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Project Title	Women's Rights to Sustainable Livelihoods 2
Activity Number	28317
Period Covered	July-September 2016
Country	Bangladesh, Ghana, Pakistan, Rwanda
Partners:	ActionAid Ghana, ActionAid Rwanda, ActionAid Bangladesh and ActionAid Pakistan with implementing partners - SONGTABA, BONATADU, Widows and Orphans Movement (WOM), Community Aid for Rural Development (CARD), Global Action for Women Empowerment (GLOWA) and Social Development and Improvement Agency (SODIA) in Ghana; Duhozanye Association, Faith Victory Association (FVA) and TUBUBE AMAHORO in Rwanda; SKS Foundation in Bangladesh; SAIBAN Development Organization and National Integrated Development Association (NIDA-Pakistan).
Target group:	21,000 rural women smallholder farmers and producers, 1000 men in Bangladesh, 3,000 Ghana local authorities, Government ministries, FAO, African Union
Location:	Two districts in Bangladesh (Gaibandha and Lalmonirhat Districts); Ghana (Nanumba North and South Districts, Talensi, Nabdam, Jirapa, Asutifi South, Tain and Adaklu , in Rwanda Nyaruguru, Gisagara, Musanze, Karongi and Nyanza Districts/LRPs districts) and 2 districts (Mansehra and Muzaffarabad Districts) in Pakistan
Long-term objective:	To contribute to the increased economic empowerment of women in Bangladesh, Ghana, Pakistan, Rwanda
Specific objectives:	21,000 women in Bangladesh, Ghana, Pakistan, and Rwanda have increased income and ability to control their income, through practicing CRSA, accessing markets and reducing, recognising and redistributing unpaid care work.


PROGRESS AGAINST THE ACTIVITIES (July-September 2016)


<p>Start-up activities</p>	<p>1) Recruitment of staff is now completed in Ghana, Rwanda and Bangladesh as well as for International secretariat and ActionAid UK staff. AA Pakistan has faced challenges in the recruitment process of the two local partners. However these have now been finalised and the two organisations SAIBAN and NIDA are now on board and have completed the recruitment of project staff.</p> <p>2. Project communities and community entry processes have been undertaken in Ghana, Rwanda, and Bangladesh and have now started in Pakistan. Meetings with District officials and relevant stakeholders to introduce the project and to gain their commitment to continue to support the project have been undertaken in all the four countries. In Ghana, identification of communities for renovation of child care centres has taken place. These communities are Gbare, Ahonda, Nakpa, Baduli, Nangodi and Sakote. A total of 600 women's groups have been formed in Rwanda, Ghana, and Bangladesh but more work is being done to strengthen the groups. An additional 90 women's groups will be formed in Pakistan which faced challenges as a result of changes in partners for this project. New partners have since been identified with approval from donor and the groups will be set up by the end of 2016.</p> <p>3. POWER project Baseline - ActionAid Bangladesh, Ghana, Rwanda, and Pakistan all contributed to the baseline line terms of reference and were involved in advertising for the national consultants to support the baseline. The national consultants have been recruited in Bangladesh, Rwanda and Ghana. A pilot test of the baseline research methodology was done in Rwanda and was attended by the 4 project managers from the 4 countries, International Project Manager, Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator and Senior Programmes Manager with support from the international consultant. Steady progress has been made and AA Rwanda, AA Bangladesh and AA Ghana will complete the data collection process by end of November 2016.</p>	<p>All countries</p>
<p>OUTCOME 1 ACTIVITIES</p>	<p>PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIVITES PER COUNTRY</p>	<p>Implementing countries</p>

