Bangladesh

# TOWARDS HUMAN RIGHTS AND ITS VIOLATION EXPULSION

Integrated Environment Development Society (IEDS)





Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies (IDMVS) University of Dhaka



GRRIPP Gender Responsive Resilience and Intersectionality In Policy and Practice

### **Final Project Report**

on

# "Towards Human Rights and its Violation Expulsion Project"

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Sincerely,

The IEDS Team

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# **Project Background**

In the context of a male-dominated society prevalent in Bangladesh, the issue of gender discrimination against women remains a deeply ingrained and pervasive problem. Across all facets of life, women find themselves relegated to secondary positions, a concerning reflection of the unequal power dynamics rooted in the social fabric. Gender relations, the intricate web of societal constructs that govern interactions between men and women, largely dismiss women's individuality, thereby limiting their potential and suppressing their capabilities. This imbalance of power is acutely felt at every level: within households, across communities, and even on a national scale.

From the moment of birth, the plight of females in Bangladesh becomes evident. In rural areas, the birth of a baby girl often fails to elicit the joy and celebration reserved for the birth of a male child. This preference for boys over girls is not only deeply entrenched but is also reflected in the access to essential resources such as food, clothing, and education. Recent studies indicate that boys are granted superior access to these necessities compared to their female counterparts. This unequal distribution of resources stems from the perception that male children are assets who will provide support in old age, while female children are seen as burdens to be married off as soon as possible.

In this narrative, a prevailing notion is that a girl's ultimate destiny is her husband's home. Consequently, girls are brought up and prepared for marriage from an early age, often at the expense of their education and skill development. Girls are typically taught domestic skills, like cooking and sewing, while formal education and skills pertinent to the job market are reserved for boys. This dichotomy inevitably leads to a gender-based imbalance in education and economic opportunities. The practice of marrying off daughters is deeply embedded, and parents often perceive it as their moral duty. Dowries, both in cash and kind, are expected to accompany daughters to their marital homes, perpetuating the notion of women as economic burdens.

Once married, women often face insecurity and limited freedom within their husband's homes. Their primary goal is often to fulfil their husband's wishes, as their economic dependence on their husbands can leave them vulnerable. Dissatisfaction on the part of the husband can lead to separation or divorce, with the latter being easily initiated by the husband without the need for justification. Divorced women bear a societal stigma and are often shunned. Such circumstances contribute to the violation of human rights through abuse and violence against women. However, certain legal provisions offer some protection to first wives and divorcees in cases of multiple marriages, divorce, and physical abuse. For instance, second marriages for men require the permission of the first wife. A divorced woman is entitled to receive an amount specified in the *Kavin nama* 

(a document where the husband commits to paying a predetermined sum to his wife). Legal measures also exist to hold abusive husbands accountable and subject them to punishment. Unfortunately, due to ignorance and lack of institutional support, disadvantaged women struggle to benefit from these legal safeguards. Moreover, many marriages in rural Bangladesh remain unregistered, hindering women from accessing legally mandated protections. Child abuse is another pressing issue, stemming from poverty, ignorance, and a paternalistic attitude, which is prevalent among parents, particularly fathers. This abusive scenario is not only limited to women but extends to children as well.

While there are legal provisions in place to protect the rights of women, particularly in cases of multiple marriages, divorce, and physical abuse, the enforcement of these measures is often hindered by social barriers. Poor women, often lacking awareness and institutional support, struggle to access these legal safeguards. Moreover, the prevalence of unregistered marriages in rural Bangladesh complicates matters, making it challenging for women to claim the rights they are entitled to.

The grave nature of this situation compelled the IEDS team to take action. Recognizing the need for change, they submitted a project proposal to the GRRIPP South Asia region. With the subsequent approval of the proposal, the "Towards Human Rights and its Violation Expulsion Project" was launched. This initiative seeks to address the inequalities and violations of rights within targeted communities, aspiring to reshape the future for women in Bangladesh by promoting equality, empowerment, and a more just society.

# **Project Synopsis**

The discrimination against the female sex begins from birth. In rural Bangladesh, the birth of a girl child is scarcely welcomed by the parents. Most parents prefer a boy child. Recent studies reveal that access to food, clothing, and education is better for a boy child than for a girl child. In rural areas, most parents view their boy child as an asset and a girl child as a liability. The boy child is expected to care for his parents in old age, while girls are meant to be married off as early as possible. A commonly held view is that a girl's ultimate destination is her husband's home. Consequently, parents prepare their daughters to be better brides. At their parents' home, girls are primarily taught skills needed at the household level (e.g., cooking, sewing, etc.). Formal education and skills that are in demand in the job market are acquired by boys.

Against this backdrop, the proposed project aims to effectively contribute to bringing about a positive change in the project area through the following interventions:

- a) Raising awareness among targeted women and men in the project area regarding each other's rights and responsibilities in general, as well as legal rights and protections against abuse and violence towards women and children in particular, through a 3-day-long training.
- **b)** Extending institutional support (e.g. legal aid, counselling) to abused and divorced women, enabling them to realise their rights and providing rehabilitation through shelter and skill development training in various trades based on their preferences.
- c) Increasing parents' awareness about the adverse consequences of child abuse on the physical and mental development of children.
- d) Organising and conducting workshops on "Women and Children's Rights in Relation to Abuse and Violence" at the local level for village leaders (e.g., elected chairmen and members of the Union Parishad, female members of the Union Parishad, local school teachers, victims of torture and oppression, representatives of law-enforcing agencies, and local NGOs).
- e) Educating high school students in the project area about human rights and their violations through teachers who will receive training via the project. These teachers

will be provided with educational materials developed following a schedule established in consultation between the project team and school authorities.

