

# Improving Livelihoods in Times of Crisis

Recover Better Support Fund



## The Challenge

**Economic Tensions:** The COVID-19 pandemic sparked an economic and social crisis in Bangladesh. The International Labour Organization (ILO) predicted 5 million job losses in rural and urban areas due to the ongoing pandemic. People working in the informal sector were particularly affected by unemployment, lack of income, depleted savings and debt. According to the ILO, 87 % of the Bangladeshi workforce is employed in the informal sector and thus at risk of losing or having lost their livelihoods.

**Increased Domestic Violence:** These pressing economic tensions, as well as the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, have increased violence within families. In 2020, incidents of domestic violence increased by 30 %, according to the Dhaka city corporation. In addition to the development of a databank and rigorous legal prosecution, the Ministry of Women’s and Children’s affairs considers mass awareness-raising to be an effective tool against gender-based violence.

## The Objective

The project aims at increasing income sources for people living below the poverty line. The combination of family development plans with tailored capacity building and job placement offers economic opportunities for people most affected by the pandemic. Simultaneously, the project helps to reduce domestic violence and mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic through awareness-raising and education trainings.

## The Target Group

The project targets vulnerable families below the poverty line, living in the greater Mirpur slum or semi slum area in Dhaka and who are interested in strengthening their livelihoods.

Priority is given to people who are affected both economically and socially by unemployment.

Project name	Strengthening Sustainable Livelihood for Dhaka Slum People during COVID-19 Pandemic in Bangladesh
Commissioned by	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Country	Bangladesh
Implementing Organisation	TARANGO
Duration	November 2021 – April 2023

## The Approach

The project applies a three-step approach to improve the livelihoods of selected families and increase their income by at least 20 %.

**Family Development Plans:** Individual family development plans are prepared and analysed to identify economical resources and potentials among family members. From each family, the member with the highest potential to be successful is selected for training, with preference given to women.



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**Tailored Capacity Building:** The participants take part in a self-employment training to open micro-businesses and are linked to the TARANGO microfinance program afterwards. Alternatively, they attend a skills training to successfully enter the labour market.

**COVID-19 and Domestic Violence Prevention:** All participants attend an additional training which focuses on the prevention of a COVID-19 infection. Additionally, the training informs about gender-based violence and supports its mitigation by raising awareness and informing about prevention strategies.

## About TARANGO

TARANGO is a non-profit women's development organization which aims at supporting the most vulnerable and establishing a poverty-free and just society through the empowerment of women in Bangladesh.

TARANGO's mission is to specifically, but not exclusively, train women to promote entrepreneurship and leadership, fostering sustainable economic activities within a self-reliant, gender-equitable society.

## The Results



Individual development plans for 350 families are created and analysed.



100 participants are trained and supported to start their own micro-enterprises.



250 participants receive skills training and are linked to job providers.



700 participants from 350 families are trained in Covid-19 and domestic violence prevention.

The Recover Better Support Fund supports efforts designed and implemented in partner countries to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic with the goal of building more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable societies while advancing the 2030 Agenda. For that purpose, it deploys two funding lines: (1) Sustainable development advisory bodies and (2) leaving no one behind and strengthening socio-economic resilience. Commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), it supports 20 projects in 15 countries worldwide with up to 180.000 EUR.

GIZ implements the Recover Better Support Fund. For further information, please visit [www.recoverbettersupportfund.com](http://www.recoverbettersupportfund.com) or contact the funds team at [recoverbetterfund@giz.de](mailto:recoverbetterfund@giz.de)

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