

Progress Report

July 2008 - December 2008

1. Introduction

With the innovative approach to development following the strategies of providing general education, technical education followed by job placement support, UCEP is continuously expanding and implementing its Project Phase VI from December 2007. This report covers the progress of activities carried out during the period July–December 2008. The success of UCEP can be easily evaluated from the feedback of community and employers. UCEP has successfully achieved all the targets set for the period July-December 2008.

The **Integrated General and Vocational Education (IGVE)** component (earlier known as General Education Component) has been playing a vital role in preparing the working children for skills training so that they can come out from the vicious cycle of poverty. IGVE includes of the basics of the technical education into the general school curriculum. This inclusion provides the technical schools more time to impart higher standard of technical education to the students when they enter the technical schools after grade VIII. The IGVE schools had an enrolment of 27,356 students in its 43 schools during the reporting period. The student attendance was 94.28% while the dropout was only 3.05%. The girls and boys ratio in the schools stood at 50:50.

The **Technical Education (TS)** component of UCEP-Bangladesh is contributing to the achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDG) by creating skilled manpower through imparting of technical training to 4,132 students in its 8 technical schools during reporting period. The student attendance was 95.60% while the dropout was only 2.37%. The girls and boys ratio in the technical schools stood at 38:62. During the period 1843 students completed the technical education while 355 of the SSC vocational education program were continuing education in the 3 technical schools of Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna.

The **Employment and Field Services** Component provides support to UCEP graduates for gainful employment. It carries out its promotional activities through an up dated database of potential employers of different trades. A total of 1713 graduates of Technical School (TS) job seekers among technical school graduates were provided jobs in different organizations, industries, workshops and production units by the component. The ratio of the employed girls to boys was 38:62.

UCEP SME/ME Credit component is based on the financial support of PKSF to contribute towards upliftment of socio economic conditions of the poor urban working children, adolescents and their families. The component focuses on providing Credit to semi skilled and skilled UCEP graduates to get self employed and set up small industrial enterprises of their own. Upto December 2008 a total of 523 graduates received loan under the program. Recovery of the loan was satisfactory.

The most important event of this reporting period is the opening of a new technical school in Sylhet and the foundation laying of the UCEP–BMET Hotel Management and Catering Institute in Sylhet.

UCEP is also implementing two special projects besides the mainstream programs with PLAN-Bangladesh and Directorate of Primary Education under the ministry of education.

UCEP **HRM** Component enforces procedural justice to intensify transparency and equity in order to facilitate an organizational environment that nurtures potential, promotes innovation, change and quality. The component brought in improvements to modernize the HRM Component through timely recruitment and selection of staff, designing developing and implementing effective training modules and packages for the teachers and staff members.

UCEP is changing the fate of thousands of marginalized children. The children of UCEP are the change makers of the society.

**2. Results Achieved during the reporting period
(July – December 2008)**

Project Title	Access to Education, Skills Development and Employment for Urban Disadvantaged Children
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Purpose Statement	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVIs)	Progress	Comments
Socio-economic condition of disadvantaged children (boys and girls) raised.	Within six months after employment, average income level of employed graduates raised by at least 80% compared to their income before graduation.	Within six months after employment, average income level of employed graduates raised by at least 250% compared to their income before graduation.	UCEP graduates are contributing to national development with their skills Target group of UCEP (Underprivileged Group) are enjoying basic rights.
Outputs	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVIs)	Progress	Outcome
1. Underprivileged children have access to non-formal/basic integrated general and vocational education.	By the end of the period: 2,545 students completed Grade 5. 2,349 students completed Grade 8. and gender ratio 50:50 in all classes.	During July –December, 2008 2,748 students completed grade 5. 2376 students completed grade 8. Boys to girls ratio 50:50	95% of the total enrolment are attending school everyday to have education 84% of general graduates admitted into Technical Schools Positive attitudes towards girls education

