

Annual Report - 2018



ব্রেকিং দ্য সাইলেন্স

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Overview



Our Vision

A protective environment in the society and state for promoting child rights.

Our Mission

Support children, caregivers, duty bearers and other stakeholders to realize and promote child rights and reduce all forms of child abuse with particular focus on child sexual abuse through meaningful child participation and by facilitating good governance

Our Strategic Priority

- a) Enhanced children capacity for establishing their rights,
- b) Community mobilization for collective actions for child protection,
- c) Advocacy for policy development reform and implementation and
- d) Institutional Capacity Enhancement of BTS.

Message from Executive Director

Breaking The Silence (BTS) is highly pleased to publish the Annual Report for the year of 2014 in the line with the organizational and program mandate. In future, it will proceed with the undertaking of required actions in relation to organizational, programmatic and financial aspect addressing the new challenge in the field of child abuse for effective program implementation and sustainability.

Since foundation BTS is recognized a specialized organization focusing on prevention of child sexual abuse by CBOs, CSOs, NGOs, government and development partners. It has developed a window method based protection education for its program delivery. In the method, step by step the children are capacitated to develop their life skill to protect themselves. They are made aware on their development and rights special focus on sexual abuse. Gradually the method is popular within development actors and is also utilized by Save the Children Denmark, Red Cross International and Denmark government in their child protection program. In the recent past, BTS experienced some striking issues as challenges especially in relation to resource mobilization, visibility and organization capacity in the present context and decided to develop a new strategic plan to address all the issues. Information was collected from project documents, organization capacity assessment and other planning and reporting documents as secondary sources for developing this strategic plan.

Finally we would like to appreciate all senior staff for taking extra work-load beyond their day to day planned work to complete the strategic planning in due time. With deep gratitude, I recall the inspiring and enlightening role of Executive Committee Members for their untiring support, and appropriate guidance. Finally, we are hopeful that this strategic plan would be instrumental in materializing policy and institutional reforms to promote child rights and protect them from all sorts of abuses. We are also hopeful that BTS will get continued support and cooperation from all concerned to materialize the mission and objectives set in the long term plan.

Tasmima Hossain
Chairperson

Roksana Sultana
Executive Director

Activity Report

Child Protection

Introduction

PHP is a common and socially justified and tolerated form of violence against children in Bangladesh. Children are punished by parents and caregivers in the name of 'discipline'. Millat Camp have a low rate of education and high rate of child labour. Vulnerability mapping of 2014 covered 309 children of Millat Camp. Out of this 309 children 98 (31.72%) dropped out and 56 (18.12%) contribute to their family income. In the Tea gardens at Sreemangal, situation analysis report focused on some deeper social and normative notions that accelerate the vulnerability of children. 42 (8.4%) children are contributing to their family income and 31 (6.2%) are involved with hazardous job. 25.8% children dropped out during the mapping. These children start their education at government or NGO run schools but can't afford the cost after primary level. Children (Mostly girls between the ages of 13-18 years) are exposed to sexual harassment at home, school, community and workplace. Nearly 65% of young women were married before the age of 18 years and 32.5% in their teens (15-19 years) which is one of the highest in the world. In Millat Camp and Sreemangal sexual abuse risk is heightened due to congested accommodation, higher exposure to drugs, lack of knowledge regarding CSA, children's access to pornographic elements etc. 24% of child respondents and 25% of adult respondents identified home as a place of child sexual abuse which is ranked as the 2nd most vulnerable place of child sexual abuse. Both type of respondents identified quiet places of the garden as the places of highest risk. People of different caste tend to hide these issues to keep the honor of their community. That is why internal incidents of abuse are hardly reported to Panchayet. Victim families without access to power remain helpless before the influential people of their community.

Key Facts and Figures

Addressing on PHP and SGBV

CBCPC, community groups and LEB worked together and they took some joint decisions against sexual and gender based violence issues to protect children. These groups have successfully initiated 22 cases addressing on PHP and SGBV

Positive changes for reducing PHP:

Around 70% parents shared their positive changes to their children for reducing PHP.

