

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN 2019

In 2019, BRAC JPGSPH arranged more than **15 skills development workshops**, alongside **17 seminars** facilitated and presented by respective sector experts.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

- **CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS: FIRST BATCH ON INNOVATING QUALITY PATIENT CARE EVERYDAY**

Participants: 6 | Duration: 1 Day

Date: 30 January, 2019

Facilitators: Sairana Ahsan, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Anindya Das, Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Mikhail I. Islam, Learning and Design Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Munirul Islam, Senior Project Officer, BRAC JPGSPH.

Brief: The purpose of this training was to apply innovative service quality improvements to Healthcare Manager's patient services which enhance patient care. Design of this training programme was based on the model of on-the-job coaching for four weeks and one day classroom facilitation.

Organised by: Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.

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- **SERIES WORKSHOPS ON "TRANSFORMATIVE COMPETENCY BASED PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYABILITY IN BANGLADESH'S HEALTH SECTOR/TRANS4M-PH" PROJECT**

Workshop 1 and 2

Participants: 12 | Duration: 4 Days each

Dates: 26 February, 2019 to 1 March, 2019 (Workshop1), 18 - 21 June, 2019 (Workshop 2)

Facilitators: Professor Anja Krumeich, Maastricht University, Netherlands; Dr Esther Jurgens, Maastricht University, Netherlands

Brief: The facilitators were from Maastricht University, Netherlands. Participants included teams from national partners Asian University for Women (AUW) Chittagong; and International Centre for Climate Change and Development ICCCAD-IUB) at Independent University, Bangladesh.

Organised by: Workshop 1 was organised by BRAC JPGSPH in Dhaka, Bangladesh and Workshop 2 in Maastricht, Netherlands

Workshop 3

Participants: 12 | Duration: 4 Days

Date: 21 - 25 July, 2019

Facilitators: Dr Juliet Millican, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK; Dr Linda Waldman, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK; Dr Jethro Pettit, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK.

Brief: The facilitators were from Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK. Participants included teams from national partners Asian University for Women (AUW) Chittagong; and International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD-IUB), Independent University, Bangladesh. The workshop was held at Sussex, England.

Organised by: Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK.

Workshop 4

Participants: 12 | Duration: 4 Days

Date: 4-7 November, 2019

Facilitators: Dean Harriet Mutonyi, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK; Dr Linda Waldman, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK; Dr Jethro Pettit, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK.

Brief: The workshop took place in Chittagong, Bangladesh. Participants included teams from national partners Asian University for Women (AUW) Chittagong; and International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD-IUB), Independent University, Bangladesh.

Organised by: Asian University for Women (AUW), Chittagong, Bangladesh.

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- **THE ESSENTIAL HEALTHCARE (EHC) PROGRAMME AND IMPROVED MATERNAL NEONATAL AND CHILD SURVIVAL (IMNCS) PROGRAMME OF BRAC HEALTH, NUTRITION AND POPULATION PROGRAMME (HNPP) ON USING COMM CARE HQ PLATFORM**

Participants: 160 | Duration: 7 training sessions
(1 day each)

Date: June, 2019 – August, 2019

Facilitators: Md. Arif Ahmmed, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Abdul Hannan, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Sabbir Hossain, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University; Md. Yeasin Mia, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Muksudur Rahman, Area Manager, BRAC HNPP; Biswajit Sarker, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Shahinur Rahman, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP.

Brief: The aim of the training was to teach the area managers to learn how to use the CommCare app. The area managers learned how to install the app in tabloid mobile devices, how to access the questionnaire uploaded on the CommCare HQ platform by researchers,

and collect and send the data using the tabloid mobile device and CommCare HQ platform. The Verbal Autopsy questionnaire was used to collect information of the deceased mothers. **Organised by:** BRAC Learning Centres (BLCs) of Uttara, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Cumilla, Jessore, Rangpur and Bogura

- **VERBAL AUTOPSY TRAINING FOR BRAC COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS**

Participants: 4300 | Duration: 459 sessions
(2 days each)

Date: June, 2019 – August, 2019

Facilitators: Md. Arif Ahmmed, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Abdul Hannan, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Sabbir Hossain, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University; Md. Yeasin Mia, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Muksudur Rahman, Area Manager, BRAC HNPP; Biswajit Sarker, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Shahinur Rahman, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Additional 160 Area Managers of Essential Health Care (EHC) and Improving maternal, neonatal and child survival (IMNCS) programmes.

