

Organizational
Profile
Of
Sejuti Health and Education Development Foundation (SHEDF)

Submitted by:

Md Shahin Miah, Executive Director



Address: 580, Fider Road, Galachipa Pawroshava, Galachipa, Patuakhali
E-mail: info@shedfbd.org, shahin_shedf@yahoo.com
Web: www.shedfbd.org

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I. Introduction:

SHEDF is a non-governmental development organization. SHEDF has been working with the most vulnerable marginalized peoples in Char areas of Patuakhali District under Barisal Division. The main focus of the organization has to provide and ensure basic services to the community peoples of Char areas along of Bay of Bengal in the southern part of Bangladesh. Considering different issues, working areas and populations e.g.(women's development, climate change) we incorporated a rights-based approach into the program. Additionally, SHEDF has played a pivotal role in fostering economic and social development within marginalized communities. With a core objective of establishing an equitable and democratically governed society, SHEDF has effectively executed a diverse array of development programs.

SHEDF At a Glance

1. **Name** : Sejuti Health and Education Development Foundation (SHEDF)
2. **Year of establishment** : 2006
House No: 580, Fider Road, Ward NO: 7, Galachipa Municipal Upz-Galachipa, Dist-Patuakhali, Bangladesh.
Cell: +8801712240941/+8801601240941
3. **Head Office** : E-mail: shahin_shedf@yahoo.com/ info@shedfbd.org
Web: www.shedfbd.org
Youtube: www.youtube.com/@shedfbd
Facebook: facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063633618047,
4. **Registration** :
 - Registered with the NGO Affairs Bureau vide No.2311 Date 28 February 2008.
 - Registered with Department of Social welfare, vide No: Dha-07949/06, Date: 04 December 2006.
 - Microcredit Regularity Authority (MRA) License-21112-00125-00768 Date 29 November 2016.
 - Registered with **NSDA** vide No: STP-PAT-002245 Date 31 March 2026. STP Registration/Course **Course Accreditation-BLOCK BATIK AND SCREEN PRINTING -2**, Computer Operation- 2, Graphic Design –2, Baking-3, Housekeeping-3, Food and Beverage Service – 2, Bakery and Pastry Production – 3, Food and Beverage Production - 3
 - BIN : 004698334-0401
 - TAX: 674858788379

5. **Vision** : To create a just society through sustainable development processes and an enabling environment, with a particular focus on the empowerment of women and marginalized people, fostering their ability to claim and exercise their rights.
6. **Mission** : To collaborate with stakeholders at multiple levels and engage diverse communities, aiming to establish justice and ensure the rights of women, the impoverished, marginalized, and excluded individuals in Bangladesh.
7. **Values** SHEDF is guided by core values that define its approach and mission. These include promoting gender equality, fostering a continuous attitude of learning, and collaborating with like-minded individuals. The organization emphasizes participatory decision-making, compassion for people, and unwavering commitment to its work. SHEDF upholds secular principles, balances competition with cooperation, and prioritizes humanity above all. Group effort is valued over individual achievement, ensuring collective progress and sustainable impact in all its initiatives. These principles drive SHEDF's vision for inclusive and equitable development.
8. **Objective** : SHEDF has established its new strategy, "Rights to end poverty," which advances the agenda for women's rights. The organization firmly believes that protecting and promoting women's rights and gender equality are essential in the fight against poverty. Prioritizing women's rights and gender equality lies at the core of the agenda, and the organization is diligently working towards achieving the following objectives.
- Poverty Eradication through Marginalized Empowerment:** Execute projects linking marginalized people's rights to poverty, recognizing them as key agents in breaking the poverty cycle.
- Empower Marginalized and Women's Skills:** Implement programs for marginalized individuals, especially women, to boost their skills and confidence, enabling self-determination.
- Violence Prevention and Safety for Women:** Develop initiatives preventing and addressing violence against women, fostering environments where they can live fearlessly.
- Advocate Gender Equality:** Champion policies ensuring gender equality, advocating for women's equal opportunities and representation.
- Community Engagement and Partnerships:** Collaborate with women's groups and communities, fostering gender relations,

encouraging dialogue, and building partnerships for collective action in advancing women's rights and gender equality.

9. Overview of the SHEDF :

Established in 2006 amidst a devastating flood in Patuakhali, SHEDF originated as a relief organization before adopting a Rights-Based Approach (RBA). Embracing values of mutual trust, equality, and a non-directive, participatory development approach, SHEDF is dedicated to empowering vulnerable communities in both rural and urban areas, with a specific focus on the southern regions of Bangladesh. Over time, its reach has extended to encompass nine Upazilas across three districts.

