



*Institute of Governance Studies*  
*BRAC University*

# **Annual Report**

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## **2012**

## The Institute

The Institute of Governance Studies, BRAC University, conducts both academic and research Programmes on issues of governance in Bangladesh. With the importance given to governance issues in the 21st century donor dialect, BRAC University recognised the need for an exclusive institute which would be able to disseminate knowledge about recent innovations and practices in governance and public policy management among contemporary and future leaders of Bangladesh. With this end in view, the 'Centre for Governance Studies' (which evolved into the 'Institute of Governance Studies' in 2007) was established in 2005.

For Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), the concept of governance is best defined as the sum total of the institutions and processes by which society orders and conducts its collective or common affairs. The Institute responds to this concept of governance by integrating the social sciences and the professional disciplines in its academic Programmes and research agenda. The Institute has been awarded the IDRC Think Tank grant in 2010 by International Development Research Centre, which is a part of an initiative to promote research capacity for public decision-making in developing countries. Since 2006, the Institute has been publishing its flagship publication 'The State of Governance in Bangladesh' report on an annual basis. In 2012, the Institute launched its second flagship publication 'State of Cities' report. In addition to the two Reports, the Institute also publishes policy papers and institutional assessments. The governance approach also integrates the education and training of political leaders and career professionals engaged in the process of formulating and managing public policies.

The core projects that are operating at the Institute are Affiliated Network for Social Accountability (ANSA) — an initiative to promote, strengthen and sustain social accountability knowledge and praxis globally; and Journalism Training and Research Initiative (JATRI) — an intervention aimed at strengthening and expanding the skills of journalists. Recently, two new projects have been launched namely — Capacity Building for Promoting Governance in Bangladesh, which has been undertaken in partnership with Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) with support from The Netherlands Initiative for Capacity Development in Higher Education (NICHE)/NUFFIC; and Bangladesh Youth Survey (BYS), which is a study on youth development and establishment of youth rights in South Asia. In addition to these, IGS works with and provides technical support to various national and international private and public organisations e.g. Asia Foundation, USAID PROGATI, Ministry of Planning, and Anti-Corruption Commission.

## Research

An important facet of the Institute's core mission is to conduct research on governance and disseminate the findings to the public. As such, 2012 was a successful and busy year where the team worked to disseminate this knowledge and to enhance the profile of the Institute both nationally and internationally.

## The State of Governance in Bangladesh Report

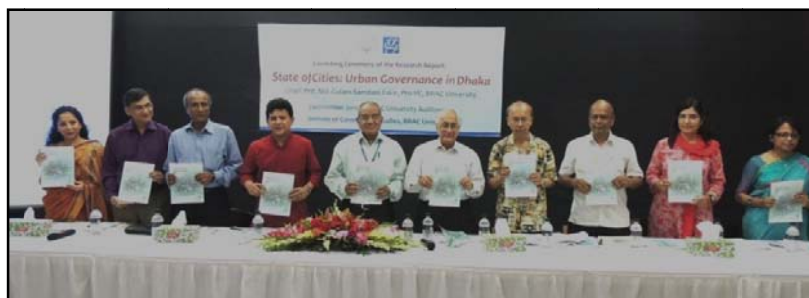


Since 2006, IGS has been publishing an annual report called 'The State of Governance in Bangladesh'. These reports are the only regular publication done by a Bangladeshi institution on the governance outlook of Bangladeshi polity/society. During 2012, the research team of IGS produced the latest issue of its flagship report – 'The State of Governance in

Bangladesh: Policy, Influence, Ownership' 2010-2011. The formal launching ceremony of the publication was held on 21 November 2012 at BRAC Centre Inn. The event was chaired by Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University. The presentation on the key findings of the report was made by M. Shahidul Islam, Research Fellow, IGS. The two panel discussants of the event were Dr. Akbar Ali Khan, Professor, BRAC Business School, and Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Executive Chairman, Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC). Distinguished academics, researchers, experts and practitioners participated in this programme.

## The State of Cities Report

In 2012, IGS launched the 'State of Cities' report as another of its flagship publications. The launching ceremony was held on 5 September, 2012 at BRAC University auditorium. The report highlights the state of urban governance in Dhaka



City in different dimensions such as history, political economy, political governance, economic governance in terms of transport sector, and governance of urban service delivery.

The launching ceremony of this first publication commenced with the welcome address from 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, Executive Chairman, PPRC; Professor Mohammad Mohabbat Khan, Member, University Grants Commission; Architect Saif Ul Haque; 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 IDRC attended this event along with relevant academics, governance researchers and experts.

## Bangladesh Youth Survey Report “Dissemination Workshop”



A dissemination workshop on Bangladesh Youth Survey 2011 Report titled, “Giving Youth A Voice” was held on 9 August 2012 at BRAC Centre Inn. The workshop was organised to disseminate the findings from the Report. The event was chaired by Dr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRAC University. The Chief Guest of the

ceremony was Rasheda K. Chowdhury, Executive Director, Campaign for Popular Education, and Special Guests were Urs Herren, Ambassador of Switzerland in Bangladesh and Stefan Priesner, Country Director of UNDP, Bangladesh. IGS researchers Nazmul Arifeen, Fatema Samina Yasmeen, Rigan Chakma, Syeda Salina Aziz and Research Fellow Dr. Elvira Graner made presentations on the findings of the Bangladesh Youth Survey 2011 Report.

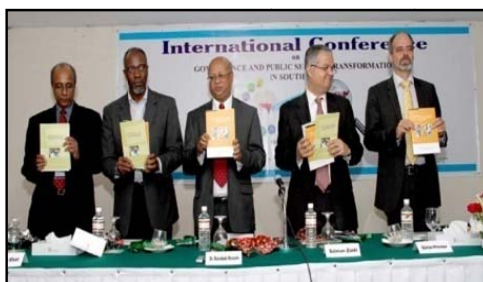
## Conferences of IGS

### Joint Regional Conference on Giving Youth a Voice

In 2012, IGS in collaboration with Colombo University, Sri Lanka organised a Joint Regional Conference at Mount Lavinia, Sri Lanka during March 22-24 titled “Giving Youth a Voice” as a part of the Bangladesh Youth Survey project. Centre for Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), New Delhi; key persons of the Ministry of Youth and Skill Development, Sri Lanka; Department of Youth Affairs, Bhutan; young professionals from United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Pakistan and Bangladesh; and The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Bhutan participated in the conference along with IGS staff, members of Colombo University and other Sri Lankan youth survey federations. 40 scholars presented 23 papers on youth policy matters which were followed by a question and answer session, and exchanges of views and assessments.



