



ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021



“ THEY CALL IT CHARITY
I CALL IT RESPONSIBILITY ”


KORVI RAKSHAND
Executive Director
JAAGO Foundation

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

The year 2020 was different from any other year. The COVID-19 pandemic has emerged as a socio-economic and humanitarian crisis worldwide, infecting millions and bringing all life and livelihoods to a near standstill as countries imposed tight restrictions on physical movement to flatten the spread. In addition to this, the strongest cyclonic storm ever recorded in the Bay of Bengal hit the southern coastal regions. Bangladesh continued to support the Rohingyas. It was filled with both challenges and victories. Vulnerability, crisis and survival that came along with the pandemic have bred courage, innovation and solutions.

JAAGO foundation worked with the government and other organizations to mitigate the pandemic storm. Despite all challenges, our teams kept their focus. The 40,000 youth leaders of the Youth Development Programme of the JAAGO Foundation went above and beyond their social call of duty and were involved in community awareness campaigns, door-to-door COVID-19 vaccine registration service of the government, distributing relief to disadvantaged and highly affected communities throughout the country.

The closure of educational institutions affected the underprivileged community more than ever before. We saw how child marriages among other gender-based violence were hiking in the country over the pandemic time. To combat the school dropout rates specifically focusing on girl child JAAGO Education programme continued its educational activities through its innovated "Tel-Ed initiative" utilizing a mobile phone to conduct classes. In addition to this, our digital education programme once limited to JAAGO Students now aims to include children all over Bangladesh.

JAAGO has shown resilience and worked vigilantly throughout the pandemic with a caring heart. I would like to thank all the sponsor parents and partners who have faith in us and for standing beside us throughout the pandemic period.

We believe through new commitments and innovation we will continue to face the challenges in the post-pandemic world, implement sustainable development goals and create a society free of exploitation and discrimination.

With Bangladesh approaching its 50th birthday, I am hopeful that through our dedication, focus and resilience we as a nation will keep on contributing in the next 50 years of the country's progress.

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INTRODUCTION

JAAGO Foundation is a nonprofit development organization committed to eliminate poverty through education and improving lives across a dynamic and developing Bangladesh. Headquartered in Dhaka, the foundation works through a network of offices spread across the country. Working with public and private partners, the Foundation receives funding from a diverse group of bilateral and multilateral development agencies, foundations, corporations, and individuals.

OUR APPROACH

Influenced by the new development paradigm, which puts people before things, JAAGO Foundation follows a participatory approach in every sphere of its work. Repudiating the traditional approach of alleviating poverty, JAAGO Foundation adopted a participatory, self-help, self-sustainable approach through community involvement and formation of youth and volunteer groups in remote rural areas of Bangladesh.

VISION

JAAGO Foundation envisions a society free from all form of exploitation and discrimination where every child has the opportunity to education and youth has the opportunity to realize their potentials.

MISSION

To bring about substantial improvement in the lives of underprivileged children and youth living in poverty, illiteracy, and social inequality through quality education and youth empowerment.

OUR HISTORY

The journey started in a small room with 17 students on a carpet with a whiteboard and marker.

Today, we have 4000 students studying across Bangladesh- Dhaka (Banani, Rayer Bazar), Chattogram, Rajshahi, Gaibandha, Madaripur, Bandarban, Habiganj, Dinajpur, Rangpur and Teknaf.

Realizing the immense potential of youth, the youth wing of JAAGO Foundation, Youth Development Program (YDP) was formed in 2011. Youth development Programme combines the spirit of volunteerism with the strength and goodwill of youth for bringing substantial social change and raising awareness among the masses. Today, this nation-wide youth platform is operating in 53 districts and has around 40,000 registered volunteers across the nation.



OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION

- To work with the socially disadvantaged people particularly with an emphasis on underprivileged children.
- To ensure the physical and emotional development of the children as well as to provide sustainable sources of income to the parents of the students of JAAGO.
- To rebuild the nation through empowering the youth with leadership.
- To contribute to the social mobility and development process in the country.
- To engage youth with the communities to integrate volunteerism in achieving Sustainable Development Goals.



AT A GLANCE



400 Employees

70% Female **30%** Male



4000

JAAGO students are getting access to quality education



14468
Youth Mobilized



491
Projects



40,000
registered volunteers who work for the betterment of the country chasing the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.



