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Human Energy™

Chevron  a responsible
corporate company
in Bangladesh



Welcome

Chevron Corporation is one of the world's leading integrated energy companies. The company is involved in virtually every facet of the energy industry. Chevron explores for, produces and transports crude oil and natural gas; refines, markets and distributes transportation fuels and lubricants; manufactures and sells petrochemicals and additives; generates power and produces geothermal energy; and develops and deploys technologies that enhance business value in every aspect of the company's operations. Chevron is based in San Ramon, California. More information about Chevron is available at www.chevron.com



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Kevin Lyon
President, Chevron Bangladesh



President's Message

At Chevron, corporate responsibility forms an intrinsic part of our value system wherever we work. By forging strong, collaborative partnerships with our communities and stakeholders, we have the opportunity to share in their success. Our goal is to grow and develop our business, along with those of our communities. And our Bangladesh story is a true standard-bearer of the corporate responsibility work we do across the corporation.

Because of the prevalent socioeconomic need in the communities around our facilities and the communities' genuine interest in participating in our activities, the partnership opportunities are significant. A great case in point is the flagship Bibiyana Expansion (BYX) Project, where we actively sought to maximize the representation of local business groups during its development and construction. In 2014 alone, we spent more than \$13 million on materials and labor from local suppliers near our areas of operation. Of this, \$7 million was spent during the course of the BYX Project. We provided employment for nearly 1,700 local workers - out of which 1,100 positions were created as part of BYX between 2013 and 2014.

Due to a weak industrial presence, the communities near our gas fields are characterized by high unemployment rates and few business opportunities. Therefore, Chevron is often the first and last port of call for large numbers of people who struggle with myriad socioeconomic challenges on an almost daily basis. The people in these communities have a lot of interest in Chevron, looking to us and our programs for support with jobs and business opportunities and to help them address their core needs of education, economic development and health. Structured social investment programs were launched during the development of the Bibiyana gas field in 2005-2006. During that time, we engaged multiple local partners to augment the livelihood skills and capacities of our community members in a bid to promote entrepreneurship and employment. It is a testament to our success that our economic development initiatives helped in the creation of more than 2,700 income-generating micro enterprises to date and more than 550 jobs last year alone.

We are also proud of our success on both the health and education front. Our three community clinics - two housed in permanent facilities - are now firmly entrenched in the area and are providing quality, affordable treatment and diagnostic services. With a core focus on awareness-raising campaigns around a range of health and hygiene issues, our health initiatives espouse the principle that a healthy family has more economic resources to spend on elevating its socioeconomic standards. Education has always been one of our central priorities, and we are privileged to be working with three reputable organizations - national and international - that have added depth and dimension to our education support programs.

This publication presents a collection of inspiring stories about people in the communities in the regions around our gas fields that have steered their own futures and changed the direction of their lives. I've been privileged to meet and interact with some of our community neighbors, and it was a humbling experience. They own their success, and it makes me immensely proud that Chevron continues to have a small supporting role in their story. Our initiatives have one common thread running through them: they are all designed to empower our communities and instill in them a sense of self-confidence, hope and belief in a positive future.

Though we've undoubtedly come a long way from where we started, this is a journey, and that journey isn't over. The recent launch of the five-year \$10 million Bangladesh Partnership Initiative, with components of enterprise and workforce development, represents a significant stride in that journey toward economic stability, job creation and sustainable growth for the local communities where we work.

Chevron in Bangladesh

Chevron Bangladesh entities, which are subsidiaries of Chevron Corporation, operate three fields in northeastern Bangladesh - Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar. All the natural gas and condensate produced is delivered to Petrobangla, the national oil company. Chevron is the largest producer of natural gas in Bangladesh, supplying approximately 50 percent of the country's natural gas consumption. We are also the largest foreign investor in Bangladesh, having invested over U.S. \$1.7 billion to date.

Chevron plays an instrumental role in helping the Government of Bangladesh meet its energy goals. We have increased production tenfold in the last decade to meet the country's increasing demand for natural gas. In 2014, we announced the start of production at the \$500 million Bibiyana Expansion Project, which increased our production by 300 million cubic feet of natural gas per day.

Chevron Bangladesh has maintained remarkable safety standards while employing more than 4,000 Bangladeshis.

Jalalabad Natural Gas Field

- 1995 PSC signed
- 1999 First production
- 2014 Drilled three more wells
- 2015 Seven producing wells

Bibiyana Natural Gas Field

- 1995 PSC signed
- 1998 Field discovered
- 2007 First production; now largest producing gas field in Bangladesh
- 2009 Independent reserve redetermination studies confirmed field contains more reserves than originally assessed
- 2012 Final investment decision reached on Bibiyana Expansion Project largest foreign investment project in Bangladesh's history
- 2014 Expanded capacity of plant, increasing production in 2015 by 300 million cubic feet
- 2015 Twenty-five producing wells

Moulavi Bazar Natural Gas Field

- 1995 PSC signed
- 1999 Field discovered
- 2005 First gas
- 2008 3D seismic survey completed
- 2012 First production from two new wells drilled in Moulavi Bazar
- 2015 Six producing wells

Muchai Compressor Station

- 2010 Final investment decision reached
- 2012 Muchai compressor station launched to support additional production



In the Community

In all its operations, Chevron has long been active in community development through a wide range of activities and programs that focus primarily on economic development, education and health care. Our aim is for these initiatives to be partnership-based, sustainable, community-driven, and in line with the company's business and social objectives. Being the partner of choice for the communities where we work is one of Chevron's core values.

