

## Situation Report Template

### Situation Report [9]

#### Coronavirus – Bangladesh

6<sup>th</sup> August 2020; 10:30 (Local time)

[Point of Contact – Kazi Abdul Kadir, Specialist, Disaster Risk Management, Mobile: +8801710347592,  
Email: [kazi.kadir@educo.org](mailto:kazi.kadir@educo.org)]

Reporting period: 03 July to 05 August 2020

#### **Part 1: The Overall Situation**

(general information is already included in IMT reports. You don't need to fill it. Just give the required info in green)

Please provide information about how the government and/or other institutions are ensuring the continuity of education or child protection services provision during the quarantine/confinement period (homeschooling, online education, distance education with homework, distribution of books, guides/brochures and educational or recreational material, education via radio, TV, among other alternatives).

Government has closed all education institutions from 17<sup>th</sup> March to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020 and that further extended till 30<sup>th</sup> August '20. Children are confined at home with their parents and in mental distress as their outdoor activities have totally closed. For continuation of education of secondary school's students, Bangladesh's Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education started broadcasting the lessons from 29 March 29'20 for students of class six to ten on TV to remain students on education. Similarly, for Primary school's students the lessons started from 07 April'20. Continuity of education for marginalized children is a challenge specially not having access to TV and internet. Government and non-government organization are disseminating child protection and rights messages through social, electronic and print media.

#### **Part 2: The Situation in Areas Where Educo/ChildFund Works**

- What issues are children, families and communities in these areas facing? (closed schools, home confinement, food shortages, safety concerns, health issues, etc.)

As of 5<sup>th</sup> August'20, according to the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), there are 246,674 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Bangladesh, including 3267 related death. The recovered cases are 141750.

On March 16, 2020, the Government of Bangladesh declared closures to all academic institutions for controlling the spread out of corona virus. It has created an immediate impact on the learners'

education. Children are confined themselves at home by maintaining social distancing. As the initiatives of primary education continuation, the Directorate of Primary Education (DPE), with support from a2i program has begun broadcasting digital content for primary level students on national television channel Sangsad TV as well as different social media platforms.

However, there is challenge for marginalized children to get the virtual learning opportunity due to not having TV, mobile phone and internet access. Due to closure of schools for a long time, it could create a significant impact of children, adolescents and youth on education, protection, nutrition, as well as psychosocial. The students from low-income and marginalized families are at high risk of dropping out that will increase of other social problems like; child labor, early marriage, child abuse and exploitation, low level technical skill etc. Besides, the crisis could be more threatening for students with special needs especially who are from poor families. Considering the children wellbeing of nation, there is little initiatives from the government and other institutions concentration on education, health and child protection during the humanitarian crisis. The national, international non profitable organizations have significant roles to children wellbeing through studies, research, raising awareness and advocacy programs across the country. As per recent survey conducted by BRAC reveal that 16 percent students have been in a state of panic since the closure of all educational institutions from March 17. The survey found that at 29 percent, panic was higher among students with disabilities.

About 17 percent of female students, students of secondary schools, and those living in rural areas and studying in madrasas were also passing their days in states of concern. In 22 percent of the cases, food crisis in the family appeared to be a major issue – mostly reported by madrasa students and those living in urban areas.

Additionally, children are also missing the interactive and joyful learning with different kinds of activities and games. The prolonged closure of schools is significantly affecting the mental health and growth development also. It is difficult to explore their potentially, soft skills and technical skills with proper guidance and education support.

Additionally, the families are facing challenges in income due to COVID 19 pandemic, as most the of the family heads are involved in day labour (mason, carpenter), driver (rickshaw, van, CNG, private car), garments worker and house maid. Due to COVID crisis, many families lost their job as well as limited opportunity for income. As a result, many children are in scarcity of food as well as are in threats of health hazard for lacking cleaning items. Some families are leaving Dhaka City for being unable to pay house rent. However, some parents are gradually engaged with the work who involved with different work at market and garments factory. Some of the parents are facing challenges especially who lost their job and searching new work. Few numbers of mothers engaged in domestic work who fully detached from their earning for three months.

