



Impact of micro-credit programs of Jagorani Chakra foundation towards uplifting the poverty situation and standard of living

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Abstract

Bangladesh is a pioneer and home of conceptualizing micro-credit program. It has undertaken a number of such programs to reduce poverty and bring about socio-economic changes in the rural community. Jagorani Chakra Foundation has a vision of socially just; economically sustainable and environmentally balanced communities, where poverty has been overcome and people live in dignity and security. The study was conducted at Meherpur district to assess the impact of micro-credit programs towards uplifting the poverty situation and standard of living of the beneficiaries using field level survey data of October-December, 2013. Data was collected using a face-to-face interview schedule from a sample of 132 micro-credit recipients. A majority (58.30%) of the respondents perceived that microcredit programs of JCF had medium impact on their standard of living. Stepwise multiple regression model indicates that farm size, duration of involvement with JCF and household savings were the significant contributor and these three variables combinedly explained 24.7 percent of the total variation in impact of Jagorani Chakra Foundation micro-credit program towards uplifting the poverty situation and standard of living.

Keywords: Jagorani Chakra Foundation; Micro-Credit; NGOs of Bangladesh; Poverty Situation; Standard of Living; Women Empowerment

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1. Introduction

In recent time Bangladesh has become a role model of development. Different developing nations of the world follow them on this sector. But the journey was not as easy as imagined by mankind. As a newly established country, it was sabotaged in every sector. Demanding economic freedom was one of the most paramount causes of the independence of the country. Different economic report elucidates that Bangladesh has been dealing with the problem of poverty since independence. At that time three out of four Bangladeshi people lived in poverty (Akash, 2003). Poverty is always a complex phenomenon and its causes and effects are more complex than imagined. The rapid growth of population, frequent natural disasters, and low economic growth throughout the 1980s suggested that a large number of households would remain trapped in chronic poverty. Defying this outlook, Bangladesh began experiencing more sustained economic growth as well as impressive poverty reduction. For example, in 1991-92, about 60 percent of the population was below the poverty line; and by 2005 poverty had gone down to 40 percent. In recent time the national poverty line goes down to only 23.2%. Moreover, the people lived under the acute poverty line is only 12.1% (BER, 2017). Obviously, the recent good governance, higher economic growth, increasing number of workable people, mainstreaming women, women participation in economic activity are the major causes but some other sectors also deserve credit for such achievement. Different government organizations (GOs), as well as non-government organizations (NGOs), have been playing a pivotal role in alleviating poverty from Bangladesh. In some cases, they are considered as more effective to get attached with the grass-root-level developmental initiatives. The roles and initiatives played by the NGOs in Bangladesh have been considered as having positive impacts on poverty alleviation among the rural poor people. The target groups for these initiatives are mostly hard core poor who have very little access and opportunities for improving their living status and standards.

Most of such organizations tend to work with an aim of meeting the demand of these poor peoples. Because, these peoples traditionally are kept out of the mainstream development initiative (Hasan, 2013). Micro-credit is considered as one of the most important tools used by different organizations for alleviating poverty (Omar, 2010). The initial capital required by smallholder (poor people) to start any efficient economic activities can be ensured by supplying micro-credit to them (Sujan et al., 2017). In Otero's view (1999), Micro-credit is considered to be the provision of financial services to poor and very poor self-employed people. These financial services generally comprise savings and credit, but can also include other services such as insurance and payment services as revealed by Ledgerwood (1999). On the contrary, Schreiner and Colombet (2001) opined micro-credit as an attempt to improve access to small deposits and small loans for poor households neglected by banks. It means micro-credit has its importance for ensuring financial services like savings, loans, insurance etc. for the poor people who are unable to obtain such services from the formal financial sector. Micro-credit has the greatest effect on female control over assets and also on her knowledge of social issues (Zaman, 1999). According to NGO Affairs Bureau, about 2,116 NGOs have been operating micro-credit program in Bangladesh and number of clients increased sharply (Mazumder and Wencong, 2013). The success of micro-credit program has captured the interest of many researchers in broad areas, for example, in the field of women's empowerment (Hashemi and Schuler, 1996; Sean, 1997; Goetz and Sengupta, 1996), sustainability and outreach, (McNamara and Morse, 1998; Sharma

