



BIDS newsletter

Vol. 2 Issue 1 June 2014

BIDS Board of Trustees holds 93rd meeting

The 93rd meeting of the BIDS Board of Trustees was held in the BIDS Conference Room on 24 April 2014. The Chairman of the BIDS Board of Trustees and Minister for Planning Mr. A. H. M. Mustafa Kamal FCA presided over the meeting. The meeting discussed various issues related to BIDS and took several decisions. The Chairperson of the Board emphasized on the importance of undertaking policy relevant research on important issues facing the Bangladesh economy including mobile financial and easy banking services and other aspects in the financial sector. He also pointed to the importance of conducting research on the country's fiscal sector, especially on tax system and tax administration. The Board directed BIDS to expedite its efforts to start academic programs at BIDS including post graduate courses in Development Studies, Business Studies, ICT Programs and Policy and Macroeconomics. ■



BIDS Improves Think Tank Ranking in 2013

BIDS has been ranked 15th in the 'Top 40 Think Tanks in Asia' category (except China, India, Japan and Republic of Korea) in the recently released ranking using the 2013 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report by the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the University of Pennsylvania. In the rankings released on 22 January 2014, BIDS was placed 25th in the 'Top 80 International Development Think Tanks' category. The results are based on an international survey of over 1,950 scholars, public and private donors, policy makers, and journalists who helped rank more than 6,000 think tanks using

a set of thirty criteria developed by the TTCSP. The purpose of these rankings is to help improve the profile and performance of think tanks while highlighting the important work they do for governments and civil societies around the world. In 2011, BIDS was ranked 28th amongst the top thirty international development think tanks and 29th amongst the top thirty think tanks in Asia; while, in 2012, BIDS was ranked 28th amongst the top eighty international development think tanks category and 15th amongst the top forty think tanks in Asia and the Pacific. ■

From the Editor

This is the first issue of the Newsletter's second year of publication. BIDS publishes the newsletter to disseminate highlights of its activities to its stakeholders. We hope the publication proves useful in wider dissemination of the diverse policy research and other activities that the Institute undertakes in its pursuit of promoting informed policies. We seek views and suggestions from our valued stakeholders to improve our efforts.

The year 2014 has so far been unique and a busy year for BIDS. The Institute adopted a diverse research agenda as reflected in its annual research program and the calendar of activities for the year. During 2013, BIDS completed a total of 23 research studies and initiated 19 new ones. Along with a total of 20 studies which remained ongoing in January 2014, BIDS has initiated more than 12 new studies during the first six months of the year. These research studies relate to both macroeconomic and sectoral issues covering a wide range of priority areas.

Over the first six months of the year, publication and dissemination activities also got a boost with the publication of books, monographs, research reports, policy briefs and other dissemination materials. The BIDS researchers also had to their credit a number of prestigious publications in journals and books that came out during the last six months.

We are confident our friends and well wishers both at home and abroad will appreciate our efforts to make more effective contribution to the policy making community and civil society through our research and other activities. We hope they will continue to endorse our efforts and extend their support to move forward. ■

Study Highlights

Financial Implications for Food Security Interventions in the Context of Climate Change in Bangladesh

With apparent visibility of the impacts of climate change in various forms such as temperature extremes, erratic rainfall, and rising frequency and intensity of floods, cyclones, droughts, and increasing prevalence of rough weather in the Bay of Bengal, it is widely apprehended that the potential impacts of climate change on key resources could be substantial with significant implications on food security in Bangladesh.

In view of the urgency of the food security issues and the need to generate informed knowledge on financing needs for achieving food security in the face of potential climate change impacts, the present research has been done by BIDS with support from IUCN. The study aims to (i) assess financial implications of adaptation to climate change in relation to food security; (ii) identify priority actions to enhance Bangladesh's food security to feed into policy and strategy documents of the government; (iii) provide benchmark information for international climate change negotiations; and (iv) support the decision makers on financial allocation for climate resilient development activities.

