



newsletter january 2019

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## welcome message

It has been a busy and productive year here at Chevron Bangladesh. We are proud to play an important part in driving the economy of Bangladesh, supplying over 50% of the country's domestic gas production and over 80% of condensate production. This year, we are on track to achieve a new annual gas production record, helping to meet higher demand from the country's consumers. In achieving these results, we've maintained world-class standards of reliability, over 99%. Our efforts were recognized by Bangladesh's Energy Ministry during the Power & Energy Week last September, when we received an award from the Honourable Prime Minister for being the "best natural gas producer in the private sector". The award was much appreciated recognition of all the hard work and dedication each and every day by our Chevron Bangladesh team.

Chevron Bangladesh strives to deliver the same high levels of performance in our social investment programs, as we look to help improve the lives of the communities in which we operate. We value strong, positive relationships in all parts of our business, and particularly those with our community partners. We have recently held events to celebrate the achievements and share the learnings from two of the projects we support through Chevron's Bangladesh Partnership Initiative: the Jibika economic development project implemented by BRAC; and the "English for Business Success" program implemented by British Council. Both projects are testament to the excellent collaborations we enjoy with globally renowned organizations in pursuit of common goals, and we are delighted to see the communities' success through these projects. We are also proud to provide scholarships to over 800 students and to see the positive impact our contributions have made, not only to their academic performance but also the overall quality of their learning environment.

We look forward to 2019, where we will continue our focus on providing safe, reliable and affordable energy to power Bangladesh.

**Neil Menzies**  
President  
Chevron Bangladesh

# chevron voices



Sirajum Munira, Geoscientist

## talking about geoscience...

### Tell us a bit about yourself and how you came to work for Chevron?

My journey with Chevron Bangladesh began in 2013. I completed my Bachelor of Science degree in Geology in 2010, followed by a post-graduate degree in Hydrogeology in 2011, both from Jahangirnagar University in Savar, Bangladesh. Since I was extremely interested in Petroleum Geology, I actively sought scholarship opportunities in programs which would help realize my goals in this arena. My efforts were rewarded in 2012. I received a full scholarship to study at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, in an initiative jointly sponsored by Chevron Thailand and PTTEP, Thailand's national energy company. I completed a second master's degree in August 2013, this time in Petroleum Geoscience. Data collection for my final thesis on Petroleum System Evaluation of the North Pattani Basin in the Gulf of Thailand eventually led me to Chevron Thailand. This was my first exposure to Chevron, and that's when I developed a keen interest to work here. A month after finishing my degree, my wishes were realized. Five years on, I'm now one of three female geoscientists in Chevron Bangladesh.

### What made you decide to become a geoscientist?

My fascination with all facets of geology began during my undergraduate degree. I realized I had much to offer the world as a geoscientist. Geoscience is a wonderful way to explore the world, enabling us to unlock hidden secrets of the earth's physical structure for energy and power security for future generations. Our world has so many undiscovered resources and I wanted a front-row seat to all these discoveries! My aspirations to become a geoscientist were tied to my innate curiosity about the depths of the world and a desire to do my bit to effectively use our natural resources to meet the ever-growing global demand.

### What is the best thing about working for Chevron?

This could be a long list, but what I truly enjoy is the day-to-day collaboration with cross-functional teams, which helps to further strengthen our ties. This culture of working together as members of a large, diverse team paves the way to sharing knowledge and experiences for a more efficient business that delivers with excellence on all fronts.

### What are some of the most rewarding and challenging aspects of your job?

Undoubtedly one of the most rewarding aspects of my work is the opportunity to learn on the job from a world-class team of experts and practitioners. Horizons is one such training program that I was privileged to be a part of. This is Chevron's own five-year employee development initiative for accelerated experiential learning - one that combines technical and cross-functional training, mentoring and job assignments to nurture employees as global leaders in their respective fields. I'm extremely proud to be Chevron Bangladesh's very first female Horizon graduate.

Challenges are part and parcel of my job - from petroleum exploration, to production, to developing reservoir models. The challenges faced by women in operational activities, especially in exploration, are well-documented, but these are particularly acute in Bangladesh. Yet, I was lucky enough to work as a well-site geologist during the drilling projects at Bibiyana and Jalalabad gas fields. I also got valuable operational experience during the perforation and surveillance programs in the Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar fields.

