



Annual Report

Young Power in Social Action (YPSA)

House - F10 (P), Road - 13, Block-B, Chandgaon R/A,
Chattogram- 4212, Bangladesh

2024- 2025

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Young Power in Social Action (YPSA)

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Message from Founder and Chief Executive of YPSA

The year 2024-2025 has been characterized by challenges globally and nationally, including conflicts, instability, human displacement, climate change risks, and economic strain. Yet, despite these difficulties, the YPSA has managed to show resilience. Lessons were learned through this period, which has reinforced our determination to increase our impact through innovative initiatives, in association with the valued support of our development partners.

I would like to extend my special thanks to all the members of the YPSA family, our staff, volunteers, community people, government partners, and development partners for their continued cooperation, trust, and dedication. I would like to appreciate the members of the editorial board of our Annual Report 2024-2025, the managing editor, and all contributors for making it possible.

Heartfelt thanks to each and every one who has remained beside YPSA in this journey. We strongly feel that your continued support will help us move forward in furthering the rights of the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized people and help in creating a more just and equitable and prosperous Bangladesh and world on the foundation of equality.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

(Dr. Md. Arifur Rahman)

Founder and Chief Executive, YPSA

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BACKGROUND OF YPSA

Young Power in Social Action (YPSA), an organization in Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN-ECOSOC) since 2013, is a voluntary non-profit organization for sustainable development registered with the different departments of the People's Republic of Bangladesh including NGO Affairs Bureau contributing to national goals for making a difference in the lives of the population since its establishment in 1985. YPSA, a fleet of more than 1500 full-time professional staff, specializes in the six thematic areas of Health; Education; Human rights and Governance; Economic Empowerment; Environment and Climate change; and Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Response as well as has extensive experience in the field of Capacity Development, Procurement, Contract Management, Resource Mobilization, Financial Management and Research, Monitoring & Evaluation. YPSA has membership with more than 70 national and international organizations and networks including UN-DGC; UNCCD: FAO Rural Youth and Food Security Global Network, Italy; INFOYOUTH Network, UNESCO-INJEP, France; UNDCCP, Austria; UNFCCC, Germany; UNYU, USA. Besides, YPSA is experienced in establishing formal partnerships with various departments of the United Nations such as ILO, IOM, WFP UNICEF, UNESCO, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP, World Bank, and UN-NGLS.

YPSA has been at the forefront of community development in Bangladesh, striving to empower marginalized and vulnerable populations through innovative programs and inclusive approaches. Over the years, the organization has focused on areas such as education, health, disaster risk reduction, human rights, environmental sustainability, and youth empowerment. With a vision of a just, equitable, and developed society, YPSA integrates participatory approaches, community engagement, and evidence-based strategies to ensure sustainable development outcomes.

During the fiscal year 2024-25, YPSA continued its mission by implementing programs across multiple sectors, reaching diverse communities including women, children, persons with disabilities, indigenous populations, displaced and refugee communities, and economically disadvantaged groups. The organization emphasized capacity-building, technical skills development, and social inclusion, while strengthening its institutional systems and partnerships. This approach allowed YPSA to address both immediate needs and long-term developmental challenges in a holistic manner.

This annual report provides an overview of YPSA's achievements and impact during 2024-25. It highlights the organization's efforts in promoting quality education, livelihood improvement, inclusive development, upholding human rights, youth engagement, climate resilience, and community empowerment. This report aims to share knowledge with stakeholders, foster transparency, and guide strategic planning for continued impact in the coming years.

LEGAL STATUS

YPSA is a **voluntary, nonprofit, nonpolitical organization for sustainable development** registered with the different departments of the People's Republic of Bangladesh including **NGO Affairs Bureau, Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms and Micro Credit Regulatory Authority, Department of Social Welfare, Copyright Office**. The details of registration-related information are given below.

- NGO Affairs Bureau: NAB/916-95-26/02/1995, Renewal date 26.02.2030
- Department of Social Welfare: Cht- 1475/89, 10/09/1989
- Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms: CHC-227/2004, 29/02/2004
- Micro Credit Regulatory Authority: 00299-01249-00335 23/09/2008

VISION OF YPSA

YPSA envisions a society without poverty where everyone's basic needs and rights are ensured.

MISSION OF YPSA

YPSA exists to participate with the poor and vulnerable population with all commitment to bring about their own and society's sustainable development.

CORE VALUES OF YPSA

- Patriotism and commitment to national interest, sovereignty and national pride
- Justice, transparency and accountability
- Mutual respect and gender friendliness
- Quality and excellence
- Humility and confidence
- Support for environment and ecology
- Respect for diversity

GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

YPSA is governed by an Executive Committee consisting of seven members and elected by general members according to its constitution. The Executive Committee formulates the strategic directions and principles of the organization, and the Founder and Chief Executive conducts the overall management and representation of the organization.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

Division: 03
District: 20
Upazila/Thana: 150
Union and Ward: 1,518
Village: 13,662

POPULATION COVERAGE

Direct: 1.66 million in 2024-2025
Indirect: 5.76 million (approx.) in 2024-2025

YPSA OFFICES

Head office: 01
Core Program Office: 01
Dhaka Office: 01
Field/ Project/ Branch Office: 164
Training Centers: 03 (2 Residential, 1 Non-Residential)
Health Center: 06
Community Radio: 01 (Radio Sagar Giri FM 99.2- Located in Sitakund)
Community Radio: 01 (Palonger Hota (Voice of Palong) in Cox's Bazar
Internet Radio: 01 (Radio Dwip - Located in Sandwip)

DONORS AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

● Bangladesh Government ● PKSF ● USAID ● UNFPA ● UNDP ● VSO ● Action Aid Bangladesh
● Oxfam ● BRAC ● Save the Children ● Concern-Worldwide ●● DAISY Consortium, Switzerland
● IOM ● Bangladesh NGO Foundation ● Plan International Bangladesh ● WINROCK International
● HI (Humility Inclusion) ● Japan Embassy ● Displacement Solutions ● HSBC ● BSRM
Foundation ● Prime Minister's Office/A2I ● ICT Division/GOB ● World Intellectual Property
Organization (WIPO) ● Relief International ● World Vision ● Global Affairs Canada ● Global
Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) ● Habitat for Humanity in Bangladesh ●
The Kadorie Charitable Foundation (KCF) ● British Council ● World Food Programme (WFP) ●
Democracy International ● Help-Age International Bangladesh ● New Venture Fund /Climate
Justice Resilient Fund ● Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK)/UNFPA ● BSR ● Australian High Commission

● Unilever Bangladesh ● Solidar Suisse ● ADD International ● Summit LNG Terminal Co. (Pvt) Ltd. ● DW Akademie ● SUNY Korea ● International Rescue Committee, Inc. (IRC) ● Share-Net International ● Human Relief Foundation-HRF, UK ● The Federal German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) ● Muslim Aid UK ● Qatar Charity ● EMK Center ● Pathfinder International ● KODDI, Korea ● ICDDRDB/NASC ● US Forest ● Muslim Aid USA ● The Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) ● BBC Media Action ● Water.org ● Vital Strategy/Bloomberg ● Green Fund ● NCTB-GOB ● The Asia Foundation ● UNESCAP ● Build a Water Project ● APNIC Foundation ● Community Partners International (CPI), USA ● Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)

PROGRAMMATIC THEMES

- 1. Health**
- 2. Education**
- 3. Human Rights and Good Governance**
- 4. Economic Empowerment**
- 5. Environment, and Climate Change**
- 6. Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Response**

ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENTS HIGHLIGHTS 2024-25

53

PROJECTS

11

LINK ORGANIZATIONS

1,659,223
PEOPLE
BENEFITED

76,891
EVENTS
ACHIEVED



1,130,522

FEMALE



504,147

MALE



26,054

PERSONS
WITH
DISABILITIES

HEALTH

4

PROJECTS

5,86,137

**PEOPLE
BENEFITED**

12,299

**EVENTS
ACHIEVED**



584416

FEMALE



971

MALE



750

**PERSONS
With
DISABILITIES**

-
1. Bangladesh Rural Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Human Capital Development Project
 2. Advancing Livelihoods through Sustainable Water and Sanitation Solutions (Alive Wash) Project
 3. Community Health, WASH, Health Systems Support & Health Post for FDMN and Host Community Population (Phase-8)
 4. Installation of Tube-wells to Access Safe Water by Rural People
-

PROJECT: BANGLADESH RURAL WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE FOR HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

DONOR

PKSF

LOCATION

CHATTOGRAM, FENI, CUMILLA, CHANDPUR

The Bangladesh Rural Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Human Capital Development Project, implemented by the Government of Bangladesh with financial support from the World Bank (WB) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), aims to contribute to achieving SDG targets 6.1 and 6.2 on “safely managed” WASH services. The project’s main objective is to improve the accessibility and quality of water supply, sanitation, and hygiene services in selected rural areas of Bangladesh, thereby enhancing public health, well-being, and overall human capital development. The major activities of this project include information sharing sessions.



PROJECT: ADVANCING LIVELIHOODS THROUGH SUSTAINABLE WATER AND SANITATION SOLUTIONS (ALIVE WASH) PROJECT

DONOR

WATER.ORG

LOCATION

**CHATTOGRAM, RANGAMATI, KHAGRACHARI, BANDARBAN,
CUMILLA, FENI, COX'S BAZAR, CHANDPUR**

The project aims to expand access to improved water supply and sanitation facilities for underserved and poor populations, particularly in remote areas. It also seeks to enhance health and hygiene practices to reduce waterborne and sanitation-related diseases. By promoting safe water, better sanitation, and improved hygiene behaviors, the project contributes to healthier communities and sustainable development in rural Bangladesh. Some of the major activities of this project are providing physiotherapy service, awareness sessions on WASH, and establishing satellite clinics, drinking water points & hygienic water points etc.



Ali Akbar's Happiness Comes from Social Business

Ali Akbar, born in 1975 in Sitakund, Chattogram, grew up in a struggling family where his father worked as a day laborer to support four younger siblings. Due to financial hardship, Ali's education ended after primary school, and he began working at just 14 years old. His first job at a motor garage did not bring him satisfaction, but a different experience shaped his life's purpose. Having suffered from diarrhea several times as a child and witnessing others die from cholera and acute watery diarrhea, Ali developed a strong desire to do something that could save lives.

Sitakund, being a coastal and hilly area, had many poor families living along the sea and hillsides who practiced open defecation due to a lack of sanitation facilities and limited WASH interventions. Motivated by a sense of responsibility toward his community, Ali began working with a local entrepreneur (LE) in sanitation – initially only for food. His passion for learning and dedication to improving community hygiene kept him motivated despite the challenges.

In 2020, Ali started producing ring slabs in his own premises, but his business struggled due to financial constraints and a lack of recognition. His fortunes changed in 2024 when he connected with the YPSA Branch Manager and received various WASH-related training and a loan under the YPSA-Alive WASH Project. This support not only helped him overcome his funding barriers but also built his credibility within the community. YPSA linked him with members receiving loans for water credit products, expanding his customer base and boosting his business reputation.

Today, Ali Akbar's sanitation business is thriving. His products are helping households in remote areas access improved sanitation, contributing to better health and hygiene. He feels immense happiness and pride seeing his business grow and knowing that his work directly supports safer, healthier communities. Through his determination and YPSA's support, Ali transformed from a struggling laborer into a successful social entrepreneur making a lasting impact on public health in Sitakund.

**PROJECT: COMMUNITY HEALTH, WASH, HEALTH SYSTEMS SUPPORT & HEALTH POST FOR
FDMN AND HOST COMMUNITY POPULATION (PHASE 8)**

DONOR

COMMUNITY PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL

LOCATION

COX'S BAZAR

The Emergency Relief Program aims to ensure health protection and improve the well-being of the Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMNs) residing in refugee camps and the surrounding host communities of Cox's Bazar district. The project focuses on enhancing the general health status of the FDMN population by promoting health awareness, improving health-seeking behaviors, and linking communities with essential healthcare services. It ensures equitable access to free, dignified, and quality primary and secondary healthcare, along with the provision of safe drinking water, improved sanitation systems, and increased awareness on health and hygiene practices for both refugee and local populations. Major activities of this project include vaccination, awareness sessions etc.



**A Story of Courage and
Compassion: YPSA-CPI's
Timely Response During
the Camp-1W Fire**

Since 2020, YPSA-CPI has been actively implementing health outreach initiatives in Camp-1W, particularly in Blocks A and B. Through daily home visits, health awareness sessions, and education activities, the team has worked tirelessly to improve

community health outcomes. Their responsibilities include beneficiary follow-up, patient referrals, and maintaining records on antenatal care (ANC), postnatal care (PNC), live births, and mortalities. In addition, the team provides essential family planning supplies such as male condoms and oral contraceptive pills, and remains prepared to offer first aid and psychological first aid (PFA) during emergencies like floods, cyclones, or fires. They also regularly support national and humanitarian health campaigns, including COVID-19 vaccination, Oral Cholera Vaccine (OCV), Mass Drug Administration (MDA), and PENTA & TD immunizations.

On December 24, 2024, a massive fire broke out in Camp-1W, C-block, leaving many families in distress. YPSA-CPI's health outreach teams acted immediately, rushing to the site to assist the victims. They provided first aid to 45 individuals who required urgent medical attention before referring them to nearby medical facilities. Among the injured was Abdul Malek, who was found unconscious and severely wounded. The outreach team quickly carried him on a stretcher to the BRAC-PHC in Camp-1W, where doctors promptly treated him and provided psychological first aid. Having lost his home in the fire, Abdul Malek later moved to stay with relatives while continuing to receive medical follow-up from YPSA-CPI volunteers.

The following day, the health outreach team returned to the fire site to distribute sanitary napkins and face masks to affected families, demonstrating their ongoing commitment to community care and dignity even after the crisis. Over the next few weeks, Abdul Malek's condition improved significantly, thanks to the regular follow-up by volunteers Foyizul Islam and Sayed Hossain (HOV-TL).

Abdul Malek, his family, and the wider community expressed heartfelt gratitude to YPSA-CPI for their swift and compassionate response during this devastating incident. This story stands as a testament to YPSA-CPI's dedication, teamwork, and unwavering commitment to protecting lives and promoting health even in the most challenging circumstances.

PROJECT: INSTALLATION OF TUBE-WELLS TO ACCESS SAFE WATER BY RURAL PEOPLE

DONOR

BUILD A WATER PROJECT

LOCATION

CHANDPUR (HAJIGANJ)

The project aims to ensure access to safe drinking water and promote hygienic practices for the poor and marginalized communities of West Borokul Union, Hajiganj Upazila. Its objectives are: first, to provide accessible and safe drinking water within the project area; and second, to raise awareness among the local population about health and hygiene, enabling them to maintain a healthy and safe lifestyle.



EDUCATION

4

PROJECTS

67,029

**PEOPLE
BENEFITED**

815

**EVENTS
ACHIEVED**



39960

FEMALE



26546

MALE



523

**PERSONS
With
DISABILITIES**

1. Education for Rohingya Refugee Children and Host Community Children in Bangladesh – Education Cannot Wait
2. Early Childhood Development (ECD) Home Kit for a Playful Home in Cox's Bazar -Play to Learn (YPSA-SESAME Project)
3. Support to FDMN in Cox's Bazar and Bhashan Char in Education, Livelihood and WASH Sector (BRAC POOLED FUND)
4. EiE Project

PROJECT: EDUCATION FOR ROHINGYA REFUGEE CHILDREN AND HOST COMMUNITY CHILDREN IN BANGLADESH

DONOR

EDUCATION CANNOT WAIT (ECW), MYRP II

LOCATION

UKHIYA, TEKNAF, COX'S BAZAR

This project in Bangladesh aims to ensure that all crisis-affected children, including refugees and marginalized host communities, have access to quality, equitable, and inclusive education. The project works to expand access to learning centers, enhance education quality through teacher training and improved learning resources, and promote gender equality in education. By strengthening the overall education system, the ECW project supports both Rohingya and host community children, empowering them with the knowledge and skills needed for a brighter and more resilient future.

