

Ending Child Labour, Bangladesh

FY19 Annual Update

Programme Profile

Country	Bangladesh			
Project Name	Community Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labor (CLEAR)			
Project Location	02 Wards named Dhalpur (Ward: 49) & Maniknagar (Ward: 7) under of Dhaka South City Corporation			
Sector/Thematic Focus	Child Protection			
Project Start Date	01 August 2019	End Date	30 September 2021	
Project Direct Participants for 1 st year	Men	Women	Boys	Girls
	25	225	93	157

Programme Impact

Progress in Child Protection, Child Development & Education

- **2 service centres established in Maniknagar and Dhalpur area**
- A survey was successfully conducted among **300 households** and **250 target beneficiaries** were selected as per first year's plan
- **40 working children aged 6-11 years old (17 Boys and 23 Girls)**, who had earlier dropped out of school have started non-formal education (NFE). The children are provided nutritious snacks 3 days a week to encourage them to attend class regularly
- **40 working children aged 15-17 years old (15 Boys and 25 Girls)** who were engaged in hazardous labour (like welding, labourers) were selected to take part in Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in trades based on their interests, like tailoring, handicraft making, automobile, electrical and house wiring
- **16 peer educators** were trained on Life Skills based education (LSBE) training. They went on to conduct LSBE sessions for **150 children aged between 10-11 years old** at service centres in Maniknagar and Dhalpur area
- **190 parents and caregivers** of working children educated on the hazards of child labour and the importance of education to break the poverty cycle



Some of the girls in a TVET tailoring class



Skills Development training on basic literacy

Impact Stories

Started changing life of working children through CLEAR Project's intervention of NFE (Non-Formal Education)

Child labour rates are very high in Maniknagar and Dhalpur, compared with the other areas of Dhaka City.

Families here suffer from low income and live in poverty. They are not able to meet their basic family needs, let alone send their children to school. Desperate, many children have to stop schooling and work to help contribute to the family income.

The children are engaged in different kinds of hazardous work like laborers in garment factories, automobile workshops, chemical factories, vegetable & fish seller, garbage collection, segregation and breaking of stone for high rise building construction work.



Children are regularly attending ongoing NFE class

The CLEAR project started implementing non-formal education (NFE) with 40 working (child labor) children (boys-17 and girls-23) aged 6 to 11 years through survey in order to mainstream them into formal education. Through primary assessment the project has enrolled 32 students in class one and 8 students in class two for NFE intervention.

In the beginning, the children's parents did not agree to send their children to non-formal education. The children showed a lack of interest as well. The project staff did not stop here. Both facilitator and staff frequently visited their houses and brought them to the class.

Since the classes are conducted in a friendly environment, children look forward to come to classes regularly. Through the project, breakfast is provided 3 days in a week which further excites the children to attend the classes regularly.



Children are enjoying their NFE class

Presently, NFE class is ongoing, children are regularly coming to learning center with learning attitude. The students are following Government curriculum for education which will help them to get admission in Govt. primary school. Meanwhile the students have increased knowledge on reading and writing skills. They are all keen learners who actively learn from the project facilitator and even from one another.

The children enjoy the snacks and they feel encouraged to attend regular classes in the learning center. Now, their parents are also realizing the importance of education and helping to create opportunities for the children to study at home. Likewise, children are also learning at home and completing home works regularly.

With a smiling face Nazrul (one of the guardians) said, *“Now, I can realize, there is no other investment than children’s education. Education is the key for building better life. I will never stop my child’s education and I am really grateful to World Vision’s initiative for the poor parent’s like us.”*

LSBE classes making children confident to cope with situations

Every day these children are fighting poverty. Their parents are not able to provide basic needs for a living. Therefore the children disregard education and opt to work so that they can meet their family needs. Most of the children aged 10 to 17 years are suffering from different types of problems every day. They are still young to make the right decisions on what is good or bad for them. CLEAR project has been implementing Life Skill Based Education (LSBE) program for 150 children who are child labors of Maniknagar and Dhalpur areas. These children are selected through surveys from the area. It was not easy to motivate children and parents to take part in the program.

The project firstly oriented parents on LSBE through which they realised its importance and impact. The children are now regularly attending the sessions once a week and are learning the components one by one following the LSBE module. It is difficult to keep track of the attendance of the children as it is facilitated by the trained peer educators who are selected among the children. Through LSBE sessions, children are learning how to solve the problems, decision making, manage and control of emotions. Now parents are feeling encourage to send their children for LSBE session.



Peer Educators conducting LSBE session among learners

Through this way, children are practicing the learnings in their lives, sharing with their parents and friends. Now they are practicing and day by day improving their behavior and thus developing morality as well.

Md. Ramdan Hossain (10) who was a garbage collector, after attending the LSBE sessions mentioned that *“Before attending LSBE session I was in dark but now I have recognized myself as confident to express my thoughts to others and I am working on changing my improvement areas. But we will have more sessions to learn more about life skills”*

One of the participants named Sathi Akter (14) said, *“LSBE program changed our attitudes and behavior on how to respond to situations and now we are confident than before as our capabilities are increasing on solving problems and taking decisions”*.