



Monthly e-Bulletin

Muslim Aid – UK Bangladesh Field Office (MABFO)

AUGUST, 2016

International youth day observation:

The road to 2030: Eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable consumption and production



Dr. Md. Mostafizur Rahman, Chairman, Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) have graced the occasion as Chief Guest

The United Nations General Assembly endorsed 12 August as International Youth Day. The theme of the International Youth Day of this year was “The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production”. It focuses on the leading role of young people in ensuring poverty eradication and achieving sustainable development through sustainable consumption and production. MABFO celebrated the ‘International Youth Day-2016’, on Saturday, 13 Aug. 2016 at 10 AM in the Conference Room of Muslim Aid Institute of Technology (MAIT) at Kalshi, Mirpur, and Dhaka - followed by Livelihood materials distribution to the unemployed youth. Dr. Md. Mostafizur Rahman, Chairman, Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) have graced the occasion as Chief Guest while the Assistant Country Director of UNDP – Mr. Palash Kanti Das and Mr. Enayet Hossain Jakaria, Acting Country Director of MABFO were Special Guests. Representatives from the Business communities, national and international development organizations, mass-media and other relevant stakeholders were present in the occasion. In the speech of Chief Guest, Dr Md. Mostafizur Rahman, Honorable Chairman of BTEB, said “Muslim Aid’s unwavering commitment to help the people especially unemployed youth who are suffering from extreme poverty is commendable.” Mr. Palash Kanti Das of UNDP expressed his deep satisfaction on Muslim Aid’s important role to fight with hunger.

Bangladesh/year4/Issue7

New Project

✚ Muslim Aid Australia funded project for 80 tubewells “Bangladesh Water Wells 2016” Location: Khulna, Rajshahi and Chittagong; Budget: BDT. 2,040,000, Duration: 22nd Aug to 11th Dec, 2016

✚ UMCOR Funded project “Emergency Response to the Flood Affected Communities in Sirajgonj District”; Budget: \$60,000, Duration: 20th Aug to 19th Oct 2016

✚ START Fund project on flood in Kurigram district

✚ ECHO funded project “Early Recovery support to Tropical Storm Roanu affected people in Chittagong, Cox’s Bazar and Bhola Districts of Bangladesh”; Total Budget: 1.6M / MA: 395,214 (Euro); Start date: 01 September 2016, Duration: 5 months

Project Ended: Emergency response to the cyclone Roanu affected communities in Bankhali and Moheshkhali Upazilas of Chittagong and Cox’s Bazar funded by UMCOR

Significant meetings with the -

Hon’ble State Minister of LGRD & Cooperatives

The Acting CD and In-Charge Microfinance Programme of MABFO had a meeting with the Hon’ble State Minister of LGRD and Cooperatives Mr. M Moshir Rahman Ranga on 6th August, 2016. During the meeting the minister was briefed about MABFO’s development activities. The ministers expressed his satisfaction on the activities and given his kind consent to grace the inauguration ceremony of MAIT Rangpur construction.



DG NGO Affair's Bureau

There was a meeting between CD's of INGO with Director General (DG) of NGO Affair's Bureau on 28th August at CIRDAP auditorium (Old) to discuss on updates of foreign donation act, associated regulations, circulars, security situation and its implications for the INGOs, eviction notice, update and other additional concerns.

MABFO hosted meeting of START Network



The Start Network is an international network of humanitarian NGOs, working together to connect people in crisis to the best possible solutions. The Start Fund Committee decided to allocate fund in response to flooding in Bangladesh. As Start Fund is a Network of organisations and not a donor each member of the

project selection group has been nominated by their organisation as a humanitarian expert with local knowledge of the Alert country to select a project proposal for the response. MABFO hosted project selection meeting on 4th August of the START fund's 100th alert. Mr. Md. Enayet Hossain Jakaria, Acting Country Director was one of the member of the selection committee. The most important aspect of this part of the process was that project selection participants attended the selection meeting without their organisational hat on. The idea is that the group objectively review proposals as neutral experts in order to fund the best and select the right proposals for the response. All together 13 organizations submitted proposals for the fund, 6 organizations won among them, MABFO is one of the 6 organizations. Earlier MABFO won the grant of Roanu also from START network for the first time in the history of Muslim Aid in Bangladesh.

