



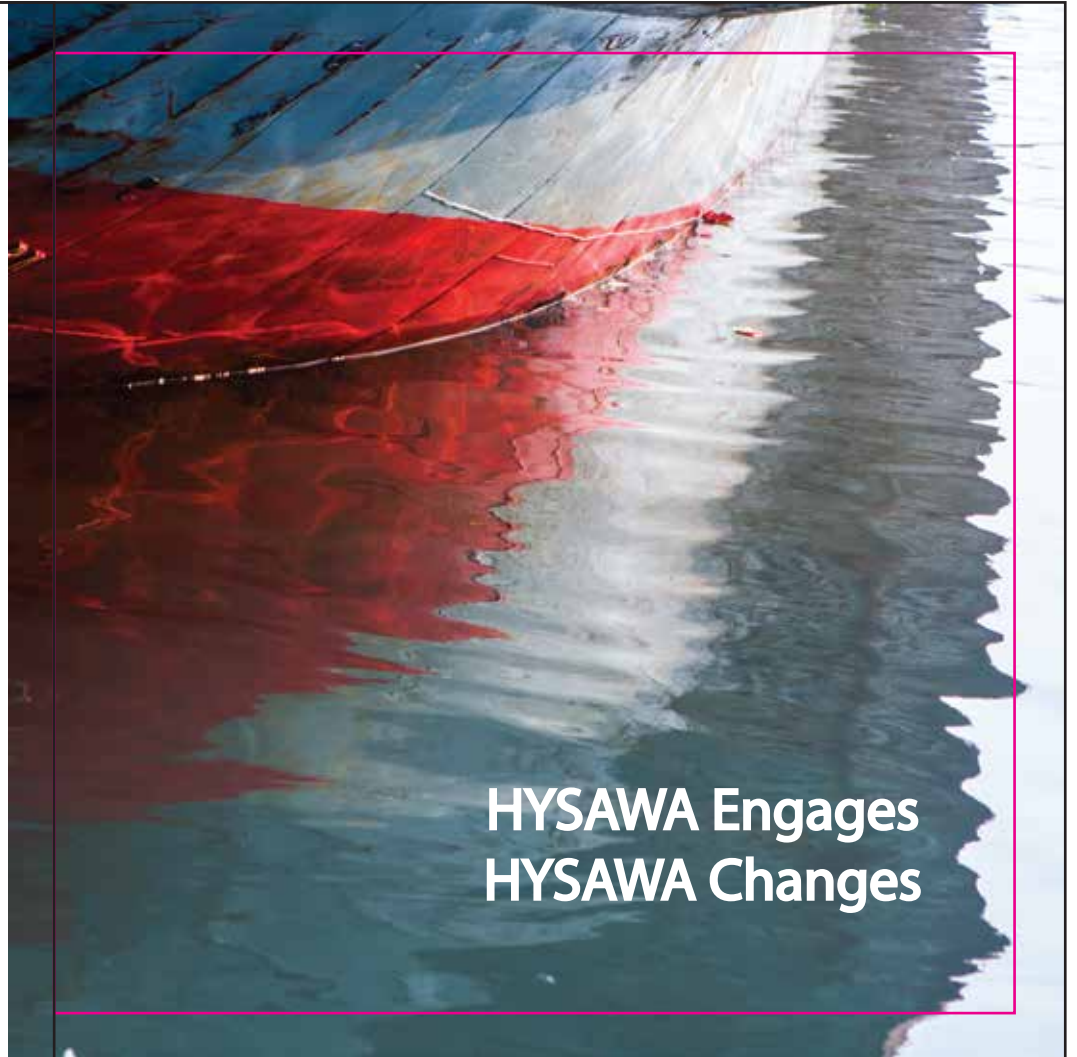
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**HYSAWA Engages  
HYSAWA Changes**





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## Overview | HYSAWA

HYSAWA (Hygiene, Sanitation and Water Supply) is an autonomous non-profit financial institution registered under the Companies Act 1994. It was founded in 2007 to pursue a vision of supporting local governments to deliver hygiene, sanitation and water supply services, with its ultimate aim being sustainable reduction of poverty. HYSAWA became operational in 2008 through a GoB-DANI-DA project and, in the nine years since its creation, it provided financial and capacity-building support to about 1000 Union Parishads that impacted the lives of over nine million people. The institution is governed by a Board headed by Secretary of Local Government Division which sets overall policies and provides strategic direction.

