Perspectives and rationale for stronger cooperation between technical cooperation and Civil Society

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Technical Assistance: inception of cooperation

United Nations Convention against Corruption

- Bangladesh acceded to the UNCAC in February 2007
- IGS approached GoB: UNCAC compliance review and gap analysis identified as an effective tool of implementation of the UNCAC
- Inter-ministerial committee to conduct Bangladesh Compliance and Gap Analysis (BCGA) and coordinate stakeholders
- Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs ‘Focal Point’; timetable agreed; presentation at 2nd CoSP
- GoB to led; Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), BRAC University to provide TA; IGS to secure other necessary TA
Technical Assistance: various facets

IGS offered the following expert support to the process:

- Complete and submit the **UN Self Assessment Checklist**
- Facilitate **orientation & methodology workshop** involving diverse stakeholders
- **Conduct Gap Analysis** through desk research, focus group discussions, detailed interviews with technical specialists
- Presentation by GoB at 2\(^{nd}\) CoSP, Bali
- **Need assessment workshop** to prepare a strategy for future implementation – engaging representatives from MoLJPA, Anti-corruption commission, Ministry of Home Affairs, Cabinet Division, Bangladesh Bank, Office of the Attorney General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Finalize 2nd edition of the report; published July 2008
- Conduct UNCAC trainings for government officials
- Develop UNCAC training modules

**IGS secured financial & technical support from GTZ & Basel Institute on Governance**
Technical Assistance: National Integrity Strategy

- In response to UNCAC, GoB decided to formulate a National Integrity Strategy with a view to improving governance and reducing the risk of corruption in the public sector of Bangladesh.
- ADB sought with GoB consent research and expert supports from the IGS.
- Asian Development Bank offered financial assistance.
IGS provided the following support engaging multi-stakeholders:

- Extensive review of existing literatures
- Qualitative research with more than 60 Focus Group Discussions with civil society members throughout Bangladesh and interviewing key informants from different strata of the society
- Sought suggestions and comments from citizens through advertisement in national dailies and web posting
- Disseminating the findings of consultation
Advantages of local CSOs

- Can integrate local resources effectively
- Can provide research support having in-depth understanding of local issues
- Can provide grassroots and country-wide networking facility
- Can pull local and international resources together
- Can build capacity of local institutions
- Can promote cross-country cooperation
Technical Cooperation – Donors to CSOs

International donors supported IGS in preparing UNCAC Gap Analysis and NIS:

- Expert advice
- Liaison with international experts
- Mobilize funds
- Provide international best practice
Lesson learnt

- Slow initial response from donors regarding procedural matters
- Time-consuming contract negotiation
- Delay in releasing fund
- Constraint in hiring consultants on short-term contracts
- Fixed-assets constraints
South-South Cooperation

- Government of Kenya preparing an UNCAC review and gap analysis report and an UNCAC action plan
- Invited IGS to share Bangladesh’s experience:
  - Review draft Kenyan Gap Analysis report
  - Present Bangladesh’s experience
  - Participate in the action plan workshop as resource person and provide technical advice
Thank you

For more information please visit:
www.igs-bracu.ac.bd
www.nisforbangladesh.com