PROJECT DOCUMENTATION & HISTORICAL ARCHIVE REPORT

Item	Details
Project ID	IYCM-PROJ-YFC-2025-01-21
Project Title	Youth For Children (Equal Rights for Children Project)
Project Location	East Radhakrishnapur Government Primary School, East Radhakrishnapur village, Gaibandha Sadar Upazila, Gaibandha District
Implementation Date	21 January 2025 (Tuesday), 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Organized by	International Youth Change Maker (IYCM)
Report Prepared by	Md. Mehedi Hasan, International Youth Change Maker, Gaibandha District
Report Submission Date	22 January 2025

IYCM FOR EVERY CHILD & YOUTH

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 simple: 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 about children's rights and the responsibilities of adults and institutions toward children. It gives special 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 concern them, and works to stop child marriage and the 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.

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 may affect their future are often ignored in families, schools, communities and policymaking.

3. Project 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 East Radhakrishnapur Government Primary School at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, 21 January 2025, with 39 students from the school taking part. All six activities below were carried out within this single integrated campaign session.

Activities carried out:

1. **Non-discrimination awareness campaign:** Sessions and materials explaining every child's right to equal treatment and the responsibilities of family, school and society. *21 January 2025, East Radhakrishnapur Government Primary School, Gaibandha; 1 session.*

2. **Children's voice and participation session:** Opportunities for children to share their views in school and community, so that their words reach decision-makers. *21 January 2025, East Radhakrishnapur Government Primary School.*
3. **Campaign against child marriage and sexual harassment:** Discussion on the harm of child marriage and on girls' safety and education with parents, girls and community leaders. *21 January 2025, East Radhakrishnapur Government Primary School.*
4. **Advocacy for ethnic and minority children:** Public awareness activities, including a call for inclusion, active participation and a support fund for these children. *21 January 2025, East Radhakrishnapur Government Primary School.*
5. **Support for children with disabilities:** Advocacy for child-friendly local governance in which children's rights are part of local plans, policies and budgets. *21 January 2025, East Radhakrishnapur Government Primary School.*
6. **Girls' equality initiative:** Activities encouraging girls to continue their education or enter the workforce and to decide for themselves about marriage and motherhood. *21 January 2025, East Radhakrishnapur Government Primary School.*

Implementation process: Md. Mehedi Hasan, International Youth Change Maker of Gaibandha District, was responsible for planning, coordinating and conducting the session. Permission and cooperation were obtained from the school's head teacher before the event. During the session, students were engaged directly and their views were heard; group activities built cooperation and leadership skills; and children were drawn into learning through fun and innovative methods such as stories, discussion and games. The work was monitored through an attendance list, photographs and feedback collected from students at the end.

Participating organizations and volunteers: International Youth Change Maker (IYCM) (organizer); East Radhakrishnapur Government Primary School (partner institution); Md. Mehedi Hasan (project coordinator and session facilitator); the school's teachers (support); 2 local youth volunteers.

5. Beneficiaries and Participation

- **Total participants:** 45 (39 students, 4 teachers and 2 volunteers)
- **Direct beneficiaries:** 39 students
- **Indirect beneficiaries:** About 150 (family members and classmates of the participating students)
- **Target groups:** Children (ethnic and minority children, children with disabilities, girls, children from low-income families), youth, parents and community members
- **Area covered:** East Radhakrishnapur, Gaibandha Sadar Upazila, Gaibandha District

6. Project Outcomes and Impact

Key achievements: One integrated campaign session was held, with 39 students taking part directly. Six thematic activities were completed in that one session. Children's rights, equal treatment and freedom of expression were discussed, and educational materials and leaflets were distributed.

Observed changes: After the session, students showed greater awareness of equal rights, more interest and confidence in expressing their views, and practice in cooperation and leadership through group work. Teachers also showed interest in the importance of listening to children, and conversations began about child marriage, girls' education and compassion toward children with disabilities.

Evidence of impact: Attendance list, student feedback , brief conversations with teachers, photographs & video of the session and a news report.

7. Documentary Photo and Video Archive





- Photo Archive Link: Google Drive Link

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:

- Discussing sensitive issues such as child marriage in language suitable for young children, and possible social resistance.
- Limited ability to reach remote and marginalized families, children and parents.
- Constraints of time and resources: it was hard to cover every topic in depth in a single afternoon session.

Lessons learned:

- Involving parents, teachers and local leaders from the start makes the work easier and more effective.
- Giving children a safe, friendly space to speak builds their confidence.
- Children learn best through games, stories and group work.
- Working with local governments and institutions makes the initiative's impact last longer.

11. Recommendations and Future Plan

- **Follow-up:** Keep holding regular awareness sessions in the project area on equal rights, child marriage and sexual harassment.
- **Children's participation:** Create permanent ways for children to voice their views in schools and communities.
- **Local governance:** Work with the local government on child-friendly planning that includes children with disabilities and minority children.
- **Sustainability:** Train local youth volunteers and build partnerships with schools and community organizations.
- **Expansion:** Extend the project to more villages and unions, and add fundraising for ethnic and minority children.

12. 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.

Reviewed By:
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Designation: Project Manager


Signature
Date:23 January 2025

Approved By:
Name: Sajib Khandokar Junaid
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