

UCEP Bangladesh Profile

1. Organizational Background

1.1. Introduction

UCEP Bangladesh, a leading non-profit and registered non-governmental organization in Bangladesh, has been playing an instrumental role in shaping the lives of thousands of underprivileged children and youth across the country and thus actively contributing towards transforming the socio-economic condition of Bangladesh since its inception in 1972. With the motto “Help to learn, Skills to Earn”, UCEP Bangladesh provides Quality Education to out of school children and Decent Work to youth & adults through its Technical Vocational Education & Training (TVET), Entrepreneurship and Skills Development programs. It has a special focus on social inclusion and therefore gives priority women and girls, persons with disabilities and occupational minorities.

1.2. Lindsay Allan Cheyne: The Founder of UCEP Bangladesh

Mr. Lindsay Allan Cheyne (November 3, 1931-September 15, 1986), a citizen of New Zealand, was one of philanthropists who came to Bangladesh with humanitarian aid after liberation war in Bangladesh, 1972 and started UCEP a pilot project Underprivileged Children’s Educational Programs (UCEP), meant to cater to the educational needs of the less advantaged children with 60 working children. Mr. Cheyne’s initiatives earned a positive boost up and gradually led to a social movement in Bangladesh. The UCEP Bangladesh’s long 49 years’ journey shows how one person’s dream and courage became the aspiration of many and the hope of countless more. Growing from a small initiative with lonely 60 students into pioneering and one of the largest technical service providers in the country.

1.3. Macro-level Contribution

UCEP Bangladesh has been contributing directly to SDG 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 and indirectly to SDG 1 & 2. The work UCEP Bangladesh does is contributing to the government’s macro-level different socio-economic development agendas and priorities.

1.4. Coverage Areas

UCEP Bangladesh has 32 General Schools, 10 Technical schools, 17 Technical Outreach technical training centers, 2 polytechnics and 2 technical institutes through which they are providing education, skills training, and technical assistance.

UCEP Bangladesh has been working in 8 divisions in Bangladesh

2. UCEP Bangladesh Programmes

UCEP Bangladesh has two distinct entities which are:

- UCEP Social Development Programme
- UCEP Social Enterprise Development

2.1. UCEP Social Development Programme

UCEP Social Development Programme currently has four (4) major components, which are related to project implementation addressing certain development challenges.

General Education

- Providing second chance education to out-of-school children

TVET & Skill Development

- Providing marker-driven skills training to youth and adults

Decent Employment & Entrepreneurship Development

- Supporting UCEP graduates for decent work and self employment

Social Inclusion

- Promoting child & women rights and social inclusion

i. General Education Program



UCEP Bangladesh provides second chance education for the dropped out and never enrolled children and adolescents from the underprivileged group following the NCTB curriculum from grade I to Grade X. The students are within 10 – 16 years of age.

The schools offer flexible shifts to the children so that they may join the classes at their convenient time. The schools are equipped with necessary physical facilities along with qualified and competent teachers to deliver quality education. UCEP Bangladesh schools have ICT centers for all their students.

ii. Technical and Vocational Education & Training (TVET) and Skills Development (SD)

UCEP Bangladesh is one of the pioneers in the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector in Bangladesh. UCEP Bangladesh offers an integrated approach to equip the learner with the required technical and employability skill for efficient productivity and effective management of work in jobs, which are prerequisites to promote any value chain system.

UCEP Bangladesh has 10 Technical Schools, 17 Technical Outreach Centers (including partnerships with three government training institutions), and a Community Learning Center. UCEP Bangladesh provides Competency-Based Training and Assessments (CBT&A) through these schools and centers. The Technical Schools are accredited by the Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) as Registered Training Organizations (RTOs) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) assessment centers.





ii. Decent Employment and Entrepreneurship Development (DEED)

Decent Employment & Enterprise Development is the forward linkage programme of TVET and Skills Development programme which includes both wage-employment and self-employment supports to the graduates after completing the skills training at UCEP Bangladesh. The programme also has strong linkages with industries (more than 2,000 industries) and enterprises (more than 1,000) to ensure Decent Employment of UCEP Bangladesh graduates.

