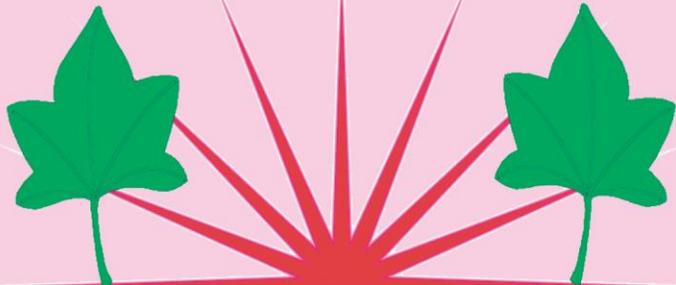


Annual Report 2020



Agrogoti Sangstha

An Initiative to Established Human Rights through Good Governance

Trishmile More, Nagorghata, Satkhira.

Mobile: 01715-608864

Email: agrogoti@gmail.com Web: agrogoti.org

Index

Contents	Page No.	Contents	Page No.
Abbreviation.....	1	Staff strength	16
From the President.....	2	Office Locations	16
Preface	3	2. Programs according to the organization’s mandate	17
Introduction	4	2.1 Establish good governance.....	17
1.1 Origin of Agrogoti Sangstha	5	2.2 Human Rights	24
1.2 Vision & Mission	5	2.3 Promoting Child Rights	38
1.3 Development Approach.....	5	2.4 Climate Change and Adaptation.....	40
1.4 Working methods.....	5	2.5 Health Rights	44
1.5 Values	5	3.1 Strengthening organizational capacity	46
1.6 Overall Contribution of Agrogoti Sangstha to Achieve SDGs..	6	3.2 Capacity Building	46
1.7 Context of the working area	7	3.3 Partnerships	46
1.8 Programs at a glance	9	Current Development Partners.....	46
1.9 Governance system of Agrogoti Sangstha	13	Previous Development Partners.....	46
1.10 Existing Policies:	13	3.4 Networking Partners.....	47
1.11 Departments	13	3.5 Collaborative relation with Government	47
1.12 Practical Training and Resource Centre (PTRC) ...	14	3.6 Advocacy	47
Our entity.....	14	Actions of local level advocacy	47
Training and meeting hall room facilities	14	Actions of national level advocacy	47
Accommodation Facility	14		
Other Facilities	14		
1.13 Adolescent Resource Centre (ARC)	2		
Geographical Area	2		
Objectives	2		
Some initiative by the adolescent resource centre:	2		

Abbreviations

ARC	Adolescent Resource Centre	PAB	Practical Action Bangladesh
ADRC	Alternative Dispute Regulation Committee	PHC	Primary Health Care
AS	Agrogoti Sangstha	PIC	Program Implementation Committee
AGM	Annual General Meeting	PLWHA	People Living With HIV/AIDS
CAS	Community Assistance Strategy	PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal Method
CC	Citizens Committee	PTRC	Practical and Theoretical Resource Centre
CDVS	Centre for Disaster and Vulnerability studies	RTI	Right to Information
CDW	Child Domestic Workers	SA	Social Accountability
CDWR	Child Domestic Workers Rights	SP	Social Protection
CI	Community Institute	SUF	Samajik Uddog Forum
NOREC	Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation	SPF	Social Protection Forum
MHM	Menstrual Hygiene Management	TPM	Third Party Monitoring
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights	TDH	Terre Des Hommes
CLC	Child Learning Centre	UH	Upzila Health Care and Family Planning Office
CRC	Child Rights Convention	UP's	Union Parishad Local Government Institutions
CSC	Community Score Card	VAW	Violence Against Women
CSDI	Community Service Delivery Institutions	VGD	Vulnerable Group Development
CSG	Community Support Group	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
CSP	Country Strategy Paper	YC	Youth Club
CBO	Community Base Organization		
DOAE	Department of Agriculture Extension		
DPHE	Department of Public Health Extension		
DYD	Department of Youth Development		
FE	Final Evaluation		
FGD	Focus Group Discussion		
IGA	Income Generating Activities		
ICS	International Citizen Services		
LEB	Local Elected Bodies		
LG	Local Government		
LGSP	Local Government Support Project		

From the President



Agrogoti Sangstha, established 29 years ago as the local volunteer club at Benadona village of Kaligonj upazilla in Satkhira district aiming to rescue and rehabilitate the devastating cyclone affected people in 1988. Once the club, turned into a local development organization as the necessity of time. Now it's renounced and leading governance and human rights focusing organization in the south west part of Bangladesh.

Since its inception. Agrogoti Sangstha has passed many difficult time and puzzle road to reach at the station. But never diverted from its vision and mission. Furthermore, organization always tries to serve the best of its destitute, deprived of rights and socially and economic deprived people in south west part of Bangladesh. Development partners are increasing their support in the last year by observing the achievements. Government and development partners replicating many best practice of the organization and included the experiences in the implementing process.

Agrogoti Sangstha is trying to come out from the mentality as dependence of donor and taking initiative to be self-dependence as the community organization. Many new resource mobilization initiatives such as Adolescent Resource Centre (ARC), Practical Resource Centre (PTRC) and etc. have taken as sustainable manner. These were the primary speed of the organization and now the organization is carrying on to go forward.

I am grateful to the development partners, stakeholders, volunteer and the staffs who are working and helping to achieve the goal.

Invite all for dreaming to ensure a poverty reduced and injustice society

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hamid'.

Md. Abdul Hamid
President
Agrogoti Sangstha

Preface

Agrogoti Sangstha is a non-governmental development organization and working in the south-west part of Bangladesh since 1988. From the beginning period, we have been growing up slowly but taking immense action when required for the society. Agrogoti Sangstha overcame every step in every year with community involvement and advanced in the past successful journey time.

During the year Agrogoti Sangstha has taken new initiatives with the running activities which reflected in the annual report of 2018. Ensuring good governance, establishing rights of the destitute people, enhancing social protection, protecting victims of the adolescent are the thematic areas of Agrogoti Sangstha. On the year of 2018 Agrogoti Sangstha tries the best to achieve its targeted intervention which contribute to the desire goal of the organization. The organization introduces social accountability tools in many issues and becoming an experienced organization in the sectors and believes that establishing good governance is the path to build a society free of poverty and injustice. Then the Child Rights and education sector action also enriched with different development partners. Agrogoti Sangstha has started to contribute at the ICT sectors at the village level. Started Practical Training and Resource Centre (PTRC) as the own resource of Agrogoti Sangstha which will be a model to ensure the organizational sustainability. Finally, Agrogoti Sangstha is playing a very vital role with close connection of people especially disadvantaged community for raising their voice to establish rights for peaceful life with dignity.

With cordial thanks to all development partners who have supported monetary, technical and skill development, local community and civil society who have provided social support, the governing body who have recommended and suggest every time to go ahead with our vision and mission.

Finally, many thanks for the attention, the affection, the understanding and the service you gave us throughout the year of 2018 for high point of its development. Agrogoti Sangstha hopes that it will be able to fulfil the all good desires for the year of 2018.



Abdus Sabur Biswas
Executive Director
Agrogoti Sangstha



Introduction

1.1 Origin of Agrogoti Sangstha:

In 1988, a devastating cyclone hit the Coastal area of Bangladesh destroying the crops and millions of houses and killing over 3000 persons. In Krishnanagar Union under Kaliganj Upazilla in Satkhira District, a group of young volunteers took the initiative not just to help re-build the broken and damaged houses of the sufferers, but to protect their environment. In the same year, they decided to form a social organization called Agrogoti Club.

From the starting period the organization took part in various meetings, workshop and seminars locally and nationally to gather experience in relation to human rights and environmental protection. In 1994, we established the voluntary "Krishnanagar Development Forum" against the destruction. Through this forum over 700 men and women were trained on bio-diversity resources protection in their own areas. Around the same period, Agrogoti Club established a "Female Member Association" to advocate with government for the protection of women's rights.

Having registered with the Social Welfare Directorate in 1999 and the NGO Affairs bureau in 2004, Agrogoti Sangstha went from strength to strength working on divergent issues such as water and sanitation, acid violence, governance, microcredit and human trafficking.

Our experience over 20years has led us to view development in a specific way, moving away from service delivery or microcredit provision to a rights based approach focused on participation, empowerment, equity and responsibility. Today, we work on local government, child rights, protecting freedoms and environmental sustainability.

Overall, Agrogoti Sangstha can be best described as:

"An Initiative to establish Human Rights through Good Governance"



Year of origin: 1988

Legal Status:

Social welfare Directories – Registration No Sat- 278/99

NGO Affairs Bureau – Registration No- 1963/23.09.04

1.2 Vision: Self-reliant and injustice free society.

Mission: To empower local communities and institutions to ensure Human Rights and Good Governance for all.

1.3 Development Approach

- ⇒ Accountability and Ownership
- ⇒ Participation and Empowerment
- ⇒ Specific focus on the rights of the most marginalized or vulnerable groups
- ⇒ Root cause focus
- ⇒ Non-discrimination on any grounds in programming or internally
- ⇒ Indivisibility of Human Rights

1.4 Values

- Not for profit
- Non-political
- Equality
- Integrity
- 5. Non-violence
- 6. Transparency
- 7. Courage
- 8. Accountability



1.5 Overall Contribution of Agrogoti Sangstha to Achieve SDGs



Where we work:



1.6 Context of the working area

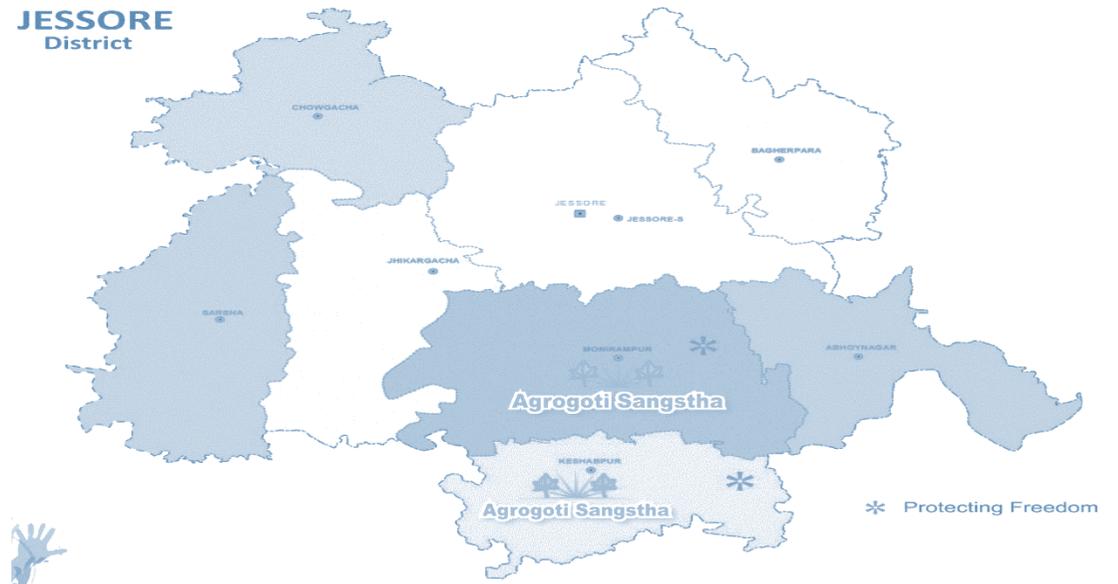
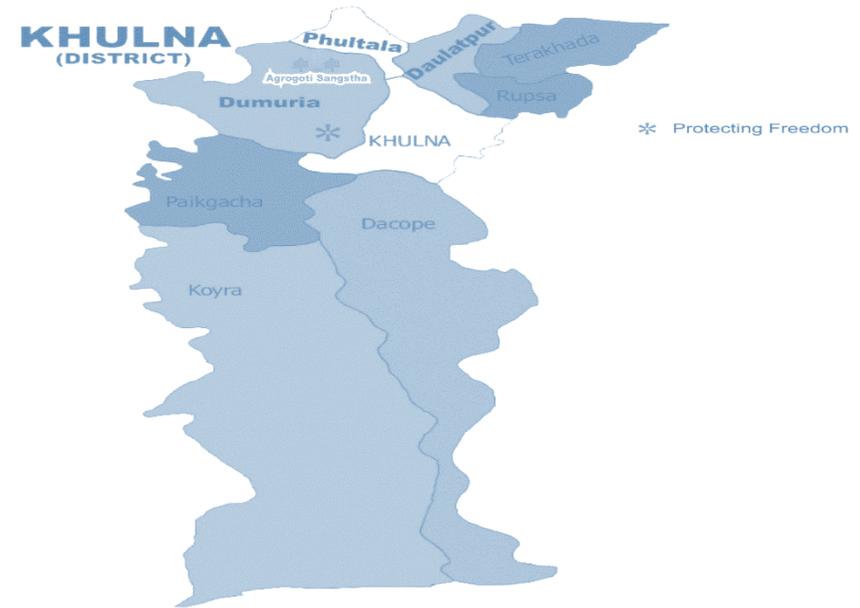
Satkhira district is generally known as a less economically and socially developed area of Bangladesh. Being prone to disasters of cyclones, floods and storms, the area has suffered during history under these natural causes.

