



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 9.5 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 capacities of public and private service delivery 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 female trafficking survivors in particular.

Objectives

Ashshash aims to restore the dignity and well-being of men and women who have escaped trafficking. During the first four years phase (2018 -2022), the programme reached out to approximate 3 million men and women from the trafficking prone areas of Bangladesh, in an effort to raise awareness and 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 reintegration of additional 6'000 trafficking survivors. By strengthening capacities of grassroots public/private service providers, Ashshash aims to increase the quality and availability of service delivery at the local to national levels.

Lines of Action / Components

- Raise mass 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 trafficking survivors.
- Support Government of Bangladesh for the implementation of 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 supports establishment of a national referral mechanism to enable service providers to refer and continue assistance for trafficking survivors. This includes various services (e.g., shelter, legal aid, counselling) according to individual needs to help them overcome the trauma. It also enhances the capacities of individuals and institutions at the grassroots level, enabling them to adopt a more humane and rights-based approach for trafficking survivors, while utilizing existing legal frameworks and tools. Ashshash's joint advocacy efforts with key actors aim to garner increased attention and resource allocation from the Government to combat 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 graduating 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.