

Annual Report

2023-24 (July to June)



Sonar Bangla Foundation (SBF)

Modhuganj Bazar Kaligonj Jhenaidah-7350, Bangladesh

Phone-880-277748502 Mobile: 01712001066

Email: sbfkj1@gmail.com

Facebook: Sonar Bangla Foundation ID: [sbfkj1@outlook.com](https://www.facebook.com/sbfkj1)

Brief description of the organization:

Name of NGO : Sonar Bangla Foundation (SBF)

Address : Modhuganj Bazar Kaligonj Jhenaidah-7350, Bangladesh
Phone-880-277748502 Mobile: 01712001066

E-Mail: sbfkj@yahoo.com

sbfkj1@gmail.com

Web: www.sfbfd.org

Year of establishment : July 1995.

Legitimacy of the organization : The organization is registered with Social Welfare Department & NGO Affairs Bureau, Bangladesh.

A. Social Welfare Dept : Vide no. 153/98, 12/2/1998

B NGO A. Bureau: Vide no : 2550, 11/03/2010 Renew: Up to 20 March, 2030
PADOR : BD-2010-DGH-1806039794

b. Contact person of the organization and address:

Name: Shibu Pada Biswas

Designation: Executive Director,

Address: Modhuganj Bazar, Kaligonj-7350, Jhenaidah

Phone: 880-277748502 Mobile: 01712001066. Email:sbfkj1@gmail.com

- b. **Vision:** Build an eco-friendly and equal opportunity based society where Social justice and safe livelihood ensured for the poor, vulnerable and excluded people (women, children and girls, persons with disabilities, religious minorities and Dalits).
- c. **Mission:** Help backward, poor, vulnerable groups of people for getting safe, dignified and standard lives through their knowledge and capacity development, active participation to socio-economic institutions, available facilities and opportunities and also having more responsive service providers through proper advocacy, lobby and networking initiatives.
- d. **Goal and objectives of the organization:** Goal and major objectives are summarized below -
- Goal:** Socio-economic development of the underprivileged through Human Resource development activities and work for the humanity for a safe and fear free and eco-friendly environment.

Objectives:

- The organization works for strengthening democracy and good governance. Hence, it strengthens networking with local government department through advocacy, networking, discussion and sharing of ideas.
- The organization gives all-out support to the vulnerable women and children, people and children with disabilities, marginalized communities with regard to beliefs & culture to let them have and enjoy their basic needs in the target areas. It particularly keeps in tracks of reducing women and child trafficking at highly trafficking prone zones.
- Develop awareness on WASH of the community people through involving them in participatory safe water, health and sanitation facilities including raising awareness and perception on HIV/AIDS and MCH facilities.
- Promotion awareness on land rights and relevant laws among the landless, poor and unconscious community.
- Promote sustainable agriculture and food security with fostering farmers' rights and strengthening adaptation capacity going on with rigorous climate change.
- Promote child & youth friendly environment with safeguarding child rights in everywhere giving focus on education, safety & security and physical & mental development including the provision of child friendly vocational training.
- Improve the livelihood of the destitute women & girls involving them with different forms of income generating activities including credit facilities and linkage with others service providers.
- Launch awareness raising movement in protection and preserving environment free from pollution and save the natural & public resources.
- Create opportunities for recreational facilities for the poor and vulnerable women, Girls and children of the poor community of the society.

Executive Committee of the organization:

Sl #	Name	Designation	Sex	Occupation
1	Sheik Ataul Haque Zehad	President	Male	Private Service
2	Rashed Sattar Toru	Vice president	Male	Professor
3	Shibu Pada Biswas	General Sec.	Male	Social activist
4	Smriti Biswas	Joint Sec.	Female	Development activist
5	Elyus Hossain	Treasurer	Male	Businessman
6	Pankaj Kumar Shaha	Member	Male	Professor
7	Chanchal Mukherjee	Member	Male	Advocate
8	Shashanko Kumar Sana	Member	Male	Retired - Principle
9	Kazal Rekha	Member	Female	House wife