Satkhira district is part of the Khulna division, and covers an area of 3858.33 sq. km in the south west bordered district of Bangladesh. The area has many rivers, like the Arekobadak, Kobadak, Sonai, Kholpatua, Morischap, Raimangal, Hariabhanga, Ichamati, Betrabati and Kalindi Jamuna. The soil of the district is alluvial floodplain. The district has 1,843,192 inhabitants. The district consists of 7 upazila, 2 municipalities, and 78 union parishads.

Satkhira is famous for weaving, bamboo and cane work and potteries; other cottage industries include goldsmith, blacksmith, potteries, wood work, mat work, tailoring, date molasses and jute and cotton work. But the main occupation of the inhabitants are agriculture (37%) or agricultural labourer (27%), and commerce (13%). Further people earn an income by fishery (2%), fish cultivation (1%), working in the industry (1%), transport (2%), service (4%), wage labourer (4%) or otherwise (8%).

Among the peasants, 18% are landless, 34% small, 25% intermediate and 23% rich. The main crops they produce are rice (paddy), jute, sugarcane, mustard seed, potato, and onion and betel leaf. The main fruits they produce are mango, black berry, jackfruit, banana, papaya, litchi, coconut, and guava. Further, peasants and fishermen earn a living with poultry, dairy, fishery, shrimp farming, and hatchery.

Of the inhabitants 78% is Muslim, 21% is Hindu and the last 1% is divided under Christians, Buddhist and others. There are a few ethnic tribes in Satkhira district, called the Mundari, Buno who represent only 0.1% of the population and have their own language.



1.7 Programs at a Glance

Strengthening Community Rights and Empowerment (SCORE)

Through the Strengthening Community Rights and Empowerment (SCORE) project, funded by MJF includes 14121 poor and marginalized households beneficiaries who will receive safety net services, agriculture, health, safe drinking water with the support from UP and government office. There are 770 indirect beneficiaries of the project. The project aims to provide social safety net services to 2320 people, safe drinking water to 467 people, primary health care to 7600 and agricultural support to 3035 people. 144 (SUF) Citizen Support Groups are formed in ward level to district level and 1692 people are engaged in various kinds of decision making processes to promote civic engagement in LGI and PSDA decision making processes. Among them, 30% are women. Various social monitoring tools like social audit, public hearing and community score card being are used for the implementation of the project and ensure transparency and accountability of LGI and PSDA.

An example of social tools being effective for transparent and accountable services: Government subsidized fertilizers were being sold in a higher rate than prescribed in some areas. By using social audit tools, 24 thousand farmers of Kaligonj Upazilla have benefited and saved almost 4 Lakh Taka this year.

Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Education through Exchange Expertise:

Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Education through Exchange Expertise is a three year professional exchange project between three organizations from three South Asian countries, Agrogoti Sangstha Bangladesh, Aawaaj Nepal and Right Track India with Agrogoti Sangstha as coordinating partner. The project is funded by Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation (NOREC). Through this project, two professionals will be exchanged between each organization for three years, totalling to 6 participants from one organization. There are specific working areas for each country. For Bangladesh its Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM), for India its puberty changes and for Nepal its Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI). The first round of project concluded in April 2020.

In the last round, two Bangladeshi participants worked in India, two Indian participants in Nepal and two Nepalese participants worked in Bangladesh. The participants developed a training module on respective subjects identified for their host organizations and provided ToT training and documentation training for capacity development of staff and volunteers of the host organization. They also conducted trainings, orientations and sharing meetings at the host community. Cultural exchange, sharing best practices, learning from each other and promoting regional cooperation is the main focus of this exchange project.

Preventing Extremism through Active Community Engagement (PEACE) Consortium:

The Preventing Extremism through Active Community Engagement (PEACE) Consortium Project, funded by Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) aims to enhance engagement of the communities to initiate positive steps towards preventing extremism, recruitment including radicalization and the other related dynamics. The technical support for the project is provided by Rupantar. Law and order committee, religious leaders, youth, social workers and other potential influencing individuals and groups are involved in the project in an aim to develop their capacity and skills to deal with radicalization, recruitment and issues related to violent extremism from grassroots community to the district level. Total number of direct beneficiaries is 51,656 and among them 18,543 female and 33,113 male. No of indirect beneficiaries is 3,40,851 and among them 1,19,298 female and 2,21,553 male. The main activities of the project include develop and functioning Peace Club, dialogue among law and order committee and peace club members, various creative and sports competitions among the students and youth and capacity building of peace club members, develop psychosocial support group and inter-faith dialogue. Through these, the reference community is actively engaged in preventing extremism related activities. The project's second round started in September 2019. Till now, 48 peace clubs have been formed. The clubs have organized various awareness campaigns in their community such as courtyard meetings, school and madrasa campaigns, sports, debate and creative writing competitions. They have organized 48 such campaigns so far.

ASHSHASH: For Men and Women Who Have Escaped Trafficking

With a specific aim to restore dignity, improve well-being and build self-sufficiency for men and women who have Escaped Trafficking, Agrogoti Sangstha has been initiated a project simultaneously in Satkhira and Khulna district named Ashshash: For Men and Women Who Have Escaped Trafficking. The Swiss agency for development and cooperation-SDC and Winrock International have been supporting to Agrogoti Sangstha considering development partners with this initiative. Here it has been following strategy to utilize existing services with effective partnership and referral mechanism and make the institutions more accountable.

To restore dignity, improve well-being and build self-sufficiency of the trafficking survivors, it will progress in an efficient manner like Survivor Identification & Enrolment, Psychosocial Counselling support to Survivors, family and community, link with the services based on need assessment, accomplish ready to go certification and refer to TSP for training & Sustainable Re-integration with job placement, awareness raising and building capacity of the community to engage with the reintegration process. Agrogoti Sangstha has been acting as a Social protection partner with the whole process. In Satkhira, as of March-2020, out of 184 survivors, 126 (M: 73, F: 53) are identified. 131 received counselling services and 103 have received ready to certification. In Khulna, as of March-2020, out of 174 survivors, 114 (M: 48, F: 66) are identified during the period, 95 received counselling services and 68 have received ready to go certification.

Sustainable Intervention to Prevent Human Trafficking & Promote Safe Migration (SUSTAIN)

SUSTAIN project and its objective was to prevent human trafficking and promote safe migration to establish safer and better life. Through dimensional activities in Satkhira, Jessore & Khulna district since May 2015, an organized youth volunteers group (peer leaders) is developed at the community, the CTCs have become responsive, the potential & outgoing migrants are aware more about safe migration process that have reduced the cases of fraudulence, allure and other factors of Human Trafficking.

GROW School Project:

GROW school project, funded by Global Learning, Sweden is running to ensure continuation of education and greater opportunity for the underprivileged children for better livelihood with social safety net. During the project period ensured the education of 300 underprivileged students and sensitize them through variety of day celebrations. Six learning centres have been established in various communities of Kaligonj upazilla and 30 students from grades 1-3 take three hours class in the morning. In the afternoon, 20 students of secondary level take maths and science classes. The project aims to provide access to education quality education for all.

Practical Training and Resource Centre (PTRC)

With the aim of generating alternate sources of funds for the sustainability of the organization, Agrogoti Sangstha established a modern training centre named “Practical Training and Resource Centre (PTRC)” to provide support on the evolution of development sectors.

Agrogoti Sangstha believes that capacity and knowledge building is essential for effective development. The training centre creates and opportunity for human resource development through regular training south west area of Bangladesh.

The PTRC is a four storied high quality building constructed near the high way but in the natural beauty. The specialty of the building design is north and south sight is open to blow the coastal window.

Sexual Exploitation of Children Online and in Travel and Tourism (SECOTT)

SECOTT project is running from February 2016 to reduce child sexual exploitation from online and in travel and tourism spot. During the project period a total of 770 children, family, community, educational institution and local government are sensitized about the issue and proactively work to protect the issue through the direct intervention of SECOTT project.

Adolescent Resource Centre (ARC):

Adolescent Resource centre (ARC) is learning, practical and livelihood improvement resource centre for sustainable development of underprivileged adolescent girls. Over the year of 2016 a total of 400 underprivileged adolescent girls are capacitating on reproductive health, continue education income generating and social dignity through the direct intervention of ARC.

Capacity building of adolescents through information technology is running to capacitate adolescent through variety of training program such as mobile servicing, computer operation training and tailoring training. During the project period a total of 345 children are capacitate through computer training.



Climate Change and Adaptation:

We have conducted advocacy activities with the government so that the government mark the coastal belt area as a disaster prone vulnerable area. Also our purpose was to inform government about the devastating consequences of disasters which are - water logging, internal migration, infrastructural destruction etc. One of the biggest problem of this area is that the embankment is very weak and therefore it collapsed when there is any disaster. So many area go under water and people migrate internally which also increases the density in upazilla and district level. The projects which covers these activities are given below –

- 1. PEACE Consortium Project Emergency Response** - We have created 51 youth clubs under this project. We have trained 21 youth in each club on disaster response. During Covid-19 they provided hygiene kits to 5100 families and as well as aware those families about Covid-19.

Cyclone Amphan Response –

- They conducted rescue activities.
- They repaired the damaged embankment.
- They provided emergency food support by creating linkage with local government.
- They also conducted awareness activities including publicity, going door to door etc.

- 2. SCORE Project Emergency Response –**

We have created 126 ward level emergency response committee under this project. We have trained 17 community people in each committee on disaster response. During Covid-19 they provided hygiene kits to 2600 families and as well as aware those families about Covid-19.

