

GIRL POWER PROJECT (GPP)



Girl Power Project (GPP): Girl Power is a five-year (2011-2015) project, funded by Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs for promoting equal rights and opportunities for Girls and Young Women (GYW). It is being implemented globally in Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone; Ethiopia, Zambia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Bolivia and Nicaragua. In Bangladesh, Plan as a lead organization, the project is implemented through partnership. USS one of the partner of Girl Power Project and implementing at 4 sub-district (Domar, Dimla, Jaldhaka and Nilphamari Sadar) under Nilphamari District.
Budget: 17,848,337 BDT

Project Goal: Reducing gender based violence against girls and young women.

Project Objectives

- To strengthen civil society organizations on influencing policy through lobby and advocacy to establish rights and justice for girls and young women
- To increase awareness and sensitize duty bearers on the rights of girls and young women
- To improve legal protection system for girls and young women
- To increase capacity of right holders (girls and young women) to protect gender based violence.

Project Strategy

- Strengthening civil society
- Building alliance and establishing network
- Sensitizing media
- Ensuring legal protection measures for girls and young women
- Engaging and making local government and socio cultural groups responsive
- Developing skills of girls and young women to protect themselves and making livelihood choices
- Enhancing participation of girls and young women in appropriate forum

Target population & Stakeholders: 5,000 girls and young women of age 10-24; 23 CSOs (NGOs, professional groups local clubs), 53 duty bearers (representatives of local government, public service, judiciary, law enforcement agency), 21 CBOs (women group, children organizations, etc.).

Working Areas: The project works in 1 districts, 4 Upazilas and 29 Union under Nilphamari District.

Implementing associate organizations (CSO) : 23 CSOs are involving to implement project objective with the banner of CSO network. CSO are- Anneahsa krira Chakra, Jaldhaka Press Club, Kaligonj Akota Jubo Sango, Future Samobay Samity, Bandhan Samaj Kallayn Sangstha, Jamuna Nari Kallaym Samity in Jaldhaka, Asar Alo Jubo Mahila Samity, SESTEV, Saoutgari Purbasha Mahilla Samity, Prottasa Lok Kendro, Service Provider Association, Press club in Domar, Uddug, Pallirup, Gayabari Jano Unnyn Sangstha, Tepakharibari Bonya Mahila Unnyn Sagstha, Simanta Mohila Unnayan Sangstha in Dimla Upazilla, Bittohin Somaj Unnayan Sangstha, Laxmichap Dhan Bank Association, Nirob Bohumukhi Sombay Sommittee, Bhabonkuri, Bhabonkuri Yubo Sangstha, Kanialkhata Santi Sangho, and Press Club in Nilphamari Sadar .

Key Results Area (KRA):

1. **Civil Society Level:** Civil societies are sensitized and capacitated to represent issues related to vulnerable and marginalized girls and young women (GYW). They are actively engaging and influencing public decision making forums to include voices and visibility of girls and young women. Also the media is sensitized on this issue.
2. **Institutional Level:** A legal protection measure is established for girls and young women. Referral of victims for institutional care and support increased in joint venture with civil society organizations and the Government of Bangladesh.
3. **Socio-cultural Level:** Violence and discrimination has been reduced. Society values the role of girls and young women in public life. Positive attitudes and roles and responsibilities of civil societies for the rights of girls and young women are increased. Local government, socio-cultural groups are actively engaged to make them accountable to establish young women's rights to participate in socio-cultural events.
4. **Individual Level:** Girls' and young women's skills are developed to protect themselves. They are making livelihood choices of their own and their participation is increased in appropriate forums.

Major Activities: Providing various types of life skills, livelihood and self-defense training to young girls and women to empower and protect them against gender-based violence; Conducting training, advocacy and workshops among community representatives, CSOs, government professionals, journalist and other stakeholders to mobilize them towards this cause; Engaging in awareness raising campaigns among the community at large using popular theatre and mass media.

Major Achievements (till date):

- ❖ 4 CSO network formed and they are trained on CP, CR, Gender, Lobby & Advocacy and proving support to sensitize the duty bearers on different issues including Child Marriage
- ❖ 3213 girls and young women received life-skills training (Domar-747, Dimla-910, Jaldhaka-807 & Nilphamari-749), 17 received self defense (Karate) training (Jaldhaka-17), 31 received livelihood training in 4 Upazilla (Domar-7, Dimla-8, Jaldhaka-8 & nilphamari-8), out of them 16 received livelihood support and 15 girls and young women have self employed and placed in job.
- ❖ 84 journalists oriented on CP, CR, Gender through 4 Workshops, 10 journalists have been awarded for their best reporting on violence against women and child rights.
- ❖ 4 Theatre for Development (TFD) groups developed in 4 Upazilla, 73 TFD show organized in the community on child marriage, birth registration, violence etc and 101 communities have been reached through TFD show.
- ❖ 29 Child Protection Group (CPG) formed and 469 cases i.e. child marriage, violence, eave teasing etc were identified through CPG and total 395 cases were solved
- ❖ 29 GYW forum were formed and 4 Annual Conventions of GYW were conducted where children, parents, stakeholders attended and oriented on child protection mechanism.
- ❖ 25 Advocacy Workshops held on different issues i.e. child marriage, violence, where a total 976 participants attended



Implemented by: Udayankur Seba Sangstha(USS) Supported by: Plan International Banglad

