

Addressing Root Causes:

global fund
for
children



Matter
of Focus
Evidence. Action. Change.

A community-led journey to lasting change

Empowering communities in Bangladesh to reduce harm and create lasting, systemic change



The ARC initiative worked with six organisations in Bangladesh: Alokito Kori, Arshirbad Mohila Unnayan Samity, BRED, DHARA, ECDO, and Grow Your Reader Foundation.

The Global Fund for Children supports locally-led organisations around the world to advance the rights of children and youth through flexible funding and capacity building. Its Addressing Root Causes (ARC) initiative empowers communities in Bangladesh to tackle the underlying causes of child harm and exploitation—such as poverty, inequality, and lack of opportunity—through community-led, youth-driven, and preventative approaches.

Using the Community Life Competence Process (CLCP) and the SALT framework (Support, Appreciate, Listen, and Transfer), ARC fosters trust, reflection, and community-driven solutions. The initiative empowers youth and communities to lead local interventions, reduce harm, and promote child rights, while inspiring confidence in their ability to drive meaningful change.



People feel confident, connected and ready to act

"I felt more connected and motivated."

– GYRF participant



Communities have the power to take collective action

"These dreams are no longer abstract—they are being realised."

– Midline Report



Those with less power start leading change

"I now feel I have the same right to speak up as others."

– ECDO participant

"Change begins small but multiplies to create a profound impact."

– Raufun Nabi

Systemic change starts with people



Organisations grow more inclusive and collaborative and spread the approach

"SALT showed us that authentic relationships are the foundation."

– Mithun Das Kabbo

"Before, we didn't think we had a role. Now we know that change can start with us."
– Participant, Arshirbad digital inclusion programme



Systemic change is emerging as communities take action

We used to wait for someone to fix things. Now we know we can start the change ourselves."

– Youth participant, BRED

ARC contributes to the following outcomes



Improved wellbeing and connectedness



Greater equity and inclusion



Communities aligned for sustained change