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## Local Contexts of SDGs : Local Institutions as Useful Partners

Mustafa K Mujeri | Sifat-E-Azam



Unlike the MDGs, the SDGs deal with the causes of the problems as well. The SDGs are about sustainable development. The MDGs used a silo approach to the problems, while the SDGs take into account the inter-linkages.

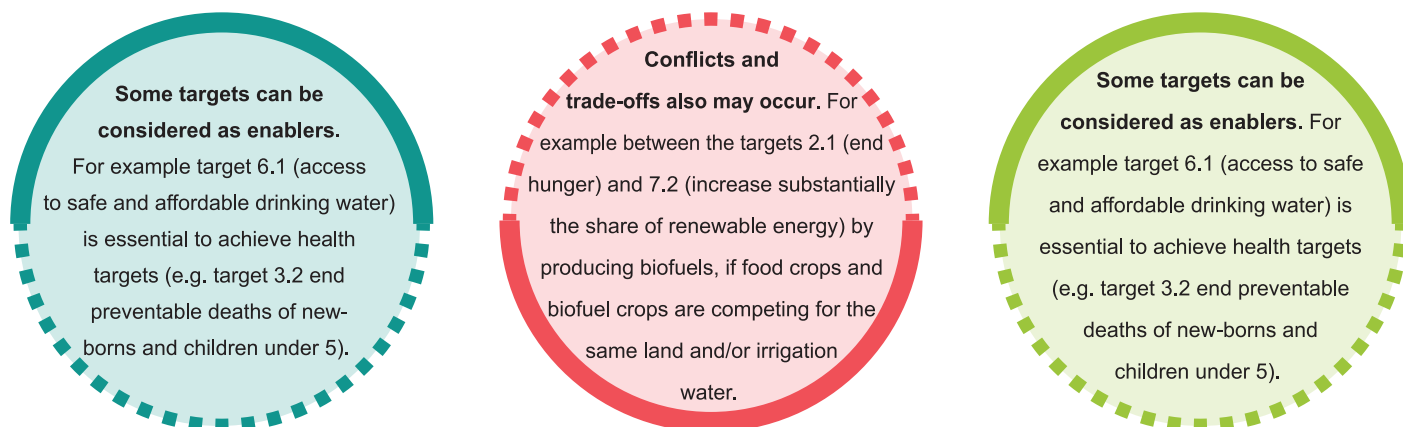
The implementation of the SDGs started in 2016. The process involves 'localising the SDGs'. In each country, the government translates the goals into national legislation, develops a plan of action, establishes budgets and, at the same time, remains open to and actively searches for partners.

### Local Contexts of SDGs

Ultimately, all SDGs are local! The achievement of SDGs requires local action. The SDGs have targets that are directly or indirectly related to the daily work of the local governments and local institutions (e.g. NGO-MFIs). These local governments/institutions are not the mere implementers of the agenda. These are local policy designers, catalysts of change, and are best-placed to link the global goals with local communities. For implementing the SDGs, one important element is to utilise the potential of local action to drive development and create appropriate legal and financial frameworks to support all local partners in playing their part in achieving the integrated and universal SDG agenda.

The integrated and transformative nature of the SDGs requires policies that systematically consider sectoral inter-linkages (synergies and trade-offs) between economic, social and environmental spheres. This is fundamental to ensure that progress achieved in one goal (e.g. SDG on water) contributes to progress in other goals (e.g. SDG on food security or SDG on health). Conversely, lack of coherence across policy areas underpinning the SDGs poses the risk that progress achieved in one goal occurs at the expense of that in another goal. For example, an increase in agricultural land use to help end hunger (SDG2) could result in biodiversity loss and undermine progress on the SDG target. We need to transform the SDGs into policies and concrete actions at the local level.

The SDGs show some of the diverse types of interactions that may occur between targets related to, for example, water-energy-food:



These types of sectoral interactions need to be considered to take coherent decisions in achieving the SDGs. This means that institutions concerned with a specific goal (education, health, or energy) will have to take into account targets that refer or are relevant to other goals.

