

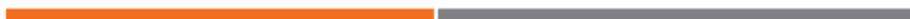
ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023



Uttaran

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Director's messages | 03 |
| Who we are | 05 |
| Vision & mission | 07 |
| Uttaran's programs & contributes towards SDGs | 08 |
| Impact data and reach | 09 |
| Uttaran's policies | 10 |
| Uttaran's strategy | 12 |
| Program overview | 13 |
| Establishments | 44 |
| Financial statement | 48 |
| Board members | 51 |
| Donors & partners | 52 |





DIRECTOR'S MESSAGES

Uttaran, driven by its unwavering commitment to social justice and equality, stands poised to embark on a new chapter of development and empowerment. Our 39-year journey, from our humble beginnings in Satkhira to our current status as a leading voice for the marginalized across the coastal belt of Bangladesh, is a testament to the transformative power of collective action against climate vulnerability, social injustice, unequal distribution of social resources, and human rights violations. Drawing from the lessons and opportunities identified during the implementation of the previous five-year strategic plan, we are now moving to our eighth strategic plan. This plan, meticulously crafted after a thorough analysis of challenges and opportunities, draws upon our extensive contextual experience in identifying subject vulnerabilities and addressing the structural marginalization of the poor and individuals with intersectional vulnerabilities. It charts a course towards a future where climate and social justice, gender rights, social cohesion, reversing environmental degradation, disaster risk reduction, food security and sustainable development take centre stage, offering hope and prosperity to our most vulnerable communities.

We recognize the magnitude of the tasks before us, from combating the ever-increasing impacts of climate change to overcoming entrenched social inequities. In the near future, there's a lot left to achieve, especially as we're witnessing the increasingly visible impacts of climate change and global warming in Bangladesh's coastal regions. Agriculture is declining, finding alternative livelihoods is proving difficult, and disasters are occurring more frequently, making it seem nearly impossible to prevent these challenges. On top of this, system deficit, social stratification, discrimination against the less privileged, and unequal distribution of resources have worsened the situation. Nevertheless, despite these immense obstacles, through our tireless efforts, we are making changes

While Uttaran initially started as a human rights organization and achieved notable success in water governance and land rights, in recent years, it has assumed a leading role in advocating for climate justice across the southwest coast of Bangladesh. From investing in AI to collaborating with marginalized households to develop HH contingency plans and establishing climate-smart villages, Uttaran has broadened its efforts to ensure intergenerational equity and contribute to a more resilient future.

We have played a pivotal role in the development of marginalized communities, actively working to increase women's access to public resources and their inheritance rights. This commitment has made a significant contributions to women's empowerment, reducing gender gaps, and dismantling the structural marginalization of landless farmers, thereby contributing significantly to the rural economy. Uttaran has remained true to its commitment of facilitating landless farmers in securing their land rights, aligning with the policies outlined by the Government of Bangladesh.

We have also facilitated Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), empowering them with direct access to global resources to address each community's unique needs. This has not only enhanced resilience to climate change but has also substantially reduced the risk of disasters, with a dedicated focus on forecasting and early actions. Furthermore, our contributions have been instrumental in supporting communities to recover from disasters, fostering social cohesion, ensuring food security, and promoting rural economic development. Lastly, I want to underscore our noteworthy efforts in working with climate migrants or those displaced by climate-related issues in urban municipalities, prioritizing their dignity, rights, and livelihoods.

I also want to acknowledge that our work would not have had this impact without our two invaluable allies, the People's Committees—the Paani (Water) Committee and Bhumi (Land) Committee. Through our facilitation and collaborative advocacy, we have played a crucial role in implementing the People's Plan of Action, focusing on managing tidal rivers and facilitating landless farmers' access to public Khas land under the Government of Bangladesh (GoB).

We draw strength from our proven track record of successful interventions and the unyielding spirit of our colleagues, especially our young professionals. As we step into the new year, let us unite in shared purpose, driven by the unwavering belief that a more just and equitable society is within our reach. Together, let us write a new chapter in the story of Uttaran aiming to create a society where no one remains unprivileged.

I also want to take this opportunity to express gratitude to our partners, donors, the Government of Bangladesh, our stakeholders from civil society, and, most importantly, the communities with whom we work or partner. There is much more to do in the future, and I hope Uttaran continues to strengthen the partnerships and trust that we have already established.

Shahidul Islam

Director
Uttaran



WHO WE ARE

Established in 1985, Uttaran, an NGO located in Tala, Satkhira, has been dedicated to tirelessly serving the people in the southwestern part of Bangladesh. Over the past 38 years, it has focused on supporting underserved communities affected by climate change, environmental degradation, and ensuring their human rights. Uttaran is actively engaged in ensuring land rights, making water governance more participatory focusing on indigenous knowledge, mitigating and adapting to climate change, providing education, supporting communities in dire need of humanitarian support, advocating for social justice and gender rights, addressing food security, promoting sustainable development, and expanding its reach across Bangladesh to share the knowledge and services accumulated over the years.

Since its inception, Uttaran has diligently aimed to build a society free from inequalities, ensuring that people have basic access and awareness of their fundamental rights. Employing a rights-based approach, Uttaran advocates for individuals, aiming to eliminate poverty, broaden livelihood opportunities, and fortify marginalized communities. Its crucial role in the development of marginalized communities extends to addressing women's access to public resources and inheritance rights.

Over the years, Uttaran has grown into a network of 52 offices, with a team of 624 staff, where 37.4% are women, alongside a humble network of 950 volunteers. With the invaluable support of this collective, Uttaran has not only directly benefited 266,531 households in the fiscal year 2022-2023 but has also garnered unwavering trust from communities and the esteemed Government of Bangladesh (GoB). The organization maintained a special focus on the landless, underprivileged

women, people from religio-ethnic minorities, and untouchables who endure structural marginalization, facing disproportionate effects of climate change in society.

Uttaran believes in keeping up with the times – from investing in AI to collaborating with marginalized households to develop household contingency plans to establishing climate-smart villages, the organization is doing its best to contribute to a more resilient future.

Known for its commitment to serving people and communities with the motto "people know best," Uttaran diligently collaborates with Community-based organizations (CBOS), People's Committees like Paani Committee and Bhumi Committee. Uttaran supports Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) by providing them direct access to global resources, empowering them to address community-specific needs, enhancing resilience to climate change, and reducing disaster risks. Uttaran's collaboration with the Paani Committee and Bhumi Committee plays a vital role in implementing the People's Plan of Action. Together, they focus on managing tidal rivers and facilitating landless farmers' access to public Khas land under the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), contributing to community development and environmental sustainability.

