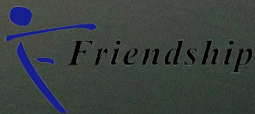


FRIENDSHIP

Innovating to improve
shifting lives in Bangladesh's
most vulnerable communities



WWW.FRIENDSHIP-BD.ORG

WHO WE ARE

Friendship works in Bangladesh's remote and impoverished communities, providing them with health care, education and livelihood support.

In 2002 Friendship began its work with the millions of people living itinerant lives among the shifting northern sandbar islands that thread the mighty Brahmaputra.

An initial floating hospital ship providing medical support quickly was expanded to two, then the medical program grew to include a system of satellite clinics and community health workers. The Lifebuoy Friendship Hospital and Emirates Friendship Hospital treated 115,000 patients in 2013.

Next followed schools and vocational training for adolescent girls, community savings programs, livelihood support, energy

options and infrastructure enhancements designed to tackle conditions among the most challenging anywhere.



Friendship now also works in the cyclone-challenged coastal communities in the Bay of Bengal. There, Friendship in 2013 created a similar community based health care system, this time built around their latest hospital ship, Greenpeace's iconic Rainbow Warrior II, which has been refitted and renamed the Rongdhonu Friendship Hospital. That ship served close to 35,000 patients in 2013.



**Friendship works
in Bangladesh's
remote and
impoverished
communities**

OUR HEALTHCARE PROGRAM

Our hospital ships are equipped with facilities to assist with eye care, dental care, pediatric care, women's health care, investigation services, ward services, and other basic primary and secondary health care needs. Specialized health camps provide secondary health care. Fifteen different types of surgeries are offered to treat prevalent issues with the help of specialized doctors from Europe and the United States. The floating hospitals move among select communities to facilitate access and serve as many patients as possible.



WHY OUR WORK IS IMPORTANT

Not only is Bangladesh perennially at risk of drought, famine, floods and natural disasters, it struggles with extreme poverty and high population density.

Friendship's work in vulnerable areas has become even more relevant amid growing concerns regarding climate change and its effects on high-risk countries of which Bangladesh tops the list.

BANGLADESH AT A GLANCE

only 19 % of rural households have electricity; child marriages, though banned by law, are still common



Poverty

In all, 72 % of the population is rural and of those about half live in poverty, according to the World Bank. Many people living in remote areas lack services such as education, health clinics and adequate communication infrastructure , particularly for access to markets; only 19 % of rural households have electricity; child marriages, though banned by law, are still common.

Climate Change

Although floods always have been an integral part of Bangladesh's history, changing climate in recent years has made weather swings more erratic and the floods more violent. More than half of Bangladesh is less than 20 feet above sea level; thus, double threats to the country are rising sea levels and increasingly violent weather.

Neighboring countries are concerned about the potential for at least 20 million climate refugees to pour across borders in search of assistance as Bangladesh's land disappears amid melting ice caps and glaciers as well as increasingly extreme weather.

Each year, about 500,000 migrants arrive in Dhaka, the crowded capital, which already is home to more than 15 million people.



Life expectancy on the shifting sandbar islands only reaches the late 40s.



WHERE WE WORK

Northern Bangladesh

The northern *chars* are some of the most inhospitable habitats anywhere, yet are home to a nomadic population of 6 million, with an estimated one-third of these people living in extreme poverty. Life expectancy on the shifting sandbar islands only reaches the late 40s. In the rains, the islands shrink to slips of land with often just a few banana trees. Meanwhile, the soil, when it exists, shows relatively high salinity and, consequently, low fertility. During the annual floods, inhabitants and their livestock are forced to rooftops to survive and then to migrate when lands are lost.

Southern Bangladesh – Bay of Bengal

In the southern regions, tropical cyclones, tidal waves, and tidal surges are common; climate change has made the situation even worse. Frequent storms sweep through the Bay of Bengal causing flooding and erosion in the coastline and the islands. These disasters devastate the coastal belt, destroying farmlands, infrastructure and houses, leaving the local population without means of support.





OUR MISSION

To contribute to an environment of justice and equity to empower people to reach their full potential through a sustainable, integrated development approach.

OUR VISION

A world where people, especially the hard to reach and the unaddressed, will have equal opportunity to live with dignity and hope.



