

Women Development and Empowerment Program

Concerns for women's development occupies place in PROSHIKA's overall development process. PROSHIKA believes that for sustainable development empowerment of women is necessary and their freedom first economic bondage is absolutely essential. Realizing the economic development and social development must go hand in hand. PROSHIKA has mainstreamed women's development needs in all its programs. Women have become remarkably empowered and they have advanced in almost all spheres of life.

Women's empowerment has always been a hallmark in PROSHIKA's process of Development. Naturally, PROSHIKA has facilitated formation of more than one million women's group since it began working. PROSHIKA believes that economic emancipation of women along with social and cultural development eventually contributes to the empowerment of women. PROSHIKA perceives women's empowerment as an ongoing dynamic process which enhances women's ability to change those structures and ideologies that keep them subordinate. This process also enables them to gain more access to resources and decision-making.



Yard meeting to aware women about their rights

PROSHIKA has been implementing this program for a long time with the aim of creating self-reliant, capable citizens, building better family structure and recognizing the contribution of women in the socio-economic field. As a result women have been significantly empowered and they have progressed in almost all spheres of life. In addition to their own income-generating activities, women's group members have also raised a united voice against socially oppressive norms such as child marriage, dowry, physical abuse, illegal divorce, polygamy and unequal wages alongside their own income-generating activities. Whenever any atrocity is committed against women (irrespective of group members) in any of PROSHIKA areas, the program takes necessary measures and investigates the matter with the help of field management for taking necessary actions.



Yard meeting to aware women about their rights

This program was implemented in 26 development areas of PROSHIKA during this financial year 2021-2022. The list of areas is mentioned below:

Fatikchari, Bibirhat, Bhujpur, Patuakhali, Amtali, Dhamrai Sadar, Dhamrai, Lauhjong, Padma, Tongibari, Baklia, Kalurghat, C&B, Bayezid, Chandgaon, Rupnagar, Shahidbagh, Sirajdikhan, Rajanagar, ISB Chattar, Chapainawabganj, Nachol, Barendra, Domar, Debiganj and Chilahati development areas.

Table : The table shows the implemented activities of this program in the financial year 2021-2022

Description	Target	Achievement	%	Women	Men	Total
Discussion meeting on women development and empowerment with civil society representatives and workers at development area level.	20	17	85%	79	170	249
Discussion meeting on women development and empowerment with community and group member	30	28	80%	1100	256	1356
<i>Upazila</i> -level meeting for women and children abuse and prevention of rape.	10	03	30%	190	40	230
Seminar at <i>upazila</i> and district level	05	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Rokeya</i> day is celebrated centrally (09 Dec. 2021)	01	01	100%	-	-	-
International women day is celebrated centrally (8 March. 2022)	01	01	100%	-	-	-
Networking with like-minded organization	05	05	100%	-	-	-
People's culture programs on women development and empowerment	03	-	-	-	-	-
Collected case studies	01	01	100%	-	-	-

Reasons for underachievement of targets:

The pandemic COVID-19 and lockdown;

1. Carrying out duties in PROSHIKA *Bhaban*; and
2. Carrying out duties at *Horirampur* development area office.

In the meetings mentioned in the table, people from various classes and professions of society such as municipal mayors, freedom fighters, college lecturers, secondary school teachers, madrasa teachers, primary school head teachers, assistant teachers, press club presidents, journalists, bankers, NGO workers, union council chairman and members, women commissioners, political figures, school and madrasa committee members, local dignitaries, community and association members and managers and staff of related development areas were present.

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