ANNUAL REPORT- 2023

Agrogogti Sangstha

AGROGOTI SANGSTHA

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LEADERSHIP'S **COMMITMENT**

For over 24 years, Agrogoti Sangstha has been at the forefront of efforts to address pressing social and economic challenges in South-western part of Bangladesh. Our vision is simple yet profound: to empower local communities and institutions to ensure Human Rights and Good Governance for all.

Throughout our existence, we have remained steadfast in our dedication to transparency, accountability, and community engagement. These principles, along with the tireless efforts of our dedicated team and the support of our valued partners, have allowed us to drive meaningful change where it is needed most.

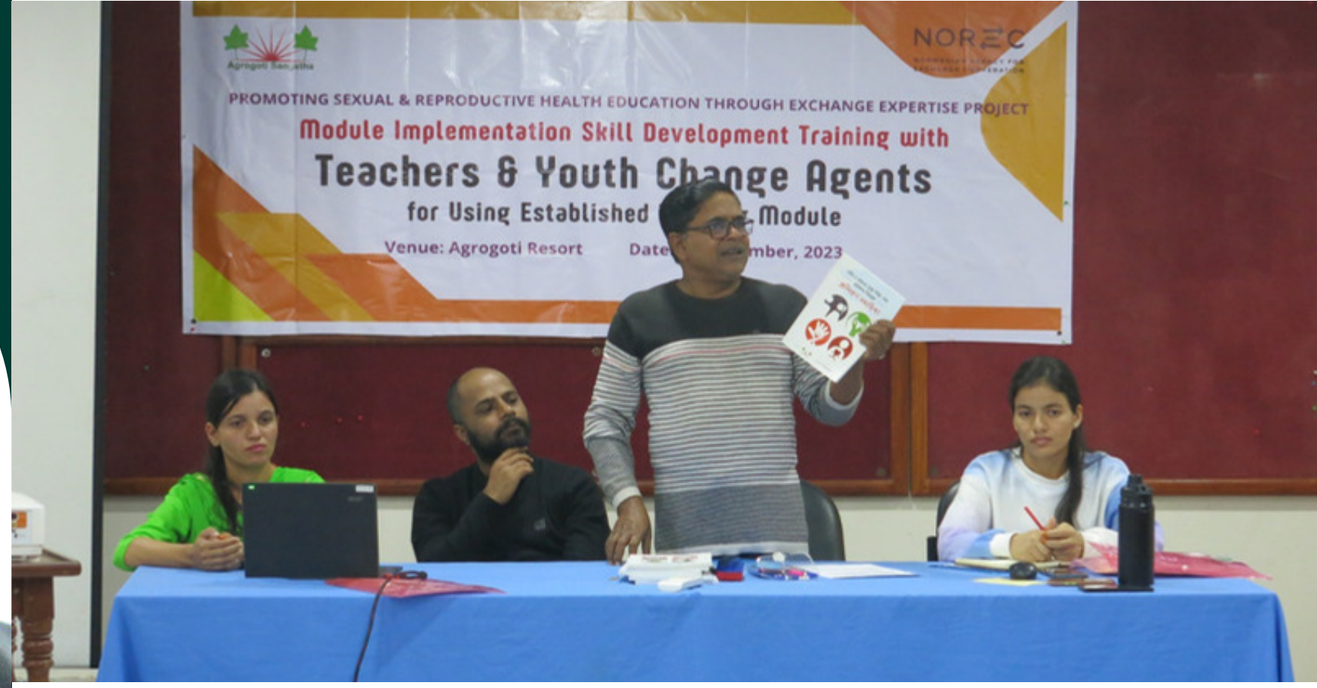
This year has been one of remarkable achievements and continued growth, and none of it would have been possible without the unwavering support of individuals like you, who share our vision of a brighter, more sustainable future.

I invite you to explore the stories of transformation and impact within these pages, and I am excited about the path that lies ahead. Together, we are Agrogoti Sangstha, and together, we will continue to light the way towards a brighter and more sustainable future.

Md. Abdul Hamid
President
Agrogoti Sangstha



To empower local communities and institutions to ensure Human Rights and Good Governance for all



Agrogoti Sangstha, an organization deeply committed to nurturing sustainable communities, takes great pleasure in presenting our Annual Report for the year 2023. This report encapsulates the profound journey we've embarked upon in pursuit of lasting change for those we serve.

As you delve into the pages of this report, you'll uncover how our diverse programs in areas such as good governance, climate change adaptation, human & child rights, education, healthcare, and more have touched the lives of countless individuals. Collectively, we've taken significant steps toward fostering a world where hope, opportunity, and prosperity are within everyone's grasp.

The year 2023 has been one of remarkable accomplishments and continued expansion, and none of this would have been conceivable without the enduring support of individuals like you who share our vision for a brighter, more sustainable future.

Abdus Sabur Biswas
Executive Director
Agrogoti Sangstha

I encourage you to immerse yourself in the narratives of transformation and impact within these pages. I am excited about the journey ahead and remain deeply grateful for your involvement in realizing our mission.



OUR

Management Team



Md. Firoz Hossain

Finance Coordinator



Abdus Sabur Biswas

Executive Director



Mustafizur Rahman Uzzal

Ombudsman



Kamrunnahar Rekha

President-Sexual Harrasment Elimination committee

Haridash Ghosh

President, ARC



Nasima Khatun

Agrogoti Resort Coordinator



Md. Abdul Hamid

President



Nazma Khatun

Gender Focal Person



Abu Alom

Manager, ARC



Toyaba Jahan

Director Admin & Finance



Md. Khairuzzaman

Safeguard Focal Person



Md. Al Mamun

Information Officer



Masum Billah Sohag

child Safeguard Focal Person

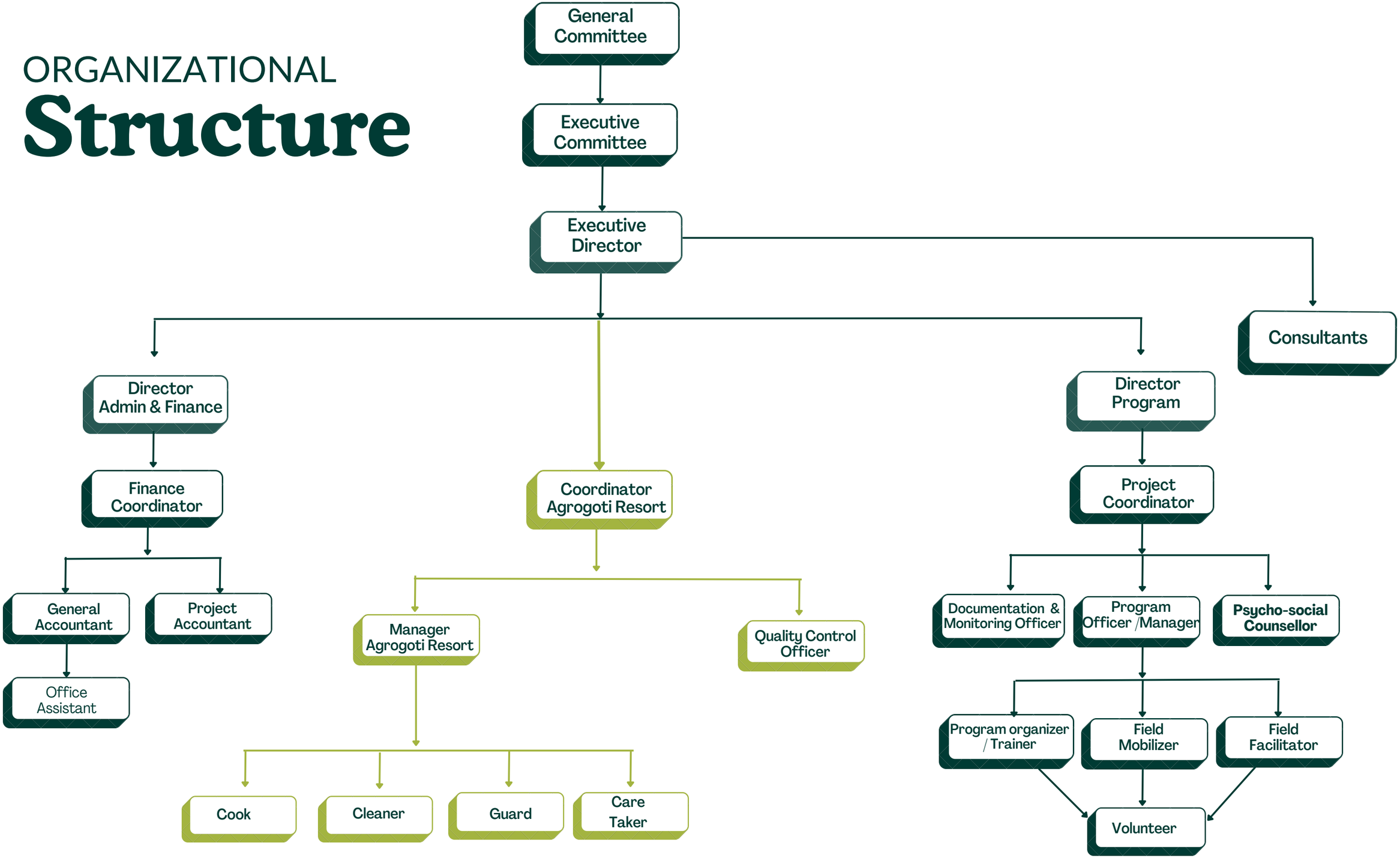


Subrata Guha

Manager, Agrogoti Resort

ORGANIZATIONAL

Structure



LIST OF **ABBREVIATIONS**

ARC	-Adolescent Resource Centre
ADRC	-Alternative Dispute Regulation
AS	-Agrogoti Sangstha
AGM	-Annual General Meeting
CAS	- Community Assistance Strategy
CC	- Citizens Committee
CDVS	- Centre for Disaster and Vulnerability studies
CDW	- Child Domestic Workers
CI	- Community Institute
CRC	- Child Rights Convention
CSC	- Community Score Card
CSDI	- Community Service Delivery Institutions
CSG	- Community Support Group
CSO	- Civil Society Organization
CBO	- Community Base Organization
DOAE	- Department of Agriculture
DPHE	- Department of Public Health
DYD	- Department of Youth Development
FGD	- Focus Group Discussion
IJA	- Income Generating Activities
KII	- Key Informant Interview
LEB	- Local Elected Bodies
LG	- Local Government
LGSP	- Local Government Support Project
NOREC	-Norwegian Agency for Exchange
PHC	-Primary Health Care
PRA	-Participatory Rural Appraisal Method
RTI	- Right to Information
SA	- Social Accountability
SP	- Social Protection
SRHR	- Sexual and Reproductive Health and
SUF	- Samajik Uddog Forum
UH	- Upzila Health Care and Family
UP'S	- Union Parishad Local Government
VAW	- Violence Against Women
VGD	- Vulnerable Group Development
WASH	- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
YC	- Youth Club
YCA	- Youth Change Agents

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ANNEX 01: ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

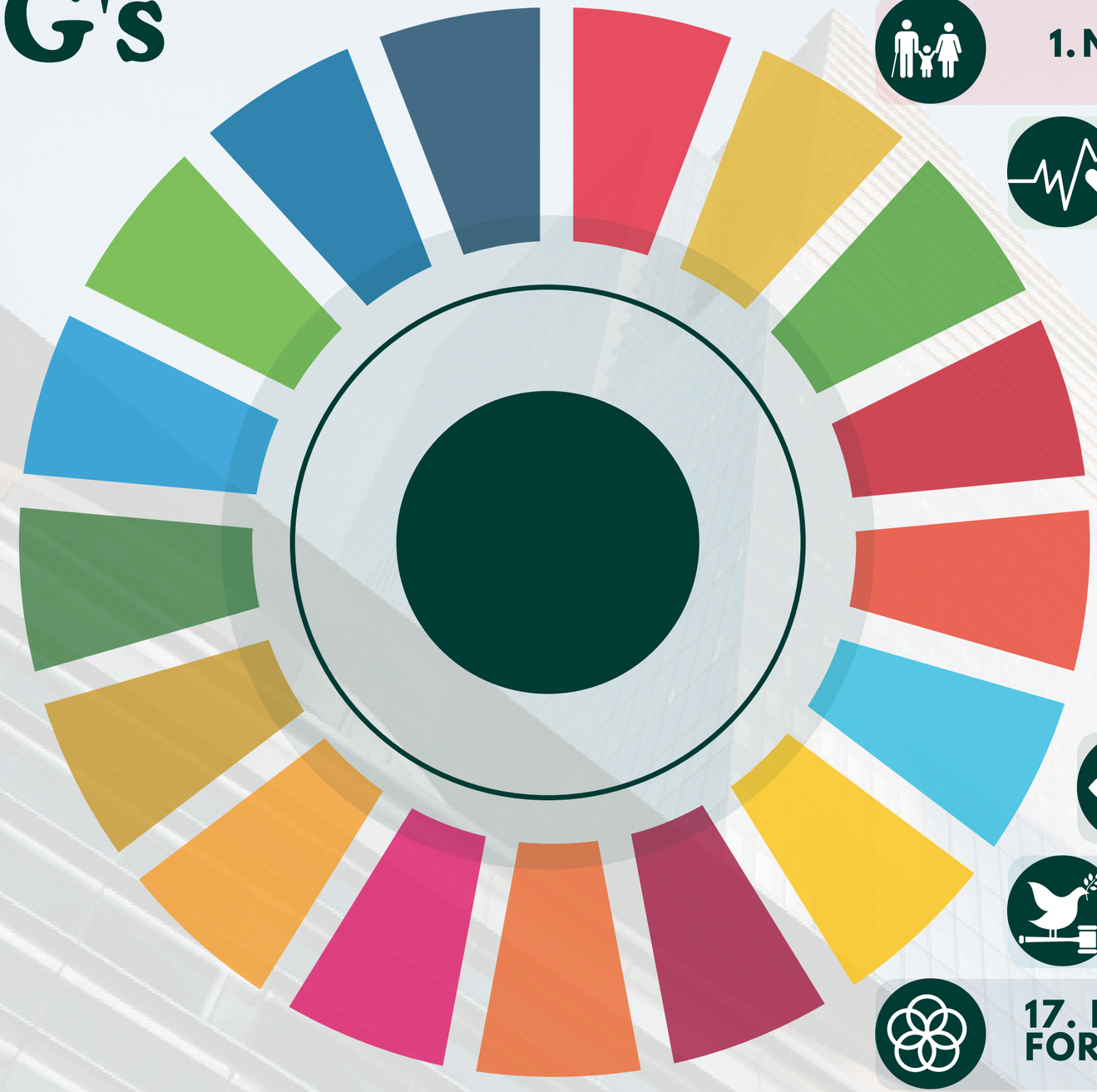
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ANNEX 02: MEDIA COVERAGE

