

Social Forestry and Climate Change Risk Management Program

Protecting the environment and keeping the environment clean is very important for development. The environment is the habitat for the survival of human, animal and all micro-organisms and the source of natural resources. Overuse of natural resources is destroying the environment. Deforestation, land erosion, natural disasters, greenhouse effect, ocean storms are mostly caused by human's activity. Due to the degradation of the environment, poor people are facing more problems. Besides, excessive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, the fertility of the land has decreased. Poor people owning small land are more affected by this effect. Due to presence of pesticide residues in food, various unknown diseases are caused in the human body due to its effect. PROSHIKA is conducting this program with the aim of changing such life threatening conditions and mitigating the effects of climate change.

The activities of this program are: (a) Social forestry/roadside forestry (b) setting up nurseries; (c) organizing awareness raising trainings; and (d) maintaining communication with government agencies.



Road side afforestation activities by PROSHIKA

Social Forestry is one of those programs which manifest PROSHIKA's commitment to environmental protection and regeneration. The program also helps generate substantial income for those who participate in this program. Through this program, the poor achieved usufruct rights on the public as well as private land brought under this program through lease agreements with different land owning agencies and individuals.

Group members are encouraged to get involved in social forestry activities for the development of the program and add to their family income as well. PROSHIKA motivates them with necessary credit.

In this financial year (2021-2022), it has been possible to earn 6 lakh fifty eight thousand seven hundred taka from the sale of trees. Though the target of earning taka 10 lakh from the tree plantation project through social forestry program. Group members earned Tk. 2,839,800 in the financial year 2021-2022. About 75 group members benefited from the proceeds of the tree sale of this program. In the last financial year (2020-2021), Tk. three lakh 45 thousand was earned from the sale of trees. Its total beneficiaries are 45 people. It is noteworthy that this program is an employment opportunity for PROSHIKA group members.

Table: The area-wise achievement figure of this financial year is mentioned in the table below

The name of ADCs	Money received from sale of trees	Money received by PROSHIKA
Saturia	2,101,500	420,300
Brahmanbaria	512,000	102,400
Singair	185,000	46,000
Palashbari	700,000	100,000
Total	3,498,500	658,700

As shown in the table, PROSHIKA and its group members earned this money by selling trees in *Saturia, Brahmanbaria, Singair and Palashbari* development areas.

It is to be noted that in the financial year 2021-2022, taka 12 lakh 50 thousand from *Dhamrai* development area and taka 33 lakh from *Sadarpur* development area were earned from sale of trees which was deposited in the account of the respective development area, but due to administrative complications, it was not possible to distribute the money between PROSHIKA and its group members.

-----0-----