



USAID

আমেরিকার জনগণের পক্ষ থেকে



World Vision

NOBO JATRA - NEW BEGINNING

USAID's Development Food Security Activity



Issue - 12

Newsletter

September 2019 – February 2020

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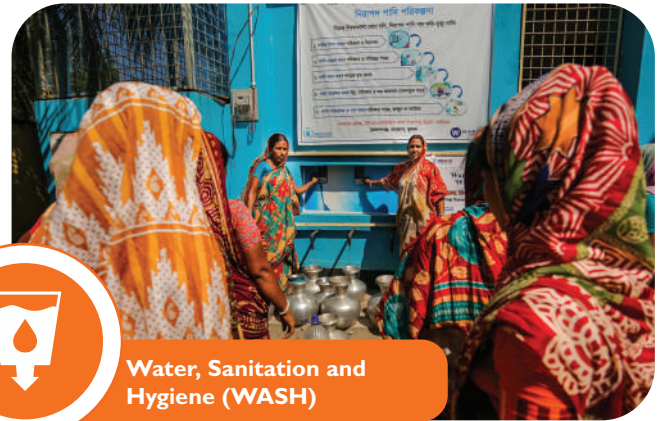
WINROCK
INTERNATIONAL

Nobo Jatra at a glance



Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN)

- **16,229** pregnant and lactating women completed the **15** month cycle of Conditional Cash Transfers
- **26,668** children under 2 reached via Growth Monitoring Promotion
- **12,892** children under 2 provided Micro Nutrient Powder



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- **400** water and sanitation committees functional
- **40,148** people gained access to basic drinking water
- **9,593** people gained access to safe sanitation
- **10** Reverse Osmosis Plants providing **20,000** households with safe drinking water



Gender

- **46** Child Protection Committees active
- **7** child marriages stopped
- **5,311** adolescents trained in Life Skills Education
- **1,642** couples participating in Male Engagement for Gender Equality sessions



Agriculture & Alternative Livelihoods

- **30,869** farmers practicing Climate Smart Agriculture
- **23,529** men and women involved in Income Generation Activities
- **1,640** Village Savings and Lending Associations with average additional incomes of **\$59** per month.



Ultra-Poor Graduation

- **5,740** households have food security
- **6,557** women have graduated from extreme poverty
 - **99.5%** of these households have minimum two sources of income, average income \$54/month
 - **99.5%** have savings in Village Savings and Lending Associations or banks
 - **83%** using a safe drinking water source and safe sanitation facilities
 - **100%** of eligible Ultra Poor Graduation Households had no instances of child marriage

Nobo Jatra at a glance



Good Governance and Social Accountability

- **100%** (13) Union Parishad Standing Committees activated
- **622** Village Development Committees implementing Community Development Plans
- **73%** (29) of Union Parishad's incorporated budget for water tanks and sanitary latrines
- **42%** (50) Community Clinics have improved water facilities
- **24%** (29) have safe sanitation services



Disaster Risk Reduction

- **17,249** community people trained and have developed household level disaster preparedness plans
- **1,632** youth volunteers trained on Search, Rescue and First Aid
- **84%** Union Disaster Management Committees implementing risk reduction plans, early warning and disaster response functions
- **40** Union Disaster Management Committees provided DRR early warning and emergency response tool kits.

Early response during Cyclone Bulbul

CYCLONE BULBUL hit the coast of Bangladesh with fierce gales and torrential rain on 10 November. In the worst-hit areas, trees were ripped from the ground, blocking roads and hampering access to the area. With USAID support, World Vision's Nobo Jatra project coordinated with Disaster Management Committees and worked with thousands of trained community and Government volunteers in four sub districts in southwest Bangladesh: Dacope and Koyra in Khulna district and Shyamnagar and Kaliganj in Satkhira district. Project staff and volunteers immediately deployed on the ground, moving door-to-door and using loudspeakers to urge people living in vulnerable low lying areas to move to cyclone shelters. Early, coordinated action resulted in 204,000 people taking refuge in 483 cyclone shelters – thus saving lives and significantly reducing the number of casualties.



