

Reporting Template for J/TIP Funded Projects
Period covered by this report: 1st January 2024 – 31st March 2024

NOTE: Please write clearly and concisely, focusing on pertinent details. Please reach out to the Project Lead in ECPAT Luxembourg with any issues or questions.

Organization Name	Rights Jessore
Project Title	MUKTI South Asia (MSA)
Reporting Period	1 st January 2024 – 31 st March 2024
Location: Country, State or District (s)	Jashore & Satkhira district, Bangladesh

1. Noteworthy Events, Activities, or Accomplishments

In Q1, 2024 Rights Jessore implemented following activities according to the work plan and below detailed descriptions of each activity;

Objective 1

Community awareness programs on child protection issues at the community level):

During this reporting period, Rights Jessore successfully executed three community awareness programs addressing child protection issues. The purpose of this meeting was to raise awareness on child trafficking, child sexual abuse, online sexual exploitation while providing special support to survivors. Among these three events two events were organized in Jashore district and rest one was conducted in Satkhira district and all events were held in Union level. Following table is shown exact location of each awareness sessions;

SL	Place of Event	Date of Events	Total Attendance
1	Basundia Union Parishad Hall room, Basundai, Jashore Sadar Upazila, Jashore	30 th January	100
2	Helatala Ideal Secondary School Hall Room, Helatala, Kalaora Upazila, Satkhira	20 th February	140
3	Ichali Union Parishad Hall Room, Jashore Sadar Upazila, Jashore	25 th February	101

In total 341 individuals (68 male children, 95 female children, 116 adult males and 62 adult females) gained awareness regarding child protection issues through these programs. The events were almost full-day activities, and every event graced by the presence of esteemed personnel like the Honorable Union Parishad (UP) Chairman and other prominent community members like school teachers, community leaders, media personnel, NGOs, and civil society representatives making the programs vibrant and engaging. The attendant participants expressed their commitment to actively prevent child sex trafficking and discrimination in their locality.

To make the program interactive, a video was presented during the program which was prepared by International Organization for Migration (IOM). The videos spotlighted online sexual

exploitation, shedding light on its occurrences and identifying the culprits behind these heinous acts. After video presentation, a quiz competition was held on the video among the students. Project staff formulated questionnaires based on the video presentations, allowing community people to answer questions related to the content. The modality for conducting awareness program both students and community people was same. The participants who provided correct answers during the quiz competition were duly recognized and awarded prizes. Throughout the community-level awareness programs, attendees highlighted the importance of collective efforts to combat child sex trafficking. They stressed the need for widespread dissemination of crucial information, mutual accountability, and collaborative community action to effectively address this urgent issue.

Besides this, a photography session was organized at the end of the event to capture memorable moments, signifying the successful conclusion of the event with the community people. The community awareness event report (annex 1.1) and attendance sheet of an awareness event (annex 1.2) is attached with this report along with photographs transfer through *WeTransfer* app due to large file.

Bi-annual meeting with platform members at district level

On January 29, 2024, a bi-annual meeting was held in the Hall room of Kalaora Municipality, Kalaora, Satkhira with the platform members of Satkhira district where in total 25 participants were attended in the meeting including RJ staff. The following two main objectives of this event;

1. Acknowledge and celebrate platform members' achievements in combating child sex trafficking, emphasizing collaborative efforts and reinforcing a spirit of cooperation.
2. Collaboratively plan strategies for the next quarter to sustain progress in combating child sex trafficking, addressing emerging challenges, and leveraging collective expertise and resources for enhanced effectiveness.

The meeting convened key stakeholders, including members from the Union Child Welfare Board representing five respective unions formed in September 2023. Program Coordinator, Badsha Miah, facilitated the event, showcasing program achievements through a multimedia presentation. Following this, Deputy Program Director, SM Azharul Islam, led a discussion on leadership and volunteerism, underscoring community engagement's significance. Mr. Azhar emphasized the project's dedication to combatting child sex trafficking and ensuring overall child welfare.

