



# Biennial Report 2019 & 2020



EDUCATION

TRAINING

RESEARCH

ADVOCACY



**BRAC** SCHOOL OF  
JAMES P GRANT PUBLIC HEALTH







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# Biennial Report 2019 & 2020

PUBLISHED: JUNE, 2021





## VISION

To be the leading global public health institute for the world's critical health challenges affecting disadvantaged communities.

## MISSION

To create innovative public health leaders and solutions through cutting-edge, experiential Education, Training, Research and Advocacy.

## OVERVIEW

BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), BRAC University was founded in 2004 in Dhaka, Bangladesh to address the unmet public health challenges particular to Asia, Africa and South America. The School's Institutional partners are, BRAC, the world's largest NGO, reaching over 100 million people in Bangladesh and working in 11 countries in Africa and Asia; icddr, a leading international health research institute, which fosters innovation in the development and delivery of global life-saving solutions. The School is at BRAC University, a premier higher education and development research institution.

The School draws from Bangladesh's remarkable public health achievements as well as BRAC Health's nationwide services and BRAC International's Health programmes in South Asia and Africa. BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

therefore offers unparalleled real-life, community-centric teaching, learning and research experiences on critical and emerging national and global public health challenges. The School applies an interdisciplinary integration of Education, Training, Research and Advocacy to diverse health challenges such as, Maternal and Reproductive Health, Nutrition, Gender Equity, Sanitation, Non-communicable Diseases, Urbanisation and Climate Change. Thereby positioning BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University to lead and innovate public health learning, investigation, policy and implementation.

The School builds capacity and contributes to Public Health by preparing individuals to become public health leaders, practitioners, critical thinkers, researchers, advocates, and stewards in order to enable concrete changes to improve the lives of disadvantaged populations locally, regionally and internationally.



BRAC James P Grant School of Public health (BRAC JPGSPH) is located at BRAC University.

BRAC University has 7 Departments, 4 Schools, 3 Institutes and 8 Centres, and offers 16 undergraduate and 16 graduate degrees along with several postgraduate diploma and certificate programmes. The University aims to develop core capacities to accelerate equitable development in Bangladesh. It ensures a high

quality of education and aims to meet the demands of contemporary times.

In realising that developing country public health needs require immersive, community-based teaching and learning to provide locally innovated research and sustainable health solutions, the School's institutional partners are:



Late Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, founder of BRAC, founded BRAC JPGSPH in 2004. BRAC is one of the world's largest NGOs, and has various development programmes targeting the ultra-poor in health, micro-finance, education, and legal rights. BRAC field operations in communities offers a dynamic and diverse learning laboratory for BRAC JPGSPH's Master of Public Health students. The School draws on the rapidly growing presence of BRAC International across 34 countries to identify students for its MPH programme. Research partnerships with BRAC allows the School to contribute to evidence to inform BRAC's programmes and policies.



icddr,b is a Bangladesh-based international health research institute that strives to solve key public health problems. icddr,b is an institutional partner of BRAC JPGSPH. Some scientists are also faculty at the School, teaching courses and advising students on their research and theses. Its urban and rural research sites and clinical facilities offer important field-based hands-on learning opportunities for students.



BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, has been leading in the field of public health education. The School is globally acknowledged for its excellence in research and leadership programmes. With an on-going pandemic, as an educational institute, the challenges we face are unique and unforeseen.

Our focus remains on the vision and mission: to become Bangladesh's international, student-centric university with impactful research. We are entering the next generation of education and will therefore maintain virtual learning and teaching as a vital part of BRAC University's education. These capabilities will be the first of its kind in the country and they will allow us to benchmark ourselves against leading global educational institutions.

I support the endeavours of the School and have high hopes in the role it will play for the future of BRAC University and Bangladesh. To the students, alumni, staff, faculty and partner institutions, I wish you all the best in continuing with the excellent work that you are pursuing and your own journeys in life.

### **Professor Vincent Chang**

Vice Chancellor  
BRAC University



COVID-19 has magnified existing structural and social inequalities amongst the most disadvantaged populations, and clearly revealed the fault-lines that exist in public health. This forces us to acknowledge that we cannot simply look at public health from mainly a biomedical lens. We are developing graduates with the practical and critical skills required, so they can contribute in this rapidly changing world, and be competent public health leaders. During the start of COVID-19 last year, the faculty and research team conducted over 45 rapid surveys and longitudinal qualitative and quantitative research, actively engaging with communities, practitioners and other key stakeholders. If there is one lesson that we can take from this unfolding pandemic, is that "experts" do not necessarily have all the answers. A School of Public Health has a critical role in not only providing quality academic education, but also through its research with communities and implementors, to bridge existing gaps in policies and practice. Translating evidence into action is key.

I joined the School in 2004 when we were just 4 colleagues and I took over as Dean in 2013. The School has grown from 66 colleagues in 2012, to presently 296 colleagues, of which 60% are women. The MPH programme has produced 524 public health graduates and leaders from 34 countries. Some

of our graduates have been in the frontline of public health crises such as the Ebola epidemic, headed the Midwifery programme in Afghanistan and joined BRAC, icddr,b and government ministries in Bangladesh and other countries. Many enrolled in PhDs and after their studies, returned to work in their respective countries. Others have joined UN, WHO and other leading organisations around the world. Several of our faculty in the MPH programme are our star graduates from Uganda, Liberia, Australia, and Bangladesh. We were recently cited in a John Hopkins School of Public Health newsletter, as one of the leading Schools in the region, developing world-class expertise in training and capacity development.

We have adjusted and adapted our international MPH academic programme and began online teaching in the third week of March 2020, with a current cohort of 38 students from 14 countries across Europe, Africa, Oceania, South and South-East Asia. We have a pioneering Midwifery diploma programme that was established in 2012, and has 602 graduated midwives as of 2020, with 224 of them presently working in the Rohingya refugee camps.

Our five Centres of Research Excellence: Urban Equity and Health, Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Implementation Science & Scale Up, Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage and Non-Communicable

Diseases and Nutrition, and our Humanitarian Research Hub are working with research and academic partners across Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and North America and in South Asia and South-east Asia. We have generated 137 peer reviewed publications in the last two years and organised 62 policy dialogues, meetings and webinars to inform policies and programmes.

On looking back at the past year and the unprecedented challenges that COVID-19 has thrust upon all of us, I am even more deeply grateful to my Associate Dean, Professor Malabika Sarker, my senior management team, and to all my colleagues for their continued commitment and dedication in striving for a unified vision to become a leading global public health institute for the world's critical health challenges affecting disadvantaged communities.

In conclusion, I would like to take a moment to remember our founder, late Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, whose legacy and dream continues to be profoundly reflected in the vision and mission of the School.

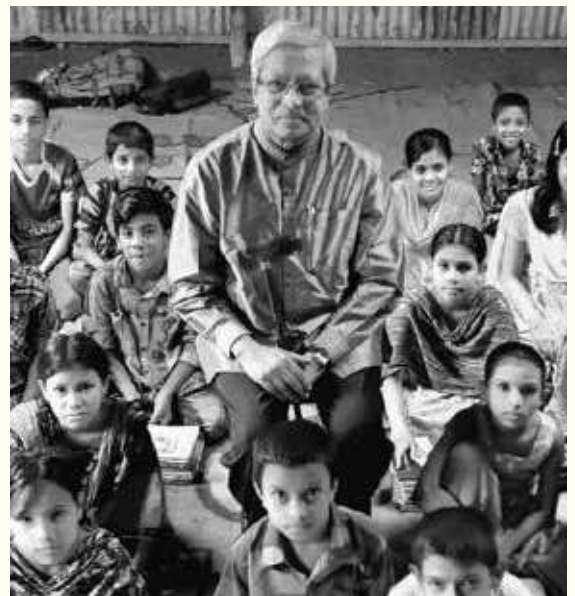
### **Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid**

Dean, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University  
And Associate Vice President for IMPACT, BRAC University





# IN MEMORY OF LATE SIR FAZLE HASAN ABED KCMG (1936 – 2019)





Under Sir Abed's leadership, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health was founded in 2004 in Dhaka, Bangladesh to address the unmet public health challenges particular to Asia, Africa and South America. In realising that a developing country public health needs require immersive, community-based teaching and learning to provide locally innovative research and sustainable health solutions.

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed's vision for BRAC University included the provision of education of the highest quality in the field of public health. Through the combined resources of BRAC and other similar institutions and partners, this vision became a reality through the establishment of the James P Grant School of Public Health.

In 1980, James P Grant, as the newly appointed executive director of UNICEF, started a child survival and development revolution and this revolution was extended to Bangladesh, bringing much higher survival rates for children. Sir Abed met Mr Grant during a conference in 1988, where he congratulated Sir Abed on the work he had been doing in the public health sector in Bangladesh. In 1995, Mr Grant passed away and Sir Abed was invited by the Grant family to speak at the funeral. Here he was pleased and honoured to name the school, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health after him.

From its onset, the School has been promoting not only the art of public health through education but also the science, with research at the heart of academia.

The access that the School has to BRAC and icddr,b's fieldwork and facilities provide its students with a very unique learning experience. In setting up strong partnerships with leading public health institutions from around the world, the School has established itself as an excellent example in global collaboration for development. BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health is committed to the full realisation of Sir Fazle's dream of ensuring that all developing country health professionals receive a quality degree and contribute to making a difference in their homelands.

Sir Abed was honoured with numerous national and international awards for his achievements in leading BRAC. He has also been recognised by Ashoka as one of the 'global greats'; and is a founding member of its prestigious Global Academy for Social Entrepreneurship. In 2010, he was appointed Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George by the British Crown in recognition of his services to reducing poverty in Bangladesh and internationally. Sir Abed was a member of the Group of Eminent Persons appointed by the UN Secretary-General in 2010 to advise on support for the Least Developed Countries. In 2014 and 2017, he was named in Fortune Magazine's List of the World's 50 Greatest Leaders. Sir Fazle was honoured with a Dutch Knighthood in 2019.



# EDUCATION

Pages: 1-59



# TRAINING

Pages: 60-95

# RESEARCH

Pages: 96-213



# ADVOCACY

Pages: 214-268



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## EDUCATION

	Pages No.
<b>Master of Public Health (MPH)</b>	
MPH Academic Committee 2019 .....	03
MPH Courses .....	04
Innovative Public Health Learning Methodologies .....	05
Experiential Learning in the Community .....	06
A Global Classroom of Public Health Learners .....	08
Global Public Health Faculty and Practitioners .....	10
Public Health Competency based Learning: Employable Professional Skills .....	12
The World of Public Health .....	15
Scholarships .....	16
Capacity Building of Students in Higher Education .....	18
MPH 15 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> Cohort .....	20
Faculty, Practitioners and Facilitators in the MPH Programme .....	22
MPH Teaching Fellows .....	31
MPH 2020 (Online Learning) .....	39
14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> MPH Cohort Graduation Ceremony .....	44
<b>Developing Midwives Project</b>	
Midwifery Education Programme: Diploma in Midwifery (DMP) .....	48
Activities in 2019 .....	50
Activities in 2020 .....	55
Publications .....	59

## TRAINING

Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD) .....	62
Training Highlights .....	63
Skills Development in 2019 .....	65
Online Skills Development in 2020 .....	84

## RESEARCH

Centre of Excellences and Humanitarian Research Hub .....	99
Directors of Centres of Excellence .....	111
Our Donors .....	117
Global and Local Research Partners in 2019 and 2020 .....	118
Research in 2019 .....	121
Research in 2020 .....	153
COVID-19 Pandemic Research .....	166
Publications 2019 and 2020 .....	186

## ADVOCACY

Advocacy to Influence Programmes and Policies .....	216
Advocacy Highlights .....	217
Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW) .....	219
Advocacy to Influence Programmes and Policies: 2019 .....	222
Publications 2019 .....	234
Advocacy to Influence Programmes and Policies: 2020 .....	237
Publications 2020 .....	243
Webinars 2020 .....	250





# education

● EXPERIENTIAL COMMUNITY-IMMERSIVE LEARNING

● GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH FACULTY AND PRACTITIONERS

● GLOBAL CLASSROOM

● INNOVATIVE LEARNING METHODOLOGIES

● EMPLOYABLE PROFESSIONAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

● DIVERSE INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

● REAL-WORLD CONTEXTUAL LEARNING

● COMPETENCY-BASED LEARNING



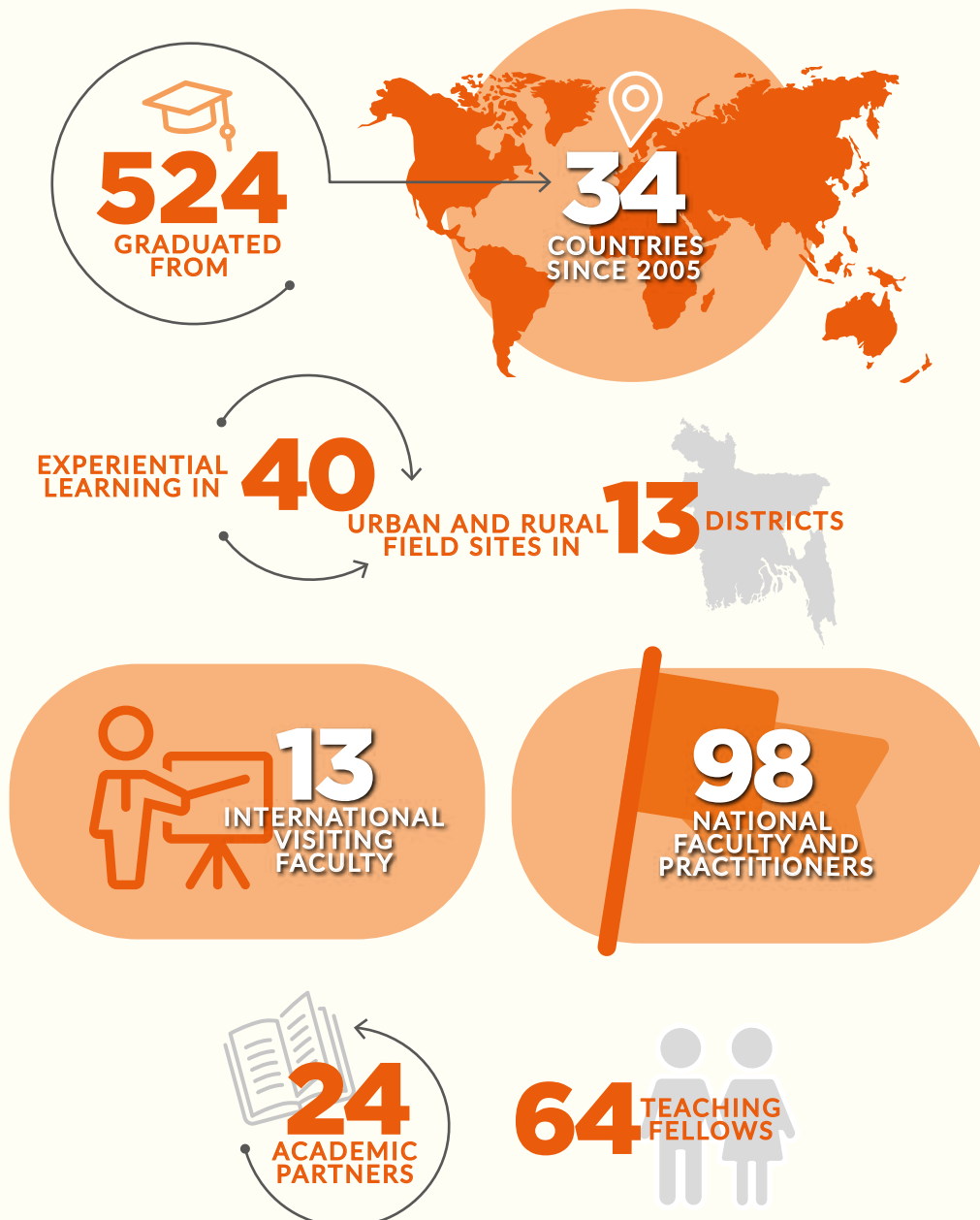
# MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH)

The Master of Public Health (MPH) Programme at BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), BRAC University started its journey in 2005. It is a one-year full time programme that offers transformative public health learning to develop next-generation public health leaders for 21<sup>st</sup> century public health challenges. The locus of the MPH programme is its experiential community immersive teaching, through rigorous urban and rural fieldwork. Facilitating this real-world contextual learning are the BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University's reputed global and national faculty grounded in critical public health research, practice, programme and practitioners from international institutions including Harvard University, USA; Stanford, USA; McGill University, Canada; Liverpool School of

Tropical Medicine, UK; University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia; Makerere University, and nationally reputed institutions: BRAC, icddr, b and others.

The School was featured as one of the Top Six Public Health Schools in the region by WHO in 2007, and in 2019 featured in Johns Hopkins University's Global Health Now as a top School in the region .

This Biennial Report covers the journey of the 15<sup>th</sup> MPH cohort (January 2019 - January 2020) and 16<sup>th</sup> MPH cohort (January 2020 - January 2021). Since the start of the COVID-19 crisis in Bangladesh, the programme continuous virtually.



# MPH ACADEMIC COMMITTEE 2019

Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid, Professor and Dean, BRAC JPGSPH and John D Clemens, Former Executive Director, icddr,b were the Convenors of the Academic Committee.



## Dr Kaosar Afsana

Former Director, BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP), (2012-2018), BRAC;  
Professor, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Dr Malay Kanti Mridha

Professor and Director, Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Faruque Ahmed

Former Executive Director, BRAC International (2013-2019), BRAC;  
Adjunct Professor, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Dr Zahidul Quayyum

Professor and Co-Director of the Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), Recently appointed Research Director, BRAC JPGSPH.



## Dr Syed Masud Ahmed

Professor and Director, Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC), BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Dr Atonu Rabbani

Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Dhaka University;  
Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Dr Tahmeed Ahmed

Executive Director (February 2021 onwards), icddr,b.



## Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid

Professor and Dean, Director, Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Dr Shams El Arifeen

Senior Director, Maternal and Child Health, icddr,b; Professor, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Dr Mahfuza Rifat

Associate Director, Tuberculosis, Communicable Disease Programme, BRAC;  
Adjunct Faculty, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Dr John D Clemens

Former Executive Director, (April 2013 – January 2021), icddr,b.



## Dr Malabika Sarker

Associate Dean, Professor and Director of the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), Former Director of Research, BRAC JPGSPH.



## Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan

Associate Professor and Co-Director of the Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), Recently appointed Research Co-Director, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Dr Aftab Uddin

Head of the Technical Training Unit, icddr,b; Adjunct Faculty, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



## Dr Taufique Joarder

International Consultant, WHO;  
Adjunct Faculty, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.

*Listed alphabetically by last name*

MPH 501	Introduction to Public Health: Its Purpose, Values and Practice – BRAC Health Management (BHM) Experiential Learning	2 Credits
MPH 512	Anthropological Approaches to Public Health	3 Credits
MPH 511	Qualitative Research Methods	2 Credits
MPH 522	Epidemiology	3 Credits
MPH 521	Biostatistics	3 Credits
MPH 520	Quantitative Research Methods	3 Credits
MPH 531	Health Economics and Health Care Financing	2 Credits
MPH 530	Health Systems Management – Health System Management Experiential Learning	5 Credits
MPH 691	Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Health Programmes	1 Credits
MPH 620	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases	3 Credits
MPH 690	Principles of Health Communication	1 Credits
MPH 660	Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights – Government Programme Management Learning (GPML-2) Experiential Learning	2 Credits
MPH 670	Public Health Nutrition	2 Credits
MPH 681	Ageing and Health	2 Credits
MPH 541	Environment, Health and Climate Change	3 Credits
Mph 700	Summative Learning Project (SLP) Research Thesis – SLP Data Collection, Analysis and Report Writing	14 Credits

*Above mentioned Courses with Timeline are based on the 2019 MPH curriculum.*



# INNOVATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH LEARNING METHODOLOGIES

At BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University MPH programme, the communities within urban and rural environment; public health stakeholders and institutions; health and development practitioners and researchers; together form the foundational learning praxis for students throughout the year. Here all the learning methodologies are integrated with this cutting-edge pedagogic model for students to intellectually process and analyse public health realities unfolding in real-time.

The School's explicit learner-focused approach goes beyond the 'detached observer', bounded classroom environment, to compel students to experientially place themselves within the communities alongside the

multiple stakeholders and services. Through such unique learning methodologies students directly encounter the health needs, poverty, service quality and management, health crises, shortcoming and successful interventions embodying modern public health.

BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University thereby inspires students' innate capacities and potential for authentic engagement, stimulates critical academic reflection and repeatedly challenges students to gain holistic perspectives. Thus, allowing them to creatively conceptualize, design and simulate implementable solutions to various public health problems.



IMMERSIVE URBAN AND RURAL COMMUNITY FIELDWORK



URBAN AND RURAL COMMUNITY CONTEXT-BASED LEARNING



HEALTH SERVICES-DELIVERY SOLUTIONS PROJECTS



PUBLIC HEALTH REAL-WORLD SIMULATIONS AND ROLE-PLAYING



PUBLIC HEALTH ULTI-DISCIPLINARY LEARNING



GLOBAL INTEGRATIVE CASE STUDIES



INTEGRATIVE HEALTH LEARNING FRAMEWORKS



INTEGRATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH THEMATIC LEARNING



IMMERSIVE URBAN AND RURAL HEALTH SERVICES FIELDWORK



CUMULATIVE APPLIED LEARNING



PUBLIC HEALTH MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS PROJECT



HEALTH SERVICES INTERVIEWS, DIALOGUES AND INVESTIGATIONS



FACILITATED GUIDED FIELDWORK



PEER LEARNING, FEEDBACK AND CRITIQUE



TEAM PROJECT PRESENTATION

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN THE COMMUNITY

In addition to classroom learning students get the opportunity to practically work in the community, visit service delivery organisations and health facilities to understand different public health problems across diverse areas. This immersion allows practical experience and learning relevant to public health challenges in both rural and urban context. In 2019, students immersed

themselves in urban and rural villages, BRAC Health programme sites and clinics, icddr,b hospital, public and private NGO clinics and observed health activities by informal practitioners, government health services and partner institutions as part of their learning from various modules.

KURIGRAM

Practically comprehending the service delivery and related management functions within **BRAC Health's MNCAH Programme** under BRAC Health Programme Management Module 1.

RANGPUR

Comprehending health service delivery and service needs within **BRAC Health's MNCAH Programme** under the BRAC Health Programme Management Learning Module 1.

DINAJPUR

Exploring the perceptions of healthcare providers regarding non-communicable diseases (NCD) management in rural primary healthcare facilities for the Summative Learning Project.

TANGAIL

Exploring community perspectives on the public health implications of waste management and wastewater treatment systems under the Environment, Health and Climate Change Module.

MANIKGANJ

Evaluating health security scheme for **BRAC Aarong** artisans at the Ayesha Abed Foundation, under the Health Economics and Health Care Financing Module.

RAJBARI

Understanding respectful maternity care at the **Upazila Health Complex** under Government Programme Management Learning Module 2.

NETROKONA

Assessing infection control practices in managing drug-resistant tuberculosis under the National Tuberculosis Control Programme implemented by the **Damien Foundation** for Summative Learning Project.

MYMENSINGH

Assessing the economic consequences and coping mechanisms of drug-resistant tuberculosis patients under the National Tuberculosis Control Programme implemented by the **Damien Foundation** for the Summative Learning Project.

GAZIPUR

Understanding the process of the development of food safety guidelines and pilot implementation across the poultry value chain under the Epidemiology of Infectious Disease Module.

DHAKA

Understanding poverty and health, assessing nutrition status among different population, energy cost of infection during acute diarrhea, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) in a typical village setting at **icddr'b** sites under Public Health and Nutrition Module.

Exploring and understanding feasible institutional care for elderly in low-income countries, and how ageing is addressed in the mainstream health care facilities in urban old homes: **Apon Nibas Bridya Asroy Kendra, Uttara, Probin Hitoishi Shangha, Probin Bhaban and Hospital, Agargaon** under Ageing and Health Module.

DHAKA NARAYANGANJ

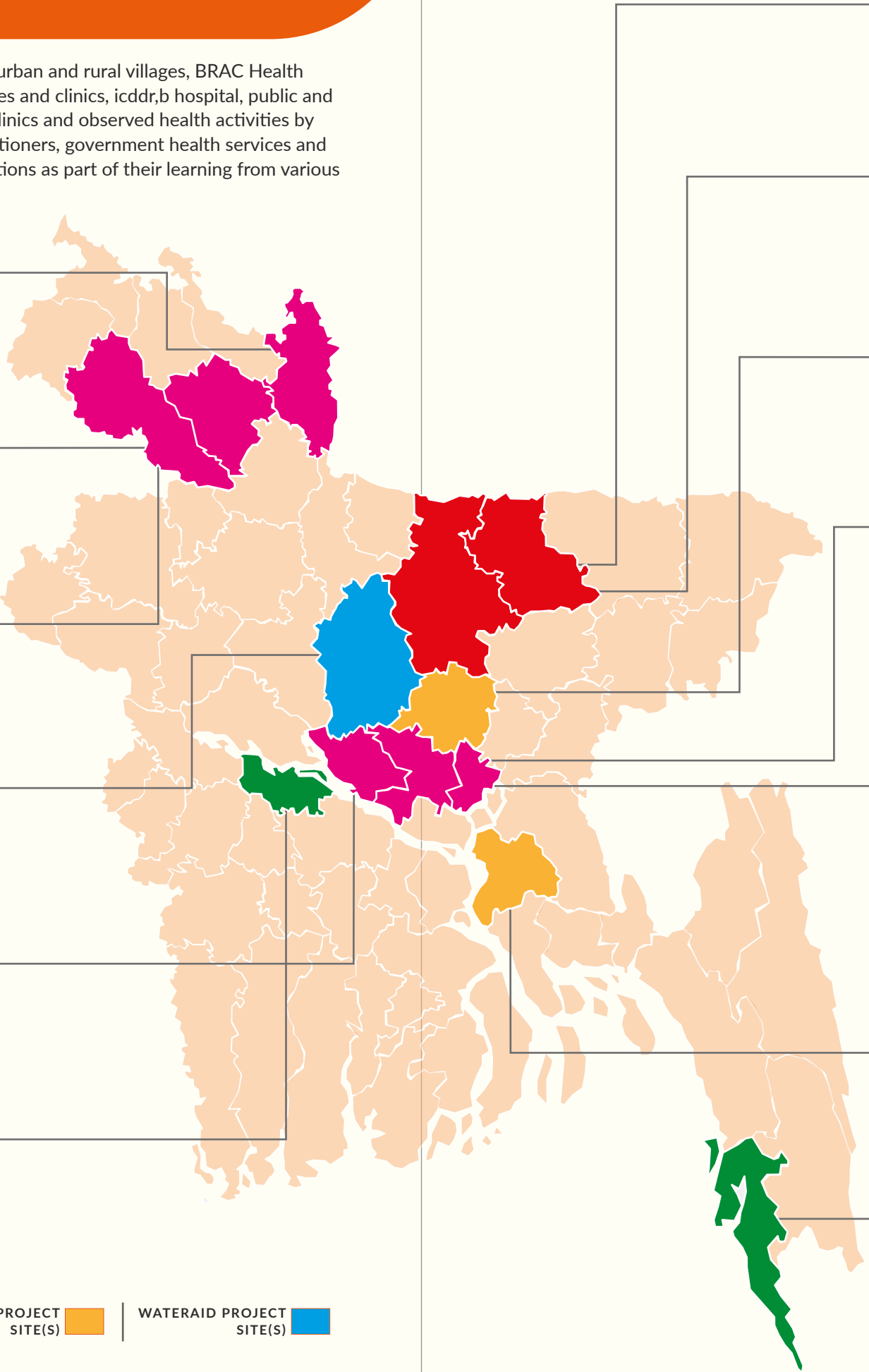
Exploring menstruation hygiene management and infectious disease at the **BRAC Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Programme** in Schools under Epidemiology of Infectious Disease Module.

CHANDPUR

Learning about the use of antibiotics among caregivers and patients at the Matlab Hospital under the Epidemiology of Infectious Disease Module.

COX'S BAZAR

Understanding pregnancy care seeking behaviour and barriers in utilizing pregnancy care, among adolescent living in **Rohingya Refugees Camps** in Cox's Bazar, for the Summative Learning Project.



BRAC PROJECT SITE(S) | GoB SITE(S) | DAMIEN FOUNDATION | icddr'b PROJECT SITE(S) | WATERAID PROJECT SITE(S)

# A GLOBAL CLASSROOM OF PUBLIC HEALTH LEARNERS

The School has a global classroom of public health learners with 524 graduates from 34 countries committed to working on priority public health challenges, most of whom live or work in developing

countries. With a 50% female student body, the School nurtures a truly enriching learning atmosphere by combining diverse learners, such as diverse as doctors, nurses, social scientists, development practitioners, and

researchers; with recent graduates in sciences and liberal arts. This allows for the necessary inter-cultural exchange, cross-sectoral experience-sharing and best-practice insights, to collaboratively devise solutions for urgent health problems. The strategic partnerships with BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC and icddr,b, coupled with Bangladesh's remarkable SDG health achievements and innovations, creates the ideal learning laboratory for students.

A highly selective and close-knit group of usually 35 to 40 students yearly, fosters this incomparable global public health classroom of faculty and peer interaction. By learning together and from one another throughout the year, students build meaningful intellectual and personal life-long relationships, which sustain their future public health professional work.





# GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH FACULTY AND PRACTITIONERS

Facilitating this real-world contextual learning are the BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University's reputed global and national professors and faculty grounded in critical public health research, practice and programmes. Students gain insightful practical knowledge and know-how from both faculty engaged in applied public health research informing health programmes and policies and leading public health practitioners with extensive experience in strategising, designing and operationalising programmes.

In addition, visiting faculty from diverse discipline and

backgrounds as well as other professions like law, business, media governance, education, etc. provide a comprehensive understanding of the complexities affecting health services.

Alongside the core curriculum, the School draws on diverse faculty specializations and developing world health priorities as global and community health, ethics, applied anthropology, urban poverty, qualitative methods, health programme management, monitoring and evaluation and implementation science.



