



National Conference
SHORT BIO OF HONOURABLE
GUESTS, PANNEL MEMBERS
AND MODERATORS
October 6, 8 and 10th , 2020

Bangladesh CSO and NGO Coordination Process

www.bd-cso-ngo.net

SESSION:

Inauguration: Building civil societies, complementarity, and leadership of local actors



CHIEF GUEST : Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad

An economist and development thinker and practitioner, **Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad** is currently Chairman of Governing Council of Dhaka School of Economics (DScE), which is, a constituent institution of the University of Dhaka

and is devoted to both post-graduate and undergraduate studies in economics and related subjects; and Chairman, Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), which is, under his leadership, promoting human-centric, multidimensional, integrated approaches to enable the downtrodden of Bangladesh touched, to move out of poverty and on to sustainable development pathways. He has been awarded with the Independence Award 2019, the highest Bangladesh National Civilian Award, presented by the Government of Bangladesh and he has been also Awarded Ekushey Padak 2009, one of the highest Bangladesh National Civilian Awards, presented by the Government of Bangladesh. Recently he has received the National Environment Award 2019, presented by the Government of Bangladesh.

Dr Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad received MA (Economics) from

the University of Dhaka and Ph.D (Economics) from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), London University. He was born in the district of Sylhet in 1943.

A participant in the Bangladesh War of Liberation in 1971, he worked in the Planning Cell of the then Bangladesh Government-in-exile. He is the Coordinator of Bangladesh Climate Change Negotiating Team at UNFCCC since 2009. He was the elected President of Bangladesh Economic Association (BEA) for three consecutive terms from 2002-2010. In 2010. He was a Member of the UNFCCC Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Executive Board (2009-2014); and was a Coordinating Lead Author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)-Third Assessment (completed in 2001) and a Lead Author for IPCC Fourth Assessment (2004-2007).

Dr. Ahmad has to his credit a wide range of research works and publications (including authored/co-authored/edited/co-edited 40 books and over 250 articles/research reports and papers), at home and abroad, including on policy planning, rural development, poverty alleviation, human development, technology, employment, gender issues, regional cooperation, water resources, environment, and climate change.

SPECIAL GUEST : Md Rashadul Islam

Mr. Md Rashadul Islam is the Director General of the NGO Affairs Bureau, Prime Minister's Office. He has previously served as Additional Secretary under the Division of Information and Communication Technology, Secretary of the Climate Change Trust Fund, Ministry of Environment and Forests and also Ministry of Home Affairs, Internal Resources Division, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Education, Primary and Mass Education, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Energy and Mineral Resources Division (EMRD), Railway Division and Public Division of the President's Office in different capacities with reputation.

Mr. Md Rashadul Islam passed the Secondary School Certificate Examination (SSC) with first division from Dhuliani Sammilani High School and secured ninth position in the combined merit list under Jashore Education Board. In the year 1980, he passed the Higher Secondary Examination (HSC) from Jessore Government Michael Madhusudan College (M.M. College) and secured 7th position in the combined merit list under same education board with first division.

He studied at University of Dhaka and obtained Bachelor of Social Science (BSS) in Honors (Economics) in 1983 and Master

of Social Science (MSS) in 1984. He obtained his Masters of Business Administration (MBA) Certificate from Northern University, Bangladesh in 2009 and a diploma from Griffith University, Australia in 2012.

As a Part of his official duty he has participated in various meetings, seminars and training courses in countries like India, Bhutan, Nepal, China, UAE, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, South Korea, Morocco, Norway, United Kingdom, USA, Germany, France, Belgium and represented Bangladesh. He is a life member of Dhaka officers Club, Dhaka university Alumni and Bangladesh Economic Association

Mr. Md. Rashadul Islam is a writer. 'Marakkesh Batash', 'Chander Pahar', 'Paglamama', 'Rozkar Tuki Taki', 'Sakura Mowsumay' are notable among the books written by him. Mr. Islam believes that each and every person has the capability to do good to the society.

