

Annual Report 2022



Population Services and Training Center (PSTC)



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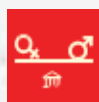
Population Health & Nutrition

Afford. Access. Attribute



Youth & Adolescent Development

Invest. Innovate. Intervene.



Gender and Governance

Explore. Engage. Empower.



Climate Change & Adaptation

Connect. Contribute. Collaborate.



Skills Education and Training

Learn. Lead. Live.



Message from the Chairperson

It's my privilege to write a message marking the release of the 2022 annual report as PSTC, a prominent public health organization in Bangladesh, commemorates 45 years of impactful service since its establishment in 1978. At the time of publication, the world was gradually recovering from the profound impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Bangladesh stands out as one of the success stories in controlling the pandemic through widespread vaccination efforts. PSTC takes pride in actively collaborating with the Government of Bangladesh in this successful journey, particularly through the extensive vaccination program under UPHCSDP in urban areas, specifically Dhaka South City Corporation's Partnership Area-4. My sincere gratitude goes out to all of PSTC's health workers and management for their unwavering commitment in the battle against COVID-19, and I anticipate continued collaboration between PSTC, the government, and development partners to navigate through this crisis.

In its commitment to upholding equal rights, PSTC has played a pivotal role in advancing welfare and development activities by involving children, parents, the disadvantaged, young people, and women & girls to instigate positive changes in their lives. Over the past six years of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) era, Bangladesh has made commendable progress across its 17 goals, ranging from eradicating poverty to promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions. Aligned with SDG targets, PSTC is resolute in achieving the SDGs through its programs, with a focus on five thematic areas: Population Health and Nutrition (PHN); Youth and Adolescent Development (YAD); Gender and Governance (GAG); Climate Change and Adaptation (CCA); and Skills Education and Training (SET). PSTC has implemented several innovative projects in these thematic areas.

I'm delighted to report that in 2022, PSTC has served over 2.5 million individuals across its 41 operational sites and 17 clinics, operating in 9 districts of Bangladesh. The efforts of 413 experienced staff members deserve acknowledgment for catering to around 40,000 mothers and babies for safe pregnancies and deliveries, assisting 40,000 adolescents in improving their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), aiding approximately 12,000 women in overcoming the effects of gender-based violence (GBV), training 2,500 volunteers, teachers, and healthcare providers to mitigate disaster risks, and cultivating 19 community paramedics dedicated to serving mothers and children.

I extend my appreciation to all program participants, facilitators, volunteers, field office staff, and the entire PSTC family for their dedicated efforts in bringing about positive changes in the lives of the people of Bangladesh throughout 2022. Without their commitment, even in challenging circumstances, meeting the needs of disadvantaged people would not have been possible. My deepest thanks go to our management team for their commitment and contribution in the reporting year. We remain grateful to the Government of Bangladesh and our development/donor partners for their continuous support in 2021. It's a privilege to work with such dedicated fellow members, and as we move forward into the current year, our main focus will be on 'rebuilding' for sustainability. I take pride in the unity of the PSTC family, confident that together, we can overcome any obstacle!

Dr. Md. Golam Rahman

For PSTC, 2022 marked a year of adaptation to the new normal, navigating shifts in global dynamics, evolving donor interests, and the Bangladesh government's firm stance on development issues. Faced with these challenges, PSTC's management and governing body had to rethink their approach. Despite the complex development landscape, PSTC remained resolute in executing strategies safely, maintaining operational efficiency, and instilling discipline across all operation.

Since its inception, PSTC has played a crucial role in enhancing the health status of the people of Bangladesh. In 2022, the organization launched two significant projects: E-GLOSS and Shasthyo Surokhsha Karmasuchi (SSK). E-GLOSS, a flagship women's empowerment program under Plan International's sponsorship initiatives, focuses on addressing inequality and promoting economic inclusion among girls in underserved communities. SSK, developed by the Health Economics Unit (HEU) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), is a social health protection scheme.

Our heroes are the dedicated health workers, counselors, paramedics/nurses, medical doctors, and administrators who continued providing essential services, including the COVID-19 vaccination program. Many of our colleagues faced the challenges of COVID-19 but demonstrated resilience in overcoming the virus. We salute these heroes! The 'Creating Spaces' project, aimed at empowering women to stand against child marriage and violence against women and girls in Faridpur with support from Global Affairs Canada (GAC) through Oxfam UK, faced challenges with on-and-off mechanisms, involving remote work and office work. Similar experiences were encountered with other projects like the Marketing Innovation for Sustainable Health Development (MISHD) project. The year brought enthusiasm as PSTC's work gained recognition from development partners.

PSTC collaborated tirelessly with its partners to make interventions and advocate for the overall improvement of the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) situation, especially for women and young people in Bangladesh. Looking ahead, PSTC's management anticipates increased challenges in the post-pandemic economic crisis caused by geopolitical conflicts. However, they remain confident that, with careful re-planning, collective efforts can steer them towards achieving their goals in the coming year. Together, PSTC believes they can overcome the challenges and realize their aspirations!



Dr. Noor Mohammad



Reflections from the Executive Director

Overview of PSTC

About Us

Population Services and Training Center (PSTC) is a non-governmental, not-for-profit voluntary organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for the poor and socially disadvantaged. With a 45-year history, PSTC traces its roots to the Family Planning Services and Training Center (FPSTC), established in 1978. As the inheriting entity, PSTC has continually evolved to meet the changing needs of its beneficiaries.

Key Affiliations

- Registered with the Directorate of Social Welfare in 1995
- Registered with NGO Affairs Bureau in 1996
- Affiliated with Directorate of Family Planning in 1997

These affiliations underscore PSTC's commitment to transparency, accountability, and collaboration with government entities, reflecting our dedication to promoting social welfare and family planning initiatives.

Vision

Improved quality of life of people, in general

Mission

PSTC works for improving health, social security and living conditions for the people, especially for those who are socially disadvantaged, in a sustainable way.

Values

PSTC's values are guided by five (5) core issues: Commitment, Integrity, Transparency, Accountability and Team Spirit

The Evolution of PSTC

PSTC's transformative journey has been guided by the vision and leadership of an esteemed national figure, Commander (Rtd.) Abdur Rouf. A distinguished former defense personnel, valiant freedom fighter, and accomplished professional, Commander Abdur Rouf was honored with the Independence Award [Shadhinata Padak] in 2020. Serving as the inaugural Chief Executive of the then Family Planning Services and Training Center (FPSTC), he spearheaded the transformation of a project into the organization we now know as PSTC, establishing himself as the founder.

Under Commander Abdur Rouf's guidance, PSTC has achieved notable milestones since its inception. The organization has played a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of civil society organizations in Bangladesh, contributing not only to their formation but also fostering the development of approximately 82 NGOs over the

past four decades. PSTC's significance extends to its role as the Member-Secretary of the GO-NGO Coordination Committee, enhancing coordination and collaboration between government and non-government organizations. Moreover, PSTC has served as a key resource organization, offering expertise in Grants Management and Capacity Building for both national and local NGOs.