## Major Functions of the Organization

Resource mobilization for Local Government Institutions (LGIs), especially UPs

Capacity development and technical support to LGIs to implement community-based hygiene, sanitation, water supply and climate change adaptation projects

Creating institutional and technical condition for fiscal discipline and financial accountability in participating UPs

Enhancing transparency in decision-making during allocation of financing

## HYSAWA Governing Board

**Mr. Abdul Malek:** Chairman of Board and Secretary, LGD, MoLGRD & CO

**Ms. Nasreen Akhter:** Additional Secretary, LGD

**Ms. Tahmina Begum:** Additional Secretary, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance

**Engr. Md. Wali Ullah:** Chief Engineer, DPHE

**Mr. Peter Bøgh Jensen:** Head of Development Cooperation, Royal Danish Embassy

**Ms. Beate K. Elsaesser:** Director of Cooperation, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

**Ms. Aroma Dutta:** Executive Director, PRIP Trust

**Prof. M. Feroze Ahmed:** Vice Chancellor, Stamford University

**Mr. Iqbal Habib:** Joint Secretary, Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon

**Begum Taslima Absar:** Chairman, Nalua Union Parishad, Chittagong

**Mr. Swapun Kumar Das:** Chairman, Betaga Union Parishad, Fakirhat, Bagerhat

**Mr. Khondokar Iftekher Mohammad Ekoo:** Chairman, Kojjuri Union Parishad, Faridpur Sadar

**Nurul Osman:** Acting Managing Director, HYSAWA

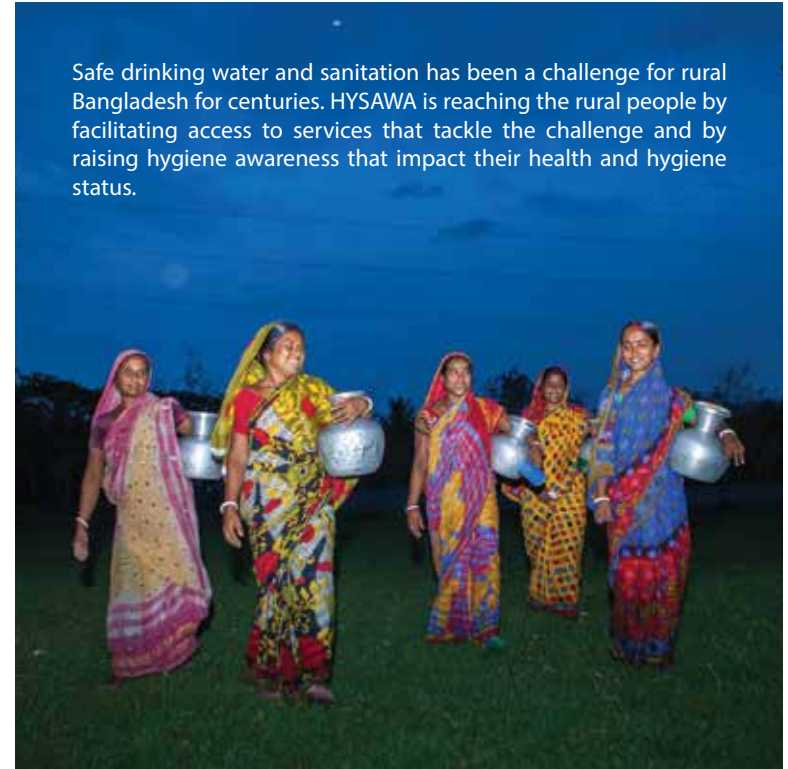


Board members along with HYSAWA officials at 24th HYSAWA governing board meeting



Providing access to clean water and sanitation (SDG 6) and engaging in climate action (SDG 13) are our main focus

Safe drinking water and sanitation has been a challenge for rural Bangladesh for centuries. HYSAWA is reaching the rural people by facilitating access to services that tackle the challenge and by raising hygiene awareness that impact their health and hygiene status.





## How Bangladesh fights the good fight

One of the biggest social challenges in Bangladesh over more than the last two decades has been to ensure health, hygiene, sanitation and clean drinking water in the remote areas of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh, being one of the massively underdeveloped countries of the world until recently has always suffered from basic lacking in facilities and awareness on health, hygiene and sanitation. Lack of knowledge, awareness, financial and material resources - all have played parts in this.