Output 1.1	<p>1.1.1 Support 690 (200 Ghana, 200 Rwanda, 200 Bangladesh, 90 Pakistan) women groups with a total membership of 21,000 members (rural women, farmers and processors) to meet at least once a month by providing stipends for group facilitators/mobilisers.</p>	<p>In Bangladesh, a total of 39 Community Mobilizers are currently supporting 5000 women participants from 200 women groups in 10 unions of both project districts. Five unions in Gaibandha (Kanchipara, Uria, Gazaria, Fazlupur, and Udakhali) and five 5 unions is in Lalmonirhat (Kulaghat, Harati, Mogolhat, Rajpur, Khuniagachi). In quarter 3 (July-September), Community Mobilizers facilitated regular weekly meetings in 200 reflection action circles. As part of capacity building initiative, 39 Community Mobilizers have received Training of Trainers (ToT) on Women Leadership. The ToTs facilitated the Women Leadership training for the reflection action circle members. Two members from each reflection in which two women representative from each reflection action circle participated.</p> <p>The Community Mobilizers also facilitated vegetable gardening training, spouse meetings, community sensitization meeting, and sensitization meeting with Union Parisad (UP) for budget allocation to address unpaid care work. (Union Parisad is the third tier of Bangladesh local government). The Community Mobilizes collected data on the floods that recently hindered project implementation and conducted discussions with group members. They communicated to UP for relief goods to the women groups affected floods and supported all women group meeting and day care centres.</p> <p>In Rwanda, 200 women groups were set up in the first and second quarter of the year, each group with at most 30 members. Groups meet twice each month regularly and women discuss on the issues affecting their livelihoods and plans towards their self-reliance in the coming years. Monthly stipends to support group facilitators are regularly provided on monthly basis. 200 women group facilitators receive monthly stipends and provide monthly progress report on group's actions. partners provide monthly communications and some transport fees to women groups facilitators(euro max 12) deposited on their bank accounts</p> <p>In Ghana, 200 rural women groups were formed with a total of 6400 membership mostly farmers, processors, and other marginalized women in 8 districts. Women groups have discussed issues of improving their income level using the income and expenditure matrix in Northern and Upper East and are engaging in community leaders for secured access to fertile lands. Other groups in the new districts are discussing their community resources, using community maps and taking steps to identify resources that are lacking and have implications for their lives. These include access to water, and lack of support from the household in doing unpaid care work and child care centres. They have meetings with men to seek for support and also presented their demands and communique to District Assemblies during the international Rural Women's Day. The total members currently are SONGTABA -1856, CARD- 800, GLOWA-800, SODIA, 1600 WOM- 704, and BONATADU-704. Other key discussions areas are developing group bye laws and community context analysis. A group member from Upper West Region said, "it is a good practice for women to be organized and have regular meetings to discuss their issues together, and this is one way I can change my life style. I will attend all group meetings".</p>	Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan
	<p>1.1.2 Select and train 850 community facilitators, management committee members, community mobilisers and partner staff in HRBA and REFLECT facilitation methodologies (100 facilitators and 40 partner staff through 8 district workshops of 10</p>	<p>In Bangladesh, 40 facilitators, mobilisers and partner staff trained in Bangladesh and was completed 2nd Quarter.</p> <p>In Rwanda, 38) were trained with HRBA and REFLECT Facilitation methodologies.</p> <p>In Ghana, 100 new community facilitators have been trained with HRBA and reflect methodologies in all the</p>	Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan


	days + 250 community members through 5 community level trainings of 5 days in Ghana; 400 committee members and 10 partner staff trained through a five day workshop in each district of Rwanda; 40 facilitators, mobilisers and partner staff trained in Bangladesh; 100 facilitators trained in Pakistan)	districts. 8 district level workshops have been held for two weeks that is ten days each. Facilitators have improved knowledge on Reflect Action methods, micro facilitation skills, and HRBA. Participants acquired knowledge on Reflection Action(RA) cycle, tools for RA analysis such as body map, community map, chi party Diagram, access and control matrix for access, force field analysis, transect walks, time diaries, women rights analysis chart, problem tree, income and expenditure matrix, work load calendrs, women and men activity calendrs.	
