



NICE FOUNDATION PROFILE



ABOUT NICE FOUNDATION

The Nice Foundation is a rights-based feminist Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in Bangladesh. We work on human rights, refugee and forcibly displaced communities, environmental, and educational issues, aiming to reduce inequalities and social disadvantages. Our primary focus is on women, children, youth, adolescents, people with disabilities, gender-diverse communities, religious & ethnic minority groups, and the refugee community.



BACKGROUND

The Nice Foundation is a rights-based feminist Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in Bangladesh. We work on human rights, refugee and forcibly displaced communities, environmental, and educational issues, aiming to reduce inequalities and social disadvantages. Our primary focus is on women, children, youth, adolescents, people with disabilities, gender-diverse communities, religious & ethnic minority groups, and the refugee community.

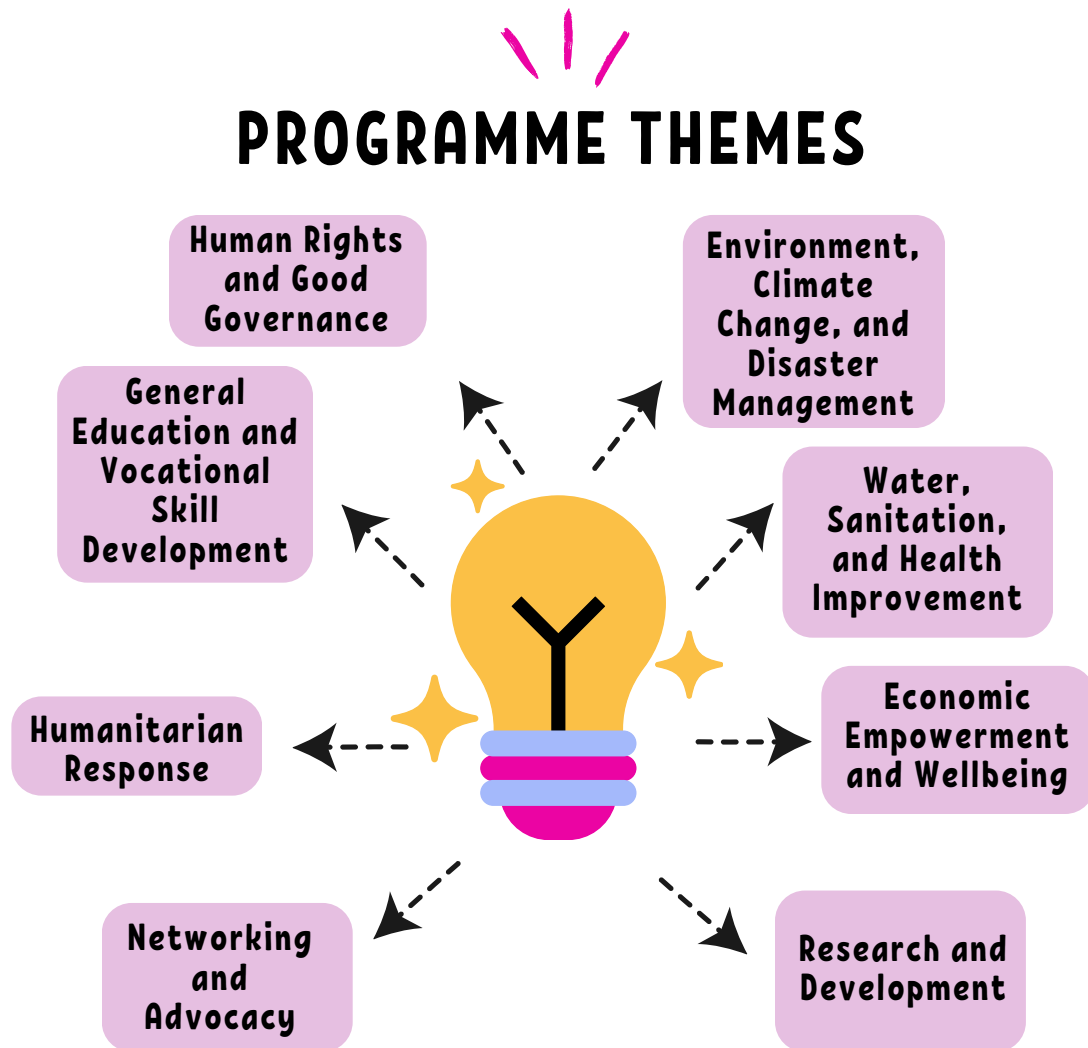


VISION

To foster an inclusive society where underprivileged communities thrive economically, socially, and environmentally.

MISSION

To empower marginalized communities—especially Dalit women, children, and the excluded—through initiatives in sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, nutrition, governance, and human rights. We provide resources, education, and advocacy to ensure equitable access to opportunities and support sustainable development.



1. Human Rights and Good Governance:

- **Campaigns and Advocacy:** We actively campaign for the rights of minorities, women, and children, addressing issues such as trafficking, early marriage, and gender-based violence. Our advocacy efforts aim to influence policy and bring about systemic change.
- **Community Support:** We provide support to Women Human Rights Defenders and work on strengthening the Southern Women Feminist Network (SoWFen), ensuring that grassroots activists have the resources and support they need.
- **Health Initiatives:** Efforts include managing health crises like swine flu and dengue fever, and promoting tobacco control to improve public health outcomes.
- **Local Governance:** We work to strengthen local government structures to ensure they are more responsive and accountable to the needs of their communities.

2. General Education and Vocational Skill Development

- **Educational Programs:** Our programs range from pre-school education to adult learning, focusing on civil rights education and skill development.