and Zeller, 1999), group based lending, (Ghatak, 1999; Stiglitz, 1990; Varian, 1990) and poverty alleviation. It is assumed that the more micro-credit provided to poor people, the more poverty will be reduced. Previous studies depict that micro-credit program was the pioneer in improving the standard of living and well-being of the borrowers (Montgomery et al., 1996). But the impact of micro-credit on the welfare and income of the poor have been questioned many times (Copestake, 2002; Khandker, 2003; Rogaly, 1996). Despite various studies, the effectiveness and impact of microcredit programs on the poor are still highly in question (Westover, 2008). After reviewing the studies on micro-credit in Bangladesh, very few number of solid evidence of improving the standard of living of clients were found by Roodman and Morduch (2009). Pro-poor development programs may fail due to several other unknown and uncontrollable causes (demographic characteristics). Realizing this entire situation, human development can be a way for ensuring both the economic and social uplift of the people. All these studies did not find any strong evidence regarding the impact of micro-credit program towards improving the poverty situation and standard of living of its beneficiaries. For this situation, a group of researcher attempted to conduct an explorative research to find the details explanation of long cherished questions. To serve the purpose micro-credit programs of Jagorani Chakra Foundation (JCF) in Gangni upazila of Meherpur district were investigated with deep concern.

Jagorani Chakra Foundation is an NGO that mostly deals with the landless people and the disadvantaged class of the society who are forced to live in an exploited condition in the society. On that society, credit is rarely available to the poor at reasonable rates of interest. Commercial banks failed to create the credit needs of the poor for three main reasons named requirement of collateral, cumbersome procedures of getting loans and the preference of large loans rather than the petty one by the bankers. But Jagorani Chakra Foundation provides loan to these poor without any pledge. They have a vision of socially just; economically sustainable and environmentally balanced communities where poverty has been overcome and people live in dignity and security. They also operate local, regional and national programs based on the demands and potential of ultra poor, poor and disadvantaged communities to foster their confidence and build the capacity to share resources and also to develop, control and sustain their endeavors to find greater prosperity (JCF, 2017). The study was conducted to find out the impact of micro-credit programs of Jagorani Chakra Foundation towards uplifting the poverty situation and standard of living of the beneficiaries, to determine and describe some selected characteristics of the beneficiaries and to explore the contribution of these selected characteristics to the impact of micro-credit programs of JCF towards the uplifting activities.

2. Methodology

The research work was done on the basis of primary data collected directly from the beneficiaries of micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation. For serving the purpose a structured questionnaire was developed to make face to face interview with them.

2.1. Locale of the study

This study was conducted at Gangni upazila of Meherpur district, where micro-credit program have been operating by Jagorani Chakra Foundation. Five unions of Gangni upazila namely Dhankhola, Kutubpur, Shaharbari, Solotaka and Raipur were selected as the locale of the study.

2.2. Population and sampling

The beneficiaries of Jagorani Chakra Foundation (JCF) of Gangni upazila who received credit at least one time were considered as the population of the study. An updated list of all the beneficiaries of the selected upazila was prepared with help of the local officials of JCF. A total number of 56 groups comprising 920 beneficiaries of JCF were found after completing the list. These group beneficiaries (920) constituted the population for the study.

Data for the study were collected from a sample rather than the whole population. In this regard, two stage random sampling method was followed in order to select the respondents. Firstly out of the 56 groups, 22 groups were selected randomly and secondly 6 members were again selected at random from each of the selected 22 groups. Thus, 132 borrowers were selected as the sample of the study. Twenty two group members were also included in the reserve list by taking one from one group which was also selected randomly. The members of reserve list were interviewed when the members of main sample were not available at the time of interview. The survey was conducted during 2013. Table 1 showed the population, sample and reserve list size of the study.

Table 1. Distribution of the population, sample and reserve list for the study

Unions	Population		Sample		Reserve list
	No. of groups	No. of members	No. of groups	No. of members	
Dhankhola	14	280	5	30	5
Kutubpur	12	156	5	30	5
Shaharbati	13	214	5	30	5
Sholotaka	7	90	3	18	3
Raipur	10	180	4	24	4
Total	56	920	22	132	22

2.3. Collection and tabulation of data

The times employed for data collection were from October to December 2013. During the period of data collection, the entire necessary task had been done so that there remain no problems which could significantly influence the accuracy of data. After completing collection, data were tabulated on computer for making analysis and interpreting result.