### NGO-MFIs as Facilitators

The NGO-MFIs, could organise multi-stakeholder consultation processes and mapping exercises at the local level to identify sectoral interactions (synergies, trade-offs, complementarities and impacts) critical for achieving the SDGs in a given geographical location (e.g. upazilas/districts). For analysing policy interactions as well as identifying the roles of diverse sectoral policies in SDG implementation, **NGO-MFIs should address the following four questions:**

- Have economic, social and environmental policy inter-linkages (synergies and trade-offs) been considered?
- How do the planned policy outputs contribute to achieve SDGs?
- How does the action to attain one SDG (e.g. food security) support or hinder progress in other SDGs (e.g. water or health)?
- Are the local organisations moving from sectoral perspectives (e.g. agriculture, trade, investment, water, energy) towards a more integrated decision-making processes and 'issues-oriented' agenda (e.g. food security)?

In order to reach a common understanding on the challenges and the nature of the SDG agenda, NGO-MFIs should focus on the following:

**F**irst, clarify the concepts of sustainable development, SDGs, and policy/programme coherence for sustainable development to the people, local organisations, community leaders and all stakeholders.

**S**econd, develop clear, widely accepted and operational objectives and principles for achieving the SDGs.

**T**hird, create loops for information flow (both horizontal and vertical) for informed policy making/programme formulation and implementation at the local level.

**F**ourth, put emphasis on policy/programme coherence in implementing the SDGs.

For ensuring vertical coherence (across different governance levels), NGO-MFIs could emphasise on several aspects:



In addition, monitoring mechanisms should be strengthened to ensure that policies/programmes can be adjusted in the light of their potential negative effects on sustainable development, new information, and changing circumstances. Local government and the NGO-MFIs are the catalysts of change and are best placed to link the SDGs with local communities. Localising development is a process to empower all local stakeholders, aimed at making sustainable development more responsive, and therefore, relevant to local needs and aspirations. Development goals can be reached only if local actors (e.g. NGO-MFIs) fully participate, not only in the implementation, but also in the agenda-setting and monitoring. Participation requires that all relevant actors must be involved in the decision-making process, through consultative and participative mechanisms, at the local and national levels within the overall SDG framework.

## How Do SDGs Matter to the NGO-MFIs?

As important partners for development at the local level in Bangladesh, the SDGs matter a lot for the NGO-MFIs in their pursuit of poverty reduction and social development.

### SDG1 No Poverty: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

This goal is about raising the incomes of the poorest, but it is also about ensuring access to basic services, and protecting everyone from human-caused and natural disasters. SDG1 takes a multi-dimensional view of poverty and requires multiple, coordinated responses. Local level provides ideal position to identify people living in poverty on the ground, and to target resources and services to help them escape it. NGO-MFIs providing basic services, such as water and sanitation, are key partners in the achievement of SDG1. They also play important roles by developing strategies to create jobs and raise incomes, and by building the resilience of the communities to shocks and disasters.



deaths from road traffic accidents. NGO-MFIs can contribute to the reduction of deaths caused by water and soil pollution through effective natural resource management and environmental protection.

### SDG4 Quality Education: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

This goal is about enabling everyone to study, learn, and fulfill their full potential. NGO-MFIs are well-placed to identify and tackle the barriers to school attendance in our communities. They can help integrate technical and vocational training programmes into their local development strategies, making sure training is valuable to labour market opportunities. NGO-MFIs are particularly well-placed to reach out to vulnerable and marginalised individuals and communities and to ensure they have access to education and training that meet their needs.



### SDG2 Zero Hunger: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

This goal is about making sure that everyone can enjoy a safe, nutritious diet, all year round. Management of natural resources in rural areas, particularly land and water, underpins food security. Local level efforts by NGO-MFIs can support agricultural production and local economic growth by strengthening transport infrastructure and markets to promote local food chains. Local efforts can use healthcare services and schools to identify and tackle child malnutrition. They can help manage collective resources and reform land tenure in ways that protect the rights of the poorer groups, including secondary right holders.



### SDG 5 Gender Equality: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

This goal is about ending violence and discrimination against women and girls and making sure they have equal opportunities in all areas of life. NGO-MFIs can act as a model for gender equality and the empowerment of women through non-discriminatory service provision to citizens and fair employment practices. The NGO-MFIs are also on the frontline of identifying and tackling violence and harmful practices against women and providing services to women affected by violence. NGO-MFIs can identify and tackle barriers to women's equal access to land control and ownership. Getting more women into elected office at the local level is a top priority in terms of empowering women, both as a goal in its own right, and because local politics is often the first step to national office. Female leaders at local level can challenge gender stereotypes and set an example to young girls. NGO-MFIs can encourage such developments and mainstream gender equality across all areas of their work and in the local society in order to tackle the multiple barriers to women's empowerment.