	1.1.3 Provide refresher training for community facilitators, committee members, community mobilisers and partner staff in HRBA and REFLECT methodologies. (Two refresher trainings for 100 existing facilitators (Y1) + Two workshops annually for existing facilitators in Ghana; Eight annual refresher trainings - 1 per district in Rwanda; 20 refresher trainings (2 per union) in Bangladesh; 100 facilitators trained in Pakistan)	In Ghana , all the 100 existing facilitators in Northern and Upper East Region have received refresher training in HRBA and REFLECT methodologies including force field analysis, chi- piety diagram, RA and HRBA linkages, problem tree, income and expenditure matrix, access and control matrix and body mapping. The facilitators have improved knowledge on women rights generally in terms of analysing with RA tools and their implications for women empowerment. They have shown confidence to facilitate community meetings and to use training skills to support women groups to identify their issues and discuss them.	Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan
	1.1.4 2 representatives from 690 women's groups are trained in organisational management, financial management, participatory monitoring and collectivism in practice. (2 representatives in Ghana; 2 representatives in Rwanda; 2 representatives in Bangladesh and 2 representatives in Pakistan) (Bangladesh -200 women's groups are trained in Collectivism in practice through 200, 2 day workshop)	In Bangladesh , Organizational Management training Completed during 2nd quarter for 400. Training modules for Financial Management and Collectivism in Practice are prepared and is planned to take place next quarter for 400 women, two representatives from each women group. In Rwanda , 400 women who lead women groups were trained in organisational management, financial management, participatory monitoring and become able to lead and facilitate women's initiatives towards economic and political participation.	Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan
	1.1.5 430 women groups registered as collectives/obtain trade licences /business commencement certificates (dependent on country context -180 Rwanda, 200 Bangladesh, 50 Ghana)	In Bangladesh , running a business requires legal procedure and documents. With the purpose of operating smooth business initiative in legal way, 90 women group of Lalmonirhat (40) and Gaibandha (50) district obtained trade license by following process and guidelines during this quarter. Trade license is provided by the Union Parishad/City Corporation. Small business for women groups i.e. Chanachur making, handloom, general store etc. requires the license. The groups decide in the reflect meetings to register group income generating activities. When agreed for registration, the group submits complete application to Union Parisad for consideration. POWER project support providing advice and other necessary technical support for the application.	Ghana, Rwanda and Bangladesh
	1.1.6 Quarterly participatory monitoring visits (project staff and women group members) visit other groups to monitor and review progress of groups	In Pakistan , quarterly visits are planned to start in Quarter four (October- December 2016)	Pakistan
○	1.2.1 Training of Trainers workshop for 530	In Rwanda , 328 women group's facilitators were trained on women rights, power relations, UCW, Violence and economic participation to transfer knowledge in groups and ongoing support will be provided to help	Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan

	<p>representatives from the women's groups on women's rights, including UCW, violence (reporting mechanism and support) and economic participation (representatives supported by REFLECT facilitators/community mobilisers to disseminate learning)</p> <p>(200 representatives trained in 10 workshops in Ghana; 200 representatives trained in 5 workshops in Rwanda; 40 representatives trained in 4 workshops in Bangladesh; 90 representatives trained in 4 workshops in Pakistan)</p>	<p>trained women collect and report cases of VAW in communities. Trained women were also linked to service providers available in communities namely police unit in charge of VAW/GBV and community focal points on VAW/GBV related incidences</p>	