- **Skill Development Training:** We offer training in various skills including computing, sewing, plumbing, masonry, handicrafts, and carpentry to enhance the employability of marginalized and refugee communities.
- **School Support:** We provide educational support to reduce dropout rates, particularly among Dalit and refugee children, and help talented students to excel.

3. Environment, Climate Change, and Disaster Management

- **Climate Resilience:** We promote climate-resilient agriculture, such as saline-tolerant crops and floating gardens, to help communities adapt to changing environmental conditions.
- **Disaster Preparedness:** Our programs include disaster planning and management, ensuring that communities are prepared for and can effectively respond to natural disasters.
- **Water and Sanitation:** We work on improving water and sanitation infrastructure to enhance public health and environmental sustainability.

4. Humanitarian Response

- **Emergency Relief:** We provide immediate support to disaster victims, linking them with other service providers for comprehensive care.
- **Refugee Assistance:** Our programs focus on the needs of refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), providing essential services such as food, shelter, and site management.
- **Resilience Building:** We work on building the resilience of communities to better withstand future emergencies through capacity building and sustainable practices.

5. Economic Empowerment and Wellbeing

- **Livelihood Support:** We support the livelihoods of minority communities, particularly women, through various income-generating activities.
- **Small and Medium Business Support:** We provide training and resources to help community members start and grow small and medium enterprises (SMEs). This includes business planning, marketing, and financial management training.
- **In-Kind Support:** We offer in-kind support such as tools, equipment, and materials needed for various trades and businesses, enabling recipients to start or expand their ventures.
- **Cash Support:** We provide cash grants and microloans to help individuals and small groups invest in their businesses, ensuring they have the necessary capital to succeed.
- **Financial Inclusion:** We enhance financial inclusion by helping communities access banking services and financial products, which are crucial for business growth and sustainability.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** Our programs address the health and wellbeing of marginalized communities, ensuring they have access to necessary healthcare services and support.