CONTRIBUTION TO ACHIEVE

SDG's



1. NO POVERTY

3. GOOD HEALTH & WELL BEING

4. QUALITY EDUCATION

5. GENDER EQUALITY

8. DECENT WORK & ECONOMIC GROWTH

10. RECUDED INEQUALITIES

13. CLIMATE ACTION

16. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

OUR DEVELOPMENT

Partners

PREVIOUS PARTNERS

- German Embassy
- ITVS International
- Acid Survivors Foundation (A.S.F.)
- Bangladesh Freedom Foundation (BFF)
- World Bank
- Unitarian Service Committee of Canada in Bangladesh (USCC-B)
- International Organization Of migration (IOM)
- ATSEC Bangladesh Chapter
- German Technical Corporation (GTZ)
- Action Countrie La Faim (ACF)
- South west Information forum for Transformation (SWIFT)
- NGO Forum
- MoWCA and Unicef
- Save the Children International
- Action Aid Bangladesh
- International Citizen Service (ICS)
- BRAC
- ANSA
- Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO)
- Partnership for Transparency Fund (PTF)
- Relief International

ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GALANCE 2023

In 2023, the organization achieved remarkable milestones in fostering good governance and addressing various societal issues at the grassroots level. The impact of their initiatives is evident in the numbers and the breadth of activities conducted throughout the year.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

1,451 Individual

READ MORE

In case of ensuring good governance from the root level of the country-

- 1451 people got RTI support.
- Among them 109 got their answer regarding required information.
- 1197 Dalit and Marginalized people and 53 disable have used RTI Act and got answers on various government services directly from government officials through booth camps.

HUMAN RIGHTS

4,16,998 People

READ MORE

Outreach efforts reached an impressive 4,16,998 people, empowering them to establish their rights and pursue employment opportunities.

- Enriching the lives of 202 survivors
- offering pre-departure training to 121 outgoing migrant.
- Providing social media entrepreneurship training to 297 youth
- Supporting 14 needy families in achieving economic self-reliance
- Engaging 1071 youth and volunteers in campaigns against extremism and violence, contributing to the promotion of a more peaceful society.
- Providing safety net support for 1265 people.

CHILD RIGHTS

2,931 children

READ MORE

- 300 children from underprivileged family will encourage to continue their education for better life.
- Around 2631 students from high school level benefited from 8 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) corners (4 in each country) where they received hygiene materials (sanitary pads, medicines, etc.) that would assist in staying safe during menstruation.

HEALTH & RIGHTS

3,511 People

READ MORE

- 04 MHM (Menstrual hygiene Management corner have been established in different schools of the project area from where students can be benefitted by health care goods.
- 535 students and teachers received orientations on MHM
- 100 students received psychosocial counseling from expert counselors.
- 165 disaster-vulnerable women received orientations on puberty, MHM and sexually transmitted infections (STI).

CLIMATE CHANGE & ADAPTATION

1,589 Household

READ MORE

- 1589 women project participants received Climate Resilient Agriculture farming training out
- Among them 1373 HH received different types of IGA training
- Total 1262 HHs cultivated House hold based homestead gardening during the year.

INVOLVEMENT OF
Youth

Youth and Volunteers for Agrogoti Sangstha aren't just lending manual labor – they're lending their expertise. They promote justice, work against human trafficking, extremism and work as a key change maker in the community. Through our trainings and skill development programs they are becoming potential next generation leaders who will fulfill Agrogoti Sangstha's mandate for bringing positive change. 1618 youths are engaged directly with Agrogoti Sangstha in this year which is 6 percent higher than the previous year.

1071
Peace club members in 51 clubs for preventing extremism

188
Peer leader for preventing human trafficking

120
Youth Group member

80
Community volunteers to work for climate resilience

60
Change agent for SRHR

52
Advocate for preventing sexual harassement

21
Child right defender group member

20
Agropathik in grassroot level

06
International Young Professionals for cross cultural exchange

Agrogoti Sangstha ensure involvement of youth in each and every project to ensure continuity and sustainability of the projects.





CHAPTER 01

Introduction



"An Initiative to establish Human Rights through Good Governance"

ORIGIN OF
Agrogoti Sangstha

In 1988, a devastating cyclone hit the coastal area of Bangladesh destroying the crops and millions of houses and killing over 3000 persons. In Krishnanagar Union under Kaliganj Upazilla in Satkhira District, a group of young volunteers took the initiative not just to help rebuild the broken and damaged houses of the sufferers, but to protect their environment. In the same year, they decided to form a social organization called Agrogoti Club.

From the starting period, the organization took part in various meetings, workshops, and seminars locally and nationally to gather experience concerning human rights and environmental protection. In 1994, we established the voluntary "Krishnanagar Development Forum" against the destruction.

Through this forum over 700 men and women were trained on bio-diversity resources protection in their areas. Around the same period, Agrogoti Club established a "Female Member Association" to advocate with the government for the protection of women's rights.

Having registered with the Social Welfare Directorate in 1999 and the NGO Affairs bureau in 2004, Agrogoti Sangstha went from strength to strength working on divergent issues such as water and sanitation, acid violence, governance, microcredit, and human trafficking.

Our experience over 20 years has led us to view development in a specific way, shifting from microcredit provision to a rights-based approach focused on participation, empowerment, equity, and responsibility. Today, we work on local government, child rights, protecting freedoms, and environmental sustainability.

Overall, Agrogoti Sangstha holds the prime slogan with-

"An Initiative to establish Human Rights through Good Governance".



Our Mission

Self-reliant and injustice free society

Our Vision

To empower local communities and institutions to ensure Human Rights and Good Governance for all.

Core Values

1. Not for profit
2. Non-political
3. Equality
4. Integrity
5. Non-violence
6. Transparency
7. Courage
8. Accountability

Thematic Area

1. Good Governance
2. Human Rights
3. Promoting Child Rights
4. Climate Change & Adaptation
5. Health & Rights

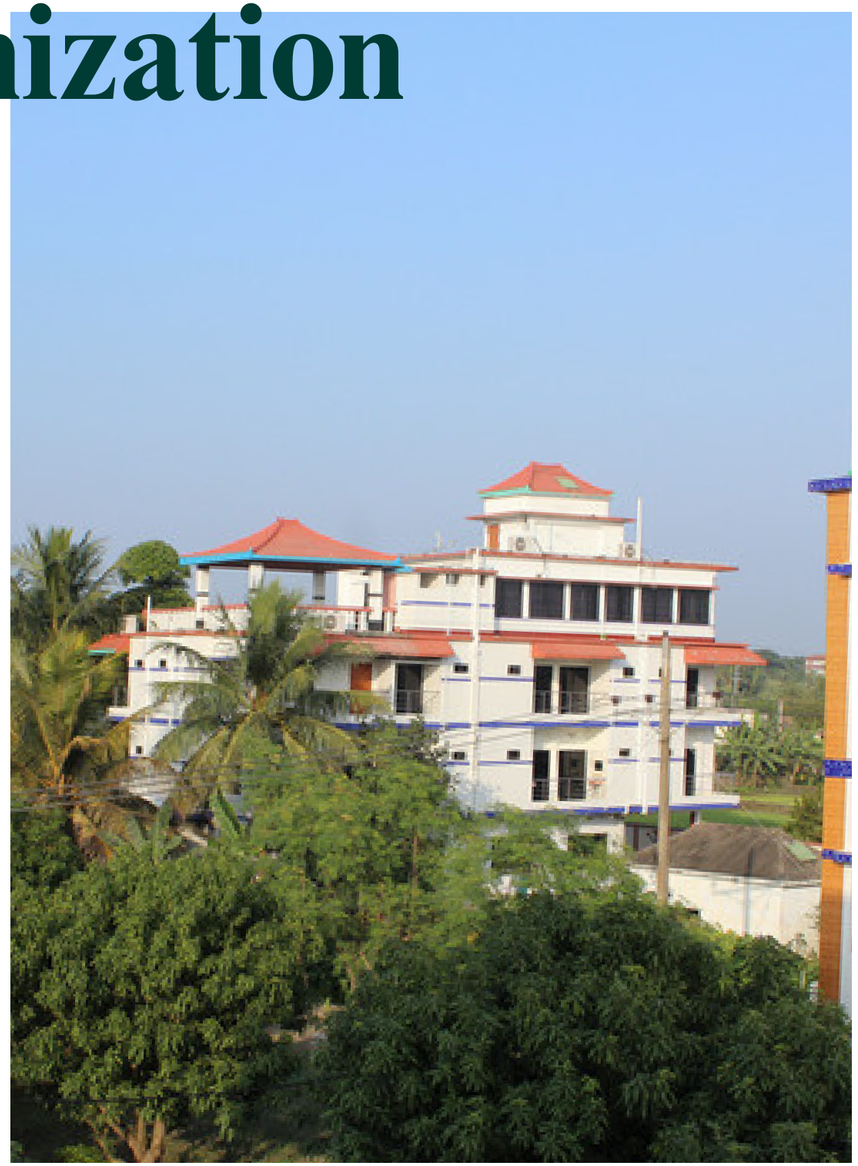
Development Approach

1. Accountability & Ownership
2. Participation & Empowerment
3. Indivisibility of Human Rights
4. Non-discriminations on any grounds in programming or internally
5. Specific focus on the rights of the most marginalized or valuable groups



CHAPTER 02

Strength of the Organization



Legal Status

Year of origin 1988

Legal status : Social welfare Directories – Registration No Sat- 278/99

: NGO Affairs Bureau – Registration No- 1963/23.09.04

Human Resource information

SL	Type of Staff	Male	Female	Total
01	Top level	12	03	15
02	Mid-level	14	02	16
03	Front level	20	20	40
	Total	**46**	**25**	**71**

Governance System

General body consists of

31
members

Executive body consists of

07
members

Procurement committee consists of

05
members

Budget committee consists of

05
members

Gender committee consists of

05
members

Internal audit committee consists of

03
members

Existing Policies of the Organization



Financial Management Policy



Human Resource Policy



Safeguarding Policy



Gender Policy



child Rights Policy



Procurement Policy



Information Discloser Policy



Whistle-blowing Policy



Sexual Harassment Elimination Policy



Financial Irregularities Mitigation Policy



Anti-money Laundering Policy



Conflict of Interest Management Policy



Anti-Terrorism Policy



Asset Disposal Policy



Partnership Policy

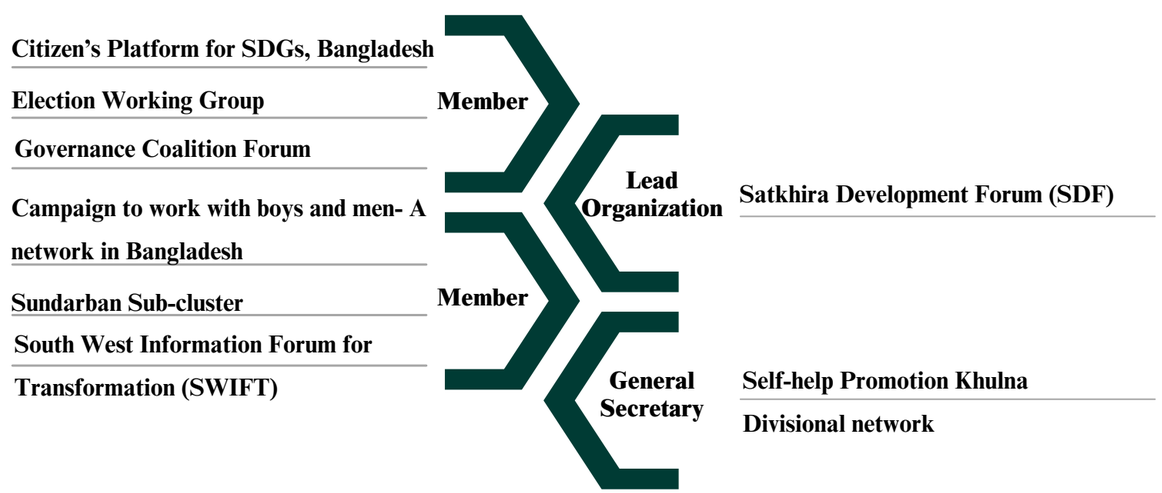


Social Media Using Policy



Volunteer Management Policy

Networking Partner



Collaborative Relation with Government

- Member of District Acid Control Council
- Member of District Legal Aid Committee (DLAC)
- Member of District Trafficking Taskforce Committee (DTTC)
- Member of District NGO Coordination Committee.
- Member of Skill Development Committee of District Women Affairs
- Member of Trafficking Prevention Committee
- Member of District Case Coordination Committee
- Member of Domestic Worker Protection & Welfare Committee, Khulna Division

Office Information

Agrogoti Sangstha has a sustainable office capacity and infrastructure for managing its administrative and development works.

