



Report of 1st quarter of 2nd year

(Reporting period: September 2025 – November 2025)



Project Title:

Strengthening the Feminist Movement to Fight Against Violation of Rights

Funded By: Feminist Opportunities Now (FON), CREA, USA

Report prepared & submitted

By

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1. Executive Summary

During the first quarter of the second project year (September–November 2025), the Nice Foundation, in collaboration with 10 partner CSOs, continued to strengthen grassroots feminist organizing and community resistance to gender-based violence (GBV) across targeted areas. The project remained focused on empowering women, adolescent girls, persons with disabilities (PWD), transgender individuals, and other marginalized groups through leadership development, awareness rising, and coordinated advocacy.

The project was implemented primarily in 20 villages across Batiaghata and Dumuria Upazilas of Khulna District, with extended outreach in eight additional districts. A total of **182 events** were conducted during the reporting period, reaching **2,494 direct beneficiaries**, exceeding planned participant targets while maintaining strong community engagement.

Key activities included monthly coordination meetings with CSOs, leadership meetings with Community Young Women Leaders, regular women’s and adolescent group sessions (Girl Shine), and courtyard sensitization sessions targeting caregivers and community members. The quarter demonstrated effective collaboration, improved awareness on GBV prevention and PSEA, enhanced leadership capacity among women and girls, and increased community-level dialogue around gender equality and social justice.

2. Background and Project overview:

The Nice Foundation launched this initiative in September 2024 to strengthen grassroots feminist activism, combat systemic gender-based violence (GBV), and empower women, girls, and marginalized communities through legal support, leadership training, and advocacy. Implemented across two Upazilas and supported by 10 CSO partners, the project continues to promote feminist values and collective resistance against rights violations through education, mobilization, and coalition building.

3. Geographical Coverage:

Primary Areas: 20 villages in Batiaghata and Dumuria Upazila of Khulna District.

Extended Coverage: 8 additional districts: Bagerhat, Barisal, Comilla, Cox’s Bazar, Dhaka, Jessore, Jhenaidah, and Satkhira.

Partner CSOs (10): Manobadhikar Songoskriti Foundation, Bonchita, Aid Cumilla, WE, SEBA, ASDDW, SKUS, Prerona, Dhruva, and SUVO.

4. Project Goals and Objectives:

The project goals to build a robust, sustainable feminist movement by empowering young women, mobilizing marginalized communities, influencing policy, and fostering solidarity to achieve long-term gender equality, systemic change, and social justice.

Specific objectives:

- Strengthen feminist voices through leadership and CSO capacity building.
- Raise community awareness to prevent GBV and promote justice.
- Promote inclusion in policy discussions and community decision-making.
- Advocate collaboratively for gender equality and systemic change.

4. Beneficiaries Coverage:

Direct and indirect beneficiaries included:

- Community young women leaders, feminist HRDs
- Girls and adolescent groups (including PWD and transgender)
- Caregivers, women's groups, religious leaders, CSO staff
- Journalists, elected local representatives, and government officials

Total direct beneficiaries this quarter: **2494**

Total events from 10 activities: **182**

6. Key Activities:

- Online coordination meetings with CSOs and FON staff of Nice Foundation
- Women and adolescent group meetings (Girl Shine)
- Sensitization courtyard sessions
- Leadership development meeting with Community Young Women Leaders

7. Progress during the Reporting Period (September 2025 – November 2025):

7.1. Activity Progress at a Glance:

Sl. No.	Name of Activity	Target		Achievement		Variances		Participants' Category	Remarks
		Event	Participants	Event	Participants	Event	Participants		
1	Monthly online meetings with the CSO/ CBO and project staff on project progress and implementation plan	3	16	3	16	0	0	CSO and the project staff of Nice Foundation (NF)	
2	Quarterly meeting with Community Young Women Leaders and Feminist Human Rights Defenders including PWD, Transgender	9 (NF=1, CSOs=8)	46 (NF=30, CSOs=16)	8 (NF=0, CSOs=8)	16 (NF=0, CSOs=16)	1	30	Community Young Women Leaders and Feminist Human Rights Defenders, including PWD, Transgender	
3	Monthly Meetings with	84 (NF=	840 (NF=	84 (NF=	840 (NF=	0	0	Women's groups	