- f) The organisation has a Child Protection Policy, developed in accordance with the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child 1959, subsequently superseded by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989. Aligned with this convention, the organisation is committed to promoting the rights of all children, without distinction or discrimination based on age, race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinions, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status, whether of the child or their family. This policy articulates shared values, principles, and beliefs, outlining the measures taken to fulfil the commitment of protecting children. During this study, the research team will adhere to this policy. Additionally, the organisation maintains a Gender Policy, which the research team will also observe.
- g) Erecting a series of colourful billboards in strategic locations within the project area, displaying messages aimed at raising awareness and educating readers about women's and children's rights, as well as the consequences of violating and abusing these rights.

# **Objectives**

The proposed project encompasses six objectives, outlined as follows-

- i. To enhance awareness among targeted women and men within the project area regarding each other's rights and responsibilities in general, as well as their legal entitlements and safeguards against abuse and violence directed at women and children;
- **ii.** To raise awareness of parents regarding the negative consequence of child abuse in physical and mental development of children;
- iii. To organise and conduct workshop on "Women and Children's Right in relation to Abuse and Violence" at local level for village leaders;
- iv. To educate high school students of the project area on the human rights and its violation;

v. To erect a series of colourful billboards in strategic locations within the project area, displaying messages aimed at raising awareness and educating readers about women's and children's rights, along with the consequences of their violation and abuse.

# Outcomes

The project entitled "Towards Human Rights and its Violation Expulsion" was formulated with six specific objectives. IEDS meticulously planned and executed all activities to effectively address these project objectives. The ensuing outcomes of the project, aligned with these six objectives, are outlined below:

- 1. In order to enhance awareness among targeted women and men about their rights and responsibilities, and legal protections against abuse and violence directed towards women and children, IEDS organized a comprehensive 3-day training program. This Training of Trainers (ToT) initiative involved high school teachers, offering counselling and skill development training such as sewing. As a result, the participants are now significantly more informed about their rights and have begun applying this knowledge within their families and communities.
- 2. To augment parental awareness regarding the detrimental impact of child abuse on the physical and mental growth of children, IEDS conducted three workshops engaging a total of 90 participants. Additionally, educational videos were showcased in schools and the community, informative leaflets were disseminated, and posters, banners, and billboards were strategically displayed. These multifaceted efforts have successfully educated the project's target demographic, empowering them to integrate this awareness into their family and community dynamics.
- 3. In order to instil an understanding of "Women and Children's Rights in Relation to Abuse and Violence" within local leadership circles – including elected officials, female members of the Union Parishad, local educators, victims of mistreatment, law enforcement representatives, and local NGOs – IEDS facilitated a series of workshops. Similarly, videos were shown within schools and the community, while informative materials like leaflets, posters, and banners were distributed. The installation of billboards in public spaces further amplified this message. These combined efforts have ensured that the project's target audience is well-versed in this critical subject, inspiring them to apply this knowledge within their families and

communities, with the overarching aim of diminishing instances of women and child rights violations and domestic abuses.

- 4. To enlighten high school students about human rights and their violations, IEDS orchestrated 20 educational sessions across 20 schools, accompanied by instructional materials. Thematic video presentations on topics such as early marriage, sexual harassment, and domestic violence were also organized. The practical impact of these programs is evident, as the project's recipients have absorbed these insights and are actively incorporating them into their family and community lives. This, in turn, is anticipated to contribute to a gradual reduction in instances of early marriage, sexual harassment, and domestic violence.
- 5. To fortify child protection within the organisation and its operational vicinity, IEDS established a Child Protection Policy designed to uphold the rights of all children, regardless of age, caste, creed, gender, and more. The organisation further enriched this understanding through workshops on human rights, video presentations, distribution of educational materials, and public display of informative posters and billboards. The ultimate aspiration is that this comprehensive approach will foster greater child protection and safeguarding within the organisation and the families within its purview.

IEDS took a visual approach to raise awareness and curtail violations and abuses of child and women's rights by installing vibrant billboards in strategic locales within the project area. These visually engaging billboards convey pictorial messages pertaining to the subjects at hand. This strategic effort holds the promise of progressively reducing child and women's rights violations within both the organisation and the broader community.

# **Deliverables**

IEDS organized training sessions, workshops, video presentations, posters, leaflets, and billboard display on human rights, benefiting a total of 3,435 beneficiaries within the project area. The specific interventions are detailed below:

- ToT for High School Teachers: Male 10 & Female 10
- Workshop for Civil Society: Male 63 & Female 27

- Training on Human Rights for High School Students & Their Parents: Male 473 & Female 727
- Video Show Programme for Students, Parents, and Community Members: Male 700 & Female 1300
- Sewing Training for Distressed Women: 25 Women
- Legal Aid Support and Counselling for Distressed Women: 100 Women
- Distributed Leaflets, Posters, and Billboards: Leaflets 60,000, Posters 7,000 & Billboards 5
- Male-Female Ratio of Total Beneficiaries: 36% Male, 64% Female

# Interventions Taken by IEDS under the Project

The activities conducted during the project period are outlined below:

### **Staff Recruitment and Deployment:**

To carry out the project activities, required staff was recruited and deployed as per plan.

### Training of Trainers (ToT) of High School Teachers:

To accomplish the project's objective, IEDS effectively executed a Training of Trainers (ToT) program focused on Human Rights for High School Teachers, adhering to the predefined plan. High school students within the project area were educated on the nuances of human rights and their violations by the proficiently trained teachers. Furthermore, a group of selected school teachers underwent ToT to equip themselves with the skills necessary for volunteering as trainers. A total of 20 teachers, comprising both male and female educators, successfully completed the ToT program.

During the training, group discussions and sharing sessions were held, fostering meaningful engagement among participants. Additionally, a written feedback session was organized, during which participants expressed their profound gratitude to both the funding and implementing organizations for orchestrating and involving them in this enriching ToT initiative. A selection of photographs capturing the essence of the program has been included below.



### Day long Workshop with the Civil Society Members:

A series of full-day workshops were meticulously organized for the civil society at the grassroots level. These workshops were strategically hosted across three distinct venues within the project area. The workshops saw active participation from a diverse group including community leaders, school teachers, community representatives, representatives from governmental and non-governmental organizations (GO/NGO), individuals who had endured torment, and representatives from local law enforcement authorities. Each workshop drew a gathering of 30 participants, summing up to a cumulative total of 90 beneficiaries, comprising both males and females.