He wants to be indulged himself in such motivational work for the



MODERATOR: Rezaul Karim Chowdhury



Mr. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury is the Executive Director, Coastal Association for Social Transformation (COAST Trust) and Convener of Equity & Justice Working Group. He has expertise over many disciplines such as promoting appropriate technology in coastal belt, sustainable micro finance, advocacy and policy influencing, policy research and disaster management. He has studied for his Masters in Sociology in Department of Sociology, University of Chittagong.



DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER: Dorothea Hilhorst

Ms. Dorothea Hilhorst is a professor of humanitarian studies at the International Institute for Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University in The Hague. Her focus is on aid-society relations: studying how aid is shaped by the manifold actions of actors in and around programmes for protection, service delivery and capacity development. She has a special interest in the intersections of humanitarianism with development, peacebuilding and gender-relations. Her research programmes have taken place in many settings affected by disaster, conflict and fragility. Currently, her main research programme concerns cases where 'conflict meets disaster', that studies disaster governance in high-conflict, low-conflict and post-conflict societies.

DISTINGUISHED PANEL MEMBER: Rokeya Kabir



Ms. Rokeya Kabir is a front-line visionary women, human rights activist and development practitioner in Bangladesh. She was involved with progressive student movement during her student life and was elected General Secretary and then the Vice President of Rokeya Hall Students Union of the University of Dhaka for the period 1972-75. She was a freedom fighter in the liberation war of Bangladesh in 1971. Rokeya Kabir is the founding Executive Director of Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (BNPS) established in 1986 - a leading national women rights organization in the country. She initiated education reform movement, raising demand to make education of Bangladesh gender sensitive and secular since 1992; played pioneering role for collecting information of women freedom fighters from 1992 onwards and organised two large public gathering in 1996 and 1998 to honour and provide recognition of the contribution of women freedom fighters in the liberation war of Bangladesh; played leading role in advocating direct election of women in one-third seats of Union Parishad (Lower strata of local government institutions) in 1997. In 2000, for the first time in Bangladesh, under her leadership, BNPS started its campaign for gender responsive budgeting (GRB). Since 1990 Rokeya Kabir played important role as an Executive Committee Member of ADAB and as elected Chairperson from 2011 to 2016. She organised various networks of NGOs and women organisations and civil society groups. She is one of the key initiators and core committee members of South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE) and People's SAARC. In 2010, she has been elected executive committee member of the Committee for Asian Women (CAW). She is also a writer on national and international political and economic issues. She is the author of 9 published books. For her contribution, Rokeya Kabir was nominated for Noble Peace Prize by Global Women Movement in 2005 as one of the 1000 peace women worldwide.



DISTINGUISHED PANEL MEMBER: Joyanta Adhikari

Mr. Joyanta Adhikari is one of the leading human rights activists in Bangladesh. At present, he is representing the largest coordination body of NGOs in Bangladesh ADAB as an elected Chairperson. He has been engaged with Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB) as Executive Director from 1 September 2001. Before that, he served WFP in different positions. Most of his contributions drive the socio-economic development of the ethnic community, food security, health & nutrition, and humanity. Mr. Adhikari perused Post Graduate degree in Sociology and also attained a Diploma in Demography from the University of Cardiff, U.K. He is also representing different Ecumenical Bodies & Churches.

PANEL MEMBER: Sudhanshu S. Singh



Mr. Sudhanshu S. Singh, an Indian humanitarian and development professional with over 32 years global experience, is founder and CEO of Humanitarian Aid International (HAI). HAI aims to become first Indian organisation, working globally with the Indian identity on poverty alleviation and disaster management. HAI is also currently hosting the international secretariat of Charter4Change. Sudhanshu has worked with several international organisations at the Asia-Pacific level, and has been involved in managing responses to almost all major disasters in the Asia-Pacific region since 2001. Sudhanshu has been closely engaged with Agenda for Humanity, Grand Bargain and Charter for Change. He was member of the steering group of World Humanitarian Action Forum (WHAF). Sudhanshu is also one of the founders and international coordinator of Alliance for Empowering Partnerships (A4EP).



PANEL MEMBER: Dr. James Munn

Mr. James Munn is the Director of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) in Bangladesh Geneva where he leads the humanitarian programme and represents to the Government of Bangladesh. James joined NRC in 2016 as Director of Humanitarian Policy and representative to the United Nations and its member states in Geneva. Prior to this he was Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific of ICVA.

