

Strengthen the Asi@Connect Female Network Engineer (SAFE): Capacity Development Program for NREN Tech-Girl and Future IT-Girl (Phase-2)

Background

This initiative is the continuation of the previous same project, which was implemented by the Department of Computer Science and Information Technology (CSIT), Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU), Bangladesh, under Asi@Connect 3rd call. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 1st phase of this project modified the implementation methodologies and physical activities. For this reason, the SAFE (Phase-2) was implemented in a blended method where activities are combined in both physical and virtual participation. This project aims to support, develop and build capacity among NRENs female IT personnel and fresher/final year female students from different universities who wish to have a career in various IT fields.

Objectives

- 1. Collaboration with TEIN partner countries:** The training covers the following 15 partner countries: Afghanistan (AF), Bangladesh (BD), Bhutan (BT), Cambodia (KH), India (IN), Indonesia (ID), Laos (LA), Myanmar (MM), Malaysia(MY), Nepal (NP), Pakistan(PK), Philippines (PH), Sri Lanka (LK), Thailand (TH), and Vietnam (VN).
- 2. Transfer of knowledge via seminars, webinars and workshops.**
- 3. Awareness Building through seminars for Future IT-Girl** for building careers in the IT profession and the prospect of SAFE project.
- 4. Fellowship support to TechGirl and Future ITGirl for network training/workshop.**
- 5. Linkage with existing Asi@Connect projects** e.g.: SAFE (Phase-1), WCNDIO, CDIEN, Distance Learning, etc.
- 6. Use the TEIN network for course delivery.**
- 7. Enhance the skill of female IT Graduates/Future IT-Girl.**
- 8. Improve the skill of existing female IT personnel.**
- 9. Enhancement of female collaboration and support.**
- 10. Build capacity for female empowerment and employment.**

ACTIVITIES

· Activity-1

Awareness seminars Seminar on Network/ICT Prospect for Future IT-Girl (SNIPFI) [Completed]: The Department CSIT, PSTU, Bangladesh arranged 10 awareness-building seminars at different universities throughout Bangladesh to support women wishing to to build careers in various IT professions. Over 400 CSE/EEE/IT background women from different universities/ institutes participated in the seminars.



SNIPFI-7 (BDU, Gazipur, Bangladesh) | Group Photo

· Activity-2

Online webinar courses for Asi@Connect Female Network Engineers. Remote participation from all Asi@Connect NREN countries [Completed]: Ten webinar courses (Networking devices and tools, Basic Campus Network Design, IP addressing: IPv4/IPv6, Basic Routing and Switching, Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN), Wireless Networking and Server Administration, Advanced Routing Protocols (EIGRP, OSPF, BGP), Network Monitoring, Network Management and Network Troubleshooting) were conducted for Tech-Girl/Future IT-Girl. These were delivered remotely via Zoom online platform. Over 800 women attended these courses.

· Activity-3

Regional Workshops on Networking Basics and Campus Network Design (WNBCND) [Completed]: To increase the strength of female graduates/appeared graduates, four regional workshops about Networking Basics and Campus Network Design has arranged in the diversified locations (Barishal, Dhaka, Chattogram and Khulna) in Bangladesh. During these events, 200 female participants got hands-on training experience which will enhance the awareness and capacity of future IT-Girls.



WIBCND-2 (BUBT, Dhaka Region) | Opening Session



WIBCND-4 (KUET, Khulna Region) Hands-On Session

• Activity-3

International Blended Workshops on Wireless Networking and Cyber Security (WWNCS) [Completed]: To develop the capacity of NREN's female staff about Wireless Networking and Cyber Security and also develop collaborative relationships among tech-female staff among NREN's partner countries. The Department of CSIT, PSTU organized one international workshop using a blended method. 36 selected females and 10 selected ICT professionals participated in on-site sessions physically. Also, more than 47 females and 30 ICT professionals from different NREN countries participated virtually.



WWNCS | Opening Session

• Activity-3

Providing Tech-Girl/Future IT-Girl Fellowships (Registration fees) [Completed]: To attend networking/security/related specialized courses, we have distributed 25 fellowships among highly interested and selected future IT-Girls. This provides up to Euro €150 as course registration fees for attending CCNA/CCCA or other academic courses in different recognized academies/institutes in Bangladesh.

ASI@CONNECT SUPPORT

Asi@Connect supported the total financing of the project plus associated logistics.

BENEFITS TO THE TEIN COMMUNITY

- Mitigation of gender issues and female empowerment.
- Enhance inspiration among the female participants regarding ICT employment.
- Technical knowledge exchange among TEIN beneficiary female community.
- Reduce barriers for developing the capacity of females by seminars, webinars and workshops.
- Dissemination of knowledge through webinar programs and blended workshops among TEIN beneficiary countries.
- Reduction of the digital divide within the NRENs female community.
- Utilization of the TEIN network will be significantly enhanced during the execution of the implementation.

For more information

Asi@Connect : www.tein.asia

Disclaimer

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