PROJECT DOCUMENTATION & HISTORICAL ARCHIVE REPORT

Item	Details
Project ID	IYCM-PROJ-YFC-2024-11-11
Project Title	Youth for Children
Project Location	Shishu Kalyan Primary School, Narail District
Implementation Date	11 November 2024 (Monday), 11:00 AM-01:PM
Organized by	International Youth Change Maker (IYCM)
Report Prepared by	Ashikur Rahman Surov, International Youth Change Maker, Narail District
Report Submission Date	12 November 2024

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1. Project Overview

Youth For Children is a rights-awareness and advocacy initiative of International Youth Change Maker (IYCM), carried out through the Equal Rights for Children Project. Its core principle is that every child, without exception, has the right to fair treatment and dependable protection.

The project works in five key areas: non-discrimination, protection from harm, education for every child, the responsibility of society and government, and freedom of thought.

Project description: The project raises public awareness of children's rights and of the responsibilities that adults and institutions owe to children. It pays particular attention to the children most at risk of discrimination: children from minority and ethnic communities, children with disabilities, girls, and children from poor families. It also encourages children to take part in decisions that affect them, and works to stop child marriage and sexual harassment of girls.

Expected contribution: A society in which every child is treated equally and children's voices have a place in family, school and local decision-making.

The Narail session was held in a primary school, which makes the school the natural setting for this work. Primary-school children are at an age when they form ideas about fairness, friendship and who deserves respect. Early and simple rights

education can shape those ideas before they harden into prejudice. The school setting also gives the project a built-in link to teachers, who can continue the conversation after IYCM's session ends.

2. Background and Problem Statement

Children are not immune to discrimination and can suffer racist or other discriminatory treatment. Equal rights do not always mean identical treatment: restoring balance in opportunity, rights and protection among children sometimes requires special measures. The project was undertaken to address these inequalities.

Identified needs:

Minority and ethnic-community children: Children seen as minorities often face racism, discrimination and a lack of recognition, and must overcome many barriers to enjoy their rights.

Children with disabilities: About 150 million children worldwide live with a disability, 80% of them in developing countries. They are often denied proper services and face discrimination.

Girls: When children's rights are violated, girls are often affected first, because they face discrimination on grounds of both age and gender. In Bangladesh, more than 50% of girls are married before 18, and 30% of girls aged 15–19 are already mothers. Insecurity and sexual harassment are cited as reasons for child marriage and are a major barrier to girls' education.

Children from poor families: These children are deprived of adequate nutrition, clothing, healthcare and education, and their peers often avoid them because of their living conditions.

Children's voices: Children generally cannot vote or take part in political processes, so their views on matters that affect their future are often ignored in families, schools, communities and policymaking.

Problem Statement

Accessible and participatory learning opportunities concerning education, health awareness, children's rights and moral values are important for disadvantaged children. In response to this need, Youth for Children organized an educational and awareness-raising session in the Shishu Kalyan Primary School area.

The session aimed to create learning opportunities for children and contribute positively to their personal development

3. Project Objectives

General Objective

To create a participatory educational environment that supports the development of education, awareness, self-confidence and positive values among disadvantaged children from a school community.

Specific Objectives

- Safeguard the prohibition of discrimination, so that every child can enjoy all rights regardless of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political opinion, origin, wealth, disability, birth status or any other condition.
- Ensure that children's views are heard and taken into account in families, schools, communities and policymaking.
- Help stop child marriage and sexual harassment so that girls can complete their education.
- Ensure equal rights and active participation in society for ethnic and minority children.
- Stand with children with disabilities and encourage child-friendly local governance that includes them.
- Ensure equality for girls, so that they can make their own decisions about education, employment, marriage and motherhood.

4. Project Implementation

The "Youth For Children" campaign was held at Shishu Kalyan Primary School in Narail on Monday, 11 November 2024, starting at 11:00 AM. The six activities below are the components of the project's Equal Rights for Children framework.

Activities Conducted:

- **Non-discrimination awareness campaign:** Sessions and materials explaining every child's right to equal treatment and the responsibilities of family, school and society. *11 November 2024, Shishu Kalyan Primary School, Narail*
- **Children's voice and participation session:** Opportunities for children to share their views in school and community, so that their words reach decision-makers. *11 November 2024, Shishu Kalyan Primary School.*
- **Campaign against child marriage and sexual harassment:** Discussion on the harm of child marriage and on girls' safety and education.
- **Advocacy for ethnic and minority children:** Public awareness activities, including a call for inclusion, active participation and support for these children.
- **Support for children with disabilities:** Advocacy for child-friendly local governance in which children's rights are part of local plans, policies and budgets.
- **Girls' equality initiative:** Activities encouraging girls to continue their education or enter the workforce, and to make their own decisions about marriage and motherhood.

Implementation process: The session was conducted on 11 November 2024 with children in the Shishu Kalyan Primary School, Narail District

According to the available description, approximately more than 40 children participated in the activity. The session was facilitated by Ashikur Rahman Surov, a Change Maker of Youth for Children in Narail District.

