

New Projects April - June, 2019

Enhancing Community Capacity and Resilience to Promote Female Migrant Workers Rights in Bangladesh" Supported by British High Commission.

Responsive Local Govt. Units for Marginalized People (Responsible) project. Supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation.

Promoting Peace and Justice- Bogura and Tangail district, Supported by USAID/ Democracy International.

Youth Exchange Program, Supported by The FK Norway

Light House and Community Support Group (CSG) have been implementing project titled "Development of Youth Leaders to Engage in SRH" from June 2019, supported by The FK Norway. Exchange of knowledge, experience, best practices across the south-south region is one of the major components of this program. Currently six youth volunteers got involved with Community Support Group (CSG), Pokhara, Nepal as part of exchange program. Through this exchange program, the project tries to develop future youth leaders by creating opportunity for them to learn the cultural diversity across south-south region; regional SRH including HIV prevention program, typology and diversity of the key population and to share good practices and experiences.

Besides, the Chief Executive, Light House and Executive Director, CSG participated the Youth Summit-2019 in Hurdal, Oslo of Norway in June 2019, organized by the NOREC of Norwegian Government. Over 120 participants from 24 project of several countries from North and south America, Africa, Asia were participated.



Leadership Training for the Leaders of Community Based Organizations

Light House organized a 2-day long leadership training for the selected members of community based organization of the female sex workers where participated 29. The objective was to allow community leaders for reflecting on, reinforcing, and practicing their values as well as building their knowledge and using resources to improve community performance in addressing gender based violence (GBV), supporting sexual reproductive health rights (SRHR) including HIV prevention activities and ensuring its oversights. The training held in the conference room of NGO Forum Lalmatia, Dhaka in June, 2019.

Leadership Training for the Leaders of Community Based Organizations, Supported by The Global Fund, Female Sex Worker's

Mainstreaming Key Population, an advocacy meeting at Narayanganj district, Supported by The Global Fund



Advocacy meeting with mainstreaming key population at Narayanganj district

Light House organized a District Level Advocacy Meeting titled "Mainstreaming Key Population" in the conference room of Civil Surgeon Office, Narayanganj on June 25, 2019 where participated a total of 27 GO/NGO service delivery level decision makers. The purpose of the meeting were to create an opportunity for mainstreaming the key population through strengthening referral linkage and using National Social Security Support (NSSS) of Bangladesh Government. Representatives from Civil Surgeon Office, Sader Upazila Health Complex, Family Planning Department, Visual Inspection of Acetic acid (VIA) center, city corporation's health authority; department of social services and civil society representatives (media, brac, Marie stopes service centers (MCSC), Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB), Bandhu Social Welfare Society (BSWS), AkhsayNariShangho, Bangladesh Women's Health Coalition (BWHC), ManobKallayan Parishad, KllayaniSebaShangstha, CARE Bangladesh were present in the meeting. The civil surgeon, Narayanganj district chaired the meeting.



Sensitization meeting to address stigma and discrimination of key population, Supported by The Global Fund

Light House (MSM/TG Intervention) organized a total of 18 district level sensitization meeting in June 2019 in regards to reduce stigma and discrimination against the key population where participated 395 stakeholders like Law Enforcement Agency (Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police), Civil Surgeon, Lawyers, academicians, Journalists, Local Elected Bodies, Health Service Providers, Religious Leaders, Human Rights Activists, etc. In order to create access to health services as well as to reduce GBV, Light House organized the meeting. The meeting helped in expanding referral linkage with the GO and NGO facilities and found most of the organization showed interest about how they can provide support to HIV program beneficiaries. These meetings also have created environment to get better health services from Government and private health service providers.

Consultation meeting with the legal and counseling service providers to address the Gender Based Violence and providing legal services to the KPs, Supported by The Global Fund.

In order to address the Human Rights, Light House conducted a consultation meeting with legal and counseling service providers in June 2019 for creating an enabling environment and providing legal services to the Key Population who are vulnerable to HIV and gender based violence (GBV). The meeting held in the Light House Office, Bogura, where 11 participants participated from Bogura, Chapai Nawabganj, Rajshahi, Sirajganj, Rangpur and Dinajpur. Mr. Shariful Islam, Legal Aid Officer and Sr. Assistant Judge Bogura participated as Chief Guest of the meeting. The legal aid professionals including District Legal Aid Officer and Sr. Assistant Judge; Sr. Advocates; Member of District Legal aid Committee; Legal Counselor from counseling service providers; Principal of Law College, Bogura; Coordinator Bangladesh Legal Aid & Services Trust; etc. participated in the meeting.



Consultation meeting with the legal and counseling service providers to address the Gender Based Violence and providing legal services at Bogura

Inauguration Meeting of Safe Shelter Home, SRH Services for the Refugees and Host Community in Cox's Bazar district, Supported by UNHCR.



