

# Local Governance



CDD along with its partner NGOs, collectives of persons with disabilities, supported by different donor agencies is advocating and implementing projects to strengthening local governance for promoting and supporting rights of persons with disabilities and all marginalized groups through disability inclusion in local governance in Bangladesh.

For this, CDD has undertaken policy advocacy and has been working closely with the National Institute of Local Governance (NILG), Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C). CDD is one of the members of Horizontal Learning Program (HLP), a knowledge network based at NILG. As a member, CDD has promoted exchange of knowledge, learning and good practices of disability inclusion among other LGIs and CDD's development partners working on LG. It is needed to mention again that the culmination of all of these efforts of CDD came in the year 2015 with the issuance of two significant circulars on Disability inclusion by the MoLGRD&C for Union Councils and Municipalities mentioned as ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ এর প্রতিবন্ধী মানুষের জন্য করণীয় (Roles and Responsibilities of Union Parishods for Persons with Disabilities) and প্রতিবন্ধী ব্যক্তিগণের বিষয়ে পৌর পরিষদের করণীয় (Roles and Responsibilities of Municipalities for Persons with Disabilities).

CDD, as the consortium partner of WaterAid Bangladesh organized two Upazilla level workshops, two exposure visits under the project titled, **Institutionalization of Horizontal Learning Program in Bangladesh**. The project is implemented by National Institute of Local Government (NILG) and funded by the Swiss Development Cooperation Agency under the leadership of Local Government Division (LGD). Through these workshops and visits conducted by CDD, good practices of the LGIs are identified and recorded as well as orientation on Institutionalization of Horizontal Learning Program in Bangladesh has been facilitated. As a result, the Local Government institutes are being sensitized on the issues of disability-inclusion. CDD, along with its partner organizations, continued it work to strengthen the local governance and the rural development.



# Good Practice on Accessible Infrastructure and Therapy Centre

The demand of a Therapy Centre was raised by the collectives of persons with disabilities and CDD to the Chairman of Fazilpur Union Parishad, Dinajpur Sador Upzilla, Dinajpur as a part of the initiatives to make the Union Parishod disability-inclusive. After a concerted advocacy efforts by CDD and the persons with disabilities in that area, the Chairman allocated a place within Fazilpur Union Parishod complex for a therapy centre and took necessary arrangements from its own budget to construct the building with the technical support from CDD.

Fazilpur Union Parishod, from its LGSP support project, provided different types of therapy materials (therapy-bed, squeezing-ball, balance-board, physio-ball, chairs, therapy-band, picture-puzzle, hand-gripper, basketball, weight-scale, floor-mat, sand-bag, pully, ceiling-fan etc.) As the Union Parishod does not have any trained-staff to provide therapy and for disability identification, therefore, CDD staff provided therapy-service on weekly basis upon request of the Union Parishad.

## Indicators of Best Practice:

1. Accessibility Features: This Centre was built to provide therapy service for children and people with disabilities. The centre was made accessible in the areas of doors, toilets, tube-wells, entrance etc.
2. Citizen Engagement: Involvement of the collectives of persons with disabilities, organizations working on Disability, and Local Government functionaries.
3. Promote Inclusion: Such initiative is a unique example of promoting diversity and inclusion.

