ANNUAL REPORT 2012
Message from the Executive Director

Working for over two decades, Khan Foundation has truly made a difference in the lives of the country’s most disadvantaged groups including women, children and the poor. 2012 was a successful year as we embarked upon a number of programmes, including adopting new and innovative approaches that have significant impacts on poverty. We finalized the Community Scorecard Manual, which is a guideline for local level civil society organizations and citizen groups to implement citizen monitoring activities for the improvement in public service delivery. Our activities on strengthening of local government continued with a focus on political empowerment of women. Conducting Election observations was one of our important programmes as we strive to ensure free and fair elections to foster democracy and political freedom. The path to improving access to justice and promotion of human rights was paved through activities in the area of legal aid and combating trafficking and violence. Our achievements have been complemented with case studies of successful interventions that have rescued victims from a trap or pulled people out of poverty.

We are happy that with the support of USAID PROGATI, SDC, MJF and TAF, KF during this period has been able to effectively implement the programme activities for the benefit of the poor and marginalized people.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the guidance and advice that we have received from our Board of Governors and the members of the network organizations. I also wish to recognize the sincere and dedicated services of our staffs at the Headquarters and the local offices for successfully implementing the programme activities.
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Executive Summary

2012 was a successful year for Khan Foundation. With in-depth expertise in the area of democracy and human rights, Khan Foundation's hard working and committed staff members implemented a number of programs nationwide with support from various networks, volunteers and partners. As a result of KF's activities through the PROGATI project, citizen participation in decision-making committees increased which led to considerable improvements in public service delivery. It implemented the second-generation citizen charters at the Upazila and Union Parishad level, which raised awareness among the mass public about the various public services that they are entitled to such as health, education, social welfare. KF also published three user-friendly manuals, "Citizen Monitoring of Local Public Services, Publicity and Campaign Training Manual", "Practical Guideline for Developing Citizen's Charter" and "Implementing Guideline for Strengthening District Level Service Sector Legal Decision-Making Structures" which are targeted for local and national level civil-society organizations, citizen groups and social activists who aim to strengthen the public service delivery system. KF has been promoting decentralization in many of its activities, as it believes that it paves the way for democracy and the practice of economic, political and social freedom. In 2012, it continued to politically empower elected women representatives (EWR) under the APARAJITA project. It provided capacity building of EWR and Potential-EWR so that they can carry out their duties effectively. The EWRs also carried out monitoring of public services, which resulted in the improved service delivery. KF contributed to the process of ensuring free and fair elections by carrying out voter and civic education as well as election monitoring and observation including conducting election environment surveys. It carried out observation of Gazipur 4 Bi-elections and Comilla City Corporation elections. Under the Election Working Group, it observed the 3rd and 4th Phases of the Voter Registration initiated by the Bangladesh Election Commission. KF has been continuing its "Combating Trafficking and Violence against Women Using 24 Hour Mobile Hotlink" and have been providing quick and efficient services such as emergency services, legal counseling and support, and, shelter home information to victims of trafficking and violence. The efforts of Khan Foundation in combating trafficking were published in the Bangladesh Country Report 2011 on Combating Human Trafficking by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Bangladesh which featured case studies on successful rescues. With the goal of improving access to justice, it also undertook "Ensuring Effective Legal Aid Support Services" project, which aimed to activate the legal aid committees to better deliver legal aid and legal services to vulnerable groups who cannot afford to bear the costs involved in legal matters. KF’s Women Lawyers’ Network members were involved in the different programmes of the organization and assisted with providing legal advice, conducting alternative dispute
resolution (ADR) among others. They also organized themselves to prepare for the 7th Women Lawyers’ Congress which was planned for the next year.

In 2012, KF strengthened its engagement with international partners and participation in international meetings and conferences. In February 2012, Khan Foundation and Municipal Association Bangladesh welcomed a team from the U.S. including representatives from city council, local government and state legislatures, who came as part of the U.S. State Department Program and co-organized a "Dialogue on Local Governance" with some mayors from Bangladesh. The Executive Director, Rokhsana Khondker highlighted KF’s achievements in the area of good governance at the Local Capacity Development Summit hosted by USAID in Washington D.C. She also presented KF's efforts to sensitize the Judicial System on Gender Equality Issues at the Law and Society Annual Meeting, organized by Law and Society Association in Hawaii, USA. She was also invited to attend the 2012 Democratic National Convention in North Carolina. Attending such a prestigious event enabled her to understand the U.S. legislative process and the practice of U.S. politics, which has given her insight into conducting the social advocacy with policy planners and Members of the Parliament through Khan Foundation. KF welcomed the Ambassadors for the European Union, Canada, Sweden and the Philippines as well as Country Director of the World Bank in Bangladesh for seminars on democracy and governance issues.

The path to achieving development in a country like Bangladesh has its fair share of roadblocks. Some challenges are faced while working with the local administration, government officials and in sensitive areas such as anti-corruption and election monitoring. However, KF over the years has developed a reputation all over the country and partnership with local level elected representatives, which has been beneficial in resolving the problems. KF also organized citizen groups and they have acted as a key pressure group in demanding rights and entitlements. The activities carried out in the year of 2012 have helped the organization to grow and reach new heights. It is hopeful that the following year will be even brighter.
INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF DEMOCRACY

Capacity-Building to Improve Public Service Delivery

Democracy is strengthened by decentralization, which leads to more efficient and accountable fiscal, political and administrative sectors. KF has been pushing for decentralization and the strengthening of local government for over two decades. The training of local government representatives is a prerequisite for the smooth operation of the service delivery system at the local level. KF has lots of experience providing training to elected representatives especially women representatives and has been successful at conducting training, workshops, networking, forum formation and other activities. With a strong will and great efforts, it has so far trained about 60,000 Union Parishad Members, Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and women members out of which, 20,000 are women members and many have become Upazila Parishad Vice-Chairmen.

