

# Annual Report 2017

January-December 2017

## IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh

An International Initiative Against Avoidable Disablement



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IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh (IFB) started its journey in 1993 with the inspiration and support from Late Sir John Wilson, CBE, DCL, the architect of the Global IMPACT Movement, an international initiative against avoidable disablement. IMPACT brings together activities which already exist at international, national and community levels, strengthening and extending them.

Late Shafat Ahmed Chaudhuri was the first Actuary of independent Bangladesh and Chairman of Delta Life Insurance Company was the Founding Chairman of Board of Trustees of IFB who guided us with his proven leadership skills. Late Professor Dr. Mainul Haque was the Director, Institute of Appropriate Technology of BUET who initiated the first field project of IFB in Chuadanga district. Dr. Haque's enormous effort and utmost dedication is still our inspiration for moving forward.

IFB is registered as a Charitable Trust with registration number 45, dated 25th July 1993, and also as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with the NGO Affairs Bureau, Government of Bangladesh, bearing registration number 775, dated 20th November 1993. It is an independent national Foundation and also a member of International Federation of IMPACT Organizations (IFIO), a global initiative against avoidable disablement. IFB is governed by a 5-member Board of Trustees. The Foundation's programs are implemented and managed on a day to day basis by a team of 225 staffs and many volunteers, headed by the Director.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates approximately 15% of the total population have a disability of one kind or another in Bangladesh is one of those countries. Disability on this scale

represents not only a major health problem but also a prime cause of poverty and underdevelopment. But the notion that prevention of avoidable disability through simple interventions with existing knowledge and technology could be one of the most effective means of poverty reduction in the poor countries and communities.

IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh envisions a Bangladeshi society free from disability and poverty where people are able to fully realize the potentials of their lives. IFB has been implementing different projects in the south-west region and riverine rural areas through IMPACT Jibon Tari Floating Hospital, IMPACT Masudul Haque Memorial Community Health Centre (IMCHC), IMPACT Jibon Mela Health Center and Sir Jon Wilson Assistive Device Centre. Moreover, in 2013, IFB has established IMPACT Nursing Institute and introduce 3-years Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery Certification course to empower rural female students in nursing profession. Through these facilities, IFB offers a wide range of healthcare, educational and training services aimed at prevention and cure of disability. These services include, but not limited to primary health care through out-patients clinics and satellite clinics, surgery (primarily eye, orthopedic, ENT, plastic) for cure of disability, supply of assistive devices to restore mobility, immunization for women and children, awareness raising on health nutrition and sanitation, antenatal and postnatal check-up, training for Traditional Birth Attendants(TBA), training on early detection of disability for the school teachers, home gardens development at household level for nutrition supplementation and income generation, and safe drinking water and arsenic mitigation programs.

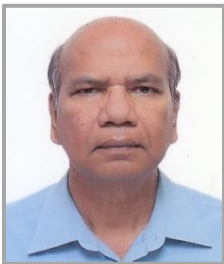
## Board of Trustees



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A renowned Banker and  
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**Mahub Alam**

Trustee

An Entrepreneur,  
Chairman, B.S. Group,  
Dhaka and a Social Worker

## PROJECTS OF IMPACT FOUNDATION BANGLADESH

**IMPACT 'Jibon Tari' Floating Hospital**, a unique venture and the first of its in Bangladesh, which has gained huge popularity over the years. It started its journey on the 10th April, 1999, from the riverbank of Mawa in Munshiganj district. The aim is to bring surgical and medical treatment to areas accessible by river, where there are no hospitals and/or few medical facilities. Every year, forty thousand over patients received medical treatment and more than two thousand five hundred patients undergo different surgeries to prevent disabilities. IJT also provides training to traditional birth attendants, school teachers, NGO/Health workers, community leaders in order to promote awareness in rural communities as well as detection the disability and then, the responsibilities when IJT move to another place.



At present, 'Jibon Tari' floating hospital is running its 53<sup>rd</sup> project and has already covered 32 locations of 21 districts along different rivers of the country.



### **IMPACT Masudul Haque Memorial Community Health Centre (IMCHC)**

has been in operation in Chuadanga district since 1995. The Centre provides multiple services to the poor communities in Chuadanga and the neighboring districts. It provides healthcare services at Out Patients Department (OPD) at static hospital and satellite clinics in remote villages in all Upzillas of Chuadanga districts. Every year about forty thousand patients receive health care services from, about two thousand

patients get surgical operations to prevent disability. Over eight thousand pregnant, neo-mother and children receive ante and post-natal care; iron and folic acid; vaccination; vitamin A and other supplements. Moreover, an Eyecare unit with all kinds of modern eye test machines and a PHACO unit has been established recently to ensure the best quality services to the patients.

