Annual Report
2017

SEID
(Society for Education and Inclusion of the Disabled)
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**Journey of SEID:**
SEID was established in 2003 as a non-governmental voluntary development organization committed to promote the rights of the children and persons with disabilities. From its inception the organizational efforts are mainly focused on the children with autism, cerebral palsy, Down’s syndrome and intellectual disability commonly known as neuro-developmental disability (NDD) and the multiple disabilities (MD) as well.

**Legal Affiliation:**
- NGO Affairs Bureau- Registration No: 2110, Year: 2006
- Department of Social Service under Ministry of Social Welfare- Registration no: Dha 08866, Year: 2011

**Vision & Mission:**
Social inclusion of children/persons with disabilities especially autism, Down’s syndrome, cerebral palsy and intellectual disability (NDD) as well as multiple disabilities (MD).

**Objective:**
- To protect human rights of children/persons with disabilities especially NDD and MD by promoting justice, dignity, equality, equity and participation at all levels.
- To remove the cultural barriers of children/persons with disabilities especially NDD and MD at all levels.

**Organizational Approach:**
To ensure the committed objectives directed towards the attainment of rights of persons with such disabilities, SEID acts through the following approaches-
- Community based service
- Advocacy and campaign

**Services:**
SEID has community based therapy schools located at different areas of Dhaka city. Underprivileged children with NDD and MD are provided with school readiness program covering primary assessment and screening, special and pre-primary education, pre-vocational trainings, food, transport facilities, cultural and recreational activities, therapeutic as well as referral services. SEID also provides vocational training and therapeutic services to the adolescent and youth with such disabilities.
The beneficiaries of SEID community based therapy schools generally come from different areas of Dhaka city namely Mohammadpur, Shyamoli, Kallyanpur, Adabor, Agargaon, Rayer Bazar, Hazaribag, Lalbag, Kamrangirchar and Keranigonj area. The parents of such children belong to different professions such as rickshaw puller, day laborer, domestic worker or house-maid etc.

**Center based services:**

- Assessment & screening
- School readiness program
  - Special education
  - Pre-primary education
- Therapeutic service (physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech & language therapy)
- Assistive devices
- Pre-vocational training
- Vocational training

**Referral services:**

- Assessment and diagnosis
- Medical services (physician consultation, pathological or investigations, medicine, surgery etc.)
- Advanced vocational training
- Job linkage

**Advocacy & campaign:**

To uphold the human rights and establish enabling environment for the persons with NDD and MD, SEID has diversified works including various advocacy and campaigns directed towards facilitating the social rehabilitation and promoting rights of children/ persons with such disabilities.

The main approaches of advocacy and campaigns are-

- Develop self advocates and help to form self advocacy groups
- Disabled Persons Organization (DPO) networking with self advocacy groups and implementing collaborative advocacy
- Capacity building
  - Self advocates
  - Caregivers & parents
  - Stakeholders & duty bearers
  - Staff
- Campaign for awareness
  - Product fare
  - Art exhibition & art competition
  - Debate
  - Documentary show
  - Cultural and sports events etc.

- Lobby for sensitization
  - Dialogue
  - Workshop
  - Seminar
  - Conference
  - Talk show etc.

- Information dissemination
  - Books
  - Leaflets, posters & stickers
  - Documentary etc.

- Research

The advocacy and campaigns are carried out all over the country and collaborates with the government agencies as well as the local NGOs, civil society organizations and development initiatives.
In the year 2017, SEID has implemented the following activities-

1. **School readiness program:**

The main objective of school readiness program is the incorporation of the children with NDD and MD in mainstream schools and future development as skilled human resources for the society. The program included the survey and screening, primary assessment, special and pre-primary education, education materials, food, transport facilities, therapeutic and referral service, assistive device as well as pre-vocational and cultural activities. In 2017, SEID has provided such school readiness program to 200 underprivileged children with NDD and MD. These children are regularly followed up and provided necessary supports round the year.

In 2017, a number of 28 CWDs were enrolled in different mainstream primary schools.