*"Year after year the BRAC JPGSPH MPH student body is characterized by remarkable academic, professional and cultural diversity. This diversity supports a dynamic learning community. The interactive class sessions leverage the student's diversity to connect the latest public health knowledge, ideas and methods to the situations the graduates will face as public health professionals."*

**DR STEPHEN P LUBY**

Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine), and Director of Research, Center for Innovation in Global Health, Stanford University, USA

Faculty, Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University



*"BRAC JPGSPH's MPH programme has no equal globally in terms of opportunities for experiential learning. Its educational experience puts students close to the ground realities that shape the health and wellbeing of people and populations, to the challenges of implementing health-related programmes, and to the complex policy and systems issues that shape health investments and outcomes."*

**DR ALAYNE ADAMS**

Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine, McGill University; Population Health Director and Professor, Course Coordinator Qualitative Research Methods, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University



*"I have been impressed by the level of skill and commitment of BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University students while they lead investigations during their field projects. The interdisciplinarity of student profiles allows for a rich fertilization of ideas to address problems found in the field and suggest innovative solutions within a public health framework."*

**DR NITA CHAUDHURI**

Adjunct Professor, American University of Paris  
Visiting Professor, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University  
Introduction to Public Health, Programme Management Learning



*"Teaching on the MPH was rewarding: the students were very engaged and the BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University staffs were supportive. COVID-19 posed a serious challenge, but the online sessions were skilfully executed by the students and support staff alike. This meant we could achieve something very similar to the highly interactive face-to-face sessions of the past."*

**ERMIN ERASMUS**

Researcher, Health Policy and Systems Analysis in South Africa;  
Faculty Health Systems Management, Course Coordinator Quantitative Research Methods, Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Health Programmes, Introduction to Implementation Research, Summative Learning Project (SLP), BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University



*"BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University MPH programme, an experiential community immersive learning programme with a global classroom, fosters diverse and innovative solutions and nurtures public health leadership skills. The programme comprising both national and international students provide students the opportunity to receive need-based and merit-based scholarships. The scholarships are granted by WHO TDR, BRAC University, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed Scholarship, and the Amena Azfar & Humantunnessa Rob Scholarship to deserving candidates following gender equity. By warranting financial assistance, we can enable greater success in the MPH programme."*

**DR MALABIKA SARKER**

Associate Dean, Professor and Director of the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), Former Director of Research, BRAC JPGSPH.

*Please see page 22 for the full faculty list.*

# PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCY BASED LEARNING: EMPLOYABLE PROFESSIONAL SKILLS


With new attention brought to competent public health professionals due to the pandemic and to effectively tackle the current and emerging 21<sup>st</sup> century public health challenges, students must equip themselves with the precise Public Health Technical, Soft and Managerial

skills demanded. BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University's Experiential Community-Immersive Teaching and innovative learning methodologies form a Public Health competency-based curriculum to develop the following:



## PUBLIC HEALTH TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES

- Basic Epidemiology Skills
- Basic Biostatistics Skills
- Basic Applied Medical Anthropological Skills
- Qualitative Research Methodology Skills
- Quantitative Research Methodology Skills
- Data Analysis and Interpretation Skills
- Basic Mixed Methods Research Skills
- Literature Review Skills
- Evidence-Based Analytical Skills
- Community Need Assessment Skills



## PUBLIC HEALTH SOFT SKILLS

- Public Health Empathy Skills
- Self-Reflective Skills
- Self-Management Skills
- Interpersonal Skills
- Learning Aptitude
- Intercultural Sensitivity Skills
- Teamwork and Collaboration
- Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving



## PUBLIC HEALTH MANAGEMENT COMPETENCIES

- Basic Community-Centric Design
- Basic Systems Thinking
- Basic Solutions Thinking
- Basic Programme Management Skills
- Basic Monitoring and Evaluation Skills
- Basic Service-Delivery Conceptual Skills
- Basic Human Resources Conceptual Skills
- Basic Marketing-Communications
- Conceptual Skills
- Basic Budgeting Skills



# POST MPH EMPLOYMENT

BRAC JPGSPH's competency-based curriculum develops well-rounded, multi-skilled professionals who can readily apprehend the evolving inter-dimensional nature of public health to succeed in diverse and

complex health environments globally. Graduates have been recruited by international and national Public Health organisations including:

*Updated as of December 2020 by the School's Alumni*



# POST-MPH HIGHER STUDIES

Graduates have enrolled in or completed doctoral and post-doctoral studies at leading institutions including:

Updated as of December 2020 by the School's Alumni





# THE WORLD OF PUBLIC HEALTH

From 2017 till 2019, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University has been organizing an interactive public health education outreach event to share information on public health education for fresh graduates, public health and development professionals. The event also offers a platform for them to directly interact with MPH alumni and potential employers and get an understanding of BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University's teaching and learning.



The 'Interactive Student Event - Discover the World of Public Health', which took place on September 7, 2019, hosted over 220 students and professionals from different institutions. Participants with diverse academic backgrounds showed up to the event and explored the career prospects in the field of Public Health. Participants undertook guided and facilitated sessions on teaching and learning, a public health quiz and discovery games.

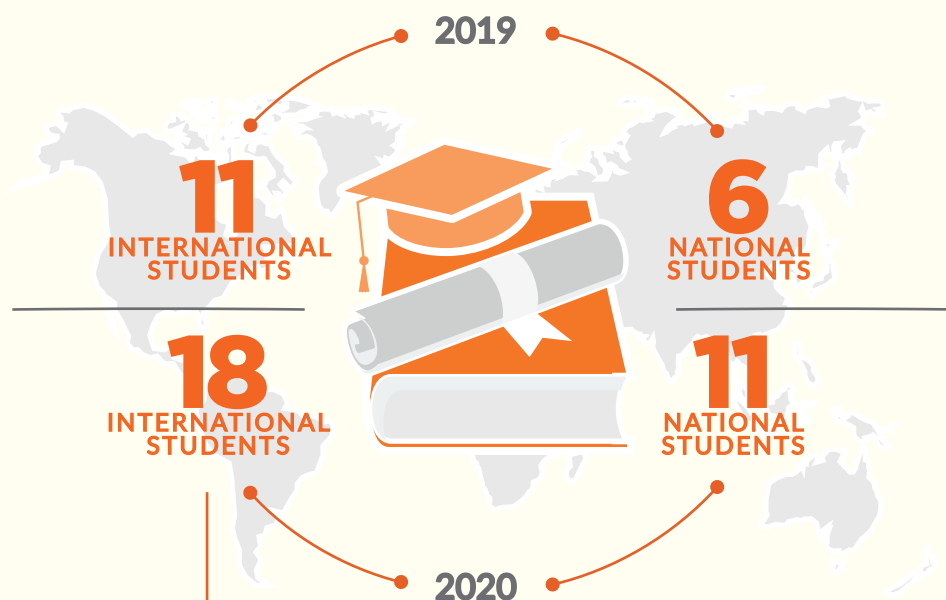




# SCHOLARSHIPS

Like previous years, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University has offered competitive scholarships for both national and international students in 2019 and 2020. In 2019,

11 international and 6 national students and in 2020, 18 international and 11 national students received scholarships to pursue their MPH degree.



## **SIR FAZLE HASAN ABED SCHOLARSHIPS**

*For Bangladeshi nationals.*

## **WHO SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN TROPICAL DISEASES (TDR) SCHOLARSHIPS**

*For applicants based on academic merit and public health experience in neglected tropical disease from low-and-middle income countries in WHO Southeast Asia and Western Pacific Regions.*

## **AMENA AZFAR & HURMATUNNESSA ROB SCHOLARSHIP**

*For meritorious and socio-economically disadvantaged Bangladeshi female applicants.*

## **BRAC UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS**

*For national and international applicants.*

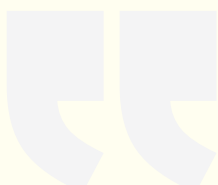
## STUDENT EXPERIENCES



### Samuel Saidu

MPH, 14<sup>th</sup> Cohort, Sierra Leone  
Research Associate, Research and Development,  
University of Sierra Leone

*Samuel Saidu is currently working on sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) for males. Upon graduation, he joined the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) vaccine trial for Ebola. He also worked for eHealth Africa as a technical officer, was a medical monitor and project supervisor on the STRIVE vaccine trial and on Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) electronic polio surveillance. Currently, Samuel is working for the University of Sierra Leone and pursuing his PhD at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.*



*"The MPH programme has helped improve my knowledge and understanding of Public Health. With cross-cutting units that looked at various facets of Public Health, the course was highly structured. The course units built my analytical skills to grasp different concepts and develop strategic interventions. I feel more assured and better prepared than ever with this great wealth of knowledge gained."*



### Margaret Alia Samson

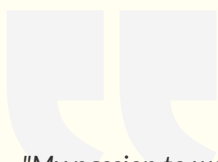
MPH, 15<sup>th</sup> Cohort, South Sudan  
POCT Advisor, ICAP Columbia University



### Debashis Dey

MPH, 16<sup>th</sup> Cohort, Bangladesh  
Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

*"I am very much grateful to BRAC JPGSPH for giving me the chance to continue my course during the pandemic, including including experiential learning. Special thanks to all the faculty members and the MPH team for arranging a nice virtual field visit session. Learned a lot through online as well as field work and will try to use this in my professional life."*



### Diksha Kafle

MPH, 15<sup>th</sup> Cohort, Nepal  
Consultant (MNH Helpline and ongoing innovative projects),  
One Heart Worldwide, Nepal

*"My passion to work in the field of Public Health brought me to BRAC JPGSPH. The classes were exciting, rich in diversity. Every day I learnt different ideas and perspectives of nine different countries staying from one-classroom. The experiential learning was even more exciting as it shaped and helped me become more independent. JPGSPH gave us the best faculty, whose experiences were unique and were reflected in every class, field visit and group work project. This one-year programme has empowered and helped me to transform personally and professionally. BRAC JPGSPH helped me to turn my passion into a career."*



# CAPACITY BUILDING OF STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

## TDR POSTGRADUATE TRAINING SCHEME ON IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH

BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University is one of the seven global academic institutions, awarded the World Health Organization's TDR Postgraduate Training Scheme on implementation research for MPH programmes.

Since its inception in 2015, the objective of this five-year grant is to strengthen Low-and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) and train young public health

professionals on implementation research. The scholarship covers full tuition, accommodation and food, local transport, medical and accidental insurance and implementation research on neglected tropical diseases/infectious diseases of poverty.

In 2020, 13 students from eight different countries were awarded the WHO TDR scholarship from BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University's 16<sup>th</sup> MPH cohort.

## TRANSFORMATIVE COMPETENCY-BASED PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYABILITY IN BANGLADESH'S HEALTH SECTOR (TRANS4M-PH) PROJECT

In collaboration with the International Centre for Climate Change and Development, Independent University of Bangladesh (ICCCAD-IUB), and Asian University for Women (AUW), BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University is working to design and implement the "Transformative Competency-Based Public Health Education for Professional Employability in Bangladesh's Health Sector (TRANS4M-PH)" project. In December 2018, the BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University led tripartite institutional partnership was awarded the prestigious European Union 2018 ERASMUS+ grant: "Capacity Building in Higher Education" with technical partners The University of Maastricht (UM), Netherlands and Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK.

The three-year project aims to transform nine courses from BRAC JPGSPH, IUB and AUW into competency-based curricula and 27 faculty members will be trained to facilitate competency-based public health courses that will enhance the professional employability

of public health graduates in the health sector of Bangladesh. Through this project, a core group of indigenous faculty members are being trained in best-practice facilitation, while creatively using appropriate contextualized pedagogy. This, in turn, will substantially improve students' practical public health skill sets towards greater employability.

The first year of the project has been successfully completed in 2019 followed by the review meeting for the first year in January 2020. The project activities included four capacity building workshops for faculty teams from each national partner institution to be trained in competency-based curriculum design and facilitation by the technical partners, UM and IDS. In 2020, due to the pandemic the four capacity building workshops took place remotely. BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University hosted review meetings to discuss and share the implementation challenges and best practices from initial year and the way-forward in starting the second year of the project by all partner institutions.





## BRAC JPGSPH AT THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CONSORTIUM OF UNIVERSITIES FOR GLOBAL HEALTH (CUGH) IN CHICAGO

At the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Consortium of Universities for Global Health, (CUGH), BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University conducted a concurrent session on “Transformative Competency-based Health Education for the Developing World: The BRAC JPGSPH Experience”, from March 7-10, 2019 at the Hilton Hotel in Chicago. The School shared its experience in designing and implementing transformative competency-based public health education that responds to the needs of the developing world in the context of Public Health.

During the session Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University and Mikhail Islam, Strategy and Design Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University shared how the School's competency-based MPH Curriculum was designed around indigenous developing world health contexts through community-centric, experiential immersive learning; intensive urban and rural fieldwork and pilot solution projects.



*Dr Selina Amin, Head, Midwifery Education Programme and Project Director, Developing Midwives Project at BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University shared the competency-based experience on Midwifery Education Programme that is developing a new cadre of midwives in developing countries like Bangladesh.*



*Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale Up (CoE-SISU) at BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University shared the design and implementation experience from the 'Experiential Implementation Research' module.*

**12** WOMEN   **15** MEN

**16** NATIONAL STUDENTS  **11** INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

 STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO: **3:1** 

 **27** STUDENTS FROM **8** COUNTRIES 



PROPORTION OF STUDENTS RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID TO ATTEND THE MPH PROGRAMME: 14

NUMBER OF STUDENTS STARTING A FIRST DEGREE: 18

NUMBER OF FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS STARTING A FIRST DEGREE: 6

NUMBER OF WOMEN STARTING A FIRST DEGREE: 8

NUMBER OF FIRST-GENERATION WOMEN STARTING A FIRST DEGREE: 1

NUMBER OF FIRST-DEGREE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: 11





## MPH 16<sup>th</sup> COHORT (2020-2021)

**20** WOMEN   **18** MEN

**19** NATIONAL STUDENTS  **19** INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**19** ACADEMIC AND MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS



**19** NON-MEDICAL DIVERSE DISCIPLINES



**38** STUDENTS FROM **14** COUNTRIES



NUMBER OF STUDENTS RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID TO ATTEND THE MPH PROGRAMME: 37

NUMBER OF STUDENTS STARTING A FIRST POST-GRADUATE DEGREE: 31

NUMBER OF FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS STARTING A FIRST POST-GRADUATE DEGREE: 15

NUMBER OF WOMEN STARTING A FIRST POST-GRADUATE DEGREE: 18

NUMBER OF FIRST-GENERATION WOMEN STARTING A FIRST POST-GRADUATE DEGREE: 11





# FACULTY, PRACTITIONERS AND FACILITATORS IN THE MPH PROGRAMME

BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University MPH programme combines the national and global experience of public health teaching, research and practice in the classroom.

Over the years, the School has had the honour of welcoming visiting faculty from universities including Harvard University (USA); Stanford University (USA); Georgetown University (USA); Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (UK); Griffith University (Australia);

John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (USA); Makerere University (Uganda), Dhaka University (Bangladesh); Jahangirnagar University (Bangladesh); Collaboration for Health Policy and Systems Analysis in Africa (South Africa); Ministry of Health (Liberia); the World Bank; Saffron Health and Environment (France); Jhpiego (Afghanistan); and leading public health organisations in Bangladesh including BRAC, icddr'b; UNICEF; FAO; FHI360; WaterAid and many more.

*Listed alphabetically by last name.*



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Associate Professor,  
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Population Health Director and Professor,  
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**Md Koushik Ahmed**

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Training Scheme on Implementation  
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Excellence for Health Systems and Universal  
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Associate Scientist, Quantitative Research Methods, Health Economics and Health Care Financing, Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Health Programmes, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Musabbir Rahim**

Senior General Manager, Shakti Foundation for Disadvantaged Women  
Guest Resource Person, Health Economics and Health Care Financing, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Mushfiqur Rahman**

Deputy Research Coordinator, Quantitative Research Method, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Ashfique Rizwan**

Business Manager, Therapeutic Spiral International  
Guest Resource Person, Introduction to Public Health, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr M. Shafiqur Rahman**

Professor, Institute of Statistical Research and Training (ISRT), University of Dhaka  
Guest Resource Person, Biostatistics, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Atiq Rahman**

Executive Director, Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)  
Guest Resource Person, Environment Health and Climate Change, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid**

Dean, Professor and Director, Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), Course Coordinator Introduction to Public Health, Anthropological Approaches to Public Health, Qualitative Research Methods, Gender Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Mahmudur Rahman**

Former Director, Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) and National Influenza Centre (NIC), Adjunct Faculty Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Shannon Rutherford**

Senior Lecturer, School of Medicine, Griffith University, Australia  
Guest Resource Person, Environment, Health and Climate Change, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Md. Manna Rahman**

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, VSO, Bangladesh  
Guest Resource Person, Ageing and Health, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Kazi Ishtiaque Sanin**

Research Investigator, Maternal and Childhood Malnutrition Division, icddr,b  
Guest Resource Person, Public Health Nutrition, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Md. Masud Reza**

Senior Manager, Infectious Diseases Unit, icddr,b  
Guest Resource Person, Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Malabika Sarker**

Associate Dean, Professor and Director of the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), Former Director of Research; Course Coordinator Quantitative Research Methods, Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Health Programmes, Introduction to Implementation Research, Summative Learning Project (SLP), BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.

**Atiya Rahman**

Senior Research Fellow and Resource Person, Anthropological Approaches to Public Health and Qualitative Research Methods, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Monira Sarmin**

Assistant Scientist, Nutrition and Clinical Services Division, icddr,b  
Guest Resource Person, Public Health Nutrition, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Lubaba Shahrin**

Associate Scientist, Nutrition and Clinical Services Division, icddr,b  
Guest Resource Person, Public Health Nutrition, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Aminul Islam Sujon**

Programme Officer, National Tobacco Control Cell, Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Guest Resource Person, Public Health Ageing and Health, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Rumana Sharmin**

Study Physician, Nutrition and Clinical Services Division, icddr,b  
Guest Resource Person, Public Health Nutrition, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Marufa Sultana**

Assistant Scientist, icddr,b  
Guest Resource Person, Health Economics and Health Care Financing, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Sharifuzzaman**

Assistant Scientist, Nutrition and Clinical Services Division, icddr,b  
Guest Resource Person, Public Health Nutrition, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dipesh Tamrakar**

Assistant Professor, Community Medicine, Kathmandu University School of Medical Sciences, Nepal, Guest Resource Person, Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Mohammad Sohel Shomik**

Deputy Project Coordinator, Nutrition and Clinical Services Division, icddr,b  
Guest Resource Person, Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Aftab Uddin**

Head of the Technical Training Unit (TTU), icddr,b, Adjunct Faculty, Introduction to Implementation Research, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr Ipsita Shutrathar**

Senior Research Fellow and Resource Person, Ageing and Health, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Tasnuva Wahed**

Resource Person, Government Programme Management Learning (GPML)  
Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Shafinaz Sobhan**

Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Food and Agricultural Approaches to Reducing Malnutrition (FAARM) Project, Epidemiology and Biostatistics Unit, University of Heidelberg, Germany  
Guest Resource Person, Programme Management Learning, Summative Learning Project (SLP), BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Dr K. Zaman**

Senior Scientist, Infectious Diseases Division, icddr,b  
Guest Resource Person, Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

**Ashley Rene Styczynski**

Infectious Disease Fellow, Department of Medicine, Stanford University, California  
Guest Resource Person, Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University





# MPH TEACHING FELLOWS

The BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University, MPH Programme offers opportunities for Teaching Fellows to develop interactive teaching skills. Between 2019 and 2020, a total of 64 Teaching Fellows in the MPH Programme

have worked with course coordinators and senior faculty members in preparing and implementing the course successfully.

*Listed by course and alphabetically by last name*

## INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH 501)



**Adepto Intisar Ahmed**  
Research Assistant



**Raafat Hassan**  
Research Associate



**Sayema Akter**  
Research Fellow



**Syed Hassan Imtiaz**  
Senior Research Associate



**Wafa Alam**  
Assistant Coordinator



**Ateeb Ahmad Parray**  
Visiting Fellow



**Samiha Ali**  
Research Fellow



**Pushpita Ray**  
Research Associate



**Nadia Farnaz**  
Research Fellow



**Sumona Siddiqua**  
Senior Research Associate

## ANTHROPOLOGICAL APPROACHES TO PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH 512) AND QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS (MPH 511)



**Subas Chandra Biswas**  
Senior Research Fellow



**Haowa Mustagfira Esha**  
Senior Research Associate



**Fatema Akter Bonny**  
Deputy Research Coordinator



**Rukhshan Fahmi**  
Research Associate



**Sudipta Das Gupta**  
Research Assistant



**Mowtushi Matin**  
Senior Research Associate



**Mohammad Riaz Hossain**  
Senior Research Associate



**Chand Mia**  
Senior Research Assistant



**Ishrat Jahan**  
Research Associate



**Md. Imran Hossain Mithu**  
Research Associate



**Selima Sara Kabir**  
Assistant Research Coordinator



**Nibedita Sarker**  
Research Associate

## QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS (MPH 520)



**Shams Shabab Haider**  
Research Associate



**Sanjana Nujhat**  
Research Associate



**Suhi Hanif**  
Senior Research Assistant



**Avijit Saha**  
Research Fellow

## BIOSTATISTICS (MPH 521)



**Abdul Awal**  
Research Associate



**Mir Raihanul Islam**  
Senior Research Associate



**Srizan Chowdhury**  
Research Assistant



**Md. Belal Hossain**  
Senior Research Associate



**Md. Uzzal Chowdhury**  
Senior Statistician



**Md. Mokbul Hossain**  
Analyst (Statistics)

## EPIDEMIOLOGY (MPH 522)



**Syed Hasan Imtiaz**  
Research Associate



**Avijit Saha**  
Research Fellow



**Moutushi Matin**  
Senior Research Associate



**Hasna Hena Sara**  
Research Associate



**Saima Mehjabeen**  
Senior Research Associate



**Animesh Talukder**  
Research Associate

## HEALTH SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT (MPH 530)



**Wafa Alam**  
Assistant Coordinator



**Farzana Manzoor**  
Research Associate



**Fatema Akter Bonny**  
Deputy Research Coordinator



**Moutushi Matin**  
Senior Research Associate



**Bushra Zarin Islam**  
Senior Research Associate



**Imran Hossain Mithu**  
Research Associate



**Adrita Kaiser, Research**  
Assistant Coordinator



**Tanha Tabassum Nunna**  
Research Associate



**Samiun Nazrin BenteKamal**  
Senior Research Associate



## HEALTH ECONOMICS AND HEALTH CARE FINANCING (MPH 531)



**Adepto Intisar Ahmed**  
Research Assistant



**Baby Naznin**  
Senior Research Assistant



**Nadia Farnaz**  
Research Fellow



**Md. Mehedi Hasan Rasel**  
Research Assistant



**Muhammad Nazmul Islam**  
Senior Research Fellow



**Marzuka Ahmed Radia**  
Research Coordinator

## ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE (MPH 541)



**Haowa Mustagfira Esha**  
Deputy Coordinator,  
MPH Programme



**ASM Nadim**  
Research Assistant



**Mir Raihanul Islam**  
Senior Research Associate



**Mahmood Parvez**  
Senior Research Associate



**Fauzul Kabir**  
Assistant MPH Coordinator

## EPIDEMIOLOGY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (MPH 620)



**Humayra Binte Anwar**  
Lecturer



**Malika Asia Tamim**  
Research Associate



**Kazi Sameen Nasar**  
Senior Research Associate

## GENDER, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (MPH 660)



**Wafa Alam**  
Assistant Coordinator



**Kazi Faria Islam**  
Research Associate



**Samiha Ali**  
Research Associate



**Adrita Kaiser**  
Assistant Coordinator



**Abdul Awal**  
Research Associate



**Pushpita Ray**  
Research Associate



**Nadia Farnaz**  
Research Fellow



**Ashfique Rizwan**  
Deputy Coordinator



**Raafat Hassan**  
Research Associate



**Salma Akter Urme**  
Research Assistant

## PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION (MPH 670)



**Haowa Mustagfira Esha**  
Deputy Coordinator, MPH  
Programme



**Saira Parveen Jolly**  
Senior Research Fellow



**Bushra Zarin Islam**  
Senior Research Associate



**Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif**  
Research Associate



**Delufa Jerin**  
Research Assistant



**Hasna Hena Sara**  
Research Associate

## AGEING AND HEALTH (MPH 681)



**Fahmida Akter**  
Senior Research Fellow



**Nazrana Khaled**  
Deputy Research Coordinator



**Md. Syful Islam**  
Research Associate

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMMES (MPH 691)



**Haowa Mustagfira Esha**  
Deputy Coordinator, MPH  
Programme



**Malika Asia Tamim**  
Research Associate



**Shams Shabab Haider**  
Research Associate

## PRINCIPLES OF HEALTH COMMUNICATION (MPH 690)



**Fauzul Kabir**  
Assistant MPH Coordinator



**Sifati Tamanna**  
Research Associate



**Nahela Nowshin**  
Research Associate



**Anushka Zafar**  
Research Fellow

## PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT LEARNING (PML)-1



**Sayema Akter**  
Research Fellow



**Raafat Hassan**  
Research Associate



**Nadia Farnaz**  
Research Fellow



**Muhammad Riaz Hossain**  
Assistant Project Coordinator





**Sharid Bin Shafique**  
Senior Research Assistant

## GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT LEARNING (GPML)-2



**Wafa Alam**  
Assistant Coordinator



**Nadia Farnaz**  
Research Fellow



**Abdul Awal**  
Research Associate



**Pushpita Ray**  
Research Associate





# SUMMATIVE LEARNING PROJECT (SLP) 2019

The summative learning project (SLP) a nine-week framework for group research is a systematic approach where students and researchers contextualize and analyse the problem from different critical lenses and design research queries under direct supervision from a supervisor and mentor. Students from BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University 15<sup>th</sup> cohort MPH programme conducted the Summative Learning Project (SLP) in five areas: Model Pharmacy; Urban Health; Heat, Housing and Health; Sexual and Reproductive Health of Young People; and Non-Communicable Disease.

The SLP group on Sexual and Reproductive Health of Young People explored the current situation of integration and implementation of comprehensive sexuality education in secondary schools in Bangladesh.

The Heat, Housing and Health group looked at the perceptions, prevalence, coping mechanisms, and associated housing characteristics regarding heat-related health problems, including heat stress and

sleep disturbance. Interviews were taken from the urban slum residents of Korail, Dhaka.

The Non-Communicable Disease group implemented a quantitative survey with the female breast cancer patients at National Institute of Cancer Research and Hospital (NICRH), Mohakhali, Dhaka.

The Urban Health group explored the influences of lifestyle behaviours and neighbourhood environment on nutritional status of older adolescents in Dhaka metropolitan area.

Finally, the Model Pharmacy group studied the current situation regarding compliance with the Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) guidelines for Model Pharmacy and model medicine shop, challenges and opportunities of implementing the programme and perspectives of the stakeholders (providers, consumers, and authorities) involved.



# MPH 2020 (ONLINE LEARNING)

BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University remained committed to continuous learning and has been offering MPH real time online learning from March 22, 2020. 38 students from UK, India, Philippines, Myanmar, Nigeria, Nepal, Fiji, Indonesia, Sierra Leon, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Maldives and Bangladesh continued the programme online.

Online resource tools such as Zoom, Moodle, Google Classroom and BuX have allowed students and faculty members from around the world to take part in online sessions so that the MPH programme continues and stays on track. Some distinctive features of our online platform included:

- Global faculty and public health practitioners around the world;
- Real-time online interactive lectures followed by Open discussions and Q/A sessions;
- Refresher sessions in specific intervals to review discussions, addressing any queries and allowing this for focused online tutorials;
- Developing qualitative and quantitative research skills during pandemic via online and phone interviews and surveys with community-based respondents (i.e. garment workers, care givers, health providers) from different geographical regions and within Bangladesh;
- Real time structured and need based support/coaching and supervision by faculty members and Teaching Fellows;
- Breakout sessions for intensive group work and country-based case studies, preparing for debates, online role simulations, etc.;
- Live dialogues with different stakeholders, who attended via panel sessions and webinars;
- Virtual learning management system to allow flexible learning by recording all interactive lectures.



## INTERACTIVE ONLINE SESSIONS

In response to the pandemic BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University designed sessions that featured:

- Interactive online group-work to find solutions for practical public health problems in developing world contexts;
- Cutting-edge, real world technical and soft skills learning practices through the Online Platform;
- Participation in online debates, and presenting creative ideas and demonstrating critical thinking skills.



*Below are selected outlines of different online courses in 2020:*

## **QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS (MPH 520): ONLINE QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS MODULE**

During the pandemic unlike other previous online modules, students have done online group work to design a quantitative research query, made data collection plans in a pandemic, collected data online and presented findings in groups under the

course Quantitative Research Methods (MPH 520). This course is designed as an intensive, hands-on learning experience that will foster the development of a basic understanding of different research designs and concrete skills in quantitative research methods, with a particular emphasis on survey development.

## **HEALTH SYSTEM MANAGEMENT (MPH 530): ANALYSE HEALTH SYSTEM AND POLICY OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES**

During the pandemic, MPH students were engaged in active discussions, meaningful exchange of ideas and productive dialogue with health system experts under the Health System Management course (MPH 530). The students also critically reviewed health system contexts and responses to COVID-19 situations in different countries. As per the requirement of the course,

students have also undertaken experiential learning projects on Health System's response to COVID-19 pandemic in different country contexts and applied critical systems thinking approach in order to identify gaps and challenges to find out a possible solution. The course, Health System Management (MPH 530) describes the health system, discusses its different components and explains how these constitute a health system.

## **EPIDEMIOLOGY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (MPH 620): MULTI-COUNTRY VIRTUAL STUDY**

This was the first time in the course Epidemiology of Infectious Disease (MPH 620) that the students conducted research in different countries simultaneously, which included the UK, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Maldives, Philippines. They collected quantitative and qualitative data through a variety of online data collection platforms including phone interviews, online survey via different online platforms like Google, Facebook. Some of the research included change in healthcare seeking behaviour and

adaptation of behaviour. Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases (MPH 620), introduces the students to a wide range of infectious diseases through illustrating the principles of infectious diseases around the globe. The course was conducted online and students acquired knowledge on the high burden of disease with data driven presentations from faculty members from all over the world, as well as strategies to reduce infectious disease burden in a low resource contexts.

## **GENDER, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (MPH 660): ONLINE DEBATES**

'Online Debates' was an addition and integral part of the course Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (MPH 660). The objective of these debates was for students to understand global policies and local realities, which impacts on rights, and have healthy and logical discussions on the intersections between gender, socio-cultural, political and economic factors as they adversely affect reproductive health experiences and rights.

The Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (MPH 660) module was designed in a way which helped the students acquire broad perspectives on sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and men and other vulnerable groups and gain a layered understanding of the broader factors that shape sexual and reproductive health and rights.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION (MPH 670): VIRTUAL TOUR OF HOSPITAL SETTINGS IN LMIC: EXPLORING THE NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF CHILDREN**

Under the course Public Health Nutrition (MPH 670), the students were able to get a virtual tour of

the icddr,b, Dhaka hospital and see the rehabilitation wards and interview of patients, which helped them understand and conceptualise

the causes of malnutrition learning from a hospital setting, gain an idea on assessment of nutritional status of children and women, and the different methods of improving intake of nutrients.