Given the male-dominated societal context, instances of domestic violence unfortunately remain prevalent in Bangladesh. However, there is a noticeable downward trend in domestic violence incidents, attributed to the significant strides taken by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in executing extensive awareness programs. The necessity to amplify the reach of such awareness initiatives in these regions is evident, as it contributes to cultivating a harmonious community.

During the culmination of each workshop, a prevailing sentiment emerged among the participants, compelling them to earnestly implore GRRIPP and IEDS to extend the workshop program to the grassroots level, permeating every nook and cranny of the district. This heartfelt plea was underpinned by the profound understanding that human rights hold paramount importance, constituting an essential facet of human existence.

Furthermore, a visual testament to the workshops is provided through the attached photographs.



### **Legal Aid Services**

This stands as one of the significant undertakings within the ambit of the project. A substantial number of individuals residing within the catchment areas of the project were duly informed about this initiative. Consequently, a noteworthy portion of these informed individuals visited the premises of IEDS, seeking elucidation from the team members about the operational intricacies of the services extended. Importantly, a few of these individuals were effectively linked with both the local law enforcement agency and the local government, courtesy of the proactive initiative taken by the project. This interconnection has borne promising outcomes, reinforcing the project's impact within the community and facilitating a more cohesive engagement between various stakeholders.



### **Distribution of Leaflet & Colourful Posters:**

To widely disseminate and circulate the messages pertaining to human rights, as part of this project, IEDS undertook the printing of 60,000 leaflets and 2,000 posters, with the intent of reaching a broad spectrum of the local populace. The strategic distribution of these informative materials has played a pivotal role in raising awareness and educating the community about their rights and responsibilities. By ensuring access to this vital information, IEDS has taken proactive steps to empower individuals with the knowledge necessary to navigate their rights within their societal context. This dissemination effort is a testament to the commitment of IEDS in extending the project's impact beyond specific interventions, aiming to foster a culture of awareness and understanding regarding human rights. This initiative serves as a building block for the larger objective of engendering a more informed and vigilant community, better equipped to safeguard and promote their rights in a holistic manner.

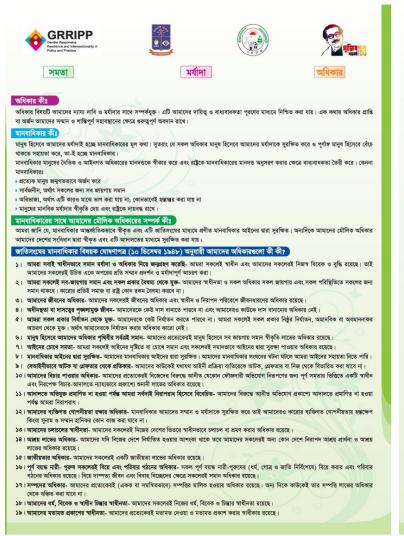
### **Colourful Posters**



Students, teachers, villagers, pedestrians, civil society members, and beneficiaries of the project are being provided with the opportunity to understand the principle of equal dignity between men and women. They are also learning about the legal provisions and fines associated with early marriage, the mistreatment of women, dowry-related issues, and other violations. This knowledge is being imparted through the display of informative posters in various locations

Furthermore, the posters offer insights into creating social resistance against sexual harassment. The impact of this educational effort is noteworthy, as a substantial number of individuals are actively incorporating the acquired knowledge into their daily lives. They are applying these insights within their families and communities, thereby contributing to the overall objectives of the project in fostering greater awareness, understanding, and action towards promoting gender equality and preventing various forms of abuse and discrimination.

### Leaflets:



- ২০। সমবেত হওয়ার অধিকার- আমাদের প্রত্যেকেরই শান্তিপর্ণভাবে সমাবেশে অংশগ্রহন করার অধিকার রয়েছে
- ২১। গণতদ্বের অধিকার- আমাদের সকলেরই সরকার গঠন প্রক্রিয়ায় অংশগ্রহনের অধিকার রয়েছে। প্রত্যেক প্রাপ্তবয়ন্ধ নাগরিকের নিজ নিজ পছলের নেতা বা দলের অনুসারী হওয়ার অধিকার রয়েছে।
- ২২। সামাজিক নিরাপন্তা লান্ডের অধিকার- সমাজের সদস্য হিসেবে আমাদের প্রত্যেকেরই সামাজিক নিরাপন্তার অধিকার রয়েছে।
- **২৩। আমাদের কাজ করার অধিকা**র- আমাদের প্রত্যেকেরই কাজ করার, স্বাধীনভাবে বেছে নেওয়ার এবং কাজ করার জন্য ন্যায্য ও অনুকূল পরিবেশ পাওয়ার অধিকার রয়েছে। এছাড়াও আমাদের কাজের ন্যায্য মন্ধরী পাওয়ার অধিকার রয়েছে।
- **২৪। আমাদের বিশ্রাম ও অবসরের অধিকার-** আমাদের প্রত্যেকেরই বিশ্রাম ও অবসরের অধিকার রয়েছে।
- ২৫। আমাদের সকলের জন্য খাদ্য ও বাসস্থান- আমাদের প্রত্যেকেরই একটি জীবন যাপনের অধিকার রয়েছে। মা ও শিত, বৃদ্ধ, বেকার, প্রতিবন্ধী সকলেরই বিশেষ যত্ন ও সহায়তা পাওয়ার অধিকার রয়েছে।
- ২৬। আমাদের শিক্ষা অধিকার- শিক্ষা আমাদের সকলেবট অধিকার। বিশেষত: প্রাথমিক ও মৌলিক পর্যায়ে বিনা বেতনে শিক্ষার সযোগ পাওয়ার অধিকার সকলের বয়েছে। ২৭। মেধাস্বত্ব- আমাদের প্রত্যেকেরই সমষ্টিগত সাংস্কৃতিক জীবনে অংশগ্রহন করা, আমাদের সৃষ্ট বিজ্ঞান, সাহিত্য বা শিল্পকলা ভিত্তিক সৃজনশীল কাজের উদ্ভাবনকারী হিসাবে নৈতিক ও বৈষয়িক স্বার্থ সংরক্ষণের অধিকার রয়েছে।
- ২৮। নিরপেক্ষ ও সকলের জনা মন্ড বিশ্ব- আমাদের অধিকার ও স্বাধীনতাসমহ বান্ধবায়নের জন্য উপযোগী একটি সামাজিক আন্ধর্জাতিক বাবস্তার অংশীদার হওয়ার অধিকার রয়েছে।
- ২৯। আমাদের দায়িত্ত- অন্যদের অধিকার ও স্বাধীনতা রক্ষা করার ক্ষেত্রে আমাদের সকলের দায়িত্ব রয়েছে।
- ৩০। আমাদের মানবাধিকার কেউ কেড়ে নিতে পারে না- আমাদের মানবাধিকার কেউ কারো কাছ থেকে কেড়ে নিতে পারে না।
- প্রকল্পের উদ্দেশাঃ