APARAJITA: Political Empowerment of Women

Women empowerment is a widely recognized issue that can be achieved by ensuring equal participation of women in the political activity and including them in the decision making process. To establish social rights and institutionalization of democracy and improve leadership quality of elected women representatives Khan Foundation has taken a project named APARAJITA with the help of three other nongovernmental organizations, which are Democracy Watch, PRIP Trust and Steps. APARAJITA is contributing towards the development of many marginalized groups in our country such as women and children by working with the elected women representatives. Through the intense engagement of women with the local government institutions, this program is trying to fulfill the demand of the large portion of women as well as men. APARAJITA is working with women leadership as a prerequisite to reach each and every women of household. For the development of socio-economic condition of Bangladesh APARAJITA supplements the Government to provide assurance of education, health and legal support to the women. It also supports government to improve service quality of local service sectors. It is working to increase the quality of local services through local monitoring and awareness building among people specially women. It is working to aware about the roles, responsibilities and rights of elected representatives. The program also gives training to EWR to monitor public services so that citizens have proper access to these services. This creates an opportunity to build a strong linkage between elected representatives and administration. To address this issue Khan Foundation already formed 14 Upazilla forums at their working areas. To
increase the transparency and accountability of public service sector KF has provided trainings to the stakeholders on community scorecard.

### Activities in 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>No. of Events</th>
<th>No. of Participants / Outputs</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Start Up Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Training of Trainers</td>
<td>2 Batches</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity Building Training</td>
<td>18 Batches</td>
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<td>Leadership Training</td>
<td>38 Batches</td>
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<td>Training on Public Service Delivery &amp; Monitoring:</td>
<td>36 Batches</td>
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<td>Upazila level planning workshops on network initiatives</td>
<td>14 Workshops</td>
<td>826 (M - 86, F – 740)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union level workshops for encouraging cooperative activities with EMR</td>
<td>152 Workshops</td>
<td>2205 (M - 1691, F – 514)</td>
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<td>Pouroshova level workshops for encouraging cooperative activities with EMR</td>
<td>11 Workshops</td>
<td>155 (M - 118, F – 37)</td>
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<td>4091 (M-1958, F–2133)</td>
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<td>Constituency Level Sharing Meeting:</td>
<td>10 Meetings</td>
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<td>Monthly Forum Meeting</td>
<td>14 Meetings</td>
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<td>Forum formation</td>
<td>14 Forums have been formed</td>
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<td>IEC Material Prepared</td>
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<td>Poster printed - 28,000 copies</td>
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<td>Brochures printed - 14,000 copies</td>
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**Achievement in the year 2012:**
• Political Empowerment of Women: EWRs have become more accountable to their citizens. By monitoring of public services, they have had successes in improving the quality of education and ensuring the provision of water and sanitation facilities. Medical support system and family welfare assistance has improved at Union and Upazila level. Primary education service system has improved and had a positive effect on students.

• Besides improvement in service delivery, there has been greater and more equal access to these services by men and women members of the community. EWRs political participation has strengthened.

• Change in Attitude: Through this process, the public perception regarding EWR's leadership capacity was changed. This has led to change in stereotypical mindset, which is a positive step towards gender equality. There is increased acceptance of, and respect for, women's new roles as community leaders. EWR's have achieved greater pride, dignity.

• Change in Gender Relations: They have become more confident and knowledgeable and this has encouraged them to work side-by-side with the elected male representatives and face up to their superiors including the UP Chairman.

• Impact on Community: The community has become more mobilized in terms of portraying their demands to the EWRs and sharing with them problems and solutions. Community awareness about different resources has increased. Vulnerable groups have for instance, through the EWRs have received legal advice and become aware about the legal aid that they are entitled to. The citizens have learned the importance of using pure water and safe sanitation system.
EWR, Potential-EWR, and former EWR are collectively working in the issue of gender and poverty sensitive practice in local service delivery and assuming leadership roles. Some major activities and involvement of EWR in the year 2012 include:

- 453 EWR visited Primary School 2154 times, Health Service Sector 1774 times and Agriculture Sector 781 times.
- EWR attended 5533-village court proceedings and was directly involved in decision-making process of 508 Village court proceedings.
- 323 P-EWR contacted service providers to monitor service sector.
- EWR welcomed 200460 citizens of their respective areas with concerns among them 130224 female and 70552 male and responded to 88512 citizens within this period among them 30598 male and 57914 female.
- EWR were present in 7314 Shalish and presided in 3200 Shalish.
- In the second in 597 meetings.
- After the training period, 1218 Government projects were implemented with support from EWR.
- A Total 453 EWR of UP level participated in 881 School Management Committee meetings.
- 19 women representatives of 19 Union worked as a panel chairman at 10 districts after intervention of APARAJITA program. These are- Bottail and ziarchi union of Comilla; Gorpara, Bhgh, Zaygir, Batlamitara Union of Manikganj; Mayali, Hatkandi, Katachora Union of Chittogong; Borshail, Kirtipur, Bokterpur, Hapaniya, DubolHati, Hashaigari, Boyalia, Chandipur, Shoiliogachi of Naogoan, Jhilongjha of Cox’sbazar.
- 453 EWR visited UP information Center 10657 times and 273349 people got help from UP information Center of them 124175 female and 149174 male.
- EWRs and P-EWRs contacted the union help line and KF’s 24 hours mobile hotlink services 126 times regarding different issues.

Co-ordination with Khan Foundation's Women Lawyers Network (WLN)
KF set up a Women Lawyers Network (WLN) in 1997 to strengthen women lawyers' participation and position in all aspects of their profession and in society at large towards the greater goal of providing justice to disadvantaged groups, such as women, children, ultra-poor and minorities. KF has around 650 members in its Women Lawyers' Network. Till now, KF has organized six Women Lawyers Congresses in the capital Dhaka.

The members of KF's WLN are involved in various activities. Members of the WLN are in regular consultation with the elected women members of the Union Parishads, Local NGO's and take necessary action, raise consciousness on legal issues, the members of the WLN participate in different training workshops, members of the network arrange meeting at least once in two months to exchange views. Khan Foundation has already created Upazila Forum of Women Members of the Union Parishads. These women members are concerned about various legal problems in their respective localities. The legal problems reported by UP Women Members are referred to the Members of the WLN so that they can advise and provide legal advice and aid to the rural women members of the UPs. By linking women lawyers to the large number of elected women at the grassroots, the network greatly enhances the lawyers' knowledge of local needs and problems, and enables them to be more effective in their districts.