Outputs	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVIs)	Progress	Outcome
2. All UCEP Grade VIII graduates and similar target group have access to technical education.	<p>By the end of the period:</p> <p>2000 students passed examinations at technical schools.</p> <p>At least 120 appeared SSC (Voc) under BTEB.</p>	<p>During July –December, 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1843 students passed the examination at technical schools. • 154 students passed SSC (Voc.) examination held in 2008 	<p>By January 2009, 779 Technical Graduates joined in different jobs</p> <p>133 students studying in Polytechnic College for higher diploma</p>
3. Graduates of technical schools placed in gainful wage and self-employment.	At least 1,585 job seekers among technical school graduates are placed in wage and self-employment.	A total of 1713 TS job seekers were placed in wage and self-employment.	<p>Employers are placing requirement for their enterprises.</p> <p>UCEP graduates are getting jobs just after completion of the technical education</p> <p>UCEP graduates are able to raise their income by 250% after completion of UCEP Education.</p>
4. Child Rights and Advocacy on selected CR issues strengthened.	At least 20 NGOs in 10 Districts implementing Child Advocacy Program as UCEP Working partner	<p>Selection of working areas</p> <p>Holding of dialogue meeting with various stakeholders</p> <p>24 PNGOs implementing Child Advocacy Program in 10 Districts</p>	<p>Installation of CRC information centre</p> <p>Baseline Survey in the working areas</p> <p>Formation of Child Groups</p> <p>Dissemination meetings on base line survey</p>

Outputs	Objectively Verifiable Indicators (OVIs)	Progress	Outcome
5. UCEP's institutional capacity further strengthened	UCEP management completed 90% of the planned activities	UCEP management successfully completed more than 90% of planned activities.	Human Rights & Good Governance are in practice

Project Management	<p>The Management was successful in implementing, leading, monitoring and controlling the planned activities during the period.</p> <p>The quality of the program was maintained throughout in all areas of operation.</p> <p>Effective Management Information System was maintained for data management and decision making.</p> <p>Human Rights, Child Rights and Good Governance issues were properly addressed</p> <p>UCEP management successfully implemented special programs such as, UCEP Plan Technical Schools, Skills Training Program for ROSC and English in Action Program.</p> <p>MoU signed in September 2008 for the establishment of UCEP-BMET Hotel Management & Catering Institute</p>
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Emerging and Potential Problems which can Hinder Project Implementation
<p>UCEP is a socially sustainable program and is a guiding light to the underprivileged working children. UCEP has very strong community support in implementing the program activities. Government of Bangladesh, Civil Societies and other organizations are cooperative and helpful for the implementation of the program. UCEP does not expect any potential problems that can hinder project implementation. UCEP believes that the community leaders, philanthropists and other professionals who are the stakeholders of UCEP will come forward whenever UCEP will need any help. Negative attitude of UCEP graduates for employment outside their home town and slow industrial growth of the country may affect employment of UCEP technical graduates in future.</p>
Suggested Actions to meet the Problems
<p>Motivation to UCEP graduates and their parents towards the employment away from their home towns.</p> <p>Strengthening Small and Medium Enterprises Credit Program for encouraging self-employment of UCEP graduates.</p>

3. Unplanned Achievements (Special positive developments)

UCEP Program Highlighted in a Channel-i Talk Show

Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE) and Shushashoner Jannoy Nagorik (Shujan) are jointly implementing a program on the education sector of Bangladesh under which a series of talk shows are being telecast on Channel-i every week. The issue of non-formal education was telecast on 3 July 2008 episode where UCEP as a non-formal approach of education was discussed. The episode included general and technical education activities of UCEP.

Annual Painting Exhibition 2008

UCEP organized painting competition from 20 Aug'08 to 30 Sep'08 amongst its students (underprivileged children) during the reporting period and the selected paintings from the competition were displayed in an exhibition at its own premises at Mirpur. The paintings were judged by the renowned artist Mr. Shishir Bhattacharjee, Associate Professor, Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka.

Launching of UCEP Lottery 2008

Launching of UCEP Lottery selling was held on 05 October 2008 at the National Press Club. Special Assistant to the Chief Advisor Brigadier General (Retd.) M. A. Malek formally launched the selling of lottery tickets.

Inauguration of UCEP –Hafiz Mazumdar Sylhet Technical School

Her Excellency Dr. Dora Rapold The Ambassador of Switzerland to Bangladesh formally inaugurated UCEP – Hafiz Mazumdar Sylhet Technical School at a ceremony on 19 October 2008 held at the school premises at Boteshar, Sylhet. Special supplements on the occasion were brought out by ProthomAlo and Daily Star

Foundation laying ceremony of UCEP-BMET Hotel Management and Catering Institute

Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, Honorable Adviser, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has unveiled the Foundation plaque of UCEP-BMET Hotel Management and Catering Institute on 25 November 2008 as the Chief Guest at Technical Training Centre, Alampur in Sylhet. The adviser expressed his impressions about UCEP's nationwide initiatives in different levels of technical training that would greatly contribute to the growth of professional skills development and will create employment opportunities for the underprivileged children of the country.

