

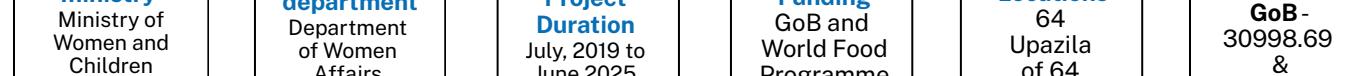


FROM RELIEF TO DEVELOPMENT

ICVGD Phase II Endline Highlights (2019–2025)

Objectives

- To support 100,000 ultra-poor women and their families under the 2021–22 VGD cycle in achieving food security through the establishment of sustainable livelihoods.
- To create and enhance assets that enable economic empowerment opportunities for 100,000 selected ultra-poor women and their families.
- To improve the nutritional practices of 100,000 ultra-poor VGD women and their families.
- To strengthen the managerial efficiency and effectiveness of the VGD programme, and to consolidate experience and knowledge in transforming it into an effective social safety net programme for rural ultra-poor women and their families.

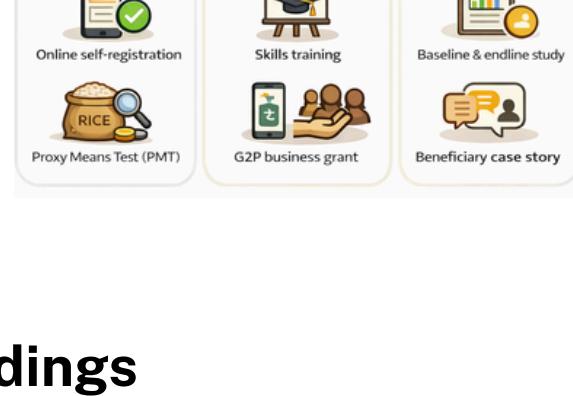


Key Interventions Benefit Package



The ICVGD Journey

First, the programme reached women through local outreach and an awareness campaign. Interested women registered, and eligibility was confirmed through Proxy Means Test (PMT). Once selected, participants received the full package: monthly rice, skills training, and investment support delivered through G2P, with field-level facilitation to help them apply what they learn. Progress is then followed through monitoring and brought to life through beneficiary stories that show what the numbers mean in real households.



Key Findings

Food consumption improved: acceptable food consumption score +31 percentage points.

Less negative coping: coping strategy index (CSI), 5 points (fewer crisis behaviours).

Severe food insecurity fell: 28.5% (endline vs baseline).

Income increased: +BDT 3,500/month (overall areas) and +BDT 8,600/month (extreme-poverty areas)

01.

02.

03.

04.

05.

06.

07.

Women's agency increased: +7 percentage points.



ICVGD Phase II

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

1974-2015

Life Savings

National Relief Works
Programme Vulnerable
Group Feeding, and
Vulnerable Group
Development



2016-2018

Reform VGD as ICVGD, by adding

- Fortified rice,
- BDT 15000 cash grant,
- Improved development & IGA skills training for 8000 women in 8 upazila



2019-2025

Scaleup of ICVGD in 64 district by adding

- Enterprise support to empower 100,000 poor and vulnerable women
- BDT 20000 cash grant
- Intensive Life Skill Training Modules



2025

Consolidate all programmes (VGD, ICVGD & rebrand as VWB for rural and Urban as directed in NSSS with suitable components

- Human development and Enterprise support,
- Financial inclusion etc.
- Economic and social empowerment of 3.2 million women and move out of extreme poverty.





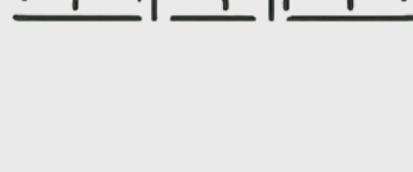
THE STUDY DESIGN EXPLAINED

01



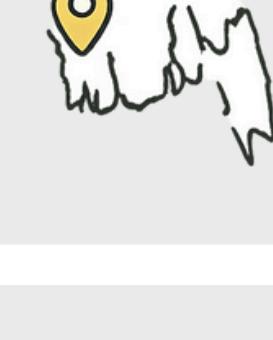
Baseline data from 2021 (collected remotely during COVID-19) were used as the “before” reference point.