He has more than fifteen years' experience in the humanitarian sector having previously worked Myanmar, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and a number of countries in East and West Africa.

James holds a PhD from the University of Exeter in the UK and is a published author on humanitarianism, IHL and the humanitarian principles, post-conflict societal reconstruction, and constructed gendered identities.

PANEL MEMBER : Abdul Latif Khan

Mr. Abdul Latif Khan, have thirty years of experiences in administration, management, development projects, disaster management and response, Particularly in Project Planning and Management, policy review, Networking, Emergency Operation Management, Finance, Administration and Training. Mr. Khan established NIRAPAD a network of local NGO's working in the field of disaster management. NIRAPAD is a Bangla word that means safe however, the NIRAPAD means Network for Information, Response and Preparedness Activities in Disaster. Founder Member of Disaster Forum a network of NGO's working in the field of disaster management in Bangladesh. Member of Durjog Nivaran a network of Disaster Management activates and NGO's working in South Asia. In the both cases he was involved in policy review and development of policy for the partners in disaster management.

25 years of working experience with the Ministry of Disaster Management, Disaster Management Bureau and Department of Disaster Management. Mr. Khan was one of the initiator for establishment of Disaster Management Bureau. During 25 years of working experience with the government of Bangladesh he support in policy, advocacy and networking on disaster management. In professional arena, he worked with UNDP supported Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme in different capacities, such as, Capacity Building Specialist and Disaster Response Specialist. During Mr. Khan's endeavor as Disaster Response Specialist, he was incessantly involve in identifying urban hazards and develop urban response policy and program. He was involved in identifying and building the capacity of urban volunteers. He was working with City Corporation and Asian Disaster Preparedness Center for community based urban risk reduction. In 90's Mr. Khan prepared the urban risk baseline for Lao PDR while he was working with Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC). Recently Mr. Khan is engaged with Department of Disaster Management for developing Child Centred Urban Resilience Manual for promoting inclusive Disaster Preparedness.



DESIGNATED INTERVENTION SPEAKER: Anwar Zahid



Mr. Anwar Zahid has a long history of a political and social movement. He is also a freedom fighter. The Integrated Social Development Organization (ICDA) was formed in 1990. After the formation of the ICDA, the ICDA started its activities with some support from friends. ICDA was registered by Social Services on 22 November 1992 and gradually received a certificate from MRA, Department of Women's Affairs, NGO Bureau. Palli-Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) is working as a support organization for micro-credit and various development activities. At present 105 workers are working. From the founding of the organization until December 2017, he served as the Executive Director. Currently, he is serving as the Chief Adviser.

DESIGNATED INTERVENTION SPEAKER: Rafiqul Alam

Mr. Rafiqul Alam, completed graduation from department of Law. After the independence he started to work for its development by the help of Red Cross and built more than hundred rehabilitation centera and more than ten schools. From the inspiration of working for the coastal people, Mr. Rafiqul Islam established Dwip Unnayan Songstha (DUS) in 1980, due to acquire disaster capacity and socio-economic development. Since 1980, DUS is working for the betterment of coastal people. Currently more than three hundred trained employees as well more than five hundred trained volunteers are working in DUS. However, DUS is working for 40 years for the betterment of Island people through running so many programs and projects. Among all those programs and projects, DUS is holding some special activities. Among those special activities climate Justice resilience, Sports & culture for adolescents, strengthening resilience for livestock farmers, making people aware and conscious in coastal areas through com-munity radio and so many other activities are continuing. The vow of the DUS is to take sustainable and effective steps to improve the living standards of the people living in the coastal areas. DUS believes in the need to eradicate poverty, ensure the rights of disadvantaged people and build a healthy, happy and dignified way of life for all.