### SDG3 Good Health and Well-Being for People: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

This goal is about helping people to live long and healthy lives. The provision of clean water and sanitation is essential to lowering infant, child and maternal mortality. NGO-MFIs may become more vigilant in several areas such as child mortality which are somewhat stagnating. Similarly, many diseases are increasingly being understood as a local level issue. NGO-MFIs can provide education and information and services to prevent diseases, promote urban planning to reduce air pollution, foster healthy lifestyles and prevent







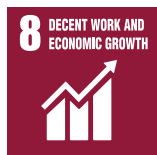
### **SDG6 Clean Water and Sanitation: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.**

This goal is about making sure everyone has access to clean drinking water and toilet facilities. Ensuring access to clean water and sanitation is usually a responsibility of the local government, and relies on effective local governance, natural resource management, and urban planning. The challenges involved can vary hugely at the sub-national level, particularly between urban and rural areas. In urban areas, the main challenge is often a lack of access to basic services in informal settlements, or high prices and a lack of quality control of water from private vendors. In rural areas, water may be free, but it may involve long journeys to and from the source, and may be contaminated. Local government have a role to play in improving water quality through environmental protection measures and sustainable solid waste management. The NGO-MFIs are ideally placed to support integrated water resources and participatory management of water and sanitation by communities, including slum-dwellers.



### **SDG7 Affordable and Clean Energy: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.**

This goal is about making sure everyone has access to green energy. NGO-MFIs are often best placed to identify gaps in access to affordable energy among vulnerable groups in our communities. NGO-MFIs can contribute to energy efficiency directly by encouraging investments in energy efficient buildings and green energy sources in institutions (e.g. offices, schools, etc.) and by popularising sustainability criteria into our procurement practices. Such initiatives can have the added advantage of reducing public spending on energy. In cities, local transport and urban planning policies, as well as new 'smart city' technologies, can have a significant impact on energy efficiency and carbon emissions which the NGO-MFIs can advocate and popularise.



### **SDG8 Decent Work and Economic Growth: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.**

This goal is about creating decent jobs and economic opportunities for everyone. NGO-MFIs can help generate growth and employment from the bottom up through local economic activities that harness the unique resources and opportunities at their areas of operation. NGO-MFIs can identify children at risk of child labour and work to ensure they attend school. They can also work in partnership with the informal sector to improve their working conditions and social protections, and encourage formalisation where appropriate. NGO-MFIs can act as an example in providing safe and secure working environments, and in

guaranteeing equal pay for equal work. They can also include these practices as part of procurement criteria when working with other partners. For example, NGO-MFIs are best placed to work with communities to assess the benefits and costs of tourism in specific locations and help develop strategic plans to ensure activity in this sector is sustainable.

### **SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.**



This goal is about making sure everyone has the infrastructure they need to connect to the rest of the country and the world. Local governments are particularly important in developing and maintaining infrastructure to serve rural and urban areas and to link them up with cities and business centres. NGO-MFIs can assist in developing local infrastructure and can include the promotion of CMSEs and start-ups in their programmes, taking into account local resources, needs and markets. NGO-MFIs can identify gaps in access to ICT and the internet in communities and assist in taking steps to bridge them e.g. through provision in public spaces such as libraries.

### **SDG10 Reduced Inequalities: Reduce income inequality within and among countries.**



This goal is about reducing the gap between the richest and the poorest. NGO-MFIs are key players to reduction of inequality within the country. It is vital to channel resources to the most deprived areas through the local governments and NGO-MFIs, and use their capacities to identify and tackle poverty and exclusion. NGO-MFIs have a particular role to play in political inclusion at the local level. They can promote the participation of minority and traditionally underrepresented groups in public consultation processes, and in standing for elected offices. NGO-MFIs can implement best practices in terms of equality and non-discrimination in own institutions and operations, as well as promote these criteria in all areas. NGO-MFIs also have the responsibility to provide public services in a non-discriminatory way. NGO-MFIs can assist local governments to dedicate local budgets to boosting employment opportunities and income of the poorest households in the communities.