Journey of Hope: Azimul's Path to Learning

In the sprawling expanse of Balukhali Camp 8W lived a young boy named Azimul Hasan with his parents, Noor Mohammad and Amina. A student of Pearl Learning Center (LC) in Camp-10 under the ECW Top-Up Fund project, Azimul faced a major challenge that stood between him and his education—the long distance from his home to the school. The tiring daily walk and the constant bullying from other children along the way discouraged him, affecting his regular attendance and academic performance.



Recognizing the issue, Azimul's teacher took an active role in addressing his struggles. The teacher spoke with Azimul's family, offering continuous guidance and motivation to both the

child and his parents. Understanding that the long, unsafe journey was a key barrier, the teacher made special arrangements to make school attendance easier. This included organizing a small group of friends to walk with him, arranging occasional carpooling with classmates, and even visiting his home when needed. The teacher also gave Azimul extra care in class by seating him in the front row and maintaining close communication with his parents about his progress.

Gradually, these small yet meaningful steps brought visible changes. Azimul began attending school regularly and regained his enthusiasm for learning. With his fears reduced and encouragement from his teacher and parents, his confidence grew, and his academic performance improved significantly. His parents also became more involved, staying in regular contact with the teacher to support his education.

Today, Azimul stands as an example of how care, understanding, and collaboration between teachers and parents can transform a child's educational journey. His renewed hope and determination not only shaped his own future but also inspired others in Camp-10 to believe that with the right support, every child can overcome barriers to learning.

PROJECT: EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD) HOME KIT FOR A PLAYFUL HOME IN COX'S BAZAR – PLAY TO LEARN (YPSA-SESAME PROJECT)

DONOR	SESAME WORKSHOP
LOCATION	UKHIYA, COX'S BAZAR

The Home Kit project aims to support early childhood development by creating a playful and stimulating home environment that encourages active parental engagement. It seeks to promote learning through play while strengthening the emotional bond between parents and children. By encouraging both parents to spend quality time with their children through interactive play, the project fosters holistic development, enhances early learning skills, and builds a nurturing family atmosphere essential for a child's growth and well-being.

Rabbi, an Early Childhood Development (ECD) child from South Sonaichori village under Jaliya Palong Union, has shown remarkable growth and positive changes after receiving the Home Kit support. Living with his parents—his father, a driver, and his mother, a homemaker—Rabbi now attends a nearby Nurani Madrasa. When his mother learned that YPSA, with technical support from Sesame Workshop, was providing Home Kit support to ECD children, she eagerly requested to include her son in the initiative. The Home Kit aimed to promote holistic child development through play-based learning and parental engagement.



Beyond learning skills, Rabbi's social and emotional development has also flourished. He can now identify basic emotions through emotional cards and express his own feelings more clearly. His mother proudly observes these changes, expressing deep joy and gratitude for the transformation in her child. She now spends more quality time with Rabbi, engaging in play and learning together.

Rabbi's story stands as a testament to how simple, play-based interventions like the Home Kit can bring profound changes in a child's early learning journey. His mother's heartfelt appreciation to YPSA and Sesame Workshop reflects the lasting impact of such initiatives in nurturing children's holistic growth and strengthening the bond between parents and their children.

PROJECT: SUPPORT TO FDMN IN COX'S BAZAR AND BHASHAN CHAR IN EDUCATION, LIVELIHOOD AND WASH SECTOR

DONOR	BRAC
LOCATION	CAMP 14, 16 (UKHIYA) AND 21 (TEKNAF)

The goal of this project is to significantly enhance the educational outcomes and resilience of Rohingya children and adolescents aged 3 to 18, with a particular focus on those with disabilities. This will be achieved by substantially improving the capacity of educational facilities and personnel through comprehensive capacity-building initiatives. These initiatives will align educational practices with Myanmar curriculum learners, foster an inclusive and safe learning environment, and strengthen community-based learning facilities (CBLFs). By prioritizing the development of educational staff, enhancing the infrastructure of CBLFs, and providing high-quality teaching materials, the project aims to create equitable learning opportunities for all learners, especially those with disabilities. Success will be measured by the percentage of learners who successfully pass their respective grade-level competency assessments and the extent to which CBLFs offer a joyful and safe learning environment for every child, with particular attention to inclusivity for students with disabilities.

Breaking Chains, Building Futures – How Education and Awareness Saved Sumaiya from Child Marriage

Sumaiya, a 15-year-old girl from Maungdaw, Myanmar, grew up in a loving family with access to education. However, ongoing conflict and violence there forced her family to flee to Bangladesh, where they settled in Camp-16 with the support of the Government of Bangladesh and humanitarian organizations. The transition to camp life brought challenges, yet Sumaiya remained determined to continue her education.

Initially, social norms and family pressure prevented Sumaiya from attending formal learning opportunities. Her situation changed in December 2023 when she discovered the Community-Based Learning Facility (CBLF) established by YPSA-BPF. Enrolling in the program provided her with essential educational materials and a safe, supportive environment that reignited her hope for a brighter future.

While progressing in her studies, Sumaiya faced a critical challenge: her family had arranged her marriage, influenced by traditional beliefs and the groom's financial stability. Though Sumaiya and her mother opposed the marriage, societal pressures made resistance difficult. During a routine CBLF visit, the issue was flagged by a field facilitator named Saida and reported to child marriage prevention actors. When no immediate action occurred, the case was escalated to the Camp-in-Charge (CIC), who intervened by meeting Sumaiya's parents. The marriage was successfully prevented.

This life-changing intervention was possible through the coordinated efforts of Sumaiya, her mother, YPSA-BPF staff, child protection partners, and CIC officials. Continuous community awareness sessions also played a key role in challenging harmful cultural norms and fostering a supportive environment for adolescent girls.

Following the incident, the CIC emphasized the importance of child marriage prevention and encouraged the broader Rohingya community to engage actively. Messages on preventing early marriage have now been integrated into CESG (Community Engagement Support Group) activities and parent meetings. Beyond Sumaiya, these efforts have successfully prevented multiple early marriages in Camp-16, showcasing the power of coordinated protection initiatives.

Now, Sumaiya regularly attends the CBLF and is more determined than ever to pursue her education. Her confidence has grown, and she actively advocates for her rights and encourages peers to resist early marriage. Her story exemplifies how timely intervention, education, and community awareness can transform lives. The CIC's appreciation of YPSA-BPF's work underscores the continued importance of child protection and educational programs in refugee communities.

Note: Pictures were not taken due to confidentiality concerns, and the participant did not provide consent.

r

PROJECT: EDUCATION IN EMERGENCY PROJECT (EiE)

DONOR

DFAT IV, DANIDA SPA, TELETHON, LEGO FOUNDATION, SIDA HUM

LOCATION

UKHIYA AND TEKNAF

The project aims to continue and strengthen immediate access to equitable learning opportunities in a safe, inclusive, and protective environment for crisis-affected Rohingya children and vulnerable host community learners. During the reporting period, 150 children from host community Learning Centers were successfully admitted to government primary schools, while 242 children with disabilities were reached and included in appropriate learning environments. The project expanded access to education by establishing 9 Learning Centers, 120 Community-Based Learning Facilities, 60 Home-Based Learning Groups, and 200 Pair Education Groups, and by inaugurating three new projects under the Education in Emergency (EiE) framework. In addition, secondary education (Grade 6) was introduced for the first time under the EiE project, enrolling 80 children and supporting their transition to higher levels of learning. Key lessons learned include the importance of strong project management to gain recognition from government and donors, the critical role of engaging and convincing guardians to ensure adolescent girls' participation, and the value of close coordination with Camp-in-Charge (CiC) offices to facilitate timely approvals, including for the establishment of new Learning Centers.

A Journey of Determination and Growth

Shahida, a 15-year-old Rohingya girl living in Camp 14, Block B, carries a quiet but powerful determination to grow alongside others through education. She arrived in Bangladesh from Hawarbil, Maungdaw, Arakan State, in August 2015. In Myanmar, Shahida never had the opportunity to attend school due to deeply rooted community beliefs that discouraged girls' education. After her arrival in Bangladesh, her learning journey remained interrupted for several years until she was finally enrolled in YPSA's Community-Based Learning Facility (CBLF) Heron 1 in 2021. Currently, Shahida is studying under the Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) Package 2 at the same CBLF.

Shahida's path to education was not easy. Initially, her parents were reluctant to allow her to study due to fear, misinformation, and long-standing social norms. Despite these barriers, Shahida's strong desire to learn never faded. A turning point came when Kulsuma Madam, a dedicated teacher from YPSA, visited her home and asked Shahida about her interest in education. Shahida openly shared her dreams, and Kulsuma Madam patiently explained to her parents the importance of girls' education. This personal engagement helped change their mindset, and they finally agreed to enroll Shahida in the CBLF.

Today, Shahida no longer faces obstacles in continuing her education. She regularly attends the CBLF, where she feels safe, supported, and motivated. YPSA provides a child-friendly learning environment, and the teachers are sincere, caring, and responsive. Whenever Shahida encounters any difficulty in her studies, she freely shares it with her teachers, who promptly support her. Through parenting sessions organized by the project, her parents have also become more aware and supportive, and they now actively encourage her to attend classes.



As a result of this supportive environment, Shahida has made remarkable academic progress. She can read, write, and communicate in both English and Burmese, and she

confidently solves mathematical problems. She now helps her classmates during lessons and tutors her younger brother, sister, and six other children in her community. Inspired by her own transformation, Shahida dreams of becoming a teacher so she can support other children like herself. Her parents are proud of her achievements and hope that after completing her studies, she will contribute positively to her community becoming a role model for other girls to follow.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

17
PROJECTS

6,76,010
PEOPLE
BENEFITED

43,664
EVENTS
ACHIEVED



300285

FEMALE



357089

MALE



18636

PERSONS
With
DISABILITIES

1. Ain Shohayota Activity
2. Activating Village Courts in Bangladesh – Phase III
3. Bureau of Population, Refugee and Migration (YPSA-BPRM)
4. BGD AHP Rohingya Response – Phase IV
5. Champions of Change (CoC) Project
6. Prevention and Response Activities Implementation on Counter Trafficking Issue
7. Protect Children from Hazardous Labor in Dried Fish and Metal Factor Sector (Free Kids) and Enlighten Their Future
8. Fight Slavery and Trafficking-In-Persons (FSTIP) Activity
9. Green and Safer Ship Recycling in Bangladesh
10. Program for Adolescents
11. Multi Sector Recovery and Empowerment Support for Crises Affected Communities in Cox’s Bazar
12. Improving Labor Migration System in Bangladesh by Regularization of Sub-agent and Strengthening Grievance Management Committee (YPSA-LM)
13. RISE-Reimagining Industry to Support Equality
14. SHIKHA: Creating Public and Private Spaces Free from Gender-based Violence, Bullying and Sexual Harassment through Strengthening Prevention and Response Mechanisms
15. Youth from Host Communities and Rohingya Camps in Cox’s Bazar as Agents of Change (YHCRCCAC)
16. Youth are Resilient, Interconnected, Socially Cohesive and Engaged (YouthRISE)
17. Community Communication Skills Development for Social Awareness in Cox’s Bazar

PROJECT: AIN SHOHAYOTA ACTIVITY

DONOR

DEMOCRACY INTERNATIONAL

LOCATION

CHATTOGRAM, COX’S BAZAR, FENI, RANGAMATI

The project aims to raise awareness and build trust among citizens regarding access to legal services while strengthening the connection between service providers and recipients to improve overall support systems. It seeks to enhance legal literacy and ensure free, easy access to government legal aid, particularly for marginalized groups. Through targeted training and workshops, the initiative promotes the legal empowerment of citizens and actively supports the protection of women’s rights and access to justice. Overall, the project strives to promote government legal aid services, increase public awareness of legal rights, and create inclusive pathways for communities to engage with formal justice mechanisms.



Rehena Begum – Finding Hope Through Legal Aid

As part of a scheduled activity under YPSA's community outreach program, the Upazila Coordinator of Moheshkhali organized a courtyard meeting with women in Choto Moheshkhali Union. Prior to the event, he and the District Manager worked closely with local stakeholders to ensure active community participation. Their efforts paid off—on the day of the meeting, attendance exceeded expectations. The women listened attentively, eagerly engaging in discussions about human rights, legal aid, and access to justice. Many participants expressed that it was the first time they had attended such an informative and empowering session, though they regretted realizing how little they had known about their basic rights before.

The following day, Saiful Ahmed, a local youth group member, contacted the Upazila Coordinator to share concerns about Rehena Begum, a woman from the community facing serious marital problems. Recognizing signs of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), the Coordinator advised confidentiality and consulted with the District Manager. The District Manager then reached out to Rehena and respectfully listened to her story.

Rehena Begum, married for three years with a one-year-old child, described how her husband's behavior had changed after she became pregnant. He began to mentally and physically abuse her for dowry and became increasingly violent due to drug addiction. Fearing for her safety but wanting to keep her family together, Rehena endured the abuse in silence, hoping for a peaceful resolution. Understanding her situation, the District Manager informed Rehena about the District Legal Aid Office (DLAO) and its confidential mediation process. With her consent, he and the Upazila Coordinator accompanied her to meet the District Legal Aid Officer in Cox's Bazar. After hearing her case, the officer encouraged Rehena to file an application and assured her of support and fair mediation.

For the first time, Rehena felt heard and hopeful. She filed her application, and the case is now at the stage of issuing the first notice for her appearance at the DLAO. Through YPSA's continuous community engagement and collaboration with legal aid institutions, Rehena Begum has taken her first step toward justice and a life free from fear, symbolizing how awareness and accessible legal services can transform lives.

PROJECT: ACTIVATING VILLAGE COURTS IN BANGLADESH – PHASE III

DONOR	GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH, EUROPEAN UNION AND UNDP BANGLADESH
LOCATION	CHATTOGRAM, COX'S BAZAR, FENI, NOAKHALI, CUMILLA, BRAHMANBARIA, CHANDPUR, LAKSHMIPUR, SYLHET, MOULAVIBAZAR, HABIGANJ, SUNAMGANJ, NARAYANGANJ, MUNSHIGANJ, KISHORGANJ

The project aims to strengthen the capacity of local justice institutions to effectively address the legal needs of communities by making local authorities more responsive and ensuring that village courts function efficiently in delivering justice. At the same time, it focuses on empowering rural populations particularly women, the poor, and other disadvantaged groups to access village courts for resolving minor disputes. Through these combined efforts, the initiative promotes a more inclusive, accessible, and responsive local justice system that upholds fairness and equity for all.



Hearing Session of the Village Court, Jaintapur, Sylhet

Subash Bauri — A Journey Toward Justice Through the Village Court

In Begumkhan Tea Garden under Ward No. 6 of Deworgach Union, Chunarughat Upazila, Habiganj District, lives Subash Bauri (53), son of late Nondo Bauri. He earns a modest living by working in the tea garden and supports his family through great hardship. His wife, Gita Bauri, helps by rearing a few cows at home. Together, they care for their three daughters and one son, striving to meet daily needs despite their financial struggles. On January 15, 2024, an unfortunate incident occurred when Shimul Bauri (32), son of Subash Bauri, came home intoxicated and verbally abused Subash using offensive language. The situation escalated when Shimul threatened to kill him. The next day, Subash sought justice from the local village council, but the accused ignored the informal mediation and continued his threats.

