

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

an independent
think tank with
local roots and
global outreach

CPD CENTRE FOR POLICY DIALOGUE

Annual Report 2012



Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

a civil society think tank

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Message from the Chairman

As in other years, in 2012, CPD strengthened its global and regional outreach.

One of the highlights reflecting CPD's global leadership in promoting LDC concerns is that CPD, as a partner institution of the LDC IV Monitor Initiative, hosted the first Expert Group Meeting (EGM) in Dhaka in September this year, to discuss the framework and content of the first biennial monitoring report.

As part of CPD's regional advocacy initiatives, I led the Bangladesh team to the 10th meeting of the Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar (BCIM) forum held in Kolkata in March, 2012.

CPD partnered with SDPI and other leading think tanks in South Asia in organising the Fifth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES V) in Islamabad, Pakistan, where we launched a book titled "Global Recovery, New Risks and Sustainable Growth: Repositioning South Asia." Leading scholars and experts from around the world contributed on a range of issues of regional concerns and interests.

The CPD-Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), Norway research collaboration shared its research findings and both CPD and CMI researchers discussed with Norwegian businessmen the prospects and challenges of building business partnership among the two countries. CPD also organised a session at the WTO Forum 2012

on "Least Developed Countries at the Crossroads: Status Quo or Sustainable Development" in Geneva, Switzerland which Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD chaired.

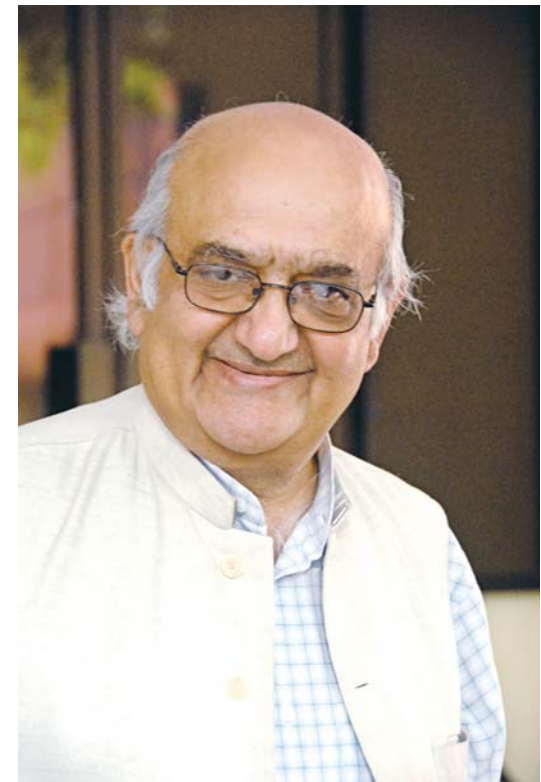
In October I led a 13-member delegation to India to discuss bilateral relationship with high level Indian counterparts. We had the privilege of the audience of H E Mr Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India, and the Leader of the Opposition in the upper House Mr Arun Jaitley, in addition to several Ministers, Members of Parliament, and representatives from academia, media and other stakeholders. I may mention here, that CPD has been engaged in fostering such bilateral dialogues between Bangladesh and India over the last decade.

This year CPD joined the Task Force on Financial Integrity and Economic Development as a partner organisation. Launched in January 2009 by Global Financial Integrity (GFI), the Task Force is a unique global coalition of civil society organisations and governments working together to address inequalities in the financial system that penalise billions of people.

I would like to take this opportunity to register my deep appreciation for the support extended by the members of the CPD Board of Trustees in 2012. As always, their advice and guidance and engagement in our various programmes have been of enormous benefit and encouragement to CPD.



(Rehman Sobhan)



in 2012, CPD
strengthened
its global and
regional outreach



Message from the Desk of the Executive Director

The year started with a healthy team building spirit at a two-day retreat to discuss strategies for institutional development, as well as through relaxation with CPD officials, staff, and their families spending time together at the BRAC CDM in Savar.

During the year, CPD undertook as many as 10 studies under its research collaboration programme with CMI. These covered trade, investment and governance.

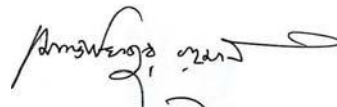
This year, CPD extended its national budget-related discussions to North Bengal, where major local stakeholders raised issues related to region-specific developments. Another important highlight was engaging with four Parliamentary Standing Committees to discuss the ways to monitor the progress of projects and identify implementation weaknesses.

CPD is committed to strengthening the social legitimacy of its advocacy initiatives. As such, to encourage the youth to participate in debates surrounding macroeconomic management, the Centre, for the first time, conducted a special lecture series on the Bangladesh economy for students of the Economics Department of Dhaka University, and the BRAC University. It also organised an economic policy consultation meeting with civil society members in Rajshahi which discussed issues critical to the advancement of the rural people of Bangladesh. In the same vein, a dialogue on local governance was also organised with the Mayor of Narayanganj calling for a separate budget for local governments.

CPD is a proud awardee of the Think Tank Initiative under which it receives financial and technical support to enhance its organisational performance and the quality of research activities. A TTI team visited the Centre in September to review the Centre's activities, and presented a positive view.

I am deeply indebted to Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD, and the CPD Board of Trustees for their consistent support to me and to the CPD management in implementing the responsibilities bestowed upon us. Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, has extended his full support to me and I owe a debt of gratitude to him for his guidance and advice. I am also grateful to Ms Anisatul Fatema Yousuf, Director, Dialogue and Communication Division and Dr Fahmida Khatun, Head of CPD's Research Division for their effective leadership in the dialogue and publication and research divisions of the CPD. In addition, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the dedicated professionals and support staff, who, each in his/her own capacity performed beyond the call of mere duty.

I shall be failing in my responsibilities if I do not mention the support of media partners, and many stakeholders who have been involved in CPD's multidimensional initiatives and activities during the course of the year. Their continuous support is our strength. CPD's mandate is to promote civic activism to influence policy making for accountable governance. I am confident that with the support of all involved, CPD is well on its way to perform this mandate.


(Mustafizur Rahman)

One
About CPD



C P D A n n u a l R e p o r t 2 0 1 2

Vision

To contribute to the emergence of an inclusive society in Bangladesh that is based on equity, justice, fairness and good governance.

Mission

To service the growing demand of the civil society of Bangladesh for a demand-driven and accountable development process by stimulating informed debate, generating knowledge, and influencing policy making through research, dialogue, dissemination and policy advocacy.

Operational Modality

Knowledge generation
through research and analysis, creation and management of data and information base.

Civic activism
for policy influence through dialogues, networking, information dissemination and mobilising support of the civil society.

Policy advocacy
at national, regional and international levels, by involving policymakers in the dialogue process and by contributing to the preparation of global policy documents and national policy briefs.

Capacity building
by way of organising policy appreciation workshops for policymakers and other important stakeholder groups.

Target Groups

CPD's target groups include policymakers and those for whom policies are designed i.e., the major stakeholder groups or the beneficiaries. Thus, CPD seeks to involve all important cross-sections of the society including public representatives across the political spectrum, government officials, business leaders, representatives of grassroots organisations including NGOs and trade unions, academics, development partners and other relevant interest groups. These broad groups of stakeholders are engaged in exchange of views in all the three phases of CPD activism, viz. identification of socially relevant issues, generating inputs for the purpose of policy analyses, and validation of policy recommendations.

Objectives

CPD aims to enhance national capacity for economy-wide policy analyses; foster regional cooperation in poverty alleviation, trade, investment, transport and other key areas; address issues which concern Bangladesh's effective integration into the process of globalisation.

Focus

CPD strives to focus on frontier issues which are critical to the development process of Bangladesh in the present context, and which are expected to shape and influence the country's developmental prospects over the mid-term horizon.



Two

Governance and Internal Management

C P D A n n u a l R e p o r t 2 0 1 2



Board of Trustees (BoT)

The highest body in CPD's governance structure is the BoT, members of which include some of the leading lights of the Bangladesh civil society. The BoT meets at least twice a year and is tasked with providing overall guidance to the activities undertaken by the Centre. It takes decisions with regard to recruitment of senior officials, approval of research and dialogue programmes, and endorsement of the annual budget of the Centre. In 2012, three BoT meetings were held in February, October and December. The Executive Committee (EC) of the Board, which includes a Member-Secretary and a Treasurer, meets as and when needed as per advice of the Chairman, CPD, between BoT meetings. In 2012 no EC meeting was held.



Professor Rehman Sobhan
Chairman, CPD and
Former Member, President's
Advisory Council



Sir Fazle Hasan Abed
Founder Chairperson
BRAC



Ms Khushi Kabir
Coordinator, Nijera Kori and
Former Chairperson, ADAB



Syed Humayun Kabir
Chairman, Renata Ltd. and
Former Chairman, TIB



**Nobel Laureate
Professor Muhammad Yunus**
Chairman
Yunus Centre



Mr M Syeduzzaman
Member, BoT
IRRI, Philippines and
Former Finance Minister



Mr Nurul Haq
Former Member
Bangladesh Planning
Commission



Ms Laila Rahman Kabir
Managing Director
Kedarpur Tea Company Ltd.
and Former President, MCCI



Syed Manzur Elahi
Chairman, Apex Group and
Former Advisor
Caretaker Government



Dr Anisuzzaman
Professor Emeritus
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Professor Mustafizur Rahman
Executive Director
CPD

MIC Members



Professor Mustafizur Rahman
Executive Director



Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya
Distinguished Fellow



Ms Anisatul Fatema Yousuf
*Director
Dialogue and Communication*



Mr M Shafiqul Islam
*Additional Director
Administration and Finance*



Dr Fahmida Khatun
Head of Research



Dr Khondaker G Moazzem
Senior Research Fellow

Management and Implementation Committee

The MIC meets on a regular basis to review the progress of research and dialogue activities, and discuss future plans of the CPD. The committee is also mandated to take decisions on daily administrative and management issues. A total of 14 meetings of the MIC were held in 2012.

Research Management Committee

The RMC was set up in 2008 with a view to ensuring proper planning and implementation of the various research programmes of CPD. Chaired by the Head of Research, the RMC includes mid-to-senior level CPD researchers as its members. The RMC takes stock of progress in research work, discusses research proposals, and deliberates on CPD's research collaborations and partnerships. It is the RMC's task to design a research strategy for CPD to submit before the BoT for consideration and approval. During the period under review the RMC met on 3 occasions.

Review, Coordination and Planning

The RECAP body is comprised of all the CPD staff as its members. RECAP meetings provide an opportunity for the CPD staff to discuss issues pertaining to research, dialogue, administration or any other institutional matters. Six RECAP meetings were convened during the reporting period.

MIC

RMC

ReCAP

Three
Policy Research

C P D A n n u a l R e p o r t 2 0 1 2

Civic Activism through Research, Policy Dialogue and Outreach

a symbiotic relationship

CPD performs its mandate by undertaking a three-pronged approach involving research, policy dialogue, and outreach activities. Research findings and analyses are disseminated and discussed in the policy dialogues. Dialogues and other outreach activities help identify issues which need further research in the specific areas of concern.

RESEARCH

CPD conducts research on areas affecting the economic and social development of the country. In order to adhere to its mandate of servicing a growing demand of the civil society for a demand-driven and accountable development process, it chooses topics of policy relevance and issues of concern to the general public as well as to specific stakeholder groups. CPD research activities cover the following Thematic Areas:

Research Themes

- Macroeconomic Performance Analysis
- Domestic Resource Mobilisation and Fiscal Policy
- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Eradication of Poverty
- Trade, Regional Cooperation and Global Integration
- Investment Promotion, Infrastructure and Enterprise Development
- Climate Change and Environment
- Human Development and Social Protection
- Development Governance, Policies and Institutions

MACROECONOMIC PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

Inflation is the highest in Bangladesh among South Asian Countries

Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development (IRBD)

CPD, under its flagship programme Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development (IRBD), undertakes periodic reviews on the state of the Bangladesh economy, prepares a set of proposals for the national budget, and presents its reaction to the national budget immediately after it is announced. It also conducts in-depth analyses on emerging issues of critical importance to the economy.

CPD's **Analytical Review of Bangladesh's Macroeconomic Performance in Fiscal Year 2011-12 (Second Reading)** revealed that, among South Asian countries, general inflation is the highest in Bangladesh (11.6 per cent). It criticised the Central Bank's monetary policy, and recommended that it acknowledges cost-push and structural factors behind the inflation and take measures accordingly. The report urged the government for greater transparency in the policy making process, and proper coordination among government agencies.

CPD presented its "**Analytical Review of Bangladesh's Macroeconomic Performance in FY2012 (Third Interim)**" at a press briefing on 4 June 2012.

The study highlighted that the economy was not able to meet the anticipated GDP growth rate of 7.0 per cent. Investment faltered due to the dismal state of infrastructure.

Weaknesses in macroeconomic management identified in the Second Interim Report continued till the year-end. The report considered public finance as 'the weakest link' in the country's economic management. Subsidies, increased fuel imports, and a decline in inflow of foreign aid resulted in high bank borrowing by the government which restricted private investment. The report suggested proper utilisation of foreign resources in the pipeline, and recourse to non-bank sources of financing by the government.



Public finance 'the weakest link' in country's economic management



CPD's National Budget Related Activities

Implementation of the budget proposals requires radical improvement in development administration

Budget Recommendations and Analysis

CPD provided recommendations for the National Budget FY 2012-13 at a Press briefing on 7 May 2012. These were later handed over to the Hon'ble Finance Minister for his consideration.

Some of the recommendations captured from the analysis of the macroeconomic scenario of FY 2011-12, were: investment promotion should be the key objective of the National Budget for FY2013; Government expenditure and dependence on bank borrowing should be reduced, and effective mechanisms put in place to utilise the external aid pipeline; stoppage in further use of quick rental power plants and enhancing power supply through alternate measures including establishing coal based power plants.

Changes in the tax structure to increase revenue generation: measures to promote local investment in industry and education; and reintroduction of food rationing for workers were also recommended. A need to address improvement of human rights, curbing corruption and allocation of adequate resources for infrastructural facilities was also mentioned.

In an immediate reaction to the budget for the FY 2012-2013 at a press briefing held on 8 June 2012, a day after it was announced, CPD termed the fiscal targets for FY2013 unrealistic. The budget ignored a number of critical elements such as containing inflation and fiscal consolidation, legalisation of undisclosed money, adjustment policy of administered prices and possible income from Bangladesh-India transit. The reaction also stated that implementation of the proposals would require a radical improvement in the government's development administration.

For increased revenue mobilisation, the government should target more resource-endowed people. The proposed shift in subsidy allocation in favour of power and energy from agriculture, export and food would increase income disparity.

CPD expressed concern over the implementation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP), and the proposal to legalise black money.

Stakeholders' Discussions

At a dialogue on the Analysis of the National Budget for FY2012-13 in Dhaka on 16 June 2012, CPD Executive Director Professor Mustafizur Rahman said that achieving the GDP growth target would demand a significant improvement in many key macroeconomic indicators. He expressed doubt that investment, ADP implementation, inflation and non-tax revenue targets in the budget would be realised. The Professor appreciated the high performance of NBR, steady growth in agriculture and stable flow of remittances of the outgoing year.

Former Finance Adviser, Dr Mirza Azizul Islam cautioned that higher borrowing rates would worsen the declining private sector investment. Planning Minister A K Khandkar, however, observed that it was an achievable target as the government would implement 90 per cent of the ADP projects.

Proposals to increase uniform tax rate on export earnings would have a negative impact on export revenue. Some expressed concern about the ongoing energy crisis, and delays in taking action against stock market manipulators. Participants felt that the main objective of this year's budget should have been to provide essential food items at a controlled price to the poor, and contain high inflation.

Some of the speakers expressed the view that the Budget for FY2013 should create incentives for people to move to rural areas by providing health and education facilities.

Taking the Discussion to North Bengal

As part of its on-going endeavour to include a wider group of stakeholders, especially from remote areas of the country, in the national policy making discourse, this year CPD took the budget discussion to North Bengal, Rajshahi, where major local stakeholders raised issues critical to them.

Participation at the dialogue was overwhelming. They identified issues which need to be addressed to reduce income inequality and regional disparity in Bangladesh. These included: special allocation for the growth of the silk industry; immediate implementation of North Rajshahi Irrigation Project and separate local government budget and regional budget.

The dialogue was addressed by politicians, businessmen, academics, researchers, lawyers, representatives of NGOs and eminent citizens from Rajshahi.

The Daily Samakal was the media partner of the event.



