

UBA Activities Report

1. Prologue

United Bangladesh Appeal (UBA) is an umbrella organization founded by the Non Resident Bangladeshis (NRBs) in November 20, 2007. UBA was born with the vision to integrate the networks of overseas Bangladeshis and inspires them to extend their contribution for Bangladesh.

The idea of UBA came into reality when several overseas Bangladeshi organizations had realized the necessity of collective effort to help the country people during the cyclone SIDR aftershock. As a result, young Bangladeshi professionals in different parts of the world came forward and played a significant role to unite different Bangladeshi expatriate organizations to serve the grater national purpose under the name of UBA.

Organization that came under UBA coalition is given below:

UBA Coalition	
Overseas organizations	Bangladeshi organizations
1. Bangladesh Environment Network	1. D.Net
2. Bangladesh Relief Fund	2. The Hunger Project
3. Change Bangladesh	3. Faria Lara Foundation
4. Cincinnati Bangali Community	4. GonoGobeshona O Unnayan Foundation (GOUF)
5. Drishtipat Canada	5. Food for Hungry International Bangladesh
6. Drishtipat Chicago	6. Works Foundation
7. Drishtipat London	7. Dharitry Samaj Kallayan Sangha
8. EB 2000	8. Shamsuddin-Nahar Trust
9. Lehigh Valley's Bangladeshi – American Community	Organizational details is in Annex - 1
10. MECA (Mirzapur Ex-Cadets Association)	
11. North Louisiana Muslim Community	
12. Volunteers Association of Bangladesh (VAB)	

1.1. The Inside Story

Cyclone SIDR a category 4 hurricane had flattened the southwestern region of Bangladesh and done serious devastation on November 15, 2007. The shock of SIDR took lives of 3,200 individuals, destroyed new crops and rendered people homeless. Over 7 million Bangladeshis are still suffering due to the widespread damage of SIDR.

In order to address this catastrophic aftermath UBA came forward and created SIDR Victims Compensation Fund with goal of distributing cash donation worth USD 100 per SIDR victim family. The fundraising was accomplished by Bangladeshi expatriate groups and the value of aggregate amount was USD 300,000.

Photo feature of UBA relief distribution



Kawsar Jamal accompanied other UBA representative distributes relief to SIDR victim families

Partner organizations in Bangladesh enlisted the victims name and their respective beneficiaries. Based on the collected information fund had distributed directly to individual family members from January to April 2008. In total, approximately three thousand beneficiaries were given donation worth TK. 18, 173, 500 (One core eighty one lakh seventy three thousand five hundred two) in cash. Beneficiary's database available at www.dnet.org.bd/sird

1.2. Financial Information

A. District wise distribution

Name of District	Name of Upazila/Organization	Victims below 10 yrs	Victims above 10 yrs	Amount (Taka)
Chittagong	Banshkhali	0	28	196,000
Bhola	All	3	32	252,000
Bagerhat	Sarankhola	242	457	3,864,000
	Sadar, Rampal, Kachua, Morelgonj, Chitalmari, Mollahat, Fakirhat	18	103	792,000
Patuakhali	Kalapara	50	38	478,000
	Galachipa, Mirjagonj, Baufal and Sadar	194	151	1,833,000
Barguna	Betagi	5	29	237,500
	Patherghata	138	142	1,617,000
	Patherghata (Missing)	16	93	715,000
	Bamna	6	19	166,500
	Amtoli	119	126	1,305,000
	Barguna Sadar	256	274	2,924,000
Barisal	All	14	58	491,500
Pirojpur	Mathbaria	60	90	919,000
	Bhandaria	46	62	649,000
	Others	30	82	735,000
Faridpur	All	6	10	99,000
Khulna	All	0	12	84,000
Jhalokathi	All	4	37	293,500
Satkhira	All	4	20	165,500
Chandpur	All	1	4	34,000
Noakhali	All	1	0	4,000
Laxmipur	All	1	1	11,500
Munshigonj	All	0	5	37,500
Narshindhi	All	0	2	15,000
Jessore	All	0	2	15,000
Gopalganj	All	7	28	240,000
Sub-total (A)				18,173,500

B. Institutional Overhead

Name of Organization	Amount (Taka)
Farialara Foundation	48,000
GOUF	29,040
Work Foundation	3,280
SNT	2,500
Dharitry	8,600
The Hunger Project	131,800
First Bangladesh/the SAfeworks (Data Entry)	16,944
Sub-total – (B)	240,164

