

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



FOUNDER'S LETTER



“
**PEOPLE CALL IT CHARITY
I CALL IT RESPONSIBILITY**
”

At the age of 21, I met a group of children who were collecting bottles to sell. One of the kids asked to take her home with me since she didn't have one. I still remember how helpless I felt. I didn't know what to say to her. That was my turning point. I knew I must turn my guilt into something positive and work for these underprivileged children.

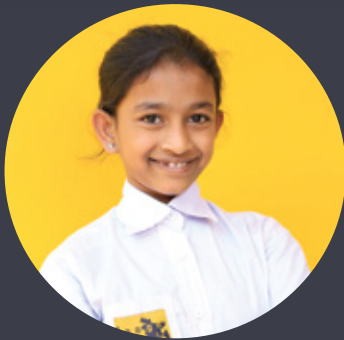
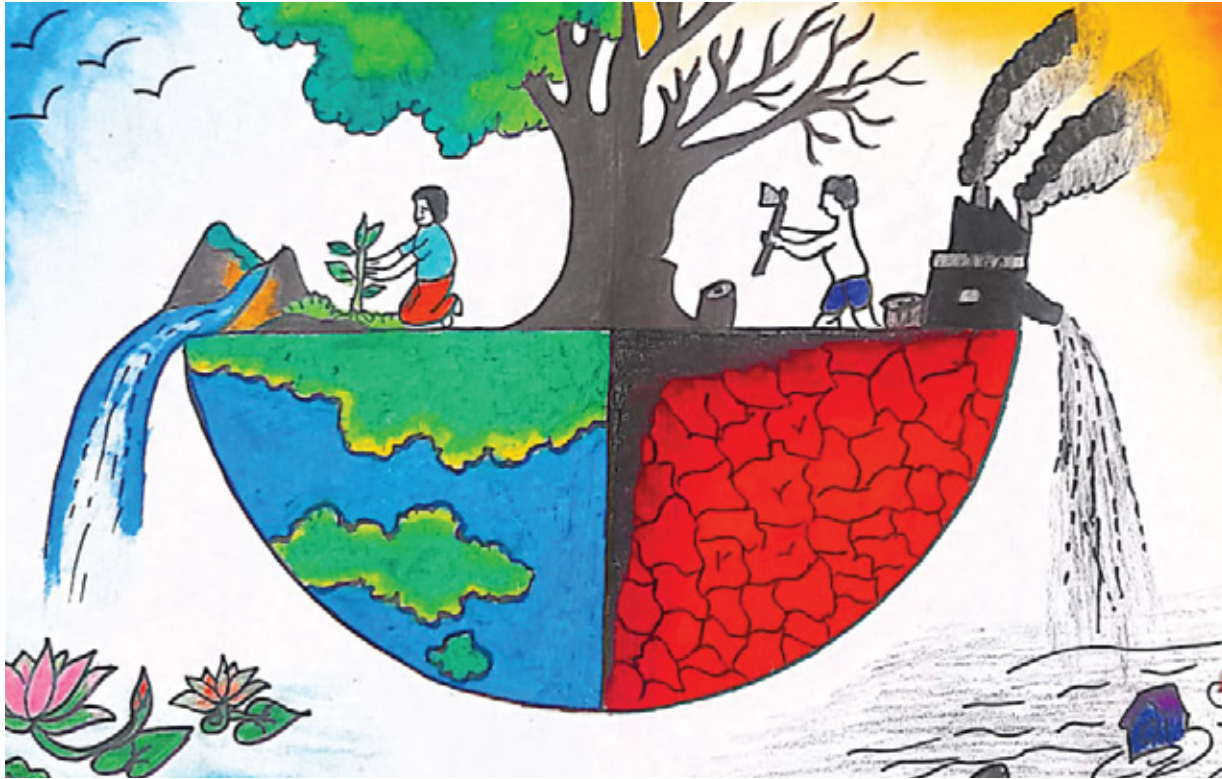
Starting its journey with 17 students and a chalkboard, we have till now provided quality education to almost 30,000 underprivileged children and empowered 50,000 youth leaders in 64 districts of Bangladesh. Today, JAAGO works with five focus areas - Education, Youth, Women, Climate Change and Governance.

But the journey was not smooth. We stumbled, we failed, but we rose again to be stronger and better. It would not have been possible without our generous sponsors and selfless volunteers who stuck with us through thick and thin. We overcame all hurdles and reached where we are today with their support.

Spanning 15 years, the journey of JAAGO has taken us from a humble team of 4 to a proud family of 600. With continued support, dedication, and hard work from all of us, we will continue on our path to rebuilding the nation.

