

Dissemination Event of “Psychodrama as Transformative Intervention in the SRH of Young Men in Urban Slums in Dhaka: Proof of a Novel Approach”

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Page

- | | | | |
|-----------|--|----------------|---|
| 01 | Dissemination Event of “Psychodrama as Transformative Intervention in the SRH of Young Men in Urban Slums in Dhaka: Proof of a Novel Approach” | 18 | Assessing the Preventive Chemotherapy Coverage Provided by a Comprehensive Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis (STH) Control |
| 02 | BRAC JPGSPH Launched the EU Funded ERASMUS+ Project “TRANS4M-PH” | 19 | Health, Hygiene and Housing (Phase II) |
| 04 | ARISE: Accountability and Responsiveness in Informal Settlements for Equity | 20 | CNCDN Team Attended Prince Mahidol Award Conference 2019 |
| 06 | BRAC to Create a Professorship at JPGSPH after Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury
Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury selected as IGC Senior Advisor | 21 | Public Health Leadership Development Training |
| 07 | BRAC JPGSPH participates in ERASMUS+ Grant Holders Meeting | 22 | Narrating Blood - International Research Network (University of Sussex) |
| 08 | Dr Malabika Sarkar attended a Workshop at WHO Headquarters | 24 | BRAC JPGSPH Researchers Facilitated Short Course on ‘Evaluation of Development Programme’ |
| 09 | Kick-off Meeting of the New EU Project: Sonar-Global | 25 | Filming of the Documentary on Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC)
Documentary on EPI on BRAC JPGSPH’s YouTube Channel |
| 10 | Graduation Ceremony of the 14th Batch of Masters of Public Health (MPH) | 26 - 27 | Updates from the Developing Midwifery Project and Midwifery Education |
| 11 | Orientation Session of the 15th batch of Master of Public Health (MPH) | 28 | Seminars at BRAC JPGSPH |
| 12 | 15th Batch MPH Students at Dinajpur for Programme Management Learning-I | 29 | Internship Experience at BRAC JPGSPH |
| 13 | Synthesis and Translation of Research and Innovations from Polio Eradication | 30 | Condolence Message |
| 14 | Partnership to Ensure the Sustainability of a Public Health Palliative Care Project in Bangladesh through Community Theatre | 31 | New Blog Posts |
| 15 | The Ethics of Health Policy Experiments:
A Global Framework for Design and Oversight | 32 | Latest Publications |
| 16 | Exploring the Health Care Seeking Behavior of Street Dwellers/Floating Population In Dhaka City Corporation Area, Bangladesh: A Pilot Study | 33 | Logo Launched for the Project: Pathways to Equitable Healthy Cities
Media Monitoring |
| 17 | Understanding the Patterns and Determinants of Health in South Asian People - South Asia Biobank | | |



DISSEMINATION EVENT OF “PSYCHODRAMA AS TRANSFORMATIVE INTERVENTION IN THE SRH OF YOUNG MEN IN URBAN SLUMS IN DHAKA: PROOF OF A NOVEL APPROACH”

The dissemination event of the project “Psychodrama as Transformative Intervention in SRH of Young Men in Urban Slums of Dhaka” took place at the BRAC Inn Auditorium, Mohakhali on 25 February, 2019. The objective of the project was to identify the existing sexual practices and explore the risky behaviors of urban young adult men and measure the effectiveness of psychodrama and sociodrama as a transformative intervention to change attitudes associated with traditional gender role norms and beliefs. The two-year-long project was funded by the NWO-WOTRO Science for Global Development Program, a Netherlands based funding agency, and was implemented under the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU) of BRAC JPGSPH.

Honorable Member of Parliament and former Minister of the Cultural Affairs, Government of Bangladesh, Asaduzzaman Noor was present at the event as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr Nasima Sultana, Additional Director General (Admin), Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW), Government of Bangladesh was present as the Special Guest at the event. Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, BRAC JPGSPH; and Dr Godelieve Van Heteren, Sr. International Consultant, Health & Social System, RGHI, Erasmus University were also present at the event.



A psychodrama session was demonstrated by the young men from Bhashantek slum, led by Tanzir Ahmmad Tushar, Clinical Psychologist and Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Rajshahi; and Sanne Louw, Project Manager, KKID. Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH and Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka shared research findings from the project. Dr M. M. Jalal Uddin, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, National Institute of Neuro-Sciences Hospital presented the psycho-education module developed under the project to facilitate mental health services for the young men. An educational gaming module as part of a mobile app named “Amra Jante Chai” “We Want to Know” was launched by the Chief Guest, Asaduzzaman Noor, Honorable MP, Government of Bangladesh and the Special Guest, Professor Dr Nasima Sultana.



Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid



Professor Mohammad Tamim



Mr Mario Ronconi

BRAC JPGSPH LAUNCHED THE EU FUNDED ERASMUS+ PROJECT “TRANS4M-PH”

BRAC JPGSPH in collaboration with local partner organizations formally inaugurated the European Union funded “Transformative Competency-Based Public Health Education for Professional Employability in Bangladesh’s Health Sector (TRANS4M-PH)” Project on Thursday, 24 January, 2019 at the BRAC Inn Auditorium, Mohakhali, Dhaka. BRAC JPG School of Public Health, BRAC University (BRACSPH), International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD), Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), and Asian University for Women (AUW) have been awarded the European Union’s 2018 ERASMUS+ CAPACITY BUILDING IN HIGHER EDUCATION Grant for around One Million Euro.

Led by BRAC JPGSPH this pioneering tripartite institutional partnership will collaboratively implement the 3-year TRANS4M-PH Project, from 2019-2021. BRAC JPGSPH, IUB and AUW will design and offer indigenous Competency-based Public Health (PH) Curricula which ensure professional skills development and strategically address the chronic skilled workforce shortage in Bangladesh’s Health Sector.

The project aims to sustainably develop the professional Technical, Management and Soft Skills required by the Public Health workforce. The University of Maastricht (UM), Netherlands and Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK will collaborate as the Project’s Technical Partners.

On this occasion Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC JPGSPH shed light on the fundamental challenges of public health sector in our country, and the skills required by a public health professional to face these challenges. Mikhail I. Islam, Strategy and Management Consultant to BRAC JPGSPH in his project overview presentation detailed out the systemic challenges and the ways this unique project will address the challenges regarding public health higher education in the context of Bangladesh and other developing countries.



Professor Omar Rahman



Dr Dave Dowland



Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury



Professor Mohammad Tamim



Mikhail I. Islam



Special Guest Mr Mario Ronconi, Minister Counselor & Head of Unit - Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Bangladesh talked about EU's commitment to supporting higher education in Bangladesh. Special Guest Professor Omar Rahman, Vice-Chancellor, IUB, emphasized on the timeliness and potentials of such unique collaboration in creating a better health workforce for the country. Dr Dave Dowland, Registrar, AUW focused on how they are relentlessly working on academic development and capacity building of women. Chief Guest Professor Mohammad Tamim touched upon the need of such innovative multi-institutional collaboration. Chair Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury, Vice Chairperson, BRAC & Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH put forward BRAC JPGSPH's long history of collaboration with EU.

