

## Anowara: A Union Parishad Member

| Participant Profile       |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Name                      | Anowara    |
| Age                       | 32         |
| Date of Joining CLP       | May 2008   |
| District                  | Kurigram   |
| Village                   | Suker char |
| Marital Status            | Married    |
| Implementing Organisation | RSDA       |



Anowara never used to go outside her community. She was shy and did not have the courage to speak in front of people. Her life was restricted to the chars.

*“Before joining the CLP, I did not have the confidence to speak out”*

In 2008, using the CLP asset transfer grant, Anowara bought a cow and a lamb. Since then she has sold four of the offspring, and kept two. This allowed her to invest in 20 decimals of land.

Not only have the value of her assets increased, but following the CLP social development training run by the implementing organisation RSDA, she feels more confident. Her community then asked her to run as a Union Parishad member. She was elected in 2009 and now works in the Union Council to stop early marriage, dowry and domestic violence. She is extremely active within her community. She has prevented one early marriage and distributes Vulnerable Group Feeding cards to relevant community members.

*“I am a Union Parishad member. I travel outside my village a lot and this makes me happy”*

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Anowara’s life has radically changed. Everyday she visits households in the chars. She has even travelled to Bogra and Dhaka. Her husband fully supports her and she hopes to become the chairman and represent her whole union.

