

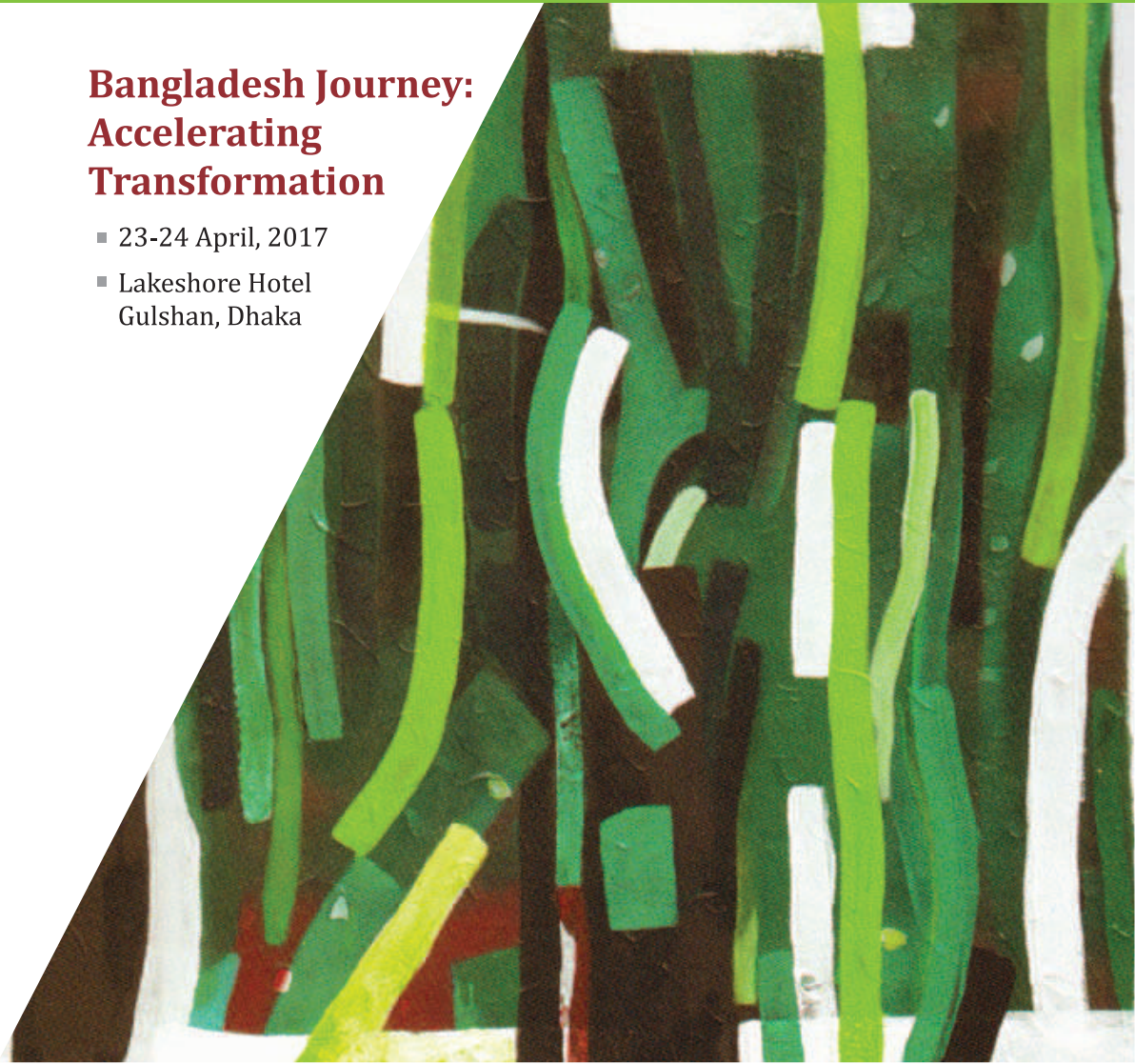


**BIDS CRITICAL  
CONVERSATIONS**

**2017**

**Bangladesh Journey:  
Accelerating  
Transformation**

- 23-24 April, 2017
- Lakeshore Hotel  
Gulshan, Dhaka



## **BIDS Critical Conversations 2017**

### **The Bangladesh Journey: Accelerating Transformation**

We take great pleasure in inviting you to this two-day, annual event where we attempt to grapple with the key issues and challenges that confront the Bangladesh economy. Since our last conference, the single most important thing to happen has been Bangladesh's graduation to Low Middle Income status, which in turn has engendered an atmosphere of great optimism and hope. However, recent months have also brought to focus some dark clouds in the horizon. Exports are slowing, remittances are falling and labour absorption in manufacturing is faltering. Investments remain stagnant and the economy - both rural and urban, are not diversifying fast enough.

This year therefore, it would be important take stock and recommend how to move forward on the development promises that we have set forth. The purpose of the conference is thus, to generate thoughtful, well-argued, rational deliberations around key issues and concerns. This particular platform was created in the belief that questions of development are not solely, the jurisdiction of academics, policy makers, researchers and intellectuals - indeed, it is important to reach out vigorously to civil society partners, development practitioners, journalists and activists whose perspectives would be invaluable in these conversations.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to come, listen and contribute so that together we can chart out the course for the future. We eagerly look forward to seeing you in BIDS Critical Conversations, 2017.



**K A S Murshid**  
Director General

# PROGRAMME

## Day 1: Sunday, 23 April, 2017

9:00 am - 9:30 am	<b>REGISTRATION AND TEA (La Vita Hall)</b>
<b>Inaugural Session</b>	<b>Bangladesh Journey: Continuing Conversation</b>
30 am - 11:00 am La Vita Hall	<p><b>Chair</b> : <i>Dr. Mohammed Farashuddin</i>, Former Governor, Bangladesh Bank</p> <p><b>Chief Guest</b> : <i>Mr. A H M Mustafa Kamal</i>, MP, Honorable Minister, Ministry of Planning, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh</p> <p><b>Guest of Honour</b> : <i>Mr. M.A. Mannan</i>, MP, State Minister for Finance and Planning, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh</p> <p><b>Special Guest</b> : <i>Mr. Ziaul Islam</i>, Secretary, Planning Division</p> <p><b>Keynote Presentation</b> : <i>Dr. K.A.S. Murshid</i>, Director General, BIDS</p>
