

A close-up photograph of a young child with dark hair, smiling broadly, showing their teeth. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter.

**Significant
Projects of
Amal Foundation**



Contents

Mission	03	Community Empowerment Through Zakat	22
Vision	04	Emergency Support for Vulnerable Community	24
Founder's Profile	06	Community Support Campaigns	25
Child Marriage Prevention Loan (CMPL)	07	Health Camps for Deprived Community	27
Building a Climate-Resilient Community	09	Fight Against Plastic Pollution for Sustainable Environment	29
Sponsor Education For Underprivileged Children	11	Women Empowerment through Skill Development	31
Access to Clean Water for Vulnerable Community	13	Rehabilitation for Homeless People	33
A Better Tomorrow by Offsetting Carbon Footprints	15		
Ramadan Food Support for Underprivileged People	18		
Turn Beggar Into Businessman	19		





Mission

Empower communities in marginalized settings through education, healthcare, emergency response, entrepreneurship development, skills training, and affirmative climate actions.

Vision

A world where marginalized communities are empowered and living in sustainable climatic conditions.



I firmly believe that one person can make a difference, but it takes a community to create real and lasting change. Let's work together to create a world where compassion and equality reign, and where everyone has the opportunity to live a life of dignity and purpose



Esrat Karim
Founder & Director

Founder's Profile

Amal Foundation is directed by Esrat Karim Eve, who also established the organization. She has advocated for revolutionary reform and women's equality as well as women's empowerment. For her philanthropic work, she was chosen as one of Forbes 30 under 30 in 2020. (Asia) and also got featured in the Forbes Power Women's Summit in 2022.

Ms. Esrat Karim began her quest to make a difference with the Amal Foundation in 2014 with the hope of creating a world where everyone lives a happy, healthy existence. She graduated from the University of Dhaka with a degree in Finance and went on to get a Master of Social Entrepreneurship from the University of Colorado in the United States. Focusing on education, emergency, empowerment, and health, her areas of interest include gender equality, children's rights, refugee rights, social business, and youth leadership. Her goal is to make Bangladesh a healthy and happy place for all of the poor children and women. She is one of the young social entrepreneurs who has been honored by Youth Icon 2018, the YSSE Social Impact Award, the GITA Global Award, the Jolkona Catalyst Fellowship, an exchange program run by the US embassy in Seattle, SPARK* International, and as a Watson University Scholar.

Child Marriage Prevention Loan (CMPL)

Background

Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world, with the highest rates of child marriage and early fertility. 64% of the children in the country are given in marriage before they reach the age of 18 years, especially in North Bengal Region. It is a common perception there in the community that the older the girl gets, the more dowry is to be paid. And also, girl child considered a burden due to the financial instability of families in most climate-vulnerable areas.

Idea

To reduce the number of child marriages of the girl child, Amal Foundation has initiated a project entitled "Child Marriage Prevention Loan" that aims to give parents of female children money so they may invest in their businesses and maintain their financial security. In addition to ensuring the families' financial security, this will enable the daughters to continue with their education. Because of their financial situation, the families would not feel obligated to marry off their daughters more quickly.

Execution

Amal's affiliation with IPDC

To address the issue at hand, the Amal Foundation collaborated with IPDC in order to combat the widespread problem of child marriage. In this initiative, the parents of the girl child will get a certain amount of loan to start a business in the condition of not pushing their girls to get married before their legal age. Also, they have to continue the education of their daughters. Initially, we started this project in Bogra District since mid-year of 2022. For this initiative, Amal Foundation along with IPDC and Grey have received Cannes Lion Award in 2022.

Amal's affiliation with Just People, Australia

With the association of Just People, Australia, we started another project to prevent child marriage through financial support in Sariakandi Upazila of Bogra. As many parents in economically vulnerable places marry off their daughters at young ages to avoid the high costs of raising a girl and providing for her education, zero interest agricultural based loans are being offered to low-income households by us so that they can start agri-businesses and help alleviate poverty. The applicant's daughter must be between 12 and 18 years old and cannot be married off prior to reaching maturity to be eligible for this loan. Beneficiaries who got this loan already started farming and maintaining the conditions of the loan to prevent child marriage.