Uttaran's journey, though not without challenges, has been immensely strengthened by the unwavering support of the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), esteemed partners, generous donor agencies, and dedicated international NGOs. Through collaborative efforts, Uttaran has been significantly empowered in its admirable mission to serve the growing population of Bangladesh. The organization is deeply honoured to be the preferred partner in Bangladesh's inspiring development journey.

The world around us is undergoing significant changes, making it increasingly challenging to adapt to life and our environment. In response to evolving local and global dynamics, Uttaran continues to recognize the subjective vulnerabilities and capacities of marginalized communities. It is crucial for Uttaran to adapt its strategy and operations, align with changing times, and position itself as a catalyst for positive change and a climate leader. Considering structural marginalization is essential in addressing the imperative need to ensure people's rights and justice, allowing Uttaran to firmly establish itself as a support system for a more just and equitable society.



VISION

A society with gender, class, and caste equality

MISSION

Equip the disadvantaged people with the tools needed to deal with their social, environmental, health, economic and cultural issues, and concerns.



Uttaran's Programs & contributes towards SDGs

Right, Gender and Social Justice



Food Security and Nutrition



Education and Youth Action



Climate Change, WASH & Water Governance



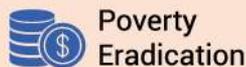
Disaster and Humanitarian Action



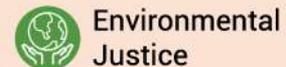
Integrated Rural Development



Community
Mobilization



Poverty
Eradication



Environmental
Justice

IMPACT DATA AND REACH

FY 23 (July 2022-June 2023)

People Reach - Over

1.1 Million

Projects

33+



24 Districts

Satkhira, Jashore, Khulna, Bagerhat, Kushtia, Meherpur, Chuadanga, Jhinaidaha, Magura, Narail, Rajshahi, Sunamganj, Barisal, Sirajganj, Bhola, Patuakhali, Bargna, Noakhali, Feni, Laksmipur, Jamalpur, Faridpur, Shariatpur, Cox's Bazar

OUR POLICIES

- Accountability Framework
- Accounts & Management Training Manual
- Anti-bribery, fraud and Corruption Policy
- Anti Sexual and Discrimination Policy
- Anti Terrorism/ Combating Financing Policy
- Anti Money Laundering Policy
- Asset Safeguarding Policy
- Asset Transfer Guideline
- Branding Guideline
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Complain Response Mechanism
- Cost Allocation Policy
- COVID resilient village guideline
- Data management and Protection Policy
- Draft Constitution of Panni Committee
- Emergency Response Guideline
- Environment and Social protection Policy
- Financial Manual
- Gender Diversity and Inclusion Policy

OUR POLICIES

- Gono Unnyan Federation (GUF) Policy
- Internal Auditing Guidelines
- Inventory Management Policy
- Monitoring & Evaluation Framework
- Motor Cycle Uses Guideline
- Partnership Policy and Strategy
- Personnel Management Policy
- Policy on Child Protection in Emergencies
- Procurement Policy & Procedure Manual
- Primary Organization Policy
- Retaliation and Anti Harassment Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Savings & Credit Management Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Training and Staff Development Policy
- Value for Money Policy
- Whistle Blowing Policy
- Whistle Blower Protection Policy
- Food Bank Management Polic

OUR STRATEGY

Organization and capacity building for the poor

Ensure sustainable livelihood practices for women and poor

Ensure women and poor's entitlement to social services (education, health, safety net)

Mainstreaming of rights, gender and inclusion issues

Raising voice, influence and agency of poor through advocacy, campaigns, lobbying and networking

Building pro poor partnership
Result Based Management (RBM) practices



PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Right, Gender & Social Justice

Program Statement

Uttaran is dedicated to advocating for the constitutional and societal rights of the extreme poor, women, landless farmers, untouchables, and religio-ethnic minority communities. The goal is to provide and facilitate marginalized communities with the necessary tools to have a stronger voice in decision-making processes and the societal power structure.

Poverty due to structural marginalization, implementation deficit of policies, maladaptation, and climate change around the coast of Bangladesh are the most critical root causes of people's vulnerabilities. Uttaran's research indicates that a significant portion of the population in the Southwest region of Bangladesh owns very little land, is living below the extreme poverty line, and has one of the lowest per capita incomes in the world. Ultimately these social and economic inequalities force families to resort to negative coping strategies.

To address these issues, Uttaran established the Rights, Gender, and Social Justice Programme from its inception, aiming to protect constitutional and societal rights and ensure justice for underprivileged communities. The recent initiatives under this program have been instrumental in assisting these communities in navigating their challenging circumstances and addressing climate induced loss and damage.

Right, Gender & Social Justice



PEOPLE REACHED
10,652

Donors : European Union (EU),
The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
District : Satkhira, Khulna



Project lists

1. AMAR - Asserting Marginalized Access to Rights
2. VGD

Key Milestone

- 32,800 marginalized landless people can now assert their rights to access public resources and services.
- Pioneered the support for women to claim their inheritance and property rights, marking a significant step toward equality and empowerment.
- 2051 marginalized landless HH have received 477.84 acres of permanent settlement, including DCR and Khas water-bodies, securing diverse livelihoods and gaining dignity.
- Legal support (mediation, lower court, and higher court assistance) was provided to 618 marginalized households, advocating justice and fortitude.
- Facilitated by Uttaran, 260 local government representatives under 20 Union Parishad are practising good governance to ensure social services, landless certification, and women's inheritance certification to marginalized people.



IMPACT

Story

"Empowering Marginalized Farmers Through Khasland Access: A Success Story"

Thakur Das Mondal, a landless resident of Paschim Patibunia village in Magurkhali Union of Dumuria Upazila, finally secured possession of 0.50 acres of khasland (government owned land) in his name after lots of struggle....



Scan to know the full story of Thakur Das's long-awaited dream coming true

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Food Security and Nutrition

Program Statement

A large portion of the population in Bangladesh struggles to ensure its food security and nutrition, mainly due to inadequate access to safe and nutritious food, limited resources, and poor distribution. This situation is particularly dire for the coastal area due to changes in climate and the high frequency of disasters, such as flooding and cyclones, which disrupt food production and distribution. For the past 38 years, Uttaran has been dedicated to ending hunger, achieving food security, and promoting sustainable agriculture in collaboration with the Government of Bangladesh and other partners. In pursuit of national targets, Uttaran has set a goal to end hunger by 2030. Over the past decade, the program has incorporated the concept of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) and resilient food systems to ensure environmental sustainability and social acceptability. By integrating CSA principles, such as climate-resilient crop varieties and sustainable farming techniques, the program aims to enhance agricultural productivity while reducing environmental impacts. Additionally, it focuses on fostering diverse and sustainable agricultural practices, local food production, and strong market linkages to build resilient food systems. These strategies enable communities to adapt to climate change and alleviate food security challenges. Through its extensive field experience, community research actions, and commitment to sustainable development, Uttaran is working to ensure that communities have access to adequate and nutritious food while also protecting the environment and fostering economic growth.

Food Security and Nutrition



PEOPLE REACHED
54,600

Donors : Both ENDS, HELVETAS Swiss
Intercooperation (HIS), Solidaridad Network Asia
District : Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Cox's Bazar



Project lists

1. Advancing Sustainable Indigenous Agro-ecological Livelihood (ASIA-Livelihood)
2. SAFAL for Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) Project

Key Milestone

- 10,000 small-scale farmers practice regenerative, climate-smart agriculture, which increases production and quality, reducing environmental damage.
- 515 youths have become catalysts for disseminating climate-smart agricultural practices, impacting 13,000 marginalized individuals through hands-on implementation and peer-to-peer learning methodologies across 24 villages.
- Local youths and small-scale farmers from 216 villages are actively engaging with the local government to manage their landscape to mitigate and reduce climate-induced disasters and increase agricultural productivity.



IMPACT

Story

A New Beginning: How Md. Mosharaf Hossain Found Success in Dragon Fruit Cultivation

Md. Mosharaf Hossain, a 35-year-old resident of Uthali village in Islamkathi union of Tala Upazila, Satkhira District, owns 33 decimals of cultivable land. However, due to high production costs and low yields, he was not making a profit from his agricultural land and was struggling with poverty along with his four family members. In May 2021, Md. Mosharaf Hossain came to know about a Project and decided to join the activities...



Scan to know the full story of how climate-adaptive farming knowledge changed Mosharaf's life

A River Reborn: Transforming Lives through Canal Re-excavation.

"Before this canal was dredged, our family experienced a lot of financial instability. There was scarcity in our household. To fulfill the family's needs, our daily work routine had to change. For the past 4-5 years, due to the lack of water at the right time, fish farming wasn't feasible, and excessive rainfall caused the embankment to breach, resulting in significant losses for us....."



*Scan to know the full story of how
Anjali Rani transforms lives*



PROGRAM OVERVIEW



CLIMATE CHANGE, WASH AND WATER GOVERNANCE (CCWG)

Program Statement

Climate change disproportionately impacts marginalized communities, despite their minimal carbon footprints. Over the past 20 years, the country has incurred a loss of \$3.72 billion due to the impacts of climate change. By 2050, it is projected that 1 in every 7 Bangladeshis will be displaced, a phenomenon that has already commenced. Annually, thousands of people are forced to migrate, and a single severe disaster has the potential to escalate this number to millions. Challenges such as salinity, a drinking water crisis, land affected by encroaching sea-water, tidal surges, decreasing food production, and the alteration and degradation of the landscape, coupled with multi-hazard and converging disasters, collectively make adaptation difficult and contribute to increased loss and damage.

At Uttaran, our Climate Change, WASH, and Water Governance (CCWWG) program lies at the heart of our strategy to support and empower climate-vulnerable communities and governments, striving for climate justice.

Throughout the years, we have focused on building the capacity of local governments and vulnerable communities, equipping them with anticipatory, absorptive, adaptive, and transformative skills to effectively address and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Our program embraces participatory approaches, ensuring the development of sustainable solutions. We provide financial and technical support to empower climate-vulnerable individuals, enabling them to adapt to the challenges posed by climate change.

In addition, since the 1990s, Uttaran, and the Paani (Water) Committee, a locally led civil society committee, have been advocating for nature-based solutions to water management issues in the southwest region. Our aim is to enhance the participation of local communities in water governance processes. Our efforts have led to the adoption of the Tidal River Management concept, recognized as a key strategy to combat waterlogging and climate change in the southwest coastal areas of Bangladesh, as outlined in the BDP 2100.

The program serves as a vital conduit, fostering stronger solidarity and trust between the people, civil society, private sector, and the Government. Its primary purpose is to empower communities, amplifying their voices in the decision-making process, while simultaneously dismantling maladaptive infrastructures and processes. Through the promotion of nature-based solutions and working at a landscape level, the program fosters sustainable practices that align with the ecological fabric of the region. Moreover, it pioneers the establishment of community-based monitoring systems, effectively minimizing implementation deficits. By fostering an environment of trust and solidarity among all stakeholders, the program lays the foundation for a stronger, more resilient society.

Uttaran's CCWWG program leverages its in-depth theoretical knowledge and extensive field experience to support climate-vulnerable communities. This strategic approach ensures a comprehensive and contextualized response to address the challenges of climate change.

CLIMATE CHANGE, WASH AND WATER GOVERNANCE (CCWG)



PEOPLE REACHED
722,530

Donors : MISEREOR German, Simavi Netherlands, GIZ, NRC, UNOPS, WASTE, Both ENDS, Welthungerhilfe (WHH), EU-European Union,

District : Satkhira, Khulna, Barguna, BhasanChar Camp (Cluster-7, 16, 17, 50, 60, 61), Hatiya, Noakhali, Jashore, Patuakhali, Sunamganj



Project lists

1. Financial Inclusion Improves Sanitation & Health (FINISH) Mondial project of Kalaroa Municipality under Satkhira district.
2. Restoration of Essential Services for the Climatic Displacement Affected Communities of Bangladesh (Strengthening Climate Resilience through community Led Actions)
3. Sustainable River Basin Management (SRM): Adapting Climate Change in the Southwest Bangladesh (Phase IV)
4. WASH and backstopping support to goat beneficiaries under UMIMCC/UMML project
5. WASH SDG-WAI extended Programme Bangladesh -Tala Upazila Three Unions (Nagarghata, Khalishkhali, Jalalpur Union) of Satkhira district, Kalapara Municipality of Potuakhali District
6. WASH SDG WAI Bangladesh Sub programme Implementation Phase 2 of Satkhira Sadar Upazila (Balli, Agardari & Jhaudanga Union), Satkhira, Kalaroa and Barguna Municipality.
7. Women Empowerment and Climate Adaptation Nexus programme (WECAN)
8. Strengthening the capacity of those displaced by disasters and climate-related causes to cope with adverse situations.
9. Increased Resilience for Women through the Provision of WASH Services
10. SHARE Project
11. Tides are changing: A People Plans for Upscaling Ecosystem Based adaptation in the Tidal Rivers of Bangladesh