Engaging Parliamentarians

An important highlight of CPD's budget-related activities in 2012 was to engage with Parliamentary Standing Committees (PSCs) to discuss ways to monitor and assess the progress of various ministries in implementing their respective projects, and identify weaknesses in project implementation. Objective of the programme was to raise awareness of the Members of Parliament about the budgetary process and increase capacity of these committees so that they can contribute to accountability, transparency and good governance by effectively performing their roles in overseeing allocation, disbursement, utilisation and implementation of the budget. Four separate sessions were held with the PSC's on the Ministries of Environment and Forests; Home Affairs; Women and Children Affairs; Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, CPD in collaboration with UNDP Bangladesh implemented this programme during April-May, 2012.

A woman with dark hair tied in a bun, wearing a red and yellow patterned sari, is crouching in a field. She is looking down at a white bowl filled with yellow food, possibly a snack or meal. The background shows a dirt path and some blurred figures of other people.

Women as an Economic Force

CPD in collaboration with Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), launched a study titled “Estimating Unaccounted contribution of Women to the Economy: The Case of Bangladesh”. The study will analyse the system of national accounts module used in Bangladesh and examine its limitations. It will then suggest ways to integrate/reflect women’s work in a disintegrated manner in the national income of the country with particular focus on women’s unpaid and unaccounted work. The study is also expected to devise a methodological framework to estimate women’s work in economic terms. In this connection an EGM was organised by MJF on 26 August 2012 at BRAC Centre Inn Auditorium where Dr Fahmida Khatun, Head of Research, CPD, presented the findings from a literature review which provided a background for the methodological framework to estimate women’s work in economic terms.

Monitoring the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) Deliverables

Being conducted as part of the LDC-IV Monitor Initiative, the study titled “Domestic Resource Mobilisation in the LDCs: Trends, Determinants and Challenges”, reveals that low levels of income, poor financial intermediation, and weak tax collection capacity underpin low levels of domestic resource mobilisation. The study agrees with the IPoA’s statement that LDCs, in order to improve domestic resource mobilisation, should deepen fiscal capacity and improve the social rate of return to their investments with special focus on public welfare, poverty alleviation and distributive justice. The study also suggests strengthening property rights, removing barriers to investment, and creating improved legal and regulatory frameworks through transparent and accountable institutions.

Remittances can help LDCs graduate to middle income status but negative impacts of ‘brain drain’ and ‘Dutch disease’ need to be considered

The study titled “Monitoring the IPoA Deliverables: Migration from and Remittance Flows to the LDCs” was also undertaken under the LDC-IV Monitoring Initiative. It draws attention to the possible negative impacts of migration and remittances, particularly in view of the ‘brain drain’ and ‘Dutch disease’. The study recommended a concerted effort to be put in place if migration and remittances are to play the desired role in helping the graduation process of the LDCs which include: imparting the required skills keeping in view the emerging demands, reducing pre-departure costs, better access to knowledge about migrant market, ensuring security and rights of migrants in host countries, liberalisation of global labour market, greater participation of women in the migrant labour market, reduction of costs of remitting money, and targeted savings instruments for migrant workers.

A ‘Global FDI Fund’ could boost foreign companies’ interest in LDCs

“Foreign Direct Investment for Development and Capacity Building in LDCs: Monitoring the Commitments of the IPoA”, was another study undertaken by CPD under the LDC-IV Monitor Initiative in 2012. The study presented a critical overview on FDI related actions mentioned in the IPoA highlighting major differences in the actions between BPoA (Brussels Programme of Action) and IPoA. Major recommendations made by the study include: successful implementation of IPoA; undertaking innovative incentive measures both by LDCs and development partners to attract more FDI to LDCs; setting up a ‘Global FDI Fund’ to support foreign companies interested to invest in LDCs; setting up preferential market access in developed countries to attract FDIs in the manufacturing sector of LDCs; setting up International Investment Agreements (IIAs) with LDCs to include concerns of LDCs.

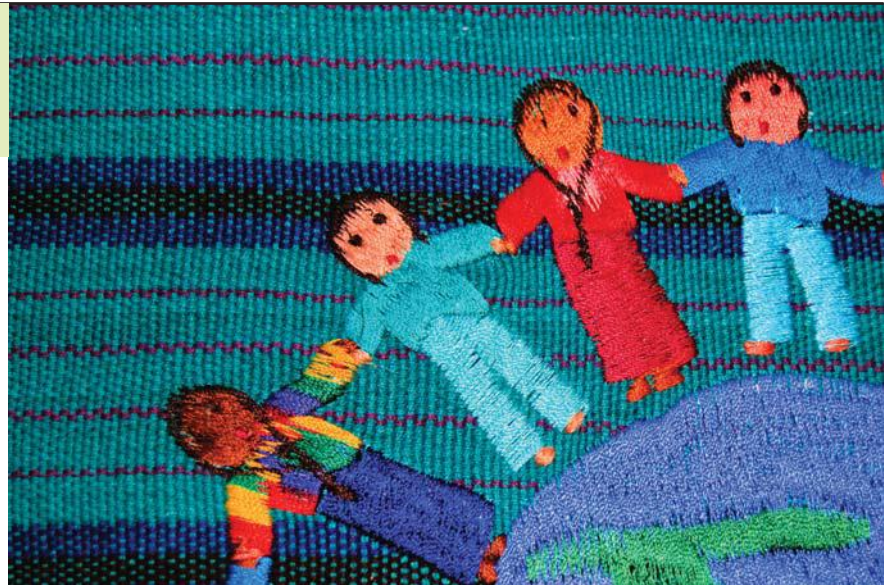
South Asian Regional Cooperation

Political commitment to use the SAARC Food Bank is weak

In spite of the progress made by SAARC countries in agricultural development in general, and food production in particular, they face challenges in ensuring food security for their growing population. The situation is exacerbated by frequent natural disasters, and rising foodgrain prices. The SAARC Food Bank (SFB) was set up to mitigate these challenges. CPD in collaboration with the South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics & Environment (SAWTEE), under its ongoing Trade, Climate Change and Food Security Programme being implemented with Oxfam Novib, conducted a study to ascertain the status, trends and challenges related to agriculture and food security, as well as the public food distribution system at national and local levels. It identified the major drawbacks, and a number of proposals to operationalise the SFB in times of food emergencies. These relate to building of the food reserves, safety and security of reserves, institutional reforms, trigger for accessing the reserves, pricing mechanism and delivery of the food.

Intra-regional trade is low in SAFTA-RTA

The concepts of 'regionalisation' and 'regionalism' play significant roles in promoting economic cooperation and integration based on geographical contiguity and regional affinity. CPD conducted a study to investigate issues relating to the promotion of regional cooperation among countries of South Asia, both within the SAFTA-RTA and beyond. The paper pointed out that intra-regional trade is significantly low in SAFTA-RTA and that major initiatives need to be undertaken if meaningful regional integration is to be attained. This includes pruning of the sensitive lists, signing of mutual recognition agreements to address non-tariff barriers, and taking regional cooperation beyond goods into services and energy activity.



Protection in agricultural sector is a major barrier towards ensuring food security through regional trade

Achieving food security is particularly challenging for the countries of the SAARC region as they have a strong dependency on domestic supply of agricultural products, coupled with a tendency of protecting their agricultural sector. A paper presented at the Fifth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES-V) assessed the SAARC initiatives for agricultural cooperation. Factors constraining the competitiveness of agricultural products were identified as subsistence farming, low productivity, use of traditional technology, climate change, and non-tariff barriers, among others. Policies to enhance food security and to build competitiveness were suggested by the study. It further recommended a more proactive role of SAARC both for promotion of food security and enhancing agricultural export.



Bilateral Trade of Bangladesh

Bangladesh should diversify its rice import sources

One of the studies, undertaken as part of the CPD-CMI Study series, explored the impact of Indian rice export policies (during 2007-2008) on domestic rice price in Bangladesh. Using the general equilibrium modelling framework, the study found that although the Indian rice export policies had negative impacts on Bangladesh in terms of loss of welfare, decline in real GDP, exports and imports, and rise in consumer price index, the margins of the impacts were rather small. This indicated that in recent years, Bangladesh has become less dependent on import of rice, and therefore, actions taken by India had little direct effect in determining the domestic price in Bangladesh. From the policy perspective the paper put forward two recommendations – first, India should no longer be considered as the only reliable source of rice supplier for Bangladesh, and that Bangladesh should think about diversifying her rice import sources; and second, policymakers of Bangladesh should address domestic factors undermining national food security such as raising commodity prices abnormally in the domestic market.

Access to modern agricultural technology needed for increased productivity in Bangladesh

Another study conducted under the CPD-CMI collaboration explored the trends and patterns of agricultural trade between Bangladesh and India in view of frequent changes in India's agricultural trade policies in recent years. An econometric estimation of Bangladesh's import demand was undertaken which revealed that domestic agricultural production, India's agricultural production, and inflation in Bangladesh have significant influence on import demand of Bangladesh (from India) in the long-run. The study recommended that Bangladesh should give higher priority to increase domestic agricultural production and supply side capacities in items which have demonstrated export potential in the Indian market. Closer collaboration between research institutions of Bangladesh and India will enable Bangladesh to access modern agricultural technology from India leading to productivity gains and increased competitiveness of her agricultural exports. This will, in turn, enable Bangladesh to take advantage of the duty-free access of agri-items to the Indian market.

Bilateral Trade of Bangladesh

A plethora of non-tariff barriers constrain intra-regional trade in South Asia

A study was undertaken on bilateral economic cooperation between Bangladesh and India in the context of the challenges and opportunities originating within the regional framework of South Asia through various geo-political changes as well as changes in regional cooperation in trade and investment. A number of factors such as (a) focusing on items in Bangladesh's potential export basket to India, (b) addressing the non-tariff barriers (NTBs), (c) enhancing export to north-east India and (d) promotion of greater connectivity with India and the region were highlighted in the study. Recommendations were put forward to promote bilateral trade with India with emphasis on stimulating Bangladesh's exports. The study suggested a comprehensive mechanism to deal with NTBs constraining intra-regional trade, including the signing of a framework agreement for mutual recognition of standards and certification, and strengthening of supply-side institutional and human resources capacities.

A network between Brazilian suppliers and Bangladeshi importers is needed

A study on trade potentials of Brazilian products to Bangladesh based on the current trade pattern between the two countries identified that a large number of Brazilian products have significant export potentials to the Bangladesh market although the existing trade pattern indicates limited export of textile related machineries, raw materials and other products. Recommendations were made to build a network between Brazilian suppliers and Bangladeshi importers in order to enhance bilateral trade between the two countries. The study also suggested that the Bangladesh government should take up special measures to attract Brazilian Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and make Brazil a viable option for Bangladeshi importers by reducing time and cost.

Trade Policy Framework for Bangladesh



Trade-related policies in Bangladesh needs a rethink

Despite the visible changes happening in trade-related policies in Bangladesh under the broader framework of economic liberalisation for more than the past two decades, the impact of trade liberalisation on Bangladesh's economic development has been mixed. The CPD-Katalyst Development Framework for a Comprehensive Trade Policy argues that reconsideration of trade-related policies in Bangladesh has become necessary. The overarching goal of the proposed trade policy is to focus on making local industries competitive both in domestic and international markets by enhancing productivity

and efficiency and better governance in trade-related activities. The study addressed ten pillars on which the proposed comprehensive trade policy will be built. The pillars included undertaking strategic trade policy, ensuring better governance in trade-related activities, ensuring supportive macro policies, improving the business process, product and market diversification, strengthening linkages with global value chains, improving trade facilitation, strengthening trade-related institutions, and better trade diplomacy.



Lack of access to finance, poor infrastructure and prevalence of corruption pose major impediments to business

CPD-WEF Global Competitiveness Report 2012-13 and Bangladesh Business Environment Study 2012

As part of CPD's on-going collaboration with the World Economic Forum (WEF) since 2001, the 12th Executive Opinion Survey (EOS) reports the state of competitiveness of Bangladesh during 2011 and states the recent concerns about business environment in the country. The collaboration also conducted the 9th Rapid Assessment Survey on prevailing economic issues and concerns.

Bangladesh's largest fall from 108th to 118th position in Global Competitiveness Report 2012-13 in a single year indicated the country's declining competitiveness in the areas of financial market and labour market despite relatively better performance in case of market size among the mid-level economies. The study identified top three problems for doing business as: lack of access to finance, poor infrastructure and prevalence of corruption. It suggested specific measures in the areas of macroeconomic policy for long term stability, restoring discipline in the financial sector, improving efficiency of public institutions, political step against corruption and timely implementation of infrastructure related projects.

Jute sector needs to move out of a low level of competitiveness

The CPD-KATALYST Study on Technological Upgradation in the Jute Mills of Bangladesh attempted to assess the productivity and efficiency of jute mills to identify requirements of necessary restructuring and reforms in improving the machineries, production processes, operational management and skill upgradation for professionals and workers in the private and the public sector jute mills. A micro-level analysis was carried out on the basis of the data collected from ten jute mills. The study identified that jute manufacturing sector in Bangladesh has recently started to revitalize due to rise in global demand for jute goods, its environment-friendly nature, and price hike of petroleum products. The study put forward a number of recommendations for improving the performance in the jute sector.

Both domestic and trade related policies are needed to strengthen the value chain network

This study implemented jointly by CPD and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) focused on the textiles and clothing (T&C) sector in Bangladesh. The study provided a number of recommendations to strengthen the value chain network both within the domestic set up and between countries. From the country to country perspective, emphasis was laid on simplifying customs procedures between each other, allowing long-term and multiple-entry business visas, and improving the cross-border trade infrastructure at border points. Whilst, the domestic perspective put priority on reducing the interest rates on long-term project loans and working capital; introducing measures for ensuring adequate supplies of electricity and gas for industrial units; and taking collaborative initiatives between the public and the private sectors to develop the logistic facilities required for the T&C sector in Bangladesh.

Rural-urban divide not significant factor affecting participation in entrepreneurship

A study on the Role of Education in Entrepreneurship Development was undertaken as part of the on-going CPD-CMI collaborative arrangement. Preliminary findings of the study indicate that entrepreneurship is determined by gender, location and age, and that the importance of the urban-rural divide in determining the potential to become self-employed has reduced. It identified that the success of an entrepreneur strongly depends on the size and registration of enterprises, and the education of self-employed, which indirectly contributes to raise innovative business practices. The study recommends more task-oriented training for better earning and formalisation of enterprises for business success.



Lack of internal party democracy and endemic inter- and

intra-party violence mar the democratic functioning of the political parties

Political Parties in Bangladesh

The study analyses the clientlist structures of the political parties and party coalitions in Bangladesh, including tendencies of regionalism, religious and ethnic allegiances, and the business – politics nexus. It also looks at the quality and extent of internal democracy in the parties including procedures of electing party leadership. It analyses party institutionalisation as well as the parties' ability to aggregate and articulate collective social preferences, and transform these into practical policies, and mobilise electoral support for their programmes and candidates. The study highlights that the political parties have fallen far short of translating their democratic promises into practice despite their positive role in mobilising mass support in favour of nationalist struggles in the past. It also found that the top leaderships in the major parties maintain dynastic inheritors that go against internal party democracy. Other findings are that the organisational bodies of the parties hardly meet for policy debate and discussions, and inter and intra-party violence is endemic due to all parties being faction-ridden. In view of the relationship between political parties and civil society, the study noted that civil society organisations have become partisan and the space for independent civil society voice has narrowed in the last two decades.

Financing Local Government

This study inquires whether pourashavas (village-level committees) in Bangladesh have adequate legal framework, human capacity and financial resources to carry out their mandated functions and how much autonomy they enjoy in fiscal, financial and personnel management. It also aims to identify the factors impeding devolution of greater fiscal autonomy to the pourashavas and the factors affecting their upstream and downstream accountability. It intends to map the flow of funds and revenue and expenditure composition of pourashavas and city corporations. Preliminary findings of the study show that the majority of elected representatives lacked understanding of the operational procedures and functions of pourashavas and city corporations. It recommended paying adequate attention to office and financial management, service quality improvement, efficient tax assessment and collection, computerisation of tax and accounting system and training for both elected representatives and officials. It added the necessity of a permanent Local Government Finance Commission in order to ensure objective distribution of national government allocation towards the local government, also auditing and financial monitoring system of the local government institutions.

