



Empowering Local Actors in Promoting Rights for Excluded People

(ELAPREP) Project



## Project Completion Report

<i>Name of CSO</i>	National Development Programme-NDP
<i>Project Period</i>	October, 2017 to September, 2018
<i>Submission Date</i>	September 14, 2018
<i>Submission To</i>	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

**Supported by:**

**Human Rights Programme,  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

**Implemented by:**

**National Development Programme-NDP**

NDP Bhaban, Bagabari, Kamarkhand, Sirajganj-6703. website: [www.ndpbd.org](http://www.ndpbd.org)

## **Executive summary**

National Development Programme-NDP has successfully completed the Empowering Local Actors in Promoting Rights of Excluded People (ELAPREP) project, supported by Human Rights Programme of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The tenure was 15 month from November, 2018 to January, 2020. To complete the project voyage NDP has to complete various prescribed tasks to achieve the project goal "To promote human rights, especially rights of the excluded people (PWDs, minority/Adibashi and extreme poor women and girls) of Sirajgonj district as per constitutional obligation of Bangladesh, and UN conventions." As the schedule activities of project, NDP has implemented all the tasks of the project in Sirajganj Sadar, Rayganj and Tarsh Upazila under Sirajganj District.

The project start its voyage with the deployment of 5 staffs and all staffs have successfully completed their 15 monthly meeting for overall progress and sharing the situation, challenges and learning. A project launching workshop has completed in Office of District Commissioner to inform about the project to all stake holders and duty bearers. Under the project 1000 Directory, 1 video documentary on disability issues and human rights situation report of Sirajganj district have developed to disseminate the knowledge about Fundamentals rights and human rights among all stake holders. A Districts Rights Forum and 3 Upazila Rights Forum have formed in the early stage of the project and they were sensitized properly for facilitated the project activities smoothly. They participated in Quarterly and Half yearly meetings and share the progress of the project goal. The project has been observed the National and International Day at Sirajganj Town with the participation of various stakeholders at district level to create and promote awareness Human rights issue, social inclusion and mainstreaming. The project has successfully completed 6 issue based campaign like human chain, rally, discussion meeting to protect the rights People. To enhance capacity for being ambassador of human rights. At the end of the project, Total 4 PWDs organizations from 4 Upazillas have been given support to register with the Cooperative Department of Government under the project activities. To enhance skill and capacity of 18 CSOs organization on human rights.

The project has some key achievement by the facilitation of project stake holders with the assistance of Government, National and International donors. The achievements were increasing knowledge about human rights and fundamental rights of the human among various key target people of the project. Produced a referral directory for excess to service of excluded people,. Disabled, Ethnic minorities and transgender people have been participating in different meeting, training and raising their voice. District administration showing positive attitude to the CSOs. Duty bearer of are aware about human rights issues. Developed districts and upazilas human rights forum and they are working with the human rights issues. 225 PWDs have got ID, 205 PWD got allowance from district and upazila social welfare office. 12 CSOs updated their policy on human rights. Interest has been created among the civil society to work for promoting the rights of the Ethnic minorities and excluded people in the society. 18 CSOs has increased capacity on HR issues and they are working independently as well as they are raising voice different places 6000 Student, 15,000 excluded people of 3 upazilas are aware about the HR. Other donor agencies are interested to work with the coalition and some are working with CSOs.

## 1. Background of CSO:

With the vision “*Build a nation free of exploitation and poverty; ensure equality, good governance, rights and a friendly environment for all*”, on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1992 “**National Development Programme (NDP)**” emerges as an NGO. NDP is a non-governmental organization, called as NGO. By virtue of constitution, it is a non-profit, non-political voluntary development organization. The key objective of NDP is *to strengthen capacity of the targeted project participants (beneficiaries) and create opportunities to bring them into the mainstream of development*. Now, NDP has been *launching 29 (twenty nine) different programme/projects* and its operational area covers *17 (seventeen) districts under Rajshahi, Rangpur and Dhaka division* in the northern region of Bangladesh. NDP always places an emphasis on human rights, good governance and gender equality. Through its dedicated efforts for about twenty-six years, NDP has become the symbol of hope for the poor people it serves and likes to continue the works for as long as it is needed. Mr. Md. Alauddin Khan is the present CEO of NDP designated as Executive Director. NDP works for different types of programme/projects. Major programmes and organizational expertise are the following:

- Rights and governance : human rights, legal aid services and gender mainstreaming
- Social : Social development, education, health and family planning, water hygiene & sanitation, disability and adolescent girls and boys
- Livelihoods : Food security and nutrition
- Energy & environment : Disaster management and climate change adaptation
- Economic: Micro finance and savings

NDP has several departments like: Programme, HR& Administration, Research & Documentation, Training, IT, MIS, Internal Audit, Finance & Accounts, Monitoring & Evaluation, etc. for implement various projects smoothly. NDP has different policies including Gender policies, Procurement Policy, HR Policy, Child Protection Policy etc.