02



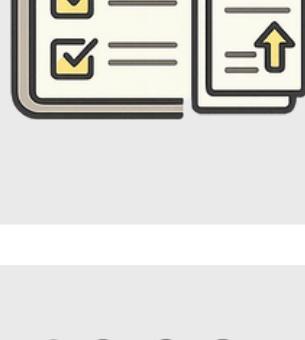
Three groups were tracked over time: ICVGD, VGD, and a control group.

03



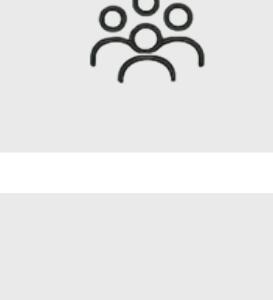
Households were covered across overall programme areas and extreme-poverty zones in CHT.

04



The endline survey (May - June 2025) measured post-programme conditions, including income, food consumption/dietary diversity, and nutrition indicators.

05



Due to panel retraction and time constraints, 1,662 households were surveyed at endline from the baseline panel of 3,055.

06

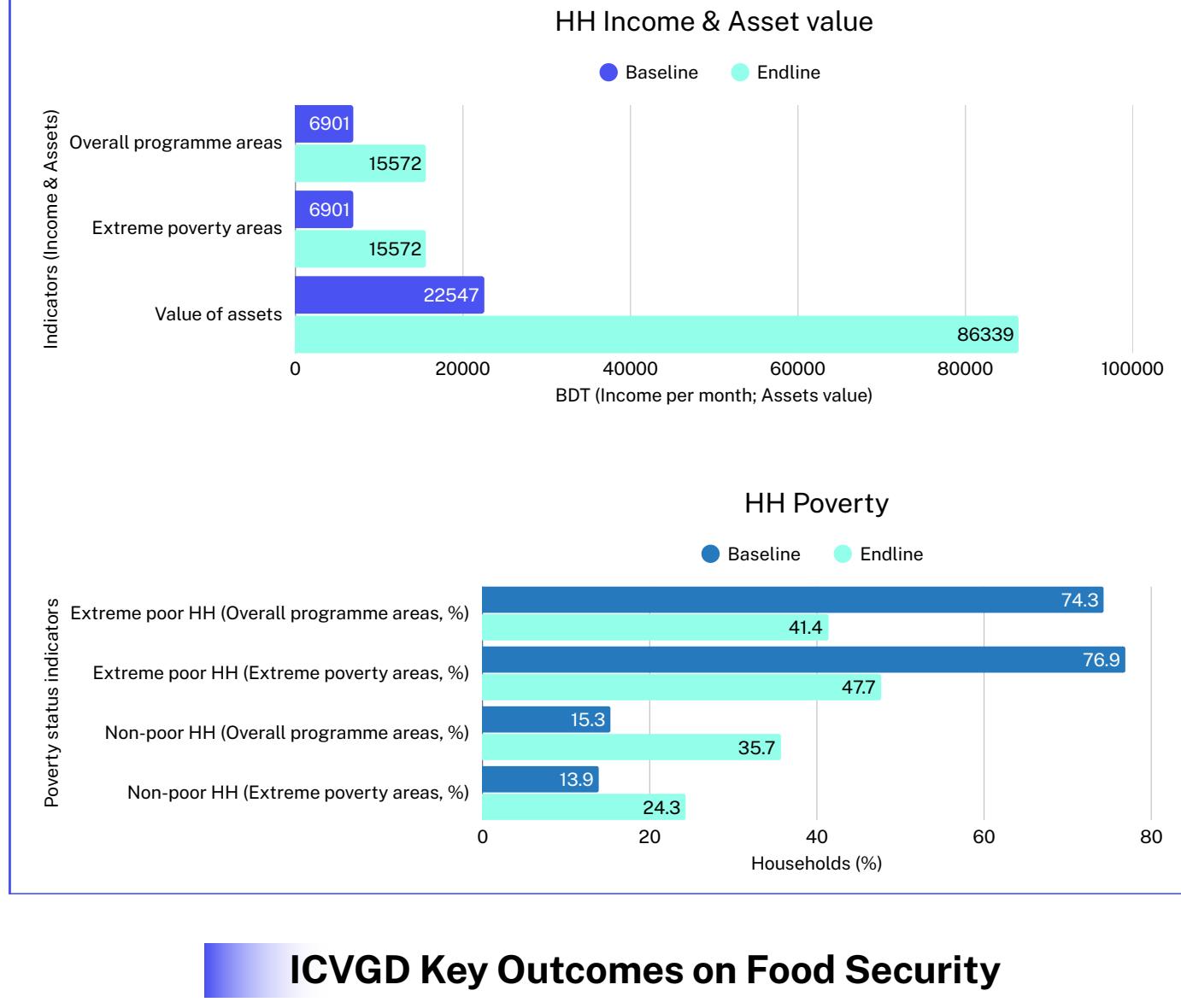


A panel Difference-in-Differences (DID) analysis compared baseline-to-endline changes across the three groups to estimate ICVGD impacts and inform programme adjustments and VVB scale-up decisions.

