



Highlights

- ▶ Government appointed Project Director for EIA assumes office
- ▶ Switch on your TV for BBC Janala's new show
- ▶ English in Action Fairs launched

Message from the Team Leader

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Another exciting, busy and full of action quarter has passed!

Classroom-based continuous professional development workshops for over 8,000 teachers are on full pace. Already over 120 workshops have finished and over 60 will be conducted by December 2013.

To increase the awareness of the project across the upazilas in localities we have launched community fairs starting from September 2013. I enjoyed thoroughly visiting one of the fairs in Jessore and was overwhelmed seeing the enthusiasm in children, parents and the wider community in embracing English in Action.

We are rapidly deepening our work with key-partners on textbook refinement, teacher training, skills development, learning through mobile phones, which are steps to mainstreaming EIA materials and methodologies into government, private sector and civil society structures.

A new show has been launched by our adult learning component, BBC Janala 'Nijey Nijey Shekha', which follows real people: from health workers and beauticians to drivers and waiters, these series aim to showcase the life changing opportunities English can bring.

I am very delighted to share with you that the Government deputed Mr. Siddiqur Rahman as the project director for EIA, in the Directorate of Primary Education office. This marks a very significant achievement for the project.

Johan Bentinck
Team Leader
English in Action

Feeling Positive! Teachers continue to think EIA materials and activities are important and use them in the classroom

EIA's regular monitoring statistics show the 2012 cohort of EIA teachers' continue to be extremely positive about EIA as they progress through the EIA teacher professional development programme. After taking part in the programme for 9 months, teachers' continue to regard EIA activities and materials as really important and use them in the classroom.

In July 2012, EIA held initial workshops with 4,500 teachers from across Bangladesh to introduce them to the EIA programme which supports teachers to use communicative language learning activities and materials in their classes.

After taking part in the programme for four months, 97% of teachers regarded EIA activities and materials as either important or very important in their English classrooms for their student's learning.

Nine months after this, 100% of teachers thought the approaches and materials are either important or very important for their English classes.



Similarly, teachers reported they continue to make use of EIA approaches and materials in their English classrooms.

After four months of taking part in the programme, 60% of teachers said they mostly used EIA activities in their English classes and 37% reported they often used them. Nine months after this, 84% of teachers said they use EIA activities at least once a week and 15% indicated they used EIA activities at least once a month. Further to this, 85% of teachers said they use EIA audio at least once a week and 73% said they watch EIA video once a week.

Source: EIA PMIS (Project Management Information Service)

Government appointed Project Director for EIA assumes office

Mr. Md. Siddiqur Rahman was appointed as the Project Director for English in Action on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh on 28th July, 2013. The office for the PD is at the Directorate of Primary Education.

The PMU (Project Management Team) is also engaging intensively with Initial Teacher's Workshops and various other field activities. Recently, the PD visited workshops in Rajshahi.

The project director will be foreseeing the activities related to project implementation as well as for reporting and representation of the project in the monthly meetings of the Annual Development Programme (ADP) in the Secretariat. His appointment is a significant progress in working closely with the government.



Switch on your TV for BBC Janala's **new show**



BBC Janala's reality TV series Nijey Nijey Shekha is a new programme that helps people across Bangladesh to learn English. The inspiring and motivating show is now on air on Bangladesh Television (BTV) every Saturday at 7:20 pm, with repeats at 8:35 am on Mondays and 2:15 pm on Wednesdays.

Nijey Nijey Shekha follows real people from different parts of Bangladesh, from health workers and beauticians to drivers and waiters, they all share the

same passion for learning English. As they work to overcome their fears of learning, each of them has just three days to learn enough English to face their own real-life English challenge. Viewers can learn alongside the participants, as presenters Samia Afrin and Kibria Sharkar offer simple, practical learning tips and advice about useful English phrases.

A range of famous faces are also on hand to offer tips and advice to people taking part in the show. The series features renowned fashion designer Bibi

Russell, former Bangladesh National cricket team captain Khaled Masud Pilot and singer Fatema Tuz Zohra, amongst others.

