

KABIL

A Non-Profit Organisation Promoting Rural Prosperity



Annual Activity Report FY 2022-2023



WORK DONE IN ASSAM

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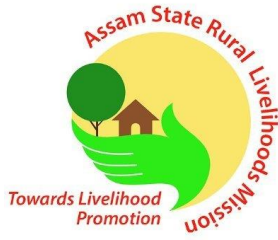


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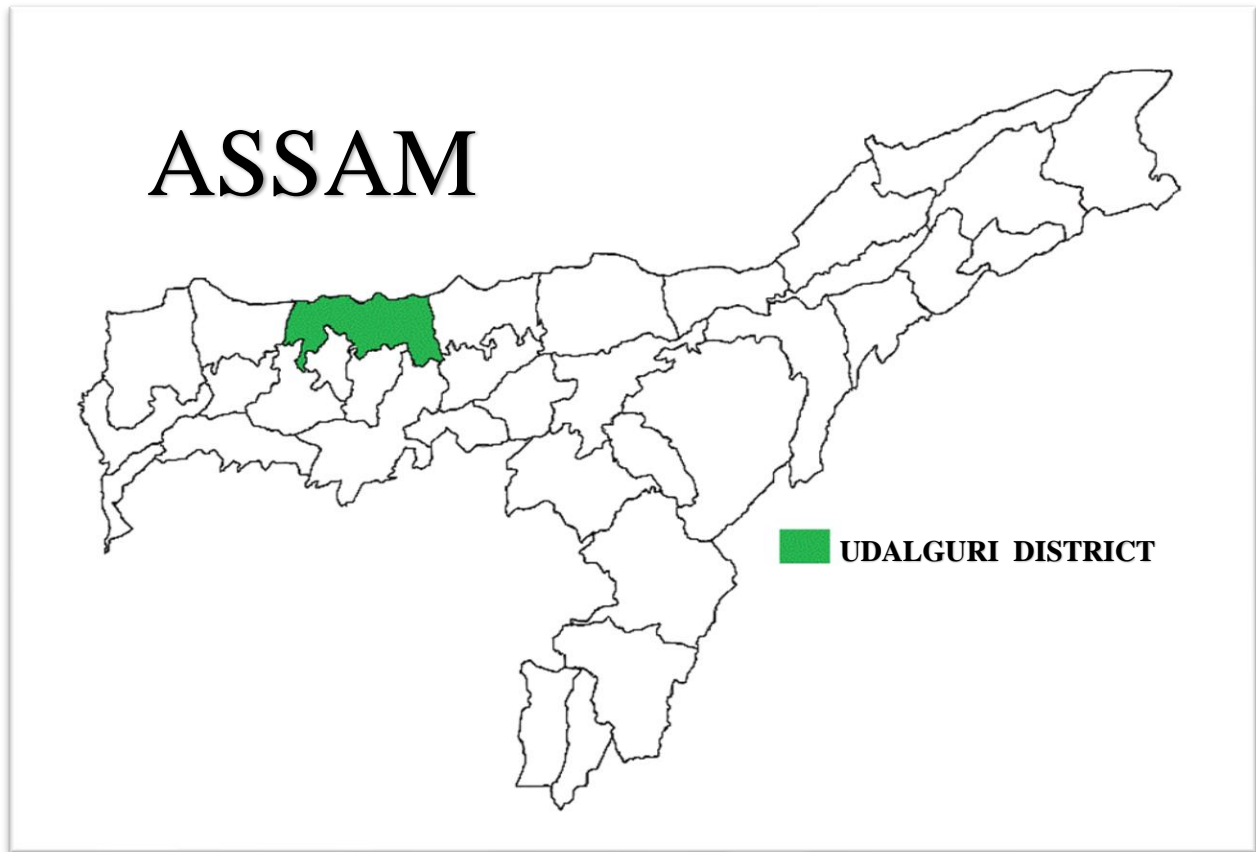