Head office	Campuses	Branch Office
01	02	06

DETAILS OF THE OFFICES

Head Office
Trishmile Bazar, Nagorghata, Satkhira
Mobile: +8801715-608864
E-mail: agrogoti@gamil.com

Satkhira Branch Office
Cold storage More, Mill Bazar, Satkhira
01740-940847
agrogoti9@yahoo.com

Adolescents Resource Center
Benodana, Krishnagar, Kaligonj, Satkhira.
01733002097
arcagrogoti@gmail.com

Assasuni Branch Office
Near upazila parishad, Assasuni, Satkhira
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agrogoti@gamil.com

Bagerhat Branch Office
Beside Hen Breeding Farm, Dashani Main Road, Bagerhat
+8801755-492533
bagerhat.agrogoti@gmail.com

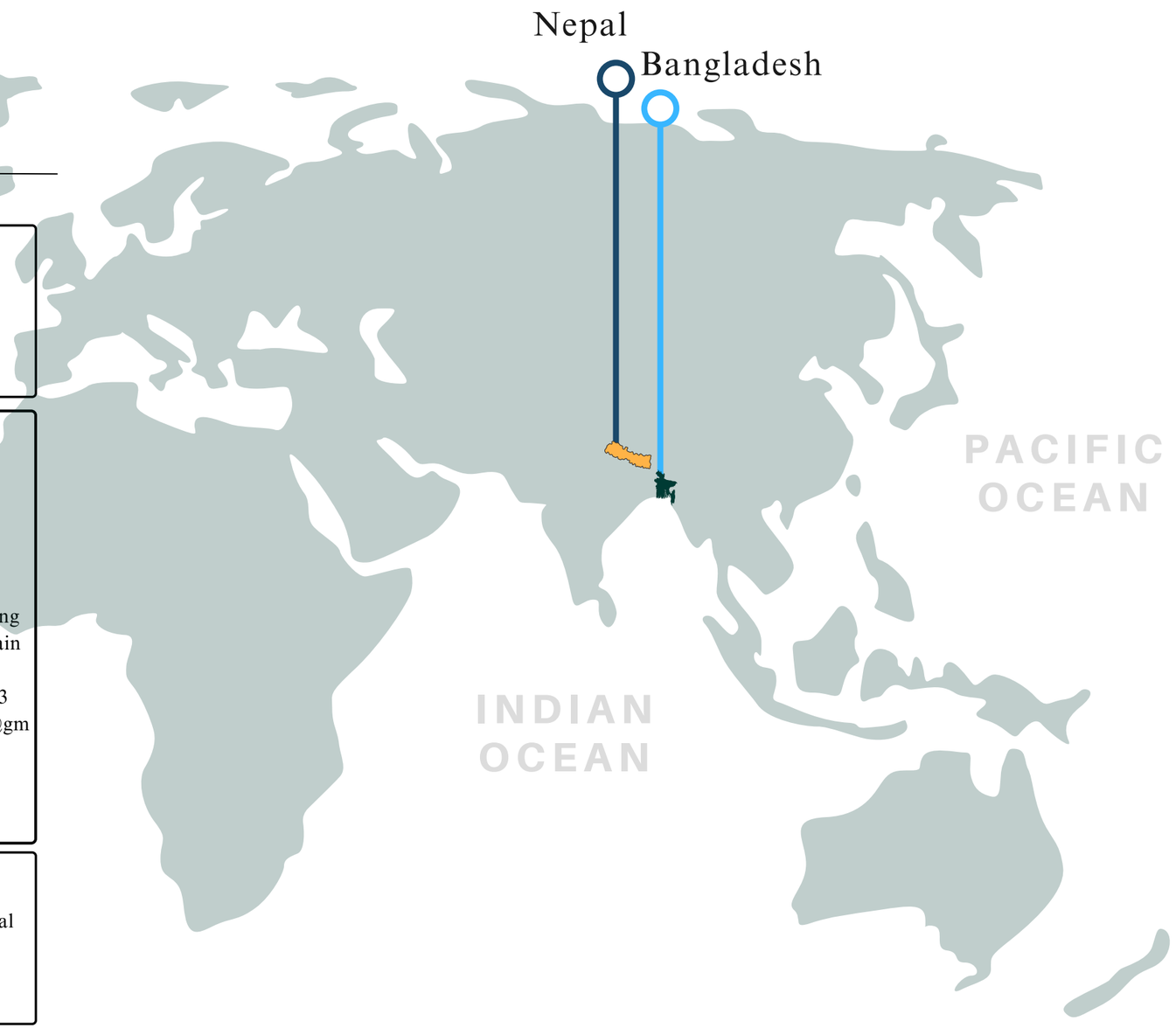
Paikgacha Project Office
Zero point, Second Calvart, Koyra Road, Paikgacha.
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pmsrijan.agrogoti@gmail.com

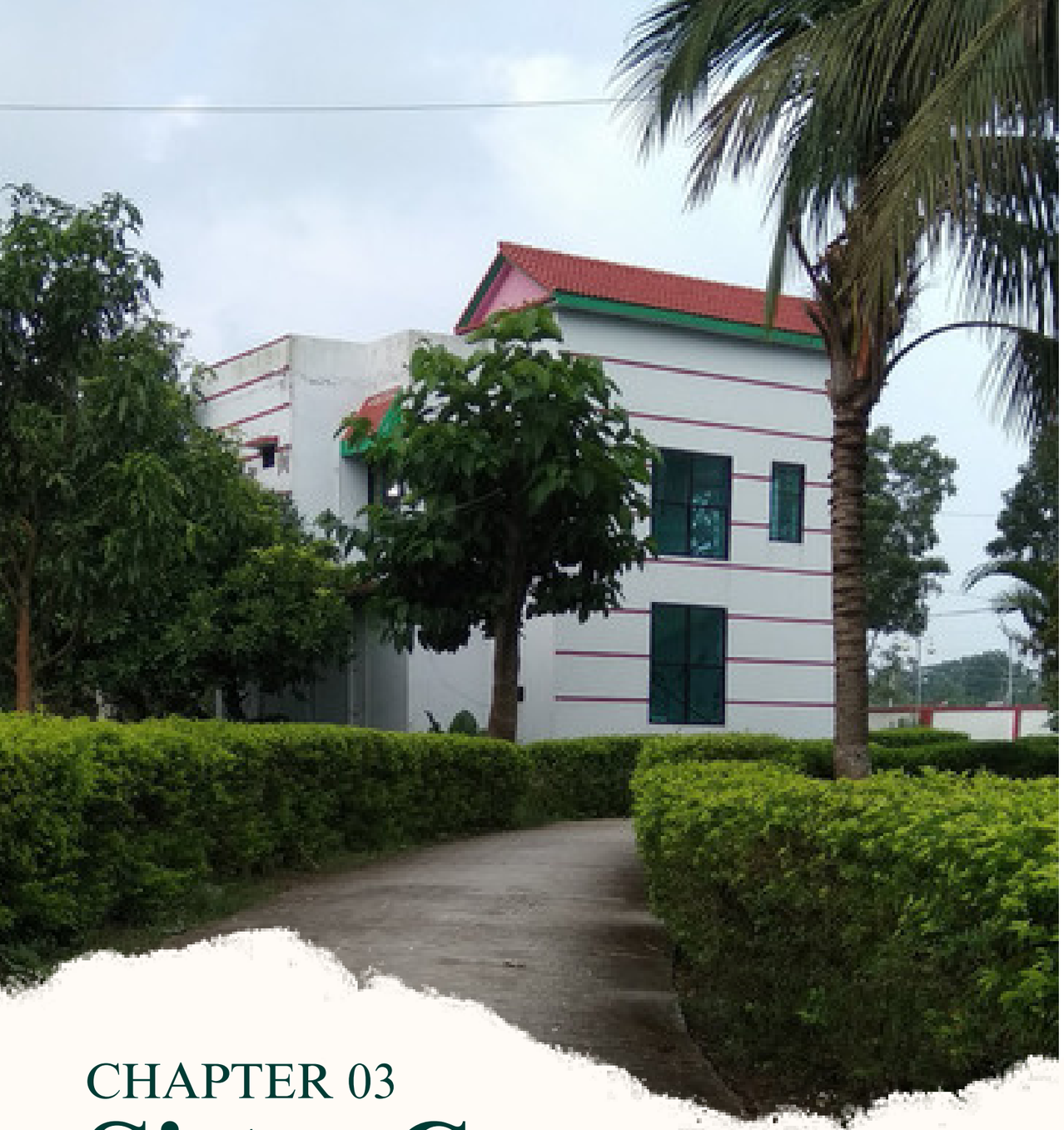
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International Partnership





CHAPTER 03

Sister Concerns

Agrogoti Resort

“A Sister Concern of Agrogoti Sangstha – Where Nature Meets Hospitality.”

With the aim of generating alternate sources of funds for the sustainability of the organization, Agrogoti Sangstha established a modern training center named “Agrogoti Resort” to provide support on the evolution of development sectors. So it can progress its further endeavors with its own profit. We have exclusive accommodation facilities, training center, refreshments etc.

Agrogoti Resort is a campus of 3 high quality multi storied building near the high way but in the natural beauty. There is one four-storied, one two-storied cottage and two VIP three-storied building. You will feel here the nature of beauty and open air. The specialty of the building design is north and south sight is open to blow the coastal window. Agrogoti Sangstha believes that capacity and knowledge building is essential for effective development. The training center creates an opportunity for human resource development through regular training south west area of Bangladesh.

26 exclusive rooms available with the capacity of 70 persons.

17 air-conditioned double and single deluxe rooms.

Each AC room has satellite TV and geyser.

The floors are tiled and the interior decoration is captivating.

All of the room has attached wash room with bath and toilet.

Each room has balcony with south faced view of natural beauty and fresh breeze.

2 training and conferences room accommodate a minimum of 100 people.

Common dine-in facility for 75 people at a time.

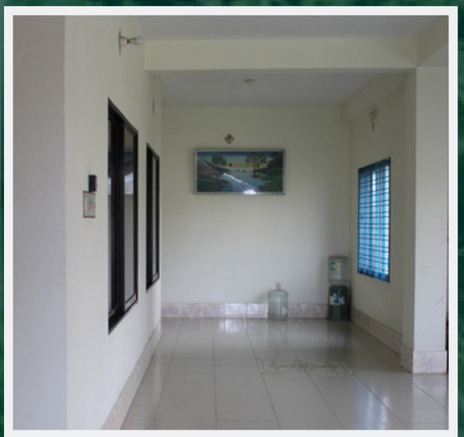
Facilities

ACCOMMODATION (AC/NON-AC)
TRAINING HALL
FOOD SUPPLY
DINE-IN
CAR PARKING
KITCHEN
HIGH-SPEED INTERNET
OPEN TRRANCE
BBQ CENTER
24-HOUR CLEAN WATER
LIBRARY
MORE









Adolescent Resource Center

Adolescent Resource Center (ARC) is a learning, practical and livelihood improvement resource center for sustainable development of underprivileged adolescent girls. Capacity building of adolescents through information technology is running through various training program such as mobile servicing, computer operation training and tailoring training.

Objective of establishment:

1. To improve knowledge and capacity to manage sexual reproductive health and rights of the adolescent.
2. To capacitate them on different IGA trade to open their opportunities for future employment.
3. To create a friendly environment where they will share their issues and bloom their future with a supportive society.