FRIENDSHIP PROGRAMS

Disaster Management and Infrastructure Development

- Water and sanitation activities, including latrines, wells, water filters, rainwater harvesting, desalination treatment plants
- 2,686 houses rebuilt
- 9 plinths (cluster villages) raised ahead of floods and 258 households rehabilitated on plinths
- Village rebuilding after cyclones

Healthcare Nutrition and Population

- More than 2 million beneficiaries served by 3-tier healthcare system
- 3 hospital ships host to more than 320 surgical health camps and 13,500 surgeries
- Served by dozens of local doctors and 125 voluntary medical teams from overseas
- 2 river ambulances serve the hospital ships
- 445 satellite clinic days monthly distributed among clinics in the north and the south
- More than 300 trained Friendship Community Medics
- Unique telemedicine initiative that includes 50 community medics working via smartphones



Education and Good Governance

- More than 5,100 students currently enrolled
- 75 primary and satellite schools
- 100 % pass rate of primary school students in national final exam
- 63 literacy centres for adults and adolescents; 1,880 have completed a literacy course.
- 151 teachers – all from the chars
- Innovative English language program
- Good governance trainings on chars

Sustainable Economic Development

- 23,500 beneficiaries
- Formed 176 Friendship Char Development Committees with 40% participation by women
- Initiative providing support to 387 local fishermen
- Additional livelihood support for agriculture, irrigation, rural electrification, tailoring, weaving etc
- 7 weaving, dyeing and printing centres, 112 current trainees

Cultural Preservation

- Preservation of wooden boat-building techniques – model boats of over 67 varieties organized into a traveling exhibition seen worldwide
- Plans for a living museum of boats in Bangladesh, which has a long naval history.

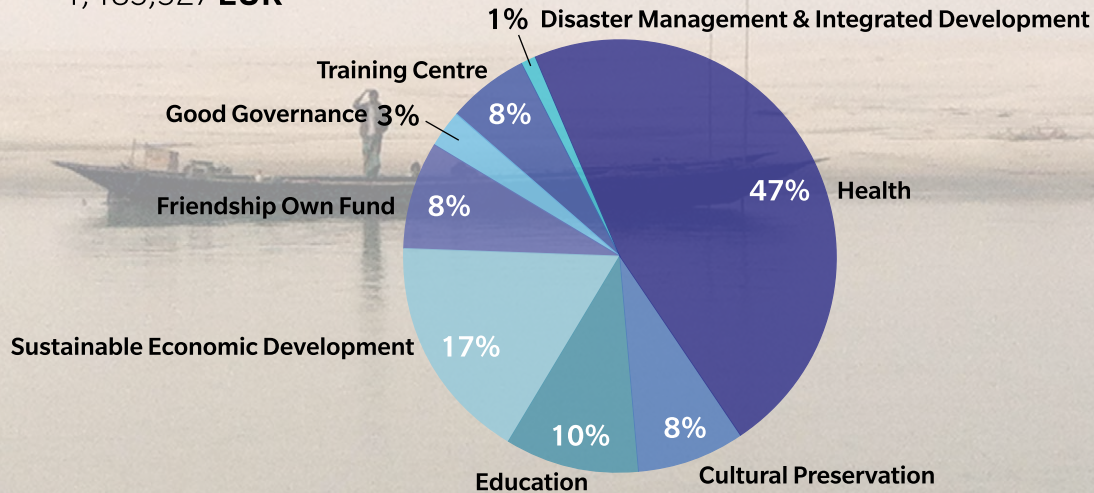
FINANCES

Total Expenses for Year 2013

3,769,751 **GBP**

6,203,388 **USD**

4,485,527 **EUR**



Donors to Friendship include Unilever, Emirates, Cordaid, Kadoorie Charitable Foundation, GSRD Foundation and Crucell.

Friendship is registered as a charitable entity in Bangladesh. It is also registered as such in Luxembourg, United Kingdom, Netherlands, France and Germany.

OUR GOALS

- Increase monthly healthcare beneficiaries (including satellite clinics, treatment by community health medics and the hospital ships) from 35,000 to 60,000 in 500 islands/chars
- Train 500 further Friendship Community Medics; all FCMs equipped with mobile phone-based telemedicine
- Increase the number of enrolled primary school students from 5000 to 7500
- Introduce our good governance program to 250 islands/chars
- Expand the agricultural support program from 3000 to 10,000 beneficiaries



Please help reach our ambitious goals by donating to Friendship!

For Donations by Direct Transfer

Account Name: Friendship UK
Bank Name: Natwest London
GBP Account: 31138284
Branch Sort Code: 60-40-02
IBAN Code: GB09 NWBK 6040 0231 1382 84

Account Name: Friendship Luxembourg
Bank Name: Banque de Luxembourg
BIC Code: BLUXLULL
USD Account: IBAN Code: IBAN LU95 0080 2121 6830 2007
EURO Account: IBAN Code: IBAN LU68 0080 2121 6830 2008



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