Mother Teresa Gold Medal-2008

The Executive Director of UCEP-Bangladesh has been awarded the prestigious Mother Teresa Gold Medal-2008 for the role and contribution to the country in transforming underprivileged children into human resource through UCEP Programs. The medal was awarded by the Mother Teresa Research Council and handed over to UCEP Executive Director Brig. Gen. Aftab Uddin Ahmad (Retd.) in a ceremony held at the Bangladesh China Friendship Centre, Dhaka on 17 December 2008. The award is in recognition of efforts of UCEP.

Draw of UCEP Lottery 2008

The draw of UCEP lottery 2008 held at Bangladesh National Press Club on 31 December 2008. Mr. Shaukat Mahmood, Chairman of Bangladesh National Press Club was invited to the lottery draw ceremony as Chief Guest. He formally announced the winning tickets of the Lottery. The representatives of Bangladesh Bank conducted the entire draw.

**4. Funds utilized (in Taka` 000)–Provisional
December 2007-November 2008**

(Provisional)

4.1 Fund Utilized (Amount in '000 Taka)

For the period December 2007 - November 2008

Particulars	Amount in '000 Taka
Fund carried forward/ (receivable) as per audit report as on 30.11.2007	220
<i>Fund received during the period December 2007 - November 2008</i>	
From Development Partners:-	
DANIDA	70,734
SDC	23,478
DFID	371,815
Save The Children, S-D	2,847
RNE	322
Others (Miscellaneous Income)	20,361
Fund available	489,777
Less: Actual Expenses	693,058
Balance remaining with UCEP	(203,281)
Budget for the period (December 2007- November 2008)	693,115
Less: Actual Expenses	693,058
Budget Variance	57

(Provisional)

4.2 Income And Expenditure Statement

For the period December 2007 - November 2008

(AMOUNT IN
'000)

PARTICULARS	BUDGET Taka	ACTUAL Taka	VARIANCE (Excess)/Short Taka
<u>INCOME:</u>			
DONATION (RECEIVABLE)/CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE LAST YEAR		220	(220)
DONATION	693,115	469,196	223,919
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME		20,361	(20,361)
<i>TOTAL INCOME</i>	<i>693,115</i>	<i>489,777</i>	<i>203,338</i>
<u>EXPENDITURE:</u>			
CAPITAL EXPENSES	188,244	205,949	(17,705)
SALARIES AND EMOLUMENTS	372,460	351,265	21,195
Programs	352,760	328,056	24,704
Administration	19,700	23,209	(3,509)
EDUCATION AND SOCIAL EXPENSES	75,128	78,111	(2,983)
OFFICE EXPENSES	14,080	15,380	(1,300)
PROPERTY & BUILDING MAINTENANCE	29,282	28,614	668
HRD/TRAINING	9,800	9,518	282
DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES	3,111	3,264	(153)
MONITORING, RESEARCH & EVALUATION	1,010	957	53
<i>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</i>	<i>693,115</i>	<i>693,058</i>	<i>57</i>
<i>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</i>		<i>(203,281)</i>	

**5. Action Plan for the Period
January-June 2009**

UCEP- Bangladesh
Action Plan (Time Frame of Activities)
Period: January- June 2009

Activities	Year 2009						Remarks
	Months						
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
1. Admit underprivileged children for integrated general and vocational education (IGVE) in feeder schools.							
2. Develop and introduce IGVE curriculum from Grade I.							
3. Develop and introduce IGVE teaching aids/materials.							
4. Involve teachers who are skilled on participatory approach of teaching and learning.							
5. Maintain and expand facilities for IGVE program							
6. Scale up educational activities by establishing schools in other regions of Bangladesh							
7. Strengthen Child Council activities in all schools for development of the programs.							
8. Update code of conduct for the children.							
9. Expand and improve gender-sensitive physical infrastructures (libraries, reading corners, toilets, recreational facilities etc).							
10. Strengthen performing art groups							
11. Continue offering market oriented technical education to all Grade VIII graduates and similar target group.							
12. Review and update curricula of technical education							
13. Install new machinery/ equipment and introduce new teaching training materials as per reviewed curricula.							
14. Train teachers/Instructors/ supervisors on the newly introduced training modules.							
15. Organize industrial attachments/visits before completing the course.							