Youth Development Program is actively working in **53** districts in all the **8** divisions of Bangladesh

AT A GLANCE



Food bags were distributed to more than
1,00,000
underprivileged families during lockdown.



616 New students were enrolled out of 2500 applied students.



1200 students with access to smartphones are participating in digital classes



5
National campaigns



480 Digital classes were conducted



100 Surfer students from
3 Surfing Clubs



1,71,504
sessions were conducted through TelEd initiatives during covid pandemic

OUR PROGRAMS

EDUCATION PROGRAM

JAAGO DIGITAL SCHOOL

Currently, JAAGO has schools all over Bangladesh where 4000 underprivileged children are getting free of cost education in the English version of NCTB curriculum. JAAGO is the pioneer of the Digital Schooling system in Bangladesh. Despite the distance barrier, by using advanced technologies JAAGO is providing quality education in the rural areas via a live interactive classroom session through a video conferencing tool.

The geographical distance has been eliminated in terms of providing quality education to underprivileged children in the remote areas of Bangladesh by the use of Digital Classrooms.

Whilst improving the life prospects of the students through education, JAAGO also focuses on emotional and physical nourishment. JAAGO provides nutrition, hygiene and health programs benefiting the students, their families and the wider community.



SURFERS' MEGHER SCHOOL

3 years Project of JAAGO in collaboration with World Food Program to educate & empower Children under different Surfing Clubs located in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.



©WFP/Sayed Asif Mahmud



©WFP/Sayed Asif Mahmud

This project addresses the need for quality education, life skills, and employment opportunities for the underprivileged children and youth of four surfing clubs of Cox's Bazar through close collaboration with parents and community. JAAGO Foundation provides non-formal education to surfing children and youth for three years. Currently, 100 surfer children and youth from 4 surfing clubs are attending live digital classes on Bangla and English languages, numeracy and financial literacy, environment and tourism, digital literacy, safety, and healthy living.

The goal of this project is to strengthen existing local efforts and create learning, development, and livelihood opportunities for children and youth in Cox's Bazar.

SUMMARY

- ✓ On boarded **100** students from **3** Surfing Clubs
- ✓ Class Started from last June 2020 [Successfully completed 1st year]
- ✓ This year we have started our "Physical Learning Center "at Cox's bazar
- ✓ Distributed **100** Mobile Tabs to connect students online for digital classes
- ✓ Students are divided into **5** groups for their online classes
- ✓ We take classes on **5** basic subjects, Last **1** year we have conducted around **480** online classes
- ✓ Every Friday & Saturday our Lifeguard trainer take classes & provide training to the students

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

- ✓ Delivered SKIP cards to **100** beneficiaries
- ✓ Each SKIP holds a limit of **BDT 4,000** per month [last one year our beneficiaries has received appro. **45,60,000** taka of foods]
- ✓ A shop has been prepared with SKIP card supporting machines where the beneficiaries buy their nutritious foods, meat and groceries of their choice from the shop

CONTENT DEVELOPMENT

Completed developing Learning Competency Framework (LFC) for year **1 & 2** of non-formal curriculum of Surfer's Megher School

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Women are the main driving force in the RMG sector of Bangladesh, making up around 80% of the workforce. Despite having the difference in wages between male & female, we are blessed with very skilled women in the workforce who are uplifting the country's economy. They are the true heroes, taking care of their families as well as the country's economy by playing a vital role in supporting RMG.



THE SET BACK – WOMEN'S CHALLENGE IN RMG WORKPLACE

The ratio of female workers' participation in the RMG sector, known as a women-driven sector, has seen a decline in recent years. Female workers enter into their motherhood phase with a trepidation. With the day care facilities available in every RMG factory, if quality education could be guaranteed for their children, then the loyalty level of the workers would also almost immediately increase.

According to the compliant policy, each of the compliant factories in Bangladesh has a child care center. The objective is to nurture the workers children when she is at work, so that she could bring out the best output keeping her worries aside.

The idea is to take responsibility of these child care centers and bring them under our Early Childhood Development Program Children between age 3 – 6 will get with basic knowledge in subjects such as English, Math, Science & an overall pre-schooling curriculum.

