

# 2017 Frugal Innovation Forum:

How can we ensure and scale quality education in a resource constrained South?

The world is moving towards a renewed direction regarding education for all. Frugal Innovation Forum 2017 would like to facilitate a platform for leaders, education experts, and development practitioners from the global South to connect and explore ways of scaling quality education in the global South. Frugal Innovation Forum 2017 encourages leaders and practitioners to debate around policy initiatives, find suitable partnership models and finance methods to enable appropriate environment for scaling up quality education through panels, discussions and informal conversations. We want to highlight the examples and best practices which can be replicated across the region.

**We will be looking for the answers to the following questions during the three-day session:**

Day 1

What are the replicable innovative approaches that ensure quality learning? What do they teach us about defining and designing and co-creating quality?

Day 2

Which low cost models can be scaled through public-private collaboration, impact driven investment and hybrid models of partnerships? What would it take to take them further?

Day 3

How do we ensure the curriculums address 21<sup>st</sup> century skills? What are the best practices?

# Session plan



## Day 1

**Thursday,  
9 November 2017**

7.00am - 8.00am  
Breakfast and briefing

8.00 am  
Start for field

2.00pm - 3.00pm  
Lunch break

6.00pm - 7.00pm  
Insights sharing

7.00pm - 8.00pm  
Icebreaker

8.00pm - 9.00pm  
Welcome dinner



**SCALING  
QUALITY  
EDUCATION**



# Session plan

Day 2 Friday, November 10, 2017

A - Auditorium  
B - Banquet Hall

**9.00am - 9.30am** **1A**

## INAUGURATION

**Advocate Mostafizur Rahman, MP,**  
Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, People's Republic of Bangladesh

### Welcome Address

**Asif Saleh**  
Senior Director,  
Strategy, Communications and Empowerment,  
BRAC and  
BRAC International

Highlight:

**10.00am - 11.00am** **2A**

## Shifting sands in global education across the world

**Asif Saleh**, Senior Director, Strategy, Communications and Empowerment, BRAC and BRAC International

**Dr Safiqul Islam**, Director, Education Programme, BRAC

**Ian Attfield**, Senior Education Adviser, DFID Education Policy Team

**Fathima Dada**, Global Managing Director: English and Schools, Pearson

### How has the journey been from 'access to quality'?

This session will be an in depth conversation on the various perceptions in defining, perceiving, planning and implementing quality education for all. We will focus on the lessons learned to understand if quality is possible, when access is still a challenge.

Highlight:



Coffee Break

**11.30am-12.30pm** **3A**

## Rethinking assessments: Approaches to measuring student progress

**Guest of honour**  
**Dr. Md. Abu Hena Mostofa Kamal, ndc**  
Director General (Additional Secretary)  
Directorate of Primary Education  
Ministry of Primary and Mass Education  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

**Syed Ahmed**, Founder and CEO, Institute of Informatics and Development

**Ranjit Bhattacharyya**, General Manager and Head of Communications, ASER Centre

**Owen Henkel**, Director, Pearson Affordable Learning Fund

**Vyjayanthi Sankar**, Founder & Executive Director at Centre for Science of Student Learning

**Michael Stark**, Chief Officer, Educators International

### Can quality be defined by any set measurement?

This session will explore the successful models that have worked in different contexts, emphasising the lessons learned and challenges faced in scaling.

Highlight:

**11.30am-12.30pm** **3B**

## The tech-over: rewiring the education system

**Dr Mohamed Foysol Chowdhury**  
Director of Innovations, BRAC

**Henry Warren**, Education Technology Lead, Aga Khan Education Service

**Aakash Sethi**, Executive Director, Quality Education & Skills Training (QUEST) Alliance

**Korvi Rakshand**, Founder, JAAGO Foundation

**Pranav Kothari**, Vice President, Large Scale Assessments and Mindspark Centres, Educational Initiatives

### Is technology and quality synonymous?

This session will highlight tech-based models that have worked in diverse contexts. The presentations will provide an understanding of these models and their potential for large-scale adaptation.

Highlight:

**12.30pm-1:30pm** **4A**

## Minding the skill gap: Linking education to employability

**Shakil Ahmed**, Associate Director of Alumni Impact, Teach for Bangladesh

**Anjana Mangalagiri**, Senior Fellow, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi

**James Centenera**, CEO and Cofounder, The Ultimate Learning Accelerator (TULA)

**Ejaj Ahmed**, President, Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC)

### Is education generating sustainable income opportunities for those who need it the most?

This session will address how education can teach and instill the right skill sets that unleash potential.

