

2020 Bangladesh corporate social responsibility report





executive messages



Eric M. WalkerCountry Manager –
Bangladesh

For 26 years, Chevron Bangladesh has been supporting the country's energy needs and strengthening local communities.

In producing over 55 percent of the country's natural gas and about 85 percent of its condensate, we deliver the energy that improves lives and enables human progress. On behalf of Chevron Bangladesh, I'm pleased to present the 2020 Corporate Social Responsibility Report, which highlights our social investment programs through the eyes of our communities, who are at the very heart of what we do. This publication presents a collection of inspiring stories about our community development programs that support the people who reside around our operations. Chevron Bangladesh, through its network of reputable NGO partners, has provided these communities with the tools and building blocks that enable them to create their own success. We are proud of our partnerships that are building strong and sustainable communities. That is truly heartening to see, and I hope it is this sense of hope that comes through in these stories.

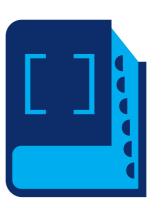


Ismail Chowdhury Corporate Affairs Manager – Bangladesh

Chevron takes great pride in working with communities across all our operations, building long-term partnerships that foster economic development and lasting benefits to them.

Bangladesh is no different. In this country, 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. We are particularly proud of the multipronged, multiyear Bangladesh Partnership Initiative, with key components of enterprise and workforce development. Our fundamental objective 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. While going through the compelling stories we've put together for you in this publication, it is important to note that we are a work in progress. These snippets all represent important, incremental steps in our journey toward financial solvency and sustainable growth for the communities where we work.

in this report



1 executive messages

3 chevron in Bangladesh

4 in the community

5 jibika

- layla
- abdul

8 shikhon

- shohag
- tanzida

11 uttoron

- sayed
- hasiba

14 road safety

rodu sarety

abdul

16 uddokta

hena

akbor

19

• rabaka

21 rotaplast

chevron in Bangladesh

Chevron is one of the world's leading integrated energy companies, involved in virtually every facet of the energy industry. Through our subsidiaries in Bangladesh, we operate three fields in the northeast of the country. We are the largest producer of natural gas and condensate, accounting for over 55 percent and approximately 85 percent of domestic production, respectively. All the natural gas and condensate that Chevron produces in Bangladesh is sold to Bangladesh Oil, Gas & Mineral Corporation (Petrobangla), the national oil company. The three gas fields – Bibiyana, Jalalabad and Moulavi Bazar – are operated under production sharing contracts (PSCs) with the government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, represented by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, and with Petrobangla. We also operate the Muchai Compressor Station under a PSC. Located in Bahubal of the Habiganj District, the station increases

capacity of the pipeline that transports natural gas from the three fields.

Chevron Bangladesh strives to demonstrate our commitment to safety and operational excellence, which are among our core values. We have an excellent safety record and a workforce that is about 95 percent Bangladeshi nationals. Innovative technology is central to helping us deliver affordable, reliable energy that fuels human progress and economic growth. The technologies we deploy are not only cost-effective but also help us recover additional resources from our existing fields. Chevron projects in Bangladesh aim to enhance the country's energy security. As part of our commitment, we reach out to the communities where we operate, building long-term partnerships that foster economic development and lasting benefits for them.





bibiyana

Chevron operates the Bibiyana Field in Block 12.

1995 PSC signed

1998 Field discovered

2007 First production; now largest producing ga s 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, the largest foreign investment project in Bangladesh's history

2014 Expanded capacity of plant, increasing production in 2015 by 300 million cubic feet, including two gas-processing trains, additional development wells and an enhanced liquids recovery facility

2015 Liquid recovery facility started up

2020 Twenty-seven wells

jalalabad

Chevron operates the Jalalabad gas field in Block 13, which is currently the thirdhighest gas producer in Bangladesh.

1995 PSC signed

1999 First production

2014 Three more wells drilled

2020 Eight wells

moulavi bazar

Chevron produces natural gas from the Moulavi Bazar gas field in Block 14.

