



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGES
BANGLADESH

Annual Report 2022



Millions of children and young people around the world are deprived of the loving embrace of their families and growing up without the bond and support they need to prepare themselves for a **brighter future**. We exist to change this. **We believe,**

Truly
bonding
with a
child has the
power
to change the world



National Director's message



The year 2022, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh, marked a momentous occasion as it's completed the 50th year of glorious journey. With immense pride and deep gratitude, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for their unwavering support throughout this journey. I would also like to express our sincere gratitude to all our donors for their generous contributions, our partners for standing by us, and former and current co-workers, without whose efforts and dedication we could not have come this far.

In 2022, as the pandemic gradually receded, new issues emerged, compelling us to adapt and respond dynamically. In the face of shifting job markets and economic uncertainties, we recognised the importance of skilling and upskilling our young people. We have given a particular focus on employable education and organised workshops to develop essential soft skills to empower our young people for their future endeavours. With the support of the Government of Bangladesh's ICT Division, we successfully launched the Sheikh Russel Digital Lab (SRDL) in eight locations. The children and young people of the surrounding communities who don't have access to computers or the internet can also use them. Additionally, we distributed tablets among children and young people, striving to bridge the digital divide and prepare them for the future Smart Bangladesh.

Throughout the year, our commitment to supporting children and families facing difficulties remained steadfast. This year, we provided direct care to more than a thousand children and young people through our Alternative Care: Family-like Care. In addition, our efforts included strengthening families, assisting young people to become self-reliant, offering services in the wake of natural disasters and building resilience among programme participants regarding climate change. Collaboration has been at the heart of our journey, and in 2022, we continued working hand-in-hand with like-minded organisations to strengthen the collective efforts to advance children's agenda.

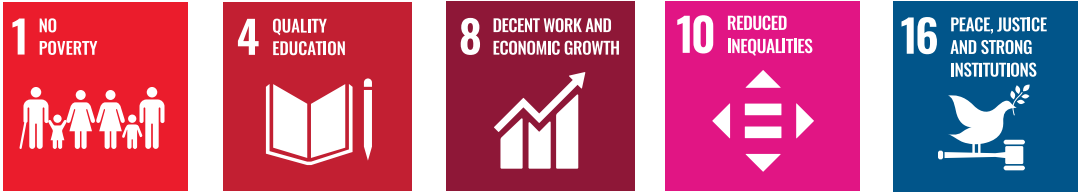
As we look ahead to 2023, we know that children and young people across our country face multiple crises. Ensuring access to basic necessities, opportunities, and rights for children and young people is paramount. Our 50-year journey has taught us what is possible when we work together and the impact we can create when we prioritise the well-being and future of our children. With children and for children, we can shape a brighter and more promising future for all.

With warm regards,
Dr. Md. Enamul Haque
National Director
SOS Children's Village International in Bangladesh

Our story

SOS Children's Villages: SOS Children's Villages is the world's largest organisation focused on ensuring that children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it grow up with the care, relationships and support they need to become their strongest selves. Founded in 1949 by Dr. Hermann Gmeiner, we work in more than 138 countries and territories to make a positive and meaningful impact in the lives of millions of children. We do whatever it takes to ensure that every child and young person grows up with the necessary support and is empowered with trust and a feeling of belonging. We speak up for children's rights and advocate for change so that all children can grow up in a loving and supportive environment. In Bangladesh, SOS Children's Villages started its journey in 1972. Our work is guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, and contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Our contribution to Sustainable Development Goal



Three pillars of action



Prevention:

Keeping families together and preventing child-family separation



Protection:

Ensuring care and protection when there is no family or it is not in a child or young person's best interest to stay in the family



Advocacy:

Changing policy and practice to improve the situation of children and young people without parental care or at risk of losing it



Our programmes



Alternative Care

- Family-like Care
- Youth Care
- Kinship Care



Family Strengthening



Education

- Early Childhood Care and Development
- Primary and Secondary Education
- Employment and Entrepreneurship Training