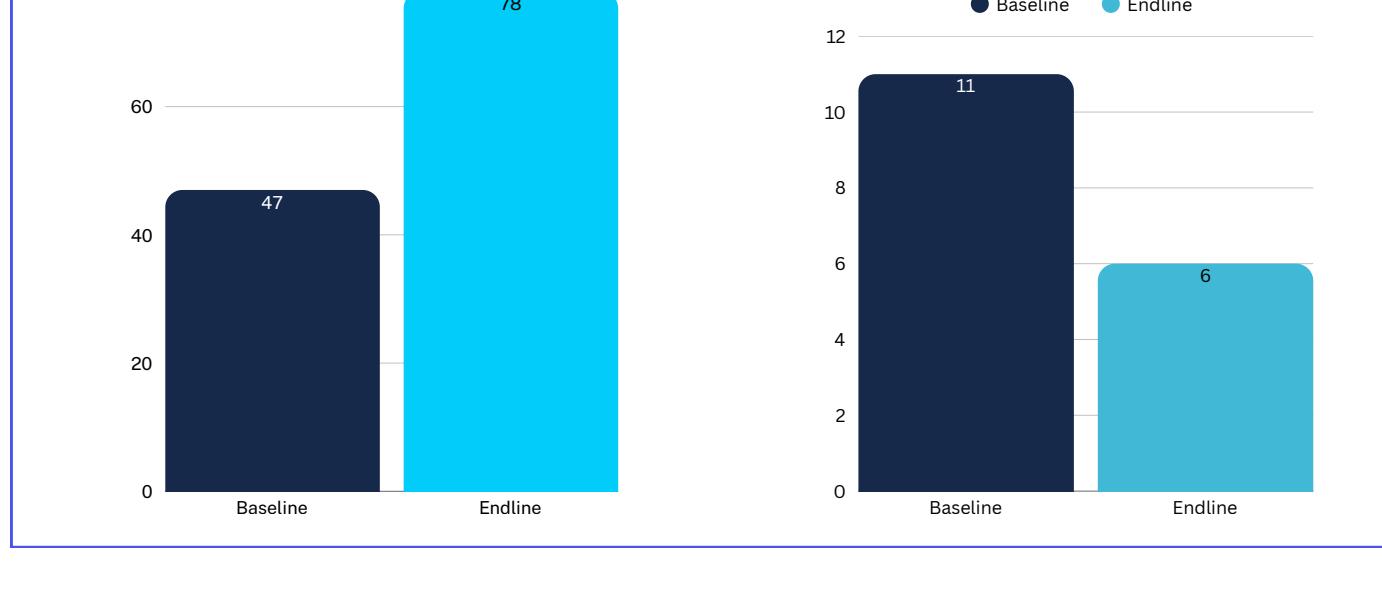


Key Statistics

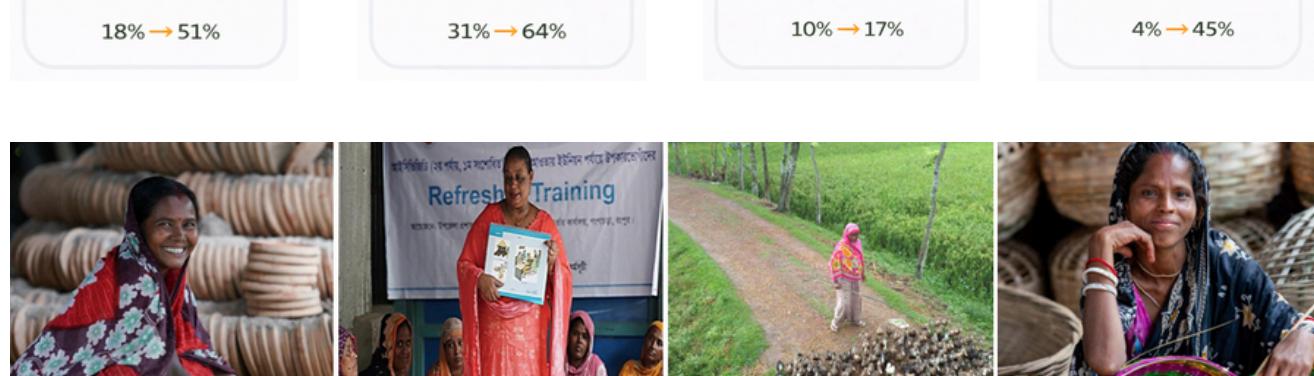
ICVGD Key Outcomes on Building Resilience



ICVGD Key Outcomes on Food Security



ICVGD Key Outcomes on Empowerment



So to sum up, the study confirmed that outcomes remained sustainable and continued beyond the project period. **The acceptable food consumption score improved by 31 percentage points, and the coping strategy index (CSI) declined by 5 percentage points**, both of which demonstrated a reduced reliance on negative practices, such as going for days without food, poor diet diversity, etc.

Productive assets in the ICVGD group rose by BDT 50,000 in overall areas and BDT 20,000 in extreme-poverty zones, while the VGD and control groups showed comparatively less growth in productive assets.



A STORY OF SUCCESS OF THE ICVGD PROJECT

From Support to Self-Reliance

BENEFICIARY PROFILE

- Name:** Ms. Sokina Akter