The latter part of the event involved sharing union-wise achievements and collaboratively planning for the next quarter. Mr. Azhar played a pivotal role in guiding participants through this process, ensuring a cohesive and strategic approach. This segment highlighted the tangible impact of the platform's initiatives, focusing on advocacy efforts to establish child welfare boards at the union level. Our primary advocacy focus centered on activating and ensuring the functionality of child welfare boards at the union level. The following actions were identified in our work plan:

- Advocate with Union Parishad (UP) Chairpersons and Members to establish Child Welfare Boards at the union level.

Annex Va

- Foster regular interaction among platform members and other child welfare board representatives to raise awareness and prevent child marriage and trafficking within their communities, thus safeguarding child rights.
- Establish connections between platform members and various service-providing organizations to ensure the continuous delivery of services to project beneficiaries.
- Maintain ongoing liaison and communication with UP Chairpersons and Members, as well as other relevant government officials, to facilitate collaboration on child protection initiatives from the union to district levels.

Additionally, efforts were made to establish links between platform members and service-providing organizations to ensure project beneficiaries' access to services. In conclusion, platform members exhibited exceptional commitment, pledging to diligently execute their plans in the upcoming quarter. Their dedication and enthusiasm are crucial in advancing shared objectives. Mr. Azharul Islam of Rights Jessore and member secretary of the District Child Welfare Board expressed gratitude to all participants for their active participation and contributions, fostering a collaborative spirit for the event's success.

The bi-annual event report (as annex 1.3) and participants attendance of bi-annual event (as annex 1.4) and photographs (WeTransfer App) are attached with this report.

Life Skills Training for Project Beneficiaries

The project successfully conducted a two-day training titled "Life Skills Training for Project Beneficiaries," which gathered 15 child trafficking victims for a residential program. The training took place at the Banchte Shekha Training Center in Jashore from March 10th to 11th, 2024. The main objective of this training was to enhance the skills of child trafficking victims to cope with their current risks and make informed decisions to effectively utilize their potential for building a healthy and sustainable life during reintegration. The specific objectives of this two-day training were as follows:

- Identify personal risks as child victims of trafficking and develop strategies to protect oneself from various forms of harassment.
- Enhance communication skills, problem-solving abilities, and decision-making skills.
- Foster emotional intelligence, self-awareness, resilience, and stress management techniques.

The training commenced with the national anthem and was facilitated by Deputy Director S.M Azharul Islam with support from project staff. A total of 15 participants attended the training, including 2 males and 13 females. The two-day session was highly interactive, utilizing various methodologies such as interactive discussions, role-playing, group activities, case studies, self-assessment tools, quizzes, practical exercises, and homework assignments.

During the training, participants engaged in discussions on various topics, including the introduction and importance of life skills training, effective communication, emotional and stress management, self-confidence, decision-making, problem identification, creative and critical

thinking, goal setting for career development, strategies for overcoming social stigma, and human rights issues. Immediate results of the training included:

- Increased confidence in communication and relationship-building skills.
- Improved problem-solving abilities and decision-making skills.
- Enhanced empathy, self-awareness, and emotional regulation.
- Better organization, clearer goal-setting, and improved time management.
- Acquisition of effective stress management strategies and resilience-building techniques.

During the training, project staff conducted pre- and post-tests with participants on basic training components. When asking questions, each participant was provided with three different colored cards: green for "YES," yellow for "NO," and pink for "Don't Know." Participants responded by holding up their cards. Through this method, it was observed that the pre-test score was 41%, which increased to 88% in the post-test. Please find the Excel result sheet attached to this report as Annex 1.9.

A detailed report of the life skills training (as annex 1.5) and attendance of life skills training (as annex 1.6) and photographs (we transfer app) are attached to this report.

Coordination Meeting with Relevant Stakeholders

The project has conducted a successful coordination meeting with relevant stakeholders which was held on 25th March 2024 in Hotel City Plaza Conference Room, Jashore. The primary goal of this event was to enhance collaboration and coordination among key stakeholders to ensure comprehensive services for the project beneficiaries. Additionally, it aimed to facilitate the exchange of project achievements, address challenges encountered, and collectively strategize the way forward. Through this event, the aim was to foster stronger partnerships and streamline efforts towards achieving the project's objectives.