Emergency Response



Total number of programme participants

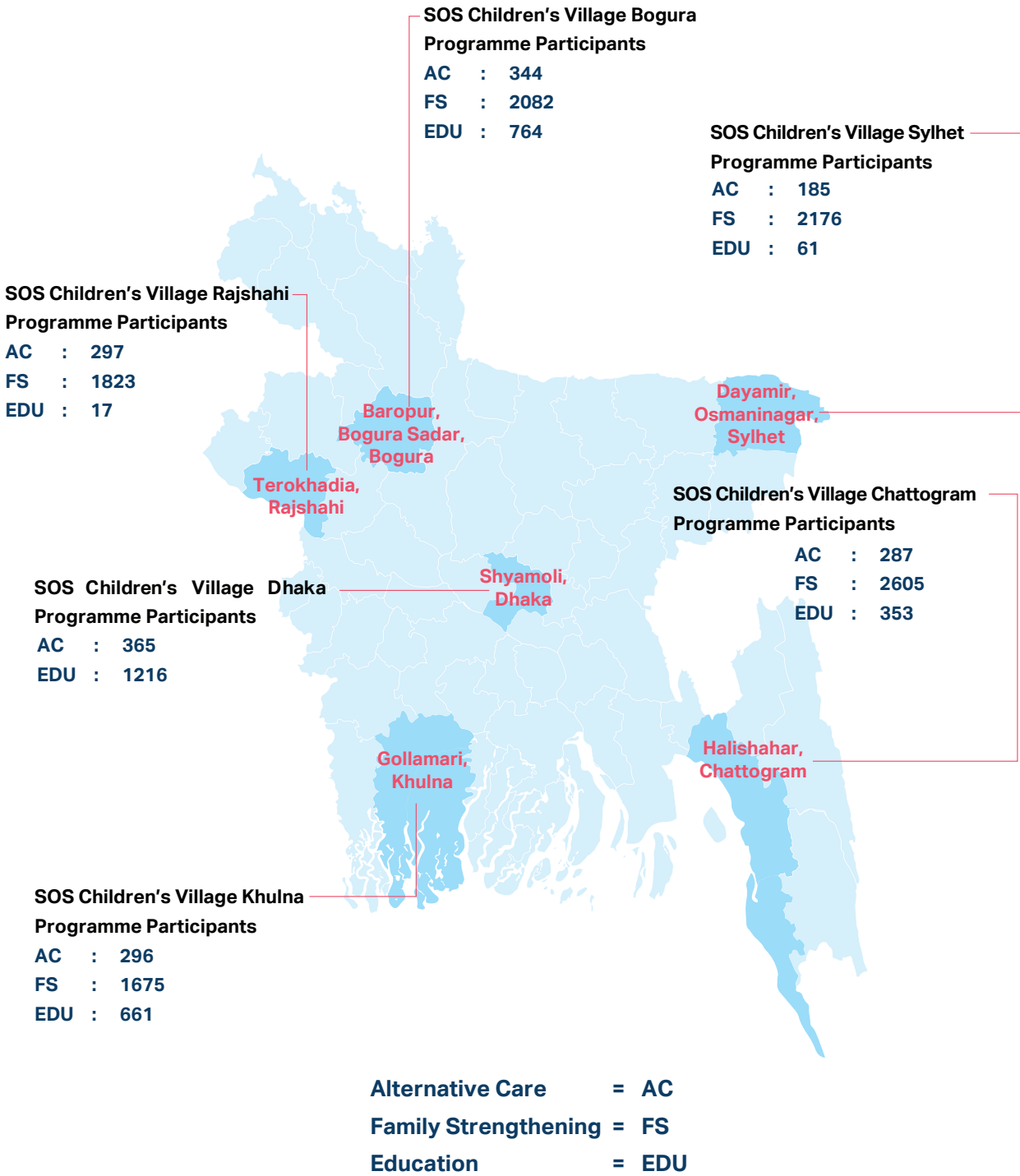
18594



People reached so far

65044

Our location and number of programme participants



Prevention



Family Strengthening

Through Family Strengthening (FS) programme, we prevent family breakdown and ensure that families have the support they need so that children and young people are better cared for, protected and able to transition confidently into adulthood. For this, we work directly with families and communities to empower them, in cooperation with local authorities and other service providers. It is our care solution which minimizes the need for alternative care for children.

In 2022, we enhance the capacity of **2,623 families** to protect and care for their own children.

Child care and parenting support: Caregivers play the most important role in a child's life. We try to sensitize the caregivers about issues related to child's healthy development.

- 12 awareness and training sessions were arranged where 526 caregivers, co-workers and volunteers were sensitized

about the concept of child safeguarding, responding and reporting.

- 2 workshops and 6 sessions on Positive Parenting held at different programme locations throughout the year. 355 caregivers attended them and learned about the healthy development of children.

Economic support: Economic support activities aim to help families facing difficulties to become self-reliant with enhanced livelihood skills and knowledge of technical aspects of chosen livelihood along with direct financial and livestock support.

- 7 trainings were held in 2022 on Income Generating Activities like rearing poultry and livestock. Through these trainings, 292 caregivers received training on cow-goat rearing and poultry farming.
- 34 FS programme participants received sewing training and 68 FS caregivers and 10 community people living in poverty completed block-batik training.
- 106 cows and 53 goats were distributed among FS families.
- 21 sewing machines, 2 rickshaws, 13 vans, 1 digital weight machine and 1 bi-cycle were distributed among caregivers as resource support to become self-reliant.
- 5 families received assistance to start their business, and are now able to provide better care for their children.

Educational support: SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh places a central value on education for its key role in contributing to the health of families and supports children and caregivers of FS programme with educational material and fees, career counselling, adult literacy programme, skill development training etc.

- 2,370 children from FS families received educational materials such as pen, pencil, exercise book, eraser, sharpener, book, drawing materials etc., 2,295 children got school uniforms and 1,607 children were

able to pay tuition fees regularly. In Khulna, 9 bi-cycle were distributed among children to minimize the long-distance commute problem between home and school and in Sylhet, 70 families who had no sitting arrangement for children for their study, were given 1 unit table and two units chair.

- 6 awareness sessions on the importance of technical education were organised which were attended by 250 children and young people of FS programme. 414 children of FS programme are studying technical and employable education.
- 416 young people completed English language course and 249 children received computer training courses.
- 8 career counselling sessions were organised and 367 programme participants got career guidance in these sessions.
- Through our adult literacy initiative, 346 caregivers are now able to read and write.



Food and nutrition support: Most FS families are unable to provide nutritious meals to their children and it has been observed that many FS children come to school without proper breakfast. To address this issue, mid-day meals and tiffin were distributed to 2,376 children regularly. School attendance also increased because of this initiative.

Health care support: By prioritizing the health of the children and caregivers, we not only safeguard their well-being, but also minimize



instances of school absenteeism, consequently facilitating improved academic performance.

- 3 adolescent health counselling sessions were held to increase awareness of adolescent health, hygiene and overall well-being among FS programme participants. A total of 196 children and coworkers attended these sessions.
- 2 blood grouping and 2 health check-up campaigns were organised, where 325 programme participants got blood grouping services and 407 FS children, community children and caregivers received health check-up service and emergency medicine.

- We have distributed hygiene kits such as bathing soap, detergent powder, and laundry soap to 6,960 FS families. Every month these families received hygiene kits to maintain personal hygiene.
- 608 children and youth have successfully completed swimming training.
- SOS Children's Village Sylhet installed 80 toilets for 80 FS families with their partial contribution.

Support to get public services: We assist families by establishing essential links with government and other community-based organisations and groups which support education, health and other public services as



needed. In 2022, 126 FS families were able to be linked with the government social security scheme through our support and received government support services like agriculture card, disability allowance, maternity allowance, VGD card, old age allowances etc.

Psychological support: Psychological support initiatives aim to address mental health challenges, help to reduce trauma, promote mental health literacy, and offer support to individuals in managing their emotional well-being. In 2022,

- 4 psychosocial counselling sessions were held and 204 children and caregivers participated.

- 2 workshops were arranged on suicidal attempt prevention where 283 children, young people, caregivers, coworkers and volunteers participated.

Self-help group: Self-help groups provide a supportive community for caregivers facing similar challenges or seeking growth. These groups offer a platform for sharing experiences, providing mutual support, and exchanging knowledge and strategies. There are 54 self-help groups in different programme locations. Self-help group, with the assistance of FS Chattogram and local administrative authorities, successfully prevented one early marriage in 2022.

From poverty to solvency

From his childhood, Mridul (name changed) saw the financial struggles of his family. His father was a CNG driver and the sole breadwinner of the family. Due to low income and persistent illness, Mridul's father faced the challenges of providing for their basic needs while also supporting Mridul and his brother's education.

In 2019, Mridul's family came under the Family Strengthening (FS) Programme. With our support, Mridul restarted his study and his brother got admitted into SOS Hermann Gmeiner School. The programme covered all of the expenses and materials needed for their education, including school fees, coaching fees, reference books, exercise books, mid-day meals, school uniforms etc. Moreover, Mridul and his brother actively engaged in various awareness sessions and training on child safeguarding, technical education, computer skills, and English proficiency. Mridul was diligent in his studies from the beginning and he passed SSC examination

with a GPA 5.00 from the science group and continued his outstanding performance in the HSC exam in 2021, again scoring GPA 5.00. Due to his outstanding academic performance and his interest in higher education, FS admitted him to a University admission coaching. Currently, Mridul is studying at Khulna University of Engineering & Technology (KUET), one of the most renowned educational institutions in Bangladesh, and on his way to becoming a Textile Engineer.

A holistic family development plan was tailored for Mridul's family, focusing on their long-term stability. Mridul's mother enrolled in an adult literacy course, which developed her ability to read and write. She then pursued a four-month sewing skills training course at the SOS Skill Training Center, enhancing her income-generating potential. Meanwhile, his father completed a three-month professional car driving course and now working as a car driver, contributing to the family's financial well-being.



Protection



Alternative Care

We recognize the family as the best place for the upbringing of a child and therefore promote policies and practices supporting biological families and family reunification. But when separation of a child from his/her family becomes necessary, we provide them with quality care and support adapted to their unique needs, experiences and culture.

Family-like Care

In Family-like Care, children and young people experience a safe and secure environment and receive individual support and training according to tailored care plans preparing them to live independent lives in future. In this care solution, a stable caregiver or parent figure is always available to provide them with every type of support they need. We try our best to keep the biological siblings together in Family-like Care.

In 2022,

- A total of 1037 children and young people received this care.
- 65 children were welcomed.
- 24 children and young people were reunified with their families.

- 35 young people who grew up in Family-like Care became self-reliant.

Quality care:

SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh is dedicated to providing quality care for children growing up in alternative care settings. We place great importance on providing nutritious meals to the children in our care. A key aspect of our work is to offer quality education and training opportunities to the children of Alternative Care and equip them with the necessary skills. We also guide our children in making informed career choices and nurturing their talents.

Highlights:

- 103 children are enrolled in early childhood education, 227 are in primary level, 210 are in secondary level, and 9 are enrolled in post-secondary (non-tertiary) or short-cycle tertiary level;
- 75 students appeared in Secondary School Certificate Examination (SSC). The passing rate was 93%;
- 43 children and young people attended training on photography;
- 08 children completed Building Bridges

through Leadership Training Junior Program conducted by Bangladesh Youth Leadership Centre (BYLC);

- 06 children completed three months of basic and six months of advanced computer courses.
- 7 sessions on child rights were arranged by different programme locations to make children aware of their rights and responsibilities. 116 children and young people attended these sessions.
- An awareness session on 'Harmful Effects of Excessive Use of Drugs' was organised for SOS mothers, aunts and children at SOS Children's Village Khulna. Total of 29 participants attended the session.

Physical and mental health support:

A child's physical and mental well-being is integral to their overall growth and future success. In line with this belief, we have implemented a range of initiatives aimed at nurturing and supporting the physical and mental health of the children growing up in our care.

Highlights:

- 73 children and young people learned to swim and 16 children learned to ride bi-cycle.
- 3 psycho-social counselling sessions arranged 62 participants attended the sessions.
- To educate young people about reproductive health, 2 sessions were arranged on this topic.
- 110 children had eye checkups from the eye camp by Lion's Club of Khulna in SOS Children's Village Khulna.
- An awareness session on 'Preventing Signs & Symptoms of Uterine Infection' was organised at SOS Children's Village Khulna for girls. A total of 17 girls attended the session.

Anik has found his new home

Anik (name changed) and his elder brother were welcomed in SOS Children's Village Bogura at the beginning of 2022. As per our commitment to keeping biological siblings together, both of them are growing up in the same family house. Three years old Anik loves to learn new things

through play. His day generally starts going to the Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centre in SOS Children's Village Bogura, where he enjoys playing games, learning numbers and alphabets, reciting rhymes, singing, and dancing with other children. He participates enthusiastically in all the activities. After returning to his family house, he spends his day with his SOS siblings. They watch TV together, play and eat meals and sometimes go out together. His siblings talk and sing to him so that Anik can learn new words quickly. Anik is very close to his SOS mother. During bedtime, he enjoys listening to stories from her. She ensures a safe and secure environment for Anik and is very careful about his social and emotional development. Being the youngest child in the house, he is adored by everyone.



Anik and his brother lost parental care and a secure place to live. But now they got a safe and loving environment to grow up in and a place they can call home.

Youth Care and Employability

When adolescence comes along in a child's life, we walk with them in their journey of self-discovery. We take a firm stand beside them and provide high-quality care. We make sure they are not left behind and are supported to achieve their goals, equipped with skill sets and ready to become self-reliant.

Highlights

- In 2022, total number of young people was **442**. Among them, **308** were studying in general education and **134 youths** were studying in professional and vocational education.





- Total of **48 youths** exited the programme in **2022**. Among them, **36 became self-reliant** through employment, and **05** were reunified with their family.
- **21 young** people got training on various skills like English learning, beautification, driving, AutoCAD, computer applications, graphic designing, hotel tourism and management.

Major activities

YouthCan!: To empower young people and combat youth unemployment, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh successfully implemented the Mentorship and Youth Skilling Up Project, with the invaluable support of dedicated corporate volunteers. Through our YouthCan! Programmes, corporate mentors actively participated in various skills training initiatives, providing guidance, expertise, and real-world insights to the youth.

YouthCan! Leadership & Career Development Conference- 2022

In 2022, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh successfully organised the "YouthCan! Leadership and Career Development Conference" in Kuakata, Patuakhali. The conference aimed to empower and guide young people in their career journeys, fostering their personal and professional growth. With the participation of 70 attendees, including youth, youth leaders, and corporate volunteers, the event provided a platform for knowledge-

sharing and networking opportunities. Distinguished experts from various corporate sectors conducted sessions on career planning, professional grooming, job opportunities, and youth leadership. The conference also marked the rollout of YouthLinks, a digital platform connecting young mentees with experienced corporate mentors virtually, ensuring continued support and guidance. Additionally, a Focus Group Discussion allowed young people to express their needs and aspirations, emphasizing the importance of acquiring relevant skills to lead resilient and independent lives. As the youth prepare to transition from alternative care by 2025, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh remains committed to empowering them for a brighter future. The conference's success was further highlighted by a closing day visit to Payra Port, where participants gained valuable exposure and inspiration for their future endeavours.