1995 PSC signed

1999 Field discovered

2005 First gas

2008 3-D seismic survey completed

2012 First production from two new wells

2020 Seven wells

in the community



corporate social responsibility is a core value of chevron's global business practice

We work with communities across our operations, building long-term partnerships that foster economic development and lasting benefits to them. In Bangladesh, Chevron has been sponsoring social investment programs for almost two decades. Our community development initiatives focus on economic development, education and health, reaching thousands of people in northeast Bangladesh. We carry out most of these projects in partnership with leading nongovernmental organizations (NGOs).





jibika

village development organization big facts





56%
women executive
committee members



~ 4,000 members



~ 19,500 participants

about jibika

Jibika is a collaborative project between BRAC and Chevron, initiated in 2015 to support 22,500 people residing in the vicinity of Chevron's operated gas fields in Sylhet, Moulavibazar and Habiganj districts. The project is powered by Chevron's Bangladesh Partnership Initiative (BPI), launched in 2014 to support economic development of communities in the greater Sylhet region where Chevron operates. Jibika aims to develop local institutions and promote entrepreneurship for the sustainable income growth of local farming households in the targeted areas.

Chevron has been supporting village development organizations (VDOs) since 2006 and continues the effort with BRAC through Jibika, helping to bring visible positive changes to the lives of project participants. Phase I of the project (2015–2018) concluded with 110 VDOs successfully established as community-based self-help groups, followed by registration from the Department of Cooperatives. Jibika's intervention is steered through two local offices and facilitated at upazila (subdistrict) level (in Sylhet) with IDEA, an NGO, as the local implementing partner.

With the launch of Phase II in May 2019, Jibika is focused on achieving sustainability of the village cooperatives by 2022 through enhancement of their organizational capacity. During this phase, the project aims to strengthen the governance of community-based self-help groups and subsequently improve livelihoods of local farming households by promoting entrepreneurship and delivering needs-based training and guidance. In addition, Jibika seeks to enhance the growth potential of village cooperatives and that of their members by providing business support. Phase II's first year closed with good progress toward achieving the objectives.





jibika

facing life's curveballs head-on



layla

Layla personifies female empowerment for the leadership role she has assumed in her VDO and the successful entrepreneurship of her livestock business. She has lived in Sylhet Sadar Upazila with her family since 2008. Layla is currently the secretary of her VDO and supports her family with her earnings from her livestock business and agricultural production. She joined her local VDO in 2011, winning everyone's heart through her grit and determination. As her interest in the VDO's operation developed, she was made a cashier and selected as a member of the executive committee. Meanwhile, in the VDO she received leadership, governance, and beef-fattening training. Beaming with fresh enthusiasm, she started her livestock business and took a Tk 40,000 loan from the VDO to buy a bull. After rearing it for six months, she sold it for a handsome profit. Her success continued and with her profits, she repaid her outstanding loans and bought three decimals of land next to her home. Layla is now an entrepreneur entirely by her own effort, owning eight hens and growing gourd, beans and other vegetables and earning enough to run her family. Her four children go to school, and she is determined to give them the uninterrupted education that she was deprived of.

In recognition of her capable steering of her VDO, she was selected as secretary. Under her leadership, her VDO was nominated as the best upazila-level VDO during the 48th National Cooperative Day in 2019 in Sylhet Sadar. Layla is full of passion and big dreams.



Layla
Secretary of village
development
organization

"No matter what curveballs life throws at me, I know I can face them with patience and time. I have already crossed the river on my own, and now I am ready to cross an ocean if I need to. I have the unflinching support of my VDO and the members of my family, and I know it's just a matter of time before I realize all my dreams."

jibika

a license to dream, thanks to innovative technology



abdul

Abdul, a member of his local village development organization has established himself as an inspiring icon in his community for his agro-entrepreneurial activities using climate-resilient technology. Four years ago, Abdul was a compressed natural gas (CNG)-fueled autorickshaw driver and a small vegetable farmer, economically struggling to support his family of eight. However, by participating in the Jibika project, not only did he successfully turn things around for himself, but he also led the way for others in his community.

Abdul lives in a village in Sreemangal with 25 other families. At one point, he had four children in school and was the family's sole earner. With his very limited earnings, he could barely manage to put food on the table. He was tense, eagerly looking for opportunities to change his condition. When a VDO was formed under the Jibika project in his community, he participated in training on climate-resilient technology for commercial vegetable production. Since then, his life has changed completely. Sreemangal is prone to heavy rain in the summer and cold in the winter season. Growing vegetables in such a diverse climate is challenging for local producers. To mitigate the problem, Abdul attended specially designed training on intercultural practices such as film mulching (also called *plastic mulching*). This technique supports a zero-tillage method and helps to protect crops from heavy rain, minimize labor costs and reduce weed infestation. During the winter months, it helps to create a warm microclimate within the plant canopy.

