

Annual Report 2022-2023



South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh



Edited and Published by

Md. Delwar Hossain

Executive Director

on behalf of South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh

Printed by

Sowrov Media Products

18, Babupura, Nilkhet Kataban Dhal, Dhaka-1205

Mobile : 01718419001

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Content	Page
	Editorial Panel	i
	Table of Contents	ii
	Acronyms	iii
1	Foreword	1-6
	Message from the Chairperson	2
	Statement of Executive Director	4
	Executive Summary	5-6
2	Governance of SAP-Bangladesh	7-12
	2.1 Current General Body	8
	2.2 Current Board of Directors	9
	2.3 Photographs of Current Board of Directors	10
	2.4 General Body Members since inception in 1984	11
	2.5 Members of Board of Directors since inception in 1984	12
	2.6 Executive Directors since inception in 1984	12
3	Geographic Coverage	13-15
	3.1 Location Map of SAP-Bangladesh	14
	3.2 Working Area of SAP- Bangladesh	15
4	SAP-Bangladesh at a Glance	16-21
	4.1 SAP-Bangladesh in Brief	17-18
	4.2 Legal Status of SAP-Bangladesh	18
	4.3 Project wise Budget & Expenditure in 2021-2022	19
	4.4 Project wise Staff and Volunteer in 2021-2022	20
	4.5 Gender Segregation	21
5	Program Interventions in 2021-2022	22-81
	5.1 Microfinance Program (MFP)	23-30
	5.2 Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of poor Households towards elimination of their poverty (ENRICH) Program	30-40
	5.3 Livelihood Development Program for Elderly People (LDPEP)	40-43
	5.4 Sponsorship Program (SP) in Barguna and Bhola	43-60
	5.5 Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD)	60-69
	5.6 Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project	69-83
	5.7 Innovation Sprint Project	83-88
	5.8 Strengthening Forecast-based Early Actions in Cyclone Prone coastal regions in Bangladesh (STEP) Project	88-94
6	47th Martyrdom Anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman	95-98
7	Bicycle Distribution to the Women Football Team of Barguna	99-100
8	SDG Achievement in 2021-2022	101-102
9	Support Units of SAP-Bangladesh	103-107
10	Partnership Progress	108-109
11	Learning Reflections	110-111
12	Audit Report 2021-2022	112-118
13	Photo Corner	119-122

ACRONYMS

AFHS	Adolescent Friendly Health Services
CBCPC	Community Based Child Protection Committee
CDMP	Comprehensive Disaster Management Program
CEFM	Child Early & Forced Marriage
CMPC	Child Marriage Protection Committee
CPP	Cyclone Preparedness Programme
CWB	Child Welfare Board
DMC	Disaster Management Committee
DRRO	District Relief & Rehabilitation Officer
EAP	Early Action Protocol
FWV	Family Welfare Visitor
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GEMS	Gender Equality Movement in School
LCP	Learning Center Point
LEAD	Child & Youth Leadership
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
RMC	Rural Micro Credit
RRAP	Risk Reduction Action Plan
SMC	Shelter Management Committee/School Management Committee
SOYEE	Skills and Opportunities for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship
STEM	Science, Technology, English and Mathematics
SYB	Start Your Business
TfD	Theatre for Development
TTC	Technical Training Centre
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UDMC	Union Disaster Management Committee
UMC	Urban Micro Credit
UzDMC	Upazila Disaster Management Committee
WDMC	Ward Disaster Management Committee

Chapter-1

Foreword

Message from the Chairperson

I am pleased to see the publication of the Annual Report 2022-2023 of SAP-Bangladesh and remarkable achievements in the reporting year. During the last 39 years since its inception, SAP-Bangladesh has been providing rights and needs based services to the targeted communities of the country facing a lot of challenges in an effective and efficient manner with tremendous support from the local administration and communities. Despite the natural disasters and manmade crisis situations, the organization has been providing necessary supports to address the needs of the community people with significant success through implementation of the integrated sustainable development programs. With the firm commitment to ensuring quality education, livelihood and economic empowerment, health services, social security and justice, gender transformative communities, dignified living standard of the people, SAP-Bangladesh has been able to successfully bringing many positive changes to the lives of the poor people, enabling them to participate in mainstream development efforts.



The organization with its dynamic force worked ahead, widening education, skills and opportunities for youth employment, child and youth leadership development, sexual reproductive health and rights services altogether intervened under Sponsorship Program (SP). Girls Get Equal (GGE) and GeTECD projects enabled to enhance better living in gender diverse communities and education by raising the socio-economic consciousness of 1,21,224 direct beneficiaries. In the same course, the Microfinance, ENRICH and Livelihoods Development of the Elderly People (LDPEP) programs combine to ensure its support to 52,147 direct beneficiaries in enhancing economic empowerment and entrepreneurship development in the targeted communities.

SAP-Bangladesh keeps moving forward with remarkable challenges to achieve its goal. Due to the post Covid pandemic situation during last three years, and war between Russia and Ukraine, the livelihood situations of the people of the country become unstable, uncertain and miserable. SAP-Bangladesh made significant achievements in facing the situation by implementing various diversified development program interventions through proper planning and monitoring in bringing significant changes in the lives of the poor and marginalized people in the targeted communities in its working area.

SAP-Bangladesh has been able to address its cherished goal with support and cooperation of the stakeholders at different level. I extend appreciation to PKSf, Anukul Foundation, Plan International Bangladesh, other NGOs and Government agencies like, NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB), Microcredit Regulatory Authority (MRA), National Bureau of Revenue (NBR), local administration, LGIs, local communities and networking organizations for their tremendous support in implementing our program interventions smoothly.

I convey my thanks and appreciation to all the members of the General Body and Board of Directors of SAP-Bangladesh for their constant support and leadership in smooth functioning of the organization. I would also like to appreciate the sincere efforts of the staff members of SAP-Bangladesh who have proved their commitment through hard work, dedication and loyalty to the organization's cause in shaping the organization as it is today.

On behalf of the organization, I would like to forward this report and extend thanks to all concerned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Muhammed Kamal Uddin'.

Muhammed Kamal Uddin
Chairperson
Board of Directors
South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh



Statement of Executive Director

I am glad to present the Annual Report of SAP-Bangladesh for the fiscal year 2022-2023. In this reporting year, SAP-Bangladesh implemented its planned activities ensuring quality support to the targeted population including poor and ultra-poor people focusing women, children, youths, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, and ethnic communities.

The targeted community people faced a lot of problems and challenges in the reporting year in making-up the losses resulted due to the post Covid situation. When the people were struggling in overcoming the post Covid situation, the war between Russia and Ukraine made the lives of the people unstable, uncertain and miserable. They had to face the problems and challenges with their own courage and efforts, and support from the government and non-government organizations. SAP-Bangladesh played a supportive role besides the government efforts with its planned program interventions in the reporting year 2022-2023.

As a result of the mentioned problems and challenges in the reporting year, the community people didn't have scope of earning extra income to bear the additional livelihood expenses due to continuous price hike of the commodities. On the other hand, due to the Covid and post Covid situation, educational institutes were shut down for long time causing a huge learning gap in the education of the children and youths, youth economic empowerment also lagging behind, violence against women and children increased, and livelihood insecurity and poverty increased as well. With a view to addressing the problems, SAP-Bangladesh implemented 9 projects/programs following an integrated approach focusing the sectors of Microfinance, Education, Health & Nutrition, Community Development, Livelihood Development, Early Childhood Development, Gender Transformative Childhood Development, Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights, Child Rights Protection & Development, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Child & Youth leadership, Youth Economic Empowerment, Social Empowerment, Alternative Education in Making-up Learning Gaps, Forecast-based Early Action in Emergency, etc.

In implementing the above sectoral activities, SAP-Bangladesh got commendable technical and financial support and assistance from the development partners like PKSF, Anukul Foundation, and Plan International Bangladesh. SAP-Bangladesh also got tremendous support and cooperation from the government and non-government organizations like local administration, LGIs, law enforcing agencies, other NGOs, print and electronic media, program participants and local community for smooth implementation of the planned activities in the reporting year. I extend special thanks and gratitude to them.

I also extend sincere thanks and gratitude to the members of the General Body and Board of Directors of SAP-Bangladesh for their constant support and strategical decisions on time enabling the management team in operating the organizational issues in an effective and efficient manner. As the staff members of SAP-Bangladesh invested their full efforts with hard work, sincerity and dedication in achieving the organizational goal and objectives, I am also thankful to them.



Md. Delwar Hossain
Executive Director
South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh



Executive Summary

South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh (SAP-Bangladesh) is a national level NGO devoted to promote the socio-economic condition of the poor, vulnerable and marginalized people in Bangladesh since its inception in 1984. During the last 39 years since its inception, SAP-Bangladesh has been providing rights and needs based services to the targeted communities of the country facing a lot of challenges in an efficient manner with tremendous support from the local administration and communities. Despite the natural disasters and manmade crisis situations, the organization has been providing necessary supports to address the needs of the community people with significant success through implementation of the integrated sustainable development programs.

The targeted community people faced a lot of challenges in the reporting year in making-up the losses resulted due to post Covid situation. When the people were struggling in overcoming the post Covid situation, the war between Russia and Ukraine made the livelihoods of the people of the world unstable, uncertain and miserable. Due to continual effects of post Covid situation and war between Russia and Ukraine, livelihood status of the people in Bangladesh was the same as other countries. They had to face the problems and challenges with their own efforts and support from the government and non-government organizations. SAP-Bangladesh played a supportive role besides the government efforts with its planned development activities in the reporting year 2022-2023.

The government of Bangladesh has taken several efforts to ensure mitigation of different crisis situations. As a development organization, SAP-Bangladesh extended all possible efforts in supporting the the people in its program areas so as to make them capable to keeping their life moving.

In the reporting year, SAP-Bangladesh implemented a total of 9 programs/projects in the targeted 7 Districts of Bangladesh such as cyclone prone southern coastal belt of Patuakhali, Barguna, Bhola and Bagerhat Districts; slum areas of Dhaka city and flood prone char areas of Manikganj and Sirajganj Districts covering the major sectors of Microfinance,

Education, Health, Community Development, Livelihood Development, Early Childhood Development (ECD), Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development, Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR), Child Rights Protection & Development, Youth Economic Empowerment (YEE), Social Empowerment, Alternative Education in Emergency, Forecast-based Early Action in Emergency, etc.

The Micro Finance Program is a major integrated livelihood development intervention of SAP-Bangladesh. The organization started this program in 1987 with a view “to alleviating poverty and ensuring socio-economic development of disadvantaged people, especially women”. In the reporting year, the organization implemented the program through 26 branches focusing the cyclone-prone remotest southern coastal belt of Patuakhali, Barguna and Bagerhat Districts, and northern flood-prone areas of Sirajganj and Manikganj District, and slum areas of Dhaka city covering a total of 32,590 direct beneficiaries and 123,570 indirect beneficiaries. In the reporting year, a total amount of BDT 122,15,44,000 was disbursed to the group members under rural microcredit, urban microcredit, micro-credit for ultra-poor, agriculture support microcredit, seasonal credit support for agriculture, financial support to take lease of agricultural land for earning more income through cultivation, etc. with funding support from Palli-Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), Anukul Foundation and own source of the organization. Total outstanding at the end of the reporting year 2022-2023 was BDT 70,03,41,053.

The ENRICH Program has been implemented in Panpatti Union of Galachipa Upazila under Patuakhali District since 2010 with financial and technical support from PKSF on the basis of one union, one partner organization with a view “to ensuring human dignity and freedom by gradually reducing poverty in a sustainable manner and best possible utilization of available resources and capabilities of the poor”. The program was implemented covering the development sectors of Health & Nutrition, Education, Community Development and Livelihood Development. This is an integrated sustainable development program

including a credit support package since the inception of the program. In the reporting year, total number of direct beneficiaries of the program was 18,237. The ultra poor households are eligible to receive the credit support. These households have extreme need to receive the loan for developing their livelihoods and they are interested as well to receive the loan.

The Livelihood Development Program for the Elderly People (LDPEP) has been implemented in Panpatti Union of Galachipa Upazila under Patuakhali District in partnership with and support from PKSF since October 2018 with a view “to ensuring safe, poverty-free, dignifying, peaceful and healthy life for the elderly people”. In the reporting year, the program provided support to address the needs of 1,320 elderly people of all the 14 villages in Panpatti Union.

SAP-Bangladesh started “Sponsorship Program (SP)” in Barguna Sadar and Bhola Sadar Upazilas in September 2017 in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh. The program was undertaken with a view to addressing the needs of the disadvantaged sponsored children of Plan International Bangladesh and their families addressing the issues of child rights & protection, quality inclusive education, sexual reproductive health & rights, youth economic empowerment and DRR. During the reporting period, the program provided support to 24,629 disadvantaged sponsored children and their families.

SAP-Bangladesh has been implementing the “Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) Project” in 5 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh since October 2019. The project was undertaken with a view to supporting all children under eight years especially girls to develop their full potential, free from discriminatory and limiting attitudes, practices and expectations based on gender, ability and other identities. During the reporting period, a total of 10,241 beneficiaries directly and 17,298 beneficiaries indirectly got support from the project.

The Bangladesh-Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project has been implemented in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh in Barguna Sadar Upazila since August 2020. The project is

covering the major areas of SRHR, Education, Youth Economic Empowerment, and Social Empowerment. Being vulnerable for child marriage, all the 10 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila came under this project. A total of 25,237 people directly and 20,000 people indirectly benefited from the project.

SAP-Bangladesh has been implementing the “Innovation Sprint Project” in 5 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh since November 2022. The objective of the project is “to ensuring that girls are equally treated by parents and caregivers in early childhood age”. A total of 1,650 people directly and 4,848 people indirectly benefited from the project.

SAP-Bangladesh has been implementing the “Strengthening Forecast-based Early Actions in Cyclone Prone coastal regions in Bangladesh (STEP) Project” in 2 Unions such as Patharghata Sadar and Charduan of Patharghata Upazila under Barguna District since July 2021 in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh. The purpose of the project is “to improving local DRM governance by strengthening institutions and communities in identifying and managing risks through Forecast-based Actions (FbA)”. In the reporting year, a total of 7,320 people directly and 6,552 people indirectly benefited from the project.

SAP-Bangladesh made a tremendous achievement in observing different national and international days like, 47th Martyrdom Anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Great Martyr’s Day and International Mother Language Day, International Women’s Day, International Girls’ Child Day, International Disaster Risk Reduction Day, International Day of Families, World Day against Child Labor (WDACL), etc. The organization with its own source of fund distributed bicycles to the winning women football team of Barguna Sadar Upazila through a ceremony that was very much appreciated by the participating Upazila officials including the Upazila Nirbahi Officer, other NGO representatives and local elites in the ceremony.

The interventions of the above programs implemented by SAP-Bangladesh in the reporting year covered a total of 1,21,224 direct beneficiaries (Female-75,871 and Male-45353) and 2,60,761 indirect beneficiaries in the targeted areas in Bangladesh.

Chapter-2

Governance of SAP-Bangladesh

2. Governance of SAP-Bangladesh

SAP-Bangladesh has a General Body which exercises supreme authority in running the organization. The General Body comprises 15 (fifteen) members from among the civil society members, development activists and entrepreneurs of whom one third constitutes women members.

SAP-Bangladesh has a Board of Directors to manage the affairs of the organization. The Board of Directors is responsible for determining the direction and scope of the activities of the organization as well as the appointment of the Executive Director. It has also the responsibility to approve projects. The Board of Directors exercises financial control over the activities of the organization. The Board of Directors consists of 9 (nine) members including at least 2 (two) women members. The General Body members of the organization elect the Board of Directors in the Annual General Meeting (AGM) from among the General Body members. No paid official or employee of the organization shall be a member

of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director by virtue of position is the Secretary of the Board of Directors. S/he is not a member of the General Body and Board of Directors, and has no voting power. The members of the Board of Directors elect three office-bearers: one Chairperson, one Vice-Chairperson and one Treasurer from among themselves.

The Board of Directors holds regular meetings to decide on the policies of the organization. The management and implementation of the policies and programs of the organization vests on the Executive Director. S/he is authorized to sign agreements with any party for the purpose of official business including project-related funding agreements with donors, loan agreements with banks and other non-banking financial institutions for availing loans, leases etc. The Executive Director is responsible to the Board of Directors for all his/her actions. The Board of Directors holds at least one regular meeting in each quarter of a financial year.

2.1 Current General Body

SN	Name	Position	SN	Name	Position
1	Muhammed Kamal Uddin	Chairperson	8	Salma Yasmin	Member
2	Prof. Dr. Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah	Vice-Chairperson	9	Ruhi Das	Member
			10	Nasir Uddin	Member
3	Fayzun Nessa	Treasurer	11	Abdul Karim	Member
4	Abdul Majid Mallik	Member	12	Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury	Member
5	Aroma Dutta	Member	13	Md. Jahurul Islam	Member
6	Nilufar Alam Daisy	Member	14	Sultana Razia	Member
7	Md. Habibullah Bahar	Member	15	Md. Shahidul Islam	Member

2.2 Current Board of Directors

SN	Name	Position	Status
1	Muhammed Kamal Uddin	Chairperson	Chief Executive, Association for Realization of Basic Needs (ARBAN); and long experience in working with other National NGOs.
2	Prof. Dr. Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah	Vice-Chairperson	Grade-I Professor, Department of Public Administration, Dhaka University; Former Vice-Chancellor of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur; and Former Pro-Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP).
3	Fayzun Nessa	Treasurer	Freelance Consultant, and long experience in working with UNICEF Bangladesh; International and National NGOs.
4	Aroma Dutta	Member	Advisor of PRIP Trust; Member of present (11th) Parliament of Bangladesh; Former Lecturer of Department of Sociology of Dhaka University; Senate Member of Dhaka University; Senate Member of National University of Bangladesh; Board Member of Red Crescent Society of Bangladesh; and long experience in working with UN Agencies; National and International NGOs.
5	Abdul Majid Mallik	Member	Freelance Consultant and retired Program Director of Caritas Bangladesh.
6	Nilufar Alam Daisy	Member	Freelance Consultant and long experience in working with UNICEF Bangladesh; National and International NGOs.
7	Salma Yasmin	Member	Social worker and long experience in working with CARE International Bangladesh.
8	Md. Habibullah Bahar	Member	Executive Director of Manab Mukti Sangstha (MMS) and long experience in working with other National and International NGOs.
9	Ruhi Das	Member	Executive Director of BASTOB and long experience in working with other National and International NGOs.
10	Md. Delwar Hossain	Executive Director & Secretary	Long experience in working with CARE-International Bangladesh and Manab Mukti Sangstha in different senior positions.

2.3 Photographs of Current Board of Directors



Muhammed Kamal Uddin
Chairperson



Prof. Dr. Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah,
Vice-Chairperson



Fayzun Nessa, Treasurer



Aroma Dutta, Member



Abdul Majid Mallik, Member



Nilufar Alam Daisy, Member



Salma Yasmin, Member



Md. Habibullah Bahar, Member



Ruhi Das, Member



Md. Delwar Hossain
Executive Director & Secretary

2.4 General Body Members since inception in 1984

SN	Name	SN	Name
1	Dr. Mahmuda Islam	25	Mohammad Jahangir*
2	Sigma Huda	26	Shaikh A. Halim *
3	Sir Fazle Hasan Abed*	27	Taleya Rehman
4	Mohammad Ataur Rahman*	28	Nasir Uddin
5	Rahat Uddin Ahmed	29	Emranul Huq Chowdhury
6	Muhammed Kamal Uddin	30	Professor Dr. Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah
7	Syed Abdul Latif Dewan	31	Abdul Majid Mallik
8	Mohammad Mozammel Haque	32	Dr. Milon Bikash Paul*
9	Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmed	33	Sukhendra Kumar Sarkar
10	Dr. Hameeda Hossain	34	Abdul Karim
11	Salma Khan	35	Dr. Nazmunnesa Mahtab
12	Quazi Faruque Ahmed	36	Parveen Mahmud
13	Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed	37	Sheepa Hafiza
14	Jeffrey S. Pereira*	38	Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury
15	Taherunnessa Abdullah	39	Aroma Dutta
16	Shireen S. Mainuddin	40	Kabita Bose
17	Mashuda Shafali	41	Jahurul Islam
18	S. M. A. Rashid	42	Fayzun Nessa
19	Sultana Kamal	43	Sutana Razia
20	Tahera Yasmin	44	Nilufar Alam Daisy
21	Sofia Islam	45	Md. Habibullah Bahar
22	M. A. Zaman	46	Md. Shahidul Islam
23	Asrukana Das*	47	Salma Yasmin
24	Harun-Ur-Rashid	48	Ruhi Das

*Deceased

2.5 Members of Board of Directors since inception in 1984

SN	Name	SN	Name
1	Dr. Mahmuda Islam	22	Harun-Ur-Rashid
2	Sigma Huda	23	Shaikh A. Halim *
3	Sir Fazle Hasan Abed*	24	Taleya Rehman
4	Mohammad Ataur Rahman*	25	Emranul Huq Chowdhury
5	Rahat Uddin Ahmed	26	Professor Dr. Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah
6	Muhammed Kamal Uddin	27	Abdul Majid Mallik
7	Syed Abdul Latif Dewan	28	Dr. Milon Bikash Paul *
8	Mohammad Mozammel Haque	29	Sukhendra Kumar Sarkar
9	Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmed	30	Abdul Karim
10	Dr. Hameeda Hossain	31	Dr. Nazmunnesa Mahtab
11	Salma Khan	32	Parveen Mahmud
12	Quazi Faruque Ahmed	33	Sheepa Hafiza
13	Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed	34	Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury
14	Jeffrey S. Pereira*	35	Aroma Dutta
15	Taherunnessa Abdullah	36	Jahurul Islam
16	Shireen S. Mainuddin	37	Fayzun Nessa
17	Mashuda Shafali	38	Nilufar Alam Daisy
18	S.M.A. Rashid	39	Md. Habibullah Bahar
19	Nasir Uddin	40	Salma Yasmin
20	M.A. Zaman	41	Ruhi Das
21	Asrukana Das*		

*Deceased

2.6 Executive Directors since inception in 1984

SN	Name	Duration
1	Mohammed Mozammel Haque	29 March 1984 to 31 August 1987
2	Syed Nurul Alam*	01 September 1987 to 01 April 2016
3	Abdul Karim **	02 April 2016 to 19 July 2016
4	Md. Delwar Hossain	20 July 2016 to

*Deceased, **Acting responsibility

Chapter-3

Geographic Coverage

3.1 Location Map of SAP-Bangladesh

The working districts in the reporting year 2022-2023 and previous working districts of SAP-Bangladesh since its inception in 1984 are shown in the following map of Bangladesh.



3.2 Working Area of SAP-Bangladesh

SAP-Bangladesh is a national level NGO mandated to work all over Bangladesh for the public causes and interests. During the reporting period, the organization implemented

a total of 9 projects/programs through 44 offices including head office and training center in Dhaka, 8 Area Offices, 26 Branch Offices and 9 Project/Program Offices as follows:

District	Name of Upazilas/Area	# of Unions/Areas	Type and # of Offices
Dhaka	Dhaka City and Savar	Mirpur, Mohammadpur, Agargaon, Pallobi, Adabar, Jamghara, Fulbaria = 7	6 Offices Head Office and Training Center in Dhaka-1, Area Office-1, Branch Office-3 and Program Office-1.
Manikganj	Singair	Dholla = 1	1 Branch Office
Sirajganj	Sirajganj Sadar, Belkuchi, Chowhali, Ullapara, Shahjampur, Rayganj, Kamarkhand	44 Unions	11 Offices Area Office-2 and Branch Office-9
Patuakhali	Galachipa, Dashmina, Rangabali, and Patuakhali Sadar	45 Unions	15 Offices Area Office-2, Branch Office-11 and Project/Program Offices-2
Barguna	Barguna Sadar and Patharghata	12 Unions	6 Offices Area Office-1 and Project Office-5
Bhola	Bhola Sadar	7 Unions	2 Offices Area Office-1 and Project Office-1
Bagerhat	Bagerhat Sadar	9 Unions	3 Offices Area Office-1 and Branch Office-2
Total: 7	18	125	44 Offices



ED visited a group of MFP under Rangabali Area of Patuakhali District

Chapter-4

SAP-Bangladesh at a Glance

4.1 SAP-Bangladesh in Brief

SAP-Bangladesh is a national NGO established in 1984 to promote the socio-economic condition of the poorer section of the community in Bangladesh. The organization is one of the key actors in the development field in Bangladesh. It worked for building capacity of the small and mid-level NGOs and promoting rural development in Bangladesh by executing pro-poor projects/programs. It began its operation in Bangladesh as a funding agency for local NGOs who were not capable of attracting funding from donors on their own competency. In the last 39 years, SAP-Bangladesh provided technical, financial and capacity building support to more than 350 NGOs in 37 districts covering all the divisions of the country.

SAP-Bangladesh has made a major policy shift in its operating role in the year 2012. Under the new policy, SAP-Bangladesh abandoned the role of a funding agency and decided to operate as an implementing organization in partnership with and support from Government of Bangladesh, UN agencies and national and international organizations.

Vision of SAP-Bangladesh

SAP-Bangladesh envisions a sustainable, empowered and pluralistic Bangladesh where human rights are protected, the poor live in dignity, peace and hope, and everyone has access to health-care, education, and all necessary public services.

Mission Statement

SAP-Bangladesh believes in sustainable livelihoods development of the poor, that can be achieved through long-term and holistic approaches to program implementation. The process of poverty reduction can be enhanced through strengthening the capacity of local government and civil society organizations. SAP-Bangladesh strategically designs integrated programs to address the specific needs of the poor focusing remote, coastal, and other disadvantaged areas in Bangladesh by taking into

account the capabilities of the community people and associated stakeholders. SAP-Bangladesh makes 'right based' as well as 'service oriented' approaches to development that enhance the sense of ownership and responsibility among the program participants and lead to program sustainability. Organizational changes through creative initiatives, innovations, and review of the programs are a continuous process based on past learning and upcoming opportunities.

Goal

Bring about sustainable socio-economic changes in the livelihoods of the disadvantaged groups in Bangladesh by strengthening the capacity of community people and empowering the grassroots.

Objectives

- Accelerate integrated self-reliant and long-term development programs in Bangladesh;
- Carry out advocacy towards raising voices of the extreme poor, women, children, persons with disability, deprived, and the marginalized group of people towards raising voices and establishing human rights;
- Address the environmental issues in terms of climate change and global warming;
- Educate and support the disadvantaged people for achieving their social, economic, and political rights;
- Strengthen institutional capacities of the grassroots' organizations and facilitate the sustainable community development process;
- Contribute to reduce the mortality and morbidity rate and communicable diseases in Bangladesh; and
- Strengthen the capacity-building process of local NGOs for improvement of their quality and bringing them in mainstream development.

Core Values:

- Belief in people's capacity, human dignity, and social justice;
- Honoring cultural, ethnicity, religious, and spiritual diversity;
- Respecting and promoting positive relationship across boundaries;
- Respecting gender sensitivity;
- Practicing Good Governance;
- Belief and confidence in the creative potentials of the people;
- Proactive and pro-people approach to development;
- Maintaining cost-effectiveness;
- Promoting professionalism;
- Maintaining transparency and accountability;
- Practicing honesty and integrity;
- Ensuring people's participation;
- Commitment to attain professional excellence;
- Promoting pollution-free environment;
- Bottom-up and top-down accountability; and
- Team work for building ownership.