02

Building a Climate-Resilient Community

Background

Bangladesh is known globally as one of the most vulnerable countries due to climate change. The impact on economic sectors such as agriculture, livestock, poultry and natural resources is severe. Floods, cyclones, tidal surges, flash floods and other extreme and slow onset events are affecting people's lives and livelihoods and more. Vulnerable women and men are hitting the hardest in particular those living in Char (river islands), Haor (wetlands) and the coastal zone. These climate vulnerability causes domestic violence, gender-based violence, child marriage and many more social crisis in climate prone areas. The effect of climate change on the livelihoods of women and men is visible.

Idea

Considering this problem, Amal came up with projects like empowering community people, especially women, and youth through skill development in sewing/stitching, agro-animal husbandry, agriculture, and financial literacy along with leadership. These will help them to become financially independent and make themselves an asset to their family in time of need.

Execution

Amal's affiliation with EMK Center

About 125 young people participated in the "Climate Champs" program, which was organised by Amal Foundation in collaboration with EMK Centre to assist them become more financially independent and climate-resilient in Char Shonpocha of Bogra district. The young people received the right help to find jobs after completing the six-month training program. Amal monitored the young people during the whole time to make sure they were trustworthy and had a way to make money.

Amal's affiliation with MJF

To increase public knowledge about the problem of child marriage, the Amal Foundation completed a three-part awareness campaign in the Bogra Char under the name "Rukhe Darao-Awareness Campaign to Solve Child Marriage" in collaboration with the Manusher Jonno Foundation.



03

Sponsor Education For Underprivileged Children

Background

When it comes to ending generations of poverty, education is the single most important factor. Children living in poverty are particularly at risk and have a difficult time planning for the future. The children of the char islands in Bangladesh, in particular, face severe deprivation due to their remoteness. They have limited access to the resources necessary for a decent education and future security. Amal Foundation recognized the need in 2017 and initiated the construction of a school named 'Ucchash School' for the underprivileged kids of Char Shonpocha, Bogra. This elementary school has an annual enrollment of 50 students. Here, youngsters receive a foundational education that will prepare them for entry into primary school.

Idea

To bring about a sustainable social change for the welfare of the students at Ucchash School, your contribution can help in the long run. Your contribution enables us to offer a kid ongoing care that covers basic education as well as their safety, nourishment, health care, and emotional support. When you sponsor a child, you enhance both their lives and the life of their entire community, making it more sustainable and providing them with better chances for a successful future.

You, the sponsor, will receive updates from the child you've chosen to support, including letters and photographs. There is no better time to witness the impact of your aid on a child than when they are at their most vulnerable. We know it's difficult to provide monthly to a child you'll never meet, but the bond you'll create and the effect you'll make are worth it. We want you to know your sponsored child and they will know you.

Execution

When kids are given the chance to go to school, they have a better chance of becoming the kind of lifelong learners who can change their communities for the better. To put it simple, when you sponsor a child, you are giving that child the best possible chance at escaping the cycle of poverty and realizing their full potential.

For just BDT 12,000 per year (BDT 1000 per month), you can secure a child's future by giving them a basic education, healthy food, and medical care. o be a part of our initiative



04

Access to Clean Water for Vulnerable Community

Background

In Bangladesh, most of the people suffer from lack of access to clean water in climate prone areas. In particular, fresh water shortage is a widespread problem in low-lying places, where annual flooding destroys entire communities. Many rural areas of Bangladesh lack access to clean water because of the country's weak economy and infrastructure, which causes a number of potentially fatal waterborne diseases. Over 1.8 million people in Bangladesh do not have access to an improved water source, and 36 million people do not have access to improved sanitation. Many homes rely on nearby water points that are under severe strain and only run for part of the year. Others get their water from rivers and streams much further away. There is a significant risk of contracting illness that are spread by water in this area; yet, both newly constructed and rehabilitated tubewells have the potential to deliver drinkable water to the surface.