Gradually familiarizing himself with this new technique, Abdul decided to take a loan from his VDO and start commercial cucumber production on eight decimals of land. This improved his earnings and had a transformative effect on his life. Abdul

has now engaged with four other partners, growing various vegetables in a 210-decimal area. As an advanced farmer of his locality, he has received training from specialist organizations, such as the Agricultural Research Institute of Bangladesh, Department of Agricultural Extension, and private entities. He was also involved in a government demonstration project for which he grew vegetables, cereals, and spices.

To disseminate his knowledge to a wider community, Abdul occasionally acts as a local service provider. Many other farmers have learned from him and are following his example. Before the launch of Jibika, farmers in his area grew vegetables only once a year on 30-decimal plots. Now, farmers grow vegetables on 240-decimal plots and have three harvests a year. This has helped farmers like Abdul to reshape their lives with improved earnings and living standards. Where once he was worried about basic daily sustenance, Abdul now dares to dream about the future – with plans to construct a brick and mortar house and buy his own land for cultivation.



Abdul

Vice-President of village development organization

"No one has shown me the way of life before this." Abdul speaks about the Jibika project

shikhon



1,811 learners

supplied with
National Curriculum
and Textbook
Board textbooks
completed Grade 1 in
December 2019 and
started Grade 2 in
January 2020



center management committees (CMC)

run by 660 community members (64% female) volunteered to improve the learning environment of SHIKHON centers



96% attendance rate

realized from July 2019 through March 2020



early primary education (EPE) centers

equipped with safe drinking water



29 EPE center premises

provided free by CMC members

the shikhon project

A collaboration between Chevron and Save the Children, the SHIKHON project aims to provide three years and six months of accelerated, nonformal primary school education to 1,800 previously out-of-school children from 46 villages near our areas of operation. In June 2018, an agreement was signed for a new phase of this project under which these marginalized and hard-to-reach children aged five to seven will complete a preprimary component and grades 1 through 3 in 60 Early Primary

Education (EPE) centers or one-room schools. They will then be equipped to transition into Bangladesh's national education system to continue their learning journey. The SHIKHON project also engaged 1,800 parents of the participating children, 60 EPE center teachers and 660 community members. Infrastructure improvements (playgrounds, furniture, electric wiring, construction of restrooms, etc.) will be made in 32 government primary schools.



shikhon

dreaming big against all odds



shohag

Shohag is eight years old and lives with his mother and siblings. Although his older brother dropped out of school due to the family's financial situation, Shohag is determined to continue his education so he and his family can have a better future. He is currently enrolled in a SHIKHON learning center where he just completed grade 2.

Since Shohag's mother doesn't have the flexibility to attend parents' meetings at the center, a CMC member has taken on the responsibility of participating in the parents' meetings on behalf of Shohag's mother, sharing meeting details with her. Shohag's mother finally saved enough money from her tailoring jobs to make a uniform for her son. That was a happy day for Shohag.

When grades for the government-level exams were published, Shohag's mother came to school and what she heard brought tears of joy to her eyes. Shohag successfully passed grade 1 with an A+.

She is deeply grateful to Chevron and Save the Children for SHIKHON, as well as for intensive support from a teacher who never let her feel her son was suffering from a lack of her own support. And the best thing? Shohag dreams of being a teacher himself one day.



Shohag
Learner at
SHIKHON center

"All my sorrows and hardships are gone after hearing such results from my son. If my son didn't get the chance to go to the SHIKHON school, he would have wasted his time doing nothing."

Shohag's mother

shikhon

beacon of light for tanzida



tanzida

Tanzida is a vision-impaired eight-year-old girl who is cared for by her mother. Considering her daughter's safety and security, her mother enrolled Tanzida in a nearby community school. Unfortunately, the school closed in 2018 and all the students except for Tanzida were transferred to a primary school near their village. Because Tanzida is vision-impaired, her mother could not send her to that school and was worried about her daughter's future.