In the meeting all relevant stakeholders were attended like ADM-Additional District Magistrate, Public Prosecutor, Assistant Director from District Employment and Manpower Office (DEMO), representative from Technical Training Center (TTC), Deputy Director Social Welfare, Women Affairs Officer, District Child Officer, Probation Officer, Child Welfare Board Members, Officer from Children Correctional Home and Member from district Child welfare Board, Social Welfare Officer from Government Hospital, elected representative like Union Parishad Chairman and media personnel. The stakeholder coordination meeting was chaired by the Executive Director of Rights Jessore, and Mr. Kamallesh Mazumder, Additional District Magistrate (ADM) of Jashore was the chief guest of the event. In total, 30 (male 23 and female 07) participants were attended in the event including project staff. The meeting was moderated by the Director Program of Rights Jessore. The Deputy Director of Rights Jessore conducted a PowerPoint presentation, covering project achievements, challenges, and the way forward. During the subsequent open discussion session, participants emphasized the significance of establishing a Child Welfare Board at the Union level and verbally committed to extending their services to project beneficiaries. Followings are key achievements and way forward of this event.

- Consensus was reached among all attendees regarding the importance of forming child welfare committees at the union level to enhance child wellbeing and provide essential safety and security measures.
- Enhanced collaboration among the stakeholders presents at the event, with verbal commitments made to ensure the provision of services to project beneficiaries.

Moving forward, there is a need to focus on establishing union-level child welfare boards and promoting the provision of services for victims of child trafficking. To achieve this, regular events similar to this one can be organized, facilitating discussions and collaborations among stakeholders. Additionally, advocacy workshops can be conducted at the central or policy level to strengthen and enhance the functioning of relevant authorities. This proactive approach will contribute to the overall improvement of child welfare and protection measures, ensuring a safer environment for vulnerable children.

A detailed event report (as annex 1.7) and attendance sheet (as annex 1.8) and photograph (we transfer app) are attached with this narrative report.

In Q1, 2024 RJ conducted following activities under objective 2

Enrolled Repatriated Victims of Child Trafficking: During this reporting period, Rights Jessore successfully enrolled 12 repatriated victims of child trafficking, all repatriated from India at different times. Among the enrolled victims, 5 were under 18 years old, and 7 were between 18 to 25 years old. Four victims were male, and the remaining 8 victims were female, repatriated by Rights Jessore from India between 2021 and 2023. These victims had not been involved in any other projects of the organization after repatriation. Through the MSA project, they had the opportunity to engage in an initiative. After enrollment, MSA project staff conducted their needs assessment and involved them in different initiatives of the project, which is reflected in other project activities in this report. The details of all newly enrolled victims are updated in the case management data sheet, which is attached with this report.

As per the MSA project system, every victim undergoes a needs assessment upon enrollment. Similarly, project staff conducted assessments of 12 newly enrolled victims using a prescribed format endorsed by ECPAT Luxembourg. The assessments revealed that most victims require counseling support and capacity-building to engage in productive work. Some also require medical and legal counseling support. Based on the assessments, 8 victims participated in life skills training, 4 received legal counseling, and 8 received medical support.

Healthcare Services for Victims of Child Sex Trafficking: Ensuring access to medical support is crucial for victims of child trafficking, particularly for vulnerable individuals with limited financial resources. During this reporting period, Rights Jessore extended medical check-ups and facilitated medication procurement for healthcare services to 12 victims. Among them, 2 were male and the remaining 10 were female. RJ conducted thorough health assessments through physical verification by the Counsellor and Program Officer. These victims were identified as highly vulnerable and in need of medical advice, highlighting the necessity of the project's health support initiatives.

Psychosocial Counseling Services for Victims of Child Sex Trafficking:

Women and girls who have been trafficked face numerous challenges, as society often fails to respect them, and their families may even refuse to accept them back. In such situations, they require psychosocial counseling to help them rebuild their self-confidence, recognize their vulnerabilities, develop resilience, and reduce the risk of being trafficked again. During this reporting period, Rights Jessore provided psychosocial counseling to 23 victims with the goal of rebuilding their confidence, identifying their vulnerabilities, enhancing resilience, and preventing re-trafficking. Of these 23 victims, 13 received their first counseling session, 5 received a second session, and the remaining 5 received a third session (these 10 are previously counted and that's why in data base calculated only 13). The counseling sessions were conducted by trained RJ counselors using a structured format, ensuring the maintenance of confidential records for each survivor and respecting their privacy.