Looking at it from another perspective, challenges can prove to be rewarding when they're translated to achievements. One such instance was my work on the very first 3D reservoir model of the Moulavi Bazar gas field, which was instrumental in helping us to look for new opportunities. Another achievement which I'm very proud of was successfully organizing the very first in-house workshop on Bibiyana seismic stratigraphy, facilitated by Chevron's subject matter experts. This helped to update the Bibiyana reservoir model and led us to grow our business by tapping into unexplored production potential.

### What advice would you give to other aspiring young female geoscientists of Bangladesh?

Serving the petroleum industry as a female geoscientist is not an easy career path to pursue in Bangladesh and the road to success is certainly paved with obstacles. Have a thirst for fresh challenges, work hard and stay focused, hold yourself accountable to your goals, and be a good team player. These tools, and a little bit of good luck, are the building blocks of success, wherever you are, and whether you're a man or a woman. Finally, in this age of cutting-edge technology, new discoveries are made every day and it's important to keep informed of global developments in geoscience. So, my parting message is never stop learning, and learn from the best!



*The Honorable Prime Minister is flanked by the State Minister for Power, Energy & Mineral Resources, Nasrul Hamid MP (left), and Energy Adviser to the Prime Minister, Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury Bir Bikram.*

## chevron recognized by energy ministry as best natural gas producer of bangladesh

Bangladesh Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina, presented a certificate and award to Chevron Bangladesh President Neil Menzies at the inauguration ceremony of the three-day Power & Energy Week 2018, held in the capital from September 6-8, 2018. Chevron Bangladesh was recognized by the Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources as the best natural gas producer in the country (private sector). Chevron now produces over 50% of Bangladesh's total natural gas production from the Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar fields.



*Chevron Bangladesh's pavilion at the three-day power & energy week, held in September 2018*



*Seated from left to right: Rehana Perven, Joint Secretary & Deputy Executive Project Director, Skills for Employment Investment Program (SEIP); Faye Nicholls, Teaching Centre Manager, British Council; Ismail H. Chowdhury, Director, Policy, Govt. & Public Affairs (PGPA), Chevron Bangladesh; Jalal Ahmed, Executive Project Director, SEIP, Ministry of Finance; Gary Orr, Operations Director, Chevron Bangladesh; David Maynard, Director of Education and English, British Council; Wahidur Rahman Sharif, President, Bangladesh Association of Call Centre & Outsourcing (BACCO)*

## **“english for business success project”: chevron hosts closing ceremony with british council**

Chevron and the British Council held the closing ceremony for the ‘English for Business Success’ Project on 7 at the Chevron office in Gulshan. The event showcased the impact and outcomes of the 15-month project, which is funded by Chevron and is a part of a Government initiative called ‘Skills for Employment Investment Programme (SEIP)’. The latter itself is financed by Asian Development Bank and the Government of Bangla-

Under this project, over 3,000 graduates aged 18-40 across Bangladesh were trained in English communication skills for the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) sector, a sizable number of which were subsequently placed in employment. The British Council also developed curriculum in collaboration with the Bangladesh Association of Call Center and Outsourcing (BACCO) and delivered the trainings in 13 call centres nationwide.

The event was hosted by Ismail Hossain Chowdhury, Chevron’s Director of Policy Government & Public Affairs and chaired by Gary Orr, Director- Operations of Chevron Bangladesh. Other key attendees included Jalal Ahmed, SEIP’s Executive Project Director; Mr. Wahidur Rahman Sharif, BACCO President; David Maynard and Faye Nicholls, British Council’s Director of Education & English and Teaching Center Manager respectively also took part as event

In his remarks, Mr. Jalal Ahmed said, “Through this project, I’m thrilled that Chevron is taking important strides in investing in Bangladeshi youths for the long-term economic development of this country. Its partnership with British Council to build English language communication skills has added immense value to SEIP’s work.”

Mr Orr said, “Chevron takes pride in investing in economic development, education and health programs for the communities that live near its facilities. Teaching English is another kind of investment. This project scales up our efforts by tapping into a crucial market need for English language skills to make Bangladeshi youths competitive in the job market.” In addition to thanking British Council for its seamless execution of the project.

Mr. Chowdhury acknowledged the key contributions of SEIP of Ministry of Finance and the Asian Development Bank. He congratulated them for implementing a robust program to support the skills development of youths – a key national priority of the Government of Bangladesh.

