

## Social Development and Environmental Protection

PROSHIKA is well-known for socio-cultural development. Along with economic development of the poor people of the country, PROSHIKA has given emphasis on view of social development as well. PROSHIKA believes in overall development of the society in general with an emphasis on the poor community in particular. Therefore, PROSHIKA implements different social development in line with the SDG.

Brief descriptions of the social development program are as follows-

### 1. Human development training

Human Development Training helps develop in analytical skills, positive attitudes, management and operational skills of both PROSHIKA workers and organized group members. A total of 465,127 training courses on human development have been offered so far. These were attended by 8,065,320 participants where each receiving on average two courses.

### 2. Women development and empowerment program

Women are the half of total population of the country. Women are suffering from patriarchal values, mental and physical torture, violence, deprivation from constitutional and human rights. To enhance skills and capacity, gain self-sufficiency. In order to economic development PROSHIKA included woman in to the development activity.



### 3. Poor women and juvenile development project

This project is being implemented in collaboration with ward no. 24 counselor of Doublemooring Thana of Chattragram City Corporation. People living in slums, especially, the poor women and girls suffer from health related issues and proper legal support from appropriate authority. PROSHIKA helps these poor women from illegal divorce, prevention of dowry and household violence against women through providing legal aid in collaboration with district women rescue cell, legal aid committee and police administration.

### 4. Development of physically challenged people

PROSHIKA has program that helps the disabled people of Bangladesh, through different campaigns. PROSHIKA has also celebrated many official days related to the disabled community. PROSHIKA has also treats many people who are afflicted by diseases such as Clubfoot, cleft lip, eye surgery regarding the cornea in cataract and many more that were referred to camps and hospitals. By establishing many forums and networking patients with specials hospitals/ doctors; PROSHIKA has reduced the cost of operations for the disabled by a large margin.



PROSHIKA has worked extensively for the rehabilitation of the physically disabled by trying not only to find work for them but collecting and providing helpful materials. We have also have provided physio-therapy treatment, providing skills training and micro credit opportunities for employment generation activity for them. Besides, we worked extensively to help disabled children find the right treatment and have organized special campaign to counsel the families during their troubled times. PROSHIKA has also set up quotas and given special privilege for disabled people to find work in different sectors. PROSHIKA, has worked quite a lot to tackle the negativity that this community of people face in their day to day lives. We have helped in organizing campaign and programs to raise awareness on the issues and help to change the attitudes and stigma that is held by the general people regarding the disabled community.

#### 5. **Anti-narcotics & drug campaign**

Narcotics and drugs have penetrated and been an alarming issue in not only at the international level but Bangladesh too. For this reason the youth of Bangladesh has fallen prey to a variety of drugs. Drug addiction has been becoming a rising threat to not only our youth but the economy as well. Due to this, the youth who could sustain the livelihood of a family is becoming addicted to various substance and distancing themselves from performing responsibilities. The most dangerous effects of it are the mental, social, and physical toll that the youth of Bangladesh are facing. To help the youth affect by narcotics drugs, many families are facing financial loss and also has to face social stigma.



To tackle this serious issue, PROSHIKA has implemented many anti narcotics and drug campaign and programs. Not only that, PROSHIKA has also worked with the government to bring an end to issues relating narcotics and drugs usage.

PROSHIKA, through this campaign bring together people from various section of society, such as teacher, student, community people and civil society as well as people's representative to speak about the issues and take actions accordingly.

## 6. People's Cultural Program

This is a unique program, and aims at using our cultural resources as a means of empowerment. PROSHIKA has realized from its inception that the actual experience of the poor expressed through songs, ballads and dramas which are devised, improvised, performed and witnessed by the poor themselves can create an unprecedented level of awareness. These performances



not only entertain but when followed by discussions and other supports, can more than stir up peoples' critical consciousness about social and economic reality leading to a moral build-up, unity and action. Since inception, PROSHIKA has organized a total of 951 cultural troupes comprised of 14,265 members at the village and slum level. Of them 4,755 are women. These troupes have so far staged 114,000 cultural events.

## 7. Social forestry program

This is one of the important program that PROSHIKA has introduced from its inception. To improve the environmental condition and increase income of the poor community, PROSHIKA introduced nursery project, homestead gardening, and block plantation along with road side forestry and community forest protection activity. The aim of all these activities are the protection of the environment and increasing poor people's income.

## 8. Climate change and resilience program

This is a worldwide problem from which Bangladesh also suffers heavily. To cope up with the climate change affects to the people PROSHIKA is implementing this program. Through this program, PROSHIKA has developed some effective strategies.

## 9. Disaster Management, Relief & Rehabilitation Program

PROSHIKA has been providing relief during natural calamities such as floods, cyclones, cold spells, tidal bores, and have been rehabilitating the victims of communal riots, since 1984. Pre-emptive programming has complemented these responsive interventions which included the construction of 10 two-storied cyclone shelters in the coastal areas together with coastal afforestation over a stretch of 135 km.