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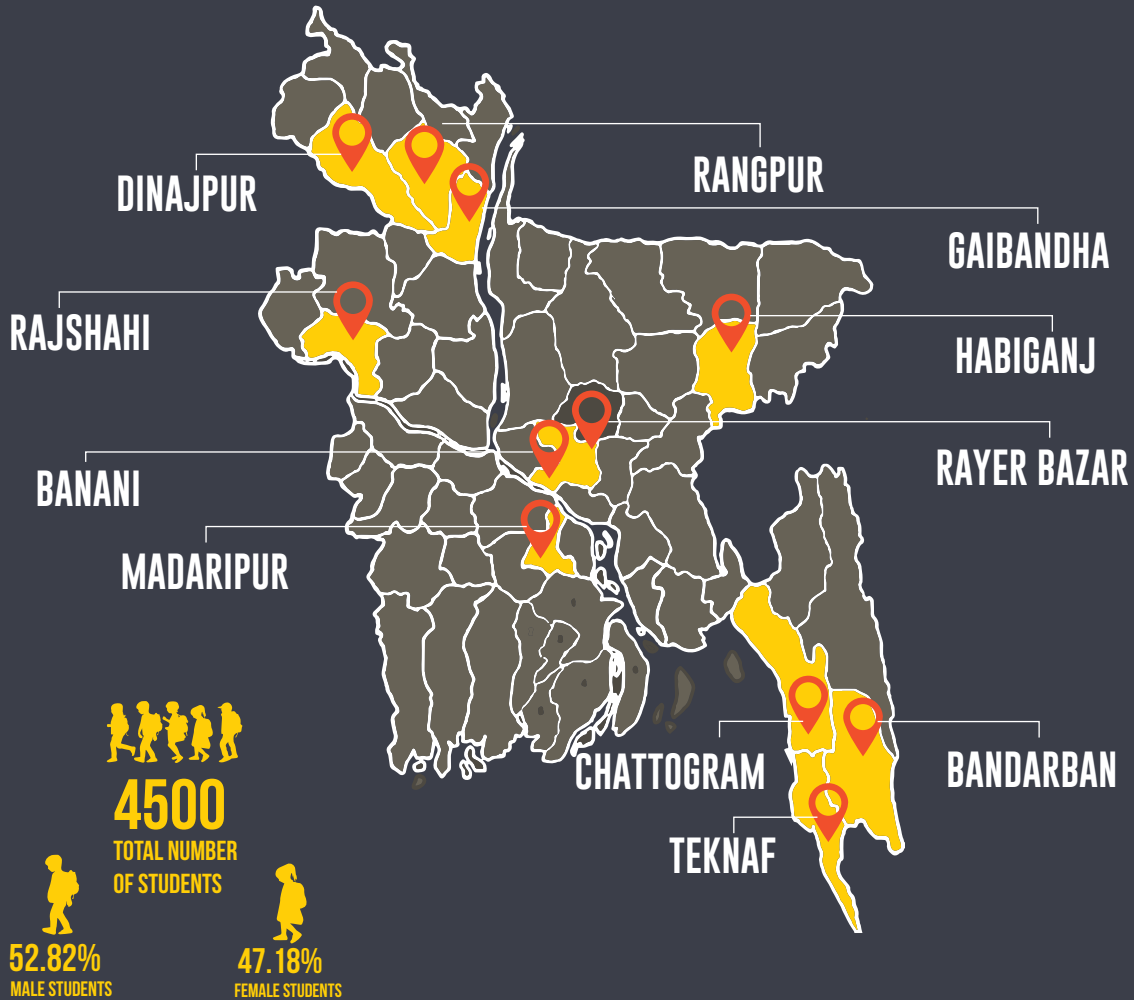
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Monila | Class- 9
JAAGO Foundation School

WHERE WE ARE

JAGO FOUNDATION SCHOOLS AT A GLANCE







INTRODUCTION

JAAGO Foundation is a nonprofit development organization committed to eliminating 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 4500 students studying across Bangladesh- Dhaka (Banani, Rayer Bazar), Chattogram, Rajshahi, Gaibandha, Madaripur, Bandarban, Habiganj, Dinajpur, Rangpur and Teknaf.

Realising the immense potential of youth, the youth wing of JAAGO Foundation, Youth Development Program (YDP) was formed in 2011. Youth development Program 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 nationwide youth platform is operating in 64 districts and has around 50,000 registered volunteers across the nation.



OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION

- 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 work with socially disadvantaged people, particularly with an emphasis on underprivileged children and youth.



- To rebuild the nation through empowering the youth.
- To contribute to the sustainable social development process in the country.
- To engage youth with the communities to integrate volunteerism in achieving Sustainable Development Goals.

JAAGO AT A GLANCE

2007



2022

FOCUS AREAS



EDUCATION

Bangladesh recognizes basic education as a fundamental right and universal primary education as a basic state policy. Bangladesh has an impressive adult literacy rate of 74.68% which undoubtedly is a big success of the present Government's visionary education policy.

However, it is impossible to bring all sections of the people under the formal education system. A large number of children cannot enter the education system due to various reasons; these include poverty and rising inequality, widening disparities in educational opportunities and facilities,

poor class attendance and alarming dropout rates, lack of skilled teachers, lack of scientific curriculum, high cost of school-education, imposition of newer systems of education without proper teachers-training programs, etc.

JAAGO has been providing free-of-cost quality education to underprivileged children following the English version of NCTB curriculum. With a decade-long presence in the education sector and pioneering the Digital Schooling Program, JAAGO revolutionised the quality of education to remote areas of Bangladesh.

In addition to this, to address the need of those who do not have access to traditional schools, JAAGO has introduced alternative learning opportunities and developed a curriculum that reflects the special needs of the children and adolescents and empowers them to cope with life. 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.

DIGITAL SCHOOL PROGRAM

JAAGO Foundation is providing free-of-cost quality education to 4500 children (age group 4 to 16) all over Bangladesh. Due to the educational quality gap in rural, urban, and hard-to-reach areas, JAAGO came up with the idea of starting online classes in a blended approach with quality teachers based in the capital city Dhaka to provide quality education to the underprivileged and hard to reach children through innovative use of ICT by overcoming geographical distance. Here, a rural classroom is connected to a qualified teacher in Dhaka via video conferencing technology.

