



**Market Development Forum**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> General Discussion Event – 2009**

**‘Market Development and Vocational Skills ’**

**Day and Date:** Wednesday, June 24, 2009

**Time:** 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm

**Organized by:** RTM International, Plan International and CSDC

**Venue:** RTM International, Navana Shefali, Suite 2/B, House 11, Road 14, Gulshan South Avenue, Dhaka-1212. **Phone:** 9886992-3

‘Vocational skill’ has become one of the key concerns for development of Bangladesh. Despite the fact that the level of education in Bangladesh rose significantly in last two decades, difficulties have led the development practitioners to conclude that far more need to be done to engender more employment opportunities for the majority of Bangladeshi, to enable them to participate in the benefits of growth and to contribute to that growth. To do this they must have education and training that equips them for the labor market. One of the sources of the skilled workforce is the vocational education and training system. However, the employers and other stakeholders realize that the system is not being able to appropriately respond to the needs of the labor market. A key issue, then, is what reforms/interventions are needed to improve the effectiveness of the system.

In a globalized economy, a large pool of skilled workers is indispensable for attracting foreign direct investment. Developing skilled workers enhances the efficiency and flexibility of the labor market; skills bottlenecks are reduced, skilled workers are more easily absorbed into the economy, and their job mobility is improved. It is crucial to invest in quality secondary and tertiary education and in vocational education and training (VET) if Bangladesh’s economy is to develop and remain competitive in world markets.

The objective of the discussion event is to understand the provision of demand driven vocational skills and programs members of the forum have engaged to demonstrate their positive/ adverse impact.

In this event, two of the most renowned development practitioners (Plan International and RTM International) are going to present their plan/ programs etc. to further solidify the requirements of programs/ types of programs on vocational skills in Bangladesh.



### Program of the day

3.00 – 3.10 pm	<b>Introductions and Objective of the day</b>	<b>Mr. Ahmed Al-Kabir, Ph.D,</b> President, RTM International.
3.10 – 3.25 pm	<b>Presentation from Plan International</b>	<b>Mr. Maksudur Rahman,</b> Advisor- Micro-enterprise & Business Development Services
3.25 – 3.40 pm	<b>Presentation from RTM International</b>	<b>Mr. Ahmed Al-Kabir, Ph.D,</b> President, RTM International.
3.40 – 3.50 pm	<b>Presentation from CSDC</b>	<b>Mr. Mahbubul Huq,</b> Executive Director, CSDC
3.50 – 4.40 pm	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>All</b>
4.40 – 5.00 pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<b>Mr. Ahmed Al-Kabir, Ph.D,</b> President, RTM International.

**Intended Outcome:** Active participation of the members in the discussion event and further activities through MDF on this topic may also be carried on based on the decisions taken by the members in the discussion event.

**Participants:** Representatives of the organizers and MDF members.

Organized By:

