

**BOSCO
REACH OUT**



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MANOS UNIDAS Personnel Ms. Rocio Bonet and Mr. Ramon Alvarez
Visited The BRO Agriculture Training Centre, Joropara

UPCOMING PROGRAMMES OF BRO

- Health Education Session for Women -BAGAN
- Awareness on Women Issues – BAGAN
- Promotion of IGA - BAGAN
- Farmers' Training / Demonstration – BAGAN
- 3 Months Crash Course Coaching for 10th Standard Students – BAGAN
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Director's Message

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Bosco Reach Out!

First of all I would like to wish you all a very Happy and Grace filled Easter. May the Risen Lord bring a ray of hope and joy for all of us. May we be equipped with His grace to fight against all forms of evil forces existing in this world and bring justice, peace and harmony to the marginalized and downtrodden people who still lack the basic needs of the normal human life existence here on earth, even after much progression in our science and technologies of this present digital world. May the Risen Lord bring us joy and happiness and bless all of us with His peace.

We are grateful to Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati for providing funds for Flood relief and Mosquito Nets. Due to their generous contribution 416 boarders of seven centres received mosquito nets during 2019-2020. Many activities were carried out by Bosco Reach Out (BRO) last year and beginning of this year. Here are few of those activities: under the project entitled 'Agriculture Development Programme for Tribal People of North Garo Hills of Meghalaya' 175 beneficiaries received 2 piglets each (total 350 piglets) during input distribution programme and also all the 350 piglets of the 175 beneficiaries along with 15 piglets of 10 non-project beneficiaries were vaccinated during the three days vaccination camp within this first quarter of the year. Another Training programme on Land Based Farmed Management was conducted where a total no. of 175 participants attended the programme during January and February 2020.

In order to bring relief to the hungry, BRO has ventured into a small new service of feeding the hungry living in the streets of Guwahati. The staff members of BRO take active part in preparing the meal, packaging and distributing it. From February 04, 2020, the staff of BRO prepared 50 food packets and along with Fr. Jayaprakash, Executive Director, set out to the streets of Guwahati and provided meal to the people living in streets once a week. Many-a-times we interacted with them and observed that they were very grateful and filled with joy to receive a simple meal packet. During the interaction the beneficiaries shared very sad stories.

Bosco Reach Out implements NABARD Tribal Development Fund project for the selected economically backward 800 tribal families in the districts of Chirang and Goalpara of Assam. There are many poor households in these two districts that do not have any access to financial services. In order to uplift the economic condition of the beneficiaries, 92 Self Help Groups, 50 Joint Liability Groups, and 11 Farmers' Clubs were formed and are actively functioning. Two Financial Inclusion Programme at Village Level at Bilapara, Goalpara district (on January 29, 2020) and Malivita, Chirang district (on February 27, 2020) of Assam where the project are being implemented. A total of 85 farmers of the project area attended the training programme.

*Once again I would like to thank each and every one of you for your valuable support and help which brings that ray of hope and joy in the lives of many needy children of this region. Wishing you and all your family members **Happy Easter.***

Thanking you,

Fr. A. Jayaprakash, SDB
Executive Director, Bosco Reach Out



Financial Inclusion Programme at Village Level

Bosco Reach Out under the NABARD Tribal Development Fund project conducted two Financial Inclusion Programme at Village Level at Bilapara, Goalpara district (on January 29, 2020) and Malivita, Chirang district (on February 27, 2020) of Assam. A total of 85 farmers of the project area attended the training programme. The project is implemented for the selected economically backward 800 tribal families in districts of Goalpara and Chirang in Assam. There are many poor households in these two districts that do not have any access to financial services. In order to uplift the economic condition of the beneficiaries, Self Help Groups, Joint Liability Groups, and Farmers' Clubs were introduced, thereby, 92 SHGs, 50 JLGs, and 11 Farmers' Club are actively functioning.

