

RMMRU

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

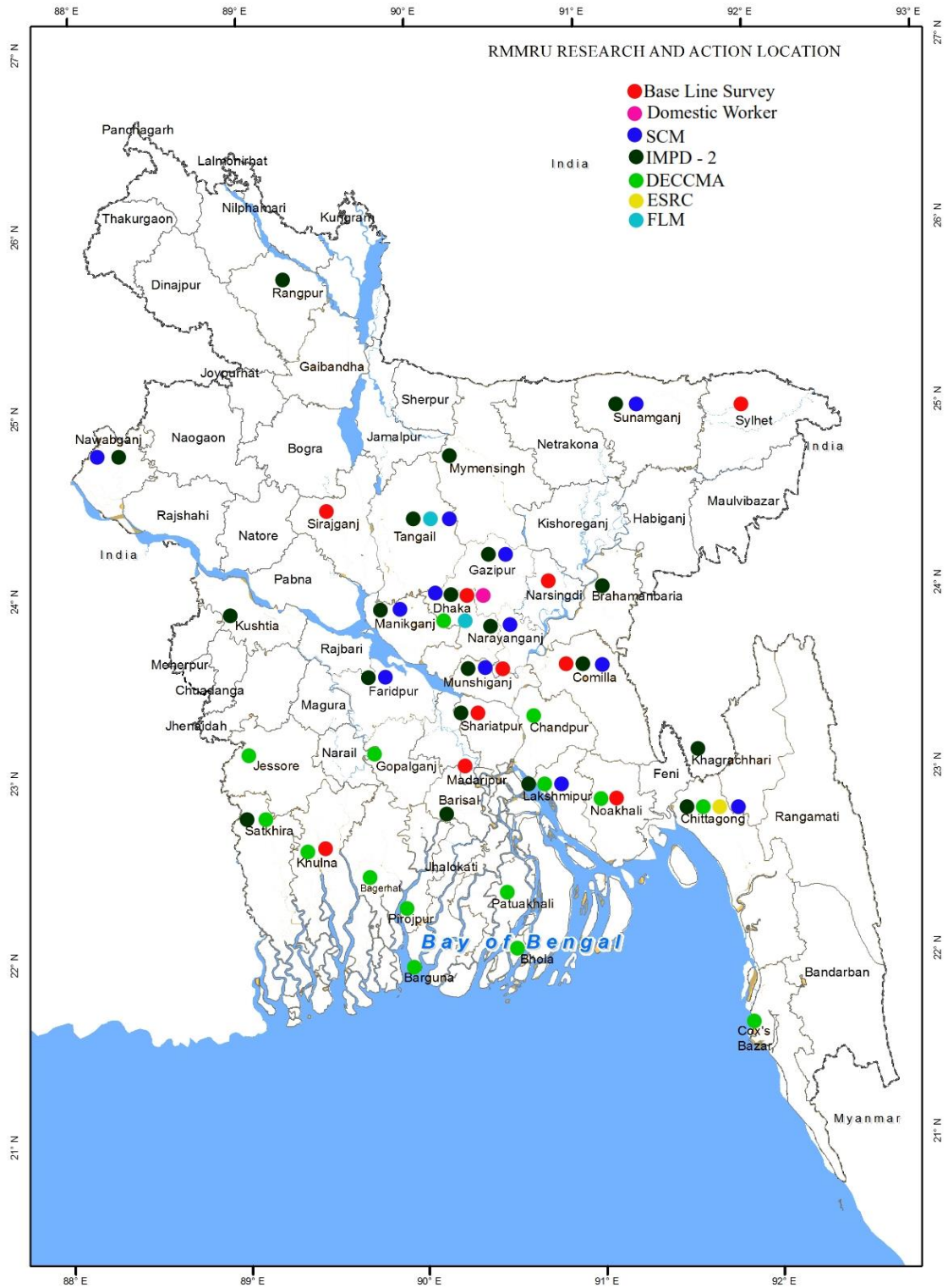
A centre for evidence based research and grassroots action