Children get supports:

LEB's supported 03 children for admission to continue their studies and 25 disable children under the safety net program

Monitored child right violation situation:

The 18 group members monitored the community violation situation of 110 community children and shared the report to CBCPC and LEB for ensuring child rights

Highlights

- Children from 26 groups have capacitated on monitoring and reporting to child rights, PhP and SGBV issues.
- Children were capacitated to prevent themselves from PHP and sexual and gender based violence. BTS enhanced their capacity through conducting regular meetings, awareness meeting, window method session and coordination meeting.
- BTS organized 02 training with 02 father groups (37 members) on Positive fatherhood issues. Through the training fathers have informed about their role and responsibility for ensuring child rights and protective them from SGBV.
- BTS has been working with NCTB as a strategic partner on Protection Education issues. Under this issues, a Baseline on “The situation of Protection education and child friendly environment in educational institution” and End-line survey has been completed with the support of NCTB and the Evaluation report findings have shared with the civil society representatives in a learning sharing workshop. CBCPC, as a CSO’s capacity strengthening part, provided support total 621 number of survivor and at risk children of SGBV & PhP through referral linkage.
- BTS enhanced the children capacity for protecting and preventing themselves and other community children from PHP and SGBV. The group members initiated 28 cases and among of them 07 of sexual abuse, 07 child marriage, 08 cases for PHP and 06 of other child right violation cases. The 18 group members monitored the community violation situation of 110 community children and shared the report to CBCPC and LEB for ensuring child rights. For reducing PHP and SGBV 02 training have conducted on positive fatherhood issues and the fathers have informed about their responsibility for child rearing and caring.



Children monthly meeting with PhP and SGBV

Testimonial

Yeasmin is the President of Shapla girls group and cultural group and also a student of class XI. When BTS started working at Millat Camp, she engaged her with BTS’s movement against child sexual abuse. Realizing the depth of this problem, she developed herself as a community mobiliser and became a change maker at the camp. Because she has a belief in her mind that child marriage is also a form of sexual abuse. In case of any incident of child abuse or child marriage, she informs/reports to CBCPC. She discussed with community parents and children about the risks they usually overlook. She observes the community and does whatever she feels necessary to protect other children. She facilitated the monitoring process and shared the report to CBCPC for supporting the vulnerable children. She cares about the fact that some incidents required to be dealt with maximum confidentiality. She shared with friends, siblings, peers on CSA related TV programs like CID, Crime Patrol, Ekusher Chokh, newspapers and recent incidents. Yeasmin not only facilitated program or activity. She represented BTS different meetings as a Child representative. She attended a national child week program at Shishu Academy and participated child budget session at the Secretary of finance department of Bangladesh.

Combating Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children :

Introduction

In total, in three years, 835 children at risk, vulnerable and exploited have been provided with immediate protection supports in Dhaka and Tangail. In selecting the targeted children, gender equality, ethnicity and inclusion of disability or from any religious and linguistic groups have been considered. First and foremost, BTS has followed and reviewed gatekeeping approach and process: nearby service facility; parental care; and community to end as an alternative care -the last episode - for ones' best interest. Based on the demand by the children to meet their dire needs provision of night shelter has been established. BTS has implemented with a comprehensive, child right based approach following prevention, protection, promotion and participatory strategies. It has worked closely with community people and duty bearers to make them accountable by empowering children, ensuring their participation and voice for their rights and entitlement, policies and practices that impact their lives. BTS has provided immediate protection needs, life skills training with interaction with the society and the duty bearers. BTS has protected those children free from the risk and situation of commercial sexual exploitation, prevent occurrence of CSEC in the first place and reduced re-victimization. The chances of sexual abuse, trauma, and exploitation have reduced and children got the opportunity to grow up with full potentials. Children have improved their knowledge, skills, attitude & practices on self-analysis, child rights, personal hygiene and mental health. The children have received formal and non-formal education and technical and vocational education and training. Many of them are perusing secondary general and technical and higher education. They are getting access to employment and livelihood opportunities. The Child Led Organizations (CLO) approach is recognized by UNCRC for raising voices of children. This also ensures meaningful participation and representation of children. The children were supported and encouraged to form their own organizations and initiatives, which created an environment for them to discuss their rights and express their own views in implementing the ILO Convention-182 and UNCRC Optional Protocol -2 (on children trafficking, forced prostitute and pornography). 125 children of five CLOs have been activated.



Ehsanul Hoque, Child Protection Specialist from TdH.NL facilitating the training of 26th

Key Facts and Figures

Change Agent

The Child Led Organizations (CLO) approach is recognized by UNCRC to raise voices of children. In 2018, 125 children from five CLOs have been working as 'Change Agent' in Dhaka and Tangail.