Covid-19 & Cyclone Amphan Response –

- We provided monthly 2500 taka as emergency food support to 405 families for 3 months through this project. Total cost was 30, 37,500 taka.
- We rehabilitated the affected 187 families for cyclone Amphan by creating entrepreneurship through skill development training. Also we supported 7500 taka to each affected family for starting their own venture.

- 3. ASHSHASH Project Emergency Response -**

Under this project, we have supported people who have been victimized different time in the society.

Cyclone Amphan Response –

- We provided support with an amount of 37, 08,156 taka to 516 families through this project.
- We also provided skill development training to help them creating entrepreneurship.
- We have created job placement for 36 trained people in different companies.

1.8 Governance system of Agrogoti Sangstha

Governance and performing guidance:

- General body formed 31 members.
- Executive body formed 7 members.
- Procurement committee consisting 5 members
- Budget committee consisting 5 members
- Gender committee consisting 5 members
- Internal audit committee consisting 3 members
- Monitoring and Evaluation committee consisting 5 members
- Management committee consisting 7 members

1.9 Existing Policies:

- Human Resource Policy
- Finance Management policy
- Gender Policy
- Information Discloser Policy
- Child Rights Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Monitoring Policy
- Conflict Of Interest Management Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Financial Irregularities Mitigation Policy

1.10 Departments:

- 1) Program
- 2) Finance
- 3) Administration
- 4) Monitoring & Evaluation



1.11 Practical Training and Resource Centre (PTRC)

Our entity

Because of area context and development views, Agrogoti Sangstha established a modern training centre named “Practical Training and Resource Centre (PTRC)” to provide support on the evolution of development sectors.

Agrogoti Sangstha believes that capacity and knowledge building is essential for effective development. The training centre creates and opportunity for human resource development through regular training south west area of Bangladesh.

The PTRC is a four storied high quality building constructed near the high way but in the natural beauty. You will recover yourself if you stay here and show the nature of beauty and enjoy open air. The specialty of the building design is north and south sight is open to blow the coastal window.

Training and Meeting Hall Room Facilities

- Air conditioned and beautiful decorated training room with all kind of training equipment (i.e multimedia, display board, white board, sound system etc.)
- 02 training and conferences room accommodate a minimum of 100 people.
- Special meeting room accommodates a minimum of 20 people.
- Separate group work space.
- Cultural performance instruments.
- 24 hours power supply facility.
- Visible sky line and green beauty during the training.

Accommodation Facilities

- There are 22 rooms are available where 60 persons will be accommodated.
- Seven airs conditioned double and single deluxe room can be accommodated 10 persons.
- Some of the rooms are included satellite TV and water hitter.
- All of the rooms are attached wash room with bath and shower.
- Each room has balcony in the south side with views of naturel beauty and enjoy open air.
- The floors are tiled and the interior decoration has been selected individually.

Other Facilities

Food supply:

We offer a verity dishes for meal, snacks and drinks can be ordered from the menu. Our dining room is open 24 hours and food can be available up on request.

Library:

The campus has a rich library with daily newspaper, magazine, journals and development related books.

Security:

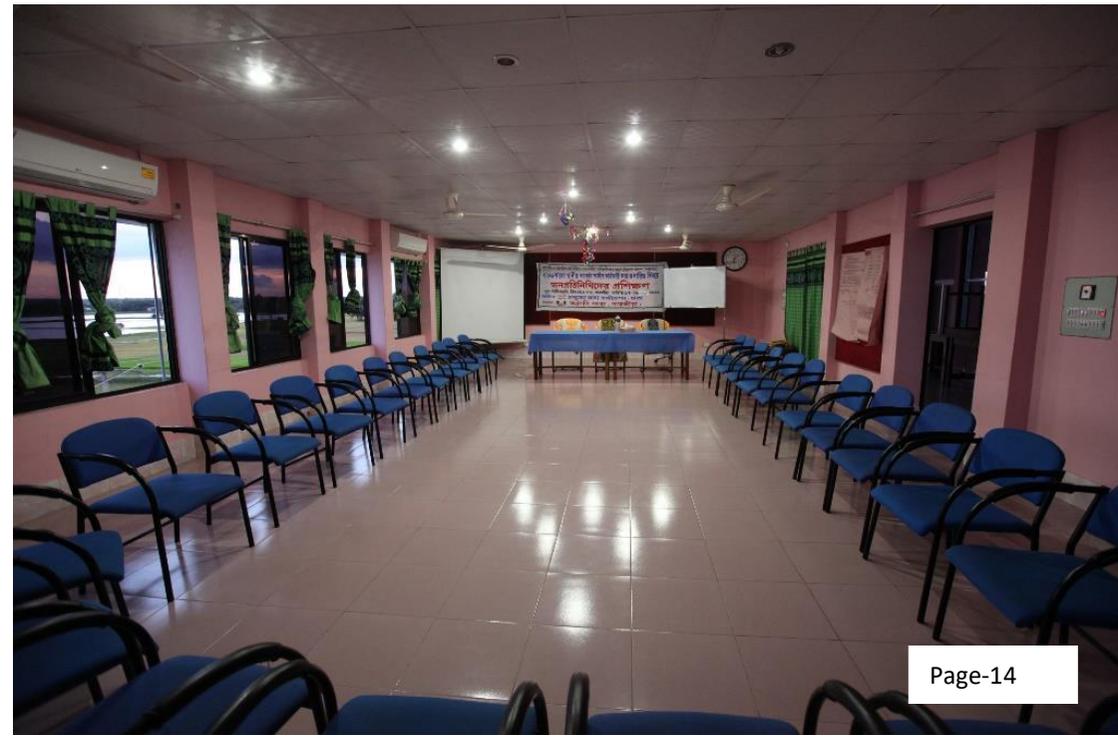
PTRC is surrounding by a protecting wall. We have highly trained up security guards all over the campus 24 hours.

Easy communication:

PTRC established by the side of high way where anyone can reach without hazard. That place is 3 KM distance from Satkhira district head quarter.

Research:

Practically supports are available here to research on climate change, shrimp farming and livelihood of indigenous people, agriculture and trafficking, good governance, child rights, education and WATSAN.



1.12 Adolescent Resource Centre (ARC)

“An initiative on socio-economic development for deprived adolescent girls.”

ARC is learning practical and livelihood improvement resource centre for sustainable development of underprivileged adolescent girls on reproductive health, continue education income generating and social dignity.

Geographical Area:

Village: Benadona, Union: Krishnanagor, Kaligonj and Satkhira.

Objectives:

- To improve knowledge and capacity to manage sexual reproductive health and rights of adolescent.
- To capacitated on different IGA trade to open their opportunities for future employment.
- To create a friendly environment where the adolescent will share their issues within their family and blooming their future with a favourable society.

Some initiatives by the Adolescent Resource Centre:

- Library
- Reading for children
- Physical diagnosis by an MBBS prescribing
- Medicine distribution
- Training on tailoring
- Packaging
- Increasing literacy rate
- Reflected it on their real lives practice
- Involved rate with income
- Generated innovative income sources
- Initiated cooperative income generating actions
- Adopted positive livelihood
- Decreased the rate of reproductive health & common diseases
- Raised awareness on physical cleanness and care taking of infants

- Decreased fotwa, social discrimination to women by religious or social leaders
- Jointly action against social problem will be raised
- Decreased the negative attitude of people belongs to lower cast
- Promoted positive attitude towards indigenious people
- Sports & cultural activities
- National & International day observations
- Follow-up
- Training on biological agriculture
- Cottage industries
- Invented life style education
- Inspired family in step to income
- Increased saving and purchases rate
- Computer training for adolescents



Staff Strength

SL	Types of staff	Male	Female	Total
1	Top level	7	5	12
2	Mid-level	20	12	32
3	Front level	37	29	66
4	Volunteer	78	45	123
Total		142	91	233

Office Locations:

Head Office:

Trishmile more, Nogarghata, Satkhira, Bangladesh.

Mobile: 01715-608864

E-mail: agrogoti9@yahoo.com and agrogoti@gmail.com

Web: www.agrogoti.org

Branch Offices:

1) Satkhira Branch Office

Cold storage More

Mill Bazara, Katia, Satkhira

Mobile: 01740940847

3) Practical Training and Resource Centre (PTRC)

Trishmile, Binerpota, Satkhira

Mobile: 01733050776, 01715608864

Email: ptrc.agrogoti@gmail.com

5) Kolaroa Branch Office

Hospital Road

Kolaroa, Satkhira

Mobile: 01729609059

2) Kaligonj Branch Office

South east side of Upazill Parishad

Kaligonj, Satkhira

Mobile: 01793143767

4) Adolescent Resource Centre (ARC)

Benodana, Krishnagar,

Kaligonj, Satkhira

Mobile: 01733002097

Email: arcagrogoti@gmail.com

6) Khulna Branch office

House no. 76/1, Islambagh Road

Raligate, Daulatpur, Khulna 9202

Mobile: 01719914531



2. Programs according To the Organization's Mandate

2.1 Establish Good Governance:

2.1.1

Name of the project : Strengthening Community Rights and Empowerment (SCORE)

Duration : 1st January 2019 to 31th December, 2021

Funded by : Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF)

Implemented by : Agrogoti Sangstha

Geographical Coverage : District: Satkhira

1. Upazila: Satkhira Sadar
2. Upazila: Kaligonj
3. Upazila: Kalaroa

Beneficiary's details: Number of total Beneficiaries: 14891

Direct Beneficiaries: 14121

Indirect Beneficiaries: 770

Total Budget: 2,58,64,358.00

Goal: Poor marginalized and vulnerable people enjoy better quality of life in a well governed institutional environment.

Social Safety-net			Drinking Water			Primary Health Care			Agriculture		
M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
744	1576	2320	212	255	467	3845	3755	7600	2070	965	3035

Fisheries			Livestock			IGA (Input)			Skills improvement training			Total Direct Beneficiary		
M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
						107	47	154	46	499	545	7024	7097	14121

Achievements:

1. We have provided emergency food support as COVID -19 support among the 405 deprived and marginalized families, about 30,37,500.00 (Thirty lac thirty seven thousand and five hundred taka). As well as we selected above 450 beneficiaries for providing IGA support among the marginalized families.
2. We have provided health & hygienic kits (face mask, sanitizer, soap) among above 1500 marginalized families in our working area.
3. We have engaged the local govt. officials at UP, UpZ and district level to ensure the rights of the deprived and marginalized people as a result the LGI and PSDA representatives are providing more quality service for the targeted people.
4. We have activated up SUF (citizen support group) at ward, UP, UpZ and district level as well as conduct meeting and training so community platform remain strengthened for their engagement in the governance process for the betterment of the marginalized people.
5. The organization continue the technical support to arrange regular activities of the LGIs to increase gradually to implement ward shava, fare safety net beneficiary selection, open budget, UDCCM, Standing Committee Meeting etc.
6. Social audit system has been developed and SUF members influenced to continue their voluntary social audit for ensuring qualitative service as a part of social accountability.
7. As a result of such kinds of intervention we found some marginalized people get benefits smoothly by the LGI and PSDA at our project area in some issues as their rights. The beneficiaries are given below:

Social Safety-net			Drinking Water			Primary Health Care			Agriculture		
M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
267	400	667	241	356	597	520	1927	2447	334	9	343

Fisheries			Livestock			IGA (Input)			Skills improvement training			Total Direct Beneficiary		
M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1	0	01	0	0	0	19	45	64	26	22	48	1408	2759	4167

Lesson Learn:

1. A lot of social excluded peoples are in local level. But they do not get social safety net facilities due to nepotism mentality of the UP representatives.
2. In such a pandemic period UP representatives are interested relief support rather than the right based activities.
3. The present elected UP representatives are not allow those SUF members to participate any program at UP/ward level under the organization's banner, who are interested to participate in the upcoming UP election.
4. In times of COVID -19 pandemic situations, people think more about their own safety than about their responsibilities, so we have to ensure social distance & hygienic environment to implement any programs or activities.