BRO through financial inclusion programme at village level desire every farmer in the area to be involved and participate in financial management judiciously. The resource persons of the two training programmes were Mr. Rajkumar Y. Meitei, DDM NABRD Goalpara, Mr. Binoy Baisya, Branch Manager, NESFB (North East Small Finance Bank), Dhupdhara branch, Goalpara district, Mr. Mr. A. Deori, DDM NABARD, Chirang district, Mr. Putul Bausmatary, LDM, SBI Kajalgaon, Chirang district. Resource persons elaborated the Financial Inclusion Schemes in India such as Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Atal Pension Yojana (APY), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana, Kishan Credit Card, and Specialist Loan in JLG form. The respective bank branches ensured helping hand to the farmers in

opening saving bank account and get enrolled with the various government schemes. The farmers appreciated the programme as they became aware of the schemes and were very interest to avail such benefits.





Common Facility Centre for Balijana Dress Making Cluster

Bosco Reach Out has identified 250 artisans and formed Balijana Dress Making Cluster under the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) project implemented at Goalpara district of Assam. Common Facility Centre, for the smooth and effective functioning of the Balijana Dress Making Cluster, is in progress. This will lead to creation of tangible 'assets' as Common Facility Centre (CFC) like Common Production and Processing Centre (for balancing / correcting / improving production line that cannot be undertaken by individual units), Design Centre, Dyeing Centre, Testing Facilities, Training Centre, Marketing Display/Selling Centre, Common Logistics Centre, Common Raw Material Bank /Sales Depot, etc.

The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India (GoI) has adopted the cluster development approach as a key strategy for enhancing the productivity and competitiveness as well as capacity building of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) and their collectives in the country. A cluster is a group of enterprises located within an identifiable and as far as practicable, contiguous area and producing same/similar products / services.





Social Institution Building, Special Purpose Vehicle Formation and Strengthening

Bosco Reach Out, implementing agency of Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) project conducted two programmes on 'Social Institution Building, SPV formation and Strengthening' on February 23 and 24, 2020 and Mach, 13 and 14, 2020 at Lengopara, Goalpara. A total of 135 artisans from Balijana Dress Making Cluster, Goalpara attended the programme. Mr. Hingba Ezekiel (IA), Mr. Suhel Akhtar Ahmed (CDE) and Mr. Brightson Sangma (BRO, Field Coordinator) facilitate the programme.

The main topic covered during the two-day training programme were importance of social institutions (SHGs), Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), aim and objective of SPV, roles and responsibility of social institution (SHGs), Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), marketing, advocacy and linkages, documentation, cash book, minutes book, assets book, roles and responsibility of the president, vice president, secretary, joint secretary, treasurer and executive member.





Need Based Training on Farmers' Producer Organization Management

A one day programme on Need Based Training on Farmers' Producer Organization (FPO) management, under the NABARD Tribal Development Fund project was conducted at Bishnupur, Rongjali block of Assam on January 20, 2020. The objective of the programme was to discuss role of share holder, share holder certificate, business plan, and agenda for meeting Rubber Board officials on linkage and networking. Ms. Minku Das, Project Coordinator (Agri.) took session on importance of proper maintenance of share holder certificate documents, business plan preparation, and FPO documents maintenance.

Nabajyoti Anchalik Krishak Shramik Co-operative Society (FPO) of Kachubari prepared business plan on banana from cultivation to marketing of the produces. Twelve Village Farmers Producer Organization Co- operative Society Limited (FPO) of Mariampur prepared business plan on broom from cultivation to marketing of the produces. A total of 20 male farmers representative of the two FPO attended the programme. Ms. Minku Das encouraged and motivated the FPO members to maintain the group documents properly so as to have clear vision and transparency of account. She also checked and verified all the documents maintained by both the FPOs and made necessary recommendation.