In Bangladesh, Chevron's wide range of community activities and programs collectively reach approximately 37,000 people.

Chevron's Operation in Sylhet Region



Economic Development Programs

Improving Livelihoods

In 2006, Chevron Bangladesh, in partnership with reputable local and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), launched economic development programs based on a socioeconomic survey of the communities around its areas of operation. The initial aim of the programs was to improve the livelihoods of 200 underprivileged families residing near the Bibiyana gas field and empower them by providing the tools to change their socioeconomic condition on their own.

The main objectives of the program were to establish mobilization platforms called “village development organizations” and to provide training and business capital for startups in the form of seed funds. The members of the village development organizations maintain a village “bank” of their monthly savings through which funds are circulated among the members. The funds are subsequently reimbursed from members’ earnings. The revolving balance enables their savings to grow so that the funds may be retrenched back into their individual business enterprises.

The total amount of deposits accrued by the groups has surpassed BDT26 million. 65 village libraries have been established, and 600 women have completed courses as a result of the functional literacy drives. Within the Youth Development Program, 483 youths received skills development training and 355 of them were placed in jobs or went on to set up their own income-generating ventures. Through the Alternative Livelihood Options program, 1,000 improved cooking stoves were provided and four biogas plants were installed for a cleaner and more energy-efficient home environment. Also through this same project, 280 families and six schools have received solar photovoltaic panels. During 2014 and 2015, Chevron’s irrigation project turned 121 hectares of single-crop land into dual-crop land.

As of 2015, more than 3,700 families who live in the area of Chevron’s three natural gas fields are engaged with these initiatives, and more than 2,700 of them have been successful in setting up their own livelihood development enterprises. In addition to enterprise development opportunities for the local community, during the implementation phase of the Bibiyana Expansion Project, employment opportunities were created for approximately 1,100 people locally. Overall, these projects generated around BDT 546 million in businesses for local contractors in 2014.

With Chevron’s support, many women in the community have been given employment opportunities. They have also begun to take on leadership roles within their villages. Alongside their contribution to their household income, they are making their voices heard in the social milieu as well. Not so long ago, this was completely unheard of. This has created a wonderful cascading effect: following the example set by their mothers, girl students are now more aware about women’s rights. As teachers, we are trying to do our part as well. Our female colleagues are playing an especially important role on that front.

—Pradip Ranjan Das, Nadampur High School Head Master





The Power of Saving

“Unable to make ends meet, I moved back to my parents’ home, along with my husband and children. We were completely dependent on my father, proving to be a terrible financial burden. But those days are now a distant memory: I am the proud owner of 10 cows; I have a solar panel installed in my home, a biogas plant for cooking and a power tiller as well.”

I became a member of my village development organization with the launch of the Chevron supported Alternative Livelihood Program. Upon acquiring membership, I received all manner of support - both from the NGO and my fellow members. Inspired by the free flow of ideas, I enrolled in a training course on calf rearing and took a loan from my village development organization to kick-start my cattle farm. Subsequently, under the Alternative Livelihood Options program, also launched by Chevron, a solar panel and biogas plant were installed in my home. Now I can operate three light fixtures, and cooking is done over a gas stove.

In addition to the proceeds from the sale of milk from my cows, the solar panel and biogas plant are enabling me to save on kerosene and firewood costs, as intended by the program. I used these savings and another loan from my village development organization to expand my cattle-rearing business further. I started with one cow; I now own ten. I've also been able to buy a power tiller, which is helping in our own farm work and earning me a tidy sum in rental fees. The solar panel and biogas plant have now reduced our consumption of firewood, leading to less toxic fumes and a marked improvement in the health of my family. My children can now study longer hours and are more enthusiastic about their schoolwork.

Through the Alternative Livelihood Options (ALO) program, 1,000 families have received improved cooking stoves, 280 households and six schools have been provided with solar photovoltaic panels, and four households have been given biogas plants. In addition, 14 people have received training on how to construct and install the improved stoves. Dolly Rani is one of the beneficiaries of the ALO program.

Dolly Rani, Chanpur Village, Inathganj, Nabiganj Upazila, Habiganj
Project: ALO
Implementing Partner: Center for Natural Resource Studies



Finding Success in Agripreneurship

“We weren’t able to make ends meet on the wages of a daily laborer, and the future of our children was our only concern. I now have a small goat-rearing farm. I took a course in goat rearing with Chevron’s support, which helped me improve my financial situation.”

After making an assessment of my financial situation, Chevron made me a part of its Alternative Livelihood Program. Following a group discussion with the other members, Chevron’s partner NGO helped us select individual income-generating enterprises that we were interested in.

I was then enrolled in a training course on goat rearing and subsequently took a loan from my village development organization to start my goat-rearing venture. I’ve since sold a few goats; apart from using the funds to supplement my household expenses and pay for my children’s education, I bought more goats. I feel the financial burden on my shoulders has eased considerably.

