

Promoting Equal
Citizenship through
Empowering

Women



Biannual Report

2012-2014

Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha

Promoting Equal Citizenship through Empowering Women

Biannual Report

2012-2014



Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha



Biannual Report 2012-2014

Promoting Equal Citizenship through Empowering Women

BNPS Biannual Report 2012-2014

Editorial Advisor

Rokeya Kabir

Editor

A. T. M Azmul Huda

Report Preparation

Prodip Dutta

Contributors

Shahnaz Sumi

Muzib Mehdy

Dilara Rekha

Kazi Robiul Alam

Sanjoy Majumder

Nasrin Begum

Credit of Photos

BNPS

Published in

June 2015

©BNPS

Published by

Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (BNPS)

Kolpona Sundor, 13/14 Babor Road (1st Floor), Block B

Mohammadpur Housing Estate, Dhaka 1207

Phone: (880-2) 8130083, 8124899, Fax: (880-2) 9104693

Email: bnps@bangla.net.bd, Website: www.bnps.org

Graphic Design and Print

Color Mark

01914303039

ISBN: 978-984-91120-3-7

Foreword

2013 and 2014 were the years of opportunities and challenges for Bangladesh. Political unrest over the conduct of the 10th National Parliamentary Elections and the War Crime Tribunals has led to violence and disruptions to public life. Despite many challenges, Bangladesh has continued to work for empowering women, achieving universal primary enrolment and maintaining food security and also demonstrated its resilience towards achieving development challenges.

During this period, Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha has been achieved significant milestones regarding women political and economic empowerment, for instance, women members won the Union Parishad election, active in leading Salish and represented various committees of local government bodies, marketplace as well as school management committees. They have prevented child marriage and dowry in their locality, mitigated family dispute and attempted to stop violence against women and girls and sexual harassment as well. Which later contributed to create sustainable income and employment opportunities by the community members through accessing different local government and private services. Community members are more capable to tackle climate change hazards and introduced alternative livelihood options through using their existing resources.

However, women in Bangladesh still face significant challenges in complete political participation and suffer both an inequality in legal status with regard to many major rights and in inferior position because of cultural beliefs and practices. This situation is aggravated further due to lack of political will in delivering justice on violations that women routinely suffer, and on the part of women themselves, by a lack of knowledge, confidence and skills to deal with such situations. In addition global religious extremist phenomenon and flow of money from Middle Eastern countries and growing of rapid inequality in the country has favored rise of religious violence as well as extremism in the country. This trend created a new obstruction in the way of gaining gender equality.

This report presents a snapshot of the development results that we have achieved with our partners and program participants. The results provide evidence that BNPS is well-aligned with its Strategic Plan thematic areas and approaches. BNPS is grateful for the support provided by its development partners. BNPS is also grateful for its strong collaborative partnerships with civil society, government authorities and other non-government sectors. We acknowledge the ongoing supports of its development partners, without which the results presented in this report would not be possible and hope that all of our partners, donors and well-wishers will never deprive us from their support and cooperation in future. Last but not least, I'm really thankful to all of our dedicated staff members for their commitments towards women empowerment as well as development of Bangladesh in general.

Rokeya Kabir
Executive Director
BNPS

Abbreviation

ANSA	: Affiliated Network for Social Accountability
BILS	: Bangladesh Institute of Labor Studies
BLAST	: Bangladesh Legal Aid and Service Trust
BNPS	: Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha
BRAC	: Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
CAW	: Committee for Asian Women
CBO	: Community Based Organization
CHT	: Chittagong Hill Tracts
CS	: Civil Society
CSOs	: Civil Society Organizations
CUBA,B	: Civil Society United for Budget Accountability, Bangladesh
DPPFs	: District Public Policy Forums
GDP	: Gross Domestic Product
IEC	: Information Education and Communication
IGA	: Income Generating Activities
ILO	: International Labor Organization
MP	: Members of Parliament
NCTB	: National Curriculum and Textbook Board
NGO	: Non-Government Organization
SAAPE	: South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication
SANGAT	: South Asian Network of Gender Activists and Trainers
SANSAD	: South Asian Network for Social and Agriculture Development
SDLG	: Strengthening Democratic Local Governance
SMC	: School Management Committee
SSSC	: Safe School Safe Community
WACC	: World Association for Christian Communication
WRN	: Women Rights Network

Contents

Overview of BNPS □	6
Highlights of the Achievements of 2012-2014 □	6
Vision □	7
Mission □	7
Objectives □	7
Core values □	7
Core programs □	7
Program approach □	8

Community Level Awareness, Mobilization and Livelihood Initiatives

• Collective actions for social, economic and political empowerment of women □	9
• Leadership development through institution building and develop micro level entrepreneurship □	10
• Addressing climate change issues from gender perspective □	11
• Ending gender based violence □	13
• Cultural activities for creating mass awareness □	15
• SRHR and reproductive burden □	16
• Emerging young leaders and education system □	19
• Gender friendly environment at workplace □	20
• Legal awareness and legal aid through referral service □	21
• Support to establish rights of indigenous women □	21

Strengthening Local Governance

• Engaging women in local government standing committees □	23
--	----

Policy Reform Interventions

• Mapping the policies laws and guidelines for women empowerment □	24
• Making education system gender responsive □	24
• Women in media □	25
• Promoting citizen's participation in enhancing the legislators' roles □	26
• Analysis of national budget and development policies from gender perspective □	27
• Reforming electoral process to make it gender responsive □	28
• Advocacy for fair wages and decent working condition for women □	30

Support Programs

• Documentations and publications □	31
• Networking and communications □	33
• Auditing □	34
• Monitoring and evaluation □	34
• Name of the projects those are implemented/implementing during the reporting period □	35

Annexure

Consolidated financial statement □	36
Organogram □	40

OVERVIEW of BNPS

Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (BNPS) started its journey in 1986 for establishing equality for women from the family to the state level. It is already more than two and half decades BNPS passed through a complex situation in social, political, economical and environmental context. BNPS has been trying to create an environment for women and other marginalized groups for raising their voice and claiming their entitlements through a variety of activities like awareness raising, institution building, livelihood activities including climate change and reforms of different policies, systems, institutions and mindset. The congenial working environment, culture of co-operation with teamwork and non-hierarchical management with an activist orientation is seen as an asset in BNPS.

BNPS directly worked with around 200,000 women and within this period more than 800,000 people from different backgrounds have been involved in this initiatives, which focused on the social, economic and political empowerment of women; strengthening local government, electoral reform, education reform, and gender budget analysis. BNPS provided credit support to women for involving in IGA and training for the management of micro enterprises, accounts-keeping and skill development, which have created sustainable environment and space for women. BNPS facilitates appropriate networks/platforms for the above-mentioned issues for creating greater impact in the society.

In this way, BNPS has been playing the pioneer role in taking up many important steps on a number of challenging issues like inheritance laws, women's representation in the power structure, sensitizing media professionals to gender and other development issues, also playing an important role in challenging many conservative mindsets, and resisting the religious fundamentalists with their exploitative networks at one hand and promoting concept of equal citizenship for discriminated population at other hand.

Highlights of the Achievements of 2012-2014

- Women members are gaining reputation as successful community leaders through leading family dispute resolutions and mitigating other community problems in their communities, resulted positive changes in community perception on women role and equality.
- Effective advocacy and lobbying for better livelihood management contributed to make the community members capable to prioritize key challenges in their communities as well as make the duty bearers accountable in providing public services.
- Local policy makers have put emphasis on proper implementation of current laws and regulations to stop violence and harassment against women.
- Election Commission has issued letter to the home ministry before parliamentary and upazilla elections for ensuring special security and taking measures to ensure law and order for providing safety of women and minority in the hot spot areas.
- Three Circle Chiefs of indigenous communities have (Chakma, Bomang and Moung circles in Chittagong Hill Tracts) committed to work towards ensuring equality in customary law specially on inheritance rights of property for ethnic women.

Vision

A society free from all sorts of discrimination.

Mission

Equality through empowerment and social transformation.

Objectives

To carry out its mission, BNPS is striving to eliminate all sort of discrimination against disadvantaged people particularly women from family to society and state consistent with the principles of the constitution of Bangladesh and all human rights instruments of the United Nations.

Core Values

BNPS has an ideological commitment with some core values. These are considered as guiding factors in developing all the programs implemented by the organization. BNPS is neither an organization for subcontracting development projects nor an agency for supplying services to the customers. To be more precise, it believes in the development of intervention for social transformation. Core values of the organization exclusively defined are: a) Gender Sensitivity, b) Secularism, c) Inclusiveness and d) Sustainability with special emphasis on environment.