Drop in Centers (DiCs):

Established in 2016, two Drop in Centers (DiCs) -one for boys & one for girls at Mirpur in Dhaka have providing immediate protection needs and basic services: day time shelter, food, clothes, psychosocial counseling, non-formal education, recreation, health services and TVET through referral for 705 (382 boys and 323 girls) enlisted survivors and at risk children.

Night shelter supports:

In Dhaka, Community Police Officer identified 35 children (18 boys 17 girls) and enrolled in the DiC and night shelter at Mirpur. In Tangail, six children (3 boys 3 girls) were identified by CPMC members and enrolled in the shelter home and Pouro Ideal High School.

Skills trainings:

Different life skills trainings to 130 children (56 boys and 74 girls) of sex workers and were fully protected from commercial sexual exploitation

Highlights

- In 2018, 125 children from five CLOs have been working as ‘Change Agent’ in Dhaka and Tangail. While three CLOs in Dhaka named Shapla, Meghna and Jumuna are functioning in Mirpur under Dhaka North City Corporation; two CLOs have been working in Tangail Pouroshava.
- CLOs in Mirpur ensured 24/7 police surveillance teams at Shah Ali Mazar gate though dialogue with Mazar administration. They got access to free space for playing inside the Shahid Budhijibi Monument premises.
- 65 duty bearers have organized through community support groups (CSG) comprised of 25 diverse people in Dhaka and Child Protection Monitoring Committee (CPMC) with 26 local eminent people in Tangail.
- In Dhaka, Community Police Officer identified 35 children (18 boys 17 girls) and enrolled in the DiC and night shelter at Mirpur. In Tangail, six children (3 boys 3 girls) were identified by CPMC members and enrolled in the shelter home and Pouro Ideal High School.
- Established in 2016, two Drop in Centers (DiCs) -one for boys & one for girls at Mirpur in Dhaka have providing immediate protection needs and basic services: day time shelter, food, clothes, psychosocial counseling, non-formal education, recreation, health services and TVET through referral for 705 (382 boys and 323 girls) enlisted survivors and at risk children.
- A guideline has been developed and followed to identify the survivors and at risk children of commercial sexual exploitation for the DiCs in Mirpur, Dhaka. Since 2016, in total, 705 children (382 boys and 323 girls) at risk and exploited have been provided with immediate protection supports through two Drop in Centers (DiC) and one Night Shelter.
- Since 2016, 130 children (56 boys and 74 girls) of sex workers have been provided necessary protection supports through SBCH and Pouro Ideal High School in Tangail. Of 130 children, 85 (39 boys and 46 girls) of SBCH received 24 hours shelter supports,



On 17 September 2018 Kandapara Brothel Mothers spoke with Delegation of European Union

Child Participation in Local Government Decision Making Process :

Introduction

Within the Child Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) frame engagement of civil society at local level and national level ensuring child participation in local government decision making process. Representatives of civil society were participated in ward shova, budget planning meeting and dialogue session along with the children and bringing the learning from local administration to national level decision makers specially to the ministry. Stronger voice of civil society with proper evidence were successfully influenced MoLGRD&C and therefore local government division has adopted CFLG approach implementing in Kurigarm district National Institute of Local Government signed a MoU with Breaking the Silence (BTS) and Save the Children to develop a training course on CFLG approach for capacity building of all local government representatives. On the other hand, in project areas, the local government has started to formulate project through children consultation which are making their way into the 'Annual Development Programme (ADP)' of the MoLGRD&C.

Key Facts and Figures

Children participated in LGIs decision making process

Calibri Lightthrough ward shova, dialogue session, budget planning meeting, Complaint and response mechanism committee meeting and Union Parishad coordination meeting.

Child focused budget:

In 2016-17 total budget was allocated for the children BDT 13262000 (Satkhira Sadar BDT 7602000 and Debhata BDT 5660000) and in 2017-18 total BDT 11716000 (Satkhira Sadar BDT 8826000 , Debhata BDT 2890000) separate budget has been allocated.

