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## 2023 GNB Annual Report

Published by

## **Good Neighbors Bangladesh**

Designed by

### Md. Al-Imran Monju

Communication Team
Partnership Development Unit

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Photo

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# Country Director's Message

Dear Partners, Participants, Colleagues and Well-wishers,

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for being with Good Neighbors Bangladesh in the journey of 2023 filled with hard work, dedication, collaboration, and new partnerships! We remain humble and grateful to our Almighty God for the unwavering blessings in the hard times.

We are delighted to build a new partnership in 2023 with the Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh to work together in the disaster-prone Southern part of Bangladesh through Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects.

This year, through the Seminar on Quality Education, we created open opportunities, in the fields and capital city, for parents, teachers, educationists, policymakers, and text-book authorities, to build shared values on the status of the country's quality of education. Also, we are happy to cooperate again with SAMSUNG C&T to improve the quality of ICT-based education in Bangladesh.

Besides, GNB has stepped into another year of creating safe shelters, and disaster resilience in the community through three different Projects with Special Programs (PSPs). Especially, in the northern and southern parts of Bangladesh, we enabled the community to reduce the disaster risks catalyzing women's empowerment and making disaster alternative livelihood. Also, GNB 21 co-operatives received 16 awards from the Government of Bangladesh including 3 Divisional awards and 3 Joyeeta awards at the Upazila level, recognizing women's empowerment.

December 2023 was marked with our special interventions through nutritious food, dignity kits, notebooks, winter clothes, emergency food security, and other essential goods for the vulnerable community along with project funds for the local initiatives and Community-centric Resilience Approach for DRR (CRAD).

We are thankful to GN GPC, GN Korea, GN Japan, UNICEF, UN WFP, UN Volunteer, the Japan Government, the NGO Affairs Bureau of Bangladesh, and all our national and international partners for keeping faith in GNB and staying with us. With your support from our, regulators, partners, stakeholders, and staff members, we want to achieve more to bring good change for the world.

Wishing all a very Happy New Year for prosperity and endless possibilities!

# ABOUT GOOD NEIGHBORS

Good Neighbors is an international humanitarian development NGO bringing Good Change for children and communities around the world through international development projects and social welfare programs to make the world a place without hunger, where people live together in harmony.

#### **MISSION**

- Good Neighbors exists to make the world a place without hunger, where people live together in harmony.
- Good Neighbors respects the human rights of our neighbors suffering from poverty, disasters, oppression, and helps them to achieve self-reliance and enables them to rebuild their hope.

#### **CORE VALUES**

- We serve people in need beyond ethnicity, religion, belief, and nationality
- We promote self-reliance in sustainable development for individuals, families, and communities
- We implement the rights of the child as top priority
- We prosper global citizenship in mutual respect

- We organize local volunteers to contribute in developing their own communities
- We cooperate with all people who understand our mission and program
- We work with professionalism, and pursue financial and operational transparency
- We strive to induce more people to join our work as Good Neighbors members

#### **CORE COMPETENCIES**



**Professionalism** 

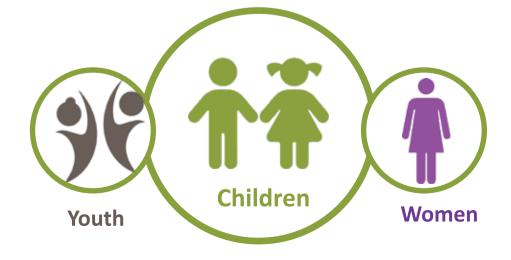


Transparency



Sustainability

**TARGET GROUP** 



# HOW WE WORK

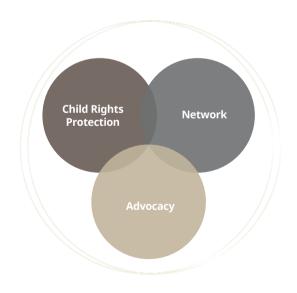
#### **Development Principles**

Our neighbors, who are free from poverty, and whose rights are respected, live self-reliant in and inclusive community.



#### The Primary Development Directions of Good Neighbors

Good Neighbors conducts specialized and systematic operations focusing on three primary directions: Child Rights Protection, Network, and Advocacy.



#### Child Rights Protection

We plan and implement projects that respect the human rights of children based on our unchanging belief in human dignity, under the principle of faithfully fulfilling the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

#### Network

We stimulate our projects and expand our network by mobilizing the human and material resources of communities in field countries, encouraging them to actively engage in our projects as an organized group of volunteers, partners, and community committees.

#### Advocacy

We conduct advocacy projects, such as campaigns, government policies, and seminars to promote our projects and raise awareness of governments or the general public as part of citizenship education.

#### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES (SO)**



SO 1

People are free from hunger



SO 3

People enjoy the right to education.