4.2 Legal Status of SAP-Bangladesh

SAP-Bangladesh has its registration under the NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB), Society Act XX1 of 1860, Micro-Credit Regulatory Authority (MRA), National Board of Revenue (NBR) and VAT Registering Authority, Dhaka as follows:

Registering Authority	Registration Number	Date of Registration
NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB)	156	29. 03.1984
Societies Act. XX1 of 1860	S-3177(142)/2003	03.06.2003
Micro-Credit Regulatory Authority	00452-03124-00302	20.07.2008
National Board of Revenue (NBR)	TIN # 331033761232/circle-101 (Companies, Dhaka)	04.02.2014
VAT Registering Authority, Dhaka	17081033164	07.07.2014



GGE Project distributed cash grant to the poor students for preventing drop out from School/Madrassa

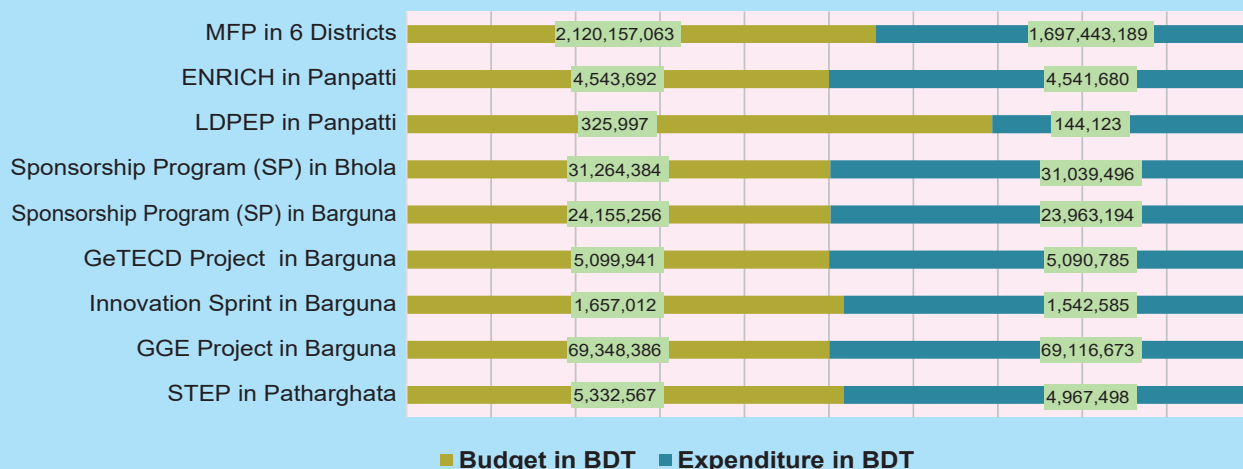
4.3 Project Wise Budget & Expenditure in 2022-2023

SN	Project	Development Partner	Budget in BDT	Expenditure in BDT	Direct Beneficiary			Indirect Beneficiary
					Male	Female	Total	
1	Micro Finance Program (MFP)	PKSF and Anukul Foundation	2,120,157,063	1,697,443,189	2,552	30,038	32,590	123,570
2	Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of Poor Households (ENRICH) Program	PKSF/Own	4,543,692	4,541,680	10,082	8,155	18,237	16,125
3	Livelihood Development Program for Elderly People (LDPEP)	PKSF/Own	325,997	144,123	652	668	1,320	4,590
4	Sponsorship Programme (SP) Bhola	Plan International Bangladesh	31,264,384	31,039,496	5,475	4,817	10,292	20,584
5	Sponsorship Program (SP) in Barguna	Plan International Bangladesh	24,155,256	23,963,194	6,462	7,875	14,337	47,194
6	Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) Project in Barguna	Plan International Bangladesh	5,099,941	5,090,785	5,360	4,881	10,241	35,620
8	Innovation Sprint Component in Barguna	Plan International Bangladesh	1,657,012	1,542,585	1,226	424	1,650	4,848
7	Bangladesh-Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project in Barguna	Plan International Bangladesh	69,348,386	69,116,673	12,164	13,073	25,237	20,000
9	Strengthening Forecast-based Early Actions in Cyclone Prone coastal regions in Bangladesh (STEP)	Plan International Bangladesh	5,332,567	496,7498	1,380	5,940	7,320	22,530
Total			2,261,884,298	1,837,849,223	45,353	75,871	121,224	295,061

Justification for under expenditure:

1. In case of LDPEP, expenditure was 44.21%, because a significant amount was allocated in the budget for funeral of dead body that was not required to spend in the reporting year.
2. In case of MFP, expenditure was 80.06%, because we couldn't go for bank loan in the reporting year due to pending approval of Board of Directors.

Project/Program Wise Budget & Expenditure in 2022-2023



4.4 Project Wise Staff and Volunteers in 2022-2023

SN	Project	Staff			Paid Volunteer			Non-paid Volunteer			Total Volunteer
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	Micro Finance Program (MFP)	140	32	172	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of Poor Households (ENRICH) Program	3	3	6	0	43	43	99	136	235	278
3	Livelihood Development Program for Elderly People (LDPEP)	0	0	0	0	0	0	133	86	219	219
4	Sponsorship Programme (SP) in Bhola	21	13	34	59	575	634	504	756	1,260	1,894
5	Sponsorship Program (SP) in Barguna	15	9	24	49	271	320	377	685	1,062	1,382
6	Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (Ge-TECD) Project in Barguna	3	3	6	0	100	100	104	116	220	320
7	Innovation Sprint Project in Barguna	2	4	6	0	30	30	0	0	0	30
8	Bangladesh-Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project in Barguna	31	18	49	95	165	260	35	05	40	300
9	Strengthening Forecast-based Early Actions in Cyclone Prone coastal regions in Bangladesh (STEP)	5	2	7	1	5	6	0	0	0	6
Grand Total		220	84	304	204	1,189	1,393	1,252	1,784	3,036	4,429



Sponsorship Program Distributed Education Materials to the Pre-school Children

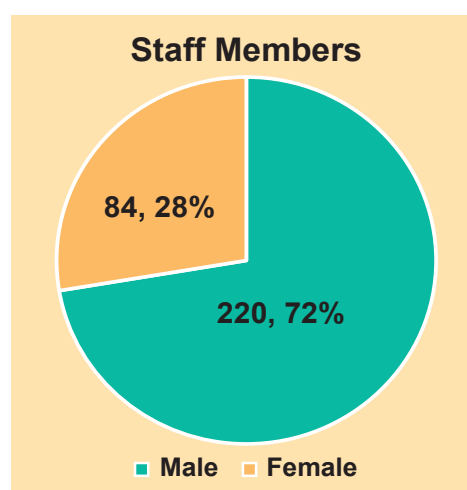
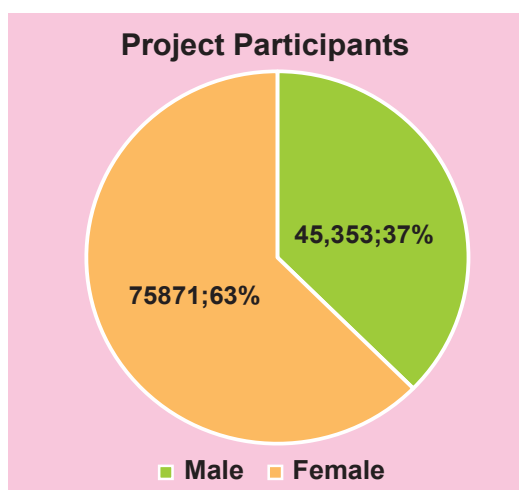
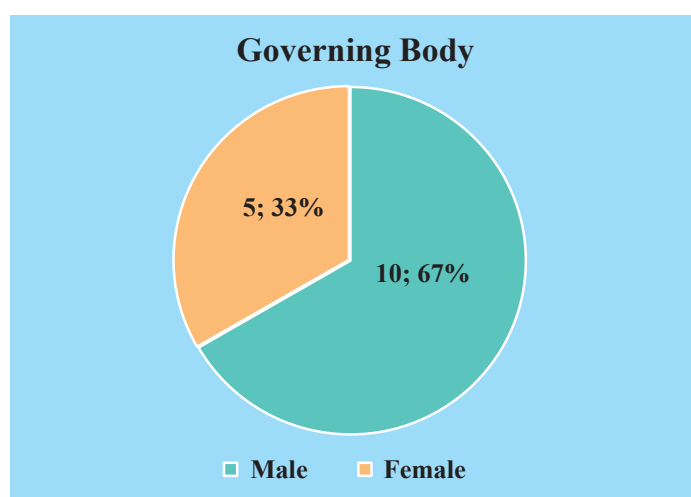
4.5 Gender Segregation

SAP-Bangladesh is a gender-sensitive organization. The organization considers gender as a cross-cutting issue in designing, planning and implementing the projects/programs and its organizational issues as well. SAP-Bangladesh since its inception implemented and is implementing a number of projects/

programs addressing the gender needs of the women, men, youths and children in its working areas covering the most vulnerable areas of Bangladesh. The following chart shows gender-segregated data in the governing body, staff members and project participants.

Governing Body, Staff Members and Project Participants

Particulars	Quantity in Number	
	Male	Female
Governing Body	10	5
Staff Members	220	84
Project Participants	45353	75871



Chapter-5

Program Interventions in 2022-2023

5. Program Interventions of SAP-Bangladesh in 2022-2023

SAP-Bangladesh is a national level NGO devoted to promoting the socio-economic condition of the poorer section of the community in Bangladesh since its inception in 1984. In the reporting year, SAP-Bangladesh implemented a total of 9 Projects/Programs such as Micro Finance Program in 6 Districts; Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capability of Poor Household Towards Elimination of their poverty (ENRICH) Program in Patuakhali District; Livelihood Development Program for the Elderly People (LDPEP) in Patuakhali District; Sponsorship Program (SP) in Barguna sadar and Bhola Sadar Upazilas; Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) Project in Barguna Sadar Upazila; Bangladesh-Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project in Barguna Sadar Upazila; Innovation Sprint Project in

Barguna Sadar Upazila; and Strengthening Forecast-based Early Actions in Cyclone Prone coastal regions in Bangladesh (STEP) Project in Patharghata Upazila.

The above projects/programs were implemented in the reporting year covering the major sectors of Microfinance, Education, Health, Community Development, Livelihood Development, Early Childhood Development (ECD), Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development, Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR), Child Rights Protection & Development, Women Empowerment, Youth Economic Empowerment (YEE), Social Empowerment (SE), Forecast-based Early Action in Emergency, and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Program/Project and Sector wise plan and achievements are appended as follows.

5.1 Micro Finance Program (MFP)

Micro Finance Program (MFP) is a major livelihood development intervention of SAP-Bangladesh. The organization started this program from February 01, 1987, with its own fund through a branch in Galachipa Upazila under Patuakhali District situated in the remotest cyclone-prone southern coastal belt of Bangladesh. The organization has been expanding its Micro Finance Program working area with technical and financial support successively from PKSf since October 03, 2004 and from Anukul Foundation since November 26, 2008. The organization also received a loan fund from Mutual Trust Bank Limited in November 2017 that was reimbursed by September 30, 2020. Hope International Development Agency (HIDA) also provided a non-refundable grant fund to the program in

July 2013. SAP-Bangladesh opened two new branches with that grant fund. In the reporting year 2022-2023, the organization implemented the program interventions through 26 branches with special focus on the cyclone-prone remotest coastal belt of Patuakhali, Barguna and Bagerhat Districts, and flood-prone areas of Sirajganj and Manikganj District, and slum areas of Dhaka city covering a total of 32,590 direct beneficiaries (Female-30,038 and Male-2,552) and 123,570 indirect beneficiaries.

The goal of the Microfinance Program

The goal of the Microfinance Program is “to alleviate poverty and ensure socio-economic development of disadvantaged people, especially women”.

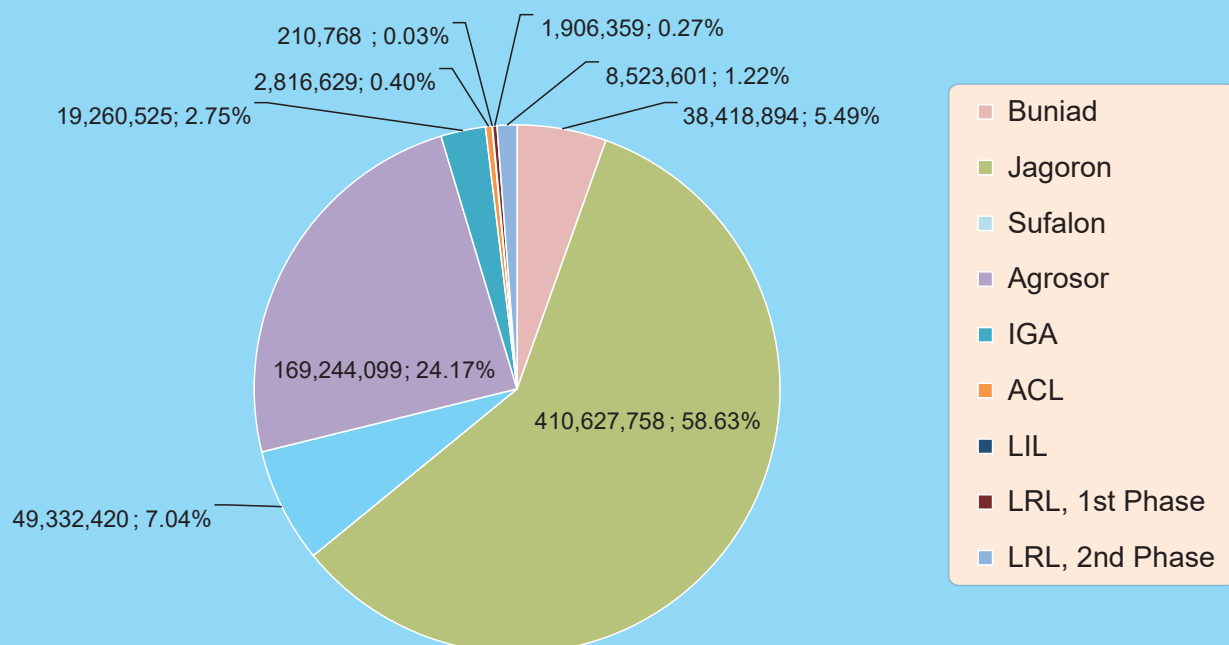
Microfinance Program at a Glance as of 30 June 2023

Description	Status	Description	Status
Number of Branches	26	Number of borrowers	24,213
Number of Districts covered	6	cumulative number of borrower members	1,90,844
Number of Upazilas covered	20	Total disbursement in the year	122,15,44,000
Number of Unions covered	121	Cumulative Disbursement (BDT)	802,44,58,000
Number of villages covered	458	Loan outstanding/Portfolio (BDT)	70,03,41,053
Number of staffs involved in operation	172	Savings Balance (BDT)	22,48,48,907
Total number of groups/ <i>samities</i>	1,571	Current Recovery Rate	98.10%
Total number of members	32,590	Cumulative Recovery Rate	99.15%

In the reporting year 2022-2023, a total amount of BDT 122,15,44,000 was disbursed to the group members under rural microcredit, urban microcredit, micro-credit for ultra-poor, agriculture support microcredit, seasonal loan for agriculture, financial support to lease agricultural land for earning income through cultivation etc.

SAP-Bangladesh operated the Micro Finance Program in the reporting year with financial support from *Palli-Karma Sahayak Foundation* (PKSF), Anukul Foundation, Insurance Fund, Provident Fund, Gratuity Fund, General Fund, Retained Earnings and Members' Savings.

Product Wise Outstanding in 2022-2023

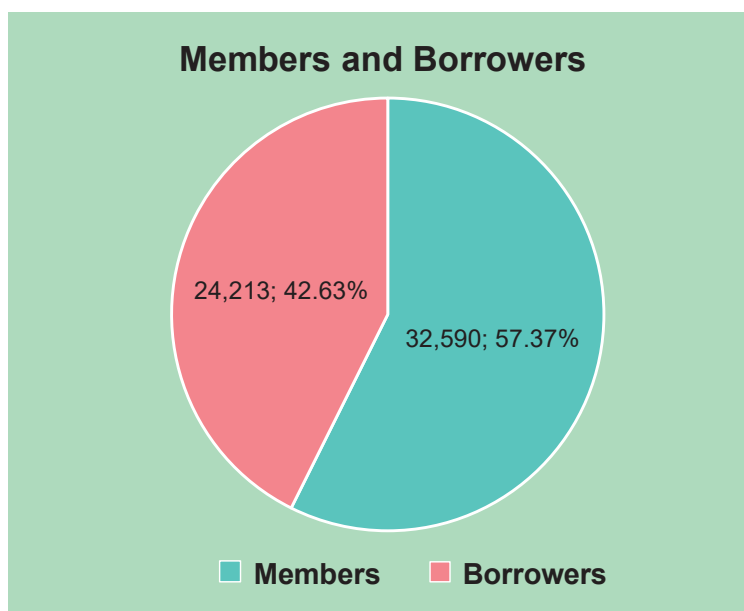


Members and Borrowers:

The members of the groups are at the core of all kinds of field level operations of SAP-Bangladesh. As of June 30, 2023, the total members were 32,590 of whom 24,213 were borrowers. Of the total members, 92% were women and 8% men.

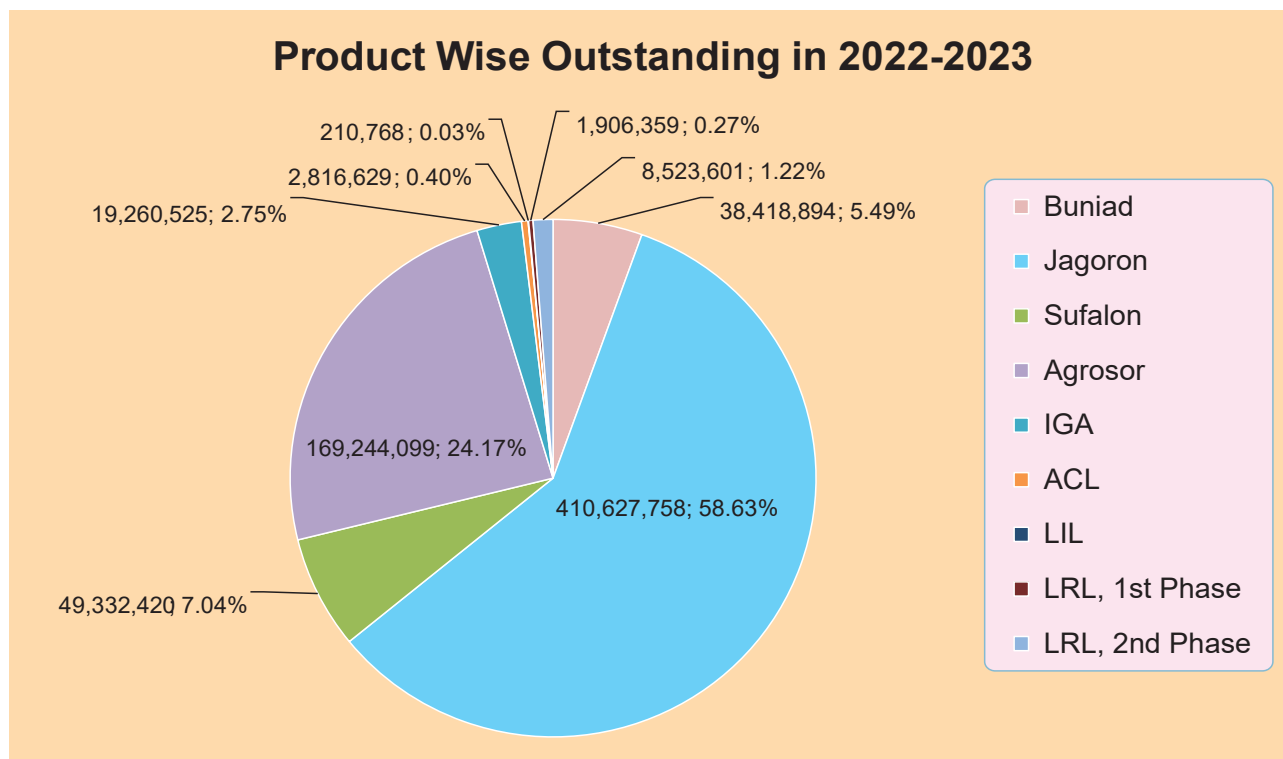
Members' Savings:

SAP-Bangladesh initiated the savings schemes considering the member's ability and situation they live in. The General Savings, Voluntary Savings and Long-Term Savings products are available for creating savings habits of the poor group members. With steady growth, as of June 30, 2023, savings of the members stood at BDT 22,48,48,907.



Loan Disbursement and Outstanding:

As of June 30, 2023, cumulative loan disbursement to the borrowers was BDT 802,44,58,000. In the reporting year, the total amount of loan disbursement to the borrowers was BDT 122,15,44,000 which was 28.96% higher than the previous year. As of June 30, 2023, the amount of loan outstanding was BDT 70,03,41,053.



Types of Loan:

SAP-Bangladesh provides loan to the program participants on the basis of their category and loan size. Loan products are categorized as *Buniad*, *Jagoron*, *Sufalon*, *Agrashar*, Income Generating Activity (IGA), Asset Creation Loan (ACL), Livelihood Improvement Loan (LIL) and Livelihood Restoration Loan (LRL).

***Buniad*/Ultra Poor Loan:**

SAP-Bangladesh is implementing 'Buniad' loan



product for the ultra-poor people. Under '*Buniad*', the organization is providing flexible microcredit to ultra-poor people. *Buniad* borrowers utilize the credit fund for small business, livestock rearing and other income generation purposes. Mostly the *buniad* borrowers are women. The *Buniad* program widely covers the program area. In addition to the financial service, SAP-Bangladesh is also providing different non-financial services like primary health care and technical services for supporting the income-generating activities of the poor people. The organization contributes to the capacity building support during disaster, training, increasing nutrition awareness and social issues through some special projects. Through *buniad* the ultra-poor people are now coming out of extreme

poverty level and being capable of sustainable income and gain human dignity as well. As of June 2023, a total of 2,764 borrowers received BDT 6,49,87,000 under *Buniad*. During the reporting period, SAP-Bangladesh disbursed BDT 6,17,62,000 and the outstanding amount was BDT 3,84,18,894. The average loan amount under this product is BDT 23,512 which helps to increase the household income of the ultra-poor people.

***Jagoron*/RMC/UMC Loan:**

Jagoron is the normal microfinance service for the rural and urban poor for different IGAs. Under this program, microcredit borrowers are encouraged to undertake family based income generating activities. *Jagoron* borrowers are distinct from rural borrowers in a number of ways. They are landless squatters and they usually take loans for small trading vulnerable to threats of eviction, they live in slums or makeshift shacks. As of June 2023, loan disbursement of SAP-Bangladesh under *Jagoron* was BDT 541,22,00,000. During the reporting period, the organization disbursed BDT 70,80,16,000 to the borrowers and outstanding amount was BDT 41,06,27,758



and as of June 30, 2023, average loan size under this program was BDT 54,296.

Sufalon/Seasonal Loan (SL):

SAP-Bangladesh started Seasonal Loan (now known as *Sufalon*) program in 2008. Seasonal Loan (*Sufalon*) has very attractive repayment flexibility that matches repayment of the loan with the income flow of various seasonal activities. Seasonal Loan is contributing significantly and successfully to various Income Generating Activities (IGAs) such as crop cultivation, livestock, fisheries, agro-forestry, agro-processing etc. The provision to repay the loan in a single installment after the sale of the product makes it very popular among the



recipients, especially those engaged in cattle fattening and crop cultivation. Marginal and small farmers are involved with agriculture cultivation like maize, paddy, potato, cow fattening, chili and vegetables are considered for a seasonal loan for enhancing their livelihood options through income generation. In the reporting year, a total of 2,515 small and marginal farmers received BDT 10,10,34,000 under this program and the loan outstanding was BD 4,93,32,420.

Agrashar/Micro Enterprises (ME) Loan:

SAP-Bangladesh extends its financial services to the progressive members for undertaking economic activities under '*Agrosor*' that require a bigger amount of capital. At present, apart from the advanced clients of other microcredit programs, the organization provides financial services to microentrepreneurs for expediting employment generation. This program is running in all the areas of the Micro Finance

Program of SAP-Bangladesh. The loan ceiling for an individual microentrepreneur is BDT



80,000 to 10,00,000 for his/her enterprise under the *Agrosor* Program. As of June 2023, 2,516 borrowers received BDT 39,62,70,000 under *Agrosor*. During the reporting period, SAP-Bangladesh disbursed BDT 29, 95, 88,000 and the loan outstanding was BDT 16,92,44,099. Each of the members received an average of BDT 1, 57,500 for his/her micro and small enterprises.

Income Generating Activities (IGA) Loan:

The Income Generating Activities (IGA) Loan is provided to the project participants for undertaking Income Generation Activities other than *Jagoron*, *Agrashar* and *Sufalon* thereby improving their livelihood status. The loan is allocated considering the current assets and capability to undertake the IGA. The availability



of technical, marketing and other facilities was required in implementing the IGA in a sustainable manner. As of June 30, 2023, total loan outstanding in the component was BDT 1,92,60,525 and during the reporting period, an amount of BDT 3,41,00,000 was disbursed.

Livelihood Improvement Loan (LIL):

Livelihood Improvement Loan is provided for the purchase of necessary equipment and for other activities related to livelihood improvement



including bearing the cost of social activities such as marriage of a daughter or son. In this case, the ceiling for a household is BDT 10,000 and the interest rate is 8% (on the basis of the declining balance method). As of June 2023, a total of BDT 4,70,000 was disbursed among 47 borrowers, where loan outstanding was BDT 2,10,768

Asset Creation Loan (ACL):

The Asset Creation Loan is designed to assist a household in acquiring any kind of productive asset. The Asset Creation Loan ceiling for a



household is BDT 30,000 and the interest rate payable is 8% (based on declining balance method). As of June 30, 2023, a total of BDT 57,75,000 was disbursed among 216 borrowers where loan outstanding was BDT 28,16,629.

Livelihood Restoration Loan (LRL):

Livelihood Restoration Loan (LRL Phase-1&2) aims to revive the economic activities of the poor affected by COVID-19 including the creation of self-employment opportunities. The following COVID-19 affected groups receive LRL loans in the rural areas:

- Agriculture and related small entrepreneurs,
- Small and cottage industry related entrepreneurs,
- Trained youth,
- Unemployed youth, and
- Foreign migrant workers.

As of June 30, 2023, a total of BDT 3,13,56,000 was disbursed among 749 borrowers where loan outstanding was BDT 1,04,29,960.



Success Story

Shahinur, a Successful Entrepreneur



Shahinur Khatun (28), Husband: Md. Khadem Ali, Village: Chhota Maharajpur, Post Office: Porjana, Upazila: Shahjadpur, District: Sirajganj. Her father was a handloom worker and the only earning member of their family. Due to his little income, he was living with his three daughters, one son and his wife in hardships. Due to extreme poverty, Shahinur only got the opportunity to study up to Class-II. After that, she worked as a handloom worker for 8 years. At that stage, Shahinur was initiated to get marriage with Md. Khadem Ali, a day laborer of her neighboring village. They were living in extreme poverty due to the low income of her husband. As life became miserable due to extreme poverty, Shahinur thought of earning herself. She came to know from a neighbor about the possibility of getting a loan on easy terms and conditions through *Hasnahena Samiti* under Microfinance Program of SAP-Bangladesh for doing income generating activities.

Later, Shahinur went to the *Hasnahena Samiti* and talked to the concerned Field Officer and got admitted to the said *Samiti* on 6 January 2014 and took the first phase of loan amounting to Taka 30,000 on 20 January 2014. With the loan

money, she bought a heifer calf with the dream of establishing a dairy farm. She was meeting the household and cow rearing expenses, and was making payment of the loan installments with her own and husband's income. She received the second phase loan on 3 December 2015 amounting to Taka 49,000 and purchased two more heifer calves. Meanwhile, her first purchased heifer calf was matured into a cow and started giving up to 10 liters of milk daily. During that time, her first son born and she left her work as a weaver to devote herself in taking care of her son, rearing cows and doing the household works. In the next two years, two of the heifer calves purchased in second round also were matured into cows and started giving milk up to 20 liters. At that time, her second son born. With her husband's income and the income from her dairy farm, Shahinur continued to manage her family happily.

During 2014 to 2023, Shahinur took loan amounting to BDT 845,000 in 8 phases and repaid all the loan installments on time. Shahinur faced a big problem as the sale of milk was stopped during the COVID-19 pandemic. To overcome the problem, she made butter and curd from milk and sold them from her own house having necessary advices of a local businessman.



Shahinur's dreams of establishing a dairy farm has now become a reality. Currently, her farm has 10 improved breed of cows from which she gets 100-120 liters of milk daily. She earns Taka 80,000 per month excluding expenses by selling milk and also earns Taka 5,00,000 by selling calves each year. With this huge income, she has built a nice house, purchased 67 decimals of land for cultivating crops and vegetables, and also has taken mortgage of 100 decimals of land for cultivating fodder for her dairy farm. Shahinur's elder son is currently studying in class-III. Shahinur is saving Taka 2,000 per month for fulfilling the future needs of her family. Shahinur dreams of giving her sons

higher education. She is planning to employ two unemployed persons of her community in her dairy farm in the near future.

In conclusion, Shahinur Khatun expressed sincere thanks and gratitude to South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh for providing financial and advisory support to Shahinur Khatun for fulfilling her dreams. She will remember this support of SAP-Bangladesh forever and will suggest her neighbors to become self-reliant with the support of this organization.

Collected by: Diponkor Mondal, Branch Manager, Shahjadpur Branch, Shahjadpur Area, Sirajganj.

5.2. Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of poor Households towards elimination of their poverty (ENRICH) Program

SAP-Bangladesh has been implementing the "Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of poor Households towards elimination of their poverty (ENRICH) Program" in Panpatti Union of Galachipa Upazila under Patuakhali District since 2010 in partnership with and support from PKSf on the basis of one union, one partner organization. The program is being implemented with a view "to ensuring human dignity and freedom by gradually reducing poverty in a sustainable manner and best possible utilization of available resources and capabilities of the poor". This is an integrated sustainable development program including a credit support package since the inception of the program. The number of direct beneficiaries of the program are 18,180 (Male 10,028 & female 8,152) in 14 villages in the Union. The ultra poor households are eligible to receive this loan. These households have extreme need to receive the loan for developing their livelihoods and they are interested as well to receive the loan.

The program is aiming to achieve the following objectives:

- Empowering the households participating in the program to work effectively to reduce their poverty on a sustained manner;
- Enabling them in the process to secure improved health and nutritional status;
- Reducing drop-out rate of school going children and illiteracy rate as well;
- Helping and creating a mechanism for them to work with relevant institutions and larger communities for effectively preparing for responses to natural disasters; and
- Putting into place a new and effective method of GO-NGO collaboration for development.