Legal Counselling:

During this quarter, the project introduced a new initiative: legal counseling for project beneficiaries who expressed interest and potentiality in filing cases against their perpetrators. Although the project proposal included provisions for supporting legal assistance, none of the selected victims displayed interest in pursuing legal action during the implementation phase. This lack of interest stemmed from various factors, including limited awareness, fear of reprisal from traffickers, the prolonged duration of court proceedings, and the possibility of out-of-court settlements facilitated by relevant stakeholders.

In response to this situation, the project team, in consultation with ECPAT Luxembourg team, agreed to offer legal counseling to selected beneficiaries through an expert lawyer. The goal was to foster their interest in pursuing legal action against traffickers. As a result, we arranged legal counseling sessions for 10 selected beneficiaries with our experienced lawyer, who has extensive expertise in this field. The counseling sessions were divided into two sessions, with the first session attended by 7 beneficiaries and the second session by 3 beneficiaries. It's worth noting that all beneficiaries who participated in these sessions were female. During the legal counseling sessions, the lawyer addressed various issues, including identifying barriers to filing cases, building confidence, maintaining confidentiality, establishing support systems, addressing security concerns during legal proceedings, and understanding existing laws related to human trafficking.

A significant outcome of this activity was that three beneficiaries expressed their willingness to file cases against their perpetrators. The project team has initiated discussions with these beneficiaries and their families to gather evidence and other necessary documentation with the guidance of the lawyer. It is hoped that in the upcoming quarter, the project will be able to proceed with filing cases in court against the perpetrators.

Livelihood supports: Supporting the livelihoods of child sex-trafficking victims is paramount in breaking the cycle of exploitation and facilitating their comprehensive recovery and reintegration into society, thus preventing re-trafficking. By equipping them with financial stability and marketable skills, we empower survivors to attain sustainable incomes, rebuild their self-esteem, and decrease their susceptibility to re-trafficking. This step is crucial for ensuring their long-term

well-being, fostering resilience, and creating a future free from exploitation. In this reporting period, the project extended livelihood support to the families of 6 survivors, bringing the total number of beneficiaries to 10 in the first year of the project. The selection criteria for livelihood support options are based on the capacity of the victim's family and these includes goat rearing, sewing machine operation, or small-scale cloth businesses at the community level, among others. RJ conducted a formal assessment using a prescribed business planning format by the Counsellor and Program Officer, endorsed by the organization's management, to ensure a meticulous selection process for providing livelihood support to the selected project beneficiaries.

Challenge/ Lessons learned

SN	Challenges	Action taken	Remarks
1	Managing numerous repatriation and reintegration targets posed challenges to project execution.	The project actively sought opportunities and devised effective solutions in line with its objectives and aims.	The project focuses on identifying repatriated victims of child sex trafficking who have not received aid from other organizations and are in need of support to rebuild their lives.
2	Providing counseling services to project beneficiaries residing outside (far distance) the project area.	The project has identified 13 survivors out of 40 who are located outside the project area and they are belong to 8 different districts in Bangladesh.	In most of the identified districts, we have established networks and have already begun discussions to enhance the referral system among ourselves for taking responsibilities for providing counseling services to identified/selected trafficking victims.

Unintended results, both positive or negative

Mr. Md. Abdul Alim, the Head Teacher of Helatola Ideal School in Kalaoara, Satkhira, expressed the school's intention to continue disseminating this message among the students beyond the project period. He also urged students to share the information with those who did not attend the meeting, aiming to reduce child trafficking within the community.

2. Timeline Progress

During this reporting period, the RJ team effectively executed all activities linked to objective 1, meeting the annual target. However, progress towards objective 2 fell short of expectations, primarily due to delays in rescue and repatriation efforts. The repatriation processes involve coordination with both the Indian and Bangladeshi governments, and the organization is actively striving to expedite these procedures. Despite encountering this obstacle, the project remains dedicated to devising innovative solutions to assist child sex-trafficking victims who have not received support from any organization, including Rights Jessore. Following discussions with

ECPAT Luxembourg, the project successfully enrolled 12 repatriated survivors and provided comprehensive life skills training alongside other beneficiaries, empowering them to identify suitable pathways for their future and explore opportunities aligned with their skills and resources.

