



## AGFUND International Award 2017



**Ensure inclusive  
and quality education  
for all and promote  
lifelong learning**

### First Category Prize

**400,000 \$**

Allocated for projects implemented  
by UN organizations, international or regional NGOs

#### AWARDED TO

**Non-Formal Primary Education (NFPE) Program  
Implemented in Bangladesh by  
BRAC Organization  
(Building Resources Across Communities)**



This project aims at providing accessible primary education to the most marginalized communities spread out across remote rural areas in Bangladesh, who were left out of the formal education system, because of poverty and discrimination with emphasis on quality, inclusivity and equity. The educational services are provided through BRAC approach which integrates academic standards of curriculum and co-curricular activities. Special emphasis is placed on encouraging girls to pursue education.

BRAC developed its own learning materials that are simpler and more reader-friendly than the government textbooks. The environment is conducive to learning which has become fun. Students acquire transferable skills such as critical thinking and creativity. They also learn about values, their rights and responsibilities, about basic financial education intended to empower them. Teachers are trained and well equipped to ensure high quality primary education.

BRAC's NFPE schools provide a holistic quality control for children from school rooms to their home. Female teachers operate for 4 years with the same cohort (30-33 children) and they come from the same community. There is no homework, no additional tutoring. Co-curricular activities (songs, rhymes, storytelling, drawing, games, etc.) are incorporated, to « flourish the social, emotional, language and communication skills of the children». School Management Committees ensure that the school is developing well in all domains. This holistic quality control for children from school room to their home guarantees that the surrounding environment and plays a role in ensuring quality.

The most significant impact of the project is the way it has changed the outlook towards life for many students; and how the people have experienced real-life changes which were un-imaginable for earlier generations. The project is strongly effective in accomplishing a lot of targets of SDG #4.

<http://www.prajwalaindia.com/>

### Second Category Prize

**300,000 \$**

Allocated for projects implemented by UN  
organizations, international or regional NGOs

#### AWARDED TO

**Accelerating a Sustainable Solution  
for Quality Education Implemented in Nepal by  
Jeevan Bikas Samaj (JBS)  
(Life Development Association)**



This project addresses SDG#4 through providing access to quality affordable education to young rural school children from low income groups and their parents. This includes street children, children of vulnerable women and their parents, such those who are homeless, single mothers, divorced/Separated women, unemployed women and other similar vulnerable groups. The project has four components;

- 1) Providing modern affordable education in rural areas through well-equipped Schools with all necessary infrastructural facilities from Pre-Nursery to grade 10. It increases learning outcomes of students and provides a conducive learning environment through extra activities. Scholarships are given to the neediest bright children. An e-learning platform was created to enhance learning and education outcomes of the children.
- 2) Enabling lifelong learning in rural areas which encompasses the Child Program and the Vocational Program. The Child Program has the holistic approach of the development of the child (2 to 10), laying an excellent foundation for creative learning. The Vocational Program is for youth to acquire the life skills needed for the labor market.
- 3) JBS Youth Micro-finance (Nawa Bihani) is intended to improve the lives of school children and their parents through an integrated set of products, such as micro-finance, education, health care, clean energy, livelihoods. This package for students allow them to be « financially literate with access to savings so that they can access what they need » and be able to help their parents if need be. JBS launched the loan, savings and insurance products for parents. The results of these initiatives lead to life.
- 4) Enhancing government schools: JBS signed an agreement with the government to replicate the soft infrastructure JBS model in 500 primary and secondary schools. This Shows the great impact of the JBS project. Students, parents, teachers' community at large have largely benefited. The project is replicable and has been very successful in targeting a sizable public school, saving a private school from closing. One basic innovative aspect is the integration of multiple components to provide quality affordable and relevant-education to worthwhile beneficiaries, including access to finance, health and clean water.

<http://www.jeevanbikas.org.np/>

### Fourth Category Prize

**100,000 \$**

Allocated for projects implemented by Individuals

#### AWARDED TO

**Prevention of Trafficking Through Vocationalized  
Education Implemented in India by the initiative  
and effort of  
DR. Sunitha Krishnan**



This project focuses on the rehabilitation and social reintegration of women and girls who are victims of sex trafficking. Some 18 million women and children in India are victims of sexual slavery. Each year more than 45% of the victims are girls under 18. This program includes transitional centers (educational center, open college and vocational center) through which disadvantaged children at risk of sexual exploitation are provided with a comprehensive education program based on the overall values and results in their preparation for "career options that meet both personal and economic requirements".

These transitional centers are safe and conducive to learning, growth and inclusive development of children. It also contributes to the development and self-esteem of children and to the confidence shown in their overall performance in academic and extracurricular activities. The project therefore transforms children's lives "into a life full of hope, healing and opportunity." It helps children reach secondary education and technical colleges. After graduation they get jobs that help their families. In addition, the project offers vocational training and rehabilitation to victims of the project, which helps them to obtain sources of livelihood and decent living.

This participatory approach, and the capacity building of teachers and the equipments of the transition centers have upgraded the overall standards of the centers. The monitoring mechanisms set in place, and the internal and external evaluations help understand the progress accomplished. The impact is outstanding one of this is the policy change in government towards second generation prevention, to get the state to look at the issue from the right perspective.

This project contributes significantly to achieving its objectives and the all the specific targets of the goal # 4 of SDGs. In addition, it partially contributes to the achievement of goals 1, 3, 5 and 8 of the SDGs.

[www.brac.net](http://www.brac.net)