

**United States Agency for International Development
Bureau of Democracy; Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Office of Food for Peace**

Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Results Report

**CARE – SHOUHARDO / Bangladesh
Award Number: FFP-A-00-04-00079-00**

Submission Date: 15 November 2010

Awardee HQ Contact Name: Kumkum Kashiparekh, Food Aid Grants Manager,
Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Unit (EHAU)
Awardee HQ Contact Address: CARE USA, 151 Ellis Street, NE Atlanta, Georgia,
30303-2440, USA
Awardee HQ Contact Telephone: 1-404-9799155
Awardee HQ Contact Fax: 1-404-681-2552
Awardee HQ Contact Email: kashiparekh@care.org

Host Country Office Contact Name: Faheem Khan, Chief of Party, SHOUHARDO II
Host Country Office Address: CARE Bangladesh, Pragati Insurance Bhaban,
20-21, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka 1215, Bangladesh
Host Country Office Telephone: 880-2-8114207 / 9112315
Host Country Office Fax: 880-2-8114183
Host Country Office Contact Email: faheem@bd.care.org

Contents

1. Annual Food Aid Program Results	1
2. Success Stories	4
3. Lessons Learned.....	7
4. Financial and Administrative Updates.....	8

Attachments

- A. Indicator Performance Tracking Table
- B. Detailed Implementation Plan FY 2010
- C. Standardized Annual Performance Questionnaire
- D. Tracking Table for Beneficiaries and Resources
- E. Expenditure Report FY 2010 and LOA
- F. Monetization Tables
- G. Final Evaluation Report (*posted in DEC*)
- H. Supplemental Materials (*None*)
- I. Completeness Checklist

Acronyms

ARR	Annual Results Report
BITA	Bangladesh Institute for The Arts
CHD	Comprehensive Homestead Development
EKATA	Empowering through Knowledge and Transformative Action
FFW	Food For Work
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
HH	Household
IGA	Income Generating Activity
ITSH	Internal Transport Storage and Handling
LGED	Local Government Engineering Division
LOA	Life of Award
MCHN	Mother and Child Health and Nutrition
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MT	Metric Ton
NBD	Nation Building Department
PACC	Program Advisory Coordination Committee
SHOUHARDO	Strengthening Household Ability to Respond to Development Opportunities
TA	Transfer Authorization
UP	Union Parishad
VDC	Village Development Committee

1. Annual Food Aid Program Results

SHOUHARDO (Strengthening Household Ability to Respond to Development Opportunities) is a five year eight month program operating from October 2004 to May 2010, funded by USAID and the Government of Bangladesh (GoB). The overall program goal is ‘to sustainably reduce chronic and transitory food insecurity of vulnerable households (HH) in 18 districts of Bangladesh, by 2009’. FY 2010 is the last year of the Program, ending in May 2010. In this FY, SHOUHARDO reached 401,260 HHs.

In this FY, the Program was primarily involved with close out activities, where all partner Non Governmental Organization (PNGO) operations came to a close in February 2010. SHOUHARDO II took deliberate steps as outlined in the Exit Strategy, where it phased out of communities in small steps. Field staff prioritised visits to those communities who needed further support, and those who had largely succeeded were visited in larger intervals. All communities still retained contact with the field staff, and were able to communicate with them as and when required. At the time of the PNGO exit, CARE staff took over these areas, using the same approach or prioritisation. This was an important approach to develop confidence of communities to take increasing ownership for themselves and be at a stage to take full responsibility by the time the Program came to a close in May 2010.

In the Exit Phase, SHOUHARDO focused on support networks, and networks between the communities and these support structures, strengthening linkages with local level agricultural, livestock, and fisheries service providers. In terms of physical infrastructure, a total of 65 markets (including assembled and small/large structures), and 20 Union Parishad (UP) complexes were completed and handed over to respective authorities. The Exit Strategy was shared at all UP, Pourashava (PS) and Program Advisory Coordination Committee (PACC) meetings where the government bodies committed to sustain initiatives taken under SHOUHARDO.