2.4. Analysis of data

Descriptive statistics such as range, means, standard deviation, number and percentage distribution and stepwise multiple regression model were used to describe the variables. Collected data were inputted and analyzed by using SPSS program for making interpretation.

2.5. Empirical model

The impact of micro-credit programs towards uplifting the poverty situation and standard of living of the beneficiaries by JCF is likely to be influenced by different factors, such as age, level of education, family size, farm size, participation with Jagorani Chakra Foundation, credit received, duration of involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation, annual family savings, and cosmopolitanism, etc. The functional form of the multiple regression equation was as follows:

$$Y = \alpha + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \beta_5 X_5 + \beta_6 X_6 + \beta_7 X_7 + \beta_8 X_8 + \beta_9 X_9 + U_i$$

where,

Y = Impact of micro-credit programs of JCF;

X_1 = Age (year);

X_2 = Level of education (year);

X_3 = Family size (number);

X_4 = Farm size (hectare);

X_5 = Participation with Jagorani Chakra Foundation (year);

X_6 = Credit received ('000 tk);

X_7 = Duration of involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation (year);

X_8 = Annual family savings ('000 tk);

X_9 = Cosmopolitanism (number);

α = Intercept;

$\beta_1, \beta_2 \dots \beta_9$ = Coefficients of the respective variables to be estimated; and

U_i = Error term.

2.6. Measurement of variables

2.6.1. Measurement of independent variables

The dependent variables were measured by using different technique for different variables like (i) Age = Number of year; (ii) Level of education = Number of year; (iii) Family size = Number of person; (iv) Farm size = Number of hectare under own cultivation; (v) Participation with Jagorani Chakra Foundation = Total number of year: 1 for normal member's 1 year, 2 for executive committee member's 1 year, 3 for executive officer's 1 year; (vi) Credit received = Tk. in '000; (vii) Duration of involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation = Number of year; (viii) Annual family savings = Tk. in '000; (ix) Cosmopolitanism (external social involvement) = Number: 3 for regular, 2 for occasional, 1 for rare and 0 for not participation;

2.6.2. Measurement of dependent variable

In this study, the dependent variable was "impact of micro-credit programs of Jagorani Chakra Foundation (JCF) towards uplifting the poverty situation and standard of living of the beneficiaries." The dependent

variable was measured with the association of seven dimensions. These seven dimensions were (i) change in income, (ii) change in food consumption, (iii) change in housing, (iv) change in sanitation, (v) change in drinking water source, (vi) change in family asset and (vii) change in decision-making power. The difference between 'after' and 'before' involvement with micro-credit programs of Jagorani Chakra Foundation were determined for each dimension of impact.

3. Results and discussion

3.1. Selected Characteristics of the Jagorani Chakra Foundation Beneficiaries

A summary of nine selected characteristics of the respondents has been presented in Table 2. The information presented on the table indicate that the highest proportion (61.4 percent) of the Jagorani Chakra Foundation beneficiaries were middle aged, the highest proportion (49.20 percent) of the beneficiaries could sign their name only, the majority (71.20 percent) of the Jagorani Chakra Foundation beneficiaries had small sized family, most (87.90 percent) of the respondents had fallen marginal to medium categories, above half (52.3%) of the respondents had low participation, about half (49.2 percent) of the respondents were medium credit recipient, three-fourth (76.5 percent) of the respondents had medium length duration of involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation, above half (52.30 percent) of the respondents had medium annual family savings and the highest proportion (54.5 percent) of the respondents had medium cosmopolitness.

3.2. Impact of Jagorani Chakra Foundation micro-credit program towards uplifting of social status of the beneficiaries

Participation in micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation had played some role in changing the social status of the family in general and socio-economic development in particular. For measuring the impact of micro-credit, the social status of the respondent's prior joining to micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation was compared with the present conditions. After being involved with micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation, the poverty situation and standard of living of the respondents has changed significantly.

