

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

**ASTA FOUNDATION**

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## **Executive Summary**

ASTA Foundation started its journey with the slogan "we are here to serve underprivileged" from 2019. One of the goals of ASTA foundation is to work for the underprivileged people of the society and build a skilled youth society. In this continuation, ASTA Foundation has been supporting the underprivileged people of the society by conducting various social activities. Since its inception, ASTA Foundation has been recognized as one of the social organizations of Cox's Bazar. Apart from working for the people, ASTA Foundation has been conducting various skill development trainings to enhance the skills of the youth and members.

In continuation of this, ASTA Foundation has completed several activities in 2022. This report is prepared based on all the activities of 2022. The activities are sorted by type in detail in this report. Besides, the obstacles faced by ASTA Foundation in 2022 and the initiatives taken to overcome them were discussed.

ASTA Foundation's action plan in 2023 is also shared in this report.

## **Goals and Objective of ASTA Foundation**

The aims and objectives for which the Foundation is established are all or any of the followings: (all the objectives mentioned here under will be implemented after obtaining necessary permission from the government/ concerned authority/ competent authority and the objectives contrary to the provision of section 20 of the Societies Registration act shall be treated as ineffective).

1. To carry on humanitarian or charitable program among the poor and ultra-poor people.
2. To take initiative to distribute emergency relief among poor and ultra-poor people, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction operation for climate affected people.
3. To take initiative for enhancing knowledge of science, literature & arts by establishing educational institutions.
4. To train the illiterate and unskilled people foundation will establish Vocational Training Center (VTC/TVET) for skill development.
5. To aware people about different issues (Art and literacy, Human Trafficking, negative consequences of drugs and gender-based violence etc.) foundation will organize awareness campaign.
6. To establish research institute to promote literature and reserve archeological and historical precedent.
7. To publicity literary works among the common people.

8. To undertake various activities to alleviate poverty and food insecurity of the poor people.
9. To establish Mosque and Madrasah for enhancing the quality of Islamic education and distribute free books to Madrasah students.
10. Foundation will emphasize climate sensitive programming to reduce environmental hazard, risk of climate changes and conservation of nature.
11. To Promote Renewable energy for reducing carbon emission and health hazard
12. To distribute books free of cost among the poor students at school, College University and Madrasah for the purpose of amelioration of the quality of education.
13. To develop rural and urban infrastructure including cyclone shelter and rehabilitation center for the affected and most vulnerable groups.
14. To undertake research, collect and compile data in the areas of poverty alleviation, health care, education and gender issues and dissemination of important information through appropriate publications (booklets, leaflets, journal, article, research report and bulletin) among the target audiences.

### Activity Summary 2022

| Name of the activity                         | Location                       | Targeted Community                                 | Caseload                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EID Cloth Distribution                       | Cox's Bazar Sadar, Maheshkhali | Underprivileged orphan child of Cox's Bazar        |                                                                         |
| Awareness Session                            | Sonadia Island, Maheshkhali    | Local Community of Sonadia Island                  | Awareness Human Trafficking, Girls's Education & Climate Change         |
| CV Tailoring & Cover letter writing workshop | ASTA Foundation meeting room   | Graduated and Under Graduate Job Seeker & Students | Guidelines on how to write a smart and professional CV and cover letter |
| Preparation for Viva                         | ASTA Foundation meeting room   | Graduated and Under Graduate Job Seeker & Students |                                                                         |
| Speaking Skills development program through  | ASTA Foundation meeting room   | Member of ASTA Foundation                          |                                                                         |

|                          |                              |                                        |  |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--|
| ASTA Language Club       |                              |                                        |  |
| Digital Literacy Courses | ASTA Foundation meeting room | Member & Non Member of ASTA Foundation |  |
| Career Counselling       | ASTA Foundation meeting room | Member of ASTA Foundation              |  |