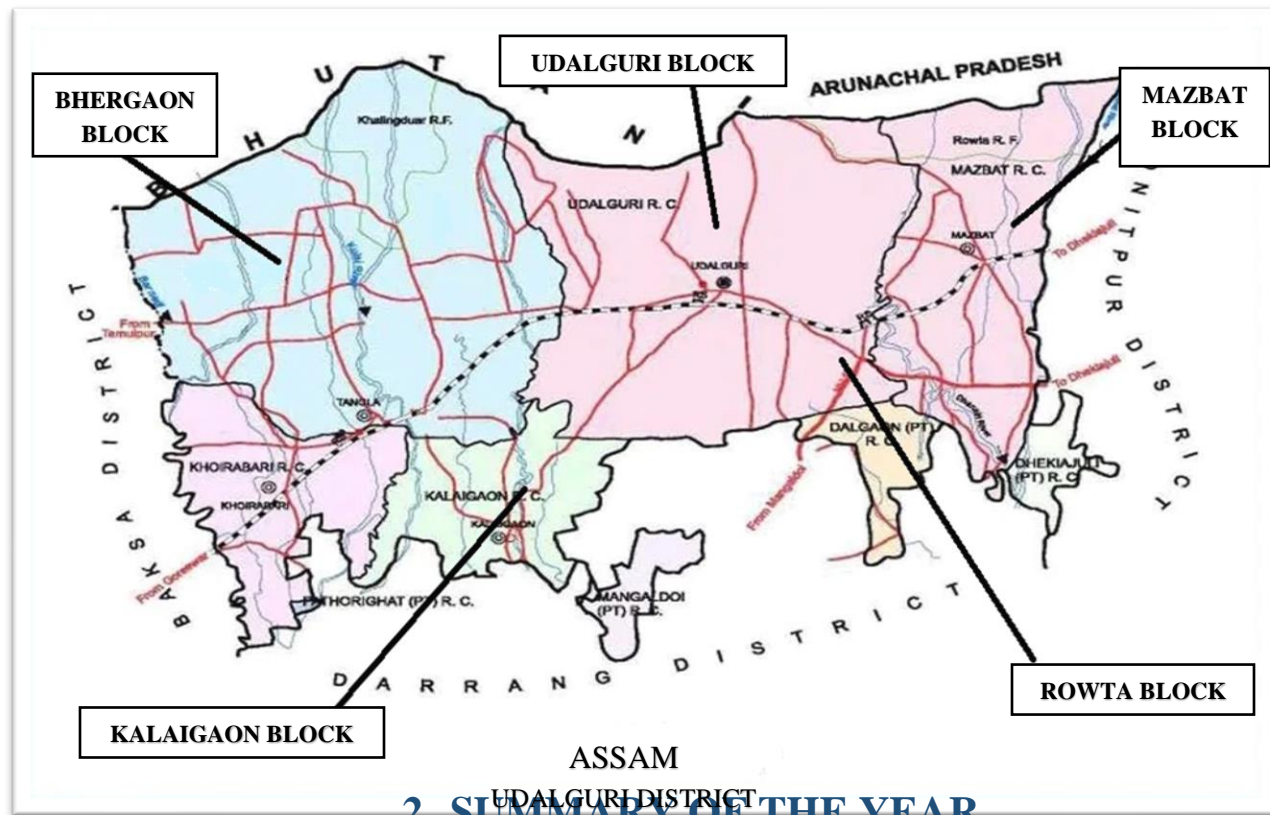
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1. GEOGRAPHICAL OUTREACH OF KABIL IN ASSAM





The year started with an early rainfall i.e. from mid-March and lasted till July causing a flood situation in the pre-monsoon months viz. May & June in Udalguri and Mazbat. It was said by the locals that the last flood to have happened in Udalguri was in the 90s. The people were not prepared for a sudden flood situation. However, all necessary arrangements being made by the government at the apparent time saved the lives of people. Although, many livestock were harmed and it affected the livelihood of people. June is the month of Paddy seed sowing. Most of the households couldn't do paddy cropping due to floods, for the effects of calamity lasted till mid-August. KABIL with the fund support from RCRC supported 1200 families with food items during the flood situation.

