**Project Update: August 2018**

***Habitat Monitoring***

A total of four members of research team was visited the core habitat during May, June and July 2018 to observe the habitat condition. Core habitat monitoring is an ongoing activities and monitor monthly. On the contrary, very beginning of the monsoon, the vegetation of the orchid habitat started to change, Firstly herb and grass vegetation has grown followed by few shrub species. It has been found that the undergrowth vegetation gradually increases after the rain during May. As the habitat is strictly prohibited for crop plantation, the wild vegetation has grown up enormously in June along with all species of plant as the like previous habitat during 2014 when the orchid flower bloomed. However, a single orchid sapling do not found with associated grass vegetation. The plant might grow next year while the tuber will mature enough to produce new sapling.

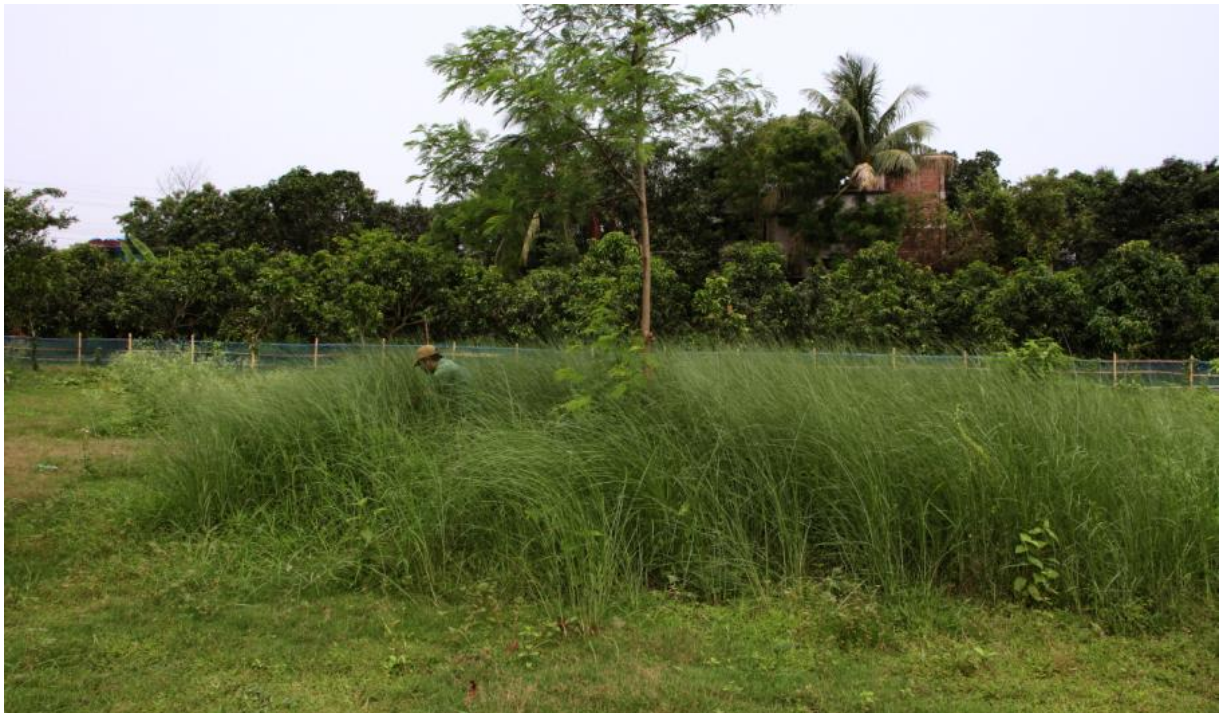

Figure 1: The core habitat partially regenerated by grass vegetation during May, 2018

