

## **Project kick-off meeting in Dhaka, October 2018**

### **Developing a training concept for building sustainability-related capacity among managers in the Bangladeshi garment industry**

#### **Project coordinator: Prof. Dr. Stefan Gold**

Starting from October 2018, the University of Kassel (UK) and University of Dhaka (UD) is implementing the project “Developing a training concept for building sustainability-related capacity among managers in the Bangladeshi garment industry”. The aim of this project is to conduct a systematic needs analysis in companies within the Bangladeshi garment sector, identify the qualification gap among mid-managers regarding criteria of responsible management including the social and ecological dimension. With results of the needs analysis the two project partners will develop materials and conduct two pilot trainings.

This project is connected to the ‘German-Bangladesh Higher Education Network for Sustainable Textiles (HEST)’ commissioned by the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is administered through the German Development Cooperation (GIZ). The objective of HEST is to create a university network between the German and Bangladeshi universities that fosters an exchange of research and qualification services in accordance with the prerequisites of responsible corporate management in the garment sector.

The representatives of the project team from the International Center for Decent Work and Development (ICDD) at the University of Kassel, led by Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer, visited Prof. Dr. Zia Rahman and his research team at the University of Dhaka for the project kick-off meeting from 8<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2018. A solid frame for the work relationship was established, project timeline, activities and research strategy were discussed.

The project teams were invited to meet the Vice Chancellor of the University of Dhaka, Prof. Dr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman. During the meeting the partners agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two universities which will create a very good basis for future research cooperation and exchange. This will be the first MoU signed by the University of Dhaka and a German University.



*Executive Director of International Center for Development and Decent Work (ICDD) of the University of Kassel, Germany Prof. Dr. Christoph Scherrer called on Dhaka University (DU) Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman on October 10, 2018 at the latter's office of the university. He was accompanied by Birgit Felmeden, Executive Manager of ICDD. Chairman of the Department of Criminology of DU Prof. Dr. Zia Rahman was present on this occasion. (DU PR Office)*