Youth Carnival and Child & Youth Participation

Workshop: SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh arranged 'Youth Carnival and Child & Youth Participation Workshop' on December 2022, where youth icons and experts took different sessions on skill development. The goal of the programme was to prepare the young people for their future by instilling positive values and providing them with the necessary skills along with making them aware of their rights. This 3 day-long-programme was held at SOS National Training Centre in Dhaka where 31 young people (from class 8 to class 12) from all the programme locations participated.

Other Activities:

- 4 career counselling sessions were organised in 3 programme locations. 64 young people attended these sessions.
- Psychosocial Counselling Session was arranged in 2 programme locations. 69 young people attended these sessions.
- Soft Skills Training on problem-solving, decision making, adaptability, money management, and time management was arranged by SOS Youth House Khulna. 60 young people participated in this training.
- 'Green Aquarium Team' a group consisting of young people of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh, organised 03-day long workshop named 'Next Youth Power' at SOS Children's Village Sylhet. The team organised a discussion session on SDG Goals, Leadership and Career. They conducted a 'Cleanliness Campaign' at the Zaflang tourist area, Sylhet along with 08 volunteers from SOS Children's Village Sylhet. Later, this team distributed 100 fruit trees and educational materials among the children of FS community.

Once a dream, now a reality

From an early age, Siam (name changed) was a meritorious student. After losing parental care, he came to SOS Children's Village Chattogram in 2007 with his three elder brothers. He completed his primary education with excellent results from SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Chattogram and then was admitted into Haliashahar Cantonment Public School & College. Besides education, his performance in sports used to be praised by everyone. His SOS mother encouraged him to pursue his dream of being an engineer and provided him with full support to pursue this dream.



Siam said, **"Not everyone has the courage to dream big, especially a boy like me who lost parental care at a young age. But I have always been provided with every type of support I needed to reach this far."**

After passing the SSC and HSC examinations with GPA 5.00, he got a chance to be admitted into Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST), Islamic University of Technology (IUT), Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (CUET) - four most renowned engineering institutions of our country. He chose to be admitted into Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (CUET) in the Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE) department.



Kinship Care

According to the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, kinship care is family-based care within the child's extended family or with close friends of the family known to the child, whether formal or informal in nature.

We consider it the right of the child to grow up among his/her own people and those the child loves. In Kinship Care (KC) programme, we enable this process and support the extended family or relatives who undertake care to provide quality care, which is safe, stable and sustained.

In 2022, the total number of Kinship Care programme participants in six programme locations was 737 from 199 families. We supported the programme participants through the following activities:

- Financial support as allowance for food, clothing and transportation of the child.
- Training for caregivers on child protection and parenting skills.
- Reimbursement for education and health on actuals or paid directly to the educational institutions.
- Skill or livelihood training for caregivers.
- Awareness sessions on child safeguarding, psychosocial counselling, career development, health & hygiene for children and young people.

Education

We ensure that each child has access to education and training that address their needs and circumstances while also allowing them to develop different types of skill sets. Our education programmes include early childhood care and development, primary and secondary learning, and employment and entrepreneurship training.

Early Childhood Care and Development

A child's early years are crucial for forecasting their performance in school and later in life. To provide a strong and comprehensive foundation for lifetime learning and welfare, Early Childhood Care and Development (ECD) is our attempt to meet a child's social, emotional, cognitive, and physical requirements holistically. Our ECD Activities are for children aged between 03-05 years of our Alternative Care, Family Strengthening, and others from the local community. Nine ECD centres are run by SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh and currently, a total of 154 (85 boys and 69 girls) are receiving support from these centres.

SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools/Colleges

SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools and Colleges provide quality education to children with an excellent environment for learning. It strictly adheres to the rules and directions of the Ministry of Education.

In 2022, a total of 32 students completed primary education from SOS Hermann Gmeiner School Chattogram and 03 students got scholarships in Primary Scholarship Examination.

A Glimpse of Public Examination Result of SOS HGCS

Name of school/ college	Type	No. of the students passed	Passing rate (in percentage)
HGC Dhaka	S.S.C.	119	98.34%
HGC Dhaka	H.S.C.	110	100%
HGS Khulna	S.S.C.	56	100%
HGC Bogura	S.S.C.	55	98.18%
HGC Bogura	H.S.C.	55	98.18%

Number of students in SOS HGCS (as of December-2022)

Name of school/ college	Category/Level	No. of students (Total)	Former Beneficiaries (completed)
Dhaka	Higher Secondary	1010	5823
Khulna	Secondary	643	4175
Chattogram	Primary	303	713
Bogura	Higher Secondary	734	1629

HGCS pays special attention to child safeguarding. In this regard, various workshops and programmes were organised throughout the year to help children with their mental health, and teach them about behaviour management, health and hygiene, and overall child safeguarding.

All the students received new books from the Ministry of Education in 2022. All HGCS celebrated different National and International important

days, such as International Mother Language Day, Victory Day, Independence Day, National Mourning Day, National Children's Day etc.

Many students achieved prizes in different extracurricular activities at district, division and national levels. Students also participated in events like 'science fair', 'tree plantation programme', and 'open art competition' throughout the year.



Employment and Entrepreneurship Training

To transform the youth into a skilled workforce through effective training, SOS Vocational Training Centres (VTC) have been established in Dhaka and Chattogram. There is also a Youth



Village-cum-Training Centre in Bagerhat. Not only the young people from SOS Children's Villages, but also those from the community living in poverty get the opportunity to get training from these training centres.



SOS Vocational Training Centre Dhaka:

SOS Vocational Training Centre Dhaka is conducting one-year-long skills training courses

approved by the National Skills Development Authority (NSDA), Prime Minister's Office, Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh.

Statistical information for the year 2022:

Number of trainees in different trades in the year 2022					
Machine Shop Practice	Electrical Installation & Maintenance	Automotive Mechanics	Consumer Electronics	Refrigeration & Air-conditioning	Total
19	19	16	17	10	81

Highlights

- We have arranged jobs for our 130 SOS VTC graduates in different industries during the year 2022. Also, we have arranged jobs for 53 graduates of SOS-IsDB-BISEW and 150 graduates of SOS-jobs PKSF-SEIP project in the year 2022.
- Certificate distribution and prize-giving ceremony of sessions 2020, 2021 and 2022 of SOS Vocational Training Centre Dhaka was held on 29 December 2022. A total of 253 students in 05 trades have been awarded certificates.
- 62 students graduated under SOS and IsDB-BISEW Vocational Training Project in 2022.
- 149 students graduated under SOS and PKSF-SEIP Vocational Training Project in 2022.

SOS Vocational Training Centre Chattogram:

SOS Vocational Training Centre Chattogram offers one-year training in carpentry and light engine mechanics trades.