The Project aims:

- To upgrade priority public health courses to competency-based Public Health curricula
- To develop cutting-edge, contextualized learning methodologies for competency-based curricula
- To develop the requisite faculty teaching capacities for the priority competency-based courses and the corresponding learning methodologies
- To develop professional skills training modules & an e-learning platform to sustain faculty teaching and learning capabilities

Prominent academia in public health sector related with this project:

- Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University acting as Lead Coordinator for this project.
- Professor Saleemul Huq, Director of ICCCAD is leading person for the project on behalf of IUB
- Professor A.K.M. Moniruzzaman Mollah (SHOPON), Ph.D., Associate Professor of Life Sciences, Asian University for Women is leading person for the project.

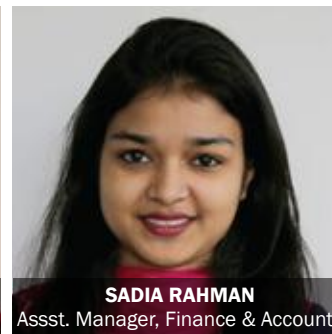
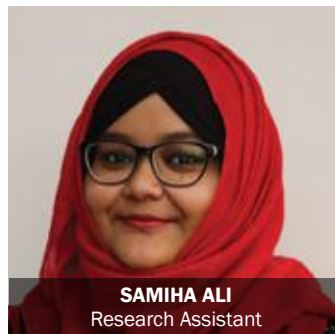
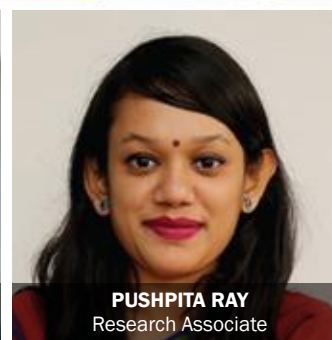
A total of 12 courses from BRAC JPGSPH, IUB and AUW will be transformed into competency-based curricula and 36 faculties will be trained to facilitate competency-based public health courses that will enhance the professional employability of public health graduates in the health sector of Bangladesh.

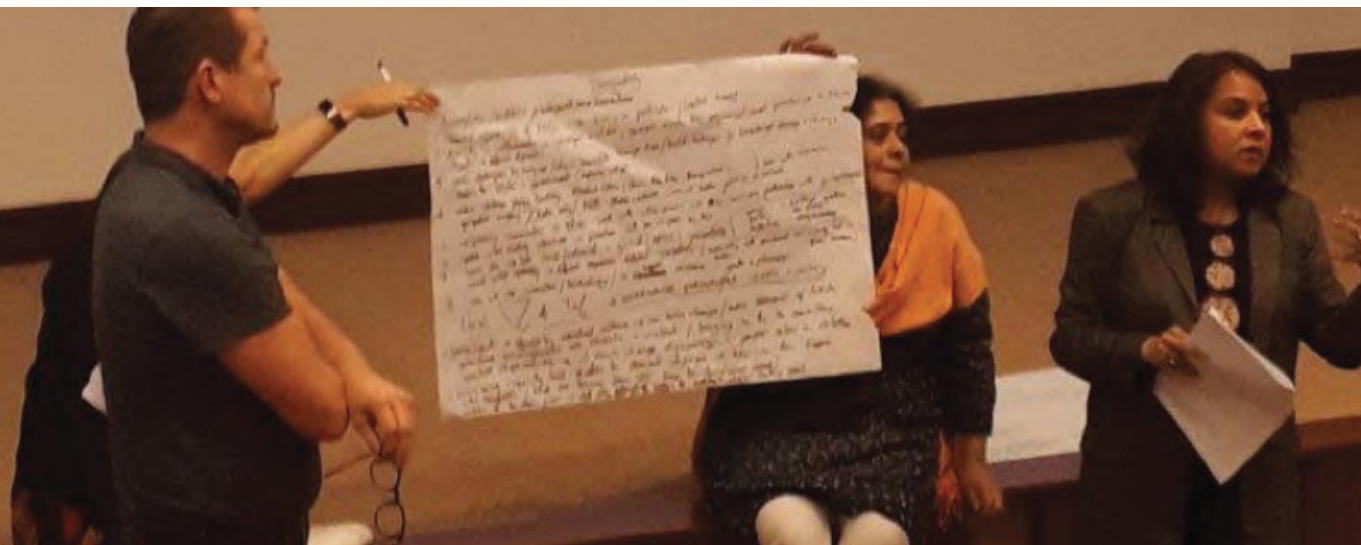
ARISE: ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS FOR EQUITY

BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health was awarded a five year grant titled ARISE. Launched in January 2019, ARISE is funded by UK Research and Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund. The total grant awarded to the ARISE hub was 11.8 million GBP, from which BRAC JPGSPH received 1 million GBP. Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC JPGSPH is the PI of the project.

The ARISE Hub will address the intractable development challenge of ill-health, inequity, and insecurity in informal urban settlements in Low and Middle-Income Countries. ARISE will collect data, build capacity and support people to exercise their right to health. The team will work closely with – and be guided by – communities themselves: vulnerable people living in informal settlements who are often 'off the map'. The vision is to catalyze change in approaches to enhancing accountability and improving the health and wellbeing of poor, marginalized people living in informal urban settlements.

The ARISE research consortium consists of 10 organizations across 4 study countries: Bangladesh, India, Kenya and Sierra Leone and is led by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM). The organizations involved with this interdisciplinary and multi-sector partnership include: BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Bangladesh; Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and Institute of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom; The George Institute for Global Health and Slum and Shack Dwellers' International (SDI), India; African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC) and Liverpool VCT Health (LVCT), Kenya and Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Njala University and Sierra Leone: College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), Sierra Leone.





INCEPTION MEETING OF ARISE PROJECT IN NAIROBI

On 12-15 February, 2019, the ARISE consortium, including Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC JPGSPH and Bachera Aktar, Sr Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH, convened in Nairobi, Kenya for the inception meeting of the project. The representatives from all the partner institutions participated in that meeting. The partners discussed about different activities of the project and work plan for the next six months.

The team from BRAC JPGSPH also screened a video documentary prepared on the lived experience of slum dwellers of Dhaka city in Bangladesh, which was highly appreciated by the consortium members. This documentary has tried to capture the lived realities in the slum settlements of Dhaka city and the vulnerabilities of the slum dwellers.

[Click Here to Watch the Video on YouTube](#)





BRAC TO CREATE A PROFESSORSHIP AFTER DR CHOWDHURY AT BRAC JPGSPH

BRAC's Governing Board in its recent meeting has approved a proposal to create a Professorship at BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health to be named after Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury, the Vice Chairperson of BRAC and the founding Dean of BRAC JPGSPH. The Professorship will be named "Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury Professorship of Health and Poverty".