### **SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.**



This goal is about putting cities at the heart of sustainable development in an urbanising world. The rapid urbanisation in Bangladesh has led to the growth of slums. We must develop strategic urban plans to work with slum-dwellers to improve conditions and provide basic services where slums exist. Access to affordable housing is also an issue; there is also a need to regulate land and



housing markets to guarantee the right to housing to the poor residents. City governments have the responsibility for promoting the use of public transport in urban areas in order to improve road safety and reduce emissions. Local governments are also mandated to provide citizens with safe, green public spaces, such as parks, squares and gardens. In the context of rapid urbanisation, participatory urban planning is more important than ever before if we are to prevent urban 'collapse', and reduce carbon emissions in cities. Sustainable solid waste management, with an emphasis on reuse and recycling, is also vital to the reduction of cities' environmental impact. In all these areas, NGO-MFIs can play important roles.

The NGO-MFIs can assist local governments in identifying and protecting tangible and intangible urban cultural heritage for future generations. Coastal areas are already facing the impact of climate change. It is vital that NGO-MFIs take action to mitigate the effects of climate change and protect the most vulnerable in the communities from the effects of natural disasters.



### **SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.**

This goal is about reducing our impact on the planet by producing and consuming what we need. NGO-MFIs can support short supply chains, thereby reducing transport and carbon emissions, through land management, infrastructure, urban planning, education and training, and public markets. NGO-MFIs have a particular role to play in fostering sustainable consumption and production of energy and water, which can be done using a wide variety of tools, from planning to pricing mechanisms.

As consumers of goods and services, NGO-MFIs can establish procurement criteria that take waste and carbon emissions from potential providers into account. Since NGO-MFIs work closest to the people, they are well-placed to raise citizens' awareness of the importance of sustainable production and consumption and equip them with the knowledge and tools to reduce their environmental footprint.



### **SDG13 Climate Change: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy.**

This goal is about dealing with the effects of global warming. NGO-MFIs are often on the frontline of dealing with the effects of climate change. It is vital that NGO-MFI capacities to deal with climate related hazards and natural disasters are strengthened to protect our communities, particularly the most vulnerable ones in the coastal region.

Local people have a history of leading from the bottom up in combatting climate change and of raising awareness at the local level. It is essential that NGO-MFIs, particularly in

the most vulnerable coastal areas, integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation into their planned activities to increase their resilience to environmental shocks.

### **SDG14 Life below Water: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.**



This goal is about protecting our coasts and oceans. Almost 80 percent of the pollution in the oceans comes from land-based activities. Usually, coastal cities/towns discharge sewage, industrial effluent and other wastewater directly into their surrounding seas. But, protecting our oceans and coasts is not just the responsibility of coastal locations. Any activity within river basins can affect the oceans, such as the discharge of sewage or industrial wastes into rivers. Most of our sewage is discharged untreated into rivers and coastal waters. Urban sanitation and solid waste management are essential to reducing coastal zone pollution, as is collaboration between local governments and NGO-MFIs.

### **SDG15 Life on Land: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.**



This goal is about protecting our natural resources and wildlife. NGO-MFIs can work closely with the local governments especially in areas like water, sanitation, and solid waste management along with their ability to incentivise behavioural change in local communities. All these abilities put NGO-MFIs in a unique position to protect natural resources and habitats. NGO-MFIs have also the ability to coordinate the partnerships with the local governments, private sector and the communities that are necessary at the local level for the complex task of integrated water resources management. NGO-MFIs can ensure that biodiversity conservation is an integral part of local planning and development strategy. NGO-MFIs can also use their local knowledge to help to implement the 'polluter pays' principle on the ground. Community-based participation and management, facilitated by NGO-MFIs, is a powerful tool to halt biodiversity loss and prevent extinction.

### **SDG16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.**



This goal is about keeping people safe and making sure that government works effectively and fairly. This goal calls on the government to become more effective and accountable to the citizens. This requires NGO-MFIs to

fight corruption and increase the public's access to information. For decades, NGO-MFIs have led the way in experimenting with new forms of participatory decision-making, such as participatory decision making and planning. This goal calls on NGO-MFIs to expand these efforts and become even more responsive to the communities, making sure no group is excluded. In an increasingly globalised Bangladesh, reducing violence will be increasingly important in the quest for peace and security.