### International Conference on Governance and Public Service Transformation in South Asia



IGS and ANSA-SAR in collaboration with UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre and UN Millennium Campaign – Asia & Pacific Region, Public Affairs Centre (PAC) India, Monash University, Australia and North South University, Bangladesh organised a two-day conference (08<sup>th</sup> -09<sup>th</sup> December) at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel for ensuring equitable and inclusive development in South Asia as well as influencing the ongoing international

dialogue on UN Post 2015 Development Agenda. The Inaugural ceremony was attended by Dr. Gowher Rizvi, International Affairs Adviser to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh as the Chief Guest, Stefan Priesner, Country Director, UNDP Bangladesh and Dr. Salman Zaidi, Lead Economist of The World Bank, Bangladesh as distinguished guests. The welcome note was delivered by Programme Manager of ANSA-SAR to the delegates from over 10 countries (Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Egypt, the Philippines, Switzerland, Australia, UK and The Netherlands).

The opening ceremony also saw the unveiling of ANSA-SAR compendia on Social Accountability Experience in India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh in the form of 3 publications. On 09<sup>th</sup> December, the Valedictory of the conference was followed by adoption of the Dhaka Declaration and a press conference. [Please visit: [www.ansa-sar.org](http://www.ansa-sar.org) for details.]

## Public Lectures/Roundtables of IGS

### Public Lecture on ‘The Transformation in the Arab World: Does it Lead to Democracy?’

The Department of Political Science, Dhaka University in collaboration with IGS and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany jointly organised a public lecture on ‘The Transformation in the Arab World: Does it Lead to Democracy?’ at R. C. Mojumder Auditorium in Dhaka University on 22 February.



## Education and Training Programmes

### MA in Governance and Development

The MA in Governance and Development Programme (MAGD) is designed to enhance knowledge and skills of individuals, so that they can acquire necessary skills to confront the complexities of development against the backdrop of increased globalisation. The Programme is particularly useful for mid-career civil servants. It is designed to enable them to perform their duties in a more effective and productive method.

The MAGD is a fully residential one year Programme. The Programme was evaluated in 2006 by the Centre for Governance Studies, University of Leiden in the Netherlands and again by the Beech Grove Associates from London in 2010.

In January 2012, the selection test for the MAGD 4<sup>th</sup> batch students were held, after which 25 candidates were selected for enrolment. The classes for the 4<sup>th</sup> Batch commenced in March 2012 at BRAC Centre for Development Management (BCDM) premises.

### Strategic Management Workshop

A workshop on Strategic Management for the MAGD Programme was held in November 2012 in BCDM, Savar Campus.



## Certificate Programme on Environmental Management and Governance

IGS has been jointly implementing the 'Building Environmental Governance Capacity in Bangladesh' project with North South University in collaboration with the Centre for Natural Resource Studies of the University of Manitoba, Canada. The project has been funded by Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). As part of the project, IGS offers a Certificate Programme on Environmental Management and Governance (EMG).



### Field Visit

In 2012, as part of the Certificate Programme on EMG, students of the 3rd batch of the course went on a daylong field visit to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment on Garment Industry. They visited the M/S. EchoTex Garment Limited, at Chandra in Gazipur on April 5, 2012.

### Certificate Awarding Ceremony



The students of the 3rd batch of Certificate Programme on EMG were awarded with certificates at a ceremony at BRAC University Premises on 4 July. Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Dr. Ainun Nishat, distributed certificates amongst the students.

### Commencement of the 4<sup>th</sup> Batch

The 4th batch of EMG course commenced on 1 October, 2012. A total of 10 students enrolled in this semester.

### The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS)

IGS has been registered with the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) since September 2009 as the first CIPS Study Centre in the South Asia region. IGS became the key partner in delivering CIPS Programme for the component on Institutionalising Capacity Development under the Public Procurement Reform Project (PPRP)-II in 2010. This is a World Bank supported project, which is being implemented by the Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) of the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), the Ministry of Planning of the Bangladesh Government. IGS is now facilitating CIPS' qualification for professionals from both public and private sectors.

## Completion of Graduate Diploma by Cohort-2

16 participants from Cohort-2 of CIPS program successfully completed their Graduate Diploma, Level-6, from the United Kingdom and returned to Bangladesh on 21 May, 2012. Previously, they had completed five modules of Foundation Diploma, Level-4, and five modules of Advanced Diploma, Level-5, from Bangladesh before they left for UK for advanced studies.

## Affiliated Network for Social Accountability-South Asia Region (ANSA-SAR)

The primary objective of ANSA-SAR & Global is to enhance and scale up social accountability and governance initiatives in the South Asia Region and elsewhere, through providing project grants to civil society organisations, giving academic fellowships to young scholars, and building capacities and competencies within both state and civil society institutions. ANSA-SAR & Global are coordinated from the IGS, BRAC University. ANSA-SAR makes provision for Social Accountability which refers to the ways and means in which citizens can hold public institutions accountable in terms of delivering public services, improving people's welfare, and protecting people's rights and entitlements. Funded by the World Bank Institute, currently there are three regional ANSA hubs – Africa, East Asia Pacific, and South Asia, as well as a Global Seed Fund component to promote ANSA in different regions. The activities of ANSA-SAR are stated below.

### Open Doors 2012 Conference

From 16-18 January a regional conference titled “Open Doors 2012” was held in Manila for Procurement Practitioners in East-Asia Pacific. It will help ANSA in this region to build networking and capacity building and provide all the necessary technical support.

On January 12 both the COO and Project Manager of ANSA-SAR attended a half-day experience sharing workshop organised by Manusher Jonno Foundation, one of ANSA-SAR’s partners. Four partner NGOs as the Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Agrogoti Shangstha, Jagrata Jubo Shangha and Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Services attended the workshop.

### GOPAC Regional Conference



Global Organisation of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC), Bangladesh Chapter and Bangladesh Parliament, jointly organised a South Asia Regional Conference of GOPAC Chapters from 22-23 April in The Westin and in Bangladesh Parliament house in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The Conference discussed relevant issues including GOPAC Global Task Force (GTF), peer to peer learning initiatives and opportunities in the parliamentary oversight. Members of the Parliament of Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, India and Bangladesh, including the team members of ANSA-SAR participated in the conference. Nuzhat Jabin, Program Manager of ANSA-SAR, made a presentation on social accountability tools and how elected representatives can use these tools to fight corruption and increase accountability.