KABIL's work started with focusing on the successful closure of 3 projects viz. "the sustainable livelihood project funded by Axis Bank Foundation (ABF), COVID-19 Relief Project funded by Azim Premji Foundation (APF), and the PMAGY project funded by Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC). The closure was scheduled for the end of June.



All the above-mentioned projects had a significant impact in the long run. In the ABF-funded project, we could extend support to 24000 approx. families i.e. 60% additional families than the actual target through several agriculture and livestock interventions. In the COVID-19 Relief Project, with KABIL's consistent effort, support, and dedication of the field coordinators, the health department of Mazbat block has been able to complete first dose coverage in 146 revenue villages under 4 PHCs. In the PMAGY project, KABIL supported the District Rural Development Agency of Udalguri in preparing a village Development Plan for 13 Villages in Udalguri District.

Consecutively, three more projects viz. "Sustainable livelihood project" funded by APF, "Integrated farming Cluster project" in collaboration with ASRLMS, and a short-term project on "Flood Relief" funded by RCRC were run through during the year. KABIL's outreach from the year 2018 has extended to 35000 approx. till now.

KABIL's work in Udalguri Block has been recognized by the State Mission Director (SMD) of ASRLM. Honourable SMD wrote a letter of appreciation to ABF for the effort shown by ABF and KABIL in the area, further, requesting to extend the project. Although the project was not extended due to unsaid reasons, KABIL's impact is visible in the Block.

In due course, APF approached KABIL with a proposal for a new project on the livelihood enhancement of Adivasis in the Udalguri in our existing workplace. The project is on hold due to technical reasons from the donor's end. Meanwhile, KABIL applied for a project named "Transforming the Lives of Bodoland Tribes" tendered by BRLF in September. Gladly, KABIL was offered this project out of many organizations. The duration of the project is for 4 years and should commence from April onwards.

3. Sustainable Livelihoods for Rural Poor in Undivided Udalguri Block of Assam funded by ABF





FY 21-22 was the final year of the 4-year project. However, there had been no cost extension in the project from April to June 2022. During this period, the Project primarily focused on strengthening the collaboration with ASRLM, deepening the work with the families with whom we had already worked in the last 4 years by strengthening the work with existing groups/SHGs, access bank credits, and optimum utilization of credit through livelihood planning with the SHGs. KABIL had worked with 24,765 net families across 20 VCDCs (equivalent to gram panchayats) in the blocks of Udalguri and Harisinga, which includes both SHG and Non-SHG families in the last 4 years.



3.1. VCDC-wise outreach of net household numbers across all activities in the last 4 years:

CONSOLIDATED LIVELIHOOD FAMILY LIST- A JOINT INITIATIVE BETWEEN ASRLM-ABF-KABIL								
Sl	VCDC	Households Count Year Wise				Total Net	Total SHG	Total Non-SHG
		18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22			
1	Alabari			293	655	827	621	206
2	Ambagaon	66	336	381	500	1058	837	221
3	Amjuli	370	598	576	444	1382	803	579
4	Barnagaon	230	694	367	95	1097	1023	74
5	Bhairaguri	227	409	582	499	1366	1202	164
6	Borigaon		242	796	284	1198	742	456
7	Harisinga		481	247	418	958	693	265
8	Jaberitola	5	16	529	644	1138	322	816
9	Khawrang		112	584	918	1429	541	888
10	Khomabari	22	136	150	596	815	630	185
11	Merbangsuba		435	265	596	1107	722	385
12	Odala	221	628	366	1212	1960	894	1066
13	Purandia		258	168	689	966	535	431
14	Sapangaon	212	467	760	1467	2269	1080	1189
15	Sapkhaiti	323	518	330	335	936	651	285
16	Tamulbari		238	420	266	711	445	266
17	Udalguri	47	107	281	412	671		202
18	Bengbari		184	134	388	543	332	211
19	Sastrapara	241	909	704	1315	2468	2179	289



20	Sonaigaon	385	958	727	659	1866	1336	530
	TOTAL	2413	7726	8660	12392	24765	16057	8708

ABF conducted an impact study through ILRT in the KABIL intervention areas in Udalguri Block in the month of May. There was a team of 5 members who visited and assessed KABIL’s intervention area for 15 days. This was a new experience for us and we could learn a few things during the impact study.

