

**Workshop**  
**On**  
**Violence Against Children and Women (VACW) Program Implementation Through APC, KKC and AAECM Project under MoWCA**  
**Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy, Dhaka**  
**Date: 30-31 March 2022**



### Background of the workshop:

The original TAPP was first commenced on 1st July 2017 and completed in December 2021. In 2021 UNICEF, with the approval of the honorable Secretary of MoWCA and several rounds of participatory meetings, has agreed to the extent of the partnership between the Accelerating Protection for Children (APC) project, Department of Women Affairs (DWA), and the Bangladesh Shishu Academy (BSA).

UNICEF has hosted several meetings and a high-level workshop with the participation of APC and KKC-DWA teams from the MoWCA to analyze the complementarities of these two projects. The two projects agreed to collaborate in terms of capacity building of staff on core child protection and specifically on prevention and response to violence against children and women (VACW) and harmful practices (HP). UNICEF also began working with Bangladesh Shishu Academy (BSA) to include their district and central levels in VACW and HP prevention advocacy and programs. Then the RTAPP was approved and would end in December 2024.

There are some major shifting in RTAPP that have been agreed between UNICEF and MoWCA's Minister to increase the sustainability & scalability of the project. After June 2022, there won't be NGO involvement and the APC project will be directly implemented by MoWCA. Community-led interventions will be continued in achieving greater gender equality, and reduce gender-based violence and harmful practices by following the socio-ecological model. As per the new approach, the clubs will open daily (5-6 days from 9 am-6 pm) to ensure children, parents, caregivers can have the availability of their community center every day. To empower children including adolescents, their families, and caregivers, a child protection package which will be incorporated with Child safeguarding, Journey of Life, Positive Parenting training, identification and referrals of VACW cases, and psychosocial support. There would also be a major change in human resources to support the APC project. A total target for the whole country is to establish 700 clubs in each year so that children get 2100 clubs in 2024. Previously the targeted age group was 10-19 but now it is shifting to reach out to children and adolescents of age 0-19 along with their parents and communities. Pregnant mothers will also have access to the clubs for information, awareness sessions, and referrals. To build a common understanding among CRFs, Officers of DWA on the new approach and modality of the APC project and CAC functionality, the workshop was taken place.

On March 30-31 (Wednesday and Thursday), a two-day-long workshop on VACW Program Implementation in DoWA under MoWCA was held at Bangladesh Shishu Academy, Dhaka.

### Objectives:

The main objective of the workshop is to transform the knowledge and understanding of participants on the new approach to the VACW program including the role & responsibility of project staff, CAC functionality, Community-led child protection mechanism & capacity-building strategy, delivery Journey of Life, program target, and strategy to reach RTAPP's target beneficiaries as well as coordination mechanism of VACW Program, etc.



Ms. Farida Parvin, DG, DWA, MoWCA was the chief guest of this workshop. Dr. Mohiuddin Ahmed, Additional Secretary (Planning, Development, and Statistics), MoWCA, Special Guest, Ms. Elisa Calpona, Special Guest, Child Protection Specialist, Child Protection Section, UNICEF, S M Latif (Chair), Project Director (PD), APC Project, MoWCA, Deputy Directors, Upazila Women Affairs Officers, CRFs, CPO, CP Specialists, C4D Specialist, VACWPC, UNICEF were present in the workshop.

Agenda:

- APC Project briefing objective of the RTAPP.
- The new approach of CAC Functionality; Role and responsibility of CACO, CRF, HP-PC, and Checklist to track club functionality.
- VACW program target and strategy to achieve intended target beneficiaries and quarterly plan.
- Community-led child protection mechanism and Capacity building plan for CACO, CRF, and HP PC and club activities.
- Coordination mechanism for effective implementation.
- Management and Administration aspects.
- Monitoring mechanism of VACW Program.
- Facilitation of Community-Led Approach: The Journey of Life.
- CRF monthly work Plan and a Progress tracker.

(Day-1)

The workshop program started with registration and ended with a rap-up and vote of thanks. Then continued by providing Self-introduction, special guest remarks, remarks from the chief guest, APC project briefing, and many other sessions by PowerPoint presentation followed by the agenda of the workshop as-



Dr. Mohiuddin Ahmed, Additional Secretary (Planning, Development, and Statistics) presented as Special Guest and he said, there are 4883 KKC's all over Bangladesh based on the Union level. KKC's and BSA staff will receive JoL and SAEP Training. To prevent violence 24 ministries are working together, he added. He also discussed the Govt. strategy plan to prevent child marriage.