Statistical information for the year 2022: In December 2022, there were 28 students (Carpentry Trade: 13 and Light Engine Mechanics Trade: 15) at SOS Vocational Training Centre Chattogram. Till now 615 students (Carpentry Trade-304, Light Engine Mechanics Trade- 311) have passed from SOS Vocational Training Centre Chattogram.

Highlights

- SOS Vocational Training Centre Chattogram organised an industrial visit programme at Bangladesh-Korea Technical Training Center, Chattogram.
- Students of the Carpentry Trade visited Bangladesh-Korea Technical Training Centre and Light Engine Mechanics Trade students visited Navana Limited-Service Centre.



SOS Youth Village-Cum-Training Centre Bagerhat:

SOS Youth Village and Training Centre in Bagerhat focuses on four key areas: Poultry Farming, Animal Husbandry, Fish Cultivation, and Agriculture. It offers two types of training courses: a four-year agro-based programme and a one-month agro-package training. Up until 2022, a total of 1156 young people from our programmes and communities have successfully completed training at this centre.

Winter work camp:

Winter Work Camp for the young people of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh was held at SOS Youth Village-cum-Training Centre Bagerhat. 48 young people from all six villages participated in this camp. It provided a learning opportunity and hands-on experience of living outdoors,

building friendships, exchanging views, cooking, camping, and working together on various agricultural projects. Besides getting theoretical knowledge on different agro-based subjects, the participants received extensive practical training on agricultural activities.

Akash's journey to entrepreneurship

Akash (name changed) watched his parents struggle to meet the basic needs of him and his younger brother from an early age. His father used to work as a blacksmith with impaired vision in one eye, while his mother dedicated herself to managing their household. Going to school was a luxury for Akash and after passing class eight, his education came to a halt.

But in 2018, things started to change when Akash's family became part of the Family Strengthening (FS) programme of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh. Akash got the chance to join a one-year course on light engines at the SOS Vocational Training Centre in Chattogram, and his younger brother could go back to school. To improve his skills, in 2020, he was enrolled in a welding workshop.

After gaining extensive knowledge and experience, in 2021 he decided to establish his own welding workshop. But during that time, COVID-19 pandemic was posing new challenges to many families. SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh came forward and provided unconditional cash assistance to FS families including Akash's. With some of that money saved, his parents helped him start his workshop.

His entrepreneurial spirit has not only transformed his life but also created employment opportunities for others. Akash currently has four employees at his workshop.



SOS National Training Centre Dhaka

SOS National Training Centre (NTC) Dhaka is an integral project of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh that commenced its operation in 1997. Since then, it is contributing extensively to developing desired skills of Mothers and Co-workers based on the strategic goals of the organisation. In addition, SOS NTC provides services to different organisations regarding venue, accommodation and food for training/ workshop participants.



SOS NTC is located at the premises of the SOS Youth Village Dhaka. It has two separate venues for arranging training/workshops/meetings, along with accommodation for 36 people in 16 rooms. Throughout the year, SOS NTC collocated a total of 31 training programs. Among them, 17 were internal training programmes and 14 were external training programmes. External training programmes were arranged by Muslim Charity (UK) Bangladesh, SAK Consumer Products Ltd., LEEDO, Department of Social Services (DSS), Silver Jubilee of Hermann Gmeiner College ex-student HSC Batch-96, Lions Club of Bangladesh, Bondhon Academy and Lions Club of Glorious Don.



ICT for Development (ICT4D)

ICT4D is a powerful catalyst for social and economic progress in today's interconnected world. By leveraging ICT tools and platforms, individuals and communities can access vital information, enhance their skills, and engage in e-governance, education, healthcare, agriculture, and entrepreneurship. .



Major activities:

- The Digital Village initiative played a vital role this year also in facilitating educational access for children and young individuals involved in our programmes. Through this project, we empowered both the children and young people with essential digital skills, leading to improvements in academic performance, employability, and assistance with household responsibilities.
- In 2022, the Sheikh Russel Digital Lab (SRDL) was successfully launched in eight locations. This activation has greatly facilitated the seamless execution of various training initiatives, including the implementation of the ICDL programme.
- A dedicated ICT Trainer was hired who conducted ICDL courses for our participants. The ICDL (the digital skills standard) course was conducted centrally through virtual means, allowing for easy accessibility and participation. A total of 9 children achieved ICDL Certification in 2022.

- To ensure an effective, modern and easiest education system, online admission and payment system was implemented in SOS Hermann Gmeiner School and College Dhaka and Bogura. Nessus Professional (comprehensive vulnerability assessment tool) was implemented in the National Office which automates point-in-time assessments to help quickly identify and fix different vulnerabilities.
- Increasing cyber security awareness and ensuring the best operational practice in-work environment as well as personal life and maintaining GDPR, SOS Bangladesh enrolled on a Cyber Security E-Learning course for 125 co-workers.
- ICT Security Audit VAPT (Vulnerability assessment and penetration testing) was completed in the National Office and SOS Children's Villages to determine vulnerability in 2021. The mitigation action plan was implemented and the re-test was completed in March 2022.
- 277 Tablet PCs have been distributed under the COVID-19 2nd Phase project to ensure digital education among the children and young people of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh.

Emergency Response

During any crisis or disaster, children are considered the most vulnerable group. Through our Emergency Response (ER) programme, we make sure children and families are secure, protected and able to continue developing amidst conflict, natural disaster or any emergency situation. Our immediate response is to provide security and meet the basic needs of the children.

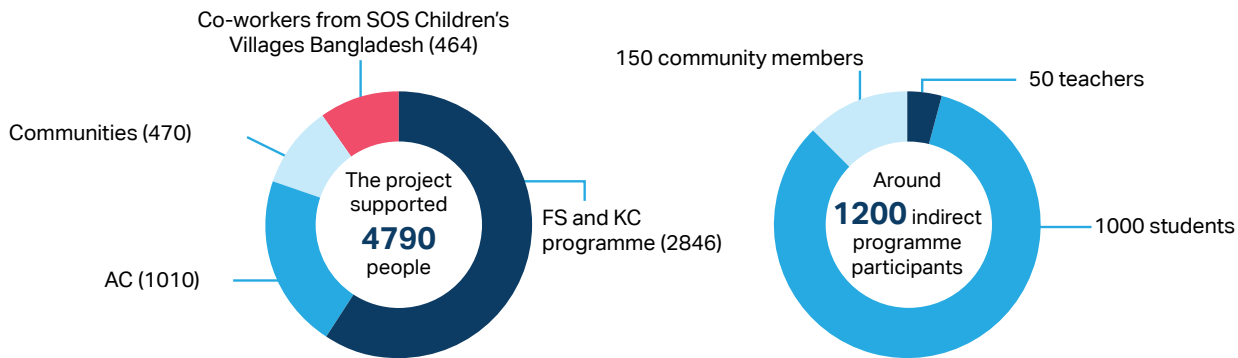
In 2022, we ran three emergency response projects: Supporting COVID-19 response in Bangladesh (Phase - 2), COVID-19 emergency responses to reduce digital divide and Humanitarian response to the flood victim families in Sylhet.



