



# annual report

July 2017-June 2018



**Institute for Environment and Development (IED)**

# IED's working areas' map







# annual report

July 2017-June 2018



## **Institute for Environment and Development (IED)**

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Annual Report for the period of July 2017- June 2018  
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## From the desk of Executive Director

During the long journey since 1994 IED has been experienced that change of mind set of people is one of the very important elements to bring social transformation and it is a long process. IED has been taking different initiatives and interventions towards changing the mind-sets of people through giving emphasis on awareness, mobilization, campaign, advocacy, lobbying in the areas of women empowerment, minorities' (ethnic and religious) rights and climate change and environmental development. We are presenting this annual report for the period of July 2017 to June 2018 that highlighted the performances during the period.

Bangladesh is moving forward in the area of economic development. Along with it, more efforts are to be given for socio-cultural development and democratic practices. For developing these it is essential to promote human rights, women empowerment and good governance. IED has been hopeful with the initiatives as a part of its stakes in the areas of human rights, secularism and democracy.

The community is very vibrant and changing rapidly with the technological changes. The community people get latest information through internet, website, and facebook. Considering the situation IED try to make plan. IED is implementing all its project activities and other development initiatives with high commitment for achieving better result. The overall performances of the organization have been reflected in this report. Providing employable skill training to youth from Indigenous Peoples communities of plain land has got a good momentum.

IED would like to recognize the efforts of all related stakeholders with due respect to make good results of all activities. Effective involvement of community leaders, women group members and civil society members in different IED working areas for women's empowerment, livelihoods development, social change, ethnic & religious minorities' rights and environment has been significant that worked behind the success of the organization. The organization has been implementing diversified programs and projects and becoming more efficient in management and roles of its staff are also important. Thanks to all stakes who have been involved directly or indirectly with the activities implemented.

We feel satisfaction for the achievements of this year, and particularly appreciate the hard work of our dedicated colleagues and support of donors, including fellows and volunteers, in tirelessly pushing towards implementing programs. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to our resource sharing partners, governing body members, different government institutions, local government institutions, network partners, our beloved reference people and all other well wishers for their contribution in our journey towards bringing social transformation. We are hopeful to continue to build on the momentum for change and push ourselves to learn more, innovate, and enhance our impact even further in coming years.

Numan Ahmed Khan



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# IED: At a Glance



**Year of Establishment : 1994**

## Coverage

Direct implementation : 8 districts  
Number of organized Groups : 148 (Women 100, Men-20, adolescents 12, IP 4, women group in slum 12)  
Number of beneficiaries : Direct - 30,268, Indirect – 6, 17,263

## Staff

Number of Staffs : 37 (Female-18, Male -19)  
Number of fellows : 05  
Volunteer : 480

## Legal status of the Organization:

IED is registered under Social Welfare Directorate, Government of Bangladesh, Registration No. Dha- 03553 dated 8 April 1996 and with NGO Affairs bureau, GOB vide no 1866, renewed on 27 June 2018

Location and address of offices

## Central Office, Dhaka

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Mohammadpur Housing Estate, Dhaka 1207  
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## Center Offices:

### Mymensingh Center

16/Ga Sankipara, Cantonment Road, North Mymensingh 2200,  
Phone: (091) 66180, Cell: 01552419963  
E-mail. ied.mymensingh@yahoo.com

### Jashore Center

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Phone: (0421) 62873, Cell: 01717526617  
E-mail: iedjessore2004@gmail.com

## Organizational Overview

IED started works in 1994 through taking initiatives to address environmental issues. This is the organization which first initiated and organized platform voluntarily for environment movement in Bangladesh involving active citizen, organizations, activists, NGOs, CBOs, civil society members, opinion makers and actors from different sectors. Considering the need to work in the development sector along with environmental development the organization reviewed its policy and took initiative for receiving development support from foreign donors in 2001.

Then the organization decided to extend its initiatives in the areas of women empowerment, minorities' (ethnic and religious) rights along with environmental development. The organization also decided to address community people with special emphasis to the poor, marginalized and disadvantaged people, women and minorities (ethnic and religious) as target group.

It is a non-profit and non-government development organization. It is committed to bring social transformation through socio-economic, cultural and political changes in the society for the empowerment of the women, promoting minorities' (ethnic and religious) rights and climate change & environmental development.

IED plays supportive role in exploring people's potentials, building confidence and empowering women, disadvantaged and grassroots community at local level. It also gives voice to them by forming community forum, male group, women group, market extension group, janoudyog platform, women forum, youth forum, human rights defenders' group and provides hands on skill training. The organization has played pivotal role since its inception by fostering advocacy, mass mobilization, campaign, lobbying on areas of women rights, ethnic & minorities' rights, environment, empowerment of under privileged groups from local to national level. It believes that development should be even, balanced, equal and just so that fruitages of development are to be enjoyed by all. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) nicely coined the verse 'Leaving No One Behind'. IED also gives special focus on women, ethnic and minority, poor and other disadvantaged group and take their development concerns whole heartedly and comprehensively. IED has expanded its intervention in 7 districts and Dhaka

It also maintains healthy and friendlier relationship, network and partnership with various national, regional and international alliances and networks and also active

member of those networks. It believes on that making linkage, creating networks and forming alliance with like-minded people, organizations, network and partnership are very important headway in establishing rights and claiming entitlement by commoners and ensure good governance and strong democracy where every section of the society will thrive and live with peace, harmony and tranquility. IED successfully raises concerns of environmental issues, ethnic & religious minorities, women, poor and disadvantaged groups towards national and international community through advocacy and campaign.

## Vision, Mission statement and Goal

### Vision

A just society that ensures democracy, balanced ecology and culturally diversified.

### Mission Statement

Promoting people's initiative for gender equity, livelihood security, governance and sustainable environment through networking, advocacy, campaign and activism

### Goal

Contribute to establish an enabling environment for the disadvantaged people to demand their rights and improve access to quality services for livelihoods security.

### Core values & Target group

- Transparency & Accountability
- Equity and equality
- Innovation & inclusiveness
- Collective participation and sensitivity
- Promote rights of women, children and persons with disabilities

Underprivileged and marginalized poor, women, male, youths and minorities (ethnic and religious)

[Strategic Interventions followed in Program](#)



## Strategic Interventions followed in Program



## STRATEGY 1:

### Women's Empowerment

Women's Empowerment is one of the strategic interventions of the organization. For promoting this, women groups have been formed, leadership have been developed and involving women with different networks for taking different kinds of initiatives. Under this strategy, the following project has been implemented during the reporting period.