Dedicated to improving the standards of living for the poor and socially disadvantaged, PSTC operates diverse programs and projects nationwide. Its focus encompasses five key thematic areas:

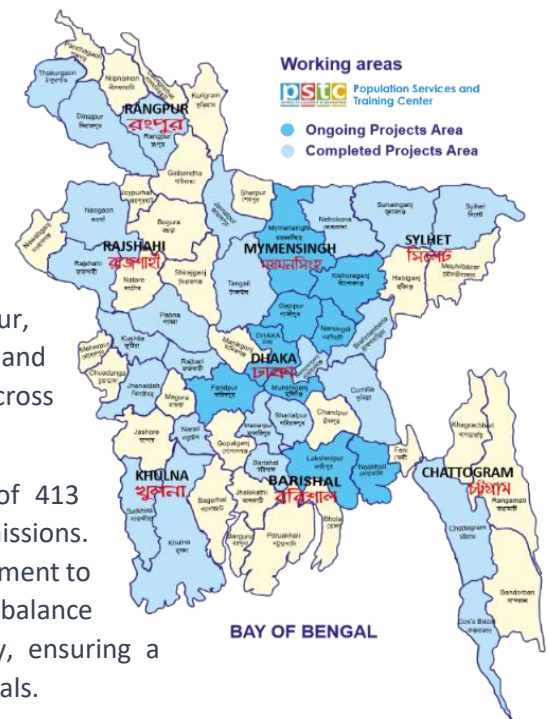
1.  **Population Health and Nutrition (PHN)**
2.  **Youth and Adolescent Development (YAD)**
3.  **Gender and Governance (GAG)**
4.  **Climate Change & Adaptation (CCA) and**
5.  **Skills Education and Training (SET)**

By undertaking initiatives in these areas, PSTC continues to make a positive impact, contributing to the well-being and empowerment of communities across the country. The organization's commitment to excellence and its multifaceted approach underline its integral role in the advancement of societal development in Bangladesh.

PSTC's Operational Reach

PSTC boasts an extensive operational footprint, with a network comprising 41 offices and 17 clinics strategically located in 9 districts across Bangladesh. These districts include Dhaka, Gazipur, Faridpur, Mymensingh, Kishoreganj, Lakshmipur, Munshiganj, Narsingdi, and Noakhali. As illustrated on the map, PSTC's influence extends across several key regions, covering more than half of the country.

At the forefront of these endeavors is a dedicated workforce of 413 individuals spread throughout the nation, tirelessly pursuing PSTC's missions. The gender composition of this workforce reflects a balanced commitment to diversity, with a male-to-female ratio of 1:2. This intentional balance underscores PSTC's commitment to inclusivity and gender equity, ensuring a harmonious blend of perspectives in the pursuit of its overarching goals.








Our Collaborative Networks

PSTC recognizes the power of collaboration and subscribes to the philosophy of 'together everyone achieves more (TEAM).' To amplify our impact and foster collective progress, we actively participate in various networks. These collaborative platforms include Girls not Brides (GNB), Share Net Bangladesh and Share Net International, Network for Ensuring Adolescents Rights and Services (NEARS), DAWN Forum, Bangladesh, Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF); Coalition for Urban Poor (CUP); Health Rights Movement National Committee, STI/AIDS Network of Bangladesh; Voluntary Health Services Society (VHSS), and Water Supply Sanitation Collaborative Council for Bangladesh (WSSCC'B).



By actively participating in these diverse networks, PSTC leverages collective knowledge, resources, and expertise to make a more substantial and lasting impact on the communities we serve

Our Development Partners

Our Development Partners	
	Nagar Shasthyo Kendro
	Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project (UPHCSDP)
	Dhaka South City Corporation, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Co-operatives (MoLGRDC)
	Dhaka North City Corporation
	Mymensingh City Corporation

	Faridpur Municipality
	Shasthyo Shuroksha Karmasuchi (SSK)
	Health Economics Unit, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
	Asian Development Bank
	United Nations Population Fund
	The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
	USAID
	Social Marketing Company
	Rutgers WPF Netherlands
	IKEA Foundation
	Global Affairs Canada
	Oxfam
	Population Council
	Plan Bangladesh
	Save the Children

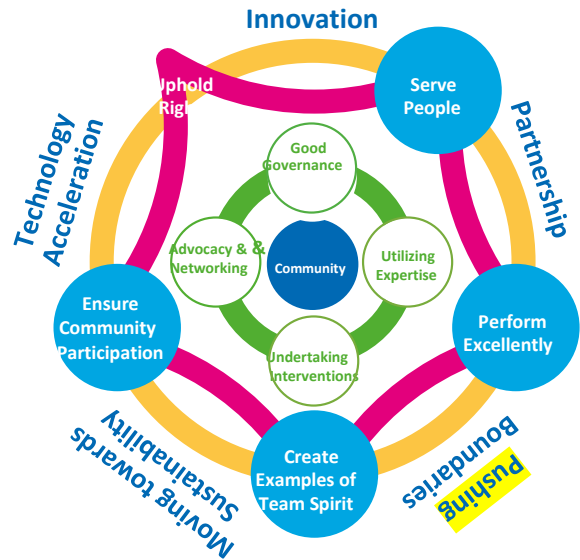
	European Commission for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
	Women Win the Netherlands
	Futuremakers by Standard Chartered
	Standard Chartered Bank
	Terre Des Hommes (Tdh) Netherlands, Bangladesh

Strategic Framework 2020-25

Bangladesh, a trailblazer in accomplishing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), has set its sights on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with the ambitious vision of attaining upper middle-income country by 2031.¹ As the developmental landscape undergoes transformative shifts, PSTC has embraced a bold and forward-looking vision encapsulated in its Strategic Framework for the 2020-2025 period.

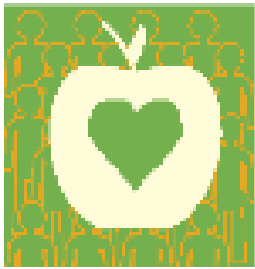
Crafted in response to global trends and local initiatives aligned with the sociodemographic context, the Framework reflects a strategic roadmap for PSTC's trajectory. Drawing upon the organization's expertise honed over four decades, the strategic direction is meticulously calibrated with a focus on the burgeoning young population. This forward-thinking approach aims to steer the organization toward sustainability across all its programs and initiatives.

The intricacies of this vision are vividly illustrated in the schematic diagram, portraying the multifaceted nature of PSTC's commitment to addressing evolving challenges, fostering socio-economic development, and championing sustainable practices. As we navigate the dynamic landscape of development, PSTC remains steadfast in its dedication to shaping a resilient and progressive future for the communities it serves.



¹ Making Vision 2041 a Reality PERSPECTIVE PLAN OF BANGLADESH 2021-2041; Prepared and Published by General Economics Division (GED) Bangladesh Planning Commission Ministry of Planning Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Population Health & Nutrition



Population Health & Nutrition

Afford. Access. Attribute.