Idea

To address the problem of this fresh water scarcity in vulnerable communities, Amal Foundation started building Tubewell and educating people in the remote regions about the importance of drinking safe water since last 6 years. We have helped thousands of life under 'Access to Clean Water' initiative in various regions of all over Bangladesh including Rohingya Communities.

Execution

The whole execution part consisted of two parts:

- Establishment of Fresh Water Source
- Educate the community on positive sides of consuming fresh drinking water

So far till now we have built tubewells in char areas of Bogra, Nilphamari, Kurigram, coastal areas of Potuakhali, Borguna, Khulna, Rohingya Communities of Cox'sbazar.



A Better Tomorrow by Offsetting Carbon Footprints

Background

The total amount of greenhouse gases (such as carbon dioxide and methane) that are released into the atmosphere as a direct result of the actions of a certain individual, group, or community. The destruction of forests around the world is responsible for 18% of all CO₂ emissions into the atmosphere. These emissions are hazardous not just to human but also to other animals. Increases in smog and air pollution brought about by human carbon emissions increase the prevalence of respiratory diseases. Additionally, if carbon emissions wipe out certain animal species and ruin crop yields and lands, humans will feel the effects of this as well.

A carbon footprint calculates the total volume of greenhouse gas emissions, or the gases in our atmosphere that trap and release heat and cause climate change. Our carbon footprint has a detrimental effect on the environment in a number of ways, including as the primary driver of human-induced climate change, a major contributor to urban air pollution, a cause of toxic acid rain, a contributor to the acidification of the ocean and coasts, and a worsened of the glacier and polar ice melting.

Idea

With this initiative of carbon neutralization to reduce carbon footprints, Amal Foundation wants to collaborate with public-private partnerships, advanced horticulture and social entrepreneurship to help nature flourish and spread environmental awareness in Bangladesh to ensure sustainable environment. The mere act of planting trees does not guarantee its survival, which leads to a mere show of the act of planting the tree and adds little value or guarantee of it reaching adulthood.

Execution

Private and Public companies will pledge for carbon neutralizing through tree plantation to reduce the carbon footprints they are creating everyday especially through their company's services. Individual or entity wise the pledge can be done through planting trees and by doing this, they can carbon neutralize in massive way.





06

Ramadan Food Support for Underprivileged Community

Background

During the delightful and abundantly fortunate month of Ramadan, we have the opportunity to accomplish as much good as we can. All Muslims are instructed to routinely practice two such deeds: kindness and charity. Many underprivileged people lack the means to buy or prepare iftar. Everyone who has the means should do their part to aid the less fortunate by giving them access to food and other essentials.

Idea

Since Ramadan is the time to initiate good practices and start forming good habits, every year, Amal Foundation provide underprivileged people with iftar package which contains necessary food that a person needs in iftari. Besides, Amal Foundation also provide them dry food rations for iftari and sehri as well.

Execution

From its formation, Amal Foundation regularly provides Ramadan packages to vulnerable communities in various locations. Last year, we served around 300 people with Iftari package among mostly street people, rickshaw puller, day laborer, waste workers, etc. Amal has also provided these peoples with Sehri and dry foods.

Turn Beggar Into Businessman

Background

In Bangladesh, begging is conceptually viewed as a demeaning profession, They live off the generosity of others via begging as being unemployed and begging for aims is not regarded as respectable employment. Thus, their means of subsistence are consistently belittled by others in the society.

Bangladesh is also one of the top plastic polluted countries in the world due to the mismanagement of plastic waste. Every day, nearly 646 tons of plastic waste is collected in the capital city of Dhaka, of which only 37.2 percent of the plastic waste is recycled. Due to the lack of awareness, people throw plastic items like bottles, wraps, caps, and other materials wherever in the streets and waterways, which severely harms the ecology and the natural world.

