

Nasiruddin Ahmed

Former Chairman, NBR and Team Leader, BIGD

Dr. Nasiruddin Ahmed is a Senior Fellow of Practice at BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University. Prior to joining the BIGD, he was Commissioner, Anti-Corruption Commission Bangladesh. He also worked as the Secretary, Internal Resources Division, Ministry of Finance and Chairman of the National Board of Revenue. He also worked as the Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Public Works, Chairman, Rural Electrification Board and Member Directing Staff (MDS) at Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC). He has the consultancy experience of working with the World Bank, ADB, WHO and UNICEF.



Dr. Ahmed undertook innovations in governance like income tax fair, alternative dispute resolution in taxation, public hearing as a social accountability tool, integrity stores in secondary schools etc. Currently, he is engaged in teaching Economics in the Masters of Arts in Governance and Development (MAGD) Program of BIGD, BRAC University and MBA

Program at East West University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Dr. Ahmed is the Project Lead of the UIC project titled ‘Tobacco Tax Research and Dissemination in Bangladesh.’ He is also working on another research project titled ‘Trends in Trade-Based Money Laundering in Bangladesh’ as the Team Leader. Dr. Ahmed holds PhD in Economics from the University of Sydney, Australia and Masters in Public Sector Management Training and Development Economics from the American University, Washington, D.C., USA. He has authored a number of papers published in international journals. He specializes in the areas of tobacco taxation, social accountability and anti-corruption compliance.

Prof. Dr. Rumana Huque

Department of Economics, University of Dhaka

Rumana Huque is a Professor of Health Economics of the Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. Since 2013, she also holds the position of Executive Director at ARK Foundation (Honourary), a leading research NGO in Bangladesh. She had graduated in Economics from University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and did MA and PhD in Health Economics from University of Leeds, UK. She is particularly interested in research and advocacy in the field of tobacco control. She has conducted studies on tobacco taxation, second-hand smoking, smokeless tobacco and tobacco cessation in Bangladesh. Currently, she is coordinating three RCTs of ‘Smoke Free Homes’ in collaboration with University of York, UK. These studies have given her the opportunity to gather experience of designing and implementing innovative interventions in tobacco control in a low income setting. She is working in multiple research projects with the University of Leeds, UK, to support the Communicable Disease - Health Service Delivery (COMDIS-HSD) research programme consortium in Bangladesh and strengthening health system as well. She has wide experience working with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of Bangladesh, local NGOs, and international donor agencies since 2002. She worked as a consultant in preparing the Strategic Investment Plan of the 4th Health Sector Programme (2017- 2022) of Bangladesh, Programme Implementation Plan (2017-2022) of



Bangladesh, Annual Programme Review (APR), 2013 on SWAP financing and financial management. She is an Associate Consultant of Oxford Policy Management (OPM), UK. She is the Convener of Knowledge Hub on 'Tobacco Taxation in Bangladesh', and a member of 'Bangladesh Anti-Tobacco Alliance (BATA)'.

Professor Sohel Reza Choudhury

Medical Doctor and distinguished Public Health Researcher

Professor Sohel Reza Choudhury is a Medical Doctor and distinguished Public Health Researcher. Currently working as Professor & Head of the Department of Epidemiology & Research, National Heart Foundation Hospital & Research Institution, Dhaka, Bangladesh. He has PhD in Cardiovascular Epidemiology from Japan and MMedSc (Clinical Epidemiology) from Australia. He worked as a Co-PI for



a Japanese Center of INTERMAP study which looked into the relationship of dietary factors with blood pressure. Later after returning to Bangladesh he started to work for generation of epidemiological data on CVD from Bangladesh. He also worked for World Health Organization, Country Office for Bangladesh as a temporary National Professional Officer and coordinated the implementation of Global Adult Tobacco Survey 2009 with the collaboration of CDC USA. His research interest lies on Cardiovascular Disease Epidemiology, Medical Statistics, NCD Prevention, Tobacco Control, Salt Consumption control etc. He is an adjunct faculty of Shiga University of Medical science, Japan. Earlier he taught public health in

University Sains Malaysia. He is leading several research projects and programs on tobacco control, hypertension, salt intake and Trans fat and also involved in designing and analysis of clinical research. He provides technical assistance to other institutes for conduction of national surveys such as Global Adult Tobacco Survey 2009, 2017, National NCD risk factor Survey (2010), National Eye Disease Survey (2012-13). He has collaborative studies with Shiga University of Medical Science and Nagoya University, Japan, University of Cambridge, UK, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), USA; Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, USA; Vital Strategies, USA and Deakins University, Australia.