Working Area

District	Upazila	Union	Pourashova	Village
Jhenaidah	Jhenaidah Sadar	4	1	89
	Kaligonj	11	1	208
	Kotchandpur	1	1	10
	Moheshpur	12	1	08
	Sailkupa	08	1	08
Magura	Magura Sadar	02	1	25
Faridpur	Salta	08	1	126
03	07	46	7	561

Major Running project and Activities:

- Less-water Irrigation with Climate Resilient and Effective Agriculture Techniques (LICREAT) - project;
- Strengthening and Follow up of PLDP Approach in Bangladesh;
- Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB) Programme;
- Promoting and Protecting Rights of the Working Children (PPRWC);
- Mother and Children Health and Nutrition-Project.
- Health, safe water option , HIV/AIDS &MCH;
- Luxur Cook Stove-ICS Program;
- Women and Child right;
- Health, education, rehabilitation for the person with disabilities

Social Development Activities:

- Group formation and awareness build up thorough group.
- Sustainable Agriculture;
- Water resource management;
- Vulnerable Women Benefit (VGB);
- Health & Hygiene for the mother and Child;
- Awareness on HIV &AIDS;
- Awareness and prevention of trafficking;
- Legal awareness with legal aid for the poor and destitute;
- Promoting safe work for the children with worst forms of works;
- Community based arsenic mitigation;
- International and national day's celebration.

01: Less-water Irrigation with Climate Resilient and Effective Agriculture Techniques (LICREAT) - project;

Sonar Bangla Foundation (SBF) is implementing the ` Less-water Irrigation with Climate Resilient and Effective Agriculture Techniques (LICREAT) - project with the support from Share the Planet Association, Japan and Japan Fund for Global Environment (JFGE). The project is being implemented at 40 villages of 1 no Sudarpur- Durgapur Union and 4 no Niyamat Union, 03 No Kola Union and 02 No Jamal Unions. These Unions are in the Kaligonj Upazila of Jhenaidah district. Through the project Sonar Bangla Foundation(SBF) is stepping up with actions for developing capacity of 500 target farmers to devise an alternative policy option and to make the farmers resilient to climate change and adaptation (CCA) actions as well. The core concerned issues under this project are: (i) best practices sharing, improved irrigation method, (ii) effective digitalized information flow and adaptive cropping pattern impact environment where farmer' resilience to climate change sustained. The LICREAT- project is being implemented to achieve the following outcome: Capacity development of target farmers on climate adaptive agricultural farming and less-water irrigation practices (method and techniques) are improved, reinforced, and enhanced for climate actions and Improved less-water irrigation method, techniques/tools installed/introduced and effectively practicing by the target farmers.

Sonar Bangla Foundation is a non-profit, non-political volunteer organization. This organization is working to bring a change in the social, economic and political life especially for the marginalized community people and farmers. With financial support from Japan Fund for Global Environment and technical support from Share the Planet Association Japan Sonar Bangla Foundation is implementing "Less water irrigation with climate resilient and effective agriculture techniques. (LICREAT) Project at 04 Unions (Sundarpur-Durgapur, Niamotpur, Kola and Jamal) under Kaligang Upazila of Jhenaidah district. It's an environment friendly, less water used irrigation practices alongside following climate resilient agriculture technologies and crop varieties adaptation.

Area of the LICREAT-project is the south-western part of Bangladesh. This area is highly prone to draught. Most of the farmers are irrigating their crop field extracting underground water through deep and shallow tube-well. As a result the water level is gradually stepping down day by day and subsequent backlash is making the environment in this area is absolutely vulnerable.

Now it is a much needed one to protect the farmers and agriculture as well from rigorous climate change. To do the like Sonar Bangla Foundation (SBF) is implementing this LICREAT-project (Less water irrigation with climate resilient and effective agriculture techniques) with execution some proven less water irrigation practices and introducing climate resilient agriculture technologies and crop varieties.