Idea

Since, Ramadan is a time to initiate good practices & start forming good habits, local beverage companies, in the very spirit want to combine these two gaps and create a beneficial platform to address this issue. The idea is to groom these beggars so that they can become a businessman through the procedure. They will be asked not to beg and rather collect plastics for money in return, they will earn a reputable living for themselves. The beggars will be asked to deposit this plastics to GarbageMan or BO Clean directly without working with a third party. This will enable them to earn more than what a regular Waste Picker gets in return for plastics.

Execution

We will identify the beggars who would work as our primary source of Plastic collectors. We will convince them to earn a reputable job by working hand in hand with us instead of begging, they will collect plastics instead of begging for alms. The beggar's rehabilitation NGOs will take training sessions for the beggars here they will be taught how to segregate the plastics according to their rates and how to sell these directly to the Waste Management Companies. This way, they won't have to sell off the plastics at a cheaper rate rather they can segregate these as White, Brown, or Green plastics and sell them according to the standard price rates.





08

Community Empowerment Through Zakat

Background

Zakat means 'to cleanse' or 'to purify'. Zakat, as one of Islam's Five Pillars, is a religious duty for all Muslims who satisfy the requisite standards of wealth to aid the underprivileged. Zakat promotes the equitable sharing of wealth in society. We may assist those in need by contributing zakat. It eradicates their economic misery and minimizes social inequality among various groups of individuals.

Idea

Amal Foundation has been organizing Zakat Campaigns for a long time in order to ensure that deprived people receive the Zakat that they deserve. Under this campaign, their target is to build shops with initial goods, provide rickshaws, cattle, or sewing machine to needy families so that, they can become self-sufficient by earning a living. The project intends to eradicate the poverty of hundred Muslims on a personal scale and to motivate them to be self-sufficient as entrepreneurs. It aims to transform lives in such a way so that they can contribute to changing or developing the lives of others.

Execution

Amal Foundation has been running the Zakat Empowerment Initiative effectively for almost five years. They got funding for the Zakat Empowerment Initiative from a variety of donors. They have empowered around 2500 impoverished households across the country. All of the beneficiaries were picked because of their poor financial situation and uneven prospects for a better life. Amal Foundation with the help of the donations received from donors, gave goats, stores, rickshaws, and sewing machines to the needy people and allowing them to earn a living and lead a secure life. Amal always believes that today's Zakat receiver could be the next Zakat giver.



09

Emergency Support for Vulnerable Community

Background

Generally, in every country, any kind of emergency reaction is triggered by a sudden and urgent event that threatens public safety and wellbeing. Examples include earthquakes, storms, floods, chemical spills, and public health situations (e.g. pandemics, disease outbreaks). Emergency crises can change life forever. Individuals may be evicted and homeless, suffer physical injuries or disease from the crisis or its aftermath, acquire anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues from emotional stress, and be evicted. This could cause lifestyle disturbance and property loss. Crisis disruptions impair healthcare, basic food, transportation, and communication supports.

Idea

Amal steps up every year to support groups or people that are most negatively impacted. Saving and defending those who have been afflicted by tragedies is Amal's crucial role. At the acute stage of emergencies, Amal prefers to speak with the local populace to learn about their requirements, analyse their suggestions for reestablishing their communities, and make future plans. Amal creates plans for the enhancement of food & water supply, sanitation, the reconstruction of homes and public structures, and the restoration of lives and livelihoods based on the need and in collaboration with the community.

Execution

Covid-19

Amal initiated multiple numbers of campaigns to deliver the much needed food aid to neglected areas and households. Amal and IPDC Finance along with multiple donors fed hundreds of needy families with dry food. In addition, 166 low-income households were given dry food by Amal in collaboration with Augmedix and Aastha Trust.

