

FINAL REPORT

On

Providing Supports to the Working Children to increase the Enrollment in the Non-formal Schools in Khulna City

Submitted to

Winrock International
Kathmandu, Nepal

Submitted By

Coastal Development Partnership (CDP)
Khulna, Bangladesh



Winrock International

Final Technical Reporting
to the Sub-contract Agreement between “Winrock International”
and Coastal Development Partnership (CDP)
from “01 September to 30 November’ 2004”

UAC Technical Report

Project Number	:	UAC-AS-5411-04-01
Project Title	:	Providing Supports to the Working Children to increase the Enrollment in the Non-formal Schools in Khulna City
Reporting Dates	:	01 September to 30 November’2004
Name of Organization:	:	Coastal Development Partnership (CDP)
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Primary Objective	:	To increase the enrolment rate of working children by 10% in 5 non-formal schools in Khulna city.
Sub-contract Amount	:	US\$ 2,633.27
Project Dates	:	01 September 2004 to 30 November 2004
Start and Completion	:	Started : 01 September 2004 and Completion : 07 January 2005

Technical Reporting Section I.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

A. Summary of Activities:

1. Deployment of Program Officer

A Program Officer has been deployed to coordinate the activities of the project for the project period under the supervision of a Supervisor of the organization.

2. Survey and Selection of School

A baseline survey was conducted among 21 non-formal schools to identify the target schools. Through the survey report 6 schools have been selected considering some criteria to provide the project support. Though it was planned to selected 5 schools consisting of 200 working children under the project, 5 schools did not cover the number of target children. As a result more 1 school has been selected to provide with the support.

3. Orientation of NGOs' Executives and Teachers:

The project organized one day orientation meeting with the chief/regional chief of the organizations who implement the schools and concerned teachers as well. In the orientation meeting the goal and activities of the project was presented to the participants. In the meeting The chiefs/regional chiefs said that it was an appropriate step for the wellbeing of the working children. They also requested to extend the activities in other education centers of the working children as well as to continue for more period.

4. Orientation of community leaders

The project organized 6 orientation meetings with the community leaders. As per the project plan 5 orientation meetings with the community leaders supposed to be organized. But, as we selected 6 schools in 6 community, 6 meetings had to be organized. In the orientation meetings political leaders, teachers, businessmen, employers of the children and representatives from NGOs were present. Through the meeting the employers of the children were mobilized to allow their child workers for schooling in their school time and not to make engage them with risk works. In the meeting they assured that they would permit their child workers for schooling and would not engage them in risk works. Besides, the parents/guardians are more aware to send their child to school. Besides, the community leaders thanked Winrock International and CDP for taking the initiative for the wellbeing of disadvantaged working children. They thought that if the initiatives were introduce to other schools, the enrollment of the working children would be increased and dropout rate would be decreased. They added that these activities of the project had been sensitized the parents or guardians of the children and as well as their employers for schooling the children.

5. Motivation of senior students

Through proper motivation 5 senior students of Khulna Art College has been engaged with the project to carry out the drawing class for the working children of selected schools.

6. Contracting Cultural Organization to impart cultural training to the students

A Cultural team has been selected and a MoU has been signed with the team to train the working children on drama, recitation and chorus song (group song).

7. Drawing training for the students of selected schools

In a total of 13 classes was conducted in each school. The children were provided with drawing kits and bags to make them more interested for schooling. Besides, in each class they were also provided with snacks for their refreshment. Though only 13 class is too short to teach drawing, it encouraged the children to demonstrate their brilliancy. And the project succeeded to do it. The drawings of the children prove it.

8. Cultural training for the students

In total 39 classes on drama, recitation and chorus song (group song) have been conducted in each school. Actually the number and period of classes was too short to provide the children knowledge on the said themes and made them skilled. Like the drawing classes it encouraged the children to present their talent. Finally the children performance was praiseworthy. To make the classes more attractive, the children were provided with snacks for their refreshment.