★ মহিলাদের সামাজিক ও পারিবারিক সহিংসতা ও বৈষম্য প্রতিরোধে সচেতনতা সষ্টি করা: ★ শিঙদের সামাজিক বৈষম্য ও সহিংসতার শিকার থেকে রক্ষা করতে শারীরিক ও মানসিক উন্নয়নে পদক্ষেপ গ্রহন করা;

#### কাৰ্যক্ৰম সমহঃ

- প্রত্যেক নারী ও মেয়ে শিত তাদের মানবাধিকার ভোগ করতে পারবে এবং তার পূর্ণ সম্ভাবনা কাজে লাগাতে পারবে এমন পরিবেশ সৃষ্টি করা হবে।
- লারী ও মেয়ে শিশুদের বিরুদ্ধে সামাজিক বৈষম্য দরীকরণ, নারীর ক্ষমতায়ন এবং উন্নয়ন, মানবিক কর্ম এবং শান্তি আর নিরাপত্তার ক্ষেত্রে নারী ও পরুষদের সমান
- অংশীদারিত্ব অর্জন করতে প্রয়োজনীয় সহায়তা প্রদান করা হবে। লারী ও মেয়ে শিতদের উপর সহিংসতার হার কিভাবে কমানো যায় এবং সহিংসতার শিকার নারী ও মেয়ে শিতরা কিভাবে বিচার প্রক্রিয়ায় আরো সহজভাবে আসং
- পারে এবং বিচার চাইতে পারে এবিষয়ে প্রয়োজনীয় সহায়তা প্রদান করা হবে। সামাজিক ও পারিবারিক বৈষম্যের শিকার, নির্যাতিত তালাকপ্রাণ্ড মহিলাদেরকে কাউপিলিং এর মাধ্যমে তাদের সামাজিক অবস্থান পৃণগ্রুতিষ্ঠা করার যথাযথ ব্যবস্থা
- গ্রহন করা হবে। বিয়ের সময় কাবিননামা সহ বিয়ে রেঞ্জিষ্টি করার প্রয়োজনীয় ব্যবস্থা গ্রহন করতে সহায়তা করা হবে।
- যৌতুক প্রথা বন্ধ করতে প্রয়োজনীয় পরামর্শ ও সহায়তা প্রদান করা হবে।
- বাল্য বিবাহ রোধ কল্পে প্রয়োজনীয় পদক্ষেপ গ্রহন করা হবে।
- মহিলাদের দক্ষতা বৃদ্ধিমূলক প্রশিক্ষণের মাধ্যমে স্বাবলম্বি করে তোলা।

#### প্রকল্পের প্রত্যক্ষ জনগোষ্ঠীঃ

- ২০ টি স্কুলে ১২০০ জন ছাত্র-ছাত্রী/তাদের অভিভাবককে মানবাধিকার সম্পর্কে সচেতনতা সৃষ্টি করা হবে।
- ৫০ জন মহিলাকে কাউলিলিং এবং আইন সহায়তা প্রদান করা হবে।
- ২৫ জন নির্যাতিত মহিলাকে কাউন্সিলিং এবং আইন সহায়তা প্রদান করা এবং দক্ষতা বৃদ্ধিমূলক প্রশিক্ষণের মাধ্যমে সামাজিকভাবে পুনর্বাসন করা হবে।
  - প্রকল্প শিরোনামঃ

#### টওয়ার্ডস হিউম্যান রাইটস অ্যান্ড ইটস ভায়োলেশন এক্সপালসন

#### প্রকল্প থেকে আইন সহায়তা (লিগ্যাল এইড) প্রদান করা হয়।

অথায়নেঃ	
জেন্ডার রেস্পন্সিড রেজিলিয়েন্স অ্যার্	5
ইন্টারসেকশনালিটি ইন পলিসি অ্যাং	5
প্রাকটিস (জিআরআরআইপিপি)	

ইনস্টিটিউট অব ডিজাস্টার ম্যানেজমেন্ট অ্যান্ড ভালনারেবিলিটি স্টাডিজ, ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

#### যোগাযোগঃ ইন্টিগ্রেটেড এনভায়রনমেন্ট ডেভেলপমেন্ট সোসাইটি (আইইডিএস)

সাধুপাড়া (হাসপাতাল মোড়), পোঃ সুসং (২৪২০) উপজেলা ঃ দুর্গাপুর জেলা ঃ নেত্রকোনা, বাংলাদেশ। মোবাইল # ০১৭০৫-০৮৮৮৫৯ Through the leaflets distribution the students, teachers, villagers, pedestrians, civil society and project beneficiaries are getting opportunity to learn about Human Rights and are being able to practice those in their family and community in the catchment areas. Apart from this program there is no opportunity to learn easily about it especially in this region. So, it's an effective program for the beneficiaries as well as mass people. A sample of a prepared leaflet is given above (both front and back page).

