

Narrative Notes of FGD

These two FGD was conducted at Shushtha Jibon (SJ) and Shocheton Somaj Seba Hijra Shongho(SSSHS), at Shaympur and Manda, Dhaka on 05th January, 2021 and 9th January 2021. All participants were volunteer of this two CB organization and also a community member of PKHS is as well. Mr. Masbah U Ahmed have discussed about role and principles of this FGD and explained the issues following explicit way. Before the program start, Masbah have received consent from each of participants following oath of confidentiality. Participants were very active and participatory minded.

Overall, participants were able to understand the issue/ question-based discussion and procedures. Most of them made positive comments about our initiatives.

Day-I SJ

SECTION I

I. *Natures of struggle as TG community,*

Tumpa: Society treated us as low value based human being following long back societal perception. We are fighting against such kind of stigma from our early childhood. After that, started larger societal discrimination from our neighbors as well as from the society.

Lalu: We have faced stigma and discrimination during enjoying the social life. Couldn't able to join any societal occasion with dignity or minimum respect.

Roshali: We are skilled rather than a boy or girl but no one recognized our skilled as we are different, our identity is different from societal construction/perception. Even as a good dancer or a good beautician I am not accepted by the society or didn't received any invitation from local cultural events.

Tumpa: Actually, our inner strength, innovative skills became gloomy because of societal negligence. We have seen so many talented TG/Hijra in our life but after their ages, most of them became beggar and even they have no spaces to explore their skills only because of their gender identity.

Buri: Regular fighting with social stigma is very common in our individual life. Some of our friends has committed suicide because of societal stigma. Our desire is very small and we want to be treated as human being with social dignity, nothing else.

Tumpa: We have decided that we have to struggle like this way until our death. But as a community member we can try to give positive message about TG/Hijra culture by our individual constructive existing.

Lalu: We are also facing difficulties during property purchase or selling.

Buri: Many of Hijra currently followed black world/ under world activities because of societal rejection, stigma and violence occurred into their life.

SECTION II

2. *Violation of Rights How the community members are struggling in their daily life and being a community member, what type of awareness message they want to disseminate through social entrepreneurship.*

Tumpa: If we want to say about human rights, we can say like every right is human rights as a human being. Like, freedom of speech/ talk, movement without restrictions, free from violence based on gender identity. But as Hijra we couldn't able to avail education rights, property rightseven our vote rights. So, if we get chance to start social entrepreneurship then we can avail social respect as well.

Lalu: We couldn't able to join different social events whereas this is our human rights as well even any small business activities. Even we couldn't able to pray at Moshjid with our feminized face. Faced so many bad language/ wrong touches during traveling by public transportation. We are thinking about social responsibilities through business initiatives by the support of social elities or Govt. authority.

Rosali: We have stopped our education life only because of teasing and bullying by the students and some of teachers. I want to disseminate positive message about TG/Hijra culture including their contribution for the family and to the society through own development.

Buri: My family has strong objection about my desire, talking style. Even I was instructed on how to talk with relatives and neighbors, how to dress up and how to present myself front of others. My freedom was locked by all of my family members. So, I didn't get any option for social establishment.

Lambi: Religious institutions also made discriminatory behavior towards us. Even many of us got sexual abuse by the religious leaders.

Tumpa: Society acted as cruel discriminator while develop our gender role. So, we couldn't explore our beauty, intelligence which might be asset for the larger society.

SECTION III

3. *Types of resources for new Andover*

Tumpa: We are working for awareness raising trough different activities. Like, social stigma, life circle of TG/Hijra, Hijra culture/tradition, childhood struggle including transformation period, working challenges, family rejection and consequences and society got the opportunity to reshape their mind set about the community. Perhaps society can support us by local resource utilization purpose.

Lalu: We have tried to introduce our beautiful dance skills and intelligence through different issues/theme-based performance so that people were received positive notion. So, if we get the resource support that can helps a lot to start small business which can increase our social acceptance.