Brief: A total of 4,300 BRAC Shasthay Kormis (SKs, Health Workers) from 459 Upazilas of 61 districts in Bangladesh participated in these training sessions. The objective of the training sessions was to teach the BRAC SKs to collect information on the deceased mothers by using verbal autopsy questionnaire.

Organised by: The training sessions were conducted in 459 local BRAC Area Offices.

- **CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS: 2nd BATCH OF INNOVATING QUALITY PATIENT CARE EVERYDAY**

Participants: 12 | Duration: 1 Day

Date: 10 July, 2019

Facilitators: Anindya Das, Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Mikhail I. Islam, Learning and Design Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Munirul Islam, Senior Project Officer, BRAC JPGSPH.

Brief: The workshop started with the latest progress and future plans of all patient care solutions presented by one participant from each group of counselling, primary check-up and doctor check-up service. At the end, their supervisors acknowledged that this training is very effective as there has been proper documentation of all the patient care problems and solutions which will be used as a patient care guideline for the future betterment of their clinic service.

Organised by: Centre for Professional Skills Development on Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.

- **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT: PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE MARKETING**

Participants: 10 | Duration: 1 Day

Date: 22 August, 2019

Facilitators: Anindya Das, Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Mikhail I. Islam, Learning and Design Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Munirul Islam, Senior Project Officer, BRAC JPGSPH.

Brief: In this session, three 'Association for Prevention of Septic Abortion, Bangladesh (BAPSA)' services were picked up to increase targets and generate revenue - Safe Motherhood, Menstrual Regulation- Post abortion Care (MR-PAC) and Networking Referral. For each service, new marketing targets were set on a yearly, monthly, weekly, hourly and daily basis.

Organised by: Centre for Professional Skills Development on Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.

- **SKILL DEVELOPMENT ON COST EFFECTIVENESS AND COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS IN HEALTH CARE: ECONOMIC EVALUATION**

Participants: 18 | Duration: 3 Days

Date: 01 - 03 October, 2019

Facilitators: Dr Syed Abdul Hamid, Professor, Institute of Health Economics, Dhaka University; Nahid Akhter Jahan, Professor, Institute of Health Economics, Dhaka University; Dr Zahidul Quayyum, Professor, Director of Research, and Director, Centre of Excellence for Urban

Equity and Health (CUEH), BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Shafiun Nahin Shimul, Assistant Professor, Institute of Health Economics, Dhaka University.

Brief: To ensure cost-effective health care services that provide improved health outcomes to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Organised by: Cluster for Health Economics and Evaluation Research (CHEER); Institute of Health Economics (IHE), Dhaka University; Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), BRAC JPGSPH.

- **CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING ON "EVALUATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME" FOR IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING AND EVALUATION DIVISION (IMED) OFFICIALS**

Participants: 20 | Duration: 03 Days

Date: 10 – 12 October, 2019

Facilitators: Dr Humayra Binte Anwar, Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH and Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka; Dr Malabika Sarker, Professor, Associate Dean and Director, Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.

Brief: This course was part of the UNICEF supported Technical Assistant Project Proposal (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 government officials on Result Based Monitoring (RBM) based M&E.

Organised by: Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.

- **TRAINING FOR PRIMARY HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS WORKING IN ROHINGYA REFUGEE CAMPS IN COX'S BAZAR**

Participants: 409 (34 Doctors, 39 Nurses, 29 Medical Assistants/Paramedics/Sub Assistant Community Medical Officer (SACMO), 154 Supervisors of Community Health Workers, 153 Community Health Workers) |

Duration: 42 days

Date: 21 October, 2019 to 14 November, 2019 (Training of Doctors, Nurses, Medical Assistants, Paramedics and SACMO); 19 November, 2019 to 31 December, 2019 (Training of Supervisors of Community Health Workers and Community Health Workers)

Facilitators: Abdur Razzaqul Alam, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); Bishwajit Bhowmik, Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation in Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM); Farzana Dorin, National Consultant, WHO; Ali Ahsan Hemel, Clinical Medical Officer, BRAC JPGSPH; Syed Mahfuzul Huq, National Professional Officer, World Health Organization (WHO); Khaleda Islam, JICA; Raisul Islam, Non-communicable Diseases Officer, WHO; Runa Laila, BRAC; Dr Malay K Mridha, Professor and Director, Centre for Non-communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH; Rina Rani Paul, Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Nazma Sultana, BRAC; Nushrat Jahan Urmey, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