9. Competition

The project organized competitions among the children on drawing, recitation, group theater and group song. At first primary competitions were organized in each school on the said events and in a total 56 students, who won in the primary competition were selected from 6 schools for final competition. Then the final (central) competition was organized for two days (2 events in each day). Teachers from Khulna Art Collage, artists from Bangladesh Radio (Khulna), representative from each schools and CDP were active as the judges of the competition. Guardians/parents and some community leaders were also present in the se events. Of the competitors 20 in drawing, 18 in recitation, 4 groups in group theater and 4 groups in group song competed in the events. And fair judgment was ensured to select the winners. In the 2nd day of competition a cultural program was organized with the participation of judges and working children along with the competition. But during the competition the name of the winners were not circulated. It was circulated in the Prize Distribution Ceremony.

10. Prize Distribution and Project Compilation Meeting:

The project organized a Prize Distribution Ceremony and Project Completion Meeting at the beginning of the New Year 2005 (05 January). Journalists, Government officials, NGO (working with children) representatives, guardians/parents & employers of the working children and community leaders participated in the meeting.

Mr. Monirul Islam, ADC (Education & Development), Khulna was the Chief Guest and Mr. Chandan Z. Gomez, Area Manager of World Vision-Bangladesh, Khulna Branch chaired the prize distribution ceremony. Among other guests Ms. Mamnura Jakir Khukumani (Ward Commissioner), Mr. Abdul Halim (News Editor, The Daily Thatha), Mr. Abdul Mazed (Headmaster, UCEP Wazed Ali School-6, Khulna), Ms. Silvy Harun (Pradipon) and Mr. Sarder Sirazul Islam (CDP) delivered their valuable speech.

After the welcome address, activities & achievements of the project and future plan were presented before the guests. Then the chief guest and special guests distributed the prizes among the winners. Besides, all competitors who competed in the final competition were provided with certificate and general prizes and all 6 schools were provided with crest of CDP.

The chief guest and other speakers said that these initiatives taken under the project were very much effective and praiseworthy for schooling the working children. They also requested CDP to take similar activities in other area of the district and to extend to other districts of the country as well. Above all they thanked Winrock International for supporting CDP to execute this project in this area.

11. Post Evaluation:

After completion of planned activities of the project a post evaluation survey was conducted among the recipient beneficiary schools using a prepared format.

12. Coordination Meeting

CDP organized monthly staff coordination meeting. In this coordination meetings during the project period the concerned project personnel submit the progress of previous month and plan for the next month of the project. Besides, the problem faced to implement the activities were also discussed in this coordination meeting for necessary solution. Moreover under the project fortnightly meeting with the drawing teacher and Cultural team were also organized.

B. Spotlight Interventions:

At the beginning of the project it was recorded that the enrolment rate of working children in the selected schools was only average 53%. The lowest was 40% and highest was 69%. At the end of the project we conducted a project completion survey. In the survey report it has been recorded that in the last class the attendance was 75% (average). Lowest attendance 65% and highest 92% has been recorded. Moreover in a total 7 dropped out children began schooling again during this project period.

Besides, 2 of the 6 schools are continuing the same activities to ensure the regular enrolment of the working children and the rest 4 has planned to do the same from this year by their own fund.

B. Problems Areas:

No significant problem raised during the project period. Even then following were the minor problems that has been faced during whole project period-

- At the end of November 2004 it was planned to organize the prize distribution ceremony. But in this period the schools used to busy with final examination. So it was not possible to organize the program in November. We organized it after the completion of examinations of each school.
- Though the students are working children, it is hard for them to get time for schooling. In some cases the employers of the children do not approve them to go to school instead of working.
- Due to resource limitation it was not possible to provide support to other schools of the area like ours. It created a demand of these kinds of supports to run the schools.

Technical Reporting Section II. Lessons Learned and Emerging Good Practices

The following pages (Section II-IV) are to be filled out every FOUR months on the dates set by the Regional Manager, at the mid-term review, project close-out or as otherwise instructed (Length: maximum 1 paragraph). Please fill in as applicable to your project.