Ms. Farida Parvin, DG, DWA, MoWCA addressed her foremost speech as a chief guest. She said Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was a child-friendly leader. The Children's Act was established in 1974 with the generosity of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman later that law was reformed as Children Act-2013. He was very caring about the implementation of child rights. Child marriage and child death rate under 5 years has been reduced. Gender equality and adolescent empowerment are being established, she added. Key highlighted issues during her speech:

- 15 million children, 25 million adolescents, and 5 million parents & guardians will be supported by 2024 to reduce drop-out children from school, prevent child marriage, and empowerment of adolescents. Individual bank accounts have to open on behalf of the APC project working area, which will be implemented by UWAO and cash books.
- DD-DWA and UWAO have to face audits at the field level.
- Adolescents also have to be informed about good touch and bad touch.
- CRFs must obey all the roles and responsibilities.

Female freedom fighters have been honored by MoWCA. She expressed her gratitude for these outstanding assignments.



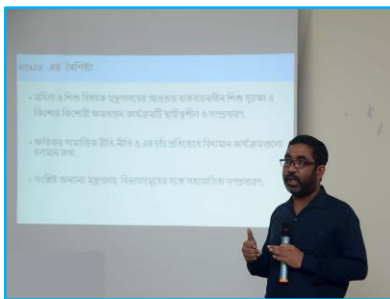
Ms. Elisa Calpona, Special Guest, Chief of Child Protection (OIC), Child Protection Section, UNICEF thanked everyone for participating in this workshop and she has also expressed her gratitude to MoWCA and DWA. With coordination and collaboration, UNICEF will work together to implement the project with MoWCA and DWA.



APC project modality has been changed, and it would be better to support children and adolescents for their amelioration and empowerment. Many new and vital settlements have been added to RTAPP, S M Latif, Chairperson & Project Director (PD) said during his speech. Key highlights-

- APC project has adopted RTAPP changes and advocates & communicates with DWA officials for exploring their support to implement and achieve the project's result with leadership from Mr. S. M Latif, Project Director, MoWCA

- Every working area has to be a Supervision and monitoring committee which will conduct monthly coordination meetings with APC and UNICEF.
- The program will be led by DD-DWA and UWAO, supporting CRFs and field-level staff with coordination of the APC project.
- DD-DWA will take part in CRFs coordination meetings on a quarterly basis to get an update about project implementation status and its result as well.
- The APC project will provide necessary funds according to the quarterly program budget to DD-DWA, and UWAO.
- Most of the CAC venues should be free and community-led to make them sustainable.



### APC Project briefing and objective of the RTAPP

APC project briefing objective of the RTAP has been jointly presented by Mr. Mahbub Hossain, M & DE, APC project, and Mr. Raihanul Haque, VACW-HP, UNICEF of that workshop. A PowerPoint presentation was presented by Mr. Mahbub

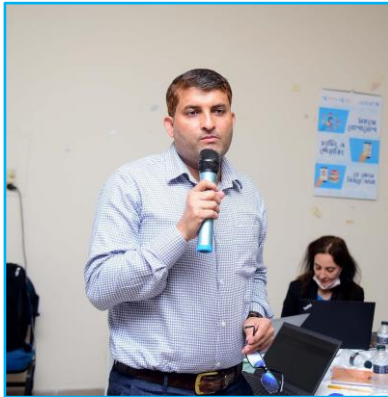
Hossain where he said, the APC project was started in 2017 aiming Improving and equitable prevention of child abuse, exploitation, and neglect. The objective of this project is to create a supportive environment and strengthen child protection measures to prevent all forms of violence and harmful social norms, especially for children in remote and at-risk areas in addition to empowering adolescents (adolescents with disabilities, those affected by climate and disaster, living in urban areas, etc.). 15 million children (0-19 years), 25 million adolescents and 5 million parents & guardians will be supported by 2024 to reduce drop-out children from school, to prevent child marriage and empowerment of adolescents where a total budget is 20088.61 lacs (GoB 655.1, 3.27% and UNICEF 19433.61, 96.73%) BDT. Working is of APC project is 08 Divisions, 29 Districts, 54 Upazila, and 06 City Corporation.