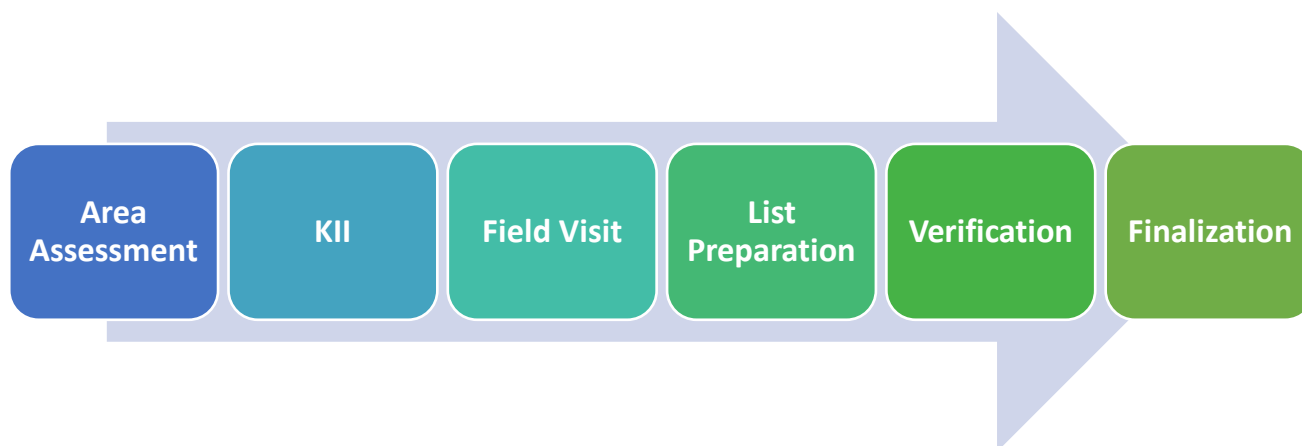
## Support for underprivileged children

### EID Cloth distribution 2022

In the remote areas of Cox's Bazar there are some orphan children who are deprived of all government and private facilities. Some orphanage homes are in very rural areas, so many people can't send help there even if they want to. ASTA Foundation has taken the initiative to find and work for those orphaned children.

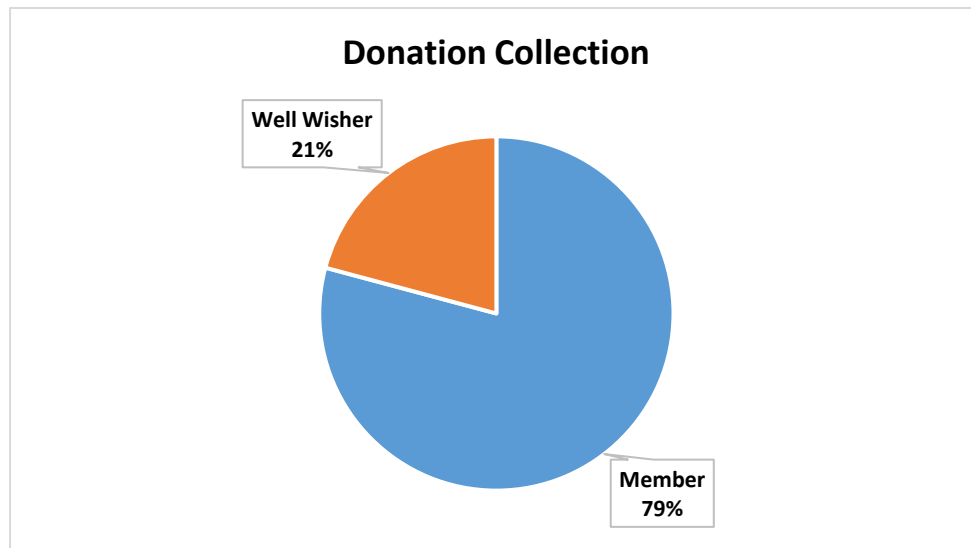
From the beginning, ASTA try to run some project every year for underprivileged orphanage in Cox's Bazar district. In continuation of this, in 2019, 2020, 2021, and then in 2022, ASTA Foundation is trying to put a smile on the faces of all the orphans with ASTA's own funds. In the year 2022, ASTA Foundation has taken up the distribution program of Eid-ul-Fitr among orphans.