Key Milestone

- 3,116 marginalized households and climate-displaced populations have successfully transformed their lives by integrating climate-resilient livelihood options and gaining access to public resources and services.
- Supported 1,667 landowners of Pakhimara TRM beel in the process of receiving compensation from government of BDT 10,16,75,368.80
- 381,962 people will benefit from the ongoing Betna and Morichchap river excavation project allocated BDT 475.26 crore initiated by GoB, a result of Uttaran's continuous advocacy along with Paani committee and stakeholders.
- 260 elected representatives were mobilized by the Paani committee facilitated by Uttaran, and a memorandum was presented to the secretariat to restore 8 tidal rivers based on the people's plan of action.
- The first Climate Migrants census is being initiated by Satkhira Municipality in coordination with Uttaran.
- Empowered 17 CBOs to take locally led adaptive actions to respond to climate change and build disaster resilience.
- 23,708 people now have knowledge, access and infrastructure for safely managed WASH and reduced health risks.



IMPACT

Story

Rebuilding Lives, Restoring Dreams: Nalta Village's Inspiring Story of Transformation

Once plagued by recurring floods and economic fragility, Nalta Village in Tala Upazila of Satkhira district has emerged as a beacon of hope and resilience. The story of this village exemplifies how a community, with the aid of sustainable development initiatives, can overcome adversity and transform their lives for the better...



Scan to know the full story of Nalta Village's Transformation



*Scan to discover
how Nargis Khatun
became the
WASH Model
House for the
community*



House of Change

The Journey to Becoming a WASH-Model for the Community

Nargis Khatun, a 26-year-old housewife, resides in Baganbari, Ward No. 5, Satkhira Municipality. After the Uttaran WASH project began, a committee was formed, including mothers from the area. Nargis Khatun became a member of this committee. The committee meets every three months to discuss issues such as safe water, hygienic latrines, cleanliness, menstrual health management, and the benefits and drawbacks of regular and proper handwashing. Realizing the root cause of her family's health issues during the committee meetings, Nargis discussed this matter with her family members...



*Scan to know the
full story of Lipika's
Survival Journey
as a mother*



Yearning for Motherhood

Lipika Mandal's Journey to Welcome Another Child

Lipika Mandal, aged 27, resides in Dayarghat village of Sadar Union, Assasuni Upazila. This village is situated near the Kholpetua River, where storm floods have become a daily challenge for the residents. Eight years ago, when Lipika was pregnant, her life took a miserable turn due to a severe water shortage. Lipika had to manage all her household chores and travel 2-3 (perhaps 5) kilometers for safe water. On certain days when her health was particularly compromised...

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Disaster & Humanitarian Actions

Program Statement

Bangladesh's strategic geographical position and high population density make it highly vulnerable to devastating disasters. The impacts of climate change, inadequate planning, insufficient infrastructure, and inequality have worsened the frequency and intensity of these calamities over the past decade. Bangladesh is experiencing an annual average GDP loss of 1.1% due to disasters, consistently ranking among the top five nations with the highest frequency of disasters.

In the face of increasing disaster risks, Uttaran's Disaster and Humanitarian Action (DHA) program has taken a proactive approach toward disaster management. Rather than solely focusing on post-disaster relief efforts, the program emphasizes building resilience, reducing disaster risks, developing forecasting systems, and taking early action to reduce the loss of life and assets. The program aims to enhance disaster resilience, foster climate adaptability, and mitigate associated risks. In addition, with a well-equipped team of 70 professionals and 527 dedicated volunteers, Uttaran promptly responds to emergency calls, providing immediate relief and assistance to coastal regions. Since 2010, they have supported over 4 million individuals in coastal districts, reaching even the most remote areas. Uttaran's unwavering dedication and courage inspire others.

Disaster & Humanitarian Actions



PEOPLE REACHED
241,737

Donors : European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Misereor, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) - internal funding from NRC Sweden Office, The Share Trust Inc.

District : Satkhira, Noakhali (BhasanChar), Cox's Bazar, Teknaf, Patuakhali, Barguna



Project lists

1. Winter Cloth and LPG Cylinders Refill Support for the Host Communities and forcibly displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) in Cox's Bazar and Noakhali District
2. Emergency NFI support for the fire affected families of camp 11 and education materials support for the host families of Cox's Bazar district
3. COVID-19 Impact Mitigation for Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) and Host Communities in Cox's Bazar and Noakhali District
4. Locally Led Disaster Risk Reduction in the Bangladesh Coastal Region Project
5. Preparedness and response support in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene to Rohingya Refugees and Host Community in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char
6. Supporting Harmony, Improving Nutrition, and the Environment for the Rohingya and Host Community (SHINE)
7. STEP
8. Interim Protection Arrangements for Flood Affected Most-at-risk Women and Girls
9. Humanitarian assistance to the most flood affected unreached population-Alert B042
10. Emergency Humanitarian Assistance to Flood Affected Communities in Sunamganj District of Bangladesh
11. Emergency Aid after Flooding in the Northeast of Bangladesh.
12. Emergency Humanitarian Assistance to Flood Affected Communities in Sunamganj District of Bangladesh
13. Emergency support for Fire affected Rohingya and Host community families of Cox's Bazar District

Key Milestone

- 58,000 FDMNs were supported with WASH, Livelihood, TVET, NFI support uplifting lives with care and dignity.
- 3770 FDMNs HH have reduced their net carbon emissions by 40% by switching to LPG fuel for cooking.
- Supported 15,035 HH with emergency relief (Food Item, MPCG, Shelter materials, Evacuation support, Hygiene kits) and recovery support (CFW, Wash infrastructure development, Community Infrastructure development, WASH support)
- 1800 households and 20 Disaster Management Committees have been capacitated and sensitized in Forecast-based Action/Financing, reducing disaster impact on individuals by 30%.
- Created and solidified 4 Community Cohesion centers in Ukhiya and Teknaf for the Rohingya Community camp, uniting over 1600 women and girls from Cox's Bazar's host and Rohingya communities to enhance their lives and reduce conflicts.



