Booklet
Access to Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (ASWASH) Project

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Access to Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (ASWASH) Project

Duration: October 2014 to December 2015

Implemented by
DALIT, Khulna

Financial support by
ICCO COOPERATION

Others support
Bangladesh WASH Alliance
AIMS Bangladesh
Preface of the project:
DALIT had started Water, Sanitation, Arsenic mitigation and Hygiene promotion since 2003 through community led integrated, participatory and empowering approach. Since October 2012, DALIT has been implementing the ASWASH project at some part of ward no. 5 and whole ward no. 6 through the financial and technical support of ICCO COOPERATION. The geographic coverage of the project is one ward of Jamira Union of Phultala Upazila in Khulna district. On the basis of the previous experience of this project, proposed next phase (October 2014 to September 2015) is being implemented to bring change in others wards of the Jamira Union.

Project target groups:
The project has covered 9 wards of the Jamira union where total households are 7289 and the total population is 31562. Among the total population women is 15879 and men is 15773. The whole population of the area is the direct target people of the project. Our target populations are both male and female groups, however, emphasis is given to female as well as vulnerable groups as like person with disability and socially excluded groups.
Project Goal:
To contribute to achieving the MDG 7 in Bangladesh, especially among the Underprivileged people.

Specific Objective:
Increase the access to safe drinking water and to hygienic toilet, disseminating information on hygiene and menstrual practice in the working area of the project.

Expected Result:
1. Access to safe drinking water increased by minimum 50% in the working area
2. Provision to have hygiene and sustainable toilet increased by 40% in the working area
3. Hygiene practices (hand washing and use of sanitary napkins) increased by minimum 25% among men, women and children
Major Stakeholders

- Watch Committee - 09
- Male Group - 27
- Female Group - 27
- School Teacher - 40
- School Management Committee - 10
- Adolescent Volunteer - 60
- Adolescent School Student - 660
- Sanitary Entrepreneur - 03
- Women Entrepreneur - 01
- Union WatSan Committee - 01
- Tube Well caretaker committee - 24
Major Activities of the project:

- Monthly meeting with male, female and watch committee
- Identification and training of adolescent girl’s volunteers
- Orientation to School Teachers and School Management Committee
- Deep tube well installation
- Repairing of existing deep tube well
- Public / Institution level toilets installation
- Sanitary Entrepreneurs development
- Women Entrepreneur development on sanitary napkin
- Celebration of National and International Day
Important changes by the project (Significant Achievement)
Since 2012, at the beginning of the project, 53 DTWs were installed with fully functioning. Coming at the end of the project in 2015, 372 DTWs have been installed and all of them are functioning with quality. So these figures are very much clear to increase the drinking water sources in our working area. ASWASH project has installed 17 DTWs out of 372 DTWs. Rest of the DTWs are installed by the people, Union Parishad through HYSAWA project, DPHE and others like-minded NGOs in our working area.
It is to mention that four years ago there were only 53 DTW with few STW and more than 66% household used pond water for domestic purpose but currently 100% are drinking water from DTW and 99% are using for domestic work and only 1% is using other sources. We think that maximum result has been achieved under the project with the cooperation of relevant stakeholders.
From the beginning of the second phase of the project in October 2014 improve latrine users were 59.5% and current users of improved latrine are 79.6% and maximum latrine has been cleaned by the house owner willingly (male & female are both). Every sanitary latrine users are keeping soap and water in the toilet.
Presently 100% people of ward no 5 & 6 of Jamira union are using improve latrine with the hygienic condition. Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Fultala Upazila under Khulna district has declared 100% sanitation coverage of those wards of Jamira union which was held on 22 December 2015 with a declaration ceremony. Assistant Engineer of DPHE, UFPO, UWAO and Representative of ICCO COOPERATION were present. Mr. Waliar Rahman, Acting Chairman of Jamira Union Parishad was chaired for this declaration ceremony.
At the beginning of the project 4% people did open defecation but now anybody does not open defecation in the Jamira Union and their environmental situation is very healthy and clean.
At the beginning of the project, tippy tap was not used in our working area but now 5466 households (75%) are using tippy tap out of 7289 households for hand washing in five critical times in our working area. It's a remarkable and significant change in hand washing practice of the project. So we believe that Tippy Tap can enhance hand washing practice into any community.
20% women and adolescent girls are using the sanitary napkin and people don't feel shy about a discussion on menstrual hygiene to the community, any event and meeting in our working area. On the other side, every selected school are keeping sanitary napkin to meet the emergency need of adolescent girl students. Adolescent Girls Volunteers are motivating the community people through counselling at the household level and Adolescent Girl Students and Women Teachers at School level.
Some challenges

- Since October 2012, DALIT has been implementing the ASWASH project at some part of ward no. 5 and whole ward no. 6 in Jamira union and during this period we have installed 350 latrines in those area but the current year we have not provided any latrine to the community peoples in the Jamira Union. In this connection, we faced the public dissatisfaction about this issue.

- Natural calamity especially heavy rainfall in our project area.

