

A Quarterly Newsletter

Together

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Partnership project activities

*** CHW= Community Health Worker
CDP= Community Development Project



M Mainuddin Mainul
Country Director
Good Neighbors Bangladesh

We are happy to publish our 1st quarter newsletter. In this quarter, we arranged 13 Seminars on Quality Education focusing on SDG 4. Through the seminar, we created scope and connected teachers, students, SMC members, Upazila administrations, and local elite persons to find ways to ensure quality education in educational institutions.

Key Events

- Seminar on Quality Education
- 2023 CHW National Seminar
- 2023 GNB Youth Camp
- CDC Seminar 2023
- Inauguration of Bochaganj Asha Girls' School and 19th Cooperative at Joypurhat (Khetlal)
- Partnership Project Activities
- 10th GNB Internship Workshop

In this quarter, we celebrated the 32nd Founding Anniversary of Good Neighbors. We inaugurated Bochaganj Asha Girls' School (Hope Letter Project) in the remote area of Dinajpur (Bochaganj) and our 19th cooperative at Joypurhat (Khetlal). We are happy about the community people's enthusiasm.

We appreciate our colleagues, partners, stakeholders, and well-wishers for their continuous support.

Thank you all.

Seminar on Quality Education arranged in 13 areas



A student sharing her thoughts about ensuring quality education in educational institutions, Mar/2023

We arranged 13 seminars on quality education under our CDP working areas, to create scope to talk about ensuring quality education in educational institutions.

750 teachers from 454 schools under the jurisdiction of 11 upazilas and 2 thana education offices, 250 students, 190 parents, representatives of 25 NGOs, 20 education officers (district, upazila, and thana based), 11 Upazila Nirbahi Officers, 50 public representatives.

Around 1350 people including various electronic and print media representatives participated in the seminars. Through the seminar, participants agreed to work together from their respective positions to ensure quality education in educational institutions.

Participants in the 13 seminars concurred that contest-based education can be a powerful tool for inspiring children to become self-motivated learners.



To ensure quality education in our educational institutions, together we should come forward, really this is a crucial seminar arranged by GNB. Through this seminar, we could understand 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

2023 GNB Youth Camp



13

Seminars
arranged



450

Schools
participated



750

Teachers
participated



250

Students
participated



190

Parents
participated



25

NGOs representatives
participated



20

Upazila Education
Officers
participated



11

UNO
participated



1,350

people participated

[Click and view](#)



Participants with the guests of the 2023 GNB Youth Camp, Mar/2023

We arranged the 2023 GNB Youth Camp with the participation of 125 Youth Council Members from 17 CDPs at BRAC Learning Center, Mymensingh, from 13-15 Mar 2023.

At the camp, our very own Mr. Aktar Uddin, Coordinator, UNV Bangladesh, and Mr. Mohammad Lokman Hakim, Joint Director, SMESPD, Bangladesh Bank joined us as speakers. They have conducted two sessions on 'Youth Spirit and Social Development' and 'Career Counselling for Youths to Find Dream Jobs'.

The 2023 GNB Youth Camp was presided over by the Country Director of GNB.

In the camp, youth council members participated in the poster exhibition, debate competition, cultural contest, and national youth council election.

The National Youth Council Committee (2023-2024) has been formed by the election.

2023 CHW National Seminar



GNB arranged the 2023 CHW National Seminar at BRAC Learning Center, Mymensingh, on 15-16 Mar 2023.

A total of 89 CHWs from Sirajganj (Nalka), Joypurhat (Kalai), Moulvibazar, Meherpur, Thakurgoan (Pirganj), Dinajpur (Birganj, Bochaganj), Tangail (Ghatail) participated in the seminar.



A youth council member showing their poster and explaining that to the guests, in the 2023 GNB Youth Camp, Mar/2023

Inauguration



A debater presenting her logic against the motion (Only Youths are responsible for the social protection of children), Mar/2023



The Inauguration Ceremony of GNB Bochaganj Asha Girls' School under the Hope Letter Project was held 19 Jan 2023 at the school premises.



Newly elected Youth Council Committee with the guests of the 2023 GNB Youth Camp, Mar/2023

The Additional District Commissioner (General) of Dinajpur was present in the ceremony as chief guest along with other local elite persons including the Chairman of Abdur Rouf Chowdhury Foundation and Mayor of Setabganj Municipality, Dinajpur.

CDC Seminar 2023



GNB arranged the CDC Seminar 2023 with the participation of the chairpersons and vice-chairpersons of 16 CDCs under 16 CDPs, on 20 Feb 2023 at GNB Conference Hall. First time after more than 14 years!