Case Study-1 (Ramprashad Released from Corona)

Ramprashad Das lives in the village named Sonabaria in Kalaroa upazila under Satkhira district. He is a person with physical disability and bear the expenses of four member family along with his wife and two sons. He runs a bicycle repairing shop with his younger son for his livelihood in front of the Sonabaria Sonar Bangle Degree College. He maintains his family smoothly with his poor income from the repairing shop. But the omnipotent COVID-19 did not hesitate to hurt the Rishi family of this disabled sage. Due to COVID-19 his earning remains down even he had to sell his repairing instrument, but that cannot save the end. In such a situation he had to close his repairing shop and started working as a day labour. But after few days it became impossible due to his disability.

During the potential beneficiary survey at June, 2020 of Agrogoti Sangstha he was enlisted. In September 2020, during the emergency food support by Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), Ramprashad Das was selected as direct beneficiary by the SUF & UP representative according to the disability criteria.

According to the distribution period, in September, October & November 2020 he received 7,500/= (seven thousand five hundred taka) as emergency COVID – 19 support. Receiving the money he spend a little amount for food and bought the cycle repairing instrument again with the rest and start the shop. He is able to earn above 200 – 300 taka per day and maintain his family smoothly again.

He recovered his lost by COVID-19 now. He expressed his hope that his small savings will be invested in enlarging his repairing shop. His future plan is to lead a prosperous life with dignity in the society through business prosperity. He thanked and showed gratitude to Agrogoti Sangstha and MJF for helping him to meet his expectations.



Case Study-2 (Who are Dignified with Human Service?)

The whole world affected by the pandemic of COVID-19 today. All the development programs have stopped, stopped the victories of vengeful vengeance and all kinds of muscular power. Worldwide consolation silence, the death marches all around. Helpless science on the one hand and the other hand the earth resound with the self-complacence revenge of guffaw. Self-arrogance of the artificial civilization trampled as helpless by the nature. Our beloved homeland Bangladesh is also severely affected by the pandemic.

Nevertheless there is no stopping the effort of survival and survival. We have seen the worldwide the rule – absorption, vengeance and the madness of playing the holy of blood on one hand and the other hand, loving humanity is in the merciful hands of a wide-ranging helper of worshipper.

This time it was not interrupted. Millions of humanity ignores the bloodthirsty Corona's bloodshot eye to the unemployed, desperate, helpless starving people with a pulse of help.

Such humanity has signed a love affair with the Fingri Union Porishad in Sadar upazila under Satkhira district. Observing such a pandemic situation UP Chairman call an urgent meeting with his all representatives and decided to build an emergency fund above 50,000 (fifty thousand taka). The worthy Chairman Md. Shamsur Rahman chaired of the committee. The committee decided to provide a relief package of with 5kg rice, 2kg potato, 1kg dal, 1kg salt and 1pice soap to 200 poor and deprived families. They thought that this support package is little but can be survive with their family member for two days. They expect observing their initiatives inspired others Ups and assiduously we can able to reach our peoples on the healthy and normal earth like before.

We hopefully expect this generous effort return us the genuine love of my mother, the endless golden smile of our children. We return our natural life and pure habitats.



Relief goods distribution among the marginalized people by the UP representative's

2.1.2

Name of the project : Advancing Women's Right of access to Information in Bangladesh.

Duration : February 2020 to September 2021

Funded & Supported by : The Carter Centre & USAID

Implemented by : Agrogoti Sangstha

Geographical Coverage :

SL	District	Upazilla	Name of union	Name of ward	Remark's
01	Satkhira	Satkhira Sadar	1. Brahmarajpur 2. Fingri	18	
		Kaligonj	1. Bisnupur 2. Kushulia	18	
		Shyamnagar	1. Iswashripur 2. Munshiganj	18	

Total Budget: BDT 54, 60,000/-

Goal: Create an enabling environment where women, especially Dalit and Marginalized are able to enjoy Right to information from government and non-government agencies for protecting their fundamental Rights.

Beneficiary Group Segregation:

Category of Benefit	Beneficiary category	Female	Male	Total
Empowerment on Right To Information	Dalit	1510	80	1590
	Disable	45	42	87
	Ethnic	128	7	135
	Widow	158	0	158
	Youth	92	90	182
	Marginalized	384	22	406
Total		2317	241	2558
Access to service through RTI	Beneficiary category	Female	Male	Total
	Dalit	156	11	167
	Disable	11	10	21
	Ethnic	32	1	33
	Widow	10		10
	Youth	23	22	45
	Marginalized	96	6	102
Total		328	50	378
Total Beneficiaries		2645	291	2936

Achievements:

- 72 Youth Key Informatics have been given three days of residential training with proper knowledge on RTI issues. They are working as a media to get information for grassroots level Dalit and marginalized females. So far, they have directly collaborated in various government services in the RTI application process. From September to December 2020, they have cooperated in a total of 34 RTI applications. They got 8 answers of RTI, and a total of 8 government services including Land Related 1, Widow Allowance Card 4, and Maternity Allowance Card 2 have been earned through RTI application.
- All the departments of the Upazilla level have been informed about the RTI issue through the inception meeting at the Upazilla level.
- Training on RTI has been imparted to 20 local organizations of Shyamnagar Kaligonj and Satkhira Sadar Upazilla. Those who use RTI through their respective organizations are also working for Dalit and Marginalized flame. Such as- Mohila Mission Sangstha, Suban Nagarik Jubo Sangha, Prarona Kaligonj.
- 72 youths from Shyamnagar Kaligonj and Satkhira Sadar Upazilla have been imparted on RTI training. With their help, the way to get the services of Dalit and marginalized women from various government service organizations is getting easier. As a result, women's quality of life is improving through access to information in RTI.
- Shyamnagar, Kaligonj, and Satkhira Sadar Upazilla of Satkhira district and government offices at the district level have been made gender-sensitive through virtual gender training. This training has been very meaningful for the AWRAIB project.
- 12 women's clubs at the grassroots level, 6 RTI women's cells at the union level, 3 RTI cells at the Upazilla level, and 1 RTI cell at the district level have been formed in 6 unions of Shyamnagar, Kaligonj, and Satkhira Sadar Upazilla. They are working for Dalit and Marginalized women at different times in collaboration with RTI Issues by accessing the government information.

Lesson Learn:

- Through the virtual gender training, the active participation of government officials at the Upazilla and district level and their views and cooperation on the Right to Information Act has increased. As a result, government departments are now responding to the issue.
- The quality of service of the government service providers has been enhanced through the inception meeting and interaction established with the project staff of the AWRAIB project.
- RTI has been given to 72 Youth Key Informants under the Right to Information Act (RTI). So, they are acting as a media of information for the grassroots level of Dalit and marginalized women. They are creating a movement in the society regarding the Right to Information Act and are also playing the role of a catalyst. With their help, the way to get the services of Dalit and Marginalized women from various government service organizations is getting easier. Women's quality of life is improving through access to information.

Case Story – 1 (Hedayetul Islam has been able to get his information by becoming a member of RTI cell)

Hedayetul Islam, Village-Jordia, Post-Bangda, 14 no Fingri Union, Upazilla-Satkhira Sadar, District-Satkhira. People of Muslim, Hindu, and Christian communities live here. Hedayetul Islam is a social worker. He works for the realization of human rights in many areas of society besides his own work. One such incident is that he applied to the Upazilla Land Office on 03.09.2019 to get some information about the market in his area. The information was- 1. How many (hat) markets are there in his union and how many legal shops are there in all those markets? 2. Whether there is a committee to allocate those shops, if any, list of committees. 3. Shop allocation policy.

He did not receive any reply from the Upazilla land office even after applying for this information. As a result, he appealed to the Upazilla Assistant Commissioner on 13.10.2019. He lodged a complaint with the Information Commission on 29.10.2019 as he did not get any remedy from there. He received a notification letter from the Information Commission on 18.01.2020 in response to the complaint. This is called for disposal through the Deputy Commissioner (DC). But as the matter was not settled even through the Deputy Commissioner, he again lodged a complaint with the Information Commission on 18.02.2020. Many incidents have already taken place. Hedayatul Islam was threatened by phone from the land office. He should not exaggerate the matter. After many more such incidents, he became silent for a while. Even after the government has passed such a beautiful law, they do not give information to the people due to the opacity of the service provider. In this trouble, he did not take any further action on the matter.

A few months later, on 22.08.2020, an RTI Upazilla cell was formed in Satkhira Sadar Upazilla under the AWRAIB project. Hedayatul Islam became a member of this cell. After becoming a member, he realizes that the power to work through a team is much greater than working alone. He again contacted the Information Commission on the matter. After that, on 17.11.20, the Information Commission took cognizance of the complaint and fixed the date of hearing through Zoom software. At the hearing, the Assistant Commission (Land) admitted its mistake and provided all the information as per the demand of Hedayatul Islam on 22.11.20. This has increased the desire to work for Dalit and Marginalized women in his area. So, they do not accept such harassment as him.

He thanked Agrogoti Sangstha and USAID and the Carter Centre, saying that if he had not been involved in this project, his appeal might have remained in the dark and there would be no solution. He is very happy that his application has been resolved by the Information Commission.

Case Story – 2 (Ruma Dashi got maternity allowance card by using RTI form)

Bazargram of Kushulia union in Kaligonj Upazilla of Satkhira district. Ruma Dashi lives in this village. She is a member of the grassroots level RTI club in Bazargram. After becoming a member of the project, she has a desire to work for the people of her community. After the formation of this club, quarterly meetings were held with them twice. At that meeting, women's rights to information were discussed in detail. She learned from the meeting that maternity allowances cards and various training were available from the Women's Affairs Office. She wants to get this allowance.

Due to that desire, she applied to the Kaliganj Upazilla Women's Affairs Office on 05.10.20 through RTI application, what to do to get maternity allowance. The women's affairs officer told her everything verbally. On her advice, Ruma Dashi contacted Sheikh Rafiqul Bari Rafu, a member of local government, Ward No. 01 of her union, on November 8, 2020. But the Up member first told her he had no card in his hand. Ruma Dashi then decided that she would apply to the Union Parishad in RT form for maternity allowance. After hearing the word, the Up member said that he would talk to Ruma Dashi about this later. On November 23, an Up member called Ruma Dashi to the union parishad and gave her a card, and saying she did not need to apply for RTI. Ruma Dashi is the only Dalit woman who has been able to earn a maternity allowance through a small step.

After receiving the card, Ruma Dashi said in her response that her courage had increased and that if the Agrogoti Sangstha had not been by her side, she would never have known what the right to information was. She will continue to work to provide government services to helpless women like her in society.

2.2 Human Rights

2.2.2

Name of the project : For Men and Women Who Have Escaped Trafficking (ASHSHASH)

Duration : 1st November, 2019 to 1st April, 2022

Funded & Supported by : SDC & Winrock International.