- Location:** Godagari Upazila, Rajshahi District (Matikata Union)
- Household:** Mother of 3 children (2 sons, 1 daughter)
- Starting point:** Struggled to cover household and education costs with spouse's income alone

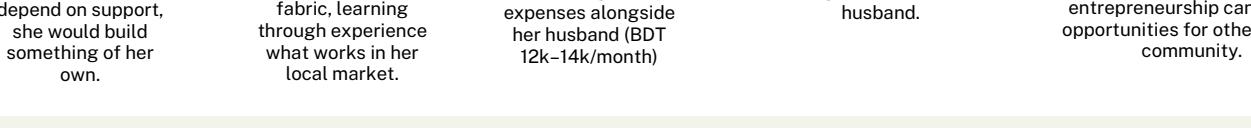


She first received support through the ICVGD/VGD card, intended for women living below the poverty line, providing a monthly rice entitlement that helped her family manage basic food needs. As part of the programme's shift from short-term relief to longer-term livelihoods, she then enrolled in the ICVGD training package, covering:

- Human resource development**
- Entrepreneurship**
- Income generating skills**
- Accounting/record-keeping**
- Values change**
- Social communication/behaviour**

FROM TRAINING TO TRANSFORMATION

After receiving training, she put the learning into practice through her own enterprise, earning from home, supporting her family, and creating jobs for others.



