

## MONTHLY UPDATES, JUNE 2012

### Visit to Cape Town

From 18-20 June Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS and Barrister Manzoor Hasan, Institutional Adviser, IGS attended the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Think Tank Initiative Exchange Meeting in Cape Town, South Africa. The meeting was attended by participants (Executive Directors and Key Researchers) from 50 Think Tank grantees of IDRC from across the globe.

### Other Activities of the Director

On 3 June Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS attended a workshop on Curriculum Development which was organised by the University Grants Commission at its premises. The workshop was attended by stakeholders from public and private universities. He also attended a meeting organised by the National Defence College (NDC) to serve the role of an adviser for the research papers of NDC course participants.

### IGS Curriculum Development Team visited the Netherlands for Curriculum Development Training



A four member team of IGS: Senior Research Associates, Syeda Salina Aziz and Kazi Nur mohammad Hossainul Haque and Research Associates: Mohammad Sirajul Islam and Md. Harun-Or- Rashid and five members of the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) visited the Centre for International Cooperation of the VU University of Amsterdam from 4-8 June 2012. This visit was part of the NUFFIC supported project where training was organised to create an in-house curriculum development body of IGS and the BPATC. The key resource persons of the training were Dr. Wim Kouwenhoven, Senior Adviser, Dr. Marinus Kool, Senior Education Adviser, Ms. Lieke Stoffelsma and Education Adviser from CIC of VU University Amsterdam.

## **First Training of Trainers held under NUFFIC Project**



From 17-21 June the first Training of Trainers (ToT) was held under the NUFFIC project of “Capacity Building for Promoting Governance” at Regional Public Administration Training Centre (RPATC). 20 trainers were selected in total: 10 from IGS and the rest from BPATC. The course was designed and facilitated by MDF Director, Ineke Pitts and Senior Trainer and Consultant Dr. Martien Van Asseldonk and coordinated by Deputy Director, BPATC, M. Arifur Rahman and Senior Program Manager, IGS, Munir Uddin Shamim.

At the end of the training program a certificate awarding ceremony was held where A. Z. M. Shafiqul Alam, Rector, BPATC and Secretary of Bangladesh Government and Dr. Mahmudul Hassan, Joint Secretary and Member Direction Staff of BPATC were present as Chief Guest.

### **Seminar Attended by Research Coordinator**

On 9 June M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator of IGS, participated at a seminar titled: 'Banking in Bangladesh: Prospects and Challenges' as a discussant at Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) organised by Policy Research Centre Bangladesh (PRC BD).

### **Presentation on the Findings of Bangladesh Youth Survey**

On 10 June a group of research staff of IGS presented their findings on the Bangladesh Youth Survey (BYS) before the United Nations Development Program (UNDP): one of the principal sponsors of BYSS project at UNDP premises.

### **Affiliated Network for Social Accountability-South Asia Region (ANSA-SAR)**

#### **Workshop held in Kathmandu**

From 4-6 June a 3 day regional Knowledge Action workshop on “Advancing Public Participation and Accountability in the Budget Process” was held in Kathmandu, Nepal which was hosted by ANSA-SAR in collaboration with the World Bank Institute (WBI) and Program for Accountability in Nepal (PRAN). Social Accountability tools with regard to budget analysis and dissemination,

budget execution, procurement monitoring, performance of service delivery and the entire budget cycle was discussed in the workshop which was attended by Civil Society and Government Officials from Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan.

### **Workshop on Right to Information**

From 14-18 June ANSA-SAR held 3 workshops on Right to Information (RTI) one in Jessore and the rest in Dhaka at the Dainik Spandan, a newspaper based in Jessore and the rest two at United News of Bangladesh which is a private wire service and at Independent TV, a television station. More than 50 reporters and editors participated in the workshop and were given RTI guidebooks and posters which will guide them in filing for the RTI request.

### **Workshop in Bogra**



From 29-30 June a two day workshop on “Citizen’s Involvement in Budget Preparation” was held in Bogra at Cozy Café and Red Chilli Restaurant respectively. This is one of the seven workshops which are going to be held all throughout Bangladesh to make the public aware of their rights in the budget decision making processes of the state with the aid of the Citizens Budget Guide Book that has been developed by ANSA-SAR. The participants of the workshop were Upazila Chairman, Deputy Commissioners, Councillors and others.

### **Published Article**

[The Daily Star: “Bringing Child Sexual Abuse Out of the Closet” by Rubayet Hamid, June 13, 2012](#)