Implemented by : Agrogoti Sangstha

Geographical Coverage :

District-Satkhira	District-Khulna
1.Satkhira Upazilla 2.Tala Upazilla 3.Kaligonj Upazilla 4.Syamnagar Upazilla	Digholia Upazilla Fultola Upazilla Dumuria Upazilla , 4. Koira Upazilla Paikgacha Upazilla 6. City Corporation:Ward:1-16

Beneficiary's details:

SL	District	Target Beneficiaries	Indirect Beneficiaries
01	Satkhira	800	120,000
02	Khulna	750	120,000

Total Budget: BDT 14,100,000

Goal: To restore dignity, improve well-being and build self-sufficiency for men and women who have Escaped Trafficking.

Achievements:

1. Cooperative and networking relationship has been developed with DEMO, TTC, MoWCA, DYD, social welfare and other go-NGO service provider.
2. Effective partnerships have been developed with other organizations like CWCS, DAM, UCEP and Caritas.
3. The staffs are capacitated enough for counselling the survivors after getting training under Ashshash project from Nasirullah Psychotherapy Unit, Dhaka University.
4. The Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Kaligonj, Mozammel Haque Rasel (31Yrs) said that, when any organization come near to me for getting certification (CLA) then I recommended on the certificate that they have to take initiative for job placement. Finally he got impressed knowing that Agrogoti Sangstha has been taken initiative for job placement and socio-economic reintegration of the survivors through training and counselling under Ashshash project.
5. During the period, the number of 756 trafficking survivors have been identified (Satkhira: 388, Khulna: 368). Through need assessment, they are being provided skill development training and entrepreneurship training so that their socio-economic wellbeing process can be continued smoothly.

Lesson Learn:

- ✳ The regular communication and involvement with the intervention, the cooperative relationship is established with different service provider that have enhanced the referral services using MOU.
- ✳ The involvement of the local survivor, influential person and CTIP activist in the participant selection and event organization programme at the community level helped the event to be accomplished satisfactorily with ensuring community participation.
- ✳ The regular follow up, qualitative counselling and building trusty relationship with the survivors the trend of drop out is possible to reduce and accelerate the socio-economic reintegration process.

Case Study – 1 (When the misfortune did not leave, Shewli vowed to stand back on her own)**Primary Information:**

Mrs. Shewli Khatun, (Pseudonym) age 30 yrs. (ID: 625101), Village: Kushkhali, Satkhira Sadar. Duration of staying in abroad: 16 Days.

Shewli is the younger among the five sisters and two brothers. Now she is 30 yrs old. She lost her father three months earlier of her birth and lost her mother when she was 23 years.

She got married when she was 12 years old. She was continuing her family life with her husband and she gave birth to a child.

Background of Trafficking:

After few years her husband made relationship with another girl and divorced Shewli secretly. So she did not know anything about divorce. After ten days, her husband informed her and forced her to go back to her father's house. As in the meantime she lost her parents, she did not have any shelter. Then she took shelter near to her brother. During departure her husband kept the child with him. She became very helpless and alone.

However she was loitering here and there to get any scope to lead her life at least. Then she got a job in a hotel near to her residence. She got food and very few money from there. At that time, one woman often came to that hotel and made relationship with her. Once the women came to her and offered a good job in Saudi Arabia with 20,000 taka monthly salary. The woman also told her that, Shewli has to pay only 80,000 taka to get that job. Primarily she disagreed but when the women influenced her frequently then finally she agreed thinking to get relief from her vulnerable life. She took loan from local NGO (Samity) and relatives and paid the proposed amount.

Situation in Abroad:

On 17th November, 2018 she arrived to Saudi Arabia by air. After arriving there, showing the reason of documentation process, all the documents were seized from her. Then her new life was started as domestic worker where she had to work from 8 a.m. to 3 a.m. She tried to do the entire job properly. But gradually without sufficient sleeping and rest she became sick. Even due to any silly matter, the employer hurt her seriously and she became injured. They gave her food only half of bread in a day. She drank hot water to meet up her hunger. In the house there were lots of food but they did not give her more. There were lots of CC cameras, so all of her movements were being controlled continuously. They arranged her room beside the toilet and that place was very dark. The employer informed her that she will not get any salary because the broker already took money from them to send her. Moreover the employer tried to make her understand with an indication to make physical relationship with him and sometimes kept her in a room to get consent. He also proposed her to be engaged with the other guest of him with illegal physical relationship.

At that situation, Shewli screamed and cried. She requested catching his foot to send her back to Bangladesh. But he did not get convinced. She was thrown in the dark room. No one heard her screaming because in the desert there were no house near to her residence. Gradually she became sick and the employer left her in the recruiting office. But she did not have any money to buy air ticket. Then she was introduced with a Bangladeshi car driver and requested him to arrange her departure. The man talked with the employer and finally he arranged the air ticket.

Situation in country after return back:

Finally she arrived at the Dhaka Hazrat Shajalal International Airport. But again she faced problem as she didn't have any money with her. She sat in the airport weakly. Again she requested one to help her so that so that she can return back to Satkhira safely. Then the person took her responsibility and gave some materials to her and paid the travelling cost. Lastly on 3rd December, 2018 she returned back to her home. After returning back, she didn't have any residence. Then one of her neighbour supported to build a shed and the local mosque gave her two mats. The community people gave her one simple bedstead, one box and two vessels. During 2019 she got a brick build house from the government. Now she works as day labour and domestic worker. Before lock down due to Covid situation, her son returned back to her.

Shewli did not take care of her at all. She was in mental depression all the time when she was identified. She could not take any decision about her life. Most of the time, she was crying accusing against of her luck.

Support and Initiative from Ashshash:

The counsellor of Agrogoti Sangstha, Sirajum Monira took the case from special attention and tried to make relationship and building her trust. However through regular communication and counselling now Shewli has turned into the normal life with confidence. Now she can smile and try to wear clean dress when the counsellor wishes to meet with her. She could not recover the loan till now that she took for the purpose of going abroad.

In the meantime she became sick. Her Corona insurance is successfully done and supported her for her treatment through referral. During lockdown situation her last source of income was stopped. She afforded her food asking from the neighbour's.

Motivation to way forward:

Meanwhile with a provident consideration of Ashshash team she received 15000/= for the vulnerability due to Covid and Amphan. After receiving support she bought two goats. After getting ready to go for certification, she has completed Need Assessment on 29 and 30 September, 2020. She wishes to initiate a cloth business after getting entrepreneurship training.

Future Planning:

Now she deserves a new dream for new life with her son where she will establish her with education and get a dignified life with socio-economic solvency. After completion of training she wants to be a successful businessman.

Ability to take challenge and confidence for self-reliant:

She shared that her business attachment was started on 21st of November, 2020 and completed on 20 December, 2020. Now she is very much committed to start her own business. She also said that she will buy two goats and two cows beside the business. The TSP (MAWTS) has been processing to give her financial support to start her own business and it has been processing for loan support from the expatriate welfare bank. She has planned to establish her son from the profit of business and committed to lead a dignified life with socio-economic wellbeing. So finally it may explain in a sentence that, when the misfortune did not leave her, Shewli vowed to stand back on his own.

Case Study – 2 (Anjuara Begum wants to rise above all the criticisms of the society and take the responsibility of her family)

Primary information of the Survivor:

Anjuara Begum (Pseudonym). Age: 30 Years. ID No: 524240. Date of Identification: 5/8/2020, Duration of staying in abroad: 1 Month. Deara, Digholia, Khulna. Her husband's name is Abdul Mojeed Sheikh. He is a day labour. They live in Deara Village of Digholia Union under Digholia upazilla of Khulna District. Anjuara's education was stopped when she was in class five. Anjuara's father has been living in Bastuvita village under Senhati union of Digholia Upazilla. Anju has two brothers and three sisters. One of her brother is disabled. Another brother of her has been continuing a very small business. Her father worked in a jute mill. So he was facing a lot crisis to regulate his family expenditure with seven members. Thus she could not continue her education more. When she was reading in school her present husband annoyed her often. So to solve the problem and skip the social criticism, her parents married her with that boy when she was thirteen years old. Her husband was working as a day labour to the other field. Anjuara has only two decimal lands. They have two children and they have been studying in school.

History of trafficking:

Anjuara was facing very difficulties to afford the expenditure of the family as her husband earns very little income. Most of the cases they were passing their lives hands to mouth. She was thinking very deeply that if she can arrange more land and create alternative source of income then she can run her family smoothly with happiness. In the meantime, observing the financial progress of her niece Monira, she decided to go abroad to purchase a piece of land and an engine van. Monira introduced her with a broker named Morzina who was living to the other part of the river in their area. As a part of discussion, Anjuara gave thirty thousand taka to Morjina. From the dream of going to abroad she became excited. She thought that if she could go to abroad she will be able to afford all the expenditure and build a house for their family. She will be happy when she will be able to make her husband self-sufficient. She thought that on that situation her husband will be able to search more source of income with her initiative. Anju gave more money to Morjina for the purpose of preparing passport, visa and some to her relevant documents. Then Morjina sent Anjuara to Fojilatunnesha Technical training center, Dhaka for one month technical training and she completed that. Anjuara learned language and different items to cook from the training. In the meantime the broker completed her visa, passport and medical. After completion of training Anjuara travelled for Dhaka one week later from her village home Deara with her husband and arrived at Dhaka early in the morning to the next day. On the same day she travelled from Dhaka airport at 7pm and arrived at Dubai airport at midnight. After waiting for two hours, her employer came to her and brought her with him. Anjuara begum became sick doing hard work.

She knew that she has to work as waiter. But she was forced to engage in the works like home cleaning, cloth washing, laundry and lots of domestic work. She had to work for twenty hours. She could not eat their food. She was feeling nauseate. They engaged her in the work in different house of their relatives. Before departure the agency and the broker said that she will get 20,000 taka monthly salary. But she did not get any salary around one year. When she asked the salary they assaulted her and misbehaved with ugly language. The children was also usually beat her without any reason. The employer took off all of her documents including passport showing the purpose of visa processing. Finally it became difficult for her to tolerate the work load after physical and mental torturing and she became sick. But they did not arrange any treatment for her. At this stage, Anjuara begum informed to the employer that she will not continue work further without salary. But they refused to pay her. Becoming sick and without salary, she was crying always. Then, the employer firstly forced on her. However to the next he was convinced to arrange her air ticket but they did not pay her salary at all.

After arriving at Dhaka airport she did not have money to return back to Khulna. Then she got a recognized person in the airport and took lend and returned back to her village in Khulna.

The present situation of Anju after returning back:

Now the present situation of Anju is more vulnerable. The community people and her neighbours are enjoyed to criticize her. So initially she was feeling better to confined her in the house. But after getting regular counselling now she is more confident and don't consider the criticize more. Even the family have a positive reflection on their behavioural attitude after counselling and they have been playing cooperative role with her. Her husband works as night guard to the Daulatpur launch ghat and gets 5000 taka salary per month. They don't have any more source of income. Meanwhile she took a job in a private clinic. Due to some of laws and regulation she left the job and now she has been facing more difficulties and vulnerability in her daily lives and has been searching for better working opportunities.

Some examples of working in the society:

Anjuara is very cooperative and committed in the society. She feels very disgraceful to live depending on the other people. She believes that all of her difficulties will remove soon. She is very confident to overcome the challenges in the coming days. Now the relationships with the neighbours has developed and they play a cooperative role by staying beside her. In the meantime she referred six survivors to Agrogoti Sangstha for verification and enrolment. Then counselling has been running for them and the need assessment is completed for some of them.

