

A Quarterly Newsletter

Together

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Dear colleagues, partners, communities, and friends,

It is with heartfelt gratitude and deep humility that I step into the role of Managing Director at Good Neighbors Bangladesh.

I am honored by the trust you have placed in me to lead an organization that has long stood beside the most vulnerable—walking with them, advocating for them, and working hand in hand to create lasting change through education, health, child protection, and community empowerment.

Looking back at the first quarter of 2025, I'm proud of the tangible progress we've made together. Behind every number and milestone lies a story—a child smiling on their first day at school in a new uniform, a family accessing safe drinking water for the first time, or a young girl gaining confidence and dignity through proper menstrual hygiene support. These are the stories that remind us why we do what we do.

Thanks to your tireless efforts, we were able to distribute educational materials and uniforms to thousands of children—small steps that have lifted financial burdens and opened doors to learning and opportunity. Our collaboration with the Embassy of Japan brought clean water to Karaibaria Union in Barguna, transforming daily life and protecting health in the community.

We also saw powerful moments of solidarity and awareness. On International Mother Language Day, our volunteers led the Clean Shaheed Minar campaign—bringing people together in remembrance, respect, and a shared commitment to a cleaner environment. Meanwhile, the Better Life for Girls initiative continues to break barriers around menstrual hygiene, creating safe spaces for learning and growth through Adolescent Corners, teacher training, and community dialogue.

As I take on this new responsibility, my focus is clear: to lead with transparency, embrace innovation, and ensure that every voice—especially those most often unheard—is included in our journey forward.

We know there will be challenges ahead. But I believe that with your continued passion, dedication, and collaboration, we will not only meet them—we will rise above them, together.

Thank you for your trust, your partnership, and your unwavering belief in our shared mission.

With sincere appreciation,

Bartin Gomes
Managing Director
Good Neighbors Bangladesh

Cleaning Campaign at Shaheed Minar



Discussion session during cleaning campaign

'Clean Shaheed Minar, Pledge of Respect for Mother Language and Martyrs' as a tribute to the language martyrs.

On the occasion of Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language Day, volunteers and child council members of the Good Neighbors Bangladesh took the initiative to clean the Shaheed Minar. At the same time, they organized awareness meetings on the effects of plastic pollution and what can be done to protect the environment.

The main objective of the nationwide program was to pay due respect to the martyrs on Martyrs' Day and to instill a sense of cleanliness and responsibility among children and adolescents.



Youths are in action to clean the Shaheed Minar

Empowering Education through Educational Material Support



A group of students with the received notebooks from Good Neighbors Bangladesh

Good Neighbors Bangladesh supports underprivileged students by providing essential educational materials such as special notebooks, pens, drawing books, color pencils, and school uniforms. These supplies help reduce the financial burden on families, encourage regular school attendance, and create a positive learning environment.

The main objective was to support with educational materials, encourage learning new things, and encourage regular attendance in class. By equipping children with the necessary tools, GNB promotes equal opportunities in education, boosts their confidence, and enhances their creativity and academic performance.

Helping students in need creates a more positive and caring school environment. This event proved that when we care for children's basic needs, we help build a brighter future.



500

students received
school dress



37,152

students received
educational materials



Good Neighbors Bangladesh Signs MoU with MetLife and Green Delta Insurance



Mou signing with MetLife

Good Neighbors Bangladesh (GNB) has recently signed two significant Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to strengthen employee welfare and institutional resilience.

Advancing staff security, GNB partnered with MetLife Bangladesh to provide comprehensive life insurance coverage for its employees, ensuring greater protection and peace of mind.

Simultaneously, GNB signed an MoU with Green Delta Insurance to secure insurance coverage for its infrastructure and assets through a tailored building insurance plan. These strategic collaborations reflect GNB's commitment to both people-centered development and organizational sustainability.



Mou signing with Green Delta Insurance

Special Day Observation



International Women's Day

Good Neighbors Bangladesh celebrated International Women's Day in every CDPs by honoring women with the 'Shahoshika' recognition, awarded to those who have made a mark in society through acts of bravery.

A mass signature campaign was also organized to pledge commitment to the protection and safety of women.



Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language Day



Independence Day Celebration

Case Story Transforming Lives Through Safe Sanitation



To reduce child morbidity and mortality caused by poor sanitation, Good Neighbors Bangladesh implemented a WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) project aimed at improving hygiene practices and living conditions in vulnerable communities. By targeting families without adequate facilities, the project supported the construction of 9 sanitary toilets for 9 sponsored families—directly at their homes. This effort was paired with WASH education to promote lasting behavioral change.

We are very grateful. For the first time, our family can use a clean and safe toilet at home. It has brought dignity and comfort, especially for the women. Before this, we had to go far into the fields. Now, we feel safe and protected. My children are healthier. Thanks to Good Neighbors' support, our family no longer worries about privacy or hygiene. It's a big step forward for our health and well-being.

— Md. Latif Khan, father of Isa Moni Akter, a sponsored child

The initiative has already made a significant impact—reducing the risk of waterborne diseases like diarrhea, cholera, and typhoid, while improving privacy, safety, and overall well-being for participating families.

