NOBO JATRA - NEW BEGINNING
USAID’S Development Food Security Activity

INTRODUCTION

Nobo Jatra-New Beginning’ is a five-year USAID Food for Peace Title II Development Food Security Activity implemented by World Vision Bangladesh, together with the World Food Programme and Winrock International, in partnership with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) of the Government of Bangladesh (GoB).

200,495 Households
856,116 Participants
4 Sub-districts
40 Unions
5 Years

NOBO JATRA’S GOAL AND PURPOSES

GOAL: Improved gender equitable food security, nutrition and resilience of vulnerable people within Khulna & Satkhira districts in Bangladesh

Purpose 1: Improved nutritional status of children under five years of age, pregnant and lactating women and adolescent girls

Purpose 2: Increased equitable household income

Purpose 3: Strengthened gender equitable ability of people, households, communities and systems to mitigate, adapt to and recover from natural shocks and stresses

Purpose 4: (Cross-Cutting): Improved social accountability and national policy engagement of service provision for vulnerable men and women

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

400 WatSan committees
50% representation of women in committees
523,640 Social and Behavior Change participants
167,200 participants with access to water
107,000 participants with access to sanitation services
NOBO JATRA’S WASH STRATEGY

**Purpose 1:**
Improved nutritional status of children under five years of age, pregnant and lactating women and adolescent girls

**Sub-purpose:** Reduced prevalence of disease that impacts nutrition

**Intermediate Outcome:**
- Improved essential hygiene practices
- Increased utilization of improved water sources
- Improved utilization of sanitation facilities

**Intermediate Outcome:** Increased engagement of WASH private sector (Local Service Providers - LSPs) to meet local WASH needs

**Activities**
- Strengthen existing WatSan committees
- Water option(s) meet environmental sustainability standards are accessed by communities
- Train community water management committees in system maintenance
- Facilitate linkages with NGOs/GoB/Universities
- Water quality testing using DPHE facilities

**Activities**
- Behavior change for essential hygiene practices
- Train community water management committees in system maintenance
- Facilitate linkages with NGOs/GoB/Universities
- Construct latrines
- Orient entrepreneurs, mechanics pit cleaners, masons on WASH products and services

**Activities**
- Households use an improved drinking water source
- Households treat drinking water prior to consumption
- Households can obtain drinking water in less than 30 minutes.
- Households use improved sanitation facilities.

WASH OVERVIEW IN SOUTHWEST BANGLADESH

Though great strides have been taken to improve Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in south west Bangladesh, there are still significant challenges such as salinity, water logging and the rapid on set of climate change that influence nutrition outcomes for the population. The WASH indicators for Southwest Bangladesh show:

- **Water Source:**
  - 52% households use an improved drinking water source

- **Drinking water:**
  - 34.5% households can obtain drinking water in less than 30 minutes.
  - 35% households treat drinking water prior to consumption
  - <50% households use improved sanitation facilities

- **Drinking water quality:**
  - 34.5% households can obtain drinking water in less than 30 minutes.

- **Sanitation facilities:**
  - <50% households use improved sanitation facilities.
NOBO JATRA’S CONTRIBUTION TO SDGs

Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

CROSS-CUTTING INTERVENTIONS

WASH and Nutrition Social and Behavioural Communication

To improve nutrition outcomes through SBC, the adoption of essential hygiene practices is promoted among pregnant and lactating women, adolescent girls and caregivers of children under 5. Messages focus on:
1) baby WASH
2) hand washing
3) safe drinking water
4) water treatment
5) waste and fecal management
6) maintenance and cleaning of sanitary latrines

In coordination with relevant Government departments, committees and local communities, Nobo Jatra has developed water facilities such as deep tube wells, pond sand filters and reverse osmosis plants to increase access to safe drinking water. To address the lack of access to hygienic latrines, ultra poor households are supported with new latrines that are durable in the face of extreme weather such as flooding.

Gender Integration

In Bangladesh, women are primarily the direct users of water facilities and Nobo Jatra clearly recognizes their role by ensuring women’s active participation in leadership roles in WASH governance, water service maintenance and water management committees. Moreover, Nobo Jatra ensures consultations with both men and women in obtaining key decisions on the location, design, and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities and services.

Increased access to clean water benefits the entire community, particularly women and girls who are typically responsible for water collection, storage and treatment. Women are consulted on the design and location of water and sanitation facilities and also trained on their operation and maintenance.

Policy and Advocacy

Nobo Jatra aims to improve and influence the policy and regulatory environment for water and sanitation by working in partnership with all levels of governments, academic institutions, community-based non-governmental organizations, service providers and others.

NOBO JATRA’S INTERVENTIONS

Water facilities and latrines

Through capacity building and mentoring, Nobo Jatra strengthens Union and Ward level WatSan committees to sustainably plan, monitor and report on WASH progress in their jurisdictions, mobilize resources through joint action planning and promote essential hygiene practices. Nobo Jatra also develops strong community led Water Management Committees (WMCs) - with at least 50 percent representation of women to ensure water facilities provide safe, equitable and sustainable water services.

Strengthening Water and Sanitation (WatSan) committees

Increased access to clean water benefits the entire community, particularly women and girls who are typically responsible for water collection, storage and treatment. Women are consulted on the design and location of water and sanitation facilities and also trained on their operation and maintenance.
OUR IMPACT

2,068 Water points installed
59,213 People gaining access to safe drinking water

10,380 Latrines installed/rehabilitated
23,569 People gaining access to basic sanitation

411 Water Management Committees (WMC)
653 Women in leadership roles

400 WatSan committees functional
295,831 People graduated from WASH SBC

39 WASH fairs organized
319 WASH entrepreneurs trained

LOCAL LEVEL ADVOCACY

Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) with 40 Union WatSan Committees

30% of Union Parishad’s incorporated budget for construction of Pond Sand Filters
50% provisioned for repair of Pond Sand Filters
73% incorporated budget for water tanks and sanitary latrines