



IGS
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Research Activities

Launching Ceremony of the First Publication of the "State of Cities" Report

The Institute of Governance Studies of BRAC University launched its new flagship publication the "State of Cities" report on 5 September, 2012 at BRAC University auditorium. The report highlights the state of urban governance in Dhaka City from different dimensions such as history of governance, political economy of Dhaka, political governance of Dhaka, economic governance in terms of transport



The distinguished guests at the launching ceremony of "State of Cities" at the BRAC University Auditorium

sector and the governance of urban service delivery. This initiative was made by IDRC's TTI against to IGS, which allowed IGS to diversify its research activities.

The launching ceremony of this first publication commenced with the welcome address by Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS. The event was chaired by Professor Mohammad Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University. The five panel discussants of the ceremony were Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor, University of Asia Pacific; Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, former Advisor to the Caretaker Government and Executive Chairman, Power and Participation Research Centre; Professor Mohammad Mohabbat Khan, Member, University Grants Commission; Architect Saif Ul Haque; Principal, Saif Ul Haque Architect and Dr. Ishrat Islam, Associate Professor, Department of Urban and Rural Planning, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. Dr. Kaveri Gill, Senior Programme Officer of the International Development Research Centre attended this event along with relevant

academics, governance researchers and other governance experts.

Dissemination Workshop on the Findings of Bangladesh Youth Survey 2011

A dissemination workshop on Bangladesh Youth Survey 2011 Report titled, "Giving Youth A Voice" was held on 9 August 2012 at BRAC Centre Inn. Organized by the Institute of Governance Studies of BRAC University; the workshop was to disseminate the findings obtained from the Bangladesh Youth Survey 2011.

The event was chaired by Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRAC University and Rasheda K. Chowdhury, Executive Director, Campaign for Popular Education and former Advisor to the Caretaker Government was the Chief Guest of the ceremony. Urs Herren, Ambassador of Swiss Embassy in Bangladesh and Stefan Priesner, Country Director of UNDP, Bangladesh were present as special guests.

The findings of the Bangladesh Youth Survey 2011 were presented by IGS researchers Nazmul Arifeen, Fatema Samina Yasmeen, Rigan Chakma,



The distinguished guests at the workshop held on Bangladesh Youth Survey 2011

Syeda Salina Aziz and Research Fellow Dr. Elvira Graner. The presentations followed by a question - answer session from the audience were comprised of the current issues facing youth such as education, employment, youth engagement in community welfare, vocational trainings and others. The workshop was attended by Scholars, policymakers and organisations working for youth development.

Certificate Awarding Ceremony



Seated from right: Dr. Rizwan Khair, Dr. Ainun Nishat, other distinguished guests, IGS staff and students of 'Environmental Management and Governance' course at the certificate award ceremony.

Certificate Award Ceremony of "Environmental Management and Governance" Course

Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Dr. Ainun Nishat, handed over the certificates to the students who passed the third certificate programme of "Environmental Management and

Governance" course. This award ceremony was held on 4 July 2012 at BRAC University. Professor Mohammad 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 were present at the ceremony.

Public Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC)

"How to Engage Citizens in Public Procurement"-5th District Level Workshop Held

The 5th district level strategic workshop on *Engaging Citizens in Public Procurement* organized by Institute of Governance Studies of BRAC University was held on 10 July 2012 in the Conference Room of Hotel Aristocrat in Rajshahi. The purpose of the workshop was to develop a strategy in engaging third party in public procurement. 37 participants including the Additional Deputy Commissioner of Rajshahi, Mayors of some of the municipalities of Rajshahi, representatives from local administrations; Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), Water Development Board (WDB), Rural Electrification Board (REB), Roads and Highways Department (RHD), Union Parishads, National & regional media, Non Government Organisations and other civil society organisations attended the workshop. Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior



participant at the workshop prioritizing the issues related to engaging citizens in public procurement

Programme Manager; Ekram Hossain, Senior Project Officer; Rigan Chakma, Research Assistant and Tanzina Mizan, Programme Assistant facilitated the workshop on behalf of IGS.

Formation of Sub-Committee

In July 2012, a 14-member sub-committee under Public Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC) has been formed to facilitate the development of third party engagement and monitoring strategy for public procurement. Members of the sub-committee include representatives from

Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU), Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), Local Government Engineering Department (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.