3. Budget Progress

According to the Q1, 2024 plan, all activities outlined in objective 1 were successfully implemented, and the allocated budget was fully utilized. However, for objective 2, the full budget was not utilized, mirroring the previous quarter's situation as mentioned earlier. At the end of the first year of the project the expenditure rate stands almost 85% based on the allocated budget of first year.

4. Activity Plan for Next Quarter (Q2, 2024)

The project team and the management staff of the organization have engaged in an extensive discussion regarding the annual work plan for year 2, thoroughly examining the achievements during the first year of the project. Through this analysis, the team identified substantial reasons that hindered the execution of all planned activities. Utilizing these insights, the project team has developed an activity plan for the 2nd year, which is attached to this report as an annex. Here are some key activities that are planned to be implemented in the first quarter (April-June 2024) of the 2nd year of the project.

1. One bi-annual meeting with platform members at district level.
2. Conduct three community awareness programs on child protection issues.
3. Provide comprehensive support services responsive to the needs of survivors of child sex trafficking like
 - Provide medical support to 5 beneficiaries
 - Provide psychosocial counselling support to 10 beneficiaries
 - Provide legal support to 3 beneficiaries
 - Provide repatriation support to 21 beneficiaries
 - Provide reintegration support to 25 beneficiaries
 - Provide education support to 2 beneficiaries
 - Provide livelihood support to 2 beneficiaries

The details workplan for Q2, 2024 is attached with this report as annex.

5. Survivor Engagement (If Applicable)

Rights Jessore consistently strives to involve survivors in all aspects of project implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and the identification of new victims, aiming for community empowerment and a survivor-centric approach. Throughout the fourth quarter of the project, the organization actively engaged survivors in various activities, including life skills training, livelihood support, legal counseling, and community awareness sessions. Before providing livelihood support, project staff engaged in detailed discussions with survivors to understand their preferences and needs, ensuring that support services were tailored to individual circumstances.

Moreover, the organization facilitated life skills training sessions in a participatory manner, allowing survivors to contribute their input in selecting career goals based on their abilities and resources.

Rubina Akter says, through the legal counseling session, she gained valuable insights that greatly assist her in motivating parents to take legal action against their perpetrators.

Chadni Akter Mim says, having received livelihood support from the MSA project, she has achieved self-reliance and now aspires to become an entrepreneur, aiming to empower trafficked girls through her work.

During the provision of medical and education support, the project ensured survivor involvement, fostering a sense of ownership and empowerment. This approach underscored that the support provided was for the survivors' benefit, while the organization acting as a facilitator rather than a sole provider. Overall, the active involvement of survivors in anti-trafficking projects is paramount, as it ensures a holistic and victim-centric approach to combating trafficking and promoting rehabilitation and reintegration.

6. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL)

Monitoring, evaluation, and learning constitute integral components of Rights Jessore's project management, ensuring the successful implementation of targeted activities. During this quarter, the project conducted a staff reallocation within the MSA project, introducing the role of Manager of Monitoring & Evaluation in place of the Program Coordinator. This change aims to enhance the project's managerial capacity by assigning responsibilities for field-level activities to the Manager, alongside two other field staff members: a Program Officer and a Counsellor. This restructuring ensures efficient program implementation under the overall supervision of the organization's Director Program. Additionally, the management team at Rights Jessore actively engages in monitoring procedures, evaluating the project's progress, and assessing outcomes using predefined indicators outlined in the project proposal's logical framework. These measures are intended to improve program effectiveness and optimize monitoring and evaluation practices.

Prior to providing assistance to project beneficiaries, thorough discussions occur among management and relevant project staff to establish the necessary procedures, ensuring efficient service delivery and adequate support to survivors. Additionally, Rights Jessore holds monthly coordination meetings involving all project staff and management personnel to collectively address challenges and gaps in project implementation at the field level. Furthermore, the project maintains a comprehensive Result Monitoring Plan (RMP) data sheet which is attached with this report to provide a concise summary of achievements based on the support extended to trafficking victims.

7. Links to social media and press (If Applicable)

The organization actively nurtures relationships with the media, recognizing their ability to effectively disseminate messages and information. In this reporting period, Rights Jessore secured media coverage, represented by the following example.