6. Water, Sanitation, and Health Improvement

- **Infrastructure Development:** We develop and improve water and sanitation infrastructure in ethnic and minority communities, ensuring access to clean water and sanitary facilities.
- **Health Education:** Our programs include health education initiatives, promoting hygiene and sanitation practices to improve overall health outcomes.
- **Community Health Services:** We provide health services tailored to the needs of disadvantaged and remote communities, addressing both preventive and curative aspects of healthcare.

7. Research and Development

- **Empirical Research:** We conduct research on the empowerment and social capital of refugee women, collaborating with national and international universities.
- **Social Cohesion Studies:** Our studies focus on social cohesion within refugee camps and host communities, providing insights for better integration and support.
- **Participatory Based Research:** We engage communities directly in the research process, ensuring their perspectives and experiences shape the outcomes and solutions we develop.
- **Innovative Solutions:** We explore innovative solutions to social and economic challenges faced by marginalized communities, leveraging data and research to inform our programs.

8. Networking and Advocacy

- **Capacity Building:** We build the capacity of local NGOs, CSOs, and CBOs, enhancing their ability to manage risks and advocate for their communities.
- **Policy Dialogue:** Our advocacy extends to policy-level dialogues, aiming to influence national and local policies in favor of marginalized communities.
- **Feminist Movement:** We support and amplify feminist movements, fostering mass awareness and grassroots activism for gender equality.

Our Target Groups:

- Racial, ethnic, or indigenous minorities (Hindu Dalit, Barua, Munda, Mahota)
- Single mothers, divorced and disadvantaged women
- People with disabilities
- Youth and adolescent girls
- People with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities
- People living with HIV/AIDS
- Internally displaced migrants and refugees (Rohingya and forcibly displaced communities)
- Victims of high discrimination, gender inequalities, and gender-based violence



Geographical Coverage

Since 2005, we have directly impacted over 110,000 people and indirectly supported 550,000 individuals, including Rohingya refugees, with 80% being women and children.

We operate across various regions in Bangladesh, including Khulna, Jessore, Bagerhat, Satkhira, Narail, Dinajpur, and Cox's Bazar.

Governance

The Nice Foundation is governed by a democratically-elected General Committee and a seven-member Governing Body. Our General Secretary acts as an honorary Executive Director, supported by two coordinators and a Chief Accountant. We maintain transparency and accountability through regular internal and external audits.

International Directors

We are honored to have two distinguished honorary international directors who contribute to our strategic vision and international relations:

- **Engr. MD Nizamuddin:** Honorary International Director (International Relations), a dynamic information management expert with over 15 years of experience in leveraging data for transformative solutions. Skilled in advanced analytics, leadership, and communication.
- **MT Sharmin Sultana:** Honorary International Director (Climate Resilience and Gender Equality), a dynamic climate resilience expert and gender activist. Skilled in strategic planning, resilience strategies, and promoting gender equity. Passionate about driving impactful change through sustainable practices and gender advocacy.

Strengths of Nice Foundation

The Nice Foundation is committed to maintaining high standards of organizational governance and management. Our key strengths include a comprehensive set of policies and strategic documents, such as:

- HR Policy
- Gender Policy
- Safeguarding and PSEA (Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) Policy
- Strategy documents for Risk Management
- Guidelines on Community Feedback and Response Mechanism

Southern Women Feminist Network (SoWFeN)

The Nice Foundation established the Southern Women Feminist Network (SoWFeN) in 2017 to advance human rights and advocate for community issues.

SoWFeN is a self-financing coalition of civil society organizations focusing on gender-based violence, domestic violence, tobacco control, LGBTQ+ rights, minority women's rights, and sexual and reproductive health rights.

The network's members actively participate in district-level advocacy, engage with government committees, and have been recognized for their human rights efforts. Through grassroots advocacy and community mobilization, SoWFeN amplifies the voices of marginalized women and strives for gender equality and social justice.

Staff at Nice Foundation

The Nice Foundation is supported by a dedicated team of 32 staff members, comprising 22 females and 10 males. This diverse team brings a range of skills and expertise to our programs and initiatives.

