



USAID
আমেরিকার জনগণের পক্ষ থেকে



World Vision



Newsletter
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NOBO JATRA
NEW BEGINNING

**A USAID Food for Peace Title II
Development Food Security Activity**

Foreword

Celebrating the successes of 2017

Partnerships in 2017

**Success Story: Building healthier
communities in south west Bangladesh**

Foreword

Dear Friends,

Season's greetings to all our friends and supporters.

It has been a year of significant growth for Nobo Jatra, with 3 local partners on board and accelerated implementation of activities at field level. With the goal of achieving long term food security for vulnerable populations, we have reached over 100,000 households with a holistic portfolio of interventions.

Behind the facts and figures in this newsletter, you will find stories to be proud of – real opportunities for people, families and communities to improve positive health seeking and nutrition behaviors and develop the skills to attain sustainable employment and income. None of this would be possible without the support of our stakeholders whose combined talents and passions have brought us this far. Equally, our Nobo Jatra team comprises the most dedicated individuals with a 'can do' attitude and tenacity to overcome the odds that has played an invaluable role in our growth.

The journey ahead is full of possibilities. As we look to scale and deepen our impact going forward, we will focus our efforts on south west Bangladesh's most critical priorities: Water Sanitation and Hygiene, Maternal Child Health and Nutrition, Agriculture and Livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction, whilst also continuing to lead on cross cutting priorities such as good governance and gender.

All the very best for a peaceful and relaxing festive period.

Rakesh Katal
Chief of Party
Nobo Jatra – New Beginning



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Celebrating the successes of 2017



9,636

Pregnant and Lactating Women received MCHN-Conditional Cash Transfers

24,225 Cu2 reached through Growth Monitoring Promotion sessions

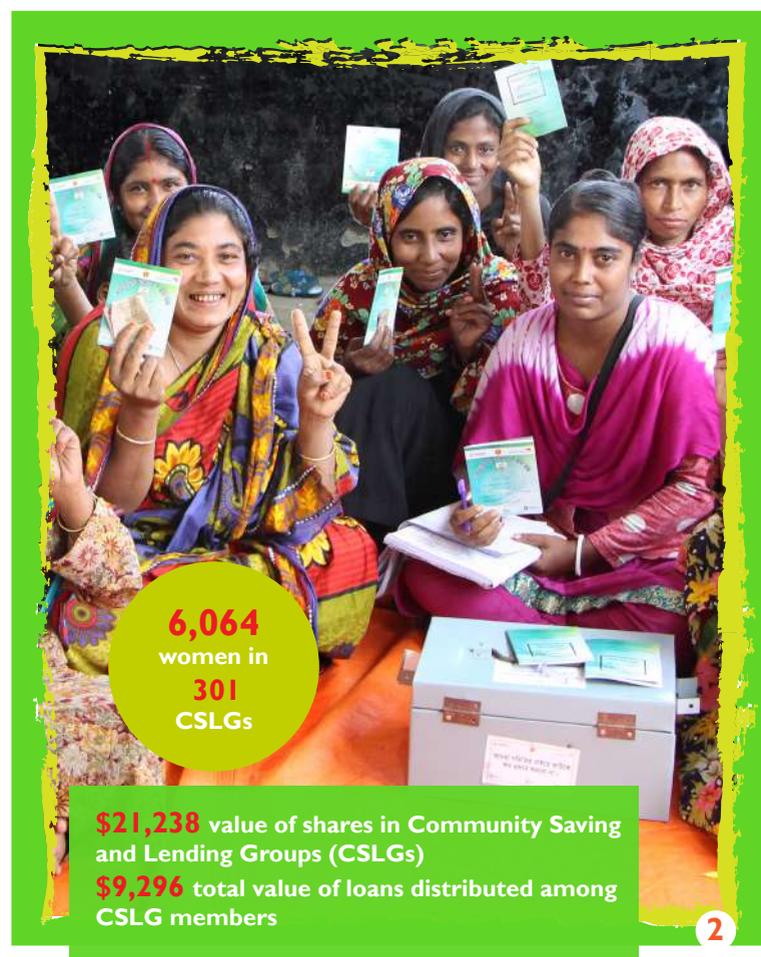
15,468 Cu2 received Micro Nutrient Powder