The arsenic assessment of community tubewells was completed through PNGOs in all four regions. The result of the arsenic tests were shared with communities and arsenic awareness sessions were held in all communities where arsenic assessments were conducted.

Ceremonial congregation of Disaster Volunteers was completed in all four regions. Risk and Resource Maps and Disaster Preparedness and Response Contingency Plans of 493 Unions, 16 Pourashavas and one City Corporation were developed and displayed at key public points in the community.

The Direct Distribution of supplementary ration to the Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) beneficiaries was completed in July 2009. The remaining 2,542 MT of commodities was shifted as “humanitarian” response and was distributed to Aila and Monga affected people in December 2010. A detailed commodity close out plan was submitted to USAID in June 2009 and a subsequent update was provided in the final program close out plan submitted in January 2010.

The close out of the 44 PNGO partnerships was a major endeavour, where after cessation of activities in February 2010, over the months of March and April 2010, all administrative and financial closing as per USAID regulations was adhered to in these two months.

Partnerships with the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), the Chittagong City Corporation and the 16 Pourashavas for implementation of “infrastructure” schemes all ended by December 2009. Administrative and financial formalities as per USAID regulations were completed by April 2010. Finally, CARE closed program activities at field by conducting exit workshops at the community and institutional levels. All SHOUHARDO offices were closed and administrative formalities were completed before the end of the program.

Before exiting from each of the regions, “exit workshops/events” were held at each Program community, as well as institutions who had over the Life of Award (LOA) worked with the SHOUHARDO Program. These were important to ensure a formal handover of activities to communities and the surrounding service providers.

The SHOUHARDO Final Evaluation was conducted from November to December 2009. The evaluation was conducted by the internationally renowned global Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) experts, TANGO International, with support from the ICDDR,B in Bangladesh for data collection. The results from the Final Evaluation reflect impressive impact. As quoted in the Final Evaluation report "SHOUHARDO is attempting to address not only the availability, access and utilization issues that lead to food insecurity, but also the underlying issues that contribute to vulnerabilities such as a lack of participation, social injustice, and discrimination that prevent people from realizing their full potential in leading healthy and productive lives."

The report goes on to say "SHOUHARDO uses a bottom-up method of empowering some of the poorest and most marginalized populations of Bangladesh to attain their basic rights. By coupling this approach with the Household Livelihood Security framework (The Unifying Framework¹), CARE Bangladesh has proposed a model that truly tries to break the vicious cycle of poverty. Within this model, SHOUHARDO also addresses factors for which there is a well-documented relationship with improved nutritional status and survival of children, including education of women and girls, and women’s empowerment and control of resources. The inclusion of more traditional interventions of health and hygiene promotion, water and sanitation, growth promotion, and increased food production along with distribution of food rations has created a synergy which has resulted in significant and sustainable impact."