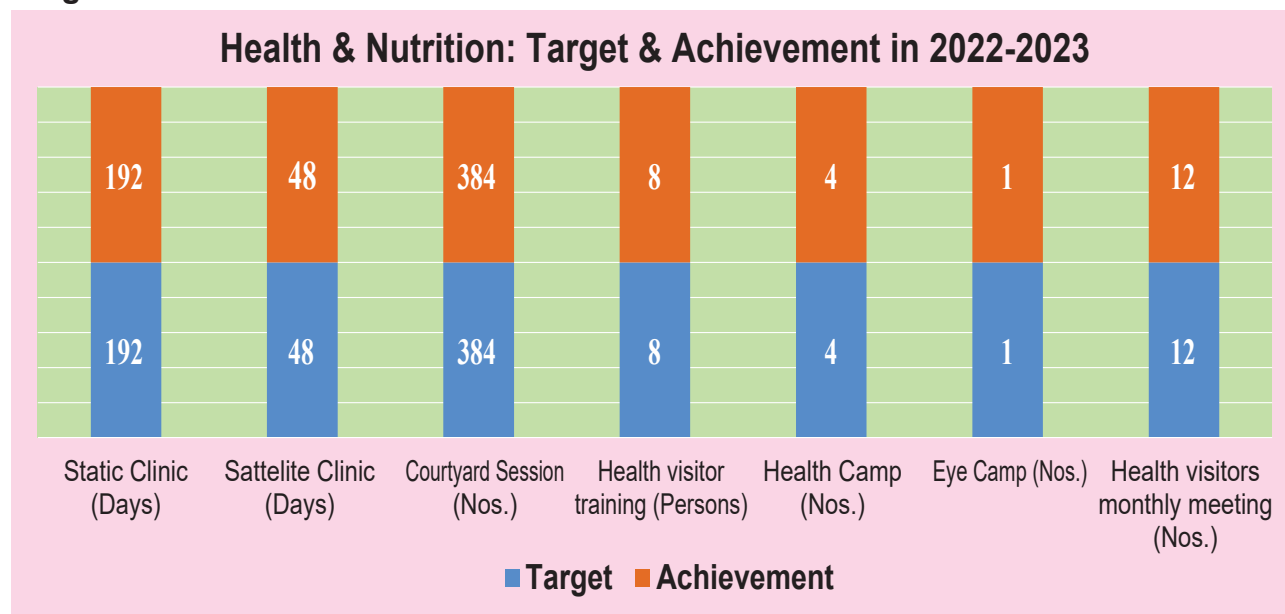
Four interventions of the program:

- Health and Nutrition
- Education
- Community development
- Livelihood

Intervention wise Target and Achievement

Health and Nutrition

Target & Achievement



Major Achievements

Static Clinic:

The ENRICH Health Officer arranged medical services at the static clinic for 16 days per month at Panpatti office. It is a curative



health service begun through static clinics to ensure reaching health services at nearly as many targeted areas as possible. Static clinic activities held during the reporting period for a

total of 192 days and 2,298 patients (Male-895 & Female-1,403) received treatment from the static clinic attended by ENRICH Health Officer.

Sattelite Clinic:

The ENRICH Health Officer and Health Visitors arranged satellite clinics fortnightly with a view to providing health services in Panpatti Union that were attended by MBBS doctors. During the reporting period, 48 satellite clinics were organized and 1,218 patients (Male-463 & Female-755) received treatment and medical advices from the sattelite clinic.

Courtyard Session:

In the reporting year, 8 health visitors conducted 384 courtyard sessions for mass awareness of the women in the community on health issues. A total of 4,112 women attended the sessions and received awareness related information on diarrhoea, nutrition, pregnancy, diabetes, blood pressure and other diseases.

Health Visitors' Training:

In the reporting year, two days training sessions were organized on health and nutrition. Doctor Mesbah Uddin of Galachipa Upazila Hospital facilitated the training sessions. A total of 8 female



Health Visitors attended the training sessions. Most of the training sessions were conducted on practical health related services that were very helpful for the health visitors in providing the health services to the targeted population.

Health Camp:

ENRICH Program has an opportunity to organize health camp in each quarter of the year to provide better health treatment to the poor by specialist doctors. During the reporting period, a total of 4 health camps were organized in four quarters by the medicine, ear, gyenee

and child specialist doctors from Barisal Medical College & Hospital. A total of 574 (Male-230 & Female-344) patients received free treatment from the health camps.

Eye Camp:

Free eye camp was organized at Panpatti Union of Galachipa Upazila where 212 eye patients (Male-85 & Female-127) were treated by eye specialists. A total of 20 patients were referred to hospital for clinical interventions. The patients went to Ispahani Islamia Eye Hospital, Barisal. A total of 20 patients' eye sights were restored successfully after cataract operations. They are very happy getting the opportunity to lead a new life.

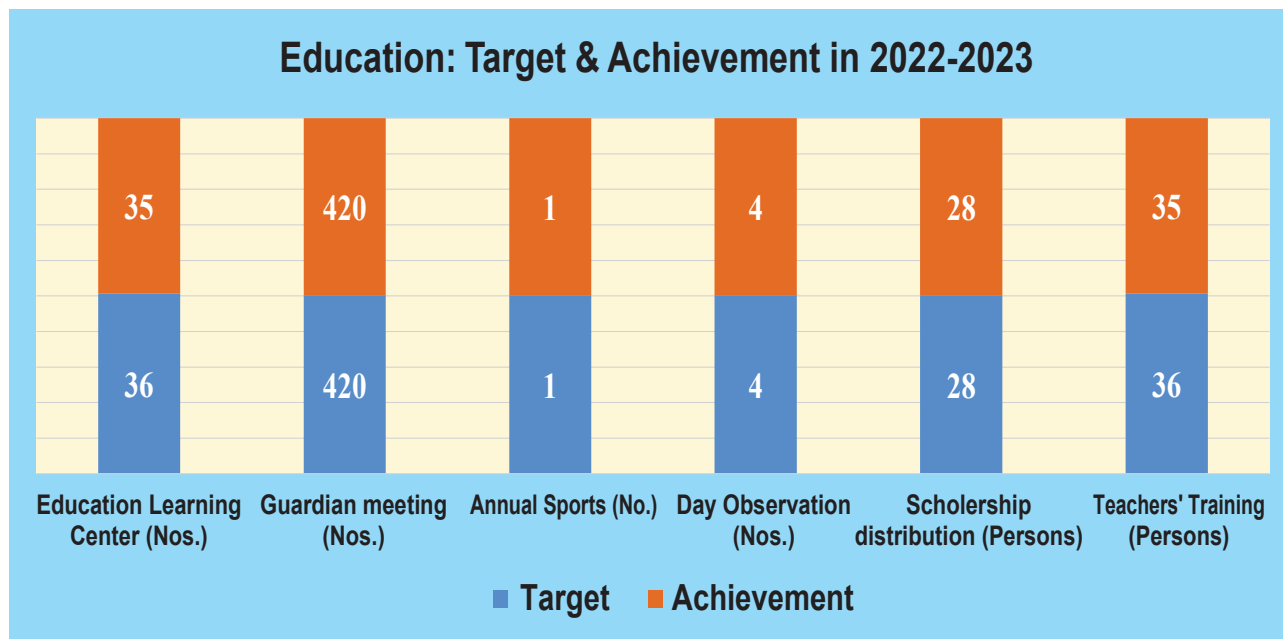
Health Visitors' Monthly Meeting:

The Health & Nutrition Component of ENRICH Program organized monthly meeting in each month of the reporting year. In the meeting, the Health Officer reviewed their monthly activities, consult the development issues on health activities, awareness raising on family planning among the fertile women and homestead gardening for fulfilling their nutritional needs. A total of 12 monthly meetings held in the reporting year. All the 8 female Health Visitors, Health Officer and Program Coordinator of ENRICH program attended the meetings.



Education

Target & Achievement



Major Achievements

Education Learning Center:

As per government policy, every child should be



enrolled and complete primary education. Due to some reasons such as lack of awareness, lack of support to complete the home tasks and poverty, dropout rate is high in Panpatti Union. With a view to addressing the problem, ENRICH program established 36 Education Learning Centers in all the 14 villages of Panpatti Union. A total of 900 children (Boys-422 & Girls-478) of Playgroup, Class-I and Class-II attended the

classes of the learning centers six days per week. The teachers of the Education Learning Centers take special care of the children who are generally slow learners. In each of the learning centers, 25-30 children are getting support and care to prepare their tasks for the next day classes.

Guardians' Meeting:

The teachers of the education learning centers monitor progress of the students and arrange feedback sessions for the guardians in the monthly meeting and advise the guardians on care of their children at home. During the



reporting period, 420 Guardians' Meetings held where 756 guardians (Male-152 & Female-604) attended the meetings.

Annual Sports for the Students of Education Learning Centers:

Sports is an important part of education for mental and physical development of the students. ENRICH program arranged a sports program with participation of all the students of 36 education learning centers. A total of 26 events were arranged for competition. The students of the education learning centers attended the Ward and Union level competitions. An enjoyable event of the sports program was football competition. The interested guardians from 36 education learning centers participated and enjoyed the event. As a part of the sports program, a prize giving ceremony was arranged. The UP Chairman, Upazila Education Officer, Teachers from different Government Primary Schools and local elite persons attended the prize giving ceremony and distributed prizes to the winning students and guardians.

Day observation:

ENRICH Program arranged to observe different National and International Days for awareness raising of the community people in the working area. In the reporting year, the program arranged International Child Day, International Mother Language Day and International Women's Day. In observing the days, colorful rallies and discussion sessions were organized at the community level. A total of 622 students and teachers from the education learning centers, youths and other community people participated the rallies and discussion sessions of whom male-237 and female-385.

Teachers' Training:

ENRICH program arranged two days fundamental training on Bangla, English and Mathematics teaching for the teachers of Education Learning Centers. Three master trainers of Galachipa Government Primary School conducted the training sessions and 36 female teachers of the Education Learning Centers participated the training sessions.



Annual Sports

Community Development

Target & Achievement



Major Achievements

Jubo Training:

In the reporting year, ENRICH Program organized 4 batches of *Jubo* training for the youths on early



marriage, child labor, discipline and women rights. A total of 25 youths attended in each of the batches. The main objective of the training was awareness building among the youths and

spread the idea in their community. A total of 100 youths (Male-58 & Female-42) attended the training from 9 wards of Panpatti Union.

Special Savings Program:

The enrolled members under this savings program were encouraged to deposit a monthly savings at least BDT 600 per month. After 2 years, the deposited amount was doubled up to a maximum amount of BDT 20,000 with contribution from the program which could be utilized for buying assets or investing in any productive activity. In the reporting year, three enrolled members received a total of BDT 86,400 on maturity of their deposits. One of them named Razia Begum invested her special savings BDT 28,800 in restaurant business. Her monthly net income is BDT 6,000-8,000 from the restaurant business. Razia thanked South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh for including her in the special savings program.

Union Coordination Meeting:

ENRICH program is giving responsibilities to the local community people through ward committees. A committee consisting of 11 members was formed to oversee the activities implemented under ENRICH program. This committee assesses social impacts and monitors the outcomes of education centers, primary community health services and other activities. During the reporting period, a total of two Union Coordination Meetings held under



the program where 84 participants (Male-51 & female-33) attended the meetings.

Ward Coordination Meeting:

Community participation is the key to sustainable social development. ENRICH Program organizes ward level coordination meeting with participation of the community people from different tiers with a view to raising their awareness so that they can claim their services from the local level service providers. In the reporting year, the program arranged 4 ward coordination meetings where 134 participants (Male-81 & Female-53) attended the meetings from different tiers of the community. In the meetings, the participants listed different problems existing at the community level. They would submit the list of the problems to the concern Union Parishad through the Union Coordination Meeting for addressing those by keeping allocation in the UP budget.

Annual Sports for the Youth Groups:

ENRICH program arranged a sports program



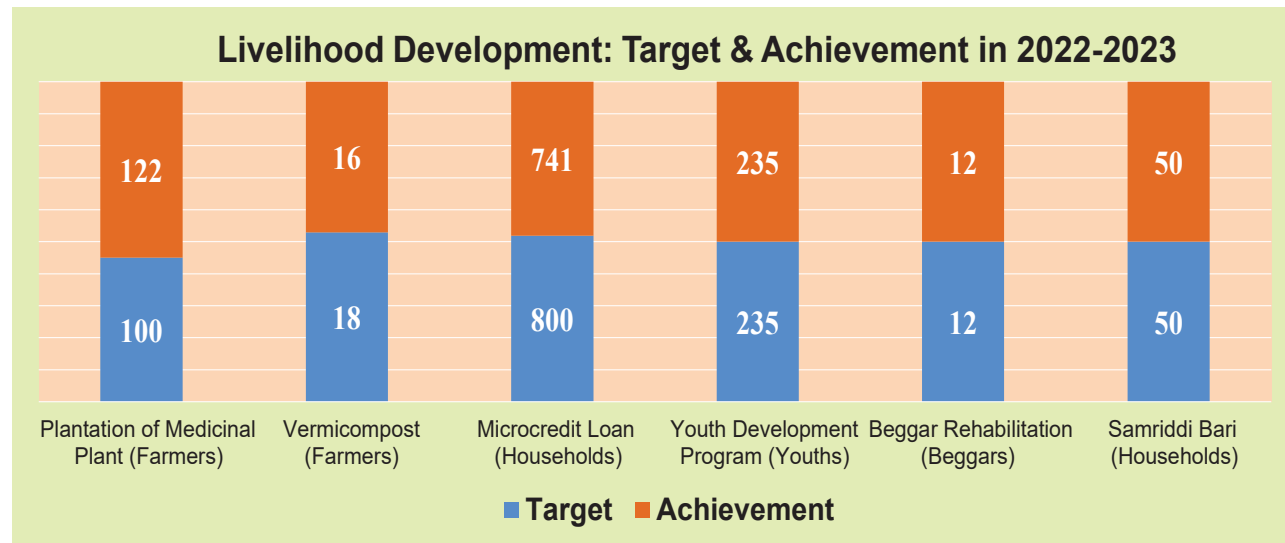
with participation of the 9 Youth Group members in Panpotti Union. Ten events for male and 10 events for female were arranged where 163 participants (Male-89 & Female-74) attended the competition. As a part of the sports program, a prize giving ceremony was arranged where the UP Chairman and local elite persons attended and distributed the prizes among the winning participants.

Jubo Union & Ward Coordination Meeting:

Youths are the vital force at the community, local and central level who ultimately take the leadership role at all these levels of a country. Considering their importance, ENRICH program is giving responsibilities to the local youths through *Jubo* Committees. Each of the *Jubo* Committees consists of 11 members to oversee the community development activities under ENRICH program. This committee assesses social impacts and monitors the outcomes of education centers, community health services and other development activities. During the reporting period, ENRICH Program organized 104 Ward Committee Meetings and 4 Union Coordination Meetings with participation of 2,164 youth group members (Male-844 & Female-1,320).

Livelihood Development

Target & Achievement



Major Achievements

Plantation of Medicinal Plants:

The program introduced the cultivation of medicinal (*bashok*) plants in the targeted Union. The local people produce *Bashok* leaves by using fallow lands available in the area. The community people were urged to cultivate *Bashok* plants. At the first stage, two nursery holders produced 1,490 saplings of *Bashok* plant and 13 beneficiaries planted those saplings. In the reporting year, 71 farmers (Male-70 & Female-1) cultivated 6,280 plants in Panpatti Union under ENRICH program and they sold 162 kg *Bashok* leaves to Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd at a price of BDT 6,480. The cultivation of medicinal plants is expanding in the area day by day to increase the supply of medicinal plants.

Vermi compost:

In the reporting year, 31 farmers produced 3,460 kg *vermi* compost that was used for their homestead vegetables cultivation. Before the installation of the *vermi* compost plant, a

day-long technical training was organized for 8 farmers with the cooperation of the Upazila



Agriculture Extension Department to develop their skills to produce *vermi* compost.

Microcredit Loan with Family Human Development Plan:

All the families of Panpatti Union are included in ENRICH Program to prepare family focused plans by identifying the specific constraints the family faces, specific expectations of spouses

and support such as advice, information, health and education, skills training, financing with its purposes, etc. to overcome the constraints and fulfill the expectations. In the reporting year, a total of 192 families developed human development plan using a prescribed format with support from the Enterprise Development Officer. In the reporting year, total loan disbursement was BDT 4,07,80,000 to 873 poor households where IGA loan was disbursed to a total of 577 poor households amounting to BDT 3,41,00,000, Livelihood Development Loan to 55 poor households amounting to BDT 5,50,000 and Asset Creation Loan to 241 poor households amounting to BDT 61,30,000.

Beggar rehabilitation:

Beggar rehabilitation is an innovative intervention under ENRICH program. A total of 12 beggars (Male-7 & Female-5) received technical training and financial support of a total amount of BDT

Samridi Bari:

In the rural areas, every household has some potential assets to develop their socioeconomic condition. But, those assets are not used properly for some reasons like lack of awareness and lack of technical knowledge. The program is providing technical support to develop 50 households with the name of 'Sambriddi Bari' in the targeted Union. These households also

12,00,000 from the program. As a result, they were able to develop their livelihoods and left begging. Now all the 12 beggars are established and sending their children to school. The



program is continuing follow up activities with all those families. All the 12 families are now well established.

received training on management of different IGAs, proper use of their own assets and monthly follow-up to ensure expected development of the households. All the 50 households are cultivating vegetables commercially and their socioeconomic condition is developing day by day. In the reporting year, 12 house households earned a total amount of BDT 1,12,000 from their homestead gardening.



Success Story

Satellite Clinic Saved Arifa's Life



Arifa Akhtar (2), Mother: Reshma Begum, Father: Md. Rajib Hossain, Village: Uttar Panpatti, Union: Panpatti, Upazila: Galachipa, District: Patuakhali. Reshma Begum with her daughter lives at the house of her old and poor day laborer father Abdul Mannan. She studied up to Class-X. She got married to Rajib Hossain of Bhaluka Upazila of Mymensingh district 4 years ago. After two years of marriage, their child Arifa Akhtar was born. After the birth, Reshma Begum and daughter Arifa were living well at the house of her day laborer husband. But, suddenly one day Rajib went away leaving his wife Reshma Begum and child Arifa Akhtar without any information and didn't come back again. Finding no other alternatives, helpless Reshma Begum took shelter at the house of her 70 years old poor and day laborer father. Finding no earning opportunity in the poor area, Reshma Begum with her daughter Arifa was passing the days starving and half-starving. As such, her daughter Arifa got malnourished for want of food.

Jafrin Begum, Health Educator of SAP-Bangladesh's ENRICH program, arranges courtyard meetings at the house of Reshma Begum's father and discusses health awareness issues with all the women at the community level. Reshma is a regular attendee of the courtyard meetings. On 15 September 2022, Reshma's daughter Arifa got fever. Reshma Begum, who had abandoned her husband, was unable to borrow money from the neighbors for the better treatment of her daughter, and took 30 Taka from her father to buy medicines for Arifa from the local market. But, even after 5-6 days of taking medicines, no improvement found in Arifa's fever. In that situation, Reshma Begum came to know from Jafrin in the courtyard meeting that on 22 September 2022, a child specialist doctor from the district town would come and provide free medical care at the satellite clinic at SAP-Bangladesh's Panpatti ENRICH office.

Reshma Begum brought her daughter Arifa at the satellite clinic where the doctor diagnosed that Arifa got typhoid. The doctor prescribed for



her and provided a few samples of medicines provided by the companies free of cost and suggested to bring Arifa back to the satellite

clinic next week. Arifa's fever gradually subsided after taking the medicines and Arifa recovered after being treated at the satellite clinic in the second and third consecutive weeks.

Reshma Begum being abandoned by her husband, neglected and starving, said, "SAP-Bangladesh's ENRICH Program's satellite clinic saved my daughter's life. It was never possible for a poor person like me to get services from

a good doctor in town. If this satellite clinic runs, many poor people like me will benefit". She thanked SAP-Bangladesh for providing free medical services to the poor people at the remote rural communities.

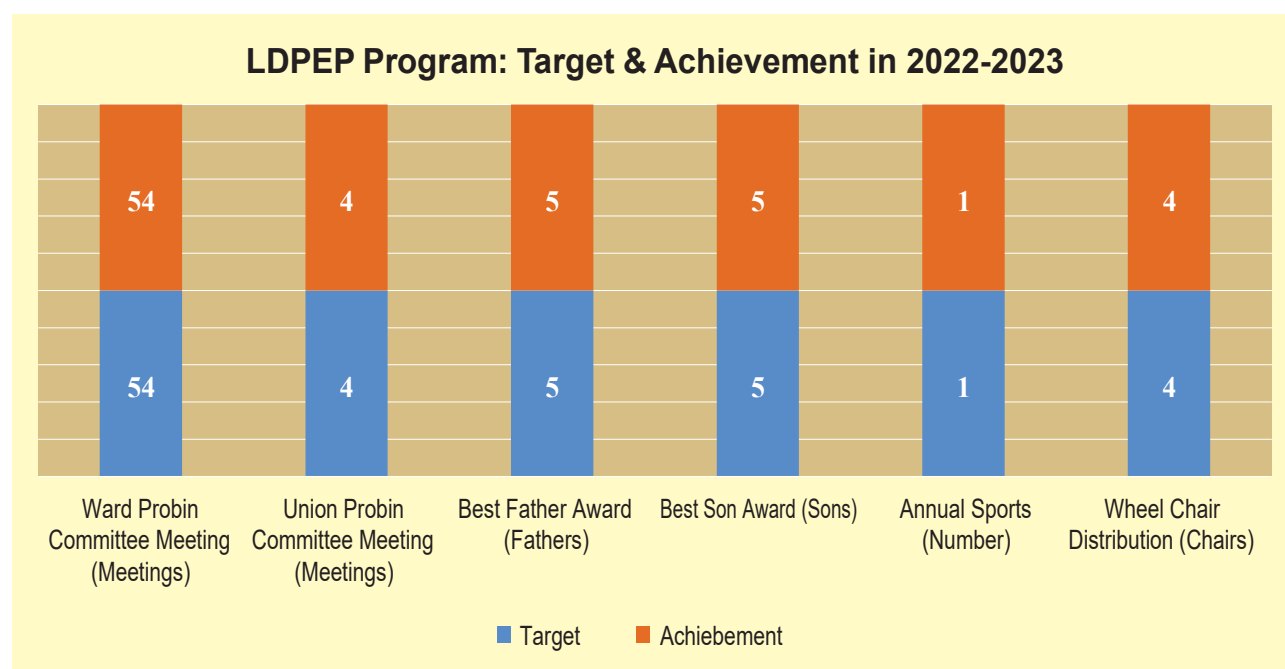
Collected by: Jesmin Akter, Education Supervisor, ENRICH Program, Panpotti, Galachipa, Patuakhali.

5.3 Livelihood Development Program for Elderly People (LDPEP)

SAP-Bangladesh has been implementing the "Livelihood Development Program for the Elderly People (LDPEP)" in Panpatti Union of Galachipa Upazila under Patuakhali District in partnership with and support from PKSF since October 2018 with a view with "to ensuring

safe, poverty-free, dignifying, peaceful and healthy life for the elderly people". The program has targeted to addressing the needs of 1,155 elderly people (Male-615 & Female-540 female) of all the 14 villages in Panpatti Union.

Target & Achievement



Major Achievements

Ward Probin Committee Meeting:

The program organized 54 meetings with the ward committee of the elderly people. A total of 1,134 elderly persons (Male-796 & Female-338) attended the meetings. The ward member of the Union Parishad also attended the meetings. The participants prepared a list of the social problems in the ward prioritizing the major problems for submitting to the Union Parishad. The committee took the initiative to solve the



minor problems locally like student enrolment, early marriage etc.

Union Probin Committee Meeting:

The program organized 4 quarterly coordination meetings with the Union Probin Committee members. A total of 119 participants (Male-79 & Female-40) attended the meeting. The UP representatives and local elite persons also attended the meeting. The major problems raised by the Ward Probin Committee members were reviewed in the Union Probin Committee meetings. The participants of the meetings recommended that adequate amount of budget should be allocated in the UP budget to address the problems.

Best father and mother award:

With a view to encouraging the fathers and



mothers in providing adequate support to their children to achieve quality education, the program provided award to the best fathers and mothers for the best support to their children in education. In the reporting year, the program distributed awards to the 5 best parents (Father-3 & Mother-2) for their good initiatives. The award was given in a ceremony where the Executive Director of the organization, UP Chairman, Chairperson of 'Livelihood Development of the Elderly People (LDPEP)' program, staffs and elite persons of Panpatti Union attended the ceremony.

Best son award:

In most of the cases, the elderly people are neglected in their family and society. Day by day their dignity is declining in their family and society. Nobody of their family and society recognizes their contributions and sacrifices for the development of the families and societies. With a view to encouraging the sons in taking care and nourishing their old aged parents, the program distributed awards to the 5 best sons for their best performance in taking care and nourishing their old aged parents.

Annual Sports:

The present society doesn't think of need of



recreation of the elderly people for their mental peace. As such, there is no arrangement of recreation for them. With a view to addressing the need, the LDPED Program has the provision to organize Annual Sports for amusement and mental peace of the elderly people. In the reporting year, the program arranged a sports program with participation of the elderly people from all the nine wards of Panpatti Union. A total of five events were organized separately for both of male and female participants in the sports. A total of 526 elderly people (Male-392 & Female 134) participated in the sports competitions. As part of the sports program, a prize giving ceremony was arranged where the

UP Chairman and local elite persons attended the prize giving ceremony and distributed the prizes to the winning elderly people.

Wheel Chair distribution:

The program distributes some materials every year like blanket, umbrella, wheel chair etc. to the distressed elderly people. In the reporting year, the program distributed 4 Wheel Chairs to the elderly people (Male-2 & Female-2) under Panpatti Union. A total of 65 participants (Male-48 & Female-17) including UP Chairman,



members and local elite persons of Panpatti Union attended the prize giving ceremony.

Success Story

Chinara Begum Now Moves Comfortably



Chinara Begum (65), wife of Rostam Khan (73) of Village: Gramardan, Union: Panpatti, Upazila: Galachipa, District: Patuakhali, was living in hardship with her husband at their old age. They have two sons and one daughter who are married long ago and living separately after their marriage. As the families of their children are living in poverty due to their poor income, they can't take care of their parents. Chinara Begum with her husband surviving with hardships depending only on their old-age allowance and VGD cards allocated by government through the concerned Union Parishad. Their only asset is a 20 decimals of household land. Chinara Begum is a patient of high blood pressure but can't afford to pay doctor's consultation fee to have necessary advices

and to buy medicines due to extreme poverty. In that situation, Chinara Begum suddenly faced brain stroke in December 2020. Rostam Khan could not arrange to have consultation of a good doctor for his wife for want of money. Despite being treated by local Kabiraj on the advices of local people, Chinara Begum became paralyzed on her left side and became bedridden. Due to lack of mental and physical strength, Rostam Khan couldn't even take his wife outside of the bed room. As such, the daylight faded from her life and day and night became the same.

Rostam Khan wanted to buy a wheel chair for his wife but it was not possible due to extreme poverty. South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh is implementing the “Livelihood Development Program for the Elderly People (LDPEP)” in Panpatti Union with a view “to improving the quality of life of the elderly people” with support from Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF). The helpless senior citizens get support from the program to face various problems in their lives. As Rostam Khan is a member of the Ward Committee of this program, he raised the problems of his wife Chinara Begum in the ward committee meeting in April 2022. With the recommendation of the ward committee, the program provided Chinara Begum with a wheel chair.

Both husband and wife are happy by getting the wheelchair. Rostam Khan said, “The wheel chair has removed my toil and worry. In the morning, I shift Chinara Begum in the courtyard of our house with the wheel chair. She moves

around whole the day with the wheel chair”. Chinara Begum said, “The wheel chair provided by SAP-Bangladesh has facilitated me to move outside the bed room and has shown me the face of light. Now I have the opportunity to talk



to many people in different houses by driving the wheel chair with my own hands and I can spend my days in a good mental state by eliminating loneliness”. Finally, Chinara Begum extended thanks and gratitude to SAP-Bangladesh for providing her with the wheel chair for easy movement and showing light from darkness.

Collected by: Lovely Begum, Social Development Officer, LDPEP, Panpatti, Galachipa, Patuakhali.

5.4 Sponsorship Program (SP) in Barguna and Bhola

Statistics indicate that there are 60 million children in Bangladesh among them 40 million are in rural areas. 18 million are less than five years old and about 12 million live in extreme poverty. Bangladesh has achieved striking progress on key development indicators over the past fifteen years. But it could not perform to the expected level

in protecting children from abuse, exploitation, neglect and violence. SAP-Bangladesh started “Sponsorship Program (SP)” in 7 Unions (Razapur, East Ilisha, West Ilisha, Dhonia, Bheduria, Shibpur and Bhelumia) of Bhola Sadar Upazila and 6 Unions (Dhalua, Gourichanna, Badarkhali, M. Baliatali, Ailapatakata and Burirchar) of Barguna

Sadar Upazila in September 2017 in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh with a view to addressing the needs of the disadvantaged sponsored children and their families on the issues of child rights & protection, quality inclusive education, sexual reproductive health & rights, youth economic empowerment and DRR.

Goal of the program:

To create a safe and respectful environment for children and adolescents in Plan International Bangladesh's sponsored areas, especially those in unstable environments, to create

holistic opportunities for them to develop their full potential.