SO 5

People live in sustainable environments



SO7

People achieve economic empowerment through solidarity & cooperation



SO 2

Every child is protected



SO 4

People exercise the right to health



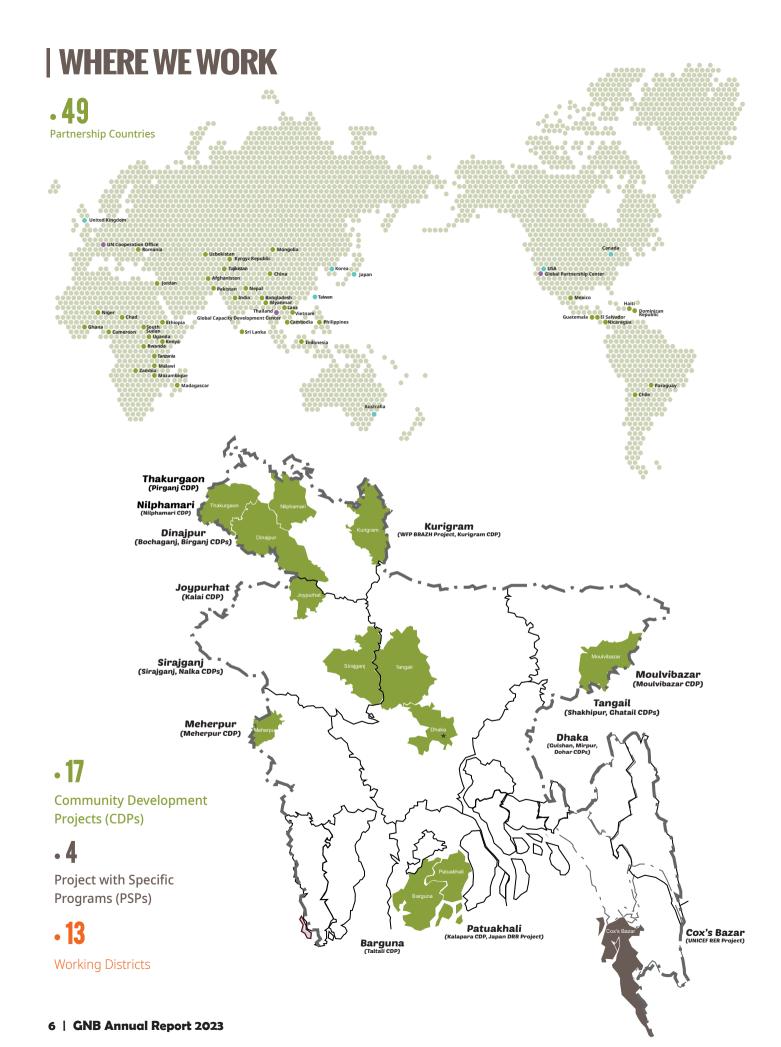
SO 6

People build inclusive and democratic communities



SO 8

People are protected from disasters



**2023** 



20,683

Sponsored Children

101,387

Participants in Education & Protection Activities



Participants in Income Generation Activities



16,503

Participants in Community Partnership and Network Building Activities 12,588

Participants in DRR Activities



130,511

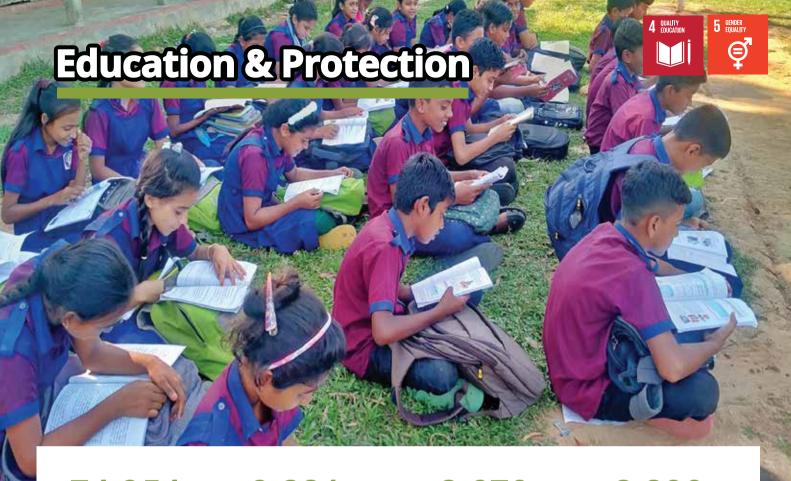
Participants in Health Activities

Click and view

33,398

Participants in Advocacy Activities

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74,354

students received education materials

teachers received training

3,221

students received registration, tuition fees & admission fees

students participated in My Dream Program 2,670

readers in mobile library

15,617

students received Gifts-In-Kind materials 2,890

students participated in reading campaign

4,038

students participated MathMaestro competition

Good Neighbors Bangladesh (GNB) focused on "Quality Education," leading to proactive measures such as seminars and the innovative WordMaster competition. Six GNB Schools initiated substantial student enrollment, highlighting the commitment to accessible education with an increase of pass rate in public exams.

Recognizing the crucial roles of teachers, GNB initiated "Capacity Strengthening Training" conducted by three Master trainers of the Education Ministry. This transformative intervention emphasized a new curriculum and evaluation methods, with quarterly workshops providing recognition and awards to deserving educators.

The "Inter-GNB Schools co-curricular competition" showcased student talents, and the introduction of scout activities enriched the educational experience. Good Neighbors High School, Ghatail, achieved three years of academic approval, marking a significant milestone.

Throughout the year, GNB supported education materials and financial assistance to the students who were at threat of child marriage, child labor, and coming from vulnerable families to prevent dropouts. The year-end intervention concluded by gifting quality notebooks to 58,402 students in 264 GNB Partner schools, reinforcing dedication to their educational journey.

In the pursuit of protecting children, GNB organized 42 child rights campaigns, engaging stakeholders and observing special days. The child protection system was strengthened by collaborative efforts of the community and decentralized "Child Camps" which were held regionally for safety and accessibility.

The GNB Youth Council rebranded as the "Nature and Peace Club," emphasizing on youth's roles in protecting Child Rights and promoting peace and environmental conservation. The impactful Urban Volunteer's Seminar showcased urban youths' contributions to protecting child rights.

In summary, 2023 was marked by proactive initiatives, transformative changes, and collaborative efforts, ensuring every child's access to quality education and safeguarding against potential risks.















20,249

students standard health check-up completed

20,683

children received nutrition support 1,984

children received vaccination

4,428

children participated health & hygiene club meeting

9,711

people participated in **health campaign** 

Throughout the year 2023, GNB Public Health undertook a multifaceted approach to address the diverse healthcare needs of our beneficiaries. We focused on empowering communities, especially those in underserved rural areas.

We successfully implemented initiatives, including the distribution of nutritious food, standard health checkups for sponsored children, reproductive health services for adolescents and pregnant women, health awareness education for the community, the operation of health and hygiene clubs in secondary partner schools, CHW activities, the provision of treatment and medicine services through the GNB Medical Officer in the 14 Health Care Units (HCU), financial support for referral cases, health day observations, and advocacy.

20,683

children received hygiene package

women received ANC & PNC

26,891

people received treatment support 9,636

people participated in **special health** day observation

pcs menstrual hygiene kit distributed among adolescent girls

16,042 3,950

people participated issue-based health education sessions

2,613

9,182

children received mosquito nets

people participated in WASH program

mothers received nutritious food

restrooms renovated

Additionally, we organized various special health campaigns covering gynecology, medicine, dental, eye, diabetes, and orthopedics, offering specialist physician treatment along with medicines and pathological services. We also participated in the International Health Economic Conference 2023 organized by the Institute of Health Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.



















21

**Co-operatives** 

25

**Income Generation** groups

28,062

People (households) participated for **Income Generation** 

**Social Enterprise** 

27,274

**Women Co-operative** members

8.26%

**Profit gained** against current assets

GNB empowers women and improves livelihoods through a cooperative approach, overseeing 21 cooperatives with 27,274 women. In 2023, 9,458 community women engaged in cooperative-based Income Generating Activities (IGAs), focusing on agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and SMEs, fostering self-reliance and contributing to family income.

Expanding impact, GNB established two new cooperatives and a 'Protibeshi Integrated Agro Farm Social Enterprise' in 2023. These initiatives created jobs, enhanced the livelihoods of underprivileged women, and promoted self-sufficiency. The success of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) is evident in increased profits, fostering sustainability and ownership among members.

Government recognition highlighted GNB's impact, with 16 cooperatives receiving awards in 2023. GNB's commitment to transparency is reflected in the transition to app-based data management. Actively supporting the formation of a Central Women's Cooperative Society Limited, GNB aims to facilitate goal-setting, decision-making, risk management, and growth monitoring. Ongoing investments enhanced the capacities of cooperatives, Income Generating Groups (IGGs), and Social Enterprises, ensuring a smooth and impactful operation. Together, we are building a future where women thrive and communities prosper.