Case Studies:

During the reporting period lot of success stories stored in APARAJITA achievements. The following cases are few of them:

**Cases 1: EWR endeavor towards public welfare**

Rabeya Begum, UP member of Harishpur, Natore attended a meeting on agriculture information at Baro Harishpur on 10/10/12. At meeting which was discussed below get emphasized.

- Rice sow in line and fish cultivation at rice field
- Decreasing use of pesticides and control pests through using different methods
- Enthusiast women in vegetable cultivation
- Increased interested of unemployed youth at domestic animal guarding.

After that meeting she organized a meeting at her constituency to create interest among farmers. As a result Abdur Rahim, Jalal Uddin of Kamardi village and Kuddus Ali, Sarowar Hossain and other farmers of Rahimkuri village had followed the technology and started cultivate paddy. This has reduced the rate of used of pesticides. Moreover, due to her cordial effort Minara, Sufia, Abeda and Saleha Begum of Kamardi village get economically stable through cultivating vegetables at the vacant places of their houses. With the help of Union Agriculture information centre, now production cost
has reduced to some extent and farmers benefited. The decreasing rate of pesticides uses also playing a role to make the sustainable Environment.

**Cases 2: Improvement in service delivery through EWR initiatives**

Shetpara Primary School, of Brohmopur, Natore district is a typical school in Bangladesh. As a result of Aparajita intervention EWRs regularly visits the public services of their constituency. As such visit EWR Kobari Begum found that the tube well of the School was out of order from July, 2011. And lack of tube well at the nearby areas, students of that school suffered for pure drinking water since then. School teachers took an initiative at several times but failed. Last 28th June, 2012 these issues got emphasized on school committee meeting and UP member Kobari Begum provided assurance to solve the problem. At next, to solve this problem she organized a deep tube well from LGSP program. As a consequence, she established deep tube well on 8th July, 2012 at that school. A proper step of UP member Kobori Begum ensured drinking water for the students of Shetpara primary school.

**Cases 3: Individual inspiration of a EWR ensured primary education for children**

Dangapara is a small village of Dighapatia union of Natore district. The communication system is not so good and the nearest primary school is far away from the village. Most of the children were deprived of their fundamental rights. This was a great concern for their parents. During her regular house hold visit EWR HasinaBanu found that a primary school was very much required for that locality. She discussed this issue in the upazilla forum meeting and it was decided to negotiate this issue with upazilla education officer and upazillanirbahi officer. As decided she meet respective officers accompany with local respectable citizens. With the help of local administration she finally has some allocation for starting school. When she starts the number of student was only 10 in 2012 but at the end of November 2012 the number became 36. Islamic foundation made some donation and bears the expenses of teachers. She has been running the school very successfully with the support of local community. For her courageous initiatives deprived children of uttarpara of dangapara village are now getting opportunity of primary education.
Fostering Political Freedom through Elections

Election is a precondition for democracy. It is considered the decisive expression of free and sovereign democratic nations. During the last two decades, KF has played a pioneer role in establishing good governance in Bangladesh through election observation and practice of voter and civic education programme. Khan Foundation is also one of the founder principal members of Election Working Group (EWG), a 29-member coalition of domestic civil society organizations that share a common commitment to free and fair elections, good governance, and the achievement of higher standards of democratic representation and accountability in Bangladesh.

Election Monitoring
Khan Foundation has been working with domestic groups and coalitions to bring citizens together for election monitoring efforts to ensure electoral integrity and to promote accountability in government and among political contestants. KF observes all forms of elections at the local and national levels.

The Objectives are
• Enhance the quality and authenticity of elections.
• Raise public awareness about the election processes.
• Detect and prevent election fraud, irregularities and electoral manipulation.
• Provide an important avenue for citizen participation and important information concerning the character of elections.
• Encourage large-scale participation of voters especially women, new voters and marginalized people in the election by building confidence in the electoral process.

Stakeholders
One of the main stakeholders is the group of voters since the power rests in the people. Bangladesh Election Commission (BEC) is another important stakeholder. Their support is needed for completing the accreditation process, finalizing the deployment plans of accredited organizations, and issuing clarifying instructions to local election offices etc. Candidates, local level election officials, elected representatives, government
officials including law-enforcing agencies, national and international election monitoring organizations and political parties are also important stakeholders.

Major Activities:

**Voter and Civic Education**
KF continued its voter and civic education programs during this year as an extension of previous year’s activities and maintain sustainability of the forums. The objectives of the program are to create awareness among the people of the area about the roles and rights of them in the national and local level elections. In our country various types of irregularities, anarchy, and political turmoil have been experienced in all the elections held previously. The program has been designed in order to educate the voters about all sorts of irregularities of the election process and to create such feeling among the voter that casting vote is their right not privilege. The forums formed during last national election at district and upazila level consist of respected business persons, teachers, women’s leaders, religious leaders and other community members. Its networks and such forum contributed to the planning and implementation of local voter’s civic education activities. Local program activities included meetings and trainings on the themes of accountability, election violence prevention, women and youth issues, electoral rights and participation of religious, ethnic minorities and disabled persons.

Under the program NGO network member, women lawyers network members and members of above mentioned forums were oriented and educated by KF as to how they can be instrumental to educate rural people around the whole countryside to exercise their voting rights with confidence and awareness. This year KF created a linkage of these activities with other running project activities. The Foundation perceives that without such a voter education program, the rural population will be deprived from practicing their fundamental right.

**Gazipur – 4 Bi-Election Observations**
KF has observed the bi election of Gazipur - 4 on September 30, 2012. Two mobile team consisting of 10 trained observers observed 40 Centers. KF followed the conditions, rules, regulations and directives of the Bangladesh Election Commission (BEC) with
respect to domestic election monitoring activities. According to the KF observers’ reports, the election process has been quite passive due to the low presence of the voters and heavy rainfall. As said by the observers, the rate of casting vote was approximately 40%. The lack of presence and enthusiasm of the voters was notably seen at every observed center. As highlighted by the polling agents, the number of voters was less because of rain and the absence of the opposition party. The lack of privacy and adequate light, absence of polling agents has been seen in few centers. There were adequate materials in the observed polling centers but many voters questioned on the quality of the indelible ink. There was 1 web-cam in one risky center, which was inadequate. Besides this, there was no electricity in some centers. Law and Order situation was satisfactory in all observed centers. There was a sufficient number of police, Battalion Ansar, VDP and mobile police and magistrate in all centers.