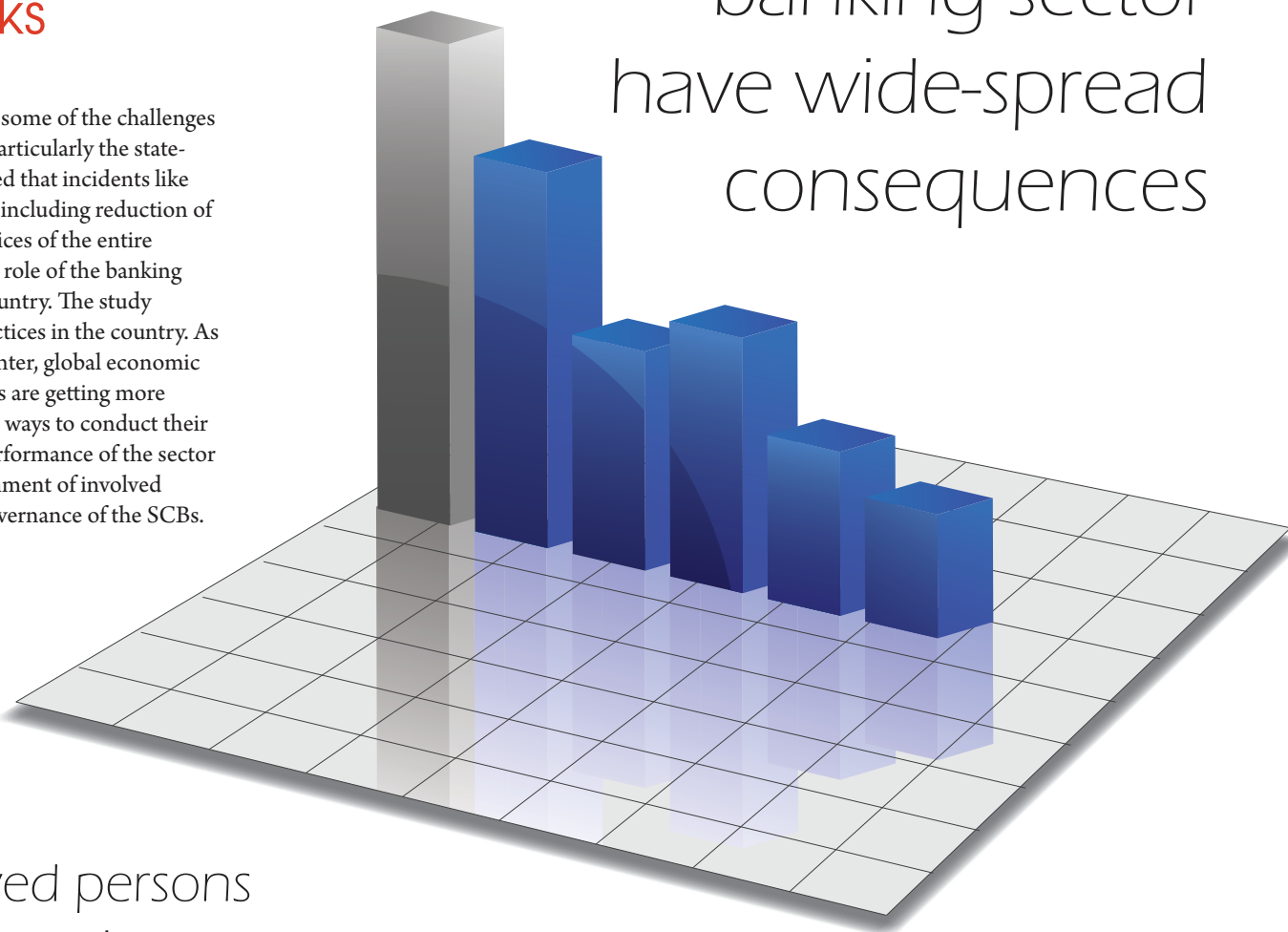
Democracy- Economic Growth Nexus in Bangladesh

This study inquires whether pourashavas (village-level committees) in Bangladesh have adequate legal framework, human capacity and financial resources to carry out their mandated functions and how much autonomy they enjoy in fiscal, financial and personnel management. It also aims to identify the factors impeding devolution of greater fiscal autonomy to the pourashavas and the factors affecting their upstream and downstream accountability. It intends to map the flow of funds and revenue and expenditure composition of pourashavas and city corporations. Preliminary findings of the study show that the majority of elected representatives lacked understanding of the operational procedures and functions of pourashavas and city corporations. It recommended paying adequate attention to office and financial management, service quality improvement, efficient tax assessment and collection, computerisation of tax and accounting system and training for both elected representatives and officials. It added the necessity of a permanent Local Government Finance Commission in order to ensure objective distribution of national government allocation towards the local government, also auditing and financial monitoring system of the local government institutions.

Governance in the Financial Sector: Dealing with Recent Shocks

As part of the IRBD special series, CPD examined some of the challenges confronting the banking industry of Bangladesh, particularly the state-owned commercial banks (SCBs). The study argued that incidents like Hall Mark scams could have multiple chain effects including reduction of deposits in the concerned bank and fall in share prices of the entire banking sector. Subsequently, it would hamper the role of the banking sector in catalysing the economic growth of the country. The study recommended a radical change in the banking practices in the country. As the global regulatory environment is becoming tighter, global economic environment is facing more volatility and resources are getting more scarce, banks in Bangladesh should find innovative ways to conduct their business. Appropriate measures to improve the performance of the sector should range from proper investigation and punishment of involved persons to improvement of the monitoring and governance of the SCBs.

Irregularities in the banking sector have wide-spread consequences



proper probe for punishment of involved persons should be undertaken to improve governance of the state-owned banks



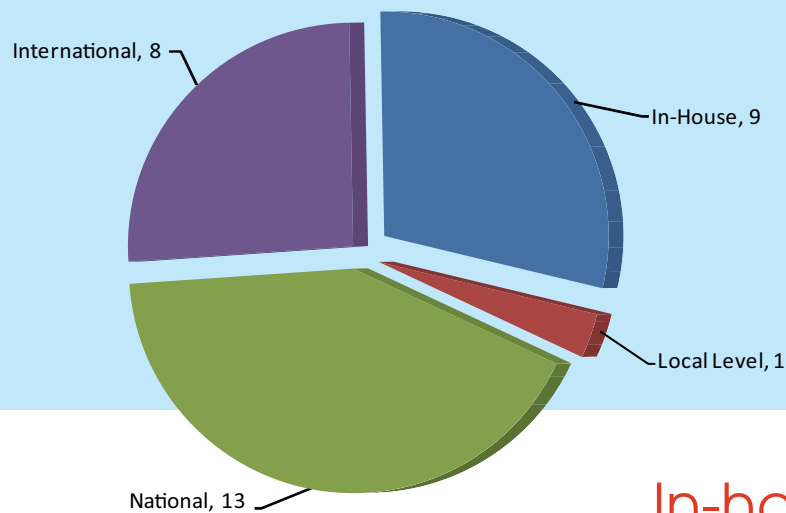
Four

Policy Activism

C P D A n n u a l R e p o r t 2 0 1 2



“Promoting stakeholder participation in the policy making process through informed sharing of views and research findings”



CPD organises high level dialogues to promote interactive engagement around specific issues of national and regional interest. In addition to disseminating key findings of its ongoing and completed research work to the wider stakeholder community, CPD holds dialogues on issues which demand immediate attention from policymakers. In 2012, CPD organised nine in-house, one local, thirteen national, and eight international dialogues which focused on a wide range of issues pertinent to the development concerns of Bangladesh and the LDCs.

In-house Dialogues

CPD in-house dialogues are primarily targeted towards discussing initial findings of ongoing studies with relevant stakeholders and experts to understand their views and validating results. Besides, visiting scholars are sometimes given opportunity to talk on specific issues in the presence of CPD researchers and selected outside-experts. During the period under review, the in-house meetings were held in such areas as democracy-economic growth in Bangladesh; review of macroeconomic performance in FY2011-12; Bangladesh-Myanmar relationship; regional connectivity; FDI and corruption; fiscal autonomy and fiscal accountability of local government in Bangladesh; political parties in Bangladesh; civil-military relations in Pakistan etc.

UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20): Context, Issues and Challenges for Bangladesh



Bangladesh today faces a number of environmental concerns such as ensuring livelihood security for the people, combating environmental disasters, preventing industrial pollution, managing urbanisation and conserving biodiversity that need to be addressed at the upcoming Summit on June 20-22

CPD organised the dialogue on 10 April at Spectra Convention Centre, Dhaka. Dr Hasan Mahmud, Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forests, was the Chief Guest, and CPD's Board of Trustee Member Ms Khushi Kabir was the Chair. Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman of the Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), was the Special Guest of the dialogue where Dr A Atiq Rahman, Executive Director of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), attended as Discussant. Dr Fahmida Khatun, Head of Research, CPD presented the keynote paper at the event.

Challenges of Financing Development Projects under Local Government



A separate budget for the local government (LG) alongside national budget and authority to function freely is of utmost necessity for strengthening the LG bodies

The dialogue was organised by CPD on 5 May 2012 at the CIRDAP Auditorium. Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD presided over the session. Dr Selina Hayat Ivy, Mayor, Narayanganj City Corporation presented the keynote speech. Advocate Md Azmatullah Khan, Chairman, Municipal Association of Bangladesh and Mayor, Tongi Municipality and Dr Tofail Ahmed, Local Government Advisor, UNDP, attended the programme as designated Discussants, while Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD, moderated the session.

Bangladesh-EU Relations: Scenarios for the Next Decade



Bangladesh-EU partnership will become more diversified and will move away from relatively aid-centred development cooperation to a more comprehensive form of economic partnership

CPD organised this dialogue in association with the European Union Delegation to Bangladesh at the Lake Shore Hotel on 12 May 2012. CPD Executive Director Professor Mustafizur Rahman was the keynote speaker at the event, while Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD moderated the session. The notable Discussants at the event included H E Mr William Hanna, Ambassador and Head of the European Union Delegation to Bangladesh; H E Mr Svend Olling, Ambassador of Denmark; Dr Atiq Rahman, Executive Director, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS); Ambassador Ashfaqur Rahman; Chairman, Centre for Foreign Affairs Studies, and Mr Md Saiful Islam, Chairman, Western Marine Group.

State of Bangladesh Economy in FY2011-12 and Analysis of Budget FY2012-13



Achieving the targets of the budget would be a real challenge and would demand a significant improvement in many key macroeconomic indicators

CPD organised a dialogue at the Lake Shore Hotel on 16 June 2012. Hon'ble Minister for Planning Air Vice Marshal (Retd.) A K Khandker, MP was present as the Chief Guest at the dialogue where the discussion was moderated by former Finance Minister and Member, CPD Board of Trustees Mr M Syeduzzaman. Professor Mustafizur Rahman presented the analysis of the National Budget FY2012-13. Former Commerce Minister Mr Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury, former Advisor to the Caretaker Government Dr A B Mirza Azizul Islam, Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain, and Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Finance Mr A K M Mayeedul Islam, MP were among the distinguished participants.

Local Level Dialogue on Analysis of the National Budget for FY2012-13



Inclusion of separate local government budget and regional budget would reduce regional inequality. Special allocation for growth of the deteriorating silk industry in Rajshahi was stressed.

A post-budget dialogue titled “Analysis of the National Budget FY2012-13” was held in Rajshahi on 25 June 2012. The dialogue was organised by CPD in association with the Department of Economics, Rajshahi University. Professor M Abdur Rahman, Treasurer, Rajshahi University, attended the session as Chief Guest while Professor M Moazzem Hossain Khan, Head of the Department of Economics, Rajshahi University, chaired the session. At the session Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Senior Research Fellow, CPD, presented CPD’s budget analysis to initiate the discussion.

Bangladesh Trade Policy Framework for the Next Decade



The government should focus on the competitiveness of local industries both in domestic and international markets and diversification of products and markets for export growth and poverty reduction

This dialogue was jointly organised by CPD and the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) on 3 July 2012 at Lake Shore Hotel, Dhaka. Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Senior Research Fellow, CPD, presented the keynote paper at the session where Dr M Osman Farruk, former Minister and Member, Advisory Council of the Chairperson, BNP, was present as the Special Guest, and Dr Md Mozibur Rahman, Chairman, Bangladesh Tariff Commission, was present as the designated Discussant. The session was chaired and moderated by Mr Syed Manzur Elahi, Member, CPD Board of Trustees and former Advisor to the Caretaker Government.

Bangladesh-India Trade Relationship: New Opportunities, New Challenges



Trade imbalance is not the major issue of concern. Bangladesh will have to prove itself to be an attractive place for the Indian investors so that they invest here and generate employment

Organised by CPD in collaboration with The World Bank the dialogue was held on 2 August 2012 at BRAC Centre Inn Auditorium, Dhaka. Dr Sanjay Kathuria, Lead Country Economist, The World Bank and Dr Selim Raihan, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, initiated the discussion by sharing the findings of the report titled "Unlocking Bangladesh-India Trade: Emerging Issues", a World Bank Working Paper. Professor Dr Gowher Rizvi, International Affairs Advisor to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh, was the Chief Guest while Mr Md Ghulam Hossain, Commerce Secretary, was the Special Guest of the session chaired by Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD.

State of the Bangladesh Economy, IMF Supported Programme and Future Outlook



Bangladesh should implement an automatic fuel price adjustment mechanism to offset economic risks that stem from volatile world oil prices

CPD organised the dialogue on 17 September 2012 at the BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka. IMF Mission Chief for Bangladesh Dr David Cowen presented the keynote paper and discussed the reform agendas under the Extended Credit Facility (ECF) of the IMF to initiate the discussion.

The lead Discussants of the dialogue included Dr Akbar Ali Khan, former Advisor to the Caretaker Government; Dr A B Mirza Azizul Islam, former Advisor to the Caretaker Government; Dr Ahsan Habib Mansur, Executive Director, Policy Research Institute and Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya.

State of Governance in the Banking Sector: Dealing with the Recent Shocks



Pressure exerted by powerful sections, corrupt alliance between senior managers of the bank and clients, lack of supervision from the head office, and absence of oversight by the Board of the bank are major underlying causes of recent banking scams

This dialogue was organised by CPD at the BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka on 5 November 2012. Chaired by Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD, the event was participated by Mr S K Sur Chowdhury, Deputy Governor, Bangladesh Bank; Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, former Governor, Bangladesh Bank; Mr Mohammed Nurul Amin, Managing Director & CEO, NCC Bank Limited and Chairman, Association of Bankers, Bangladesh Limited as panellists. Dr Fahmida Khatun, Head of Research, CPD, presented the keynote.

CPD Organised the First EGM for the Biennial Report of the LDC IV Monitor Consortium

An Expert Group Meeting (EGM) titled “Development Challenges of the Least Developed Countries: Tracking the International Commitments” was held on 7-9 September 2012 at the BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka. The EGM was organised by CPD under its LDC IV Monitor Initiative. The objective of the EGM was to discuss the framework and content of the First Biennial Monitoring Report on the state of implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA).

The three-day EGM concentrated on ten broad themes, which included (i) framework issues; (ii) benchmarking of the IPoA and data questions; (iii) graduation and smooth transition of LDCs; (iv) productive capacity in the areas of infrastructure and enterprise development; (v) human and social development; (vi) trade; (vii) adding value to agriculture; (viii) commodity exports; (ix) climate change and vulnerabilities; and (x) strategies for raising development finance.

The experts at the EGM decided that the backbone theme of the Monitoring Report should be a message to the policymakers on the graduation progress of the LDCs. They also decided that structural transformation as the key vehicle of graduation should be analysed and discussed in the Report.

28 experts from core partner institutions of LDC IV Monitor Initiative and some other partner institutions discussed various chapters and contents of the forthcoming Report. The first report is expected to be brought out in Autumn 2013.



Development Challenges of the Least Developed Countries: Tracking the International Commitments



Myanmar brings in new opportunities for regional cooperation

CPD in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Manila, organised a brainstorming session titled Recent Developments in Myanmar: New Opportunities for Regional Cooperation on 15 March 2012, at the Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in Dhaka. High officials, academics, researchers from Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar participated at this meeting which focused on three potential areas of regional cooperation – transport connectivity, energy cooperation and food security.

Hon'ble Commerce Minister of Bangladesh Mr G M Quader, MP was the Chief Guest and Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh H E Mr U Min Lwin was the Special Guest at the overview session. Keynote papers of the session were presented by Professor Dr Aung Tun Thet, Senior Advisor to the UN Resident Coordinator, Myanmar, and Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD.

The presenters at other various sessions included Mr Lei Zhuning, Associate Professor and Assistant Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, People's Republic of China, Ms Deepti Mahajan, Associate Fellow and Area Convener, Centre for Research on Energy Security, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), India, and Dr Koichi Fujita, Professor, Division of Economic and Political Dynamics, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University, Japan.