IMPACT *Story*

It's time for a change; a change in behaviour!

Rina (19) is a hygiene promotion volunteer for the Uttaran Wash project funded by Welt Hunger Hilfe (WHH) and German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) at Bhasan Char. She lives in Cluster 51 with her parents and three brothers. Rina received extensive training from Uttaran-WHH, including theoretical and practical hygiene promotion aspects. There are eight hygiene promotion volunteers who work in four clusters, and Rina is one of them...



Scan to know the full story of Rina's WASH Volunteering journey at Bhasanchar Camp



Scan to know the full story of Sanjida at Rohingya camp



Scan to discover the full story of Sukhi, paving the way for her community



Warmth Amidst Struggles

Sanjida, a 35-year-old Rohingya refugee who was forcefully displaced from Myanmar in 2017, found shelter in sub block-e of Balukhali camp No. 9 in Ukhiya upazila of Cox's Bazar district. Sanjida has a family of six members, including her husband and four children, three sons and a daughter. Unfortunately, Sanjida's husband, Osman, is often ill, and the family struggles to earn daily livelihood in the camp. Although she received a secured place to live, warm clothes support during the winter season remained a concern.

Paving the Way Shukhi Begum's Quest for Water Security in Boulotoli Village

Shukhi Begum resides in Boulotoli Village of Dhulashar Union under Kolapara Upazila. Her husband is a day laborer and lives from hand to mouth.

One day, Shukhi was informed about the community consultation meeting near her house. She participated in a Community Consultation Session near her residence in January 2023. She shared her views on the necessity of drinking water, highlighting the struggles faced by women in her village, including herself, who suffer while collecting drinking water from a distant place on a regular basis. This is especially challenging for women who are menstruating or pregnant.,,



IMPACT

Story

Fazal Mohammad's Journey of Transformation and Community Empowerment

Fazal Mohammad, a 50-year-old farmer in Rongikhali village, Ward No. 7, Hnila Union, supports his family by cultivating the land with his wife, Ramisa Begum (40 years old). Their family includes three daughters and one son, all going to school. However, the cost of education is a heavy burden due to their single source of income. Fazal faces challenges in sustaining farming and covering the educational expenses for his children due to financial constraints and traditional farming practices.....



Scan to know the full story Fazal's Journey of Transformation

Projects in Coxs bazar

The coastal areas of Bangladesh are highly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, and Cox's Bazar, in particular, bears the brunt of various climatic hazards such as cyclones, tidal surges, storms, and floods. Compounded by its deltaic position, Cox's Bazar experiences significant devastation from these disasters almost every year. Moreover, the influx of Rohingya refugees has further amplified these challenges. Presently, approximately one million forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals (FDMNs) reside in camps across Cox's Bazar district, exerting immense pressure on the local ecosystem, Bangladeshi host communities, and existing facilities and services. Since July 2018, Uttaran has been actively providing humanitarian assistance to the Rohingya community in the camps and the host communities in the Ukhiya and Teknaf upazilas of Cox's Bazar.



Projects in Cox's bazar



REACHED
18,772 HH

Donors :
Helvetas, Misereor,
Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and GFFO



Project lists

- Winter Cloth and LPG Cylinders Refill Support for the Host Communities and forcibly displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) in Cox's Bazar and Noakhali
2. Emergency NFI support for the fire affected families of camp 11 and education materials support for the host families of Cox's Bazar district
 3. COVID-19 Impact Mitigation for Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) and Host Communities in Cox's Bazar and Noakhali District
 4. Locally Led Disaster Risk Reduction in the Bangladesh Coastal Region Project
 5. Preparedness and response support in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene to Rohingya Refugees and Host Community in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char
 6. Supporting Harmony, Improving Nutrition, and the Environment for the Rohingya and Host Community (SHINE)
 7. Interim Protection Arrangements for Flood Affected Most-at-risk Women and Girls
 8. Humanitarian assistance to the most flood affected unreached population-Alert B042
 9. Emergency Humanitarian Assistance to Flood Affected Communities in Sunamganj District of Bangladesh
 10. Emergency Aid after Flooding in the Northeast of Bangladesh.
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 12. Emergency support for Fire affected Rohingya and Host community families of Cox's Bazar District



PROGRAM OVERVIEW



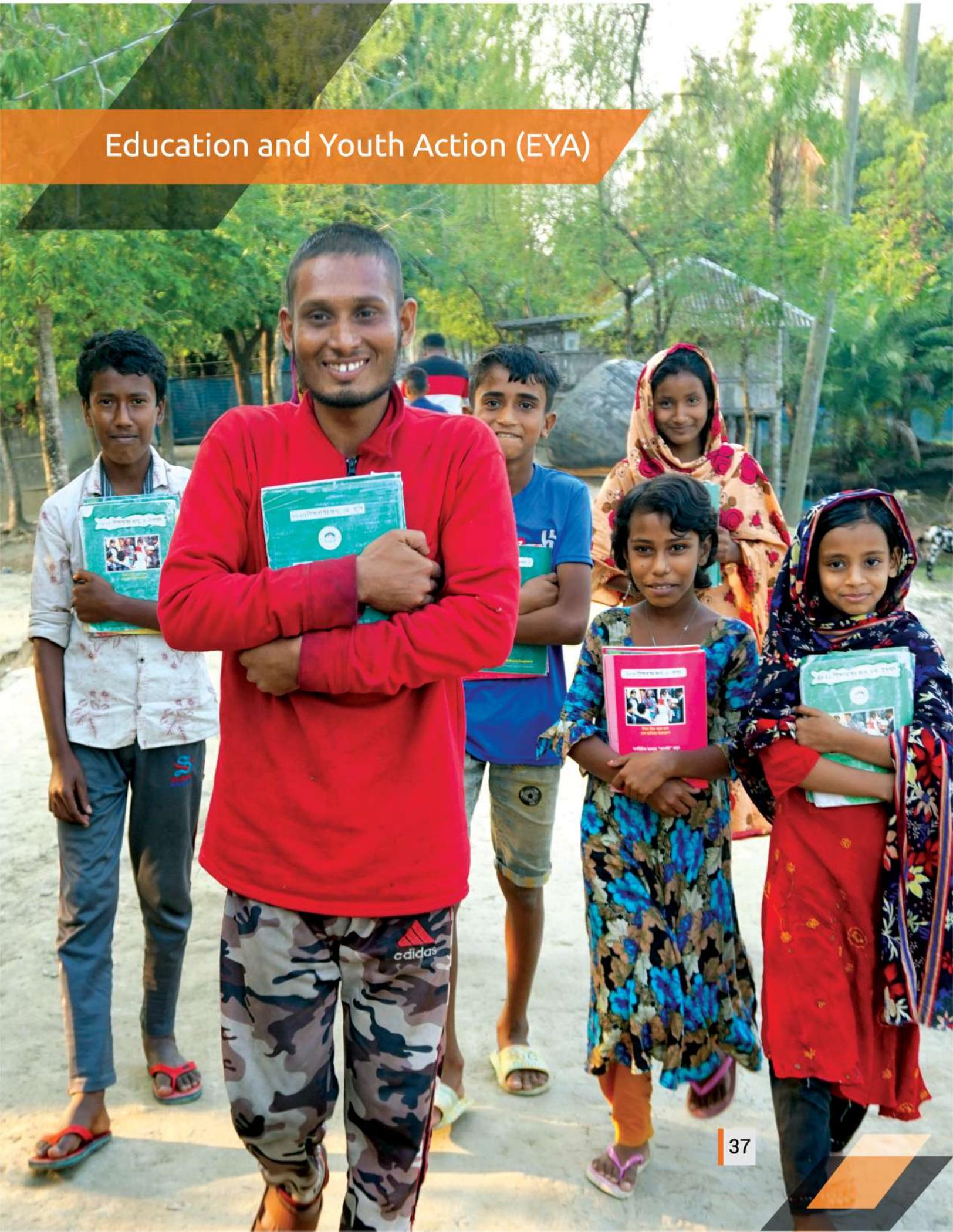
Education and Youth Action (EYA)