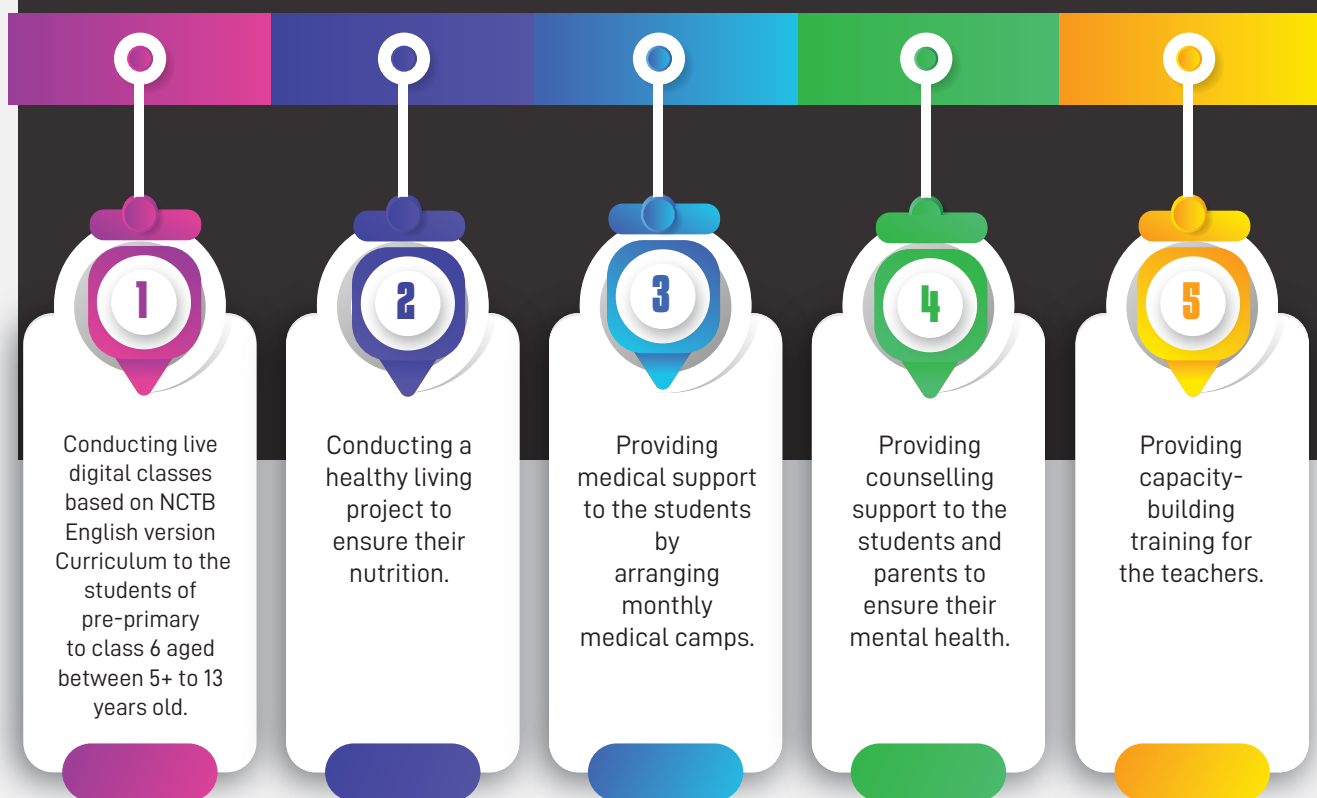
By using the vast resources and advantages of technologies, a live interactive classroom session brings the opportunity for children to embrace the world sitting in their classrooms.

JAAGO supports the creativity of underprivileged children and values their input in society by providing education in the English version under NCTB (National Curriculum & Textbook Board).

The goal of this project is to provide ICT-based quality education under the national curriculum of Bangladesh to the underprivileged and hard-to-reach children of Bangladesh to break the cycle of poverty through quality education.



HIGHLIGHTING POINTS





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 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 trepidation.

With the daycare 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 compliance policy, each of the compliance factories in Bangladesh has a childcare centre. The objective is to nurture the worker's children when she is at work so that she can bring out the best output by keeping her worries aside. The idea is to take responsibility for these child care centres and bring them under our Early Childhood Development Program.

Children between age 3 – 6 will get basic knowledge in subjects such as English, Maths, Science & an overall pre-schooling curriculum.

JAAGO Foundation started its Early Childhood Development Program in July 2020 in partnership with BGMEA. In our program, we offer an activity-based learning approach that fosters the child's creativity, numeracy, literacy, social norms, communication in Bangla and English, and basic life skills. An online teacher and a physical facilitator keep the children occupied with fun & creative activities.



YOUTH

Greek philosopher and one of the founders of Cynic philosophy once said, 'The foundation of every state is the education of its youth'. The words sound so true in our present context when Bangladesh, as an emerging economy, is making great strides in different sectors and progressing with flying colours. For any country to continue the legacy of development and keep moving ahead, the power of the youth must be appropriately utilised.

With 47% of its population between the ages of 18-35 years Bangladesh is uniquely positioned to benefit from a demographic dividend. This section of society can become a game-changer for Bangladesh and the entire region. However, if their voice is ignored and their issues not addressed, it will not be long before their despondency turns into a mass revolt. Depending on the conditions, this huge cohort of young people can prove to be a challenge as well, either leading to conflict and violence or opening the window to new opportunities.

Based on the PYD approach, the main goal is to increase the meaningful participation of youth within their communities, schools, organisations, economies, peer groups, and families, enhancing their skills, providing opportunities, and fostering healthy relationships so they may build on their collective leadership.

