



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

A Stand for a Self-reliant Bangladesh

The
Hunger
Project.

BANGLADESH

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Message from The Country Director

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership.

Achieving the agenda set forth in the SDGs will require an integrated approach. The SDGs cannot be achieved by merely implementing projects in specific sectors like education and health without also addressing challenges such as peace building, state building, human rights and good governance. It will require a holistic, bottom-up 'gender-focused community-led development' approach - a sustained process that enables women, men and youth to take control over their own lives. Such a process will require citizens to become active agents of change; grassroots organisations to enable voices to be heard; the creation of vibrant, inclusive economies; and an effective, accountable local government system, with all actors playing catalytic roles.

The Hunger Project (THP), the largest volunteer-based organization in Bangladesh, has been working since 1991 to create a self-reliant Bangladesh through a multipronged, non-partisan strategy of social mobilization. The top priorities of the organization are to promote poverty eradication, to establish good governance and human rights and to build strong democratic values and practices from the bottom up.

In the year 2019, The Hunger Project-Bangladesh carried out a well-planned set of activities designed to work toward these priorities. There was great progress and achievements in each of the regions across the country where The Hunger Project implemented its people-centred community-led development programs.

The Hunger Project-Bangladesh is excited and proud to present its Annual Report 2019 to accumulate and uphold its successes and learn from its deep rooted programs. I hope that development partners, donors, supporters and friends will get an exciting glimpse of the organization and its programs that empower women, men and youth to take control over their destinies.

We are fortunate to have a committed and highly competent pool of staff. I would like to thank all staff for their support and guidance over the last year, as they have assisted me to carry out my responsibilities as country director. My special thanks to all the people, institutions, national and international agencies and government for their support and investments in The Hunger Project-Bangladesh's progress.

Still, we have a long path ahead toward reaching our vision and mission. We are ready for another year of achievements and successes. Your cordial participation with us will accelerate our journey.

Badiul A. Majumdar

Prof. Badiul Alam Majumdar, PhD
Global Vice-President and Country Director
The Hunger Project



Bangladesh: An Overview

Bangladesh is the world's 8th-most populous country with nearly 163 million people, and is the 92nd-largest country in land area, spanning 147,570 square kilometers, making it one of the most densely-populated countries in the world.

A middle power, Bangladesh is a unitary parliamentary democracy and constitutional republic in the Westminster tradition. The country is divided into eight administrative divisions and sixty-four districts. It is one of the emerging and growth-leading economies of the world, one of the Next Eleven countries, with one of the fastest real GDP growth rates in the world. Its gross domestic product ranks 39th largest in terms of market exchange rates, and 29th in purchasing power parity. Its per capita income ranks 143th nominally and 136th by purchasing power parity. Bangladesh is now a middle income country.

In recent years Bangladesh has registered notable success in reducing child mortality, population control, combating natural disasters, advancing women's empowerment, earning foreign exchange through the export of textiles, and using microcredit to alleviate poverty. However, the country continues to face the challenges of the Rohingya genocide and refugee crisis, broken electoral system, farcical elections, terrorism, corruption, the erratic effects of climate change and rural to urban migration.



The Hunger Project-Bangladesh: at a Glance

The Hunger Project-Bangladesh, established in 1991, is the largest volunteer-based non-government organization in the country. In a radical departure from traditional service-delivery approaches – and in an intentional drive to overcome Bangladesh’s deeply entrenched mindset of resignation and dependency.

Working in partnership with locally elected local governmental bodies (Union parishads) and community members, The Hunger Project-Bangladesh catalyzes sustainable, inclusive, community-led development that eschews a culture of dependency. In order to be sustainable, this community-based work must take place at the level closest to the people – the Union – within the framework of an “SDG Union Strategy”.

The Hunger Project-Bangladesh has over two decades of experience in changing the mindsets of elected Union Parishad representatives, building Parishad’s capacity and forging a strong partnership between a responsive Union Parishad and a mobilized citizenry addressing locally identified developmental issues and

priorities this partnership results in a low-cost and sustainable development process in achieving the SDGs.

This bottom-up mobilization for self-reliance is combined with several national-level advocacy strategies designed to reform attitudes, policies, prejudices and structures within the societies that block people in their attempts to build lives of self-reliance and dignity. This is done through volunteers and alliances, such as the National Girl Child Advocacy Forum (NGCAF), a country-wide advocacy movement for the rights of women in general, and girl children in particular. The Hunger Project works to ensure government accountability in Bangladesh through SHUJAN-Citizen’s for Good Governance.

Throughout the rural villages in Bangladesh, The Hunger Project carries out its mission of ending hunger and poverty with strategies that are affordable, effective, replicable and sustainable, based on four pillars:

1. Mobilizing people at the grassroots level to build self-reliance.
2. Empowering women as key change agents.
3. Forging effective partnerships with local governments.
4. Building alliances and advocacy for community-led development.

The centerpiece of The Hunger Project’s strategy in Bangladesh is the training and empowerment of volunteer leaders, called “Animators.” They, along with other local volunteers, are forming Village Development Teams (VDT) to mobilize their villages and strengthen the institutions of local democracy so that people can meet their basic needs. The Hunger Project-Bangladesh empowers and motivates people to work together to achieve results by challenging them to look at their situation differently, identify opportunities for change and take action.

185
SDGS UNIONS,
REACHING OVER
4.5 MILLION
PEOPLE.

1,09,319
TRAINED
VOLUNTEER
ANIMATORS.

8,769
TRAINED
WOMEN
LEADERS
FORMING THE
BIKOSHITO NARI
NETWORK.

4,453
YOUTH LEADERS
ENGAGED IN SELF- AND
COMMUNITY-DEVELOPMENT
ACTIVITIES.

The SDG Union Strategy

The Hunger Project (THP) has developed a comprehensive and systematic methodology for supporting rural communities to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by all nations including Bangladesh in September 2015. It has pioneered this approach in 185 Unions across 52 Upazilas and 28 of Bangladesh's 64 districts.

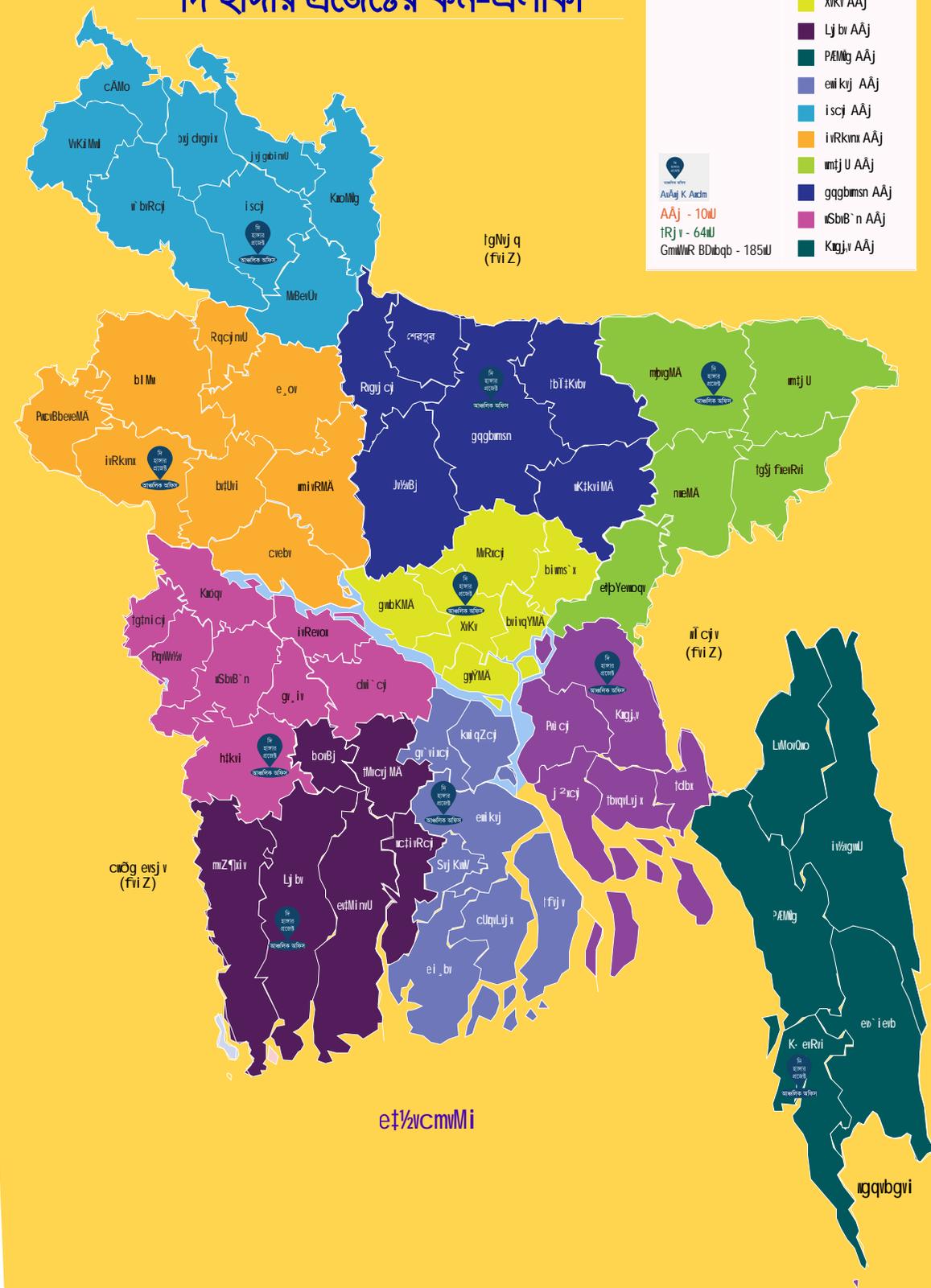
The strategy is an example of the science of gender-focused, community-led development. It builds a strong and active partnership among:

- The people;
- Grassroots civil society, built from the bottom-up;
- The elected local government (Union Parishad); and
- The government functionaries responsible for public services.

Role of the People

People in SDG Unions, including women and youth, are awakened and mobilized to make them active as citizens and take action to achieve SDGs. Mobilization of people creates “social capital,” which can make up for lack of “financial capital,” and can be used for solving many social problems through social movements and social resistance. Community members carry out various campaigns to combat social ills such as child marriage, violence against women, substance abuse, and environmental degradation. Using the Participatory Action Research (PAR) methodology, the poorest of the poor are also mobilized to become “barefoot researchers” to identify the causes of their poverty, form “self-help groups” and take other action necessary to end their own hunger and poverty. Mobilization of the poor is designed to ensure that no one is left behind, which is an inspiring aspiration of SDGs. Key partners of THP are the community members, local institutions and the Union Parishads at the local levels mandated to ensure participatory community development. THP plays a catalyzing role between the Union parishads, local institutions and local communities through building their capacity so that the communities are able to prioritize their developmental issues and needs and can work together with the UPs to address those issues making the local government accountable, transparent and responsive to its constituencies.

দি হাঙ্গার প্রজেক্টের কর্ম-এলাকা



Role of the Union Parishads (UP)

As the administrative level closest to the people, the UP is responsible for bottom-up planning and proper access to public services. It is made up of 9 elected ward representatives plus 3 women representatives who each represent 3 wards. There are 13 standing committees in each Union parishad, each focusing on key sectoral public services. The standing committee consists of elected members and community representatives who meet regularly to discuss sectoral issues and problems and will seek collective solutions. From 2000 to 2009, The Hunger Project pioneered mechanisms for greater transparency and citizen participation in the UP, and many of these mechanisms were incorporated into the 2009 Local Government (UP) Act. In practice, however, most of these mechanisms are not fully implemented.

In the SDG Union strategy, the elected UP representatives are trained by THP to help build their catalytic leadership not only to mobilize people, but also to ensure that the services people are entitled to actually reach them. UPs belonging to the SDG Unions sign an MoU with THP to achieve SDGs as their priority by the UP body becomes functional, effective in delivering services and ensuring social justice for all. THP has supported hundreds of UPs working in partnership with the citizens to hold Ward Shavas with active participation of communities, analyzing local needs and priorities and planning for local development. THP also supports UP bodies to hold Open Budget Meetings to prepare Five-Year Plans together with local communities.

Role of the Local Civil Society

The local civil society members are the key and center to THPs development strategy. Civil Society Members are formed at the Union level that consist of approximately 150 trained volunteer Animators comprising Youth, Women Leader and, Youth Leaders per union, who regularly run Participatory Action Research sessions with community fellows and peers facilitators, promote good governance and work as Peace Ambassadors. The members of the civil society act as watchdog over the UPs and also work in partnership with them. They also empower and mobilize the community members to ensure inclusivity and arrange skills training to help them become authors of their own future.

Role of the Government Functionaries

Staff from various government ministries are directly responsible for implementing public services, such as health, education, public safety and infrastructure development. The law calls for them to have been devolved to the Union level, yet in practice most reside at the Upazila level and do not feel accountable to the UP. In the SDG Union Strategy, The Hunger Project seeks to ensure they become full and enthusiastic with the people, grassroots civil society and the UP representatives in achieving the SDGs.

To date, The Hunger Project has mobilized 185 SDG Unions across all seven divisions of Bangladesh. In turn, those Unions take responsibility for improving the lives of approximately 6 million Bangladeshis.

The Vision, Commitment and Action Workshop: the entry point to a transformative process.

The Hunger Project is the pioneer of Vision Commitment Action Workshop (VCAW), an approach, a methodology and an entry point that helps people from all walks of life creating a vision for themselves, their families and for their communities. THP Bangladesh is proud of creating this approach which has significantly contributed to create a vision driven community and society. The process helps recipients in changing their mindsets from that of dependency to action through Vision, Commitment and Action workshop (VCAW), created by and for Bangladeshis. The VCAW helps them unlock their potentials, identifying areas where they could take individual actions, areas they could impact with group actions and areas where they would need partnership from outside such as local government or other NGOs. This is an entry point to a new era. People are surprised to discover that they themselves are the key and that there already exists the keys to take immediate actions for the change they need with no outside resources.

Through the workshops, people discover the power of their commitment and take a stand to achieve their vision. Together, they set priorities for themselves and their communities that they can achieve with their own resources. This might include forming savings groups, direct action campaigns against early marriage or promoting primary school enrollment. It is the Animator's job to facilitate the community's achievement of this first self-reliant success.

This concrete success is the second point of breakthrough. The new sense of confidence and freedom that emerges from the VCAW becomes solidified through achievement. The VCAW also includes an examination of the severe gender discrimination in Bangladeshi society. People come to see that only through a new partnership of women and men, together, will Bangladesh achieve its golden future.

In 2019, 61 VCAWs workshops were held reaching 1,056 people across Bangladesh.



The Animator Training



The flagship of The Hunger Project's strategy is the grassroots training it provides and the ongoing support of volunteer Animators, who organize social action campaigns in their areas. THP-trained Animators focus their actions in their communities and Unions, working closely with the Union elected representatives to achieve progress toward social goals such as eliminating child marriage, improving sanitation coverage throughout the Union, joining open budget meetings and ward assemblies where they plan for local development (thereby increasing transparency and accountability of the local government bodies).

Animators undergo four-day training sessions designed to give them a deep sense on the principles of people-centered, gender focused community led development towards elimination of poverty, hunger, injustice, exclusions, gender based violence, and reduced malnutrition and harmonious communities with increased tolerance and pluralism in Bangladesh. Through this training, Animators break through, discover and unleash their potentials to be active citizens in their communities, helping their communities to achieve a new, better world.

Following their training, as they return to their villages, Animators meet monthly with The Hunger Project staff and their peers, learning management and leadership skills to support community-based VDT's visions. The Animator Training curricula and the methodologies, originally developed in Bangladesh, is now used across The Hunger Project's global operations.

In 2019, 16 Animators training sessions were conducted. 323 male and 281 female participated in those training. After participating in animators training courses, they were aware of their rights and responsibilities as citizens and the importance of gender equality. They are joining the Village Development Team (VDT) in their villages. They also remain active in their communities and raise voices against social injustice.