## Meetings and Presentations in Pakistan

From 13-18 February, a partner review meeting was held in Karachi, Pakistan. A stock-taking Roundtable was also held which was attended by 15 organisations based in Islamabad and other neighbouring cities. All the emerging social accountability agenda for South Asia were discussed in this roundtable.

COO Naimur Rahman made a presentation to the World Bank Pakistan Country Office on social accountability and the possible way forward for Pakistan.

## Presentations by Partners

On January 30, Orissa based ANSA-SAR partners namely Sambandh, YSD, Adhar and CDS made presentations on the ANSA-SAR funded Initiatives to World Bank's State Portfolio Review Committee.

## Fifth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES-V) at Islamabad, Pakistan

ANSA-SAR participated in the three day long Fifth South Asia Economic Summit in Islamabad, Pakistan. Over 114 foreign delegates, including ministers from the SAARC countries participated in the summit. Chaired by Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director, IGS, panelists of the session on Social Accountability in the conference deliberated that concept of social accountability needs to be scaled up to the South Asia level for inclusive development, while Programme Manager Nuzhat Jabin spoke on Good Governance.



## Partnership with the Indian magazine, "Governance Now"

Naimur Rahman, COO, ANSA-SAR, announced a partnership with the Indian magazine, "Governance Now" on 13 August 2012. The partnership involves 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 on a regular basis for six months. This reporting is expected to facilitate the care and speed with which projects are usually implemented by the government.

## Launching of Third-Party Monitoring System



On 8 February ANSA-SAR, in collaboration with IGS and Manusher Jonno Foundation, organised an event for the launching of a Third-Party Monitoring system at BRAC Centre Inn. Dr. Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, spoke at the event which was



followed by one and a half day training for Manusher Jonno Foundation on “Tools for Third-Party Monitoring” focusing on “Citizen’s Report Card”. Dr. Prabhakar Kollapudi, Research Officer of Public Affairs Centre, Bangalore, India was the key resource person of the training.

### **Workshop for Communities of Practice on Rights to Information**

From 22-23 January, ANSA-SAR organised a design workshop for the ‘Communities of Practice on Right to Information’ in India. Members of civil society organisations from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal participated in the workshop.

### **Workshop on Communities of Practice on Social Accountability (CoPSA) Tools**

From 29 February to 1 March, a workshop on ‘Communities of Practice on Social Accountability’ tools was organised by Consumer Unity and Trust Society (CUTS). The workshop suggested ways to make an effective online network, usability and effectiveness of the tools and prepared strategic plans for the next year. The workshop was attended by various organisations from Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

### **Workshop on Public Sector Accountability**

ANSA-SAR, JATRI, and White Ribbon Alliance (WRA) jointly organised a workshop on ‘Public Sector Accountability for the fulfillment of Maternal Health Commitments’ on 21 April at JATRI premises in Karwan Bazaar, Dhaka. The workshop was facilitated by Barrister Manzoor Hasan, Adviser of IGS. Nuzhat Jabin, Program Manager of ANSA-SAR made a presentation on the ‘Potentials of using Community Score Card as a means of increasing Public Sector Accountability’ in the workshop.

### **Five Workshops for Journalists on RTI in Dhaka and Jessore**

ANSA-SAR recently organised five separate workshops on the ‘Right to Information’. The participants were journalists of Maasranga and Independent—two popular private television channels; United News of Bangladesh (UNB), a private news agency; New Age, a daily in Dhaka; and Spandan, a popular news daily of Jessore.



The workshops—facilitated by Ralph Frammolino, a media development consultant from USA and Golam Kibria, former senior reporter of the Daily Prothom Alo—was organised in May 12 and between 14-18 June. 20 to 25 reporters and senior journalists attended each of the 1-day workshops held in their own premises.

### **Workshop on Role of Community Radio as a Means for Social Mobilisation**

ANSA-SAR, in collaboration with Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC), hosted a workshop on ‘Role of Community Radio as a Means for Social Mobilisation’, on 16 May at the IDB Conference Room. Representatives of all 14 community radios from all over Bangladesh participated in the event and shared their problems that they usually face and working experiences.

## Workshop held in Kathmandu

ANSA-SAR, the World Bank Institute (WBI) and Programme for Accountability in Nepal (PRAN) jointly hosted a 3 day Regional Knowledge Action workshop on 'Advancing Public Participation and Accountability in the Budget Process' from 4-6 June in Kathmandu, Nepal. Various issues on accountability relating to budget such as social accountability tools in budget analysis, procurement monitoring, performance of service delivery etc. were discussed in the workshop. Members of civil society and government officials from Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan took part in this workshop.

## Workshops on Citizens Involvement in Budget Preparation in Bogra



ANSA-SAR organised two separate day-long workshops in Bogra on 29 and 30 June on 'Citizens Involvement in Budget Preparation' in the two local restaurants. Civil servants including Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police; UNOs; people's representatives from Union Councils, Upazila Parishads

and Municipalities; civil society members including head of different civil society organisations and professional bodies participated in the workshops organised to increase citizens' awareness on preparation and implementation of local and central budget, the rights of the people to know and participate in the decision making processes of budget. The participants were provided with the Citizens Budget Guide Book prepared by ANSA-SAR.

## 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 BNNRC. The training workshop was designed to give a clear conception on the online and offline roles and responsibilities of the Community Radio in presenting the importance of Budgeting to the grass roots level people.

## 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 Moulovibazar, Jessore, Noakhali, Tangail, Patuakhali and Gaibandha. The purpose of these workshops is to increase citizens' awareness on preparation and implementation of local and central budget, the rights of people to know about the budget and participate in the decision making processes of the budget.



Senior civil servants, police officers, people's representatives from Union Councils, Upazila Parishads, civil society members and professional bodies all participated in the workshop.

## Media Roundtable for Budget Journalists

ANSA-SAR and JATRI jointly organised a roundtable on the budget of Fiscal Year (FY) 12-13 set by the government at JATRI Conference Room on 18 July. Dr. Mirza Azizul Islam, Former Finance Adviser to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh and Moazzem Hossain, Editor, Financial Express spoke at the occasion regarding the impact of the new budget, the responsibilities of financial journalists and the prospects of a career in financial journalism. Journalists from print and electronic media were present.