C. Expenditure during fund distribution and press conference

Name of District/Activities	Amount (Taka)
Chittagong	2,600
Bhola	2,320
Bagerhat (Sarankhola)	11,300
Patuakhali	2,130
Barguna	3,700
Barisal	2,150
Pirojpur	3,210
Faridpur	960
Khulna	3,340
Satkhira	2,830
Press Conference	37,900
Sub-total – (C)	72,440

Total Expenditure (A+B+C) in Taka	18,486,104
Total Expenditure in USD	270,265

1.3. Names of the entities are given below that provided logistic support to UBA.

Logistic support providers	Sonali Bank, Bangladesh
	GoB, Ministry of Finance
	GoB, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management
	DC and UNO offices
	Bangladesh Army, Navy, RAB and Police

1.4. Press Conference

UBA was organized a press conference titled “**A Collective Effort for the Cyclone SIDR Victims in Bangladesh**” at National Press Club on September 8, 2008 in order to share its recent relief effort with media in the SIDR ravaged areas.

Dr. Badiul Alam Majumdar, Country Director, The Hunger Project Bangladesh welcomed the humanitarian initiative of NRBs for the SIDR victims. He said, “We have developed a tendency to depend on foreign aid. This in many circumstances creates complexity to overcome the existing problem. So first of all we have to build a sustainable crisis management system by ourselves and in this regard expatriates can come forward to successful the mission”.

Kawsar Jamal, Founder, Change Bangladesh and member UBA gave a multimedia presentation on the relief effort of UBA. He stated that, “We have developed a database for the SIDR victims. This is a very organized presentation of the affected people and I think anyone can come forward to offer further assistance to the victims based on this database”.

Ajoy Kumar Bose, Head Institutional Affairs, D.Net explained that, “We have collected the list of the victims from the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management and then created a network of organizations to distribute the aid”.

At the end of the press conference UBA handed over certificates to the volunteers who took part to this nationwide relief effort. NeoSTAR Media & Communication was in charge of event management of the press conference. Detail list of volunteers is in **Annex - 2**

1.5 Press Conference Images



Ajoy Kumar Bose moderates the



Kawsar Jamal demonstrates the UBA



Dr. Badiul Alam Mazumdar speaks at



Journalists from print and electronic

1.6. Media Coverage

The UBA press conference was covered by several print and electronic media and some of them are presented below:



Clock wise: Press conference news covered by The Daily Star, The New Nation and The Independent

Press Conference related video	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wx1TnGUn_4M
	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uiBbStSjabk

2. Epilogue

United Bangladesh Appeal (UBA) is living proof that while so many sons and daughters live and earn their livelihoods abroad, their hearts and minds are never far away from the country of their birth. There are hundreds of groups of expatriate Bangladeshis working separately for various causes – but always for the betterment of Bangladesh. And in moments of great distress, they come together to strive for a common cause. Sidr was such a moment and many groups came together to raise the funds that we have distributed to the families of the victims.

UBA would like to thank all of those in Bangladesh who were our partners in helping distribute the funds to the right persons. Of special note are D.Net, The Hunger Project and the volunteers who worked tirelessly on and off the field. And we appreciate the support of the many government entities who helped smooth our way.

Short Descriptions of Local Partners and Volunteers who participated to distribution of SIDR victim’s compensation fund

A-1.1. D.Net (Development Research Network) www.dnet.org.bd

D.Net – Development Research Network is a not-for-profit research institution in Bangladesh, established in 2001. D.Net's vision is a society where information and knowledge facilitates all stakeholders' participation in generation of wealth and its equitable distribution for poverty alleviation. Its mission is to become a premier organisation in Bangladesh and beyond by undertaking research and various action programmes in the areas, where information and knowledge can contribute to poverty alleviation, economic growth and peace.

During initial years of activities, D.Net's main focus was research on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Development. D.Net's in-depth research in the area of ICTs for poverty alleviation has drawn attention of stakeholders not only in Bangladesh, but also across the globe.

Under its Mission 2010, D.Net's five year strategic plan, D.Net conducts research and implements important action programmes primarily in six thematic areas:

1. Access to Information and Knowledge
2. Enhancing Business Competitiveness for Economic Growth
3. Governance and Human Rights
4. Human Resource Development
5. Institutional Capacity Development
6. Economic and Development Policy Research

D.Net also undertakes policy influencing activities, for bringing burning issues before the policy makers and stakeholders to create awareness and to take proper actions.

D.Net has started to play a visible role in the research arena within the national boundary and in South Asia through involvement with BRAC, SAPANA, CENTAD, Sarvodaya and ICRIER. It has also gone beyond South Asia through telecentre.org, Canada; ICTSD, Switzerland; IKED, Sweden; ADB Institute, Japan; and ELDIS, UK. D.Net is a member of Global Knowledge Partnership (GKP), One World South Asia, and PAN Asia Network of IDRC.

