Annual Report
2013
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<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DLAC</td>
<td>District Legal Aid Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULAC</td>
<td>Upazila Legal Aid Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPLAC</td>
<td>Union Parishad Legal Aid Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADR</td>
<td>Alternative Dispute Resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS</td>
<td>Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome</td>
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<td>ASF</td>
<td>Acid Survivors Foundation</td>
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<td>BCC</td>
<td>Behavior Changes Communication</td>
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<td>CPF</td>
<td>Community Policing Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIC</td>
<td>Drop in Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUI</td>
<td>Drug User Intervention</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCA</td>
<td>Gender Change Activist</td>
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<tr>
<td>GoB</td>
<td>Government of Bangladesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>Human Immuno Deficiency Virus</td>
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<tr>
<td>TB</td>
<td>Tuberculosis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC</td>
<td>Information, Education and Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOHFW</td>
<td>Ministry of Health and Family Welfare</td>
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<tr>
<td>MR</td>
<td>Menstrual Regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFT</td>
<td>Project Facilitating Team</td>
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<tr>
<td>UP</td>
<td>Union Parishad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCT</td>
<td>Voluntary Counseling and Testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>HRE</td>
<td>Human Rights Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>GFATM</td>
<td>Global Fund for AIDS Tuberculosis &amp; Malaria</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCC</td>
<td>Rolling Continuation Channel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPNSDP</td>
<td>Health Population and Nutrition services Delivery Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP-2</td>
<td>HIV Prevention Services for Street Based Sex Worker package-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP-6</td>
<td>HIV Prevention Services for Injecting Drug User package-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Globally the year 2013 was a challenging year for overall development sector as the global economy was unsteady and depressed. In this volatile and uncertain year for global economies, the growth trend and shape of Light House was upward, which is very satisfying. In this special circumstance of writing my message for the Annual Report 2013, on behalf of the Executive Committee and General Body of Light House, I would like to take the opportunity to appreciate the role and leadership of Md. Harun–or-Rashid, Chief Executive of Light House and provide special Thanks to all of our beloved colleagues and employees of Light House for their hard work, dedication and commitment to the organization, which really paved the ways of the uprising growth trend of Light House.

Alike other years, Light House has been running various projects under different thematic strategic areas, which are focused to address the needs of various sectors of our society. I really feel happy and proud, when I hear that the interventions of Light House contributes to the people’s wellbeing and brought smile back to people’s face, who are deprived, marginalized and excluded from the mainstream society. I feel honored and forget all sorts of fatigues.

I would like to take the opportunity to express my special gratitude to respective departments of the government of Bangladesh, all Development Partners, Donors and stakeholders, media for their continued support to make today’s Light House.

Lastly, with the words of Albert Pike, I would like to say, “what we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal,” thus let us work together for the good cause for others and development with the aim to make our work and contribution immortal.

Professor Habiba Begum
Chairperson
Light House
At our 25th anniversary, I’m delighted to see people’s Trust on Light House and our potential for future growth is as exciting as it has ever been. We had a very good year in 2013 with more options and projects to work with the people in need than the previous years and seeing more happy faces. Our work is delivering results and we enter the New Year with good momentum to grow further.

In order to address ‘inequality’ with priority, we deliberately operate from periphery at to the most un-served and underserved areas that is opening up bigger and broader opportunity for us. In today’s Bangladesh, systems and provisions are developed keeping the focus on marginalized groups and people but unkemptness are noticed in utilization, thus we are committed with stakeholders for strengthening systems and provisions with focused people’s rights, content, innovation and service provisions, while operating for opting results and positive impact on people’s lives and society. We believe this approach will allow us to continue to grow and create value for shareholders.

Light House’s willingness to embrace challenges and changes for new opportunities to grow. We are going to design our next strategic plan for the next five years soon, which will encompass new directions and approaches of the global and national goals and commitments along with the focus and needs of the marginalized people we work with banking on the excellent progress that we have made over the last 25 years. Our successful transition from a local organization to a national led organization has enabled us to get the trust of people as well as development partners, government and the other stakeholders. Our performance in the last year demonstrates that we have more potential to serve people and have the ability to embrace challenges and changes and this gives us an important platform from which to build.

Light House’s success in developing the growth opportunity that lies ahead rests on our unique combination of strengths in three areas: supporting and committed governance; innovation with accountability and transparency; and trust and support of the government, development partners, donors and stakeholders. In this special occasion, let me express my sincere ‘Thanks’ and ‘Gratefulness’ to the entire governance setup at Light House and our government counterparts, development partners, donors and other stakeholders for their continued support, encouragement and trust on us.

Of course, none of what we do would be possible without the dedication and hard work of our people – my beloved team members. They are vital to our success and I would like to thank each and every one of them for their contribution in the last 12 months.

Thank you once again for your continuing confidence on Light House.

Md. Harun-or-Rashid
Chief Executive
Light House
Abridgment: Ms. Bobita Hijra is very happy to know that Light House is going to publish its Annual Report 2013. She stated that since September 2010, Light House has been providing services including VCT, STIs and general health treatment, free condom & lubricant for MSM and Hijra Population through its RCC program. Besides, due to Light House’s work, they are now being treated with respect in society and various offices. Due to that she and her transgender community are very grateful to Light House and they wish success of Light House and its RCC project.
Abridgment: AKM Farid Labu was a drug addict for 25 years and recovered in 2007 with the service of Light House's Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center. Since recovery he has been working as Peer Educator at Light House's Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center and the Drop in Center at Rangpur. Since then he has been working to prevent HIV among Drug Users. He added that Light House has given him a new life along with the skills to live without drug and to help others. He expressed his profound gratitude to Light House and wishes the success of Light House.
Abridgment: Tanisha Yasmin Choitee is a Hijra. He was born as a son but at the age of 10 years, her physical and mental changes occurred. Since then she was treated differently and reprimanded at her family, school and society. Despite of all, she completed her HSC. Due to the maltreatment at family and society, she left home and joined at hijra community but she didn't feel good due to the abusing behavior of Hijra community such as collecting toll and child dancing. She tried to get a decent job at various places but failed. Lastly she went to Kustia MSM DIC, who provides services to MSM and Hijra. She has taken various trainings there including Life Skills. Later she had joined there as Outreach Supervisor and was promoted as Counselor at Magura DIC. She works there with dignity and Lives in happy life. Due to job and her skills, her family and society gradually accept her and treat with dignity. Due to the work of Light House, MSM and transgender community people are living healthy life and are able to avoid risky behaviors. Due to Light House, she has got back her life, therefore she said, “Light House is a milestone organization for MSM and Hijra.” She wishes to continue her work at Light House for the development of MSM and Hijra Community.
Abridgment: Ms. Dilruba Khanom Tisa is 25, living at Guri para. She got married at the age of 12, while she knew nothing of marriage. Her husband rapped her and she was blooded severely. Her husband left her away. She was treated at a hospital and was advised not to sleep with her husband for at least a year as she was minor. Later she came to know that her husband has another wife. She left her husband's house. Once one of her relatives handed her to a pimp. The pimp pushed her to a customer. The customer drank alcohol and forced her to drink as well. Later she was rapped and given 300 Taka. Gradually, she got involved in sex work and faced various tortures. Once she met an outreach worker of Light House and later visited Light House's DIC for treatment. Lastly she joined there. She wishes success of Light House. She declared that if Light House publishes her statement in the Annual Report of Light House, she wouldn't have any objection.
### Honorable members of the Executive Committee & General Committee of Light House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.L.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Education &amp; Profession</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Professor Habiba Begum</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>BSc (honours) MSc Ex- Principal, Government Mujibur Rahman Women’s college, Bogra.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mr. Amjad Hossain Tazma</td>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>BSS (honours), MSS Industrialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Md. Harun-or-Rashid</td>
<td>General Secretary</td>
<td>BSS (honours), MSS (Economics), EMPH Development Specialist, CE, Light House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Advocate Sufia Begam Kohinoor</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>BA (Honours), MA, LLB Lawyer, Judge Court Bogra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Md. Tofazzal Hossain</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Principal, Armed Police Battalion School &amp; College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Md. Hasan Asra fu Zaman</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>MSS, Deputy Director, GUK, Bogra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Advocate Ashrafun Naher</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>LLB Lawyer, APP-Judge court Bogra &amp; Human Rights Activist</td>
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### Other Member of the General Committee of Light House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL#</th>
<th>Name of GC Members</th>
<th>S.L #</th>
<th>Name of GC Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Dr. Mosarraf Hossain Khandoker</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Md. Tozammel Haque Talukder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Advocate Dewan Sharif Uddin</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Md. Nafij Uddin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ms. Afifa Khanum</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Ms. Rehena Bibi</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Md. Shafiqur Rahman</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Md. Moksudur Rahman</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ms. Fatema Jinnah</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Md. Anowarul Islam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Ms. Monowara Begum</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Ms. Najnin Mita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Md. Afzal Hossain</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Dr. Sabira Sultana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Advocate Al-Mahmud</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Md. Fazul Haque</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Prof. Dilara Iqbal</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Md. Anowarul Islam Baccu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Ms. Mahfuj Ara Miva</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Prof. Badrun Nesa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Md. Taufiquil Alam Tipu</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Md. Masudar Rahman Helal</td>
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### Members of Senior Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Qualifications and experience</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Mr. Gazi Nazrul Islam Faisal</td>
<td>Deputy Chief Executive</td>
<td>BSS (honours), MSS (Sociology), MPH (LSHTM, UK) Over 24 years experience with National, International and UN organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Mr. Ziauddin Ahmed Khan</td>
<td>Director M&amp;E</td>
<td>BSS (honours), MSS (Economic), MS (Population Science) Over 30 years experience with Govt. and International organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Md. Aminul Haque</td>
<td>Director HRM&amp;A</td>
<td>BSc (Hons.) &amp; M Sc, MBA Over 25 years experience with Banking sector and National and International organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Mr. Abdul Baten</td>
<td>Director Finance</td>
<td>Graduate, Received various financial Mangt. Training. Over 30 years experience with Govt. as auditor, Finance and Admin Specialist with National organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Mr. Salah Uddin</td>
<td>Team Leader</td>
<td>BSS (honours), MSS, (Anthropology), Over 16 years experience with National and International organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>S.M. Tofazzel Hossain</td>
<td>Team Leader</td>
<td>BSS (honours), Over 12 years experience with various National organization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brief of Light House with Vision, Mission and Other Information

Light House is a leading national non-political and not for profit voluntary development organization in Bangladesh registered with the Department of Social Services and also with the NGO Affairs Bureau of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Since inception in 1988, Light House has been working for the people's well-being with the motto of ‘Putting People First’. The prime focus of Light House's work is to strengthen systems that work to create access to services, resources and provisions for people - especially the poor, marginalized, vulnerable, disadvantaged, socially excluded and remotely located communities for proclaiming their rights and entitlements through ensuring good governance for improving socio economic development of the country.

Commencement of Light House:
Following the devastating catastrophe in Bangladesh - the Flood in 1988, Light House was founded in humanitarian ground by a group of young and energetic individuals of Bogra with the original sprite of providing support to the flood victims. Time healed the wound of the catastrophe with the joint efforts of thousands of social workers but some individuals of the young and energetic team of Bogra fall in love for people's well-being. Mr. Harun or Rashid, the current Chief Executive and the founder of Light House is one of them remains committed to continue his effort with the same motto ‘Putting People First’. Mr. Rashid has started his new journey through huge adversities with a very small team initially and that initiative is today’s Light House – A Trusted name for proclaiming people's rights and services.

Light House works with Rural and Urban Asset-less Poor and marginalized groups with four major strategic areas 1) HIV & AIDS Awareness & Prevention, and Promoting Health Care Services 2) Human Rights and Good Governance; 3) Poverty Reduction and Increase Food Security; 4) Disaster Management & Addressing Climate Changes through Strengthening Community with the views to contribute in poverty alleviation and development of the country among others.

Light House Vision is to emerge as a leading national NGO with special expertise in HIV prevention, ensuring good governance and poverty alleviation with increased funding coming from our own sources.

The Mission of Light House is to work in partnership with other development organizations, civil society and government to ensure equal access to basic human rights, social security and good governance for the whole community, but particularly the most vulnerable and most at risk groups. Light House believes in making a difference, accountability, peace and harmony gender equity and participation.

Broader Objectives of Light House Light House is committed to strengthen local justice systems including access to justice of marginal population. The organization also pursues the need for improving and developing its services to empower our target groups. Light House is also committed working towards the fight against HIV/AIDS to prevent the epidemic in Bangladesh.

The Basic Core Values of Light House remains in the center of its all operations, which are Mutual Respect & Trust, Gender Equity, Integrity & Solidarity, Transparency & Accountability and Equal Opportunities for All.

Legal Status of Light House: Light House is registered with the Department of Social Services, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh bearing registration No. DH- 02791 dated on 6th September, 1992 and with the NGO Affairs Bureau of Bangladesh bearing the registration No. FDO/R 1307 dated on 5th November, 1998.