3.2. Individual Beneficiary Schemes through MGNREGS

KABIL has been implementing improved pig rearing, horticulture, rabi crops, and kharif crops, from the start of the project. For promoting such activities, we have been continuously engaging with the district administration of Udalguri for promoting Individual Beneficiary Schemes such as farm ponds and pigsties. By utilizing the labor and material budget through MGNREGS, Block Udalguri helped provide Individual Beneficiary Schemes, which helped the families in durable asset creation for livelihoods.

499 plans got sanctioned for FY 21- 22, and the same was implemented throughout the year. In this period, KABIL has facilitated the construction of 20 Farm Ponds under MGNREGS.



Completion of Farm Pond Levelling

3.3. Credit Linkage

In a review meeting with the ASRLM on 17th February 2022 chaired by the State Mission Director, KABIL



raised the subject of credit leveraging. The updated figures available with the ASRLM indicated that many SHGs were struggling with the utilization of the loans already disbursed to them by some banks. Additionally, some SHGs required loans for agriculture and livestock activities but were unable to do so because of the unavailability of credit. It was decided in the meeting that while KABIL would facilitate the SHGs in livelihood planning for the utilization of loans that are already disbursed to them, NESFB would be requested to provide credit to SHGs, which are looking for credit access. The process followed:

1. Selection of SHGs with good loan repayment records under different village organizations of ASRLM.
2. Bank Mitras promoted by ASRLM will be the service providers for the SHGs in filling up the forms, collection of documents, and submission of forms to the NESFB. They will be remunerated for their service through the ASRLM system
3. KABIL will facilitate livelihood planning of activities for loans from NESFB as well as for loans that are already disbursed to the SHGs but remain unutilized. KABIL shall provide all training needed for loan utilization.
4. The SHGs and VOs will take a guarantee of ensuring repayment of the loan from the Bank.



Loan Meeting with the SHG Members

In the period, KABIL facilitated 41 SHGs for loans. Out of which, 4 SHG loans have been sanctioned and disbursed.

3.4. Strengthening joint effort between ASRLM and KABIL



SHG approach with ASRLM:

Following the review meeting and other recent interactions, KABIL and ASRLM came together for an intensive livelihood planning and implementation through the SHGs. The volunteers, SPEs, and advanced farmers promoted by KABIL and the Jeevika Sakhis, Krishi, and Pashu Sakhis of ASRLM worked in a coordinated way to support the SHG families through their SHGs. SHGs have been encouraged and facilitated jointly by KABIL and ASRLM for livelihood activities. KABIL is supporting the ASRLM and its SHGs by sharing its technical knowledge in farming, Kitchengarden, and livestock management. The SMD, ASRLM is insisting that KABIL should work more with the Adivasi community in livelihood enhancement as they come from the most deprived community. KABIL is looking forward to working on livelihood enhancement focusing on the development of the Adivasi community in Udalguri Block.

3.5. Grooming of community cadres/Service Provider Entrepreneurs (SPE)

SPEs are the community cadres who sell quality inputs and render services to the project beneficiaries so that the latter can do a livelihood activity in a more profitable way. In the first 3 years, Kabil had trained and incubated 47 individuals as SPEs for both agriculture & livestock themes. 29 among them were Livestock SPEs, while 19 were Agriculture SPEs.

We continued to coordinate between the SPEs and the communities. The SPEs have established a good chain of business alongside extension volunteers and village organisations. Some SPEs are earning by selling homemade organic fungicides. Three SPEs qualified as Community Resource Person under ASRLM. Some livestock SPEs have been selected as vaccinators by the Veterinary Department, and also some of them have been shortlisted for Pashu Sakhi under ASRLM.

4. Strengthening livelihoods for rural poor in Mazbat block of Udalguri district (Assam) funded by APF





Covering the period from January 2021 to March 2023, this report presents an update on the project activities and the implementation environment. Among other updates, the SPE grooming is progressing well and the project team has now reached 50% of the projected work to be done on this component. We could reach around 2352 net households till now which includes 1922 households through agri-allied activities and 1592 households through livestock activities.