To empower and aware the community, IMCHC has developed 900 mother's club with 26,000 active members, who are all rural women. Moreover, IMCHC provides capacity building training to traditional birth attendants, school teachers, NGO/Health workers, community leaders, medical professionals etc.

**Sir John Wilson Assistive Device Center (SJWADC)** Chuadanga, established in 2004 is the sole specialized institution in Southwest region of Bangladesh, for the management of physical disability and chronic pain. SJWADC is manufacturing different kinds of orthotic and prosthetic devices to help persons with disabilities to enhance mobility and major products are artificial limbs, hand splints, CTEV brace etc.



SJWADC has a physiotherapy unit where certified and experienced physiotherapists are available to treat the patients. Basically, SJWADC provides physiotherapy services to the rural people while this service is even rare in urban areas. Over five thousand poor people are receiving physiotherapy services and about two thousand patients are receiving assistive devices care at their doorstep through SJWADC.

SJWADC has arranged taken various approaches to inform society such as hat mela and awareness program on assistive devices and physiotherapy services to rural medical practitioners.



**IMPACT Jibon Mela Health Centre (IJM)** has been established in 2004 to prevention and cure of disability in Meherpur district. IJM provides healthcare services at out patients department (OPD) and satellite clinics in remote village in all Upazilas of Meherpur district. More than thirty thousand patients received treatment, one thousand patients received surgical operations and about three thousand mothers received ante and post-natal care.

Besides, Jibon Mela provides community-based healthcare and capacity building services to rural people of the district. Total 300 mother's clubs, 6,600 members are enhancing their knowledge through health education session, nutritional training with cooking demonstration and empowered by establishing home garden and poultry rearing.

IMPACT Nursing Institute, an educational project, has been established in 2014, located in Meherpur district, the south-west region of Bangladesh. This is first nursing institute in that region of Bangladesh. The main objective of IMPACT Nursing Institute is to develop skilled human resources in health sector through providing standard nursing education to the rural girls and thus contribute in improving community health as well as alleviating poverty. The nursing institute offers three years Diploma in Nursing Science and Midwifery Course. Rural poor meritorious students, who have not enough financial ability to continue their education after Higher Secondary are getting opportunity to undertake this course. Most of the students of IMPACT Nursing Institution are from lower middle class and poor families.



First and second batch students have already completed their courses and comprehensive (Licensing/Preregistration) exam. At present, 60 students are studying in the institute.



IMPACT Jibon Jatra Medical van started to render its services on February 2016 to reach the remotest corners of Chuadanga, Meherpur and surrounding districts. This medical van is fully air-conditioned minibus with eye, gynae and orthopedic units. The ophthalmic unit is comprising of Auto refractometer, vision chart, trial lens set, torch etc; the gynae unit offers pre and post-natal care to pregnant and lactating mothers like TT vaccination, folic acid/iron tablet distribution, USG etc and the orthopedic unit comprises of portable physiotherapy machines and a range of assistive devices for people

with disabilities. Inside the medical van, there are 3 seats for screening and refraction and 3 seats for waiting patients, a patient's examination bed, portable ultrasound machine, BP machine, weighting machine and basic lab facilities for routine blood and urine tests.



# ANNUAL PERFORMANCE



**98,520** patients received treatment, among them 35,253 males, 59,183 females and 4,104 under five children.



**6,783** surgeries were performed, among them 2,958 males, 3,678 females and 147 under five children.



**5,754** cataract surgeries



**568** ear, nose and throat surgeries



**231** orthopedic surgeries



**100** cleft lip/palate surgeries



**10** hydrocephalus surgeries



**5** fistulae and **10** perineal tear surgeries

**122** other surgeries

**4,767** neo-mothers received ante and post-natal care



**3,495** mothers received folic acid, vitamin A, iron and calcium



**2,652** pregnant mothers and children were immunized

**1,200** mother's clubs actively participated in health education sessions all over the year



**40** women received **400** hens and cock with hencoops for rearing in Meherpur district



**20** families received goselings and ducklings in Chuadanga district





**1,776** new home gardens established



**400** women participated in nutrition training and cooking demonstration

**3,056** students' eye sight tested

**166** students received treatment

**4,721** patients received physiotherapy services



**3,003** patients took assistive devices

**111** children had got serial plaster

**5,711** people participated in the awareness program of SJWADC in 'hat mela'



**24** new tube wells installed

**12** toilets set up

**52** arsenic filters distributed

**377** schools teachers received



**751** TBAs received 7-day 'Basic Traditional Birth Attendant' training

**473** Community Leaders and **278** health workers received training on "Disability and Eye Care"

**100** and **99** rural medical practitioners



## OUR VALUABLE DONORS

### IMPACT FOUNDATION UK

IFB has been working as part of the International Federation of IMPACT Organizations (IFIO), a global initiative against avoidable disablement in Bangladesh since 1993. IFB provides clinical services; make awareness and develop the community; build the capacity among society etc. with the assistance of the IMPACT Foundation UK. IFB has provided healthcare services at out-patients department and sub-district offices, even mobile clinics set up in community to reach people with disability, old aged people, children and women.

