



Message



Sheikh Hasina
Prime Minister

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

I am happy to know that 'Save the Children' unified its four offices in Bangladesh and renamed 'Save the Children International'. On this occasion I congratulate all concerned of the organization.

The organization has been working from the very beginning of our independence. It addresses the most critical problems faced by the children in Bangladesh. Including in the fields of maternal and child health, education, child protection, livelihoods and nutrition, and preparing for and responding to emergencies.

I believe, the unified Save the Children will be able to perform its services more intensively.

I hope, this organization will supplement the government's effort in creating the better future of our children.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever



Message

Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury
State Minister
Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Children, constituting about 45 percent of the population, are the future force of Bangladesh. Bangladesh Constitution guarantees the rights of the children. The government has taken initiatives to ensure promotion and protection of the rights of the children. Over the years significant progress has been made on several areas like gender parity in primary and secondary education, birth registration, collection of data related to children, gradual eradication of the worst forms of child labour, improving the juvenile justice system and eradicating violence against children. Ministry of Women and Children Affairs has formulated the Children Policy, 2011 which includes all the issues related to child protection and child welfare.

The Government also took very significant steps for the welfare of children and their families such as widespread immunization of children, improvements in child, maternal and neonatal health, early childhood education and ensuring implementation of the national curriculum in all schools. We welcome the support of other stakeholders in cooperating with the Government for the well being of children.

I particularly appreciate Save the Children's cooperation in achieving broad scale, sustainable development of children rather than just making temporary improvements in the situation for a small number of children. Save the Children has emerged as an important partner in the Governments effort to improve the status of children throughout the country. The Ministry looks forward to working with Save the Children to explore all possible new initiatives for child protection and development.

I am happy to know that all the four country offices of Save the Children have merged into one entity called Save the Children in Bangladesh. I believe that this organization will continue its efforts in cooperating with the Government to bring positive changes in the lives of children in Bangladesh.

I wish Save the Children all the success.



Message

Director General
NGO Affairs Bureau
Prime Minister's Office

It's my pleasure and privilege to congratulate Save the Children International on the occasion of its Launching Ceremony on March 10, 2012 in Bangladesh. Save the Children previously worked to support children through Save the Children USA, Save the Children UK, Save the Children Australia and Save the Children Sweden-Denmark. They are exerting all their efforts for the betterment of the children in a concerted way. Bringing all programs together to create a synergistic effort is a wonderful initiative for Save the Children. This will contribute to overall development of children and fulfill their rights through different diversified programs of Save the Children.

Government also believes that improvement of the children demands many interrelated and inter dependent initiatives. Bangladesh Government is striving hard to up-date the policies, laws and rules for ensuring the rights of the children.

Save the Children has been maintaining an excellent relationship with NGO Affairs Bureau since our war of liberation. So, NGO Affairs Bureau considers Save the Children to be one of the most effective INGOs working in Bangladesh. After becoming Save the Children International, we are sure that the relationship between the NGOAB and Save the Children will become even stronger.

I hope that the integrated Save the Children will keep up its reputation as a unique child rights organization working relentlessly to change the fate of the poor children of Bangladesh, being compliant of the law of the land.

**SAVE THE CHILDREN :
40 YEARS IN BANGLADESH**

Who we are
Save the Children is the largest international organization working to bring positive changes in the lives of children. Today on March 10, 2012, Save the Children launches as ONE organization. Save the Children formerly had four country offices in Bangladesh namely Save the Children Australia, Save the Children Sweden-Denmark, Save the Children UK and Save the Children USA, who have been working for the betterment of children in Bangladesh since the early 70's. Save the Children members have joined together to implement their program as ONE Save the Children from October 1, 2011. Save the Children believes that as ONE organization we can work more efficiently, explore new ways to address children's needs and work with a wider range of stakeholders to maximise impact for children.