DR MUSHTAQUE CHOWDHURY SELECTED AS IGC SENIOR ADVISOR

Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury, the Vice Chairperson of BRAC and the founding Dean of the School has been selected as Senior Advisor of International Growth Centre (IGC) at the London School of Economics. As Senior Advisor of IGC, Dr Chowdhury will be sharing his ideas on strategic issues regarding new research initiatives or policy engagements and emerging growth challenges.

IGC aims to promote sustainable growth in developing countries by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research. Over the past years, LSE-Oxford International Growth Centre (IGC) has brought researchers and policy makers together to increase scientific knowledge of what drives growth in developing countries and to use this research knowledge to help inform policy thinking in partner countries and globally.





Sabina Faiz Rashid



Md Koushik Ahmed



AKM Moniruzzaman

BRAC JPGSPH PARTICIPATES IN ERASMUS+ GRANT HOLDERS MEETING

As the Coordinator of the European Commission (EC) funded ERASMUS+ Project, two members from BRAC JPGSPH participated in the Grant Holders Meeting of the newly selected Capacity Building for Higher Education (CBHE) project on 28-29 January 2019, in Brussels. The BRAC JPGSPH team included Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, as overall Technical Lead, and Md Koushik Ahmed, Deputy Director, MPH Programme and Project Director for the ERASMUS+ Project. They were accompanied by Professor AKM Moniruzzaman Mollah, Head Science and Math Program at Asian University for Women (AUW) as the beneficiary Project Lead for the ERASMUS+ Project.

The overall aim of this meeting was to address in detail practical issues related to the implementation of the project, the management of the grant and the financial rules applicable to CBHE grant. A gathering of representatives from 109 countries, the meeting also offered excellent opportunity for new and experienced practitioners to network, exchange ideas and explore new collaboration beyond the project.

BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, International Centre for Climate Change & Development (ICCCAD), Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) and Asian University for Women (AUW) with support from The University of Maastricht (UM), Netherlands and Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK are partnering in “Transformative Competency-Based Public Health Education for Professional Employability in Bangladesh’s Health Sector (TRANS4M-PH)” project in Bangladesh to to sustainably develop the professional Technical, Management and Soft Skills required by the Public Health workforce.



DR MALABIKA SARKAR ATTENDED A WORKSHOP AT WHO HEADQUARTERS

Dr Malabika Sarkar, Associate Dean, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health and the Director of Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale up (CoE-SISU) attended a workshop to develop global core competency framework for implementation research at WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland on 6-7 February, 2019. The workshop was led by Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

The objectives of the meeting were to describe global efforts to standardize core competencies for Implementation Research (IR) professionals, to review and validate a final draft framework for assessing IR competencies in LMICs, to determine the strengths and weaknesses of the final draft framework and outline a plan for testing and implementing the final draft framework to systematically assess IR competencies in LMICs.



KICK-OFF MEETING OF THE NEW EU PROJECT: SONAR-GLOBAL

Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director of Centre of Excellence for Health Systems & Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC), BRAC JPGSPH and PI & Technical Advisor of the Sonar-Global project along with Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director of Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH, attended the kick-off meeting of the new European Union Project Sonar-Global to build an International Social Sciences Network for the Prevention and Response to Infectious Threats and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) on 30 January, 2019 at Institut Pasteur, Paris, France.

The goal of the new European Project Sonar-Global is to build a sustainable international social sciences network to engage the active participation of the social sciences in the prevention and response to infectious threats and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). Its activities will foster complementarities and synergies among social scientists and other stakeholders for the governance of infectious threats and AMR. The project will provide a platform for collaboration among social sciences experts, institutions and existing networks engaged in preparedness and response to epidemics and AMR in Europe and around the world.



Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain Best Teaching Excellence Award
Presented to: Professor Tahmeed Ahmed



Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain Best Teaching Excellence Award
Presented to: Professor Malabika Sarker



Professor W.B. Greenough III Award for Best Individual
High Level Outline (HLO) of Summative Learning Project 2018
Presented to: Tanha Tabassum Nunna



Recharh Cash Award for best Summative
Learning Project Group Poster
Presented to: Samuel Saidu



BRAC JGSPH CELEBRATED THE GRADUATION CEREMONY OF 14TH MPH BATCH

BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University celebrated the Graduation Ceremony of its 14th Batch of international Master of Public Health (MPH) Programme. The ceremony took place on 22 January, 2019 at the Sasakawa Auditorium inside the icddr,b campus. The Graduation Ceremony celebrated the successful completion of the School's MPH Programme by the current batch of 38 students from 11 countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Kenya, Nepal, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Myanmar, Philippines, Sierra Leone and Yemen. Overall, 23 female students and 15 male students from diverse backgrounds completed their MPH degree from this batch.

Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury, Vice-Chair, BRAC and Advisor, BRAC JGSPH chaired the ceremony. Professor John Clemens, Executive Director, icddr,b was the Keynote Speaker at the event. Professor Mohammad Tamim, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University was the Chief Guest and Dr Saleemul Huq, Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) attended the ceremony as Guest of Honor. Dr Tarique Md. Nurul Huda, Deputy Project Coordinator, Infectious Diseases Division, icddr,b attended the ceremony as Alumni Speaker. Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC JGSPH and Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, BRAC JGSPH were also present in the ceremony as hosts.

In her welcome speech, Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid congratulated the graduating students. Professor John Clemens shared his experience from his extended career in public health and helped students to realize impact of practicing public health in real life scenario. The awards were given in 5 different categories. 4 summative learning projects were presented by selected graduating students. Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury gave a motivational speech to the students by saying they have to be very patient to face the challenges in public health sector in future to carry their dreams forward. Professor Tamim was happy to share his personal thoughts as his daughter also graduated from 14th batch. Dr Malabika Sarker ended the ceremony by thanking the invitees and congratulating all the graduating students.

Since inception, 492 students with a diverse academic background in the social sciences and medicine, representing 30 countries from South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa, Australia, North and South America, and Europe have graduated from BRAC JGSPH.



ORIENTATION SESSION OF THE 15TH MPH BATCH

The Orientation Session of the 15th batch of Master of Public Health (MPH) Programme was held on 26 January, 2019 at BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health.

Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean of BRAC JPGSPH welcomed the students on behalf of school. Students were introduced with the faculties of different courses along with the teaching fellows. A brief overview of BRAC JPGSPH was presented by Md Koushik Ahmed, Deputy Director of MPH programme. After the introductory session, students took part in ice breaking session and group dynamics exercises.

27 students from 8 countries including Nepal, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Nigeria, South Sudan, Zimbabwe & Bangladesh joined MPH program this year. This batch includes 12 female students and 15 male students. In terms of academic diversity 10 students have medical background whereas 17 others are from different academic backgrounds such as Microbiology, Social Science, Management Information System, Pharmacy, Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Sociology, Demography etc.