GNB formed the first GNB CDC National Committee through direct voting. Members who came from different social strata, such as educationists, people's representatives, and local elites, shared their goals and vision for each of their CDPs. With this seminar, governance of the field activities received a big reshuffle to impact the 2023 activities. The involvement of community leadership is one of the core features of GN's development intervention.

The Country Director of Good Neighbors Bangladesh presided over the ceremony.



Our 19th cooperative has inaugurated named Good Neighbors Borail Mohila Somobay Samiti Ltd, with a colorful program at Kalinga, Khetlal, Joypurhat on 20 Mar 2023.

Through Good Neighbors Borail Mohila Somobay Samiti Ltd, a total of 1500 women will be benefited and be empowered through involvement with cooperative-based income generation activities.

Sponsorship and Education-Protection Activities Achievements

Sponsorship Service

GNB is focusing on the systematic and efficient management of sponsored children for their well-being and child rights is the aim of GNB's sponsorship program.



No. of sponsored children

19,571



No. of sponsored children's house visited

18,050



No. of local sponsors (Jan-Mar)

63



Mamata Rani (Birganj CDP) with her special gifts

As per the desire or instructions from the sponsor, we periodically distribute particular gifts to the sponsored children.

Among those gifts becomes prioritizing the needs of the child and their family needs.

In this quarter we have distributed special gifts among 359 sponsored children.



I have received some special gifts from GNB. Among those gifts, I have received educational materials and some materials for my family. I am happy to receive these gifts. Thank you my sponsor for sending me these gifts. I am studying well and regularly going to school. Thanks, GNB.

- Mamata Rani, Sponsored Child, Birganj CDP



Home visit by Sponsorship Service Supporters

Education & Protection



No. of children received education materials

16,030



No. of readers in mobile library operation

466



No. of readers attended in reading campaign

772



Mobile Library by GNB at Bochaganj Asha Girls School

No. of students attended in Ami hote chai (My Dream)

700



No. of partner schools

225

A bookworm removes the fear of reading books



I have seen GNB implement Mobile Libraries in our schools, and they also arranged quizzes but most of the time, I did not participate in the library. But one day, I joined the library and read a book. From then, I discover through reading books that we can gather knowledge and enrich our thoughts. Now I collect books by myself and regularly read books (textbooks, and non-textbooks).

- Nayona Rani, a student of GNB Bochaganj Asha Girls School, Dinajpur

Health Activities Achievements

Health & WASH



No. of children received health checkup facilities

4,197



No. of patients received treatment support

6,394



No. of adolescent children received vaccine support

290

No. of children received nutritious food

7,248

No. of pregnant mothers received nutritious food

25

No. of children received reproductive health service

2,147



No. of participants received issue-based health education

771



No. of participants attended in special health campaign

708



No. of participants attended in cluster meeting conducted by CHWs

5,119



Fahim, a student of Sudhirpur Govt. Primary School collecting water from water filter, donated by GNB Kalapara CDP



First aid kit box distribution among the health & hygiene club members, Pirganj CDP, Mar/2023

A water filter and happiness of 171 students

“

I am a student of Sudhirpur Govt. Primary School. There are 171 students in this school. We used to drink water from the tube well, and there has a high level of salinity. GNB has thought for us and donated a water filter in our school. So now we can get safe drinking water from the filter and use that. So, school attendance is increasing. For the initiative taken by GNB, we are happy. Thanks, GNB.

- Fahim, a student of Sudhirpur Govt. Primary School

Income Generation Activities Achievements

Income Generation (IG)



Loan distribution ceremony arranged by Nilphamari Su-Pratibeshi Mohila Somobay Somity Ltd.

No. of women participated in income generation	No. of IG groups	No. of cooperative members (women)
23,994	26	23,914
No. of IG group members received capacity building training for IG activities	No. of women engaged in small & medium enterprise initiatives	Cooperatives gained profit
409	11,135	\$102,534

The transformation from a housewife to a successful woman entrepreneur

Ms. Wahida Akter a member of Badda Su-pratebeshi Somobay Somiti Ltd

Ms. Wahida Akter was a housewife, and her husband was the only earning member of her family. Her husband's monthly income was not sufficient to meet her child's educational expenses and nutritional demands. After becoming a member of Badda Su-pratebeshi Somobay Somiti Ltd., she took various amounts of loans, and after a specific duration, she refunds the loan and takes again. In this way, she received 5 times loans from the cooperative. With that loan gradually she develops her business, and now she is an owner of a tailoring shop. She is well with her 5 family members and doesn't need to look back.



“Thanks, GNB for always staying beside me in my bad times. I think today I am here because of GNB and the cooperative. Thank for supporting me.”