At around that time, a SHIKHON center was established in their community. Tanzida's mother was very happy to hear the news and immediately enrolled her.

In the beginning of her SHIKHON journey, Tanzida did not come to school regularly and usually she kept herself apart from other students. Over time, the other children became her friends, and her confidence grew. The teacher was caring and treated her like the other students, so she never felt that she had a problem. In fact, the teacher paid extra attention to her and made sure she understood the lessons.

Now Tanzida can recite all the rhymes and sing the songs learned in the class.



TanzidaLearner at
SHIKHON center

"I was helpless after the closing of the community school. The SHIKHON school brings light to my life and my daughter's. When I listen to songs and rhymes in Tanzida's voice, it feels like I am the happiest mother in the world."

Tanzida's mother

uttoron then and now



reached through the awareness campaign



> 1,300 youths

received motivational workshop



> 1,400 youths

enrolled in skills training



> 950 graduates

obtained gainful employment

skills for a better life

Uttoron is a skills development project that supports youths by providing training for in-demand trades. The project also facilitates job placement for training participants. Uttoron is funded by Chevron under its Bangladesh Partnership Initiative and implemented by Swisscontact, a nonprofit organization based in Zürich, Switzerland.

Phase I of the Uttoron project started in 2016 and ended in 2019. During the first phase, more than 1,400 Sylhet Division youths were trained in seven different trades. In addition, the project met its target to place 70 percent of the trainees in jobs.

At present, the trainees are working in major companies such as PRAN-RFL, Sajib Group, Matador Industries Ltd., Square Denims, Meghna Group and PAB Alliance.

To continue the development momentum of Phase I, Chevron extended the project for three years (2019–2022). As part of

Phase II, Uttoron will work with 25 unions, three municipalities and one city corporation in Habiganj, Moulavibazar and Sylhet of the Sylhet Division. The project will also work in the Dhaka region in the second phase.

During Phase II, Uttoron will facilitate the establishment of a new skills training center in Habiganj. To improve the training center's sustainability after the project finishes, Uttoron will provide tools and equipment, develop capacity of the management, train staff and establish linkages with employers.

Uttoron will also collaborate with an existing governmentowned training institute to offer courses in advanced welding. Fifty youths from communities near Chevron's operations will receive residential training on advanced welding skills and will be supported to secure gainful employment after they complete their course.



uttoron

electric dreams



sayed

Farmer Abdul, father of Sayed, worked day and night to provide for his seven-member family. Though it was not easy to bear the cost of his children's education, he persisted, hoping that they would have a better chance in life than he had. More than anything, Sayed did not want to let his father down. He knew that being book smart was not enough to get a job; hands-on, practical experience of theoretical principles was equally important. One day, he and his friend happened to come upon Uttoron's registration camp. He took a leaflet and learned more about the free training opportunities on different trades. He knew instantly that this was the chance he had been waiting for. Not wasting any time, he enrolled in the three-month electrical and electronics training course and completed it with proficiency.

When training sessions concluded, Uttoron organized a job fair attended by a cross section of industries interested in recruiting skilled workers. Sayed was offered and accepted a job at the L&T power plant in Nabiganj. He worked hard and gained valuable experience, which soon led to his securing a more advanced, better-paying position with China Northeast Electric Power Engineering & Services Co. Ltd. Sayed works as an assistant

electrician in the company's Sylhet plant, where he earns regular pay raises because he is more experienced and skilled than his co-workers.

Sayed now earns enough to support his family and save for the future as well. After completing his studies, he dreams of moving to Dhaka for a better life.



Sayed Uttoron training graduate

"Thanks to Uttoron, I was able to realize my father's dream. Without their support, it would have been impossible for me to secure such a well-paid job to support my family. I can fulfill my aspiration of finishing my studies to become a successful entrepreneur."

uttoron

hasiba's vocational training



13

hasiba

Hasiba is a 22-year-old Uttoron graduate from the subdistrict of Nabiganj. Hasiba heard a neighborhood announcement promoting free vocational training through the Uttoron project. Curious, she obtained a leaflet about the program. The program seemed to present an opportunity that could help Hasiba improve the lives of her family. She enrolled in an electrical and electronics course, a groundbreaking move for a female in a traditionally male-dominated sector in a conservative society. After Hasiba completed the course, Uttoron linked her with a job in RFL Industries.