	<p>1.2.2 A minimum of one monthly REFLECT meeting to sensitise 21,000 women (6,000 Ghana, 6,000 Rwanda, 5,000 Bangladesh, 4,000 Pakistan) about their rights (using existing Reflection-Action tools such as women rights analysis, power analysis, daily activity chart of women, income and expenditure matrix)</p>	<p>In Bangladesh, the women groups have conducted 1717 weekly Reflection-Action (RA) in two the two districts. 832 in Gaibandha 855 in Lalmonirhat districts. The processes sensitized women participants about their rights using different methodologies. The facilitators used Reflection-Action tools such as women rights analysis, power analysis, daily activity chart of women, income and expenditure matrix). The participants discussed issues including leadership roles, income generating activities, opening bank accounts, unpaid care wok and violence against women.</p> <p>In Rwanda, 200 women groups with 30 members each meet on a monthly basis to discuss women's rights issues including power relations at household and community level, activity planning, income and expenditure as they do monthly money contribution as saving initiative to cope with unplanned circumstances and finance their small projects</p>	<p>Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan</p>
	<p>1.2.3. Train 450 community members (400 women group facilitators in Rwanda, 40 group facilitators and 10 partner staff in Bangladesh) to monitor and track incidences of violence against women at community level. (ongoing support will be provided to collect cases)</p>	<p>In Rwanda, 400 women were trained to monitor and track incidences of violence against women at community level. The project will provide related support to monitor and track incidences of violence from fourth quarter on wards.</p>	<p>Rwanda and Bangladesh</p>
	<p>1.2.10 400 women (Trainers of Trainers) trained on matrimonial regimes, inheritance and liberalities Law of Rwanda</p>	<p>In Rwanda, 400 women from 200 women groups were trained. Women understood how to claim their rights at household and at community levels. Women were trained on property rights, rights to inheritance, rights to decision making and economic participation, access to financial institutions and reduction, redistribution and recognition of, unpaid care work.</p>	<p>Rwanda</p>
OUTCOME 2 ACTIVITIES		PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIVITES PER COUNTRY	
<p>Output 2.1</p>	<p>2.1.2 Organise sensitisation meetings annually with local government officials and rural women to discuss women's UCW and support for interventions and budgetary allocation to reduce UCW. (16 meetings with 40 rural women in Ghana, 50 meetings with 200 rural women in Rwanda, 20 meetings with 200 rural women in Bangladesh and</p>	<p>In Bangladesh, SKS (local partner) has organised sensitization meetings with local government officials, community people and women groups members. The objective of the meeting was to sensitize the local government officials and communities to recognize, reduce and redistribute the unpaid care work (UCW). The participants discussed government budget allocations to interventions that reduce the burden of women's unpaid care work and the government officials appreciated the discussions. In this quarter, 5 sensitization meetings have been organized with Union Parishad (Union Parisad is the third tier of local government of Bangladesh) and rural women in five unions of Lalmonirhat sadar. Union Parisad chairman, Union Parisad</p>	<p>Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan</p>

	<p>10 meetings with 200 rural women in Pakistan) (Baseline report utilised to provide supporting evidence of the need)</p>	<p>Members, and women group members participated in this meeting. The chairman and other officials acknowledged the burden of unpaid care work and committed to raise the issue during Union Parisad budget allocations. 305 participants (173 female and 132 male) attended these meetings.</p> <p>(Annex-5: Event Report on sensitization meetings annually with local government officials)</p> <p>In Rwanda, five sensitization meetings were conducted in Nyanza and Nyaruguru Local Right Programs and will be completed in early quarter 4 for the remaining project areas. The meetings was attended by local government officials and community members (men, women, boys and girls) and discussions focused on the negative effect of unpaid care work on women’s socio-economic and political participation. Local government committed to establish at least a child care centre per one cell. At least 500 community members and leaders from district to village levels participated.</p>	