16 Undertake a study for upgrading technical education.								
17. Strengthen Child Council activities in all schools for development of the programs.								
18. Update code of conduct for the children.								
19. Strengthen performing art groups.								
20. Support the graduates of technical schools to start their own business enterprises or approach favorable employers for wage employment.								
21. Strengthen relationship with potential employers and job promotional agents at home and abroad.								
22. Organize advisory council meetings.								
23. Organization employers' committee meetings.								
24. Expand regional coverage of the Employers Committees.								
25. Strengthen job-hunting days involving the prospective graduates.								
26. Conduct job market surveys.								
27. Update/prepare profiles of potential gender sensitive employers.								
28. Prepare profiles of vacant jobs from newspaper advertisements								
29. Strengthen follow-up on profiles of vacant jobs.								
30. Organize coordination meetings between employers committees and advisory councils.								
31. Enhanced capacity of Employment & Field Services (EFS)								
32. Prepare children through mock interviews for job hunting								
33. Organize workshops/ consultative meetings/ community meetings involving all								

stakeholders (GOs/NGOs, policy makers, industrialists, members of the civil society and others).							
34. Strengthen networking and linkage with MoPME, DSS, BMET, DTE, BTEB, Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment, recruiting agencies and with organizations those provide legal, health and other support to children							
35. Ensure participation and mutual support (in relation to organizations like UNICEF, ILO, CAMPE, BSAF, DAM, CWA, Global March, etc) for enforcement of child rights.							
36. Ensure children's participation in policy/decision making at national and international forums on child rights (child labor, CRC, disability etc).							
37. Formation of children groups.							
38. Briefing/ Training/Workshop for partner organization and children.							
39. Meeting with Child Groups and Child Councils							
40. Dialogue meetings with different stakeholders.							
41. Conduct Training Needs Assessment of newly recruited and promoted staff.							
42. Provide training to staff for professional development.							
43. Utilize UCEP resources for commercial purposes and generate revenue.							
44. Strengthen sponsorship programs both locally and internationally							
45. Expand SME Credit program and make it self-sustainable.							
46. Separate UCEP Multipurpose Cooperative Society and make it self-sustainable							
47. Conduct Mid-Term Review and Phase-end Evaluation by external experts							
48. Prepare future strategic plan (10 years).							

**6. Planned Results for the Session
January-June 2009**

a) Integrated General and Vocational Education

Particulars	Target (Jan-Jun 09)
Students Enrolment	29,201
Number of Boys	14,523
Number of Girls	14,678
Students new Admission	5,270
Minimum Attendance Rate (%)	90%
Maximum Dropout Rate (%)	5%
No. of Graduates at Grade-V	2,716
No. of Graduates at Grade-VIII	2,552
No. of Field Visit/Follow-up	49,620
No. of Classroom Supervision	5,844
No. of Meeting with children's councils	36
Exchange meeting with community, civil society organizations to demand education from Government	36
Consultative meetings with stakeholders in collaboration with other agencies	56

b) Technical Schools

Particulars	Target (Jan-Jun 09)
Student Enrolment	4,200
Gender Ratio (Male: Female) in Enrolment	60:40
Students New Admission	2,004
Minimum Attendance	95%
Maximum Dropout	3%
No. of graduates	2,000
No. of Field Visit/ Follow-up	1,974
No. of Classroom Supervision	480
No. of Meeting with children's councils	45
Consultative meetings with stakeholders in collaboration with other agencies	51

d) Target of Graduates to be Employed (January-June 2009)

Particulars	Target		
	Boy	Girl	Total
Technical school Graduates	1050	620	1670

e) Human Resource Management Component (January-June 2009)

