

SHINING THROUGH THE DARK



Save the Children



Photo: Md. Hasan Iqbal/Savethechildren

Children at Play: Arpita, Munni and Tanusree are playing Iching-Bitching (a local game) in Barishal

In the midst of this pandemic, children are suffering the most. The schools have been shut since March. There has been a sharp increase in the number of dropouts and many of the children will not be able to return to school even after the situation returns to normal. Children need to be with their friends- playing, learning and having fun. We want our children to go back to the school and back to learning.

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MILLION

children may
never return
to school





There was an exchange of views on Child Rights and Child Protection with the Parliamentary Caucus organized by Save the Children in Bangladesh on 16 November 2020. The chief guest of the event was Md. Fazle Rabbi Mia, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Bangladesh Parliament and Advisor to the Caucus.

From Save the Children, the Country Director Onno van Manen; Director of Child Protection and Child Rights Governance Abdulla Al Mamun; Senior Manager- Child Protection Mojib-ul Hasan and the Executive Director of INCIDIN Bangladesh AKM Masud Ali were present in this event.

[Learn More](#)



On 5 Nov, 2020, a 'Global Digital Hangout' was arranged by SCI, UK where representatives from six countries took part in an exclusive virtual event titled 'Tell My Leader'. From Bangladesh, two children- Oiakya & Rafsan, and Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak, Hon'ble State Minister of ICT, participated and discussed on various issues. [Learn More](#)



In observance of the World Pneumonia Day 2020, Save the Children and UNICEF Bangladesh jointly organised a virtual roundtable. The speakers' stressed on having the service of pulse oximeter and oxygen system up to the upazila level. Once these are confirmed, it is possible to significantly reduce infant mortality in diseases such as pneumonia.

The virtual roundtable to observe the World Pneumonia Day 2020 was live streamed in Save the Children in Bangladesh Facebook page and reached more than 3.5K People. [Learn More](#)



● **Social Media Impact**
Save the Children in Bangladesh could reach a total of **9.5K** people through these virtual events.

PROGRAM VISITS

- » Onno van Manen, Country Director, Save the Children and Abdullah Al Mamun, Director of Child Protection and Child Rights Governance Sector, paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Md. Ashraf Ali Khan Khasru, MP, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Social Welfare.

During the discussion, they hoped that the Government of Bangladesh and Save the Children will work together to address various issues regarding children, including the prevention of child marriage, the improvement of living standards and rehabilitation of street children, and the safe return of children to school in the future.

- » Onno has visited Arunodoy, special school for the physically challenged children, run by the District Administration of Cox's Bazar that has been jointly supported by Save the Children in Bangladesh.

He has also visited the office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) and met the newly appointed RRRC, Shah Rezwan Hayat.

Later, Onno visited Save the Children's new office in Cox's Bazar, discussed on various issues with the staff and shared his thoughts.

- » Onno paid a visit to two of the Government Primary schools (Moddho Mognama and Uttor Mognama GPS) renovated by Save the Children under Ashroi Kendra (MPCS) Project Supported by USAID, at Pekua Upazila of Cox's Bazar District.

Onno also visited, 'Strengthening National Midwifery Programme (SNMP)' of Save the Children at Pekua Upazila.

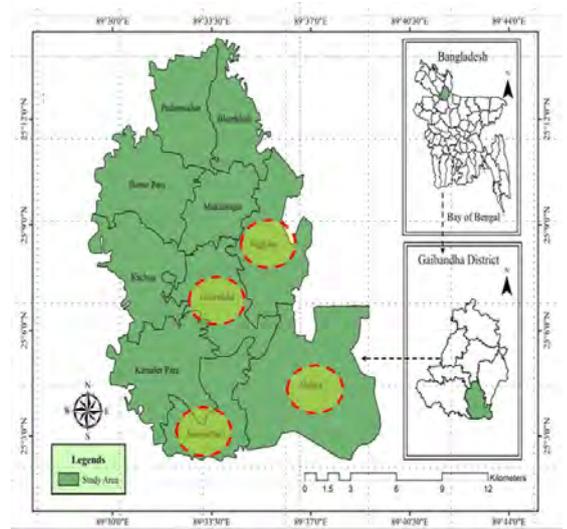
- » An Adolescent Friendly Space by Save the Children in Bangladesh started its journey in Ward No. 6 of Jaliapalang Union in Ukhia Upazila, Cox's Bazar. The UNO, Mohammad Aminul Ahsan Khan inaugurated the center in presence of the Country Director, Onno van Manen.