### Promoting Rights and Empowerment through Initiatives of People (PREIP) Project

#### Objectives

- 2000 targetted women in Jashore and Mymensingh are having enhanced position through participation of women in making decisions increased at 30% families, increasing family income of 40% women group members by 30% and reducing family violence to 90%.
- Peoples' initiatives at 7 districts/local and Dhaka are enable to raise voice for improving the situation of environment, enjoyment of rights of women and ethnic & religious minorities and solving the local problems.
- 160 ( male-100, female 60) Human Rights Defenders from indigenous communities in the districts of Dinajpur, Rajshahi, Sherpur and Dhaka developed their capacities and 54 (male-45, female-9) youths of that communities developed their hands on skills for empowerment and livelihood development.

#### Expected Results

By the end of June 2020

- Target women's participation in family decision making process of 2000 women group members' families increased by 30% from baseline position Mitigated / handled /addressed 90% cases related domestic violence against women at family level in the women group members' area.
- Mitigated / handled /addressed 90% cases related domestic violence against women at family level in the women group members' areas
- Income increased by 30% of 40% women members of the groups considering the position at the end of the previous phase as baseline
- Vibrant (ensured by a self developed index) civil society networks existed at 7 districts and 1 in Dhaka
- Average six monthly 20 news/reports on JU events published in daily newspaper.
- During the project period the HRDs organized at least 6 own events every year
- 54 IP youths received skill training (female 18 and male 36 considering 1/3 female participants) from IP communities increased their income by at least Tk. 500/- per month.

#### The project will contribute for achieving SDG 1, 3, 5, 13 and 16.

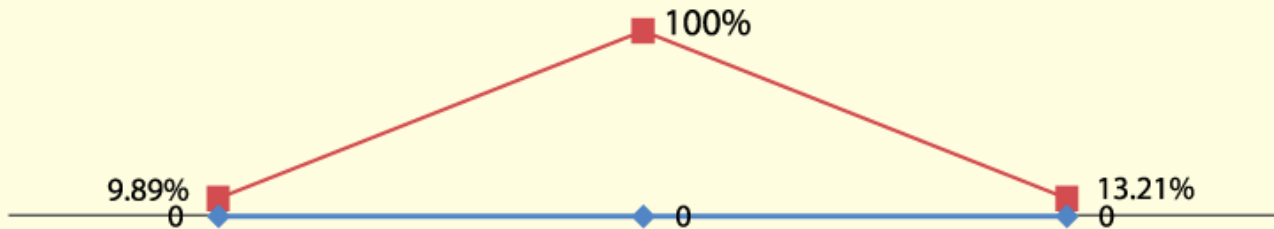
The duration of this phase of the project is three years. The reporting period is the first year of this phase. IED has successfully implemented the project activities as per the plan with a view to achieve the above mentioned objectives and results. The financial assistance is provided by Bread for the World (BftW) – Protestant Development Service, Germany.



## Achievement of the expected results

### Women Empowerment and livelihood development

—◆— position as on July 2017      —■— position as on June 2018



Target women's participation in family decision making process of 2000 women group members' families increased by 30%

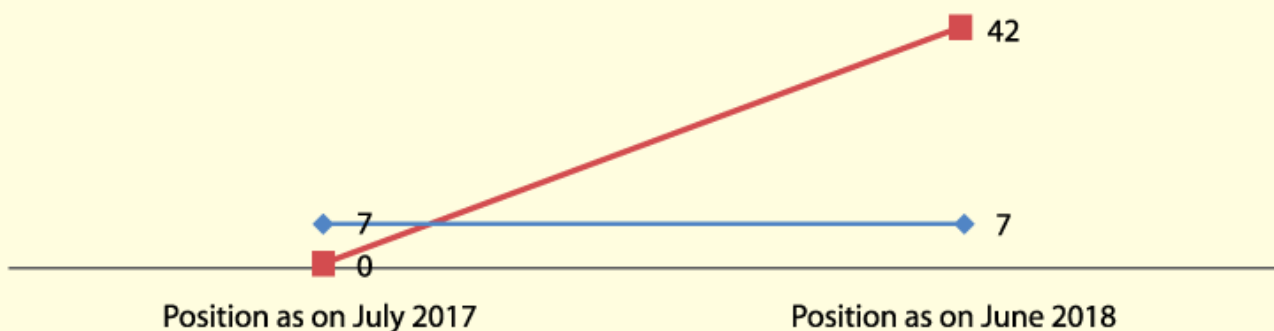
Addressed 90% cases related domestic violence against women at family level in the women group members' areas.

Income increased by 30% of 40% women members of the groups.

### Janoudyog (Peoples' Initiatives)

—◆— Vibrant (ensured by a self developed index) civil society networks existed at 7 districts and 1 in Dhaka.

—■— Average six monthly 20 news / reports on JU events Published in daily newspaper.



### IP youths' empowerment and livelihood development

—◆— HRDs organized at least 6 own events every year

—■— IP Youths received skill training from IP communities



IED has been implementing projects in 3 unions of Jashore Sadar & 9 municipality wards of Jessore, 21 wards of Mymensingh City Corporation and 1 adjacent union and Dhaka district. This annual progress report documents achievements through activities carried out by the IED during the period of (July 2017 -June 2018) The activities under the project consists of a total of five components, namely a) Women groups for empower-

ment and livelihood development b) Promoting Peoples Initiatives– Janoudyog c) Indigenous Peoples (IP) youths' empowerment and livelihood development d) Organizational Capacity Development & PME. Total number of beneficiaries covered during the reporting period was around 30,268.

The specific activities and the performance during the reporting period are described below

## Women Group



Organizing women to move for empowerment

In Mymensingh and Jashore total 100 women groups have been reorganized at the beginning of this year and reorganization will be continued during the project period. The number of group members in each group is 15-20. Poor and disadvantaged women are the members of the group. Each group has developed one development plan following planning exercise guideline. IED has provided necessary support to make linkage with different GO-NGO and private service providers to implement the group plan. It has been reported from field areas that grassroots women particularly women leaders are becoming more acquainted to the community. Some groups of the working areas are now capable to organizing their regular group meeting with minimum support from

IED staff. 1051 out of 1000 awareness sessions have been organized in 100 groups following the annual activity plan developed by group members. The awareness sessions were discussed with livelihood issues, women empowerment, women rights, human rights, rights of ethnic & religious minorities and environment. Fairly a good number of participants attended in the awareness sessions. This indicates their urge to listen and internalize new ideas. It provided them a sort of scope or avenue to interact with each other to open up their minds and to set strategies to make things happen towards expected changes.

The group members themselves identified the issues





## Making women group leaders more proactive

in the meeting and prioritize the development plan i.e. protection of early marriage, birth registration, family planning, child education, health and hygiene, marriage registration, sexual harassment, polygamy, dowry, water logging, safe drinking water, legal issues, day observation, livelihood development, increase of income, involvement in the decision making of the family, control over income in the family, mobilization of government facilities etc and have undertaken to execute the plan as well. Group members are able to explain the women rights related laws of the country at the satisfactory level. To give more effectual plan, group members reviewed the plan on six monthly bases.