Climate change impacts on food security

Although the exact magnitudes are likely to vary, the plausible impacts of climate change on major natural resources would affect all dimensions of food security in Bangladesh. The prediction is that crop agriculture will be affected most which is the major vehicle of ensuring food security in the country. Overall, it is apprehended that crop production might be reduced by 30 percent by the end of the century, especially rice and wheat production might be reduced between 8 percent and 32 percent by 2050.

Climate change has both direct and indirect impacts on fish stocks that are exploited commercially. Direct effects act on physiology and behavior and alter the growth rate, development, reproductive capacity, mortality and migration. Indirect effects alter the productivity, structure, and composition of the ecosystem on which fish depend for food and shelter. Similarly, livestock production would be affected by climate change due to reduction in the quality and availability of feed and water, heat and other environmental stresses, and preponderance of livestock parasites, pests, and diseases. However, it is important to recognize that there do not exist any universally accepted objective means of measuring vulnerability. One ranking, which is based on subjective assessment of four dimensions (certainty of impact, timing, severity of impact, and importance of the resource), is given in Table 1.

Table 1: Ranking of climate change risks for Bangladesh

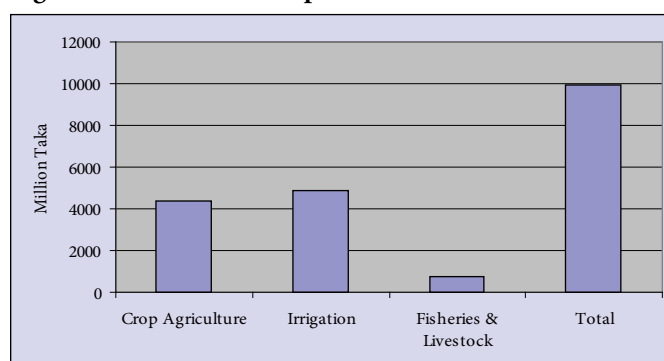
Resource/ ranking	Certainty of impact	Timing of impact	Severity of impact	Importance of resource
Water resources (flooding)	Medium- high	High	High	High
Coastal resources	High	Low	High	High
Human health	Low- medium	Medium	Medium- high	High
Agriculture	Medium	Low- medium	Low- medium	High

Costing of climate change adaptation

An important preliminary step in estimating the costs of climate change impacts is the technical and socioeconomic evaluation of available adaptation options in order to identify the most appropriate and feasible option. In the present study, actual estimation of costs followed the micro-based approach focusing primarily on projects included in the Annual Development Program (ADP). Micro level costing was done through incorporating relevant climate change related components in each of these projects. These micro-level costing was subsequently used to derive the macro (national) level cost of adaptation.

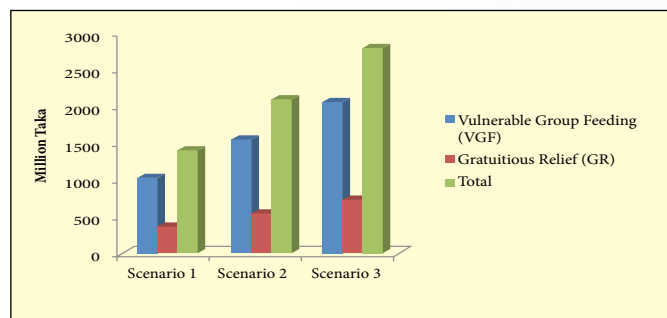
In order to address the impact of climate change and make ADP projects related to food security climate change resilient, an additional amount of Tk. 9,951 million would be needed in FY2013-14 (Figure 1). In the ADP of FY2013-14, if climate change adaptation measures are incorporated in the availability component of all food security related projects, the total cost would amount to Tk. 127,340 million. These amounts are needed for projects which are directly related to the availability component of food security that is for projects which are directly linked with raising agricultural production. There are, however, a large number of projects which indirectly contribute to food security, these have not been considered in the above calculations.

