

# IMPROVING RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

## WITH SOCIAL MEDIA

# Bangladesh Conference

February 24-25, 2011

Dhaka, Bangladesh

from THINKING

to WORKING

to DESIGNING

Networks are a very effective way to access research information and knowledge, a fundamental human right that strengthens democracy. Getting access to information also requires technical skills and abilities to use the latest information sharing and collaboration tools. Only then we can create cross-disciplinary, cross-cultural and cross-border networks in which the exchange of research information and knowledge improves.

The Bangladesh Conference aims at helping institutes in Bangladesh and surrounding countries to develop effective research infrastructures by strengthening information skills of a target group of 60 students, researchers, policy-makers and individual practitioners in the field of global development studies and research.

Through hands-on exercises the participants will be introduced to tools to present themselves, find experts, share knowledge and work together. To promote sustainability of the event, participants will have time to plan how they will take forward the new lessons learnt.

The Bangladesh Conference also aims at establishing a group of local experts who will continue the work of the conference: promoting the latest information sharing and collaboration tools among students, researchers, policy-makers and individual practitioners in global development research and studies. This continuation is made possible, because the Focuss.Info Initiative ([www.focuss.info](http://www.focuss.info)) is sponsoring peers in Africa, Asia and South America by awarding grants. With these grants, local experts get the possibility to organise their own workshops on the new information sharing and collaboration tools, technologies and concepts.

### *Are you interested?*

It is very simple to apply to the Bangladesh Conference in Dhaka. Get your free ticket by carefully filling out the application form on

<http://www.focuss.info/bangladesh/>

The coordinators of this Conference from Bangladesh, Denmark and the Netherlands will then select 60 people who will be a part of this conference

**Deadline to apply:  
6 December 2010 at  
12 GMT (+1:00)**

#### Global organisers



#### Local supporters



**Day 1**  
Thursday  
24  
February  
2011

11h30-12h00 / Arrival and registration  
12h00-12h30 / Introductory marks  
12h30-12h45 / Brief presentation on Focuss.Info Initiative  
12h45-14h00 / Parallel workshop on how to document the Bangladesh Conference workshops on microblogging, blogging, podcasting and vodcasting (15 persons per workshop)  
14h00-14h25 / Coffee break  
14h25-15h15 / International keynote speaker on the new way to think about the new way of working  
15h15-17h15 / Thematic parallel workshops on presenting yourself, finding experts, sharing knowledge and working together - Session 1 (15 persons per workshop)  
18h30-21h00 / Social event (dinner)

The Bangladesh Conference will start at 12h00 o'clock. After participating in the opening talks about the conference and the Focuss.Info Initiative, the 60 participants will split up into 4 groups. Each group will participate in a parallel workshop on how to document the conference. The groups will focus on micro-blogging, blogging, podcasting and vodcasting. As a result, participants will be able to use these tools to provide documentation throughout the conference.

An international keynote speaker will then address all participants providing an academic presentation of the new way of thinking about this new way of working.

Following the keynote speech, participants will again be divided into groups. Each group will attend one of four parallel workshops addressing how the latest information sharing and collaboration tools can be best applied when (1) presenting yourself, (2) finding experts, (3) sharing knowledge, and (4) collaborating across borders

08h30-08h45 / Welcome note  
08h45-10h45 / Thematic parallel workshops on presenting yourself, finding experts, sharing knowledge and working together - Session 2 (15 persons per workshop)  
10h45-11h00 / Coffee break  
11h45-13h00 / Thematic parallel workshops on presenting yourself, finding experts, sharing knowledge and working together - Session 3 (15 persons per workshop)  
13h00-14h00 / Lunch break  
14h00-15h00 / Bangladesh keynote speaker on the new way to think about the new way of designing  
15h00-16h30 / Future Backwards workshop to create collaboratively scenarios on how to implement this new information infrastructure  
16h30-17h00 / Closing notes for day/conference

The second day of the conference will start at 8h30. This day will cover 2 more of the thematic parallel workshops. As a result, participants will participate in three out of the four topics.

Nevertheless, the participants will leave the conference with the same level of knowledge. The Conference will end with a Future Backwards workshop. Groups consisting of 10 participants will be asked to create a story/scenario about how they should implement this new knowledge in their organisations.

These groups will need to collaborate and share knowledge in order to create this story/scenario. Each story/scenario will include some challenges, opportunities and/or barriers, and will be presented to the others in maximum 5 minutes. By listening to 6 stories, it is envisaged that everybody will get an idea how to proceed with the new knowledge on the latest information sharing and collaboration tools and techniques.

Finally, the second day will also include a closing keynote. This time it is a keynote speaker from Bangladesh who will give an academic/theoretical talk on the new way to think about the new way to design organisations.

**Day 2**  
Friday  
25  
February  
2011