Sl. No.	Name of Activity	Target		Achievement		Variances		Participants' Category	Remarks
		Event	Participants	Event	Participants	Event	Participants		
	Women Groups (PWD, Transgender)- Total 20 groups, in each group 30 women.	60, CSOs= 24)	600, CSOs= 240	60, CSOs= 24)	600, CSOs= 240)			including PWD, Transgender	
4	Monthly Meeting with Girls/Adolescents Group (PWD, Transgender) (Girl shine) Total 20 groups, in each group 30 Girls.	54 (NF= 30, CSOs= 24)	540 (NF= 300, CSOs= 240)	54 (NF= 30, CSOs= 24)	540 (NF= 300, CSOs= 240)	0	0	Adolescent girls, including PWD, Transgender	
5	Courtyard sessions to sensitization of Caregivers, PWD, Transgender	32 (NF= 24, CSOS= 8)	800 (NF= 600, CSOs= 200)	32 (NF= 24, CSOs= 8)	1032 (NF= 832, CSOS= 200)	0	0	Caregivers, PWD, Transgender	
6.	Arrange International Girls Child Day	1 (NF= 1, CSOS= 0)	50 (NF= 50, CSOs= 0)	1 (NF= 1, CSOS= 0)	50 (NF= 50, CSOs= 0)	0	0	Community People including the members of Women group & Girls Shine group	
Grand Total		183	2292	182	2494	1	0		

7.2. Activity Progress in Details:

7.2.1. Monthly Online Meetings with CSO/CBO and Project Staff: A total of three online meetings were conducted during this quarter to assess project progress and adjust implementation strategies. Each session was attended by 16 participants, including 10 CSO representatives and 6 staff members from the Nice Foundation.

Discussion Topics Included:

- Review of targets, challenges, and progress in activity execution
- CSO capacity support and budget utilization tracking
- Collective analysis of community engagement effectiveness

- Share the story of change in direct beneficiaries

Outcome: CSOs expressed satisfaction with the coordination platform.

7.2.2. Quarterly Meetings with Community Young Women Leaders (CYWLs) and Feminist Human Rights Defenders including PWD and Transgender:

A total of 8 meetings by 8 CSOs were held, involving 16 participants (2 CYWLs from each CSO).

Key Discussion Points:

- Gender-Based Violence (GBV), early marriage, and their social and emotional impacts on women and adolescent girls.
- Roles of adolescent girls’ leaders and women group leaders in preventing GBV and early marriage within their communities.
- Strategies for disseminating information and raising awareness among families and community members.
- Reporting and follow-up mechanisms for GBV incidents through project staff.
- Introduction to Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), including its purpose and key objectives:
 - Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse
 - Coordination among NGOs, government, and communities
 - Awareness for staff and beneficiaries
- Importance of regular communication and coordination among community leaders.

Outcome:

- Increased knowledge of GBV, early marriage prevention, and PSEA among women and adolescent leaders.
- Community leaders committed to raising awareness and sharing information at family and community levels.
- Improved reporting and follow-up of GBV incidents through established project mechanisms.
- Strengthened coordination between community leaders and project staff



Monthly Online Meeting with CSO and Project Staff



Meeting with CYWLs, SUVO, Barisal

7.2.3. Monthly Meetings with Women Groups (PWD, Transgender): A total of 84 meetings were conducted across 28 women’s groups (20 groups by NF and 8 groups by CSOs), reaching 840 participants.

Content Covered:

- Types of GBV including Child Marriage, Dowry, Domestic Violence etc. and steps for local-level prevention.
- Economic empowerment and skill-building for marginalized women.
- Gender equality and gender justice.
- Dialogues around equal participation in household decision-making.

Outcome: Attendance was consistent, and group leaders began organizing peer-led awareness talks, reflecting leadership development and ownership.



Women Group Meeting, Nice Foundation, Khulna

7.2.4. Monthly Meetings with Girls/Adolescents Group (Girl Shine): A total of 54 Girl Shine sessions were held with 18 adolescent groups (10 groups by NF and 8 groups by CSOs), involving 540 adolescent girls. It is being mentioned that the Nice Foundation has formed new 10 adolescent groups with 300 new members (30 girls in each group) from June 2025.

Topics Discussed:

- Menstrual health and hygiene, and stigma reduction
- Personal safety, “bad touch vs. good touch” education
- Consequences of child marriage and how to prevent it
- Building leadership and voice in peer networks

Support Materials: Dignity kits (including sanitary pads) were distributed monthly.

Outcome: Many girls took initiative to engage school peers and family members in conversations around menstrual hygiene and GBV.



Girls Shine Group Meeting, AID Comilla

7.2.5. Courtyard sessions to sensitization of

Caregivers, PWD, and Transgender: A total of 32 courtyard sessions were organized (24 by NF and 8 by CSOs) with reaching 1032 participants.