Ability to take challenges:

The survivors those who were referred by her, among them two of survivors were in the threat to be dropped out. She also took that type of challenges. Anjuara met with them and discussed with their family members about the positive impact of their involvement with the project. Finally she became succeed to enrol them again with the project. Now Anjuara lives in a small room with her husband and children. In the meantime her husband processed to give marry to her daughter.

But Anjuara stopped the child marriage strictly. Her husband was also decided to stop her education. Then she convinced him initiated alternative ways like discussion with the teacher to reduce the tuition fees and education support.

Commitment for self-sufficiency and future plan:

Now she believes that she has good understanding and relationship with her family members. Anjuara said that through regular counselling, her mental stress has been removed and she is now more confident to take challenges for new life.

She wants to establish a farm after getting training with the help of Agrogoti Sangstha. She thinks that she will be able to meet up the family expenditure and afford the educational expenses of her children when she will continue the farm successfully.

Services under Ashshash project:

She did not get any emergency financial support directly from the project. She got health support (Tk.190) for the referral purpose. After getting counselling services and ready to go certification, she participated in the need assessment on 8th and 9th of November, 2020 at UCEP, Khulna. She received 5 counselling sessions. To the first session her GHQ score was 8 and to the last session her GHQ score was 03. On 15th of December, 2020 she participated to the skill development training on garments machine operation and dress making trade at UCEP Khulna. She is very much eager to get the opportunity of job placement. She is very much confident that if she get any link and facilities from the project, in any way she will turn her life ensuring her socio-economic wellbeing with taking proper initiatives. Now she always dreams and have been trying the best to be successful in life. Therefore she will be able to contribute to her family for better livelihood. She is very thankful to Agrogoti Sangstha for the enrolment in the project and the projection of new dignified life that she deserves.

Ability to take challenges:

The survivors those who were referred by her, among them two of survivors were in the threat to be dropped out. She also took that type of challenges. Anjuara met with them and discussed with their family members about the positive impact of their involvement with the project. Finally she became succeed to enrol them again with the project. Now Anjuara lives in a small room with her husband and children. In the meantime her husband processed to give marry to her daughter. But Anjuara stopped the child marriage strictly. Her husband was also decided to stop her education. Then she convinced him initiated alternative ways like discussion with the teacher to reduce the tuition fees and education support.

Commitment for self-sufficiency and future plan:

Now she believes that she has good understanding and relationship with her family members. Anjuara said that through regular counselling, her mental stress has been removed and she is now more confident to take challenges for new life. She wants to establish a farm after getting training with the help of Agrogoti Sangstha. She thinks that she will be able to meet up the family expenditure and afford the educational expenses of her children when she will continue the farm successfully.

Services under Ashshash project:

She did not get any emergency financial support directly from the project. She got health support (Tk.190) for the referral purpose. After getting counselling services and ready to go certification, she participated in the need assessment on 8th and 9th of November, 2020 at UCEP, Khulna. She received 5 counselling sessions. To the first session her GHQ score was 8 and to the last session her GHQ score was 03. On 15th of December, 2020 she participated to the skill development training on garments machine operation and dress making trade at UCEP Khulna. She is very much eager to get the opportunity of job placement. She is very much confident that if she get any link and facilities from the project, in any way she will turn her life ensuring her socio-economic wellbeing with taking proper initiatives. Now she always dreams and have been trying the best to be successful in life. Therefore she will be able to contribute to her family for better livelihood. She is very thankful to Agrogoti Sangstha for the enrolment in the project and the projection of new dignified life that she deserves.

2.2.2

Name of the project : Sustainable Intervention to Prevent Human Trafficking and to Promote Safe Migration Project-SUSTAIN

Duration : 1st May, 2015 to 28th February, 2021

Funded & Supported by : USAID & Winrock International.

Implemented by : Agrogoti Sangstha

Geographical Coverage

SI	District	Upazilla	Union
01	Satkhira	Satkhira	Kushkhali, Brammarajpur, Alipur, Fingri, Shibpur, Ghona, Bolli
		Kalaroa	Langgoalzhara, Koila, Keragachi
		Shyamnagar	Vurulia, Nurnagar
		Kaligonj	Moutala, Tarali, Nalta, Kishnanagor, Binsnupur, Kushleya, DakhinSripur
02	Khulna	Rupsha	GhatBhog, TSB (Tilok Solpo Bahirdia), Aichgati, Noihati, Srifaltola
	District: 2	Sub-District: 5	Union: 24
Area Coverage through community radio in Satkhira & Khulna			
03	Satkhira (Radio Nalta)		

Beneficiary's details: 10, 78,854 (Ten lac Seventy Eight Thousand Eight hundred fifty four only).

Total Budget: 2,02,06,274/= (BDT)

Goal: Prevent human trafficking and promote safe migration to establish safer and better life.

Achievements:

1. During the period, 171 trafficking at risk and Child Marriage at risk have received services under referral mechanism from Union parishad and other relevant go-NGO service delivery agencies.
2. 17 Union CTCs under Satkhira, Kalaroa, Kaligoj, Syamnagar of Satkhira and Rupsha Upazilla of Khulna district allocated yearly budget for the period of 2020-2021 specified purpose of Human Trafficking Victim rehabilitation and conduction of monthly Union CTC meeting.
3. MOU has been signed with Agrogoti Sangstha, DEMO, TTC, Nalta Community Radio, Kaligonj, Sundarban Community Radio, Koyra, Khulna, DYD and some other organizations that enhanced services for the victims and at risk.
4. The data register update the activity about the information of outgoing, returnee and trafficking cases have accelerated at the Union level with the assistance of Peer leader, UDC, Village Police and CTC members.
5. Through pre-decision and pre-departure training, a visible demand is created among the potential and outgoing migrants to check their visa and review their decision. The trend of communication with Agrogoti Sangstha as well as DEMO is preferably raised.
6. The trends of taking local initiative for the prevention of human trafficking & Child Marriage and promotion of safe migration have observed significantly by the organized UDC, CTC members, students committee, marriage registrar and at least 120 peer leaders in the area.
7. 11 union CTC is conducting regular CTC meeting by their own initiatives.
8. Seven union CTC have been formed newly this year.

Lesson Learned:

- As a local structure the community people may interact easily with the CTC.
- The continual relationship with the peer leader, CTC member and other stakeholders will exist in the proactive initiative within the organizations and in the community as well.
- The activation of different stakeholders, change agent, CTC, peer leaders and functioning of referral mechanism added new value to the project and created as learning for the upward to identify the right way.
- The local initiator like peer leader have special value for ensuring sustainability from the theme of comprehensive action.
- The marriage registrar said that the declaration from the high court about illegality of marriage from notary public is not sufficient at all rather it is more important to circulate as punishable offense.
- When any step is taken to prevent child marriage then the parents bring their girls and boys to the other village or Union and finally accomplish the marriage hiding the information.
- The budget allocations in the annual budget of 17 Union CTC for the purpose of monthly CTC meeting and rehabilitation expenditure of the trafficking victims have added value from the purpose of CTC activation.

Case Study – 1 (Role of Langoljhara Union CTC to prevent Human Trafficking)

Lagoljhara union parishad is situated in Kalaroa Upazilla under Satkhira district and it is the south western part of Bangladesh.

Human trafficking is a global crisis and Bangladesh is one of the source countries as well as transit points for human trafficking. Every year thousands of people are trafficked out. So Human Trafficking is a problem of Bangladesh. As a non-government development organization (NGO) Agrogoti Sangstha is working for prevention of human trafficking and to promote safe migration for better life of human being by the support of USAID and WINROCK international. Since child marriage is a cause of human trafficking so human trafficking have to prevent by stopping child marriage. Langoljhara union is a border belt union of the district and human trafficking route also.

Since Langoljhara union is a border belt union and situated besides west Bengal of India so it was very difficult to stop cross border human trafficking. There were some influential persons who controlled border that is called "Ghat" and it was a challenge to prevent human trafficking.

The union parishad formed counter trafficking committee (CTC) to follow national plan of action (NPA). They also formed a core committee consist of 10 member. The CTC sits regularly. They update data register. Peer leader of the organization Md. Anawarul Islam is one of the CTC member of Langoljhara. He and other peer leader of the union conducted various types of programs like community meeting, pre-decision training, door to door campaign etc. to promote awareness on trafficking in person (TIP) and child marriage issue. Other member of the CTC like teacher, religious leader, word member also conducted awareness session on TIP and CM to prevent human trafficking of the area.

The CTC provided housing support, VGD, VGF, child card, widow allowance and maternity allowance to the TIP & CM victims and to at risk person and of their family. Department of social service (DSS) provided livelihood training and loan support to the TIP at risk person. The agriculture department provided seed, fertilizer and pesticide to the at risk farmer to prevent human trafficking and child marriage.

The chairman of the CTC published human trafficking issue in his citizen certificate format. The union parishad kept budget allocation in its yearly budget for CTC meeting and other cost. They always follow the Kalaroa upazilla CTC's instructions to prevent human trafficking and child marriage.

Due to operate various types of awareness programs on TIP and CM, most of the citizen of the union aware of human trafficking and child marriage issue. Most of the potential migrants know about the 10 steps of migration. As per their need, they collect information from UDC and DEMO to go abroad. Now human trafficking and child marriage rate is decreasing from the union.

Chairman of the CTC Mr. Nurul Islam is also a head teacher of a secondary school played a vital role to activate the union CTC. Member secretary of the CTC is also an important person. 12 word members, both male and female played important role. Other members of the CTC like peer leader, school and college teacher, religious leader, marriage register and elite person also had important role to active the CTC. Information entrepreneur of the concern UDC played a vital role to prevent human trafficking and child marriage. When people came to take citizen certificate, birth certificate and other certificate from UDC, information entrepreneur informed them about the safe migration process and bad effect of child marriage if and when need.

When a list of safety net services in a union was prepared because of the acceptance of peer leaders to the chairman, the chairman assigns the responsibility of preparing the list to some peer leaders. The peer leaders listed them who are in at risk and submitted it to the chairman.

Since Langoljhara is a border belt union, there are some influential person who controlled human trafficking syndicate. But local administration, CTC members, peer leaders are also alert on human trafficking and child marriage. So human trafficking and child marriage have been decreasing day by day.

Due to action of union CTC members and peer leaders of the union, potential migrants are going to UDC and DEMO office to collect necessary information. They are following the 10 steps of migration. Some of them are refraining from going abroad after calculating the profit and loss.

Since the people's republic of Bangladesh prepared a national plan of action (NPA) to prevent human trafficking and Agrogoti Sangstha is implementing a project by the support of USAID and Winrock international, the Langoljhara union parishad practicing and following the NPA and doing well.

If all the Union Parishad in the country can implement and practice NPA like Langoljhara Union Parishad, it is only a matter of time to stop human trafficking and child marriage from Bangladesh.

If anti-human trafficking and anti-child marriage culture is practiced in all spheres of society, if CTCs are activated, human trafficking and child marriage will be eradicated from the society forever.