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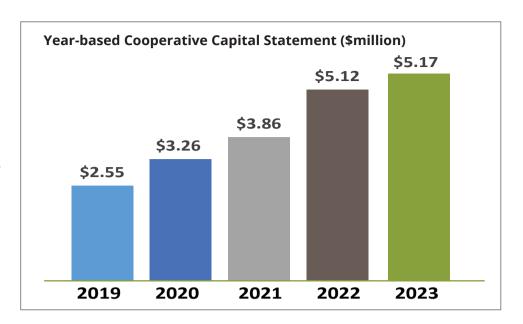
There was a time when I could not meet the regular daily needs of my sons and daughters. With the help of GNB and my efforts, I am now a successful entrepreneur. Now I am financially sound.

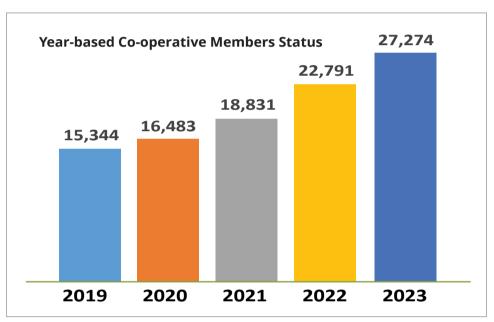
I am rearing quail birds and on this farm, I have employed 2 more people including myself. My husband is supporting me.

I have taken loans from co-operative at various times and with those loans I have grown my firm, repaying the loans regularly.

I have won the Joyeeta Award as an economically successful woman. GNB has contributed the most to my success. I thank GNB.

- Ms. Romena Akter, Member of Kamalganj Good Neighbors Sonchay O Rindan Somobay Samiti Ltd.





























6,842

child council members attended in meetings

7,346

people participated in **child rights related special day observation**  6,087

people attended child rights-based campaigns

1,351

people participated in Women Rights related special day observation 6,996

people participated in social issue-based meetings

4,776

people attended in **education related meeting/session/campaign** 

In 2023, Good Neighbors Bangladesh proudly secured its position as an executive member of the National Girl Child Advocacy Forum (NGCAF) for the third consecutive term. In collaboration with Educo Bangladesh and NGCAF, we achieved a significant milestone by co-publishing the groundbreaking "STATUS OF GIRL CHILDREN IN BANGLADESH 2021-22," the first comprehensive document shedding light on the state of girl children in the country.

GNB is proud to be a member of the NGCAF, Street Children Activists Network (SCAN) Bangladesh, CSO alliance, and Bangladesh Sishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF). Taking our commitment further, GNB alongside NGCAF, BSAF, and other esteemed I/NGOs advocated for a dedicated directorate for children and the approval of a Girl Child Harassment law. This collective effort aimed to ensure the protection and well-being of girls, underscoring the importance of legislative measures.

Embracing the spirit of International Women's Day and International Girl Child Day, GNB actively participated in nationwide observances, collaborating with the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, NGCAF, and other peers.



















641

members participated in Community Development Committee (CDC) meetings

4,587

people participated in **guardian meetings** 

5,668

volunteers attended in meetings and seminars

1,384

youths participated in Nature and Peace Club meetings

1,059

youths attended in trainings

1,364

people participated in **together for child activities** 

1,800

Child Rights Keeper (CRK) committee members participated in meetings

In the spirit of collaboration and shared commitment, Good Neighbors Bangladesh (GNB) joined hands with UNV Bangladesh to commemorate International Youth Day and International Volunteers Day in 2023. This meaningful partnership unfolded as volunteers from both organizations came together to support 3,050 blankets and winter clothes across nine locations in the northern area and Cox's Bazar.

Our initiatives garnered support and active participation from distinguished guests and stakeholders, including representatives from UNV, UNDP, UNICEF, CCDB, BELTA, University of Dhaka, BRAC University, NCTB, Directorate of Secondary & Higher Education (DSHE), Ministry of Education, NGO Affairs Bureau, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), ADB, Local Government, Friendship, Sornokishoree Network Foundation, Aparajeyo-Bangladesh, Ek Ronga Ek Ghuri, Fight Until Light, and Divisional Hospital-Sylhet.

This dynamic engagement reflected the inclusive and collaborative approach adopted by GNB, as we strive to make a positive impact on the communities we served. By aligning with influential entities and institutions, we aim to amplify the reach and effectiveness of our initiatives.



















10,038

saplings distributed for planting

1,930

beneficaries received relief goods

20

houses renovated and constructed

300

participants attended in campaigns (awareness raising activities) 300

households received agricultural support

We are working with the community to build the capacity to prepare for disasters and minimize the damage. Focus is placed on raising people's awareness of disasters and developing community-based actions for disaster preparedness, which helps the communities become resilient. GNB is supporting people in Disaster Risk Reduction and adapting to climate change by implementing Building Resilience to Achieve Zero Hunger Project funded by WFP, GNB Japan-MOFA DRR Project, and Innovation Challenge Fund.







20,663

sponsored . children

3,947

children received special gift money 19,541

children's Annual **Progress Report** (APR) completed

Community Patrons (ComPat)



Ratio of girls 51%



Ratio of boys

49%

556

community sponsored Community Patrons children

404

recognized

Good Neighbors Bangladesh (GNB) is focusing on the systematic and efficient management of sponsorship programs to ensure children's well-being through sponsorship service management in the community. We are supporting underprivileged and deserving children by making them hopeful for the future.

Discover the impact of GNB in transforming the lives of 20,663 sponsored children and their families this year. By prioritizing education, health, child rights advocacy, and youth development, GNB promotes rebuilding a hopeful future for underprivileged children. Our proactive measures, including regular home visits and counseling, have led to an impressive 99.70% reduction in the child dropout rate. We inspire the community to join us in making a lasting difference for our children.

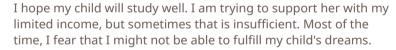












I am thankful to GNB that they come forward to support me to fulfill my child's dreams as well as mine. GNB supports my child by providing educational materials. They also take care of my child's health by providing treatment support.

My child is continuing her study well, and I am also taking care of her. Hope one day my child will fulfill her dream and make me proud. - Tasmia's father









## Rohingya Emergency Response (RER) Project

# Child-Centered Care for Rohingya Children and Adolescents

After the massive influx of Rohingya from Myanmar to Bangladesh in 2017, Good Neighbors Bangladesh has been providing humanitarian support to Rohingya children, adolescent girls, and women. From the time of emergency situation for the development of the targeted group's physical, mental, social and measures to prevent Gender Based Violence against girls and women was the main concern of Good Neighbors Bangladesh. In accordance with those objectives, GNB has been operating 2 Women Friendly Spaces (WFS), 7 Multi-Purpose Child & Adolescent Centers (MPCAC), and 1 Safe Spaces for Women and Girls (SSWG) in camp no. 15 and 16.

