



EVOLVE

- Project location**
Derai, Sunamganj
- Budget**
€300,000
- Duration**
(15 Dec 2025 to 14 Dec 2028)
- Project participants**
4770 direct & 8400 indirect rightsholders

Empowering Vulnerable & Orphaned Girls by Leveraging Education

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Bangladesh has made progress in human development, yet many children, especially girls still face barriers that limit their safety and futures. Poverty, limited education, social stigma, and lack of awareness continue to drive early marriage, with more than half of girls married before 18. This places them at greater risk and restricts their access to education, health, safety, and wellbeing. Located in the haor, one of the most remote areas in the country, the situation is more severe in Sunamganj District, especially in Derai Upazila, where high poverty (21.8%), low female literacy (48%), and school dropout increase the vulnerability of orphaned and disadvantaged girls.

To address this, Islamic Relief is launching the Empowering Vulnerable & Orphaned Girls by Leveraging Education (EVOLVE) project. The initiative helps 300 at-risk girls stay in secondary school, prevents child marriage, and improves their well-being. By focusing on the Karimpur, Jagdal, and Rajanagar unions, the project aims to build local resilience and create a safer environment for these girls.

PROJECT GOAL

Improved well-being of orphaned and vulnerable girls by increasing rate of retention in secondary schools and strengthening their protection.

PROJECT APPROACHES

The project uses an integrated and rights-based approach that combines education, livelihood, and protection. It works at individual, family, institutional, and community levels to address the range of challenges faced by the vulnerable girls.

The project aims to create a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment where girls can learn, stay in school, and enjoy their rights. It strengthens education support, improves family livelihoods, and builds community systems that promote protection and dignity for all children.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Improve academic performance and retention**
by increasing access to education for girls and preventing early marriage.
- Boost family income**
by providing sustainable ways for households to earn a living.
- Strengthen community base child protection**
by building the skills and knowledge of community members and local leaders.

STAKEHOLDERS



MAJOR INTERVENTIONS

Individual level

- Support 300 vulnerable girls with stipends, education materials, and tutorial assistance.
- Provide assistive devices for girls with disabilities.
- Facilitate sessions on rights, protection, life skills, health, and well-being.

Institutional level

- Establish student clubs and mini-libraries.
- Provide ICT resources, sports materials, and learning support.
- Train teachers, SMCs, and PTAs on child rights, protection, and gender-responsive education.
- Set up basic health support corners and organize health camps.

- Facilitate extracurricular activities and improve MHM and gender-friendly WASH facilities.

Family & community level

- Facilitate Self-Help Groups and build skills in financial literacy, leadership, and income generation.
- Provide livelihood support and cash grants to the most vulnerable families.
- Increase awareness on gender equality, child protection and education throughout the community.
- Strengthen Union-level Child Protection Committees and promote awareness on early marriage, GBV, MHM, SRHR, and inclusion.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

EVOLVE follows Islamic Relief's commitment to a rights-based, inclusive, and community-led approach. It promotes dignity, equity, and participation, ensuring that all activities uphold the rights of girls and allow them to take part in decisions that affect their lives. The project gives special attention to age, gender, disability, and socio-economic vulnerability. It also prioritizes accountability, transparency, and strong safeguarding practices throughout all stages of implementation.

Empowering Vulnerable & Orphaned Girls by Leveraging Education (EVOLVE)

Country office

Islamic Relief Bangladesh
House 10, Road 10, Block K
Baridhara, Dhaka-1212
Tel: +88 02 222293458, +88 02 222299130
+88 02 222299128, +88 02 222261329

Project office

Malekha Bhabon, 1st Floor
Holding: 25-2624, Village: Madhani Moholla
Derai Pourashava, Sunamganj
Tel: +8801911291404

Find us on:    