Case Study – 2 (Peer leaders are working as volunteer in COVID-19 Situation)

The coronavirus has become a global pandemic. Bangladesh was not left out. Gift items have been distributed among the poor by various organizations in Langoljhara and Kreragachhi Unions of Kalaroa Upazilla of Satkhira District. Agrogoti Sangstha has distributed soaps and masks. BRAC has distributed food items. Our peer leaders of those union Md. Anowarul Islam, Md. Amirul Islam, Sabina Khatun voluntarily worked with them to maintain social distance in that time. Not only this, they also distributed leaflet related to coronavirus from house to house and put up posters in the area. Sabina Khatun also prepared vulnerable peoples' list of her own area and supplied it to BRAC for relief. BRAC also paid her Tk. 1500.00 as her honorarium. Peer leader Md. Anowarul Islam and Md. Amirul Islam of Langoljhara union have a volunteer group named *Prerona*. By collecting donations from the area through *Prerona* they have distributed food items among 20 poor family. Besides, Md. Anwarul Islam is running a campaign about corona virus in his union through multimedia. Peer leader of Brammharajpur union of Satkhira Sadar upazilla, Zahid Hasan is voluntarily making people aware about corona virus in the area on his own initiative. Peer leader of Bashdah union of Satkhira Sadar upazilla, Md. Safirul Islam is voluntarily spraying disinfectant in his own area to address corona virus. Peer leader of Brammharajpur union and information entrepreneur of Brammharajpur UDC of Satkhira Sador upazilla, Md. Rajob Ali with their friends distributed food items among 20 poor family by their own initiative. They are thinking that they will collect money from the rich and distribute food items among 100 poor family. Md Alauddin peer leader of Alipur union of Satkhira Sadar upazilla list down 15 poor family and sent it to Alipur union parishad for relief. The Alipur union parishad give them food items and soap as relief. Md Emdadul peer leader of Atulia union of Shyamnagar upazila of Satkhira district is a sincere and cooperate minded volunteer from the beginning. He has a blood donation group consist of 55 members. During CORONA virus this group distributed food items among 120 poor family by their own initiative. They hope to continue these activities.

If anti-human trafficking and anti-child marriage culture is practiced in all spheres of society, if CTCs are activated, human trafficking and child marriage will be eradicated from the society forever.

Case Study – 3 (Success of Peer leader to Stop Child Marriage)

Rupa Khatun (15 yrs) was a girl of Bagmara village of Noihati union of Rupsha upazilla under Khulna district. She reads in class 10. She is meritorious student. All of a sudden during study her father arranged her marriage. But she was not agreed of her marriage and informed it to her friend's circle.

Safia Akter (19 Yrs) was a peer leader volunteer of the Village of Bagmara of Noihati union of Rupsha upazila under Khulna district. She was aware of the harms of child marriage and also aware of the Child Marriage Resistant Act. She also work for prevention of human trafficking and stop child marriage in her own area.

Rupa's friends informed Safia Akter (peer leader) about the marriage of Rupa. Since Rupa was a child of 15 years so she take decision to stop Rupa's marriage. Peer leader Safia met with another peer leader Faizur and explained about the situation. They decided to meet with Rupa's father. According to that Peer leader Safia, peer leader Faizur and Rupa's friends circle together met with Rupa's father. They try to explain harms of child marriage. They said that after marriage, Rupa's education will stop. But one of his words is that he will marry his daughter to the boy of his choice. Seeing no way out, the peer leaders and Rupa's friends met together with local UP member Ilyas Sheikh (45 Yrs.) to stop Rupa's marriage. They explain all the facts to him. After listening their speech UP member Ilyas Sheikh met with female up member Rina Parvin and another 2 local influential person and explained of the decision of Rupa's father about her marriage. Not waste of time, they together met with Rupa's father to stop Rupa's marriage. They explained the harms of child marriage and child marriage resistant act but he was rigid of his word. When they failed to stop Rupa's father from his decision then they decided to inform local administration.

UP members and their group informed it to the local police station. Immediately OC sent police to the spot. Rupa's father got afraid when he saw the police. He realized his mistake and promised not to give his daughter a child marriage. In this way peer leaders stopped the Rupa's marriage and at present Rupa is going to school regularly and continuing her study.

If local government and local administration together help the peer leaders (volunteer) to stop child marriage then child marriage will be reduced immediately from the country.



2.2.3

Name of the project : Preventing Extremism through Active Community Engagement (PEACE) Consortium

Duration : October 2019 to December 2021

Funded & Supported by : Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) & Rupantar

Implemented by : Agrogoti Sangstha

Geographical Coverage : All the unions under Sadar, Assasuni, Tala, and Kalaroa Upazilla of Satkhira district and Satkhira and Kalaroa municipalities.

Beneficiary's details:

- The total number of direct beneficiaries is 51,656 and among them 18,543 females and 33,113 males.
- Indirect beneficiaries is 3, 40,851 and among them 1, 19,298 female and 2, 21,553 male.

Total Budget: 1,72,33,900/=

Goal: Communities resilience to Violent Extremism gets strengthened.

Achievements:

- 51 planned peace clubs were formed with the participation of 1071 young people including 419 women and 652 men. The peace club aims to promote youth engagement in the issue of community concern and preventing violent extremism.
- 51 peace club conducts their functioning meeting quarterly and ensuring active - effective engagement of the club members on relevant activities to themselves and their respective community.
- Through 153 Support youth Action Regular stimulation of Peace Club to engage communities with an enhanced sense of belonging and confidence resulting in resilience to VE agenda total beneficiaries direct male 31042, female 18177 and indirect male 109042 female 68693.
- Dialogue among Law & Order Committee and Peace Club Members with the participation of 75 including women 26 and 49 men Share the idea and activities to develop a sharing mechanism to ensure coordinated action for preventing VE.
- International Peace Day Observation By campaigning the significance of International Peace Day among the people of the community, they will realize the importance of Peace, tolerance. Total Direct Male 12400 and Female 5800 involved.
- Though interfaith dialogues faith-based representative and peace club representative committed to taking action to promote peace and harmony in their respected community, total direct participants male 147 and female 58.
- Though Dialogue among Peace Club, Community, and Local Authority Develop a sharing mechanism among community members for promoting constructive social milieu as they represent their interest against VE total participants, male 776 And female 373.
- By Intra Educational Institution Debate Competition Targeted students became aware of their role in preventing violent extremism within the student community, total direct male 793, female 907 and indirect male 2166, female 2170
- Development of Psycho-social Support Group, Creating a platform in the community to confirm a stronger and more positive sense of self-worth for the youth, contributing to strengthening resilience to radicalization led VE total participant 100 that includes male 64 and female 34.
- Engaged a total of Peace Club Members 684 that includes (Male-396 & female- 288) involved in the Life skill training for peace club members to develop Youth will able to cope with various situations in life, improve their quality of life, strengthen their mental strength, find solutions to problems and play a role in building a tolerant and resilient society against VE.

Lesson Learn:

- Implementation of action plans to contribute to the youth members' leadership skills.
- Social action allows young people to connect with their peers, build networks, and increase their sense of social activity, which helps achieve project goals.
- Dialogue with the community and local authorities has created its own space for youth. There they can raise their voice, which will reflect their interest.
- Local authority Collaboration with, community and local youth by sharing knowledge and resources they can be better serve their people and protect them from the influences of extremists.

Case Story – Spreading Social Cohesion through youth

Agardari is an Indian border union in Sadar Upazilla of the Satkhira district. The union is the largest in terms of area. People of different religions have been living here peacefully for a long time. But a few years ago, a special political party based on religion began to crack down on believers of other religions to establish their ideology. As a result, the human rights of other political and religious people of the town were violated. Orthodox fundamentalist groups are bound to express themselves like people of other ideologies.

In this situation, the activities of the Peace Consortium project started in that union. The members of the Union-based Peace Club started their activities. The 21-member Peace Club consists of 13 male members and 8 female members. Kulsum Khatun, a female member of the Peace Club, was unanimously nominated as the chair of the Club. Under her leadership, Agardari Peace Club started spreading the message of peace and harmony. At the beginning of the activities of the Agardari Union Peace Club, some orthodox people in the area did not take their activities lightly. They continue to make negative comments about the activities of the Peace Club. But the members of the Peace Club did not give up and continued to work to achieve their goals.

Peace Club members, especially Saiduzzaman, Maiduzzaman, Ali Hossain, Roni Kamal, Shariful, and other members of the Peace Club, through courtyard meetings, to raise awareness about violent extremism, among the people of the community, especially women. They teach people that there is great happiness in keeping people of all faiths together. Harmony and an amicable environment take the society and the country forward. On the other hand, orthodoxy and fundamentalism push socially backward. In the aftermath of this, the members of the Peace Club carried out programs like awareness miking against extremism and pro-peace in the union through human bonding. Ordinary people spontaneously participate in these programs. To the common man, the members of the Peace Club emerged as messengers of peace. In the past, where it was almost impossible to speak out in public, Peace Club members have raised awareness among the general public.



Abdur Rahman, a 30-year-old social worker from the area, said, *"I believe such activities of the youth will play a positive role in building a peaceful and amicable society by keeping people away from extremism. I think this platform formed by the youth will play an important role in establishing peace in society. I hope that the success of the Peace Club will continue"*.

Inspired by the activities of the Peace Club, Afraid Hossain, 20, a young man from the area, said: *"The main target of extremist groups is the youth. So to protect our youth from extremists, we need to make people aware of all levels of society"*.

Amena Begum, 45, a housewife in the area, said: *"We didn't know much about extremism or violence before. Peace Club members raise awareness about extremism through courtyard meetings in our area and provide ideas on how to protect our children from extremism. I want more young people to join them and take this kind of work forward. "*

All expressed hope that the activities of the Peace Club formed under the Peace Consortium project would play an important role in building a tolerant society and country.



2.3 Promoting Child Rights

2.3.1

Name of the project : Sexual Exploitation of Children Online and in Travel and Tourism (SECOTT)

Duration : 1st January 2019 – 31st December 2019.

Funded & Supported by : Terre des Hommes & Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK)

Implemented by : Agrogoti Sangstha

Geographical Coverage :

District	Upazila	Union
Satkhira	Satkhira	1. Labsha 2. Agardari 3. Jhawdanga 4. Brammarajpur 5. Municipality 1-5 wards.
	Kaligong	1. Krishnanagor 2. Bishnopur 3. Moutala

Beneficiary's details:

Children who are the victim of sexual exploitation, Children at risk, Child rights defender forum, parents group are the direct beneficiaries of this project. ICT service providing organization, local govt., journalist association, law enforcement agency, district administration, and policy makers, regional and national child rights network, educational institution are indirect beneficiaries.

Direct Beneficiaries: 3007

Indirect Beneficiaries: 4015.

Total Budget: 15,81,967/=

Goal: The overall goal of the project is to protect children from online sexual exploitation and in travel and tourism, visualizing the issue at national and international level through research, advocacy and awareness.

Achievements:

- The local people are working together and engaged in such activities (Child Sexual Harassment through Online) through the Agrogoti Sangstha and collaborating with the Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK).
- At the present time, members of the Child Rights Defender Forum sit in tea stalls and discuss with neighbouring about the child sexual harassment or sexual abuse.
- Members of the Child Rights Defender forum are raising awareness by organizing court yard meetings in their own initiative about child sexual harassment.
- Upazilla education officer expressed their determination to work on the matter in their respective positions.
- Upazilla education officer expressed from determination to work in their respective position to increase awareness of safe internet access. As a result, he distributes awareness on use Safe Internet Guidebook in every secondary school. The guide book is being taught in all secondary school in Satkhira Sadar Upazilla.