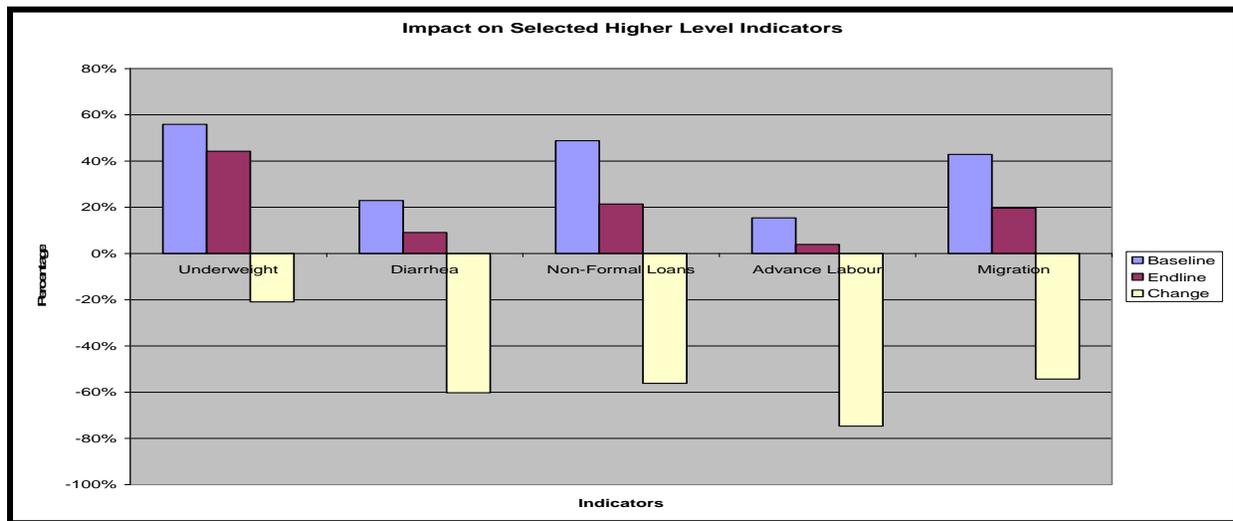
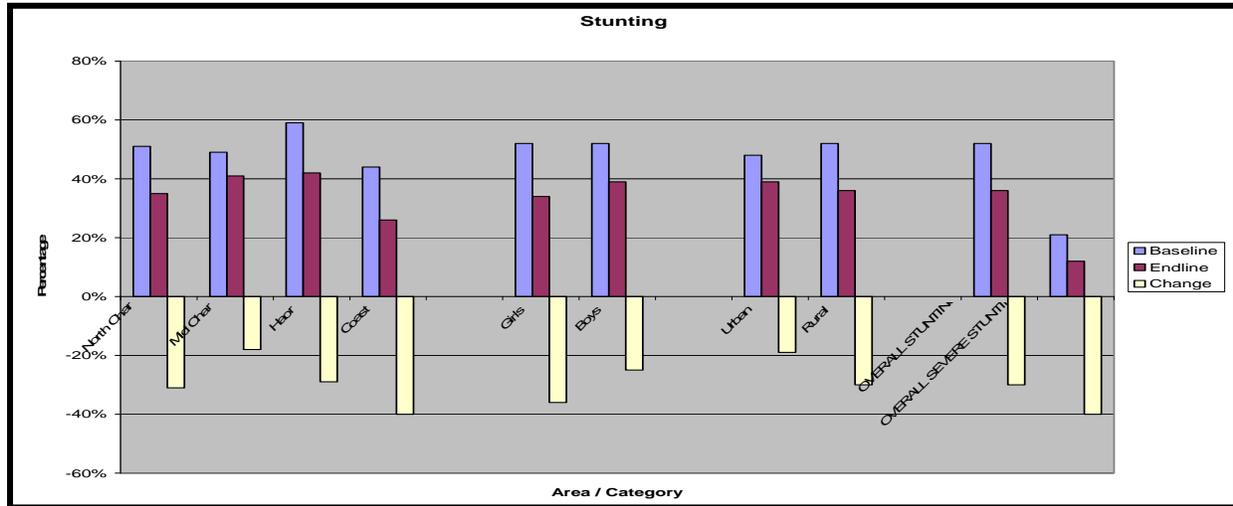
Further, the report quotes "The quantitative analysis for this report reveals striking improvements in key SHOUHARDO outcome indicators over the life of the project. Figure 3 (in main report) shows a decline in the prevalence of stunting by 30 percent and in the prevalence of underweight by 21 percent. The analysis confirms that these changes are a direct result of SHOUHARDO project interventions, including food assistance, Core Occupational Group² activities, and Health Hygiene Nutrition interventions."

¹ Please visit the CARE USA website (www.careusa.org) for more information on the Unifying Framework

² The four occupational groups in SHOUHARDO are i. Agriculture; ii. Fisheries; iii. Comprehensive Homestead Development (CHD); and iv. Income Generating Activity (IGA)

As stated by the Final Evaluators "SHOUHARDO's achievements in reducing stunting are impressive when interpreted in the context of similar programs. A paper produced by FANTA³ compared stunting data for 16 different Title II⁴ programs ending in 2000 or 2001. These programs reduced stunting by an average of 2.4 percentage points per year. The average stunting at the baseline for these programs was 53 percent, which is comparable to the level found in the SHOUHARDO baseline. SHOUHARDO has succeeded in reducing stunting by an average of 4.3 percentage points per year."