4.1. Skill Building of 2000 small marginal farmers on Agri and livestock

More than 62% of the targeted beneficiaries have adopted improved agriculture and livestock practices till March 2023.



4.1.1. In Agriculture,

The economy of the Mazbat Block is primarily agricultural in nature. Earlier most of the farmers practiced single cropping, the cultivation land was kept unused after paddy harvesting, which led to the wastage of land resources and it resulted in a loss of productivity. Subsequently, with KABIL's constant engagement, presently, most of the farmers are now practicing multi-cropping, they are making optimum use of their land, and even the homestead land is used for Climate resilient agriculture i.e. cultivation under the rain shelter, where they are sowing King Chili, Tomato, leafy vegetables etc. Farmers are now cultivating throughout the year under the rain shelter. The surplus is being sold in the local market. KABIL could reach around 1922 households through agri-allied activities as of March.

Mazbat is a place where people do open-field vegetable cultivation after Kharif paddy. The area coverage of vegetable cultivation per household is limited. People don't go for vegetable cultivation for 100 percent area due to certain risks involved such as open grazing, marketing difficulties, lack of capital for investment, and lack of knowledge. People do vegetable cultivation mostly for their consumption, only marginal surpluses are sold in local markets. KABIL intervened with these households and has been able to facilitate around 1580 households for cultivating Cowpea, Spiny Gourd, Sponge Gourd, Okra, pumpkin, Maize, and Peas during the year.

Alongside cropping, organic practices have been one of the significant components in agriculture intervention. KABIL always encourages the farmers to adopt organic practices and training is imparted for the same. Around 1302 Households have done agriculture through the organic method.



Agriculture Activities throughout the year:



Growing Black Pepper Plant



Growing Papaya Plant



Pea Cultivation



Maize cultivation in an open field

Pumpkin Cultivation



Tomato cultivation under Rainshelter



King Chili Cultivation under Rainshleter



Bottle Gourd cultivation

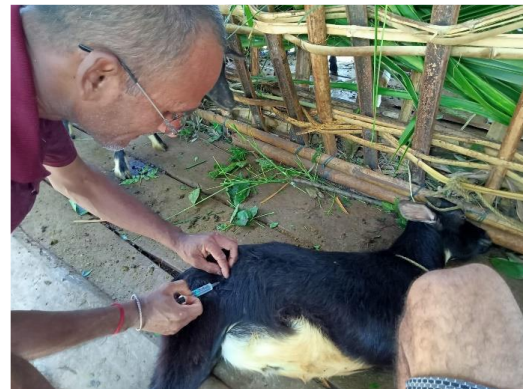
4.1.2. In Livestock:

Livestock is the main wealth next to the agriculture of a large chunk of the rural population. Starting from January 2021 KABIL could reach around 1592 households through livestock activities as on March 2023. Pig is highly consumed in the Udalguri district, whereas, mostly the Bodo, Adivasi, and Rabha communities do pig rearing which is a source of income for them. The farmers in Mazbat used to practice the traditional method of livestock management. The pigs could not have proper growth because they were kept outside and there was a lack of hygiene. Subsequently, KABIL intervened and



made the community aware of the improved livestock practices like building low-cost pigsties, the benefit of keeping pigs under the pigsty, the Significance of vaccination, deworming of pigs, and adding the mineral mixture to the pig feed. Earlier, the pigs used to grow up to 60Kgs at the time of selling it. Following KABIL's intervention, it is observed that the pigs now grow up to 80kgs at the time of selling.

Alongside Pig rearing, other livestock vaccinations like poultry vaccination, and cow and goat vaccinations have been encouraged among the community. Community is now aware of the importance of vaccination and they practice vaccination every quarter. KABIL groomed SPEs who are now adequately trained in improved piggery practices, vaccination, and para-veterinary services. Improved pig feed training events are being conducted by SPEs. Demonstrations are done during SHG, VO, and community meetings. SPEs have been linked with the veterinary department by availing resources from the department.