The School prepared practical video shoots on how to assess nutritional status of children and women: anthropometric techniques, Z scores and their interpretation; assessment of nutritional status:

anthropometric techniques and their use; interviews and interpretation of the findings on management of stunting, underweight, wasting, severe acute malnutrition, and nutritional rehabilitation of severely malnourished children; practical demonstration of the preparation of therapeutic diets: F-75 and khichuri and nutritional rehabilitation.

## **ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE (MPH 541): ROLE-PLAY BY THE STUDENTS: EXPLORING DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH THE LENS OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

The course Environment, Health and Climate Change (MPH 541), introduced technology to make the teaching sessions more interactive and interesting such as: video documentaries to explain the relation with health and environment to climate changes; mini workshop and panel sessions with experts from the government and highest international NGOs in the country, futures wheel exercises, simulation sessions, facilitated discussions.

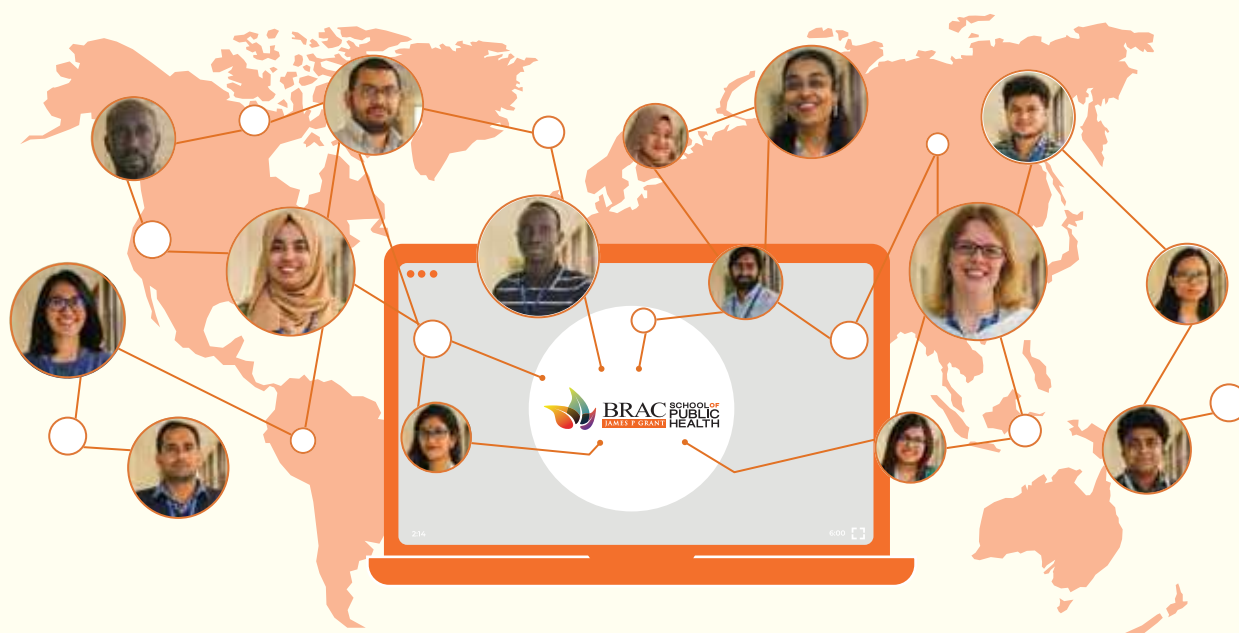
This allowed MPH students the opportunity to be acquainted with environmental determinants and factors broadly affecting health and wellbeing and gained basic understanding and orientation on key concepts, approaches and perspectives of environment, climate change and disaster in the context of public health implication. The course also dealt with the application of selected tools widely used for environmental assessment and further explored how policies and frameworks related to environment and climate change are formulated at national and international level.

## **SUMMATIVE LEARNING PROJECT 2020 (MPH 700): WORKING WITH DATASET TRANSCRIPTS OF BOTH RURAL AND URBAN**

The School provided quantitative and qualitative datasets with transcripts to the MPH students, which were primarily collected by the School for different research projects, along with the data collection tools, project details, background information, etc. to make them familiar with the studies. Some students scoped reviews; this was introduced to them as an essential alternative to primary research. This was the first online based research of their career. Supervisors from each SLP

group shared the data on the following thematic areas: COVID-19, Urban Health, Non-communicable Diseases (NCD), Tuberculosis (TB), Deworming, etc.

Summative Learning Project (MPH 700) is the culminating learning project, where several groups of students work on a public health area, undertaking primary research on or evaluation of a programme, to understand key public health problems and find solutions.





## GLOBAL STUDENTS MPH 2020 ONLINE LEARNING EXPERIENCES



*Virtual learning is the new normal in the current pandemic and the best place that provides extraordinary learning innovation and high-quality online classes is at BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.*

**Wengelawit Yared Yegeletu | Ethiopia**  
MPH 16<sup>th</sup> cohort, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

*BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University showed me the path to reach my big dreams by embracing the new normal during this challenging situation and taught me how to achieve goals through great effort and commitment.*

**Shafiq Ghauri | Afghanistan**  
MPH 16<sup>th</sup> cohort, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University



*The flexibility of the teachers, relevant contents and creative design of the MPH Online courses is essential for an interactive online class to produce public health experts in the digital age.*

**Rafael Matoy | Philippines**  
MPH 16<sup>th</sup> cohort, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

*BRAC JPGSPH's online learning was my first online learning experience. It was interactive; content rich and beyond my expectations.*

**Emeghara Okechukwu | Nigeria**  
MPH 16<sup>th</sup> cohort, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University





## GLOBAL FACULTY MPH 2020 ONLINE TEACHING AND LEARNING EXPERIENCES



*Teaching in the online MPH Programme at BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University has been an excellent experience. The support staff has been very creative and innovative in adapting to this new approach to learning.*

**Dr Richard A. Cash**

Professor, Global Health and Population, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, USA; Professor and Course Coordinator, Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

*I expected it to be boring and passive, but by combining video, chat and collaboration tools and the strong in-session support of the BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University team – we were able to create a very participative and engaging teaching experience.*

**Ermin Erasmus**

Researcher, Health Policy and Systems Analysis in South Africa  
Faculty, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University Health Systems Management



*This year it has not been easy for all of us, but I must say that I am very proud of BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University for living up to the 'New Normal' amidst the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. I am equally pleased to have had this first teaching experience via Zoom and the MPH students were fully engaged and the Teaching Fellows were very supportive.*

**Miatta Zenabu Gbanya**

Immunization Specialist, UNICEF, Afghanistan  
Adjunct Faculty, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University  
Faculty, Health Systems Management Module

*Nothing beats physical classroom teaching and interaction, but this was an excellent experience as the first ever online course at BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University. This wouldn't have been possible without the support from the school management.*

**Dr Tahmeed Ahmed**

Executive Director, icddr,b.



# 14<sup>th</sup> MPH COHORT GRADUATION CEREMONY



The School celebrated the Graduation Ceremony of its 14<sup>th</sup> cohort of International Master of Public Health (MPH) Programme (2017-2018) on January 22, 2019 at the Sasakawa Auditorium in the icddr,b campus. 38 graduated; 23 females and 15 males from 11 countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Kenya, Nepal, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Myanmar, Philippines, Sierra Leone and Yemen. Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury chaired the ceremony. Professor John Clemens, Executive Director of icddr,b was the Keynote Speaker at the event.

Dr Mohammad Tamim, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University was the Chief Guest and Dr Saleemul Huq, Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) attended the ceremony as Guest of Honour. Dr Tarique Md. Nurul Huda, Deputy Project Coordinator, Infectious Diseases Division, icddr,b attended the ceremony as an Alumni Speaker. Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean, BRAC JPGSPH and Dr Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, BRAC JPGSPH graced the occasion as hosts.



'Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain Best Teaching Excellence Award 2019', presented to Professor Tahmeed Ahmed



'Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain Best Teaching Excellence Award 2019', presented to Professor Malabika Sarker



'Professor W.B. Greenough III Award' for Best Individual Final Report of Summative Learning Project 2018 was presented to Tanha Tabassum Nunna



'Richard Cash Award' for Best Summative Learning Project Group Poster was presented to Samuel Saidu



# 15<sup>th</sup> MPH COHORT GRADUATION CEREMONY



The 15<sup>th</sup> MPH cohort (2018-2019) Graduation Ceremony was held at Sasakawa Auditorium, icddr, Dhaka on January 23, 2020. 29 students from nine countries celebrated the completion of their graduation programme. For the occasion, Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury, Former Dean and Advisor to BRAC JPGSPH; and Former Vice-Chairperson, BRAC; chaired the ceremony. Professor Vincent Chang, Vice-Chancellor, BRAC University, was present as the Chief Guest.

Dr Zafrullah Chowdhury, Founder of Gonoshasthaya Kendra, was present as the Keynote Speaker and Professor John Clemens, Executive Director, icddr, was present as the Guest of Honour. The programme started with remarks from Dr Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, Professor and Director of the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), Former Director of Research, BRAC JPGSPH. Dr Morseda Chowdhury, Associate Director, Health Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP), BRAC, was present as the Alumni Speaker.



*'Sir Fazle Hasan Abed KCMG Award 2019' for Leadership presented to Sparna Rahman*



*'The Allan Rosenfield Award' for Best Overall Academic Performance was presented to Kazi Faria Islam*



*'Professor W.B. Greenough III Award' for Best Individual Final Report of Summative Learning Project 2019 was presented to Farzana Manzoor*







DEVELOPING  
MIDWIVES  
**PROJECT**





## MIDWIFERY EDUCATION PROGRAMME: DIPLOMA IN MIDWIFERY (DMP)

Bangladesh has made a commitment to end preventable child and maternal deaths by 2030. For reaching the goal the healthcare planners have prioritized antenatal care (ANC), postnatal care (PNC), normal vaginal delivery (NVD), emergency obstetric care (EmOC), newborn care and family planning (FP) which links to quality maternal health services. Given the plan and large number of maternity cases in Bangladesh, the country demands a huge supply of midwives to ensure healthy motherhood. An estimated 22,000 midwives will be required to meet the national need. To address this

need the government introduced midwifery into the health system. Moreover, United Nations; 'Every Woman Every Child' plan, gives the midwifery programme a momentum. To help attain the country target, BRAC University launched the 'Developing Midwives Project' (DMP) and introduced the course in 2012 as the first ever midwifery education initiative in Bangladesh's private sector. Funded by the UK Government, this innovative education initiative develops around 230 midwives every year in partnership with six renowned NGOs of Bangladesh.





# DIPLOMA IN MIDWIFERY EDUCATION (DMP)

**1253** STUDENTS  
ENROLLED SINCE  
2013



**200** STUDENTS  
ENROLLED IN



**7** ACADEMIC  
SITES (AS)  
IN 2020



**224**

GRADUATES ARE  
SERVING IN ROHINGYA  
REFUGEE CAMPS



**602**

GRADUATES  
IN MIDWIFERY  
PROFESSIONS

**126**



STUDENTS RECEIVED  
FINANCIAL AID TO ATTEND  
MIDWIFERY EDUCATION





Students of the DMP 3rd batch completing their diploma course during 2019.

- Department for International Development (DFID) initiated the Mid-term Review (MTR) of the DMP in May 2019. As a part of MTR, a team from DFID visited DMP, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University. The MTR covered the progress from the second phase beginning in October 2016 until the end of March 2019. The Mid-term Review Team scored 'A' to DMP together with UNFPA Bangladesh.
- All 179 students of the 3rd batch of midwifery completed their diploma course during this year. To celebrate the day, the graduation ceremony was arranged by all six Academic Sites (AS). All graduates were given a midwifery kit as a token of appreciation. Midwife Parboti Sutrodhar, Shimantik AS, who stood first in registration (licensing) exam in 2018, was given an award by the project.
- DMP had inaugurated two separate Midwife-Led Care Centre (MLC) successfully in Dhaka and Sylhet. In Dhaka Mirpur, Harirampur MLC 461 Normal Vaginal Deliveries (NVD)s were conducted. Among them 331 were delivered in birthing chairs. Also, 651 women performed exercises. In Charikata Union, Jaintyapur, Sylhet Health and Family Welfare Centre MLC, 709 NVDs were conducted, among them, 332 were delivered in birthing chairs and 2260 women performed exercises. The inauguration ceremony was organised on 17 January, 2019. Dr Kazi Mustafa Sarwar, Director General, Directorate General of Family Planning was the Chief Guest of the inauguration ceremony. The MLC was established so that midwifery students can practice and learn midwifery skills as well as mothers from the community receive 24/7 maternal services from competent and professional midwives who have graduated from BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.
- 461 students were in a clinical placement to practice safe deliveries and to practice antenatal, postnatal care and family planning services. A total of 2577 normal vaginal deliveries were performed by them.
- On 24 June, DMP organised a meeting with Private Midwifery Institutes (PMI) where representatives from national and international organisations e.g., Royal College of Midwifery (RCM), United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA), Department of International Development (DFID) and 10 other private institutions participated and discussed about the different hurdles they faced.
- Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting was held on February 26, where 29 representatives of member organisations like Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB), Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Gynecology and Obstetrics, World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b), Directorate General of Nursing and Midwifery (DGHS), BRAC, Bangladesh Midwifery Society (BMS) etc. participated and discussed on importance of establishing more Midwife-Led Care Centres (MLCs).



## TRAINING

- Two faculty development trainings were conducted with the participation of 66 faculty members in both the trainings. Andrea Gilkison and Claire Hotchin from Auckland University of Technology (AUT), New Zealand, took several sessions on different modules both in January and July, 2019 training while, Dr Sabiha Haque Lobbes, a renowned pediatrician from Germany, also conducted a daylong session on 'Helping

Baby's Breath' in January. In addition, session on cervical cancer screening conducted by Prof Jannat Ferdous from Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) and Postpartum Family Planning by International Federation of Gynecology of Obstetrics (FIGO) experts. Renowned Mother Teresa award and 'Ekushe Padak' winner Prof Dr Sayeba Akhter, and Jennifer Stevens from United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) also facilitated interactive and practical sessions.



Glimpses from the two Faculty Development Trainings.

- 14 participants (Hostel In-charge and gender focal of seven academic sites) attended the two-day-long training titled "Mental health first aid", facilitated by the Counsellor of DMP. They

also attended a day-long refresher training on same topic held on 5 November, at LAMB academic site, facilitated by the Counsellor. Hostel Managers received a number of new messages from this training.



"Mental health first aid" training, facilitated by the Counsellor of DMP

- From 24 August to 23 September the Counsellor of DMP attended a month-long training on "Gender, sustainable livelihoods, human rights and peace" in

Nepal, organised by South Asian Network of Gender Activists and Trainer.

## ADVOCACY

- As registration exam of midwives and nurses was on hold for about a year, BRACU advocated for holding registration (license) exam at the earliest possible time and met the Attorney General at the Supreme Court with Prof. Rowshan Ara Begum, Ex-president Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB) and renowned gynaecologist, The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Bangladesh

Nursing and Midwifery Council (BNMC) on 22 October, 2019. There was a thorough discussion with the Attorney General and papers related to the issue were submitted to him. BRACU also visited Md. Ashadul Islam, Secretary Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and requested for his support on the problem, On February 11, court case was granted for the BNMC and licensing/ registration exam was held on 28 February.



- 8 abstracts were accepted for 32nd International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) Triennial Congress, Bali 2020. Accepted abstracts mostly highlighted DMP's different achievements, learnings and challenges.
- 2 presentations titled "Respectful Maternity Care as an Integral Part of Midwifery Impact in Increasing Normal Vaginal Delivery" and "Community Engagement in Midwifery Education Enhanced the Competence and Confidence of Midwives" respectively were presented in the 28th International Scientific Conference organised by Obstetrical and Gynaecology Society of Bangladesh (OGSB).
- DMP participated the 12th South Asia Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (SAFOG) conference where four BRACU midwives (working in midwifery led centers of Dhaka and Sylhet) shared their experience in a session titled "Comprehensive Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights by Midwives".



DMP participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> SAFOG conference where four BRACU midwives (working in midwifery led centers of Dhaka and Sylhet) shared their experience in a session titled "Comprehensive Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights by Midwives."

- DMP observed "16 days of activism", an international campaign to challenge violence against women and girls. The theme of the year was "Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands against Rape." On this occasion, BRACU Hub shared a book with all academic sites about sexual violence on children. The students went through the book titled, "If Only Someone Had Broken the Silence" written by Kamla Bhasin. The students also staged a drama and gave a presentation on their understanding of the book which was viewed and evaluated by locally inspiring women for the award-giving ceremony.



- All 7 academic sites celebrated “Open school day” to increase public awareness on midwifery. Stalls were set up on different themes e.g., general health checkup, normal vaginal delivery (NVD), counseling on antenatal care (ANC), postnatal care (PNC), family planning, nutrition etc. Besides another stall named “Admission Booth” was available for free registration of interested midwifery candidates.
- On 12 May, 2019, Advisor of DMP, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury, Selina Amin Head of Midwifery Education Programme and Sharmina Rahman, Strategy Advisor met Dr Asa Torkelsson, Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Bangladesh. The meeting highlighted BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University’s contribution in midwifery programme along with the government, launching an international midwifery conference with UNFPA and scope of future collaboration and coordination. Dr Asa Torkelsson expressed her desire to visit BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University midwifery programme and was happy to hold a conference together.
- Advisor of DMP, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University, Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury, Dr Selina Amin Head of Midwifery Education Programme and Sharmina Rahman, also met Dr Bardan Jung Rana, World Health Organization (WHO) Representative to Bangladesh on August 19. The WHO representative showed keen interest in the midwifery programme in Bangladesh and BRAC’s health programme as a whole. Dr Bardan Jung Rana showed his interest for future collaboration and coordination with BRAC JPGSPH, BRACU.
- Michelle A Williams, Dean of the Faculty, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Dr Richard

A Cash, Senior Lecturer, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health paid a visit to Dhaka academic site on August 2, 2019. They looked at the computer lab, library and dormitory. They also discussed with the students about their study progress and, daily lives at dormitory, etc. The visitors were happy with the demonstration made by the students and the midwifery education programme. They left a message in the visitor comment book saying, “The practice of serving mothers and children is a gift to Bangladesh and to the world.”



A visit to Dhaka academic site on August 2, 2019

- Robert Chatterton Dickson, British High Commissioner visited Shimantik academic site and had a discussion with the DMP faculty and the students. They were highly impressed by observing demonstrations of midwifery skills. The British High Commissioner liked the confidence of midwifery students.
- A team of four members of Department for International Development (DFID) Bangladesh, Fahmida Shabnam, Team Leader, Human Development Team; Dr Shehlina Ahmed, Health Adviser; Alexandra Bayfield, Social Development Adviser; Roqibul Islam, Programme Management Adviser visited Shimantik and FIVDB academic sites.



Representatives from Harvard T. H Chan School of Public Health visiting the Dhaka Academic site.



British High Commissioner's visit to Shimantik academic site



DFID's visit to Academic sites.



DFID's visit to Academic sites.



They also visited Midwife-Led Care Centre (MLC) situated in the Charikata Union Health and Family Welfare Center (UH&FWC). During the visit, visitors had conversation with the midwives and expressed their satisfaction with the respectful maternal care provided by MLC.

- DMP presented its achievements in the “10th Annual Consortium of Universities for Global Health” conference held at Chicago, USA along with the Dean, Associate Dean, Advisor and Learning Design Consultant of BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University. The presentation about midwifery also generated great interest amongst the participants with other BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University presentations.
- As a part of the exposure visit, the DMP team visited Cambodia where they met officials from the Cambodian Midwifery Council, Midwifery Association, Government and Private Midwifery Institutes. They also visited rural health care centres providing maternity care during their visit.
- DMP celebrated “International Day of the Midwife” on 5 May along with the seven Academic Sites (ASs). The celebration had two-fold activities. As part of community engagement, all the ASs arranged community visit, discussion session and parliamentary debate on issues related to midwifery education and profession. As part of mass reach out, DMP participated in 3 TV talk shows in 3 different TV channels. Representatives from Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Bangladesh Nursing and Midwifery Council (BNMC), Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB) and Bangladesh Midwifery Society (BMS) were present in these talk shows.

- Head of DMP, Counsellor and one Senior Instructor visited Fernandez Hospital (FH), Hyderabad. In the visit, the team presented DMP achievements and learning to FH. Their Chairperson Dr Evita Fernandez made a presentation as well. There was an excellent exchange of learning between the two organisations. From the visit, the team gained information about their midwifery education



system, detailed plan of their Midwife-Led Care Centre (MLC) model, services such as aromatherapy, water birth, music therapy etc.

- Project Manager of the Dhaka Academic Site (AS) attended Women Deliver Conference at Vancouver, Canada and learnt how empowering midwives can transform communities to promote gender equality. Exposure visits are expected to help introduce innovation in future programming.
- An opinion editorial from DMP's Advisor Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury and Project Director Dr Selina Amin was published in the Daily Star titled “Midwifery Education in the private sector: The hurdles along the way”.



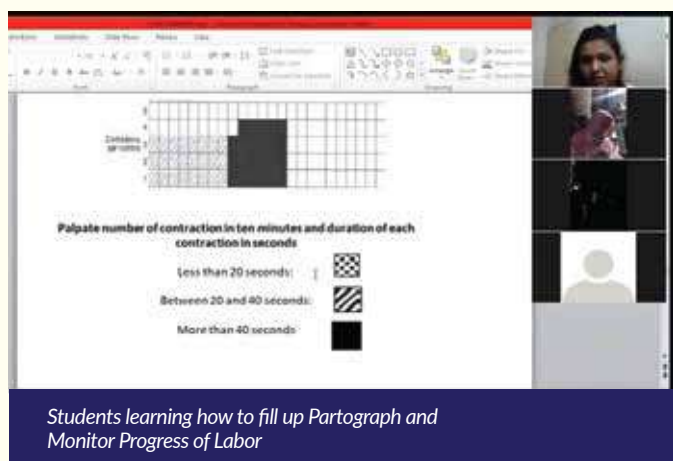
A 11 member DMP team visited Cambodia in April to learn about different aspects of midwifery education in Cambodia. Project Manager of the Dhaka Academic Site (AS) also attended Women Deliver Conference at Vancouver, Canada and learnt how empowering midwives can transform communities to promote gender equality. Exposure visits are expected to help introduce innovation in future programming.



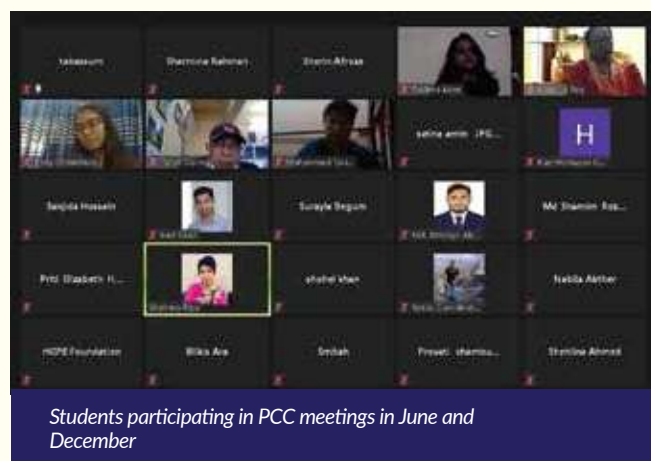
## ACTIVITIES IN 2020

- DMP adopted the online based platforms i.e., Facebook live, zoom platform etc. in early May to continue the midwifery education classes. 80% of the students took the live class and almost all

took the courses after downloading. Students were grouped in 10-15 under one faculty to take tutorial classes and to have intensive follow up. Regular online model tests were also held.



Students learning how to fill up Partograph and Monitor Progress of Labor



Students participating in PCC meetings in June and December

- 1162 normal vaginal deliveries (NVD) took place in Midwifery led Care Centres (MLCs) at Mirpur BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme Centre and Charikata Union Health and Family Welfare Centre (UH&FWC) where 736 NVDs were performed using birthing chair, an alternative birth position promoted while the UH&FWC in general struggle to attract maternity cases, the MLC UH&FWC at Charikata, Sylhet is working very well.
- Department for International Development (current Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office) had commissioned the Annual Review of DMP in June, 2020. DMP scored grade 'A' once more in the Strengthening Midwifery in Bangladesh Programme together with The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Bangladesh through this review.
- The Project working with International Confederation of Midwifery (ICM) for reviewing ICM global standard for midwifery education and for developing accreditation tools.
- Around 53 participants of DMP participated in two virtual Project Coordination Committee (PCC) meetings in June and December. Advisor Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury and Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Professor, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University and Dr Shehlina Ahmed Health Advisor, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office also participated in this meeting. The meeting highlighted the effect of COVID 19 pandemic in midwifery education in terms of practical skills, quality and inability to pay the tuitions by several students and discussed mitigation strategies, especially continuation of online education.
- The Virtual Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting was held on December 22, 2020 where importance of continuation of online course was discussed. However, TAG members expressed their concerns regarding lack of skill practices. Successful activities in the Midwifery-Led Care (MLC) Centres during COVID-19 was highly appreciated.

## TRAINING

- On 16 March 628 students in 7 academic sites of DMP received training on COVID-19 before leaving for home. They in turn provided training at home

with the posters and leaflets provided by BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University to distribute in their communities.



Students providing COVID-19 training in their communities

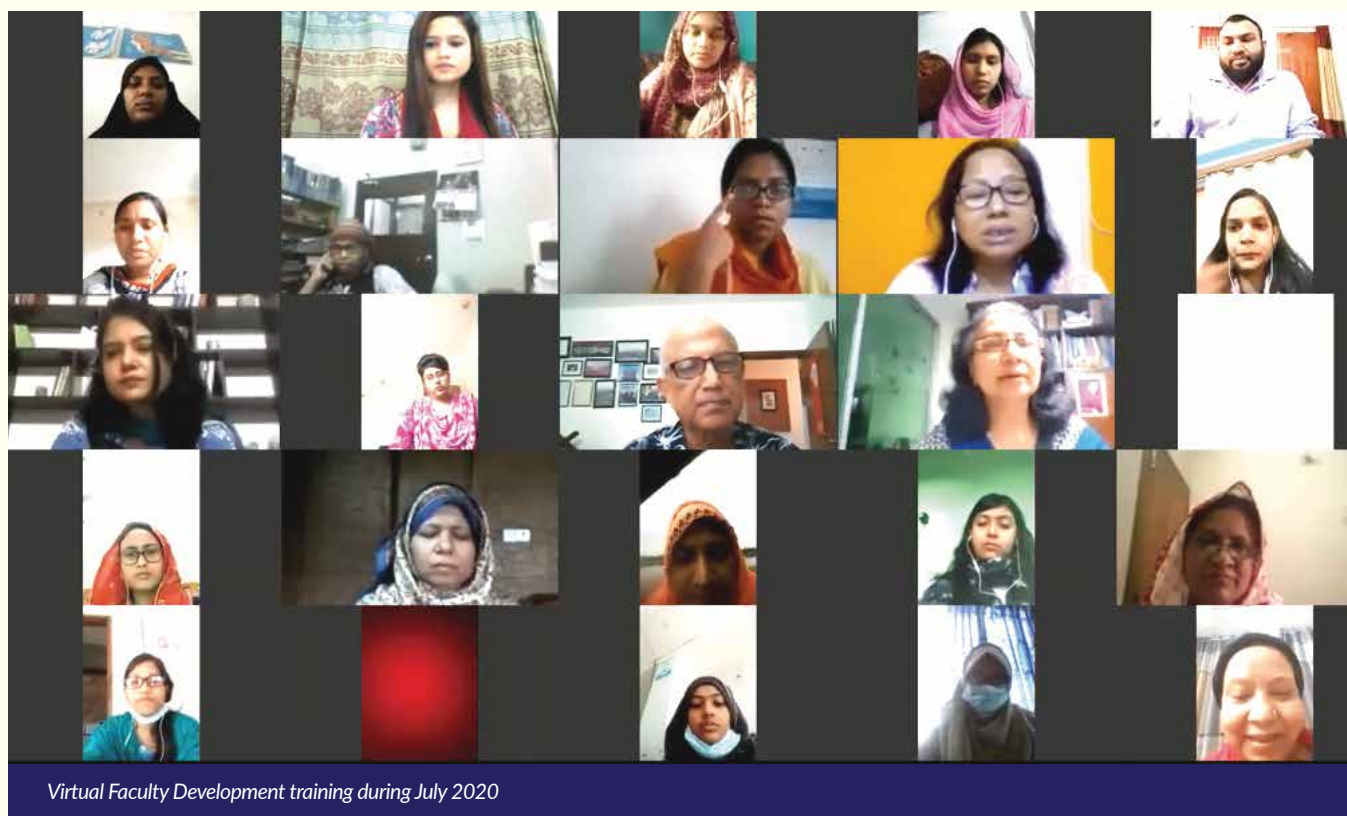
- Two faculty development trainings were organised in the month of January and July, 2020. First one was organised by “Friends in Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB)” academic site, Sylhet and the second one was arranged virtually due to the outbreak of COVID-19. Around 60 faculty members were present in both the trainings. Divisional Director, Family Planning, Sylhet Mohammad Kutubuddin was the chief guest of the inaugural session of the faculty development training in Sylhet. Mother Teresa Award and Ekushey padak winner gynaecologist Professor

Sayeba Akhter conducted a session on ‘Sayeba’s method’. Dr Ahmed Al-Sabir former Director NIPORT and Professor Parvin Fatema, Gynaecologist and National Coordinator of International Federation of Gynaecology of Obstetrics (FIGO) conducted participatory sessions as well. Dr Shehlina Ahmed, Health Advisor, Department for International Development (DFID) Bangladesh, Shuriya Begum; Registrar, Bangladesh Nursing and Midwifery Council, and Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury; Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University provided their valuable opinion in the training.



Faculty Development training at Sylhet academic site during January 2020





- Virtual 'Anti-Bullying' workshop under the guidance of the Counsellor of DMP was arranged for all 628 students. In the workshop, students made posters, badges, and wall magazines on anti-bullying. A

welcome programme was also arranged for the newly enrolled 200 students of 7th batch in all seven academic sites where Counsellor discussed in depth on harassment, abuse and safeguarding.

## ADVOCACY

- Two posters titled "Developing Midwives Project BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University sets an example of successful online education for midwifery students during COVID 19 Pandemic" and "Birthing with

COVID-19 in the Midwife led Care Centres of Bangladesh" were presented in the 15th International Normal Labour and Birth Research Conference (NLBC 2020 virtual congress), Hyderabad, India.