Figure 1: Incremental adaptation cost at the national level



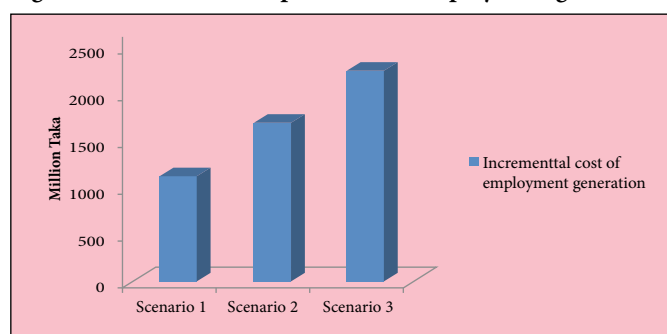
In case of access to food, Figure 2 shows that the incremental climate change adaptation costs increases from Tk. 1,404 million under scenario 1 (assuming that 10 percent of the needy families would be adversely affected by climate change impacts) to Tk. 2,106 million under scenario 2 (in which 15 percent of the needy families are adversely affected) and further to Tk. 2,808 million under scenario 3 (which assumes that 20 percent of the needy families are adversely affected).

Figure 2: Incremental adaptation cost: relief channels



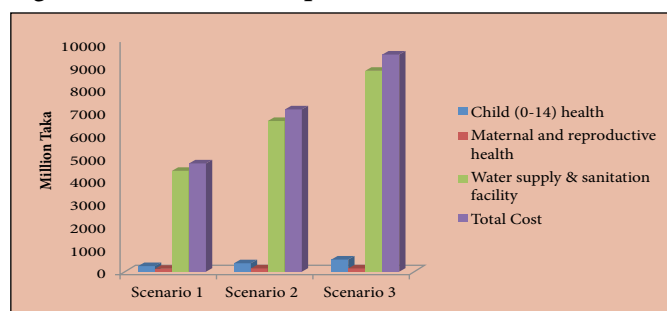
On the other hand, incremental adaptation costs due to climate change have been estimated for providing employment to the affected people under three alternative scenarios (Figure 3). It is observed that the incremental climate change adaptation cost increases from Tk. 1,133 million in scenario 1 (assuming that 10 percent of the needy households are adversely affected) to Tk. 1,699 million in scenario 2 (15 percent of the needy households are adversely affected) and further to Tk. 2,265 million in scenario 3 (20 percent of the needy households are adversely affected).

Figure 3: Incremental adaptation cost: employment generation



Climate change is expected to pose increased risks to human health and nutrition, especially in view of the poor state of the country's public health infrastructure, and would thus impose additional costs to the economy. The estimates in Figure 4 show that the incremental climate change adaptation costs would increase from Tk. 4,743 million in scenario 1 (assuming that 10 percent of the people would be adversely affected) to Tk. 7,115 million in scenario 2 (15 percent of the people adversely affected) and further to Tk. 9,485 million in scenario 3 (in which 20 percent of the people are assumed to be adversely affected). In the total, the provision of water supply and sanitation claims the predominant share (more than 90 percent) of the incremental adaptation costs due to climate change.

Figure 4: Incremental adaptation cost: food utilization



The base line scenario shows that, in order to address the adverse impacts of climate change in the context of food security, the incremental costs would range between Tk. 17,231 million and Tk. 24,509 million for covering the three major dimensions of food security—availability, access and utilization (Table 2).

