

# The Bangladesh ECD Newsletter

Secretariat, Bangladesh ECD Network at BU-IED

## Workshop on Professional Degree Programme in Early Childhood Development



Meeting being held at Institute of Health at London University

A workshop on designing a Professional Certificate and Degree Programme in Early Childhood Development was conducted at Open Society Institute, London, UK from 5-12 June, 2007. The workshop was facilitated by Cassie Landers,

Assistant Professor, Columbia University. The workshop was attended by seven potential faculty members from Bangladesh, three members from Open Society Foundation and five other distinguished ECD experts and professionals from other countries. The workshop reviewed the course of professional degree programme in Early Childhood Development which is a collaborative initiative of BU-IED and Open Society Institute. Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Director, BU-IED joined the final two days of the workshop. The participants also visited London University Institute of Health on June 12<sup>th</sup> and met with Early Childhood Department experts. The course is expected to commence at BU-IED in early 2008.



National & international faculties at a glance

## Early Learning for Child Development Project

Early Learning for Child Development Project (ELCDP) is under implementation during the phase of 2006 to 2010 for which Bangladesh Shishu Academy (BSA) is the lead-implementing agency. Other Government agencies which are involved include the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs. The following are the organisations that are directly implementing the project: Institute of Child and Mother Health (ICMH), NIPORT, ICDP-CHTDB, BRAC, Grameen Shiksha. BRAC University Institute of Educational Development (BU-IED) will provide technical support.



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## The Seventh World Forum



World Forum 2007 at a glance

The Seventh World Forum on ECD was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 15-18 April, 2007. Over 750 early childhood administrators, trainers, caregivers, public officials, and advocates from 73 countries gathered in Kuala Lumpur for World Forum 2007. Five members from BRAC University Institute of Educational Development (BU-IED), Plan Bangladesh, Nayantara Communication and Save the Children USA participated in the forum from Bangladesh. At the World Forum, delegates exchanged ideas about the quality of services for young children in diverse settings. Early Childhood Development Resource Centre (ECDRC) of BU-IED presented the work of the Bangladesh Early Childhood Network and professional development work at ECDRC.



UNICEF and Plan Bangladesh will be directly engaged with the project as technical support providers as well as donors. The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MOWCA) will be the sponsoring ministry and will play a policy making and coordinating role for the project.

Early Learning for Child Development Project (ELCDP) activities will be implemented under four key components supporting the overall project objectives : i) Centre based early learning, ii) Promotion of interactive care and safe child-friendly environments in homes and communities; iii) Advocacy, social mobilization and program communication, and iv) Development and strengthening of early learning components of partners' systems and structures.

### Thematic Forum on Pre-school and Primary Education



Inauguration of Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2007 in Bangla

A thematic discussion on pre-school and primary education was held on Spectra Convention Centre on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2007, jointly hosted by BU-IED, Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE), UNESCO and the Daily Star. It was one of three

thematic forums held as a key event of the Education for All Global Action Week, which was observed worldwide to raise awareness and renew commitment for achieving the Education for All goals and fulfilling the right to education. Over 50 invited participants including senior government officials, a former Advisor of the Council of Advisers, UNESCO Representative in Bangladesh, civil society leaders and academics joined the session. The session was moderated by Ms. Rasheda K. Chowdhury and Dr. Manzoor Ahmed. Ms. Farida Akhter presented the background paper to kick off the discussion, highlighting 'where we are' in early childhood development movement in Bangladesh. Hassan A. Keynan of UNESCO presented Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2007. The event received considerable attention in the print and the electronic media.

*This issue is edited by an editorial panel of Bangladesh ECD Network. The panel members are: Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Dr. M. Quamrul Hassan, M. Habibur Rahman, Mohammad Mohsin, Tapan Kumar Das and Mahmuda Akhter. Reports and design by Md. Jaman Uddin Khan.*

### Global Leaders for Young Children: An Advocacy Strategy for Early Childhood



Participants of Global Leaders for Young Children Programme

Global Leaders for Young Children is a project of the World Forum with the objective of encouraging participants to become effective change agents and advocates for quality early childhood development services in their home countries. Emerging leaders from 36 countries participated in the Global Leaders for Young Children Programme held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 14 to 18 May, 2007. It offered five days mentoring and training to make the participants effective advocates for improved childhood for all the children worldwide. Manjusree Mitra, Deputy Program Manager-Education, Save the Children USA and Probak Karim, Specialist, Basic Education, Plan Bangladesh represented Bangladesh at the Forum. Ms. Mitra also presented a position paper on ECD on behalf of Bangladesh team at the forum. World Forum Foundation is working to accomplish its mission by helping to develop future generations of early childhood professionals. They will be equipped with new skills and will be motivated to work with families and communities to create supportive and stimulating learning environment for young children.

*The Bangladesh ECD newsletter is published and circulated on behalf of the Bangladesh ECD Network from its Secretariat at Early Childhood Development Resource Centre (ECDRC) under BRAC University Institute of Educational Development (BU-IED). BU-IED is located at House 113, Road 2, Block A, Niketon, Gulshan 1, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh. Tel: +880-2-882 4180 (8 lines) Ext. 2127, 2112. Fax: +880-2-882 9157, Email: bangladeshecdn@yahoo.com Web: www.ecd-bangladesh.net*