People and locations already featured in the series include:

- A handicrafts businesswoman from Rangpur
- A cricket player from Rajshahi
- A health worker from Sylhet
- A tour guide from Khulna
- A beautician from Dhaka

The followings will be featured in the coming episodes:

- A waiter from Cox's Bazar
- A driver from Barisal
- A singer from Chittagong

Nijey Nijey Shekha forms part of the range of learning materials available from BBC Janala. Just like previous TV favorites Bishaash and Mojay Mojay Shekha, the programme provides easy, accessible english learning in a fun and entertaining way.

Initial Teachers Workshop started in full throttle across Bangladesh

The wait is over! The EIA team has been excitedly working at full throttle to prepare for workshops which will introduce a further 8,000 new teachers to the programme!

On 25th August 2013, Mr. Shyamal Kanti Ghosh, Director General, Directorate of Primary Education, inaugurated the Initial Teacher Workshop in Dhaka.

Addressing the teachers from Nawabganj and Shariatpur upazila, the Director General said, "Using the interactive materials provided by English in Action, you can transform your classes. You will be able to grow interest of students and it will not only make their learning experience enjoyable, but as

teachers you will benefit from the professional development opportunities the project is providing".

Starting today and running to December 2013, the EIA team will hit the road to rollout the workshops; in doing so, reaching 12,500 teachers in total since the start of project.

The teacher training team will travel to all seven divisions, welcoming new teachers from primary and secondary schools from over 112 upazilas – taking the EIA spirit to the far corners of Bangladesh.

Over 5,000 teachers have already benefited from the innovative classroom approaches, which are central to the EIA teacher training programme.

Feeling about English in Action

A poem by English in Action Teacher

মাত্র তো দিন তিনটা
 ভেবেছিলাম হবে একটা
 অনেক তো করেছি এতদিন
 সাবকাস্টার আর অন্য ট্রেনিং
 শুধু খবর ছিল প্রাপ্তি আছে প্রচুর
 ভাল হোটেল, মোবাইল আর অন্য কিছু
 খবরটা সত্য হলেও আসল সত্য মিসিং
 They will change our lives by
 changing learning.
 এমন একটা ট্রেনিং এটা
 শেখাল ইংরেজি শেখার আসল কলা,
 সাথে দিল নানা কলকজা।
 মনের ভিতর চেউ উঠছে
 ক্লাসে যাওয়ার তাগিদ আসছে।
 কল্পনাতেও দেখছি রে ভাই
 ক্লাসে বাজবে যখন English in Action এর গান।
 বাচ্চারা তো চমকাবেই
 আর খুশি হবে সবাই।

We are very confident
 about our success.

Thanks to English in Action.

And thanks to our trainers and organizers.

শাহনাজ পারভীন
 Head Teacher of Shishu
 G.P.S
 Khagrachari.



English Can Change Lives: English in Action Fairs launched around the country

As part of a campaign to create awareness and to encourage people to take up English language learning opportunities, the English in Action (EIA) project has launched community fairs across the country.

English in Action Fair program started on 28 September 2013 in 8 Upazilas of Barisal, Dhaka, Khulna and Sylhet. The series of fairs titled "Ananday Shiki Engeji - English in Action Mela" - will take place in a total of 37 Upazilas across the country.

Open for all, these fairs have information, education and entertainment booths to attract students, teachers, parents, farmers, shopkeepers, homemakers, boys and girls of all ages giving them exposure to EIA classrooms, BBC Janala lessons and English learning through games and drama, along with many other activities.

These fairs aim to reach all sections of the community providing people with a unique and unprecedented opportunity to experience and access learning English with EIA. The fairs will promote the message of English learning for all in easy and entertaining ways through the use of communicative language teaching, games, and mobile phones.

The fairs are being organised with the close collaboration of Upazila Education Offices under Directorate of Primary Education, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education.

"Coming here in this fair, I came across the ways how both teachers and children can learn English in a more joyful manner, with using few techniques the fears of learning English can be removed and that will make the classroom livelier".- A primary school

English teacher, attending the fair in Moulvibazar, Sylhet.

