





# Vision of the BRAC School of Public Health

"A world where everyone enjoys the maximum potential of health"



## Mission

The mission of the BRAC University James P Grant School of Public Health is to improve health outcomes of populations in disadvantaged areas of the world, with particular focus on the poor and women, through the application of the art and science of public health.

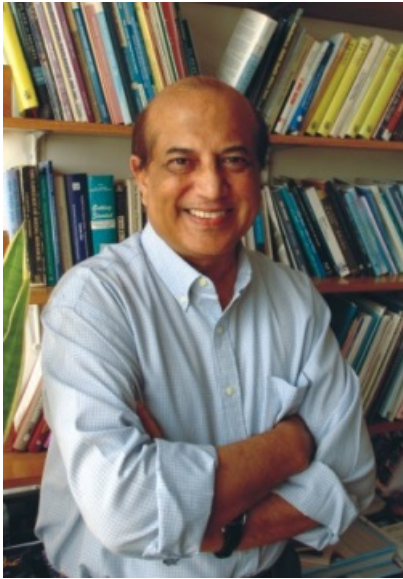


## Goal

The goal of BRAC University James P Grant School of Public Health is to provide public health education, training and research of international excellence relevant to the particular needs of the developing world. The school will:

- Be community-oriented providing experiential learning centred around the public health problems of Bangladeshi communities;
- Emphasise critical, innovative thinking that is rooted in best practice and rigorous research methods;
- Use a multi-disciplinary, inter-sectoral approach to learning and problem-solving;
- Inculcate the values and ethos of its founding and partner institutions (equity, fairness, and concern for the poor, women and disadvantaged).
- Build capacity and prepare individuals to become public health practitioners, critical thinkers, researchers and advocates/stewards of public health and policy at community, district, national and international levels.

## Welcome from the Dean



It is a pleasure bringing to you the report for the academic year 2007-2008 of James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University. The report contains a summary of the history of the School, information on the MPH training programme and the faculty, and activities carried out throughout the period February 2007 to January 2008.

The year 2007 has seen further progress for the BRAC School of Public Health. The graduation of 26 students in December 2007 marked a third year of success of the MPH programme. For the second time in three years, one of the MPH students received the Chancellor's

Gold Medal among all graduate students of BRAC University for scoring the highest CGPA. It is gratifying that we have so far trained 77 students from over 13 countries in these three years. They are now working in governments, national and international NGOs, donor agencies, UN agencies, media, and universities. Three of our graduates have also been awarded PhD funding from institutes of repute. All of this was the result of hard work involving the students and a great number of individuals and organizations in Bangladesh and abroad.

The international composition of both the student body and faculty reflects the state of global inter-dependence and inter-relatedness in health and

disease, and has added a unique dimension to the need to work together to address the world's public health problems. Recent experiences of the impending fear of an avian influenza pandemic are reminders that this is indeed so true. We were also reminded of our duty as a leading public health institution during the devastation of cyclone Sidr that hit the southern belt of the country late last year.

The School promotes not only the art of public health (through teaching) but also the science of it. Research is an integral part of life in the School. Several researches have already been initiated which includes gender, sexuality, TB/DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course) in urban areas, and health equity. A monograph series has started getting published from the School.











The School is very grateful to all individuals and organizations whose contributions made the work reported here possible, and to our students who dared join an experiment that fortunately came to a good end. The School acknowledges with gratitude the financial contributions of the James P Grant Trust, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Government of Bangladesh, UNICEF/Bangladesh, the income from an endowment created with the award received by BRAC/Bangladesh from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, ICDDR,B and BRAC.

We hope you will enjoy reading about our activities and updates from last year. We look forward to 2008 with more hope. With your continued support, we will be able to achieve our aim of creating a centre of excellence in public health.

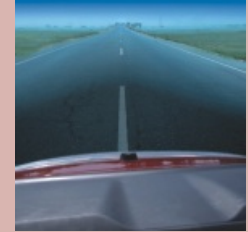
AMR Chowdhury  
Dean, BRAC School of Public Health



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# The Journey of the School

It is a great pleasure to follow your persistent seeking for excellence. It is a great memorial to Jim Grant and we are all delighted with your leadership.

*- Carl Taylor, Professor Emeritus, Johns Hopkins University, USA*

The BRAC MPH programme has greatly enhanced my ability to better incorporate research into practice both in my career as an academic and as a social entrepreneur.

*- Rowan Wagner, MPH, 1st Batch*

## 2007: Introduction and Overview

The James P Grant School of Public Health (popularly known as BRAC School of Public Health or BSPH) at BRAC University was established three years ago. The flagship programme of the School is the Master of Public Health (MPH) course that it's been offering since February 2005. With this batch of 26 students, three batches of 77 students have received their MPH degrees. They came from 14 different countries representing the continents of Asia, Africa, and North and South America. Almost half of them have medical degrees and half are women thus ensuring great diversity. All the graduates of the past three batches are now employed in government, national and international NGO's, UN agencies, and universities. Some of them have started their PhD's in European and North American Universities.

The School is unique in many different ways. The Bulletin of the World Health Organization has featured the School as one of the six schools in the world promoting and practicing innovative higher public health education. The School has earned a name for its emphasis on community-based experiential learning. This has been made possible by the determination to pursue problem-based learning and the very fact that the School was set up by BRAC with active support from ICDDR,B. The access that the School has to BRAC and ICDDR,B and their facilities make it a real unique experience, which is hard to find anywhere else in the world. Its formal links with several of the top schools of Public Health in Europe and America has increased our credibility to a great extent. The links it is creating with several Southern institutes will truly make it an example in South-North and South-South collaborations.

Apart from the MPH programme, the School in the past year has initiated several short courses. In collaboration with the World Bank Institute, the School organized two short courses on health equity. Over 70 participants from the Government, NGOs, donors, universities and the media attended these two courses. This year has also seen the establishment of a formal link with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW). In collaboration with the MOHFW, the School organized two short courses on health sector financing for Upazilla Health and Family Planning officers. All these courses have proved to be highly successful giving the School encouragement to initiate more such courses in the future.

From the outset the School has been promoting not only the art of public health through education but also the science of it. Research is an integral part of life at the School. The School has already initiated several researches projects and many of these are done in collaboration with universities in the North and the South. Through such research, the School faculties are involved in the generation of knowledge the science of public health. The School is trying to promote and nurture research culture in the University, which is unfortunately absent in many of the universities in Bangladesh.

The School's faculty has also been quite productive in terms of research publications. They published several articles in world class journals during 2007. A research monograph series has also been started. This year the BRAC School became a full member of the Asia Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health which is dedicated to improving professional Public Health education in the region.

One of the challenges faced by private universities in Bangladesh is the shortage of trained faculty. The School of Public Health is trying to develop its faculty in different ways. The School was fortunate to be able to attract four non-resident Bangladeshis to join the School. The School also recruited three of its own graduates as lecturers. The ICDDR,B is providing major support in terms of faculty. The School has recently won a European Union grant that will help train its faculty through co-teaching with three European Universities. The School will continue its efforts to recruit new faculty so that its dependence on external faculty is minimized. As of now the School has a team of 7 full time faculty. The BRAC School believes that a major aim of any school of public health should be to work to improve public health, and one of the ways to achieve this is to advocate for good health. A group of civil society institutions in the country has set up the Bangladesh Health Watch and the BRAC School is fortunate to act as the Secretariat for the Watch. The first report of the Bangladesh Health Watch on 'Equity in Health' was published last year. This year's report is looking at the issue of Health Human Resources. The Bangladesh Health Watch has already attracted a lot of attention in Bangladesh and abroad.

Financing of the School remains a challenge, although in recent times the School has seen more success in attracting donor funds. All the research

programmes are well funded by DFID, the Government of Bangladesh, Australian National university, and WHO. The short courses are funded by development partners such as the World Bank and WHO.

The MPH programme is primarily being run with student's contribution through part or full payment of tuition and other expenses, along with a grant from CIDA via ICDDR,B which is providing critical support for the School. BRAC still remains the major contributor directly and through an endowment fund that it created with Gates Award money for the School.

During 2007, the School organized a major international conference on gender and sexuality. Participants from Asia, Europe, Africa and North America attended it. Another major accomplishment in the past year was the creation of an Ethical Review Committee. This is the first ethical committee for any university in Bangladesh.

## Advisory and Governance

The School is advised by an International Advisory Board (IAB). It is governed by the rules and regulations as set by the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh. The names of members of the IAB are given in the box below:

### International Advisory Board

- Prof. Allan Rosenfield, Dean, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University (Chair)
- Dr. Jon Rohde, James P Grant School of Public Health, (Co-Chair)
- Mr. F.H. Abed, Chairperson and Founder of BRAC
- Dr. Richard Cash, Harvard School of Public Health
- Dr. Sadia Chowdhury, World Bank, Washington DC
- Prof. Alejandro Cravioto, Executive Director, ICDDR,B
- Dr. Anwar Islam, James P Grant School of Public Health
- Prof. Patrick Vaughan, Professor Emeritus, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

## What makes the School unique?

The School is unique for many reasons. Some of these are:

- Emphasis on both the *art* and *science* of public health. Apart from the MPH and several short courses, the School faculty is involved in research on important issues that Bangladesh and other low-income countries face.
- *Location* in a developing country providing a 'social laboratory' for teaching and learning.
- *Placement in a development organisation* - BRAC's unique strengths are its ethos and values, its total commitment to help the poor and the disadvantaged, its success in blurring the artificial divide between health and development, in scaling up major health interventions and demonstrating impact, and its vast human, material and infrastructure resources.

### BRAC's contribution to Public Health education at BSPH

BRAC is one of the largest non-governmental organizations in the developing world. Founded in 1972, it has been working for the poor serving a population of over 100 million in all 64 districts in Bangladesh. BRAC's twin objectives are poverty alleviation and empowerment of the poor, especially women. It places special emphasis on providing health and education services, and collateral free loans for income-generating activities. It works closely with other organizations including the government. BRAC firmly believes and is actively involved in promoting human rights, dignity, and gender equity through poor people's social, economic, political and human capacity building. Given that development is a complex process requiring a strong dedication to learning, sharing of knowledge and being responsive to the needs of the poor, BRAC places emphasis on their organisational development, simultaneously engaging itself in the process of capacity building on a national scale to accelerate

progress and improvement for the country's disadvantaged. BRAC is also active overseas with development programmes implemented in several countries including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Tanzania, and Southern Sudan.



*MPH 3rd batch students during their field visit to a BRAC site*

At BSPH, exposure to field situations and people engaged in addressing the problem under study is central to each and every course. A practical problem-oriented teaching is used employing a problem case study approach whenever possible. The course work builds on significant health problems faced in Bangladesh and in other developing countries. The School's close link with BRAC significantly facilitates this approach since BRAC's interventions become the learning laboratory for the students. Field visits to BRAC intervention sites bring to life the theories and concepts that students learn in the classroom.

The School also draws a number of resource people from BRAC as faculty, seminar speakers, and for supervisory support for students' dissertations and joint research projects. BRAC's rich database created from their Monitoring and Evaluation work and other research activities carried on by the Research and Evaluation Division (RED) also offers a wealth of information for the students to conduct analysis. As students graduate from the course, BRAC offers them a relevant ground to apply their skills and knowledge as a promising employer. Many of the students have gone on to work for various divisions at BRAC.

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- *Partnerships* with internationally recognized Schools of public health in the developed world providing it with ready access to the rich academic resources of schools that have been engaged in public health education for decades. Details on academic and research partnership is given below.
- *Emphasis on community-based experiential learning* with the first six months conducted in a rural setting with field exercises illustrating public health in practice. In consultation with BRAC staff and community residents, students apply hands-on learning techniques during the course of their studies in Savar, a rural training centre of BRAC. During the second half of the academic year the students spend time in Dhaka, focusing part of their field activities in urban slum settlements.
- *A diverse student body* drawn from experienced health workers, medical doctors, nurses, social scientists, and other professionals, both in health and development sectors from around the world.

## Partnerships and Academic Links

The School has established functional links with many institutes of repute in Bangladesh and abroad .Some of them are:

- Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, USA
- Centre for Health and Population Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B)
- Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, USA
- George Washington University, USA
- Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard University, USA
- Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

In addition to the BSPH faculty, teaching experts are also drawn from:

- BRAC
- The Centre for Health and Population Research (ICDDR,B),

- Schools of Public Health from USA (Columbia University, Johns Hopkins University, Harvard University, George Washington University, University of Maryland, and University of Illinois at Springfield),
- The Netherlands (University of Amsterdam),
- Sweden (Karolinska Institutet) and,
- The United Kingdom (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)

### Research Links

The School's involvement in various research and collaborative programme activities, funded by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), Research Programme Consortium (RPC), Communicable Diseases (COMDIS), and the European Commission to Bangladesh. These activities have also created linkages with the following local and international partners:

- African Population and Health Research Centre, Kenya
- Association for Social Development (ASD), Islamabad, Pakistan
- Beijing National and Guangxi Provincial Centres for Diseases Control
- BRAC, Bangladesh
- Centre for Health and Population Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B)
- Concerned Women for Family Development (CWFD), Bangladesh
- Department of Clinical Medicine, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda
- EngenderHealth, USA
- INDEPTH Network, Ghana
- Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK
- Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
- Malaria Consortium, UK and Africa
- National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSOM), Bangladesh
- PIACT, Bangladesh
- Population Council, Bangladesh
- School of Medical Sciences, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Ghana
- Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, Kerala, India
- The Australian National University, Australia
- The Good Shepherd Hospital/Lubombo Regional Health Department, Swaziland
- The Health Research and Social Development Forum (HERD), Nepal
- University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

**JAMES P. GRANT  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

BRAC  
UNIVERSITY







# Activity highlights

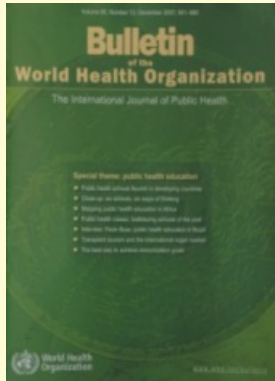
I am delighted with the discussion of BRAC School in the WHO Bulletin, the new short courses, the international workshops, the beginning research activities, the Bangladesh Health Watch and the new recruits.

*- Allan Rosenfield, Dean, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University*

I congratulate all of you associated with this very exciting venture. I am heartened to learn of the progress that you have made and have recommended the School to a number of people.

*- Richard Skolnik, Director, Centre for Global Health at the George Washington University*

## James P Grant School of Public Health Featured in the WHO Bulletin



The widely circulated *Bulletin of the World Health Organization* published a feature on James P Grant School of Public Health in the December 2007 issue. The article states that:

[The School] "is one of a new breed of public health institutions based in a developing country. It offers courses relevant to Bangladesh as well as international public health issues, and attracts students from both developing and developed countries."

## Public Health Schools: Six Portraits

*Adapted from the Bulletin of the World Health Organization/ December 2007, 85 (12)*



The James P Grant School of Public Health was established in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in 2004 by the world's largest nongovernmental development organization, BRAC (formerly the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee), to train future public health managers and leaders. The idea of setting up the School grew out of BRAC's work alleviating poverty in disadvantaged parts of the world, says the School's dean, Professor A M R Chowdhury. He says that the School's goal is to "improve the health of the population by training future leaders in public health". BRAC collaborated with prestigious public health Schools in developed countries, such as Johns Hopkins and Columbia universities to develop the curriculum. Guest

professors from those schools also teach in some of the School's courses. "We wanted to make it a centre of excellence, so we talked to different schools of public health in different parts of the world and launched the [MPH] programme with their help," Chowdhury says. The master's of public health (MPH) programme was launched in February 2005. The course covers diverse topics, including biostatistics and epidemiology, health systems management, health economics, communicable and non-communicable diseases, and lasts for a year. Students spend half of that time learning about the health challenges faced by rural communities in field locations in Bangladesh. This experience also gives students themes and ideas for their final year dissertations. Chowdhury says: "We feel that it is very important that the students are given exposure to real life."

## BSPH Becomes a Member of the Asia Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health

APACPH is a consortium of over 50 public health institutions in 18 countries across the Region. The Vision of the Consortium is to achieve the highest possible level of health of all the people of the nations of the Asia-Pacific region. APACPH aims to enhance Regional capacity to improve the quality of life and to address major public health challenges through the delivery of education, research and population health services by member institutions.

APACPH supports activities that forward its five main objectives:

- (i) To enhance the quality and relevance of educational and training programmes in public health;
- (ii) To expand knowledge, improve skills and demonstrate effective interventions;
- (iii) To raise awareness of current, emerging, and re-emerging public health issues and develop programmes of action for their resolution;
- (iv) To enhance the capacity and sustainability of public health systems;
- (v) To assist in policy and leadership development for health;

APACPH has five Regional Offices, holds an Annual conference on a topical public health issue and publishes the Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Health, the only English language journal of its type in the Region.

## EU-Asia Link Programme



*Building Partnership for Better Health, Group photo at Preparatory Workshop, January 21-23, 2008 Bangladesh*

The BRAC School of Public Health won a competitive grant for capacity building from the European Commission (EC), Brussels, under its EU Asia Link programme. The grant of 749,000 Euro will support some existing activities of the School with its European and Asian partner universities and it will initiate new activities.

## Preparatory Workshop

The main purpose of EU ASIA Link project - Building Partnership for Better Health- is to promote public health education, and to develop and strengthen the capacity of Asian and European partners to deliver relevant public health education in low income countries and to produce trained public health professionals. The School hosted a preparatory workshop in Rajendrapur from January 21-23, 2008 as the first activity for the EU ASIA LINK Programme. Partner institutions, including the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (India), London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (UK), Karolinska Institutet (Sweden), and the University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands), participated in the two day workshop followed

by a field trip to BRAC's microfinance, education, legal, and health projects in Manikgunj. The partners also met with the MPH students in Savar to learn about their experience in the School and thoughts on the dynamics between students coming from different academic trainings.

Other activities that are planned for this three year project include the development of a communication strategy; European faculty teaching at BSPH; junior faculty from Asian partner institutes participating in European PhD training; the promotion of South-South and North-South collaboration through exchange of teachers in specific subjects; building resources, expanding libraries, journals and internet connectivity; developing distance learning in selected subjects; monitoring and evaluating activities through workshops; video conferences; and reports. Robin Heffernan, Research Associate of the James P Grant School of Public Health organized the workshop and coordinates the EU grant at the School. Names of the participants at the workshop are listed in Annex-1.

## International Conference on Gender and Sexuality

The School hosted the International Workshop on Gender and Sexuality on July 28-30 at BRAC Centre in Dhaka. Invited participants were faculty members and researchers of relevant disciplines from many universities within the country, human rights activists, and NGO personnel. A number of international activists, experts and researchers also joined from India, Pakistan, Turkey, Kenya, UK and USA. The purpose of the



*Susie Jolly from IDS presents her paper while Hillary Standing (Director, Realising Rights) chairs the session*

workshop was to generate awareness on gender and sexuality issues, build networks and eventually develop a training curriculum. One output of the workshop was a resource pack with documentation of the workshop with selected presentations as reading materials for teaching or training purposes.

This workshop was organized under the auspices of the Research Programme Consortium (RPC) on Realising Rights: Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health for Poor and Vulnerable Populations which is funded by the Department for International Development (DFID of the UK) from 2005-2010. It includes the following partners: African Population and Health Research Centre, Kenya; BRAC School of Public Health, Bangladesh; EngenderHealth, USA; INDEPTH Network, Ghana; Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK; and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. Among the international representatives from partner organizations at this workshop were Hilary Standing, Director of the Realising Rights RPC, Susie Jolly from the Institute of Development Studies and Chi-Chi Undie, from the African Population and Health Research Centre, Kenya. Dr. Sabina Faiz Rashid from BSPH serves as the coordinator for the RPC in Bangladesh.

## BSPH Holds Writers Workshop



*Participants at the Writer's Workshop with Dr. Omar Khan*

The School organized a Writers' Workshop on January 6 and 7 and January 11 and 12. The participants were mainly MPH alumni and staff from the Research and Evaluation Division (RED), BRAC and ICDDR,B. The workshop was facilitated by instructors who are members of "Writers

Without Borders" from the USA - Dr. Tim Brookes and Dr. Omar Khan. The workshop's aim was to develop writing skills in two areas: writing for academic and professional publications and writing for general-reader publications.