He also discussed the Project budget, Project working area, aim of the project, Objectives of the project, Components of the project, Target group, Activities of the project, Capacity boosts up, Monitoring and knowledge management, Provide assistance in formulating laws/policies, Features of RTAPP, New additions to RTAPP, Implementation strategy of RTAPP.

### Strategic shifts and Implementation Modality:

- All children and adolescents aged 0-19 years are the main target group of this project;
- We will go piloting with 300 Children and Adolescents Clubs (CACs) as per the new approach. Each club will cover 8,250 Children and adolescents in 01 year. In the 1st quarter, already 283 venues for CACs have been identified and 217 venues will be identified in the 2nd quarter
- CAC is supposed to remain open 07 days a week. But if the venue is in school, it will open for 02 days in a week and one will be the school off day. If the venue is rented, it will be opened for 05 days in a week from 09:00 am to 05:00 pm.
- 05 working days and availing 02 weekends for CRFs

[New approach of CAC functionality, role, and responsibility of CACO, CRF, HP-PC, checklist to track club functionality.](#)



A PowerPoint presentation has been presented by VACW PC Kazi Alom. In his presentation, he highlighted CAC functionality with the new approach, role, and responsibility of CACO, CRF, HP-PC, and a checklist.

The discussion area was Children including the adolescent club, The main objectives of CAC, Major CAC activities, Management of CAC, Key role and responsibilities of Child and Adolescent Club Organizer (CACO), Child Rights Facilitator (CRF), Harmful Practice Program Coordinator (HPPC) and Violence Against Children and Women (VACW), Monitoring and Evaluation process, Action points which need to be taken for CAC functionality and Checklist to Track

Materials, Assets, Logistics, Equipment to check CAC Functionality.

[Strategic shifts and Implementation Modality:](#)

- Club participants: Children (0-18), adolescents (10-19), Children with Disability, access of parents.
- CAC venues to be opened 5 days a week and remain open 9:00am-5:00 pm (9:00am-1:00 pm and 2:00pm-5:00pm)
- 7 HPPC and the rest of CRFs (7) will be recruited as soon as possible and then provide training to them. In addition, 72 CACOs will be recruited locally to operate the CAC venues/clubs and Each CACO will be responsible for several clubs.
- 02 CFs will be responsible for 01 clubs and they will get an incentive BDT 1500/-.
- Databases on the number of cases of children and parents participating in the activities including those referred to CHL will be developed, updated, and monitored.
- KKC and APC clubs should not be adjacent or in one place
- There will be a particular attendance register for program staff and guests and session wise register for children including adolescents, parents and other participants for the activity will be maintained in the club. Birth registration will be promoted here.
- There will be 2 peer leaders per club.
- Need to be arranged with pure, safe, and clean water and sanitation facilities.



**APC Program strategy, approach and target beneficiaries with monthly work plan for CRF, and necessary initiatives need to be taken .:**

VACW PC Mykal Mondol has presented APC Program strategy, and approach to achieve the intended target beneficiaries with APC project plan at a glance. The PowerPoint presentation was provided in detail for beneficiaries' calculation, program activities, number of CACs, KKC's, training, meetings, and workshops need to be organized as per APC plan. Technical support were provided for CRFs to develop their Monthly/quarterly Work Plan and Progress Tracker (April to June) VACW coordinators, CP officer Mr. Raihanul Haque also had a meeting with APC

team to make the work plan and targets for CRF's to conduct the outreach sessions.

Following agreement was made and agreed to take the decision.

- Following the target to identify and function 700 CACs, 283 clubs have already been proposed. It is agreed to identify another 250 clubs by April and each CRF is requested to identify at least 6 venues within the time frame.
- It is agreed to complete the agreement of 283 Identified venues by the 1<sup>st</sup> week of April and the APC team will extend all support needed to CRFs in this regard.
- The team agreed to make the CACs functional and start its full phase activities, including peer educators' selection by the middle of April and conduct regular sessions following the new modality and approach.
- Due to a lack of sufficient human resources, APC cannot conduct its regular outreach sessions as per the target plan but as soon as the rest of the CRFs, CACO's HPPCs are recruited, it will be minimized to cover the target beneficiaries. For the time being, APC agreed to have 3 sessions per CRF per day, and 4 days a week will be in the field to conduct the awareness session. In this regard, APC agreed to conduct 48 to 50 sessions (3X4 days = 12 X 4 weeks = 48 sessions) per month by each CRF which will include 25-30 participants in each session. The session will be a minimum of one hour.
- Inclusion of JoL in KKC's, APC needs to discuss with PD and take the decision as they need to have one to one discussion of KKC's PD and APC's PD. But it is agreed to include the JoL session in all 4883 KKC's and estimated to have 30 participants for each club (30\*4883=146,490) per month.
- CAC's regular sessions, referral, case management, birth registration, PSS, and JoL will be started in mid-April, which needs to be documented properly in the register book. Agreed to ensure at least 100 children and adolescents each receive the services in a month
- Following the target of 15 million children, 25 million adolescents, and 5 million parents, APC needs to ensure 33% of children, 55% of adolescents, and 12% parents and community.
- It is agreed to complete the community volunteer recruitment by April 2022 to deploy them in CACs.
- Finally, beneficiaries' calculation rules were defined clearly to follow the rules to count them by services, and several illustrations were provided throughout the presentation.

