

## **ANAGRASAR SAMAJ UNNYAN SONGSTHA-ASUS**

Anagrasar Samaj Unnyan Songstha (ASUS) was launched in 1998 as a non profitable and non political voluntary organization to provide support to the Indigenous people. It was established to promote rights of the Indigenous Community and their empowerment. ASUS, a committed, dedicated & and regionally reputed NGO having more than lots of experience in group approach, community participation, training on different areas of development, mass awareness creation in the field of the land issues, land rights, child education, child rights, labor rights, water & sanitation, health and hygiene, recovery of Indigenous culture, women empowerment, social safety net, Practices democracy in the Indigenous community, climate change, women violence protection, capacity develop to women leader, Indigenous Disability Development and create employment, child marriage protection & also support to education stipend & IGA etc is well experienced in management of any sort of project.

In 2001, the ASUS's constitution was approved and registered by the Department of Social Welfare, the Government of peoples Republic of Bangladesh. The Registration no. is Rajsha/635/2001 dated 16 September 2001.

### **Working Area of ASUS**

<b>District</b>	<b>Upazila/City</b>	<b># of union/ward</b>
Rajshahi	Rajshahi City Corporation	
	Godagari	# 9 Unions
	Tanore	# 6 Unions
Chapai-Nawabgonj	Nachole	# 4 Unions

### **# of beneficiary coverage**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Direct	2,677	2,565	5,242	
Indirect	19,595	20,962	40,557	
Total	22272	23527	45,799	

### **The main activities of ASUS**

- Indigenous Land rights
- Legal Aid service for beneficiaries
- Education for Indigenous Children
- Indigenous community access to Social Safety net program
- Women empowerment and gender equality
- Countering against Violence Extremism
- Stop Early Marriage
- Prevention of violence against women
- Water, sanitation, health and hygiene

- Climate change & food security
- Child Rights & Human Rights
- Develop of Indigenous Traditional Culture
- Practices democracy in the Indigenous community
- Protected of any kind of violence in the Indigenous community.
- Indigenous Disability Development and create employment.

### **Management of the ASUS**

The organization has two committees: (1) General Committee and (2) Executive Committee. The General Committee consists of 28 members. Among the members 11 are female. The Executive committee consists of 7 members. Among them 3 are female members. The executive committee is elected by the general committee members. The EC provides group leadership by having the Executive Director with the responsibilities of heads of the organization. The Executive Director is accountable to the Executive committee.

### **Executive Committee Consists of 7 (Seven) Members of ASUS**

SI #	Name	Designation	Sex	Remarks
01	Suman Kumar Shaha	Chairperson	Male	
02	Md. Ibrahim Ali	Vice Chairman	Male	
03	Rajkumar Shaw	General Secretary	Male	
04	Khogendra Nath Baskey	Assistant General Secretary	Male	
05	Ms. Majkura Khatun	Treasurer	Female	
06	Shree Asono Uraon	Executive Member	Male	
07	Elizabeth Murmu	Executive Member	Female	

### **Staff Policy of ASUS**

Category of staff	Number & Sex		
	M	F	Total
Program Staff	7	1	8
Finance & Admin staff	1	-	1
Support staff	1	1	2
School Teacher	-	7	7
Volunteer	8	7	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>35</b>

### **Involved With Government Committee of ASUS**

- Executive member of Rajshai Divisional Indigenous Cultural Academy;
- Rajshahi District GO/NGO coordination committee member
- Executive member of Godagari Upazila level Special Affairs Division (SAD) Committee;
- Executive member of Godagari Upazila level Women's Violence Protection Committee;
- Executive member of Union Parishad level Disaster Management Committee;
- Coordinator of GO-NGO meeting at Upazila level. Selected by UNO;

### **Member of Different Networks of ASUS**

The organization is the member of the following networks-

Member of Bangladesh Indigenous Forum;

Member of Climate Change (Barind Group);

Member of Jatio Adibashi Parishad Land Right Forum;

Member of Borendra Unnayan Forum (BUF);

Member of National Alliance for Combating Sexual Exploitation of Children (NACSEC);

Member of NGO Alliance (INA);

Member of Representative Selection of United Nations Permanent Forum;

Member of Bangladesh Peoples Network on Climate Change and Biodiversity;

### **Organization Policy of ASUS**

ASUS believes that gender equality is needed for an organization and also practicing with its. It has been maintaining staff rules from the beginning of the organization. The organization also has been maintaining the administration and financial policy.