### Cluster Committee

IED has formed 20 cluster committees earlier as per plan at Para (a cluster committee in the rural areas) and Mahalla (a cluster committee in the urban area) in two working areas. A cluster committee is formed consisting of 16-20 members taking 4 potential leaders from 4-5 primary groups in order to compile the groups' level development plan with its implementation strategies. One planning meeting for each cluster was held on yearly basis. In the reporting period 20 meetings were held. To re-evaluate the cluster plan, it was planned to review on six monthly bases and held accordingly. As per plan 40 half yearly meetings were held. Group specific issues were addressed by cluster committees and Community

Organizers of IED provided accompaniment support for executing the plan. Committee members took initiative to solve those issues enthusiastically. They identified some local level and individual issues e.g. violence against women and children, child marriage, dowry, day observation, skill development training, garbage management, health & hygienic, involvement in the decision making of the family, control over income in the family, mobilization of government facilities etc. In the mean time members of cluster committee shared their good experiences among themselves.



IED implements activities to building leadership at grass-roots level. Experiences gathered during implementation suggest that a number of women group leaders faced troubles either in forming or joining the group/cluster or for attending the 'shalish' (village arbitration) as their husbands and occasionally the local powerful male leaders prevent them.

In spite of these barriers the women group members are continuing their demonstration to form united movement against polygamy, bribery and community problems like:

water logging, illegal eviction, eve teasing, mobilization for government facilities and use of hygienic toilets. There are other issues; they are: dealing with by joining their hands together keeping all the barriers at area.

IED organized 4 training courses on Leadership Development for women group members and 4 training courses on Gender for women, male and community forum members were held in both centers where 160 participants took part. It is noted here that Leadership Development and Gender courses modules have been reviewed.

## Male Group



**Sensitizing male for development and support women at all levels**

As a patriarchal society like ours, gender inequality, discrimination and violence against women & girls are more pervasive and frequent. Women empowerment is not visible up to the mark, as men members of the society are not sensitized and motivated for uplifting the lives of women. Active support and inspiration from men are necessary to enforce empowerment of women in the family and society as well. To that connection, it has formed male groups at centre office level that are playing supportive role at 3 levels- primary women group, cluster committee and community forum.

In the reporting period 20 male groups have been reor-

ganized at centre office level that consisted of 18-20 members taking 3 males from 3-5 women group family members and 1-3 male from community forum. Total 80 quarterly meetings were held that featured issues on women rights, gender, resource mobilization, local problem, networking etc. They also maintain healthy relation and linkage with local government offices, elected representatives, civil society members and service providing organizations. They inspire community people to make their area neat and clean. With the support of male women group members are becoming more confident and courageous to move forward towards empowerment.



## Sensitizing adolescent girls for raising voice



### Adolescent Group

Adolescents are to be grown with care to adjust them in the society and make change of mind set with the changing situation. The adolescent girls are highly affected & disturbed by the male section of the society. So, they are to be sensitized to play important role to prepare themselves for their development in future. Considering the situation IED has taken initiatives to sensitize adolescent

girls in 2 center areas. Towards doing that 12 adolescent groups have been formed at community level in 2 Centre Offices taking 20 adolescents with age between 12-17 years.

During the reporting period total 48 quarterly awareness rising meeting were organized to address issues related to their lives. Total 2 cultural/sports events were organized for sensitizing adolescents to explore their potentialities.

### Women forum



## Developing women leaders to mobilize women and adolescents for rights



For making space of women in all spheres opportunities are to be created for the women to make linkage with government officials, financial institutions, come in to the leadership position and women focus issues are to be addressed more that would support for women empowerment. Total 2 women forums have been formed at centre office levels. The members of the forum are 20. The social & cultural activists, teachers, advocates, entrepreneurs, house wives are the members of the forum. The meetings of the forum are held on quarterly basis. It has maintained communication with Janoudyog platform, women groups, local government and government offi-

cial for the benefit of women and poor as well. It has addressed the issues related to women rights, rights of disadvantaged & marginalized and environment.

During the reporting period 8 forum meetings were held. The forums undertook different initiatives. Such as: They helped women entrepreneurs to make linkage with banks and other financial institutions to get loan; visited women groups to make them inspired to move forward; provided support for counseling; Organized awareness session with the school students on health and hygiene and made communication with adolescent group members at the community level to make them aware about their position.

## Youth and cultural forum



### Involving youth as change agent

IED observed and understood the interest of youth at the educational institutions to take part in the social and cultural activities at IED centre office levels. They can play

roles as volunteers and change agents through cultural activities and bring the issues of inequality, human rights, gender equity at every spheres of life and working together to bring more understanding and less distrust among the both gender which is happening in the community.

Based on understanding and realization 2 youth forums have been formed at centre office levels taking youth with backgrounds of cultural activist, students, social activist, teachers, professionals, players of 20 members with age between 18-35 years. The forums have maintained linkage with women groups, women forum and Janoudyog (peoples' initiative) platform. Total 8 forum meetings were held during the reporting period. The forums organized 6 cultural programs focusing gender and rights issues at the community level that has created mass awareness on those areas. The youth forum members of Jashore IED center office implemented 5 KM long 600 palm tree plantation in Noyapara union, Jashore.

## Community Forum

Community forums have been formed in 2 Center Office areas. These forums have been formed to involve community people to address the issues related to promoting women & human rights and empowerment, supporting women for economic development, supporting to develop capacity for bargaining and mobilizing services and facilities, protection of drug addiction, promoting participation of women at decision making process in the community, promoting peace and social protection for women, adolescents and children, environmental development, supporting for protection of violence against women and minimizing local problems etc. It is experienced that socially influential persons and opinion makers of the project areas can play a vital role in reducing the discrimination and promoting development.

Existing 12 forums have been emphasized to strengthen at community level of Mymensingh and Jashore municipalities considering the proximity of existing women group areas and involving representatives of different segments of the community people and local social leaders. Individuals that can play a significant role in local dynamics or represent the interests of the disadvantaged families have also been included in this forum. The members of the forum are 25 (women group leaders -5, social leaders -5, male groups leaders -5, youths -5 and women leaders -5). IED facilitated these forums in establishing an enabling environment for women and changing mindset of youth of their community in a collab-





## Taking community driven initiatives for social transformation

orative manner. During formation of Community Forum, a balance between women and men, poor, marginal, small and medium households have been ensured.

During the reporting period, 36 meetings on four-monthly basis were organized with the Community Forum members. Among these meetings the community forum organized 12 awareness sessions with the community people in the open place using multimedia visual documentary on bad effect of early marriage, dowry, eve teasing and women rights. That has created high sensitization in the community. In this session government officials, local government representatives, teachers and civil society members participated and inspired the participants.

Workshops and counseling forums were also organized at centre office levels. Counseling forums were organized at group level on family law, legal protection against women and violence against children. Workshops were organized with women leaders, civil society members at centre office level on environment law, family law, women rights etc. During the reporting period 12 counseling at women group level and 2 workshops were organized those created awareness and knowledge that have made more sensitization among the participants.