Jakir Hossain Sumon is Now a Solvent Man

Zakir Hossain Sumon was born to a lower middle-class family in a village called Naoti of Azgor Union of the Upazila. After passing through high school, his studying didn't proceed further. He used to hang around with friends. His situation suddenly changed by losing his father, the sole breadwinner for the family. He realized that he needed to make up the gap left by his father's absence. With no choice left, Jakir decided to sell some property to bring any amount of cash into his home. In 2013, Jakir Hossain Sumon got the opportunity to participate in the 'Animators Training' organized by The Hunger Project. From this training he realized that something had to also be accomplished for his community and society writ large besides the transformation of his own life. He renovated an unused pond near his home and started farming fish. In 2015, he participated in a cattle rearing/fattening training conducted by The Hunger Project. Thereafter, Sumon purchased three cows in early 2016. He then owned three cows and a fish pond. He takes care of them regularly. Those cows were sold during Eid-ul-Azha when both demand and prices reached their heights. In 2019, Sumon made a profit out of rearing 15 cows at home. Sumon also has established a bio-gas plant out of the cow dung from the farm to meet their family's energy needs. Zakir Hossain Sumon has now become a role model for the youth of the area.

Success Story



Training of Volunteer Leaders as Trainers: A Sustainable Approach

Initially, the training sessions were organized by THP staff, but soon it was realized that to initiate the process of unleashing the hidden power of the rural people, it would be necessary for hundreds of community-based trainers to understand the principles of empowerment and to have the compassion and leadership skills necessary to facilitate their own independent transformative training sessions.

This has led to the creation of a multi-year “training of volunteer trainers” program. This has resulted in community-based trained volunteer trainers regularly providing decentralized capacity-building training sessions across the country.

In 2019, by arranging 34 Volunteer trainers training (ToT) THP-BD created 291 female and 465 male VTR across the country. These trained volunteer leaders are now involved in carrying out their assigned duties for building a self-reliant Bangladesh.

Participatory Action Researchers for Sustainable Development

Participatory Action Research (PAR) is a proven tool for empowering the poorest of the poor. To promote PAR, a group of volunteers are selected from the most active Animators. They organize a four-day residential PAR Foundational Course, facilitated jointly by staff-members of The Hunger Project’s and community-based volunteer facilitators. The trained Animators learn how to analyze their own social reality and facilitate the same process within their communities among with the other poorest of the poor to identify and resolve problems through their own efforts and form Gano Gabeshona Somitees (GGS) at the local level which is a Self Help Group of the most poor and vulnerable people, with a majority of them women. Members of these ‘self-emancipatory organizations’ – also called ‘Barefoot Researchers’ – undergo a process of reflection by coming together. These processes help them identify their social, political and economic obstacles. They also seek solutions through their forum Gano Gabeshona Somitees (GGS).

The members of GGS regularly save a small amount of money, which they lend among the neediest members towards economic enterprise. They also address various social issues such as improved education or form clubs for healthier life-styles. GGS members have been working for sustainable agriculture and food security. GGS members were trained to produce organic fertilizers like vermin compost, organic pesticides and various organic hormones taken from the traditions’ knowledge. They produce vegetables and crops using organic fertilizer and pesticides.

As a result of the regular contacts and training provided by the THP teams through 'reflection workshop(s)', updated information from a GGS is collected by the THP on a regular basis when GGS leaders clearly and consistently identify their problems and seek local solutions. As community members’ regular savings increase, they make small profits by lending to other GGS members, who use the money for small enterprises to address their day to day economic struggles. In addition, regular PAR sessions help them identify socio-economic problems and seek collective solutions for themselves as well as for entire communities. Critically, GGS’s broke the isolation felt by many community members and brought them together to make a collective force.

The Upazila-based GGS federation has been established to strengthen the collective voice of the poor and support those especially isolated and small GGS’s. The federation is represented by the members of the various federated GGS’s. They have arranged a convention of the members, at which 1700 members from all respective GGS’s were in attendance. They invited the local government high officials, elected bodies, MPs and journalists. They discussed how they work, how they tackle their day to day struggles, what else needs to be done by the government to support them in improving their lives, education for their children and how they will access better health facilities.

During the convention, a total of 20 GGS were celebrated as “best performers” for their work. This has inspired other GGS to do good in the future.

During 2018 and 2019, 163 PAR workshops, where 1,958 female and 1,072 male participated. Besides that 162 reflection workshops and 1 PAR foundation course training were held. Till date, there are 1,111 GGS groups across the country, PAR reached more than 28,824 people of whom 19,771 were Female and 10092 are Male. Total savings of Gano Gabeshona Somitees (GGS) are 14,51,67,245 taka.



Rajendrapur Village of Challisa Union, Nertokona enlightened by the light of Alor Dishary GGS

GGS was established in 2014 with the assistance from The Hunger Project Bangladesh. In 2014, The Hunger Project Bangladesh organized a 4-day long Animators Training at Challisa Union Parishad, of Netrokona. Md. Rafiqul Islam, UP member selected 15 villagers from Rajendrapur village to attend the training sessions. Some of the sessions trained villagers to visualize an ideal village, the role of citizens and the role of government to the citizens. What proved most effective was demonstrating and experiencing what they could do without external help or resources. This helped unleash their potential to break the cycle of their own poverty. After completing training, all 15 animators made the decision that they would organize themselves in a GGS to help themselves and to help others in building their awareness in their community. They returned to their village, arranged a general meeting with more than 100 neighbours and shared their learnings with them. They also shared how they visualized their village without poverty, injustice, exclusion, supportive environment and where all children attend schools, no child marriages, better water and sanitation systems for all. To address all these issues, the 15 Animators formed a GGS with 40 interested persons - among them 25 were women. They also formed an executive committee with 11 members to govern the GGS. They agreed to save 200 each month to develop a common fund. In the beginning, they faced many obstacles like: (a) members were disorganized, (b) members were disinterested in depositing, (c) stigma and religious superstitions and (d) suspicion and jealousy, and less trust on the handling of the savings accumulated. After a few months of struggles, they made decisions for their organization that would help its ability to adapt to the local context. Some of these adaptive changed choices by the GGS were:

- 1 Distributing savings for cultivation and for farming
- 2 Cow fettering
- 3 Vermin compost training & marketing
- 4 Establishing small entrepreneurship
- 5 Establishing women-focused and friendly entrepreneurship.
- 6 Buying a sessional paddy and harvest, etc.

They also received PAR training which taught them how to solve all of these problems by participatory research, transparency and accountability to one another. Regular practice of transparency and accountability helped them bring success wiping out all the doubts and suspicions. After all these struggles of the GGS leaders, they succeeded in what they wanted to achieve ensuring members of GGS are self-employed and some of the GGS members both male and females have been elected as Union Parishad representatives with the popular votes. They solved not only their own problems but also supported another 500 people from their GGS. Their success inspired others to form. They also supported establishing another 28 GGS in the Union. The present deposit of the GGS is 260000/-.

The members noticed that the wider use of chemical fertilizers in agriculture could easily be replaced by Vermin Compost that they could produce at homes. They spoke to various people and with the local government departments and agreed to make the village free from use of chemical fertilizer by using locally-produced vermin compost (made by women-members taking small loans from their GGS savings; Kamrul Islam Badshah & Kulsum Begum both were GGS members who became trainers to train furthermore women members. Now, most families are producing the compost at their homes and selling it to local markets.

Success Story





Skill trainings and income-generating activities

To improve food security and sustainable livelihoods, The Hunger Project has been working with community members through a bottom-up approach to developing individual strategies for overcoming income poverty through identification and improving their traditional expertise by training Animators in various skills development for small businesses that have local markets, followed by nutrition training. This program is well-designed and runs on the basis of some key principles such as: Locally appropriate, needs based and appropriate to their needs. Trainees are chosen following certain criteria for each training and its objectives. Local Animators support them choosing the trainees. Training schedules are developed to meet the trainees' needs and availability. The follow-up training supports them to refresh their skills and confidence. THP witnessed that majorities of the trainees did well with regard to both income-generating projects and using the knowledge of their nutrition training for their children's benefit. These interventions demonstrated that income-improving training followed up by nutrition training has a great impact on women's empowerment and improving nutritional status of their children.

In 2019, 19 skills training sessions were organised for 521 male and female participants in the rural communities who have become self-reliant through their self-initiation of income-generating activities and the application of the nutritional knowledge at their homes.