### Beneficiary Selection Process



## Fund raising

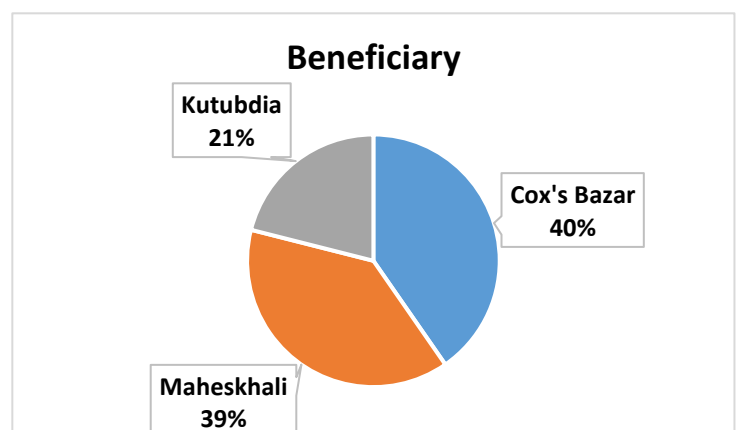
To implement certain project ASTA approach to its members and well-wisher for voluntary contribution. Specific committees are formed for each project implementation. The committee works independently for fund raising, beneficiary selection, procurement and distribution



## Beneficiary

By beneficiary selection process there was three upazilla (Cox's Bazar Sadar, Maheshkhali & Kutubdia) were selected. From these three region there were selected 57 orphan from 3 region.

| Area              | #beneficiary |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Cox's Bazar Sadar | 23           |
| Maheshkhali       | 22           |
| Kutubdia          | 12           |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>57</b>    |



## Challenges and Recommendation

Even after proper planning, caseload was limited due to funds. Fund raising is a big challenge. Moreover, it was also a challenge to provide quality products to the beneficiaries in a limited budget due to commodity prices.

To overcome the challenge of funds, annual planning should be done and projects should be implemented on a priority basis. Increase the number of donors by informing potential donors in advance. Inform well-wishers about the details of project and invite them in program. To ensure quality products, market assessment and price reduction strategies should be adopted.



## Community Awareness Initiatives

### Awareness Session on Human trafficking in Sonadia Island

Human trafficking is one of the problems in Cox's Bazar. Especially since it is the southernmost district of Bangladesh, human trafficking has been increasing at an increasing rate since 2010. Some circles are working behind this human trafficking.

Basically, the members of this gang looted a lot of money in the name of transferring it to Malaysia, Thailand etc. by showing ambitious greed. Destitute families fall prey to greed. One such area of Cox's Bazar is Sonadia Island in Maheshkhali. Being an island area, people in this area are naturally uninformed. A large section of the Sonadia population is a victim of human trafficking. ASTA Foundation has conducted campaign to make people aware of human trafficking in Sonadia.



### **Awareness Session on Girls Education in maheshkhali**

Sonadia is a part of Kutubjom Union of Maheshkhali Upazila but separate from the mainland. There is a large population living in Sonadia but there is very little opportunity to compare that population. Moreover, most of the people live by fishing in the sea. The people of Sonadia still believe in child marriage, dowry system and superstition. The main reason for this is the lack of girl's education. The main reason behind the lack of girls' education is the ignorance of parents. He wants to keep the daughters of his family away from education. Therefore, girls education can be increased if parents are made aware. ASTA Foundation has tried to create awareness about the importance of girl's education through several courtyard meetings with Sonadia women.



## Awareness Session on Climate Change in Sonadia Island

As a result of global climate change, sea levels are rising worldwide. Coastal areas are sinking. As Sonadia is an island, the pressure of climate change has significantly fallen on Sonadia. As a result of submergence of large parts of Sonadia in the tides, rise in water level etc., the life journey of people in Sonadia has become uncertain. Sonadia's ever-increasing population has led to rapid deforestation for settlements, eroding the island's soil, and excessive use of plastic has reduced the fertility of agricultural land. **ASTA Foundation** organizes 'Awareness Session on Climate Change' to make the people of Sonadia aware of the harmful effects of climate change. Through this session the participants are made aware of the harmful effects of climate change. Especially in Sonadia, the upcoming calamities and ways to deal with them are discussed.



## Capacity Strengthening Activities

### CV Tailoring & Cover letter writing workshop

Apart from working for the underprivileged people of the society, ASTA Foundation is conducting activities for skill enhancement of its members. At present, it is very important to improve the skills of students completing graduation and under graduation in various subjects. For that purpose ASTA Foundation organized **‘Preparing CV & Cover Letter’** course on 14th and 15th October. Here Participated 24 members of ASTA Foundation.