## Meeting on Review of Institutionalisation of Civil Engagement in Development and Implementation of Budget

Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (BNPS) in collaboration with the ANSA held a half-day policy roundtable entitled 'Advancing Public Participation and Accountability in the Budget Process' on 1 October, 2012 at Hotel Ruposhi Bangla, Dhaka. A number of parliament members, government/non-government high officials, representatives from civil society organizations, and journalists attended this policy roundtable. Dr. Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir, the Honorable Minister of Home Affairs of the Government of Bangladesh was present in the roundtable as Chief Guest. The policy roundtable was chaired by Ms. Rokeya Kabir, Executive Director of BNPS. Barrister Manzoor Hasan, Institutional Advisor to IGS moderated the event.

ANSA-SAR organised another meeting on 'Review of Institutionalisation of Civil Engagement in Development and Implementation of Budget' on November 21, 2012 at the conference room of BNPS office. The substantial emphasis on the discussion was given on analysing how budget could be more effective and how to ensure accountability from different sectors. The meeting upheld the series outcome of the previous Policy Roundtable and Meeting with Parliamentarians, Executives and Civil Society representatives held respectively on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October 2012.

## Meeting for Project Consultation in Rangpur

Md. Mustafizur Rahaman, Project Officer, ANSA-SAR attended a consultation meeting arranged by Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) on 24 December 2012 in Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS) conference hall, RDRS Building, Rangpur. RDRS is implementing the ANSA funded project titled 'Scaling up Primary Education and Community Score Card' in 10 schools in Rangpur, Kurigram and Gaibandha districts. It was an experience sharing meeting on the piloting of the project. The meeting ended with some recommendations for policy advocacy on the project deliverables.



On 26 December, Md. Mustafizur Rahman attended the second consultation meeting of the same project in RDRS Office, Kurigram. The meeting was attended by Md. Habibur Rahman, Deputy Commissioner of Kurigram and Md. Saiduzzaman, District Primary Education Officer- Kurigram.

The consultation meeting deliberated on the effective application of community score card (CSC) in measuring the quality of primary education.

### Field visits “Community Radio programme at Chapainawabganj”

A three days 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 presenting the importance of citizens’ rights in budget decision making. The recorded programme filled with lyrics to create awareness of this budget decision making rights will be aired on the 3rd week of September by 14 community radio stations in thirteen districts.

Nuzhat Jabin at the mass awareness programme on ‘Citizens Rights in Budget Decision Making’.

### Feasibility Study in Rajshahi for New Project



ANSA-SAR, supported by PRIP Trust, has taken initiatives to implement the ‘ICT Based Citizens’ Monitoring’ project in urban and rural areas of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) by introducing mobile phone-based E-Governance system through a survey on 11-12 November 2012. To inspect and subsequently strengthen the opportunities of the deliverables of this project, ANSA-SAR Secretariat Programme implementation team comprised of the COO, Programme

Manager and Project Officer visited the project implementation zone on ward no.5 of RCC and Dhankura Union of Poba Upazila (sub-district) under Rajshahi District. The proposed project aimed to improve quality of public services at the local level, both rural and urban, particularly in the water supply & sanitation and community health sectors.

### Capacity Building for Promoting Governance

In 2011, IGS in partnership with Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) initiated a 4-year project with support from the Netherlands Initiative for Capacity Development in Higher Education (NICHE/NUFFIC). Netherlands based MDF Training and Consultancy B.V., the Center for International Cooperation of the VU University of Amsterdam and the Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University, Rotterdam are also partnering in this collaborative intervention. The project aims at building capacity at IGS and BPATC to transform the public sector in Bangladesh to be responsive to the needs of its citizen through competent curriculum designing, training, learning and developing effective sustainable strategy. The year of 2012 also saw a significant amount of activities related to this project.



## Completion of Baseline Study of the Project

During 4-20 January 2012, IGS completed the baseline study of the project 'Capacity Building for Promoting Governance'. The activities comprising the baseline study activities were capacity assessments of trainers' team of IGS and BPATC, of curriculum designer team, and of gender and organisational sustainability. These were carried out through interactive discussions, demonstrations, presentations, self-assessments, self-reflections and peer assessments. The sessions were moderated by Martin Van Asseldonk, Project Coordinator of MDF in consultation with IGS and BPATC representatives.

## Curriculum Development Training at VU University in Amsterdam



On 4-8 June 2012, a four member team of IGS visited Netherlands to attend an in-house Curriculum Development Training at the Centre for International Cooperation of the VU University of

Amsterdam. IGS staff members Syeda Salina Aziz and Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque, both Senior Research Associates; Mohammad Sirajul Islam and Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, Research Associates and another five representatives from the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) attended the training under the project, 'Capacity Building for Promoting Governance'.

## Training of Trainers

A Training of Trainers (ToT) was organised at the Regional Public Administration Training Centre (RPATC) in Dhaka from 17-21 June under 'Capacity Building for Promoting Governance' project. A total of 20 trainers, 10 from IGS and the rest from BPATC attended the programme. The course was designed and facilitated by MDF Director, Ineke Pitts and Senior Trainer and Consultant Dr. Martien Van Asseldonk, and coordinated by M. Arifur Rahman, Deputy Director of BPATC and Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Program Manager of IGS.



## Working Committee Meetings

The first working committee meeting of 'Capacity Building for Promoting Governance' project was organised on 9 April at BPATC, Savar, Dhaka. An action plan for the next year of the project was developed in the meeting and endorsed by the committee. Md. Mahmudul Hassan, MDS of BPATC, Dr. Martin van Asseldonk, Senior Consultant of MDF, Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director, IGS and other working group members from IGS and BPATC attended the meeting. The second and third working committees were also held on 15-19 July and on 27 September 2012 respectively at the same venue.



## Review of IGS Evaluation System

Dr. Martin van Asseldonk of MDF, reviewed the entire training and academic evaluation system of IGS in June. Dr. Martin consulted Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director; Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Program Manager; Md. Zohurul Islam, Academic Coordinator; and Mridha Fuhad Ahmed, Training Manager of IGS in this process.

## Workshop on Project Cycle Management

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

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

## 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 BPATC. The representative of Access to Information Programme of the Prime Minister's Office of Bangladesh hosted this programme.

## Technical Assistance

### Public Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC)

Since October 2009, IGS has been providing technical assistance to the 'Public Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC)' which is constituted under the auspices of the Public Procurement Reform Project-II (PPRP-II). The PPRP-II is being implemented by the IME Division of the Ministry of Planning with technical assistance from the World Bank.