Brief: Under the Agreement for Performance of Work with the World Health Organization (WHO), Bangladesh and BRAC JPGSPH were contracted to coordinate and facilitate, in close collaboration with WHO Bangladesh and Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), for training on the package of essential non-communicable diseases (PEN) interventions to 100 doctors, nurses, and medical assistants/SACMO/paramedics; and 300 Supervisors of Community Health Workers and Community Health Workers working in the Rohingya camps and also in the eight Upazila health complexes (UHC) of Cox's Bazar District. A total of 409 health care providers were trained. The objectives of the training were to enhance knowledge, skills and practices of primary health care workers in the early detection and appropriate management of cardiovascular diseases (CVD) and Type 2 Diabetes using a total CVD risk-based approach. The training package was developed by WHO Bangladesh including the national treatment protocols, adapting from the "Package of Essential Noncommunicable (PEN) disease and healthy lifestyle interventions – "Training modules for primary health care workers" developed by WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia for the member states. The training also incorporated sessions on Bangladesh's "National protocol for integrated management of hypertension and diabetes using a total cardiovascular risk approach in primary health care settings". For the training of the Supervisors of Community Health Workers and Community Health Workers, WHO and BRAC JPGSPH worked together to develop a flipchart on Non-communicable Diseases. The flipchart was also used during the training.

Organised by: The Centre for Non-communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH in Collaboration with WHO and Non-communicable Disease Control Programme of the DGHS, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh.

- **MAXQDA: DATA CODING AND ANALYSIS SOFTWARE**

Participants: 3 | Duration: 2 days

Date: 15- 16 November, 2019

Facilitator: Monami Anika Fariha, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

Brief: The purpose of this two-day long training programme held on the November 15 and 16, 2019 was to teach how to efficiently use the MAXQDA software for qualitative data coding and analysis using the Gender and Adolescent: Global Evidence (GAGE) Codebook.

Organised by: Gender and Adolescent: Global Evidence (GAGE).

- **FUNDAMENTALS OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH: "THINKING QUALITATIVELY"**

Participants: 30 | Duration: 3 days

Date: 17-19 December, 2019

Facilitator: Dr Shahaduz Zaman, Reader, Medical Anthropology and Global Health, Department of Global Health and Infection, University of Sussex, UK
Brief: This training workshop aimed at introducing the basic ideas behind the qualitative research and to teach the participants about data collection, analysis and interpretation in qualitative research.

Organised by: The Centre for Professional Skills Development on Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.

- **SHORT COURSES UNDER PROMOTING RIGHTS THROUGH INCLUSION AND EMPOWERMENT (PRITIE) PROJECT**

Throughout this project, BRAC JPGSPH and Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) jointly provided various short courses to lawyers on national and international treaties and on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and the law to service providers and representatives from NGOs who provide legal and, SRHR health and information related services.

These short courses helped sensitise and enhance the capacity in their professional lives in delivering or designing gender sensitive services. The project is funded by Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU).

- **CAPACITY STRENGTHENING TRAINING ON UNDERSTANDING THE VARIOUS LITERATURE AVAILABLE ON SRHR: RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW (RHRN)**

Participants: 28 | Duration: 1 Day

Date: 24 December, 2019

Brief: The strategic note for this workshop was a one-day workshop on academic literature search and literature review and how to use research in advocacy. For advocacy, the different natures of Information Education Communication (IEC)/ Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) materials that were prepared to address Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) among the general audience. RHRN is a project funded by Rutgers and partnered with BRAC Education Programme; Reproductive Health Services Training and Education Program (RHSTEP) Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu); Naripokkho; Socio-Economic Rural Advancement Committee (SERAC)-Bangladesh; Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB); Obojob; Bangladesh Legal Aid And Services Trust (Blast); United for Body Rights (UBR) Alliance; Bangladesh Mahila Parishad; Dance4Life; Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW) and Humanist Institute for Development Cooperation (Hivos).

Organised by: BRAC JPGSPH.

SEMINARS IN 2019

- SEMINAR ON “SURVEILLANCE FOR BIOTERRORISM IN MISSOURI”

Date: 13 February, 2019

Presenter: Dr Fazle Nasim Khan, Former Country Director, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Ghana and Ivory Coast

Brief: Dr Fazle Nasim Khan focused on why surveillance is important and how it helps to predict the threats of new diseases spreading through biological agents.

- SEMINAR ON “RURAL RECONSTRUCTION WORK OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (IIRR)”

Date: 17 February, 2019

Presenter: Emily Monville-Oro, Country Director, Philippine Country Office, International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR).

Brief: As the country director of IIRR, Emily Monville-Oro shared the history of IIRR, strategic directions, programme implementation process, and resource mobilisation of the organisation.

