

File form: 0583-2107 Final Report for the Eagle Foundation – October 2021

Emergency food assistance for destitute people in Chuadanga District, Bangladesh

Funds received: 21/04/21

Amount of grant: GBP 15,015

Conversion rate: Exchange rate based on 1 GBP = 118.70 Bangladesh Taka (BDT) (04/03/21)

Total number of beneficiaries: 200 families (with an average 5 members) = 1,000 people in total

Expenditure: GBP 15,015

Background:

A grant from the Eagle Foundation in April 2021 enabled IMPACT Bangladesh to provide emergency food assistance to 200 families (approximately 1,000 people) whose livelihoods have been negatively affected by the pandemic. Your support could not have been more timely, coming shortly after the government imposed lockdown of 5th April. The directive to remain at home was repeatedly renewed and lasted until the first week of August. It was an enormously challenging time for the poorest families in our project areas who were unable to work and had no savings to fall back on: *'In Chuadanga, the lockdown affected mostly the low income population as they mostly earn on a daily basis. Some of the most affected people included day labourers, small business owners, road side hawkers, transport workers and rickshaw drivers'* – IMPACT Bangladesh.



Report on activities:

As soon as your grant was confirmed, IMPACT Bangladesh set about procuring the food items for the food parcels and mobilising a staff and a volunteer workforce to aid with the packaging and distribution. Each food parcel contained 30kg rice, three month's supply of potatoes; 3 kg dal (pulses); 2 litres of cooking oil; and soap.

Map of Bangladesh showing Chuadanga District highlighted. Chuadanga District in the Western Khulna division of Bangladesh shares domestic borders with Kushtia, Meherpur and Jhenaidah districts; and to its southwest lies the border with India.



Staff and volunteers preparing food parcels for distribution from the base of IMPACT Bangladesh's Chuadanga hospital

The 200 Eagle-funded food parcels were distributed to families with a member attending IMPACT Bangladesh’s well-established network of Mothers’ Clubs. IMPACT’s Mothers’ Clubs meet monthly at village level to promote key health messages and encourage take-up of action to improve nutrition, such as home-gardening and livestock rearing. The Clubs are based in communities that IMPACT’s Fieldworkers have interacted with over many years and thus aid was able to be targeted to those families who needed it most. Families with a disabled member, or sole female head of household were prioritised. We are grateful to school teachers in each area who volunteered with some of their older students to help package and distribute the parcels.

The following clubs benefitted:

Name of area	Name of villages	Number of IMPACT Mothers’ Club members & their families benefiting
Alamdanga	Gobindopur and Gorbori	50
Chuadanga Sadar	Nehalpu and Ijholgari	50
Damurhuda	Gobindohuda, Fakirpara, Chandrabash, Gopalpur	50
Jibannagar	Gangadashpur, Goyeshpur and Ujhuli	50



Socially distanced food distribution points. Local teachers and older students volunteered at each stage of the process.

Case story:

‘Jamirul is a disabled small tea shop owner. His family consists of six members, including four very young children. Being the only earner in the family it was increasingly tough to provide for the whole family, even before the full lockdown. And when the countrywide lockdown restrictions came into effect, he faced an extreme and myriad of challenges due to poverty. Like others in his community, Jamirul and his family went through a lot of hardship. He had to keep his tea shop closed. There was no customers because people were at home. Due to his precarious financial position, Jamirul had to pass the days taking loans from other people.

Fortunately, we received support from one of IMPACT UK’s donors and we were able to distribute basic food items among our Mothers’ Club members, which included the wife of Jamirul. Based on the criteria for the distribution, the most needy and disadvantaged Mothers’ Club members were chosen. Jamirul received the food package from the volunteers of IMPACT. He expressed his gratitude, saying, “I do not have to worry now. I can stay stress free for a while” – IMPACT Bangladesh.



Conclusion:

Food insecurity has been a common consequence of the pandemic globally and the effects have been sharply felt by the poorest people in Bangladesh. Thank you for your timely support which has relieved the burden for 200 of the poorest families in IMPACT Bangladesh's project areas: 'We acknowledge *the great support of the donor through IMPACT UK as it has made possible the donation of food packages to vulnerable and poor families in Chuadanga. The pandemic has had a serious economic impact on the poor people that will most likely last a long time yet and there are still many families who need this kind of support.*' – IMPACT Bangladesh.

Expenditure:

	Budget - 3 month supply for 200 families	Expenditure
Emergency food assistance parcels		
<i>30 kg rice</i>	9,600	9,600
<i>Potatoes</i>	1,200	1,200
<i>Dal (pulses) 3kg</i>	1,800	1,800
<i>Cooking oil 2 litre</i>	600	600
<i>Soap</i>	600	600
Logistics and transportation	500	500
Sub-total	14,300	14,300
Project Management @5%	715	715
Grand total	15,015	15,015

Exchange rate based on 1 GBP = 118.70 Bangladeshi Takas (04.03.21)