SESSION:

Partnership and Process to Promote Sustainable Local NGO/CSO

CHAIR : Shireen Pervin Huq



Ms. Shireen Pervin Huq is a women's rights activist working on gender, human rights and development. She is a founder member of Naripokkho, where she has worked on a volunteer basis since its founding in 1983. Currently, Shireen is an elected member of Naripokkho's Executive Committee and the Honorary Coordinator of Naripokkho's programmes on Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights. There are a number of interventions under this programme focused on women's SRHR, reduction of maternal morbidity and mortality through claiming accountability of service providers in public hospitals, safe abortion services and youth friendly SRHR services. At present Shireen is also the Honorary Coordinator of "Standing with Rohingya Women", Naripokkho's engagement with the plight of the over 1 million Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and their pursuit of justice. Shireen has spearheaded the preparation of inputs for amicus curiae observations to the International Criminal Court in support of the Chief Prosecutor's initiative to claim jurisdiction through Bangladesh for the crime of forced deportation by Myanmar. She Co-convenes the Bangladesh Civil Society Platform on Justice for the Rohingyas. Shireen is a founder member of Moulik Odhikar Shurokha Committee (Committee for the Protection of Fundamental Rights), which is a platform of human rights defenders working on freedom of expression and the right to free speech, freedom of association and the right to organise, as well as on the alarming incidence of enforced disappearances. Shireen sits on the Board of Bangladesh Protibondhi Foundation dealing with children with intellectual disabilities, the AFMR Foundation supporting education programmes and facilities at different levels, Gono Bishwabidyalay a non-profit university focused on the promotion of higher education in sciences with particular emphasis on gender equality and affirmative action for disadvantaged groups, IUBAT (International University of Business, Agriculture and Technology) and Drik Trust. Shireen was also a Board member of the now defunct Institute of Women, Law and Development. She has been a member of the Advisory Committee of the International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific since its inception in 1993. Since 2018 she is a member of the Advisory Committee of the South Asia Reproductive Justice and Accountability Initiative convened by the Center for Reproductive Rights. Shireen was educated at the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh and The Evergreen State College in the USA where she completed a BA in Liberal Arts. Subsequently she studied at the University of Sussex in UK where she had embarked on a PhD in Social Anthropology. However, she did not complete the PhD and instead became involved in the founding and development of Naripokkho.

CHIEF GUEST: Ignacio Packer



Mr. Ignacio Packer is Executive Director of ICVA, the global consortium of humanitarian NGOs. ICVA is a global network of non-governmental organisations whose mission is to make humanitarian action more principled and effective by working collectively and independently to influence policy and practice. Ignacio has over 30 years of experience in humanitarian work and development issues. Until 2017, he was the Secretary General of the Terre des Hommes International Federation, and previously worked for the Terre des Hommes Foundation, the Swiss Tropical Institute, the European Association for Development and Health, Médecins Sans Frontières, KPMG and the European Bank for Latin America. He is an expert on human rights and social issues. He has been strongly engaged in global advocacy on protection frameworks for migrant and refugees. Passionate for long distance challenges, he is an enthusiastic ultra-trail runner.



PANEL MEMBER : Howard Mollet

Mr. Howard is Head of Humanitarian Policy at CAFOD. Howard joined CAFOD in April 2019, and has since then been deployed to Syria, Jordan and Lebanon supporting local partner organisations on their programme & partnership learning efforts, and exploring how to bring these into policy engagement with INGOs, UN and donors. Howard is also an INGO signatory member of the C4C Coordination Group and Advocacy Group. Prior to joining CAFOD, Howard worked for 13 years with CARE in different contexts leading its global policy work on gender in emergencies, and supporting country teams in developing and drawing learning from partnerships with local women's groups. Whilst with CARE, he led and supported multi-year research programmes and policy initiatives on conflict sensitivity, governance and conflict in fragile states and civil-military relations in Afghanistan, Sudan, Sierra Leone, Burundi, DRC and elsewhere. Prior to this Howard worked on conflict and peacebuilding research & learning, as well as a project monitoring human rights & aid policy impacts of the Global War on Terror. For a number of years, he served on the steering committee of the Reality of Aid coalition, a north/south coalition of activists developing analysis on the human rights implications of aid and development policy. Prior to that in the 90s, he worked on trade policy and grassroots activist coordination with Friends of the Earth and the 'Our World Is Not For Sale' global social justice coalition, and on post-conflict support to community based environmental organisations and networks in the Balkans.