**SDG17 Partnerships for the Goals:  
Strengthen the means of  
implementation and revitalise the global  
partnership for sustainable  
development.**

This goal is about working together at global level to achieve the SDGs and make the Post-2015 Agenda a

Given the rich, varied and successful experience of NGO-MFIs of working at the grassroots level, four broad areas for action may be identified for them in the context of SDGs. They are:

**Action Area 1: Apply an SDG lens to the NGO-MFI's strategies and policy tools.**

The SDGs constitute an important part of the backdrop against which much of the NGO-MFI's work takes place. This should be reflected in the evolution of the programmes of work of NGO-MFIs, identifying opportunities to contribute to SDG implementation. An effort to integrate SDG perspectives across the NGO-MFIs' work may also imply revisiting existing thematic strategies (e.g. innovation strategy, skills strategy, green growth strategy, poverty reduction strategy etc.) to make them 'SDG-aware', ensuring that they support the achievement of the SDGs where relevant.

**Action Area 3: Upgrade in-house capacity for integrated planning and policy-making at the grassroots level, and provide support to the local government to create a space for sharing mutual experiences on implementing the SDGs.**

Consider the role of union parishads, upazila parishads, municipalities and sub-national governments in the implementation of the SDGs; build networks and partnerships to foster cross-sectoral perspective on SDGs at subnational level; and enhance thematic projects on service delivery, which can help foster inter-linkages across several SDGs at local and regional levels.

This process will empower actors within the new development architecture, including the local governments, civil society organisations, private sector and other stakeholders. In particular, the NGO-MFIs can act as important actors in localising development by taking into account subnational contexts in the achievement of the SDGs—from setting of goals and targets, to

reality. NGO-MFIs can help develop coherent policies at the local level to address the multiple challenges of poverty reduction and sustainable development. Further, NGO-MFIs are in the ideal position to encourage and facilitate partnerships between public bodies, private sector and civil society in the communities.

NGO-MFIs can also generate reliable local data which are essential tools to monitor sub-national variations in progress and useful in targeting resources to make sure that no-one is left behind.

The breadth of the SDGs means that there are many areas where the NGO-MFIs' work can contribute to the SDGs, drawing on their capacity. The actions should also focus on fine-tuning existing work of each NGO-MFI. Each NGO-MFI should highlight what it could do more of—or do differently—to support the achievement of the SDGs.

**Action Area 2: Leverage NGO-MFIs' ground-level data and information to help analyse progress in the implementation of the SDGs.**

The NGO-MFIs hold vast amounts of information – both quantitative and qualitative – that can contribute to SDG follow-up efforts.

**Action Area 4: Raise awareness on the SDGs among partners and the people.**

The aim would be to improve their knowledge of the SDGs, familiarise them with the implications, opportunities and challenges in localising it, and urge stakeholders to fully realise their crucial role. As an advocacy platform, this should also seek to create an enabling environment for the localisation process, to support local ownership and ensure the SDGs integration in sub-national strategies and plans. This could also point out best practices that are reliable and replicable in order to efficiently design, implement and monitor interventions in line with the SDGs.

determining the means of implementation and using indicators to measure and monitor progress. The process helps in putting the locations and their peoples' priorities, needs and resources at the centre of sustainable development.

Localisation does not mean implementation of goals at the local level, by local government and others including the NGO-MFIs. All SDGs have targets directly related to the responsibilities of local government. And the achievement of the SDGs depends, more than ever, on the ability of local government and local development partners (e.g. NGO-MFIs) to promote integrated, inclusive and sustainable local development.





## Events and Workshops

### A Day Long Workshop on 'Leadership Exploration and Development (LEAD)' at Khulna



KK Foundation (KKF) in collaboration with 'Thoughts' organized a daylong workshop on 'Leadership Exploration and Development (LEAD)' at the



auditorium of Hotel Castle Salam, Khulna on 14th September 2019. The objective of the workshop was to empower high school students to enhance their potential and maximize their performance by excelling in communication and leadership skills as well as developing a positive attitude for proactive contribution to the betterment of the schools. The workshop basically helped empower

the high school students by aiding development of skills in communication, leadership, and



proactivity, to enhance their potential and maximize contribution to society.