Piloting of Third Party Monitoring of Public Procurement

In August 2012, IGS finalised a work plan for piloting third party monitoring of public procurement under the Public Procurement Reform Project-II (PPRP). This work plan was made in accordance with the World Bank review mission. The purpose of the work plan is to assess the feasibility of third party monitoring and acquire experiences from field work to develop a strategy on it. As part of the assignment, IGS organised a meeting at LGED with its representatives who are voluntarily assisting in this mission. IGS team members who will be working in this project are Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Research Associate; Farhana Razzaque, Research Associate; Rubayet Hamid, Research Assistant; Jannatul Fardosh, Research Assistant and Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manager of IGS.

Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with Public Sector Engineers for the PPRP Policy Note

On 15 September 2012, a focus group discussion (FGD) was held at IGS conference room under the Public Procurement Reform Project-II (PPRP). The meeting was organised and conducted by the IGS researchers to learn about the systemic loopholes and the risks of irregularities in the bidding process of public sector procurement from experts and practitioners. Nine public sector engineers from various departments of the government attended this meeting and discussed about the solutions to the problems identified and talked about whether citizen engagement/ third-party monitoring in any stage of the bidding process

can reduce the burdens of systemic loopholes and lessen the risks of irregularities. The discussion was led by Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manager of IGS and simultaneously moderated by two Research Assistants; Sultan Mohammed Zakaria and Nazmul Arifeen.

Visit to Narayanganj on piloting of third party monitoring of public procurement

On 11 September 2012, a five member team comprising of Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manager, Kazi Haque, Senior Research Associate; Farhana Razzaque, Research Associate; Jannatul Fardosh, Research Assistant and Rubayet Hamid, Research Assistant visited the LGED of Narayanganj. The purpose of this visit was to explore feasibility of pilot exercise on third party monitoring of public procurement. During the visit, the team met the representatives from LGED, Narayanganj and explained the purpose and possible process of pilot exercise.

Meeting at LGED headquarters

In September 2012, IGS research team visited LGED headquarters and had a small group meeting with the representatives of participatory small scale water resource project and primary education development project. These two projects have been selected for piloting third party monitoring of public procurement under Public Procurement Reform Project-II of the Ministry of Planning.

Key Informant Interview

As part of developing policy notes on the role of media in promoting citizen engagement in public procurement, 3 key informant interviews (KII) were conducted in September. Respondents of KII included Yasmin Khan, Programme Director and Khadija Bilkis, Deputy Director, Bangladesh Center for Communication Programs and Ajoy Dasgupta of Dainik Shamokal. KIIs were conducted by Farhana Razzaque, Research Associate and Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manager of IGS. The KII focused on exploring inputs from the respondents on problems and prospects related to roles of media in facilitating third party engagement in public

Capacity Building for Promoting Governance Project

Curriculum Development Workshop on Project Cycle Management

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

This training programme was designed and conducted by Netherlands based MDF Senior Consultant, Dr. Martin van Asseldonk, Senior Trainer and Consultant, Teun van Dijk. IGS staff coordinated the training programme and four curriculum team members from IGS attended the workshop.

2nd Working Group Meeting Held

The project ‘Capacity Building for Promoting Governance’ organised its second working group 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 attended the meeting.

Third working group meeting held

Third working group meeting of the project *Capacity Building for Promoting Governance* supported by NUFFIC, was held on 27 September 2012. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Md. Mahmudul Hassan, MDS, Public Administration Training Centre (PATC), Dhaka. Working group members comprised of staff of PATC, staff from IGS and Dr. Martin van Asseldonk, MDF, South Asia. They finalised the second year plan of the project in this meeting.

Paper Presentation/Conferences Attended by IGS Researchers

IGS Researcher Md. Harun-Or-Rashid presented papers in Bangalore and Cambridge

Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, Research Associate of IGS participated in two International Conferences in September. One conference was held at Bangalore, India and another at Cambridge, United Kingdom respectively.

He gave his first presentation in Bangalore, India in the Public Policy and Governance Conference held from 4-6 September, 2012. The title of his paper was, “Institutions of Accountability and Good Governance: An Evaluation of the Anti Corruption Commission in Bangladesh”. The Conference was jointly organised by the Indian Institute of Science, Public Affairs Centre and the International Development Research Centre, IDRC.

