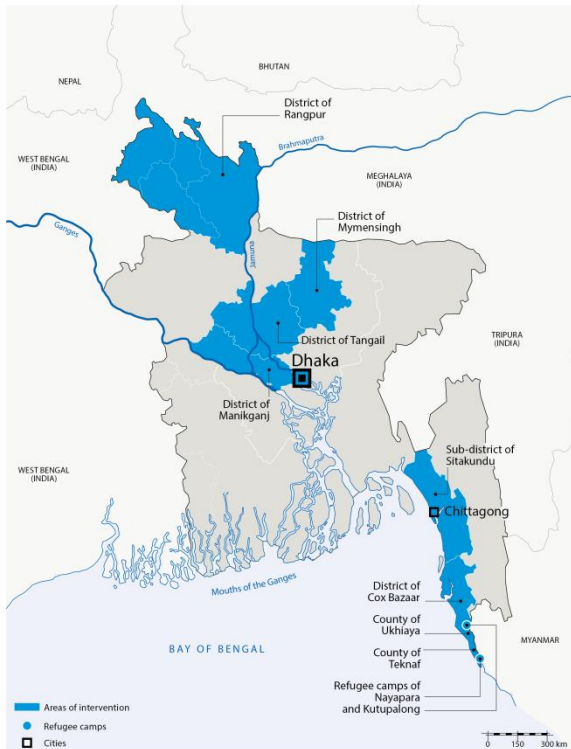




Bangladesh 



MANDATE

Handicap International launched its programme in Bangladesh in 1997 to advance the long-term rights and social inclusion of people with disabilities. The organisation takes an inclusive approach by supporting access to services for all, whenever possible, rather than developing specific actions targeted at people with disabilities. In Bangladesh, Handicap International is particularly active in the fields of physical rehabilitation and access to quality assistive technologies in isolated areas of the country.

CONTEXT

Located in south Asia, Bangladesh is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world¹. An estimated 49.6% of the people of Bangladesh live under the international poverty line of \$1.25 a day². Nearly 30,000 NGOs work in the country³. These NGOs work in a large range of fields, including social development, education, rights, micro-credit, health, legal issues and consumer rights. Several major NGOs provide education and health services to compensate for the Bangladeshi government's inability to supply these services to the whole population due to a lack of resources.

Among these NGOs, around 300 have worked with people with disabilities⁴. Most of them are very small local disabled people's organisations which often have a very limited scope. One of Handicap International's main actions in Bangladesh consists of building the capacities of these disabled people's organisations.

INITIAL ACTIONS

Handicap International launched its first operation in Bangladesh in 1997 as part of a regional initiative. Bangladesh, Nepal and India have developed "community approaches to handicap in development" (CAHD) in partnership with the Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) and the Christoffel Blinden Mission (CBM).

STAFF

- National staff: 63
- Expatriate staff: 4

KEY DATA

Human development index (HDI)*	142/188 classified countries
Gross National Income per capita * (PPA\$)	3,191 \$ per annum
Surface area**	147,500 sq.km
Population** (million)	158,5
Life expectancy*	71.6 years

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)	Ratified: 30 Nov 2007
Convention on cluster munitions (Oslo)	Not joined
Mine ban treaty (Ottawa)	Ratified: 06 Sept 2010

*UNDP: 2015 human development report

** UNSD 2015

¹ Bangladesh is ranked 142 out of 173 countries in the 2015 human development report

² UNDP: 2011 human development report

³ Association of development agencies of Bangladesh

⁴ The national forum of organisations working with people with disabilities.

Current projects 2016



Support for refugees

Improving the quality of life of people living in refugee camps in Rohingya and surrounding host communities in Bangladesh

GOAL

Supply rehabilitation services to people with disabilities, and reduce the obstacles to their social, economic and educational inclusion.

METHOD

Training local volunteers to perform home-based rehabilitation activities and directing people towards specialised services. These interventions are designed to improve the functional autonomy (daily activities) of people with disabilities. The training also includes workshops for teachers, organisations working in the field of economic development activities, health service providers and sports trainers. They learn more about the needs of people with disabilities and are encouraged to include them in their activities.

BENEFICIARIES

Approximately 2.400 direct beneficiaries, adults and children with disabilities and their families, as well as other vulnerable groups.

PARTNERS

Mainstream development organisations: UNHCR, RRRC, CIC

LOCATION

The camps of Nayapara and Kutupalong, and the surrounding villages of the sub-districts of Ukhiya and Teknaf, in the district of Cox's Bazaar.



Growing Together

GOAL

To develop accessible, safe and child friendly spaces in Thailand, Pakistan and Bangladesh refugee camps, where children with disabilities and other vulnerable children can play and learn together and have better life conditions.

METHOD

Handicap International develops accessible, safe and child friendly spaces for children with disabilities and other vulnerable children. Through educational games, arts, sports and learning activities, Handicap International promotes personal development, self-esteem, social cohesion and inclusion. A special attention is paid to the youngest children who are at risk of development delays. Thanks to early detection and rehabilitation, disabilities can be prevented and the lives of children with disabilities can be made more comfortable. In a safe environment, parents and caregivers will learn how they can contribute to the early stimulation of their child. Simultaneously the program engages local child-development service providers to be more responsive to the needs of boys and girls with disabilities and other vulnerable children, and assists the organizations in implementing measures to facilitate their inclusion.