Topics Covered:

- Nature and consequences of GBV and its impact on mental and physical well-being
- Rights and needs of PWD and transgender individuals
- Responsibilities of caregivers in creating protective environments
- Roles of men and boys in challenging harmful gender norms
- Enhancing the easy access to decision making processes



Courtyard Meeting, Bonchita, Jessore

Outcome: Increased participation of male family members and elders was observed. Storytelling and testimonies from community members made the sessions deeply impactful.

Remarks: Participants appreciated the real-life case simulations and were encouraged to integrate these learnings into ongoing community interactions.

7.2.5. International Girl Child Day: organized to celebrate the International Day of the Girl Child on October 11, 2025, with the aim to:

- Raise awareness about the rights of girls and the importance of gender equality.
- Discuss key challenges faced by girls, such as gender discrimination, gender-based violence (GBV), and child marriage.
- Engage community members in meaningful dialogue to foster a safer, more inclusive society for girls and young women.



Girl Child Day Celebration, Nice Foundation, Khulna

Activities of the Events

1. Community Discussion Sessions:

Two interactive discussion sessions were organized in two villages under the project area. The sessions were attended by girls, parents, youth leaders, and local community members. The sessions were designed to be participatory, with group discussions, Q&A sessions, and personal storytelling. Facilitators from the

Nice Foundation encouraged critical reflection and promoted open dialogue among participants, especially encouraging girls to voice their experiences and aspirations.

2. Play Cards Display

As a creative and visual advocacy tool, a play cards display was set up in both villages. The play cards carried impactful messages and illustrations highlighting:

- The rights of girls and women.
- The harmful effects of child marriage and GBV.
- The importance of education and equal opportunities for girls.
- Empowering messages promoting gender equality and feminist values.

These displays attracted considerable attention from local residents, especially youth, and served as a medium to generate interest and discussion beyond the structured sessions.



Girl Child Day Celebration, Nice Foundation, Khulna

Outcomes and Impact

- Over 45 community members directly participated in the sessions.
- Participants, especially girls, reported increased awareness and motivation to stand up for their rights.
- Local leaders and parents expressed commitment to supporting girls' education and standing against child marriage and GBV.
- The use of visual advocacy (play cards) created an engaging atmosphere and helped convey key messages effectively to people of all literacy levels.
- The events fostered a sense of community solidarity and highlighted the importance of collective action to advance gender justice.

8. Summary of Observation:

Implementation during this quarter reflected strong organizational coordination, high community participation, and growing local ownership of feminist values. Regular online meetings strengthened alignment between the Nice Foundation and partner CSOs, allowing for timely problem-solving and shared learning. CSOs demonstrated increased confidence in implementation, reporting, and budget utilization.

Women's and adolescent group meetings showed consistent attendance, indicating trust in the program and relevance of the issues addressed. Community Young Women Leaders displayed improved understanding of GBV, early marriage prevention, and PSEA mechanisms, and actively engaged in information dissemination within their communities.

Courtyard sessions revealed a notable increase in the participation of male family members and community elders, suggesting gradual shifts in attitudes toward shared responsibility in preventing GBV. Participatory methods such as storytelling and real-life case simulations enhanced engagement and understanding, making discussions more relatable and impactful.

Overall, the quarter highlighted the importance of inclusive, community-led approaches in fostering awareness, leadership, and collective action against systemic gender-based violence.

9. Key Result:

- **Enhanced leadership and awareness:** Community Young Women Leaders, women group leaders, and adolescent girls demonstrated increased knowledge and confidence in addressing GBV, early marriage, and gender inequality.
- **Strengthened coordination and accountability:** Regular coordination meetings improved collaboration between the Nice Foundation and partner CSOs, contributing to effective implementation and follow-up of activities and GBV cases.
- **Expanded community engagement:** A total of 2,494 direct beneficiaries were reached, including women, girls, caregivers, PWD, transgender individuals, religious leaders, journalists, and local representatives.
- **Improved reporting and response mechanisms:** Community leaders became more proactive in reporting GBV incidents and following up through established project mechanisms.
- **Positive shifts in social norms:** Increased involvement of men and boys in courtyard sessions indicated emerging support for challenging harmful gender norms and promoting shared decision-making.

10. Conclusion:

The first quarter of the second project year demonstrated meaningful progress toward building a sustainable feminist movement rooted in community leadership and collective action. Through inclusive engagement, consistent capacity building, and strong partnerships with CSOs, the project effectively advanced awareness, leadership, and advocacy against gender-based violence.

The achievements of this quarter underscore the value of community-driven feminist approaches in addressing systemic inequalities and promoting social justice. Building on the momentum generated, the project will continue to deepen leadership development, strengthen advocacy efforts, and expand inclusive participation to ensure long-term impact and sustainability in the coming quarters.