

## A MoU signed between LGED and RDA

A MoU signed on 26 September 2023 between Local Government Engineering Department and Rural Development Academy where PROVATI<sup>3</sup> -LGED/IFAD and Making Market Work for The Chars (M4C) will work together on a few issues to improve the livelihoods of the char people and assist to make the rural infrastructure resilient for sustainable impact. It would be a unique partnership to make the market economically viable for the char people through necessary information generation including need assessment for market, exercising wide range of value chains, and initiating action research for char people's livelihood improvement. A repository of information and knowledge will be raised and that will be disseminated systematically through both parties' existing 'Centre of Excellence'. A significant part of this MoU, it has opened a scope of action research with collaboration of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) on road slope stabilization which is a most demanding need for making the infrastructure resilient in context of growing threat of erosion and flooding resulted by climate changes.

The MoU has brought in a new dimension, particularly for PROVATI<sup>3</sup> -LGED/IFAD project to work with more impacts towards sustainable livelihoods for the char people and making its investment resilient and sustained. The MoU was signed by Sk. Md. Mohsin, Chief Engineer, LGED and Md. Khurshid Iqbal Rezvi Director General of RDA in presence of Syeda Zinia Rashid, Senior Programme Officer, Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh; Nabil Rahman, Programme Analyst, IFAD Country Office in Bangladesh; Mujibul Hasan, Country Director, Swisscontact, Bangladesh; Md. Rezaul Karim Additional Chief Engineer, LGED; Md. Jasim Uddin, Superintending Engineer (planning), LGED; Md. Anisul Wahab Khan, Project Director, PROVATI<sup>3</sup>-LGED; Abdul Barek Howlader, Project Director, CDSP-B(AF), LGED; and Md. Abdul Majid Pramanik, Joint Director and Project Director, M4C, RDA. Besides, there were other officials from LGED, PROVATI<sup>3</sup> -LGED, Swisscontact and RDA to witness the event. It is hoped that this partnership would be a way forward for more collaborations in future.