The children are well known about COVID- 19 now. Though children told, they are wearing mask for outside movement if important requirement, and they are used to washing hands with soap for 20 seconds. However, the practice of maintaining hygiene in their personal life is very low; due to lack of hygiene materials, lack of awareness and lack of strict monitoring by the LGI.

The mental stress and vulnerabilities have increased in the families because of financial hardship, less social interaction. These crises are creating risks for children protection. The children are facing physical (slapping, bitten) and mental (rebuke, scold) abuse and sexual exploitation. However, it is increased statistically nationwide.

Many families lived in a small area & short cottage. They stayed at home a very long time. So, Security is being disrupted as there are like prisoners in one room. Besides, Parents, guardians and community people are unemployed. So, they are mentally disturbed and feel insecure. Also, they quarreled each other in a simple issue. Some families had economic crisis. So, they tried to involve their children in work. Therefore the number of child labour is increasing alarmingly. On the other hand, children did not follow their parents' advice as well as they are getting addicted with games through Mobile phone

It is mentioned that, many of adolescent members also are forced to involve in labour, as the family income is reduced. They support their families to mitigate family needs and livelihood. During the period, there is no identified cases of Child Marriage of Educo Children families. However, it has increased in Bangladesh during the crisis of COVID-19.

Recently, Mahila Parishad Central Committee published a situation report named "COVID-19: Violence against women and girls in times of crisis and access to justice" and shared some findings through online press briefing. The study findings and recommendations are covered in a daily newspaper named "Shomokal"<sup>1</sup>. The findings are below;

- 307 women and children are victim of rape
- Total 457 women and 331 children are victim of violence
- 18 cases child marriage are occurred.

### **Situation of Educo intervention areas/communities**

#### **Dhaka District:**

As of 31st July, in Dhaka City total 52,224 confirmed cases have reported among them only 94 are from 11 Educo intervention communities from that 73 have been recovered, 2 under treatment and 19 died. In July, 10 confirmed cases found in the 11 Educo intervened communities. Among the 10 confirmed cases 8 recovered and 2 under treatment. It is pleased to inform that, the children from Educo schools are not infected during the period. However, about 221 Students have suffered from normal cold & fever during the period, now they are recovered and lead normal life. The findings show that many people are suffering from common fever and cold related problems in the communities. In most of the cases the symptoms are like covid-19. However, most of them are not interested to tests on COVID-19 due to not having proper support from relevant entities as well as social challenges faced by patients after being confirmed COVID-19 positive.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://epaper.samakal.com/nogor-edition/2020-07-16/13>

Hence, Bangladesh Shishu Adhiker Forum (BSAF) provided a summary of the situation of Children Affected by Corona Virus (9 April-30 June 2020). The age of affected children are lowest age 2 months and highest age 18 years old.

- Total number of affected children -179,
- Sample collected and report yet not published -29
- Tasted and found corona positive-139
- Death with corona symptoms-32,
- Death(as confirmed corona case -8
- Total death -40

Besides, In June to July-2020, Educo urban team have completed a survey on COVID 19 impact, situation through mobile communication covering on Education, protection, child rights and overall impact of COVID19. The data analysis is under process.

#### Narayanganj District:

There are 11 confirmed cases found in the community and all are fully cured from corona. It is noted that, in July-2020, there are 3 confirmed cases found in the community and all are cured from corona. Among the 3 infected cases, all infected were the community people. They all hospitalized at Govt. Hospital under Narayanganj district and got opportunity to take treatment from there. It is fortunate that there was not any death incident among the Educo beneficiaries, children, or community people till now.

