Editor’s Desk

Dear Readers,

Over the past 7 years, CSR Centre has achieved several significant milestones. We are not only continuing to encourage and expand CSR practices in Bangladesh; we are actively engaged in the promotion of the United Nations Global Compact, as the Focal Point in Bangladesh. To date we have launched the Every Woman Every Child Initiative, Children’s Rights and Business Principles, United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, Food and Agriculture Business Principles and Women’s Empowerment Principles in Bangladesh through this platform.

This newsletter intends to give an insight of our activities in 2014 and until today. Some highlights of our policy advocacy is shared here – National CSR Policy for Children and the National CSR Guideline for Bangladesh. It is exciting to see the issues of CSR being highlighted through multi-stakeholder discussions & initiatives. Bangladesh can achieve its vision 2021 by engaging in strategic CSR practices.

Shahamin S. Zaman
CEO, CSR Centre

A New Tool to Promote the Realization of Children’s Rights in Bangladesh

In Bangladesh 30 million children still live under the poverty line. According to statistics, child labour is one of the most significant child rights violations in Bangladesh, where an estimated 7.4 million children are economically active. It is a priority to reach out these disadvantaged children. The government has the primary duty to protect and fulfill children’s rights, but the private sector has a prominent role to play as well. Either directly or indirectly companies influence children’s through their employees. They also influence community members in the locality where they operate. Some children are also workers in their factories and fields. The formulation and execution of a uniform “CSR Policy for Children” will have a sustained effect on the lives of children and youth. Due to the large number of children and youth in Bangladesh, there is need for enhancing vocational training, learning opportunities, quality education and other opportunities. Therefore having a CSR Policy for Children will bring about enabling environment where youth can be engaged as productive citizens. This will actually create a positive identity at a national level and conform to the Post MDGs/ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In light of this need the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of People’s Republic of Bangladesh in partnership with Save the Children and European Union, commissioned CSR Centre to draft a National CSR Policy for Children in Bangladesh. This will create an opportunity for both private sector and development partners to engage in a comprehensive strategy to promote children’s basic rights and safeguard them from harm induced through human rights violations.

Involving Stakeholders for the Formulation of the National CSR Policy for Children

Series of Multi-stakeholder Consultations took place over the period of one year for the formulation of a CSR Policy for Children. CSR Centre with Save the Children in Bangladesh conducted Multi-Stakeholder Consultations on the “Formulation of the National CSR Policy for Children” at three divisional levels in Rajshahi, Khulna and Chittagong and one national level consultation in Dhaka. The consultations were attended by Private sector, Ministries, NGOs, INGOs, UN Organizations and Donor agencies who gave feedback on the outline of the Policy.

In July 2014, the CEO of CSR Centre delivered a speech in the roundtable on “Formulation of the National CSR Policy for Children: Perspectives and Recommendations” organized by Save the Children and the Daily Star.
Towards Developing a “National CSR Guideline for Bangladesh”

Over the last decade the CSR agenda or what is known as “Corporate Social Responsibility” has gained momentum in not only Northern nations but in those countries in Asia and the Pacific Region where States cannot address challenges caused by both natural and manmade disasters on its own and where the opportunities of public – private dialogue and intervention is critical to further the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of any nation. Specifically in the developing nations as in Bangladesh there is a need to promote the private sector led growth through a strategic CSR approach which can augment and enhance the development efforts of the State as well as those of the development partners.

CSR practice in Bangladesh is still on an ad-hoc basis and not strategic. The idea of CSR is not new but the whole notion of corporate social responsibility and putting it in to a framework of CSR is still new. In Bangladesh, like as in other developing nations it is being linked to philanthropy and charity, which it is clearly not. The real concept of CSR actually means that it should be aligned with the core business strategy, that it should be a part of the business.

