

Coordination Forum German – Bangladesh Higher Education Network for Sustainable Textiles

In February (10-14) 2019, HEST project, DAAD and UGC jointly organized a ‘coordination forum’ where along with project stakeholders, key personnel from the university partnerships belonging and their industry partners participated to formulate, develop and publish recommendation on demand driven higher education need in the textile sector of Bangladesh. The objective of the coordination forum was to bring together the German and Bangladeshi university partners with relevant stakeholders to facilitate exchange of information and foster networking among themselves as well as with key stakeholders from industry.

On the 11th of February, a workshop on Formulating Recommendations on Demand Driven Higher Education Needs in the Textile and Garment Sector of Bangladesh took place at the UGC. The German and Bangladeshi university partners, University Grants Commission (UGC), DAAD and GIZ participated in the workshop with the aim of formulating recommendations on demand driven higher education needs in the textile and garment sector based on their specific project experiences.

One day of the forum was dedicated to visit factories and to give the participants the opportunity to get insights in the work setting of textile professionals who are recognized as “best in class” textile enterprises. The goal of these visits was to learn about the measures the factories have put in place so far in order to improve social and environmental standards and to acquire more knowledge about difficulties and skill gaps that factory owners and compliance managers face.

One of the highlights of the week was the Conference on February 14th titled Demand Driven Higher Education Needs in the Textile and Garment Sector of Bangladesh. The objective of the event was to bring together the university partners with relevant stakeholders from the private sector, so that the recommendations for demand-oriented tertiary education in the textile sector could be presented to a broader audience.

The partnership consisting of University of Kassel and Dhaka University working on the development of modular training for the industry mid-level management for the reduction of their skill gap mainly in social and environmental aspects with ‘gender’ being the cross-cutting issue. Until now the partnership has conducted one workshop in Bangladesh and one in Germany and aiming to further conduct two training workshops in Bangladesh and one coordination and experts’ workshop in Germany. Currently the partnership is conducting a needs analysis in the textile and garment sector of Bangladesh and the result from the analysis will form the basis for further development of training modules.



February 11, 2019: Workshop on Formulating Recommendations on Demand Driven Higher Education Needs in the Textile and Garment Sector of Bangladesh



February 12, 2019: Factory visit to Epic Garments Manufacturing



February 14th, 2019: Conference on Demand Driven Higher Education Needs in the Textile and Garment Sector of Bangladesh, panel discussion