15TH BATCH MPH STUDENTS AT DINAJPUR FOR PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT LEARNING-I

The 15th Batch Master of Public Health students have completed the Programme Management Learning-I at Dinajpur on 9-14 February, 2019, as part of the Introduction to Public Health module in the MPH program. The objective of this field-based experiential learning exercise was to provide students with the opportunity to learn the implementation of real public health interventions from BRAC's interventions focusing maternal, child and adolescent health and nutrition in rural Bangladesh. The students observed different interventions of BRAC Health Nutrition and population Programme (HNPP) at the community level and discussed with BRAC staff about management components of the relevant programme.

This experiential learning exercise engaged students to apply their public health vision, values, practices and community-centered ethos to real-world rural health programme management. The students applied different tools to analyze the needs of the community and to identify the areas of improvement in BRAC's program management functions. Finally, they developed simple innovative solutions for improving BRAC's interventions to meet the community's needs and presented their innovative solutions.



SYNTHESIS AND TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS FROM POLIO ERADICATION

Under the leadership of the team based at John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, a global team from public health institutions in 7 countries are working on “Synthesis and Translation of Research and Innovations from Polio Eradication” project. The countries include Nigeria, India, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia and Bangladesh. BRAC JPGSPH is the partner organization from Bangladesh.

The team from BRAC JPGSPH already conducted the grey literature review and nationwide survey. At present, the team is conducting Key Informant Interview (KII), which will map and synthesize tacit knowledge, ideas, approaches, and experiences that are not documented yet. These are relevant to both intended and unintended results within various context based typologies at national and sub-national levels. Approximately, 20 interviews will be taken with various change agents from all around Bangladesh who worked closely with the polio eradication initiative in Bangladesh.

The PI of this project is Professor Malabika Sarker, Assistant Dean, BRAC JPGSPH. Dr Yammen Mazumder is the Advisor for the project. Dr Bushra Zarin Islam (Sr Research Associate) and Dr Humayra Binte Anwar (Research Associate) are also working on this project. The project is being implemented under the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.



PARTNERSHIP TO ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF A PUBLIC HEALTH PALLIATIVE CARE PROJECT IN BANGLADESH THROUGH COMMUNITY THEATRE

The project aims to explore local contexts, indigenous knowledge, cultural practices, values and languages of death, dying and end of life care in the specific urban slum of Bangladesh. Funded by AHRC UK, “Partnership to Ensure the Sustainability of a Public Health Palliative Care Project in Bangladesh through Community Theatre”, is a collaboration between BRAC JPG School of Public Health with partners in UK and Bangladesh.

BRAC JPGSPH will be leading the research component of the project with help from the project partners, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB), University of Sussex, University of York and University of Glasgow. A follow on research grant for another year was approved in early 2019.

Dr Malabika Sarker (Professor and Associate Dean, BRAC JPGSPH , and Director, CoE-SISU) is the Local PI of the study. Dr Puspita Hossain (Research Associate) and Sayema Akter (Sr Research Associate) are working as Investigators for the project. The project is being implemented under the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.



Community Theatre at Korail Slum in 2018



THE ETHICS OF HEALTH POLICY EXPERIMENTS: GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR DESIGN AND OVERSIGHT

Funded by Wellcome Trust, “The Ethics of Health Policy Experiments: A Global Framework for Design and Oversight” is a collaboration between BRAC JPG School of Public Health with Researchers from University of Heidelberg; TH Chan School of Public Health, Harvard University; School of Public Health and Social Sciences, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS). The project is being implemented under the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.

The second international meeting was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on 14-15 January, 2019 which was organized by MUHAS. Researchers from Germany, USA and Tanzania shared their update and feedback on the current stage of the project. Next steps of the project were decided upon and planning for the 2nd year of ETHIPOLEX grant was completed.

Dr Malabika Sarker (Professor and Associate Dean, BRAC JPG School of Public Health, and Director, CoE-SISU) is the PI of the study. Dr Atonu Rabbani (Associate Scientist) is the Co-PI. Puspita Hossain (Research Associate) is working as an Investigator for the project.



EXPLORING THE HEALTHCARE SEEKING BEHAVIOR OF STREET DWELLERS/FLOATING POPULATION IN DHAKA CITY CORPORATION AREA, BANGLADESH: A PILOT STUDY

The study started on 10 January 2019 and has received the IRB approval from BRAC JPGSPH. The objective of the study is to explore the scenario regarding health care seeking behavior and available health care services, and identify gaps at the policy and programme levels for achieving universal health coverage in Bangladesh by 2030 for the street dwellers and floating population. The study is funded by BRAC Advocacy Department and implemented by Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC) of BRAC JPGSPH.

The study team has conducted 15 In-depth Interviews (IDIs) and 6 informal discussions with the adult (age>18 years) male and female street dwellers/floating populations in three selected areas (Kamalapur, High Court Mazar Premises, and Sadarghat Launch terminal) from 17 January to 30 January 2019. Following the IDIs, Key Informant Interviews (KII) with the relevant Health Care Providers (HCP) and the policymakers are been conducted. Subsequently, the data analysis has been started as well. The early key findings of the study will be shared with BRAC within the first week of March 2019.

Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage is the PI of the study. Dr Nahitun Nahar (Research Fellow), Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune (Sr Research Associate), Roksana Haque (Sr Research Associate) are the Co-PIs.



UNDERSTANDING THE PATTERNS AND DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH IN SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLE - SOUTH ASIA BIOBANK

Data collection of Non-communicable Disease (NCD) Project titled “Understanding the Patterns and Determinants of health in South Asian People - SouthAsia Biobank” has started in Parbatipur Upazilla under Dinajpur district on 22 January, 2019. The project is being implemented under the Centre for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH.

This is a multi-country project, implemented in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Srilanka. Led by Imperial College London in Bangladesh, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (BRAC JPGSPH), BRAC University in partnership with Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD), Bangladesh Institute of Research & Rehabilitation in Diabetes, Endocrine & Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM), Bangladesh University of Health Sciences (BUHS), and BRAC is implementing the project. The overall aim of this project is to strengthen NCD surveillance systems in Bangladesh. The project will generate nationally representative data from 30 clusters across Bangladesh on the burden of NCDs, behavioral and clinical risk factors of NCDs as well as their complications.

Professor Malabika Sarker (Associate Dean, Director Research, and Director of Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and scale-Up) is the PI and Dr. Malay Kanti Mridha (Associate Professor and Director of Centre for Non-communicable Disease and Nutrition) is the Co-PI of the project.

[Project website](#)



ASSESSING THE PREVENTIVE CHEMOTHERAPY COVERAGE PROVIDED BY A COMPREHENSIVE SOIL TRANSMITTED HELMINTHIASIS (STH) CONTROL

Soil Transmitted Helminth (STH) infection is one of the Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) present in Bangladesh. This affects the rural marginalized population especially the children. BRAC, in partnership with the Government of Bangladesh, is implementing a comprehensive STH control project in Syedpur. This project focuses on identifying and treating out-of-school children in the area with preventive chemotherapy for STH control, as well as providing STH and WASH related education for all children (pre-school, school going and out-of-school) in the area. The project is being implemented under the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.