The situation has consistently worsened due to climate factors like loss of lands to erosion, increase in salinity of soil, increase in levels of arsenic in ground water etc. Also incidents like cyclones and tidal waves have left people at constant challenges concerning water and sanitation issues. The existing lack of awareness about hygiene and waste management has also been an impediment in the whole scenario.

The project HYSAWA is designed and implemented as one of the most impactful projects in Bangladesh. Thanks to projects like HYSAWA, which has taken clean drinking water through tube wells and hygienic sanitary latrines to thousands of families in rural Bangladesh, the situation is now so much better.

These projects have put Bangladesh at a level of benchmark in terms of social development indicators.



The Bangladeshi people ever-fraught with troubles of life know how to fight, how to change, learn and adopt



In many parts of rural Bangladesh, safe water is still a challenge, both as a resource and a behavior



Hygiene is a non-existent luxury to many, or may be an unnecessary component of life, unless they are shown the right path





People loses a lot of land to erosion, but also gains some from accretion. New land brings in new people, life begins, life flourishes.



Being at the coastal belt, many people like from Hatiya take fishing as their occupation. They are at a constant fight with nature, as they are hit by cyclones, land erosions. But still they fight back.



## Meet Kohinoor

Kohinoor is a little girl who has barely reached her teens. The traditional culture in rural Bangladesh had created a norm of marrying off girls aged 12 to 15 on a regular basis.

There are a number of reasons that have led people over generations resort to such a strange culture. Mostly owing to lack of education and awareness and zero presence of any concept of women empowerment or acknowledgment of human rights on their parts have led people to marry off their girls early. The situation has been more of a reality for poor families.

That is not all. A general lack of facilities for girls to get educated at schools that have proper facilities for girls have also been a small but important role player in the general trend of early marriage. Kohinoor's fate would not have been any different.

HYSAWA's have brought new reason for girls like Kohinoor to keep on going to school. Girls like Kohinoor no longer need to shy away from schools or become irregular, just because the schools can't provide her with the basic necessities of hygiene and health. HYSAWA has made sure that the school can provide better facility through raised tube wells, sanitary latrines and sanitary disposal bins.



Kohinoor goes to school now.  
She has no reason not to.







Challenges of life don't stop its beautiful sides from showing



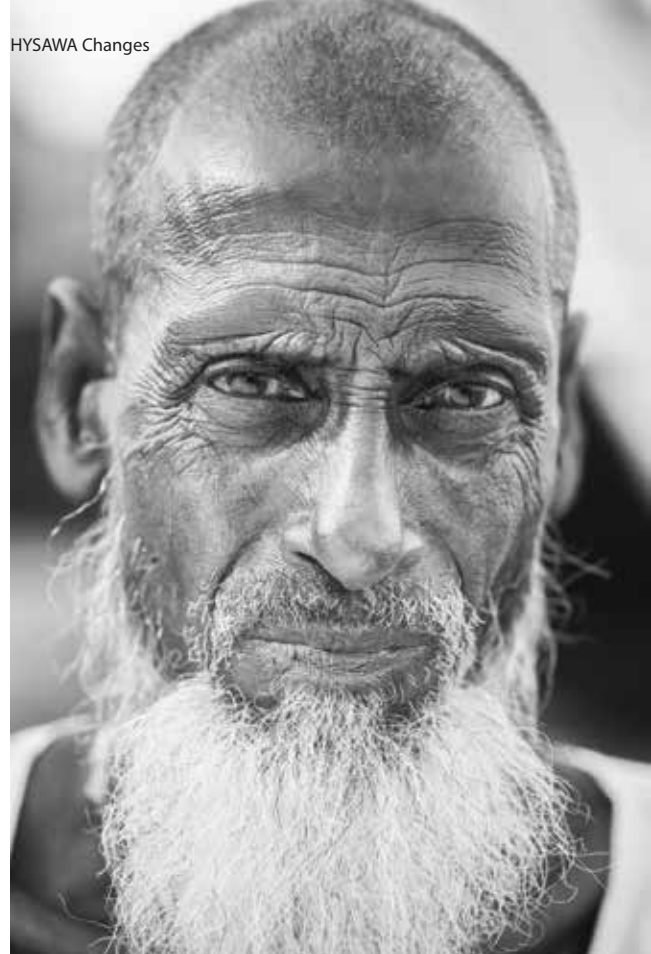
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“I never knew stability in my childhood. It has always been disaster, houses washing away with the tides or cyclones. It was almost part of our lives.

