

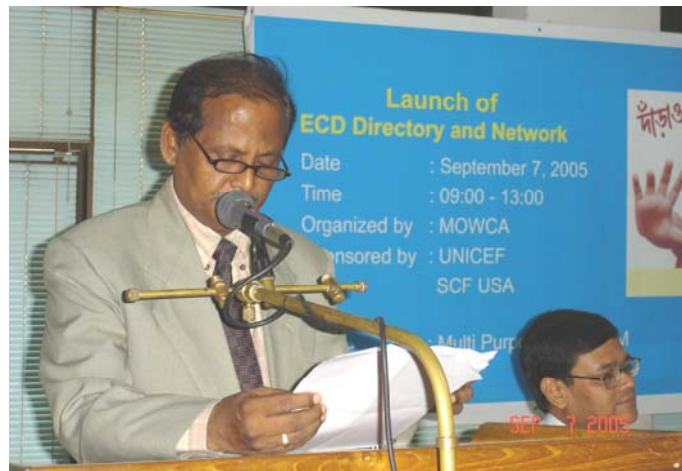
The Bangladesh ECD Newsletter

Secretariat, ECD Network, Bangladesh



Launch of ECD Directory and Network

The ECD Network, Bangladesh was formally established on 7 September 2005 with the participation of 90 (ninety) organisations representing all divisions of Bangladesh. On that occasion at BIAM Foundation Multipurpose Hall, Dhaka, the ECD Directory and Web-site were also launched officially. These will be important resources for all ECD stakeholders to strengthen knowledge sharing and cooperation - under the umbrella of the Network. The Honourable Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MOWCA), Mohammad Abul Quashem was present in the ceremony as chief guest. Ed-



Mohammad Abul Quashem, Joint Secretary, MOWCA was the Chief Guest of the function

ward Olney, Country Representative of Save the Children - USA and Morten Giersing, Country Representative of UNICEF honoured the ceremony as special guests. The launching ceremony consisted

of two sessions of which first one was chaired by Md. Neazuddin Miah, Director, Bangladesh Shishu Academy and the second one was chaired by James Jennings, Chief, Child Development and Education, UNICEF.

Formation of Network Committee

In the business session on 7th September 2005, the Network Committee of the ECD network was formed. The members of the Committee are as follows:

Chair: Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Director, BRAC University Institute of Educational Development (BU-IED)

Vice-Chair: Md. Mesbahul Islam, Project Director, ECD Project, Bangladesh Shishu Academy

Member Secretary: Mahmuda Akhter, Head, ECD-RC, BU-IED

Members:

1. **Golam Mostafa**, Team Leader, ECD Project, UNICEF, Dhaka
2. **Hasena Afroz**, Team Leader, SUCCEED Project, Friend in Village Development Bangladesh
3. **M. Habibur Rahman**, Director, Education Section, Save the Children - USA, Dhaka

4. **Dr. M. Quamrul Hassan**, Assistant Professor, Paediatrics, Institute of Child and Mother Health

5. **Mohammad Mohsin**, Learning Advisor, Plan Bangladesh

6. **Tapan Kumar Das**, Programme Manager, Institutional Development & Continuing Education Unit, CAMPE

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ECD Network, Bangladesh is a forum of government, non-government and international organizations working on ECD in Bangladesh. The main purpose of the Network is to be a forum for sharing information and experiences and increase cooperation among the organizations.

The Directory of Early Childhood Development Partners in Bangladesh is available in both print and online (www.ecd-bangladesh.net). In the directory one can search other organisations' work with ECD and explore possibilities for cooperation. There is also a guidebook on practising age appropriate interactive care and creation of child friendly environments. Anyone can use this to find inspiration and strengthen the quality of ECD activities.

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Formation of ECD Master Trainers Pool

The Secretariat intends to form an ECD Master Trainers Pool to support ECD programme implementers in Bangladesh. In order to meet the emergency training needs of the Integrated Community Development Project (ICDP), executed by the Chittagong Hill

Tracts Development Board the Secretariat has selected twenty trainers from different organizations such as Bangladesh Shishu Academy, BRAC University Institute of Educational Development, Care Bangladesh, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Integrated Community Development Project, Plan Bangladesh and Save the Children - USA. More trainers will be selected for the Master Trainers Pool from network members in future.

Registration is Still Possible

One hundred organisations working on ECD in Bangladesh have registered themselves as Network members by mid-September. The members now have a lot of exciting opportunities to contribute to and benefit from this Network. Organizations interested in becoming network members can apply by filling in and submitting the registration form received earlier or can request a supplementary copy from the Secretariat.

Network Committee Formation



The Committee Members : (from left to right, behind) Tapan Kumar Das, Golam Mostofa, M. Habibur Rahman, Md. Mesbahul Islam, Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Mahmuda Akhter, Dr. M. Quamrul Hassan, Mohammad Mohsin, Hasena Afroz. (In front non-committee members James Jennings, Chief, Child Development and Education Section, chairing the session and Tomas Jensen, Project officer, ECD project, UNICEF)

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The participants in the meeting proposed the next step will be to convene the ECD Network Committee in the beginning of October 2005 to initiate work on drafting a Network Constitution and develop a further expansion of the committee with representation of smaller organizations and from different regions of the country. These suggestions will be discussed by the Committee.

*This initial edition of the **Bangladesh ECD Newsletter** is being circulated on behalf of Bangladesh ECD Network from its secretariat in Early Childhood Development Resource Centre (ECDRC) under BRAC University Institute of Educational Development (BU-IED). The aim is to share information with the ECD community about the launching of the network. The format, frequency and other questions about the newsletter for future issues will be decided by the ECD Network Committee.*

UNESCO and Early Childhood

UNESCO's work in early childhood care and education focuses on policy issues. In a joint project with the organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), UNESCO is currently carrying out policy reviews in Brazil, Indonesia, Kazakhstan and Kenya. The comprehensive reports that emanate from these reviews address specific issues relating to access, quality, funding and coordination in early childhood education.

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