### **The organization has the following policy**

- Staff management Policy;
- Financial Policy;
- Gender Policy;
- Strategic Plan;
- Fixed assets management;
- Office Security and backup policy
- Procurement Procedures
- Information Technology

### **The main focus Indigenous Land rights and Legal Aid service Issue of ASUS:-**

- Promote the rights of children, youth, women, differently able and marginalized people.
- Accelerate of social changes through developing coordination with others actors engaged in development fields
- Knowledge and leadership capacities of adibashi CBOs developed to support adibashi population/community to claim their human rights and entitlements
- Support adibashi communities to develop strong national voice and solidarity
- Ensure representation of Parliament members, local government officials, officials of land development, media, civil society members and human rights activist.

- School system strengthened for ensuring that adibashi children have greater access to bilingual pre-primary information and formal education provided by GO/NGOs respectively
- Strengthening women leadership to protect women right and ending violence against women
- Capacity of adibashi organization at community, regional and national level enhanced to assert their right
- Adibashi land rights including right to communal land consolidated
- Primary education (right to bilingual education) of Adibashi children promoted.
- Capacity building of indigenous target groups
- Facilitation of peoples participatory strategic planning
- Sensitization & participatory action research process LGIs bodies
- Establishing democracy and governance through people participation
- Build peoples' capacity to cope with climate change and natural disaster impacts and conserve natural bio-diversity

**Programs implementation organizational experiences of ASUS**

SI #	Title of the Project	Funded by	Duration of the Project	Continuity
1	Promoting Engagement and Action for Countering Extremism (PEACE) Consortium Project	Global Community Engagement Resilience Fund-GCERF, Local supported by: Rupantar-Khulna	Sept. 2016 to Continue	On going
2	Support to Indigenous Peoples in Plain Land -SIPPL	Oxfam	April 2012 – June 2014	-
3	Adibashi Rights Project in Plain Land	Manusher Jonno Foundation-MJF & DFID	August 2005 to Dec. 2016	----
4	Strengthening Movement to Advance Women's Rights and Gender Equality Project	Steps Towards Development	Sept. 2003 - Dec. 2014	-
5	Child rights of Adibashi	Denmark via BARSICK	Sept. 2005 - Dec. 2005	-
6	EIDHR	Oxfam-EU	September 2013-Feb.2015	-
7	Climate Change Campaign in Barind Context	Oxfam	July 2007- March 2015	-
8	Drinking Security for the Poor and Women	ICCO, Supported by: B.C.A.S & A.M.R.F Society	Sept. 2004 - Dec. 2010	-----
9	Voter Registration Awareness builds up for Adibashi Community.	The Asia Foundation, USAID	March 2008- July 2008	-
10	Street children right violence protection	INCIDIN Bangladesh	January 2009-2012	-
11	DLDGSAA Project	Prip Trust (Priya India)	March 2011- February 2013	-
12	PRODIP	The Asia Foundation, USAID	March 2012-April 2014	-
13	EWG	The Asia Foundation, USAID	Nov. 2013-April 2014	-
14	National Social Harmony Campaign	Democracy International	October 2014 to Dec. 2014	-
15	Stop Violence Coalition-SVC	SDC & Rupantar	October 2015 to till	On going
16	Improved Justice & Legal Aid Services-IJLAS	Light House & DFID	Dec. 2015-March 2016	

## **General/definition:**

01. Campaign of reduced to early marriage, violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse in the adibashi community of working area beneficiaries.

03. On this project issues are as pre primary education school (PPS), land rights, safety net, education stipend, income generating without interest, advocacy, lobby, meeting, seminar, dialogue, land gathering, mass awareness, raising voice to stop for in any kind of violence, torture, sexual abuse, eve teasing etc. of working area adibashis.