Internal and external visits



Edgar A. Sandoval, President and CEO, WV US; Douglas Treff, Chief Financial Officer, WV US and Fred Witteveen, National Director, WVB visited Nobo Jatra working areas to interact first hand with families to experience how a multi sector project helps improve the lives of poor communities in southwest Bangladesh.

A team of 20 students and teachers from Carleton College, Minnesota, USA were on ground in southwest Bangladesh to visit communities supported by Nobo Jatra. The students were able to interact with project participants and observe gender equitable practices at the household level. Understanding local context and observing changes first hand helped the students understand how USAID is working with World Vision to advance self-reliance and sustainability objectives - with local communities and systems as the driving force behind positive change.

YouTube links:

1. <https://bit.ly/2WSnGLL>
2. <https://bit.ly/2JnUrbN>
3. <https://bit.ly/2xuM2k9>
4. <https://bit.ly/2JqmilA>



USAID's Youth Power Action visited Nobo Jatra working areas to understand how Development Food Security Activities integrate youth into programming and recommend strategies for stronger youth focused programming.

Link: <https://bit.ly/3aDrogr>



World Vision Bangladesh Senior Management Team and the Cox's Bazaar EFSP team visited Nobo Jatra working areas with the aim to promote intra organizational learning and knowledge transfer. Learnings that have the greatest applicability include strong partnerships, private sector engagement, use of technology, strong M&E, research and adaptive management and peer to peer replication.

External Engagement

The Nobo Jatra Chief of Party spoke at the IDEAL event 'Field Voices: Implementing Adaptive, Integrated and Sustainable Programs' in Washington DC on 16 October, 2019. Concepts of sustainability, integrated programming, and adaptive management in food security and nutrition activities were shared.

Link: <https://bit.ly/2x8XpOU>



National Level Dialogue on Community Clinics in South West Bangladesh:

World Vision Bangladesh, in partnership with Community Based Health Care (CBHC) of the Government of Bangladesh hosted a National Dialogue 'Community Clinics in south west Bangladesh: Opportunities and Challenges'. Citizen led data, facilitated by USAID's Nobo Jatra project, on the quality of services in 119 Community Clinics in Khulna and Satkhira districts was shared and validated by local service providers from the clinics, divisional level authorities and CBHC decision makers at the central level. Remarkable changes are already visible in clinics; 100% of clinics have active community groups and community support groups

and 100% of clinics also have action plans. Government key decision makers committed to prioritize and replicate recommendations from World Vision's work with community clinics across the country.

Nobo Jatra project, took part in a two day Social Security Conference and Knowledge Fair organized by the Cabinet Division and General Economics Division. The event convened over 20 Government Ministry's implementing social safety nets along with INGO's, academia and the private sector where the key themes included digitalization of e payments, a single registry MIS for safety nets and financial inclusion - all of which Nobo Jatra closely aligns with. Nobo Jatra disseminated its works through a market place and attended different sessions. Honorable Speaker of Bangladesh National Parliament Ms. Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury visited Nobo Jatra's stall and expressed appreciation for the on going partnership with the Government of Bangladesh.



Seeking Sustainability



Nobo Jatra signed an MoU with Social Marketing Company (SMC) to develop health service providers at the community level to ensure that basic health services continue to reach communities.

Seeking Sustainability



The Ministry of Education issued a letter to the Education office of Khulna and Satkhira to continue and support Life Skill Based Education Sessions (LSBE) in the secondary schools. The letter also ensured that, secondary schools in Nobo Jatra working areas will mainstream the LSBE as part of the Governments existing portfolio for extra-curricular activities in secondary schools.

