

# Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies - BILS

## BILS/LO-FTF Project

### **Report of Bridging Phase**

(1 September 2011– 31 January 2012)

#### **Background**

BILS/LO-FTF Project (Decent Work and Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh) was designed to implement in two phases. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase has been implemented for the period of 15 March 2009 – 31 August 2011 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the project have been started from 1 February 2012 and will be completed on 30 September 2014. Between the two phases there was a gap period of 5 months from September 2011 to January 2012 and during the period a bridging phase has been implemented. The main focus was to continue the regular activities of 1<sup>st</sup> phase i.e. child labour schools, training centers & motor workshop, publications and OHS house up to 2<sup>nd</sup> phase, which are also the regular activities of 2<sup>nd</sup> phase. Besides, some unimplemented activities of 1<sup>st</sup> phase and some activities for keeping the committees/networks developed in 1<sup>st</sup> phase in touch with the project were implemented during the bridging phase.

First the bridging phase approved for the period of September-December 2011, afterward the bridging phase extended for another one month no-cost extension due to delay in starting of 2<sup>nd</sup> phase. During the extension of the bridging phase only the regular activities of CLEP were implemented.

The planned activities of all sub-components have been implemented by BILS with active involvement of trade union activists and leaderships. The regular publication i.e. Bulletin, Journal has been published and distributed along with the Calendar & Diary of BILS from the year of 2012. Under sub-component 2 a total of 72 child laborers have completed their basic skill training course and they have been awarded with certificates & tools/equipments.

Simultaneously, BILS contributed to review the new Labour Act-2006 and worked as workers group subcommittee of the tripartite review committee. During the bridging period, entrepreneurship activities and BILS network with different labour and social issues have also been continued.

#### **Outputs and Impacts:**

| <b>Output produced</b>                                      | <b>Effects and Impacts</b>  |
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| - A training manual has been developed for youth volunteer. | The manual will be used by the youth volunteers to orient the root level activists/workers on decent work, labour rights and labour law related issues. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BILS's Bulletin (Bangla and English) and News Flash has been published and distributed along with the Calendar &amp; Diary for 2012.</li> </ul>  | <p>BILS associated NTUCs and the national-international stakeholders have been informed on the labour related issues happened during the bridging period.</p>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A total of 40 TU leaders of service sector and rice processing sector trainers have been informed on current labour issues and oriented on the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase activities of LO-FTF project.</li> </ul>   | <p>Through the meeting the leaders were in touch with the project that will be helpful to implement the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of LO-FTF project.</p>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CLEP impact studies have been reviewed and a list of recommendations has been obtained to take future initiative on Child labour issue.</li> </ul>   | <p>The recommendation will contribute in implementing the BILS's Child Labour Elimination activities as well as to take future initiatives.</p>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A total of 144 teenagers Tongi and Keranigang centres have been continued their 12 months duration NFE course.</li> <li>- A total of 144teenagers have been continued their 6 months duration BST course in 4 selected trades in Tongi and Keranigong centres. A Total of 72 teenagers from Tongi Centre have been completed their 6 month BST course and after completion of the courses, numbers of teenagers entered into job market or become self-employed.</li> <li>- A total of 16 teenagers out of 24 have been continued one year duration apprenticeship training in BILS-Motor workshop.</li> </ul> | <p>Significant number of child labour has been withdrawn from workplaces and enrolled in the NFE course. After completion of the NFE either they will be mainstreamed into formal education or will be enrolled into basic skill training</p> <p>After completion of the training the teenagers have entered into job market or have been self-employed, which brought positive impact in preventing and eliminating child labour.</p> <p>The teenagers will complete their 1 year apprenticeship training on motor mechanics on 30 April 2012 and they become able to compete in the job market.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Area base committee of re-rolling mill and the ship breaking TU forum have continued their activities.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The committees had been in touch with the project actives which will be helpful in the 2nd phase of BILS/LO-FTF project.</li> </ul>  |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As a focal point for service delivery to the metal workers, ‘OHS House’ has been continued the awareness raising campaign and capacity building activities.</li> <li>- A total of 15 orientation programmes has been conducted in Dhaka and Chittagong. Through the programmes, a total of 252 Re-rolling and Shipbreaking Workers have been knowledgeable on basic workers rights, minimum wage and occupational health and safety.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacity building and awareness raising activities of the OHS House have developed awareness of the workers in the shipbreaking sector, which will contribute in organizing the workers of Ship-breaking sector.</li> <li>- A workforce, knowledgeable and aware on basic workers rights, minimum wage and OHS, will contribute in organising other workers in the sectors.</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Construction Sector Teams has been continued their activities and the progress have been documented</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The committees had been in touch with the project actives which will be helpful in the 2nd phase of BILS/LO-FTF project.</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Common Minimum Demand (CMD) for construction workers have been advocated with City Corporation and RAJUK.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Through the advocacy with related govt. authorities will be helpful to ensure the workers rights of construction sector.</li> </ul>  |