দৈনিক গ্রামের কাগজ (egramerkagoj.com)

8. Subgrantee Performance (If Applicable) (Do not fill this section, ECPAT Luxembourg will report on this. Kindly fill the Overall Self Performance section below).

If this project includes sub- grants, please comment briefly on any progress or challenges; for example, if new sub-grants were issued, if there are notable accomplishments, obstacles, etc. Please leave blank if this does not apply to your project or if there are no updates this quarter.

9. Overall Self Performance (If Applicable)

In the final quarter of the project's inaugural year, several noteworthy events were conducted, including life skills training sessions for project beneficiaries and interactive coordination meetings with relevant stakeholders to share achievements and lessons learned. Additionally, the project organized legal counseling sessions facilitated by experienced lawyers for beneficiaries interested in pursuing legal action against their perpetrators. As per the year-one targets, the project successfully executed all planned activities except for the repatriation and reintegration of trafficking survivors. This specific activity poses a significant challenge due to its dependence on approvals from both the Indian and Bangladeshi governments.

Despite facing this challenge, the project remains committed to finding innovative solutions to address the needs of child sex-trafficking victims who have not received assistance from any organization, including Rights Jessore. Following discussions with ECPAT Luxembourg, the project successfully enrolled 12 repatriated survivors and provided comprehensive life skills training alongside other project beneficiaries, empowering them to identify suitable pathways for their future and explore opportunities aligned with their skills and resources. Furthermore, the project has continued its advocacy efforts, engaging with government officials at the district level and elected representatives to establish functional Child Welfare Boards (CWBs) at both the Union levels. This ongoing advocacy aims to ensure robust child protection mechanisms are in place at the grassroots level, facilitating prompt action and support for vulnerable children.

Overall, the project has gained momentum in engaging stakeholders across all levels to achieve its objectives effectively. Through collaborative efforts and strategic initiatives, it aims to deliver impactful outcomes and contribute to the well-being of trafficking survivors and at-risk children in the community.

Annex 1: Case Study-1

Resilience and Redemption: Lima's Journey to Recovery

Name: Lima (Pseudo Name)

VoT ID No: 001

Age: 18

Address: Vill: Bejpara, Sadar Jashore.

Lima, the daughter of Shahidul Islam and Nazma Begum from Bejpara, Sadar Jashore, is their third child. Her father runs a small business, while her mother is a housewife. Lima is currently studying in class 10.

On December 11, 2022, around 4:00 p.m., chaos erupted as Lima went missing. Despite frantic efforts by her family, she remained untraceable even as the afternoon turned into evening. Lima's father eventually went to the police station and filed a First Information Report (FIR) based on suspicion. Two days passed with no sign of Lima, and as the days stretched to 11, her family's anxiety only grew. Despite their efforts, Lima remained missing until December 23, 2022, when her father received a phone call from a member of the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), informing him that Lima had been found.

Lima's return home marked the beginning of a challenging journey to recovery. She was deeply traumatized and struggled to adjust to normal life. Recognizing her need for support, Rights Jessore Counsellor Tania Hasan visited Lima's home to understand her ordeal. After a lengthy conversation, Lima revealed the harrowing experience she had endured.

It emerged that Lima's cousin, Ruma, residing in India, had manipulated her into crossing the border under false pretenses. Ruma promised Lima job opportunities and financial independence, enticing her with a mobile phone and financial assistance. Persuaded by Ruma's promises, Lima traveled to Dhaka under the guise of visiting her cousin, only to be confined and mistreated upon arrival. She was deprived of food, locked in a room, and ultimately transported across the border into India, unaware and unconscious.

However, RAB's relentless efforts foiled their plans, and Lima was rescued and reunited with her family on December 23, 2022. Counsellor Tania Hasan provided Lima with the necessary support and counseling to help her recover from the trauma. Lima, now back to her cheerful self, has resumed her education with support from the RJ MSA project, which also provided healthcare services to address her physical and mental well-being. Lima aspires to complete her education and secure employment.

Currently, Lima is happily settled with her family, grateful for the support provided by the Mukti South Asia Project of Rights Jessore. Lima says that if she can complete her studies, she will work with us to eliminate trafficking from the society. She has also requested Rights Jessore to support her in fulfilling her dream. Her family extends heartfelt thanks for the assistance received during this challenging time.