PANEL MEMBER : Rajan Ghimire



Mr. Rajan Ghimire, Nepali national by birth, has more than sixteen (16) years of experience in Disaster Risk Management, Emergency Preparedness and Humanitarian Responses. He has worked within Caritas Member Organizations, Good Neighbours International, Oxfam GB, UN WFP, Tearfund UK, INTERSOS and Malteser International. Mr. Ghimire has managed hundreds of partners (CSOs, NGOs, INGOs, government departments and UN during) during his tenure in different humanitarian and development organizations and closely with them. Currently, Mr. Ghimire is working in Bangladesh since 2017 as Representative of Malteser in Bangladesh. Mr. Ghimire is currently serving as INGO Team Leader's Form Cox's Bazar Steering Committee member and

actively engaged with NGO platform at Cox's Bazar. Most of his tenures, he worked with L/NGOs for implementation of projects.

PANEL MEMBER: Murshed Alam Sarker



Mr. Murshed Alam Sarker is the Executive Director of People's Oriented Program Implementation (POPI). His astute development vision and strategic mind have contributed immensely to the development sector of Bangladesh. He ensured the materialization of programmes that are effective in uplifting people from different forms of exclusion. His passion for development led his organization to spread its operations across the country. Particularly, his effort for the development of Haor people is quite note-worthy. Mr. Murshed is the chairman of Credit and Development Forum, a national association of microfinance practitioners. Mr. Sarker is also the Secretary of the National Alliance of Humanitarian Actors, Bangladesh (NAHAB). He has been the chairman of Society for Social Services (SSS). With his dynamic leadership, POPI has been awarded several prestigious awards including Citi Micro Entrepreneurship Award - 2016.



PANEL MEMBER: Abdul Awal

Mr. Abdul Awal is a development activist working as the Executive Director of Noakhali Rural Development Society (NRDS) a socioeconomic development organization in the southeastern part of Bangladesh. He is working with the marginalized people and communities for three and a half decades, facilitating people's organizations and groups of farmers, artisans, women and children flowing the human rights based approach to development. The organization has been implementing sustainable development projects in the coastal areas to build poverty and discrimination free climate resilient sustainable communities. He is the Chairperson of the Campaign

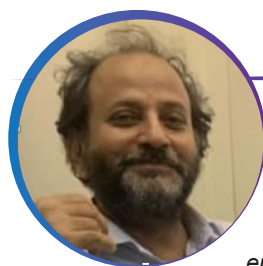
for Good Governance (SUPRO) a national network of grassroots CSOs working for participatory local governance, and campaigning for social, economic justice specially for tax justice and pro-poor budget.

PANEL MEMBER: AKM Jashim Uddin



Mr. AKM Jashim Uddin has over 30 years of experience in Bangladesh development sector. From his childhood he has been engaged in been engaged with different socio-cultural activities. He started his development career with BRAC in 1987. During his long profession he worked with the bi-lateral project Char Development and settlement project CDSP-II assisted by the Royal Netherlands Embassy and several capacity development projects assisted by the World Bank and the ADB under Local Government Division. Mr. Jashim Joined in ADAB (Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh) as Director since 2014. He is well practiced in policy advocacy especially how to translate global policies into concrete deliverables. He pursued his post graduate degree in Management later he also gained Masters in Sociology and Anthropology. AKM Jashim Uddin is the 4th son of late DAB Inspector Md. Hares Mia and Ratnagarva Maa 2014 Late Begum Noor Mohal of Noakhali.

PANEL MEMBER: Gawher Nayeem Wahra



Mr. Gawher Nayeem Wahra has a long experience of working with grassroot organizations who are managing humanitarian and Development Programme. He is the founder convener and is currently acting as the member secretary of Foundation for Disaster Forum (DF) which is a national membership organisation of 76 agencies and individuals working in the field of humanitarian response in Bangladesh. He is also the founder member of South Asian Disaster Network "Duryog Nivaran". He has over 30 years experience in the field of managing complex emergencies and natural disasters at local, regional, national and international level. He worked with

Oxfam, CARE, ActionAid, Save the Children, PLAN, Swiss Development Cooperation, UNICEF and BRAC. In 2011, Mr Wahra was elected as Independent Member of Certification and Review Board (CARB) of Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP; a Geneva based humanitarian organisation) followed by which he became the chair of the board. His contribution, as the chief editor, to translations of the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action and Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) as well as the Sphere Hand Book in Bangla, is immense. He is also involved in teaching in different public and private Universities on Humanitarian Response and Climate Change issues. He regularly contributes to popular national news papers, weeklies and journals focusing on development and disaster management issues.