Around 90% graduates from our Technical Schools light their dreams up through Decent Work within 06 months of graduation and contributing to the National Goal of Increasing Employment.

iv. Social Inclusion (SI)

Social Inclusion (SI) and Soft Skills (SS) are considered cross-cutting issues in UCEP Bangladesh's programme. A 'Right to Education' approach is followed together with a strong focus on the 'Leave No One Behind' campaign. Mobilization and sensitization of the community, especially guardians and employers are critical for ensuring intake of students and job placement. At present, 40% of students are working children and can avail both education and technical training and 50% are female, 5% person with disability and 2% come from minority groups. Strengthening Soft Skills for enhancing employability and advocating for equity and equality of children and youth, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, are major focuses of this team.



2.2. UCEP Social Enterprise Development

To strengthen its effort for organizational development, it has established UCEP Social Enterprise Development (SED) which contributes to the development of its long-term strategy driven by program learning and its sustainability initiatives.

SED focuses on developing various commercial models and provides business orientations to existing models so that necessary funds can be generated for investing in programme development and continuity. The department provides support to various academic-focused enterprises of UCEP Bangladesh i.e.

- The UCEP Institute of Science and Technology (UIST), Dhaka
- The A K Khan UCEP Private Polytechnic Institute (AKKUPPI), Chattogram.
- The Shaheed Khalek UCEP Textile Institute (SKUTI), Jatrabari.
- The UCEP School and College (USC), Rajshahi.

The department manages commercial ventures such as: The UCEP Training Institutes (UTI) in Dhaka and Sylhet and Cheyne Tower.

3. The Impact of UCEP Bangladesh

About 20,000 students are enrolled in General Schools, and an additional more than 15,000 young and adults receive Technical Vocational Education & Training (TVET) annually. Almost 50% of the students are female, 5% are Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), and 2% are from other socially (ethnic minorities, third gender, etc.) or occupationally (Dalits, Harijans, etc.) disadvantaged families.

From 2016-2020, UCEP Bangladesh provided vocational skills training to 69,663 (female: 39.25%) young people. 87% of the trainees were in jobs within six months of finishing their course. UCEP placed 49% (31% females) of the trainees below the age of 18 years in apprenticeships. Moreover, UCEP reached over 1,448,076 (49% females) people through its promotion and awareness campaigns.

UCEP Bangladesh Achievement in General & Technical Education

- A total of 16,256 students were enrolled General in 2020
- In 2020, a total of 326 students passed the SSC (Voc) exams 98.78% against the national average of about 71%.
- Vocational skills training to **69,663** (female: 39.25%) young people.
- **87%** graduates placed in jobs within six months of finishing their course.
- In 2020-2021 session 450 students enrolled in UIST and 72 students in AKKUPPI. Job will be placed after completion of 4 years diploma program.
- Reached over **1,448,076 (49% females)** people through its promotion and awareness campaigns.

4. UCEP Bangladesh Partners



5. UCEP Bangladesh Board of Governors (2021-2022)

- **Ms. Parveen Mahmud FCA**
Chairperson, UCEP Board of Governors
President, Lions Club of Chittagong Parijat Elite,
Past President, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB)
- **Ms. Uzma Chowdhury, CPA**
Vice Chairperson, UCEP Board of Governors
Director, PRAN-RFL Group
- **Prof. M. Hafizul Islam**
Member, UCEP Board of Governors
Professor, ISWR, Dhaka University
- **Mr. Ar. Mubasshar Hussain**
Member, UCEP Board of Governors
Managing Director, Assoconsult Ltd.
- **Professor Tahmina Akhtar**
Member, UCEP Board of Governors
Director- Institute of Social welfare and Research
University of Dhaka.
- **Mr. Shib Narayan Kairy**
Member, UCEP Board of Governors
Senior Advisor - Finance;
SAJIDA Foundation Bangladesh
- **Ms. Zahida Ispahani**
Member, UCEP Board of Governors
Director of M. M. Ispahani Limited,
Ispahani Tea Limited and MIDAS Ltd
- **UCEP Bangladesh Senior Management Team**
- Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, Executive Director
- Mr. Md. Iqbal Hossain, Director, People & Operations
- Ms. Nazmun Nahar, Director, Finance & Compliance
- Mr. Didarul Anam Chowdhury, Director, Programme & Innovations
- Mr. Jayanta Kumar Bosu, Deputy Director, Micro Enterprise Development

Contact Us

Location Plot # 2 & 3, Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216,

GPO Box No. 482

Phone Number +88-02-48039663, +88-02-48034901; Fax : +880-2-9036359;

Email Address info@ucepbd.org

Website: <https://www.ucepbd.org/>