### **Festoons and Colorful Banners:**

In accordance with the project plan, IEDS has successfully developed and printed 200 vibrant festoons and banners. These have been prominently displayed in diverse public spaces, including tea stalls, shops, tourist attractions, hospitals, and other frequented locations. The deliberate placement in areas of high footfall ensures that a significant number of people encounter these displays daily, enabling them to observe the messages conveyed and gain valuable insights from the colourful festoons and banners. This strategic dissemination of information stands as a testament to IEDS's commitment to spreading awareness on crucial issues. Notably, aside from this project and a few government initiatives, there exists a notable lack of active service providers addressing these specific concerns in the region.

By capitalizing on these visual aids and leveraging public spaces as platforms for education, IEDS is pioneering a distinct approach to enhancing awareness. This initiative takes into account the local context and the patterns of daily life, thereby fostering a more inclusive and effective means of information dissemination. This initiative aligns seamlessly with the project's overarching goal of ensuring that vital information reaches the widest possible audience, nurturing a society that is well-informed, proactive, and equipped to address issues surrounding human rights, gender equality, and social wellbeing.

### Awareness Rising Session on Human Rights:

IEDS has conducted awareness-raising sessions on Human Rights at 20 schools within the project's catchment area. A total of 1,200 students actively participated in these workshops. The impact of these sessions is palpable, as individuals are now notably more attuned to the nuances of human rights. They have taken the initiative to incorporate the insights gained from the workshops into their everyday lives, both within their families and the broader community.



This approach underscores the effectiveness of IEDS's efforts in fostering a more informed and conscientious society. By targeting educational institutions, the project has the potential to influence a generation of students, who in turn can disseminate their knowledge to their families and peers. This ripple effect amplifies the project's reach, contributing to the development of a community that values and safeguards human rights, thereby promoting a more equitable and harmonious environment for all.



Awareness Rising Session for high school students & their parents at 20 schools



### Video Showing Awareness Programme:

IEDS meticulously organized 20 Video Show programmes across 16 schools and 4 community venues within the project areas. The topics covered included Early Marriage, Sexual Harassment, Women's Torture and its Alleviation, Domestic Violence, and other pertinent subjects. The impact of these programmes was significant, drawing the participation of over 2,000 male and female attendees. As a result, the participants have gained heightened awareness and understanding of the themes showcased in the video programmes.

This comprehensive approach to education underscores IEDS's commitment to fostering a well-informed populace. By employing multimedia resources, the project has succeeded in reaching a diverse range of individuals across various settings. The significance of addressing these pressing societal issues is not just recognized but actively embraced by the attendees. The utilisation of video as an educational tool has facilitated a more engaging and memorable learning experience, enhancing the likelihood of participants retaining and applying the knowledge gained. In doing so, IEDS has successfully initiated a transformation in perspectives and behaviors, contributing to the project's overarching aim of promoting human rights, gender equality, and social harmony within the community.



Video show among community, parents and students





### **Sewing Training:**

IEDS successfully conducted a comprehensive 2-month Sewing Training course tailored for 25 distressed women within the project areas. The outcomes of this initiative have been transformative, with a substantial number of participants not only integrating the acquired skills into their family lives but also harnessing them as a means of sustainable income generation. This income, in turn, serves as a valuable contribution towards supporting their families' financial needs.

This training initiative serves as a prime example of IEDS's commitment to empowering women economically, thereby enhancing their standing within both their families and the broader society. Beyond the acquisition of practical skills, the training programme has enabled these women to carve out a tangible path towards increased self-sufficiency and improved livelihoods. As these women actively engage in income-generating activities, their roles as contributors to their families' welfare are acknowledged and valued, thereby enhancing their overall dignity within the family unit and society as a whole.

The program's holistic approach, spanning skill development, empowerment, and socioeconomic upliftment, embodies the essence of the project's objectives. By equipping women with practical tools to thrive financially and contribute actively, the project has fostered not only individual empowerment but also laid the foundation for broader societal progress.



### **Billboard:**

The collaborating partner has successfully erected five billboards, each featuring distinct messages, at strategic locations within the project's operational areas. These billboards convey essential messages, encompassing themes such as "Raising Awareness on Sexual Harassment and Women's Torture," "Promoting Awareness on Early Marriage and Adolescent Boys & Girls," "Advocating for Human Rights," "Highlighting Equal Rights for Men and Women," and "Educating about the Laws Surrounding Early Marriage and its Consequences."

These billboards have been strategically positioned at key locations, including the main entrance gate of the Upazila town, prominent tourism spots, regions with a significant ethnic minority presence, bustling bus and truck stations. as well as expansive marketplaces. With a daily footfall ranging from 10,000 to 15,000 individuals location, per these billboards have garnered significant



visibility. The diverse range of individuals passing by these locations every day provides an ideal audience for the dissemination of these crucial messages. This strategic placement ensures that a considerable cross-section of the community is exposed to these informative displays, thereby fostering greater awareness and understanding among the populace.



# **Data Collection**

IEDS has successfully undertaken a data collection initiative, the outcomes of which reveal a marked improvement in the awareness levels of the targeted individuals. This heightened awareness encompasses vital aspects of human rights, including issues such as early marriage, sexual harassment, women's torture, domestic violence, child rights, and women's rights. Notably, the data underscores that these individuals are actively attempting to integrate these newfound insights into their family dynamics and wider society. The specific results of the data collection exercise are detailed below:

Issue: Physical & Mental Torture and Domestic Violence					
Time	Physical Torture	Mental Torture	Domestic Violence		
Before Project Implementation	30%	40%	55%		
After Project Implementation	2%	5%	7%		
Issue: Legal Action take	n by victim in famil	ly level			
Time Legal action taken					
Before Project Implementation	2%-5%				
After Project Implementation	40%-55%				
Issue: Knowledge on Wo	omen Rights				
Time	Totally Unknown	Partially Unknown	Totally Known		
Before Project Implementation	55%	30%	15%		
After Project Implementation	0%	0%	100%		

### Issue: Physical & Mental Torture and Domestic Violence

# Impacts of the Interventions of IEDS

The series of training sessions, workshops, video show programmes, leaflet distributions, poster displays, and billboard placements orchestrated by IEDS has yielded profound impacts. These interventions, which centred on critical human rights issues like women and child rights, domestic violence, sexual harassment, child protection, dowry, child labour, and early marriage, have had a resounding effect on the participants and target population. The insights garnered from these initiatives have been translated into actionable change within their familial and communal contexts.