MODERATORS: Mostafa Kamal Akanda and Barkat Ullah Maruf

Mr. Mustafa Kamal Akanda has obtained his Post Graduation Degree in Social Sciences from the University of Dhaka. He has about 25 years of experience of work in the development sector in Bangladesh, especially in the field of campaign and policy advocacy, research, communication, stakeholder relationship and grassroots mobilization. Currently he is leading the country wide campaign and promotion of localization of aid in Bangladesh.

Mr. Barkat Ullah Maruf is currently Joint Director in COAST leading research and social media section. Maruf has been working in COAST for more than 18 years. He is also Coordinator for EquityBD (www.equity.net) and BDCSOprocess (www.bd-cso-ngo.net), these networks promoting equity, justice, democracy and localization in Bangladesh. Currently Maruf is also South Asia focal person for CPDE (CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness). He participate in SEG (Strategic Executive Group) prepared by UN for Rohingya response, on behalf of national NGO representation. He is part of the COAST secretariat to do localization campaign by CCNF (Coxs bazar CSO NGO Forum, www.cxb-cso-ngo.org) in Coxs bazar. He has participated in numerous international conferences, related to WTO, CPDE and annual conferences of ALNAP.



SESSION:

UN in 75: Interfacing Government and Civil Society for Development and Sustainable Peace.

CHAIR: Shaheen Anam

Ms. Shaheen Anam is the Executive Director of Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), a grant making organization supporting Human Rights and Governance work of organizations (approx 250) in Bangladesh. She has worked for CARE Bangladesh as the Coordinator for their largest program and for the Ministry of Women's Affairs as Project Director for a Gender Equality Project. She has also worked in International Organizations such as UNDP and UNHCR both in Bangladesh and Abroad. Shaheen Anam has a Masters in Social Work from the Hunter College School of Social Work, New York and Masters in Psychology from Dhaka University. She facilitated the process that raised the demand for enactment of the Right to Information (RTI) Act in Bangladesh and is now promoting implementation of law as the Convener of RTI Forum. She is at present involved with a number of policy advocacy and law reforms/formulations. Shaheen Anam is committed to upholding the rights of the most marginalized people. She is known as a human rights and women activist. She is closely linked to the women's movement and is associated with national, regional and international coalitions/networks promoting women's rights. She contributes articles in national dailies and is regularly invited to speak in Bangladesh and abroad..



DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS: Roberto Bissio

Mr. Roberto Bissio, from Uruguay, coordinates the secretariat of Social Watch, an international network of citizen organizations that reports regularly on how governments and international organizations implement their commitments. He is co-editor of Global Policy Watch and a member of the Civil society Reflection Group on Sustainable Development. Mr. Bissio is a member of the international committee of Third World Network and he serves as an advisor to ICANN on accountability issues. He has been a member of the civil society advisory group to the UNDP administrator. Bissio regularly writes on development issues as a columnist.



PANEL MEMBER: Smruti Patel

Ms. Smruti is the founder of Global Mentoring Initiative (GMI). She has management experience in the business sector and has been working in humanitarian sector since 1995. Formerly, the Head of Services and Certification at Humanitarian Accountability Partnership International (now CHS Alliance), she has expertise in accountability and quality management in humanitarian action. She has been facilitating reflections on accountability and safeguarding in humanitarian operations, organisations, within teams and at community levels in various countries over the last 10 years. She also facilitates staff wellbeing sessions. She is now actively involved in advocating for the change in the humanitarian system to more locally led response, supporting local and national CSO leaders. She is a founding members of Alliance for Empowering Partnership. Given the scale of the challenges facing humanitarian actors, working in collaboration with others is key to find solutions. She accompanies organisational change processes and working on conscious culture through mentoring and coaching organisational leaders, individuals and teams to achieve their full potential.