Table 2: Incremental adaptation cost: an integrated view

Sub-sector	Incremental climate change adaptation cost (million Taka)		
Crop agriculture	4,367		
Irrigation	4,851		
Fisheries & livestock	733		
Total (availability)	9,951		
Relief channels of PFDS	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
Vulnerable group feeding (VGF)	1,034	1,551	2,068
Gratuitous relief (GR)	370	555	740
Sub-total(relief channel)	1,404	2,106	2,808
Employment generation	1,133	1,699	2,265
Total (access)	2,537	3,805	5,073
Child health	257	386	514
Maternal and reproductive health	97	145	193
Water supply and sanitation facilities	4,389	6,584	8,778
Total (utilization)	4,743	7,115	9,485
Total	17,231	20,871	24,509

From the policy perspectives, the major issue is not resource availability but to create awareness among relevant stakeholders and take appropriate measures to ensure that all food security related projects become sensitive to climate change. This would require incorporation of appropriate changes in the design of relevant project documents such that climate change interventions are considered and taken into account during the formulation of the projects (similar to poverty reduction or similar other components). This will bring a desirable qualitative change in the project designing framework in the country. This will also be cost effective especially in the long run since relatively small additional investments at present would make the food security sector climate resilient along with capacity to withstand the onslaughts of climate change adversities thus saving not only huge financial resources in future but also ensuring sustainable food security of the country.

The economy wide climate change adaptation cost for food security will obviously be much higher. Viewed from this perspective, the financial support needed for adaptation activities will be substantially higher than the above estimates for which Bangladesh needs increased financial and technical assistance from the world community. ■

Studies Initiated during January-June 2014

Stakeholder Mapping and Assessment on Social Housing Initiatives

The Sustainable Social Housing Initiative (SUSHI) has been initiated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 2009 to promote the use of resource and energy efficient building solutions in social housing programs in developing countries. Under the Initiative, activities are undertaken to raise awareness of the potential benefits of sustainable solutions, map available technologies and solutions, conduct trainings to build capacity in technical and political spheres, and provide concrete and locally-appropriate recommendations to social housing developers. Under SUSHI, which is being implemented in Bangladesh by BIDS with assistance from UNEP, activities are planned to strengthen local capacities for the integration of sustainable solutions in social housing programs. This will also test the SUSHI guidelines and approach in Bangladesh.

Reform Issues in the Energy Sector of Bangladesh

BIDS has been working with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Winnipeg under its Global Subsidies Initiative (GSI) since 2011 to research and support the reform of fossil-fuel subsidies in Bangladesh. The program in Bangladesh aims to (i) provide practical policy research and advice supporting government efforts to reduce fossil-fuel subsidies; (ii) raise awareness of, and facilitates an informed national dialogue on, reform options; and (iii) build capacity of local actors to engage in the national dialogue and contribute to the reform process. This study will provide a short policy brief which addresses the key issues in the energy sector including the current status of subsidies and the need for reform, likely impacts of reform and analysis of fiscal impacts, current reform agenda of the government and key barriers, options for progressing reform, and recommendations on how to prioritize the reform agenda.

Second Small Scale Water Resources Development Project

During the early to mid 2000s, the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) has implemented around 300 small scale water resources management subprojects under the Second Small Scale Water Resources Development Sector Project (SSWRDSP-2) with the aim of improving water management, flood and drainage management, water conservation and command area development. The study, undertaken by BIDS for the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the Ministry of Planning, aims to carry out an evaluation of the performance of a sample of around 40 subprojects to review whether the project activities are fully implemented and present functional status of subprojects and assess, among others, impacts of project activities in increasing employment, women's participation in development, environment and other social indicators.

Economic Census 2013: Post Enumeration Check

The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) conducted the Economic Census 2013 in two phases during March-May 2013 covering the entire country. Under the study, BIDS will

conduct an independent evaluation of the coverage of census and quality of enumeration by undertaking a post enumeration check (PEC) survey.