Nodi's Journey from Captivity to Entrepreneurship

Name: Nodi (Pseudo Name)

VoT ID No: 004

Age: 18

Address: Vill: Kadomtola, Dharmotola, Jashore.

Nodi is the daughter of Kalam Hossen and Sahanaz Begum, residing in Kadomtola, Dharmotola, Jashore. She is their only child. Kalam works as a night watchman while Sahanaz is a dedicated housewife.

In 2021, Nodi was a 10th-grade student when she joined Facebook, influenced by her peers. Soon after, she befriended a boy named Ricky on the platform, and their virtual friendship quickly blossomed into a romantic relationship. Ricky, based in Dhaka, painted vivid dreams of a future together, promising Nodi a job, marriage, and a family. Trusting in Ricky's words, Nodi, captivated by his allure, eloped with him one fateful night on February 10, 2022, leaving her unsuspecting parents behind.

As they embarked on their journey, Nodi's initial excitement soon turned to apprehension when she found herself at the Benapole border, realizing she was being taken to India, not Dhaka. Stripped of her mobile phone and left with unanswered questions, Nodi's fear and confusion grew with each passing moment. Meanwhile, her distraught parents tirelessly searched for her, consumed by grief at the loss of their only child.

In a strange land, Nodi's health deteriorated rapidly, and her despair deepened as Ricky abandoned her in her time of need. However, with the help of a compassionate acquaintance, Nodi managed to return to Bangladesh, where she was rescued and reunited with her family.

Upon her return, Nodi was shattered both physically and emotionally, her education interrupted by the traumatic ordeal. Nevertheless, with the support of the Mukti South Asia project, Nodi received counseling to overcome her trauma and resumed her studies. Despite facing financial challenges, Nodi's determination led her to establish a small clothing business to fund her education. Recognizing her resilience, the project extended livelihood support to bolster her aspirations.

Today, Nodi is pursuing her undergraduate studies while successfully managing her clothing business. With her unwavering determination and the support of her loving family and the Rights Jessore project, Nodi dreams of becoming a successful entrepreneur, empowered to shape her own destiny.

Nodi and her family are deeply grateful for the assistance provided by the Mukti South Asia Project Rights Jessore, which stood by her side during her darkest hours and helped her find the light of hope once again.

Annex 2: Photo

During this reporting period, the project successfully carried out the majority of the planned activities and captured them through photography. The attached photographs are included in this report as an annex. Due to their large size, the project utilized the WeTransfer app for file transfer.

Annex 3: Positive quotes/Kudos

- ✚ **Mr. Kamalesh Mazumder, Additional District Magistrate (ADM) of Jashore** said, “Positive changes in behavior can foster a child-friendly environment. The district administration is dedicated to offering comprehensive support for children's welfare. As both government representatives and responsible citizens, it is our duty to transform our mindset and actions to benefit the well-being of children”.
- ✚ **Mr. Asit Kumar Shaha, Deputy Director, Social welfare, Jashore** said, “Establishing a child welfare board or committee at the union level is crucial, and the involvement of representatives from the Upazila social welfare office can greatly benefit and strengthen the union committee. To raise awareness about child safety and counter trafficking at the community level, it is essential to promote the child safety hotline number 1098. The social welfare office is always prepared to provide assistance for trafficked children in need”.
- ✚ **Md. Shahriar Hossain, Assistant Director, District Employment and Manpower office (DEMO)** said that " In today's digital age, devices like smartphones can pose risks to the children of our country. It is crucial for parents to be vigilant and responsible in this regard. Given that the MSA project is an inter-country initiative, the involvement of representatives from organizations in other countries can enhance learning, exchange of information, and collaboration in addressing these challenges.
- ✚ **Union Parishad Chairman, Bashundia, Sadar upazila, Jashore** proudly said that, our union parishad already realized the importance of child welfare board formation and that’s why we have formed a union child welfare committee with the support from Mukti South Asia project.

Annex 4: The list of published/developed knowledge products/communication materials

SN	List of knowledge products/communication materials	Type of product	Objective(s)	Target audience
	N/A			