

informs villagers at each para regarding discussion held at VC meeting and listen to their opinion. In this way, people's participation is ensured. In addition, they can have various advices from NBDs and NGOs attending the VC meeting. Previously, villagers had little knowledge and information about the services provided from NBDs. They can now lobby to Upazila through UCC regarding the problem which cannot be solved with union level resources, such as construction of a bridge.

Interaction between villagers and NBDs through VC is another process of linkage. By means of interactions they had access to various services provided by the governmental and non-governmental institutions. Previously, very few villagers could know about when VFA would come to the village to provide vaccine to their livestock. Now it has been working well as the VC has taken up responsibility to inform villagers about vaccination programme after being informed at the UCC meeting.

10.04 Veterinary Field Assistant, Livestock Department had to provide vaccination services door to door in villages, it was difficult to cover all the area. Since UCC meeting has started, it has been helping him greatly to provide vaccination services to villagers because VCs have taken up important role to inform villagers in this matter. Villagers bring their cattle and goat to a certain place in a village in order to have them vaccinated. As a result, VFA can provide more services than before to villagers.

10.05 Many villagers bring their cattle and goat to the spot by themselves. On the other hand, villages where there is no VC, he cannot provide enough services to villagers because of time and energy constrains.

10.06 Linkage under PRDP help Building an institutional channel for agricultural extension services They usually visited farmers from door to door to contact them directly. When the UCC meeting took place in the union where they were assigned, at first they thought it was an additional burden for them. However, after attending several meetings, they could gradually understand that they could disseminate information to farmers more easily through the UCC meeting. It was a good opportunity for BS to contact many farmers at a time. They attend VC meetings and provide some technical advice to farmers. They also selected model farms with assistance from the VC. In addition to the UCC meeting, a notice board, which is placed by PRDP at various important places in the village, helps greatly to provide the farmers with information about the services delivered locally.

10.07 UCC meeting is an effective institutional set up for the purpose of coordinating the activities of various governmental and non-governmental organizations working in the same area. Through this framework, dialogue and discussions among villagers, development workers, and local representatives have started and are being strengthened. At the UCC meeting, since VC representatives present various problems of villages, all the participants can share the information and help to solve the problems.



10.08 Bottom up planning are initiated through small infrastructure schemes. Villagers have become more conscious about their obligation for rural development as they collect local UP taxes. Also, they have learned to utilize their own resources by themselves because 20% of the total estimated cost of the scheme is required as voluntary contribution of villagers.

10.09 The UCC offers an opportunity for the members to monitor activities and responsibilities undertaken by NBD staffs, UP members, and other stakeholders. For example, the UP members pointed out to the BS for inadequate performance of technical assistance to the farmers whereas the NBD workers questioned the UP members that they were not performing their responsibilities as people's representatives. As the participants of the UCC meeting monitor performances of each organizations and functionaries, sense of responsibilities has been increased.

10.10 Collaboration and information sharing among the participants has brought transparency and trust. Discussions at the UCC meeting have become more useful and interesting because the number of VC formation has increased rapidly. The budget allocation of ADP is now discussed at the UCC meeting. In addition, ADP allocation to VCs has been made in both unions through the discussion at the UCC meeting.

10.11 At the UCC meeting, members report their activities of the last month and work plans of the next month. Representatives from VCs also present villagers' needs and problems for seeking services provided by NBDs. As a result, interaction between villagers and NBD workers has increased. Particularly, NBD field staffs have become more serious about their responsibility for improving socio-economic conditions of villagers. In addition, villagers can get information regarding development activities done by Union Parishad. In this way, more accountability is ensured to both NBDs and the Union Parishad.

11.00 **Programme Sustainability :**

11.01 The approach put priority on 'link system' considering UP as the basic development unit for integrating government's efforts in rural development and identified four facets, namely, (a) creation of Village Committee, b) establishment of linkage of Village Committee with the NBDs of the government through Union and Thana Coordination Meetings (c) voluntary people's participation for micro/small scale infrastructure build-up and (d) encouraging off-farm job and income generating activities through implementation of the Link Model.

11.02 The framework emphasizes, special attention on formation of institution in one village, efficient and timely delivery of goods and services from government sources. Development of rural infrastructure to facilitate linkage between farm and non-farm sectors, promotion of indigenous technologies in farming, etc.