Flood Aid Distribution

With the assistance of other reputable organisations, the Amal Foundation responded to help the flood victims in the two Upazilas in Habiganj district (Nabiganj and Bahubal) and the five Upazilas in Sunamganj district (Sunamganj Sadar, Chatok, Tahirpur, Jamalganj, and Derai). With the use of dry ration packets, hot meal packs, and hygiene kit packs during the entire campaign, Amal aimed to aid flood victims. Approximately 7,200 beneficiary families in the five Upazilas of Sunamganj and approximately 400 beneficiary families in the two Upazilas of Habiganj have been provided with one-month ration packs, hygiene care packets, and cooked foods by the Amal Foundation in response to the devastating flood crisis in Sylhet.



10

Community Support Campaigns

Background

For most of the deprived communities, people are facing economic hardship or struggling to make ends meet may need community support to access basic resources such as food, shelter, and healthcare. In such situation, external support of food, commodities and health care supports are extremely helpful and necessities for them.

Idea

To address this need, Amal Foundation has been supporting different communities across all over the country in various occasions like winter, Eid or festivals. The goal of the organization is to provide community support to the deprived people to improve their lives and achieve greater levels of well-being.

Execution

Winter Aid

Each year during the winter, Amal Foundation executes an initiative entitled "Winter Aid Distribution." The Amal Foundation has administered this program in Dhaka, Bogura, Teknaf, Cox's Bazar, Sirajganj, Patuakhali, Faridpur, Gopalganj, and Sariakandi so far to the underprivileged people who need it the most. Through this program, the Amal Foundation brightens the faces of hundreds of people each year.

Honey Distribution

Considering the benefits of honey, Amal Foundation, in collaboration with Marico Bangladesh Ltd, has taken an initiative in August 2022 to distribute honey amongst the youngsters of the country as an awareness campaign. During the 5 months of nationwide distribution about 80,000 bottles of honey have been distributed in various schools, madrasas, university halls, and residential hostels inside and outside of the capital city. All of the students were very delighted to receive such a nutritious gift this winter.



Health Camps for Deprived Community

Background

The problem of healthy life scarcity among the impoverished is complicated and multifaceted; it is influenced by a number of variables including poverty, illiteracy, a lack of access to healthcare, and unsanitary living conditions. When people are unable to afford healthy food or are forced to live in unhygienic environments due to poverty, they are more likely to suffer from malnutrition, infectious diseases, and other health problems. Many underprivileged people live in areas where healthcare services are limited or not easily accessible. Even if healthcare services are available, many people cannot afford to pay for them.

Idea

Amal Foundation has come to the scene to alleviate suffering for the less fortunate individuals who are located far away from the action and for whom maintaining good health is practically affluent. As public health campaigns promote healthy living behaviors and raise awareness about the importance of preventative healthcare that is also effective in improving health outcomes among underprivileged communities, for the past 5 years, Amal has organized health screening camps in numerous rural areas across the nation to offer medical consultations and educate people about good hygiene and wellbeing.

Execution

Amal has organized a number of hygiene initiatives in collaboration with various corporate and international partners. These health camps have been initiated in northern districts of Bangladesh, Dhaka and also in Rohingya camps of Cox's bazar. In these medical camps, children, postpartum mothers and old people were treated free of cost and also provided with free medicines as well.



Fight Against Plastic Pollution for Sustainable Environment

Background

Plastic pollution has emerged as one of the most important environmental challenges, since the world's ability to cope with it has been overwhelmed by the fast-rising manufacturing of throwaway plastic items. Plastic pollution is most noticeable in developing Asian and African countries, particularly Bangladesh, where waste collection services are sometimes ineffective or nonexistent. Yet, the industrialized world, particularly in nations with poor recycling rates, has difficulty collecting waste plastics. Plastic waste has grown so pervasive that efforts have been made by the United Nations to develop a global convention.