Some initiatives by ARC

1. Library for children
2. Medicine distribution
3. Training on tailoring
4. Increasing literacy rate
5. Capacity development of the adolescents for IGA.
6. Decreased the rate of reproductive health & common diseases
7. Decreased social taboos, stigmas and social discrimination to women by religious or social leaders
8. Protecting the rights of the marginalized, indigenous and lower cast people
9. Sports & cultural activities
10. Training on sustainable agriculture
11. Computer training for adolescents





RUNNING Projects

Agrogoti Sangstha works on five thematic area; good governance, human rights, child rights, health & rights and climate change adaptation. In 2023. total 10 project are running on those thematic areas. Our running development programs according to the mandate are:

GOOD GOVERNANCE

1. AWRTI Project

HUMAN RIGHTS

1. PEACE Consortium
2. FSTIP
3. SAPATH
4. BNF Project
5. Ashshash phase II

CHILD RIGHTS

1. Grow School Project

HEALTH & RIGHTS

1. NOREC Exchange Project

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

1. SRIJAN Project
2. AurgroJatra Project

Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh

AWRTI Project

Duration: 1 April 2023 - 29 February 2028
Budget: BDT 36,53,304
No of Beneficiaries: 1560 individuals

Supported by: The Carter Center
Working Area: Satkhira Sadar (Brahmarajpur, Fingri), Kaligonj (Bisnupur, Kusulia), Shyamnagar (Munshiganj, Ishoripur)



Satkhira located in the southwestern coastal region of Bangladesh, grapples with frequent disasters, leading to shifts in professions and socioeconomic dynamics. Climate risks have disproportionately affected ethnic, marginalized, and lower-middle-class populations, plunging many into poverty and altering the social structure. Local governance is often influenced by self-serving interests of social and political elites, sidelining socially excluded individuals from social safety net programs.

Access to information plays a pivotal role in empowerment, yet in Satkhira, a critical area in Bangladesh for religion and politics, marginalized women face deprivation of information, pushing them further into marginalization. Socially excluded groups, particularly women, struggle to enter government and non-government agencies, hindering their ability to claim rights.

Around 30% of Satkhira's population belongs to Dalit and marginalized groups, facing inherent societal biases. This prevailing attitude hinders their participation in social and government services, exacerbated by a lack of information on accessing such services. This information gap creates a serious societal divide, impeding empowerment.

Despite the youth's potential as agents of change, the absence of mechanisms for their empowerment results in their inclination towards power games rather than social development. In this context, the Right to Information (RTI) becomes crucial, but its implementation faces challenges due to the limited capacity of information holders, institutions, and individuals. The lack of awareness about RTI among the masses and the unpreparedness of government officials to provide gender-responsive information further hinder its effectiveness in Satkhira.

Goal of the project is to create an enabling environment where women, especially Dalit and marginalized are able to enjoy right to information from government and non-government agencies for protecting their fundamental Rights.

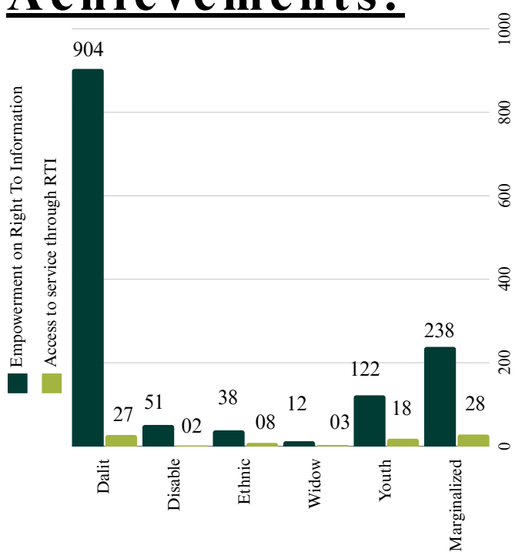


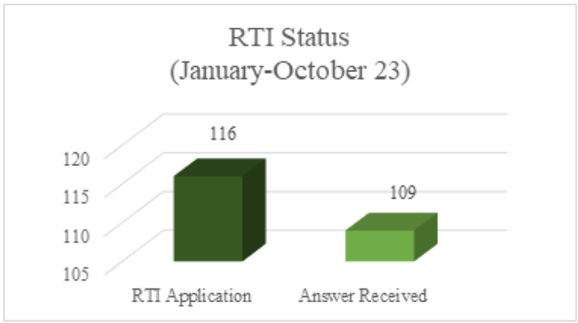
Objective:

- To empower the Dalit and marginalized women in Satkhira district to get legal and social services with access to information.
- To ensure responsiveness of the GOs and NGOs for providing information with efficient and equitable manner.
- To strengthen capacity of the civil society organizations and youth key informant to advance Marginalized women with effective information flow.

1451 people are the direct beneficiaries of the project in the year. Among them 1239 are female (85%) and 212 are male (15%) focusing on the dalit, disable, ethnic, widow, youth and marginalized community of the working area.

Achievements:





From January to October 2023, the total number of RTI applications was 116. Out of them 109 were received and answered which can be treated as the biggest achievement of the project that shows empowerment through information.

And the knowledge of using the power of information among the local people, CSOs and service providers will work as a push factor to ensure sustainability even after completion of the project.

Case Study

Gaurpado Das' Journey in Unveiling Dalit Empowerment

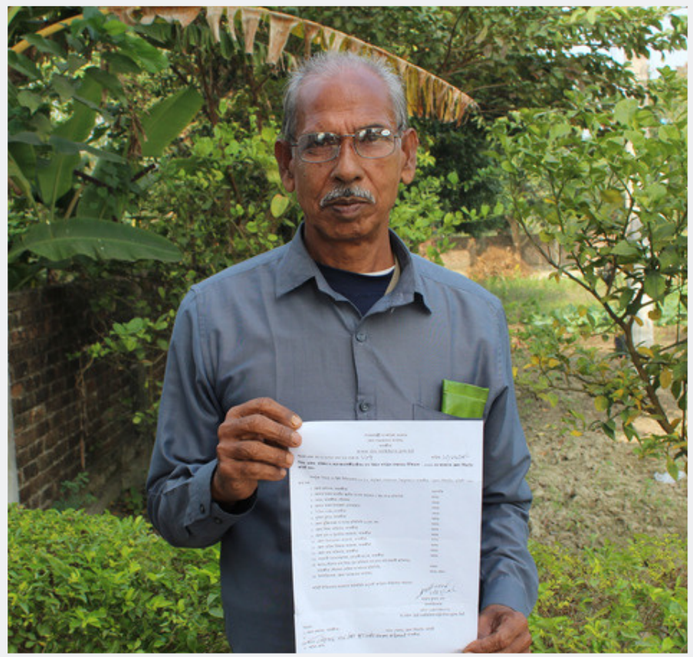
Gaurpado Das is a social worker. He is working for the rights of Dalits and marginalized people as a president of Satkhira Dalit Parishad. According to the implementation policy for the improvement of the quality of life of the Dalit, Harijan, and Bede communities in his area (Revised) 2013, the National Steering Committee's outline No. 14 dated 10. 06.01. After seeking information from the local social services, he did not get a satisfactory answer, so he planned to apply to the Ministry of Social Welfare in Dhaka.

As per the plan, he took the matter a step further and applied to the Social Welfare Ministry on March 30, 2023, to know the correct information. Following the application, a reply to the application came from the Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of Social Welfare on April 27 from Dhaka. Where it has been stated that according to the implementation policy of Dalit, Harijan, and Bend people's life quality development program dated 10.06.2013, 1 (one) representative of Dalit, Harijan, and Bede-related organizations will be selected before calling the meeting of the National Steering Committee. At present, no one has been nominated as a member of the Dalit, Harijan, and Bende-related organizations.

Gaurpado Das reply to the RTI application is a big achievement for his Dalit Parishad. He has filed RTI applications many times in his life on various works and issues of Dalits. But most of the applications failed to get a reply. But he didn't give up.

Gaurpado's perseverance, coupled with support from The Carter Center and Agrogoti Sangstha, played a crucial role in revealing details about the selection process for National Steering Committee representatives. This success underscores the impact of citizen engagement and collaborative efforts in promoting transparency.

His commitment to continue advocating for the rights of Dalits, Harijans, and the Bede community reflects resilience and determination. Gaurpado's story serves as an inspiration, emphasizing the importance of persistence and utilizing available mechanisms to address issues of social justice.



Astomi Malo's Journey for Disabled Rights in Satkhira:



Astomi Malo, a disabled woman from Nakipur village in Shyamnagar Upazila, has been championing the rights of disabled individuals in her community since 2004. In 2016, she established 'Joyita Protibondhi Nari Unnayan Sangstha,' a registered organization focusing on empowering disabled women. Despite her own challenges, Astomi engages in home visits, provides therapy to disabled children, attends school management committee meetings, and collaborates with the Union Parishad to access government services.

In 2020, Astomi's organization became part of the AWRAIB project, involving 30 local organizations in Satkhira with support from the Carter Center and implementation by Agrogoti Sangstha. Her organization received RTI training, further enhancing their capabilities.

Undeterred by her disability, Astomi applied for a grant from the Department of Social Services for the financial year 2021-22 to sustain her organization's activities. The successful grant application resulted in an allocated amount of 16,500 Taka from the Upazila.

However, complications arose when the Upazila Social Services Office requested 500 Taka during Senior Citizens Day on October 1, 2022. Despite participation, Astomi was later asked to visit the Shyamnagar Upazila Social Services Office to receive a donation check. Upon arrival, she faced further challenges as there was no Upazila social service officer, and she was requested to return later with an additional 2,000 Taka. Despite these hurdles, Astomi remains determined to advance her organization's mission through hard work and perseverance.

Preventing Extremism through Active community Engagement (PEACE) Consortium

PEACE Consortium

Duration: August 2022 - October 2023
Budget: BDT 25,14,859/-
No of Beneficiaries: 8,453 individuals

Funded by: Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)
Supported by: Rupantar
Working Area: Satkhira Sadar, Tala, Kalaroa and Assasuni Upazila



The success of all the UN declared Sustainable Development Goals rests on ensuring that the full potential of UN announced Goal 16 – Peace and Justice to catalyse social transformation is unlocked. To contribute to achieving this, envisioning a violence-free society fostering peace and harmony has appeared as the first and foremost priority.

The Preventing Extremism through Active Community Engagement (PEACE) Consortium Project, funded by Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) aims to enhance engagement of the communities to initiate positive steps towards preventing extremism, recruitment including radicalization and the other related dynamics. The technical support for the project is provided by Rupantar. Law and order committee, religious leaders, youth, social workers and other potential influencing individuals and groups are involved in the project to develop their capacity and skills to deal with issues related to violent extremism from grassroots community.

Objective:

- Ensuring community participation against extremism and extremist-sponsored violence.
- Preventing the recruitment of young people through public awareness about extremist and militant groups.
- To keep the various representative and responsible sections of the community alert.

Focus of the project:

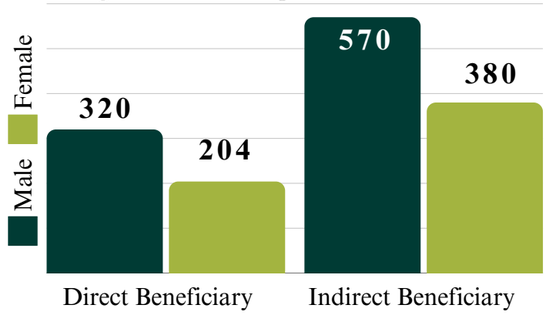
- Door-to-Door Campaigns
- Information Dissemination
- Youth Engagement Activities
- Sports Events
- Community Meetings

Create strong communities to stop extremism, protect youth, and keep everyone watchful for lasting peace.



Achievements:

- Two Peace Clubs set to register as youth clubs, aligning with government guidelines.
- 51 Peace Clubs collaborating with local government to foster peace, harmony, and diminish extremist tendencies in the community.
- Capacity building for 297 Peace Club members in Social Media Entrepreneurship and Resource Mobilization.
- 30 Peace Club members actively engaged in social media entrepreneurship, achieving economic empowerment.
- 30 Peace Club members involved in local Disaster Risk Reduction committee activities, contributing to dam construction, plantations, and awareness campaigns.
- 01 Peace Club member awarded the 'Media Fellowship Award' for outstanding achievements in media.
- 15 Peace Club members enrolled and assisting local youths in accessing government-provided training and skill development services.



Sustainability:

- Identify and register active youths, replacing dropouts to restructure the club for continued vibrancy.
- Motivate and equip every peace club with the skills and knowledge needed for self-sufficiency and sustained action.
- Establish strong connections between Youth Development and the youths to encourage ongoing registration and sustainability.
- Require every peace club to fulfill the 19 youth development club registration criteria for official registration and long-term sustainability.
- Encourage registered clubs to independently manage and conduct monthly meetings, fostering autonomy.
- Facilitate involvement of youths in union parishad and local development projects, further embedding them in their communities.
- Empower youths to take action against violent activities in their areas, contributing to a safer community.
- Encourage continuous efforts by youths to conduct promotional and awareness activities in their respective areas.
- Facilitate planned visits with youth development to enhance collaboration and strengthen the clubs' impact

Case Study

Bandhan Catering: A Tale of Community Harmony:

In the quaint town of Baradal Union No. 5, nestled within the picturesque Asashuni Upazila of Satkhira District, a tale of community empowerment unfolds through the remarkable journey of Md Golam Kibria. Born on the 15th of March, 1993, in the village of Fakhrabad, Baradal Union No. 5, Kibria's roots run deep in the heart of this traditional and largest township.

