**Manusher Jonno Foundation**

**ToR for Study on**

**Impact of COVID 19: Lives and livelihoods of child labors of Bangladesh**

1. **Background**

Bangladesh is one of the most densely populated countries in the world, with about 150 million people, 61 million of whom are children below 18 years of age[[1]](#footnote-1) or about 40% of the population. Despite notable progress in poverty reduction, over 31 per cent of Bangladeshi households still live below the national poverty line[[2]](#footnote-2). An analysis of child poverty reported that 46 per cent of children in the country live below the national poverty line; 23 per cent in extreme poverty[[3]](#footnote-3). These children are typically deprived of four out of seven of the following basic services: water, sanitation, nutrition, education, health, information and shelter[[4]](#footnote-4). Bangladesh is also one of the world’s most disaster-prone countries, with 97.1 per cent of its area and 97.7 per cent of its population at risk of multiple hazards. Climate change is increasing the frequency and intensity of these disasters. The impact of such hazards plays out in reduced food intake, reduced levels of sanitation and hygiene, limited health expenditures and withdrawal of children from school for work. Urbanization is straining the capacity of all service providers. Education, parenting support, health care, water and sanitation, and child protection services are severely limited for the urban poor, and vulnerability to eviction underlies and compounds the difficulties slum dwellers face. In addition, an increase in child headed households and many of these children have no access to social security or land rights, especially if their parent’s deaths are not registered. In this situation, the childhood of thousands of children ends prematurely with their entry into work or married life. Child labour is a coping strategy of families that are facing daily challenges for their survival. There is an increase in the numbers of child-headed households where children have no access to social security or land rights especially if their parents’ deaths were not registered. Child marriage is justified by the willingness of parents to protect their daughters against sexual abuse or loss of honor due to sexual relations outside marriage, and to ensure their capacity to pay the dowry that increases with the age of their daughter.

The situation deteriorated during the outbreak of COVID 19 in Bangladesh since March 2020. A lot of people, regardless of age and gender, lost their job during the lockdown periods. A lot of business had to shut down during this period as a result of the restrictions implied in mobility, gathering and opening business centers. At the same time, due to closure of educational institutes, it is assumed that a lot of children got introduced to the job market towards the end of the year 2020 and beyond. So, it is very important to assess the situation especially, of working children during this period.

1. **Objective**

The objective of the study is to assess the situation of working children and figure out recommendations to improve their livelihoods for advocating with concerned Government department(s).

1. **Scope of Work**

Undoubtedly Covid- 19 has created disorders in everyday life and lives of millions of people, mostly as health threats, economic and social impacts irrespective to class, gender and ethnicity. However, children are facing all the Covid impacts differently, which is alarming. It is not happening only in Bangladesh rather whole world are almost in same position depends on different country contexts. The study will show the exact scenario of Bangladesh in this regard. To be more specific, the scope of the study is:

* + - To explore the current status of the different type of child labour vulnerability in the selected areas and Covid 19 impact
    - To identify best practices in that community to reduce number of child labourer
    - To develop a model that is replicable to other areas
    - To prepare report with meaningful recommendations for sharing with the public, government high officials, donors, stakeholders etc.

1. **Key Issues of the Study**

The proposed study design a systematic approach to social and behavior change simultaneously with on-going efforts focusing on the strengthening of local (village/ward) and Upazilla/Thana level child protection system(s). The study will aim to set inter-locking and coordinate systems that will feed into each other and focus on wide-ranging prevention and response activities as well as creating positive attitudes, beliefs and values towards children’s human rights. The study aims to assess the situation of child vulnerability, in terms of their engagement as labourers in targeted areas in Bangladesh, key areas where MJF and its partner organizations are working to support Bangladesh’s progress toward the realization of children’s vulnerability and protect rights of children.

1. **Geographic Locations**

8 selected districts (Barishal, Cumilla, Dhaka, Gazipur, Bhola, Patuakhali, Jhinaidaha, and Khulna)

1. **Methodology and Sampling**

Mixed method (quantitative and qualitative) method is expected to be adopted for the proposed study with statistically significant number of respondents from the selected 8 districts of Bangladesh.

1. **Time Frame**

**September 2021-December 2021**

1. **Deliverables**

* Inception Report including detailed plan of action and timeline
* Draft questionnaire(s) and check-lists before finalization
* Finalized questionnaire(s) and check-lists
* Draft report
* Final report with recommendations

1. **General Terms and Conditions**

* **Proposal and Budget**

The consulting farm/individual will provide a proposal (outline on methodology, prior experience of the firm/individual consultant on similar type of study and budget). The budget will include consultancy fee, preparation and making copy of study report, transport, accommodation, food and data collection cost of consulting farm/consultant any other cost (if applicable). VAT and tax will be deducted at source as per government rule of Bangladesh.

* **Mode of Payment:**

A payment schedule is given below against the deliverables

| **Sl. No** | **Deliverables** | **Payment schedule** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Submission of Inception report and invoice | 30% of the total amount |
| 2 | Submission of Draft report and invoice | 40% of the total amount |
| 3 | Submission of final report and invoice | 30% of the total amount |

**Copyright and Ownership of Assignment**

MJF reserves the copyright of all information, findings and the final documents produced through this process.

* **General Clause**

All documents prepared during the assignment will be treated as MJF property. Assignment will not be sub-contracted to anyone.

* + If any additional time is required to complete the contract, over and above that previously agreed to, without changing the scope of work, then it has to be agreed by MJF in writing to Rafeza Shaheen, Coordinator, before 10 days ending of Consultancy period. Request for Extension must be submitted with proper justification.
  + If required any change in the **Scope of Work** by MJF, it should be rationalized in written with required cost or time, or any part of the work under the contract, equitable adjustment in the contract price, delivery schedule, or both will be amended in writing.
  + The consultant/team will be responsible for all their costs including taxes, subsistence, transport and accommodation.
  + Submissions which do not meet all the basic requirements will not be reviewed.
* **Penalty Clause**

If the agreed deadline and / or deliverables are not adhered to by the consultant/team, financial penalties will be imposed upon the consultant/team in terms of payment. This is specified as follows:

* In case of delayed submission of the deliverables up to one-month delay, 30% of the contract amount will be deducted.
* Delay of more than one month, will result in auto cancelation of the contract and forfeit of the remaining 50% of the contract value.
* Confidentiality of all aspects of the assignment is to be assured by the consultant/team at all times.
* **Disclaimer**

Manusher Jonno Foundation reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals/applications without assigning any reason what so ever.

* **Disclosure of information**

It is understood and agreed that the Consultant(s) shall, during and after the effective period of the contract, treat any information obtained in the assignment of the performance of the Contract as confidential and not disclose any part of it, unless authorized in writing by Manusher Jonno Foundation. Information will be made available for the consultants on a need-to-know basis.

* **Safeguarding /Protection Policy**

The individual consultant /team/Firm shall comply with the MJF’s Policies on safeguarding and Child Protection. Any violation /deviation in complying with MJF’s Policy on Children Protection and vulnerable adults will not only result-in termination of the agreement but also MJF will initiate appropriate action in order to make good the damages/losses caused due to noncompliance of MJF’s safeguarding policy.

**Submission of Proposal**

Technical and financial proposal along with CV/organizational profile, copy of TIN etc. should be submitted to Manusher Jonno Foundation by e-mail to [subarna@manusher.org](mailto:subarna@manusher.org). Deadline for submission of the abovementioned documents is 26th September 2021.

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1. Government of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Population and Housing Census 2011 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Government of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2010 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. MoSW, 2016, 2016 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Child Poverty and Disparities in Bangladesh, 2008. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)