BRAC Internship Description

**Programme/Enterprise:** Integrated Development Programme  
**Project/Unit:** Digital Upazila Obhijan/ Digital Deepening in Haor  
**Duration:** 3 Months  
**Application Deadline:** 12 December 2023  
**Starting Date:** 24 December 2023  
**Location (Office & Floor):** 18th Floor, BRAC Centre, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka  
**Working Hours:** 8 hour/day (40 hour/week)  
**Monthly Stipend:** BDT 8000

**Programme/Enterprise Description**
BRAC as a global leader in development, steering innovative and evidence-based solutions to transform the lives of people since 1972. Over the years, programmes were designed according to the changing and emerging needs of the population, and mass interventions were implemented to bring changes to the communities.

However, some communities are still left behind, especially those living in difficult geographical locations lacking access to essential services and often facing discrimination. Resources and financial services are also scarce and hence chances for livelihood opportunities and economic growth are limited.

BRAC Integrated Development Programme (IDP) has been operating since 2013 to enhance the social and economic well-being of communities that are left behind; particularly those in wetlands (haor), riverine and coastal islands (char), and the indigenous peoples. Its uniqueness lies in the holistic service delivery approach designed to cater to communities that are affected by multi-dimensional poverty.

**Project/Unit Description**
The Haor regions of Bangladesh are characterised by their unique wetland ecosystems and are home to many rural communities. Living in the Haor regions of Bangladesh poses significant challenges, particularly in the areas like agriculture, livestock, medical facilities, education, and livelihood. Digital Upazila Obhijaan (DUO) is a collaborative project of BRAC’s Integrated Development Programme (IDP) and Social Innovation Lab (SIL) which aims to digitally integrate essential services for the people living in the haor region in cooperation with independent digital service providers to tackle the unique challenges of that area. DUO aims to provide essential services to the haor region through digital intervention integrating the private sector and the community.

Recognising that digital literacy is the foundation for community readiness, DUO places a strong emphasis on equipping individuals specially women with the necessary skills to actively participate in the digital ecosystem. To address gender disparity in communities and to empower women to take initiative in accessing digital services, the DUO project introduces the "Digital Saathi" activity.
By providing comprehensive digital literacy training, the project seeks to create a more inclusive and digitally empowered community. This, in turn, will enhance access to essential services, information, education, economic opportunities, and improved communication for the haor regions’ population. Through the Digital Saathi activity and the broader DUO initiative, BRAC aims to drive positive social change, economic advancement, and the creation of a digitally inclusive society where everyone can thrive.

**Purpose of Internship** (including learning outcomes)
This internship offers the scope to explore the current socio-economic challenges in hard-to-reach areas and to analyse possible development solutions. Interns benefit from exposure to an array of projects and initiatives in social development over a period of three months. Complete with hands-on learning, the programme opens up opportunities in fields related to integrated development.

**Learning outcome**
- Understanding of Bangladesh’s Haor regions socio-economic conditions
- Learning BRAC’s Integrated Development Approach for sustainable development of hard-to-reach communities
- Knowledge of digitalisation of development services through ensuring digital literacy.

**Intern’s Responsibilities**
- Engage in day-to-day operations of the assigned project.
- Collaborate with different departments/programmes and field offices.
- Prepare reports and presentations as needed.
- Develop a research-oriented mindset in solving problems.
- Contribute new ideas or concepts on an assigned project or activity.
- Support team in coordinating meetings, events or field operations.
- Coordinating with programme/project managers and field officers to facilitate the sessions
- Collecting insights from field visits
- Building rapport with field officers
- Learning the community aspects, finding gaps, challenges and solutions.
- Conducting field test of the Digital saathi initiative.
- Taking online lessons of the participants and follow up.

**Requirements**

a) **Educational Background**
- Level: Graduate/Bachelor
- Subject: Any Discipline
b) **Language Proficiency**
   - Bangla (written/spoken): Good command both in written and spoken.
   - English (written/spoken): Good command both in written and spoken.

c) **Knowledge/Skills/Competencies:**
   - Excellent written and verbal communication skills
   - Advanced MS Word skills

d) **Work/Volunteering Experience:** Volunteering experience in education or community engagement projects will be preferable. Freshers are encouraged to apply.