The crux of this impact lies in the efficacy of the project, as evidenced by the active engagement and practice of the learned principles within the family and community spheres. The resonance of this learning is evident in the enthusiasm with which people participated across all activities and are now actively integrating the acquired knowledge into their everyday lives.

The training and video show participants have taken the initiative to share their acquired insights with a range of stakeholders, including IEDS staff, community leaders, and teachers. This sharing not only reinforces the assimilation of knowledge but also extends the impact to the broader community. The multidimensional nature of this initiative, encompassing gender-based violence and a comprehensive spectrum of human rights awareness, has contributed to its far-reaching influence.

By fostering an environment where learning is shared not just within the immediate family but also with neighbours, community leaders, friends, and IEDS staff, the project's effects have transcended the confines of the community. This dissemination has empowered individuals with knowledge and instilled in them the drive to effect positive change at various levels.

An additional dimension of impact emerges through observations made in cooperation with teachers and parents, revealing shifts in the attitudes and behaviours of pupils who have participated in the training or witnessed the video content. These tangible behavioural transformations reflect the practical application of the lessons learned, cementing the project's value in fostering a more informed and conscientious society.

# **Challenges Faced:**

 The successful execution of all programs within the designated timeframe proved to be a significant challenge, especially given the tumultuous circumstances imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. An additional hurdle arose in the form of societal norms, particularly when
organizing training and workshop programs. Initially, a hindrance was observed as
women beneficiaries hesitated to participate without the consent of their husbands
or guardians. This underscores the need for continued efforts to overcome such
barriers and promote gender-inclusive participation.

Navigating through these challenges demanded a concerted effort from the project team, demonstrating their commitment and resilience in ensuring the effective implementation of the initiatives, even amidst challenging circumstances. Despite these obstacles, the project has managed to make substantial strides in raising awareness and fostering positive changes within the community, underscoring the project's significance and its potential to contribute to lasting societal transformation.

# Future Scope of Work:

Regrettably, due to constraints in funding, the project encountered difficulties in encompassing numerous underprivileged communities. This limitation hindered the project's ability to reach a broader demographic and have a more extensive impact. Nonetheless, the constraints in project scope have revealed a promising avenue for future endeavours. Netrokona district holds untapped potential across various development domains, presenting opportunities for the initiation of further projects.

Acknowledging the limitations imposed by funding constraints and the subsequent inability to include many underprivileged communities within the scope of this project, it is recommended that future endeavors take heed of this gap. To maximise the positive impact and outreach of similar projects, a proactive approach in seeking additional funding sources and partnerships can work wonderfully. By leveraging these resources, a broader range of communities within Netrokona district can be included, fostering a more comprehensive and equitable approach to development. This strategic future scope seeks to ensure that no community is left untouched by vital development initiatives, thereby amplifying the overall positive transformations achievable within the region.

The accomplishments and insights gained through this project pave the way for a future rich with potential. Expanding upon the groundwork established by the current initiatives, upcoming projects are poised to usher in a new era of impact and inclusivity. By exploring diverse avenues such as diversifying funding streams, cultivating partnerships with governmental and non-governmental bodies, and harnessing innovative methodologies, the limitations encountered earlier can be effectively addressed. This strategic approach

aims to extend the project's reach to a wider array of underprivileged communities, tailoring interventions to their specific needs. Through these forward-looking efforts, the potential for far-reaching and enduring transformation is magnified. As the lessons learned and successes achieved guide the way, Netrokona district is on the brink of becoming a hub of comprehensive and all-encompassing development initiatives. This ensures that every community benefit from the profound influence of informed awareness and purposeful action.

# Conclusions

Amidst funding constraints, the accomplishments and positive outcomes of this project stand as a testament to the transformative potential inherent in similar initiatives. This underscores the imperative to explore avenues for expanding efforts, encompassing a wider spectrum of communities. The achievements thus far lay a strong foundation upon which future projects can be erected, ushering in a more comprehensive approach to development and empowerment across the district.

Despite the global onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic affecting lives universally, IEDS has managed to successfully implement all planned activities. Undoubtedly, these interventions are poised to make a substantial contribution towards fostering a more harmonious society in the project areas in the days ahead. The collaboration and dedicated support of the Supervising team, the Institute of Disaster Management and Vulnerability Studies (IDMVS) at the University of Dhaka, and the funding organisation GRRIPP have been instrumental in bringing this project to fruition.