The session combined educational storytelling, discussions on children's rights and awareness-raising activities.

Participating organizations and volunteers: International Youth Change Maker (IYCM) (organizer); Shishu Kalyan Primary School, Narail District; Ashikur Rahman Surov (project coordinator and session facilitator); 2 local youth volunteers.

5. Beneficiaries and Participation

- **Total participants:** 40
- **Direct beneficiaries:** 36 Local children
- **Indirect beneficiaries:** About 150 (family members)
- **Target groups:** Children (ethnic and minority children, children with disabilities, girls, children from low-income families), youth, parents and Local children members
- **Area covered:** Shishu Kalyan Primary School, Narail District

6. Project Outcomes and Impact

Key achievements:

- One campaign session was held, with 36 participants. The session covered children's rights and the principle of equal treatment.

Observed changes: Through their participation, children had the opportunity to develop a better understanding of education, health awareness, moral values, and their rights. The interactive learning environment encouraged them to express their opinions, participate in discussions, and develop an interest in learning new things.

The initiative created opportunities to contribute positively to the education and personal development of disadvantaged children.

Evidence of impact: Attendance list, children feedback , brief conversations with children's family, photographs & video of the session and a news report.

7. Documentary Photo and Video Archive








- Photo Archive Link: Google Drive Link

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8. Beneficiary and Stakeholder Testimonials

Participants' feedback: Students who took part in the campaign expressed joy at the session. They said they enjoyed having the chance to speak for themselves and working together in groups. They called for such creative activities to continue in the future.

Teacher/community representative feedback: The school's teachers found the session lively and effective. In their view, initiatives like this play an important role in the mental and social development of primary-level students, and such youth-led efforts deserve more encouragement at local and international levels

Volunteers' experience: Volunteers learned that children open up easily and take part eagerly when spoken to through games and stories. They also came to appreciate how important it is to listen carefully to children and to give everyone an equal chance.

9. Financial Summary

Item	Amount
Approved budget	USD 15$
Total expenditure	USD 15$
Remaining funds	USD 0$

10. Challenges and Lessons Learned

Challenges faced:

Sensitive subjects: Topics such as child marriage and sexual harassment must be explained in language suitable for young children. Some parents or community members may see such discussions as inappropriate, which can create social resistance.

Limited reach: Children from the most marginalised families may not attend a school-based session. Their absence can make the session look more inclusive than it is.

Time and resources: A single session cannot cover six themes in depth. Trying to do so can leave children with a lot of information and little chance to think about it.

Teacher time: Teachers have limited time, so any follow-up depends on their willingness and on the school's routine.

Lessons learned:

The activity also demonstrated that community-based initiatives can encourage children's interest in education, promote health awareness, strengthen moral values, and support the development of self-confidence. The involvement of dedicated youth volunteers and Change Makers is essential for reaching children who may have limited access to such learning opportunities.

Another important lesson was that regular follow-up activities and continued community engagement are necessary to sustain children's interest and reinforce what they learn. Future sessions could benefit from more interactive games, group activities, practical demonstrations, and opportunities for children to share their experiences.

Overall, the initiative reinforced the value of youth-led community engagement in supporting disadvantaged children and promoting their inclusion in educational and social development activities. It also emphasized the need for consistent, accessible, and child-centred learning opportunities to help children build a stronger foundation for their future.

11. Recommendations and Future Plan

- **Follow-up:** Hold regular awareness sessions at Shishu Kalyan Primary School and in nearby schools on equal rights, child marriage and sexual harassment. [Dates to be confirmed.]

- **Children's participation:** Create permanent ways for children to voice their views in school, such as a class suggestion box or a monthly children's meeting led by teachers.
- **Local governance:** Work with the Narail district and upazila education and social welfare offices on child-friendly planning that includes children with disabilities and minority children.
- **Sustainability:** Train local youth volunteers, prepare a simple guide that teachers can use between sessions, and build partnerships with schools and community organisations.
- **Expansion:** Extend the project to more schools and villages in Narail, and add fundraising for ethnic and minority children.

Proposed Future Activities

- Awareness sessions on children's rights and protection.
- Educational activities on hygiene and personal cleanliness.
- Educational storytelling and reading habit development.
- Activities to develop self-confidence, communication and life skills.
- Awareness discussions with parents and local stakeholders.
- Follow-up sessions to assess the learning progress of previous participants

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12.Conclusion

On 11 November 2024, IYCM held a child rights awareness session under the Youth For Children initiative at Shishu Kalyan Primary School in Narail. The session began at 11:00 AM and included 36 participants. Its aim was to introduce children to the principle of equal rights and to encourage them to voice their views.

This report has been prepared as a historical record of the information supplied.

13. Documentation and Verification

We confirm that this report has been prepared based on the available project records, implementation evidence, and verified information. Any photographs, testimonials, beneficiary data, and other supporting materials included in this report should be used with appropriate permission and in accordance with applicable privacy and safeguarding requirements.

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