2,801 adolescents in Life Skills Based Education



11,780 members in **620** Village Development Committees (VDCs)
2,465 VDC members trained



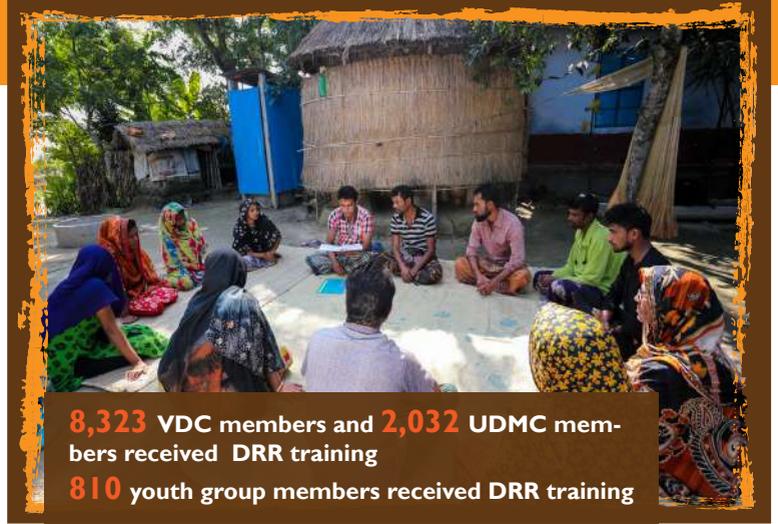
6,064 women in **301** CSLGs

\$21,238 value of shares in Community Saving and Lending Groups (CSLGs)
\$9,296 total value of loans distributed among CSLG members

Celebrating the successes of 2017



6,502 extreme poor promotional graduation participants received CCTs
66 lead farmers trained



8,323 VDC members and **2,032** UDMC members received DRR training
810 youth group members received DRR training



7,509 participants reached with sanitary latrines
2,257 latrines installed or rehabilitated



24,605 entrepreneurial literacy participants
8,528 AIGA training participants



1,769 participants in male engagement sessions



97,483 participants reached via WASH SBCC

8,948 participants covered through safe water options
103 water points installed or rehabilitated

Partnerships in 2017

True to the World Vision ethos, Nobo Jatra aims to achieve greater impact on disadvantaged communities through working with likeminded stakeholders. Throughout 2017, Nobo Jatra has established alliances through formal agreements and Memorandum of Understandings with a number of critical players.



Human Development Research Centre (HDRC)

Nobo Jatra has engaged Human Development Research Centre (HDRC) as a learning partner for the Promotional Graduation component. Over the next three years, HDRC will work with the project to undertake baselines and impact studies of the 14,000 extreme poor participants reached through the Promotional Graduation approach.



Dnet

To fortify SBCC messaging to pregnant and lactating women and their households, Nobo Jatra signed an agreement with Dnet as a partner for Mobile Alliance for Maternal Action (MAMA) messaging. Pregnant and lactating women in the project working areas will receive text messages and phone calls with targeted health and nutrition advice tailored to their gestation cycle or age of child.

Grameen Intel

A clear need has emerged to supplement mobile phones as mediums of SBCC delivery with alternative, innovative solutions. Nobo Jatra has initiated a pilot in partnership with Grameen Intel to reach poor and extreme poor pregnant and lactating women through an innovative wearable Bangle that will disseminate audible maternal health messages.