Supporting COVID-19 response in Bangladesh (Phase-2)

SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh implemented a 24-month project titled "Supporting COVID-19

Response in Bangladesh" in two phases. 1st phase started on 01 August 2020 and ended on 30 June 2021 and the 2nd phase started on 01 October 2021 and ended on 30 September 2022.



Our response (in 2022):

- Total of 2633 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was provided to children, young people, SOS mothers, SOS aunts and coworkers of every programme location and National Office.
- During the initial quarter, a total of 1500 children, young people, SOS mothers, SOS aunts, and co-workers, were provided with hand sanitizer, hand wash, and masks. Subsequently, in the third quarter, the distribution extended to 1133 individuals.
- Total 9 psychosocial counselling for children, SOS mothers, SOS aunts, and co-workers in all programme locations and 24 psychosocial counselling for FS & KC children and caregivers at the community level of different FS programme locations were organised. 241 young people received psychosocial counselling for their mental well-being (virtual/online).
- 2974, 2877, 2906 FS and KC families received hygienic kits (e.g. hand sanitiser, hand wash & soap, laundry soap and powder and mask.) in three-quarters respectively.
- 2892, 2921 and 2906 FS and KC families received essential food items (e.g. rice, cooking oil, lentils, salt, potatoes, onion, powdered milk, sugar, puffed rice, eggs, high protein biscuits) in three-quarters respectively.

- 81 GO, NGOs, respective local government representatives, elite persons, and journalists were present in enabling access to Govt. social security and safety net programmes, organised by 5 programme locations. They shared about the various types of safety net programmes that are currently ongoing and emphasized how to access these safety net programmes.
- 250 young people completed agro-based training, 05 young people completed car driving training and 108 completed employable training in different areas.
- 170 care leavers who lost jobs, and accommodation during COVID-19 pandemic received cash support.
- 13 batches of training were organised on short-term market-driven agricultural courses. 328 young people received this training.



COVID-19 emergency responses to reduce digital divide



The COVID-19 Pandemic has created a huge imbalance in the education system of Bangladesh, especially in the rural areas and has widened the digital divide. Due to the lack of devices and internet connections, many children and young people were missing the benefits of digital education. To address the situation, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh stepped forward and initiated the project titled 'COVID-19 emergency responses to reduce digital divide' in Bogura.

Our response

- A total of 785 tabs were distributed among participants of the AC and FS programmes, as well as local community school teachers
- Two schools received 6 desktop computers, 6 webcams, and headphones.
- Conducted 3 training sessions for teachers and 1 training session for students, focusing on participatory online classes. 380 FS programme participants and 100 young people from the community benefitted from these sessions.
- Provided internet connection to one school.
- Digital content was prepared for community teachers, enabling them to conduct digital classes in their respective schools.
- A virtual English language club was established to enhance the English communication skills of FLC and FS children, featuring two monthly online sessions.
- 22 community field visits were organised, where project staff engaged with children, young people, and caregivers, providing guidance on how to utilize tabs and

educational apps. This initiative reached more than 650 children and young people, as well as approximately 200 caregivers.

Humanitarian response to the flood victim families in Sylhet



In 2022, Sylhet and Sunamganj were hit by one of the worst floods in its history. Most of the villages and roadways of two upazilas in Sylhet were submerged. Considering the situation, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh took the initiative to post-response the flood-affected people of these upazilas and implemented the project titled "Humanitarian Response to the Flood Victim Families in Sylhet, Bangladesh".

The focus was on preventing family separation, enabling family reunification and strengthening by prioritizing interventions that save lives, reduce human suffering and maintain the dignity of unaccompanied and separated children at risk of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence amplified in humanitarian crisis. A total number of 2440 households received various support through this project.

Our response:

- 2050 families received Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) for their basic needs.
- 200 families were provided with WASH kits, including buckets, mugs, soap and sanitary napkins.
- 200 households received Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) to repair their houses. Each family received BDT. 19,000.
- As part of livelihood recovery, 190 households received BDT 21,300 each.



- 10 awareness sessions regarding hygiene (water, food, personal, domestic) were organised for the flood victims. 564 people participated in these sessions.

Emergency preparedness

- 2 emergency preparedness sessions were arranged by 2 programme locations. 138 participants including FS caregivers,

children and coworkers attended these sessions.

- A firefighting mud drill was organised by SOS Children's Village Khulna as part of community-based emergency preparedness programme. 62 people from the community joined this mud drill.



Surviving the flood

Shohag (name changed), a vegetable seller from Sylhet, has experienced the ups and downs of the vegetable market. From the impact of sky-high inflation and to unpredictable weather, he has seen it all. But nothing could prepare him for the floods that struck his village in Sylhet in 2022.

Shohag's family lived in a small hut and had recently welcomed their first child, when in mid-June 2022, heavy rains caused flooding in several northeastern areas of Bangladesh, including Sylhet. Shohag's hut was flooded and the water level rose rapidly, leaving the family no time to save their utensils, and livestock, which were submerged. Initially, the family sought refuge with their neighbours, whose house was on slightly higher ground. As night fell, the entire neighbourhood realized they could not remain in their homes and moved to a nearby school for shelter.

They stayed there for 27 days. Towards the end of the month when Shohag and family went back to their hut they were devastated to see how the flood had destroyed their home. The family had to swallow their shock and get to the task of

rebuilding their house. Since all their savings had been used up in surviving - procuring clean water and food - Shohag had no stock of vegetables that he could get on credit anymore, he really needed some intervention even to go back to the modest life that the family had been living before the flood upturned their town.

SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh's stepped in to help him at this point. We provided him with BDT 21,300, as livelihood recovery support for reopening his business as part of the "Humanitarian Response to Flood Victim Families in Sylhet, Bangladesh" project.