Comilla City Corporation Election 2012

With support from The Asia Foundation (TAF), KF with its relevant knowledge and expertise, carried out election observation of the Comilla City Corporation Election held on 05 January 2012 through its itinerant observers. The Asia Foundation designated six wards for KF which were Ward No. 22-27 and KF carried out election observation in the respective polling centers of the wards selected. Additionally, KF carried out election observation of rest of the polling centers from outside. Out of a total of 65 polling centers, KF carried out election observation in all polling centers. Electronic voting machines used in KF designated wards to cast votes. In addition to it conducted pre-election survey, Khan Foundation also observed and monitored the facilities and management of polling centers, law and order inside and outside the polling centers, vote counting mechanism and environment as well as consolidation of the results by the returning officers. The Foundation also made several specific recommendations as to how the City Corporation Election could be conducted in a more free, fair and democratic manner in future.

Voter Registration Observation (3rd & 4th Phase)

Voter registration is an important basis for ensuring equal and universal participation of eligible voters in a given election. Transparency, accuracy and inclusiveness are key aspects to ensure the integrity of a voter registration process and the credibility of voter
lists. These allow eligible voters to exercise their fundamental civil right to vote, while acting as a safeguard against attempts to manipulate the process. The voter list informs voters of the specific location where they are able to vote and indicates their eligibility to polling officials. At the same time, a voter list should ensure that every voter is only able to vote once and prevent those who are ineligible from casting a ballot. The Bangladesh Election Commission (BEC) is a constitutional body responsible primarily for the task of conducting elections for the Parliament and the local bodies. An important element in discharging this responsibility is the preparation, maintenance and periodic updating of an electoral roll on the principle of universal adult franchise. BEC decided to revise this electoral roll and starts information collection in the field level from 10th March 2012. The process divided into 4 phases.

Khan Foundation (KF) as founder member of EWG is devoted to the common commitment of EWG - that is, to follow a non-partisan approach while conducting its election related activities. In anticipation of national elections in early 2014, BEC decided to update voter list, EWG is beginning implementation of a comprehensive, long-term election observation program through observing voter registration process (3rd & 4th phase). With technical support from The Asia Foundation (TAF) and funding from the British High Commission (BHC), KF observed the registration process in 7 districts that include 7 Upazilas, 41 unions and 42 villages. Total 497 individuals were interviewed in 7 Upazilas of 7 districts and the trained observers filled out 567 survey forms.

**Achievement from the 3rd Phase:**

- Total 213 individual interviewed in 3 Upazilas of 3 districts.
- Total 243 survey forms filled out.

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<th>Total Form</th>
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<td>Sreebordi, Sherpur</td>
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<td>Exit Survey</td>
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<td>Household Survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td><strong>81</strong></td>
<td><strong>243</strong></td>
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Achievement from the 4th phase:

- A day long training session has been arranged on 7th November 2012 and eight data enumerators trained from 4 Districts.
- Total 284 individual interviewed in 4 Upazilas of 4 districts.
- Total 324 survey forms filled out.

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Promoting Good Governance through Social Accountability

The Promoting Governance, Accountability, Transparency and Integrity (PROGATI) is a USAID funded program and implemented by the Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) in collaboration with national and local NGOs. The project aims to promote sustainable civil society organizations, coalitions and networks to support and promote anti-corruption reforms. KF find itself is an important core partner since its very inception. This was a five year duration project. Khan Foundation worked for last 4 years.

Year 5 of PROGATI builds on successes achieved in year 1 through 4 by channeling civil society advances in advocacy and citizen monitoring into support for the institutional strengthening and policy reforms sought by the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (OCAG), the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), Information Commission (IC), key ministries, and the parliament.

Activities at a glance:

District Level Entry Points Mapping and Advocacy’ activities:
In order to enforce the relationship between CSOs and government officials, and improve the structure and process of civic participation, Khan Foundation planned to organize and facilitate district-level meetings between CSOs, government officials, representatives of Citizen Forums and government oversight bodies in Khulna & Meherpur district. The objective of the district level meetings is to formally introduce the issue of strengthening of the decision-making structures in the respective sector at the district level (health and family planning). KF throughout the years has developed a reputation, acceptability and credibility and this allows KF to support and promote the interaction between government officials, CFs and CSOs.

MAIN ACTIVITY: DISTRICT LEVEL ENTRY-POINT MAPPING AND ADVOCACY
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<td>District Level Co-ordination Meeting</td>
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<td>Orientation on District Level Entry Points</td>
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<td>CSO-Citizen Forum Sharing Meeting</td>
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<td>Follow-up Meeting</td>
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<td>103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Citizen’s Charter**

**Citizen Charter Adaptation for Local Use:**

Citizen’s Charter is a short public document that gives important information about the services provided by the public agency concerned. Developed jointly by citizens and government officials, the Charter explains the services available and how to access them as well as procedures for complaints, and how to correct shortcomings in service provision. As a process, however, the Citizen’s Charter responds to the Information Commissioner’s desire to advance pro-active public disclosure at sub-national levels and provides on-going citizen support to the OCAG’s performance monitoring efforts.
Finalizing the Community Scorecard manual

Under earlier years of PROGATI, Khan Foundation developed and refined guidelines for conducting community scorecard monitoring activities. The guidelines proved highly effective for scores of Citizen Forum groups who monitored government service provision at local levels and reported their finding to local service providers and government officials. These guidelines have been finalized into training manuals for publication and broad dissemination. KF organized focus group sessions which involve sharing the manual with CSO experts and, in 4 sessions with KF discussed the aspects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Activity</th>
<th>Number of Events</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ToT on Citizen Charter</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Level Co-ordination Meeting</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop for Formulating Citizen Charters</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO-Citizen Forum Meeting</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Group Meeting (CF-GOB)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Monitoring Meeting (CF-GOB)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
of the manual that appear easy to implement and other areas that were unclear to the CSOs. The manual is written as a stand-alone document that permits CSOs unfamiliar with Community Scorecards to carry out a Scorecard monitoring activity on their own, with no facilitation from another source.