His second conference was on “Education, Mobility and Migration: People, Ideas and Resources” which was held from 8-11 September at the Churchill College of the University of Cambridge. The paper that he presented titled, “International Labour Migration and its Effect on Education: A Case Study of the Southern Part of Bangladesh”. This conference was jointly organised by the faculty of Education of the University of Cambridge, British Association for International and Comparative Education (BAICE) and Anglia Ruskin University, United Kingdom.

IGS Researcher Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque presented paper at the National University of Singapore

From 27-28 September 2012, Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque, Senior Research Associate of IGS presented a paper on “Determinants and Dynamics of Diaspora Engagement in Home Country Politics: A Case Study of Bangladesh” at the workshop titled, “Diaspora and Development: South Asian Diaspora Engagement in South Asia”. This workshop was held at the National University of Singapore and it was organised by the Institute of South Asian Studies.

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 (IFSWS). In the conference she presented a paper titled “Domestic Violence Against Women in Urban Bangladesh: A Case Study”. Her presentation concentrated on cause and consequences of domestic violence in Bangladesh.

International Conference On Governance and Public Policy in South and South East Asia

Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS attended a conference on “Governance and Public Policy in South and 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”.

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



From left: Dr. Sanaul Mostafa while Sheela Tasnim Haq gives the welcoming speech

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 of Ascott Hotel, Dhaka. The training is designed to build capacity of PRODIP District Public Policy Reforms (DPPR) members.

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 were present in the inaugural session of the training. The training was conducted by Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Consultant of IGS.

Workshop held at IGS

On 8 August 2012 IGS hosted a workshop on a Dutch project named Medefinancieringsstelsel II. The project has been undertaken in partnership with University of Bath of the United Kingdom. The purpose of the workshop was to present the prospects of the project to the CSOs funded by Dutch donors. Rubayet Hamid, Rigan Chakma, Faiz Ahmed Chowdhury and Mariha Khalid participated in this workshop.

Focus Group Discussions Conducted as part of MFS II Programme



Rigan Chakma conducting FGD in Shatkhira

ANSA-SAR



From Left: Nuzhat Jabin with two South Asian ministers at the 5th South Asia Economic Summit

Affiliated Network for Social Accountability (ANSA-SAR) Fifth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES-V) at Islamabad, Pakistan

From 22-30 September, two researchers, Faiz Ahmed Chowdhury and Rigan Chakma conducted focus group discussions and stakeholder interviews among different NGO activists in Shatkhira and Khulna respectively. This was part of the general evaluation of the Dutch Alliances which fund these NGOs for the implementation for the adherence of MFS II standards.

Partnership with Social Impact (SI), Inc. on Democracy and Governance Programme Evaluation (DGPE)

IGS has entered into a partnership with the Social Impact (SI), for a 4-year period project on Democracy and Governance Programme Evaluation, being implemented by the USAID-Bangladesh. The activities of the project are comprised of a series of evaluative studies. These studies will be conducted to provide guidance to the governance programme of USAID in Bangladesh.

As its first task, the Social Impact Inc. carried out external performance evaluation of Promoting Governance, Accountability, Transparency and Integrity (PROGATI) project in September 2012. Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Research Associate of IGS worked as Governance Expert in this evaluation lead by senior evaluation expert named Dr. Corbin B. Lyday. The other participants were Dr. Owen Lippert and one evaluation expert from Saiful Islam.

Activities of the Director

Dr. Rizwan Khair, the Director of IGS attended the 5th South Asian Economic Summit in Islamabad, Pakistan from 11-13 September 2012 and chaired the panel on "Social Accountability as Catalyst for Inclusive Development in South Asia". He has also conducted classes at the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) on Policy Analysis in Senior Staff Course for Joint

Secretaries and equivalent officers of the armed forces.

Miscellaneous Activities

On 19 July, Dr. Rizwan Khair attended two meetings. One meeting was held at National Defence College (NDC) to advise the participant researchers on their research papers. The other meeting was held 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.