To measure the coverage of the project, BRAC James P. Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), BRAC University proposed to conduct a coverage study to measure the PC coverage and compliance to the PC among the children aged 5-16 years of Syedpur sub-district.

A cross-sectional survey using a structured questionnaire in 1223 households of Syedpur sub-district took place recently. A two-day-long rigorous training for the field data enumerators was completed before going to the field.

Avijit Saha (Sr Research Associate) from BRAC JPGSPH acted as the Principle Investigator and Project Manager during the whole process while Md. Abdul Jabbar (Assistant Project Coordinator) worked as Data Collection Supervisor for the HH survey. Professor Dr Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, Director of Research and Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU) is the Advisor for the project.





HEALTH, HYGIENE AND HOUSING (PHASE II)

Implemented under the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU) at BRAC JPG School of Public Health, the study focuses on upgrading housing (through concrete floor construction) and finding outcomes in children's (under five) risks of exposures (to *Ascaris* and *E. coli* for intestinal infections and diarrhea, respectively) from mud floors. The implementation is conducted by ADESH (Association of Development for Economic & Social Help), and the program is funded by ARCHIVE Global.

Successful completion of baseline survey with 315 households and submission of the report took place recently. The baseline survey was conducted in Dhamrai and Savar, two sub-districts in peri-urban areas of Dhaka. The baseline report with detailed analysis and findings was then shared with the donor.

Dr Malabika Sarker (Professor and Associate Dean, BRAC JPGSPH and Director, CoE-SISU) is the PI of the study. Dr Atonu Rabbani (Associate Scientist) is the Co-PI. Mushfiqur Rahman (Sr Research Assistant) and Rubaiya Riya Siddiqua (Sr Research Assistant) are working as Investigators. Jony Barnard Mcfield (Field Coordinator) is also working for the project.



CNCDN TEAM ATTENDED THE PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD CONFERENCE 2019

Dr Malay Kanti Mridha, Associate Professor & Director of Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Disease (CNCDN), Dr. Ipsita Sutradhar, Research Fellow and Dr. Mehedi Hasan, Research Fellow attended the Prince Mahidol Award Conference, 2019 (PMAC 2019). The conference took place in Bangkok, Thailand from 29 January to 3 February 2019. Dr Ipsita presented a poster at the conference.



The theme of the conference was “The Political Economy of NCDs: A Whole of Society Approach”. During conference, the team attended several sessions entitled “The Political Economy of the Determinants of NCDs: Accelerating Actions for Prevention”, “The Commercial Determinants of Non-Communicable Diseases”, “Imperative Need for Paradigm Shift of Health Systems: A Holistic Response to NCD”, “Win-Win Strategy for the Control and Prevention of NCDs” and so on. They, also visited the Kaeng Khoi District Hospital located in Saraburi Province to understand how Thailand is managing NCDs at the District Health System.





PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

BRAC JPGSPH has initiated a unique training titled “Innovating Quality Patient Care Everyday” with Association for Prevention of Septic Abortion, Bangladesh (BAPSA). The purpose of this training is to apply innovative service quality improvements to Healthcare managers’ patient services which enhances patient care. Design of this training program is based on the model of on the job coaching for 4 weeks and 1 day classroom facilitation.

The classroom session was held on 30 January, 2019 at BAPSA Maternity Clinic in Mirpur, Dhaka, where 6 mid-level managers from the clinic participated. The participants identified service gaps from patient walkway from entry to end point of service delivery in terms of quality aspects and took ownership to develop patient care solutions for improvement. The training was concluded with presentations of their patient care experience improvement ideas to their supervisors and both party agreed to commit and implement the solutions at their workplace from the next day.

BRAC JPGSPH, in partnership with BRAC UK, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and Save the Children (STC) initiated an innovative “Professional Self-Management Skills Development Training Program” for public health professionals. The training program was facilitated by four members from BRAC JPGSPH – Mikhail Islam (Strategy and Management Consultant to BRAC JPGSPH), Anindya Das (Deputy Project Coordinator), Sairana Ahsan (Research Fellow) and Md. Munirul Islam (Senior Project Officer).



NARRATING BLOOD - INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH NETWORK (UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX)

Professor Maya Unnithan, Director of the Centre for Cultures of Reproduction Technologies and Health (CORTH) and Professor Janet Boddy, Director of the Centre of Innovation and Research in Childhood and Youth (CIRCY) from the University of Sussex, visited the BRAC James P. Grant School of Public Health on 4- 9 January, 2019.

The visit was centered on fostering the possibilities of collaboration between CORTH and BRAC JPGSPH through sessions with Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC JPGSPH, and Director of Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), and Ishrat Jahan, Research Assistant, who coordinates the activities of collaboration between CORTH and BRAC JPGSPH. Professor Rashid is also an International Member of CORTH and International Partner with their Blood Narratives Network.

The 6-day visit also included exploring community and healthcare provider's perceptions of blood related illnesses and understandings/experiences of those illnesses in the context of everyday family livelihoods. This was achieved through scoping field visits and discussions with public health practitioners and development and community stakeholders.

It was the first country visit for the CORTH team in relation to the Blood Narrative Network to develop collaborations for future research activities for the network across South Asia.



ABOUT BLOOD NARRATIVES

Narrating Blood is an international network at the University of Sussex. Based in the Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies and Health (CORTH), it is a joint collaboration with the Sussex Centre for Innovation and Research in Childhood and Youth (CIRCY) and the Institute for Development Studies (IDS). Led by CORTH Director Professor Maya Unnithan, CIRCY Director Professor Janet Boddy and IDS Senior Fellow Hayley MacGregor, this programme brings together international and national research expertise to establish a set of analytic and methodological instruments to address the social, economic and health burden of hidden blood-related conditions such as anaemia in lower and middle income countries. The research will initially focus on Bangladesh, India, Ghana and the UK. The establishment of the network has been funded by the International Research Partner Network (IRPN) grant from the University of Sussex.

[Research Brief](#)



BRAC JPGSPH RESEARCHERS FACILITATED SHORT COURSE ON 'EVALUATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME' FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH OFFICIALS

Four half-day short courses on Evaluation of Development Programme was held for the third time from December 17-20, 2018 at Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Department (IMED) Bhaban, Ministry of Planning. This activity was undertaken based on the current Programme Cooperation of Agreement between SPEAR Section, UNICEF and Center of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU) of BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University. This four half-day short courses covered a comprehensive range of topics ranging from concepts of M&E, tools for M&E, types of evaluation methods, experimental designs and use of mixed methods in data collection.

This course was part of the UNICEF supported TAPP on 'Capacity Development for Monitoring and Reporting to Increase Effective Coverage of Basic Social Services for Women and Children' (CDMRI-ECBSS Phase 1 and 2) and addressed the specific objective of developing a national monitoring and evaluation policy, strategy formulation to implement the policy and capacity development of GoB officials on Result Based Monitoring (RBM) based M&E.