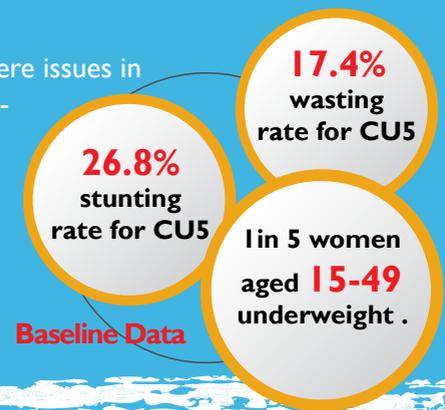
FFP Washington Visit

A senior team from USAID/FFP comprising the Senior Regional Advisor/Team Leader for Asia/Europe, M&E Specialist and Nutrition Advisor undertook a field visit to Nobo Jatra with a number of meetings scheduled in Dhaka with a subsequent field visit to Kaliganj and Dacope. There was clear appreciation of Nobo Jatra's field level activities related to WASH and nutrition SBCC, acknowledgement of steady progress under agriculture and livelihoods interventions, Disaster Risk Reduction trainings and the strengthened role of Village Development Committees.



Success Story: Building healthier communities in south west Bangladesh

Women and children in southwest Bangladesh are particularly vulnerable, where issues in maternal and child health and nutrition are exacerbated by poor water, sanitation and hygiene conditions and climatic adversity. Compounded by frequent natural disasters and rising salinity, the consequences of climate change diminish productive capacity in agriculture, limit alternative livelihood opportunities and restrict the affordability of nutritious diets, leading to a high incidence of diarrheal diseases, dehydration and malnutrition. Health and nutrition indicators in this region are reflective of these challenges.



Suriya Yasmin, lives in Koyra – a sub district in southwest Bangladesh and recalls that even at nine months pregnant she was not able to eat enough food. *‘My husband is the only person who earns in our family and there is only so much food we can afford to buy. When my baby was born, the midwife told me that she was underweight.’* Fortunately, Suriya was able to enroll in Nobo Jatra-New Beginning’ a five year USAID Food for Peace Title II Development Food Assistance Project that seeks to improve gender equitable food security, nutrition and resilience in southwest Bangladesh.

Shahina, a Nobo Jatra Community Nutrition Facilitator assigned to support Suriya’s household, immediately started making regular visits to provide counselling on appropriate feeding practices and health seeking behaviors. As a frontline health worker, Shahina has been trained by the project to develop skills and confidence to counsel households with