CIPS Examinations held and Results Published

The July series of examinations of The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply was held between 16 to 18 July. Over 30 participants; both from public and private sector participated in this examination. The results of the examination that was held in May was published on July 31. Almost all the participants passed the examination successfully.

IDRC Think Tank Initiative team's visit to IGS

From 6 to 7 September 2012 Dr. Kaveri Gill and Dr. Samar Verma, two representatives of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), visited IGS and had a meeting with all team members regarding their "Terms of Reference" of respective projects for the annual monitoring and evaluation of the utilisation of IDRC Think Tank Fund.

conference regarding Good Governance.

Training Workshop for Community Radio Personnel

A day long orientation training workshop for community radio personnel on *Radio Broadcasting on Budget Issue* was held on 29 September, 2012 at Auditorium Level 3, IDB Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka. The event was supported by ANSA-SAR and organised by the Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC). The event was moderated by Tamjid ur Rahman, CEO, Change Maker, Nuzhat Jabin, Programme Manager, ANSA-SAR, Mostafizur Rahman Khan, Project Officer, ANSA-SAR and Santu Das, Communications Officer, ANSA-SAR. In total 31 community radio personnel including

Chief Executive Officers, Station Managers, Programme Producers, Technical Offices, Programme Presenters and Volunteers of 12 Community Radio Stations participated in the training workshop.

The curriculum of the training workshop was designed to give a clear conception on the online and offline roles and responsibilities of the Community Radio to present the importance of Budgeting to the root level people.

Community Radio programme on “Raising Awareness for Citizens Participation and Engagement in Budget Process” at Chapainawabganj



Nuzhat Jabin (c) and Musthafizur Rahman (second from right) at the mass awareness programme on Citizens' Rights in Budget Decision Making

A three-day community radio programme recording on “Citizens' Involvement in Budget Preparation” took place respectively at Belbari, Gobratola Union Parishad; Ranihati Union Parishad; Upazilla and Zilla Parishad of Chapainawabganj from 31 August to 2 September 2012. The programme was organised by Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC). The ANSA team headed by its Programme Manager Nuzhat Jabin participated in the event.

ANSA-SAR announces partnership with the Indian magazine, “Governance Now”

Naimur Rahman, Chief Operations Officer, ANSA-SAR, announced a partnership with the Indian magazine, “Governance Now”



Trainer conducting the session on the importance of citizens' involvement in budget preparation

on 13 August 2012. The partnership requires hiring four reporters who will spend six months in a rural setting and monitor governance from the grassroots level. These reporters will track and report the progresses of four different flagship projects being implemented by the government in India. This reporting is expected to facilitate the care and speed with which projects are usually implemented by the government.

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 Moulvibazaar, Jessore, Noakhali, Tangail, Patuakhali and Gaibandha. The purpose of these workshops is to increase citizens' awareness on preparation and implementation of local and national 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, UNOs, people's representatives from Union Councils, Upazila Parishads, civil society members and professional bodies participated in the workshop.

Roundtable with Journalists on Budget

ANSA-SAR and Journalism Training

and Research Initiative (JATRI) jointly organised a roundtable on the Budget Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-13 at JATRI Conference Room on 18 July. Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam, Former Finance Adviser to the Caretaker Government 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



ANSA-SAR COO, Naimur Rahman speaking to the media journalists at the roundtable financial journalists and the prospects of a career in financial journalism. Many journalists from print and electronic media were present at the event.

Workshop on Public-Private Partnership for E-Governance Capacity Building in Bangladesh

IGS Institutional Adviser, Barrister Manzoor Hassan, Academic Coordinator Md. Zohurul Islam and Senior Programme Manager Munir Uddin Shamim attended a daylong workshop on public-private partnership for E-Governance capacity building in Bangladesh. The workshop was organised on 13 September 2012 at the International Training Complex of Bangladesh Public Administration Training Center. The representative of Access to Information Programme of the Prime Minister's Office of Bangladesh hosted this programme.

Published Articles by IGS Staff

The Daily Star: [Dhaka's invisible inhabitants](#) by Research Fellow, Ipshita Basu, 18 September 2012

The Daily Star: [Syria: Israel's interest and a strategic double-game of the United States](#) by Sultan Mohammed Zakaria, 15 September 2012

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

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

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

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

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