04. On this project issues are as pre primary education school (PPS), land rights, safety net, advocacy, lobby, meeting, seminar, dialogue, land gathering, establish of women empowerment in ethnic community (Sommilito Adibashi Nari Jote), formation CBO & make a established voice raise in their need based issues, raising voice to stop for in any kind of violence, torture, sexual abuse, eve teasing etc. of working area adibashis.

05. Strengthening voice of civil society and community to protect and promote human rights for ethnic minorities and dalits accessing to rights and entitlements, establish & raise their voice and uphold the rights and entitlements from community to national level, support the existing movement who are engaged in promoting the women and human rights for the ethnic minorities and dalits as per national and international policies and protocols, linking with national movement existing civil society and continuously promoting rights and entitlements aspect of the targeted communities, government service providers are more sensitive to ensure rights and entitlement of targeted communities, develop human rights defenders, training on land rights and land management, rapid response on human right violation cases and access to justice, participation in local government and inclusion into other institutions, organize 'human right fair' to promote understanding on human rights & democracy, public hearing on human right situation ethnic minorities and dalits, day observations and social mobilization, support to strengthening the action of national parliamentary caucus. On this project, ASUS closely working with human rights issues & formation of special standing committee & human rights defenders, who have work in independently in any kind of violence in the working area & raising voice. It's assistance by European Union (EU) & Oxfam. In this project, ASUS gathered knowledge & independently capable for 2 days Human Rights Fair with assistance of Oxfam & European Union. Presence in the fair of Oxfam & EU country director/representative, MP, DC, professor of RU, police commissioner, JAP, political leader, different Govt. representative, civil Society etc. & also cultural team of Dhaka & Rajshahi ethnic community & drama, Gamvira etc.

06. Excavation & re-excavation of khas ponds & kharies, to be aware about de-merits of ground water, encouraged tree-plantation, to habituate the appropriate crop cultivation etc.

07. There are many indigenous cast/group (identity) in our country. Previously there was no way to identify indigenous people, whether they are from which cast/group; in the voter list. ASUS earlier worked on this said issues and it was broad cast in the different media and lastly it was notified to the election commission & accepted this issue.

09. Campaign with this project on the street children, training, meeting, dialogue etc. with different service providers, focusing on media of reduce & awareness to overall.

10. Ethnic people and related stakeholders will aware empower and practice the democratic system and lead their social life free from gender bias, TSS representatives, CSOs, CBOs and local elected members will be capacitated to gender responsiveness and practice democratic system and ethnic representatives including women participation will increase in the organization and local government, ethnic people particularly women will address their problems to the local MPs and

caucus members as well as get a hold opportunity to reduce poverty by taking support from SAD and safety net programs, member of parliaments will be more sensitized to ethnic community rights and take initiatives for promoting democratic organization and gender responsiveness, district public policy forum (DPPF) will play a vital role to address the different problems of the people including ethnic as well as promote democracy in local level;

11. Election Working Group which is working on the observation of election work;

12. Stop Violence Coalition (SVC) is a coalition like networking platform of national NGOs and civil society organizations (CSOs) in Bangladesh, supported by a range of like-minded partners, who advance a culture of non-violent political and communal relations in Bangladesh by equipping citizens for advocacy and duty bearers for non-violent dispute resolution and conflict transformation to counter and prevent violent extremism covering a number of districts in six divisions all across Bangladesh. Project objective is advance religious freedom in Bangladesh by building resilience against political and communal violence in the working areas;

13. Bangladesh Youth Network (Youth Campaign) is organize the UNDP for create an enabling environment for civil society actors to collaborate and achieve shared objectives of youth empowerment. As a part ASUS formation a youth forum & campaign for awareness to its working areas indigenous communities;

14. Improved Justice & Legal Aid Services (IJLAS): There are unions & each union have formation in one adibashi community groups & upazila level one. Each groups/committee have an at least 25-30 members (Adibashi leader, teacher, women leader, religions leader, student and civil society). The target group are communicated of weekly meeting in different legal issues, such as-health, community clinic, human rights, Domestic violence, any kinds of women violence of legal aid supports etc;

**EXISTING ORGANOGRAM**

