

## MONTHLY UPDATES, APRIL 2012

### **Orientation Program” for the 4th batch of Masters in Governance and Development Program**

An “Orientation Program” was held for the 4th batch of Masters in Governance and Development program on 1 April, 2012. Dr. Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director-in-Charge of the Institute of Governance Studies and a few other IGS staff members attended the program. Dr. Ainun Nishat gave a speech addressing the students of the course in this orientation program.



### **Module Development Meeting for Right to Information Training**

The Affiliated Network for Social Accountability-South Asia Region (ANSA-SAR) of IGS organised a meeting with Journalists on the “Right to Information Act 2009” in April, 2012. The Right to Information Act (RTIA) is a unique tool through which journalists will be able to produce outstanding quality news which is different from the typical stories that are usually produced.

## Conference on “Global Organisation for Parliamentarians Against Corruption” Chapters



From 22-23 April a conference was held on Global Organisation for Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) Bangladesh chapter in collaboration with ANSA SAR. The conference was hosted by the two teams and held in Westin and Bangladesh National Parliament respectively. In the conference, the following were discussed: GOPAC Global Task Force (GTF), lessons that have been learned by each of the chapters in the South Asian region, peer to peer learning initiatives and opportunities in the parliamentary oversight and United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) Global Task Force (GTF) areas. Members of Parliament of Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, India and Bangladesh including the team members of ANSA-SAR participated in the conference while Nuzhat Jabin, Program Manager of ANSA-SAR, IGS made a presentation on social accountability tools and how elected representatives can use these tools to fight corruption and increase accountability.

### Workshop on “Public Sector Accountability for the fulfillment of Maternal Health Commitments”

On 21 April a workshop titled “Public Sector Accountability for the fulfillment of Maternal Health Commitments” was organised by JATRI in collaboration with White Ribbon Alliance, Bangladesh at JATRI conference. The workshop was facilitated by Barrister Manzoor Hasan, Adviser of IGS and Nuzhat Jabin, Program Manager of ANSA-SAR, IGS made a presentation on “Potentials of using Community Score Card as a means of increasing Public Social Accountability”.

### 2 District level workshops held on “Engaging Citizens in Public Procurement”



As part of technical assistance to Public -Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC) under PPRP-II project, IGS organised 2 district level workshops. The first workshop was held on 2 April 2012 at the conference room of Narayanganj Club while the second one took place on 19 April 2012 at Capsicum Party Center in Comilla. Participants of the workshop include representatives from local public administration, public procuring agencies, local government, bidder's community and civil society organizations. The workshops were facilitated by a team from IGS that included Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manger, Ekram Hossain, Senior Program Officer, Zohora Farzana Ahmed Bipasha, Communications Associate and Nazmul Arifeen, Research Assistant. The purpose of the workshops was to engage and exchange views on public procurement from these participants where the first working session of the workshop comprised of highlighting the problems and prospects of public procurement while the second session focused on participants' experiences related to existing practices of third party engagement and last working sessions explored opinions and recommendations on how to engage third party in public procurement.

### **Capacity Building for Promoting Governance (NUFFIC): First Working Committee held**

The NUFFIC supported 'Capacity Building for Promoting Governance' project organised its first working committee meeting on 9 April 2012. The meeting was held in Public Administration Training Centre (PATC) attended by Mr. Md. Mahmudul Hassan, Joint Secretary and MDS, PATC, Dr. Martin van Asseldonk, Senior Consultant, MDF, Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director, IGS and other working group members from IGS and BPATC. In the meeting, an action plan for next one year was developed and endorsed by the committee.

### **Review of IGS' Evaluation System**

In April 2012 Dr. Martin van Asseldonk, reviewed IGS' existing training and academic evaluation system through evaluation of the current academic training programs operating in IGS and through consultation with IGS Director, Senior Program Manager, Academic Coordinator and Academic Training Manager. This evaluation was done on behalf of NUFFIC project requirements

### **Lecture on "Role of International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the Economic Development of Bangladesh"**

A group of IGS staff members attended an open lecture on "Role of International Monetary Fund in the Economic Development of Bangladesh" on 26 April 2012 at BRAC University Vice Chancellor's office. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Eteri Kvintradze, Resident Representative, IMF and Dr. David Cowen, Mission Chief for Bangladesh, (IMF).

The session was jointly organized by the Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) and Department of Economics and Social Sciences, BRAC University.



### **Round Table Discussion organised by “The Daily Star”**

M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator of IGS, participated as a panelist at the roundtable discussion on “Regional Economic Hub Challenges,” organised by the Daily Star, on 7 April 2012 at Chittagong Chamber House.

### **Lecture Conducted by the Director**

Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director-in-Charge of IGS conducted a lecture on **Policy Analysis** for the Senior Staffs at Public Administration Training Centre in April 2012

### **Field Visit of the EMG 3rd Batch Students**

As a part of the certificate programme on the Environmental Management and Governance (EMG), students of the 3rd batch of the course went on a daylong field visit to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment on Garment Industry. They visited the M/S. EchoTex Garment Limited, at Chandra in Gazipur on April 5, 2012. During their visit they observed water quality, air quality, noise quality, impact on biodiversity, in-process liquid wastage, solid wastage etc. Based on the visit, they prepared a report and presented in the class.

