

Shishuder Jonno

Sponsorship Funded

INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ICDP)

Background:

'Shishuder Jonno' (For the children) Program is a sponsorship initiative of Save the Children in Bangladesh to support development of children particularly who are deprived from basic needs and services like health, education and living opportunities. Under this program, comprehensive activities as appropriate to children below 19 years are in implementation through following life-cycle approach. Country Office has been implementing diversified program core components, such as Maternal, Newborn, Child Health & Nutrition (MNCHN), Early Childhood Care & Development (ECCD) including Early Childhood Care and Stimulation (ECCS), Basic Education (BE), School Health & Nutrition (SHN) & Adolescent Development (AD). The non-core components are – Child Protection (CP) and Child Rights & Governance (CRG). The cross-cutting components are – Community Mobilization, and Gender.

This Integrated Child Development Program has been engaging children, their families and community actors in order to address the needs of the children and to create enabling development environment for them.

Save the Children has been continuing sponsorship interventions in its Rural Impact Area (IA) Meherpur covering the entire district which started in 2008 after 30-years of successful implementation in Nasirnagar Upazilla (previous Rural Impact Area) under Brahmanbaria District. Sponsorship program has also been supporting children and communities in urban slum area of Rayerbazar under Dhaka North City Corporation in its Urban Impact Area since 2015. The Sponsorship funded Shishuder Jonno program will phase-in to 2 districts as new rural impact area (Barisal district in 2017 and Gaibandha district in 2018) to implement long-term, age appropriate, children development program for next 10 years.

Project Objectives:

Goal: Children will learn and develop to their full potential.

Strategic Objective 1: Caregiving knowledge and practices for children 0-8 years

Strategic Objective 2: Improved learning outcomes for all children through quality basic education

Strategic Objective 3: Improved learning and development outcomes for all boys and girls, which includes health and nutrition related knowledge, attitudes, practices and behaviors.

Strategic Objective 4: Increased use of key maternal, newborn, child health and nutrition (MNCHN) practices and services

Strategic Objective 5: Adolescents contribute positively to well-being and betterment of society.

Geographical Coverage: Meherpur District and Dhaka North City Corporation (Rayerbazar slum area)

Implementing Partners: Palashipara Samaj Kallayan Samity (PSKS) in Meherpur
Manabik Shahajya Sangstha (MSS) in Dhaka North City

Project duration: Meherpur: 2008 to 2019 Dhaka City: 2015 (with 10-years plan); Barisal (2017-2027), Gaibandha (2018-2028)

Funded by: Sponsorship funds through Save the Children USA, Save the Children Korea and Save the Children Australia

Sponsors and sponsored children: Total Sponsors: 18572 (Individual, Lifeline and Program Sponsors for both Rural and Urban IAs) Total Sponsored children: 18082 (Individual and Lifeline- for both Rural and Urban IAs)

Target Groups



Newborn
& Children under 5 yrs



Children
6-12 yrs



Adolescents
10 to below 19 yrs



Pregnant women
& recently delivered
women



Teachers



Service
Providers



Parents



Community
Members

Major Interventions:

Maternal, Newborn, Child Health & Nutrition: Counsel pregnant women and parents of newborns & under-5 children through home visit; Resource Center based awareness session with in-laws; strengthening referral mechanism in partnership with local health clinics/organization.

Early Childhood Care and Development: Early Years Pre-primary program; Pre-primary supports; Emergent Literacy and Math parenting session for parents and caregivers; Reading for Children; Child reception for all Grade-1 children and graduation ceremony for pre-primary graduated children.

Early Childhood Care and Stimulation: Counsel mothers/care-givers with early stimulation messages through parenting session, home visit or campaign; Capacity building of local health service providers and community leaders.

Basic Education: Literacy and Numeracy learning improvement; Teachers Professional Development: Bangla and Math; Capacity development of School Management Committees and Community for Quality Learning Environment; Promoting reading with more and better books; Technology infused parental/community awareness.

ICT in Education: To improve the quality of primary education, ICT infused inter active e-content based on national curriculum, teachers' professional development, web-based e-primary and android enabled e-monitoring data analysis system implementing through partnership with Directorate of Primary Education (DPE) of the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME).

School Health and Nutrition: School based health services; health education at school and community; water, sanitation and hygiene services at school and community; nutrition education to parents; health & hygiene voice messages to parents through mobile phone.

Adolescent Development: Life skill education and Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health services; Menstruation Hygiene Management promotion; Income skills development; Awareness on gender norms & child marriage prevention.

Child Protection: Mass awareness raising, capacity building of stakeholders on positive discipline and strengthening reporting- responding mechanism.

Child Rights and Governance: Create space for children participation in decision making process through NCTF (National Children's Task Force), the only government endorsed children organization.

Major Achievements:

- e-Primary and e-Monitoring schools systems under ICT in Education are adopted in the national system as well as English e-contents (class one to five) are launched by the Prime-Minister for country-wide primary schools.
- 81% intervention students can read and understand grade level text comparing with 52% baseline data.
- 94% of Literacy-Numeracy Boost trained teachers applying Basic Education program-promoted instructional practices comparing with 65% baseline data.
- Tested Literacy Boost model scaled from 12 schools to 5112 schools through READ program
- 99% ECCD graduated children promoted from Grade 1 to Grade 2 in 2016.
- Early care and stimulation (0-3 years) intervention mainstreamed with Government Health System through 51 Community Clinics at Meherpur district.
- 152,045 children (aged 5-19 years) and adults in 849 schools were reached through School Health & Nutrition interventions in Rural IA in Meherpur in 2016.

Major Challenges:

- Frequent change of trained government officials/master trainers.
- Parents' time especially father's low involvement in parenting awareness sessions.
- Migration or changing house location of urban slum communities resulting drop-out.
- Community expectation of hardware support in comparing to other actors (NGOs) in urban slum area.



I have learned about the negative effects of child marriage. So, I will avoid early marriage and will continue my studies.



– Sumita, adolescent girl, Meherpur



Handwashing practice by school children