4.2. Improving the livelihood asset base of the target farmers



The MGNRES has become a difficult task in the targeted VCDCs. The process of making an annual action plan and submission has been done at the Block and district level. KABIL professionals have actively participated in Gram Sabhas conducted in every VCDC. Awareness was generated regarding the IBS schemes. As per the Block Development Officer (BDO) of Mazbat, the VCDCs are prioritizing community schemes over individual schemes. Even after several follow up and requests being made to the Block the individual schemes are put to a halt. Also, as per a recent discussion with the BTC, the IBS under MGNREGS is put to a halt at the BTC level, hence the district is unable to process the documents.

4.3. Promotion of a pool of 20 service provider entrepreneurs (SPEs):

20 nos of SPEs have been recruited and are engaged in agriculture and livestock activities. The exposure of SPEs to the Assam Agriculture University in December had a positive impact on the SPEs. Followed by the exposure, the SPEs were called up to the Mazbat office for a meeting where we tried to focus on their interests and also discussed with them about creating a link between the KVK and the SPEs for a sustainable impact. The convergence meeting with the KVK, KABIL, and SPEs has been postponed due to the unavailability of professionals in the nearest KVK. The KABIL professionals are connected with the SPEs on a regular basis and the project work in the field is being done through SPEs and with the SPEs.



Many of the SPEs are actively doing business by making saplings in their greenhouse net, selling them within the village at a reasonable price, and earning through it. This also is meeting the need for quality saplings at an affordable price.

4.4. Facilitation of community institutions and ASRLM for access to credit and its utilization



We have engaged with the block for supporting them for credit access for the SHGs. However, it was observed that ASRLM of the Mazbat Block is capable to access credit for the SHGs and does not need additional effort on accessing the credit. However, credit utilization has been a difficult task. KABIL has received the list of groups from the block that have received credit. Kabil is going to facilitate the SHGs in livelihood planning and proper utilization of the credit.

5. Integrated Farming Cluster (IFC) in collaboration with ASRLM

IFC initiative is formulated by the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India for the aspirational districts. In Assam, ASRLM is the anchor for the initiative. The initiative at Udalguri aims to create an integrated farming cluster of 300 families in every block. These 300 families will be supported by multiple agriculture and allied activities. ASRLM has approached KABIL to guide them for the Integrated Farming Cluster at the district level in addition to implementing the IFC in 4 blocks viz. Udalguri, Mazbat, Bhergaon, and Rowta. There is a non-financial agreement between KABIL and ASRLM for technical support to be provided by KABIL in the project work. KABIL is directly implementing the project in Udalguri and Mazbat blocks, whereas, it will provide support to Bhergaon and Rowta blocks as per requirement of ASRLM.



KABIL has supported ASRLM in the following ways:

- A. Conducted field visits at selected villages of ASRLM and made an activity basket for interventions in such villages.
- B. Drafting the proposal for IFC and sending the same to the State. KABIL has drafted the proposal for the Udalguri district and sent the proposal format to other blocks
- C. Supported in the scripting of the IFC proposal for another district, namely, Cachar
- D. Provided training on project objectives to field cadres of ASRLM
- E. Provided one-day orientation of the project to ASRLM Nagaon.
- F. Demonstrated baseline information collection to the enumerators
- G. Monitored against the baseline



- H. Trained the ASRLM community cadres on Agriculture Ecological practices and Livestock practices.

6. COVID-19 (Support the health Administration in Orang CHC & 3 PHCs)

COVID-19 posed a serious public health challenge, it significantly affected the lives of many, especially the poorest and most vulnerable communities with whom KABIL was working. Recognizing the affair, Azim Premji Foundation supported KABIL with a grant of Rs. 36,63,000/- to support the health administration in Orang CHC & 3 PHCs (Dhansrighat, Moholiapara, Geruabazar) of Mazbat block, Udalguri district, Assam, for coverage of 1,55,706 pending doses of COVID vaccination. The Block consists of 16 VCDs.