With a central commitment to women's rights and gender equality, SHEDF actively collaborates with women's groups. The organization strives to enhance gender relations, bolster women's confidence, skills, and knowledge, empowering them to shape their own destinies.

Operating within an Economic Development Framework, SHEDF executes a Microfinance program designed to support the "ultra poor." This tailored initiative combines subsidies, enterprise development training, social development, and asset transfer. Moreover, the organization provides entrepreneurship training and support in diverse sectors like poultry, livestock, fisheries, social forestry, and agriculture, fostering sustainable development and contributing to poverty eradication. In recent times, SHEDF has concentrated its efforts on the following key areas:

- Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development
- Livelihood Strengthening and Sustainable Development (Microfinance-based)
- Access to Basic Services (Health and Education)
 - Ensuring the Right to Education
 - Ensuring the Right to Quality Health
- Emergency Response and Preparedness.

10. Participants in SHEDF's Programs :

SHEDF's program targets economically vulnerable groups, including women, children, persons with disabilities, those below the poverty line, victims of river erosion, landless individuals, marginal farmers, widows, fishermen, the Manta Community, day laborers, orphans, distressed women, and transgender individuals.

Among the total beneficiaries, which amount to 50,068 individuals, 45,942 are women, 16 are transgender, and 125 have disabilities, all of whom have derived benefits from various projects and programs implemented by SHEDF.

11. On going program of SHEDF

:

Empowerment Programs:

- Women Empowerment
- Developing Leadership and Empowerment of Manta Fishing Women
- Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB)
- ICT in Livelihoods of Marginalized Women Post-Covid-19

Financial Inclusion Programs:

- Micro Finance Program
- Housing Loan Program

Community Welfare Programs:

- Improved Cook Stove (ICS)
- Safe Drinking Water & Sanitation Program
- Health & HIV/AIDS Awareness Program
- Awareness Program of Disability Issues
- IGA and Skill Development Program

Social Justice Initiatives:

- Elimination of Child Labor
- Forestry Sector Project
- Promoting Human Rights.

Skill Development Programs

- Graphic Design, Level –2
- Housekeeping, Level -3,
- Bakery and Pastry Production Level -3.

12. Coverage

:

1. Districts: 3
2. Upazilla/Thana (sub-districts): 9
3. Population Covered: 50,055

Division	District	Upazila	Union
Barisal	Patuakhali	• Galachipa, Dasmina, Rangabali, Boupfol, Patuakhali Sador	39 Union
	Jhalokhati	• Jhalokhati sador	6 Union
Dhaka	Dhaka	• Darussalam, Shah Ali, Mirpur	10 Ward out of 10

13. Network link/Membershi

:

- Sustainable Sanitation Alliance (SUSANA)
- Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh

p of SHEDF

- (ADAB)
- CSO Alliance
- Credit and Development Forum (CDF)
- MFI Alliance

14. Institutional capacity

- :
- High profile Board members have significant experience in the government, the bureaucracy, the financial sector, the NGOs and the legal profession.
 - Long standing professionals active in the central team of senior management;
 - SHEDF's staff received specialized training to effectively carry out these diverse activities;
 - Availability of a professional team in the key areas including Supervision, Monitoring, Training, HRM, Procurement and Admin, Accounts and Finance.
 - SHEDF operational management is fully guided by a number of policies/ manuals as under:
 - HR Policy
 - Accounts manual
 - Procurement manual
 - Gender Policy
 - Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)
 - Safeguard Policy
 - Communication Policy
 - Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Policy
 - Anti-Fraud Corruption Policy
 - Code of Conduct
 - Contingency plan
 - Child Safeguarding Policy and
 - Monitoring & Data Collection Guidelines

A high-level functional Organogram of SHEDF is attached that depicts hierarchy of operational practices and appropriate control at the central and field offices for reference.

15. Governance

- :
- SHEDF consists of a General Body with 21 members and an Executive Committee with 7 members. The Executive Committee is composed of four female members and three male members. Following are the EC members:

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. | Khadiza Nupur | Chairman |
| 2. | Sardar Arif Uddin | Vice Chairman |
| 3. | Md Shahin Miah | Secretary |
| 4. | Md Mosharaf Hossain | Joint Secretary |
| 5. | Anima Rani Shil | Treasurer |
| 6. | Saharin Ara | Executive Member |
| 7. | Md Abdul Bary Khan | Executive Member |

■ ■

The managerial team is situated at the central office, with Managers and overseeing program and project implementation in the field. They report to the Executive Director. Finance & Accounts report to the Director of Finance, while Human Resource Management & Administration and Procurement Units report to the Director of Administration. Internal Audit, Research & Documentation, and Monitoring Units report directly to the Executive Director, who is accountable to the SHEDF Board.