Program Statement

Uttaran initiated its development efforts by establishing a school in Jatpur village of Satkhira district in 1982. Since then, Uttaran has expanded its educational initiatives, setting up elementary schools, secondary schools, colleges, technical education centers, libraries, and non-formal primary schools. Over the years, Uttaran has supported formal education and technical training for more than 265,000 students. However, Uttaran's impact extends beyond the realms of academia. Recognizing the immense potential of youth, the organization has launched an array of initiatives spanning the entire southwestern coastal region of Bangladesh. The focus revolves around empowering young minds, cultivating their leadership acumen, fostering holistic human development, igniting environmental consciousness, and integrating youth into the very fabric of developmental practices and decision-making.

Currently, Uttaran has a volunteer group of over 1200 youth members (The Youth wing known as Pathok Forum) who are engaged in various social activities all over the coastal belt. While the global pandemic has disrupted traditional educational paradigms, Uttaran remains resolute in its commitment to safeguarding the future of students. Moreover, Uttaran recognizes the perils of students dropping out due to these challenging circumstances. In response, we are spearheading comprehensive efforts to prevent dropout rates by introducing non-formal education programs, life skills training, and seamless mainstreaming opportunities within diverse institutions. The organization is committed to supporting students and ensuring their continued learning during these difficult times.

Education and Youth Action (EYA)



PEOPLE REACHED
67,027

Donors: ADEY foundation, Educo Bangladesh, Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Government of Bangladesh, Palli Karma Shahayak Foundation (PKSF), World Vision Bangladesh,
District : Satkhira, Khulna



Project lists

1. From work to school: education, training, and protection for children in hazardous child labor in the coastal areas of Bangladesh
2. Skills for Employment Investment Program (SEIP)
3. Youth Empowered: Preventing Child, Early and Forced Marriage in Bangladesh
4. Muktijodha Abdus Salam Library - Pathok Forum
5. Shishutirtho School
6. Shaheed Muktijoddha College
7. Samakal Secondary School

Key Milestone

- 244 dropout adolescents impacted by climate vulnerability returned to school, while 151 received vocational training, actively contributing to economic development to adapt and mitigate loss and damages.
- Providing training to more than 1000 marginalized youths where 70% success rate in securing gainful employment.
- Ensured quality education for 2300 children of the southwest coast of Bangladesh where education is a rare privilege.
- 4 schools have been established and running for children associated with hazardous labour
- More than 67,000 women and girls have received SRHR advocacy training and hygiene kits to combat health problems, reduce miscarriages, and prevent child early and forced marriage in coastal areas.



IMPACT

Story

Meet the courageous Rumana Parveen

A young girl from the village of Waria in the Jhaudanga Union of Satkhira Sadar Upazila. Rumana, the daughter of Abu Taleb, comes from an economically disadvantaged family, where she has three siblings - two sisters and one brother. Her father makes a living as a hardworking farmer, striving to provide for the family. Rumana is a Class VIII student at Jhaudanga Secondary School. She is part of the Youth Empowered Project as a youth member. Through active participation in their monthly meetings, she became increasingly aware of the detrimental effects of child marriage, the laws surrounding it, and the significant implications for sexual and reproductive health. These found her to be inspired to stand up for her own future...



Scan to know the full story of Rumana's courageous step against child marriage



Aktaruzzaman is a successful entrepreneur

Md. Aktaruzzaman grew up struggling with poverty since childhood. He is the youngest of four children of a day laborer father. His education was stopped at the age of 10 after attending the local Jhapali Government Primary School till class IV. From there he worked with his father and elder brother as day laborers and catching fish and crabs in the river. In 2021, Uttaran started a bridge school in Kashmiri Union of Shyamnagar Upazila with the financial support of Educo Bangladesh to educate the dropout children, Aktaruzzaman again enrolled in this school.....

Scan to know the full story of Aktaruzzaman's success



PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Integrated Rural Development

Program Statement

The Integrated Rural Development program esteemed from Uttaran's earlier initiative, Human Development, launched in 2006. This program has a singular focus: eradicating poverty and enhancing the quality of life for extremely impoverished and underprivileged communities through comprehensive, integrated community development interventions. It operates on a rights-based approach, aiming to promote and safeguard the rights of marginalized groups, with particular emphasis on landless individuals, women-headed families, destitute households, untouchables, religious and ethnic minority communities, and outcast minorities.

The program aims to empower these underprivileged communities by providing them with a unified voice and enhancing their capabilities across various social, environmental, rights-based, and developmental spheres. Organized groups receive access to financial resources and training in social entrepreneurship to alleviate poverty. Additionally, they receive support and training in healthcare, education, agriculture, nutrition, and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene). Presently, Uttaran operates in 1064 villages across 357 Unions and 21 upazilas, engaging 22,888 savings members and 18,873 borrowers within 1257 PO.

