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#### Impact of Horizontal Learning program about poultry rearing

This Horizontal Learning program was held on 28 February 2018 in Chinguria village in P55/2A, where 25 women with their husbands (50 guests in total) from 5 different WMGs came to learn about the successful poultry rearing of 5 host women. These 5 women had earlier participated in poultry FFS, where after all had expanded their poultry farm, with earnings increasing to 5000 to 10,000 taka/month per woman. The Horizontal Learning program was initiated and organized by the gender coordinator and the polder team of Blue Gold program.

Before they attended the HL program, these women were not or hardly involved in poultry rearing, mainly because earlier attempts had been unsuccessful as the poultry mortality rate was high due to not using vaccinations. They neither knew about other improved technologies for poultry rearing. During the HL program they learned from the host women how they had started their successful poultry rearing, including about the importance of vaccination and other technologies, such as proper chicken houses and the use of a hazal<sup>1</sup>. The 25 guest women were supposed to replicate these technologies by themselves, with some follow-up by polder staff and the gender coordinator.

The main investments to start up backyard poultry rearing are a chicken house and some chicken, the costs of which are usually modest, especially when locally available building materials are used. A hazal can be made without costs by using mud. Vaccination and feed costs are also modest. In total about 2000-3000 taka investment costs are needed before the first eggs or birds can be sold.

17 months after the HL program, on 24 July 2019, Rokana Begum, gender coordinator, Md. Nazrul Islam Jewel, socio-economist, and S. Nahar, CDF, visited the homesteads of 10 women, 9 of whom had been guests at the HL program, to find out what the impact of the HL program had been for them. The selection of the visited women was ad random. All had one or more poultry houses constructed after attending the HL program. Below the findings from the visit are presented.

1. Halena Begum  
She has now 85 chicken. Per month she sells birds for 5000-10,000 taka<sup>2</sup>; last year she sold for 1 lakh taka, and she gave 60,000 taka to her son-in-law, who had a financial crisis. Poultry is the only earning source of their family; before they were extreme poor. Husband and wife are both involved in the poultry rearing activities. They use the income to meet all household expenditure such as food, child education, clothing, medicines, entertainment and socializing. Now they are happy, their well-being improved as well as their status in society.
2. Jobeda Begum  
She has 48 chicken. Monthly she sells for 3000-5000 taka. Some time ago she bought two goats; now she has four. She uses the income for child education, clothes, house repair and other household expenditure.
3. Dolly Begum  
She has 40 small and big chicken and 16 ducks. Before the HL program she only had one chicken. She sells per month for 5000-6000 taka birds and (duck) eggs<sup>3</sup>. Recently Dolly

<sup>1</sup> Definition of hazal: (still to be added, after checking with Munir)  
<sup>2</sup> All women informed about the gross value of their sales; the actual profit is less because of the costs for feed and vaccination.  
<sup>3</sup> Chicken eggs are usually sold at 8 taka each; duck eggs fetch more, e.g. 10 taka each. In case of collective action for selling, this can increase to 10 and 13 taka, respectively.

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Brought here for 70,000 in the name of herself and her husband. Now she can take decisions in her family and her family respects her view.

10. Tujibon  
She has 70 small and big chickens and 20 ducks. Per month she sells for 2000-3000 taka (chicken and duck) eggs, mostly with her husband's income she save for her children's education. Now she household expenditure.

11. Moina  
She has 90 chickens and 18 ducks. Before the HL program she had 40 ducks. Per month she sells for 3000-5000 taka birds and duck eggs. She also spends monthly 2000-3000 taka on child education, entertainment, food, house repair, clothes and other household expenditure. She also saves some money. She is happy with a son and a daughter. 5000 taka income she can maintain her family.

12. Halimaha  
She did not attend the HL program herself, but her neighbour did, and she has learned from her neighbour. Recently she started the chicken rearing. She has now 10 chicken and one duck. She is not earning yet, but will do so soon.

13. Anwarul Begum  
She attended the HL program, but has only 10 chicken. She is still and therefore she cannot look after the chicken now. Before she got sick, she had more chicken and sold for 1000 taka a month.

14. Moinak  
She has 27 big chicken and 20 ducks. Last month she sold chicken for 5000 taka and ducks for 1000 taka and eggs for 2000 taka (in total 8000 taka). She was disappointed and due to this, in reality she sells for 5000-7000 taka per month. She is considering moving to near their house. Her monthly she has some savings. Now she receives more respect from her family members, relatives and in the community.

15. Anis  
She has 27 big chicken, 10 small chicken and 20 ducks. She is a student, monthly allowed, living on her own. Last month she sold for 14,000 taka (in 1 week), usually it is 2000-4000 taka. She can cover all the expenditure from her income, including making clothes for her own, house rent and education fees.

16. Behara  
She has 50 chicken. Monthly she sells chicken for 2000-3000 taka. She has a husband who recently brought a tractor to make the land. Address coordinator (20000 taka from her husband) has helped 1/3 portion of the tractor. Before she attended the HL program's education. The understanding and mutual respect between husband and wife has been increased.

Conclusion: 10 visited women had implemented poultry rearing after having attended the HL program, after with some follow up support for CDF, but the HL program had triggered their

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Impact of Horizontal Learning about poultry rearing  
 gender 26jul\_19 impact of HL poultry rearing.pdf

Learning from peers; and in the context of Blue Gold, farmer-to-farmer learning in which a host WMG invites representatives from visiting WMGs to witness an event - such as the harvesting of a new variety of rice - to pass on the knowledge and lessons gained from their experience

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## File history

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Date/Time	Thumbnail	Dimensions	User	Comment
current <a href="#">15:54, 10 December 2020</a>		1,240 × 1,754, 3 pages (494 KB)	<a href="#">Saad.chowdhury</a> ( <a href="#">talk</a>   <a href="#">contribs</a> )	

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## File usage

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## Blue Gold Program Wiki

The wiki version of the Lessons Learnt Report of the Blue Gold program, documents the experiences of a technical assistance (TA) team working in a development project implemented by the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) and the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) over an eight+ year period from March 2013 to December 2021. The wiki lessons learnt report (LLR) is intended to complement the BWDB and DAE project completion reports (PCRs), with the aim of recording lessons learnt for use in the design and implementation of future interventions in the coastal zone.

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