The two charts below summarise some of the major impact areas.



³FANTA works to improve nutrition and food security policies, strategies and programs through technical support to USAID and its partners. FANTA is implemented by the Academy for Educational Development. Partners include IFPRI, PENSER, Nutriset, Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC), TANGO, Tufts University, University of California-Davis, University of KwaZulu Natal, Washington University in St. Louis, and Valid International.

⁴Title II is part of the United States Public Law 480 legislation, also known as Food For Peace, and currently represents the largest resource within the US Government available to focus on the problem of global food insecurity

2. Success Stories

This section incorporates two Case Studies highlighting some of the successes of the SHOUHARDO Program.

From mat weaving to bumper crops – Patiya is a village on the move

The work that goes into making the ubiquitous woven mats covering the floors of Bangladesh in homes and buildings alike is considerable. From beginning to end, pati, or mat weaving is hard work. The cultivation and harvesting cycle requires land, seeds, and labour. Once the pati trees have been harvested, the materials are dried out in the sun until they turn brown. A portion of dried pati leaves are put aside for dying so they can be used to form patterns in the mat design. When all the leaves and preparation work is done, it is time find a shady place out of the sun, get a pail of water and your leaves, and start weaving.



The leaves from the Pati trees are dried out for weaving

Fatima, Rezoan, Altaz, and Jobeda, have each received income generating activity (IGA) training and support from CARE Bangladesh’s SHOUHARDO Program. The Program’s aim has largely been met as the women talk about the positive impact pati making has brought to Proshinchor, their small village in the Upazila of Patiya.

“I take full responsibility for my family’s income now,” says Fatima Begum excitedly, “and I save fifty taka a week for the future”. Jobeda Begum’s family is in a similar situation, “My husband died leaving my family with no money. Now I am involved in pati making, and this supports my family,” she says.

In Proshinchor, most of the community is involved in pati production, whether it be through involvement in cultivation of the trees, or in the weaving of the mats themselves, demonstrating this is a process that is paying off.

“I spend 1,700 taka per month on pati making materials, and earn 7,000 taka per month from selling the mats. This has given me enough money to support my family and buy two chickens and two goats,” says Famida Begum.



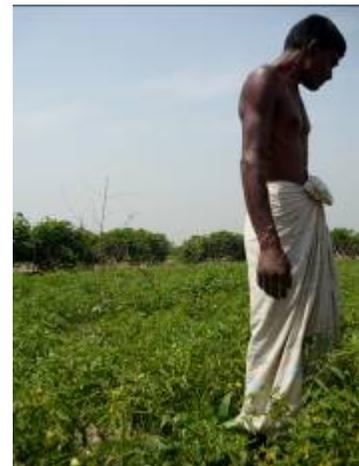
Cultivating Pati trees



Rezoan Begum at work weaving

While the IGA activities have given these women and their families some protection against food insecurity, the SHOUHARDO program does not stop here. With assistance from Bangladesh Institute for The Arts (BITA), a SHOUHARDO partner Non Government Organisation, the community is also part of women's empowerment, early education, disaster preparedness, comprehensive homestead development and other food security initiatives. With an active Empowering through Knowledge and Transformative Action (EKATA) group, and participation in local governance groups by members of the community including the Village Development Committee, and over seven Union Parishad standing committees, this village is becoming well prepared to sustain the progress made through SHOUHARDO funded programs.

A brief tour of Proshinchor village is enough to see how much more is going on. As well as the pati weaving, villagers are supporting their livelihoods through comprehensive homestead development and agricultural activities. Md. Abdul Salam is a productive recipient of agricultural training, and he talks of the bumper crops of tomatoes, green chilis and beans he is expecting. Abdul is just one of 30 people from this village actively using the agricultural skills and training they have received to secure their livelihoods. With 20 people growing chilis, 30 people growing beans, and over 25 people growing tomatoes, the village is able to sell a large number of crops at the local market for a healthier profit than before thanks to improved farming habits, better access to seeds, and informed crop selection.