- Political instability is one of the worst challenges we have met. The turmoil situation made our work very hard because we always had planned to execute things within the time frame. So, due to political turmoil, we have to reorganize everything we planned earlier. The product price is raising and working conditions are going badly for us sometimes. Now, those situations have passed and we are now getting back on track.
Some lessons learned of the project
Under this project, we have formed 9 watch committees (each ward one committee) and we have been able to develop a close relationship with them and thus we have been able to motivate them easily. As a result, they have played a pioneering role in community mobilization by accelerating the sanitary coverage from 59.5% to 79.6%. Thus, we get the lesson that a good relation with the community which made our task easy.
We have mobilized 660 adolescent girl students on menstrual hygiene issue. As a result, they have easily made women and adolescent girls of the community fully aware regarding this which is a significant achievement of this project. From this reason, we can say that expected result can easily be achieved if an acceptable person of the community can be utilized.
In our project area, 75% household are now using tippy tap for hand washing which is a great achievement. They have used local raw materials to make tippy tap. It is easy to make and costs a little. Proper technology can change behavior in daily life such as Tippy Tap can ensure hand washing in five critical times.
In our project area, both male and female committees have been formed, but it is seen that women have played a more significant role than males regarding community mobilization. Women volunteers are more active at the community level.
CBO and LGIs can motivate or promote any type of development issue at community level easily because they have access to the community people.
Best practice under the project

Tippy Tap can enhance hand washing practice

Background
Das Para situated under Piprail village and ward no. 6 of Jamira union of Phultala Upazila where some Dalit community people live. Their living condition is not standard as like others. They don't have any general profession like others. Most of them have no land for cultivation. So, they have to depend on preparing bamboo made goods which they are doing traditionally and generation to generation. In this Das Para, there are 57 households where a total of 129 male and 122 female live. During the month of October 2012 when Dalit starts its project named "Access to Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene"; most of the families didn't have access to hygienic latrines. They were careless about hygienic latrines. But, after launching of 'ASWASH' Project, people are getting motivated to install hygienic latrines.
**Dalit’s Initiatives**

From the strategic point of view, Dalit has formed 01 Watch Committee, 03 male and 03 female groups to implement the project activities at ward level. Dalit has continued conducting regular monthly meetings with these groups to disseminate different messages through these committees. The watch committee is the key committee to carry out all the project related activities of respective ward. Following the process, same level of committee and groups have been formed also at ward no. 06.

Throughout these committees, Das Para community has come to know about 'Tippy Tap'. They have shown the community how to install a tippy tap and what benefits the community can get by installing a tippy tap. This is how tippy tap was introduced to the community. The surrounding HHs also realized that this is a very effective way to make sure they can wash their both hands with soap after defecation.

**Changes on the Ground**

So, finally from the above stated short success story, we can easily assess that installation of locally made Tippy Tap that can enhance hand washing practice. Even if it is installed near home where generally we wash our hands before taking food, it can enhance hand washing practices before taking food. The reason lies behind this success is availability of materials locally, and community mobilization by the committee members. If we can make the community understand the benefits, they will get accustomed to practicing any behavior, and they will take charge of the rest.

_Dipti Rani Das, a school student of ‘Das Para’ said, "I have tried several times to have a water source near or inside our latrine, but didn’t have a solution on that. But, this tippy tap has given me that solution. Now, I am very much happy to have such a hand washing solution. By using this, I feel that my personal hygiene has been improved and bad smell is not coming from my hands as I am using soap while washing my hands after defecation."_
Energy Globe Award

DALIT has received the Energy Globe award from the Embassy of Austria in New Delhi, India on 18th June 2015. The award was provided for the work of DALIT through ‘Access to Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene’ (ASWASH) project. We would also like to take a stand to admit gratefulness and pay gratitude to ICCO Cooperation for their outstanding contribution. We also recognize the instrumental role played by Bangladesh Wash Alliance (BWA).
হাত ধোয়ার প্রক্রিয়াপূর্ণ সময়

“গু” চক্র
Dr. B. R Ambedkar
the pioneer of DALIT

The legend was born on 14th April of 1891 at the hill bed of Amvabad village in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra, India. He was born in a very low caste of India. His father was Maloji Rao Shankpal and mother was Vimbai. He was the youngest of 14 children of his parents. He lost his mother very early. His nickname was Vimrao.

He used to undergo through a lot of stress for education since his childhood. He was persecuted by his classmates in his school life. Though his classmates were allowed to sit in benches, but being an outcast he had to sit on the floor for attending classes. He had to shift to Mumbai due to his father’s transfer of service location and then he got admitted into the Elfin Stone High School. He stimulated a blast in the whole nation by passing the metric examination with a glorious result. Because continuing study and passing the metric examination of an outcast guy on these days in India was assumed as impossible. He passed the higher secondary examination from the same college and in the next phase of his life, he was graduated in 1911 by the monetary assistance of Raja Sayajirao Gaekwad. In 29th July of 1913, he got admitted to Columbia university of New York and also passed his masters degree in 1915. In 1917 he achieved Doctor of Philosophy and joined government service of Baroda as a precondition of having monetary aid. Later he worked on professorship, paper publication and editing, and lead the movement against untouchability along with other social movement. Afterward he joined the Indian politics and played a pioneering role in scripting the constitution of India. As he belonged to the DALIT community, he restlessly worked on the development of the DALIT community. So he is regarded as the pioneer of the DALIT society. In the 6th December of 1956 he left his last breath in his residence at Delhi.