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

It follows a decentralised democratic process whereby it is ensured that actions are youth-led, youth initiated and youth-targeted. Currently, 50,000 JAAGO Youth leaders are actively working in 64 districts of Bangladesh implementing the sustainable development goals within their communities involving the local government in need. JAAGO invests effectively in youth's integrated development, the current generation will contribute to more significant economic growth, democracy, and stability, and development efforts are more efficient and effective when we engage youth as partners.



VOLUNTEER FOR BANGLADESH

Volunteer for Bangladesh (VBD), the volunteer wing of JAAGO Youth programme is one of largest volunteer youth networks in the country, exists to encourage young people to become a part of the youth family and bring positive change in the lives of people around them through volunteerism. VBD allows the volunteers to come up with their innovative ideas, sharpen it and implement it in a way that benefits the community because VBD promotes youth lead initiatives. Volunteerism is a powerful way to involve people of all ages in tackling social as well as development challenges and obstacles. It further helps to take a leap and transform the nature of development. Volunteerism benefits the individual by strengthening trust, unity and empowerment as well as aiding the society at large. Furthermore, in today's world where opportunities are centralized VBD has created a platform for the youth outside the capital city where their voice is heard and valued in all the 64 districts of Bangladesh.





WOMEN

In JAAGO, we believe in equality, inclusion, and diversity. JAAGO Women is particularly committed to address the challenges faced by women and girls that hinder them from reaching their full potential. Through the JAAGO Women, we are providing. Sexual and Reproductive Health Right Supports to the underprivileged women and girls.

JAAGO Women provides menstrual health and hygiene management support to all its female students and community beneficiaries through behaviour change approach.

Ensuring uninterrupted education to the disadvantaged girls through providing them JAAGO women Scholarship BDT 100,000-250,000. We are providing, alternative learning opportunities and nonformal education to underrepresented groups in Cox's Bazar, such as the girls of the surfers' community.

Furthermore, to challenge the fear of gender-based violence JAAGO has been working actively in raising awareness through behavior changing interventions for the local communities involving and led by the youth. To ensure active women participation in the governance process and advance citizen engagement, the youth development programme compels each district to include at least two female members in the decision making committee of seven people.



CLIMATE CHANGE

Bangladesh, on all counts, is the "innocent victim" of climate change, as it, in comparison with developed countries, has had little contribution to its causes. It is one of the greatest threats to our sustainable future, but addressing the climate challenge presents an opportunity to promote prosperity, security, and a brighter future.

Recognising the imperative of combating these crises of growing economic inequality and rising climate change, JAAGO focused on working closely with climate-related issues; working directly with critical populations such as local communities, women, youth,

and other marginalised and/or underrepresented groups to develop climate resilience and alternative livelihood options. JAAGO has been organising behaviour change communication interventions to increase acceptance of critical populations' participation, activism and leadership on climate action. JAAGO aims to invest and include youth in the climate action process and make way for the youth so they can act as an agent of climate solutions and mitigate the effects of climate change. Till date, our volunteers have implemented 100+ projects to tackle climate change in collaboration with the Commonwealth, British High Commission, and ActionAid.



GOVERNANCE

Youth civic and political participation (formal and non-formal) and collective action and leadership that are needed to address various social issues are promoted by civic education (formal and non-formal). And with the current demographic dividend status of the country acknowledging youth participation in the decision-making process will accelerate the overall development process. Hence, here at JAAGO critical population, specifically, youth (irrespective of race, religion, age) are given a platform to engage themselves meaningfully in strengthening the civic space.

EDUCATION PROGRAM **ACTIVITY**

JULY 2021- JUNE 2022



FROM TEL-ED TO NEW NORMAL SCHOOL

JAAGO has been working hard to ensure that the students and their families have survived this crisis and returned to school. To stop the spread of COVID infection, all educational institutions have been closed in Bangladesh since March 17, 2020, and thus e-learning has become the predominant means of acquiring an education. Considering the socio- economic conditions of our students, we had no choice but to conduct classes through mobile phones.

JAAGOs Tel-Ed initiative, which started in June 2020, is one such program that utilises mobile phones (voice call service & short messaging service) to conduct classes. Through this initiative, students receive formal quality education from home, and regular participation is ensured to reduce the dropout rate.

The schools and colleges across Bangladesh reopened on 12th September 2021 after being closed for 18 months due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Our students returned to school in a festive



BOOK & STATIONERY DISTRIBUTION



Like every year students of JAAGO Foundation received NCTB & JAAGO Foundation's books during the pandemic. All our students festively received the books from the school premises. We also provided stationeries to all our students.

RESULT & RECRUITMENT

In 2021, from all the 11 branches of JAAGO Foundation, 215 students participated in the PEC exam, and from Rayer Bazar & Banani 48 students took part in the JSC exam. All of the students of PEC & JSC passed successfully.

Out of 1500 students who applied for admission in 2022, we registered 618 disadvantaged students after a thorough review and examination. Among all registered students, 55% are female & 45% are male.





SCIENCE FAIR & PROJECTS

We organised a science fair on the 8th of November, 2021 to maintain the interest of students in school activities after reopening school on the 12th of September, 2021 after it had been closed for 18 months due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The fair was attended by twelve groups comprising four or five students per group in classes 6 through 9. A few of the projects included robots, drip irrigation, climate change, a bio-gas plant, the formation of lava, and digestive systems function. They are still working on improving & bringing those projects to life.