### Preparation for Viva

The VIVA preparation workshop is an initiative offered by the ASTA Foundation to help foundation member prepare for their VIVA examinations. The workshop is designed to provide member with the necessary skills and strategies to effectively communicate and present their ideas during the VIVA examination.

This VIVA preparation workshop aims to address these challenges by providing member with a supportive and interactive environment where they can develop their communication and presentation skills. The workshop may include activities such as mock interviews, practice sessions, and feedback on performance to help students identify areas for improvement.

## Speaking Skills Development Program through ASTA Language Club

In today's world, the importance of English language learning is increasing day by day. English language is very important in every field of career. There is no substitute for proficiency in the English language when it comes to presenting yourself smartly. ASTA Foundation has started ASTA Language Club so that the members become proficient in English. Its main objective is to make the members proficient in the English language by creating a conducive environment for language learning through classes two days a week.



## Digital Literacy Courses

ASTA Foundation is working to create an efficient youth society. ASTA Foundation has started **“Digital Literacy and Social Media Etiquette”** course from December, 2022 to enhance the skills of members on digital literacy. This training is provided to members completely free of cost. Also trainee will receive a certificate & a organized module from this course.



| Course details    |               |              |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Friday & Saturday |               |              |
| Class Shift       | Time of Class | Participants |
| Morning Shift     | 10 AM-12 PM   | 12           |
| Day Shift         | 3 PM-5 PM     | 12           |

| Class Schedule                     |       |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Topics                             | Class | Hours |
| Hardware Introduce & PC Instalment | 3     | 6     |
| Operating System                   | 3     | 6     |
| Word Processing (MS Word)          | 6     | 12    |
| Social Media Etiquette             | 1     | 2     |
| MS Excel                           | 5     | 10    |
| Internet & Web Browsing            | 1     | 2     |
| Communication & Emailing           | 3     | 6     |
| PowerPoint                         | 4     | 8     |
| Recap & Final Practical            | 1     | 2     |
| Final Test                         | 1     | 3     |



## **Career Counselling**

The ASTA Foundation is an organization that provides career counseling services to its members. The foundation's primary goal is to help individuals focus on specific career paths that align with their skills, interests, and goals.

Through its career counseling services, the ASTA Foundation provides members with valuable guidance and resources that help them navigate the complex job market. This includes assistance with career planning, resume writing, job search strategies, and interview preparation.

The foundation's career counseling services are designed to help members identify their strengths and weaknesses, explore career options, and make informed decisions about their future. Whether members are just starting out in their careers or looking to make a change, the ASTA Foundation's career counseling services can provide them with the support they need to achieve their goals.

Overall, the ASTA Foundation's career counseling services play a critical role in helping its members succeed in the workforce by providing them with the tools and resources they need to focus on specific career paths and achieve their professional goals.

## Meeting & Other Program

### Monthly Meeting

ASTA Foundation organizes monthly meetings with all members every month for the dynamics of organization activities. Monthly meetings are held on scheduled dates as per action plan. A pre-determined agenda is discussed in the meeting. Monthly activities are conducted by planning a month's work through monthly meetings. In 2022, ASTA Foundation has held monthly meetings in each months.

#### Some important decision discussed in monthly meeting

- Office set up
- Monthly fee collection
- Discuss About EID cloth distribution
- Language Club start
- Organization Registration purpose



## Annual General Meeting and Recreation

The Annual Meeting of a social organization is a highly anticipated event that brings members together to reflect on the past year, plan for the year ahead, and strengthen their relationships with each other. It is an opportunity for members to review financial reports, elect new officers and board members, and vote on any proposed changes to the organization's bylaws. The meeting also includes workshops and discussions that focus on important issues facing the organization and its members, providing valuable insights and ideas for improving its effectiveness and reach. Overall, the Annual Meeting is a celebration of the organization's successes and a time to set new goals for the future. Also The Annual Picnic of a social organization is a fun-filled event where members come together for outdoor activities, games, and a potluck-style meal. It's an opportunity to strengthen bonds between members and enjoy the outdoors in a relaxed, social setting.

**ASTA Foundation** organizes annual general meeting and outdoor picnic with all members every year. Trying to organize this in a natural environment free from any noise, keeping in mind the relaxation of the members.