### Local Level Rally and Mobilization



## Sensitizing people for promoting rights



Day observation on human rights and health related events were organized to sensitize the mass people that created emotional attitude of grassroots. The planned 8 Day Observation rally events have been organized in 2 Center office districts during the reporting period and a good number of participants took part in the rally. The group and cluster members participated in day observation rally by their own initiatives. Through participating those events young group of the respective areas have been stimulated and leaders of the cluster committees and community forums have played a vital role in organizing those events. The issues were: May Day, international women's day, human rights and violence against women.

## Activity at slum in dhaka

Slum people are highly affected in their lives and there is lack of awareness on livelihood. There is demand of the people of slum areas to stand beside them. Presently limited NGOs are working on mobilization, campaign, advocacy, lobbying and awareness raising activities with the people of slum areas. It is also the advice of Dhaka district administration, GoB to address awareness raising activities with poor people in Dhaka city. So, IED has started work with people of one slum (Kalayanpur Pora Boshti) in Dhaka city.

Considering the situation, the project has formed 6 women groups at community level in `Kalayanpur Pora Boshti`, Dhaka with 15-20 women with age between 18-55 years. Total 72 monthly group meetings were organized to address issues related to their lives.

For creating income and employment opportunities

hands on 1 skill training course was organized for 30 group members. Legal message related to their lives have been disseminated. Experienced advocate was invited to conduct the meeting. For this purpose 1 legal awareness meeting was organized. In the meeting 30 women participated.

## Community forum at slum area Dhaka

For creating environment for better life and rights of slum people 2 community forums have been formed in that slum taking 15 persons (group members-5, youths-5, males-5) as members of the forum. During the reporting period, 8 quarterly meetings were organized. The forum provided support to the women groups to implement their efforts towards empowerment and rights.





## STRATEGY 2:

### Women's Economic Empowerment

#### Market Extension Education for Women

There are total 32 market extension groups involving 644 members in Jashore and Mymensingh. Marketing extension education is an intervention which usually helps poor women/households to build their capacity to enter into the market. Moreover, it can be apprehended that it would enhance the women's capacity and skill to deal with market actors and factors, facilitate the effective utilization of resources, develop marketing outlook and entrepreneurship, create opportunity to choose means and options etc. On the basis of previous phase experience, IED has been implementing marketing extension education in 2 working areas i.e Jashore and Mymensingh. Accordingly, a guideline has been prepared for smooth implementation of the program. Members of groups received special training on this issue and the training was conducted by the Program Organizer (Marketing Extension) and resource persons from government institutions. By this time, it has been reported that group members are able to identify issues on different income generating activities. To exploring the opportunity of business, IED assisted the group members in establishing linkage with different GO-NGO and Private Service providers and financial institutions. It also provided need based training to exploring their opportunity supported to make linkage with the skill training providing institutions for developing skills in different trades to create and increase income. Besides, meetings have been organized with the market committees to create a



space of the group members for marketing their products. The situation of the market of working area is not women friendly. So, they face various kinds of problems in marketing their products. IED is in the process to activate women to create their space in the market.

IED provided needs based skill and enterprise development training at Centre level on different trades and income generation activities such as Block, Boutique, Making Shopping Bags, Cutting-Stitching and Embroidery. It is noted that the Community Organizer and Program Organizer have helped the group members in exploring the opportunities of training at the Upazilla/District level government and private institutions and making functional linkage with GO-NGO and different, service providers. IED also provided Enterprise development training to women.

During the reporting period the following performance have been achieved:

Activity	Number of women involved
Members of Market Extension groups	644
Need based skill training received	264
Enterprise development training received	111
Meeting with market committee at local level	79
Received loan from bank and other institution	22
Involve in income generating activities	503
Received skill training from other organization	188
Involved other women in entrepreneurs' enterprise	102



## Case



### Swapna returned to her family

There is a women group named Samakal women group that is located at Pagladah area, Jashore. IED jashore has awareness program with that women group. The group members are vibrant to take initiatives to make protest against injustices and inconsistencies occur in the areas or group members' family. Shiuly, one of the group members married off her daughter Swapna at Jhumurpur. Ripon, husband of Swapna is a mason by occupation. Their marriage life is about 8 years. Swapna has one boy child. She managed a work at Ahad jute mill after marriage. She was contributing her income to the family. One year after the marriage her husband became addicted to drug and started physical and mental torture on Swapna. As the day went on, the level of torture was increasing. Finding no other way, she became bound to resign from the mill work as her husband made bad suspicion and cruel torture. It is noted here that her monthly income was Tk 13000/- at the time of resigning the job. But the torture on Swapna was not stopped. She often helplessly went to father's home. Her mother raised this issue with Shiuly group members of Samakal many times and took initiative to settle down the problem taking support from other group members but situation did not improve.

Torture by her husband was so severe that she was forced to go to her mother, pagladah. Her mother discussed the situation with the members of Samakal group. Then a meeting was organized with group mem-

bers urgently. In that meeting, Reheena Hoque, member of Sworolipi women group and president of community forum attended. They also requested IED to remain present in the meeting. The issue was discussed intensively in the meeting and decided that a case to be filed against her husband at Jashore thana. Then secretary Najma, member Rikta and Moni Swapna took Swapna at sadar hospital for health checkup. They went to police station and filed case against her husband Ripon upon completion of medical test. Then Abdul Matin, sub inspector of Kotowali police station received the complain. Firstly Abdul Matin made investigation going to Swapna's father in law's house and found the validity. Firstly, it is decided to convene arbitration meeting and meeting was held at Kotowali police station with the initiative taken by sub inspector Abdul Matin. In the meeting, sub inspector, group leader & secretary of Samakal, guardian of Swapna, delegate of IED Jashore centre and Ripon, husband of Swapna along with his guardians. Upon knowing complain of both sides, and long discussion it was mitigated with the decision to live together and her husband promised not to make any torture against Swapna. The decision of the meeting was ended with happy mood and a paper was made taking signature of all attendees. Now Swapna is in good situation. Janoudyog Jashore and Mr. Rakonudowlla, senior reporter of daily Sangbad, Jashore extended necessary cooperation to organize this arbitration meeting.



## Case



### Arju changed her economic condition

At present Arju earns Tk. 1000/- (one thousand) monthly from her tailoring profession. She is the member of Samata women group of Kristipur area under Mymensingh municipality. She was born in 1992 and her father's name is Md. Ajil Mia and mother is Najma Begum. Currently she is 26 years old. She is the eldest among her 6 siblings. She was married off with Manik Hossain at the age of 13 in the poverty stricken family. Her husband is a day laborer in Mymensingh town. She gave birth of 2 daughters and 1 boy child in her family. Her elder and younger daughters study at class VI and I respectively. But her boy child was dead after birth. Her husband earns monthly Tk. 4500/-. They encounter hardship to maintain the cost of family covering educational expenses of two daughters.