Key population we served: Light House works for and with priority to poor and marginalized rural people; urban slum and fringe living communities; sexual minority community groups - MSM/MSW, Hijra; Female Sex Worker - street, hotel, and residence based; transport workers; injecting drug users (IDUs), drug users
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Light House’s Expertise: Light House is a platform and trusted name to the poor, marginalized, disadvantaged, socially excluded and remotely located communities for proclaiming their Rights & Entitlements in areas of Human Rights including Legal Rights and Health Rights; Raising Voice against Inequalities, Deprivation and Discrimination. Light House has active membership with several Networking Bodies including Steering Committee of Election Working Group (EWG). Light House is the largest Implementing Organization in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention among various Most at Risk Population Groups in Bangladesh.
Light House works to address ‘Inequalities’, therefore the organization as usual concentrate on the peripheral coverage having the corporate office at Bogra – A Northern Regional Town of Bangladesh located at 24.8417°N 89.3750°E. Currently Light House has been operating with more than 1450 staff through around 100 field offices located at Bogra, Joypurhat, Noagoan, Rangpur, Dinajpur, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Pabna, Rajshahi, Chapainobabgonj, Natore, Sirajgonj, Tangail, Faridpur, Patuakhali, Perojpur, Jhalokathi, Barisal, Bagherhat, Khulna, Jessore, Satkhira, Magura, Kustia, Jhenaidha, Chittagong, Chadpur, Sylhet, Gazipur, Narayanganj, Mymensing and Dhaka districts, in all seven divisions in the of the country – Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet and Rangpur Division. The Districts are marked in the map.

**Geographical Coverage of Light House**

Followings are some highlights of the regular advocacy initiatives of Light House under some of the major projects during the year 2013:

- Expanding HIV Prevention Services in Bangladesh:
  - Light House is well conversant at various level advocacy works including the grass root level to policy level in various areas such as:
    - Prevention of Acid Throwing, Acid Control & Support to Acid Victims
    - Prevention of Early Marriage and Dowry along with MNCH issues
    - Issues for Sexual harassment and Violence prevention
    - Proclaiming Human Rights, Legal Rights and others Entitlements for Poor, socially excluded, marginalized communities
    - Ensuring fair justice and promote access to justice at various levels
    - Electoral Reforms in Bangladesh & Democratic Actions - Light House is an active member of Steering Committee of Election Working Group (EWG), which helps us to promote and follow up issues from the following areas of their engagement & work:
      - Participated in various type of debate competition, street theatre, Human Rights Day observation, monthly courtyard and dissemination of IEC materials
      - Capacity building programs (community legal aid clinics, Training on gender sensitive mediation and, activating village court and arbitration council, community policing forum mobilization, sharing meeting and conducting various major events, programmes and Accomplishment)

- Light House Working Areas

Light House has been implementing various projects for the well being of their projects’ participants as well as to contribute to the overall development process of the country, where building capacity of the team members plus the projects’ participants are crucial in order to contribute effectively in the development process and their clients’ project have taken the following major Capacity Building Initiatives during the reporting period:

- 03 annual trainings have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.
- 18 training on ‘CPF Leaders on Community Policing’ and 06 training on Disaster preparedness have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.
- 02 orientation sessions/trainings on media forum concept and flying squad, and Family Planning for the journalists have been conducted successfully.
- 01 training on ‘Gender Sensitivity in Social Change’ have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.
- 18 training on ‘CPF Leaders on Community Policing’ and 06 training on Disaster preparedness have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.
- Two orientation sessions/trainings on media forum concept and flying squad, and Family Planning for the journalists have been conducted successfully.
- 01 training on ‘Gender Sensitivity in Social Change’ have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.
- Based Policing.

Followings are the capacity building activities under the project of Community Congregation of various major Events, programmes and Accomplishment

- 02 orientation sessions/trainings on media forum concept and flying squad, and Family Planning for the journalists have been conducted successfully.
- 01 training on ‘Gender Sensitivity in Social Change’ have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.
- Based Policing.

- The project activities have been implemented in 54 plus the projects’ participants are crucial in order to contribute effectively in the development process and their clients’ project have taken the following major Capacity Building Initiatives during the reporting period:
- 03 annual trainings have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.
- 18 training on ‘CPF Leaders on Community Policing’ and 06 training on Disaster preparedness have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.
- 02 orientation sessions/trainings on media forum concept and flying squad, and Family Planning for the journalists have been conducted successfully.
- 01 training on ‘Gender Sensitivity in Social Change’ have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.
- Based Policing.
Congregation of various major Events, programmes and Accomplishment

- **Capacity Building**

Light House has been implementing various projects for the well-being of their projects’ participants as well as to contribute to the overall development process of the country, where building capacity of the team members plus the projects’ participants are crucial in order to contribute effectively in the development process and achieving the results of those interventions. Followings are some highlights of the capacity building initiatives of Light House under some the projects:

**Expanding HIV Prevention Services in Bangladesh**: HIV Prevention Services among MSM and Hijra (Transgender) in Bangladesh (Package #2) project executed the following trainings for staff and beneficiaries during 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Course</th>
<th>Type of participants</th>
<th>Target # of Event</th>
<th>Target # of participants</th>
<th>Achievement # of Event</th>
<th>Achievement # of participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOT on Life Skill Training</td>
<td>DICM, OS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOT of Peer Education</td>
<td>DM, OSS</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life skill education for MSM &amp; Hijra</td>
<td>MSM/Hijra</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Education &amp; Outreach Services</td>
<td>PE, OS</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MSM/Hijra</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Improved Justice and Legal AID Services** (IJLAS) **Project**: The project activities have been implemented in 54 unions of 9 sub-districts under 5 districts in Rajshahi division covering extreme poor, poor & non-poor people (men, women, boys, and girls) including minority communities’ especially indigenous people. The awareness and capacity building programs (community legal aid clinics, Training on gender sensitive mediation and, activating village court and arbitration council, community policing forum mobilization, sharing meeting and conducting debate competition, street theatre, Human Rights Day observation, monthly courtyard and dissemination of IEC materials have been organized in respective project locations as per the schedule. A of 612 sessions on Human Rights and Legal Education have been conducted successfully, where 77,830 participants under this project participated actively. Furthermore, 42 staff of the project were trained during this period.

**Community Based Policing**: Followings are the capacity building activities under the project of Community Based Policing.

- A total of 120 training/orientation on ‘Disaster Management Training of Community Policing Forum Leaders; 18 training on ‘CPF Leaders on Community Policing’ and 06 training on Disaster preparedness have been conducted successfully during the reporting period.

**Modhumita**: ‘HIV/STI Prevention among Street based sex workers; Hotel based sex workers, Male and Hijra sex workers and their clients’ project have taken the following major Capacity Building Initiatives during the reporting period:
Two orientation sessions/trainings on media forum concept and flying squad, and Family Planning for counselors; and one Refresher Training on Peer Education have taken place, where 49 participants have participated.

**Advocacy & Networking Initiates:**

Light House is well conversant at various level advocacy works including the grass root level to policy level in the following areas of their engagement & work:

- Electoral Reforms in Bangladesh & Democratic Actions- Light House is an active member of Steering Committee of Election Working Group (EWG), which helps us to promote and follow up issues from Community to National Level Decision Making Bodies/ Departments of the State.
- Creating Enabling Environment for HIV/AIDS prevention program throughout the country specially with Journalist, Law Enforcing Agencies, Local Government Representatives, Religious Leaders and Local Elites
- Ensuring fair justice and promote access to justice at various levels
- Proclaiming Human Rights, Legal Rights and others Entitlements for Poor, socially excluded, marginalized community People and groups of the society
- Rights of Sexual Minority and Sexual Diversity
- Issues for Sexual harassment and Violence prevention
- Prevention of Early Marriage and Dowry along with MNCH issues
- Prevention of Acid Throwing, Acid Control & Support to Acid Victims

Followings are some highlights of the regular advocacy initiatives of Light House under some of the major projects during the reporting year – 2013:

**Expanding HIV Prevention Services in Bangladesh:** HIV Prevention Services among MSM and Hijra (Transgender) in Bangladesh (Package #2) project executed the following advocacy and networking meetings during the year 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Course</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of Events</td>
<td># of participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Facilitation Team Meeting</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitization with Law Enforcement Agencies</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Level Lawyer &amp; Journalist Group Meeting</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitization meeting with religious leader, local elite and health service provider</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>960</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Modhumita: ‘HIV/STI Prevention among Street based sex workers; Hotel based sex workers, Male and Hijra sex workers and their clients’ project have taken the following regular advocacy initiatives during the reporting period:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Course</th>
<th>Target of Meeting</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of Events</td>
<td># of participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Facilitation Team Meeting</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with flying squad alliance team</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with flying squad Legal support team</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local sensitization meeting</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condom Outlet meeting</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media dialogue and orientation for Local Media</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with media forum</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advocacy event for Peoples Action for Democratic Governance (PADG): Most of the people of our working areas in Bangladesh are not aware of exercising their voting rights to elect the right person for peoples’ representation which is a basic requirement of democratic culture. Voter education and awareness campaign can play vital role in conduction of an election in a free, fair and impartial manner. The project took several advocacy initiatives during the reporting years- some of those are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Course</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of meeting</td>
<td># of meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG formation at union level</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation to stakeholders at upazilla level</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalist orientation and regular reporting (NNCJ)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Celebration of National & Important Days

Day Observation:

Observe WAD-2013:
Light House has observed the World AIDS day on 1st December 2013 with the close coordination with NASP and local health authorities. The theme of the day “Getting to Zero: Zero new HIV Infections. Zero Discrimination and zero AIDS Related Deaths” Light House participated at the national level seminar organized by NASP at Bangobandho International Conference Center, Dhaka. Beside this different events were organized with GOs and NGOs at both central and local level. The major feature of the observation was a colorful rally, seminar, social mobilization campaign, information booth/stall, BCC & IEC materials, condom lubricant distribution in central and field office level. The festoon with different colorful message on HIV & AIDS was the Rey magnetism of the local & central level rally. This magnificent effort of Light House was vibrantly praised by all participants. Light House has been producing T-Shirt, Leaflet, Banner, Festoon, Ply card to organize rallies, Discussion sessions, Information booth etc. Where 4801 different participants like MSW/Hijra, staff & stakeholders attended to the rally and booth, 42828 condoms, 777 Lubricants, 2166 Cap & 2805 different BCC/advocacy materials has been distributed.
Observe IHRD-2013:
On occasion of the 65th international human rights Day Light House organized a range of significant activities. The theme of this year was “20 YEARS: WORKING FOR YOUR RIGHTS” Light House and all associate partners observed International Human Rights Day on 10th December’ 2013. Light House produced and distributed Cap, Leaflet, Banner, Festoon, Ply card to organize rallies, Discussion sessions, Information booth etc. To increase the mass awareness among the total population in every year 10th December International Human Rights Day has been observed in Bangladesh and also everywhere in the world. For this connection Light House observed the day in different project office in and district and upazilas level Drop in Centers (DICs) observed the International Human Rights day where 2038 participants attended to the Rally & Legal Camp, 2635 BCC/advocacy materials, 4540 condom, 225 lubricants and 1000 Cap has been distributed.

Research & Publications including Material Produced

◆ BCC & Advocacy Materials developed for distributed: To create enabling environment and change the positive behavior, in 2013 Light House developed and distrusted 3250 set of advocacy materials. Beside, to create the awareness about HIV/AIDS among the MSM & hijra population in northern area Bangladesh 37908 BCC materials developed for distribution. Following is an event of launching ceremony for BCC materials production.

Thematic Program Areas of Light House: 2013

Health & Population Sector

◆ HIV Prevention, Care & Support

With the remarkable contribution of the development sectors including development partners and the commitment of the government, Bangladesh is still a low prevalence country since identifying the 1st HIV case in the country in 1988 - the epidemiological data of HIV infections remain below 1% among all the most at risk people (MARP) except among People Who Inject Drugs (PIWD) in some areas. Female Sex workers, Male who have sex with male (MSM), male sex workers (MSW) and Hijra (Transgender) continue demonstrate low rate of HIV prevalence among them despite of their engagement of risk behavior like penetrative sex, group sex, low condom use with low HIV, AIDS and STI knowledge and perception. Considering of possibility of future threat of continue transmission of HIV among the bridging and hidden population, Bangladesh government have initiated several HIV and AIDS prevention projects with collaboration of re-known organizations of Bangladesh with financial support from Global Fund, USAID and world Bank among others.
Similarly, Light House has put its utmost emphasize on the issue with its vision statement to emerge as a leading national NGO with special expertise in HIV prevention among others priorities. Thus in the year 2013, Light House has undertaken various projects with all most all the MARP groups and creating advance provisions for care and support through Light House Clinic. Followings are the salient features of the projects under the sub-thematic program of Health and Population Sector Programme.

◆ Expanding HIV Prevention Services in Bangladesh:

HIV Prevention Services among MSM and Hijra (Transgender) in Bangladesh (Package #2). Light House has been implementing the project - Expanding HIV Prevention Services in Bangladesh in partnership with MSCS and KMSS with the financial support under Rolling Continuation Channel (RCC) program of the GFATM fund with the grant management support of ICDDR,B since 2010. The first phase has successfully been completed in November 2012 and the subsequently phase of the project has been implementing since then in 21 districts through 32 DICs for MSM and Hijra covering 16,878 MSM and 1,252 Hijra respectively, where service delivery gaps in national response exists for this target populations under five administrative divisions of Bangladesh – Rajshahi, Rangpur, Khulna, Barisal and Dhaka.