The PPSC has been formed to devise a third party monitoring mechanism for public procurement in Bangladesh. It consists of representatives from academic institutions, business community, think-tanks and civil society organisations along with government officials.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting on Public Private Stakeholders Committee



The 6th PPSC meeting was held on January 4, 2012 at the NEC Conference Room of the Planning Commission Campus in Dhaka. The meeting was chaired by Md. Mozammel Haque Khan, Secretary of IMED, Ministry of Planning. Iqbal Mahmood, Secretary of Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance; Manzoor Hasan, Adviser of the Institute

of Governance Studies, BRAC University and Amulya Kumar Debnath, Director General of Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) were also present.

Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Research Associate of IGS & Begum Mahmuda, Controller (Finance & Accounts) of Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board made presentations in the event.

## **Workshops held on How to Engage Citizens in Public Procurement**

IGS organised four district-level workshops on how to engage citizens in public procurement in Narayanganj, Comilla, Patuakhali and Moulvibazar in April and May, 2012 under PPRP-II. The purpose of the workshops was to formulate a strategy on how to engage citizens in public procurement for ensuring greater transparency and accountability for improving the quality of work. The 5th district level strategic workshop on 'Engaging Citizens in Public Procurement' was held on 10 July in Rajshahi.



## **Formation of Sub-Committee**

In July, 2012 a 14-member sub-committee under PPSC were formed to facilitate the development of third party engagement and monitoring strategy for public procurement. Members of the sub-committee include representatives from CPTU, IMED of Ministry of Planning, 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, IGS finalised a work plan for facilitating third party monitoring of the public procurement exercise under PPRP-II. This work plan was made in accordance of report of 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.

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

On 11 September, a five member team from IGS 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 for piloting of third party monitoring of public procurement

In September, 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. This was part of the technical services provided by IGS. These two projects have been selected for piloting third party monitoring of public procurement under PPRP-II of the Ministry of Planning. 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. 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 procurement.

## Promoting Democratic Institutions and Practices (PRODIP)



In December 2011, IGS signed an agreement with The Asia Foundation (TAF) to provide technical assistance in building capacity of civil society organisations to run policy and practice advocacy. Major technical assistances to be provided by IGS under this contract include advocacy toolkit development, ToT for selected representatives from civil society organisations and publication of the training manual on advocacy.

TAF is implementing a project named Promoting Democratic Institutions and Practices (PRODIP) with financial assistance from USAID. It is a joint initiative of TAF with the State University of New York (SUNY).

In 2012, as a part of this project, IGS prepared a draft advocacy manual on Strengthening Parliamentary Democracy through Able and Active Civil Society. An advocacy training course has been designed for Civil Society Organisation Representatives based on this manual. The first training of the trainers (TOT) on the designed advocacy manual was held from 22-23 February attended by 15 people from different civil society organisations. IGS organised the second ToT under the PRODIP project from 3-4 July at the Conference room of Ascott Hotel, Dhaka.

## Mede financieringsstelsel II (MFS II)

The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs supported Co-Financing System (Medefinancieringsstelsel or 'MFS') is a funding for development interventions project. Under this, MFS II is the 2011-2014 grant framework established to achieve a sustainable reduction in poverty. The Joint Evaluation will assess the impact of the MFS system.

In Bangladesh, MFS II works with over 60 NGOs.

IGS researchers under supervision of a team from University of Bath carried out the baseline



surveys in September/October of 2012 and follow-up surveys are planned for 2014. The IGS team assessed the capacity building of partner organisations in the country.

As part of this project activity, IGS hosted a workshop on 8 August 2012. The purpose of the workshop was to present the prospects of the project to the Dutch donors. IGS also conducted focus group discussions (FGDs) and stakeholder interviews of NGOs at 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 standard.

### **Democracy and Governance Programme Evaluation (DGPE)**

In 2012, IGS entered into a partnership with the Social Impact (SI), for a 4-year long 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 conducted for the guidance of the programme implementation and impacts that are brought out by the project.

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.

### **Wetland Bio Diversity Project (WBRP)**

In 2012, IGS in partnership with C3ER (Centre for Climate Change and Environmental Research) of BRAC University initiated a 1-year project with support from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). The Wetland Biodiversity Rehabilitation Project (WBRP) commissioned by German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) was initiated back in 2009 with an objective to ensure increased vital fresh water fishery habitats and to introduce improved and sustained livelihood of the poor wetland people in the Bera, Santhia and Sujanagar Upazilas of Pabna district. As a part of the project, the IGS/C3ER team was assigned to support the wetland policy reform process titled 'Strengthening Governance in Wetland and Water Bodies Management Policies' together with GIZ, government ministries and other implementing partners. In the year 2012, The Research Team of IGS conducted 2 field visits at Pabna along with critical engagement on policy and project documents for in-depth understanding on wetland management and overall governance mechanism.

### **IGS Supported Bangladesh Inter-Ministerial Study Tour in Sri Lanka**

Research fellow of IGS Elvira Graner participated in a study tour titled 'Wetland Policies and Co-Management' in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. This inter-ministerial Study Tour to Sri Lanka was conducted between 27 November and 3 December 2012. It was jointly organised by WBRP and the Department of Fisheries (DoF), with support from the IGS. The Study Tour had the main aim of improving the understanding of complex policy issues related to the co-management of wetland ecosystems in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. The high level delegation comprised of representatives from four key ministries the Government of Bangladesh namely the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, the Ministry of Land, the Ministry of Environment and Forests, and the Ministry of Water Resources.

Dr. Elvira Graner also attended 3 meetings, 1 policy dialogue, field visits and presentations in connection with the project in Sri Lanka.

### **Participation in Conferences, Workshops, Paper Presentations by IGS Staff**

#### **Presentation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Yunnan- Bangladesh Cooperation Dialogue at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel by IGS Research Coordinator**

From 4-6 January 2012, Research Coordinator of IGS, M. Shahidul Islam made his presentation at the '2<sup>nd</sup> Yunnan-Bangladesh Cooperation Dialogue which was jointly organised by the Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies and Yunnan Development Research Centre, Dhaka on the topic titled 'Boosting Trade Partnership and Strengthening Bangladesh-China Connectivity'. He made another presentation at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel at the Round Table Conference organised by Policy Research Centre titled 'Trade and Commerce in Bangladesh: Challenges Ahead' on 12<sup>th</sup> February.