Md. Abdul Salam looking over his crops



Zahanara Begum with her beans

A visit to the local Union Parishad (UP) in Patiya only reinforces the hard work being done to improve life for the families living in poverty in the area. With active UP Standing Committees in the areas of: Nari o Shishu Nijaton Protirodh Committee, Union Disaster Management Committee, Health, Finance, Union Parishad Education Standing Committee, Law and Order, Fisheries, and Agriculture, local governance is strong and functioning, and there is representation from people at the grass roots level.

In a village of 197 households, of which 135 are targeted by the SHOUHARDO program, the increased capacity of the village to respond to development opportunities has grown since the beginning of the program, leading to better and more fulfilled lives.

Supporting a village and protecting the environment: income generation helping everyone

It is almost time for the wholesaler to arrive in Gozalia Village, and farmers are busily adding their cucumbers to the growing pile. The buzz as people are coming and going, loading up bags full of produce, weighing them, and taking time out to have a cha (tea) while they wait fills the air. All this activity is the fruition of a partnership between the local village and the Bangladesh Forestry Board, who with support from the CARE Bangladesh SHOUHARDO Program and local Partner NGO – MUKTI, have developed a comprehensive vegetable cultivation initiative.

In 2006 when SHOUHARDO began working with 204 families from Gozalia Village, there was little vegetable cultivation and food insecurity was high. This was affecting the livelihoods of everyone in the village, which was struggling under poverty. The unique location of the village, just outside the main town of Cox's Bazaar at the base of the hills, provided them with a rare opportunity to cultivate land, with the assistance of the Government and local service providers.



The Bangladesh Forestry Board owns the land being used to grow crops by the people of Gozalia, but in return for guarantees that the farmers will protect the local forest, the Board assists the village with vegetable cultivation. This allows them to use the land free of charge, and also provides funding to support plantation activities. As their part of the deal, the farmers use only organic pest prevention techniques. After receiving training, the community knows how to make a cheap organic pest deterrent from household waste, which is a win-win situation for both the forest and the farmers.

Over the past three years, the efforts the farmers have put in are paying off. On the back of agricultural training funded by SHOUHARDO and delivered by MUKTI, the Village Development Committee developed an action plan to guide the farming activities. This involved determining which crops they would cultivate, harvest cycles, investments and resources required to buy seeds, and the labour needed to reap the harvest.

With the farming activities in full swing three years on, the community is impressed by their own success. As part of their activities they maintain an account ledger detailing daily sales, how much each farmer sold, and the rate they received for their produce from the local wholesaler. In the past week, two batches of cucumbers were sold to the wholesaler. The first, the produce from 17 farmers, sold 8,769 kgs of cucumber at 11 taka a kilogram, netting them 96,449 taka. The second, made up of cucumbers from 8 farmers, sold 2,702 kgs for a total of 29,712 taka. No wonder the village is impressed.

While this is the peak of the cucumber harvest, which lasts for three months, it is not all the village cultivates. The agricultural training they received taught them how to best utilise the land so crops can be grown and harvested all year round. This has led to yearly harvests of seasonal crops and a steady stream of income. Depending on the time of year, a walk through the cucumber plants will also take you past beans, gourd, chili, tomatoes, chishinga, lady's finger and more. The villagers take what they need for their own food requirements and sell the excess.

The boost in income has led to improved infrastructure and local governance, more children going to school, women joining men in the fields to work on the harvest, and the village has significant savings in the bank. All of these improvements mean a better way of life for Gozalia Village, which now lives by the philosophy "The soil will change our luck."

This is one village that is not concerned about the upcoming withdrawal of SHOUHARDO later this year. "We know how to grow crops. We know how to sell them. We know how to keep the soil healthy, and how to save money to buy seeds for the next season. If we need help for anything, we can also ask other service providers like the Government Agricultural Volunteer. Recently, he helped us with an issue of rotting trees. We will be okay without SHOUHARDO," says Gulam, a member of the Village Development Committee (VDC).