ANNUAL ACTIVITY 2020-2021

EDUCATION PROGRAM

JAAGO FOUNDATION'S EDUCATION RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Since 2007, JAAGO Foundation has been providing Quality Education to thousands of underprivileged children all over Bangladesh. Currently, the total student population is 4000 which consists of 47.67% male and 52.33% female. The schools employ over 300 teachers and staff. Since its inception, JAAGO has been using technology and digital education. Thus, amidst the pandemic and the lockdown, it was easier for us to implement digital education.

CONTINUATION OF EDUCATION THROUGH TELEPHONE DURING COVID-19 CRISIS

During the pandemic, JAAGO has been ensuring that the students and their families survive this crisis and return to school. Since April 2020, JAAGO Foundation has provided food packages & other essentials to all the students' families and surrounding communities. Our project officers & community officers took regular health updates of our students, their family members & the neighbours over the phone. We also informed them of the appropriate COVID-19 hygiene protocols & precautions.



BOOK DISTRIBUTION

Students received NCTB & JAAGO Foundation's books during the pandemic. We invited our guardians to receive the books from the school premises.



RATNA'S DAYS IN COVID-19

Ratna is a student of class 2 in JAAGO Foundation School Dinajpur branch. She comes from a region where there was no electricity even a few years ago; now, she is attending online digital classes. Ratna's father, a farmer, shared his thoughts about why he admitted his daughter to this school: "I, along with my wife, who works for a local NGO, both make a living for our family. When the pandemic hit and schools were closed, Ratna became very upset. Because of JAAGO's innovative Tel-Ed initiative, Ratna is back to studying, and she can dream about her future again.

One-to-one sessions under the Tel-Ed initiative have enabled shy students to become more open and interactive. Unlike other children in the country who fell out of the education system due to the pandemic, JAAGO school children continue their education through mobile phones. Those who do not have a mobile phone at home are going to the neighbour's house to attend their class by using their phones. Those who face network issues go out of the house to find areas with better reception; such is their dedication. Therefore, the Tel-Ed project has arrived as a timely initiative for thousands of students and their parents.

CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS TO PROVIDE UNINTERRUPTIBLE EDUCATION DURING PANDEMIC

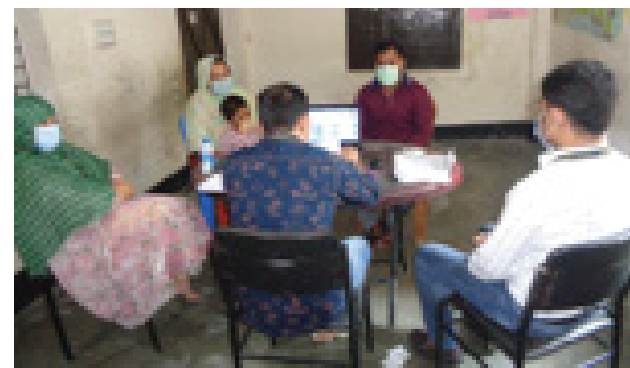
Our Education Coordinators arranged capacity building workshops for the teachers to understand the concept of Tel-Ed and familiarise them with this initiative. The workshops were focused on the following:

- 1) Objective & execution plan of Tel-Ed
- 2) Effective Phone Communication
- 3) Effective Lesson Delivery over the phone
- 4) How to make a small video/audio lesson



TEL-ED MONITORING SYSTEM

Tel-Ed aims to keep our students connected with us and continue their education to achieve expected competencies, even during this pandemic.



During the timeline, June 2020 - Dec 2020, we reached around 91% of our students both online & through telephone calls, conducting 83,605 learning sessions with the guidance of our Education Coordinators and teachers. From Jan 2021 - Jun 2021, both students reached & sessions have increased to approx 96% & 87,899 respectively. Below a detailed information is shared :