Idea

To reduce plastic pollution in order to create a sustainable environment, Amal Foundation and University jointly initiated a project named STEPP. The Project STEPP was a joint effort and the purpose of the project was to raise awareness against plastic pollution. The project objective is to undertake a review of the barriers and enablers of effective urban sustainability transitions in the global south and to undertake thematic analyses focused on circular economy and education in Sylhet (Bangladesh) to identify practical techniques proven to support urban suitability transitions. The goal is to develop and share capacity development materials, primarily targeted at city residents and leaders in the global south, which directly supports sustainability transitions in cities suffering from severe plastic pollution.

Execution

Amal Foundation distributed leaflets and placed posters in four different locations (Sylhet Court, Bandar Bazar, JM Osmani Medical, Sylhet Jela Stadium) and raised awareness among the public to eradicate plastic pollution and ensure climate change.

The project could connect with 455 slum dwellers of Sylhet through a one-to-one structured interview and 278 slum dwellers of Sylhet through a Focus Group Discussion by which they could get involved in sharing their concerns and challenges.



13

Women Empowerment Through Skill Development



Background

Most of the rural communities are highly vulnerable due to lack of scopes for employment and poverty especially for women. Women are more adversely impacted than men are by poverty, inequality, and climate change. They are particularly at risk since they rely on natural resources in Bangladesh's rural areas. In times of climate catastrophe, parents in devastated areas often marry off their daughters to reduce their financial commitments. Instability in the family's finances is a factor in school dropouts, and since families can't afford a dowry, child marriage, and domestic violence rise. Moreover, in these coastal and Char areas, there is not much in terms of women's workplace. Hence, skill development training are essential components of any strategy to improve agricultural and non-farm productivity and pull households out of poverty.

Idea

Considering this vital problem, Amal Foundation initiated skill development program which will give the intended women beneficiaries the tools for personal growth and social awareness to support themselves and their families. Skills development is key to improving rural productivity, employability and income-earning opportunities, enhancing food security and promoting environmentally sustainable rural development and livelihoods. Through skill development sessions, the project's main objective is to help young girl/women become a source of income for their families. The concept also intends to reduce the proportion of young girl marriages in coastal and char areas. Amal teaches young women the fundamentals of sewing/stitching, block, batik, hand embroidery as well as other practical life skills, enabling them to become economically and socially independent.

Execution

Every year, the Amal Foundation takes on and completes a range of projects relating to women's skill development. Amal is playing a vital role in helping deprived women achieve their goals by giving them the essential training in various skill centres. Hundreds of disadvantaged women are currently enrolled in tailoring, block printing, and hand embroidery courses at Amal's skill centres in the cities of Bogura, Chakoria, and Khulna. Women are educated by skilled teachers at the skill development centres, and frequent office monitoring is conducted. In few projects, we give provide sewing machines, goat/cows and other supports so that the trainees can start earning to secure their financial and social livelihoods.



14

Rehabilitation for Homeless People



Background

Geographically, Bangladesh is a catastrophe zone. Bangladesh's alluvial soil is exceedingly productive yet prone to flood and drought. Floods, including flash floods, cyclones and storm surges, tornadoes, river bank erosion, moderate earthquakes, drought, arsenic pollution, saline intrusion, tsunami, fire, infrastructure collapse, and landslides are among the threats that Bangladeshis confront. Among these disasters, flood is the most frequent that people face and almost every year, due to this, people of disaster-prone area and char area lose their house and livelihood and live an uncertain life. Apart from that, there is a large number of refugees are living in Bangladesh who do not have their own house to live with their families especially in Rohingya community.

Idea

Considering this problem, Amal Foundation along with various donor's support has taken an initiative to rebuild houses for homeless victims. The main objective of this project was to build shelter for these people up until they again start earning their livelihood.



Execution

More than 150 families from Rohingya Community and Flood affected village, who have lost everything to the disaster have received assistance from Amal Foundation by having their homes rebuilt. Tin roofing has also been given to them by the Amal Foundation. Certain regions in Sunamgonj and Cox's Bazar were the key locations where the projects were carried out.