Services for the children:

27163 children received support from the Union Parishad budget in education including books, pen, tuition fees, school dress, sports materials, health & sanitation support, monetary support

Addressing children complaint:

Complaint and response committee (CRM) are now adopted by LGIs and merged with Women and Children Standing Committee, 253 children (131 boys and 122 girls) are member of 20 committee at 19 Union Parishad and 1 Municipality of Satkhira and Debhata Upazilla, Satkhira. During the period 184 complaint has been received and among them 157 resolved by local government, 1 is under legal process and 28 in under process

Highlights

- 17965 children (8565 boys and 9400 girls) number of children from 140 ward child forum and Union Child forum led the process of child rights and service monitoring, raising demand and influence local government decision making process in budgeting and service delivery. 4703 decisions have been made through ward shovas, budget planning meetings, dialogue sessions and coordination meetings and 3017 (64%) decisions have been included through LGIs planning and budgeting process to implement with the effective participation of the member of ward child forum. As a result separate budget for the children has been allocated BDT 23783300 (Satkhira Sadar BDT 1,00,90,000 Debhata BDT 13693300) in 2018-19. Budget expenses BDT 10388300 (Satkhira Sadar BDT 41211850 and Debhata BDT 6266450) for children including monitory support, education materials distribution, playing materials allocation for the children. During the period from the separate budget 30280 children received support from the budget in education including books, pen, tuition fees, school dress, sports materials, health & sanitation support, monetary support etc
- In 2018 government of Bangladesh has scaled up the “child-friendly governance framework” pilot with the objective of ensuring stronger child participation and accountability to children by local government.” Civil Society organization, local government, local administration, Parents, children and youth were participated and provide assistance to implement CFLG model with children. It facilitates children inclusion in institutional mandates such as ward shovas, planning and pre budget meeting, open budget session as well as building their understanding and capacity to effectively influence decision-making process and to monitor services and resources.
- The Child Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) project has scaled up and been implemented in 150 Unions, 1 Municipality and 2 Upazillas of Satkhira and Kurigram District. During the reporting period 18170 children (7885 boys and 10285 girls) and 323 youths (194 youth boy and 129 youth girl) and 3288 (1529 female and 1759 male) member of Local Elected Bodies (LEB), Local Administration, member of civil society including teacher, community leader and service providers are directly participated in ward shova, budget planning meeting, child rights and service assessment, rights advocacy with local government representative through dialogue session, addressing children issues by complaint and response mechanism of LGIs to facilitate the process of child participation in local government decision making process.
- Local Governance Support Project (**LGSP-3**) has adopted CFLG approach and based on children’s demand 19 UPs have taken 123 projects under LGSP-3 in consultation with children, which is a part of the ‘Annual Development Programme of the Ministry of Local Government Rural Development and Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C) and according to government instruction of DDLG, UPs are allocating 60% fund from LGSP-3 to address children demands.

Testimonial

Child Friendly Local Governance project is built on the premise that local government institutions, being situated at the grassroots, are best placed to interact with the children and contribute most meaningfully to realize their rights. The CFLG project thus believes that strengthening the local governance framework has the potential to benefit all children across the country, especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged through better participatory planning and investments.



Meeting of disaster management committee with the children

The impact of climate change has been affecting the whole world as well as in Bangladesh. Satkhira is one of the district in Bangladesh where the effects of climate change are most visible. The effects of climate change are here: Cyclone, floods, salinity, waterlogging. etc. This type of disaster caused a great deal of loss of life and property in the region which basically has many effects on a child's life. Usually, due to the disaster children stop attending school and drop out of school, bound to unsafe migration, forced to labor and, overall they suffer from insecurity. Also disaster caused the problems of food and drinking water crises, children can't play because the playground sinks, etc. Along with the community, children have never been able to share their concerns with the appropriate

authorities. When children learn that the Union Parishad has a Disaster Management committee then they wanted to participate in this committee to give their opinion. That's why in July 2018, member of children's forum from 5 Union of Satkhira Sadar Upazilla demanded child representative on the Disaster Management Committee of UP through a dialogue session. As a result two children from each Union are included in UP disaster Management Committee in 5 Union Parishad. These Union Disaster Management Committee have a total of 39 members, including 2 children. Meetings of the committee are held bimonthly and children can freely give their opinion. In these meeting children usually address the problems they face during and after disaster. Because of the participation of the children in UP disaster management committee, the local government are now getting the whole picture of the suffering of children during and after disaster in their union. Children regularly monitor the situation in their area and present in at committee meeting. Through discussion with children, the Union Parishad is now planning disaster management and keeping separate allocation. Based to discussion with children, 5 Union Parishad have allocated budget of Tk 80000 for 2019 to 2019 fiscal year. This budget will be spent on regular meetings with children on disaster issues, organize meeting to raise awareness, and provide support during disaster period. As a result, tube wells are currently being raised in flood-prone areas, water plants are being prepared for pure water and toilets are being installed high. Local government representatives and children want to know more while working on this issues. Although children may know some of the environmental impact from the project. It is not enough.