The project aims to increase the scale of prevention services and to contribute in limiting the transmission and spread of STI/HIV among MSM & Hijra population who are high risk behavior groups vulnerable to STI/HIV infections. The project works for creating enabling environment in order to access public health services and legal aid supports for reducing harassments of the project participants and sustaining the initiative. The project is involves target population in different cycle of the project so that comprehensive coverage is made and sustain the project impact beyond the project period. The project focus on 1) Access to HIV/AIDS prevention services, 2) Behavior change communication, 3) Creation of enabling environment and 4) Capacity development components. The main driving force of this project is the Peer Educators who are selected from the MSM and Hijra community of the respective locations to deliver the services using outreach and static centers, which are in line with the National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS 2004 to 2010.

Over the year 2013, the project has successfully completed the planned activities of BCC, Condom and Lubricants promotion, STIs treatment and other services including the life-skill and livelihood trainings along with the technical support from icddr,b (the Principal Recipient – PR of the grant). Regular coordination, monitoring, joint data verification and community participation were the key of the success.

In the reporting year 2013, 91% and 90% of the mother-listed Hijra and MSM people respectively were reached by the outreach workers/peer educators on regular basis for preventive activities of the project. The project successfully trained/oriented 100% targeted individuals among staff of the project to reach and provide services to the Hijra and MSM during the reporting year. A total of 4,151,749 Condoms and Lubricants were distributed as a package to Hijra and MSM in 2013. In 2013, 136% of the targeted number of Hijra and MSM received HIV testing and counseling services and came to know their results as well.
Similarly, 94% of the episodes of STIs among Hijra and MSM were diagnosed, treated and counseled at the project DICs. Among the reached 84% and 83% of the Hijra and MSM respectively attended at the DICs for services in 2013. In the reporting year 2013, 97% of the targeted people reached through national and community level workshops, seminars and meetings for creating enabling environment for Hijra and MSM.

It was learnt that proper planning and close monitoring can help to minimize gaps in achieving the targets; while continued staff capacity development is necessary to maintain and enhance quality of services. Special initiatives and regular monitoring efforts at DIC as well as outreach locations helps to ensure enhanced coverage of the target population as well.

Though the political unrest in 2013 hampered and disrupted implementation of the major activities of the project at local level but the project somehow was able to make a good progress in this year. The improvement of skills of staffs through motivation and practices of different strategic approaches of SR and SSR were important along with dynamic leadership, retaining the skilled manpower through ensuring proper job benefits and technical inputs as and when needed.

♦ Modhumita:

HIV/STI Prevention Project among Street based sex workers; Hotel based sex workers, Male and Hijra sex workers and their clients. Light House has been implementing the project with the goal to reduce STI and HIV transmission among male and female sex workers in Bogra Natore and Rajshahi since December 2003 with the financial support from FHI360/USAID. Initially the project was started in Bogra with Street based sex workers (SBSW) and gradually Light House expanded its coverage both in geographic areas (Bogra, Natore, Rajshahi and Ishawryd) as well as among other groups of beneficiaries/people (hotel based sex workers, male and Hijra sex workers and their clients as well). During this reporting year, the project has closed its Natore center for MSWs and prior to that the centers at Santahar, Ishawryd and Rajshahi for Hijra had also been phased out. Currently, the project is operating through its Bogra and Rajshahi centers with the objectives to create supportive environment for HIV/STI prevention through social mobilization; increase competency of project staff on project management and behavior change; promote risk elimination and reduction practices among street-based sex workers, hotel-based sex workers, male sex workers, and their clients through outreach and Modhumita center; provide quality sexual and reproductive health services including STI management and family planning information and referrals; create a structured Quality Assurance and Quality improvement (QAQI) system; provide high quality HIV counseling and testing (VCT) services; create awareness for TB diagnosis and directly observed treatment services; strengthen referral networks of other services; increase knowledge, skills and access to products for correct and consistent use of condoms in high risk sexual encounters; and improve Medical Waste Management (MWM).

During the reporting year, the Modhumita project continued to provide quality HIV and other STI related services to key populations at risk of HIV. The project provided tools and services that ultimately elevate these populations to a higher level of ownership in and responsibility for their own health care and related concerns. Through Modhumita Project activities we have provided HIV prevention messages, distributed Condoms, provided HIV counseling and testing, counseled STI, VCT and family planning as well as screened and referred suspected TB patients to the referral centers for test and confirmed their tests and DOTs for positive patients. One of the highlights of the year was strengthening the collaboration efforts in working areas. Through this collaborative effort the Modhumita project has provided other general services for MARPS. The project has an active ‘flying squad’ to reduce gender based violence that many of our clients face and continue this very effective service. Those are linked with stakeholders’ groups such as lawyers, journalists, project facilitation teams (PFT) and GO/NGO service providers to assist in crisis management of MARPs.
The project reached 126% and 78% sex workers and their clients respectively against the set target of 1600 and 54,000 correspondingly to reduce the risk practices among the hotel and street-based female sex workers, male sex workers, and their clients as well through the outreach and Modhumita centers of Light House in the year 2013. Total contacts were 47,158 with male, female and Hijra sex workers and 65,967 with clients of sex workers. Over the reporting year Light House has provided STI service for 1705 clinic visitors (considering check-up) and provided STI DOT for 770 sex workers. Syphilis screening has completed for 267 FSW and out of that 4 were positive. The project has provided Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) service for 916 sex workers, while the target for the same was 886, which is more than 103%. Light House is working to increase knowledge, skills and access to products for correct and consistent use of condoms in high risk sexual encounters. During the reporting period the project has distributed 450,372 pieces of condom among sex workers and 196,805 among clients of sex workers through Peer Educators, Outreach Workers, Centers’ and 50 established Condom Outlets. During the reporting year the project has referred 962 suspected TB patients to the TB DOTS centers, while the target for the same was 656, which is 147% higher than the target. Among those, 13 were TB positive patients and 54% of the positive patients have completed full course of TB treatment from those referred DOTS centers. With the purpose of create enabling environment and reducing stigma & discrimination against MARPS, 28 advocacy and sensitization meetings and media sensitizations were conducted in 2013. The project formed several media forums in the project areas and the forums sensitized 30 local journalists, who published various articles in National/local Dailies to reduce stigma, discrimination and positive success stories as well.

The Project has been empowering community volunteers, community members such as, local stakeholders of various groups of people i.e. local tea stall vendors, small shopkeepers and others to help in the fight against HIV and STIs. The project has 52 community outlets, which are the basic pillar to operate project activities smoothly. Sex workers are operating in the project areas are now more aware about HIV &AIDS and STIs and know how to protect themselves against these infections, use condoms properly including the locations to get and negotiate the use of condom with clients. Clients of sex workers are also more knowledgeable about HIV & AIDS and STIs. The outlet holders encourage sex workers to visit Modhumita center for regular health checkups. The project provides STI service through syndromic case management, screening Syphilis and provides treatments as well. The project conducts regular VCT service for MSW, FSW and Hijra groups and the positive cases are referred to Ashar Alo Society (AAS) and Mukto Akash Bangladesh for care and support services.
Tale of Change.....

Rowshon Ara (42) came from Gabtoli to Bogra when she was 15 years old with her boy friend with the promise to get married. Unfortunately, he didn’t marry her; instead, she was abused and rapped by her boy friend and other friends of that boy friend as well. The circumstances, made her sex worker. After 2 years, one client of Rowshon Ara married her.

She had started her new life at Manikdipa of Shajahanpur, Bogra with her husband but she was not happy – she couldn’t dream of a home of her own. Rowshon Ara said, ‘I have forgotten that I was a human being as I had been abused everyday’. Later, she again joined her old profession.

Rowshon Ara was very worried, when she first walked into Light House ‘Modhumita Center’. She was very vulnerable to HIV, because of unawareness of HIV/STIs and lack of verbally communication and negotiation skills. Gradually, her interest grew and started participating in the activities of the center. Light House has provided several trainings to her along with others on behavioral communication change and others. She says, ‘trainings, not only gave me the skills to protect myself from HIV and STI, but also gave me new skills of life and the attitude towards society, which helped me to stand on my own feet as well’.

Rowshon Ara is now a Peer Educator of Modhumita Center. She is using her new skills and knowledge to protect herself as well as others from HIV and STI and also for behavior change of her peers and persuades to visit Modhumita Center to learn about safe sex and to know the importance of health check up and treatment of STIs.

Renting a home for homeless sex workers like Rowshon Ara, was impossible in few year back but now she has her own home with 1 acre cultivation land in Manikdipa of Shajahanpur, Bogra. She has one son, who is studying B.A in a college of Bogra. Rowshon Ara has a dream that her son will be a service holder in future. Now she is dealing a happy life with her son.

The project of Light House developed an effective approach and intervention for the sex workers (male, female and Hijra) and their clients, despite of the marginalization, ignorance, less acceptance in the society. The project developed several good practices, which are replicable in similar interventions. The Project Facilitating Team (PFT) concept of this project has already been disseminated and adopted in several HIV prevention projects throughout the country for addressing clients of sex workers for ensuring safer sex promotion to prevent HIV/STIs. The concept also helps to reduce stigma and discrimination while working MARP groups. Local level media activists have written several positive editorials and reports recognizing the needs and contribution of this project to reduce stigma and discrimination.

◆ HIV Prevention Services among IDUs [Injecting Drug Users] - SP-6:

HIV/AIDS prevention services among Injecting Drug Users [Service Package (SP)- 6] project is being implemented by Light House Consortium, under the leadership of Light House in partnership with Marie Stopes Clinic Society (MSCS) in 20 different locations (Dhaka – Mirpur & Mohammadpur, Narayanganj, Shirajganj, Ishwardi, Barishal, Jhalokati, Chittagong, Chandpur, Mymansing, Faridpur, Khulna, Kustia, Pabna, Rajshahi, Chapai, Rangpur, Dinajpur, Kansat and Sylhet) under 7 divisions of the country since August 2013 under a contract agreement between Light House & National AIDS /STD Program (NASP), MOHFW. This service package has been managing by NASP of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare under the Heath Population & Nutrition Service Development Program (HPNSDP-2011-2015), with funding under International Development Assistance (IDA) through World Bank. The projected project duration is up to June 2015 to serve 6000 targeted IDUs. As per the estimate made in 2009, there are 21,000-23,000 IDUs (injecting drug users) in the country. They are the most vulnerable and at higher risk of HIV infection among other key populations because of sharing needles among group members while pushing drugs and a large portion of male IDUs often buy sex from FSW, but do not use condoms usually; moreover some of them are professional blood
The contract of the project has been signed in July 2013 and subsequently, the project has been implementing since the following month - August 2013. The first quarter (2 months) of the project was under the preparatory phase and major preparation like recruitment and deployment of 410 staff, hiring house and establishing DIC, mapping and identification of beneficiaries etc have been processed during the period. The second quarter (October-December 2013) of implementation was also under preparatory phase and accomplished the targeted activities of mobilizing resources and materials, staff orientation, community and stakeholders’ sensitization, forming of ‘Project Facilitation Committees’, mapping of areas and identification of locations and spots enlisting of IDUs etc has almost completed. This quarter was the most challenging time due to huge political unrest in Bangladesh. Transport and currier services were seriously disrupted that communication by any other means except mobile telephone can’t be made in most areas. Despite the situation, Light House field staffs under SP-6 project were committed to perform and accomplished most of the activities having been risks of unusual and unpredictable political disturbances at local level. However, the achievement and the progress made in this short period of 5 months is commendable. A good number of female IDUs have been identified in different DIC locations and those are also being served. IDUs are switching over to other drugs, but keeping their IDU habits same. They are habituated with cocktail drug use in an extreme stage. A good number of beneficiaries have developed very complicated abscess, the project addressed those.

It was remarkable that the civil society members have come forward willingly to support and cooperate the program in most of the locations. They have suggested providing detoxification services to the beneficiaries for the interest of the society. In addition to political unrest of the last few months, there is no digitalized data & information keeping system under this project at DIC level as there are no provision of computers and accessories in the bid document, which are very essential for proper data recording, validation, documentation and reporting as well.

**Expanding Provision of Essential Harm Reduction Services for Injecting Drug Users - GFATM-907**

Expanding Provision of Essential Harm Reduction for Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) project is supported by the Global Fund for AIDS Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM). Save the Children International, Bangladesh Country Office is the principal recipient (PR), whereas Care Bangladesh works as the Sub-Recipient (SR) and Light House has been working as Sub Sub-Recipient (SSR) partner in the
The project consistently reached the targeted IDUs and provides the services of STIs treatments and management – diagnosis, counseling for the IDUs and their partners; condom distribution, VCT for HIV referral; 14 days long detoxification services and vocational training from Detox center of the project along with referral provision to other centers/ institutes; operate and manage needle exchange program, necessary advocacy initiatives including day observations and relevant BCC initiatives as well. A total of 126 project staff have been working in this project and they all are on board since the inception.