48 students from the four leading high schools of Khulna City participated in the workshop. The schools are Govt. Coronation Secondary Girls School, Khulna, Govt. Khulna Zilla School, Khulna, Govt. Model High School, Khulna and St. Joseph's High School, Khulna.

### Dental Camp

KK Foundation with the help of Mediplus and DAAMI Foundation



jointly organized a dental camp at its Shelter House, Uttara, on 21st September 2019, for the

underprivileged children. Associate Professor Dr. Aslam Al Mehedi, Dr. Ahmed Ashrafujjaman, Dr. Shakhawat



Hossain, founder of 'For the People' and Dr. Saima Akter were present as the specialists. Besides, Mr. Rashed Rahim, Secretary General of SNAD Foundation, Mr. Jahangir Alam, Lecturer of Akij Foundation School & College were also present at the dental camp. Ms. Sifat-E-Azam, Executive Director, KK Foundation,



Chaired the camp. In addition to awareness building and routine checkups, basic dental care kits were distributed by Mediplus among the children.



### Skin Care Camp

A skin care camp arranged at KK Foundation's shelter house on 21st



September 2019. Dr. Ahmed Ashrafuzzaman, Skin Specialist, examined the children and prescribed appropriate medicine.

### Eye Camp

On 26th September 2019, a day long eye camp was jointly organized by KK



Foundation and Dhaka Eye Care Hospital at the KKF Shelter House. KKF arranged the eye camp to ensure proper eye care for the underprivileged children and adults. During the eye camp along with KK Foundation Shelter House children, 170 children and adults from Center for Zakat Foundation, Ajampur Darul



Ulum Madrasa, Ajampur Govt. Primary School and Jamia Muhammad Ali Madrasa were examined and received eye care facilities. The critical cases were identified and necessary actions were taken for 32 children and adults.

### Mental Health and Personal Health Awareness

On 9th October 2019, the occasion of World Mental Health Day, KKF



arranged a daylong workshop titled 'Mental and Personal Health Awareness' at its Shelter House. This year the key theme was suicide prevention. Worldwide suicide rates have been increasing at an alarming



rate over the few years and the situation in Bangladesh is also upsetting. A study shows that every year more than 11,000 people commit suicide and many cases still go



unreported. Children of the shelter house are especially vulnerable because of the trauma and distress that most of them have suffered.

With the help of LifeSpring two group counselling sessions were arranged



for the children on 6th September 2019 and 30th September 2019. Dr. Yahia Amin, Chairman, Life Spring

and Dr. Shusama Reza, Early Childhood Expert & Senior Consultant were present during the counselling sessions. As a consequence of both the sessions the foundation has planned a daylong workshop to enlighten children and staff about personal hygiene and on how to overcome stress and conflicting situations. Dr. Saima Akter, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Pediatric Dentistry at Kumudini Women's Medical College and Sifat-E-Azam, Executive Director, KK Foundation conducted the session for children and mentors on various mental health and other relevant health issues.

### Retreat

The first retreat of the Foundation was organized on 18th October 2019 at "Arannya Bilash", Rajendrapur, Gazipur. The occasion was graced by the presence of Mr. Md. Mazherul



Quader, Chairman, Ms. Khurshid Mazher, Vice-Chairman and Ms. Esha Mahin, Senior Advisor, who attended the retreat to the great joy of the KKF





Staff Members. This was an especially joyous occasion for the children of the Shelter House Program who were delighted with the games, swimming,



snake charming show, and special tasty treats.

The Honorable Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Senior Advisor spent the day interacting with the children, appreciating the work that had been done by the staff members and reflecting on the goals that needed to be achieved in future.

### Certificate Course on Financial Performance

KK Foundation in collaboration with Thoughts, a leading training institute of the country, arranged a daylong certificate course on Financial Performance Management on 26th October 2019. This course was intended to attract fresh graduates

statements. The course emphasized analysis of cases and financial reports



and demonstrated the application of the basic concepts and methods of financial accounting to real-world business issues.