The windows of opportunities that have been opened up for both Myanmar and its neighbours cover a wide spectrum of areas
-Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya

Myanmar, bordered with five countries, can bring in opportunities for cooperation with each of these not only on a bilateral basis, but also on a regional basis
-Mr G M Quader, MP

Myanmar is undergoing new legislative reforms including tax and land reforms to attract FDI
-Dr Aung Tun Thet

Myanmar could be a significant oil and gas exporter in this highly energy-deficient but fast growing region
-Ms Deepti Mahajan

The progress and prospects of air and water connectivity is one of the key pre-conditions for cargo movements within the region
-Mr Lei Zhuning

Value Chains for Inclusive Development: Lessons and Policies for South Asia

CPD hosted a two-day international conference on Value Chains for Inclusive Development: Lessons and Policies for South Asia in collaboration with the Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi; CARE Bangladesh; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP), South and South-West Asia Sub-regional Office (SRO-SSWA), New Delhi; Manchester University; and Centre on Globalization, Governance & Competitiveness, Duke University on 24-25 November 2012 in Dhaka.

Dr Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, MP, Hon'ble Minister for Food, Government of Bangladesh, inaugurated the event.

The conference discussed the roles, recent trends and associated mechanisms of global value chains for inclusive development particularly in the South and South East Asian countries. Various sessions of the conference discussed issues related to developing supply chains for a number of products (agro-foods, apparels, electronics and IT services) through collaboration among enterprises in different



Global value chains need to work towards more inclusive and equitable growth and sustainable development

countries, in order to create job opportunities, including for women, enhance competitiveness, leverage comparative advantages and ensure inclusive development.

A total of 71 participants including distinguished economists, academics, media representatives, members of civil society, development partners,

business leaders and leading lawmakers from Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, The Philippines, Sri Lanka and the UK shared their experiences in various sessions. At the closing session policy recommendations drawn from the conference were presented by Professor Dev Nathan, Visiting Professor, IHD and Visiting Research Fellow, Duke University, USA.

OUTREACH THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MEDIA

It has been CPD's tradition to maintain a close partnership with the print and electronic media. This partnership facilitates, to a great extent, in taking CPD's policy influencing activities to a wider audience both within and outside the country. In 2012, CPD hosted 7 press briefings to present to the media such issues as periodic reports on state of the Bangladesh economy; budget recommendations; analysis of the national budget; launching of Global Competitiveness Report 2012-13 and Bangladesh Business Environment Study 2012; briefing on the upcoming LDC IV Monitor Expert Group Meeting; launching of UNCTAD's the Least Developed Countries Report 2012 etc.

Besides, mid-to-senior level CPD professionals are regularly invited by different print and electronic media to participate at talk-shows and to be interviewed on issues of current concerns and future strategic importance both in the national and regional contexts.

Analytical Review of Bangladesh's Macroeconomic Performance in Fiscal Year 2011-12 (Second Reading)



The central bank will have to acknowledge cost-push and structural factors as the main causes of the current incremental inflation and take appropriate measures to combat it

CPD released its Analytical Review of Bangladesh's Macroeconomic Performance in Fiscal Year 2011-12 (Second Reading) to the media at its office on 11 March 2012. CPD Distinguished Fellow Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya presented the review on behalf of CPD IRBD Team.

Recommendations for the National Budget FY2012-13



Further use of quick rental power plants resembles the administrative and planning failure

The press briefing was organised by the CPD at its office on 7 May. CPD Head of Research Dr Fahmida Khatun presented the recommendations to the media.

Analytical Review of Bangladesh's Macroeconomic Performance in FY2012 (Third Interim)



In the backdrop of accelerating import demand for liquid fuel and growing subsidy requirement, government should enhance foreign exchange receipts by concentrating on ways to increase export receipts, remittance flow and FDI

CPD organised this press briefing on 4 June 2012 at its office to present its IRBD report on "Analytical Review of Bangladesh's Macroeconomic Performance in FY2012 (Third Interim)". Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya presented the review of Bangladesh's macroeconomic performance in the recent past fiscal year on behalf of the CPD IRBD Team.

CPD's Initial Reaction on the National Budget FY2012-13



It is critically important that a meticulous implementation plan is there to complement the ideal fiscal framework the budget FY2012-13 presents

CPD presented a bleak outlook for the upcoming year, following the announcement of the National Budget FY2012-13, at a press briefing held at the BRAC Centre Inn Auditorium on 8 June 2012. Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya presented CPD's immediate reaction to the budget to the press.

Launch of Global Competitiveness Report 2012-13 and Bangladesh Business Environment Study 2012



It is high time for the government to take specific measures as regards macroeconomic policy for long-term stability, restore discipline in the financial sector, improve efficiency of public institutions, take bold political steps to put a stop in the wide spread corruption and timely implementation of infrastructure-related projects

Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) is an annual publication of the World Economic Forum (WEF). CPD in collaboration with WEF has been carrying out the Executive Opinion Survey, Bangladesh Chapter, since 2001 for this report. The GCR 2012-13 was launched in a press briefing on 5 September 2012 organised by CPD at its office where Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Senior Research Fellow of CPD, briefed the journalists from print, electronic and online media about the findings of the report and also the findings of the Bangladesh Business Environment Study 2012.

Media Briefing prior to LDC IV Monitor Expert Group Meeting



EGM to discuss the framework and content of the first biennial monitoring report on the implementation of the IPOA

CPD organised a briefing session on 6 September 2012 to inform the media about an upcoming Expert Group Meeting of the LDC IV Monitor titled "Development Challenges of the Least Developed Countries: Tracking the International Commitments" that CPD was organising in Dhaka on 7-9 September 2012. Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD who is also the Chair of the LDC IV Monitor Initiative, briefed the media about the background, objective and activities of LDC IV Monitor and also the issues that will be discussed at the EGM.

Launch of UNCTAD's LDC Report 2012



Reversing the concept of 'brain drain' to 'brain gain' could benefit largely, as the highly-skilled expatriates are the sources of enormous potential for building knowledge network and channeling financial investment

CPD launched the UNCTAD's Least Developed Countries Report 2012, titled "Harnessing Remittances and Diaspora Knowledge to Build Productive Capacities" on 26 November 2012 in the CPD office. Professor Mustafizur Rahman, and Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, were among the notable panellists of this launching event while Dr Tasneem Siddiqui, Chairman of the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), and Professor of the University of Dhaka, was invited to present the highlights of the Report.



Five

Global Initiatives and Partnerships



C P D A n n u a l R e p o r t 2 0 1 2

The background of the page is a composite image. On the left, there is a semi-transparent blue globe showing the Earth's continents. To the right of the globe and extending across the rest of the page are several 3D geometric shapes, primarily cubes and rectangular prisms, in various shades of white and light gray. These shapes are arranged in a dynamic, overlapping manner, some appearing to be in sharp focus while others are blurred, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall lighting is warm and golden, suggesting a sunrise or sunset scene.

Over the years, CPD has been maintaining strong networks with civil society organisations at national, regional and international levels. Collaborative research, joining hands in organising dialogues/workshops/seminars, participating as resource persons and discussants are the modes by which this working relationship is maintained. Experience from such partnerships also enables CPD to provide valuable inputs to the national policy making process by sharing its views at the meetings organised by various agencies of the Government of Bangladesh.

Some of the new initiatives taken in 2012 have enabled CPD to network with a number of centres of excellence in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and also a number of developed countries. Indeed, CPD, through the two new global initiatives, LDC IV Monitor and Southern Voice on Post-MDGs, which it is leading, has established partnership with several new centres of excellence. CPD has been conducting joint studies and organising meetings and seminars in partnership with these organisations.

CPD has also become a member of the Governance Institutes Network International (GINI). As part of this network it is conducting three studies in the broad area of fiscal management.

Think Tank Initiative (TTI)

CPD is one of two organisations in Bangladesh to have been awarded the prestigious Think Tank Initiative (TTI) Award 2010 through a competitive process. Under the TTI Programme financial and technical support is provided to independent policy research organisations in the developing world with a view to assisting these institutions to enhance their organisational performance and improve the quality of their research activities.

Two important events were organised by TTI in 2012. The events were attended by the TTI awardee organisations from Asia, Africa and Latin America along with officials from the TTI Management team (IDRC). At the meeting in Cape Town, CPD received a special recognition as a case study of being a successful think tank with strong track record in policy influencing.

It was also in the Cape Town meeting a decision of launching a new initiative styled as “Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals” was undertaken. CPD was tasked to prepare a Concept Note and explore funding to underwrite the proposed initiative. CPD prepared a proposal titled “Post-MDG (2015) International Development Goals: Perspectives of the Southern Think Tanks” and submitted it to TTI seeking support under its Matching Fund Facility. IPS (Colombo), CEDRES (Burkina Faso), SPDC (Pakistan), IPAR (Senegal), REPOA (Tanzania)

and NCAER (India) associated themselves with the submission of the proposal. TTI has accepted the proposal with high appreciation and has agreed to co-underwrite the first phase of the proposed programme with matching funds.

Southern Voice on Post-MDGs

CPD is spearheading this new global initiative with participation of a number of southern think tanks with a view to influencing the ongoing discourse on the Post-MDG - 2015 Agendas. The objective of the initiative is to ensure that the voice of the southern think tanks get appropriately reflected in the discussion about the overarching objectives, goals, indicators and targets for MDG 2. Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya has taken the lead role in advancing this global initiative. In this connection, an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) was planned to be hosted by CPD in January 2013 in Dhaka to discuss relevant issues and a Work Programme. As a part of the preparatory process for the EGM, two Webinars were arranged with technical support from TTI on 22 November and 18 December 2012 respectively. At the Webinars, Dr Bhattacharya introduced the concept and activities proposed under the “Southern Voice on Post-MDGs”. In addition, TTI has offered to create a virtual platform for the participating think tanks on post-MDG issues and to provide a mechanism of interaction among the engaged participants. A dedicated web page about the initiative is being constructed on CPD’s website.

LDC IV Monitor Initiative

The LDC IV Monitor is an independent global partnership for monitoring the outcome of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (UN LDC IV). It was established in late 2011 by eight think tanks and academic institutions from LDCs and partner countries.

CPD is also giving leadership to the LDC IV Monitor Initiative. Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya is the Chair and overall in-charge of this initiative, which was founded with the core objectives of undertaking policy research, organising dialogues and carrying out outreach activities to advance key issues laid out in the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) adopted during the UN LDC IV Conference held in May 2011. A number of activities have been undertaken to highlight the initiative including a series of international dialogues held in Geneva, London, New York, etc. and several research activities carried out by the researchers from CPD.

In 2012, four studies were carried out under the broad theme on “Mobilising Financial Resources for Development and Capacity-building of the IPoA” with a particular focus on ODA, Tax, Remittance and FDI.

CPD-CMI Research Collaboration Programme

One of the major chapters in CPD's global networking in recent times was kicked off with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) of Norway, in June 2010 to implement a three-year long research cooperation programme, funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

The prime objective of this programme is to contribute towards improved governance and inclusive growth in Bangladesh.

Under this programme a team of senior researchers from CPD visited CMI, in April this year. Taking advantage of their presence a number of events were organised in Bergen and Oslo, Norway. A day-long conference on titled "Governance and Development in Bangladesh: New Context and New Challenges" was organised by CMI on 19 April 2012 at their Resource Centre where research findings on related issues were presented and discussed by both CPD and CMI researchers.

The CPD visiting team also participated in a panel discussion on Bangladesh Frontier Forum:

Opportunities and Risks for Norwegian Business in Bangladesh. The panellists included members of CPD-CMI research team, H E Ragne Birte Lund, Norwegian Ambassador to Bangladesh, and eminent Norwegian business people. The meeting discussed the business environment in Bangladesh with an objective to explore the possibility of building partnerships among Norwegian and Bangladeshi businesses.

CPD-GINI Collaboration Programme on Tax Policy and Enterprise Development in South Asia

CPD joined a research collaboration involving the leading think tanks of Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka initiated by Governance Institutes Network International (GINI). The objective of this research collaboration is to advance technical knowledge on the relationship between tax policies, development of small enterprises, and inclusive growth in South Asia. Under this three-year (2012-2014) research programme, three policy research studies are being conducted that focus on the impacts of tax exemptions and concessions, Value-Added-Tax (VAT) reforms, and property tax (respectively) on the development of small enterprises in South Asia,

with particular emphasis on those operating outside the tax net in the undocumented economy, as well as those owned or managed by women.

CPD led the Bangladesh Team to 10th BCIM Forum

The 10th Meeting of the Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar (BCIM) Cooperation Forum was held during 18-19 February 2012 in Kolkata, India. The event was organised by the Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi, in collaboration with the Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi, in partnership with the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute for Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata. The Forum was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal Mr M K Narayanan. Prior to the event, a Route Survey was carried out for the proposed Kunming to Kolkata Car Rally experience of which was also discussed in the Forum. The meeting discussed such issues as environment, climate and water; regional economic cooperation; regional connectivity (transport, tourism and infrastructure); exchanges in social, cultural and academic fields, and institutional arrangement of BCIM. A nine-member Bangladesh Team led by Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD, joined the 10th BCIM Forum.



Fifth South Asia Economic Summit in Islamabad, Pakistan

A team of CPD researchers joined the Fifth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES V) held in Islamabad, Pakistan, during 11-13 September 2012. This year SAES was hosted by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad, Pakistan. CPD was one of the four initiating institutions of SAES. Other partners were Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), Colombo, Sri Lanka; Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India; and South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Kathmandu, Nepal. Later SDPI also joined the initiative.

CPD organises session at the WTO Forum 2012

CPD organised a session on Least-developed Countries at the Crossroads: Status Quo or Sustainable Development at the WTO Forum 2012 on 24 September 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland. The session was moderated by Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chairman, LDC IV Monitor and Distinguished Fellow, CPD, along with Mr Josip Pervan, Senior Policy Advisor, IDEAS Centre. Under the sub-theme "Formulating New Approaches to Multilateral Trade Opening" the session concentrated upon two key areas which include diversification of export base and the opening up of new export markets; and creating a predictable and transparent economic framework. Dr Vinay Dey Ancharaz, Senior Development Economist, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD); Ambassador Nicolas Imboden, Executive Director, IDEAS Centre; Dr Jaime de Melo, Senior Fellow, Foundation for International Development Study and Research (FERDI), and Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, CPD, made presentations at the session. Summing up the session, Dr Bhattacharya said, the concept of diversification differs from country to country and the LDCs should keep in mind their heterogeneities where landlocked, small island states are also included. He identified structural impediment as the common feature of the LDCs.

CPD joins Task Force on Financial Integrity and Economic Development

CPD has joined the Task Force on Financial Integrity and Economic Development in October 2012 as a partner organisation. The Task Force is a unique global coalition of civil society organisations and governments working together to address inequalities in the financial system that penalise billions of people. Launched in January 2009, the Task Force advocates for greater transparency and accountability in the global financial system. Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan, Senior Research Associate, CPD, is the focal person at CPD for the Task Force.



CPD delegation to India promotes the cause of Indo-Bangladesh cooperation

CPD led a high profile Bangladesh delegation to participate in a dialogue on Indo-Bangladesh Relations held on 4-5 October 2012 at New Delhi, India. CPD in association with the Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD), New Delhi, organised the dialogue to explore avenues to deepen bilateral cooperation between Bangladesh and India. The dialogue focused on trade and investment cooperation, transport and connectivity, water sharing, cooperation between media, and bilateral relationship between lawmakers of the two countries.

Apart from the dialogue, the delegation met the Hon'ble President of India, Mr Pranab Mukherjee. President Mukherjee was apprised of the objective of the dialogue that generated constructive discussions. Appreciating the dialogue process between the

polymakers and the scholars of the two countries, President Mukherjee remarked that it was significant in identifying critical areas which require intervention from senior policymakers to draw attention of the respective governments. He also called for expediting implementation of the decisions made at the highest political level to improve India-Bangladesh relations.

The delegation also met Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Mr Arun Jaitley and the National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of India, Mr Shivshankar Menon. Led by Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD, the 13-member delegation included Professor Dr Gowher Rizvi, International Affairs Advisor to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh; Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud, MP; Mr Reza Ali, MP; Ambassador Nazrul Islam Khan, Member, National Standing

Committee, Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP); Ambassador Farooq Sobhan, Former Foreign Secretary; Mr A K Azad, President, Federation of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI); Mr Matiur Rahman, Editor, Prothom Alo; Mr Mahfuz Anam, Editor, The Daily Star; Dr Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University; Dr Rahmatullah, Former Director, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP); Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya and Professor Mustafizur Rahman of CPD.