**Strategic shifts and Implementation Modality:**

- Participants will be counted by services. Any participants who received a minimum of 3 sessions (JOL, SAEP) in each service will be counted as one.
- APC and all the venue authorities (free and rented) have to be prepared with an agreement with each other. The APC project has already been provided to CRFs.
- To recruit CF, there is no restriction on recruiting previously trained peer leaders.
- Females have to be a priority in CF recruitment.
- If anyone provides free CAC venues, she will have the priority as CF recruitment.

### Community-led child protection mechanism and Capacity building plan for CACO, CRF, and HP PC and club activities

Farida Yeasmeen, VACW PC conducted the above session through PowerPoint presentation. She first discussed the Situation of Violence against children and women in Bangladesh. Then she explained the necessity of a Community-based Child Protection Mechanism by stating that the UNICEF Bangladesh Child Protection Program has planned to move away from ad-hoc interventions and toward a more



planned, holistic, and sustainable community-led approach, according to CSN 2022-2026 as community-led interventions are effective in achieving greater gender equality, reduce the gender-based violence and harmful practices. She stated that the Community-led Children and adolescent Club is the core intervention of the APC project, MoWCA. The club will accelerate and create a community-led child protection mechanism sustainably and equip the marginalized community, affected and vulnerable communities, children including adolescents, children with disability, parents, and caregivers.

She also informed the participants that the club will be facilitated by two Community adult Facilitators (Female) and every club will have two peer leaders. The club members will receive training/orientation on the journey of life, online safety, non-specialized psycho-social support, referral mechanism, life skills, livelihoods support, etc. Parents will be receiving sessions on positive parenting, The Journey of life, etc., the community will be mobilizing to identify CP cases, and refer and report them to GoB service facilities and providers. The club will promote child protection helplines are 1098, 109, 999, etc., and will be connected with GoB service facilities i.e., Community Clinic (CC), Union Health & Family Welfare Center (UHFWC), Union Parishad (UP), Upazila Health Complex (UHC), local police station, MoWCA, DoSS, DoE, DoYS, DoS, CBCPC to reduce VACW & HP for protecting and saving lives of children including adolescents.

Shormin Sultana, VACW PC also conducted that session through PowerPoint presentation and discussed the Targeting of Children and Adolescent Clubs (CAC), Implementation strategy of Capacity Building Activities, CAC's Capacity building on VACW and HPs, age and target group for specific activities, Weekly Activity Calendar for Children and Adolescent Clubs, Summary of Weekly Capacity Building Activities,





Outcomes of Capacity Building Initiatives. She has also given some important website links for Mandatory Training for Master and Core Trainers (APC, KKC, and BSA) to make them experts.

[Coordination mechanism for effective implementation and monitoring mechanism of VACW Program and club Activations, Monitoring, and Reporting:](#)

In this agenda, Mr. Raihanul Haque discussed tagging the locations through GPS waypoints and mapping the APC children and adolescent club, club organogram, attendance sheet, activities record, real-time monitoring, etc.