Our Flagship Approaches

Our flagship approaches underscore our commitment to addressing complex social issues through various lenses:

- **Human Rights:** Upholding and advocating for the rights of marginalized and underprivileged communities.
- **Gender Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion:** Championing gender equity, fostering diversity, and empowering women in every facet of our work to create an inclusive and equitable environment for all.
- **Environment:** Advocating for and implementing climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable practices.
- **Skill Development Training:** Providing technical skills and training to enhance employability and economic opportunities.

Legal Status

Registered with the Joint Stock Co. under the Society Act, the Bangladesh NGO Affairs Bureau, and the Bangladesh Department of Social Welfare, the Nice Foundation is legally authorized to operate nationwide.

Appendix: Major Projects

- **Health and Vocational Skills Development for Dalit Communities in Dighalia:** Donor: Project Bangladesh, USA. Duration: 2022–2025. Objectives: Providing health services and skills-development training for Dalit youths.
- **Education and Health Support to Kawra Children:** Donor: AFMR Foundation, Bangladesh. Duration: 2019–2025. Objectives: Reducing dropout rates of Dalit Kawra schoolchildren; providing educational support to talented students.
- **Dalit Kawra Women Development Project:** Donor: Global Fund for Women, USA. Duration: 2019–2024. Objectives: Creating young women community leaders.
- **Vulnerable Group Development Project:** Donor: Department of Women's Affairs, Bangladesh. Duration: 2017–2024. Objectives: Reaching highly disadvantaged rural women with food and training to enhance livelihoods and self-reliance.
- **Tobacco Control Campaign:** Donor: AFIB, Bangladesh. Duration: 2019–2025. Objectives: Campaign, advocacy, rally, and report publication on tobacco control.
- **Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Project:** Donor: Water Aid, Bangladesh. Duration: Ongoing from 2016. Objectives: Strengthening the SRHR network.
- **Kindergarten School Activities for Dalit Communities:** Donor: Nice Foundation. Duration: Ongoing from 2020. Objectives: Improving education and reducing dropout rates in kindergarten schools.
- **Women's Empowerment and Social Capital of the Rohingyas:** Donor: Tohoku University, Japan. Duration: 2023. Objectives: Conducting a rural field survey at Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar.
- **Dalit Women's Livelihood Development Project:** Donor: Bangladesh NGO Foundation. Duration: 2022–2023. Objectives: Improving livelihoods of Kawra women by providing sheep and training on sheep rearing.

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- **Comparative Study on Social Cohesion between Rohingya and Host Communities in Cox's Bazar:** Donor: Tohoku University, Japan. Duration: 2023. Objectives: Collecting data on social cohesion and impact of the influx of refugees into host communities.
- **Biodiversity Conservation Support to Dalit Community:** Donor: UBINIG, Bangladesh. Duration: 2018–2023. Objectives: Promoting adaptive agriculture cultivation and saline-tolerant agriculture.
- **Strengthening the Human Rights Defenders Network Project:** Donor: Médecins Sans Frontières, Netherlands/USA. Duration: 2020–2023. Objectives: Capacity building of human rights defenders; providing legal support to victims.
- **Latrine Installation for Dalit Kawra and Fisher Communities:** Donor: NGO Foundation, Bangladesh. Duration: 2020–2022. Objectives: Installation of model latrines for Dalit communities in Dacope and Dighalia upazilas.
- **Health and Education Development Project in Kawra Para, Aronghata:** Donor: Project Bangladesh, USA. Duration: 2019–2022. Objectives: Reducing the dropout rates of Dalit Kawra children from school.
- **Lactating Mothers' Programme:** Donor: Department of Women's Affairs, Bangladesh. Duration: 2018–2020. Objectives: Monitoring lactating mothers' safety net activities.
- **Kawra Women's Capacity Development Project:** Donor: Global Fund for Women, USA. Duration: 2017–2020. Objectives: Developing the capacity of Kawra pig-rearing women through skills and management training.
- **Securing Livelihoods through Improving the Kawra Pig-Rearing Skills:** Donor: Netherlands Embassy through Blue Gold. Duration: 2016–2018. Objectives: Researching concrete strategies for improving pig-rearing outputs, even in unfavorable conditions.
- **Health and Education Development Project for Kawra Children:** Donor: Project Bangladesh, USA. Duration: 2011–2018. Objectives: Increasing children's enrollment in primary schooling, reducing dropout rates, and improving children's health through nutrition and food education at school.