Dialogues and discussions of developing a national guideline on CSR started in Bangladesh from the year 2012. A series of multi-stakeholder round-table discussions were conducted by the CSR Centre with different stakeholders on whether there was a need to develop a National CSR Framework in Bangladesh. The CSR Centre started a multi-stakeholder consultative process from 2013-2014 and initiated on one to one meetings with 14 Ministries, CSOs, development partners, private sector and different business associations. It was revealed that CSR was not always strategic. Companies either engaged in ad-hoc CSR or were branding philanthropy or charity funding as CSR. A guideline was definitely the need of the day. It has been realized through these various forums that many of the leading sectors and business associations have shown keen interest in having a ‘National level Guideline to engage in CSR and to link this with Sustainable Development’.

These strategies have to be broad-based in conception to enhancing people’s well being. They have to ensure the fulfillment of their fundamental human rights and entitlements and take responsibility for those directly affected by the companies’ activities. It should address companies on how to engage and implement CSR.

A number of consultations were conducted with Ministries and business chambers to understand the local and national priorities and linkages with CSR and how both stakeholders can benefit in engaging in a national process leading to Bangladesh’s economic, social and environmental growth. It was proposed that the Ministry of Planning would be the main authority to steer the process which will support the Vision 2021 of Bangladesh and implement the post Millennium Development Goals leading towards the SDGs of the Nation. Through a year long lobbying with relevant stakeholders and over a dozen meetings during that period with development partners, civil society, business associations and the government it was decided that this process needed to be steered by a Focal Ministry of the Government which was the Ministry of Planning.

Finally after a series of advocacy and lobbying CSR Centre in partnership with the Royal Danish Embassy, Dhaka and the Ministry of Planning, Government of People’s Republic of Bangladesh has embarked to develop a “National CSR Guideline for Bangladesh”. A strategic CSR direction can not only benefit private sector development but also supplement and complement the national development agenda of the country.

Why a ‘National CSR Guideline for Bangladesh’?

- To provide a common framework endorsed by the Government of Bangladesh
- To enhance business standards and market access globally
- To create a positive branding of Bangladesh
- To support GOB initiatives in achieving post MDG Targets for sustainable growth of all sectors
- To stimulate business to engage in strategic CSR
In April 2014, CSR Centre in partnership with the Royal Danish Embassy, Bangladesh organized a Multi-stakeholder Consultation Session “Building a National CSR Guideline for Bangladesh” at BRAC Centre Inn.

The session was conducted by CEO of CSR Centre, Ms Shahamin S. Zaman and Mr. Mogens Strunge Larsen, Head of Development Corporation, the Royal Danish Embassy was the Guest Speaker. Mr. Viraf Mehta International CSR Expert, joined the Session as the Resource Person. He had been actively involved in developing National Voluntary CSR Guidelines for India. He shared the Indian perspective and context, process and the content of National Voluntary CSR Guidelines for India. He shared the Indian perspective and context, process and the content of National Voluntary CSR Guidelines for India. He shared the Indian perspective and context, process and the content of National Voluntary CSR Guidelines for India.

Participants from various business sectors, government agencies, civil society organizations and NGOs came together, to identify different issues of CSR in Bangladesh. These issues would be reflected while developing the National CSR Guideline.

CSR Centre coordinated a Meeting at the Ministry of Planning, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh on the “Development of a National CSR Guideline for Bangladesh” chaired by the Honorable Minister of Planning Mr. AHM Mustafa Kamal on 23rd October 2014 at NEC Conference Room, Planning Commission, Dhaka. The meeting was attended by all relevant Ministries, Secretariats and Members of Planning Ministry, Business Chambers, Private Sector, Academia, Economists, Civil Society Organizations, Media and other government bodies.

CSR Centre presented a report on justification, development process and action plan for Developing the National CSR Guideline for Bangladesh at the Secretariat Meeting, with the Ministry of Planning. The Centre also presented the Research Study on Existing CSR Policy/Guidelines in Asian Context (India, China, Indonesia, Pakistan and Bangladesh) which included an analysis of national & international codes/ conducts, standards, sector specific policies, guidelines etc, which can be the reference for developing a CSR framework for Bangladesh.