Core Programs

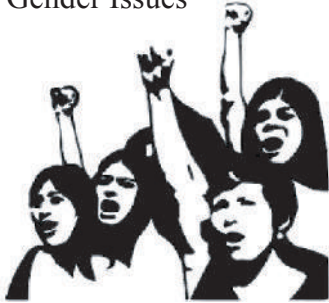
BNPS programs are built on some principal thematic areas and that include: a) Mainstreaming gender as one of the major issues/stand alone, b) Poverty eradication and making the state responsible for basic services, c) People`s participation in governance particularly by women and other excluded disadvantaged groups, d) Promoting the concept of a plural society, e) Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), f) Women in Climate change, g) Women's economic contribution through unpaid, low paid work, care work and reproductive work, i) Making education gender sensitive and j) Making electoral system gender sensitive.

Corresponding to above thematic areas, BNPS has been implementing the following three core programs:

- Community Level Awareness, Mobilization and Livelihood Initiatives;
- Strengthening Local Governance (governance in community level, associate institutes, groups, CBOs and increased access and participation in public services both at institutional and service recipients level and
- Policy Reform Interventions and Mass Awareness.

Program Approach

Gender Issues



Identify the root causes of the adverse impact



Design probable solution



Policy Reform



Organize Advocacy & Policy Lobbying Events



Capture the Lessons Learned



Pilot the Solutions with Target Participants





Community Level Awareness, Mobilization and Livelihood Initiatives

Collective actions for social, economic and political empowerment of women

BNPS has gained recognition from different national, regional and international forums on women empowerment due to its long working experience on gender equality and empowerment of women across the Bangladesh. BNPS has committed to create space for women at all levels with special emphasis on intervention at grassroots level. And enabling them to organize, mobilize and unite voice for their rights and equality in the family and society as well. By now, BNPS organized 18,000 women in 600 groups in its working areas. The groups are engaging themselves in their social, economic and political advancement activities based on their experience and annual plan which was developed by each group through planning sessions facilitated by BNPS. At the same time, the efforts has been continued for organizing new women group in new working area based on experience and capacity of organization, and facilitate them to establish their rights and equality.

As a result, many women leaders become members of various committees of local government bodies, marketplace and school governing bodies. This further increased their interaction and access to different public and private service providers for getting quality and affordable services. Women leaders of all targetted areas are now active in leading Salish to mitigate their social problems.



A view of community level meeting of women group members.



Leadership development through institution building and develop micro level entrepreneurship

BNPS has been working for creating space for women where women will take lead role to bring change within their lives and leadership, transform the traditional gender roles. They will bring shifts into the power dynamics to develop a platform of women from local to national level. This will contribute to acquire wider acceptance of gender equality and ending violence against women and girls. In Bangladesh, women's are confronting different challenges in taking leadership positions both in formal and informal institutions.

Women are continuing to aspire for leadership positions in all spheres of public and private sector. However it has not been easy to transform traditional gender roles but BNPS continued this effort through different activities and training for bringing expected change. Let Her Decide and Participate (LHDP) is one of the projects of BNPS that focused on women transformative leadership and gender justice. Activities generated to support stronger individual and collective capacities to bring a change and create an enabling environment for women to practice leadership at all spheres of formal and non-formal institutions.



Rally to stop discrimination, domestic violence and increasing women empowerment in family



A tale of self-reliant Sakhina

Sakhina (16), the daughter of a rickshaw puller, was lived in a colony of Chittagong City Cooperation under Bakolia thana. She was pretty and also a good student in school, her dream was to get a good job in future and mitigate their poverty. Unfortunately, her father fell ill which lead their family to extreme poverty. Her education was stopped, dreams became bleary. She later enrolled in to a school operated by an NGO and completed her primary education. Extreme poverty left no option for her, but exploring income opportunities to earn their livelihood. At that time she was informed from her neighbors that



BNPS is a women friendly organization which is organized monthly meeting with women's and girls' for raising awareness and understanding regarding women empowerment. Later, she got involved with BNPS women's group and actively participated in different programs.

After few days, BNPS provided her name to participate monthly vocational training for tailoring during the collection of participant name for skill base training program. Later, Sakhina took the opportunity to participate in BNPS's tailoring course offered by BNPS's skill training program under its PRiME project. After that, she took loan of BDT 5,000 from her neighbors and bought a sewing machine for starting her new life. Initially she started preparing women and children clothes of neighbors. After two to three months she started communicating with other entrepreneurs those who are working in this sector with big markets and collected order form them for her tailoring. Now-a-days, she earns about BDT 6,000 to 8,000 monthly. This has given her a new hope. Now she has a dream of owning a shop and assists other girls like her to become self-reliant.

Addressing climate change issues from gender perspective

BNPS constantly tries to address issues of emergence relevant to women's strategic and practical need. Considering the importance of gender perspective of climate change, BNPS has been incorporated 'Climate Change and Women' as one of its thematic areas in 2009. Since then, the organization started grassroots level awareness campaigns and adaptation program on climate changes. Special focus was given on the effect of climate changes on women in climate change risk prone working areas in the northeastern low-lying region and the coastal region of the country. Besides the regular activities, BNPS is implementing following projects that are distinctly addressing women and climate change issues.



Image of a training workshop on climate change impacts on women.

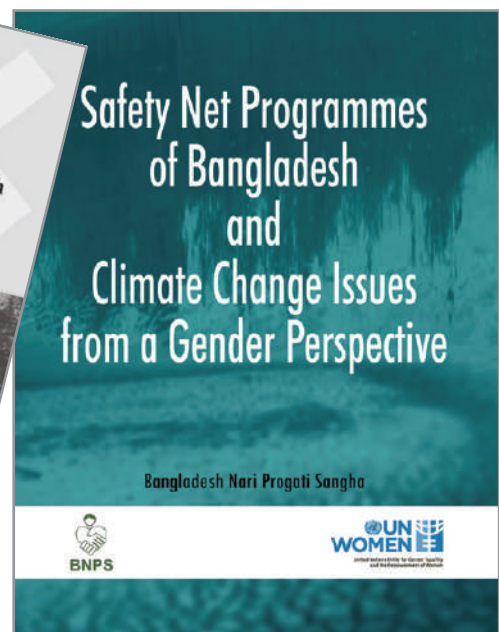
Resilience through Economic Empowerment, Climate Adaptation, Leadership and Learning (REE-CALL) is a comprehensive climate change program of BNPS where CBOs were able to create sustainable income and employment opportunities through accessing services, natural resources and establishing market linkages. This process contributes to increase the CBO members social and political leadership as well as ability to confront climate change disaster and appropriate adaptation measures. Through in-situ participatory exercises with the facilitation of the project staff the CBO members identify and realize the possible risks, capacity gap, opportunities and available resources.



A community initiative to start a food bank.

Local government authorities are also become aware about the situation of climate change through this process. Besides, the project provided capital support to beneficiaries for asset building. Provided training for business plan and management, sustainable cropping system, marketing extension, role of public and private sector, which make them capable for creating sustainable income and employment.

Policy Review for Advocacy to Address Needs of Women in Climate Change Agenda is another climate change project of BNPS which was implemented during November 2012 to June 2014 with the support of the UN Women. The project identifies the needs of women and facilitating a platform for advocacy and dialogue between government, civil society and experts. The purpose of such dialogue is for ensuring the incorporation of gender needs and concerns into climate change policy and to support social protection measures for women impacted by climate change. In this regard, BNPS conducted a study on "Safety Net Programmes of Bangladesh and Climate Change Issues from a Gender Perspective" for analyzing how well the existing social safety net programs of Bangladesh address adaptation issues of climate change particularly in the context of women victims from a rights-based perspective. The report identified that repeated and frequent occurrence of natural calamities reduce the ability of families to cope with the economic and environmental shocks in the aftermath of these calamities, thereby increasingly adding to women's overall vulnerability every year. Project developed a policy brief on "Policy Gaps Analysis and Recommendations for Gender Responsive Adaptation to Climate Change and Equity in Bangladesh" and submitted to respective authority for proper action.





Ending gender based violence

Organizing grassroots community to end violence against women and girls is the common program of BNPS. Raising awareness, providing legal education, intervening to rescue the victim and providing referral support and organizing village court protest campaign and policy and media advocacy are the major activities under this program component. Among this Safe School Safe Community (SSSC) is one of the major initiatives to end violence where especially girl's students have experience safer, empowered and creating violence free environment in their schools. Teachers and students capacity and attitude has been improved for ensuring girl students safety and empowerment in schools through this project. Besides, community people and relevant government agencies are also taking active roles to create safe and violence free environment for girls in schools and community.