A. Broad-based multi-sectoral action against child labor and education for all children: “the program approach”-

Not Applicable

B. Action against the worst forms of child labor -.

Actually there was no scope to take action against worst form of child labor in the project. But in the community meeting and prize distribution ceremony we invited some employers of some of our beneficiary children. We mobilized them to allow their child workers for schooling in their school time and not engage them with risk works. In the meeting they assured that they would permit their child workers for schooling and would not engage them in risk works. But due to fund limitation the project was not able to monitor this.

C. Mainstreaming successful approaches and achieving sustainability of impact –

The successful approach of the project was to make the working children interested for enrolling schools. So the project planned to provide them with lessons on drawing and cultural activities along with drawing kits and snacks during classes. Competition on drawing and cultural events was another attraction for the children. This raised competitive mentality among the children for winning the first prize which ensured their regular enrollment in the school. The project also organized community meetings with parents of the children, employers of the child workers and community leaders to motivate them for regular enrollment of the children in the schools. These approaches increased the enrolment rate of the children by 22%. This increasing rate of children’s enrolment encouraged the authority of the beneficiary non-formal schools to add these components with their previous manual.

D. Improving the knowledge basis (baseline and other data collection efforts) –

At the beginning of the project it was recorded (through baseline survey) that the enrolment rate of working children in the selected schools was only average 53%. The lowest was 40% and highest was 69%. At the end of the project we conducted a project completion survey. In the survey report it has been recorded that in the last class the attendance was 75% (average). Lowest attendance 65% and highest 92% has been recorded. Moreover in a total 7 dropped out children began schooling again during this project period.

E. Thematic lessons –

The teaching facilities of non-formal schools is not sufficient as it is in formal schools. So, making the learning process more interesting make the working children encouraged for regular enrollment in Non-formal schools.

F. Implementing Environment –

We think the implementing environment of the project is mainly consisted of the authority or implementing organizations of the beneficiary non-schools. This environment was always in our favor to implement the project activities. The concerned teachers of the schools provided the project with their time and labor which are out of their assigned tasks. They always cooperated with our project personnel, drawing and cultural events' teachers to run their activities smoothly. With their cooperation it was not possible for us to achieve the objective of the project.

Technical Reporting Section III. CIRCLE Project Objectives

As it was a very short time project, it was not possible to meet the large objectives of the CIRCLE project properly. But the project contributed in a limited to meet the first 2 objective (A & B) of the CIRCLE project as bellow-

A. Raise awareness of the importance of education for all children and to mobilize a wide array of actors to improve and expand education infrastructures.

1. Orientation of Community Leaders

The project organized orientation meetings with community leaders. In the orientation meetings political leaders, teachers, employers of the working children, representatives from NGOs and parents/guardians were present. Through the meeting the employers of the children were mobilized to allow their child workers for schooling in their school time and not engage them with risk works. In the meeting they assured that they would permit their child workers for schooling and would not engage them in risk works. Besides, the parents/guardians are more aware to send their child to school.

2. Orientation Meeting with NGOs Executives and Teachers:

The project organized one day orientation meeting with the chief /regional chief of the organizations who implement the schools and concerned teachers. In the orientation meeting the goal and activities of the project was presented to the participants. In the meeting the participants said that it was a appropriate step for the wellbeing of the working children. They also said that they would take farther initiative to carry on this activities in their schools after the withdrawal of the support.

B. Strengthen formal and transitional education systems that encourage working children and those at risk of working to attend school.

To make the working children interested for enrolling in the schools the project just added some extra components with the general education system of the non-formal schools for the working children.

1. Drawing and cultural events training

The project provided the working children with lessons on drawing and cultural activities. We supplied drawing kits and school bags to the children to make them more interested to enroll in the school. Five drawing teachers (students of Art College) were active to train the children on drawing. Besides, a cultural team was active to train the working children on drama, recitation and chorus song. During the class there were arrangements for light refreshments for the children, which was another attraction for the poor children.

2. Competition organization and prize distribution

At the beginning of drawing and cultural classes, it was circulated among the children that a competition would be arranged among them and the winners would be awarded. This circulation raised competitive mentality among the children for wining the first prize which ensured their regular enrollment in the school. Of course, this competition and prize distribution ceremony was organized.