- SEMINAR ON “THE SHANGHAI HEALTH DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE TEAM”

Date: 16 March, 2019

Presenters: Ms Zhu Bifan, Research Assistant, Shanghai Health Development Research Centre; Dr Lin Hai, Research Associate, Shanghai Health Development Research Centre; Dr Ding Hansheng, Senior Researcher, Shanghai Health Development Research Centre; Professor Shanlian Hu, Health Economist, Shanghai Health Development Research Centre.

Brief: A presentation on 'An Overview of Evolution of Policies for Elderly in China' was delivered by Professor Shanlian Hu; 'Research and Practice on Needs Assessment of Long-term Care Insurance in Shanghai' by Senior Researcher Dr Ding Hansheng; 'Longitudinal Study of Prescription Drug Expenditures for Chronic Diseases and Infections in Shanghai, China' by Research Associate Dr Lin Hai; and 'Patterns of Expenditure for Elderly Care in Shanghai' by Research Assistant Ms Zhu Bifan.

- **SEMINAR ON "THINK REASONABLY: IMPORTANT MIND SKILLS YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF"**

Date: 11 April, 2019

Presenter: Fakir Yunus, a graduate from BRAC JPGSPH who is currently pursuing his doctoral degree in Nutrition at the University of Saskatchewan, Canada.

Brief: Given the fundamental differences between good manager and good research manager, Yunus with support from Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH identified 16 mind skills which they believe would be useful to keep in mind to be a good research Manager.

- **SEMINAR ON "IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF COMMUNITY BASED HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEMES IN RURAL INDIA"**

Date: 18 April, 2019

Presenter: Dr Wameq A. Raza, an applied micro-economist currently working as an Economist at the World Bank in the Poverty and Equity Global Practice.

Brief: Dr Wameq A. Raza presented on the evaluation of a community-based health insurance (CBHI) scheme in India emphasizing on his study conducted using three CBHI schemes on healthcare utilisation and Expenditure.

- **SEMINAR ON "OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION TO BE NUTRITION SENSITIVE"**

Date: 21 April, 2019

Presenter: Ms Monique Beun has been working with World Food Programme (WFP) and is the Head of Nutrition and School Feeding with its Country office in Bangladesh. She has varied experience in nutrition in both development and emergency context, ranging from policy advocacy and technical assistance with government to programme management,

monitoring and evaluation. Ms Beun has worked in many countries in Asia and Africa applying her professional expertise in nutrition, food security and health to inform policies and programmes in the local context.

Brief: Ms Monique Beau took a deep dive on the opportunities for social protection to be nutrition sensitive by presenting the nutrition sensitive impacts, the requirements and key opportunities of nutrition-sensitive, discussing multiple study findings and also an in-depth discussion on nutrition sensitive school meals.

- **SEMINAR ON “ROHINGYA CONFLICT AND GLOBAL LOCAL PEACE BUILDING AVENUES”**

Date: 30 April, 2019

Presenter: Dr Kawser Ahmed is a researcher in peace and conflict studies who has in-depth understanding of social conflict and its peaceful transformation. While serving in the UN peacekeeping operations in conflict zones, he earned experience in peace building, mediation, and transformative dialogue in resolving inter-group conflict. He developed insights in conflict by studying social resistance, terrorism, and extremism in global and local contexts. He undertook several researches on community focused conflict intervention, refugee crisis, and youth extremism in western and non-western contexts.

Brief: In the context of the Rohingya crisis Dr Ahmed led a detailed discussion on peace building, global and local avenues and the challenges of peace building.

- **SEMINAR ON “MAMA RIVER: IMPROVING MATERNAL AND NEWBORN HEALTH AT THE PERUVIAN AMAZON**

Date: 24 June, 2019

Presenters: Dr Magaly Blas, Director, Mamás del Río and Nila Tanzil, Founder of Taman Bacaan Pelangi. Nila Tanzil is the founder of Taman Bacaan Pelangi, a non-profit organisation focused on promoting literacy in remote areas of eastern Indonesia.

Brief: Dr Blas focused on ‘Mamás del Río (Mama River)’. Her organisation works on improving maternal and child health in remote rural areas in the Peruvian Amazon. Nila Tanzil presented how they encourage and nurture children’s interest in reading by providing access to good books.

- **SEMINAR BY DR AYMAN EL-MOHANDES**

Date: 30 June, 2019

Presenter: Dr Ayman El-Mohandes, Dean of the Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy at the City University of New York (CUNY).

Brief: Dr Ayman El-Mohandes emphasised on competency mapping and believes that integrated thinking is necessary for students at City University of New York (CUNY) School of Public Health.

