

Reimagining Disaster Pedagogies: Towards Gender-Transformative, Socially Inclusive & Intersectional South Asian Didactics

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Abstract

In the first phase, a certificate program on disaster risk reduction, humanitarian response and intersectionality was offered alongside a master's curriculum, see Factsheet [here](#).

The second phase aims to strengthen perspectives on gender, social inclusion and intersectionality in Disaster Management (DM) Higher Education Curriculum in Bangladesh. These will be completed through one national and four local (at university level) workshops and a development of a module to infuse gender pedagogy in curriculums of technical and social science disciplines across four universities from Bangladesh. The project also intends to organize a knowledge sharing workshop in Nepal to not only validate the tools and techniques used in the process but also to ensure a mutual exchange of knowledge. This symposium would enable knowledge transfers as well as facilitate critical discussions on integrating gender, intersectionality, and social inclusion perspectives in regional DM curriculum across universities situated in different parts of the country.

Objectives of the Project

Through a culmination of learnings, the proposers of the module would take into account the regional learnings on gender and disaster experiences; this would include a robust module on gendering DM technologies. It will also be supported by contemporary regional literature on disaster and climate change as well as pedagogical approaches to impart such critical perspectives on gender, social inclusion and intersectionality. Finally, and in order to strengthen institutional and regional bonds, the chosen knowledge partners will jointly develop a plan to integrate gender and intersectionality in their curriculums.

Overall, the project aims to infuse gender consciousness in disaster pedagogies, education, and research in the South Asian region through a robust training module for enabling top-tier universities from Bangladesh to revisit their curriculums taking into account regional learnings and experiences on Disaster Management.



A two-day workshop was organized in Nepal in 18th and 19th August 2023 as a project activity.

Credit: Staff, Hotel Crown Plaza, Kathmundu, Nepal

Activities:

- Development of a comprehensive training module and validation of the module from the subject experts.
- Training of 11 faculty members from 4 reputed public universities of Bangladesh through a national workshop.
- Consultation and training of 100+ students/practitioners/faculties across the university regions.
- A range of activities and 4 dissemination events were organized by the respective universities.
- A knowledge sharing workshop was conducted in Nepal with faculties from six universities, facilitators and experts.

Outcomes:

- **Curriculum Development Team** produced the comprehensive training module on *“Reimagining Disaster Pedagogies: Towards Gender-Transformative, Socially Inclusive and Intersectional South Asian Didactics”* that was designed for enabling university-level academics and researchers to develop curriculums that promotes gender equality, social inclusion in disaster management practices.
- **Bangladesh Open University** launched a certificate program on *“Gender Intersectionality and Disaster Risk Management”* targeting a wide-spanned audience group from unique professional background and experiences. To create a

professional group that mirrors the title of the program, it was conducted in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode.

- **Barishal University** introduced a course on *“Humanitarian Response Management and Intersectionality”* in their regular master’s program at the Department of Disaster Management & Coastal Studies. The course aims to bridge vulnerability and intersectionality in the context of Bangladesh’s humanitarian crises.
- **Begum Rokeya University Rangpur** developed a 6-months-long professional hybrid course on *“Intersectional Gender Transformative Disaster Management”* targeting students and practitioners from gender and disaster background.
- **Jashore University of Science and Technology** conducted a certificate program on *“Climate Change and Intersectionality”* to explore and share the knowledge regarding the relation of intersectionality & climate change through online classes and a field visit.

Feedbacks from the participants of the National Workshop:

- Collaboration with more educational institutions & policymakers should occur.
- Affiliating with departments from non-social science background to understand their perspective on gender, intersectionality and social inclusion.

National workshop organized on the 21st and 22nd May 2023 for training the faculty members.

Credit: Tanvir Hasan

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