Nobo Jatra has partnered with Social Marketing Company, a private sector actor, to ensure that quality health and nutrition services are available in south west Bangladesh and a functioning, locally led system is in place. As part of the model, 100 community nutrition volunteers, Government National Services volunteers and mothers known as Gold Star Members are trained and provided health and nutrition products who are providing fee based services and selling nutrient supplements, oral saline, menstruation products, pregnancy test strips and contraceptives in their local communities.



Link: <https://bit.ly/2tJrjC>



Link: <https://bit.ly/2UMI9is>

Policy Win

Community Based Health Care's (CBHC) approval of 600 Multi-Purpose Volunteer (MPV) in Nobo Jatra working areas: As a major milestone, 600 Multi-Purpose Volunteers (MPVs) have been approved by CBHC for the 4 sub districts covered by Nobo Jatra. Each community clinic (122 in total) will have 5 MPVs who will earn a monthly income ranging from \$36-48 per month and will support health promotion including Growth monitoring and Promotion sessions, Severe Acute Malnutrition referrals, immunizations and raise awareness around family planning methods, nutrition and common diseases. This is a major opportunity to sustain the health and nutrition services and outreach provided by Nobo Jatra – and Community Nutrition/WASH Facilitators, lead mothers and interested project participants are being encouraged to apply for the positions.

Social Media Spotlight

Link: <https://bit.ly/2WVA6T7>

Day Observation

DAYS



Global Hand Washing Day



National Girl Children Day
and Child Marriage
Elimination Day 2019



International Day for
Disaster Reduction (IDDR)



World Toilet Day



16 days activism to eliminate
gender based violence



National Youth Day 2019



Begum Rokeya Day-2019

STAKEHOLDERS



Students



NGOs



WatSan
committees
and
VDC members



Teachers



Journalists



Youth groups

EVENTS



Art
competition



Discussions



Rally



Folk songs



Debates



Quizzes



Special clas
at school



Prize
distribution

VISIBILITY



USAID supporting couples through male engagement for gender equality



“Before Nobo Jatra,” says Parbati, **“I didn’t imagine our relationship could be like this.”**

Only 4% of women in Bangladesh participate in economic activities outside the home, compared to 70% of men. National average data from the Bangladesh Demographic Health Survey in 2014 indicated that for 13.1% of women, the husband controlled their cash earnings. It is in this context that USAID’s Nobo Jatra activity, implemented by World Vision works to improve immediate gender relations between couples. One way the project does this is by involving husbands and wives, like Jayantha and Parbati Das in Male Engagement sessions.

Like many couples living in southwest Bangladesh – and indeed, around the world – Jayantha didn’t always value Parbati’s work around the home and for their children. After attending Nobo Jatra’s Male Engagement sessions, things have transformed.

“My husband has changed a lot,” says Parbati. **“He helps take care of our child. He takes him to school. He helps in the household, especially when I am sick. He never did this in our last four years of married life”.**

Sessions are staggered over 9 months and 12 couples meet with a facilitator every 15 days. Best of all, facilitators report that the couples become catalysts, sharing their knowledge with others in the area and also set a good example to their own children.

“Think about a bicycle,” says Jayantha. **“It has two wheels. If one wheel is damaged or leaky, it won’t work anymore. The husband and wife are like the wheels of the bicycle. If someone doesn’t feel happy, the household could be damaged.”**

With USAID’s support, Nobo Jatra has helped over 7,000 couples like Jayantha and Parbati, to improve relationships and understand the risks of child marriage. When Nobo Jatra first started implementing, only 8% of men thought that they should share household and child care tasks. Today, almost 60% say that husbands and wives should work together on household chores and caregiving for children.

The impact of male engagement sessions is also visible in the wider community. 9.5% of girls aged between 12-17 years were married in 2017 which is 7.6% in 2019 - showing a 1.9% reduction in early marriage rates. This reduction is due to a number of factors and combined efforts – however, male engagement sessions have also played a role in reducing the practice of child marriage.

A USAID feature on Male Engagement here: <https://bit.ly/3cEX4n5>