To enhance the well-being of girls and women in both the Rohingya and Host communities two special projects have been implemented. The projects created safer and more dignified lives for its beneficiaries through women empowerment initiatives and gender-based violence services. GNB is committed to fostering positive change and community development through these impact endeavors.

In MPCAC, the PSS sessions have been more than just sessions for me. I have a group of friends who are going through similar experiences and understand me. The way we communicate feels like a safe space where we can be open about our struggles. I've shared the positivity and the challenges with my family.

Thanks to GNB.

- Asmat Ara, Children of MPCAC

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9,207

children, adolescents and parents/caregivers received non/structered psychosocial support 3,625

parents and caregivers reached with **positive** parenting guidance

14,858

people received information related to child protection risk and mitigation measures

2,672

people participated in in GBV prevention interventions

768

children received
case management
service

3,139

people received information related to GBV prevention and response

2,107

households visited for raisining awareness on GBV

40

structural awareness sessions conducted for **girl shine** 

3,840

female students are using adolescentsfriendly restroom facilities 4,700

people received awareness session on child protection

Thank you for exploring the work and achieving your challenges and opportunities. Your work makes a big difference. Thank you.

- Ms. Genevieve Boutin-Deputy Director, UNICEF, during her visit at MPCAC, Camp no. 15



















#### **Empowering Girls through 'Girl Shine' Sessions!**

GNB is making a difference with their 'Girl Shine' sessions, a powerful initiative designed to empower girls by providing a comprehensive set of life skills and support. These sessions cover decision-making, friendships, life skills, recreation, and psycho-social support, fostering resilience and emotional well-being. Hygiene maintenance is also a crucial aspect, ensuring girls have essential knowledge for their health.

Importantly, the program addresses gender-based violence (GBV) protection, empowering girls with awareness and skills to safeguard themselves. With 'Girl Shine,' Good Neighbors Bangladesh is actively promoting the holistic development and safety of girls in the community.













# Empowering Women's Health: Success in Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) Sessions!

The Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) sessions reach 200 adolescent girls and women in the Rohingya community and host community schools. Tailored to address crucial aspects of women's health, these sessions focused on menstrual hygiene maintenance and overall well-being.

By imparting essential knowledge and promoting healthy practices, the SRH sessions contribute significantly to the empowerment and health of women in diverse educational settings. This initiative's success underscores a commitment to promoting reproductive health and creating supportive environments for women's well-being.

Good Neighbors Bangladesh provided hygiene kits, school bags, mosquito nets, umbrellas and bookshelves, books, chairs, electronic fans, and first aid kits to 600 students in two educational institutions. Upazila Nirbahi Officer and education officer were present in the distribution program.











## **Sewing Training and Handicraft**

GNB has given Sewing Training & Handicrafts as a pre-vocational skill, aimed at empowering individuals through skill development. The initiative focuses on providing training in sewing and handicrafts, equipping participants with valuable vocational skills.

The training aims to enhance economic opportunities for community members. By imparting practical skills in sewing and handicrafts, we are contributing to the overall socio-economic development of the community, promoting the empowerment of women to be self-reliant.







# Building Resilience to Achieve Zero Hunger (BRAZH) Project

# Increase resilience and improve food security of people vulnerable to climate change

GNB Resilience Innovation program is working under the BRAZH Project to increase the design and introduce tools for Forecast-based Financing (FbF) and provide capacity assistance to the Government to use these tools to enable the pre-identification of beneficiaries, climate resilience among the disaster-vulnerable community under Kurigram Sadar and Ulipur upazila of Kurigram district. It will also try to reduce the consequences of the disaster risks and will bring some behavioral change in the community in terms of disaster preparedness and awareness. The project started to introduce and demonstrate the integrated seasonal livelihood mapping tools with relevant agencies in Kurigram Sadar Upazila and strengthen climate-resilient alternative livelihood options for the poor and vulnerable people.

The objective of the project is to 'design & practice the innovative and appropriate method of FbF for targeted disaster-prone people to decrease their disaster vulnerabilities and reduce the gap of food insecurity through the project'.

Project Location: Jatrapur Union- Sadar Upazila, Begumganj union-Ulipur Upazila, Kurigram.

66

I have received training from GNB on pumpkin cultivation on the sandbar. Through their technical support, I have cultivated pumpkins. After filling up the family's nutritional needs, I sold it in the market and profited financially. My confidence has grown and hopefully next year I will be able to cultivate the same way by using these methods. Thanks, GNB and WFP.

- Mst. Zahera Khatun, Kurigram

3,061

people attended in awarness Training on disaster management & preparedness

260

people attended in Mock drill on flood preparedness

200

beneficiaries received cash grant support

20

people attended in Training on pumpkin cultivation on sandbar

102

people attended in refreshers training on roles and responsibilities of UDMC 1,680

beneficiaries house visited for **Income Generation Activities** 

248

volunteers attended **meeting** in Jatrapur and Begumganj union

36

awareness training conducted on disaster management & preparedness in quarterly basis

224

people attended in refreshers training on roles and responsibilities of WDMC

200

people received 5days entrepreneurship development training



The cultivation of pumpkin brings a smile to the faces of Mst. Zahera, Kurigram Char area.



Data collection is ongoing for include new beneficiaries



Awareness training on disaster management preparedness



Mock drill on 'Flood Preparedness and Response' at Jatrapur, Kurigram



200 beneficiaries received entrepreneurship development training



Vermi compost production by a beneficiary



18 beneficiaries attended Training on mushroom cultivation as disabled inclusion and now they are cultivating



40 participants attended in awareness raising campaign and advocacy with relevant Social Safety Net Programme (SSNP) govt. dept. on FbF in Union Level





















lapan

## Japan DRR Project

Construction and renovation of cyclone shelters and enhancement of the community's capability of disaster prevention in Kalapara Upazila, Bangladesh

Bangladesh is one of the most disaster-prone countries due to its geographical location. Specifically, the delta region facing the Bay of Bengal is severely damaged by cyclones and floods every year. In addition, increasing global warming accelerates natural disasters.

Resilience to natural disasters and climate change is essential for sustainable development.

This project's main activities are the construction of a multipurpose model cyclone shelter in Mohipur and Dalbuganj and the renovation of 4 existing cyclone shelters in 2 unions Mohipur, and Nilganj – under a natural disaster-prone region, Kalapara Upazila.

The project focuses on improving early warning systems, community resilience building, infrastructure gradation of existing cyclone shelters, capacity building of the local community through various committee formation, conducive materials support for the village disaster management committee, defender goods support for the vulnerable family, community-based disaster risk management plan, and public awareness campaign.

Foster collaboration between government agencies, NGOs, and local stakeholders is creating a cohesive and integrated approach to disaster risk reduction, promoting sustainability and long-term impact.

4

existing cyclone shelters renovated

unions covered

. .