Participants brought their work-in-progress to develop during the workshop with the guidance of the instructors. The venue of the workshop was Niketan at the Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad (BUP). The workshop was coordinated by Drs. Sabina Faiz Rashid, Farah Mahjabeen and Kausar Iqbal of the School of Public Health, BRAC University.

## BSPH Receives Capacity Development Grant from Global Fund and Save the Children, USA

On January 24th, 2008, BSPH signed a contract with Save the Children USA, to receive funds from the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) for the purpose of implementing a package entitled "Building and strengthening the technical and institutional capacities of Government, NGOs, and implementing partners". The School is the lead partner in a consortium with Population Council, PIACT Bangladesh, NIPSOM, and Concerned Women for Family Development (CWFD) and will be responsible for the overall management of the package as well as two of the five assignments under it. The assignments deal with strengthening the capacity of STI network to standardize operational guidelines, strengthening capacity of GFATM implementing partners, strengthening monitoring and reporting capacity and district level coordination. The Government of Bangladesh is the principal recipient; Save the Children USA is the Management Agency and BSPH is the lead agency for this package.



*Signing ceremony of the GFATM funded HIV/AIDS Project*

## Centre for Chronic Diseases

A grant has been received for the establishment of a Centre for Chronic Diseases. ICDDR,B will be the focal contact for the establishment of the Centre. The project is funded by Ovations/National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute Chronic Disease Initiative. BSPH will collaborate with ICDDR,B and the proposed Centre will seek to develop a model for the implementation of research and programmes to combat chronic diseases in Bangladesh that could be replicated in other countries in South Asia and beyond.

## Project for Disseminating Health Information through Cell Phones



*Women in the village using cell phones*

BSPH, in collaboration with a NGO called DIMAGI, based in Boston, USA won an award for a research project on distributing health-related information through cell phones. The World Bank Development Marketplace invited applications from all over the world for innovative projects to compete for grants in 2007. Around 1900 applications were submitted from which 100 were invited

to face the jury at the World Bank Head Office in Washington, DC. Dr. Mizanur Rashid from the School, and Dr. Neal Lesh from DIMAGI, presented a poster in front of the jury to defend the project with the rest of the competitors. This project was one of the twenty two winners from among short listed projects.

This project proposes to develop and test systems to distribute life-improving information over mobile phones. Callers will receive credit for free personal calls if they are able to recall information disseminated through the interactive

audio courses. The strength and weaknesses of this approach will be evaluated and open source tools will be developed for use by the government and NGOs.

## Interns and Visitors at the School

Karen McNamara, a Fulbright Scholar, spent 9 months at the School and carried out research on “Modernizing Medical Practices: Unani and Ayurvedic Pharmaceuticals in Bangladesh”.

Alexandra May, from the Harvard Medical School, came to the School to write up a case on the BRAC DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Short-Course) programme.

Dilnara Isamidinova, from the World Bank, Uzbekistan, participated in the Public Health Nutrition course.

Thomas Kolner, from the University of Leeds, UK, was hosted by the School to conduct a study on “What factors affect Dengue prevention practice behaviours at community level in Bangladesh?” from April to May of 2007.

Nabil Ahmed, from the Johns Hopkins University- Bloomberg School of Public Health, worked as an intern for a period of four months in early 2007 on the Chakaria Reproductive Health Research Programme.

This year, six students from Harvard University came on a visit to BSPH, ICDDR,B, and the Independent University, Bangladesh as part of a programme which is organized annually by Dr. Richard Cash from Harvard University. The students visited various BRAC Health Programmes, Microfinance Schemes, and the Matlab site among several others. This was organized by BSPH in collaboration with the Public Affairs and Communications Department of BRAC. During their visit, the students observed the MPH class and had discussions with the students and faculty to share and exchange ideas and knowledge.

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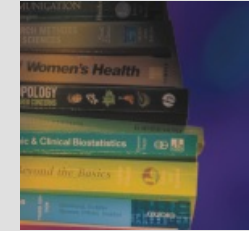
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**The Anthropology of Infectious Disease**  
International Health Perspectives

**The Politics of Women's Health**

TEMPLE

# Academic programmes



I am extremely pleased with the progress of the School and the quality of the education that the students are receiving. The combination of excellent courses and faculty, enriching field experience which is present in all courses and the research project has combined to produce a relevant and high quality MPH. I recommend this to any student interested in public health education be they from the developing or the developed world.

*- Richard Cash, Professor, Harvard University*

Being new to Canada, I was faced with the biggest challenge of finding employment. I had enrolled in a programme for Internationally Trained Medical Doctors (IMDs) and was surprised to find that I was the only person with public health background. I had my MPH credentials assessed here and got equivalency. I am the only person out of the cohort of 25 IMDs with a job now. My School, my teachers and my international friends - all of them contributed to the journey of my life and made it a lot easier.

*- Diana Nelson, MPH 2nd Batch*

## The MPH Programme

Since its commencement in 2005, three batches of 77 participants from 14 countries have now graduated from BRAC School through its Master of Public Health (MPH) programme. In the current academic year there are 12 students from 11 countries of Asia, Africa, Europe and North America and 18 students from Bangladesh. While some of the students from the earlier batches have continued on to doctoral-level studies, most are now back in their own countries and have taken up jobs with various Government, donor agencies, media, and non-governmental organizations. Annex 2 reports where the MPH alumni are currently located and where they are working. The list of profiles of the students from third batch is given in Annex 3. Dr. Shahaduz Zaman, an Associate Professor, serves as the Coordinate of the MPH Programme.

## The Teaching/Learning Approach

The structure of the teaching programme is problem-oriented employing a problem case study approach whenever possible, with a minimum of didactic teaching. Basic knowledge of a subject requires guided reading and thus extensive exposure to relevant literature is provided. The course work builds on significant health problems faced in Bangladesh and similar countries. The problems draw students into problem solving thinking and dialogue with peers. Numerous opportunities for presentation of problem analysis ensure that students are familiar and comfortable with various communication techniques.

Central to each and every course is exposure to field situations and people engaged in addressing the problem under study. Students are introduced to key concepts, scientific basis, social and cultural experience and relevant measurement techniques that underlie each issue to be considered before proceeding with the problem-oriented experiential process in the field. It is this constant interchange between the classroom and field realities that make the BSPH uniquely rich and formative. While guided by qualified faculty and structured programmes, extensive learning occurs from a bottom-up approach to education as students and faculty learn from peripheral development workers and the community.

Course work is modular, allowing for integrated team teaching and reinforcement with relevant field visits and projects. This approach enables visiting expert teaching faculty to provide intensive exposure to students with their expertise over a relatively brief period thereby enabling the School to call on partner institutions to participate in teaching. Teams for each module comprise of an experienced academician, with one or more counterpart teachers from BSPH, relevant adjunct faculty drawn from BRAC, ICDDR,B and other local institutions, and local practitioners of public health and development. Field trips during course work are frequent to local areas. Students work in small groups assuring fluency in language, orientation to culture and regular guidance visits by faculty.

The list of courses is given in Annex 4 and the list of faculty by each course is given in Annex 5.

## New Elective Course Offered at the School

In the academic year 2007-2008, the School offered a new elective course on Monitoring and Evaluation concurrently with the course on Principles of Health Communication. The learning objectives of the course were the following: defining programme evaluation theory and practice; describing the history and evolution of the field of evaluation; describing major evaluation designs and methods, and their appropriate use and application; explaining the importance of evaluation in the current public health environment; describing and applying the steps in conducting programme evaluation, using the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) evaluation framework; explore and applying the four major standards for "good" evaluation and describing the guiding principles for evaluators.

## Student Fieldwork Activities 2007

Fieldwork is a critical and integral component of the MPH programme. The students spent considerable time visiting a number of field sites in both Savar and Dhaka City during their coursework. Students were able to apply their coursework as well link their own experiences during visits to the field sites.



Kakabo village in Savar was one of the most important sites as students spent the first six months visiting households, learning public health in practice and employing qualitative and quantitative methods to improve their understanding of various concepts from medical anthropology, epidemiology and biostatistics courses as well as to gain further knowledge of health problems affecting the village population.

### Field Activities: Experiences from Kakabo



*Map of Birulia Union, where Kakabo village is situated*

In its first three years since the inception of the School, a total of seventy-seven students have visited the local community around the Savar campus. They explored several villages in the nearby Birulia union during the first six months of their programme. During these visits they conducted field exercises in many different set-ups: inside the households, on the roads, under the shades or in tea stalls. These are the places where they learned public health in practice by employing qualitative and quantitative methods to improve their own understanding of various health problems affecting the rural population. Over these six months, apart from collecting data, students also took pictures, exchanged pleasantries, and shared their lives with the villagers. Through such extensive interactions, the community in Savar acted as the "real life" mentor for the public health students.

In July 2007, a study on Kakabo Village was carried out by two former students of the School. The objective of the study was to explore the impression of the community about the students, the expectations of the community about them, the experience of the students with the community, the perceived health and non-health needs of the community, and the suggested solutions to meet such needs.

The findings show that the students were welcomed wherever they went, the villagers were pleased to have conversations with the students, and they felt that talking to the students benefited them in terms of being aware of the problems that surround them.

The students appreciated the positive attitudes of the villagers. The international students described that their visits had made them feel that the problems faced by the community itself were similar across cultures. They compared their findings to that of their home country situations.



*Students interacting with household members in Kakabo*

#### Villagers' Quotes on Students:

"In this village nobody discusses about these issues. When these students discuss these issues, we feel that we learn a lot. They talk about the many problems and we had never thought about these before. But talking to them we feel that these are important problems."



*Students with the women and children of Kakabo*

"They come here to know what we do, to know about our illnesses and problems. Once they came and asked about diarrhoea, they measured our heights and took measurements of weights. They also asked about fever and cold, or if we go anywhere for treatments.... They came here to ask about old people. Sometimes they asked about the food the mothers give to their children. They ask all sorts of questions that we do not think much about."

Students accompanied by faculty also visited different BRAC programmes, including micro-credit, health and education to understand the structure and management activities of BRAC interventions and how they affect health and its social determinants. During the rest of the course, numerous sites were visited in the first and second semesters including urban slums, health facilities, hospital wards, pharmacies, various arsenic intervention sites, and organizations. Some of these sites include:

- Dhaka city urban slums Korail and Shattola
- Upazila Health Complex in Savar
- Pharmacies in Savar
- Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP), Savar & Mirpur
- Gonoshasthaya Kendra (GK) in Savar
- BARACA (Bangladesh Rehabilitation and Assistance Centre for Addicts) in Savar
- Bangladesh Centre for Communications Programmes (BCCP) in Dhaka
- ICDDR,B in Dhaka
- ICDDR,B in Matlab, Chandpur
- Dakhinkhan, Uttara, Dhaka
- Kamalapur slums, Dhaka

### MPH Integration Workshop

A 3-day workshop on Integrating Public Health Skills was conducted by Dr. Jon Rhode and Mr. Cole P Dodge in October 2007. The aim of this workshop was to a) identify essential public health functions and assess competencies, b) review learning objectives of each course and their contribution to the essential public health functions, c) assess skills and competencies needed for jobs, and d) assess essential competencies for research and attributes of a sound research proposal,



*Students engaged in discussion during the integration workshop*

e) review essential information, management, and planning needs for a comprehensive public health intervention. This Integration Workshop will take place annually for MPH students to reflect on the knowledge gained throughout their course-work and field experiences.



*Students engaged in discussion during the integration workshop*

### How the students have fared over the years

In order to rate students' academic performance, they are given distinction, high distinction, and highest distinction, based on their cumulative GPA. A comparison of students' performances for the past three batches shows that most students have earned distinctions and very few students were in the "pass" category. A graph representing number of students receiving distinction over the past three years is in Annex 6, depicting the quality of teaching/learning under the programme.

### Seminar Series

The seminar series is an important part of MPH academic learning. The School organized seminars for students, and invited a series of distinguished speakers working in the area of development. The speakers covered topics such as management problems in public hospitals, health environments, religion and public health, reproductive health and rights of adolescents, and shared experiences with students and faculty throughout the year. A list of seminars hosted by the School is given in the next two pages (listed alphabetically by the speakers).



*Dr. Lincoln Chen speaking at the seminar*

Seminar Topic	Speaker
Occupational Health	Dr. Hasnat ALAMGIR, Scientific Director, Occupational Health & Safety Agency for Health Care, Vancouver, Canada, & Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Health Science, Simon Fraser University Burnaby, Canada
The Human Resources Crossroads for Health: Field and Policy Action	Dr. Lincoln CHEN, Founder and Director, Global Equity Centre, Harvard Kennedy School of Government and President of China Medical Board, New York, US
Public Expenditure Review 2003-04 of the Health Nutrition and Population Sector Programme (HNPP)	Mr. Jamil H CHOWDHURY, Director , Research & Evaluation, Research Training and Management International (RTM International), Bangladesh, and Mr. Nazmul HUQ, Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh
A Public Health Strategy for the Improvement of Maternal and Newborn Health and Survival	Dr. Sadia CHOWDHURY, World Bank, Washington, DC, and Dr. Monir ISLAM, WHO, Geneva
Introduction to Appreciative Inquiry	Ms. Ana COGLAN, Programme Planning and Evaluation Consultant, UNICEF, Dhaka
Helping Correct the 10/90 Gap	Mr. Andres de FRANCISCO, Deputy Executive Director of Global Forum For Health Research
Epidemiology of Sexual Diseases: An Example from Bangladesh	Mr. Shawkat GANI, Researcher (RED), BRAC, Dhaka
Equity Issues In Health	Dr. Davidson R GWATKIN, World Bank Institute, Washington, DC
Cancer Prevention	Dr. MA HANNAN, Deputy Director, Knowledge Creation Programme, Research Portfolio, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Ottawa, Canada and Visiting Professor, University of Wales Institute, Cardiff, UK
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Programme of BRAC	Ms. Tanzeba Ambereen HAQUE, Senior Sector Specialist, BRAC Health Programme, Dhaka
Health Insurance in GK	Reza-ul-HAQUE, Director Rural Health Programme, Gonoshathya Kendra, Dhaka
WHO Leadership in Health Development	Dr. Khaled HASSAN, Medical Officer, Human Resources for Health, Focal Point for Essential Medicines, WHO Bangladesh
Human Rights and Reproductive Health	Dr. Hameeda HOSSAIN, Founder of Ain O Shalish Kendra, Dhaka
Scaling up Malaria Programme of BRAC	Dr. Akramul ISLAM, Programme manager of BRAC Health Programme, Dhaka

Seminar Topic	Speaker
Beyond the Medical Model of Public Health: Understanding Environments of Malnutrition	Dr. David LUDDEN, Professor of Political Economy and Globalization, New York University, New York
Introducing IFIKARA	Mr. Hasan MSHINDA, Director, Ifikara ,Tanzania
National Survey on Childhood Blindness in Bangladesh	Dr. MA MUHIT, International Centre for Eye Health, National Childhood Blindness, Bangladesh
Issues of Global Public Health	Dr. Vic NEUFELD, Professor Emeritus McMaster University, Ontario, Canada
Global Warming and Bangladesh: Its impact and global response to it and climate change trend in Bangladesh and potential impact of sea- level rise in Bangladesh	Dr. Ainun NISHAT, Country Representative International Centre for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Bangladesh
Youth and HIV/AIDS	Mr. Dan ODALLO, Country Coordinator of UNAIDS in Bangladesh
Health Policy Making In Bangladesh	Dr. Ferdous OSMAN, Associate Professor, Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka
Overview of the International Women's Health Coalition	Ms. Supriya PILLAI, Programme Officer, International Women's Health Coalition, New York
Use of Social Marketing Approach in Health Communications for Changing Behaviour for Good	Ms. Perveen RASHEED, Managing Director, Social Marketing Company, Dhaka
The Future of Primary Healthcare	Dr. Susan RIFKIN, London School of Economics and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK
Gender and Health Equity International Challenges	Dr. Hilary STANDING, Social Scientist, Institute of Development Studies and Director of the Realizing Rights Research Consortium, University of Sussex UK
Teaching Strategies and Facilitation Skills using Participation	Dr. Abdo YAZBECK, World Bank Institute, Washington, DC

## Student Seminar Series

Students presented a series of seminars on global and national public health issues in the first semester. The topics were selected from all 17 chapters of the book "Millions Saved: Proven Successes in Global Health" by Ruth Levine and the "What Works Working Group" with Molly Kinder. A list of the seminar presentations by the students is in Annex 7.



*Seminar presentation by Arach Anna Agnes from the MPH 3rd Batch*



*Seminar presentation by Tanvir Ahmed and Sarah Wilbur from the 3rd Batch*

## Student Research Projects

As part of the MPH course, the students each carried out an independent research study for nine weeks at the end of the academic year, conducting primary research on a public health topic of their choice. The purpose of the Independent Study is for the students to demonstrate their ability to synthesize and integrate the full range of MPH knowledge and skills at the end of the course work period through research of a public health problem or programme using both qualitative and quantitative skills.

Topics selected by the students included a wide array of health issues for their exploratory research. Some of the topics explored workplace TB control programme; drug abuse by street children; health micro-insurance; breastfeeding and nutrition; perception towards responsiveness of health workers; leishmaniasis control interventions; menstrual regulation services; mental resiliency in the face of disasters; hygiene and sanitation; obesity and physical activity; community knowledge of malaria; sexuality and sexual behaviour; geriatric population; hypertensive patients; postnatal depression; perception of illnesses; spinal cord injury; children with oral cleft; and the use of mobile phones as a health communication channel. Annex 8 lists the titles of these theses.

## Technical Supervisors

During the independent study of the MPH programme, supervisors specialized in various fields of public health provided technical advice to the students. The School is grateful for their contribution in enhancing the learning experiences of the students. Below is the list of supervisors for the academic year 2007:

- Dr. Abbas Bhuiya, ICDDR,B, Head, Social and Behavioural Sciences Unit
- Dr. Charles P. Larson, ICDDR,B, Director, Health Systems and Infectious Diseases Division (HSID)
- Dr. M. Mustafa Zaman, World Health Organization (WHO), Non Communicable Disease Specialist
- Dr. Manirul Islam, ICDDR,B, Training Physician, Technical Training Unit (TTU)/Epidemiologist
- Dr. Julia Ahmed, Bangladesh Women's Health Coalition (BWHC), Reproductive Health
- Dr. Shams El Arifeen, ICDDR,B, Head, Child Health Unit/ Epidemiologist
- Dr. Stephen Luby, ICDDR,B, Head, Programme on Infectious Diseases and Vaccine Sciences (PIDVS)
- Dr. Tahmeed Ahmed, ICDDR,B, Head, Nutrition Programme,
- Dr. Md. Azharul Islam, ICDDR,B, Head, Short Stay Unit
- Dr. Ana Coghlan, Programme Evaluation Specialist, UNICEF
- Dr. Heidi Johnston, ICDDR,B, Reproductive Health

The School's core faculty and key people from BRAC programmes also acted as Technical Supervisors for the independent studies. Dr. Kaosar Afsana and Dr. Syed Masud Ahmed from BRAC are among the key people who offered their supervisory support for independent studies that were related to their respective programmes.

## Collaboration with Health Care Institutions in Teaching/Learning

During the Health Systems Management, Health Economics and Health Care Financing courses, the MPH students visited several institutions to get a hands-on idea about the management and financial aspects of different public and private health care institutions. The following institutions served as collaborators for such visits:

### Gonoshasthya Kendra (GK)

GK (The People's Health Centre) was established in 1972 by Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury and his colleagues. Working originally in the health field, GK has steadily expanded the scope of its work into additional areas that affect the lives of the majority of rural Bangladeshis in a significant way. These areas include: education; nutrition; agriculture; employment generation; and production of basic medicines; and women's emancipation.

### Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP)

Founded in 1979 in response to the desperate need for services for spinal injured patients, the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP) has developed into an internationally respected organisation. CRP focuses on a holistic approach to rehabilitation, recognising that all aspects of the rehabilitation process are vital for its success.

### Upazila Health Complex (UHC)

UHC is a primary level government health facility situated at the sub-district level, which provides both indoor and outdoor health services. The UHC provides outreach maternal and child health and other family planning services.

### BARACA

BARACA is the Bangladesh Rehabilitation and Assistance Centre for Addicts. It is a therapeutic community situated in Savar to rehabilitate and assist drug addicts in recovery. It is a project of an NGO CARITAS Bangladesh.

### Kamalapur, ICDDR,B

The Kamalapur urban site is a research field project of ICDDR,B located in the southeast quadrant of Dhaka city and has a population of 140,000 (2000 census). It has an integrated research infrastructure that supports a mosaic of research questions designed to identify the most important public-health needs of the emerging urban environment. These research questions may provide new insight in that they are both community-based and urban-centred. The research infrastructure includes: mapping and demographic surveillance (enumeration); active surveillance; clinical services; training; and monitoring and evaluation.

### Recruitment and Orientation of MPH Students 2008-09

A rigorous recruitment process is done for selecting and admitting students for the MPH programme. For International students, short listed candidates are

called for an interview in their home country by the designated BSPH representative and are later contacted to complete the admissions process. For national students, a written test is taken and students qualifying the test are short listed. Short listed candidates are contacted for interviews, and first undergo a group interview followed by individual Interviews.

The admission test for recruitment of the fourth batch of Bangladeshi students was conducted in October 2007. Among 30 selected students, 14 are international, coming from Afghanistan, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Japan, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, USA, and The Netherlands. Half of the students are medical doctors and there is also an equal number of male and female students. The classes for the 4th batch commenced on January 6, 2008.

Orientation for the fourth batch of MPH students was held on 5<sup>th</sup> January at Savar Training and Resource Centre (TARC). The students were introduced to faculty and staff at Savar and for the MPH programme. The Dean, Professors, and other faculty of the School were present on this day.



*Dr. M.R. Shuvra, Lecturer, taking students on a tour of the Savar Campus*

## Continuing Education Programme

In addition to the MPH course, the School has been introducing short courses in different areas as part of its capacity building efforts under the Continuing Education Programme. The short courses are aimed at building capacity of public and private sectors and in improving the allocation of management resources. The target audience is midlevel managers, government officials, project officials from NGOs, and public health functionaries. The courses offered are Health Care Financing; Health Equity; and Health Systems Research and Development.

## Course on Health Care Financing

BSPH organized a short course on "Health Care Financing in Bangladesh: Priority Setting and Budget Control" which was held from November 4-15, 2007 at the Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD), Comilla, under its Continuing Education Programme. The course was supported by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh and World Health Organization, Bangladesh. Dr. Anwar Islam, Professor, BSPH, was the course coordinator along with Mr. Shamim Ahmed (graduate of MPH 2<sup>nd</sup> batch) as the Teaching Assistant. Thirteen Upazila Health & Family Planning Officers from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare attended.



*Certificate presentation to the participating doctors by Dr. Frank Paulin Medical Officer - Public Health, WHO Bangladesh*

This course mainly discussed how financial resources are distributed across various segments of the healthcare system which have significant implications for population health. One of the main components of the course was Demand Side Financing (DSF). The DSF pilot protocol is designed to test and evaluate the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of using vouchers as a way of increasing the demand for quality maternal health services amongst poor women. The overall goal is to create equitable access irrespective of ability to pay for essential maternal services. Participation in the scheme is open to those public, private and NGO service providers that are certified against a set of quality indicators. This course dealt with the dynamics of decision-making in allocation of financial resources for health which will help health managers to deal with issues like DSF efficiently. In short, the fundamental principles of health economics, as well as that of healthcare financing in the context of Bangladesh were discussed throughout the course. Along with discussing the theoretical principles underpinning health economics and healthcare financing, the course also reviewed some of the tools and techniques of financial planning and budget control measures.

Mr. Md. Abdus Salam Khan, Assistant Chief of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare attended the inaugural ceremony of the course. Dr. Frank Paulin, Medical Officer - Public Health, WHO Bangladesh along with Dr. Anwar Islam,

Professor, BRAC University and Mr. Shamim Ahmed, Research Associate, BRAC were present in the Certificate Award Ceremony.

The second course on the same topic was offered from January 6-17 2008. It was held at the BRAC Training and Resource Centre (TARC) in Savar, 50 kilometres from Dhaka. Sixteen Upazila Health & Family Planning Officers attended the course. Dr. Anwar Islam, Professor, BSPH was the course coordinator along with Ms. Sabiha Akhtar as the Teaching Assistant.

## Courses on Health Equity

The School of Public Health and ICDDR, B jointly offered two courses on 'Equity in Health' in collaboration with the World Bank Institute, Washington DC. This course was tailored particularly for Bangladesh. Poverty and social inequality impact on the performance of health systems, and conversely, the design of the health system has the potential to improve the welfare of the poor and reduce social inequalities. The first course took place from June 4 - 7, 2007, and the second course was conducted from November 11-15, 2007, at BRAC Centre. Mr. Ehsan-ul-Fattah, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh attended the first inaugural ceremony as Chief Guest and Mr. Xian Zhu, Country Director of the World Bank in Dhaka attended as Special Guest. Dr. Abdo Yezbeck, lead economist from World Bank Institute and Davidson R Gwatkin of the World Bank, Washington DC facilitated the workshop. The course was attended by the health sector managers, government officials and public health experts involved in health sector reform. The courses aimed to share knowledge and policy experience on how health systems can mitigate the effects of poverty and improve equity in the financing and delivery of health care services.

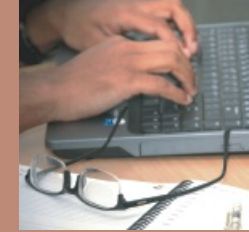
The second course was facilitated by Dr. Davidson Gwatkin of the World Bank, Dr. Richard Cash of Harvard University, Dr. Abbas Bhuiya and Ms. Tania Wahed of ICDDR,B and Dr. AMR Chowdhury of BRAC University. This course had 38 participants involving policy makers, midlevel government officials, health functionaries working for different NGOs, private universities, donor agencies, and the private sector.



*Vice Chancellor Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury speaking at the course opening session*







# Faculty

Congratulations ... to (the) faculty and staff for completing another successful year. It is a source of our pride.

*- M. Shabidullab, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, University of Illinois - Springfield, IL*

The BRAC SPH has certainly already made its international mark, with all the staff hard work and external support. Well done to all the staff.

*- Patrick Vaughan, Professor Emeritus, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine*

## The BSPH Team

Starting with a small nucleus recruited from within the BRAC organization, the faculty is now growing through recruiting more from among the School's own graduates. With the School gaining popularity, there is also some interest among non-resident Bangladeshis to return. To overcome staff shortage and to bring diversity, adjunct faculty from partner institutions have been engaged who also train BRAC's own faculty in innovative teaching practices.

### A M R CHOWDHURY, Dean



Dr. Chowdhury is the Dean of BSPH and the Deputy Executive Director of BRAC. He received his PhD from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. He has international experience in health equity research, programme evaluation/ intervention, research management and teaching. He is the founder of BRAC's Research and Evaluation Division, which is one

of the largest and most respected NGO- based research units nationally and internationally. He has been involved in numerous global research projects, advocacy and study networks. Dr. Chowdhury was a Coordinator of the Task Force on Child Health and Maternal Health of the Millennium Project of the United Nations, New York. He is a member of the Coordinating group of Global Equity Gauge Alliance (GEGA) and former member of the working group of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI). He was also the Co-Chair of the working group on "Priority Diseases" with the Joint Learning Initiative (JLI) on Human Resource for Health. Dr. Chowdhury serves on the Foundation Council (Board) of the Global Forum for Health Research. He was a MacArthur Fellow at Harvard University in 1992-93, and is presently a Professor of Population and Family Health at Columbia University. As Deputy Executive Director he oversees the Health Programme at BRAC. He has published extensively in national and international journals in the areas of health, education, poverty alleviation, NGO studies and environment.

### Anwar ISLAM, Professor



Dr. Islam is a full-time faculty member at the School. He has been teaching the course on Health Systems Management since the beginning of the MPH programme as a visiting Professor. He received his Masters and PhD from Canada. He worked at the Ministries of Health in Alberta and Manitoba. Afterwards, he worked with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) as a Medical

Sociologist. He then joined the Aga Khan University as an Associate Professor and Head, Health Systems Division, Department of Community Health Sciences. Lately, he worked with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) as the Principle Advisor of Health Systems in the Policy Branch. Throughout his career abroad, he had been involved in teaching in numerous universities in Canada and elsewhere - the University of Winnipeg (Manitoba), University of Edmonton (Alberta), and Carleton University in Ottawa (Ontario), and at the Department of Community Medicine in Kuwait University. He continues to serve as an Adjunct Faculty at the Aga Khan University. Dr. Islam is the author of two books on Bangladesh and published numerous articles in international journals.

Recently, Prof. Anwar has been coordinating a number of short courses as part of the Continuing Education Programme based on Health Care Financing and Health Systems Research and Development. His fields of interest are health systems management, health policy, health sector reform, health care financing, and health systems research.

### Shahaduz ZAMAN, Associate Professor and MPH Coordinator



Dr. Zaman has a PhD in Medical Anthropology from the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands. He is a medical doctor, with a Masters in Public Health from Dhaka University. Dr. Zaman worked as a public health physician for several years in community health projects in BRAC and later worked as a researcher in the same organization. He is involved in research and

teaching and has published several books and articles in national and international journals. Dr. Shahaduz Zaman co-teaches Medical Anthropology and is the course coordinator for Qualitative Research Methods. He is also a visiting faculty at the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands. His areas of interest include medical anthropology in general, hospital ethnography, qualitative research methods, mixed methodology, and social and cultural dimensions of infectious diseases.

**Sabina Faiz RASHID**, Assistant Professor and Coordinator, Centre for Health Systems Studies



Dr. Rashid has a Masters in Social Anthropology and a PhD in Medical Anthropology from The Australian National University, Australia. She worked for several years as a senior researcher at BRAC, focusing on health, reproductive health and gender issues, and more recently on urban poverty. She is currently involved in both research and teaching, has co-authored a book, and published articles in several international journals. She is the course coordinator of the Reproductive and Sexual Health and Right Course, and co-teaches Qualitative Research Methods at the School. She has also been teaching the course on "Gender, Health and Society" to Masters level students at Charite - Universitätsmedizin Berlin Campus Virchow-Klinikum, Germany for the last two years. Her areas of interest are gender, sexual and reproductive health, sexuality and rights, urban poverty and health systems.

**Mizanur Rashid SHUVRA**, Lecturer



Dr. Shuvra graduated from Mymensingh Medical College after which he worked with WHO in piloting the country's first study on Problem Based Learning. He also worked as a training officer in the first national survey on Childhood blindness. Dr Shuvra was identified as a resource person by WHO to sensitize all the government medical colleges with Problem Based Learning through a workshop involving 450 senior faculty members. After obtaining an MPH degree from BRAC School of Public Health, he was recruited as the first junior faculty in the School. He was

awarded a fellowship by the European Educational Programme in Epidemiology and Biostatistics to take an advanced course in epidemiology and biostatistics in Florence, Italy in 2006. His areas of interest are research methodology, biostatistics, public health psychiatry, behavioural genetics, child psychology, educational psychology and pedagogy.

**Ilias MAHMUD**, Lecturer



Mr. Mahmud completed his Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Occupational Therapy from Dhaka University in 2003 and started as a Lecturer and Research Associate for Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP). In 2007, he pursued his Masters in Public Health from the James P Grant School of Public Health of BRAC University. He received the Best Dissertation award for his MPH independent study on

health seeking behaviour of disabled people of Bangladesh. He joined the James P Grant School of Public Health in February 2007 as a Research Associate and is currently involved in conducting research on sexual and reproductive health of poor and vulnerable populations. He is also working as a teaching assistant and Lecturer in the MPH programme. His fields of interest are disability research, men's sexual and reproductive health, and health system.

**Farah Mahjabeen AHMED**, Continuing Education Programme Officer



Dr. Ahmed has a Masters in Public Health (Health Services Management) from London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK and is a Medical Graduate (MBBS) from Chittagong University. She has served as Lecturer, Family Welfare Visitor Training Institute, NIPORT, as an Assistant Director (Quality Assurance), Clinical Services, Directorate of Family Planning of the Government of Bangladesh and also

was in charge of the Family Planning Projects funded by World Bank as an Assistant Chief, Planning Unit, Ministry Of Health and Family Welfare. Her areas of interest are capacity development of public health professionals, organizational management, communication, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and its gender dimension.

**Tanvir AHMED**, Research Associate



Dr. Ahmed is currently a Research Associate with the School of Public Health after completing MPH from the same University. He also holds MBBS from Gono Bishwabidyalay, Gonoshasthaya Kendra (2004). Prior to joining BRAC University, he worked as a diabetes educator in Sanofi-aventis, a leading multinational pharmaceutical company where he designed the first ever computer based database for Bangladeshi diabetes patients while operating a health education wing. His fields of interest are epidemiology of ageing and appropriate health system for elderly population.

**Sabiha AKHTER**, Research Assistant



Ms. Akhter completed a Masters of Science in Child Development and Family Relations from the University of Dhaka and is currently enrolled in a Masters of Business Administration at the Asia Pacific University. She is currently involved in providing administrative support to the operations of the Continuing Education Programme (CEP) and the MPH Programme of the School. Her areas of interest are health system studies, health economics and special children.

**Mejbah Uddin BHUIYAN**, Research Associate



Mr. Bhuiyan is working as a Research Associate with the James P grant School of Public Health, BRAC University. He received his MPH degree from the BRAC School of Public Health in 2007. He had completed his graduation in Microbiology from Dhaka University in 2005. Before joining to MPH course, he worked with ICDDR,B for nearly two years as Senior Research Assistant in RTI/STI Laboratory. He was involved in several researches on sexually transmitted and reproductive tract infections of

sex workers and clients of sex workers. He also has experience in working in National HIV/AIDS Surveillance (6th round). At present, he is working on the Urban TB Project, a research project conducted by the School in collaboration with Leeds University, UK. His areas of research interest are primarily infectious diseases and RTI/STIs.

**Donald Bapi DAS**, Department Coordination Officer



Mr. Das completed his Masters in Business Administration with a focus on Management from Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies, Philippines. He worked with International non-governmental organizations in administration for several years before joining the BRAC School.

**Robin HEFFERNAN**, Research Associate



Ms. Heffernan is the Coordinator for the EU ASIA Link Project Building Partnership for Better Health. She has a BA in International Relations and French from Mount Allison University, Canada, and an MSc in International Health from Queen Margaret University, UK. She has previously worked for the Government of Canada, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Egypt, and the NGO - Right to Play - as a Project Coordinator in Kala Refugee Camp, Zambia. Her areas of interest are reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, gender, refugee health, and disaster management.

**Tarique Mohammad Nurul HUDA**, Research Associate



Mr. Huda completed his BSc (Hons) in Physiotherapy from University of Dhaka in 2003. He worked in Bangladesh Health Profession Institute (an Affiliate of Dhaka University), the Academic Institute of CRP, Chapain, and Savar as a Lecturer for three years. In 2007 he was enrolled in BSPH as a student of MPH.

After successfully completing MPH he joined BSPH as a Research Associate. His areas of interest are Epidemiology and Mixed Method Research.

**Kausar IQBAL**, Research Associate



Dr. Iqbal is a medical graduate with Masters of Medicine in Women's Health from the University of Melbourne, Australia. She also had a fellowship in Human Relations Training from Nanzan University, Japan. She trained as a Trainer of Trainers (TOT) for Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition in Japan and has worked for International organizations like JICA and the World Population Foundation. Her main experience is in developing programmes for Safe Motherhood, Reproductive and Sexual Health for women, men and adolescents, Life skills for Youth and Community Nutrition. She has a wide experience of developing training programmes for health personnel and IEC material. At the School, she is involved in the Centre for the Health System Studies under which several research studies are being undertaken. Her fields of interest are reproductive health, maternal and child health, and women's health and rights.

**Mahrukh MOHIUDDIN**, Research Associate



Ms. Mohiuddin is a graduate from Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Dhaka University. After graduation, she worked with the STD/AIDS Prevention Programme, Telephone Counselling programme and other communication initiatives of Social Marketing Company in Dhaka. She has worked as a consultant with Family Health International responsible for adapting a Life Skills Manual to be used for various

HIV/AIDS programmes in the country. These experiences led her to study MPH in Health Communication at Tufts University, Boston. Following her Masters degree, she worked with the tri-state Tobacco Control Centre for the states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire housed at John Snow, Inc. (JSI Research and Training Institute) in Boston. She also worked with the Rhode Island HIV/AIDS programme and community programmes evaluation project at JSI. Her areas of interest are health communication, environmental health, mental health, and mixed method research.

**A Z M Zahidur RAHMAN**, Senior Programme Associate



Dr. Rahman is a medical graduate from Dhaka Medical College and has been working in the field of Health, Population and development for the last 20 years at home and abroad. He has earned a Diploma in Personnel Management from the Bangladesh Institute of Management and is continuing the MPH programme under Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies of the Philippines. He has had the

opportunity to work with the Grameen Bank, Social Marketing Company, UNAIDS, UNDP, and other national and international NGOs. During his career, he gathered experience in working with the Government, development partners, NGOs, CBOs, various populations at risk and other stakeholders. He was involved in health insurance programme for rural people; reproductive health and HIV and AIDS prevention programme management, social marketing of services and products, design and implementation of mass media campaign, behaviour change communication, material development, and networking and advocacy. Dr. Rahman participated in several professional training programmes in Bangladesh and abroad, had abstracts selected in different International Conferences and has attended several international conferences on HIV/AIDS. He is interested in advocacy, communication, reproductive and sexual health, HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, and social marketing

**Nasima SELIM**, Research Associate



Dr. Selim completed her Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree from Dhaka University in 2000 and worked as an Assistant Registrar in Pabna Mental Hospital, National Institute of Mental Health Project. She was the Senior Medical Officer at Monon Psychiatric Hospital before she enrolled in the MPH programme of BRAC School of Public Health. Nasima completed her MPH securing the highest GPA

and was recruited as one of the junior faculty member of the department. She is currently the teaching assistant for the course on "Anthropological Approaches to Public Health & Qualitative Research Methodology". In May 2007, she attended a course on the Fundamentals of Statistics and SPSS

package, in Christian Medical College (CMC) Vellore, India, jointly organized by CMC and WHO. In August, 2007, she received a one year grant from South-South Exchange Programme for Research on the History of Development (SEPHIS), Netherlands, to participate in the International Research training in Social Sciences at CSSSC (Centre for Studies in Social Science, Calcutta) in India. She has published in Bangladesh Journal of Psychiatry, Sir Salimullah Medical College Journal and Mental Health and Development e-journal. Her areas of research interest are primarily qualitative methods and medical anthropology, mental health and psychiatry, as well as interface of public health with other social sciences.

**Farhana SULTANA**, Research Associate



Dr. Sultana has a Masters in Public Health (in Epidemiology) from NIPSOM and a Medical Graduate (MBBS) from Dhaka University. She was involved in a multi-country international Research Project Consortium (RPC) Communicable Disease: Vulnerability, Risk and Poverty with focus on TB. Prior to this, she was involved in a research with ICDDR,B on RTI/STIs of Hotel based sex workers. She also served as

a teaching assistant in the Reproductive and Sexual Health & Rights course and Ageing and Health Course at the School. She has also acquired skills in quantitative data analysis. Her areas of research interest are primarily Child Health, Infectious Disease and RTI/STIs and HIVAIDS.

**Razia SULTANA**, Research Associate



Dr. Sultana is a Medical Doctor. She passed her MBBS from Gulf Medical College, Ajman, UAE in 2005. She has worked as a Junior House Officer in Mafraq Hospital, Abu Dhabi; UAE. She was undergoing a post graduate training in Internal Medicine in The Holy Family Red Crescent Medical College and Hospital, Dhaka, prior to joining the MPH Programme at the School of Public

Health, BRAC University. She is currently a Research Associate at the School. Her areas of interest include mental health, and child health.