- Union Parishad promised that they will discuss prevention of sexual exploitation of children through the misuse of the Internet in their monthly and various type of meeting.
- People have learned about some of the punishment for child rights Act, 2013, Digital Security Act 2018, pornography control laws 2012.
- The Brammharajpur Union Parishad did take initiatives to stop the Internet serving shops in Maskhola Bazar from loading any bad picture on children's mobile memory.
- Especially mothers came to know about child sexual abuse prevention in the grassroots level as a result of meetings on the topic of child sexual abuse prevention through the Internet.
- The Brammharajpur Union discussed the issue of eradication of children through their monthly meetings.
- Safe Internet Use Guidebook was being taught with the utmost importance in the students of all classes in the school.
- CRDF members was discussing child sexual abuse issues through Facebook with tea stall and community people.
- Upazilla education officer himself followed up through Rajnagar RJ Secondary School and Labsha Imadul Haque School to see if the Safe internet use Guidebook was being taught.
- Through the talk show awareness had been raised to prevent internet abuse at the community level.
- The education institution and the school management committee had been very vocal about child abuse.
- Through cultural events, initiatives have been taken to raise awareness among the community about child sexual harassment or sexual abuse.
- Court yard meetings were underway to prevent child sexual abuse online through various neighbourhoods' in the work area.
- The people and the community level had been taken initiatives to raise awareness through cultural events

2.3.2

Name of the project: GROW school project

Duration: January 2020 to December 2024

Total budget: 46,90,827/=

Funded by: Global Learning, Sweden

Implemented by: Agrogoti Sangstha.

Geographical coverage: Krishnonagor Union, Kaligonj upazilla under Satkhira District.

Beneficiaries: 300 underprivileged students.

Goals: Access to all in quality education.

Objectives:

- Children whose house are away from the govt. school and they wouldn't goes to school regularly, ensure their education through the learning centres.
- Support to the weak students for ensure their education equally.
- Give tuition support to the secondary level students in the afternoon for ensure quality education.

2.3.3

Name of the project : Capacity Building of Adolescents through Information Technology Project.

Duration : 2020 - 2021.

Funded & Supported by : Bangladesh NGO Foundation

Implemented by : Agrogoti Sangstha

Geographical Coverage :

District	Upazila	Union
Satkhira	Kaligonj	1. Krishnanagor 2. Bishnopur 3. Moutala

Beneficiary's details: Adolescent are the primary stakeholder of this project.

Total Budget: 3,00,000/=

Goal: To contribute to developing a digitalized future generation by ensuring ICT opportunities for the deprived rural level adolescents.

Achievements:

- 224 Adolescent have received computer training.
- 26 Adolescent girls received free swing machine
- 43 Adolescent are self employed
- 25 Adolescent girls received reproductive health training
- 25 Adolescent received mobile servicing training.



2.4 Climate Change and Adaptation:

We have conducted advocacy activities with the government so that the government mark the coastal belt area as a disaster prone vulnerable area. Also our purpose was to inform government about the devastating consequences of disasters which are - water logging, internal migration, infrastructural destruction etc. One of the biggest problem of this area is that the embankment is very weak and therefore it collapsed when there is any disaster. So many area go under water and people migrate internally which also increases the density in upazilla and district level. We also give emergency support through our ongoing project contingency plan. The projects which covers these activities are given below –

1. **PEACE Consortium Project Emergency Response** - We have created 51 youth clubs under this project. We have trained 21 youth in each club on disaster response. During Covid-19 they provided hygiene kits to 5100 families and as well as aware those families about Covid-19.

Cyclone Amphan Response –

- They conducted rescue activities.
- They repaired the damaged embankment.
- They provided emergency food support by creating linkage with local government.
- They also conducted awareness activities including publicity, going door to door etc.



2. SCORE Project Emergency Response –

We have created 126 ward level emergency response committee under this project. We have trained 17 community people in each committee on disaster response. During Covid-19 they provided hygiene kits to 2600 families and as well as aware those families about Covid-19.

Covid-19 & Cyclone Amphan Response –

- We provided monthly 2500 taka as emergency food support to 405 families for 3 months through this project. Total cost was 30, 37,500 taka.
- We rehabilitated the affected 187 families for cyclone Amphan by creating entrepreneurship through skill development training. Also we supported 7500 taka to each affected family for starting their own venture.



3. ASHSASH Project Emergency Response -

Under this project, we have supported people who have been victimized different time in the society.

Cyclone Amphan Response –

- We provided support with an amount of 37, 08,156 taka to 516 families through this project.
- We also provided skill development training to help them creating entrepreneurship.
- We have created job placement for 36 trained people in different companies.



2.5 Health Rights

2.5.1

Name of the project : Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health Education through Exchange Expertise

Duration : 1st April, 2019 – 31st July, 2022

Funded & Supported by : Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation (Norec)

Implemented by : Agrogoti Sangstha

Geographical Coverage:

SL	Organization	Location	Description
1	Agrogoti Sangstha	Bangladesh	Coordinating partner
2	Aawaaj	Nepal	Partner
3	Right Track	India	Partner

Beneficiary's details:

- Staff and volunteers of the partner organizations
- Adolescents
- Women and men
- Parents of Adolescents
- Selected community members

Total Budget: BDT 57, 58,160/=

Goal:

- The staff of partner organization have increased their depth of knowledge and proper deliberation skills on the issues of menstrual hygiene management, puberty changes of adolescents and sexually transmitted infections.
- Partner organizations have been capacitated on documentation skill and developing training module on the issues of social taboos, menstrual hygiene management, puberty changes and sexually transmitted infections.
- The reference community has been leading safer life with proper preventive education on menstrual hygiene management, puberty changes of adolescent and sexually transmitted infection along with breaking the social taboo.

Achievements:

- Three separate training modules have been prepared and ToT training for 60 staffs and volunteers have been provided according to the prepared modules in all three partner organizations.
- Documentation skill development trainings have been conducted for 60 staffs in all three partner organizations.
- The participants along with the staff have started organizing community level trainings, workshops and sharing meetings in the reference communities.
- The prepared modules have been acknowledged by various teachers, professors, government health officials and have been put to application by local NGOs.
- The participants have been able to learn good practices and cultures from the host community as well as share some of their good practices and cultures.

Learnings:

- The reference community is concerned about their wellbeing and appreciates such types of awareness programs.
- Some community members are aware but a lot of them still don't fully understand the risks of poor menstrual hygiene practices.
- The males of the community are slowly understanding that the issue doesn't concern only females but everyone in the family.

Success story:

When the participants conducted an initial assessment of the staff of Agrogoti Sangstha, they found that most of them had not received any training on MHM and had not worked on the community regarding this issue. After the participants prepared a training module and conducted the ToT training on the issue, the staff and volunteers of the organization have a better understanding of the issue and feel that they can work on the community with better ease and efficiency. Some volunteers are taking self-initiatives and conducting programs like street drama and wall paintings on the community to increase the awareness among the people.

The staff who have received the training have started to organize training and sharing meetings in the community and facilitate the sessions themselves. They feel that the training provided through the project was very necessary for them. They seem very confident and are able to deliver factual information to the community. In doing so they have been able to tackle the social taboos and initiate discussion on a topic that is otherwise considered private not talked about freely. A male volunteer said, this topic was considered not necessary to be known by the males and was assumed an issue that is exclusively female. However, after receiving the training, I have come to realize that this issue concerns males as much as it does females. Especially in a community like ours where most females are financially dependent on the males. The males can help their family members and friends if they are aware and sensitized.'

Strengthening organizational capacity

3.1 Capacity Building

Agrogoti Sangstha is committed to develop the organizational capacity as well as build up staff capacity of the staffs all over the year.

The organization develop plan and implement the action for capacity building due to enlarge organizational works and provide the service of the beneficiaries.

The organization believes that without the organizational and staff capacity building, the target could not be achieved. For that, the organization has taken initiatives to build up capacity of the staffs. During the reporting year the organization delivered or arranged training for the relevant staffs from different sources and donors in house, domestic even from abroad such as NEPAL, USA, INDIA on issue based training.

Action for organization building:

- Contact with VSO and recruiting international volunteer to improve the documentation and communicating system organization.
- Arrange internal review meetings and session for evaluation, document development and policy development.
- Sharing the activities with the national and international organization.

Staff capacity building:

- Create training conduction options for the staff by using own training centre.
- Provide training to the staff at the new project starting period, after new recruitment and during the project intervention period as per demand of program division.
- Agrogoti Sangstha is regularly present to follow training organized by other organizations and development partners
- Agrogoti Sangstha searches for trainings to educate the staff
- Agrogoti Sangstha provides training itself to the staff

Agrogoti Sangstha deutes the staffs to share their experience in the country and abroad.

3.2 Partnerships

Current Development Partners

- Manusher Jonno Foundation & DFID
- German Development Cooperation (GIZ)
- Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)
- AIN O Salish Kendra (ASK)
- Terre Des Hommes
- Winrock International (USAID)
- NOREC
- RUPANTAR
- Bangladesh NGO foundation (BNF)
- Winrock International (SDC)
- Global Learning Sweden
- NORAD & Minority Rights Group Europe

Previous Development Partners

- ITVS International
- Acid Survivors Foundation (A.S.F.)
- Bangladesh Freedom Foundation (BFF)
- The Dawalka Foundation (TDF)
- German Embassy
- Unitarian Service Committee of Canada in Bangladesh (USCC-B)
- *International Organization Of migration (IOM)*
- *ATSEC Bangladesh Chapter*
- *German Technical Corporation (GTZ)*
- *Action Countrie La Faim (ACF)*
- *South west Information forum for Transformation (SWIFT)*
- *NGO Forum*
- *MoWCA and Unicef*
- *Save the Children International*
- *Action Aid Bangladesh*
- *International Citizen Service (ICS)*
- *BRAC*
- *ANSA*
- *Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO)*
- *Partnership for Transparency Fund (PTF)*
- *Relief International*

Networking Partners:

- Member – Sunderbon sub –cluster
- Lead Organization – Satkhira Development Forum (SDF)
- General Secretary – Self-help Promotion Khulna Divisional network
- Member – Campaign to work with boys and men – A network in Bangladesh
- Member – South West Information Forum for Transformation (SWIFT)
- Member – Election Working Group
- Member – Governance Coalition Forum

Collaborative relation with Government

- Member of District Acid Control Council
- Member of District Legal Aid Committee (DLAC)
- Member of District Trafficking Taskforce Committee (DTTC)
- Member of District NGO Coordination Committee.
- Member of Skill Development Committee of District Women Affairs
- Member of Trafficking Prevention Committee

3.3 Advocacy

Agrogoti Sangstha has been playing advocacy role at the local and national level through the existing activities. The organization some time advocacy with the Government and its departments directly and sometimes provides support as the partners for the national level advocacy. Agrogoti Sangstha tries to replicate the best practice by other institutions through the advocacy. Last year Agrogoti Sangstha has taken many actions for advocacy at local national level.

Actions of local level advocacy:

- Developed community platform "Samajik Uddog Forum" at ward, union and upazilla level and "Social Protection Forum" at union, upazilla and district level for advocacy with the local service delivery institutions.
- Social auditing and dialogue with the concern departments for more activation and better service.
- Interact with the local government institutions for adopting the social auditing tools and practice.
- Play active and vital role as the member of Government committee for implementation the rules properly

Actions of national level advocacy:

- Play as the partner for developing and presentation of the draft law on Child Rights Policy of Child Domestic Workers.
- Participate in national level LG activities related advocacy activities