LICREAT involves-

1. To share the best practices of the previously implemented WEAP project under replication modalities to 300 new farmers living at 2 adjacent Unions;
2. Up scaling of 200 WEAP farmers' and capacity development of all 500 farmers on rightly using digital platform and how to improve less water irrigation and introduce economic use of chemical fertilizers and pests and promoting to using organic fertilizer & pest for cost-effective and climate adaptive agricultural farming (including planting,

sowing dates, etc.) practices;

Overall foresee:

The **LICREAT** project improved cost-effective irrigation and climate adaptive agriculture practices where farmers are up to date about the climate resilient crop/rice varieties either through capacity development, best practice sharing or utilizing digital platform and these cropping pattern are impacting to environmental development and enhancing farmers' resilience capacities to climate changes thereby the society in the long run.

Therefore, the proposed project focuses on sharing the best practices of WEAP project to the new farmers. Further through digital introduction novel irrigation method, techniques, climate adaptive and inclusive cropping patterns through effective using of digital platform thereby increase bio-diversity through interventions across two objectives will finally contribute to achieving the stated goal.

The project has relevance to climate change adaptation and mitigation (as well) to anticipated disaster risk, poverty reduction, water related health and nutrition outcome, food security etc., are included in SDGs, Bangladesh government country strategy plan, eighth five-year plan and vision 2020-2030. These are also the development context as well as climate change related sustainable environmental management.

Primary Beneficiaries:

Under this replicated project there will directly benefit 500 farmers (300 from new 2 Unions and 200 from WEAP project) of Kaliganj Upazila under Jhenaidah district, the western region of Bangladesh. Approximately, 2500 people are also expected to indirectly benefit while it will benefit the wider stakeholder-network partners such as Government Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), National and Inter-governmental Research Institutes /departments (BRRI, BARI, IRRI, SRDI, BADC, Spices Research Center etc.), LGIs (District, Upazilla & UPs), NGOs and local people living in 4 selected unions of Kaliganj Upazilla.

The farmers will be assembled in 40 village groups, each consisting 10 (Scale up

group) & 15 (New group) members in 4 Unions, Niyamatpur (high and medium high land area) and Sundarpur-Durgapur (medium low and low land area), Kola (medium low and low land area), and Jamal (medium low and low land area), under Kaliganj Upazilla of Jhenaidah district.

4.Objective of the project



4-1. **GOAL** of this project (the higher-order objective to intended impact contributing to the environmental, social, or society via outcome)

Goal:

Best practices sharing, improved irrigation method, effective digitalized information flow and adaptive cropping pattern impact environment where farmer' resilience to climate change sustained..

Objectives:

1. To share the best practices of WEAP project to new 300 farmers for promoting them to follow the low-cost and less underground water requiring irrigation method and technique;
2. To introduce **LICREAT** techniques through capacity development and information sharing of the target farmers focusing on less water irrigation , climate friendly and cost-effective agricultural practices,
3. Introduce digital platform for delivering timely and much needed data & information (Both SMS and Post) in regard to farmers' friendly agriculture and cropping pattern alongside weather & climate forecast.

Expected Outputs:

- a) Target farmers and stakeholders are organized, informed and the primary data is generated by the baseline;
- b) Capacity of target farmers on climate adaptive agricultural farming and less-water irrigation practices (method and techniques) are improved, reinforced, and enhanced for climate actions ;
- c) Improved less-water irrigation method, techniques/tools installed/introduced and effectively practicing by the target farmers;
- d) Farmers being economically benefitted because of facing less weather challenges and practicing climate resilient and environment friendly agriculture practice through effective using of digital platform.



Quantitative progress:

Sl No	Name of activity/ies	Target	Achieved	Deviation
01	Staff recruitment	04	04	-
02	Village selection new area	20	20	-
03	Farmers selection new	300	300	-
04	Farmers' Committee Formation new Unions	20	20	-
05	Farmers' Committee re-formation old Unions	20	20	
06	Base line data Collection	500	500	
07	Introduce digital Platform by which farmers are receiving agriculture and weather forecast related information.	500	250	Will be covered within the time in the following year

Project Area:

Sl No	Name of the Villages	Union	Upazila	District
1.	10 Villages	Niyamotpur	Kaligonj	Jhenaidah
2.	10 Villages	Sundarpur-Durgapur	Kaligonj	Jhenaidah
3	10 Villages	Kola Union	Kaligonj	Jhenaidah
4	10 Villages	Jamal Union	Kaligonj	Jhenaidah