### Salient Feature of implementation during the reporting period: July - December 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Indicators of the Project under Outputs</th>
<th>Operational Indicators looked for determining the progress during the reporting period</th>
<th>Progress in (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of IDUs reached with HIV Prevention Program</td>
<td>Establish and operate DICs for 4,900 IDUs</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide peer outreach education to IDUs</td>
<td>115%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conduct group education session at DIC with IDUs</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide peer volunteer education at DIC</td>
<td>148%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide STI management Services</td>
<td>132%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide STI management services for IDUs partners</td>
<td>173%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide treatment for abscess management</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide treatment for general health episode</td>
<td>131%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Distribute needle and syringes to IDUs</td>
<td>182%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Condom Distributed among IDUs</td>
<td>Distribute male condoms to IDUs</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of MARPs tested and Counseled (VCT) for HIV and who receive results</td>
<td>Provide VCT Service to IDUs through referral to other centers, newly established centers and satellite sessions</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of IDUs Received Detoxification Service (14 Days) and Vocational Training from at Detox Center and referred outside</td>
<td>Provide 14 days detoxification support</td>
<td>172%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide 14 days detoxification support (Medication)</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide 14 days detoxification support (with cost)</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide 14 days detoxification support</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provide vocational training for IDUs</td>
<td>159%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Stakeholders reached at Districts, Divisional and National Level through workshops, meetings etc. for providing support for implementing HIV Programs</td>
<td>Advocacy and sensitization at district level with relevant departments and stakeholders on drugs</td>
<td>107%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meetings for creating an enabling environment with DIC management/ Advisory Committee</td>
<td>112%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conduct advocacy/ sensitization meetings for local administration, community leaders, religious leaders, parents civil society on harm reduction issues</td>
<td>157%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Day Observed (World AIDS Day, Human Right Day, Health Day,)</td>
<td>Observing WAD/ International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking along with Self-help groups / Community based organization</td>
<td>148%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Materials Distributed to MARP/ their partners Others</td>
<td>Distribution of IEC &amp; advocacy materials for IDUs &amp; others</td>
<td>227%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To operate the project activities smoothly Advisory Committee (DAC) for each DICs have been formed and oriented. Subsequently DAC meetings have regularly been organized on quarterly basis. During the reporting period 12 DAC meetings – one in each DIC were held, where 109 DAC members out of 120 participants participated in these meetings.

On behalf of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, AM Budruduza, Additional Secretary visited Jessore & Raypara DIC at Khulna on 5th & 6th October, 2013. Civil Surgeon, Jessore and Civil Surgeon, Khulna and Mr. Salehin, Program Manager, Save the Children International along with others accompanied him during the visit.

Light House observed World AIDS Day on 1st December 2013 in 11 DIC’s. A total of 225 project participants and project stakeholder participated in the program. The project team arranged information Booth in front our 11 DICs individually. The people of the project have attended in rally, discussion sessions with Local Health and Civil administration.
- Tuberculosis & HIV Co-infection

- Tuberculosis component of Modhumita Project

The project has been implementing with the financial support from USAID through FHI360 for reducing HIV and STI transmission among sex workers and their clients in Bogra and Rajshahi. The project has a strong component for creating awareness for Tuberculosis diagnosis and directly observed treatment services as well along with strengthen referral networks of other services.

The project supports sputum collectors to collect sputum from the MARPs groups as a means to get coverage of “hard to reach population” for strengthening the national TB program of the people's republic of Bangladesh. During the reporting year, the Modhumita project screened and referred suspected TB patients to the referral centers for test and confirmed their tests and DOTs for positive patients. In the reporting year Light House has referred 962 suspected TB patients to the TB DOTS centers, while the target was 656. Among 962 there are 13 TB positive patients. All the patients were started treatment but finally only 7 has completed their treatment within the reporting period and the rest will end beyond the reporting period. Strong follow up of all the cases remain continued.

- Tuberculosis Project among High Risk Behaviour Groups

This project is being implemented under stewardship of the National Tuberculosis Control Program, with management support of BRAC, while funded by the Global Fund for Tuberculosis, AIDS and Malaria (GFTAM) Round-8 & 10 to screen and detect TB cases and provide treatment to TB patients in Bogra. Light House has been working with this project since October 2010 under the Round 8 of GFATM grant by establishing effective coordination and collaboration with the government, donors and the NGOs and continued implementation under Round 10 of the same grant.

During the reporting year under this project, a total of 32 TB cases were diagnosed and started treatment in the Light House working population – Most at Risk Population groups in Bogra district town. Among those, 22 were male and 10 were female patients. In the reporting period of this report, 16 Orientations and 16 Networking Meetings with other NGOs and organizations took place.
**Drug Users’ Treatment & Rehabilitation**

- **Drug Treatment, Rehabilitation and Research Centre (DTRRC)**

Light House has been working on Drugs and HIV/AIDS prevention services since 1997. In order to combat with HIV/AIDS and devastating drug abuse particularly in the northern region of the country, Light House has established it Drug Treatment, Rehabilitation and Research Centre (DTRRC) in Noagaon in 2001.

Light House provide treatment and rehabilitation support using 12-step model of Narcotics Anonymous (NA). The DTRRC practices simple principles to provide support through peers and meetings for individuals walking the same road to recovery. The participants or clients of the DTRRC have found the 12-step program to be much like therapy, addressing core issues that an addict may be avoiding. Suppressing past issues is an act of “stuffing” which may have led to developing destructive coping mechanisms and says of self-medication. We address loneliness as we know Isolation is a common behavior for addicts, thus we teach addicts to reach out and connect with. We manage their suppress feelings like loneliness, anger, depression, and anxiety and fit in or socialize them. We help them to build their fellowship as recovering addicts can relate to another recovering addict and build friendships that are completely open and understanding. We also provide thorough counseling to them and also their family and friends as well to help them to realize their situation and overcome using the 12-steps NA. During the reporting year, 23 patients were treated in the DTRRC, while none of the got relapsed, which is incredible.

- **Livestock Development for Sustaining of Drug Treatment Center Project**

The project titled ‘Livestock Development for Sustaining of Drug Treatment Center’ has started in 2011 in Kahaloo and Dupchanchia Upazila of Bogra with the financial support from Bangladesh Rehabilitation and Assistance Center for Addicts (BARACA) and continuing till now. During the reporting period the project identified and provided services to 29 recovered drug user’s families, who are living under poverty line at both the upazillas with the intention to rehabilitate the drug users within the family and society so that they can live with peace and happiness. As recovery drug user’s family, they are constantly fighting with social stigma and discrimination. The project officials are trying to operate awareness rising activities among the community people in which they treat the recovery drug users as a members of the society. The project regularly conducted family counseling to counsel the recovery drug user’s family for their smooth rehabilitation in the society by implementing the goal and objectives of the project. As beneficiaries of the project, their socio-economic status is improving gradually, and they are trying to cope with the existing multiple subsistence’s strategies like cattle rearing, goat rearing and so on. We have conducted several trainings on livestock maintenance and marketing with the 46 beneficiaries in the reporting period. Among the beneficiaries 32 are rearing cattle’s and 12 are rearing goat. In order to remove poverty and help the
recovered drug user’s family and for their rehabilitation, the project distributed 11 goats and 58 cattle. The economic statuses of 46 families have been improving to a great extent. Most of the drug user’s families have become self-dependant and trying heart and soul to fight back poverty. The project officials also tried to raise awareness among the community people so that they treat the recovered drug addicts as the members of the society. The project identified eighty poor families and provided our project services so that they can uplift their economic status. Our project staffs contacted several times with the concerned livestock officers so that our beneficiaries can have consultation from the Upazilla livestock officers when they are in need of that. The project has contributed a lot to the life of the ex-drug addicts and they are also contributing for sustaining drug treatment through livestock development, which helps them to reintegrate into the family and society as well.

Human Rights & Gender Development

- Legal & Human Rights Program

- Improved Justice and Legal aid services (ULAS) Project

Light House with the funding support from UKAid through Community Legal Services (CLS) of Max Well Stamp-PLC is implementing the project “Improved Justice and Legal Aid Services (ULAS)’ bearing the project no. CLS-RNDI-PP-9 in 54 unions of 9 upazilla under 5 districts of Rajshahi division in Bangladesh covering a total of 1,581,314 population in the mentioned geographical locations since January 2013 to March 2017. The goal of the project is to improve access to justice and existing legal service procedure for un-served population including those living in Char (Islands), Haor (Water land) and Adibashi (Aboriginal) concentrated areas in Rajshahi division, while the broader objectives are to develop local institutions and groups for gender sensitive mediations and dispute settlement at village court, arbitration council & strengthening collaboration and communication with existing legal service providers through local level awareness and advocacy programs; to identify people’s perception and facilitate service provisions within the scopes of CLS service delivery & capacitate service providers and service seekers to protect human rights and legal rights. The project mostly focuses on extreme poor, poor & non-poor people (men, women, boys, and girls) including minority communities’ especially indigenous people. The awareness and capacity building programs on community legal aid clinics, Training on gender sensitive mediation and, Activating village court and arbitration council, community policing forum Mobilization, Sharing Meeting and Conducting Debate competition, Street Theatre, HRD Observation, Monthly Courtyard and Dissemination IEC Materials etc. have been organized in respective project locations during the reporting period.

All the activities are designed and delivered under three major deliverables as follows: 1) Legal Aid Support – Legal Advises, Legal Aid Information, Case Referral and Strengthening Village Court & Arbitration Council; 2) System Strengthening; and 3) Community Mobilization, Awareness & Knowledge Strengthening. Under 1st major deliverable - Legal Aid Support, there were 3 main categories of activities the progress of those are as follows: A) A total of 2487 community peoples (1359 male and 1118 female) have taken legal advices from 103 community & Upazilla legal aid clinic sessions; B) a total of 11 cases were identify and unresolved the disputes at community and village court and bring those to CLC, Dist. Legal Aid Committee, BLAST with a view to provide legal aid and services to victims up to higher court; and C) a total of 3 trafficked victims were repatriated form India under the work with victim support center/ one stop crisis center for urgent support category of the activity. All the three girls were exposed to prostitution in India and one of them are minor. Similarly, under the 2nd major deliverables - System Strengthening, there were 6 major categories of activities and the progress of those is as follows: i) The project provided 30 times technical support to the village courts and arbitration councils of 54 unions, where 300 people participated; ii) Provided logistics support to 54 Unions; iii) a total of 30 peoples have participated in 1 sharing meeting organized by the project at district level; iv) 302 members of upazilla legal aid committee have participated in 10 UZLAC review meetings; v) 2593 members of UPLAC have participated in 99 UPLAC review meeting; vi) 3 quarterly coordination meetings have been conducted. Correspondingly, under the 3rd major deliverables - Community Mobilization, Awareness & Knowledge Strengthening, there were 11 major categories of
activities and the progress of those is as follows: 1) 1005 CPF members have attended in 45 CPF mobilization meetings; 2) 611 CPF members have attended in 21 CPF orientation programs; 3) 741 CPF members have attended in 14 Led awareness campaigns; 4) 23 people have participated in 1 case referral workshops; 5) 108 participatory street theatre shows/gambhira (popular folk song) were organized, where around 53,083 peoples joined and participated; 6) A total of 9 day celebration program took place on human rights & legal aid issues, where 3,548 participants actively participated; 7) 16,300 community peoples have participated in 324 courtyard meetings; 8) 228 students have participated in 2 debate competition programs; 9) 10,800 Stickers and 5400 Brochures have been distributed in project areas; 10) 130 disable peoples have participated in 6 disable orientation programs; 11) 1605 peoples have been sensitized through 49 sensitization meeting sessions on gender sensitive mediation, activating village court & arbitration council.

Among the activities the Legal aid clinics at the community level found to be a very interactive means where people are coming to share their problems during the clinic sessions putting up their legal issues and seeking advice from lawyers on spot. Most of the interaction sessions at Upazilla, Union and community have been dominated with issues such as non-cooperation and harassment by police, fraudulent activities by a segment of lawyers, lack victim and witness protection mechanism, intervening of brokers (dalals) of police and lawyers, costs of travel and foods for knocking at various doors seeking justice by the poor victims and their witness found to be the most critical issues in seeking legal aid. Most poor people need repeated communication to decide whether they should proceed or seeking legal support or not as they worried much about future implications. Paralegals and volunteers reflected that apart from event based communication one to one outreach communication is very important means for community legal aid programs. Most of the poor and vulnerable people do not believe that “getting free legal aid for getting justice is possible”. The training on “gender sensitive mediation and activating village court and arbitration council” found to be an encouraging event for the participants.

Continued and increased outreach communications and over phone sharing among CLS staff, police, VC, UPLAC, ULAC and DLAC have been emphasized by the participants of trainings, workshops and meetings for effective service delivery. Motivating UP chairmen for procedural community legal service at the Union Level is mammoth tasks due to various real situations including power politics, biasness and community mechanisms. As community policing forum is familiar and recognized platform to community people it can be an important gatekeeper for mass mobilization and making people aware of seeking and affording
government legal aid services. Debate competitions found to be an effective means of generating awareness of legal aspects and human rights among young people. To make these activities more effective and institutionalized involvement of Upazilla Education Officer & Assistant Upazilla Education was recommended from field staff. Women attending at community level courtyard meetings prefers to get information/ messages on legal issues in their local dialects. Some vulnerable, un-served and extreme poor people raised their strong voice during courtyard meetings expressing their grief and dissatisfaction on existing legal system.