Bikoshito Nari Network: Women Rising in Bangladesh

The purpose of the Bikoshito Nari (“Unleashed Women”) Network is to organize, empower and inspire disadvantaged women of Bangladesh by building their confidence and developing their leadership skills to powerfully confront the issue of gender inequality. This special women’s leadership program trains women to take on initiatives such as stopping child marriage and violence against women in their communities.

Women Leadership now stands on a solid ground that has been created by the active participation of women from all walks of life in the last four-year hard process, recurring dialogues, training and conferences of the women to empower and enable them to advocate for themselves at the policy level as elected representatives leading role as well as in decision-making process both at homes and within their communities.

Evolution of the women network over the past four years, which included 26 days of training.

Four-year period includes 26 days of training:

Year 1: Three-day residential Foundational Course, followed by monthly, full-day trainings for the rest of the year. Training is led by THP-Bangladesh staff members and volunteer trainers

Year 2: Full-day training sessions every other month

Year 3: Quarterly full-day training sessions

Year 4: Full-day training sessions twice a year.

The Foundational Course addresses topics such as what gender is; the role of women in families and societies; patriarchy and women’s rights; and the development paradigm. Throughout the four years, there are scheduled trainings on particular topics, ranging from the role of women in their Unions to how to hold courtyard meetings and combat domestic violence. Women leaders gain a clear understanding of gender and their rights, and develop the necessary skills to advocate for their rights as well as to mobilize other women in their communities through courtyard meetings, campaigns and rallies.

The women also become development leaders in their communities, forming groups with other women to discuss gender equality and social justice, and to create solutions to the challenges they identify in their daily lives. They organize courtyard meetings on topics such as breastfeeding, health and nutrition; lead campaigns against child marriage; host human chains in honor of National Girl Child Day and International Women’s Day; and participate in other Hunger Project programs.

In 2019, 000 new Women Leaders participated in the women’s leadership Foundational Course. Having participated in these trainings, the women leaders are now conducting campaigns on social issues (such as child marriage, dowry and gender discrimination) and environmental issues (such as tree plantations and sanitation). Moreover, through courtyard meetings, they are mobilizing other women in their communities to initiate income-generating activities. The Women Leaders are also raising their voices in public forums, e.g. Ward shava. On 07 December 2019, the 6th convention of Unleashed Women Leaders Network (BNN) was celebrated on 07 December 2019 at the LGED Auditorium, Agargaon, Dhaka, where more than one thousand grassroots women leaders attended and signed in a declaration.



The Tale of Undefeated Women Najma Khatun

Najma Khatun was born on 10th July 1976 in a small Village in Betgari Union of Rangpur district. She completed her BSC degree in 1998. Her struggle life started when her parents married her off with a man called Hafij Udin, a Madrasa (Islamic school) teacher. Najma Khatun has completely dedicated her life to support the large family consisting 9 members, which included her husband & two daughters. Being an educated woman, Najma faced immense troubles in her in-laws house but she never gave up. She fought with poverty, and the barriers of superstition and stigma against women. She started her career as a tutor in a Masque-based child school. In 2013, she participated in the Women Leadership foundation course provided by THP. This course opened a new window with great self-confidence. The next year Najma attended an Animator Training Course. This course was a turning point in her life. In 2015, she attended a skills development training on sewing provided by THP. Then she opened a new path of her life with a sewing machine. She started own tailoring business at home. Now she is earning more than 3000 takas every month. She conducted free training for poor women in her surrounding to help improving their family income. Shathi Begum, Ayesha Khatun & Roksana Brgum are few of them who being trained by her became economically better off.

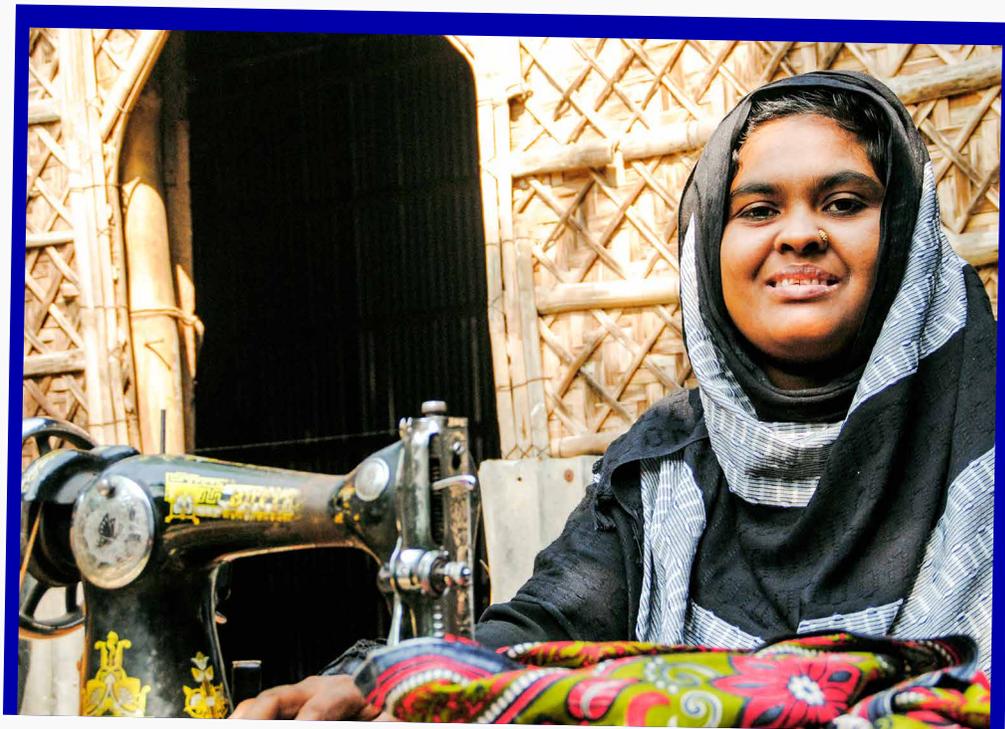
She established a Gono Gobeshona Shangtha (GGS) with 20 underprivileged women in 2017. Each member saves 50 takas monthly, which has helped develop a total saving of TK. 21,060 Taka. Besides savings, they regularly meet and discuss their issues and pave the way to overcome.

A GGS member Selina Begum, has opened a grocery shop. Now she is contributing to run her family. This GGS has changed the role its members in their families. Now they are dreaming bright future of their children.

Najma Begum also supports other women who are subject to various gender-based violence, like being assaulted by the male memebrs, child being married off, polygamy and promoting marriage and birth registrations and promoting health care for the women and children. Her greatest achievements was to save a young girl Najma Katun from being married off. She is proud of doing such social work for the communities

Najma Begum is working on developing a new section to make hand stitched quilt that has a growing market both locally and internationally. She wants to do it to create employment and income opportunities for other poor women and girls of the GGS and for others who need external support.

Najma Begum feels that she has empowered herself and made herself an example for others. One Najma Begum now works as an inspiration for many women.



Success Story





National Girl Child Advocacy Forum (NGCAF)

The National Girl Child Advocacy Forum is a platform to combat the subjugation against girl children and women in Bangladesh. Established in 2000 as one of the Hunger Project's initiatives. It contributes to building mass awareness and social movements in supporting and establishing the rights of girl children and to bring positive changes in their lives.

The goals of the NGCAF are:

- Build awareness of the importance of valuing girls.
- Create an enabling social environment to secure girls' rights.
- Advocate for policy change creating opportunities to improve girls' lives.

In partnership with the Government of Bangladesh, NGCAF inaugurated National Girl Child Day on September 30th, 2000, and since it has been recognized by the United Nations as an international day of significance (the International Day of the

Girls, on October 11). In 2019, on National Girl Child Day in 320 Ups, Upzillas, Zillas and 208 Schools of Bangladesh, activities took place nationwide through rallies, marches, and school-based activities under this forum. 8th March is also celebrated by the NGCAF as International Women's day. In 2019 it was celebrated in 340 places of the country

Local units of the NGCAF organized media coverage and open discussions on the importance of providing better health, education and nutrition to young girls. The NGCAF member is also an active member of 'Girls Not Brides Alliance', Child Rights Advocacy Coalition in Bangladesh, Social Action Committee, Citizens Initiatives on CEDAW, Bangladesh (CIC, BD). Currently, the NGCAF is implementing various advocacy related activities with Girls' Advocacy Alliance project of Plan International's.