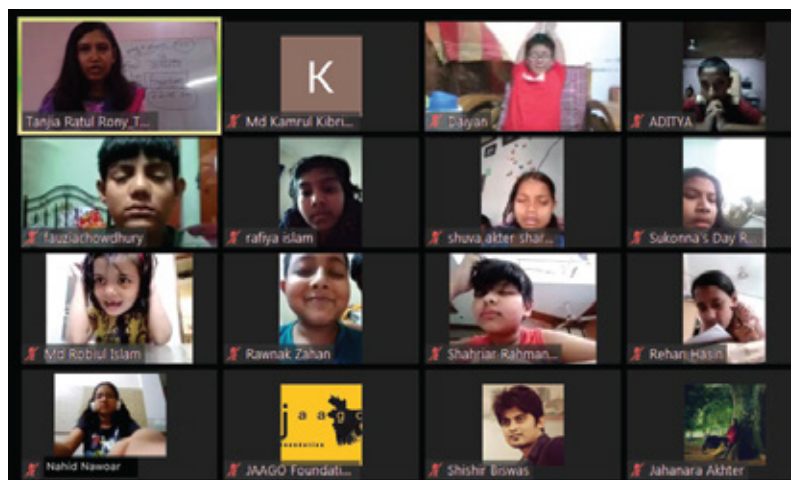
- ✓ Maintain Conversation Log
- ✓ Lesson Plan, Syllabus
- ✓ Material Distribution List
- ✓ Assignments & Quiz Maintenance

To keep track of both the teachers and students' class records, we maintain a Conversation Log each week.

MONTHLY VIDEO FILE DISTRIBUTION & COPY CHECKING

Currently, around 1200 students with access to smartphones are participating in digital classes. The rest are continuing their classes through voice calls & text messages.

Short video materials are shared through the ShareIt app or SD memory cards. One-on-one feedback sessions are also available. Assignments are provided to students, as well as assessment questions for the parents.



TAKING HEALTH/ OTHER RELEVANT UPDATES OF STUDENTS, FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES:

Our administrative team is always on board to take monthly health-related updates of students, their financial condition, and migration-related information from the parents by phone call and door to door visits. Through this, we can track each of our students' families and monitor their condition.

ONLINE CLASSES

The rate of online classes is comparatively higher in Rayerbazar, Banani & Madaripur branches. Students attend their online sessions every week, and their assessments and homework are checked and provided through Whatsapp.



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VIDEO CALL SESSION BETWEEN SPONSORS & STUDENTS

Our Child Sponsorship Team organises Google Meet video call sessions between the sponsors and the sponsored students to share their life experiences during COVID-19 and their academic progress.

COMMUNICATION DURING COVID-19 CRISIS BRINGING THE PARENTS & COMMUNITY ON BOARD

The administration team is organising meetings in small groups at the school compound and parents' homes. The issues discussed are the importance of continuing education, hygiene & maintenance, children's mental health issues and parents' role to ensure getting all children back to school safely when schools reopen. Parents of thousands of students of JAAGO Foundation schools were gathered in small groups, maintaining social distance, to attend our sessions throughout the year.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

96%

Distanced Learning sessions over phone have been conducted with students

96%

Surfer students participated in online class sessions

96%

Parents reached through meeting and house visit

87,899

TelEd sessions have been conducted with targeted students

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

JAAGO Foundation stepped forward to provide the youth of Bangladesh a voice and a platform through its Youth Development Program. This program focuses on national development by reallocating skills and resources to foster self-reliance and growth in every young citizen.

Volunteer for Bangladesh- the volunteer wing of JAAGO Foundation and a nationwide youth platform that presently exists in 53 districts and has around 40,000 registered volunteers across the country.

Youth Development Program provides the opportunity to empower the youth, facilitate volunteerism, foster self-resilience and growth while equipping them with necessary tools to shape them for a meaningful future to Achieve the UN SDGs 2030.





DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

JAAGO Foundation works on democracy and good governance through its Youth Development Programme to increase the knowledge of youth facilitated by the youth agents on promoting civic education within their communities.

The program functions for accelerating the ability of young people to bring bigger changes to the socio-political culture through advocacy, voting and grassroots level services. It focuses on the importance of valuing diversity; developing empathy alongside the desire to help the vulnerable or to protect our heritage and the environment.

Moreover, it arranges dialogues on prevalent political issues and connects youth to the political leaders to discuss the challenges and opportunities to build a better Bangladesh.



ANNUAL ACTIVITY 2020-2021

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

During this time period, Youth Development Program played an exemplary role countrywide to combat the pandemic with massive awareness campaigns, numerous development projects for their local community, national events to engage thousands of volunteers and many more. To mobilize these youth with different skills, different training programs and workshops have been arranged by the Youth Development Program of JAAGO Foundation.