<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Can Bangladesh Continue to Grow without "Good Governance?"</b>
11:15 am - 12:45 pm La Vita Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman</i>, Executive Chairman, Power and Participation Research Centre and Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Dr. Selim Raihan</i>, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka</li> <li><i>Dr. Mirza Hassan</i>, Adjunct Fellow, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development, BRAC University</li> <li><i>Dr. Akbar Ali Khan</i>, Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh</li> <li><i>Professor Rounaq Jahan</i>, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Kazi Ali Toufique</i>, BIDS</p>
12:45 pm - 1:45 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
<b>Session 2A</b>	<b>Improving Quality of Education</b>
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm La Vita Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Ms. Rasheda K Choudhury</i>, Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Dr. Manzoor Ahmed</i>, Professor Emeritus, BRAC University</li> <li><i>Dr. M.M. Akash</i>, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka</li> <li><i>Dr. Imtiaz Mahmud</i>, Deputy Chief, Socio Economic Infrastructure Division, Planning Commission</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Minhaj Mahmud</i>, BIDS</p>
<b>Session 2B</b>	<b>Potential Growth and its Role in Policy</b>
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm Shomadhan Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Dr. Ahsan H Mansur</i>, Executive Director, Policy Research Institute</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Dr. M. Ismail Hossain</i>, Professor, Department of Economics, North South University</li> <li><i>Dr. Mohammad Tareque</i>, Former Finance Secretary, Government of Bangladesh</li> <li><i>Ms. Stella Kaendera</i>, Resident Representative for Bangladesh, IMF</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Biru Paksha Paul</i>, BIDS</p>