BNPS organized a meeting at CIRDAP Auditorium in the city's Topkhana Road on 30 September 2013 for increasing supports of LG representatives and governmental and non-governmental service provider towards victims' women.

BNPS also conducted a study among the targeted schools and surrounding area and it is proved that, as the safety of the girls at school is not limited to the school premises only and it depends on one or two factors. The study also looked at the public places they have to transverse for the purpose of their schooling or education. The study concludes that the degree and frequency of sexual violence and harassment revealed in this study is still underreported. The girls were not always passive victims of harassment and they sometimes played some part in harassments of other girls, too. Apart from community level, BNPS is also working at national level for increasing local networking and alliance building for prevention of violence against women and girls.



Case Study

Excellent Initiative: Eliminate Eve Teasing/sexual harassment



Geria Nonigopal Manjushree High School, of Singdha union under Barhatta Upazila, is situated by the side of Barhatta - Mohanganj highway. There are about 250 students in the school and more than 50% are girls. On the way to school in Kankurabazar area some miscreants used to tease and harass girls every day. A lot of people knew that but did not give importance. It was continuing for long as a normal incidence until Jahanara Begum, President of Geria Doel Women Group came to know about it. On herself she collected the name and address of the miscreants, came to know that those boys are the students of the same school. She went directly to the Head Master. The initiative by Jahanara Begum convinced the Head Master and he called the students and tried to make them understand that what they are doing is fall under sexual harassment and that is illegal and unethical. But the students did not stop. Jahanra Begum also did not stop; she then discussed with the Head Master again and had a meeting with two SMC members and other local leaders. After that they called the parents and guardians of the miscreants. Jahanara described everything in details to them. She said, despite previous warning the boys still reckless. Hence, we are informing you, you will have to decide what to do. The parents and guardians said that, as we have come to know, this will be stopped. If we fail, you may go further for action of law. From the next day, eve-teasing and sexual harassment was stopped in the area. It was Jahanara Begum made it happen. Her bravery is inspiring to others, the girls are grateful to Jahanara Begum.

Jahanara said, despite previous warning the boys still reckless.

Hence, we are informing you, you will have to decide what to do. The parents and guardians said that, as we have come to know, this will be stopped. If we fail, you may go further for action of law.



BNPS Grassroots women groups observing 16 Days of Activism against Gender based Violence

Observation of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender based Violence by BNPS has gained a new momentum in the year 2013. Apart from participating in national and district level activities, BNPS grassroots women groups have been observing this international fortnight (25th November to 10th December 2013) campaign by organizing different programs at their own localities. The programs include rally, human chain, distribution of IEC materials, awareness raising meeting and cultural events at different schools and community centers located in Dhaka. The activities are around protesting the rise of crimes against women and girls, building awareness on the domestic violence act and strengthening local interventions to stop violence against women and girls.



Dr Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, honorable speaker of the national parliament launching the 16 days campaign in 2013.

Cultural activities for creating mass awareness

Public awareness raising through cultural activities are one of the main strategic segment for BNPS, which play vital role to create awareness and disseminate project information across the project area. Over the period it has been observed that awareness are still considered as a most important and effective tool in the field of mass-communication. BNPS has been organizing these types of programs for more than a decade involving the group members and the male members of the group, community leaders, local cultural groups and it has strong network with local level institutions for arranging alternative theatre, street theatre, folk song, fair etc beyond the project area.

BNPS organized awareness and campaign program through its different project interventions to eliminate all sorts of discrimination against women and girls, and conduct advocacy and lobbying with government and non-governmental institutions to review laws and guidelines for making laws and policies gender sensitive and proper implementation of existing laws.



Issue based theatre performance for mass awareness by the participation of community people

BNPS conducted cultural activities and campaign program through forming cultural group at local level by involving group members. It has created significant impact among the members where members are seeing their partners performance regarding the negative impact of dowry, early marriage, importance of male participation for reducing reproductive burden and the need of transforming traditional role of women, women health, education, discrimination between male and female child etc and thus way mindset of the viewers has been changed gradually.

SRHR and reproductive burden

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) with reproductive burden are one of the strategic issues for women's emancipation. It is evident that child marriage, large number of pregnancies, maternal morbidity and mortality which hinders women from full enjoyment of their life, meaningful participation and taking control in politics, social work, cultural and economic activities are all integrally related to SRHR. Women are not considered as equal citizen and they are endowed with mainly reproductive role. Although women are now accessing to education, economically empowered being an earner in the family and participation in socio-economic and political sphere which do not mean that general mass have conceived with positive change on women

because the mindset of the society cannot accept any shift in women's traditional reproductive role in the family. So it is very important for all to focus on SRHR to release women from the chain of reproduction only.



A folk musical show on reducing reproductive burden



SAAPE women rights campaign launched in Bangladesh

BNPS announced the launching of Campaign on 'Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Its Imperative to Women's Social, Economic and Political Empowerment' in a press conference at national press club, Dhaka. Speakers said, despite women made some progress in different field, the issue of SRHR is yet in the margin of intervention. Access to SRHR information and services and right to choice and decision is crucial for women's well being that eventually linked with effective participation in economic, social and political arena and emancipation of poverty.

BNPS Executive Director Rokeya Kabir, who is also a Core Committee Member of SAAPE, mentioned that the reproductive age of women (15-50 years) is critical both for reproductive and productive work. If a woman is burdened to produce more children than she actually wants, she is compromising her own development, empowerment and productivity, and this leads to poverty in all dimensions for women. If women can make the best of their productive and reproductive years by making their reproductive choice and avoid unwanted pregnancies, then they can focus on their productive dimensions, get educated, be economically independent, and participate in economics, social and political facets of lives and become empowered.



Rokeya Kabir, the ED of BNPS launching the campaign on reproductive health rights and empowerment

BNPS has been working for sensitizing and making aware on SRHR and reproductive burden using different communication tools like drama, folk song, debate, family fair, citizen charter, leaflet, poster, bill board, etc. The purpose of such initiative is to change the mindset of the people and making them prepare to accept changed role of women and decision making on reproductive burden.

¹This campaign is a part of South Asian Women Rights Campaign initiated by South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE). SAAPE gender thematic group members in Nepal, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are also taking part in the campaign focusing on economic empowerment, food security, equal wages and women in peace building respectively.



BNPS has been working with educational institute which will be further intensified through SRHR education in school for adolescent girls for incorporating SRHR issues in education curriculum and campaign to raise awareness and policy advocacy. In view of doing effective advocacy and policy influence with evidence, BNPS conducted research focused on reproductive burden and unpaid care work. The major findings were shared with key stakeholders and doing advocacy and lobbying at national level with likeminded organization those who have similar agenda in order to raise collective voice on SRHR issues.

BNPS facilitated interaction of grassroots people and policy makers on women's reproductive health services and girl's education

A dialogue session between District Public Policy Forum (DPPF) and Members of Parliamentary Standing Committees has been facilitated by BNPS on 9 July 2012 at National Press Club, Dhaka. DPPF is a collective effort of community members for local level fact findings on quality of maternal and reproductive health services and barriers to girl's education on one hand, on the other hand bring the issues to respective authorities, local MPs and policy makers for a local and policy level solution.



A dialogue session of Public Policy Forum

Improve healthcare service for coastal people

People in char and coastal areas do not get adequate healthcare facilities due to poor communication network. The speakers were addressing the dialogue titled 'Maternal health and communication: Problems and people's expectation' at the National Press Club in the city on 1 July 2013. Speakers called for taking necessary steps to improve healthcare facilities for char and coastal people. Member of Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs Dr Sirajul Akbar, member of Parliamentary Standing Committee on the ministry of Shipping Begum Habibur Nahar addressed the dialogue. Dr Samina Chowdhury and Prof Mesbah Kamal, among others, also spoke on the occasion.

চর ও উপকূলীয় অঞ্চলের মাতৃস্বাস্থ্য এবং যোগাযোগ ব্যবস্থা : সমস্যা ও জনগণের প্রত্যাশা

সংসদীয় স্থায়ী কমিটির সঙ্গে পাবলিক পলিসি ফোরামের সংলাপ
Maternal Health of Women and Communication in Char and Coastal Areas: Problems and Citizens' Expectations
Public Policy Forums' Dialogue with the Parliamentary Standing Committee Members

১ জুলাই ২০১৩। ডিআইপি লাটক, জাতীয় প্রেসক্লাব, ঢাকা



Dialogue of Public Policy Forum with Parliamentary Standing Committee on "Maternal Health of Women and Communication in Char and Coastal Area: Problems and Citizen Expectations."