Raised in a middle-class family, Kibria's educational journey took him through Dakhil at JDKF Sukkuliya Dakhil Madrasa in 2008 and HSC from Baradal Aftabuddin Collegiate High School in 2011. Even in his early years, Kibria exhibited a passion for drawing that hinted at his creative inclinations. In the following years, he worked at Square Pharmaceuticals, gaining valuable experience before returning to his roots in 2018 after tying the knot.

Settling back into the community, Kibria, now a father and a devoted son, felt a calling to contribute to the well-being of his hometown. In this spirit, he founded the Baradal Union Peace Club on January 8, 2020, with the vision of harnessing the energy and enthusiasm of local youths. The club quickly gained momentum, attracting 21 dedicated members who shared a common goal – to promote peace, harmony, and social cohesion within the community.

The turning point in Kibria's journey came with Life Skills Development Training held at Champa Khali Government Primary School from December 18 to 20, 2020. Inspired by the training, Kibria took the initiative to form a catering team, collaborating with fellow club members. Thus, the Bandhan Catering Service was born, aiming not only to provide culinary delights but also to serve the community.



Bandhan Catering, under Kibria's leadership, became more than just a food service; it evolved into a platform for spreading messages of peace and harmony. The impact reached beyond gastronomic satisfaction, touching the lives of the people of Assasuni Upazila in Satkhira District.

Golam Kibria's dedication and the collaborative efforts of the Peace Club became the driving force behind the success of Bandhan Catering. Kibria expressed his deep gratitude to the Peace Club, acknowledging its instrumental role in the catering service's success.

Reflecting on his journey, Kibria poignantly stated, “Had it not been for the existence of the Peace Club, Bandhan Catering Service wouldn't have come into existence today.”

USAID's Fight Slavery & Trafficking-In-Persons (FSTIP) Activity

FSTIP Project

Duration: 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2024
Budget: BDT 36,53,304
No of Beneficiaries: 4,626 individuals

Funded by: USAID, Supported by: Winrock International
Working Area: Satkhira (Satkhira Sadar, Kaliganj & Kalaroa), Khulna (Rupsha, Paikgacha & Dacope), Bagerhat (Bagerhat Sadar, Mongla & Rampal) & Barishal (Barishal Sadar, Babugonj & Gournodi) District



Bangladesh faces a significant challenge with the addition of 1.3 million people annually to its labor market, creating a push factor for human trafficking due to limited employment opportunities. Agrogoti Sangstha conducted a comprehensive survey to unveil the complexities of human trafficking and child marriage in the region. The findings underscore the need for awareness, job creation, and collective initiatives to combat organized crime and violence. This project aims to reduce the high risk of trafficking for women and men, incorporating prevention efforts for men and young boys. Through coordinated efforts with stakeholders and youth leaders, the program seeks to establish an effective referral mechanism, providing services and support for those at risk and returning victims. By focusing on education, counseling, skill development, and micro-entrepreneurial training, the initiative aims to empower individuals, create self-employment opportunities, and ultimately lead to safer lives.

Objective:

- Relevant institutions contribute to the prevention of child marriage, human trafficking and gender-based violence by following the National Action Plan (NPA) maintain and enforce accountability practices.
- Communities at risk of Trafficking In Person (TIP), Child Marriage (CM) Gender Based Violence (GBV) in collaboration with local youth volunteers will undertake comprehensive initiatives to prevent TIP, CM and GBV resulting in behavioral change in those communities.
- Concerned stakeholders and GOB institutions will be sensitized and oriented to provide their services to prevent human trafficking, gender-based violence and child marriage and identify and link victims of TIP, CM and GBV to services.

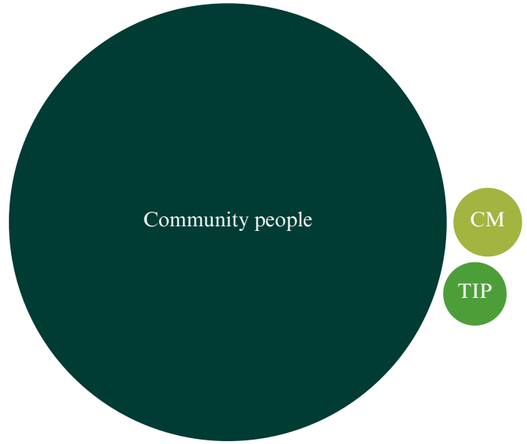
Create strong communities to stop extremism, protect youth, and keep everyone watchful for lasting peace.



The project aligns with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 1.3, by implementing social protection systems for the poor through skill development and entrepreneurship. It addresses SDG 5.2 by combating violence against women and girls, offering services like counseling and skill development, and contributes to SDG 5.3 by working to eliminate harmful practices and promote gender equality. Additionally, the initiative supports SDG 8.3 by providing equal opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship through training. It also aligns with SDG 8.7, aiming to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking through prevention efforts and creating livelihood opportunities for vulnerable populations. Overall, the project integrates multiple SDGs to promote inclusive economic growth, gender equality, and the elimination of harmful practices and human trafficking

Achievements:

Sl	Description	Male	Female	Other	Total
01	Survivors Identification	82	120	0	202
02	Dialogue with Union CTC Members	526	182	01	32
03	Dialogue with Upazila CTC Members	05	19	0	01
04	Dialogue with District CTC Members	0	0	0	00
05	Community Mobilization Meeting	94	456	0	26
06	Social Mapping of Child Marriage Preventation	171	268	0	21
07	Day Observation	540	1528	0	10
08	Bi-Cycle Campaign	10	40	0	01
09	Puppet Show on World Day against trafficking	80	30	0	01
10	Pre-departure Training for Outgoing Migrants	113	18	0	04
11	Yearly Coordination Meeting with Union Digital Centre (UDC) entrepreneurs & peer leaders with	35	30	0	04
12	Orientation of Marriage Register at District Level	15	0	0	01



The project has actively engaged with 4,423 community members through awareness campaigns, education, and outreach initiatives. Specifically, it successfully intervened in preventing child marriages for 109 individuals, ensuring that they were spared from early and potentially harmful unions. Additionally, the project provided targeted support and assistance to 93 individuals who were at risk of trafficking, offering resources, counseling, and opportunities for sustainable livelihoods. These efforts reflect the project's comprehensive approach in addressing community needs, protecting vulnerable individuals, and fostering positive change.

Sustainability:

The project's achievements can be sustained even after its conclusion through several strategic measures:

- The peer leaders, having been trained as volunteers with knowledge of safe migration and anti-human trafficking awareness, can continue their roles beyond the project period. Their voluntary efforts can contribute to maintaining community awareness, supporting at-risk individuals, and preventing human trafficking.
- The establishment of MTIC can persist in providing valuable resources to community members even after the project concludes, serving as a sustainable source of information on migration and anti-trafficking efforts.
- Continued involvement of Agrogoti Sangstha in identifying survivors and facilitating their referral to other partners ensures sustainable reintegration.

A pull quote is an impactful quote taken from the article. You can place the quote you want to highlight here.



Case Study

Salma's Triumph: From Tea Shop to Hopeful Horizons

In Satkhira, a woman named Salma Begum embarked on a journey of resilience and triumph against life's adversities. Two years ago, she found herself at a crossroads, facing the challenges that life often throws at us.

Salma, the wife of Azgar Ali from Matpara village in Jhawdanga, Satkhira Sadar, started a small tea shop at Madrasa Mor, Jhawdanga Bazar, as a means to survive. This may seem like a modest beginning, but for Salma, it was the first step towards a life of empowerment and success.

Her story unfolds against a backdrop of financial hardship. About six or seven years ago, her husband, Azgar Ali, delved into the wood business, only to lose all their profits. The financial strain led to his illness, leaving the family in dire straits. To cover the costs of his treatment, Salma had to sell their last piece of land, forcing them to take refuge on another's property.

In the midst of this turmoil, Salma faced the heartbreaking decision of withdrawing her eldest son, Bellal Hossain, from his studies and sending him to work for a meager salary in a hotel. Despite these sacrifices, the family struggled to make ends meet, prompting Salma to take matters into her own hands.

Salma's journey took an unexpected turn when, in a desperate attempt to secure her family's future, she fell into the hands of local brokers. They tempted her with an opportunity to work as a housekeeper in Jordan, promising a monthly salary of 20,000 taka. In pursuit of this dream, Salma took a loan of Tk 60,000 from Asha NGO and left for Jordan in October 2019.

Little did she know that this decision would lead her into a harrowing experience. Upon arrival, her papers were confiscated, and she was confined to a house, subjected to physical and emotional abuse by her employer. The dream of a better life turned into a nightmare, with Salma unable to contact her family due to strict control.

As the days passed, Salma fell ill with Covid-19, trapped in a foreign land with no means of communication. Back home, her family assumed the worst, believing she was no longer alive. The local broker's assurances did little to ease their anxiety. It wasn't until October 7, 2021, that Salma returned home, frail and battered.

Her story takes a turn for the better when she becomes a TIP survivor through the FSTIP Project of Agrogoti Sangstha in September 2022. Referred to the Ashshash project, she receives a grant of 8000tk, a turning point in her life.

With determination and gratitude, Salma utilizes the grant to start a tea shop in Jhawdanga Bazar. Located in the heart of the bustling market, her tea shop quickly gains popularity. Salma earns 1500 to 2000 taka daily, with a profit of 700 to 800 taka, enabling her to arrange marriages for her son and daughter. She even purchases a small piece of land next to the market to build a house.



Salma Begum, once a struggling woman, emerges as a symbol of success and resilience. She owes her transformation to the support of Agrogoti Sangstha's FSTIP and ASHSHASH projects. As her tea shop becomes a local favorite, Salma's story stands as a testament to the transformative power of empowerment initiatives, turning adversity into triumph. And so, in the heart of Satkhira, Salma's tea shop becomes more than just a business—it becomes a beacon of hope and inspiration for the entire community.

In the heart of Satkhira, Salma's tea shop becomes more than just a business; it becomes a beacon of hope and inspiration for the entire community—a testament to the indomitable spirit of a woman who turned her hardships into a tale of success.

Income generating project through training the adolescent on information technology

BNF Project

Duration: April 2022- March 2023
Budget: BDT 3,00,000/-
No of Beneficiaries: 14 families

Supported by: Bangladesh NGO Foundation (BNF)
Working Area: Kaligonj (2 Unions)



Agrogoti Sangstha completed a random survey to understand human trafficking issues in this area which highlighted the need for a combined effort to end this type of crime and violation. The networks of human traffickers are inventing their ways and methodology of human trafficking so the people are getting victimized through different forms of vulnerability. We now need to consider how we can utilize local resources to keep the local community safe from these vulnerabilities toward safer and better life where the people will live in a peaceful and harmonious society. Through the intervention the youth peer leaders will be capacitated on knowledge base skill. The trafficking at risk and survivors will get counseling and skill development training to expand their scope of employment.

Finally, the trafficking at risk and survivors will lead a safer and better livelihood for the risk of human trafficking and a social hub will continue to established comprehensive efforts to prevent human trafficking.

1600 Families (6208 marinized people) in Khulna District Generate climate Resilience income, Manage Climate Related Risk, Access Rights and public service and influence polices that effect their life's from local to National Level.



Objective:

- To capacitate the communities with the proper messages for taking initiatives at the earlier stage to prevent trafficking with confidence.
- To create an effective networking and collaborative partnership for connecting the trafficking at risk and survivors to the existing governmental and non-governmental services and to redress the risk of trafficking with a responsive manner.

Achievements:

- Vans have been provided to 14 needy persons to become economically self-reliant.
- On the occasion of Victory Day on December 16, awareness was created among Elka residents by conducting cleanliness drive in Krishnanagar Union.
- Life skill development training is provided to the VAN recipients so that they can enjoy a good family life.
- Through follow-up, the beneficiaries are being assisted in improving their livelihood and quality of life.

Strengthening Actions for Prevention and Abatement of Trafficking through Initiating Social Hub Project

SAPATH Project

Duration: October 2022 - September 2023
Budget: BDT 12,37,148 /-
No of Beneficiaries: 4,03,905 individuals

Supported by: Mumbai Smiles
Working Area: Satkhira sadar and Kaligonj



The southwest part of Bangladesh, particularly Satkhira district, faces severe challenges including climate change, political context, and religious fundamentalism, contributing to human trafficking issues. This region is disaster-prone, with agriculture and shrimp farming as major livelihoods. Agrogoti Sangstha conducted a survey highlighting the need for a combined effort to combat trafficking. Their intervention focuses on women and girls, aiming to empower them through education, skill development, and employment opportunities. The plan involves multi-stakeholder collaboration, awareness campaigns, establishing referral mechanisms, and capacity building for youth leaders. It aims to address mental health and legal issues, ensure sustainability, and engage in advocacy and policy efforts, emphasizing international cooperation to prevent and combat human trafficking effectively.

Objectives:

1. To capacitate the communities with the proper messages for taking initiatives at the earlier stage to prevent trafficking with confidence.
2. To create an effective networking and collaborative partnership for connecting the trafficking at risk and survivors to the existing governmental and non-governmental services and to redress the risk of trafficking in a responsive manner.