*ensuring better health through
providing quality service*



Major Achievements in 2022



171,058 clients provided essential healthcare services from Urban Health Centers, PSTC Model Clinics



1,757 Safe Deliveries administered and 34,570 Pregnant women served for ANC, PNC



28,611 Children (5-16 years) received deworming treatment; 15,486 children (<5 years) attended at facilities for Growth Monitoring and received Vitamin-A capsule; 34,768 children (<1 year) vaccinated under EPI Program



43,701 Women at reproductive age (15-49 yrs.) provided with modern contraceptive service; 14,320 Couple Years of Protection covered by Gold Star Members (women sales agents) distributing FP products in community



18,968 School attending adolescent girls & boys contacted with health and hygiene messages; 136,143 Married women at reproductive age (MWRA) & caregivers of <5 children reached



119 Women entrepreneurs (Gold Star Members) achieved sales above Tk. 10,000/month through social business of Health & FP products in community



30,000 population living in underserved areas of Dhaka South City Corporation registered for Universal Health Care coverage

Population Health & Nutrition

Afford, Access, Attributes: ensuring better health through providing quality service

One of PSTC's major thematic focuses is Population Health and Nutrition (PHN) services especially for underserved women and children in urban and semi urban areas for improving the quality of life of the people of Bangladesh. There exists a high level of commitment from the governing body of PSTC to bring in primary health care (PHC) services close to the communities.

During 2022, PSTC provided high quality clinical services, and reached more than three (03) hundred thousand of people with Essential Health Care Services, Family Planning Services and health education & nutrition messages through its Urban Primary Health Care Service Delivery Projects in Dhaka South City Corporation, Mymensingh City Corporation and Faridpur Municipality, PSTC Model Clinics in Dhaka and Gazipur, Marketing Innovation for Sustainable Health Development (MISHD) Projects in 5 districts as Kishoreganj, Narsingdi and Munshiganj, Noakhali & Lakshmipur and Shasthyo Suroksha Karmasuchi (SSK) in Dhaka South City Corporation.

Urban population is growing roughly by 3.27% per year (WB-2016) and 37.2% of people now live in urban areas. The total urban population is expected to increase up to 44% by 2030. This rapid expansion has placed significant pressure on health services and facilities in urban areas. Although Bangladesh has a strong public sector primary health care network system in the rural areas, there is a significant lacking of a similar arrangement in the urban areas. Considering limitations and scopes, PSTC has been implementing the Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project in partnership with the Local Government Division of the Government of Bangladesh with the financial support of Asian Development Bank. Local Government Division with the support of ADB has been assisting Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in providing Primary Health Care services in urban areas since 1998 under UPHCP-I and II and UPHCSDP, which will continue upto 2024 under UPHCSDP-II. The goal of the project is to improve the health status of the urban population, especially the poor, through improved access to and utilization of efficient, effective and sustainable Primary Health Care (PHC) Services.

During 2022, PSTC has provided UPHCSDP in three partnership areas. PA4 in Zone -2 of DSCC is covering 6 wards (ward numbers 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 & 11) at Mugda, Motijheel, Shajahanpur and Sabojbagh through establishing one Comprehensive Reproductive Health Care Center (CRHCC) and 6 Primary Health Care Centers (PHCC). Each PHCC serves a population of around 50,000 and the CRHCC provides reproductive and Emergency Obstetric Care (EOC) services. Similarly, in Mymensingh City Corporation, PSTC has established one CRHCC and three PHCCs at ward numbers 5, 17, 30 & 33 and is covering a population of 2,00,000. At Faridpur Municipality, PSTC has established one CRHCC and three PHCCs at ward numbers 3, 6, 18 & 22 and is covering 2,00,000 people. Major Interventions of UPHCSDP are ESP+ Services (Reproductive Health Care, Child Health Care, Communicable Diseases control, Limited Curative Care, Diagnostic program).

In 2022, PSTC has continued the Notun Din Community mobilization program towards contributing to sustained improvements in the health status of women, children and families in Bangladesh, by increasing access to and demand for essential health products and services using social marketing tools and concepts through the private sector. The program is being implemented in a total of 18 working upazilas covering 176 unions. Of these 18 upazilas, the 9 intervention upazilas Pakundia, Hossainpur, Katiadi, Bajitpur, Shibpur, Monohordi, Belabo, Sirajdikhan and Sreenagar are located in 3 districts (Kishoreganj, Narsingdi and Munshiganj) of Dhaka division. 8 upazilas (Companiganj, Kabirhat, Subarnachar, Begumganj, Raipur, Ramganj, Kamalnagar & Ramgati) are located in 2 districts (Noakhali & Lakshmipur) of Chattogram division and one upazila, Valuka, is located in Mymensingh district of the same division. The reason for selecting these districts are lower Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) and

higher child mortality rate compared to the national rate. The program is working to increase access to affordable Health & Family Planning products and services, to expand use of Family Planning and to improve health & hygiene practices through extensive marketing and BCC campaign at community level.

MISHD program of PSTC **achieved the following awards for its outstanding contribution in 2022:**

- **Best NGO Award 2022** at Shibpur, Narsingdi; Monohardi, Narsingdi; Subarnachar, Noakhali; Katiadi, Kishoreganj; Ramganj, Lakshmipur; Ramgati, Lakshmipur; Kamalnagar, Lakshmipur and Lakshmipur district award
- **Joyeeta Award 2022:**
 - Community Mobilizer Hasna Akter, Bajitpur, Kishoreganj for contribution in Service and Education
 - GSM Amena Khatun, Pakundia, Kishoreganj for her struggles as a distinguished survivor of violence and abuse
 - GSM Mukta Akter, Bajitpur, Kishoreganj for contribution in Social Development

In Bangladesh, the lack of universal health and reproductive health care services in the urban areas adversely affects the health care of one-third of the country's urban population. Particularly, the poor are deprived of essential health care services². In order to overcome this gap, the Health Economics Unit (HEU) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) developed the social health protection scheme entitled as the Shasthyo Surokhsha Karmasuchi (SSK)³. The piloting of Shasthyo Surokhsha Karmasuchi (SSK) initiated in March 2016 with the commitment of the Government of Bangladesh to move progressively towards universal health coverage by 2032³, which is documented by the Health Care Financing Strategy of 2012. Based on the successful piloting, the Health Economics Unit of MOHFW extended the SSK model to Dhaka South and North City Corporation. PSTC as Scheme Operator (SO) has been implementing the SSK program in Dhaka South City Corporation since April 2022 and will continue till June 2023, working towards **improving the universal health care coverage and thus improved health status of slum and non-slum urban poor people in the Dhaka South City Corporation** to reach and maintain the highest attainable level of health and to reduce out of pocket payment which results in catastrophic health expenditure at household (HH) level.