Hasiba currently earns enough to enable her husband to obtain the medical treatment he needs. "It's only because of Uttoron's invaluable support that I was able to continue my husband's medical treatment and put food on the table for my son," she says.

Life has stabilized and is progressing for Hasiba. As the breadwinner in her family, she has many responsibilities but refuses to feel overwhelmed. Hasiba says her dream for her son is that he will grow up to be a doctor who will help the needy and distressed.



HasibaUttoron training graduate

"Uttoron's initiative to help youths, especially women, has created a significant societal impact where we live. Now, women are encouraged to enroll in technical training courses and contribute to their household expenses – a phenomenon one could barely imagine just a few years ago."

road safety



chevron's multiyear community road safety awareness program

Chevron's road safety awareness program focuses on vehicles and drivers operating on two major thoroughfares near our Bibiyana and Moulavi Bazar facilities in Nabiganj and Srimangal upazilas, respectively. The program also covers Sylhet Sadar Upazila in the Sylhet District.

The current initiative builds on the success of Chevron's three-year program with BRAC, which provided defensive driving training to 1,000 drivers of highway buses, trucks and local nonmotorized vehicles operating in the Bibiyana area. Implemented by Skills-Craft Associates, the new initiative intends to build awareness on safe road behaviors and build drivers' defensive driving skills, with a goal of reducing traffic accidents.

Since the program launched in the first quarter of 2019, 360 community drivers of three-wheeler auto-rickshaws and light delivery vehicles have taken part in two-day training and knowledge sharing sessions in the catchment areas. In addition, 200 people, including respected members of the local community, transport associations, educational institutions, and other organizations, have attended half-day sessions that summarized the training content.

Topics covered included traffic laws and signage, on-road demonstrations and driving coaching, collision causes, collision prevention techniques and consequences of speeding and overloading. The program is set to conclude in December 2021.

25,000

traffic fatalities in Bangladesh in 2016

World Health Organization estimate from its *Global Status Report on Road Safety 2018.*



road safety

abdul's journey behind the wheel



abdul

Abdul is a compressed natural gas (CNG)-fueled autorickshaw driver who regularly travels the Syedpur-Inathganj route in the Habiganj District. Though he is a driver by profession and has a driver's license, he is like 83 percent of drivers in Bangladesh, who have licenses without receiving any formal driving instruction from a technical institution or professional body. Like many of his peers, driving a CNG vehicle was simply a way to earn a wage and put food on the table for his family.

Abdul recently enrolled in Chevron-funded training for defensive driving for community drivers, a program that transformed his life. Defensive driving reduces road traffic collisions and saves lives. Abdul was one of 30 in the first group of community drivers who enrolled in the defensive driving training course, which was conducted by Skills-Craft Associates at a local high school.

After completing the defensive driving training six months ago, Abdul is now a certified defensive driver. Since earning his certification, Abdul has made over 1,440 trips driving more than 28,800 kilometers in total without a single collision.

Abdul no longer speeds; he diligently follows the speed limits and is courteous to pedestrians and his fellow drivers out on the road. He scans his rearview mirrors in a timely manner and maintains the appropriate distance from the vehicle in front of him, thereby avoiding the need to abruptly step on his vehicle's brakes.

Abdul demonstrates the highest level of professionalism and customer service – a fact that has not gone unnoticed by his riders. Most importantly, he has not had to spend any money whatsoever on vehicle repairs in the last six months, which have passed peacefully without a single fender bender or mechanical issue.

Abdul tries to pass on the institutional and professional knowledge that he has gained to other drivers, who are won over by his skills and confidence. He credits his defensive driving training with completely altering his perspective on life and growing his journey behind the wheel.