# Annexure

# Annex 1: NGO Affairs Bureau Certificate of IEDS

e Carlo State	A STATE	
Government	of the People's Republic of Ba	angladesh
NGC	O AFFAIRS BUREA	U
Pr	rime Minister's Office	
Rey	gistration Certificat	e
Registration No 3021		Date 24/04/2016
Under the provisions of The Fore	rign Donations (Voluntary Activiti	ies) Regulation Act, 2016' and Subject 1
Onder the provisions of The Fore         the Conditions stated overleaf         INTEGRATED         Address:         Vill: Sadhupara (Hospital	ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMEN	
the Conditions stated overleaf <u>INTEGRATED</u> Address: <u>Vill: Sadhupara</u> (Hospita)	ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMEN	NT. SOCIÆTY (IÆDS). gapur, Dist: Netrakona.
the Conditions stated overleaf <u>INTEGRATED</u> Address: <u>Vill: Sadhupara</u> (Hospita) From: <u>24/04/202</u> has this day been <del>registered</del> /registration renewe	ENVIRONMENT DEVELORMEN [ More), P.O: Susong , Upazila: Durg M	NT SOCIETY (IEDS). gapur, Dist: Netrakona. 
the Conditions stated overleaf <u>INTEGRATED</u> Address: <u>Vill: Sadhupara</u> (Hospita) From: <u>24/04/202</u> has this day been <del>registered</del> /registration renewe	ENVIRONMENT DEVELORMEN [ More), P.O: Susong , Upazila: Durg M	NT SOCIETY (IEDS). gapur, Dist: Netrakona. 
the Conditions stated overleaf <u>INTEGRATED</u> Address: <u>Vill: Sadhupara</u> (Hospita From: <u>24/04/202</u>	ENVIRONMENT DEVELORMEN [ More), P.O: Susong , Upazila: Durg M	NT SOCIETY (IEDS). gapur, Dist: Netrakona. 

### **Annex 2: UNO Certificate of IEDS**

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসারের কার্যালয় দুর্গাপুর, নেত্রকোনা

স্মারক নং: ৯৮৪

1-5A.L---তারিখ:-

2	ত্যয়ন	পত্র
-	0) 1-1	191

বিষয়: প্রধান মন্ত্রীর কার্যালয়াধীন এনজিও বিষয়ক ব্যুরো কর্তৃক নিবন্ধিত এনজিও সমূহের বান্তবায়নাধীন প্রকল্পের উপর উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসারের প্রত্যয়নপত্র প্রদানের ছক:

	ক্রমিক নং	বিবরণ		তথ্যাদি	মন্তব্য (র্যা থাকে)
	(১)	(২)	(৩)		(08)
0	৯ ক)	এনজিও সংক্রান্ত তথ্য			
		এনজিও'র নাম	80	ইন্টিগ্রেটেড এনভায়রনমেন্ট ডেভেলপমেন্ট সোসাইটি (আইইডিএস)	
	-	ঠিকানা	8	সাধুপাড়া (হাসপাতাল মোড়), পো: সুসং, উপজেলা: দুর্গাপুর, জেলা: নেত্রকোণা।	
	খ)	এনজিও প্রধানের নাম	8	শামীম কবীর	
		পদবী	8	নির্বাহী পরিচালক	
		দাপরিক মোবাইল	এঃ	03933-986088	
		ই-মেইল নম্বর	:	ieds.sk@gmail.com	
	গ)	এনজিও'র নিবন্ধন নম্বর	:	নেত্র-০৫৩৮	
		তারিখ	:	২৮-০৪-২০০৮ইং	
		সর্বশেষ নিবন্ধন নবায়নের তারিখ	:	০১/০৫/২০২১ হতে ৩০/০৪/২০২৩ইং	
		নির্বাহী কমিটির মেয়াদকাল	:	০২ বছর	
	ঘ)	জেলা/আঞ্চলিকঅফিসের দায়িত্ব প্রাপ্ত	·		
		এনজিও কর্মকর্তার নাম	:	মো: আসাদুজ্জামান আসাদ	
		পদবী	:	কো-অর্ডিনেটর	
		দাপ্তরিক মোবাইল	:	05955529050	
		ইমেইল নম্বর	:	ieds.sk@gmail.com	
2.	প্রকল্প সং	ংক্রান্ত তথ্য			
	ক)	প্রকল্পের নাম	:	টুওয়ার্ডস হিউম্যান রাইটস অ্যান্ড ইটস ভায়োলেশন এক্সপালসন	
		মেয়াদ কাল	:	০১ নভেম্বর ২০২১ হতে ৩১ মার্চ ২০২২	
		টাকার পরিমাণ	:	ক) GRRIPP থেকে ১১,৫৯,৯৯৫/- খ) আইইডিএস থেকে ৫,২০,০০০/-	
	খ)	প্রকল্প অনুমোদনের তারিখ ও স্বারক নম্বর	:	02-05-202322	
	গ)	প্রত্যায়ন পত্র প্রদানের বছর/সময়	:	০১ নভেম্বর ২০২১ হতে ৩১ মার্চ ২০২২	-
	ঘ)	প্রকেল্পের উদ্দেশ্য		# মহিলাদের সামাজিক, পারিবারিক সহিংসতা ও	
			:	দ শাংশাদের পানাজিক, পারিবারিক সাংংসতা ও বৈষম্য প্রতিরোধে সচেতনতা সৃষ্টি করা; # মানবাধিকার বিষয়ে ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের সচেতনতা বৃদ্ধি এবং শিশুদের সামাজিক বৈষম্য ও সহিংসতার শিকার থেকে রক্ষা করতে শারীরিক ও মানসিক উন্নয়নে পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করা;	,
	હ)	উপজেলায় ব্যুরো কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত প্রকল্পের কপি স্থানীয় প্রশাসন কর্তৃক গ্রহণের তারিখ	:	দাখিল করা হয়েছে	

sই-মেইলঃ unodurgapur@mopa.gov.bd

ফোনঃ ০৯৫২৫-০৬০১৫

(মোহাম্মদ রাজীব -উল -আহসান) উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসার দুর্গাপুর, নেত্রকোণা