In order to contribute to achieving the goal of National Urban Health Strategy, PSTC has been implementing the Scheme of SSK services in the DSCC through operating kiosks in selected hospitals to reach and maintain the highest attainable level of health and thus contribute to achieve the Vision of 4th Health Population and Nutrition Sector Program (HPNSP) of Bangladesh to see the people healthier, happier and economically productive to make Bangladesh a middle-income country.

² National Urban Health Strategy 2014, Local Government Division Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives

³ Framework for Monitoring Progress towards Universal Health Coverage in Bangladesh, Health Economics Unit (HEU), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

PSTC Own Health Initiatives

- PSTC Model Clinic, Dhaka
- PSTC Model Clinic, Gazipur

Stand. Serve. Sustain: For the humanity



Major achievements in 2022



25,058 clients provided essential health care services from Urban Health Centers, PSTC Model Clinics



825 Safe Delivery administered and 34,570 Pregnant women served for ANC, PNC



23,450 Children (5-16 years) received deworming treatment, 15,486 (<5 year children) attended at facilities for Growth Monitoring and received Vitamin-A capsule, 34,768 (<1 year children) were vaccinated under EPI Program



13,200 Women at reproductive age (15-49 yrs.) provided with modern contraceptive service;



1800 clients received health services from Youth Friendly Service Centers

PSTC Model Clinic, Dhaka

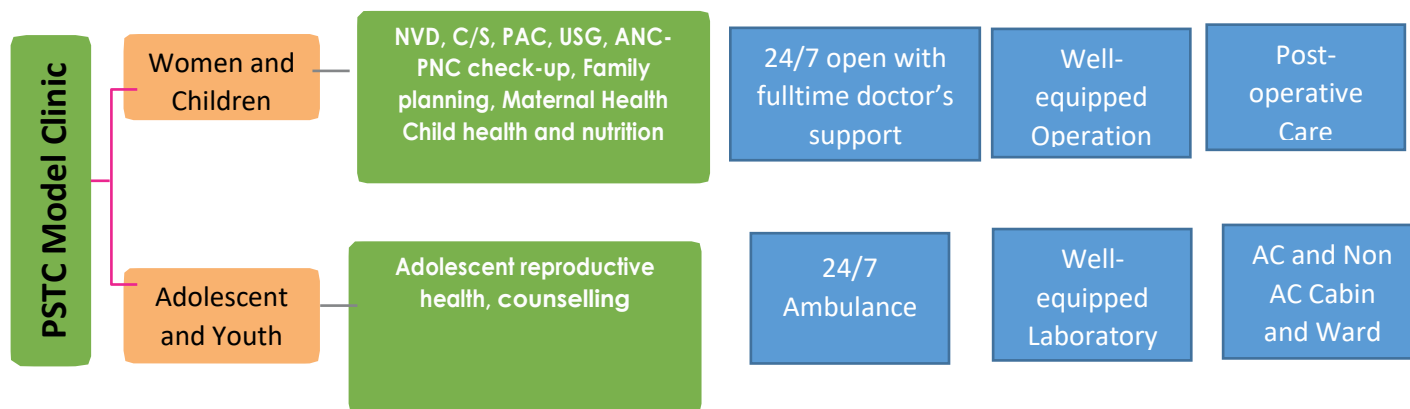
In order to ensure universal health coverage, PSTC, with its long experiences in providing primary health care services in different city corporation areas, launched a primary health care and maternity clinic in August 2018 at Aftabnagar, Dhaka with its own fund named 'PSTC Model Clinic'.

PSTC Model Clinic serves mostly women, children and adolescents who are disadvantaged and deprived financially and educationally. The goal of the project is to improve the health status of the urban population, especially the poor, through improved access to and utilization of efficient, effective and sustainable Primary Health Care (PHC) services at an affordable cost.

During the last year, PSTC Model Clinic ensured Comprehensive Maternal and Child Health Care through 24/7 quality services. The center incorporated all the attributable specialized services with an aim to ensure Essential Services Packages at an affordable cost.

In the last two years, we have been proudly witnessing the progress in the health care delivery system in the private sector in Bangladesh. Diagnostic facilities are getting the latest technological advants. Patient-related services are becoming more professional and patient-friendly. Our service providers have tried to contribute in EOC services in these challenging situations with the limited resources. PSTC model clinic has been established with the spirit and dedication focused on comprehensive reproductive health care services.

Services Facilities



Future Plan

PSTC Model Clinic started its journey with minimal resources and facilities. It was challenging to fulfill its required financial targets with COVID-19 becoming an added barrier to its success. All sorts of plans, strategies and visions of the clinic are under consideration to maintain sustainability in its performance and financial position. In the sustainability ground as well as client satisfaction, we are thinking to make the clinic more lucrative in physical facilities and much more integrated in client's service delivery with addition of multiple components.

PSTC Model Clinic, Gazipur

Another initiative of PSTC is in operation since July 2020 at Koutlia, Mirzapur Road, Masterbari, Gazipur under the name "PSTC Model Clinic Gazipur. This clinic has been accredited by DGFP for Adolescents Friendly Health Service Center. The honorable Director General (DG) of Directorate General of Family Planning Ms. Sahar Ara Banu, Ndc visited Adolescent and Youth Friendly Health Service (A&YFHS) Center of PSTC, Gazipur on 16 November 2020. Honorable DG, Sahar Ara Banu formally inaugurated this service center.



Survivor of Meghna Char erosion

As a riverine country, Bangladesh suffers from acute riverbank erosion which compels millions of her population to be displaced from their place of origin. Rahima Begum is one of those millions of victims who were severely affected by the erosion of river Meghna. She was a member of a solvent family in Char Jagbandhu of Kalkini union as the wife of Mofizul Islam with their two lovely kids. At that time, Mofizul Islam owned a pharmacy and was very much able to manage means for the family. But in 2016, the erosion of the riverbank of Meghna swept away their home and all that the family ever had, along with their hopes.



The family was displaced to Char Jangalia of Hajir Hat union in Kamalnagar upazila of Lakshmpur district. They managed to stay there with the support of Govt. and Non-Govt. initiatives. Mofizul Islam could not bear the shock of their loss and fell ill. With the only earning member not able to meet the family's needs, Rahima Begum got herself out of home, found few works as volunteer and tried to earn food for the family. But her struggles were not enough to meet the needs of the family.

In the last quarter of 2017, Peara Begum, Community Mobilizer of PSTC Notundin Kamalnagar office met Rahima Begum while seeking Community Sales Agent (now Gold Star Member or GSM). Although she was not financially eligible to work as GSM, CM Peara sensed her needs and enthusiasm and decided to vouch for her development. On the first day, Rahima bought products of taka 400/- only and failed to distribute among the community as she was hesitant and did not have proper knowledge about selling products.



When CM Peara conducted an MWRA Meeting adjacent to her home, Rahima joined the meeting as a local sales agent. All of her products were sold in that single meeting. She was so happy and encouraged that she immediately went to office with CM Peara and bought products again with the amount she had just got from the sales. That was the beginning of the victories of Rahima Begum, one of the victims of riverbank erosion.