A collective of 45 experienced individuals, consisting of 26 females and 19 males, are actively engaged in the implementation of various projects and programs under SHEDF, as outlined below:

Female: 6 Male: 4

Female: 19 Male: 15

Female: 1 Male: 0

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SHEDF is a seasoned development organization with a rich history since its establishment in 2006. Over the years, SHEDF has successfully executed a multitude of development programs, encompassing areas such as Institution Building, Capacity Building, Mother & Child Health Care & Nutrition, Microfinance, Family Planning, Environmental and Climate Change initiatives, Sanitation and Access to Clean Drinking Water, Plantation for Ecological Balance, Fish Culture, AIDS & STDs Awareness Programs, National Family Planning Campaigns (NFPE), Education, Child & Women's Rights, Income Generating Activities (IGA), Skill Development Programs and various training initiatives. These endeavors have

been made possible through the invaluable financial and technical support from local and international donors.

18. Monitoring and Reporting Capacity : Monitoring:

SHEDF has a strong monitoring and evolution team. SHEDF takes care of the vision, mission and core values. This development program is continually being monitored and evaluated to determine its progress and effectiveness as well as to show where changes might be necessary. It is carried out in a participatory process with the participants.

Reporting:

SHEDF maintains reporting system strictly. The field staffs submit their reports on their activities to the Area / Project in Charge. And the respective officer will compile that regularly and submit it to high authority Monthly, Quarterly, Half-Yearly and Annually

II. Capacity and track record of SHEDF:

Since its inception, SHEDF has been at the forefront of implementing numerous projects dedicated to uplifting marginalized communities, with a specific emphasis on women. The highlights of projects implemented in the last three years are outlined below:

- **Women's Leadership and Empowerment Project:** The Developing Leadership and Empowerment of Manta Fishing Women (DLEMFV) project focuses on creating leadership opportunities and empowering Manta women engaged in fishing. This initiative involves collaboration with government departments, civil society, Media House, and other relevant organizations. The project prioritizes providing essential documents, such as ID cards, to ensure the social inclusion of women. Key achievements include:

Distribution of social safety-net cards to 22 Manta women.

- Provision of social safety-net cards to 113 male residents of the Manta community.
- Verification of 235 birth registrations.
- Issuance of national identity cards to 27 individuals.

The project covers specific geographical areas, which are detailed below.

Project Title	Name of donor organization	Geographical Coverage		
		District	Upazila	Union
Developing Leadership and Empowerment of Manta Fishing Women (DLEMFV)	OXFAM in Bangladesh & European Union,	Patuakhali	Galachipa	Municipal
				Sador Union
				Dakua
				Ratondi Tal Toli
			Rangabali	Char Montaj

- **Skill Development Programs:** The Skill Development Programs, implemented by the Sejuti Health and Education Development Foundation (SHEDF), focuses on promoting the Skill Development and Entrepreneur of women and men in Galachipa sub District under Patuakhali District. Beneficiaries are supported through training sessions on the following topics:

- Graphic Design, Level -2
- Housekeeping, Level -3,

- Bakery and Pastry Production Level -3.

The project covers specific geographical areas, which are detailed below.

Project Title	Name of donor organization	Geographical Coverage	
		District	Upazila
Accelerating and Strengthening Skills for Economic Transformation (ASSET) Project-Enterprise-Based Training (EBT)	Informal Sector Industry Skills Council (ISISC)	Patuakhali	Galachipa

- **Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB) Program:** The VWB program, implemented by the Sejuti Health and Education Development Foundation (SHEDF), focuses on promoting the economic and social development of women in Rangabali and Jhalokathi. The initiative enhances women's earning capacity through training, savings programs, and financial assistance. Beneficiaries are supported through training sessions on the following topics:
 - Personal Health and Hygiene
 - Disaster Management and Climate Change Impacts
 - Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health, Dietary Practices, and Nutrition
 - Women's Empowerment
 - Life Skills and Income Enhancement

The program's geographical coverage is outlined below.

