

November 2016

Divisional Workshops on Government Performance Management System at Sylhet & Mymensingh

BIGD, BRAC University and Cabinet Division, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, jointly hosted two workshops on Government Performance Management System from 7 to 9 November 2016 at the Divisional Commissioner Office, Sylhet. The purpose of the workshops was to orient and train 75 officers from different departments at the district and divisional level on how to design the vision, mission, objectives, and indicator based performance targets in 2016-2017.

2016-2017.

In open discussion and lecture session, participants shared their challenges.

The total number of participants was 25 from 2 districts of Mymensingh division. The trainers are Mr. N. M. Zeaul Alam, Secretary (Coordination & Reforms) Cabinet Division; G.M. Saleh Uddin, Divisional Commissioner, Mymensingh; Md. Kamrul Hasan, Senior Assistant Secretary, Cabinet Division. The



Participants are seen at the Sylhet Divisional workshop (Left) and Mymensingh Divisional workshop (Right)

The trainers were Mr. N. M. Zeaul Alam, Secretary (Coordination & Reforms) Cabinet Division; Md. Jamal Uddin, Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet; Mr. Altaf Hossain Sheikh, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet Division. 75 participants from the 4 districts of Sylhet shared views and opinions at the workshop.

The trainers were Mr. N. M. Zeaul Alam, Secretary (Coordination & Reforms) Cabinet Division; Md. Jamal Uddin, Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet; Mr. Altaf Hossain Sheikh, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet Division. A number of 75 participants from 4 districts of Sylhet shared views and opinions at the workshop.

Similarly, a workshop on Government Performance Management System was held on 19 November 2016 at the Divisional Commissioner Office, Mymensingh. The purpose of this workshop was to orient and train 25 officers from different departments at the district and divisional level on how to design the vision, mission, objectives, and indicator based performance targets in

workshop was running from 9 AM to 5:00 PM of the days consisted with Inaugural, open discussion, lecture on APA, Group work and lastly Presentation of group work with observation of the participants and trainers.

The government has introduced Annual Performance Agreement (APA) at field level offices from 2016-17. APA is a record of the people's mandates which is represented by the Minister and Secretary of the Ministry/Division responsible for implementing this mandate. Moreover, it is a kind of monitoring system to ensure mobility and transparency of the work of the different ministries/divisions in a given process and schedule. Current APA will be based on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) and highly recommended for developing three new components. which are creating a work environment including maintaining hygiene; reform office set up and manage a space for guest room; and form a complaint or opinion center.

BIGD Researcher's Interview screened at 7th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

S. M. Gubair Bin Arafat, Research Associate of BIGD, was invited to participate in the 7th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR7), held on 2-5 November 2016 at New Delhi, India, through an online interview to share his experiences with respect to Ecosystem-based adaptation and the benefits of this approach in reducing risk of disasters to fragile habitats, at-risk species and vulnerable communities. The interview was screened at the side event titled 'Scaling-up Ecosystem-Based Disaster Risk Reduction in Development Planning and Practice in Asia' of the conference, which aimed to highlight the role of healthy ecosystems in preventing disasters and buffering their impact, to discuss successful regional examples of Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR), and explore the way ahead for its large-scale adoption in policies and practice in Asia.

The 7th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk reduction (AMCDRR7) is aimed at shaping the implementation and monitoring of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia.

Visiting Fellow of BIGD attended the roundtable on Multi stakeholder Engagement in Reducing Women's Heavy and Unequal Unpaid Care Work



Maheen Sultan, Meher Afroz Chumki and other participants are seen at the roundtable (From Left)

Maheen Sultan, Visiting Fellow of BIGD attended a roundtable titled Multi Stakeholder Engagement in Reducing Women's Heavy and Unequal Unpaid Care Work held on 15 November 2016 organised by Prothom Alo in association with Oxfam Bangladesh and UKaid. At the roundtable Ms. Maheen Sultan stated that "Anyone can do household work although it has been socially established that only women will do this kind job". She also urged to increase woman's participation at the policy level along with the equal

distribution of household activities between man and woman.

Meher Afroz Chumki, the State Minister for Women and Children Affairs attended the roundtable as the Chief Guest where Abdul Qayyum, Associate Editor of Prothom moderated the event. Among others MB Akhter, Programme Director of Oxfam and Syed Alamgir, Executive Director of ACI also spoke at the event.

BIGD Researchers attended the NGAF seminar

Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, Executive Director; Dr. Shanawez Hossain, Research Fellow and Harun-Or-Rashid, Research Associate of BIGD, BRAC University attended the Seminar on National Governance Assessment Framework (NGAF), held on 16 November 2016, jointly organised by Governance Innovation Unit (GIU) of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and ARENA project of UNDP. The seminar was arranged for giving importance to developing governance assessment framework, report agencies. A wide range of representatives from different ministries and members of the working group

attended the event. PM's International Affairs Adviser Dr Gowher Rizvi was also present at the event. BIGD is one of the working group members with the Department of Public Administration and the Department of Development Studies of the University of Dhaka. As the process of finalising the framework progresses, the aim of organising the workshop is to consult with the field level government and non government stakeholders to get more comprehensive feedback and also to create a sense of ownership among them.