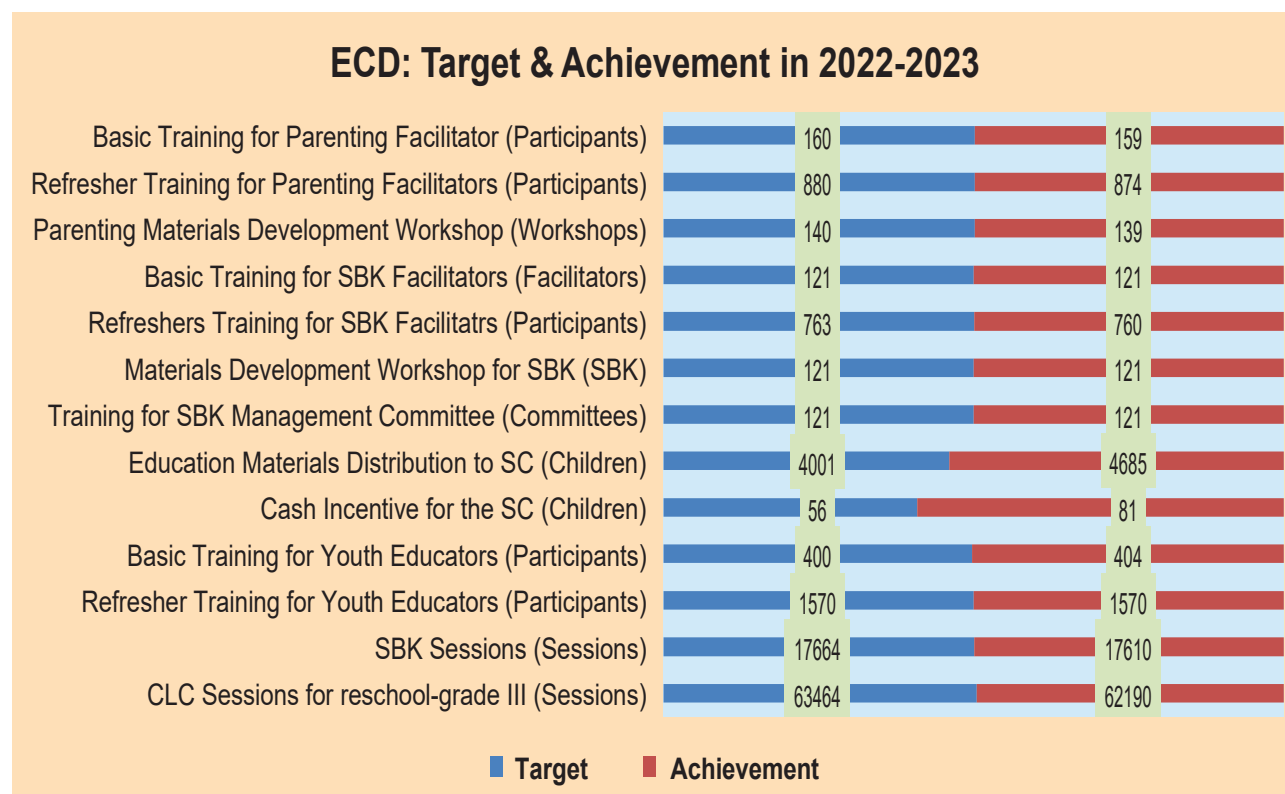
Components of the program:

- Early Childhood development (ECD)
- Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR)
- Science, Technology, English & Mathematics (STEM)
- Skills and Opportunities for Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship (SOYEE)
- Child & Youth Leadership (LEAD)
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Component wise Target and Achievement

Early Childhood development (ECD)

Target & Achievement



Major Achievements

Basic Training for parenting facilitators:

In the reporting year, a total of 159 female



parenting facilitators received 5 days basic training in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. The training sessions were facilitated emphasizing on parenting support to the children of 0 to 3 years. The objective of the training was to ensure health services by the parenting facilitators to the 0 to 3 years' children in the targeted communities. The training sessions were conducted on the issues of safe motherhood, care of new born child, child nursing, cleanliness, health check-up, rest of the pregnant mothers, growth monitoring of the children, breast feeding of the children up to six months etc.

Refresher Training for Parenting Facilitators:

During the reporting period, the project organized 12 batches of bi-monthly refresher training sessions for the parenting facilitators in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 874 female parenting facilitators received the bi-monthly refresher training. The training sessions were facilitated emphasizing on parenting support to the 0 to 3 years' children. The training sessions were facilitated on the issues of safe motherhood, care of new born child, nursing of the child, cleanliness, health check-up, rest of the pregnant mothers, growth monitoring, breast

feeding up to six months etc. The objective of the training was to ensure health services by the parenting facilitators to the 0 to 3 years' children in the targeted communities.

Parenting Materials Development Workshop:

During the reporting period, the project organized 139 parenting materials development workshops in 7 Unions of Bhola Sadar Upazila. A total of 3,788 participants (Female-3,553 & Male-235) attended the workshop. The Field Facilitators facilitated the materials development workshops. In the workshops, the participants prepared low-cost materials for messaging on parenting support to the 0 to 3 years' children. The topics of the workshops were safe



motherhood, care of new born child, nursing of the children, cleanliness, health check-up, rest of the pregnant women, growth monitoring, and breast feeding up to six months of the children.

Basic Training for SBK Facilitators:

The project organized 3 days basic training for 121 female SBK facilitators in 13 unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. The objective of the training was to build capacity of the SBK facilitators in facilitating the SBK sessions in a qualitative way. The training sessions were facilitated emphasizing school readiness activities, center decoration,

facilitator's responsibility, gender equity, gender mainstreaming, child learning methods, day-wise lesson planning, use of play materials, community contribution, learning environment at SBK etc.

Refreshers Training for SBK Facilitators:

A total of 760 SBK female facilitators received bi-monthly refreshers training in 9 batches in 13 Unions of Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. The refreshers training sessions focused on the activities of SBK centers and roles & responsibilities of the SBK facilitators. The refresher training enhanced the knowledge and skills of the SBK facilitators in conducting SBK activities effectively following the methods of class conduction and home visit to reduce dropout from school and communication.

Materials Development Workshop for SBK:

In the reporting year, a total of 121 materials development workshops held in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. The objective of the materials development workshop was to develop improved SBK materials for 3-5 years' children. A total of 1,965 participants (Female-1915 & Male 50) attended the workshops and prepared useful materials like stove, flower, rope, boat and pillow for the SBK children.

Training for SBK Management Committee:

The project organized 121 batches of SBK Management Committee Training including



parenting during the reporting period in 13 Unions of Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas.

A total of 968 members (Female-841 & Male-127) of the SBK Management Committee attended the training. The topics of the training were SBK operation, scope of decoration, child development, health & hygiene, safeguarding, parenting and smooth running of the SBK centers following the guideline.

Education Materials Distribution to SC:

During the reporting period, the project distributed education materials to 4,685 sponsored children (SC) of pre-school to grade III (Girls-2,552 & Boys-2,133) in the targeted sponsored communities in 13 Unions under



Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas to create interest of the children in education. The parents of the sponsored children found very happy getting the support for their children.

Cash incentive for the 6-10 years SC:

During the reporting period, 81 sponsored children (Girls-39 & Boys-42) received cash incentive from the project in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. The objective of the cash incentive to the 6-10 years poor sponsored children was to ensuring continuation of their education thereby reducing dropout rate from schools.

Basic Training for Youth Educators:

The project organized 5 days basic training for Youth Educators in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 404 female Youth Educators received the basic training. The objective of the basic training was to build

capacity of the Youth Educators so that they can provide quality education support to the



sponsored children of pre-school to grade III in the Community Learning Centers (CLCs). The training sessions were facilitated emphasizing teaching learning method, center safeguarding, youth educators' responsibility, gender discrimination, day-wise lesson planning, use of play materials, community contribution, and learning environment at the CLCs.

Refreshers Training for Youth Educators:

During the reporting period, the project organized 12 batches of refreshers training for the Youth Educators in 13 unions of Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 1,570 Youth Educators (Female-1,545 & Male-25) attended the refreshers training. The objective of the refreshers training was to ensure quality education support to the sponsored children from pre-school to grade III. The topics of the sessions were roles and responsibilities of the Youth Educators, subject wise support to the children on Bangla, English and Mathematics along with safeguarding, session conduction methods, capacity development of the educators, special focus on weak sponsored children, encourage children for going to school and to fill up learning gap of the sponsored children.

SBK Sessions:

The project established 121 *Shishu Bikash Kendra* (SBKs) in 13 sponsored Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas where 3-5 years sponsored children are getting support for early childhood development. In the reporting year, a total of 17,610 SBK sessions were conducted where 1,691 children (Girls-901 & Boys-790) got supports from the SBKs. These children are eligible for enrollment in the primary education by the support of the SBK facilitators. Each of the SBKs has learning and playing materials which are useful for physical,



mental, linguistic, emotional and intellectual development of the children.

CLC Sessions for Pre-school to grade III children:

During the reporting period, the project established 404 Community Learning Centers (CLCs) in 13 sponsored Unions under Bhola



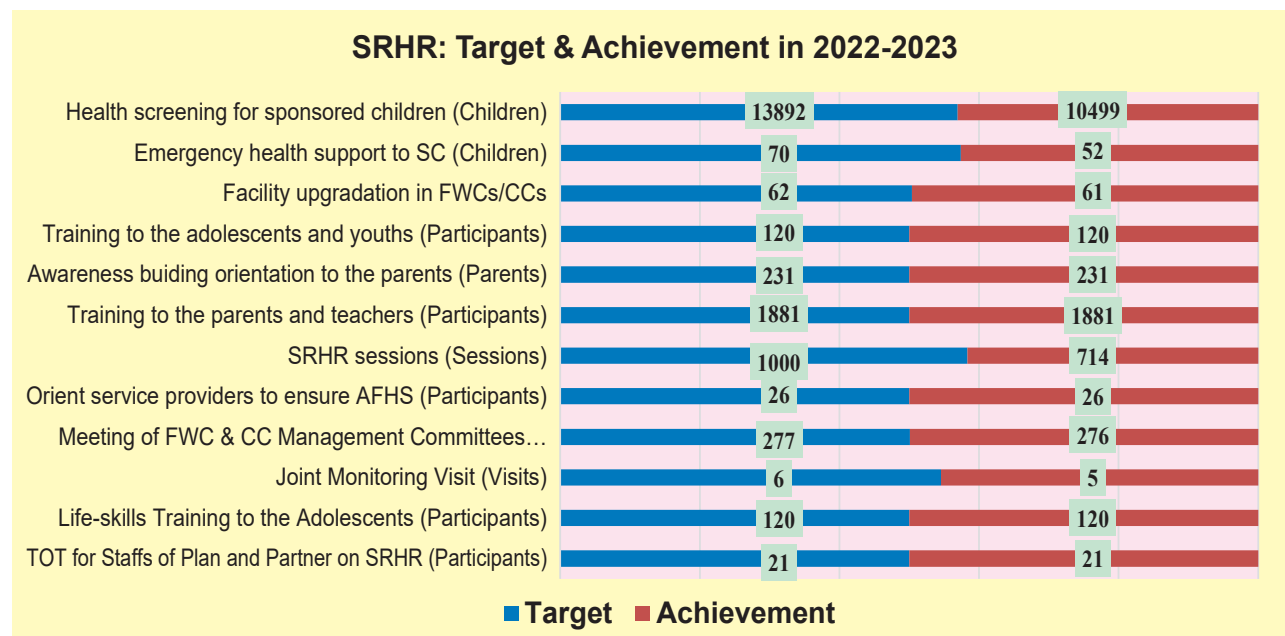
and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. Youth Educators are supporting to the children as educators in

these community learning centers for uplifting the learning gap of the sponsored children. In the reporting year, a total of 62,190 CLC sessions were conducted where 4,685 children

(Girls-2,552 & Boys-2,133) got education support to continue education and to reducing dropout from formal education.

Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR)

Target and Achievement



Major Achievements

Health screening for sponsored children:

During the reporting period, the project



completed annual health screening for Sponsored Children (SC) in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas with a

view to playing an important role in protecting the sponsored children from different types of diseases. Through the health screening, it was possible to take necessary steps for developing health condition of the sponsored children by checking general health condition of the children and their growing with appropriate weight and height according to their age. A total of 10,499 sponsored children were screened (Girls-5,925 & Boys-4,574).

Emergency health support to sponsored children (SC):

In the reporting year, the project supported 52 sponsored children (Girls-28 & Boys-24) for their emergency treatment spending an amount of BDT 3,29,675 in 13 Unions of Bhola

and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. The emergency treatment support was given to the marginalized sponsored families who were not capable to bear emergency treatment cost of their children at their own. The guardians found very happy receiving the emergency treatment cost of their children.

Facility upgradation in FWCs/CCs:

The project provided logistic support to 12 Family Welfare Centers (FWCs) and 49 Community Clinics (CCs) in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas for upgrading facilities in the FWCs/CCs with a view to ensuring Adolescent Friendly Health Services (AFHS) and quality health services for the community people specially for the girls and pregnant women.

Training to the adolescents and youths:

During the reporting period, a total of 120 female adolescents and youths received training on menstrual hygiene, menstrual management, puberty, sexual health and rights, reproductive health and rights, rights of self-control on body of adolescent, sharing of adolescent issues with parents, services point (FWC/CC), infection during puberty, social taboo, food habits, social superstition, and use of sanitary napkin during the menstrual period. They were selected from Ward and Union Children Youth Forums of 7 Unions of Bhola Sadar Upazila.

Awareness building orientation to the parents:

The project organized awareness building orientation for 231 parents of 7 unions under Bhola Sadar Upazila. A total of 231 parents (Mother-131 & Father-100) attended the awareness building orientation. The objective of the awareness building orientation was to raise awareness of the parents about dowry, child early & forced marriage, negative consequences of child marriage, child labor, necessity of education, gender discrimination etc.

Training to the parents and teachers:

During the reporting period, the project provided training to 1,881 parents and teachers (Female-1,120 & Male-761) of 7 Unions under



Bhola Sadar Upazila. The topics of the training were SRHR, Gender Based Violence (GBV), healthcare services for adolescents and youths, and community mobilization to prevent gender Based violence. The SRHR staff of the project also got a basic training to develop their knowledge and skills for proper implementation of the above interventions.

SRHR sessions:

During the reporting period, the project organized 714 sessions by 120 female adolescents and youths from the sponsored communities in 7 Unions of Bhola Sadar Upazila who received training on SRHR issues before conducting the SRHR sessions. A total of 4,998 adolescents and youths (Female-3,400 & Male-1,598) attended the sessions. The topics of the sessions were menstrual hygiene, menstrual management, puberty, sexual health and rights, reproductive health and rights, rights of self-control on body of adolescents, sharing of adolescent issues with parents, services point (CC/FWC), infection during puberty, social taboo, food habits, social superstition, and use of sanitary napkin during the menstrual period.

Orient service providers to ensure AFHS:

During the reporting period, the project organized an orientation session for the health service

providers at District, Upazila and Union level to ensure quality Adolescent Friendly Health Services (AFHS) at the FWCs and CCs based on government approved manual. The topics of the orientation sessions were to ensuring quality adolescent friendly health services (AFHS), sex & gender, gender discrimination, sexual and reproductive health and rights, life skills of adolescents with values, and adolescent aged family planning. The DDFP, UFPO, ADCC, SACMO, FWVs and other District, Upazila and Union level officials attended the orientation session. The orientation session was organized at the Family Planning Office, Bhola Sadar Upazila where a total of 26 officials (Female-17 & Male-9) attended the orientation session.

Meeting of FWC and CC Management Committees:

During the reporting period, the project organized 276 meetings for FWC and CC Management Committees for functioning Adolescent Friendly Health Services (AFHS) in 13 Unions of Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 2,313 participants (Girls-154, Boys-131, Female-1,155 & Male-873) attended the meetings. The discussion topics of the meetings were roles and responsibilities of the committees, adolescent sexual reproductive health & rights, general health services, awareness for preventing



contemporary pandemic like dengue fever and better treatment through AFHS.

Joint Monitoring Visit:

In the reporting year, a total of 5 Joint Monitoring Visits were organized with the Deputy Director of Family Planning and Upazila Health & Family Planning Officers at the Community Clinics and field level in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas to see the project activities. A total of 30 District and Upazila level officials (Female-16 & Male-14) participated the joint monitoring visits. During the visits, District and Upazila level officials shared activity wise suggestions and feedback for smooth implementation of the project activities with a view to ensuring quality adolescent friendly health services.

Life-skills Training to the Adolescents:

During the reporting period, the project organized life-skills training for 120 female



adolescents from sponsored communities in 7 Unions under Bhola Sadar Upazila. The objective of the training was to develop life-skills of adolescents like, communication, self-confidence, adaptation, sympathy to each other, decision making, social responsibilities etc.

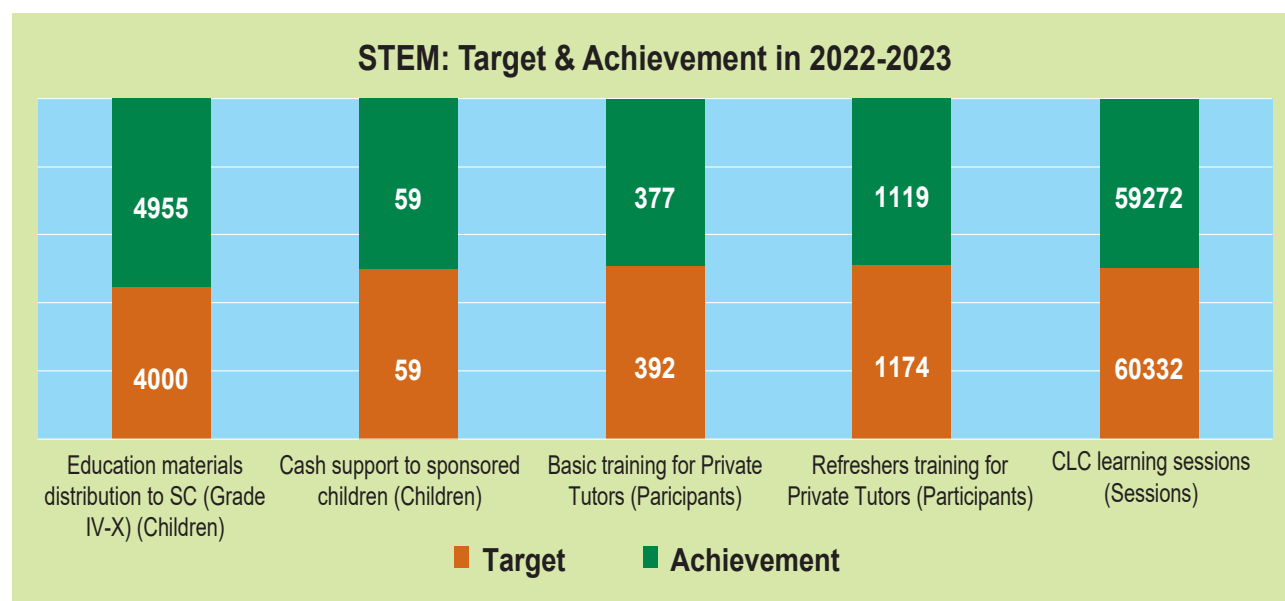
ToT for Technical Staffs of Plan and Partners on SRHR:

The project organized a ToT at Hotel Graver Inn, Kuakata for all the technical staffs of Plan International Bangladesh and Partner NGOs on SRHR related issues. The topics of the ToT were menstrual hygiene management & nutrition, gender & sex, gender discrimination, adolescent friendly

health services, safe motherhood, negative consequences of child marriage, and sexual abuse and preventive measures. A total of 21 participants (Female-6 & Male-15) attended

the ToT from Plan International Bangladesh and Bhola/Barguna Project Offices of the partner NGOs.

Science, Technology, English & Mathematics (STEM): Target and Achievement



Major Achievements

Education materials distribution to SC (Grade IV-X):

In the reporting year, the project distributed education materials to 4,955 Sponsored



Children (Girls-2,865 & Boys-2,090) of grade IV-X in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas with a view to creating interest of the children in education and to reducing dropout rate from schools. The education

materials included *khata*, pen, geometry box, pencil, eraser, sharpener etc.

Cash support to sponsored children:

During the reporting period, the project provided 59 sponsored children (Girls-43 & Boys-16) with cash support with a view to continuing their education and to reducing dropout from formal schools in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas.

Basic training for Private Tutors:

During the reporting period, the project organized 2 days basic training for the Private Tutors in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 377 Private Tutors (Female-282 & Male-95) received the training. The objective of the training was to build

capacity of the Private Tutors in providing quality education support to the sponsored children of grade IV-X in the Community Learning Centers (CLCs). The training sessions were facilitated emphasizing teaching learning method, center safeguarding, Private Tutors' responsibilities, gender discrimination, day-wise lesson planning, use of play materials, community contribution, and learning environment in the Community Learning Centers (CLCs).

Refreshers training for Private Tutors:

During the reporting period, the project organized 13 batches of monthly refreshers training for



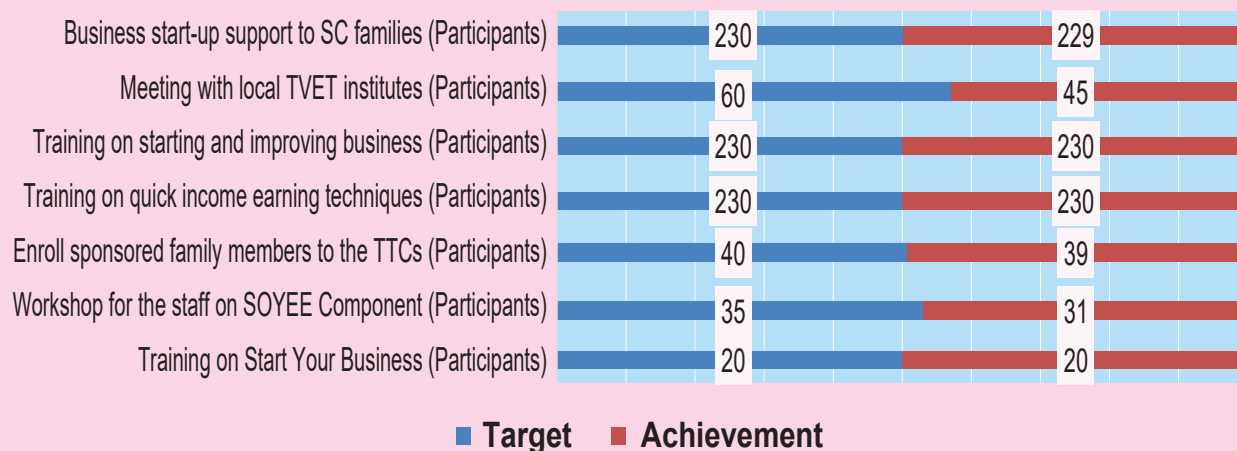
the Private Tutors in 13 Unions of Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 1,119 Private Tutors (Female-796 & Male-323) received the monthly refreshers training. The objective of the monthly refresher training was to ensure quality education support to the sponsored children of grade IV-X. The topics of the sessions were roles and responsibilities of the Private Tutors, subject wise support to the children on Bangla, English and Mathematics along with safeguarding, session conduction methods, special focus on weak sponsored children, encourage children for going to school and fill up learning gaps of the sponsored children.

CLC learning sessions:

During the reporting period, the trained Private Tutors conducted 59,272 learning sessions through Community Learning Centers (CLCs) in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 4,955 children (Girls-2865 & Boys-2090) got education support to continue their education and reducing dropout rate in formal education.

Skills and Opportunities for Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship (SOYEE): Target and Achievement

SOYEE: Target & Achievement in 2022-2023



Major Achievements

Business start-up support to SC families:

In the reporting year, a total of 229 Sponsored Children (SC) families in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas got financial support from the project to start quick income earning activities. They also received quick income earning training from Upazila Livestock & Agriculture Officer on goat rearing and duck & poultry rearing. After receiving financial support and training, all the 229 SC families started their income earning activities with a view to improving financial condition of their families thereby fulfilling the basic needs of the family members including education of the sponsored children.

Meeting with local TVET Institutes:

During the reporting period, the project organized a total of 3 meetings with various Technical



& Vocational Education & Training (TVET) Institutes under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 45 participants (Female-12 & Male-33) attended the meetings. The technical education and training opportunities of the TVET institutes were discussed in the meetings. Through a detailed discussion in the meetings, the participants agreed to establish a close contact with the institutes with a view to creating technical education and training

opportunities for the youths of the sponsored communities.

Training on starting and improving business:

During the reporting period, the project organized 12 batches of training in 13 Unions of Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas for the mothers of the sponsored children for starting and improving businesses by the parents who are already members of microfinance institutes. The training was conducted by the Upazila Livestock Officers. The topics of the training were concept of business, entrepreneurship, business planning, and business starting process. A total of 230 mothers of the sponsored children attended the training from different sponsored communities.

Training on quick income earning techniques:

The project organized 12 batches of training during the reporting period on quick income earning techniques in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. The training was conducted by the Upazila Live Stock & Agriculture Officers and Field Facilitators. The topics of the training were types of business, profit & loss, establishment of a farm, symptom of diseases of duck & poultry and preventive measures, raising improved breeds of goats and types of diseases and prevention measures, and ways of earning increased income from the businesses. A total of 230 female participants



attended the training from different communities of sponsored families and they gathered knowledge and skills from the training on earning quick income for developing their family condition through self-employment.

Enroll sponsored family members to the TTCs:

During the reporting period, the project arranged to train up 39 members (Female-20 & Male-19) of the sponsored families of Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas by enrolling them to the Technical Training Centers at district level with a view to providing them with training on different trades like, sewing, computer operation and electric works. The objective of the training was

to increasing technical knowledge and skills of participants there by getting job opportunities in different farms for developing financial solvency of the sponsored families.

Training on ‘Start Your Business (SYB)’:

During the reporting period, the project organized training on Start Your Business (SYB) for the staff and volunteers of SOYEE component of the project on Skills and Opportunities for Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship (SOYEE). The training was conducted by the SOYEE specialist of Plan International Bangladesh. A total of 20 participants (Female-10 & Male-10) attended the training.

Child & Youth Leadership (LEAD)

Target and Achievement



Major Achievements

Integrated life skills sessions:

During the reporting period, the project organized 117 integrated life skills sessions on SRHR, SOYEE, LEAD & ECD for the Ward



and Union Children Youth Forum members in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 2,322 participants (Female-1,441 & Male-881) attended the sessions. The objective of the session was to raise awareness of the Ward and Union Children Youth Forum members about the SRHR issues like, puberty, menstrual health & hygiene, and social taboo; SOYEE issues like, self & wage employment for economic growth; LEAD issues like, leadership, negative impacts of child early and forced marriage, child labor, mainstreaming children to formal education; ECD issues like, development of 3-5 years' children, motivation for continuation of child education, etc.

Meeting with Child Welfare Boards and YAP:

During the reporting period, the project organized a total of 5 quarterly meetings with the Upazila Child Welfare Board and 2 quarterly meetings with the District Child Welfare Board members at the Upazila Nirbahi Officers' Meeting Rooms of Bhola & Barguna Sadar Upazilas, and at the Conference Halls of the DC Offices of Bhola and Barguna District respectively as per government guidelines.

The Upazila Nirbahi Officers presided over the meetings at the Upazila level and the Secretary of the Local Government presided over the meetings at the district level in absence of the Deputy Commissioners. The members of the child welfare board and NGO representatives attended the meetings. A total of 79 participants (Female-12 & Male-67) attended the Upazila level meetings and 51 participants (Female-11 & Male-40) attended the district level meetings. The discussion issues of the meetings were child protection policy, child rights, migrant children, street children, child labor law, drug addiction, child & youth abuse, etc.

The quarterly coordination meeting with the Youth Advisory Panel (YAP) members was one of the major activities of the project. During the reporting period, a total of 4 quarterly meetings with the Youth Advisory Panel (YAP) held at Barisal Divisional Office. A total of 24 YAP members (Male-12 & Female-12) from Barguna, Patuakhali and Bhola Districts of Barishal Division attended the Division level meetings. Meghla Zahan and Sadia Akter, youth leaders of the Sponsorship Program of SAP-Bangladesh attended the meetings held at Barishal Divisional office.

Awareness raising of community elites:

During the reporting period, the project conducted a total of 117 awareness sessions with the community elites in different places of the targeted Unions of Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. Total participants of the meetings were 2,340 (Girls-304, Boys-310, Female-468 & Male-1,258). The objective of the awareness sessions was to build awareness of the community elites on early and forced marriage, eve teasing, violence against children, and social actions against smoking, drug addiction, child labor, negative consequence of hazardous child labor, child rights, etc.

Training for Union and Ward Children and Youth Forums:

During the reporting period, the project conducted 13 training sessions in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 208 Union and Ward Children and Youth Forum members (Girls-108 & Boys-100) attended the training sessions. The objective of the training was to increase capacity of the forum members on work against early marriage, mobile game, violence against children, and



social actions against smoking, drug addiction, child labor, negative consequence of hazardous child labor, child rights, etc.

Day observation at local level:

The project organized a total of 42 events in observing different international and national days during the reporting period such as International Girl Child Day, International Women's Day and World Day against Child Labor (WDACL) at different places of the targeted 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 3,880 children and parents (Girls-1702, Boys-1,581, Female-395 & Male-202) directly attended the events and around 70 community people attended the events as spectators. The issues of the events were protection of children from all forms of exploitation and abuse such as sexual abuse, child labor, negative consequences of hazardous child labor and reduce dropout of the children from schools, etc. The project also organized cycle

competition, art competition, rally and discussion



sessions in observing the days. With a view to encouraging the children, the project distributed prizes for their participation in the events.