Emerging young leaders and education system

Youth empowerment is crucial for sustainable development, providing an appropriate framework for enabling the youth to develop social, economic, cultural and political skills as well as enhance their participation in overall development process. In this way their participation in public decision making as future leader can be enhanced. BNPS through its different project has been working with young boys and girls for improving their livelihood condition and also increasing their participation in decision making process.

One of the major programs of BNPS for this sector is SRHR Education. The program aim is that adolescents in Bangladesh have adequate skills and information to exercise their SRHR.



They can make free and informed decisions in an enabling and safe environment. As a result they suffer less from major sexual and reproductive health hazards. The program urges to government to incorporate separate subjects on SRHR for secondary level students. Part of this lobbying process, BNPS developed comprehensive education packages curriculum, books (*Boys Jakhon Dosh Theke Unish for class six to nine*), teachers guide, training manual, flip-charts and teaching methodologies of SRHR. One hundred secondary schools have involved for this intervention which are operated jointly by BNPS (35) and BRAC (65). An enabling environment has been developed in schools on discussing SRHR issues among teachers and student with fewer hesitations than before as a consequence of delivering SRHR lesson by the trained teachers.



Policy maker's pledge to incorporate SRHR lesson in text books

The lesson learned by BNPS was shared with Honorable Education Minister, authority of National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB), official of Ministry of Education, Parliament Members, educationists, academicians and other relevant stakeholders. A set of recommendation along with the textbooks series 'Boys Jakhon Dosh Theke Unish' was



BNPS Executive Director Ms. Rokeya Kabir is handing over the recommendations on "Gender and Reproductive Health Review of Text Books" to Honorable Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid in a sharing meeting organized by BNPS on 18 February 2014 at CIRDAP Auditorium.



submitted to the Education Minister and NCTB. The honorable Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP expressed his pledge to consider these recommendations to gradually incorporate in national school curriculum. On 5 March 2014; NCTB issued a letter addressing BNPS Executive Director. In this letter the NCTB expressed their pledge to consider BNPS recommendations on gender and SRHR in upcoming school textbooks.

Gender friendly environment at workplace

BNPS observed that, traditional trade union movements as well as the owner of the industries and policy makers do not take into consideration the current practical and strategic needs of women as working force. BNPS conceived the issues are crucial for women worker such as; sexual harassment, management of sexual and reproductive health, accommodation, transport, water supply, cooking gas in reasonable price, maternity leaves and child care facilities and management of un-wanted pregnancy, which need attention in improving the situation of women and taking care to reduce load of double, triple burden on women.

Change mindset of the government and factory owners for a fair deal to ready-made garments workers

BNPS organized a consultation meeting on 27 May 2013 where speakers pressed that change in mindset of the government and factory owners is essential for a fair deal to ready-made garments workers. The consultation took place to discuss on needful, realistic steps to ensure fair wages for garments workers, which would allow them to lead decent lives. Representatives of garments workers association, garments factory owners association, labour and political party leaders, women and civil society activists and academicians participated in this consultation. Majority of the participants opined that privileging only the owner's interest while constant negligence to workers voice, denial of forming trade unions, ignoring ILO's declarations and violating labour laws and industrial codes are behind the miseries of 4 million workers who are predominantly women work the maximum amount of time for the lowest possible wages. The discussants asserted for a collective effort to protect the workers and industries.



Discussion Meeting on "Way for Justice to the Labours of Readymade Garments Sector"



Legal awareness and legal aid through referral service

Counseling sessions on legal issues is an on-going program activity of BNPS. The women who are deprived of justice or victims of illegal actions have been benefited. The activity has been creating linkage with the government institutions (for example District Legal Aid Committee), respective legal aid providing NGOs like Ain O Shalish Kendra, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) for referral services of their women group members. BNPS has been provided training where community members are aware about the family law, importance of marriage registration, disadvantages of early marriage and having many wives, divorce, and significance of the court marriage. The impact of this activity is reflected at community level and members are enjoying their lives better, many women groups have successfully stopped violence, early or child marriage and conducted Shalish in presence of local government authorities in case of conflict arises.

Support to establish rights of indigenous women

State machineries continue to violate the civil and political rights, and the collective rights of indigenous peoples with impunity, and there is no effective mechanism available for redress in addressing these violations. It is reported that the indigenous peoples of the country are facing gross violations of human rights while the perpetrators enjoy full impunity even after committing crimes such as murder, rape and arson. Although the present government undertakes to protect the fundamental rights of the indigenous communities across the country, however, government has started to recognize them as 'small ethnic groups' instead of 'indigenous'. In 2010 Bangladesh government passed a law named 'the Small Ethnic Groups Cultural Institutes Act, 2010', where they were called as 'small ethnic groups'. Civil society organizations and conscious citizens of Bangladesh active to promote 'indigenous' people's rights consider this constitutional amendment adverse to the spirit of pluralism of ethnicity and multiculturalism.

Despite the country situation, during the reporting period BNPS conducted a study on indigenous women issues and their rights particularly of those living in Chittagong Hill Tracts. Based on this study and prevailing experience BNPS had already been taken a few advocacy initiatives in order to surface the issue at policy level. It was realized that only advocacy with policy holder is not enough to bring changes in the society. Therefore, BNPS took both advocacy and lobbying and capacity building activities to unite voice and mobilize them to make a breakthrough and establish evidence for policy support. In this regard, BNPS selected partners from hill areas and provided technical support to selected grassroots organizations on capacity building program and then they provided training to their grassroots members, and thus have created a network or alliance among those at local level. Such networks helped for doing policy advocacy and lobbying at national level for establishing indigenous women rights.



Consultation on the status of CHT women in customary law and justice system

Based on the formal study on the customary laws of CHT, BNPS organized a consultation meeting which was held on 25 February, 2014 at the National Press Club, Dhaka on the topic status of women in customary law and justice system. Chakma Chief Raja Barrister Debashish Roy, Bomang Chief Raja U Cho Pu Chowdhury, Mong Circle Chief Raja Shaching Pru Chowdhury attended in the meeting. Three major issues were identified in the meeting which needs to address urgently. The issues were: i) equal rights in inheritance property, ii) ensuring marriage registration, and iii) prevention of having many wives. The three chiefs of three circles ensured to address the issues in their respective communities.



Three Circle Chiefs and other specialists in a consultation session on status of indigenous women in customary law and justice system

At the ground level, BNPS also organized human chain and other awareness raising activities for demanding indigenous rights with three hill districts women organizations and networks like Hill Women's Federation, Tribal/Ethnic Women Network, CHT Women Activists Forum, and Women Rights Network (WRN). As a result five Women 'Headman' from three hill districts are now contributing to the mediation or arbitration to ensure the rights of ethnic women.



Human chain for demanding equal rights of indigenous women in customary laws



Strengthening Local Governance

Engaging women in local government standing committees

BNPS has been working for strengthening local government and community level governance through inclusion of marginalized people and their participation at different level of local government bodies. At present BNPS is working with 105 Union Parishads and 9 Municipalities on engaging women in local government standing committees. BNPS also facilitated the process for activating the various standing committee to ensure local level development. In addition, BNPS is working for creating enabling environment for elected women officials in the local government system to enhance active participation and leadership in service delivery. Besides, different community forums are playing significant role to strengthen community level governance.

In spite of high constitutional commitment, strengthening local government and decentralization barely got place in high priority in Bangladesh. Some form of in-built resistance exists from bureaucracy and even from parliament members (MP) as well.

However in a patriarchal society like Bangladesh elected women members in local government had been perceived as ornamental.



Training for union parishad standing committee members on monitoring of local development activities

Policy Reform Interventions

Mapping the policies, laws and guidelines for women empowerment

Policy reform interventions are one of the strategic actions of BNPS on gender issues for reducing gender gaps in implementation level. Policy gap is a regular phenomenon for gender discrimination and deprivation in the society and families. In view of identifying gaps in policies and national strategies, BNPS has conducted different policy research and their analysis on gender issues to identify implications, and findings has been used for conducting advocacy & lobby with policy maker and mobilize CSOs to act as pressure group for policy reforms and their implementation in right way. In addition, findings are also used to information generation, knowledge sharing and dissemination to make aware and sensitize actors in policy making and implementation as well as civil society and international community.