The study reflects the forms of regulations, codes, market initiatives on CSR, that exist across Asia:

- In India and Pakistan, the Government has developed and implemented National CSR Guideline.
- In China, the Government has developed a number of guidelines and initiatives around CSR.
- Indonesia was the first country mandating CSR by announcing Article 74 of the revised Limited Liability Company Law.
Multi-Stakeholder Forum: How to Implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights and to Improve the Social Sustainability of Bangladesh’s RMG Sector?

On March 2014, more than 40 participants from Bangladeshi businesses, government agencies, trade unions and civil society organizations came together to identify concrete actions to improve human rights conditions in the ready-made garment sector.

The multi-stakeholder forum was organized as part of the Pillars in Practice project, a joint initiative of the CSR Centre (Bangladesh), Social Accountability International (USA) and the Danish Institute for Human Rights (Denmark). The objective of the project is to help companies, government agencies and civil society organizations implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

The Pillars in Practice project has been ongoing since October 2012, and has conducted wide consultation toward identifying human rights challenges in the RMG sector and devising actions to address them.

Aroma Dutta, Honorary Member of National Human Rights Commission attended the forum as special guest and appreciated the initiative that CSR Centre has taken, in partnership with SAI and DIHR, in order to improve the working condition in Bangladesh Readymade Garment industry by implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Participants in the multi-stakeholder forum recommended actions for companies, civil society organizations and government agencies to improve sustainability in the RMG sector under five major themes: Environmental sustainability, discrimination, working conditions, occupational health and safety and trade unions. These priorities were identified through earlier multi-stakeholder engagements.

Recommendations for government stakeholders included updating trade union regulations and passing all environmental legislation currently in draft form. RMG companies were encouraged to establish platforms for information sharing and capacity building, and to raise awareness among their suppliers and employees of the human rights impacts of their sector. Civil society organization recommendations included monitoring company and government commitments to prevent human rights abuses in the RMG sector.

Stakeholders also suggested concrete actions to improve their own performance and that of other sectors.

All of the information gathered through the Pillars in Practice project has been made publicly available through the CSR Centre, Social Accountability International and the Human Rights and Business Country Guide (HRBCountryGuide.org), a free website hosted by the Danish Institute for Human Rights.
A Multi-stakeholder Dialogue to Formulate and Implement the Food and Agricultural Business Principles (FABPs)* in Bangladesh

The UN Global Compact is facilitating the creation of a set of Food and Agricultural Business Principles (FABPs)* to provide guidance to all business in agriculture, processing, trading, manufacturing, distribution and retailing. In this Global Consultation process, the CSR Centre (GCN Bangladesh Focal Point) and the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) New York office jointly organized “FABP Consultation: UNGC Bangladesh” on March 18, 2014 in Dhaka.

The objective of the Consultation Meeting was:

- to introduce the Food and Agricultural Business Principles (FABPs)* and its implementation in Bangladesh
- to invite all to give their feedback and insights to the development of these Principles.
- to encourage membership into the local UNGC Network.

Panel Speakers
1. Mr. Morshed Millat, CSR Manager, Bangladesh Bank
2. Dr. Puvan J. Selvanathan, Head, Food and Agriculture, UN Global Compact Office, New York
3. Mr. Tapon Chowdhury, Managing Director, Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

A technical working session was also organized with four working groups to identify concrete challenges in the agriculture sector of Bangladesh. The questions to be discussed were:

- What are the priority issues in the agricultural sector in Bangladesh?
- What sector(s) can be considered for creating sustainable agriculture in Bangladesh?
- Where and how can supply chains fit into the FABP?
- What sort of policy, advocacy can be done to create impact in the agricultural sector?

Various stakeholders who are involved in agriculture sector including companies and development partners participated in the Seminar. The Participants came up with an action strategy for sustainable agriculture in Bangladesh.

The event was sponsored by Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd. A presentation was also made by Square Group (UNGC Member) to share Square Group’s contribution in the sustainable agricultural practices in Bangladesh.