ToT on swimming:

During the reporting period, the project conducted a ToT for the staff and community swimming instructors on swimming. After receiving the ToT, the staff and community instructors would provide the sponsored children with training on swimming with a view to preventing death of the sponsored children by drowning. Total participants of the ToT were 21 (Female-15 & Male-6) under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. Through the training, the sponsored children would know how to swim and save them from the death by drowning.

Training on Psychosocial Support for Staff:

In the reporting year, a total of 14 project staff (Female-10 & Male-4) received training



on psychosocial supports to the sponsored children who would be victims of early marriage, other forms of violence and child labor, and

harmful habits like, mobile game, smoking, drug addiction, etc. Through the psychosocial supports, the children would be able to protect themselves from the above harmful activities.

Meeting with government offices for accessing services:

During the period, the project organized 6 meetings with the government offices of 6 Unions under Barguna Sadar Upazila for ensuring access of the people to the available government services at the local level. The UP Chairmen, UP Members and Union-based government officials attended the meetings. A total of 156 participants (Female-24 & Male-132)

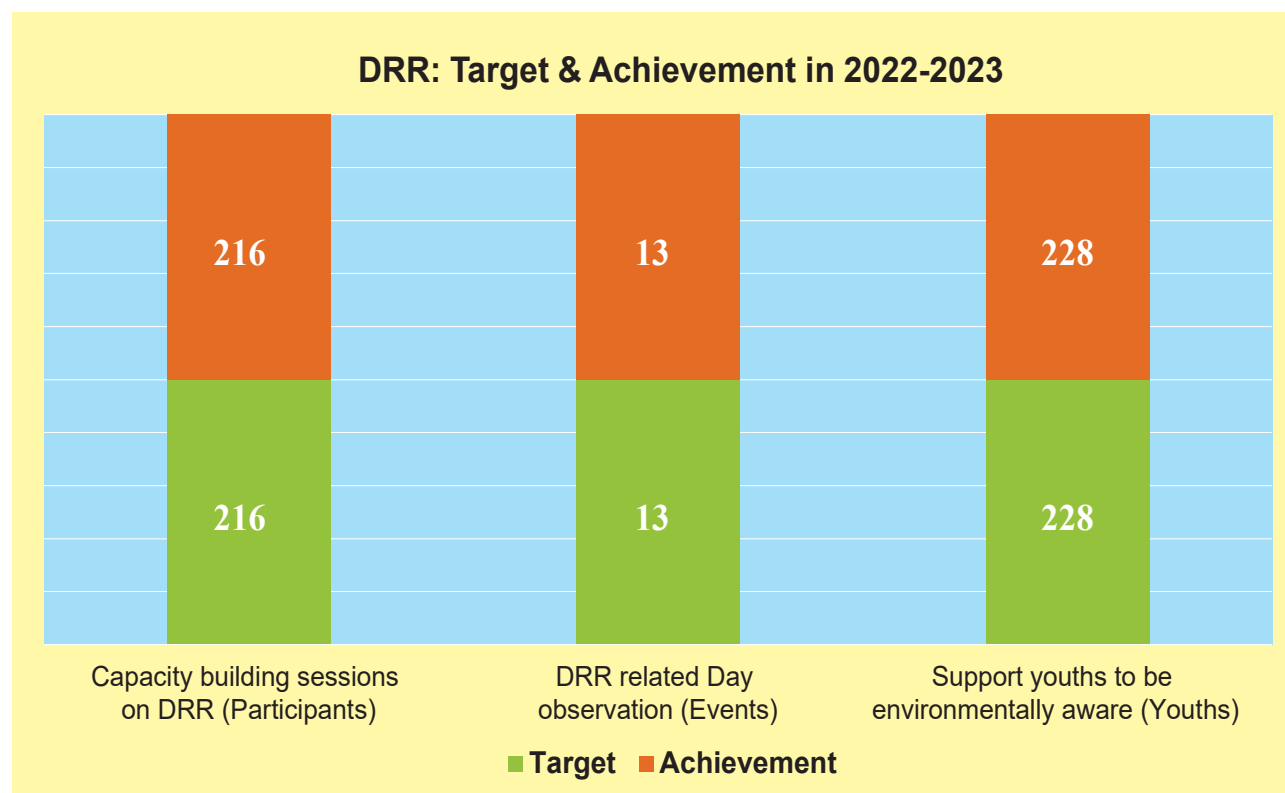
attended the meetings. The discussion topics of the meetings were objectives and activities of



the sponsorship program, child safeguarding, youth leadership etc.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Target and Achievement



Major Achievements

Capacity building sessions on DRR:

During the reporting period, the project organized capacity building sessions for the youths of 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total 216 youths (Girls-163 & Boys-53) participated the training sessions on community based pre, during and post disaster preparedness. The objective of the training was to building capacity of the youths in supporting the community people especially



women, children and elderly people in facing the disaster situation.

DRR related Day observation:

During the reporting period, the project observed the International Day of Disaster Mitigation in 13 Unions of Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas

aligning with the programs of district administration and other NGOs. A total of 3,470 participants



(Girls-1,330, Boys-1,075, Female-513 & Male-552) attended the event. The objective of the event was to aware community people about disasters like, cyclone, flood, earthquake and tornado so that they can face the disasters without major damages and losses.

Support youths to be environmentally aware:

During the reporting period, the project organized a training on 'support youths to be environmentally aware' about disaster preparedness in 13 Unions under Bhola and Barguna Sadar Upazilas. A total of 228 youths (Girls-166 & Boys-62) participated the training sessions and gathered a clear concept on measures to be taken in pre, during and post disaster situations.



Success Story

Aklima's Success



Most. Aklima (36), Husband: Taijul Islam Badal, Father: Md. Rashid Ankand, Mother: Ambia Begum, Village: Lemua, Post Office: Khajura, Union: Dhalua, Upazila: Barguna Sadar, District: Barguna. She has 5 members in her family including two daughters, one son and husband. Her son is 6 years old and he is studying in play group. Her eldest daughter is physically challenged who is 19 years old and

she studied up to Class-V. Her second daughter is 12 years old and she is studying in Class-V. Aklima's husband is a day laborer. It was very difficult to bear the family and educational expenses of the children with the small income of her husband. Aklima sometimes works at neighbors' houses to meet the education expenses and other needs of her children.

In the meantime, one of the Field Facilitator of the 'Skills & Opportunities for Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship (SOYEE)' component of the 'Sponsorship Program' of SAP-Bangladesh visited Aklima's house. After knowing the financial condition of her family, the Field Facilitator gave various suggestions for the development of the financial condition of her family. The Field Facilitator advised her to become an entrepreneur through project-supported small businesses by joining a group of the project. Aklima agreed to her suggestions.



After a few days, the Technical Officer of SOYEE component verified the financial situation of her



family and selected her as a beneficiary group member of the project.

After being included in the list of the beneficiary group members of the project, Akalima received two days of Income Generation and two days of Business Start-up and Development Training from the project. After receiving the training, she received financial support of Taka 7,000 from the project for rearing goats. She bought a pregnant goat with the money she received from the project. After a few days, the goat gave birth of two kids. As the two kids grew up, she owned three goats. Besides, she received vegetable

seeds from the project to cultivate vegetables. With those seeds, she cultivated lady's finger, *puishak* and *data shak*. She can fulfill the nutritional needs of her family members with vegetables she cultivated and also can provide financial support to the family with the money she gets by selling the remaining vegetables in the local market. The project has raised her awareness of the importance of girls' education and has increased her family's financial well-being as a result, she is sending her son and daughters to school regularly. She hopes to earn more by rearing goats and cultivating vegetables at her homestead.

Currently, Akalima's second daughter Most. Eva has been included as a sponsor child of Plan International Bangladesh. As a result, she is getting necessary supports from the project for continuing her study. With the help of Plan International Bangladesh and SAP-Bangladesh, and her own earnings, Akalima hopes to fulfill her children's dreams and develop her family.

Finally, Akalima extended special thanks and gratitude to Plan International Bangladesh and SAP-Bangladesh for supporting her family in various ways with a view to developing her family condition and position.

Collected by: Salma Begum, Field Facilitator, Sponsorship Program, Barguna

5.5 Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) Project

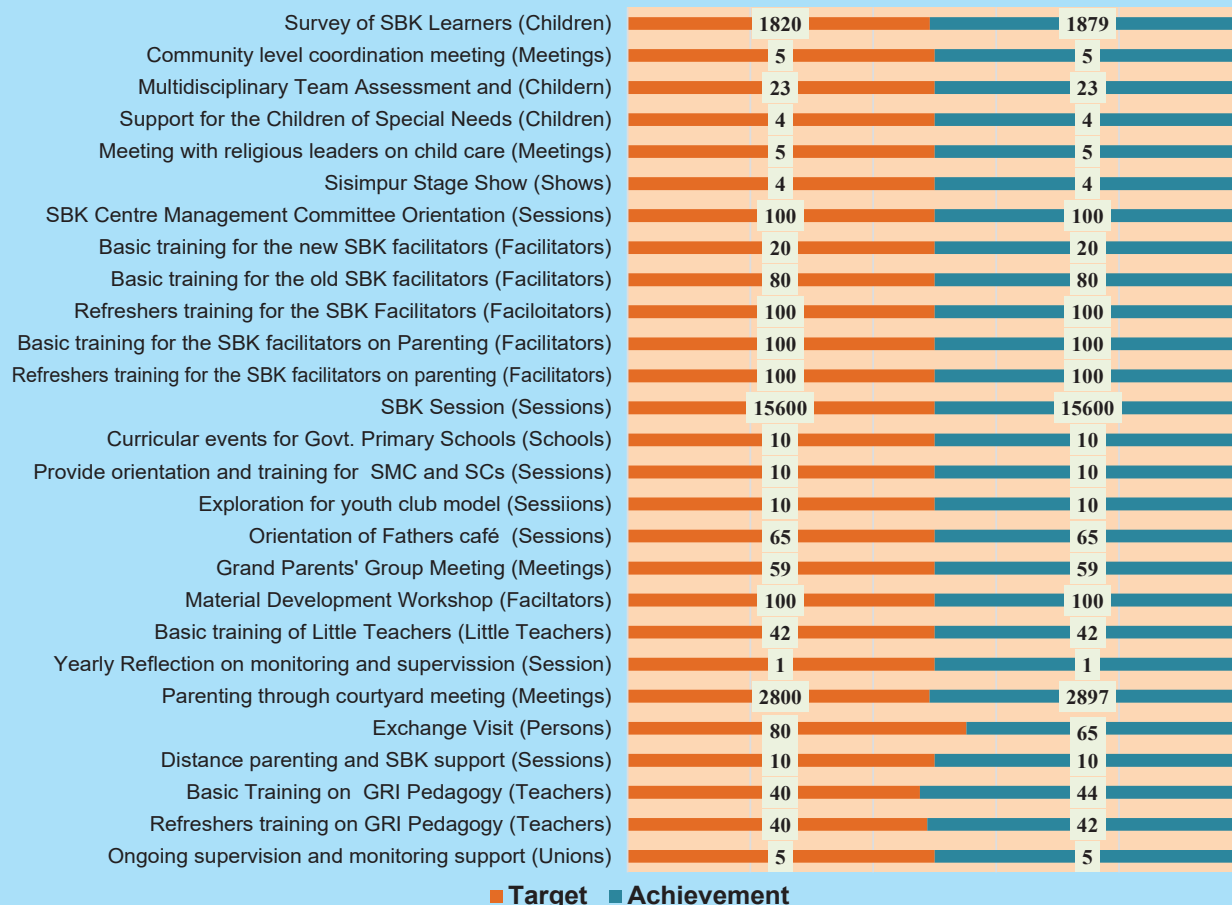
Barguna is an underdeveloped coastal district in the southern part of Bangladesh. Barguna Sadar Upazila consists of 10 Unions and one Pourashava but is disadvantaged in regard to socioeconomic perspective as well as the livelihood of the poor people. SAP-Bangladesh has been implementing the "Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) Project" in 5 Unions

of Barguna Sadar Upazila since October 2019 in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh.

The goal of the project is "all children under eight years, especially girls develop to their full potential, free from discriminatory and limiting attitudes, practices and expectations based on gender, ability and other identities".

Target & Achievement

GeTECD Project: Target & Achievement in 2022-2023



Major Achievements:

Survey of SBK Learners:

The SBK facilitators conducted survey by visiting targeted households and Primary Schools ensuring enrolment of all the 1,879 sponsor children (Boys-905 & Girls-974) as SBK learners for the reporting year 2022-2023.

Community level coordination meeting:

As one of the important activities, the project conducted a community level coordination meeting with the ECD Committee members. The coordination meetings held at the targeted 5 Union Parishad Offices under Barguna Sadar Upazila. All the targeted 86 participants

(Female-15 & Male-71) attended the meeting. The aims of the meeting were to orient the ECD



committee members on the objectives and characteristics of the GeTECD project, ways to

create a gender discrimination free environment at the local community, characteristics of children, areas of child development, barriers to child development and ways to overcome these problems, and prevention of COVID-19 infection and cyclone preparedness etc. At the end of the meeting, the participants prepared an action plan on child protection, child development and elimination of gender discrimination in their areas of work.

Multidisciplinary Team Assessment:

The project conducted multidisciplinary team assessment for 140 SBKs in 5 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila and selected 23 disabled children (Boys-12 & Girls-11) from the catchment areas of the targeted 10 Primary Schools. The objectives of the assessment were to measure the type and level of disability of the selected children and ways to restore them from the disability. With a view to achieving the objective, the Disability Service and Support Centre, Barguna, under the National Disability Development Foundation of the Ministry of Social Welfare, conducted an assessment with prescriptions. Upon review of the prescriptions, it was found that selected children have physical, visual and speech related disabilities. Based on the assessment, the children were suggested to go for free exercises without using any device and counseling etc. Out of the total 23 children, 4 children (2 boys & 2 girls) were prescribed for excessive assistive devices.

Support for the Children of Special Needs:

Children with special needs from different communities often take assistance from District Handicapped Development Foundation in Barguna. But, in absence of the appropriate instrument, the parents of the children with special needs could not reduce the disabilities of the children. To address the acute needs, the

project distributed standing frames to 3 children



and corner chair to 1 child.

Meeting with religious leaders on male engagement in child care:

The religious leaders can play an important role in addressing gender inequality, child rights and child protection. Therefore, with a view to engage them in the mentioned issues, two times meetings held with a total of 90 religious leaders in the targeted 5 Unions. The discussion issues in the meetings were gender transformative



and early childhood development, parenting, ways of learning of the children, ways to have a healthy baby, care of a pregnant woman, types of discriminations between boys and girls after birth, religious sin, discrimination against women in the society and how the religion is playing a vital role in establishing rights of the children and women. By attending the meeting, the religious

leaders were motivated to contribute in various ways to improve the social situation in the above issues. At the end of the meeting, they made a list of ways to improve the social environment and committed to contribute accordingly.

Sisimpur Stage Show:

The project organized popular stage show named 'Sisimpur Stage Show' in 4 Primary Schools in the targeted 3 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila. A total of 2,237 children (Boys-



861 & Girls-1,376) from 28 SBK Centers and 52 Learning Center Points (LCPs) attended the Sisimpur shows. They enjoyed the shows very happily and get motivation for attending the learning sessions at their schools. Apart from the above students, a total of 450 participants (Male-179 & Female-271) from local level Youth Clubs and other primary and secondary level students also actively participated this amazing show. The officers of the Upazila and District Primary Education Offices, Instructor of Upazila Resource Center, community leaders and parents also attended this community-based stage show and enjoyed it with great pleasure.

SBK Centre Management Committee (CMC) Orientation:

The project established 100 *Shishu Bikash Kendra* (SBKs) and formed 100 Centre Management Committees (CMCs) to manage

the SBKs. Each of the committees consists of 12 members from the communities where SBKs are situated. The project organized 100 orientation sessions for the CMC members. A total of 1,200 CMC members and some of the guardians (Male-500 & Female-700) attended the orientation sessions. The topics of the CMC orientation sessions were CMC members' responsibilities, equal rights of SBK students, holistic development of the children without any discrimination, barriers to child development to be avoided in the community and preparing students for pre-primary classes. At the end of the orientation sessions, the participants committed to perform their responsibilities properly for better management of the SBK centers.

Basic Training for the new SBK Facilitators:

The project organized a five days basic training for the new SBK facilitators with a view to developing their knowledge and skills in conducting children's sessions at the SBKs. A total of 20 female facilitators actively participated the training and gained knowledge and skills on facilitation of SBK sessions ensuring enabling learning environment for the children.

Basic Training for the old SBK Facilitator:

The project organized a three days basic training for the old SBK facilitators with a



view to enhancing their knowledge and skills in conducting children's sessions at the SBKs. A total

of 80 female facilitators actively participated the training and their knowledge and skills enhanced on facilitation of SBK sessions ensuring enabling learning environment for the children

Refreshers Training for the SBK Facilitators:

Quarterly Refresher Training for the SBK facilitators is a continuous process for enhancing knowledge and skills of the SBK facilitators in facilitating the SBK sessions. A total of 100 SBK female facilitators received the refreshers training for one day in each quarter.

Basic Training for the SBK Facilitators on Facilitation of Parenting Session:

The project organized a 5 days basic training for the SBK facilitators on facilitation of parenting sessions in the SBK catchment area. A total of 100 female facilitators actively participated in the training. As a result of the training, the facilitators gained knowledge and skills on the characteristics of the children, child protection, child rights, gender and gender discrimination, roles of the facilitators in eliminating gender discrimination and male engagement in household works, the benefits of working together in the family, and their roles in their community investing their knowledge and skills they gained from the training.

Quarterly Refreshers Training for the SBK Facilitators on Facilitation of Parenting Session:

Quarterly Refresher Training for the SBK facilitators is a continuous process for enhancing knowledge and skills of the SBK facilitators in facilitating the parenting sessions. A total of 100 SBK female facilitators received the training for one day in each quarter.

SBK session:

The program reopened a total of 100 *Shishu Bikas Kendra* (SBKs) after COVID-19 pandemic situation with an average of 13 children per SBK. The age limit of the children

is 3-5 years. A total of 15,600 SBK sessions were conducted in the reporting year with an average of 156 sessions per SBK. The SBK facilitators conducted the sessions creating an enable learning environment for the children. As a result, the children attended the learning sessions comfortably and they were able to prepare themselves for enrollment in the Primary Schools. Each of the SBKs has learning and playing materials which are useful for physical, mental, linguistic, emotional and intellectual development of the children.

Curricular events for Govt. Primary Schools:

The project conducted curricular events in 10 Government Primary Schools in 5 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila. A total of 400



students (Boys-173 & Girls-227) participated the events. Drawing, speed reading and essay writing competitions were organized to improve motivation level of the students in their studies. All the participating children were awarded with education materials. The teachers, SMC members and parents were present in the prize giving ceremony. The students actively participated the competitions and were highly pleased receiving the education materials as prizes. The parents, SMC members, teachers and other community people found very happy and they requested to organize more events to increase the knowledge and interests of the students in study. In the same way, 100 SBKs arranged drawing competition where 1,078

children (Boys-536 & Girls-542) participated the drawing competition to enhance their knowledge in drawing.

Orientation and training for the SMC and SC members:

A total of 10 orientation and training sessions held in the reporting year with participation of the SMC and SC members of 10 Government



Primary Schools in the targeted 5 Unions. A total of 110 SMC members (Male-63 & Female-47) and 70 Student Council (SC) members (Girl-43 & Boys-27) of the 10 government primary schools attended the orientation and training sessions. The aims of the orientation and training sessions were creation of a child friendly environment at the schools, responsibilities of the SC members, child rights, gender and gender discrimination free education environment. The SMC and SC members actively participated the sessions. The participants of the orientation and training sessions got a clear concept on the issues discussed in the orientation and training sessions, and committed to address the issues timely and effectively.

Exploration of youth club model:

The project organized 10 orientation sessions with the members of 10 youth clubs in the targeted 5 Unions. A total of 220 youth club members (Male-104 & Female-116) attended the orientation sessions. The main objectives of the orientation sessions were raising

awareness of the youths about characteristics of a model youth club, rights of children and youths, responsibilities of youths, and creation of a gender transformative environment at the community level. The youths actively participated the orientation sessions. They planned and committed to address the issues effectively as discussed in the sessions. In the orientation sessions, characteristics of a model youth club were discussed with special focus. As a result, the youth club members were highly motivated to work hard to establish their clubs as model youth clubs to serve the community addressing the issues effectively as discussed in the orientation sessions.

Orientation of Fathers' Café:

The project formed 65 Fathers' Café with the fathers of the children of 0-8 years. Each of the Fathers' Café was formed with 15 to 20 fathers. During the reporting period, a total of 65 orientation of fathers' café held at different venues at the community level of the targeted 5 Unions under Barguna Sadar Upazila. A total of



996 fathers attended the orientation sessions. The fathers' café orientation held with a view to raise awareness of the fathers on effective parenting. The issues for discussion were maternal care, role of the fathers in maternal care, child care, child safety, promoting child development and eliminating root causes of gender disparity, and roles of the fathers in the family. The participating fathers got clear conception on the issues discussed in the

orientation sessions and they committed to address the issues effectively at the household level.

Grand Parents' Group Meeting:

The project formed 59 Grandparents Groups with the grandparents of the children of 0-8 years. Each of the Grandparents' Groups was formed with 15 to 20 grandparents in each of the groups. During the reporting period, a total of 59 meetings held at different venues at the community level of the targeted 5 Unions. A total of 1,006 grandparents (Male-435 & Female-571) attended the meetings. The Grandparents Group meetings held with a view to raise awareness of the grand parents on



effective parenting. The issues for discussion were maternal care, child care, child protection, promoting child development and eliminating root causes of gender disparity, and roles of grandparents in the family. The participating grandparents got clear conception on the issues discussed in the meeting and they committed to address the issues effectively at the household level.

Material Development Workshop for the SBK Facilitators:

The children usually like to learn in a playful environment using various types of toys. Therefore, with a view to increasing types and number of toys at each of the SBKs, a total of 100 material development workshops

held with participation of selected 100 female SBK facilitators. They developed 45 types of



playing materials to be used by the children at the SBKs for their easy learning in a playful environment.

Basic Training of Little Teachers:

The project targeted 300 disadvantaged pre-primaries to 3rd grade students in 10 Government Primary Schools to provide alternative education support to make-up their learning gaps due to suspension of classes to avoid COVID-19 infection and retaining them in the formal education system. A total of 42 Little Teachers (Males-3 & Female-39) of secondary and above level were appointed for providing additional support to the targeted 300 students (Boys-129 & Girls-171) for making-up their learning gaps. The appointed 42 Little Teachers received a 2 days subject based basic training to develop their teaching skills. The targeted 300 students regularly attended the community-based education centers maintaining social distance and using sanitizer and mask. The Little Teachers also received a half day monthly refresher training to improve their teaching skills. The targeted students were benefitted by attending the community-based education centers and they have been able to make-up their learning gaps.

Yearly reflection session on monitoring and supervision:

The project is being implemented to enable all the children below the age of eight, especially girls to develop to their full potential free from discriminatory and restrictive attitudes, practices and expectations based on gender, ability and other identities. The project organized a yearly reflection session for the Head Teachers, Upazila Education Officer, Assistant Upazila Education Officer, Upazila Resource Center Instructor and Upazila Standing Committee



Members. A total of 25 participants (female-3 & Male-22) attended the reflection session.

Parenting through courtyard meeting:

During the reporting period, the Program conducted 194 parenting sessions through courtyard meeting with support from SBK Facilitators for orienting the parents and grandparents of the SBK learners on the issues of care and protection of 0-3 years' children, elimination of gender discrimination, care and health awareness of pregnant women and information on health services available at local level. Averagely 15 participants attended in each of the parenting sessions. A total of 2,897 participants attended the sessions of whom 1,144 boys, 764 girls, 342 fathers, 146 grandfathers, 350 mothers and 151 grandmothers attended the sessions.

Exchange Visit:

The project organized exchange visit for youth



club members, Union Parishad Chairman and members, and school teachers. A total of 65 participants attended the exchange visits and observed SBK refreshers trainings, SBK centers, grandparents' meetings, parenting refreshers trainings and parenting sessions. At the end of the visit, they expressed their full satisfaction and are playing supportive roles in running the SBK and parenting sessions smoothly.

Distance parenting and SBK support:

The project arranged distance parenting and SBK support through community radio and cable network at the local level. A total of 6730 (Male-2,755, Female-1,860, Boys-1045 & Girls-1070) came under the coverage of the distance learning.

Basic Training on Gender Responsive Inclusive Pedagogy:

The project conducted a two days' gender responsive, inclusive teaching learning pedagogy



and safeguarding training for the pre-primary

and Grade I-III teachers of Government Primary Schools in Barguna Sadar Upazila. The Upazila Education Officer, Assistant Upazila Education Officer and Upazila Resource Centre Instructor attended the inaugural session of the training. A total of 44 teachers (Male-16 & Female-28) from 10 schools attended the training.

Refreshers training on Gender Responsive Inclusive Pedagogy:

The project conducted one day refreshers training for the pre-primary and Grade I-III teachers of Government Primary Schools of Barguna Sadar Upazila on gender responsive, inclusive teaching learning pedagogy and safeguarding training. A total of 42 teachers (Male-14 & Female-28) from 10 schools attended the training.

Ongoing supervision and monitoring support:

As a part of continuous process to ensure Gender Responsive Early Childhood Development under GeTECD Project, Upazila Education Officer, Assistant Upazila

Education Officer and Upazila Resource Centre Instructor visit the program activities periodically and evaluate our project activities in the targeted 5 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila. In the reporting year, they visited



refreshers training of SBK facilitators, SBK sessions, meetings with grandparents, orientation sessions of fathers, and meetings with school management committees as part of their supervision and monitoring support to the project management.

Success Story

Manik Chandra Roy, A Gender Sensitive UP Member



Manik Chandra Roy (37), son of Bangkim Chandra Roy and Arati Rani Roy, Village: Chhata Badarkhali, Post Office: Gourichanna, Upazila: Barguna Sadar, District: Barguna. He is a UP member, priest of a temple and a social worker. He is a farmer by profession. There are six members in his family including himself, wife, a son, a daughter and parents. He usually likes to involve himself in social works. He is very supportive to the development organizations in implementing the development activities in his area by monitoring and assisting in solving problems. SAP-Bangladesh is implementing the 'Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) project' in his Union. The project provides the religious leaders of the project working area with the orientation on gender related important issues.

Manik Chandra Roy, as an invited participant attended the orientations organized by GeTECD project for the religious leaders on 7 September 2022, and for the UP members and local elites on 7 December 2022. In the orientation sessions, the issues like activities of GeTECD project, gender discrimination and gender inequality, and roles of the religious leaders in creating the environment of gender equality in the community, the religious norms in taking care of the children and the practices in place in the society, roles of the UP members and local elites in eliminating gender inequality and child care in the society. He actively participated the orientation sessions and came forward with his opinions and suggestions.

Being motivated through the orientation sessions, Manik Chandra Roy observed the SBK sessions, refreshers of the SBK facilitators, fathers' club orientation, meeting of the grant parents, and youth members' meeting with his own interest and provided valuable speeches for motivating the participants in creating gender friendly environment in the society. He visits the SBK centers for monitoring the SBK activities with a view to providing necessary feedback and assistance for smooth running of the SBK activities. He practices gender equality in his work places, family and society. He plays a vital role in creating an enabling environment for establishing gender sensitive and child friendly families and society.

Considering his vital role in the family and society, Manik Chandra Roy was invited to attend a three

days' workshop organized by Plan International in Dhaka from 12-14 December 2022 on the issues of



eliminating gender discrimination and participation of the male members in household works by the side of the female members. He shared new ideas on the above issues in the workshop.

After attending the workshop, Manik Chandra Roy visited the activities GeTECD project. He discussed with his devotees the gender related issues and roles of males in taking care of the children. The roles he is playing in the society is expediting the elimination of gender discrimination in his area.

In conclusion, Manik Chandra Roy requested SAP-Bangladesh to continue the activities of GeTECD project covering all the areas of Barguna Sadar Upazila. He also committed that he would continue his support to the project activities.

Collected by: Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, Program Organizer, GeTECD Project, Barguna.

5.6 Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project

SAP-Bangladesh is implementing the Bangladesh-Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh in Barguna Sadar Upazila. Considering a less developed area, this location was chosen for the project. Rate of child marriage in the area is also very high. Being

vulnerable for child marriage 10 unions under Barguna Sadar Upazila included in this project. The following components are incorporated in the project.

- Education
- Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR)

- Youth Economic Empowerment (YEE)
- Social Empowerment (SE)

This project works to implement the targeted activities under each of the above mentioned components with a view to achieving the following outcomes.

- Retention of Girls in School.
- Knowledge of SRHR among adolescents.

- Economic Opportunities for Girls and Families at High Risk of Child Early & Forced marriage (CEFM).
- Communities embrace norms that value the girls and support girls and boys to delay marriage.
- Responsiveness of duty bearers at national, district and Upazila levels to prevent and respond to child right violations, particularly CEFM

Component Wise Achievements

Education

Target & Achievement

Education: Target & Achievement in 2022-2023

SMC Refresher Training (Nos.)	83	83
School Improvement Plan (Nos.)	83	83
Renovation of safe drinking water facility in school (Nos.)	83	83
Accessible girls' common room (Nos.)	83	83
Orientation on functional reporting and responding...	83	83
Cash support to extreme poor girls (Girls)	6430	6355
Teachers' training on code of conduct (Persons)	922	901
Refreshers training to the facilitators (Facilitators)	20	20
Community-managed learning centers (Centres)	20	20
Learning camp by youth group (Centres)	40	40
Link/refer girls to the relevant institutes (Girls)	16	16

■ Target ■ Achievement

Major Achievements

School Management Committee (SMC) Training:

In the reporting year, School/Madrasha Management Committee training was conducted at 83 secondary level educational institutions as targeted. A total of 986 SMC members (Male-631 & Female-355) attended the training sessions. The SMC members were



trained on their roles and responsibilities which are useful to improve the overall standard of the educational institutions.