3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	TEA / COFFEE BREAK
<b>Session 3A</b>	<b>Emerging Labour Market Issues</b>
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm La Vita Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Dr. Rushidan Islam Rahman</i>, Executive Chairperson, Centre for Development and Employment Research</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Dr. ATM Nurul Amin</i>, Professor, Department of Environment Science and Management, North South University</li> <li>2. <i>Ms. Tahsinah Ahmed</i>, Director, Skills Development Programme, BRAC</li> <li>3. <i>Mr. Syed Nasim Manzur</i>, Managing Director, Apex Footwear Limited</li> <li>4. <i>Ms. Farhana Rahman</i>, Chief Executive Officer, UY Systems Ltd. &amp; Vice President, BASIS</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. K.A.S Murshid</i>, BIDS</p>
<b>Session 3B</b>	<b>Critical Issues in Child and Maternal Nutrition</b>
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Shomadhan Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Dr. Mushtaque Chowdhury</i>, Vice Chairperson, BRAC</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Dr. Akhter Ahmed</i>, Country Representative, IFPRI</li> <li>2. <i>Dr. Fahmida Tofail</i>, Scientist, Child Development Unit, ICDDR,B</li> <li>3. <i>Mr. Monirul Islam</i>, Deputy Chief, General Economics Division, Planning Commission</li> <li>4. <i>Dr. Mahfuza Rifat</i>, Head, BRAC Health, Nutrition &amp; Population Programme</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Mainul Haque</i>, BIDS</p>
<b>Day 2: Monday, 24 April, 2017</b>	
9:00 am - 9:30 am	REGISTRATION AND TEA (La Vita Hall)
<b>Session 1A</b>	<b>Financial Inclusion and Banking Sector: Some Critical Issues</b>
9:30 am - 11:00 am La Vita Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Professor Mustafizur Rahman</i>, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Professor Baqui Khalily</i>, Advisor &amp; Former Executive Director, Institute for Inclusive Finance and Development</li> <li>2. <i>Mr. Syed Mahbubur Rahman</i>, Managing Director, Dhaka Bank Ltd.</li> <li>3. <i>Dr. Faisal Ahmed</i>, Senior Economic Advisor to the Governor, Bangladesh Bank</li> <li>4. <i>Dr. Fahmida Khatun</i>, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Kazi Iqbal</i>, BIDS</p>
<b>Session 1B</b>	<b>Sustainable Cities in Bangladesh: Issues and Strategies</b>
9:30 am - 11:00 am Shomadhan Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman</i>, Executive Director, BRAC Institute of Governance Development, BRAC University</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Professor Nazrul Islam</i>, Chairman, Centre for Urban Studies</li> <li>2. <i>Ms. Nasim Firdaus</i>, Former Ambassador</li> <li>3. <i>Mr. Iqbal Habib</i>, Architect</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Anwara Begum</i>, BIDS</p>