However, traditional mind-set of duty bearers particularly government officials along with lack of understanding in majority of civil society/NGOs on cross-sectionality of gender, ethnicity, class requires transformative rigorous work in this sector. Following issues/research findings are provides information to policy level interventions during the reporting period.

Making education system gender responsive

Addressing root causes of problems to facilitate a sustainable social transformation are the key approach of BNPS to achieve its mission of creating an enable environment for women. BNPS has been working on reforming of education system for changing traditional



Consultation meeting with consortium partners and relevant stakeholders on "Sexual and Reproductive Health Education in Secondary Schools: Study Materials, Classroom sessions, Capacity and Outlook of teachers"



mind-set and other values grounded in patriarchy. BNPS is pioneer in reviewing education system from gender lens by analyzing gender discriminatory components education in 1993.

In last three years, BNPS reviewed the text books of school from gender perspectives through its project on making education gender responsive and promotional for sexual and reproductive health rights. Besides, BNPS has been following up the analysis of text book from gender perspective and conduct advocacy with relevant ministries, policy makers, NCTB to make the curriculum and text books more gender sensitive and responsive to SRHR. In addition, BNPS is piloting with supplement curriculum and share outcome with policy holders.

Women in media

In 1997, BNPS conducted workshop on "Status of Women and Role of Media in Bangladesh" and since then BNPS always given emphasis and implemented different activities on this issue for creating awareness and ensuring women's adequate representation in media. Today, media influence is one of the most powerful economic and cultural forces.

BNPS conducted study through media monitoring to know the status of women in media and promoting women's positive representation in rural development reporting. Study findings have been shared with media houses, journalists, journalism teachers and students, policy-makers, and advocacy forum. Now, Women Journalist Forum is playing an active role as network of advocacy group to promote women's positive representation in rural development reporting and BNPS is providing technical support to the network for continuing their activities.

Rural women in media: ensuring proper representation

Mr. Hasanul Haq Inu, Honorable Minister, Ministry of Information attended a meeting on 'Rural Women in Media: Ensuring Proper Representation' that was organized by BNPS on 27 May 2014 at BRAC Centre Inn Conference Room, Mohakhali, Dhaka. Meeting reported that newspapers cover only 16 per cent, televisions 14 per cent and radios 22 per cent news on women. Minister told that, the journalists should keep the facts in mind as women and villages were neglected in media news. Criticizing the role of media, he said there was no talk show on the discrimination against women, especially the women farmers who did not get farmer cards.



Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu, delivering his speech in a sharing meeting on proper representation of women and village in media



Promoting citizen's participation in enhancing the legislators' roles

BNPS has completed a project for promoting citizen's participation in enhancing the roles of legislators through strengthening democratic institutions. BNPS put emphasis on access to education and health services in selected constituencies for reducing the school dropout rate for girls and increasing the percentage of women receiving acceptable maternal health care. After the implementation it was observed that selected area hospitals has improved their facilities like appointed new doctors, increased number of bed, introduced x-ray and improved doctor's attendance. On the other hand, preventive measures have been taken to stop drop out of girl from education and targeted schools appointed teachers in vacancy positions.



Dialogue between DPPF and Parliamentary Standing Committees for improving maternal health situation and access to health services

Reduce school drop-out rate in coastal areas

Speakers at a seminar which was organized by BNPS underscored the need for taking special steps to reduce school drop-out as well as development of maternal health in the char and coastal areas. Speakers said that although the maternal mortality and child mortality rates have decreased in the country, the situation in char and coastal areas has not improved much. Poor health-services, doctor's absence in remote areas, shortage of gynecologists and other equipments contribute to death of a large number of mothers in the chars and coastal areas, opined by the speakers. They also demanded to make functional of inactive community clinics, ensure doctors' presence in the hospitals and turn the community clinics into mothers' care centre with a view to developing the present scenario.



Analysis of national budget and development policies from gender perspective

BNPS analyzed national budget from gender perspective since long and conducted several studies on its different aspect for gender responsive budgeting through increasing civic participation in budget formulation. During this reporting period, Bangladesh has made considerable advancement in ensuring women's rights and establishing their political and social access along with economic opportunities. Most of the ministries of Bangladesh government have been implemented gender-responsive programs, and reporting their achievements and challenges.

Over the past decade there has been growing evidence that the best way to improve the allocation and equitable expenditure of public finances is through budget systems that are transparent, open to public engagement and scrutiny and that have robust oversight institutions and mechanisms. Such budgeting practices can positively impact growth, efficiency, and equity. BNPS has been trying to articulate the demand and necessity of gender budgeting in the country both among the proponents of women's empowerment and the policy-makers. The discourse of gender budgeting and allocating resource from gender perspective is getting impetus and is being reflected in the national budget. BNPS discussed this issue at various levels through organizing seminar, meeting and individual interaction.

Policy Roundtable on 'Advancing Public Participation and Accountability in the Budget process':

BNPS in collaboration with ANSA held a half-day policy roundtable on Advancing Public Participation and Accountability in the Budget Process on 1st October, 2012 at Hotel Ruposhi Bangla, Dhaka. Dr. Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir, MP, honorable minister of Home Affairs of People's Republic of Bangladesh was present as chief guest and gave his valuable speech. A number of parliament members, government/ non-government high officials, civil society representatives took part in this round table discussion and discussed different issues regarding budget process, its bottlenecks, and ways of effective implementation of budget in Bangladesh. The participants also highlighted the ways in encouraging people from every sphere to take part in the budgeting to ensure a stronger accountability in the budget formulation and implementation process.



BNPS has conducted a post-budget seminar on National Budget 2013-14: Expectation of Women & Reality, which was held at Muktijudda Jadugar, Dhaka on 18 June 2013.

Launching a Civil Society Platform

A dialogue session on budget accountability in social safety net Sector held on March 13, 2013 at BNPS Conference Room, Dhaka. The dialogue session concluded with launching a national Civil Society (CS) platform on Budget accountability: CUBA,B (Civil Society United for Budget Accountability in Bangladesh). Being an independent, non-political, national level platform to engage national level CS actors, CUBA,B will strive to push the accountability and transparency forward in national budget process in the days ahead.



Reforming electoral process to make it gender responsive

BNPS believes that, elimination of discrimination against women and advancement of equality for them can never be achieved without creating proper space and access to political sphere both at national and grassroots levels. BNPS has gained sufficient knowledge and experience in facilitating gender responsive electoral process and capitalizing this experience through following activities:

- Analyzing women's status in electoral process;
- Analyzing the election manifesto of major political parties from gender perspective;
- Election observation from gender and minority perspective;
- Voter education on women issues.



A national dialogue on ensuring level playing field for all citizens

'Electoral System in Bangladesh: Women, Minority and Poor on the Extreme Margin',

BNPS conducted a study on status of women, minority and poor in election process in 2013. Major recommendations based on the findings of the study were:

- Amendment of the constitution to allow direct election of women of reserve seats in the parliament; Women from minority and ethnic groups should be included in the list of reserve seats.
- Government can give campaigning finance to the political parties nominating more women candidates as incentives;
- Develop a policy on gender in the Bangladesh Election Commission to make the electoral process gender sensitive, ensure that all state agencies involved in election including police handling electoral violence act neutrally and understand equal rights of woman minority and ethnic marginalized group.
- The candidature of any candidate involved in acts of hate speech, sexual harassment, violence against women voter/female candidate before during and after election should be cancelled.
- The voter education materials should be prepared in different languages spoken by ethnic people;
- The election observation team should include 50% woman observer, minority groups suggest to introduce 15% reserved seats for minority communities which would be directly elected in the parliament.





BNPS consultation on status of women and minorities in electoral process: Women and minorities participation in next election is under peril

Women activists, ethnic and religious minority leaders and human rights activists expressed deep concern on fear-free environment for women and minorities in next general election. In a consultation meeting on "Status of women and minorities in electoral process: Present Context" organized by BNPS on April 27, 2013, the discussants also said that recent attacks on minorities and putting anti-women and anti-secular demands by religious extremist groups are part of the plan to keep women and minorities away from next election.



Consultation meeting on the status of women and minority in electoral process

Campaign for a fear free election environment and level playing field for all citizens

In 2013, nation experienced brutality, continuous violence and strike, road blockade, killing of innocent people. In this situation BNPS instigated a coalition with other likeminded organizations including religious and ethnic minorities' rights group to jointly demand for a fear-free election environment and level playing field for all citizens. BNPS produced poster, stickers and a charter on fear free election environment and level playing field for all citizens.