Finding no solution, Subash filed a criminal case with the Deworgach Union Parishad Village Court, paying a nominal fee of only 10 taka. The case was duly registered, and the court issued summons for both parties to appear. On the scheduled date, both the applicant and the accused appeared before the Village Court. In front of the Union Parishad Chairman, Shimul admitted his wrongdoing and promised not to repeat such behavior in the future. A written settlement agreement was prepared and signed by both parties and witnesses, and the Chairman formally reconciled the dispute. Both sides expressed satisfaction with the court's decision. Subash Bauri shared his feelings with gratitude, saying,

“For a long time, I went from door to door seeking justice but found none. I never imagined that the Village Court could resolve my problem so fairly and easily. For poor people like me, this is the true court of justice. I hope every Union in Bangladesh has such an active Village Court so that the poor and helpless can get justice.”

PROJECT: BUREAU OF POPULATION, REFUGEE AND MIGRATION (YPSA-BPRM)

DONOR

SAVE THE CHILDREN

LOCATION

UKHIYA (HOST & CAMP), TEKNAF (CAMP)

The project aims to ensure access to safe, equitable, and inclusive learning opportunities for adolescents and youth in both Rohingya camps and host communities, fostering sustainable pathways toward self-reliance. Its objectives are to empower adolescents to mitigate child protection risks and access essential protection services, and to enhance access to skills,

knowledge, and resources that enable adolescents and youth to transition into safe, dignified, and sustainable livelihoods. Through these efforts, the project seeks to build resilience and promote long-term empowerment among young people in vulnerable communities.



One of the project participants setting up the on-farm micronutrition garden, and harvesting crops from the garden.

PROJECT: BGD AHP ROHINGYA RESPONSE – PHASE IV

DONOR

SAVE THE CHILDREN

LOCATION

UKHIYA (CAMP 10, 11, 12, 13, 19)

The project aims to improve protective environment through strengthened localized and community-based response and protection mechanisms in the Rohingya camps in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar.



The New Flower That Was Found

Shila (pseudonym) is the eldest of five siblings in a family where societal rules dictate that the eldest daughter must act as a substitute mother. At seventeen, she felt the weight of this expectation crushing her dreams. The girl who had always imagined herself wearing an apron and serving patients now found herself staring at a rope, contemplating ending her life. The dark room reflected her life: poverty, family pressure, unfulfilled dreams, and relentless responsibilities that she had not chosen.

Shila's parents often argued, and her mother's constant comparisons and scolding, combined with neighbors' ridicule, left Shila feeling trapped. She had her SSC exams ahead, dreams of becoming a doctor, and yet no support at home. *"Am I born only for this responsibility? Won't I have any dreams of my own?"* she thought, as despair overwhelmed her. One day, as she attempted to harm herself, her mother, Julekha Begum, walked in and stopped her, embracing her tightly. For the first time, Shila felt that someone might understand her pain. But the change was not immediate—her mother's harshness persisted, and Shila once again threatened to end her life if nothing changed.

This plea broke through. That evening, Julekha Begum called Khadija Apa from the YPSA Child Protection Program: *"My daughter is broken. I don't want to lose her. Please help me."* Julekha had long been part of the Parents Group, but it took this crisis to truly open her eyes to her daughter's struggles.

From that moment, YPSA increased engagement with the family. Regular visits, conversations, and guidance helped rebuild the bond between mother and daughter. Today, Julekha Begum ensures Shila has water or milk while studying, supports her aspirations, and celebrates her dreams of becoming a doctor. The YPSA Child Protection Team continues to stand ready, ensuring that no child like Shila has to face such despair.

Thanks to Khadija Apa's dedication, a new flower has been nurtured, promising to bloom brightly in the future. May all children grow up in safe and supportive environment.

PROJECT: CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE (COC)

DONOR

UNFPA, PLAN INTERNATIONAL BANGLADESH (TECHNICAL
SUPPORT)

LOCATION

COX'S BAZAR

The project aims to empower adolescents, youth, and their caregivers in the Rohingya camps and host communities of Cox's Bazar by providing life skills education and development programs. It seeks to reduce harmful practices such as child marriage and gender-based violence by promoting positive social norms and fostering active community engagement. The initiative also focuses on strengthening protection systems and improving access to essential services, including Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS). Through drama, sports, and other creative activities, the project engages young people as agents of change, promoting peacebuilding and holistic youth development. Additionally, it enhances resilience, particularly among women and girls at risk of child marriage or adolescent pregnancy.



Sport Event Arranged in Subrang Union, Teknaf, Cox's Bazar

Parvin's Journey: From Early Marriage Risk to Educational Hope

Parvin Akter, a 16-year-old girl from Karachipara, faced the harsh reality of poverty and early marriage. Living in a financially struggling household with her parents, three sisters, and one brother, Parvin had to drop out of school alongside her younger brother. As the second daughter, she was under immense social and financial pressure, and her father, hoping to reduce family burdens, planned to marry her off at 16.

Through YPSA's Girl Shine Life Skills sessions, Parvin attended 25 sessions focused on adolescence, personal rights, gender-based violence, and the value of education. Simultaneously, her mother participated in caregiver sessions, learning how to support her daughter's growth. Engaging actively in the sessions, Parvin gained knowledge about her rights, health, and education, while her mother began to understand what was truly best for her child.

When her father proposed early marriage, both Parvin and her mother stood firm, choosing education instead. With her mother's full support, Parvin decided to return to school and plans to resume her brother's education as well. Today, she is confident, motivated, and eager to share her knowledge with siblings, classmates, and friends.

Parvin reflects, *"There's a big difference in my mother's thinking before and after attending the sessions. Now she understands what is truly good for me."* Through the Girl Shine program, Parvin not only avoided early marriage but also blossomed into an informed, courageous young leader, inspiring others in her community.

PROJECT: PREVENTION AND RESPONSE ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTATION ON COUNTER TRAFFICKING ISSUE

DONOR

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)

LOCATION

UKHIYA, COX'S BAZAR

Host Community: Rajapalong, Jaliapalong, Ratnapalong, Haldiapalong, Palongkhali

Rohingya Camp: 10,13,14,15,16 and 17

The major focus of this project is to ensure safety, well-being and dignity of crisis affected Rohingya refugee and host community population by mitigating, preventing and protecting against trafficking in persons in Cox's Bazar District.



Consultation Meeting with Camp-in-Charge (CiCs) of Rohingya Camps, Cox's Bazar

PROJECT: PROTECT CHILDREN FROM HAZARDOUS LABOUR IN DRIED FISH AND METAL FACTORY SECTOR (FREE KIDS) AND ENLIGHTEN THEIR FUTURE

DONOR

SOLIDAR SUISSE BANGLADESH

LOCATION

CHATTOGRAM & COX'S BAZAR

The project aims to enroll 450 working children under 14 in formal schools while providing their parents with alternative livelihood options through training, cash, and in-kind support. Additionally, it seeks to equip 225 child laborers with sector- and gender-appropriate vocational training and economic opportunities, alongside supporting their families with financial or in-kind assistance. This integrated approach ensures children can access education while families achieve sustainable income and improved well-being.



Life-skill Related Training after the Vocational Training Conducted for the Underaged Laborers in Chattogram

Zubaida Begum: From Child Laborer to District Champion

Zubaida Begum, a 14-year-old from Chaufaldandi, Cox's Bazar, lost her father at the age of eight and had to leave school to work alongside her mother, Nur Jahan, clearing dry land. Poverty forced her into child labor until 2023, when YPSA, with support from Solidar Suisse, enrolled her in the fourth grade at South Rakhine Para Government Primary School and provided financial and educational assistance.

To stabilize the family's income, Zubaida's mother received livelihood training and inputs such as seeds, fertilizer, and poultry, enabling her to earn 2,000–3,000 BDT monthly. With this support, Zubaida focused on her studies and extracurricular activities. In 2025, she won first place in the 100-meter girls' race at the union, upazila, and district levels in the National Primary Education Medal Competition.



Her headmistress, Shahina Akhter, praised her achievement, while her mother expressed deep gratitude to YPSA for transforming their lives. After participating in 50 sessions at the Mukta Monon Learning Center, Zubaida now dreams of becoming an international athlete, showing that with proper support, a child laborer can rise to become a champion.

PROJECT: FIGHT SLAVERY AND TRAFFICKING-IN-PERSONS (FSTIP)

DONOR

WINROCK INTERNATIONAL

LOCATION

CHATTOGRAM, COX'S BAZAR AND CUMILLA

The project aims to enhance the protection of trafficking victims by improving their access to comprehensive care services and fostering effective, coordinated partnerships among stakeholders to combat trafficking. Its protection component focuses on increasing support for TIP and child marriage survivors through strengthened care services by NGOs and government providers, effective implementation of national care standards and SOPs, and improved identification and referral mechanisms. The project also promotes survivor leadership and sustainability through ANIRBAN, while linking survivors and at-risk groups to education, skills training, and alternative livelihood opportunities.



Entrepreneurship Training for Traffic-in-Person (TiP) Survivors

Md. Jahed: From Trafficking Survivor to Aspiring Entrepreneur

Md. Jahed, a 35-year-old from Paschim Para, Choufaldandi, Cox's Bazar, dreamed of improving his family's financial situation and traveled to Abu Dhabi and Dubai through a local broker without consulting anyone. Upon arrival, he faced severe exploitation—beaten, underfed, confined with 45 others in cramped accommodation, and denied wages for months. His documents were confiscated, and he lived in constant fear and hardship. Eventually, he escaped but remained undocumented, facing further struggles until the Bangladesh Embassy helped him return home.

After returning, Jahed received shelter, counseling, life skills, and entrepreneurship training through YPSA's FSTIP program, supported by USAID and Winrock International. Empowered by these services, he decided to establish a Betel-leaf field, using his prior cultivation skills to achieve financial independence. With material support from the program, Jahed successfully started his cultivation and now envisions a self-reliant, dignified future.



Beyond his entrepreneurship, Jahed actively participates in social initiatives, raising awareness about safe migration and human trafficking in his community, demonstrating resilience and leadership born from his own experience.

PROJECT: GREEN AND SAFER SHIP RECYCLING IN BANGLADESH

DONOR

THE KADOORIE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION (KCF)

LOCATION

SITAKUND

The project aims to promote a safer, environmentally responsible, and labor-friendly ship recycling industry. It provides support to yard owners to achieve Hong Kong Convention certification and become green yards, while strengthening workplace safety through job-specific training for workers. The initiative also raises awareness among owners, workers, and the local community about labor rights and the reduction of child labor. Additionally, it assists stakeholders, including owners, workers, and public-private organizations, in implementing labor laws and shipbreaking industry regulations effectively.



Fire-drill in Ship-breaking Yard, Chattogram

Md. Rafique: From Risky Work to Safe Practice — A Champion of Change in the Shipbreaking Industry

Md. Rafique, a ship-cutting worker from Sitakunda, once worked in extremely hazardous conditions where fire hazards, gas explosions, and injuries were part of daily life. His job was low-paying and life-threatening. Everything changed when he participated in YPSA's Training of Trainers (TOT) program on safe ship-cutting practices. Through this training, Rafique learned how to identify risks, use protective gear, and handle emergencies. Motivated by his learning, he went on to train 15 other workers in his yard. With confidence, he now says, *"Before, working felt like playing with my life. Now, I know how to work safely."*

YPSA, with support from its partners, has been conducting TOT programs to transform the ship recycling industry into a safer and greener sector. A total of 200 trainers have been trained on safe ship cutting, another 200 on asbestos handling, and 200 more on fire prevention, firefighting, first aid, and emergency evacuation. These trained workers are now cascading their knowledge to others in their respective yards, significantly increasing the number of skilled and safety-conscious workers.

Beyond training, YPSA raises awareness on occupational health and safety through campaigns, street theater, and folk songs. Over the past two years, 100 workers and their families have received free healthcare through 24 health camps, while 230 workers have received legal advice via legal camps.

As a result of these comprehensive efforts, yards supported by YPSA have reported a notable reduction in workplace accidents. With strong cooperation and advocacy involving government bodies, yard owners, and workers, the industry is witnessing positive change growing from just one to four green-certified yards.

Through workers like Rafique, YPSA's initiatives are not only saving lives but also building a culture of safety, dignity, and sustainability in Bangladesh's shipbreaking industry.

PROJECT: PROGRAM FOR ADOLESCENTS

DONOR

PKSF AND OWN

LOCATION

SITAKUND

The project is to organize adolescents to increase their dignity in the society, eliminate the rights and inequalities of men and women, prevent child marriage, reduce all forms of sexual harassment and physical and mental abuse including eve-teasing.



Awareness Based Art Competition among Adolescent Girls in Sitakund



Awareness Meeting with Adolescent Girls

Delwar Hossain: Inspiring Change Among Adolescents Through Leadership and Action

Delwar Hossain, son of Fazlul Karim and Saheda Akhtar, lives in Barabakund Union of Sitakund Upazila. A passionate and motivated young man, Delwar became involved with YPSA's Adolescent Program in 2022 when he met a program officer who recognized his leadership potential. Soon after, he was selected as a mentor for the Rajanigandha Adolescent Club in Alinagar under YPSA's initiative.

Through monthly meetings, Delwar and other members receive training on leadership, education, health, and life skills. The club also organizes annual sports and cultural competitions to engage adolescents in positive activities, helping them stay away from drugs, excessive mobile gaming, and other harmful behaviors.

Under Delwar's leadership, the club identified major youth issues in the area such as drug addiction, school dropouts, and social unrest. Drawing from YPSA's counseling sessions, Delwar and his peers began advising addicted youth to quit drugs and smoking. They also organized sports tournaments, raised funds from local well-wishers, and rewarded participants to encourage healthy recreation. Beyond that, they initiated tree plantation drives and community cleaning campaigns for roads, mosques, madrasas, and cemeteries inspiring civic responsibility among local youth.

Delwar's initiative has brought visible change. Adolescents in his community are now more confident, socially aware, and engaged in positive activities. His leadership has been recognized at the upazila level, where he actively participates in coordination meetings and provides guidance to other adolescent clubs in Sitakund.

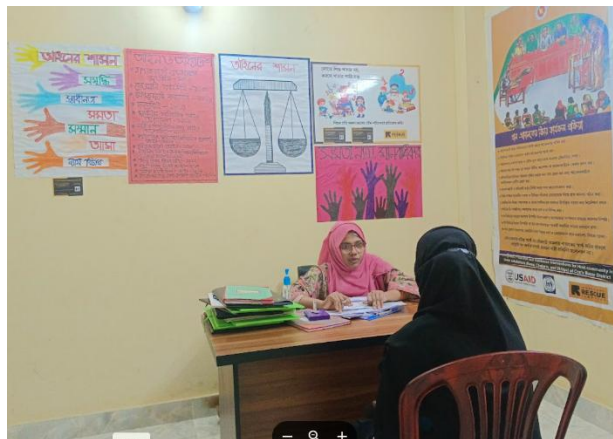
Reflecting on his journey, Delwar says, *"The training organized by YPSA makes us more aware and teaches us how to connect with various institutions."* He also received training from the Department of Youth Development on duck rearing and nutrition gardening, which he now applies in his life while encouraging others to do the same.

Delwar firmly believes that if more adolescents are empowered and engaged in social development, the entire nation will move forward – one community at a time.