<p>Output 2.2</p>	<p>2.2.4 Organise annual community sensitisation meetings with traditional and religious leaders, men and boys to champion the redistribution of care roles and challenge social constructs at the community level through (Five annual meetings in each of the 8 districts in Ghana; 1 annual meeting in Rwanda; 80 annual meetings in Bangladesh; 10 in Pakistan)</p>	<p>In Bangladesh, SKS (ActionAid Bangladesh local partner) have organized 20 Community Sensitization Meetings organized in 5 unions of Lalmonirhat sadar Upazila where 1397 participants including 823 women, 392 men and 182 children (0-14 years) have participated. The participants including the traditional leaders and religious leaders acknowledged the burden of unpaid care work and promised to support women in doing household chores. Modushudon is a Mogolhat high school student and understood the burden of unpaid care work and said, “I will choose at least one or two tasks in my house to support my mother in doing house work”.</p> <p>(Annex-6: community sensitization meetings with traditional and religious leaders, men and boys to champion the redistribution of care roles and challenge social contracts at the community level)</p>  <p>Sensitization Meeting in Harati Union 1</p>	<p>Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan</p>

		<p>In Rwanda, Sensitization meetings were organized in 55 schools located in Musanze, Karongi, Gisagara, Nyaruguru and Nyanza Districts. Students at primary schools have been explained the burden of unpaid care work through different methodologies including role plays, songs and diagrams. The students were very interested during the sensitization meetings and spent many hours in listening and watching the different sessions. 8150 students are estimated to have attended the sensitization meetings at 15 schools in three districts (locally known as sectors), Muganza, Kibilizi, Gishubi.</p>  <p>Unpaid Care work for primary students</p>	
	<p>2.2.10 Develop and organize 20 theatre/drama show to raise awareness of and promote recognition, reduction and redistribution of UCW annually at community level.</p>	<p>In Bangladesh, the Terms of Reference was developed and was advertised publically to attract interested theatre group/agency/individual. Reviewing the proposals and the CVs is under process.</p>	<p>Bangladesh</p>
	<p>2.2.11 Six monthly Spouse and Family members meeting within each of 200 women groups.</p>	<p>In Bangladesh, a total of 200 meetings had been organized in Lalmonirhat and Gaibandha districts with the spouse and family members of circle members of each 200 reflection-action circle during 3rd quarter. A total of 10,302 participants (Gaibandha- 4992, Lalmonirhat-5310) have attended the meeting composing of 4700 circle members, 3724 spouse and 1878 other family members and other community participants. The participants had discussions surrounding the burden of unpaid care work. The participants realized this burden and committed that they will support women in doing household tasks.</p> <p>(Annex-7: Six monthly Spouse and Family members meeting within each of 200 women’s groups)</p>	<p>Bangladesh</p>
<p>Output 2.3</p>	<p>2.3.1 Establish 42 child care initiatives (24 in Ghana, 6 in Rwanda, 12 in Bangladesh) as models for learning and advocacy</p>	<p>In Rwanda, five childcare centres have been established and equipped. Women take their children to care centres and come back in the afternoon to collect their children. These care centres help women farmers gain to get more time for productive work. Around 900 women bring their children to 6 established community care centres. The women beneficiaries of this scheme are on the rise, and ActionAid Rwanda having communicated to the government build more child centres. The government pledged to construct one more child centre at each area (locally known as cell).</p> <p>In Bangladesh, to strengthen the existing 7 day care centres in Gaibandha (5 in Udakhali & Kanchipara unions)</p>	<p>Ghana, Rwanda and Bangladesh</p>

		and Lalmonirhat (2 in Rajpur and Khuniagach unions), 18 meetings (13 in Gaibandha and 5 in Lalmonirhat) with the parents of the children have been organized. The meetings were attended 285 guardians, 146 circle members and ActionAid Bangladesh partner staff. The participants discussed to inspire parents to send their children to the child care centres, to ensure continued payment of the facilitators and to prepare FOR recurrent floods that take place in those areas. Each parents agreed to pay BDT 10-30 per month; all the group members of Udakhali and Kanchipara unions of Gaibandha will pay BDT 2 per month; and all the group members of Rajpur and Khuniagach unions of Lalmonirhat will pay BDT 3 per month. The parents will ensure regular attendance of the children. Furthermore, Alor Dishari day care center (Kanchipara) of Gaibandha has formed a management committee to improve the center services. The participants also agreed to demand budget allocation for the child care centres in the upcoming May-June 2017 Union Parishad Open budget sessions.	