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General Body of RMMRU

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 <p>Dr. Rashed Uz Zaman</p>	 <p>Mr. Md. Obaidul Haque</p>	 <p>Dr. Syeda Rozana Rashid</p>	 <p>Mr. Sayed Nurullah Azad</p>	 <p>Mr. Kh. Rezwanul Karim</p>
 <p>Mr. Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque</p>	 <p>Dr. Lailufar Yasmin</p>	 <p>Ms. Tasmia Persoob</p>	 <p>Dr. Jalal Uddin Sikder</p>	 <p>Dr. Sohela Nazneen</p>
 <p>Mr. Mohamed Emran Hossain</p>	 <p>Mr. Mohammad Towheedul Islam</p>	 <p>Ms. Zohra Akhter</p>	 <p>Mr. Shashanka Saadi</p>	 <p>Mr. Selim Reza</p>
 <p>Mr. Mohammad Rashed Alam Bhuiyan</p>	 <p>Ms. Fhamida Yasmin</p>	 <p>Ms. Bushra Hasina Chowdhury</p>	<p>Mr. Md. Motasim Billah</p>	 <p>Rigan Chakma</p>



RMMRU Research and Programme Locations

Summary of Projects and Programmes in 2018

Projects	Funder	Budget size in BDT	Project Focus	Partners(s)	Location(s)
Fairer Labour Migration in Bangladesh (FLM)	PROKAS British Council	5,11,94,748	Reducing fraudulence from grassroots recruitment through regularization of middlemen	<i>Strategic Partner:</i> IBP partners of PROKAS, BCSM Govt. Partner: BMET, DEMO, MoEWOE, a2i	Dhaka, Tangail
Impact of International Short Term Contract Migration on Poverty and Development Panel Survey	SDC	1,17,21,305	To create migration panel data and to know the impact of migration on local development.	N/A	Rangpur, Chapainawabgonj, Sunamgonj, Mymensingh, Tangail, Gazipur, Brahmanbaria, Dhaka, Manikgonj, Kushtia, Munshigonj, Cumilla, Shariatpur, Satkhira, Barishal, Laksmipur, Khagrachari, Chattogram
DEltas, vulnerability and Climate Change: Migration and Adaptation (DECCMA)	IDRC DFID	1,36,92,550	Understand adaptation choices in delta regions with a strong focus on the role of migration as an adaptation strategy, including temporary, periodic, or permanent migration	<i>International Partner Universities:</i> Jadavpur University (JU), India and University of Ghana (UG), Ghana <i>Local partners:</i> BUET SPARSO BIDS	50 climate hotspot of 19 delta districts of Bangladesh and 2 Migrant destination areas (Chandpur, Jashore, Gopalganj, Laksmipur, Noakhali, Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Pirojpur, Patuakhali, Bhola, Barguna, Cox's Bazar, Chattogram, Dhaka

CEGIS
WARPO
SANEM
JJS
TARA

Safe and Sustainable Cities: Human Security, Migration, Well-Being	ESRC	90,95,972	To create new insights building on existing and emerging knowledge on human security, migration and environmental interactions	N/A	Chattogram
Social Cost of Migration on Families Left Behind (SCM)	SDC	84,86,509	To know the livelihood condition of left behind families.	N/A	Chattogram, Cumilla, Dhaka, Faridpur, Gazipur, Lakshmipur, Manikgonj, Munshigonj, Narayangonj, Chapainawabgonj, Sunamgonj, Tangail
Decent Work Deficits in Domestic Work in Bangladesh	ILO	14,55,937	Deficits in Decent work environment of Domestic Worker.	N/A	Dhaka
Baseline survey on the situation of the returnee migrant workers from the European countries	BRAC	14,00,000	Needs of European returnee migrants and District mapping services to be offered by BRAC	N/A	Dhaka, Cumilla, Noakhali, Shariatpur, Munshigonj, Madaripur, Narsingdi, Sylhet, Sirajgonj, Khulna.

Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) Annual Activity Report 2018

Since its founding in 1995, the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) has committed itself to become a premier resource centre on migration in Bangladesh. The rich body of research and activism conducted by RMMRU touches on diverse range of issues including migrant rights, irregular migration, statelessness, forced migration, displacement, climate change induced migration and human trafficking.

Summary of Projects and Programmes in 2018

Achievements

Three tier Migration Mediation Committees have recovered BDT 14,82,500 for the migrants. Total 20 cases have been resolved in 2018 through mediation. Another 370 cases have been placed before BMET for arbitration through online. 39 cases have been submitted directly to BMET and MoEWOE. 14 of these cases have been by BMET and 14 migrants received compensation of BDT 520,000.

RMMRU and BMET have jointly established a legal support cell in BMET. The hotline has provided legal and information support to 349 migrants. Under A2i collaboration, 333 call centre representatives have received technical training.

RMMRU's Migration Mediation Committee, Youth Volunteer Group, Advisory Group provided 20 types of services at the grassroots. 5000 aspirant, departing, returnee migrants as well as members of migrant families have received services in 2018. This includes 1190 participants of 28 courtyard meetings, 641 aspirant migrants receiving migration decision training, 2018 departing migrants received pre-departure briefing. 434 migrant families received counseling on use of remittances.

Innovation

Innovative Legal Services: RMMRU successfully used national electronic media in providing services to those migrants who have been cheated in Bangladesh as well as in the countries of destination. In the 29th episode of 'Obhibashir Adalat' on DBC News channel, RMMRU has directly provided legal advice as well as assistance to 113 migrants with the help of lawyers and government functionaries. 20 cases have been resolved. Each episode was viewed by 12 to 15 lac people.

In 2018, RMMRU has signed a contract with a2i to take its services to a larger group of migrants. Through a2i, RMMRU is developing Inter-operable Application/ Interconnection-Oriented Architecture. This is the first in the field of labour migration from Bangladesh.

Obhibashir Adalat is the best programme that I have ever watched on migrants. I recommend that the TV channel should make sure that Prime Minister watches this to understand how services can be given to migrants

-Live phone call by a viewer
from Saudi Arabia

I paid BDT 490,000 to a dalal to go to Saudi Arabia. I was sent there twice by the same dalal. First time, I was confined by the counterpart of the dalals and second time, I was apprehended by the police and imprisoned for a month. I have placed my case to RMMRU Mediation Committee, after a few sitting, now the dalal returned me BDT 4 lac.

Khurshed Alam

Innovation in Research: In 2018 RMMRU and the University of Exeter initiated a research to understand the challenges of climate change induced new migrants in the urban areas of Bangladesh. The research has used an innovative method. It implemented photo elicitation technique for generating data. It provided a camera to city planners and new migrants in Chattogram city. They took pictures of what they thought were important challenges of urban living or city planning. Through a series of workshops, the city-planners and the new migrants explained why they thought certain issues were important for policy consideration.

Evidence Based Research

In 2018, RMMRU completed six major researches out of which, 4 of the researches have already been published. These are on Migration and Poverty, Migration and Climate Change, Decentralisation of Services, Mediating Migration Disputes, Returnees from Europe, Rural to Urban Migrant Domestic Workers, Safe and Sustainable Cities: Migration, and Human Security and Well-being.

New Knowledge on Migration

RMMRU and SDC conducted two rounds of survey covering 6,143 households of high, medium and low migration intensity areas in 20 districts of the country in 2014 and in 2017. The study generated insightful new knowledge on migration dynamics.

Migration Cost: The study reveals that the cost of migration from Bangladesh to Gulf and South East Asian countries has reduced by one-tenth over the three year period.