Awareness Building Programme on Women Issues

Two programme on awareness building programme on women issues was organised under the project entitled NABARD TDF Bagan project, Chirang district, Assam at two villages of Indrapur and No. 1 Balajhar during January and February, 2020. The resource person was Mr. Jion Narzary, Project Field Coordinator of BRO. A total of 43 participants attended the awareness building programme.

The objective of the awareness programme was to create awareness on women issues with respect to promotion of women rights and create equal opportunities for women in all sphere of life. The main topics covered include women identity and personality, rights of women, awareness on rape, molestation, domestic violence, dowry demand and trafficking, project of life - planning, money and time management, girls education and nutrition, role and equality of women in the society.





Group Formation cum Awareness Building Programme

Group Formation (Self Help Group / Joint Liability Group) Awareness Building Programme was conducted at village level under the NABARD TDF Bagan Project, Chirang district of Assam. The resource person of the programme was Mr. Jion Narzary, Project Field Coordinator of BRO during February 2020. A total of 80 participants were present at the awareness programme. The objective of the programme was to create awareness among the beneficiaries the concept of SHG and JLG, saving in group, credit linkage with bank, and income generation activity. Topics covered during the programme included concept of SHG/JLG, goal setting and aims, saving and loans, record keeping and loan management, basic business skills, group meeting, credit and bank linkage, and income generation activity through vegetable garden, livestock rearing, etc. A total of 34 SHGs submitted their details for joining as a part of TDF project. These SHGs were formed by NRLM, Chirang district. These SHGs need refresher training, IGA training and hand holding support.

Sri Gilad Basumatary, Block Coordinator, ASRLM the resource person at Dwimuguri for training on Maintenance of SHG bank account and repayment of loan. He explained in detail the importance of having a group bank account, availing bank loan to take up income generation activities, the importance of regular repayment of the bank loan, various department (Government of India) scheme available for SHGs, and proper utilisation of it.





TDF Bagan Project Convergence with Line Department

TDF Bagan project is being implemented in Sidli block, Chirang district of Assam in collaboration with NABARD Assam. It covers 400 marginalised land holding farmers where multiple cropping is practised to establish a small orchard. Various programme and activities are conducted to make them a sustainable farmers.

During this quarter, village level awareness programme was organized in collaboration with Mr.A.R. Deuri, DDM, NABARD, Chirang on February 27, 2020 where focus was given on organizing SHG members. Rural self employment training was organized at Tilapara in collaboration with SBI Kajolgaon on February 26, 2020 where Mr. Putul Basumatary, Director, RSETI was the resource person. 50 wadi farmers attended the programme. Financial literacy programme was organized in collaboration with SBI, Kajalgaon on February 13, 2020 where Mr. Bidan Daimary, Branch Manager was resource person. 75 wadi farmers attended the programme. Farmer's fair was organized by KVK, Kajalgaon on February 25, 2020 where 10 wadi beneficiaries from different project villages attended the farmer's fair and interacted with subject matter specialists.





Capacity Building of Block Level CBOs

Two days programme on Capacity Building of Block Level Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) under Project entitled ‘Empowering Community - Based institution to increase vaccine confidence and routine immunization demand’ was held at Dimakuchi, Bhergaon block, Udalguri district of Assam on February 11 and 12, 2020. Resource person were Ms. Mariam Toppo (Social Women Activist), Ms Sompa Boro Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM), and Ms. Janina Lama, (ANM). The programme was attended by 30 participants. Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO and Mr.Romeo Dmonte, Project Coordinator of BRO attended the programme.

The objective of the programme was to create awareness on immunization project aim, objective and strategies, discuss the low rate of immunization and the reason of LODOR family, create awareness on hygiene and hand washing with soap, CBOs/SHGs and CSOs learn the importance of immunization and vaccination, and action plan for the project for vaccination and increase the demand for vaccination among the community to be build. Ms. Mariam Toppo (social women activist) briefly discussed the importance of vaccination and the negligence by some community members ignoring the value of immunization. Ms. Sompa Boro (ANM), and Ms. Janina Lama (ANM) who are working in the grass root level of Bhergaon block shared their experience on vaccination in these areas, the challenges they need to overcome and create awareness on the importance of vaccination, awareness on vaccination schedule, importance for pregnant women and new born child, the whole course vaccination for new born baby to adult.