Within a few days, Rahima Begum set the routine of walking with the products through the community. In the morning, after preparing the meals of the day and seeing off the children to school, she started walking from door



to door and village to village packed with products of SMC and came back home in the evening. As she was experienced in several works as volunteer, she quickly developed the skill of motivation for creating demand and making sales. Now, her monthly sales figures are not less than Taka 10,000/=.

Meanwhile, with the support of her sales profit, she involved her husband in a business with low investment. Both of them are earning for their family and have overcome the suffering

from the displacement caused by Meghna erosion. Yet, Rahima Begum is hoping to increase her sales to taka 30,000/- within this year. She expressed her gratitude towards Notundin program and its staff for their heartfelt support.

Some action photographs



Youth & Adolescent Development



Youth & Adolescent Development



Invest. Innovate. Intervene
investing on youth & adolescents to help develop a promising future

Major Achievements in 2022



20,000 clients received health services from Youth Friendly Service Centers



500 Youth Organizers capacitated on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Supplementary Reading Materials & advocacy skills through training



Action: 39 Child Marriages stopped



10 Episodes broadcasted live from PSTC Facebook page and YouTube Channel

Youth & Adolescent Development

Invest. Innovate. Intervene.

Investing on youth & adolescents to help develop a promising future

In order to facilitate a better life for young people we need to invest on youth & adolescents and innovate new ways of intervening to overcome their problems and challenges. In the case of investing on adolescent girls and young women, the positive effects go beyond their participation, particularly in education, labor force and ultimately in decision making. Family is the basic foundation for developing values in our life. Parents and elders in the family deeply influence and control the lives of adolescents. Adolescents' freedom of movement, access to information, the practice of certain behaviors and even marriage decisions are closely controlled by parents or influential senior family members. Outside the family, teachers, close relatives and leading people in society also influence their lives and sometimes act as obstacles rather than supportive roles in the exercise of girls' common rights.



PSTC believes in ensuring participation of the young people and motivating the young generation to come up with new ideas to improve their way of life by stopping child marriage, ensuring right information on SRHR and keeping the youth & adolescents far away from all sorts of violence. To do this, we follow human rights based approach and at the same time encourage young minds to think out of the box. Culture sensitive programming is the right intervention technique for a community to undertake to realize their investment in an innovative way.

During 2022, PSTC reached 7000 girls, 500 local leaders, parents and government officials through GOAL project under the adolescent and youth development thematic area. The project is supported by WomenWin and funded through Futuremakers by Standard Chartered. The GOAL project is being implemented in 2 areas- Gazipur and Dhaka, through 8 schools and 3 clubs.

GOAL project aims to enhance life skills and financial empowerment of adolescent girls through sports so that they can become rights-conscious and play leadership roles in family and community development. For this purpose, the GOAL project is conducting GOAL curriculum- sports based special events and home practice activities by grouping adolescent girls at school and local level through trained trainers. In addition, the GOAL curriculum uses digitized content on the YouTube channel. The overall goal of the project is to encourage adolescent girls and strive for their rights. The communities are selected nearby the schools and clubs. Adolescent girls participate in Large Banner Events for having sessions in bigger groups. This is done together to celebrate special days like IWD, MHM day etc. We hope this exceptional sports-based life skills and financial empowerment coeducation will play a special role in developing our adolescent girls as good citizens.



Project strategies:

- ✦ To enhance adolescent girls' confidence, communication and leadership skills through sports-based life skills-based curriculum.
- ✦ To sensitize adolescents and bring about positive change in behavior and attitudes of adolescents (parents/guardians, teachers, local community leaders and religious leaders etc.) towards reproductive health.
- ✦ To create a supportive and impact-free social environment, where adolescents can grow up without being exposed to violence or abuse and avoiding risky behavior.
- ✦ To increase knowledge of basic financial ability of girls so that in the future they can be economically empowered and can play a leadership role in the development of family and society.



GOAL Participants and Beneficiaries: GOAL project is working with adolescent and youth population and their social environment. This includes parents, religious leaders, school teachers, various institutional and non-institutional community leaders.

Working Areas:

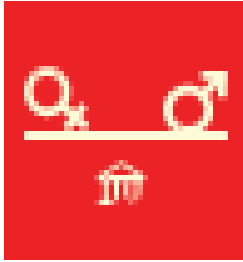
Goal program is being implemented in 2 areas of Bangladesh:

1. Under Dhaka South City Corporation
2. Under Gazipur City Corporation

Intent And Results:

- School-going and community adolescent girls (ages 12-18) will build their place in society by developing self-confidence, leadership skills and life-skills.
- Increased awareness about sexual and reproductive health and rights will reduce the rate of child marriage and early pregnancy in the country.
- Adolescent girls will be self-reliant and economically empowered by increasing basic financial literacy.





Gender and Governance



Explore. Engage. Empower.
promoting equality, eliminating violence against women & girls and establishing good governance



Leadership (Women and Girls): 336 Women and girls became leaders in their communities; 253 Youths transformed into leaders from youth groups



Capacity building: 110 Women and girls were linked with department of women affairs for skills development (sewing) training and completed training



Action: 14 Child Marriages stopped; 8 Union Parishad chairmen committed to take action against child marriage and violence against women and girls; 19 Girls and women played the leading role to stop child marriage

Gender and Governance

Explore. Engage. Empower

With the target of promoting gender equality, eliminating violence against women & girls and establishing good governance, PSTC has been working for decades with several stakeholders.

PSTC focused its activity on gender and governance in 2022 by empowering Girls through economic opportunity and safe space via the E-GLOSS project at City Polli and Dhaka Match Factory, Miron Zillah, Malek Member Bosti, and Robi Das Para areas (ward numbers 33, 38, 47, 49, 58, 59) under Dhaka South City Corporation. The project aims to strengthen sustainable livelihood options, to create a safe space and to prevent Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) for the sponsored families, especially adolescent girls and young women.

Dhaka city, the main urban centre, already has limited land. Fast urbanization is pressurizing its already weak services and fragile environment. Children, adolescents, and their families living in slums do not have the awareness, means, and capacity to demand services. A few of these major problems need to be addressed immediately.

It was found that few of the youth in the sponsored families are receiving hands-on technical training from local mentors/shop owners. Generally, they do not follow the curriculum of the government. Therefore, the youth do not receive appropriate competencies from this type of hands-on training. The project worked with them for competency-based training. Additionally, the project arranged the scope for interested young women to acquire technical training.