Consumption Growth: Overall consumption of all types of households, internal migrant, international migrant and non-migrant, has grown in three years. International migrant households increased their consumption on an average by 30%, the growth rate for internal migrants is 21% and that of non-migrants was 27%.

Poverty Rate: The poverty rate is the lowest among the international migrant households. About 10.35 % of the households lived below the poverty line in 2014, which dropped to 9.6% in 2017. 32% of internal migrant households lived under the poverty line in 2014 and the figure dropped to 28% in 2017. 24% of non-migrant households lived below the poverty line in 2014 and this figure dropped to 15.4% in 2017.

Female Migration: Among all the groups of migrants and non-migrants, female international migrants come from the most depressed socio-economic background. The level of education of the female international migrants is lower than that of male internal or international migrants, and female internal migrants. The proportion of the widowed, separated, divorced and abandoned women is the highest among international migrants. The ownership of land and homestead is also the lowest among this category. The female international migrant households used to lag behind in accessing safe drinking water, latrine, and electricity usage. Migration has lifted their income and the standard of living.

The scope for employment for women is also very restricted compared to men. 80% of all the women from Bangladesh are employed in two professions - housekeeping/domestic work and cleaning in the labour market abroad while only 28 % of the male migrants are occupied in three professions. The prospect for upward mobility in job is lower for female migrants than those of male migrants. The migration cost of women migrants is one-fourth of their male counterpart. Female international migrants require 1 year to recover their cost of migration while male international migrants require 3 years.

A baseline survey of RMMRU of 780 households in 10 districts of Bangladesh on returnee migrant workers from European countries demonstrates that 41% of the returnees experienced moderate to high level of psychological stress while integrating to home-communities. 32% experienced feeling of withdrawal. On the Post Traumatic Disorder Scale (PTSD), 8% scored high level of stress and 33% showed moderate to low level of PTSD. Another 26% experienced very low levels of PTSD. 61% did not get job upon return.

61% find it difficult to get employed upon return. Only 25% tried to utilise their skills and experiences in their current work and among those who have tried to utilise 36% are running their business reintegrating their skills.

Current Campaign

RMMRU's campaign for regularisation of functions of *dalal* continued in 2018. In order to process migration in the grassroots, the migrants require various services. It is not possible to fulfill the requirements without any external support from experienced service providers. Grassroots level informal *dalals* are filling the vacuum of such service providers. It is therefore the demand of the time that the services that are proved by the *dalals* should be institutionalised. RMMRU is campaigning with Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment on this.

RMMRU is campaigning with Ministry of Disaster Management, Ministry of Environment and Forest as well as with GED, Planning Commission for accommodating migration of a few members of households as one of the adaptation tools side by side with local level adaptation.

After publication of the book *Accommodating Migration in Climate Change Adaptation*, RMMRU is campaigning for inclusion of climate change induced new migrants in *Safe and Sustainable Cities: Migration, Security, and Wellbeing*.

Media Engagement

RMMRU organised the 4th Quarterly meeting held on 10-11 January 2018. All IBP partners attended the meeting to share the achievements, challenges and way forward of last quarter.

Ms. Rabeya Nasrin participated in the consultation programme on safe migration on 11 January 2018 organised by WARBE.

Ms. Marina Sutana attended a Talk Show on 14 February 2018 on DBC channel as a guest speaker to present migration issues.

Ms. Marina Sultana participated as a guest of an exposure visit in Singapore on 22-26 February 2018. The visit was organised by YPSA to learn about migration issue of Singapore.

Ms. Rabeya Nasrin attended a Launching Programme "Grassroots Level Financial Education on Remittance" organised by WARBE on 12 March 2019.

Ms. Marina Sultana and Ms. Rabeya Nasrin attended a National Consultation on the Ratification of ILO convention 189 on Domestic Worker on 14 March 2018.