*Aronna Chowdhury, 5th batch student from PHD academic site participated in the short story writing contest (English category) organised by Bangladesh Midwifery Society (BMS) and won the first prize. Her story was about importance of midwifery as a profession and titled as "Today Happy Is No More", Happy is the name of her friend who passed away due to maternal health complication.*





**LIVE WEBINAR**

## CONTINUATION OF MIDWIFERY EDUCATION DURING COVID 19 PANDEMIC

**25 AUG 2020** | **TIME 11:00AM - 12:30PM**

The webinar will be broadcast live on the BRAC JPCSPH Facebook page:  
[facebook.com/BRACJPCSPH](https://www.facebook.com/BRACJPCSPH)

### PANELLISTS

<p><b>LASTRI MEI WINARNI</b>            Lecturer in Midwifery Programme            Yatsi Nursing and Midwifery College            Karawaci, Tangerang, Banten, Indonesia</p>	<p><b>ANDREA GILKISON</b>            Associate Head Postgraduate Midwifery            Senior lecturer Midwifery            Auckland University of Technology</p>
<p><b>SHEENA HALDER</b>            Instructor            Dhaka Academic Site            Developing Midwives Project, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University</p>	<p><b>SELINA AMIN</b>            Head, Midwifery Education Programme &amp; Project Director,            Developing Midwives Project            BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University</p>

**MODERATOR**

- DMP organised 3 (one national and two international) webinars focusing on midwifery education and services during COVID-19 pandemic. Speakers from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Afghanistan and New Zealand spoke in these sessions and generated in depth discussion on midwifery services in resource limited setting during COVID-19 pandemic. The webinars also drew the attention of stakeholders to adapt innovation from other countries experiences with more than 100 participants in each webinar. Representatives from Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD), The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) were present in the session. The President of Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB) and Bangladesh Midwifery Society (BMS) provided their inputs as well.
- DMP also organised two programmes as a part of observing "16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence: Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect"
  - a) A webinar was arranged on 9 December where the students themselves were the participants. Seven students from 7 academic sites presented and shared their views based on their own experiences on gender-based violence, its impacts, and ways of preventing GBV. Their participation was lively and informative. One of the participants stated that: "In my observation protesting with politeness is not working in society anymore. We have to raise a strong voice."
  - b) A workshop for the DMP hub staff entitled "Psychosocial support for the survivors of GBV" held on 7 December facilitated by the Counsellor and Deputy Manager, Finance & Accounts of DMP. The purpose of this workshop was to help the team understand the psychological process, impacts on the victims of gender-based violence and how we can provide them psychosocial support. The workshop also focused on the role of the male members of the society in eliminating gender-based violence.



- DMP arranged two virtual meetings with Private Midwifery Institutions (PMI)s held in September and October. The meetings highlighted the importance of developing a platform to raise the issues of private institutes, maintain quality of education and update their knowledge. A Convening Committee was formed where Professor Rowshan Ara, Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Bangladesh (OGSB) is the Chair, Zahiduzzaman of Hope Foundation is the Co-chair and Dr Selina Amin, Project Director, DMP is the Member Secretary.
- On May 5, 2020 DMP observed “International Day of the Midwives (IDM 2020)” where students from all academic sites took part in an essay writing



competition on the “Role of midwives in COVID-19 situation in Bangladesh”.

- DMP also observed virtual “Safe Motherhood” day with Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) on May 28 and contributed in publishing a poster both virtually and on Dainik Samakal newspaper, in collaboration with Save the Children. In addition, an event on poster drawing on the theme “করোনাকালে ঘরে থাকি, মা, শিশুকে নিরাপদ রাখি” was organised where students from all academic sites participated.

## PUBLICATIONS

- The Daily Financial Express (online) has published an article titled “BRAC University sets an example of successful online education for midwifery students” written by Dr Sharmina Rahman and Dr Selina Amin.
- Another article titled ‘Maternity care amid COVID-19 outbreak: Story of midwives in a remote Union Health Centre’ was published in the webpage of BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University, written by Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raja Chowdhury, Advisor, DMP, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University; Dr Selina Amin, Project Director, DMP, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University; Bilkis Ara, Research & Evaluation Specialist and ATM Nayeem, Project Manager, FIVDB, Sylhet.
- Two more articles were written by Taslima Akter, the Operations Manager of DMP. BRAC University entitled “New Normal অথবা নতুন স্বাভাবিক জীবন” was published in Medium.com and the webpage of BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University and another one was “আইসোলেশন এবং আমাদের বাস্তবতা” was published in the Banglanews24.com.

## DMP FACULTY

*Arranged alphabetically by last name*

Surayia Begum, Principal  
Dolly Akter, Senior Instructor  
Nasrin Akter, Senior Instructor  
Anindita Binte Jahan, Counselor  
Hosne Jannat Jyoti, Senior Instructor  
Habiba Khanom, Senior Instructor  
Jannatul Ferdous Mitu, Senior Instructor

Sheena Halder, Course Coordinator

Sumi Akter, Instructor  
Rifat Ara Binte Rashid, Instructor

Nazmon Naher Any, Junior Instructor  
Subarna Rani Das, Junior Instructor  
Asma Khatun, Junior Instructor  
Shubarna Mukti, Junior Instructor

Mst. Rozina Akter, Midwife  
Sajeda Khatun, Midwife  
Shirina Khatun, Midwife  
Umme Kulsum, Midwife







# training

- **PRACTICAL SKILL BASED TRAINING TO ADDRESS RELEVANT PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITIES AND NEEDS**
- **CODESIGN CRITICAL COMPETENCIES FOR PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS TO ENSURE RELEVANT CAPABILITIES ARE DEVELOPED**
- **INTERACTIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING**
- **INNOVATIVE TOOLS FOR IN-PERSON, FIELD-BASED AND ONLINE LEARNING**
- **PARTICIPANT CENTRED LEARNING TO PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING**
- **IMMERSIVE LEARNING BY VISITS TO FIELD SITES**  
*RURAL URBAN COMMUNITIES, HEALTH FACILITIES (PUBLIC, NGOS, PRIVATE)  
AND ORGANISATIONS (PUBLIC, NGOS, PRIVATE)*
- **DIVERSE EXPERT FACILITATORS-PRACTITIONERS, POLICY MAKERS AND MULTI SECTORAL ACTORS (I.E., GOVERNMENT, NGOS, INGOS, CIVIL SOCIETY, PRIVATE SECTOR)**
- **SOLUTION ORIENTED THINKING TO ADDRESS PRACTICAL 'REAL WORLD' CHALLENGES**

# CENTRE FOR PROFESSIONAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN PUBLIC HEALTH (CPSD)

**33** SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS IN 2019



**57** SEMINARS, WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS IN 2020



**190+** SKILL BUILDING SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS TO DATE



**320+** GLOBAL FACILITATORS TO DATE



**6200+** HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS TRAINED TO DATE

The School's international training hub established in 2007, Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD) strengthens and upgrades the requisite professional skills utilised by practitioners, policymakers, development partners, government officials, public advocates, faculty, researchers and frontline health workers.

CPSD provides practical skill-based training for relevant public health priorities and needs and encourages solution-oriented thinking to address practical 'real world' challenges. The centre's workshops are codesigned critical competencies for professional training to ensure relevant capabilities are developed, in addition to ensuring, interactive teaching and learning this includes, innovative tools for in-person, field-based and online learning and participant centred learning to promote critical thinking. Immersive learning by visits to field sites, such as rural urban communities, health facilities (public, NGOs, private) and organisations (public, NGOs, private) are also a part of these workshops.

CPSD's diverse expert facilitators include, practitioners, policy makers and multi sectoral actors (i.e., government, NGOs, INGOs, civil society, private sector). The training programmes have a diverse range of expert facilitators which include public health practitioners, medical professionals, anthropologists, health economists, statisticians, development practitioners, policy makers, programme managers, and academics from well-established international and national institutions.

The trainings include a wide range of participants including government officials, medical doctors, senior health education officers, senior staff nurses, researchers, statisticians, NGO sector specialists, development practitioners, programme officers and managers, academics, activists, mainstream media, student youth groups and individuals from marginalised communities.

# TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

Throughout the year, CPSD offers diverse professional trainings, skill building workshops and seminars. Below are selected outlines of different skill and capacity building activities by CPSD:

## BREAKTHROUGH TRAINING: GENDER AND RIGHTS TRAINING

### TRAINING OF TRAINERS: SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN WORKPLACE

**Participants:** BRAC JPGSPH Staff Members | Duration: 3 Days

**Date:** 4 – 6 February, 2020

**Facilitator:** BREAKTHROUGH

**Brief:** An onsite three-day long training with an aim to create a core group of trainers from the staff members of BRAC JPGSPH so that they can conduct training on sexual harassment in workplaces. The learning objective was to transfer the critical understanding of sexual harassment, understand the nature of harassment in workplace and complaint mechanism, and design sessions on this issue.

### REFRESHER'S TRAINING: ONLINE TRAINING TOOLS

**Participants:** BRAC JPGSPH Staff Members | Duration: 1 Day

**Date:** 8 December, 2020

**Facilitator:** BREAKTHROUGH

**Brief:** An online day-long refresher's training with an aim to create a core group of trainers from the staff members of BRAC JPGSPH so they can conduct online training on sexual harassment in workplaces. The training carried out activities like course module development, identifying resource materials and participants, and pre-post questionnaire.

## CAPACITY STRENGTHENING FOR RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### TRAINING ON DEVELOPING TOOLS AND GUIDELINES FOR ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN BANGLADESH

**Participants:** 8 | Duration: 3 Days

**Date:** 25 - 27 February, 2020

**Facilitators:** Mir Raihanul Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** A three-day long training was organised for the field team at BRAC JPGSPH. The training consisted of the overview of the post-crash care assessment study, research methodology, research ethics and extensive discussion on study tools.

The training also included participatory discussion, role-playing, mock-tests, and in-house pre-testing. End-of-training debriefings and necessary feedback, suggestions, and guidance were provided by the core research team.

### ONLINE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT: BASIC QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS, DATA ANALYSIS AND REPORT WRITING

**Participants:** 34 (BRAC International Participants from Multi-Country) | Duration: 6 Days

**Date:** 16 - 21 August, 2020

**Facilitators:** Abdul Awal, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Srizan Chowdhury, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Uzzal Chowdhury, Senior Statistician, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Md Tanvir Hasan, Assistant Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), BRAC JPGSPH; Mir Raihanul Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Malay Kanti Mridha, Professor and Director, Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Shafiqur Rahman, Professor, Institute of Statistical Research and Training (ISRT), Dhaka University; Saifa Raz, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** The course provided participants with an introduction to quantitative research and allowed them to learn statistics using STATA. It was designed with a view to helping participants coming from different backgrounds to learn statistical computing and apply this knowledge in their respective fields.



## SAFE-GUARD TRAINING

**Participants:** ARISE Team Members

**Date:** January, 2020

**Facilitator:** Sally Theobald, Social Scientist, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM).

**Brief:** This session was initiated by Sally Theobald, Social Scientist from Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) where she mentioned the policy and afterwards centred four case scenarios which enabled participants to understand the concept and how it can be viewed from different perspectives and situations.

## SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHT SENSITISATION WORKSHOP FOR YOUTH

**Participants:** 50 | Duration: 3 half-day sessions

**Facilitators:** Bachera Aktar, Assistant Director, Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, BRAC JPGSPH; Tasfiyah Jalil, Senior Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** The workshop was arranged to sensitise young people from youth-based organisations and universities on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, and develop them as peer educators. Participants also watched videos on cyber harassment and men's health, and gave their feedback.

## PUBLIC HEALTH MANAGER'S PROFESSIONAL SELF-MANAGEMENT SKILLS TRAINING WITH BRAC JPGSPH SECOND BATCH

**Participants:** 11 | Duration: 1-Day classroom session with 6-8 weeks of on-the-job training

**Facilitator:** Mikhail I. Islam, Learning and Design Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH

**Co-facilitators:** Nondini Lopa, Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Anindya Das, Deputy Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Md Munirul Islam, Senior Project Officer, BRAC JPGSPH; Sairana Ahsan, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Gazi Sakir Mohammad Pritom, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Tahrima Mridha, Deputy Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** As part of the training programme design, a Supervisor's Orientation and a Training for Trainers (ToT) had been organised with six facilitators from BRAC JPGSPH. The one day classroom training for the second BRAC JPGSPH batch had been conducted with another group of 11 participants, where the lead facilitator, along with six trained co-facilitators conducted the sessions focusing on six key professional self-management skills. On-the-Job (OTJ) coaching started the very next day for practicing the learned skills. CPSD organised the training as part of the project on Public Health Leadership Development Training Project funded by GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) with Save the Children as technical partner.



# SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN 2019

In 2019, BRAC JPGSPH arranged more than 15 skills development workshops, alongside 17 seminars facilitated and presented by respective sector experts.

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS



### CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS: FIRST BATCH ON INNOVATING QUALITY PATIENT CARE EVERYDAY

**Participants:** 6 | Duration: 1 Day

**Date:** 30 January, 2019

**Facilitators:** Sairana Ahsan, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Anindya Das, Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Mikhail I. Islam, Learning and Design Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Munirul Islam, Senior Project Officer, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** The purpose of this training was to apply innovative service quality improvements to Healthcare Manager's patient services which enhance patient care. Design of this training programme was based on the model of on-the-job coaching for four weeks and one day classroom facilitation.

**Organised by:** Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.





## SERIES WORKSHOPS ON “TRANSFORMATIVE COMPETENCY BASED PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYABILITY IN BANGLADESH’S HEALTH SECTOR/TRANS4M-PH” PROJECT

### • Workshop 1 and 2

**Participants:** 12 | Duration: 4 Days each

**Dates:** 26 February, 2019 to 1 March, 2019 (Workshop 1), 18 - 21 June, 2019 (Workshop 2)

**Facilitators:** Professor Anja Krumeich, Maastricht University, Netherlands; Dr Esther Jurgens, Maastricht University, Netherlands

**Brief:** The facilitators were from Maastricht University, Netherlands. Participants included teams from national

partners Asian University for Women (AUW) Chittagong; and International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD-IUB) at Independent University, Bangladesh.

**Organised by:** Workshop 1 was organised by BRAC JPGSPH in Dhaka, Bangladesh and Workshop 2 in Maastricht, Netherlands.





### ● Workshop 3

**Participants:** 12 | Duration: 4 Days

**Date:** 21 - 25 July, 2019

**Facilitators:** Dr Juliet Millican, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK; Dr Linda Waldman, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK; Dr Jethro Pettit, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK.

**Brief:** The facilitators were from Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK. Participants included teams from national partners Asian University for Women (AUW) Chittagong; and International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD-IUB), Independent University, Bangladesh. The workshop was held at Sussex, England.

**Organised by:** Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK.

### ● Workshop 4

**Participants:** 12 | Duration: 4 Days

**Date:** 4-7 November, 2019

**Facilitators:** Dean Harriet Mutonyi, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK; Dr Linda Waldman, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK; Dr Jethro Pettit, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK.

**Brief:** The workshop took place in Chittagong, Bangladesh. Participants included teams from national partners Asian University for Women (AUW) Chittagong; and International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD-IUB), Independent University, Bangladesh.

**Organised by:** Asian University for Women (AUW), Chittagong, Bangladesh.



## THE ESSENTIAL HEALTHCARE (EHC) PROGRAMME AND IMPROVED MATERNAL NEONATAL AND CHILD SURVIVAL (IMNCS) PROGRAMME OF BRAC HEALTH, NUTRITION AND POPULATION PROGRAMME (HNPP) ON USING COMM CARE HQ PLATFORM

**Participants:** 160 | Duration: 7 training sessions (1 day each)

**Date:** June, 2019 – August, 2019

**Facilitators:** Md. Arif Ahmmed, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Abdul Hannan, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Sabbir Hossain, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University; Md. Yeasin Mia, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Muksudur Rahman, Area Manager, BRAC HNPP; Biswajit Sarker, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Shahinur Rahman, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP.

**Brief:** The aim of the training was to teach the area managers to learn how to use the CommCare app. The area managers learned how to install the app in tabloid mobile devices, how to access the questionnaire uploaded on the CommCare HQ platform by researchers, and collect and send the data using the tabloid mobile device and CommCare HQ platform. The Verbal Autopsy questionnaire was used to collect information of the deceased mothers.

**Organised by:** BRAC Learning Centres (BLCs) of Uttara, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Cumilla, Jessore, Rangpur and Bogura.



## VERBAL AUTOPSY TRAINING FOR BRAC COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

**Participants:** 4300 | Duration: 459 sessions (2 days each)

**Date:** June, 2019 – August, 2019

**Facilitators:** Md. Arif Ahmmed, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Abdul Hannan, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Sabbir Hossain, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University; Md. Yeasin Mia, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Muksudur Rahman, Area Manager, BRAC HNPP; Biswajit Sarker, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Md. Shahinur Rahman, Divisional Manager, BRAC HNPP; Additional 160 Area Managers of Essential Health Care (EHC) and Improving maternal, neonatal and child survival (IMNCS) programmes.

**Brief:** A total of 4,300 BRAC Shasthay Kormis (SKs, Health Workers) from 459 Upazilas of 61 districts in Bangladesh participated in these training sessions.



The objective of the training sessions was to teach the BRAC SKs to collect information on the deceased mothers by using verbal autopsy questionnaire.

**Organised by:** The training sessions were conducted in 459 local BRAC Area Offices.



## CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS: 2nd BATCH OF INNOVATING QUALITY PATIENT CARE EVERYDAY

**Participants:** 12 | Duration: 1 Day

**Date:** 10 July, 2019

**Facilitators:** Anindya Das, Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Mikhail I. Islam, Learning and Design Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Munirul Islam, Senior Project Officer, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** The workshop started with the latest progress and future plans of all patient care solutions presented by one participant from each group of counselling, primary check-up and doctor check-up service. At the end, their supervisors acknowledged that this training is very effective as there has been proper documentation of all the patient care problems and solutions which will be used as a patient care guideline for the future betterment of their clinic service.

**Organised by:** Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.



## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT: PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE MARKETING

**Participants:** 10 | Duration: 1 Day

**Date:** 22 August, 2019

**Facilitators:** Anindya Das, Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Mikhail I. Islam, Learning and Design Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Munirul Islam, Senior Project Officer, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** In this session, three 'Association for Prevention of Septic Abortion, Bangladesh (BAPSA)' services were picked up to increase targets and generate revenue - Safe Motherhood, Menstrual Regulation- Post abortion Care (MR-PAC) and Networking Referral. For each service, new marketing targets were set on a yearly, monthly, weekly, hourly and daily basis.

**Organised by:** Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.





## SKILL DEVELOPMENT ON COST EFFECTIVENESS AND COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS IN HEALTH CARE : ECONOMIC EVALUATION

**Participants:** 18 | Duration: 3 Days

**Date:** 01 - 03 October, 2019

**Facilitators:** Dr Syed Abdul Hamid, Professor, Institute of Health Economics, Dhaka University; Nahid Akhter Jahan, Professor, Institute of Health Economics, Dhaka University; Dr Zahidul Quayyum, Professor, Director of Research, and Co-Director, Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Shafiun Nahin Shimul, Assistant Professor, Institute of Health Economics, Dhaka University.

**Brief:** To ensure cost-effective health care services that provide improved health outcomes to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

**Organised by:** Cluster for Health Economics and Evaluation Research (CHEER); Institute of Health Economics (IHE), Dhaka University; Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), BRAC JPGSPH.





## CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING ON “EVALUATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME” FOR IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING AND EVALUATION DIVISION (IMED) OFFICIALS

**Participants:** 20 | Duration: 03 Days

**Date:** 10 – 12 October, 2019

**Facilitators:** Dr Humayra Binte Anwar, Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH and Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka; Dr Malabika Sarker, Professor, Associate Dean and Director, Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** This course was part of the UNICEF supported Technical Assistant Project Proposal (TAPP) on ‘Capacity Development for Monitoring and Reporting to Increase Effective Coverage of Basic Social Services for Women and Children’ (CDMRI-ECBSS Phase 1 and 2) and addressed the specific objective of developing a national monitoring and evaluation policy, strategy formulation to implement the policy and capacity development of government officials on Result Based Monitoring (RBM) based M&E.

**Organised by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.



## **TRAINING FOR PRIMARY HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS WORKING IN ROHINGYA REFUGEE CAMPS IN COX'S BAZAR**

**Participants:** 409 (34 Doctors, 39 Nurses, 29 Medical Assistants/Paramedics/Sub Assistant Community Medical Officer (SACMO), 154 Supervisors of Community Health Workers, 153 Community Health Workers) | Duration: 42 days

**Date:** 21 October, 2019 to 14 November, 2019 (Training of Doctors, Nurses, Medical Assistants, Paramedics and SACMO); 19 November, 2019 to 31 December, 2019 (Training of Supervisors of Community Health Workers and Community Health Workers)

**Facilitators:** *Abdur Razzaqul Alam*, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); *Bishwajit Bhowmik*, Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation in Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM); *Farzana Dorin*, National Consultant, WHO; *Ali Ahsan Hemel*, Clinical Medical Officer, BRAC JPGSPH; *Syed Mahfuzul Huq*, National Professional Officer, World Health Organization (WHO); *Khaleda Islam*, JICA; *Raisul Islam*, Non-communicable Diseases Officer, WHO; *Runa Laila*, BRAC; *Dr Malay K Mridha*, Professor and Director, Centre for Non-communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH; *Rina Rani Paul*, Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; *Nazma Sultana*, BRAC; *Nushrat Jahan Urmey*, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** Under the Agreement for Performance of Work with the World Health Organization (WHO), Bangladesh and BRAC JPGSPH were contracted to coordinate and facilitate, in close collaboration with WHO Bangladesh and Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), for training on the package of essential non-communicable diseases (PEN) interventions to 100 doctors, nurses, and medical

assistants/SACMO/paramedics; and 300 Supervisors of Community Health Workers and Community Health Workers working in the Rohingya camps and also in the eight Upazila health complexes (UHC) of Cox's Bazar District. A total of 409 health care providers were trained.

The objectives of the training were to enhance knowledge, skills and practices of primary health care workers in the early detection and appropriate management of cardiovascular diseases (CVD) and Type 2 Diabetes using a total CVD risk-based approach. The training package was developed by WHO Bangladesh including the national treatment protocols, adapting from the "Package of Essential Noncommunicable (PEN) disease and healthy lifestyle interventions – "Training modules for primary health care workers" developed by WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia for the member states.

The training also incorporated sessions on Bangladesh's "National protocol for integrated management of hypertension and diabetes using a total cardiovascular risk approach in primary health care settings". For the training of the Supervisors of Community Health Workers and Community Health Workers, WHO and BRAC JPGSPH worked together to develop a flipchart on Non-communicable Diseases. The flipchart was also used during the training.

**Organised by:** The Centre for Non-communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH in Collaboration with WHO and Non-communicable Disease Control Programme of the DGHS, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh.





## MAXQDA: DATA CODING AND ANALYSIS SOFTWARE

**Participants:** 3 | Duration: 2 days

**Date:** 15- 16 November, 2019

**Facilitator:** Monami Anika Fariha, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** The purpose of this two-day long training programme held on the November 15 and 16, 2019

was to teach how to efficiently use the MAXQDA software for qualitative data coding and analysis using the Gender and Adolescent: Global Evidence (GAGE) Codebook.

**Organised by:** Gender and Adolescent: Global Evidence (GAGE).

## FUNDAMENTALS OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH: “THINKING QUALITATIVELY”

**Participants:** 30 | Duration: 3 days

**Date:** 17-19 December, 2019

**Facilitator:** Dr Shahaduz Zaman, Reader, Medical Anthropology and Global Health, Department of Global Health and Infection, University of Sussex, UK.

**Brief:** This training workshop aimed at introducing the basic ideas behind the qualitative research and to teach the participants about data collection, analysis and interpretation in qualitative research.

**Organised by:** The Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.



## SHORT COURSES UNDER PROMOTING RIGHTS THROUGH INCLUSION AND EMPOWERMENT (PRITIE) PROJECT

Throughout this project, BRAC JPGSPH and Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) jointly provided various short courses to lawyers on national and international treaties and on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and the law to service providers and representatives from NGOs who provide legal and, SRHR health and information related services.

These short courses helped sensitise and enhance the capacity in their professional lives in delivering or designing gender sensitive services. The project is funded by Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU).

## CAPACITY STRENGTHENING TRAINING ON UNDERSTANDING THE VARIOUS LITERATURE AVAILABLE ON SRHR: RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW (RHRN)

**Participants:** 28 | **Duration:** 1 Day

**Date:** 24 December, 2019

**Brief:** The strategic note for this workshop was a one-day workshop on academic literature search and literature review and how to use research in advocacy. For advocacy, the different natures of Information Education Communication (IEC)/ Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) materials that were prepared to address Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) among the general audience.

RHRN is a project funded by Rutgers and partnered with BRAC Education Programme; Reproductive Health

Services Training and Education Program (RHSTEP); Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu); Naripokkho; Socio-Economic Rural Advancement Committee (SERAC)-Bangladesh; Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB); Oboyob; Bangladesh Legal Aid And Services Trust (Blast); United for Body Rights (UBR) Alliance; Bangladesh Mahila Parishad; Dance4Life; Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW) and Humanist Institute for Development Cooperation (Hivos).

**Organised by:** BRAC JPGSPH.





## SEMINARS IN 2019

### SEMINAR ON “SURVEILLANCE FOR BIOTERRORISM IN MISSOURI”

**Date:** 13 February, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Fazle Nasim Khan, Former Country Director, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Ghana and Ivory Coast.

**Brief:** Dr Fazle Nasim Khan focused on why surveillance is important and how it helps to predict the threats of new diseases spreading through biological agents.



### SEMINAR ON “RURAL RECONSTRUCTION WORK OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (IIRR)”

**Date:** 17 February, 2019

**Presenter:** Emily Monville-Oro, Country Director, Philippine Country Office, International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR).

**Brief:** As the country director of IIRR, Emily Monville-Oro shared the history of IIRR, strategic directions, programme implementation process, and resource mobilisation of the organisation.





## SEMINAR ON “THE SHANGHAI HEALTH DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE TEAM”

**Date:** 16 March, 2019

**Presenters:** Ms Zhu Bifan, Research Assistant, Shanghai Health Development Research Centre; Dr Lin Hai, Research Associate, Shanghai Health Development Research Centre; Dr Ding Hansheng, Senior Researcher, Shanghai Health Development Research Centre; Professor Shanlian Hu, Health Economist, Shanghai Health Development Research Centre.

Shanlian Hu; ‘Research and Practice on Needs Assessment of Long-term Care Insurance in Shanghai’ by Senior Researcher Dr Ding Hansheng; ‘Longitudinal Study of Prescription Drug Expenditures for Chronic Diseases and Infections in Shanghai, China’ by Research Associate Dr Lin Hai; and ‘Patterns of Expenditure for Elderly Care in Shanghai’ by Research Assistant Ms Zhu Bifan.

**Brief:** A presentation on ‘An Overview of Evolution of Policies for Elderly in China’ was delivered by Professor



## SEMINAR ON “THINK REASONABLY: IMPORTANT MIND SKILLS YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF”

**Date:** 11 April, 2019

**Presenter:** Fakir Yunus, a graduate from BRAC JPGSPH who is currently pursuing his doctoral degree in Nutrition at the University of Saskatchewan, Canada.

**Brief:** Given the fundamental differences between good manager and good research manager, Yunus with

support from Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH identified 16 mind skills which they believe would be useful to keep in mind to be a good research manager.





## SEMINAR ON “IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF COMMUNITY BASED HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEMES IN RURAL INDIA”

**Date:** 18 April, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Wameq A. Raza, an applied micro-economist currently working as an Economist at the World Bank in the Poverty and Equity Global Practice.

**Brief:** Dr Wameq A. Raza presented on the evaluation of a community-based health insurance (CBHI) scheme in India emphasizing on his study conducted using three CBHI schemes on healthcare utilisation and expenditure.



## SEMINAR ON “OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION TO BE NUTRITION SENSITIVE”

**Date:** 21 April, 2019

**Presenter:** Ms Monique Beun has been working with World Food Programme (WFP) and is the Head of Nutrition and School Feeding with its Country office in Bangladesh. She has varied experience in nutrition in both development and emergency context, ranging from policy advocacy and technical assistance with government to programme management, monitoring and evaluation. Ms Beun has worked in many countries in Asia and Africa applying her professional expertise in nutrition, food security and health to inform policies and programmes in the local context.

**Brief:** Ms Monique Beau took a deep dive on the opportunities for social protection to be nutrition sensitive by presenting the nutrition sensitive impacts, the requirements and key opportunities of nutrition-sensitive, discussing multiple study findings and also an in-depth discussion on nutrition sensitive school meals.





## SEMINAR ON “ROHINGYA CONFLICT AND GLOBAL LOCAL PEACE BUILDING AVENUES”

**Date:** 30 April, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Kawser Ahmed is a researcher in peace and conflict studies who has in-depth understanding of social conflict and its peaceful transformation. While serving in the UN peacekeeping operations in conflict zones, he earned experience in peace building, mediation, and transformative dialogue in resolving inter-group conflict. He developed insights in conflict by studying social resistance, terrorism, and extremism

in global and local contexts. He undertook several researches on community focused conflict intervention, refugee crisis, and youth extremism in western and non-western contexts.

**Brief:** In the context of the Rohingya crisis Dr Ahmed led a detailed discussion on peace building, global and local avenues and the challenges of peace building.



## SEMINAR ON “MAMA RIVER: IMPROVING MATERNAL AND NEWBORN HEALTH AT THE PERUVIAN AMAZON”

**Date:** 24 June, 2019

**Presenters:** Dr Magaly Blas, Director, Mamás del Río and Nila Tanzil, Founder of Taman Bacaan Pelangi. Nila Tanzil is the founder of Taman Bacaan Pelangi, a non-profit organisation focused on promoting literacy in remote areas of eastern Indonesia.

**Brief:** Dr Blas focused on ‘Mamás del Río (Mama River)’. Her organisation works on improving maternal and child health in remote rural areas in the Peruvian Amazon. Nila Tanzil presented how they encourage and nurture children’s interest in reading by providing access to good books.





## SEMINAR BY DR AYMAN EL-MOHANDES

**Date:** 30 June, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Ayman El-Mohandes, Dean of the Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy at the City University of New York (CUNY).

**Brief:** Dr Ayman El-Mohandes emphasised on competency mapping and believes that integrated thinking is necessary for students at City University of New York (CUNY) School of Public Health.



## SEMINAR BY DR MICHELLE WILLIAMS

**Date:** 31 July, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Michelle A. Williams, Dean of the Faculty, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

**Brief:** Dr Michelle A. Williams talked about the public health situation including the Rohingya crisis, the

dengue fever outbreak and health issues, and explained the overcoming of epidemics and climate change, along with other humanitarian crises and major challenges nowadays for Bangladesh.



## SEMINAR ON “WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT IN ACTION: EVIDENCE FROM A RANDOMIZED CONTROL TRIAL IN UGANDA”

**Date:** 18 August, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Munshi Sulaiman, Regional Research Lead of BRAC International in Africa. He also works as a Research Fellow with Makerere University Business School.