## 2.Context of the project:

Human rights are commonly understood as “inalienable fundamental rights to which a person is inherently entitled simply because she or he is a human being. Article 32 of the Constitution of Bangladesh protects the fundamental rights to life and liberty, stating that: “No person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty, save in accordance with law.” Bangladesh is also a signatory of important international commitments like- International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), United Nations Convention Against Torture (UNCAT), Convention of the Rights of Person with Disabilities (CRPD), etc. that uphold the dignity of human and prohibits the grave violation of rights. Bangladesh also enacted several Laws and Acts like Women Development Policy 2011, Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2010, Women and Children Repression Prevention Act 2000 (revised 2003), Dowry Prevention Acton 1980, Early Marriage Prevention Act 1929,Children Act 2013, Domestic Violence Act 2010, Family Court Ordinance 1985,The Rights and Protection of Persons with Disabilities (RPPD) Act 2013, etc.

Despite all those, trend of human rights violation is an issue of grave concern in recent years. Violation of human rights, violation of the rights of women (rape, murder, dowry related torture, acid throwing, sexual harassment, eve teasing, etc) is on rampant and on an upward trend, which is basically a serious issue of concern. The socially excluded people like disables, minorities/Adibashi and extreme poor women and girls are even more vulnerable and subject to discrimination and abuse. For example- among the women facing

gender-based violence, a large number of them are woman and girl with disabilities. Again, among the vulnerable groups woman and girls with disabilities are more vulnerable to disaster and humanitarian crisis. A lion share of the out of school children are the children with disabilities and Adibashi.

The marginalized and excluded people suffer the most human rights violation, such as disrespect, physical abuse, sexual harass, abuse, killing, lack of access to justice, lack of access to family asset and so on. This happens mostly due to negative attitude of society toward them, negligence of service providers, inaccessibility to basic entitled services, inadequate pro-poor people policies and programs, lack of information about entitlements and related services provisions, and finally, dismal social status. The human rights situation of different marginalized communities is precarious, and the government and non-government responses to these problems are inadequate. The Constitution of Bangladesh declares the equal rights for all citizens and prohibits discrimination by the state on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth in article 28 (1) and the principle of non-discrimination is also enshrined in other articles too.

Many ethnic minority communities are living in Tarash and Raigonj upazila like Mahato, Orao, Singh, Robidash, Teli, Karmokar, Turi, Rai, Shantal, Kanokdas, Movari, Mahali, Boraik, Bhuian, etc. Total population of Raigonj and Tarash Upazilas are 285,445 and 196,964 respectively, of which, about 13% are Hindu and about 0.65% (31,000 people) are ethnic minorities (Adibashi). In early 80s this ethnic minority population was 5-7% of the total population of the area. However, many have migrated to Asham and other states of India. Due to being mainland ethnic minority communities, they are even neglected. Their socio-economic condition is very lower compared to other marginalized minority communities in hilly areas of Bangladesh. The table below show number of households and population of Adibashi community in the area:

NDP's experience shows that collective actions by CSOs/CBOs, media and other community platforms can influence on reducing violence, improving service delivery, reforming pro-poor policy, ensuring inclusion, promoting mainstreaming and developing leadership. To address the problem it is important to have strong civil society that have clear mandate to work for upholding rights and who can play crucial role in establishing transparency and accountability of service providing institutes in order to enforce positive regulations and legislation to hold offenders accountable for their actions; ensure access to justice and services for victim and the victims should have access to immediate means of redress, rehabilitation and protection.

## **2.2 Outcome of the Project:**

The local actors (CSOs/CBOs and line departments) have mainstreamed excluded people's rights issues in their plans and programs that enhanced social inclusion of PWDs, minority community/ Adibashi and vulnerable women and girls.

## **2.3 Output of the Project:**

- a. Enhanced capacity of the local CSOs/CBOs to work on excluded people's right issues.
- b. Enhance accountability of the duty-bearers and service providing institutes to protect and promote the rights and entitlements of the exclude people.