Special Achievements of 2019:

- National Girl Child Advocacy Forum (NGCAF) drafted a 'Comprehensive Sexual Harassment Prevention and Protection Law 2019' and jointly organized a hand over of the draft policy meeting with the Parliamentarian 'Caucus on Child Rights'. The draft policy acknowledges all kinds of sexual harassment in public places as a crime and suggests to punish offenders. It was submitted to the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of National Parliament of Bangladesh on 09th September 2019. Now the law is now under review by the Parliamentarian Legislative Division and the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker is closely monitoring the progress of the law as a draft that to be presented at the Parliament examining of this could be passed as law.
- Besides, a strong relationship has been established with the Parliamentarian Caucus on Child Rights and Hon'ble Deputy Speaker.
- NGCAF conducted a Research Study with the support of GAA to explore the incidents of sexual harassment against girls and women at public places in rural and urban areas, advocating for passing a comprehensive law for the prevention of sexual harassment against women and girls. For Implementation of Child Marriage Act at District level, NGCAF conducted a study titled 'exploring the Application of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2017: A Study of Barishal District'. The objective of this study was to reflect the experience in realizing the CMRA 2017 and insights from the grassroots evidences to support the Bangladesh Government's commitment to end child marriage.
- NGCAF conducted another Study on the role and impact of Kazi, Imam and Purohit (the traditional, religious marriage restarters) on Child Marriage. The purpose of the study was to gather information on how the religious stakeholders were involved directly or indirectly in practices of child marriages. Also presented the findings of child marriage and roles of religious leaders in this with numbers of child marriage incidents happens (its annually at the local level and how the local authority could tackle the issue.
- In this year, established more close relationship with National Human Rights Commission to protect girls & women from any form of violence including child marriage and sexual harassment. On the basis of good relationship, National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh invited NGCAF as a Key Speaker on the Human Rights Day celebration program at Dhaka. The Chief Guest was the Hon'ble Prime Minister Ms. Sheikh Hasina, MP.
- Intensive relationship has been developed with different Networks, Platforms to create much awareness to the people about children rights also GBV and has been developed jointly different kinds of advocacy toolkits/ contents and awareness materials for Policy Level also for the all spheres people.
- Informal marriage registrars especially those religious leaders are very influential and powerful in local communities with big numbers of followers. If communities are together and speak out against child marriage, it will be a great step towards building child marriage free communities. With this objective, NGCAF organized 6 (six) workshops with 251 informal marriage performers (209 Imams, Hindu Purohitis 33 and 09 Christian Matchmakers and Informal Marriage Performers) about their roles, accountability and the Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017 (especially Punishment, implementation of law and misuse of 19 Clause).
- NGCAF developed a group of young people in the rural communities as Change Makers who are actively working at their families as well as in their communities monitoring all kinds of gender based violences (GBV) attaining SDGs 5.2 and 8.5. They already have taken a few important actions against gender based violences in their communities.
- NGCAF created awareness on Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017 among the mass people through the campaign programs and street dramas at Union and Upazilla levels. About 6,300 people (male, female and young people) were directly involved with those events and they got clear messages of the bad effects of child marriage, punishment for child marriages parents and marriage registers. Children of different age groups and people for all walks of life participated in those events and also asked different questions about child marriage, child safety, National Plan of Action against child marriage, child rights especially those belong to underprivileged families.



National
Girl Child
Day

National Girl Child Advocacy Forum (NGCAF) drafted a 'Comprehensive Sexual Harassment Prevention and Protection Law 2019' and jointly organized a hand over of the draft policy meeting with the Parliamentarian 'Caucus on Child Rights'. It was submitted to the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of the National Parliament of Bangladesh.





My name is Kalpana Akhtar. I live in Khagdahar union of Mymensingh district. I want to talk about a difficult time in my life. This is the time I have dealt with. My family arranged my marriage to a boy when I was in ninth grade. I did not agree to that marriage. Because I knew the consequences of child marriage. Our school has had training and video exhibitions of Her Choice Program. Through this I came to know that if I got married as a child, my education would have stopped. I had to give birth at a young age. As a result, malnourished and sick children can be born. My reproductive health was at stake. I could not fulfill my dream. So I decided that whatever it needed, I have to stop this marriage. I told everything to my aunty Anwara. She stopped my marriage with proper measures. My life goal is to become a chartered accountant. I will build my own life. I will decide my own life. I want to be a successful person and contribute to the society. And when I marry someone, I will decide for myself.

Success Story



Halting Early Marriage

The Hunger Project works to foster the enabling environment that supports young girls to flourish and realize their fullest potentials. This is achieved through a three-pronged strategy:

- 1 multilevel awareness building through campaigns, courtyard meetings and extensive dialogues;
- 2 capacity building through issue-based trainings and workshops; and
- 3 Policy advocacy at the national level.

Volunteer Animators, Women Leaders and Youth Leaders throughout Bangladesh have taken different initiatives to raise awareness on the hazards of marrying young. They are organizing rallies, courtyard meetings and youth study circles to enhance knowledge on child rights.

In 2019, The Hunger Project volunteers arranged 109 Campaign on halting child marriage and 2,459 Court yard meeting on halting child marriage were organized, for 27,195 female and 13,695 male participated. During this reporting period,, THP has trained volunteer leaders who succeeded stopping over 317 girl-child marriages across the country.

Youth Ending Hunger Bangladesh

Since Youth Ending Hunger (YEH) inception in 1995, it has become one of the largest volunteer organizations in Bangladesh. YEH is a belief, a commitment. It is a societal movement that believes in an affluent future of Bangladesh. Self-development, bold steps and contribution of the students are needed to build hunger-poverty free self-reliant Bangladesh. This movement is driven with a vision to create hunger-free self-reliant Bangladesh.

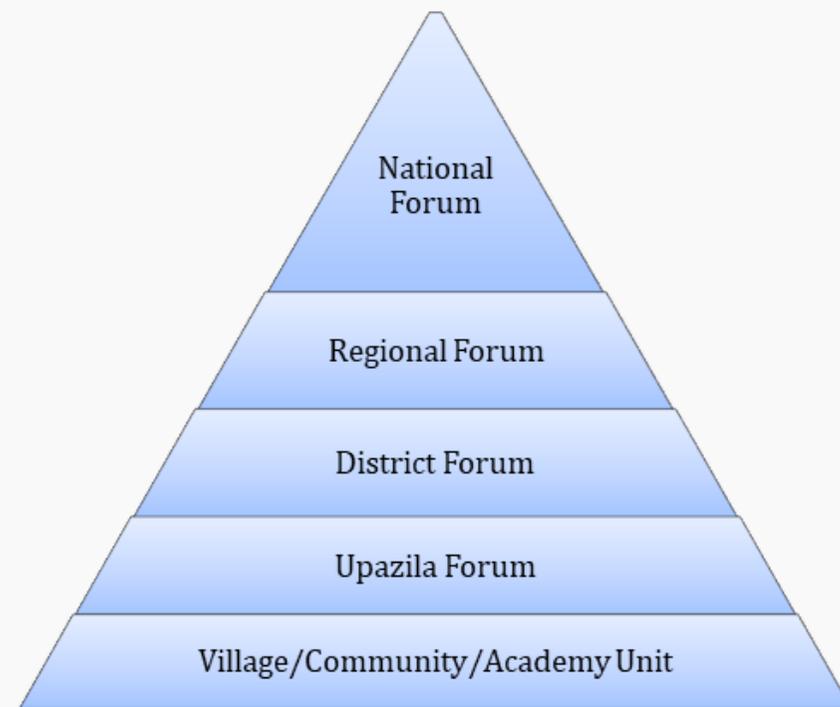
Promote and organize the student with a view to flourish the best of their intellect and creativity, build them as socially aware citizens through creating social responsibilities among them, Provoke each member of the organization in order to build them as successful, autonomous and volunteer leaders are the goals and objectives. Engaging students in building society along with their study is one of the main goals of the Youth Ending Hunger through which an affluent and dignified future will be created for all of us.

Partnership

The Hunger Project has made a partnership with the British Council to deliver Active Citizen Program, from September 2009 to till now apart from this Pathway to Empower Young Women in Bangladesh and PRODIGY (Promoting Democratic Inclusion and Governance through Youth) aims to increase peaceful civic participation in local governance in Bangladesh is also implemented. This year we worked with Manusher jonno foundation, National Endowment for Democracy, Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives, International Foundation for Electoral Systems, Her Choice program by Canadian Government support, Research Initiative Bangladesh etc.