Japan Supports Transportation for Bandarban School through Grass-roots Human Security Projects
JAAGO Foundation launches a free bus service to improve commuting conditions for our students & teachers to increase access to education & learning in Bandarban school with the help of the Japanese Ambassador supported by the people of Japan. Transportation for students is a major issue for both parents and children at Bandarban. Every day students face several hurdles to getting to their classes on time. Here, both parents and students have to consider factors like security, cost, and most importantly, reaching school on time. For the safety and security of the students, a teacher & office assistant accompany the students when they pick up and drop off. Our bus will pick up and drop a child from his/her house or from a nearest given point (Tiger Para, T&T Para, Amtoli, Lalmohon Bagan, Meghla Tangchangya Para, Talukder Para, Parjatan Chakma Para, Senior Para, Reisa Tholi Para, Satkomol Para, Ratnapur, Lombaghona Para, Dunkhi Para, Jiniyong Para, Rawja Para, Bandarban Bus Stand).

TAMANNA AKTER

FIRST BANGLADESHI DELEGATE
TO ATTEND OIC HIGH SCHOOL MODEL SUMMIT



Tamanna is a class 10 student at the Banani school of JAAGO Foundation. It is our pleasure to announce that Tamanna Akter represented Bangladesh at the OIC High School Model Summit 2022 in Turkey. It is a great accomplishment, especially for Tamanna before joining JAAGO School, she had never even considered going to school and today she became the first Bangladeshi ever to attend this conference. She never imagined she'd have this opportunity, but hard work and dedication to her studies have allowed her to attend this conference and represent the Youth & Sports Ministry of the state of Kuwait.

MD. SOHEL RAHMAN

ALL-ROUND PERFORMER WITH
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



Md. Sohel Rahman was one of the brightest students in our first batch at Rayer Bazar school. Following the completion of the SSC & HSC exams, he was admitted to the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Asia Pacific.

Besides his academic endeavours, he is also active in cultural activities and sports. Aside from participating in CSE cultural festival and becoming a champion of stage drama, he also participated in an inter-university programming contest. In the second semester, he achieved the highest CGPA of 4 out of 4 and he is currently in the fourth semester with an overall CGPA of 3.88 out of 4.

ANISUL HAQ ARTS AND CRAFTS COMPETITION ON WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY AND CHILD RIGHTS WEEK



Every year, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh observes World Children's Day on the first Monday of October. Like every year, it has been celebrated as Child Rights Week till October 10th to create awareness and make all involved in child rights, protection, and development. The theme of this year's World Children's Day 2021 is 'Investment in our future means investing in our Children. "শিশুর জন্য বিনিয়োগ করি, সমৃদ্ধ বিশ্ব গড়ি"।

As a tribute to the late Anisul Haq, JAAGO Foundation organized the "Anisul Haq Arts and Crafts Competition 2021". At the event, 52 students from six branches of JAAGO Foundation School participated. The theme of the competition was "Your Dream City". A prize and certificates were awarded to the winners after their works were submitted to their teachers on Friday, October 8th, 2021.





TRAINING PROGRAM BY BANGLADESH YOUTH LEADERSHIP CENTER (BYLC)

A total of 55 underprivileged children of Dhaka & Chittagong took part in BYLC's month-long leadership program for juniors, Building Bridges through Leadership Training Junior (BBLTJ) specially designed for secondary school students in classes/grades 6 to 10 to instil positive values from a young age so that lessons of leadership and building bridges remain influential throughout their lives.

The program, adapted to suit the learning needs of students aged between 12 and 16, focuses on sensitising a younger audience to the values of 21st-century skills, leadership, teamwork, community service, and active citizenship. This program also focuses on mental wellbeing, safe space, and empathy.

INTERACTION BETWEEN SPONSORS & STUDENTS



Our Child Sponsorship Team organizes Google Meet video call sessions between the sponsors and the sponsored students to share their day-to-day life experiences after COVID-19 and their academic progress. A yearly iftar program is also organized for sponsors and students to meet in person.

MONTHLY STUDENTS' & FAMILIES' OVERALL UPDATES

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



CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS

Eighteen hours of capacity-building workshops have been organized for 34 teachers by our Education Coordinators. The workshop was conducted to impart basic training to the teachers on classroom management, team building, lesson planning, and subject guidelines. So that they can enhance their teaching skills.



IFTAR OF GRATITUDE

JAAGO Foundation stepped into the 15th year of its journey on 14 April 2022. As part of the 15th-anniversary celebrations and the holy month of Ramadan, JAAGO hosted an iftar with the students, sponsors and well-wishers of JAAGO. It was an occasion for us to express our gratitude for the strength we have received from the Almighty during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On the occasion, guests were connected LIVE with thousands of students via our Digital School System in the 11 schools situated in remote parts of Bangladesh. It was an heartfelt experience of unity where the children, sponsor parents, supporters, well-wishers and volunteers were united and feasted as one.



DIGITAL MEDIA OUTREACH OF JAAGO FOUNDATION



TOTAL 80,59,911

(8 MILLION+) PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH SHARING CONTENT
IN DIFFERENT SOCIAL MEDIA
PLATFORMS OF JAAGO

TOTAL 37,047

NEW PEOPLE STARTED FOLLOWING
JAAGO SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS
IN 2022

YOUTH PROGRAMME ACTIVITY

JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022

FEAR OF VIOLENCE (মহিৎসতায় ভয় আর নয়)

Women experience fears three times as much as males, despite their documented risk of personal violence being lower. It is argued that women's fear of crime stems from their concern about the repercussions of violence. The reality of violence is a key component in most women's lives, and it manifests itself in a variety of everyday settings, which often reflects in their spatial exclusions. It is important to sensitize women, men, and communities on the issues that can prevent GBV in the long term. Especially in Bangladesh where currently there is a youth bulge. JAAGO Foundation in association with Plan International initiated The project "Fear of Violence (মহিৎসতায় ভয় আর নয়)" in four districts of Bangladesh- Dhaka, Cox's Bazar, Barishal and Rangpur. The project capacitated and sensitized hundreds of youth (both male and female) leaders on "Fear of violence" and Gender-Based Violence.