The participants were happy that they learned during the two days of training on immunization, importance of vaccination for pregnant women, new baby born vaccination schedule, LODOR family, neighbourhood responsibilities and duties to be carried out where healthy people are needed.



Health Education Session for Women

Health education session for women as a part of community health under the NABARD TDF Bagan project, Chirang district was conducted at two villages of Lalai Anthaibari and Jamnaguri on during February 2020 with an aim to stress the importance of women to go safely through pregnancy and child birth which will enhance a healthy infant. The resource person were Ms. Surila Islary, ASHA and Ms. Nemsiri Moshahary, ASHA both under Amteka PHC, District Health Services. A total of 41 female participants attended the health programme.

The objective of the programme was to create awareness on women health related problems, to remove superstitious believe/myth regarding pregnancy, to provide a platform for village women to discuss their health problems related to reproductive and child care, and to create awareness on importance of vaccination for pregnant women and new born child. The village women are unaware regarding their reproductive health care due to education level, lack of resource available, and superstitious believe /myth. Through this health education programme a platform has been created for the village women where they discussed their problems, superstitious believe /myth with ASHA workers. Many of the village women very reluctant to take iron tablets and balance diet during pregnancy was also addressed through the programme. So, village women were very enthusiastic during the programme.





Malaria! No Thank You

Bosco Reach Out together with the support of Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, Italy and some of the benevolent benefactors has been creating awareness among the rural people for control of spreading malaria through mosquitoes and its preventive measures for control of other water borne diseases. Bosco Reach Out purchased a total of 416 mosquito nets for seven different centre during the month of January to March 2020 and distributed according to the list approved by Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, Italy. The centre in charge also conduct awareness programme for the children at their respective centre. They discussed the causes of malaria, symptoms, effects, diagnosis, and the various preventive measures.

Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, Italy has been creating this awareness with the supply of mosquito nets since 2014. The malaria incidence have decreased since this programme has started. The centre in charge and the children staying in boarding school are very grateful to Bosco Reach Out, Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, Italy and the benevolent benefactors for the wonderful programme of supplying good quality of mosquito nets. The academic performance of children has been improved as the malaria infection has been reduced by using mosquito nets. They are happy and enjoying good health.





Children Sponsorship Programme

The new scholastic year 2020 has begun and all the students returned back to school to start new with enthusiasm. Some new buds can be seen especially in primary section of Nursery and K.G. classes. All the schools has a solemn opening of the new scholastic year programme inviting dignities who encouraged the students to set goals and work hard in life.

In the beginning of the academic session itself in order to motivate and teach about health fitness, good habits and discipline the school organized the annual Sports day where some reputed government officers and NGO leaders were invited to motivate the children. All the students actively participated either one or the other sports events. Many of our sponsored and hostel children participated and got medals and prizes. They also performed items dance.

Ms. Catherine Kujur, Programme Coordinator visited Kumarikata Centre and interacted with the sponsored children.





Farmers' Training and Demonstration

Farmers' training and demonstration on the topic – concept sharing on layout of multiple horticulture crop orchard and package of practices of orange and areca nut were conducted at villages of Blajhar and No.1 Jamnagiri during February 2020. It was organised under the NABARD TDF Bagan project, Chirang district of Assam. The resource person was Mr. Jion Narzary, Project Field Coordinator of BRO and Mr. Kanin Basumatary, Project Field Coordinator. The important training contents include land preparation, spacing, pit digging, manure application, secondary nursery bed, and proper fencing specially use of green fencing. planting method and layout of wadi were explained in details. Management practices, intercultural operations for young orchard and method of pitcher drip irrigation were also covered.