The social status of the respondents was assessed by comparing the information 'before' and 'after' involving with micro-credit program of JCF on change in income, food consumption, housing, drinking water source, sanitation condition, family asset and decision-making power of the respondents. The summarized result of the study presented on Table 3.

3.2.1. Change in income

The Table 3 revealed that the majority (43.20%) of the respondents had low change in income compared to 33.30% had medium income change. Only 23.5% of the respondents had changed their income at higher level. Hoque (2008) in a study found more or less similar findings.

Table 2. Characteristics profile of the respondents

Sl. No	Characteristics	Range		Categories	Beneficiaries		Mean	Standard deviation
		Possible	Observed		No.	%		
01	Age (Year)	Unknown	20 - 65	Young aged (up to 30)	37	28.00	37.79	9.83
				Middle aged (31-50)	81	61.40		
				Old aged (>50)	14	10.60		
02	Education (Schooling years)	Unknown	0.5 - 10	Can sign only (0.5)	65	49.20	3.46	3.17
				Primary level (1-5)	30	22.80		
				Secondary level (6-10)	37	28.00		
03	Family size (Score)	Unknown	2 - 8	Small (up to 4)	94	71.20	4.10	0.96
				Medium (5-6)	35	26.50		
				Large (>6)	3	2.30		
04	Farm size (Hectare)	Unknown	0 - 4.82	Landless (up to 0.02 ha)	11	8.30	0.36	0.47
				Marginal farm size (0.02-0.2 ha)	39	29.60		
				Small farm size (0.2-1 ha)	77	58.30		
05	Participation with JCF (Score)	Unknown	3 - 12	Medium farm size (1-3 ha)	4	3.00	6.16	2.12
				Large farm size (> 3 ha)	1	0.80		
				Low (3-6)	69	52.30		
06	Credit received ('000 Taka)	Unknown	5 - 200	Medium (7-10)	59	44.70	37.97	29.09
				High (10-12)	4	3.00		
				Small credit recipient (<mean - 0.5 sd, i.e.< 23.50 thousand Tk)	43	32.60		
07	Duration of involvement with JCF (Years)	Unknown	2 - 6	Medium credit recipient (mean ± 0.5 sd, i.e.23.50-52.50 thousand Tk)	65	49.20	4.14	0.83
				Large credit recipient (>mean + 0.5 sd, i.e.>52.5 thousand Tk)	24	18.20		
				Short length duration (up to 3)	28	21.20		
08	Annual family savings ('000 Taka)	Unknown	1.3 - 11.40	Medium length duration (4-5)	101	76.50	3.20	2.06
				Long length duration (above 5)	3	2.30		
				Small (<mean - 0.5 sd, i.e.<2.17 thousand Tk)	38	28.80		
09	Cosmopolitaness (Score)	0-21	2 - 11	Medium (mean ± 0.5 sd, i.e.2.17 - 4.23 thousand Tk)	69	52.30	6.28	1.75
				Large (>mean + 0.5 sd, i.e.>4.23 thousand Tk)	25	18.90		
				Small cosmopolitaness (up to 5)	45	34.1		
				Medium cosmopolitaness (6-8)	52	54.5		
				High cosmopolitaness (above 8)	15	11.4		

Table 3. Salient features on seven selected aspects of impact of micro-credit of Jagorani Chakra Foundation

Dimensions on the impact of micro-credit	Range (Observed score)	Categories	Respondent		Mean	S. D.
			No.	%		
Change in income ('000 tk)	1-70	Low (up to 10.5)	57	43.20	16.45	11.7
		Medium (10.51-22.5)	44	33.30		
		High (above 22.5)	31	23.50		
Change in food consumption (K.cal)	0-680	No change (0)	28	21.20	200.6	165.36
		Low (0.01-225)	51	38.60		
		Medium (225.01-450)	46	34.90		
		High (above 450)	7	5.30		
Change in housing (score)	0-3	No change (0)	83	62.90	0.45	0.65
		Low change (1)	39	29.50		
		Medium change (2)	9	6.80		
		High change (3)	1	0.80		
Change in sanitation (score)	0-3	No change (0)	92	69.70	0.35	0.59
		Low change (1)	34	25.80		
		Medium change (2)	5	3.70		
		High change (3)	1	0.80		
Change in source of drinking water (score)	0-1	No change (0)	104	78.80	0.21	0.41
		Low change (1)	28	21.20		
		Medium change (2)	0	0.00		
		High change (3)	0	0.00		
Change in family asset ('000 tk)	0-20	No change (0)	19	14.40	2.00	3.50
		Low change (1-6)	91	68.94		
		Medium change (6.1-12)	17	12.88		
		High change (above 12)	5	3.78		
Change in decision making power (score)	0-4	No change (0)	30	22.70	1.34	1.00
		Low (1)	45	34.10		
		Medium (2)	42	31.80		
		High (3)	15	11.40		

