



Application of Structured Dialogue Recommendations: A Live Experience from Bangladesh

By

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Context of SMILING

- In spite of some positive improvements, still poverty remains as a key factor for majority people particularly in relation to inadequate Health and Hygiene facilities, Disaster Vulnerability, weak Local Governance and poor GO-NGO coordination.
- Limited capacity, resources and accessibility restrict the marginalized people in reaching mainstream development programs.
- Majority of NGOs (NSAs) are locally based, small in size and they receive only about 20% of the total grant funding for the NGOs.
- Inadequate institutional capacities and complicated funding mechanisms, limit access of small NGOs to the major Donors.
- The small local NGOs get trapped in a vicious cycle of poor capacities and lack of funding that consequently doesn't enable them to deliver quality services.
- Small local NGOs can bring significant changes if they are ² provided with necessary capacity development support

Brief on SMILING

- Aim: Improving the quality of life of the most disadvantaged poor.
- Purpose: Improve the capacity of the small local NGOs for providing quality & quantity services targeting the most disadvantaged poor.
- Component-1: Capacity Building managed by PRIP Trust
- Component-2: Grant Scheme, managed by the EUD
- Approach: Cluster approach to geographical coverage and a cascade approach to capacity building in designing, fund raising and managing small projects under LG, H&H and DRR theme
- Reach: Supports 56 NGOs implementing 22 projects, covering 0.3 million (approx.) people living in 227 Unions of 42 Upazilas in 12 disaster prone Districts.
- Duration: January 2007 to December 2014

Pathway of Change

Improved practices of Accountability and Transparency (within and outside of the organization) by the NGOs (NSAs).



Improved interaction and partnership within the NGOs and LGIs, better acceptance at Community and Donor levels, effective Regional Networking of the NGOs, and enhanced collective efforts for greater impact on the quality of life of the poor and disadvantaged people.



Better organizational preparedness on and performance in the areas of Project Planning, Project Monitoring, Service delivery, Documentation & Reporting and Financial management.



Enhanced knowledge and skills of the NGO staff and developed systems/tools /materials within the NGOs in the areas of planning, M&E, Reporting & Documentation, Financial Mgt and also on selected themes, considering gender and governance as cross-cutting issues.

Relevance of SMILING with Structured Dialogue Recommendations

- SMILING Model confirms its relevance with Structured Dialogue Recommendations in various ways. The particular links are prominently visible with the “Recommendations of Budapest Declaration to the CSOs” - 1,3,4 & 8.

Recommendation-1: Act as legitimate and independent development actors putting a human rights based approach into practice in their own work and help to ensure central government

Recommendation-3: Contribute to good governance of development plans and aid flows.

Recommendation-4: Focus on people centered empowerment and promote systematic and inclusive participation and multi stakeholder dialogues.

Recommendation-8: Cooperate with LAs whenever they implement actions at the local and regional levels and help to identify innovative citizen engagement practices at the local

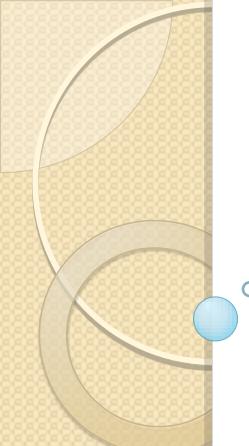


Relevance of SMILING with Structured Dialogue Recommendation-1

Recommendation-1: Act as legitimate and independent development actors putting a human rights based approach into practice in their own work and help to ensure central government

All the awarded projects under SMILING:

- have been supported to be in line with the policy framework of GoB in the areas of Local Governance, Health/WATSAN and Disaster Risk Reduction/Climate Change.
- are designed and implemented by following Rights Based Approach (RBA).
- have a capacity building component for both the rights holders and the duty bearers.

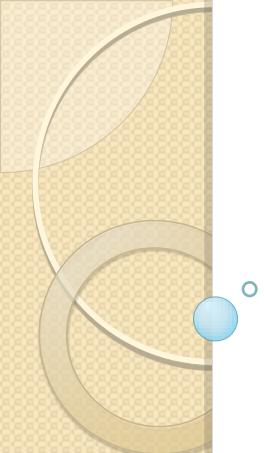


Relevance of SMILING with structured dialogue recommendation-3

Recommendation-3: Contribute to good governance of development plans and aid flows.

Projects under Local Governance theme:

- promoted citizen's effective engagement in LGI planning and budgeting.
- enhanced transparency, responsiveness, effectiveness-efficiency, equality & inclusiveness in the Annual Development Plans (ADPs) of the targeted Unions (Lowest administrative tier).
- encouraged and engaged CSOs and CBOs in playing their watchdog role to monitor the Annual Development Plans (ADPs) at UP level.



Relevance of SMILING with Structured Dialogue Recommendation-4

Recommendation-4: Focus on people centered empowerment and promote systematic and inclusive participation and multi stakeholder dialogues.

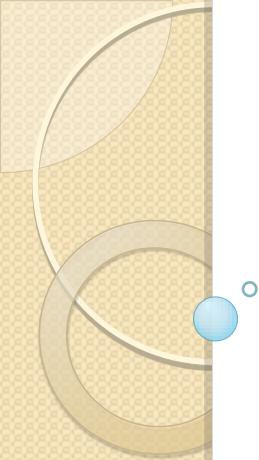
- SMILING was designed on the basis of 17 multi stakeholder workshops involving the community, LGIs, LAs, CSOs and EUD Officials.
- All the SMILING supported NGOs started using LFA for project designing in their context. Accordingly a culture of consulting the relevant stakeholders in project designing process and also involving them in project implementation is developed within the NGOs.

Relevance of SMILING with Structured Dialogue Recommendation-8

Recommendation-8: Cooperate with LAs whenever they implement actions at the local and regional levels and help to identify innovative citizen engagement practices at the local level.

All the projects under health and hygiene and DRR themes are closely linked with LGIs by:

- revitalizing and strengthening relevant Standing Committees of LGI.
- supporting LGIs in monitoring relevant public services
- strengthening joint initiatives by LGIs and communities



Relevance of SMILING with Structured Dialogue Recommendation-8 (contd.)

All the projects under Local Governance theme:

- raised constituents' awareness of their rights to LG services and engagement in Local Governance processes.
- promoted citizen's engagement in planning and delivering services by the LGIs.
- activated the Standing Committees to support the LGIs in working with the citizens.



Thank You