CPD has been pursuing such bilateral dialogues over the last decade on wide ranging issues of interests to both the countries.

Major Regional and Global Partner Organisations of CPD in 2012

- Asia Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), Bangkok
- Asian Institute of Transport and Development (AITD), New Delhi, India
- Centre de Recherches Economiques Appliquees (CREA), Senegal
- Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), Norway
- Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF), Tanzania
- Foundation for International Development Study and Research (FERDI), France
- Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), India
- Galatasaray University, Turkey
- Governance Institutes Network International (GINI), Pakistan
- Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)
- Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS)
- International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), Geneva
- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), India
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada
- International Jute Study Group (IJSG)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Institute of Development Studies, Sussex University
- Jamia Millia Islamia University, India
- Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)
- OECD Development Centre, Paris
- Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK
- Oxfam Novib
- Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India
- South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS), Nepal
- South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Nepal
- Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Pakistan
- Commonwealth Secretariat, UK
- Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation (TESEV)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Geneva
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Bangkok
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Bangkok
- World Economic Forum (WEF), Geneva

Membership in Government Committees

The involvement in policy influencing through their suggestions and comments in several committees and working groups set up by various ministries and bodies of the government has been a tradition of CPD professionals. The following provides a number of committees/groups where CPD's senior and mid-level professionals are involved as members:

- Sub-Committee to Review Treaties and Protocols on Connectivity, set up by the Ministry of Commerce
- Committee on Bilateral FTAs with India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, Ministry of Commerce
- Panel of Economists for the Sixth Five Year Plan and Participatory Perspective Plan of Bangladesh
- Advisory Committee on the WTO set up by the Ministry of Commerce
- Advisory Committee on Share Market set up by the Ministry of Finance
- World Trade Organization (WTO) Advisory Committee
- Working Committee on WTO Rules
- Working Committee on Service Sector
- Working Committee on Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)
- Working Committee on Agriculture and SPS (Sanitary and Phytosanitary)
- Working Committee on FTG
- Working Committee on Market Access and Working Committee on Trade-related Technical Assistance (TRTA)
- Committee on Stocktaking of Key Issues of Transit amongst Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Bhutan
- Expert Committee on Identifying the Environmental Goods in Bangladesh
- Technical Committee on Bangladesh Country Investment Plan
- Advisory Panel on Price Volatility, and Comprehensive Trade Policy, and National Steering Committee for Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) of the WTO
- Public-Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC)

Six

National and Institutional Capacity Building

C P D A n n u a l R e p o r t 2 0 1 2

CPD with its multidimensional activities is committed to contributing to national development through capacity building of the wider community.

Disseminating its institutional knowledge among various stakeholder groups which would, in turn, contribute to the country's development process, remains at the centre of CPD's activities related to capacity building. This is done through a number of ways including organisation of thematic training workshops, participation of CPD professionals in local and international conferences, and delivering lectures by CPD professionals at universities and workshops organised by other institutions.

Young Scholar Seminar Series (YSSS)



The CPD YSSS programme is designed to create an opportunity for the young researchers of the Centre to present their works, both current and completed, in front of other colleagues. CPD researchers present at the YSSS provide their comments and suggestions on strengths and weaknesses in the work with regard to methodology, study approach, data and information and quality of analysis and soundness of findings. In the period under review, Mr Maurits Bosman, Intern, CPD presented a study titled “The New Rules of Origin for LDCs: Observations and Implications for the Europe-Bangladesh Apparel Value Chain” at the Centre’s Dialogue Room on 14 February.

Youth Leadership Programme (YLP)

Bangladesh Economy in 2011- 2012 The Current Macroeconomic Challenges



University of Dhaka

YLP is an important component of CPD's initiative in building capacity for the wider community. As part of this ongoing exercise, CPD organised special lecture series on Bangladesh Economy in 2011- 2012: The Current Macroeconomic Challenges for university students in 2012. CPD initiated this programme to contribute towards the students' understanding about practical consequences of theoretical constructs.

The first one of this lecture series was organised in association with Economics Study Center of Dhaka University on 21 January 2012 at its R C Majumder



BRAC University

Auditorium. Students from the Department of Economics, Institute of Business Administration, and Faculty of Business Studies of Dhaka University, participated in this interactive session. To initiate the discussion CPD made a brief presentation on the current macroeconomic scenario of Bangladesh which was followed by an elaborate question-answer session. Faculties from related disciplines were also present at the session.

The second lecture of the series was held on 13 February 2012 at the BRAC University. BRAC



Rajshahi College, Rajshahi

Development Institute organised the event. Undergraduate and graduate level students of the Department of Economics and Social Sciences and Business School of the University along with senior and junior students of the faculties attended the event.

The third lecture was organised in Rajshahi on 25 June 2012 at the Rajshahi College Auditorium. About 300 students and young teachers, mainly from the Department of Economics of this college and also from other institutions including Rajshahi University, participated in this session.



CPD Interactive Website

CPD maintains a rich website which works as an effective vehicle to take the Centre's multidimensional activities to the outside world. The regularly updated CPD website ensures a direct link between the organisation and its peers, and the wider stakeholder groups. The website works as a good repository of important information and institutional memory of the outputs of a range of CPD's activities including Publications, Dialogue Reports, Abstract of Books, Research Monographs and Occasional Papers which are made downloadable through the institution's website. The website also contains various innovative features which enable the stakeholders to maintain an interactive communication through comments and suggestions.



CPD on Facebook

CPD maintains a page on facebook which reflects a wide range of activities of the Centre including its dialogue, press briefings, and other media engagements. This site can be visited from the CPD Website Homepage.

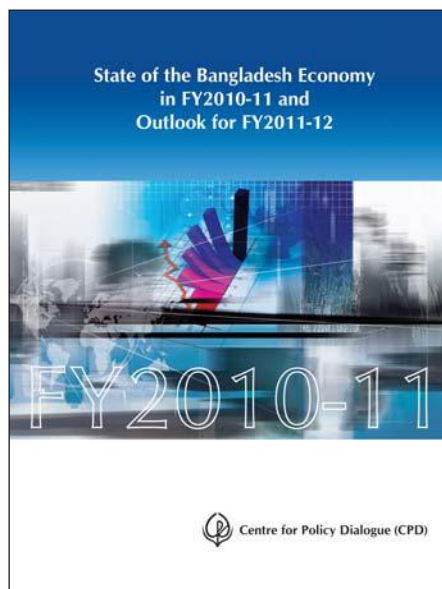


RDU

The Reference and Documentation Unit (RDU) is the repository of reference materials, books, journals, and dialogue and policy advocacy-related work for the CPD researchers on a wide range of issues. The issues include international trade, regional and global economy, South-South cooperation, free trade agreements, agriculture and food security, financial management, TRIPS, poverty eradication, international monetary system, and good governance. CPD also subscribes to a number of reputed international journals, softwares and online data-banks, particularly those relating to CPD's research portfolio.

Seven
Publications

C P D A n n u a l R e p o r t 2 0 1 2



State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2010-11 and Outlook for FY2011-12

The IRBD FY2010-11 volume of CPD maintains its earlier trends in assessing the state of the economy of Bangladesh. It highlights the major developments in the economy, and flags emerging challenges confronting macroeconomic management for the fiscal years under review. The current volume in its various chapters presents an analysis of Bangladesh's macroeconomic performance in FY2010-11, and captures the major achievements and the emerging pressure points at the end of fiscal year. The volume further presents an analysis of the national budget for FY2011-12 and the revised budget of FY2010-11; a critical assessment of the Monetary Policy Statement of the Bangladesh Bank for the second half of FY2010-11; and an analytical review of the overseas migration and inwards remittance flow situation with focus on the first six months of FY2011-12. It also contains a Policy Brief prepared under a joint study with BRAC Advocacy Unit to examine the efficacy of fiscal measures and public service delivery for the ultra poor. Two annexes of the volume include dialogue reports on national budget reaction for FY2011-12, one held in Dhaka, and the other in Chittagong in collaboration with Bangladesh Economic Association (BEA), Chittagong Chapter.



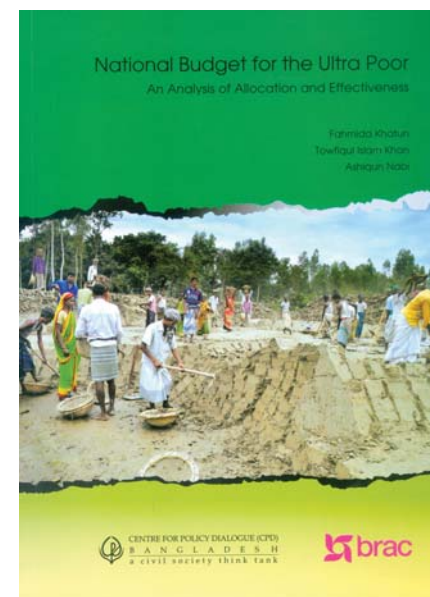
Bangladesh Economy in FY2011-12: Third Interim Review of Macroeconomic Performance

CPD, under its IRBD programme, carried out the regular exercise of reviewing the macroeconomic performance and anticipation of key emerging developments during FY2011-12, and released three interim reviews. This volume contains the third and final report that was released in June 2012. It addresses a number of important and necessary updates of key macroeconomic performance indicators. However, the main value of the present volume lies in three other core sections which discuss three themes of key importance for the Bangladesh economy at this present juncture: namely investment, employment and reforms. The present review also contains a note on the state of crop production and its implications for food security. The current volume also includes a set of proposals for the national budget FY2012-13, as an Annex.

National Budget for the Ultra Poor: An Analysis of Allocation and Effectiveness

Fahmida Khatun, Towfiqul Islam Khan and Ashiqun Nabi

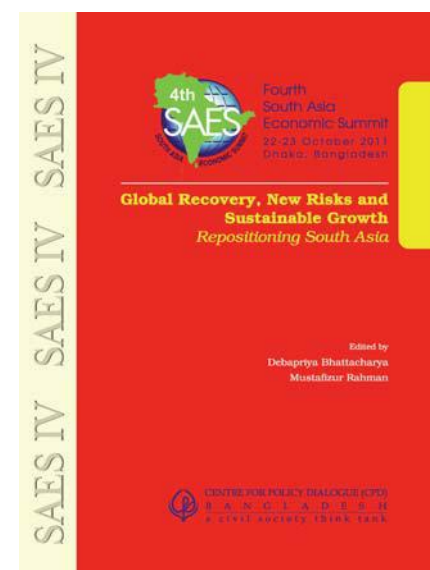
This joint publication of CPD and BRAC Advocacy for Social Change has been prepared on the basis of findings of a study to examine and evaluate fiscal measures in support of the 'ultra poor' in the national budgets of Bangladesh. The study makes an assessment of the allocations and measures in successive national budgets that were geared towards the development of the ultra poor of the country. Based on secondary information, the study carried out a qualitative assessments of the three pioneering safety net programmes being implemented in Bangladesh: Employment Generation Programme for the Poorest (EGPP), Primary Education Stipend Programme (PESP) and Maternity Allowance Programme for the Poor Lactating Mothers. Finally, the study puts forward a set of specific recommendations for improving the effectiveness of these programmes.



Global Recovery, New Risks and Sustainable Growth: Repositioning South Asia

Edited by: Debapriya Bhattacharya and Mustafizur Rahman

The volume captures the rich discourse of the Fourth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES IV) and the ideas that originated from it. Thus the volume embodies a compendium of selected articles presented at the various sessions of the event, summaries of discussions taken place at various plenaries and statements made by dignitaries at the event. SAES IV was hosted by CPD in Dhaka in October 2011. The volume focuses on a set of cross-cutting issues and a cluster of thematic issues. These include current global recovery and its implications, inclusive growth and regional cooperation, accelerating trade and investment, promoting energy and transport connectivity, ensuring food security, managing water resources and climate change, streamlining international migration and remittance flow, and strengthening the role of non-state actors.



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Eight

Selected Highlights of the Year



C P D A n n u a l R e p o r t 2 0 1 2

Extended CPD family gathered for a 2-day Retreat

CPD had its second Retreat on 10-12 January 2012 at BRAC CDM, Savar, Dhaka. CPD staff along with their family members joined this 2-day event. The Retreat was planned to be held in two parts - Strategic Planning Meeting and a get-together of the extended CPD family.

The major objectives of the Strategic Planning Meeting were to reflect and brainstorm on how to further strengthen CPD's institutional capacity in all areas of activities through exchange of views and thoughts. Under the leadership of Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, a designated team of CPD staff comprising all three divisions - Research, Dialogue and Communication, and Administration and Finance - conducted the exercise.

Recommendations emanating from the exercise were presented and discussed at a meeting during the Retreat where all CPD colleagues were present with Professor Rehman Sobhan in the chair. During the Retreat CPD colleagues and their families also had an opportunity to interact in an informal setting.

LET'S PLAY



WHAT WAS THAT!



WINNER TAKES IT ALL



MATCH WINNING
PERFORMANCE



RESEARCH HEAD on
Independent Review of Musical
Development



DIALOGUE on 'RETREAT'!



READY FOR THE RACE



WHO GETS THE
BIGGER PIECE OF
CAKE?



MICROPHONE TESTING IN
THE GUISE OF POEM
RECITATION



WHERE IS THE POCKET?



DANCING DOWN THE WICKET





Citizen's Condolence on the demise of noted economist **Professor Muzaffer Ahmad**

Citizen's Condolence on the demise of noted economist Professor Muzaffer Ahmad

CPD joined with six other leading civil society organisations BAPA, TIB, SUJAN, UNAB, ASK and IBAA in organising a Citizen's Condolence in memory of the late noted economist Professor Dr Muzaffer Ahmad. Eminent personalities from every sector, academics, students, colleagues, and relatives of Professor Ahmad participated in the event held on 28 May 2012 at the TSC Auditorium of Dhaka University. The event was chaired by Justice (Retd) Muhammad Habibur Rahman while Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD, presented a life sketch of late Professor Ahmad. Speakers recalled Professor Ahmad's great contribution in different sectors of Bangladesh and urged the young generation to learn from the life and activities of the celebrated scholar.

Inauguration of Ekushey Book Fair Stall



As in earlier years, CPD continued its tradition of setting up a stall at the *Ekushey Boi Mela* in February on the Bangla Academy Premises in 2012. A range of publications, which CPD brought out throughout the year as research and dialogue outputs, were displayed and sold at the stall.

Nine

Financial Affairs

C P D A n n u a l R e p o r t 2 0 1 2

CPD has a sound financial management system for efficient and effective use of its limited resources. CPD ensures transparent and accountable financial management, through internal auditing and independent external auditing, which are conducted on a regular basis. On financial matters CPD remains accountable to its Board of Trustees, NGO Affairs Bureau, National Board of Revenue (NBR) and its supporting agencies and institutions.

Financial Statement of CPD

The summary of the *Statement of Comprehensive Income (Income & Expenditure)* for the year ended 31 December 2012 and the *Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)* as on 31 December 2012 are provided below. These extracts provide an overview of the state of financial affairs of the Centre.

The financial statements were audited by S. F. Ahmed & Co., Chartered Accountants. The auditor has given an unqualified opinion.

