

Monthly Activity Report
June 2018
Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF)

1. Discussion meeting:

A discussion meeting with Department for International Development (DFID) on Global Summit on disability was being organized by Sight Savers International (SSI) in its office on 4th June 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director and Samira Haque, Accounts Coordinator, WDDF were participated in this discussion meeting. She discussed about causes of inefficiency and potentialities of Disabled Peoples Organizations (DPOs).

2. Advocacy planning meeting:

An advocacy planning meeting on Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Management was being organized by Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) in the Auditorium of Visually Impaired Peoples Society (VIPS), on 7th June 2018.

Shirin Akhter, Chairperson and Arifa Khatun, Junior Assistant Coordinator of WDDF were participated in this advocacy planning meeting. Shirin Akhter said that, WDDF will organize advocacy meetings with two ward Councilors of Adabar, Disaster Risk Reduction Officer and Director of Emergency Response of District Commissioner Office.

3. Consultation:

A consultation on reducing barriers for economic detachment of Women with Disabilities was being organized by BSCAN in BRAC in Centre on 9th June 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF was participated in this consultation. Ashrafun Nahar said that, National budget of fiscal year 2018-19 has been declared on 7th June 2018 but the expectation of Persons with Disabilities and their organizations hasn't been reflected in this budget. In the development areas of national budget, there is no allocation for Persons with Disabilities considering their demands. E.G: accessibility in public buildings and public transports, mobility and communication and roads and bridges ETC. So, how will Persons with Disabilities be included in universal development? Budget for Persons with Disabilities is still now being allocating under Social Safety Net. So, it is seen that, regarding disability issue, Government is still now working on the basis of charity. There are many success of Government for improving the situation of Persons with Disabilities but this is not

inclusive development. As a result, it is seen that, one part of Bangladesh has been developed no rather whole Bangladesh and ultimately the achievement of SDGs for this country will extremely be interrupted.

4. Discussion meeting of CRPD thematic group on alternative report:

A discussion meeting of CRPD thematic group on alternative report was being organized by National Grassroots Disabled Organization (NGDO) in the Auditorium of Visually Impaired Peoples Society (VIPS) on 9th June 2018.

Shirin Akhter, Chairperson and Arifa Khatun, Junior Assistant Coordinator of WDDF were participated in this discussion meeting.

Shirin Akhter said that, discussion meeting of this group should be organized at least once in each month otherwise working inspiration will be interrupted. All group members have to carry on their own responsibilities sincerely and one reporter should start report writing. Coordination and communication among group members should be enhanced.

5. Closing ceremony of skill development training course of Grassroots Women with Disabilities and Health campaign:

A closing ceremony of skill development training **course of Grassroots Women with Disabilities** and Health campaign **through them to lead Healthy lives** was being organized with the initiative of Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF) at Mukul Niketan of Gouripur Union, Daudkandi on 11 June 2018.

Two grassroots Women with Disabilities committee members and their parents, Executive Council members and Staffs of WDDF were participated in this program.

The main purpose of organizing this health campaign is to encourage leading healthy lives of neighbours and village peoples of three unions of Daudkandi through ensuring healthy lives of Women with Disabilities and their family.

The methods of how to lead healthy life, advantages of leading healthy life simultaneously disadvantages of leading unhealthy life are being discussed by Shirin Akhter, Chairperson and Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director of WDDF. They've also discussed the methods of leading healthy life with only consciousness and very limited expenses. One thousand (1000) copies of leaflet comprising rules of leading healthy life was being distributed among the inhabitants of Daudkandi.

Besides, with the initiative of WDDF, a Two month sewing training course for Grassroots Women with Disabilities has been conducted from 1st March to 31st May 2018. With the resourceful training of an efficient, responsible and disability friendly female trainer and with the close supervision of Masuma Akter, Vice-Chairman of WDDF Seven Women with Disabilities have completed their sewing training efficiently. So, in order to continue their sewing practice regularly as well as to encourage these Women with Disabilities to become self-confident and self-independent through operating Income Generating Activities (IGA) WDDF with the cooperation of local donor and Door for Inclusive Society (DIS) has distributed seven sewing machine among seven trainees.

Md. Mahabubul Alam, Union Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Daudkandi was present as Chief Guest and

Md. Sataruzzaman, Officer, Department of Social Services, Daudkandi was present as special Guest in this closing ceremony.

The trainees are displayed their sewn dresses and our guests were very delighted to observe the efficiency of Women with Disabilities.

Besides, Guests also said that, this initiative of WDDF is certainly an effective and appreciative to make Women with Disabilities active and self-help through this type of training and equipment distribution.

6. Consultation:

A Consultation titled “***Accessibility of limited mobility***” was being organized by World Bank in its Auditorium on 26 June 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF participated in this consultation.

She said that, i) In order to ensure universal accessibility for all including Women with Disabilities, organizations of themselves should include in planning and designing process.

ii) In order to ensure diversity inclusion in roads and transports, related authorities of Government including International Non-Government Organizations, UN organizations and donors should understand the requirements of all classes of people including Women with Disabilities.

iii) It would be noted that, technology is available to all of us now. So, according to the requirement, planners and designers are able to collect modern, technological, appropriate and time required designs, samples and resources very easily for ensuring universal accessibility.

iv) Persons especially Women with Disabilities should incorporated in monitoring and mechanism process for proper implementation and actualization of the adopted plans and programs regarding universal accessibility through identifying and reducing the gaps.