Evaluation of Technical Training Centers/IGA Institutes

There are about 3,290 formal technical and vocational training institutes in the country, of which 519 are training institutes affiliated with different ministries and the rest 2,771 are training institutes within the purview of basic educational program. These training institutes/centers have been implemented by different ministries through funding under different Annual Development Program (ADP). This study by BIDS, sponsored by the Evaluation Sector, Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), Ministry of Planning, will carry out an evaluation on the technical training centers (TTCs) to review the implementation status of construction and rehabilitation works of the TTCs or similar IGAs related training centers, examine whether the training courses are adequate and economically gainful, assess the skills and use of skills, and examine how far the objectives of training have been achieved in terms of human resource development and overall employment opportunities.

Impact Evaluation of National Agricultural Technology Project Phase I

The National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) aims to support the government's strategy to improve national agricultural productivity and farm income with focus on small and marginal farmers. This study by BIDS, sponsored by the Evaluation Sector, Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), Ministry of Planning, will carry out an evaluation on the implementation status of major components and their present functional status and examine if the project has been successful in improving research capacities and effectiveness of the National Agricultural Research System (NARS). This will also assess, among others, the impact of the project in increasing productivity, livelihood security and profitability in crop sector, livestock and inland aquaculture.

Evaluation of the HYSAWA Project

The government has been implementing the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Program Support Second Phase (WSSPS-II) with support from the Government of Denmark through Danida since 2006. The Hygienic Promotion, Sanitation and Water Supply Project (HYSAWA Project) is a project under the water supply and sanitation (WSS) component of the WSSPS-II. The HYSAWA Project promoted Union Parishad (UP) based investments focusing on the poor, un-served and under-served areas. The goal is to contribute to the government's policy to reduce poverty through improved and sustainable public health and environment and reach the MDGs for water and sanitation. The present study, undertaken for the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) under the Ministry of Planning, will investigate whether the components of the project were fully implemented, review the present functional status of major activities, and assess the intended effects of project activities. It will further assess, among others, the impacts of project activities in increasing

awareness of health practices, employment opportunity for women, and sustainability and overall community management of the project.

Evaluation of the ROSC Project

Despite achieving significant progress in education over the last two decades, especially in respect of increasing access to both primary and secondary education, about 1.1 million children of pre-primary school age (5 years), 2.6 million children of primary school age (6-10 years), and 3.0 million children of junior secondary school age (11-13 years) are out of school. Given this context, the government with support from the development partners has undertaken the 'Reaching Out of School Children (ROSC) Project' in 2004 to give a chance to be educated to the children who drop-out school or never went to school for primary education ever. The project blends formal education with non-formal means of delivery to the young learners, providing them with an opportunity to complete grade five leading to transition to secondary education.

The project has now moved on to its second phase and, hence, it is important to evaluate the impact of phase I of the project. The present study has been undertaken by BIDS for the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the Ministry of Planning. The study aims to rigorously evaluate the outputs and impact of the project activities along with investigating any major difficulties and flaws that impeded the proper implementation and management of project activities.

Impact Assessment of Microcredit (Self-Employment) Program of DYD

Under this study, BIDS will carry out an evaluation an impact analysis and assess the performance of the Microcredit (Self-Employment) Program of the Department of Youth Development, Ministry of Youth and Sports in selected districts and upazilas.

Land Market Survey for Determining the Current Market Price of Lands in Eight Selected Mouzas of Shibchar Upazila under Madaripur District affected by PMBP

Under the study which is sponsored by the Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA), Bridges Division, Ministry of Communication, BIDS will carry out land market surveys in eight mouzas in Shibchar upazila in Madaripur district for determining the current market price (CMP) of the acquired private land for the Padma Multipurpose Bridge Project (PMBP). The CMP will be assessed for each affected mouza for each type of affected land averaging minimum approved price of land available at respective Sub-Registrar's office, reported price, and transacted price of land in those mouzas.

Baseline Survey of Safe City Program

The study, sponsored by ActionAid Bangladesh (AAB), will identify, articulate and document the existing sexual/fear of sexual violence situation in public spaces of women and girls in urban and peri-urban areas and access to gender responsive public services so that changes as a result of ten interventions under the light of 'Women: Right to City' can be measured and the process to reach those changes can be tracked for future improvement. The study will adopt a feminist approach to monitoring and evaluation.

