



FSTIP at a Glance

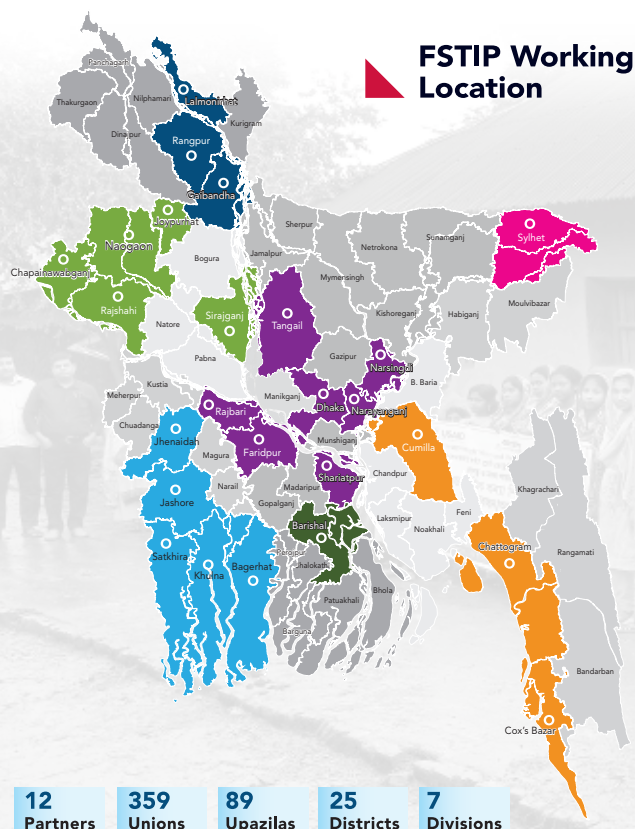
USAID's Fight Slavery and Trafficking-In-Persons (FSTIP) Activity

OVERVIEW

The USAID funded and Winrock International implemented Fight Slavery and Trafficking-in-Persons (FSTIP) Activity is a 10 million dollar and five-year (July 2021 – June 2026) project. The project represents an important milestone in Bangladesh's journey to self-reliance, which is a 15-year partnership between Winrock, USAID, and the Government of Bangladesh and civil society to pioneer and expand interventions to combat trafficking-in-persons (TIP), child marriage (CM), and promote safe migration. This joint collaboration enabled the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) to make significant progress towards meeting the minimum standards for the elimination of TIP, with the United States Department of State (DOS) upgrading the country from Tier 2 Watchlist to Tier 2 in its 2020 TIP Report, which continued in 2021, 2022, and 2023.

FSTIP is working in 25 districts, 89 upazilas, and 359 union parishads to reduce vulnerability to TIP and CM in Bangladesh by:

- Enhancing the systems, capacity, and sustainability of justice sector actors and institutions;
- Preventing human rights violations and increasing awareness of TIP and CM; and
- Strengthening protection of TIP and CM victims.



FSTIP GOAL

REDUCE VULNERABILITY TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND CHILD MARRIAGE AND SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS

The goal and objectives as outlined are aligned with USAID development objectives below,

USAID DO 1 – Governance:

Democratic systems that promote transparency, accountability, integrity improved

USAID DO 2 – Inclusive Sustainability:

Opportunities and people's lives enhanced and inclusive society and economy

USAID DO 3 – Resilience:

Society's ability to mitigate, adapt to and recover from shocks and stresses improved

FSTIP project aims at achieving results under three major components - [Prosecution](#), [Prevention](#), and [Protection](#). The high level target results will be accomplished through the aggregation of a few subordinate results. The project also focuses on promoting youth engagement, gender equality, social inclusion by ensuring participation of everyone irrespective of their social, economic, racial, sexual orientation related identity.



PROSECUTION

High Level Results:

Systems, capacity and sustainability of justice actors and institutions enhanced

Improved and expedited adjudication of TIP cases through Special Tribunals

Strengthened justice mechanisms, and capacities to prosecute TIP and CM

Enhanced TIP case data management and cooperation to prosecute cross-border TIP cases

Improved justice outcomes and restitution for TIP and CM survivors and exploited migrants



PREVENTION

High Level Results:

Human rights violations prevented and public awareness of human trafficking and child marriage and its dangers enhanced

Strengthened monitoring and accountability in implementation and design of National Plans of Action to Combat Human Trafficking and End Child Marriage

Communities at risk of TIP and CM are equipped to identify red flags and support members' rights through awareness and behavior change activities

Safe migration approaches strengthened through migrant and stakeholder skill-building, transparent recruitment, and improved grievance mechanism

GOB institutions are equipped to detect TIP and CM and assist vulnerable groups



PROTECTION

High Level Results:

Protection of trafficking and child marriage victims increased

TIP and CM survivors receive improved care and services by NGO and government service providers

Effective implementation of national minimum standard care policy and SOPs by government and NGO shelters

Improved identification and referral mechanism for survivors of internal and cross-border TIP and CM

Strengthened survivor leadership and sustainability of ANIRBAN

Survivors and at-risk groups linked to education, skills training, and alternative livelihood opportunities

KEY RESULTS ACHIEVED | October 2021 - September 2023



training of **727** justice sector actors



135 victims provided with legal support



1,306 trafficking victims were provided support services



about **105,745** community members reached through awareness events



614 CM victims were provided protection assistance



FSTIP attends and monitors the task force meetings on a regular basis.