Project Title	Name of donor organization	Geographical Coverage		
		District	Upazila	Union
Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB)	Department of Women Affairs	Patuakhali	Rangabali	All Unions
		Jhalokhati	Jhalokhati Sador	6 Unions

- **Lifelong Journey of Rural Poor and Landless People Program:** This program is designed to alleviate the hardships faced by rural poor communities, especially in the wake of natural disasters. By leveraging funding from the Bangladesh Bank Grahayan Fund Unit, the initiative provides critical support for rebuilding homes and improving overall living conditions for those affected. It not only restores shelter but also fosters resilience among vulnerable populations, enabling them to recover more effectively from disaster impacts. The program prioritizes sustainable reconstruction and aims to uplift living standards in disaster-prone areas, ensuring long-term stability and security for marginalized families. The specific geographical coverage for this impactful initiative is detailed below.

Project Title	Name of donor organization	Geographical Coverage		
		District	Upazila	Union
Lifelong Journey of Rural Poor and Landless People Program	Bangladesh Bank	Patuakhali	Galachipa	All Unions
			Dasmina	5 Unions
			Patuakhali Sador	Municipal

- **ICT for Livelihood Enhancement Post-COVID-19:** SHEDF has launched a transformative initiative to provide basic computer training to 300 women, focusing on enhancing their economic empowerment in the post-COVID-19 era. This program is designed to equip participants with essential digital skills, enabling them to access better employment opportunities and contribute to the workforce in a technology-driven world. By fostering independence and self-reliance, the training also addresses social challenges, such as reducing the prevalence of early marriages, by encouraging women to pursue education and careers. Through this initiative, SHEDF is not only promoting gender equality but also contributing to the sustainable development of local communities. Geographical coverage is outlined below.

Project Title	Name of donor organization	Geographical Coverage		
		District	Upazila	Union
ICT in Livelihoods of Marginalized Women Post-Covid-19	ICT Department	Patuakhali	Galachipa	All Unions

- **Health and Nutrition Program:** SHEDF's health and nutrition program, supported by the Health Service Division of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, is dedicated to improving the well-being of underprivileged communities. The program addresses critical health and nutritional needs by distributing nutritious food, offering health consultations, and providing essential medications. Additionally, it emphasizes family planning support, ensuring that vulnerable populations have access to information and resources for better reproductive health. By focusing on holistic care, the initiative aims to enhance overall community health, reduce malnutrition, and empower individuals with the tools to lead healthier lives. The program's geographical coverage is detailed below:

Project Title	Name of donor organization	Geographical Coverage		
		District	Upazila	Union
Health & Nutrition Program	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare	Patuakhali	Galachipa	All Unions
		Dhaka	Darussalam Shah Ali Mirpur	10 Ward out of 10

- **Environmentally Friendly Stove Utilization Program:** This project, implemented by the Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL), seeks to address the critical issue of indoor air pollution by introducing environmentally friendly stoves to communities. These improved stoves are designed to reduce harmful emissions, promoting healthier indoor environments while also enhancing energy efficiency. By replacing traditional stoves with cleaner alternatives, the initiative aims to improve the quality of life for households, particularly women and children who are most affected by indoor pollution. Additionally, the program contributes to environmental conservation by reducing fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The specific geographical coverage for this project is detailed below.

Project Title	Name of donor organization	Geographical Coverage		
		District	Upazila	Union
Improved Cook Stove	IDCOL & World Bank	Patuakhali	Galachipa	All Unions
			Dasmina	All Unions
			Rangabali	All Unions

- **Microcredit Program:** Since its inception, the program has provided small loans to 26,350 individuals, including 24,238 women and 73 persons with disabilities, empowering them to engage in various income-generating activities. This initiative is a vital step toward fostering economic growth and self-reliance among disadvantaged households, particularly those often excluded from formal financial systems. By enabling access to affordable credit, the program helps beneficiaries invest in sustainable livelihoods, reduce poverty, and improve their standard of living. Additionally, the focus on women and persons with disabilities ensures greater inclusivity and promotes gender equality. The detailed geographical coverage of this impactful initiative is outlined below.

Project Title	Name of donor organization	Geographical Coverage		
		District	Upazila	Union
Micro Finance Program	Uttara Bank	Patuakhali	Galachipa	All Unions
			Dasmina	All Unions
			Bouphol	2 Unions

- **Modern Technology in Agriculture:** In partnership with the Ministry of Science and Technology, SHEDF offers specialized training to 70 farmers in Galachipa, focusing on modern agricultural techniques and practices. This program aims to enhance agricultural productivity by integrating innovative technologies and sustainable methods into traditional farming. Farmers are trained to optimize resource utilization, adopt climate-resilient practices, and increase crop yields, thereby improving food security and economic stability. By equipping farmers with advanced knowledge and tools, the initiative supports rural development and promotes the adoption of environmentally friendly farming practices. The specific geographical coverage for this forward-thinking program is outlined below.