D.Net received the Global Gender and ICT Award 2005, at the World Summit on the Information Society for its innovation – linking new ICT mobile telecommunication for improving access to livelihood information by the poor people, particularly women and the handicapped, through the introduction of the “mobile lady”.

A-1.2. The Hunger Project www.thpbd.org

Mission of the Hunger Project:

The Hunger Project is a global, strategic organization committed to the sustainable end of world hunger.

In Africa, Asia and Latin America, The Hunger Project empowers millions of women and men to end their own hunger. The Hunger Project has pioneered low-cost, bottom-up, gender-focused strategies in each region where hunger persists. These strategies mobilize clusters of rural villages to create and run their own programs that achieve lasting progress in health, education, nutrition and family income.

In all our work, the highest priority is the empowerment of women. Women traditionally bear primary responsibility for family health, education, nutrition and - increasingly - family income. Yet women have been systematically denied information, resources and voice in decisions that affect their lives.

Vision of the Hunger Project:

The vision of a world free from hunger does not look like our present reality minus the problem of hunger.

Our vision of the future is not based on everyone achieving a Western-style, high-consumption lifestyle, which is environmentally unsustainable even for the one billion people who now live it. Nor does it permit one-sixth of the human family to continue to live in abject poverty.

The Hunger Project is committed to transcending this polarity — to creating a future that rejects the inevitability of hunger and recognizes the limitations of a consumerist society.

Achieving the sustainable end of hunger means nothing less than creating a new future for all humanity, a future where

- every day, every person has enough of the right food to be healthy and productive;
- babies are born healthy and strong, and girl babies are prized as much as boy babies;
- children stay alive, so parents can have smaller families;
- women and girls are full partners in society;
- people have control over their own lives and destinies, and all individuals have a chance to contribute;
- the values of honoring human beings and nature flourish

Goals of the Hunger Project:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
2. Achieve universal primary education.
3. Promote gender equality and empower women.
4. Reduce child mortality.
5. Improve maternal health.
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability.

8. Develop a global partnership for Development.

THP-Bangladesh works to mobilize grassroots action for a self-reliant future, as a volunteer movement in all [64 districts](#) of the country. Since 2001, this work is focused on strengthening local democracy.

A-1.3. Fareea Lara Foundation

Encourages Women To Accept The Challenge Of Winning The Sky

FAREEA LARA FOUNDATION, a non-profit, service and development oriented non-governmental organization was established in memory of Pilot Fareea Lara, who breathed her last by crashing her Cessna-150 at the age of 28 years, on September 27, 1998.

To keep her memory alive and to bring her dreams true the foundation was established. The project area of the foundation is located at village Haldoba, under Gazipur district. Haldoba is a typical Bangladeshi village with people mostly busy with agricultural work. The FAREEA LARA FOUNDATION is registered with Social Welfare Department of Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh

Vision of the Fareea Lara Foundation:

Ensure quality Education; ensure 'Employment and better 'Health' specially for the destitute women and child.

Objectives of the Fareea Lara Foundation:

Create awareness on human rights, women rights, children rights and working together for eradicating gender discrimination; Create awareness, encourage and support women in Bangladesh to join aviation; Provide community-based rehabilitation to disabled individuals, including the vision impaired people to protect them and their families from falling further into poverty by providing rehabilitation services based locally and supporting education, training and income generating activities; Provide vocational training on agriculture, fishery, poultry, live-stock, forestry, carpentry, and cottage industries to young unemployed, adult women and subsequently helping them to find employment, or start a new business that eventually promotes self-sufficiency and self reliance; Provide vocational training to destitute adult women to attain empowerment for a better livelihood and dignified life; Provide reproductive health care services to rural women; Provide Primary health care, including preventive eye care to rural children under five years of age; Create a home for the elderly destitute people; Provide food, lodging and schooling to poor & orphan children; Undertake research in health and socio - economic development; Raise funds and receive donations /assistance to support FAREEA LARA Foundation's activities.

A-1.4. Shamsuddin-Nahar Trust (SNT), Bagerhat

Shamsuddin-Nahar Trust in Boitpur village of Bagerhat District in southwest Bangladesh. The Trust establish in 2002 to provide free education and health services and to organize youth activities to develop future leaders. The Trust runs a school for pre-primary through Grade 5 students in Boitpur and a satellite pre-primary program in another village in that area. A health

clinic established by the Trust provides ante- and post-natal medical care, consultation, and prescription medications for women and children throughout 27 of the villages in Bagerhat District. The Trust also hosts a tuition-free computer training center open to anyone who seeks basic computer literacy, and it organizes separate workshops on mathematics and the English and Bengali languages each year for primary and secondary students from throughout Bagerhat District.