Election Commission's response to BNPS demand: Election Commission has issued letter to Ministry of Home before nine and tenth Parliament and Upazilla elections for ensuring special security and taking measures to ensure law and order for providing safety of women and minority in the hot spot areas. The commission issued this letter based on the petition submitted by BNPS for a level playing field for all citizens and creating a safe and violence free environment.



A meeting with Chief Election Commissioner in 2013



Advocacy for fair wages and decent working condition for women

It is evident that women unpaid labor contribute in GDP substantial way. Besides, it is well established that the foreign currency earned by garment industries come out of the margin created by low payment to women workers, in addition to women's unpaid care work. Recognizing, redistributing and rewarding this unpaid care work by providing public support (crèche, children education, health, old age pension) are essentials for improving the current situation.

A study on women labor in the informal sector has been conducted by BNPS in this period in collaboration with Bangladesh Institute of Labor Studies (BILS) and carrying out relevant policy advocacy. The research focused to the area of women workers in agriculture, construction, domestic service, rice processing mills and super shops as the major and significant sources of employment of women. The study identified specifically the discrimination against women in the wage. Also the problem of no separate toilet facilities, sexual harassment, teasing, verbal abuses by male workers and employers as the common phenomenon of the working places. The research draws set of recommendations to overcome the widespread challenges of women workers in informal sector.



Seminar on "Discrimination to Women Workers in Informal Sector and Necessary Measures"

"Discrimination to Women Workers in Informal Sector and Necessary Measures to be Taken"

A national seminar on status of women workers in informal sector was organized by BNPS on 29 April 2014 at the VIP Lounge, National Press Club, Dhaka. Following recommendations made by the participant during the seminar:

- Informal sector should be included into the labour law which must be executed also.
- Conveyance allowance, drinking water, separate toilet facilities must be ensured for the women workers.
- Sufficient commercial area wise dormitory facilities for the women workers should be ensured as there is a scarcity of accommodations facilities for the women workers in Dhaka city.
- Recognition of informal sector women workers should be reflected in the labour law as women workers.
- Separate fund for the women workers should be kept in national budget.
- To ensure security of women workers, necessary law should be enacted.
- Safe motherhood must be ensured.
- Landless farmers must be included in the labour law.

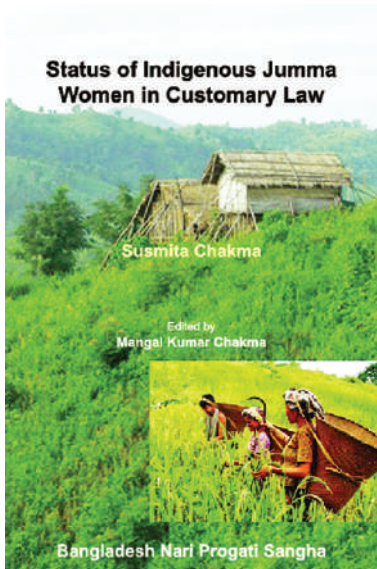


Support Programs

At present BNPS has been working in 27 upazila under 12 districts with diversified program through numbers of projects, which are implementing with the support of its bunch of dedicated staff at centre and central level. BNPS fully recognize the importance of skill development of staff for better planning, monitoring, coordinating and reporting along with management skills. In doing so, BNPS organized different training, workshop, seminar and meetings for its staff periodically through its Capacity Building initiative supported by BNPS's mother project. At the same time, BNPS has developed partnership with grass root level CSOs for different issues to sustaining the program owning by CSO where BNPS playing role as strategic partner to provide support national advocacy with the issues derived from partner CSOs.

Documentation and Publications

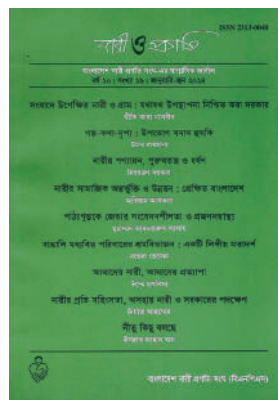
The contribution of BNPS is properly documented through its different publications and sometime these publications have been used for academic purpose or used as reference guide by different stakeholders. On the other hand publications itself promoting and disseminating the information related to its various initiative and results. BNPS published study reports as book; campaign materials as policy brief, poster, leaflet, sticker, learning tools as booklet, module, flash card; briefing tools as documentary film, annual report, brochure, folder; regular publication as half-yearly journal, etc. Following are few publications those are published during the reporting period;



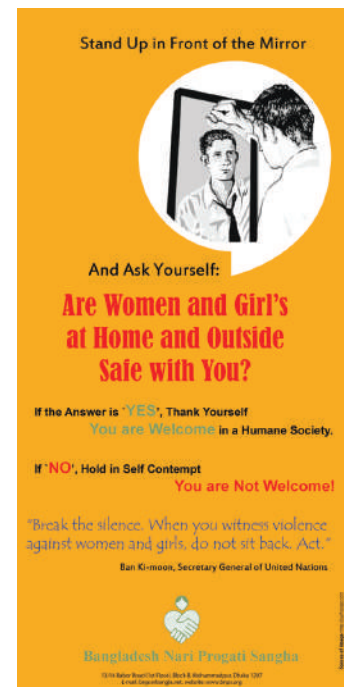
Study



Briefing Paper



Journal



Poster



Name of the publications <input type="checkbox"/>	Time of Publications
Study	
Safety Net Programs of Bangladesh and Climate Change Issues from a Gender Perspective <input type="checkbox"/>	April 2014
Status of Indigenous Jumma Women in Customary Law <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	May 2013
Electoral System: Bangladesh Perspective Women, Minority and People on the Extreme Margin <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	December 2013
Women's Political Empowerment, Maternal Health Care, Education and agriculture: A Perception Study <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	March 2014
Status of Women Workers in Informal Sector of Bangladesh <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	June 2014
Gender Sensitivity and SRHR: Content analysis of the secondary level textbooks of the year 2013 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	June 2013
Women and Village in News Content: Ensuring Fair representation <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	May 2014
Report	
Uniting Civil Society for Budget Accountability <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	June 2013
Shahbag Generation Square: A non-forgettable uprising of young generation <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	November 2013
Citizens Charter	
Effective democracy requires active citizens instead of passive voters, level playing field for all citizens and fear-free electoral environment <input type="checkbox"/>	December 2013
Policy Brief	
Policy Gaps Analysis and Recommendations for Gender Responsive Adaptation to Climate Change and Equity in Bangladesh <input type="checkbox"/>	June 2014
Combined initiative should be taken for resisting girls dropout from the schools of char and coastal areas <input type="checkbox"/>	March 2014
Combined initiative should be taken for improving women's SRHR condition of char and coastal areas <input type="checkbox"/>	March 2014
Women and village in news: How to ensure proper representation <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	June 2014
Learners Book	
My Body and My Society <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	January 2013 (2 editions)
When the age is between 10 to 19 (4 volumes for class 6 to 9) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	December 2013



Teachers Manual

When the age is between 10 to 19 (4 volumes for class 6 to 9) December 2013

Flip Chart

When the age is between 10 to 19 (4 volumes for class 6 to 9) December 2013

News Bulletin

Nari Progati Barta (5 issues) 2013-2014

Journal

Nari O Progati (4 issues) 2012-2014

Besides the above, number of issue based posters, stickers, leaflets, folder, flyer and other IEC materials on different development issues have been published and distributed among the relevant stakeholders.

Networking and Communications

BNPS believes that networking and communications is the key factor to development work and it helps to develop linkages with different service providers and other organizations, which ensures effective development. BNPS has been taken initiatives to bring a reform in the NGO sector in Bangladesh to make it an organized movement and include the process of empowerment of the poor and women in their programs. BNPS has been working for bringing activism in place of traditional project oriented development work by most of the NGOs. The issues like fundamentalism, secularism and its relation to democracy and development were also brought to the sphere of NGOs through the tireless efforts. In reporting period BNPS played an active role in following National Level Networks:

- Samajik Protirodh Committee (Social Action Committee against Violence against women)
- Sampreeti Mancha, a platform on communal harmony
- Poribesh Banchao Andolon (Save the Environment Movement)
- Governance Advocacy Forum
- Amar Adhikar Campaign (My Rights Campaign)
- Sammilito Samajik Andolon
- Citizens Initiatives on CEDAW Bangladesh (CIC-BD)
- Adibashi Adhikar Andolon (Indigenous Peoples' Rights Movement)

Besides, BNPS is affiliated in different regional and international coalition, network and forum on issues similar with BNPS mission statement. During the period of reporting, BNPS was actively involved in following international forum:

- South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE). BNPS is one of the founder and Core Committee member and Regional Focal organization of its Gender Thematic Group.