Qurbani Programme: Grant & Plan

Donor	Fund in BDT	Program Cost	Operational Cost	# of Cows	Implementation Plan
Muslim Aid UK (HQ)	5,597,368	5,040,000	557,368	126	Qurbani programme will implement through MABFO branch offices and few selected partners in places where there is no MABFO offices. Few partners will be selected based on the due diligences and availability of fund.
Muslim Aid Australia	1,221,000	1,050,000	171,000	25	
ECHO-USA	160,000	160,000	-	4	
Total =	6,978,368	6,978,368	728,368	155	

Programme Highlights

1. Education & Child Protection Programme

Stipend Distribution:

MABFO distributed BDT 200,000 stipend to 40 poor meritorious students (19 female and 21 male), of Kuripaika High School, Lohalia, Patuakhali sponsored by Educational, Charitable and Humanitarian Organization (ECHO-USA). The goal of the programme is to improve student's results and decrease dropout rate.

2. Sustainable Livelihood Programme

1.1 Microfinance Programme



- Market Jatra 2016

MDF - Market Jatra is a journey with the community and key stakeholders engaged in pro-poor market development. This year it was scheduled from 21-24 August in Haor areas of Bangladesh. Br. Nazmul Haque, In-Charge of Microfinance Programme (MFP) of Muslim Aid took part in the journey to Sunamganj where there were representatives from MDF, CA, DCA, ACF, Enroute Int, HalenKiller Int, POPI and Islamic Relief. The Jatra creates prospect to share experiences at the field level and engage, helped MABFO to open new window of opportunity to design products for beneficiaries of its MFP and generate new idea like to



incorporate Vermin compost plant for MF beneficiaries, helped to build strong network with other INGOs and to emphasis on consortium based social safety net programmes.

1.2 TVET (MAITs)

MAIT Jessore

National Mourning Day Observation:



MAIT Jessore observed **National Mourning Day** on 15 August, 2016. The event covered in all local newspapers on 16th Aug including - The Daily Spondon, Daily Loksomaj, The Daily Somajer Khata, The Daily Grammer Kagoj and The Daily Nawapara.

A team of Education Ministry visited MAIT Jessore:

All female students and selected male students of MAIT Jessore will get BDT 800 stipend from the Education Ministry of People's republic of Bangladesh's STEP project funded by World Bank. In this relation a team from Education Ministry visited MAIT, Jessore on 17th August. The team was comprises of - Mr. S. M Eshan Kabir, Additional Secretary, Dr. Mohammad Omar Fareq, Deputy Secretary and Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam, Assistant Chief from Ministry of Education. The team visited the class rooms, Lab, workshop, talked with students and teachers. The visit was covered in few local newspapers, i.e.: - The Daily Spondon, Daily Loksomaj, The Daily Somajer Khata, The Daily Grammer Kagoj, The Daily Nawapara etc.



Job Placement seminar at Jessore TTC:

MAIT Jessore Principal Md. Arif Nur attend Job Placement Seminar on 20th August at Jessore TTC where Md. Imran Project Director, STEP & Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education and Md. Shahidul Islam, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment were present as Chief & Special Guest accordingly.



3. Healthcare Programme

Muslim Aid's Pabna Community Hospital brought normal life back to 500 patients through free cleft lip surgeries

A cleft lip and palate is a type of birth defect that affects the upper lip and roof of the palate. Each cleft lip and



Patients - before and after surgery.

palate operation in our country costs BDT 40,000 to 50,000. Most of the cases poor families of patients are unable to bear the cost finds no other way but to continue to live with the sufferings. People born with the defect is always disregarded in the society for not having normal look and activity. In order to help these poor community Muslim Aid Pabna Community Hospital arranged an expert doctor's team from Dhaka to visit Pabna to operate 40 patients' in August free of cost, led by the head of plastic surgeon of Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Dr. Sajjad Khondokar. Since last 3 years 50 free

cleft lip and palate operation campaigning took place in Pabna Community Hospital; by August 2016 the hospital completed a total 500 operations. The local people, parents of the patients and civil society of Pabna believes that this is for the first time in Bangladesh a community hospital set their 500 patients free from the curse of cleft lip and palate through free humanitarian services. Shoriful Islam a seventh standard student of Lalpur, Nator was not able to talk clearly due to the defect. He was always trying to hide him from the people around. His parents brought him to Muslim Aid Pabna Community Hospital and now after the cleft lip and palate surgery he became a good looking talkative boy. Many people are coming far across the hospital to get their life back to normal with a light of hope in their heart. They wish the hospital will continue their profound services for the poor and

underprivileged. The news covered in both local and Dhaka's renowned media like Jajaidin, The Daily Sinsha, www.ntvbd.com etc.

4. Humanitarian Program

4.1 Hygiene kit and cash distribution to 742 cyclone Roanu affected families through project funded by -



Muslim Aid distributed hygiene kits and cash to 742 Roanu affected families in Shekherkhil, Gondamara and Chonua union of Chittagong District on 22nd, 23rd and 29th August (United Methodist Committee on Relief) funded project. The hygiene kit includes –2 bathing soaps, 2 cloth washing soaps, sanitary napkin, 1 aluminum bucket, 10 packet OSR Saline and BDT 4000 cash grant.