The course was coordinated by Dr Yameen Mazumder (Senior Project Specialist). The facilitators of the course were Dr Malabika Sarker (Professor, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU), Dr Atonu Rabbani (Associate Scientist), Mr. Muhammed Nazmul Islam (Research Fellow), Dr Rajat Das Gupta (Research Associate) and Dr Saima Mehjabeen (Research Associate). A total of thirty participants from IMED were present in the short course. On the opening day Mr Abul Mansur Md Faizullah, NDC, Secretary in Charge, IMED, Ministry of Planning delivered the keynote speech which focused on the importance of building the capacity of its officers on the subject of M&E.



FILMING OF THE DOCUMENTARY ON KANGAROO MOTHER CARE (KMC)

A video team from Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU) finished the filming of the documentary on Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC). The team worked from 19-20 December, 2018 on this video. The filming took place at the Institute of Child and Mother Health (ICMH), Matuail, Dhaka. The video team was led by Rafee Muhammad Tamjid (Communication Officer), and co-led by Suhan Ahmed Omi (Communication Assistant), Syed Maruf Hossain (Video Specialist) and Syed Md. Iftekhar Shourav (Video Specialist). The Video had been submitted to UNICEF Bangladesh for their final approval.



DOCUMENTARY ON EPI ON BRAC JPGSPH'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

As a part of CoE-SISU's activity to develop a series of user-friendly visually appealing materials, including innovative formats to popularize implementation science a video documentary on EPI was developed. The documentary also highlighted the role of CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH as a hub for promoting implementation science. The video documentary has been approved by UNICEF Bangladesh and has been uploaded on BRAC JPSGPH's YouTube channel.

[Click Here to Watch the Video on YouTube](#)

Expanded Program on Immunization CoE-SISU
Duration: 8:23 minutes
Directed by: Maruf Proteek & Rafee Tamjid
Produced by: BRAC James P Grant School Of Public Health
Supported by: UNICEF Bangladesh



DMP OPENS SECOND MLC IN CHARIKATA

Developing Midwives Project (DMP) has recently inaugurated its second Midwife-Led Care Centre (MLC) at Charikata Union Health and Family Welfare Centre (UH&FWC), Jaintyapur, Sylhet. An inauguration ceremony was organized on 17 January 2019. Dr. Kazi Mustafa Sarwar, Director General, Directorate General of Family Planning was present as the Chief Guest. Among other notable guests, Kutubuddin Ahmed, Director of Family Planning, Sylhet Division, Kalpana Roy, Team Leader of Midwifery Education, DMP, Shah Alam Chowdhury, Chairman of Charikata Union Parishad, Zahid Hossain, Director of DMP's partner organization FIVDB were also present at the ceremony. DMP chose Charikata union to establish this MLC to provide maternal health care in order to serve the border side communities living in the remote part of the country.



FACULTY DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

A Faculty Development Training was organized by DMP's Midwifery Education Team from 7 to 17 January, 2019. This is a routine and continuous development initiative for the faculty/teaching staff of Developing Midwives Project, BRAC JPGSPH, and BRACU. DMP considers this initiative as self-reflection and recalibration opportunity where the academics learn about teaching techniques and acquire updated knowledge on midwifery skills with the help of Midwifery Education and other relevant experts. Auckland University of Technology closely guided this training initiative. Two of their own faculty flew from New Zealand to join this training. Andrea Gilkison and Claire Hotchin have conducted several sessions to update the teachers. Dr Sabiha Haque Lobbes, a Bangladeshi born renowned pediatrician from Germany, conducted a session on Helping Babies breathe. Dr Sayeba Akhter conducted a session on "Sayeba Method". The training was inaugurated by Tandra Shikder Additional Secretary and Director General of DGNM, Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury, Vice Chairperson of BRAC and Advisor to DMP and Dr. Selina Amin, Project Director, DMP. The closing ceremony was chaired by Shuriya Begum, Registrar, BNMC.



GRADUATION CEREMONY HELD FOR THE 3RD BATCH OF MIDWIVES

The 3rd batch of BRAC University midwifery students completed their "Diploma in Midwifery" and officially graduated as midwives. The Graduation Ceremony of this batch was arranged in 6 of its 7 academic sites countrywide from 23-25 January, 2019. The graduates were presented a professional midwifery kit as a token of appreciation. Dignitaries from different professional arena came to congratulate them in the ceremony. They encouraged the future midwifery professionals to give their best effort to the general people whom they would be serving in future.

Dean of BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid attended the graduation ceremony of Dhaka Academic site as the Chief Guest. She addressed the newly graduate midwives and praised them for the sacrifices they have made to achieve this goal. Professor Sabina reminded them that they are going to embrace a noble profession where giving best of their efforts is a must.



SEMINAR ON: SURVEILLANCE FOR BIOTERRORISM IN MISSOURI

A seminar titled “Surveillance for Bioterrorism in Missouri” was held on Wednesday, 13 February, 2019 at the Video Conference Room of BRAC JPGSPH. The speaker was Dr Fazle Nasim Khan, Former CDC Country Director in Sudan, Ghana and Ivory Coast. He was the State of Idaho’s first ever Surveillance Coordinator for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Hepatitis. After the terrorist events of 9/11 in the US, Dr Khan was made responsible for planning and implementing statewide 'Syndromic Surveillance' for Bioterrorism in Missouri, USA. He visited BRAC JPGSPH to share his public health experience in USA, specially relating to post 9/11 period when none of the US states had any proper bioterrorism plan. He focused on why surveillance is important and how it helps to predict the threats of new diseases spreading through biological agents. The seminar ended with an engaging Q/A session.



SEMINAR ON: RURAL RECONSTRUCTION WORK OF IIRR

A seminar on “Rural Reconstruction Work of IIRR” was held on 17 February, 2019 at Video Conference Room of BRAC JPGSPH. The speaker Emily Monville-Oro is the Country Director of the Philippine Country Office of the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR). She has 22 years of experience in public health, clinical nursing, community-managed disaster risk reduction and capacity development. She finished her Master’s in Public Health under a full scholarship from James P Grant School of Public Health at BRAC University in Bangladesh from the 1st MPH Batch in 2005. Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean of JPGSPH shared her memories with Emily while introducing her to seminar participants. As the country director of IIRR, she shared the history of IIRR, strategic directions, program implementation process, and resource mobilization of the organization.

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE



EKUSHEY AHMED
17, AUSTRALIA

After recently graduating High School, I wanted to gain experience. Working in the public health always intrigued me, so I decided to spend a month of my summer holiday interning in my home country Bangladesh, at BRAC JPGSPH.

Throughout my time here, I mostly worked with the team at the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU). I also worked with the Communications team and created logos and designs with a fellow intern for different Centres such as CoE-SISU and the Centre for Urban Health and Equity (CUEH). I also designed flyers for the Global Conference on Implementation Science (GCIS).

Alongside these responsibilities, I completed other tasks such as editing and correcting reports, documents, blogs and infographics, as well as also doing some video correction work, and other miscellaneous tasks assigned to me. This was not only a good working experience, but also a very valuable learning experience. By working directly with this project, I gained a newly formed understanding of Implementation Science, and the broad spectrum of issues the Public Health sector manages.