Shohag said, " **I was able to buy a stock of vegetables from the market and put it on sale in my cart to restart my business. Some money also went to make the house liveable for my family. Once I felt really in the dark after the floods and didn't know how anything good would happen again, now when I see my daughter's face, I feel confident that I can provide her with the secure environment she needs to grow up in.** "

Child Safeguarding

SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh strongly condemns all forms of violence and harm against children. We are committed to creating and maintaining a caring and protective environment for every child we reach through our programmes. Every child safeguarding concern or incident reported is taken seriously because the safety and welfare of the child always come first.

Major Activities:

Creating awareness: In 2022, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh took significant steps to create awareness and strengthen child safeguarding measures. Capacity-building training was organised to educate stakeholders about the child safeguarding policy and procedures. National Office organised the following capacity-building training for coworkers:

- A two-day training on "TOT for Psychological Counselling and Mental Health Care Facilitation" attended by 21 co-workers from different programme locations.
- Child Safeguarding (CS) National Workshop took place where CS team members of all programme locations including SOS HGC Dhaka participated.
- 19 Youth Care co-workers of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh participated in CS Training and 21 new co-workers were oriented on child safeguarding.
- 209 co-workers completed the global online CS e-learning course.

In addition, awareness was spread within programme locations through various training sessions covering topics such as cyber security, health and hygiene, positive parenting, preventing child marriage, self-protection, rights and responsibilities, and career counselling. Psycho-social counselling was provided to children and caregivers as needed.

Strengthening prevention: As a preventive measure, Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment was conducted in all programme locations. Children and mothers of Family-like Care and Family Strengthening programme and coworkers attended the risk assessment workshop. All the

programme locations prepared a mitigating action plan to minimize the identified risks and started implementing the action plans accordingly.

Encouraging reporting: We maintain a "zero tolerance" policy towards child abuse and encourage reporting through multiple channels. We create strong vigilance systems which are supportive, respectful and trustworthy. Different face-to-face and whistleblowing reporting channels are active in all programme locations so that anybody can report if they have any CS concerns.

Providing effective response: We immediately respond to all the reported concerns as per the Reporting and Responding guidelines. In 2022, 27 child safeguarding incidents were reported, with appropriate responses provided. Among them, 15 confirmed cases were responded to by the respective programme location's child safeguarding team. Psychological counselling was offered to victims and those displaying abusive behaviour, resulting in positive outcomes.

Empowering children: Self-defense training leads to the empowerment of children. Self-defense training in the form of karate was provided to girls from two programme locations. This training improved their physical and mental well-being and boosted their confidence.

Enhancing social integration capacity: To enhance social integration, community engagement programmes were organised in every programme location, allowing children to interact with community members and participate in events, fostering their integration skills.



Advocacy

Our advocacy actions focus on systemic change. Among other activities, we work with partner and like-minded organisations to create platforms for children and young people to bring the issues they face into discussions at the local, national and global level.

- After COVID-19, the first in-person meeting of Country Director/National Directors of Joining Forces Bangladesh hosted by SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh in 2022. Representatives of all the six member organisations joined this meeting along with the technical Focal point and reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen the collective efforts to advance children's agenda related to their rights;
- SOS Children's Villages International Representative and National Director of SOS Bangladesh met State Minister to Social Welfare Ministry at his office. Advancement of the Regulation of Children Act and leading the drafting of Act to Protect Rights of Abandoned Children 2021 were appreciated during the discussion by SOS team.
- Two media dialogues were organised in 2022: one was on the demand of Establishing Separate Directorate for Children in collaboration with other like-minded organisations and another was on Reducing Digital Divide to Ensure Quality Education. Relevant participants from the end-of-duty bearers were also present in those dialogues.
- Building the capacity of children and young people is important so that they can claim and promote their rights as child and youth advocates. 31 children and young people were oriented on the basics of advocacy, establishing and maintaining network meaningfully, various steps on how to enhance capacity to become child/youth advocate, and basic awareness over the issues related to child rights focusing on the context of Bangladesh were the broad contents covered in a workshop.



Institutional Partnership and Development (IPD)



Institutional Partnership and Development (IPD) is the process of creating partnerships with and applying for funding from institutional donors for SOS Children's Villages development work. This means operating in the field of development cooperation and encouraging member associations to embark on partnerships with aid organisations, UN organisations, government agencies, trusts and foundations. In addition to the preparation and submission of different proposals/concept notes, some key events, meetings and training were organised which opened doors of possible numerous sustainable collaborations and also increased the knowledge base of coworkers regarding IPD from different locations.

Some of these activities include the "Open House", where the Chief Guest was H.E. Dr. Lilly Nicholls, High Commissioner of Canada to Bangladesh. Other important officials from the High Commission of Canada in Bangladesh were also present at this event. The team extensively appreciated the life-changing activities carried out by SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh and showed great interest in supporting and collaborating with SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh in different capacities.

For the fourth consecutive year, National IPD Workshop was organised for three days with participants from six programme locations and the National Office.

Fund Development & Communications

In the pursuit of our mission to provide comprehensive care through our baskets of care solutions, Fund Development & Communications

Thanks to our donors, supporters and partners for making the difference



has dedicated significant efforts to establishing and nurturing partnerships with both individuals and corporations. These collaborations have been instrumental in enhancing the quality and impact of our programmes, enabling us to deliver exceptional services to those in need.

Major Activities:

Zakat campaign: In March 2022, during the holy month of Ramadan, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh launched a Zakat fundraising campaign. This campaign provided an opportunity for donors to fulfil their religious obligations while directly contributing to the holistic development, education, healthcare, and overall well-being of the children under our care. Through a digital initiative, we invited individual donors to contribute their Zakat to support the well-being and future of these children. We could raise an impressive amount of BDT 4.5 million.

Sponsor a child campaign: In our commitment to providing care and support to children without parental care, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh launched a series of digital campaigns for the acquisition of child sponsorship and the engagement of committed donors. These campaigns aimed to raise awareness about the critical needs of children without parental care and to encourage individuals and organisations to become sponsors to ensure a stable and nurturing environment for these children.



Corporate partnership: We have established strong partnerships with businesses that are committed to social responsibility and investing in the well-being of children and communities. Through joint initiatives, employee engagement programmes, cause-related marketing campaigns, and corporate sponsorships, we have expanded our program's scope and impact, positively affecting the lives of a greater number of individuals.