Uttaran currently has 3 separate loan schemes out of which two are interest free loans:

1. Rural Micro credit
 2. Micro enterprise and Women development enterprise
- Case study

Integrated Rural Development





A Tale of Transformation

In the heart of Batiaghata Thana, nestled within the boundaries of Khulna district, there existed an unnoticed village where Nasima Begum, a destitute woman, resided with her husband and their four children. Life was a constant struggle for Nasima, surviving on meager earnings, and there were days when they had to skip meals to make ends meet.

Scan to explore the
complete story
of Nasima





Establishments

Uttaran is dedicated to community empowerment, recognizing that the most impactful approach involves assisting communities in constructing their own economic development and educational infrastructures. The organization consistently advocates for the establishment of community institutions, fostering a more equitable society devoid of all forms of discrimination, and promoting progress through a collective approach. Over the past 38 years, Uttaran has actively contributed to the creation and development of various community-driven educational and developmental institutions.

Educational and Development Institutions

- Samakal Primary and Secondary School - Satkhira
- Institute of Development Research and Training - IDRT - Satkhira
- Shaheed Muktijoddha College - Satkhira
- Shishutirtho Elementary and Kindergarten School - Satkhira
- Shimanto Technical Training Center - Satkhira
- Chuknagar Technical Training Center - Khulna
- Technical Business & Management College - Satkhira
- Ashto Bigha Primary School - Satkhira
- Muktijodha Abdus Salam Library - Satkhira
- Village Food Bank - Khulna
- Jatpur Women led rice mill - Satkhira
- UttaranChuknagar Technical Training Centre (Dumuriaupazila of Khulna district)
- UttaranShemanto Technical Training Centre (Debhataupazila of Satkhira district)
- UttaranTala Technical Training Centre (Talaupazila of Satkhira district) and
- RajapalongUttaran Technical Training Centre (Ukhyaupazila of Cox's Bazar district)





People's Forum of Uttaran

People first - this idea has always been a priority in our approaches and activities. Our rights-based approach focuses on empowering individuals, enabling them to be independent in claiming their rights and contributing to building a more prosperous society. Our people-centric approaches over the years have institutionalized marginalized and extremely poor communities, enabling them to collectively demand their rights and advocate/negotiate with authorities for more participative development actions.

To bridge the gap among people, communities, civil societies, and the government, we have facilitated various people's forums. Uttaran's major strength lies in supporting these people's platforms, especially in claiming the rights of landless people and ensuring participatory water governance.

People's Forum to bridge the Gap

- Paani Committee
- Bhumi Committee
- Youth Paani Committee
- Pathok Forum
- Wildlife Mission
- Adolescent Club
- Meye Rao Khelbe - Sports Club



Our community drives us forward



FINANCIAL STATEMENT



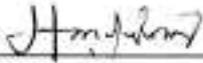
Aziz Halim Khair Choudhury
Chartered Accountants
Exclusive Correspondent Firm of PKF International

UTTARAN

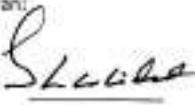
Flat-B1, House-32 (1st floor), Road-10/A, Dharmond, Dhaka-1209, Bangladesh
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)
As at 30 June 2023

| Particulars | Notes | As at 30 June | |
|---|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | | 2023 | 2022 |
| Amount in Taka | | | |
| PROPERTY AND ASSETS | | | |
| Non-current assets | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 5 | 124,810,613 | 126,631,087 |
| Total non-current assets | | 124,810,613 | 126,631,087 |
| Current assets | | | |
| Revolving loan fund | 6 | 333,489,156 | 309,233,977 |
| Loans and advances | 7 | 2,703,591 | 1,733,583 |
| Short Term Investment | 8 | 55,592,441 | 61,490,776 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 9 | 22,626,079 | 52,543,326 |
| Total current assets | | 414,411,267 | 425,001,662 |
| Total properties & assets | | 539,221,880 | 551,632,749 |
| FUND AND LIABILITIES | | | |
| Funds and Reserves | | | |
| Fund account | 10 | 138,888,033 | 165,059,572 |
| Statutory reserve | 11 | 8,207,412 | 9,384,011 |
| Loan loss expenses (1% on regular loan) | 12 | 3,231,711 | - |
| Total funds and reserves | | 150,327,156 | 174,443,583 |
| Non-current liabilities | | | |
| Gratuity fund | 13 | 3,039,851 | 3,426,605 |
| Total non-current liabilities | | 3,039,851 | 3,426,605 |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| Short term loan from banks | 14 | 155,721,389 | 159,800,203 |
| Loan from other organisations | 15 | 55,394,512 | 54,477,644 |
| Inter-project loan | 16 | - | - |
| Other liabilities | 17 | 2,854,302 | 2,081,104 |
| Group members' savings | 18 | 152,106,910 | 134,755,926 |
| Security money | 19 | 1,238,162 | 1,456,432 |
| Members' loan insurance | 20 | 13,372,135 | 13,055,818 |
| Loan loss provision | 21 | 5,167,363 | 8,135,434 |
| Total current liabilities | | 385,854,873 | 373,762,561 |
| Total funds and liabilities | | 539,221,880 | 551,632,749 |

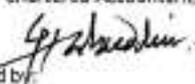
NB: Programme wise Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) is shown in Annexure-C. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes. Signed for and behalf of Governing Body of Uttaran:


Coordinator (Accounts and Finance)

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


Director

Signed for and on behalf of
Aziz Halim Khair Choudhury
Chartered Accountants


Signed by

Md. Aftab Uddin Ahmed FCA
Senior Partner
ICAB Enrolment No.: 804

23 December 2023
Dhaka, Bangladesh

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

AHKC

Aziz Halim Khair Choudhury
Chartered Accountants

Exclusive Correspondent Firm of PKF International

UTTARAN

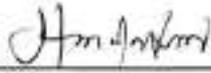
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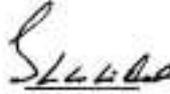
Consolidated Statement of Income and Expenditure