The highlight of my internship experience however, was the field work opportunity given to me in the Korail slum through the 'Compassionate Korail' project that provides free individualized palliative care to terminally ill patients. Overall, this fieldwork opportunity not only allowed me to better understand the medical procedures and programs necessary to provide palliative care to terminally ill patients, but also opened my eyes to the mass poverty present in the world today, and the progress in public health we must make to better the living conditions people living in the slums of Bangladesh.

In conclusion, I thoroughly enjoyed working at BRAC JPGSPH and gained a comprehensive understanding of the wide range of topics within Public Health. This internship will assist me in the future, as I plan on studying Biomedicine/Biomedical Science in university when I return to Australia. I have obtained a renewed appreciation of the hard work being done to help the community here, and I am glad I was able to be a part of it.



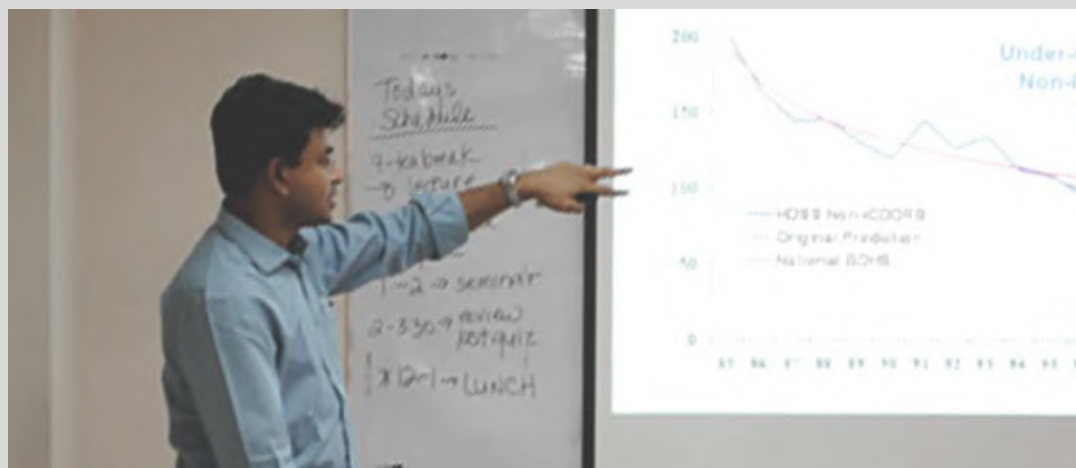
RAIAAN KHAN
18, BANGLADESH

Around late December in 2018, I joined BRAC JPGSPH as an intern. Being quite young, I was a bit skeptic about whether I could stick to a 9-5 routine. Having never experienced an internship before, let alone knowing what a formal work environment looks like; I was quite unsure of what to expect. Although it was admittedly tiring at first, I got used to the routine. I received a warm welcome from everyone on the first day, and that stuck with me until the end. I spent the first week making business cards and posters and thus brushing up my skills. I learned some tips and tricks for Photoshop as well, while being assessed of my existing knowledge in this field.

The Communications team was very supportive. They provided me with ways to improve myself, instead of being let down with my mistakes. My assignments included logo and report designs. I, along with a fellow intern, worked up multiple logo concepts for the three Centres – Centre for Professional Skills Development on Public Health (CPSD), Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), and Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH). The feedback we received for them turned out to be very helpful. The fact that people took time out of their busy schedules to take a look at my work meant a lot to me.

The experience I gained here may have been short-term, but I believe that its impact will be profound in my future endeavors. Architecture and Interior Design are two of my biggest aspirations. I intend to make good use of the designs skills I have learned during my month of internship in both these fields. I am thoroughly grateful with the mentoring provided by my supervisors. I would not have my first internship go any other way. In the future, I want to work with the School again. I am thoroughly grateful for being given the opportunity to work in such a professional environment as this.

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE



We are deeply saddened by the untimely passing of Dr Muntasirur Rahman (Shuvro), Former Deputy Project Coordinator at iccdr,b and Former Adjunct Faculty at BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (BRAC JPGSPH), BRAC University.

Dr Rahman was involved in teaching the Epidemiology course for MPH Programme from 2010 to 2012, and made significant contribution to the School before he moved to Australia.

Our heartfelt condolences to his family and beloved ones during this difficult period. May his soul rest in peace.

BLOGS



LEARNING TO TRUST “DOCTOR APAS” AND THE MIDWIFERY APPROACH AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL

Published Date : 14 February 2019

The midwifery approach is rooted in a different philosophy of birth and consequently leads to different practices. Here birth is understood as something which women do, not something which is done to them. Thus, it empowers the woman giving birth by allowing her to direct the process while midwives offer support and assistance. Subsequently, the model for birthing clinics like the MLC, is based on the home, not the hospital and the midwife's role is to facilitate birth, providing the space for women to be active participants in during childbirth—a concept that has already begun to spread itself through this one community in Mirpur.

[Read More](#)



“ICCHEDANA”: NEW INNOVATIONS IN ENTERTAINMENT EDUCATION IN BANGLADESH

Published Date : 16 January 2019

Based on the success of Meena as a form of entertainment education, UNICEF's most recent innovation 'Icchedana' is a television show that addresses the challenges faced by adolescent girls in Bangladesh. Under the 'National Multi-Media Campaign focusing on Ending Child Marriage (ECM),' Icchedana is an initiative striving to change social norms around early child marriage, gender stereotypes, girls' empowerment, mental health, adolescent health-seeking behaviors, harassment, and reproductive health needs, to name a few.

[Read More](#)