Forum Reformation

In 2019 YEH reform their Village, community and Academy unit to National Forum Organizational Structure.



Major working area of Youth Ending Hunger

SDG, changing mindset of youth-Vision building; Capacity/skill development of youth; Develop cognitive skill; Leadership building; Humanitarian support; Peace building; Resist extremism; Fight against drug abuse; Gender; Governance; Environment; Health. Throughout the year trained Youth Ending Hunger leaders meet monthly in chapters across the country for planning activities to improve their communities initiating various social action projects. YEH Leaders organize campaigns on issues such as nutrition, education, environment, tree planting, pluralism and income generating activities. They also arrange debates, various Olympiads including math, environment, democracy etc., thematic competitions, roundtables and blood donation camps. In the year youth are choosing to engage themselves in socio-economic development in their community. Besides the basic training program, YEH conducted different types of training & workshop according to community need assessment which includes Violent Extremism, Pluralism, Gender, Drag Abuse, Child Rights, Right to Information, Peace & Harmony, and Documentation etc. Youth leaders leading Study Circle, Debating Club, Library, Language Club, Reading and Writing Competitions etc. Few Major accomplishment according to below.

Implemented more than 50 leadership building trainings.

More than fifteen hundred trained young people in 35 districts of Bangladesh engaged.

More than 100 Social Action Projects initiated by YEH leaders.

Youth Leader Shamim Ahmed wins (Runner up) The Queen's Young Leaders Awards from Royal commonwealth Society.

Arefin Rahman Himel wins Point of Light Order Award as a first Bangladeshi.

Now Youth Ending Hunger lead 1371 Units with 30755 trained leaders.

SEESAW

The name of the project was SEESAW which focus on building awareness of using Sanitary Napkins during menstrual cycle of girls. We were able to deliver very important information among community people about the benefits of Sanitary Napkins use and build awareness on irregular menstruation. In this project, more than 15 volunteers were working with the support of mentors and community leaders. A total of nine Active Citizens were working as facilitators of the project who had taken various lessons from The Hunger Project. They have gained access to different schools to conduct sessions among students. They were able to deliver enjoyable and informative sessions in the classrooms. They were also conducted survey among students.

Till now 480 girls and 170 boys of 4 schools from Hathazari area of Chittagong district is benefited from the project. Also 200 garments workers of Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ) are benefited by this project. While conducting feedback survey it was noticed that, more than 50% of school girls and 20% of garments workers who were using unhealthy clothes have now switched to napkins. In their communities, girls do not feel comfortable buying sanitary napkin due to social taboos. The social environment does not let them fight for their basic right. According to the women/girls, it is a matter of shame and embarrassment, they would like to suffer rather ask for support/help in this regard. But after the grooming session, they were able to come out of their discomfort and ask for their rights. Arranging and facilitating the sessions were expensive. Besides, they were planned to provide sanitary napkins to every school in their communities at cheaper rate than local market so that school girls can easily use sanitary napkins. Currently, we are searching for a sponsor specially a sanitary napkin manufacturer who is willing to invest in this project. Besides, are also look for developing skills on preparing sanitary napkin with locally available materials, which will be cheaper and also sustainable.



Social Harmony

A major portion of youths of three villages of Mougachi Union under Mohanpur Sadar Upazial of Rajshahi district passed their time doing nothing before 2014. They were often seen to sit idle in the nearest tea stalls or wandering in the streets. Sometimes they were accused of teasing girls and doing some anti-social activities. Parents were anxious about their future. Not only the parents, the youths who completed their study also started to feel frustration and depression as they remained idle.

Sometimes parents were sick and tired about the complaints against their children. There had a lot of problems in their community but they did not bother about those. They were not organized. Even sometimes they made conflict among themselves. Under PRODIGY Program Youth Leadership training; there was an opportunity to utilize the potentialities of those youths and bringing local development into lights. The program provided training among the youths on leadership development and various other social issues.

It motivates them to work voluntarily for their community development. 6 youths out of 36 youths from the three villages of Mougachi union came to touch of its 'PRODIGY' program. They received training on leadership and community development. They were motivated and encouraged to contribute to their community development. They felt that beside study, they can solve many social problems. The motivated youths identified their local problems and they made a list of it. On the priority basis they started to work out. With the support of union parishad, they ensured peace and harmony through the courtyard meeting, workshop and cultural events.

Not only that when they are informed about any child marriage news, they rushed to the spot and convince parents not to destroy their girl's life. Two girls have been saved from child marriage. They also ensured two dowry free marriages. Sometimes village people needed information from government and non-government offices but they don't know where to go for the specific information. PRODIGY youth leaders are supporting them accessing information. They are cooperating villagers getting the information as per the Right to Information Act (2009).

Mougachi union achieved the reputation of social harmonies. The animated youths are working to arrange different type of activity about social harmony issues for better future for the community. PRODIGY supports the communities through various workshops continuous program learning. Youth leader listens to community members, identifies priorities, and dedicates their resources to ensuring what needs to be done, and where need to be done, in spite of challenges.



Areas where this has made a difference include altering women's leadership workshops to ensure ease of women's participation, working hard to fill rooms with diverse participants to make the social transformation as sustainable and inclusive as possible – these priorities support building stronger ties throughout the community for joint efforts toward community development, and ultimately a more peaceful and harmonious Bangladesh.

As a means to stop the current cycle of violence in Bangladesh, The Hunger Project Bangladesh aims to establish sustainable social harmony at all levels of society, celebrating the diversity of religion and culture of Bangladesh as strength, achieved through:

- Establishing platforms that create a shared understanding among community citizens;
 - Enhancing the capacity of local leaders and understanding of social cohesion, and
 - Creating safe spaces for productive dialogues and discussions on issues fundamental to a pluralistic society.
- Designed to foster social cohesion in rural communities and empower individuals within those communities to collectively advocate for preventing and mitigating violence through peaceful means.

In 2018 alone, 20 social harmony workshops more than 600 community people were reached to across the community. As a result, sense of social harmony and citizenship and their rights and duties towards the nation has been increased.

Village Development Committees – Building Civil Society from the Bottom Up



Exercising citizen voice is a collective process; active citizens from each segment of society (women, youth, the ultra-poor) must form community-based self-help groups to make their voices heard, and must work together to put forward a concise set of shared priorities. In addition to the Animator's social work, the SDG Union Strategy regularly trains Women Leaders, Youth Leaders, champions of good governance and girl's rights, and PAR facilitators who create groups among the ultra-poor. The leaders of each of these village groups meet together as a Village Development Team (VDT) to coordinate activities.

The Hunger Project helps to build and develop the VDT, so that they can identify, analyze, prioritize, local development plans, implement and evaluate local issues. The VDT provides various training to help poor coming out of poverty and hunger by upbringing economic conditions of the backward people, encourages them to take up income-oriented activities, supports and advocates various social issues to solve social problems and build social movements by the communities by themselves. Village Development Teams were formed and managed by trained volunteers of The Hunger Project.

Now 1078 Village Development Team is active across the country.

In 2019, 5286 Village Development Team meeting was held, where 55,390 female and 36,503 male participated.



Strengthening Local Democracy

The Hunger Project's experience has shown that grassroots development can truly be sustainable when it is in partnership with accountable, transparent local governments. Many great initiatives of the past did not take root at the communities because they depended on temporary structures parallel to the constitutionally mandated Union Parishads. Realizing these facts, The Hunger Project works to make local government functional and accountable at the level closest to people living in poverty: The Union. This work is carried out through the following three main structures:

1 Union Parishad. Each Union is governed by an elected Union Parishad made up of 13 elected members. The Hunger Project provides a four-day residential course for all members of the Parishad, training them on the principles of bottom-up development, decentralized democracy, accountable governance and the statutory specifics of their roles and responsibilities.

2 Standing Committees. Bangladeshi law calls for each Union Parishad to establish Standing Committees to provide citizen participation and oversight key areas of local development such as; health, education and economic development. In most Unions, these committees are rarely functioning. But, in SDG Unions, where The Hunger Project has been working, the standing committees are functional and they are equipped to do their jobs. Standing Committee members set sectoral priorities, agendas and budgets of the Union Parishad.