Steps of Citizen Monitoring Process Using Community Scorecard:

1. Select Target Area and Form Coordinating Committee
2. Raise Community Awareness
3. Research Local Service Allocations and Develop Input Tracking Scorecard
4. Generate Community Scorecard
5. Synthesize Scorecard Data, Prepare Scorecard Report
6. Convene Interactive Feedback Meeting
7. Follow Up on Action Recommendations

Success story of PROGATI:

District wide CF Members Become Involved in the Union Parishad Health and Family Planning Standing Committees

The CFs are an integral part of the work on district level entry points. These were formed made up of influential members of the society and they have carried out citizen monitoring on various sectors and services. These CF members took part in the district level meetings. They were influenced by the main goal of these meetings, which is to increase participation of citizens in the decision-making structures. These meetings strengthened the CFs along with the supplementary round meetings between the CSOs and the CFs. With discussions with the designated officers of the Union Health and Family Planning Complex, they found that the Union Parishad standing committees play an important role in the running of the Union Parishad Health and Family Planning Complex. The CFs members then started communicating with the UP chairmen to try and negotiate an entry into these standing committees. After this successful discussion, many CF members of the Pirojpur, Gangni and Dhankhola Union are now members of the Union Standing Committees. The engagement of the citizens in these committees will strengthen them further and enable better services to be delivered.

Khulna District Taskforce Committee Becomes Functional

Education is the backbone of a nation. Ensuring education to all and skilful is the basis of Primary Education. A country’s most important resource is human capital and therefore education is crucial. The State will ensure free and compulsory education according to the Constitution. The District Taskforce Committee was formed under the
circular signed by Khalid Parvez Khan, Senior Additional Secretary, Education Ministry on March 3, 2011. From the documents of the Ministerial Level Meeting on January 19, 2012, it was found that the District Taskforce Committee would be functioning according to the 2011 circular. However, the District Taskforce Committee was not in effect. After communicating with the District Primary Education Office, no list of this committee was found. The truth was the circular that had been issued in 2011 was not taken into effect and the District Primary Education Office did not take the necessary steps. Additionally, they were not even aware that this committee had been granted a stronger footing in 2012. As a result of these district level meetings, these issues came into the light and people were made aware of it. KF staff then did some research and collected all the circulars and related resources that are associated with the forming of this Committee and gave it to the District Primary Education Office. On April 5, 2012, the District Taskforce Committee was formed and the circular was associated with the 2nd district level meeting in Khulna. Without the support from PROGATI, these meetings would not have been organized and the importance of the District Taskforces Committee acting as a tool to delivery proper education services would not have been realized. Through these meetings, the CF members, CSO representatives and other stakeholders were able to come together and act as a pressure group to make the Committee active.
Socio-Economic Development

Microcredit and Entrepreneurship for Fighting Poverty

Khan Foundation envisions a poverty free Bangladesh with socially and economically empowered women. With this vision it embarked upon the Rural Credit Programme (RCP), which is working to improve the living condition of rural people and helping the poor rural women to become self-employed.

Working Area of Rural Credit Programme
At present, Khan Foundation is working in six unions in two Upazilas under Narsingdi District. Unions are namely Gajaria, Cinardi, Ghorashal, Danga of Palash Upazila, Amdia and Panchdona of Narsingdi Sadar Upazila. By the year 2012, RCP has reached an estimated 2550 beneficiaries.

Credit and Returns: 2012
In the year July 2011-June 2012, a total Tk 1,057,670 was given to 2550 person and recovered amount is Tk 97,289. The range of the credit is from 4,000 to 30,000. Khan Foundation has a 25% interest rate (declining rate according to Microcredit Regulatory Authority).

Income generating activities, savings and health program
The income generating activities of the members of the Samities during the year were: Poultry rising, Farming, Cattle rising, Grocery Shop, Nurseries, Tailoring, Weaving, Vegetation and Cultivation etc. The members pay the installments and deposit the savings to the field organizers of the Foundation on a weekly basis. Thus the members effectively get banking facilities brought to their homes. Khan Foundation is giving six percent interest on the savings of the borrowers. Through the program members of Samities received health education, counseling, and access to medical services and life style advice. The process has been going on ever since and regular monitoring and follow-up continue.

Case Study:
Success story of Tahera Begum
Tahera Begum, a poor widow and one of the beneficiaries of Rural CREDIT program lives in Amdia of Narshingdi. After her husband’s death she fell in a deep trouble with her three children as her husband was the only bread earner of the family. Observing her distress, one of her neighbours informed her about RCP of Khan Foundation. She became a member of RCP. At first she got Tk 5,000 loan for 46 week tenor from RCP and started small grocery shop at her own home. After repaying the loan in due time, she again availed another Tk 8,000 loan from the credit program. After analyzing her repayment status and business advancement Khan Foundation extended credit facility of Tk 10,000 and finally Tk 25,000 in different phase. Her living slandered is much better than before. Besides the repayment she generates some savings from the outcome of the business. With the loan and the resulting earnings, she has arranged the marriage of her two daughters and sent her son to school. Her social status has elevated and she has earned pride and dignity by supporting herself and her family.

**Noortaj: An idol who change her life:**

Noortaj Begum lives in Amdia of Narshingdi who was not unemployed and her economic condition was very poor. Having an idea of Khan Foundation Samiti of Narshingdi Noortaj became member of the Samiti. After attending some meetings Noortaj decided to borrow Tk 5000 from RCP to buy a sewing machine. She started her own business of sewing cloth when she got the loan. She continued her weekly repayment and beside this she generates some savings from the outcome of her business. After the repayment of the loan in due time, Noortaj availed another Tk 8000 loan. When she repaid the last loan KF gave her Tk 14000. Noortaj extended her business and now she is a self-employed women who can support her family and husband financially.
Rights and Freedom:
Protecting human rights and freedom comes with the vision of Khan Foundation. This organization is working for the protection of basic human rights of people mainly women and children at the grass root level.

Women Lawyers Network (WLN)
Khan Foundation is working for the establishment of social justice & gender equality from the very beginning. Khan Foundation found that when the question of justice comes into play, women’s right & privileges in many instances are ignored or misunderstood in society. With a goal to remove the decisive problem, Khan Foundation set up a Women Lawyers’ Network. (WLN) in 1997 and at present the network has around 650 members.