Shishuder Jonno Program completed 'Situation Analysis' for new rural 'Impact Area'

Shishuder Jonno (SJ) program of Save the Children in Bangladesh completed field work of Situation Analysis (SitAn) at Gaibandha (Saghata sub-district) which has been a successful event through a coordinated effort of SJ staff (Gaibandha, Dhaka, Barishal, PDQ representatives), consultants, assistant researchers and volunteers. Before field work, two day-long training has been provided to the attendees of the SitAn. During this qualitative research work, diversified respondents were met by the research team covering four unions.

[Click Success Stories from SJ](#)



Small to Scale- Numeracy Boost Online Course Launched at Barishal Primary Teacher Training Institute (PTI)-

On 5 November, Shishuder Jonno programme successfully launched Numeracy Boost (NB) online course at Barishal PTI holding a virtual orientation with trainee teachers and education officials. About 110 participants participated in the virtual orientation through three sessions.

As a result of this orientation, all participants will complete NB online course by this year.



Accountability Report covering the period July– September, 2020 has been published

The Feedbacks are received from 46 Projects out of 58. A Total 410 feedbacks were received in Q3, 2020 under Development Portfolio, and total 8609 feedbacks were received including Cox's Bazar Area Office.

On 5 November, SURP-II project team distributed certificate and UCV management guideline among 100 Urban Community Volunteers in Narayanganj City Corporation (NCC) where Panel Mayor of NCC, representatives of Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) and Fire Service & Civil Defence (FSCD), ward disaster management committee members and other city corporation officials were present.

Orientation for Upazila Level DAE Officers by SUCHANA



The Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) and Suchana Programme jointly organized a day-long “Lesson Learnt and Orientation Workshop” for the Upazila level DAE Officers of Sylhet and Moulvibazar districts at DAE conference room. The workshop was inaugurated by Kbd. Dilip Kumar Adhikary, Additional Director of DAE, Sylhet Division and chaired by Mr. Md Salah Uddin Deputy Director of DAE, Sylhet and Md. Luthful Bari Moulvibazar district. The workshop was facilitated by the senior staffs of Suchana Consortium Partners (SCI, WF and HKI) and 35 DEA officers participated in the workshop.



ANNOUNCEMENT

Shishuder Jonno Program is going to organise Results Review Workshop for Urban and Rural Impact Area on 1st week of December 2020. In this workshop, progress with results and process indicators are reviewed and recommendations for the following are made.

MY REFLECTION



Dear All,

Six months seem a long time but it has passed very quickly for me. People say time goes quickly when you are having fun, and although there have been some challenges, overall I have really enjoyed this first period. During my arrival I have enjoyed the warm welcome and hospitality of our staff and many others in Bangladesh, I have also been privileged to travel to a number of our programs across the country to see our programs and interact first hand with the people we are working for.

During this first period I have continued to observe and highlight a number of key issues. First of all is the amazing level of dedication of our staff in all our programs. Everywhere I go our teams go out of their way to deliver our programs with passion and compassion and are willing to constantly improve. We do indeed deliver amazing things in our programs and one recommendation that I would like to make is that we share more amongst our programs in terms of best practices and join resources where possible. There are many opportunities for this but we do need to actively follow through on them.

