

# RECOVERY AND ADVANCEMENT OF INFORMAL SECTOR EMPLOYMENT (RAISE)

Empowering Futures, Elevating Lives

1

NO  
POVERTY



8

DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH



The overall vision that underpins the RAISE project is to enhance the access to earning opportunities for low-income youth, including COVID-affected youth in urban & Peri-urban areas.



Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF), with financial support from the World Bank and PKSF, has been actively involved in implementing this project since September 2022. The initiative is being executed through 22 branches of the RRF Microfinance program spread across seven districts in Bangladesh. Through the RAISE project, PKSF aims to contribute to the recovery and advancement of the informal sector, fostering economic resilience and empowerment among marginalized communities in urban and peri-urban areas. This project is designed to promote economic inclusion for low-income youth and micro-entrepreneurs residing in urban and peri-urban areas. The range of services provided includes skill acquisition through informal apprenticeships, business management training, and access to credit, among other targeted interventions. The project participants are typically low-income, less educated youth facing economic challenges in urban and peri-urban settings. The envisioned path for a participant in the economic inclusion program involves acquiring valuable skills, receiving business management training, and gaining access to credit opportunities.

## Components of the project

- Risk Management & Business Continuity (RMBC).
- Business Management Training including essential life skills and trade related technical Training
- Master Crafts Person (MCP) and Apprenticeship



## Activities & Achievements in 2022-23

### Master crafts person Training

- ▽ In FY 2022-2023 RRF provided training to total 75 Apprentice by 38 Masters crafts Persons in different 12 trades.

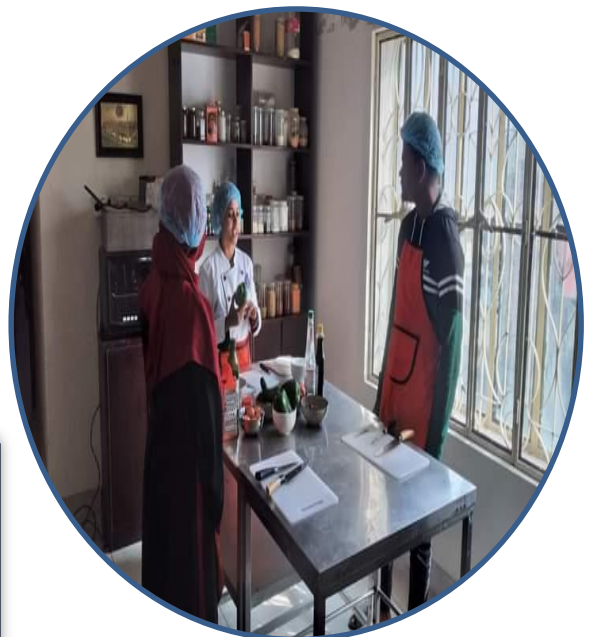


### RMBC Training

- ▽ Total 850 Participant by 42 batches were provided training under RMBC (Risk Management and Business Continuity) component. It was 3 days training.

### Life Skill Training

- ▽ A total 75 Apprentice received Life Skill training on various and duration was 5 days.



### RAISE Loan

- ▽ In FY 2022-23 total BDT 96890000 amount disbursed among 864 entrepreneurs.





## Training Honorarium

- ▽ Apprentices received a total of 21 thousand takas in 6 months in 3 installments after receiving the Training and MCP received a total of 18 thousand taka for 2 apprentices in 6 months.

## BMED Training

- ▽ A total number of 38 Masters Craft persons were given 2 days Orientation.
- ▽ Also 850 Young Entrepreneurs like as will get low interest loans and they will receive 96 hours BMED (Business Management and Entrepreneur Development) training and after training they will get 5 thousand taka.



## Program Impact



- ▽ As a result of this RAISE program the unemployed youth of the area will be able to engage themselves in work oriented professions.
- ▽ Income in the family will increase and mobility will return to the family.
- ▽ Those who affected by covid-19 have been able to resume business with low-interest loans.
- ▽ New entrepreneurs can expand their business. The country's unemployment problem will be eliminated by this RAISE program.



## Program Challenges

- ▽ Finding enough apprentice for training and activities, because at Jashore area another 4 organization implementation same project, so apprentice searching is so difficult.
- ▽ Youth Entrepreneur PKSF condition loaner age limit is up to 38, but finding under age 38, finding Entrepreneur is so tough.
- ▽ Some participant is not interested to receive training.



### AT a Glance



ONGOING FROM  
September 2022

FUND



THE WORLD BANK  
IBRD • IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP



2197 Beneficiary  
in FY 22-23



TOTAL BUDGET

Grant: BDT 11732080  
Loan: BDT 20,00,00,000

NO. OF STAFF

04



AREA COVERED

7 District  
22 Branches of RRF



### RAISE Member Talk



**Name:** Kazi Abul Basahar  
**Vill:** Murali, **Thana:** Kotowali,  
**District:** Jashore  
**Owner of**  
**'Basahar Furniture'**

Kazi Abul Basahar is a member of RRF who took the Agrashor-RAISE component loan. He shared that, 'I have business of wood furniture. My family has 7 members. Before COVID it was all fine. But when it started I couldn't open my shop. I thought it might be a matter of 2/3 months. So started to spent from my savings. At a point savings also finished and within 2 years my all savings and by selling business material I run my family. But my all capital was finished. When the situation stabled I want to start my business again and but I had no capital. My wife was a member of RRF Samity before COVID. So RRF people let us know about this RAISE loan and training with low interest rate and we took 1 lack taka loan from here and started my business again. Now day by day I am covering up my liability. In my workshop now 4 labors are working.' He thanked PKSF and RRF for organizing training on 'Risk Management & Business continuity'. Through this training he feels that this training will be very useful in his business life. Because through this training individual can know how to manage the business and what things should be avoided.