#### **Presentation in International Conference in International Islamic University, Malaysia**

During 11-13 February, Research Assistant Jannatul Ferdosh gave a presentation on 'Urge of Promising Leadership for Combating the Present Crisis of Muslim World' at an International Conference which was held at the International Islamic University of Malaysia on 'Leadership and Social Changes: Challenges and Future Prospects'.

#### **Presentation at the BRAC Global Learning Meeting 2012**

Salina Aziz, Senior Research Associate and Fatema Samina Yasmin, Research Assistant presented some key findings from the Bangladesh Youth Survey project at the BRAC Global Learning Meeting 2012 held at BRAC Centre for Development Management on 7 February.

#### **Training, Workshop and FGD**

From 22-23 February 2012, Farhana Razzaque, Research Associate of IGS participated in a training program titled 'Strengthening Parliamentary Democracy through Able and Active Civil Society'.

On 23 February Rigan Chakma, Research Assistant, participated in a workshop titled 'Linkage between Climate Change and Migration in Bangladesh' which was organised by Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU).

On 10 and 29 March two focused group discussions were arranged by Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, Research Associate, with the public officials and journalists respectively. This is part of the PPSC project for gathering information from both parties in order to prepare a policy note on 'Role of Media in Engaging Citizen in Public Procurement in Bangladesh'.



## **IGS Researcher Contribution in the News Paper Report**

M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator of IGS, was interviewed by China Daily on China-Bangladesh relations. The interview was titled, 'Silk Route Builds Bridge' which was published in China Daily on 23 March.

## **Lecture on Role of IMF in the Economic Development of Bangladesh**

A group of IGS staff members attended a public lecture on 'Role of International Monetary Fund in the Economic Development of Bangladesh' on 26 April at the Vice Chancellor's office of BRAC University. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Eteri Kvintradze, Resident Representative, and Dr. David Cowen, Mission Chief of IMF in Bangladesh. The session was jointly organised by IGS and the Department of Economics and Social Sciences of BRAC University.

## **Research Coordinator attended The Daily Star Roundtable**

M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator, participated at a roundtable discussion on 'Regional Economic Hub Challenges', as a panelist organised by the Daily Star on 7 April at Chittagong Chamber House.

## **IGS Director attended UGC Workshop**

Dr. Rizwan Khair attended a workshop on 'Curriculum Development' of the University Grants Commission (UGC), for both public and private universities, on 3 June at its premises. The workshop was attended by stakeholders from public and private universities.

## **Research Coordinator attended CIRDAP Seminar**

M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator, participated at a seminar titled 'Banking in Bangladesh: Prospects and Challenges' as a discussant at the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) on 9 June organised by the Policy Research Centre Bangladesh (PRC-BD).

## **Presentation of Youth Survey 2011 Findings**

Dr. Elvira Graner, Research Fellow and Fatema Samina Yasmin, Research Assistant, presented their findings from 'Bangladesh Youth Survey (BYS) 2011' before the senior officials of UNDP, Bangladesh on 10 June at the UNDP office in Dhaka.

## **Paper Presented in International Conference on Social Work Social Development: Action and Impact 2012**

Jannatul Fardosh, Research Assistant, 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 (IFSW). In the conference, she presented a paper titled 'Domestic Violence against Women in Urban Bangladesh: A Case Study'.

## IGS Researcher Presented Papers in Bangalore and Cambridge

Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, Research Associate, participated in two International Conferences in September. One conference was held at Bangalore, India and another at Cambridge, United Kingdom. He gave his first presentation in Bangalore, India on 'Institutions of Accountability and Good Governance: An Evaluation of the Anti Corruption Commission in Bangladesh' in the 'Public Policy and Governance Conference' held from 4-6 September.

The second conference that he participated 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 was on 'International Labour Migration and its Effect on Education: A Case Study of the Southern Part of Bangladesh'.

## IGS Researcher Presented Paper at the National University of Singapore

From 27-28 September 2012, Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque, Senior Research Associate, 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 organised by the Institute of South Asian Studies.

## International Workshop on Controversial Democratic Spaces

Dr. Rizwan Khair attended an International workshop on 'Controversial Democratic Spaces: Land, Environment, and Human Rights in Bangladesh' which was jointly organised by the Department of Law, University of Dhaka and Bielefeld University, Germany on 16 October 2012 at the Dhaka University.

## Presentation of Papers in China and Bangladesh

M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator of IGS, presented two papers in November. On 20 November, 2012, he presented a paper titled, 'Urban Spatial Growth: the Case of Bangladesh' at a policy workshop on 'Bangladesh Urban Dynamics' organised by Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC).

On 29 November, he presented another paper titled, 'China-Bangladesh Economic Cooperation: Focus on Kunming-Chittagong' at the '2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Development of China and Indian Ocean Economies'. It was organised by the Research Institute for Indian Ocean Economies (RIIO), China. The venue of the conference was Empark Grand Hotel situated at Kunming, China.

## IGS Research Coordinator Delivered Lecture at Yunnan University in China



On 27 November 2012, M. Shahidul Islam provided a lecture at the Yunnan University, China. The topic of his lecture was, 'Living with Dragon and Elephant: Bangladesh Perspectives'.

## Presentation of Paper at the University of Groningen, The Netherlands

Sultan Mohammed Zakaria, Research Assistant, participated in an International Conference in the Netherlands on 28-30 November 2012, titled 'Imagining Democracy: Arab Spring, Asian Visions and Western Lessons', which was organised by the Dept. of International Relations, University of Groningen. Mr. Zakaria presented his research paper on 'Arab Spring and Post-conflict Realities: Issues and Challenges in Middle East Democratisation', which was also selected to be published by the University in an edited volume "Imagining Democracy".



## IGS Researchers Presented Papers in an International Conference in Hong Kong

3 researchers of IGS presented papers at the '6<sup>th</sup> Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA) Congress'. The Congress was jointly organised by the Department of Asian and International Studies, and The Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong & Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and Centre for Governance and Citizenship, the Hong Kong Institute of Education. The theme of the Conference was 'Policy and Politics in Changing Asia'. The Congress was held from 30 November-1 December 2012. On 30 November, the event was held at the Hong Kong Institute of Education and on 1 December at the City University, Hong Kong. The researchers of IGS were Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque, Faiz Ahmed Chowdhury and Farhana Razzaque.