This is exactly what SHOUHARDO wants to hear as it enters the exit phase. Gozalia Village is one place where the improvements to food security are tangible. While it may only make up a small part of a country with a population of over 150 million, for the 204 families involved, the improvements to their livelihoods have been life changing, and they show no signs of going back.

3. Lessons Learned

SHOUHARDO is committed to only mentioning those instances which contributes as a lesson to aid and advance programming. Two such lessons are mentioned below.

- i. Numerous examples in SHOUHARDO have proved the assumption for a community to truly mobilise, they need to get motivated around a common issue. This common issue then becomes a 'catalyst' to propel the community to perform significant feats. What is most interesting is that by mobilising on a particular issue, in resolving this actually leads these communities to resolve a number of other issues at the same time. Some of the most exciting mobilisations are usually around structures – for example the need for a road to be built to improve communication, or a submergible embankment to protect crop land, etc.. But in constructing these, a number of communities may need to work together resulting in better relations between them; surrounding support structures also participate resulting in elevating the social status and connectivity to these Nation Building Departments (NBD); and also making these NBDs more responsive to the needs of these poorest communities.

- ii. Another significant lesson learnt is that the EKATA model is an excellent approach to ‘women empowerment’. Several thematic studies clearly confirms this, and goes on to recommend that SHOUHARDO scales this up to all its working sites should there be a follow on phase granted by USAID. SHOUHARDO currently operates the EKATA model in 400 of its sites (approximately 15% of its overall coverage). This has been an important ‘pilot’ providing concrete evidence that this is an initiative which needs to be pursued and scaled up.

4. Financial and Administrative Updates

Given this is the final ARR for the SHOUHARDO Program, financial and administrative components have been added to this report.

A. Program resources:

This section elaborates the availability and use of program cash and commodity resources. It is to be noted that under the purview of the SHOUHARDO agreement, FFP approved emergency funds, through Modification 15, for response and rehabilitation in the super cyclone "SIDR" affected areas. The SIDR activity and financial progress has been reported separately, where the final report was submitted to USAID on September 2010.

At a glance status of the SIDR fund and expenditure is furnished in the table below:

Table: SIDR fund and expenses:

Funding sources	Monetization	ITSH	202(e)	Total
Fund Received	3,647,344	202,100	259,800	4,109,244
Expenditure	3,619,504	176,786	243,854	4,040,144
Closing Balance	27,841	25,314	15,946	69,101

Note: The figure has been extracted for the SIDR final report submitted on September 02, 2010.

The section below details the spending status of the SHOUHARDO resources; both cash and kind. It to be noted that this resource status does not include funds made available for SIDR and expenditures for SIDR activities.

i. Food Aid Commodities for Direct Distribution:

The direct distribution of supplementary ration to MCHN beneficiaries was completed in July 2009. The remaining balance was added to the emergency commodity stockpile, and finally exhausted through distributing to the Aila and Monga affected people. The final closing balance was therefore zero at the end of the SHOUHARDO Program in May 2010.

The table below shows the commodity utilization over the LOA:

a) **Commodity received:**

Fiscal Year	Received Commodity - MTs				Remarks
	Wheat	Veg. Oil	Peas	Total	
FY-2005	-	-	-	-	Started from FY-2006
FY-2006	12096.983	1576.561	537.911	14211.455	
FY-2007	17309.481	2270.844	765.764	20346.089	
FY-2008	8050.000	1037.162	288.750	9375.912	
FY-2009	6257.950	598.694	339.540	7196.184	
Total	43714.414	5483.261	1931.965	51129.640	

b) **Commodity Distributed:**

Fiscal Year	Distribution - MTs				Remarks
	Wheat	Veg. Oil	Peas	Total	
FY-2005	-	-	-	-	No distribution
FY-2006	1,738.782	226.577	75.524	2,040.883	MCHN and FFW
FY-2007	16,524.140	2,116.475	705.442	19,346.057	MCHN and FFW
FY-2008	13,359.594	1,669.949	556.650	15,586.193	MCHN
FY-2009	10,037.424	1,254.678	418.226	11,710.328	MCHN
FY-2010	2,146.000	224.000	172.000	2,542.000	Humanitarian Assistance
Total	43,805.940	5,491.679	1,927.842	51,225.461*	

* Distribution quantity is more than the receipt quantity because of in country net gain of 96 Mts.