## PROJECT DESIGN:

The strategy and design of the bridging phase was the same as the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the BILS/LO-FTF project (Decent Work and Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh). Like 1<sup>st</sup> phase there were 4 sub-components under the bridging phase and all the activities has been implemented through the participation of NTUCs, associated with BILS. Each sub-component has been implemented under the guidance of advisory committee formed for the sub-component. For each sub-component an advisory committees has been in the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the BILS/LO-FTF project consisting the senior leadership of BILS, which continued in the bridging phase. The advisory committees have regularly monitored the project actives and provided their suggestions for the better implementation of the project.

The management structure and institutional framework of the bridging project was also same as the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the BILS/LO-FTF project.

## Summary of expenditure:

| <b>1.</b> | <b>Activities</b>   | <b>Amount (BDT)</b> |
|-----------|---|---------------------|
|           | Sub-Component 1: Development of a Democratic Labour Market                          | 306,404             |
|           | Sub-Component 2: Promoting protection of Child and Adolescent Workers               | 1,163,838           |
|           | Sub-Component 3: Poverty reduction and workers in the hazardous Metal sector        | 204,923             |
|           | Sub-Component 4: Poverty reduction and workers in the hazardous Construction sector | 27,137              |
| <b>2.</b> | <b>Investments</b>  | <b>7,000</b>        |
|           | Office equipment, Furniture and maintenance   | 7,000               |
| <b>3.</b> | <b>Expatriate staff</b>   | <b>-</b>            |
| <b>4.</b> | <b>Local staff</b>  | <b>1,041,716</b>    |
|           | Project staff - Training  | 627,907             |
|           | Project staff - Health care   | 145,275             |
|           | Project staff - Motor workshop  | 186,600             |
|           | Project staff - Metal   | 81,934              |
| <b>5.</b> | <b>Local administration</b>   | <b>139,353</b>      |
|           | <b>Total project expenses</b>   | <b>2'890'376</b>    |

### Major budget Revisions

First the bridging phase approved for the period of Sep-Dec 2011 and the total budget was BDT **2,522,414** which equivalent to DKK **212,862**. Further the bridging phase extended for one month no-cost extension and the total budget was **2,731,474** which equivalents to DKK **214,233**, but due to exchange rate we have receive total BDT **2'890'376**. The budget for the four months bridging phase very limited, moreover one month no-cost extension made BILS very difficult to complete the activities of bridging phase.

### INPUTS:

The LO-FTF Council provided the financial and technical supports to implement the bridging phase. Inputs from the Kathmandu regional office of LO-FTF Council were very much supportive, which helped BILS to conduct the activities of bridging phase.

BILS has provided all administrative and management support to implement the activities of bridging phase. BILS associated NTUCs provided their support in implementing the project activities and BILS leadership provided their guidance through the project advisory committees.