Qualitative achievements:

- Targeted beneficiaries have been received a clear and concrete idea about the LICREAT- project and showing their eagerness to be affiliated with the LICREAT- project;
- Relevant project key stakeholders have been informed about the ins and outs of the LICREAT-project through project inception meeting and personal communication;
- Positive and encouraging commitment and compliments received from the respective stakeholders and undoubtedly their earnest cooperation will pave the way for successful implementing of the project activities within the time frame;
- A digital Platform has been introduced by which farmers are receiving agriculture (Crops varieties, water-saving irrigation techniques, and weather forecast etc.) related information.
- A formal beginning of the LICREAT- project done
- Base line data collected and compilation and analysis are on progress
- 04 Union Committee (02 New Unions and 02 Old Unions) formed
- Farmers residing at new 02 Unions are showing great enthusiasm to get involved with LICREAT-

project.

2: Strengthening and Follow up of PLDP Approach in Bangladesh:

The PLDP project is being implemented with a set of aims these are-to make the farmers self-reliant through making them capacitated about agro-technology and being adapted with the changing climate change.; to make the targeted farmers acquainted with the most recent agro technologies and how can they be associated with these technologies. Another important point under PLDP project is that through the project the future generation is being received direct and inner knowledge about the agriculture and agro technologies.



Activities:

- Arrange Seed Fair at local level;
- Workshop with project stakeholders and beneficiaries;
- Meeting and training for the farmers,
- Gathering with children for sharing agro-information both practically and theoretically.

3.Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB) Programme

In Bangladesh 50% population is women and putting contribution in progressing the country through active participation in different sectors. But due to different types of social, political and economic constraints & problems all women are not getting the same opportunity and remaining behind to others or being dependent or subjugated to men. But Bangladesh government is very conscious very conscious about the issue and implementing different project/ program for mainstreaming the women who are still stay behind. VWB program is the like one. The core objectives of the VWB program are the following:



To make positive change in livelihood of Ultra 2292 poor women with attention to further deterioration of living condition

Activities: Identify and selecting the poor and vulnerable women, Forming group with these poor women, Arrange regular meeting with these groups, To motivate them for saving, to let them know about their rights.

Achievements: In the meantime 1382 ultra-poor women have identified and received VGD Card and received life skill based education (health, Hygiene and sanitation).

4: Promoting and Protecting Rights of the Working Children (PPRWC)

"Promoting and Protecting Rights of the Working Children (PPRWC)" has been operated in Jhenaidah and Magura districts under the support from MJF since 2007. Recently the donor support is not available but SBF keep the project continue with it own at limited areas. The core concerns of the project is to save working children who are involved with different types of worst forms of works including to promote the child rights at home and surrounding areas where they have common access. The overall goal of the project is to help the children getting equal right of enjoying basic human needs and mainstreaming in the society with social activation through sensitization and mobilization. In below some cumulative achievements are shown that come through the project intervention.



Achievements:

- More than 3000 children have been received PSS supports through SOH;
- 1610 children have been mainstreamed and taken admission in different educational institutions;
- A majority among the targeted children have been aware about their constitutional rights;
- Guardians have been aware and being more responsive to their beloved child/ren;
- Employers of the working children have been aware about the child rights and behaving well with the working children and giving facilities to go to school or SOH;
- Local influential personnel also become responsible being aware about the child rights;



5. Health, safe water option , HIV/AIDS &MCH

Around the globe HIV-AIDS is termed as a world wide and growing concern. Still today there is no treatment to be cured from this terrible disease. As there is no specific vaccine or medicine for the HIV AIDS positive persons, only awareness remains us safe from this infectious diseases. SBF in its own fund is carrying out the awareness raising activities to remain safe of the common people from being positive HIV-AIDS. The objective of the disease is-

-to make the common people aware the risks of HIV-AIDS

Beyond these SBF is also implementing awareness raising activities about the Health and sanitation for the poor and excluded person who are still lag behind from the so called mainstreaming.

Activities: Awareness raising activities such meeting, session, and distributing IEC materials.

