CSO Initiative to Protect the Housing and Livelihood Rights of the Kayaputra Community:

Approximately 45 Kayaputra families have been living for many years along the roadside in Alipur, Satkhira Sadar Upazila. Pig rearing is their primary source of livelihood. Recently, under a government road widening initiative, these families faced the risk of eviction. Although government-owned khas land is available adjacent to their settlement, no effective measures had been taken for their rehabilitation. As a result, the families became increasingly concerned about losing both their homes and their livelihoods. The issue was raised during a meeting of the Satkhira Sadar Upazila CSO Committee, where it was recognized as an important human rights concern. Based on the meeting's decision, senior members of the HOPE Project and Upazila CSO members jointly visited the affected area. They met with the families, documented their concerns, assessed the potential risks, and gathered evidence to support advocacy efforts. Following the field visit, CSO members-initiated communication with the relevant government authorities, emphasizing the need for a rights-based and humanitarian response. They recommended that, alongside the road development project, the affected families should be rehabilitated on the adjacent khas land, provided with appropriate livelihood support, and considered for inclusion in relevant social protection programmes.

This initiative has brought the housing and livelihood rights of the Kayaputra community to the attention of local authorities and other stakeholders. The proactive role of CSO members, supported by evidence-based advocacy and constructive engagement with government agencies, has created a positive foundation for ensuring sustainable rehabilitation and strengthening the social protection of this marginalized community.