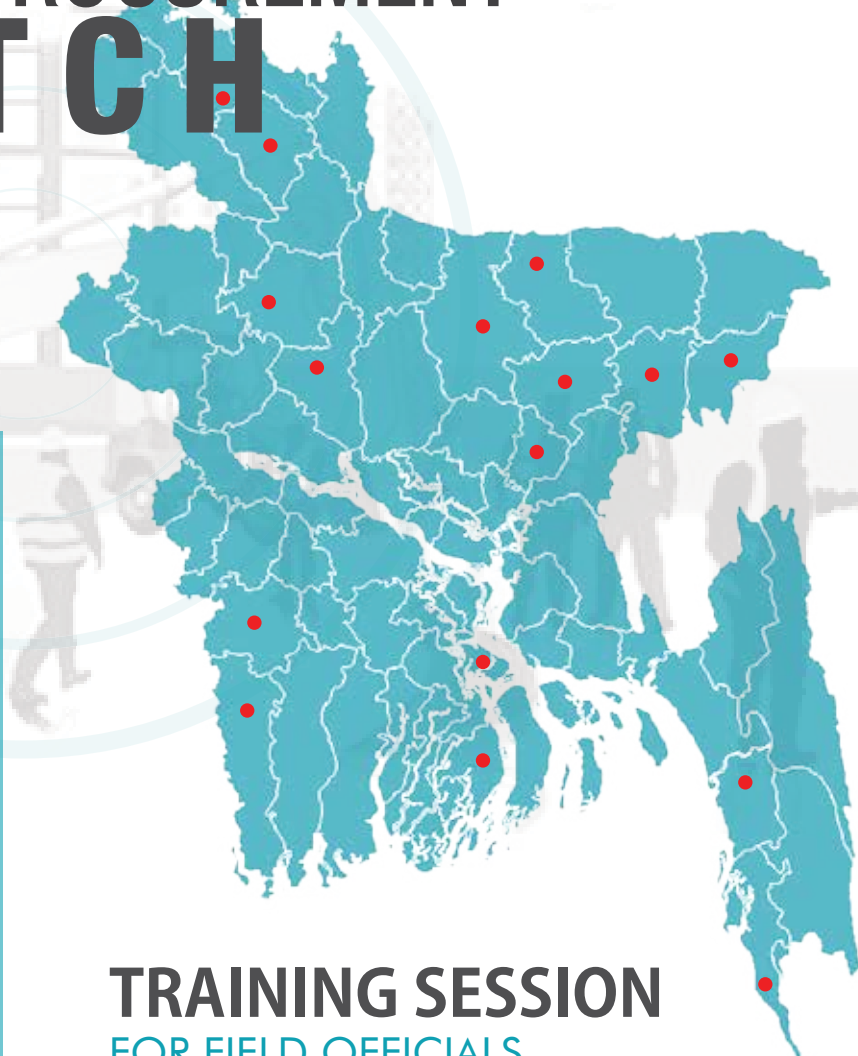




Inspiring Excellence

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# PUBLIC PROCUREMENT WATCH



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## TRAINING SESSION FOR FIELD OFFICIALS

**B**rac Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) held a training session for the field officers appointed for the Citizen Engagement Sub-Component under the Digitizing Implementation Monitoring and Public Procurement Project (DIMAPPP) on 23-24<sup>th</sup> February at Hotel Lakeshore of the capital. BIGD serves as a consultant for the sub-component. Initiated by the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and financed by the World Bank.

The training was conducted by public procurement academics and practitioners from BIGD, Central Procurement and Technical Unit (CPTU), Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) and World Bank. Explaining the idea of citizen engagement and its importance, Shish Haider Chowdhury, Director (Training and Coordination) of CPTU remarked that by reducing corruption in public procurement

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alone, GDP can be increased by 1.2% which will accelerate the current development growth. Kamruzzaman, Senior Procurement Specialist from the World Bank noted that the public procurement policies went through many reformations to date and DIMAPPP is a recent addition to modernize the procurement system of Bangladesh. Dr. Mirza Hassan, Team Leader of CE-Subcomponent, Salina Aziz, Programme Coordinator, Farhana Razzaque, Research Coordinator, Kabita Chowdhury, Communication Specialist and Mahan UI Hoque, Research Associate from BIGD briefed about the theoretical side of public procurement and also spoke about the details of the programme design. Rita Costa, Programme Coordinator from BRAC Community Empowerment Program (CEP), Shafiul Alam, Senior Communications Consultant from CPTU, Shahabuddin, Programme Coordinator from Bangladesh Center for Communications Program (BCCP) talked about their respective involvement and expectation

from the project. The day ended with Q&A session. On the second day, Muhammad Shariful Islam, Senior Assistant Engineer from LGED gave the field officers and audiences a detailed idea about the monitoring process and the measures of good quality work. In the latter session, Mahfuzur Rahman, Manager, M&E from CEP trained the officers on data collection methods and tools. The BIGD researchers ended the training with a lively Q&A session with the field officers regarding site-management and interactions with local community members and site officials. They also gave instructions about organizing meeting, forming citizen committees, reporting and team coordination.

The session ended with insights and recommendations shared by the field officers and speakers.



## BIGD WELCOMES THE NEW DG, CPTU

**B**IGD Team members Syeda Salina Aziz, Programme Manager and Kabita Chowdhury, Communications Specialist of Citizen Engagement Sub-Component, DIMAPPP welcomed the new Director General of CPTU,

Additional Secretary Md Ali Noor at IMED, Planning Division on the 4th March, 2019. Shish Haider Chowdhury, Director, CPTU was also present there. BIGD wishes the DG success in his new endeavors.