405

Village Disaster Management Committees (VDMC) Village Disaster Management (VDM) volunteers

31

mock drill conducted to raise awereness on disaster preparedness

6,584

isaster preparedness

community people participated in **mock drills** 

households received defender goods packages

5,400

3

405

**cyclones affected** the communities this year

VDM volunteers received **conducive materials** 

16

siren installed in most disaster prone areas





Now Munni disseminates disaster early warning messages to the community. During cyclones MOCHA, Hamoon, and MIDHILI, she was praised for raising awareness among the community. Now in her community, she is a well-known face.

I am very happy and feel proud to join with Good Neighbors Japan DRR project as a VDMC member. Now I have learned many things about DRR which help me serve my community. I can support my community to reduce their loss and damage from disasters, especially the most vulnerable households. I dream that I will stand by the side of the helpless people in the community and serve them at my best.

- Mst. Munni, VDMC Member, Mohipur Union

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Inception ceremony of the Good Neighbors Japan DRR Project







# Mock drill on disaster preparedness

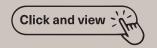
Good Neighbors Japan DRR project completed 31 mock drills at the community level in 3 targeted unions of Kalapara upazila under Patuakhali District where 6,584 community people participated.

This project has covered 45 target villages through this mock drill. People from all levels of the community attended the program and learned disaster awareness messages which was very effective. Early warning message dissemination and roles and responsibilities before, during, and after the period of disaster were the main contents of the event. Through the event, all the community people enjoyed the program and gathered knowledge about disaster management which helped to take preparation in individual, household and community level.



Through this mock drill, I have learned how to reduce loss of life and assets from disasters. We could use this learning during a disaster. I am thankful to GNB for giving us these practical sessions for disaster preparedness.

- Lucky Sarker, Nilganj Union







# **Empowering Resilience**

In the disaster-prone landscape of Kalapara Upazila, Good Neighbors is actively mitigating risks through the distribution of defender goods. Through the initiative, 5,400 vulnerable households received essential disaster awareness equipment.

Each family received a package containing a backpack, torchlight, raincoat, water jar, and a first aid box. Proven effective during the recent cyclones MOCHA and MIDHILI, the equipment brought satisfaction and a sense of security to the community.

Good Neighbors is safeguarding the lives of the communities from unforeseen events by reducing disaster risks.



## **Revitalizing Safety:**

Transforming Cyclone Shelters for Community Well-being by Upgrading the Existing Facilities

In Nilganj Union, two existing cyclone shelters along the Sonatola River faced reluctance from the community due to a lack of essential facilities. Recognizing the need, our project assessed and addressed these gaps, enhancing the shelters with separate wash blocks, ramps for special and disabled access, solar power for consistent electricity, lightning arresters, safe water facilities, and overall repairs.

Now, these shelters effectively serve the community during disasters, providing a haven. Similar success extended to Mozzampur and Nojibpur villages, where DRR projects renovated shelters, creating multi-functional spaces for education and community events.

In Kalapara Upazila, our efforts have transformed four cyclone shelters. For that communities are secured, willingly taking shelter in need and prepared for any emergency.

Click and view







## **KEC-ICT Project**

# Strengthening ICT Education and Classroom Facilities for quality education in Bhanga, Faridpur, Bangladesh

Korea Expressway Corporation (KEC) ICT project was a four-month duration project, which aimed to strengthen ICT education and classroom facilities for quality education in Bhanga, Faridpur.

Aligned with SDG-4: Quality Education, the project focused on strengthening ICT education and classroom facilities to assist the standard learning environment. KEC aimed to enhance secondary-level education by the government's Education Policy 2010 which introduced inclusive classrooms and modern ICT for learning.

Through the KEC-ICT project, 1,800 students received educational materials (notebook, pen, school bag, and umbrella) to reduce the dropout rate and inspire them to study further.



I am excited to share that our school has unveiled a brand-new ICT lab, a gift that promises to transform the learning experience for our students and teachers. Heartfelt thanks to GNB and KEC for making this dream a reality!

This cutting-edge ICT lab is not just a room filled with computers; it's a gateway to endless possibilities for our students and teachers. We're thrilled about the boundless opportunities for growth, exploration, and innovation that the lab brings.

Thanks to the generosity and vision of GNB and KEC!

- Ms. Tina Nasrin, Teacher, Abdur Rashid Mia High School, Bhanga



3

schools engaged with this project



10,800

pcs notebook distributed among students



1,800

pcs school bag distributed among students



1,800

10,800

pcs pen distributed among students



1,800

pcs umbrella distributed among students



30

units computer (desktop with UPS) distributed among the schools



3

units projector and screen distributed among the schools



3

units ICT lab renovated in the schools



A group of Students of Abdur Rashid Mia High School and guests from KEC and GNB at the ICT lab



The Upazila Chairman, the UNO, the General Manager of Padma O&M and Toll, and the Country Director of GNB, handed over educational materials to the students and inaugurate the distribution ceremony.



ICT lab opening at Abdur Rashid Mia High School by Ribbon cutting by the Upazila Chairman, the UNO, the General Manager of Padma O&M and Toll, and the Country Director of GNB.



The General Manager of Padma O&M and Toll is delivering speech

There were no computers in our school. Through GNB and KEC initiatives, we have received computers in our school. We are happy about that. Now I can use the computer with all of my friends at our school's lab. I hope these computers will benefit us a lot and we can learn various functions of computers. Thanks, Good Neighbors Bangladesh and KEC.

- Mushfira Khandakar, Student, Hazi Hasiar Ra Junior High School, Bhanga, Faridpur



Students of Abdur Rashid Mia High School with educational materials along with the guests of the distribution ceremony



ICT lab of Hazi Hasiar Rahman Junior High School, Bhanga, Faridpur

Scan the QR code and watch the news of the distribution ceremony





In 2004, the GNB Ghatail CDP initiated the Interschool WordMaster Competition as a response to the vocabulary challenges faced by school-going children. This engaging competition is designed as an easy test to ignite enthusiasm among learners emphasizing the importance of vocabulary acquisition without the need for constant teacher guidance. WordMaster assesses students' vocabulary stock and word usage.

This year, we elevated the WordMaster Competition to a special project, expanding its reach to the Upazila level and adding special features related to the curriculum.

Our commitment to promoting quality education led us to organize Quality Education Seminars at both the Upazila and National levels. These seminars brought together stakeholders, including academicians, students, teachers, guardians, govt. officials and SMC members, fostering a collective reevaluation of quality education in their respective educational institutions.

Looking ahead, our vision is to extend the WordMaster Competition to the district level, aiming to involve more schools and students. Through these initiatives, we strive to create a lasting impact on vocabulary enrichment and the overall quality of education in our communities.





382

schools participated in the competition



9,862

students participated in the competition



13 pazilas/thar

upazilas/thana



Through this competition, we are overcoming the fear of English, and our vocabulary has improved. I am very happy to participate in this competition. Thanks, GNB for organizing this competition at our school.