Ms. Marina Sultana attended a programme on LDC organised by MoEWOE. The programme was organised to celebrate the development of the country to middle income country from LDC.

Ms. Rabeya Nasrin participated in a workshop organised by ILO and IOM on 16 April 2018. The main objective of the workshop is to disseminate the findings of the nature of existing information gaps and actions.

Ms. Marina Sultana participated in a Talk Show on Independent TV Channel on 24 April 2018 to discuss migration issues.

A lesson learnt workshop was organised by PROKAS on 26-27 April 2018. Ms. Marina Sultana and Ms. Rabeya Nasrin attended the programme from RMMRU.

MoEWOE organised a Migration Stakeholders' meeting on 08 May 2018. Ms. Rabeya Nasrin represented RMMRU in this programme.

RMMRU participated in a Human Chain and a Press Conference on "Protest against torture on Female Migrant Workers from KSA" held on 31 May 2018. The programmes were organised by BCSM. The aim of the programmes is to raise the issue to policymakers.

Ms. Marina Sultana and Ms. Rabeya Nasrin represented RMMRU in a meeting with Secretary of MoEWOE where a memorandum on torture against female migrants in KSA was submitted. The meeting was organised by BCSM on 11 June 2018.

Ms. Marina Sultana attended a meeting with Planning Commission on 5 July 2018. The meeting highlighted the goals of SDG with migration.

BCSM-MFA National Consultation on GCM held on 29 to 30 July 2018 to highlight the GCM. Ms. Sultana and Ms. Nasrin attended the programme from RMMRU.

Ms. Rabeya Nasrin attended a meeting "Linking Climate Change Governance and Migration in Bangladesh" organised by PROKAS on 7 August 2018.

Workshop on Strengthening Services for Bangladeshi Migrant Workers was organised by WEWB on 13 August 2018. From RMMRU, Ms. Nasrin attended the workshop.

Ms. Nasrin attended a workshop on Skilled and Safe Migration Management System organised by a2i and BMET on 16 August 2018. The aim of the workshop is to develop a complete and comprehensive skilled and safe migration management system.

A seminar on Climate Change Adaptation at River Basins: Upstream and Downstream Linkages was attended by Ms. Nasrin on 5 September 2018 organised by BCAS.

6th quarterly reflection workshop organised by PROKAS and IID on 22 October 2018. Ms. Sultana, Ms. Nasrin and Mr. Zaheed attended the workshop.

MJF celebrated Human Rights Day with stakeholders on 10 December 2018. Mr. H. M. Fazle Zaheed participated in the program from RMMRU.

Ms. Rahanuma Sharmin participated in a discussion on draft laws about recruiting agencies on 5 December 2018. The programme was organised by MoEWOE.

Electronic Media Coverage:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KCxaLJ_kTxdNAN241Dtmm0l23sw057N6?ogsrc=32

The Daily Star: <https://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/news/bad-year-overseas-jobs-1678042>

Daily Prothom Alo: <https://goo.gl/e8KK9o>

Dhaka Tribune: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2018/12/24/rmmru-expatriates-bangladeshi-workers-need-three-years-to-cover-migration-costs>

The New Age: <http://www.newagebd.net/article/59702/male-workers-need-to-spend-higher-for-migration>

The Bonikbarta: <https://goo.gl/zzW6oh>

Channel i: <https://goo.gl/je9W6s>

jagonews24.com:

<https://www.jagonews24.com/national/news/470963?fbclid=IwAR20liQuBFAR7iQG8x0DECvxOJHJtW0V515lBSghZQHoSd9jYoz7bg3V0RQ>

Sara bangla:

<https://goo.gl/i4hF1X>

Channeli Online: <https://goo.gl/J29Yc1>

Bangla Tribune:

<https://goo.gl/mFBLgH>

SaTV: <https://goo.gl/e6w8Yx>

[-https://www.thedailystar.net/law-our-rights/news/mediation-resolve-migration-related-disputes-1653400](https://www.thedailystar.net/law-our-rights/news/mediation-resolve-migration-related-disputes-1653400)