All commodity related activities such as termination of warehouses, Clearing and Forwarding Agent, Primary Transporters, Surveyor, Secondary Transporters, and fumigation contracts were completed within the end of the Program. o

ii. **Food Aid Commodities for Monetization**

All “monetization” commodities approved through PREP were received in-country and monetization proceeds receipt in the Program account. There was no pending monetization by the end of the Program period. The Monetization Proceeds LOA Analysis is as below:

Table: Monetization Proceeds LOA Analysis

Description	Carried over from IFSP	10/01/2004 to 9/30/2005	10/01/2005 to 9/30/2006	10/01/2006 to 9/30/2007	10/01/2007 to 9/30/2008	10/01/2008 to 9/30/2009	10/01/2009 to 5/31/2010	TOTAL
Monetization Fund (Proceeds generated, interest and amount generated from sales of old items)	1,822,692	11,424,016	8,366,586	11,396,282	29,351,477	5,265,867	7,628,278	75,255,198
Actual Monetization proceeds Expended	-	1,304,428	7,507,083	16,582,846	20,902,347	19,976,202	5,739,617	72,012,523
LOA Closing balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,242,675

The total LOA monetization expenditure was USD 72,012,523 against a total available USD 75,255,198 through carry over, fund generated by monetization sales, interest earned on monetization fund and sales of old items, leaving a balance of USD 3,242,675 (excluding the SIDR Emergency fund balance) at the end of the SHOUHARDO Program. Of this, USD 2,200,000 has already been approved to be carried over to SHOUHARDO II, and a request has been made to approve the remaining USD 1,042,675 to be carried into SHOUHARDO II. Attachment Ei details the budget expenditure of FY 2010 of all funds and Attachment Eii: LOA Expenditure Satus provides the LOA fund and expenditure status of different funds.

iii. Section 202(e) Funds:

The LOA obligation for 202e was 8,500,000 and the LOA expenditure was USD 7,934,989, leaving balance of USD 565,011 at end of Program.

iv. ITSH Funds:

The LOA obligation for ITSH fund was 4,055,678 and the LOA expenditure was USD 3,694,821, leaving a balance of USD 360,857 at end of Program.

v. DA fund

The LOA obligation for DA was 2,000,000 and the LOA expenditure was USD 1,620,376, leaving balance of USD 379,624 at end of Program. .

vi. GoB Contribution

Asides from the USAID budget, the GoB also has contributed to the SHOUHARDO Program. The LOA GoB contribution was 9,843,464 and the LOA expenditure was USD 9,358,424, leaving balance of USD 485,040 at end of Program.

B. Equipment and supplies:

The SHOUHARDO Program did not procure any equipment (items costing more than USD 5,000) with the USAID fund. The detailed list of the Furniture, Fixture and Equipment and other items of the Program (carried to SHOUHARDO from previous USAID funded programs and items procured during the SHOUHARDO LOA by CARE and PNGO) was furnished to USAID with the Close Out plan, along with the plan of disposition and further use.

C. Vehicles and Motorcycles:

No vehicles were procured during the SHOUHARDO Program period. Vehicles carried over from the previous program have now passed their usable life and accordingly have been handed over to the GoB as per agreement with the government. Motorcycles carried over from the previous program, and those procured during the SHOUHARDO Program have been retained. These will be used by CARE for program activities or will be disposed of by selling through auction, or provided to partner NGOs for them to able to function more effectively. Full listings of motorcycles with intended usage was provided to USAID with the Close Out plan.

D. Key Audit Information

As a US funded organization, the OMB A-133 audit was completed for FY 2010 in October 2010. There were no major observations, let alone “disallowed costs” in the initial audit report.