Support to Parliamentary Standing Committee on Budget Oversight

Under the study, research reports on budget analysis will be prepared by BIDS to provide support to four Parliamentary Standing Committees (PSCs) on oversight of budget implementation. Seminars will also be arranged to disseminate the reports to the Members of Parliament (MP). The research reports will deal with topics on budget for respective ministries and the national economy so that the MPs may utilize these briefs during the budget session of the Parliament and also in monitoring the implementation of the budget. ■

Completed Studies

Impact Assessment of 'Nuton Jibon' Project

The study evaluated the impact of Nuton Jibon Project, a program for livelihood development of the poor and hardcore poor households, which was initiated in 2007 and previously known as Social Investment Program Project (SIPP). The broad objective of the project is to lift the rural poor, hardcore poor and vulnerable people out of poverty through a participatory approach popularly known as Community Driven Development (CDD) in 16 north-western districts. The Phase-II of the project, called SIPP-II, became effective in December 2010 and is expected to be completed in 2016.

The assessment reports that the project has made decent progress in achieving its development objectives. About 27 percent of the hardcore poor and 31 percent of the poor have graduated above the poverty line presumably due to project interventions. Nearly 35 percent of the households have increased their incomes by 40-50 percent. About 83 percent of the village institutions are functioning in a transparent, inclusive and accountable manner. The study emphasizes on

the importance of introducing second generation institutions in all project districts and building their capacity to sustain the positive outcomes.

Estimation of the Parameters Needed for Integrated and Effective PFDS Planning in Bangladesh

This study aims to (i) streamline the supply-side as well as the demand side estimates and analyze the food gap in Bangladesh; (ii) assist the policy makers in early decision making for domestic and international procurement of food grain; and (iii) assist the government in determining the public food distribution system (PFDS) size and desirable stock of food grains over the months of a year for operating an integrated and effective PFDS.

The study provides estimates of the parameters which are needed for integrated and effective PFDS planning in Bangladesh. The use of these parameters in making historical simulation of the country's food gap gives a more realistic and convincing picture of the food economy which is capable of providing useful inputs to policy making in the area.

Integration of Women into Grameen Shakti's Clean Energy Program in Bangladesh

The study provides an assessment of the progress made and obstacles encountered in training and empowering women in renewable energy technologies. The study suggests that although the outputs of the program are largely achieved, tangible outcomes are to be realized. Despite the training achievements, few trainees are employed or engaged as entrepreneurs in the

renewable energy sector. Since the purpose of the project was to integrate the trainees into the renewable energy sector, the overarching question is the low level of integration achieved. Since most of the human capital formed through the project has not been put to proper use, there has been a considerable skill loss to the trainees. From the sustainability perspective, it is important to introduce second generation institutions at the earliest opportunity in all project districts and build up their capacities. ■



The Bangladesh Economists' Forum (BEF) held its First Conference during 21-22 June 2014 at the Radisson Hotel in Dhaka which was organized by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Policy Research Institute (PRI) and the Bangladesh Bank. The BEF was established in April 2013 by leading Bangladeshi economists living in Bangladesh and abroad, who felt that divisive politics was getting into the way of resolving and addressing comprehensively long-term development issues of Bangladesh. The economists who constitute the BEF are all established non-partisan professionals whose common interest is to help Bangladesh move ahead in line with its full long-term development potential. The main objective of BEF is to bring together best possible analysis and knowledge of major development issues and challenges to help policy makers debate and decide on related public policies and institutions. As a first step, the BEF organized the Conference to discuss leading long-term development issues of Bangladesh.

Mr. Abul Maal A. Muhith, Hon'ble Finance Minister,

graced the inaugural ceremony as the Chief Guest. The Conference was attended by a large number of high-level policy makers and economists from Bangladesh and abroad who had a frank and objective exchange of views on a wide range of policy and institutional reform issues.

