

## **Name of the conference - 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Inclusive Education**

**Sub-theme:** Enabling collaborations and partnerships in inclusive education

**Title of the paper:** Community Driven Inclusive Education

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### **ABSTRACT**

#### **Introduction:**

There are very few opportunities in Bangladesh where students with disabilities can enroll in mainstream school in all respect. CDD is trying to promote mainstreaming disability in Bangladesh where Inclusive Education is one of the major strategic priorities in its all interventions.

#### **Enabling inclusive education environment through community participation:**

A model for inclusive education has been developed with the tremendous support from community along with government and non-government collaboration in a sub-district through a project supported by CBM. The project has successfully enabled a disability friendly accessible environment at five selected government primary schools in collaboration with community partnership in a very remote and marginalized area,

#### **Strategy/Methodology:**

- **Uniting for a good cause:**

Project involved all the stakeholders like; Sub-dist Education officer, Upazila Resource centre, School Management Committee, Teachers, Community peoples for promoting inclusive education environment. They were actively participated the

assessment, accessibility, planning and preparation of the budget for the selected schools from the very beginning of the initiatives as a part of the plan.

- **Creating Ownership among the stakeholders:**

Project made them so proactive that all stakeholders played their role as the key responsible actor for following up, monitoring progress of the renovation work and cooperated all the time. A good amount of the budget was contributed by community which created an example how an inclusive education through community participation.

**What Result/Changes generated:**

- Five schools have created inclusive environment and practicing inclusive education
- 40 children with disabilities have enrolled and continuing their education at 05 school.
- The strategies have taken as a model to replicate the example to another 193 government primary schools.

**Challenges:**

- Very little government budget and Inaccessible roads
- Children with severe and neuro developmental disabilities are still excluded.

**Learning:**

- Community participation and ownership very essential for sustainable development.
- Support from the government authority is very important for community mobilization
- Specific resource allocation and intervention are essential for the inclusion of children with severe level of disability.

**Conclusion:** CDD is dreaming for inclusive education system where children from all social and economic status will enjoy their rights for education and grow with dignity.