Rice cultivation in AWD method
Development Association for Self-reliance, Communication and Health in short DASCOH was founded on 15 June 1994 as a voluntary association in accordance with the Swiss Civil Code of Conduct and registered with the NGO Affairs Bureau in Bangladesh on 17 May 1995. DASCOH was transformed into a national NGO on November 14, 2013 with the name of DASCOH Foundation and registered with Joint stock Company and Firms under the Society Registration act XXI, 1860. The changed name DASCOH foundation was approved by the NGO Affairs Bureau on June 04, 2015.
DASCOH Bangladesh envisions creating and sustaining an enabling environment for ensuring equitable access to state and non-state resources in order to alleviate the sufferings of the poor people.

DASCOH Bangladesh is committed to empowering the poor and marginalized communities by facilitating the local government institutions to develop transparent, responsive and sustainable service delivery systems and processes; and through continued innovation and strengthened partnerships with international, national and community-based organizations.

One of the key strategic objectives of DASCOH is to help improve transparency, accountability and responsiveness of the local governments in delivering services within the framework of the national plans and policies.

**MISSION OF DASCOH**
Development of systems that ensure equitable access to state and non-state resources towards alleviation of poverty through promotion of community-led approaches and people’s self-help capacity.

**VISION OF DASCOH**
DASCOH envision a poverty-free society in which all members having equitable access to resources towards fostering their collectively and consciously chosen wellbeing.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND VALUES OF DASCOH**

**HUMANITARIANISM**
DASCOH promotes and delivers service for people, irrespective of ability, age, religion, ethnicity, creed, colour, caste or gender.

**PARTICIPATION**
All people have a right to dignity, respect, and fair treatment, to be heard and to take part in the decisions that influence and shape their world. DASCOH’s community approaches encourage voluntary participation.

**EQUITY**
DASCOH seeks equity in access to development outcomes through policies and practice that target those people most likely to be excluded.

**PRO-POOR**
Poverty excludes people from full participation in society. DASCOH ensures social inclusion by working with people living in absolute poverty in ways, which place them at the Centre of development interventions.

**DO NO HARM**
DASCOH believes in and preaches “do-no-harm” in program design and as such it integrates conflict sensitive approaches
GENDER PARITY
DASCOH recognizes that roles in society may be unfairly divided along gender lines that cause gender disparity in development outcomes and so nurtures gender awareness in program design, management and operation.

GOVERNANCE
Good governance is an interaction between state and non-state actors that improves accountability and transparency and is a prerequisite for equity. DASCOH actively seeks improvements in governance.

SELF-DETERMINATION
DASCOH does not impose views on the community but enhances their capabilities with information, knowledge and skills.
Organization’s thematic areas of project interventions:
DASCOH is implementing its projects under the thematic areas of a) Capacity development of the rural poor through training and practice on different issues focusing economic development, Income generation, livelihood; b) Maternal, newborn and reproductive health (MNRH); c) Child health; d) Maternal, infant and young child nutrition (MIYCN); e) Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); f) Disaster risk reduction (DRR); g) Community resilience building during pre & post emergencies and humanitarian crisis; h) Integrated water resource management; i) Water efficient technology adaptation for production increase especially for mango and rice; j) Women and children rights promotion and protection; k) Good governance / Local governance; l) Livelihood; m) Non formal education; n) Gender and inclusion.

Major activities/Core business
Develop the capacity of the beneficiaries (Mostly distressed and women population) on their economic development and livelihood improvement and income generation through training on smart agriculture, livestock rearing, savings and credit and accounting.
Ensure the safe sustainable management of water, improved environmental sanitation and personal hygiene practices to deliver improved health impact.
Improve the transparency, accountability and responsiveness of local governments to ensure basic public services for all within the framework of the national plans and policies.
Develop the capacity of local governments and communities to prepare and adapt to the consequences of Climate Change by providing training and practices.
Restore the human rights through mobilizing the communities Create a pressure group of Human rights defender (HRD) and improve their capacity through training who raise their voice and negotiate the services and defending human rights thus the violence reduced at the society.

Strengthen the management capacity of public health care institutions to render universal and quality health services as per national health standards.

To improve the transparency, accountability, and responsiveness of local governments to ensure basic public services for all within the framework of the national plans and policies.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES
To ensure integrated management of water resources (IWRM) and improved environmental sanitation.

To reinforce community resilience to climate change and disaster risks through improved preparedness, response and recovery initiatives jointly developed, managed, and financed by community and LGIs.

To ensure equitable access and sustained enrolment of all to quality pre-primary, primary and secondary education.

To strengthen and diversify farm and non-farm livelihood systems.

DASCOH FOUNDFATION’S THEORY OF CHANGES

- **Output**: Knowledge Management (KM)
  - a) Good Practice Documentation and capitalization
  - b) Peer Learning
  - c) Replication of Good Practices

- **Outcomes**: Poverty Reduction
  - Waterborne diseases
  - Health related costs & patients management
  - Education related costs
  - Introducing efficient technology
  - Disaster management

- **Impact**: Pro-poor Governance
  - Disadvantage people services
  - Improve local governance
  - Engagement stakeholders
  - Effectiveness and effectiveness of resources

- **Systems**: Local Government Capacity Development
  - Processes (planning, budgeting, standing committees, UCC, Technical committee of WRM)
  - Co-financing services
  - LGI contribution from revenue collection

- **Mindsets & Values**: Law, Structures, Policies, Guidelines, Directives, Budget Allocations etc.

- **Capabilities and Systems**: Citizen Capacity Development
  - WRMC/CBO/VDCs formation
  - Civil engagement with LGIs
  - Hygiene Education
  - Community Contribution

- **Inter-governmental relations**: Councils-administrations
  - Union/Upazila/District

- **Human Resources**: Skills, Experience

- **Citizens**: Awareness, Mobilization, Skills, Knowledge, Dialogue with LGIs

- **Community Organizations**: WRMC/CBO/VDCs

- **Regulatory Framework**: Mindsets, Beliefs/Values, Evidence/Incentives

- **Impact**: Empowerment
  - Voice & choice
  - Social justice (inclusion, gender)
  - High involvement of community
  - Economic and cultural climate

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EXIT STRATEGY OF DASCOH FOUNDATION
The exit strategy of DASCOH Foundation is in place for every component of the project, such that they sustain beyond the end of the project.

PROJECTS OF DASCOH FOUNDATION
- Institutionalization of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) project in Barind Area of Bangladesh.
- Public Health Improvement Initiative in Rajshahi (PHIIR).
- Introducing Water Efficient Technology (IWET) to Barind Area.
- Strengthening of Resilience and Adaptability to Climate Change in North Bangladesh (REAP).
- Inclusive and Equitable Quality Pre-Primary and Primary Education at Formal Schools in Bangladesh (IQ)
- USAID’s MaMoni Maternal and Newborn Care Strengthening project.
- Promotion of Social Partnership Empowerment of Marginalized Communities in six District and at national level (PROSPECT).
- DASCOH WatSan Service Fund
- Combating the effects of climate change in severely affected areas of Bangladesh, India and Nepal (TECSAI).
- Young people at high schools strengthen women's rights and inclusive governance in Bangladesh (YUKTA)
- Resilience to Economic Volatility of Indigenous and Vulnerable populations through Empowerment (REVIVE)
- Strengthening the resilience of the poorest population to the impacts of climate change in Bangladesh (PORIBESH)
DASCOH FOUNDATION

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