## Paper Presentation by IGS Researcher at Dhaka University

Researcher Jannatul Fardosh presented a paper at a Conference titled, 'Urbanization, Sustainability and Governance' at R.C. Mojumder Hall on 5-6 December at the Dhaka University. The presentation topic was 'Access to Water in Urban Poor Settlements: Addressing Crisis through Good Governance' under the panel named 'Urbanization and Governance'. The conference was organised by the Department of Sociology, University of Dhaka.

## IGS Research Team Members attended International Conference in Sri Lanka

The Academic Coordinator and three researchers of IGS presented papers at the '9th International Conference 2012' of NAPSIPAG which took place in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The theme of the Conference was 'Development Challenges in the Asia Pacific: Millennium Development Goals and Beyond'. It took place from 12-14 December 2012 and was organised jointly by Monash University of Australia and NAPSIPAG. The participants of IGS were researchers Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque, Faiz Ahmed Chowdhury and Farhana Razzaque, and Academic Coordinator Dr. Zohurul Islam.

## **IGS Researcher Participated in an International Conference in Paris**

Sultan Mohammed Zakaria, Research Assistant, attended and presented a paper in an International Conference held in Paris, France on 27-28 December 2012. The two-day conference titled 'Business and Social Science Conference: Paris 2012' was organized by Macrotheme Review, a multidisciplinary academic journal published from Paris, France. Mr. Zakaria participated in the 'Policy and Law' session (session 3) and presented his research paper titled 'Middle East democracy: Promise, Prospects and Challenges'. The paper was selected to be published in the journal's upcoming issue.

## **Conference on Governance and Policy**

Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS, attended a conference on 'Governance and Public Policy in South East Asia' which was jointly organised by North South University and University of Bergen, Norway at 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'.

## **5<sup>th</sup> South Asian Economic Summit**

Dr. Rizwan Khair 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' in that conference.

## **Regional Policy Dialogue on Wetlands**

Dr. Elvira Graner, Research Fellow of IGS, presented a paper on "Strengthening Governance in Wetland Management Policies in Bangladesh" at the Regional Policy Dialogue in Colombo, Sri Lanka held on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

## **Journalism Training and Research Initiative (JATRI)**

### **Orientation provided to the Fellows of Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)**

On 21 January, JATRI organised an orientation program for the fellows of CAG which was attended by 6 selected fellows, 3 mentors and representatives from PROGATI. The fellows were requested to present practical knowledge for investigative journalism.

### **Orientation Meeting with the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (OCAG)**

On 23 January, JATRI had a meeting with the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (OCAG) regarding the fellowship programme to encourage journalists and media professionals to create investigative reports on government audit reports in collaboration with PROGATI-USAID.

## Orientation on Meeting Millennium Development Goals (MDG): Role of Policy Makers



On 18 February, JATRI in collaboration with White Ribbon Alliance (WRA) organised an orientation for the female Members of Parliament on advocacy of maternal and newborn health (MNH) initiative and to promote MNH following the efforts taken by WRA. The session was moderated by JATRI Chief, Jamil Ahmed, followed by presentations by WRA on the current scenario and activities that have been conducted to create awareness regarding the issue.

## Orientation for Fellows of JATRI-PIB Fellowship

On 20 February, JATRI organised an orientation for the fellows of JATRI-PIB fellowship 2012 on 'Tobacco Control Issues in Bangladesh', which has been awarded to five journalists from print and electronic media. Associate International Communications Director, Rajika Jayatilaka and Advocacy and Media Coordinator, Bangladesh, Taifur Rahman attended the program along with five fellows and two other mentors.

## Major Threats to Quality Journalism: Global and Bangladesh Context

On 28 February, a seminar was held on 'Major Threats to Quality Journalism: Global and Bangladesh Context'. Executive Director of International Press Institute (IPI), Alison Bethel McKenzie, performed the role of the key note speaker, the CEO and Editor in Chief of Boishakhi Television, Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul performed the role of the Chair, Advisory Editor of the Financial Express, Zaglul Ahmed Chowdhury performed the role of the guest speaker.



## Miscellaneous Activities

### Study Tour "Facilitation of the Study Tour of University of Virginia"

A group of 17 students of the University of Virginia under the guidance of Brad Brown, Associate Professor of the University and Cliff Maxwell, Teaching Assistant visited Bangladesh from 1- 12 January for a study tour titled "Development Practice: Social Enterprises in Bangladesh. IGS facilitated the study





tour. As a part of the tour, the team visited Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industries (BWCCI), Aarong, Grameen Bank, BRAC Microfinance Programme, BRAC Health Programme, BRAC Primary Education Programme, Ayesha Abed Foundation, BRAC Enterprises, USAID Programme, BRAC Dairy and Food Project Programme and BRAC Agricultural Research and Development Center, Srimongal with the assistance of IGS. As part of the program, the team had the privilege of interviewing Nobel Laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus regarding his initiative in microcredit financing.

### **IGS Advisor and Director attended IDRC Meeting in Cape Town**

Barrister Manzoor Hasan, Adviser and Dr. Rizwan Khair, the Director of IGS, attended the Exchange Meeting of Canada-based International Development Research Centre (IDRC) 'Think Tank Initiative' in Cape Town, South Africa from 18-20 June. The meeting was attended by participants, mostly Executive Directors and Key Researchers, from 50 Think Tank grantees of IDRC from across the globe.

### **Publications by IGS Staff**

During 2012, IGS team published following articles and OP-EDs in different academic/research journals and newspapers:

1. Dr. Md. Zohurul Islam and Dr. Rizwan Khair, Academic Coordinator and Director of IGS jointly published an article on "Preparation of E-Government in Bangladesh: An Exploratory Analysis" in Jahangirnagar University Journal of Information Technology, Vol. 1, 2012.
2. Sultan Mohammad Zakaria, Research Assistant of IGS, jointly published an article titled "Trade Policy Reform: Bangladesh's Experience" in Journal of Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies, Vol. 32, No. 2, 2012.
3. Dr. Md. Zohurul Islam, Academic Coordinator of IGS published an article on "Training Module/Curriculum and Training Effectiveness" in World Journal of Social Science, Vol. 2, No. 3, May 2012.
4. An article of Dr. Md. Zohurul Islam, Academic Coordinator, on "Measurement of Training Facilities and Customer Satisfaction: Evidence from BPATC" was accepted for publication in Asian Journal of Management Research, August 2012 issue.
5. Dr. Md. Zohurul Islam published an article on "Impact of training facilities on participants satisfaction: An Analytical Discussion, BPATC" in PROSHIKHON A Journal of Training and Development, BSTD, July 2012.
6. M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator of IGS, published an article on "Post-Crisis South Asia: Monetary Management & Macro-prudential Regulation" in South Asian Journal of Global Business Research, Vol. 1, No-2, July 2012.
7. M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator, published an article on "Low intra-regional trade, rise of bilateral FTAs and the future of South Asia's trade" in the book on the proceedings

of the Fourth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES IV) published by the Center for Policy Dialogue in August/September 2012.