Name of Activities	Time
Instructor's Basic Training	February-March
Effective Social Work	March
Teachers' Basic Training	January-March
Subject wise Training	April-June
Child Rights/CRP/Child Psychology	February
School Management & Leadership Training/TOT	March-April
Gender and Development	May
IAT/Orientation of SSC Voc.	March-May
Training Needs Analysis (TNA) and orientation on Per Eval etc	January-June
Entrepreneurship Development/SME/IGVE	January
Overseas training /workshop	January-June
Preparation/Review of Training Materials	January-June
Need-based Training to Other Institutes	January-June
Training Follow-up/Evaluation	January-June
Staff Recruitment	January-June

Data Tables
Quantitative Progress and Achievements
(July – December 2008)

**Quantitative Progress and Achievements as Per Project Document in the
Session July – December 2008**

Integrated General and Vocational Education

Activities with Targets (as per project document)	Achievement in July – December 2008		
	Boy	Girl	Total
27,004 students enrolled in IGV Schools	13,596	13,760	27,356
50% are girls	Girl : Boy 50:50		
4,665 new students admitted	2,281	2,225	4,506
Minimum attendance 90%	93.73	94.83	94.28
Maximum dropout 5%	3.02	3.07	3.05
2,661 students graduated from Grade-V in each session	1,314	1,434	2,748
2,352 students graduated from Grade-VIII in each session	1,148	1,228	2,376
86 meetings with Child Council Members held in each session	Achieved		
43 Consultative Meeting with stakeholders held in each session in collaboration with other agencies	Achieved		

Technical Schools

Activities with Targets (as per project document)	Achievement in July – December 2008		
	Boy	Girl	Total
4,200 students enrolled in each session	2,569	1,563	4,132
2,004 new students admitted	1,199	847	2,046
2,000 students graduated	1,110	733	1,843
Minimum attendance 95%	95.40	95.94	95.60
Maximum dropout 3%	2.45	2.24	2.37
45 meetings with Child Council members held in each session	Achieved		
51 Consultative Meetings with stakeholders held in each session in collaboration with other agencies	Achieved		

Employment of Graduates

Particulars	Target of Job seekers July – December 2008			Achievement July – December 2008		
	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total
Technical School Graduates	1,013	572	1,585	1,067	646	1,713

In-House-Training Program

SI #	Name of the Course	No. of Participants		Participants
		Target	Achieved	
1	Training on Effective Social Work	25	16	ASA, Teacher, Asstt. Teacher, Instructor, Asstt. Instructor
2	Instructors' Basic Skills Training	25	19	AUA, Instructor, Asstt. Instructor
3	Financial Management & Standard Procedure	---	24	Accountants from the partner organization of UCEP LCS Program
4	Advocacy for ensuring CRC through Social Mobilization	---	48	Asstt. Advocacy & Advocacy Officers from the partner organization of UCEP LCS Program
5	Teachers' Basic Training	30	28	Asstt. Teachers
6	Teachers' Basic Training	30	29	Asstt. Teachers
7	Workshop on Procurement Process & Store Keeping	---	15	Procurement officer & Store Assistant
8	Orientation of Procurement officer	---	03	Procurement officer
9	Orientation of Asstt. Instructor, Garments Unit	---	10	Asstt. Instructor,
10	Total	110	192	

Training Abroad

SI #	Name of the Course	Staff Attended	Level of Participants
01.	Institutional Development Training in India.	14	Div. Coordinator, Program Officer, SA, UA, DPO, APO, Accountant, Div. Accountant, Secretary to D (Prog/CA)
02.	Conference on Decent work (Norway)	01	Executive Director
03.	Strategic Development Approaches for Sustaining Community Based Project (Philippines)	06	Director (Prog/CA), Manager (IGVE, ARM, HRM, FA)
04.	Up gradation of Education System (India)	02	UA, SA
05.	Total	23	

External (in country) Training

SI #	Name of the Course	No. of Participants	Level of Participants
01	Workshop on Developing Handbook on Positive Discipline	01	DPO (Trg)
02	Basic Photography	01	DPO Comm.
03	Gender Training Workshop	01	PO HRGG
04	Workshop on quality Education & CRC	01	Program Officer HRGG
05	Micro Credit Management	01	APO (SME)
06	Basic training on UNCRC	05	Monitoring Officer, DPO, APO
07	A Child Of One's Own	01	PO, HRGG
08	Participatory Monitoring & Impact Evaluation of Development Programs.	01	Deputy Program Officer Research & Development
09	Total	12	