

Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh

Ashshash – for Men and Women Who Have Escaped Trafficking (Phase II)

Swiss Portfolio Outcome:	Sustainable and more inclusive economic development
Implementation Period:	01.06.2023 - 31.05.2027
Implementing Partner:	Winrock International
Swiss Contribution:	CHF 9 million
Modality:	Mandate

General Description

Ashshash phase II is a four years programme which supports men and women who have escaped trafficking to reintegrate them into society, raise awareness on the perils of irregular migration and improve public and private capacities to deliver services to the survivors of trafficking. Implemented by Winrock International in ten trafficking prone districts of Dhaka, Chattogram and Khulna division, the programme has a strong focus on supporting women who have escaped human trafficking.

Objectives

As shash aims to restore the dignity and well-being of men and women who have escaped trafficking. During four years first phase, the programme reached out to approximate 3 million men and women from the trafficking prone areas, in an effort to raise awareness and also supported more than 4'000 trafficking survivors to reintegrate in their society, both economically and socially. During phase II, the programme aims to reach additional 2 million people with targeted awareness campaign and support socio-economic reintegration of 6'000 trafficking survivors. By strengthening capacities of public/private service providers at the grassroots levels, Ashshash aims to increase quality and availability of service delivery.

Lines of Action / Components

- Raise awareness of men and women about the consequences of trafficking and irregular migration.
- Support the reintegration of trafficking survivors through alternative livelihoods, skills, employment, health, legal aid, and comprehensive victim care support.
- Build capacity of psychosocial counsellors at the grassroots levels to use more humane based approach to treat the trauma of the persons who have escaped trafficking.
- Support the Government of Bangladesh for implementation of a national referral mechanism and national anti-trafficking fund to assist and protect those who have escaped trafficking.
- Engage with the private sector to support economic re-integration of trafficking survivors into the local job market of Bangladesh.

Intended Impact in terms of Systemic Change

Ashshash aims to build the capacity of public and private institutions to improve the well-being of those who have escaped trafficking. The programme's backing for establishing a national referral mechanism will allow the service providers to refer and continue support for trafficking survivors, with different services that the person may need, to overcome the trauma. The support for individuals/institutions at the grassroots level will improve their capacities to use more humane and rights based approach for persons who have escaped trafficking and apply available legal frameworks and tools. Joint advocacy efforts of Ashshash with key actors will facilitate increased attention and resource allocation from the Government for combatting human trafficking.

Intervention Targets

- Raising awareness of 2 million men and women on trafficking, irregular migration, and related risks.
- Psychosocial counselling for 6,000 trafficking survivors and their families.
- Employment for 4,800 trafficking survivors who graduated from technical/entrepreneurial trainings.
- Health insurance for 1,200 and legal compensation for 300 trafficking survivors.
- Mobilisation of CHF 45'000 cash and kind support from private sector for reintegration of survivors.