Activities of Sponsorship and Education & Protection

Sponsorship Service (SS)

Good Neighbors Bangladesh (GNB) is dedicated to the systematic and efficient management of its child sponsorship program to ensure the overall well-being of sponsored children. The program is grounded in a strong commitment to safeguarding and promoting child rights, aiming to create a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment where every child can grow, thrive, and reach their full potential.



No. of sponsored children

20,856



No. of sponsored children's house visited

20,856



No. of SS Supporters

85



Moyna with her friends in the classroom



Sponsorship Service Supporters and volunteers are working together to update the child's individual files

Because of the support I received from Good Neighbors Bangladesh since 2013, I never had to stop dreaming. From notebooks to guidance, everything helped me stay in school and believe in myself. Now I'm in secondary school, preparing to become a doctor; a dream I'm chasing with confidence and hope.
- Moyna Akhter, a sponsored child of GNB Nilphamari CDP.

Education & Protection



No. of children received education materials

37,152



No. of readers in mobile library operation

568



No. of readers attended in reading campaign

588



No. of students attended in (My Dream)

1,007



No. of partner schools

421



No. of students participated in co-curricular activities

1,923



Students in the assembly at Good Neighbors Ghatail School

Education & Protection and Health Activities



No. of students
attended
in science
festival

550



No. of teachers
attended in
teacher training

262



No. of school
received education
facilities support

39



No. of students
received registration,
admission and
tuition fees

1,232



No. of children
received gifts
in kind (GIK)
materials

165



Health & WASH



No. of children
received
health check-up
facilities

5,848



No. of patients
received
treatment
support

5,340



No. of adolescent
children received
vaccine support

357



No. of children
received
nutritious
food

4,464

No. of pregnant
mothers received
nutritious
food

54

No. of adolescent
children received
reproductive
health services

2,984



No. of participants
received issue-based
health education

637



No. of participants
attended in special
health campaign

313



No. of participants
attended in cluster
meeting conducted
by CHWs

4,352



Activities of Income Generation

Income Generation (IG)



Loan Distribution

No. of women participated in income generation	No. of co-operatives	No. of co-operative members (women)
33,949	24	33,949
No. of Income Generation Groups	No. of women engaged in small & medium enterprise initiatives	Co-operatives gained profit
18	13,965	BDT 615,592

From Struggles to Strength: Ratna's Journey to Empowerment and Stability

Ratna Rani Roy, 28, from Akashil village in Thakurgaon, transformed her life through resilience and support. After marrying in 2012, financial hardship plagued the family.

In 2013, she joined Good Neighbors' Mahila Samabay Samiti and took a BDT 15,000 loan to start a grocery shop.

Gradually expanding into farming and livestock rearing, she achieved financial stability. Her children now enjoy access to better education, reflecting a journey of empowerment and hope for a brighter future.

Ratna Rani Roy, an active member of Good Neighbors Kosharaniganj Mahila Samabay Samiti Ltd., has successfully utilized her loan to improve her economic condition. Her dedication and involvement in cooperative discussions reflect her commitment to growth. As noted by President Mst. Ashia Akhter, Ratna's journey highlights how micro-credit, hard work, and community support can empower women and lead families toward stability and self-reliance.



Ms. Ratna Rani Roy in her shop

Activities of Community Partnership, Networking and Advocacy

Community Partnership and Networking



No. of participants
attended in
parents meeting

2,854



No. of youths
received
training on skill
development

265



No. of child
rights keeper (CRK)
committee
members attended
in meeting

445

Advocacy

No. of participants
attended child
rights-based
campaign

542

No. of participants
attended in social
issue-based
meeting

1,027



Social Issue-based Meeting with mothers

Field staff diary

A Journey of Trust, Transformation, and Impact of Mr. Saiful Islam



Mr. Saiful Islam is taking a session in the parents' meeting

Joining Good Neighbors Bangladesh was more than a job, it was the start of living my dream to serve rural communities. As a field staff, I've witnessed the strength of children, youth, and women facing poverty, child marriage, and child labor.

From counseling and awareness sessions to preventing child marriage, every step has been deeply fulfilling. Earning trust took time, but listening and engaging made all the difference. This journey has shaped me personally and professionally.

My message: stay passionate, build trust, and always put children first, real change begins there.

Grant Assistance for Grass-Roots Human Security Projects (GGHSP)

In Karaibaria Union, Barguna, access to safe water was once a daily struggle, with residents relying on contaminated sources causing widespread illness. Good Neighbors Bangladesh, supported by the Japan Embassy's GGHSP project, responded by constructing a water tank and collection points through "The Project for Construction of Drinking Water Supply Facilities." A trained Safe Water Committee now manages the system, ensuring sustainability. This initiative has drastically reduced waterborne diseases, improved health, and enabled children to focus on education. Families save on medical expenses, and collected user fees support ongoing maintenance. GNB's efforts have transformed lives and secured safe water for the future.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your generous support in providing safe drinking water facilities. This contribution has greatly improved the quality of life in our community, enhancing public health and instilling hope for a better future. We deeply appreciate the Embassy of Japan for their financial support and Good Neighbors Bangladesh for their dedicated implementation of the project in Barguna District.

