

**Meeting of Experts on New Phase of AJP Programme  
for Model NFE Materials Development and Utilization in Asia and the Pacific  
Tokyo, 26-30 July 2004**

## Country Report

Bangladesh

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### PART I. AJP Programme

#### **A. Strength and weakness of AJP local production and utilization in Bangladesh:**

##### **a) Strength:**

- AJP local production promotes variety of attractive materials in Bangladesh especially post literacy and CE materials
- Formats and structure of AJP materials gives the material developers new & innovative ideas to develop materials
- Develop capacity of material developers by providing sample materials of different types and kinds

##### **b) Weakness:**

- Adaptation as per local context is difficult which needs research and analysis, which is not done in many cases.

#### **B. Strength and weakness of AJP programme as Asia-Pacific regional co-operation**

##### **a) Strength:**

- Used as a ready reference of NFE materials. Varieties of formats were developed as exemplar, so that material developers can chose materials for adaptation as per need and suitability
- AJP materials are simple, attractive and illustrative.
- Scope of developing capacity on material development through participating AJP material development process.

##### **b) Weakness:**

- Since AJP is regional material it contains regional characteristics, which is not country specific.
- Orientation and dissemination of AJP materials were limited to organizational level not national level

### **PART II. Part II. Non Formal Education (NFE)**

#### **A. Definition of NFE:**

Non-Formal Education (NFE) is a purposeful and systematically organized form of learning that generally occurs outside the formal educational institutions; designed to meet the learning needs of persons of all ages and backgrounds; flexible in terms of organization, time & place and may cover basic literacy, life skills & facilitate lifelong learning.

#### **B. Overview of NFE material development & utilization:**

**a) Development process:**

- Generally NFE materials are developed on the basis of the target group's age, background and their needs. In Bangladesh, most of the material developers follow systematic process of material development. The material developers at first assess the needs of the target group and develop a curricular unit based on the need assessment result for a specific material. The material development process includes needs assessment, prioritizing needs, selection of objectives, contents and format, text development and illustration, field test and finally printing of materials and its distribution. In some cases needs assessment in the field and field testing are not done properly.

**b) Dissemination of material:**

- In Bangladesh, few organizations develop NFE materials. These organizations develop materials for using in their own NFE programmes and for other organizations those are implementing NFE programmes. Most of the organizations collect materials from material producing organizations. Material producing organizations produce NFE materials and send to programme areas through their own distribution channels (from head quarter to district level and then district level to other project areas through postal or hand carrying as per the arrangement & suitability), and distribute to other material using organizations. Material using organizations sometimes collect NFE materials directly from producing organizations.

**c) Publishing centers for major programmes:**

- Generally the NFE materials published in the Head Office level of the respective organizations and distribute to the programme areas. In DAM run CLCs the learners develop wall magazine and newsletter as locally produced materials by using their own write up and local information.

**C. Scope and format of NFE materials:**

NFE create opportunities for disadvantaged children, adolescents and adults for changing & updating of their knowledge, skills and attitude. NFE can ensure life long learning opportunities for personal fulfillment, and for acquiring new & productive skills and life skills, enhancing knowledge and skills for better participation as citizens and community members. In this point of view and on the basis of the variety of needs of the target people the material developers developed different type of materials in different formats. Following are the example of varieties of NFE materials as per type and kind:

**a) Target user:**

- Early childhood, Out of school rural children, out of school working children, drop out children, street children, illiterate & neo-literate Adolescents, illiterate & neo-literate adults, ethnic groups etc.

**b) Topics:**

- Depending on their age, background and socio- economic situation.

**c) Formats:**

- Booklet, Poster, Chart, Games, Newsletter, wall magazine, Audio-visual material etc.

**d) Fields:**

- Pre-primary education, Non-Formal Primary education, Adolescents Family Life education, Adult Literacy, Post Literacy, Continuing Education etc.

**e) Language:**

- Mostly in Bengali.

**f) Teaching learning materials:**

- In many cases teaching learning process included in the materials. Sometimes separate teachers guide develop for teaching learning process. Generally teaching learning process disseminate through training.

#### **D. Manuals, teaching handbooks**

For capacity development of the NFE personnel several manuals and handbooks has been developed or adapted. Following are some important resources for NFE –

##### **a) Local version of:**

- APPEAL Manuals for Training of Literacy Personnel (ATLP)
- ATLP for Continuing Education
- Handbook for Materials Development at Community Level
- Handbook for NFE Facilitators
- Manual on Educate to Empower of Women

##### **b) Development of training manual on:**

- Participatory Education Planning
- Competency Based Learning Assessment
- Community Participation & Social Mobilization in Basic Education
- Planning & Organization of NFE
- Material Development of NFE
- Supervision, Monitoring & Evaluation on NFE
- Guide for the field workers of NFE

##### **c) Development of Audio-visual material on:**

- How to Develop Literacy Material
- How to Develop Wall Magazine at community level
- New Participatory Assessment

##### **d) Innovative cases of NFE materials development, dissemination and utilization:**

- FIVDB one NGO in Bangladesh has been publishing a monthly newsletter named "Village Friends" since 1979. In the issue of 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1990 the newsletter given a picture about conflict of two goats and request the neo-literate learners to write story on the basis of the picture and announced that the best stories will be awarded. According to the announcement FIVDB received 270 stories from neo-literate learners of different areas. The stories written by the learners were different in nature, ideas and dimensions. The material developers of FIVDB out of 270 stories selected 34 stories and published in a booklet named 'Our Writings'. The booklet was distributed to the literacy centers all over the country as a continuing education material. In the second edition of the material it was divided into two parts as Our Writings-1 & Our Writings- 2. So far FIVDB printed 20 thousands copies of this booklet.

#### **E. Capacity building of personnel and institutions for strengthening NFE material development & utilization activities:**

Material development is an essential component for implementation of NFE programmes. For this reason the GO & NGOs were taken initiatives to develop capacity of the materials developers. DNFE and NGOs are organizing training and workshops on NFE material development at local, regional and national levels. They also develop manuals & handbooks on material development. In Bangladesh a large numbers of material developers are working in different government and Non Government Organizations. These materials developers have developed a large number of NFE materials. Many material developers attended national & regional training courses organized by ACCU and UNESCO.