**Brief:** Dr Munshi Sulaiman highlighted multifaceted

policy interventions that have jump-started adolescent women’s empowerment by simultaneously providing them vocational training and information on sex, reproduction and marriage, resulting in a 48% increase in income generating activities and a drop in teen pregnancy by a third.



## SEMINAR ON “A DAY AT THE FORENSICS DEPARTMENT: AN ANTHROPOLOGIST’S TOUR OF THE LABYRINTH OF PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSIVENESS TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN”

**Date:** 4 September, 2019

**Presenter:** Shahana Siddiqui, Researcher and Coordinator at the Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH. She is pursuing her PhD at Amsterdam Institute of Social Science Research (AISSR), University van Amsterdam, in Medical Anthropology.

**Brief:** Shahana Siddiqui spoke about the intricacies and complexities of consent and the social and cultural norms that dictate it.





## SEMINAR ON 'ESTIMATING BURDEN OF DISEASE: THROUGH THE LENSES OF LOW-AND-HIGH-INCOME COUNTRIES'

**Date:** 17 October, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Nusrat Homaira, an Early Career Fellow of National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia and a Senior Lecturer with the Discipline of Paediatrics, School of Women's and Children's Health at the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia.

**Brief:** Dr Nusrat Homaira talked about the lack of big data (administrative data from healthcare facilities) and how it can help in estimating the burden of disease in Bangladesh.



## SEMINAR ON 'IS HEALTH MICROINSURANCE A VIABLE ROUTE TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE INFORMAL ECONOMY?'

**Date:** 21 November, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Syed Abdul Hamid, PhD in Economics (UK), is a Professor of Health Economics and served as the Director at the Institute of Health Economics (IHE), University of Dhaka.

**Brief:** Dr Hamid showed how Health Microinsurance (HMI), which has been used around the globe since the

early 1990s for financial risk protection against health shocks in poverty-stricken rural populations in low-income countries to increase access to healthcare or utilisation of healthcare, fails to provide financial risk protection against health shocks under its current practices in South Asia.





## SEMINAR ON “HAITI HEALTH SYSTEM: STANDARDS AND PRACTICE”

**Date:** 25 November, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Alain Casseus, a Project Manager who is overseeing a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) related project, a Partners in Health (PIH) Canada funded project on malnutrition, and two Mass General Hospital research projects funded by National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Gates.

**Brief:** Dr Casseus explained the healthcare system in Haiti and spoke about issues such as the challenges faced by Community Health Workers (CHW), the shortage of funds and human resources. He also spoke about how the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Haiti collaborates with NGOs and INGOs working in Haiti to tackle the challenges in health care and sustain their current health care regime.



## SEMINAR ON “SMOKELESS TOBACCO CONSUMPTION AND STILLBIRTH: POPULATION-BASED CASE-CONTROL STUDY IN RURAL BANGLADESH”

**Date:** 4 December 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Hossain is a researcher of the Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity, The University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.

**Brief:** Dr Hossain shared the findings from his study on the consumption of smokeless tobacco among women in rural Bangladesh and the role it plays in increasing the rate of stillbirth.



## SEMINAR ON “MATERNAL HEALTH VOUCHER SCHEME AND CAESAREAN SECTION RATE: ESTIMATING THE EFFECT OF SUPPLIER-INDUCED DEMAND IN RURAL BANGLADESH”

**Date:** 26 December, 2019

**Presenter:** Dr Mahmud Khan, Professor in the Department of Health Services Policy and Management at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, USA, presented at the seminar held at BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** Dr Mahmud Khan shared the findings from the study on the rate of C-section; the Maternal Health Voucher Scheme (MHVS), a demand-side financing strategy; and how the incentives affected consumer behaviour.





# ONLINE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN 2020

As COVID-19 slowly made its way to Bangladesh, BRAC JPGSPH geared to deal with the crises by spreading awareness and taking necessary measures (i.e., maintaining social distancing, mandating wearing facial mask and hand washing etc.) while arranging physical workshops, seminars and/or short courses during the pandemic. From March 2020 onwards, the School has been circulating weekly situation reports on COVID-19 throughout BRAC University.

Between 1 to 18 March 2020, the School conducted three internal training sessions to acknowledge the public health emergency and to spread awareness among faculty, students and staff on standard practices during COVID-19 pandemic. The School conducted three internal training sessions, overseen by Professor Kaosar Afsana. Materials for the training were aggregated from World Health Organization (WHO), Bangladesh Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) and BRAC.

Since April 2020, BRAC JPGSPH has been hosting a series of webinars every week to address the public health emergency related to the virus, through sharing of useful resource material, dialogues and in-person meetings, locally and globally to a wider audience, including BRAC University, health organisations, key stakeholders, partners, and networks. Faculty and staff from the School are also being invited to webinars hosted by national and international organisations.

Also, an orientation and awareness programme on COVID-19 was organised for the staff of the BRAC Learning Centre (BLC), at Niketon, Dhaka, where the School's MPH international students reside.

On November 1, 2020, an agreement was signed between Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD) and Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW), with a grant of BDT 14,514,000 (US\$174,867) from Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). Under this agreement, CPSD will be undertaking 12 short courses and one pilot course between 2021 and 2022 under the following four themes:

- COVID-19 and its containment in Bangladesh: equity, voice and governance
- Transparency for Good Governance
- Voice and Participation
- Equity for Accessing Health Services.

Approximately 300 participants will be trained between 2021 and 2022. The potential participants will be programme planners and managers of the government, NGO and private sector, university faculty (particularly public health), and other professionals in the health sector, and journalists. Experiential learning methodology will be followed to conduct these short courses. A feedback session will also be organised after completion of each course, which will be useful for refining course content in the future. Additionally, each participant after the training would develop an action plan on how they would implement the newly acquired knowledge and skills in the field.

## WEEK LONG TRAINING ON AWARENESS

The School provided a one-week training session on what COVID-19 is, who gets affected, how to avoid it, etc. The training entailed details of the virus and provided awareness for all faculty members.



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## COVID-19 TRAINING FOR SUPPORT STAFF

The support staff members of the School were also provided with an awareness training on COVID-19 during the first week of March so they could understand the public health emergency.



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## WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) TRAINING PLATFORM

BRAC JPGSPH used the WHO platform for any resources and information on COVID-19 early on in March. Several other training components have been prepared by BRAC JPGSPH during this time period. Moreover, global and local partners also have shared training materials with the School.



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## ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS FOR EQUITY (ARISE):

Lead partner Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) research consortium with the School, organised webinars and shared resource materials on topics such as, awareness videos titled, "Test, Trace, Isolate", "COVID Ready", "What is COVID-19?", "Who are more vulnerable?", "Preventable measures?", "Treatment at home?", "Reliable sources of COVID-19 information?", "How to maintain good mental health?".

ARISE is funded by UK Research and Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund and in partnership with Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK; Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK; Institute of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow, UK;

The University of York, UK; George Institute for Global Health, India; Slum/Shack Dwellers' International (SDI), India; African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Kenya; Liverpool VCT Health (LVCT Health), Kenya; Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Njala University, Sierra Leone; College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), University of Sierra Leone.



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## HOME CARE TRAINING

Training materials were created by BRAC JPGSPH on how to take care of oneself when at home with COVID-19 or taking care of someone else with COVID-19. The in-house training was developed both in Bangla and English.



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# SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN 2020

BRAC JPGSPH in 2020 arranged more than 57 skill development workshops, seminars and webinars.

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

### COMMUNITY BASED SKILLS DEVELOPMENT: ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS FOR EQUITY (ARISE)

- **6-Day Extensive Integrated Training on Capacity Strengthening for Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR)**

**Participants:** Arise Team Members

**Date:** 11 - 16 January, 2020

**Brief:** The training was facilitated by Kim Ozano, Research Associate, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK and Awlad Hossain, Monitoring, Evaluation, Quality Assurance Specialist of Orbis International. Kim Ozano shared her expertise on CBPR

methods and helped participants to apply the methods in the field, as part of pre-testing of the qualitative tools. The training was on different research tools such as Participatory Research Action (PRA), In-depth interview (IDI), Transect walk, Key Informant Interview (KII), Photo voice with IDI, community mapping, problem tree analysis, etc. They shared their varied experiences in different fields and contexts while applying such research tools. The thorough overview and exercise as effective, in addition to the field work methods taught.





- **Co-Developing with Communities the GIS Map and Building Capacity**

**Participants:** Arise Team Members

**Date:** January, 2020

**Brief:** A day-long training session by Abdul Awal, Research Associate of BRAC JPGSPH. Point mapping, line mapping, etc. was taught in the session. The ARISE team members received a general overview on GIS mapping and had an exercise to conduct.

- **Creating Gender Safe Spaces: Safeguarding Training to Inform Policies and Programmes**

**Date:** January 2020

**Participants:** ARISE team members

**Description:** This session was initiated by Sally Theobald, Social Scientist from Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM). She mentioned the policy

and afterwards presented four case scenarios, which enabled participants to understand the concept and how it can be viewed from different perspectives and situations.

**Organised by:** BRAC JPGSPH

ARISE is funded by UK Research and Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund and partnered with Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK; Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK; Institute of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow, UK; The University of York, UK; George Institute for Global Health, India; Slum/Shack Dwellers' International (SDI), India; African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Kenya; Liverpool VCT Health (LVCT Health), Kenya; Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Njala University, Sierra Leone; College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), University of Sierra Leone.



Scan the QR Code for more information on ARISE



## ORIENTATION ON IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH: BRIDGING THE GAPS BETWEEN IMPLEMENTERS AND RESEARCHERS

**Participants:** : 29 | Duration: 01 Day

**Date:** 18 January, 2020

**Facilitators:** Dr Shaikh A. Shahed Hossain, Associate Scientist, Universal Health Coverage, Health System and Population Studies Division, icddr,b; Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** The purpose of this one-day training was to orient early career academicians to the concept of Implementation Research (IR) and its use in understanding and addressing barriers to effective and quality delivery of health interventions, strategies and policies in health systems.

In particular, this module offered an introductory understanding of the concepts, process and key practical issues and considerations related to designing

and implementing an implementation research. At the end of the course, the participants would have a good overall understanding of the following:

- What Implementation Research is, how this is different than traditional research approach in Public Health or Social Science;
- Why we need Implementation Research in Public Health and beyond;
- How Implementation Research can contribute to developing better health systems.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.

**Organised by:** Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.





## RESEARCH SKILL DEVELOPMENT: DEVELOPING INDICATORS FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

**Participants:** 3 | Duration: 1 Day

**Date:** 6 February, 2020

**Facilitator:** Dr Angel Foster, Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ottawa.

**Brief:** In the beginning of the training, the overview of the project was shared with the country team. The main discussion was about the list of indicators (sexual,

reproductive, maternal, newborn, and adolescent health services and outcomes) and the rationale behind the indicators. The training also discussed the data collection methods of the project.

**Organised by:** Dr Angel Foster, Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ottawa.



## GENDER AND ADOLESCENCE: GLOBAL EVIDENCE (GAGE) TOOLS

**Participants:** 7 | Duration: 3 Days

**Date:** 12, 15 and 16 March, 2020

**Facilitators:** Mohammad Riaz Hossain, Assistant Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; AKM Mazharul Islam, Visiting Professor, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH; Maheen Sultan, Head, Gender and Social Transformation Cluster, BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD).

**Brief:** This training programme, funded and partnered by GAGE ODI, held at BRAC JPGSPH was conducted with the objectives to:

- Understand the objectives and methodology of GAGE research projects.
- Understand ethical issues in GAGE research projects.
- Understand and practice the GAGE qualitative research tools for skillful data collection.
- Learn about research sites and research samples.
- Learn about data management.

**Organised by:** Centre for Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR) and Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.

## TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE: SYNTHESIS AND TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS FROM POLIO ERADICATION (STRIPE)

**Participants:** 15 | Duration: 5 Days

**Date:** 9-13 March, 2020

**Facilitators:** Olakunle O. Alonge, Assistant Professor, International Health (Primary), Division: Health Systems, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Svea Closser, Associate Professor, International Health (Primary), Division: Social and Behavioural Interventions, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Anna Kalbarczyk, Assistant Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health.

**Brief:** The STRIPE consortium focused on knowledge mapping activities in year 1, knowledge synthesis and development of the course in year 2. The course includes 12 modules under various global knowledge domains. This Training of the Trainers (ToT) meeting was organised at John Hopkins University (JHU) Campus, Baltimore, USA to demonstrate different teaching

techniques to the STRIPE teaching team members from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Nigeria. Members from John Hopkins University also took part in the training. As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, India and Indonesia attended virtually.

The teaching techniques were covered under the ToT: Course Evaluation, Lecture Approach, Case Study Approach, Flipped Classroom, Discussion Approach, Debate, Theory of change and quality, improvement/ IR tools, audio and video recording of the lectures and discussions

**Organised by:** John Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA.





## CAPACITY BUILDING ON TOOLS AND GUIDELINES: DEMAND ANALYSIS OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES SKILLS DEMAND ANALYSIS OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN BANGLADESH 2020

**Participants:** 8 | Duration: 2 Days

**Date:** 19 - 20 July, 2020

**Facilitators:** Mir Raihanul Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** An online (Zoom) group training was organised for the study team members. First half of the day one training consisted of participatory discussion on study background, objective, method, data collection plan and quality control measures. Second half of the training

consisted of detailed discussions on the set of tools. On the second day of the training a field pre-testing of the tools was organised. The training ended with debriefings and by providing necessary feedback, suggestions and guidance to the team for quality data collection.

**Organised by:** Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC), BRAC JPGSPH.

## ONLINE CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING ON “QUALITATIVE RESEARCH”

**Participants:** 18 | Duration: 02 Days

**Date:** 25 - 26 August, 2020

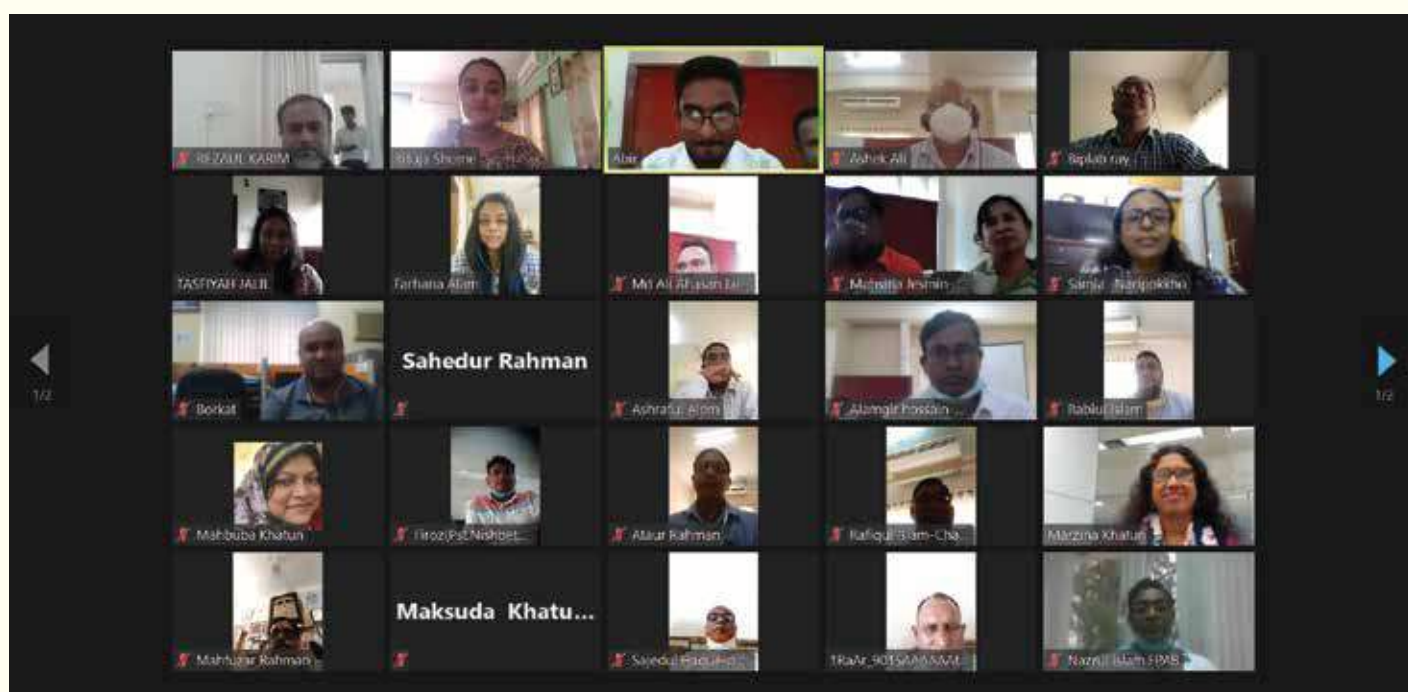
**Facilitator:** Dr AKM Mazharul Islam, Professor, Department of Anthropology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Visiting Professor and Course Facilitator, Anthropological Approaches to Public Health and Resource Person, Methodology Workshop, BRAC JPGSPH

**Co-Facilitators:** Tasfiyah Jalil, Senior Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Rituja Shome, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** In this workshop, the participants were introduced with few important anthropological and qualitative research tools and techniques of data collection. By practically using those tools, they learned how to collect relevant data, make narratives and analyse and how to interpret those in research.

Implemented by Right Here Right Now (RHRN), the project is funded by Rutgers and partnered with BRAC Education Programme, BRAC; Reproductive Health Services Training and Education Program (RHSTEP); Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu); Naripokkho; Socio-Economic Rural Advancement Committee (SERAC)-Bangladesh; Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB); Oboyob; Bangladesh Legal Aid And Services Trust (Blast); United for Body Rights (UBR) Alliance; Bangladesh Mahila Parishad; Dance4Life; Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW), Humanist Institute for Development Cooperation (Hivos) and BRAC JPGSPH.

**Organised by:** Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.



## SKILLS BUILDING COURSES IN 2020

### CAPACITY BUILDING ON FUNDAMENTALS OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH "THINKING QUALITATIVELY"

**Participants:** 27 | Duration: 03 Days

**Date:** 25 - 27 February, 2020

**Facilitator:** Dr Shahaduz Zaman, Reader in Medical Anthropology and Global Health at the Department of Global Health and Infection, University of Sussex, UK.

**Brief:** During the past decade, there has been an increasing use of qualitative post research across various disciplines. It is now well acknowledged that complexity of human life can not only be captured through quantitative means. Qualitative research is

used to gain an understanding of underlying reasons, opinions, and motivations.

In this training workshop participants were introduced to the basic ideas behind the qualitative research. They learned about data collection, analysis and interpretation in qualitative research.

**Organised by:** Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.



### SKILLS DEVELOPMENT: QUANTITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS

**Participants:** 17 | Duration: 05 Days

**Date:** 8 - 12 March, 2020

**Facilitators:** Dr Md Tanvir Hasan, Assistant Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Malay Kanti Mridha, Professor and Director, Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** In response to the growing demand for training in statistical methods and use of statistical software, this course was the first one of a series of courses to be offered by CPSD on application of STATA. A five-day long course, designed with a view to helping academics, researchers, analysts and professionals coming from different backgrounds to learn statistical computing and apply this knowledge in their respective fields.



This course provided participants with an introduction to STATA including data management, performing statistical analysis such as statistical tests and regression modelling, producing and interpreting statistical tables and graphs to display quantitative information.

**Organised by:** Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.



## SHORT COURSE ON “EVALUATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME” FOR IMED OFFICIALS

**Participants:** 25 | Duration: 03 Days

**Date:** 6 - 8 December, 2020

**Facilitators:** Dr Humayra Binte Anwar, Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Mehedi Hasan, Senior Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH;

Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Malabika Sarker, Professor, Associate Dean and Director, Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH.

**Brief:** This course was part of the UNICEF ‘Capacity Development for Monitoring and Reporting to Increase Effective Coverage of Basic Social Services for Women and Children’ (CDMRI-ECBSS Phase-II) and addressed the specific objective of developing a national monitoring and evaluation policy, strategy formulation to implement the policy and capacity development of government officials on Result Based Monitoring (RBM) based M&E.

**Facilitated by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Organised by:** Centre for Professional Skills Development in Public Health (CPSD), BRAC JPGSPH.





## SEMINARS IN 2020

### SEMINAR ON "GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY TO GENERATE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION FOR CLINICAL PRACTICES"

**Date:** 2 January, 2020

**Presenter:** Dr Fazlay S. Faruque is a tenured Professor of Preventive Medicine at the John D. Bower School of Population Health at the University of Mississippi Medical Centre (UMMC). He joined UMMC in 2000 as the Director of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and remote sensing programme with a faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor. He has a PhD in Geological Engineering, 30 years of experience in teaching and research in the areas of geospatial science with a focus on environmental health.

**Brief:** Dr Faruque presented the technological advancement of Geospatial technology and utilisation of environment exposures data in clinical practice in the context of incorporating environmental exposure data and the necessity of such reliable data in current clinical practice.



### SEMINAR ON "THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS"

**Date:** 9 February, 2020

**Presenter:** Sylvia Borren has worked all her life for civil society organisations, both professionally and as a volunteer. She was part of the Dutch and global women's sexual rights movements and is now advisor to the UN Women National Committee Netherlands

and ATRIA (Institute on Gender Equality and Women's History). Ms Borren was part of the anti-poverty movement (director of Oxfam Novib 1994-2008, and co-chair of the Global Call to Action against Poverty and Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)).









# research

- INVESTIGATING PRESSING AND EMERGING PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF THE MOST DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS
- A TEAM OF 231 FACULTY AND RESEARCHERS FROM DIVERSE DISCIPLINARY BACKGROUNDS AND PROFESSIONS
- DEDICATED FIVE CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND HUMANITARIAN RESEARCH HUB WITH A PROVEN TRACK RECORD AND IN-DEPTH INSIGHTS  
CGSRHR | COE-HS&UHC | CUEH | COE-SISU | CNCND
- TRANSFORMING EVIDENCE INTO ACTION FOR CHANGE
- COMBINING GROUNDED RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS TO INFORM GOVERNMENT, KEY STAKEHOLDERS (I.E., NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS, INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES), CIVIL SOCIETY AND DONORS
- EXTENSIVE GLOBAL AND NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS
- PROVIDING EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES NATIONALLY AND GLOBALLY



**195+** RESEARCH PROJECTS  
FROM 2005 TO 2020

**45** RAPID QUANTITATIVE  
AND QUALITATIVE  
RESEARCH ASSESSMENTS  
ON COVID-19



**680+** PEER-REVIEWED  
PUBLICATIONS  
TO DATE

**117** EXTENSIVE GLOBAL  
AND NATIONAL  
PARTNERSHIPS AND  
NETWORKS



BRAC JPGSPH's Five Centres of Excellence and a Humanitarian Research Hub (2018) aim to investigate pressing and emerging developing country health needs to identify evidence-based solutions and inform programmes and policies. Since the School's inception in 2004, more than 195 research projects have been undertaken by the five Centres of Excellence:

**Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights** (established in 2008)

**Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage** (established in 2012)

**Urban Equity and Health** (established in 2013)

**Science of Implementation & Scale-up** (established in 2016)

**Non-communicable Diseases and Nutrition** (established in 2017)

A team of faculty and researchers from diverse disciplinary backgrounds and professions comprising of epidemiologists, medical anthropologists, anthropologists, biostatisticians, development economists, health economists, statisticians, health policy and health system experts, implementation

researchers, nutritionists, doctors and social scientists, are part of the dedicated Centres of Excellence and the Humanitarian Research Hub with a proven track record and in-depth insights.

The research at BRAC JPGSPH focuses on transforming evidence into action for change by combining grounded research and analysis to inform the Government, Key Stakeholders (i.e., non-governmental organisations, international agencies), Civil Society and Donors. Through the School's extensive global and national partnerships and networks, evidence is developed to support programmes and policies, nationally and globally.

BRAC JPGSPH's projects are related to health, encompasses urban and rural health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, nutrition, maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health, health workforce, health equity and health financing, surveillance, programme evaluation, and implementation science. Areas of research related to gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) areas include sexuality, violence against women and children, vulnerable populations. Apart from the above mentioned, the research areas also include financial inclusion, poverty alleviation, education, skills development, climate change, migration, and human rights.





## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR GENDER, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (CGSRHR)

Established in 2008, The Centre aims to promote a broader understanding of gender, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in Bangladesh and in the region through research, policy, advocacy and training activities. Using both academic and action-based research, the Centre generates knowledge and translates it into advocacy-based action for social change. Research topics under the Centre include HIV/AIDS, reproductive health service, gender-based violence, child marriage, digital tools for SRHR, bodily rights and behaviour change communication.

To promote SRHR, the Centre organises and conducts short trainings and courses that aim to stimulate critical thinking and reflections among practitioners. The Centre also facilitates advocacy efforts with various partners and networks to bring about greater awareness on relevant areas of SRHR work. Recent advocacy efforts have addressed SRHR and law, masculinity and men's sexual health, and rights-based issues of minorities and disadvantaged communities.

### RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

*All projects under CGSRHR of 2019 and 2020 have been listed from page 121 onwards. For more information, please visit [www.bracjggsph.org](http://www.bracjggsph.org)*



### NATIONWIDE STUDY OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs) IN BANGLADESH

**Objective:** This mixed method study conducted primary research among PWDs to better understand their SRHR needs, knowledge, sufferings, perception around sex and sexuality, and barriers in accessing SRHR services. The study reviewed existing interventions and/or services relevant to SRHR of PWDs and generate new knowledge by reviewing laws and policies relevant to disability and SRHR.

**Timeline:** December 2018 - May 2020.

**Donor:** Embassy of the Royal Kingdom of Netherlands.

**Partner:** Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.



### PROMOTING RIGHTS THROUGH INCLUSION AND EMPOWERMENT (PRITIE)

**Objective:** A study to address discriminatory laws, policies and practices related to marriage and sexual violence in the context of Bangladesh and international human rights standards. To create platforms for university students and young professionals in the project area to express their views and experiences on their freedom to express, choose, and consent to matters related to their own lives, and strengthen their knowledge and understanding and increase their participation in ensuring their rights and to enhance the capacity of service providers on SRHR.

**Timeline:** January 2019 - September 2020

**Donor:** Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU).

**Partner:** Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST).

### IMPACT EVALUATION DESIGN FOR EVALUATION OF ADOLESCENT STUDENT PROGRAMME (ASP) IN BANGLADESH

**Objective:** This qualitative study conducted evaluation of the impact of various components of the ASP intervention at the school level, with the overall aim to improve adolescent well-being, equipping the government of Bangladesh with an evidence-based and cost-effective model before scaling-up the ASP intervention and understanding of the knowledge, perceptions, practices, challenges and coping mechanisms of adolescent boys and girls living in low-income settlements during the pandemic.

**Timeline:** March 2020 - December 2020

**Donor:** Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence Programme, Overseas Development Institute (GAGE ODI).

**Partner:** BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University and Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence Programme, Overseas Development Institute.







Established in 2012, the Centre works with key partners and stakeholders in the government, private and NGO sectors to facilitate the efforts to accelerate evidence-informed, equitable and sustainable action towards Urban Health Coverage (UHC). As part of its core activities, the Centre works to generate essential evidence to further the establishment of UHC in Bangladesh; these include policy briefs and systematic reviews of key determinants of UHC including workforce, management, and information systems. Frameworks are produced on key functions of insurance systems related to provider networks, service packages, premiums, benefits and claims. Implementing research

on UHC initiatives is also conducted with real-time monitoring and evaluation systems.

The Centre also develops core competencies around UHC through various accredited training programmes and short courses. These programmes are held with key implementing institutions of UHC in Bangladesh. Advocacy is another major core activity of the Centre, and is facilitated through forums, learning and research dissemination with local and global partners. National and international workshops, seminars and dialogues are also held focusing on key UHC issues.

## RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

*All research projects under CoE-HS&UHC of 2019 and 2020 have been listed from page 121 onwards. For more information, please visit [www.bracjgsph.org](http://www.bracjgsph.org)*



### TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING AND ADVANCING UHC AGENDA IN BANGLADESH: THE ROLE OF FRONTLINE HEALTH CARE SERVICE PROVIDERS IN IMPROVING PERFORMANCE

**Objective:** A mixed method study to explore practices related to the delivery of responsive, equitable and quality services by the health care service providers and managers at the PHC levels.

**Timeline:** August 2017 - August 2021.

**Donor:** UK Department for International Development (DFID).

**Partners:** School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS), University of London and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), United Kingdom.

## A GLOBAL SOCIAL SCIENCES NETWORK FOR INFECTIOUS THREATS AND ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (SONAR-GLOBAL)

**Objective:** A three year-long project aimed to develop an open-access platform to support the Sonar-Global activities and to share them broadly; adapt, test, and evaluate vulnerability assessment tools on the ground and engagement models to facilitate collaboration across multiple stakeholders and also, to create, pilot and evaluate curricula for training social scientists in preparedness and response to infectious threats and through curricular development and piloting social science knowledge of infectious threats among non-social sciences actors.

**Timeline:** January 2019 - December 2021

**Donor:** European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme.

**Partners:** Institut Pasteur (IP); Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD); Stichting Nederlands Instituut Voor Onderzoek Van De Gezondheidszorg (NIVEL); Medical University of Vienna (MUW); Mahidol University; Public Health Centre of the MoH of Ukraine; University College London (UCL); Makerere University (MU); Centre Regional De Recherche Et De Formation A La Prise En Charge Clinique Du Vih Sida et Maladies Associees de Dakar (CRCF); Institute of Development Studies (IDS); CENSIS; Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (LMU); University of Malta (UM); University of Ljubljani.



## ASSESSMENT OF POST-CRASH CARE SYSTEM FOLLOWING ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN SELECTED AREAS OF BANGLADESH

**Objective:** A cross-sectoral assessment to assess the current pre-hospital (by-stander and ambulance) and hospital- based post-crash care services in order to get a holistic picture of the post-crash system existing in Bangladesh and to improve the system in the country so that Road Traffic Crash (RTC) mortality and morbidity are reduced.

**Timeline:** January 2020 – Ongoing

**Donor and Partner:** The World Bank.







Established in 2013, with the focus on health equity challenges of the urban poor, particularly on urban health governance; the Centre works in inter-sectoral research, training, policy and results-based action. The Centre motivates evidence-based dialogue and decision-making, and supports partnerships and networking among government policymakers, private and public service providers, researchers and development partners.

The key areas of the Centre's work include training and capacity development to enhance skills and

competencies for better urban health governance, inter-sectoral action, needs and impact assessments as well as programme design, implementation and evaluation. Research at the Centre focuses on urban health governance, community engagement and accountability, and facility mapping and innovations in service delivery models for the urban poor. With broad participation of relevant sectors (health, housing, transport, etc.) and stakeholders (development partners, local government, NGOs, etc.), the Centre applies an evidence-based approach to building consensus, aligning resources and coordinating action towards better governance practices.

## RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

*All research projects under CUEH of 2019 and 2020 have been listed from page 121 onwards. For more information, please visit [www.bracjgsp.org](http://www.bracjgsp.org)*



## PATHWAYS TO EQUITABLE HEALTHY CITIES

**Objective:** The project aims to analyse data bearing in mind the influence of different factors that impact child health outcomes in Dhaka city. This is to shape actionable policy scenarios through stakeholder consultation and validation.

**Timeline:** September 2018 - April 2022

**Donor:** Wellcome Trust through Imperial College London.

**Partners:** Ames Research Center; Anzhen Hospital China; Arizona State University; Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research Consortium (CANUE); McGill University, Canada; Imperial College London, UK; Public Health England; Simon Fraser University Canada; Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; The University of Chicago; Tsinghua University, China; University of Massachusetts, Amherst; University of British Columbia; University of Ghana.



## ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS FOR EQUITY (ARISE)

**Objective:** A mixed method to catalyse change in approaches to enhancing accountability and improving the health and wellbeing of poor, marginalised people living in informal urban settlements.

**Timeline:** December 2018 - February 2024

**Donor:** UK Research and Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund.

**Partners:** Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK; Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK; Institute of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow, UK; The University of York, UK; George Institute for Global Health, India; Slum/Shack Dwellers' International (SDI), India; African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Kenya; Liverpool VCT Health (LVCT Health), Kenya; Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Njala University, Sierra Leone; College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), University of Sierra Leone.

## COMMUNITY-LED RESPONSIVE AND EFFECTIVE URBAN HEALTH SYSTEMS (CHORUS)

**Objective:** A seven year-long project to build a resilient and responsive urban health system to the existing challenges e.g., double burden of Communicable and Non-communicable Diseases, dominance of NGO sector, low health service coverage for marginalised urban people; through capacity building and research uptakes including sectors beyond health and enabling linkages between multiple government, NGO and private providers, whilst ensuring accountability to urban residents, particularly the poor.

**Timeline:** May 2020 - April 2026

**Donor:** UK Department for International Development (DFID), RPC.

**Partners:** Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development; University of Leeds; University of York; ARK Foundation, Bangladesh; HERD International, Nepal; University of Nigeria; University of Ghana.







Established in 2016, the main objective of the CoE-SISU is to timely generate and embed knowledge related to healthcare practice. The Centre aims to bridge gaps to allow successful scaling up and implementation of interventions by focusing on testing different methodologies, generating evidence-based interventions and innovations, and translating them into standard protocols for policy-makers in Bangladesh.

Research conducted at the Centre reviews potential evidence of successful interventions that can showcase

the application of science of implementation for scaling-up. Guidelines and policy briefs are produced for policymakers on implementation of various health programmes and scale-up in Bangladesh. Advocacy efforts include the development of communication materials to showcase successfully implemented or scaled up programmes. Training and short courses are offered under the Centre on implementation research and, monitoring and evaluation to build capacity of development professionals, implementers, researchers and government officials.

## RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

*All research projects under CoE-SISU of 2019 and 2020 have been listed from page 121 onwards. For more information, please visit [www.bracjggsph.org](http://www.bracjggsph.org)*



## SYNTHESIS AND TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS FROM POLIO ERADICATION (STRIPE)

**Objective:** A mixed method study for mapping knowledge content from the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) and Packaging GPEI knowledge assets for a global health course and training materials on implementation science. The study substantially will disseminate GPEI-IS knowledge products, courses, IS clinics to different targeted audiences and will track impact of GPEI-IS knowledge product over time.

**Timeline:** April 2018 - December 2022

**Donor:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Partner:** Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



## THE ETHICS OF HEALTH POLICY EXPERIMENTS: A GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR DESIGN AND OVERSIGHT

**Objective:** The project was to test and refine 'Deliberative Interviews,' a cognitive qualitative interview technique based on deliberation to determine its applicability in designing a framework that examines ethical aspects of health policy experiments. The project assessed if deliberative interviews are socially and culturally acceptable in the four study countries and identify if a higher knowledge level on health issues can be reached by using the deliberative interview style, which takes into account major, widely-known aspects of a particular health theme and had both interviewer and interviewee engage actively in the interview.

**Timeline:** October 2017 - December 2020

**Donor:** Wellcome Trust, UK and University of Heidelberg, Germany.

**Partners:** University of Heidelberg, Germany; Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; School of Public Health and Social Sciences, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Tanzania.

## IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH ON BIRTH AND DEATH REGISTRATION PROCESS IN BANGLADESH WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON THE KALIGANJ MODEL.

**Objective:** An implementation study to explore pressing implementation drivers and barriers of the birth and death registration system in Bangladesh and identify potential solutions to overcome the barriers, especially focusing on the Kaliganj model, to ensure universal birth and death registration within 45 days of the event.

**Timeline:** May 2019 - October 2019

**Donor and Partner:** UNICEF Bangladesh.







Established in 2017, the Centre aims to reduce mortality and complications related to Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and malnutrition in Bangladesh through prevention, treatment and control. The Centre conducts research and works with the government of Bangladesh to develop guidelines for prevention, treatment and control, and perform evidence-based advocacy around NCDs and malnutrition.

Research at the Centre includes identifying evidence-based practices in clinical and population settings, implementing health system research to optimise delivery of interventions, and conducting

economic evaluation of novel and evidence-based interventions. Health care providers are trained on risk stratification for NCDs through prevention and management. The Centre also strengthens capacity of programme managers and policy makers on evidence-based policy and interventions for prevention and control.

To further promote and advocate for the prevention, treatment and control of NCDs and malnutrition, and encourage people to adopt healthier lifestyles, the Centre also develops communication materials based on their research.

## RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

*All research projects under CNCDN of 2019 and 2020 have been listed from page 121 onwards. For more information, please visit [www.bracjgsp.org](http://www.bracjgsp.org)*



## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE-NATIONAL NUTRITION SERVICES (FSNS-NNS)

**Objective:** To report and assess food security of the rural and urban households and nutritional situation of women, children, adolescent boys and girls, adult males and geriatric population.

**Timeline:** April 2018 - December 2019

**Donor:** National Nutrition Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

**Partner:** Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).



### TRAINING AND DIGITAL CARE COORDINATION FOR IMPROVED PREVENTION OF TYPE 2 DIABETES AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE BY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE TEAMS IN BANGLADESH

**Objective:** A mixed-method study to develop and evaluate digital platforms for training and care-coordination by the primary health care team in Bangladesh; and to improve prevention and control of Type 2 Diabetes (T2D) and Cardiovascular disease (CVD).

**Timeline:** September 2019 - September 2021

**Donor:** National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), UK.

**Partners:** Imperial College London, UK; Non-Communicable Disease Control, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; BRAC.

### DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED NUTRITION MESSAGES FOR SCHOOLS

**Objective:** The study aims to develop integrated nutrition messages for school children, (pre-primary to grade 10) using the cover pages of the school textbooks.

**Timeline:** August 2020 - December 2020

**Donor:** Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).







The rise of armed conflict, forced displacement, environmental disasters and other humanitarian crises is a direct result of natural hazards and major disease outbreaks. This has not only led to the increase of sufferings of hundreds of millions of lives but now more so than ever in history, more people are facing public health issues.

As of August 2017, more than 1.1 million Rohingya refugees in need of humanitarian assistance have migrated to Bangladesh. In order to improve their access

to public health aid, multiple national and international organisations are tirelessly working across all camps in Cox's Bazar.

Sharing the same vision since 2018, BRAC JPGSPH continues to conduct research studies on Rohingya refugees across three of its Centres of Excellence in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh; in efforts to comprehend the gaps in public health service delivery and to identify challenges to improve well-being of the Rohingya community.

## RESEARCH PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

All research projects under the School's Humanitarian Hub of 2019 and 2020 have been listed from page 121 onwards. For more information, please visit [www.bracjpgsph.org](http://www.bracjpgsph.org)



### AN ETHNOGRAPHIC STUDY: HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOUR FOR SRH SERVICES OF ROHINGYA WOMEN IN ROHINGYA CAMPS OF COX'S BAZAR

**Objective:** The aim of this assessment was to investigate the women's and community's perceptions and behaviours influencing healthcare-seeking practices related to pregnancy, childbirth, newborn care and family planning. It also aims to understand the decision-making process of family dynamics, the socio-cultural and religious beliefs and practices and to identify the challenges in health-seeking for pregnancy, childbirth, newborn care and family planning services from providers as well as women's perspectives.

**Timeline:** March 2019 – July 2019

**Donor and Partner:** World Health Organization (WHO), Bangladesh.



### LEARNING THROUGH PLAY: LOOKING INTO PLAY LAB IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL OF BANGLADESH

**Objective:** A qualitative study to illustrate the lessons learnt in mainstreaming play based learning model among four to five year old children in government primary school. The project aimed to understand the perspectives of community and key stakeholders about play based learning model, to describe the changes in the development of children exposed to the activities of the Play Lab and to document the driving force for and the challenges to initiate and implement the Play Labs in the government primary spaces.

**Timeline:** September 2019 - January 2020

**Donor:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED).

### BRIDGING COMMUNITIES IN COX'S BAZAR: MITIGATING RISKS AND PROMOTING GENDER, GOVERNANCE AND LOCALISATION OF HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES IN COVID-19 ERA

**Objective:** A qualitative and quantitative study with an overall objective of the Rohingya camp and host communities in relation to the project is to provide pressing evidence to influence policies and interventions that will promote tolerance and peace building, encourage civic engagement and facilitate psycho-social wellbeing. The study will widen dissemination of research findings through meetings and dialogues with government representatives, volunteers, CBOs, local NGOs and UN agencies to share emerging findings and recommendations using online offline platforms.

**Timeline:** August 2020 - July 2023

**Donor:** International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

**Partner:** Centre for Peace and Justice (CPJ).



Since the outbreak of COVID-19 BRAC JPGSPH has been conducting both qualitative and quantitative research assessments.

Uptill December 2020 the School has undertaken  
**45** rapid quantitative and qualitative research assessments,  
 including 19 research briefs on COVID-19

*(Please go to page 166 for all COVID-19 related researches undertaken by BRAC JPGSPH)*



# DIRECTORS OF CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

Since inception, BRAC JPGSPH has gradually built up its research capacity within different spheres of Public Health, with a team of multidisciplinary researchers comprising of epidemiologists, medical anthropologists, anthropologists, biostatisticians, development economists, health economists, statisticians, health policy and health system experts, implementation researchers, nutritionists, doctors and social scientists.

The research methods are diverse in its approaches and methods (i.e., rapid assessments, national level surveys, implementation research, surveillance, evaluations, RCTs, focused ethnographies and other qualitative methods i.e., photo narratives, etc.). BRAC JPGSPH's research practice investigates critical and emerging developing country health needs to identify evidence-based solutions and inform policies, under the Five Centres of Excellence.



**Professor Sabina F Rashid**  
Dean and Director of the  
Centre of Excellence for  
Gender, Sexual and  
Reproductive Health and  
Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC  
JPGSPH.

She has a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Social Anthropology, and a PhD in Medical Anthropology and Public Health from the Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. Professor Rashid joined the School in 2004, when it was set up, and was appointed Dean in 2013.

In addition to the overall leadership and management of the School, Professor Rashid has been integral to the founding and growth of the international MPH programme. In 2008, she founded the Centre for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (GSRHR) and co-founded the Centre for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH) in 2013; both focus on research, capacity building with a focus on influencing programme design and policies in the country. She coordinates and teaches three courses in the Master of Public Health programme: *Introduction to Public Health*, *Anthropological Approaches to Public Health and Gender*, *Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights*.

Professor Rashid has led several multi-country research and capacity building grants with international partners including the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex; Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Liverpool, UK; London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK; KIT, Netherlands; University of Amsterdam Radboud University, Netherlands; EngenderHealth, USA; Guttmacher Institute, USA; African Population Health Research Centre, Kenya; CREA, India; TARSHI, India; and with local partners BRAC Gender and Advocacy Unit, Government of Bangladesh, national SRHR NGOs, LGBT networks, and

BLAST, a legal aid organisation. She has been awarded research and capacity building grants from the World Bank, WHO, Gates, USAID, NUFFIC, NWOTRO, EU, Dutch Embassy, WHO, IDRC, DFID, and IWHC. She serves on several national and global boards and committees.

In May 2018, she was nominated for a global award, 'Heroines of Health'. Nine women were selected from this global competition of over 100 + nominations. This was awarded by GE Healthcare, Women in Global Health. The event took place at the World Health Assembly, Geneva. In October, the same year, she was invited to be a Visiting Scholar, at the Center for Social Medicine and the Institute of South Asia Studies, at the University of California at Berkeley, USA

Dr Rashid has nearly 90 publications (book, peer reviewed articles, international book chapters and monographs, etc); and has brought in as lead/co-lead, approximately US\$ 15 million in research and capacity building grants.

## Global Memberships:

- September 1, 2020 - Member of the COVID-19 Research Roadmap social science working group, World Health Organisation, Geneva, Switzerland
- July 1, 2020 - Co-Chair the World Congress on Public Health (October 12-16, 2020), Congress Management Committee, World Federation of Public Health Associations, Headquarters, University of Geneva
- June, 2020 - Member, of the MRC Wellcome Trust Joint Health Systems Research Committee (three years appointment), UK
- May, 2020 - Member of the Global network for Academic Public Health, the focus of the network is to engage in conversations to enhance academic public health worldwide through mutual learning and collaborations between academic public health institutions globally.

- April 2020 – Lead Focal, (Bangladesh), Regional Platform on Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, with Partner platforms in India and Nepal. Overall coordinator, SRHM, Geneva, (funded by Gates, India)
- March 2020 – present – Member, Rockefeller-BU 3-D Commission, led by Professor Sandro Galeo, Dean, Robert A Knox Professor, School of Public Health, Boston University (global group of members as part of the Commission)
- February 2021 – invited to be member of Global Forum on Humanitarian Health Research (GFH2R), organized by IDRC
- January 2017 – present – Advisory Member, CREA, India
- March 2017 – present – Member, South Asia Regional Community of Practice: Strengthening regional work on normative change for adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health, hosted by, IRH, Passages and Save the Children, Nepal
- National Board – April 2009 – present – Member of Working Group, Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW, a National Civil Society to improve citizens' health, which was established in 2006)

#### **Previous memberships (up to 2020):**

August 2014 – December 2020 – Member of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) of the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research (HPSR), World Health Organization, Geneva

2014-2019, Advisory Member – The Annual Abortion Panels -IUSSP, Guttmacher Institute, New York, USA

#### **Board Member of International Journals:**

- Editorial Advisory Board, Sexual Reproductive Health Matters SRHM (Peer reviewed Journal) (from 2020)
- Member, Editorial board, Journal South Asian Water Studies (SAWAS), India (from 2012)
- Member, Editorial Advisory Board, Global Public Health: An International Journal for Research, Policy and Practice published by Routledge, USA Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University (from 2011)
- Member, Editorial board, Asian Pacific Journal of Reproduction (from 2012)
- Member, Editorial Board, Indian Journal of Medical Ethics, India (from 2012)

#### **Research Concentration:**

Sabina F. Rashid, a medical anthropologist by training, has over 25 years of work experience in Bangladesh. Her areas of expertise are ethnographic and qualitative research, with a focus on urban populations, adolescents, and marginalized groups. She is particularly interested in examining the impact of structural and

social factors on the ability of these populations to realize their health and rights, including their reproductive and sexual health and well-being. She is passionate about community engagement in qualitative research designs.



#### **Bachera Aktar**

Assistant Director of the Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH.

Bachera Aktar has over 11 years of experience of implementing public health programmes and researches in rural and urban areas in Bangladesh. At present, Bachera Aktar is overseeing research projects on the urban health system and humanitarian response to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. She is also a course coordinator and faculty at the BRAC JPGSPH, MPH Programme and supervises students' thesis work.

She completed her Bachelor and Masters in Food and Nutrition from Dhaka University, Bangladesh and MPH from BRAC JPGSPH. She is currently a Global Health PhD student at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK.

Prior to joining the School, she led BRAC's largest community-based Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health (MNCH) programme implemented in 14 districts in rural Bangladesh, and provided technical support to its urban MNCH programmes and adolescent health and nutrition interventions. She was the project lead of a large-scale implementation research on community-based maternal nutrition intervention and oversaw the implementation side of the research including designing and pilot testing feasible interventions acceptable to the community.

#### **Research Concentration:**

Bachera Aktar is specialising in reproductive and sexual health, maternal, child, and adolescent health and nutrition, health system and management, mixed-method research, monitoring and evaluation, healthcare services in humanitarian crisis setting and capacity development of community health workers. She is also interested in community-based participatory research and implementation science.





### **Farhana Alam**

Assistant Director of the Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH.

Farhana Alam completed her MPH degree from North South University, specialising in Epidemiology. She has experience in both qualitative and quantitative research and started working at the BRAC JPGSPH in December 2014 as a USAID Fellow in Go4Health project, for which she has done qualitative research, aimed for the goals of global health and governance, funded by the EU. She was also involved in developing the Framework Convention on Global Health (FCGH), a treaty to build on the post-2015 SDGs, momentum on universal health coverage, and more. Farhana Alam worked in the Nuffic project, funded by the government of the Netherlands on capacity development on gender and SRHR through curriculum reform, short courses, training and research.

Currently, she is coordinating the qualitative research part (Bangladesh) of the mixed methods longitudinal research and evaluation study “Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE)” project (2015-2024) funded by UK AID in collaboration with BRAC JPGSPH and BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD).

She is also working on the research, “Disrupting cross border trafficking in Jashore” as the Principal Investigator (PI) funded by The Children’s Investment Fund Foundation and led by BRAC. BRAC JPGSPH is the research partner for this project. Farhana Alam is also coordinating a longitudinal research project, MFAAR Asia (2019-2024) that focuses on ensuring the inclusion of marginalised populations in Asia through an innovative global partnership funded by The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. BRAC JPGSPH is leading the Bangladesh part of this project.



### **Dr Malabika Sarker**

Associate Dean, Professor and Director of the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), Former Director of Research, BRAC JPGSPH.

Professor Sarker is a mixed method specialist, a physician with a MPH from Harvard University, USA and a Doctorate in Public Health from University of Heidelberg, Germany. Professor Sarker taught at the Heidelberg Institute of Global Health for six years and is

currently continuing as an adjunct faculty. Before joining BRAC JPGSPH, she conducted research in Burkina Faso, Tanzania, and Uganda on Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) of HIV.

Professor Sarker is the Advisor and Ex Founding Chair of the Ethical Review Committee and was the first Director of Research of BRAC JPGSPH, Research Adviser of BRAC University. She has published more than 95 articles in international peer-reviewed journals and authored three book chapters.

Professor Sarker has led many multi-country research and capacity building grants with BMZ, EU, GIZ, WHO, UNICEF, NIH USA, Agence Nationale de Recherche, Gates, NIHR UK, Fred Hollows Foundation, British Academy, SIMPRINT, GFATM, UNFPA, UK MRC, Bloomberg Foundation Bangladesh, Government of Bangladesh, UNICEF, EU, World Vision, WOTRO, Archive Global, M4M, Rockefeller Foundation, International Growth Centre, ILO, Harvard School of Public Health, URC TRAction, USAID, Health Matrix Network, Oxfam Novib, Sight Saver, DFG-German Research Society, World AIDS Foundation and more.

### **Global membership:**

- International Advisory Board Member, The Lancet Global Health (from 2019)
- International Advisory Board Member, HRP, World Health Organization (from 2019)
- International Advisory Board Member, Metrics for Measurement, USA (from 2016)
- Member, International Immunisation Policy Task Force, World Federation of Public Health Association (from 2020)
- Board Member, Applied Global Health Research Board, MRC, UKRI, UK (from 2020)
- Committee Member, NIHR Global Health Research Professorship (from 2020)
- Committee Member, NIHR Global Health Research Unit & Research Group (from 2020)
- Associate Editor, Behavioural Medicine (Taylor & Francis On Line) (from 2019)
- Lancet Commissioner, Addressing the fragmentation of global health: The Lancet Commission on synergies between universal health coverage, health security, & health promotion (2019-2021)

### **Research Concentration:**

Professor Sarker, as a mixed method researcher has extensive experience in intervention research in varieties of health domains. Currently her scholarly interest lies in the implementation research and evaluation of health programmes. Professor Sarker also focuses her research on, cross-cutting themes, such as gender, equity, universal health coverage.



**Professor Syed Masud Ahmed**

Director of the Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC), BRAC JPGSPH.

Professor Ahmed is a graduate of Dhaka Medical College, a David E. Bell Fellow from Harvard Centre for Population and Development Studies (1997), and recipient of a PhD on health systems from Karolinska Institutet University, Sweden in 2005. Dr Ahmed is among the top 2% scientists according to the “Stanford World Ranking of Scientist 2020”

(<https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/btchxktzyw/2>, SI No. 142113/ subfield: Tropical Medicine).

Under the CoE-HS&UHC, he is leading research, advocacy and capacity-building activities relevant to Bangladesh’s journey towards UHC. Professor Ahmed has led many multi country research projects funded by international organisations such as World Bank, GFATM, EU, DFID, ESRC, USAID, MSH, Rockefeller Foundation, Gates, Government of Netherlands, CIDA, EC, NOVIB, WEP, ICRW, UNICEF and AusAID.

Dr Ahmed has published extensively in peer reviewed journals and authored book chapters, monographs and working papers. He has published more than 140 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters, monographs, working papers, conference proceedings and presented over 17 papers in international seminars, workshops, conferences. He is also a peer reviewer for many renowned public health journals such as Bulletin of WHO, World Development, Social Science and Medicine, Health Policy and Planning, BMC Public Health, Tropical Medicine and International Health etc.

**Global membership:**

- Member, Programme Committee, Global Health Policy and Health Systems Research (GHPHSR) of the NWO-WOTRO (Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research/Science for Global Development from 2009 till 2013)
- Member, Joint Health Systems Research Committee of the Wellcome Trust (from 2013 till 2016).

**Research Concentration:**

Assessing the impact of development interventions on the lives of the poor and the marginalised including the mechanisms of such impact; health and gender equity; human resources for health and universal health coverage; health sector corruption, and AMR including epidemic preparation.



**Professor Zahidul Quayyum**

Co-Director of the Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH), Recently appointed Research Director, BRAC JPGSPH.

Professor Quayyum is a health economist, a public health researcher and has over 25 years of experiences of conducting health economics and health systems research. He is a recipient of a PhD in Health Economics from the University of Aberdeen (UK), MSc in Health Policy Planning and Financing from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London School of Economics, University of London and Masters in Economics from Thammasat University, Bangkok.

Teaching in multiple UK universities, Professor Quayyum has worked for many international research projects, mainly economic evaluation models for safe motherhood interventions strategies, and economic analysis of government interventions and policy changes for improving maternal and child health in Indonesia, Ghana, Burkina Faso, and in Bangladesh. He is also a founding faculty member at the Institute of Health Economics of Dhaka University. At BRAC JPGSPH, he leads the Health Economics and Health Care Financing module of the MPH Programme.

Professor Quayyum has led many multi-country research projects funded by DFID, UKRI, Wellcome Trust, BRAC, WHO, UKAID, EU, Gates Foundation, USAID and more. He has authored over 40 publications including over 26 peer-reviewed publications, three chapters in book and over 18 research reports, monograph, working papers and has presented in more than 26 conferences and seminars.

**Global membership:**

- Member, Health Economic Study Group (HESG), UK
- Peer reviewer, health economist for disbursement of research project funds by NIHR
- Section (Health Economics and Health Systems) Editor, BMC Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition.

**Research Concentration:**

Evaluating different policy changes in health care and health systems from a health economist and health systems perspective; urban health, inequality in health, equity and resource allocation in health care; economic evaluation of health interventions and health technology assessment; financing and efficiency for universal health coverage.





**Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan,**  
Associate Professor and  
Co-Director of the Centre  
of Excellence for Urban  
Equity and Health (CUEH),  
Recently appointed  
Research Co-Director,  
BRAC JPGSPH.

Dr Hasan holds a PhD from the University of Queensland, Australia, in addition to a Master of Science and a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Statistics from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. He was a recipient of the International postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) and Australian Postgraduate Award (APA).

Dr Hasan teaches Biostatistics in the Master of Public Health (MPH) Programme at BRAC JPGSPH. Besides teaching, he is currently leading two research projects as Principal Investigator (PI) and one as Co-PI. One of the projects he leads focuses on managing impact of COVID-19 in Rohingya refugee camps and host communities with culturally appropriate technological solutions. The other is a mixed-methods evaluation research that aims to examine the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of a biometrically enabled mHealth system to improve maternal and child health outcomes in 36 districts of Bangladesh where BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP) provide services to eligible couples, pregnant and lactating mothers.

Dr Hasan has led many mixed-methods research projects funded by international organisations such as IDRC, BRAC, Grand Challenges Canada, Dutch Government, UN Women, WHO and more. He has published over 20 articles in the form of scientific peer-reviewed paper, book chapter, research report, research and policy briefs.

#### **Global membership:**

- Alumni, The University of Queensland (from 2017)
- Member, Health System Global (from 2012 till 2013)

#### **Research Concentration:**

Maternal and child nutrition, sexual and reproductive health and rights of persons with disabilities, informal providers in health care delivery, health and well-being of ready-made garments workers and stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS.



**Dr Malay Kanti Mridha**  
Professor and Director of  
the Centre of Excellence for  
Non-Communicable  
Diseases and Nutrition  
(CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH.

Professor Mridha holds a PhD from the University of California, Davis. He has worked for organisations including icddr, University of California, Davis, HIV/AIDS and STD Alliance, Concern Worldwide, BRAC and Bangladesh Diabetic Association. He has led the implementation of programmes and research in the area of maternal, neonatal and child health, nutrition, HIV/AIDS and non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Professor Mridha is currently implementing a nationwide surveillance of non-communicable diseases (NCDs); developing and testing a care-coordination system for the management of non-communicable diseases, implementing training programmes for the management of NCD by primary health care providers; supporting the government of Bangladesh for nutrition and food security surveillance; and assessing the effect of nutrient supplementation of epigenetic changes pertinent to Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) genes and more.

Professor Mridha has received many multi-country research and capacity building grants with NIHR, Government of Bangladesh, JICA, The World Bank, Nutrition International, HarvestPlus, USAID, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, DFID, AusAID, WHO and more. He has published over 136 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters and working papers.

#### **Global membership:**

- Member, American Public Health Association (from 2021)
- Executive Committee Member, White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood (from 2013)
- Member, American Society for Nutrition (from 2012)
- Member, American Physiological Society (from 2012)
- Member, Global Health Information Share Initiative, Centre for Nutritional Genomics, University of California, Davis (from 2010)
- Alumni, World Bank Institute (from 2007)
- Member, Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research (from 2006)

#### **Research Concentration:**

Epidemiology of NCD and malnutrition; and implementation of evidence-based interventions to prevent and control NCD and malnutrition.



**Dr Kaosar Afsana**  
Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.

Dr Afsana has research and implementation experience of over 30 years in Public Health with specific focus on reproductive, maternal,

neonatal and child health (RMNCH), nutrition, early childhood development, health system, community engagement and women's empowerment. She is an MD with an MPH from Harvard University, USA and PhD from Edith Cowan University, Australia. She has served BRAC in Bangladesh for over 26 years and completed her tenure in 2018 as the Director, BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP) with an annual Budget of USD 30-40 million and has been working for BRAC JPGSPH since its inception in 2004.

Dr Afsana has authored books and widely published papers in journals and books. She represents BRAC JPGSPH and BRAC at national and global levels, playing a critical role in policy-making and planning, and providing technical guidance, particularly, in sexual, reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health and nutrition and health system strengthening.

#### **Global membership:**

- Vice-Chair, Scientific Committee, UN Food System Summit 2021, United Nations, New York, USA
- Member, Board of Directors, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, Geneva, Switzerland

- Member, Strategic Committee, Ahimsa Renaissance Think Tank, Ahimsha Fund, Lyon, France
- Member, Advisory Committee, SIMPRINTS, Cambridge, UK
- Member, Academic, Research and Training Institutes, The Partnership of the Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health, Geneva
- Member, External Advisory Group on Integration of Wasting Treatment into Routine Health Systems, Results for Development, Washington DC, USA
- Member, External Advisory Committee, International Health and Tropical Medicine, Oxford University, Oxford, UK
- Member, Guideline Development Committee, SRHR and SelfCare, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland
- Member, Advisory Committee, Social Innovations on Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK
- Member, Harvard Alumni Network, USA
- Member, Edith Cowan University Alumni Network, Australia

#### **Research Concentration:**

Sexual, reproductive, maternal, neonatal and child health and nutrition; multi-sectoral approach to nutrition; early childhood development; non-communicable diseases; primary health care; community health; health system strengthening; fragility and health; gender; and equity.



# OUR DONORS



# 68 GLOBAL AND 51 LOCAL RESEARCH PARTNERS IN 2019 AND 2020

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- Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research Consortium (CANUE)
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- Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED)
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- Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD)
- Dance4Life
- Hivos
- Maastricht University
- Nederlands Instituut Voor Onderzoek Van De Gezondheidszorg (NIVEL)

### SWITZERLAND

- ETH Zurich
- Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

### UKRAINE

- State Institution Center Public Health Ministry of Health of Ukraine (PHC)

### UNITED KINGDOM

- Brighton Sussex Medical School, University of Sussex
- Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE)
- Imperial College London
- Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex
- Institute of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow
- Ipsos MORI
- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM)
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)
- Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development
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- Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Njala University

### TANZANIA

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## 51 LOCAL RESEARCH PARTNERS

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- Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW)
- Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University
- Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST)
- Bangladesh Mahila Parishad
- Bangladesh University of Health Science (BUHS)
- Bohnishikha - Unlearn Gender
- BRAC
  - BRAC Advocacy Department
  - BRAC Education Programme
  - BRAC Health Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP)
  - BRAC Humanitarian Crisis Management Programme (HCMP)
  - BRAC Microfinance Department
  - BRAC Skills Development Programme (SDP)
  - BRAC University
  - Centre for Peace and Justice (CPJ), BRAC University
  - Community Empowerment Programme (CEP), BRAC
  - Department of Architecture, BRAC University
  - Gender and Social Transformation Cluster, BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University
  - Gender Justice and Diversity (GJD), BRAC
  - Integrated Development Programme (IDP), BRAC
  - Urban Development Programme (UDP), BRAC
- Community Health Working Group
- Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB)
- Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
  - Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation in Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM)
  - Bangladesh Rice Research Institute (BRRI)
  - Cabinet Division, Bangladesh
  - Department of Social Services (DSS), Ministry of Social Welfare
  - Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
  - National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD)
  - Non-Communicable Disease Control (NCDC), Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
  - Sylhet City Corporation, Sylhet
- icddr,b
- International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
- Manusher Jonno Foundation's (MJF)
- Naripokkho
- Oboyob - Diversity Circle
- RHSTEP
- SERAC-Bangladesh
- Shornokishoree Network Foundation (SKNF)
- Unite for Body Rights (UBR) Alliance
- University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh
- Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF), Bangladesh
- World Health Organization (WHO), Bangladesh
- World Vision, Bangladesh

## GENDER, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS



### RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW (RHRN)

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Kuhel Islam, Senior Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Tasfiyah Jalil, Senior Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Rituja Shome, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2017 - October 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To create a world where everyone is able to access quality and youth-friendly health services. To ensure that no one is afraid to openly express who they are and who they love.