In 2016, she came to know the programs of IED that the organization works for the betterment of backward women. Not only that the organization also provides various skill based training to women. Then she became motivated and involved herself at IED organized group. She took part at the all programs of IED actively including group meeting and market extension group meeting. She realized that if women make income then their

social status will be better than the present position and would bring better financial solvency in the family. Receiving training on skill development, leadership development and market extension from IED, she started work and has become self-reliant. She has bought tailoring machine and started work at her home. Now she is contributing financially in the family besides her husband's income. She is also contributing to bear educational expenditure of her daughters. Not only that she dreams, one day she will be able to create employment for other women in the area. She quoted, 'as I have got free training on tailoring from IED, I would like to provide free training and give tailor machine to other women.' Arju has not lost her will power even under very hardships. Now she has become self-reliant women by her own initiatives. She acknowledges with gratitude that if she would not get introduced with and assisted from IED, then change would never happen in her life and not possible to establish herself as self-confident women. She also acknowledges that she came to know many things upon coming across with IED which helped her immensely. IED played a pivotal role in creating a breakthrough in her life.



## STRATEGY 3:

### Environment Development

Our mother earth is rapidly warming day by day due to global warming causing massive bio-diversity loss. Presently the environmental concern is a burning issue nationally and globally. Countries like Bangladesh are the worst victims of climate change effects though her less share of climate changes effects. IED strives to take initiatives regarding environment development in the following directions.

1. Ensuring environment friendly programs and projects undertaken by IED
2. Undertaking pro-environment advocacy program through peoples initiatives
3. Developing a mechanism of creating general awareness among the people

Under this strategy IED is implementing the following project activities through PREIP project along with its own volunteer initiatives. JANOUDYOG (Peoples Initiative) has addressed environment issue along with women rights & empowerment, rights of ethnic & religious minorities and local problems.



### JANOUDYOG (Peoples' Initiative)

The program will contribute for achieving SDG 5, 13 and 16.

Janoudyog (peoples' initiative) is one of the IED's major effective approaches to involve people who have the volunteerism attitude towards peoples' development. Such as: social leaders, cultural activist, women leaders, political persons, community people, journalists, writers, teachers, youth, academicians etc. It is the peoples' platform that addresses the issues related to women empowerment, women, ethnic & religious minorities' rights, environment and local level problems through organizing campaign, mobilization and advocacy activities. It also addresses the issues at the national level. IED initiated this approach in 2003 on volunteer basis in different areas in Bangladesh through working as catalyst and providing information, advice and secretarial services. Understanding Janoudyog as an effective approach IED has undertaken it as a regular program in 2008. It has developed platforms at 7 districts (Khulna, Rajshahi, Mymensingh,



Jashore, Netrakona, Sherpur and Gainbandha) and Dhaka. All these platforms have made landmark endeavors towards collaborative effort for advocacy where people from all walk of life come together to bring forth the issues of marginal, the deprived and discriminated people.

IED is implementing activities in 8 districts including Dhaka of which 5 fellows have been deployed in 5 districts and activities in 2 districts & Dhaka are being run by its own staff. Most of the planned activities have been performed so far. In this period, human chains, press conference, round table meeting, sharing meeting and rally organized on environment, minorities' & women rights and emerging issues at district headquarter level. The activities have been raising awareness among the community people. Participants enthusiastically are taking part in those events and placing the people's demand to the concerned authority.

During the reporting period, numbers of events organized by Janoudyog platform on environmental issue. Some are mentioned below.



Two daylong inter university debate-2018 on environment was held during April 27-28, 2018 at Stamford University in Dhaka. With cooperation of IED the debate event organized by Janoudyog, Poba, environment science department of Stamford University and ESDO titled on real development keeping balance between environment and nature. Total 10 groups including private and public universities namely Dhaka University, Jagannath University, Jahangirnagar University, Stamford University, Bangladesh University of Professional (BUP), United International University (UIU), North South University, Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology and Bangladesh University of Textiles took part in the debate program. Around 100 participants enjoyed the thrilling event. The debaters made the event animated employing parliamentary style. The debate topics were: 'green technology is bluffed for developing nations', 'developed nations are sole responsible causing global climate change' and 'development itself a major setback to keep environmental balance'. It can be mentioned here that it was the first of this kind of debate on environment issue at university level.

## TV Talk Show on environment

IED organized TV talk show addressing environment issue titled on Dust free city and civic responsibility at the event of news hour extra at popular television channel ATN news on April 28, 2018. Numan Ahmed Khan, Executive Director of IED, Khan Md. Bilal, Chief Executive Officer of Dhaka South City Corporation and Commodore Md. Abdul Hakim, prime waste manager of Dhaka North City Corporation took part as discussants. The event facilitated by journalist Mahmudul Hoque. Apart from that, Gogon Lal, president and Bimol Chandro Das, general secretary of Harizon Samiti of old Dhaka took part as panel discussants.



## Cycle Rally on environment

A cycle rally event focusing environmental issue on Dust free city and civic responsibility at Dhaka city was organized on April 28, 2018 to create mass sensitization. People of different section spontaneously participated in the rally. Former Vice Chancellor, Dhaka University, Prof. Arefin Siddiqui along with environmental activists took part in the rally.



Through Janoudyog IED organized total 87 events during the reporting period of which 40 addressed women empowerment & rights, 25 addressed environment & climate change and 22 addressed minorities & IP issues.

Janoudyog platform members organized six monthly meeting regularly at local and national levels. Total 16 six monthly meeting were held at local level and 1 yearly meeting at national level. One training course was organized for representatives of JU platform and civil society leaders of local and national levels.

IED's role is to create space for people's voices and aspirations and coordinating and supporting in all aspects. 'Leading from the back' has been the natural style and strategy of IED which is an essential ingredient for building people's ownership for the movement.

For raising awareness, IED considers environment protection and development issue as cross cutting issue in the regular awareness session and meeting of women group, male group, adolescent groups, community forum, events with students, youth and women forum. It takes active role to address the issue in collaboration with other environment related networks by its own initiatives.



## STRATEGY 4:

### Citizenship Development among youth and students

Youth including students are the core group to bring changes as they are the most dynamic big portion of population in the society. They are to be developed and involved in different development activities and attached with the people to bring changes. Their capacity would be developed and cared of to make them active citizen. As they possess potentialities, they can make shape of future Bangladesh if they are provided life oriented education on environmental development, civic engagement, democracy, good governance, accountability, transparency and fellow feelings. But present education system does not employ this aspect hence they are not interested to be involved in social change process.