For the year ended 30 June 2023

| Particulars | Notes | For the year ended 30 June | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | | 2023 | 2022 |
| | | Amount in Taka | |
| Income | | | |
| Grant income | 22 | 393,741,542 | 216,825,379 |
| Micro credit income | 23 | 36,289,150 | 27,945,790 |
| Other Project Cost received | 24 | 25,713,693 | 39,792,247 |
| Bank interest | 25 | 456,753 | 221,486 |
| Total | | 456,201,138 | 284,784,902 |
| Expenditure | | | |
| Personnel cost | 26 | 101,834,458 | 89,795,904 |
| Program cost | 27 | 289,617,928 | 127,457,949 |
| Administrative cost | 28 | 32,904,216 | 31,846,865 |
| Bank charge | 29 | 478,361 | 335,278 |
| Interest paid to bank | | 19,630,550 | 10,546,768 |
| Overhead/Management cost | | 3,683,280 | 4,006,608 |
| Loan Loss Provision | | 263,640 | 674,377 |
| Provision for Income Tax for the year | | 773,198 | - |
| Depreciation | | 3,126,494 | 7,379,561 |
| | | 452,312,125 | 272,043,310 |
| Surplus for the year | | 3,889,013 | 12,741,593 |
| Total | | 456,201,138 | 284,784,902 |

Programme wise Statement of Income and Expenditure is shown in Annexure-D. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annexed notes. Signed for and on behalf of Governing Body of Uttaran:


Coordinator (Accounts and Finance)


Director

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

Signed for and on behalf of
Aziz Halim Khair Choudhury
Chartered Accountants


Signed by:
Md. Altab Uddin Ahmed FCA
Senior Partner
ICAB Enrolment No.: 804

23 December 2023
Dhaka, Bangladesh

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

AHKC

Aziz Halim Khair Choudhury
Chartered Accountants
Exclusive Correspondent Firm of PKF International

UTTARAN

Flat-81, House-32 (1st floor), Road-10(A), Dhanmndi, Dhaka-1203, Bangladesh

Consolidated Statement of Receipts and Payments

For the year ended 30 June 2023

| Particulars | For the year ended 30 June | |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | 2023 | 2022 |
| | Amount in Taka | |
| Receipts | | |
| Opening balance | | |
| Cash in hand | 1,926,580 | 1,464,230 |
| Cash at bank | 50,616,746 | 56,293,390 |
| | 52,543,326 | 57,757,620 |
| Receipts during the year | | |
| Grant received | 367,347,238 | 210,837,362 |
| Income from micro credit program | 36,289,150 | 27,945,790 |
| Overhead cost received | 3,683,280 | 4,006,608 |
| Contribution | 1,936,828 | 1,633,406 |
| IDRT Contribution | - | 4,120,566 |
| Shared management cost | 15,992,531 | 24,225,248 |
| Interest on Investment | 2,356,942 | 2,122,991 |
| ICS sale | 551,350 | 528,430 |
| Others Income | 119,328 | 769,566 |
| Biogas Plant Sale | 30,000 | 91,000 |
| House rent received | 1,557,298 | 1,410,078 |
| Service charge received as grant | 8,136 | 28,054 |
| Bank Interest | 456,753 | 221,486 |
| Realised from revolving loan fund | 301,747,821 | 207,429,792 |
| Advance received/Fund transfer | 1,985,389 | 5,760,634 |
| Encashment of investment in FDR | 9,238,693 | - |
| Loan received from banks | 114,760,000 | 44,000,000 |
| Loan received from others | 766,868 | 11,398,163 |
| Inter-project loan | 37,291,888 | 13,739,387 |
| Realised from group members savings | 95,840,356 | 87,587,269 |
| Security money | 37,000 | 9,000 |
| Risk fund/Members' loan Insurance | 2,627,380 | 1,757,870 |
| Old Motor Cycle & Office Equipments Sale | 78,000 | 856,300 |
| Loan from staff provident fund | 850,000 | 1,913,500 |
| Total receipts during the year | 994,952,229 | 652,392,500 |
| Total | 1,047,495,555 | 710,150,120 |
| Payments | | |
| Personnel cost | 101,834,458 | 89,795,904 |
| Program cost | 289,617,928 | 127,457,949 |
| Administrative cost | 33,139,910 | 31,789,365 |
| Bank charge | 478,361 | 335,278 |
| Overhead/Management cost | 3,683,280 | 4,006,608 |
| Capital expenditure | 6,148,866 | 5,668,614 |
| Paid to revolving loan fund | 326,003,000 | 215,446,000 |
| Interest paid to bank | 19,630,550 | 10,546,768 |
| Loan and advance | 2,619,703 | 2,849,130 |
| Investment in FDR including interest | 3,340,359 | 5,122,991 |
| Payment from fund | 386,754 | 178,178 |
| Fund Support to MFP | - | 8,188,800 |
| Loan refund to banks | 118,838,814 | 64,722,531 |
| Loan paid to others | - | 225,000 |
| Inter-project loan | 37,291,888 | 13,739,387 |
| Paid to group members' savings | 78,489,372 | 75,079,280 |



FINANCIAL STATEMENT



Aziz Halim Khair Choudhury

Chartered Accountants

Exclusive Correspondent Firm of PKF International

| Particulars | For the year ended 30 June | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | 2023 | 2022 |
| | Amount in Taka | |
| Security money | 355,270 | 297,787 |
| Risk fund | 2,310,963 | 645,224 |
| Provision for expenses payment | - | 300,000 |
| Staff security refund | - | 1,012,000 |
| Loan refund to staff provident fund | 700,000 | 200,000 |
| Total payments | 1,024,869,476 | 657,606,794 |
| Closing balance | | |
| Cash in hand | 1,266,147 | 1,926,580 |
| Cash at bank | 20,359,932 | 50,616,746 |
| | 22,626,079 | 52,543,326 |
| | 1,047,495,555 | 710,150,120 |

Programme wise Statement of Receipts and Payments is shown in Annexure-E. Signed for and on behalf of Governing Body of Uttaran:

Coordinator (Accounts and Finance)

Director

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

Signed for and on behalf of
Aziz Halim Khair Choudhury
Chartered Accountants

Signed by:

Md. Aftab Uddin Ahmed FCA
Senior Partner
ICAB Enrolment No.: 804

23 December 2023
Dhaka, Bangladesh

OUR DONORS & PARTNERS



OUR BOARD MEMBERS



Sarder Md. Rezaul Karim
Chairperson



Bidya Sagor Sarker
Vice Chairperson



Shahidul Islam
Director



Rahima Khatun
Treasurer



Dr. Nazrul Islam
Member



Meherun Nesa
Member



Achintya Kumar Saha
Member



House # 32 (1st Floor), Rd # 10/A,
Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209

Phone : +88 02 9122302

E-mail : uttaran.dhaka@gmail.com

Web : www.uttaran.net