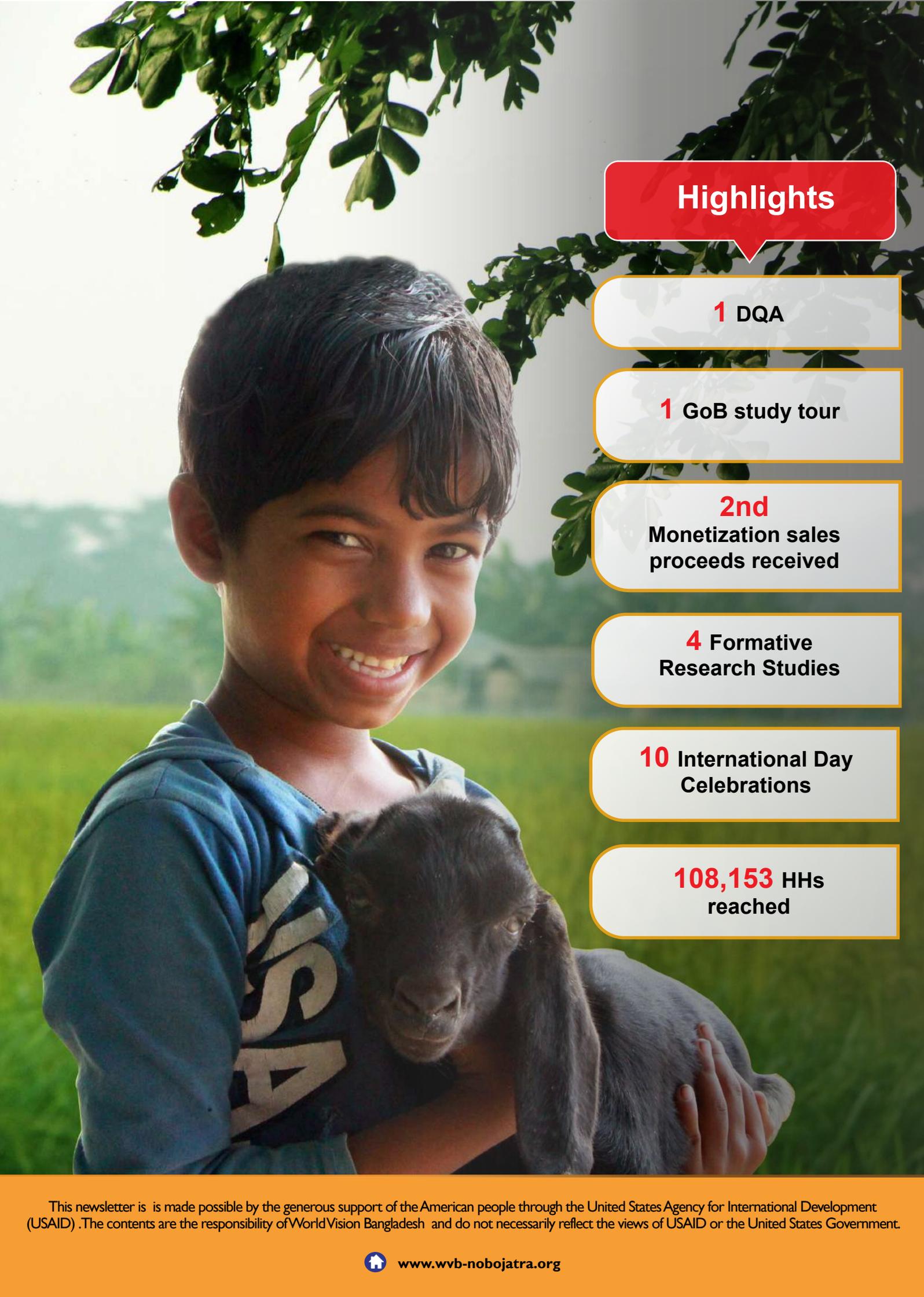
pregnant and lactating women and children under 2 on nutrition and hygiene at a variety of contact points, from community clinics to home visits. *‘I was able to help Suriya with the right attachment and positioning to ensure exclusive breastfeeding, when to introduce complementary feeding, how to feed young children, what pregnant and lactating women should eat, and a basic understanding of household dietary diversity and hygiene.’*

Till date Nobo Jatra frontline health workers have undertaken 28,854 household visits and reached 23,363 children under two through Growth Monitoring and Promotion sessions. Measures to build institutional capacity of Government Community Clinics to undertake Growth Monitoring Promotion sessions and also build the capacity of frontline Government Health Workers and Volunteers is a cornerstone activity under the Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition portfolio. Trainings on basic



nutrition have been rendered in partnership with the Institute of Public Health and Nutrition to 600 Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and 164 Nobo Jatra frontline team members. To further strengthen the capacity of Community Clinics, 1,897 volunteer Community Support group members received a one day needs based orientation on basic nutrition during FY17 to enhance skills required to work in 960 EPI outreach centers and 118 Community Clinics in the Nobo Jatra project areas.

Through nutrition focused outreach activities, mothers like Suriya are able to absorb positive health and nutrition messages and start practicing behaviors that improve both her baby and her own health. *'Over the last 11 months, my baby has gone from being underweight to a normal weight. I know about the right kinds of food to feed her and also go to GMP sessions every month.'* Shahina has also established herself as an effective counselor in her community. *'More pregnant and lactating women come to GMP sessions and seek appropriate healthcare for themselves and their children. Household visits help establish close relationships with mothers and other influential gatekeepers – and I am able to counsel and encourage positive practices.'*



Highlights

1 DQA

1 GoB study tour

2nd
Monetization sales
proceeds received

4 Formative
Research Studies

10 International Day
Celebrations

108,153 HHs
reached