This helped me laugh in the face of nature. I am a hard old nut. I bend, but I never crack.

Life is a lot convenient now, thanks to all the development initiatives you see all around.”

**Sobur Ali, 65 Years, farmer**





“

I lost a son 7 years back, who drowned in the pond near my house. How I regret the day when I had to walk 3 miles to bring drinking water for the family. Only if I had HYSAWA at that time ! Thanks to them, now I have a tube well just next doors.

I don't need to walk 3 miles to get water anymore. But my poor dead child does not know that!"

Rani Roy, 38 years, housewife





SO MANY  
PEOPLE  
HAVE THE  
SAME  
STORY OF  
WATER  
CRISIS...



WE CAN'T LET  
OUR FUTURE  
DRY UP



the dry lands  
and the dead  
trees need new  
life. Such were  
the wails of the  
barren fields in  
the Barind  
track in  
districts like  
Natore in  
Northern  
Bangladesh

The misery co  
tinued until  
HYSAWA had  
something to do  
about it deep  
tube wells and  
appropriate  
technologies,  
HYSAWA  
breathed new  
life into the  
barrenness



## HYSAWA-DANIDA Projects

HYSAWA started its operation with a GoB-DANIDA funded project at the beginning of 2008 and it is scheduled to continue till the end of 2016. The project concentrated its focus on providing safe water and sanitation services recognizing their need for rural development, which contributes to improving the quality of people's lives to a measurable extent. While the project follows a bottom-up planning process, local government Institutions i.e. Union Parishads (UPs) were given a key part in its implementation. HYSAWA provides a range of support services to UPs to build their capacities so as to make sure they are able to perform their designated roles. As yet, over 400 Unions have received project support which ended up benefitting millions of rural people.

Building on the success of this initiative, HYSAWA undertook a DANIDA-funded climate change adaptation project in July 2015 on a pilot basis. It involves various initiatives that reflect local circumstances and take effective actions to combat potential climate risks.

The pilot project, which is set to end in December 2016, is being implemented in 20 UPs of Natore and Noakhali, two districts most vulnerable to climate change effects. These UPs were selected based on a set of criteria including vulnerability to climate change, spatial and social exclusion, coverage of WaSH services and hard-to-reach status. It is estimated that about 0.5 million people will be benefited through the project. The targeted communities in the UPs are assisted to make adaptation plans considering climate change factors and then financially supported to turn those into actions. The results of the pilot are expected to be used in refining the approaches and tools for widespread replication in larger intervention.

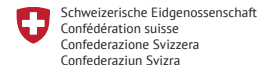


## HYSAWA-SDC Project

The HYSAWA-SDC project through its collaboration with local governments contributed to increasing access to safe water, dignified sanitation and healthy hygiene services in rural Bangladesh. With funding support from Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), it is being implemented in six south-western districts where these services had either been almost non-existent or given little priority. Lowest tier of local government system Union Parishad was given a role in this project's implementation and provided hands-on support to do their duties transparently and accountably. This is a comparatively new approach which succeeded to improve governance quality and also helped deal with the problems of poverty.

The key reasons of inequality in WaSH service delivery were addressed by the project by adopting a people-centric approach for development. To minimize hardships faced by local people, specifically the women, poor and disadvantaged, it has established necessary institutional arrangements for their empowerment. Opportunities for them to interact with local governments were created and an important role in planning and designing their own schemes was given to them.

Through its work the project has made significant progress and brought about transformational change in people's lives. And the experience that LGI functionaries have gained from implementing it and the administrative and financial skills that they attained enabled them to successfully manage other projects and prepared them reach out to community people in the days ahead.



Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC





MOTHER EARTH IS A BLESSING.  
SO ARE ITS CHILDREN.  
A LOT DEPENDS ON THEM IN TERMS OF HOW THEY SHAPE THE NATURE OR THEIR LIVES

## How Union Parishad and PNGOs strive

Reliance on Partner-NGOs and UPs to carry out specific activities remains the cornerstone of HYSAWA projects. UPs are frontline local government institution closer to people. From delivering necessary services to fostering social and physical developments, they are involved in a great deal of project works that help improve people's living standard. One PNGO or in its stead three UP staff members were employed in each UP to help raise community level awareness. The UPs and PNGOs ensure implementation of grass-root level inclusion and poverty reduction in line with government's pro-poor strategy and also emphasize on women empowerment.