Roanu affected house



Bashkhali Upazilla of through UMCOR

4.2 BDT 1,56,80,000 Cash Grant distribution to 1960 beneficiaries through Enhance Resilience programme in partnership with WFP:



Muslim Aid started Enhance Resilience Programme in partnership with WFP from last 12 July, 2016 in Tazumuddin, Bhola and Kalapara Patuakhali. From door to door survey selected total 1960 (PWD 47) beneficiaries, - 1500 from in Tazumuddin, Bhola and 460 Kalapara, Patuakhali. Muslim Aid provided total BDT 1,56,80,000 - BDT 12,000,000 (one crore & twenty lac) unconditional cash grant among 1500 beneficiaries and BDT 3,680,000 (Thirty six lac & eighty thousand) in Kalapara among 460 beneficiaries in two installments. Each participant received BDT 8000 (Eight thousand) in two installments. First distribution Completed from 03-08 August, 2016 and last distribution completed from 05-07 September, 2016.

Capacity development initiative/training:

- 16th – 18th August: Mr. Mustafizur Rahman, Coordinator-Admin participated in a training on MRA regulatory issues of Microfinance at CDF.

Resource Mobilization

- Md. Iqbal Ahmed, Head of Resource Mobilization and Advocacy has been invited to visit Sri Lanka office from 24th August to 22nd September to assist Sri Lanka team in formulating and developing project proposals, especially work on an call of European Union (EU) for proposals “ Support to integrated rural development in the most vulnerable district of Sri Lanka”.

Media news links:

http://www.jaldhakanews.com/2016/09/87_14.html

<http://www.uttorbangla.com/112704>

<http://www.eobserverbd.com/2016/09/16/>

<http://www.observerbd.com/details.php?id=33281>

<http://www.thedailystar.net/country/maleka-makes-it-successful-1283098>

POVERTY ALLEVIATION-MALEKA MAKES IT SUCCESSFUL



Concrete rings and slabs manufactured by Maleka Begum on her house yard at Fulgachh village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila. Photo: Star by S. Dilip Roy

Maleka Begum, hailing from a remote village in the district, has now become a symbol of success, thanks to her ability to think out of the box and persistent efforts. Once hit by financial hardship, the 36-year-old woman from Fulgachh village in Sadar upazila, is now solvent by manufacturing concrete slabs and rings of sanitary latrines.

At present, she earns a profit of around Tk 70,000 per month by selling the rings and slabs, setting an example for other poor villagers -- industry is the key to success. Four years back, the woman and her husband Ramjan Ali of Fulgachh village in Sadar upazila got work as masons for 18 to 20 days in a month. Maleka earned Tk 150-160 while Ramjan got Tk 250-300 per day then. The income they earned was not enough to run the four-member family smoothly, said Maleka, mother of two children. "In 2012, I started manufacturing the latrine rings and slabs with my husband, taking a loan of Tk 20,000 from NGO Muslim Aid Bangladesh and since then we did not need to look back," Maleka Begum said. Her husband has 14 decimals of land. There is a house on five decimals while the rest is being used for her business. In the four years, the woman has saved Tk 5 lakh and become owner of four cows by doing the business. More importantly, she has arranged schooling for her two sons -- Maminul Islam, 13, and Mostakin Islam, 7. She also created job opportunities through the business. Ten local ultra-poor women and five male masons work here everyday. "Around 90 to 100 rings and 20 to 25 slabs are being manufactured here every day. I sell a ring at Tk 350-380 by spending Tk 280-300 and a slab at Tk 500-550 by spending Tk 400-450," said Maleka. However, the same ring is sold at Tk 420-450 and slab at Tk 600-620 in the town, she said, adding that the villagers purchase the rings and slabs for building sanitary latrines at their home. "I sell 60 to 70 rings and 12 to 15 slabs everyday," the woman said, adding that she earns a profit of Tk 2000-2500 after meeting all expenditures every day. Her husband Ramjan helps her in the work. "My wife has brought solvency to our poor family and we are now planning to purchase land and build a brick-built house," he said. Mahiton Bewa, 55, a widow in the village, said she and other ultra-poor women got job in Maleka's firm and they work for Tk 120-150 every day.

Mason Aynal Miah, 42, said he earns Tk 350 from the firm per day. Customers from different villages come here as they can buy the sanitary latrine items at cheaper rate, he said. The NGO's Lalmonirhat Branch Manager Zahedul Islam said the organisation provided loans to Maleka for three terms in easy installment as she tried to bring solvency to her family by doing the business. They are always ready to support with big amount of loan if she wants, he said.

Copyright of the case study : The Daily Star

Source: <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/maleka-makes-it-successful-1283098>

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