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- **Kawra Women's Livelihood Development Project:** Donor: NGO Foundation, Bangladesh. Duration: 2017–2018. Objectives: Improving the livelihoods of Kawra women through capacity building and technical training.
- **Community-Based Adaptive Learning in the Management of Conflict about Natural Resources in Bangladesh and Nepal:** Donor: The Business Growth Fund, Middlesex University, UK. Duration: 2014–2017. Objectives: Researching factors leading to conflict or cooperation in the light of climate change threats.
- **Minority Women's Livelihood and Child Education Development Project:** Donor: NGO Foundation, Bangladesh. Duration: 2014–2017. Objectives: Reducing the dropout rate of Kawra primary schoolchildren and improving Kawra living standards.
- **Relief Support to Flood Victims in North Bengal:** Donor: Project Bangladesh, USA, and Nice Foundation. Duration: 2017. Objectives: Providing food and education to flood-affected families.
- **Promoting Peace and Co-Existence in Bangladesh:** Donor: Bandhu Social Welfare Society, Bangladesh. Duration: 2016. Objectives: Facilitating Kawra pig-rearing rights in a peaceful and cordial atmosphere.
- **Kawra Women's Livelihood Development Project:** Donor: NGO Foundation, Bangladesh. Duration: 2011–2014. Objectives: Improving the livelihoods of extremely poor Kawra women through providing pigs and training on pig rearing.
- **Distribution of Plants to Poor Communities in Flood-Prone Areas:** Donor: Project Bangladesh, USA. Duration: 2013. Objectives: Distributing 1,000 plants to 200 families to bolster flood defenses in flood-prone areas.
- **The Kawra Women's Livelihood Development Project:** Donor: NGO Foundation, Bangladesh. Duration: 2008–2011. Objectives: Improving the livelihoods of Kawra women by enhancing their capacity and financial means.

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- **Distribution of Blankets to the Dalit Poor in Flood-Prone Areas:** Donor: Project Bangladesh, USA. Duration: 2012. Objectives: Distributing 500 blankets to families in need during exceptionally cold weather.
- **Adult Education for Dalit Women:** Donor: Gram Bangla Committee, Bangladesh. Duration: 2008–2011. Objectives: Increasing literacy and empowering women within the family and more generally.
- **Increasing Attendance at Kawra Schools:** Donor: Hope for the Children, UK. Duration: 2009–2010. Objectives: Reducing the dropout rate in pre-primary schools, especially among poor girls from the Kawra community.
- **Increasing Women's Participation in Water Management in Khulna:** Donor: NGO Foundation, Bangladesh. Duration: 2009–2010. Objectives: Reducing pressure on underground water, especially in February–April when levels are low.
- **Improved Technology in Saline-Tolerant Agriculture:** Donor: International Rice Research Institute, Bangladesh. Duration: 2009–2012. Objectives: Familiarizing farmers with modern techniques and technology for cultivating saline-tolerant agriculture.
- **Enhancing Urban Poor's Understanding of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene:** Donor: Nice Foundation. Duration: 2010–2011. Objectives: Increasing knowledge about safe water, sanitation, and hygiene among the urban poor and in slum areas.
- **The Role of Floodplain Community-Based Organizations in Coping with Risk:** Donor: The Business Growth Fund, Middlesex University, UK. Duration: 2010–2012. Objectives: Researching how community organizations' decisions are influenced by perceived risks in relation to disaster planning.
- **Research on Professional Beggars in Khulna:** Donor: Nice Foundation. Duration: 2010. Objectives: Understanding the reasons for begging in Khulna and making recommendations to reduce begging through meeting individual needs.