22 professionals from renowned organizations such as City Bank Capital Resources Limited, Marks and Spencer, Primeasia University, Advanced Development Technologies Ltd, Premier School Dhaka participated in the certificate course. Mr. Mahbubul Alam, Chairman,



and young professionals in order to introduce them to the basic concepts and methods used in the interpretation and analysis of corporate financial statements as an important source of information for decision making. The major objective was to understand the structure, relevance and information content of the basic financial

Thoughts, facilitated the certificate course. Mr. Mahin Mazher, Chief Advisor, KK Foundation and Managing Director, Index Companies Ltd. graced occasion as the Chief Guest. Mr. Mazher distributed certificates among the participants and provided his valuable feedback and comments.

### Entrepreneurship 101- Be Your Own Boss



Thoughts, KK Foundation, MATTRA Architects Ltd. arranged a daylong workshop titled **Entrepreneurship 101- Be Your Own Boss** at the Auditorium of Premier School Dhaka on 5th November, 2019. The program was specially planned for the new and upcoming entrepreneurs of Bangladesh. The workshop



incorporated the knowledge of business procedures, strengths, tactics, strategies and methodical direction used to overcome the challenges that an entrepreneur might face when starting a venture. The workshop was conducted by a team of professional trainers from KKF, THOUGHTS and MATTRA. More than 50 participants joined the workshop and expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the organizers.

### Seminar on Liberation War Stories

A seminar titled "Muktijuddher Golpo Shono- Stories of Liberation War" was



organized by KK Foundation at its Shelter House Program (Joy Shokol Shishur) on 18 December 2019. Mr.



Sheikh Mohammad Shajahan, freedom fighter of sector 11 Kaderia Bahini, Mr. Hasnain Sabih Nayak,



Co-Founder and International Relation and Culture Editor of



TOITOMBOOR (Children and Juvenile Monthly Magazine) and Mr.

Sabih UI Alam, prominent artist and senior adviser of TOITOMBOOR were present as keynote speakers. They depicted the stories of liberation war and significance of independence to the children. On this event, children performed group dance, music and drew paintings based on liberation war.

### Visit to Liberation War Museum

In 19 December 2019, children of KKF's shelter house were taken to a



visit to the Liberation War Museum, situated at Agargaon, Dhaka.



Liberation war and Independence is an essential part of history of the

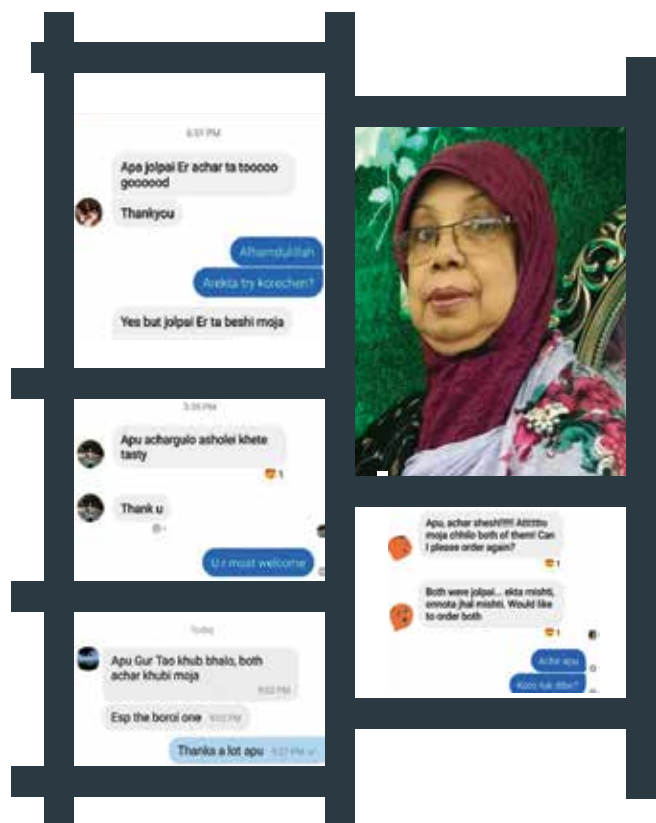


nation, which is integral to their true identity as a Bangladeshi citizen. This visit has made them aware of their independence and will inspire them to be a true patriot of the nation.