A-1.5. Dhoritry Samaj Kallyan Shongha, Bagerhat, Mongla, Bagerhat

Dhoritry started their journey from January 1994 and registered from Social Welfare Department, Bagerhat in 1998 (Reg. No. Bager/192/98). Their mission is to build reconstruction in the community for serving the unprivileged people by using the local resources and modern technology in addressing the environment tolerance emerging issues to save the future generation. The objectives of Dhoritry are:

- To empower the youth generation through life skill training and make them self-employee.
- To take humanitarian initiatives for the children, specially street/disable/orphan children and old age people.
- To empower the distressed and underprivileged women to live in the society with dignity and hope.
- To enhance the educational quality.
- To address the mother and child health.
- To develop and keep the natural and social environment in the impact area.
- To encourage and promote the traditional culture in the impact area.
- To save the Sunderban forest and all its impact for the surrounding area and country.

A-1.6. Work Foundation, Jhalokathi

Work Foundation started journey from 2003 as a Non Government Organization and registered under Social Welfare Department, Jhalokathi in 2007 (Reg. No. Jhalo/460/2007). The main objectives of the organization is to “make the helpless poor”, “destitute”, “disadvantage” and “unemployed women and youths”

A-1.7. Gono-Gobeshona O Unnayan Foundation, Jessore

GonoGobeshona O Unnayan Foundation (GG) perceives every homosapien as philosopher, thinker and analyst. Every human being possesses in born capacity to positively change his surrounding environment. Unfortunately hostile forces interwoven at different points make it difficult for him to achieve it. However, GG believes in peoples’ participation and empowerment can bring change. GonoGobeshona (GG) model is based on the premise that any sustainable change must be built on the analytical foundation – a power of raising questions – a power of breaking silence- as the very entry point of positive change. In such a process they need to be organized in such a way that they can collect and collate their own data about their condition, and based upon data they can formulate plan for positive change. Once they have decided what efforts need to be undertaken, they can assert rights from the duty bearers in the government and market forces to provide the services and inputs.

A-1.8. Food for Hungry International (FHI), www.fhi.net

FHI was founded in 1971 by Dr. Larry Ward to provide a special focus on the world's physically and spiritually hungry. In the face of the world's overwhelming needs, he maintained the premise that the hungry die on at a time; therefore, they can be saved one at a time. FHI's history consists of four major periods:

- 1970's: Focus on disaster relief. Activity during those years included aid to war refugees and flood victims in Bangladesh (1971-72), earthquake relief in Managua, Nicaragua (1973), aid for Vietnamese "boat people" (1975), earthquake relieve in Guatemala (1976) and Romania (1977), and relief assistance to Somalia famine victims in 1980.
- 1980's: Focus on sustainable development. In 1984, Dr. Ted Yamamori succeeded Dr. Ward as FHI's second president. FHI began to change from an organization solely focused on disaster relief to on also providing long-term sustainable development. During this time, large development programmes started or expanded in Bolivia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Bangladesh, to name a few.
- 1990's: Focus on becoming a vision-driven organization. In 1993, FHI and its **National Support Organizations** unified around a common corporate identity. A key statement in this identity was the vision of a community that defines what it look like for a community to develop itself in an integrated and sustainable way
- 21st century: Focus on developing people to carry the vision. With a strong Corporate identity and a Vision of a Community (VoC), FHI is now focused on developing leaders and workers who can carry out this vision. In March 2001, Randall L. Hoag succeeded Dr. Yamamori as FHI's third president. He ahs been with FHI since 1983 when he started as a volunteer. In 2003, FHI relocated its International Service Center to Bangkok, Thailand.

**Volunteers who participated to disburse Sidr victims’
compensation fund**

A-2.1. In USA

1. Mr. Kawsar Jamal
2. Mridul Chowdhury
3. Dureen Shanaz

A-2.2. In Bangladesh

D.Net

4. Ajoy Kumar Bose, D.Net, Dhaka, Bangladesh
5. Nurul Absar, D.Net, Dhaka, Bangladesh
6. Md. Abdul Alim Khan, MSS student of Sociology, University of Dhaka.
7. Mr. Asad Ali, MSS student of Political Science, University of Dhaka.
8. M.M. Sharifuezzaman, MSS student of Sociology, Dhaka College
9. Md. Sanwar Parvej, 4th year of International Relations, University of Dhaka.
10. Mehedi Hasan, 3rd year student of Sociology, University of Dhaka.
11. Sanjib Bose, M.Sc student of Geography & Environment, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka
12. Samir Kumar Das, 4th year student, Brojamohan University College, Barisal
13. Nazrul Islam, M.Sc student of Geography & Environment, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka
14. Reaz Mahmud, M.Sc student of Geography & Environment, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka

A-2-3. The Hunger Project

15. Ms. Nasina Akhter Joly
16. Md. Masudur Rahman Ranju
17. Mahbub-Ul-Alam Bulbul
18. Md. Mustoba Ali
19. Mohammad Nurul Afser Khan
20. Md. Khorshed Alam
21. Md. Isahaque Ali
22. Md. Saiful Islam
23. Mrs. Khalada Ohab
24. Md. Korsad Alam
25. Md. Moniruzzaman Talukdar
26. Md. Zakir Hoshan
27. Md. Kazi Enayet Hoshan
28. Md. Nazmun Zahan
29. Md. Alhaj Adv. Fazle Ali Khan

30. Mr. Manash Kanti Datta
31. Mr. Manindra Nath Mondal
32. Ms. Aysha
33. Ms. Tahamina Begum
34. Mr. Rumman
35. Ms. Lakshmi Sarkar
36. Mr. Sharmin Akthar
37. Md. Ali Ruppy
38. Ms. Popy Rani Mistry
39. Ms. Nayon Bisways
40. Ms. Nelufa Yesmin
41. Md. Mafiur Rahman
42. Md. Liton Mia
43. Md. Kazi Anowar Sadad
44. Md. Rabiul Hasan
45. Md. Ruhul Amin
46. Md. Abu Jafar Mir
47. Ms. Dipti Rani Hawlader
48. Md. Abul Kalam Azad
49. Md. Rafiqul Islam
50. Md. Kamal Hosain Fakir
51. Ms. Shireen Akhter
52. Md. Jakir Hossain
53. Md. Kazi Azijul Islam Lal

A-2.4. GOUF

54. Mr. Rashedul Islam Bappi
55. Mr. Mohammad Abdul latif
56. Mr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam Minto
57. Ms. Ferdousi Aktar
58. Md. Abul Bashar
59. Mr. Amal Kumar Ghosh
60. Md. Mohammad Iqramul Hossain
61. Ms. Rumees Aktar
62. Ms. Lamia Aktar Toba

A-2.5. Food for Hungry International (FHI)

63. Mr. Aten
64. Mr. Chan Maung
65. Mr. Azim
66. Mr. Shoeb
67. Mr. Monibor Rahaman
68. Mr. Shahin

69. Mr. Manik
70. Mr. Md. Nuruzaman
71. Mr. Md. Swopon Mia
72. Mr. Md. Jillur Rahaman
73. Mr. Moni Sonkor
74. Mr. Asadul Islam
75. Mr. Alexander Mintu D. Costa
76. Mr. Camel D. Costa
77. Mr. Abdus Sattar

A-2.6. Faria Lara Foundation

78. Mr. Abdul Alim Himu
79. Mr. Chitta Ranjan Shil
80. Mr. Monir Hossain Kamal
81. Mr. Monir Hossain
82. Ms. Morsheda Begum
83. Mr. Jahangir Hossain
84. Mr. Mozammel Hossain
85. Mr. Amal Kumar Paul
86. Ms. Aroti Mazumder
87. Ms. Kamrun Nessa
88. Md. Mushfiqur Rahman

A-2.7. Work Foundation

89. Ms. Dipu Lal Das
90. Mr. Ajit Kumar Halder
91. Md. Masud Hossain Badal
92. Md. Moffazzel Hossain
93. Md. Nazrul Islam Ponir

A-2.8. Shamsuddin-Nahar Trust

94. Sujit Kumar Nath
95. Kohinur Akter
96. Mahbuba Khanam
97. Subrata Kumer Mukerjee
98. Khadiza Tul Kobra
99. Sonia Akter
100. Sonia Sultana
101. Kazi Marufa
102. Sumitra Rani Paul
103. Tasfia Jahan Dipa
104. Md. Mahidul Islam
105. Kazi Muzaddila

106. Ruhul Amin Talukder
107. Zhaidul Islam
108. Khadiza Akter
109. Eshanul Haque Kabir
110. Mamun Siqder
111. Shilpi Akter

A-2.9. Dharitry Samaj Kallan Sangha

112. Montu M. Gonsalvez
113. Jahangir Hossain
114. Babul Sarker
115. Thakurdas Baroi
116. Provas Ch. Biswas
117. Krishna Pada Roy

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