BIGD's Research Fellow attended the NGAF workshop

Dr. Shanawez Hossain, Research Fellow of BIGD, BRAC University attended Divisional workshop of National Governance Assessment Framework (NGAF) held in the Sylhet Circuit House on 2 November 2016, organised by the Governance Innovation Unit (GIU) of the Prime Minister's Office, Bangladesh. The workshop was organised under the NGAF project of the GIU and UNDP, Bangladesh. To assess the governance scenario in Bangladesh under the UN Sustainable Development Goal 16, GIU and UNDP, have joined hands to develop a country contextual National Governance Assessment Framework for Bangladesh. A Working Group has been set up to provide input to the draft framework. BIGD is one of the working group members with the

Department of Public Administration and the Department of Development Studies of the University of Dhaka. As the process of finalising the framework progresses, the aim of organising the workshop is to consult with the field level government and non government stakeholders to get more comprehensive feedback and also to create a sense of ownership among them.

Different government and non government officials, members of the civil society, local government experts and representatives from Department of Development Studies, Dhaka University were present at the workshop.

CIPS Exam held

33 examinees from the public sector and 58 examinee from the private sector have attended the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS) November 2016 series examinations on Level 4 (Diploma in Procurement and supply), Level 5 (Advanced Diploma in Procurement and Supply) and Level- 6 (Professional

Diploma in Procurement and Supply). The examination were held on 14 - 18 November, 2016 at BIGD. As the only examination centre in Bangladesh, BIGD is approved to conduct the CIPS examination five times a year.

Research's other activities

- Lopita Huq, Research Fellow; Kabita Chowdhury, Research Associate; Sufia Khatun, Research Assistant; Sanjida Parvin, Research Assistant visited Sreemongal for Qualitative field work from 10-15 November 2016 under Choice, Constraints and the Gender dynamics of Labour markets in Bangladesh project.
- Simeen Mahmud, Head (Ad Interim) Gender cluster & CGST; Maheen Sultan, Visiting Fellow; Kabita Chowdhury, Research Associate and Nuzhat Sharmeen, Research Associate participated in the Country Level Project Design Workshop under GAGE, organized by BRAC RED at GDLN Center on 8-10 November 2016.
- Maheen Sultan, Visiting Fellow; Kabita Chowdhury and Sahida Khondaker, Research Associates of BIGD attended the Working Group Meeting of PDC Sexual Harassment on 20 November 2016.
- The interview of Dr. Shanawez Hossain, Research Fellow of BIGD was featured in the Website of the Institute for South Asia Studies during Faculty Training held at Subir and Malini Chowdhury Center at the University of California Berkeley.

Paper Presentation/Conference Attended by Researchers

- Maheen Sultan, Visiting Fellow of BIGD attended as speaker of the papers titled '*Zila Parishad Election' and 'Multi stakeholder Engagement in Reducing Women's Heavy and Unequal Unpaid Care Work'* presentation on Views Exchange Meeting organized by Governance Advocacy Forum program at CIRDAP Auditorium, 23 November 2016 at CIRDAP Auditorium.
- Maheen Sultan, Visiting Fellow of BIGD attended in a presentation of the paper on '*Sex Workers' Rights are Human Rights: Psychosocial and Economic Cost of Brothel Eviction in Bangladesh'* in the Roundtable organized MJF and UKAID, 29 November 2016 at CIRDAP Auditorium.
- Simeen Mahmud, Head, Gender cluster & CGST of BIGD attended in the presentation of the paper on '*Education Watch Report 2016'* in the Multi-stakeholder Sharing session on Education Watch 2016 Report (Draft) Literacy, Skills and Lifelong Learning: State of the SDG4 in Bangladesh, 02 November, 2016 at PKSF Conference Room.
- Nuzhat Sharmeen attended the presentation on '*What Does VAWC Look Like at the Ground Level? Results from Four Action Research Studies'* in the program of Research findings presentation by Dr. Sidney Ruth Schuler. BRAC Rooftop, 16 November 2016.

Executive Director's Activities

BIGD Executive Director Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman had several meetings in November 2016 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 meeting with Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Chairman of BRAC; HE Mr. Munir M. Merali, Resident Diplomatic Representative to the People's Republic of Bangladesh of AKDN; Radwan Siddiq, National Consultant of the UNDP- Bangladesh regarding National Governance Assessment Framework (NGAF); Sylvia Bitter, Director, Sharique, HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation Bangladesh; Ashikur Rahman, Senior Economist, Policy Research Institute; Prof. Dr. Selim Raihan, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, Director of BRAC Institute of Languages.

Dr. Rahman along with Prof. Niaz Ahmed Khan and Dr. Shanawez Hossain, Research Fellow of BIGD, also attended meeting with Dr. Mohan Manandhar, senior official from the Government of Nepal about possible areas of collaboration. He also participated in the 63rd Academic Council (AC) meeting, BRAC University and Awards Ceremony of BRAC University. Dr. Rahman also met with the Leader of the Myanmar delegation of the 8th Joint Trade Commission between Bangladesh and Myanmar H.E. Mr. Toe Aung Myint, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce of Myanmar. He also attended the SDC's Board meeting at Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh. Beside these, Dr. Rahman had several skypee meeting with Ana Bellver, Senior Public Management and Governance specialist of the World Bank and Anish Mahta, Senior Advisor of Behavioural Insights Team (BIT).



BRAC Institute of Governance and Development
BRAC University

SK Centre (3rd - 7th Floor), GP, Ja-4, TB Gate
Mohakhali, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh

Tel +88 02 58810306, 58810320, 58810326, Fax: +88 02 8832542
Website: <http://bigd.bracu.ac.bd>



Inspiring Excellence