07. Women and Child rights program

Women and child rights program is one of the mostly concern core program of the Sonar Bangla Foundation (SBF). In the context Kaligonj, Jhenaidah, SBF is putting sound role in prevention early marriage alongside any other forms of gender based violence.

Protecting child marriage (ballaya bibaho roadh) and women torture protection.



Activities: prevention and stopping early marriage including taking initiative in prevention and protection

Achievement: we are protecting pre matured marriage to prevent women and child abuse and exploitation and these service is going on.

08: Health, Rehabilitation, Development and Right establishment project for the Disable people

Sonar Bangla Foundation is working with persons with disabilities since its inception either through organization's own fund or through the government/foreign fund. We observed the persons with disabilities used to suffer negligence and mental & physical humiliation and torturing from the family and also from the respective society. We furthered observed every persons with disabilities has to go on with acute poverty and extreme negligence. In Kaligonj UIpazila around 8% people are the persons with disabilities and most of them are the disabled due to health hazards. Beyond this there are a many who are disabled with physically and mentally. The project is being implemented for achieving the following objectives:



- To prepare a list disabled people and make it regular update;
- To make them involve with income generating activities through training and having loan facilities;
- To provide materials for the targeted people and creating an opportunity and favourable environment for the persons with disabilities;
- To make the pregnant mother for reducing the rate /number of persons with disabilities.

Achievements as on the activities on 2018-2018:

Name of Upazila	Survey for having the new Disabled people		Number of Benefitted new Disabled people in the working area			Awareness Meeting with the Pregnant Mother and disabled people		Primary health care Support	Reffered
Kaligonj	Target	Achievement	Men	Women	Children	Target	Achievement	Achievement	Achievement
	2000	2020	136	105	179	25	22	31	07
Total	2000	2020	136	105	179	25	22	31	07

Supporting materials supply for the Disabled People	Health supports	Financial supports	Education Materials	Loan Supports	Admission to School
37	8	46	17	12	25

9: Mother and Children Health and Nutrition-Project.

As a core activities Sonar Bangla Foundation (SBF) is being operated and implemented a set of activities for the development of mother and child's health & nutrition since it inception. General people especially who are living at village are not aware about health and nutrition. They used to show negligence in case of ensuring the timely treatment against their health problems. So, in the long run they have to suffer with acute or chronic health hazards. On the contrary they are not also aware about the necessary food taking (balance diet) for having the need based nutrition for the sound health. Under the said program Sonar Bangla Foundation (SBF) is implementing a set programs for making aware the common people about the health, Hygiene and Nutrition issues. The core objective are the followings:

- To aware the targeted people about mother & child health and nutrition;
- To encourage them to go to doctor in time;
- To make them aware about the food taking for having necessary nutrition;
- To make the mother aware about the prevention of population rising;
- To motivate the mother to ensure the child vaccine duly and timely.

Achievements 2021-22:

Upazila	Number of Unions	Activities	Target	Achievements	Remarks
Kaligonj	9	Awareness Meeting with mothers and general women	25	25	1000 mothers and women have been aware about health & Hygiene and Nutrition and the necessity of timely treatment

Day Observation:

Being complied with International Labor Organization (ILO) Sonar Bangla Foundation has successfully organized the World Day against Child Labor 2021. There were a set of programs successfully executed on behalf of the SBF. There was the rally, Human Chain and Discussion Meeting giving focus of the day's issue. In the rally, human chain and discussion meeting there were the representation of the vulnerable children. Firstly a well decorated rally moved to Kaligonj main Bus station and rounded the cross roads with banner, placard and festoon. Due to holy Ramadan there was no slogan showing due respect to the holy month. After the end of the rally there was organized a human chain aiming at letting more people know about the day's issue. The duration of the human chain was only for 10 minutes. After the ending of the human chain a short duration discussion meeting was arranged at the SBF' Seminar Room. In the discussion meeting there were present Upazila Social Welfare Officer Md. Julfikur Ali as the chief guest and Upazila Rural development Officer Md. Abu Billal Hossen as the special guests. The ED of the SBF was there and presided over the discussion session on for the World Day Against Child Labor. SBF Coordinator M.K.Mondol Mohen facilitated the discussion session with necessary inputs for disseminating valuable messages with regard to World Day Against Child Labor-2022.