Sarah Cooke, Country Representative for DFID Bangladesh, says:

The UK Government is committed to improving the lives of millions of people around Bangladesh through initiatives like English in Action, which is increasing people's chances of finding work by learning English. The programme aims to reach millions of adults learners and train 75,000 primary and secondary school teachers and approximately 10 million students by 2017, using the most effective, interactive and innovative methods. These community fairs are a way for the community people to come and explore what value English can add to their lives.



A day with **Teaching Quality Improvement II** project team

On Thursday 22nd August 2013, English in Action organised a workshop in Dhaka for Teaching Quality Improvement II (TQI-II) in Secondary Education Project. The aim of the workshop was to explore and discuss collaboration and partnership opportunities between TQI-II and EIA.

TQI-II is a project under the Ministry of Education implemented by DSHE (Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education) working all over Bangladesh. The Project is funded by Asian Development Bank and Government of Bangladesh. The Project Director Mr. Banmali Bhowmick led the delegate from TQI-II,

while Dr. Johan Bentinck, Team Leader, EIA led his team at the workshop.

The workshop concluded with initial agreement that the projects will exchange and review training materials and both will share their expertise to strengthen the collaboration initiative.

NAPE - English in Action Workshop

On 30 July 2013, the National Academy for Primary Education (NAPE) and English in Action (EIA) jointly held a workshop at NAPE in Mymensingh. The aim of the workshop was to review the NAPE-EIA partnership and carry out planning for collaboration in relation to four areas: teacher training; materials development; administration; and research, monitoring and evaluation.

The workshop was chaired by the Director General (DG) of NAPE, Md. Nazmul Hasan Khan, as Chief Guest, and attended by the Director of NAPE, Md.

Shah Alam along with the members of the seven following faculties: Planning and Administration; Language; Social Science; Science and Mathematics; Research and Curriculum Development; Testing and Evaluation; and Monitoring and Supervision. From English in Action, nine representatives including, the Education Adviser, Head of Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RME), Head of Teacher Training and Support (TTS) and respective team members also participated in the workshop.



EIA at the BERA and UKFIET Conference 2013

The English in Action team participated in two international conferences in the UK during September 2013. These are: the annual conference of the British Educational Research Association (BERA), held at Sussex University and the UKFIET conference, held at Oxford University. Both of these forums have long-standing international reputation for working in the field of education and research. As always, the goals behind attending these conferences were to share EIA's work with a wide variety of audience, in particular, education and development practitioners.

Dr. Sharmistha Das, Education Adviser, English in Action attended the 12th UKFIET conference and presented a paper - 'English language education reform initiatives: Challenges for sustainability' under the conference sub-theme - New Imperatives for Education, Teaching and Learning.

Farhan Azim, Deputy Head, Research, Monitoring and Evaluation, English in Action also presented a paper at the BERA Conference 2013. The paper was titled 'Interaction between school and media based interventions to influence English language learning: a case of Bangladesh'.

These conferences provided several opportunities for interaction and exchange of views with regard to English in Action's work in Bangladesh. A lot of interest for the programme was generated which created further scope for learning and developing dissemination networks.

"EIA project was developed out of the **Bangladeshi soil**" - John Shotton

John Shotton, the project director of English in Action, visited the project office on 16-25 September 2013, and participated in strategic meetings with officials from Government of Bangladesh Education sector, DFID, local partners and key stakeholders.

John's visit was of great importance in terms of support to building of the institutionalisation strategy for the project. Being involved in the project from its very beginning, he saw the project growing and gathering more experience in improvement of English language skills of people of Bangladesh and thus contributing to improvement of their lives.

"EIA project was developed out of the very soil of Bangladesh, involving the experts from Bangladeshi context.that is a major uniqueness of it, and that has been a success factor of the project so far", says John Shotton.



ENGLISH in ACTION

Implemented by :



Funded by :



Implementing Partners :



English in Action
House 1, Road 80, Gulshan - 2
Dhaka - 1212, Bangladesh
Phone: +88 (02) 882 2161, +88 (02) 882 2234
Fax: +88 (02) 882 2663
E-mail: info@eiabd.com

www.eiabd.com

[f/EnglishInActionBangladesh](https://www.facebook.com/EnglishInActionBangladesh)