Inauguration Meeting of Safe Shelter Home, SRH Services for the Refugees and Host Community in Cox's Bazar district

Light House inaugurated the Safe Shelter Home on 6th May, 2019 in Cox's Bazar Sader with the purpose to support the victims of sexual gender-based violence (SGBV), trafficking, etc. Md Adibul Islam, Additional Police Super of Cox's Bazar was present as Chief Guest of the inaugural programme. Ms. Sandra Harlass, Public Health Officer of UNHCR and representatives from Save the Children and IOM were also present as special guest. Beside the other GO/NGO representatives including media were participated the inaugural programme. Mr. K.S.M. Tarique, Deputy Chief Executive, Light House briefed about the purpose and facilities of the Safe Shelter Home and responded to the questions of the participants.

Life Skill Training, SRH Services for the Refugees and Host Community in Cox's Bazar district, Supported by UNHCR.



Life Skill Training for the Refugees and Host Community in Cox's Bazar district

The project organized Life Skills Training particularly for the Most At Risk Adolescent (MARA) who are at higher risk of HIV and STI transmission and also for the Especially Vulnerable Adolescent (EVA) who are potential to sex work. The purpose of the training was to reduce risks and to flourish their abilities and to cope with life threatening situations they face to survive. Multiple batches of life skill training conducted for the period of April to June, 2019 covering 150 participants.

Meeting on Sustainable Program Plan Development for Brothel Settings and Sharing Meeting with the Stakeholders. Supported by UNFPA

In order to reduce the health burden regarding the Sexual and Reproductive Health & HIV among the Brothel Based Female Sex Workers' Light House has been implementing the project named "Sustainable Integrated SRH & HIV Prevention Management for BBFSWs" at 11 Brothel in Bangladesh targeting 3,856 Female Sex Workers. The sex workers living in the brothels are at high risk of HIV/ AIDS and their basic needs relating to FP, safe MR and abortion services, cervical and breast cancer screening and its management, HIV testing, counseling, PMTCT, STI management are violated.



Meeting on Sustainable Program Plan Development for Brothel Settings and Sharing Meeting with the Stakeholders

Light House facilitated micro plan development process with the Executive Committees of the community based organizations (CBOs) of each brothel for creating a sustainable atmosphere at brothel settings in terms of SRH including HIV prevention services. Through this micro plan development process; CBO leaders were able to identify the issues where they can contribute and what support they require from the outside stakeholders. The plan includes that the CBOs will facilitate income generation activities for the future sustainability to continue SRH including HIV prevention activities at least at minimum level through (i) social marketing of health products and pharmaceuticals; (ii) providing clinical services by the CBO established clinical service facilities; (iii) collecting monthly subscription from the brothel residents (kind of health insurance); (iv) running tailoring and other small business, etc. and (v) beside they expects one more year support from the UNFPA in regards to support for human resource and clinical supplies, office rents, exposure visit to Sonagachi project of India, etc. On the other hand, monthly doctor's support including satellite session for Ca cervix (cervical cancer) screening from the Civil Surgeon Offices, legal aid support from the GOB district and Upazila legal Aid offices, harassment reduction support from the LEAs, satellite session on family planning counseling and method support from Family Planning department of Bangladesh Government, etc. they requested for from the GOB stakeholders. ***Its to note that, The Executive Committee of Jamalpur and Tangail based CBOs decided to contribute office rent by their own from January 2020.*** This entire plan what the CBOs developed was shared with the local GO/NGO stakeholders through organizing a stakeholder meeting in between May and June 2019 which got appreciation and the GOB stakeholders expressed their commitment to support the brothels for future sustainability. The sharing meetings were chaired by the respective district's Civil Surgeon, Upazilla Health and Family Planning Officer, Upazilla Family Planning Officer, Upazilla Woman Affairs Officer, SP/ASP, Journalist, District legal aid officer, as well as representative of NGOs.

Fruit Festival and Parents Meeting, Light House School of Learning and Diversity, Bogura

Light House School of Learning and Diversity organized fruit festival and parents meeting at school campus in June 2019. The students, teachers, staffs and parents took part and enjoyed the event. School committee members, Vice President of Light House School of Learning and diversity as well as Md. Harun-or Rashid, Chief Executive, Light House were joined to celebrate annual fruit festival.



Fruit Festival and Parents Meeting, Light House School of Learning and Diversity, Bogura

A long discussion in the parents meeting on the different issues among the parents and especially Md. Harun-Or Rashid, CE of Light House delivered speech in the parent's meeting and advised the parents about how to guide and look after the children. He also thanked the all students and teachers for organizing such a wonderful event and taking part spontaneously.



Our mailing address is:

Head Office: Jahurulnagar, Bogra-5800, Bangladesh; Tel: +88 051 66246

Dhaka Office: House-3 (Level-4), Road-17, Block-E, Banani, Dhaka 1213, Bangladesh

email: info@lighthousebd.org, Tel: +88 02 8836323, <http://www.lighthousebd.org>