## ACTIVITIES:

All the planned activities of the bridging phase has been completed successfully within the timeframe. The main activities were to continue the regular activities of BILS/LO-FTF project up to the 2nd phase of the project. Besides, some other activities including the predatory activities for 2nd phase have been implemented. The implemented activities were as follows;

| Activity #   | Activities planned   | Activities Implemented   |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Sub-Component-1: : Development of Democratic Labour Market</b>            |  |  |
| 1.1.1  | Workshop for developing training manual for youth volunteer training | A 2-Days workshop was organized in the BILS seminar hall, Dhaka  |
| 1.2.1  | Regular publications of BILS   | BILS bulletin (Bangla & English) and the News Flash has been published and distributed. Also BILS Calendar and Diary for the year of 2012 has been printed and distributed.  |
| 1.2.2  | 2 one-day meeting with Trade Unionist.                               | A meeting was organized for the service sector TU leaders and A meeting organized for the Trade Unionists of Rice processing sector.   |
| <b>Sub-Component-2: Promoting protection of child and adolescent workers</b> |  |  |
|  | <b>Activities planned</b>  | <b>Activities implemented</b>  |
| 2.1.1  | Workshop to review CLEP impact study                                 | A 1-Day workshop was organized at the BILS seminar hall, Dhaka to review the CLEP impact study. The members of NTUCs Child Labour Network participated in the workshop.  |
| 2.2.1  | NTUCs Consultation Meeting on adopted policy                         | A NTUCs Consultation Meeting was organized at the BILS seminar hall, where the members of NTUCs Child Labour Network participated.   |
| 2.3.1  | Non-formal education to 144 teenagers in Tongi and Keraniganj        | A total of 144 teenagers in Tongi and Keraniganj have continued their 12 month NFE course.   |
| 2.3.2  | Basic skills training to 144 teenagers in Tongi and Keraniganj       | A total of 72 teenagers of Keraniganj centre have continued their 6 month BST in selected three trades.<br>A total of 72 teenagers of Tongi centre have completed their BST course in October 2011 and from November 2011 another 72 teenagers have enrolled and continued their BST course. |

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| 2.3.3  | Health care and medicine service to 312 teenagers   | A total 304 enjoyed the primary health care service including medicine and pathological test as their requirements.  |
| 2.3.4  | Operating 1 motor workshop to provide apprenticeship to 24 teenagers                        | A total of 16 teenagers out of 24 have continued their 12 months apprenticeship in the BILS-Motor Workshop in Tongi, the rest 8 teenagers has been dropped out before the bridging phase.  |
| <b>Sub-Component-3: Poverty Reduction and Workers in the hazardous metal sector</b>        |   |  |
|  | <b>Activities planned</b>   | <b>Activities implemented</b>  |
| 3.1.1  | 3 x 1-day Workshop/meetings for Area-based committee  | 2 meetings of the area base committee of the re-rolling industries have been conducted in Postogola, Shampur and 1 meeting of the area base committee of the ship breaking industries has been conducted in Shitakundu, Chittagong.  |
| 3.2.1  | Running OHS House   | The OHS House of Shitakundu, Chittagong has continued its information service, media campaign and victim workers' support services.  |
| 3.2.2  | 15 x Half - day orientation progr. for workers on basic rights, minimum wage and OHS issues | A total of 13 orientation programmes have been conducted at the OHS House, Sitakundu, Chittagong. Through the training, a total of 252 Re-rolling and Shipbreaking Workers have been knowledgeable on basic workers rights, minimum wage and occupational health and safety. |
| <b>Sub-Component-4: Poverty Reduction and Workers in the hazardous Construction sector</b> |   |  |
|  | <b>Activities planned</b>   | <b>Activities implemented</b>  |
| 4.1.2  | 3 x 1-day meetings with NTUC Sectoral Team of construction sector                           | 3 one-day meetings have been conducted in Dhaka with NTUCs to Sectoral Team of construction sector.  |
| 4.4.5  | 2 Advocacy and Lobby with city corporation/ RAJUK/ PWD                                      | 1 Advocacy and Lobby meeting has been conducted with Dhaka City Corporation and 1 Advocacy and Lobby meeting has been conducted RAJUK through the construction TU team and the members of project advisory committee of sub-component-4.                                     |

**Conclusion:**

The main objective of the bridging phase was to make a linkage between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the BILS/LO-FTF project (Decent Work and Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh) as well as to continue the regular activities of the project without any interruption during the gap period of 2 phases. During the five month period the planned has been completed successfully including the preparatory activities of 2nd phase. During the bridging phase a Evaluation Workshop was organized to evaluate the achievement of the 1st phase. Considering the limitation of the 1st phase some decision has been taken, which will be helpful to implement the 2nd phase of the project.