3 Ward shava. Ward shavas (meeting at the Ward represented by the elected members and the local community) are mandatory. These meetings are held twice a year held in each of the nice wards that an Union is a compromise of. The Ward shava is designed to provide transparency and accountability to its constituencies, while allowing citizens to engage directly with their elected officials and elected officials to discuss ongoing and planned local government projects. The Ward shava is the most powerful forum for grassroots for women to bring their concerns to the attention of the Standing Committees and Union Parishad Members. The Hunger Project ensures that Ward shavas are held in the SDG Unions where the citizens and representatives together set priorities and targets for what they want to achieve in the coming year and then plan and launch campaigns.

In 2019, The Hunger Project facilitated 07 workshops of UPs' Standing Committee and 130 Ward shavas, where 4739 female and 4675 male participated. As a result of these interventions, Union Parishads are community oriented and peoples' ownership of the UPs has been created.



Advocacy for Reforms of Local Democracy

SHUJAN--Citizens for Good Governance is an independent civil society Organization for which The Hunger Project serves as secretariat. SHUJAN was founded with the help of The Hunger Project in 2002, SHUJAN is a non-partisan platform of committed, active and socially conscious citizens engaged in issues of democracy, accountability, fair election systems, development and good governance. SHUJAN aims to strengthen grassroots democracy, strives for ensures transparency and accountability of local government, promotes free and fair elections, and advocates for policy reforms and good governance at the national level to the grassroots levels.

The Hunger Project works towards ensuring government accountability in Bangladesh through SHUJAN. Members of SHUJAN are among the most respected citizens of Bangladesh. Many are representatives from academia and journalism, and many have high public profiles as well-regarded leaders. SHUJAN is decentralized through districts and sub-district level chapters' educating, advocating and influencing e citizens for choosing the right candidates through fair elections, make the Union parishads and other departments accountable to the citizens at the grassroots to the national level.

In the run-up to an election, SHUJAN gathers background and polishes profiles of the candidates – including disclosures of criminal histories and sources of income and wealth. SHUJAN members organize meet-the-candidate gatherings, and perform all manners of outreach to voters including posters, newspaper articles, street plays, debates, human chains, marches, awareness campaigns and Democracy Olympiads.

In 2019, SHUJAN arranged 8 divisional planning meeting, 44 roundtable on 'Political Reforms and Civic Thinking, 3 press conferences on various national issues, 3 Human Chain, divisional coordination meeting, 1 voter-candidate Face to Face program, 4 mourning meeting, 8 workshops on RTI and 5 The Liberation War Olympiads (first time in Bangladesh). SHUJAN also published two big volume books on antecedents of candidates and analysis of the 10th and 11th National Election.





Peace-building initiative through PAVE, SPL and SPADE-11 Project

The Hunger Project has been implementing various initiatives aimed at increasing public awareness and reducing political and electoral violence in the recent past, especially to prevent the existing conflicts between the disputed parties. As a result, there is a peaceful cooperative spirit among the disputed political leaders and they are taking different initiatives in view of this. As a result of these initiatives, several Upazila leaders and civil society representatives have already signed the Code of Conducts, and are committed to peacefully resolving disputes and creating a pluralistic mindset.

The Hunger Project implemented 'People Against Violence in Election-PAVE' project and now it is implementing 'Strengthening People Landscape-SPL' and 'Support for Peaceful and Democratic Elections-SPADE II' project to aiming to increase the number of peace-building events in Bangladesh in order to ultimately decrease Bangladesh's tolerance of violence. Program activities include: conducting harmony building training; and establishing a network of Ambassadors for Peace; and engagement and monitoring peace-building initiatives at the local level to upward. Program activities contribute to transform the mindsets of the participants by increasing their knowledge and skills on electoral processes and conflict resolution. These projects have created an opportunity to foster dialogue and engage people in peace-building initiatives within their communities, which represent diverse segments of the population across a large number of communities in Bangladesh. A network of ambassadors for peace is involved in advocacy initiatives and in taking action to mobilize people for peace-building in their communities.

In 2019, The Hunger Project arranged 164 peace-building trainings (Capacity building workshop PPG, PAVE engage training for Peace Ambassadors, PAVE Lead Training, PAVE PPG Formation & Ambassador Development Meeting, PAVE Workshop for UPFG Formation, Peace Ambassador Regional Meeting, Periodic Follow-Up Meeting of UPFG, Periodic PFG Follow-Up Meeting, PFG formation and Ambassador selection, Post workshop follow up meeting, PPG Follow-Up Meeting, Project orientation meeting for PPG, Review and Reflection Meeting) across the country, where 1,090 female and 2,083 male engaged.

Right to Information (RTI) for People's Rights and Open Government

Access to information is an important condition of good governance issues especially for ensuring transparency and accountability of the government bodies. With the above context in mind The Hunger Project being convinced about the tremendous value of the RTI law for good governance and promote citizens' rights, decided to undertake a research on the subject primarily to make an attempt to enhance RTI demands in Bangladesh involving professionals and conscious citizens who would use the law to achieve its important objectives.

In 2019, through the training 4 days long 4 RTI training and 1 day long 11 workshops on RTI The Hunger Project has created 440 infomediaries where 273 male and 167 female. With the help of the World Bank financed project, around 112 RTI Activists were empowered through increasing their capacities to use the RTI Act and to demand information from authorities. 1198 persons were motivated and turned as RTI activists. Some of them filed RTI requests focusing on improving the governance system and bringing systemic change. In that year RTI activists submitted 14,958 RTI applications across the country.

From the above we see that it has been possible to deepen and scale up the process of implementing the RTI Act among mainstream and marginalized communities in the sense of generating more applications on accountability and transparency of local level public institutions and authorities.

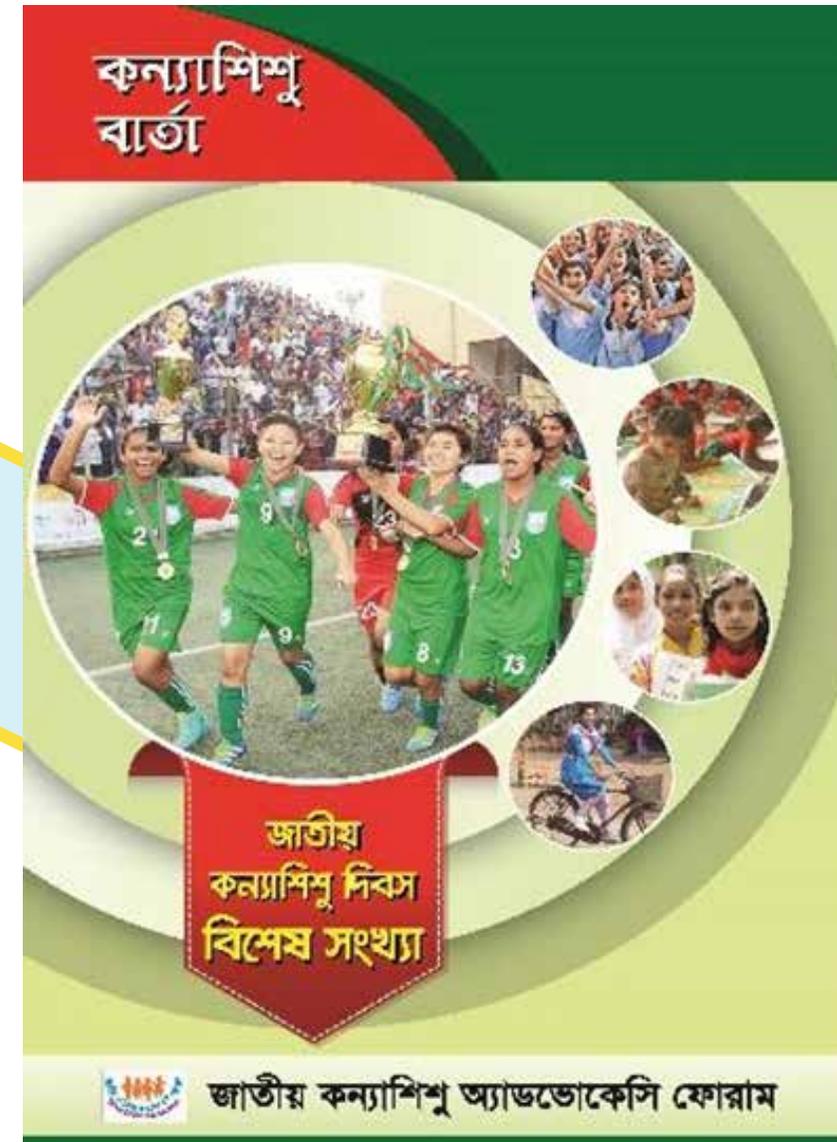
Through an intensive process of training, from THP were capacitated to perform the following tasks:

- Develop a complete understanding of the law; identify challenges associated with practical use and application of law.
- Promote and create enabling conditions for others to use the law.
- Enable marginalized, deprived, main and non-mainstream communities, to use the law.
- Generate RTI applications that will help the applicants, including those from deprived sections of the population, to develop a sense of belongingness as citizens and ownership of the powers of the state.