**Lipi got Justice as a result of the project initiative…..**

Lipi Begum is 25 years woman. She hails from a hardcore poor family. She is an inhabitant of Badalgachi Union, Badalgachi, Naogoan, Bangladesh. She is married for 4 years and has one daughter. During her conjugal life, she continuously faced harassment from her husband. One day suddenly her husband beat her severely and one of her hands was broken during the torture. After some days in a courtyard meeting was organized in the community by Light House CLS program, where Lipi participated. She learnt the possible legal remedy from the meeting. Later she raised her voice and demanded justice. In facilitation of Light House, the victim got Arbitration Council’s mediation support which was a formal separation between the couple paying the den-mohor (maintenance) amount in cash.

**Kawsara, a trafficked victim got repatriated from India by Light House**

Kawsara Begum is a 14 years aged girl. She has come from hardcore family. She is an inhabitant of Toitong Union, Pekua, Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh. Suddenly, the girl became victim of trafficking about 2 years ago. The minor girl was rescued in Ajmer Sharim of northern India and then was brought to Kolkata under care and support of all Bengal Women’s Union based in Kolkata. She suffered extreme trauma being abused by traffickers. At the request of ABWU Light House CLS program staff facilitated her repatriation by intervening at various level including victims family, union, Upazilla, Police, MoHA, MoFA, custodian agency in India and Bangladesh High Commission in India. After a huge effort of Light House and Indian agency All Bengal Women’s Union the victim returned to Bangladesh from 28 August, 2013 through Benapole land port. Since August 2013 she is living in the shelter-home in Jessore which is run by e Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM). Victim’s father is not willing to take her back to the family.

- **Ensuring Rights of Fair Justice for the Vulnerable & Adibashi Groups**

This is a cost sharing project of Light House with total value amounting Tk. 5778745/, of which 94.69% of the total cost of project is supported by Justice for All (JFA) Program of USAID and the rest 5.31% will be borne by Light House. The goal of the project is promoting access to justice services for un-served population, especially women, adolescent, poor, ethnic, minority groups and adibashi of Rajshahi District in Bangladesh.

An agreement have been signed on October-2, 2013 by between the Chief Executive of Light House and the Chief of Party of The National Center of State Courts to operate and smoothly implementation of USAID’s ‘Justice for All Program’in Rajshahi district for the period of October-2013 to April-2015. Formal justice system in Bangladesh is under tremendous pressure, which creates negative impact for the rural poor and vulnerable group of people who cannot afford the expenses of cases & do not have clear understanding of how to get access to justice in the upper courts. For Adibashi people even if they become victims of injustice and violation, they do not dare to take legal measures against the stronghold perpetrators because they are minority, poor, less powerful and the legal system is not
Human Rights & Gender Development

will be borne by Light House. The goal of the project is promoting access to justice services for women, vulnerable people, children, elderly, adibashi, minority groups etc. with the support of 5.31% of the total cost of project is supported by Justice for All (JFA) Program of USAID and the rest.

Debate competitions found to be an effective means of generating awareness raising activities, meeting and other events about NLAS activities. Legal aid NGOs like Light House have become a gatekeeper for mass mobilization and making people aware of seeking and affording legal aid services.

Vulnerable women, poor & hardcore poor, children, adolescent, adibashi, disable women, religious minorities & high risk population e.g. Sex worker (male & female), MSM, transgender/Hijra are the project target group. Apart from the direct beneficiary, project also targets the group/ members of UPLAC, ULAC and DLAC as well as secondary beneficiaries. Around 793,439 population in 245,000 households including adibashi, are being reached and aware about their legal rights & justice through awareness raising activities, meeting and other events about NLAS activities. The Legal aid NGOs like BRAC, BLAST and BNWLA are also being communicated further to make the concerned entities activated and improve their performance on legal aid service delivery.
In order to reach the 1st objective, the project has intended to strengthen and enhance the capacity of all Legal Aid Committee like UPLAC, ULAC, DLAC including other legal service providers at District, upazilla and union level to activate and functioning legal aid institutions like UPLAC, ULAC, DLAC to ensure legal aid service for women, adolescent, poor, ethnic (Adibashi), minority groups etc with the proposed activities as follows: 1.1) Organize sharing meeting with legal service providers, Legal aid committees and other stakeholders at district level; 1.2) Organize quarterly meeting with Upazila Legal Aid Committee (ULAC); 1.3) Organize bi-monthly meeting with Union Parishad Legal Aid Committee (UPLAC); and 1.4) Organize capacity building training for UPLAC, ULAC.

Similarly, in order to reach the 2nd objective, the project has intended to enhance the capacity of the staff and its legal partner like BLAST and also to jointly develop different IEC and BCC materials which will be used at different level. The following related activities are outlined to reach the objectives jointly: 2.1) Formation and orientation to ALAG (Adolescent Legal Aid Group); 2.2) Organize school debate competition for ALAG; 2.3) Street theater/Gamhira at community level; 2.4) Disseminating legal awareness message through decorated mobile stage and procession/parade at union to Upazilla; 2.5) Observation of National Legal Aid Day on 28 April; 2.6) Develop and setup message board in public place of Upazilla and union Level; 2.7) Print and Distribute Poster: Posters; 2.8) Print and Distribute Leaflet, Brochure and Sticker; and 2.9) Organize courtyard meeting;

Correspondingly, the 3rd objective would be reached through utilizing the resources of national legal aid service program through the district Legal Aid Committees and case referral. In order to achieve the objectives the following major activities are outlined: 3.1) Developing one interactive website and online data storage on legal aid service delivery, referral cases and actual deliverable under these project initiatives; and 3.2) Tracing and linking of legal aid service seekers with service delivery points.

The reporting period of this project is the initial quarter of the project, which is basically the preparatory phase of the project. The project completed the following preparatory activities in this reporting period: a) Signed the Contract/Agreement between Light House and NCSC; b) completed the formalities of FD-6 submission and its approval from NGO Bureau; c) Staff Recruitment; d) Community Volunteer Selection and Appointment; e) Completed staff orientation; f) Introduced the project with the major stakeholders at various level and building rapport with multi stakeholders; g) completed office set up including the bank formalities; h) established the mechanism of month meeting and coordination on regular basis; i) collected secondary data and its compilation as well.

By the reporting tenure, this project has identified specific strategies to address core problems. These are: Identify un-served and unable groups of people to have access to justice and intervention with; Strengthen existing legal and social structure including village court, UP standing committee related to law and order, and under NLAS act 2000’s option DLAC, ULAC, UPLAC, Adolescent Legal Awareness Group at union/ward level will bridge the community and UPLAC will remain functioning; Relevant govt. rules and procedures as per gazette would be persuaded for activation through sensitization and advocacy thus ensure to continue poor and women friendly legal services; Identified and trained community volunteer of respective would ensure case referral to formal court through UPLAC and remain at their area to continue provide legal literacy.
- Community Based Policing Program: NIRA PAD (National Initiative Response to Advance Public Order for Development/Community Based Policing (CBP)).

The project of Light House has been implemented with the financial support of USAID through the Asia Foundation in 41 Upazillas of five districts (Bogra, Joypurhat, Natore, Pabna and Sirajgonj) through 167 Community Policing Forums (CPF) with the goal to Improve Public Security through Police-Citizen Collaboration in the project areas. The project has the following objectives: 1) to strengthen police responsiveness to citizen needs through police knowledge, attitudes and skills for community policing enhanced application of community policing in day-to-day operations strengthened; 2) to increase citizen engagement and trust in law enforcement through citizen capacity and willingness to work with police strengthened, recognition of citizens’ role in preventing and solving crime increase; and 3) to expand mandate for community policing as a strategic priority through opportunities for dialogue and reform increased at the national level.

The project ended in October 2013 and during the reporting period, the project performed the following activities along with successful exist workshops and process thereby: A total of 06 disaster preparedness training were successfully imparted, where good number of female participated. 18 Training programs of CPF leaders on Community Participation also took place during the period; the project participants spontaneously participated in 05 Rallies on Community Policing. In order to encourage community people in the community policing program and creating ownership without fear, 21 Sports competition, 41 debates competitions and 41 cultural events were organized during this reporting period, where people participated wholeheartedly. A total of 1670 people participated in the monthly CPF meetings; total 15 Quarterly DCCs Meeting were also took place during the reporting period as well. A total of 249 joint patrolling/visit and 41 Open house day were also happened in the reporting period. The joint community patrolling activities with CPF members and local police in Bogra district joined there. This joint visit is facilitates a series of strategic and realistic interactive activity between community members and police which are easily institutionalized and replicable. These joint activities create positive opportunities for communities and police to directly collaborate in community policing and crime prevention.

The project also organized 05 Cricket Diplomacy events, 60 Quarterly and Monthly Staff Meeting at Light House head office/at district level; Besides, there were 05 Sharing meeting with media and Civil Society at district level, 167 Categorizing CPF, 41 Police station visit by CPF and a total of 05 exit workshops at each of the respective district took place to ensure proper exit of Light House from the project so that the respective CPFs and the police stations/ members can have long lasting smooth direct working relationship.

The project and its initiatives were different than the typical development project, which really attracted people of the different sectors. Many news media covered several news of the project’s events. The following is one of those.
- Survivors network for Prevention & Better Inclusion

Acid Survivors Network for prevention and better inclusion is part of a larger project funded by UNICEF through Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) to strengthen Psychosocial Services for Survivors of Acid attack with the guidance of ASF with the goal to help the Acid Survivors to rebuild their lives in the society with respect and dignity.

The project has five specific objectives: to 1. Prevention: reduction of number and effects of Acid (medical, psychological, legal, social and economic) and other forms of burn violence; 2. Medical: Assisted victims/survivors of acid and other burn violence have better access to prompt and effective burn management, including psychological support; 3. Legal: Assisted victims/survivors of acid and other burn violence and their families have better access to legal justice; 4. Social reintegration: Assisted victims/survivors of acid and other burn violence are supported to integrate socially and economically into mainstream society; and 5. Psycho social aspect: Assisted victims/survivors of acid and other burn violence are supported to counseling. This phase of the project is being implemented since July 2012 and will continue upto March 2014 in 12 Upazillas (Bogra Sadar, Shajahanpur, Sherpur, Dhunot, Kahaloo, Dupchacia, Shibganj, Sariakandi, Sonatola, Gabtoli, Adamdighi, Nondigram) of Bogra district.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Course</th>
<th>Total Target</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th># of participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upazilla Based Survivors Group Meeting</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Meeting</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>1243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Clinic</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>137</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Campaign</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bazzer Campaign</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survivors Conference</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Visit</td>
<td></td>
<td>321 times</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acid seller &amp; users meeting</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGA Distribution</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Study</td>
<td>20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The above table depicts the salient activities of the project, where people across the society including Community Leaders, Local Elected Body Members, Doctor, Teacher, Chairman, Survivors & others join their hands to prevent acid violence and better include the victims in all stages of our mainstream society.

Light House has played a vital role in case of preventing violence against women through the project of survivors’ network for prevention & better inclusion. Light House has found out the victims of Acid violence in the twelve Upazillas of Bogra by making a list of then and the organization has provided Psycho-Social Support to solve their mental & social problems as they needed. 60 survivors have been brought under the shade of this support and they were supported in various forms including provided jobs to them and others required services. During the project period Light House become able to motivate and ensured supports from various key stakeholder e.g. District administration, Police and other service providing agencies, resulting survivors become able to receive various kinds of supports including sewing machines from Upazila Parisad. Light House is committed to continue working with the survivors of acid victims to help them realize their full dignity in the society through utilizing and mobilizing the support of the all stakeholders in the society for reducing the number of acid victims and providing legal and strengthening psycho-social services. Followings are some self-explanatory snapshots of providing supports to the victims and their families in order to provide better support to the victims.

The project shows that the community meeting has an important effect to reduce the problem of survivors faced at neighbored and community level. It was also learnt that most of the cases the survivors are not willing to expose themselves due to fear of muscle man or influential community leaders as the prevailing systems failed to protect them thus they feel insecure. It was also important to document that family counseling has an important role to diagnose the individual problems in order to provide better support and counseling. The project’s community clinic has increased the health facilities to survivors. Inclusion of psychiatrist at community clinic was an important decision and service for the survivors. The survivors’ conference energized the victims for re-integration in the society and various stakeholders extended their supports required for the Acid Survivors for their rehabilitation, income generation for survival and mainstreaming them in the society. The project has also shown that the psychosocial supports and family supports are very crucial for the survivors and they should go jointly for better impact.
Gender & Development

- Strengthening Movement to Advance Women’s Rights and Gender Equity Project

Strengthening Movement to Advance Women’s Rights and Gender Equality project is an initiative of Light House supported by Steps towards Development/ Setu Bandhan. The project has been implementing since 2003 at Bogra sadar upazilla covering about 27,000 stakeholders including women, local government representatives, adolescent, religious leaders, marriage register etc. Environment is created for women and men to exercise equal rights and enjoy equal opportunities in a violence free environment are the goal of this project. The project also ended in 2013. In order to realize this goal and Light House has worked in the following 04 key issues:

- Reduction of early marriage with the key messages: “Build up social movement to stop early marriage” with the intention to increase number of women in decision-making positions in the political arena.
- Facilitation of women's participation and creating space for decision making with the key message: “Ensure women's equal partnership in politics”
- Reduction of domestic violence with the key message: “Break the silence and raise your voice, Say, "domestic violence is a crime and violation of human rights too".
- Reduction of sexual harassment at institutional level with the key message: “Stop sexual harassment to ensure women’s free mobility”.

