<u>Center for Community Based Resource Management (CBRM)</u>

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

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Date: 01/29/2010	Entry 1043 Number:
Case Study Name:	Rural Credit Programs and Women's Empowerment in Bangladesh
Authors:	Hashemi, S. M.
Document Type:	paper in scientific journal
Year:	1996
Language:	English
Document Location:	World Development, 24 (4) 635-653
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Region:	Southeast Asia
Country:	Bangladesh
Ecosystem Type:	arid and/or semi-arid
Social Characteristics:	remote community
Scale of Study:	community
Resource Type:	other (microcredit)
Type of Initiative:	national NGO initiative
Community Based Work:	other (credit program and women empowerment)
Keywords:	credit programs, women empowerment, Bangladesh
Summary:	This paper presents findings from a study of Grameen Bank and the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC), two programs that provide credit to poor rural women in Bangladesh. The programs were found to have

significant effects on eight different dimensions of women's empowerment. The authors use a combination of
sample survey and case study data to argue that the success of Grameen Bank, is particular, in empowering
women is due both to its strong, central focus on credit, and its skillful use of rules and rituals to make the loan
program function.