New Age: <https://goo.gl/8ahMLH>

The Daily ProthomAlo <https://goo.gl/ebhEX2>

The Daily Star

<https://www.thedailystar.net/city/news/sufferings-migrants-spouses-go-unnoticed-1708375>

The Daily Jaijaidin

<https://goo.gl/ExEjvF>

Print Media Coverage

1. The Digital Insecurity Act?

C R Abrar (The Daily Star)

Date: 11-2-2018

2. Making migrants` life easier

C R Abrar (The Daily Star)

Date: 20-2-2018

3. Myanmar`s ROHINGYA GENOCIDE ICC referral: Need of the hour

C R Abrar (The Daily Star)

Date: 11-3-2018

4. ``Protected return to protected homeland only durable solution to Burma`s Rohingya Genocide``

C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 10-4-2018

5. ``Right to return, repression and resistance`` 70 years after Naqba (the Catastrophe)

C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 18-4-2018

6. Cosmos Foundation Book Launch ``Global Solidarity a must to resolve Rohingya Crisis``

(The daily Star) Date: 9-05-2018

7. ``Time for UNSC to Show it cares``

C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 29-4-2018

8. Involuntary Disappearance, Impunity and Injustice

Still waiting for the bell to ring

C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 11-5-2018

9. Rohingya Case, a litmus test stranded in for the world community foreign land

C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 20-6-2018

10. Hammer, remand, inaction and innuendo (Response to the quota reform movement)

C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 19-7-2018

11. State responses to demands for safe roads could these all been avoided?

C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 9-8-2018

12. UPR Debate on Involuntary disappearance in Bangladesh A denial and the reality

C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 28-9-2018

13. Do the bells toll for Rohingyas? C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 14-11-18

14. What do the manifestos contain? Rights, 'black laws' and law enforcement

C R Abrar (The Daily Star) Date: 26-12-18

15. Dalas: Demons or Merchants of Short-term international migration?

Tasneem Siddiqui (The Daily Star)

Date: 20-2-2018

Publication and Media Production of RMMRU: 2018

Book:

1. Siddiqui, T., Neelim, A. Shabab, C. R. and Hasan, M. (2018) 'Impact of Migration on Poverty and Growth in Bangladesh'.

2. Khair, S. (2018) 'Justice at the Doorsteps Mediation on Migration Fraudulence'.

3. Ali Ashraf, ASM and Arafat, FM (2018) 'Dynamics of Decentralisation Migration Services Under Spotlight'.

4. Siddiqui, T., 2018 (Second edition) 'Untold Stories of Migrants Dreams & Realities'.

5. Siddiqui, T., Bhuiyan, M.R.A. Das, P.K., Chakraborty, G and Hasan, M. (2018) 'Accommodating Migration in Climate Change Adaptation A GBM Delta Bangladesh Perspective'.

6. Malik, D. S. (2018) 'Regulation of Dalals and Overseas Employment & Migration Act 2013: A Critical Assessment'.

Policy Brief:

1. Policy Brief-24, Impact of Migration on Household Income, Expenditure and Poverty.

Manual: 1. Migration Disputes Mediation Manual.

Calendar 2018 on Climate Change Migration

REFUGEE AND MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS RESEARCH UNIT(RMMRU)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at 30 June 2018

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30.06.2018	30.06.2017
PROPERTY & ASSETS			
Non - Current Assets			
Fixed Assets (At Cost less Accumulated Depreciation)	03.00	7,764,871	7,776,007
Total Non - Current Assets		7,764,871	7,776,007
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash equivalents	04.00	2,071,792	1,267,043
Investment in FDR	05.00	2,500,000	2,500,000
Loan to Project	06.00	2,510,000	-
Total Current Assets		7,081,792	3,767,043
Total Property & Assets		14,846,663	11,543,051
FUND & LIABILITIES			
Fund & Reserves			
Fund Account	07.00	13,140,472	11,385,908
Total Fund & Reserves		13,140,472	11,385,908
Non -Current Liabilities			
Total Non -Current Liabilities		-	-
Current Liabilities			
Fund Transferable to projects	08.00	1,680,031	127,142
Audit Fee current year		-	30,000
Total Current Liabilities		1,680,031	127,142
Total Fund & Liabilities		14,820,503	11,513,051

The annexed notes form an integral part of these financial statements.