Ms. Nicholls said, “Improved English skills allow individuals to better compete in the job market and raise their standard of living. This project has equipped young people in Bangladesh with relevant skills to enable them to better contribute to their families, communities and society as a whole.”

## Chevron Outstanding Achievement Award Secondary School Examination 2018



*Standing, 2nd row from left: Ashiq Rahman, Chevron Bangladesh's Director of Health, Environment & Safety; Obaidullah Al-Ejaz, Community Affairs Manager; Bryan Mitisek, Bibiyana Gas Plant Superintendent; Ismail H. Chowdhury, Director of Policy, Government & Public Affairs; Samad Chowdhury, Government Relations Manager; Imam Hasan Akan, Assistant Manager, Field Community Engagement & Communication. Some recipients of Chevron's annual scholarships for financially disadvantaged, meritorious students are pictured with their crests in the 1st row. This year, 824 students in 24 educational institutions from Chevron's three gas field locations of Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar received scholarships as part of its Quality Education Support initiative.*

## chevron distributes scholarships amongst three gas field communities

As a part of its ongoing yearly scholarship distribution program for financially disadvantaged, meritorious students, Chevron Bangladesh hosted a ceremony yesterday at the premises of its Bibiyana Gas Plant. In all, 824 students from 24 educational institutions near Chevron's Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar natural gas fields were awarded stipends this year, of which around 66% are females. Also included in the total are 21 scholarships for students who received excellent grades in the recently published results of the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) exams. Chevron Bangladesh started the scholarship program with only five educational institutions more than 12 years ago. The average pass rate of Chevron's scholarship recipients in the recently published results of the 2018 Secondary School Certificate exams was about 98%.

Aside from its scholarship distribution drive, Chevron's Quality Education Support Initiative aims to improve the learning environment of schools near its three gas fields. In addition to stipends, support is provided in the form of additional teaching, computer labs, coaching support and endowment fund for selected schools, school uniforms, sports equipment, furniture and sanitation facilities. Chevron's support for schools helps improve their overall performance.

Attendees from Chevron Bangladesh included Director of Policy, Govt. & Public Affairs, Ismail Chowdhury; Health, Environment & Safety (HES) Director, Ashiq Rahman, Bibiyana Gas Plant Superintendent, Bryan Mitisek, and senior staff from Bibiyana Gas Plant. Also in attendance were students, guardians, Chairmen of four School Management Committees, and senior faculty of four Chevron-supported schools, including the Head-Teacher of Nadampur High School, Pradip Ranjan Das.

Mr. Chowdhury said, "I'm proud that Chevron's initiatives have played a key role in enhancing the quality of education near its areas of operation. Today's ceremony is a culmination of the students' hard work, and the support they've received from faculty, parents and guardians. I'm confident that all your collective efforts will set a model for quality education the Greater Sylhet region." Since 2005, Chevron has been running its corporate social responsibility initiatives in economic development, education and health for communities near its gas fields. Expressing his appreciation, Mr. Das said, "We're privileged to be Chevron's neighbour and have always found you ready to deliver valuable support to the doorsteps of our community. In particular, we look forward to the education initiative continuing in the same vein in the years ahead."

In other education support, the SHIKHON project, a collaboration between Chevron and Save the Children, aims to provide four years of an accelerated non-formal primary school education to previously out-of-school children and dropouts from our areas of operation. Since launch of the program in 2009, nearly 1,800 children have completed a pre-primary component and Grades I through III in 60 one-room schools across all three gas-field locations. They have now been enrolled in government-owned schools to continue their education.

# Bangladesh Partnership Initiative: Jibika



An event was held on 10 December, 2018 where we shared lessons learned and experiences from Jibika – our economic development program under Chevron’s Bangladesh Partnership Initiative. Implemented by BRAC, the three-year project was designed to develop local institutions and promote entrepreneurship for sustainable income growth of marginalized rural households around the Chevron-operated gas fields in Sylhet, Moulavibazar and Habiganj districts. Since its inception, the program has touched the lives of 20,000 people residing near our facilities. An inspiring event where we heard several first-hand accounts from beneficiaries about the impact Jibika has had on their lives.