Save the Children's new vision in Bangladesh is that all children realize their rights and grow to their full potential as active, respected citizens. Its mission is to become the leading child-rights organization with innovative, quality programs and advocacy, including during emergencies while using resources efficiently and acting with courage, ambition and integrity.

Save the Children was founded in 1919 by Eglantyne Jebb to provide relief to children after World War I. Later she drafted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, which inspired the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Child.

Today, Save the Children International works in 119 countries and represents the world's largest independent global organization for children. More recently, Save the Children has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize and will be nominated for the Seoul Peace Prize.

MESSAGE FROM CHILDREN

There were 4 Save the Children offices in Bangladesh. Some of us knew about Save the Children Australia's office while some knew Save the Children Sweden-Denmark's office. Some children were affiliated with Save the Children UK and USA. We didn't know what all the four offices were doing. When we got to know that Save the Children is turning into one office, we became very happy thinking that the movement to ensure children's rights will now be amplified. Our achievements will now increase more and more. Now Save the Children will be able to reach their service to more children living in villages, upazilas and districts. When fingers stand alone they are fragile, but if you make a fist, it increases the force. We are very happy that Save the Children has increased its force. On behalf of all children in Bangladesh, we wish Save the Children all success.

Parveen Akther Popy, member,
Child Protection Movement



Md. Nizam Hossen, member,
National Childrens Task Force



**TOGETHER
FOR CHILDREN**

LAUNCH OF ONE SAVE THE CHILDREN IN BANGLADESH



Message

Professor Gowher Rizvi
Hon Prime Minister's International Affairs Advisor
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

I congratulate Save the Children International for consolidating its manifold work under the umbrella of the newly established Save the Children in Bangladesh. This is an imaginative and innovative move that will help to make the organization more effective in bringing sustainable changes and to adding value to the lives of children in our country.

Promoting the welfare of the children and securing their rights was one of the priorities of Bangabandhu; and shortly after the liberation of the country, he promulgated the Child Act of 1974 to ensure the wellbeing, the privileges and fuller development of children in Bangladesh. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has taken personal interest for the care of the young people who are the future leaders of this country. The government has taken measures to improve the lives of working children, to ensure their safety, security, education, good health and amusement. Government is also working for the welfare of physically and socially challenged children.

Save the Children has earned the gratitude and admiration of the country for its commitment and service to the children. We have particularly appreciated our partnership with international communities and non-government organizations that value and advance the government's vision. We acknowledge Save the Children's contribution in Health and Nutrition, Education, HIV & AIDS, Child Protection, Child Rights Governance, Livelihoods, Emergency and Preparedness initiatives.

I wish the new journey a successful continuation.

Gowher Rizvi



Message

Save the Children
Jasmine Whitbread
Chief Executive Officer
Save the Children International

Today is a very special day for Save the Children. I am immensely proud that we are able to celebrate the establishment of one Save the Children in Bangladesh. Save the Children was founded by Eglantyne Jebb, who set up an organization that would work tirelessly for the benefit of children throughout the world, regardless of their nationality, religion or social origin. More than 90 years later, we have realized Eglantyne's vision of a truly international organization, bringing together our combined resources, to ensure that children everywhere are able to realize the rights that are enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child - right to survival, to protection, to development and to participation and to a say in the issues that affect their future.

With strong support from the Government of Bangladesh, our partners in civil society, donor organizations and the ordinary men, women and children of this great country, Save the Children in Bangladesh now has the chance to make huge strides towards its goal of creating a better future for the children of Bangladesh. I wish you the very best in this critical task.

Jasmine Whitbread

THE CHILD that is hungry must be fed; the child that is sick must be nursed; the child that is backward must be helped; the delinquent child must be reclaimed; and the orphan and waif must be sheltered and succoured.

- Eglantyne Jebb
(Founder of Save the Children)



Message

Save the Children
Michael McGrath
Country Director
Save the Children in Bangladesh

Save the Children has been working to assist the children of Bangladesh for almost 40 years, through the efforts of Save the Children Australia, Sweden/Denmark, UK and US. Each organization had its own special areas of expertise, and its own areas of geographic focus.