Rupganj Upazilla(including Chanpara community) was fully lock downed from 1st week to 3rd week of July-2020. Cash or food and cleaning materials are very essential for the community people. The parents are seeking further support from Educo again. Some parents had small shop in the community which is totally closed long time lockdown and its lack of capital. Now they are totally helpless. Now they need financial support to run the shop.

In July-2020, a COVID19 sample testing booth was established at the Chanpara Community Clinic, which is inaugurated by LGI representative. 11 samples were tested but COVID-19 sample testing booth is closed at present due to some technological problems.

In June to July-2020, the teachers have completed a survey on COVID 19 impact, situation through mobile communication covering on Education, protection, child rights and overall impact of COVID19. The data analysis is under process.

As per new govt. instruction, maximum shops are open to 8.00 pm in the community except medicine shop. The school team are doing the great job through maintaining regular communication with community, students, SMC and youth along with involved with education survey. Here mentioned that the required advised are being given to the students through parents and along with some lessons for exam preparation, class time for TV based distance education learning session , to stay at home with required precaution, emergencies helplines number for CORONA related incident, etc.

The parents are gradually engaged with the work from this week who involved with different work at market and garments factory. Some of the parents involved small floating business (vegetable sell by van). Till now all the parents could not attend their job properly and they are facing some problems specially

who lost their job and searching new work. Many women engaged with domestic work who fully detached from their earning for three months.

#### Gazipur District:

In Kaligonj upazila till August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2870 people were tested for corona virus and out of 401 people, corona virus was detected. Of these, 360 have recovered from treatment at various hospitals and homes and 8 have died so far.

Due to the growing influence of the Corona, the local administration divided Kaligonj into three zones from 13 June and declared a lockdown. Vehicles, offices, markets and people were banned during the lockdown. At this time there was panic and panic among the people.

Even after lifting the lockdown from July 5, the rate of patient identification in Kaligonj is the same as before, but people are returning to normal life. There is no fear in people now, there does not seem to be anything called coronary heart disease. Crowds of people in markets, offices, streets, shopping malls and it is worrying that health rules and social distance are not being followed properly. Although the upazila administration has been campaigning for compliance of health rules in various public meeting centers, shopping malls and animal markets, people have not complied with it.

Furthermore, it takes 10/12 days to get corona test results for this reason, many people are recovering from it, as a result, many people have lost interest in corona test.

On the occasion of Eid, the government has allocated 10 kg of rice for the poor. This assistance has been received through many local members of our families in the Educo intervention area.

Based on the daily reports sent by the Upazila Health and Family Planning Office, 72 corona patients have been identified in Kaligonj in the last 30 days, but before that 329 patients were identified from mid-March to July 6th. The rate of patient identification is much higher after the declaration of red zone.

A total of 49% (534 out of 1134 families) of the Educo student's families are very poor and disadvantaged and in crises for managing daily food for their families basically who engaged with daily earning.

At present no public or private relief is being distributed among the poor people. There is no relief at this moment like before.

At least 49% Educo student's families are in crises for managing daily food for their families basically who engaged with daily earning.

#### Mymensingh District:

As of 05th August in Mymensingh district total 2693 confirmed case has reported, out of them 281 from Bhaluka Sub-district, but all of beneficiaries of Educo are safe. 3 peoples died from coronavirus infections in Bhaluka, around 35 some peoples are put in home isolation and taking home care. All the business including market, factories and offices has reopened from June 30, 2020. Coronavirus infection raising rate bit reduced and the recoveries rate almost 80% in Bhaluka.

#### Moulvibazar district:

As of 05 August'20 total of 81 person in Sreemangal upazila, & 89 person in Kamolganj upazila infected by the covid-19. Three COVID 19 patients have found in Project Intervention Area (Sreemangal & Kamolgan) till date. One COVID 19 patient (aged 90 years) from Sreemangal (Baikka Beel) & one (adult RMG workers came back from Dhaka) from Kamolganj (Patrakhola TG) under the project intervention community. These two patients are recovered from the diseases. One new patient has found in Putiachara TG (detected on July 15, 2020) who is aged 52 years and working as cook for the TG manager. These three patients are not the HH members of the direct project participants.

