

EXPERIENCE OF PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRAISAL IN THE COMMUNITY

SIL
Bangladesh
helps
communities
achieve
their
development
goals
while
retaining
their
Ethno
linguistic
identities.

“After a long time, we are gathered together, and it’s great to see you coming so close to us and wanting to know our problems” was the reaction from the attendees during the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) Survey in the community level. SIL had started its survey before starting its SOMPRITI Project activities of October, 2020. The project completed the survey in the new villages that we have started working in within the Project working areas. The project is going to start working among five communities—Koch, Hajong, Mahle, Oraon (the Sadri language) and Kol. In this survey, we used six tools: the transect walk, community mapping, problem analysis, body mapping, the daily working schedule, and the seasonal calendar.



During the transect walk, the survey team found out the communities’ real households structure, cleanliness, resources, wealth, language, culture, religion, relationship with the wider community and the overall real living conditions. In the community mapping sessions, there were pointed out each of the roads and paths, big trees, ponds, houses, tube

wells, latrines, fields and many other resources on the brown-paper map, drawn by the community people.

During the implementation of the problem analysis tool, the survey team has tried to find out the communities’ real problems that have been affecting their daily lives.

...SPECIAL COMMENTS

In this survey, the team has seen the real demands of the community which would be helpful for the SOMPRITI Project to address. After end of the project, the Project will be able to compare the real changes in the target community and their sustainability.

... SNAPSHOTS ...
WHAT'S PLANNED FOR THIS
MONTH

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Nov'20: PRA Reflection with Mahle, Oraon, Koch and Hajong Community.

Nov'20: Learning Circle Volunteer Training.

Nov'20: Skill Training on Handicrafts, Food Processing, Sewing Machine, Mason.

EXPERIENCE OF PARTICIPATORY RURAL APPRISAL IN THE COMMUNITY..... . . . Cont'd

At the same time, the participants found the root causes of the problems and the solutions, or how they will recover from their problems. In the session on the body mapping tool, the community mentioned their health problems by pointing them out on the picture of the body and from whom they have been taking treatment. In the daily working schedule tool, the community participants mentioned the daily activities of their family members, what they do in the morning, at noon, in the afternoon, and in the evening. Using the seasonal calendar tool, the team tried to find out the communities' income and sources of income according to a timeline.

The team also tried to find out the sequence of their costs, that is, in which month they have high costs and in which month they have less and why their costs become more or less. After that, the team identified the festivals of the communities to know the available time and months.



The youth effectively participated in analysing the seasons by drawing pictures during the community mapping, the seasonal calendar, and the body mapping. All the participants participated fully in all the survey processes.

Overall, the survey provided much learning for the Dhaka Office staff survey team. It was a great opportunity to see the real picture of the indigenous community with whom we are going to work to bring changes. In this survey, the team has seen the real demands of the community which would be helpful for the SOMPRITI Project to address. After end of the project, the Project will be able to compare the real changes in the target community and their sustainability.

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