To develop the community IMPACT Foundation UK has projected different community-based projects such as model village project, extended model eye care project, essential health project, family health project, community health project, installation of water plant for ensuring safe drinking water for community etc. In 2017, IFB successfully completed 5-years family health project in five villages under Damurhuda upzilla in Chuadanga district from 2013 to 2017 and the village health project in Chuadanga district.

### IMPACT NORWAY

#### Empowering Rural Poor Women and Improving Health Status of Women Through Promotion of Home Gardens in Meherpur District, Bangladesh

Poverty and malnutrition is interlinked. Though Bangladesh has impressively achieved seven percent economic growth rate over the past decade as well as remarkable progress in the areas of poverty alleviation. But, till now malnutrition is a serious public health problem in Bangladesh. According to the report of UNDESA (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs), the substantial malnutrition burden of Bangladesh is 41% stunting and 16% wasting across a population of 156.5 million. Malnutrition among women of reproductive age increases the risk of mortality during child birth and puts their new-born children at risk of long-term deficiencies. Women below the age of 20 and above the age of 34 are mostly likely to suffer from chronic energy deficiency. Improving nutritional status, including micronutrient status, can lead to increased productivity, increased child survival and growth, and reduced maternal morbidity and mortality. Diet diversification is arguably the most sustainable and affordable strategy to improve nutrition for most of the population -- particularly the poor. For poor households, vegetables and fruits are often the only source of micronutrients in the family diet. Homestead production of fruits, vegetables and chicken provide the household with direct access to important nutrients that may not be readily available or within their economic reach.



Under IMPACT Norway, IFB aims to prevent malnutrition, improve health and empower women in Meherpur district as it is designed to empower poor rural women through their capacity development for establishing home-garden and poultry rearing. This is the second phase of the project which has



started from March 2017 to December 2018. Total 800 members of different Mothers' Clubs are projected to be benefitted through home-gardening and nutrition trainings. Among them, 180 members is selected for poultry rearing and effective money management training. Regular consumption of vegetables and poultry rearing round the year will ensure balanced diet to those families, which will eventually reduce malnutrition rate as well as prevent diseases and disabilities. IFB's support consists of establishing and maintaining home-garden and poultry rearing along with bringing positive change in health seeking behavior.

#### IMPACT SWITZERLAND

#### 100 ENT Surgeries at IMPACT 'Jibon Tari' Floating Hospital

IMPACT Switzerland funded IFB to prevent disabilities in riverine areas through the IMPACT Jibon Tari (IJT) Floating Hospital from April to September 2017. IJT organized 6 ENT camps for rural men and women especially those had been suffering from ear and nose related problems and that was causing disability and disruption of their daily lives. Among 1,485 patients, 100 patients (51 were female and 49 were male) were selected for surgery those were not afford the surgical treatment due to their financial inability. IJT stood beside of them and performed the surgery with free of cost. Those patients stayed 3 days after surgery and came for follow-up after a month.

