



## Report of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2<sup>nd</sup> year

(Reporting period: December 2025 – February 2026)



### Project Title:

**Strengthening the Feminist Movement to Fight Against Violation of Rights**

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

Report prepared & submitted

By

Afroz Zahan

Project Coordinator

FON Project

## 1. Executive Summary

During the second quarter of the second project year (December 2025–February 2026), 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 **166 events** were conducted during the reporting period, reaching **2596 direct beneficiaries**, exceeding planned participant targets while maintaining strong community engagement.

Key activities included monthly coordination meetings with CSOs, regular women’s and adolescent group sessions (Girl Shine), courtyard sensitization sessions targeting caregivers and community members and celebrating the 16 Days of Activism. 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: **2596**

Total events from 10 activities: **166**

## 6. Key Activities:

- Online coordination meetings with CSOs and FON staff of Nice Foundation
- Women and adolescent group meetings (Girl Shine)
- Sensitization courtyard sessions
- Day observation of 16 Days of Activism

## 7. Progress during the Reporting Period (December 2025 – February 2026):

### 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.	Monthly Meetings with Women Groups (PWD, Transgender)- Total 20 groups, in each group 30 women.	84 (NF= 60, CSOs= 24)	840 (NF= 600, CSOs= 240)	84 (NF= 60, CSOs= 24)	840 (NF= 600, CSOs= 240)	0	0	Women's groups including PWD, Transgender	
3.	Monthly Meeting with Girls/Adolescents Group (PWD, Transgender) (Girl shine)	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	

Sl. No.	Name of Activity	Target		Achievement		Variances		Participants' Category	Remarks
		Event	Participants	Event	Participants	Event	Participants		
	Total 20 groups, in each group 30 Girls.								
4.	Courtyard sessions to sensitization of Caregivers, PWD, Transgender	24 (NF=24, CSOS=0)	600 (NF=600, CSOs=0)	24 (NF=24, CSOs=0)	668 (NF=668, CSOS=0)	0	0	Caregivers, PWD, Transgender	
5.	Arrange 16 Days of Activism	1 (NF=1, CSOS=0)	60 (NF=60, CSOs=0)	1 (NF=1, CSOS=0)	532 (NF=532, CSOs=0)	0	0	Community People including the members of Women group & Girls Shine group	
Grand Total		166	2056	166	2596	0	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. 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.



Monthly Online meeting

**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.
- Cyber bullying and Cyber security

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



Women Group meeting, Dumuria

**7.2.3. 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
- Consequences of child marriage and how to prevent it
- Building leadership and voice in peer networks
- Cyber bullying and Cyber security

**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, GBV and cyber security.



Girls shine group meeting – merge with 16 Days of Activism

**7.2.4. Courtyard sessions to sensitization of Caregivers, PWD, and Transgender:** A total of 24 courtyard sessions were organized by Nice Foundation with reaching 668 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

**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. 16 Days of Activism:** In alignment with the global **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence**, Nice Foundation, with support from the FON Project, implemented a comprehensive and inclusive 16-day campaign from 25 November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) to 10 December (Human Rights Day) 2025. The campaign aimed to raise awareness, empower vulnerable groups, amplify survivor voices, and promote community-led action to prevent GBV.



Courtyard Meeting – merge with 16 Days of Activism

The campaign reached 532 participants directly through 16 diverse activities, including school awareness sessions, adolescent girls’ dialogue circles, digital safety discussions, street drama, survivor storytelling, community courtyard meetings, men’s engagement sessions, legal aid awareness, health and well-being camps, and a grand closing ceremony. Activities were conducted across three upazilas and Khulna city ensuring geographical coverage and community ownership.

Key achievements of the campaign include:

- Increased community awareness on GBV, women’s rights, digital safety, SRHR, and legal protections
- Strengthened confidence and leadership among adolescent girls
- Enhanced visibility and validation of survivor voices
- Increased engagement of men and boys in promoting positive masculinity
- Improved access to health and psychosocial support for women and

survivors



Story Telling session of 16 Days of Activism

**Outcome:**

- Reached around 600 participants directly across 16 days
- Increased awareness on GBV, digital safety, health, and legal rights

- Strengthened survivor confidence and community solidarity
- Promoted men's engagement and positive social norms
- Created safe spaces for marginalized voices

## 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. 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. Organized to observe the 16 days of Activism and 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:** Women group members, and adolescent girls demonstrated increased knowledge and confidence in addressing GBV, early marriage, gender inequality and cyber security.
- **Strengthened coordination and accountability:** Regular coordination meetings improved collaboration between the Nice Foundation and network CSOs, contributing to effective implementation and follow-up of activities and GBV cases.
- **Expanded community engagement:** A total of 2,596 direct beneficiaries were reached, including women, girls, caregivers, PWD, transgender individuals, religious leaders, journalists, and local representatives.
- **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 second 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 networking 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.

