

MONTHLY UPDATES, DECEMBER 2009

The Affiliated Network on Social Accountability (ANSA) South Asia of the Institute organized a three-day residential workshop on 'Strengthening Citizen Engagement in Procurement: Reviewing experiences, identifying challenges and exploring opportunities'. The workshop was organized at BRAC Centre for Development and Management (BCDM) from the 8-10 December 2009. The workshop had about 40 participants which comprised practitioners from the Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka to share experiences and the workshop concluded with country road maps for future activities in procurement.



Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), in collaboration with IFC, BEI and KDI conducted a two-week residential Civil Service Training Program on Private Sector Development from 01-18 December, 2009. The training program was held in International Training Center (ITC) of Bangladesh Public Administration Training Center (BPATC), Savar. Twenty six civil servants mostly at the rank of deputy secretary attended the program.

As a part of the certificate programme on Environmental Governance, students went on a two-day field visit to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment on tannery industry. They visited the Hazaribagh tannery area in Dhaka city and BISIC Industrial area in Savar on 19 December, 2009 and 20 December, Dhaka respectively. They visited river area, industrial plots and villages very close to the proposed industrial area in Savar. The three-month certificate course concluded with the field visit on 31 December, 2009.

The Affiliated Network on Social Accountability (ANSA) South Asia, in collaboration with the ANSA Africa and ANSA East Asia-Pacific organized a workshop on 'Climate change and social accountability' at the CABINN Metro Hotel in Copenhagen, Denmark. The workshop was organized during the Conference of Parties (COP) 15 in Denmark to target practitioners and interested people for greater involvement in this issue. Nuzhat Jabin, Project Associate at the Institute presented on the areas of work for ANSA South Asia, particularly in the area of climate change.

Journalism Training and Research Initiative (JATRI) of IGS, organized a one day orientation course on "Ethics and Standards of Journalism" on 11 December, 2009. The training course was arranged for the fellows of News Network. The course covered standards and ethics of journalism, challenges of women journalists and scope of work for JATRI with women journalist. Mr. Sharifuzzaman Pintu, Chief Reporter, The Daily Prothom-Alo shared his experiences of working as a journalist with the participants.

A three-day training on "Investigative Journalism" for the crime reporters was organized from 22-24 December, 2009 at JATRI conference room. The coordinator of the training was Mr. Farid Hossain, Bureau Chief, AP. The contents of the training were ethics and standards of investigative journalism,

legal aspect of crime reporting, building and cultivating source for investigative reporting etc. Col. Hanif Iqbal, DG, Anti Corruption Commission and Dr. M. Enamul Huq, former IGP and member of Law Commission were also invited as resource persons for the training. Col. Hanif Iqbal spoke about news collection, information gathering and questioning and Dr. M. Enamul Huq discussed on legal aspect on crime reporting.

The Certificate Giving Ceremony for 'Techniques of Investigative Reporting for Print Journalism' was organized by JATRI. The open discussion session was moderated by Mr. Farid Hossain, Bureau Chief, AP. The trainees of the program then shared their experiences about the program. Afterward, Advocate Mr. Shamsul Haque Tuku, the State Minister for Home Affairs spoke before distributing the certificates to the trainees. The event was covered by print media such as The Daily Prothom-Alo, The Daily Samakal. ATN Bangla also telecasted the event in the evening news of the day.

JATRI participated in America Week 2009 held in Rajshahi. During this three-day event thousands of people including His Excellency, the U.S. Ambassador James F. Moriarty and Honorable Minister, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Mr. Ghulam Muhammed Quader visited JATRI stall. Besides that JATRI organized a roundtable discussion in Rajshahi during America Week with the journalists and media professionals of Rajshahi to share their views about JATRI.

JATRI organized its Strategic Planning Meeting on 06 December, 2009 at the JATRI conference room. The meeting was facilitated by Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Director, BBS, BRAC University. Among others, prominent columnist Mr. Zaglul Ahmed Chowdhury, Mr. Shahnoor Wahid, Assistant Editor, The Daily Star, Mr. Ajay Das Gupta, Chief, Editorial Section, The Daily Samakal were present in the meeting.

IGS provided faculty support for the governance component of the training program on RBA-Governance & Advocacy organized by CONCERN- Bangladesh for its project executives at BRAC Inn on 12 December, 2009. The topics covered were Governance: Concept & Issues, Characterization of Governance, Participatory Governance & Social Accountability, and Right to Transparent Governance. Dr. Rizwan Khair, Academic Co-ordinator and Dr. Gopa Kumar K. Thampi, Chief Operating Officer of ANSA at the Institute, Bijan Lal Dev, Deputy Secretary of Government of Bangladesh and Professor Dr. Salahuddin M. Aminuzzaman of Dhaka University, conducted the day-long sessions.