

In Development arena Public-Private partnership is a much-talked issue all over the world. Many countries have experience about this, i.e. Canadian Rural Partnership, Japan's new development for Trade, Microsoft and The U.S Government Agencies initiative to promote international development etc. Previously Development was solely the responsibility of the government. But time and need changed the scenario. Poverty stricken and disaster prone areas demand more initiative over and above government initiatives. That emerges the need for NGOs in development activities. For the betterment of the destitute and the helpless, the untended population of the society, the role of Non Governmental Organization or NGO is much acknowledged. It is proven that the active presences of NGOs are a boon for the over all and social development of Bangladesh and they have earned much credibility from international organizations/ donors. In Bangladesh GO-NGO partnership is being carried out in the field of Health, Education, Public- Health and Local Governments etc. There is probably no systematic study on the issue whether the partnership program is more effective in development initiative or not. Proper knowledge about the partnership process & issues can influence partnership planning and implementation and they can also be purposively used to counteract the adverse effects. The findings of the study may indicate the present status of the partnership program. Such study may also shed light in formulation and effective partnership/collaboration strategy, which can be used by the implementing agencies in future.

NNP is a comprehensive and multi sect oral nutrition intervention under HNPSF of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. HNPSF is the single largest program in health sector and NNP is also the single largest community based program in nutrition all over the world. NNP involves twelve hundred core taka budgets (2004-2010). It's a government and nongovernmental partnership program. The main components of the program Area based community nutrition (ABCN) are implemented by selected partner NGOs. At present nine selected partner NGOs are implementing the ABCN activities of NNP in 105 upazilla under 34 Districts. Primary beneficiaries of the programs are children under two years of age, pregnant and lactating women and adolescent girls. The program is financed under a development credit agreement between the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the International Development Association (IDA). And The World Bank is representing the IDA. The program is facilitated and supervised by the program management unit (PMU) of NNP and different local level committees represented by local government bodies, local community people and local level government officials.

This dissertation attempts to explore the impact and effectiveness of partnership program and try to evaluate the a) Capability of implementing Agency (NNP), b) Capability of NGOs to implement the program, c) Capability of local Government institutions to supervise and facilitate the program and d) Community involvement by NGO initiatives. This research is also an attempt to ascertain whether GO-NGO partnership/ collaboration in context of NNP have been able to prove its effectiveness for implementing the program. This research also aims to understand the factors that are responsible for the effectiveness of the program. In pursuance of these vast objectives, the research was

constrained by time and scope, resulting in a research covering all categories beneficiaries and related parties.

It is evident from the study that the Effectiveness of the partnership program depends on the effectiveness/ capability of the government / Implementing Agency. NNP is a multi-sect oral approach and the intervention is also comprehensive. NNP is mostly responsible on behalf of the government of Bangladesh. It has to coordinate continuously with World Bank and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for various matter of the program, but it has not such freedoms, as it is responsible for. The 80% of total project cost is for its ABCN components, which is implementing by the partners NGOs. The NGO's responsible for implementing a pre-set program. NNP itself and local level Management Committees are supposed to supervise and facilitate the program, from the study it is found that due to short contract period, delay in contact, delay in fund release, non availability of logistics in time hamper the program very much, the workers (CNP, CNO, FS, UM) lose enthusiasm, NNP lose moral strength, NGO waits in anxiety, but in spite of all these interim hazards NGO's get their dues in Toto, and the effective implementation of the program suffers a lot. The research within its limited scope identified the status of the partnership program and various factors responsible for the status and prepares some recommendation that may be adopted by the implementing agency in future for strengthening the program.