		(প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)	:	30,000 00	
00	টেপ্সকলা	প্রশাসন সংক্রান্ত			
00	ক)	অশাগন গংজাও ছানীয় প্রশাসন কর্তৃক প্রকল্পটি		১. সহকারী কমিশনার (ভূমি) ০২ বার	
		হানার অশাপন কতৃক অকল্পাচ কতবার পরিদর্শন করা হয়েছে।	:	১. পহকারা কামশনার (ভূাম) ০২ বার	
		পরিদর্শনকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম	:	মোঃ আরিফুল ইসলাম	
		পদবী	:	সহকারী কমিশনার (ভূমি), দুর্গাপুর ,নেত্রকোণা।	
		মোবাইল নম্বর	:	০১৯২৩৫৩৮৬০০	
		ইমেইল এড্রেস	:	mdarifulislam8600@gmail.com	
	খ)	উপকারভোগী নির্বাচনে ছ্থানীয় প্রশাসনকে সম্পৃক্ত করা হয়েছে কিনা (হ্যাঁ/না)	:	হঁ্যা	
		উপকারভোগী নির্বাচনে স্থানীয় প্রশাসনকে সম্পৃক্ত হয়ে থাকলে তার সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণী	:	উপজেলা প্রশাসনকে অবহিত ও আলোচনা করে প্রকল্পটি বাস্তবায়ন করা হয়েছে।	
	গ)	এনজিও প্রতিনিধি জেলা/উপজেলায় এনজিও বিষয়ক সমন্বয় সভায় নিয়মিত অংশ গ্রহন করেন কিনা	:	হঁ্যা	
	ঙ)	এনজিও বিষয়ক ব্যুরোর অনুমোদিত পত্রের শর্তাদি যথাযথভাবে প্রতিপালিত হয়েছে কিনা	:	হঁ্যা	
8	পার্টনার এ	নজিও হলে মূল এনজিও বিষয়ক তথ্যাদি	(প্র	যাজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)	
	ক)	মূল এনজিও'র নাম	:	প্রযোজ্য নয়।	
	খ)	ঠিকানা	:	প্রযোজ্য নয়।	
¢	প্রকল্পের ভ	ৰ্জিত লক্ষ্যমাত্ৰা বিষয়ক			
	ক) ,	প্রকল্প সমাপনি প্রতিবেদন/বার্ষিক প্রতিবেদনে জেলা প্রশাসন/উপজেলা নির্বাহী অফিসারের প্রতি স্বাক্ষর গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে কিনা?	:	প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়ন সম্পুর্ন করা হয়েছে।	
<u>b</u>	ক)	বান্তবায়িত প্রকল্পের সীমাবদ্ধতা/সম্ভাবনা সম্পর্কে সুস্পষ্ট মতামত	:	উক্ত প্রকল্প বান্তবায়নে সমাজে ইতিবাচক প্রভাব পড়েছে।	
	খ)	২.বান্তবায়িত প্রকল্প সম্পর্কে সুপারিশ	:	প্রকল্পের সার্বিক কার্যক্রম সন্তোষজনক। 🆊	

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প্রযোজ্য নয় (এককালীন)

প্রযোজ্য নয় (এককালীন)

প্রযোজ্য নয় (এককালীন)

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তাঁর এখতিয়ারাধীন এলাকা সংশ্লিষ্ট তথ্য

বহুবর্ষী প্রকল্পের ক্ষেত্রে আলোচ্য বর্ষে

বহুবর্ষী প্রকল্পের ক্ষেত্রে আলোচ্য বর্ষে

উপজেলায় প্রকল্পের জন্য বরাদ্দ

প্রকল্পে উপকারভোগীর সংখ্যা

প্রত্যক্ষ উপকারভোগীরসংখ্যা

পরোক্ষ উপকারভোগীর সংখ্যা

5)

বরান্দ

প্রকৃত ব্যয়

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🖉 ক্রমিক ন		গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ স	in the	- XII
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Ž.	त्य भर करणा बीत्रमण्डा प्रदान करणा दुभागा गणावाडी । तेर भर तराजा बनित्रमेळ प्रदान केन्द्रम दुभागर गणावाडी द	াগবর্গ্বাগ সগগ	A state of the state state of the state of t	
X	মন্ত্র সমাজনের আনন্দেরের দুয়ার রাগদে ব্যাপুলার পশার্ষেত্রের ও চার মন্দ্রারেনের অভিনয়নে সমার কার্যদে মন্ত্রাসের পশার্ষেত্র ব রার কাল্যানের অভিনয়নে সমাজ কার্যদে উর্জনের পিরজানের বি	and a set and a second second and a second	- Side	TAR I
66	৬১ সালের স্বেচ্ছামূলক সমাজক	ল্যাণ প্রতিষ্ঠান (রেজিষ্ট্রেশন ও নিয়ন্ত্রণ) অং সংগ্রহীর করে জনে	ধ্যাদেশ ( নম্বর ৪৬ ) এর ৪(৩) ধারার অধীনে ইণ্টিছ কাঁচারী (ব্রাড শ্রাঞ্চর সাড়া	
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🚫 ডাকঘর	1-221129	-थाना	िणम्पूरिगगा, वाश्लारमगरक मुर राष्ट्राम् ।	
			ইনের শর্তাদি পূরণ করায় নিম্ন স্ব <mark>া</mark> ক্ষরকারীর নিজ স্বাক্ষরে	
🖉 সরকার্র	ণী সীলমোহরে নিবন্ধন করা হল <mark>ে</mark>	া। নিবন্ধনকৃত প্রতিষ্ঠানটি	নিউ বিয়ান্য	এর 💍 🛛
🖉 কাৰ্যক্ৰ	ম পরিচালনা করতে পারবে এবং	ং এর প্রমান স্বরূপ এ সনদপত্র প্রদান করা ব	रत्ना ।	×
X	C	R 1990 CAR-0896	1	× I
8	নিবন্ধনকৃত প্রতিষ্ঠানটির নিবন্ধ	ন নম্বরঃ তিন্টা ত ৫০০	2	
8	छानः दित्रिश्रायग्रेगा ।	<u>ি</u> অফিসের	নিবন্ধনকারী কর্তৃপক্ষ	8
S	श्रानः दिकीश्रिया ता । তातिथः <u>२६/0८/२००६ हेः</u>	कि कार्यन जीन	সমাজসেবা অধিদফতর,ঢাকা জেলা সমাজ সেবা কার্যালয়, ঠিথে(কাল	
1 DB	२९१०२/२८२९ मा		र्णणा जमाज रजेया कार्यालय, क्लब्स	ST III

## Annex 3: Social Welfare Certificate of IEDS