Financial information

Integrated Project of SOS Children's Village International in Bangladesh
Implemented by SOS Children's Village International in Bangladesh
Funded by SOS Kinderdorf International, Austria
Statement of financial position
For the year ended 31 December

Note	2022	2021	2020
Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	3	243,538,298	259,567,587
Intangible assets	4	1,285,120	1,112,412
Financial assets	5	783,350	783,350
Non-current assets		245,606,768	261,463,349
Children Money Gift (deducted fund)	6	86,839,429	89,033,292
Cash and cash equivalents	7	89,752,279	79,954,104
Investment in fund deposits	8	39,181,114	28,611,937
Current assets		135,772,822	117,600,333
Total assets		381,379,590	379,063,682
Liabilities			
General fund	9	386,067,300	359,521,344
Restricted fund	10	18,276,488	10,776,488
Children Money Gift (deducted fund)	11	86,839,429	89,033,292
Total fund		591,183,217	559,331,124
Liabilities for expenses	12	2,305,841	2,097,536
Caution money	13	205,985	205,985
Liabilities		6,905,513	6,415,905
Total fund and liabilities		601,108,730	565,747,029

The comparative information is related on account of adjustments for changes in policies and reclassifications. See Note 28.
The notes and annexes on pages 6 to 47 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Dr. 21 SEP 2023
DVC: 2309211000A0788250

Paul Joseph Halder
Director, Finance & Accounts
SOS Children's Village International
in Bangladesh

Dr. Md. Enamul Haque
National Director
SOS Children's Village International
in Bangladesh

As per our report of same date

M. M. Hossain FCA
Partner, Enrolment number: 1000
Rahman Rahman Huq, Chartered Accountants
Firm Enrolment Number: CAP-001-080
NGOAB Enrolment serial number: 99
03.07.2006-07.43.203.11-619
NGOAB Enrolment date: 31 January 2022
NGOAB Enrolment serial number: 99

Integrated Project of SOS Children's Village International in Bangladesh
Implemented by SOS Children's Village International in Bangladesh
Funded by SOS Kinderdorf International, Austria
Statement of income and expenditure
For the year ended 31 December

Note	2022	2021
Income		
Foreign donation received from SOS Kinderdorf International	13	471,291,142
Local income received	14	149,984,511
Bank interest	Appendix-d	3,454,111
Total income (A)		624,729,764
Expenses		
Low value items	15	574,445
Repairs and maintenance	16	22,111,747
Family expenses	17	57,682,388
Other current working expenses	18	221,032,344
Medical expenses	19	7,286,852
Transportation	20	17,483,778
Personnel expenses	21	242,624,756
Administrative expenses	22	17,981,588
Publicity expenses	23	1,866,348
Materials	24	713,330
Total running cost (B)		589,937,948
Depreciation (C)	3	34,002,823
Amortisation (D)	4	878,187
Total expenses (B+C+D)		624,818,958
Deficit of income over expenses (E=A-B)		(89,189,194)
Net asset transferred from emergency response program		2,361,368
Net deficit of income over expenses		(86,827,826)

The notes and annexes on pages 6 to 47 are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Integrated Project of SOS Children's Village International in Bangladesh
Implemented by SOS Children's Village International in Bangladesh
Funded by SOS Kinderdorf International, Austria
Statement of receipts and payments
For the year ended 31 December

Note	2022	2021
Cash in hand		
7	153,821	159,204
Cash at bank		
7	79,786,183	109,388,412
Opening cash and cash equivalent (A)		109,542,233
Received during the year		
Foreign donation received from SOS Kinderdorf International	13 A	478,488,722
Local income received	14 A	148,984,511
Bank interest received	Appendix-d	3,454,111
Total receipts during the year (B)		630,927,344
Payment made during the year		
Low value items	15	574,445
Repairs and maintenance	16 A	22,111,747
Family expenses	17	57,682,388
Other current working expenses	18	221,032,344
Medical expenses	19	7,286,852
Transportation	20	17,483,778
Personnel expenses	21	242,624,756
Administrative expenses	22 A	17,981,588
Publicity expenses	23	1,866,348
Materials	24	713,330
Total payments during the year (C)		589,937,948
Caution money refunded (D)	25	205,985
Total payments (C+D)		590,143,933
Balance carried forward (E=A+B-C+D)		118,383,644
Net fund available (F=E-A)		(89,189,194)
Net asset transferred from emergency response program		2,361,368
Net deficit of income over expenses (G=F-E)		(86,827,826)
Represented by:		
Cash in hand	7	153,821
Cash at bank	7	79,786,183
Total		80,939,994

The notes and annexes on pages 6 to 47 are an integral part of these financial statements.

Dr. 21 SEP 2023
DVC: 2309211000A0788250

Paul Joseph Halder
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SOS Children's Village International
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50 Years of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh

In 2022, SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh celebrated fifty years of its committed services in Bangladesh. In every location, different events were organised throughout the year and the major event was the 'Gala Evening of the Golden Jubilee Celebration', which took place on 16 September 2022 at Hotel InterContinental Dhaka. The main objective of this event was to showcase the glorious journey and impact of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh and to express gratitude to different stakeholders for their support in this pathway.

Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chowdhury, Speaker of the National Parliament was present as the chief guest and Planning Minister M.A. Mannan was the special guest at the event. Director General of NGO Affairs Bureau, K.M Tariqul Islam and Md. Mahbubur Rahman was present as distinguished guests and Chief Executive Officer of HSBC Bank Bangladesh was also present as a guest of honour. Besides them, different Government Officials, Country Directors of different INGOs,

children and young people, mothers, and current and former co-workers of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh were also present at that event.

The event contained displaying AV on different activities of SOS Bangladesh, Audio Visual message from Chief Operating Officer, speech by the guests, cultural performances of the children, sharing by the children and young people about their experience in Family-like Care and award ceremony followed by dinner. 'Pride of SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh Award 2022' was presented to 08 Care Leavers. In addition, 'SOS Children's Villages Bangladesh Community Champion Award' was presented to 09 distinguished citizens of Bangladesh who have undertaken numerous initiatives, beyond their regular activities for the betterment of the society. The recipients were PHP Group Chairman Alhaj Sufi Mizanur Rahman, Actress Ajmeri Haque Bandhan, prominent philanthropist Begum Majeda Ali, Microbiologist Senjuti Saha, President of AFDB Mantasha Ahmed, Managing Director of Ahmed Food Minhaj Ahmed, Selector of National cricket team Kazi Habibul Bashar, Founder of the Ritu Health and Wellbeing Foundation Sharmin Kabir and Vice Chancellor of Rajshahi University Professor Golam Sabbir Sattar.



Awards and accolades



Rotary Humanitarian Service Award 2021-22 as a recognition of exemplary socio-economic changes in the society



Best Organization Award presented by Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) on the occasion of the World Blood Donor Day- 2022



'Young Innovators Creating a Better World for All' by Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (WICCI)

Our journey to 2030



SOS Children's Village International in Bangladesh

National Office

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