- Mr. Ibrahim Shikder Ponu, Chairman, Karaibaria Union Parishad, Taltali, Barguna.



Community people are collecting water from the safe water point



Orientation meeting for the Safe Water Committee

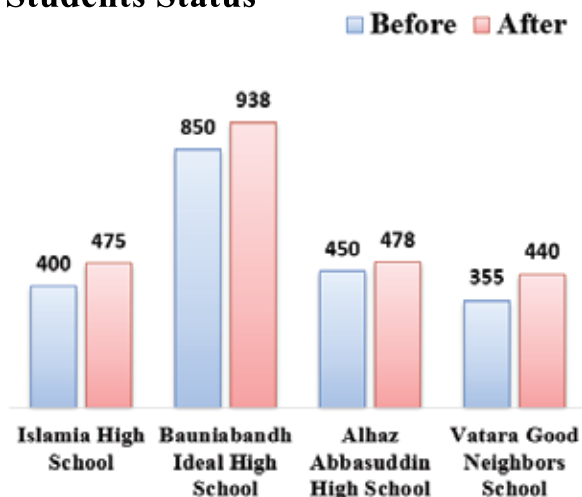


12th Samsung Village Project/ Dhaka

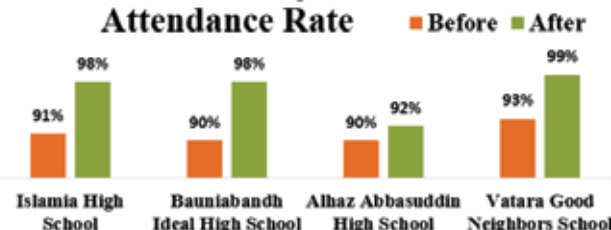
To improve the quality of education in 4 schools, Samsung C&T 12th Samsung Village Project conducted some special activities. Among them upgrading the educational facilities (library and science lab), educational materials distribution, establishing multimedia classrooms, health and hygiene materials distribution, waste management system installation, and reproductive health care for adolescent girls.

Visible changes that have occurred in 4 schools through this project

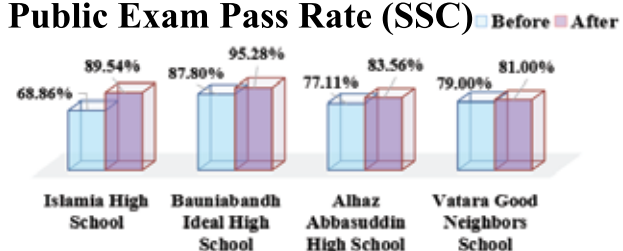
Students Status



Attendance Rate



Public Exam Pass Rate (SSC)



Students and Guests of Environmental Awareness Campaign



Community Campaign



Dignity Kit Distribution

Good Neighbors DRR Project/Patuakhali

To strengthen community resilience, the project observed National Disaster Preparedness Day 2025, focusing on equipping people with the knowledge and skills to respond effectively before disasters like cyclones strike. Since April, May, October, and November are considered disaster-prone months, timely preparedness is crucial. The program saw active participation from various community members, including students from schools and colleges.



National Disaster Preparedness Day 2025 observation

12 Solar Systems (1.2 KW/ Solar system) are installed in 12 Schools to provide better shelter (especially continuous water and light supplying) of the inhabitants of the school catchment area during the disaster in March.



Installed solar system at Sudhirpur Govt. Primary School



Capacity Building Training for the Operation & Management Team for Shelter Management

Better Life for Girls Project /Birganj

Improving girls' lives through a strong focus on menstrual hygiene management (MHM), the initiative aims to equip them with essential knowledge and resources. It includes setting up Adolescent Corners in schools, forming dedicated management committees, and providing MHM training to teachers to ensure long-term impact and sustainability.



Advancing GBV Prevention, Response & Case Management in the Rohingya Refugee Camps, Cox's Bazar

Since February 2025, our GBV project has supported women and girls in the Rohingya camps through case management (63 women), psychosocial support (540), and SRH sessions (225). We reached 659 community members with GBV awareness, held monthly protection meetings, celebrated Women's Day, and conducted risk mapping with community feedback. EMAP and Girl Shine engaged 90 and 30 participants, while 32 persons with disabilities took part in key activities. Together with GBV sub-sector partners, we continue building a safer, more inclusive environment.



Women Participants in SRH Session

Advancing GBV Prevention, Response & Case Management in the Rohingya Refugee Camps, Cox's Bazar



Adolescent Girls' Engagement in GBV Session in Host Community

Our GBV project empowers women and girls through support services, awareness, and community engagement. In 2025, we reached 216 adolescent girls with GBV awareness sessions, helping them build knowledge and resilience. We thank our dedicated staff, Rohingya volunteers, community leaders, and donor partners for their vital support.



Meeting/Training/ Workshop/Conference



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