- Ms. Susmita Mohonto, Birganj CDP



WordMaster is a great initiative of GNB. I do believe that this type of learning competition encourages the students to learn with joy and discover new ways of gathering knowledge. Thanks to GNB for taking this initiative.

- Md. Fazle Elahi, UNO, Birganj, Dinajpur





## 66

To ensure quality education GNB's initiatives really remarkable. I agree that contest-based education can be a powerful tool for inspiring children to become self-motivated learners. Through this WordMaster competition, I have seen it at our catchment area. Thanks to GNB for their initiative to improve quality education.

- Md. Sohel Akter , Education Officer, Birganj Upazila, Dinajpur



### **Seminar on Quality Education**

### **Respected Guests:**

- Chairman of the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB)
- Director of the Planning and Development Wing, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education DSHE
- Former member of the primary curriculum, NCTB Speakers were:
- Dr. Arifa Rahman, Former Prof. University of Dhaka
- Assc. Prof. Harunur Rashid Khan, BRAC University
- Mr. Masum Billah, Lead-Education and Research, Dainikshiksha.com.

  Date and Venue: centrally arranged at Six Seasons Hotel Conference Hall,
  Dhaka/28 Auq)



To ensure quality education in our educational institutions, together we should come forward. This is a crucial seminar arranged by GNB. Through this seminar, we have understood again the necessity of ensuring quality education. Hope we will implement what we have learned through this seminar. Thanks, GNB.

– Mr. Abdul Momin, Head Teacher, Kamalganj Bohumikhi Girls High School, Kamalganj, Moulvibazar



Seminars

arranged



**450** 

Schools participated



750

Teachers participated



250

Students participated



190

Parents participated



100

NGOs representatives participated



20

Upazila Education Officers participated



10

UNO participated



1,350

people participated





Improving Reproductive Health for Adolescent Girls project is dedicated to elevating the healthy lifestyle and reproductive well-being of adolescent girls within the community. The project aims to heighten awareness and foster a girl-friendly environment focusing on clean and safe Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) facilities.

Key activities included renovating school washrooms, conducting teachers' training on MHM, facilitating educational sessions for adolescent girls, distributing dignity kits (sanitary napkins and soap), and organizing community campaigns to create a girl-friendly environment. The project developed and published MHM booklets, leaflets, and other relevant PR materials.

Additionally, the installation of menstrual hygiene friendly adolescent corners in five partner schools was a pivotal initiative, providing dedicated spaces equipped with washrooms, seating arrangements, and aesthetically pleasing indoor decorations. These corners served to enhance menstrual hygiene practices for female students during their school hours, ensuring a supportive environment for their well-being.

852

adolescent girls benefited

teachers from 5 secondary schools received **training on MHM** 

5

adolescent corners installed 3,408

pcs menstrual hygiene kits & soap distributed among 852 adolescent

6,200

pcs **leaflet distributed** among adolescent girls and communtiy people 1,000

pcs MHM booklets distributed to raise awareness on MHM















Taltali Upazila is located in the southern part of Bangladesh on the brink of the Bay of Bengal, which remains susceptible to frequent severe disasters like- cyclones, salinity, sea level frequent floods, etc. Along with disaster-prone areas, there are also poor economic conditions and gender imbalance in dominance and decision-making.

GNB implemented this special project titled "Empowering Women through Climate Change Adaptive Capabilities" under Innovation Challenge Fund 2023, to address the climate resilient IGAs introducing alternative livelihood among the target community.

Through this project, 250 women received Entrepreneurship Development Training (EDT), training on Income Generation Activities (IGA), and cash grant support for starting IGA activities. The beneficiaries received special training for continuing IGA with locally practiced trade adapting to the climatic hazardous situations.

The project's beneficiaries are practicing climate-resiliant smart IGAs which are maximizing profit and contributing to their family expenses. These 250 women are becoming the role model of entrepreneurship in disaster-vulnerable Taltali Upazila.

Click and view

people received awareness session on climate change and adaptation

women received
Entrepreneurship
Development
Training (EDT)
on climate adaptive
activities

250

women received climate resilient IGA skill development training

250

women participated in workshop with local market actors for value creation



I live in a Govt. shelter with my family. There are open spaces for goat rearing. I wanted goats for rearing during Entrepreneurship Development Training (EDT) by GNB. I received two goats besides training. After participating in the training I learned about feeding and shelter management, and vaccination schedules to keep these goats away from diseases. Thanks, GNB for selecting me.

- Ms. Aklima, a beneficiary of the project



66

I am very grateful to GNB because if they had not given me a sewing machine along with training, it would have been difficult for me to survive in a climate disaster with my family as previously. Now, I am very happy, and tailoring is my source of income. I can contribute to my family income, and I can support my children in their education. I give thanks to GNB for standing beside us.

- Ms. Roksana Begum, a beneficiary of the project

66

Now, the entire family is not fully dependent on my husband's income. GNB gave me training on how to rear ducks and also gave me 40 ducks. Ducks are like a blessing to me. Now I am sufficient from the perspective of economics. Even if a flood or other disaster ever comes, Thanks GNB, for their initiatives.

- Ms. Antora Howlader, a beneficiary of the project



During climate disasters, I used to feel hopeless situation due to financial crises. To improve my situation and my family's income, GNB gave me fish along with proper training for rearing fish in the pond. Now I am rearing fish in a proper way in the pond. I can support my children's education, now. I will be able to support my family financially even in times of hardship. Thanks, GNB.

- Ms. Sona Rani, a beneficiary of the project



Due to GNB's initiative, women are empowered from a socio-economic point of view. GNB gave them training on how to rear goats, ducks, fish, vegetables, and sewing. Moreover, they make a connection between the market buyers and beneficiaries. This project is integrated, visible, and result-driven. In times of climate disaster, women and children fall into a very vulnerable situation. But I think due to GNB's initiative, women have changed their condition. I am very thankful to GNB for working in our village to improve the lives of vulnerable women.

- Md. Jamal Hossain, Head Teacher, Alir Bandar AM High School





The Good Water Project is focused on enhancing access to safe and affordable drinking water in the community. A pivotal aspect of this project involves the construction of a water supply system for targeted beneficiaries. This system comprises a three-story structure, equipped with a water purification unit, submersible water pump, and three 5000-liter water reservation tanks.

The project is designed to distribute drinking water through pipelines to seven different locations within the community.



1,200

households direct beneficiary 11

members in Good Water Committee (GWC)







3,050

people received
blanket and
warm clothes
(partnership with UNV Bangladesh)

14,823

adolescent girls received **menstrual hygiene kits**  1,292

malnourshied children received **nutritious** food item (milk, lentil, mustard oil)

3,849

people recieved health service facilities from 6 **special health** campaigns 58,402

students received notebooks

The Special Health Campaign organized by GNB is a crucial initiative. Through this campaign, community people got the opportunity to get consultations from various specialist doctors at a time, which is a remarkable thing. I think GNB's most of the activity model is for creating ownership in the community, which I have seen in today's event. I appreciate it. Thanks for this initiative for the community.