HAND HYGIENE FOR ALL (HH4A)



The Hand Hygiene for All initiative is necessary to move the world towards the goal of supporting the most vulnerable communities with the means to protect their health and environment. Hand hygiene was the key to stopping the spread of COVID-19. Adopting strong hand hygiene strategies is one of the single most effective interventions to prevent diseases and death due to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). Hand hygiene also protects against a range of other diseases including common colds, flu, diarrhea and pneumonia. This is also a very cost-effective way to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Access to hand hygiene in healthcare facilities, schools, public places and at home is essential to protect global health and reduce the risk of future outbreaks. The project, Hand Hygiene for All (HH4A), in collaboration with WaterAid Bangladesh, aimed to support the implementation of UNICEF's programmatic work around HH4A accelerating impact on the ground and bringing positive change to children's lives, building skills and capacity of youth equipping them for entry into professional life and enable and empower youth to become agents of change in their communities as well as nationally. The project targeted 180 youths and 225 community people from 9 districts (Rangpur, Dinajpur, Gaibandha, Khulna, Sharkhira, Kushtia, Dhaka, Tangail, Gazipur) at 3 divisions (Dhaka, Rangpur, Khulna).



APNAR MASK KOTHAYE

Mask is a part of a comprehensive strategy of measures to suppress transmission and save lives; the use of a mask alone is not sufficient to provide an adequate level of protection against COVID-19. Most of the people of our country had been unaware of using masks correctly at any crowded place during the COVID-19 pandemic. In such a circumstances, youth volunteers of Youth Programme of JAAGO Foundation in partnership with Daraz Online Shopping, Confidence Group, and Beximco Pharmaceuticals Limited initiated community participatory behaviour campaign "Apnar Mask Kothay" back in November 2020 and it continued till January 2022. The campaign aimed to increase awareness on the importance of wearing masks and social distancing to decrease the risks of contamination of COVID -19 among the people. Through this campaign, youth volunteers from 64 districts raised awareness on using masks properly and its benefits on this pandemic and reached approximately 1 million people. In addition to this, youth volunteers conducted door-to-door campaigns to motivate community people to get registered under the government vaccination programme to get covid vaccines.

WORLD BOOK DAY AND LET'S READ CAMPAIGN

World Book Day is a worldwide celebration of authors, illustrations, books, and reading and is observed to promote the benefits and enjoyments of reading books. UNESCO celebrates World Book Day every year on April 23 as a symbolic date for world literature. The day celebrates the role of books as a bridge between generations and across cultures, a link between the past and the future. Considering the value of reading, Let's Read Campaign aimed to encourage children's development as readers, and foster a lifelong love of literature. JAAGO in cooperation with the Asia Foundation initiated the project to celebrate the world book day by introducing the Let's Read App to the children and the parents in order to make educational resources more accessible and develop reading competence through the app. Moreover, this campaign promoted safe internet usage and productive screen time among students and parents. The project, held in April 2022 in all 64 districts, benefited 16000 children and 16000 parents by direct engagement of 1600 volunteers.



LEADERSHIP IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Since the first wave of COVID-19 hit Bangladesh, the volunteers of VBD stepped forward to help alleviate the impact of the crisis on marginalized people. In the face of adversity, they demonstrated unwavering commitment and courage while working tirelessly to support disadvantaged communities. From spreading awareness on understanding essential safety measures against COVID-19 to distributing underprivileged families with food and daily necessities, they served as a beacon of hope during these challenging times.

The volunteers of VBD Chandpur partnered with 'Songjog' and came forward to support 149 Covid affected people with an oxygen cylinder and Faysal, President of VBD Kushtia District received the award 'Corona Joddha' given by the District Commissioner (DC) for distributing food for 50 days consistently during the Covid Crisis.



The devastating flood that affected Sylhet district in 2022 where almost 3 million people have been rendered homeless and as many as 40,091 houses were destroyed. Since the beginning of this crisis, JAAGO Foundation, with the help of our generous supporters and volunteers, have worked relentlessly and provided people with food, medicine and other necessities.

Standing neck-deep in flood water, volunteers are reaching out to people to provide necessary relief packages. Several people and organisations have come forward with aid from different places. The aids have been packed up and distributed to the affected families by our volunteers with great effort. With the flood waters receding, there was a rise in waterborne diseases in the country. People suffered from diseases like diarrhoea, dysentery, fever, skin infections and other waterborne diseases. Ensuring the availability of drinking water was our top priority. So far, we have helped thousands of families. In addition to providing clean drinking water and food, JAAGO has begun working on the post-flood situation.

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION AND COMMONWEALTH DAY



In Bangladesh, the climate change effect is seen and increasing day by day. Some coastal and southern areas are already affected by climate change disasters. Vulnerability to climate change is increasing at an extreme level. An immediate initiative is necessary to make consciousness in human behaviour with social action locally and globally which can make future generations survive in a suitable planet. Considering the issue, this project generated discussion about youth engagement for climate action in Bangladesh and other Commonwealth countries by organising a webinar and a series of round table discussions. On the occasion, on commonwealth day Youth Programme of JAAGO Foundation initiated climate change action through round table discussions in 15 districts of Bangladesh. Furthermore, created a platform for the youth and climate experts to discuss Climate Change mitigation and action plans in a country like Bangladesh.