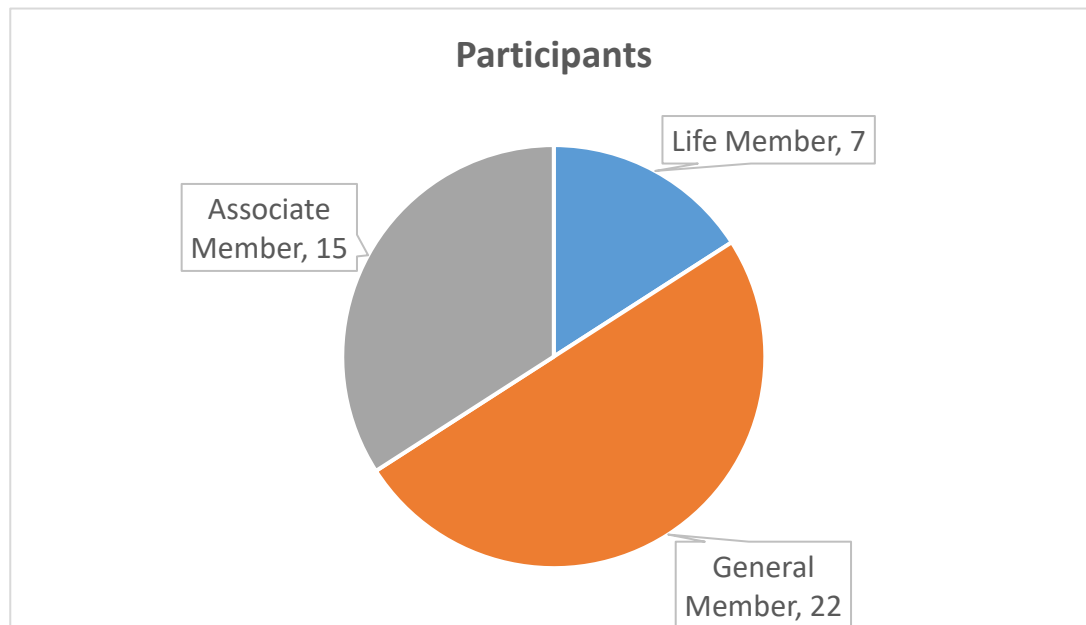
ASTA Foundation does many activities based on this event like....

- Preparation of annual work plan
- Publish yearly Financial Report
- Member including process
- Member rewarded based on dedication
- Outdoor games and cultural events etc.

In 2022 ASTA Foundation organized **Annual Meeting and Recreation** program in Sonadia Island of Maheshkhali Upazilla is 23 & 24 December, 2022.

### Purpose of this meeting in Sonadia

- Introduce underprivileged area like Sonadia
- Find out most effected problem of Sonadia
- To get idea about livelihood of the Sonadia's population
- To conduct awareness session about Human trafficking, Girls Education and Climate Change
- Sonadia is a noise-free natural environment perfect for annual picnics



## Events

- Conducted Awareness Session
- Outdoor Football, Blindly Pot Break & Ping pong Ball game
- Annual Meeting
- Raffle Draw
- Prize Giving Ceremony
- Cultural events & BBQ Party
- Photo Session

## Some Photographs of this event



**Group Picture**



**Outdoor Game**



**Conducting Annual General Meeting**



**Prize Giving Ceremony**

## **Conclusion**

The Annual General Meeting and Annual Picnic of ASTA Foundation are two crucial events that contribute significantly to the organization's success and growth. The AGM serves as a platform for members to reflect on the foundation's achievements, discuss challenges, and plan for the future. It also enables members to elect new leaders and participate in workshops that improve the foundation's effectiveness. The annual picnic, on the other hand, is a fun-filled event that provides a relaxed environment for members to bond and participate in outdoor activities. These events reinforce the bonds between members and contribute to the foundation's growth, making them essential to the foundation's success and sustainability.

## Get Together & Ifter Program'2022

The 'Get Together & Ifter Program'2022 celebrated by ASTA Foundation was a successful event that brought together members and supporters of the organization to celebrate the holy month of Ramadan 2022. The event provided a platform for members to socialize, strengthen their relationships and celebrate the spirit of giving and unity that Ramadan represents. The program included a traditional Iftar meal, speeches by community leaders, and other cultural activities such as Quran recitation and Nasheed performances. The event was a significant success, as it allowed members to come together and share the joy of the holy month, while also showcasing the Foundation's commitment to its members and the community.