The progress and development of the children with such disabilities were regularly monitored, evaluated and followed up by field visits.
2. Vocational training:

For the persons with NDD and MD, the scopes of involvement in economic activities is very limited. To develop the children with such disabilities as skilled human resources, SEID is providing vocational training to the adolescent and youth with NDD and MD in suitable trades like tailoring, embroidery, block, batik, tie-dye and candle making. In 2017 a number of 34 adolescent with such disabilities got vocational training on the mentioned trades. Among them 12 were provided with advanced training from outside training institutions. Among them four of the trained youth have involved in self employment and the others are doing internship training in different organizations.

3. Therapeutic & Referral services & assistive devices:

The therapeutic services provided by SEID at free of cost to the children with disabilities. The service includes physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech and language therapy. All the children with disabilities under school readiness program are provided with the required therapeutic services. In 2017 a number of 171 children with disabilities received the therapeutic services at least twice in a week.

- Advanced training=12
- Employed=4
- Internship training=7

Therapy service=171 children with disabilities
Assistive device=10 children with disabilities
Assistance for surgery= 2 children with disabilities
Referral service= 10 children with disabilities
In required cases where the assistive device is necessary for functional regaining process, SEID provided the assistive devices to the children with such disabilities. In 2017 a number of 10 children received the assistive devices that included hearing aids, special chair, special shoes and various orthotic devices. Two (02) children from underprivileged families received monetary assistance for their required surgery while 10 got the support to receive referral services.

3. Recreational activities:

Sports and cultural activities refresh the mind, broaden the outlook and enrich the education in more joyful manner. All the children of SEID receive training of cultural activities like music, recitation, dance, drama etc. The children frequently participate in the international, national and local programs like International Disability Day, World Autism Awareness Day etc. Like previous years the children of SEID performed in National Programs on World Autism Awareness Day and International Disability Day in 2017.

Rahat, a child with cerebral palsy has been awarded by Honourable Prime Minister of Bangladesh for his drawing that placed in the greetings cards issued officially from the office of Prime Minister. It is to be noted that till 2017, a number of nine children with disabilities from SEID had received such award.

Campaign and Advocacy

The glimpse of the campaign and advocacy activities of SEID in 2017 is given below-

Counseling and interactive meeting with the caregivers: In 2017, a number of 16 such meetings were organized to coordinate the development process of the children with disabilities with their parents and caregivers. The joint initiative and approach is believed to share the responsibilities and roles in the process.

Orientation and sensitization meeting with mainstream school teachers, SMC and community:

SEID under the project ‘Removing cultural barriers through education, therapy and vocational training for disadvantaged children with disabilities’ supported by HSBC 150th Community Fund, organized an orientation and sensitization meeting on 24th April, 2017 at Chhayanaut Auditorium, Dhanmondi, Dhaka. A total number of 100 participants including
teachers of mainstream government and non-government primary schools, teachers from specialized schools, school authority, community leaders, caregivers, children with disabilities enrolled in mainstream schools, government officials and development activists.

The objective of the orientation and sensitization meeting was to motivate, inspire and increase the responsiveness of the mainstream school teachers, parents and caregivers to facilitate the sustainability of the children with disabilities that enrolled in mainstream schools.

The three dimensional observations i.e. the mainstream school teachers, the children with disabilities and their caregivers and lastly the community and concerning government officials lead to the commitment towards creating an enabling environment for the mainstreamed children with disabilities in the schools.

**Comprehensive training of the self advocates on violence, abuse and harassments against the persons with neuro-developmental disabilities:**

A day long training was organized in 2017 for the self advocates with neuro-developmental disabilities under the DRAF granted Mid Level Coalition Project-2017. The training was titled as ‘Comprehensive training of the self advocates on violence, abuse and harassments against the persons with neuro-developmental disabilities’ that held at SEID Community Therapy School, Mohammadpur, Dhaka. The objective of the training was to accomplish the self advocates with skills to protect themselves and transferring the knowledge to capacitate others on the issues of violence, abuse and harassments against the persons with neuro-developmental disabilities.

A total number of 30 participants attended the training session.