Summary Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Amount in Taka ('000)	
	As on 31 December 2012	As on 31 December 2011
Incoming Resources		
Fund and grants	80,506	75,114
Other receipts	21,157	23,061
Total Resources	101,663	98,175
Resources Expended		
Administrative and management expenditure	49,431	41,572
Project/programme expenditure	81,301	68,104
Total Expenditure	130,732	109,676
Reserve/Deficit	(29,069)	(11,501)

Summary Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)

	Amount in Taka ('000)	
	As on 31 December 2012	As on 31 December 2011
Assets		
Fixed Assets	119,256	118,892
Current Assets	164,979	140,406
Less: Current Liabilities	(669)	(15,948)
Net Assets	283,566	243,350
Represented by:		
Unrestricted Reserve	206,706	150,549
Restricted Reserve	76,860	92,801
	283,566	243,350



Annex 1: Research Studies Undertaken by CPD during 2012

Programme/Project	Name of the Study	Researchers
1. IRBD Macro FY2011-12	1.1 State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2011-12 and Outlook for FY2012-13 1.2 Proposals for the National Budget for FY2012-13 1.3 Analysis of the National Budget for FY2012-13 1.4 Analytical Review of Bangladesh's Macroeconomic Performance in Fiscal Year 2011-12 (Second Reading)	CPD Team
2. IRBD Special	2.1 Recent Changes in Myanmar and Opportunities for Sub-Regional Cooperation	Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Mr Mashfique Ibne Akbar
	2.2 An Analysis of Bangladesh's Food Security Concerns: Nature of the Problem and Potentials of SAFTA-RTA	Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Mr Md Ashiq Iqbal
	2.3 Deepening Bangladesh-India Bilateral Economic Cooperation: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities	Professor Mustafizur Rahman
	2.4 Bangladesh in South Asian RTAs: Emerging Opportunities and Next Challenges in <i>Bangladesh at 40: Changes and Challenges</i>	Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Mr Md Ashiq Iqbal
	2.5 State of Governance in the Banking Sector: Dealing with the Recent Shocks	Dr Fahmida Khatun
	2.6 Lecture Series on Macroeconomic Situation and Policy Analysis of Bangladesh Economy for students of public and private universities	Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Dr Fahmida Khatun, Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan
	2.7 Taking Advantage of Duty Free Market Access Offer of India to Bangladesh – Next Steps: Addressing the Challenges & Realising the Potential Opportunities	Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Ms Khaleda Akhter
3. CPD-CMI	3.1 Agricultural Trade between Bangladesh and India: An analysis of Trends and Trading Patterns	Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Mr Mazbahul Golam Ahamad
	3.2 Impact of India's Rice Trading Policy on Prices, Availability and Supply of Rice in Bangladesh	Professor Selim Raihan, Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan
	3.3 The Parliament of Bangladesh	Professor Rounaq Jahan, Dr Inge Amundsen
	3.4 Private Sector: Role of Education in Entrepreneurship Development	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Dr Arne Wiig, Dr Ivar Kolstad, Mr Kishore Kumer Basak

(Annex 1 contd.)

(Annex 1 contd.)

Programme/Project	Name of the Study	Researchers
	3.5 Governance and Energy in Bangladesh: Role of FDI	Dr Fahmida Khatun, Mr Mazbahul Golam Ahamad, Mr Napoleon Dewan
	3.6 The Political Parties in Bangladesh	Professor Rounaq Jahan, Ms Meherun Nesa
	3.7 Democracy-Corruption Nexus in Bangladesh: An Interpretation from Economic Perspective	Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Mr Shouro Dasgupta, Ms Nusrat Jahan Tania
	3.8 Impact of Corruption on Economic Growth	Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Mr Shouro Dasgupta, Ms Nusrat Jahan Tania
	3.9 Financing Local Government	Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Professor Mobasser Monem, Ms Umme Shefa Rezbana
4. CPD-SAWTEE	4.1 LDC Issues for the Operationalisation of SAARC Food Bank	Professor Mustafizur Rahman , Ms Nafisa Khaled
5. CPD-WEF	5.1 Global Competitiveness Report 2012-13 and Bangladesh Business Environment Study 2012	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Mr Kishore Kumer Basak
6. CPD-Manusher Jonno Foundation	6.1 Literature Review on Exploring Unaccounted Contribution of Women in Bangladesh	Dr Fahmida Khatun
7. CPD-Katalyst Study	7.1 Technological Upgradation in the Jute Manufacturing Sector in view of Attaining Higher Productivity	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Mr Kishore Kumer Basak
	7.2 Development of a Framework for a Comprehensive Trade Policy for Bangladesh	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Ms Nazneen Ahmed, Mr Nasim Manzur, Ms Mehruna Islam Chowdhury
8. CPD-UNDP	8.1 Roundtable Discussions with Parliamentary Committees on National Budget Priorities	Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Dr Fahmida Khatun, Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan, Mr Md Ashiq Iqbal
9. CPD-ICTSD	9.1 Effectiveness and Impacts of the Aid for Trade Initiative in Bangladesh	Dr Fahmida Khatun, Mr Napoleon Dewan, Ms Samina Hossain
10. CPD-GIZ	10.1 Enhancing Bilateral Trade between Brazil and Bangladesh: Analysis of Trade Pattern and Identification of Trade Potentials in case of RMG and Non-RMG Products	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Ms Saifa Raz

(Annex 1 contd.)

(Annex 1 contd.)

Programme/Project	Name of the Study	Researchers
11. SAES V	11.1 Food Security vs Food Export: South Asia: How to deal with Agriculture Trade?	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Ms Farzana Sehrin
12. CPD-ICRIER	12.1 Pruning the SAFTA Sensitive List: The Case of Bangladesh	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Mr Kishore Kumer Basak
	12.2 Strengthening the Textile and Clothing Sector in South Asia: The Case of Bangladesh	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Ms Farzana Sehrin
13. CPD-IJSG	13.1 Proposal for a study on “Development of Marketing Strategies for Jute Products in view of Changing Global Demand”	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Mr Kishore Kumer Basak
14. LDC IV Monitor	Four studies under the theme on “Mobilizing Financial Resources for Development and Capacity-building of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA)” which include:	
	14.1 Study on ODA	Dr Fahmida Khatun, Mr Mazbahul Golam Ahamad,
	14.2 Study on Tax	Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya
	14.3 Study on Remittance	Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Mr Md Zafar Sadique
	14.4 Study on FDI	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Ms Saifa Raz
15. CPD-TTI	15.1 Southern Voice on Post-MDGs	Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Ms Shameema Ahsan Mallik
16. CPD-GINI	Three studies under the theme of “Tax Policy and Enterprise Development in South Asia” which include:	
	16.1 The Impact of Tax Exemptions and Concessions on Enterprise Development	Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Ms Meheruna Islam Chowdhury, Ms Saifa Raz
	16.2 The Impact of the Value-Added-Tax (VAT) on Enterprise Development	Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan, Mr Md Zafar Sadique

(Annex 1 contd.)

(Annex 1 contd.)

Programme/Project	Name of the Study	Researchers
	16.3 The Impact of Property Tax on Enterprise Development	Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Professor Swapan Kumar Bala
17. CPD-ARTNeT	17.1 Trade Related Adjustment Measures and their Impact on Bangladesh Manufacturing Sector	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Ms Meheruna Islam Chowdhury
18. CPD-Jadavpur University-IDRC	18.1 Can Small Informal Manufacturing Industries Benefit from the Policies Promoting Inclusive Growth?: A Tale of Two Cities of Kolkata (West Bengal, India) and Dhaka (Bangladesh)	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Professor Ajitava Raychaudhuri
19. CPD-SANDEE	19.1 Industrial Waste Management in the Backward Linkage Textile Sector of Bangladesh: Challenges for Ensuring Environmental Compliance	Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Ms Meheruna Islam Chowdhury
20. CPD	20.1 Confronting Climate Change: Advancement of Green Development Agenda in Bangladesh through Policy Research, Dialogue and Capacity Building	Dr Fahmida Khatun

Annex 2: List of Dialogues Organised by CPD in 2012

Dialogue Category	Theme	Date
In-house	Expert Group Meeting on Democracy-Corruption Nexus in Bangladesh: An Interpretation from Economic Perspective	7 April
	Expert Group Meeting on Analytical Review on Bangladesh's Macroeconomic Performance in FY2011-12 (Third Reading)	27 May
	Policy dialogue on Bangladesh-Myanmar Relationship and Opportunities for Future Cooperation	9 July
	In-house discussion on Regional Connectivity	16 October
	Expert Group Meeting on Strengthening Fiscal Autonomy and Financial Accountability of Local Government in Bangladesh with Special Reference to Pourashavas/Municipalities	7 November
	Expert Group Meeting on Digging in the Dirt?: Extractive Industry FDI and Corruption	7 November
	Expert Group Meeting on Political Parties of Bangladesh	8 November
	In-house discussion on Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan: Continuity or Change?	13 November
	In-house discussion on Challenges of Inclusive Growth and the Prospects of Bangladeshi Society on the occasion of a visit by a batch of MBA students from the International Institute for Management Development (IMD), Switzerland	19 November
Local Level	আঞ্চলিক সংলাপ ২০১২-১৩ অর্থবছরের বাজেট পর্যালোচনা	25 June
National	UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20): Context, Issues and Challenges for Bangladesh	10 April
	CPD-UNDP Dialogue with Members of Parliamentary Standing Committees on Ministry of Environment and Forests on the Upcoming National Budget	11 April
	CPD-UNDP Dialogue with Members of Parliamentary Standing Committees on Ministry of Women and Children Affairs on the Upcoming National Budget	2 May
	CPD-UNDP Dialogue with Members of Parliamentary Standing Committees on Ministry of Home Affairs on the Upcoming National Budget	3 May
	Challenges of Financing Development Projects under Local Government	5 May
	CPD-UNDP Dialogue with Members of Parliamentary Standing Committees on Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs on the Upcoming National Budget	7 May
	Policy Dialogue on Bangladesh-EU Relationship: Scenarios for the Next Decades	12 May
	Dialogue on State of Bangladesh Economy in FY2011-12 and Analysis of Budget FY2012-13	16 June
	CPD-MCCI Dialogue on Bangladesh Trade Policy Framework for the Next Decade	3 July
	CPD-WB Dialogue on Bangladesh-India Trade Relationship: New Opportunities, New Challenges	2 August
	CPD-MJF Expert Group Meeting on Exploring Unaccounted Contribution of Women: Sharing Experiences and Designing Methodological Framework for Bangladesh	26 August

(Annex 2 contd.)

(Annex 2 contd.)

Dialogue Category	Theme	Date
International	Dialogue on State of the Bangladesh Economy, IMF Supported Programme and Future Outlook	17 September
	Dialogue on State of Governance in the Banking Sector: Dealing with the Recent Shocks	5 November
	CPD-ADB Brainstorming Session on Recent Developments in Myanmar: New Opportunities for Regional Cooperation	15 March
	Discussion Session on “Bangladesh Frontier Forum” on Opportunities and Risks for Norwegian Business in Bangladesh	17 April
	Bangladesh Conference: New Context and New Challenges	19 April
	LDC IV Monitor Expert Group Meeting (EGM) titled Development Challenges of the Least Developed Countries: Tracking the International Commitments	7-9 September
	Fifth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES V)	11-13 September
	CPD Session on LDCs at the Crossroads: Status Quo or Sustainable Development? at the WTO Public Forum	24 September
	CPD-AITD Indo-Bangla Dialogue	4-5 October
	Policy Dialogue on Value Chains for Inclusive Development: Lessons and Policies for South Asia	24-25 November

Annex 3: CPD Professionals in National and International Fora in 2012

CPD Professionals in National Fora

Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman

- Presented a paper on 'The Political Economy of Land Depression in Bangladesh: An Agenda for Agrarian Reform' at a session on Development Democracy' and Human Security in Post-colonial Context at a Workshop on "Controversial Democratic Spaces: Land, Environment and Human Rights in Bangladesh", organised by the Department of Law, University Dhaka on 16-17 October 2012, at the Nobab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban, University of Dhaka, Dhaka.
- Attended a roundtable meeting on the *Post 2015 Development Agenda*, organised by DFID, Bangladesh on 17 October 2012 at Dhaka.
- Conferred the 'Bangladesh Liberation War Honour' and the 'Friends of Liberation War Honour' to the awardees, organised by the Government of Bangladesh, on 20 October 2012, at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC), Dhaka.
- Attended a roundtable discussion on the *Manifesto for the Extreme Poor*, organised by Shiree, Water Aid and The Daily Star, on 20 October 2012 at The Daily Star Centre, Dhaka.
- Delivered a lecture on *G-20: It's Influence on World Economy and Politics* on 25 October 2012 at the Defence Service Command and Staff College of Bangladesh, Dhaka.
- Attended a public lecture on *Globalization and Development* by Dr Ashok Mitra as Discussant, organised jointly by Bangladesh Economic Association and Dhaka University Alumni Association, on 30 November 2012, at the RDEC Auditorium of LGED Bhaban, Dhaka.
- Presented the keynote at the thematic session of *Multidimensional Aspects of Citizenship, Democracy and Governance*, at the International Conference on "Governance and Public Service Transformation in South Asia", organised by Affiliated Network for Social Accountability (ANSA) South Asia Region & Global Partnership Fund, on 7-9 December 2012, at the BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka.

Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director

- Attended workshop on "Sewerage Master Plan of Dhaka City", organised by Dhaka Water Supply & Sewerage Authority (WASA) in cooperation with Grontmij A/S, Denmark in association with Institute of Water Modelling (IWM), Bangladesh on 24 January 2012 at the Spectra Convention Centre, Dhaka.
- Attended a dialogue as Discussant on "State of the Economy of Bangladesh", organised by Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) on 1 February 2012 at the Federation Bhaban, Dhaka.
- Attended a seminar on "Inequality on Our Age", organised by Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) on 8 February 2012 at the BIDS, Dhaka.
- Attended a round table discussion on "Bangladesh Vision on Nutrition: A Reflection", organised by Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) on 8 February 2012 at the Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, Dhaka.
- Attended launching of the book "Bangladesh: Politics, Economy and Civil Society", organised by the British Council and London School of Economics (LSE) Alumni Association on 9 February 2012 at the British Council, Dhaka.

- Attended a luncheon meeting with Mr Robert O Blake, Assistant Secretary, South and Central Asian Affairs, US Department of States, organised by American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh (AmCham) on 16 February 2012 at the Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, Dhaka.
- Attended an open discussion on “Food Security”, organised on the occasion of the visit of Dr José Graziano da Silva, Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to Bangladesh by Food Division, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management (MoFDM) on 19 March 2012, in Dhaka..
- Attended the “7th National Disability Convention 2012” as the Keynote Speaker on *Disability Inclusive Developments & MDGs*, organised by National Grassroots Disability Organisation and others on 28 March 2012 at the Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban, Dhaka University.
- Attended a Seminar on “National Budget 2012-13 and Our Expectations”, organised by Bangladesh Chapter of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) on 30 March 2012 at the Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, Dhaka.
- Attended a Working Breakfast Meeting on “Climate and Energy Security in Bangladesh”, organised by British High Commission on 9 May 2012.
- Attended the First Jury Panel Meeting for HSBC Export Excellence Awards 2011, organised by HSBC, on 9 May 2012.
- Attended a Discussion on “Budget FY12-13: Our Expectations”, organised by Metropolitan Chambers of Commerce and Industries (MCCI) and Maasranga Television on 15 May 2012.
- Attended a Seminar as Discussant on “Protokkho Kor: Bortoman Prekkhapot, Bastobota o Bhobishshot Porikolpona”, organised by BCS (Taxation) Association, on 19 May 2012 at the Officer's Club.
- Attended a Workshop on “Strengthening the Office of the Focal Point (WTO Cell of the Ministry of Commerce) in Promoting and Diversifying the Trade” as Special Guest organised by WTO Cell, Ministry of Commerce, on 20 May 2012 as Special Guest.
- Chaired a Session on “Effective Implementation of Competition Regime in Other Developing Countries: Lessons for Bangladesh” at the International Conference on “Moving the Competition Law Agenda Forward in Bangladesh: Possible Implementation Concerns organised” by Unnayan Shamonnay and Consumer Unity Trust Society (CUTS) International, on 2 July 2012, at the Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, Dhaka.
- Chaired a Session on “Review of Three Sectoral Studies of Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka: Their Prospect of Integration and International Market Access” at the Sub-Regional Seminar on “Enabling Environment for Integration of SMEs in Global Value Chain” organised by the International Chamber of Commerce, Bangladesh (ICC,B), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP), and BRAC Bank Limited, on 3 July 2012, at the Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, Dhaka.
- Attended the launch of the report “Consolidating and Accelerating Exports in Bangladesh,” on 4 July 2012, at the World Bank office.
- Attended a meeting on বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের মুদ্রানীতি বিষয়ে মতবিনিময়সভা, organised by Bangladesh Bank, on 7 July 2012, at the Palm View Restaurant, Dhaka.
- Delivered a lecture on “Manpower Export & Economic Security of Bangladesh,” on 29 July 2012, at the Defence Services Command and Staff College of Bangladesh, Dhaka.
- Attended as Discussant at a seminar on “D-8 Cooperation in Textile and Garment Industries: Way Forward”, organised by Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BKMEA) and Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA), on 9 October 2012, at the Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, Dhaka.
- Attended the 8th Meeting of the National Consumer Rights Protection Department (NCRPD), on 7 November 2012, at the Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) Bhaban, Dhaka.
- Attended as the Special Guest at a discussion meeting on “ভোক্তা অধিকার সংরক্ষণ আইনের কার্যকর প্রয়োগে তথ্য অধিকার আইনের ব্যবহার”, organised by the Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) and Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), on 15 November 2012, at the Press Club, Dhaka.
- Attended as Special Commentator at a discussion meeting on “US-Bangladesh Relationship”, organised by BRAC University on 18 November 2012, at the BRAC University, Dhaka.