8. M. Shahidul Islam wrote an article on “Unbalanced Growth and Urban Economic Mountains in Bangladesh”, which was published in a book titled Bangladesh Urban Dynamics, Edited by Hossain Zillur Rahman and published by Power and Participation Research Center (PPRC).
9. Farhana Razzaque, Research Associate, wrote an article on “Making Citizen’s Charter effective in Bangladesh” in The Daily Star and the New Age, January 13, 2012.
10. The article of Rubayet Hamid, Research Assistant of IGS on “Children of the City: An Inter-generational Account of Urbanization, Poverty and Child Wellbeing in Dhaka City” was accepted by Economic and Political Weekly for publication.
11. Rubayet Hamid, Research Assistant, wrote an article in The Daily Star, 13 June 2012 issue on “Brining Child Sexual Abuse out from the Closet”.
12. Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Hoque, Senior Research Associate of IGS, published an article on “Giving Youth a Voice: National Youth Policy in South Asian Countries” in The Daily Star on 8 June 2012.
13. Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Hoque, Senior Research Associate, wrote an article on “Rights and Empowerment of South Asian Youth: Reflections from a regional conference” which was published in the Daily Star in its May 12 and 19, 2012 issues.
14. Sultan Mohammed Zakaria, Research Assistant, published an article on “Foiled coup attempt: consolidating democracy is the key” in the Daily Star, 31 January 2012.
15. Sultan Mohammed Zakaria published an article titled “Iran standoff, war of words and the Armageddon” in the Daily Star on 21 January 2012.
16. Sultan Mohammed Zakaria wrote an article on “Imran Khan, an agent of change and our politics” in the Daily Star in its 17 January 2012 issue.
17. Sultan Mohammed Zakaria, Research Assistant of IGS, published an article titled “Awaiting an agent of Change” in the New Age on 8 January 2012.
18. Dr. Elvira Graner, Research Fellow; Syeda Salina Aziz, Senior Research Associate and Fatema Samina Yasmin of IGS wrote an article on “Giving Youth a Voice” in the Daily Star on 27 February 2012.
19. M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator of IGS, published an article on “China-Bangladesh relations: Contemporary convergence” on 25 January 2012 in the Daily Star.
20. M. Shahidul Islam published an article on “Of Youth and Indian elections” in the Daily Star on 20 March 2012.

21. M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator and Rubayet Hamid, Research Assistant of IGS jointly published an article on “Demography: decider?” in the Daily Star, 8 July 2012 issue.
22. Mariha Khalid, Research Assistant and Dr. Ipshita Basu of IGS published an article on “Gender pattern in voting and political participation” in The Daily Star, on 19 January 2012.
23. Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manager of IGS, published an article on “Making village court gender-friendly: An indispensable pathway to governance” in the Daily Star, 21 July 2012 issue.
24. IGS Working paper-1/2012 Farhana Razzaque, Research Associate of IGS, wrote a working paper titled “Citizen’s Charter and Its Effectiveness: A Case Study of Department of Immigration and Passport of Bangladesh”.
25. IGS Working paper-2/2012 Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Hoque, Senior Research Associate of IGS, published a working paper on “The Political Economy of Urban Space in Dhaka City: Accumulation by Dispossession”.
26. IGS Working Paper-3/2012 Faiz Ahmed Chowdhury, Research Associate of IGS, published a working paper on “Climate Change Finance and Governance: Bangladesh Perspectives”.
27. IGS Working paper 4/2012 M. Shahidul Islam, Research Fellow of IGS, and Omar Khaled MR Bashar of BRAC published a working paper on “Internationalization of the Renminbi: Theory and Evidence”.
28. Ipshita Basu, Research Fellow wrote an article on The Daily Star: “Dhaka's invisible inhabitants” on 18 September 2012.
29. Sultan Mohammed Zakaria, Research Assistant wrote an article on The Daily Star: “Syria: Israel's interest and a strategic double-game of the United States” on 15 September 2012
30. Droho: Online based article by Munir Uddin Shamim, 29 July 2012.
31. Emerald: “Post -Crisis South Asia: Monetary Management & Macroprudential Regulation” by M.Shahidul Islam and Dilip Nachane, 2012
32. Munir Uddin Shamim, Senior Programme Manager wrote an article on The Daily Star: “Making village court gender-friendly: An indispensable pathway to governance” on 21 July 2012.
33. M Shahidul Islam and Rubayet Hamid wrote an article on the The Daily Star: Demography: The decider? on 08 July 2012.
34. M. Shahidul Islam wrote an article on The Daily Star: “In Defence of Bangladesh Bank's Independence” on 7 November 2012.
35. M Shahidul Islam and Syeda Salina Aziz wrote an article on The Daily Star: “Expensive power and price adjustment” on 19 December 2012.

36. M. Shahidul Islam and Rubayet Hamid wrote an article on The Daily Star: “Three decades of banking reforms” on 25 December 2012.
37. M Shahidul Islam, Mohammad Nasir Uddin Khan and Syeda Salina Aziz from IGS wrote a Policy note named “Satisfaction Level of Utility Services in Dhaka City: Water, Sanitation, Electricity and Waste Management” in August 2012.
38. Syeda Salina Aziz, Senior Research Associate of IGS, wrote a policy note titled “State of Services in Dhaka: Drinking Water”.
39. Muhammad Sirajul Islam, Research Associate of IGS, wrote a Policy note titled “Improving Transparency in Public Procurement in Bangladesh: Interplay between PPA and RTI Act” in December 2012.

Furthermore, ANSA-SAR based in IGS published the following books/booklets in 2012:

1. Can Community Score Cards Make a Difference—The Case of Bangladesh.
2. Institutionalising the Concept of Social Accountability in Sri Lanka—Opportunities and Challenges.
3. Building a Responsive Governance Ecosystem: Reflections from Selected Social Accountability Experiments in India.
4. Guide to Citizen's Participation in the Budget in Bangladesh (English and Bangla Version).
5. Bangladesh Right to Information Act 2009: At Your Fingertips (Booklet: in English and Bangla Version).



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