We have a variety of programs across the country and we all have been presented with an unprecedented challenge from the COVID-19 pandemic. By and large we have stepped up and delivered but this is still an ongoing process and we need to keep alert and responsive for the coming period. Part of these initiatives is the SafeBack2School campaign through which we want to ensure that every child, especially those from vulnerable families, will be able to get back to school safely soon. Two other advocacy issues that we are working on is the Red Alert / Climate Change and the work we do on Absence of Physical and Humiliating punishment.

We get great recognition for both our humanitarian and development work from donors, partners and government officials. In a way we are all development professionals and humanitarians. Therefore, I am also very glad to see the further integration of our Cox’s Bazar activities. We have achieved a lot and we can continue to do more for children, so I look forward to the next period.

Best

Onno van Manen

Country Director

Save the Children in Bangladesh



**STORY
TIME!**

**I don't know
whether I will
be able to go
to school
someday.**

**"I want to go to school
but I can't because I
have to look after my
siblings at home. When
other children go to
school, I look out the
window."**

Rupa, an eight-year-old girl was telling her story of not being able to fulfil her wish. She lives with her mother in a small room in the Rayerbazar slum area along with her two younger brothers and a sister. Rupa's mother Shafia, works as a domestic worker to earn their livings. Her father lives in the village and does not take care of them by any means.

Every day her mother leaves home at 9:00 in the morning and returns at 3:00 in the afternoon. During this time, Rupa cleans the house, cooks, bathes her siblings and feeds them. When many children are at school during the day, she has to involve in household activities at home. Rupa remains busy all day with her younger siblings.

Rupa was enrolled in the sponsorship program of Save the Children in 2017. She attended in 'Literacy and Numeracy Session' at a community-based center. It helped develop her basic language and math skills. Some activities are also implemented there for the little children to develop early reading, writing, counting and communication skills with others.

However, Rupa became an irregular participant in those sessions due to her involvement in household works. At once, Rupa became upset. She does not have much time to play and study. Rupa shared "If there were a child care center in our area, I could leave my siblings there and go to the school".

Establishing child care and play spaces for the children in every community, would fulfil the wish of many children like Rupa about attending school.

Photography and story written By

Hasan Iqbal

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ACHIEVEMENT

We would like to extend our warm congratulations to our youth volunteer Sadat Rahman who won the **International Children's Peace Prize** this year. From a remarkable number of 142 applicants, the Kids-Rights' Expert Committee nominated Sadat Rahman from Bangladesh as the winner.

Sadat is the General Secretary of NCTF Narail district's Executive Committee. He participates and facilitates regular activities of NCTF including monthly meetings, monitoring child rights situations, and reporting. He actively participates in the local and national level advocacy with duty bearers and policymakers. Salute to this remarkable youth volunteer on scaling new heights and setting new standards! [Learn More](#)



CONGRATULATIONS TO
SADAT RAHMAN



Last month's Quiz **Winner**



CONGRATULATIONS!

Satyajit Roy

- Program Manager,
Food Security and
Livelihoods, Cox's
Bazar Area Office

Answer : B) Save the Children

Op-ed
Published
by colleagues

An Op-ed written by Md Badrul Alam Talukder, Project Manager and Muzammel Haque, Senior Officer of Child Centred Climate Change Adaptation Project on the 'Climate Change Policies and Its Child-Sensitiveness' had been published in The Business Standard on 29 October 2020.

[Read the Op-ed here](#)

QUIZ TIME!



CSP 2019-2021

» How many GOALS we have in our CSP 2019-2021?

- A** 5 GOALS **C** 8 GOALS
- B** 3 GOALS **D** None

By 2nd week of this month

SEND ANSWER

nahin.rahman@savethechildren.org



WINNER



CONGRATULATIONS!

Badrun Nahar Bithi
Senior Officer MEAL -Coordination

Send your photos

with appropriate captions by 2nd week of every month.
We will recognize you as a winner!

SEND NOW!

nahin.rahman@savethechildren.org

PHOTO CONTEST

Send your content for **newsletter**

By second week of every month

Contact

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