Project Title	Name of donor organization	Geographical Coverage		
		District	Upazila	Union
Modern Technology in Agriculture Member	Ministry of Science and Technology	Patuakhali	Galachipa	All Unions

These initiatives collectively reflect SHEDF's commitment to uplifting marginalized communities, with a specific focus on empowering women.

ii. SHEDF's capacity statement for implementing women's rights projects:

In the pursuit of fostering equitable societies and championing the cause of gender equality, SHEDF has been deeply rooted in addressing critical issues related to women's rights, economic empowerment, and leadership. With a commitment to dismantling barriers and challenging discriminatory practices, this organization actively engages in grassroots initiatives, collaborates with various stakeholders, and leads impactful campaigns to promote positive change. This introduction offers a glimpse into SHEDF's multifaceted experience, spanning advocacy for women's rights, economic empowerment endeavors, leadership development, collaboration with government entities, and the strategic design of campaigns aimed at reshaping societal norms. As SHEDF navigates the complex landscape of women's issues, its dedication remains unwavering, seeking to contribute meaningfully to the advancement of women and the creation of inclusive, just societies.

a) Experience of working on the issues of women's rights, inequalities, and discrimination:

- Engaged in grassroots initiatives addressing violence against women, reproductive rights, and gender-based discrimination.
- Collaborated with NGOs, women's organizations, and legal advocacy groups to promote legislative changes for women's rights.
- Conducted awareness campaigns and workshops to address gender-based violence and challenge societal norms contributing to gender inequalities.

b) Experience of working on the issues of women's economic rights and empowerment:

- Implemented programs supporting women entrepreneurs and promoting equal pay.
- Designed and executed economic empowerment projects to enhance women's financial independence.
- Provided training on financial literacy, savings, and investment opportunities for women in traditionally male-dominated sectors.

c) Experience of working on women leadership:

- Mentored women for leadership roles in professional and community settings.
- Advocated for gender diversity in leadership positions within organizations and community structures.
- Conducted leadership development programs aimed at building the skills and confidence of women leaders.

d) Experience of working with the government (both at local and national levels):

- Collaborated with local government authorities on community development projects and women's welfare programs.
- Engaged in policy advocacy with national-level government bodies for the formulation and implementation of pro-women policies.
- Facilitated partnerships between government agencies and NGOs to address women's issues effectively.
- SHEDF in the last 3 years implemented projects or accomplished projects with the Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, DoICT (Department of ICT).

e) Experience of leading and designing advocacy events and campaigns focusing on various issues of women:

- Led and organized advocacy events addressing gender-based barriers, discrimination, and inequalities.
- Designed and executed campaigns to shift social norms regarding women's roles and capabilities.
- Orchestrated awareness campaigns on economic empowerment, challenging stereotypes, and promoting women's active participation in various spheres.

These experiences collectively showcase a comprehensive engagement with women's issues, encompassing legal advocacy, economic empowerment, leadership development, government collaboration, and impactful advocacy events.

18. Since its inception, here is a summary of the participants in SHEDF projects/programmes

SL	Name of Program	Male	Female	Person with disability	Transgender	Total
1	Improved Cook Stove	1732	23799	26	11	25568
2	Microfinance Program	2039	14238	73		16350
3	Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB)	-	6225	-	-	6225
4	Developing Leadership and Empowerment of Manta Fishing Women (DLEMFV)	-	500	-	-	500
5	ICT in Livelihoods of Marginalized Women Post-Covid-19	-	294	6	-	300
6	Modern Technology in Agriculture Member	210	-			210
7	Health & Nutrition Program	-	552		5	557
8	Lifelong Journey of Rural Poor and Landless People Program	4	34	-	-	38
9	Participation of Persons with Disability	-	-	20	-	20
10	Safe Drinking Water & Sanitation Program	-	200	-	-	200
11	Training and Tree Plantation	-	100	-	-	100
Total		3,985	45,942	125	16	50,068

Bank Account of SHEDF:

S N	Bank Name	Address	Title	Account Number	Remarks
01	Agrani Bank Ltd	Galachipa Br, Patuakhali	Sejuti Health and Education Development Foundation (SHEDF)	CD 0200021903903	Mother Account

Our organization will continue to assist and facilitate women and children for their social rehabilitation as these there fundamental rights.



(Md. Shahin Miah)
Executive Director.
SHEDF