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\$ 696,000 Dutch grant for BRAC University

The Netherlands Development Cooperation Programme will provide fund to the Institute for Educational Development of BRAC University (BU-IED) under an agreement between BRAC and the Royal Netherlands Embassy signed recently, says BSS.

The Dutch contribution will be US\$ 696,000 for an initial period of two years, a Press release said in Dhaka on Wednesday.

This support will enable BU-IED to carry out its core activities in the field of primary and secondary education, with a focus on improving learning outcomes, teacher development and education research.

The programme will be co-funded by the Royal Norwegian Embassy and Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC).

The agreement was signed by Jaap van der Zeeuw, Charge d'Affaires of the Royal Netherlands Embassy, and Abdul-Muyeed Chowdhury, the Executive-Director of BRAC.

The Netherlands has identified Bangladesh as one of the 36 countries for developing a long-term, bilateral development cooperation relationship that began shortly after independence in 1971.

Currently, the Netherlands' assistance is focused on the following sectors: basic education (including PEDP-II, BRAC Education Programme, CAMPE), health (including nutrition and reproductive health), integrated water resources management, drinking water and sanitation, and rural electrification, with gender and governance as cross-cutting themes.

This programme will utilize BRAC's experiences in improving the quality of basic education in Bangladesh through the professional and academic setting of BRAC University's Institute for Educational Development.