During the lockdown, there were relief distribution campaigns in different districts. Apart from that, after 6 years we have amended the VBD Bylaws for the 5th Time. Lastly, on the 10th year of YDP, we have launched the Alumni Association of Volunteer for Bangladesh, the volunteer wing of JAAGO Foundation.



NATIONAL CAMPAIGNS

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED 5 BIG NATIONAL EVENTS IN THE YEAR 2020-2021



- 6 VIRTUAL SESSIONS
- 24 RENOWNED SPEAKERS
- 72 YOUTHS FROM DIFFERENT PARTS OF BANGLADESH

- COUNTRYWIDE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TO COMBAT COVID 19
- 7000+ YOUTH PARTICIPATION
- 45 DISTRICTS OF 8 DIVISIONS.

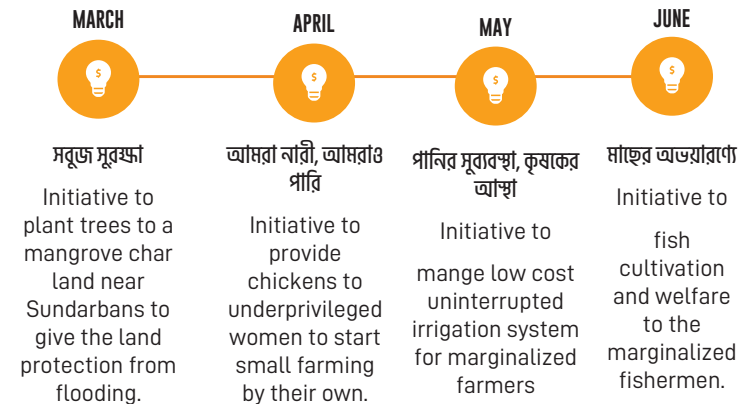
- COUNTRYWIDE VACCINE REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN
- 35000+ REGISTRATION.
- 800+ YOUTH PARTICIPATION FROM 40 DISTRICTS.

- DIALOGUE BETWEEN YOUTH AND YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS
- 6 YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS
- 64 YOUTHS FROM 64 DISTRICTS.

- COUNTRYWIDE ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY MODEL COMMUNITY
- PLANTED 2021 TREES IN 45 DISTRICTS CLEANING ACTIVITY IN 45 DISTRICTS
- 2000+ YOUTH PARTICIPATION

IDEA PROJECT

To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Youth Development Program, from March 2021, every month IDEA will fund one best idea of the youth of VBD for the next 10 months. In last 4 months, we have funded the following sustainable projects through IDEA.



VBD BARTA

We introduced our monthly live news program named "VBD বার্তা" to showcase the monthly activities, projects and campaigns of Volunteer for Bangladesh since July 2020.



VBD ELECTIONS

In December 2020, we launched the biggest District Board Election in the history of Volunteer for Bangladesh. Later, this June 2021, we have launched the biggest Divisional Board Election with the highest number of participating districts and voters ever.

DECEMBER 2020



SEVEN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS

Number of Districts: 41
Number of Candidates: 504
Number of Elected Members: 285
Number of Voters: 1280
Male: Female= 3:1

JUNE 2021



FIVE DIVISION BOARD MEMBERS

Number of Districts: 50
Number of Candidates: 60
Number of Elected Members: 40
Number of Voters: 1467
Male: Female= 3:1

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION WITH PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM

In the year 2020-21, we have successfully completed virtual dialogues and workshops earlier. Then this year we have successfully completed the 3 day residential training of trainers (TOT) in Dhaka.

CIVIC EDUCATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

- 4 VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS
- 120 YOUTH PARTICIPANTS
- 4 DISTRICTS

PEACEFUL CO- EXISTENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT

- 4 VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS
- 160 YOUTH FROM DIFFERENT POLITICAL WINGS
- 4 DISTRICTS

DIALOGUE AGAINST CORRUPTION

- DIVISIONAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN YOUTH AND CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES
- 4 DIALOGUES
- 120 YOUTH PARTICIPANTS