Empowering Lives, Breaking Chains: Together Towards a Traffick-Free Tomorrow



Achievements:

Sl	Name of Activities	Male	Female	Girls	Boys	Total
01	Public Service Announcement (PSA) broadcasting on the safe migration process & human trafficking prevention issues from the Community Radio	150000	100000	50000	100000	400000
02	Community Mobilization Meeting	123	847	213	104	1287
03	Campaign with educational institutions about human trafficking prevention & safe migration.	199	62	494	254	1009
04	Bicycle Campaign	16	06	47	12	81
05	Day Observation	24	50	02	17	93
06	Print and Dissemination of Human Trafficking, Child Marriage, and gender-based Violence relevant IEC Materials for mass awareness.	250	560	220	170	1200
07	Dialogue with Union CTC members	176	53	09	10	248
08	Allocate the budget & reserve the social safety net services at the Union level for the survivors and the trafficking at-risk people.	0	33	0	0	33
09	Develop a linkage between the trafficking at risk and survivors with the service providers	10	86	0	0	96
10	Provide skill development training for the trafficking 'at risk' and survivors on lives and livelihood.	04	36	0	0	40

In 2023, project has reached 2,51,029 male and 1,52,876 female. Among them 06 are the victim of trafficking and 90 are treated as trafficling at risk.



Sustainability:

To ensure the sustainability and continued impact of the project achievements beyond its current duration, the following future plans and suggestions have been outlined:

1. Extend the project's coverage to encompass trafficking-at-risk individuals in the broader Satkhira district, broadening the scope of support and intervention.
2. Provide ongoing health support for trafficking survivors, addressing their physical well-being, and establish referral services to connect them with relevant healthcare resources.
3. Implement continuous psycho-social counselling support through the Mobile Trafficking Information Centre (MTIC), employing a part-time Psycho-social Counsellor to address the mental health needs of survivors.
4. Sustain efforts in skill development and employment support for both trafficking-at-risk individuals and survivors, ensuring their continued empowerment and economic independence.
5. Engage in ongoing advocacy with local and national government service providers, including District Empowerment & Manpower Office (DEMO), Technical Training Centre (TTC), District Social Welfare Office, District Youth Development Office, and others. Sensitize them to the needs of trafficking survivors, fostering a responsive role in providing essential services.
6. Advocate at the national level with local administration, lawmakers, and government institutions to integrate the MTIC idea into the National Plan of Action for 2022 to 2026, ensuring sustained attention and resources for anti-trafficking initiatives.
7. Conduct workshops with educational institutions to raise awareness about human trafficking prevention and safe migration, involving students and educators in the fight against trafficking.
8. Continue the capacity development of additional peer leaders, focusing on communication, facilitation, and psycho-social counselling skills, thereby expanding the network of individuals equipped to address trafficking issues within the community.
9. Observe relevant awareness days and arrange colorful rallies, fostering community engagement and keeping the issue of human trafficking in the forefront of public consciousness
10. Utilize community radio for broadcasting Public Service Announcements (PSA) to reach a wider audience, contributing to mass awareness-building within the community.

These future plans and strategies demonstrate a comprehensive and sustained effort to combat human trafficking, encompassing various aspects such as health, education, advocacy, and community engagement.

Case Study

Reshma's Triumph: Battling Child Marriage, Pursuing Education

Reshma Parveen, a determined 13-year-old girl from Krishnanagar union in Kaliganj upazila, Satkhira district, faces numerous challenges in pursuing her education. Born into a poor family with a van driver father, Reshma's dreams of studying were hindered when her father fell ill, diagnosed with osteoporosis, and could no longer work. The family struggled with financial difficulties, and Reshma's elder sister was married off due to their impoverished circumstances.

Despite these challenges, Reshma, a bright student in class eight, aspires to study and work. However, financial constraints, exacerbated by her father's illness, threaten her ambitions. Her mother, now responsible for the household, earns a meager income through daily wages.

A supportive teacher in Reshma's school provides financial aid for her studies, but the uncertainty of continued support looms. Opportunistic brokers approach Reshma's mother, suggesting job opportunities in the city or proposing marriage to a well-off city boy with the promise of employment in a garment factory.

Facing pressure to consider marriage, Reshma, determined to continue her education, reaches out to Agrogoti Sangstha after learning about their services through community mobilization meetings. The SAPATH project facilitator provides Reshma and her mother with psychosocial care and counseling, addressing their immediate needs. The project informs the Union Parishad about their situation, resulting in their inclusion in the rice card list under social safety net services.

This support brings relief to Reshma and her family. Despite the adversities, Reshma now dreams of overcoming challenges and serving neglected individuals in society. Her story reflects the impact of community awareness and intervention in preventing human trafficking and child marriage, providing hope and support for a brighter future.

Resilience, community support, and the pursuit of education can empower individuals to overcome adversity and create positive change in their lives.



Ashshash Phase II: For Men and Women Who Have Escaped Trafficking

ASHSHASH PHASE II

Duration: 20 Oct 2023 - 28 Feb 2027
Total Budget: BDT 26697422/-
No of Target Beneficiaries: 600 individuals

Supported by: Winrock Internation & Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Working Area: Satkhira district



The southwestern part of Bangladesh, particularly Satkhira, faces significant vulnerabilities due to climate change, political instability, and religious extremism, compounded by natural disasters. With the majority engaged in agriculture and aquaculture, the region experiences an employment crisis, leading to a high rate of migration for better opportunities. Unskilled migrant workers, predominantly male, often face abuses and struggle to reintegrate into society upon escaping. Female workers are disproportionately affected, falling victim to trafficking and various abuses. The lack of awareness and skills among the vulnerable population results in dependence on local brokers for migration processes. Survivors of trafficking encounter mental health issues, legal problems, and livelihood challenges, hindering their reintegration.

Insufficient policies and practices addressing climate change and human trafficking at the local level exacerbate the difficulties faced by vulnerable communities, with a lack of functional mechanisms connecting them to necessary services.

Objectives:

1. To ensure and sustain survivor's income, health and overall wellbeing leading to their dignified lives.
2. To provide survivors with comprehensive, personalized and evidence based services within the project timeframe leading to their successful reintegration.
3. To ensure accountability and effectiveness of service providing institutions creating multisector linkage mechanisms and effective advocacy.

Men and women who have escaped trafficking have been successfully reintegrated in their community and are leading a dignified life.



Outcome:

Outcome 1: Men and women who have escaped trafficking improve their physical, social and economic well-being through psychosocial support and other reintegration services

Outcome 2: Institutions are made more accountable and effective in providing services beneficial to men and women who have escaped trafficking.

Achievements of Ashshash phase I:

- 1609 survivors of human trafficking have been provided with skill and entrepreneurship development training.
- 1378 survivors have been provided with employment and livelihood opportunities.
- 6304 survivors, their families and vulnerable communities have been linked to services directly and through referral to government and non-government service providers.
- Developed a CTIP activist group with 54 potential youth and Trafficking survivors to facilitate community mobilization activity.

Sustainability:

- The Union Parishad has an allocation for survivors in its annual budget and has begun the process of supporting survivors in various ways from that allocation.
- After completing the training, many survivors are now engaged in business or employment. They are earning good income and living in the society with dignity as before.
- The opportunity of skill training from different GO-NGO training service provider, may accumulate in the project that will facilitate to remedy the limitation of trade from TSP.
- Now the CTIP activists, the relevant stakeholders and the survivors are more active and have been playing supportive role for identification and afford the services for the survivors that's are possible to link with the relevant service delivery agencies. The develop service directory will exist as valuable hub for the service seeker and service provider to link with the services that will play a sustainable methodology to prevent human trafficking, promote safe migration and successful reintegration for the trafficking survivors

Grow School Project

Grow School

Duration: August 2022 - October 2023
Budget: BDT 13,59,947/-
No of Beneficiaries: 300 children

Funded by: Global Learning, Sweden
Working Area: Krishnagorunion , Kaligonj upazila, Satkhira



Satkhira, situated in the southwest region of Bangladesh, grapples annually with the repercussions of climate change. The people in this area face a myriad of challenges, including floods, salinity, waterlogging, crop damage, loss of cultivable land, irregular migration, child labor, early marriage, and dowry issues, all of which have become commonplace in their daily lives.

The society is marred by violations of women's rights, human trafficking, child rights violations, and ethnic community transgressions. Additionally, political terrorism, aggression, and corruption have become inherent and unavoidable elements in the daily lives of the residents.

Among these pressing issues, the violation of child rights takes center stage as children, who represent the future of the nation, fall victim to various adversities. Child labor, exacerbated by poverty and coastal impacts, emerges as a significant problem in the region.

Natural disasters further contribute to the prevalence of child labor, as floods often force educational institutions to close, repurposing them as shelters. Consequently, many students do not return to school after such disasters due to a variety of challenges, including job scarcity and the need for additional family income.

Objective:

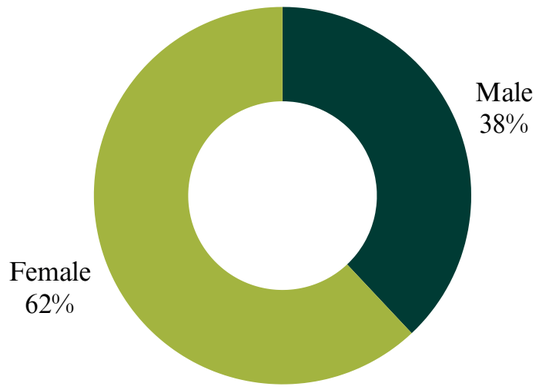
- The children from underprivileged family will encourage to continue their education for better life.
- To abate drop out students for aware the parents of projected area.
- The drop out children again come back in education.
- The child labor and the children at risk of becoming child labor will skill on different trade and finally will be benefited from direct improvements to their quality of life.
- The children, parents and different stakeholders will be aware about child right, even their behavior and attitude will improve towards the vulnerable children.

Create strong communities to stop extremism, protect youth, and keep everyone watchful for lasting peace.



Achievements:

- Education-related endeavors included encouraging 300 children from underprivileged families. Among them 62% are female and 38% are male.



- 29 new students have been included in main streaming education system in grade 04 in the year 2023.
- Maintaining continuity of quality education by imparting non-formal education to 150 out-of-school children.
- Conducting 6 schools in different places of kaligonj for involving the students in the education process.
- Providing subject wise free education assistance to 150 students of class 5th to 8th.
- Mainstreaming of 13 dropout children through school orientation.
- Bringing 100% children under school by making parents realize the importance of child education through regular parent meetings.
- 0% dropout rate
- Providing quality education to 26 children from underprivileged and poor families through non-formal education programs.

Sustainability:

- The Service delivery agencies will consider the vulnerability of the children that will linked to reduce their underprivileged situation.
- The union Pori shod will consider the drop out and child labor situation with in their union and will introduce budgetary portion for them
- The CMC IS formed from local elites and parents so realized the importance they will contribute to carry on this types of initiative.
- As the children will continue their education under NCTB supplied by the primary education department of government so it will be easer for them to be admitted to any other formal school.

Promoting Sexual & reproductive Health Education through Exchange Expertise

NOREC Exchange Project

Duration: Nov 2018 - April 2025
Budget: BDT 76,43,578/-
No of Beneficiaries: 3187 individuals

Funded by:Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation (NOREC)
Working Area: Bangladesh (Satkhira & kaligonj) and Nepal (Kathmandu)



The project focuses on addressing reproductive and sexual health issues, particularly among disaster-vulnerable populations in Bangladesh and Nepal. It aims to enhance knowledge and practices of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), with a specific focus on puberty, menstrual hygiene management (MHM), and sexually transmitted infections. The selected areas, Satkhira in Bangladesh and Kathmandu in Nepal, house populations at risk due to disasters and migration.

The project acknowledges the vulnerability of women, adolescents, and disabled individuals, especially in the context of climate change and increased migration. It aims to improve access to reproductive health services and create awareness in communities facing crises related to health and education.

The project targets behavioral change by addressing issues like adolescent pregnancy, premature birth, hysterectomy, uterus cancers, infertility, and sexually transmitted infections.

In addition to community-focused objectives, the project emphasizes the exchange of expertise and cultural experiences between Bangladesh and Nepal.

It recognizes the importance of capacity building for organizational staff involved in SRHR-related knowledge dissemination. The ultimate goal is to contribute to significant behavioral changes, awareness, and acceptance of SRHR issues in the targeted communities, minimizing social superstitions and fostering a positive impact on reproductive and sexual health.

The expertise which has been developed through the exchange will be reflected in the individual organizations' intervention areas to create visible change at the community level



Objective:

- To develop the capacity of staff through a mutual exchange of knowledge, skills, good practices and personnel between partner organizations
- To develop the organizational capacity such as policies and guidelines and ensure their practices through mutual exchange and strengthened collaboration between partner organizations.
- To create a group of energetic change agents who will work to enhance the acceptability and practices of sexual reproductive health & rights as well as increase the trend of people seeking related services in the targeted community within the project timeframe.