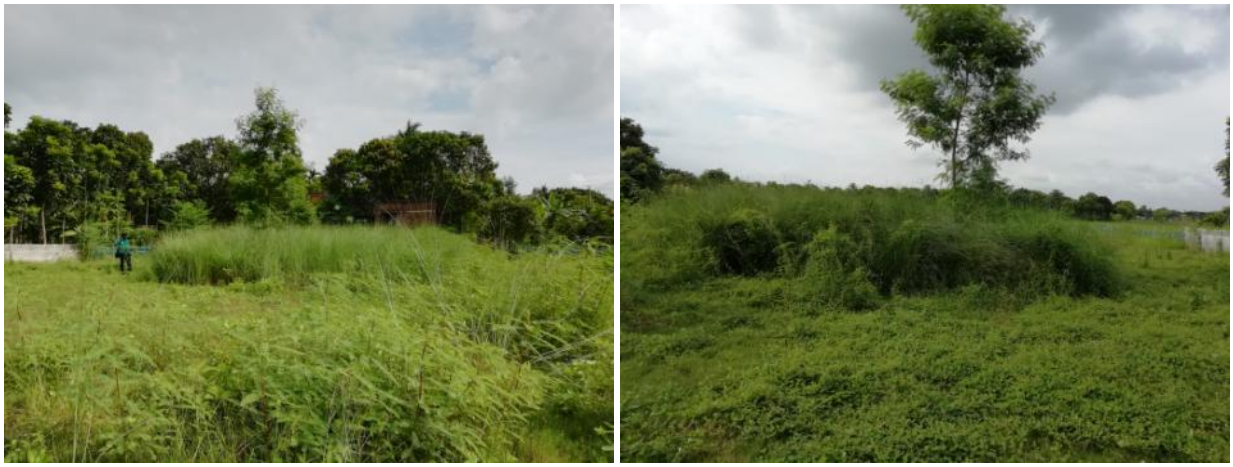

Figure 2: The core habitat partially regenerated by grass vegetation during July , 2018

**Habitat Survey**

This survey was concentrated to identify potential grassland habitat where *Eulophiaobtusa* might grow. As this species grows in May and produces flower in June. Therefore, the survey activities were conducted during monsoon months June and July. Theysurvey was conducted different locations (Figure 4) of Godagariarea where similar types of grassland still occur. The first survey was conducted from 27th June to 12th July in different mauzas (Table 1) of Godagariarea. Since *Eulophiaobtusa* grows up with straw so they will be easily seen over the straw. So all of the areas where straw is abundant was overlooked properly. More than 50 people were interviewed about the occurrence of target species *Eulophiaobtusa.* Among them few people told they have seen the orchid plants but unfortunately no sign of orchid plant found at surveyed grassland.