The objectives of the programme was to improve knowledge on scientific method of horticulture plantation and management practices, to create awareness on intercultural operation – weeding, mulching, plant protection etc for young plantation, to promote inter

cropping for optimum utilization and extra income and to promote Soil conservation methods and water resource development. The most important training contents were land preparation, spacing, pit digging, manure application, secondary nursery bed, method of pitcher drip irrigation and proper fencing specially use of green fencing.





Need Base Training on FPO

Need base training was conducted at Indrapur village, Chirang district of Assam during the month of February 2020 with an objective to build, promote, and nurture Farmer Producer Organizations. It was organised under the NABARD TDF Bagan project, Chirang district of Assam. The resource person was Mr. Jion Narzary, Project Field Coordinator of BRO. It is critical to support Farmers' Producer Organisation (FPO) in terms of awareness creation, capacity building, technical support, professional management, market access, regulatory requirements, etc. and provide hand holding support.

A Farmer Producer Organization is formed by a group of primary producers, a registered body and a legal entity. The producers are primary shareholders in the organization. It deals with business activities related to the primary produce/product/ related inputs. It works for the benefit of the member producers, portions of profit are shared amongst the producers and the balance goes to the share capital or reserves. It has minimum shareholding members numbering 50 at the time of registration. However, the shareholding membership will have to be increased over a period of 3 years to a sustainable level.





Educational Exposure Visit for TDF Bagan Project Farmers

Three days exposure visit for the NABARD TDF Bagan project farmers was organized for selected 20 wadi farmers at Banker Institute of Rural Development (BIRD) Bolpur, West Bengal from 03 to 05 February 2020 with an objective to capacity building of wadi beneficiaries for effective implementation of the project. The exposure visit's main theme was to define the meaning of Sustainable Rural Livelihood to all the attended farmers so that they are able to understand generation of adequate resources, the requirement of the household, and promotion of Livelihood Models.

The theoretical class covered the topics on sustainable rural livelihood, Farmers Producers Organization (FPOs), People Institutions for Livelihood (SHGs, JLGs) and second tier Institution, National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) concepts, Modalities and other key features. For practical, the participants were escorted to Sukna, Birbhum district, West Bengal by the Bankers Institute of Rural Development (BIRD), Bolpur officials. Sukna is more than 50 km away from the starting point Bolpur. The entire team was under guidance of Sri. Nabin Kumar Roy, DGM, BIRD Bolpur. The team visited Cachew and Mango TDF project field at Sukna village where the team received cordial welcome from Mr. Pumanandu Garain Secretary of Srijoni Green producer Company Ltd., Birbhum, West Bengal and Smt. Sumitra Hembram, Board of Director (BDO), Srijoni Green Producer Company Ltd, (FPC). The team also visited the Cashew and Food Processing Unit and Vemi-compose Units at the same village. As per the report of BOD the Units are run by eight female members of the FPC. It was a real learning visit for the team. After the exposure visit the farmers informed that they came to know, learn, and visualize about horticulture practices such as Planting techniques, spacing, preparation of land, Maintenance Disease & pest management techniques, Intercultural operation on the main field. Making optimum utilization of the space & practicing intercropping on the main field to grow crops, Methods like mulching to retain soil moisture, Green manuring vemi-composing and its application and dosages, Benefit of FPO, and Success story of the entire farmers.





Input Support Distribution

Bosco Reach Out intend to build sustainable activity among the marginalised rural areas through various initiatives. Under the project 'Agriculture Development Programme for Tribal People of North Garo Hills of Meghalaya' 350 piglets were distributed to 175 beneficiaries at BRO Agriculture Training Centre Joropara in two batches.