Highlight:

**12.30pm-1:30pm** **4B**

## Workshop: ECD and Play as we believe

**Dr Fahmida Tofail**, Scientist, ICDDR,B

**Salimah Kassam**, CEO, Aga Khan Foundation

**Dr Erum Mariam**, Director, BRAC Institute of Educational Development, BRAC University

**Syeda Sazia Zaman**, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC Institute of Educational Development

**Dr Nishat Fatima Rahman**, Assistant Professor, BRAC Institute of Educational Development

**Syeda Fareha Shaheeda Islam**, Senior Lecturer, BRAC Institute of Educational Development

**Md. Jabadul Hoque**, Deputy Manager, ECD, BIED

**Md. Fuad Abdul Quaium**, Architect, Managing and Founding Partner, GHORAMI.JON

### Can toys be teachers?

This session will be an interactive workshop that will illustrate how play can inspire learning. Participants will engage in joyful learning models, exploring how spaces can be designed frugally.

Highlight:



Lunch and networking break

**2:30pm-3:30pm** **5A**

## Beyond the ordinary: 4 innovative models in education

**Anustup Nayak**, Vice-president, XSEED Education

**Waliullah Bhuiyan**, Founder and CEO, Light of Hope

**Pavitra Gautam**, Co-Founder and CEO, Karkhana

**Marcus Veerman**, Founder and CEO, Playground Ideas

### Novelties for the new age?

This session will present promising innovations in education through inspiring stories of achievements in frugal education that can be scaled up.

Highlight:



Coffee Break

**4.00pm-5.00pm** **6A**

## Exploring pedagogy: The quality imperative

**Dr Safiqul Islam**, Director, Education Programme, BRAC

**Fahmida Shabnam**, Education Adviser, DFID Bangladesh

**Dr. Manzoor Ahmed**, Professor Emeritus, BRAC Institute of Educational Development

**Professor Salma Akhter**, Honorary Professor, IER, Dhaka University

### Is there one method to learning?

This session will examine successful models and opportunities for partnerships in Bangladesh to scale the best pedagogical innovations.

Highlight:

**4.00pm-5.00pm** **6B**

## Administrators and academics: Lessons from the roots

**Maimuna Ahmed**, Founder and CEO, Teach For Bangladesh

**Madiha Murshed**, Managing Director, Scholastica Limited

**Faisal Kader**, Country Manager and CEO, Aga Khan Education Service, Bangladesh

**Sabrina Shaheed**, Principal, Sir John Wilson School

### The private school perspective?

This session will engage private school operators in an interactive conversation about the challenges, scopes of partnership and lessons learned.

Highlight:

**5.00pm-6:00pm** **7A**

## Public private partnership in education - Lessons learnt from the region

**Aashti Zaidi Hai**, Director, Global Schools Forum

**Lee Crawford**, Head of Research and Evaluation, Ark Education Partnerships Group

**Md. Afzal Hossain Sarwar**, Policy Specialist, Educational Innovation, Access to Information Programme, Prime Minister's Office, Bangladesh

**Shweta Anand Arora**, Director, The Education Alliance

### Are hybrid partnerships the way forward?

This session will be a policy level discussion. It will provide insight on partnerships between the private and public sector of education and how they can make quality affordable and scalable.

Highlight:

**6:00pm-8:00pm** **8**

## Networking and entertainment

Open deck

# Session plan

Day 3 Saturday, November 11, 2017

A - Auditorium  
B - Banquet Hall

**9.00am - 10.00am** **9A**

**Of funding and financing:  
The impact of investment**

**KAM Morshed**, Director  
Advocacy, Technology and Partnership, BRAC

**Natalia Gavrilita**, Investment Partner,  
Global Innovation Fund

**Sally-Anne Vincent**, Deputy Head of Mission,  
Australian High Commission

**Rasheda K. Choudhury**, Executive Director,  
Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE)

**Banking on your buck:  
which investment will create the best  
opportunities?**

This session will be a discussion on how quality can be affordable through innovative financing.