GNB launching apps-based cooperatives management: from computer to handphone



From now Cooperative Management Committee will be able to use apps from the field level, which will reduce the workload.

For that, through two day-long workshops on Apps-based Collection cooperatives members have trained on it. They are contributing transformation from Software-based to Apps-based cooperative data management.

Photo: Now our Cooperative Management Committee Members are collecting loan and savings amounts from the members through apps.

Community Partnership, Networking and Advocacy Activities Achievements

Community Partnership and Networking



No. of participants attended in parents meeting

587



No. of youths received training on skill development

220



No. of child rights keepers committee members attended in meeting

433

Advocacy

No. of participants attended child rights-based campaign

323

No. of participants attended in social issue-based meeting

1,472



Social Issue-based meeting, Kalapara CDP, Mar/2023

A field staff talk More than an era connected with the local community people



I am Polash Roney Mondol, now I am working in Pirganj Community Development Project (CDP), Thakurgoan, as a manager.

We are working for especially 1,126 sponsored children. To ensure the rights of the children a huge number of regular and community staff are working with us. Our work area is especially Child Rights, Women Empowerment, and Youth Development.



Mr. Roney (right side) distributing some equipment to a partner school authority

As a CDP manager, I am happy to work here for the community people. I feel pleased when a beneficiary benefits due to our initiative.

In this quarter especially we have thought about our children's education and how to engage the Upazila administration and other elite persons to ensure quality education in the educational institutions. So, for that, we have arranged a quality education seminar collaborated with Upazila Secondary Education Office.

Thanks to GNB and my colleagues for supporting me to work for the community. I wish GNB will serve the community in this way.

Good Neighbors DRR Project/Patuakhali



GNB arranged an inception ceremony of the Good Neighbors DRR Project, the program was jointly inaugurated by the UNO of Kalapara Upazila, Patuakhali, and the country director of GNB. Kalapara Upazila Chairman was present as chief guest in the ceremony. The project supervisor of Good Neighbors Japan and the project's program coordinator were also there as guests of honor. The program was chaired by the country director of GNB.



Good Neighbors DRR Project organized a mock drill on disaster preparedness in Umedpur village, Kalapara, Patuakhali on 15 Mar 2023. The chairman of Nilganj Union and members of the Village, Ward, and Union Disaster Management Committee participated in the program.

To raise awareness in pre, during & post-disaster periods at individual, family & community levels, this mock drill has been arranged.

More than five hundred community people participated in the program and observed what they should do pre, during, and after the disaster.

KEC-CSR-ICT Project/Faridpur

Through KEC-CSR-ICT Project, we supported 1,800 students in 3 schools by providing ICT lab and educational materials. Funded by Korea Expressway Corporation (KEC), implemented by GNB



3

Schools



1,800

Students



10,800

pcs notebook



10,800

pcs pen



1,800

pcs school bag



1,800

pcs umbrella



30

units computer (desktop with UPS)



3

units projector and screen



3

units ICT lab renovated



The Upazila Chairman, the UNO, the General Manager of Padma O&M and Toll, and the Country Director of GNB, handed over educational material to a student of Abdur Rashid Mia High School, Bhanga, Faridpur and inaugurate the distribution ceremony.



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



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



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.

There were no computers in our school. Through Good Neighbors and Korea Expressway Corporation (KEC) initiative, we have received computers in our school. We are happy about that. Now I can use the computer with all of my friends. I hope these computers will benefit us a lot and we can learn various functions of computers. Thanks, Good Neighbors and KEC.

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



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



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



UNICEF-GNB Rohingya Emergency Response Project/Cox's Bazar



UNICEF-Chief of Field Services and Child Protection Manager visited GNB operated Multi-Purpose Children and Adolescents Center (MPCA) at Camp-15



Structural Life Skills Session-2023 conducted by a facilitator of the GNB RER Project



WFP-GNB Building Resilience to Achieve Zero Hunger (BRAZH) Project/Kurigram



200 beneficiaries received entrepreneurship development training



The cultivation of pumpkins brings a smile to the faces of our beneficiaries of the Kurigram Char area.



Collecting data is ongoing for including new beneficiaries



Vermi compost production by a beneficiary

Meeting/Training/Workshop/Conference

2023 GNB Annual Conference



GNB participated carrier fair with exciting job offers organized by bdjobs.com at ICCB, Bashundhara



Hon'ble Minister S M Rejaul Karim, MP, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Government of Bangladesh, Chief Guest of Nutrition Exposition and Allied Public Health Conference 2023 (Inaugural Session) visited GNB stall.



A representative from GNB Youth Council participated in the United Nations Thematic Group on Adolescents and Youth Consultation on Collaboration with Youth at UNICEF Bangladesh

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