

DROWNING PREVENTION

Quarterly Newsletter



Project launching of 'Integrated Community Based Center for Child care, Protection and SwimSafe facilities Project'

On June 12, 2022, Bangladesh Shisu Academy (BSA) has launched the project "Integrated Community Based Center for Child Care, Protection and SwimSafe Facilities" under the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA). In this launching ceremony representatives from all the implementing and technical partners including two development partners Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), UK and Bloomberg Philanthropies, US, were present. The project was launched by the Honorable State Minister, MoWCA, Ms. Fazilatun Nessa Indira MP. Kelly Larson, Director-Bloomberg Philanthropies, Steve Wills- Head of International Programmes, RNLI were present in the programme among the guests.

In the inauguration speech the honorable state minister said, the project will be expanded nationwide if it generate successful outcome in reducing child drowning. "We are proud to be a development partner in protecting children's lives." said Kelly Larson, Director-Bloomberg Philanthropies. Steve Wills, Head of International Programme- RNLI, said, "Achievement of Bangladesh is truly remarkable. We are working in Bangladesh since last 10 years and we are now proud to be a part of this project."

This project will be implemented in 45 upazilas of 16 Districts of Bangladesh by next three years. CIPRB will be engaged in this project as a technical partner. By this project, 200,000 children will be supervised in 8000 child care centres, 360,000 children will learn survival swimming. Raising parents' and community awareness is one of the main objectives of the project. Combined

efforts under the project will contribute to prevent child drowning in Bangladesh.

One year has completed since the declaration of UN resolution on Drowning Prevention. On April 28, 2022 the United Nations (UN) has adopted a resolution on drowning prevention during the seventy-fifth session of the UN General Assembly. This resolution was Initiated by Bangladesh and Ireland, and co-sponsored by 79 countries. The resolution recognizes the devastating effect of drowning across the world and declared that the 25th July every year will be World Drowning Prevention Day.

The notion of WDPD is to promote the drowning prevention and awareness activities, and also to define the roles and responsibilities of the national, and international organisations improving water safety regulations to reduce preventable deaths around the world.



Project management meeting regarding the BSA project



After the project launching on June 12, 2022, BSA, Bloomberg Philanthropies, RNLI, John Hopkins University, Synergos & CIPRB had a discussion on the project management issues and implementation outline of the project as a technical team.

The discussion topics were the followings-

- The main event/activities of the project
- Experience and expertise of the organisations
- What resources the organizations have
- The process of implementation
- To meet the project/organization's needs, what kind of support and cooperation required

Anchals of CreCHes and Bhasa projects are running in full fledged



After the gradual reduction in COVID-19 infection rate, Anchal centers initiated an alternative community daycare model on March 2022. Limited number of children were supervised in an open place with proper safety and care. Need-based supervision activities were implemented where one Anchal Maa/Assistant took care of the children who were more vulnerable to drowning during their parents' busy working hours.

From April 2022, Anchal intervention implementation procedure goes back to its regular form by following the Bangladesh Government's instructions. Currently, 2962 Anchals under Bhasa and CreCHes project are fully running by the Anchal Maa(s) and Assistants; where around 74,050 children are supervised with the objective of protecting children from drowning and other injuries and enhancing Early Childhood Development (ECD). Special emphasis also put on safe health & hygiene practice.

Retrospective study under PROJECT Bhasa

The aim of this research project is to understand other development factors that may have resulted in reducing drowning rates in both comparison and intervention areas over the five-year period of the

Bhasa 1 study and identify the stakeholders working on them. Data collection was completed and report generation is under process of the research.



Training sessions of the Data collectors

SwimSafe activities started under PROJECT Bhasa



SwimSafe intervention of PROJECT Bhasa started from May 28, 2022 after two years which were paused due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In May 2022, SwimSafe trainers received TOT who conducted the Community Swimming Instructor's (CSI) training afterwards. The CSIs are now teaching swimming skills to 6-10 years' children who were selected from the baseline survey. Through the programme, they will be skilled in 21 lifesaving swimming techniques including land-based rescue.

Field visit of RNLI team



The RNLI team visited Bangladesh June 9-14, 2022. They joined the inauguration ceremony of 'Integrated Community Based Center for Child care, Protection and SwimSafe facilities Project'. They also attended in the strategic partnership development and advocacy meetings regarding the project.

The concerned RNLI representatives visited PROJECT Bhasa field to observe the monitoring process, draw-out learning and recommendations from field staff and relevant stakeholders. Two days workshop was conducted to review and finalize the monitoring tools in line with the log frame.

New projects

Saving lives through safe swimming and engaging communities in Cox's Bazar



CIPRB has launched the project in Cox's Bazar named 'Saving lives through safe swimming and engaging communities in Cox's Bazar', funded by UNICEF Bangladesh. In the upcoming one year by this project-

- 1600 children aged 6-10 years will learn swimming at free of cost
- 400000 tourists will be awarded about beach safety messages
- 40000 school children will be awarded about water safety messages
- 30000 community people will receive drowning prevention messages

Distinguished guests from District Administration, Bangladesh Tourist Police-Cox's Bazar Region, UNICEF, other GO/NGO/INGO and journalists from various media attended the programme.