PROJECT: MULTI SECTOR RECOVERY AND EMPOWERMENT SUPPORT FOR CRISES AFFECTED COMMUNITIES IN COX'S BAZAR

DONOR	INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (IRC)
LOCATION	RAMU, CHAKARIA, UKHIYA

The project seeks to improve the protection and overall wellbeing of the most vulnerable individuals by fostering economic resilience, ensuring access to essential support services, and promoting a better quality of life free from harm and exploitation. It focuses on empowering individuals and families in host communities affected by the Rohingya refugee crisis, equipping them with the skills, resources, and opportunities needed to rebuild their lives with dignity. Through a holistic approach, the initiative aims to strengthen community-based protection mechanisms, enhance livelihoods, and create a safer, more inclusive environment where vulnerable people can thrive



PROJECT: IMPROVING LABOR MIGRATION SYSTEM IN BANGLADESH BY REGULARIZATION OF SUB-AGENT AND STRENGTHENING GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (YPSA-LM)

DONOR	THE ASIA FOUNDATION
LOCATION	RANGUNIA (CHATTOGRAM) AND COX'S BAZAR SADAR

The project aims to promote safe, orderly, and regular migration by strengthening governance and accountability mechanisms at both institutional and community levels. Its primary goal is to assist and support the Government in implementing the Migration (Amendment) Act through the registration of sub-agents under recruiting agencies. Additionally, the project seeks to establish and strengthen Grievance Management Committees to ensure that migrants at the grassroots level have access to justice and protection. Through targeted awareness campaigns, it also aims to inform marginalized migrants and their families about government services and safe migration

practices, thereby reducing exploitation and promoting secure overseas employment opportunities.



Skill Enhancement and Leadership Training for the Sub-agents in Rangunia, Chattogram

Court-yard Meeting in Cox's Bazar



Yousuf Ali Receives Justice Through GMC Mediation

In 2017, Yousuf Ali (50) from Choufaldandi Union, Cox's Bazar Sadar, paid Tk 600,000 to Kamal Hossain (45) for visa processing. However, due to Kamal's mistake, the visa was canceled, leaving Yousuf in financial distress. For years, the issue remained unresolved until June 6, 2024, when YPSA received the complaint during a knowledge-sharing meeting and referred it to the Grievance Management Committee (GMC).

On July 27, 2024, the case was formally discussed in a YPSA-facilitated social mediation meeting attended by both parties and 10 GMC members. After reviewing the matter, the GMC proposed that Kamal compensate Yousuf Tk 300,000, considering his partial financial losses. Both parties agreed, and Kamal handed over the cheque during the meeting.

The mediation process ended successfully, with both parties expressing satisfaction. This case highlights how YPSA's grievance management mechanism is helping local communities resolve migration-related disputes peacefully and fairly, ensuring justice and promoting trust in safe migration practices.

PROJECT: RISE – REIMAGINING INDUSTRY TO SUPPORT EQUALITY

DONOR

BUSINESS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (BSR)

LOCATION

DHAKA, GAZIPUR

The project aims to empower women workers, embed gender equality in business practice and catalyze systems change. It also focuses on the women working in global supply chains so that they could enjoy their inherent right to dignity through equality, choice and fulfillment of their rights.



Closing Meeting and Sustainability Meeting

Sabina's Journey towards Future Security with RISE Training

Sabina hails from the Bogura district of Bangladesh, growing up as one of six siblings. Sabina completed her education up to the eighth grade before marrying in 2009. Both her family and in-laws faced financial challenges, prompting Sabina to seek better opportunities in the city in 2011. She and her husband initially found work in the garment industry, but when her husband's health deteriorated, Sabina assumed the role of the sole breadwinner, supporting her entire family through hard work at Renaissance Apparels Ltd since 2019.



Before participating in the RISE program, Sabina began saving through a Deposit Pension Scheme (DPS), but lacked confidence in the security and accessibility of her funds. As a Peer Educator in the RISE project, she received comprehensive training that not only transformed her approach to financial management but also increased her confidence in utilizing banking services. She successfully convinced her husband to join her in saving for their future, emphasizing, *'We earn limited money, and we have children; if we do not save for our future, it will be risky, and we cannot live a better life,'* she explained.

In the RISE training, Sabina gained essential skills in mobile financial services, particularly with bKash (MFS), allowing her to recharge her mobile phone easily and access funds when needed. This newfound ability brought her a sense of convenience and empowerment.

One of the most significant areas of learning for Sabina was reproductive health. While she had some knowledge about this topic, her understanding was vague. She gained clarity on family planning after participating in training on Health and Hygiene and Family Health. She said, *"I transitioned from taking contraceptive pills, which made me feel unwell, to using contraceptive injections, which have proven to be a better fit for me now".*

Ultimately, Sabina's participation in the RISE program offered her a holistic approach to enhancing her life. By integrating essential skills in financial management, mobile services, and family health, she has improved the quality of life for herself and her children.

PROJECT: SHIKHA: CREATING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SPACES FREE FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, BULLYING AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT THROUGH STRENGTHENING PREVENTION AND RESPONSE MECHANISMS

DONOR

EUROPEAN UNION (EU) AND BRAC

LOCATION

CHATTOGRAM, SITAKUND, BANSHKHALI AND PATIYA

The project seeks to contribute to the reduction of gender-based violence and sexual harassment in Bangladesh by strengthening both prevention and response mechanisms. It focuses on creating safer environments in public spaces, educational institutions, workplaces, and online platforms. Special attention is given to protecting and empowering women and girls through awareness initiatives, capacity-building, and coordinated action among stakeholders. By promoting accountability and fostering gender sensitivity, the project seeks to ensure that all individuals, especially women and girls, can live free from violence, discrimination, and harassment.



Active Participation in the Training

PROJECT: YOUTH FROM HOST COMMUNITIES AND ROHINGYA CAMPS IN COX'S BAZAR AS AGENTS OF CHANGE (YHCRCCAC)

DONOR

PLAN INTERNATIONAL AND BMZ (GERMANY)

LOCATION

CAMP 21, 24, SUBRANG, HNILLA & WHYKONG UPAZILA

The project aims to empower adolescents and youth, particularly girls and young women, as agents of change who contribute to building a protective and inclusive environment through enhanced skills and opportunities. It focuses on improving knowledge and attitudes toward gender equality and cultural diversity, equipping young people with market-relevant skills for sustainable livelihoods, and strengthening community-based child protection mechanisms. Additionally, the project seeks to increase basic literacy and numeracy among adolescents and youth, enabling them to access essential services and actively participate in their communities' social and economic development.



CoC Graduation Ceremony at Camp 24

Empowering Resilience – The Inspirational Journey of Umme Salma Rubi

Umme Salma Rubi, a 21-year-old young woman from Naikyongkhali, Hnila Union, embodies resilience and determination. Growing up in a family of seven, Rubi's life changed drastically when her father's illness ended his fishing business, pushing the family into hardship. Forced to leave school after Class 10 during the Covid-19 pandemic, Rubi sought ways to support her family. In 2021, her journey toward empowerment began through the YPSA-YHCRCCAC project, where she received training in agriculture, animal husbandry, and tailoring, along with BDT 17,000 as financial support.



With newfound skills and confidence, Rubi started goat farming, gradually expanding her business and earning over BDT 1 lakh from livestock sales. She also cultivates vegetables using climate-smart techniques and earns an additional BDT 12,000–15,000 per month, alongside income from tailoring. Her economic success helped her family regain stability and support her siblings' education.

Rubi has also become a community role model raising awareness about gender equality, reproductive health, and social issues while helping others access government benefits. She has resumed her own education and is now pursuing higher studies in Humanities.

Now, Rubi stands as a symbol of empowerment balancing entrepreneurship, education, and community leadership. Her story reflects the transformative impact of YPSA's interventions, proving that with the right support, determination can turn adversity into opportunity and inspire an entire community toward resilience and self-reliance.

PROJECT: YOUTH ARE RESILIENT, INTERCONNECTED, SOCIALLY COHESIVE AND ENGAGED
(YouthRISE)

DONOR

BBC MEDIA ACTION

LOCATION

UKHIYA & TEKNAF

The project aims to reduce conflict and violence, including gender-based violence (GBV), in the host communities affected by the Rohingya crisis in Cox's Bazar district. It seeks to build the resilience of young people, empowering them to handle the impacts of conflict positively, resolve community disputes through peaceful and non-violent means, and reduce their involvement in any form of violence—thereby fostering a more cohesive, safe, and harmonious community environment.



*Community Screening Session in
Whykong, Teknaf*

*Community Screening
Session in Rajapalong,
Ukhiya*



Rasheda's Story of Resilience

Rasheda Begum (Psudo Name) is a member of the Ratna Palong Female Listening Group. She has been with the LG group since the beginning of Season 01 in 2023. Rasheda Begum shared her success story. She got married at the age of 12 after completing fifth grade at a very young age. Although the initial days after marriage were good, but her husband later became abusive. The family constantly struggled with poverty. Due to unemployment of her husband, she and her husband often quarreled, and he physically abused her. She has three daughters, all of them are still studying; the two eldest are in high school. Currently, it has been 20 years since her marriage.

In 2023, she was selected through a survey for the YouthRISE Activity by YPSA. Participating at the drama session of "A'aiyo Jani" she able to know how to reduce conflict, violence, and unemployment. She tried to attend these sessions regularly despite her husband's restrictions on going outside of home. Despite the challenges, she managed to attend the sessions by completing her household chores and persuading her husband. After listening to the "A'aiyo Jani" audio drama, she learned how to reduce unemployment and minimize quarrels and understood the impact of domestic violence and early marriage on families and children.

She shared everything she learned from the sessions with her husband, who initially resisted but later understood her efforts after seeing positive changes. Rasheda then thought about what she could do to improve their situation. She learned sewing from a neighbor and bought a sewing machine by taking a loan. She began earning from sewing, gradually increasing her income, which she used to support her daughters' education and pay off the loan installments. She also bought another sewing machine for cash and started a sewing business with her daughter, enabling her husband to open a shop. Seeing these changes, her husband became happy and supportive, realizing the benefits of the sessions Rasheda attended. Now, he no longer hinders her from attending sessions and even encourages her to listen to the "A'aiyo Jani" audio episodes.

Currently, the family conflicts have reduced a lot from the previous. Her husband acknowledges that the family's improved condition is due to Rasheda listening to the "A'aiyo Jani" audio dramas. She states that, *"I learned from the characters of Kusum and Hosne Ara about the problems caused by early marriage. I will never allow her daughters to marry early and also, I do oppose early marriages in my community by explaining their harmful consequences."*

PROJECT: COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR SOCIAL AWARENESS IN COX'S BAZAR

DONOR

DW AKADEMIE

LOCATION

UKHIYA, COX'S BAZAR

The Community Communication Skills Development for Social Awareness in Cox's Bazar project, implemented by YPSA with support from Deutsche Welle Akademie and funding from the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, aims to strengthen social cohesion and peaceful cohabitation in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar. Building on YPSA's long-standing humanitarian presence since the 2017 Rohingya influx and its extensive experience in community engagement through community radio, the project addresses growing safety, security, and social tensions affecting both Rohingya and host communities, including crime, gender-based violence, child marriage, drug abuse, and trafficking. From June 2020 to July 2025, the project has been enhancing community communication and media skills, particularly among underserved youth, to promote mutual trust, constructive thinking, inclusive attitudes toward women, children, older persons, and people with disabilities, and to foster a more peaceful, informed, and resilient community environment in Cox's Bazar. The major focus of this project is content development for making social cohesion between Rohingya and host community in Cox's Bazar.



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

11

PROJECTS

1,15,771

**PEOPLE
BENEFITED**

2,389

**EVENTS
ACHIEVED**



101616

FEMALE



9991

MALE



4164

**PERSONS
With
DISABILITIES**

1. Economic Development Program for Poor People through Goat Rearing (YPSA-BNF)
2. YPSA-PRISE Project: Partnership Reinforcement for Integrated Skills Enhancement
3. YPSA-SWAPNO II Project
4. Economic Development Program (Micro Finance)
5. Enhancing Resources and Increasing Capacity of Poor Households towards Elimination of their Poverty (ENRICH)
6. YPSA –Integrated Agriculture Unit (AU)
7. Controlling Tobacco Cultivation by Diversification of Crop Cultivation and Creation of Versatile Income Sources
8. Ensuring a Sustainable Livelihood for People with Disabilities through Inclusive Financing Program
9. YPSA-RMTP Meat and Dairy Value Chain Development Project
10. Micro Enterprise Transformation Project (RMTP) – High Value Crops
11. Recovery and Advancement of Informal Sector Employment (RAISE)

PROJECT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR POOR PEOPLE THROUGH GOAT REARING (YPSA-BNF)

DONOR	BANGLADESH NGO FOUNDATION (BNF)
LOCATION	CHANDPUR (HAJIGANJ)

The project aims to improve the quality of life of underprivileged, poor, destitute, and persons with disabilities through targeted poverty alleviation interventions. It primarily works with economically vulnerable households, including poor and near-poor adults and persons with disabilities within the working-age population. Major achievements include enabling poor and disabled participants to become financially independent through income-generating activities, establishing 20 participants as positive role models in their communities by demonstrating sustainable livelihoods, improving household food security and addressing nutritional deficiencies among family members, and contributing directly to national progress toward SDGs 1 (No Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), and 5 (Gender Equality).



Celebration of the 20th BNF Day Anniversary



BNF Chattogram partner organizations honored YPSA Chief Executive Arifur Rahman for his being elected as ADAB Vice-Chairperson

PROJECT: EMPOWERING MOST DISADVANTAGED ADOLESCENT, YOUTH AND YOUNG WOMEN BY CREATING AN ECOSYSTEM FOR ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PROGRAMME (PRISE)

DONOR

BRAC

LOCATION

PATENGA, HALISHAHAR, BAKALIA, SHANTIRHAT (PATIYA)

The project aims to transform underprivileged and dropout girls and young women into skilled manpower by providing market-oriented vocational training and facilitating employment opportunities. It works primarily with disadvantaged girls and young women from poor households, including school dropouts, unemployed youth, and young women with disabilities, who face social and economic barriers to decent work. Major achievements of the project include: (1) successful completion of skills training by 400 girls in various vocational trades; (2) post-training employment or income-generating engagement secured for all 400 trained participants; (3) inclusive participation ensured, with 15% of trainees being persons with disabilities; and (4) transparent and needs-based selection of underprivileged girls and young women through a structured household survey, ensuring support reached the most vulnerable groups.

Rewriting Her Destiny – The Story of Khushi

Farzana Akhter Khushi is the second of six siblings in a financially struggling family. Her father, Monir Hossain, once a bus helper, now drives a rented auto-rickshaw to support them. The family often battles hunger, lacks access to healthcare, and lives under the constant burden of economic hardship. Due to these circumstances, Khushi's education



ended in the third grade. Her days were spent doing household chores and helping her family survive.

Things took a darker turn when, under pressure from some people in the slum, her father arranged her marriage to a much older man. But Khushi had a different vision. She didn't want to surrender to child marriage. She wanted to do something to stand on her own feet and bring joy back to her family.

It was during this uncertain time that a life-changing opportunity arrived. A program

organizer from YPSA's PRISE project visited the slum and spoke with Khushi and her family

about the dangers of child marriage and the empowerment of girls through skills training. Inspired by these stories, her family changed their minds. Instead of forcing her into marriage, they decided to support her journey to learn a trade.

Khushi initially wanted to learn mobile phone servicing, while her family preferred tailoring. However, with encouragement and counseling from a YPSA officer, who explained that mobile servicing could lead to faster and better income, her family finally agreed. With dedication and passion, Khushi began training under a skilled Master Craft Person (MCP). Despite criticism from neighbors and relatives who mocked and discouraged her claiming the work was unsuitable for girls, Khushi remained firm in her decision. She was determined to prove them wrong.