The self advocates were sensitized on relevant topics like bad touch and good touch, sign and symptoms to primarily identify the cases of harassment, abuse and violence. The national laws and rules by the government, international commitments and protection mechanisms that exists in Bangladesh were also shared with the participants.
Development of advocacy drama script:

An advocacy drama script was developed on violence, abuse and harassments against the persons with developmental disabilities. It was reviewed from field experience, observation and opinions of the self advocates. This drama was drafted as suitable for the persons with developmental disabilities to act and perform.

Drama rehearsals by the self advocates

Rehearsal and capacity development for advocacy:

A number of 15 self advocates with developmental disabilities has been trained on the drama through a range of rehearsal on the developed drama script. A total 20 rehearsals were conducted in 2017. Through participating at the rehearsals the self advocates were skilled on the specific articles of the law stating protection mechanisms against violence, abuse and harassments against the persons with developmental disabilities. Through the rehearsals the self advocates were skilled on the specific articles of the law stating protection mechanisms against violence, abuse and harassments against the persons with developmental disabilities.

Stage up of drama and production of advocacy documentary:

The drama was staged up in Chhayanaut Auditorium in Dhaka in front of 350 spectators from different sectors of the society including the policymakers. A video documentation was also developed for use in future advocacy programs.
Human chains to protest the occurrence of sexual harassment against persons with NDDs:

A number of two human chains were organized at Dhaka and Chittagong division to draw attention of mass people along with media to the incidence of sexual harassments and violence occurred in different parts of the country.

Sharing meeting with the self advocates with NDDs and DPOs on violence, abuse & harassment against persons with NDDs:

To address the incidences of violence, abuse and harassments against the persons with neuro-developmental disabilities, SEID in collaboration with Neuro-developmental Disability Protection Trust, GoB has organized two sharing meeting with the Disabled Peoples Organization (DPO)s, self advocates and concerned policy makers. One of the program was held at Chittagong whereas the second one was held at Dhaka division.

The programs were aimed to make a platform for the self advocates of persons with NDDs for establishing a network with DPOs and other developmental organizations to combat against violence, abuse and harassments against persons with such disabilities.
Interactive dialogue:


The event was very much interactive with the presence of policy makers from different dimensions like legal aid division, violence against women cell of Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, NDD Protection Trust, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social Welfare. There were self advocates with neuro-developmental disabilities along with the expertise of ICT, legal aid and women rights.

Participation in Fairs and Events:

SEID regularly participate in the events and fairs organized by Bangladesh Government as well as other organizations both in local and national levels. In 2017, SEID has given stall in ‘Disability Fair-2017’ organized by Jaiyo Protibondhi Unnayan Foundation, GoB and ‘Purnota Fair’ organized by IDLC Ltd. In the stalls, SEID has exhibited the products made by the adolescent and youth with disabilities through their vocational training.
Staff Development of SEID:

To develop expertise as community development professional, SEID is always aware of the development and capacity building of its staff. Several in-house and out-house training were conducted from the internal and external resources of SEID. Staffs of the organization were always involved and attended in various training programs and are being enriched.

In 2017 the Therapist and Teachers were sent to different national workshops and trainings organized by Institute of Paediatric Neurology and Autism-BSMMU, ShareNet, Bangladesh Special Olympic Association etc.

Financial transparency:

SEID is appointing the leading and renowned audit firms of Bangladesh to audit its accounts from inception. In 2017, the organizational and project accounts were audited by MASH Haque & Co.

Governance and Management of SEID:

The apex body of SEID is the General Committee comprising 46% representing self advocates i.e. persons with neuro-developmental disabilities (NDD) and 40% representing parents and caregivers of children with such disabilities. There is an Executive Committee of 7 members elected by the members of the General Committee for a fixed term of two years.

SEID is governed by an Executive Committee. Administration of SEID is entrusted to an Executive Director who reports to the Executive Committee.
## Executive Committee

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Profession</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ranjan Karmaker</td>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
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<td>Steps Towards Development</td>
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<td>Dilara Satter Mitu</td>
<td>Secretary General</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
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<td>SEID</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nusrat Farzana</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Parent of child with disability)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nazmul Ahsan Miraz</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Private Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mustari Alam</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Parent of child with disability)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nasima Begum</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Private Service</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Person with disability &amp; Parent of child with disability)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Md. Almas Uddin</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Business</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>(Parent of child with disability)</td>
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