Highlight:

**10.15am-11.15am** **10A**

**Practitioner's debate:  
Governments should prioritise  
skills over higher education**

**Dr Syed Saad Andaleeb**, Vice Chancellor,  
BRAC University

**James Centenera**, Co-founder and CEO, The  
Ultimate Learning Accelerator, Philippines

**Dr Abdul Hannan Chowdhury**, Vice Chancellor,  
Primeasia University

**Farzana Kashfi**, Head of Programme,  
BRAC Skills Development Programme

**Knowledge or knowing it all?**

This session will be a debate between practitioners on how much of the focus should be on practical skills or education.

Highlight:

**10.15am-11.15am** **10B**

**Student led debate:  
This house would not go to school**

**Tanjilut Tasnuba**, Senior Manager,  
BRAC Education Programme

**Government:**  
**Irhum Shafkat**, Rajuk Uttara Model College

**Syed Anhar Morshed Joana**,  
Shaheed Bir Uttam Lt. Anwar Girls' College

**Samin Rahman**, Manarat Dhaka International College

**Opposition:**  
**Lamia Nur Rahman**, European Standard School

**Syeda Tahiyat Ahmed**,  
Shaheed Bir Utam Lt. Anwar Girls' College

**Elham Ali**, Manarat Dhaka International College

**A stakeholder's stance?**

This session will be a debate between students from various institutions. They will discuss their thoughts and experiences on the education that is shaping them.

Highlight:

**11.45am-1.00pm** **11A**

**The displaced demographic:  
Classrooms for every child**

**Annette D'Oyly**, Innovation Adviser, DFID

**Abdul Muktader**, Project Director,  
Save the Children Bangladesh

**Jacqueline Strecker**, Learn Lab Manager, UNHCR

**Mohammad Mohsin**, ECD Specialist,  
UNICEF Bangladesh

**The certainty of education in  
uncertain conditions?**

This session will discuss how education must go beyond lessons and cater to the unique needs of communities that have been displaced.

Highlight:

**11.45am-1.00pm** **11B**

**Decentralisation and devolution  
of education: Promising  
practices on school management  
from South Asian region**

**Dr Manzoor Ahmed**, Professor Emeritus, BRAC  
Institute of Educational Development

**Dr Urvashi Sahni**, Founder and Chief Executive, Study  
Hall Educational Foundation

**Ekta Sodha**, CEO of Sodha Schools, Vice President of  
National Independent Schools Alliance

**Education for everyone?**

This session will be a discussion on how education can be decentralised in order to provide quality at every stage and level. It will also highlight the best practices and lessons learned from the region.

Highlight:



Coffee  
Break



Lunch  
and  
networking  
break

**2.30pm-3.30pm** **12A**

**Beyond the ordinary: :  
4 innovative models in  
education**

**Arvind Gupta**,  
Toy inventor and populariser of science

**Shams Jaber**, Founder, The Tech Academy

**Stacey Brewer**, Co-founder and CEO,  
SPARK Schools

**Shankar Maruwada**, Co-Founder and CEO,  
EkStep Foundation

**Novelties for the new age?**

This session will present promising innovations in education through inspiring stories of achievements in frugal education that can be scaled up.

Highlight:

**2.30pm-3.30pm** **12B**

**Workshop: Connecting  
classrooms with  
communities**

**Sarah Harkin**, TedEd Innovative Educator,  
Social Innovation Coordinator, ISD

**Rakhi Sarkar**, Country Director, Room to Read

**What makes education meaningful?**

This session will be an interactive workshop for educator, entrepreneurs and practitioners inspiring and enabling them to collaborate with social experts.

Highlight:

**3.30pm-4.45pm** **13A**

**Future of  
education**

**Dr Muhammad Musa**,  
Executive Director, BRAC,

**Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG**,  
Founder and Chairperson, BRAC

**Dr James Tooley**, Professor of Education Policy,  
University of Newcastle

**Anir Chowdhury**, Policy Adviser,  
Access to Information (a2i) Programme,  
Prime Minister's Office

**The way forward?**

This session will discuss the future prospects of education, establishing the priorities for the world of tomorrow, challenges ahead and education for betterment.

Highlight:

**5.00pm-5.15pm** **14A**

**Closing remarks**

**Asif Saleh**  
Senior Director,  
Strategy, Communications  
and Empowerment,  
BRAC and  
BRAC International