Her commitment paid off. Impressed by her skills and work ethic, her MCP offered her a job at his shop. Customers quickly began to appreciate her efficient service, and as word spread, business grew. Her success also changed perceptions in the market. The same people who once questioned her now admire her, and some even express interest in training their daughters in the same trade.

Today, Khushi earns a regular salary along with tips. She has mastered many aspects of mobile phone servicing and continues to grow in skill and confidence. Her dream is to open her own mobile servicing shop one day and become a source of support for her entire family.

PROJECT: YPSA-SWAPNO II

DONOR

UNDP

LOCATION

CUMILLA (LAKSAM, MONOHORGANJ), CHANDPUR (HAIMCHAR, FARIDGANJ, MATLAB UTTAR)

The project aims to uplift ultra-poor rural women out of extreme poverty by enabling productive and sustainable livelihoods. It focuses on strengthening institutional capacity to sustain SWAPNO benefits, increasing income and asset ownership through engagement with the local economy and skills development, and enhancing human capabilities and resilience to cope with shocks and stresses. The project targets women aged 18–45 from extremely poor households, particularly those headed by widowed, divorced, separated, or abandoned women, as well as women living with husbands with disabilities who are unable to earn a minimum income, ensuring support reaches the most vulnerable and economically excluded groups.

A New Life for Nazma through the SWAPNO Project

Nazma Begum, aged 35, lives in Gazipur Ashrayan Center village of Paschim Fatehpur Union, Matlab Uttar Upazila, Chandpur District. She has one son aged 6 and one daughter aged 10. Her husband suffers from mental illness and is unable to work. Nazma lived a very difficult life, struggling to survive.

She used to work in people's houses to earn a living, sometimes helping at weddings and social events by grinding spices or washing pots, pans, and dishes with the decorators. Because of poverty, they could not always afford food – if they ate one meal, they would often have to skip the next. She could not afford to send her children to school, and running the household was a constant struggle. On top of this, she did not even have a proper place to live. Later, when the government allocated her a house, Nazma received a shelter home at the Ashrayan Center.

Through YPSA staff and with the support of the Paschim Fatehpur Union Parishad, Nazma was selected by lottery to join the SWAPNO Project. She began work on 9 May 2024. Since joining, she has been regularly engaged in public asset maintenance activities under the project. Over 12 months, she worked for 280 days. For her labor, she earned Tk. 200 per day, receiving a total of Tk. 56,000. In addition, Tk. 50 was saved daily from her wages, accumulating Tk. 14,000 in savings. Through ROSCA, she received Tk. 7,200 in two installments.

With Tk. 10,000 from her wages and ROSCA savings, she invested in a small grocery shop in front of her house. Now she earns some additional income from the shop while still receiving wages from SWAPNO work. As a result, she is currently managing her household better and living with her children and husband in more stability. In addition, because she lives in the government shelter, with support from the SWAPNO Project she has set up a family nutrition garden. The Upazila Agriculture Office provided her with free fertilizer, seeds, and pesticides. From this nutrition garden, she meets her family's demand for vegetables and nutrition, and sometimes she even sells surplus produce.

Thanks to her participation in the SWAPNO Project, Nazma Begum now has the power to make decisions in her family. She spends her wages as she wishes, supports her family, and sends her children to school regularly. Her family now eats three meals a day. The SWAPNO Project's union worker also visits her regularly, providing continuous guidance and advice.

PROJECT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (MICRO FINANCE)

DONOR	PKSF AND OWN
LOCATION	71 BRANCHES (CHATTOGRAM, COX'S BAZAR, FENI, CUMILLA, CHANDPUR, RANGAMATI, KHAGRACHARI, BANDARBAN)

The program aims to reduce poverty and empower target communities, especially women, through capital formation and entrepreneurship development. The program also seeks to organize poor people, particularly women, into groups to build self-confidence and motivation for self-development. It emphasizes capital formation through savings mobilization and improved access to financial resources, while promoting the effective use of local resources. The initiative encourages women's active involvement in production, enhances employment opportunities through capacity development, provides and arranges capital support for entrepreneurs, and facilitates market linkages to ensure the sustainability of their enterprises.

PROJECT: ENHANCING RESOURCES AND INCREASING CAPACITY OF POOR HOUSEHOLDS TOWARDS ELIMINATION OF THEIR POVERTY (ENRICH)

DONOR	PKSF AND OWN
LOCATION	SYEDPUR (CHATTOGRAM), PANCHARI (KHAGRACHARI), KAUKHALI (RANGAMATI)

The project aims to empower poor families to actively participate in poverty eradication efforts and build sustainable livelihoods. It focuses on improving access to health, education, and nutrition services, particularly for women and children. Additionally, the project emphasizes effective post-disaster rehabilitation through collaboration with local community organizations, ensuring resilience against natural disasters. By fostering strong partnerships between government and NGOs, the initiative seeks to promote a sustainable poverty alleviation process from the grassroots level, accelerating inclusive development and long-term well-being.

A New Light in Life – The Story of Lal Banu

Lal Banu, a 90-year-old widow from Abu Torab village in Mirsarai, has endured a lifetime of hardship marked by loss and struggle. Widowed at 27, she worked tirelessly as a domestic helper to raise her two children. Despite her efforts, poverty forced her to sell her homestead and eventually turn to begging for survival. Though her son settled abroad in Pakistan, he never returned, leaving her to fend for herself.



In April 2025, Lal Banu met Jannatul Ferdous, a Health Inspector from Terial village, who learned of her severe vision problems. With support from PKSf and implementation by YPSA, a special eye camp was organized in collaboration with Lions Eye Hospital, Chattogram. Lal Banu was diagnosed with cataracts and selected for free surgery.

In May 2025, she successfully underwent cataract surgery and, within weeks, regained her eyesight. Today, she can once again see the world around her—living independently with renewed dignity and hope. Her story stands as a powerful example of how timely community-based healthcare and compassionate action can restore not only vision but also the will to live.

PROJECT: YPSA-INTEGRATED AGRICULTURE UNIT (AU)

DONOR

PKSF AND OWN

LOCATION

SITAKUND (CHATTOGRAM)

The project aims to increase agricultural production, ensure food security, reduce unemployment, and improve nutrition through the promotion of environmentally friendly agricultural technologies. Its key objectives include achieving safe and self-sufficient agricultural development, introducing eco-friendly technologies, and ensuring the production and marketing of safe food. The project also focuses on promoting an agro-based economy at the grassroots level, replicating effective cultivation technologies, and ensuring women's participation in self-reliant agricultural activities. Additionally, it seeks to achieve sustainable local agricultural development through coordination with government departments, alongside enhancing farmers' skills, management capacity, and access to financial services.

The Success Story of Md. Alauddin through Ginger Cultivation in Sacks

Ginger is a valuable spicy crop. In Bangladesh, domestic production falls far short of demand, making container-based ginger cultivation a promising approach to reduce import dependence.

This method uses readily available spaces such as abandoned plots, vacant yards, saline lands, underneath fruit orchards, or even rooftops. It enables year-round planting in the same container and significantly cuts production costs. Each bag (or container) requires just 20–25 Bangladeshi Taka



investment to yield about 1–2 kg of ginger. Importantly, this method helps prevent rhizome rot. And if disease ever appears, you can easily remove the entire bag to stop its spread. Minimal weeding or soil care is needed, further reducing expenses.

In Sitakunda Upazila, the agricultural support initiative by YPSA has pioneered this method. One farmer-Md. Alauddin from Moulvhipara- cultivated ginger in 200 bags under his orchard's shaded area, generating supplementary income.

Jebol Hossain's Journey of Success through Climate-Resilient Vetki and Tilapia Mixed Farming

As climate change continues to increase salinity levels in Bangladesh's coastal regions, freshwater fish farming has become increasingly difficult, threatening the livelihoods of many small-scale fish farmers. To address this challenge, Young Power in Social Action (YPSA) introduced a climate-resilient mixed aquaculture model combining vetki and tilapia cultivation in Syedpur, Sitakunda Upazila, Chattogram. This innovative approach has provided new opportunities for sustainable livelihoods in saline-prone areas.

Jebol Hossain, a dedicated fish farmer from Madhyerdhari village in Syedpur Union, had suffered repeated losses due to rising salinity in his pond water. Discouraged and on the verge of giving



up, he received financial and technical support from YPSA to adopt a planned mixed farming system using salt-tolerant vetki and tilapia species. He stocked 500 vetki fingerlings along with tilapia in his 100-decimal pond. The natural reproduction of tilapia provided a sustainable feed source for the vetki, reducing production costs while increasing profitability. Additionally, vetki fetched a higher market price, boosting his overall income. Complementing his aquaculture activities, Jebol also cultivated vegetables on the pond's embankment, creating a diversified income stream. With an initial investment

of BDT 45,000, he earned a remarkable net profit of around BDT 200,000 from fish and vegetable sales.

Jebol's success quickly inspired others in the community to adopt the vetki-tilapia mixed farming method. Expressing his gratitude to YPSA, Jebol shared, *"When rising salinity made fish farming nearly impossible, this technology opened a new door of opportunity and helped me rebuild my livelihood. Many of my neighbors are now following this method."* Supporting this achievement, Fisheries Officer Abdullah Al Mahmud commented, *"Jebol Hossain's success proves that with proper planning, technical support, and the right technology, profitable aquaculture is possible even in saline ponds. The mixed farming of vetki and tilapia has emerged as an effective and climate-resilient model."*

Through this innovative intervention, YPSA has demonstrated how climate-smart aquaculture practices can restore livelihoods, strengthen local resilience, and offer sustainable solutions for coastal fish farmers adapting to the realities of climate change.

PROJECT: CONTROLLING TOBACCO CULTIVATION BY DIVERSIFICATION OF CROP CULTIVATION AND CREATION OF VERSATILE INCOME SOURCES

DONOR

PKSF

LOCATION

COX'S BAZAR AND BANDARBAN

The goal of the project is to promote tobacco-free crop cultivation and create diversified income opportunities for farmers through crop rotation and integrated livestock rearing, including cattle and poultry. The project also aims to prevent the burning of tobacco, which contributes to environmental pollution and deforestation, thereby reducing health risks for farmers and enabling them to ensure a healthier lifestyle and continued education for their children.

From Tobacco to Sustainable Farming – The Journey of Md. Shafiul Alam

Md. Shafiul Alam, a 40-year-old farmer from Bomangkhal village in Gorjonia Union under Ramu Upazila, Cox's Bazar, has transformed his livelihood through sustainable agriculture. For nearly five years, he cultivated tobacco on 5–7 bighas of land under pressure from tobacco companies but never achieved meaningful profit. His health, soil fertility, and household economy all suffered.



With support from YPSA's Tobacco Control Project, Shafiul received training on alternative crop cultivation and learned about the harmful impacts of tobacco farming. Encouraged by this knowledge, he began cultivating onions, French beans, and other vegetables with technical and financial assistance from the project. The shift proved highly successful — he earned BDT 1,20,000 from onion and French bean cultivation and BDT 80,000 from vegetables, far exceeding his previous tobacco income.

Realizing the benefits of crop diversification, Shafiul now plans to cultivate onions on two bighas of land and continue growing tobacco-alternative crops year-round. His journey reflects how awareness, training, and sustainable farming support can empower farmers to transition from harmful practices toward profitable, eco-friendly livelihoods.

PROJECT: ENSURING A SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH INCLUSIVE FINANCING PROGRAM

DONOR

PKSF

LOCATION

SITAKUND AND MIRSARAI

The project aims to eliminate family, social, institutional, and financial barriers faced by persons with disabilities, ensuring their inclusion and participation in economic and social activities. It focuses on empowering people with disabilities by enhancing their access to financial resources, promoting entrepreneurship, and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities. Additionally, the project seeks to build their capacity and create employment opportunities, enabling them to lead independent and dignified lives while contributing productively to society.

Md. Mainul Islam – An Indomitable Spirit of Determination



Md. Mainul Islam, a 24-year-old physically disabled young man from Rahmatnagar village in Muradpur Union, Sitakund Upazila, Chattogram, is a true example of resilience and self-reliance. Born in 1999 into a family of seven, Mainul's life changed at the age of 10 when a spinal injury and subsequent medical negligence left him disabled. Despite this setback, he refused to give up. During his stay at CRP in Savar, he learned electrical mechanic skills for two years, preparing himself for a productive future.

After returning home, Mainul established a small electrical repair shop beside his house, determined to be independent. To expand his business, he received a BDT 30,000 loan and a BDT 6,000 grant from YPSA's Inclusive Development Program. With this support, he enhanced his shop and now earns BDT 400–500 daily. His hard work and perseverance have inspired the local community, proving that with determination and the right support, disability is never a barrier to success.

PROJECT: YPSA-RMTP MEAT AND DAIRY VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

DONOR

PKSF

LOCATION

SITAKUND, MIRSARAI, HATHAZARI AND CHATTOGRAM SADAR

The project aims to sustainably improve food security, income, and nutrition among small and marginal farmers and entrepreneurs. Through capacity building and market-oriented interventions, 70% of entrepreneurs are expected to increase their income by 50%, while 30% of participants will enhance their daily diets with nutritious food. The initiative also focuses on strengthening production systems, ensuring national and international value recognition, product traceability, and robust market linkages for livestock and related products. Additionally, 90% of entrepreneurs will produce safe products using quality inputs, improved technologies, and good agricultural practices. The project will also enable 10% of producer groups to engage in formal or contract farming with government or private markets, and 40% of members will adopt environmentally friendly technologies to ensure sustainable development.



Display of Dairy Products and Yogurt Making by an Entrepreneur



Nazim Uddin – A Rural Veterinary Doctor’s Journey Towards Digital Empowerment

Nazim Uddin, a dedicated rural veterinary doctor from Notun Para village in Barbakunda Union of Sitakunda Upazila, Chattogram, has transformed his livelihood through perseverance and digital innovation. The fourth of seven siblings, Nazim lost his father, Idris Mia, early in life and was raised by his mother, Nurjahan Begum. After completing training in veterinary medicine, he began providing treatment and artificial insemination (AI) services to cows, goats, sheep, and buffaloes in his locality. He later established *Lubaba Pharmacy* at Barbakunda market to offer veterinary medicine and services.



Initially, Nazim struggled to attract clients due to limited recognition in the community. However, through YPSA’s RMTP (Meat and Dairy) Project, implemented with support from Empower Limited, he received training on using the *Sudokkho App*. The app enhanced his professional skills, allowing him to access new treatment methods and improve service quality, which gradually boosted his reputation. Later, YPSA provided him with a grant to purchase a refrigerator, enabling him to store vaccines and medicines properly—further increasing trust among livestock owners.

To expand his business reach, YPSA helped him create a Facebook page for his pharmacy, which effectively promoted his services and attracted new clients. Moreover, training on the *Talikhata App* allowed him to digitalize his business records, saving time and improving financial management. With digital transactions through *bKash*, Nazim now operates efficiently and securely.

Though initially hesitant about adopting digital tools, encouragement and motivation from YPSA’s RMTP officials helped him embrace the training. Today, Nazim Uddin is recognized as a trusted and respected veterinary professional in his area, with significantly higher income and an expanding client base. Looking ahead, plans are underway to integrate security and telemedicine apps, enabling him to deliver online veterinary consultations and continue his journey as a digital rural entrepreneur.

