



MOBILE SOLUTIONS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE & RESEARCH (mSTAR) BANGLADESH

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REPORT

TA RECIPIENT: LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION (LPIN)
PROJECT, IMPLEMENTED BY ACDI/VOCA

SEPTEMBER 2017

Author:

Tasnuba Sinha, Communications Specialist – Digital Financial Services, USAID’s mSTAR project,
FHI 360

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Agency for International Development or the U.S. Government.

1.0 Overview of Technical Assistance Request

In October 2016, the USAID-funded Livestock Production for Improved Nutrition (LPIN) project, implemented by ACDI/VOCA, requested technical assistance from mSTAR/Bangladesh to explore how digital payments could be introduced with their program.

2.0 Overview of the LPIN Project

The USAID Feed the Future (FtF) Bangladesh Livestock Production for Improved Nutrition project seeks to impact rural household nutrition by increasing livestock productivity, improving access of quality food and refining nutrition related behaviors of households especially of women and children. To learn more about LPIN project, click [here](#).

3.0 Purpose of TA Request

LPIN's TA request focused on four areas:

1. Help LPIN to further explore and identify areas where they can use digital payments in place of cash for payments to project participants. This can include support negotiating with and selecting digital payment provider(s), providing materials on using digital financial services (DFS), and providing training to LPIN staff on how to operationalize digital payments.
2. Help LPIN capture the cost and efficiency benefits of using digital payments over cash.
3. Provide ongoing technical support to answer questions from LPIN, as necessary.
4. Support identifying other opportunities that may exist for LPIN's participants to use DFS in their day to day lives to meet their savings, credit, payment and other needs (if interested).

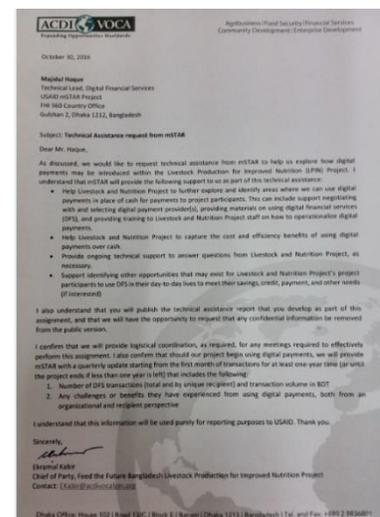


Photo: TA request letter from LPIN

4.0 Description of Technical Assistance Provided by mSTAR/Bangladesh

mSTAR/Bangladesh held a meeting with LPIN staff in November 2016 and conducted a cash transaction flow mapping to understand what opportunities existed for using DFS within the project. It was decided during the meeting that after conducting the cash flow mapping, mSTAR/B would start discussions with potential DFS providers and later would organize a training workshop.

Unfortunately, mSTAR/B was unable to provide further assistance to LPIN due to delays that LPIN faced in finding a local NGO partner to support its field level operations. It was decided that mSTAR/B would resume providing technical assistance as soon as LPIN was ready to adopt DFS in their project operations, but since mSTAR/B's activity ends in September 2017, this could not happen.