- Attended as Discussant at a roundtable discussion on “Food and Nutrition Security Policy Framework: Issues and Options”, organised by the Ministry of Food, Government of Bangladesh, on 29 November 2012, in Dhaka.
- Moderated a programme on “Private Sector: Engine for Sustainable Development”, organised by Katalyst, on 6 December 2012, at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka.
- Attended the National Seminar on “Realizing Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Making Post-MDGs 2015 Inclusive and Implementing CRPD”, organised by ADD International, on 30 December 2012, at BICC, Dhaka.

Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow

- Attended the Installation Ceremony of Rotary Club of Comilla as Chief Guest, on 14 July 2012 at Comilla.
- Attended the Installation Ceremony of Rotary Club of Buriganga, Dhaka as Chief Guest, on 18 July 2012 at Dhaka.
- Chaired a discussion meeting on “মহাত্মা গান্ধীর আদর্শ ও সমকালীন বিশ্বে প্রাসঙ্গিকতা”, organised by Gandhi Asram Trust on the occasion of “143rd Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and International Day of Non-violence”, on 2 October 2012, at the CIRDAP Auditorium, Dhaka.
- Delivered a lecture on *40 Years of Bangladesh Economy: Achievements and Challenges*, on 8 October 2012, at the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC), Savar.
- Attended as Discussant at the launching of a World Bank Report titled “Bangladesh: Towards Accelerated, Inclusive and Sustainable Growth”, organised by The World Bank, on 13 November 2012, at the Westin Hotel, Dhaka.
- Delivered a lecture on Globalization of Trade and Commerce- Impact on Least Developed Countries: Especially Bangladesh, on 15 November 2012, at the National Defence Staff College, Mirpur, Dhaka.
- Delivered a lecture on Global Financial Crisis and its Implication in Bangladesh, on 19 November 2012, at the BPATC, Savar.

Professor Rounaq Jahan, Distinguished Fellow

- Attended as Discussant at a consultation between women parliamentarians and civil society organisations on Gender Responsive Budgeting and Priorities for the Health and Education Budgets of 2013/14, organised by Centre for Gender and Social Transformation (CGST) of BRAC Development Institute, BRAC University, on 15 November 2012, at BRAC University, Dhaka.

Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Senior Research Fellow

- Attended the 12th Meeting of Conference of the Parties (CoP) of International Jute Study Group (IJSG) on 17 January 2012, at IJSG, Dhaka.
- Attended European Union (EU) Trade Policy Meeting on 22 January 2012.
- Presented a paper on "Framework for the Proposed Comprehensive Trade Policy 2012-17" at the Ministry of Commerce on 27 February 2012.
- Attended Youth Leadership Forum as Designated Discussant on 28 February 2012.
- Presented a paper on "Business Development Opportunities for the Canadian Investors in Bangladesh" at a Seminar on Business Development Opportunities in Bangladesh, jointly organised by Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) and Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce on 5 March 2012.

- Attended International Jute Study Group (IJSG) meeting at the IJSG office on 14 May 2012.
- Attended an Expert Group Meeting with European Union on 15 May 2012.
- Attended as a Panelist in a Session on “Macroeconomic Policy and Employment Consideration”, organised by the International Labour Organization (ILO), on 8 August 2012.
- Attended a multistakeholder consultation on “Social Protection for Construction Workers”, organised by the Bangladesh Institute for Labour Studies (BILS), on 18 September 2012.
- Presented keynote paper at a dialogue on “Competitiveness of Bangladesh: Prospects and Challenges for SMEs” organised by the SME Foundation, on 18 November 2012, at SME Foundation, Dhaka.
- Attended a roundtable discussion on “পোশাক কারখানায় আগুন: মৃত্যুর মিছিল বন্ধ করুন” organised by Daily Prothom Alo, on 28 November 2012 at the Prothom Alo Office, Dhaka.
- Attended as Panelist at a plenary session on “Trend and Changes in Banking, at the Annual Banking Conference-2012”, organised by Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management (BIBM), on 23 December 2012, at the BIBM, Dhaka.
- Attended a seminar on “Jute Sector in Bangladesh and Present Condition of Jute Industry” as Special Guest, jointly organised by Jute Industry Preservation Committee and ActionAid Bangladesh, on 29 December 2012, at the CIRDAP Auditorium, Dhaka.

CPD Professionals in International Fora

Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman

- Attended the Conference on “Delivering Inclusive and Sustainable Development”, on 9-10 April 2012, in New Delhi, India.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/ seminars/ meetings) in connection with ongoing research collaboration between CPD and Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) on 15-22 April 2012, in Oslo and Bergen, Norway.
- Made a presentation at a Seminar on “Challenging the Injustice of Poverty: Operationalising an Agenda for Inclusive Development across South Asia”, organised by the Association for Economic and Development Studies on Bangladesh (AEDSB), on 26 July 2012, in Washington, D.C., USA.
- Attended the “Fifth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES V) Making Growth Inclusive and Sustainable in South Asia”, organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), on 11-13 September 2012, in Islamabad, Pakistan; chaired at the Plenary session on “Development Agenda for a New South Asia” and presented comments as a Discussant at the Plenary session on “Inclusive & Sustainable South Asia: Options for a Collective Response”.
- Attended the SACEPS Executive Committee's informal brainstorming meeting, on 11 September 2012, in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- Attended the “Indo-Bangladesh Dialogue”, organised jointly by Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD), New Delhi and CPD, Dhaka during 4-5 October 2012, in New Delhi, India.
- Attended the Regional Consultation on “Human Development in South Asia”, co-organised by the South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), held on 10-11 October 2012, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director

- Attended 10th Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar Cooperation Forum (BCIM), on 17-21 February 2012, in Kolkata, India.
- Attended the “2012 Annual Meeting of the OECD Development Finance Network (DeFine)”, on 27-29 February 2012, in Paris, France.
- Attended “Think Tank Project Meeting” at the Mysore TTI Meet organised by Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), on 3-8 March 2012, in Mysore, India.
- Participated at the “South-South Collaboration for Promoting Trade and Development”, organised by Commonwealth Secretariat and UNCTAD on 1-5 April 2012, in London, UK.
- Participated at the “LDC Expert Group Meeting”, on 1-5 April 2012, in London, UK.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) in connection with ongoing research collaboration between CPD and Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) held during 15-22 April 2012, in Oslo and Bergen, Norway.
- Attended a meeting on “Think Tank Initiative Exchange 2012: Enabling Success”, on 18-20 June 2012, in Cape Town, South Africa.
- Attended a roundtable discussion on “Expanding Regional Cooperation in South Asia: Taking Stock and Moving Forward - Supporting the Process & the ‘Champions’”, organised by The World Bank, on 12-14 July 2012, in Thimpu, Bhutan.
- Attended the “SAES V Making Growth Inclusive and Sustainable in South Asia”, organised by the SDPI, on 11-13 September 2012, in Islamabad, Pakistan; chaired at the Plenary session on “Liberalization of Services Trade in South Asia”.
- Attended the “WTO Public Forum 2012: Is Multilateralism in Crisis?” organised by the World Trade Organization (WTO), on 24-26 September 2012, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Attended the “Indo-Bangladesh Dialogue”, organised jointly by AITD, New Delhi and CPD, Dhaka during 4-5 October 2012, in New Delhi, India.
- Participated at the “4th Trade Policy Review Meeting”, as part of the Government of Bangladesh Delegation during 15-17 October 2012, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Participated at a “Steering Committee Meeting on Tax Policy and Enterprise Development in South Asia”, organised by GINI, on 2 December 2012, in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Participated at the “ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Inclusive and Job-enhancing Trade”, on 14 December 2012, in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Presented a paper on *Trade, Climate Change and Food Security in South Asia* at the Regional Consultation on “Regional Approach to Food Security in South Asia: SAARC Food Bank”, organised by the South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), held on 20-21 December 2012, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow

- Presented a paper on *LDC IV Monitor at the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)* on 23-27 January 2012, in New York, USA.
- Attended as a Discussant at Discussion on “South Asian Regional Consultation on Human Development Report”, organised by UNDP, on 30-31 January 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Participated in Seminar on “Non-Tariff Measures: New Challenges and the Road Ahead”, organised by International Trade Centre (ITC), on 2-3 February 2012, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Attended the 2012 Annual Meeting of the OECD Development Finance Network (DeFine), on 27-29 February 2012, in Paris, France.

- Attended Think Tank Project Meeting at the Mysore TTI Meet, organised by CSTEP, on 3-8 March 2012, in Mysore, India.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) in connection with ongoing research collaboration between CPD and Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) held during 15-22 April 2012 in Oslo and Bergen, Norway.
- Participated at the 13th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD XIII), on 23-25 April 2012, in Doha, Qatar.
- Attended the Wilton Park Conference on New Challenges, New Donors: A New UN Development System, on 14-16 May 2012, in London, UK.
- Attended the “International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council (IPC) Spring Seminar and Plenary”, on 17-19 May 2012, in Washington D.C., USA.
- Attended a meeting on “Think Tank Initiative Exchange 2012: Enabling Success” on 18-20 June 2012, in Cape Town, South Africa.
- Attended at the “Development Cooperation Forum 2012”, organised by Permanent Mission of Finland to the UN and Permanent Mission of Zambia to the UN, on 5-6 July 2012, in New York, USA.
- Attended an “Expert Group Meeting on Inclusive Development & Regional Cooperation in South and South-West Asia”, organised by the Sub-regional Office for South and South-West Asia (SRO-SSWA) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP), on 29 July-1 August 2012, in New Delhi, India.
- Attended a meeting on “Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA)”, organised by the Policy Research for Development, on 6-15 August 2012, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- Attended the “SAES V Making Growth Inclusive and Sustainable in South Asia”, organised by the SDPI, on 11-13 September 2012, in Islamabad, Pakistan; and presented comments as a Discussant at the Plenary session on “Beyond MDGs and Post-Rio Outlook: South Asian Goals towards Sustainable Development”.
- Attended the “WTO Public Forum 2012: Is Multilateralism in Crisis?” organised by the WTO, on 24-26 September 2012, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Attended the “Indo-Bangladesh Dialogue”, organised jointly by AITD, New Delhi and CPD, Dhaka during 4-5 October 2012, in New Delhi, India.
- Participated at the 2012 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group, held during 12-15 October 2012, in Tokyo, Japan.
- Attended the Capturing the Gains’ “Global Summit and Commission on the Future of the Multilateral Trading System” organised by The University of Manchester, UK; Duke University, USA & The University of Cape Town, South Africa, held during 3-5 December 2012, in Cape Town, South Africa.
- Attended the conference on “Re-imagining Development: An Ideas Exchange” organised by Centre for Policy Analysis (CEPA), held during 11-12 December 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka

Ms Anisatul Fatema Yousuf, Director, Dialogue and Communication

- Attended the 10th BCIM Forum on 17-21 February 2012, in Kolkata, India.
- Attended UNCTAD XIII Civil Society Forum, on 16-20 April 2012, in Doha, Qatar.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) as part of the exchange programme under the collaboration programme between CPD and Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), during 10-20 September 2012, in Bergen, Norway. These included:
 - o Making a presentation on *Role of Civil Society in Civic Activism: CPD's Experience at a CMI in-house seminar*
 - o Visiting Communication Division at the University of Bergen
 - o Attended seminars in Bergen Resource Centre for International Development

- o Meetings with various sections of the CMI Communication Division
- o Contributing to a workshop on Global Research Communication.

Mr M Shafiqul Islam, Additional Director (Admin. and Finance)

- Participated in a Training Programme with Asian Business Software Solutions Sdn Bhd Trading as MYOB South Asia on 15-19 April 2012, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) as part of the exchange programme under the collaboration programme between CPD and CMI, during 10-20 September 2012, in Bergen, Norway. These included:
 - o Meetings with CPD-CMI project management team, EMI Finance and HR teams.

Dr Fahmida Khatun, Head of Research

- Attended an informal meeting on the "Zero Draft of the Outcome Document of United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD)" on 25-27 January 2012, in New York, USA.
- Attended the "UNDP Regional Consultation on Human Development Reports and Measurement of Human Progress", on 30-31 January 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Attended the "Advanced Seminar on Migration, Refugees, Climate Change and Law", on 13-14 February 2012, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Attended Think Tank Project Meeting at the Mysore TTI Meet, organised by CSTEP, on 3-8 March 2012, in Mysore, India.
- Attended the Think Tank Project Meeting on 29-31 March 2012, in New Delhi, India.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) in connection with ongoing research collaboration between CPD and Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) held during 15-22 April 2012, in Oslo and Bergen, Norway.
- Attended the "Rio+20: 3rd Preparatory Meeting UN conference on Sustainable Development", on 12-16 June 2012, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- Attended a meeting on "Think Tank Initiative Exchange 2012: Enabling Success", on 18-20 June 2012, in Cape Town, South Africa.
- Attended the "SAES V: Making Growth Inclusive and Sustainable in South Asia", organised by the SDPI, on 11-13 September 2012, in Islamabad, Pakistan; and presented comments as a Discussant at the Concurrent session on "Climate Change Challenges for Sustainable Development".
- Presented a paper on *Value Chain of Aquaculture in Bangladesh*, at a conference organised by the Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia Pacific (NACA) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), held on 10 October 2012, in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Participated in the 2012 Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the IMF and the World Bank Group, held on 12-15 October 2012, in Tokyo, Japan.
- Awarded a Fellowship by the Asia Foundation Korea Office to undertake research at the Korea Institute for Industrial Economics and Trade (KIET) in Seoul, South Korea during November-December 2012.

Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Senior Research Fellow

- Attended the inception workshop on “Strengthening the Textiles and the Clothing Sector in South Asia”, on 29-31 March 2012, in New Delhi, India.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) in connection with ongoing research collaboration between CPD and Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) held during 15-22 April 2012, in Oslo and Bergen, Norway.
- Attended the “24th Biannual Research and Training Workshop”, on 18-21 June 2012 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Attended the “SAES V Making Growth Inclusive and Sustainable in South Asia”, organised by the SDPI, on 11-13 September 2012, in Islamabad, Pakistan; and presented a paper at the Concurrent session on “Regional Trade in Agriculture: Prospects for South Asia”.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) in connection with the ongoing research collaboration programme between CPD and CMI during 26 September-9 October 2012, in Bergen, Norway, including:
 - o 7th Nordic Conference on Behavioural and Experimental Economics, organised by The Choice Lab at the Norwegian School of Economics, on 28-29 September 2012.
- Attended a Workshop on “Strengthening Textiles and Clothing Sector in South Asia”, organised by the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), on 16 November 2012, in New Delhi, India.
- Attended the “25th Biannual Research and Training Workshop”, organised by the South Asia Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE), held on 12-15 December, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Annex 4: CPD Staff in 2012

Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman

Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director

Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow

Professor Rounaq Jahan, Distinguished Fellow

Research Division

Dr Fahmida Khatun, Additional Director, Research

Dr Uttam Deb, Additional Director and Head of Research (on leave from August 2010)

Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Senior Research Fellow

Mr Wasel Bin Shadat, Senior Research Associate (till 31 August 2012)

Mr Kazi Mahmudur Rahman, Senior Research Associate (study leave from February 2010)

Mr Syed Saifuddin Hossain, Senior Research Associate (study leave from February 2012)

Mr Md Ashiq Iqbal, Senior Research Associate (till 14 June 2012)

Mr Asif Anwar, Senior Research Associate (till 31 January 2012)

Ms Nafisa Khaled, Senior Research Associate (till 31 July 2012)

Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan, Senior Research Associate

Ms Khaleda Akhter, Senior Research Associate

Mr Hasanuzzaman, Senior Research Associate (till 25 July 2012)

Mr Subir Kanti Bairagi, Senior Research Associate (study leave from March 2010)

Mr Md Tariqur Rahman, Senior Research Associate (till 30 April 2012)

Mr Muhammad Al Amin, Senior Research Associate (study leave from July 2011)

Mr Ashiqun Nabi, Senior Research Associate (till 30 April 2012)

Ms Nusrat Jahan, Senior Research Associate (study leave from September 2011)

Ms Sharmin Chowdhury, Research Associate (study leave from September 2010)

Mr Kishore Kumer Basak, Research Associate

Mr Mazbahul Golam Ahamad, Research Associate

Mr Md Zafar Sadique, Research Associate

Ms Mehruna Islam Chowdhury, Research Associate

Mr Napoleon Dewan, Research Associate (till 26 May 2012)