The coverage of themes and specific issues included challenges relating to GDP growth acceleration, public resource mobilization, fiscal decentralization, financial sector and capital markets, mobilization of foreign resources, trade policy reforms, infrastructure development, agriculture and food security, urban development, employment, poverty and social protection, education, environmental management, governance, and public policies and institutions. These are arguably amongst the foremost long-term development challenges facing Bangladesh for the next 10-15 years. The papers and special lectures were prepared and presented by eminent national and international policy makers and economists. For web link to BEF papers, visit http://pri-bd.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id= ■

News from SANEI

Call for proposals under SANEI 16th Round RRC

The South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutes (SANEI), the South Asian arm of the Global Development Network (GDN), is inviting research proposals for its 16th round of Regional Research Competition (RRC) within the thematic focus of *Regional Integration in South Asia*. The proposed research topic could cover a wide range of issues including (but not limited to) estimating the economic impacts of SAFTA, regional and bilateral trade agreements, intra-industry trade and trade complementarities, impediments to trade and transaction costs, non-tariff barriers, cross border investments, regional and bilateral trade in services,

and energy trade. The proposals should reach the SANEI Secretariat at BIDS on or before 31 August 2014. For details on terms of reference and other guidelines, see SANEI website (www.saneinetwork.net).

13th SANEI Annual Conference

The 13th Annual Conference of the South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutes (SANEI) will be held during 30-31 August 2014 in Dhaka. In the Conference, among other events SANEI researchers of the 15th round RRC will present their study findings. It is expected that top South Asian policy makers, economists, social scientists and other academicians will participate in various sessions of the Conference. ■

PRSSP News



RAC meeting of PRSSP Held

The third meeting of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) under the Policy Research and Strategy Support Program (PRSSP), a collaborative program between IFPRI and BIDS, and sponsored by USAID, was held on 27 April 2014 at the BIDS Conference Room. The meeting was chaired by Mr. M. Syeduzzaman, former Finance Minister and Chairperson of RAC. The meeting reviewed the

activities of PRSSP including the progress of five studies currently being conducted by BIDS under the Program.

Policy Briefs Published

Under the PRSSP, BIDS published eight Policy Briefs on food security and agricultural development issues in April 2014. These briefs draw from eight studies carried out by BIDS researchers during the first phase of the Program. ■

Staff Rejoining BIDS

Mohammad Harunur Rashid Bhuiyan joined BIDS as Research Associate in April 2014 after completion of his doctoral studies at Monash University as an Endeavour Scholar. His doctoral study relates to peasants' perceptions and responses to natural disaster in light of economics and politics of resilience.

Mohammad Golam Nabi Mazumder joined BIDS as Research Associate in June 2014. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. degree at the University of Pittsburgh.

Moogdho Mim Mahzab joined BIDS as Research Associate in July 2014 after completion of his Masters degree in Economics from Williams College. ■

New Staff

Md. Atiqur Rahman joined BIDS as Research Associate in February 2014 after his graduation in Economics from the University of Dhaka.

Md. Imanur Rahman recently joined as Secretary of BIDS. Prior to joining BIDS, he worked as the Deputy Director (Administration) at the Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare devoted to post graduate medical education (FCPS and MCPS), training and research. He also served in different organizations of the local government and projects under the Ministry of Land and the Rural Development Division. ■

BIDS Researchers in International Meetings

Mustafa K. Mujeri, Director General

- Attended the 2nd Asia Think Tank Summit in Tokyo during 20-22 May 2014 sponsored by Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI).

- Attended the GDN 15th Annual Global Development Conference in Accra during 18-20 June 2014 sponsored by the Global Development Network (GDN).