In order to implement the project successfully, KABIL recruited a team of 1 Program coordinator, and 8 field-level coordinators, and in the month of October- November 4 MIS associates. A total of 121 survey volunteers (volunteers surveying both offline in survey forms and online in vaxIT) were recruited for surveying 146 villages under Mazbat Development Block. A total of 29 data entry volunteers worked either computerizing offline surveyed data in Excel files or uploading offline data to vaxIT. Apart from that local ASHAs, and Anganwadi workers also helped in confirming overdue lists of their concerned villages.

The steps involved in project implementation were:

1. 121 volunteers were identified for doing an offline survey of households. The volunteers were representatives from CLF, ASRLM CRPs, and Villagers recommended by the BPM and Chairpersons of concerned VCDs.
2. Organized Camps – the process followed:
 - A multi-step process was required to organize a vaccination camp to ensure that everyone in a given village was fully vaccinated. The list of those who have not been vaccinated and those for whom the second dose was overdue were given to BPM, Health after the survey (both hard copy and soft copy through email).
 - The lists were then forwarded to ASHA supervisors and ANMs by him and then distributed to local ASHAs for their respective villages.



- The local ASHA contacted the persons mentioned on the lists and they were called upon by her in a particular place at a pre-discussed time.
- The ANM, along with the local ASHA (in the presence of any of our vaccination team members), went to that pre-discussed camping place using the transportation facility provided by APF and gave vaccination to the people on the lists to achieve 100 percent vaccination coverage for that given village (door to door visit was done for people who were medically unfit to move).
- In March, the team adopted a new strategy to speed up the process. With BPM's permission, the field coordinators reached directly to local ASHAs with the above-mentioned lists after completion of the survey and in that same meeting with ASHAs, the people in the lists were called upon. The camping place and time were determined as soon as possible.
- The people on the lists for some villages were taken to nearby sub center through local transportation, the cost of which was provided by KABIL from the project.

6.1. Achievement

- With KABIL's consistent effort, support and dedication of the field coordinators, the health department of Mazbat block has been able to complete first dose coverage in 146 villages (only some of the persons having the birth year 2004 and medically weak, vulnerable people are exempted). Technically, vaxIT shows persons having the birth year 2004 above 18 though most of them did not cross 18 years in June) and second dose coverage in 100 villages (having overdue count 0 till June, 22) under Mazbat dev. Block. vaxIT portal adds new people every day having 2nd dose overdue dates; thus the team had sent the list of 2nd dose overdue people to the BPM, Health just after the survey of that village was completed so that data did not get old.
- One of the most crucial achievements of the team is that it had successfully mobilized reluctant, afraid and resistant people (especially in hard-to-reach hilly areas) and got them vaccinated. Certain communities in VCDCs like Lamabari, Alabari, 64 Dhansri, Jogyapur, and Rowtagaon under Mazbat Development Block (primarily the Christian Bodo community, and Adibasi community) are vaccine resistant, creating serious obstacles to the Mazbat Development Block's full immunization. KABIL's continuous support and help for mobilization were appreciated by Mr Pankaj Sabhapandit, BPM Health, and Mr. Ganesh Brahma, DIO Udalguri.



- The team organized a total of more than 296 vaccination camps in all villages under Mazbat dev. Block from 17th of November to 18th of June which administered both 1st and 2nd doses.
- All the 121 surveyors in all the villages under Mazbat dev. Block had surveyed 24,455 Households covering 91,528 individuals out of which a total of 65,464 above 18 individuals were surveyed. The surveyors also surveyed 25,946 below-18 individuals some of whom are recorded in vaxIT to be vaccinated after Govt. started vaccination to 15-17 years' individuals in January, 22 under Mazbat block which can help the team in future for below 18 vaccination drive.
- After more than 296 camps have been completed in all villages under Mazbat block the status of vaccination as shown by the vaxIT portal is as follows.

Name of PHC	Villages under PHC	1 st dose vaccination percentage	2 nd dose vaccination percentage
Mahaliyapara Model Hospital	83	100%	83%
Orang CHC	33	100%	91%
Dhansrighat PHC	15	100%	89%
Pauripota SD	14	100%	88%

The average 2nd dose vaccination as seen in the vaxIT portal is 87.75%.

