

USAID/BANGLADESH
PROJECT ASSISTANCE COMPLETION REPORT

I. Summary Data Sheet

Project Title: Human Rights Support Project
Project No.: 388-0091

1. Authorization Date: 08/30/90
2. Grant No.: 388-0091-G-SS-0056-00 Date: 08/30/90
3. Grantee: Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights
4. Implementing Agency: N/A
5. Technical Assistance Contractor(s): N/A
Amount(s): N/A
6. Final Evaluation (Date): N/A
7. PACD: Original: 09/29/91 Final: 12/31/91
8. Financial Status (through 12/31/91):
 - a. Authorized \$46,150
 - b. Obligated \$46,150
 - c. Disbursed \$42,961
 - d. Unliquidated \$ 3,189
 - e. Deobligated \$ 3,189
9. BDG Contribution:
 - a. Planned N/A
 - b. Actual N/A
10. Other (including Donor) Contributions:
 - a. Planned N/A
 - b. Actual N/A
11. Planned USAID Inputs:
 - a. Training (in-country only) \$ 5,763
 - b. Salaries, Vehicle & Equip., Travel etc. \$40,387

Actual USAID Inputs:

 - a. Training (in-country only) \$ 5,511
 - b. Technical Assistance, etc. \$37,450

12. Planned Outputs:

- a. Training of at least 100 human rights volunteers
- b. Conduct 25 Investigations related to human rights violations

Actual Outputs:

- a. A total of 100 human rights volunteers from selected branches were trained in 4 batches during the grant period (August 1990 to December 1991)
- b. 25 investigations on human rights violations were conducted. Synopses of these were included in the reports.

13. Checklist:

a. All contract/assistance close-out activities have been completed (see Attachment 1).

b. All financial close-out activities have been completed (see Attachment 1).

c. Official project files have been checked for completeness and organization; those no longer required for implementation, evaluation and/or monitoring have been retired to storage. [Note: project files are not well-organized. The majority of the documents in the Human Rights Support project files do not deal specifically with this project, but instead involve broader democracy topics. PRO secretaries have been instructed to clean up these files. It is possible that documents -- e.g., progress reports -- that legitimately belong in the Human Rights Support project files are misfiled elsewhere. PRO will not retire the Human Rights Support project files until they are cleaned up and the errors corrected to the extent possible. However, the possibility exists that a number of official documents are missing.]

PO: *RHm*

Date: 7/10/95

15. Clearances:

- a. PRO: 1/6 Date: 2 AUG 95
- b. CONT: BO Date: 7/12/95
- c. CO: AW Date: 8/1/95
- d. RLA: AW Date: 7/13/95
- e. PDE: MEY Date: 7/26/95
- f. DD: JS Date: 2 AUG

16. Approved: Karl Schwant 2 DIP(A)
Richard M. Brown, Mission Director

Date: 2 AUG

Distribution:

Project File
Mission Director and All Clearing Offices
USAID/W:
PPC/CDIE
ANE/SA/B
ANE/SEA/IRM
RIG/A, Singapore

Project Assistance Completion Report Narrative

I. Project Purpose/Description:

The Human Rights Support project was a one year grant under the Democratic Pluralism Initiative Small Grants Program, a centrally funded activity with funds allocated to the mission. The Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) is a local non-governmental organization created in 1979 with the objective of protecting human rights. The grant was to support the Human Rights Investigation Team investigating issues relating to human rights violations with a view to creating favorable public opinion and thereby preventing their recurrence. The Team also suggested remedies to the concerned authorities for immediate redressal of the human rights abuses investigated.

Because BSEHR is national in scope, it has a network of local volunteers throughout the country who monitor human rights and report alleged abuses to the Dhaka headquarters office. Since many volunteers had no training in recognizing human rights abuses or reporting and investigating them, this grant was to train up to 100 local volunteers. The grant was also to provide a vehicle, a video camera and still camera, and a tape recorder to assist in investigating and documenting human rights abuses.

II. End of Progress Status

a. Current project status, including status of completion of various project elements (e.g., procurement, construction, technical assistance, training):

Due to delay in obtaining the BDG NGO Affairs Bureau approval, activities under the grant were started from January 1, 1991, instead of August 30, 1990. As a result, the grant period was extended up to December 1991 to complete all the project elements. During the grant period, 100 volunteers were trained, and a vehicle, a computer, a taperecorder and a photocopier were procured, in addition to the completion of the planned 25 investigations.

b. Progress toward achievement of project purpose:

The training and the support equipment provided under the project greatly improved the operational capability/effectiveness of the Human Rights Investigation Cell, which was evident from the fact that the Investigation Cell was able to conduct all the planned 25 investigations on human rights violations during the grant period.

III. Non-U.S. Contributions (BDG/Donors/Participants): N/A

IV. Sustainability/Post Project Monitoring:

a. Statement on grantee continuing responsibilities -- monitoring and initiatives to further project goals. How will project benefits continue after USAID funding stops? Identify local capacities/resources and leadership to ensure that appropriate "benefit streams" continue. Are the effects of the project likely to have sustainable development impacts? N/A

b. Description of continuing and/or post project USAID/B monitoring responsibilities, including timing and resources: N/A

The grant was made with the full understanding of both the parties that this will be a one-time assistance, with the specific purpose of improving the operational effectiveness of the Human Rights Investigation Cell, through the provision of support equipment, vehicle, training of volunteers and salary support. By the end of the grant period, i.e., December 31, 1991, all the project activities were successfully completed and as evidence of improved effectiveness, the Human Rights Investigation Cell was able to complete all the planned 25 investigations on human rights violations.

V. Lessons Learned: N/A

a. Assessment of the appropriateness of any unmet conditions and covenants and grantee reporting requirements: N/A

b. Description and assessment of previous and planned evaluations: N/A

c. Summary of lessons learned from the project that might be relevant to programming, design and implementation of other activities: None

VI. Conclusions and Recommendations:

Statement on the impact of the project and a listing of recommendations for follow-on, future activities, etc.