The Union Parishad, once seen as a government office for mere official formalities is now more than that. It stands an icon of hope and development for the rural people





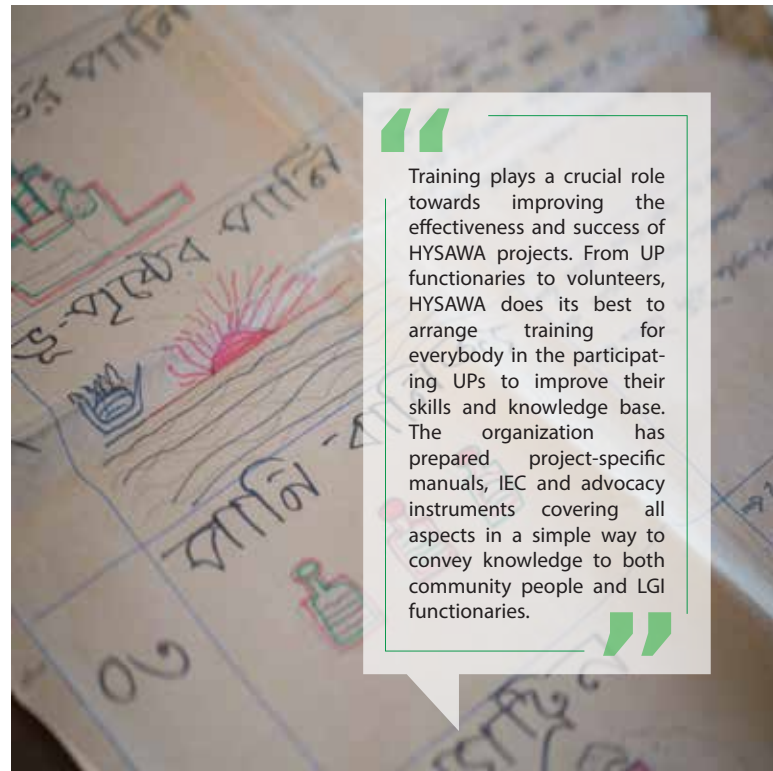
People behind the scene - the people from UP



Assessments of ground realities enhance decision-making. Under HYSAWA projects, communities assess their situation and make plans in their respective forums (known as CDF) and the priorities set by the people guide UPs in the right direction



They finally come up with plans about how to address water, sanitation and hygiene problems and cope with the effects of climate change



Training plays a crucial role towards improving the effectiveness and success of HYSAWA projects. From UP functionaries to volunteers, HYSAWA does its best to arrange training for everybody in the participating UPs to improve their skills and knowledge base. The organization has prepared project-specific manuals, IEC and advocacy instruments covering all aspects in a simple way to convey knowledge to both community people and LGI functionaries.



“It has been an amazing experience to really be able to do something for the people. It makes your life easier as a UP chairman when you get non-government support to do things that really matter - get close to people”

**Humayun Kabir Bablu** -Chairman,  
Nolchira, UP, Noakhali





Rajarhaola Govt. Primary School in its all modesty standing among the amazing greenery.



Primary Schools are now something beyond a place for formal education. PNGOs have made school students aware and ensured that they make others aware about climate change effects, and how they can play a role, be a change maker.





PNGO workers sharing information with the children



Women are an important part of change in the society, so they are an integral part of PNGO led awareness





Community Organizers play a vital role in making the community aware by engaging people through the use of IEC/BCC materials and conducting sessions



Not to mention some interactive games which make learning fun, such as red ribbon play



Tube Well for all. Thanks to HYSAWA, it's not a luxury anymore, but an available facility.



PNGOs have worked hand in hand, helping the UPs set up HYSAWA endorsed technologies to combat climate change effects, like the smart water pump, the sanitary measures like raised plinth latrine, raised tube well platform, climate friendly earthen oven etc.





“

HYSAWA has brought hygienic water at arm's length of the villagers. The raised tube wells and the joy of the villages at being able to use them speak for themselves.