- CRFs will closely coordinate with Deputy Directors and Women Affairs Officers (whichever is applicable) and maintain good relationships.
- An instruction letter including a list of CACs, locations, guidelines, and structures needs to share with DWA so that they can share this with local administration like UNO, DC, Mayor, City Corporation, Union Council, etc. and make them aware of this club and their Functionality
- A quarterly Work Plan will be circulated among CRFs and DD-DWA and UWAO. CRFs will share a monthly work plan with DD-DWA and UWAO.
- Need to organize quarterly coordination meetings among UNICEF CP, APC project, MoWCA, DWA

[Management and Administrative aspects:](#)

Mr. S M Latif, Chairperson & Project Director (PD) of APC project, conducted the mentioned session and discussed management and administrative issues. After that, he made some decisions which are given below:

[Strategic shifts and Implementation Modality:](#)

- DWA Officers are requested to give salary instruction by the 25th of the respective month, maintain CRFs' attendance, leave approval, ACR, etc.
- CRFs will get conveyance (3000 BDT per month) and a laptop. A training session on administrative issues for CRFs will be organized in consultation with UNICEF
- KKC's supervisors and BSA staff will receive JoL and SAEP Training
- In the future, district-level BSA officers will get an invitation for such workshop
- By mid-May, 2022 JoL tools are supposed to be ready. But by mid-April, it is expected to start and roll out in the field in KKC's.
- PD requested DD- DWA/ Women Affairs Officers to make a sitting arrangement of CRFs in their office and buy the necessary materials, furniture, and equipment based on requirements. The Funds will be transferred soon.
- In 1st year, for the rented venue, government and UNICEF will contribute 35% and 65% cost respectively

- Therefore, all the clubs will be continuing with new Functionality so that CRFs need to be more responsive to their role and responsibility.
- APC Project will be repaired free for new club functionality.
- In the same place, two or more clubs cannot be continued.
- All the CRFs must stay in their workstation.
- All the CRFs must be cooperative with VACW PC teams.
- To implement the new CAC functionality, all the support like training, and workshops will be arranged by the APC project.
- If anyone gets free CAC venues if needed to contact the venue authority. APC project will take necessary action.
- In each union, three clubs have to be established for new club functionality.
- Many CRFs have been working at the same place for a long time and they are very skillful and many vacant CRFs positions need these skilled CRFs. So that CRFs have to be rearranged from one place to another.
- CBCPCs and Officers of DWA will monitor these clubs instead of forming any other club management committee. If officers of DWA go to visit these clubs, the conveyance will be given.
- PD sent a letter to the Ministry of Primary School requesting their cooperation that the club will be in the school as a free venue for new club functionality and also be in the secondary school later.

### (Day-2)

#### Recap session of Day- 1 and Facilitation of Community-Led Approach: The Journey of Life (session: 1-8)

Mr. Mahbub Hossain, Mr. Kafil Kaiya, and Farida Yeasmeen started the re-cap session of Day- 1, supported and facilitated by VACW PCs with the presence of Mr. S M Latif, Chairperson & Project Director (PD) of the APC project.



#### Training on Journey of Life (JOL):

The orientation on the Journey of Life for CRFs was mainly facilitated by Farida Yeasmeen and Shormin Sultana, VACW Program Coordinator. They interactively conducted the session; group work (small group and large group discussion and feedback) and game, drawing method. Participants were so enthusiastic to learn and internalize the topic. In a small group, participants make a community-led action plan based on children's needs and children's problems that are

hindering their growth. All the CRFs participated in the training sessions meaningfully and spontaneously. This orientation session has been conducted on the following topics from the Journey of Life module:

- Session 1: Introduction and Welcome*
- Session 2: Introducing the Journey of Life*
- Session 3: Meeting Children's Needs*
- Session 4: Understanding Children's Problems*
- Session 5: Identifying Children Who Need Help*
- Session 6: Building Children's Strengths*
- Session 7: Get Involved!*
- Session 8: Evaluation and Closing the Workshop*



**CRF monthly work plan and progress tracker:**

Mr. Mahbub Hossain, M&DE, APC project, Mr. Kafil Kaiya, POE, APC project conducted a session about the above-mentioned agendas. During their session, they discussed how CRF will update their monthly work plan and how they will share this on google drive. This monthly work plan needs to provide before starting months and it can be made progress report provided weekly or monthly.

Sl.No	Name of CRF	Posting Place	Workplan & Progress	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1			Workplan							
			Progress							
2			Workplan							
			Progress							
3			Workplan							
			Progress							

**Closing Remarks**

Finally, Mr. S M Latif, Chairperson & Project Director (PD) of the APC project thanked everyone and declared the closing of this workshop. Elisa was also connected at the closing session through MS Teams and concluded the event by giving thanks to the APC team for organizing such a remarkable workshop and looking forward to implementing the APC project as per the agreed work plan.

Report prepared by: Ferdousi SULTana and Asma Anwar Tandra, VACW Coordinator