3.2.2. Change in food consumption

It is revealed from the Table 3 that the majority (38.60%) of the respondents had low calorie intake change compared to 34.80% had medium and only 5.3 percent had high change in calorie intake. It was observed that all the respondents could be able to increase their calorie intake condition after involvement the micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation. Mustafa (1995) in a study found more or less similar findings.

3.2.3. Change in housing

It is revealed from the Table 3 that majority (62.1%) of the respondents could not be able to improve their housing condition but 29.50% of the respondents could change their housing condition in low scale, 6.80

percent of them could change housing condition in medium scale and only 0.8 percent of them could change housing condition in high scale. Sarker (2007) in a study found more or less similar findings.

3.2.4. Change in sanitation

It is revealed from the Table 3 that major proportion (69.70%) of the respondents could be not able to change their sanitation condition but 25.80% of the respondents could be able to change their sanitation condition in low scale and 3.70 percent of them changed their previous condition in medium scale. Only 0.8% of the respondents were able to change their sanitation condition in high scale.

3.2.5. Change in drinking water source

It is revealed from the Table 3 that highest number (78.80%) of the respondents could not be able to change their drinking water source but 21.20 of the respondents were able to change their condition in low scale.

3.2.6. Change in family asset

The findings of family asset score of the respondents before and after enrolled as the member of Jagorani Chakra Foundation under micro-credit program has been shown in Table 3. Majority (68.94%) of the respondents could improve their family asset possession in low scale compared to 12.88% of them could improve in medium scale. On the other hand, 3.78% of the respondents improved their family asset possession in high scale after their involvement in Jagorani Chakra Foundation micro-credit program.

3.2.7. Change in decision making ability

Distribution of the respondents according to their decision making ability differences has been presented in Table 3. The table showed that the highest proportion (34.10 percent) of the respondents had low change in decision making ability compared to 31.80 percent of the respondents had medium change and 22.7 percent of the respondents had no change in decision making ability. Only 0.8% of the respondents had high change in decision-making power.

3.2.8. Overall impact of Jagorani Chakra Foundation micro-credit program towards uplifting of social status of the beneficiaries

Impact of Jagorani Chakra Foundation micro-credit program score was found to range from 1 to 13 against the possible range of 0-21. The mean impact score was 5.36 and the standard deviation was 2.05. Based on the observed scores the respondents were classified into three categories as shown in Table 4.

Data presented in Table 4 revealed that most (58.30%) of the respondents had perceived medium impact while 36.40% of the respondents had perceived low impact after involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation. Only 5.3 percent of the respondents had perceived high impact. Thus, all the respondents had perceived more or less improvement through micro-credit program. Sarker (2007) in a study found more or less similar findings.

Table 4. Distribution of the respondents according to impact of micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation as perceived by the beneficiaries

Sl. No	Categories	Number	Percentage	Mean	Standard deviation
1	Low impact (up to 4)	48	36.40		
2	Medium impact (5-8)	77	58.30	5.36	2.05
3	High impact (above 8)	7	5.3		
	Total	132	100		

3.3. Contribution of the selected characteristics of the respondents on impact of micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation towards uplifting their poverty situation and standard of living

For this study nine characteristics of the respondent were selected and each of the characteristics was treated as independent variable. The selected characteristics were age (X_1), level of education (X_2), family size (X_3), farm size (X_4), participation with Jagorani Chakra Foundation (X_5), credit received (X_6), duration of involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation (X_7), annual family savings (X_8), and cosmopolitaness (X_9). Impact of micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation (Y) was the only dependent variable of this study.