School Improvement Plan:

Considering the gaps and irregularities of the institutions those were identified during SMC and PTA training, an effective plan was developed with the collaborative efforts of the SMCs and PTAs at 83 secondary level institutions (50 Secondary Schools and 33 Madrashas). A total of 986 SMC members (Male-631 & Female-355) attended the training sessions.

Renovation of safe drinking water facility:

With a view to ensuring healthy environment of educational institutions, the GGE Project promoted safe drinking water facilities in its working area. Under this intervention, non-functional safe drinking water accesses are being made functional. A total of 54 non-functional drinking water devises (tube-wells) were brought to functional condition and platforms of the tube-wells were reconstructed with the contribution of the concern educational institutions and GGE project. Besides, the drinking water facility, this project also aims to ensure an inclusive structure for disable and adolescent friendly (especially girls friendly) WASH facilities in every institution under targeted coverage area in micro-steps. As a part of inclusive WASH facility, the GGE Project reconstructed 68 toilets and ensured water supply through an electric motor connection at 23 schools. In the reporting period, 16 connecting roads were reconstructed for easy access to the tube-wells of the targeted schools.

Accessible girls' common room:

The GGE Project works with 83 educational institutions (50 secondary schools and 33 Madrashas) in Barguna Sadar Upazila. The structural condition of most of the institutions were very poor, didn't have enough classrooms,

didn't have any common room and existing space of the school was very congested. The GGE project supported 83 educational



institutions in fixing common rooms from existing opportunities in the reporting period through need based minor repairing. On the other hand, essential materials like door and window screen, ceiling fan, mat, hygiene kits, first aid box, medicine for primary treatment and sports materials were supplied to ensure the highest facility for girls in the common room in 83 institutions.

Orientation on functional reporting and responding mechanism:

The objective of this orientation was to increase the capacity of child protection committee and organize them to improve protection environment at institution level and ensure child rights and child protection so that dropout rate decreases. A total of 738 (Men-403 & Women-171, Boys-82 & Girl-82) participants attended the orientation from 50 Secondary Schools and 33 *Madrashas*. In the orientation, the child protection committee developed a yearly action plan through group work with a view to improving overall standard like educational, infrastructural, child rights, child protection and other relevant facilities. After the orientation, they are found attentive in implementing the development plan for the institutions and improving child protection environment. Students' attendance is increasing day by day because of brining positive changes in the campus due to the effective initiatives

taken by the child protection committee. The committee also increases monitoring and resource mobilization after getting the orientation.

Cash support to extreme poor girls:

With a view to keeping poor girls in school, GGE project provided cash support to the girls of the targeted 50 Secondary Schools and 33 Madrashas. A total of 6,355 girls were selected for the cash support. During the reporting period, they received a total of BDT 99,13,800 where each of them received BDT 390 as cash support.

Refreshers training to the teachers:

In the reporting period, a total of 38 batches teachers' training was conducted on code of



conduct, girls friendly inclusive school and gender responsive inclusive pedagogy for two days. The training sessions covered the topics of gender responsive inclusive pedagogy, teachers, SMC & PTA code of conduct. A total of 901 teachers (Male-702 & Female-199) attended the training sessions.

Refreshers training to the facilitators:

The project operates 20 learning centers on alternative basic education for the dropout children in the project coverage area. Each of the centers has a facilitator who teaches the children. They were provided with basic training on alternative education package. A total of 20 participants attended the training sessions of whom Male-06 & Female-14.

Community managed learning centers:

The project operates 20 learning centers at the community level managed by the local



community for alternative teaching of the dropout children in its working area. The project provided education materials and other essential materials in the centers. In the reporting year, a total of 710 students (Boys-259 & Girls-451) were admitted in the learning centers into two sessions of a year.

Learning camp by youth groups:

The project is operating 40 learning camps in its coverage area for the most marginalized students who are unable to get private tuition specially in Science, Technology, English and Math (STEM) subjects. With a view to improving



the situation and decreasing the dropout rate from schools, the learning camps are providing

extra tuition supports to the above students. In the reporting year, a total of 1,200 students (Boys-350 & Girls-850) received STEM classes in two sessions. The students are benefited from the learning camps through GGE project intervention without spending any cost. Their guardians are highly pleased as they need not to pay for the tuition.

Link girls to VOC/TVET institutes:

The learners who completed the course of alternative basic education from the community learning centers operated by GGE project and didn't have the opportunity to back to the mainstream education, they were linked with the institutions like VOC/TVET for acquiring

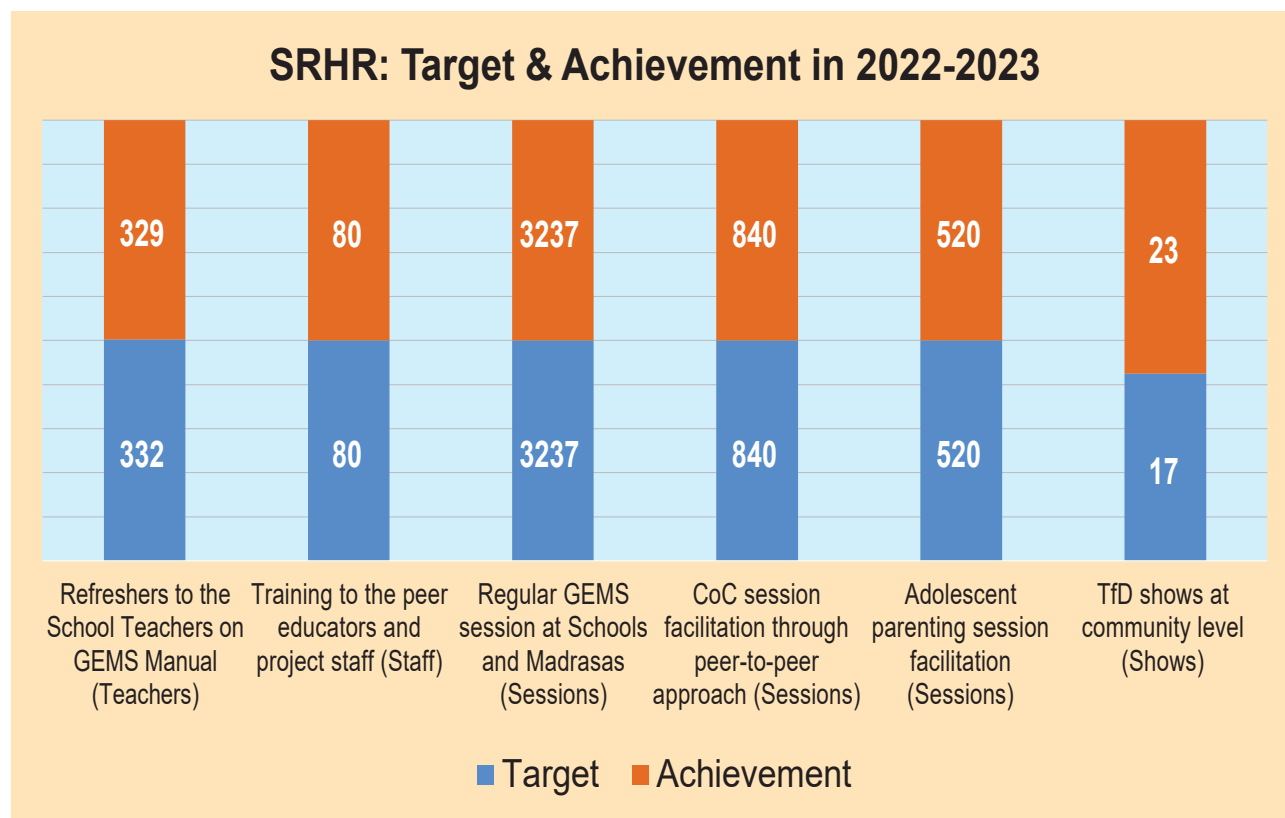
technical skills that would enable them to get job for earning income. In the reporting year,



a total of 16 girls were linked with the tailoring training.

Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR):

Target & Achievement



Major Achievements

Refreshers Training of teachers on GEMS manual:

Refreshers Training on manual of Gender Equity Movement in School (GEMS) for school teachers were conducted in 16 batches in the



reporting year, where 329 teachers (Male-226 & Female-103) received the training. The training covered the issues of Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights during adolescence like, adolescent change, menstruation management and personal hygiene.

Training to develop peer educators:

GGE project is delivering SRHR messages among all level of community people by the peer educators in various approaches. With a view to delivering the messages, the project formed different ages of peer groups and peer educators who got ToT on the relevant topics. After getting ToT, they are delivering messages at the community spaces. In the reporting year, a total of 80 participants (Boys-40 & Girls-40) received training on Champion of Change (CoC) manual and 40 parents (Male-30 & Female-10) received the training on parenting manual.

Regular GEMS session at schools and madrasas:

The project conducted GEMS sessions by the trained teachers in each of the schools using GEMS diary. The students of class six, seven and eight came to the coverage of

these sessions in the targeted 50 Secondary Schools and 33 Madrasahs. In the reporting year, a total of 3,237 sessions were conducted for sensitizing the students on gender and sex, gender discrimination, gender equality and equity, division of labour between male and female, puberty, change of adolescence, menstrual hygiene management and personal hygiene where a total of 12,256 students (Boys-5113 & Girls-7143) came to the coverage the GEMS sessions.

COC session facilitation through peer-to-peer approach:

Champion of Change (COC) sessions were conducted in the community space with participation of the adolescents where trained peer educators facilitated these sessions. A total of 840 sessions were conducted and targeted 1,600 participants attended the



sessions. The participants from out of school and in school adolescents attended the sessions. The adolescents gained knowledge on the concept of safe space, self-portrait to establish self-respect from the sessions. They also got a clear idea about effective communication and gender.

Adolescent parenting session facilitation at community level:

A total of 520 parenting sessions were conducted where 1,600 selected parents (Mother-800 & Father-800) attended the sessions from different communities. The parenting sessions were

conducted by the trained parents' peer where both mothers and fathers attended the sessions as mixed groups. Each of the groups contained 20 members (Mother-10 & Father-10).

TfD shows at the community level:

With a view to reducing child marriage in the targeted area, GGE project is implementing various awareness raising activities. TfD show is one of these activities. Basically, adolescents perform at stage using script on prevention of Child Early & Forced Marriage (CEFM) that are organized in an open field or a wide space at the community level where all classes of people can enjoy the TfD shows and can be informed about the bad impact of child marriage. At the same time, they also get messages about the

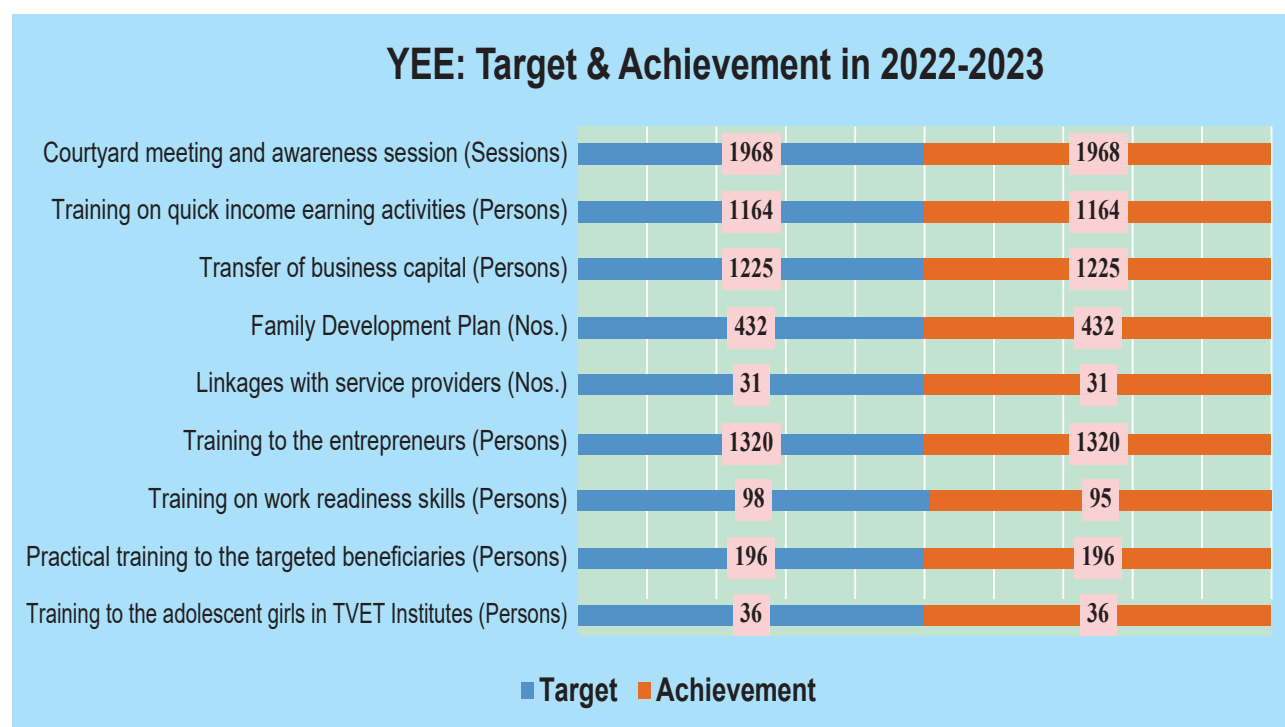
punishment of child marriage and child marriage act-2017. The project organized 23 TfD shows in the reporting year where approximately 8,000



people of all classes including women, men, youths and children got CEFM messages in a cultural entertainment.

Youth Economic Empowerment (YEE)

Target & Achievement



Major Achievements

Courtyard meeting and awareness session:

The project formed 82 youth groups for youth economic empowerment in its working area. A total of 1,968 fortnightly courtyard meetings



and awareness sessions were conducted with the youth groups for raising their awareness on economic empowerment. A total of 30,839 youths (Female-29,513 & Male-1,326) attended the courtyard meetings and awareness sessions.

Training on quick income earning activities:

The project provided two days training to the youths in 58 batches on planning and



management of quick income earning activities like, goat, duck and hen rearing, crop production, pond fish cultivation and vegetable cultivation where 1,164 youths (Female 1,152 & Male-12) participated the training sessions. The training sessions were facilitated by the Upazila Sub-Assistant Agriculture Officers and Sub Assistant Livestock Officers.

Transfers training to the youths on business capital:

The project supported the youths with business capital to start the enterprises they planned. During the reporting period, a total of 1,225 targeted youths (Male-6 & Female-1,219) received the first installment of business capital through digital transactions. After receiving the business capital, the youths successfully started their planned enterprises. After successful utilization of the first installment of business capital, the next installments would be provided to the youths step by step. The youths started different enterprises like, Goat Rearing by 563 youths (Female-558 & Male 5), Duck Rearing by 81 youths (female), Hen Rearing by 98 youths (female), crop production in the leased lands by 88 youths (female), Pond Fish Culture by 54 youths (female), Tailoring by 188 youths (female), Small Business by 72 youths (female), Pigeon Rearing by 1 youth (male) and vegetable cultivation by 80 youths (female).

Family Development Plan:

In the reporting year, family development plan format was printed and completed planning at the family level. All the targeted families were brought under the plan. A total of 432 family development plans were prepared in the targeted year. A total of 1,512 participants (Male-401, Female-432, Boys-247 & Girls-432) attended the planning meeting from 432 families.

Linkages with the service providers for vaccination of the livestock:

With a view to reducing mortality rate of livestock of the project participants as well as other community people, the project organized vaccination campaigns at the community level in collaboration with the Department of Livestock (DLS). Five types of vaccines were used in those vaccination campaigns namely Anthrax, PPR, BCRDV, RDV and Duck Plague. Trained Paravets conducted the vaccination activities jointly with Sub-Assistant Livestock Officer (SALO) of DLS. Vaccination campaigns were organized at 62 spots in the reporting year.

Detailed information regarding the number of



livestock vaccinated are as follows:

Types of livestock vaccinated	Number of livestock of the beneficiaries vaccinated	Number of livestock of other community people vaccinated	Total number of livestock vaccinated
Cattle	1,333	5,975	7,308
Goat	2,305	3,455	5,760
Duck	5,908	9,615	15,523
Hen	6,241	9,544	15,785
Chick	5,244	7,542	12,786
Grand Total	21,031	36,131	57,162

Training to the entrepreneurs:

In the reporting year, a total of 1,320 beneficiaries (Female-1,264 & Male-56) received the training in 11 batches. The topics of the training were profit earning, maintaining livelihood, increasing capital and asset, skill development, production and marketing. By attending the training, the participants also gained knowledge on the characteristics of enterprise, concept of potential business, importance of business plan, types of business, legal conduct and insurance, expenditure calculation, source of capital and decision making in doing businesses.

Training on work readiness skills:

In the reporting year, 95 participants (Female-91 & Male-4) received the training for three days.

The topics of the training were knowing thyself, searching, getting and continuing in job, skills to gaining victory and mind set, selection and planning of businesses. By attending the training, the participants were able to increase their capacity on applying for job, searching job, preparation to facing interview, barriers in the work place and continuing in job, and selection and planning business.

Practical training to the targeted beneficiaries:

In the reporting year, a total of 43 agreements were signed with the selected mentors of the private sectors for practical training to the targeted beneficiaries with a view to developing skills of the beneficiaries for doing job. During the reporting period, a total of 196

beneficiaries (Female-191 & Male-5) were trained by the mentors on tailoring, bamboo



crafts making, nursery, packaging materials making and *Nakshi Katha* for 20 days at the mentors' workplace with an expectation that

the mentees would be able to get employment in their mentors' workplace after completion of the practical training. After getting the practical training, all the 196 beneficiaries are doing job at the mentors' workplace by fulfilling the expectations.

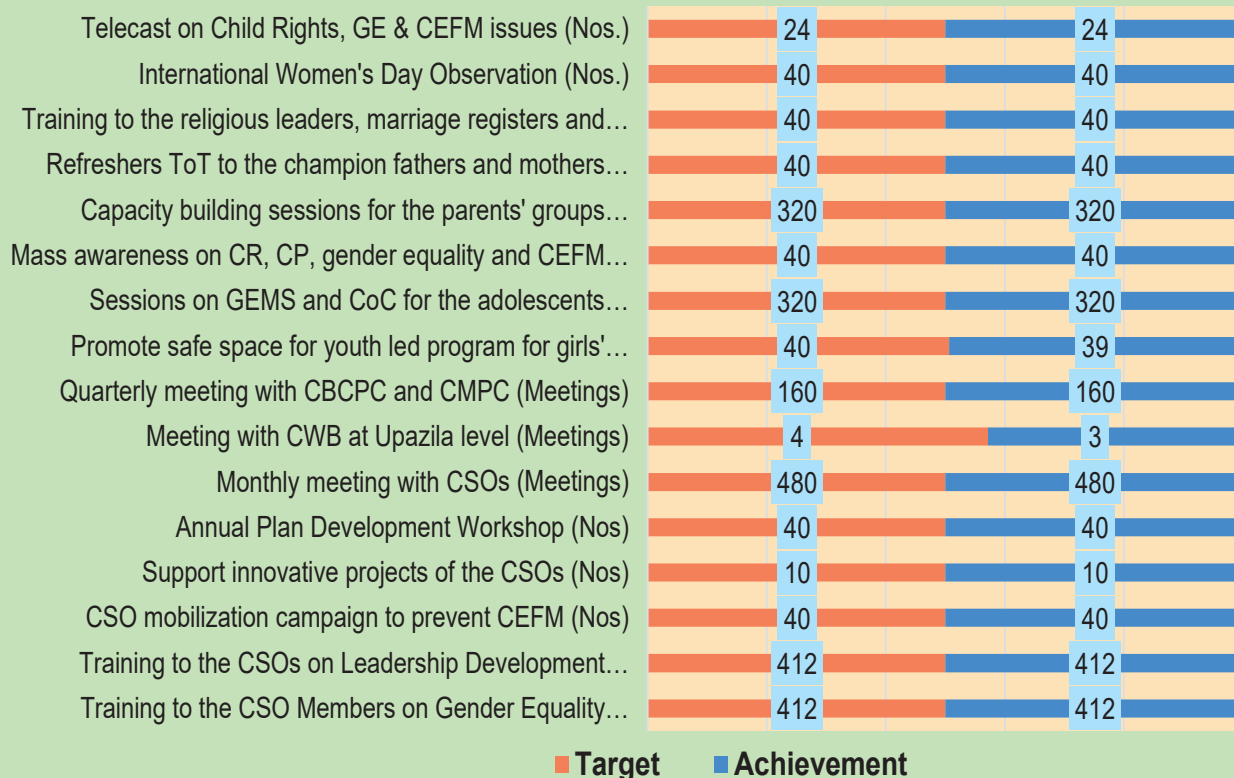
Training to the adolescent girls in TVET Institutes:

In the reporting year, the project arranged to admit a total of 36 youths (Girls-34 & Boys-2) to the TVET institutes. They received training in different trades. After completing the training course, they have become skilled manpower and will get job opportunity in related sectors.

Social Empowerment

Target & Achievement

Social Empowerment: Target & Achievement in 2022-2023



Major Achievements

Telecast on Child Rights, GE & CEFM issues:

To create mass awareness against the bad impact of child early and forced marriage (CEFM), child rights and gender equality (GE) by using digital media, the project developed two radio spots for short public announcement for 60 seconds and magazine program for 20 minutes that were broadcasted in the community radio *Lokobetar*. In the reporting year, 24 radio spots broadcasted using the developed content in local language and focusing relevant context like gender equality, child rights and bad impact of child marriage. Short dramas and folk songs were also contents of the radio programs. These programs also were broadcasted on website, Facebook Page, Facebook Groups and other online Medias. On the other hand, awareness messages on CEFM are also disseminated through rickshaw painting and wall painting at the crowded places.

International Women's Day Observation:

The GGE project observed International Women's Day with local Union Parishads and CSOs at youth clubs as one of the important project interventions. A total of 40 rallies and discussion sessions held where a total of 2,030



participants (Male-302, Female-348, Boys-612 & Girls-768) attended the rally and discussion sessions.

Training to the religious leaders, marriage registers and match makers:

In the reporting year, the project organized two days training for the marriage registers, match makers and religious leaders on gender equality, child rights, child protection, bad impact of CEFM and Child Marriage Act-2017 in two batches. A total of 40 participants from 10 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila participated the training who are involved in settling the marriages at their community including marriage registration.

Refreshers ToT to the champion fathers and mothers:

In the reporting year, GGE Project provided a two days' refreshers ToT to the champion fathers and mothers in two batches on the issues of gender



equality, gender discrimination, child rights and SRHR. A total of 40 participants (Fathers-20 & Mothers-20) attended the refreshers ToT who in turn conducted the capacity building sessions for the parents' groups.

Capacity building sessions for the parents' group members:

In the reporting year, champion fathers and mothers conducted 320 sessions for parents' group members on CEFM and understanding value of girls in their community supported by the project. Before session conduction at the community level, the champion fathers and mothers received ToT on the mentioned issues. A total of 40 trained parents (20 Fathers & 20

Mothers) conducted the sessions. Each of the facilitators conducted 8 sessions in the reporting year.

Mass awareness on child rights, child protection, gender equality and CEFM:

Mass awareness on child rights, child protection, gender equality and CEFM is an important activity of the project. This awareness is done through various types of events like TfD, cultural competition, set up bill boards, wall painting, rickshaw painting, newspaper circulation etc. In the reporting year, the project conducted 40 events at the community level for awareness raising and sensitization of the community people on the above issues.

Sessions on GEMS/COC package for the in school and out of school adolescents:

In the reporting year, a total of 740 sessions were conducted for the in school and out of school adolescents for strengthening their capacity on leadership, campaign, coordination/collaboration, influencing and networking. The number of participants was fixed by 800 (Girls-400 & Boys-400) who received the sessions on GEMS/COC package. The sessions were conducted by the Learning Facilitators of the project. The topics of the sessions were participatory gender equality, gender socialization, puberty period, menstrual hygiene management, personal health care, child marriage and its bad impact, and child marriage act-2017.

Promote safe space for youth lead programs for girls' rights:

The GGE project works with 40 Youth Clubs to involve the club members with social mobilization and project activities. The project provided them with various trainings with a view to increasing their capacity. The youth clubs are connected with GGE project by signing MoU. The project provided the Clubs with financial support for renovation works of the Club houses

based on the request of the Club members and thorough assessment with a view to promoting space for the youths where they can conduct any youth lead program safely and comfortably.

Quarterly meeting with CBCPC and CMPC:



The quarterly meetings with 30 CBCPCs and 10 CMPCs in 10 Unions were conducted under the project coverage area. The CBCPC and CMPC members participated in the meetings. As a result of the project interventions, the CBCPCs and CMPCs are functioning well. In the reporting year, a total of 672 CBCPC and CMPC members (Male-406, Female-206, Boys-30 & Girls-30) from 40 committees participated the meetings.

Quarterly meeting with CWB at Upazila level:

The project supported the Upazila Child Welfare Board (CWB) for conducting quarterly meetings of the CWB at Upazila level. The meetings were chaired by the Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Barguna Sadar Upazila. All the 11 CWB members (Male-8 & Female-3) attended the meetings. The roles and responsibilities of the CWB members were discussed in the meetings and commitment were taken from the CWB members to perform accordingly in ensuring child rights at the family and community level.

Monthly Meeting with CSOs:

The project works with 40 CSOs in its working area. The members of the CSOs include development activists in changing social discriminatory norms and attitudes. A total of

480 meetings held as per plan where 1,534



participants (Male-181, Female-130, Boys -556 & Girls-667) attended the meetings.

Annual Action Plan Development Workshop:

The project organized annual action plan development workshops with 40 targeted CSOs. The workshops were successful with active participation of the CSO members. At the beginning of the workshop, the participants introduced themselves with their CSO identity, location and their social initiatives. A total of 1,245 participants (Male-138, Female-109, Boys-464 and Girls-534) attended the workshops from 40 CSOs.

Support Innovative Projects of CSOs to prevent CEFM:

Under this intervention, selected 10 CSOs implemented micro project in their catchment areas with a view to reducing child marriage in their community by the support of GGE Project. Before implementing the projects, responsible CSOs conducted survey and finalized beneficiaries. Through the micro projects, the CSOs provided the marginalized girls with school bag, sanitary napkin, ducks and hens as input support. The local elites, religious leaders, UP members and teachers attended the input distribution ceremony. A total of 1,140 adolescent girls received sanitary napkin, 51 girls received hen and duck for rearing and 114 girls received school bag based on their needs. In the reporting year, a total of 80 CSO members including chairpersons and secretaries of the concerned CSOs were oriented on youth economic development.

CSO mobilization campaign to prevent CEFM:

In the reporting year, the CSOs scripted and played 5 TfD shows in the community space with a view to increasing public awareness against child marriage where 2,039 participants (Male 747, Female-595, Boys-302 & Girls-395) received messages on the bad impact of child marriage and child marriage act-2017. These TfD shows were played in the open space of community where all classes and aged people viewed. On the other hand, club based cultural event like sports, debate and drawing competition were also held.

Training on Leadership Development:

The project conducted leadership development training for the CSO members with a view to enhancing their leadership quality to represent their community for changing discriminatory



social norms. A total of 412 participants (Male-152, Female-96, Boys-66 & Girls-98) from 40 CSOs attended the training from the targeted 10 unions.

Training to the CSO members on Gender Equality:

The project conducted gender equality training for the CSO members with a view to creating awareness on gender sensitivity, bad effects of gender discrimination, gender based violence and to motivating the CSO members to be supportive on gender equality issues. A total of 412 participants (Male-152, Female-96, Boys-66 & Girls-98) from 40 CSOs attended the training from the targeted 10 Unions.

Success Story

Poly in Preventing Child Marriage



Poly (15) a village girl, daughter of Abdul Barek and Most. Kajal of Village: Amtoli, Union: Gourichanna, Upazila: Barguna Sadar, and District: Barguna. Her father is a farmer and mother is a housewife. Due to lack of awareness and financial crisis in the family, Poly's parents thought to arrange early marriage of their daughter with a view to reducing their burden of bearing her educational expenses and to be free from anxiety of violence against their daughter. According to their thinking Poly's aunt brought her to Dhaka and arranged her marriage at the early age of 13. Her study turned off because of the early marriage.

Poly's husband was a garments worker. After their marriage her husband lost his job because of COVID-19 pandemic situation and he went back to his native home at Tangail with his wife Poly. Poly passed initial two months well in the joint family. Being a teen ager, Poly usually liked to watching television, playing and gossiping instead of attentive in household works. As such, conflict and domestic violence started on Poly that was increasing day by day due to lack of attention of poly in household works and financial crisis in the family as well. As a result, enabling environment for Poly in the family was

disappearing day by day. She was facing mental and physical torture most of the times and she couldn't bear the shock of torture at her teen age. Being tortured, poly was disappointed and hopeless, and came back to her parents' house in Barguna. In the meantime, her husband sent her divorced letter.