PANEL MEMBER: Koenraad Van Brabant



For the past 30+ years Mr. **Koenraad Van Brabant** has been working in and on crisis situations in many countries, in support of national humanitarian actors and peacebuilders. His roles have included that of programme and organisational manager, analyst, researcher, event and process facilitator, mentor and trainer, evaluator and trusted advisor. As an anthropologist by training he naturally sees himself as a temporary guest and learner in other countries, conscious of his responsibility to bring added value to national actors, as evaluated by them. He is a value-based and purpose-driven independent consultant who has worked with a variety of aid donors, UN agencies, INGOs and national CSOs.

PANEL MEMBER: Abu Morshed Chowdhury

Mr. Abu Morshed Chowdhury is the Executive Director of PHALS, a local NGO of Cox's Bazar. PHALS is involved with humanitarian response for the Rohingya Community and various development activities for the host communities. Co-chair of the Cox's Bazar CSOs-NGOs Forum (CCNF). President of the Association for Development Agency of Bangladesh for the Cox's Bazar district. Mr. Morshed has so far received various awards including Sher-E-Bangla award-2009, EDAF UN DAY AWARD-2009, Begum Rokeya Memorial Award-2009, Banalota Sen Memorial Award-2009, 71 Shadinata Andolan Shahid Shritee Padak-2010, May Dibash Award-2010, Justice Mahbub Morshed Award-2010.



PANEL MEMBER:: Dipankar Dutta



Mr. Dipankar offers nearly 23 years of professional experience in Asia, Africa and Europe, out of which ten years in senior leadership position. Some of the organizations he has served are Oxfam International, Malteser International, Aflatoun International, Trocaire and Concern Worldwide. He has diverse experience in human development space including issues of wellbeing like food security, primary sector development, active citizenship and managing complex emergency response programs. He is a strong admirer of socio-technical interventions with greater priority on evidence-based management, & systems change at scale through citizen led advocacy. He made efforts to create enabling organization environment for effective team work & effective personal development of the co-workers. Currently Dipankar Datta is serving as Country Director of Bangladesh for Oxfam International since November 2017. He is responsible for leading one of the large-scale country programs of Oxfam International in a complex and changing context. The portfolio consists of both development and humanitarian programs including Rohingya refugee crisis. Policy analysis, risk management, advocacy and campaigns are integral part of his assignment with an aim to influence stakeholders both at national and global level. He was also responsible to provide direction in developing high quality programs, influencing and humanitarian strategy, with and through partners or directly.

PANEL MEMBER: Kazi Faisal Bin Seraj

Mr. Kazi Faisal Bin Seraj is The Asia Foundation's country representative in Bangladesh. Working in the international development field since 2006, Faisal has spent most of his career with BRAC International in Africa and Asia, including Bangladesh and Myanmar. His areas of expertise include women's empowerment, economic development, microfinance, health and environment, research and evaluation, and technology for development. Prior to joining the Foundation, Faisal served as country representative for BRAC Myanmar, where he built a team of more than 300 staff providing financial and non-financial services to poor and marginalized clients through 42 branch offices. He also brings previous experience working in Bangladesh as a senior research associate for BRAC, where he managed the poverty and environmental research units, wrote numerous papers and articles, and designed and managed household surveys. From 2017-2018, Faisal was a Sloan Fellow and completed a full-time mid-career MBA program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Following his time at MIT, Faisal designed a digital platform strategy for a financial diary project in Myanmar and advised Misfit Technologies, Ltd. in Bangladesh, a tech-start-up that supports farmers and livestock owners. Faisal holds master's degrees in Business Administration from MIT and Environmental Economics from the University of New South Wales, Australia, and a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh.



PANEL MEMBER: Mohsin Ali



Mr. Mohsin Ali is the Founder and Executive Director of WAVE Foundation, a civil society organization in Bangladesh has been working since 1990. With the vision of a just and prosperous society, WAVE has been implementing multifaceted interventions under 3 major programmatic domains: Governance & Rights, Sustainable Livelihood and Social Development & Climate Resilience. Under his leadership, the organization is playing a complementary role in attaining different national development visions as well as Sustainable Development Goals SDGs. He has significant contribution in promoting governance and rights. As a committed organizer he has been facilitating two national level platforms named Governance Advocacy Forum and Right to Food Bangladesh. Mohsin Ali studied his Master of Arts from the University of Dhaka. He is a Freedom Fighter joined in the Liberation War for the Independent Bangladesh in 1971.

