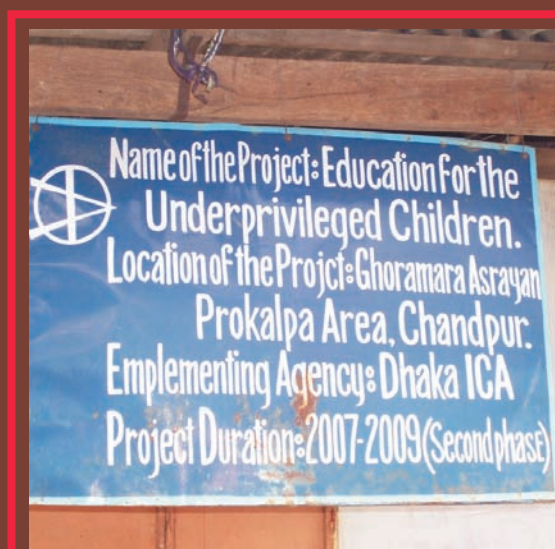




Established in 2004, ICA BANGLADESH has been providing emergency services and relief to communities in crisis while also dealing with underlying causes of poverty. Specific projects include: Ghoramara Human Development project, Needs Assessment Planning, Primary Education, Water and Sanitation, and Food and Material Aid.



**MAILING ADDRESS**  
GPO Box-972  
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

**PHYSICAL ADDRESS**  
Postmaster Lodge,  
Professor Para,  
Chandpur-3600, Bangladesh  
P (+880) 01552-384398  
F (+880) 01552-001291  
[www.ica-bangladesh.org](http://www.ica-bangladesh.org)  
[admin@ica-bangladesh.org](mailto:admin@ica-bangladesh.org)

## GHORAMARA HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

### INTRODUCTION

#### LOCATION

Ghoramara Asrayan Prokalpa (GAP), Tarpurchandi Union, Chandpur Subdistrict, Chandpur District, Bangladesh

#### BACKGROUND

Chandpur District is one of the poorest districts in Bangladesh and is particularly vulnerable to natural disasters. Extreme flooding and riverbank erosion have displaced large segments of the population in the district. Ghoramara Asrayan Prokalpa (GAP) is a government-initiated shelter project located on a small parcel (2.5 Ha) of raised land. The increased severity of recent floods and the lack of appropriate alternatives has driven large numbers of people to the site, causing immense strain on basic infrastructure and local services. Water and sanitation facilities are totally inadequate, education is unavailable for the majority of children, and opportunities for decent employment are few. Poverty rates are high, and many children are forced into child labour to survive. Illiteracy rates among adults - both male and female - are disturbingly high, and most people have few vocational or technical skills to help them earn a living.

Most people in Ghoramara are overwhelmed by the problems facing their community and feel helpless to change their situation. For many, poverty is becoming accepted as fate. In order to transform their lives, people need to examine the problems critically and need to believe that change is possible and that solutions are available. Importantly, people need to build skills and confidence through a planned and coherent process in order to take control of their own development. Ghoramara Human Development Project was initiated in 2004 as a means to help people gain better understanding and control of their situation and in order to improve livelihoods and shift toward a healthier and more sustainable community.



### DESCRIPTION

The project involved a number of key elements:

- Community visits, including discussions with community leaders;
- Facilitated meetings among community members;
- Creation of a vision for the future and action plans to work toward realizing that vision;
- Identification and establishment of core community values and ICA principles
- Historical scan to help understand the journey of the community from 2001 onwards
- Community gridding to map out the key issues
- Social process triangles for community asset mapping
- Taskforce building and identification and appointment of staff from the community
- Specific interventions based on an integrated approach (including primary education, skills training for women and rickshaw for job of men and supply of safe water facilities)

#### OBJECTIVES

- The central goal of the project is to facilitate a process by which villagers learn how to work together to identify common problems, build community spirit, overcome specific challenges between groups and free energy for dealing with the material problems by making best use of available resources
- The project is aimed to shift the community towards sustainability by providing access to education, skills training, safe water and sanitation, employment generation and leadership development.

#### BENEFICIARIES

All of the children, women and men of Ghoramara are target beneficiaries

#### ACTIVITIES

- Education for underprivileged children
- Improved water supply and sanitation facilities
- Dressmaking training and income generation for disadvantaged women
- Rickshaw for employment generation among men
- Emergency relief for disaster affected families
- Leadership development through community planning training and facilitation workshops
- Community taskforce formation and strategic planning meetings

### OUTCOMES

- 75 children gained access to elementary education (class 1-3)
- 20 women trained in dressmaking
- 4 women graduated as trainers
- 4 women initiated home-based tailoring businesses
- 4 sewing machines distributed to community
- 10 tube-wells were installed

### ABOUT US

Founded in 1977, The Institute of Cultural Affairs International (ICAI) is a non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to addressing poverty, conflict, and injustice by facilitating the role of culture in human development. ICAI is comprised of 31 national member organizations working toward sustainable community development around the world. The ICA uses a unique, participatory approach that enables local communities to shape and control their own development, and to tackle the interrelated political, economic and social causes of a given challenge. ICAI carries our field programs, research, and policy advocacy.

### LOCATIONS

AUSTRALIA  
BANGLADESH  
BELGIUM  
BENIN  
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA  
CANADA  
CAMEROON  
CHILE  
CÔTE D'IVOIRE  
EGYPT  
GHANA  
GUATEMALA  
INDIA  
JAPAN  
KENYA  
MALAYSIA  
NEPAL  
NETHERLANDS  
NIGERIA  
PERU  
SOUTH AFRICA  
SPAIN  
TAIWAN  
TAJIKISTAN  
TANZANIA  
TOGO  
UGANDA  
UNITED KINGDOM  
UNITED STATES  
ZAMBIA  
ZIMBABWE

### CONTACT INFO

The Institute of Cultural Affairs International / L'Institut des Affaires Culturelles International  
555 Rene-Levesque Blvd. Ouest  
Suite 500  
Montreal, Quebec H2Z 1B1  
[www.ica-international.org](http://www.ica-international.org)  
Tel: (514) 875-7111