- **SEMINAR BY DR MICHELLE WILLIAMS**

Date: 31 July, 2019

Presenter: Dr Michelle A. Williams, Dean of the Faculty, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Brief: Dr Michelle A. Williams talked about the public health situation including the Rohingya crisis, the dengue fever outbreak and health issues, and explained the overcoming of epidemics and climate change, along with other humanitarian crises and major challenges nowadays for Bangladesh.

- **SEMINAR ON “WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT IN ACTION: EVIDENCE FROM A RANDOMIZED CONTROL TRIAL IN UGANDA”**

Date: 18 August, 2019

Presenter: Dr Munshi Sulaiman, Regional Research Lead of BRAC International in Africa. He also works as a Research Fellow with Makerere University Business School.

Brief: Dr Munshi Sulaiman highlighted multifaceted policy interventions that have jump-started adolescent women’s empowerment by simultaneously providing them vocational training and information on sex, reproduction and marriage, resulting in a 48% increase in income generating activities and a drop in teen pregnancy by a third.

- **SEMINAR ON “A DAY AT THE FORENSICS DEPARTMENT: AN ANTHROPOLOGIST’S TOUR OF THE LABYRINTH OF PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSIVENESS TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN”**

Date: 4 September, 2019

Presenter: Shahana Siddiqui, Researcher and Coordinator at the Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH. She is pursuing her PhD at Amsterdam Institute of Social Science Research (AISSR), University van Amsterdam, in Medical Anthropology.

Brief: Shahana Siddiqui spoke about the intricacies and complexities of consent and the social and cultural norms that dictate it.

- **SEMINAR ON ‘ESTIMATING BURDEN OF DISEASE: THROUGH THE LENSES OF LOW- AND-HIGH-INCOME COUNTRIES**

Date: 17 October, 2019

Presenter: Dr Nusrat Homaira, an Early Career Fellow of National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia and a Senior Lecturer with the Discipline of Paediatrics, School of Women's and Children's Health at the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia.

Brief: Dr Nusrat Homaira talked about the lack of big data (administrative data from healthcare facilities) and how it can help in estimating the burden of disease in Bangladesh.

- **SEMINAR ON 'IS HEALTH MICROINSURANCE A VIABLE ROUTE TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE INFORMAL ECONOMY?'**

Date: 21 November, 2019

Presenter: Dr Syed Abdul Hamid, PhD in Economics (UK), is a Professor of Health Economics and served as the Director at the Institute of Health Economics (IHE), University of Dhaka.

Brief: Dr Hamid showed how Health Microinsurance (HMI), which has been used around the globe since the early 1990s for financial risk protection against health shocks in poverty-stricken rural populations in low-income countries to increase access to healthcare or utilisation of healthcare, fails to provide financial risk protection against health shocks under its current practices in South Asia.

- **SEMINAR ON "HAITI HEALTH SYSTEM: STANDARDS AND PRACTICE"**

Date: 25 November, 2019

Presenter: Dr Alain Casseus, a Project Manager who is overseeing a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) related project, a Partners in Health (PIH) Canada funded project on malnutrition, and two Mass General Hospital research projects funded by National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Gates.

Brief: Dr Casseus explained the healthcare system in Haiti and spoke about issues such as the challenges faced by Community Health Workers (CHW), the shortage of funds and human resources. He also spoke about how the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Haiti collaborates with NGOs and INGOs working in Haiti to tackle the challenges in health care and sustain their current health care regime.

- **SEMINAR ON "SMOKELESS TOBACCO CONSUMPTION AND STILLBIRTH: POPULATION-BASED CASE-CONTROL STUDY IN RURAL BANGLADESH"**

Date: 4 December 2019

Presenter: Dr Hossain is a researcher of the Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity, The University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.

Brief: Dr Hossain shared the findings from his study on the consumption of smokeless tobacco among women in rural Bangladesh and the role it plays in increasing the rate of stillbirth.

- **SEMINAR ON “MATERNAL HEALTH VOUCHER SCHEME AND CAESAREAN SECTION RATE: ESTIMATING THE EFFECT OF SUPPLIER-INDUCED DEMAND IN RURAL BANGLADESH”**

Date: 26 December, 2019

Presenter: Dr Mahmud Khan, Professor in the Department of Health Services Policy and Management at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, USA, presented at the seminar held at BRAC JPGSPH.

Brief: Dr Mahmud Khan shared the findings from the study on the rate of C-section; the Maternal Health Voucher Scheme (MHVS), a demand-side financing strategy; and how the incentives affected consumer Behaviour.