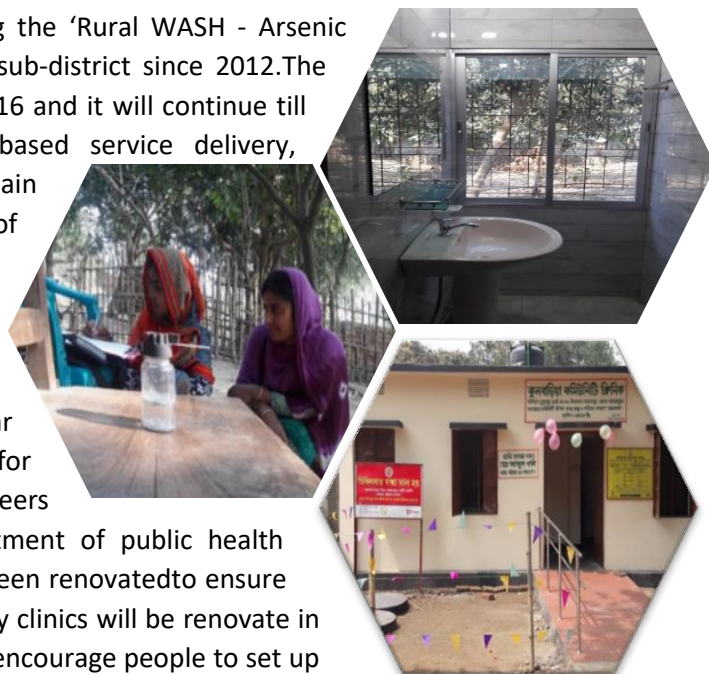


#### WATERAID BANGLADESH

#### Rural WASH - Arsenic Mitigation Project

Ground water in many areas of Bangladesh is arsenic contaminated and Meherpur is one of the worst affected districts where 60% ground water is arsenic contaminated. Adverse effect of arsenic poisoning contributes to negative impact both in health and social life which leads to early death or social exclusion. IFB also strives to support those marginalized families who are in risk of arsenic contamination in Meherpur district.

IFB has partnership WaterAid Bangladesh for implementing the 'Rural WASH - Arsenic Mitigation Project' in the five unions of Meherpur Sadar sub-district since 2012. The second phase of the project is continuing from 1st April 2016 and it will continue till March 2019 and this phase's approaches are right- based service delivery, integration, collaboration and district wide approach. The main purposes are; focusing advocacy issues, building capacity of community and stakeholders for WASH sustainability, developing management system of water points and school sanitation blocks, relate WASH with health, create evidence of good practice as reference etc. for local and national level policy makers considering all union under sadar upazila of Meherpur. 43,682 tube-wells were screened for measuring arsenic levels in Meherpur by 45 women volunteers and the screening data was handed over to the department of public health engineering (DPHE), Meherpur. 10 community clinics have been renovated to ensure clean and hygienic wash facilities and another 16 community clinics will be renovate in the next year. As a part of advocacy, volunteers are able to encourage people to set up new toilet, renovate old toilet and ensure hygiene wash facilities. Till now, 117 toilets and 696 hand wash facility have been installed, 339 toilets have been renovated and 2 community clinics' wash facilities have been renovated. Also, 9 campaigns were conducted through video show, folk song etc. A number of camps were held also for screening of arsenic affected patients.



The project is considering making a 'healthy home' in working areas to inspire people to ensure proper wash and hygiene facility at home.

### DAK FOUNDATION

IFB has signed an MoU with DAK Foundation, Australia and Partners for Equity (PFE), Australia to implement a national prolapse surgery project titled 'PROSHANTI' to be launched in January 2017. IFB will manage the project in collaboration with 10-12 gynaecologist doctors in different locations of the country. They will identify, treat and operate female patients with advance level or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree of prolapse, a condition where the genital organs come out from its original position. IFB will recruit a Physician Project Manager to oversee and monitor the project. Total 2,040 surgeries were performed by 12.

Dr. John and Barbara visited Bangladesh from 29<sup>th</sup> December to 9<sup>th</sup> January. They conducted 4 refresher trainings in different districts and 8 surgeons and 15 nurses were participated in those trainings.

It is to be reported that DAK Foundation has kindly agreed to extend the support for IMPACT Jibon Mela project for another 3 years' period from 2017 to 2020.



Tamanna, a little girl of 8 years old from the village of Chutipur Mathpara village in Notipota union of Chuadanga district. Her father, Md. Tanzil is a marginal farmer who had only homeland and nothing more. Tamanna had been suffering from eye problems for a long time but no one noticed her eye problem and also little Tamanna was not able to understand and express her problem. When she was 4 years old, she had complained about that, but no family members gave that much importance. Gradually, they observed that Tamanna had serious eye problems. Her parents took her to hospital and the doctor advised to go Dhaka because eye care services were available there for only adult patients not for children especially child cataract operation. It was difficult for them to arrange money, so they left the hope of Tamanna's eye treatment. But, Tamanna's mother, a member of mother's club did not lose hope and she asked the field organizer about the child cataract operation and then came with Tamanna at IMCHC. Finally, Tamanna received her right eye operation on 14th March 2017. Now, she can see very well and continue study at second grade.

*Sometimes life defeat the story. Even a year ago I did not think I would use artificial leg to move. In June 2016, I went to the rail station to receipt our relatives. In the platform, I talked over the phone and suddenly, I felt a hefty shove while a train running there. I lost my right leg and then, I have started to use the artificial leg since 2017 and I able to move confidently. I am studying in English at Jahangirnagar University. After completing my post-graduation, I would like to work with people with disabilities.*