BENEFICIARIES

- 13.000 vulnerable boys and girls (0-18 years old) and their parents
- Local service providers trained to make their services accessible to all vulnerable children, reaching 50.000 beneficiaries (indirect beneficiaries)
- In each country, interventions also address the needs of hosting communities in order to promote social cohesion

PARTNERS

With IKEA Foundation support

LOCATION

- Bangladesh: Nayapara and Kutupalong camps, surrounding makeshift camps and host communities in Cox Bazar district
- Pakistan: Jalozaï camps and surrounding host communities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province
- Thailand: Refugee camps in Mae Hong Son and Tak provinces



Social and economic empowerment of people with disabilities living in poverty

GOAL

Lift households with people with disabilities out of moderate and extreme poverty

METHOD

This project is designed to provide income-related capacity-building support to households with people with disabilities. It also provides support to people with disabilities to achieve functional autonomy and to access basic health and social services.

BENEFICIARIES

4,280 moderate and extremely poor households which include people with disabilities

PARTNERS

DPOs and mainstream development organisations

LOCATION

Region: Kurigram and Sub-district: Sitakundu of Chittagong,



Improving the lives of children and young people with disabilities through sport for development

GOAL

Support the sustainable social, personal and economic development of people with disabilities through inclusive sports and access to education.

METHOD

Empowering children and young people with disabilities by providing them with an inclusive environment linking sports and leisure activities with education. To achieve this, we:

- Provide caregivers with advice on disability and home exercise;
- Organize regular sports sessions and yearly local and tri-district event;
- Train local artisans;
- Enroll children with disabilities in schools and provide educational materials;
- Train school teachers on inclusive education and sport and provide adapted teaching materials;
- Small-scale adaptation work in schools, fields and homes;
- Organize awareness-raising workshops, advocacy & networking and experience-sharing
- Workshops

BENEFICIARIES

More than 600 direct beneficiaries (children/young people with disabilities, DPOs, schools and teachers).

PARTNERS

DPOs

LOCATION

Manikganj, Mymensingh, Tangail



Community-based rehabilitation for people with disabilities following the Rana Plaza collapse in Bangladesh

GOAL

Contribute to the sustained socio-economic recovery of families affected by the Rana Plaza collapse.

METHOD

Providing care and treatment (both directly and through appropriate referral systems) and promoting the inclusive employment of people with disabilities affected by the Rana Plaza collapse.

BENEFICIARIES

100 households including people who have developed a disability as a result of the Rana Plaza collapse and cannot currently access existing rehabilitation and livelihood services.

PARTNERS

Not applicable

LOCATION

Bangladesh nationally



Disaster risk management

GOAL

Inclusion and participation of socially-excluded groups in disaster risk management (DRM).

METHOD

HI Bangladesh is part of a consortium of 10 INGOs working in Disaster Risk Management. Under DIPECHO VIII, HI is working with seven members of this NARRI Consortium to ensure the inclusion of people with disabilities through a mainstreaming approach. HI will support the institutionalisation of inclusive approaches using the “Inclusive DRM Framework” developed under the INCRISD⁵ project, and will follow-up this regional approach at national level.

BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiaries targeted by the seven implementing organisations under NARRI

PARTNERS

ActionAid, Oxfam GB, Concern World Wide, Concern Universal, Plan International, Islamic Relief, CARE

LOCATION

Across Bangladesh



Strengthening the rehabilitation sector through civil society

GOAL

Work with the government to improve rehabilitation services and implement a disability-inclusive health care system in order to maximise benefits for all people with disabilities.

METHOD

- Conduct operational research on rehabilitation needs and obstacles impacting health and social development outcomes, governance and connected care
- Conduct a baseline survey of rehabilitation care standards and document rehabilitation good practices and models
- Run workshops and implement practices including for health and rehabilitation professionals to establish a better-connected rehabilitation sector
- Support the development of a national action plan on rehabilitation with the ministries of health and social welfare
- Provide technical support to national and local disability monitoring committees to develop and implement tools and guidelines in collaboration with disabled people’s organisations
- Conduct and document a methodology and training kit through the creation of a committee including the ministries of health and social

⁵ Inclusive Community Resilience for Sustainable Disaster Risk Management

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welfare, organisations of rehabilitation professionals and representatives of people with disabilities

- Support quality services in integrated disability service centres in three districts
- Support disabled people's organisations to implement initiatives and collaborate with external stakeholders to advance the right to rehabilitation, health and mobility for all
- Implement disability surveys in two unions of two 'Upazilas' (administrative divisions)

BENEFICIARIES

- 4 rehabilitation organisations, including Bangladesh physiotherapy association (PBA), Bangladesh occupational therapy association (BOTA), Bangladesh society of prosthetics and orthotics (BSPO), Bangladesh speech and language therapy society (BSLTS)
- 250 medical and health professionals
- 3 Integrated Disability Service Centres including 33 staff members supported through a rehabilitation management system to offer quality services
- 6 DPOs to improve their advocacy capacities and synergy-development capacities
- 50 governmental representatives reporting to the ministries of social welfare and health
- People with disabilities in Bangladesh

PARTNERS

- Bangladesh physiotherapy association, Bangladesh occupational therapy association, Bangladesh society of prosthetics and orthotics, Bangladesh speech and language therapy society, Bangladesh association of physical medicine and rehabilitation

LOCATION

- Across Bangladesh - districts of Kurigram, Rangpur and Narayanganj

DONOR

European Union: http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bangladesh/index_en.htm

MAIN FUNDING BODIES

<p>DFID</p> 	<p>European Commission ECHO</p>  <p>Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection</p> <p>http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/bangladesh/index_en.htm</p>	<p>International Organisation for Migration (IOM)</p> 
<p>European Union DEVCO</p> 	<p>IKEA Foundation</p> <p>IKEA Foundation</p> 	