CIVIC EDUCATION AND DEMOCRACY AWARENESS CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Despite having one-third of the total population in Bangladesh, young people are the most marginalized group from mainstream politics and decision-making. To make long-term changes, JAAGO Foundation initiated the project 'Civic Education and Democracy Awareness Capacity Development' to increase the knowledge of school and college going students aged 16-24 facilitated by the youth as agents of promoting civic education within their communities. It trained young leaders and built their capacity to educate school and college students and their roles to promote civic education skills. The implemented projects reached 26,081 beneficiaries directly and 723,147 beneficiaries indirectly. Nearly 2000 young students were sensitized to raise awareness about the importance of civic education in their communities through community action projects.





2,896

Youth Trained on
Civic Education,
Climate and Community
Service



468

Community Projects



10,098

Youth Mobilized



2,82,741

Beneficiaries

HOST COMMUNITY- BASED ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION, EDUCATION & NUTRITION PROGRAMME **SURFERS' MEGHER SCHOOL**

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project aims to address the need for quality education, life skills, and employment opportunities for the 103 underprivileged students and youth from different Surfing Clubs in Cox's Bazar through close collaboration with the parents, community, and local tourism sector to continue their education. The project actively engages boys and girls of the Cox's Bazar area and provides them with the skills required to access learning and livelihood opportunities.

As part of the project interventions plan, 103 students are receiving basic language, numeracy skills, lifesaving training, and computer skills from the project's inception and will be continued for the rest of the project timeline. Moreover, lessons on sustainable tourism, nutrition, child, human rights education, drug abuse, etc. are also added to the curriculum to ensure the beneficiaries' overall development. Two teachers are taking the classes being present physically in the learning center. On the other hand, one digital teacher delivers the lessons through video-conferencing technology, following JAAGO's digital schooling approach. Additionally, JAAGO supports the distribution of WFP's monthly in-kind food assistance to these students. JAAGO's representatives held meetings with surfing clubs periodically to share experiences, provide suggestions for possible initiatives, and create a supportive environment for the project beneficiaries. Moreover, regular meetings were organized to brief stakeholders on the implementation progress.

SURFERS' MEGHER SCHOOL AT A GLANCE

103

BENEFICIARIES

2400

LEARNING
SESSIONS
CONDUCTED

3

CONTENT DEVELOPMENT
COMPLETED & FINALIZED
FOR 3 YEARS

48

LIFESAVING
TRAINING SESSIONS
CONDUCTED

49,44,000

FOOD SUPPORT PROVIDED

The project began with the development of a beneficiary database and a learning competency framework, followed by a baseline assessment. Therefore, the content of the first year has been developed by the content development team and successfully delivered by the teachers. Moreover, staff capacity development training and a stakeholder and donor event were also arranged in the first year of the project. This report will show the detailed activity completed in the second year of the project.



Project Goal

To strengthen existing local efforts and create learning, development, and livelihood opportunities for children and youth in Cox's Bazar.

Project Objective

- To equip children and youth with life skill based education and training they need to access better livelihood opportunities.
- To ensure learning center retention among those enrolled.
- To motivate and support the livelihood of the children and families engaged in the programme by meeting basic nutritional needs

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Lesson Delivery

During the 2nd year of the program, lessons were delivered online due to government restrictions regarding the Covid-19 pandemic. The multimedia tab became the only means of delivering lessons to the students, but teachers also delivered the offline digital content to them. All the classes were generally conducted virtually five days a week by four qualified teachers. The students of the school were divided into five groups. Each group had to attend two sessions daily (45-minute each class) and ten sessions weekly. Accordingly, 480 sessions were carried out for every group till February 2022.



Content Development completion

Based on the learning competency framework, the curriculum and its contents for three years of the project were finalized and compiled by the content development team. All the contents are divided into several sessions, and a guideline has been designed for the teachers to conduct the sessions successfully. Explicit instruction is provided in the guideline to conduct the lessons both in online and offline modalities. The content included Bangla, language, English language, Numeracy, Financial Literacy, Safety and Healthy Living, Environment, and Tourism.

Yearly Assessment

After delivering all lessons for the second year, an annual assessment was conducted virtually with the assistance of on-site project staff. The assessment included Bangla, English, Numeracy and Financial Literacy, Safety and Healthy Living, Environment and Tourism. The assessment was carried out focusing on the related competencies, and they were graded to get an understanding to provide feedback appropriately. A report card, based on the assessment, was prepared for each student and distributed to them in presence of the parents. Parents and teachers' coordination meeting was held right after the distribution of the report card, where the teachers explained the students' strengths and areas for improvement to the parents individually.

Annual Exam 2021					
Group Performance Average (%) by Subject					
Group	A	B	C	D	E
Bangla	66.58%	58.89%	66.97%	62.25%	88.32%
English	80.89%	72.55%	83.29%	63.73%	95.17%
Numaricy & Financial Literacy	60.03%	64.64%	74.76%	72.68%	86.95%
Safety & Healthy Living	76.45%	62.76%	71.07%	68.29%	83.88%
Environment & Tourism	68.95%	54.38%	47.69%	71.76%	81.25%



Lifesaving Training

Students were trained on sea oriented lifesaving skills by a certified instructor and two of his assistants. The students of Surfers' Megher School were divided into 3 groups for the training, including a separated group for the girls. The training is to teach students water safety and swimming skills in order to create safe behavior and confidence around water.



Providing Educational Materials

JAAGO provided educational materials to the students of Surfers' Megher School. All the stationeries like notebooks, pen, T-shirt etc. required for the entire year were provided at the beginning of the year to encourage the students to attend the classes regularly and engage in the school activities actively. Simultaneously, worksheets of first year were provided after the year was completed to keep practicing the lessons they learnt.