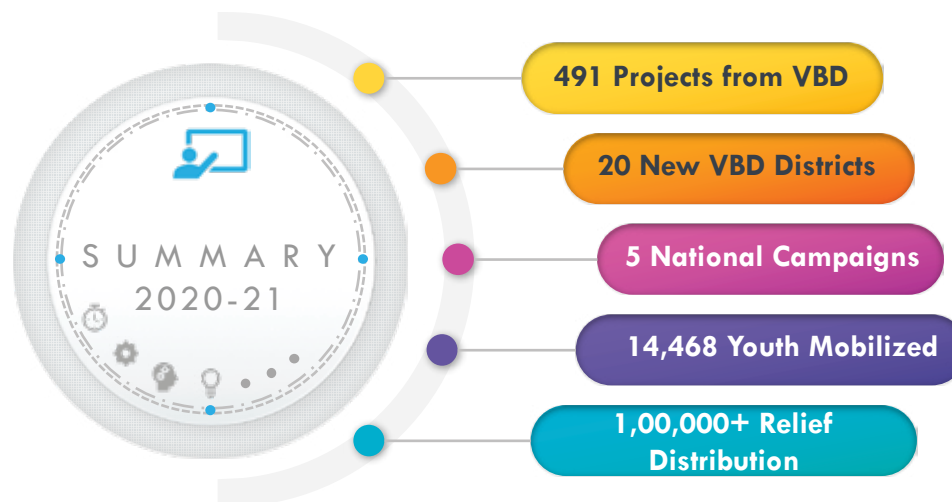
TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT)

- TRAINING ON CIVIC EDUCATION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN SCHOOLS
- 40 YOUTH PARTICIPANTS
- 4 DISTRICTS

CHALLENGES FACED DURING PANDEMIC

- COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and lockdown reduced the number of activities and projects.
- Limited training hours for Youth Development Program Members.
- Less partnerships with other youth organizations
- Couldn't complete all the Skill Development Trainings for Volunteers due to time limitation.

ACHIEVEMENTS



JAAGO FEEDBACK SUMMIT

JAAGO Foundation organized the "JAAGO Feedback Summit" on July 2020 and February 2021 to evaluate the organizational circumstances and employee feedbacks. JAAGO organizes the feedback summit twice in a year to assess, appraise and review the achievements and challenges of its programmes and departments and set a goal for next six months. This summit is also an opportunity to discuss, network and exchange experience and knowledge between the employees. Usually it is organized physically however this year it was arranged virtually.



OTHER SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS

DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM

COLLABORATION WITH GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM), KOREA TELECOM (KT)

JAAGO Foundation in collaboration with International Office of Migration (IOM) and Government of Bangladesh (GoB) provided English Language teaching through distance education program to a total 9,300 children in Moheshkhali Island with 10 government primary schools funded by IOM and Korean Telecom.

JAAGO Foundation has developed 1 online course including 13 videos for teacher training on classrooms management techniques in Muktopath (An open and free e-Learning platform) free of cost with a2i (Access to Information) which is highly used and appreciated by teachers.

JAAGO Foundation has started the 3rd phase of distance learning program's operation to make the changes and meet the objectives of the project. The third phase of the project is specifically targeted to develop a sustainability plan and institutionalization of the project interventions to provide long-term benefits for both, school teachers-students and community. This phase will significantly contribute to improve access to existing online educational contents and enhance knowledge on English language and literature using digital contents and multimedia classroom for 4,000 students from class 1 to class 3 of 10 targeted project schools.



SAFE HAVEN PROJECT

ROHINGYA REFUGEE CHILDREN, 2017-PRESENT

Through the Safe Haven Project, JAAGO is serving upwards of 500 Rohingya refugee children per day. JAAGO has undergone training in crisis-learning from supportive international organizations, as well as trauma-therapy techniques to administer to the children for their emotional and mental wellbeing. Additionally, local Rohingya support staff have been hired to engage with the children.

Safe Haven children have access to:

- 1) Safe shelter: An administered area staffed by trained, Rohingya and Bangladeshi professionals to care for children during the day
- 2) Education: Receive informal lessons by staff trained in crisis education models and access to information through technology
- 3) Therapy and Play: Receive trauma therapy (learned through US-based practitioners who have trained JAAGO staff) so that children can play and can be a child again.



ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021

“

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

-Nelson Mandela

”

“

You must be the change you want to see in the world.

-Mahatma Gandhi

”



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