There was a time when I felt ashamed of my inability to do anything to support my family. But now my own earnings are going into the family kitty, and I’m being able to share the educational expenses of my children. This fills me with pride.

Hanufa Begum’s family is one of 244 families that established successful goat-rearing enterprises through the Chevron-sponsored Alternative Livelihood Program implemented for the communities near the Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar natural gas fields.

Hanufa Begum, Shastipur Village, Dighalbak, Nabiganj Upazila, Habiganj
Project: Alternative Livelihood Program
Implementing Partner: Institute for Development Affairs



My Road to Empowerment

“I was in dire financial straits and toiled long and hard to improve my situation. My current state of contentment is the fruit of my labors.”

With four children in tow, the wages my husband earned as a worker in a rice mill were not enough to support our family of six. I would constantly worry about our future; but now that I own a small poultry farm, two rickshaws and a firewood shop, I can dare to dream of golden days ahead.

The fact that my dreams are now within reach has been made possible through the support of the economic development program brought to the area by Chevron. With the support of their partner NGO, we constituted a village development organization with representatives from underprivileged families like mine. We consulted each other to decide the type of income-generating activities we would be engaged in and the trainings we would need. I enrolled in training courses on poultry farming and small business management. Equipped with a loan from my group fund, I was all set to start my business. The road ahead no longer seems strange and unfamiliar to me, and it is this road that heralds the beginning of my journey.

There were many challenges on the way. But my husband and I crossed these hurdles together. Other women have witnessed my journey and have been inspired to follow in my footsteps.

Through the Chevron-sponsored Alternative Livelihood Program implemented for the communities near the Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar natural gas fields, 472 households have established financially solvent small business enterprises. Jahanara Begum Janu's is one such household.

Jahanara Begum Janu, Baluchar Islamabad Village, Tultikar, Sylhet Sadar Upazila, Sylhet
Project: Alternative Livelihood Program
Implementing Partner: Center for Natural Resource Studies



How I Became an Entrepreneur

“Even after struggling to survive, I never lost my courage. I leveraged the opportunities I was given and was able to quadruple my monthly income.”

From a poor daily laborer, I am now the owner of a general store and a rice mill.

I left my birthplace of Comilla and relocated to the village of Rajtila in Kamolganj Upazila (under Moulavi Bazar district) in search of work. I was barely able to make a living with my earnings as a daily laborer. In 2009, I signed up with the Chevron-supported Alternative Livelihood Program and became a member of my village development organization. Thanks to the hands-on training, guidance and mentoring I received from the NGO staff, I found in myself the courage and self-confidence to envision a way forward. My wife and I both enrolled in a training course on goat rearing and took a loan from my village development organization to launch a small goat farm and a tea stall. I also received training on bookkeeping and business management and took another loan to start a rice mill. Compared to before, my monthly income has quadrupled. I've used my earnings to pay for my daughter's wedding; I'm also putting my two sons through school and supplementing my family's other expenses.

I took advantage of all the opportunities I was given, and my sense of purpose enabled me to change my fate and envision a light at the end of the tunnel.

Shamsu Miah's family is one of 472 families that have been able to successfully establish small business enterprises through the Chevron-supported Alternative Livelihood Program, implemented for the communities near our Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar natural gas fields.

Shamsu Miah, Rajtila Village, Kamolganj, Kamolganj Upazila, Moulavi Bazar
Project: Alternative Livelihood Program
Implementing Partner: Prochesta



Getting the Ducks in a Row

“My monthly earnings now exceed what I used to earn the whole year round. I’ve gone from a simple farmer to a successful entrepreneur. Thanks to the guidance I received and my own hard work, I’ve now turned my life around.”

I became a member of a village development organization through one of Chevron’s partner NGOs. After joining the program, I decided to learn more about duck farming. I received training on duck rearing and was given valuable advice about the way forward. Rearing of ducklings, vaccinations to prevent diseases, shed construction, sale of duck eggs in the market - these were just some of the topics I learned about in the training course before starting my own duck hatchery with 100 ducklings. Till date, I’ve taken loans on seven separate occasions and am currently running a successful enterprise. Now there are between 200 and 300 ducks in my farm at all times, enabling me to sell eggs every day, and sometimes I even sell ducks. Before starting this project, I worked as a small agricultural farmer and never experienced such fruitful and productive business. Now my monthly income exceeds what I used to make in a year. Chevron’s support, mentoring and guidance from the NGO, and my own tireless hard work have enabled me to turn a corner. Now, in addition to working toward expanding my own operation, I advise others who are aspiring to start duck hatcheries themselves.

Through the Chevron-sponsored Alternative Livelihood Program implemented for the communities near the Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar natural gas fields, 39 duck hatcheries have been established. Arzan Miah owns one of them.

Arzan Miah, Sirajnagar Village, Kalapur, Sreemangal Upazila, Moulavi Bazar
Project: Alternative Livelihood Program
Implementing Partner: Prochesta



Learning the Ropes of Agribusiness

“I was able to leave the insecurities of seasonal work behind and follow a sustainable route out of poverty.”