## ICDDR,B Staff in the Faculty at BSPH

**Tahmeed AHMED**

Dr. Ahmed is the Head of Nutrition Programme and a Scientist in the Clinical Sciences Division of ICDDR,B. He is also an adjunct Associate Professor of James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University. He teaches Clinical and Public Health Nutrition in the School and supervises MPH students during their independent research on nutrition-related issues. He also takes classes on nutrition at the University of Uppsala, Sweden. Dr Ahmed obtained his MBBS degree from University of Dhaka. He did his PhD from the University of Tsukuba, Japan. He is the Principal Investigator of the newly launched global project called Mainstreaming Nutrition Initiative.

**Shams El ARIFEEN**

Dr. Shams El Arifeen Heads the Child Health Unit of ICDDR,B as an epidemiologist. He is the Principal investigator of a number of projects in different parts of Bangladesh. Dr. Shams is also an adjunct Associate Professor of the BRAC School of Public Health and coordinates the course on Epidemiology. Dr. Shams also supervises MPH students during their Independent Research.

**Abbas BHUIYA**

Dr. Abbas Bhuiya currently heads the Social and Behavioural Sciences Unit and the Poverty and Health Programme of ICDDR,B. He is also an adjunct Professor of BRAC School of Public Health and coordinates the course on Biostatistics. His area of research interest includes interaction of poverty and health, equity and health systems, and monitoring and evaluation of programmes with equity focus. He also supervises MPH students during their Independent Research.

**Alejandro CRAVIOTO**

Dr. Alejandro Cravioto is the Executive Director of ICDDR,B and the Associate Dean of the BRAC School of Public Health. Dr Alejandro also supervises MPH students of BRAC School of Public Health during their Independent Research.

Dr. Cravioto has an MD degree and is a Specialist in Pediatrics from the Faculty of Medicine of the National Autonomous University (UNAM) in Mexico City, as well as a Diploma in Tropical Public Health and a PhD from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine of the University of London. Before coming to Bangladesh he was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) in Mexico City from 1995-2003.

#### Majorie KOBLINSKY

Dr. Koblinsky joined the ICDDR,B in 2004 as Director of the Public Health Sciences Division. She is seconded from the International Health Department of Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where she is a Senior Scientist. Her specialty is maternal health and mortality about which she has written and lectured extensively. Prior to joining JHU, Dr. Koblinsky directed a USAID project, MotherCare, for 12 years during which she organized and provided technical leadership for projects in over 25 countries, led international and technical meetings, and nurtured collaborative relations with other international agencies, research institutions and individuals. She teaches the Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights course at the School.

#### Stephen LUBY

Dr. Luby is Head of the Programme on Infectious Diseases and Vaccine Sciences at ICDDR,B. He is an adjunct Associate Professor at the Emory School of Public Health, USA. He has authored over 100 scientific articles, the majority concerning communicable disease epidemiology in low-income countries. Dr. Luby holds an MD degree from the University of Texas--Southwestern Medical School at Dallas. Previously, he taught at the Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan as Assistant Professor, Epidemiology, Community Health Sciences Department and also worked for Centres for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, stationed at their South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Dr. Luby is an adjunct professor at the BRAC School of Public Health, where he teaches in the infectious disease epidemiology course. He also supervises students during their independent research.

#### Kazi Mizanur RAHMAN

Dr. Rahman is an Assistant Scientist at the Child Health Unit, under Public Health Sciences Division of ICDDR,B. Since 2000 he has worked in different public health research projects of ICDDR,B that cover varying research areas

including child health, infectious diseases, nutrition, vaccine evaluations, reproductive health, health service delivery etc. Dr. Rahman obtained MBBS degree from Dhaka Medical College under Dhaka University in 1998. He graduated from Harvard University in 2004 and obtained Master of Science degree in Epidemiology. He is involved in teaching the course on Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases at the School.

## BRAC Staff in the Faculty at BSPH

#### Kaosar AFSANA

Dr. Kaosar Afsana, Programme Coordinator of BRAC Health Programme is responsible for rural and urban Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Programme in BRAC. She is an MD with MPH from Harvard and PhD from Edith Cowan University, Australia. Her PhD thesis addressed maternal health practices and health care system in Bangladesh. Currently, she has been involved with national and international research projects. Dr. Afsana authored two books on childbirth practices and published research papers in journals, books and monographs. She is a member of Bangladesh Obstetric and Gynecological Association and board member of the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research. She lectures in Reproductive & Sexual Health & Rights course.

#### Faruque AHMED

Mr. Faruque Ahmed is the Director of BRAC Health Programme. His area of interest is to take an economic and multi-sectoral perspective on public health performance and to build on the existing policy framework at country level. His research interest also includes the most promising strategy or strategies for engaging private sectors for maternal and child health, and sector goal in country context.

#### Syed Masud AHMED

Dr. Ahmed is a Research Coordinator at the Research and Evaluation Division (RED), BRAC. He is a medical doctor with a Doctorate in Public Health from Karolinska Institute in Sweden. His research interests include studying the

impact of health and non-health interventions on the lives of the poor especially, women and children, and exploring the mechanisms of such impact, gender and health equity and health-seeking behaviour of the disadvantaged populations. He teaches the Monitoring and Evaluation course at the School.

#### Nasima AKTER

Dr. Akter is a Research Fellow and Team Leader of the Environmental Research Unit at RED, BRAC. She has a Masters in Environmental Risk Assessment from Chiangmai University, Thailand and doctorate in technical science degree in Environmental Technology and Management from the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand. Her research areas include municipal and medical waste management, natural resource conservation, renewable energy, health and environment, and environmental assessment. She teaches the Environment and Health course at the School.

#### Akramul ISLAM

Dr. Islam, Programme Manager of BRAC Health Programme is responsible for TB and Malaria control programmes. He has a PhD from Tokyo University and has published widely.

### Other Faculty

#### Bilqis Amin HOQUE

Dr. Hoque is currently Director of Research and Training at the Environmental and Population Research Center (EPRC). She has a Masters in Food Processing Engineering from University of Reading, U.K. and a PhD in Civil Engineering (Bio-environmental Engineering) from Oklahoma State University, U.S.A. Previously she has worked as Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist, South Asia Infra structure, at the World Bank, Dhaka and was Head (and Senior Scientist at International Level) of Environmental Health Programme (EHP) at ICDDR,B. She was also Visiting Professor of the Disaster Prevention Research Institute of Kyoto University, Japan as well as Part Time Faculty with: Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Independent University, Bangladesh and Islamic University of Technology. As an adjunct faculty, she coordinates and teaches the Environment and Health course at the School.

### International Faculty

International faculty at the BRAC School of Public Health represent nine renowned universities from Europe and North America. Modular course work allows these faculty members to spend time away from their affiliated institutions in the North and teach at the School.

#### Alayne ADAMS

Dr. Adams is the Co-director of the Joint Learning Initiative on children and HIV/AIDS (JLICA). Supported by a group of international and bilateral agencies, NGOs, and foundations, JLICA is a global research effort that seeks to improve the well-being of children affected by HIV/AIDS by promoting evidence-based policies and actions to reach the poor more effectively, expand access to essential services, and strengthen families and communities. Prior to joining JLICA, Dr. Adams was Assistant Professor at Heilbrunn Department of Population and Family Health at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. She teaches the Introduction to Public Health course at the School.

#### Richard CASH

Dr. Cash is Senior Lecturer in International Health, Department of Population and International Health at the Harvard School of Public Health and director of the programme on "Ethical Issues in International Health Research". He is also an Adjunct Professor at the BRAC School and teaches the Introduction to Public Health and Infectious Disease courses at the School.

#### Ana Coghlan

Anne (Ana) Coghlan received a Masters of City and Regional Planning, with a concentration in International Planning, and a PhD in Human Service Studies, with a specialization in Programme Planning and Evaluation, both from Cornell University, USA. She has extensive experience with, and has published in the areas of, participatory and mixed-method monitoring and evaluation systems, particularly with community-based HIV/AIDS programs in Africa and South Asia. She teaches the course on Monitoring and Evaluation at the School.

#### Sjaak van der GEEST

Dr. Geest is Professor of Medical Anthropology at the University of Amsterdam, dean of the Amsterdam Master's in Medical Anthropology (AMMA), head of the Medical Anthropology and Sociology Unit, and editor-in-chief of the



journal *Medische Antropologie*. He has done fieldwork in Ghana and Cameroon on a variety of subjects including the use and distribution of medicines, popular song texts, meanings of growing old, and concepts of dirt and defecation. He teaches the Anthropological Approaches to Public Health course at the School.

#### Joseph H. GRAZIANO

Dr. Graziano is the Associate Dean for Research, Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University and Professor of Pharmacology, College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Joseph Graziano's research career has been devoted to understanding the consequences of exposure to metals, both on the molecular and population levels. As a pharmacologist, his laboratory developed the oral drug that is now used to treat children with lead poisoning. More recently, Dr. Graziano's work has taken him to Bangladesh, where his current research is aimed at understanding the consequences of arsenic exposure on the Bangladeshi population, and on devising strategies to reduce toxicity and provide arsenic-free drinking water, a problem that spans beyond the political borders of Bangladesh, to much of South Asia, from India to Vietnam. Dr. Graziano teaches the Environment and Health course in the MPH course.

#### Muhiuddin HAIDER

Dr. Haider is an Associate Professor of Global Health in the School of Public Health, University of Maryland and also an Adjunct Faculty to the BRAC U School of Public Health, Bangladesh. From Asia and the Middle East, to sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, Professor Haider has worked on the ground to strengthen the health systems of developing nations. Among his areas of special expertise and publications are health communications, social marketing, infrastructure development, training, capacity building, public-private partnership and health care reform, with an emphasis on reproductive health, family planning, AIDS prevention, maternal and neonatal health, child survival and water management. He teaches the Health Communication course at the School.

#### Zarina Nahar KABIR

Dr. Kabir is Head of Unit, Public Health and Caring Sciences in Life Course Perspectives, Department of Neurology, Care Sciences & Society at the Karolinska Institute. Her research interests are primarily in elderly health. She has recently completed an EU funded three-country research project on

primary health care at the later stages of life. She teaches the Aging and Health course at the School.

#### Kent RANSON

Dr. Ranson is Clinical Lecturer, Health Economics & Financing, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). His research is in areas of health care financing, health inequalities and health policy. He is project supervisor to a number of LSHTM distance learning masters students. He teaches the Health Economics and financing course at the School.

#### Jon ROHDE

Dr. Rohde is Co-chair of the Internal Advisory Board of the School and teaches in the Public health Nutrition course at the School. He was former UNICEF representative for India and is an Adjunct Professor of the BRAC School.

#### Diana ROMERO

Dr. Romero is Latino Fellowship Director, Latino Fellowship Programme, Heilbrunn Department of Population and Family Health and Assistant Professor of Population and Family Health, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. Dr. Romero's research interests include domestic reproductive-health and poverty policy; factors influencing contraceptive decision-making; and, Latino health issues. She taught the Quantitative Research Methods course at the School.

#### Malabika SARKER

Dr. Sarkar is a Reproductive Health Specialist and senior lecturer at the Department of Tropical Hygiene and Public Health at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. She is currently involved in several research projects in Sub Saharan African countries on quality of prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV and safe motherhood. She has previously worked in BRAC health programme. Dr. Sarker is the co-coordinator of the Reproductive Health course at BRAC School of public health.

#### Mohammed SHAHIDULLAH

Dr. Shahidullah is a state demographer for the Illinois Department of Public Health. He is also an adjunct associate Professor at the University Illinois in Springfield. He serves on the advisory council for the prevention of childhood lead poisoning in Illinois. He also serves on the Research and Methods subcommittee of the Federal State Cooperative Programme for population

Estimates (FSCPE). His research interests are in public health programme evaluation and small area population estimates. He teaches Biostatistics course at the BRAC School of Public Health.

### Damian WALKER

Dr. Walker is Research Fellow in Health Economics, Health Policy Unit, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). His research interests include economics of introducing new or under-utilised vaccines in developing countries. He teaches the Health Economics and financing course at the BRAC School.

## Faculty News

### Academic Staff-Professional Activities

Dr. AMR Chowdhury, Dean

February 2007: attended a two-day Symposium on 'Measurement of impact of Safe Motherhood' organized by University of Aberdeen, England.

May 2007: attended the Global Health Council Meeting in Washington DC as a panellist on 'Health Systems Development'. Dr. Chowdhury also participated in the International Conference on School Fee Evaluation, Planning for Quality and Financial Sustainability, along with a 6-member delegation from Bangladesh. The delegates included members from Ministry of Education, Primary and Mass Education Department, Education section of UNICEF. The conference took place in Bamako, Mali.

August 2007: was a keynote speaker at the International Symposium on Civil Society Involvement in Development, held in Vientiane, Lao PDR. It was organized by the Government of Lao PDR and UNDP.

October 2007: was a speaker in a major plenary at the Women Deliver Conference in the UK. He also attended the Global Forum for Health Research in Beijing. He is a Board Member of the Forum and also chaired two sessions of the conference.

In 2007, Dr. AMR Chowdhury joined the following Boards/Committees:

- Member, External Reference Group on Health Researchers, convened by Director General of WHO, Geneva

- Member, UNAIDS-MERG Technical Working Group on Prevention Evaluation of HIV/AIDS programme
- Member, Expert Committee on Community-based Primary Healthcare, co-chaired by Prof. Carl Taylor and Dr. Henry Perry.

Dr. Anwar Islam, Professor

Prof. Islam made a presentation on "Health Human Resources A Global Challenge" at the Department of Community Medicine and Behavioural Science, Kuwait University in April 2007.

He is a member of the following associations:

- Member, Canadian Society for International Health
- Member, Global Health Council, USA

Dr. Shahaduz Zaman, Associate Professor and Coordinator, MPH

May 2007: spoke as the keynote speaker at 'The Amsterdam Masters In Medical Anthropology (AMMA) Conference, The Netherlands. 10 Years of AMMA: Teaching and Applying Medical Anthropology'. This was held in Amsterdam.

October 2007: attended an 'Expert Panel Meeting' on curriculum development for Evaluation training in South Asia in Kathmandu. This was an initiative by UNICEF. Participants from India, Pakistan, Nepal, Thailand and Bangladesh joined the meeting.

October-November 2007: attended the Global Forum for Health Research, organized by WHO at Beijing.

November 2007: attended the Inter Country Meeting on Public Health, Yangon, Myanmar, Organized by WHO at Yangon, Myanmar. This meeting was to share experiences of running public health institutions in South Asia, where he presented the teaching approach of BRAC School of Public. Other participating institutes included, Mahidol University,



*Participants at Inter Country Meeting on Public Health*

Thailand, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, University of Indonesia, and University of Hong Kong.

Dr. Sabina Faiz Rashid, Assistant Professor

February 2007: attended a 'Good Practices: Adolescent Interventions' workshop which was organized by EU/UNFPA in Bangkok.

March 2007: presented a paper on "Chinta Rog: Protesting Injustices of the Body" during a conference called "Body in Asia" organized by the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.

May 2007: invited by UNAIDS (joint United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS) for pre-workshop consultation for AIDS commission held at IDB Bhaban. This was followed by a civil society presentation on the country level strategy for the prevention of HIV AIDS at Radisson hotel, Dhaka.

June 2007: invited as a Plenary speaker to present at "The Transitions-health and mobility in Asia and Pacific" conference at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. She was awarded a grant by AusAid to present on 'Social exclusion of urban slum population in Bangladesh'. She was also invited to attend the "Women in Asia conference" at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.

September 2007: attended a South-South Consultation on the Interaction between Health Systems and Communities in Africa, organized by AMREF International Training Centre, Nairobi.

October-November 2007: presented a paper on "Urban Slums: Health Inequities and the Global Scenario," at the Global Forum for Health Research, in Beijing.

December 2007: attended the Realising Rights Consortium mid term review meeting at the Institute Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK.

In 2007, Dr. Rashid joined the following groups/committees:

- Member of South Asia group - Building Partnership, Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research (CCGHR), Canada
- Member of Advisory Group, Sexuality and Development Programme, Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

- Member of Coalition for Bodily and Sexual Rights, Women for Women's Human Rights (WWHR) - New Ways, Turkey
- Member of National Women Forum of AIDS (organised and established by UNAIDS, Bangladesh)

Mizanur Rashid Shuvra, Lecturer

May 2007: attended a meeting on World Bank Development Marketplace in Washington DC and later for a follow up meeting in New York City.

Ilias Mahmud, Lecturer

December 2007: Presented a paper titled "Ethical Dilemmas in Conducting Research on Reproductive and Sexual Health in Rural Bangladesh" in the Second National Bioethics Conference, Bangalore, India. The conference was organized by the Indian Journal of Medical Ethics.

## News and Awards

### Dean conferred PESON Oration Medal

The Dean of the School, Dr. AMR Chowdhury was conferred the PESON Oration Medal for his work in the field of maternal and newborn health. The medal was formally handed over to him by Professor Rita Thapa, President of the Perinatal Society of Nepal in the presence of Ms. Surjalekha Yadav, the Deputy Speaker of the Interim Parliament of Nepal. PESON is the most prestigious and respected professional association of top health experts in Nepal.



*Dr. AMR Chowdhury, the Dean of the School being conferred the medal by Prof. Rita Thapa in a simple but impressive ceremony in Kathmandu, Nepal*

## Associate Dean made new Executive Director of ICDDR,B



Professor Alejandro Cravioto, a well-known paediatrician specializing in gastroenterology, has taken over as Executive Director of ICDDR,B on 17 June 2007. He replaced Professor David A Sack who led the Centre in this position for the last eight years. Professor Cravioto has been working at the Centre as Deputy Executive Director since July 2005. He has also been the Associate Dean of BSPH since 2006.

Professor Cravioto has held other prestigious positions in various organizations. He is President, Chair, and Member of the Governing and Trustee Boards of more than a dozen national and international organizations and has membership in a number of national and international associations, academies, and societies. For his outstanding works, he received 11 national awards, including one from the Mexican Government.

Professor Cravioto is a prolific author with more than 100 publications both in English and Spanish, including two books and several non-research publications. He has been on the editorial advisory boards of several international journals. Professor Cravioto will also be taking over as Editor-in-Chief of the peer-reviewed quarterly Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition of ICDDR,B.

## Welcome Dr. Anwar Islam!



The School is fortunate to have Dr. Anwar Islam, who joined as full-time Professor last year. He has recently relocated to Bangladesh following a 34-year professional career in the health sector in Canada that included working for the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa during the 1990s as a Senior Programme Officer/Medical Sociologist with its

Health Sciences Division. In this capacity, Dr. Islam reviewed, funded and monitored research projects in various areas of the health sector in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. Immediately prior to relocating to Bangladesh, Dr. Islam was with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) as the Principal Advisor, Health Systems in its Policy Branch. While in Canada, he also contributed as an academic and researcher to numerous universities (Carleton University in Ottawa, University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba in Manitoba, and the University of Alberta in Alberta) teaching courses on Medical Sociology, Complex Organization and Management, Comparative Health Care Systems, and Health Care Financing and Health Sector Reform. Dr. Islam also worked as an Associate Professor and Head of the Health Systems Division in the Department of Community Health Sciences at the Aga Khan University in Karachi, Pakistan for a four-year period (1998-2002). He brings his rich academic expertise, extensive knowledge in international health and multicultural teaching skills to the short course. From the inception of the School, Dr. Islam has been involved as a member of the International Advisory Board and a visiting faculty of the School. It's a pleasure to welcome him as one of the core faculty members.

## Continuing Capacity Development

In 2007 BSPH staff participated in several training, workshops and conferences:

**Donald Bapi DAS**, Department and Coordination Officer, attended a five-day Course from September 30 to October 4 in Budget Management and Financial Reporting for Tobacco Control (Bloomberg Global Initiative to Reduce Tobacco Use). The objective of this course was to provide participants gain knowledge on budget planning and financial management.