Abdul Autorickshaw driver

"The technical knowledge and defensive driving skills I learned from this Chevronfunded course gave me the confidence and belief I needed to drive safely."

uddokta

2020-2022 expected results

2,700

VDO households increase incomes by 20%

1,100

MSME's increase incomes by 35%

7,500

customer households increase incomes by 15% \$1.5 million

in investment and trade

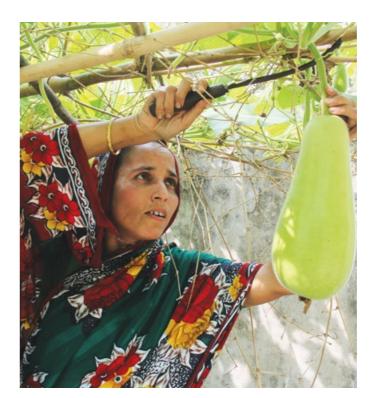
uddokta

Uddokta – empowering entrepreneurs - is a partnership between Chevron and International Development Enterprises (iDE) under the Bangladesh Partnership Initiative. In the next phase of the BPI, Chevron intends to expand our impact beyond village development organizations and into the wider community and market systems that serve them. The Uddokta project undertaken by Chevron and iDE seeks to amplify Chevron's investments made in Bangladesh to improve the lives and livelihoods of rural communities through an increased focus on empowering local entrepreneurs and building inclusive market systems that link smallholders to more rewarding opportunities.

Building on iDE's market resiliency knowledge and experience, Uddokta will improve the overall adaptive capacity of local markets, entrepreneurs, and communities in and around the project locations – Sylhet, Moulavibazar and Habiganj – by increasing access to and use of best-bet production, enterprise, and market practices. This approach will emphasize adoption of profitable business models and production practices.

As a result of improved access to goods and services delivered through enterprises supported by the project, Uddokta aims to trigger a 20 percent increase in the incomes of 2,750 VDO-affiliated households. By the end of the project, 1,100 micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) will see their revenues increase by 35 percent. As a result of the services that these enterprises provide, it is estimated that 7,500 households that do business with them will see an income increase of 15 percent.

In addition, Uddokta seeks to leverage \$1.5 million in co-investments. The anticipated \$1.1 million in loans from financial institutions (micro and traditional) will increase sales of quality inputs and improved technology from the private sector by over \$500,000. Approximately 37,125 household members will benefit from increased incomes as a result of improved access to goods and services triggered through systemic market changes catalyzed by Uddokta.





uddokta

the diligent learner



hena

Hena is a mother of four who studied up to the 5th grade in a local madrasa. Her husband Abdul is a vegetable farmer. In addition to diligently performing her household duties, Hena rears cows. She started fattening beef cattle in 2015, attracted to the opportunity to earn a profit within a short cycle.

Until recently, the challenge Hena continually faced in her business was lack of technical knowledge. This meant lower profit margins than those of other farmers.

In March 2020, Hena was nominated for support by Uddokta as a potential entrepreneur in beef cattle fattening. She shared her business challenges with the Uddokta enterprise development officer. While reviewing the specifics of a tailor-made business plan for her, the enterprise development officer explained the standard beef fattening procedure, including details on the business model, and the benefits of having production, financial, investment and management plans in place. Hena learned how to make higher profits on her cows. She also realized she needed solid technical training on beef cattle fattening and timely vaccination services for her cows.

She now owns two calves and a cow and sells two to three fattened cows every year. In addition to diligently following Uddokta's suggestion to fatten her cows for four months, Hena benefits from market access provided by the project. She hopes that, in the days ahead, Uddokta will connect her and other villagers to vaccination facilities.



HenaJalalabad cattle farmer

17

"Many women were doing beef fattening, and when I saw that they were earning more than I was, I couldn't help but feel discouraged and disappointed. I wondered to myself, what can I do to improve my business?"

uddokta

the optimist



akbor

Akbor, a farmer in his mid-50s, grows vegetables to meet the needs of his five-member family. One of his four sons helps him in the field.

Akbor lives near Chevron Bangladesh's Bibiyana gas field and became a member of his local VDO in 2006 to obtain loans and attend training to enhance his knowledge. He could not afford to continue his schooling beyond 5th grade, and like many others in the community, he had to start farming. His farming attempts previous to joining the VDO were unsuccessful, and making ends meet was proving to be extremely difficult.

Akbor started with eggplant on 10 decimals of land in 2017. Later, he branched out into okra, tomato, and green amaranth. Following successful expansion phases, he now grows vegetables on 35 decimals of land. Though skilled in vegetable production, he has no expertise in business planning. Consequently, he had weak market connections and could not identify profit or loss or calculate seasonal or annual expenses.