- Committee for Asian Women (CAW)
- Water and Democracy Forum, a south Asian forum consists of 46 member organizations from India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan.
- South Asian Network of Gender Activists and Trainers (SANGAT)
- South Asian Network for Social and Agricultural Development (SANSAD)
- W8: A cabinet of eight women, representing their own national civil society coalitions, bringing the voice and realities of communities to world leaders and the general public. BNPS Executive Director is a member of W8.

Auditing

BNPS conducted both internal and external audit for its running program. BNPS has an internal auditor within the organization, which is not a part of finance department. The internal auditor conducted internal audit quarterly basis and some time six-monthly in all BNPS centre and central offices. The internal audits create scope to remove weakness and mal practice and provide suggestion for better internal control and improvement of the existing system. BNPS commissioned annual external audit by qualified Chartered Accountant Firm in order to obtain a certification on the financial statement in accordance with accounting principles.

Monitoring and Evaluation

BNPS applied participatory methods for monitoring and evaluation and collecting quantitative and qualitative information on progress towards outcome indicators where the target groups and other relevant project stakeholders have been involved. The quantitative data on activity progress has been collected monthly through prescribed reporting format from the field offices and respective sections of central office. Qualitative data and information collected from project staff, women groups, community members and their families and other key stakeholders through using participatory methodologies. The other actors have been involved for providing their feedback for monitoring and evaluation purpose where both intended and unintended outcomes have been measured for ensuring sustainable development. Participatory methods are semi-structured interview, structured interview, participatory observation, focus group discussion with stakeholders and front-line staff, review of group, cluster committee and community forum's records and review of different seminar, workshop and meeting reports. In addition, for monitoring and evaluation purpose, monthly two staff coordination meetings at centre level and bi-monthly coordination meeting at central level has been conducted, program review and development workshop has been conducted at the end of each financial year. BNPS also conducted evaluation for evaluate its work through external consultants and for specific project purpose. Sometimes, BNPS conducted evaluation though its internal resources and organized monitoring and evaluation training for its staff.



Name of the projects those are implemented/implementing during the reporting period

1. Promoting Rights through Mobilization and Empowerment (PRiME)
2. Let her decide and participate (LHDP)
3. Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Education
4. Resilience through Economic Empowerment, Climate Adaptation, Leadership and Learning (REE-CALL)
5. Engaging Women in Local Government Standing Committee (EWLG) in Bangladesh
6. Promoting Gender Equality and improving Women and Girls Access to Education and Health Services in selected constituencies of Bangladesh.
7. Policy Review for Advocacy to Address Needs of Women in Climate Change Agenda
8. Ensuring Women's Fair Representation in Media for Rural Development



Consolidated Financial Statement

2013

BANGLADESH NARI PROGATI SANGHA

Consolidated Notes to the Accounts

as at June 30, 2013

No. Particulars Taka
6. Restricted fund

Name of Fund	Opening Balance	Fund Received	Work Loan Paid	Fund utilization during the Period	Excess of income over Exp.	Transferred Capitalized/ Adjustment	Closing Balance
1 Promoting Rights through Mobilization & Empowerment (PRIME) [EED & MISEREOR] 2nd phase	-	24,940,338	-	24,350,546	72,749	300,775	361,766
2 Resilience through Economic Empowerment, Climate Adaptation, Leadership and Learning (REE-CALL)	20,953	9,311,812	-	6,066,744	6,231	-	3,272,252
3 Promoting Gender Equality and Improving Women and Girls Access to Education and Health Services in four Parliamentary Constituencies in Chittagong and Sirajgong	1,859,689	3,868,903	-	4,978,234	36,141	34,775	751,724
4 Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Programme of BNPS	-	8,060,160	-	6,083,471	172,228	242,300	1,906,617
5 Advancing Public Participation and Accountability in the Budget Process	-	1,723,500	-	1,723,788	8,444	-	8,156
6 Let Her Decide and Participate (LHDP) Project	-	1,552,706	-	1,112,055	10,323	-	450,974
7 Engaging Women in Local government Standing Committees in Bangladesh	-	5,416,531	-	3,971,221	4,484	459,542	990,252
8 Policy review for advocacy to address needs of women in climate change agenda UNWOMEN	-	5,073,300	-	4,727,783	6,495	42,000	310,012
9 Ensuring Women's Fair Representation in Media for Rural Development WACC	-	900,000	-	105,716	-	-	694,284
10 Campaign on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights-SAAPE	-	-	-	115,710	-	-	(115,710)
11 Making Education gender responsive and preventive to HIV/AIDS - 2nd Phase	2,271,853	-	-	2,268,588	-	-	3,265
12 Promoting Rights through Mobilization & Empowerment (PRIME) [EED & MISEREOR]	(2,001,375)	1,727,526	-	-	-	-	(273,849)
13 Gender Budget Analysis-UN WOMWN	(142,441)	132,441	-	-	10,000	-	-
14 Various Project Restricted Balance	(1,615)	-	-	-	1,615	-	-
Total :	2,007,064	62,607,217	-	55,503,856	328,710	1,079,392	8,359,743





BANGLADESH NARI PROGATI SANGHA

Consolidated Balance Sheet
as at June 30, 2013

PROPERTY AND ASSETS

	Note	Amount in Taka	
		2012-2013	2011-2012
FIXED ASSETS	Note-01	15,911,513	14,328,907
INVESTMENT-FDR ACCOUNT	Note-02	2,407,942	2,119,164
CURRENT ASSETS:			
SECURITY DEPOSIT-T&T (As per last Account)		15,000	15,000
LOAN & ADVANCE/PREPAID ACCOUNT	Note-03	473,989	76,475
CLOSING BALANCE			
CASH IN HAND	Note-04	59,880	35,465
CASH AT BANK	Note-05	8,851,997	4,586,701
TOTAL		27,720,321	21,161,712

FUND AND LIABILITIES

	Note	Amount in Taka	
		2012-2013	2011-2012
EQUITY/FUND ACCOUNT			
RESTRICTED FUND	Note-06	8,359,743	2,007,064
UNRESTRICTED FUND-GFP	Note-07	2,585,088	3,149,825
CAPITAL RESERVE	Note-08	9,093,948	8,441,697
LONG TERM LIABILITIES :			
CUMULATIVE DEPRECIATION	Note-01	6,832,565	5,902,211
SHORT TERM LIBILITIES :			
STAFF WELFARE FUND	Note-09	105,721	105,702
STAFF INCOME TAX-TDS	Note-10	-	62,420
LOAN ACCOUNT-PAYABLE	Note-11	650,755	317,350
OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES	Note-12	92,500	1,175,443
TOTAL		27,720,321	21,161,712

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date


EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BNPS


ACCOUNTS OFFICER
BNPS


PINAKI & COMPANY
Chartered Accountants



2014

BANGLADESH NARI PROGATI SANGHA (BNPS)
Consolidated Notes to the Accounts
as at 30 June 2014
Taka

No.	Particulars	Opening Balance	Fund Received	Res. Fund/ Loan Adjustment	und utilizatio during the period	Excess of income over exp.	Transferred to Capitalized/ Adjustment	Closing Balance
6.	Restricted fund							
1	Promoting Rights through Mobilization & Empowerment (PRiME) [EED & MISEREOR] 2nd phase	361,766	27,257,024	-	26,626,497	46,480	237,120	801,653
2	Resilience through Economic Empowerment, Climate Adaptation, Leadership and Learning (REE-CALL)	3,272,252	2,766,688	296,060	5,785,576	3,571	71,105	(110,230)
3	Promoting Gender Equality and Improving Women and Girls Access to Education and Health Services in four Parliamentary Constituencies in Chittagong and Sirajgong	751,724	5,471,517	470,504	6,717,888	31,437	-	7,294
4	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Programme of BNPS	1,906,617	8,865,012	-	7,716,385	60,127	264,946	2,850,425
5	Advancing Public Participation and Accountability in the Budget Process	8,156	-	-	8,156	-	-	-
6	Let Her Decide and Participate (LHDP) Project	450,974	3,011,245	-	2,449,214	2,543	78,208	937,340
7	Engaging Women in Local government Standing Committees in Bangladesh	990,252	3,638,328	-	4,629,127	547	-	-
8	Policy review for advocacy to address needs of women in climate change agenda. UNWOMEN	310,012	511,700	-	1,404,577	16,767	-	(566,098)
9	Ensuring Women's Fair Representation in Media for Rural Development WACC	694,284	459,237	-	1,347,030	26,355	-	(167,154)
10	Campaign on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights-SAAPE	(115,710)	-	-	50,924	187	-	(166,447)
11	Making Education gender responsive and preventive to HIV/AIDS - 2nd Phase	3,265	-	-	3,265	-	-	-
12	Promoting Rights through Mobilization & Empowerment (PRiME) [EED & MISEREOR]	(273,849)	273,849	-	-	-	-	-
13	Safe School, Safe Community (SSSC)	-	11,672,554	-	2,346,162	5,828	-	9,332,220
14	Restricted fund/Loan Adjustment	-	-	469,160	-	-	-	(469,160)
	Total :	8,359,743	63,927,154	1,235,724	59,084,801	193,842	651,379	12,449,843





