

## SUCCESS STORY-2: NESSA'S DREAM

Dreams inspire one to keep him/her alive in distressed situation and when the dreams are mingled with promise and commitment , it becomes a struggle of life for achieving success and realizing dreams. The proverb goes that one can change his fortune only through struggles. Ms. Karfulennessa is such kind of person who has changed her life through persistent hard work. She has interest in technical things and creative ideas also. She is a successful person who crossed a long undulated path of life alone with strong determination and hard work.

Nessa comes from Kotra Purbapara village of Bakoi union under Laksham upazila in Comilla district. She has her husband, three daughters and two sons.

She comes from very poor background and is not well educated but not unlettered, read up to class three from rural primary school. At her young age she got married with another landless poor person. Her husband Ali Hossain was a day laborer and she herself was a maid servant of a rich neighbor. They lived from hand to mouth. Poverty and hunger was day to day associates and they had to live with them. There were chronic poverty, hunger, frustrations, malnutrition, diseases and



darkness in the family. She had no money to continue education of her two daughters and they were dropped out from the school. They could not manage sufficient food for the family and used to take less than two square meals a day. Often they used to pass their nights without food. As a result there was long standing quarrel among the husband and wife. There was no peace in the family and both of them were thinking of getting separated. But she was thinking of doing something to augment family income and save her children.

In one morning People's Welfare Foundation, a local NGO invited Karfulennessa to register as a group member on 2007 for training. She welcomed the opportunity and took part in "Training on goat rearing and free goat distribution". She received a she goat as grant along with goat rearing skills from the partner organization financed by BNF. She became a shepherd learned how to take care of goats, identify diseases, and knew sources of medicines.

After a period of time the she goat and skill training contributed to change her life. The goat began to give birth of siblings twice a year growing a small herd. She became confident and

started work hard rearing the herd. Her husband helped her assisting collecting fodders for the herd. Goat rearing brings her money to run the family. Subsequently she becomes goat trader as well. Just within 5/6 years time, she had changed her life by rearing goats. Now she is a self-reliant woman trading goats in her house. Now she can feed her family sufficiently and buy new clothes for them. She bought a rickshaw van for her husband. She has become a business woman and busy with rearing her goats, cows and poultries, selling milk, eggs, vegetables and earns money for the family. Now she has diversified sources of income and able to save Tk.40,000-50,000 per year. Ms. Nessa is conscious about health attending campaigns and awareness trainings and takes care of her own health, health of family members arranging nutritious food and medicine for them. She is aware of food intake, nutrients, health and hygiene, importance of safe drinking water and healthy cooking practices. She teaches importance of washing hands before and after taking meals and after use of toilet with soap/ash. Because of better hygiene practice they spend less money for treatment.

Nessa is very much aware of environmental degradation and plants trees in her homestead to protect environment. She keeps her residence and surroundings very neat and clean. Nessa a popular woman has graduated from her ordeals having some assets to give her little comfort. She has two cows, six goats, one rickshaw van, fifteen poultry birds, two room house, tube-well, sanitary latrine, eleven decimals homestead, five decimals agriculture land and satisfactory cash in hand. Nessa has been training poor women in the village cattle, goat and poultry rearing and by providing them with cows and goats on crop sharing system.