

# Vulnerable Group Development (VGD)

End the Hunger









Making a difference to the extreme poor women in Bangladesh through a social safety net program



The Vulnerable group development (VGD) program has been implemented by Rural Reconstruction Foundation since its first phase started in 2009. Later on, RRF signed the agreement on 07 May, 2013 for the second time with the Department of Women Affairs of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. It is the largest social safety program of the Government of Bangladesh that exclusively targets ultra-poor households.

Rural Reconstruction Foundation has signed the agreement for the third time on 10 August, 2021 with the Department of Women Affairs of the Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh for deliver the services to 2320 VGD women from ultra-poor households receive a monthly food ration combined with a package of development services through RRF. The development support services consist of providing training on awareness such as Risk Management of Natural Disasters, Personal Hygiene and cleanliness, Mother and Child Health-Food and Nutrition, Gender equality and Women Empowerment, HIV / AIDS prevention, and similarly, IGA training provides to VGD women, savings management and may have access to credit after IGA training completion.

## Program Highlights

 Ongoing From <b>2009</b>	 Total Budget <b>14,96,850 BDT</b>	 No. of staff <b>07</b>
 Jashore Sadar & Chowgacha, Jashore District	 No. of VGD Group- <b>85</b>	 No. of beneficiaries <b>2320 Female</b>
<b>Donor:</b>  মহিলা ও শিশু বিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয় গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার	 WFP World Food Programme	

## Key Activities

- Formation of groups
- Savings collections
- Training on live skill
- Training on IGA skill
- Disbursement of credit
- Monitoring of food distribution.



## Major Achievement in 2021-22

### a. Achievement Information:

06 Trainer (F.T) has been trained to implement this project successfully. To implement the VGD program, skilled & experienced workers have been appointed through legal notification & interviews on educational qualifications & previous experience in related program. We have provided 03 days long life skill training regarding of following topics. AF Visiting food distribution & Monitoring.

### b. Information Collection:

The list of VGD women has been collected from every union parishad of Sadar, Jashore & Chowgacha Upazila. The Chairman, Members & Secretary were duly informed about the matter through official correspondence. In all activities co-operation of District & Upazila women Officer has been ensured.

### c. Training of Facilitators (TOT):

The Stillness of appointed workers have been incised by 03 days training on the related and fundamental themes. Instructions of work plan has been given to them. Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO), Deputy Director (DWAO) & Upazila Women Affairs Officer (UWAO) observes the training activities among the trainers.



## Member, Group and Life Skill Training Information:

Name of Upazila	Name of Union	Total number of beneficiary	No. of Group	Number of participants received life skill development training during this period			
				Personal hygiene and cleanliness		Mother and Child ,Health, Food and Nutrition	
				Plan	Actual	Plan	Actual
Jashore Sadar	Upasahar	110	04	90	80	90	88
	Haibatpur	112	04	92	88	92	90
	Churamon	125	04	95	90	95	92
	Arabpur	128	04	95	90	95	90
	Nowapara	157	05	115	110	115	110
	Lbutala	90	03	90	82	90	90
	Isaly	91	03	91	88	91	90
	Kasimpur	147	05	110	97	110	105
	Narndrapur	101	04	90	88	90	88
	Kochua	94	03	94	85	94	92
	Ramnagar	129	05	100	90	100	98
	Bosundia	101	04	85	80	85	82
	Deara	120	05	100	95	100	95
	Chanchra	130	04	100	90	100	98
Fatepur	135	05	100	95	100	98	
Chowgacha	Fulsara	255	10	255	210	255	235
	Hakimpur	295	10	295	240	295	285
<b>Total:</b>		<b>2320</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1798</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1926</b>



## Savings Info

**Group Formation:** According to training program each group has been formed with 2057 members. In this respect women have been deviated in to separate group to participate specific venue. In that way Savings has been collected.

**Savings Collection:** Every Woman is saving 200 taka per month. They are saving money spontaneously. Savings are being Deposited from VGD women in her own account on monthly basis in During the Food distribution period. Assisted by Bank Asia & RRF Representative. The savings status that was Deposited from VGD women for the period as given below:



Name of Upazila	Savings collection	
	Target	Achievement
Jashore Sadar	1062000	1119500
Chowgacha	330000	377350
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1392000</b>	<b>1496850</b>



## Impacts

- Help poor women overcome existing food insecurity, malnutrition, lower social status, and poverty.
- Develop skills of women through training and encourage savings to build initial capital for business
- Assist women with complementary inputs and linkage to mainstream development programs that will improve their nutrition and enhance their livelihoods and self-reliance.
- Increase women's social awareness through practical education and human development.
- Besides collecting deposits and repayments, weekly meetings also create space for discussions and advice on social issues, legal support, and domestic and enterprise problems.



## Challenges

- The poorest of the poor are excluded from IGVDG as they are often the oldest and have least physical fitness and motivation.
- In some cases few UP Chairmen who are very conservative, did not positively receive participation of the VGD women in any training session at the primary level.
- Many of the women receives the training but failed to start any IGA for family bindings or other reasons.