- c. District human rights situation is documented and stakeholders are sensitized on human rights, especially excluded people's rights (PWDs, minority, vulnerable women and girls of extreme poor families)

#### 2.4 Working area:

Working area for the project is present in bellow table:

Name of district	Name of Upazila	Number of Union
Sirajganj	Sirajganj Sadar	10
	Raiganj	9
	Tarash	8

#### 2.5 Target beneficiary:

The main target beneficiary of the project is the PWDs, minority community/ Adibashi and vulnerable women and girls and excluded people of the project area.

#### 2.6 Key Achievements/Result:

- 4 PWD organization have got a registration from youth development organization.
- Produced a referral directory for excess to service of excluded people
- Disabled , Ethnic minorities and transgender people have been participating in different meeting, training and raising their voice
- District administration showing positive attitude to the CSOs
- Duty bearer of are aware about human rights issues.
- Developed districts and upazilas human rights forum and they are working with the human rights issues.
- 225 PWDs have got ID, 205 PWD got allowance from district and upazila social welfare office.
- 12 CSOs updated their policy on human rights.
- Interest has been created among the civil society to work for promoting the rights of the Ethnic minorities and excluded people in the society.
- 18 CSOs has increased capacity on HR issues and they are working independently as well as they are raising voice different places.
- 5200 Student, 12200 excluded people of 3 upazilas are aware about the HR.
- Other donor agencies are interested to work with the coalition and some are working with CSOs.
- CSO coalition of sirajganj district has been initiated a fund raising mechanism and CSOs are depositing 100 Tk. each month for continuing the there activities. Deposited amount is 21,000 Tk. up to this month.

### 3. Progress at a glance:

Sl	Name of the Activity(as per plan	Miserable unit	Target	Achievement	Achievement (%)	Deviation	Causes of Deviation
1	Staff meeting (monthly)	# of meeting	15	15	100%	0	
2	Meeting with ED f CSOs to get common understanding and work plan	# of meeting	1	1	100%	0	
3	Project Lunching workshop	# of Workshop	1	1	100%	0	
4	Provide training to alliance member's staff on rihgts of the ethnic and excluded people in line with the various laws and acts of GoB and UN conventions and treaties	# of Batch	1	1	100%	0	
5	Quarterly meetings of the local CSO coalitions (Rights Alliance), where they will share individual organizational work /performance on human rights issues.	# of meeting	5	5	100%	0	
6	Desk Review by respective CSO (Coalition member)	# of meeting	24	24	100%	0	
7	Review/re-organize of the District Rights Forum (RF)	# of Forum	1	1	100%	0	
8	Review/re-organize of the Upazila Rights Forum (RF)	# of Forum	3	3	100%	0	
9	Organize quarterly meetings with District rights forum	# of meeting	5	5	100%	0	
10	Organize quarterly meetings with Upazila rights forum	# of meeting	15	15	100%	0	
11	Organize sensitization and advocacy meeting at District level	# of meeting	5	5	100%	0	
12	Organize sensitization and advocacy meeting at Upazila level	# of meeting	9	9	100%	0	
13	Provide 3 days training (training on Sigh Language for the duty bearers)	# of batch	1	1	100%	0	
14	Organize 4 campaigns for pressing demand like memorandum submission/ press conference/rally/human chain, etc. for rights and entitlements of PWDs/Ethnic and excluded minority groups /communities/ vulnerable women and girls	# of event	4	4	100%	0	
15	Capacity development of human rights defenders (youth volunteers)	Person	15	54	354%	0	
16	Desk review workshop by respected CSOs	workshop	12	12	100%	0	
17	Produce a 4/5 minutes Audio-visual documentary to create awareness on PWD	# of Doc.	1	1	100%	0	
18	Development, Printing and distribution of IEC materials	# of book	1000	1000	100%	0	
19	Final sharing workshop of the update policy documents (CSO)	workshop	1	1	100%	0	
20	Produce a comprehensive human rights situation report in context of Sirajganj district	# of report	1	1	100%	0	Report is prepared and sent to UNDP for printing
21	Organize dialogues with local administration and authorities on the Human Rights concerns/issues/ challenges of at Sirajganj district	# of dialogues	4	4	100%	0	
22	Printing and distribution of Human Rights situation reports at various levels	Copy	1000		0	0	Report is prepared and sent to UNDP for printing

#### 4. Progress in Preparatory activity:

**4.1 Staff recruitment and deployment:** A total of 5 staff has been recruited/ deployed under the PREPSI project. Designation and number of the recruited staffs were 1 training and advocacy officer and 4 Volunteers. The 4 volunteers will be working in 3 Upazilas. For project implementation supervision, 1 Accounts Officer and 1 Project Coordinator have been deployed for part time from CSO's core team.