In March 2020, Uddokta identified Akbor's business for support in the micro, small and medium enterprise category. Akbor shared the challenges he faced selling his products and getting fair prices from the market. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, prices dropped when wholesalers nearby, facing commuting issues, stopped their regular purchases. The local market is five kilometers away from Akbor's home, and high transport costs meant profit margins were narrow. The Uddokta

project team provided Akbor virtual support and training in business planning, including financial, management and marketing plan development and probability and risk analyses, all of which made him realize the importance of having a proper business plan in place to expand his trade. He now tracks his expenses, production, sales, and other metrics. He also regularly communicates with wholesalers from Bander Bazar, who pick up his produce from a convenient collection point at fair prices.

"During the second quarter of this year, I produced 5,400 kg of eggplants, which I sold for a profit," Akbor says. The positivity in his voice is a reflection of the progress he made in a relatively short span of time in terms of record keeping and better access to markets. Life is clearly improving, and Akbor is optimistic that the trend will continue.



AkborBibiyana vegetable farmer

"If the Uddokta project continues to support me the way it has, I will definitely be able to expand my business further. I will produce eggplant on 120 decimals and sell directly to Dhaka."

asian university for women



the AUW math and science summer school

Powered by Chevron, the Asian University for Women (AUW) selected 61 of the brightest female high school students across Bangladesh to participate in an intensive five-week program focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Held in the summer of 2019, the AUW Math & Science Summer School equipped students with the competence and skills necessary to excel in STEM-oriented studies and careers.

The curriculum focused on physics, mathematics and bioinformatics. Courses were taught by international and local faculty with academic backgrounds from Stanford, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Notre Dame, and the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia. A group of visiting undergraduate students helped with peer tutoring and organized many extracurricular activities. The program also included prominent international scientists and mathematicians who volunteered to provide remote lectures.

The AUW Math & Science Summer School allowed students to delve deeply into the world of STEM through blended hands-on activities and lectures. Students walked away from this program with a broader understanding of future careers coupled with enhanced critical thinking and problem-solving skills.





AUW

rabaka's dream



rabaka

Rabaka was one of seven students from Sylhet who were offered full scholarships to the 2019 AUW Math & Science Summer School. The scholarship was critical for her; without it, attending the prestigious AUW would have remained an unfulfilled wish. Rabaka yearned for the opportunity to boost her skills with the help of academic professionals at the top of their game. Physics, a subject she finds particularly challenging, was on her list of priorities. Rabaka is currently enrolled at Sylhet Government Women's College, a public high school for women.

After completing her studies at AUW summer school, Rabaka looked forward to returning to her high school armed with a better understanding of physics and mathematics. Although she struggled with English at the start of the program, she was strengthened by the encouragement, support and guidance she received from her peers and the summer school faculty. She feels her communication skills improved significantly during the course of the summer school.

"I have always wanted to help others and do what I can to improve their quality of life. I dream of addressing the health needs of my community by becoming a doctor.

Afterwards, I would like to specialize in oncology and contribute to the exciting, cutting-edge developments in the field of cancer research."

Rabaka
AUW scholarship recipient

rotaplast

rotaplast international

November 2019 marked Chevron Bangladesh's fourth collaboration with Rotaplast International. As part of this medical mission, 70 patients – mostly children – living near Chevron's Jalalabad gas plant received free life-changing reconstructive surgeries to correct cleft lip, cleft palate and other facial anomalies and burns. The 10-day mission was sponsored by Chevron and was conducted in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Jalalabad and Parkview Medical College & Hospital. Over 25 volunteers took part in this Sylhet mission. The team included reconstructive plastic surgeons, anesthesiologists, pediatricians, speech pathologists, orthodontists and nurses.

A project of the Rotary Club of San Francisco, Rotaplast International is a nonprofit, humanitarian organization that sends multidisciplinary medical teams to provide free reconstructive surgeries, ancillary treatment and training for the comprehensive care of children with cleft lip and palate anomalies. It works with local professionals, Rotarians and other organizations and supports education and research toward prevention of cleft lips and palates.

Chevron's association with Rotaplast began in 2013. Since then, more than 500 patients have received over 570 life-changing surgeries through this partnership.