Making awareness of the students on different issues, increasing the analytical capacity and developing the presentation skills, debate program was organized in the

schools and colleges in two centre offices. During the reporting period 2 debate programs were organized in Jashore and Mymensingh as per the plan. Topics were selected on youth and women issue. 30 debaters from different departments of 1 college and 4 schools participated in this program. There were 10 debate rounds held and the students of classes attended in the debate events. Total 1468 students, teachers and guardians attended. This program created much sensation among the students.

6 cultural programs were organized by the youth focusing gender and rights issue at centre office level. 2 workshops were held with school students in Dhaka on healthy environment of school campus and health & hygiene. No. of participants were 110.

### Projects for youth

#### Involving youth in development works



It is a new initiative in this project to activate youth. During the reporting period the youth were made involved in doing development works directly through assigning them task in the form of designing and implementing small project. For this purpose 3 progressive and potential youth groups were selected. The projects were on the areas of women/minorities/environment. Interested students of Jahangirnagar & Dhaka Universities and IP youth were invited to submit project proposal with budget. Then 4 best projects were selected and told them to implement the projects and fund was provided as per the budget. The selected projects were: 1. Sensitizing passengers and LEGUNA vehicles drivers & helpers for safe travel and better transportation services. 2. Cleanliness of public toilets in Dhaka City

and facilities for women. 3. Documentary film to sensitize main stream youth about the existing discriminated situation of Indigenous People in Bangladesh. 4. Documentary film to sensitize people about the health and education situation of women Tea garden labors and their children. Total 34 youth were provided orientation on process of designing and implementation of projects. Finally 27 youth were involved in project activities. They have involved University teachers & students, civil society members, people, government officials and counselors. It has created high inspiration of youths and they have been encouraged to get involved in the development initiatives. Creative thoughts were welcome. The projects contributed to sensitize people and capacity development of youths.



## Award for journalists

### Recognizing journalists for pro-people reporting



It is also new initiative in the project. Journalists are the key role players for sensitizing people through providing news, writing articles, showing documentary reports in print, online and electronic media. IED took initiative to involve journalists to provide more concentration in the areas of women/minorities/environment that would sensitize greater mass.

So, the journalists were invited to publish more reports, articles and features related to those issues expressing the community movement, success cases, entrepreneur-

ship, progress for empowerment, conditions, violence, mobilization of resources, events happened etc.

During the reporting period about 150 journalists responded. Total 120 reports have been sent to IED office, Dhaka. From 120 reports 50 were made short listed. A judge team was formed with 5 highly experienced senior journalists. From these 50 reports 12 were finally selected for award of which 3 best were specially awarded. This project has created high encouragement for them. They requested IED to continue this project activity.

## STRATEGY 5

### Democracy and Governance

Promoting democracy and governance are the precondition for creating disciplined and peace living situation of the country. The people are to be always considered as an object, not a subject. Local government institutions are to be strengthened and people of all sections especially poor and women are to be involved with high importance. IED has given importance in this regards and has undertaken different initiatives to address these areas and it has taken as one of the major strategies.

Under this strategy, following project has been conducted during the reporting period:

#### **“Strengthening and Promoting Active Citizenship in Bangladesh” project** The project will contribute for achieving SDG 16.

IED has undertaken the election observation activities as an active member of Election Working Group (EWG) to observe the election process, peoples’ participation, discipline in the polling center, vote counting system etc.

#### **Election Observation**

During the reporting period IED conducted election observation of Gazipur City Corporation held on June 26, 2018. Total 23 observers were deployed for 23 pulling centers to observe process and discipline and a report was submitted to the Bangladesh Election Commission (BEC), Election Working group Forum and the donor.



## Overall findings of election observation

### 1. Preparations for Opening the Polls

BEC officials were generally well prepared to complete opening procedures in polling centers and individual polling booths across the country. Transparent ballot boxes, voter lists, ballot papers, indelible ink, and other essential materials reached individual polling centers and booths in right time.

### 2. Polling Process

The polling process was held between the 0800 hours opening of polling booths 1600 hours closing set a consistently high standard across the city areas. While no major problems affected the overall quality of the polling process.

### 3. Security Environment between Polling Centers

#### Election campaign posters displayed within 400 yards of polling centers:

In several cases candidate campaign posters were observed hanging within 400 yards of polling centers in contravention of BEC guidelines.



Promoting  
democracy  
following  
electoral  
process





Involving youth to uphold peoples initiatives

## STRATEGY 6

### Empowerment of Minorities

The Indigenous Peoples (IP) of plain land are most scattered, deprived and vulnerable. They are the poorest of the poor and face most pervasive form of social exclusion. Most of the IPs depends on agriculture. Majority of them are landless and day labor which often causes deprivation of fair wage for men and women with mainstream labor. Due to lack of technology & vocational skill, hands on skill and education, IPs income attributes are less diverse. Hence they earn little to afford their family and children. In this way they are kept under continuous vicious circle of

poverty. Considering the problems IED has undertaken the Indigenous Peoples (IP) youths' empowerment and livelihood development as one of the most important Initiatives. These initiatives have contributed a lot for developing the capacity of IP youth to mobilize IP communities and hands on skill development to increase the diversified income other than agriculture.



Organizing IP youth to raise voice



During the reporting period IED has organized 4 Human Rights Defenders Forums (HRD) at local level in 4 districts from the Central Office, Dhaka taking 20 IP youth in one forum. Total 8 six monthly forum meetings were held in 4 districts. In the meeting the discussion areas were the present situation of IP community people, rights of IP

people, raise voice of IP people, capacity development of IP youths, hands on skill development of IP youths etc. For capacity development 4 training courses on human rights and advocacy at 4 district levels and 2 training courses on leadership at central level were organized. In each

### Involving IP youth in skill based income activities



Engaging IP youth in beauty profession for generating income

course 20 IP youths participated. After receiving training the participants organized 8 sharing meeting with IP community people and youths. IED organized along with IP community people, hands on skill training for 15 IP youths on different skills (technical) at local market level workshops/shops. The skill trainings were: automobile/ diesel engine repairing (12 Months Course) to 3 youths, sanitary and plumbing (12 Months Course) to 3 youths, electrician/ refrigerator, TV repairing (12 months course) to 3 youths, beauty parlor/ computer/ saloon skills (10 Months Course) to 3 youths and tailoring/ mobile phone servicing/ driving skills (12 Months Course) to 3 youths. During the reporting period 15 IP youths have completed skill training and all have immediately started work at the local market. Their income range is now from BDT 2200/- to 9000/-.



Involving IP youth on skill based training on automobile repairing

IED organized 18 quarterly meeting with trainees, 6 six-monthly meeting trainees and workshop/shop owners along with civil society members.

Human Rights Defenders (HRD) organized 12 bi-monthly meeting with IP community people for awareness rising, 6 Human Chain, Rally/ Press conference on IP issues at 3 district level and 2 at Dhaka. IED along with IP community leaders organized 2 IP network meeting at national level. 2 Social media network has been developed among youth's forum members, JU members and HRDs using face book and others.

