

The Bangladesh ECD Newsletter

Secretariat, Bangladesh ECD Network, at BU-IED

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'National Plan of Action' for Children Bangladesh

Children are the future leaders of the nation. To help children realize their potential, a comprehensive Child Development Program is needed on a priority basis. Initiated in



2003, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MOWCA) began a series of discussions on the preparation of a national Plan of Action (NPA) for children. The extensive discussion identified five thematic areas, which formed the basis of the NPA document. These thematic areas included,

(1) Food and nutrition, (2) Health, (3) Education and empowerment of the girl child, (4) Protection from abuse, exploitation and violence and (5) physical environment. The NPA also included a programming framework, cross-cutting approaches and issues, governance and manage-

ment of the NPA for children, and measuring and assessing impact. The NPA for children has been formally approved by the government. It is now the responsibility of the government and all other concerned with children's welfare to help implement the NPA.

Workshop On "Pre-School and early Primary Low-Cost, No-Cost Teaching Aids technology"



A workshop was organized by ECDRC on Low Cost & No Cost materials Development Technology at BRAC Conference Room (Rooftop) from 30th Jan. to 01 Feb. 2006. The Chief facilitator and Co-ordinator was Mary Ann Das Gupta of Sharehouse Charitable Foundation, Kolkata. The main objective of the workshop was to build capacity of the ECD Network member organizations in preparing low-cost learning materials. The theme of the workshop was to develop toy materials which are widely available and are of

low or no cost. Twenty-five participants attended the workshop. They came from various organizations including, Save the Children/USA, Plan Bangladesh, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Grameen Shikkha, Inner Force, VERC, Jagoroni Chakra Foundation, FIVDB, CRP, BU-IED, BRAC, RDRS, CODEC, Phulki and Aparajeyo-Bangladesh.

Drama Serial "Rangdhanu"

A superhit TV Drama serial "Rangdhanu" is going to be telecasted from 19th March, 2006, at BTV. The serial was written by the most famous writer and TV dramatist of Bangladesh Mr. Humayun Ahmed. It is directed by famous actor and maker and producer of films Mr. Abul Hayat. The drama serial deals with many frailties of human life in different social settings and focuses on the social and



moral obligations of adults to children. The most important years in a child's life is from mother's womb to the year five. The child's development in these years makes an impact on his whole life.

"Rangdhanu" was created under the sponsorship of ECD Project of Bangladesh Shishu Academy, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs. The Drama Serial was funded by UNICEF.

Workshop On “Appropriate paper-based Technology”



A workshop was organized by ECDRC and CRP jointly on “Appropriate paper based technology for learning materials” at CRP training center, Savar from 12 to 23rd February 2006. Ms. Janet Ivin, Occupational Therapist, from United Kindom facilitated the workshop with 22 participants. The main objective of the workshop was to enhance the capacity of ECD Network members to make learning materials for children with waste paper.

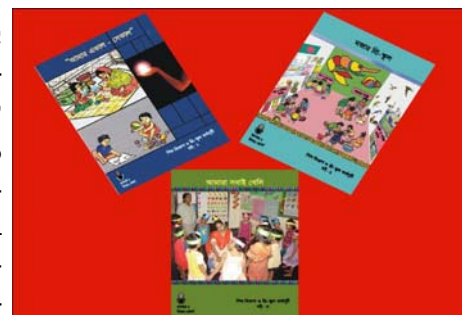


“ECCD Program” of Plan bangladesh



Plan International, a child-centred development organization, is contributing towards strengthening community-based organizations in Bangladesh with the assistance of Plan Bangladesh, Jaldhaka Programme Unit in Northern Bangladesh is an example.

In 2003, a number of community-based organizations in Jaldhaka took the initiative to implement eight parenting groups and six *Shishu Bikash Kendras* (SBK), under the guidance of the ECCD programme. An example of their success can be seen in the remarkable story of one little girl named Mousumi, who was enrolled in a SBK in her local community. At first, Mousumi was very inactive and quiet. With encouragement, she began to participate more and more in songs, rhymes, story telling, and games. Her development brought much happiness to the community and confidence in the SBK programmes, methods and techniques.



New Resource Package on ECD

A resource package has been developed and produced on child development & pre-school program. The package contains three books on child development, pre-school and group games. All books are concisely written in simple language to be “reader friendly and for easy understanding”. Books are designed particularly for pre-school teachers but they can be equally useful for parents, caregivers, primary teachers, creche mothers, program supervisors and others.

The chief executive of Inner Force Farida Akhtar is the main writer, who developed the books with the financial support of UNESCO Dhaka. Interested organizations are requested to contact Inner Force or UNESCO Dhaka.

Inner Force

PH: 9117764

E-Mail:sami@bdlink.com

UNESCO

Ph: 9873210

E-Mail:i.miyazawa@unesco.org

Secretariat, Bangladesh ECD Network

Early Childhood Development Resource Center (ECDRC)

Brac University, Institute of Educational Development. (BU-IED)

H#113, R#2, B#A, Niketon

Gulshan -1, Dhaka-1212 Bangladesh.

Phone:(880-2)8824180-87 Ext. 2112,2127,2126

Fax: (880-2) 8829157.

E Mail muda.akhter@bracuniversity.net

Web: <http://www.ecd-bangladesh.net>

Editorial Panel:

Dr. Manzoor Ahmed,

Mohammad Mohsin,

Mrs. Mhmuda Akhter,

Habibur Rahman,

Dr. Quamrul Hassan,

Tapan Kumar Das.

Designed by : Jaidid Farmi Huda