Input support distribution programme for the first batch was held on January 22, 2020. Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO, Mr. Jochim Lourduswamy and Ms. Neena Lourduswamy attended the programme. Mr. Jochim Lourduswamy, Director of SAVE FOUNDATION Belgium, expressed his happiness to see the enthusiastic good numbers of women present for the programme. He congratulated Bosco Reach Out for their wonderful work reaching out to the marginalised section of people. He encouraged the beneficiaries to keep up their zeal for improving their livelihood and successful implementation of the project.

Other programme for the second batch was conducted on February 06, 2020 at the same venue. Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO, Fr. Raphael Cherukareth, Associate Director of BRO, Mr. Prakash Borah, Consultant of BRO, and Mr. Chandand, Freelancer, were present. Fr. A. Jayaprakash, in both the programmes, encouraged the beneficiaries to take up Hort-Agri activity along with livestock rearing to enable themselves to live a self-sustaining thereby improve their Socio-economic status. He encouraged the beneficiaries to rear the piglets in a proper manner and produce more piglets from it. He mentioned that as a sign of gratitude each beneficiary will share their respective two piglets to new beneficiary in the next year and thus the whole villagers get the privilege of rearing pigs for their Income Generating Activities.





Vaccination Camp

Three vaccination camps were organised under the project entitled 'Agriculture Development Programme for Tribal People of North Garo Hills of Meghalaya' to give vaccine against Swine Fever at different villages of Bolopang (February 12, 2020), Chichotcheng (February 13, 2020) and Gukolgre (February 14, 2020). Dr. Pradick S. Sangma, District Veterinary Office of North Garo Hills district of Assam was the resource person to conduct the vaccination. Mr. Kamailang Suchiang, a Barefoot Technician and Master Trainer of BRO assisted the vaccination camp. A total of 350 piglets belonging to 175 beneficiaries and 15 piglets of 10 non project beneficiaries were vaccinated during the three days vaccination camp. A vaccination camp was conducted to encourage the beneficiaries in order to protect their pigs' health. Vaccines contain safe microorganisms to prepare pig's immune system to resist diseases. A vaccination raises the pig's immunity level by increasing its available antibodies to fight disease.





Training on Land Based Farm Management

Bosco Reach Out conducted two training on land based farm management (Agri-Horti-Livestock) at BRO Agriculture Training Centre, Joropara on January 28 to 31, 2020 and February 07 to 10, 2020. The training is carried out under the project 'Agriculture Development Programme for Tribal people of North Garo Hills District of Meghalaya, North East India' partner by Monas Unidas, Spain. A total of 175 participants attended the training. The motive of the training was to enhance the farmers to take some horticulture crop cultivation thereby increase their family income.

On the first two days the resource person, Mr. Kamailang Suchiang, Master Trainer of BRO explained in detail the importance of rearing livestock, breeds (suitable for north east), breeding policy (selection), housing needs, management general management of livestock, importance of vaccination and Immunization, disease related to livestock, and marketing of livestock. On the following two days, Mr. Salgira Ch. Momin, Coordinator and Trainer of BRO, and Mr. Hilbirth . Sangma, Coordinator and Trainer of BRO took session on planting method, mulching, earthening, half moon, full moon, drip irrigation, and pest management of Assam lemon, black pepper, and pineapple cultivation. Mr. Ezekiel Hingba, Project Coordinator of BRO encourage the participants to implement in the project activities and improve their agricultural practices.



When I was Hungry

Bosco Reach Out has been working for the marginalised people living in rural villages of Assam and Meghalaya through various projects. During this New Year 2020, a new initiative has been taken by Fr. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO with the consent of all the staff in the January monthly staff meeting to reach out the neighbourhood living in the streets of Guwahati a meal packet. It was suggested and decided that 50 meal packets will be prepared and distributed in the evening twice a week at the initial stage. Everyone was very supportive to the idea of feeding the needy neighbour living on an empty stomach for days on.