- Deputy Civil Surgeon, Dinajpur





















In the Background of the pandemic and climate crisis, it has been realized that all of the countries are influenced by each other. We are connected. To understand this co-existence and **global cooperation** children need a new platform that could be an opportunity for change. So, Good Neighbors introduced the Global Youth Network Program under Global Citizenship Education.

The Global Youth Network Program empowers the youths of Good Neighbors globally to become self-directed individuals who have a deep understanding of co-existence and empathy in the world. They express their opinions on global issues and demonstrate **good actions** in their daily lives through international exchange activities.

In Bangladesh, this program is held in 02 phases. A total of 80 students in 16 small groups from the primary level and 36 Students in 06 groups from the secondary level participated in this program. Bangladeshi children and 22 Countries from Asia and Africa participated in this program.

Children received education and skills on SDGs and the Climate crisis, especially on reducing carbon footprint. Students all over the world work together for Expanding International Efforts for Addressing the Climate Crisis, Ensuring Youth Participation Rights in Climate Crisis Response, and Strengthening Climate Crisis Response Education.

Education sessions, real-time interaction with other countries, Study tours in the CCDB Climate Center, Cleanliness campaigns, Tree plantation campaigns, carbon footprint reduction campaigns, and daily life practices were the most exclusive activities under this program.





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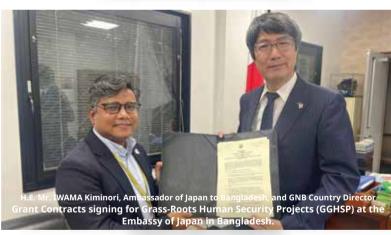






































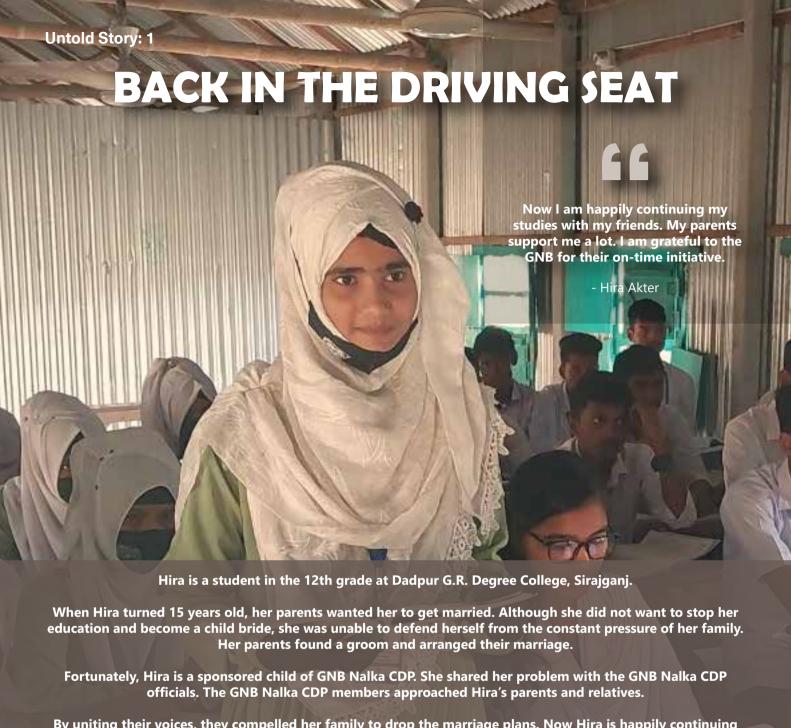








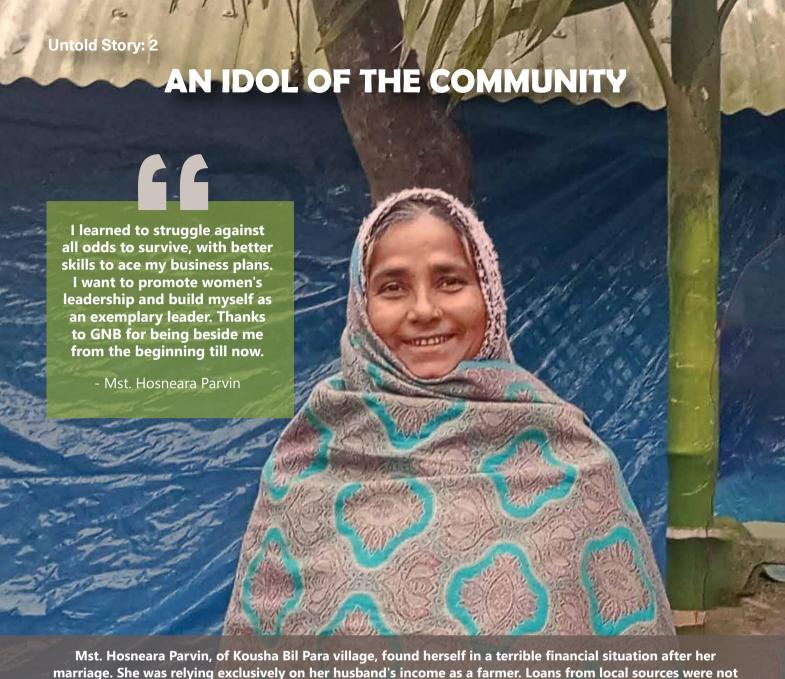




By uniting their voices, they compelled her family to drop the marriage plans. Now Hira is happily continuing her education. She also talks to her friends, classmates, and other young girls about the importance of education and being aware of child rights.

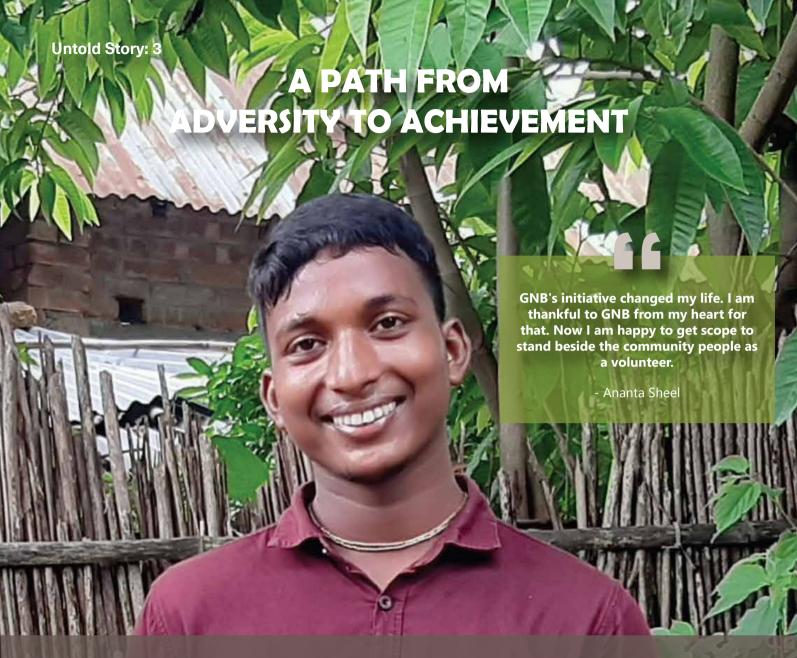
Due to GNB's initiative, we realized that forcing our daughter into an early marriage would be a grave error. We now want her to focus on her studies and hobbies. Now she is doing great, we are happy about that.