Dhaka has more than 5000 slums inhabited by an estimated four million people. Among them, around 22% are adolescents. Almost none of the urban slums have bathing places for women. Most of the bathing places are open and common spaces with a tap stand or tube well, where in most of the cases, adolescent girls feel shy to bathe with male members or boys. There is a high rush most of the time and males and females have to bathe together. It has been found that many adolescent girls did not bathe for three days or more during their menstrual period for not getting a bathing place free of male members. There are some female bathing places which do not have a roof and there are some reports that during bathing of girls and women, videos are captured from nearby high-rise buildings and shared in the internet. In most cases, women and girls have to use tube wells at night for washing menstrual cloth and due to lack of lighting facilities, are faced with sexual harassment. As a result, the child/early [under L8] marriage rate is also very high in most of the slums of Dhaka.

With this backdrop, PSTC provided services in two different components:

Component-1

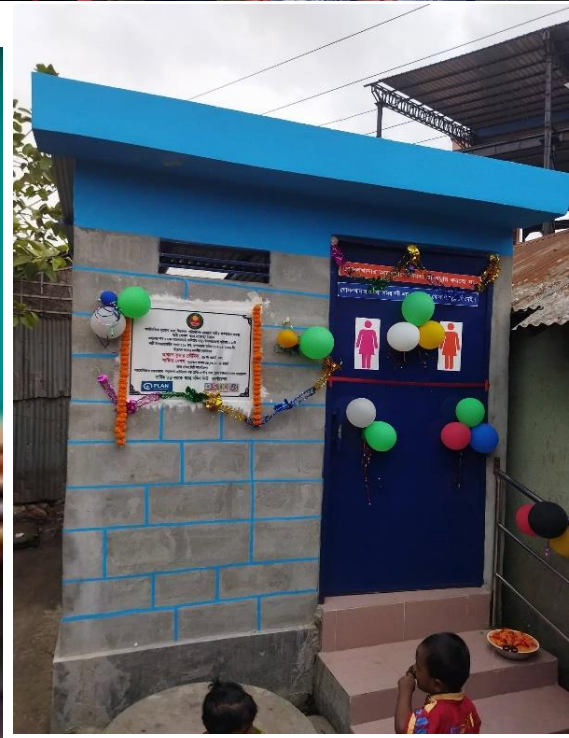
Strengthening and expanding existing enterprises through technical support to build the capacities of aspiring and existing entrepreneurs, and creating increased wage employment opportunities for the targeted girls and young women through skills development and employment support services



Component-2

Enhancing capacity of girls and young women to fight against SGBV by taking needed advocacy campaigns and to prevent SGBV by establishing a bathing place for adolescent girls and women in urban slums.

During 2022, 300 sponsored children, especially girls, and young mothers of sponsored children were reached as beneficiaries under Component 1. The indirect beneficiaries were 1200 family members. Under component 2, 675 direct beneficiaries were reached through accessible hardware/bathing place support and 2000 direct beneficiaries through the campaigning and advocacy program. The indirect beneficiaries (webinars, paper-supplementary, etc.) were 2700 urban slum dwellers.



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Climate Change & Adaptation

Connect. Contribute.

Collaborate: *responding to climate changes to reduce vulnerability and to strengthen resilience*

Major Achievements in 2022



200 YP received training on Environmental Health



11,000 populations have access to safe bathing places



A pool of 1,000 capacitated fire fighters are providing commendable support to fire incidents along with Fire Department



Climate Change & Adaptation

Connect. Contribute. Collaborate

PSTC believes responding to climate changes to reduce vulnerability and to strengthen resilience is a crucial issue of the present time. Drawing on 45 years of experience, PSTC has made significant efforts to reduce disaster vulnerability through investment in protecting lives. One of the important strategies of PSTC for climate solutions is to connect people. To reduce vulnerability of disaster, PSTC connects diverse sets of stakeholders, especially students, teachers and education workers, hospitals, garments, community volunteers, national and district representatives and community people who are at risk. Our pool of 1000 volunteer fire fighters is providing commendable support to the fire incidents in Dhaka City along with Department of Bangladesh Fire Service and Civil Defence.

During 2022, PSTC has reached 11,000 direct beneficiaries through accessible hardware/bathing place support and 2000 direct beneficiaries through campaigning and advocacy programs. PSTC has constructed/ repaired inclusive Bathing Space for adolescent girls and young women (25 nos.), organized awareness-building programs on how safe bathing spaces contribute to ending violence and sexual harassment and shared hygiene messages through young girls' groups. Towards sustainability, we form a management committee from adolescent girls and young women and connect the said committees with influential slum leaders and local authorities to ensure proper reporting mechanisms and sustainable management of constructed/ renovated facilities.



Skills Education and Training

Learn. Lead. Live

providing skills, education and training to help create livelihood options



Major achievements in 2022



Enrollment: 17 students enrolled in 2021 (Session 2021-2023) for community paramedic course



Graduation: 34 students of CPTI graduated



Served: 39 students started serving the nation to reduce MMR and IMR

Skills Education and Training

Learn. Lead. Live

Learn. Lead. Live

Providing skills, education and training help create livelihood options. Learning, particularly Skills Development, Education and Training, can enhance professional life in a number of significant ways. Competent human resources are essential for leading effective development initiatives. Supporting people in technical education, skills development and training improves efficiency in application of information, ideas, theories, and formulas to improve the lives and living condition of the people. Since its inception, PSTC has been mandated to provide training for enhancing knowledge and skills of its supported and other NGO leaders, managers and staff in a better and more efficient way. The organization has a renowned history in organizing, designing and imparting training curriculum and course through its Training and Communication unit. PSTC has provided trainings to Program Managers, Medical Officers, Paramedics, Accountants, Office Managers, Community Volunteers, NGO Leaders, Field Workers, Village Organizers, Counselors, Service Promoters and other segments of people. PSTC's Training, Research & Consulting Enterprise (TRACE) offers training to professionals, service providers, front line development workers, local level organizers, community volunteers and other segments of people. TRACE has already successfully organized national and international training courses for professionals and community stakeholders.

