

Knowledge based empowerment of the gender diverse population through intensive training could be considered as a mechanism of protection of their rights. With a view to create an opportunity to learn about rights, human rights, international mechanisms (CEDAW, UPR) the training has been arranged under the intervention of Possibility.

Venue: Chelakotha, Lalmatia, Dhaka

Date: 13 April 2018, Friday

Participants: 20

Facilitator: Sanaïyya Ansari

Objective of the training

The principal objectives of the training were:

- To give an insight on rights and human rights to the gender diverse participants.
- To aware about the existing international mechanism against gender based violence i.e. CEDAW.
- To give a brief orientation on the Universal Periodic Review, its process and importance to the gender diverse population as a means of documenting cases of violence.

Brief description of the training contents

Role playing, group theater, experience sharing, group work, setting factual examples and so on made the day long training session

lively and enjoyable. It was rather a fully interactive training than lecture based one. A content wise brief description is given bellow-

Introduction and ice-breaking

Facilitator used a different sort of technique for ice-breaking and introduction. Each of the participants was asked to tell the name and two strong side and two sides that need further development. It was a self exploration opportunity indeed.



Rights and human rights

At the beginning of the session, facilitator asked the participants to write a letter to friend or beloved ones describing the oppression, deprivation, feelings, experiences etc. they faced over the life due to their gender identity and orientation. Then the letters were read out. The contents of the letters were so touchy and full of emotions that reflected on the atmosphere of the

training room. The untold stories of violence and deprivation of rights were portrayed in each of the letters. Facilitator explained the concept of right using a role play technique. Then the participants were divided into groups and told to read the 25 human rights in groups. After that an extended discussion was held for clarifying each of the rights.

The Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

All the articles of CEDAW were explained through Group Theater performed by the participants. Facilitator divided all the participants in four groups and gave time to take preparation for performances. All the articles were wonderfully explained through the performances.

Universal Periodic Review Process

As the gender diverse people often face discrimination due to their identity and orientation, their stories must be brought into broader platform. UPR is that kind of platform. So, the gender diverse populace should know about the UPR process and thus they will be assured that there is some kind of mechanism globally to hear and response to their untold and unheard stories. The facilitator elaborately discussed about the concept of UPR and the process of reporting.

Recommendations from the participants

A quick discussion with the participants after the training reflects the following recommendations that might be needed taken care of in future.

1. The length of the training could be increased to two days for better understanding with extensive discussions on the topics.
2. At least two days long trainings might be arranged on each of the topics like CEDAW, UPR and Human Rights Mechanism.
3. Apparently gender diverse women community members need to learn more about SOGI issues.
4. Life skill based trainings on personality traits and pattern of behaviors, anger and stress management, negative thinking and thoughts, cognitive behavior therapy etc. could be arranged in future.