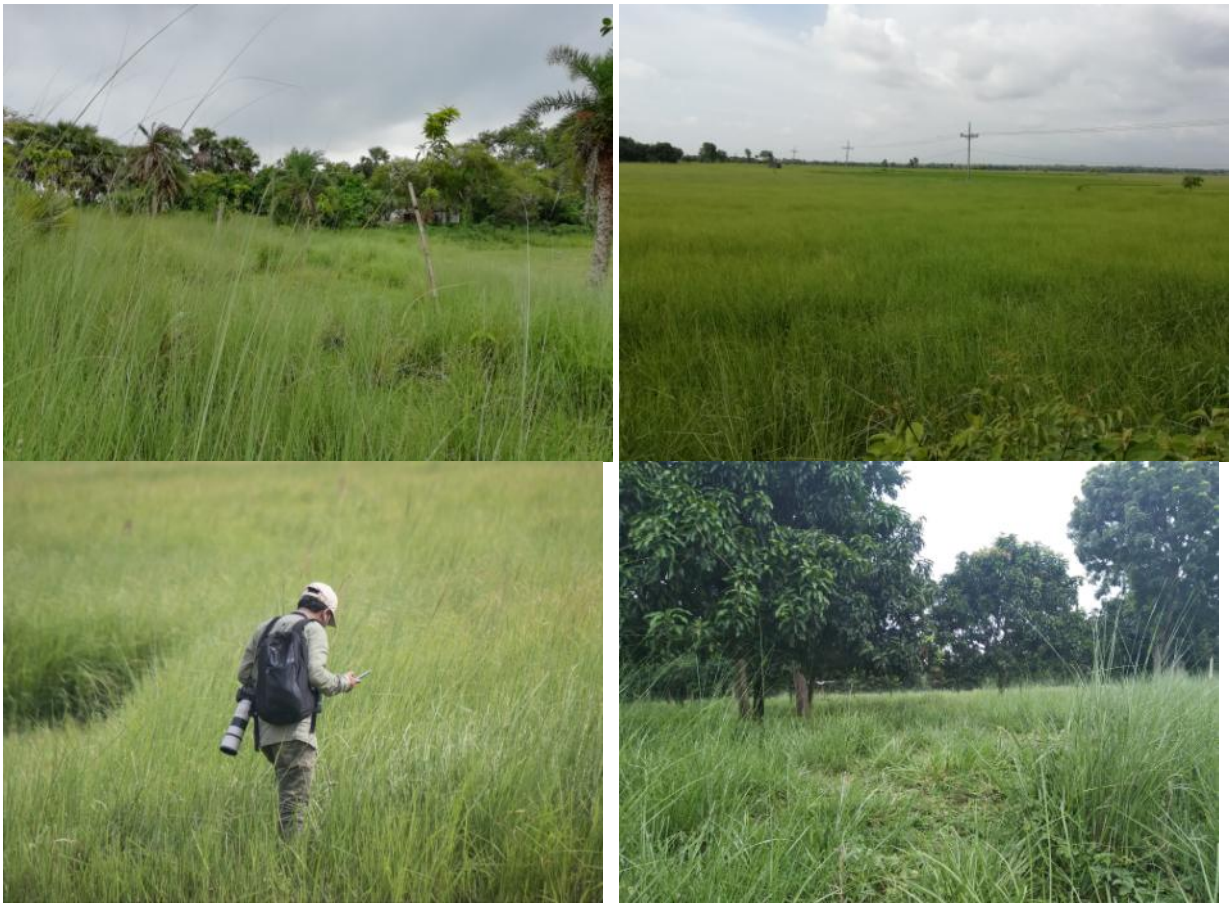

Figure 3: Views of different grassland duringthe habitat survey (June and July, 2018)