	2.3.3 Provide 2020 low cost rain water harvesting (20 in Ghana, 1000 in Rwanda, 2,000 in Pakistan) and eight drinking water supply schemes (following feasibility study) in Pakistan to reduce time spent on water collection	In Rwanda, 199 rainwater harvesting tanks have been distributed to women and were supported to connect the tank to the roof with gutters. The beneficiary of this scheme is 199 women from the women groups. This reduced the time women used to fetch water from long distances and now women are able to spend more time with productive activities. There are also cases where women are using water to irrigate home gardens.	Ghana, Rwanda and Pakistan
OUTCOME 2 ACTIVITIES		PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIVITES PER COUNTRY	
Output 3.2	3.2.3 Train and support 690 women's groups to set up and manage saving schemes (to support women to access finance for income generating activities) (Ghana- 3 day training for 400 (25 per district) Community Facilitators/Women group leaders; Rwanda 200 groups through 1 day training; Bangladesh 200 groups through 1 day training each; Pakistan 90 women's groups)	In Bangladesh, during the weekly reflection-action meetings, the importance of having saving schemes was discussed. ActionAid Bangladesh partners are providing the necessary support and guidance to the women groups to start saving schemes, keep records and to open bank accounts. From May 2016, each group made decision in a participatory way to start-up savings (BDT 10-20) considering their capacity. Following this decision, each member contributes monthly payment and the cashier collects to save. Since September 2016, 144 (100 in Gaibandha and 44 in Lalmonirhat) women groups started monthly contribution collection. Process to open bank account to save the deposited money has been started.	Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan
Output 3.3	3.2.6 33 community seed banks established (11 in Rwanda, 10 in Bangladesh and 12 in Pakistan) and 20,000 women provided with seeds (6000 in Ghana, 6,000 in Rwanda, 5000 in Bangladesh and 3000 in Pakistan)	In Rwanda, 3300 women have been so far received seeds and will plant quarter four (October-December) - which is the season for planting. Women farmers received seeds of beans, wheat, potatoes, maize, soybeans and vegetables. Remaining seeds will be provided in 2017. Seedbanks will be established early 2017 to support women preserving their own seeds that will reduce women dependence on market seeds mostly which are not of good quality and not well adaptive to local conditions.	Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan
	3.2.13 Support 200 women groups in Rwanda and 1000 women in Ghana with livestock to have access to animal manure and animal droppings as raw materials for compost making to be used to improve soil fertility and productivity	In Rwanda, 287 women have received livestock to have access to animal to manure/compost for soil fertility and productivity.	Ghana and Rwanda
	3.3.2 Organise Training of Trainers (ToT) for community facilitators, partner staff and women CRSA Champions on Good Agricultural Practices on CRSA such as use of green manure, cover crops and composting (Training team supported to roll	In Rwanda, 50 women trainers were trained to support women understand and adopt CRSA practices. The trained women are also expected to train other women in their communities.	Ghana, Rwanda, Bangladesh and Pakistan

<p>out the training to other women) (Ghana through training 50 trainers (10 per region) through 5 day training. 10 (trainers per region) reach 750 rural women per year; Bangladesh - three trainings in project life cycle- 2 basic training and one refresher; 400 women trained in Pakistan)</p>		
<p>3.3.5 Train 400 women in livestock rearing practices and compost making through 5- day workshop once a year 2018 in Rwanda and train 40 community livestock volunteers in Ghana.</p>	<p>In Rwanda, 400 women, 2 from each group were trained on how to cater for livestock including treatment of animal minor sickness. Also they were trained on how to make compost for use to improve soil fertility hence increase crop yields.</p>  <p>Women preparing compost as a fertilizer</p>	<p>Ghana and Rwanda</p>