<b>Session 2A</b>	<b>Future Role of Mobile Financial Services</b>
11:00 am - 12:30 pm La Vita Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Mr. Eunusur Rahman</i>, Secretary, Bank and Financial Institutions Division, Ministry of Finance</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Dr. Khurshid Alam</i>, Operations Director, Policy Research Institute</li> <li>2. <i>Mr. A.K.M Fahim Mashroor</i>, Chief Executive Officer, Bdjobs.com</li> <li>3. <i>Dr. Lila Rashid</i>, General Manager, Payment System Department, Bangladesh Bank</li> <li>4. <i>Mr. Kamal Quadir</i>, Chief Executive Officer, Bkash</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Monzur Hossain</i>, BIDS</p>
<b>Session 2B</b>	<b>Climate Induced Migration in Bangladesh: Issues and Concerns</b>
11:00 am - 12:30 pm Shomadhan Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Dr. Atiq Rahman</i>, Executive Director, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Dr. Tasneem Siddiqui</i>, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Dhaka</li> <li>2. <i>Mr. Ashekur Rahman</i>, Urban Programme Specialist, UNDP</li> <li>3. <i>Mr. Md. Shamsuddoha</i>, Chief Executive, Centre for Participatory Research and Development</li> <li>4. <i>Ms. Syeda Rizwana Hasan</i>, Chief Executive, Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Neelopal Adri</i>, BIDS</p>
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
<b>Session 3A</b>	<b>State of Women Entrepreneurship: What We Have Achieved?</b>
1:30 pm - 2:45 pm La Vita Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Ms. Rokia Afzal Rahman</i>, Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Ms. Simeen Mahmud</i>, Head, Gender Studies Cluster, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development</li> <li>2. <i>Mr. Md. Safiqul Islam</i>, Managing Director, SME Foundation</li> <li>3. <i>Ms. Gulshan Nasreen Chowdhury</i>, Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industries</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Nazneen Ahmed</i>, BIDS</p>
<b>Session 3B</b>	<b>Water, Water, Everywhere?</b>
1:30 pm - 2.45 pm Shomadhan Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Dr. Zafar Ahmed Khan</i>, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Mr. Md. Ali</i>, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources</li> <li>2. <i>Dr. Quazi Shahabuddin</i>, Former Director General, BIDS</li> <li>3. <i>Dr. Umme Kulsum Navera</i>, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. M. Asaduzzaman</i>, BIDS</p>

<b>Session 4A</b>	<b>Energy Strategies</b>
2.45 pm - 4.00 pm La Vita Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya</i>, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Dr. A K Enamul Haque</i>, Professor, Department of Economics, East West University</li> <li><i>Mr. B.D Rahmatullah</i>, Former Director General, Power Cell</li> <li><i>Dr. Mohammad Tanzimuddin Khan</i>, Associate Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka</li> <li><i>Professor Anu Muhammad</i>, Department of Economics, Jahangirnagar University</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Minhaj Mahmud</i>, BIDS</p>
<b>Session 4B</b>	<b>Challenges of the National Social Security Strategy</b>
2.45 pm - 4:00 pm Shomadhan Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Professor Dr. Shamsul Alam</i>, Member (Senior Secretary), General Economics Division, Planning Commission</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Ms. Shaheen Anam</i>, Executive Director, Manusher Jonno Foundation</li> <li><i>Dr. Bazlul Haque Khandoker</i>, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka</li> <li><i>Mr. Faizul Islam</i>, Deputy Chief, General Economics Division, Planning Commission</li> </ol> <p><b>Trigger Presentation:</b> <i>Dr. Mohammad Yunus</i>, BIDS</p>
4:00 pm - 4:15 pm	<b>TEA / COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>Closing Plenary</b>	<b>Towards the Industrial Revolution</b>
4:15 pm - 5.45 pm La Vita Hall	<p><b>Session Chair</b> : <i>Professor Rehman Sobhan</i>, <i>Chairman</i>, Centre for Policy Dialogue</p> <p><b>Chief Guest</b> : <i>Mr. H T Imam</i>, Political Advisor to the Honorable Prime Minister, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh</p> <p><b>Distinguished Panelists</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud</i>, Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government of Bangladesh</li> <li><i>Professor S.R. Osmani</i>, University of Ulster, UK</li> <li><i>Barrister Nihad Kabir</i>, Ishtiaque Ahmed and Associates</li> <li><i>Dr. Faisal Ahmed</i>, Senior Economic Advisor to the Governor, Bangladesh Bank</li> <li><i>Mr. Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan</i>, <i>ndc</i>, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Industries</li> </ol> <p><b>Vote of Thanks:</b> <i>Dr. K.A.S. Murshid</i>, Director General, BIDS</p>



## Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

E-17, Agargoan, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Tel: 9143441-8, Website: [www.bids.org.bd](http://www.bids.org.bd)

RSVP: 02 818 1507, 01715366991, E-mail: [bidsseminar@bids.org.bd](mailto:bidsseminar@bids.org.bd)

Courtesy: Artist Shameem Subrana