

Workshop with LCG-WAGE working group on PBA for Gender Mainstreaming

A daylong workshop on Programme Based Approach (PBA) for Gender Mainstreaming with Development Partners will be held on 25 October 2005 at BRAC Inn, Dhaka. The working group on PBA of LAC-WAGE which is chaired by UNDP is organizing this workshop in consultation with the other members of the group. The participants include members of LCG-WAGE, Mr. Larry Maramis, DRR (P), UNDP, will give his opening remarks while Ms. Barbara James; an international consultant will facilitate the workshop.

The objectives of the workshop are:

- § Developing a common understanding on PBA for Gender Mainstreaming led by the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MWCA)
- § Identifying boundary/scope of PBA
- § Operationalizing PBA by MWCA as a nodal ministry
- § Possibility of realistically bringing projects together under single programme & how donors support & programmes will be harmonized

In the process of sensitizing other stakeholders on working together to formulate a national programme for gender mainstreaming in Bangladesh, a good number of workshops and roundtables have been arranged by the "Capacity Building for Gender Mainstreaming (CBGM) a project supported by Human Development Team of UNDP over the last several months. They were as follow:

- The "Launching Ceremony of the Formulation of PBA for Gender Mainstreaming" was held on 2 April 2005. The chief guest of the inaugural session was Mrs. Khurshid Zahan Haque, MP, the Hon'ble Minister for the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.
- As a part of the knowledge sharing activities on PBA, the CBGM Project organized two roundtable discussions with the Department of Women Affairs (DWA) and Jatiyo Mohila Sangstha (JMS) on 24th April and 11th May 2005 respectively. Mr. Abul Quasem, Joint Secretary (Administration), MWCA, and Ms. Rowshan Ara Begum, Joint Secretary (Development), MWCA were the chief guests at DWA and JMS events respectively.
- An open discussion was held with the District Women Affairs Officials on 26th May at DWA office. 64 District Women Affairs Officials, 12 Upazila Women Affairs Officials and other senior officials of DWA attended the meeting.
- The CBGM project organized a daylong workshop with the Mymensingh District WID Coordination Committee on PBA for Gender Mainstreaming on 13th September 2005 at the Conference Room of the Deputy Commissioner, Mymensingh. The Member Secretary and the key members of Upazila Coordination Committee of the adjacent Upazilas were also present and informed the status of Upazila WID Coordination Committees.
- A workshop on PBA for gender mainstreaming was held on 29th September 2005 at the National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM). Prominent civil society organizations and members participated in the workshop. The inaugural session was chaired by Ms. Rowshan Ara Begum, Joint Secretary (Development), MWCA. Ms. Begum Shahria Akhter Hossain Bulu, MP graced the occasion as the chief guest and Ms Rasheda Begum Hira, MP, was the special guest.
- Another sensitization workshop was held with the WID focal points on 12th October at BIAM conference room, Dhaka. Barrister M Hyder Ali, Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs chaired the workshop.