South Asia Partnership Bangladesh is implementing 'Girls Get Equal Project' in Barguna Sadar Upazila in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh with a view to reducing child marriage in the targeted area. This project operates forty learning centers in the Upazila with the scope of alternative basic education for out of school children. Lamia, Learning Facilitator of the project identified Poly as an out of school children and enlisted her at Amtali Jubo Club learning center. Initially, her parents were not agreed to send her to the



learning center because of criticize of the local people that ashamed her parents. At that stage, Kamrun Nahar, Field Facilitator of GGE Project

was able to motivate the parents of Poly to send their daughter to the learning center. Now, Poly is a regular learner in this center and doing very well as a learner. She wishes to be connected with mainstream education by getting admitted in a school at the beginning of the next year.

In conclusion, Poly expressed her reactions, “Being a victim of child marriage, I can

understand how it destroys a life and breaks dream of a teen ager. Keeping everything aside, I want to go forward and contribute in preventing child marriage in my community”.

Collected by: Md. Jahangir Hossain, Technical Officer, Education, GGE Project, Barguna

5.7. Innovation Sprint Project

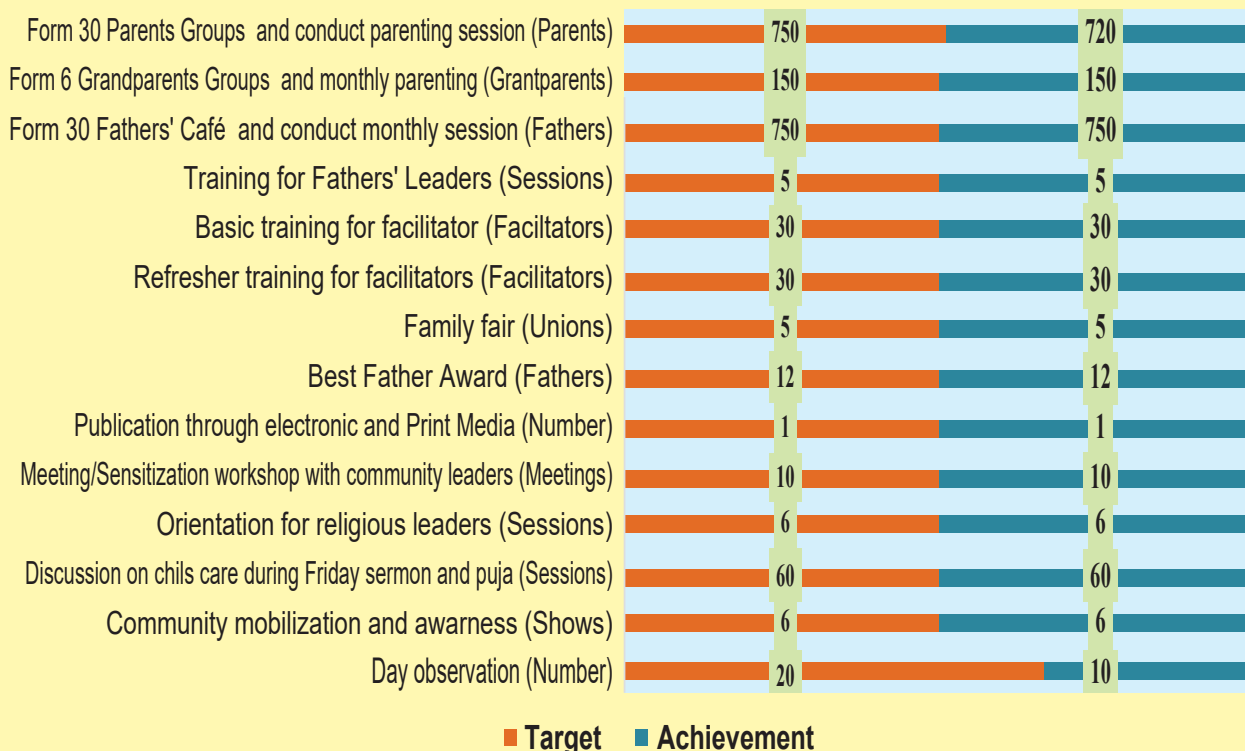
Barguna is an under-developed coastal district in the southern part of Bangladesh. Barguna Sadar Upazila consists of 10 Unions and one Pourashava but is disadvantaged in regard to socio-economic perspective as well as the livelihood of the poor people. SAP-Bangladesh has been implementing the “Innovation Sprint

Project” in 5 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh since November 2022.

The goal of the project is “to ensure girls are equally treated by parents and caregivers in early childhood years”.

Target and Achievement

Innovation Sprint Project: Target & Achievement in 2022-2023



Major Achievements

Form Parents' Groups and conduct monthly parenting sessions:

During the reporting period, the Community



Volunteers formed 30 Parents' Groups and conducted monthly parenting sessions through courtyard meetings with support from Parenting Facilitators of the project for orienting the parents on the issues of care and protection of 0-3 years' children, elimination of gender discrimination, care and health awareness of pregnant women and information on health services available at the local level. A total of 720 parents (Mother-296 & Father-424) attended the sessions.

Form Grandparents' Groups and conduct monthly parenting sessions:

The project formed 6 Grandparents Groups with the grandparents of the children of 0-8 years. Each of the Grandparents' Groups was formed with 25 grandparents. During the reporting period, a total of 30 meetings held at different venues at the community level of the targeted 5 Unions under Barguna Sadar Upazila. A total of 150 grandparents (Male-68 & Female-82) attended the meetings. The Grandparents' Group meetings held with a view to raising awareness of the grandparents on effective parenting. The issues for discussion were maternal care, child care, child protection, promoting child development and eliminating root causes of gender disparity, and the roles of grandparents in the family. The participating

grandparents got a clear conception of the issues discussed in the sessions and they committed to address the issues effectively at their household level.

Form Fathers' Café and conduct monthly session:

The project formed 30 Fathers' Café with the fathers of children of 0-8 years. Each of the Fathers' Café was formed with 25 fathers. During the reporting period, a total of 30 orientation sessions of fathers' café held at different venues at the community level of the targeted 5 Unions under Barguna Sadar Upazila. A total of 750 fathers attended the orientation sessions. The fathers' café orientation held with



a view to raising awareness of the fathers on effective parenting. The issues for discussion were maternal care, child care, child safety, promoting child development and eliminating root causes of gender disparity, and the roles of the fathers in the family. The participating fathers got a clear conception of the issues discussed in the orientation sessions and they committed to address the issues effectively at their household level.

Training of Fathers' Leaders:

The project organized 5 training sessions for fathers' leaders during the reporting period in 5 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila. The Community Facilitators and Technical Officer-Innovation Sprint facilitated the training sessions. A total of 59 fathers' leaders attended the training. After receiving the training, the fathers' leaders would orient sponsored children's families

to ensure the safeguarding of their families and communities, male engagement for child care, gender discrimination, early childhood development, leadership and the working load of men and women, and involvement of the fathers in household works.

Basic training for facilitators:

The project organized 3 days basic training on skills development of the facilitators in conducting parenting sessions in the working area. A total of 30 female Facilitators actively participated in the training. By attending the training, the facilitators understood the parenting, characteristics of children, child protection, child rights, gender and gender discrimination, roles of the facilitators in eliminating gender discrimination and male engagement in child



care, benefits of working together in the family, and their roles in their community investing their knowledge and skills they gained from the training.

Refreshers training for facilitator:

The project conducted two days' refreshers training for the parenting facilitators as a continuous process for enhancing the knowledge and skills of the parenting facilitators in facilitating the sessions on gender and gender inequality, their roles in eliminating gender

inequality in the community, child care, male engagement in child care and protection, health related awareness, etc. During the reporting period, a total of one refresher training was held in five Unions. A total of 29 female parenting facilitators received the training.

Family Fair:

The project organized 5 family fairs in 5 unions



under Barguna Sadar Union. A total of 1,268 (Female-761 & Male 507) participated in the fair. The topics in the family fairs were family relations, gender transformative child care and male engagement in family works. There were some amusement sessions in fairs such as games, local songs and debate competitions for the fathers and mothers.

Best father's award:

With a view to encouraging fathers in providing adequate support to their children in reducing gender discrimination and proper care of the children. The project provided the best fathers



with awards for the best support to their children and family work. In the reporting year, the project distributed certificates, crests and prizes to the best fathers. A total of 12 fathers got the awards in 5 Unions under Barguna Sadar Upazila.

Publication through print media:

In the reporting year, the interventions of Innovation Sprint Project were published at a time in three newspapers such as BD Crime (Online News), *Dainik Amar Songbad* (National Level News Paper), and Patharghata News (Local News Paper).

Meeting/Sensitization workshop with community leaders including UP:

Innovation Sprint Project arranged 10 Quarterly Meetings/Sensitization workshops with community leaders including UP bodies. A



total of 250 participants (Female-32 & Male-218) attended the meetings. The topics of the meetings were importance of early childhood care, gender, roles of UP bodies and elite persons to reduce gender discrimination, and the importance of male engagement in child care and household works.

Orientation sessions for religious leaders:

The project organized 6 orientation sessions in 5 Unions Under Barguna Sadar Upazila for Religious leaders like, Imam and Purohits. The

discussion topics in the meetings were gender transformative and early childhood development, parenting, ways of child learning, ways to have a healthy baby, care of a pregnant woman, types of discrimination between boys and girls after birth, discrimination against women in the society, and how the religion is playing a vital role in establishing rights of the children and women. By participating in the orientation, the religious leaders were motivated to contribute in various ways to improve the social situation in the above issues. At the end of the orientation, they made a list of ways to improve the social environment and committed to contributing accordingly.

Discussion on child care during Friday sermon and puja:

The project organized 60 sessions for the religious leaders with a view to motivating them to discuss during Friday sermon before Jumma prayer and during puja about the roles of male members in the families in child care. The religious leaders were motivated through the sessions and are discussing the above issue during Friday sermon before Jumma prayers and the priests are also discussing the issue during puja.

Community mobilization and awareness:

During the reporting period, the project arranged 6 Video Shows at the community, two text messages and two voice messages to 6,236 people through their mobile phones. The main topics of the message were responsibilities of fathers and mothers in child care, importance of child care, responsibilities of the male members of the family in taking care of pregnant women.

Day observation:

The project organized different events such as art competitions, rallies, games, songs, debate competitions and discussion sessions during observation of different days such as

International Women's Day, International Day of Families, Zero Discrimination Day and 16 days of celebration in different places of 5 Unions under Barguna Sadar Upazila with special focus on child care and care of pregnant women. A total of 2,582 participants (Female-606, Male-964, Girls-424 & Boys-588) attended the events and around 40 community people attended the event as spectators.



Success Story

Kahinur's Mindset in Child Care



Kahinur Begum (52) is a house wife, Husband: Md. Ashrab Ali of Village: Gulishakhali, Post Office: Tetulbaria, Union Badarkhali, Upazila: Barguna Sadar, District Barguna. There are six members in the family of Kohinoor Begum. Her husband Ashrab Ali is a farmer. His son Md. Benzir Ahmed is also a farmer. Benazir Ahmed got married in 2014. Benazir Ahmed's wife's name is Most. Sohagi Begum. After bringing Sohagi Begum as the new daughter-in-law, Kahinur Begum shifted the cooking and other household works to her daughter-in-law. When Benazir Ahmed, the son of Kohinoor Begum, cooperated with his wife in the household works, his mother used to get angry with him.

She thought that the people of the society would laugh if he helped his wife. Even Sohagi also did not take any help from her husband, thinking that her mother-in-law might get angry. In 2021, Sohagi gave birth to a boy child. Her mother-in-law Kahinur Begum became very happy to see the boy child. But, after delivery of the baby, Sohagi and the baby were not properly cared for. Kahinur Begum did not even know how the child would develop. She didn't know how to benefit from working together at home.

The activities of the Innovation Sprint Project implemented by SAP-Bangladesh in 5 Unions of Barguna Sadar Upazila were started in Gulishakhali village of Badarkhali Union from 7 December 2022 for increasing participation of the grandparents to ensure proper care of pregnant women and children up to 8 years. A survey was conducted to form a group of 25 grandparents where Kahinur Begum was included as a member of the group. The first meeting held on 27 February 2023 with participation of all the members of the grandparents' group. In the first awareness meeting the discussion topics were identity of children, child care, pregnant mother's care, necessity of child care, benefits of working together in the family, roles of grandparents in the family, domestic violence and its reasons, ways to stopping domestic violence, and roles of all the family members in child development.

Abdullah Al Arham (2) is the only grandson of Kohinoor Begum. Kahinur Begum said that when her daughter-in-law was pregnant, no one cared



about her. No checkup was done at the hospital. No good doctor was consulted during delivery. Even the grandson was not taken proper care of because Kahinur was not well treated or taken care of when she became a bride. As a result, she did not know anything about it. Now she understands that in order to have a good and healthy baby, the mother should be properly taken care of by the entire family from the time of pregnancy. In order to form a happy family, both men and women should cooperate with each other in all household works. In this way

the relationship between all will increase and family violence will be removed.

Kohinoor Begum learnt new things by attending the grandparents' meetings arranged by the Innovation Sprint Project in each month. She said that in her own family, when she implemented the issues she learnt from the meeting, she started getting happiness in the family. She committed that she would always make her neighbors aware of the mistakes she made. She will make the neighbors aware that no one should think about any work of the family separately as men's work and women's work. Both men and women should take proper care of the child and mother.

Finally, Kahinur requested SAP-Bangladesh and Plan International Bangladesh to continue the activities of the Innovation Sprint Project covering more areas for longer term. She has understood that awareness raising of the family members is very important on the issues she learnt by attending the meetings of the project. She feels blessed to know and practicing the important issues for the betterment in the family life.

Collected by: Tania Akter, Community Volunteer, Innovation Sprint Project, Barguna

5.8 Strengthening Forecast-based Early Actions in Cyclone Prone coastal regions in Bangladesh (STEP) Project

Patharghata is one of the most remote, unprotected, disaster prone and vulnerable Upazila in Barguna District even in Bangladesh. The Upazila is situated in the southern coastal belt of the Bay of Bengal and other two sides of the Upazila are surrounded by two coastal rivers like, the Bishkhali river in the east and the Boleshor river in the west. As such, the Upazila is severely prone to different disasters like cyclone, tidal surge, drought, salinity, river erosion etc. The Upazila is usually affected

by the mentioned disasters each year. As a result, the people of the Upazila are losing their assets every year and becoming poor and vulnerable day by day. With a view to addressing the problems, SAP-Bangladesh has been implementing the "Strengthening Forecast based Early Actions in Cyclone Prone coastal regions in Bangladesh (STEP) Project" in two Unions (Patharghata Sadar and Charduani) of Patharghata Upazila under Barguna District

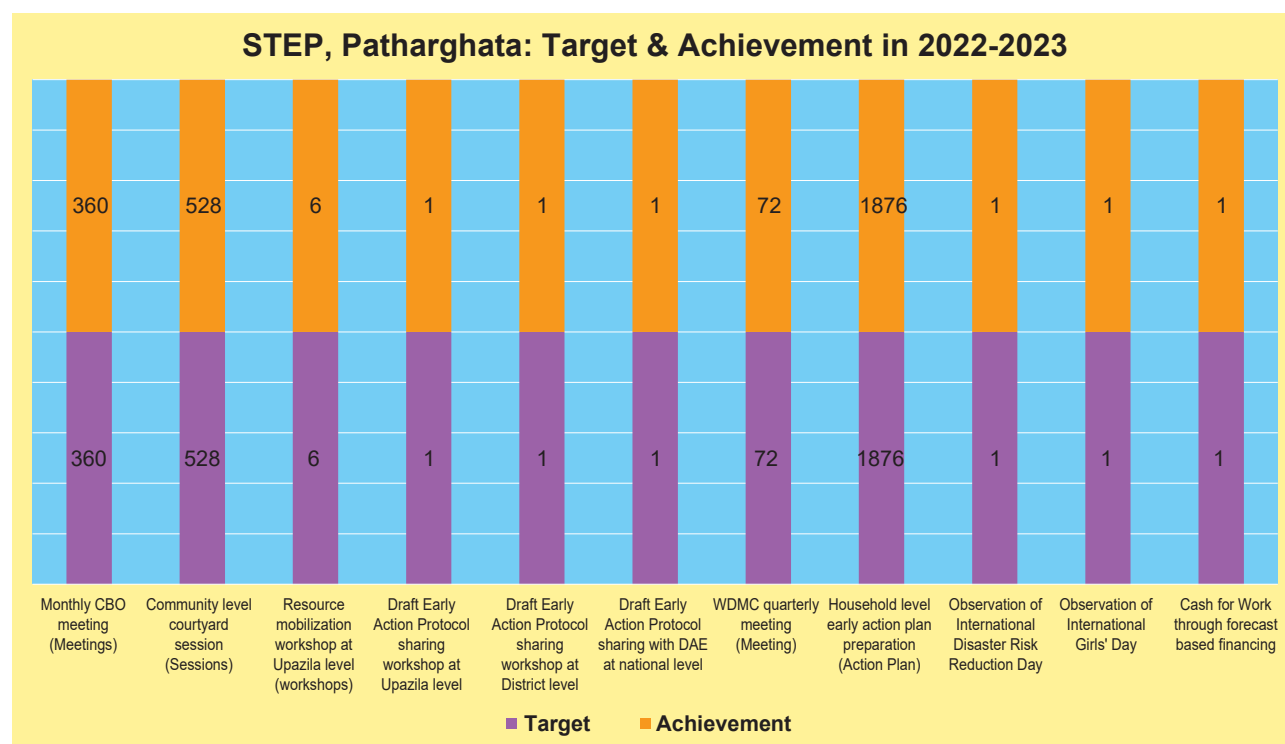
since July 2021 in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh.

Project Goal:

The goal of the project is “to improve local DRM governance by strengthening institutions and

communities in identifying and managing risks through Forecast based Actions (FbA) that will enable coordination and collaboration among the FbA task force, implementing agencies, communities and local authorities”.

Target and Achievements:



Major Achievements:

Monthly CBO meeting:

The project conducted 360 monthly meetings with the CBO members in the targeted Unions during the reporting period with active



participation of 1,362 CBO members (Male-255 & Female-1,107). The discussion topics in the meetings were cyclone warning systems and preparedness and early actions at community and individual household level. With a view to reducing shocks and stress, the participants found motivated to undertake pre-determined and risk informed early actions before the cyclone hits or the situation deteriorates.

Community level courtyard session:

During the reporting period, a total of 528 community level courtyard sessions held in the targeted 2 Unions of Patharghata Upazila. A total of 1,380 community people (Male-271

& female-1,109) actively participated the courtyard sessions. The discussion topics in the courtyard sessions were speedy dissemination of special weather bulletin and forecast



warning; community preparedness and safe movement to the shelters; and coordination and communication with WDMC and UDMC. The trained volunteers and the Community Facilitators conducted the courtyard sessions using necessary visual aids.

Resource mobilization workshop at Upazila level:

During the reporting period, the SMCs organized a total of 6 workshops with support from the project staff with a view to developing the resource mobilization plan to ensure necessary supports to the community people at the time of pre, during and post of disaster occurrence. A total of 90 participants (Female-36 & Male-54) attended the workshops. The members of DMCs, CPP, CBOs and other government officials from the Upazila level such as PIO, Education Officer and Upazila Engineer of LGED attended the workshops. The participants of the workshops committed that they would provide necessary supports in renovating the shelters ensuring basic services like, arrangement of alternative electricity; safe drinking water; separate toilets for women, men and differently able persons; and cooking utensils for preparing food during emergencies. The resource mobilization plan

that were prepared in the workshops were included in the RRAP under the actions for shelter readiness.

Draft Early Action Protocol sharing workshop at Upazila level:

The project organized a workshop at Upazila level with a view to sharing the draft Cyclone Early Action Protocol (EAP) with the Upazila officials of Patharghata Upazila. The workshop held at the Upazila Conference Hall where the Upazila Nirbahi Officer presided over the workshop. The Upazila Agriculture Officer, Upazila Livestock Officer, Upazila Fishery Officer and other officials of the Upazila attended the workshop. The draft Cyclone Early Action Protocol (EAP) was presented in the workshop. The participants of the workshop came forward with some feedback and recommendations on the draft EAP those were recorded and well taken for consideration. A total of 42 participants (Male-38 & Female-4) attended the workshop.

Draft Early Action Protocol sharing workshop at District level:

The project organized a workshop at District level with a view to sharing the draft Cyclone Early Action Protocol (EAP) with the District



level officials of Barguna District. The workshop held at the RDF Training Center, Barguna. The Deputy Director, DAE, Barguna was the chief guest and District Fisheries Officer chaired

the workshop. The Program Director of SAP-Bangladesh, District Livestock Officer, Deputy Director of DAE, DRRO in charge, Upazila Agriculture Officer, Upazila livestock Officer, Upazila Fishery Officer, PIO, District CPP Team Leader, concerned UP Chairmen and other district level officials attended the workshop. A total of 40 participants (Male-37 & Female-3) attended the workshop. The draft Cyclone Early Action Protocol (EAP) was presented in the workshop. The participants of the workshop came forward with some feedback and recommendations on the draft EAP those were recorded and well taken for consideration.

Draft Early Action Protocol sharing workshop with DAE at central level:

The project organized a workshop at Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE), Dhaka with a view to sharing the draft Cyclone Early Action Protocol (EAP) with the officials



of DAE, Dhaka (central level). The Project Director of DAE was in the chair. The officials of DAE and representatives of STEP consortium member organizations, and Executive Director of SAP-Bangladesh attended the workshop. The Deputy Country Director of ACF delivered the welcome speech on behalf of the STEP consortium and presented the draft Cyclone Early Action Protocol (EAP) in the workshop. A total of 21 participants (Male-18 and Female-3) attended the workshop. The participants of the workshop came forward with some feedback and recommendations on the draft EAP those were recorded and well taken for consideration.

WDMC Quarterly meeting:

The project organized 4 rounds of Ward Disaster Management Committee (WDMC) quarterly meetings during the reporting period in 2 targeted Unions with a view to discussing the responsibilities of WDMCs in undertaking and implementing the awareness raising activities on cyclone early action preparatory work at the family and community level such as (a) informing the local people about cyclone risk reduction measures and increasing capacity and supporting to preparing contingency plan at family level and checking availability of electricity and water supply systems in the shelters; (b) ensuring alternative electricity, safe drinking water supply and sanitation with the help of the UDMCs; (c) disseminating early warning and safety messages and evacuate the vulnerable people to the shelters with the help of rescue volunteers; (d) ensuring preparation of the facilities in shelters with the assistance of different stakeholders/volunteers; (e) ensuring required number of sanitary latrines at the shelters by considering safety of women, children and persons with disabilities; (f) keeping women and children together in separate rooms at the shelters and providing safe water and food to the shelter management committee; (g) taking necessary steps to prevent gender based violence, ensuring safety of women, children, elderly persons and persons with disabilities during disasters; and (h) assisting people to transfer valuable and important resources including livestock, poultry, emergency food, radios, mobile phones, etc. to a safe place. Each of the WDMCs has prepared their early action plan to facing the possible upcoming cyclone. A total of 72 WDMC quarterly meetings held in the targeted 2 Unions where 226 WDMC members (Male-197 & Female-29) attended the meetings.

Household Level Early Action Plan Preparation:

The project supported the households through the WDMCs with a view to ensuring preparation of household level early action plan for 100%

households in the targeted 2 Union for facing the possible cyclones. During the reporting



period, the household level early action plan was prepared by a total of 1,876 households considering the early action activities based on past experiences of the households. The early action plan will facilitate the household in taking advance precautions as per plan thereby saving lives and household assets during cyclones.

Observation of International Disaster Risk Reduction Day:

The STEP Project observed the International Disaster Risk Reduction Day-2023 jointly with the Upazila administration, Patharghata focusing the theme of the day, “Early Warning and Early Action for all” through a colorful rally and discussion session. The UNO, Upazila Chairman, PIO, sector professionals, UzDMC, UDMCs, WDMCs, SMCs, CBO members, and



much people around the Upazila participated the events of the day. After the rally, discussion

session held at the Upazila Conference Hall where the UNO chaired the session and Upazila Chairman was present as the chief guest. After the discussion session, a disaster simulation held on firefighting. The project also celebrated the day at the Union level jointly with the concerned Union Parishads. Around 450 participants (Male-250 & Female-200) including 45 STEP CBO members attended the events.

Observation of International Girls' Day:

The adolescent and youth clubs in the remote working areas of STEP project celebrated the International Girls' Day-2022 at Binapani village under Charduani Union on 12 October 2022



focusing awareness raising on gender equality and the problem that girls faces in their day to day lives. The concerned male and female members of the ward were present in the occasion. Around 150 adolescent and youth club members (Female-120 & Male-30) were present in the occasion. The day was observed through a colorful rally at ward # 6 of Charduani Union. After the rally, discussion session held focusing the challenges and needs of the girls and to promote their empowerment. The girls are usually deprived of their basic fundamental rights such as cultural rights, safety & security, facilities of sanitation, education, access to health services, and many other facilities. The participants of the events committed to support and strengthen the girls so that they can lead a better life.

Cash for Work through forecast based financing:

The project repaired 1.5 km earthen road through forecast based financing to link cyclone shelter with the adjacent community that was included in the Risk Reduction Action Plan (RRAP) of the Union. The local poor community people did the repairing work having cash wages from the project that helped them during the crisis period in the area. A total of 100 poor people (Male-46

& Female-54) participated the cash for work for 15 days. During cyclone season people of 4 villagers would get the opportunity to go to the cyclone shelter by using the link road and saline water wouldn't enter into the area that would prevent damage to the field crop. The road also would be useful for weather forecasting and movement in evacuating people from remote areas to cyclone shelters.

Success Story

Rahima Begum, a Disaster Resilient Fish Farmer

Rahima Begum (45), Husband: Kalam Sikder (50), Village: Padma Bahirer Char, Union and Upazila: Patharghata, District: Barguna. They have one daughter and one son. She lives outside the embankment with her family. Her husband is a fisherman. He fished in the deep sea. He experienced adverse weather conditions many times during deep sea fishing. Cyclone Sidr and many other natural disasters, swept over the sub-tropical areas, causing a lot of damage to their livelihoods and property. Rahima Begum has a fish pond. She cultivates different species of fishes in the pond. Most of the expenses of her family born from the income of this fishery. During monsoons, high tides and heavy rains wash away the fish in his pond almost every year. For this, she faced a lot of financial losses. During cyclones, most of the households living outside the embankment are submerged by high tide and rainwater. This increases their sufferings.



SAP-Bangladesh has been implementing Strengthening Forecast-based Early Actions in Cyclone Prone coastal regions in Bangladesh (STEP) Project in partnership with and support from Plan International Bangladesh since November 2021. The project activities started with the formation of Community Based Organizations (CBOs). Rahima Begum was registered as a CBO member. The STEP project initiated issue based courtyard meetings at the CBOs. Like other members, Rahima Begum also regularly participated in courtyard meetings. In order to increasing awareness of the CBO members and ensuring effective pre-disaster measures, issues such as dissemination of weather bulletins, communication and coordination with the Disaster Management Committee (DMC), family and community level disaster preparedness and safe going to shelters, household level emergency planning etc. are discussed in the courtyard meetings.

Rahima Begum gained special knowledge and skills about the above subjects by actively participating in regular meetings and trainings. Using the skills gained from the training, she prepared an

emergency contingency plan for her family. She included pond fish cultivation in the emergency



that the water level during a cyclone may rise by 5-7 feet above the normal tide. So, she surrounded the pond with nets as per her pre-plan. As a result, the fish in her pond could not be washed away even at high tide due to the effect of Cyclone Sitrang. According to her, the fish worth 60-70 thousand Taka in her pond was saved due to the netting around the pond. Earlier she had no idea about pre-planning at household level. She thanked SAP-Bangladesh and Plan International Bangladesh for helping her in developing advance planning at her household level.

plan as well as other issues. Through the Cyclone Sitrang forecast bulletin, she learned

Collected by: Md. Mamun Al Hossain, Community Facilitator, STEP Project, Patharghata



Courtyard Session of STEP Project

Chapter-6

47th Martyrdom Anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

6. 47th Martyrdom Anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

The great leader of the independence war of the Bengali nation, the greatest *Bangali* forever, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was killed by some misguided members of the military on 15 August 1975 with his family members. So this day is observed as National Mourning Day. This is a day of mourning and loss for the Bengali nation. This day is a disgrace for the world humanity. 15 August is a day of great sadness not only in Bangladesh but also in the whole world.

A number of military officers and power-hungry anti-patriots who committed crimes in independent Bangladesh started a black chapter in the history of Bangladesh by killing Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members. By killing him, not only a personal but also a political assassination was committed. The worst brutal murders took place in the blue design of the defeated *Razakar*, *Albadar*, defeated Pakistan and imperialism in the war of independence. Through this, they tried to establish a state of anti-spirit of liberation war i.e., anti-democracy, anti-secularism and anti-socialism state. The period was a sad chapter for the nation. They were not kept quiet by just killing but they issued Indemnity Ordinance to stop the proceedings of Bangabandhu's murder. They tarnished the Bengali nation by committing the heinous and most brutal murders in the history. The abominable murderers who tried to stop the progress of Bangladesh achieved in the liberation war by killing Bangabandhu have been consigned to the dustbin of history today.