Community Paramedic Training Institute

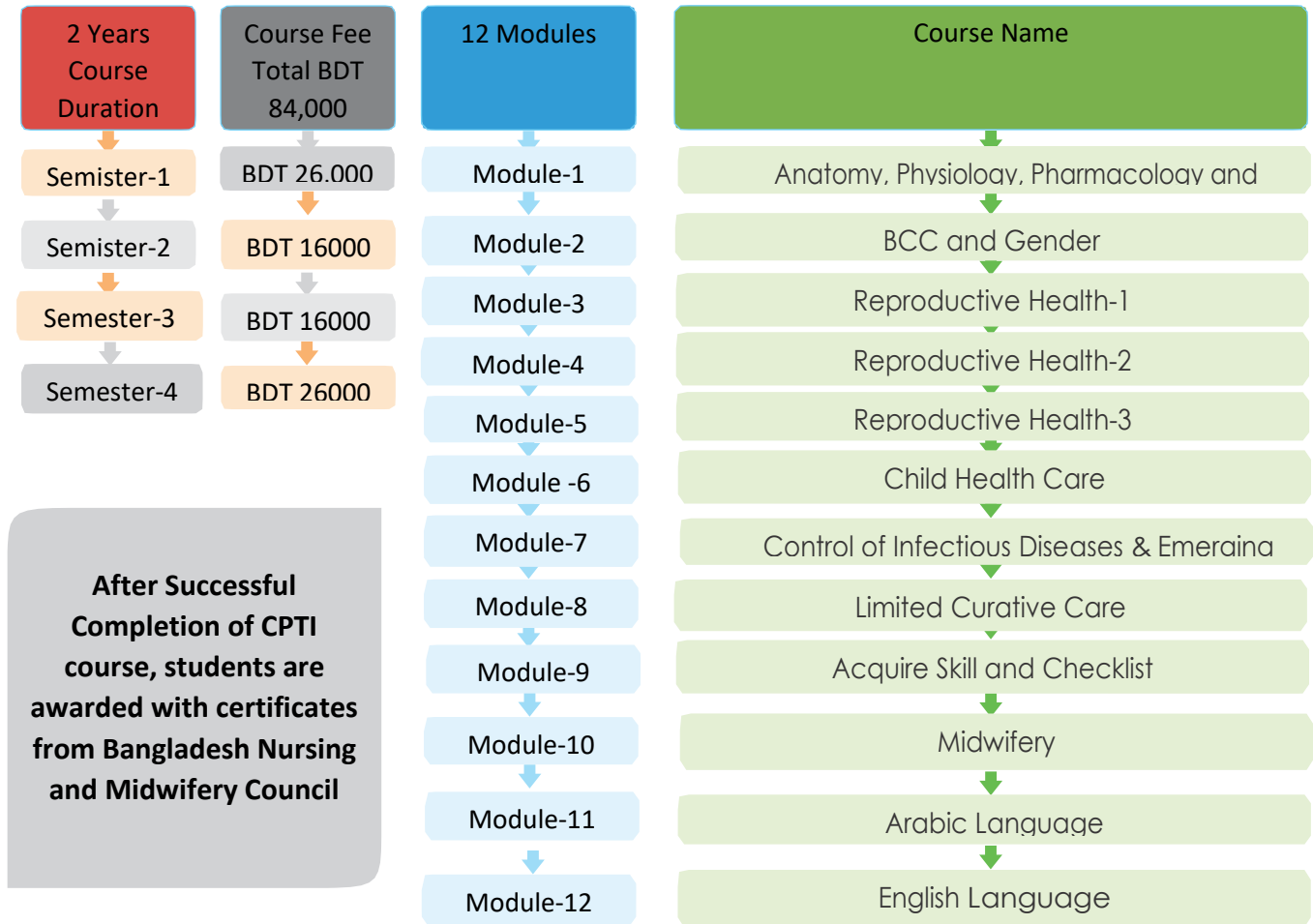
PSTC has also been operating the Community Paramedic Training Institute since 2012 with the permission of and in affiliation with the Nursing and Midwifery Council of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of Bangladesh. Maternal and Child mortality rate in Bangladesh is still significantly high. In this regard, the government of Bangladesh has taken the initiative to provide skilled health services at community level through Community Clinics. But there is a huge shortage of skilled Community Paramedics in Bangladesh. In order to ensure maternal and child health care in rural areas of Bangladesh, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare approved a policy on Community Paramedic Course to develop cadre of skilled community health workers in the year 2009. Under this regulation, PSTC has initiated the 2-year long course 'Community Paramedic Training Institute (CPTI)' aiming to develop 'skilled paramedics' so that they can serve poor and socially disadvantaged people in the rural areas of Bangladesh. This will contribute towards the vision of PSTC to 'improve quality of life of disadvantaged people of Bangladesh'. In the last year, 52 students were enrolled for the session July 2019-June 2021. At present, 127 students are serving the country after completion of their course towards reducing Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR).

Our Facilities: PSTC has a well-equipped classroom along with library and practical training and residential facilities at Aftabnagar, Rampura, Dhaka. A group of expert health professionals are assigned as faculty members. Students who have completed Secondary School Certificate (SSC) or equivalent are eligible to apply for this course.

Achievement: Till date, 120 students have graduated from the institute and are serving to ensure Sustainable Health Development.

Special Privilege: PSTC organizes sponsorships to support the students of CPTI every year. PSTC tries to provide job opportunities for those whose results are good with satisfactory internship performance, in its various projects and core clinics. This is an additional privilege of PSTC-graduated CPTI paramedics.

CPTI Course Details



PSTC Training Complex, Gazipur

Appropriate Training venue is an inevitable part of training courses. With this point of view, PSTC established its own training complex in 2010 on two acres of land in a very calm and natural environment. The aim was to establish a development institution which will contribute to enhance the management capability of PSTC's different level staff members as well as offer similar services to others organization working in the development sector in a cost-effective manner.

The Gazipur complex is situated inside the vowel forest. The complex has 2 training halls with a capacity of 200 participants and one classroom with a capacity of 40 participants. For residential training, the complex has overnight accommodation for 62 participants, and dining facilities. This training complex is open for all national and international development organizations for conducting their own training programs by hiring the facilities.

Both national and international development organizations have conducted training in this venue. Among them are BCCP, CARE Bangladesh, UBR Alliance, ActionAid, Practical Action and NHSDP/ Pathfinder, all of whom have used this facility for their respective programs. Since its inception, one of PSTC's major focuses was on providing training. The institute has experiences in implementing different types of training programs to build capacity of different stakeholders and PSTC staff. PSTC has also provide Tailor Made Training (TMT) facilitation through a team of skilled and experienced facilitators by developing various types of curriculum.

Training Facilities: PSTC also has excellent training facilities with conference hall, well-equipped training rooms, meeting rooms, canteen facility, multimedia, computer (both desktop and laptop), Sound system and other necessary accessories like photocopy, board, pointer, Wi-Fi and others.



GOVERNANCE

PSTC is operated by its constitutionally approved governance structure. Different levels of functionary bodies make PSTC effective as per its policies, guidelines, mandates and approved constitutions. **GOVERNING BODY** A seven-member Governing Body (GB) elected by the general body works actively for setting up the standards and reviewing the overall policy guideline of the organization. The GB members oversee the implementation of the ongoing activities of the organization on a regular basis. The Executive Director, who is also the ex-officio Member-Secretary of the GB, is responsible for overall implementation of the PSTC programs and projects. The ED is joined by Top Management Team (TMT) and a group of qualified and experienced professionals to run the programs and projects undertaken by PSTC.