<p>3.3.8 Train 200 women groups on vegetable gardening Agricultural Extension Service providers</p>	<p>In Bangladesh, to build conceptual understanding on climate resilient sustainable agriculture (CRSA) and increase participant’s technical knowledge, skills on modern vegetables gardening and cultivation technologies training on Vegetables Gardening has been initiated for each member of the 200 women’s groups. 68 women groups of Gaibandha and 10 women groups of Lalmonirhat received the training during this quarter, where a total 1906 participants learned about systematic vegetable gardening in light of CRSA. The experts that facilitated the training along with the project staff included SAAO (Sub Assistant Agriculture Officer) and AEO (Agriculture Extension Officer) from the Department of Agriculture and Extension services of both districts.</p> <p>The participants learned about CRSA, homestead gardening, role of women in agriculture, season wise vegetable cultivation, about the soil-good seed and preservation technique, seed bank, compost manure, pesticide management, irrigation management, preparing bed and pit etc. They have received hands-on training through practical sessions. After receiving the training 60% training participants prepared pits and bed for planting seed by their own. Some members planted seed of bottle guard and bean in the beds. 10% participants started making compost manure at their households.</p> <p>(Annex-8: Training on Vegetable gardening)</p>	<p>Bangladesh</p>
<p>OUTCOME 2 ACTIVITIES</p>	<p>PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIVITES PER COUNTRY</p>	
<p>4.4.3 Organise 4 side event meeting (e.g. rural</p>	<p>In Rwanda, women have jointly organized a side event with GIMAC (Gender is my Agenda Campaign) during</p>	<p>AAI, Ghana and</p>

<p>women present demands at stalls outside) with AU during the CAADP Partnership Platform meetings , AU Summit by 2020 (on annual basis)</p>	<p>AU summit that took place in Kigali, Rwanda from 10--11 JULY 2016. Women discussion on, women right issues, how to translate GIMAC recommendations at national and local level, how to implement SDGEA using the SDI, institutionalization of the GIMAC, gender equality, unpaid care work, peace and security especially to war prone countries, youth empowerment. In the event women proposed issues to address including Unpaid Care Work, Women’s right to Land , Women’s lack of access to finance and extension services offered by the States.</p> <p>ActionAid women groups presented an invitation to the Chair women of the African Union Dr. Nkonsazana Dlamini Zuma to attend and support the upcoming Kilimanjaro Women Initiative on land rights which will take place in October 2016 in Tanzania. Madam Zuma was very delighted for this initiative and declared her support and that of her office to this event.</p>	<p>Rwanda</p>
<p>MEL ACTIVITIES</p>		
<p>Annual Policy meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>	<p>The meeting was attended by the senior programme manager AAUK, and international project manager in the Hague in the Netherlands. AA shared its time diary tool with other FLOW grantees and the toll will be used by other organisations working on unpaid care work. AAI also learnt from other organisations in terms of different tools used including the 5 Cs model for assessing partners, women in agriculture index being used by SNV. AA also learnt about the gender budget indicators which will be used to track the impact of funding and is working to ensure that it’s monitoring and evaluation activities consider these issues when tracking project impact. The lessons learnt from this meeting have since been shared with all implementing partners and a report prepared for reference purposes</p>	
<p>Technical assistance to develop and strengthen the M&E Framework for local organisations</p>	<p>During the inception workshop all 4 implementing countries mapped up their requirements for MEL and technical assistance will be provided to implementing partners. The monitoring and evaluation coordinator was hired in June 2016 and will contribute to the development of the MEL framework in the third and 4th quarter. Currently the overall project M&E plan and each country M&E plans are under construction and is expected to be completed by End of August 2016. The MEL Coordinator is also leading efforts to finalize all required MEL processes i.e. data collection tools, Time diary guidelines, detailed indicator and activity reporting framework, digitization of data collection tools and are expected to be finalized latest by 4th Quarter. At national level, countries have developed national reporting templates for example; AAB</p>	



ActionAid women (Left) at GIMAC panel

ActionAid women at Kilimanjaro initiative

		developed the following monitoring tools for the project during this quarter. In order to measure the performance of the women groups, group level data collection tools and reporting template for the partner for reflect circles and narrative reporting template for partner and organizational level reports.	