### Rokeya Sultana- Story of an Entrepreneur

Forty years ago Ms. Rokeya (60) was just a homemaker leading a simple life. She got married after completion of her Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC). At the time the social construct was such that women were not encouraged to continue their education after marriage. This had its impact on Ms. Rokeya, who just like many other women of her time, she had to sacrifice her education. Her life revolved around taking care of her family and her household chores. Although she was a housewife, at the age of 20 she realized that she had the expertise and potential to work part-time for local businesses in the fields of women's dress designing and cooking. She began training some distressed ladies in tailoring work and also started catering services and selling homemade products like pickles, different types of pitha and snacks. But due to the lack of market linkages her business was limited to a small specific area only.

Many small-business owners like Rokeya Sultana often have no professional guidance and no support structure in place. Under the Foundation's SME/Entrepreneurship development program, a few types of pickles were collected and sold to urban customers. Fortunately, the customers are extremely satisfied with the taste and quality of the pickles. Ms. Sultana is also providing tailoring training to the shelter house girls under the Foundation's capacity development program. Ms. Sultana's journey has been a difficult one. She has not only struggled with supporting her only daughter and husband but also battle with cancer. Now, KKF, through its programs is making an effort to assist talented women and homemakers of urban areas to become successful entrepreneurs.







## Media Coverage

- ▶ TodayNews24.net ▶ দৈনিক জন্মভূমি ▶ দৈনিক প্রবর্তন ▶ দৈনিক প্রবাহ ▶ দৈনিক অধিকার ▶ দৈনিক পূর্বাঞ্চল  
▶ সময়ের খবর ▶ কে এনএন ▶ ATN Bangla Television ▶ দৈনিক সময় ▶ দৈনিক আজকের কাগজ



## Achievements of Our Young Stars

Eshita is the youngest of three daughters of Mr. Fazlul Haq. Mr. Haq works full time at a garments factory but struggles to support his family with his meager earnings. Eshita is academically gifted, but for a family having difficulty putting food on the table, education is nothing but a luxury. While on a field visit an officer of the Shelter house program came across Eshita a year ago on the roadside. She was 11 years old at the time. The officer brought her in to the KKF shelter house with the consent of her parents. Within a year this little gem made us proud. Overcoming all the struggles she has achieved 4.5 CGPA in her PSC exam.



Eshita Akter, GPA 4.5 PSC

Along with her Shohagi Akter (PSC), Purnima Akter (JSC) and Sharmin Khanam (JSC) also successfully passed their exams and moved forward to the next stage.



Shohagi Akter, GPA 3.91 PSC



Purnima Akter, GPA 3.21 JSC



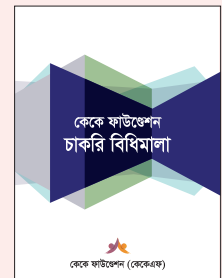
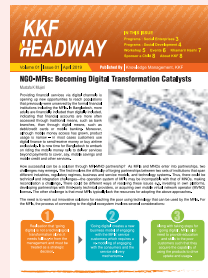
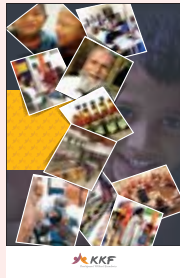
Sharmin Khanam, GPA 3.29 JSC

By donating 2,500 taka per month any one can become a partner in improving the lives of the children in the shelter house program.

## Development Partners




## Publications




**Turnover Time  
about 45 days  
(including sell)**

An Initiative of KKF Foundation  
for the Marginal Farmers

**Attractive packages for marginal  
and dropout poultry farmers**

- 1 day bird (500 or 1000 lot at lower than market price)
- Poultry feed at competitive rates
- Soft credit turns

Program includes day long  
**2 free workshops on  
poultry farming**  
Collateral free flexible terms

**Target farmers:**

- Member of MFIs
- Experienced poultry farmer
- Clean functional sheds
- Women and women lead household to get priority
- Lacking resources to re-enter market

**Attractive packages and inclusive growth for  
beneficiaries, MFIs and development partners**



**Donate 2500 BDT Per Month  
Sponsor a BOY or a GIRL today**

**For detail**

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[www.kkfoundation.org.bd/sponsorAkid](http://www.kkfoundation.org.bd/sponsorAkid)



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