**Kausar IQBAL**, Research Associate, attended the Scientific Writing Workshop from November 26-28, jointly organized by FRONTIERS Programme of Population Council and World Health Organization. She also attended the Fulbright seminar organized by the American Centre on 24th May, 2007. She also attended the "National Dialogue on Women's Empowerment" on 21st January 2008.

**Farah MAHJABEEN**, Research and Academic Officer, attended a teachers training workshop 'Educate the Educator Retreat Workshop' from May 14 - 15, 2007 in Savar. This was organized by BRAC teaching, learning institute.

**Ilias MAHMUD**, Lecturer, attended the National Conference on Emerging Issues in Public Health 10-13, January 2008 at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India. In the conference he gave a presentation on "Sexual and Reproductive Health Concerns of Married Men and Access to Health Services in a Rural Area of Bangladesh".

Mr. Mahmud also attended the course on "Equity in Health" from November 11-15, 2007, at BRAC Centre, jointly organized by the School and ICDDR,B in collaboration with the World Bank Institute, Washington, DC.

**Mahrukh MOHIUDDIN**, Research Associate, attended a workshop on Gender, Media and Representation from November 11-15, jointly organized by Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research Programme and Development Studies Programme of BRAC University. She also attended at training on Strategic Communication from January 30-February 1, 2008 in Washington DC. The training was organized and funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Nasima SELIM**, Research Associate, attended a teachers training workshop 'Educate the Educator Retreat Workshop' from May 14 - 15, 2007 in Savar. This was organized by BRAC teaching, learning institute. She attended the Ninth Short Course in Biostatistics in CMC-Vellore, jointly sponsored by the Department of Biostatistics, India CLEN. INCLIN, Boston University, USAID and WHO jointly sponsored this four-week course.

Dr. Selim has also been awarded a fellowship on the merit of her application for the Research Training Programme 2007-2008, being conducted by the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC). The programme duration is from August 2007 to July 2008. The fellowship has been awarded by the South South Exchange Programme for Research in the History of Development (SEPHIS), Amsterdam, the Netherlands to be channeled through the CSSSC. The CSSSC is a research institution jointly funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India and the Department of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal.

**Farhana SULTANA**, Research Associate, Farhana was nominated by the School of Public Health to participate in the training workshop on 'Equity in Health' from 4th June to 7th June, 07. She also attended the 38th Union World Conference on Lung Health held in Cape Town, South Africa from November 8-12. Three thousand delegates and leaders in TB control attended the conference. The latest research and developments in TB control were announced during the 5-day conference. She presented the findings of the research entitled "Revealing the challenges of urban TB control programme of BRAC in Bangladesh" on the 19th of August before the experts of BRAC health programme. This is a multi-country project coordinated by Leeds University, UK.

She has been awarded the 'Endeavour Postgraduate Award 2008' by The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Australia to pursue her postgraduate studies in Epidemiology at the University Of Melbourne. The Endeavour Awards are internationally competitive, merit-based awards funded by the Australian Government and managed by The Department, that bring leading researchers, executives and students to Australia to undertake short or long term study, research and professional development in a broad range of disciplines.

## Teaching Assignments Abroad

- Dr. Shahaduz Zaman, Associate Professor and MPH Coordinator of the School taught the module on 'Social, Cultural and Historical dimensions of Infectious Disease' to graduate students at the Medical Anthropology department of University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands during 4-23 January 2007.
- Dr. Sabina Faiz Rashid, Assistant Professor, taught "Gender, Health and Society" to Masters level students at Charite Universitätsmedizin Berlin Campus Virchow-Klinikum Germany in March 2007.



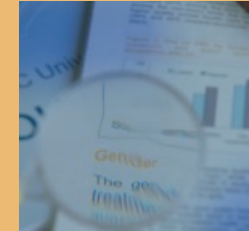
Figure 4. Size of GDP by location of residence and total population.



# Gender

The gender

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# Research & Publications

It's wonderful to know of world-class scientists, researchers and teachers working together in a collaborative environment. With continued support from the friends of BRAC, may the School continue to scale new heights in fulfilment of the BRAC mission to help the poorest.

*- Omar Khan (Writers Without Borders), Chair, Publication Committee, American Public Health Association*

The goal of the School is also to act as a centre of excellence in knowledge creation through research that connects with practice. Therefore, research and the advancement of the science of public health are seen as key functions. It conducts multidisciplinary studies on various development issues of national and global importance. These include poverty alleviation, socio-economic development, agriculture, nutrition, health equity, education, reproductive health, environment, gender and related fields. Partnerships with institutions in the North and the South, including those in Bangladesh, help ensure that the most relevant and pressing issues are the subjects of research, with a unique pro-poor and pro-equity perspective. The School is greatly aided in this pursuit by its close link with the ICDDR,B and Research and Evaluation Division (RED) of BRAC. RED has been an inextricable part of BRAC's mission, providing support to BRAC programmes.

## Partners in Research

### ICDDR,B

The Centre for Health and Population Research (popularly known as ICDDR,B) is one of the best health research institutions in the developing world with its stock of highly trained professional staff numbering over 100, field and laboratory facilities, and a library with over 50,000 journal titles and 15,000 books, which is one of the largest and most modern in South Asia. For over 40 years the Centre has conducted high quality research on the health problems of Bangladesh and published thousands of papers in world-class journals. Its laboratories include virology, bacteriology, parasitology, immunology, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and nutrition, and are located at the Centre adjacent to BRAC in Mohakhali, Dhaka, providing excellent facilities found in very few schools of public health. The Matlab field research area is unique in the world of public health research through its health and demographic surveillance of a defined population of over 200,000, extending back to over 40 years. Participation of the Centre scientists in faculty positions at BRAC SPH offers an ideal opportunity to realise the goals of both organizations as well as to train professionals in the field of public health.

## Research and Evaluation Division (RED) at BRAC

Since 1975, research and evaluation has been an inextricable part of BRAC's mission, providing an analytical basis for BRAC's programmatic decisions, allowing BRAC to learn from its mistakes, and helping BRAC to share the impact and lessons from its work with academics, NGOs, and development agencies around the world. The Research and Evaluation Division (RED) undertakes many of its studies in cooperation with international research and academic institutions of the highest calibre. RED research areas span the full range of BRAC activities and beyond: nutrition, family planning, health, legal issues, environment, education, agriculture, credit, gender, NGO capacity building, and much more.

## Research Projects undertaken by the School of Public Health

### Research Partnership Projects

Research Programme Consortium [Funded by DFID for 5 years, 2005-2010]  
Realizing Rights: Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health for Poor and Vulnerable Populations

This is a multi-country project involving African Population and Health Research Centre based in Kenya; BRAC School of Public Health, Bangladesh; Engender Health, USA; INDEPTH Network, Ghana; Institute of Development Studies, Sussex and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK.

### Sexual and Reproductive Health Research

The Realising Rights Research Programme Consortium works to improve sexual and reproductive health and rights in Africa and South Asia. In Bangladesh, as part of the Universal Access theme, research was conducted to understand rural married men and women's sexual and reproductive health concerns and their access to providers. Six hundred and ninety-three married



men from a remote rural upazila in the south-eastern coastal area of Bangladesh were interviewed which is one of the lower performing areas in terms of health and family planning performance indicators. 403 married women were also interviewed from this site. Findings of this study are expected to contribute in development of service delivery models. There are plans to continue the research in 3 other field sites in Bangladesh for 2008/9, and on-going engagement with key stakeholders regarding findings on sexual health and service delivery policies in the country.

Under this RPC, there were two Sexuality and Rights workshops held, in January and in July 2007. Plans are for further training and workshops in June and December of 2008. The plan is to provide training, advocacy and awareness of the interface between sexuality and rights and sexual health. Future collaborative research is planned with APHRC, Kenya on Gender based violence in urban slums. Sabina Faiz Rashid, Assistant Professor is the Coordinator of this Research project.

Research Programme Consortium (Funded by DFID for 5 years 2006-2011)  
- on Communicable Disease: Vulnerability, Risk and Poverty (COMDIS)

This is a multi- country project involving government and non-government organizations from Nepal, Pakistan, China, Ghana, Uganda, and the United Kingdom. BSPH is one of the partners in this Research Consortium. The leading partner of this project is Institute of Science and Public Health, University of Leeds, UK, and is funded by Department of International Development (DFID), UK. It is a multi-country study to conduct research and develop strategic guidelines for DOTS programme in urban settings. A key strategy will be to anchor research within operational programmes and explore the challenges faced.

BSPH has been conducting a research titled "Revealing the Challenges of Peri-urban and district town TB Control Programme of BRAC in Bangladesh" as part of this RPC. Dr. Shahaduz Zaman, Associate Professor is the Principal Investigator of the Project. The aim of this operations research project is to develop an operational strategy for BRAC Tuberculosis Control Programme in

peri-urban and district town areas. The research is being undertaken in three consecutive phases. At present, second phase is about to be initiated. The Phase I explored health seeking behaviour of TB patients including experiences of patients and their families with DOTS in peri-urban areas. Barriers from the provider's perspective were also explored and relevant suggestions were documented to improve programme performance and also to recommend the "Operational Strategy" for BRAC TB control programme in peri-urban areas and district towns. The lessons learned from this 5-year research project will be shared among National Tuberculosis Programme (NTP) and the partner NGOs supporting the urban settings to recommend a strategic guideline for policy development.

## Other Research Collaborations

### BRAC ICDDR,B Monitoring Equity Project

This Project is funded by SIDA, World Bank and The Netherlands Government. It deals with Monitoring Equity in public health system in Bangladesh along with ICDDR,B and Government of Bangladesh.

### Urban Gates Manoshi Research Project (2007-2011)

In order to improve maternal and child health and reduce maternal and child mortality in the urban slums; BRAC has initiated this project with funding and support from the Gates Foundation. The plan of the Manoshi project is to conduct initial formative research jointly with the Research and Evaluation Division (RED) of BRAC and ICDDR,B on a wide range of health issues in urban slums. These include community health practices, maternal and child health practices, health seeking behaviour, private providers and others. The project aims to cover a population of around 8 million. The research will inform existing BRAC health interventions. A monitoring and evaluation system has also been set up to routinely check the programmes in urban slums. Dr. AMR Chowdhury and Dr. Sabina Faiz Rashid of BSPH are involved in this project. At present the project is covering the Dhaka City Corporation areas and plans to expand further by 2009.

## Joint Research Collaboration between the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University ( 2006-07)

The National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, and the BSPH are jointly conducting a study on "Mothers and Infant Health Seeking Behaviour in Urban Slums in Dhaka, Bangladesh" An ethnographic study in 2 slums in exploring infant health seeking behaviour & access to providers has been conducted under this collaboration and the data is being analysed. Dr. Sabina Rashid is the Principal Investigator of this collaborative project.

### *BSPH: Cooperating Site of International Institute of Qualitative Methodology*

In 2006, James P. Grant School of Public Health became a cooperating site of the International Institute of Qualitative Methodology, University of Alberta, Canada. The School is in the process of organizing a course on Qualitative Methodology.

### *Health Systems 20/20 New partnership with School and CHSS*

The newly set up Centre for Health Systems Studies (CHSS) at the School of Public Health became a partner of the new initiative - 'Health Systems 20/20' in November 2006. This is a new USAID funded initiative which encourages partnerships and future work on Health Systems. The School along with 11 partners from developing and developed countries work closely with Abt Associates, the lead partner, based in the USA. The USAID partnership is interested in building a Health Systems Network and there are some exciting possibilities to build capacity within countries, research training, conferences and workshops and research.

## Publications

### Faculty Publications 2007-08

Afsana, K., Rashid, S.F., Chowdhury, A.M.R., & Theobald, S. (2007). Promoting maternal health: Gender equity and the BRAC experience in Bangladesh. *British Journal of Midwifery*, 15(11), 721.

Chowdhury, A.M.R. (2007). Rethinking interventions for maternal health. *Lancet*, 370, 1292-3.

Chowdhury, A.M.R. (2006). Public health education: A Bangladesh approach. *Bull World Health Organization*, 85(2), 966-967.

Islam, A. (Ed.) (2007). *Gender and Health Human Resources*. Dhaka: University Grants Commission and CIDA.

Medlin, C.A, Chowdhury, A.M.R., Jamison, D.T. & Measham, A.R. (2006). Improving the health of populations: Lessons of Experience. In: DT Jamison et al (Eds.), *Disease control priorities in developing countries*. Washington DC and New York: The World Bank and Oxford University Press.

Rashid, S.F. (2007). Accessing Married Adolescent Women: the realities of ethnographic research in an urban slums environment in Dhaka, Bangladesh. *Field Methods*, 19 (4), 369-383.

Rashid, S.F. (2007). 'Kal Dristi, Stolen Babies & 'Blocked Uteruses': Poverty & Infertility Anxieties among Married Adolescent Women Living in a Slum in Dhaka, Bangladesh.' *Anthropology & Medicine*, 14(2), 153-16.

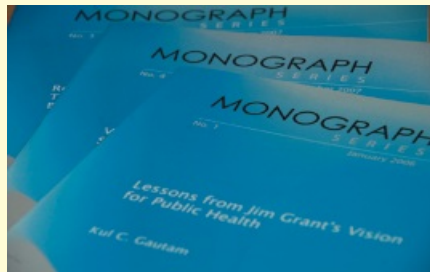
Rashid, S.F. (2007). Sexuality and Rights: Lives of Young Women in an Urban Slum in Dhaka, Bangladesh, In *Plainspeak*, (1).

Hansen, C. M., Mahmud, I. & Bhuiyan, A. J. (2007). Vocational Reintegration of People with Spinal Cord Lesion in Bangladesh An Observational Study Based on a Vocational Training Project at CRP. *Asia Pacific Disability Rehabilitation Journal* 18 (1), 63-75.

Mahmud, I. (2007). Ethical dilemmas in conducting research on reproductive and sexual health in rural Bangladesh. *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, IV, supplements.

Mahmud, I., Rashid, S. F., Chowdhury, A. M. R. & Ahmed, N. (2008, January). Sexual & Reproductive Health (SRH) Concerns of Married Men & Access to Services in a Rural Area of Bangladesh. Paper Presented at the 2008 National Conference on Emerging Issues in Public Health, Kerala, India.

## Publication of Monograph Series



Research is an important agenda of the School and dissemination of the knowledge generated from the research activities is key for raising awareness of existing and emerging public health challenges. The Monograph series published by the School contain reviews and findings from research and training activities taking place at the School.

Below is a list of Monographs that the School has published:

Ahmed, N., 2008, Sexuality Rights Workshop February 2007 Report, Monograph Series No. 7, James P Grant School of Public Health, Dhaka (in press).

Chowdhuri, S., 2007, Menstrual Problems of Women in Bangladesh, Monograph Series No. 5, James P Grant School of Public Health, Dhaka

Chowdhuri, S., 2007, Violence Against Women in Bangladesh: Situational Analysis/Existing Interventions, Monograph Series No.4, James P Grant School of Public Health, Dhaka.

Chowdhuri, S., 2008, Reproductive Tract Infections and Sexually Transmitted Infections of Women in Bangladesh: A Literature Review, Monograph Series no.3, James P Grant School of Public Health, Dhaka.

Gautam, K.C., 2006, Lessons from Jim Grant's Vision for Public Health, Monograph Series No.1, James P Grant School of Public Health, Dhaka.

Hashem, R., 2008, Existing Reproductive and Sexual Health Interventions to Young People in South Asia, Monograph Series No. 6, James P Grant School of Public Health, Dhaka (in press).

Osman, F., 2007, Study of Models of Partnership in Health Service Delivery (forthcoming as Monograph publication)

## Gender and Sexuality Resource Pack



BSPH published a digital resource pack consisting of papers, proceedings, presentations, and resources shared at the International Gender and Sexuality Workshop in July 2007. This was an attempt to document the important contributions that academics, activists, development workers, and researchers have been making towards prioritizing the discourse on

sexuality and gender in their own spheres, and to offer a tool for the stakeholders to stay connected and seek necessary resources that will aid their ongoing work in this area. Copies of the digital resource pack have already been distributed to over 100 participants and presenters and key partners of the initiative.





# Graduation

I just met and taught three of your graduates in Uppsala. Congratulations on producing world class graduates

*- Zulfiqar Bhutta, Professor of Paediatrics, Aga Khan University*

The MPH course from BSPH has made the baseline to work in the sector of Public Health efficiently. The quality of the lesson from each of the course was so excellent that it made us confident to work in any sector-either in public health programme or in public health research field. Everyone can differentiate the quality between MPH of BSPH and MPH of other universities so clearly in the working field. Moreover, it gave us the opportunity to interact with the world renowned public health professionals-both during the course and even long after end of the course. I feel really proud to be one of the JPGians.

*- Muhammad Aziz Rahman, MPH 2nd Batch*

## Graduation 2007

### Graduates Forum



*The students of the 3rd MPH batch at the Graduates' Forum*

The Third Graduates' Forum of the James P Grant School of Public Health was held at ICDDR,B on December 27. The batch consisted of 26 students from Afghanistan, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Myanmar, Singapore, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, USA, and Bangladesh, all of whom successfully completed their degree in Masters in Public Health. Dr. AMR Chowdhury, Dean, School of Public Health, delivered the welcome address and Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed chaired the forum.

Professor Richard Cash of Harvard University delivered the keynote address titled "In the Eye of the Storm: Contributions of Bangladesh to the Reduced Public Health Impact of Natural Disasters." He talked about how Bangladesh has been coping with the repeated natural disasters such as flood and cyclones and able to reduce death from such disasters. Dr. Abbas Bhuiya spoke on behalf of ICDDR,B.



*Dr. Cash delivering the keynote address*

Abeual Zerihun of Ethiopia won the "FH Abed Award for Best Overall Performance" while the "Allan Rosenfield Award for Best Overall Performance to a National Student" went to Tarique Md. Nurul Huda. Om Prasad Gautam from Nepal won the "WB Greenough III Award for the Best Dissertation." Mr. Fazle Hasan Abed, Founder and Chairperson of BRAC distributed the prizes among the winners.

Five students were selected to present their dissertations on treatment compliance of tuberculosis, physical activity and obesity, community knowledge of malaria, perception of importance of illness by the elderly and care-seeking behavior for menstrual regulation services.



*Awardees with guests of the ceremony*

### BRAC University Convocation



*Mr. Fazle Hasan Abed*



*Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed*

The University's 3rd Convocation took place on 30 December, 2007 at the Bangladesh China Friendship Conference Centre, presided over by Chancellor Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed. All students of the School received their diploma at this ceremony. Abeual Zerihun of Ethiopia from the School received the President's Award for obtaining highest CGPA among post-graduate students.



*Abeual Zerihun receives the President's Award at the Convocation*

Excerpt from the speech of Professor Rehman Sobhan,  
Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue



Prof. Rehman Sobhan  
Convocation Speaker

BRAC University deserves to be felicitated on the occasion of its Third Convocation. The University has made appreciable advances as a Centre of higher learning in its short life. Given the university's links with BRAC, which has attained global recognition for its extraordinary achievements in improving the lives of the deprived members of society, in the days ahead BRAC University must give some thought to its own distinctive role as an institution of higher learning. Whilst BRAC University must not deviate from its commitment to academic excellence, it must give more attention to bridging the escalating knowledge gap between a better educated elite and the poorly

educated majority of our population. Command over information and knowledge is emerging as a source of accentuating social and economic disparity in the 21st century. BRAC University must aspire to use its pedagogic resources to bridge this gap and create specific opportunities for the deprived to enhance their life opportunities, through access to higher learning. Bangladesh, BRAC and BRAC University's goal must be to create opportunities for the sons and daughters of landless peasants and workers who aspire to become scholars, professionals, administrators and parliamentarians. It is when such opportunities become a visible part of our social reality that we can claim that a process of social transformation is underway in Bangladesh. Our goal must be to move beyond the alleviation of poverty, to build a more just society where the deprived majority may look to the world of education and other forms of opportunity to equip them to claim their rightful share in the fruits of development and modernisation.