PROJECT: MICRO ENTERPRISE TRANSFORMATION PROJECT (RMTP) – HIGH VALUE CROPS

DONOR

PKSF

LOCATION

SITAKUND AND MIRSARAI

The project aims to improve the quality of life of entrepreneurs by promoting sustainable income, food, and nutritional security. It focuses on introducing high-yielding crops and modern technologies in hilly areas, enhancing profitability through entrepreneurship development and efficient market management, and creating inclusive market systems by linking key value chain actors. The project also seeks to modernize nurseries, reduce labor and production costs through innovative technologies, and ensure that entrepreneurs produce and consume nutritious food, fostering long-term economic and social well-being.



Mushroom Cultivation Demonstration and IFAD Team Visit



Transforming Farming in the Drought-Prone Hills of Eyakub Nagar

In the drought-prone hills of Eyakub Nagar village in Sitakund, Chattogram, farming was once confined to a single monsoon season due to severe water scarcity. Most of the year, the land lay barren, and families struggled to survive on seasonal fruit farming. However, in 2022, a transformative initiative under the YPSA-RMTP (HVC&F) project introduced an innovative agroforestry model that changed the lives of local farmers.

The project brought together local gardeners to implement intercropped coffee cultivation alongside shade-giving Moringa and Banana trees – a climate-smart solution tailored to the region's harsh conditions. Initially, coffee plants struggled under the extreme heat. In response, the farmers planted Moringa and Banana as protective shade crops, which not only shielded the coffee but also provided additional income. *“Now, our coffee yield is higher, and we also earn extra income from Moringa and Banana,”* shared Mr. Rahim, a farmer who reported a net profit of BDT 32,500 from his integrated farm this season.

Moringa and Banana thrive with minimal water, improve soil fertility by increasing organic matter, and grow quickly while absorbing high amounts of carbon, making them effective tools against climate change. Their low pest incidence also allows coffee to be cultivated without harmful chemicals, reducing environmental impact.

“This mixed model is now a proven success in Sitakund. Farmers are earning more and protecting their land at the same time,” noted by a YPSA field officer. The approach is rapidly gaining popularity, with local nurseries now stocking high-demand coffee saplings. By blending traditional farming with innovative, climate-smart practices, this agroforestry system offers a resilient and sustainable path forward reshaping the future of farming in Sitakund.

PROJECT: RECOVERY AND ADVANCEMENT OF INFORMAL SECTOR EMPLOYMENT (RAISE)

DONOR

PKSF AND WORLD BANK

LOCATION

CHATTOGRAM AND COX'S BAZAR

The goal of the project is to stimulate economic recovery and growth among vulnerable populations by empowering small entrepreneurs and youth from low-income families. The project aims to provide funding and capacity-building support to entrepreneurs affected by COVID-19, enabling them to restore and sustain their business activities. It also seeks to facilitate the expansion of enterprises by enhancing the skills and capabilities of backward micro-entrepreneurs. Additionally, the project focuses on equipping youth with practical skills and

employment opportunities through a structured Apprenticeship model, fostering self-reliance and long-term economic stability for disadvantaged communities.

Farzana Akhtar – A Brave Journey on the Path of Technology

Farzana Akhtar, a resident of Chowdhury Para in North Haliashahar, Chittagong, is now thriving as an instructor at Benchmark IT Institute. Her journey began amid hardship and determination. After the death of her father, Siddique Ahmed, her brother took responsibility for the family, which included two sons and two daughters, barely managing to cover their basic expenses through his work in the local dish line. In such circumstances, Farzana, now 26, had to discontinue her education after completing SSC. To support herself, she began tutoring local students, earning just 1,500 Taka per month, yet she remained determined to contribute more meaningfully to her family.



One day, Farzana learned about YPSA's free training programs in her neighborhood. Driven by her interest in technology, she enrolled in the "Graphics Design and Multimedia" trade under the guidance of Master Mithun Chandra Nath. Her dedication and sincerity quickly impressed her mentor, particularly in mastering Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign. This led to a job placement at Benchmark IT Institute, offering a monthly salary of 10,000 Taka along

with additional benefits, marking a significant turning point in her life.

Alongside her technical training, Farzana participated in a "Life Skills Development" course, where she learned valuable skills such as negotiation, interpersonal communication, and stress management. These lessons enhanced her professional effectiveness, confidence, and presentation skills. Today, she finds fulfillment in her role as an instructor, enjoying both learning and teaching while positively impacting her students.

Farzana credits the RAISE Project for transforming her life, helping her set future goals, improve communication, stay committed to her work, and even explore business opportunities. Through her earnings, she proudly supports her family and has adopted an IT-centric outlook, planning to further enhance her skills by learning digital marketing. In her words, *"If one can perform assigned responsibilities with dedication and integrity, and has access to supportive platforms like RAISE, anyone can play a role in changing their fortune."*

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

7

PROJECTS

10,319

**PEOPLE
BENEFITED**

15,402

**EVENTS
ACHIEVED**



5910

FEMALE



4233

MALE



176

**PERSONS
With
DISABILITIES**

-
1. **Climate Smart Agricultural Practices for Promoting Sustainable Rural Livelihoods in Sitakund and Mirsarai Upazila**
 2. **Sustainable Micro-enterprise and Resilient Transformation (SMART)**
 3. **People's Adaptation Plans for Inclusive Climate Smart Cities Project**
 4. **Plastic Waste Management in Chattogram City Corporation Area**
 5. **Resilient Homestead and Livelihood Support to the Vulnerable Coastal People of Bangladesh**
 6. **Women-led Climate Resilience Project (WLCR)**
 7. **Youth Connect – Building Agency of Youth in Climate Action**
-

PROJECT: CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES FOR PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE RURAL LIVELIHOODS IN SITAKUND AND MIRSARAI UPAZILA

DONOR	BSRM
LOCATION	SITAKUND AND MIRSARAI

The project aims to improve climate-smart agricultural practices and promote sustainable rural livelihoods in Sitakund and Mirshari upazilas. It seeks to enhance the resilience of rural communities to the adverse impacts of climate change on agriculture, promote sustainable farming methods that boost productivity while conserving natural resources, and improve food security and nutrition among vulnerable populations. Additionally, the project focuses on strengthening the capacity of local farmers and stakeholders through training and the adoption of climate-smart agricultural techniques and technologies. The project primarily targets marginal farmers in the Sitakund and Mirsarai upazilas who are directly dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods.

Iqbal Hossain – A Pioneer of Climate-Smart Agriculture in Mirsarai

The agriculture sector in Bangladesh is increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, floods, and droughts, which threaten the livelihoods of countless farmers. In this challenging context, climate-smart agricultural practices are proving essential for sustaining productivity, protecting the environment, and enhancing farmers' resilience.

Iqbal Hossain, son of Jamshed Alam from Mosjidia village in Mirsarai upazila, stands as a shining example of how environmentally friendly farming can combat climate challenges.



Under the YPSA-BSRM “*Climate Smart Agriculture*” project, Iqbal received a grant of 10,000 BDT, which he used wisely to adopt eco-friendly farming inputs such as organic fertilizers, Tarzan pheromone traps, color traps, mulching paper, and bioderma.

By replacing chemical fertilizers with organic alternatives, Iqbal has enriched soil fertility, improved soil health, and boosted beneficial microorganisms. These organic practices have enhanced the soil's water retention capacity, reducing irrigation needs during dry seasons and lowering carbon emissions associated with chemical fertilizer production. His pest management methods using pheromone and color traps have effectively reduced pest infestations without relying on harmful pesticides, resulting in healthier and safer crops while preserving ecological balance.

Through his innovative approach, Iqbal Hossain has not only increased his crop yield but also demonstrated that environmentally responsible farming can lead to economic and ecological benefits. His success story highlights how small-scale financial support, combined with the right knowledge, can empower farmers to adapt to climate change and contribute to environmental sustainability. Iqbal's initiative is now inspiring other farmers in his community to follow the same path, paving the way toward a more resilient and climate-smart agricultural future in Bangladesh.

PROJECT: SUSTAINABLE MICRO-ENTERPRISE AND RESILIENT TRANSFORMATION (SMART)

DONOR	PKSF
LOCATION	FENI AND CHATTOGRAM

The project aims to promote resource-efficient and climate-resilient green growth among small enterprises, particularly in the fisheries sector. Its primary objective is to enhance sustainable practices that minimize pollution, optimize resource use, and strengthen resilience to climate impacts. In the long term, the project envisions transforming the small enterprise sector into a dynamic, environmentally friendly, and sustainable contributor to economic growth by focusing on three key areas: resource efficiency, green growth, and climate resilience. The project specifically targets fish farmers, supporting them to adopt eco-friendly, efficient, and climate-resilient aquaculture practices.

PROJECT: PEOPLE’S ADAPTATION PLANS FOR INCLUSIVE CLIMATE SMART CITIES

DONOR	SAVE THE CHILDREN (PARTNER) AND GLOBAL CENTRE ON ADAPTION (GCA)
LOCATION	FENI, LAKSAM AND MIRSARAI

The project aims to develop People’s Adaptation Plans (PAPs) through a locally led process in Feni, Mirsarai, and Laksam towns, focusing on identifying and prioritizing climate adaptation solutions for urban informal settlement dwellers facing climate-induced vulnerabilities. The approach will follow the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA)’s “Locally Led Planning: A Guide for Building Climate Resilience in Urban Informal Settlements.” The first objective is to conduct a Climate Vulnerability Risk Assessment (CVRA) in nine identified wards in collaboration with technical partners CUET and JU. The second objective is to facilitate the formulation of inclusive PAPs by ensuring active participation of vulnerable community members and local actors through community mobilization and stakeholder coordination. The project emphasizes inclusivity, considering the specific needs of women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities affected by climate shocks across various aspects of their lives, including livelihoods, health, education, and safety. This project directly benefits low-income community members from 27 urban informal settlements (men, women, youth, children, elderly, and persons with disabilities), community mobilizers from the settlements, ward disaster management committee members, members of slum development committees, city officials, and representatives from government agencies, CSOs, and CBOs.

Sharmin Akhtar: The Fearless Flame of Hope—A Community Mobilizer Battling Climate Change in Urban Shadows

In the modest and quietly resilient village of Natun Khame Bari, Ward No. 5, Sadar Upazila, Feni District, lives a spirited young woman—Sharmin Akhtar—whose story is both boldly inspiring and deeply heartwarming. At just 24 years old, Sharmin stands not only as the second daughter of an economically struggling family but also as a symbol of unyielding hope, persistent ambition, and relentless community spirit.

But Sharmin's childhood turned into a catastrophe when she was only 11 years old, as her beloved father passed away. After his death, her mother, Rehena Begum, struggled alone to raise her children and provide for their needs. Suddenly, another tragedy struck the family—her younger brother fell from a three-storied building, losing an eye and suffering severe fractures in his hands. As a result, Sharmin faced critical challenges in continuing her education and pursuing her career.



Currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree at Feni College with admirable dedication, Sharmin nurtures a fierce dream: to secure a respectable, meaningful job that will not only support her family but also uplift their humble lifestyle. Despite their close-knit bond, her household faces serious financial hardship. Yet, her determination has never once wavered.

Sharmin's journey took a life-changing turn when YPSA (Young Power in Social Action) announced an opportunity for Community Mobilizers under the groundbreaking project *People's Adaptation Plans for Inclusive Climate-Smart Cities*, aimed at tackling critical climate issues within the Feni Municipality. Deeply moved and resolute, Sharmin boldly applied—and against all odds, was selected in December 2024.

Through intensive and eye-opening training on climate change impacts and adaptation strategies, Sharmin transformed from a quiet student into a knowledgeable and dynamic force for change. She participated meticulously in household surveys, diligently collected essential data, and enthusiastically facilitated focus group discussions—guided by the expertise of professionals from Jahangirnagar University.

Today, Sharmin is proudly employed full-time at YPSA under the “Income Generating Activity” project funded by the World Food Programme (WFP). Her position not only fuels her personal aspirations but also supports her family’s daily needs. Her heartfelt words reflect her remarkable transformation:

“I knew nothing about climate change issues, but now I’m deeply aware of their impact, and I know how to help people adapt meaningfully and effectively.”

Sharmin’s inspiring evolution into a community leader, climate advocate, and beacon of empowerment highlights the boundless potential within young women from marginalized communities. Her vision for the future shines brightly driven by compassion, and fueled by the desire to reshape society into a more climate-resilient and inclusive world.

PROJECT: PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT IN CHATTOGRAM CITY CORPORATION AREA

DONOR

UNILEVER BANGLADESH LIMITED

LOCATION

CHATTOGRAM CITY CORPORATION AREAS

The project aims to strengthen plastic waste management systems within the Chattogram City Corporation (CCC) area through inclusive, sustainable, and community-driven approaches. It focuses on improving the livelihoods of waste pickers and community-based organizations (CSOs) by integrating them into formal waste management systems. The project also works to promote behavioral change among urban residents, encouraging responsible plastic use and proper waste disposal practices. Additionally, it supports the City Corporation in adopting and implementing effective initiatives to enhance institutional capacity and coordination for sustainable plastic waste management in Chattogram.



Youth Leading the Way in Environmental Journalism and Plastic Waste Management in Chattogram

YPSA has been implementing a Plastic Waste Management Program in Chattogram City since 2022, emphasizing the capacity development and active participation of youth in creating a cleaner and greener city. Youth volunteers from 41 wards of Chattogram have been working tirelessly to promote waste segregation at the source, demonstrating how local youth can drive meaningful environmental change.

As part of this ongoing effort, YPSA organized a three-day Youth Environmental Journalism Training on May 22–24, 2025, to empower young people to use media as a tool for environmental advocacy. Out of 167 interested students, 40 were shortlisted through written and oral examinations, and finally, 20 youth volunteers were selected for the training. The participants received hands-on lessons on basic journalism, multimedia and digital journalism, investigative reporting, and environmental branding.

Following the training, these young environmental journalists showcased their talent by writing articles on environmental issues, which were published in the national daily newspaper *Samakal* on June 22, 2025, marking World Environment Day. This achievement not only gave them national recognition but also inspired their peers across the project. The 20 trained youth became role models for 410 other volunteers, leading by example and motivating others to take environmental action. Each of these youth volunteers now actively promotes waste segregation at the source for around 30 households per ward each month, contributing to cleaner neighborhoods and a more sustainable urban environment.

This initiative demonstrates how youth empowerment, education, and engagement can create ripple effects by transforming individuals into changemakers and communities into active agents of sustainable development.

PROJECT: RESILIENT HOMESTEAD AND LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT TO THE VULNERABLE COASTAL PEOPLE OF BANGLADESH

DONOR

PKSF (GREEN CLIMATE FUND)

LOCATION

RAMU, COX'S BAZAR

The project aims to reduce the risk of asset and livelihood loss caused by climate change and extreme weather events while strengthening the resilience of vulnerable coastal communities in the southwestern region of Bangladesh. It seeks to build climate-resilient housing and promote climate-adapted livelihoods to help communities withstand sea level rise, storm surges, flooding, and salinity. Additionally, the project focuses on developing and implementing improved climate action plans through active participation of communities and local institutions, while increasing knowledge and awareness of climate change impacts and adaptation strategies among vulnerable groups. The project primarily targets vulnerable coastal populations, including both women and men, who are at high risk due to climate change impacts. This includes those living in salinity-prone coastal areas, female-headed households, and other disadvantaged or ultra-poor groups with a daily per capita income below US\$1.90 (PPP). Beneficiaries are those not currently receiving assistance from other programs, residing in remote or salinity-affected areas, and showing willingness to participate, adopt climate-resilient technologies, and contribute to the project through in-kind or financial means where applicable.

A New Home, A New Eid – The Story of Ishmat Ara Begum’s Resilient Journey

For years, Ishmat Ara Begum and her family from Char Para village in Dakshin Mithachari union, Ramu upazila of Cox’s Bazar district had spent every Eid surrounded by water instead of joy.



