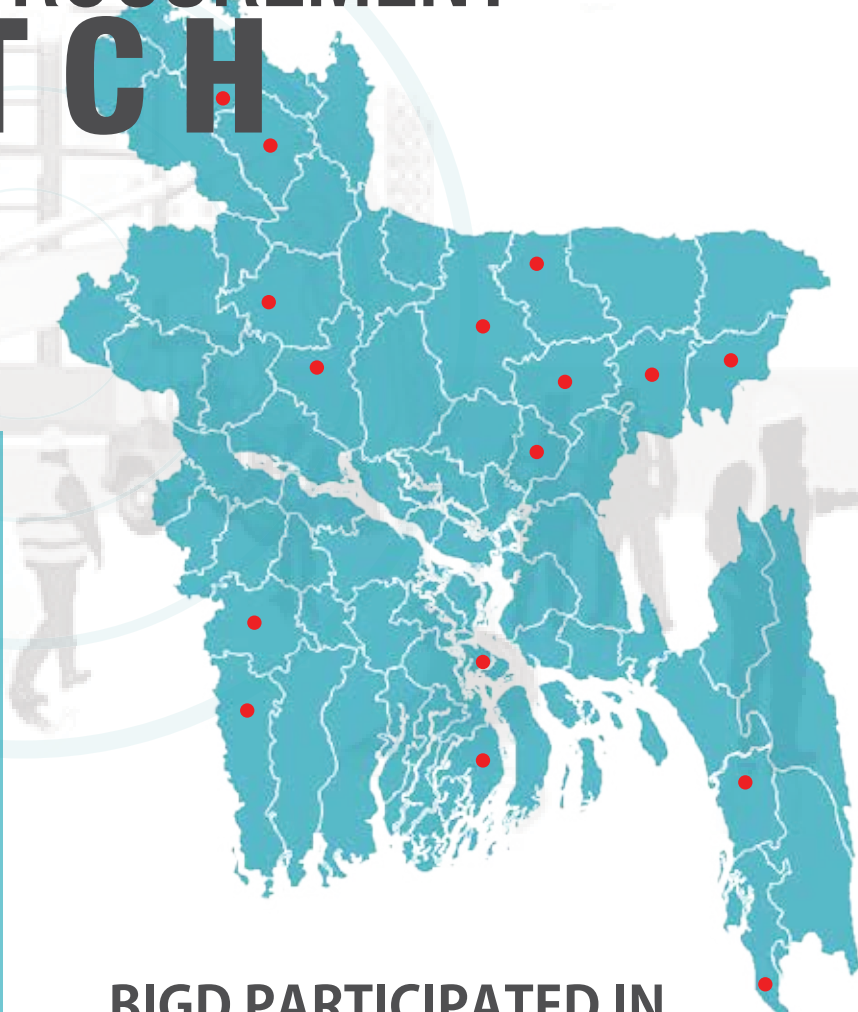




Inspiring Excellence

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# PUBLIC PROCUREMENT WATCH



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## BIGD PARTICIPATED IN THE 4<sup>TH</sup> WORLD BANK PROJECT SUPPORT MISSION OF DIMAPPP

A World Bank team carried out the fourth implementation support review of the Digitizing Implementation Monitoring and Public Procurement Project (DIMAPPP) which took place from April 28<sup>th</sup> to May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019. BIGD participated in the kick off meeting which was held on 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 (Sunday) at 10.30 am in the Conference Room of CPTU, CPTU Bhaban, IMED, Ministry of Planning. In a separate meeting, BIGD presented a detailed update before the mission where BIGD and CPTU officials were present.

In the presentation, BIGD updated the WB team about the activities under the citizen engagement (CE) sub-component including the local level



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**BIGD participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> World Bank Support Mission held between 28 April to 6 May 2019**

citizens' monitoring and national level dialogue under the platform of Public-Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC). BIGD has successfully started site-specific citizen monitoring in 16 of the planned 48 sub-districts covering 8 divisions from April 2019. BIGD has partnered with BRAC Community Empowerment Program (CEP) to implement the sub-component. BIGD and BRAC CEP program appointed 8 Field

Staff each and posted them in 16 districts who have been trained by BIGD. BIGD has also formed citizen monitoring groups and organized orientation sessions for them.

Several other critical issues were also discussed in that meeting.

## 4<sup>th</sup> WORLD BANK SUPPORT MISSION ASK TO EXPEDITE THE IMPLEMENTATION

The Wrap up meeting of fourth implementation support review of the (DIMAPPP) took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at in the Conference Room of CPTU, CPTU Bhaban, IMED, Ministry of Planning. Dr. Zafrul Islam, Lead Procurement Specialist from the World Bank team presented the Aide Memoire before the attendees of the meeting.

The Aid Memoire (AM) summarizes the findings on the status of the project implementation, recommendations, and agreements reached with the relevant agencies to take measures to expedite implementation. Md. Ali Noor, Additional Secretary and Director General, Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU), Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) was the Chair in the Wrap Up meeting. The mission finds that the progress was

moderately satisfactory in view of the implementation of the project.

The review team members visited the citizen engagement activities at Chakoria upazila of Cox's Bazar and Lohagara upazila of Chattogram districts. The team noted with satisfaction that the citizens were actively engaged in the monitoring activities of the construction works. But few suggestions were made, for example, the need for BIGD to develop a check-list in Bangla on the do's and don'ts for the citizen groups in some categories like construction of schools, rural roads, and embankments. BIGD is expected to coordinate and share information with Dnet to be disseminated through the citizen portal.