”





The HYSAWA-installed raised tube-wells have inspired villagers to raise some of the old tube wells through their own initiatives



The green energy solutions have taken power to the doorstep of people who are mostly out of reach of national power grid.

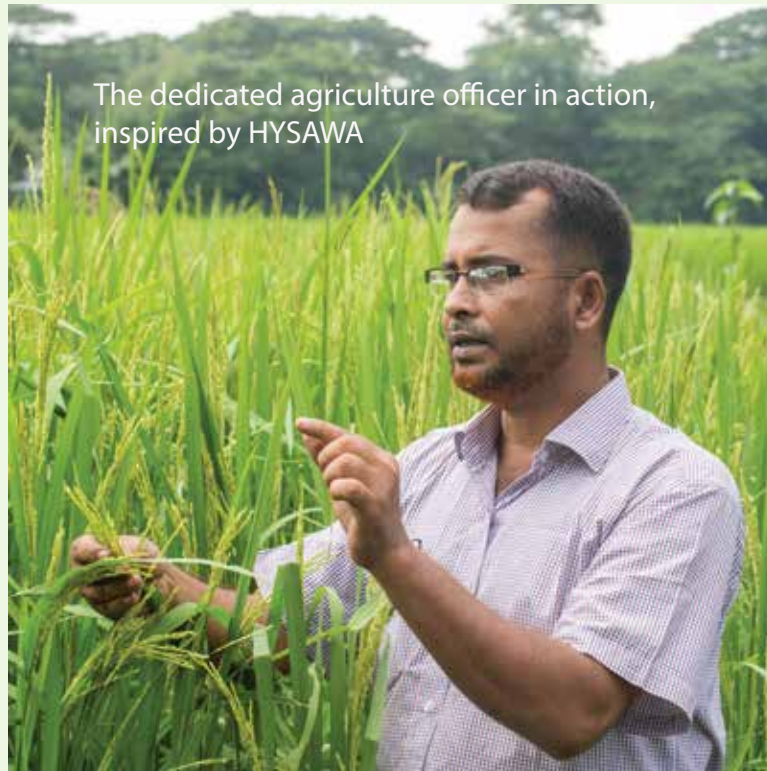


The Agriculture Officer of the locality is an important part of HYSAWA's implementation plan for climate -vulnerable areas where agriculture is the main source of income.

Regular tips and guidances for agriculture won't work here. So the agriculture officer has to teach farmers to cope with climate change, adapt to it and make the best of the scenario to cultivate, grow and sustain.



The dedicated agriculture officer in action, inspired by HYSAWA



## Meet Community Volunteer Rina

Rina's life as a simple housewife changed when she was trained by Hashi, a PNGO that HYSAWA Engaged to work with her community. Being not only part of the change, but the change agent itself has added a whole new meaning to Rina's life.



Each busy day sees Rina talking to school students at one time, then talking to some household members in her community at another.





She is now an important voice in her community, as they listen to her, talking about changes they can make together.



That is not all. Every day, she teaches people something new, about health, about hygiene like teaching the right way to wash hands

## HYSAWA ensures drinkable water through RO Technology

In many areas of coastal Bangladesh, ground and surface water is salinized or contains high concentration of iron and arsenic, making it undrinkable. In one such area of Satkhira district, at Jhaudanga Union Parishad, HYSAWA has installed a water purification plant incorporating Reverse Osmosis (RO) technology. The RO technology involves high pressures to force water through a semi-permeable membrane, leaving behind any dissolved chemicals in the original solution.

The plant was set up in January 2016 and has a production capacity of 10,000 liters of water a day. It uses three different sources of water – rainwater, groundwater and pond water – to minimize water treatment cost and purifies them for drinking. Since the installation, treated drinking water from the plant is being transported to homes of people living in nearby villages through vans, thereby alleviating their suffering.



Thanks to the Reverse Osmosis (RO) water purification plant, people have a new ray of hope. For the first time in life, they can get top quality purified water. More affected regions are in need of such an intervention



### **HYSAWA supports the development in Chittagong Hill Tracts**

A geographically isolated region of Bangladesh, Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) has long been disadvantaged in terms of equitable access to safe water and basic sanitation services.

With HYSAWA playing a major role, the situation has significantly improved in recent years. The organization financed installation of about 800 water points and 87 institutional latrines there.