I did not have a fixed job. I used to do some farming work from season to season; whatever I earned was barely enough to run my family. I couldn't afford to start a business. I was convinced that this was my lot in life. Then one day, I heard that an international oil and gas company called Chevron and its partner NGO would be coming forward to help underprivileged folks like me. After I got in touch with the NGO and learned more about the program, I became a member of my local village development organization. This enabled me to receive training on cattle fattening, treatment, shed preparation, and proper cattle feed resources and its marketing. Inspired by the training and guided by the project, I took a loan from my village development organization and started a cattle-fattening business with one cow at first.

That was the start of my journey, and I've never looked back. I got a very good price with my first sale. I took loans on six successive occasions from my village group; now I'm running a successful cattle farm, and my monthly income exceeds what I used to make in a whole year before. I don't look back on the difficult times anymore; I only look forward, and the path no longer seems unfamiliar.

Ujjal Miah's family is one of 752 families that are now proudly running successful cattle-fattening projects established through the Chevron-sponsored Alternative Livelihood Program, which was implemented for the communities near the Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar natural gas fields.

Ujjal Miah, Lamua Village, Sreemongal Upazila, Moulavi Bazar
Project: Alternative Livelihood Program
Implementing Partner: Prochesta



Planting the Seeds for Success

“I am living proof of the fact that the right decision can transform one’s life forever. I battled through life’s peaks and troughs to establish myself as a successful farmer. It’s hard to believe that there was a time when I could barely afford a single day’s meal for my family.”

The opportunity to change my life was given to me through the Chevron-supported economic development program. I received valuable advice on how to get the most out of the project - not only from the NGO staff, but also from co-members of my village development organization. I subsequently received hands-on training on modern agricultural methods for the cultivation of squashes, pest control, and soil and seed quality testing. Armed with my new training credentials and inspired by the support I received from the project, I established myself as the first squash farmer in my area, cultivating squashes on 7.5 decimals of land. During the first season, I harvested 1,400 squashes, which I sold for a handsome profit. I realized then that using proper cultivation techniques is enough to make the soil pour forth its riches. It is worth mentioning here that squash cultivation is also less time-consuming and more economical than other vegetables.

This training has increased my drive and self-confidence. I’ve now decided to cultivate summer vegetables like eggplant and cucumber on 20 decimals of land. I firmly believe I’ll be able to make even more progress in the days ahead.

Through the Community-Driven Green Initiative, a Chevron-sponsored pilot project, 227 families have utilized organic farming practices to successfully establish model farms. Alim Uddin’s is one of 48 families that are actively engaged in vegetable gardening.

Alim Uddin, Kosba Village, Dighalbak, Nabiganj Upazila, Habiganj
Project: Community-Driven Green Initiative
Implementing Partner: Institute for Development Affairs



Building a Safety Net

“The aquaculture business I started with Chevron’s support not only increased my income, but also improved my standing in the community.”

Since my husband was unemployed, running a family of 10 was proving to be an extremely difficult challenge. When Chevron, an international oil and gas company working in my area, launched an economic development program, I became a member of my local village development organization. Most of my fellow members were in a plight similar to mine. With the help of the NGO, we all made a collective decision to distribute different income-generating activities amongst ourselves.

As part of the program, I enrolled in a training course on aquaculture and started a project in an 8-decimal pond with monosex tilapia and assorted local fish. I was advised on a whole range of issues, including modern fish culture practices. Within six months, I started earning a profit. I reinvested my earnings into the business and am now running a successful fish culture business in a 22-decimal pond.

My husband and son are also involved in the business. Now, aside from an increase in income, this fish-culture trade is also providing for my family’s nutritional needs.

Phulera Begum’s household is one of 150 that established successful aquaculture enterprises through the Chevron-sponsored Alternative Livelihood Program implemented for the communities near the Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar natural gas fields.

Phulera Begum, Boktarpur Village, Inathganj, Nabiganj Upazila, Habiganj
Project: Alternative Livelihood Program
Implementing Partner: Institute for Development Affairs



A Bright Spark

“My job skills have definitely grown since I completed the training, and my income has risen because my community now has a newfound confidence in my abilities. I hope I’ll be able to increase my income further. My mother, siblings and I are much happier than before.”

I was overwhelmed with financial hardship when my father passed away. I had to support my family somehow, so I took a job as an assistant to an electrical mechanic at a young age. My skills improved on the job, but as I had no formal training, I was unable to work independently.

That is when opportunity knocked on my door. I got the chance to sign up for the Chevron-sponsored Youth Development Program and enrolled in a three-month training course at the Sylhet Polytechnic Institute - completely free of charge. In addition to that, I also got technical support to start my own enterprise and a monthly stipend without which I would not have been able to successfully complete my training. The latter had a transformative effect on me - my self-confidence grew, and I was inspired to start working on a freelance basis. I now get contracts to do electrical work. I do both electrical repair work and wiring for new homes. Being able to work independently has led to an increase in my income, and hopefully this is just the beginning. There was a time when I was desperately looking for a job at Chevron’s Bibiyana gas field. Now, not only does work come looking for me, I also give others work when I need to.

Through the Chevron-supported Youth Development Program, which was implemented for communities near Chevron’s Bibiyana and Jalalabad gas fields, 483 youths have taken vocational training, of which 355 are either running their own successful enterprises or have been placed in jobs. Waseem Ahamed is one such person whose life has been changed.