ASTA Foundation Organized **Get Together & Ifter Program'2022** at Winde terrace Hotel in Cox's Bazar in 19 April, 2022.



**Snapshot of Get Together & Ifter Program'2022**



**Group Picture of Get Together & Ifter Program'2022**

## National Day's Celebration

The ASTA Foundation is a social organization that celebrates national days like International Mother Language Day, Independence Day, and Victory Day of Bangladesh. Through cultural activities, educational workshops, and community service projects, the foundation aims to promote cultural and social awareness and bring people together to celebrate their shared heritage and culture. The International Mother Language Day, observed on February 21st, commemorates the language movement of Bangladesh, while Independence Day, celebrated on March 26th, marks the country's declaration of independence from Pakistan in 1971. Victory Day, observed on December 16th, celebrates the country's victory over Pakistan in the Bangladesh Liberation War. Overall, the ASTA Foundation's celebration of national days plays a crucial role in promoting cultural and social awareness, and in bringing people together to celebrate their shared history and cultural identity.



Offering flowers at Shaheed Minar on national day in memory of brave martyrs



Discussion about history and learning of Victory day



## Milestone 2022

ASTA Foundation has several achievements in 2022. Which will accelerate the activities of ASTA Foundation and inspire to undertake far-reaching action plans in the future. All these achievements have created an opportunity for ASTA Foundation to work for the underprivileged people on a larger scale and to work for the people of Cox's Bazar along with the government to achieve the SDG targets through the development of youth society.

### Certification of Organizational Name from Social Welfare Department

ASTA Foundation has obtained the certificate of organization name in 2022 from the Directorate of Social Services, Govt. By achieving this certificate, ASTA Foundation has created a distinct identity of the foundation by further expanding its work. ASTA Foundation obtained this certificate from Cox's Bazar Samaj Seva in the month of October.



Mr. Abdulla Al Mamun, General Member of ASTA receiving name clearance certificate from Somaj Sheba, Cox's Bazar on behalf of ASTA Foundation.

## Registration from Department of Youth Development

ASTA Foundation completed organization registration in 2022 from Department of Youth Development, Cox's Bazar. With this achievement, ASTA Foundation is recognized as a government registered social organization. The organization has submitted all the documents as per the registration process of Department of Youth Development and completed the registration successfully.



ASTA Foundation successfully completed the registration in Department of Youth Development and receiving Certificate.

## Taken over “YES project” resource from YPSA and Relief International

ASTA Foundation's acquisition of a resource center office asset, including furniture, PC, bookshelf, chair, printer, multimedia projector, etc., from Relief International and YPSA is a significant achievement. This donation will help the foundation in building youth capacity in various skills and empower them to become leaders in their communities. The resource center will provide access to information, resources, and training opportunities for youth, which will enable them to develop skills that are in high demand in today's job market. This achievement is a testament to the foundation's commitment to providing opportunities for young people to succeed and make a positive impact in their communities. The resource center will undoubtedly play a vital role in the foundation's efforts to empower youth and create a better future for all.



**ASTA Foundation** receiving resource center asset from **Relief International** and **YPSA** for building youth capacity on various skill.

## **Gap and Challenges**

ASTA Foundation is a social organization dedicated to empowering marginalized communities through education, health, and livelihood programs. Despite the organization's efforts, it faces various challenges that hinder its progress towards achieving its objectives. This report highlights some of the challenges that ASTA Foundation faces in 2022. Recommendations are also provided to address challenges to ensure program sustainability and effectiveness.

### **Challenges**

- Lack of financial resources
- Limited reach of programs
- Difficulty in measuring impact
- Challenges Faced in Registration of Organizations
- Minimum office facility for female members

## **Way Forward**

- Expand network of volunteers/Members
- Implement monitoring and evaluation framework
- Build strategic partnerships with other organizations
- Increase transparency and accountability in reporting and finances.
- Develop a long-term sustainability plan
- Focus on capacity building of members and volunteers
- Continuously assess and adapt programs to changing community needs.

## **2023 Plan**

- Start new batch for “Digital Literacy & Social Media Etiquette” course
- Educational Materials Distribution to poor primary school students
- National & International days Celebration
- EID Cloth Distribution 2023
- Continue Capacity strengthening activities
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Advocacy

**THE END**