These events have created a big sensitization with big coverage and have made coverage in press and electronic media. On their hand they have become more active to response against any rights violation and violence at the local level. Normally these types of skill training mentioned above are provided in the technical training institute. But a big drop out is happened. Through this training process, we have observed the tremendous result, drop out is significantly less.

**The activities will contribute for achieving SDG 1, 3, 5 and 16.**



# Case



## Liton: A Change Maker

Cultivating crops by digging soil is the daily task of rural people of Bangladesh. It is difficult for them to involve in other occupation escaping from smell of mud soil which is very associated with their life, whether life would sustain on produced crops or not. But grim reality is that leading life merely on agriculture make harsh reality. Hence, Liton Barmon ponders performing agriculture task at remote village if he could shift his occupation to another way. Yet he could not find way out thinking on it. One day he came to know that a meeting was convened by IP Human Rights Defenders at his surrounding village. Attending in the meeting, Liton met and talked with Sumanta Barman, IP fellow of IED Sherpur and shown eagerness to receive training on sanitary and plumbing. Then he applied for this training to IED and was selected as trainee on it. Then Liton was assigned to receive hands on skill training under Jagodish, local

shop owner of old Goruhati. In the shop he learnt every task of sanitary and plumbing properly and one point of time he transformed himself as master of this thread. Now, about 4/5 persons are receiving training under his care. Apart from this, Sujid Biswas a new indigenous student is also receiving training under his care in this phase. Now he is providing training on sanitation to Lipon Barman and Kalpona Rani. Now his monthly income range is about Tk. 15-20 thousand. He boldly proclaims that he is self reliant. He further said, 'if anyone poses willpower and morale, he/she can be self reliant.' Really he is a change maker. It has created great inspiration for other IP youth.



## Networks and linkages



### Fostering mobilization through strengthening network and linkage

To make network and linkage with other like-minded organizations are effective strategies for fostering mobilization to implement its programs targeted for poor, women, religious and ethnic minorities, disadvantaged. So, partnership is very effective to make the initiatives stronger. Development is a continual process and it involves partnership among government, non government organizations, civil society members, politicians, development practitioners, elected representatives and so on. It also helps to take right steps at right time and build confidence for successful implementation of the initiatives. With these thoughts IED has made strategic partnership with various like-minded organizations at national level. This could create a better performance, develop capacity and make a visible impact as well. IED has proven capacity on Janoudyog-people's initiative programs, governance, rights and programs for hard to reach areas. These capacities of the organization have made a substantial impact on development programs. IED has also made partnership with other coalitions and alliances. Such as: Election Working Group (EWG) to

make the election processes free, fair and credible, Governance Advocacy Forum, Samajik Protiroadh Committee, Sammilito Samajik Anodolon, Samprity Mancho, Poribesh Bachao Andolon, Haor Bachao Andolon, Adhibashi Odhiker Andolon and Health Rights Movement. Such partnerships help to get better outcome in various fields of development. The regional level networking includes SANGAT and SAAPE, while Jubilee South as an international. It has also made partnership with Peoples' SAARC and Anti Poverty Platform.

IED took initiative to organize a separate civil society platform "Sampriti Mancha" to establish the rights of religious and ethnic minorities' people. It is the platform for promoting peace and harmony. Many events have been organized to create greater support in favor of those people. In this year IED has organized another platform for Indigenous People (IP) to address the rights of IP community.



## Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation are the key tracking components for the implementation of programs/projects/activities and achievement of goal and objectives in the right track. IED has developed its own monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for ensuring the quality of program delivery. The M&E system includes tools for monitoring and assesses the effectiveness of the tools. Having analysis of the reported data, possibility of adopting new approach and impact—both qualitative and quantitative are applied for a better program management. The statistical and narrative reports on implementation of program activities are collected on monthly, quarterly and six monthly bases. These reports are analysed and pro-

vided feedback which direct the staff both at centre and central levels to highlight problems and the necessary corrections.

During the reporting period, 26 internal monitoring visits have been conducted at the field level by Central Office. Through these visits IED maintains the project activities on track and provide feedback to the field so that they could take necessary measures for implementation. New ideas are also generated through monitoring visit. On the other hand, field staffs at field level conduct monitoring on regular visit. During the reporting period 312 monitoring conducted by local level management. Through conducting regular monitoring, it has been observed that most of the activities have been implemented as per the plan.

## Organizational Capacity Building

### Promoting capacity development of staff for organization development



IED is highly sensitive for capacity development of its staffs for strengthening organizational capacity. IED organizes training, workshop, planning & review meeting for staffs on regular basis. During the reporting period 1 staff development training was conducted for all staffs and fellows. The training was focused on Peace building and Conflict resolution. IED sent 30 participants to the training course on Election Observation that was organized by The Asia Foundation. For Accountants and Manager of Center Offices and staffs of Central Office 1

course was organized on financial management. 2 staffs from Central Office received training on Rights to Information organized by Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF). 1 staff received international training on Gender, Development, Human Rights and Peace held in Kolkata organized by Sangat, India. Central Coordinators were the key facilitators of the training and the resource persons were also hired.

Capacity Development Forum meetings are held for staffs at the centre offices and the central office as well. Capacity



development related topics/issues/activities implementation techniques sessions are facilitated in this forum meeting. Staffs at the centre level organize this forum for 2 hours on fortnightly basis. On the other hand central office organizes it for 2 hours on monthly basis. It has created a good impact among the staff for developing their capacity. Two half yearly review meetings on 'planning and program

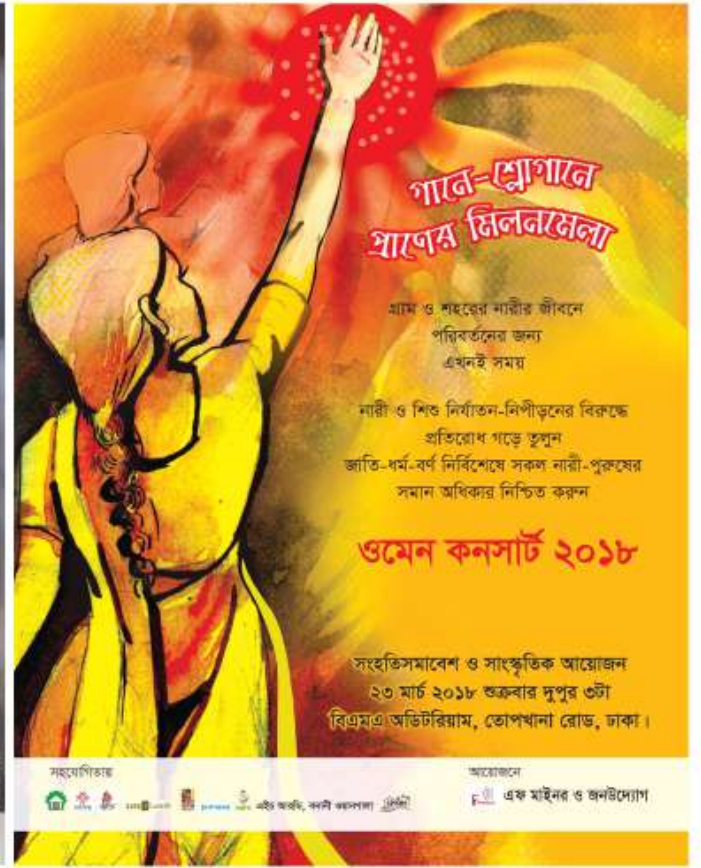
review' were organised at IED's central office in Dhaka. It may be noted that such meetings were also held at group and cluster level in all IED worksites. IED staff, group members, cluster leader, community and local leaders were actively engaged in the planning and reviewing process by ensuring their participation.



