

Training on Health Hygiene and COVID-19 Awareness

Date: 17-18 August 2021 | **Participants:** 22 (26 Female, 6 Male)

Description: ARISE Bangladesh is currently working with BRAC UDP in Shyampur, an informal settlement located at the edge of Kadamtali Thana, under Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC). With the support of ARISE Responsive Fund, BRAC UDP and BRAC JPGSPH have organized two days long health hygiene and COVID-19 awareness training for Community Development Organization (CDO) members & Ward committee leaders of Shyampur, Dhaka, on August 17, 2021. There were 22 participants (16 females and 6 males) in the training session. In this training, the CDO and Ward committee members have been informed about their personal health and hygiene obligations and have learned about their responsibilities regarding health as members of their community. As the COVID-19 pandemic is persisting in communities, personal and community hygiene has been a prime focus. Through the mentioned training, CDO and ward committee members have been provided with comprehensive knowledge of COVID-19— how to minimize the spread, care if infected, quarantine rules, etc. Since CDO and Ward committee members are influential in their respective communities, they can cascade this information to the rest of the communities. CDO and Ward committee are the two important local governance actors who are influential and have a good reach in the community.

In order to build community leadership, BRAC Urban Development Programme (UDP) supports the community to form Community Development Organizations (CDO) where each CDO represents a cluster of 300 to 500 households inside the targeted slum. Other vital local governance actors are the Ward committee members who are representatives of a particular ward who represent various interests (ie. water, sanitation, education, etc.) within the ward which is chaired by the ward councillor. They are meant to be an institutionalized channel of communication and interaction between communities and municipalities. The objective of interacting with these local governance actors is to ensure community participation in the development of initiatives and to promote women participation in decision making. CDOs, as the representatives of their own community, play the primary role in representing the voice of their community to the governance actors like ward councillors, local elected members of the Local Government, city authorities and other formal service providers. To ensure community's participation in all stages of interventions' implementation.

Organised by: BRAC UDP and BRAC JPGSPH