HYSAWA's awareness activities in the region have also triggered community desire for collective change. HYSAWA is inspiring people of Bangladesh to create a sustainable culture of change and adoption



The underprivileged communities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts who have been so much away from quality livelihood amenities can now get access to safe water



## HYSAWA Achievements at a Glance



3,260 latrines set up or renovated in schools and public places



67,513 water points installed benefitting more than 3.5 million people, most of whom are poor and hard-core poor.





“

9 million people were made aware of the importance of water safety and also hygiene practices in hand washing, latrine use, food preparation, household waste management and measures during menstruation

”



About 1,000 Union Parishads received funds from HYSAWA

“

1.8 million families either newly installed sanitary household latrines or renovated their traditional latrines, thanks to awareness creation and motivation by HYSAWA

”





## Meet Shihan - the school girl gone superstar

Shihan is a student of Class 5 at Rajarhaola Govt. Primary School in Hatiya. She was like Kohinoor or just any another young girl who was very irregular at school, largely because of inadequate facilities a girl should need at a place where she needs to stay the whole day.

All that changed when the PNGO made dramatic changes to the school hygiene facilities through HYSAWA funds. A revitalized sanitary latrine, a magic pump that not only gives water for use but also pumps water to an overhead tank, a hygienic ladies' spot at the restroom to dispose sanitary napkins and tend to other feminine needs.

Every great initiatives need role models to show the way, to inspire others to follow the path to greatness. Shihan has chosen to be a HYSAWA ambassador. She is the voice of health, hygiene and behavioral change at her school.

Now not only Shihan is a regular school goer, thanks to the orientation from the PNGO she also is a voluntary communication mediator at her school, making her classmates aware with support from her teachers. She is now the behavioral change communication superstar – inspiring the change by being the change



A happy Shihan on her way to school with all the eagerness to learn and inspire.



“

Shihan using the innovative magic water pump that not only supplies with water but also stores on an overhead tank

”



“

Shihan demonstrating the sanitary bin to dispose of sanitary napkins which, thanks to HYSAWA, is a facility that inspires girls to go to school again

”