PANEL MEMBER: Md. Rafiqul Islam



Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam is the Director of FNB (The Federation of NGOs in Bangladesh). He has been working with this networking Organization since December 2017. He brings extensive experience of working in social development and humanitarian organizations for about 41 years. Before joining FNB, in his long career, Mr. Rafiq spent 20 years in working at integrated development programs with BRAC - the largest NGO in the world in various leadership and management positions, 17 years with Aarong - a social enterprise of BRAC, 2 years with Dhaka Ashania Mission as the Director at its fashion enterprise and 1 year at the fashion enterprise of Partex Star Group as CEO. Mr. Rafiq has honorary involvement with some other institutions such as President, National Crafts Council of Bangladesh (NCCB), Ex-Member, Executive Committee, Fashion Entrepreneurs Association of Bangladesh (FEAB). Mr. Rafiq graduated from Dhaka University and studied Masters in Social Science from the same University. He also obtained several professional degrees on management and enterprise development from home & abroad.

DESIGNATED INTERVENTION SPEAKER:: Rafiqul Islam Khokan

Mr. Rafiqul Islam Khokan, is a development worker since 1984 having engaged him in various sectors on social, political, cultural, and environmental fields. He is co-founder and Executive Director of Rupantar (in English transformation), which was established in 1995. During the last 23 years, Rupantar successfully created an impact locally, nationally as well as internationally with its different characteristics. He is devoted to development through involvement as a direct activist and is also a dramatist and Popular Writer on civic liberty, peace and tolerance, disaster management, climate change adaptation, women political empowerment, biodiversity conservation, etc. He is known as an expert in positive narrative development for the prevention of violent extremism and social cohesion and the use of folk performance in social mobilization in Asian countries. Rafiqul Islam Khokan also involved as a researcher on the world largest mangrove forest community's faith, beliefs, rituals as well as the tiger cult of the mangrove forest Sundarbans.



DESIGNATED INTERVENTION SPEAKER:: Arifur Rahman



Mr. Mohammed Arifur Rahman is working as the Chief Executive of Young Power in Social Action (YPSA) a registered non-government nonprofit voluntary organization for sustainable development, of which he was a founder back in 1985 (UN International Youth Year). In different capacities, he has been engaged with various Local, National & International development initiatives, advocacy and networking since long. He is one of the active members of Bangladesh CSO NGO Coordination Process, Campaign for Good Governance (SUPRO), Program with and for Youth Network (PROYOUTH Network), Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC), NFOWD (National Forum of Organizations working with the Disabled), BATA (Bangladesh Anti Tobacco Alliance), Cox'sbazar CSO NGO Forum (CCNF) and many more.

DESIGNATED INTERVENTION SPEAKER:: Momtaz Begum

Ms. Momotaz Khatun is an Executive Director and Founder of Ashroy Foundation, a women lead humanitarian and rights based organization at Bangladesh. She has Twenty years of experience in development sector, especially in the area of Research, climate change and disaster risk reduction, Emergency response, Early Recovery and rehabilitation, community mobilization and awareness rising, women's empowerment, human rights, food security and livelihood, non-formal education, WASH, Food security and livelihood and institutional development and research. She is promoting women leadership thorough program interventions and encourage young adults, girls in particular, to participate in community building interventions so that their rights are protected. She is a member with different national and international network/forum/platform. Besides, She has been engaged as a women and gender researcher, so she has conducted different Research project as a team leader/Adviser/Consultant from 2003 to till now and specially emphasis gender sensitive Disaster risk reduction, Emergency response & rehabilitation, crises management climate change Education and peace researcher/study project.



MODERATOR: Rezaul Karim Chowdhury



Mr. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury is the Executive Director, Coastal Association for Social Transformation (COAST Trust) and Convener of Equity & Justice Working Group. He has expertise over many disciplines such as promoting appropriate technology in coastal belt, sustainable micro finance, advocacy and policy influencing, policy research and disaster management. He has studied for his Masters in Sociology in Department of Sociology, University of Chittagong.