For More Information: www.unglobalcompact.org
The “Global Compact Local Networks Regional Meeting Asia/ Oceania 2014”
Hosted by the Global Compact Network (GCN) Bangladesh

The three day long meeting of the Global Compact Local Networks Regional Meeting Asia/Oceania 2014, for the first time took place in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Hosted by the Global Compact Network Bangladesh, the meeting was attended by 17 representatives from 13 Local Networks – the largest attendance to date – from Australia, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam.

On 10 December, 2014, the CSR Centre as the Global Compact Network Bangladesh Focal Point and Secretariat organized the Opening Ceremony of the Global Compact Local Networks Regional Meeting Asia/ Oceania 2014, which was attended by over 150 participants from private sector, NGOs, INGOs, CSOs, Government bodies etc. The opening remarks were given by Mr. Farooq Sobhan Representative of GC Network Bangladesh and Mr. Walid Nag, Head of Local Network Team, United Nation Global Compact.

The opening ceremony was also graced by H.E. Dr. Gower Rizvi, International Affairs Advisor to the Prime Minister, H.E. Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor of Bangladesh Bank and H.E. Ms. Hanne Fugi Eskjær, Ambassador, Embassy of Denmark, Bangladesh. Each delivered remarks addressing the importance of sustainability and marking the UN Global Compact as a critical reference point for local companies to advance responsible business practices at national and global levels.

In addition, the Asian regional publication, Regional Leadership Through UN Global Compact Principles was launched to showcase best practices from the region and highlight common priority areas on which the networks can work collectively in the future.

Showcase of Best Practices

An Exhibition was also organized at the Foyer of La Vita Hall, Lakeshore Hotel. Around 15 GC Local Network Bangladesh Members took part in the Exhibition. The objective of the exhibition was to showcase the best practices of CSR & Products and Services of the GC Network Bangladesh Members. UNGC Members included Epyllion Group, DBL Group, BRAC University, IDLC Finance Ltd., Square Group, etc.
The 6th Local Network Exchange Programme of the UN Global Compact Hosted by Global Compact Network (GCN) Bangladesh

Ahead of the regional meeting, the 6th Local Network Exchange Programme was also hosted for the first time in Bangladesh by the GCN Bangladesh. It was co-organized by the UN Global Compact and the Global Compact Network Bangladesh, the three-day programme held on 7-9 December 2014, was attended by 8 representatives from 5 Local Networks in India, Malaysia, Myanmar, Bangladesh and Turkey and 2 representatives from UNGC Headquarters New York were also present.

The exchange programme focused on knowledge-sharing on network management across regional boundaries. Attendees participated in practical working sessions related to network governance and activities, integrity measures, collective action and policy dialogue. Additional trainings and discussions covered topics such as reporting, creating effective partnerships, activity planning for 2015, as well as new growth and funding strategies.

Representatives from the Bangladesh Government, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Industries, and Bangladesh Bank led a session on the role of Government in promoting and enabling corporate sustainability at the national level, and facilitated discussions among participants on how to engage multi-stakeholders in policy dialogue.

Delegates also met with the Global Compact Network Bangladesh Steering Committee on the importance of local ownership to advance and implement Global Compact initiatives in a national context. Local Networks serve an essential role in rooting the Global Compact’s issue platforms and campaigns within different national, cultural and language contexts and will continue to be fundamental in broadening the corporate sustainability movement and strengthening capacity for implementation at the national and local levels.

It was a great pleasure and honor for the GCN Bangladesh to be nominated by the UNGC Headquarter, to be able hold the “The Sixth Local Network Exchange Program”, from December 7th-9th and the “Global Compact Local Networks Regional Meeting Asia/Oceania 2014” from December 9th-11th, 2014, for 18 representatives from the UNGC Headquarter and 13 Local Networks – Australia, Turkey, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam.