**4.2 Monthly staff meeting:** From beginning of the project total project team have been participated in monthly staff coordination meeting. In the meeting overall plan, progress, learning and challenges was discussed. Senior management from NDP also attended in the meeting to gave guidance to project team. Total 15 monthly staff meeting was held during project period.

**4.3 Meeting with ED f CSOs to get common understanding and work plan:** Before lunching workshop CSOs secretariat seat together with all CSOs and sharing brief them about the project to get common understanding and planning. During the meeting NDP has been distributed budget and activities among MOU signed 12 CSOs. All CSO promise to work together on human rights and assured the Secretariat that they would cooperate fully.



**4.4 Project launching workshop:** To inform stakeholders about the goal, objectives and implementation modalities of the project and to seek their assistance



a project launching workshop was held in district level. The project launching workshop was held at Sahid Samsuddin Conference Room, DC Office, Sirajganj on November 29, 2018. Deputy Commissioner of Sirajganj was the chief guest. Other senior official from Govt. Administration, Local Government and NGO were present in the workshop. The Deputy Commissioner, Sirajognj, mentioned that although it is a small project but very important project. She mentioned an importation point of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), 'No One

Should Left Behind', the PWDs, ethnic minorities and third gender are neglected section of our community, so we should give special focus to them to fulfill their needs and demands." She also recommended that the authority have to be very cautious in providing services so that the right person gets the services.



**4.5 Provide training to alliance member's staff:** CSO coalition on human rights of Sirajganj has

successfully completed a training course on rights of the ethnic and excluded people for capacity development of CSO coalition staff at 09-10 January 2019. The training implemented by Modern Development Organization (MDO). Training venue was Dipsetu training hall, MA Motin road Sirajganj. As a lead organization of the CSO coalition National Development Program-NDP has assisted the training. Total 24 participants of 13 organizations participated in the training. Out of 13 organizations 12 are MOU signed and one of the additional members. Jahangir Alom Raton, Executive director of Dipsetu and Masud Ahmed



Rokoni, Executive Director of MDO was Present the opening session. Md. Alauddin Khan, Executive director was present the closing session. Mr. Shankar Paul, Communities and minorities Expert, UNDP and Nikor Chandra Howlader, Monitoring specialist, UNDP was present the training session of both days. Mr. Shankar Paul and Nikor Chandra howlader has facilitated and observed the training. Kazi Masuduzzaman and Nurunnahar Chowdhuri was main facilitator of the training. By the participatory method we have try to facilitate the training session like group work. roll play, group discussion. During the traing session we used multimedia projector, VIPP card, VIPP board. Poster, white board, Flip chart etc. At the end of the training session we evaluated the training course.

**4.6 Quarterly meetings of the local CSO coalitions:**

Total 5 quarterly meeting completed in the project period. Dipsetu on of the CSO member in sirajganj sadar, Sirajganj was responsible for organized the meeting . All of the CSOs participated the meeting to achieve the project goal and objectives. In the meeting has discussed with agenda as well as progress and next activities.



**4.7 Organize quarterly meetings with District and upazila rights forum:** Somaj Unnoyan Karjokrom (SUK) organized the Quarterly district rights forum meeting and PWD, Paribartan and PNP organized the upazila rights forum meeting. Total 5 meeting was held at the district level and 15 meeting was held at the upazila level. PWD was responsible for Sadar upazila, PNP was responsible for Rayganj upazila and Paribartan was responsible for Tarash upazila of Sirajganj district. The rights forum meeting participants was previously formed rights forum member like different government official, local gov. member, Social elite, religious leader and Leaders of different ethnic groups.



#### 4.8 Capacity development of human rights defenders (youth volunteers)

In assistance with NDP ELAPREP project under challenge fund of UNDP, Program for woman development (PWD) as member of CSO collision on human rights of sirajganj district was organized a capacity development training to youth leaders on human rights. The training held on 17 February,2019 at Mechra Char of sirajganj Sadar, Sirajganj. The training objectives was to learn about the human rights and fundamental rights and sharing with the others youth and family members. The training facilitated by Shipon Chandra Nag, Training and advocacy officer of ELAPREP Project and Soma Das, Assistant Training Manager, NDP. The training participants were mostly School and college students. Total 30 people was participated the training. Out of 30 participant 15 are male and 15 are female.