On February 04, 2020 the staff of BRO prepared 50 food packets and along with Fr. Jayaprakash, Executive Director set out to the streets of Guwahati and provided meal to them. Many at times the staff interact with them. The staff observed that they were very grateful and filled with joy to receive the meal packet. They have very sad stories. Some of them are very thoughtful of the other. In one of the incidence they even told the staff to go to another area who will be in need of food as they will be getting from other sources. This attitude of the was a inspiration for me said the staff. There at times we have lots of things yet failed to share with others in need. Whether rich or poor it is ones attitude that makes one rich in heart.

Yes, BRO has ventured into a new small service of feeding the hungry living in the neighbourhood streets of Guwahati. The staff of BRO take active part in preparing the meal, packaging and distributing it. The humble beginning have added a great sense of unity and joy among the staff. We are hoping that in near future there will be more and more opportunities to serve the poor and marginalised people.





Visit of MANOS UNIDAS Personnel

On March 09, 2020 the project partner MANOS UNIDAS Personnel Ms. Rocio Bonet and Mr. Ramon Alvarez visited the BRO Agriculture Training Centre, Joropara and its project implementation area.

Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO, Fr. Raphael Cherukareth, Associate Director of BRO, Mr. Prakash Borah, Consultant of BRO, Mr. Hingba Ezekiel, Programme Coordinator of BRO, Ms. Judisthira Marak, Asst. Field Coordinator of BRO, Mr. Hilbirth A. Sangma, Field Staff of BRO, Salgira Ch. Momin, Field Staff BRO and project beneficiaries were present for the programme. The beneficiaries welcome the MANOS UNIDAS team BRO team with Garo song follow by presentation of traditional Garo attire.

Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO, warmly welcome and expressed his sincere gratitude to the project partners for their visit and support for project meant to uplift the tribal people of North Garo Hills. He encourage the beneficiaries to take the opportunity of the project thereby enabling self reliant for their livelihood.

Mr. Ramon Alvarez express his gratitude for the good number of women group gathered for the programme, it is like celebrating the women day which was on March 08, 2020. He asked the beneficiaries, how has the project benefited to you all, what are the challenges, any alternative activities that can be taken up or change in the project. What are the status of the piglets, black pepper, pineapple and Lemon. He will try every possibility to help more once the project get over. He thanks Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO and BRO Staff for the wonderful work rendering service to the needed people.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks Garo song by the beneficiaries. After the programme they visited few of the beneficiaries viz. Ms. Gretish K. Sangma, Ms. Sulaya R Marak and Ms. Beltina R. Marak who are taking up project activities like cultivation of black pepper, lemon, pineapple, and piggery.



COVID 19 RELIEF

Bosco Reach Out staff and volunteers are working for providing food and relief services to 3500 poor daily wagers and migrant families that have suffered immensely and are at high risk due to the COVID-19 epidemic. BRO planned to reach out 3500 families in Assam and Meghalaya by distributing essential kit containing rice, dal, oil, soya nuggets, soap, hand sanitizer, and most important Mask.

On March 31, 2020, the COVID-19 crisis relief programme for Boothnath and Manipuri Basti was organized with the help of Assam Police. In Boothnath Slum a total of 172 families were found to be affected due to the COVID-19 lockdown. Most of the families are migrant daily wage labour and are working as potters / odd jobs at railway station or odd jobs in small workshops. Due to lockdown they have lost their source of income. In Manipuri Basti a total of 91 families found affected due to the COVID-19 lockdown belong to daily wage earners, servants, construction workers, daily labourers, rickshaw-pullers, balloon sellers, and so on, who have no means of income to feed their families for the next few week, due to lockdown. So Bosco Reach Out gave them essential kit so they can sustain their family for 10 days.

We are thankful to our volunteers and the friends of Bosco Reach Out, Guwahati, assisting us in many ways to distribute the provisions to the needy people. Special thanks to Assam Police, ADG Prosecution DIG Security and DCP Admin for helping us to carry out the relief work smoothly and systematically.





Mixed Crop Cultivation at
BRO Agriculture Training Centre,
Joropara