Mr Mashfique Ibne Akbar, Research Associate

Ms Samira Choudhury, Research Associate (from 11 March 2012 till 14 March 2012)
Ms Meherun Nesa, Research Associate (from 18 March 2012)
Ms Shameema Nasreen Ahsan Mallik, Research Associate (from 25 March 2012)
Ms Marziana Mahfuz Nandita, Research Associate (from 25 March 2012 till 10 July 2012)
Mr F I M Muktadir Boksh, Research Associate (from 27 May 2012)
Ms Farzana Sehrin, Research Associate (from 27 May 2012)
Mr Md Maidul Islam Chowdhury, Research Associate (from 27 May 2012 till 27 August 2012)
Ms Saifa Raz, Research Associate (from 26 June 2012)
Ms Umme Salma, Research Associate (from 26 November 2012)
Ms Nusrat Jahan Tania, Programme Associate
Mr Shouro Dasgupta, Programme Associate (till 31 January 2012)
Ms Samina Hossain, Programme Associate (from 11 March 2012)
Ms Dwitiya Jawher Neethi, Programme Associate (from 2 May 2012)
Ms Umme Shefa Rezbana, Programme Associate (from 5 August 2012)
Mr Mohammed Abdullah Al Mamun, Programme Associate (from 1 April 2012 till 12 May 2012)
Mr A S M Tarek Hassan Semul, Project Assistant (till 19 January 2012)

Dialogue and Communication Division

Ms Anisatul Fatema Yousuf, Director
Ms Nazmatun Noor, Senior Dialogue Associate
Mr Avra Bhattacharjee, Senior Dialogue Associate
Mr A K M Fazley Rabbi Faruque, Publication and Print Associate
Ms Rony Akther, Dialogue Associate (till 15 April 2012)
Ms Nandini Shahla Chowdhury, Dialogue Associate (from 18 March 2012)
Ms Mandira Guha Neogi, Dialogue Associate (from 27 June 2012 till 3 September 2012)
Mr Joseph Surjamoni Tripura, Dialogue Associate (from 26 November 2012)
Ms Afsanoor Ahmed, Programme Associate (from 10 October 2012)
Mr Md Shaiful Hassan, Programme Associate (DTP)

Administration and Finance Division

Mr M Shafiqul Islam, Additional Director, Admin. & Finance
Mr Iqbal Hossain, Deputy Director, Special Assistant to the Chairman
Mr M Humayun Kabir, Deputy Director, Administration
Mr Uttam Kumar Paul, Deputy Director, Accounts
Mr A H M Ashrafuzzaman, Senior System Analyst
Mr Hamidul Hoque Mondal, Senior Administrative Associate
Mr M Abdul Quddus, Senior Administrative Associate
Mr Kamalesh Chandra Mondal, Accounts Associate
Mr Md. Shamimur Rohman, Accounts Associate
Ms Jennifer Hossain, Executive Assistant (till 1 August 2012)
Ms Maureen A Fernandez, Executive Assistant (from 1 July 2012 till 16 July 2012)
Ms Sifat Sagufta Hossain, Executive Assistant (from 1 August 2012)
Mr Md. Hasanur Rahman, Front Desk Officer
Mr Shoeb Siddique, Junior Administrative Associate
Mr Harunur Rashid, Junior Administrative Associate

Support Staff

Mr Anisuzzaman, Driver
Mr Mohammad Selim, Driver
Mr Mohammad Ali, Driver
Mr Abul Kashem, Driver
Mr Sagar Ahmed, Driver
Mr Abdul Gafur, Office Assistant
Mr Abdul Quddus, Office Assistant
Mr Nazrul Islam, Office Assistant
Mr Babul Chandra Halder, Office Assistant
Ms Maleka Begum, Cleaner
Ms Rahila Khatun, Cleaner
Mr Liton Miah, Cleaner

Interns

Name	Home Institution	Duration at CPD
<i>Ms Urmee Dasgupta</i>	North South University	22 Decmebr 2011 to 12 April 2012
<i>Ms Tasnova Lutfor</i>	BRAC University	1 Januray to 29 February 2012
<i>Mr Md Alauddin</i>	Jahangirnagar University	15 May to 22 May 2012
<i>Ms Anjum Noor Choudhury</i>	Mount Holyoke College, USA	5 June to 5 August 2012
<i>Mr Md Sajedur Rahman</i>	University of Erfurt, Germany	3 September to 23 October 2012
<i>Ms Azreen Benazir Abdullah</i>	University of Melbourne	10 December 23 December 2012

Annex 5: Institutional Capacity Building for CPD in 2012

Participation at International Training Programmes

International

Uttam Kumar Paul, Deputy Director, Accounts

- Participated in a training programme with *Asian Business Software Solutions Sdn Bhd Trading as MYOB South Asia* on 15-19 April 2012 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) as part of the exchange programme under the collaboration programme between CPD and CMI, during 10-20 September 2012, in Bergen, Norway. These included:
 - o Meetings with CPD-CMI project management team and Finance and HR teams

Avra Bhattacharjee, Senior Dialogue Associate

- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) as part of the exchange programme under the collaboration programme between CPD and CMI, during 10-20 September 2012, in Bergen, Norway. These included:
 - Attending in-house CMI seminars
 - Visiting to the Communication Division at University of Bergen
 - Attending seminars in Bergen Resource Centre for International Development
 - Meetings with various sections of the CMI Communication Division
 - Participation in a workshop on Global Research Communication.

Towfiqul Islam Khan, Senior Research Associate

- Made an institutional collaborative visit at the *Centre for Budget, Governance and Accountability (CBGA)*, New Delhi, India, on 11-14 September 2012.
- Participated at a number of programmes (conference/seminars/ meetings) in connection with the ongoing research collaboration programme between CPD and CMI during 26 September-9 October 2012, in Bergen, Norway, including:
 - 7th Nordic Conference on Behavioural and Experimental Economics, organised by The Choice Lab at the Norwegian School of Economics, on 28-29 September 2012.
- Presented a paper titled "Impact of Indian Policies on Rice Price in Bangladesh" at an in-house expert group meeting on 2 October 2012 at the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), Norway.

Nafisa Khaled, Senior Research Associate

- Participated in the *Regional Seminar on Emerging Issues on Trade, Climate Change and Food Security: Way Forward for South Asia?*, on 29 May-2 June 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Khaleda Akhter, Senior Research Associate

- Presented a paper on "An Application of the Stochastic Gravity Model: Export Potential for Bangladesh," at the *ARTNeT Conference on Empirical and Policy Issues of Integration in Asia and the Pacific*; and attended the *Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee (MSC) Meeting of ARTNeT*, organised by the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT) and the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), held on 1-2 November 2012, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Mazbahul Golam Ahamad, Research Associate

- Participated in the SANDEE'S Summer School on *Environmental and Resource Economics*, on 7-23 May 2012, in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Participated at the Workshop on *Universal Health Coverage: Learning through South-South Partnerships*, organised by the Network for Social Security, on 10-12 September 2012, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Md Zafar Sadique, Research Associate

- Participated in the Stakeholder Consultation Meeting on *India-Bangladesh Bilateral Trade and Non-Tariff Barriers*, on 15-22 April 2012, in Kolkata, India.

Rony Akther, Dialogue Associate

- Participated in the *12th United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Summit*, on 2-4 February 2012, in New Delhi, India.

Mashfique Ibne Akbar, Research Associate

- Participated in the *Fifth South Asian Training Programme* on CGE Modelling organised by South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE) on 27-31 August 2012, in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Made an institutional collaborative visit at the CBGA, New Delhi, India on 11-14 September 2012.

Shameema Mallik, Research Associate

- Participated in the *South Asia Gender Summit*, organised by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) on 4-6 September 2012, in Negombo, Sri Lanka.

Samina Hossain, Programme Associate

- Attended the Regional Symposium on *Universalisation of Social Security in South Asia*, organised by South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), held on 3-4 October 2012, in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Presented a paper on "Adapting to Climate Change: Issues for South Asia," at the *Regional Consultation on Trade, Climate Change and Food Security in South Asia*, organised by the SAWTEE, held on 20-21 December 2012, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Dwitiya Jawher Neethi, Programme Associate

- Attended as Discussant at the Session on Outcomes of the Doha Climate Conference, at the *Regional Consultation on Trade, Climate Change and Food Security in South Asia*, organised by the SAWTEE, held on 20-21 December 2012, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Annex 6: Chronology of CPD Events in 2012

3 January	171st MIC Meeting held
4 January	87th RECAP Meeting held
8 January	22nd RMC Meeting held
10-12 January	CPD Retreat 2012 at BRAC CDM, Savar held
16 January	Special BoT Meeting held
17 January	172nd MIC Meeting held
21 January	Special CPD Lecture with Economics Study Center of Dhaka University on <i>Bangladesh Economy in 2011-12: The Current Macroeconomic Challenges</i> presented
22 January	Visit by students of the Vermont University, USA held
26 January	CPD-CMI Surveyor Briefing held
6 February	CPD Stall at the <i>Amar Ekushey Boi Mela</i> inaugurated
7 February	173rd MIC Meeting held
13 February	Special CPD Lecture with BRAC Development Institute on <i>Bangladesh Economy in 2011-12: The Current Macroeconomic Challenges</i> presented
14 February	37th BoT Meeting held
14 February	YSSS on <i>The New Rules of Origin for LDCs: Observations and Implications for the Europe-Bangladesh Apparel Value Chain</i> held
22 February	174th MIC Meeting held
4 March	Officers of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) visited CPD
7 March	Officials of the French Embassy in Bangladesh visited CPD
11 March	Press Briefing on <i>Analytical Review of Bangladesh's Macroeconomic Performance in Fiscal Year 2011-12 (Second Reading)</i> organised
11 March	Officers of the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie (LBSNAA), India visited CPD
13 March	Pre-Budget Consultation for Education with Members of Children Parliament held
14 March	Pre-Budget Consultation for Education with Members of Children Parliament held
15 March	CPD-ADB Brainstorming Session on <i>Recent Developments in Myanmar: New Opportunities for Regional Cooperation</i> held
19 March	Discussion with World Bank team on <i>Diagnostic Trade Integration Study</i> being conducted by the World Bank held
22 March	88th RECAP Meeting held
22 March	Students from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University, USA visited CPD
27 March	175th MIC Meeting held
29 March	Preparatory meeting for the upcoming CPD-UNDP Discussion on <i>National Budget with parliamentary standing committee members</i> held
7 April	Expert Group Meeting on <i>Democracy-Corruption Nexus in Bangladesh: An Interpretation from Economic Perspective</i> held
10 April	UN Conference on <i>Sustainable Development (Rio+20): Context, Issues and Challenges for Bangladesh</i> held

11 April	CPD-UNDP Dialogue with Members of Parliamentary Standing Committees on Ministry of Environment and Forests on the <i>Upcoming National Budget</i> organised
17 April	Discussion Session on “ <i>Bangladesh Frontier Forum</i> ” on Opportunities and Risks for Norwegian Business in Bangladesh held
18 April	Second CPD-CMI Annual Research Meeting held
19 April	Bangladesh Conference: New Context and New Challenges organised
20 April	Lecture on <i>Revisiting Bhaimara – Past and Present in a Village in Bangladesh</i> presented
26 April	89th RECAP Meeting held
2 May	CPD-UNDP Dialogue with Members of Parliamentary Standing Committees on Ministry of Women and Children Affairs on the <i>Upcoming National Budget</i> organised
3 May	CPD-UNDP Dialogue with Members of Parliamentary Standing Committees on Ministry of Home Affairs on the <i>Upcoming National Budget</i> organised
5 May	National Dialogue on <i>Challenges of Financing Development Projects under Local Government</i> organised
7 May	CPD-UNDP Dialogue with Members of Parliamentary Standing Committees on Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs on the <i>Upcoming National Budget</i> organised
7 May	Press Briefing on <i>Recommendations for the National Budget FY2012-13</i> held
12 May	Policy Dialogue on <i>Bangladesh-EU Relationship: Scenarios for the Next Decades</i> organised
24 May	176th MIC Meeting held
24 May	177th MIC Meeting held
27 May	Expert Group Meeting on Analytical Review on <i>Bangladesh’s Macroeconomic Performance in FY2011-12 (Third Reading)</i> held
28 May	Citizens’ Condolence Meeting in memory of Professor Muzaffer Ahmad held
29 May	90th Special RECAP held
29 May	Officials of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), India visited CPD
30 May	Ambassador, Embassy of France visited CPD
4 June	Press Briefing on Analytical Review of <i>Bangladesh’s Macroeconomic Performance in FY2011-12 (Third Reading)</i> held
8 June	Press Briefing on <i>CPD’s Initial Reaction on the National Budget FY2012-13</i> held
16 June	Dialogue on <i>State of Bangladesh Economy in FY2011-12 and Analysis of Budget FY2012-13</i> held
25 June	Special CPD Lecture with Economics Department, Rajshahi College on <i>Bangladesh Economy in 2011-12: The Current Macroeconomic Challenges</i> presented
25 June	আঞ্চলিক সংলাপ ২০১২-১৩ অর্থবছরের বাজেট পর্যালোচনা organised
26 June	Economic Policy consultation meeting with civil society members at Rajshahi held
28 June	Students from the Wesleyan University, USA visited CPD
1 July	23rd RMC Meeting of CPD held
3 July	CPD-MCCI Dialogue on <i>Bangladesh Trade Policy Framework for the Next Decade</i> organised
9 July	Policy dialogue on <i>Bangladesh-Myanmar Relationship and Opportunities for Future Cooperation</i> organised
10 July	178th MIC Meeting held

17 July	Students from the Department of Information Science and Library Management, University of Dhaka visited CPD
22 July	179th MIC Meeting held
26 July	180th MIC Meeting held
30 July	91st RECAP held
1 August	Special CPD Iftar arranged
2 August	CPD-WB Dialogue on <i>Bangladesh-India Trade Relationship: New Opportunities, New Challenges</i> organised
26 August	CPD-MJF Expert Group Meeting on <i>Exploring Unaccounted Contribution of Women: Sharing Experiences and Designing Methodological Framework for Bangladesh</i> organised
4-5 September	Meeting with TTI review team held
5 September	Launch of <i>Global Competitiveness Report 2012-2013 and Bangladesh Business Environment Study 2012</i> held
6 September	Media Briefing on the <i>Upcoming LDC IV Monitor Expert Group Meeting</i> held
7-9 September	LDC IV Monitor Expert Group Meeting (EGM) titled <i>Development Challenges of the Least Developed Countries: Tracking the International Commitments</i> held
11-13 September	<i>Fifth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES V)</i> organised
17 September	Dialogue on <i>State of the Bangladesh Economy, IMF Supported Programme and Future Outlook</i> organised
21 September	Agenda coordination meeting on <i>Tax Policy and Enterprise Development in South Asia (Bangladesh Case Study)</i> with GINI, Pakistan held
24 September	CPD Session on <i>LDCs at the Crossroads: Status Quo or Sustainable Development? at the WTO Public Forum</i> held
4-5 October	CPD-AITD Indo-Bangla Dialogue organised
7 October	181st MIC Meeting held
8 October	Special BoT Meeting held
16 October	In-house discussion on <i>Regional Connectivity</i> held
4 November	92nd RECAP held
5 November	Dialogue on <i>State of Governance in the Banking Sector: Dealing with the Recent Shocks</i> organised
5 November	Officers of the Indian IAS visited CPD
6 November	182nd MIC Meeting held
7 November	Expert Group Meeting on <i>Strengthening Fiscal Autonomy and Financial Accountability of Local Government in Bangladesh with Special Reference to Pourashavas/Municipalities</i> held
7 November	Expert Group Meeting on <i>Digging in the Dirt?: Extractive Industry FDI and Corruption</i> held
8 November	Expert Group Meeting on <i>Political Parties of Bangladesh</i> held
8 November	Third CPD-CMI Semi-Annual Meeting held
11 November	24th RMC Meeting of CPD held
13 November	In-house discussion on <i>Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan: Continuity or Change?</i> held
14 November	Ambassadors of Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and Embassy of the Republic of Korea visited CPD

19 November	In-house discussion on <i>Challenges of Inclusive Growth and the Prospects of Bangladeshi Society</i> on the occasion of a visit by a batch of MBA students from the International Institute for Management Development (IMD), Switzerland held
21 November	183rd MIC Meeting held
22 November	Webinar on <i>Southern Voice on Post-MDGs</i> held
24-25 November	Policy Dialogue on <i>Value Chains for Inclusive Development: Lessons and Policies for South Asia</i> organised
26 November	Launch of UNCTAD's <i>The Least Developed Countries Report 2012</i> held
10 December	184th MIC Meeting held
18 December	Webinar on <i>Southern Voice on Post-MDGs</i> held
27 December	39th BoT Meeting held



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