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Terre des hommes in Bangladesh

Terre des hommes – Lausanne (Tdh) has been working for children in Bangladesh since 1974.

Direct Mother and Child Health/Nutrition (MCH/N) interventions are supplemented with Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Homestead Gardening, Aquaculture and Disaster Preparedness.

In 2013, 380'000 people in Kurigram and Barguna District benefited from Tdh activities.



Terre des hommes

Helping children worldwide. tdh.ch

Mother and Child Health / Nutrition

Tdh works with families living in flood prone Kurigram and cyclone prone Barguna – two districts among those with highest prevalence of poverty in Bangladesh.



Provision of care for malnourished children and mothers

Most cases of moderate and severe acute malnutrition can be treated in the community. Tdh weekly/fortnightly treats affected children as well as pregnant and lactating women, while counselling the mothers. Children with complications are treated in Tdh's Specialized Nutrition Unit.

Caring for pregnant and lactating women

Awareness is raised and information on hygiene practices is shared with pregnant and lactating women. Tdh helps prevent risks linked to pregnancy, ensure pre-and post-natal care, and encourages exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months of life.

Integrated Management of Childhood Illness

General health services and prevention of malnutrition go hand in hand to ensure proper child development. Tdh addresses child diseases like diarrhea, respiratory infections, measles, within an integrated Health and Nutrition project.

Key activities include:

- ▶ community sensitization and mobilization, partially in cooperation with local community leaders.

- ▶ detection of children and pregnant and lactating women with acute malnutrition, via punctual screening in the community and/or regular growth monitoring.
- ▶ adequate education and counselling for instilling positive behavioural changes.
- ▶ capacity development of government's and partner's community health staff as well as volunteers for implementing Community Management of Acute Malnutrition.
- ▶ provision of primary health care to children under five years.
- ▶ Ante and Post Natal Care.
- ▶ referral of high risk pregnancies.
- ▶ linking with government health programs.

These activities are conducted with the Revitalization of Community Health Care Initiatives in Bangladesh, the National Nutrition Services/Institute of Public Health Nutrition, under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Tdh collaborates with the International Centre of Diarrheal Diseases and Research, Bangladesh. Field operations involve community members and leaders. Coordination with service providers and authorities is strengthened.

In 2013

- 3'528** cases of malnourished children were managed
- 50'110** children benefited from Integrated Management of Childhood Illness services
- 283'000** care givers received health care, health/nutrition education, and awareness messages
- 977** government, Tdh, and other NGO staff as well as community members were trained

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Tdh improves hygiene practices, increases access to safe drinking water and improves sanitation both through development interventions as well as in times of humanitarian crises.

Construction of water and sanitation infrastructure

Tdh provides access to drinking water and sanitation systems through construction of new and rehabilitation of rundown facilities to the most disadvantaged households, to government health facilities, and to schools. Through intensive work with users and management committees of community clinics and schools, proper management of hardware is ensured.

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Humanitarian Crises

All Tdh infrastructures take disasters into consideration: embankments of water reservoir ponds are raised and hand pumps and toilets are constructed above flood level to protect drinking water sources. In the flood and cyclone affected working areas, Tdh can immediately install emergency drinking water supply (mobile treatment units, tanks and distribution systems) as well as communal latrines to avoid the spread of epidemics.

Linking WASH with Nutrition

Through the realization of the children's right to sufficient, safe, acceptable, accessible and affordable water and sanitation, Tdh reduces health threats related to low water quality. This approach is complemented with intensive hygiene promotion. Civil society, private sector, local government, as well as local political and religious elites are mobilized to support knowledge transmission.

In 2013

In Kurigram: **4'161** people benefited from community tube-wells and **3'852** from latrines.

In Barguna: **4'495** people benefited from Pond Sand Filters and **456** from latrines.

1'892 people received training (Technical and field staff, Committee members, etc.)



Guesthouse & Training facilities

Contact:

+88 01715748848 / +88 58161412

Location:

Chilmari Guesthouse,
Thanahat, ward: Dhavitari

Kurigram Guesthouse
Hospital Road, Kurigram-5600

Homestead Gardening and Aquaculture

Keyhole Gardens

To increase resilience of families in flood-prone poverty pockets, Tdh promotes "Keyhole Gardens". These disaster resistant homestead gardens are highly productive due to an integrated compost unit, produce different vegetables in all seasons, and require only low inputs. Women build, maintain and monitor the gardens while sharing seeds and tools among each other. Increased vegetable consumption directly increases peoples intake of micronutrients and vitamins



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Children as agents of nutritional change

In cooperation with AIDA and TDH Italy, Tdh is exploring alternative ways in improving Nutrition. In a pilot project, children will receive nutrition education in their school, and will practically produce fish in small ponds and vegetables in keyhole gardens on the school yard. After one year they will replicate what they learned on their own homesteads. Apart from producing vegetables and fish children will raise awareness in their communities through performance of a theatre play on nutrition and hygiene.

In 2013

6'000 people consumed vegetables from gardens built in Kurigram and Barguna

About us

Since its creation in 1960, the mission of Terre des hommes-Lausanne (Tdh) supports children in need. It endeavors at all times to defend the rights of children, in times of disasters, or in less publicized situations of distress.

Tdh has development projects and emergency relief programs in more than 30 countries and is focussing on healthcare and child protection.

The values and mission of Tdh remain those that founder Edmond Kaiser set down in the 1960 charter.

Our main partners



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