Mr AB Siddique, Charman of Scholars model school and college, Mesra, Sirajganj, Md. Abdul Mazid, Charmn, Meshra Union Parisad, Sirajganj Sadar, Sirajganj, Md. Amzad Hossain,Head teacher, Scholars model school and college, Mesra, Sirajganj was present in the training session.

Mr. Ab siddique, Charman of Scholars medel school and college tolled that most of the people of our country don't know about the human rights. Human rights are being violated continuously for our unknown reasons. So we should known everybody

about the rights and human rights. Human rights are equal for everybody and everywhere in the world. This messes need to be circulated among the all type of people in our area by awareness program and such type of training program.

Nasima khatun and Abu Rayhan, village rupsa, Union Mesra and student of Scholars model school and college, Mesra, Sirajganj they told likeminded of us need to more knowledge and information through training on human rights. We did not know anything about the human rights before this training. we think so, as a people of country need to know about the human rights.

**4.9 Desk review workshop by respected CSOs:** Initially 12 members of the CSOs coalitions signed MOU with HRP, UNDP supported ELAPREP project. Now there are 18 members of the CSOs coalition. Initial 12 member organizations has been reviewed their policy document on aspect of human rights. Every organization treated as very sensitive and significant issues of human rights. Most of the organization following their rolls and regulations on basis of human rights, when they are applied their policy like staff appointment, staff benefit, staff discharged/resignation, gender policy etc then they are considering the human rights issues.



**4.10 Produce a 4/5 minutes Audio-visual documentary to create awareness on PWD:** CSOs coalition on human rights of sirajganj district produced a video documentary to create awareness on People with Disabilities (PWD) in assistance with HRP, UNDP. 18 CSOs coalitions' members are showing this video documentary to the various field levels like Somity meeting, different awareness program, group meeting, seminar, workshop, public places. As a result excluded people are getting opportunity to access their rights as well as general people showing their positive attitude to the PWD. All of the CSOs who have created organizational website they uploaded this video documentary of their website.

#### **54. Key Achievement of the project:**

- 4 PWD organization have got a registration from youth development organization.
- Produced a referral directory for excess to service of excluded people;
- Produced a human rights situation report and provided to the HRP, UNDP
- Disabled , Ethnic minorities and transgender people have been participating in different meeting, training and raising their voice
- District administration showing positive attitude to the CSOs
- Duty bearer of are aware about human rights issues.
- Developed districts and upazilas human rights forum and they are working with the human rights issues.
- 225 PWDs have got ID, 205 PWD got allowance from district and upazila social welfare office.
- 12 CSOs updated their policy on human rights.

- Interest has been created among the civil society to work for promoting the rights of the Ethnic minorities and excluded people in the society.
- 18 CSOs has increased capacity on HR issues and they are working independently as well as they are raising voice different places.
- 5200 Student, 12000 excluded people of 3 upazilas are aware about the HR.
- Other donor agencies are interested to work with the coalition and some are working with CSOs.
- CSO coalition of sirajganj district has been initiated a fund raising mechanism and CSOs are depositing 100 Tk. each month for continuing the there activities. Deposited amount is 21,000 Tk. up to this month.

Members of Sirajganj Sadar Upazila Protibondhi kalla somobi somity limited receiving a registration certificate from Amat-ul ila, Upazila cooperative officer, Upazila cooperative office, Sirajganj Sadar, Sirajganj.



### Learning:

- Working collaboratively with the government is easy to work.
- To work on human rights, we should work jointly/collaboratively/with coalition.
- In such a small budget, there should not be too much coalition.
- If we have to work on human rights, we can get help from common people.
- Field work awareness programs should be done more in the field of human rights.

### Challenges:

- Coalition with 12 members, it is big in a district but budget is poor.
- The number and quality staff is much less but the work is much more.
- Poor salary and honorarium for staff and volunteer.

- Poor budget but lot of activities and responsibility.
- Need to do some meeting or work but there is no budget provision in the project.
- To collect and published the human rights violation information's.

## **5. Conclusion:**

Empowering Local Actors in Promoting Rights of Excluded People (ELAPREP) project certainly a great initiatives for upholds the rights and entitlements of the excluded people in Sirajganj district as per constitutional obligation of Bangladesh. The project duration and geographical area should be expanded to ensure the rights of different excluded people in Sirajganj. Both individual and institutional human rights defender should practice continuously the right based activities of the project to graduate the achievement of the project. Moreover the stakeholder of the project should continue to keep touch with service providing agencies to deliver better service to PWDs.

Report Prepared by:

Kazi Masduzzaman  
Deputy Director  
National Development Programme (NDP)