PSTC Governing Body



Dr. Md. Golam Rahman, *Chairperson*

An educationist, media researcher and communication expert, Dr. Md. Golam Rahman is the Chairperson of PSTC. Dr. Rahman is the immediate past Chief Information Commissioner of the Information Commission of the Government of Bangladesh. He also served as the Chairman of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), the State News Agency. Initially started his career as journalist, he moved to teaching profession and taught journalism and mass communication for more than four decades, mainly in the University of Dhaka. Dr. Golam Rahman was the Pro-Vice Chancellor of Daffodil International University (2014-15) and the Professor and Head of Department of Language and Communication Studies of the University of Technology, Papua New Guinea (2008-1010)



A S M Mahbubul Alam, *Vice Chairperson*

Former Secretary to the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. A S M Mahbubul Alam is the Vice Chairperson of PSTC. During his long career in the civil service, Mr. Alam served as Deputy Commissioner of Kishoreganj. He had also been with the Bangladesh Parliament as Joint Secretary and different Projects' Director and worked closely with UN agencies like UNFPA, UNDP, and other development organizations like, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, etc. He served in the Ministry of Information also and his last working ministry was the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives before his retirement. An urban and local govt. specialist Mr. Mahbubul Alam has also been providing his expert support to UNDP as an advisor



Gitali Badrunnessa Hasan, *Treasurer*

A writer, director and well-known media personality, Ms. Gitali Badrunnessa Hasan is the Treasurer of PSTC. Popularly known as Gitali Hasan is a graduate of Chittagong University where she has her Masters in Sociology with Hons. Ms. Hasan initially started her career as Trainer in the arena of development field and became Master Trainer for Family Health and Counseling. Later she dedicated to writings and so far published more than 30 novels. She became associated with media more closely with the launching of Channel i and regularly writes and directs drama. Since 1997 Ms. Gitali writes Script for film and in 2006 she was awarded Kalakar Puroskar from India for her movie script writing O Amar Chhele. In 2013, she started directing movies with Priya Tumi Sukhi Hou.



Sanjeeda Islam, *Member*

A youth and adolescent expert, nutrition specialist and development communication practitioner, Ms. Sanjeeda Islam has been in the development arena for more than three decades. Ms. Islam is also a GB member of PSTC. A graduate though in English literature from the University of Dhaka, she had her Master of Public Health (MPH) from NIPSOM topping the list of achievers. Ms. Sanjeeda started her career with Johns Hopkins University, Center for Communication Programs (JHU-CCP), initially as Senior Program Officer and subsequently as Director Programs. Her experience in communications helped her launching Bangladesh Center for Communications Programs (BCCP) along with other initiators. She provided her expert services to Save the Children Australia, UNICEF, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and many more organizations.



Md. Wahiduzzaman Chowdhury, *Member*

A public health expert and a very well-known professional in the area of public health, Mr. Md. Wahiduzzaman Chowdhury is also a GB member of PSTC. He is having about four decades of experiences working in both home and abroad. Mr. Wahid Chowdhury worked with The Asia Foundation for long, later he moved to Marie Stopes as General Manager in late nineties. He also served Afghanistan for about three years with Management Sciences for Health (MSH). A sociology graduate of University of Dhaka with Hons, Mr. Wahiduzzaman had his advanced Diploma in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins University, USA. He is expert on designing evidence based health projects which later on were being implemented with different donor supports like USAID, DFID, ADB, GIZ, EC and UNFPA.





MD. BADRUL MUNIR FCMA, CGA, *Member*

A professional and certified Accounting personnel, Mr. Md. Badrul Munir has joined the GB as a valued member of PSTC. Having had his Accounting Masters from the University of Dhaka in 1979, he obtained a professional degree in Cost and Management Accountancy from the Institute of Cost & Management Accountants of Bangladesh in 1994 and became a Fellow member of the institute. He is also a member of the Institute of Certified General Accountants of Bangladesh. He served in

different manufacturing industries and NGOs as the Chief Accountant, Finance Controller, and Manager of Finance. Finally, Mr. Munir ended his service as the Chief Executive Officer of CEBAI. During his service life, Mr. Munir involved himself with business in the late eighties, especially in Shares in both Dhaka and Chittagong Stock Exchange. Gradually, he involved himself in the business of Sarmano Group. Mr. Munir is a sponsor Director and Company Secretary of Mirpur Securities Ltd, a member of Chittagong Stock Exchange Ltd., a Director of Sarmano Energy Ltd, and Chairman of Sarmano Petroleum Ltd. & Sarmano Ceramics Ltd.



Advocate Rehana Begum, *Member*

By profession a Lawyer, Ms. Rehana Begum has been in the law business for about two decades. She is also serving PSTC as GB member in the current board. An affiliate advocate of High Court and Dhaka Judge Court, she also has been serving as Assistant Public Prosecutor of Dhaka Judge Court. Academically a graduate of Chittagong University in Political Science, she had her Law education from Sylhet. An active cultural personality, Ms. Rehana Begum is also a singer and lyricist.

She is an enlisted Lyricist with Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Betar. She is associated with many social works and organizations including PSTC.



Dr. Noor Mohammad, *Member Secretary*

An ex-officio Member Secretary of PSTC Governing Body, Dr. Noor Mohammad has been leading the organization, PSTC since Jan 2015. Dr. Noor has three masters in his credit: M.Sc. in Geography, M.Ed. from the University of Dhaka and MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA. He was awarded the Best Student Award for achieving highest grade point average in the session. Later on he did his PhD in Population Education. Having more than three decades

of professional experiences and a known professional in the arena of Public Health, Dr. Noor has wide experiences of working with government, NGOs, INGOs, UN, research organizations, development agencies in different portfolios. This is to mention that Dr. Noor was also with Bangladesh Civil Service (7th Batch)



PSTC Top Management Team



Dr. Noor Mohammad, *Executive Director*

Dr. Noor Mohammad has more than three decades of experiences both in programs and research in the field of Population & Development (P&D). He is one of the pioneer adolescent & youth specialists of Bangladesh. He has 37 years of professional experiences which includes program, research, management and teaching. Dr. Noor is also an Adjunct Faculty of Department of Population Sciences, University of Dhaka. By academic credits, he is MSc, MEd, MPH, PhD



Dr. Md. Mahbubul Alam, *Head of Programs*

Specialist on strategic planning and programme design. Dr. Alam is also well experienced in leading team, program development & management. He has 20 years of experiences in the field of Public Health both in country and abroad with MBBS & MPH academic qualifications



KANIZ GOFRANI QURAI SHY, *Project Manager, MISHD*

Ms. Quraishy has long experiences on Project Management and Development in the field of Gender and Governance. She has taken active role in different national level women rights movements. She is having Masters in Management and Public Health



Zakera Hannan Rubayat, *Project Manager, UPHCSDP, DSCC PA-4*

Ms. Zakera Hannan Rubayat has more than 25 years of professional experience in the arena of Urban Public Health Care Service Delivery Management. She has double master in Social Science and Public Health.





Mohammad Azad, *Component Manager (HRA)*

Mr. Azad has 30 years' experiences of working with different national and international organizations in the field of human resource management. He is an M.Sc. and MBA (fellow).



Mdl. Faysol Talukder, *Component Manager (F&A)*

Ms. Zakera Hannan Rubayat has more than 25 years of professional experience in the arena of Urban Public Health Care Service Delivery Management. She has double master in Social Science and Public Health.





Engage
Empower
Excellence

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