Performance  
and pleased to perform  
PT, SA, EBA, PACE B1

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62 Pages  
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75¢ some areas

# NEWS

Your information source for the Central



**Skateboard win**  
Kowalski wins skateboarding competition  
in Newport, 523 Senators, Paul CJ



**'Whale - Its Spirit'**  
Sculpture dedication in Dismal Point  
Park Aug. 1, 1988 Community's Project Be



122 Years  
Number 61

# TIMES



## BSPH Graduates Win Research Grant

Students from three schools of the James F. Coakley School of Public Health received a research grant from the Public Health Research Institute. The grant was awarded to three students from the James F. Coakley School of Public Health, the James F. Coakley School of Public Health, and the James F. Coakley School of Public Health. The grant was awarded to three students from the James F. Coakley School of Public Health, the James F. Coakley School of Public Health, and the James F. Coakley School of Public Health.

## Health district and Samaritan disagree over investment promise

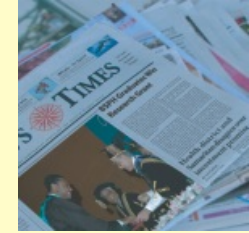
By Joel Gallo  
Of the News-Times

Health Services proposed in retirement under Section 71 of the Affiliation Agreement.

### SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY

Friday  
North wind  
20 knots,  
partly cloudy early,  
mostly sunny in  
afternoon, highs  
around 65, North  
mostly cloudy,  
around 55,  
through





# Student News

Nat Robison, the Country Director of Consejo de Salud Rural Andino (Andean Rural Health Care) in Bolivia, told me that he is extremely impressed with the new skills and knowledge that [your student] is bringing to his work there. Nat has seen a number of other masters students from other programmes come back with far fewer practical skills than [he] has. This is a great testimony to your Masters programme!

*- Henry B. Perry, Carl Taylor Professor of Equity and Empowerment, Future Generations*

I am grateful to BSPH for grooming me to this ability to carry out a meaningful research, which is going to an international audience. And I'm very happy that I could make one small contribution to make my School proud!

*- Amit Bhandari, MPH 2nd Batch*

Each Year the BRAC School of Public Health produces graduates who pursue their careers in renowned organizations and institutes. An MPH graduate of BSPH, received a Fogarty Fellowship and has been enrolled in the Ph. D Programme in Epidemiology (Designated Emphasis on International and Community Nutrition) at University of California, Davis .Two of the graduates of the third batch are currently serving WHO as Consultants. Yet another alumnus was appointed as the General Manager- Youth Outreach and Intervention Programme of YMCA of Greater Toronto.

Two graduates of the first and second batch are currently serving as lecturers in the BSPH. Other prominent organizations employing the graduates include ICDDR,B, BRAC, GTZ and the Ministry of Public Health, Afghanistan, WHO and CDC. Annex 2 enlists the status of the BSPH alumni.

## BSPH Graduates Awarded Research Grant



*Razia Sultana and Om Prashad Gautam*

Razia Sultana, from Bangladesh, and Om Prashad Gautam, from Nepal, both graduates of the third batch (2007), received a research and actions grant project from ProVention Consortium. The ProVention Consortium is a global coalition of international organizations, governments, the private sector, civil society organizations and academic institutions dedicated to increasing the safety of vulnerable communities and to reducing the impacts of disasters in developing countries. It provides a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on disaster risk reduction and a framework for collective action. For the year 2007-2008, 90 projects from 40 countries were selected among 261 proposals received from the world. The title of their project is "Disaster Risk Analysis, Risk Reduction and Preparedness Plan in Secondary School of Dhaka".

## BSPH Graduates Attend Training on Child Survival at Uppsala University, Sweden

Four BSPH graduates were selected to attend a training held at the department of International Maternal and Child Health (IMCH) at Uppsala University, Sweden, titled "Child Survival Reaching the Target" and funded by SIDA. There were 27 participants at the training programme. The participants were from seven countries namely Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. The participants had applied online. The participants at the end of the training submitted a report in January 2008 after some field work. Held during the period of 9th April - 5th May 2007 the course was attended by Ayesha Sania and Taskeen Chowdhury from Bangladesh, Lakshmi Durga Chava from India and Zabih Ullah Maroof from Afghanistan, all graduates of the first batch.

## Graduates Present Papers in Amsterdam

Amit Bhandari (Nepal) and Nang-Mo Hom (Myanmar), graduates of MPH programme of 2007, presented their work at the '5th European Congress of Tropical Medicine and International Health' at Amsterdam on 26th May. Amit's thesis on "Barriers in access to safe abortion services: Perspectives of potential clients of a hilly district of Nepal", was accepted for oral presentation under 'Gender and Health' category. This abstract was published in the Tropical Medicine & International Health journal in May 2007. Nang-Mo Hom's presentation was funded by Research Programme Consortium (RPC).

A research abstract of Nang-Mo's thesis titled "Menstrual Regulation Practices of a government and a non-government clinic in Dhaka City, Bangladesh" was accepted for the 5th European Congress of Tropical Medicine and International Health in May 2007 at Amsterdam for oral presentation. Nang-Mo later collaborated to develop the joint article "Experiences of abortion in Nepal and menstrual regulation in Bangladesh: A gender analysis" with Amit Bhandari, Dr. Sally Theobald of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (UK) and Dr. Sabina Faiz Rashid, which has been accepted for the July 2008 edition of the "Gender and Development" journal, UK.

## Graduate Presents Paper in Philadelphia, USA

Nusrat Homaira's paper on Person to person transmission of Nipah in Bangladesh, 2007 was selected for presenting at the 56th annual Meeting of American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene that was held in November 2007 in Philadelphia. She was also selected for a travel award which is given to young researchers from developing country.

Her abstract on "Who cares about safety" abortion practices in a health complex of Bangladesh got selected for oral presentation at the 4th Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health. She was awarded full scholarship for attending the conference. This paper was part of her Masters thesis which also got selected for Global conference on Safe abortion arranged by Marie Stopes International scheduled in London.

## Congratulations Victoria, Rumana and Ayesha!!

Victoria Nankabirwa, MPH graduate of the BSPH was granted a quota scholarship from the Norwegian government at the University of Bergen in Norway and is currently pursuing PhD in International Health. She also

received The Rosenfield Scholarship to pursue PhD in Epidemiology at the Columbia University. The scholarship is towards tuition and or any other expenses. She plans to transfer to Columbia University in the fall semester, 2008.

In addition she has received a scholarship from the Vienna School of Clinical Research, Austria to do a course of her choice, after obtaining outstanding grades in a basic course of Good Clinical Practice (GCP).

Rumana Jesmin Khan, MPH graduate of the first batch of BSPH, received a Fogarty Fellowship and has been enrolled in the Ph.D Programme in Epidemiology (Designated Emphasis on International and Community Nutrition) at University of California, Davis from Fall 2007.

Ayesha Sania, another MPH graduate of the first batch has been offered a grant and stipend at Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) to pursue Doctor of Science in Population and International Health in fall 2008. She has also been offered Fogarty International Centre training grant entitled Research Training on Childhood Infectious Diseases in Bangladesh within the Department of International Health (for a period of four years) to pursue a PhD in International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

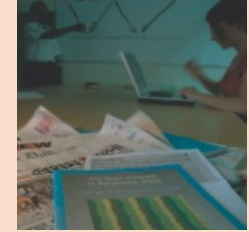


The State of Health  
In Bangladesh 2006  
Challenges of Achieving Equity in Health

News Today  
'Reproductive health issue should  
be incorporated in drug research'

NEW  
The Daily





# Advocacy Community Services and Other Initiatives

Terrific progress report on people, education, knowledge, research - impressive accomplishments in such a brief period of time.

*- Lincoln Chen, President, China Medical Board, New York, USA*

You are really building an institution of considerable merit! Keep up the good work

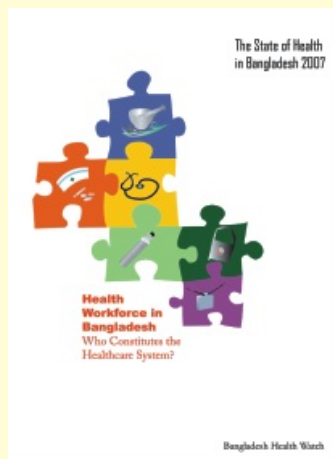
*- Jon Rohde, Former Country Representative of UNICEF in India*

## Bangladesh Health Watch

Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW) is a civil society initiative. It was formed with the objective of monitoring Bangladesh's progress towards achievement of the goal of good health for all its citizens. The Watch publishes on a yearly basis a report on the state of health in Bangladesh. It also uses other monitoring and advocacy measures such as conferences, meetings, press briefings and media reports to engage all key stakeholders in the health sector. The Centre for Health Systems Studies at the School has been chosen as the Secretariat for the Watch. The Watch formally launched their first report 'The State of Health in Bangladesh 2006 -Challenges of Achieving Equity in Health' on December 2006. For the year 2007, BHW has focused on the situation of the 'Health workforce in Bangladesh' and has undertaken several studies on the issues of human resources for health. Please see Annex 9 for a list of the Bangladesh Health Watch Advisory Committee members and the working group members.

### Focus for 2007: Health Workforce in Bangladesh

Bangladesh Health Watch report for year 2007 assessed the situation of Health Workforce in Bangladesh with special focus on production, availability, and quality of services. The chronic shortage of skilled health workers is not just felt in developing countries, but is a global phenomenon. The importance of investing in human resources for health has been reiterated in Joint Learning Initiative 2004 report and the World Health Report 2006 which states in no uncertain terms that the route to achieving the health MDGs is through workers; there are no short cuts. A wide variety of health personnel are providing healthcare in Bangladesh ranging from qualified, unqualified, allopathic, non allopathic, traditional to faith healers. There is a severe shortage of skilled health workers. Hence studying the health workforce of Bangladesh was a relevant choice for the second annual report of Bangladesh Health Watch.



The health workforce as defined in this study included all types of professionals engaged in providing health services directly or indirectly ranging from medical graduates, technologist to traditional healers. The findings are based on four commissioned sub-studies carried out by BSPH, BRAC Research and Evaluation Division and consultants from Research, Training, and Management (RTM) International and one study based on secondary data. The sub-study on the density of healthcare providers attempted to estimate the density of various health workforce nationally, nature and length of their training, length of experience, services they provide and management of a selected number of illnesses. Through mapping technique, all healthcare providers were identified and an inventory list developed. The sub-study on quality of services included perceived quality of care by the users and service providers. The sub-study on production of health workforce included review of the training of nurses, health technologist, paramedics, skilled birth attendant, and community health worker. The sub-study on a select group of primary healthcare providers, namely community health workers, skilled birth attendants and nurses, focused on the nature of the training they received, process of recruitment, level of remuneration, job satisfaction and performance.

## BRAC University Contributes to Cyclone SIDR Affected Victims

The BRAC University Faculty and Students contributed to the cyclone affected people in November 2007. A damage assessment team from BRAC, with BSPH Dean Dr. AMR Chowdhury and others, went to several cyclone sites a fortnight after the cyclone had hit in order to take appropriate actions from BRAC. Extracts from the account of the team given below depicts the devastation that took place, the resilience of the people, and the participation from various government and non-government sectors in mitigating the situation. Bagerhat, Shoronkhola, Morrelganj, Rayendha were among the affected places that the team visited.

### Excerpts from a tour report of the cyclone affected areas:

[On the first day of the visit] As the dawn set, we wandered outside [at BRAC's prawn hatchery] but nothing unusual was observed as the hatchery staff had

cleared the premises of fallen trees. We set out for Shoronkhola at 7 am. As our car sped off towards Shoronkhola we saw thousands of fallen trees on both sides of the road. Those that had survived the onslaught had their branches broken and leaves stripped off. There were paddy fields with the Aman variety, the major rice crop. These were to be harvested in a few weeks time but the storm left a large portion of it destroyed. Agricultural experts believe between 30-60% of the Aman crop in the cyclone affected areas have been destroyed. The fields that could feed hundreds of thousands of mouths lay in ruin!



*Signs of destruction were everywhere*

As we passed Morrelganj and started approaching Shoronkhola we started seeing more movements of vehicles carrying relief workers and materials. There were groups of large crowds in several places collecting or waiting for relief. CARE, Save the Children, Muslim Aid, Red Crescent, and Bangladesh-German Friendship Association were all active in Shoronkhola. The cyclone seemed to have united the country

to a great extent. BRAC made an informal appeal for donation of clothes, cash and other materials. The response was incredible. Thousands of pieces of clothes were donated. We were moved by the donation that came from the inhabitants of Korail slum located in front of BRAC Centre.

When asked about the early relief efforts, an old man reported to us that BRAC was the first to provide relief on the morning of the 16th, followed by Grameen. Later we spoke to our colleagues in Tafalbari who narrated their experiences. BRAC has a branch office in Tafalbari. Mostafa, the local manager told us that in the early evening of the cyclone night, he and six colleagues took refuge in the BRAC office in Shoronkhola, about 10 km away.

Mostafa told us that two of the villages were most affected. We decided to go to the one which could be reached within half an hour. It was Rayendha, on the bank of the river Boleshwar. On our way we saw Muslim Aid workers

distributing jerry cans full of drinking water. We also saw a few temporary treatment plants set up to supply clean water. BRAC cleaned several ponds of debris and treated those with chuna (limestone). The users were then provided with either water purifying tablets or Siraj Mixture (a local cheaper version of the tablet developed at ICDDR,B and named after the scientist who invented it). It was clear that the awareness campaigns done in the country by the government and NGOs including BRAC had paid off! Proving all predictions and fears false, there was no epidemic of diarrhoea even in areas where the most water sources such as ponds were contaminated with debris and carcasses.

The loss to educational facilities was reported to be quite substantial. Over 1500 BRAC schools alone have either been destroyed or damaged. Many students lost their books, stationeries and clothes. While the damage to primary schools would likely to be taken care of by the government who own two-thirds of the schools in the country, the



*Relief efforts distributing clean water*

secondary schools being almost fully run privately will face problems of rehabilitation. BRAC would survey the losses and develop appropriate packages for the BRAC schools and students.

Coordination in the health sector was also found to be very good in Patharghata. There are 865 ponds in the Upazila (surveyed by BRAC) and the Upazila Health and Family planning Officer decided to clean two in each of the 66 villages by utilizing the services of BRAC and other NGOs. We also noticed the good work that a local NGO named Shankalpa was doing. This NGO was given the responsibility to clean the ponds of Char Padma. While they cleaned one many others needed cleanup. We asked our staff in Patharghata to speak to the NGO if they would let BRAC work with them to clean the remaining ones. They readily agreed.



*Rebuilding efforts by the community*

made by BRAC (and others) to mitigate the sufferings. It will be quite a while before the people are able to get back to their normal lives.

Source: "Cyclone Affected Areas: 17 Days Later", report prepared and circulated by the visiting team. More on BRAC's rehabilitation efforts for Sidr is documented in

[http://www.brac.net/cyclone\\_relief\\_rehab.php](http://www.brac.net/cyclone_relief_rehab.php).

## BRAC Celebrates 35th Anniversary



*BRAC Chairperson FH Abed and Deputy Executive Director AMR Chowdhury greet the BRAC field staff*

artists including Runa Laila, Momtaz, Kumar Biswajit, Syed Abdul Hadi, Samina

Patharghata has 130 Shebikas. The houses of 54 of them had been completely destroyed and 27 partially destroyed. We need to decide how we compensate the losses of our volunteers.

we started for Dhaka with a mixed feeling. We were really moved by the gravity of the situation but energized by the efforts being

Chowdhury and Salma. The event also included dance choreography by Lubna Mariam and dance performances by Ria and Sohel. Popular television personality Abdun Noor Tushar hosted the event as the master of ceremonies. Specially designed interactive games and raffle draws were included to engage the audience.

The event was organized to pay tribute to the commitment and decades of hard work of BRAC's staff in poverty alleviation in Bangladesh. Due to space constraints, only the oldest of BRAC's over 56,000 full-time staff, 60,000 schools teachers and 70,000 health volunteers were invited. Originally scheduled to be held on December 15, the 35th anniversary celebrations were postponed in order to pay tribute to the victims of Cyclone Sidr and because some 3,000 BRAC staff members were dedicated to full-time post-Sidr relief and rehabilitation efforts.

## Presence in the Media

Tuberculosis: Burden of a hard fact on Bangladesh  
An interview with Dr. AMR Chowdhury in *Prothom Alo*,  
a leading Bangla Daily

In an exclusive interview with one of the leading Bangladeshi daily, Dr. AMR Chowdhury exchanged views on Tuberculosis in Bangladesh. In the interview, Dr. Chowdhury mentioned that every year Bangladesh loses 70,000 people due to Tuberculosis as the country has 102 diagnosed patients per 100,000 population. According to WHO, Bangladesh ranks fifth among the top 22 Tuberculosis affected countries, which was 6<sup>th</sup> a year ago. Considering the present situation, Dr. Chowdhury stated the importance of using recent data on tuberculosis and the limitations of using old data. He expressed his hope for getting a clearer picture of the Bangladesh Tuberculosis situation in 2008 as ICDDR,B completes the Tuberculosis survey funded by WHO and USAID. He also appealed to the policy makers for more focus on this aspect to better address the HIV/AIDS issue, as it contributes to increased incidence of Tuberculosis.

Since Bangladesh is a densely populated country, it has an ideal environment for the spread of TB. A large number of people reside in poorly ventilated places and suffering from malnutrition, an ideal setting



for the spread of TB. Besides a large number of private practitioners diagnose and provide TB treatment but do not track the treatment adherence thus making the situation more severe. During the interview, Dr. Chowdhury outlined the relationship between Tuberculosis and poverty. As the people from the working age group (15 to 45 yrs.) are affected, TB has a serious economical burden on families. This contributes to the discontinuation of the therapy and thus the emergence of Multi Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDRTB) occurs. He also emphasized on community based drug distribution for the success of Directly Observed Treatment, Short Term (DOTS) and thus he explained the BRAC Shasthaya Shebika (SS) model and their contribution to DOTS.

Dr. Chowdhury expressed his hope for the current progress of the TB programme. If the programme holds the current pace, a safe environment for TB may be only 15 to 20 years away as BRAC alone works in 283 upazilas (sub-districts) while the other NGOs are serving the rest. On the other hand, Dr. Chowdhury also shared his frustration as there has been little progress in development of anti TB drugs and vaccines while much focus is given on diseases like HIV/AIDS since the developed countries are being largely affected by them. He thanked some of the international institutions like Gates Foundation for providing funds for combating TB. As a result we are expecting new drugs of shorter duration and more effective vaccines to combat TB and restrict the emergence and spread of MDRTB.

## Health Systems Action Network (HSAN) Founded

BSPH Dean Dr. AMR Chowdhury is one of the 31 founding members of Health Systems Action Network (HSAN). HSAN was established to provide a much needed platform for health systems stakeholders to exchange ideas and increase understanding of strong health systems needed to achieve health priorities, at both the global and country levels. The need for this network was initially recognized at a WHO meeting on "The Montreux Challenge: Making Health Systems work" in April 2005. It was believed that HSAN could serve as a means to build on the growing interest and momentum around creating stronger health systems, improve communication and flows of credible information about health system strengthening (HSS) and help promote greater coordination and collaboration both regionally and globally.