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- **Improvement of Sanitation and Drinking Water:** Donor: Qatar Charity. Duration: 2010–2011. Objectives: Ensuring access to safe water and sanitation facilities at affordable costs in southwest Bangladesh.
- **Community-Based Biodiversity Management Project:** Donor: Probartana/UBINIG NGOs, Bangladesh. Duration: 2011–2012. Objectives: Increasing awareness of climate change and the need to protect the ecosystem.
- **Combating the Trafficking of Dalit Women and Children:** Donor: Danida through Rights Jessore, Bangladesh. Duration: 2007–2010. Objectives: Increasing awareness of trafficking and working with government and other groups on the issue.
- **Livelihood Development and Professional Rights of the Kawra Pig-Rearing Community:** Donor: Global Fund for Women, USA. Duration: 2008–2009. Objectives: Assessing the socio-economic condition of the Kawra pig-rearing community to develop a strategy for poverty alleviation.
- **Ensuring Primary Healthcare, Water, and Sanitation for the Dalit Kawra Community:** Donor: NGO Foundation, Bangladesh. Duration: 2007–2008. Objectives: Reducing mortality rates by increasing awareness of public health, water, sanitation, and nutrition.
- **End-line Study on Support to Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char in the Education and WASH Sectors Project:** Donor: Global Affairs of Canada. Duration: 04–23 Oct 2023. Objectives: Raising awareness of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) and education.
- **Feasibility Study on “From Climate Vulnerability to Climate Resilience in Bangladesh”:** Donor: Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany. Duration: 13 Apr 2021–02 May 2021. Objectives: Assessing climate change vulnerability through regional workshops and expert consultation in flood, drought, and saline-prone areas of Bangladesh.

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- **Assessment of Farmers' Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in Southwestern Coastal Area of Bangladesh:** Donor: International Rice Research Institute, Bangladesh. Duration: 16 Dec 2015–30 Apr 2016. Objectives: Assessing climate change vulnerability through workshops and public consultation in saline-prone southwestern coastal Bangladesh.
- **Technical Support to the 'Development and Integration of Sustainable Aquaculture – DISA' Project in East Medinipur, WB, India:** Donor: Solidaridad Network Asia (Netherlands)–Bangladesh. Duration: April 2016 to Nov. 2017. Objectives: Facilitating public-private institutional relations to address social and environmental issues on shrimp farms.
- **Final Evaluation on Empowering Poor and Marginalized People Affected by Disability Project:** Donor: DFID. Duration: 01 Jul–30 Sep 2016. Objectives: Final evaluation on empowering poor and marginalized people affected by disability.
- **Evaluation Report of the Project Mainstreaming Livelihood-Centred Approaches to DRR Project:** Donor: Practical Action. Duration: June 2009. Objectives: Community-based DRR reduces vulnerability and builds resilience.
- **Assessment of Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs) to Identify Gaps, Barriers, and Way Forward:** Donor: Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN). Duration: 15 February 2022 to 15 July 2022. Objectives: Identifying and analyzing gaps and barriers to strengthening MSPs for effective nutrition governance.
- **Baseline Study for the Education Intervention for Rohingya Refugees in the Rohingya Camps in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar:** Donor: Prantic Unnayan Society. Duration: 09 February 2024 to 08 March 2024. Objectives: Capturing base values of the project against the indicators of the resulting framework.
- **Baseline Study on Sustainable and Inclusive Livelihood Support for Rohingya Refugees in Cox's Bazar:** Donor: Shushilan. Duration: 09 February 2024 to 08 March 2024. Objectives: Enhancing the economic well-being of beneficiaries by facilitating improvement in livelihoods.