



PROJECT BRIEF:

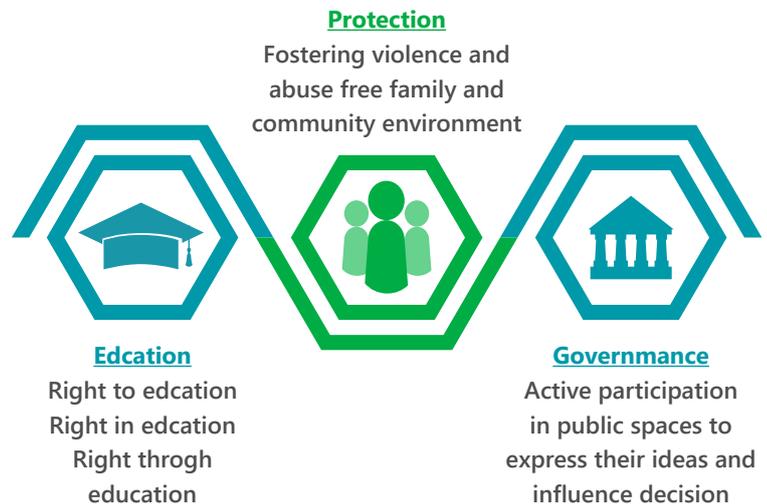
ODHIKAR FOR CHILDREN

Introduction:

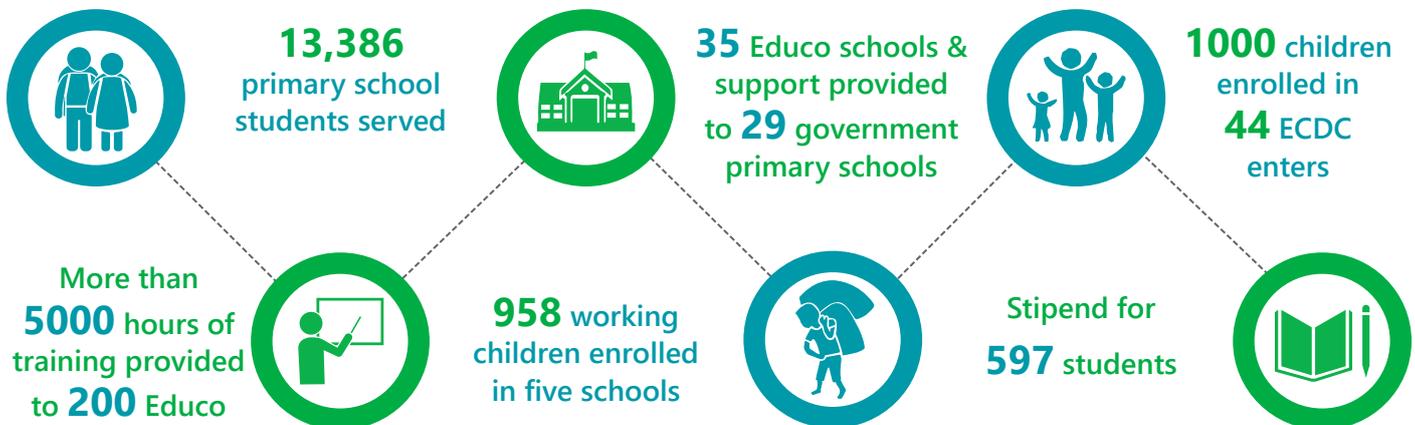
Child labor is legally restricted in Bangladesh yet there are approximately 3.5 million working children in Bangladesh of whom 1.2 million are engaged in hazardous work. The livelihood of these children affects them both physically and mentally eventually hampering their future potential.

Glimpse of Educo activities in 2018

Educo, previously known as Foundecion Intervida, has been working on child rights issues in Bangladesh since 1999. It was founded with a vision to create a world where all children fully enjoy their rights and lead a life of dignity. Educo is working in four continents (Africa, Asia, America and Europe) with three strategic focus- Education, Protection and Governance. Currently there are 35 Educo Bangladesh run schools in Dhaka, Gazipur, Narayanganj and Mymensingh areas. Out of these 35 schools, 5 are for working children.