- Hira's father



Mst. Hosneara Parvin, of Kousha Bil Para village, found herself in a terrible financial situation after her marriage. She was relying exclusively on her husband's income as a farmer. Loans from local sources were not available because they were very poor, which was affecting family sustenance and children's education. Hosneara joined Good Neighbors Pirganj Agricultural Cooperative Society Ltd. in 2012 and has strategically applied for cooperative loans for chicken rearing.

With rigorous repayments, the family's income increased, allowing them to realize their aspirations of owning land and expanding their chicken farm along with their cow and goat farm. They are grateful for the assistance and consider Good Neighbors and the cooperative to be vital in uplifting underprivileged households in the neighborhood.



Ananta Sheel is the resident of Mahanpur village in Birganj upazila, Dinajpur. His family consists of four members. His father is a barber, and his mother is a housewife. Ananta's life is full of struggles and constant fights.

His father thought that his two sons will also be barbar like him. Since, Ananta's elder brother has taken his father's occupation after leaving his education due to economic insufficiency.

Ananta registered as a sponsored child in 2010 when he studied in class one. That was the turning point of Ananta's life. His mother said, "Registered as a sponsored child, is the life changer point for Ananta". Most of all firsts in Anonto's life were provided and initiated by GNB, such as; notebooks and pens, school bags, umbrellas, and other educational materials as well as life skills discussion sessions. GNB provided tutor support for Ananta to improve his education.

In 2022 he passed HSC with a GPA of 5.00. Now he is studying at BUET, Department of Water Resources Management.

Now he serves his community as a volunteer of GNB. During vacation, Ananta assists the village children with their studies. He serves community members and stands beside poor students to assist with higher education.



This is a tale of such a journey of dedication and perseverance. Mr. Akhil Barai Head of Partnership Development Unit, embarked on his journey with GNB in 2007 as an assistant teacher.

His initial role as an assistant teacher allowed him to teach the kids of Gulshan FDP's "Vatara Good Neighbors School". Recognizing his potential and profound commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of communities in need, he was appointed Thakurgaon CDP Manager in 2009. His leadership abilities shined through as he successfully supervised a variety of Community Development Projects (CDPs), creating a lasting impression on the communities he served. He continued to ascend within the organization, taking on managerial roles in different CDPs.

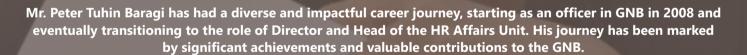
From 2018 through his role as team manager, he was involved in planning and strategic development that contributed to achieving the organization's goals and objectives. His performance-focused management expanded networking and partnership with remarkable achievements setting milestones for the organization's growth.

His journey exemplifies the spirit of GNB, where individuals are not just employees but passionate advocates for positive change.

# STEWARDSHIP AND COMMITMENT: MR. BARAGI'S JOURNEY

The journey of 15 years with Good Neighbors Bangladesh (GNB) has transformed me. I am grateful to Good Neighbors Bangladesh. It is a testament to the organization's commitment to developing professionalism & career growth in staff through nurturing, promotion, and equal opportunity. The good working environment & positive culture of GNB have encouraged me to work long-term in Good Neighbors Bangladesh. I am committed to contributing and look forward to the organization's sustainable growth.

- Mr. Tuhin Baragi, Director and Head of Unit, HR
Affairs Unit



In 2008 Mr. Tuhin was an officer at GNB, where he was involved in day-to-day administrative activities at the Dhaka Mother & Baby Care project. His elevation to the position of director marked a crucial turning point, signifying a notable increase in responsibilities and leadership within the organization.

In 2014, he embraced the role of a dedicated steward as team Manager, directly contributing to the achievement of the organization's goals and objectives.

Throughout his journey, he has exemplified faithful stewardship, showcasing a robust commitment to mentorship and empowering colleagues to surpass targets. His unwavering dedication and continuous learning attitude has not only left a positive imprint on his colleagues but also contributed significantly to the organizations he has been part of.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT**













# Followers 43,229 Page Likes 42,359 Impressions 80,370 Reach 168,664 Link Clicks 1,580 Published posts 485

### **MEDIA ENGAGEMENT & MAJOR COVERAGE**

• 767 News published about GNB in print/electronic media















Some major media outlets GNB closely worked with











THE △SI△N △GE



### **Financial Overview**

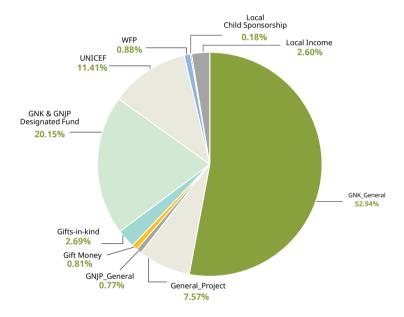
As a non-profit organization, Good Neighbors Bangladesh is committed to financial transparency and accountability.

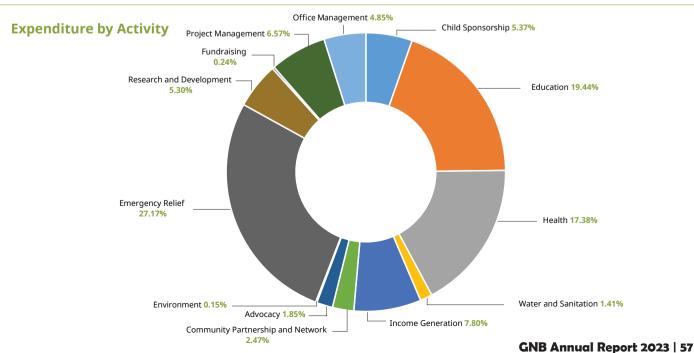


### **Income & Expenditure**

The foreign funding and local contribution for 2023 was **USD 5,609,576.97** and total expense was **USD 4,957,407**.

### **Income Source**





### **Our Partners**



































### **Achievement of the years**



1996 - Received UN
ECOSOC general
consultative
status



2007 - Received MDG Award for the contribution to universal primary education



**2016** - completed 4 years WFP-KOICA SZHCP project with expected success



2019 - completed 3 years KOICA ICT Education Project with expected success



**2019** - first project with the Australian Aid (youth engaged child rights project)



2021 - completed 3 years KOICA CHW project with expected success



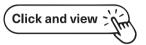
**2023** - partnership with Japan Embassy



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**Let's hear from you!** 