Objectives of Women Lawyers Network:
- Building awareness among them about their responsibilities and potential leadership role as a lawyer in society.
- Developing coordination and cooperation between the lawyers and the Upazila women members forum of the Union Parishad (UP) and promoting communication with the view to strengthening local government
- Involving the Women Lawyers in the activities of ensuring women and child rights at the grass-roots level
- Promoting support for human rights activities of Khan Foundation like Combating Trafficking & Violence against women, reproductive health rights program etc.
- Involving them in the process of capacity strengthening of Village Court (VC) and Arbitration Council (AC)

Women Lawyer Congress:
Women Lawyer Congress is a meeting of the members of the WLN with one or two year interval. Women lawyer from all over the country congregate in the capital city, where it is brought to their attention, the injustices to the poor, marginalized groups and garner their support in providing assistance to these victims. Till now, KF has organized six Women Lawyers Congresses in Dhaka, The members of the network come together in the Women Lawyers Congress that are organized to promote interaction between Women Lawyers from 64 districts of the country and the capital Dhaka and to encourage exchange of views and transfer of knowledge. Khan
Foundation regularly maintains correspondences with the Women Lawyers and incorporates them in various program activities of the organization. In the Congress, important policy reforms can be discussed to increase responsiveness of the justice system to the needs of the poorest/most disadvantaged.

**2012: Platform of 7th Women Lawyer Congress**

The year 2012 was the preparatory year for organizing 7th Women Lawyers’ congress. To organize this congress, preparatory work has progressed including workshops conducted in 25 districts to collect agenda’s based on their demanded issues such as building gender sensitive court room environments, identifying loopholes and to gather support for women for the positions of General Prosecutor (GP), Assistant Public Prosecutor (APP), Public Prosecutor (PP) etc. Women lawyers from these districts have responded positively and are eagerly waiting for the next congress. These workshops will continue in the remaining 40 or so districts.

As a part of preparation of 7th Women Lawyers’ Congress, KF arranged seven divisional workshops with women lawyers and the total number of participants attending these workshops was 249. Workshops in the district level also arranged throughout year 2012 which were the preparatory works for the Divisional Workshop. Work agenda making, participants list, letter writing for the guests, communicate with the participants of the Divisional Workshop venue and schedule formation were the preparatory works for Divisional Workshop all of which took place in the year 2012. Each workshop was followed by the preparation of individual reports. Some important issues came out from the workshops to be discussed in the Congress faced by the lawyers.
Improving Access to Justice through Strengthening Legal Aid System

In a modern democracy that boasts freedom of speech and equality of rights, access to justice is a basic necessity. Justice forms the pathway for ensuring the principles of democracy and therefore it has to be kept in mind that any sort of adulteration to justice would undermine the system that is in place to ensure law and order. To ensure access to justice, KF initiated a programme titled "Ensuring Effective Legal Aid Support Services".

Legal Aid Support Service:
Khan Foundation is working in the practical implement of this program taken by government, in the district of Narshingdi, Munshiganj and Chandpur. To enhance the legal aid program and make the rural people aware their rights in getting proper legal service from the government, Khan Foundation has taken initiatives to work in those districts with the help of Manusher Jonno Foundation by introducing a project named "Ensuring Effective Legal Aid Support Services".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the districts</th>
<th>Type of Events</th>
<th>Number of Events</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chandpur</td>
<td>District level workshop</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seminar of Legal Aid Committee</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seminar of Panel Lawyers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Munshiganj</td>
<td>District level workshop</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seminar of Legal Aid</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar of Panel Lawyers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narshingdi District level workshop</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar of Legal Aid Committee</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar of Panel Lawyers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Achievements from legal aid support services:**

As a consequence of the program activities, specific results have been achieved. In the case of the project, *"Ensuring Effective Legal Aid Support Services"*, there has been success in the dissemination and activation of District Legal Aid Committee (DLAC). In Narsingdi, before intervention, only 2 Upazila and 7 UP committees were active. After intervention, 4 Upazila Legal Aid Committees and 14 UP level committees are now functioning. Also, there has been a steep rise in the number of clients for the District Legal Aid Committees as a result of the interventions. Between January 2011 and April 2012, the Narsingdi District Legal Aid Committee received 241 legal aid clients in 16 months and after KF activities started in April 2012, between April and September 2012, the committee received 125 cases in 5 months which means on average, the DLAC receives 25 cases whereas previously it only received 15 cases. In Munshiganj, before intervention, only 4 Upazila and 28 UP committees were active. After intervention, 6 legal aid committees at the Upazila and 56 of the UPs have been formed and are now
active. In Munishiganj, the District Legal Aid Committee receives 12-15 cases per month after intervention whereas previously, they only received 2-3 cases per month. Two billboards about legal aid services have been hung at the UP level. In Chandpur, all the legal aid committees at the Upazila and Union Parishad level have been formed. In Chandpur the District Legal Aid Committee receives 20-25 cases per month after intervention whereas previously, they only received 10-15 cases per month. This shows that the community is also becoming aware of the presence of these legal aid services.

The long term outcome and anticipated changes include greater access to justice for vulnerable groups and beneficiaries, more knowledge and awareness about legal and human rights issues, how to safeguard one's rights as well as the legal aid services, greater acceptance and use of the legal aid services at the community level and strengthened formal (government) legal system through prompt and effective community legal service delivery thus leading to improved governance, advances in the standards of living with access to basic necessities and services as a result of remedies received.
Combating Trafficking and Violence through Digital Technology

KF has been combating trafficking and violence against women and children through the operation of a 24 hour mobile hotlink service that provides quick and emergency support to victims. KF also conducted awareness building activities like human chain, rally, community watch groups & parents meeting, courtyard meeting, and distributed behavioral change communication materials like poster, leaflet, stickers at grass roots level.