With the help of our partners in government and civil society, we have helped to provide protection for children, improve early childhood and non-formal education, maternal and child health and livelihoods for families, and responded to disasters such as cyclones Sidr and Aila. We have made special efforts to reach those who are most vulnerable - ethnic minorities, street children, refugees and those on the margins of society, and - through innovations such as the Child Parliament - have sought to ensure that the voices of children are heard.

By uniting to form one Save the Children in Bangladesh, we have taken an enormous step forward. Our 700 staff and 200 partner organizations are now supported by all 29 Save the Children member organizations throughout the world, with the resources of their peoples, governments and corporations. Our capacity to achieve more for the children of Bangladesh has increased many fold, and with it, our responsibility to make significant and long-lasting changes in their lives.

I am heartened by the strong support that we have received from the Government of Bangladesh, our largest and most significant partner, and our friends and colleagues throughout this wonderful country. The challenges are immense; economic growth has brought about massive migration to overcrowded cities with limited services, climate change is exacerbating the shortage of land and the vulnerability of this low-lying country to floods, cyclones and other disasters. However, with your encouragement and support, we promise to redouble our efforts to ensure that every child in Bangladesh is able to grow and develop to their full potential.

Michael McGrath

Our Work
Save the Children works in Bangladesh with major focus in the following thematic areas.

Health and Nutrition

Save the Children's health and nutrition programs develop and implement strategies to save the lives of newborns, children and mothers in the most remote, resource-poor settings. From pregnancy through adolescence, our programs focus on improving practices and knowledge and ensuring access to quality care, delivering health services through government and other partners. We promote good nutrition, treating acute malnutrition, and combating pneumonia, diarrhea while working at the national level to influence national health policies.

Education

Save the Children's education program works with teachers, parents and communities to support learning. It advocate for national policies and strategies to promote high-quality, inclusive education. Our national programs support children's development in the early years. We work with communities and partners to establish community-based non-formal education. We have developed approaches to increase children's access to education including ethnic minorities, child laborers, children with disabilities and children in brothel communities.

Child Protection

The Child Protection program work to strengthen the legal and social mechanisms which protect children from abuse, exploitation, trafficking and other forms of violence, even during and after natural disaster. We focus on prevention through behavior change and awareness-raising, often led by children. For survivors, we provide rescue, repatriation and psychosocial support services and promote quality institutional and community-based care. Save the Children contributes to legal and policy formulation to strengthen child protection systems both at local and national level.

HIV&AIDS

Save the Children currently supports 62 partners working to prevent the spread of HIV among those most at risk and ensure affected populations have access to care. Our comprehensive program helps young people access reproductive and sexual health information and services. We advocated successfully to incorporate information about HIV&AIDS into the national school curriculum, mobilized religious leaders around the issue and supported the protection of affected and at-risk children.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Save the Children has been preparing coastal vulnerable communities for natural disasters since 2005 and continues working with government, communities and children to increase preparedness. We mounted major responses to cyclones Sidr (2007) and Aila (2009) and maintain the capacity to respond to any disaster which puts children at risk.

Livelihood and Food Security

Save the Children works targeting food insecure districts to increase the households' food production and income alongside access to services. Activities include producing vegetables and other nutritious foods, rearing pond fish and small livestock and making handicrafts using local natural resources. We are also improving conditions for working children, protecting them from economic exploitation through empowerment and advocacy and strengthening their professional skills.

Child Rights Governance

Save the Children works with government, communities and civil society, to realize Bangladesh's commitment to create a child-rights-enabling environment after it ratified UNCRC. Through National Children's Task Force, Child Protection Movement, Child Parliament, Child Rights Governance Assembly and grassroots children organizations, we involve people of all ages in promoting children's rights. We do advocacy and also child-led advocacy around the Children Act and Child Policy. We also lead child-rights analyses of the national budget and shadow reporting on the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child.

