



**NEWS**



**LETTER**



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**Project for Capacity Development of City Corporations in Bangladesh**

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**C4C Overview**

The project (also known as “C4C” for “Capacity for Cities”) supports institutional strengthening of City Corporations (CCs) through a governance strategy for 2030, legal instruments, guidelines & manuals on administration, training and CC-level actions in support of Local Government Division (LGD) and in partnership with City Governance Project (CGP) of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED). C4C provides direct support to four (4) CCs: Narayanganj (NCC), Cumilla (CuCC), Rangpur (RpCC) and Gazipur (GCC).

**Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) Meeting**



Presentation of the Compendium of CC Legal Instruments at the JCC Meeting (October 2019)



Presentation of the Compendium by the LGRD Minister to the Prime Minister (February 2020)

The Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) met on 9 October 2019 at LGD Conference Room, chaired by Mr. Helal Uddin Ahmed, Senior Secretary, LGD. The JCC, the apex supervisory body of the project, reviewed cumulative project achievements, progress of on-going activities and plans for the next one year. Mr. Shohrab Hossain, the C4C Project Director provided an overview and progress in light of the target outputs of the project. The Compendium of City Corporation-related legal instruments in two volumes, one of concrete outputs generated by the project so far, was presented at the meeting, with elaborations on its background and significance by Additional Secretary (Urban Development), LGD. The Chairperson expressed appreciation to the C4C project team for making substantial progress and also for the partnership between the Government of Bangladesh and JICA. He also highlighted that the Compendium will serve as an important guide for the Mayors, Councillors, officers and employees of the City Corporations in performing their day to day functions and for framing further legal instruments to address gaps.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Learning & Dialogue in Japan: Sharing in Each CC**



GCC (November 2019)



CuCC (November 2019)



RpCC (January 2020)



NCC (January 2020)

Sharing workshops on 2nd Learning & Dialogue Program (L&D) that had taken place in August – September 2019 in Japan were held in the 4 CCs from late 2019 – early 2020. Approximately 50 elected representatives and officers took part in the workshop in each CC, where the L&D participants shared knowledge they had gained in Japan. The 2<sup>nd</sup> L&D delegation visited Osaka (Ritsumeikan University) and Hiroshima for learning on: (i) city planning & finance and (ii) arrangements for effective & efficient service delivery (public private partnership and inter-jurisdictional associations). The CC audiences at the workshops showed keen interest in land readjustment for efficient urban land use and transforming slum areas into apartment complexes, which Hiroshima City implemented with a long-term vision and fortitude. Waste management through an association of municipalities attracted their attention, too. The workshop also focused on the management of CC-owned facilities for public use. An L&D delegate said, “We have learnt how Japanese local governments manage different types of public facilities through designated manager system. This system can be applied to the CC’s facilities including public toilets, to make both the operator and the CC responsible for better service delivery.”

## Activities in Parallel

### Output 1: Strategy Sharing Workshop



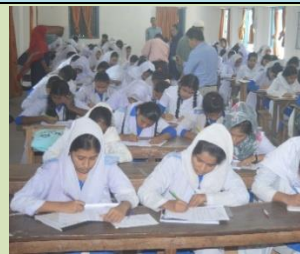
Through C4C, LGD has drafted “Strategy for Governance Improvement of City Corporations (SGICC) 2020 – 2030” to provide directions for the CCs to systematically address governance dimensions of urbanization challenges. The draft strategy was shared at a workshop on 22 January 2020 for collective review and inputs. The workshop was chaired by LGD Additional Secretary (Urban Development) and attended by LGD Senior Secretary as Chief Guest. A total of 65 participants from 12 CCs and government agencies actively engaged in discussions.



### Output 2: Administrative Improvement



Food Safety Training (Dhaka, December 2019)



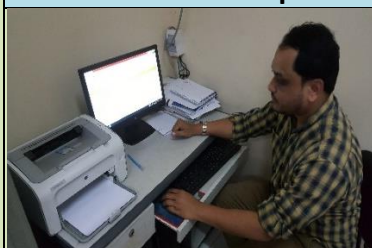
School Essay Contest (CuCC, November 2019)



School Essay Contest (RpCC, November 2019)

As part of administrative improvement for FY 2019/20, the 4 CCs focus on work process improvement for promoting food safety. A training was conducted on 18 – 19 December 2019 with the aim of establishing systems of regular inspection of food and drink products, proactive citizen monitoring & reporting and handling of citizen complaints on food safety. 54 from the 4 CC including food inspectors, staff and Councillors took part in the training imparted in partnership with Food Safety Authority and FAO. The program was inaugurated by LGD Additional Secretary (Urban Development) as Chief Guest and closed with vote of thanks by the C4C Project Director. The participants set out actions for improving the existing condition of hotels, restaurants and food shops. In parallel, the 4 CCs initiated school essay contest on the theme of ‘Safe Food for All for the Protection of Life and Health’. 1,500 students of ninth and tenth grades from 17 schools in total so far have completed the contest. Each CC’s Work Improvement Team (WIT) guides the contest, visiting the schools and encouraging the young citizens. The school teachers and food and sanitation officers in each CC will review the essays to select top students, who will be recognized in the CC’s award ceremony.

### Outputs 3 & 4: Tax & Budget Management



OJT (GCC, January 2020)



Tax Training (Dhaka, October 2019)



Tax Campaign (RpCC, January 2020)

### Upcoming Events & Tasks

- Dissemination of Model Regulations & CC-level follow-up
- LGD review & clearance of remaining guidelines & manuals
- Administrative Improvement Review Workshop
- PFM Follow-up Training
- Revenue Enhancement Workshop
- Working Group and JCC Meetings

4<sup>th</sup> PFM classroom training was held in Dhaka on 21-23 October 2019. 4 CCs’ finance officials took part in the training which focused on preparation of financial statements and budget execution & tax collection monitoring reports using C4C-proposed forms. CuCC, RpCC and GCC have prepared financial statements for 2018-2019. CuCC and RpCC are now able to prepare monitoring reports on a regular basis. NCC has prepared ward-wise tax collection reports through hands-on OJT. RpCC and NCC have organized tax campaign in January 2020, instead of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, which is a conventional practice in many CCs.