With the training from ICVGD, she decided she wouldn't only depend on support, she would build something of her own.

In March 2024, she started small with BDT 15,000. She began by selling fabric, learning through experience what works in her local market.

Turns her business into steady earnings, supporting family expenses alongside her husband (BDT 12k-14k/month)

Stronger voice in the family, confident to decide, plan, and act together with her husband.

Her progress expanded beyond her home. She now has five girls working under her, showing how one woman's entrepreneurship can create opportunities for others in the community.

PROGRESS SNAPSHOT



Before

- Financial stress; struggled to support children's education
- Low confidence; limited voice in household decisions
- Uncertain livelihood options and limited earning pathways



After

- Regular home-based income and stronger household contribution
- Weekly savings + DPS
- More confidence to decide and act
- Employs others and encourages women in her community

SOKINA AKTER'S PROGRESS AFTER TRAINING: KEY NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

Started small (March 2024): Launched her business with BDT 15,000 as start-up capital.

Building longer-term security: Deposits BDT 2,500 per month into a DPS (from business earnings).

Monthly earnings: Now earns BDT 12,000-14,000 per month from her home-based enterprise.

Creating work for others: Employs 5 women in/through her business activities.

Weekly savings habit: Saves BDT 500 every week from her business income.

Investing in the next generation: Supports the education of her 3 children (2 sons, 1 daughter).

5 Sokina Akter's Story KEY MOMENTS

1

Starting point:

Ms. Sokina Akter was trying to run her household and keep three children (two boys, one girl) in school on her husband's income alone. The pressure of daily expenses and education costs made life extremely difficult.



2

Turning point

After receiving ICVGD training, she says the biggest shift came from learning “Who am I, and what do I have?”. Instead of feeling powerless, she began to see her own ability-hands, skills, intelligence, and the confidence to act.



3

Action taken

She launched a small business in March 2024 with BDT 15,000 and adapted it toward more sustainable boutique-related work. Today, she earns money per month from home. This income allows her to contribute directly to household needs and continue supporting her children's education.



4

Results achieved

She now earns BDT 12,000–14,000/month, saves regularly (BDT 500/week + BDT 2,500/month DPS), and supports family expenses and children's education.



5

Wider impact

She has now a stronger voice at her home making decisions alongside her husband and her business now creates opportunities for others (5 women employed).





ICVGD PROVED THAT RESILIENCE IS BUILT THROUGH A COMPLETE PACKAGE – STABILITY, SKILLS, FINANCE, AND OPPORTUNITY

SOHIDA KHATUN (BOGURA)

Formerly struggling to support her family on her husband's limited income, Sohida utilized ICVGD support to revive the traditional Nakshi Kantha quilting craft. She hired other women in her village, transforming into an entrepreneur with a steady income that funds her daughters' education.

LATIFA BEGUM

Using skills gained from the Alokita Village Programme, Latifa began by rearing two goats, eventually expanding her herd to six. She later sold them to purchase a cow, elevating her financial status and, as of early 2025, her asset is valued at BDT 1,30,000, bringing her from a state of despair to financial stability.

SHUPAL BISWAS (JESSORE)

At age 25, Shupal successfully transitioned to becoming self-dependent through the support provided by the ICVGD project.



OVER 96,000 WOMEN HAVE BENEFITED FROM INVESTMENT GRANTS TO BOOST THEIR ECONOMIC STATUS

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