Binayak Sen, Research Director

- Participated in the seminar on Inequality in Developing Countries in New York on 29 June 2014 sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Kazi Ali Toufique, Research Director

- Participated in the seminar on Aquaculture and the Poor: Improving Fish Production Consumption and Nutrition Linkage in Malaysia during 12-14 May 2014

sponsored by the World Fish Malaysia.

Sharifa Begum, Senior Research Fellow

- Attended the IFA's 12th Global Conference 2014 in Hyderabad during 10-13 June 2014 sponsored by UNFPA, Bangladesh.

K M Nabiul Islam, Senior Research Fellow

- Participated in the Assessing Health, Livelihood, Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation in Populous Delta in India during 06-11 January 2014 sponsored by the Ecosystem Service for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA).

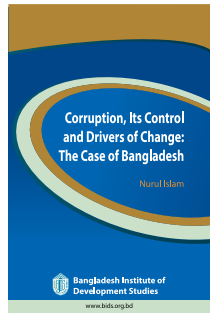
Mohammad Yunus, Senior Research Fellow

- Participated in the JICA Survey on Transport Infrastructure for Regional Connectivity in and around South Asia in India on 13 February 2014 sponsored by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). ■

New Publications

Corruption, its control and drivers of change: The case of Bangladesh

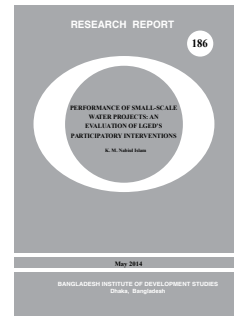
The study examines the impact of corruption on growth and equity in the context of Bangladesh. Recognizing the highly complex nature of the processes underlying corruption in a modern state the study suggests that, apart from building up strong public institutions, it is imperative that a process of incremental reforms at the grassroots level can stimulate changes on a wider scale. In this respect, the study also examines the role of the drivers of change in respect of anti-corruption efforts in Bangladesh including the contribution of the international community.



employment; agriculture and food security; education, health and social development; energy and power sector issues; safety nets and social protection; governance issues; industry and services sector issues; physical infrastructure development; natural resource economics; and climate change impacts.

Research Report 186: Performance of small-scale water projects: An evaluation of LGED's participatory interventions

The study conducts an evaluation of the small scale water resources projects constructed by the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) under its Small Scale Water Resources Development Sector Project (SSWRDSP) in all the districts of Bangladesh, except three hill districts (Rangamati, Bandarban and Khagrachari). The study assesses, among others, the impact as well as performance of project activities and undertakes economic and financial analysis of selected sub-projects.



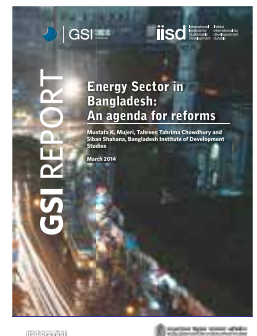
BIDS annual research programme 2013-14

The publication provides summary information on the research agenda that the Institute intends to carry out during the period July 2013 to June 2014. It covers a total of 24 research studies. The research programme focuses on a number of major themes, such as macroeconomic policy and employment; poverty, marginality and deprivation; agriculture and food security; education, health and social development; energy and power sector issues; industry and services sector issues; natural resource economics; and climate change impacts.



Energy sector in Bangladesh: An agenda for reforms

The policy brief addresses key priority issues for reform in the energy sector along with an agenda for its progressive implementation. The policy brief includes an overview of recent BIDS research on fossil-fuel subsidies for a policy audience.



BIDS research 2012-13: Major findings and policy implications of completed studies

The publication provides the highlights of major findings and policy implications of the research studies that the Institute completed during the period July 2012 to December 2013. It covers a total of 30 research studies. The completed studies focus on a number of major themes, such as macroeconomic policy and



Policy briefs on food security and agricultural development

Drawing on the findings of eight studies conducted under PRSSP, eight policy briefs have been published covering different aspects of Bangladesh's food economy. ■



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