The idea was taken forward to make into a reality by bringing together likely beneficiaries and potential members of the network from developing countries to define priorities and assume leadership. As a result, a consultative meeting was held in Toronto, Canada on 18-19 August, 2006. Through a participative process at this meeting, these members clarified the vision and mission of HSAN, identified its value added, determined priority activities for the next two years, and outlined a preliminary plan of action. HSAN shares what is known across countries by linking health systems leaders through a global network and provides a channel for members to offer input into global and donor initiatives so that programmes best serve country priorities.

				for 2007
				13,245,927
				928,864
				1,083,875
				146,613
				15,405,279
				1,544,044
		1,680,000		16,949,323
MGB Dep.				
Salary & allo.		799,582	1,248,000	10,043,402
Salary for Part		232,943	-	2,562,376
Course Contract		-	1,000,000	7,340,079
Visiting Professor		200,000	200,000	400,000
	16,865,331	1,032,525	2,448,000	20,345,857
Salary of Dept Staff	339,574	16,979	-	356,552
	17,204,905	1,049,504	2,448,000	20,702,409
Architecture & Disaster Management:				
Salary & allowances to teacher	4,500,000	4,560,248	912,050	6,095,259
Salary for Part time teacher	-	-	-	-
Course Contract teacher	1,978,859	3,462,076	-	4,002,076
Visiting Professor	-	121,040	-	421,040
	6,478,859	8,143,364	912,050	10,518,375





# Finances funding & the Future

Given that the School has only just completed its third year, your accomplishments have been significant. Both ..., the faculty and the students must be greatly congratulated for your accomplishments. I wish you well in the future, especially in finding guaranteed long-term funding for the MPH Programme. Once that is in place, you can focus even more on the academic activities of the Programme.

*- Stanley Zlotkin, Professor, Departments of Nutritional Sciences and Public Health Sciences, University of Toronto*

Certainly BRAC School of Public Health is growing from strength to strength and I take this opportunity to wish you and the School much success in 2008.

*- Chantell Witten, Country Director, Helen Keller International, Bangladesh*

## Funding Information

Both earning and expenditure of the School increased significantly in the year 2007 compared to 2006. Funding increased by 76% with funding contributed by European Commission (EU-Asia Link project), Swedish SIDA (for Bangladesh Health Watch), World Health Organization (for courses on Health Care Financing), UNICEF and continued contributions for RPC and COMDIS. Students' contributions have also increased by 30% since the year 2006.

A brief summary of the unaudited statement of expenditure is shown in the next Columns.

### Contribution by Dr. Richard Cash

Dr. Richard Alan Cash donated US\$12,000 for the BRAC School of Public Health from his Prince Mahidol prize money. He donated these funds to be used for teaching and student faculty development, especially in the area of infectious disease control and management. Dr. Cash along with Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis and Dr. David R. Nalin was awarded the 2006 Prince Mahidol Award, presented annually for outstanding contributions in public health and medicine. The three award recipients have been individually honoured for their important efforts in testing and implementing the Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS). The Prince Mahidol Awards (one for public health and another for medicine) are conferred annually upon individuals, groups, or institutions that have demonstrated "outstanding and exemplary contributions to the advancement of medical and public health services for humanity throughout the world." The award is sometimes referred to as the "Nobel Prize for Public Health". Professor Cash is an Adjunct Professor at the School.

Funding	2007 Amount in Taka	2006 Amount in Taka
Expenditure of MPH Programme		
Teachers Cost	7,264,787	11,822,239
Students Cost	7,162,851	5,589,814
Operational Cost	4,969,772	10,192,459
Capital Expenditure	1,225,855	2,338,311
Total Expenditure	20,623,265	29,942,823
Expenditure Financed by:		
BRAC	13,222,455	20,848,496
James P Grant Trust For International Social Development	-	2,713,088
ICDDR,B	-	2,832,857
UNICEF	708,760	538,200
Students Contribution	4,684,036	3,595,124
Total:	18,615,251	30,527,765
Expenditure of Research Projects	Donation Received 2007 In Taka	Expenditure for 2007 In Taka
Comdis TB	1,129,058	1,268,073
RPC on Realizing rights; improving sexual and reproductive health for poor and vulnerable populations	2,142,752	2,248,396
Urban Slum and infant health project	541,577	703,117
Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW)	7,069,370	2,376,137
World Health Organization (WHO) [Health Care Financing]	611,390	306,389
European Commission (EC) [EU-Asia Link Project]	23,728,156	
	35,222,303	6,902,112
Grand Total	53,837,555	27,525,377

## Future Projects of the School (2008-9)

### Food Security Nutritional Surveillance Project (FSNSP)

The School, in partnership with Helen Keller International and Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, submitted a proposal titled National Food Security Nutritional Survey (FSNSP) to European Commission. This project proposes to strengthen and institutionalize the nutritional surveillance system in Bangladesh.

### NIPORT Training and Research Grant

The School submitted two proposals for large scale training of public health professionals and national level research on Reproductive and Sexual Health Issues in June 2007.

### UNAIDS and SPH Collaboration

There will be collaboration between the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the School in 2008 and will continue till 2011. The collaborative effort between the School and UNAIDS will be to establish a Centre of Gender, Sexuality and HIV/AIDS. A UNAIDS Collaborating Centre which will have a number activities under its umbrella research, training, internship programmes, awareness of HIV/AIDS through public forums. The Centre will build a network nationally, regionally and internationally, enabling Bangladesh to share in country experiences and obtain evidence on best practices from other countries and limit the spread and impact of HIV in the country.

### Executive Certificate in Public Health Management Programme

This programme is awaiting formal approval from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. This would be a 10 weeks long course covering topics such as Human Resources, Hospital Administration and Ethics. The Government wishes to train 1500 individuals from the medical core. The programme is of 5 years duration funded by HNPSP. The programme if approved will commence in July. The target is to complete training of two batches in 2008.

### Quality Management Short Course

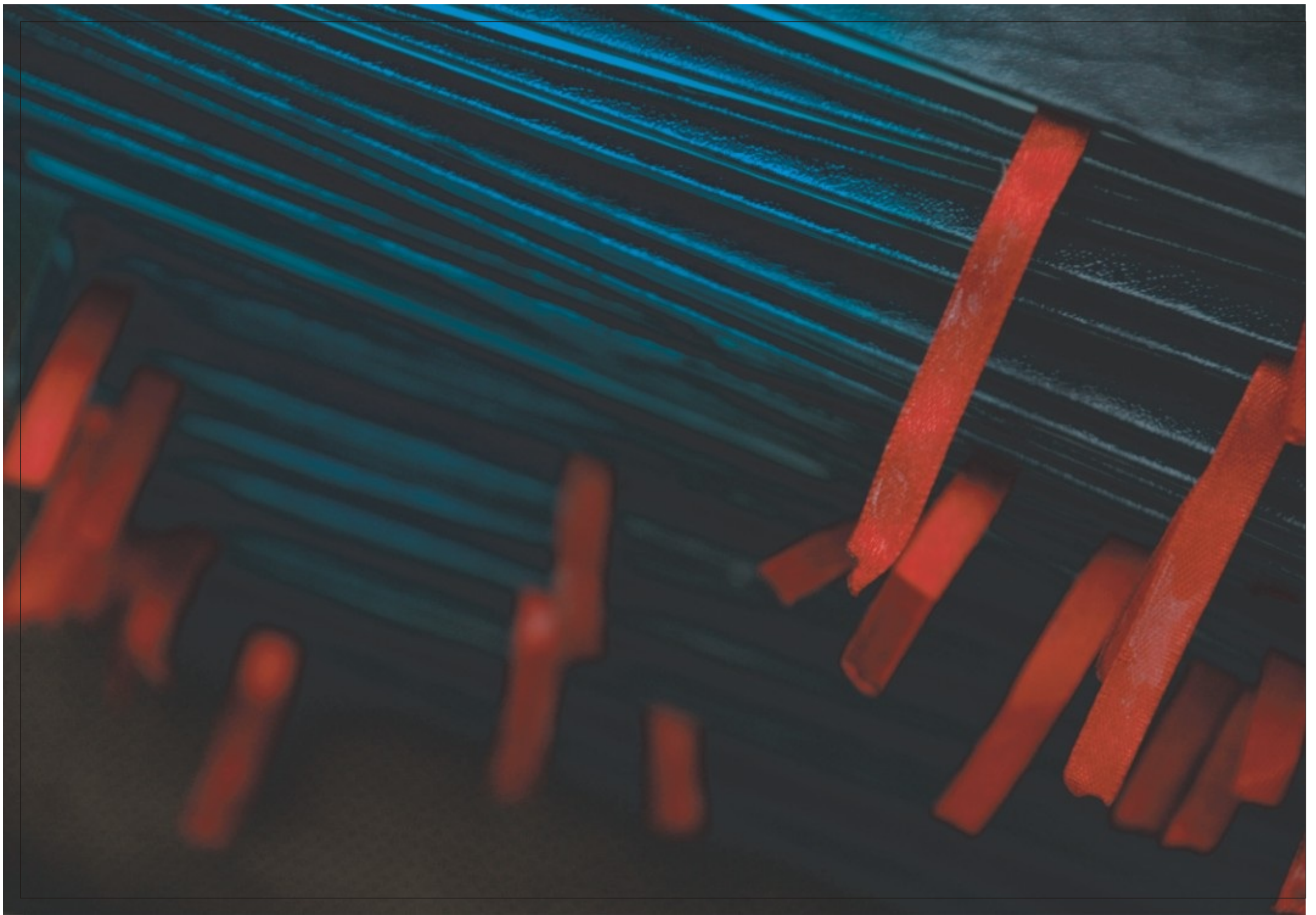
A number of short courses on Quality Management will begin for Bangladeshi nationals initially and may later be expanded to Pakistan and Nepal and other South-East Asian countries. GTZ is going to be the funder for the short courses. Preliminary workshops are planned be held during May 2008 to decide on the curriculum.

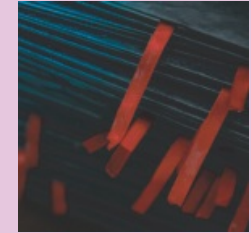
### Training Module on M&E

A training module on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) will be developed. A meeting was held with UNICEF regarding the development of the module. The plan is to start courses on M&E for public, private and NGO professionals. The curriculum is being developed. UNICEF has committed to provide the support.

### Training on Qualitative Research Methodology

A training programme is being planned for researchers to provide skills on the theoretical and practical aspects of qualitative research methodology.





# Annexes

I should tell you that the two people we called back for interviews were both BRAC MPH graduates. I think it speaks well to the quality of their training!

*- Elizabeth Oliveras, ICDDR,B*

## Annex 1: Participants at the EU-Asia Link Workshop

### London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

- Sharon HUTTLY
- Martine COLLUMBIEN

### Karolinska Institute (KI)

- Zarina KABIR
- Anders WANDAHL

### Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), India

- KR THANKAPPAN

### University of Amsterdam (UvA)

- Sjaak van der GEEST

### James P Grant School of Public Health (BSPH)

- AMR CHOWDHURY
- Donald Bapi DAS
- Robin HEFFERNAN
- Anwar ISLAM
- Sabina Faiz RASHID
- Mizanur Rashid SHUVRA



## Annex 2: The MPH Graduates: Where are they now?

### First Batch Graduates (2005-2006)

Name	Designation & Organization	Location
Abul Hasnat Mostaque Ahmed	Senior Medical Officer, BRAC Health Programme	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Ahmed Parvez Zabeen	Technical Officer, BRAC Health Programme	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Anupoma Haque Pinky	Senior Programme Officer, Population and Nutrition, Save the Children, USA	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Ayesha Sania	Research Investigator, Child Health Unit, Public Health Sciences Division, ICDDR,B	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Emilita A.Monville-Oro	Programme Specialist on Community Health and Training, Indonesia Programme Coordinator of IIRR (International Institute of Rural Reconstruction)	Philippines
Harriet Nabudere	Health Policy Analyst, Regional East African Community Health Policy Initiative	Arusha, Tanzania
Humaira Matin	Freelance Consultant	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Lakshmi Durga Chava	Project Manager (Health & Nutrition), Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty, Department of Rural Development, GoAP	Hyderabad, India
Manjula Singh	Senior Programme Officer HIV/AIDS, Family Health International	New Delhi, India
Md. Salim Reza	WHO, Papua New Guinea	Papua New Guinea
Md. Abdus Salam Khan	Assistant Chief, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Mohammad Asifuzzaman	Post Graduate Trainee, BSMMU	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Mohammad Khurshid Alam	Research Investigator, ICDDR,B	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Mohammad Mizanur Rashid Shuvra	Lecturer, James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Nabeel Ashraf Ali	Research Investigator, Child Health Unit, ICDDR,B	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Najia Rafiq Paracha	Health Manager, Sungi Development Foundation	Abbottabad, Pakistan
Netra Prashad Bhatta	Programme Coordinator, The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	Kathmandu, Nepal
Nusrat Homaira	Outbreak Investigation Officer, ICDDR,B seconded to IEDRC	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Philemon Odiwuor Yugi	Project Director HIV/AIDS, The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), International, Kenya and Tanzania	Kenya
Rowan Edward Wagner	Senior Lecturer, Management and Business Development Manager, Westminster International University	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Rumana Jesmin Khan	PhD Student, University of California, Davis	California, USA
Sohely Rahman	Senior Medical Officer HIV/AIDS, BRAC Health Programme	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Taskeen Chowdhury	Senior Sector Specialist in Manoshi-Urban Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Project, BRAC Health Programme	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Victoria Nakabirwa	PhD Candidate, University of Bergen	Norway
Zabihullah Maroof	Project Manager, Aga Khan Health Services (AKHS,A)	Afghanistan

## Second Batch Graduates (2006-2007)

Name	Designation & Organization	Location
Alexander Millof	Research Assistant, Iodine Network Secretariat, Micronutrient Initiatives	Ottawa, Canada
Amit Bhandari	Health Systems Support Adviser, GTZ-Health Sector Support Programme	Kathmandu, Nepal
Bethuel Mwaura Mbugua	Intern, INCLEN Trust International	Nairobi, Kenya
Bihita Bidhan Khisa	Sector Specialist, BRAC Health Programme	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Diana Nelson	Information and Referral Specialist-Health and Housing, YMCA	Canada
Farah Naz Hossain	In charge, Health Programme, BRAC Africa	Tanzania
Habibullah Habib	Head, National TB Control Programme, Ministry of Public Health	Afghanistan
Ilias Mahmud	Lecturer, James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Jawaid Stationwala	Independent Consultant for the Moroccan Government (recently awarded Commonwealth Scholarship to continue his MPH thesis in Bangladesh)	California, USA
Mahjabeen Ahmed	BRAC Health Programme	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Md. Saiful Islam	Senior Reporter, Bangladesh Shangbad Shangstha	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Muhammad Aziz Rahman	Research Investigator, Programme on Infectious Disease and Vaccine Sciences, Health Systems and Infectious Diseases Division, ICDDR,B	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Nadia Alamgir Ishrat	Research Fellow, Health Systems and Infectious Disease Division, ICDDR,B	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Nang Mo Hom	Research Officer, Population Services International (PSI)	Yangon, Myanmar
Nasima Selim	Research Associate, James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University(On Study Leave)	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Noah Emmanuel Cochran Levinson	Director, Calcutta Kids	Kolkata, India
Priya Promod Satalkar	Technical Officer, STI capacity building Team, Family Health, International, India Country Office	India
Ramiro Llanque Torrez	National Fundraising Manager for Consejo de Salud Rural Andino (CSRA)	La Paz, Bolivia
Saiqa Siraj	Senior Nutritionist, BRAC Health Programme	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Samiyah Arshad	Home-maker	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Shamim Ahmed	Research Associate, Research and Evaluation Division, BRAC	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Sharifa Nasreen	Lecturer, Community Medicine, Holy Family Red Crescent Medical College and Hospital	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Shershah Amin	Medical Programme Coordinator, BRAC Health Programme, BRAC Afghanistan	Afghanistan
Susan Nakuti	Health/Construction Officer, Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief (CPAR)	Kampala, Uganda
Tanveer Muhaium Kamal	Programme Officer, Representative's Office, UNICEF Bangladesh	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Tanzeba Ambereen Huq	Senior Sector Specialist, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Programme, BRAC Health Programme	Dhaka, Bangladesh

## Annex 3: Third Batch Students

### International Students

#### Mohammad Dauod Khuram



Dauod is a Medical Doctor. He completed his degree in 2002 from Nangarhar Medical College, Afghanistan. He worked as a Trainer at Integrated Management of Childhood Illness, Afghanistan. He is currently serving as a Technical Manager, at Kabul, BRAC Afghanistan.

#### Abebuah Zerihun Demilew



Abebuah has a bachelor Degree in Sociology and Social Administration from Addis Ababa University in 2002. He is also trained in Health Behaviour Management. He worked in the field of HIV/AIDS, Adolescent Reproductive health and Family Planning for 4 years. He was working as an HIV/AIDS Project Manager in African Medical and Research Foundation, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He is currently working as a Senior Research Associate, Research and Evaluation Division, BRAC Africa.

#### Prachi Lalana Mishra



Prachi is a Psychologist having M.Phil in Psychology from Utkal University, India, 2002 and Diploma in Special Education (Mental Retardation) from NIMH Secunderabad. She started her career as a Psychologist in DDRC, Kalahandi, Govt of Orissa. She worked as a Technical Officer in State HIV/AIDS prevention programme in HLPPT (PSU). Before joining MPH programme, she was working in National Center for Advocacy Studies, Pune.

#### Francis Iris Mario



Iris is a Nurse by profession. He obtained his Bachelor's degree in Nursing from Nairobi University, 1999. He was serving MSF-HOLLAND, DRC MISSION as a Hospital Nurse and Medical Team leader and as an Outreach Nurse with South Sudan Mission, Nairobi. He is currently appointed as a Research Officer at the African Population & Health Research Centre, Nairobi, Kenya.

#### Aung Ko Ko



Aung Completed his BSC (Chemistry) in 1998 and Post Graduate Diploma in Applied Psychology in 2003 from University of Yangon. He worked with Myanmar Red Cross Society since 2001 as a Field Coordinator in Life Skills Training on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project for two years and later as a Programme Field Officer of Health Division from Feb 2005 until he joined MPH. He is currently a consultant with Sajida Foundation.

#### Om Prasad Gautam



Om completed his Master's Degree in Social Science in 2003. He has experience in Public Health Field with World Health Organization regarding Programme for Immunization of Preventable Diseases and Surveillance activities. He is currently working as a Consultant with World Health Organization, Programme for Immunization Preventable Diseases, Kathmandu Nepal.

Ali Murtaza



Ali is a Medical Doctor. He completed his MBBS from the Liaquat Medical College, University of Sindh, Pakistan. He also holds the MCPS in Ophthalmology. He is currently working as an In Charge of Community Eye Care and Training Department of Marie Adelaide Leprosy Centre, Karachi, Pakistan.

Sharon Low Bee Lian



Sharon has a Bachelor degree in Social work and History from the National University of Singapore, 1997. She has nine years of work experience in Singapore, Indonesia, China, Korea, Kenya, Sudan and USA. She was serving as a Medical Social worker in Singapore. At present she is working as Manager, Aged Transition Team at the Changi General Hospital, Agency of Integrated Care, Singapore.

Geoffrey Kaindi Mabuba



Geoffrey obtained his Advanced Diploma in Clinical Medicine from Tanga Medical Training Centre in 2002. He worked as an In Charge of various Adventist health facilities for 11 years & later as a Medical Director for 4 years. Before joining MPH programme he worked as a Medical Director, Tanzania Union where he was supervising all health facilities in Tanzania, treating patients, giving health education in Clinics, Community, Schools, Churches, and Reproductive health services. Currently, he is at the Adventist Health Ministry director, HIV/AIDS Coordinator, and Executive Secretary of ICPA (International Commission for Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse) Tanzania Union of SDA.

Kija Paschal Nyalali



Kija completed her Bachelor of Arts (Sociology) from the University of Dar es Salaam, 2004. She has worked as a research assistant and later as the Graduate Researcher with Sexual Reproductive Health Programmes and MEMA Kwa Vijana project run in collaboration between NIMR/AMREF/LSHTM and LSTM, in Mwanza region. She is at present working as a Graduate Researcher at the National Institute for Medical Research, Isamilo, Mwanza, Tanzania.

Arach Anna Agnes



Agnes has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (2003) and Certificate in Public Administration and Management (2006), from Makerere University Kampala. She has 3 years working experience: as an In-tern Nurse at Mulago Hospital, Clinic Supervisor with Medicins San Frontieres Holland at Internally Displaced People's Camp and Service Provider In-Charge, Family Planning Association of Uganda Lira, implementing Sexual Reproductive Health Rights in Northern Uganda.

