US Ambassador visits AESA project activity

U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat and Fisheries and Livestock Minister Muhammed Sayedul Hoque, MP visited the Dairy Farmer Producer Groups (FPGs) of the USAID Agricultural Extension Support Activity at Lebutola Union, Sadar upazila, Jessore on Sunday on 6 December 2015.

USAID acting Mission Director Paul Sabatine, Deputy Mission Director, Farhad Ghaussy, Deputy Director, FtF Team, Economic Growth Office, Mark Tegenfeldt, Agriculture Development Officer, Dr. Osagie Christopher Aimi-

uuw, Economic Growth and Ajaoy Roy, Director General, Department of Livestock, Government officials of different departments and representatives from Livestock coordination group and Ag Extension Project staff were presented on the occasion.

The Minister and the Ambassador talked to the group members, observed project exhibited different activities and expressed their satisfaction over the activities of the project. The project has organized the communities to unite them and established a linkage with government line agencies.
ESD Okayama Award 2015 to Dhaka Ahsania Mission

DAM is awarded the Global Prize of the Education for Sustainable Development – ESD Okayama Award 2015 for its commendable contribution to sustainable development through protection and conservation of forests and bio-diversity. This is the first Global Prize on ESD awarded by the Okayama City of Japan. The Mayor of Okayama City Masao Omori handed over the award certificate on 13 December 2015 to DAM Executive Director Dr. M. Ehsanur Rahman in a formal award presentation ceremony in the Okayama Municipal Chuo Kominkan Hall. It may be mentioned that DAM has been implementing integrated projects to address the negative impacts of climate change in the southern coastal districts of Chittagong (Banskhali upazila) and Satkhira (Shaymangar upazila) with multi-sectoral interventions covering education, society, economy and environmental issues. Through two projects in these locations, communities are prepared against the impending climate change-induced disasters by creating alternate livelihood options for the forest dependent households and a human shield is formed against unsustainable extraction of resources from the Sundarban in Shaymanar and the reserve forests in Banskhali.

Awareness programme on Tobacco control held at AUST

Dhaka Ahsania Mission organized an awareness programme on tobacco control and drug prevention in Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST), Dhaka on 20 December 2015. The programme was held in the seminar room of the campus where 120 students and teachers were present. Treasurer of Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology, Dr. Kazi Shariful Alam was present as Chief Guest in the programme. Professor Shamol Kanti Biswas, advisor of student welfare of Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology was present as special guest. Dhaka Ahsania Mission’s tobacco control programme, Project officer, Ummee Jannat presented the harmful effects of tobacco and Jannatul Ferdous, counselor of Dhaka Ahsania Mission female drug treatment & rehabilitation centre presented harmful effects of drug. Chief Guest Dr. Kazi Shariful Alam thanked the organizers for organise such a programme. He also recommended for organizing more such programmes so that the students and teachers can be more aware on these issues and able to contribute fruitfully to solve the alarming problem prevailing in the society. Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology jointly organized the programme with the support of Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids (CTFK) and Lions Club of Dhaka Oasis.
Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) participated in tow-days National Workshop and Knowledge Fair’ 2015 on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, organized by Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP-II) under Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief. The Fair took place at premise of Milky Auditorium, Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka on 24-25 November 2015. DAM set up a stall in the Fair and participated in Poster Presentation competition where 32 posters of different GO, INGOs, NGOs and Institutions were displayed. DAM achieved second prize which was announced in the closing session of two day Fair. The theme of the poster was Earthquake preparedness and make it in practice level. The prize was received by Md. Roushon Ali representative from Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CC & DRR) Sector of DAM. On the very first day of the Fair; various guests, delegates from different countries, students and other from various GO, INGOs and NGOs, institutes visited the stall. DAM stall was also visited by Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury (Maya) Bir Bikram, Minister of Ministry Disaster Management and Relief where Dr. Khaja Shamsul Huda, Director Programs of DAM was present during his visit to DAM’s stall.

UPHCD project organizes 3 batch training

Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project Comilla organized three batches of training programme on 05, 07 and 09 December 2015, at the conference room of Comprehensive Reproductive Health Care Center, Comilla. Family planning counseling training was conducted on 5 December, Essential Service Delivery training was conducted on 7 December and First Aid training was conducted on 9 December’2015. 25 participants participated in each batch.

A total 75 office staff (Paramedics, FWV, Nurse and Project Assistant, were provided these training, Mr. Mahbubul Karim, Upazilla Family Planning Officer, Comilla Sadar and Dr. Sharmin Aktar, Family Planning Coordinator, Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project, Comilla conducted the Family Planning Counseling training. Dr. Dulari Ara Meher, Physician Ph CC-02, Comilla City Corporation, Comilla and Dr. Sharmin Aktar, Family Planning Coordinator, Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project, Comilla conducted the ESD and First AID training. These training programmes were inaugurated by Mr. Helal Uddin, Secretary and Programme Officer- PIO of Comilla City Corporation and Mr. Golam Rasul, Project Manager of UPHCSDP, Comilla coordinated the training programme.
75 five garment workers receive literacy certificate

‘Workplace Adult Literacy & Continuing Education’ a project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) has distributed certificates to 75 female garment workers at the Young An Hat BD factory of Chittagong district on 10 December 2015. They received the literacy skilled certificates after being literate from the project in three batches.

