

MEDIA RELEASE



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION DHAKA

Australia helps Bangladeshi children walk for life

On 10 July in Jessore, Australian High Commissioner Greg Wilcock visited children who have been successfully treated for clubfoot by the Walk for Life program.

Every year in Bangladesh an estimated 5000 children are born with clubfoot. Left untreated, the condition leads to lifelong disability and reduced productivity.

Since the establishment of Walk for Life in Bangladesh in 2009, 12,000 children have been treated for clubfoot, allowing them to pursue their full potential in life.

The Australian High Commission in Dhaka recently provided a small grant to Walk for Life to support its work in Bangladesh.



High Commissioner Greg Wilcock (right) with Walk for Life's Colin Macfarlane (left) in Jessore

At the Walk for Life clinic in Jessore, Mr Wilcock recognised those who have made the program a success in Bangladesh: the Ministry of Health, Bangladeshi doctors, and the Walk for Life team supported by Australian philanthropist Colin Macfarlane.

Mr Wilcock applauded the families who have sought treatment and averted a lifetime of disability for their children.

Forty-nine Walk for Life clinics operate in 44 districts across Bangladesh, which means that no child born with clubfoot in Bangladesh is beyond the reach of treatment.

Australian High Commission, Dhaka, 13 July 2014