Partnership to Strengthen Local Capacity
for Economic, Financial, and Social Analysis
of Energy Sector Initiatives

MONTHLY REPORT – SEPTEMBER, 2004

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Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development
1307 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20005-4701

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The following are the activities that the partnership conducted in the month of August.

➢ Prof. Tamim was able to confirm the hiring of Dr. Mahbub as an assistant professor at PMRE upon Dr. Mahbub’s return to Bangladesh in early October. Prof. Tamim established contact with Dr. Mahbub during his stay in Houston, March-June 2004.

➢ Prof. Tamim has been working with the editor of Energy & Power magazine, who is taking the initiative to arrange a series of one-day programs for journalists through the energy reporter forum. The magazine will fund the expenses for these programs. Profs Tamim and Hossain will conduct the programs with the help of Dr. Mahbub.

➢ Prof. Tamim confirmed with the Energy Minister and Acting Chair of the Energy Regulatory Commission the timeframe for the January visit of UH IELE. The goal is to coincide with the visit of Charlie Koo from ALO.

➢ Prof. Tamim and UH IELE continued work on research papers; in particular, he communicated with Petrobangla and secured access to natural gas data, which is crucial for the first paper.

➢ Unfortunately, due to floods and political unrest, the start of the semester has been postponed. Prof. Tamim will start teaching the first offering of Energy Value Chain Economics, Policy and Regulation in December when the semester is expected to start.

➢ UH IELE revised the budget. Additional funds are available at the partnership due to a shorter stay of Prof. Tamim and Prof. Hossain in Houston than originally planned. These will be used to cover Dr. Mahbub’s attendance of the New Era program in May 2005.

Next steps

Actions expected in the months of September and October include:

➢ Prof. Tamim will speak in the SPE Annual General Meeting (Bangladesh Section) on Oct 6. The topic will be Restructuring of the Bangladesh Energy Industry.

➢ Deliver the first one-day program for journalists.

➢ Continue to work on research papers.