Waseem Ahamed, Koikhai Village, Inathganj, Nabiganj Upazila, Habiganj
Project: Youth Development Program
Implementing Partner: Center for Natural Resource Studies

Sewing for a Better Life

“The worst is over. From earning nothing at all, I can now send my children to school with my income.”

It was proving to be impossible to support my family of six with my husband's meager earnings as the driver of a three-wheeler taxi. I was desperate to find an alternative source of income. When I heard about a project launched by Chevron, I asked the NGO officer if there were any opportunities for me. That is how I learned about different trainings under their Youth Development Program. I expressed my interest in the sewing training program and was promptly enrolled in a six-month training course.

I've enjoyed sewing since I was a child. I was delighted to get hands-on training on different sewing techniques. After completion of the course, I found in myself a new self-confidence. I opened a small tailoring store in the premises of my home and started taking orders from my neighbors in the community. I began stitching clothes for men, women and children. Chevron was so impressed with the quality of my work that they placed orders for men's panjabis and fatuas [long, loose shirts]. From earning nothing at all, I'm now earning a respectable amount each month.

Through the Chevron-supported Youth Development Program, implemented for communities near Chevron's gas fields of Bibiyana and Jalalabad, 483 youths have taken vocational training, of which 355 are either running their own successful enterprises or have been placed in jobs. Shahana Begum is one such person whose life has been transformed.

Shahana Begum, Kushighata Village, Sylhet Sadar Upazila, Sylhet
Project: Youth Development Program
Implementing Partner: Center for Natural Resource Studies



Creating Quality Educational Opportunities for the Future Generation

Chevron Bangladesh began supporting education initiatives in 2001, with a small scholarship program for the underprivileged and meritorious students living around the Jalalabad gas field. Over the years, the scholarship numbers and coverage have steadily increased, and now Chevron awards more than 1,600 scholarships annually.

In addition to the scholarships, the program includes capacity building for teachers and nonformal primary education for underprivileged children, with the

objective of improving the overall educational environment. On that front, Chevron joined hands with Save the Children in 2009 to implement the 4-year Non-Formal Primary Education/SHIKHON project for vulnerable, out-of-school children.

Through the project, 194 teachers have been trained and 24 additional teachers have been recruited in order to address the shortage of qualified faculty members in science, mathematics and English. Several schools also have received support in the

form of computer laboratories, educational and sports tools and equipment, and school uniforms. To implement its other education programs, Chevron has partnered with two local NGOs, the Bangladesh Development Service Center and the Voluntary Association of Bangladesh.

Moreover, endowment funds have been established for the future sustainability of 19 schools.

The Chevron-supported institutions have shown improved results in the Secondary School Certificate (end of Grade X) exams, with some institutions achieving a 100 percent pass rate. Not only has the quality of education improved significantly, but also the dropout rate has decreased.

Since 2009, Chevron's partnership with Save the Children has created opportunities for out-of-school, marginalized children living near Chevron's operational areas within the Sylhet division in Bangladesh.

Presently, 1,800 children are enrolled in the 60 Chevron-supported community schools of the SHIKHON project. Chevron also supports government primary schools by providing after-school time for low-performing students. In addition to classroom education, SHIKHON offers reading and literacy activities and materials for children and parents, to encourage and improve the literacy environment at home. Children also learn about health, nutrition and the proper use of community water and sanitation facilities.

There is also close engagement with the community, parents and other representatives, and Chevron is supporting an initiative to build the capacity of 660 community members who are engaged in school management. Chevron's presence in the local areas has made it easier to obtain the support of local government officials and the community.

—Talat Mahmud, Program Director, SHIKHON Project, Save the Children



“A” for Ambition

“Despite the fact that my father had passed away and I was a girl in a poverty-stricken family, I still dreamed of going to school to make something of my life. When it looked like I might have to stop going to school, my family and I were devastated. But the scholarship from Chevron has shown me a new path forward. I’m now actively pursuing my dream of becoming a doctor.”

I was 10 years old when my father passed away. My two sisters could no longer afford to go to school. When we could scarcely afford to put clothes on our backs and food on the table, my educational expenses were considered a luxury.

I was a conscientious student, and my teachers were particularly fond of me. They were aware of my family circumstances and were eager to help me in any way they could. With their help, I was awarded my first merit-based scholarship in 2012. I’m now in Grade X, and I’ve maintained an A+ average every year since Grade VI. This is the third time I have received the Chevron Scholarship, which inspires me to keep performing well in school.

Jharna Begum is one of more than 1,600 underprivileged, but meritorious students that receive scholarships every year through Chevron’s Quality Education Support Initiative.

Jharna Begum, Peer-er Bazaar Village, Khadimnagar, Sylhet Sadar Upazila, Sylhet
Project: Education
Implementing Partner: Bangladesh Development Service Center



My Dream is to Fly

“Arif spoke with a lisp, so other children didn’t want to mix with him. What’s more, we couldn’t even get a school to admit him. But now, thanks to SHIKHON, Arif dares to dream of becoming a pilot.”

When the Chevron-supported, Save the Children-run SHIKHON school for out-of-school children started in my village, Arif’s father got him enrolled there. There were some initial problems; however, thanks to the care and concern of the teachers, the hand of friendship extended by his classmates, and the teaching methodology, Arif settled in very well.