## CPTU GIVES E-GP TRAINING TO ETHIOPIAN TEAM

The Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) provided four-day training from March 18-21, 2019 on electronic government procurement (e-GP) to an Ethiopian delegation at CPTU in Dhaka. The nine-member Ethiopian e-GP team received the training from experts at CPTU of Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) under the Ministry of Planning. The team was led by Marta Luwigi, Director General of the Public Procurement and Property Disposal Service. Other members of the team were from Ministry of Finance, National Bank of Ethiopia, Ministry of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopian Road Authority, Public Procurement and Property Administration Agency and the World Bank Ethiopia

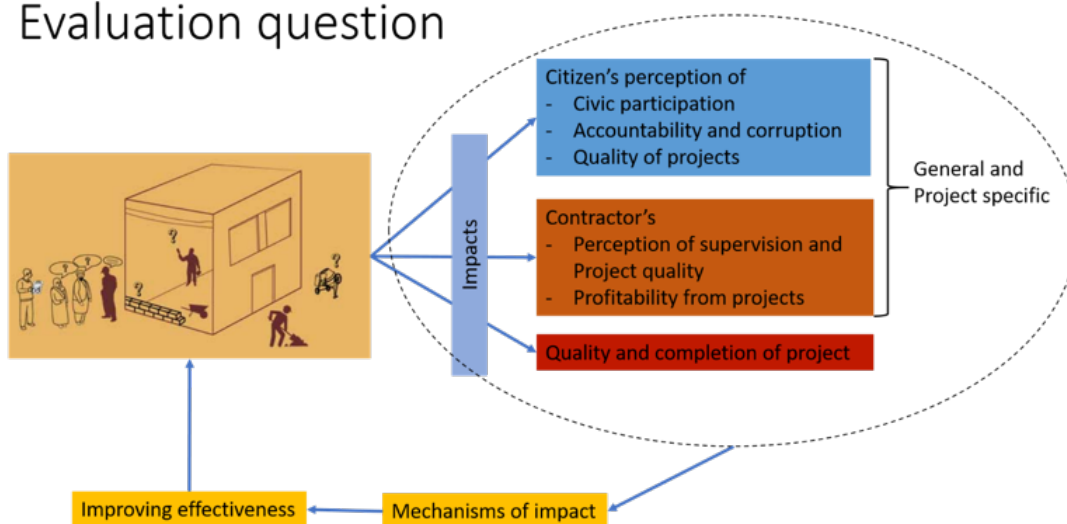
Office. On March 18, 2019 the team met Secretary in Charge of IMED Abul Mansur Md Faizullah at his office. The same day Director General of CPTU Md. Ali Noor chaired a meeting with the team at CPTU. During the period, Senior System Analyst Md Mosharraf Hussain, Senior e-GP Adviser Ashfakul Islam of CPTU, Deputy Team Leader of e-GP Operation and Maintenance Nazmul Islam Bhuiyan and Trainer Hasan Mahmud of Dohatec conducted various sessions on e-GP for the Ethiopian team. On March 21, 2019 the DG of CPTU concluded the training. Earlier, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal, Afghanistan and Zambia visited the CPTU for training on e-GP system.

## BIGD COMPLETED FIRST BASELINE SURVEY

As a part of impact evaluation, BIGD has completed the first baseline in the intervention upazilas from 24th March to 8th April, 2019. The first baseline, was conducted in 16 upazilas and collected information regarding the existing procurement process, quality of the construction work in their locality, their current involvement

regarding monitoring of construction works procured by the government along with the perception regarding citizen engagement in construction monitoring. The survey was conducted among 1600 citizen living adjacent to construction sites and 320 contractors.

### Evaluation question



# COORDINATION MEETING WITH CEP AND BIGD ON DIMAPPP

A coordination meeting between CEP and BIGD took place on 14th March, 2019, to discuss about DIMAPP project. From CEP, members present at the meeting were, Shyam Sundar Saha, PH, CEP and IDP, Palash Kumar Ghosh, PM Operation, Khandaker Fokhrul Alam, Sr. PM, Programme Development and Fund Raising, Mahfuzar Rahman, Manager M&E, and Md Rabiul Islam, Programme Manager, DIMAPPP. And from BIGD, Syeda Salina Aziz, Programme Manager, Kabita Chowdhury, Communication Specialist, Farhana Razzaque,

Research Coordinator, and Md Mahan UI Hoque, Program Associate of DIMAPPP were present. While discussions on monitoring tools and budget and expenditure took place, the meeting mainly acted as a way for both the groups to go through quarterly financial report and update everyone on work progress made so far. The meeting ended after reviewing the annual work plan of 2019 and discussing upcoming quarter work plans.

## FIELD IMPLEMENTATION STARTED IN 16 UPAZILAS

BIGD has started the field implementation from March 2019. All the field officials have been posted to their respective field offices. Initially they visited the local and district LGED officials along with other relevant stakeholders to explain the activities they would be undertaking during the next three years.



Our field Officer Mahbulul Ferdous meets the UNO and Upazila Engineer at Haluaghat Upazila, Mymensingh



Our Field Officer Arifur Rahman meets the Upazila Engineer at LGED office, Bakerganj upazila, Barisal.



Field Officer K. M. Zakaria meets the Executive Engineer at District LGED Office, Sathkhira



Field Officer K. M. Zakaria meets the Executive Engineer at District LGED Office, Sathkhira