## Towards a green future

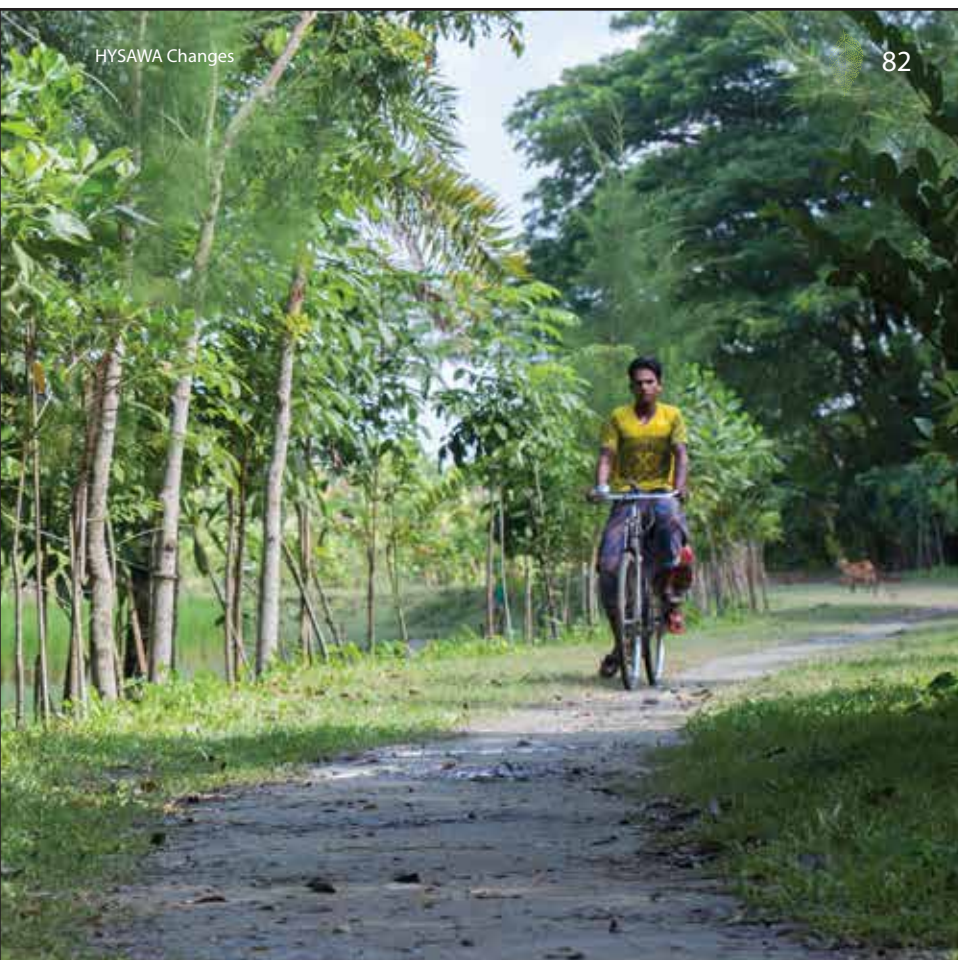
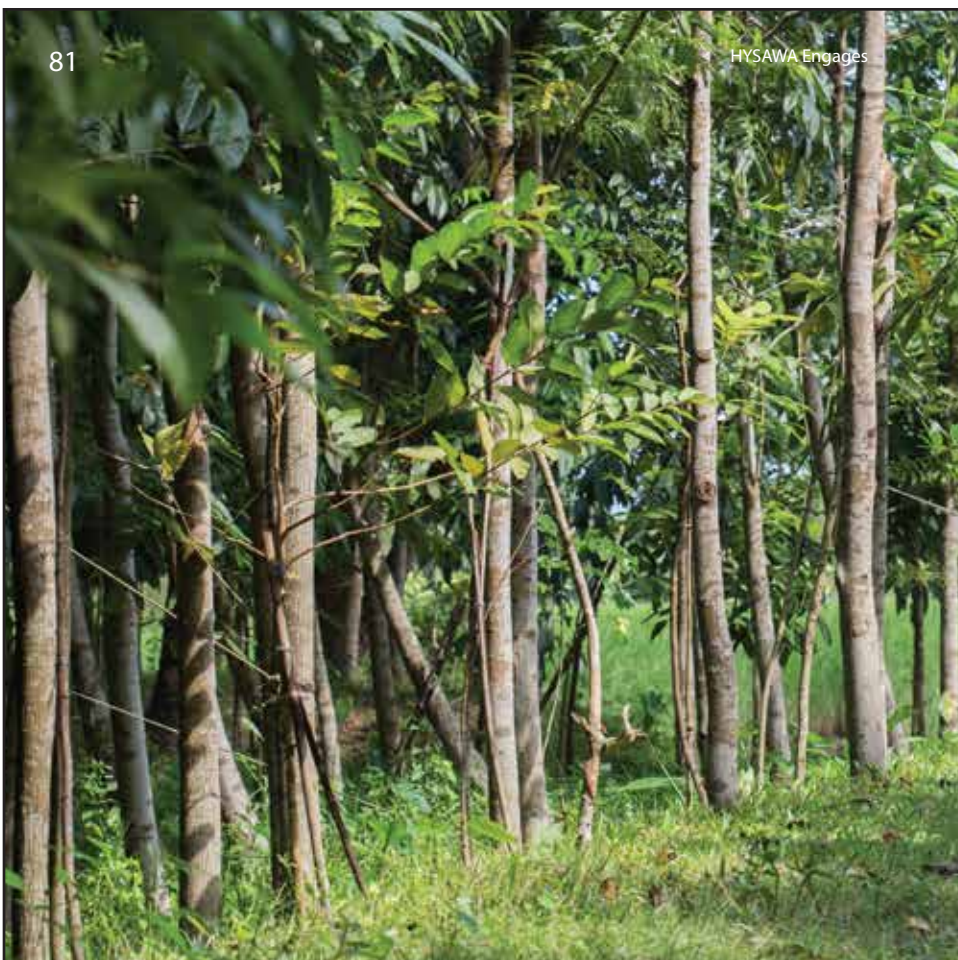
There is still much to be done to protect this beautiful planet and build a green future. That's why HYSAWA motivates the communities to work together to create a better tomorrow.

Roads are raised to combat tidal wave movements. The people of the community join hands to make this happen. And to add a cherry to the top, trees provided by HYSAWA are planted along the side... reminding us of the beautiful things in life that matter.

The right learnings to adopt, to adapt, to learn, to live... and leave no one behind.

Because HYSAWA engages, HYSAWA changes









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