Protection and Prevention Activities (January- December 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Total Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CWG</td>
<td>121 Upazaila under 37 District</td>
<td>2598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness Raising Meeting for Combating Human Trafficking</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>2621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rally</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Chain</td>
<td>09</td>
<td>1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trafficking and Violence Cases Handling</td>
<td>9 District</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poster Distribution</td>
<td>4 Types (20,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaflet Distribution</td>
<td>1 Type (30,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sticker Distribution</td>
<td>2 Types (35,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Media Coverage</td>
<td>Nearly 48 Local and National Newspapers</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities during this year
The major activities are as follows:
- 24 Hours Mobile Hotlink Services
- Awareness Building Activities
- Case Handling for Victims

Activity 1: 24 Hours Mobile Hotlink Services
KF hotlink center is successfully running this program through telephone, SMS and email from all over the country. This service provides instant support to the victims with the assistance of local NGOs and CWG members. KF distributed 50 mobile sets to the focal persons to receive and disseminate referral, networking and linkage activities on trafficking and violence issues;
Activity 2: Awareness Raising Activities
KF focal person has already arranged 108 parents & courtyard meeting along with community watch group, 12 rallies and 9 human chains in different districts and upazillas of the program areas. The awareness building activities are running successfully to bring together men, women and youth, local administrations, local government representatives, law enforcement agencies, lawyers, teachers, cultural activist and the media highlighted the issues on combating trafficking and violence against women and children using 24 hours mobile hotlink system. Nearly 48 local and national level newspapers were covered this program. About 10,030 people were participated and shown their solidarity to reduce trafficking and violence from society.

Activities 3: Case handling for victims of Trafficking
Local Focal Persons along with Community Watch Group members took part and played a positive role to remove trafficking and violence against women and children at grassroots level. Law enforcement authorities, local administrations, local government representatives, marriage register, press/media and others local community provided quick response and support to protect and rescued trafficked persons and sufferers/victims. Legal Counseling, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), Village Court, Negotiation and others were provided to solve these problems. Most of the cases were solve through this network successfully. About 126 people were trafficked where women were 78, child were 29 and male were 17 and this was reported through 24 hours mobile hotlink services. About 126 people were rescued which included 78 women, 29 child were and 17 were male people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data of Trafficking</th>
<th>Number Trafficked</th>
<th>Rescued</th>
<th>Prosecution</th>
<th>Not Prosecution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Wome n</td>
<td>Child</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>126</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Success of the project:
A 24-hour mobile hotlink service was set up that congregated information of trafficking and violence from all over the country and provided instant support to the victims with the assistance of local NGOs. This brought about a decrease in trafficking and violence against women cases in the project areas. Through this project we provided support to 370 rescued individuals. One of the success stories in 2012:
Sohel Rana is an 8 years old boy. He is a student of Paikpara Hafezia Madrasha of Jhenidha District and son of Babul Akhter who is inhabitant of Doyapur Village. Last 19th April, 2012, Sohel Rana started for Madrasha from home at 12:15 p.m. When he reached Kaligonj market, kidnappers targeted him and alluring him. It seemed very suspicious to a person passing away and then he informed a local focal person of Khan Foundation at 24 hours mobile hotlink number (01713185536). The focal person informed Community Watch Group (CWG) as well as law enforcing agencies over telephone. CWG took an initiative to find out the boy and observed almost all vehicles around the bus stand. Similarly CWG took under surveillance of different places. Meanwhile, the kidnappers made Rana senseless through poisonous handkerchief and took him to the “Nasimon” (local vehicle). When they arrived in front of Krishi Office situated at Ganna road of that town victim regained sense. He started shouting and ultimately jumped off from the running vehicle. A CWG member noticed that and rescued the boy. In the meantime kidnappers fled away. Focal person and members of Community Watch Group discussed this case with local law enforcement agencies and afterwards handover the rescued boy to his parents. It was possible to rescue Rana from kidnappers through the help of 24 hours mobile hotlink services and Community Watch Group (CWG).

*Rescued boy sohel rana*
Advocacy and Social Mobilization:
KF effectively mobilizes people at the grassroots level and influences the policy environment at the national level. Advocacy and mobilization activities are embedded in all the programs of the organization. Working areas are democracy and good governance, environmental protection, women’s development, child education, child labor and child rights.

Dialogue on Local Governance
Khan Foundation and Municipal Association of Bangladesh (MAB) co-organized a “Dialogue on Local Governance” in 2012. Participants included Mayors from Bangladesh and Mayors from the U.S. who came as part of a Delegation of the U.S. State Department.

Celebration of anti-corruption day
On 9th December, the world celebrates the International Anti-Corruption Day (IACD). Bangladesh has observed the day with the aims of raising public awareness of corruption and what people can do to fight it. Like every year, Khan Foundation (KF) observed the day through various programs in 2012. The programs organized at the district level included anti-corruption human chain, rally, oath taking, dialogues, cultural program, poster distribution etc. with great enthusiasm. As a part of IACD observation, KF has completed an Anti Corruption Campaign at Noagaon, Dinajpur, Borguna, Noakhali District with active participation of the local Communities of these districts, and its associates. As per schedule the campaign organized successfully and supported by local District Administration, Citizen Forum, media, NGO Local govt. representative and all stakeholders.
Remarkable response from general people and the community as a whole has made this event very successful.
In 2012, KF strengthened its engagement with international partners and participation in international meetings and conferences. In February 2012, Khan Foundation and Municipal Association Bangladesh welcomed a team from the U.S. including representatives from city council, local government and state legislatures, who came as part of the U.S. State Department Program and co-organized a "Dialogue on Local Governance" with some mayors from Bangladesh.

**Participation in International Conferences**

The Executive Director, Rokhsana Khondker highlighted KF’s achievements in the area of good governance at the Local Capacity Development Summit hosted by USAID in Washington D.C. The paper was titled, "Applying the Community Scorecard to Assess Governmental Responsiveness". She also presented KF’s efforts to sensitize the Judicial System on Gender Equality Issues at the Law and Society Annual Meeting, organized by Law and Society Association in Hawaii, USA. The paper was titled, "The Challenge of Human Equality Rights in the Bangladesh Judiciary".

She was also invited to attend the 2012 Democratic National Convention in North Carolina where she met Madeleine Albright, the first woman to become the United States Secretary of State and Nancy Pelosi, the Democratic Leader of the United States House of Representatives. Attending such a prestigious event enabled her to understand the U.S. legislative process and the practice of U.S. politics, which has given her insight into conducting the social advocacy with policy planners and Members of the Parliament through Khan Foundation.
Visits by Ambassadors and Representatives of International Organizations

KF welcomed the Ambassadors for the European Union, Canada, Sweden and the Philippines as well as Country Director of the World Bank in Bangladesh for seminars on democracy and governance issues.