This event was a great opportunity to showcase positive activities of Bangladeshi companies and also influence new companies on board to the GC Network Bangladesh. This event would not have been a great success without the support and contribution of the GCN Bangladesh Members, CSR Centre Board Members and the special contributors—Grameenphone Ltd, Abdul Monem Limited, Mutual Trust Bank Ltd., Bangladesh Bank, BRAC Bank, City Bank, DBL Group, Hathay Bunano, IDLC Finance Ltd., Women Entrepreneur Association of Bangladesh (WEAB), Youth Foundation of Bangladesh, BRAC University, Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Epyllion Group, Bangladesh Women Chamber of Commerce and Industries (BWCCI).
The Women Empowerment Principles (WEPs) are the result of a collaboration between United Nations Women and United Nations Global Compact (UNGC).

The WEPs are a set of Principles for business offering guidance on how to empower women in the workplace, marketplace and community.

Business leaders should use the 7 Women Empowerment Principles as a framework to take action to support women empowerment and achieve gender equality.

The Global Compact Network Bangladesh led by the CSR Centre is putting those efforts into action in the country.

In January 2015, the CSR Centre as the Global Compact Network Bangladesh Focal Point and Secretariat organized the “Launch of the United Nations Women Empowerment Principles (WEPs) in Bangladesh & Women in Need (WIN) Directory. The event was sponsored by Square Toiletries Ltd.

Chief Guest:
- Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, MP Hon’ble Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament

Special Guests:
- Ms. Tulsi Byrne, UNGC Headquarters, New York
- Ms. Devasmita Sridhar, Fair Trade Expert from WFTO
- Ms. Anne McConnell, Director, USAID
- Ms. Rasheda K. Chowdhury, Executive Director of the Campaign for Popular Education (CAME)
- Dr. Mehtab Khanam, Professor of Educational and Counseling Psychology at Dhaka University
- Ms. Farzana Chowdhury, Managing Director & CEO, Green Delta Insurance Ltd.

“The Women Empowerment Principles (WEPs) elaborate the gender dimension of CSR”
CSR Centre for the 2nd time published its yearly CSR report on “Report on CSR in Bangladesh– 2014: Sustainability for a Better Future”. The report was launched in May 2014, where Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor, Bangladesh Bank has kindly consented as Chief Guest. Ambassadors of the Nordic Countries like Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Netherlands were present, as well as the European Union Ambassador to Bangladesh. Many other distinguished guest from different Multinational and National organizations were also present at the Launch.

The report provides insights to best practices of CSR in private sector of Bangladesh. It is the first in the country, where such yearly report is produced targeting all sectors of the country, to promote good practices.

**Booklet on CSR Best Practices of Global Compact Network Bangladesh Members**

The Global Compact Network Bangladesh for the first time publishes a Booklet on “UNGC NETWORK BANGLADESH: Booklet on CSR Best Practices 2014”:

This booklet highlights best practices of the GCN Bangladesh members through case studies, showcasing the public and private sector's contribution in upholding the UNGC development agenda of protecting and respecting internationally proclaimed human rights and labor rights, removing non-discrimination and creating equal opportunities for all, establishing corporate governance through anti-corruption policies and practices, actively promoting environmentally sustainable practices and fighting climate change.

The Booklet was launched at the “Global Compact Local Networks Regional Meeting Asia/Oceania 2014” in December.

**Publication of a Directory to Provide Basic Information Regarding Women Needs**

Square Toiletries Ltd. and the CSR Centre published a basic directory entitled “Women in Need (WIN) Directory”.

This directory contains contact information on women’s safety, security, legal rights, and empowerment. It will be useful to women across Bangladesh.

**Asia Regional Publication**

CSR Centre as the Global Compact Network Bangladesh Focal Point and Secretariat took part in the publication of the first UNGC Asia Regional publication - *Regional Leadership Through UN Global Compact Principles: Cases & Practices of Nine Local Networks in Asia*. The report gives insights of the actions and activities of the 9 UNGC Asia Regional Networks - Bangladesh, China, Japan, Korea, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India, and focuses on the local and regional priorities of sustainable development.