Seated from left to right are: KAM Morshed, Director, Advocacy for Social Change, Technology and Partnership Strengthening Unit, BRAC; Neil Menzies, President, Chevron Bangladesh; Anna Minj, Director, Community Empowerment, Integrated Development, Gender Justice & Diversity, BRAC; Md Kamal Uddin Talukder, Secretary of Rural Development & Cooperatives Division, Ministry of LGRD & Cooperatives; Md Abdul Majid, Registrar and Director General, Department of Cooperatives, Ministry of LGRD & Cooperatives; Ismail Chowdhury, Director, Policy, Government & Public Affairs, Chevron Bangladesh. Standing behind them are BRAC and Chevron officials and selected Jibika beneficiaries.



## achievements:

- 106 VDOs registered as cooperatives
- 58% women in VDO executive committees
- 780 women received leadership training
- 1,949 micro-entrepreneurs supported with training and access to finance
- 70 high-yielding plots established and demonstrated
- 44 health workers trained
- 20 livestock health workers trained
- 56 local service providers developed
- 3 super-stores linked with Jibika producers

## about jibika

The Jibika project is a result of the collaboration between Brac and Chevron. Since October 2015, the project, funded by Chevron’s Bangladesh Partnership Initiative (BPI), has been implemented by BRAC under its Integrated Development Program (IDP). The project was designed to promote entrepreneurship for sustainable income growth of the poor and marginalized farming households around the Chevron-operated gas fields in Sylhet, Moulavibazar and Habiganj districts. Jibika’s economic development activities are steered through 112 community-based organizations known as Village Development Organizations (VDO). IDEA, a Sylhet-based NGO has been working with BRAC as its implementing partner. In the three years since its implementation, about 20,000 people have benefited from Jibika.

## project objectives

- To improve VDOs’ institutionalization and governance capabilities, to help make them more sustainable.
- To test targeted sub-sector value chains to enhance income and employment opportunities for the sustainable development and livelihood of the VDO members.
- To develop VDO members’ leadership capability to enable access to GO/NGO service providers.

# Bangladesh Partnership Initiative: Uttoron



**Name: Md. Miyar Miah**

Age: 23 years

Profession: Welding and Fabrication Fitter, Fresh Plant, Meghna Industrial Park, Sonargaon

Address: Kalapur, Sreemangal, Moulavibazar

*“I want to acquire these skills, work and be something in my life. I want to help my family out of poverty.”*

- Miah had said during the motivational class as part of the boot-camp. Miah has kept his word.

After his father died, Miah desperately wanted to help his mother and five siblings to come out of poverty and despair. He had passed the madrasa fazil (undergraduate) exams but couldn't get a job for two years. Then one day, over the megaphone, in the local market he heard about free technical training being provided by the Chevron-supported Uttoron project. He eagerly registered himself and took training in welding at the Caritas, Sreemangal training center.

## about uttoron

Uttoron is a 3 year project implemented by Swisscontact and supported by Chevron Bangladesh under BPI. The Project aims to train 1400 local youths in construction and light engineering sector and link trainees with reputable employers.

He then got a job as a welding and fabrication fitter at the “Fresh” plant at Meghna Industrial Park in Sonargaon, not far from Dhaka. He has started out with a monthly wage of BDT 8,000 and there is ample scope for promotion, and a salary hike as well. His family's financial troubles have been significantly relieved. Mia is now confident. He expresses his gratitude to Chevron and Uttoron for giving him this opportunity to change his life.







**1,061**

Trainees completed skills training (19% female)



- A three-year (2016-2019) skills development project
- Funded by Chevron under Bangladesh Partnership Initiative (BPI)
- Implemented by Swisscontact in three north-eastern districts (Sylhet, Habiganj, Moulavibazar) of Bangladesh
- Aims to train 1,400 youths and place at least 70% of the graduates in gainful employment



**USD\$100**

Average monthly income of employed graduates (baseline of USD\$14)



**73%**

Graduates employed (12% female)

**awareness, motivation and training**



**1,284**

Youths enrolled in skills training (19% female)



**1,306**

Youths received motivational training (15% female)



**47,000**

People in the community reached through awareness campaigns

**unique features and other achievements**



Low (less than 1%) drop out rate due to multilayered trainee selection process



Ownership of local government due to extensive stakeholder engagements



Quick Employment after training due to fit-for-purpose trade selection