**Methodology:** Evidence-based Advocacy and Capacity Strengthening.

**Donor:** Rutgers

**Partners:** BRAC Education Programme, BRAC; RHSTEP; Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu); Naripokkho; SERAC-Bangladesh; Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB); Oboyob; BLAST; United for Body Rights (UBR) Alliance; Bangladesh Mahila Parishad Dance4Life; ARROW; HiVOS.

**Grant Amount:** BDT 35,57,400 (2019)



### WHERE DO THEY GO? DOCUMENTARY ON ACCESSIBILITY OF SRHR SERVICES FOR SINGLE WORKING WOMEN IN URBAN BANGLADESH

**PI:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2018 - February 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** This documentary aims at breaking the silence and knowledge gap around the SRHR needs of single/unmarried young women in Bangladesh.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** Share-Net International.

**Partner:** Bohnishikha-Unlearn Gender.

**Grant Amount:** USD 10,800





## STRENGTHENING VOICES AND CAPACITIES FOR ADDRESSING GENDER BASED VIOLENCE WITH BLAST.

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Mostafizur Rahman, Assistant Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** November 2018 - December 2020  
Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objective:** To address the overarching goal of reducing gender-based violence (GBV) prevalent in Bangladesh's society; to address the erosion of gender objectives within development, and in the current context of shrinking civic space.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** Creating Resources for Empowerment and Action (CREA).

**Partner:** Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST).

**Grant Amount:** USD 140,346



## A STUDY OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs) IN BANGLADESH.

**PI:** Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Irin Akhter, Deputy Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** December 2018 - May 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objectives:** To understand SRHR needs, knowledge about SRHR, SRH sufferings, perception around sex and sexuality and barriers in accessing SRH services for PWDs in Bangladesh through primary research; secondary review of existing interventions and/or services relevant to SRHR of PWDs, identify gaps in currently implementing interventions and/or services and recommend strategies to improve delivery of efficacious interventions and/or services; review existing laws and policies relevant to SRHR and disability in Bangladesh and explore barriers to the implementation of laws and policies and recommend strategies for improvement.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** Embassy of the Royal Kingdom of Netherlands.

**Partner:** Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People Republic of Bangladesh.

**Grant Amount:** USD 556,729



## MALE YOUTH AND THEIR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) IN BANGLADESH: A MIXED-METHODS NATIONWIDE STUDY.

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinated by:** Dr Farzana A. Misha, Assistant Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Qualitative Lead:** Subas Chandra Biswas, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** December 2018 - December 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To explore the SRH needs of male youth (aged 15-24) in Bangladesh by exploring existing SRH interventions; identify the gaps and challenges to improve SRH interventions and/or services; identify the barriers of implementation and recommendations for policy advocacy.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** Embassy of the Royal Kingdom of the Netherlands.

**Grant Amount:** USD 521,938

*"No one discussed these issues (masturbation, wet dreams) with us. That is why we discuss it with friends. We do not know where to get correct information from. It would be better for us if we knew it."*

### - A Male Respondent.

Male Youth and their Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) In Bangladesh:  
A Mixed-Methods Nationwide Study



## PROMOTING RIGHTS THROUGH INCLUSION AND EMPOWERMENT (PRITIE).

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Ashfique Rizwan, Deputy Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Mostafizur Rahman, Assistant Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Tasfiyah Jalil, Senior Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2019 – September 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To address discriminatory laws, policies and practices related to marriage and sexual violence in the context of Bangladesh and international human rights standards. To create platforms for university students and young professionals in the project area to express their views and experiences on their freedom to express, choose, and consent to matters related to their own lives, and strengthen their knowledge and understanding and increase their participation in ensuring their rights; To enhance the capacity of service providers on SRHR.

**Methodology:** Capacity Strengthening and Advocacy.

**Donor:** Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU).

**Partner:** Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST).

**Grant Amount:** USD 311,515





### **MATERNAL MORTALITY AND EMERGENCY OBSTETRIC CARE (EMOC) FACILITIES IN BRAC HEALTH NUTRITION POPULATION PROGRAMME (HNPP) AREAS IN RURAL BANGLADESH.**

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** March 2019 - Ongoing

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objectives:** To identify the areas with high maternal deaths in BRAC health, nutrition and population programme (HNPP) areas in Bangladesh; to examine the density of Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC) facilities in BRAC HNPP areas across Bangladesh; to explore knowledge, perception, practice, barrier and challenges in the communities with high MMR in Bangladesh, in access to formal healthcare facilities for utilisation of antenatal, delivery and postnatal care.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

**Partner:** BRAC Health Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP).

**Grant Amount:** USD 70,000



### **MIGRATION PASSAGES AND SRH NEEDS OF RURAL TO URBAN MIGRANT WOMEN IN BANGLADESH.**

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Syeda Seama Mowri, Senior Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** March 2019 - February 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To understand access to information and services that meet the sexual and reproductive healthcare needs of rural-urban migrant women in Dhaka; to understand the push-pull factors that contributed to the decision to migrate.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** Georgetown University.

**Grant Amount:** USD 15,000

*"Family members of the pregnant woman were conservative. That is why I could not provide her any ANC checkup. In addition, the mother had short stature (below five feet). Overtime she was suffering from several complications such as, high blood pressure, albumin excretion and convulsion. In such physical conditions her labour time advanced and her family members sought treatment from a TBA. After 12-14 hours, the TBA failed to deliver the child and referred the mother to UHC. She was carried to UHC by a push cart through broken roads. On the way, her condition deteriorated severely and she died."*

**- A BRAC Health Worker (Sastho Karmi).**

Maternal Mortality and Emergency Obstetric Care (EMOC) Facilities in BRAC Health Nutrition Population Programme (HNPP) Areas in Rural Bangladesh.



## **SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH SKILL DEVELOPMENT: EXPLORING THE LIVED REALITIES OF BRAC SDP GRADUATES THROUGH PHOTO NARRATIVE**

**PI:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Wafa Alam, Assistant Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Wafa Alam, Assistant Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2019 - August 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objective:** To explore the experiences of women in non-conventional trade, transgender individuals and persons with disabilities after graduation from SDP training programmes; to understand their need for support after graduation in order to ensure a sustainable social inclusion; to understand experiences of SDP graduates during COVID-19 pandemic through follow up phone interviews.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Skills Development Programme (SDP).

**Grant Amount:** BDT 2,500,000



## **EXPLORING THE FEASIBILITY OF COLLECTING A CORE SET OF INDICATORS FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATING SEXUAL, REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, NEWBORN, CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH SERVICES AND OUTCOMES IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS**

**PI:** Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Bachera Aktar, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Nadia Farnaz, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2019 - April 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objective:** To assess the feasibility of collecting data on a core set of indicators for monitoring and evaluating SRMNCAH in settings affected by humanitarian crises.

**Methodology:** Mixed Methods

**Partners:** Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ottawa (Canada); Cambridge Reproductive Health Consultants (USA)

**Donor:** World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva.

**Grant amount:** USD 15,424





## COUNTERING BACKLASH AND RECLAIMING GENDER JUSTICE

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Ishrat Jahan, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Aisha Siddika, Senior Researcher, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2019 - 2024

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objective:** Understanding the backlash against women's rights and gender justice; addressing the erosion of gender agendas, their co-option and its stereotyping effects; advancing new opportunities for women's movements and rights defenders to reclaim gender justice; enhance the understanding and capacities needed – and identify opportunities – for women's rights organisations and other gender justice defenders.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

**Partner:** Leading institute - Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex.

**Partner countries/Regions** - India, Brazil, UK, Kenya, Uganda and Middle East regions.

**Grant Amount:** GBP 136,894



## CAPTURING BEST PRACTICES OF BRAC'S ENGAGING MEN (EMB) PROJECT

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2019 - May 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objective:** Capture and document evidence/learnings and best practices of successful and unsuccessful strategies and approaches (what has worked best and what has not worked) used for mobilising men and boys in support of gender equality.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** BRAC

**Partner:** BRAC GJD, CEP & IDP.

**Grant Amount:** USD 16,000



## A MIXED-METHODS CLUSTER RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL OF BIOMETRICALLY ENABLED MHEALTH SYSTEM OF BRAC COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMME

**PI:** Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co- PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal person:** Adrita Kaiser, Assistant Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2019- December 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objectives:** To evaluate the impact of a biometrically enabled mHealth (Simprints) system on selected maternal and child health outcomes in 36 districts of Bangladesh; to examine the cost-effectiveness of the biometrically enabled mHealth system in improving maternal and child health outcomes in the 36 selected districts. In addition, to determine whether benefits exceed costs (cost-benefit analysis); to explore, if the “Simprints” system contributes to an efficiency gain in overall management of health care and Management Information System (MIS) in providing maternal and child health services in 36 districts of Bangladesh; to explore perceptions and understandings of the beneficiaries about potential benefits (if there is any) of the biometrically enabled mHealth system.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** Simprint; BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP).

**Partner:** BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP).

**Grant Amount:** USD 52,423



## MOBILISING FOR A RESEARCH REVOLUTION TO ENSURE LGBTIQ INCLUSION IN ASIA: A HIGH-IMPACT, TRANSFORMATIVE INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP (MFARR-ASIA)

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Peter A. Newman, Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto.

**Co-PI:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Selima Sara Kabir, Assistant Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Maruf Rahman, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Md. Maruf Rahman, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** November 2019 – March 2024

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objectives:** To generate a shared understanding of characteristics and priorities of LGBTIQ inclusion in six sectors: education, employment, family, violence/security, health and political participation; to measure and monitor LGBTIQ inclusion in four countries (India, Thailand, Bangladesh and Hong Kong) over time; to identify model programmes and initiatives, and good practices to support LGBTIQ inclusion; to increase access to and use of knowledge by community-based organisation (CBO) and intergovernmental organisation (IGO) partners through innovative knowledge mobilisation, including participatory video.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

**Partners:** Oboyob: Diversity Circle; Bandhu Social Welfare Society.

**Grant Amount:** USD 187,652





## BRAC - DISRUPTING CROSS BORDER TRAFFICKING NETWORKS IN JASHORE, BANGLADESH

**PI:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Sophia Kaufman, Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Technical Advisor:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** November 2019 - April 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objectives:** To conduct formative research during inception to understand the gaps and barriers that might inhibit effective CBT programming in Jashore; to conduct operational research (in close coordination with monitoring teams and the digital monitoring system) to understand how and why the project is able to achieve objectives or not, and inform fast adaptations and improvements on how to move to scale effectively; to conduct baseline and end line surveys and evaluation reports and to understand project performance against the project results framework.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** Children Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) – UK.

**Partner:** Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST).

**Grant Amount:** USD 100,000



# HEALTH SYSTEMS, UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE AND PHARMACEUTICALS



## TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING AND ADVANCING UHC AGENDA IN BANGLADESH: THE ROLE OF FRONTLINE HEALTHCARE SERVICE PROVIDERS IN IMPROVING PERFORMANCE

**PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** August 2017 - August 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC).

**Objective:** To explore practices that are related to the delivery of responsive, equitable and quality services by the health care providers and managers at the PHC levels.

**Methodology:** Mixed method.

**Donor:** UK Department for International Development (DFID).

**Partners:** School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS), University of London; London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), United Kingdom.

**Grant Amount:** USD 207,378



## ASSESSING BRAC'S INNOVATIVE HEALTH LOANS IN PROTECTING THE POOR AGAINST HEALTH AND ASSET VULNERABILITY IN BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Muhammed Nazmul Islam, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2018 - November 2019.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** Identify demand and supply side barriers of the standard MTL programme and to improve the programme by revising the product design and developing a decentralised implementation protocol that allows both better access for vulnerable clients and a better monitoring system for BRAC; evaluate whether the revised product MTL+ generates a measurable increase in overall uptakes, equitable inclusiveness into the programme, formal healthcare utilisation, and reduction in out-of-pocket healthcare expenditures net of loan; evaluate the implementation process to disentangle the differences in uptakes of MTL and MTL+ due to product design from the differences in implementation protocol; protocol and to better.

**Methodology:** Mixed method.

**Donor:** The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany (BMZ).

**Partners:** BRAC Microfinance Department; University of Heidelberg, Germany.

**Grant Amount:** USD 93,517





## A GLOBAL SOCIAL SCIENCES NETWORK FOR INFECTIOUS THREATS AND ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (SONAR-GLOBAL)

**PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2019 - December 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC)

**Objectives:** Develop an open-access platform to support the Sonar-Global activities and to share them broadly; Adapt, test, and evaluate vulnerability assessment tools on the ground and engagement models to facilitate collaboration across multiple stakeholders; create, pilot and evaluate curricula for training social scientists in preparedness and response to infectious threats and through curricular development and piloting social science knowledge of infectious threats among non-social sciences actors.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme

**Partners:** Institut Pasteur (IP); Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD); Stichting Nederlands Instituut Voor Onderzoek Van Gezondheidszorg (NIVEL); Medical University of Vienna (MUW); Mahidol University; Public Health Centre of the MoH of Ukraine; University College London (UCL); Makerere University (MU); Centre Regional De Recherche Et De Formation A La Prise En Charge Clinique Du Vih Sida et Maladies Associees de Dakar

(CRCF); Institute of Development Studies (IDS); CENSIS; Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (LMU); University of Malta (UM); University of Ljubljani.

**Grant Amount:** Total Consortium Budget: USD 3,226,626; BRAC JPGSPH Budget: USD 290,682



## LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: EXPLORING THE HEALTHCARE-SEEKING BEHAVIOUR OF FLOATING POPULATION/STREET DWELLERS IN DHAKA CITY, BANGLADESH: A PILOT STUDY

**PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2019 - June 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC)

**Objective:** To explore the scenario regarding health care seeking behaviour and available health care services; to identify gaps at the policy and programme levels for achieving universal health coverage in Bangladesh by 2030, for the street dwellers and floating population.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Partner and Donor:** BRAC Advocacy Department.

**Grant Amount:** USD 10,930



## A CASE STUDY ON UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE- GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY- HEALTH PROMOTION TRIANGLE: BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Dr Mrityika Barua, Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** March 2019 - December 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To explore the characteristics of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Health Security (HS), and Health Promotion (HP) in Bangladesh with respect to existing policy and practices, focal agencies, key actors, synergies in the triangle, and identify gaps which needs attention; to explore the perceptions and experiences of the relevant stakeholders in policy and practice regarding the UHC, HS and HP triangle, both when these are aligned ('synergies') and not aligned ('fragmentation'), underlying causes of such alignment (or 'fragmentation'), and identify challenges of overcoming these gaps to build synergy; to arrive at a consensus on these issues and to suggest a way forward towards the development of a unified health system, which is people centred, equitable, financially protected and resilient to infectious disease threats and Antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** Wellcome Trust.

**Partner:** University of Heidelberg, Germany.

**Grant Amount:** USD 10,886

*"This revised MTL has a lot of benefits (for the clients). They can come with a prescription from any formal doctor, and we will give them the loan. Previously, BRAC had assigned a doctor but not everyone liked that doctor. Although everyone has a preference for doctors, no one went to that doctor, so they couldn't receive the loan. Therefore, now we can quickly obtain the loan after visiting any doctor."*

**- A Female Respondent.**

Assessing BRAC's Innovative Health Loans in Protecting the Poor against Health and Asset Vulnerability in Bangladesh





# URBAN EQUITY AND HEALTH



## PATHWAYS TO EQUITABLE HEALTHY CITIES

**PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Md Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Technical Advisor:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Marzuka Ahmad Radia, Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2018 - April 2022

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH).

**Objective:** To develop actionable policy scenarios bearing in mind the health impact of different sectors on health outcomes and validate them with stakeholders; to engage and build the capacity of these stakeholders to facilitate policy implementation; to develop an integrated analytical framework and develop locally-parameterised models for Dhaka city that will guide forming and integrating policy scenarios across sectors and quantify their impacts on health outcomes.

**Methodology:** Quantitative and qualitative methods, spatial analysis and modelling with simulation.

**Donor:** Wellcome Trust, UK

**Partner:** Ames Research Center; Anzhen Hospital China; Arizona State University; Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research Consortium (CANUE); McGill University, Canada; Imperial College London, UK; Public Health England; Simon Fraser University Canada; Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; The University of Chicago; Tsinghua University, China; University of Massachusetts, Amherst; University of British Columbia; University of Ghana.

**Grant Amount:** USD 490,295



## ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS FOR EQUITY (ARISE)

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Bachera Akter, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Bachera Akter, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** December 2018 - February 2024

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)

**Objective:** To catalyse change in approaches to enhancing accountability and improving the health and wellbeing of poor, marginalised people living in informal urban settlements.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** UK Research and Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund.

**Partners:** Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK; Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK; Institute of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow, UK; The University of York, UK; George Institute for Global Health, India; Slum/Shack Dwellers' International (SDI), India; African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Kenya; Liverpool VCT Health (LVCT Health), Kenya; Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Njala University, Sierra Leone; College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), University of Sierra Leone.

**Grant Amount:** USD 1,350,793



## ADVANCING INCLUSIVE AND RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT TARGETED AT THE URBAN POOR

**PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Md Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Md. Uzzal Chowdhury, Senior Statistician, BRAC JPGSPH; Rafiul Alam, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** August 2019 - June 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH).

**Objective:** To conduct social and poverty assessment of urban poor households of the low-income communities at the city level in Bangladesh through desk review and consultation with community-based organisations at city grass root level; to document the existing good practices, challenges and identifying investment opportunities in strengthening resilience for the urban poor.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** Asian Development Bank (ADB).

**Partner:** BRAC Urban Development Programme (UDP).

**Grant Amount:** USD 25,706



## FORCED DISPLACEMENT AND EDUCATION: BUILDING THE EVIDENCE FOR WHAT WORKS

**PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Samir Ranjan Nath, Programme Lead of BRAC IED.

**Coordinator:** Rasel Babu, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Saira Parvin, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2019 - April 2021.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH).

**Objective:** To advance the understanding on education for the forcibly displaced as part of a broader education sector agenda of improving learning outcomes for populations living in poverty, exclusion, or distress; to improve its effectiveness regarding its role and contributions to facilitating transition and uptake from humanitarian education responses to long-term development agendas that can support sustainable access to quality education for the forcibly displaced and the communities that host them.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** The World Bank Group

**Partner:** American Institutes for Research (AIR).

**Grant Amount:** USD 48,000





## BRAC HEALTH, NUTRITION AND POPULATION PROGRAMME (HNPP): IMPACT EVALUATION AND SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT OF SELECTED PROGRAMMES

**PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-Lead:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Technical Advisor:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Saira Parvin Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** December 2019 - December 2020

### Implemented Under:

- Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)
- Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC)
- Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**Objective:** The main objective of this study is to identify and evaluate the contributions of BRAC HNPP programmes as a set of changes in the lives of the disadvantaged population not limited to health only, but spanning beyond to other sectors of development. A 'contribution analysis' approach is adopted by comparing between what happened and what would have happened in the absence of the programme. Thus, along with a credible and evidence-based narrative, the study aims at reviewing the 'value for money' propositions of the investments made based on the 'social return of investment' concept and DALYs averted to evaluate the overall impact of BRAC HNPP.

**Methodology:** Cross-sectional study (both qualitative and quantitative approach).

**Donor:** BRAC HNPP

**Grant Amount:** USD 73,412

*"I have been working here for over 7/8 years. Whenever I get any small injuries, I go to the pharmacy nearby and put on a band aid and go back to work afterwards. We are injured very often, almost always, that's why it's not possible for us to go to the doctors for treatment."*

**- A Male Respondent.**

Pathways to Equitable Healthy Cities



## IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE AND RESEARCH



### **BASELINE AND END-LINE SURVEY TO MEASURE CHANGES AND OUTCOMES THAT RESULT FROM THE ENTERTAINMENT EDUCATION (EE) CAMPAIGN ON SELECTED ADOLESCENT RELATED KAP AREAS WITH FOCUS ON CHILD MARRIAGE**

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Muhammad Nazmul Islam, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** March 2017 - November 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU)

**Objective:** To assess the effects of edutainment campaigns in behaviour related to different adolescent development issues including child marriage; to identify whether the campaign caused the effects on adolescents and their caregivers over the period of the campaign.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** UNICEF Bangladesh

**Partner:** Asiatic Marketing Communication Limited

**Grant Amount:** USD 156,431



### **THE ETHICS OF HEALTH POLICY EXPERIMENTS: A GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR DESIGN AND OVERSIGHT**

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Dr Mrittika Barua, Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2017 - December 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU)

**Objective:** To test and refine 'deliberative interviews,' a cognitive qualitative interview technique based on deliberation to determine its applicability in designing a framework that examines ethical aspects of health policy experiments; to assess if deliberative interviews are socially and culturally acceptable in the four study countries; to identify if a higher knowledge level on health issues can be reached by using the deliberative interview style, which takes into account major, widely-known aspects of a particular health theme and has both interviewer and interviewee engage actively in the interview.

**Methodology:** Mixed Method.

**Donors:** Wellcome Trust, UK; University of Heidelberg, Germany.

**Partners:** University of Heidelberg, Germany; Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; School of Public Health and Social Sciences, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Tanzania.

**Grant Amount:** USD 230,620





## IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH FOCUSING ON HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING IN UNICEF SUPPORTED AREAS IN COX'S BAZAR DISTRICT, BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Avijit Saha, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2019 - September 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU)

**Objective:** Understand the key implementation challenges/barriers with the implementation of MNCH programme related activities for the FDMNs in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Explore solutions to overcome the challenges/barriers to propose a policy guideline and to adapt and modify the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR) for emergency setting.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** UNICEF New York.

**Partner:** UNICEF Bangladesh.

**Grant Amount:** USD 50,422



## EMBEDDED IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH ON HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING FOR MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH (MNCH) PROGRAMME IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Avijit Saha, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2019 - September 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU)

**Objective:** A comprehensive understanding of the existing implementation challenges of MNCH programmes among Rohingya refugees as well as solutions that can help policymakers reshape and streamline assistance for FDMNs until repatriation occurs.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** UNICEF Bangladesh.

**Grant Amount:** BDT 4,251,415

*"The beauty of embedded implementation research in emergency settings is solving a public health problem with the involvement of stakeholders. Yes, it takes a lot out of one to contact and arrange for a time to take interviews, and definitely, the challenges with interviewing programme people are not similar to that of interviewing community people. However, it is exciting to reach out and hear about all other exciting ideas they have come up with and implemented to deliver better MNCH services among the Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar."*

**-Avijit Saha, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.**

Embedded Implementation Research on Health System Strengthening for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) Programme in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.



### **ASSESSING THE PREVENTIVE CHEMOTHERAPY COVERAGE PROVIDED BY A COMPREHENSIVE SOIL TRANSMITTED HELMINTHIASIS (STH) CONTROL PROJECT BY BRAC IN SYEDPUR, BANGLADESH**

**PI:** Avijit Saha, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Advisor:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Avijit Saha, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2019 - April 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To assess the preventive chemotherapy coverage provided by a Comprehensive Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis (STH) control project by BRAC in Syedpur, Bangladesh.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC

**Grant Amount:** USD 15,000



### **IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH ON BIRTH AND DEATH REGISTRATION PROCESS IN BANGLADESH WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON THE KALIGANJ MODEL**

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Saima Mehjabeen, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2019 - October 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To explore critical implementation drivers and barriers of the birth and death registration system in Bangladesh; identify potential solutions to overcome the barriers, especially focusing on the Kaliganj model, to ensure universal birth and death registration within 45 days of the event.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor and Partner:** UNICEF Bangladesh.

**Grant Amount:** USD 64,789





## CLIMATE CHANGE, MIGRATION AND HEALTH SYSTEMS RESILIENCE IN HAITI AND BANGLADESH (CLIMHB)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Dr Mowtushi Matin, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** June 2019 - December 2022

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To analyse the capacities and vulnerabilities of health systems in Haiti and Bangladesh, through the lens of climate change-induced migration flows.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donors:** French National Research Agency (ANR); Institut De Recherche Pour LE Développement (IRD).

**Partner:** CEPED – IRD

**Grant Amount:** USD 158,926



## BEHAVIOURAL DIAGNOSTIC TO IMPROVE MATERNAL, CHILD, AND ADOLESCENT NUTRITION OUTCOMES IN BANGLADESH: QUALITATIVE DATA COLLECTION ACTIVITIES

**PI:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Sayema Akter, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2019 - December 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To gain a holistic understanding of the social and behavioural barriers that impede proper feeding practices; identify potential areas of intervention that can lead to sustained behaviour change related to consumption of appropriate and diverse food items within the targeted demographic groups.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** The World Bank.

**Partner:** BRAC

**Grant Amount:** USD 14,426

*“Health workers, family welfare workers went to households and told the parents that for the immunization of their children, they need to have birth registration cards ready within 45 days. We will write the numbers, then will immunize the baby.”*

**- Union Parishad Secretary, Anwara, Bangladesh.**

Climate Change, Migration and Health Systems Resilience in Haiti and Bangladesh (CLIMHB)



## PROCESS EVALUATION PROTOCOL OF THE INTEGRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF VERBAL AUTOPSY IN THE CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM OF BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Specialist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Saima Mehjabeen, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2019 - January 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To explore whether VA activities have been implemented as intended; assess the fidelity of the implementation process, identify the underlying reasons for working and what not and recommend potential solutions to improve the VA process further and understand the distribution of causes of reported deaths and its validity for further scale-up of VA across the country.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** Vital Strategies.

**Grant Amount:** USD 15,456



## YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES' LIVED EXPERIENCES, ASPIRATIONS AND CURRENT ENGAGEMENTS IN LIVELIHOODS IN BANGLADESH, AND HOW THEY CAN SHARE WITH LOCAL DECISION MAKERS

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Sayema Akter, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Technical Lead:** Dr Mrittika Barua, Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** June 2020 – December 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** The general objective of the study is to understand the experiences, aspirations and challenges of youths with disability in their livelihood in Bangladesh and, to explore the inclusion of young people with disabilities into policy dialogues around the implementation of SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth.

**Methodology:** Mixed Method

**Donor:** British Academy.

**Partner:** Sightsavers.

**Grant Amount:** GBP 67,322



## INNOVATIONS IN HEALTH



### PARTNERSHIP TO ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF A PUBLIC HEALTH PALLIATIVE CARE PROJECT IN BANGLADESH THROUGH COMMUNITY THEATRE - A FOLLOW ON

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**International PI:** Shahaduz Zaman, Senior Lecturer at Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS), UK.

**Focal:** Sayema Akter, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** November 2017 - April 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To expand the project activity to new user communities and audiences namely the peri-urban and rural communities of Bangladesh; to conduct an exploratory study in the peri-urban and rural community, to compare the ideas about death, dying and end of life care that has emerged from the earlier research conducted in the urban slums and use the results for theatre script development; to adopt the theatre script already developed for urban poor communities to fit with the new peri-urban and rural community; to conduct interactive public engagement through theatre to sensitise the peri-urban and rural community on the end-of-life care issues; to train interested community volunteers on the basics of home-based end of life care; to develop a comprehensive community engagement strategy for public health palliative care in resource-poor settings through performing arts.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** AHRC-MRC.

**Partners:** Brighton Sussex Medical School, University of Sussex; University of Glasgow; University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University; BRAC University; BRAC

**Grant Amount:** USD 43,510



### SYNTHESIS AND TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS FROM POLIO ERADICATION (STRIPE)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Humayra Binte Anwar, Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** April 2018 - December 2022

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** Map knowledge content from the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI); package GPEI knowledge assets for a global health course and training materials on implementation science; validate GPEI-IS course, MOOC and training materials for the clinic; Disseminate GPEI-IS knowledge products, courses, IS clinics to different targeted audiences. Track impact of GPEI-IS knowledge product over time.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Partner:** Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

**Grant Amount:** USD 73,260 (Year Two)



## HEALTH, HOUSING, AND HYGIENE (HHH) IN BANGLADESH (PHASE II)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Mushfiqur Rahman, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** November 2018 - September 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To reduce the risk of bacterial and parasitic infection among children under the age of five through flooring reconstruction in homes that currently have dirt/mud floors.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Partner:** Association of Development for Economic and Social Help (ADESH).

**Donor:** ARCHIVE Global

**Grant Amount:** USD 23,552



## OLD AGE ALLOWANCE

**PI:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Viola Asri, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Konstanz; Kumar Biswas, Research Coordinator, The World Bank; Sebastian Fehrler, Professor of Economics of Social Policy, University of Bremen; Urs Fischbacher, Professor of Applied Research in Economics, University of Konstanz; Katharina Michaelowa, Professor of Political Economy and Development, University of Zurich.

**Focal:** Viola Asri, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Konstanz; Kumar Biswas, Research Coordinator, The World Bank.

**Timeline:** February 2019 - December 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To make the selection of beneficiaries more pro-poor by enabling the local government representatives to apply the eligibility criteria prescribed by the national government and make the selection based on the provided data on the target group.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donors:** University of Zurich, Switzerland; Thurgau Economic Research Institute of Economics, Switzerland; University of Konstanz, Germany; International Growth Centre, London School of Economics, United Kingdom; Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland.

**Partners:** Department of Social Services, Ministry of Social Welfare, Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh; ARCED Foundation.

**Grant Amount:** 90,000 Euros





## A MEDIA EXPERIMENT TO REDUCE INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN BANGLADESH

**PI:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Nina Buchmann, PhD candidate, Stanford University; Paula Lopez-Pena, Postdoctoral Associate, Yale University.

**Focal:** Shakil Rahman Ayan, Assistant Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** June 2019 - April 2022

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU)

**Objective:** To understand the causal pathways and mechanisms of intimate partner violence through a survey, vignette experiment and a lab-in-the-field experiment; to design an evidence informed media campaign to reduce intimate partner violence and implement it through an RCT to evaluate the efficacy of addressing social norms in reducing intimate partner.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donors:** South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC); The World Bank; Grand Challenges Canada; The National Sciences Foundation.

**Grant Amount:** USD 200,229



## MILLION COOL ROOFS CHALLENGE

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Md. Shihab Ad Din, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Muhammed Nazmul Islam, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2019 - October 2021.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To improve access to sustainable cooling through the rapid scaling of cool roofs in countries with large numbers of people facing heat stress risks.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donors:** Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD); France Nesta Enterprise Ltd.