After completing the pre-primary level, Arif graduated to Grade I. He can now read both Bangla and English, recite poems and rhymes, and read and write numerals. He loves going to school and interacting with his classmates and is no longer afraid. Eyes brimming with dreams, he says, “I want to be a pilot when I grow up.

Under the auspices of the Education for All program, Save the Children - with Chevron’s support - is implementing the four-year Non-Formal Primary Education for out-of-school Children/SHIKHON program for 1,800 out-of-school children. There are 60 schools in operation near Chevron’s Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar gas fields. Abu Bakr Arif is one of those 1,800 students.

Abu Bakr Arif, Khadimnagar Village, Khadimnagar, Sylhet Sadar Upazila, Sylhet
Project: Non-Formal Primary Education/SHIKHON
Implementing Partner: Save the Children



My Battle for Knowledge

“In an attempt to carve my own niche in the world, I joined the army after completing high school, but had to leave due to health reasons. After returning, I found that the admission deadlines at the state universities had all passed.”

I'm studying public health at the Asian University for Women in Chittagong. Alongside my studies, I've also worked at the International Center for Diarrheal Research-Bangladesh, Caritas and Advanced Chemical Industries. I'm currently working as a residential assistant at the university. However, it wasn't too long ago that my dreams had nearly shattered.

My parents were pressing me to get married after I completed high school, but I insisted on joining the army. Unfortunately, fate was not on my side: I fell ill, and by the time I returned from medical leave, the admission dates at all the state-owned universities had passed. My family couldn't afford to enroll me at a private institution. It was then that I received a scholarship to study at the Asian University for Women, Chittagong. I learned that my scholarship was sponsored by Chevron Bangladesh, and it is thanks to this support that I'm able to continue my studies. After graduating, I would like to engage myself in public health initiatives for the underprivileged.

Chevron Bangladesh has been sponsoring scholarships for the Asian University for Women since 2009.

Aklima Chowdhury Koli, Chittagong
Department of Public Health,
Asian University for Women, Chittagong



Safety for Life

According to the World Health Organization Global Status Report on road safety, 17,793 people die every year on Bangladesh's roads, and tens of thousands are injured. The country has one of the highest road fatality rates per capita in the world, more than 85 deaths for every 10,000 registered motor vehicles (National Road Safety Strategic Action Plan - NRSSAP, 2011-2013), compared with two deaths per 10,000 motor vehicles in the United States.

To address this alarming issue, BRAC - an international development organization based in Bangladesh, and the largest non-governmental development organization in the world - in partnership with Chevron launched the Shurakkha program, which is a comprehensive road safety and defensive driving training initiative for bus and truck drivers, the major contributors to fatal road crashes in the country. Shurakkha aims at bringing positive behavioral and attitudinal changes in professional drivers living and working in communities near Chevron's Bibiyana gas field and in the Habiganj district. This initiative aims to boost defensive-driving skills, increase awareness around safe pedestrian behaviors and promote social responsibility. Focusing mainly on the Syedpur-Banderbazaar Road, the campaign is intended to reach 25 heads of educational institutions, 157 teachers, 4,053 students, 500 rickshaw pullers, 500 commercial bus and truck drivers, and 72 community leaders.

"Through the Shurakkha project, I've learned about many safe and correct driving practices that I didn't know before. Moreover, I've learned the best driving techniques to avoid road accidents, and I am trying to apply them in practical situations as well."

-Abdul Karim, Truck Driver, Sylhet

Health Service Programs

Uplifting the Standards of Community Health

When Chevron's Bibiyana gas field was being developed in 2005, communities in the region where the plant operated had limited access to quality, affordable health care services. In an attempt to bridge this gap and to efficiently deliver quality support right to the community's doorsteps, Chevron Bangladesh launched its health initiative by sponsoring three community clinics. The main objectives were to build awareness, ensure community access to health care services and achieve an overall improvement of family health in the area.

The Smiling Sun clinics, which are managed by Pathfinder International, are part of the USAID/DFID-sponsored nationwide NGO Health Service Delivery Program (NHSDP). Two are located near Chevron's Bibiyana gas field in permanent premises, and one is near the Moulavi Bazar gas field in a rented premise. Services include prescriptions from on-call doctors, family planning, immunization for mother and child, and free treatment and medicines for the ultra-poor. In addition, the Bibiyana Smiling Sun clinic has pathological laboratory facilities, X-ray and ECG machines for routine examinations, and an on-call ambulance to transfer emergency patients to major hospitals for tertiary-level care. There are also 34 satellite clinics in operation, to penetrate the communities at the grassroots level.

In partnership with the Jalalabad Rotary Club, Chevron sponsors annual eye camps. Each year, more than 1,000 people with ophthalmological conditions receive prescription medicines, glasses and cataract-removal surgery.

Moreover, a visiting medical team from Rotaplast International, a voluntary association of doctors and nurses, provided free surgical care for 24 burn victims and performed free corrective surgery on 147 patients with cleft lip and cleft palate at a Chevron-sponsored camp.

The Chevron Bangladesh workforce comes forward each year to donate blood. On an average, 1,000 employees voluntarily donate blood in annual drives organized by the Red Crescent Society in Bangladesh, making Chevron Bangladesh No. 1 among corporate blood donors for the last two years.

In collaboration with a partner NGO, the company has also distributed 5,500 sanitary slabs and installed 50 tube wells to provide safe drinking water.