LATEST PUBLICATIONS

January

1. Climate change, migration and health systems resilience: Need for interdisciplinary research. Authors: Valéry Ridde, Tarik Benmarhnia, Emmanuel Bonnet, Carol Bottger, Patrick Cloos, Christian Dagenais, Manuela De Allegri, Ariadna Nebot, Ludovic Queuille, and **Malabika Sarker** Published on: January 7, 2019 | Published in: F1000 Research <https://f1000research.com/articles/8-22/v1>
2. 'Feminization' of physician workforce in Bangladesh, underlying factors and implications for health system: Insights from a mixed-methods study. Authors: **Puspita Hossain, Rajat Das Gupta**, Phye YarZar, Mohamed Salieu Jalloh, Nishat Tasnim, Ayesha Afrin, **Nahitun Naher**, Md. Tarek Hossain, Taufique Joarder, and **Syed Masud Ahmed**. Published on: January 11, 2019 | Published in: PLOS ONE <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0210820>
3. Nutrition Interventions Integrated into an Existing Maternal, Neonatal, and Child Health Program Reduce Food Insecurity Among Recently Delivered and Pregnant Women in Bangladesh. Authors: Edward A Frongillo, Phuong H Nguyen, Tina Sanghvi, Zeba Mahmud, **Bachera Aktar**, Silvia Alayon, and Purnima Menon Published on: January 13, 2019 Published in: Oxford Academic - The Journal of Nutrition <https://academic.oup.com/jn/article/149/1/159/5288239>
4. An invisible workforce: the neglected role of cleaners in patient safety on maternity units. Authors: Suzanne Cross, Giorgia Gon, Emma Morrison, **Koasar Afsana**, Said M. Ali, Tina Manjang, Lamin Manneh, **Atiya Rahman**, Deepak Saxena, Kranti Vorah, and Wendy J. Graham. Published on: January 15, 2019 | Published in: Global Health Action <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/16549716.2018.1480085>
5. Women's Preferences for Maternal Healthcare Services in Bangladesh: Evidence from a Discrete Choice Experiment. Authors: Rashidul Alam Mahumud, **Nadia Ishrat Alamgir**, Md. Tarek Hossain, Elaine Baruwa, Marufa Sultana, Jeff Gow, Khorshed Alam, **Syed Masud Ahmed**, and Jahangir A.M. Khan. Published on: January 23, 2019 | Published in: The Journal of Clinical Medicine <https://www.mdpi.com/2077-0383/8/2/132>
6. Pathways of antibiotic use in Bangladesh: qualitative protocol for the PAUSE study. Authors: Emily K Rousham, Mohammad Aminul Islam, Papreen Nahar, Patricia Jane Lucas, **Nahitun Naher**, **Syed Masud Ahmed**, Fosiul Alam Nizame, and Leanne Unicomb Published on: January 25, 2019 | Published in: BMJ Journals – BMJ Open <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/9/1/e028215>
7. Prevalence and Risk Factors of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in Bangladesh: A Systematic Review. Authors: **Ipsita Sutradhar, Rajat Das Gupta**, Mehedi Hasan, Amit Wazib, **Malabika Sarker** Published on: January 28, 2019 | Published in: Cureus <https://www.cureus.com/articles/15943-prevalence-and-risk-factors-of-chronic-obstructive-pulmonary-disease-in-bangladesh-a-systematic-review>
8. Eye diseases: the neglected health condition among urban slum population of Dhaka, Bangladesh. Authors: **Ipsita Sutradhar**, Priyanka Gayen, **Mehedi Hasan, Rajat Das Gupta**, Tapash Roy, and **Malabika Sarker**. Published on: January 31, 2019 | Published in: BMC Ophthalmology <https://bmcophthalmol.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12886-019-1043-z>

February

9. Determinants of early initiation of breastfeeding in Ethiopia: a population-based study using the 2016 demographic and health survey data. Authors: James Rufus John, **Sabuj Kanti Mistry**, Getahun Kebede, Narendar Manohar, and Amit Arora. Published on: February 13, 2019 Published in: BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth <https://bmcpregnancychildbirth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12884-019-2211-0>
10. Reasons for formula feeding among rural Bangladeshi mothers: A qualitative exploration. Authors: **Atiya Rahman** and Fahmida Akter Published on: February 26, 2019 | Published in: PLOS ONE <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0211761>

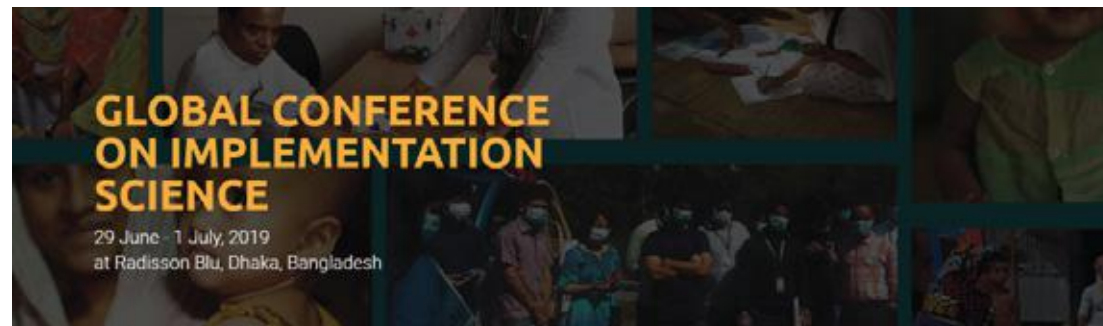


PATHWAYS TO EQUITABLE HEALTHY CITIES

Implemented under Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), BRAC JPGSPH, “Pathways to Equitable Healthy Cities” is a multi-city project to assess how environment and socioeconomic factors influence health of city dwellers. Project team will analyse data, develop and share models through the project’s platform; it will enable participating organizations across five other countries to envision trade-offs and recommend policy scenarios to improve cities’ health. Currently, the project focus is on Dhaka city’s waste management. The team chalked out a research plan and a protocol for systematic review aiming to assess the city’s waste management scenario and its impact on dwellers’ health. Meetings are being conducted with waste management experts and stakeholders to gain clearer perspective of practices and policies. This includes government bodies such as Dhaka North and South City Corporation representatives, World Bank, BUET professors, and NGOs such as Waste Concern. A logo has been launched by project lead, Imperial College London, in recognition of the project’s unique participatory approach.

GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE

The Global Conference on Implementation Science will be hosted by the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up and supported by UNICEF, Bangladesh. It will be held from 29 June to 1 July 2019 at Radisson Blu Hotel in Dhaka. The call for abstracts is currently open. The deadline for individual submissions is 22 March, 2019. A conference website has been launched with details of many important aspects of the conference. For updates please visit: <http://sisu-gcis.com/>



MEDIA MONITORING

BRAC JPG School of Public Health, ICCCAD-IUB and AUW jointly awarded US\$1 million EU grant for capacity building in higher education - [Dhaka Tribune](#)

EU awards Erasmus grant to three universities - [The Daily Star](#)

১০ লাখ ডলার পেল ব্র্যাক জেমস পি গ্রান্ট স্কলসহ ৩ প্রতিষ্ঠান - [যুগান্তর \(Bangla\)](#)

BRAC University introduces ‘psycho drama’ for the youth - [Dhaka Tribune](#)

Psychodrama could be used to bring positive changes - [NEW AGE Bangladesh](#)

Psychodrama can change youths’ sexual behaviour: Study - [The Financial Express](#)

Psychodrama stressed for protecting youths - [The Daily Sun](#)

‘সচেতনতা-ই তরুণদেরকে অশীলতা থেকে দূরে রাখতে পারে’ - [Ekushey-tv](#)

বস্তির ৩৩ ভাগ তরুণ অনিরাপদ যৌন সম্পর্কে জড়ায় - [Samakal](#)

তরুণদের ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ যৌনআচরণ রোধে ‘সাইকোড্রামা’ - [Palabadal](#)

ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ যৌন আচরণ রোধে ‘সাইকোড্রামা’ কার্যকর - [Jugantor](#)

তরুণদের মধ্যে ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ যৌন আচরণ রোধে ‘সাইকোড্রামা’ - [DBC News Daily](#)