

## MONTHLY UPDATES, JULY 2012

### **Regular classes held in Masters in Governance and Development Program (MAGD)**

The 4th batch MAGD classes restarted from 15 July and running extensively in 2 different modules; 'Learning from People: Methods and Innovations', and 'Lessons in Development'.

### **Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS): Examinations held and Results Published**

The July series examination was held from 16-18 July. Over 30 participants; both from public and private sector participated in this examination. The result of the examination that was held in May was published on July 31. Almost all the participants passed the examination successfully.

### **Certificate Awarding Ceremony on “Environmental Management and Governance” Course**

The students of the fourth Certificate programme on 'Environmental Management and Governance' were awarded with certificates at the Certificate Awarding Ceremony at BRAC University Premises on 4 July. Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Dr. Ainun Nishat distributed certificates amongst the students. Present in the ceremony were Professor Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro- Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Professor ATM Nurul Amin, North South University, Professor C. Emdad Haque, Director of the Natural Resource Institute (NRI), University of Manitoba and Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director, Institute of Governance Studies, BRAC University.



### **Public Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC)**

## 5th District Level Strategic Workshops on Third Party Engagement in Public Procurement



The 5th district level strategic workshop on Third Party Engagement in Public Procurement was held on 10 July at the Conference Room of Hotel Aristocrat in Rajshahi. The purpose of the workshop was to collect inputs from respective stakeholders for developing a strategy on engaging third party in public procurement. A set of recommendations on engaging the third party in public procurement was formulated in the workshop.

A total of 37 participants attended the workshop. They were Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mayors of the respective Pourashovas, representatives from local administrations; LGED, WDB, REB, RHD, Union Parishads, media, NGO and other civil society organisations. The workshop was facilitated by Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manager; Ekram Hossain, Senior Project Officer; Rigan Chakma, Research Assistant and Tanzina Mizan, Programme Assistant.

### Formation of Sub-Committee

A 14-member sub-committee under PPSC project has been formed which will accelerate the development of third party engagement and monitoring strategy. Members of the sub-committee include representatives from Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU), Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), LGED, Roads and Highways Department, Rural Electrification Board (REB), Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC), Bangladesh Association of Construction Industries, Bangladesh Association of Software Industries, BRAC, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Transparency International and IGS.

## Capacity Building for Promoting Governance

### Curriculum Development Workshop on Project Cycle Management

The project “Capacity Building for Promoting Governance” supported by NUFFIC organised a curriculum development workshop on “Project Cycle Management” from 15-19 July which was organised at the International Training Centre (ITC) at the Bangladesh Public Administration Centre (BPATC), Savar, Dhaka.

This training program was designed and conducted by MDF Senior Consultant, Dr. Martin van Asseldonk, Senior Trainer and Consultant, Teun van Dijk and coordinated by staff members of IGS.

### 2nd Working Committee Meeting Held

The project ‘Capacity Building for Promoting Governance’ organised its second working committee meeting on 23 July which was held at BPATC, Savar. The meeting reviewed project implementation status and updated the implementation plan. The meeting was chaired by the Director of BPATC, Mizanur Rahman, Senior Consultant, MDF, Dr. Martin van Asseldonk, Director of IGS, Dr. Rizwan Khair and other working group members from IGS and BPATC.

### Second Training of Trainers under the project “Promoting Democratic Institutions and Practices (PRODIP)”



IGS organised the second Training of the Trainers (ToT) on Strengthening Parliamentary Democracy through Able and Active Civil Society under the PRODIP project from 3-4 July. The training was held at the Conference room at Ascott Hotel, Dhaka. The training is designed to serve the purpose of ToT for PRODIP District Public Policy Reforms (DPPR).

Present in the meeting were Sheela Tasneem Haq, Director, Civil Society Organisation, PRODIP, Asia Foundation, Russell Pepe, Chief of Party, PRODIP, Asia Foundation, Bangladesh, Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director, IGS, Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Consultant, IGS, Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manager, IGS and Farhana Razzaque, Research Associate, IGS. Sheela Tasnim Haq gave the welcoming speech; Russell Pepe delivered a speech at the inaugural session while Munir Uddin Shamim and Farhana Razzaque coordinated the overall session.

### **Activities of the Director**



### **Conference on Governance and Policy**

Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS attended a conference on Governance and Public Policy in South East Asia which was jointly organised by North South University and University of Bergen, Norway in North South University premises from 13-14 July. In that conference he presented a paper titled “Exploring the Impact of Democratic Transition and Bureaucratic Discretion”.

### **Meetings**

On 19 July, Dr. Rizwan Khair attended two meetings. One meeting was at the National Defence College (NDC) to advise the participant researchers on their research papers and another meeting was with the partners of the BEGN project regarding project partnership with University of Manitoba and North South University at North South University premises. The meeting was jointly organised by University of Manitoba and North South University.

On 27 July, Dr. Rizwan Khair had a meeting with Tracey Lane, New Governance Adviser of World Bank, Kenya at IGS.

### **International Conference on Social Work Social Development: Action and Impact 2012**

Jannatul Fardosh, Research Assistant of IGS attended an International Conference titled “Social Work Social Development: Action and Impact 2012” at Stockholm, Sweden from July 8-12. The conference was jointly organised by the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW), International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) and International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW). In the conference she presented a paper titled “Domestic Violence Against Women in Urban Bangladesh: A Case Study”. In her presentation she presented some findings of the major reasons and outcomes of domestic violence against women in Bangladesh.

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



### **Workshops held on “Citizens Involvement in Budget Preparation”**

A number of workshops on ‘Citizens Involvement in Budget Preparation’ were held in different parts of Bangladesh such as Moulovibazar, Jessore, Noakhali, Tangail, Patuakhali and Gaibandha. The purpose of these workshops is to increase citizens’ awareness on preparation and implementation of local and central budget, the rights of people to know about the budget and participate in the decision making processes of the budget. Civil servants including Deputy Commissioner, Superintendent of Police, UNO’s; people’s representatives from Union Councils, Upazila Parishads, civil society members and professional bodies all participated in the workshop.

## Media Roundtable for Budget Journalists



ANSA-SAR and Journalism Training for Research Initiative (JATRI) jointly organised a roundtable on the budget Fiscal Year (FY) 12-13 at JATRI Conference Room on 18 July on the budget set by the government. Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam, Former Finance Adviser to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh and Moazzem Hossain, Editor, Financial Express spoke at the occasion regarding the impact of the new budget that has been set by the government, the responsibilities of financial journalists and the prospects of a career in financial journalism. Many journalists from print and electronic media were present at the event.

### Published Articles

The Daily Star: [Demography: The decider?](#) by M Shahidul Islam and Rubayet Hamid, 08 July 2012

The Daily Star: [Making village court gender-friendly: An indispensable pathway to governance](#) by Munir Uddin Shamim, 21 July 2012

Emerald: [Post -Crisis South Asia: Monetary Management & Macroprudential Regulation](#) by M.Shahidul Islam and Dilip Nachane, 2012

Droho: [Online based article](#) by Munir Uddin Shamim, 29 July 2012