

Accessible and Inclusive ICT Solutions: A case from Bangladesh

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Bangladesh

Accessible and Inclusive ICT Solutions: Bridging the Gap



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A2i's Innovation

Access to Information (a2i) is a special programme of the Prime Minister's Office that catalyzes citizen-friendly public service innovations simplifying government and bringing it closer to people. Its primary goal is to ensure easy, affordable and reliable access to quality public services for all citizens of Bangladesh.

a2i promotes Innovation to ensure Accessibility for people with disability and strives to empower them.

www.a2i.pmo.gov.bd



Multimedia Talking Book and Accessible Reading Materials

- **Accessible Textbooks, Braille books and Full-text, Full-audio DAISY standard Digital Talking Books for the students with Visual, Print and Learning Disabilities**
- **As a non-Governmental Organization, YPSA with the support of a2i has developed DAISY standard Multimedia Talking Books.**



Low-cost DAISY Player

To make the Multimedia Books more technologically advanced and portable for the visual students, a2i has developed a low cost DAISY player.

On the first day of 2018, **Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh handed over** the Multimedia Talking Book with DAISY player to the visual impaired students.





Marrakesh Treaty

- Bangladesh Government has taken initiative to ratify Marrakesh Treaty.
- The amendment copy right law has been drafted.
- Copyright acceptation has been added for accessible books production. We have been working with WIPO and Accessible Books Consortium for this purpose.



Inclusive University

- a2i has taken initiative to make University of Chittagong a model of inclusive university in Bangladesh.
- 100+ students with disabilities are studying in Chittagong University.
- An open solution hunting competition, named as CHALLENGE FUND, has been launched by a2i and University of Chittagong to find innovative solutions in order to mitigate problems faced by STUDENTS with disabilities. The winning solutions will be implemented in University of Chittagong. This aims to establish INCLUSIVE LEARNING environment for students with disabilities in an inclusive university.



Accessible Dictionary

- 'Accessible Dictionary' is Bangladesh's first dictionary specially developed for the persons with visual, print and learning disabilities and information disadvantaged groups; Scope to benefit for over 5 million students with/out disabilities.
- On 1st February, at this year's Amar Ekushey Book Fair, the Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina inaugurated a2i and YPSA's newly developed 'Accessible Dictionary'.
- (<http://accessibledictionary.gov.bd/>)



Web Accessibility

- Bangladesh has a mandate to make its 25 thousand government websites accessible for all
- National Web Accessibility Guideline has already been drafted.
- www.bangladesh.gov.bd has followed w3c2.0 standard.



Award and Recognition

Bangladesh won WSIS award 2017 for the innovation in producing accessible reading materials facilitated by a2i





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THANK YOU