During the reporting period the following activities were implemented by the project team successfully: The project team of Light House formed and developed 08 (Eight) groups, those are: 1) Gender Change Activists (GCA), 50 members of 02 groups in two Unions, of which 28 were Female and 22 were male respectively; 2) Women Activists (WA), total 40 female members of 02 groups in two Unions; 3) Student Volunteers (SVs), total 80 students of 04 groups in four schools, of which 40 were female and 40 were male as well; 4) Student Facilitators Groups (SFGs), total 04 members in this groups and the male and female ratio were 50%; 5) Local Trainers Group (LTG), total 04 members in this groups with equal number of male and female members; 6) Sufia Kamal Fellows (SKFs), total 19 female members of 02 groups in two Unions; 7) NNPC Team, total 36 members in 02 groups in two Unions, where 09 were female and the rest 27 were male; and 8) Education Team, total 32 member in 02 groups in two Unions with 09 female and 23 male members.

The project organized bi-monthly meeting regularly - 06 in each year with GCA, GRE, Sufia Kamal Fellow (SKF) and NNPC Team; Regular sharing meeting with NNPC, GCA, VP, LG - 04 in each year and Sharing meeting of GCA with SMC, Teacher, Guardians and SHPC-(Sexual Harassment Prevention Committee - 04 in each year under each categories. As part of awareness raising the team also does
postering - 04 times in each year, public campaign (gathering, rally and video screening) for prevention of violence against women/domestic violence, sharing meeting with NNPC, local government & village police, SMC, guardians and teachers - 04 times of each in a year. The team also organized dialogue with local service delivery institution (LSDI) – 04 times in each year on regular basis and monthly meeting of Union GCA -12 meeting in a year.

**Good Governance & Development**

- **Democratic Progression**
  - **Strengthening Civic Engagement in Elections and Political Processes for Enhanced Transparency and Democratic Accountability 2013 – 2014 Project**

The Project - Strengthening Civic Engagement in Elections and Political Processes for Enhanced Transparency and Democratic Accountability is funded by DFID through The Asia Foundation has been implementing since May 2013 with the aim to enhance the transparency of electoral processes and credibility of election processes. Light House has been collaborating in the implementation of many components of the project with the umbrella of Election Working Group (EWG), a non-partisan, 29-member national coalition of civil society organizations that share a common commitment to free and fair elections and good governance in Bangladesh. The project has three major component focus objectives: 1) Enhance Transparency and Credibility of Election Processes; 2) Decrease Political and Electoral Violence; and 3) Strengthen the Quality of Representation and Democratic Accountability.

Light House has been working to contribute in enhancing the transparency of Bangladesh’s electoral processes through this project and beyond with comprehensive domestic and regional election observation based on international best practice standards, and long-term advocacy for electoral reform. Light House also has also been fostering increased citizen engagement in deterring political and electoral violence through violence monitoring and voter education designed to decrease public tolerance of political violence. Light House also promotes democratic representation and accountability by facilitating greater citizen engagement in scrutiny of elections, political affairs and governance through candidate forums and other targeted voter education. Light House and its partners work to form and improve the program, which includes a combination of: i) Long-term domestic and regional election observation and electoral reform advocacy; ii) Citizen monitoring and voter education to mitigate political and electoral violence; and iii) Voter education and forms to enhance responsiveness and accountability of candidates. We also focus on involvement of women and minorities, especially as election observers and voters; Value for Money; and option planning.

The project works in 6 districts (Bogra, Joypurhat, Naogaon, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Dinajpur) of 2 divisions (Rangpur & Rajshahi) in 16 Constituencies (Bogra-1, Bogra-2, Bogra-3, Bogra-4, Bogra-5, Bogra-6, Bogra-7, Joypurhat-1, Joypurhat-2, Dinajpur-1, Dinajpur-3, Dinajpur-5, Rangpur-6, Naogaon-2, Naogaon-3 & Rajshahi-1) consists of 29 Upazillas.
The components of the project consists of the following activities/issues:

1.1 Electoral Transparency Deters Malpractice and Enhances Credibility: Comprehensive observation of election processes by well-trained, neutral observers increases transparency and has demonstrated power to deter electoral malpractice. Public reporting of objective, data-driven findings by observers at each stage of elections increases public confidence in the integrity of the process and the legitimacy of electoral results, especially if electoral authorities are responsive to observers’ well-articulated recommendations and advocacy.

1.2 Citizen Involvement and Advocacy for Government Enforcement Reduces Violence: In addition to deterring malpractice, effective election observation can decrease political and electoral violence by encouraging improved government responsiveness and reducing the potential electoral advantage to be gained through violence. Community policing, in collaboration with government police officials, further enhances electoral security. Voter education can reduce public tolerance for the use of violence for political purposes; 1.3 Citizen Demand for Enhanced Accountability Strengthens Democracy: Encouraging candidates and parties to develop articulate and campaign on clear policies that are responsive to concerns of constituents can enhance accountability, improve governance, and result in a measurable increase in constituent perception of the quality of representation. Targeted, quality voter education can offer citizens information and criteria for selecting responsive representatives and then holding them accountable; 2.1 Domestic and Regional Election Observation for Enhanced Transparency (Comprehensive Domestic Election Observation in Pre-Election Campaign, Electoral Environment & ECB Preparations with 10 Observers, Election Day and Ballot Counting with 1064 STOs, and Post-Election Period with 10 Observers); 2.2 Citizen Monitoring and Voter Education to Reduce Violence – 2.2.1 Citizen Monitoring of Political and Electoral Violence; 2.2.2 Voter Education to Reduce Tolerance for Violence; and 3) Citizen Engagement to Strengthen Democratic Accountability – 3.1) Voter Education on Responsive and 3.2) Accountable Leaders and Candidate Forums for Citizens.

The project has successfully completed the assigned tasks of the year 2013 with good reputation. The organization has a commitment to contribute ensuring free and fair elections, good governance, civic awareness and the achievement of higher standards of democratic representation and accountability in the country. Media effective communication has been created between the elections related different kinds of stakeholders by this long term observation. At the same times good relationships have been established between the observers and the stakeholders. After conducting short term observation, the possibilities of transparency come back in the electoral process. At the context of Bangladesh, this kind of observations is required. We hope, as a result of the Election Working Groups activities, the awareness of election related stakeholders would be increased and that will have positive impact to the 10th parliamentary election and also to the upcoming Local Government Elections as well.
This is a partnership project whereas Democracy Watch is the lead partner organization and Light House is partner of the project with equal stake for each of the organization. This consortium is bearing the 30% cost of the project, whereas the rest of the financial support is coming from the European Union for the period of June 2013 to May 2015 in 22 unions under Barisal & Jhalokathi District for Light House to create a board based constituency where the public institution uphold democratic and human rights of the citizens.

Most of the people of Bangladesh are not aware about exercising their voting rights to elect the right person for peoples' representation which is a basic requirement of democratic culture. Voter education and awareness campaign can play vital role in conduction of an election in a free, fair and impartial manner. Willingness of the eligible persons to be registered as voters and their participation in the voting process are important ingredients for a sound democratic electoral process. The project aims to address this basic requirements and undertaking two-dimensional approach to achieve this goal. Eager participation of the candidates, supporters and other voters can make the electoral process successful, as they have significant role to uphold social harmony.

Participation of first time voters, women, indigenous community, religious minority and the voters of disaster prone area's in electoral process is not meaningful. The project focuses on ensuring their meaningful engagement in electoral system. It empowers with relevant information and education in one hand and the potential candidates and their supporter groups are being sensitized and aware to establish a democratic electoral process. Apart from this, the project is to contribute in increasing responsiveness of the Union Parishad representatives so that the service delivery (i.e. Vulnerable Group Development (VGD), Basic Block Grant (BBG) and other service delivery of UPs) is ensured at grassroots level. However, the overarching focus of this intervention target for enabling a violence free safe zone where free and fair election and a pro-people service delivery mechanism established. Three specific objectives of this project contribute in following ways:

During the reporting period Light House has formed a total of 16 Citizen Group involving 1946 parsons and among them 676 are female. Two orientation meetings for the stakeholders were arranged in Barisal Sadar and Jhalokhati upazilla with 100 different stake-holders and 25 of them were female. At the same time, Light House has conducted two orientation meetings with the Journalist in Barisal Sadar and Jhalokhati upazilla where 39 Journalists attended along with 7 female participants.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>There are four targeted results and achievements under Result One is placed below:</th>
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<tr>
<td>During the reporting period, we have completed 16 Citizen Groups formation and their orientation as well at Union level. Total participant of the orientation were 975 and out of them 640 were male and 335 were female respectively. Respective Union Parishad (UP) Chairman and Members were present in those events. All Citizen Group expressed their satisfaction about the project activities/ program and they also expressed firm commitment to carry forward the tasks and issues they learnt out of this orientation. Since the formation and orientation, all the members are involved with us and helped us in facilitating process throughout the implementation the project activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>In this reporting period, we have completed 10 training to citizen group at Union level. A total of 270 participants participated in those trainings and among those 190 and 80 were male and female respectively. They learnt good governance, voter education and different type of local government services &amp; their entitlements along with capacity on service delivery, its monitoring mechanism and</td>
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electoral arrangement in order to enhance those services and proclaiming their entitlements. The citizen groups committed their dedication and expressed their willingness to share the training learning at their respective areas at grass-root levels. They have shared their voting rights, role & responsibilities with others.

The project completed 30 Quarterly Meeting among Citizen Groups. A Total of 780 participants – among them 580 & 200 male and female participated respectively. The participants shared those with upazilla CAPTA and UP.

### Activities under Result Two is placed below:

One district level CAPTA and 1 Upazilla level CAPTA are formed and oriented in each of the districts. There are total 55 members in those CAPTAs and among them total 48 and 7 female members. A total of 10 local representatives, 4 government service holders, and community peoples including journalist, teacher and civil society people also participated in those meeting willingly.

In this year we have completed 02 Quarterly meeting of CAPTA members at Upazilla level with total 54 participants, of which there were 48 Male and 6 Female participants. There are 20 local representatives, 4 government persons and others peoples are journalist, teacher and civil society members. The committee effectively performed their duties considering accountability, election violence prevention and to exercise their electoral rights. They have demand a permanent platform of their own to continue the societal responsibility.

In this year, the district CAPTA group has completed 03 Quarterly meetings at Dist level. There were total 81 participants in those meeting, of which 69 and 12 were male and female participants. There are 30 local representatives, 6 government persons and others people are journalist, teacher and civil society, who also participated and came into contact of this group.

In this year we have completed 02 Half yearly meeting with Upazilla level network. There were a total of 64 participants, with 54 male and 10 female participated. Besides, there are 20 local representatives, 5 government people and community people from journalist, teacher and civil society.

### Activities under Result Four is placed below:

We have formed 2 NNCJ group forums (one in each of the districts) and oriented them on the PADG program at district level highlighting the possible roles and responsibility along with the scope to work towards good governance and good electoral process in the locality. Each of the forum consists of 15 participants.

In this year we have completed two trainings for the district level journalists. A total of 29 male and 3 female participants participated in the training.

We have completed 2 Half yearly coordination meeting of the NNCJ. A total of 25 participants (Male-21 and Female-4) participated in those programs. They also helped us to program implementation at different level, which really showed credibility of the program as they are local and neutral body of the society.

In this year we have observed 04 important days - "The International Human Rights Day"-2013 and World AIDs day 2013. The International Human Rights Day – 2013 program was also observed, which is an international event and is observed worldwide on every 10th December in every year. Here, there are opportunities for the people, gathering knowledge regarding the rights of the people. The participation of the events was the opportunity for us as well as the people of our program areas. It helped us to build up relationship with GO, NGOs and people with other sectors as well. Various online & print media covered the news especially of our organization and project performance.

The inception meeting was done at the beginning of the program initiation in Barisal anf Jhalokati. A total of 95 people (mostly stakeholders of GO, NGOs and local government representatives) participated in the meetings. Among the participants 60 and 35 were male and female participants respectively. The respected participants ensured us their support throughout the program implementation.
Livelihood & Climate Change

respected participants ensured us their support throughout the program implementation. Covered the news especially of our organization and project performance. The participation in international event and is observed worldwide on every 10th December in every year. Here, there are opportunities for the people, gathering knowledge regarding the rights of the people. The participation of local representatives, 6 government persons and others peoples are journalist, teacher and civil society, government persons and others peoples are journalist, teacher and civil society members. The committee designed to address poverty amongst households headed by widows through provision of livestock as asset lack of access to basic needs and above all, exposure to human rights violations. Therefore the project is cover the rest of the widow headed households of the program area.

We have completed 2 Half yearly coordination meeting of the NNCJ. A total of 25 participants (Male-21 and Female-4) joined this meeting. In this year, the district CAPTA group has completed 03 Quarterly meetings at Dist level. There were total 580 & 200 male and female participated respectively. The participants shared those with upazilla and Upazila Livestock Officer along with the project and organizational team members of Light House. The project has started it journey with the financial support of Australian Agency for International Development (AUS-AID) for the period of February 2013 to October 2013 in Kahaloo Upazila of Bogra district with the goal of increasing Food Security Project.