Staff co-ordination meetings were regularly held at Central and Centre level in order to improve the quality of project activities. Total 12 such meetings at Central and 48 at Centre levels were held during the period. Discussions in the co-ordination meetings precede on the basis of selected agenda particularly the lessons learnt during project implementation and way outs to keep the project on track.



During the reporting period 2 posters, 1 sticker, 1 flyer and 2 news letters were published focusing the environment, minority and women issues.



poster



Sticker







### Executive Committee

Sl.	Name	Occupation	Designation
1	Prof. Dr. Rashid-e-Mahbub	Academician, Physician & Social Activists	Chairman
2	ShantanuMajumder PhD	Academician, Associate Professor, DU	Vice Chairman
3	Numan Ahmed Khan	Environment and Excluded group Activist	Secretary
4	Dr. Laila ArjumandBanu	Social Worker, Development Activist	Treasurer
5	Naznin Begum	Social Worker and Development Activist	Member
6	A.K.M.Zahidul Islam	Artist and Development Activist	Member
7	Jahangir Hossain Sharif	Researcher and Development Activists	Member

### General Committee

SL	Name	Designation
1	Prof. Dr. Rashid -e-Mahbub	Chairman
2	ShantanuMajumder PhD	Vice Chairman
3	Numan Ahmed Khan	Secretary
4	Dr. Laila ArjumandBanu	Treasurer
5	Naznin Begum	Executive Member
6	A.K.M.Zahidul Islam	Executive Member
7	Jahangir Hossain Sharif	Executive Member
8	Dr.HabibaShamim Sultana	General Member
9	ZinatFatema Noor	General Member
10	SohrabHas san	General Member
11	Julekha Begum	General Member
12	KaziAbdur Rahman	General Member
13	Liakat Ali	General Member
14	Mehedi Banu	General Member
15	Shahida begum	General Member
16	ATM Zillur Rahman	General Member
17	Dr. Jahan Ara Ak hter Chowdhury	General Member
18	Naila Afroze	General Member
19	Ziauddin Tariq Ali	General Member
20	Maj. (Rtd.) Mustafa Najib	General Member
21	Md. Hasanuzzaman	General Member



**INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (IED)**  
**Consolidated Financial Position**  
**As on 30 June 2017**

PROPERTY AND ASSETS:	Note	Amount in Taka	
		2016-2017	2015-2016
<b>FIXED ASSETS-Less Depreciation</b>	Note.-1	1,756,287	1,966,596
<b>CURRENT ASSETS :</b>			
<b>INVESTMENT-FDR ACCOUNT</b>	Note-2	577,701	535,455
<b>LOAN &amp; ADVANCE</b>	Note-3	30,000	500,295
<b>SECURITY DEPOSIT</b>	Note-4	24,000	6,000
<b>ADVANCE OFFICE RENT</b>	Note-5	17,000	77,000
<b>CLOSING CASH AND BANK BALANCES</b>	Note-6	122,961	2,216,863
<b>TOTAL :</b>		<b>2,527,949</b>	<b>5,302,209</b>

FUND AND LIABILITIES:	Note	Amount in Taka	
		2016-2017	2015-2016
<b>EQUITY/FUND ACCOUNT :</b>			
<b>Restricted fund</b>	Note-7	(814,124)	2,196,913
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>	Note-8	554,062	561,923
<b>ASSET FUND ACCOUNT</b>	Note-9	1,756,288	1,966,596
<b>SHORT TERM LIABILITIES :</b>			
<b>LOAN ACCOUNT</b>	Note-10	52,930	508,332
<b>PROVISION FOR EXPENSES</b>	Note-11	978,793	68,445
<b>TOTAL :</b>		<b>2,527,949</b>	<b>5,302,209</b>

Signed in terms of our separate report of even date

The annexed Schedules 1 to 24 from an intergral part of these financial statements.

  
Executive Director  
IED

  
Accounts Officer  
IED

Dated, Dhaka 22 November 2017



  
**HUSSAIN KHAJA & CO.**  
Chartered Accountants



Hussain Khaja & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

Continuation Sheet

**INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT (IED)**  
Consolidated notes to the Accounts  
As on 30 June 2017

**7. RESTRICTED FUND :**

Sl.No	Name of Fund	Opening Balance (in Tk.)	Received during the period	Excess of income over exp.	Total Received (Tk.)	Adjusted this Period	Utilized during the period	Provision for Expenses	Trans. to capital fund	Closing Balance
1.	Promoting Rights & Empowerment through Initiative of People (PREIP)-Bfw	1,415,448	14,949,611	32,253	16,397,312	-	17,197,203	35,000	25,656	(860,547)
2.	Harmonize the Actions against inequalities & Oppression of rights(HAOR) -MJF	812,196	1,738,837	285	2,551,318	-	2,551,318	-	-	-
3.	Strengthening Civic Engagement in Elections and Political Processes For Enhanced Transparency and Democratic Accountability	(330,149)	529,309	1,219	200,379	(532)	199,831	-	-	1,080
4.	Strengthening the voice of Human Rights Defenders to protect Rights and Entitlements of Ethnic Minorities Project (Oxiam-GB)	60,318	-	988	61,306	-	4,698	-	-	56,608
5.	Youth as Agents of Social Change: Authentic Civic Participation in Bangladesh	2,836	-	-	2,836	-	2,201	-	-	635
6.	Empowerment and Skill Development of Indigenous Peoples -Bfw	379,410	3,511,450	7,689	3,898,549	-	3,753,503	25,000	126,000	(5,954)
7.	Demilitarization and Social Protection Campaign (SAAPE)	-	127,260	764	128,024	-	128,024	-	-	-
B.	Various Fund Balance- Funded Project	(143,146)	-	-	(143,146)	137,200	-	-	-	(5,946)
	<b>Total :</b>	<b>2,196,913</b>	<b>20,856,467</b>	<b>43,198</b>	<b>23,096,578</b>	<b>136,668</b>	<b>23,836,778</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>151,656</b>	<b>(814,124)</b>











**Institute for Environment and Development (IED)**

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