Pathfinder International supports the delivery of primary health care through a nationwide network called Surjer Hashi, or Smiling Sun. The network consists of 26 national NGOs, 403 static clinics, 10,186 satellite clinics and 7,348 female community service providers. The project expects to improve health outcomes, contribute to decreasing fertility, and reduce maternal, infant and child mortality. With the purpose of creating awareness and providing essential health care to a population of approximately 200,000 people living in communities near Chevron's Bibiyana and Moulavi Bazar gas fields, three vital Smiling Sun clinics were established with the financial support of Chevron. The NHSDP manages these three clinics, along with 391 USAID/DFID-funded clinics nationwide. Currently, more than 100,000 health care services are provided each year, and extended services for child health, maternal health, family planning, and other health and nonhealth care are also available. In addition, with their 34 satellite spots, these clinics serve a cluster of two underserved populations - tea garden workers and the indigenous Garo population. Our goal is to provide simple life-saving interventions for disadvantaged members of the gas field surrounding communities in order to improve the overall health environment.

-Dr. Halida Hanum Akhter, MBBS, MCPS (OB/GYN), Doctor of Public Health (JHU), Chief of Party, USAID-DFID NGO Health Service Project and Country Representative, Pathfinder International





Making Healthcare Accessible

“When my blood-pressure shot up and I started showing other alarming symptoms during pregnancy, a staff member of the Bibiyana Smiling Sun clinic arranged for me to get admitted at the Sylhet Osmani Medical College and Hospital without delay.”

I was nine months pregnant when I suddenly started experiencing excruciating labor pain. I was taken to the Chevron-sponsored Bibiyana Smiling Sun clinic. The on-call doctor told me that my blood pressure was abnormally high, and neither the baby's movement nor heartbeat could be detected. They gave me medication to bring my blood pressure under control and advised that I be transferred to Sylhet immediately.

The next day, my husband and the Bibiyana clinic pharmacist, Hamid Miah, took me to Sylhet Osmani Medical College and Hospital. After a few days, when my blood pressure was normalized and the other symptoms were brought under control, I delivered a baby girl by cesarean section. My life could have been in danger if I hadn't been able to benefit from these services.

My daughter and I now visit the clinic on a regular basis for routine health care services.

The three Chevron-sponsored community clinics and 34 satellite clinics are part of the Smiling Sun Franchise Program. Located near our Bibiyana and Moulavi Bazar gas fields, they provide affordable, quality health care services to more than 100,000 people every year. Refa Begum is one of those beneficiaries.

Refa Begum, Doulotpur Village, Dighalbak, Nabiganj Upazila, Habiganj
Project: Health
Implementing Partner: Pathfinder International



Serving the Community

“The three Chevron-supported Smiling Sun clinics are shining forth like a beacon of light in the community. Providing quality, affordable medical treatment and building awareness on disease prevention are our main objectives.”

I left Rajshahi to come study at the Moulavi Bazar Medical Assistant Training School. After my four-year course, I joined one of the Smiling Sun clinics in Bibiyana as a paramedic with the purpose of helping people in the community. My work as a paramedic involves traveling to satellite spots, providing primary health care support to the communities. Aside from three full-time doctors covering the three clinics, there are six more paramedics, just like me. My fellow paramedics and I visit a total of 34 satellite clinics a month, reaching 800 patients in order to provide health care and disease prevention advice, especially on nutrition; mother and child health care; family planning; and safe water and sanitation. As a result, these three Chevron-supported clinics (two in Bibiyana, one in Moulavi Bazar) are enabling quality and affordable health care to reach the doorsteps of our communities. So far they have helped significantly reduce the overall prevalence of diseases and maternal and child mortality.

A patient once came to me from a village called Moddhosomot in Inathganj Union. She was then five to six months pregnant and was experiencing elevated blood pressure, severe headache and water retention in her hands, feet and face. After examining her, I found out that she had pre-eclampsia. I treated her immediately, normalized her condition and made sure she scheduled regular checkups till the delivery of her baby. After following our advice, she delivered a normal healthy baby, being perfectly healthy herself. We can share many such stories of women who received emergency prenatal care, just like her.

It is reassuring for the villagers to have a rural community clinic that can boast having an on-call doctor, paramedics, a laboratory, ECG and X-ray machines, a pharmacy – all at affordable costs. Besides, 10 to 15 percent of patients are treated completely free of cost, which is regarded by the community as a blessing. That I'm able to serve these people at such close quarters fills me with great pride and satisfaction.

The Chevron-supported network of three Smiling Sun clinics and 34 satellite clinics are collectively providing more than 100,000 patient services every year to people living in communities near Chevron's Bibiyana and Moulavi Bazar natural gas fields. Jesmin Ara Mousumi is one of seven paramedics who help get these health care services to the community.

Jesmin Ara Mousumi, Paramedic, Karimpur Smiling Sun Clinic, Inathganj, Nabiganj Upazila, Habiganj Project: Health Support
Implementing Partner: Sylhet Samaj Kalyan Sangstha and Pathfinder International



A Ray of Light

“With the gradual deterioration of my eyesight, I became blind. I didn’t see any point in continuing to live. Now, by the grace of God, I can see again.”