Organizational Strengthening

BTS conducted a training on Basic ToT and Life skills with the support of Save the children among the presence of STVAC partners. The training supports to build the capacity for staffs for smoothly implementation the fields activity.

BTS developed a OCD plan with the support of partnership management team from SC. From the planned activity the progress are belows-

-BTS formed a proposal writing team among the capacitate staffs and OCD teams presence. BTS submitted 06 proposals in different donors i.e. European Union, Unicef and Manusher Jonno Foundation, UNDP, UNHCR, World Vision.

-BTS will develop a facebook page linked (breakingthesilencebd.org) with the support of ICT and regularly updated their photos, views and upcoming evets news on FaceBook page.

-SMT team developed a draft investigation guidelien through the consultation with other members.

-SMT team developed a Complain and Response mechanism guidelien for educational institution and share it with the selected schools, where BTS set up the boxes.

In the project location of BTS, girls and female were most vulnerable and always victim of discrimination in family and community level. They haven't any rights to take decision, participation, education. Through the field visit and consultation with community children and adult the findings are belows-

- Girls cannot attend school, Cause they are more responsible for household works, like as-fetching water, taking care of their siblings, cleaning the house and cooking for families.

-Adolescent boys can spend part of the salary they earn when they work outside of the home, while adolescent girls must give all their salary to their father if they work outside of the home.

-Boys have higher mobility than girls, which allows them to interact with more people and participate in different activities at the community level.

BTS ensured a balanced structure for gender equality to work with boys, girls, male adults and female adults and made them aware on SGBV issues. Facilitator of BTS conducted PDEP training with male and female both participation for reducing SGBV in project area. Thus the community took action against sexual abuse and child marriage and practices positive changes in family level. They encouraged their girl children to go to school and ensure their participation at family and community level. The parents stopped child marriage with the support of CBCPC, Chairman and Law enforcement agency. The girl children complained against the abuser and community immediately took action to ensure the punishment of that abuser in community or school level. Chairman and member also supported the vulnerable

Other Important News and Events



CSEC children are in rally for celebrating Child Rights Week 2018, Dhaka



Dominique Pierre Plateau (Asia Representative, Child Protection, Program Quality, and Impact) visited Millat



Schoolchildren formed a human chain yesterday protesting against child abuse, rape and underage marriage. The picture was taken from Mirpur 11 yesterday. -Mostafizur Rahman



Workshop on fund raising for child protection education program


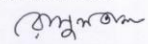

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS OF BTS FOR THE YEAR OF 2018

TKZ Toha Khan Zaman & Co.
Chartered Accountants

BREAKING THE SILENCE (BTS)
STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

Particulars	Notes	2018	2017
INCOME:-			
Grant Received from Donors	11.00	37,631,941	28,605,207
Bank Interest		65,831	59,156
Income from Training		129,769	0
Office Rent Receive from All Project		543,384	0
Stationary Receive from All Project		51,288	0
Membership Fees		2,300	0
Donation		15,000	0
Others Income		11,091	0
Total Taka:		38,450,604	28,664,363
EXPENDITURE:-			
Local Personnel	12.00	16,845,257	11,904,561
Local Administration Cost	13.00	3,443,160	2,179,843
Activities and Running Cost	14.00	17,573,789	12,505,701
Unspent Fund Refund		193,124	400,004
Bank Charge		1,588	0
Depreciation	6.00	563,941	569,809
Total Expenditure:		38,620,859	27,559,918
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure	9.00	(170,255)	1,104,445
Total Taka:		38,450,604	28,664,363

1.00 Figures have been rounded off to the nearest taka.
2.00 Annexed notes form part of the financial statements.


Finance Manager

Executive Director

Treasurer

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

Dated, Dhaka
06 July 2019

(Toha Khan Zaman & Co.)
Chartered Accountants