Executive Director
RMMRU


Treasurer
RMMRU

Signed in terms of our separate report of even data annexed

Dated : Dhaka
14 November 2018


ATA KHAN & CO.
Chartered Accountants



REFUGEE AND MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS RESEARCH UNIT(RMMRU)
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30.06.2018	30.06.2017

Income:

Office Rent received from projects	10.00	745,028	880,687
Utilities received from projects	11.00	156,753	185,224
Donation received	12.00	720,000	191,408
Overhead received from projects	13.00	663,688	26,500
Interest received from Bank		12,896	30,427
Equipment Rent Received	14.00	31,304	19,565
General Body Membership Fees	15.00	12,000	15,000
GFMD subscription fees		-	50,010
Sale of Car		970,000	-
Festival Subscription Fees		100,000	-
Total Income		3,411,669	1,398,821

Expenditure:

Office Rent		1,269,504	947,892
Utilities		299,342	186,285
Audit Fee		-	55,000
General Body Meeting, EC Meeting , Annual Party		2,000	18,596
Bank Charges		9,581	5,410
Travel allowance, Local conveyance		16,509	10,732
Miscellaneous		6,188	5,468
Website Hosting		20,900	15,600
Renewal & Registration		21,750	15,000
Stationery & Supplies		195	1,959
Depreciation		11,137	11,137
Total Expenditure		1,657,106	1,273,079
Excess of Income over Expenditure		1,754,563	125,742
Total		3,411,669	1,398,821

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14 November 2018




REFUGEE AND MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS RESEARCH UNIT(RMMRU)
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

Particulars	Notes No.	Amount in Taka	
		30.06.2018	30.06.2017
Receipts:			
Opening Balance			
Cash & Cash equivalents		1,267,043	3,528,146
Cash in hand		5,000	5,000
Cash at bank		1,262,043	3,523,146
Fund received	09.00	39,305,156	15,829,755
Office rent received from projects	10.00	745,028	880,687
Utilities received from projects	11.00	156,753	185,224
Donation received	12.00	720,000	191,408
Overhead received from projects	13.00	663,688	26,500
Interest received from bank		12,896	30,427
Equipment rent received	14.00	31,304	19,565
General Body Membership Fees	15.00	12,000	15,000
GFMD subscription fees		-	50,010
Loan refund from Project		1,997,300	600,000
Sale of Car		970,000	-
Festival Subscription Fees		100,000	-
Total :		45,981,169	21,356,722
Payments:			
Fund transferred to projects	16.00	37,752,268	15,757,737
FDR		-	2,500,000.00
Office Rent		1,269,504	947,892
Utilities		299,342	186,285
Audit Fee		30,000	25,000
General Body Meeting, EC Meeting, Annual Party		2,000	18,596
Loan to Project		4,507,300	600,000
Bank Charges		9,581	5,410
Travel allowance, Local conveyance		16,509	10,732
Website Hosting		20,900	15,600
Renewal & Registration		21,750	15,000
Stationery & Supplies		195	1,959
Miscellaneous		6,188	5,468
Sub Total		43,935,537	20,089,679
Closing Balance:			
Cash & Cash equivalents		2,071,792	1,267,043
Cash in hand		5,000	5,000
Cash at bank		2,066,792	1,262,043
Total:		46,007,329	21,356,722

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