

US Delegates Visited DEW

A group of US delegates comprising of two members has visited Bangladesh for an official invitation by Development Wheel (DEW) to provide their volunteer support and gather hands on knowledge on social development from December 28, 2011 to January 18, 2012. Among them, one is Mrs. Lynda Ziembra-Professor of International Development of Monmouth University and Kean University and the other is Mrs. Talba Werner working as a gender activist in US. During their visit, they observed various program activities implementing by DEW both at the central area as well as the field areas. They have visited DEW producer groups at Mymensingh and Netrokona, tribal women producer groups at Haluaghat, change maker groups, district alliance of we can protect violence against women in Mymensingh, DEW community school at Savar, meeting with DEW board members, academicians, other stakeholders ect. They are very happy to see the way DEW is working in the community on human rights, gender equality, sustainable livelihoods, climate change and adaptation, non-formal education for disadvantaged children's and promoting Fair Trade.

They also joined various meetings with different international donors, civil society members and also the Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University. They discussed on various bi-lateral issues in order to boost-up the overall development process of Bangladesh by increasing friendship in between nations. They have expressed their keen interest to work for the development of Bangladesh and will be working with different US agencies to promote further assistance for Bangladesh. At this regard, they have come up with a long-term partnership with Development Wheel (DEW) putting emphasis on different areas to extend the cooperation. Again, they will be working as an advocate of DEW in US to promote supporters group for the assistance of further initiatives intended by DEW. By the time, a mutual agreement is done in between the parties putting emphasis over following issues:

- Start internship programme with Monmouth University from 2013
- To support DEW non-formal education programme
- To promote DEW handicraft products to US market
- To create supporter group for DEW in USA on protect violence against women, sustainable agriculture and Fair Trade products
- Develop joint paper/Projects/research and exchange
- Raise funds for DEW to build Multipurpose training, accommodation, resource, office, guest house, display center, demonstrations at Mymensingh
- Work as an Ambassador of DEW in USA