SDG Goals:

The project aims to achieve:

- SDG 03: Good Health & Well Being
- SDG 04: Quality Education
- SDG 05: Gender Equity
- SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals

Achievements:

A total of 3187 people were reached in Bangladesh and Nepal to provide knowledge on sexual and reproductive health and rights, capacitate organizational staff and volunteers and build a referral system for the community. In a brief

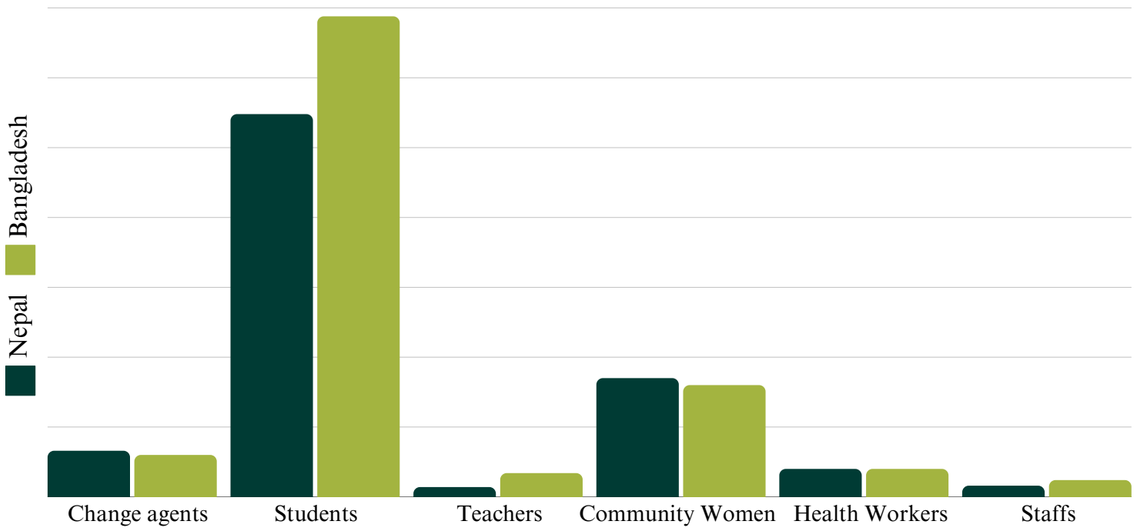
- Around 2631 students benefited from 8 Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) corners (4 in each country) where they received hygiene materials (sanitary pads, medicines, etc.) that would assist in staying safe during menstruation.
- 535 students and teachers received orientations on MHM.
- 100 students from classes 6 to 9 received psychosocial counseling from expert counselors that facilitated communication among the youth and aided them in reliving their trauma and managing their psychosocial health.
- 165 disaster-vulnerable women received orientations on puberty, MHM and sexually transmitted infections (STI).
- 40 organizational staff and volunteers obtained training in IT such as basic computer, Microsoft Office and Adobe Illustrator.
- 40 frontline healthcare workers were engaged to build a referral system for the local people.

In Nepal and Bangladesh 47 youth worked voluntary with the exchange participants as youth change agents.



Community Engagement:

This graph shows the number of people reached by the exchange participants in both nepal and Bangladesh in the year 2023.



Sustainability:

The project aims to increase knowledge and awareness of SRHR by facilitating leadership among the community members, particularly, the adolescents who will continue to enhance the acceptability and practices of sexual reproductive health & rights as well as increase the trend of people seeking related services in the targeted community. Till now, over 100 youth have received training and workshops on SRHR, communication and facilitation skills to become change agents who are the frontline envoy of the organization. Moreover, one of the primary aims of the project is to develop the capacity of staff through a mutual exchange of knowledge and skills. Therefore, more leadership and capacity-building trainings and workshops have been integrated for the staff and volunteers in the coming periods of the project.

Case Study

Breaking Taboos: Aisha's Journey to Empowerment

Aisha grew up in a rural village in Satkhira, where discussions about sexual and reproductive health were often considered taboo. Her family, like many others in the community, didn't openly talk about puberty, menstruation, or sexual health. As Aisha approached adolescence, she began facing challenges related to her changing body without much guidance.

She received an orientation on establishing MHM corners where the NOREC participants talked about sexual and reproductive health education in her school. The program aimed to empower girls with knowledge about puberty, menstrual hygiene management (MHM), sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and their rights. Initially, Aisha was hesitant and shy about discussing these topics. However, the program was designed to create a safe and supportive environment. As Aisha attended the sessions, she learned about the changes that come with puberty, how to manage her menstrual hygiene effectively, and the importance of seeking medical help when needed. The program also emphasized the concept of consent and educated the girls about their rights in relationships. At the end of the program, an MHM corner was established and essential materials (sanitary pads, medicines, hot water bags, etc.) were provided to support the adolescent girls during their menstruation.

Armed with this newfound knowledge, Aisha became more confident and open about discussing these issues with her friends and family. During a follow-up session with the NOREC participants, she said that she shared what she had learned from the orientation with her younger sisters and friends, breaking the silence around sexual and reproductive health in her community.

Aisha's story highlights the transformative impact of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health education, not only on an individual level but also on a community level, fostering positive change and breaking down stigmas surrounding these crucial topics.

Open conversations and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health education can empower individuals, foster positive change within communities and break down taboos



Strengthening the Resilience and Adaptive capacity of Vulnerable groups and empowering Civil Society in the context of Climate Change in Bangladesh

SRIJAN Project

Duration: August 2022 - December 2025
Budget: BDT 2,90,00,000 /-
No of Beneficiaries: 1589 households

Supported by: NETZ Bangladesh and BMZ
Working Area: Paikgacha and Koyra Upazila, Khulna



From last two decades climate change has badly affected the livelihoods of the population in the southwestern region of Bangladesh. Khulna district of Bangladesh is most disaster-prone area in the Bangladesh.

Result of climate change lead to increased internal and external migration due to frequent economic disruptions. Agriculture and shrimp farming are the main sources of employment and livelihood in this area.

85% people of this region are involved agriculture farming and 66% of people are landless farmers in Agriculture. Due to natural disasters, people constantly lose their jobs and source of their work. Due to dam breaking and flooding, fish and rice farms are getting damaged very extremely.

As a result South western region of Bangladesh always deforestation, salinity, waterlogging, loss of crops, loss of agriculture land etc. are facing problems.

That's way, they face difficulty to fulfill their basic needs. Even deprived poor people also fare in pure drinking water crisis or collect the water from long distance.

Objective:

Marginalized and Climate changed affected people in southern Bangladesh have built Climate resilient and Environmentally Sustainable livelihoods and local Civil Society is strengthened to protect and promote the rights of Marginalized groups.

1600 Families (6208 marinized people) in Khulna District Generate climate Resilience income, Manage Climate Related Risk, Access Rights and public service and influence polices that effect their life's from local to National Level.



Goal:

- 1600 Marginalized families can successfully use their knowledge on Climate smart Agriculture and Agroecology.
- 88 targeted CSOs (1600 members) and 80 local volunteers can draw on their knowledge and strategies for climate risk preparedness and disaster risk reduction and management.
- Civil Society actors organized in 88 CSOs have been their capacity in Rights claiming and entitlement enforcement and communicate their perspective with relevant policy makers and public service providers from the local to the national level.

Achievements:

- 1589 women project participants received Climate Resilient Agriculture farming training out of 1600 project participants
- 1373 HH received different types of IGA training which total amount 1,42,18409
  - -Goats distributed 1984 for 1095 HH
  - -Sheep distributed 408 pieces
  - -Pig distributed 112 for 109 HHs
  - - Boat distributed 60 for 60 HHs
  - -Van and Salon materials distributed 43 HHs
- Total group savings mobilized BDT 5,29,455 by weekly group meeting
- Total subscription mobilized BDT 693655.
- Total 1561 group meeting was organized where total 86% participants participated
- Total 08 batches Disaster Risk Reduction training has organized with community volunteers where 80 Community Volunteers were participated
- Total 08 batches Disaster Risk Reduction training has organized with CSO where
- SRIJAN observed three international day like International Women day, International Environment and International day of disaster Risk reduction through 35 events at Union and Upazila level.
- Total 1262 HHs cultivated House hold based homestead gardening during the year.
- 08 Union CSO group arranged 24 Bi-monthly meeting where 92% participants were participated in this meeting.
- SRIJAN project arranged 02 meeting between community volunteers and Union Disaster management committee.
- 10 Kick off meeting was held at Upazila and Union level where 303 participants were participated out of 300 participants.
- 02 para vetinary training was held at two upazila where total 16 female participants participated.

B-PEMS AugroJatra Climate Change Project

AurgroJatra Project

Duration: January 2024 - June 2026
Budget: BDT 18,465,427 /-

Supported by: Winrock International
Working Area: Satkhira District



The Southwestern region of Bangladesh, faces multiple challenges due to its coastal location, including natural disasters, trafficking, and climate change impact on livelihoods. The resulting loss of livelihood often leads to internal and external migrations, with individuals seeking better opportunities but falling prey to exploitation, particularly in informal sectors like brick kilns. Limited awareness about safe migration processes, inadequate skills, and blind trust in brokers contribute to the vulnerability of the population. Survivors of trafficking struggle with mental health issues and reintegration into society. The absence of local policies addressing climate change and human trafficking, coupled with a lack of awareness about climate-related issues and restricted access to services, further complicates the situation.

AugroJatra project aims to strengthen climate change resilience and reduce vulnerability to human trafficking. The project will highlight the interconnection between human trafficking and climate change, presenting findings to stakeholders. Using climate-smart agriculture, alternative livelihood strategies, and local resource mobilization, the initiative seeks to identify effective approaches for climate change adaptation, promoting replication of successful methods. AugroJatra will involve a collaborative effort with volunteers, local communities, committees, and a project steering committee to create a sustainable initiative. Key focuses include policy development, stakeholder accountability, community engagement, climate-resilient demonstration plots, service linkages, capacity building, socio-economic reintegration, and a comprehensive monitoring mechanism.

The overall goal of the project is to create a trafficking and climate change resilient community led by transformational change from household to institutional level



Objective:

- To cross integrate climate change and human trafficking themes contributing to effective policies by increasing capacity, engagement of the stakeholders and advocacy.
- To capacitate vulnerable community in climate smart agriculture and alternative livelihood mobilizing local resources.
- To increase social inclusion and access to services for climate change and trafficking vulnerable community through referral services.

Expected Outcome:

- Trafficking prevalence and climate change vulnerability in target population have decreased due to implementation of policies that cross integrate trafficking and climate change.
- Target community has adopted and is practicing climate smart agriculture and alternative livelihood earning better income and increasing climate resilience
- Target community has increased their access to inclusive social safety net and other services establishing functional referral mechanisms

Project Beneficiaries:

Primary beneficiaries:

Category	Number
Agricultural Farmers	2720
Fishers	400
Fish Farmer	800
Trafficking survivors	290
Victims of modern slavery	304
Total	**4514**

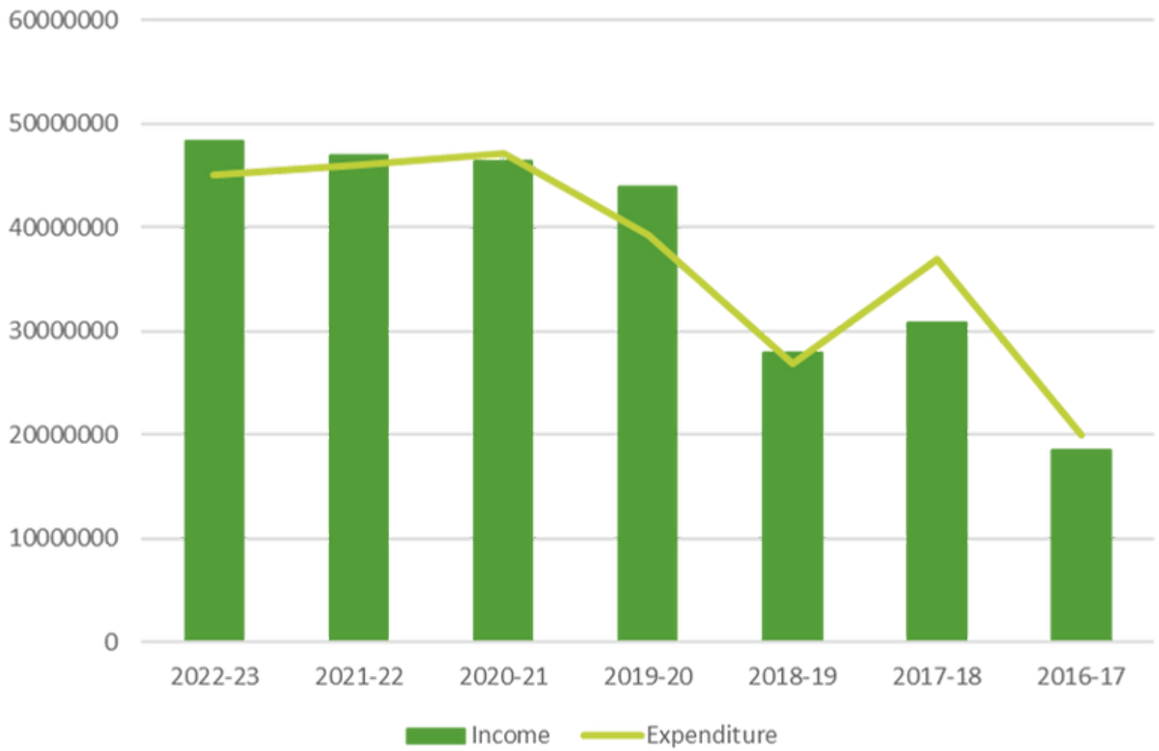
Secondary beneficiaries:

Category	Number
Govt and local govt representatives	2775
NGO representatives	120
DMC and CTC members	880
PSC members	175
Peer leaders	44
Total	**3994**

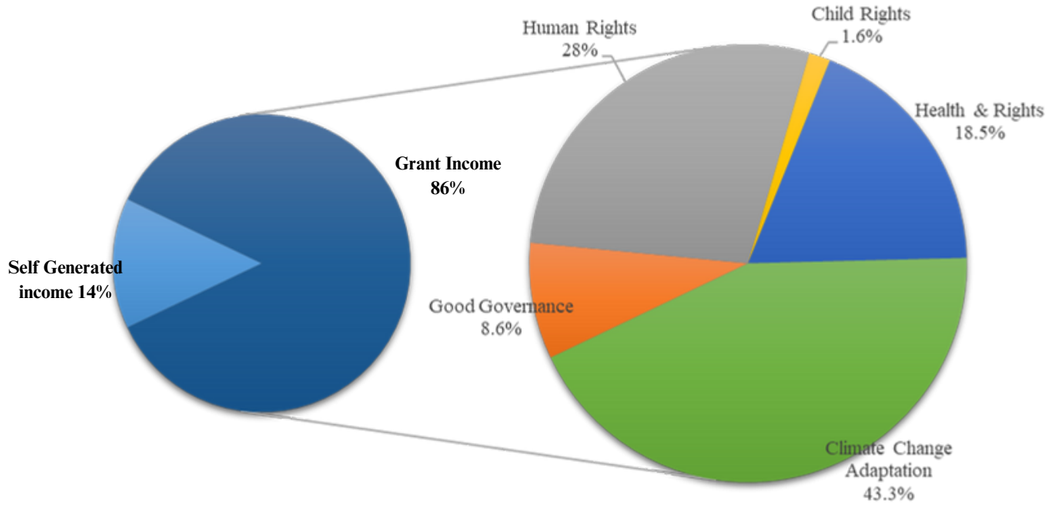
CHAPTER 05

Financial Information

The organization's financial performance over the years exhibits a notable pattern of growth and fluctuation in both income and expenditure. The graph has shown a generally positive trend in income, with a notable increase in the most recent fiscal year (2022-23). Over the years, there has been steady income growth from 2016-17 to 2019-20, with a spike in 2020-21. Expenditure has generally mirrored income, indicating a balanced approach to financial management. These patterns suggest adaptability to evolving needs while maintaining financial stability.

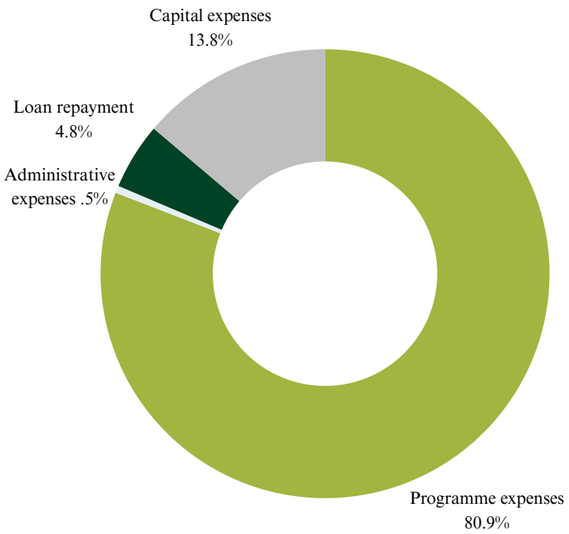


Allocation of Income & Expenditure:



In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the organization's total income was 41,605,695 BDT, primarily sourced from donor funding (86%). Self-generated income contributed 14%. Notably, 43.24% was allocated for climate change adaptation, reflecting a strategic focus on this critical issue. Other significant allocations included 27.96% for human rights and 18.46% for health rights. Good governance initiatives received 8.34%, emphasizing the organization's commitment to transparency. This diversified funding approach illustrates the organization's strategic alignment with key societal issues for impactful change.

The graph shows organization’s allocation of financial resources across key categories.



In the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the organization prioritized program-related costs at 80.9%, emphasizing its core mission. Capital expenses received 13.8%, focusing on long-term investments. Loan repayment accounted for 4.8%, addressing financial commitments. Administrative costs were minimized at 0.5%, highlighting operational efficiency. This strategic allocation underscores the organization's commitment to mission-driven activities and responsible financial management.

ANNEX 01

Annual Audit Report:

S. F. AHMED & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Agrogoti Sangstha

Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)
As at 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 BDT	2022 BDT "Restated"	2021 BDT "Restated"
Assets				
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	5	22,856,294	18,253,727	14,408,622
Total non-current assets		**22,856,294**	**18,253,727**	**14,408,622**
Current assets				
Loan to FSTIP project		-	1,000	-
Cash and bank balances	6	7,931,262	4,657,891	4,697,819
Total current assets		**7,931,262**	**4,658,891**	**4,697,819**
Total assets		**30,787,556**	**22,912,618**	**19,106,441**
Fund and liabilities				
Fund				
Fund account	7	23,191,401	16,163,415	15,512,844
Total fund		**23,191,401**	**16,163,415**	**15,512,844**
Non-current liabilities				
Loan from staff fund	8	1,924,676	2,292,316	2,387,316
Loan taken from different sources	9	5,545,696	4,333,604	1,140,498
Total non-current liabilities		**7,470,372**	**6,625,920**	**3,527,814**
Current liabilities				
Provision against expenses	10	125,783	123,283	65,783
Total current liabilities		**125,783**	**123,283**	**65,783**
Total liabilities		**7,596,155**	**6,749,203**	**3,593,597**
Total fund and liabilities		**30,787,556**	**22,912,618**	**19,106,441**

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with annexed notes

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of Agrogoti Sangstha

Executive Director

Finance Coordinator

See annexed report of the date

Dhaka, Bangladesh
Dated, 31 OCT 2023

S. F. AHMED & CO.
Chartered Accountants
DVC:
2310310728 AS250866

S. F. AHMED & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Agrogoti Sangstha

Receipts and Payments Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 BDT	2022 BDT "Restated"
Opening balance			
Cash in hand	6	17,738	10,150
Bank balances	6.1	4,640,153	4,687,669
		4,657,891	**4,697,819**
Receipts			
Grant income	11	41,456,236	30,537,891
Income from training center		2,667,084	4,367,158
Fish sale		720,136	777,750
Cow sale		380,000	1,052,000
Office rent		252,360	420,060
Food and accommodation		114,555	-
Mango sale		110,000	71,200
Loan taken from different sources		2,337,921	3,000,000
Loan refund from FSTIP project		41,000	-
Interest income		70,555	96,719
Other income	12	149,459	85,006
		48,299,306	**40,407,784**
		52,957,197	**45,105,603**
Payments			
Administrative expenses	14	234,943	207,348
Programme expenses	15	36,379,863	34,832,400
Loan paid to different sources	16	2,157,114	95,000
Loan to FSTIP project		40,000	1,000
Capital expenditure	17	6,214,015	5,311,964
		45,025,935	**40,447,712**
Closing balance			
Cash in hand	6	14,155	17,738
Bank balances	6.1	7,917,107	4,640,153
		7,931,262	**4,657,891**
		52,957,197	**45,105,603**

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes.

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of Agrogoti Sangstha

Executive Director

Finance Coordinator

See annexed report of the date

Dhaka, Bangladesh
Dated, 31 OCT 2023

S. F. AHMED & CO.
Chartered Accountants
DVC:
2310310728 AS250866

S. F. AHMED & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Agrogoti Sangstha

Income and Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 BDT	2022 BDT "Restated"
Income			
Grant income	11	41,456,236	30,537,891
Interest income		70,555	96,719
Income from training center		2,667,084	4,367,158
Fish sale		720,136	777,750
Cow sale		380,000	1,052,000
Office rent		252,360	420,060
Food and accommodation		114,555	-
Mango sale		110,000	71,200
Other income	12	149,459	85,006
Total income (A)		**45,920,385**	**37,407,784**
Expenditure			
Administrative expenses	14	234,943	207,348
Programme expenses	15	37,046,008	35,083,006
Depreciation	5	1,611,448	1,466,859
Total expenditure (B)		**38,892,399**	**36,757,213**
Surplus transfer to fund account (A-B)		**7,027,986**	**650,571**

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with annexed notes

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of Agrogoti Sangstha

Executive Director

Finance Coordinator

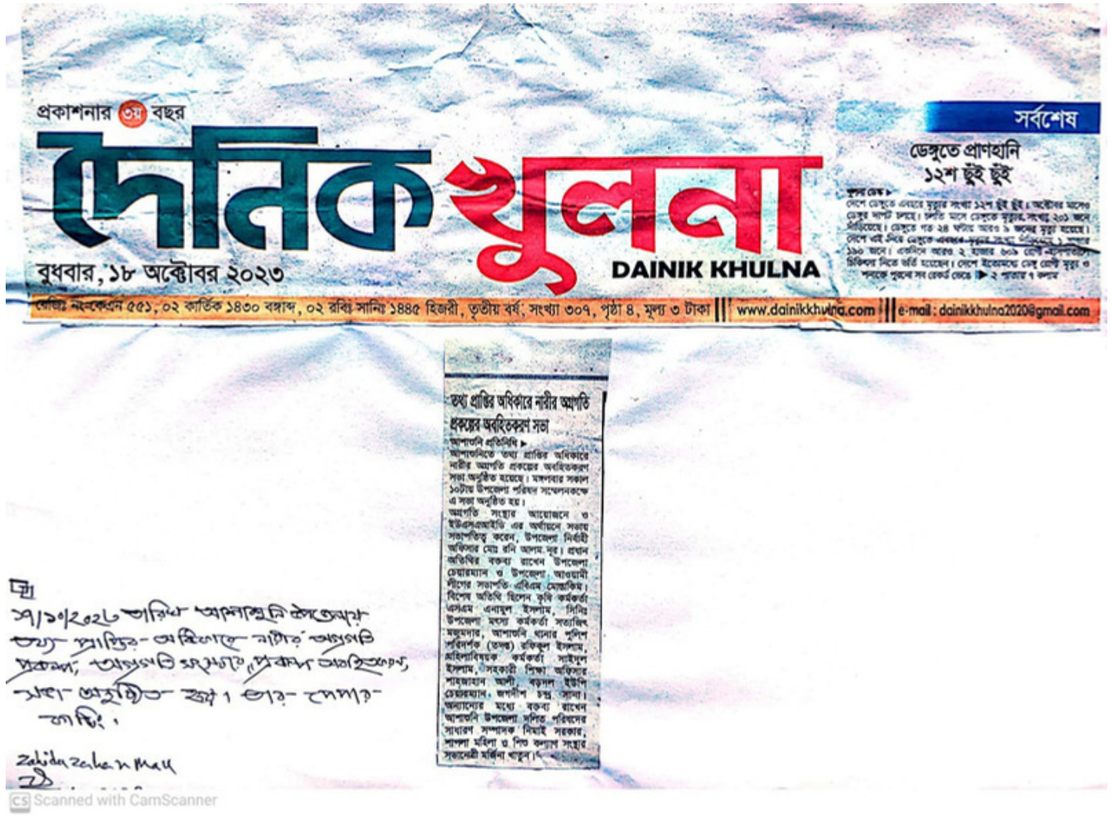
See annexed report of the date

S. F. AHMED & CO.

Dhaka, Bangladesh
Dated, 31 OCT 2023

S. F. AHMED & CO.
Chartered Accountants
DVC:
2310310728 AS250866

ANNEX 02
Media Coverage:


প্রকাশনার ৩য় বছর
দৈনিক খুলনা
DAINIK KHULNA
বুধবার, ১৮ অক্টোবর ২০২৩
www.dainikkhulna.com
e-mail : dainikkhulna2020@gmail.com
সর্বশেষ
ডেঙ্গুতে প্রাণহানি
১২শ ছুঁই ছুঁই
তথ্য প্রাপ্তির অধিকার নারীর আস্থা প্রকল্পের অবহিতকরণ সভা
Scanned with CamScanner


একটি নিরপেক্ষ সংবাদপত্র
পত্রদূত
২৯ বর্ষ ৫৭ সংখ্যা
বুধবার ২২ মার্চ ২০২৩
দালিত এবং প্রান্তিক নারীদের তথ্য অধিকার আইন সম্পর্কে সচেতনতা বৃদ্ধিতে বুথ ক্যাম্প


সাতক্ষীরায় অগ্রগতি সংস্থায় তিনদিন ব্যাপী যুবকদের স্বাস্থ্য এবং দক্ষতা বিষয়ক প্রশিক্ষণ অনুষ্ঠিত- পত্রদূত


দৈনিক নিনাদ
THE DAILY ANIRVAN
খুলনা ঃ বুধবার ২২ মার্চ ২০২৩ ইং
সাতক্ষীরায় দলিত এবং প্রান্তিক নারীদের তথ্য অধিকার আইন সম্পর্কে সচেতনতা বৃদ্ধিতে বুথ ক্যাম্প
সাতক্ষীরায় দলিত এবং প্রান্তিক