Food Distribution

As part of the core activities of the project, JAAGO assisted in distributing the food supplies to the students of the Surfes' Megher School each month. Every student could purchase food using their food card worth to BDT 4000 per month. Those who had good grades and attendance were able to enjoy the benefits, and this encouraged them to participate in school activities regularly. The purchasable items are rice, lentils, soybean oil, onion, refined sugar, egg, turmeric powder, garlic, dry chili powder, salt, potato, milk, spices, mustard oil, puffed rice, pulao rice, flour, Coriander, cumin. Surfers' Megher School staffs oversee the whole food distribution activities, including listing beneficiaries, ensuring supplies of the food and vendor payment. However, due to Covid restrictions, students weren't able to collect their food supplies. On that scenario RMO and two project assistants took food supplies to the students house maintaining proper Covid-19 precautions.



Staff Capacity Development

One day of capacity-building training was arranged in the Dhaka office (JAAGO HQ), where both the teachers and project staff participated. The project manager provided training to the online teachers on distance learning pedagogy, lesson planning, classroom management and effective use of the teaching- learning materials in the classroom. Moreover, all the project staff received PSEA training virtually by the JAAGO's PSEA focal person, aiming to raise awareness among them about sexual violence and ways to prevent it. Moreover, the learning center and the classroom are equipped with necessary IEC materials regarding PSEA.



Community Engagement

The parents and the club heads are considered very significant stakeholders in this project. So their participation and engagement with this project were ensured through different activities like home visits, discussion and feedback sessions and meetings at regular intervals.

Parents' Meeting

To maintain proper communication with parents, parent- teacher meetings were scheduled every four months during the project's duration. A total of 3 meetings were conducted in the second year of the project. Moreover, the project staff went for regular and need basis home visits every month of the project for counseling with the students. Equivalently, parents' feedback, suggestions, and needs were listed in order to incorporate as required.



Discussion session with Club Heads

Yearly meetings were held with the club heads and project staff, including project manager to discuss the students' academic and overall progress. Students' various difficulties with school attendance, surfing practice, and lifesaving training were discussed in the meeting, along with possible solutions. The meeting ended with the agreement among the participants to develop a feedback mechanism for addressing students' concerns and needs more effectively.

Surfing and Meet up Session

An annual meet-up session was arranged at Pacific Beach Cafe on 25 January, 2022, in Cox's Bazar. This day-long event was arranged aiming to share the project's progress, discuss its prospects, and bring the beneficiaries and donors together through different engaging activities, including surfing. The higher officials of the donor of the project (WFP), local government officials, parents and the community personnel were invited to the program. Mr. Korvi Rakshand, Founder of JAAGO Foundation, gave a welcome speech at the beginning of the program and then the students and guests participated in a surfing activity in the ocean. All the guests interacted with the students and teachers at the middle of the program, followed by a question-answer session between them. Afterward, the project management team shared the overall progress of the project through discussion and presentation. Richard Regan, WFP's Country Director, expressed gratitude for the success achieved and shared his expression about the possibility of an extension of the project timeline. The session concluded with a group surf activity in the ocean joined by the students and participants.



BENEFICIARY STORIES

STORY OF SUMAIYA

Sumaiya, a 14 years old teenage girl, lives with her parents and 2 other siblings in the Jhirjhiri Kua area of South Kolatoli, Cox's Bazar. She belongs to a broken family and grew up with her grandmother since she was only 6 years of age. Her grandmother was unable to participate in income-generating activities because of her physical disabilities. So, her mother used to support them, but her income is not adequate to maintain the family expenses including her education costs.

Sumaiya has a dream of being an Army Officer, and she has been a regular student in class Seven at a local secondary school. Unfortunately, she had to leave school and take care of her siblings at home because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Her school became closed for a long time, and her mother became unable to maintain her education expenses.



Despite all her hardship and struggles, Sumaiya's only comfort was the sea. From her early childhood, she had a passion for cutting through the waves with her surfboard, which helped to cut down her struggles.

Surfers' Megher School became a source of reliance for both the family and Sumaiya when she was admitted to the school. Sumaiya feels happy that she could have resumed her dream of studying. On the other hand, Sumaiya's caregivers feel relaxed as she gets in-kind food support monthly from WFP. Moreover, Sumaiya can now help her family with financial issues. Her mother runs a small poultry business at home, and Sumaiya takes care of the financial issues with her mother. Her mother claims that Surfers' Megher School is a blessing for the family. Her family's hardship became alleviated, and her daughter is on her way to pursuing her dream of being a soldier. She also wants Sumaiya's younger sisters to be admitted to the school. **"I had to drop out of school because of my family's financial condition. I'm very grateful to Surfers' Megher School for allowing me to continue my education. I have learned math, using which I am helping my father in his business",** said Sumaiya

BENEFICIARY STORIES

STORY OF BELAL

Belal, an amazing surfer, lives with his mother and 3 younger siblings in Khurushkul, Rural area of Cox's Bazar. This 23-year-old boy had been through much hardship in his lifetime. His mother, being abandoned by his father, started working as a household help which was the only means of living for the family. As his mother alone could not bear the expenses of the family, she made Belal engaged in a restaurant as a waiter. Though Belal always dreamed of being educated, his schooling stopped, and he became one of the earning members of his family.

Along with all these hardships, Belal's only relief was the sea. He had been a good surfer in the last 9 years and achieved many prizes in several local events. He wants to keep up his good records in surfing.





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