With her husband Sikandar Ali, who is visually impaired, and their three daughters, Ichmat Ara endured the annual suffering of waterlogging and river erosion along the banks of the Bankkhali River. Their old mud house would flood every monsoon, turning Eid celebrations into days of hardship. *“On Eid, we used to be busy watering and drying the house. I have never seen the smiles on my daughters’ faces that I have seen this time,”* shared Ishmat Ara with a

bright smile.

That smile comes from a newfound sense of security and dignity, thanks to the climate-tolerant house she received under the YPSA-PKSF initiative. Built on a raised plinth with sturdy cement walls and a solar power connection, the house has transformed her family's life. *“Earlier, I would sit in the dark after dusk. Now the lights are on, the fan is running, and the girls can study at night,”* she said proudly. For the first time, they prepared for Eid with joy—cleaning, decorating, and cooking together in their safe and bright home. *“This is our first Eid with light. The smile on the girls’ faces is the greatest joy,”* she added.



Beyond comfort, the new home has brought financial relief and empowerment. The elevated plinth prevents flood damage, reducing repair costs, and the solar lights have eliminated expenses for kerosene and batteries. Inspired by the stability of their new life, one of her daughters has started a small handicraft business, adding to the family's income.

For Ishmat Ara, this home is more than just a shelter. It is the foundation of a hopeful future. Where there was once fear and uncertainty, there is now confidence, stability, and dreams for a better life. *“I always pray for those who gave us this house. Now I am not afraid anymore—Eid means happiness now,”* she said with heartfelt gratitude.

PROJECT: WOMEN-LED CLIMATE RESILIENCE PROJECT (WLCR)

DONOR

PATHFINDER INTERNATIONAL

LOCATION

COX'S BAZAR SADAR, TEKNAF, MAHESHKHALI, KUTUBDIA,
CHAKARIA

The project aims to empower women and girls in low-resource communities by providing them with the tools, knowledge, networks, and resources needed to survive and thrive amid current and future health challenges. It also focuses on building resilient and adaptable health systems capable of delivering quality primary healthcare services and withstanding emergency shocks. Through these efforts, the project seeks to strengthen community health resilience and promote gender equality in access to healthcare. The project primarily targets underprivileged Bangladeshi women, girls, persons with disabilities, and minority groups, ensuring inclusive participation and access to essential health services for all vulnerable populations.

Romena Akter – A Story of Determination and Self-Reliance

In Khamar Para of Chowfaldandi Union, Romena Akter, a mother of three, has become a powerful example of self-reliance and resilience for women in her community. After receiving agriculture and poultry training from the WLCR project, she was inspired to transform her life. Although she did not receive the expected seed or poultry support, Romena did not lose hope. *“The training taught me how to cultivate land and take care of crops. That became my tool,”* she said confidently. With her savings, she leased a small plot of land from a relative and began cultivating winter vegetables such as spinach, red spinach, radish, carrot, and cauliflower using the organic fertilizer techniques she learned during the training.



Romena’s dedication soon bore fruit. Her farm not only ensured food security for her family but also became a steady source of income—earning her 15,000–20,000 BDT per month from selling surplus produce. Alongside farming, she began raising ducks and chickens in her backyard, fulfilling her family’s protein needs. Her generosity has also strengthened community bonds, as she often shares vegetables with her poorer neighbors. *“When my poor neighbors want some vegetables, I give them, I feel at*

peace,” she shared warmly.

Today, Romena has built what she proudly calls her “family economic model.” Her future goal is to expand her farming area, establish a poultry farm, and form a women’s cooperative to collectively farm and market produce. Through courage, perseverance, and the right knowledge, Romena has turned obstacles into opportunities.

“I never thought I could contribute so much to my family,” she said. *“The support I received empowered me to grow vegetables that nourish my family as well as my neighbors and bring financial stability. This experience has changed my life.”*

PROJECT: YOUTH CONNECT – BUILDING AGENCY OF YOUTH IN CLIMATE ACTION

DONOR

BRITISH COUNCIL

LOCATION

CHATTOGRAM, COX'S BAZAR

The project aims to sensitize youths in climate-affected areas on leadership and climate change, fostering their role as informed and proactive agents of change. Its objectives focus on increasing youth awareness and knowledge about the impacts and severity of climate change, enhancing their participation in climate response, mitigation, and adaptation activities, and connecting youth-led organizations to promote climate-resilient communities while raising broader awareness of climate challenges.

Youth Climate Hackathon Sparks Innovative Climate Action in Chattogram

On March 25, 2025, the Shishu Academy in Chattogram buzzed with energy as the Youth Climate Hackathon, a joint initiative by YPSA and the British Council, brought together young climate enthusiasts from across the region. Under the flagship project "*Youth Connect – Building Agency of Youth in Climate Action*," 900 youths had already been trained in leadership and climate literacy, equipping them to tackle pressing environmental challenges.



The hackathon served as a platform to recognize and celebrate innovative social actions addressing the impacts of climate change, particularly in Chattogram and Cox's Bazar districts. YPSA received 76 applications for social initiatives led by young Social Action Project Leaders. From these, 30 youth groups were selected to present their pioneering projects to a jury board. The event not only highlighted creative approaches ranging from awareness campaigns to local

adaptation projects but also inspired participants to take proactive steps in climate action.

For many of the youths, this hackathon was more than a competition; it was an opportunity to see their ideas come to life, gain recognition, and contribute to building climate-resilient communities. By fostering innovation, leadership, and collaboration, the event underscored how empowered youth can be at the forefront of addressing climate change challenges in Bangladesh.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

10

PROJECTS

1,91,307

**PEOPLE
BENEFITED**

532

**EVENTS
ACHIEVED**



91719

FEMALE



97897

MALE



1691

**PERSONS
With
DISABILITIES**

1. **General Food Assistance Program**
2. **Child Centered Anticipatory Action for Better Preparedness of Communities and Local Institutions in Northern and Coastal Area in Bangladesh**
3. **Support Eastern Flash Flood Affected People of Bangladesh to Prevent Malnutrition by Identification and Treatment of Severely Malnourished Children to Strengthen Government Services at Facilitie (Early Recovery Phase) (CWW-YPSA Project)**
4. **Anticipatory Action for Landslides Causing Displacement for Communities in Chattogram and Bandarban District in Bangladesh (ECHO-HIP YPSA Project)**
5. **Disaster Risk Reduction – Risk Reduction Action Plan (DRR-RRAP)**
6. **Emergency Humanitarian Assistance for Flood-affected People in the Southeastern Districts of Bangladesh (NearChange Fund)**
7. **Southeast Flood Response 2024 in Feni, Cumilla and Lakshmipur (WFP Fund)**
8. **Post Emergency Response for Flood Affected People in the Southeastern Districts of Bangladesh (NRC Project)**
9. **Flood Response and Resilience Building for Older People of Feni District in Bangladesh (HelpAge-YPSA Project)**
10. **HLP Rights for Women in Rohingya Camps in Bangladesh: Analyzing Gender Dynamics in Accessing and Exercising HLP Rights with a Focus on Informal Justice Systems**

PROJECT: GENERAL FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

DONOR	WFP
LOCATION	UKHIYA (COX'S BAZAR)

The General Food Assistance (GFA) program aims to ensure food security and improve the nutritional status of the Rohingya population affected by crises such as natural disasters, conflicts, or economic downturns. The primary objective of the GFA program is to provide immediate relief through the distribution of food aid, thereby preventing hunger and malnutrition. In addition, the program seeks to stabilize and restore livelihoods by providing assistance that enables affected communities to rebuild their food production capacity and economic activities. By doing so, the program not only addresses immediate food shortages but also contributes to the long-term food security and stability of affected populations. Some of the key activities of this project include providing humanitarian food support in form of in-kind food assistance, preferring food commodities through e-vouchers etc.



Tayaba's Struggle: A Rohingya Family's Journey for Survival and Hope

In the Rohingya camp of Cox's Bazar (FDMN) Tayaba, a 30-year-old Rohingya woman, faces a daunting challenge. Her family, consisting of herself, her husband, and their young child, relies heavily on the food assistance provided by World Food Programme (WFP). However, last month, Tayaba found herself in a desperate situation when their food voucher, linked to the active scope card number, failed to provide them with food support.

Despite being listed as an active beneficiary, Tayaba's family encountered the distressing message on the (mPOS) device: "No voucher." This unexpected setback left Tayaba grappling with uncertainty and anxiety about how they would feed their family in the days to come.

In a courageous effort to address their plight, Tayaba lodged a complaint, urging for immediate assistance at our help desk. She highlighted the critical need for food support to sustain her family's well-being. With her family's survival hanging in the balance, Tayaba's plea for help resonated deeply within the humanitarian community.

As Tayaba's story unfolds, it underscores the harsh reality that many Rohingya beneficiaries are enduring. Forced to flee their homes due to violence and persecution, they find

themselves in a precarious situation, dependent on external aid for their basic needs. Tayaba's struggle serves as a poignant reminder of the importance of timely and effective humanitarian assistance in alleviating the suffering of vulnerable populations.

In response to Tayaba's complaint, the WFP swiftly mobilized its resources, working closely with local partners YPSA to investigate the issue and provide immediate support to her family. Through collaborative efforts and unwavering commitment, Tayaba and her loved ones received the food assistance they desperately needed, offering a glimmer of hope in their journey towards stability and resilience.

Following Tayaba's situation, the WFP provided support to her family through a dummy support mechanism for this month, as per instructions from WFP. This timely intervention ensured that Tayaba's family continued to receive the assistance they required, further emphasizing the commitment of humanitarian agencies to support vulnerable communities in times of need.

PROJECT: CHILD CENTERED ANTICIPATORY ACTION FOR BETTER PREPAREDNESS OF COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL INSTITUTIONS IN NORTHERN AND COASTAL AREA IN BANGLADESH

DONOR

GERMAN FEDERAL FOREIGN OFFICE, SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL (SCI)

LOCATION

BANSHKHALI AND CHATTOGRAM CITY CORPORATION

This project seeks to promote and facilitate community-led Anticipatory Action, encompassing a child-centred gender-sensitive approach to safeguard lives and livelihoods from climate-induced hazards in northern and coastal regions in Bangladesh.



MET Club Inauguration (CCC)



Simulation Exercise

Training to Action

On 28 July 2025, at approximately 10:30 AM, a landslide struck near Lane 13 of Motijharna, Ward 14 (Lalkhan Bazar), under Chattogram City Corporation. A large section of the hillside collapsed, causing two massive trees to crash onto the rooftops of two houses. Despite severe structural damage, no casualties or significant injuries were reported. Remarkably, 10 individuals including four children from two families narrowly escaped unharmed. A total of six families were living in the area. For timely rainfall alerts and anticipatory action led by YPSA project staff (under guidance from RIMES and SCI), all families were safely relocated in advance with the support of local volunteers.

The SCI and YPSA- Anticipatory Action team visited the site, engaging with community members and local leaders. Further risk has been identified in the vicinity, where two more trees are at risk of collapsing onto nearby homes. Awareness-raising efforts are ongoing to ensure residents in the danger zone relocate to safer locations. The Urban Volunteer team remains active in the area, continuously alerting the community and supporting preparedness efforts. This incident serves as a powerful example of how early warning and coordinated anticipatory action, involving the Chattogram City Corporation, DC office, WDMC, community members, volunteers, local elites, and the YPSA-AA team, can save lives in the face of disaster. A formal meeting was held on July 28, 2025, at 4:30 PM with the CEO of the Chattogram City Corporation to discuss the readiness of shelters and food support for evacuated individuals. During the meeting, the CEO expressed the Chattogram City Corporation's commitment to providing food assistance if required. The Anticipatory Action project team assessed the situation and updated the plan for future actions accordingly.

PROJECT: SUPPORT EASTERN FLASH FLOOD AFFECTED PEOPLE OF BANGLADESH TO PREVENT MALNUTRITION BY IDENTIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF SEVERLY MALNOURISHED CHILDREN TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENT SERVICES AT FACILITIES (EARLY RECOVERY PHASE)

DONOR

CONCERN WORLDWIDE

LOCATION

NOAKHALI (BEGUMGANJ, KABIRHAT, NOAKHALI SADAR, SHONAIMURI), FENI (FULGAJI, PARSHURAM)

The goal of the project was to prevent malnutrition among flash flood-affected populations in eastern Bangladesh by identifying and treating malnourished children while strengthening government health services during the early recovery phase. Through systematic screening and referral, the project identified 276 cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), including 164 girls

and 112 boys, and recorded 744 cases of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM), comprising 474 girls and 270 boys. A total of 876 children (514 girls and 362 boys) were referred for appropriate treatment. In parallel, 19,018 nutrition counseling messages were disseminated to caregivers to promote improved feeding and care practices. Overall, the project reached 30,667 children across the two targeted districts, contributing to improved early detection, treatment, and prevention of child malnutrition.

Improved Health and Nutrition Practices through Community Counseling

During routine community visits in Fulgaji Upazila of Feni, two children named Aditya Das, aged 3 years and 8 months, and nearly four-year-old Sania Akhtar were identified as suffering from severe and moderate acute malnutrition respectively. Both children appeared weak, frail, and underweight, and discussions with their mothers revealed poor appetite, frequent illness, and limited awareness of age-appropriate nutrition and maternal care. Recognizing a shared need within the community, a YPSA volunteer organized group counseling sessions with pregnant women and mothers of young children.

The sessions focused on the importance of prenatal care, balanced maternal diets, early initiation of breastfeeding with colostrum, and timely introduction of diverse and nutritious complementary foods from six months of age. The mothers responded positively and showed strong willingness to adopt the recommended practices. Both families were advised to seek specialized support from the nutritionist at the Upazila Health Complex. Follow-up visits confirmed that the children had been taken for assessment, received weight checks, tests, and professional guidance, and were enrolled in appropriate nutrition services. The families expressed heartfelt gratitude to Concern Worldwide (CWW) and Young Power in Social Action (YPSA) for the timely counseling and referral support, highlighting how community-based awareness and follow-up can significantly improve health-seeking behavior and support children's recovery from malnutrition.

PROJECT: ANTICIPATORY ACTION FOR LANDSLIDED CASUING DISPLACEMENT FOR COMMUNITIES IN CHATTOGRAM AND BANDARBAN DISTRICT IN BANGLADESH

DONOR

**SAVE THE CHILDREN, EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION,
HUMANITARIAN AID OPERATIONS**

LOCATION

**CHATTOGRAM CITY CORPORATION (7, 9, 14 WARDS) AND
BANSHKHALI (PUKURIA AND SADHANPUR)**

The project aims to minimize the impact of cascading hazards such as landslides and flash floods that cause the displacement of communities in the hilly areas of Chattogram and Bandarban districts. It focuses on strengthening the operational capacity of institutions and communities to

ensure timely and effective early warning information services. Additionally, the project enhances community and institutional preparedness by developing a landslide early action protocol linked to displacement. Furthermore, it works to create an enabling environment where landslide anticipatory actions are integrated into national disaster risk management (DRM) systems, ensuring long-term sustainability and scalability.



Staff Foundation of the Project

Mohammad Yunus Chowdhury – A Community Leader in Landslide Risk Management

Mohammad Yunus Chowdhury, a 50-year-old resident of Pukuria Union in Banshkhali Upazila, Chattogram, has long been dedicated to the development of his community. With a background as a manager, accountant, and local kindergarten teacher, he has also been actively involved in various social, cultural, and educational institutions. Currently, he serves as an executive committee member of the Natmura Multipurpose Cooperative Association.