PROSECUTION

Training Provided to



236 judges



150 district legal aid panel lawyers



136 tribunal staffs



07 small task force established at anti human trafficking tribunals

PREVENTION



9,172 members of CTC, CMPC, and GBV committee are oriented



709 peer leaders are trained to create awareness on TIP & CM in the community



196 staff members from DEMO and TTC are oriented on safe migration & modern technology



124 members of the Marriage Registrars' Association are trained



Gambhira show are organized during events to create awareness on TIP and CM in the community.

PROTECTION



1,306 TIP victims enrolled



90 received health support



132 provided training support



496 received shelter support



88 safety net & loan support



966 provided counseling



FSTIP reviews and develops district referral directory to ensure TIP and CM survivors' protection assistance.

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS

- National Plan of Action (NPA) for the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking revision and extension from 2022 - 2025.
- Department of Social Services (DSS) adopted and launched the Comprehensive Survivor Services Guidelines.
- Establishment of small task force committees for each anti human trafficking tribunal and at Cox's Bazar.

SPECIAL FOCUS

Survivors

FSTIP disrupts entrenched norms that characterize victims as burdens on their families, and instead empowers survivors to break the practice of stigma and marginalization and reassert agency and ownership. Survivors-identified through ANIRBAN, Bangladesh's first trafficking survivors' group, are playing a key role in planning and implementation, including identifying and linking other survivors and those at risk to services, providing input into the next NPAs, and offering community and family counseling.

Innovation

FSTIP applies new and innovative approaches to achieve its goals working closely with the Police Monitoring Cell to digitize their casework; provides support for the Rohingya through private sector engagement and establish links to the Human Trafficking Legal Center.

Gender

Since a key driver of TIP and CM is the unequal status of women and girls in Bangladesh, FSTIP will foster gender equality and empower women and girls to catalyze transformative change. Winrock utilizes our path breaking Integrating Gender and Social Inclusion into Counter-Trafficking Programming Toolkit to mainstream gender into FS/TIP project design, planning, implementation, monitoring, collaboration, learning, and management.

Partnership

To achieve concrete and sustainable results under each high-level result, the project leverages specialized technical expertise, complementary resources, and community-centered approaches through partnerships.

Youth

Reflecting the principles in USAID's Positive Youth Development framework, FSTIP harnesses and strengthens the assets, agency, and contributions of young people by scaling the successful peer leader program in project districts. Peer leaders are identifying people at risk and survivors of TIP and CM and referring them to appropriate support services; maintaining communication with upazila and union CTCs, CMPCs, and GBV committees; conducting community outreach; and playing a leading role in implementing SBCC and awareness-raising campaigns.

Host Communities

FSTIP implements specific interventions within communities impacted by the Rohingya influx in Ukhiya and Teknaf. Additionally, Winrock continues to be a member of the protection working group and anti-trafficking working group, coordinated by UN agencies in Cox's Bazar to effectively support host communities.



Fighting Human Trafficking in the Community

Kabir, a trafficking survivor vowed to fight TIP and CM within his community poses in front of his grocery shop along with his family.



I have got a second life with the support from Sachetan, Winrock, and USAID. I have no words to thank these organizations and people that work there. I will work to create awareness on TIP, CM and safe migration within my community.

- Kabir, Trafficking Survivor

Kabir (pseudonym) was trafficked in 2021 to one of the Middle East countries and managed to return to Bangladesh but was empty-handed and experienced social stigma, which caused trauma in his family and society for his misfortune. When he was losing all hope, USAID's FSTIP Activity provided him with protection assistance including a case management plan and livelihood training.

Kabir is now successfully operating a grocery shop, supporting his family financially, and bearing the cost of education for his two children. He also took a loan from the Prabashi Kalyan Bank (arranged by FSTIP Activity) and started a pharmacy and bought a piece of land (which he sold prior to being trafficked) to cultivate vegetables.

Being a member of ANIRBAN (trafficking survivor's voice network), Kabir has dedicated his efforts to fight TIP and CM within his community. FSTIP's ANIRBAN members work as change agents in the community and play a pivotal role in changing the attitudes and behaviors of community people about TIP, CM, and safe migration across the country.

Connect with us...

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Winrock International is a nonprofit organization that works with people in the United States and around the world to empower the disadvantaged, increase economic opportunity, and sustain natural resources.



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