In 2019, 384 RTI workshops were arranged, where 4045 female and 4324 male participated. Besides that in 2019, 7 RTI facilitator training sessions have been arranged, where 118 male and 45 female have participated.



Publications



Achievements of 2019

In 2019, The Hunger Project-Bangladesh deepened support to communities through additional workshops, new content and continuous program learning. The Hunger Project-Bangladesh listens to community members, identifies priorities and dedicates its resources to ensuring that what needs to happen does actually happen, in spite of challenges.

Areas where this has made a difference include altering women's leadership workshops to ensure ease of women's participation, as well as working hard to fill rooms with diverse participants to make social transformation as sustainable and inclusive as possible. These priorities support the building of stronger ties throughout the community to support joint community development efforts and, ultimately, a more peaceful and harmonious Bangladesh.

The Future of The Hunger Project-Bangladesh

Over coming years, The Hunger Project-Bangladesh will be deepening its work in the SDG Unions to effectively demonstrate the sustainability and scalability of this unique approach, and promoting its widespread adoption throughout the country to reach a critical mass for community-led developments” refers to the Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations’ seventeen, comprehensive goals for development which follow and expand on the Millennium Development Goals. The challenges of the SDGs – including halting stunting, empowering women, achieving inclusive economic growth and building climate change resilience – all require integrated and community-led solutions. Furthermore, SDG #16 calls for building participatory, effective, accountable institutions, “at all levels,” which must start at the level closest to the people; in Bangladesh’s case, the Union.

A Union is a cluster of about 15 villages, divided into nine wards with an elected body called the Union Parishad. In an SDG Union, the Union Parishad, through partnership with The Hunger Project, has committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals at the local level, and significantly improving living conditions for its citizens.

An SDG Union is distinct from other Unions. In SDG Unions, The Hunger Project sparks a fundamental mindset shift among the people – from that of dependency to confidence and action. The shift is transformative. People collectively create a vision for a new future and commit to making it happen. Together, they fuel their own momentum. The Hunger Project continues providing training and capacity building until the Union is “firing on all cylinders” – acting as the engine of their own development – through their own self-generating leadership, resources and actions.

This is the primary focus and result of The Hunger Project’s approach: to mobilize people, empower women, and forge partnerships with the government – until local, self-generating development is achieved. The people take it from there – delivering an extraordinary and massive set of secondary results. SDG Unions come into existence through a partnership among the people, their elected Union Parishad representatives and their government functionaries. In this process, a grassroots level civil society composed of animators, women leaders, youth activists and the distinguished citizens, help mobilize the people and also play the watch-dog role.

Additionally, The Hunger Project-Bangladesh will be deepening its national advocacy programs, continuing to support social harmony in the face of political turmoil and promoting effective and transparent participatory local democracy.

Outcome of THP-BD-2019

| SL | Event Name | Events | Females | Males | Unions |
|----|---------------------------------------|--------|---------|-------|--------|
| 1 | Adult Literacy Centers | 117 | 2,008 | 922 | 45 |
| 2 | Arsenic Tested Tubewells | 96 | 0 | 0 | 30 |
| 3 | Birth Registrations | 492 | 2,076 | 1,978 | 91 |
| 4 | Breast-Feeding | 43 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| 5 | Child Dropouts Re-enrolled | 237 | 900 | 762 | 72 |
| 6 | Children Enrolled | 247 | 1,978 | 1,567 | 64 |
| 7 | Children Immunized | 400 | 2,515 | 2,358 | 77 |
| 8 | Dowry-Free Marriages | 300 | 0 | 0 | 74 |
| 9 | Halting Child Marriages | 295 | 0 | 0 | 87 |
| 10 | Halting Violence Against Women | 224 | 0 | 0 | 68 |
| 11 | Hygienic Practice | 18 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| 12 | Income Generating Activities | 428 | 1,332 | 1,104 | 62 |
| 13 | Marriage Registration | 162 | 0 | 0 | 44 |
| 14 | Maternal Immunization | 436 | 0 | 0 | 76 |
| 15 | Nutrition | 101 | 635 | 74 | 31 |
| 16 | Maternal Nutrition | 164 | 0 | 0 | 40 |
| 17 | Produce Organic Fertilizer | 17 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| 18 | Safe Deliveries | 294 | 0 | 0 | 70 |
| 19 | Sanitary Latrines | 230 | 0 | 0 | 67 |
| 20 | Self-Help Groups | 40 | 604 | 333 | 22 |
| 21 | Skills Training | 23 | 408 | 126 | 13 |
| 22 | Tree Plantation | 400 | 0 | 0 | 87 |
| 23 | Tubewell Installation | 142 | 0 | 0 | 40 |
| 24 | Weight measurement of pregnant mother | 299 | 0 | 0 | 68 |
| 25 | Weight measurement of child | 62 | 188 | 158 | 18 |
| 26 | Health check up of pregnant mother | 183 | 1,401 | 8 | 45 |

Region Wise Outcome of THP-BD-2019

| SL | Event Name | Regions | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|---------|------------|----------|---------|---------|--------|--------|------------|-----------|---------|
| | | Dhaka | Chittagong | Rajshahi | Rangpur | Cumilla | Khulna | Sylhet | Mymensingh | Jhenaidah | Barisal |
| 1 | Adult Literacy Centers | | | | | | | | | 19 | 20 |
| 2 | Arsenic Tested Tubewells | | | | | | | | | 7 | 3 |
| 3 | Birth Registrations | | | | | | | | | 62 | 42 |
| 4 | Breast-Feeding | | | | | | | | | 38 | 0 |
| 5 | Child Dropouts Re-enrolled | | | | | | | | | 8 | 36 |
| 6 | Children Enrolled | | | | | | | | | 14 | 12 |
| 7 | Children Immunized | | | | | | | | | 11 | 78 |
| 8 | Dowry-Free Marriages | | | | | | | | | 13 | 65 |
| 9 | Halting Child Marriages | | | | | | | | | 30 | 43 |
| 10 | Halting Violence Against Women | | | | | | | | | 14 | 16 |
| 11 | Hygienic Practice | | | | | | | | | 9 | 2 |
| 12 | Income Generating Activities | | | | | | | | | 80 | 5 |
| 13 | Marriage Registration | | | | | | | | | 4 | 10 |
| 14 | Maternal Immunization | | | | | | | | | 8 | 78 |
| 15 | Nutrition | | | | | | | | | 14 | 7 |
| 16 | Maternal Nutrition | | | | | | | | | 0 | 52 |
| 17 | Produce Organic Fertilizer | | | | | | | | | 4 | 0 |
| 18 | Safe Deliveries | | | | | | | | | 65 | 13 |
| 19 | Sanitary Latrines | | | | | | | | | 19 | 7 |
| 20 | Self-Help Groups | | | | | | | | | 19 | 1 |
| 21 | Skills Training | | | | | | | | | 14 | 1 |
| 22 | Tree Plantation | | | | | | | | | 97 | 11 |
| 23 | Tubewell Installation | | | | | | | | | 2 | 2 |
| 24 | Weight measurement of pregnant mother | | | | | | | | | 41 | 60 |
| 25 | Weight measurement of child | | | | | | | | | 53 | 0 |
| 26 | Health check up of pregnant mother | | | | | | | | | 10 | 50 |



Facebook.com/THPBangladesh



Youtube.com/The Hunger Project Bangladesh

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