In December 2024, Yunus attended a Union-level consultation meeting organized by YPSA under the project *“Anticipatory Actions for Landslide Causing Displacement for Communities of Chattogram District.”* Invited by the Union Chairman, he actively participated in discussions on local landslide vulnerabilities and community-based risk reduction measures. Inspired by the meeting, he became a member of the Ward Disaster Management Committee, the Upazila Resource Pool, and the Interpreter Pool—key groups responsible for disseminating early warning messages from the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD).

After receiving five training sessions and attending three workshops facilitated by YPSA, Yunus played a crucial role during the heavy rainfall and landslide alerts from 28 May to 2 June 2025. He personally visited vulnerable households, disseminated early warning messages through loudspeakers and social media, and distributed awareness leaflets. His leadership helped evacuate 50 people to safe shelters during the landslide events.

Reflecting on his experience, Yunus shared, *“Through YPSA’s training, I learned how to raise awareness, reduce disaster losses, and communicate early warning messages effectively in local language. I now understand the rainfall thresholds that trigger landslides in our area.”*

Looking ahead, his vision for community development includes promoting education, self-employment, agricultural livelihoods, rural transport, and social infrastructure to build resilience and empower marginalized groups.

Today, Mohammad Yunus Chowdhury stands as a shining example of community-based leadership and proactive disaster management—an inspiration for others in the region to follow.

PROJECT: DISASTER RISK REDUCTION – RISK REDUCTION ACTION PLAN (DRR-RRAP)**DONOR****WFP****LOCATION****CUMILLA (BURICHANG AND BRAHMANPARA)**

The project aims to reconstruct damaged physical infrastructure, strengthen disaster resilience, and promote economic self-reliance to provide sustainable, long-term solutions to climate-related challenges. It seeks to evaluate existing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) programs, policies, and guidelines to identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement. Additionally, the project will develop community-based risk assessments and Risk Reduction Action Plans (RRAPs) to enhance preparedness and ensure active community participation in repairing and improving local infrastructure. The project will primarily target poor and vulnerable communities residing in flood- and disaster-prone areas of Burichang and Brahmanpara upazilas in the Cumilla region.

**PROJECT: EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR FLOOD-AFFECTED PEOPLE IN THE SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICTS OF BANGLADESH****DONOR****NEAR CHANGE FUND CONSORTIUM****LOCATION****FENI (CHAGALNAIYA)**

The project aims to support vulnerable flood-affected families by enabling them to rehabilitate damaged shelters through partial and full conditional cash transfers, ensuring safe and dignified living conditions. It also focuses on improving community access to safe and hygienic sanitation by supporting the construction and rehabilitation of locally appropriate latrines. In addition, the project assists flood-affected educational institutions in rebuilding and restoring WASH facilities, while promoting hygiene awareness at both institutional and community levels to reduce health risks and strengthen resilience against future floods. Some of the major achievements of this project are repairing 25 most damaged houses, repairing, disinfecting and platform raising of 50 tubewells, installing new community tube-well, platform construction and bathing space for 10 houses, refunctioning and repairing 80 houses.

PROJECT: SOUTHEAST FLOOD RESPONSE 2024 IN FENI, CUMILLA AND LAKSHMIPUR

DONOR	WFP
LOCATION	FENI, LAKSHMIPUR, CUMILLA

The project aims to support flood-affected populations in Feni, Cumilla, and Lakshmipur districts to rebuild their livelihoods, strengthen resilience, and promote economic empowerment, particularly among women-headed households, through skills development, financial assistance, and linkage to markets and institutions. The objectives include providing immediate emergency cash support to vulnerable households, helping 3,118 beneficiaries restore sustainable income-generating activities (IGAs), and building their capacities in entrepreneurship, accounting, trade-based skills, and digital financial literacy. The project also seeks to establish market linkages through workshops and fairs and empower women and marginalized groups to better prepare for and recover from climate-induced shocks. The project primarily targets individuals and families whose livelihoods have been severely affected by floods, with a focus on enabling them to rebuild their assets and engage in sustainable IGAs. Beneficiaries include three groups: Emergency, ICVGD (Investment Component for Vulnerable Group Development), and Non-ICVGD categories. Implemented under the *Eastern Flood Response Emergency Livelihood Support Program* by YPSA, the initiative emphasizes the inclusion of vulnerable women and households under both ICVGD and VWB (Vulnerable Women Benefit) schemes.

The Story of Dilwara Begum's Change of Fortune

Dilwara Begum is a resident of Ward No. 2 of Kusakhali Union of Lakshmipur Sadar Upazila. Her husband is a daily wage laborer. Dilwara's husband had to struggle to provide food for his family of 6 members. Their family could not survive on the income he earned. To provide food for the family, Dilwara Begum started making baskets from bamboo canes. By helping her husband in this way, the family somehow managed. But during the Eastern Flood of 2024, all her bamboo items were washed away, and the rest were destroyed.



Her family's financial condition started to deteriorate. Right then, she received an unconditional 6,000 taka under the emergency flood relief program implemented by YPSA (Young Power in Social Action), funded by the World Food Programme. With this money, she bought food for the family and started working again by buying bamboo with some money.

Later, she extended a helping hand to get back on her feet again with the funding of the WFP (World Food Programme). Under the Income Generating Activity (IGA) of the Livelihood Support Programme-2025, Dilwara Begum received 20,000 Taka from WFP through bKash (mobile banking). With this money, she found a new ray of hope. She started working with bamboo canes again. She said that her business has improved and her family has regained its solvency. She is now earning 2-3 thousand Taka a week by making baskets that are sold out very quickly. Dilwara Begum hopes that if this work continues to improve like this, she will be able to set up a bamboo cane enterprise in her home. She sincerely thanks and expresses her gratitude to WFP and YPSA.

PROJECT: POST EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR FLOOD-AFFECTED PEOPLE IN THE SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICTS OF BANGLADESH

DONOR

NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL (NRC)

LOCATION

FENI (CHHAGALNAIA), NOAKHALI (BEGUMGANJ)

The project aimed to support vulnerable flood-affected families by addressing their immediate and early recovery needs through a combination of unconditional and conditional cash transfers to meet basic household requirements and facilitate partial and full shelter rehabilitation. In parallel, the project supported communities in ensuring access to safe, hygienic latrines and clean drinking water, while assisting flood-affected educational institutions in rebuilding WASH facilities at the institutional level and promoting community awareness on hygiene and sanitation practices. The project targeted flood-affected populations identified through community-based vulnerability assessments that prioritized women-headed households, families with persons with disabilities or elderly members, households without regular income or employment, and those severely impacted or displaced by floodwaters.



Mobile Money transfer to flood affected people through booth operation

PROJECT: FLOOD RESPONSE AND RESILIENCE BUILDING FOR OLDER PEOPLE OF FENI DISTRICT IN BANGLADESH

DONOR

HELPPAGE INTERNATIONAL

LOCATION

FENI (CHAGALNAIYA)

The project aimed to support flood-affected households by providing cash transfers to 400 households to help meet basic needs and prevent the use of negative coping strategies, alongside winter clothing support for 400 people to reduce the risk of cold-related illnesses, particularly among older persons in a post-flood context. The project targeted highly vulnerable flood-affected populations, with a total of 800 families identified through community-based vulnerability assessments that prioritized households centered on elderly members, elderly women-headed households, families with persons with disabilities or elderly members, households without regular income or employment, and those severely impacted or displaced due to floodwaters.



Distribution of winter cloths among the flood-affected elderly people

PROJECT: HLP RIGHTS FOR WOMEN IN ROHINGYA CAMPS IN BANGLADESH: ANALYZING GENDER DYNAMICS IN ACCESSING AND EXERCISING HLP RIGHTS WITH A FOCUS ON INFORMAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

DONOR

NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL (NRC)

LOCATION

COX'S BAZAR (UKHIYA AND TEKNAF)

The assessment aimed to examine Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) issues and analyze gender dynamics within the Rohingya camps to better understand access, control, and decision-making at household and community levels. The study targeted Rohingya displaced people and used a mixed-methods approach, engaging a total of 526 participants through questionnaire surveys (384), focus group discussions (111), key informant interviews (12), and case studies (9). This inclusive approach ensured diverse perspectives from men, women, and vulnerable groups, generating evidence to inform more gender-responsive and rights-based interventions in the camps.



FGD with Rohingya women

Searching for Safety and Dignity in the Camps

Munni Begum, a transgender woman from the Rohingya community, lives quietly with her niece in Camp 24 of Teknaf, Cox's Bazar. From a young age, Munni understood her gender identity, but acceptance never followed. As she recalls, realizing she was a transgender woman during her teenage years led to rejection, threats, and eventually being disowned by her family under pressure from the community. Like many LGBTQ individuals in the camps, Munni was left to survive on her own, facing daily insecurity and social exclusion. Life in the camps has been particularly harsh. Landlords charge her higher rent because of her gender identity, community leaders often ignore her concerns, and access to justice remains out of reach. Fear and discrimination have confined Munni largely to her home, despite limited support from NGOs providing mental health counseling and reassurance. *"We want a safe and secure place where nobody can harm or bully us,"* she says.

Munni's story reflects the broader struggles of LGBTQ Rohingya refugees, whose hopes are simple yet profound: to live with dignity, equality, and the fundamental right to be accepted as who they are.

LINK ORGANIZATIONS

11

ORGANIZATIONS

13,400
PEOPLE
BENEFITED

1790
EVENTS
ACHIEVED



5866

FEMALE



7420

MALE



114

PERSONS
With
DISABILITIES

-
1. YPSA Physiotherapy Center
 2. YPSA – Center for Youth and Development (YPSA-CYD)
 3. YPSA Development Resource Center (YPSA-DRC)
 4. Alekdia Shishu Niketon
 5. Kazipara Shishu Niketon
 6. Evergreen International School
 7. YPSA Human Resource Development Center (YPSA-HRDC), Sitakund Campus
 8. YPSA Human Resource Development Center (YPSA-HRDC), Cox's Bazar Campus
 9. YPSA YES Center
 10. Radio Sagor Giri
 11. Radio Dwip
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YPSA PHYSIOTHERAPY CENTER

LOCATION

MIRSARAI, SITAKUND

The goal of YPSA Physiotherapy Center is to enhance the physical capacity and functional independence of persons with disabilities, elderly and poor communities through accessible physiotherapy services. The project aims to prevent long-term disability by providing early and appropriate therapeutic interventions, ensure the availability of low-cost physiotherapy services for people with disabilities along with elderly, and expand equitable access to essential therapy services for poor and marginalized populations, thereby improving their overall quality of life and well-being.



YPSA-CYD is link organization of YPSA to promote youth action in development. YPSA-CYD is committed towards leadership development and empowerment of youth. Rooted in the belief that sustainable national development is impossible without the active participation of the younger generation, the center focuses on transforming youth into "change agents" for their communities. It provides a platform for young people, particularly those from marginalized backgrounds, including girls, young women, and persons with disabilities, to access technical vocational training, life skills development, and human resource coaching.





The YPSA Development Resource Center (DRC) is an ongoing, self-funded initiative implemented at the YPSA Head Office to strengthen the professional capacity of development workers by providing access to knowledge, learning resources, and collaborative activities alongside their regular workplace responsibilities. The program supports development practitioners from YPSA and other organizations in Chattogram through coordinated engagement, learning events, and resource-sharing platforms. Key achievements include effective coordination with multiple YPSA projects, organization of regular day-observance and issue-based programs, continuous quality enhancement of the DRC through the establishment of specialized resource corners, and the systematic donation and distribution of books to public institutions and partner organizations, including district administrations, libraries, educational institutions, and YPSA DRCs in Cox's Bazar and other regions, ensuring wider access to development knowledge and learning materials.



The project aims to promote quality education and healthy psychological development of children through recreational education. It seeks to ensure child protection by creating a safe, inclusive, and child-friendly learning environment, while enhancing access to quality education for children with disabilities, indigenous children, and children from extremely poor households. The initiative also encourages indigenous children and their families to engage in and transition toward mainstream education, fostering inclusion, confidence, and overall well-being.



PROJECT: KAZIPARA SHISHU NIKETON

LOCATION

SITAKUND, CHATTOGRAM

The initiative focuses on supporting children's learning and psychological well-being by integrating education with recreational activities. It emphasizes the implementation of child protection principles within all learning spaces, while ensuring inclusive and quality education for children with disabilities, indigenous children, and those from the hardest-to-reach poor families. Additionally, the program motivates indigenous children and their families to actively participate in mainstream education, promoting social inclusion and holistic child development.



Evergreen International School, operated by YPSA, is committed to providing inclusive, quality education that supports the academic, social, and emotional development of children from diverse backgrounds. The school emphasizes a child-friendly learning environment, modern teaching approaches, and strong ethical values to nurture well-rounded students. Through a focus on inclusivity, creativity, and lifelong learning, Evergreen International School contributes to building confident, responsible, and future-ready learners.



The YPSA Human Resource Development Center (HRDC) is dedicated to strengthening the knowledge, skills, and professional competence of staff and development practitioners through continuous learning and capacity-building initiatives. The center organizes structured training, workshops, and learning sessions to enhance technical, managerial, and leadership capacities in line with organizational goals. By promoting a culture of learning and excellence, the HRDC contributes to improved organizational performance and effective development interventions.



YPSA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER (YPSA-HRDC), COX'S BAZAR

LOCATION

COX'S BAZAR

The YPSA Human Resource Development Center (HRDC) serves as a hub for professional growth, focusing on enhancing the capacity and effectiveness of YPSA personnel and development workers. Through targeted training programs, skill-based workshops, and knowledge-sharing initiatives, the center supports continuous improvement in technical expertise, management practices, and leadership skills. HRDC plays a key role in fostering a skilled, motivated workforce capable of delivering high-quality and impactful development programs.



Traditional classroom-based learning alone is no longer sufficient in today's technology-driven world, where vocational and technical education plays a critical role in developing mid-level manpower aligned with national and international labor market demands.

In Cox's Bazar, young people need globally relevant knowledge and skills to remain competitive, as rapid technological advancement continues to reshape the nature of work. Recognizing that digital and technical skills are now essential, YPSA believes that meaningful youth engagement through skills development is a powerful pathway for empowerment, especially for poor and marginalized groups. To address this need, YPSA has established the YPSA YES Center (Youth Empowerment and Skills Center) in Cox's Bazar to promote inclusive technical and vocational training for disadvantaged youth, including those from indigenous, marginalized,



displaced, refugee, and high-risk communities. Through this center, YPSA facilitates accredited Computer Office Applications and Dressmaking and Tailoring courses under the Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB), transforming youth potential into productive action.

RADIO SAGOR GIRI (COMMUNITY RADIO)

LOCATION

SITAKUND, CHATTOGRAM

Radio Sagor Giri, operated by YPSA, is a community radio station dedicated to empowering local communities by providing timely, inclusive, and people-centered information. The station promotes awareness on social development issues such as education, health, disaster risk reduction, environment, good governance, and youth engagement, while giving a strong voice to marginalized and coastal communities. Through participatory broadcasting, local content, and community involvement, Radio Sagor Giri strengthens social cohesion, encourages civic participation, and supports sustainable development at the grassroots level.



RADIO DWIP (INTERNET RADIO)

LOCATION

SANDWIP, CHATTOGRAM

Radio Dwip, operated by YPSA, is a community radio initiative that serves island and hard-to-reach coastal communities by delivering locally relevant and inclusive information. The station focuses on issues such as disaster preparedness, climate resilience, livelihoods, health, education, and social awareness, ensuring that community voices, especially those of marginalized groups, are heard. Through participatory programming and community engagement, Radio Dwip plays a vital role in strengthening communication, resilience, and informed decision-making at the grassroots level.



For further Contact and more information



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