Christine Zawedde



Christine has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Makerere University Kampala, Uganda (2003). She worked as an Intern Nurse at Mulago Hospital (2003-2004). She served as a Nursing Officer at the Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC), Kampala, Uganda, for two and a half years (2004-2007). In addition to HIV/AIDS medical research and clinical care, Christine has been actively involved in a number of Radio Talk Shows code named "TREAT FOR LIFE" JCRC Anti retroviral Therapy Communication Campaigns. At present she is appointed as a Programme Manager at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/ Kalangala Home-Based Confidential Voluntary HIV Counseling and Testing (KHBVCTP) and Basic Care (BC) in Kalangala District, Uganda.

### Sarah McLeod Wilbur



Sarah McLeod Wilbur holds a BA from the University of Virginia. In 1993 she became a Nationally Registered EMT-Paramedic. She has worked professionally as a journalist as well as a paramedic. She has been involved with Emergency Medical Services as both a Healthcare provider and Instructor for more than 20 years. She is now working as a Consultant for the SUZY Project at ICDDR,B, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

#### National Students

### Asish Kumar Das



Ashish is a medical doctor and graduated from Rajshahi University in 2003. He has the experience of working in Chittagong Hill Tracts on Basic Health Care Services with focus on Malaria under MSF-Holland-Germany, Khagrachari.

### ASM Zillur Rahman



Zillur has a Bachelor Degree of Science in Computer Science and Engineering from BUET, Dhaka, 2002. He was working in the Computer Science and Engineering Department of BRAC University as a Lecturer. Besides teaching he was also involved in Interactive Educational Software Development and Research and introducing CMD & PROGNOS Telemedicine Services.

### Faria Shabnam



Faria completed her MSc in Food & Nutrition from the University of Dhaka, 2005. She had been working for over a year as a Nutritionist in Young One of Chittagong Export Processing Zone before she joined the MPH Programme. She is currently a Senior Nutritionist with the Maternal and Neonatal Child Health Division of the BRAC Health Programme.

### Lubna Yeasmin



Lubna completed her MSS in Political Science, in 1997 under the National University. She did a short course on Food and Nutrition Programme Planning & Management in the year 2003 from the University of Philippine, Los Banos. She has 9 years of working experience with MI, KFW-GTZ, & UNICEF in the Health and Nutrition field. Later she served as a Consultant with FAO & BAN-HRDB under the Ministry of Agriculture. She is currently the Director, Monitoring and Evaluation of the Islamic Micro Finance Foundation.

### Md. Rezaul Haque



Reza obtained his BSc degree in Forestry from Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet, 2006. Reza has worked as the Regional Coordinator in Sylhet at the Centre for Communication and Policy Studies, partner organization of British Council's Connecting Futures Project until he joined the MPH programme. He is currently working as a Sector Specialist, with the BRAC Health Programme.

### Mejbah Uddin Bhuiyan



Mejbah completed his Bachelor of Science from Dhaka University in Microbiology, 2005. Later he joined as a Senior Research Assistant in the RTI/STI Laboratory, LSD, ICDDR,B. He has also worked in different projects sponsored by USAID, FHI & SAVE THE CHILDREN. He is currently a Research Associate at the School of Public Health, BRAC University.

### Razia Sultana



Razia is a Medical Doctor. She passed her MBBS from Gulf Medical College, Ajman, UAE in 2005. She has worked as a Junior House Officer in Mafraq Hospital, Abu Dhabi; UAE. She was undergoing a post graduate training in Internal Medicine in The Holy Family Red Crescent Medical College and Hospital, Dhaka, prior to joining the MPH Programme at the School of Public Health, BRAC University. She is currently a Research Associate at the School of Public

Health, BRAC University.

### Shampa Maria D'Costa



Shampa has obtained her Master's degree in Psychology, 1999 from Dhaka University. She started her job as a Research Assistant in Caritas Development Institute, Dhaka. She worked as a Research Officer in Population Council and also as a Programme Assistant in UNFPA.

### Sheikh Mohammad Mahbus Sobhan



Mahbus is a Medical Doctor. He graduated from Moulana Bhashani Medical College, Dhaka University, 2003. He was a Research Assistant in the Department of Epidemiology & Research of National Heart Foundation Hospital & Research Institute. He worked in two surveys sponsored by WHO & DGHS, Bangladesh in Chandpur for over a year. He is at present serving as a National Consultant, Emergency Humanitarian Action Programme (EHA) with WHO.

### Shumona Sharmin Salam



Shumona graduated in Computer Science with Summa Cum Laude from North South University in 2004 and then completed her Masters in Development Studies from BRAC University, 2006. She has worked as a Department Coordination Officer in the Department of Economics and Social Science, BRAC University. After completing MPH, she joined the RED, BRAC as a Research Associate.

### Tanvir Ahmed



Dr. Tanvir Ahmed is currently a Research Associate with BRAC University's James P. Grant School of Public Health after completing MPH from the same University. He also holds M.B.B.S. from Gono Bishwabidyalay, Gonoshasthaya Kendra (2004). Prior to joining BRAC University he worked as a diabetes educator in Sanofi-aventis, a leading multinational pharmaceutical company where he designed the first ever computer based database for Bangladeshi diabetes patients while operating a health education wing.

### Tarique Mohammad Nurul Huda



Tarique completed his Bsc (Hons) in Physiotherapy from University of Dhaka, 2003. He worked in Bangladesh Health Profession Institute (an Affiliate of Dhaka University), the Academic Institute of CRP, Chapain, and Savar as a lecturer. In 2007 he was enrolled in BSPH as a student of MPH. After successfully completing MPH he joined BSPH as a research associate.

### Zubair Shams



Zubair has a Bachelor in Dental Surgery from Dhaka Dental College, 2002. Since then he had been working as an Assistant Dental Surgeon in two different private dental clinics in Dhaka and Savar. He is also experienced in working as a Consultant Dental Surgeon with UNIHEALTH DENTAL which is a sister concern of Unihealth UniMed pharmaceuticals till he joined the MPH Programme. After completing MPH, Zubair is serving as an Intern at the GTZ, Bangladesh.

## Annex 4: Course Outline Academic Year 2007-2008

COURSE TITLE	COURSE NUMBER	Credit
REQUIRED COURSES: Block I		
1. Introduction to Public Health	MPH 501	2
2. Culture and Human Values in Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualitative Research Methods</li> <li>• Anthropological approaches to Public Health</li> </ul>	MPH 511 MPH 512	2 3
3. Community Diagnosis in Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantitative Research Methods</li> <li>• Biostatistics</li> <li>• Epidemiology</li> </ul>	MPH 520 MPH 521 MPH 522	3 3 3
4. Managing Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health System Management</li> <li>• Health Economics &amp; Health Care Financing</li> </ul>	MPH 530 MPH 531	5 2
5. Environment & Health	MPH 541	3
INTENSIVE COURSES: Block II		
6. Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	MPH 620	3
7. Health and Development (Seminars)	MPH 651	1
8. Reproductive & Sexual Health and Rights	MPH 660	2
9. Public Health Nutrition	MPH 670	2
10. Aging and Health	MPH 681	2
11a. Monitoring and Evaluation	MPH 691	1*
11b. Principles of Health Communication	MPH 690	1*
DISSERTATION: Block III		
12. Independent Study / Thesis	MPH 700	14
Total Credits		51

M&E course and HC Course are electives and students select either of the courses.



## Annex 5: Faculty (by course) for Academic Year 2007 -2008

### *Introduction to Public Health*

Richard Cash, MD, MPH, Harvard University (Course coordinator)  
Alayne Adams, PhD, Co-director of the Joint Learning Initiative on Children and HIV/AIDS (JLICA)  
Mushtaque Chowdhury, PhD, BRAC and Columbia University

### *Anthropological Approaches to Public Health*

Sjaak van der Geest, PhD, University of Amsterdam (Course coordinator)  
Shahaduz Zaman, MBBS, MPH, PhD, BRAC School of Public Health  
Sabina Faiz Rashid, PhD, BRAC School of Public Health

### *Qualitative Research Methods*

Shahaduz Zaman, MBBS, MPH, PhD, BRAC School of Public Health (Course Coordinator)  
Sabina Faiz Rashid, PhD, BRAC School of Public Health

### *Quantitative Research Methods*

Diana Romero, PhD, Columbia University (Course Coordinator)  
Mizanur Rashid Shuvra, MPH, BRAC School of Public Health

### *Biostatistics*

Abbas Bhuiya, PhD, ICDDR,B (Course Coordinator)  
Md Shahidullah, PhD, University of Illinois  
Mizanur Rashid Shuvra, MPH, BRAC School of Public Health

### *Epidemiology*

Shams El Arifeen, MPH, PhD, ICDDR,B (Course Coordinator)  
Steve Luby, PhD, ICDDR,B  
Kazi Mizanur Rahman, MBBS, MSc, ICDDR,B

### *Health Systems Management*

Anwar Islam, PhD, BRAC School of Public Health (Course coordinator)

### *Health Economics and Financing*

Kent Ranson, PhD, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (Course Coordinator)  
Damian Walker, PhD, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (Course Coordinator)

### *Environment and Health*

Bilqis Hoque, PhD, Environment & Population Research Centre (Course coordinator)  
Joseph Graziano, PhD, Columbia University

### *Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases*

Richard Cash, MD, MPH, Harvard University (Course coordinator)  
Steve Luby, PhD, ICDDR,B

### *Public Health Nutrition*

Tahmeed Ahmed, PhD, ICDDR,B (Course Coordinator)  
Ziauddin Hayder, PhD, International Atomic Energy Agency

### *Aging and Health*

Zarina Nahar Kabir, PhD, Director of the Social Development Programme, BRAC and Associate Professor, Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society, Karolinska Institutet (Course coordinator)  
Mostafa Zaman, PhD, World Health Organization

### *Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights*

Sabina Faiz Rashid, PhD, BRAC School of Public Health (Course Coordinator)  
Marge Koblinsky, PhD, ICDDR, B  
Malabika Sarker, MBBS, PhD, University of Heidelberg

### *Principles of Health Communications*

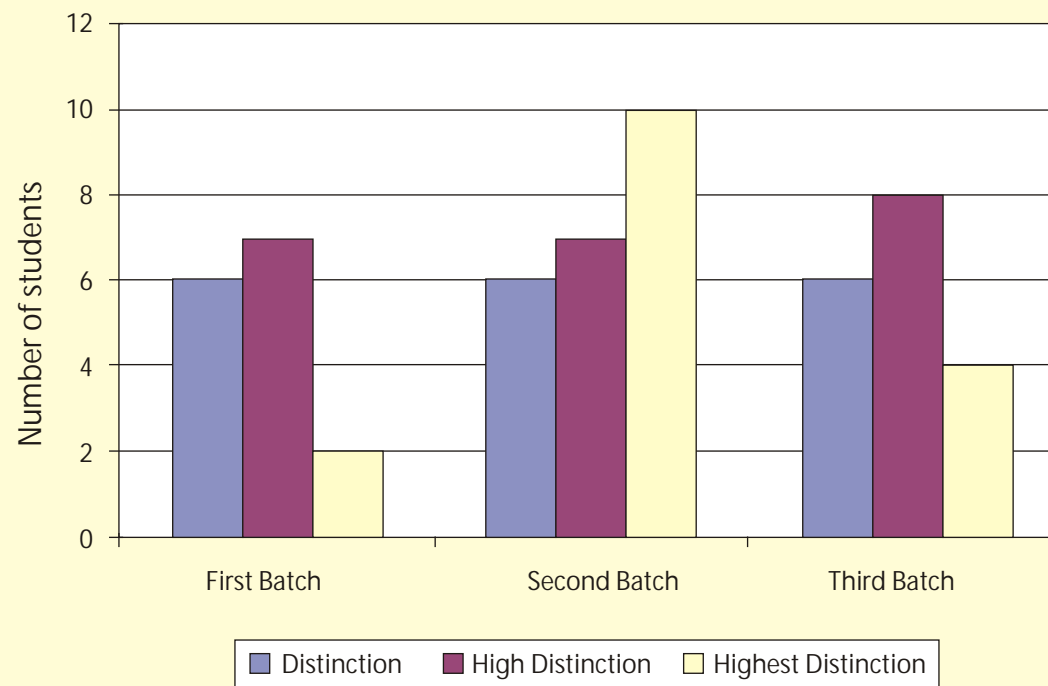
Muhiuddin Haider, PhD, University of Maryland (Course coordinator)

### *Monitoring and Evaluation*

Ana Coghlan, PhD, UNICEF  
Syed Masud Ahmed, PhD, RED, BRAC

## Annex 6: Students' performance over three graduating batches

### MPH Students' Performance



## Annex 7: Student Seminars

Seminar Titles	Dates	Name of Students
Eradicating Small pox	January 29,2007	Sarah Wilbur & Tanvir Ahmed
Preventing HIV & Sexually Transmitted Infections in Thailand	February 7,2007	Aung Ko Ko & Christine
Controlling TB In China	February 16,2007	Mejbah Uddin Bhuiyan & Md.Rezaul Haque
Eliminating Polio in Latin America & the Caribbean	February 25,2007	Om Prashad Gautam & Sharon
Saving Mother's Lives in Srilanka	March 6,2007	Arach Ann Agnes & Kija Paschal Nyalali
Preventing Diarrheal Death in Egypt	March 24,2007	Razia Sultana
Controlling Trachoma in Morocco	April 11,2007	Ali Murtoza & Dauod Khurram
Reducing Guinea Worm in Asia & Sub Saharan Africa	April 20,2007	Iris Mariaio & Abebual Zerihun
Controlling Chagas Disease in the Southern Cone of South America	April 29,2007	Mahbubus Sobhan & Ashish Das
Reducing fertility in Bangladesh	May 8,2007	Tarique Nurul Huda & Zillur Rahman
Curbing Tobacco use in Poland	May 17,2007	Prachi Lalana Mishra & Geoffrey Mabub
Preventing Iodine Deficiency in China	May 26,2007	Shampa Maria D'Costa
Eliminating Measles in Southern Africa	June 4,2007	Sumona Sharmin Salam & Faria Shabnam
Preventing Dental Caries in Jamaica	June13,2007	Zubair Shams & Lubna Yeasmin

## Annex 8: Student Research Topics

Abebual Zerihun	Workplace TB Control Programme: Challenges, Opportunities, and Feasible Strategies. An Operational Research of BRAC Workplace TB Control Programme, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Ali Murtaza	Role of Drop in Centre in reducing Drug Abuse among Street Children in Karachi (Pakistan)" - A Cross Sectional Study
Arach Anna Agnes	Breast Feeding Practices and Nutrition Status of Children 18-30 months, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Aung Ko Ko	Health Micro insurance: What makes people buy?
Ashish Kumar Das	Nutritional Status of The Under Five Children in The Chittagong Hill Tracts: A Comparative study of The Bengali and Indigenous Communities
Christine Zawedde	A Situation Assessment of Interface and Collaboration Between TB and HIV/AIDS Programmes in Dhaka, Bangladesh
Md Dauod Khuram	Effects of flood on treatment compliance of Tuberculosis in rural Dhaka, Bangladesh (a cross-sectional study)
Faria Shabnam	Food Intake Pattern and Nutritional Status of Intellectually Disabled and Non-Disabled School Children, Aged 4-12 Years in Dhaka City A Comparative Study
Geofrey Mabuba	To explore the perception and level of satisfaction of the elderly towards responsiveness of health workers in Bangladesh
Francis Iris Mariaio	Uptake of Visceral Leishmaniasis Control Interventions in an Endemic Village of Bangladesh.
Kija Paschal Nyalali	Ascertaining factors that influence late use of Menstrual Regulation [MR] services among women in Dhaka City, Bangladesh
Low Bee Lian Sharon	Wading in the waters: Mental resiliency in the face of disasters in Bangladesh
Lubna Yeasmin	Effect of Knowledge from Health Forum and Skill Training on Appropriate Cooking Practices (ACP) & Food Habits among Ultra Poor Households in Selected Areas Of Rural Rangpur
Md Rezaul Haque	Exploring the perception and practice of hygiene and sanitation among the teagarden families in Bangladesh
Mejbah Uddin Bhuyian	Risk factors associated with overweight and obesity among urban school going children in Bangladesh

Om Prasad Gautam	Community knowledge and experiences about Malaria, its preventives measures and use of insecticide treated nets in Bangladesh
Prachi Lalana Mishra	Sexuality among the Person with Spinal Cord Injury; Shaped Self Perception and the Coping Strategies: A Descriptive Study in India
Razia Sultana	Psychiatric Morbidity among Geriatric Population of an Old Home in Bangladesh : Patterns and Predictors
Sarah Wilbur	Walking away from disease: How active are women in Bangladesh?
Shampa Maria D Costa	A Qualitative Exploration of Sexual Behaviour of Married Adolescent Girls in Urban Slum in Dhaka, Bangladesh
Sheikh Md Mahbus Sobhan	Salt consumption in Hypertensive patients attending a tertiary level Cardiac Hospital
Shumona Sharmin	Postnatal Depression: Possible contributing factors and coping strategies of urban slum women in Bangladesh
Tanvir Ahmed	Perception of Importance of Illnesses by Elderly People: Socio-Cultural Construction of Illnesses in a Rural Community of Bangladesh
Tarique Md Nurul Huda	Spinal cord injury (SCI) in Bangladesh: A descriptive cross sectional Study of patients at a rehabilitation centre 2005-2007
Zubair Shams	Family experiences stigma associated with their child having oral cleft
A.SM.Zillur Rahman	"Mutho-Phone": Study on factors associated with using Mobile Phone as a potential health communication channel in Bangladesh context

## Annex 9: Bangladesh Health Watch Advisory Committee and Working Group Members

### The Advisory Committee

Dr. Rounaq Jahan, Member, Board of Directors, Research Initiatives Bangladesh (RIB) and Adjunct Professor, Columbia University, New York (Chair)

Dr. Halida Akhter, Director General, Family Planning Association of Bangladesh

Mr. Mahfuz Anam, Editor, The Daily Star

Dr. Maleka Banu, General Secretary, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad

Prof J R Choudhury, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University

Dr. Zafarullah Chowdhury, Coordinator, Gonoshasthya Kendra

Dr. Syed Jahangir Haider, Executive Director, Research Evaluation Associates for Development (READ)

Dr. Zakir Hussain, formerly of World Health Organization

Ms. Khushi Kabir, Coordinator, Nijera Kori

Dr. M. Kabir, Professor of Statistics, Jahangirnagar University

Dr. A. K. Azad Khan, General Secretary, BIRDEM/Bangladesh Diabetic Association

Dr. M. R. Khan, National Professor

Dr. Sadeqa Tahera Khanum, Formerly Director, National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine (NIPSOM)

Dr. Wahiduddin Mahmud, Professor of Economics, Dhaka University

Dr. Mahmudur Rahman, Chairman Board of Trustees, Dhaka Community Hospital

Mr. Motiur Rahman, Editor, Prothom Alo

Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue

Dr. M. Q. K. Talukder, Chairman, Centre for Women and Children Health

Dr. A M R Chowdhury, Deputy Executive Director, BRAC and Dean, James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University (Member Secretary)

### The Working Group

Dr. Abbas Bhuiya, Senior Scientist and Head, Social and Behavioural Sciences Unit & Poverty and Health Programme, ICDDR,B (Coordinator)

Dr. Ahmed Al-Sabir Director (Research), National Institute of Population, Research and Training (NIPORT)

Dr. Rafiqul Huda Chaudhury, Director, Center for Research and Training, East West University, Dhaka

Dr. A. M. R. Chowdhury, Deputy Executive Director, BRAC and Dean, James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University

Dr. A. J. Faisal, Director, Engender Health, Dhaka

Dr. Yasmine Ahmed, Director, Marie Stopes Clinic Society, Dhaka

Dr. A. M. Zakir Hussain, Public Health Specialist, PSO, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh

Dr. Naila Z. Khan, Professor, Child Development and Neurology, Bangladesh Institute of Child Health, Dhaka Shishu Hospital

Ms. Simeen Mahmud, Senior Fellow, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

Dr. Ubaidur Rob, Country Director, Population Council, Dhaka

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