In his welcome address of the programme, Team Leader of DAM’s Education Program Md. Shahidul Islam highlighted various innovative practices of Non-Formal Education (NFE) under Dhaka Ahsania Mission. He also welcomed the foreign buyer & factory management to come forward to implement the workplace adult literacy project in their factory. Programme Director Dr. Khawaja Shamsul Huda upheld the progress of the project.

The President & CEO of Outdoor Cap (ODC), Eduardo Senf and Executive Vice-President of Global Social Responsibility of ODC, USA Nicole Faye Tillman told, ODC want to play role in improving the quality of garment workers and the production quality through the workplace literacy programme. Thanks giving speech was delivered by the Vice-President of Young An Hat Bd Ltd Jay Christopher Powell. On the other hand, the woman workers were delighted as they became literate. One of the literate workers ‘Morshada Begum’ told, ‘I would never expect to read and write at the end of life. Now I can count my salary properly. I can teach my baby. Really, I am delighted today.’ At the programme, the literate workers also described the difficulties they faced when they were illiterate. Director of Young An Hat (BD) Ltd M S Kwon, General Manager Abtaf Uddin Ahmed, and Factory Manager Sreedam Ahmed, ICT Specialist in Education programme of DAM Sk. Shafiqur Das, DAM Regional Manager Shiplab Chakma, and other guests & adult learners were present on the occasion. Mentioned that with the financial assistance of Outdoor Cap (ODC) USA, Dhaka Ahsania Mission & Young An Hat bd LTD is jointly implementing Workplace Adult Literacy & Continuing Project in Chittagong EPZ.

Health camp held in Narsingdi

DAM Foundation for Economic Development (DFED) organized a day-long free health camp on Skin and ENT at Sukundi Nazimuddin High School premises of Monohardi Upazila under Narshingdi District on December 28. A specialist team of Doctors of Skin and ENT examined 461 destitute patients. Upazilla Health Officer of Monohardi Upazila Health Complex Dr. Md. Shafiqul Alam inaugurated the camp. Chairman of the Sukundi Union Parishad Abdul Gani Farazi and Head of DFED Md. Asaduzzaman spoke on the occasion.
DAM at work

Education Fair for Working Children held

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) organized an Education Fair for Working and Disadvantaged Children on 30 December 2015. The Fair was organized at the campus of Mirpur Bangla School & College. In his inauguration speech, Team Leader of Education Programme Md. Shahidul Islam highlighted several educational activities for underprivileged children in Non-Formal Education. He said, DAM is providing Primary & Junior Secondary education and Vocational & Life Skill training for the working & disadvantage children in Mirpur & Mohammadpur area of Dhaka city through UNIQUE, EAST-Alokon, Edu-Emp & EAST-UCLC project. He urged civil society groups, individuals, institutions and the donor agency to come forward and contribute to non-formal education. The Ward Councillor Mirpuc-3 Kazi Zahirul Islam said, Bangladesh Government is committed to provide quality education for all. The contribution of Dhaka Ahsania Mission in NFE for disadvantaged students is complimentary. He emphasized to become a skilled workforce by providing vocational and skill development training along with the education.

The Corporate sustainability manager of HSBC Abdullah Al-Jubair, Chairman of Alokon trust Dr. M. Mahbubul Haq, Principal of Mirpur Bangla School & College Md. Badar uddin also in his Presidential speech. DAM Executive director, Dr. M. Ehsanur Rahman told that DAM has been working to develop the NFE materials, training and teachers capacity building. Learners, parents, local public representative, different sector & project personnel of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and other guests were present on the occasion. Based on the glorious victory theme choreography ‘Our Bangladesh’ the learners showed an opening performance. In the second phase of the fair, the distinguished guests visited the fair booth. A sports competition was held with the participation of students. The Education fair displayed products of Early Childhood Development, Non-formal Primary Education, Non-formal Junior Secondary Education, Literacy and Continuing Education, Drop in Center, Technical & Vocational Education and Training programs, Ahsania Mission Children City, Disaster Risk Reduction programmes, Ahsania Mission Addiction Management (AMIC) programmes and Ahsania Mission School and college education programmes. The Education fair came to an end with a Cultural events and prize-giving ceremony.

World Aids Day observed

With the theme of ‘Getting to Zero. Zero new HIV Infections. Zero Discrimination. Zero AIDS Related Deaths’ Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery project-Comilla in association with district health department observed World Aids Day-2015 in Comilla on 1st December. A colorful rally was taken out from the Comilla Shilpakala Institute and parading the various important roads of the city, the rally ended at town hall ground. Parliament member AKM Bahauddin Bahar (MP) inaugurated the rally. A discussion meeting was held at town hall auditorium where the MP was present as chief guest, Civil Surgeon of Comilla district Dr Mujibur Rahman was present as special guest. Moreover, officials from various government and non-government organization were also present. Speakers urged to mass people for working unitedly to prevent HIV/AIDS.

District Administrator Hasanuzzaman Kallol presided over the meeting.
Some snapshots Education Fair for the working and Non-privileged children, held at Mirpur Bangla College on 30 December 2015

Learners are performing in the fair

Ward Commissioner Mirpur-3 Kazi Zahirul Islam is delivering speech