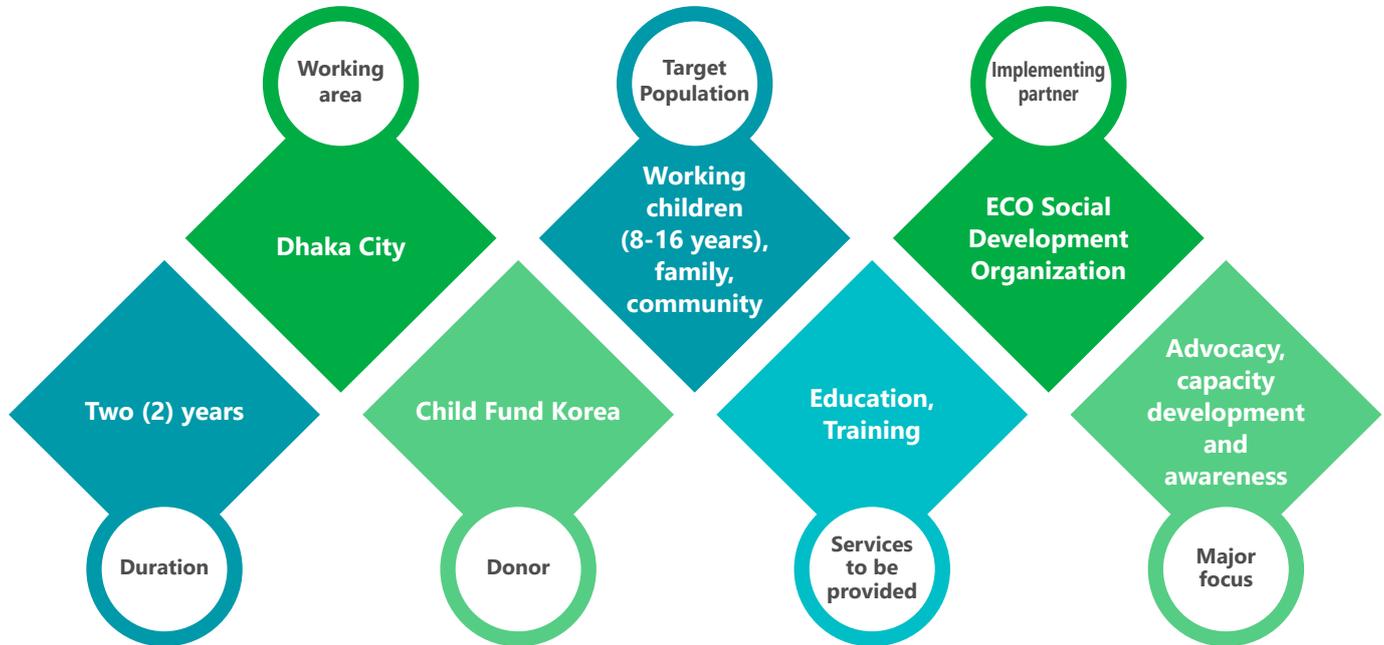


Educo in 2018





PROJECT AT A GLANCE



ODHIKAR Project

With funding from Child Alliance Korea Educo is initiating a two-year piloting project entitled "Options for Dignity of Human being by Influencing Key Actors to Reform" (ODHIKAR). In Bengali ODHIKAR means right. The project will be working with children engaged in domestic labor and in the transportation sector. The objectives of the project are,

- Child labor related policies law and regulation adopted at national level
- Working children and youth in domestic and transport sector have access to basic and vocational education and health services
- Communities combat against child labor and exploitation especially hazardous labor.

The project will be implemented in three (3) communities in Dhaka city. Educo with the support from partner organization *ECO Social Development Organization (ESDO)* will establish three (3) schools in slum areas where there is a high concentration of working children engaged in the domestic and transportation sector. Over the period of the project 300 working children will receive primary education. Upon completion of their primary schooling the students will also be given vocational training. The intervention will also work with the families of these children and link them with alternative livelihood options/professions. The project has three major components,

1. Advocacy for better policy activation and implementation
2. Developing capacity of the children and their families through education and training
3. Improving awareness of the families and communities through campaign and other activities

In order to achieve the above objectives and effectively work on the three components of the project Educo will be working with Ministry of Labor and Employment (MoLE), child right alliance members, development partners, NGO, civil society and other major stakeholders.

The ODHIKAR project aspires to build a strong network among the relevant stakeholders and identify the priority areas that needs to be addressed to mitigate this challenge. The project will conduct in-depth research and intends to provide support to government in evidence-based policy making. In addition, the project intends to strengthen the technical capacity of the Child Labor Unit (CLU) under Ministry of Labor and Employment through providing technical support. By undertaking strong advocacy efforts at local and national level ODHIKAR expects to ensure implementation of existing laws and policies and formulation of new laws and policies where applicable.