

**Report of In-country Consultation on Social Accountability
Bangladesh**

Subject	Social Accountability
Date	February 12, 2012; Sunday, Time: 2 pm – 5:30 pm
Venue	World Bank Office, Dhaka; Jamuna Conference Room

MEETING AGENDA

1. Welcome Address by Ajaharul Islam, Deputy Director, NILG
2. Inaugural Address by Christopher Juan Costain, Regional Team Leader, WSP
3. Workshop Objectives by Aroma Dutta, PRIP TRUST
4. Overview of ANSA and Learning Framework for the CoP on SAc by Nuzhat Jebin, Programme Manager, ANSA-SAR/IGS
5. Mapping of SAc good practices facilitated by Santanu Lahiri, WSP
 - Identification of existing good practices in SAc
6. Presentation of good practices (facilitated by JICA)
 - Selection of good practices (by LGIs & partners)
 - Detailing of the features of selected good practices
 - Identification of synergies (i.e. win / win)
7. Recommendations from the participants (facilitated by PRIP Trust and WSP)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

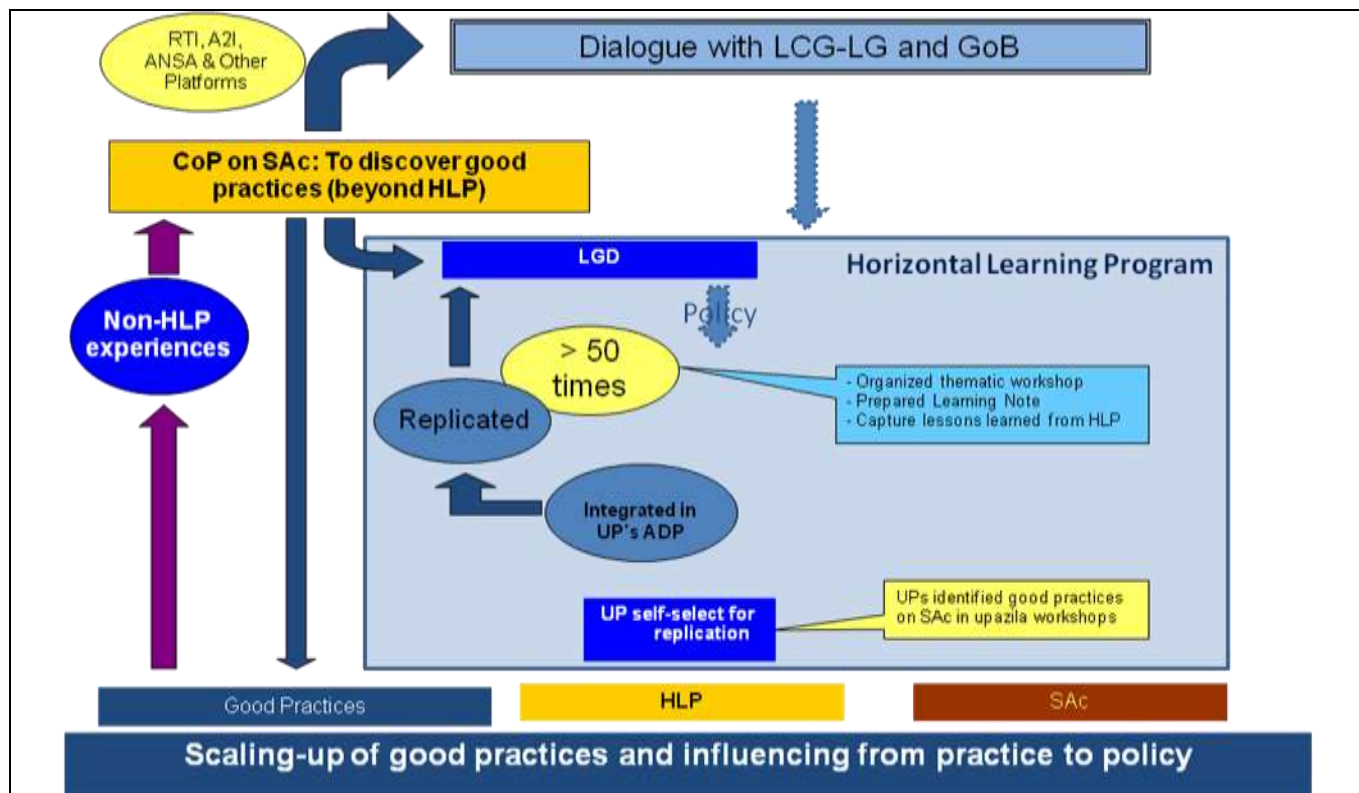
Ajaharul Islam, Deputy Director, National Institute of Local Government (NILG) welcomed all participants to the consultation. He also opined that it is very crucial to take into account all best/good practices from the field if we are really willing to mainstream the positive learning of social accountability (SAc) initiatives in Bangladesh.

While delivering his inaugural remarks, Christopher Juan Costain, Regional Team Leader, WSP, stated that this consultation would provide some exposure to the good practices in the area of SAc that are already prevailing in Bangladesh.

Aroma Dutta, Executive Director of PRIP Trust, shared the objectives of in-country consultation. She specially highlighted that harmonisation among all SAc practitioners is central to making policy influence in a more synergised and synchronised way on the basis of learning and good practices from the field.

Nuzhat Jebin, Programme Manager, ANSA-SAR/IGS provided an overview of ANSA-SAR. She also discussed the learning framework of the Community of Practice on Social Accountability (CoPSA).

In his short presentation, Santanu Lahiri, Senior Decentralisation Specialist, WSP shared and discussed the following HLP – SAc Learning Framework:



Mapping of SAc Good Practices

Identified Good Practices/initiatives

- Developed facilitators' group from the community who are monitoring to ensure that community people receive public services related to health, education and agriculture
- Developed civil society forum that is taking a lead role in collective problem solving
- Capacity building of female UP members
- Training for journalists on good practices and learning of the local government functions and activities
- Developed citizen's platforms that are acting as pressure groups for improvement of public services on agriculture, health and education
- Developed website and newspapers for documentation and dissemination of good practices
- Selection of eligible persons for Vulnerable Group Development card through ward meeting
- Organising a working place for the agriculture block supervisors and making their contacts available to the community
- Effective display of information on health services at health complexes and hospitals
- Ensuring sanitation system for school through activating the school management committee
- Formulation of citizen's committee at village level, identification of problems and solutions related to water and sanitation

- Observing public service day through *Union Parishad* and mobilising 100 percent tax in this process
- Visitor's control and solid waste management of a hospital through effective cooperation and support from the municipality and citizen
- Realisation of 400 percent commercial tax by 5 Ups only through proper assessment
- Purchasing an ambulance by a UP through fund mobilisation from the community
- Inclusion of community facilitators in the local government standing committees of *Union Parishad*

Recommendations

- Network building among the SAc practitioners
- Develop an Action Plan of the Network
- Sharing of knowledge, experience, tools and learning from the practice
- Develop case studies and disseminate across the region
- Organise sharing event with the representatives of government (service providers/departments)
- Dialogue with local government bodies to validate SAc findings and pursue issues to be taken care for strengthening accountability process
- Building partnership among stakeholders
- Building capacities of the citizen's groups and network members
- Local and national level media campaign to promote SAc process
- Include parliamentarians (local MPs and standing committees) in the process of learning sharing
- Introduce a Tripartite (Central and local government and civil society organisation) approach for mainstreaming tools and process of SAc
- Develop an anthology of SAc tools
- Inclusion of women and youth to act as ambassadors/facilitators in SAc