aspects in the following table.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<td>Diet</td>
<td>Took 3 meals per day comprising rice, vegetable, fish, egg, and meat. Hardly drop one deal during the lean period (monga). The most common food items are rice and vegetable. They took fish twice in a week and meat once in a month.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>They work as an agricultural labor. However, they have also small income generating assets. They remain unemployed during the lean period (monga).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Household assets</td>
<td>They have some income generating assets (leased in land).</td>
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QUALITATIVE MONITORING OF SHIREE INTERVENTIONS: CMS5 INTERVENTION TRACKING - CMS5 End-line

IDENTIFICATION OF VULNERABILITY SOURCES AND LEVEL OF EXPOSURE TO/PREPAREDNESS FOR HAZARD:

Recent turning points in the life of beneficiary in the last year:

Ashraful’s family experienced a couple of hazard and shock in last few years. The hazard and shocks affected the well-being status of the family negatively. The most notable hazard and shocks includes the sudden illness of his wife. His wife developed typhoid fever and initially visited UHC (Upazila Health Complex). Afterwards, they decided to leave the hospital following being neglected by the hospital doctors and nurses. According to the husband “my wife was not treated well in that government hospital. The condition of the patient was not improving. We were there for 3 days. But we have hardly met a doctor emphatic for the patient. The service of the hospital was not useful. That hospital is not for poor.” Later, they decided to bring back the patient at their home and sought treatment from a village doctor. Finally, they sought care from a traditional healer. Following the treatment procedure by the traditional healer, the patient got well. That event required a total of BDT 1700 as medical expense. The second notable event was the return of their elder daughter from her husband’s residence. The elder daughter of the beneficiary was injured due to the hurt by her husband. Afterward, the son-in-law sent their daughter to their home forcefully. It took BDT 900 as a treatment cost. The third hazard they faced in the last year was the flood. Their home stead went under water due to the flood and they had to move to the embankment for few days. We have listed down the hazard and shocks in the following table.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Hazards</th>
<th>Shocks</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<td>Flood</td>
<td>Wife’s illness (Typhoid fever)</td>
<td>Daughter’s injury by the law’s</td>
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<td>Hard physical labor</td>
<td>Loss of income</td>
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Summary of changes: In the past one year, the family has gone through a couple of events contributed to their over-all well-being. The most notable changes that have positively affected the well-being of the family are described below.
Changes

- Leased in 3 bigha cultivable land in char for paddy cultivation
- Become a member of saving group facilitated by PAB. They have been depositing BDT 30 in each month.
- Have a cash saving of BDT 3000
- Wife’s illness

Impacts

- It is expected to grow 45 mond of rice. This will ensure the family’s yearlong food stuff. Additionally, it they will sell the surplus rice
- Will be useful for managing shocks and hazards
- Sent considerable money for treatment of wife’s and daughter’s illness

Income and expenditure: Both the husband and wife are involved in cash earning activities. They live on their labor. Each day, in pick season (harvesting season) they can earn BDT 400-500 together as an agriculture labor. However, they mentioned that in lean period (Monga) they don’t have work. In that case, the husband goes to Cumilla (name of district in eastern Bangladesh) to search for work. He work there 15-30 days and earn BDT 3000-5000. The family save some money during the pick season and spend during the lean period (monga).

PROGNOSIS FOR FUTURE RESILIENCE:

Ashraful’s family has shown up-ward mobility over the past years. The family has established a good base by mortgaging cropland; therefore, ensure yearlong food security. They have developed and maintaining good communication with relatives who might be a source supports in adverse situations. In fact, good social connection/network helped them to get this cropland with low price. However, the family has some sorts of vulnerabilities as they have no homestead land. They are residing on the embankment owned by the government. The family may face big adverse if the govt. take initiative to evict the settlement from the embankment.
although the possibility seems to be less according to them. Another aspect might be important for future competence in coping up with shocks and hazard. The husband is getting elder even he is still 50 years old; therefore, he might lose his key productive assets (labor capacity) due his old age. He might not be physically active to sell his labor to earn. In that respect the resilience of the family might decrease in future if they fail to arrange alternation means of livelihood in that case. We have chalked out a table to show resilience and coping up mechanism of the family.

Resilience and coping up mechanism:

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<th>Name: Ashraful</th>
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| 01 | Govt. may evict from the embankment in case of repair work/development of the embankment | Low | High | • Saving some money so that they can buy cheap char land for homestead.  
• Maintain good relation to nephew. He can help in crisis period. |
| 02 | No work in consecutive 3 month (Monga). | Moderate | Moderate | • Keep aside some earn and spend it during that time. |
| 03 | Homestead may go underwater due to flood. | Moderate | Low | • Preparation for moving on the top of the embankment for some days (nearly 1 week)  
• Have preparation to move temporarily for some days. |
| 04 | Wife caught typhoid fever | Moderate | Moderate | • Visited doctors and spent savings for treatment |

ANALYSIS:

The family has undergone a couple of adverse event over the past years. Throughout this time, they had shown high level of resilience. The family has improved their well-being because of favorable societal condition such as they managed to mortgage 3 bighas cultivable land in char area with minimal price. Physical fitness of both husband and wife favored to earn on regular basis. Regular communication with program
people (PAB) helped to be a member of a saving group. Although they save very little amount (BDT 30 per month), they can maintain a routine communication with the program people as well as the community member. This savings might be helpful for increasing competence in an adverse situation in future. Overall, the family was able to bring its well-being from level 2 (working extreme poor) to level 3 (moderate poor) in past two years. On order to evaluate overall situation of the family, we have presented a SWOT analysis below.

**SWOT Analysis**

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