



Investment in Children Project

Background:

When it comes to financial decisions, children's scope to meaningfully participate and influence policy decisions are very limited. This calls for proactive engagement by children and adolescents in research and advocacy on resource allocation and utilization. To facilitate children's and adolescent's engagement, effective and appropriate advocacy approaches need to be devised, accompanied with support for capacity development. A child-led budget advocacy, backed by a budget research carried out by the children themselves, can result in a budget advocacy tool which can be replicated in other child led budget advocacy efforts.

Overall Objective:

Child-led research and advocacy for greater public investment focusing critical services for children, resulting in a child-led budget advocacy model.

Specific Objectives:

- To prioritize rights based services for marginalized/excluded children through children's participation adopting Right Based Approaches (RBAs);
- To facilitate and capacitate the marginalized/excluded children in identifying and assessing gaps/limitations in public allocations and in developing budget recommendations for the prioritized services;
- To facilitate campaign and advocacy with policy-makers by the marginalized/excluded children.
- To generate a replicable child-led budget advocacy model.

Geographical Coverage:

- Dhaka (urban)
- Sylhet (rural)

Project Duration:

1st January 2016 to 31st December 2016

Implementing partners:

Centre for Services and Information on Disability (CSID)

Funded by:

Save the Children Sweden



Target Group:



Children living in urban slums



Urban children with special needs



Rural poor children

Targeted Results:

- Result 1 – Awareness of children raised on public resource allocation that affect their lives
- Result 2 – Capacity of children enhanced in tracking public resources for children
- Result 3 – Generate a replicable child-led advocacy tool, documenting best practices in ensuring child participation and child led advocacy in public budgeting

Conceivable Challenges:

- Children generally are unaware of the importance of public resource allocation and utilization affecting their lives.
- Children lack access to local and central level administrations.
- Lack of budget information available in a child friendly way.

Future Directions:

One of the target of PRG in Bangladesh is to make children consultation a part of the national budget making process. The child-led advocacy tool developed under this project is expected to be used to facilitate children in organizing their budgetary observations and prioritizing investment needs and effectively participate in the budget making process.