Baseline Coordinated by international consultant, national baselines conducted and consolidated at international level		<p>The baseline was planned to take place across four project areas (Pakistan, Bangladesh, Ghana and Rwanda). AAUK has contracted with international consulting firm (known as ISG – International Solution Group). An International lead consultant will coordinate the global baseline survey. A national consultant will be recruited in each country. The International consultant and the national consultant should work together to implement baseline at each country level. At the end, the International consultant composes global baseline findings/report resulting from the data coming from each country.</p> <p>The international consultant was hired in April 2016 and has submitted an inception report for conducting the baseline survey. The consultant has also reviewed the entire relevant document for the project including the theory of change, project proposal, logical framework and monitoring framework and other ActionAid policies. The hiring process included the participation of ActionAid Ghana, ActionAid Rwanda, AA Pakistan and AA Bangladesh. The tools for conducting the baseline were discussed by all implementing partners and include household survey, interviews, focus group discussions and review of policy documents. The household survey uses mobile technology for data collection. A pilot study was conducted in July 2016 in Rwanda and was attended by MEL Coordinator, Senior multi-country project manager, International project manager, International consultant, Rwanda national consultant and 4 country project managers. Rwanda and Bangladesh have recruited the national consultants. Rwanda and Bangladesh have completed baseline data collection processes and the baseline report writing is in progress. In Ghana the national consultant recruitment is in progress and will be finalized by end of November. Pakistan has faced contextual challenges to conduct the baseline, where the Pakistan government requires all INGOs to get approval to carry out studies i.e. baselines, currently, ActionAid Pakistan and POWER project management team are working hard to get the government approval.</p>	
Mobile phones and software for digital data collection		The phones were procured at national level in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Rwanda and Ghana. They have been distributed to data collectors during baseline survey for data collection. After the baseline survey the phones will be used for monitoring and evaluation purposes. The phones have been installed with software for data collection for the baseline. They have been used for baseline piloting process in July 2016 in Rwanda. The MEL Coordinator has developed ToR for mobile phone use, which governs how they are used for data collection and requirement for safe storage after use.	
Partner Advisory Group meet annually in each country		The partner advisory groups are still being organised in Ghana, Pakistan, Rwanda and Bangladesh. These will include community beneficiaries and the components of the partner advisory groups have been agreed upon during the international inception workshop	
International Project Accountability Meetings (quarterly) -via Skype		The first IPAT of the project was held in September 2016. The IPAT was attended by all the 4 country directors, AAUK finance, senior programme manager, international project Manager, International project accountant and all country directors of the 4 implementing countries. In addition the international regional directors for Asia and Africa were also present in the meeting. The meeting deliberated on the major issues affecting the projects and the agenda included regional advocacy plans, challenges in project implementation including	

		<p>issues of changing of partners in Pakistan and restrictive operating environment in Pakistan and Bangladesh for NGOs. Key decisions were made regarding monitoring and evaluation, key reporting timelines, budget revisions to see what could be achieved in year 1. Countries committed to review of risk registers, review their budgets and ensure timely communication. The next IPAT will be held in next quarter and contributes to accountability by all implementers as well as efficient running of the project.</p>	
	<p>National M&E Training conducted to ensure all project staff are familiar with project monitoring tools and analysis of data</p>	<p>The training was organized for AAR and Partner project staff to understand project M&E tools and planning templates. Participants also were trained on tablets use. Project staff has understood project reporting template and M&E tools.</p>	