BANGLADESH NARI PROGATI SANGHA (BNPS)

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2014

		Amount in Taka	
		2013-2014	2012-2013
PROPERTY AND ASSETS			
NON CURRENT ASSETS:			
FIXED ASSETS	Note-01	16,562,892	15,911,513
INVESTMENT-FDR ACCOUNT	Note-02	2,806,744	2,407,942
CURRENT ASSETS:			
SECURITY DEPOSIT-T&T (As per last Account)		15,000	15,000
LOAN & ADVANCE/PREPAID ACCOUNT	Note-03	267,784	473,989
CLOSING BALANCE			
CASH IN HAND	Note-04	43,601	59,880
CASH AT BANK	Note-05	14,861,508	8,851,997
TOTAL		34,557,529	27,720,321
FUND AND LIABILITIES			
EQUITY/FUND ACCOUNT			
RESTRICTED FUND	Note-06	12,449,843	8,359,743
UNRESTRICTED FUND-GFP	Note-07	3,116,136	2,585,088
ASSETS FUND ACCOUNT/CAPITAL RESERVE	Note-08	8,810,162	9,093,948
LONG TERM LIABILITIES :			
CUMULATIVE DEPRECIATION	Note-01	7,767,730	6,832,565
SHORT TERM LIABILITIES :			
STAFF WELFARE FUND	Note-09	105,016	105,721
LOAN ACCOUNT-PAYABLE	Note-10	1,223,557	650,755
OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES	Note-11	1,085,085	92,500
TOTAL		34,557,529	27,720,321

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date


EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BNPS

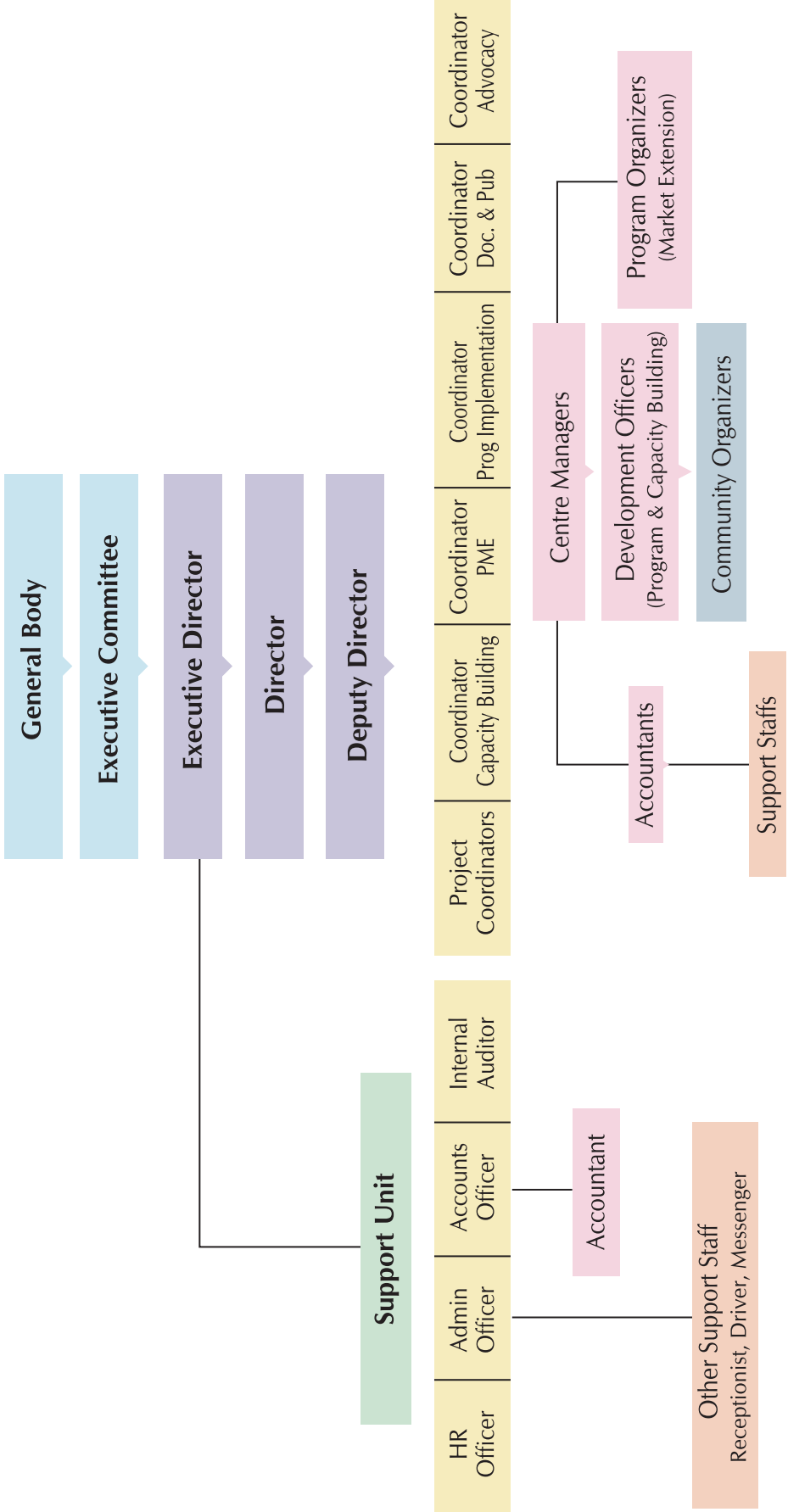

ACCOUNTS OFFICER
BNPS


PINAKI & COMPANY
Chartered Accountants



Annexure 1

Organogram



Offices of BNPS

Central Office of BNPS

Kolpona Sundor, 13/14 Babor Road (1st Floor)
Block B, Mohammadpur Housing Estate
Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh
Tel: (880) (2) 813-0083, 812-4899
Fax: (880) (2) 9104693
E-mail: bnps@bangla.net.bd
Website: www.bnps.org
Blog: <http://bnpsbd.blogspot.com>
Facebook profile: Nari Progati Sangha

Contact Person:
Rokeya Kabir
Executive Director

Centre Offices

Urban Area

BNPS Chittagong

Imam Villa (2nd floor)
1240 Zakir Hossain Road (Bi-Lane)
Khulshi, Chittagong 4000
Phone: (031) 2551884,
Cell: 01711877021
Email: bnps.chittagong@gmail.com

BNPS Dhaka

223 North Goran, Sipahibag
Dhaka 1219
Phone: (02) 7217787
Cell: 01710826341
Email: bnps.dhaka@gmail.com

Rural Area

BNPS Barhatta

Mohajonpara, Barhatta, Netrakona 2440
Tel: (09523) 56063
Cell: 01915336520
Email: bnps.barhatta@gmail.com

BNPS Mohanganj

Daulatpur, Haspatal Road, Mohanganj
Netrakona 2400
Cell: 01937389359
Email: bnps.mohanganj@gmail.com

BNPS Netrakona

East Katli, Netrakona 2400
Tel: (0951) 61338
Cell: 01715247876
Email: bnps.netrakona@gmail.com

BNPS Sandwip

Satghoria, Shiberhat, Sandwip 4300
Chittagong
Cell: 01711877022, 01712542962
Email: bnps.sandwip@gmail.com

BNPS Kushtia

845, Khairul Bhabon, Dadapur Road
(In front of Police Line),
West Mojompur, Kushtia 7000
Cell: 01714338556
Email: bnps.kushtia@gmail.com



Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (BNPS)

Kolpona Sundor, 13/14 Babor Road (1st Floor), Block B

Mohammadpur Housing Estate, Dhaka 1207

Phone: (880-2) 8130083, 8124899, Fax: (880-2) 9104693

Email: bnps@bangla.net.bd, Website: www.bnps.org