The Report was launched “Global Compact Local Networks Regional Meeting Asia/Oceania 2014” in December.
Learning Visits - Experiences that Inspire

Field Visit to Telemedicine Project

As part of CSR Centre’s partnership with Aga Khan Foundation on “Early Childhood Development (ECD) and CSR” a field visit of “Telemedicine Project” implemented by Good HEAL Trust was made by CSR Centre team, Aga Khan Foundation (Bangladesh), Phulki and Ahsania Mission at Korail Slum, Mohakhali, Dhaka on April 10, 2014.

Good HEAL Trust, a private not-for-profit organization aims to establish Telemedicine Centers across Bangladesh to help bridge the huge gap in the inequitable distribution of qualified healthcare providers and access to essential health services in remote areas using modern information and communication technologies. The Executive Director, Tanvir Raquib invited all of the potential partners to come and visit the Korail slum clinic as well as the nearest partner hospital, Seba House.

The objectives of this visit was to get ideas about Good HEAL Trust’s unique initiative and to incorporate these ideas in the Project “Early Childhood Development (ECD) and CSR”.

Scope of Private Sector Engagement in the Southern Region of Bangladesh

The CSR Centre Team conducted a scoping visit to Tala, Satkhira, Khulna from September 25 to October 1, 2014 and covered several Upazillas during this period where Uttaran is working. A national NGO working on health, education, business and livelihood in Khulna district.

The objectives of this visit was to identify existing or potential private sector engagement and understand the beneficiaries perspective on engagement through CSR. During the field visit the CSR Centre organized a workshop on “Basics of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility)” at the Uttaran Training Centre in Tala, Satkhira, Khulna. With the aim of enhancing skill development and capacity building of Uttaran staff and stakeholders on the CSR agenda.

UNGC Delegates Field Visit to DBL Factory

CSR Centre with DBL Group coordinated a day trip to DBL Group Factory for the delegations from the United Nations Global Compact, when they were in Dhaka to attend the 2014 Asia/Oceania Regional meeting and Exchange Programme.

The trip was organized to exchange and showcase best practices of Bangladeshi companies.

UNGC Delegates Field Visit to Paramount Textile

The CSR Centre team along with Ex Ambassador Mr. Dan W. Mozena, USA, Mr. Helal Ahmed Chowdhury, Managing Director & CEO Pubali Bank Limited, Mr. Hafiz Mazumder, Chairman, Pubali Bank Limited and Mr. Shakhawat Hossain, Chairman Paramount Group visited the Paramount Textile on April 2014 to explore CSR opportunities in Paramount Textile.

18 representatives from the UNGC Headquarter and 13 Local Networks - Australia, Turkey, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam.

Field Visit to Paramount Textile
## Workshops, Trainings & Exhibition

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<tr>
<th>Training on GRI – Sustainability Reporting</th>
<th>CSR Workshop by Royal Danish Embassy</th>
<th>Fair: Eradicate Extreme Poverty Day 2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>The CSR Centre organized two day training on “Sustainability Reporting – As per GRI G4 Guidelines” in May 2014. The training was conducted by Dr. Aditi Haldar who is an expert on sustainable development with over twenty three years experience and currently the Director of GRI India.</td>
<td>The Royal Danish Embassy organized a workshop in April 2014 titled “CSR Workshop for Commercial section” where the CSR Centre staff had been invited to participate. There was an External CSR Trainer from India as Resource Person in the program.</td>
<td>CSR Centre participated for the second time at the day long fair on Eradicate Extreme Poverty Day 2014, organized by Shiree, World Food Programme (WFP) and Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF), UKAid, Swedish SIDA on Saturday May 31, 2014 at Bansundhara Convention. The CSR achieved Best Stall Award among more than 100 participants from the organizers and praised by international participants as well national level participants and visitors.</td>
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### Youth Convention

CSR Centre team participated in a Workshop on Youth Convention for the “Formulation of the National CSR Policy for Children” in August 2014.

### CSR Training Session at DIPTO Foundation

The CSR Centre conducted a CSR Training Session at DIPTO Foundation on “Economic Empowerment & Employment Generation through CSR” in September 2014.