Provide survival swimming for children and adolescents through SwimSafe in UNICEF Zones

Another joined venture started by CIPRB and UNICEF titled "Provide survival swimming for children and adolescents boys and girls through SwimSafe in UNICEF zone"-project. The aim is to teach survival swimming to 50,000 children aged 6-13 years in 2022-23. The outcome of the project will contribute to child drowning prevention and raising mass awareness.

Isle of Man international development small grant

Isle of Man International Development Small Grant joint as an implementing partner of PROJECT Bhasa with RNLI, UKaid Match fund and Princess Charlene of Monaco foundation. By their financial support, 60 Anchal are functioning where 1,500 children are being supervised early childhood development and protected from drowning.

The Isle of Man is an island nation with self-governing British Crown Dependency in the Irish Sea. They have been supporting in socio-economic development of different countries over the world through their International Development Small Grant.



Portable swimming pool installation at Bangladesh Shishu Academy Premise

With the technical support from CIPRB, Bangladesh Shishu Academy is going to install a portable pool in the Shishu Academy premises. The pool is sponsored by an UK based organization 'Teach a Girl to Swim'. Through this combined live saving initiative, children living in Dhaka city will have the opportunity to learn swimming skills. Center for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh is providing overall support for pool construction, maintenance and swimming instructor training under the supervision of Bangladesh Shishu Academy.

The goal of this initiative is to prevent child drowning by teaching life-saving swimming techniques to the children of urban area.



World Oceans Day-2022 observations

To celebrate the day, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of Shipping, SAFE and Bangladesh Oceanographic Research Institute collaboratively organizing a three-day-long 'Bangabandhu Bay of Bengal Festival-2022' on Laboni Beach point, Cox's Bazar.

CIPRB provided necessary support and participating in different events. The lifeguards working under SeaSafe project attended in the opening ceremony, rally, and day-long beach cleaning programme. They also perform drowning rescue demonstration.



Lifeguards are working in the beach cleaning programme

Bangla New Year- 1429 celebration in CreCHeS project



On April 14, the Bangla new year day- Pohela Boishakh was observed on the Anchals under CreCHeS project. The main objective was to develop cultural values, moralities and socialization of children as part of ECD. The children spontaneously participated in the different segment of the event e.g. Dress as you like, art, crafting etc. on the theme of Bangladeshi culture.



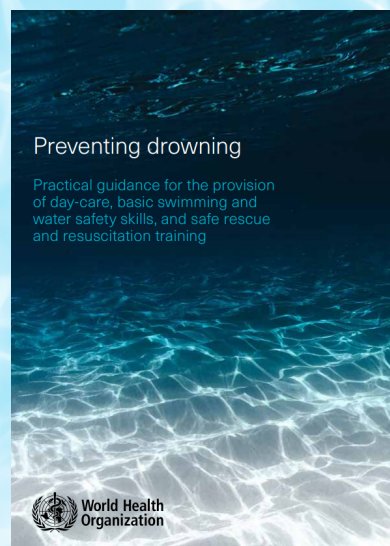
Dr. Aminur Rahman, Director- International Drowning Prevention & Research Division, CIPRB and Dr. Saidur Rahman Mashrekey, Director- NCD and Mental Health Division, CIPRB were invited as discussants on drowning prevention in a live tv talk show on Nexus Television.



Scan the QR code to watch the full recording



The Executive Director of CIPRB Prof. Dr. AKM Fazlur Rahman visited SeaSafe project area on June 08, 2022. He observed the lifeguard's demonstration session and provided valuable feedback on overall project implementation status.



CIPRB's drowning prevention innovations- Anchal (community-based child care centre), swimsafe and first responder training recognized by World Health Organization (WHO). Those interventions recognised as best practices for effective drowning prevention in a report published on 23 May 2022 by WHO.

Workshop and Training



CIPRB's master trainers of SwimSafe have conducted a five-day training to the trainers of Shishu Polli Plus at Sreepur Gazipur. The trainees have learned about survival swimming for children, and rescue technique.



A trainer pool of SwimSafe under PROJECT Bhasa has been developed to fulfill the shortage of trainers



Basic and refresher trainings on Anchal operation, ECD activities and Safeguarding policy have been provided to all Anchal Maa(s) and Assistants of PROJECT Bhasa and CreCHeS project.



A workshop organised by Synergos with BRAC-IED, RNLI, BSA, and CIPRB at titled 'collaborative leadership supporting implementation of the Integrated Community based project. The purpose of the workshops was to explore Leadership Bridging approach to facilitate the project's cross-sector coordination, based on collective experience.



Manohardi Upazila administration organised a training at Manohardi Upazila Parishad on compulsory birth and death registration at all tiers where the CreCHeS team provided necessary support.



To start the swimming learning sessions for the children, 50 Community Swimming Instructors (CSI) received five days basic training in 4 batches.



Anyone can drown, no one should

Contact: farhanaciprb@gmail.com

Centre for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh (CIPRB)

House B 120, Road 07, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206

+88-02-58814988 ciprb.org [@CIPRB](https://www.facebook.com/ciprb) [@Bhasa](https://www.facebook.com/Bhasa) [@SeaSafeBD](https://www.facebook.com/SeaSafeBD)