7. Flood Relief Project funded by Azim Premji Foundation

India for the most part was experiencing tremendous heat in the month of June, some northeastern states like Assam, a flood-prone state are facing high-water levels this year. In these pre-monsoon months, viz. In May and June, the state has been facing one of its worst floods. According to reports, the reason for the flood was due to the significant rainfall in Bhutan and India's Himalayan range, which has caused the rivers in Assam to start flowing backward. Assam's situation had deteriorated as a result of the pre-monsoon rain which had affected so many households making the situation in Assam worse.

The situation of Mazbat Development Block of Udalguri district was terrible due to the significant rains. The condition of poor families was depressing, as a large number of people lost their livelihood and were living in deplorable conditions. Houses were submerged in water, causing difficulties in cooking and obtaining basic necessities such as food and other items. Income generation ceased because they were unable to leave their homes and seek shelter elsewhere because the majority of the areas were underwater. The river bank of Rowta River, which is locally known as "Pagla River" collapsed and flashed away many of the houses, especially in villages of Khagrabil and Nagaon of Rangapani VCDC and Niz-rangapani village of Alabari VCDC and so on. The water



level was devastating to the extent that the newly constructed bridge of Shillongkhuti is partly destroyed. In due course, KABIL was provided with a fund of Rs. 9,95,000/- to support them with Ration and Sanitary kits in their most vulnerable state and assist them in recovering from their worst situation. KABIL could extend support to 1200 Households with the available fund.

Supported Villages under Mazbat Dev. Block, Udalguri, Assam			
VCDC	Sl. No.	Village name	No. of HH
Gelabil	1	No1 Jangal Block	70
	2	Puhurabari	50
	3	Aunajuli	40
	4	kalbari	50
	5	jamuguri	50
Naoherua	1	Khiyajuli	60
	2	Boscobari	30
Merabil	1	Tekelibil	60
	2	Merabil No 1	60
	3	Godhabil	40
	4	Goroimari	60
	5	Nepalpara	50
	6	Gerubari	40
Lamabari	1	Bahadur Adarsha	190
	2	No1 Pathakpur	40
	3	No 2Pathakpur	30
Rangapani	1	Khagrabil	70
	2	Shilong Khuti	50
	3	Nagaon	55
	4	Solmari	55
	5	No2 Rangapani	50
Total			1200





8. Upcoming Projects:

APF approached KABIL with a proposal for a new project on the “livelihood enhancement of Adivasis in the Udalguri” in our existing workplace. The project duration will be for 3 years. The project is mainly aiming to improve the lifestyle of the Adivasis residing in Udalguri by working on improving their education, health, and livelihood. A meeting was held on the 30th & 31st of May, 2022 in Tezpur, Assam. Several more NGOs participated in the meeting. The meeting was organized by APF and SESTA for sharing information about the project. A draft proposal with a budget has been shared with APF in September. The project is on hold due to technical reasons from the donor’s end. Hoping the project commences next year.

Meanwhile, KABIL expressed its interest in a project named “Transforming the Lives of Bodoland Tribes” tendered by BRLF in September. Gladly, KABIL was offered this project out of many organizations. The duration of the project is four years. An inception meeting was held in February at the BTC, Secretariat including representatives from 5 implementing agencies (KABIL, ANT, NRSWN, SESTA, and GVM), Line Departments (Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Soil Conservation), PNRD, BTC, and APF. It was informed by BRLF that the project will be directly funded by APF, whereas, BRLF will monitor the implementation of the project.

KABIL will target 10000 STs and Adivasis households in two blocks (Mazbat & Udalguri) of Udalguri district over a period of four years. The implementation strategy of this proposed project envisages that KABIL will provide facilitation support to the Gram Panchayats and front-line Government functionaries for participatory planning and provide onsite technical support for better implementation of the planned interventions. KABIL's facilitation support and capacity building cost would be provided



by BRLF, whereas physical work and input support to the targeted households would be carried out by leveraging financial resources from Government flagship schemes like MGNREGA and from other line departments working under BTC. The inauguration of the project is scheduled for April 2023 at the BTC secretariat