## Forums

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<th>Paper Presentation on &quot;Desirable CSR from the Perspective of Bangladesh&quot;</th>
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<td>The CEO, CSR Centre was invited to present on &quot;Desirable CSR from the Perspective of Bangladesh&quot;, at a dialogue session-“Korean Development Experience Lessons for Bangladesh” which was jointly organized the Embassy of Republic of Korea and Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). The paper emphasized that CSR should be mainstreamed to achieve post-MDG agenda and private sector led growth in Bangladesh.</td>
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<td>Mr. Hedayetullah Al Mamoon, Senior Secretary of Ministry of Commerce was present as Chief Guest, Mr. Farooq Sobhan, Chairman, CSR Centre was present as Special Guest and Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) was the moderator at the session.</td>
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<th>Global Compact XII Annual Local Network Forum and UN System Private Sector Focal Points Meeting 2014</th>
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<td>The CEO of CSR Centre participated in “Global Compact (XII) Annual Local Network Forum &amp; UN System Private Sector Focal Point Meeting” at UNECA Headquarter, Adis Ababa, Ethiopia in June 2014.</td>
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### Asian Cotton Research and Development Network Meeting: stimulate cooperation among researchers

CSR Centre has participated at the 6th Meeting of the Asian Cotton Research and Development Network organized by the Cotton Development Board, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of People’s Republic of Bangladesh in June 2014. The meeting was hosted by the Honorable Agriculture Minister Ms. Begum Matia Chowdhury. The meeting was open to all researchers from the region and outside the region and from public and private sectors. The major focus in this meeting was on regional issues and common research interests.
## Upcoming Events in 2015

### March - April:

**CSR Strategy Development for Uttaran**

The CSR Centre is developing a CSR & Private Sector Engagement Strategy for a National NGO, *Uttaran*, working on health, education, business and livelihood in Khulna district. After a first visit in October 2014, the CSR Centre team is going to conduct a 2nd field visit for Need Assessment in Tala, Satkhira, Khulna on 1st week April.

### Sustainable Fashion Production

The *CSR Centre* in partnership with the *Danish Fashion Industry* has won a Project titled “Fashion Links – Access to Sustainable Fashion Production” a 3 country Project in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Vietnam. A Danish delegation will visit Bangladesh in March.

### Potential Partnerships...

- The CSR Centre is a partner in a new Project “Early Childhood Development and CSR” to Aga Khan Foundation (Bangladesh).
- The CSR Centre signed a contract for a new project ”Trade in Global Value Chains Initiative” with a UK based management consultancy organization Twenty-fifty. The Project is funded by DIFID, UK.

### New Partnerships...

- The CSR Centre signed a contract with *Foreign Trade Association (FTA)* to deliver training on BSCI new code of conduct on UNGPs.

### Engagement Opportunities

- Sign up for the UNGC Network Bangladesh: [https://www.unglobalcompact.org/HowToParticipate/index.html](https://www.unglobalcompact.org/HowToParticipate/index.html)
- Opportunity to showcase best practice case-study in our upcoming Yearly CSR Report 2015— submission deadline April 5, 2015. For more details on submission guideline contact - francesca.csrcentre@gmail.com
- Join the Dialogue and Discussion for National CSR Guidelines

For full details on engagement opportunities, please visit the CSR Centre website and Contact us.

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**Contact Us For:**

- Global Compact Network Bangladesh Membership
- CSR Project Partnership
- CSR Strategy Development
- GRI Training
- Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
- CSR Training

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The CSR Centre is an independent, non-profit Trust established on September 5, 2007 with private sector start-up funding to encourage and expand CSR practices in Bangladesh. CSR Centre is the Focal Point for the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) in Bangladesh and is the principal promoter of UNGC in Bangladesh. The CSR Centre is also the founder member of SANSAR (South Asian Network in Sustainability and Responsibility), which is a regional network working collaboratively for long term development of economy at a national level.

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