There are total 845 patients in the Moulvibazar district (10 are dead- 3 from Sreemangal & 1 from Kamolganj). The infected people are from all Upazilas of the district. Total 411 person has recovered from the disease.

All educational institute are closed as government circular. Government and Non-Government agencies are in limited operation.

#### Cox's Bazar:

- 3465 COVID-19 positive cases (cumulative) were reported in total in Cox's Bazar district as of 4 August as per World Health Organization and Health Sector, Cox'sbazar. The first laboratory confirmed case was identified in Cox's Bazar on 23 March.
- Among FDMN/ Rohingya refugees 75 COVID-19 cases have been reported in as of 4 August as per World Health Organization and Health Sector, Cox'sbazar
- No Rohingya refugees are in quarantine in the camps as of 03 August 2020.
- From the host community: 3,390 COVID-19 cases have been reported to date.
- 855 persons are in home quarantine as per Civil Surgeon Office in Cox's Bazar as of 03 August 2020.

- How many of our beneficiaries and families are affected?

The children from Educo schools are not infected during the period. However, numbers of students have suffered from regular cold & fever during the period, now they are recovered and lead normal life. The findings show that many people are suffering from common fever and cold related problems in the communities. In most of the cases the symptoms are like covid-19. However, most of them are not interested to tests on COVID-19 due to not having proper support from relevant entities as well as social challenges faced by patients after being confirmed COVID-19 positive.

In Educo working areas total 1303 people have been infected by Corona Virus from that only 03 are our direct beneficiaries but now all are cured.

Educo is working with the economically vulnerable people, move over 50% families of livelihood impacted so far and they are in very scare situation for their live and livelihood and they are facing difficulties to manage their daily food who are engaged with daily earning. And people with food crisis is increasing day by day and some people are starving for scarcity of food. People with other health problems are not getting proper treatment facilities for collapse of health facilities. Numbers of community people are not giving importance to stay at home, some are unnecessary moving at outside though government restrictions. So, continuation of awareness at community level is require.

### Part 3: Educo/ChildFund's Preparation, Response and/or Recovery action

- Planned, desired or ongoing action – inside or outside current operational areas. (just mention it. It will be further developed in a separate template). PLEASE SPECIFY IF DESIRED OR ONGOING

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, Educo Bangladesh has been supporting the disadvantaged people in its working and non-working areas. Educo Bangladesh has supported the disadvantage people in 2 phases. 1st phase 20 May-02 June and 2nd phase 27 July'20. In the first phase Educo has stood beside the children and their families in slums located in Dhaka and Narayanganj districts, brothels in Rajbari and Faridpur districts and indigenous (plain-land Adivasi) communities in Rajshahi and Chapai Nawabganj districts with food, cash, and health and hygiene kits.

In 1st phase 5,564 vulnerable families got 1,000 taka each, including families of children studying in Educo schools living in Dhaka's slums and Narayanganj districts; and children and families supported by the organization's anti-child labor project ODHIKAR (Options for Dignity of Human Being by Influencing Key Actors to Reform). In Rajshahi and Chapai Nawabgonj districts, Educo distributed life-saving food packs containing 10 kg rice, 2kg dal (pulses), 1 litre oil, 3 kg potatoes, and 1kg salt to 1,059 plain land Adibashi families, many of whom are vulnerable and marginalized.

#### Response in Cox's Bazar

- Medical grade PPE distributed at Ukhiya Upazila Health Complex on 26 July 2020.
- 10 Rohingya volunteer recruited at camp 8E.
- Hygiene kits distributed in 1494 HH at camp 8E in 16 sub blocks. COVID 19 and child protection messages also delivered during the distribution. The distribution was done by maintaining Govt. health rules with proper hygiene kits at different location through Majhi and CiC.
- Poster and leaflet printed on COVID 19 messages for children in English and Bangla.
- 108 Home visitations completed for COVID 19 messages by Rohingya Volunteer at camp 8E
- 240 beneficiaries finalized for cash distribution with the coordination of Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO).
- Completed orientation on Child safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct for Rohingya Volunteers along with project briefing and their role and responsibilities on 21 July 2020 at Camp in Charge (CiC) conference room in Camp 8E. The orientation activities accomplished by maintaining social distance, proper hygiene, and necessary health rules.

Do any of the above initiatives cover the areas where we have sponsored children? If yes, please indicate which initiative and the area it covers.

During the month of July'20, in second phase Educo Bangladesh has provided cash support through mobile money transfer to the 2290 families in urban areas from that 1869 are our sponsor children families. Each family received BDT 1010 equivalent to USD 10.88 for ensuring their food security for 15 days.

In first phase, Educo Bangladesh also provided cash support to the 5,414 families in urban areas (Dhaka and Narayanganj) from that 2769 are our sponsor children families.

- Who are we partnering or collaborating with to provide our action?

The first phase response funded by Educo, has implemented through the partnership of 03 national NGOs namely ESDO, SMS and SACHETAN.

Educo Bangladesh has awarded USD 100,000 from Child Fund Korea and has been implementing this project by 07 local development partners namely, BTS, MSED, IDEA, Procheta, SMS, Sachetan and ESDO. During the project implementation Educo Bangladesh and its partners maintaining strong coordination and collaboration with local government.

- What kind of response activities or interventions are being provided? What support are needed (or have been collected/distributed)?

In 1st phase 5,564 vulnerable families got 1,000 taka each, including families of children studying in Educo schools living in Dhaka's slums and Narayanganj districts; and children and families supported by the organization's anti-child labor project ODHAKAR (Options for Dignity of Human Being by Influencing Key Actors to Reform). In Rajshahi and Chapai Nawabganj districts, Educo distributed life-saving food packs containing 10 kg rice, 2kg dal (pulses), 1 litre oil, 3 kg potatoes, and 1kg salt to 1,059 plain land Adibashi families, many of whom are vulnerable and marginalized.

To support the underprivileged children living in different brothels of Rajbari and Faridpur, Educo provided 1501 food and hygiene kit packages (Rice 5 kg, Dal 2kg, oil 1litre, Potato 3 kg, Salt 1 kg, Detergent 01 KG, 01 Soap, 01 mask) and 415 child-food support packages containing 1kg sugar, 500g semolina, 250g milk and biscuits.

In the 2nd phase, Educo Bangladesh distributed food to 1,000 marginalized indigenous families in Rajshahi and Chapai Nawabganj districts and 1,270 deprived people living in brothels in Rajbari and Faridpur districts received both food and hygiene support with additional 280 child- food packages. Educo Bangladesh also gave humanitarian support to 9,269 families of Moulvibazar's Haor and Tea gardens.

Educo has distributed food packages (rice, lentil, fortified vegetable oil, potato, salt, sugar/brown sugar molasses) and hygiene kits (bathing soap, detergent powder, bucket with lid and tap for hand washing, 02 masks) to 313 families in Haor and hygiene packages to 8,956 families living in Tea gardens in Moulvibazar.



2,290 families from 10 wards of Dhaka North and South City corporation have received BDT 1,000 via bKash to help with their daily needs. The response activities of Educo Bangladesh has been appreciated by local government.

- How is Educo/ChildFund linked with humanitarian coordination structures, i.e. in which clusters or working groups do we participate at country level?

In Bangladesh, government systems are coordinating and managing this crisis situation together with UN organizations, no NGO/INGOs cluster are now active in Bangladesh for Corona Virus. As a member organization of National Need Assessment Group, Educo attended in an online meeting with other members to review the overall situation and develop needs assessment tools.

