



BRAC Institute of Governance and Development  
BRAC University

# Monthly E-Newsletter

August 2017

BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University and Urban Development Programme (UDP) of BRAC signed an MoU to work on issues related to urban dynamics and challenges in light with achieving SDGs, SENDAI Framework, HABITAT III New Urban Agenda etc. Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, the Executive Director of BIGD and Mr. Asif Saleh, Senior Director-Strategy, Communication and Empowerment, BRAC and BRAC International signed the MoU. Researchers from Urban, Climate Change and Environment (UCCE) cluster of BIGD and BRAC-UDP also attended at the ceremony held on 17 August, 2017 at BIGD.



## BIGD signed MoU with BRAC-UDP

## International Symposium on Women's Labour Market Participation and Gender Norms: The Cases of India and Bangladesh Held

Center for Gender and Social Transformation (CGST), BIGD, BRAC University, in collaboration with British Academy and Manchester University organized an International Symposium on Women's Labour Market Participation and Gender Norms: the Cases of India and Bangladesh on 30 August 2017 at a city hotel in Dhaka.

The Symposium presented findings of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) funded research project on 'Gender norms, labour supply and poverty reduction in comparative context: evidence from rural Bangladesh

and India'. The research examined how poverty programmes have affected peoples' lives in rural Bangladesh and India, focusing on women, work and attitudes to women's work. The study was a collaboration between the University of Manchester, UK, Jawaharlal Nehru University Delhi, India and BRAC Institute of Governance and Development of BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The symposium consisted of three sessions titled Women's Labour Market Participation Trends: Research



Findings, Methodological Innovations for Assessing Labour Force Participation and Labour Market Participation and Changing Gender Norms. BIGD's Executive Director Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman; Dr. Selim Raihan, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Executive Director, SANEM and Dr. A T M Nurul Amin, Chair, Department of Economics and Social Sciences, BRAC University chaired the sessions respectively.

Among others the programme was attended by Dr. Wendy Olsen, Professor of Socio-Economics, Department of Social Statistics, University of Manchester; Ms. Simeen Mahmud, Head, Gender Cluster, BIGD, Mr. Amaresh Dubey, Jawaharlal Nehru

University; Mr. Anup Mishra, Banaras Hindu University; Mr. Santosh Kumar Singh Jawaharlal Nehru University; Ms. Sayema Huq Bidisha, Dhaka University; Ms. Maheen Sultan, Dr. Sohela Nazneen, Adjunct Fellow, BIGD; Ms. Lopita Huq, Research Fellow; Ms. Sahida Khondaker, Research Associate; BIGD.



## BIGD is now the Approved Centre of CIPS



BIGD, BRAC University recently achieved the certificate of approved study centre of The Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS), UK and ranked up from the registered study centre to approved study centre authorized by CIPS. Till now BIGD is the one and only exam centre of CIPS in Bangladesh. BIGD applied for the study centre approval in the year of 2016 and now it has become the approved study centre in Bangladesh for providing Diploma, Advance Diploma and Professional Diploma of CIPS to achieve the MCIPS awarde from Bangladesh. CIPS has a network of almost 100 study centres in the UK, and more than 150 centres worldwide.

After two years as an approved study centre, BIGD will be able to apply for an upgrade to 'Centre of Merit' and following a further two years' continuing demonstration of additional criteria, BIGD will also be able to achieve 'Centre of Excellence'.



## BIGD Research Fellow co-facilitates Article Writing Workshop

BIGD Research Fellow Dr. Shanawez Hossain co-facilitates a workshop on Article Writing for Publication, organized jointly by the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh. The workshop held on Wednesday, 23 August at a city hotel in Dhaka. Dr. Naveeda Khan Professor, from Johns Hopkins University was the main facilitator in the event. Seven professors from different universities of Bangladesh including Dhaka University, Khulna University, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet and University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) also participated in the event.



The aim of the daylong workshop was to discuss and

exchange views on publishing academic papers in journal and books. Beside analyzing and discussing different parts of an academic paper the workshop also shed light on selection of journals for publishing, submitting a paper for publication and process of addressing reviewer's comments. Earlier in 2016, Dr. Hossain completed similar week long Workshop at University of Berkley California organized by AIBS.

## Simeen Mahmud chaired the launching ceremony of Bangladesh Health Watch Report 2016



Ms. Simeen Mahmud, Head of Gender Studies Cluster, and coordinator of Centre for Gender and Social Transformation, BIGD chaired the launching ceremony of the sixth Bangladesh Health Watch Report 2016 titled 'Non-Communicable Diseases in Bangladesh:

Current Scenario and Future Directions' on 10 August 2017 at a hotel in the capital. Mr. Nahin Razzaq MP, member of the parliament standing committee on youth and sports ministry attended the ceremony as the chief guest where Gonoshasthaya Kendra founder Dr. Zafrullah Chowdhury, Mr. Jane Edmondson, Dhaka Office head of United Kingdom's Department for International Development, and Mr. Anders Ohstrom, head of Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, spoke among others at the event.

## Certificate Award Ceremony of Training on Strategic Sourcing in Procurement



Certificate award ceremony for the day-long certificate training on Strategic Sourcing in Procurement held on August 19, 2017 at BIGD. Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, ED of BIGD attended the event and awarded the participants with certificates. 14 participants from BRAC, BRAC University, Embassy of the United States

of America, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Ibna Sina Pharmaceuticals have attended the daylong training on Strategic Sourcing in Procurement. Mr. Mainul Hasan Rumun, MCIPS has conducted the daylong training.

### Executive Director's Activities

BIGD's ED Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman had several meetings in August 2017 with a number of distinguished personalities such as prominent academics, policy makers and researchers regarding the research collaborations and other relevant issues of BIGD.

Dr. Rahman had meetings with Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Chairperson, BRAC; Dr. Nasir Uddin Ahmed, Commissioner, Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) regarding discussion on Money laundering Project; Dr. Zafrul Islam, Lead Procurement Specialist and Mr. Masud Mozammel, Senior Communications Officer of

World Bank regarding Public Procurement Reform Project; Mr. Hasanuzzaman, Outreach Manager, Copenhagen Consensus Centre; Ms. Sufia Askari, Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF); Mr. Peter D'souza, Senior Economic Adviser, Mr. Mashfique Ibane Akbar, Private Sector Development Advisor, Mr. Issam Mosaddeq, Economic Advisor of DFID; and Ms. Rokshana Kader, Additional Secretary and Mr. Ruhul Amin, Joint Secretary, Bangladesh National Nutrition Council (BNNC). He also attended International Growth Centre (IGC)'s quarterly meeting and skype meeting with Mr. Fran Hannan, HR Partner of London School of Economics and Political Science.



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