Running a family of eight, I never had the time to look into my own health issues. With age, I started losing my eyesight and was blind for two and a half years. Eventually, it seemed pointless to continue living. One day I heard that Chevron Bangladesh, an international oil and gas company operating in my area, was sponsoring a free eye-camp at Bhairabganj High School. Filled with hope, I visited the camp on the allotted day; the eye doctor examined me and said I needed to be taken to Sylhet Eye Hospital for surgery. I was downcast when I considered the huge expense involved, but then the doctor assured me, saying, “Chevron support to the Hospital includes s, your transport to and from the hospital.” Then, on the scheduled day, a vehicle took me and other patients like myself to Sylhet for the surgery. By the grace of God, my vision had been restored.

Regaining my sight at this age, I feel like I’m seeing the world anew.

Chevron Bangladesh, in collaboration with the Jalalabad Rotary Club, organizes annual free eye camps for people living in communities near its Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar gas fields. In 2014, more than 2,000 visitors to the camp underwent preliminary eye exams. Of those who were found to have complications, 332 received glasses and 170 received cataract-removal surgeries. Ershad Miah is one of those fortunate ones who regained their vision following cataract-removal surgery.

Ershad Miah, Lamua Village, Sreemongal Upazila, Moulavi Bazar
Project: Eye camp
Implementing Partner: Jalalabad Rotary Club

A Life without Stigma

“My two sons are now perfectly healthy. They’re mixing with everyone, playing with everyone. It wasn’t so long ago that they were either laughed at or greeted with sympathetic stares.”

There was no end to my worry about my two sons - both born with cleft lips. Other children would refuse to mix with them or play with them; rather, they would be teased endlessly. We felt completely helpless.

One day I heard that Rotaplast International, supported by Chevron, would be running a free surgical camp in Sylhet for people with cleft lip deformities. I took both my sons to Sylhet on the designated day. After a preliminary assessment, the surgeries were performed, and the cleft lips on my boys were repaired. Now, they’re perfectly healthy and are able to mix with everyone, play with everyone. Chevron’s support has given my sons a new lease on life.

With Chevron’s support, the U.S.-based Rotaplast International performed cleft lip and cleft palate corrective surgeries on 147 people. Hafiz and Mofiz were two of the lucky ones that directly benefitted from those surgeries.

Hafiz and Mofiz, Sunamganj, Sylhet
Project: Surgical camp for cleft lip and cleft palate patients
Implementing Partner: Rotaplast International



Give Blood, Give Life

It is estimated that the annual need for blood in Bangladesh is approximately 600,000 units. Blood transfusions may be needed in the course of surgeries or by patients afflicted by a wide range of ailments, including hemophilia, dengue, blood cancer and thalassemia. Unfortunately, the number of voluntary donors is not able to keep pace with the yearly requirement. In an attempt to address the increasing need for safe blood in the country, a large number of Chevron employees come forward twice a year to donate blood. In addition to employees of our Dhaka office, employees of the Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar gas plants and the Muchai Compression Project participate in the semiannual Blood Donation Drive. In 2014, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society officially recognized Chevron Bangladesh as the largest voluntary blood donor organization in the country for the second consecutive year.

"I have been working with Chevron for the last 18 years, and I have donated blood ever since the blood donation drive started around 2002. Realizing that such a small contribution from our end can save lives, I have been donating outside of the drives as well. There have been many times when I donated blood for my own relatives and for the relatives of my colleagues. My blood has been used during critical operations and for women during their cesarean sections. Seeing that my contribution can have such a direct impact on the lives of others has inspired me to continue giving blood."

—Md. Bachchu Sikder, Driver at Chevron Bangladesh, Dhaka Office



Building on Our Success

Bangladesh Partnership Initiative

In 2014, Chevron launched the five-year, \$10 million Bangladesh Partnership Initiative (BPI) in order to complement, expand and maximize the impact of its existing economic development and social investment programs, in partnership with local and international NGOs. The program has been designed around several work streams to achieve sustainable income growth, employability, economic inclusiveness and livelihoods in communities near Chevron's operations in the Greater Sylhet region.

BPI includes a multipronged approach primarily aimed at establishing and developing capacity of the local enterprises and developing skills and enhancing employability of the local community. Over the next five years, BPI will work with the community to improve livelihoods by implementing sector-specific value chain interventions and improving governance structure of the Chevron-sponsored micro enterprise-oriented village self-help groups. This in turn will give the community access to broader economic development opportunities.

Under its Workforce Development component, BPI will identify and facilitate skill development opportunities in high-growth sectors for targeted youths in the communities where we operate. We will work in partnership with interested donors and other relevant stakeholders to achieve these objectives.

To enable successful outcomes, BPI will work as a catalyst for regional development to link its projects to broader regional economic development efforts across the operational areas of Chevron in Greater Sylhet and beyond - identifying opportunities to connect market supply with other local companies' demand for jobs/business.

We have recently forged a partnership with BRAC for an 18-month pilot as part of the Enterprise Development segment of BPI. This pilot will help build the organizational capacity of the self-help groups and help expand coverage further. The pilot will also support beneficiaries in setting up more than 1,500 enterprises in order to put the five-year Bangladesh Partnership Initiative on a strong footing.



Human Energy™



Bibiyana Gas Plant