#### Next steps

Educo is continuing monitor the situation and response decision has taken base on the overall Corona Virus situation and an proposal will be submitted to HO at next week for supporting the affected people. In next phase, Educo Bangladesh will implement another response project funded by CFK and the major intervention will be cash distribution, direct food support and hygienic kits distribution.

Please indicate any communication established with external donors in relation to current and potential grants, especially with such donors that are directly managed through the Country Office. The purpose of this information is to keep HO informed, specifically the Resource Mobilization unit.

Educo Bangladesh has been updating the overall situation to Child Fund Korea and shared Educo Bangladesh position in response.

Child Fund Korea already provided to fund USD 100, 000 for Educo Bangladesh for distributing hygienic and food/cash grants among the most affected families.

- **Advocacy and communication actions at network and platform level**

Joining Forces Bangladesh has organized a virtual dialogue on the mental health of children during COVID 19 on 23 July. Four discussants from different sectors took part in the dialogue. As a member of Joining Forces Bangladesh Educo share the live program by Educo Facebook page. A total of 2.7 k viewers were found that time watch the program. Besides Educo focal person took part entire planning and designing of the program.

On 17 June and 22 July two webinar was organized by joining Forces secretariat. From Bangladesh Educo focal person attended the webinar and given inputs for reviewing new result framework for 2021 and prepare action. Joining forces Bangladesh also sent a joint appeal to the state minister of ministry of Women and children Affairs to establish the proposed Children directorate as government mentioned in

the 20-21 budget session. Besides, a data based on the children status on Covid-19 maintained by BSAF, CRACB member narrated that during the month of July 4 children were infected and 2 died for Corona. Joining Forces Bangladesh and Child Rights Advocacy Coalition in Bangladesh is jointly conducting a study ' Multi sectoral impact on Children during Covid-19'. As a member of both alliance Educo Bangladesh has taken lead to develop tools and apps for data collection through water. Educo Bangladesh has interviewed 360 children and KII 28 different stakeholders. The data analysis is on process and end of August the report will be published.

Educo has given regular inputs and shared through its face book CRACB Activities during CoVID-19

- **Number of estimated cases of infection in the communities where we sponsor and have projects (if available)**

Total 1303 corona virus confirmed case have been identified in Educo Working areas from that 03 of our beneficiaries but no death case recorded.

so far, our best knowledge from the field, none of our student including sponsorship children and their families are affected. Two teachers of Educo school have been infected but all are cured now.

- **Possible sources of funding**

- o Provide information about potential sources of funding for these emergency response efforts using the chart below.

Donor	Projects	Amount (Euro)	Requested? (Y/N)	Confirmed? (Y/N)
CFK	Emergency cash/food and hygiene materials supports for the COVID-19 affected most vulnerable children and communities in Bangladesh	88247		Y
POA	Emergency cash/food and hygiene materials supports for the COVID-19 affected most vulnerable children and communities in Bangladesh	90275		Y
Child Fund Korea and Educo Spain(Cox's Bazar)	COVID-19 Emergency Response for Rohingya Refugee and Host community	EUR, 146,025		Y

Child Fund Korea and Educo Spain (Cox's Bazar)	Rohingya refugee response programme	EUR, 450089		Y
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- **Budget**

- o Outline if there is any need of internal project reorientation (in terms of budget and activities) or any extra budget needed.

For COVID 19 situation most of the activities could not completed in due time and less chance to completed in the rest of the year. All of projects have modified and sphere the fund for COVID 19 response. The needs of affected people are huge and require huge amount for the supporting of affected people.

- **Media/Communications**

NO NEED TO FILL.

This information will be informed through IMTs

- **Program support needed or requested from HO – whether onsite or remote.**

External funded projects may require extension to cover the due activities for this crisis and in that case, HO may need to communicate with external donors.

Educo Bangladesh need additional fund from HO for emergency response operation or to linkage with other donors for secure additional fund.