**BIGD meets the DG at CPTU on the 3rd April 2019**

## BIGD TEAM MEETS THE NEW CPTU DG

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019, BIGD team met Ali Noor, newly appointed Director General of Central Procurement Technical Department, Ministry of Planning to update him regarding the activities taken under the citizen engagement sub-component. The team, led by the Team Leader Dr. Mirza Hassan made a presentation before the

new DG in order to inform him regarding the designs of the program and ongoing work the institute is undertaking as a consultant under the citizen engagement sub-component of DIMAPPP.



Mission's field visit to Cox's Bazar and Chattogram from the 29-30 April 2019

## MISSION FIELD VISIT IN COX'S BAZAR

From 29th to 30th April, 2019, a team consisting of members of CPTU, World Bank, BIGD, CEP, and Dnet went on an elaborate field visit in areas of Lohagara and Chakoria, Cox's Bazar. There they met citizens, officials, construction workers, and group members. and observed construction sites, besides promoting the concept of Citizen Engagement and giving updates on the current state of work.

Soon after reaching Cox's Bazar on 29th April, the team went to meet with the Executive Engineer, Mirza Md. Iftekhar Ali at LGED office. The team explained the future plans of the project and sought his opinion regarding it.

The next day, the team went on a field visit to the construction site of Ringvong Primary school in Dolahazra, Chakoria, where they met Citizen group members, school teachers, school management committee members who were supervising the ongoing work, and the LGED Engineers from Chakoria. In the meeting, Shish Haider Chowdhury, Director of Central Procurement and Technical Unit (CPTU) represented the Government and spoke how Government seeks to engage more people in this and thanked World Bank for their continuous support. Next, Dr. Zafrul Islam, Lead Procurement Specialist, World Bank talked to the local people to understand their involvement in monitoring. Then LGED Upazila Engineer of Chakoria, Kamal Kanti Paul shared the progress made so far. He also added that they explained the locals about the concept and importance of the project. The contractors too expressed their commitment in ensuring the quality of the work and raw materials are well maintained. Lastly, the group members spoke about how much they have learned on the project and its procedures during their orientation. The final destination of the event

was Nijartek Tonkaboti forest office to Kalurambazar Road, Lohagara, where the team met citizen group and general citizen of site area and had a discussion with LGED Engineer of Lohagara, Prati Pada Dewan.

Team members from World Bank Mission team also included Ishtiaq Siddique, Sr. Procurement Specialist, Masud Mozammel, Sr. Communications Officer; ANM Mustafizur Rahman, Sr. Procurement Specialist, Md Kamruzzaman, Procurement Specialist; Shazia Amina Ahmed, Public Policy and Stakeholders Consultant; SM Hafiz Al Mamun, Project Support Consultant and Mahmuda Nusrat Hussain, Team Associate. Members from CPTU and BIGD who had been present and active includes Mohammed Salah Uddin, Deputy Director; Md. Shafiuul Alam, Senior Communication Consultant from Central Procurement and Technical Unit (CPTU); Dr. Mirza M. Hasan, Team Leader, CE component; Syeda Salina Aziz, Program Manager; Kabita Chowdhury, Communication Specialist; Md. Mahan Ul Hoque, Program Associate; and Md. Sarwar Jahan Bhuiyan Field Officer from BIGD, BRAC University. Md. Rabiul Islam, Project Manager, Md. Munna Aziz Upazila Manager from CEP, BRAC and Saidul Islam District Manager, BRAC were also present. ABM Sirajul Hossain Chief Executive Officer, Dnet was also present in the field.

## UPDATES FROM FIELD

Since the inception of project titled “Digitizing Implementation Monitoring and Public Procurement Project (DIMAPPP)” under the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) and Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU), within the span of just 1 year, the project has taken over 16 Upazilas where 39 different projects related to school and road construction have commenced and 18 site meetings

have taken place. 26 groups have already been formed and have engaged 234 citizens.

No. of Upazilas being intervened	16
No. of Projects being monitored	39
No. of site meetings held	39
No. of groups formed	34
No of orientation held	34

## STORIES OF SUCCESS

### HOW CITIZEN MEMBERS ARE ENSURING MAXIMUM QUALITY

**C**itizen engagement in public work already showing improvements in different aspects of public work. Till now, the intervention was limited to roads and building construction. Many complaints were received from different areas of the country regarding use of substandard materials, not maintaining the specific standards regarding construction such as not keeping the walls wet as per requirement, and maintaining the required thickness of foundation etc. All of the complaints had been reported to the respected authorities and ensured that the target and quality are maintained as per requirement from next onwards.

Chalakchor bus stand-to-Belab border road is a 9.5km road that passes through 7 villages. After beginning of work, the construction of quarter meter road got stopped because this part of the road went through a bazar where often rainwater got trapped. When the citizen group member contacted the Upazila engineer expressing the need for the height of the road to be increased, immediately Upazila Engineer

and Assistant Engineer visited the site and ordered the contractor to increase the height.

On 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019, a group member complained that the brick used in the construction of Krishnochandra Government primary School in Kamalganj, MoulaviBazar were not of 1<sup>st</sup> grade quality, which he had found out after testing the brick in the same way he was trained to during orientation by the field officials. Later when more members of the citizen group united at the site, a member demonstrated the test he had done earlier, which further confirmed his statement that the brick was not of good quality. The next day a complaint was made at the LGED office and on 25<sup>th</sup> April when the Upazila sub-assistant engineer was contacted for follow up, he informed them that from next onwards only the best quality of brick will be acceptable.



Citizen monitoring activities at Krishnochandrapur GPS, Kamalganj