Heather Cruden Ambassador for Canada and Anneli Lindahl-Kenny Ambassador for Sweden

William Hanna, Ambassador for the European Union and Bahnarim Abu Guinomla, Ambassador for Philippines

Country Director of the World Bank in Bangladesh Ellen Goldstein and Senior Governance Specialist, Charles Undeland
International Institute for Democracy and Human Rights (IDH)

Khan Foundation is working towards the establishment of a regular full scale Institute by the style International Institute for Democracy, Development & Human Rights (IIDDH) based here in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Infrastructure work for the Local Government Training Institute, which will form an integral component of the Democracy Institute, has already begun. The main activities include training, research and producing publications.

IDH has a Trainers’ Pool experienced in governance programs. KF has been providing training, (ToT) workshops, seminars, networking, and carrying out research, surveys and advocacy both at local and national level.

Research

- Applying the Community Scorecard to Assess Governmental Responsiveness
- The Challenge of Human Equality Rights in the Bangladesh Judiciary
- Proportional Representation- Is It A Viable Reform Option for Bangladesh
- Comilla City Corporation Election 2012 Observation Study
- Gazipur-4 Bi-Election 2012 Environment Survey

Publications

Khan Foundation has been engaging in activities to increase citizen participation in the process of democracy such as engaging in citizen monitoring of public services, participating in district level committees for the various public services, taking part in budget dialogues among others. Khan Foundation has been working with several social accountability tools for the past few years. One of KF’s new and innovative tools to fight corruption is the Citizen Monitoring of Local Public Services, Publicity and Campaign Training Manual to monitor public services at the grassroots level. This has been developed under the USAID PROGATI program. The module was prepared through 63 days of discussion between Khan Foundation and representatives of PROGATI. Field test was also carried out for the formulation of the seven stages in Munshiganj district, Gozaria Upazila and Bhoberchor Union at a primary school. KF has also prepared a Practical Guideline for Developing Citizen's Charter, which is a document that will enable citizen charters to be formulated, which will improve access to and quality of public services. The citizen charter is a document that provides important information about the services provided by the respective public agency such as the types of services, contact information of relevant persons, procedure for complaints etc. KF also prepared Implementing Guideline for Strengthening District Level Service Sector Legal Decision-Making Structures, which is a guideline, aimed to
strengthen the decision-making structures in order to promote citizen involvement for improvement in services. For carrying out these activities and ensuring their success, KF formed Citizen Forums, which are citizen groups comprised of groups of people from different professions, age groups, social class and interest who have the common goal of helping their communities to become developed. These Citizen Forums engage with the local CSO representatives and conduct the citizen monitoring activities.

The Millennium University

The Millennium University (TMU) was established in 2003 as a Private University under the Private University Act, 1992 with a view to expand the scope of higher education in Bangladesh. The University is sponsored by Khan Foundation, a non-political and non-profit philanthropic organization devoted to socio-economic development in the country. The Millennium University is accredited by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and approved by the Ministry of Education, Government of Bangladesh. The academic curricula of the University are approved by UGC.

Vision / Goal

- Serve students who do not have access to other private or public universities.
- Impart high quality education in order to face 21st century challenges of globalization and competition
- Equip graduates to contribute to the nation's development /nation building efforts.

Major Achievements

- Emphasis on quality of education
- Opening of faculties on need basis following MOE and UGC guidelines
- Recruitment of qualified teachers
- Ensure the quality of students in admission.
- Link with several high standard international universities

Activities through the Year 2012

Annual Sports & Recreation and Prize Giving Ceremony 2012

The Millennium University celebrated its annual sports day with the purpose of keeping its students
physically and mentally fit. The University arranges various sports competitions like football, badminton, etc. on an annual basis with a view to fulfilling the demand of the students.
Study Tour
The students of The Millennium University went on a study to The Sundarbans, which is meant to be both fun and educational and has specific learning goals. The tour was for 3 days and 4 nights and explored the largest mangrove forest in this part of the world.

Issue Based Seminar
International Women's Day Celebration 2012
Today, women all over the world have reached great heights whether it is in their careers, their families, or their communities. We see women as CEOs of high net-worth corporations, Presidents of prestigious universities, Executive Directors of development organizations; we also see women becoming entrepreneurs in villages, teachers in public schools, and the heads of the households. Women have become leaders and agents of change. They have become role models for many smart, confident and talented women who are looking to make a difference in the world. This was unimaginable only a few decades ago, which is not a very long time. This day is observed especially to remember those women who in 1911, protested against discrimination of women, demanding rights to work as well as voting rights and right to holding public offices. Without them the concept of women’s rights would still be a novel idea. To celebrate women’s achievements in 1911 and throughout the years, The Millennium University celebrated International Women’s Day on 8th March, 2012 and held a day-long discussion and cultural programme. The programme was presided over by the Chairperson, Board of Trustees Advocate Rokhsana Khondker. Special Guests included Vice Chancellor Abu Ayub Md Baquer and Prof Mahbubur Rahman, Department Head, English. The Chief Guest was former minister, Government of Bangladesh Dr. Abdul Moyeen Khan.
Governing Board
Chairperson
Dr. Saleemul Huq
Flat-B, House-15,
Road-8, Dhanmondi
Dhaka-1205

Executive Director
Advocate Rokhsana Khondker
Momenbagh, Dhaka 1217

Member
Dr Shirin Zaman Munir
House 268, Road 3,
Baridhara DOHS, Dhaka 1212

Member
Ms Shaheena Khalil
Flat 5C, House 19, Road 102,
Gulshan, Dhaka 1212

Member
Ms Mahreen Khan
House 9, Road 36,
Gulshan, Dhaka 1212

Member
Mr A M Giasuddin Mahmud Choudhury
House 48, Road 11,
Sector 6, Uttara, Dhaka

Member
Ms Shaila Ahmed Hashemee
House 492/4, Road 9,
Baridhara DOHS, Dhaka