Activities under Result Four is placed below:

- Livestock for increasing Food Security Project

Initially with the help of BRAC, Light House has established a sanitation materials production centre in Dupchanchia Upazila, Bogra District, which covers 13 villages of 06 (six) unions. The Light House micro-credit programme also provides loans for beneficiaries to set up sanitary latrines. A sanitation system involves arrangements necessary to store, collect, process and delivers human wastes back to nature in a safe manner. Since inception of the project the rest of the project area have been set up, 2,359 of which have been sold at lump sum rates and distributed. In addition to this, 817 latrines have been installed by the beneficiaries through the micro-credit program. As a result, 3,250 sanitary latrine sets have been installed within 2013. All 3,250 households in Dupchanchia Upazila now have a sanitary latrine. Therefore, 3,250 households in Dupchanchia Upazila now have 100% sanitary latrine. As a result of Light House’s initiatives, 18,411 people are now living in safe and healthy environments. The project has the objectives to 1) ensure 100% sanitary latrine in the selected working areas during the project period, 2) to ensure 100% use of sanitary latrine by all peoples, and 3) to conduct awareness session among the targeted beneficiaries. In order implement the project smoothly the project has started producing Sanitary Latrine goods (Ring-slab) since the beginning and distributes and sells the Sanitary Latrine goods (Ring-slab) with clear set targets.

Linkage for ensuring water have been developed following two strategies; 1) established linkage with various sources including the government and 2) awareness raising to differentiate water use for sanitation and drinking and fetching water from available sources as per the needs for sanitation.

Water, Sanitation & Rural Housing

- WATSAN of Light House

Initially with the help of BRAC, Light House has established a sanitation materials production centre in Dupchanchia Upazila, Bogra District, which covers 13 villages of 06 (six) unions. The Light House micro-credit programme also provides loans for beneficiaries to set up sanitary latrines. A sanitation system involves arrangements necessary to store, collect, process and delivers human wastes back to nature in a safe manner. Since inception of the project the rest of the project area have been set up, 2,359 of which have been sold at lump sum rates and distributed. In addition to this, 817 latrines have been installed by the beneficiaries through the micro-credit program. As a result, 3,250 sanitary latrine sets have been installed within 2013. All 3,250 households in Dupchanchia Upazila now have a sanitary latrine. Therefore, 3,250 households in Dupchanchia Upazila now have 100% sanitary latrine. As a result of Light House’s initiatives, 18,411 people are now living in safe and healthy environments. The project has the objectives to 1) ensure 100% sanitary latrine in the selected working areas during the project period, 2) to ensure 100% use of sanitary latrine by all peoples, and 3) to conduct awareness session among the targeted beneficiaries. In order implement the project smoothly the project has started producing Sanitary Latrine goods (Ring-slab) since the beginning and distributes and sells the Sanitary Latrine goods (Ring-slab) with clear set targets.

Linkage for ensuring water have been developed following two strategies; 1) established linkage with various sources including the government and 2) awareness raising to differentiate water use for sanitation and drinking and fetching water from available sources as per the needs for sanitation.

- Rural Housing

Rural Housing Project.

Light House started implementing the program from 2001 with the assistance of GOB (Housing Fund-Bangladesh Bank) in Kahaloo and Dupchanchia Upazila of Bogra district with the objective to ensure low-cost and healthy house for homeless and hardcore poor and also victim of disaster and natural calamity. This project aims to ensure low-cost and healthy houses for the homeless, hardcore poor and victims of natural disasters. A huge number of people in Bangladesh have lost their homes due to poverty and the devastating impact of natural disasters. A home is a basic right and the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) is seeking to address this right by providing housing loans for the homeless. Light House is one of the organisation is working with to implement the program. The principal objectives of sanitation program are to maintain and improve public health and to minimize environmental pollution. The project has the following winning activities; those help the project to get 100% recovery of the loan. Those are: 1) participatory process for member selection, 2) systematic housing loan distribution and collection.

Structurally, the traditional rural houses in Bangladesh may be grouped in seven types: choushala (four rooms on four raised sides and a uthan or open space in the middle); britighar (the house and all its rooms fenced within one boundary); atchala (house with eight roofs, four over the main building and four over the verandas attached on each side), postaghar (house constructed on elevated platform); dishala bandh ghar (house of two large rooms on two separate platforms and an open space between them); susthita ghar (house surrounded by verandas on all four sides; and house of the tribal people. This project provides britighar to its beneficiaries. Since inception of the project, Tk. 995,000 has been distributed as housing loans among 43 beneficiaries provided by the Bangladesh Bank. To date, Tk. 995,000 has been returned to the GOB Housing Fund. The beneficiaries of this project paid their loan to Light House in due time so that the recovery rate of this project is 100%.
Livelihood & Climate Change

- Livelihood Programs

- Empowering Widows Through Developing Sustainable Livelihoods and Entrepreneurship Project

The project - Empowering Widows through Developing Sustainable Livelihoods and Entrepreneurship project has started its journey with the financial support of Australian Agency for International Development (AUS-AID) for the period of February 2013 to October 2013 in Kahaloo Upazila of Bogra district with the goal to address poverty amongst households headed by widows through provision of livestock as assets and start-up capital for their livelihoods and self-dependence having five separate objectives as: 1) to provide a source of income for widow headed poor families and promote their entrepreneurial skills as stage to economic independence; 2) to empower the most vulnerable widows to manage their economic situation and breakthrough the chain of poverty thus gain access to basic needs; 3) to promote livestock farming as an alternative livelihood equally manageable by women; 4) to change in attitudes towards women and enhance their role in economic emancipation and social development; and 5) to increase the number of beneficiaries gradually and expand intervention area.

The project has focused on 4,500 widow headed families of the mentioned Upazilla. Out of the given number, due to limited resources, the project directly worked with 275 widow headed families at this phase. The rest of the widow headed families have started repeatedly asking for support to the project staff since the closing of this project. Considering the number of widows and their demand, we want to extend the program and cover another 150 widows under the program and are feeling encouraged asking further support to the Australian High Commissioner to Bangladesh. His Excellency Dr. Justin Lee, honorable High Commissioner of Australian to Bangladesh attended in the sheep’s and poultry distribution ceremony as Chief Guest. During the visit, the beneficiaries, who attended the programme, also requested him enthusiastically to extend the program and cover the rest of the widow headed households of the program area.

Widow headed Households in pursuit of Sustainable livelihoods seeks to address the economic vulnerability that women, especially widows in the program area have repeatedly found themselves engulfed. This project views poverty as a major contributor to powerlessness, thus a fertile ground for deprivation, discrimination, lack of access to basic needs and above all, exposure to human rights violations. Therefore the project is designed to address poverty amongst households headed by widows through provision of livestock as asset and start-up capital for their livelihoods and self-dependence.

The widow headed households have been identified in collaboration with the Union Parishad and Department of women affairs (DWA). The project constructed shed. Out of the identified widow headed households, comparatively vulnerable ones were included in various groups. The project provided 275 widows with 825 sheeps with the condition that 25% of the benefits will kept in their funds to expand their shed for the inclusion of new widows with the hope that all widow headed families would gradually in covered under the project in future. With the help of Upazila Livestock Office, Light House provided 02 days training on Livestock management and marketing to the targeted beneficiaries. The Key stakeholders of the project were the Local Government Representatives, Upazila Women’s Affairs Officer and Upazila Livestock Officer along with the project and organizational team members of Light House.
It has created opportunity of income generation for the beneficiaries and they are now economically empowered. Their capacity to manage economic activities independently has increased as well. They are now the owners of productive assets in the farm of livestock that has restored their self-worth, elevate them out of the dependence syndrome that is not only degrading, but also perpetuates their vulnerability to abuse. It is proved that the widows have productive potentials and they can transfer it to other fields also. By doing this they have crossed the line of dependence and impoverishment. The widows have started using part of their income for the education of their children and other social development activities and leading healthier life. The numbers of livestock have increases and the people have become interested to rear sheep for income in the project area. The skills and capacity of the widows have also been upgraded to a great extent through training and motivation. Widows are no more burdens in their society; their dignity has also been increased in the society. Unity, integrity and solidarity of the Widows have been enhanced due to the formation of groups. Ultimately widows are come back from their misery life. Now the beneficiaries are getting services from the livestock offices without difficulty.

- **Livestock for increasing Food Security Project**

The project for increasing Food Security is an innovation of Light House as the organization has invested its overhead earnings in this project with the goal to contribute to feed security for establishing a cattle firm to reduce protein deficiency and to contribute in availability of milk & meat in the market. The project has started its journey in September 2008 and is still continuing with the same vision. Cattle farming are a way of rearing cattle for profitable production of milk and meat. It is also a systematic way of cattle management which deals with proper feeding, breeding, and housing of the cattle and also taking preventive measures against diseases and parasitic infestations. However, in Bangladesh cattle is mostly reared as a component of traditional crop-based mixed farming or as a source of traction power and manure. Light House started this program in Spetember-2008 and continuing the program for addressing the goal and to increasing food security by rearing dairy cattle's and beef fattening through beneficiaries of the program. In this project Light House purchase yearling local cattle & yearling bull calves from Hat and disburse to the beneficiaries for 3-4 months and also support medical treatment cost for the cattle's. After completion the fattening of the cattle's then the beneficiary sold the cattle with the help of Light House's staffs. As a result the beneficiaries got a handsome benefit in a short time. On the other hand purchase dairy cattle’s from Hat and disburse to the beneficiaries for the time of 5-6 months and also support medical treatment cost for the cattle's. After completion of fattening of the dairy cattle’s then they sold the cattle with the help of Light House's staffs. Science inception Light House purchased 509 cattle and disbursed to beneficiaries for rearing and sold a total 506 cattle. The key stakeholders of the project are Upazilla Livestock Office, Local Government Representatives and the relevant staff of the organization, while the major beneficiaries of the project are the rural women of the area. The project works through identification of the members to distribute the purchased Cattle for rearing. Once the cattle are fattened and produced more, than the issue of marketing comes, where the project personnel help the beneficiaries for marketing and helping to the beneficiaries for reinvestment with proper planning. A total of 509 members reared cattle in the reporting year, while 506 members have developed their skill of livestock maintenance and marketing. The members have deposited savings for untimely feeding their cattle.
SME Initiative for Poverty Reduction

Micro Credit for SME

- Micro Credit Project of Light House

Light House has been working on Micro Credit from the viewpoint of social business to assist the small scale entrepreneurs to grow and nursing their own thoughts and initiatives on their own. Light House has started the project in May 2012 at 06 Unions of Kahaloo Upazila under Bogra district, 05 Unions of Rangpur Sadar Upazila under Rangpur district and 3 Unions of Chilmary Upazila of Kurigram district using the organization’s own source of funding. Light House has been implementing Income Generation Activities (IGA) in order to empower landless and disadvantaged poor villagers, especially women in both urban and rural areas. We provide assistance to the beneficiaries for promoting income generating activities.

Since 1993 Light House motivates grass roots poor people to establish a decision-making system in their family and society, organizes the poor into groups, conducts awareness development campaigns and helps the poor to identify various issues relating to the economic stability as well as to protect human rights. Light House applied to the Micro Credit Regularity Authority for provisional approval earlier to operate the program, by now we received the permission to conduct this program. The project has the goal to improve the socio economic conditions of poor, marginalized and vulnerable people and thereby decrease the number of people living in or below the poverty line with the objectives of promoting of income generating activities (IGA), developed human resources, and poverty alleviation.

Income generating Activities (IGA)

- Poverty Reduction of Rural Women through IGA Project

Light House has been implementing Income Generation Activities (IGA) in order to empower landless and disadvantaged poor villagers, especially women in both urban and rural areas. Light House is providing assistance to the beneficiaries for promoting income generating activities support by BRAC, Proshika, GTZ and own sources. From inception, Light House motivates grass roots poor people to establish a decision-making system in their family and society, organizes the poor into groups, conducts awareness development campaigns and helps the poor to identify various issues relating to the economic stability as well as to protect human rights. The project working areas are in 06 Unions of Kahaloo Upazila under Bogra, 05 Unions of Rangpur Sadar and 3 Unions of Chilmary Upazila of Kurigram. the project works with the goal is to empower women through improving the socio economic conditions of them and thereby decrease the number of people living below poverty line in the working areas.

The prime beneficiaries of the project are the rural poor women, while the key stakeholders are Local Government Representatives, Local Administration as the project involves them with a holistic and comprehensive development views.

The project has 144 groups and the members of the groups are interested to save money for joint initiatives and their savings collection is 100%. The groups use their money for their own income generating activities and the rate of their own disbursement and collection are also 100%. After realizing the installments more than 573 women beneficiaries have developed their economic condition by now despite of adverse conditions.
Organizational Structure & Management

Light House is a leading national non-political and not for profit voluntary development organization in Bangladesh has been working in the development sectors of Bangladesh since 1988. It has now emerged as a Right based Platform to address the Basic Human Rights and Legal Aids Services, Democracy & Good Governance, Health Systems Strengthening, Poverty Reduction, Livelihood, Emergencies and Disaster Management and Climate Change Responses particularly for asset-less, vulnerable and most at risk groups people.