Objectives: There were the following objectives for observing the World Day Against Child Labor-2021:

- To observe the day as a way of showing due respect to the child rights;
- To let the children know about the vulnerabilities of the children round the globe and Bangladesh as well;



- To make the children aware about their rights as on the CRC and state laws & policies;
- To present data & information about the child labor in and around Bangladesh;
- To disseminate messages about the child labor among the ordinary people, guardians and employers.

Methodology:

1. Rally;
2. Human Chain and
3. Discussion session.

Coverage Population:

Sl No		Participants	Direct		Total
			Boy/Male	Girl/ Female	
01		Children	25	30	55
02		Adult population	20	15	35
		Total			85

Output:

- Successfully and with festive manner SBF has organized the World day Against the Child Labor -2018;
- There were the spontaneous participation of the children in the day's programs;
- Children who took part to the day's program have had the clear information about the child labor, what are the hazardous works for the children, What would they do at the moment of falling into danger;
- Networking and advocacy have been strengthened with the respective government department.
- Finally SBF showed due respect to the child rights and made a compliance with UN institution (ILO).



Beyond these SBF has track records in the following areas:

Organizational track records in other areas in last five years:

Name of Project	Major Focus and activities	Cost	Location	Donors	
Water use Efficient Agriculture Practice	To promote farmers' adaptive Water-use Efficient Agriculture Practice aiming to develop a replicable model in the long run to secure food and environmental sustainability in the locality	80,00000.00	Kaligonj	Share the Planet Association	Started in 2018 and ended in 2022
Income Generation Activities for Poverty Alleviation.	Supporting the poor and vulnerable women with micro credit and make them able for self-help. Activities: Provide IGA Training with networking support for having cash or loan with minor condition or govt. loan.	20,00,000.00	Jhenaidah , Kaligonj	Own fund	Started in 1995 and ongoing
Working with the people with disability	Treatment (therapy) and, Social and economic rehabilitation by credit support, consciousness raising. Activities: To help the Social Welfare dept. to identify & selecting the person/children with any forms of disabilities. To facilitate them to have the disability allowance;	25,26,000.00	Kaligonj	CDD and Own	Started from 2001 and On going
Strengthening Local Government.	Formation of Steering committee at Union Parishad and ensure government facilities	76,00,000.00	Kaligonj Upazila	DANIDA through WAVE foundation	Dec 2004 to December 2015
Human Rights and Democratic partnership	Legal Aid and legal literacy	17,05,700.00	Kaligonj Upazila (16 villages)	DANIDA through Banchte Shekha	September 2004-June 2013.
Integrated community based arsenic mitigation project	To Prevent arsenic sis from target area	11,22,000/-	kaliganj Upazilla	own /NGO forum Jessore	Started in 2001 and closed in

and sanitation					2013
Campaign for Sustainable Rural livelihood (CSRL)	Achieving a Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) through participation of small and marginalized farmers including women.	17,00,000.00	Kaliganj Upazilla under Jhenaidah District.	Oxfam Bangladesh & Own	Started since 2010 and ongoing
Establishment and protection of rights of vegetable producing farmer.	To ensure the rights of farmer from the local government institution /organization.	22,00,000.00	kaliganj upazilla	Action in Development with the help of Manusher Jonno foundation	January 2009 - January 2013
Campaign and advocacy for achieving MDG - CAMDG	To assess the situation whether this strategy will full fill the MDG	2,00,000.00	1 union under Kaliganj Upazilla	UNDP through wave foundation	June-December -2013 to 2014
24 hours Hotline service for the protection of women & child trafficking and torture.	To prevent trafficking through networking with NGO's hotline	7,00,000.00	Jhenaidah District	Khan Foundation & Own	Since January 2010 to till day
Working children development program in Jhenaidah District	Significantly Reduce child labor in Jhenaidah District	35,97,982 /-	Kaliganj & Kotchandpur Upazilla	Kinder missionwerk, Germany	2012-2015


Shibu Pada Biswas
 Executive Director
 Sonar Bagla Foundation
 Kaliganj, Jhenaidah.