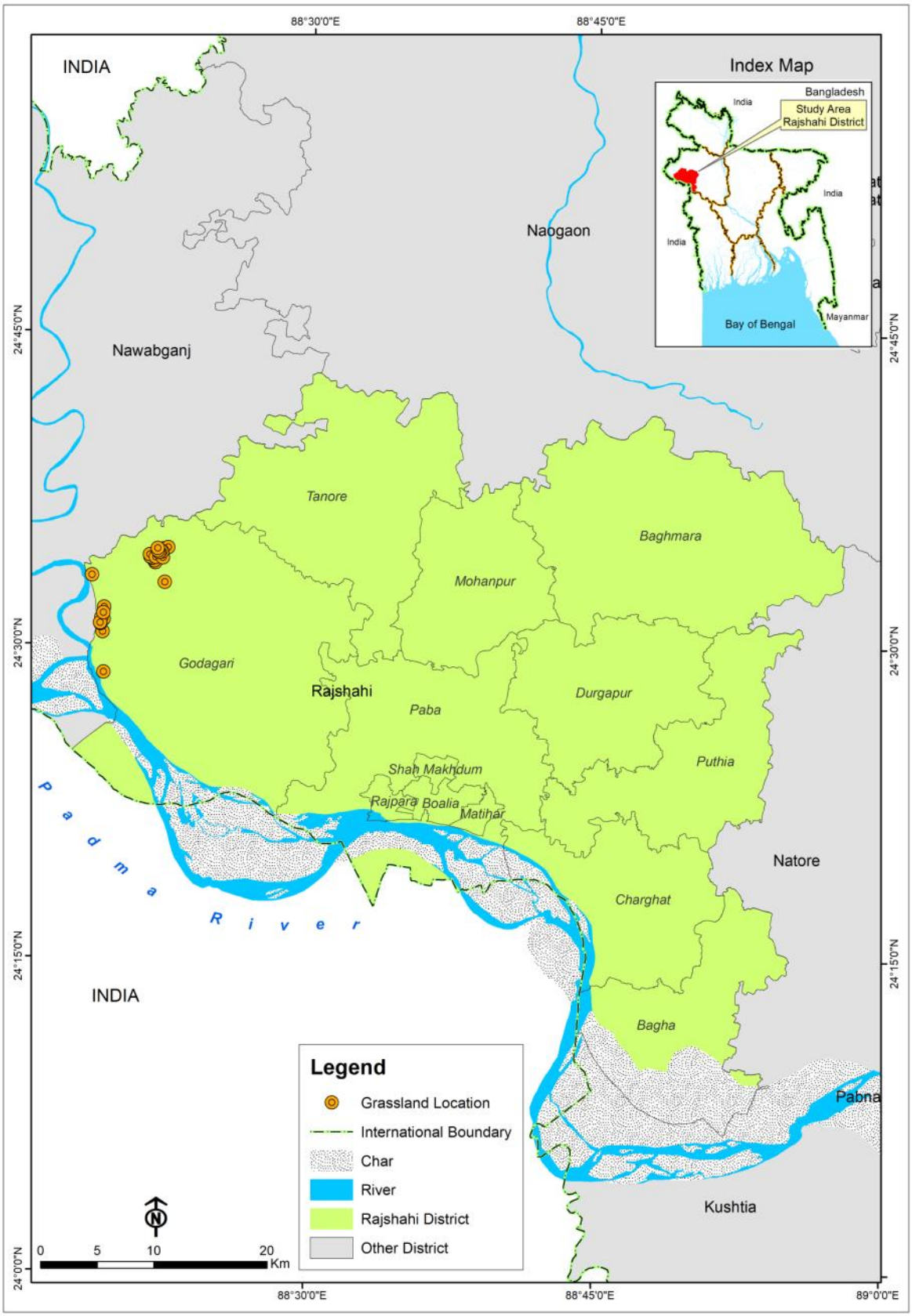


Figure 4: Map of habitat survey locations (grassland)

Table 1: Brief of the surveyed grasslandat Godagariof Rajshahi District

| Mauza name | Union name | Thana name | Lat_DMS | Lon_DMS | Habitat Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sarangapur | GodagariPaurashava | Godagari | 24.478333 | 88.318333 | Mango grove associate with grass |
| Abhaya | Basudebpur | | 24.510556 | 88.317222 | Grassland |
| Domkulio | Basudebpur | | 24.516944 | 88.315278 | Grassland |
| Laskarhati | Basudebpur | | 24.5175 | 88.315 | Grassland |
| Laskarhati | Basudebpur | | 24.517559 | 88.315048 | Grassland |
| Ramnagar | Basudebpur | | 24.520467 | 88.317956 | Grassland |
| BilSamaspur | Basudebpur | | 24.521944 | 88.316111 | Grassland |
| BilSamaspur | Basudebpur | | 24.525556 | 88.317778 | Grassland |
| BilSamaspur | Basudebpur | | 24.525556 | 88.317778 | Grassland |
| BilSamaspur | Basudebpur | | 24.53 | 88.318333 | Grassland |
| Jaban | Mohanpur | | 24.550404 | 88.370853 | Grassland |
| Hatnabad | Basudebpur | | 24.555833 | 88.3075 | Grassland |
| Jamuna | Mohanpur | | 24.566111 | 88.3625 | Grassland |
| Jamuna | Mohanpur | | 24.5675 | 88.361667 | Grassland along the pond |
| Bandhara | Mohanpur | | 24.569444 | 88.359722 | Grassland along the lake |
| Digha | Mohanpur | | 24.57 | 88.369167 | Grassland |
| Digha | Mohanpur | | 24.570278 | 88.363056 | Grassland along the lake |
| Bandhara | Mohanpur | | 24.570556 | 88.358333 | Grassland along the lake |
| Bandhara | Mohanpur | | 24.5725 | 88.357778 | Grassland along the lake |
| Digha | Mohanpur | | 24.574167 | 88.365833 | Grassland |
| Digha | Mohanpur | | 24.574722 | 88.368611 | Grassland |
| Digha | Mohanpur | | 24.575556 | 88.367222 | Grassland |
| Digha | Mohanpur | | 24.575556 | 88.364722 | Grassland |
| Digha | Mohanpur | | 24.577052 | 88.369619 | Grassland |
| Mahishathali | Mohanpur | | 24.5775 | 88.364444 | Grassland |
| Digha | Mohanpur | | 24.578285 | 88.373598 | Grassland |

**Outreach activities:**

During the habitat survey, several outreach activities has been conducted with local peoples, local NGO (Chapanababganj Nature Club) and promotional material such as leaflet has been distributed to local people about this orchid plant.