15 August 2022, the 47th Martyrdom Anniversary of the architect of freedom, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The entire Bengali nation irrespective of caste, religion and race observed the day with deep respect. SAP-Bangladesh observed the day with due importance and respect by undertaking the following activities:

On 15 August 2022, the national flag was kept at half mast on the buildings of the organization. The employees of SAP-Bangladesh wore black bands on the National Day of Mourning.

Discussion sessions:

The glorious contribution of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the architect of independent Bangladesh, was discussed in all



the branch offices, field offices including the head office in Dhaka. Bangabandhu's strong leadership and bravery were commemorated in the meeting.

Dua Mahfil:

Bangabandhu was the voice of the exploited, deprived and neglected people of East Bengal at that time. Greed for power and money could never touch him. Bangabandhu was one of the few undisputed leaders in the world. For



the establishment of Bangabandhu's dream of Sonar Bangla, we are moving forward with the goal of creating a township of development from the grassroots to the city by embodying his ideals. Finally, a prayer ceremony and special prayers were held to seek the forgiveness of Bangabandhu's soul.

Plantation program on the occasion of National Mourning Day:

On the occasion of the 47th martyrdom anniversary of the Father of the Nation, saplings were planted in the courtyard of the organization's own office buildings. As a part of this program, the members of the association managed by the



organization carried out this program with great enthusiasm. They planted saplings of fruits and forest trees in Galachipa and Rangabali Upazilas of Patuakhali District. In this regard the employees of the organization and members of the associations were encouraged to plant trees in their respective yards.

Free Diabetes Camp Organization and Precautionary Guidelines:

On the occasion of the 47th martyrdom anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the visionary of the Bengali nation and the father of the nation, a free diabetes camp was organized as a part of supporting health services to the underprivileged poor population on 15 August 2022 at Panpatti branch office of the organization. In this camp, a total of 58 people (Male-37 & Female-21) were tested

for diabetes of which 39 patients (male-22 & female-17) were diagnosed with diabetes.



The 2nd Diabetes Camp was organized on the occasion of the martyrdom anniversary of the Father of the Nation at Raintitala Bazar near Panpatti. Through this camp, a total of 42 people (Male-19 & Female-23) were tested for diabetes of which 26 (male-17 & Female-9) were diagnosed with diabetes.

A total of 100 people (Male-56 & Female-44) were screened for diabetes in the two camps and advised to take regular checkups and precautions.

Scholarship giving ceremony:

On the occasion of the 47th martyrdom anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, a



scholarship giving ceremony was organized at SAP-Bangladesh, Panpatti office. In the event,

the students were informed about the strong leadership and bravery, concentration, honesty and glorious contribution of Bangabandhu, the architect of independent Bangladesh. On the occasion of the martyrdom anniversary, with the financial assistance of PKSf, a total of BDT 1,56,000 was distributed to 13 meritorious and poor students of Panpatti Union as scholarship. Each of the students received an amount of BDT 12,000. Through this scholarship giving ceremony, the students were encouraged to pursue Bangabandhu's ideals and strive to contribute to the creation of Bangabandhu's

Sonar Bangla by attaining higher education.

The soul of the Bengali nation, the undisputed popular leader of Bangladesh, the best son of the nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the father of the nation, will remain forever alive in the memory of the Bengali nation. The nation will reverently memorize the achievements of his active life. The Bengali nation, dedicated to development, will move forward with his thoughts and feelings. His concentration, honesty, devotion, bravery and glorious contribution will guide the creative development of the Bengali nation forever.



Learning Camp of GGE Project

Chapter-7

Bicycle Distribution to the Women Football Team of Barguna

7. Bicycle Distribution to the Women Football Team of Barguna

SAP-Bangladesh has been working in Barguna Sadar Upazila since 2008 in partnership with



and support from Save the Children International Bangladesh and Plan International Bangladesh on quality education, health, livelihood development, women and child rights, child protection, youth development, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, disaster response, etc. Therefore, on the request of the Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Barguna Sadar Upazila, SAP-Bangladesh organized a bicycle distribution ceremony for the winning women football team of Barguna Sadar Upazila on 20 February 2023 at the Upazila Officers Club auditorium in a very splendor manner.

Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, General Secretary, Upazila Sports Association, Barguna presided



over the ceremony. Mr. Md. Kawser Hossain, Upazila Nirbahi Officer and President Upazila

Sports Association, Barguna was present as the chief guest and Mr. Md. Delwar Hossain, Executive Director, SAP-Bangladesh was present as the special guest; Mr. Md. Alamgir Hossain, General Secretary, District Sports Association, Barguna; and freedom fighter Mr. Md. Motaleb Hossain Mridha, President, NGO Forum, Barguna were also present in the ceremony as invited guests. A total of 86 invited guests (Women-29 & Men-57) were present in the event, among them Upazila Nirbahi Officer including Upazila departmental officers-10, representatives of print and electronic



media-10, members of the women's football team-18 and their guardians-12, and other NGO representatives and dignitaries-36.

In this occasion, 18 bicycles were distributed as gift to the winning members of the women's football team. The eminent persons present in the event, specifically mentioned in their speech that this kind of event has not yet been organized by any organization in Barguna Sadar Upazila. For this, all those present in the meeting thanked SAP-Bangladesh authorities. Many of them mentioned that they had never seen such a beautiful event. The winning members of the football team and their parents expressed their satisfaction and gratitude to SAP-Bangladesh for organizing the event and distributing bicycles to the winning women football team of Barguna.

Chapter-8

SDG Achievement in 2021-2022

8. Contribution of SAP-Bangladesh in 2022-2023 in Achieving SDG

The Millennium Development Goal (MDG) was pursued by Bangladesh to achieve desired changes and development by 2015. An appreciable national success of Bangladesh in achieving MDG was added to the height of the international periphery. SAP-Bangladesh also contributed to the achievement of the

MDGs through implementation of its program interventions in the past. Likewise, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) started in 2016 taking 17 goals to be achieved by 2030. The program interventions of SAP-Bangladesh are contributing to the achievement of the SDGs as follows:

1 NO POVERTY



01. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Micro Finance Program; Enhancing Resources & Increasing Capacities of Poor Households (ENRCH) Program; and Livelihood Development Program for Elderly People (LDPEP) of SAP-Bangladesh are addressing this goal by supporting 1,91,842 poor and marginalized households through 26 branches in Barguna, Patuakhali, Bagerhat, Dhaka, Manikganj and Sirajganj Districts.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



03. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

SAP-Bangladesh is contributing to achieving this goal through its projects/programs such as, Sponsorship Program (SP); Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) Project; Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project; Livelihood Development Program for Elderly People (LDPEP); and Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of Poor Households Towards Elimination of their Poverty (ENRICH) Program. Through these projects/programs SAP-Bangladesh is providing services to 1,60,218 beneficiaries in southern coastal belt of Patuakhali, Barguna and Bhola Districts..

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



04. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all.

SAP-Bangladesh as a development organization is contributing to achieving this goal by supporting 2,01,043 beneficiaries through its projects like, Sponsorship Program (SP); Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) Project; Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project; Innovation Sprint Project; and Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of Poor Households Towards Elimination of their Poverty (ENRICH) Program.

5 GENDER EQUALITY



05. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

SAP-Bangladesh is addressing this goal through different projects/programs such as, Microfinance Program; Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of Poor Households Towards Elimination of their Poverty (ENRICH) Program; Livelihood Development Program for Elderly People (LDPEP); Sponsorship Program (SP); Innovation Sprint Project; Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) Project; and Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project. These projects/programs supported 2,11,953 beneficiaries.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

SAP-Bangladesh is contributing to achieving this goal by implementing projects such as; Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacities of poor Households (ENRICH) Program; Livelihood Development Program for the Elderly People (LDPEP); Sponsorship Program (SP); Strengthening Forecast-based Early Actions in Cyclone Prone coastal regions in Bangladesh (STEP); and Emergency Response Projects in different climate vulnerable pockets of Bangladesh. It covers 1,91,788 beneficiaries of southern coastal areas.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development to provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all level

SAP-Bangladesh is contributing to achieving this goal by implementing Sponsorship Program (SP); Innovation Sprint Project; Gender Transformative Early Childhood Development (GeTECD) Project; and Girls Get Equal: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (GGE) Project to ensure that children to be better protected from all forms of violence including child marriage through effective community based child protection mechanisms. Apart, the projects/programs focused all children worked under eight years - especially girls - develop to their full potential, free from discriminatory and limiting attitudes, practices and expectations based on gender, ability and other identities. In the fiscal year, it worked with 1,71,681 beneficiaries in Bhola Sadar and Barguna Sadar Upazilas.

Chapter-9

Support Unit of SAP-Bangladesh

9. Support Units of SAP-Bangladesh

The organization is devoted to bringing sustainable socio-economic changes in the livelihoods of the disadvantaged group in Bangladesh by strengthening the capacity of community people and empowering the grassroots since its inception in 1984. It has been implementing its program interventions in accordance with the following set of controlling

mechanisms to uphold transparency and accountability at all level of the organization.

- Human Resources (HR), Administration & Training
- Finance & Accounts
- Monitoring & Audit

Human Resources (HR), Administration & Training

In the reporting year, the Human Resources and Administration Section of SAP-Bangladesh provided services like; personnel management, procurement, logistic support, secretarial services, staff recruitment and placement, Capacity development, training center management, career planning and staff development. It managed to get better quality services with the dependable cost of time, price and legal manner from the third party. It also keeps liaison with government and non-government organizations.

In the reporting year, SAP-Bangladesh Administration Department managed to organize physical and virtual Senior Management Team (SMT) Meeting, Area Managers' Meeting, Quarterly Coordination Meeting and different formal and non-formal meetings in emergency situations. The meetings aimed at better inter-organizational communication, coordination and organizational development at the central and field level.

In the reporting year 2022-2023, the unit maintained all assigned and routine activities of 9 projects effectively. In addition, it managed to successfully complete different events such as procurement, recruitment, human resource policy development, resource management, transport management, NGO Affairs Bureau related activities, legal actions on issues raised by concerned stakeholders.

Capacity Development

SAP-Bangladesh thinks Capacity Development is a kind of ability of individuals and organizations or organizational units to perform functions effectively, efficiently and sustainably. It is an evidence-driven process of strengthening the abilities of individuals, organizations, and systems to perform core functions sustainably to continue to improve and develop over time.

In order to strengthen the organization's financial sustainability, SAP-Bangladesh divided the training into major two wings. Capacity development unit of SAP-Bangladesh contributed to the reporting period by selling services of training venue for strengthening the financial capacity of the organization and the other dealt with academic uplift of professional expertise of SAP-Bangladesh.

Training Center

Due to the continual effects of COVID-19 pandemic situation space selling of the training center in the previous year 2021-2022 was a bit collapsed like other entrepreneurship throughout the country. In the reporting year, the continual situation of COVID-19 improved and space selling increased. SAP-Bangladesh provided support of residential training having a capacity of 25 occupancies in its dormitory and 40 participants in its training room and dining hall. During the reporting year 2022-2023, 21

training courses were organized in the training center and a total of 1050 participants attended the training sessions. The major client of this training center includes Lalmai Food Products Ltd., Bangladesh Shishu Academy, SDKS, ASA, Hope Bangladesh, Provat Foundation, The Students Welfare Association Bangladesh, Fulkuri, and DSK.

Infrastructure of SAP-Bangladesh

The Head Office of SAP-Bangladesh is situated in Dhaka in its own five storied building located at Shyamoli, Mohammadpur. In the office campus, it has a training-cum-hostel facility. The air-conditioned training auditorium can accommodate 40 participants and is having residential facilities for 25 occupancies.

Vehicle and equipments of SAP-Bangladesh

In the reporting year, SAP-Bangladesh utilized a total of one car, 76 computers, 46 motorcycles, 61 bicycles, 37 ledger printers, 6 multimedia,

4 digital cameras etc. for smooth operation of the development activities. It has a smooth internet connection and all the senior staff of the organization have access to the internet for easy communication with the relevant agencies, both in-country and abroad.

Staff Strength

SAP-Bangladesh recognizes that human resource is one of the most important factors for the healthy growth and development of an organization. Staff development in SAP-Bangladesh is a continuous process. A total of 280 staff members (male-200 and female-80) who gathered a remarkable knowledge and skills by attending different seminars, consultations, dialogues and training both inside and outside the country. SAP-Bangladesh also gives emphasis on on-the-job training. During the reporting year, SAP-Bangladesh utilized a total of 317 staff members (male-216 and female-101) to bring the best for the organization and project participants.

Finance and Accounts

The finance section of South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh provides all sorts of financial support following the financial policies and procedures of the organization.

Bank Operation:

SAP-Bangladesh maintains a mother bank account to receive external funds from donors and other sources. Later the fund is transferred to other accounts where applicable. SAP-Bangladesh maintains separate bank accounts for each of the projects. SAP-Bangladesh maintains four types of bank accounts such as Current Account, Savings Account, Fixed Deposit Account, Short Term Deposit (STD) Account, and Special Notice Deposit (SND) Account.

The financial statements are prepared by compiling all the accounts of the projects and the

accounts of the project are also audited separately by external auditors. The financial statement is expressed in Bangladeshi Taka (BDT). SAP-Bangladesh summarizes the accounting transaction as per the chart of accounts prescribed in the “Financial Policies & Procedures Manual” or donors’ contract/agreement. Funding of SAP-Bangladesh depends on different grant/contact/sub-agreement with local and foreign development partners and own income such as fees of the training venue, dormitory fees, house rent, crops and trees on own land etc.

SAP-Bangladesh prepares a yearly budget as per the plan of activities. The program activities and related budget allocation are monitored by the finance team considering the agreed work plan and through different levels of coordination mechanism. Quarterly financial reports are

regularly placed in all quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors (BoD) and the BoD examines the financial position of the organization.

Altogether 9 projects along with the Microfinance Program carried out their accounting and

financial management during the fiscal year effectively. During the reporting period, Finance & Accounts managed to complete an external audit of the organization and accordingly produced reports.

Monitoring and Audit

Monitoring & Evaluation

South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh has a strong team to work on monitoring and evaluation. The team monitors the activities of ongoing projects and programs to ensure financial accountability and transparency. Follow up/monitoring is done on a random basis and through weekly, monthly and quarterly meetings and review sessions. Monitoring and evaluation are carried out using a prescribed format. Regular field visits are also conducted both by the program and finance staff to assess the targets and achievements. Weekly, monthly and quarterly reporting is an important tool of monitoring. The reports are checked with due attention to see the level of target, achievement and deviation. Based on the findings from the review meeting, necessary recommendations and decisions are made for the smooth implementation of the project/program activities.

Both internal and external evaluations are conducted to assess the project effects and impacts. Internal evaluations are an ongoing/formative process and are conducted by the project/program staff involving the partners and other stakeholders while external evaluations are conducted in the mid-term and at the closing of the project. The external experts conduct external evaluations of the project/program. Apart from the aforesaid process and procedure, SAP-Bangladesh also carries out three different types of monitoring such as monthly project based staff coordination meetings, quarterly coordination and stock taking meeting with the partner NGOs.

Based on the framework of monitoring & evaluation SAP-Bangladesh managed to ensure smooth and effective implementation of all projects and programs through monitoring on a regular basis.

Audit

Each year, SAP-Bangladesh gets an audit conducted both by external audit firms and internal audit department for all the projects and project offices, partner NGOs and the central office.

As per schedule, internal audit has been going on duly to ensure that proper management decision is taken on time. In this fiscal year, 48 audits were carried out which was 6.25% less than the target due to the greater involvement of the audit group in the development program.

External Audit:

Every year, SAP-Bangladesh appoints a reputed external audit firm with the approval of the Board of Directors and the General Body. According to the plan and requirement, 100% external audit was completed during the reporting period. The same audit firm is not selected consecutively for more than three years. The Executive Director of SAP-Bangladesh draws out the Terms of Reference for the audit firm. Besides the provision of external audit, SAP-Bangladesh provides necessary support in case of any other external audit done by its existing donors or the NGO Affairs Bureau.

Management Information System (MIS)

Software based Management Information System (MIS) of SAP-Bangladesh is a planned system of collecting, storing and disseminating data in the form of information needed to carry out the functions of management. This covers the concepts related to information and provides detailed coverage on MIS and other major enterprise level systems. SAP-Bangladesh also learns how these systems

help in the decision making process, which is critical to any development enterprise. SAP-Bangladesh works on MIS operation classifying characters of information like strategic, tactical and operational information. During the reporting period, SAP-Bangladesh dealt with its MIS through virtual communication and physical presence as well whenever found necessary.

Information Technology

SAP-Bangladesh has also engaged a reliable IT provider 'Grameen Communication' to work on the automation of the Microfinance Program and to provide professional services, support and expertise to the program. SAP-Bangladesh has also assigned a fulltime Senior IT Office for providing technical supports to the Microfinance

Branches and to maintain communication with IT provider organization for ensuring quality output through automation. SAP-Bangladesh is also maintaining a website for widely circulating its updated profile including program interventions, achievements, job advertisements and other organizational issues.



Senior Staff Meeting of SAP-Bangladesh

Chapter-10

Partnership Progress

10. SAP-Bangladesh Partnership Network in Bangladesh

SAP-Bangladesh has been striving for 3 decades to build partnerships and networks through a technical assistance and capacity building process. It initiated the participation of at least 400 local agencies in the preceding years.

SAP-Bangladesh has developed partnerships and networks of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), individual activists and locally elected public representatives throughout the country to help in implementing complex and integrated rights-based community programs, and to organize local and national level advocacy campaigns. In addition, the organization takes a leadership role in many advocacy initiatives to fight injustices perpetrated against women, children and the vulnerable groups.

SAP-Bangladesh has been working for improving peace and security by reducing political unrest, misuse of illicit arms, eradicating poverty and many other important issues of public interests. SAP-Bangladesh has initiated a forum at the national level for raising awareness to reduce the use of illegal arms. The organization is also an active network member of Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE), Credit Development Forum (CDF), INAFI Bangladesh Foundation, Network for Ensuring Adolescents Reproductive Health (NEARS), National Education Cluster Coordination Team (NECCT), Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF), Janashanghati and Kannya Shisu Advocacy Forum, and Governance Advocacy Forum.

Supporting/Donor Organizations

Present Donors or Supporters	Past Donors or Supporters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PKSF Anukul Foundation Plan International Bangladesh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) UNDP WFP UNICEF Hope International Development Agency (HIDA) CARE International Bangladesh Water Aid Bangladesh Save the Children International Bangladesh Leger Foundation, Canada Helen Keller International (HKI) NGO Forum for Drinking Water CLWR, Canada VSO-Bangladesh Action Aid Bangladesh Heifer International Bangladesh



Chapter-11

Learning Reflections

11. Lessons Learned

- ➔ Microcredit support with easy terms and conditions facilitates the poor and marginalized people, and unemployed youths in earning income by undertaking different income generating activities and small enterprises which are largely contributing to the reduction of poverty and unemployment, and sustainable socio-economic development of the country.
- ➔ Male engagement in household works and care to the children, elderly persons and pregnant women create peaceful and healthy environment at the family level.
- ➔ Alternative learning through community managed learning centers facilitates the out of school children of 10-18 years in filling-up their learning gaps thereby enable them back to school and reducing their drop-out rate from schools.
- ➔ It is very essential to give due importance of youth economic empowerment and leadership for sustainable socioeconomic development in the country.
- ➔ Combined efforts and access to information enable the community people in establishing their rights by claiming services from the service providers at the local level.
- ➔ Care to the pregnant women and children of 0-6 years is very essential for the mental, physical and emotional growth of the children.
- ➔ The victims of violence including the girls who are divorced caused due to early and forced marriage, eve teasing, physical and sexual harassment and the drug addicted youths can back to the normal life through psychosocial support.
- ➔ People's participation and joint efforts of GO and NGOs can ensure sustainable development at the community level.
- ➔ Upon receiving training and awareness, the adolescent girls are capable to maintain their menstrual health and hygiene at their own.
- ➔ Forecast-based Actions (FbA) found as an effective tool of disaster management in saving lives and assets in the coastal belt areas of the country.
- ➔ Income generation in the rural areas through cow, goat, duck and hen rearing, vegetable cultivation and crop production found very effective for youth economic empowerment and health & nutrition of community people.
- ➔ SMC and Parents Teachers Association can play potential roles in ensuring learning environment at schools and education learning centers.
- ➔ Adolescent Friendly Health Services (AFHS) through the Family Welfare Centers (FWCs) enable adolescents in maintaining their good health. These types of health services should be replicated in other FWCs in the country.
- ➔ ENRICH program introduces year-round holistic approach to development through health services, education, economic empowerment and livelihood development that is very beneficial for the poor and marginalized people in the rural community.
- ➔ Having training and motivation from program interventions, the LGI representatives, marriage registrars, social leaders and matchmakers are playing potential roles in preventing early and forced marriage.

Chapter-12

Audit Report 2022-2023

(July 2022-June 2023)

12. Audit Report 2022-2023 (July 2022-June 2023)

Independent Auditors' Report To the General Members of South Asia Partnership Bangladesh

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of **South Asia Partnership Bangladesh**, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of receipts & payments for the year then ended 30 June 2023 and a summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Other Explanatory Information/ notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of **South Asia Partnership Bangladesh** as at 30 June 2023, and its financial performance and its Receipts & Payments for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and comply with other applicable laws and regulations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society/Company in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESB Code) together with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Bangladesh, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the consolidated Financial Statements and Internal Controls

Management of **South Asia Partnership Bangladesh** is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

i



- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

In accordance with the applicable Laws and Regulations, we also report the following:

- a) We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit and made due verification thereof.
- b) In our opinion, proper books of accounts as required by law have been kept by the organization so far as it appeared from our examination of those books, and
- c) In our opinion, the consolidated statement of financial position and the consolidated statement of comprehensive income and consolidated statement of receipts & payments of the organization dealt with by the report are in agreement with the books of accounts.

Date: 11 October 2023
Place: Dhaka



Sajeed Iqbal Chowdhury ACA
Enrolment No.: 1914
Partner
M I Chowdhury & Co.
Chartered Accountants
DVC No.: 2310111914AS885613

ii



South Asia Partnership Bangladesh
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2023

Particulars	Notes	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Non-Current Assets		12,968,251	11,200,716
Property, Plant and Equipment	4.00	12,968,251	11,200,716
Current Assets		765,951,658	637,997,232
Advance against Expenses	5.00	520,000	413,086
Loan to Members	6.00	700,341,053	575,734,851
Short term Investments	7.00	19,097,080	28,672,955
Loan to Staff & Others	8.00	407,200	859,155
Unsettled Staff Advance	9.00	21,411,884	21,838,227
Security Deposit	10.00	57,822	57,822
Cash & Cash Equivalents	11.00	24,116,619	10,421,137
Total Assets		778,919,909	649,197,949
Capital Fund and Liabilities		90,461,074	70,144,871
Capital Fund	12.00	90,461,074	70,144,871
Current Liabilities		688,458,835	579,053,078
Staff Security	13.00	2,387,700	1,881,500
Members Savings Fund	14.00	224,848,907	209,191,416
Secured Future Fund	15.00	-	1,733,740
Risk Fund	16.00	51,111,167	41,832,787
Liabilities for Expenses	17.00	3,771,744	7,337,810
Loan Loss Provision (LLP)	18.00	52,664,730	33,127,141
Accounts Payable	19.00	200,000	200,000
Loan from Own & Others	20.00	46,596,371	29,817,785
Loan from PKSf	21.00	289,462,482	238,799,986
Loan from Anukul Foundation	22.00	17,415,734	15,130,914
Total Capital Fund and Liabilities		778,919,909	649,197,949

1. Figures have been rounded off to the nearest taka.

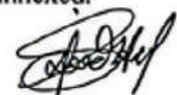
2. The notes and annexures on page 8 to 49 are an integral part of these financial statements.


Chairperson
SAP-Bangladesh


Chief Executive Officer
SAP- Bangladesh


Chief Finance Officer
SAP-Bangladesh

Signed in terms of our report of even date annexed.


Sajeed Iqbal Chowdhury ACA
Enrolment No:1914
Partner
M I Chowdhury & Co.
Chartered Accountants
DVC No.:2310111914AS885613

Place: Dhaka
Dated:11 October 2023




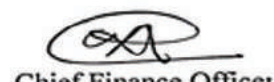
South Asia Partnership Bangladesh
Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Particulars	Notes	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Income			
Fund Received from Donor	23.00	143,886,793	103,377,396
Service Charge on Loan	24.00	138,493,195	105,764,863
Bank Interest	25.00	1,019,995	1,205,083
Total Income		283,399,983	210,347,342
Expenditure			
Loan Loss Expenses	18.00	19,537,589	9,801,956
Financing Cost	26.00	22,393,402	22,588,291
Personnel Cost	27.00	69,069,870	59,222,060
Operating Cost	28.00	147,585,360	105,804,001
Source Tax		162,518	154,976
Depreciation	Sch-1	1,846,755	983,402
Total Expenditure		260,595,494	198,554,686
Excess of income over Expenditure		22,804,489	11,792,656
Total		283,399,983	210,347,342

1. Figures have been rounded off to the nearest taka.
2. The notes and annexures on page 8 to 49 are an integral part of these financial statements.


Chairperson
SAP-Bangladesh



Chief Executive Officer
SAP- Bangladesh


Chief Finance Officer
SAP-Bangladesh

Signed in terms of our report of even date annexed.

Place: Dhaka
Dated: 11 October 2023




Sajeed Iqbal Chowdhury ACA
Enrolment No: 1914
Partner
M I Chowdhury & Co.
Chartered Accountants
DVC No.: 2310111914AS885613

South Asia Partnership Bangladesh
Consolidated Statement of Receipts and Payments
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Particulars	Notes	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Opening Balance		10,421,137	13,523,186
Cash in Hand		781,620	641,215
Cash at Bank		9,639,517	12,881,971
Receipts			
Advance against expenses	5.00	1,304,707	381,531
Loan Realized from Members	6.00	991,325,126	766,919,783
Short term Investment Encashment	7.00	18,269,955	21,603,977
Loan Realized from Staff & Others	8.00	5,776,378	3,853,952
Unsettled Staff Advance	9.00	-	-
Staff Security Deposit	13.00	904,700	678,500
Member Savings collection	14.00	159,791,371	133,012,294
Secured Future Fund received	15.00	133,900	326,940
Accounts Payable	19.00	-	-
Loan from Own & Others	20.00	16,433,015	10,394,308
Loan from PKSf	21.00	195,800,000	172,220,000
Loan from Anukul Foundation	22.00	9,997,107	10,000,000
Risk Fund Collection	16.00	11,890,630	9,300,375
Fund Received From Donor	23.00	143,886,793	103,377,396
Service charge on Loan	24.00	124,293,367	96,408,846
Bank Interest	25.00	255,050	693,756
Total Receipts		1,680,062,099	1,329,171,658
Total		1,690,483,236	1,342,694,844



Particulars	Notes	Amount in Taka	
		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Payments			
Advance against Expenses	3.00	1,604,707	701,198
Loan Disbursement to Members	6.00	1,221,544,000	947,195,000
Loan Disburse to Staff & Others	8.00	5,356,643	3,549,990
Staff Security Deposit refund	13.00	351,000	302,630
Members savings refund	14.00	39,905,971	33,435,447
Secured Future Fund refund	15.00	2,417,904	909,855
Loan refund to Own & Others	20.00	4,368,108	1,001,031
Loan refund to PKSf	21.00	145,137,504	141,127,501
Loan refund to Anukul Foundation	22.00	7,712,287	5,197,796
Fund refund to donor	12.01	2,488,257	-
Risk Fund Refund	16.00	-	-
Fund transfer to different projects	23.00	-	-
Financing Cost	26.00	13,093,673	12,652,879
Personnel Cost	27.00	69,862,077	58,110,573
Operating Cost	28.00	139,583,133	100,579,276
Source Tax		11,113	55,813
Liabilities for Expenses	14.01	1,309,170	289,135
Capital Expenditure	2.00	3,521,069	2,365,584
Short term Investment	5.00	8,100,000	24,800,000
Total Payments		1,666,366,617	1,332,273,708
Closing Balance		24,116,619	10,421,137
Cash in Hand		2,538,139	781,620
Cash at Bank		21,578,480	9,639,517
Total		1,690,483,236	1,342,694,844

1. Figures have been rounded off to the nearest taka.
2. The notes and annexures on page 8 to 49 are an integral part of these financial statements.


Chairperson
SAP-Bangladesh


Chief Executive Officer
SAP- Bangladesh


Chief Finance Officer
SAP-Bangladesh



Chapter-13

Photo Corner

13. Photo Corner



37th Annual General Meeting of SAP-Bangladesh



123rd BoD Meeting of SAP-Bangladesh



ECHO Visit to STEP Project, Patharghata



ED Attended Annual Partners' Coordination Meeting of PIB



PKSF Visit to a Group of MFP, Galachipa



Annual Partner's Review Meeting with PIB



BoD Member Visited a MFP Group in Dhaka



SAP-BD Senior Staff Team Visited ARBAN Office



Senior HR Officer Attended a TOT at PKSF



MRA Training for SAP-BD Senior Staff (Branch Manager to ED)





South Asia Partnership-Bangladesh

House-63, Block-'Ka', Mohammadpur Housing Pisciculture & Farming Cooperative Society Ltd.,
Shyamoli, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh

Tel: +88 02 58155650, 58152746, 8142525, Cell: +88 01720200030

Email: edsapbd@gmail.com, Website: www.sapbd.org