Roshali: Social entrepreneurship is a very effective movement and it's reflected positive messages towards the general audience on minority community. Meaning that, society can reform their existing mindset about other gender identity and existence.

Buri: We are not only present TG/Hijra issues, we have also presented /highlighted overall community to larger audience.

Lambi: Media has extended their supportive hands towards the TG/Hijra initiatives and its messages which have been acknowledged by the mainstreaming society.

SECTION IV

4. Role of CBO to create new entrepreneurships

Tumpa: SJ can expand in each location of Dhaka with the support of local TG/Hijra people so that they can start new initiatives and society can get positive messages which can reduce negative perception about particular community.

Lalu: We can take initiatives for beauty parlor business promotion so that country people can get the same message through the parlor service. Bandhu and other larger organization can help us accordingly.

Lambi: Increase the TG business visibility, so that stigmatized will be free from anxiety of workless situation and audience will be connected with respective messages.

Focus group discussion was ended with thanks and future hope for the "Resources Mobilization" initiatives.

Day -2 SSSHS

SECTION I

1. *Natures of struggle as TG community,*

Mahi: My experiences is too painful. Even started bulling from my school life from my friend as well as from maximum teachers which is refueling the odd situation for us. So, we have faced different kinds of harassments throughout our existing life time.

Katha: We have treated negatively because of our feminized body language including attitudes. Only because of these things, no one trust us as an employee of their company or small business center. Most of organization directly refused us with negative comments on our feminized gesture.

Robi: I am not appreciated by anyone in my life. Even as a good designer or a good beautician I am not accepted by the society or didn't received any invitation from local people.

Katha: Basically, our skills didn't fulfill due to lack of societal support. As you may know that SWD provided so many trade-based trainings but these was actually not in progress due to proper maintenance by them.

Picchi: Regular ignoring and rejection with social stigma is very common in our daily life. We couldn't able to enjoy our life as like mainstream society people.

Sohel: Endless struggle is our final future.

SECTION II

2. *Violation of Rights How the community members are struggling in their daily life and being a community member, what type of awareness message they want to disseminate through social entrepreneurship.*

Mahi: Human rights means all the rights of any human being but can we achieve these in our whole life? As a community leader, I am working with my community for upholding their human rights as well. I tried to increase social dignity through different initiatives. But not able to start any entrepreneurship due to lack of financial crises.

Picchi: We couldn't able to start any business due to social and financial support. No one trust on our commitment or business initiatives. Actually, we don't have any rights to enjoy human rights like mainstreaming society.

Katha: We have stopped our smile from very childhood. I want to re-start my business initiatives if there is any support achieving. SWD or MOWCH can extend their SME support without any deposit.

Sohel: My society has strong objection about our different choice, lifestyle and so on. So, how we can start any business initiatives in society? Who will support us? SME loan can help us in this regard.

Robi: Society can break the norms and society can help us a lot?

Katha: Society acted as double role player. So, we couldn't explore our skills, thoughts or innovative ideas for the larger society.

SECTION III

3. *Types of resources for new Andover*

Mahi: We are working for awareness raising through different activities. Also tried to increase our savings attitudes but maximum Bank created barriers to open the account. SME loan or Bank loan can help us to run or start any business. Joyeeta Foundation can help us to introduce our contribution towards the society.

Katha: Joyeeta foundation, Bangladesh Krishi bank or any scheduled bank can help us in this regard.

SECTION IV

4. *Role of CBO to create new entrepreneurs*

Mahi: Bandhu can expand in each section of social entrepreneurship or new business in Dhaka with the support of local TG/Hijra people so that they can start new business initiatives and society can get positive messages.

Katha: CBO can take initiatives for coalition build-up with resource generation organization or Govt. department. Bandhu and other larger organization can help us accordingly.

Robi: Govt. of Bangladesh acknowledged our identity but still we are fighting for dignity and our social acceptance. CBO can make the bridge between our community and Increase the TG business visibility.

Focus group discussion was ended with thanks and future hope for the "Resources Mobilization" initiatives.