Full model regression analysis was initially run with the 9 independent variables. But it was observed that the full model regression results were misleading due to the existence of interrelationships among the independent variables. Therefore, in order to avoid the misleading results and to determine the best explanatory variables, the method of step-wise multiple regressions was administrated and 9 independent variables were fitted together in step-wise multiple regression analysis. Table 5 shows the summarized results of step-wise multiple regression analysis with 9 independent variables on impact of micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation towards uplifting their social status. It was observed that out of 9 variables only 3 independent variables namely farm size (X_4), duration of involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation (X_7) and annual family savings (X_8) were entered into the regression equation. The other six variables were not entered into regression equation. The regression equation so obtained is presented below:

$$Y = 2.344 + 0.346X_4 + 0.262 X_7 + 0.162X_8$$

The multiple R and R^2 values were found 0.514 and 0.264 respectively and the corresponding F-ratio was 15.296 which were significant at 0.00 levels. For determining unique contribution of each of the three variables the increase in R^2 value was determined on impact of Jagorani Chakra Foundation micro-credit program towards uplifting poverty situation and standard of living. These three variables combinedly explained 24.70 percent of the total variation in impact of Jagorani Chakra Foundation micro-credit program towards uplifting the poverty situation and standard of living. Farm size alone contribute 15.50 percent of the variation followed by duration of involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation (7.10 percent) and

Annual savings (2.10 percent) variation in impact of micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation towards uplifting the poverty situation and standard of living of beneficiaries.

Table 5. Summary of step wise multiple regression analysis showing the contribution of selected characteristics of the respondents to impact of micro-credit program of Jagorani Chakra Foundation towards uplifting their poverty situation and standard of living

Variables entered	Standardized Partial 'b' Coefficients	Value of 't' (with probability level)	Adjusted R ²	Increase in R ²	Variation explained in percent
Farm size (x ₄)	0.346	4.49(0.00)	0.155	0.15	15.50
Duration (x ₇)	0.262	3.39(0.01)	0.226	0.071	7.10
Annual savings (x ₈)	0.162	2.12(0.36)	0.247	0.021	2.10
Total				0.247	24.70

Multiple R = 0.514

R-square = 0.264

Adjusted R-square = 0.247

F-ratio = 15.296

Standard error of estimate = 1.783

Constant = 2.344

A respondent having large farm size can take various income generating activities for increasing their income. If the income is increased then they may be interested to increase their living standard and also influence to take more quality food. Duration of involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation is a major way of gathering knowledge, information and experience, which are components of socio-economic development. A respondent having more duration of involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation make capable of more confidence. More confidence makes more working spirit among people and thus they earn more. The families who possessed more earns had better housing environment and also influence to take more quality food, ultimately increasing social status of beneficiaries. The above findings indicated that the respondents having more yearly savings make capable of being more confident. More confidence makes more working spirit among people and thus they earn more. Saving makes a man owner or proprietor of some cash or asset. The man, who has some cash or asset, wants to have more. It is a natural desire of human being. The people, whose savings is higher earn more and have more change in income. The families who possessed more savings had better housing environment, with the money from savings those families can purchase more food and housing asset or items.

4. Conclusion

It is generally perceived that micro-credit program helps to improve socio-economic status of the rural people in Bangladesh. Accordingly, this program under JCF commanding area increased the economic status

of the credit recipients and also increased the farm and household assets. The findings indicate that most of the respondents had perceived medium impact after involvement with Jagorani Chakra Foundation micro-credit program and it plays a vital role in uplifting the poverty situation and standard of living of the beneficiaries. For sustainability of their socio-economic growth at a more increased level, Jagorani Chakra Foundation may continue their micro-credit program with greater involvement of beneficiaries. The findings indicate that farm size, duration involvement with micro-credit, annual family savings had significant contribution to the impact of micro-credit program. It is suggested that efforts should be given to increase income earning through proper utilization of micro-credit and that appropriate monitoring system needs to be established by the micro-finance institute.

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