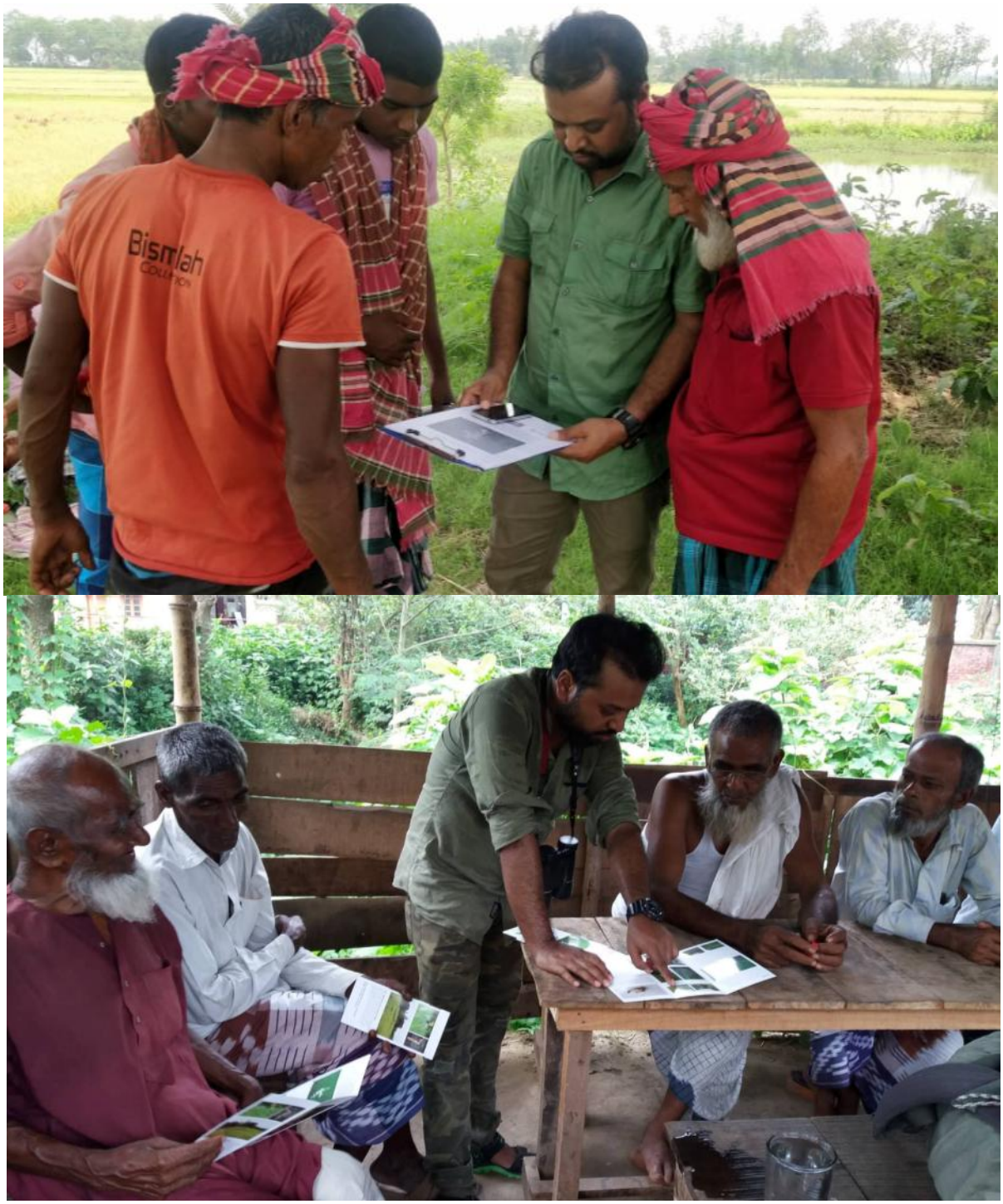


Figure 5: Views of outreach activities duringthe field survey (May and July, 2018)