Light House has been working with different national and International Development Partners, NGOs/agencies and Department/Ministries of the government of Bangladesh. Light House has developed set of policies and procedures - personnel manual, financial manual, procurement policy, gender policy, strategic plan etc., various tires of operational management for good governance in order to run smooth operation of the organization. The organization maintains gender balance at organizational level and priority is given to the women. The performance of the staff is appraised annually and action taken accordingly. As a result, the works and contribution of Light House has highly been appreciated and accepted by various development partners, donors and agencies. Followings are the details for governance and management of light House:

Management Structure

A four-tier management structure comprising project staff, policy staff, the Light House Executive Committee and stakeholders enables the organization to run its programmes smoothly:

To ensure the participation of different segments of society, a 29-person General Committee has been established. This committee includes male and female policy makers and representatives from marginal groups. This committee meets once a year.

The Light House Executive Committee comprises seven members, who are elected in annual general meeting for three years. This committee meets every three months or as and when necessary to take policy decisions.

A central management committee consists of all project heads and senior officers headed by chief executive are working to oversee Program implementation. The detailed organogram with key sections and positions is placed below of this section.

Some project has a Project Facilitating Team (PFT), comprised of appropriate stakeholders including government officials with relevant Project Manager. Each PFT meets on a quarterly basis. Each project is generally guided by a Team Leader/Project Manager/Project Coordinator and maintains project hierarchy following its own organogram. The project heads submits report to the Chief/Deputy Chief Executive who, in turn, report to the Light House Executive Committee, relevant government departments and donor organizations. Each project has its own action plan and the staffs follow it and responsible to achieve the planned actions. They conduct regular meetings with different stakeholders and monitor project activities as per project design. Project and financial reports are duly prepared and shared with respective stakeholders.

Human Resources

Light House HRM Division is headed by Director- HR & Admin and supported by Assistant Director Admin & HR & Admin Assistants. The organization has developed different policies and manuals such as human resource management and administrative policy, financial manual, procurement policy, gender policy, strategic plan, information disclosure policy, etc. All these have been approved by the management and we strongly follow the policies, rules and regulations of these manuals / policies. We try to maintain gender balance at organizational level and priority is given to the women. The performance of the staff is appraised annually and action taken accordingly.
Light House has a good number of professional staff working in different projects and in head office. They are acquainted with their duties & responsibilities. Necessary capacity building trainings are provided to the staff to build up an efficient team. They have good relations with the elected representatives, local elites, local government officials and executing programs/projects with their cooperation and assistance. Annual report of the organization is published every year highlighting the achievement of the organization. Annual/Closing reports along with best practice are being prepared and submitted to the donors as well as to the respective department of the government according to the requirements. Quarterly news letter also published with current achievements, case studies of different projects.

**Monitoring & Evaluation**

The organization has a separate M&E unit headed by the Director, M&E, who is responsible to coordinate among the project heads working under the organization. There are monitoring officers assigned to collect monitoring reports from different projects and after compilation, they submit the report to the Director for review and comments. At the organizational level there is a common monitoring format developed by M&E wing through consultation and discussion with project heads considering their needs. After collecting reports from the projects, consolidation is done using the format. The Director after giving his inputs submits it to the management for information and necessary action. At the management level, monthly coordination meeting is held in each month and the compiled report is presented in the meeting. In this meeting all heads of projects are remain present and made a wide range discussion about the progress, problems and find out solutions to overcome the problems. In some projects, the monitoring formats have been given by the donor and that are being used for collecting information from the field. They compiled all field information at head quarter and send it directly to the donor with a copy to the Chief Executive. In some project, the responsibility is given to the project to design monitoring tools for monitoring. In such cases the project heads in collaboration with the M&E unit design monitoring tools/formats based on project needs. The formats are being used to collect information by the field staff. After collecting information they compiled it at their level and send to the project heads.

The reports are compiled at project level and transmit to the M&E unit for review. In each project there is a provision of organizing monthly coordination meeting with the all staff of the project. The monthly coordination meetings are held regularly and intensive discussions are held about the physical and financial progress and problems. In the coordination meeting monthly work plans are developed for the next month and necessary directions are given to the staff. At the field level, the project supervisors are making field visits to monitor the activities of the project and to learn the views from target beneficiaries. There is another mechanism we follow that is self evaluation by the target beneficiaries about their works by themselves. In respect of information flow for monitoring purpose, the information flow is made at three tires i.e from beneficiaries level to the field staff, from field staff to project office, from project office to project head quarter and from project head quarter to the management/donor. We follow the process of participatory monitoring at all level while doing this task. Evaluation is an important task during and after the completion of project. It helps to know the strengths and weaknesses and changes needs to be made for future projects. There are two ways of evaluation/assessment of the project. In some project there is provision for conducting midterm and final evaluation. Sometimes it is done by the donor according to the provision of contract. In some cases it is being done by the organization and submits report to the donor. So to conduct evaluation we follow the provision of the contract made with the funding agencies. In case of evaluation to be done by the organization, M&E unit is assigned to carry out all about the
evaluation process and prepare report to transmit to the donor for their suggestions and comments. Based on the findings, appropriate actions are taken. The suggestions and comments made by the donor are taken into consideration while restructuring/extension of the project. The annual reports are submitted to the donor according the provision of contract. However, it is done quarterly, half yearly and annually based on requirements. Financial reports are also submits following the same process.

Financial Management

Finance section is headed by Director Finance and supported by the finance specialist, finance manager, finance officers and Assistants who manage the financial aspects of the organization. The organization has been successfully dealing with the financial aspects of different donors. An external audit firm audited the financial statements of the organization in each year and the reports are available. Light House has developed a standard financial manual with the cooperation of professional detailing financial procedures to be followed for keeping accounts properly. The accounts of the organization are maintained in proper manner following the rules of the manual. There is a team of efficient personnel to manage and control financial transactions. Computerized accounting system and software is being maintained at head office. Trial balance, income and expenditure statements and the balance sheet are being prepared through computerized accounting system.

Operation of Bank Account

Every office and project maintains separate bank accounts for financial transactions. The project heads and Chief Executive jointly operate these accounts according to the financial manual. Any amount of cash in hand beyond the ceiling amount is strongly discouraged.

Auditing

The accounts of the organization are audited every year by Chartered Accounting Firms and the report is placed before in the annual general meeting as the management is accountable to the general committee. We try our utmost to keep the financial management transparent to all parties concerned. The internal financial control system has been established in the organization. An internal audit team headed by Internal Auditor is doing the task. He is directly responsible to the Chief Executive. All the projects accounts and other accounts running under the organization are audited by the Internal Audit team and reports submitted to the Chief Executive for proper initiatives. The General committee selects a chartered accountant firm for auditing the accounts of the organization every year. Executive committee proposes a panel of auditing firms in the AGM to select a firm. The financial status of Light House as on December 31, 2013 reflects from the Balance Sheet placed below in the financial section.

Light House’s Partners & Contributors

Light expresses their heartfelt Thanks and Appreciation to all of their valuable Development Partners, Donors and respected Government Counterparts for their precious Supports and Encouragements throughout the journey of development. Without the supports of the followings, it would have been impossible to be today’s Light House.

Our valued Implementing partners are also very important for us, we use to form consortium to mobilise fund and implement project together. These are: Marries Stopes, KMSS, ACLAB, NDP, Pabna Protishsurti, WARD, Bahumukhi Polliunnayan Songtha, AVAS etc.

Key Challenges & Opportunities –
Challenges

- The biggest and continued challenge of Light House is the resource constraint and mobilization of resources. Light House as a benevolent and not for profit NGO have been facing enormous obstacle in managing some small but very important program activities implementing at local level by Light House own funding which are very limited. International donor’s and funding agencies usually don’t fund of those activities. We feel pity to say /announce that corporate business groups at regional level and national level shows interest, talks about social responsibilities, but not interested in financing projects/programs/activities etc. For example, campaign against smoking, road safety, child and early marriage/eave teasing and violence against women, emergency relief to disaster-effected population during their need. We have failed and learnt it after approaching to many in vain. So, unmet demand for underprivileged/vulnerable population and social issues remain almost un/under addressed for want of resources.

- Secondly, International donor/grant financing agencies have their own identified areas and funded to very scarcely budgeted project. Many of them unlike EU, USAID and others, now wanted a good percentage (10-30%) of cost sharing in the projects- which is almost impossible to manage by small and medium level NGOs.

- Most Donor/ Contracting agencies on behalf of donors reluctant or unwilling to provide overhead cost, if provides with very limited amount (3-5% in case basis) by which implementing NGOs’ routine activities even for that particular project become difficult. Most managing agencies cut budgets several times, but wanted the output in total. It may be the case these intermediate agencies between donor and a implementing NGOs spent more fund as their management cost and their own cost goes higher & higher.

- Reimbursement of funds by donor/managing agencies, like World Bank’s IDA fund through GOB (Ministry/Directorate/Projects- AGB) is a very clumsy, time consuming for unnecessary delaying process. Light House have to take loan from bank against interest for making quarterly expenditure of a AIDS prevention project.

- Last but not the least, Human resource deployment and capacity development areas for NGO’s workers is another important unmet challenge growing fast. All projects require qualified, experienced well trained and skill staff. But unfortunately, now a days most agencies deny to provide training/capacity development cost for the staff. Because of law salary structure are also very minimal that staff turn –over become very high in NGO sector. These are the major challenges for the organization.

Opportunities

Despite many challenges, Light House still have the opportunity to overcome those. It has a potential wide canvass that already create options for longer term work with in country and outside. Existing multiple donors and development partner can always share and certify about our credible work to other donors for working with Light House and that may help to minimize gaps between needs and support for making sustainable the organization and continue working for underprivileged and unserved population.
Organizational Structure & Management

General Committee

Executive Committee

Chief Executive

Deputy Chief Executive

Internal Audit Department & Consultants (Legal/Media etc.)

Director Program/Team Leader

Director, Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation/Training

Director, HRM & Admin

Director, Finance

Deputy Director (DD)/Project Manager

DD/Specialist- M&E, Training & Advocacy

*DD-HRM & Admin

DD-Fin/Specialist

AD-Project/Program Officer/Dist. facilitator/ Medical Officer

AD/Training/ Training Officer

AD-M&E M&E Officer

AD/Admin Officer/ Liaison Officer

AD-Fin/ Fin. Officer

Audit Officer

DIC/IHC Manager/Upazila Coordinator/DIC Coordinator

Training Associate

M&E Associate

Peer Outreach Coordinator/Supervisor/ Counselor/Paramedic/Branch Manager

Outreach Worker/Health Educator/ Community Organizer/Mobilizer

Admin Assistant

Finance Assistant

Driver

Messenger/Peon/Guard

*Position shall be filled up when it is needed and subject to availability of fund
### Financial Statement

**Light House**  
Jahurul Nagar, Bogra  
**Consolidated Balance Sheet**  
**As at 31 December 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Amount in Taka</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets &amp; Properties:</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Fixed Assets (Written down Value)</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>23,789,086</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Loan to Beneficiaries</td>
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<td>C. Current Assets</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Loan and Advances</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>372,932</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>18,524,109</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Current Liabilities</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Insurance</td>
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<td>897,114</td>
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<td>2. Group Savings</td>
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<td>3. Staff Security</td>
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<td>4. Provident Fund</td>
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<td>5. Reserve for Loan Loss</td>
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<td>6. Account Payable</td>
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<td>7. Down Payment for Motor Cycle</td>
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<td>E. Net Current Assets (C-D)</td>
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<td>Total:</td>
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<td>9,408,965</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>43,042,271</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fund &amp; Liabilities:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Capital and Reserve</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Long Term Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td></td>
<td>43,042,271</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The attached notes from an integral part of these financial statements.

Finance Director  
Chief Executive

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date annexed.

27 February 2014  
Dhaka

A. MATIN & CO.  
Chartered Accountants
The Way Forward –

The management of Light House encourages upholding the growth of the organization in order to maintain the people’s ‘Trust’ and ‘Expectations’ on Light House without compromising the ‘quality’, which is the vertebral column of Light House. The Chief Executive of Light House has rightly briefed with focuses on several issues including i) strengthening systems and ii) people’s rights, content, innovation and service provisions opting results and positive impact on people’s lives and society. In order to materialize the visionary directions and embracing challenges and changes, we will design our next strategic plan with achievable Development Goals and Objectives along with special focus on Organizational & long-term Human Resource Development Goals and Objectives keeping in the center of our focus. The skeleton of the thoughts will be outlined in the upcoming strategic plan, while the details approached and other plans including resources planning will also be built in the respective associated plans.

The Development Goals and Objectives may have the focus on 1) Health and Population Services 2) Protect and Promote Human Rights & Legal Rights; 3) Good Governance & Democracy; 4) Emergencies & Disaster Management; and 5) Livelihood through Strengthening Community with the views to contribute in poverty alleviation and development of the country among others; while the Organizational & long-term Development Human Resource Development Goals and Objectives may have the focus on Institution and Capacity Building. The component of Institution Building may have focus on a) Education i.e. School, College with Vocational Institutions; b) Health i.e. Clinic and Hospital building along with technical skill building scopes, and Drug Research and Treatment Center with the provision of integration and rehabilitation of the ex-drug users.

We know that how we do work is as important as what we do; which is at the heart of our Believe with Better ethos - a commitment to constant renewal and improvement in everything we do. Consequently, we wish to work together for the good cause of and for others and the organizational development to persist the drive with the aim to make our work and contribution immortal as reiterated by the honorable Chairperson of Light House, “what we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal”!