**Partner:** Department of Architecture, BRAC University.

**Grant Amount:** USD 125,000

*"For the Cool to be Cool project, we have hired painters from within the community so that the people feel more at ease, but they not only sometimes show up late to work but also try to cut corners, to finish the work fast, sometimes one or two will be absent from work without prior notice. We have to constantly supervise them to make sure they are working properly. Although we might think of changing the painters but we cannot due to their connections and influence in the community."*

- Md. Shihab Ad-Din, Senior Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.  
Million Cool Roofs Challenge

# NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES



## **BASELINE SURVEY OF STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEMS THROUGH ORGANISING COMMUNITIES (SHASTO)**

**PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCDN, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Mehedi Hasan, Senior Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Moyazzam Hossain, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** February 2018 - June 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN).

**Objective:** To report the current situation of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and their behavioural and clinical risk factors in selected intervention (Narsingdi district and Dhaka City North) and control sites (Gazipur district and Dhaka City South) of SHASTO project.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

**Partner:** Non-communicable Disease Control, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People Republic of Bangladesh.

**Grant Amount:** USD 48,387



## **UNDERSTANDING THE PATTERNS AND DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH IN SOUTH ASIANS PEOPLE-SOUTH ASIA BIOBANK**

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCDN, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Mehedi Hasan, Senior Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2018 - September 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN).

**Objective:** To strengthen NCD surveillance systems in Bangladesh by establishing 30 surveillance sites across the country and complete structured assessments on a representative sample of up to 30,000 Bangladeshi men and women aged above 18 years, living at the 30 surveillance sites using standardized approaches; to provide nationally representative data on the burden of T2D, CVD and their risk factors, and on the quality of care for these major NCDs to quantify needs, in Bangladeshi populations.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

**Partners:** Imperial College London, UK; Non-communicable Disease Control, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS); National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD); Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation in Diabetes; Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM); Bangladesh University of Health Science (BUHS); BRAC.

**Grant Amount:** 744,332





### **DELIVERY OF TRAINING ON WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) BANGLADESH PACKAGE OF ESSENTIAL NON- COMMUNICABLE DISEASE INTERVENTIONS (PEN) FOR PRIMARY HEALTH CARE**

**PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Rina Rani Paul, Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Ali Ahsan, Research Medical Officer, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2019 - December 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCND).

**Objective:** To increase the capacity and skills of primary health care providers (doctors/nurses/paramedics) in Cox's Bazar district on the implementation of PEN low resource settings, using a team-based approach; to strengthen the capacity of community health volunteer supervisors in Cox's Bazar district on behavioural and clinical-risk factors for NCDs.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** World Health Organization (WHO), Dhaka.

**Partners:** Non-Communicable Disease Control, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People Republic of Bangladesh; Community Health Working Group.

**Grant Amount:** USD 80,152



### **TRAINING AND DIGITAL CARE COORDINATION FOR IMPROVED PREVENTION OF TYPE 2 DIABETES AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE BY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE TEAMS IN BANGLADESH**

**PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2019 - September 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCND).

**Objective:** To develop and evaluate digital platforms for training and care-coordination by the primary health care team in Bangladesh; to improve prevention and control of Type 2 Diabetes (T2D) and Cardiovascular disease (CVD).

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** National Institute of Health Research (NIHR), UK.

**Partners:** Imperial College London, UK; Non-Communicable Disease Control, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People Republic of Bangladesh; BRAC.

**Grant Amount:** USD 115,200



## ENHANCING NUTRITION SERVICES TO IMPROVE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH IN AFRICA AND ASIA (ENRICH)- MIDLINE EVALUATION, BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Avijit Saha, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Avijit Saha, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2016 - June 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN).

**Objective:** To determine the effectiveness of ENRICH programme's monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan (MEP) that guides a coordinated approach to measuring the effectiveness and impact of ENRICH programme interventions across the whole implementation cycle-including achievements of immediate and intermediate outcomes and impact evaluation at end-line as identified within the Performance Measurement Framework (PMF).

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** World Vision.

**Partner:** University of Toronto.

**Grant Amount:** USD 40,247



## EFFICACY OF ZINC-BIO FORTIFIED RICE IN IMPROVING ZINC STATUS IN YOUNG BANGLADESHI CHILDREN

**PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCDN, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Md. Rabiul Islam, Senior Field Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2017 – June 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN).

**Objective:** To determine the efficacy of newly developed zinc biofortified rice on plasma zinc concentrations in children between 12-36 months of age in a rural area of Bangladesh, using a double blind randomised controlled trial, in an effort to alleviate public health problems, such as impaired child growth and diarrhoea-related morbidity, in a sustainable way.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** HarvestPlus

**Partners:** ETH Zurich; Bangladesh Rice Research Institute; icddr,b.

**Grant Amount:** USD 456,294





## **ANALYTICAL TASK IN SUPPORT OF CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE AND RESEARCH IN BANGLADESH**

**PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCDN, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Md Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Md. Mokbul Hossain, Analyst (Statistics), BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** April 2017 - March 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN).

**Objective:** To support the government of Bangladesh in making evidence-based decisions on multi-sectoral nutrition programming for adolescent girls by analysing nationally representative FSNP data (2009 to 2015).

**Donor:** The World Bank

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Partners:** UNICEF Bangladesh; Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN); Shornokishoree Network Foundation (SKNF).

**Grant Amount:** USD 99,999



## **FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE-NATIONAL NUTRITION SERVICES (FSNS-NNS)**

**PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCDN, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Md. Showkat Ali Khan, Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Moyazzam Hossain, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** April 2018 - December 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN).

**Objective:** To assess food security of the rural and urban households and nutritional situation of women, children, adolescent boys and girls, adult males.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** National Nutrition Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People Republic of Bangladesh.

**Partner:** Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

**Grant Amount:** USD 236,024



## SCALING UP NUTRITIONAL, PSYCHOSOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTIONS FOR CHILD GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH GOVERNMENT SYSTEM OR HEALTH SYSTEM (RINEW-G)

**PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCDN, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Md. Mokbul Hossain, Analyst (Statistics), BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2019 - May 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN).

**Objective:** To implement an integrated package of interventions (maternal nutrition, infant and young child nutrition, early child stimulation, water, sanitation, hygiene and prevention of arsenic and lead) through the government health system in one sub-district; assess uptake by government personnel, impact on target mother's knowledge and practices, and barriers, prospects and pathways for broader scale-up.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Partners:** Stanford University; Johns Hopkins University; University of California, Davis; University of California, Berkeley; icddr,b.

**Grant Amount:** USD 28,146



## IMPACT EVALUATION OF THE UNICEF MULTISECTOR INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION IN URBAN SLUMS

**PI:** Esther Heesemann.

**Co-PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCDN, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Fahmida Akter, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** December 2019 - March 2022

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN).

**Objective:** To provide evidence on the effectiveness of the UNICEF urban slums nutrition programme targeting children and caregiver living in the Sylhet City Corporation.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** UNICEF, Bangladesh.

**Partners:** Sylhet City Corporation; UNDP; Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED).

**Grant Amount:** USD 35,143



## HUMANITARIAN RESEARCH



### HEALTH CARE NEEDS AND HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOUR AMONG ROHINGYA REFUGEES IN COX'S BAZAR

**PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Irin Akhter, Deputy Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2018 - April 2019.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (HS&UHC).

**Objective:** To determine the illness patterns, access and utilization of health services and health facilities in selected Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar.

**Methodology:** Mixed method.

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC

**Grant Amount:** USD 30,120



### A QUALITATIVE EVALUATION OF BRAC HUMANITARIAN PLAY LAB (HPL) MODEL IN ROHINGYA CAMPS IN BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Technical Advisor:** AKM Mazharul Islam, Adjunct Professor, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** February 2019 – December 2023.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** This study aims to understand what makes the HPL model unique in the Rohingya refugee camp setting. Explore and document the life history and experiences of Rohingya families, learn indigenous knowledge, attitudes and practices of the community in terms of ECD and play-based learning; evaluate HPL's impact on learning, healing and coping of children, children's acceptance of HPL and play based learning; observe how Rohingya cultural aspects and practices are being preserved through the model and what impact it has on social cohesiveness.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED).

**Grant Amount:** USD 75,000



## A STORY OF THE EVOLUTION OF BRAC HUMANITARIAN PLAY LAB (HPL) IN ROHINGYA CAMPS OF BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Nazrana Khaled, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** February 2019 - December 2023.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To undertake a process documentation study outlining the story of BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED) and BRAC Humanitarian Crisis Management Programme (HCMP) run Humanitarian Play Lab (HPL) for children aged for children aged between zero to six years in the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED).

**Grant Amount:** USD 90,742



## HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOUR FOR SRH SERVICES OF ROHINGYA WOMEN IN ROHINGYA CAMPS OF COX'S BAZAR: AN ETHNOGRAPHIC STUDY

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Atiya Rahman, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Technical Advisor:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH; AKM Mazharul Islam, Adjunct Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Nazrana Khaled, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** March 2019 – July 2019

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** The aim of this ethnographic assessment was to investigate the women's and community perceptions and behaviours influencing healthcare-seeking practices related to pregnancy, childbirth, newborn care and family planning; to understand the socio-cultural and religious beliefs and practices around pregnancy, childbirth, newborn care and family planning; to understand the decision-making process of family dynamics with regards to seeking antenatal, delivery, postpartum and newborn care; to identify the challenges in health-seeking for pregnancy, childbirth, newborn care and family planning services from providers as well as women's perspectives.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** World Health Organization (WHO) Bangladesh.

**Grant Amount:** USD 144,067





## **SOCIO-CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING OF ECD: PERSPECTIVES OF THE ROHINGYA COMMUNITY IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH**

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Nazrana Khaled, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** August 2019 - February 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To understand perspectives of childhood and childhood development among Rohingya mothers and fathers; to know their practices and beliefs related to childhood and childhood development.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED).

**Grant Amount:** USD 75,000



## **PERCEPTIONS OF ROHINGYA COMMUNITY ABOUT BRAC HUMANITARIAN PLAY LAB AND CHANGES OCCURRED TO EXPOSED CHILDREN**

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Fouzia Khanam, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Nazrana Khaled, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** August 2019 – February 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To explore the perception of parents and community about HPL interventions; to understand and explain how play based ECD interventions bring developmental changes among Rohingya children and support their mothers.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED).

**Grant Amount:** USD 75,000

*"You see, all the people who had studied at least a little bit in Myanmar got all the good jobs over here (in the camps). They are leading a better life while we have to work as daily wage labourers; whatever job it is that we can get. This is why I will send my children to school so that they can get an education and get a good job when they grow up."*

**- A Male Respondent.**

Socio-Cultural Understanding of ECD: Perspectives of the Rohingya Community in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh



## LEARNING THROUGH PLAY: LOOKING INTO PLAY LAB IN GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL OF BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Mrinmoy Samadder, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Mrinmoy Samadder, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2019 – January 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To illustrate the lessons learnt in mainstreaming play based learning model among four to five year old children in government primary school.

**Specific objectives:** To understand the perspectives of community and key stakeholders about play based learning model; to describe the changes in the development of children exposed to the activities of the Play Lab; to document the driving force for and the challenges to initiating and implementing the Play Labs in the government primary spaces.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED).

**Grant Amount:** USD 15,243



## FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH FOR DELIVERING INTEGRATED COMPREHENSIVE SRHR SERVICES FOR ROHINGYA REFUGEES IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Md Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-Investigators:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH; Bachera Aktar, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2018 – December 2019.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To conduct situation analysis for assessing demand and supply side barriers in accessing SRH services by adolescent girls and women aged 12-59 years; to assess the implementation of operational models for delivering integrated comprehensive SRHR services for Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor and Partner:** World Health Organization (WHO).

**Grant Amount:** USD 86,579





### TRANSFORMATIVE COMPETENCY-BASED PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYABILITY IN BANGLADESH'S HEALTH SECTOR/TRANS4M-PH

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Md. Koushik Ahmed, Deputy Director, MPH Programme, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2019 - January 2022.

**Objective:** The project aims to introduce competency-based curricula in Bangladesh to improve professional employability among students and create a core group of indigenous faculties trained in best-practice facilitation while creatively using appropriate contextualised pedagogy.

**Donor:** ERASMUS+

**Partners:** Asian University for Women (AUW); International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD); Institute of Development Studies (IDS); Maastricht University.

**Grant Amount:** EURO 995,000



### EXPLORING OLDER ADOLESCENTS' (AGE 15-19) REASONS FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TO INFORM YOUTH INTERVENTION POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Anushka Zafar, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2019 – December 2019.

**Objective:** To explore perceptions around the reasons behind substance abuse (ie, alcohol, tobacco and drugs) among older adolescents living in urban slums in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence Programme, Overseas Development Institute (GAGE ODI).

**Grant Amount:** GBP 29,412

## GENDER, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS



### EXPLORING THE OUTCOMES, SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES OF THE SOFT SKILL TRAINING COMPONENT OF BRAC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SDP)

**PI:** Dr Farzana A. Misha, Assistant Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Mohammad Riaz Hossain, Assistant Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2020 - July 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To understand perceptions of beneficiaries and peer leaders regarding the soft skill training programme, exploring the effect of soft skills training programme on beneficiaries; explore the successes and challenges of the soft skill training programme to generate relevant recommendations for programme strengthening and scale up.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** BRAC Skills Development Programme (SDP).

**Grant Amount:** USD 35,354



### DOCUMENTARIES ON CONSENT AND SKIN COLOUR

**PI:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2020 - December 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To increase knowledge and conceptual clarity among young people on issues of consent and choice in the context of SRHR; to sensitise university students and young people on issues of choice in the context of early marriage, relationships, marital rape and cybercrimes; to explore the common perception of colourism in Bangladesh and collect narratives of those who have been discriminated against for darker skin tone; to examine the realities of how colourism can deeply affect all aspects of peoples' lives and the decision they make or opportunities they are given; to raise awareness regarding this social injustice which is otherwise 'normalised' in the society.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** International Republican Institute (IRI).

**Grant Amount:** USD 15,500





## **RANA PLAZA COLLAPSE: BRAC'S EXPERIENCE AS A KEY PLAYER ON POST RANA PLAZA DISASTER**

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Mrinmoy Samadder, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Other Researchers:** Nicholas Turzo Mandol, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Raafat Hassan, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Nosin Nahian, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** February 2020 – October 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** Holistic Support Package for Rana Plaza survivors, where they supported 50 survivors; assistance and support to the victims of Rana Plaza collapse and their families, where they supported 280 survivors; ensure long-term medical services and post-award livelihood support for 450 victims of Rana Plaza tragedy; to document BRAC's performance post Rana Plaza disaster and illustrate the ongoing physical, psychological and socio-economic conditions of the survivors.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC.

**Grant Amount:** USD 30,000



## **GENDER AND ADOLESCENCE: GLOBAL EVIDENCE (GAGE)**

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Maheen Sultan, Head, Gender and Social Transformation Cluster, BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University.

**Coordinated by:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Sajib Rana, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** March 2020 – November 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objective:** To address the transformative processes of adolescents in the face of discriminatory social norms and institutional barriers by generating data of their capabilities, changing the context of early adolescence through to adulthood and focusing on the dynamic interactions that shape adolescents' outcomes and life experiences in their world.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence Programme, Overseas Development Institute (GAGE ODI).

**Partner:** Gender and Social Transformation Cluster, BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University.

**Grant Amount:** USD 195,016



## IMPACT EVALUATION DESIGN FOR EVALUATION OF ADOLESCENT STUDENT PROGRAMME (BANGLADESH)

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Maheen Sultan, Head, Gender and Social Transformation Cluster, BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University.

**Coordinator:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** March 2020 – December 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** Evaluate the impact of various components of the Adolescent Student Programme (ASP) intervention at the school level, with the overall aim to improve adolescent well-being; to equip the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) with an evidence-based and cost-effective model before scaling-up the ASP intervention; to understand the knowledge, perceptions, practices, challenges and coping mechanisms of adolescent boys and girls living in low income settlements during the pandemic.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence Programme, Overseas Development Institute (GAGE ODI).

**Partners:** BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University; Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence Programme, Overseas Development Institute (GAGE ODI).

**Grant Amount:** GBP 128,453



## A BASELINE STUDY OF THE CURRENT SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS WITH DISABILITIES (WGWDs) FACING VIOLENCE IN SELECTED AREAS OF BANGLADESH

**PI:** Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Technical Advisor:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI and Focal:** Md. Uzzal Chowdhury, Senior Statistician, BRAC JPGSPH; Fatema Akter Bonny, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2020 – December 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To explore the knowledge and awareness about Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) issues, level of violence experienced by the women and girls with disabilities (WGWDs); to explore the coping strategies adopted by women and girls with disabilities; identify the gaps in currently implementing interventions and/or services, and to recommend strategies to improve delivery of efficacious interventions and/or services.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** UN Women funded through Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW).

**Partners:** The Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF), Bangladesh.

**Grant Amount:** USD 35,868





## **SUSTAINABILITY OF TELECOMMUNICATION MODEL IN SUPPORT OF PROMOTING PLAY BASED LEARNING AMONG CHILDREN**

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Anis Pervez, Senior Technical Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Mrinimoy Samadder, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Other Researchers:** Khandakar Mohymeen Layes, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Syeda Sayka Tabassum, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2020 – November 2020.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** Understand the sustainability of the telecommunication model for play-based learning.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED).

**Grant Amount:** 1,000,000 (BDT)



## **DOCUMENTING INTEGRATION OF ECD WITH MENTAL HEALTH**

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Anis Pervez, Senior Technical Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Mrinimoy Samadder, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Other Researchers:** Khandakar Mohymeen Layes, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Syeda Sayka Tabassum, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** December 2020 – February 2021.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To document the process of integration of mental health into play-based model.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED).

**Grant Amount:** 1,000,000 (BDT)

# HEALTH SYSTEMS, UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE AND PHARMACEUTICALS



## SKILLS DEMAND ANALYSIS OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2020 - Ongoing

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC).

**Objective:** To explore the emerging employment opportunities in the health care sector given the current shortage of allied health care workers (beside doctors and nurses) in the formal system following COVID-19 pandemic and a major paradigm shift towards demand for home-based palliative/rehabilitative/disability/elderly care services.

**Methodology:** Mixed Method

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Skills Development Programme (SDP).

**Grant Amount:** BDT 1,250,000



## ASSESSMENT OF POST-CRASH CARE SYSTEM FOLLOWING ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN SELECTED AREAS OF BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2020 – Ongoing

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC).

**Objective:** To assess the current pre-hospital (bystander and ambulance) and hospital based post-crash care services in order to get a holistic picture of the post-crash system existing in Bangladesh; to improve the post-crash system in the country so that Road Traffic Crash (RTC) mortality and morbidity are reduced.

**Methodology:** Cross-sectional study and Qualitative method.

**Donor and Partner:** The World Bank.

**Grant Amount:** BDT 2,824,190

**"Both public and private sectors should work together in order to ensure an effective emergency care system in the country for the road traffic accident victims".**

**- Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.**

Assessment of Post-Crash Care System following Road Traffic Accidents in Selected Areas of Bangladesh



## URBAN EQUITY AND HEALTH



### COMMUNITY-LED RESPONSIVE AND EFFECTIVE URBAN HEALTH SYSTEMS (CHORUS)

**PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Baby Naznin, Senior Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2020 – April 2026

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH).

**Objective:** To build a resilient and responsive urban health system to the existing challenges e.g. double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases, dominance of NGO sector, low health service coverage for marginalised urban people through capacity building and research uptakes including sectors beyond health and enabling linkages between multiple government, NGO and private service providers whilst ensuring accountability to urban residents, particularly the poor.

**Methodology:** Desk Review, Quantitative and Qualitative methods, Participatory Research, RCT and Retrospective Study.

**Donor:** UK Department of International Development (DFID).

**Partners:** Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development; University of Leeds; University of York; ARK Foundation, Bangladesh; HERD International, Nepal; University of Nigeria; University of Ghana.

**Grant Amount:** GBP 306,744



## IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE AND RESEARCH



### 4<sup>TH</sup> HEALTH POPULATION AND NUTRITION SECTOR PROGRAMME (HPNSP): MID-TERM REVIEW (MTR) 2020

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Dr Mrityika Barua, Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** February 2020 – April 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To understand the perception of the users on health service utilisation from different tiers of the health system and constraints faced in accessing services, especially the rural and urban poor families, including hard to reach areas; to elicit views of the providers at different levels, including the frontline workers on availability and coverage of services, facility readiness including required HR and supplies, challenges faced on the ground and recommendations for improvement; to gather input from other stakeholders who are not direct users or providers but have a key role for the programme implementation to understand relevant issues and opportunities for improvements; to have discussions with the civil society including the NGOs, private sector and Health, Nutrition and Population (HNP) experts in the country including researchers, academics and relevant people from other sectors on key challenges prevailing in the health sector, and if any course correction in the 4<sup>th</sup> HPNSP will be necessary to address the prevailing issues more effectively.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** The World Bank.

**Grant Amount:** BDT 3,076,392



### IMPLEMENTATION FIDELITY OF TUBERCULOSIS (TB) PROGRAMME IN DETECTING CHILDREN WITH TB

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Avijit Saha, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Mrityika Barua, Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2020 – December 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To investigate the implementation fidelity and the bottlenecks to identify Child-TB in Bangladesh.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** Global Fund.

**Partner:** BRAC

**Grant Amount:** USD 65,000





## EFFECTS OF AGE AT MARRIAGE AND EDUCATION ON HEALTH OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

**PI:** Erica Field, Professor of Economics and Global Health, Duke University; Kate Vyborny, Associate Director, DevLab, Duke University; Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH; Nina Buchmann, PhD Candidate, Economics, Stanford University; Rachel Glennerster, Chief Economist, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK; Shahana Nazneen, Consultant, Innovations for Poverty Action; Xiao Yu Wang; Assistant Professor Economics, Duke University; Chief Economist, CRI.

**Coordinator:** Fatema Mohammad, Senior Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2020 – August 2022

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** Assess the impact of increased marriage age and/or human capital on reproductive health, Women's long-term physical and psychological well-being, child health; and assess potential channels through which marriage age and/or human capital influence maternal and child health.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** National institutes of health, USA.

**Partner:** Duke University.

**Grant Amount:** USD 675,285

*"My younger son first had a fever which was not going down. I got him tested and they (doctor) told first had a fever pneumonia. His fever persisted. I got him admitted in hospital 'X'. Even after being admitted in the hospital for 15 days, my son was not recovering. One day I saw my son was really weak and fatigued. I told the doctors, "if you cannot treat my son, I will take him elsewhere". Then they all sat down and discussed and sent me to the medicine department where my son got tested again. They found water in his lungs. They tested that water and my son was diagnosed with TB."*

**- Female Respondent.**

Implementation Fidelity of TB Programme in Detecting Children with Tuberculosis





## VALIDATION OF FINGER IMAGE: A MIXED-METHOD STUDY

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Mushfiqur Rahman, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Saima Mehjabeen, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** September 2020 – October 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** To measure the accuracy of finger image testing among children under five and explore the feasibility of the implementation in specific urban slums.

**Methodology:** Embedded mixed-method approach.

**Donor:** Simprints Technology Limited.

**Grant Amount:** USD 71,040



## DEVELOPING AND TESTING A RISK STRATIFICATION APPROACH SCREENING USING GUIDELINES AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR DIABETIC RETINOPATHY (DR) IN PEOPLE WITH DIABETES IN BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH; Mehedi Hasan, Senior Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH; Ipsita Sutradhar, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Ipsita Sutradhar, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2020 – June 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU).

**Objective:** Develop and validate a simple Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) risk stratification score and tool in the Bangladeshi population with diabetes; pilot the use of the DR risk stratification approach for targeted screening in a real-world clinical setting in Bangladesh.

**Methodology:** Mixed-method

**Donor:** Fred Hollows Foundation Australia.

**Grant amount:** AUD 65,000



## NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES



### DELIVERY OF TRAINING ON WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION BANGLADESH PACKAGE OF ESSENTIAL NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE INTERVENTIONS (PEN) FOR PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (PHASE II)

**PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCDN, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Rina Rani Paul, Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Nushrat Jahan Urmey, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** June 2020 – December 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN).

**Objective:** To increase the capacity and skills of health care providers (doctors/nurses/paramedics) in Cox's Bazar district on the implementation of PEN for primary health care in low resource settings, using a team-based approach; to strengthen the capacity of community health volunteer supervisors in Cox's Bazar district on healthy lifestyle promotion related to risk factors for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** World Health Organization (WHO), Bangladesh.

**Partners:** Non-Communicable Disease Control, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; Community Health Working Group.

**Grant Amount:** USD 88,805





## DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED NUTRITION MESSAGES FOR SCHOOLS

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Other Researchers:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH; Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Abu Mohammad Shamim, Associate Scientist; Fahmida Akter, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Barnali Chakraborty, Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** August 2020 – December 2020

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCND).

**Objective:** The study aims to develop integrated nutrition messages for the school children (pre-primary to grade 10) using the cover pages of the school textbooks.

**Methodology:** Mixed methods

**Donor:** Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

**Grant Amount:** USD 72,000



## ASSESSMENT OF THE FOOD SAFETY CHARACTERISTICS AND RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH EDIBLE OIL TRANSPORTED AND SOLD IN DRUMS

**PI:** Abu Ahmed Shamim, Associate Scientist, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Fahmida Akter, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2020 – May 2021

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCND).

**Objective:** To quantitatively assess the food safety of different edible oil brands sold in drums and bottles and ascertain value/supply chain factors (handling, storage, environmental) associated with food safety risk.

**Methodology:** Quantitative

**Donor:** Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN).

**Partner:** Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, Dhaka University.

**Grant Amount:** USD 138,073





## DESIGNING A STUDY ON MENSTRUAL REGULATION AND POST-ABORTION CARE AMONG ROHINGYA REFUGEES IN BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Other Researchers:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Tahmid Hasan, Senior Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Ayanti Barua, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2020 – March 2021.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** To prepare the study design, protocol and data collection instruments for a study on menstrual regulation and post-abortion care among Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh; to provide much-needed evidence on Rohingya women's access to and use of menstrual regulation (MR) and post-abortion care services in refugee camps in Bangladesh to inform policies and programmes to improve their access to these services.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** Guttmacher Institute (USA).

**Partners:** Guttmacher Institute (USA); Association for the Prevention of Septic Abortion, Bangladesh (BAPSA).

**Grant Amount:** USD 31,000

## BRIDGING COMMUNITIES IN COX'S BAZAR: MITIGATING RISKS AND PROMOTING GENDER, GOVERNANCE AND LOCALISATION OF HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES IN COVID-19 ERA

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Bachera Aktar, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Manzoor Hasan OBE, Executive Director, Centre for Peace and Justice.

**Coordinator:** Habiba Nowrose.

**Timeline:** August 2020 - July 2023

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Objective:** The overall objective of the recipient in relation to the project is to provide critical evidence to influence policies and interventions that will promote tolerance and peace building, encourage civic engagement and facilitate psycho-social wellbeing; Raise awareness and preparedness around COVID-19 pandemic in Rohingya camp and host communities by undertaking a rapid assessment of the COVID-19 context through a short baseline and end line survey; help mitigate the safety and security risks of MVG and other vulnerable groups in the post COVID- 19 period through: generation of in-depth evidence on the challenges around safety and security, social cohesion and psychological well-being faced by women, adolescents, youth and other MVGs in refugee and host communities; enhance constructive civic engagement, social cohesion and gender sensitivity among and between the Rohingya refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar; widen dissemination of Research findings through meetings and dialogues with government representatives, volunteers, local NGOs and UN agencies to share emerging findings and recommendations using online offline platforms.

**Methodology:** Qualitative and Quantitative

**Donor:** International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

**Partner:** Centre for Peace and Justice (CPJ).

**Grant Amount:** CAD 1,240,300

## OTHERS



### SPA II END-LINE SURVEY

**PI:** Dr Nepal C Dey, Adjunct Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Researchers:** Fouzia Khanam, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Mahmood Parvez, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Tidib Roy, Md. Iftikhar Ul Karim, Sorif Hossain, Senior Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** October 2020 – March 2021

**Objective:** Determine the percentage of support people who are following at least 60% of preventive measures of COVID-19 (as per Directorate General of Health Services guideline); assess the percentage of vulnerable households that are better prepared to mitigate disaster risk and reduce damages and losses through BRAC led disaster risk reduction and preparedness support.

**Methodology:** Mixed Methodology

**Donor:** BRAC

**Partners:** BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University; BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED).





# COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESEARCH

COVID-19 is disproportionately affecting Bangladesh's poor and most vulnerable, including informal slum settlement residents, the rural poor and extreme poor, sexual minorities, ethnic minorities, refugees, persons with disabilities, sex workers, domestic workers, factory workers, daily-wage earners, and front-line workers and so forth. Since the outbreak of COVID-19 the School has been conducting both qualitative and quantitative research assessments.

Until December 2020 the School has undertaken 45 rapid quantitative and qualitative research assessments, including 19 research briefs and 4 peer-reviewed publications on COVID-19.

Please visit <https://covid-bracjpgsph.org/> for the information.

(Please go to page 186 onwards for all the 2019 and 2020 peer-reviewed publications)

## COMPLETED COVID-19 RAPID QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE RESEARCH ASSESSMENTS:

(Scan the QR code to access the rapid research briefs)



### PSYCHOLOGICAL STRESS AMONG THE PREGNANT WOMEN AND MOTHERS OF INFANTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN BANGLADESH

**Contributors:** Nasrin Akter, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Raiful Alam, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Selina Amin, Head of Midwifery Education Programmes and Project Director; Hasna Hena Sara, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Delufa Tuz Jerin, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH; Prianka Sultana Hema, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Salma Akter Urme, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** The study aimed to identify the prevalence of psychological stress among pregnant women and mothers of infant. The study was conducted where there was no known information about the mental health impact, psychological burden/stress of COVID-19 pandemic on pregnant women and mothers with infants and was especially relevant to the uncertainty surrounding an outbreak of such unparalleled magnitude.



### BANGLADESH HEALTH SYSTEM'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19 DURING FIRST NINE WEEKS: A RAPID STUDY ON THE KEY BUILDING BLOCKS

**Contributors:** Ayesha Ahmed, Prianka Sultana Hema, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Baby Naznin, Senior Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Moynur Rahman, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Farzana Tamanna Ummey Shaon, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** The study attempted to document and elucidate Bangladesh's health system responses to the surge of the COVID-19 since its outbreak. The study mainly focuses on the responses in terms of service delivery, health workforce and governance with limited coverage on other building blocks of the health system.



## GENDER BASED PERCEPTION AND DIFFERENTIALS OF COVID-19: FINDINGS FROM RAPID SURVEY

**Contributors:** Amina Amin, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Uzzal Chowdhury, Senior Statistician, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** The rapid survey aimed to understand the gender-based perceptions among different population groups and differentials between their perspectives on the COVID-19 pandemic.



Photo: Zakir Hossain Chowdhury/Alamy Stock Photo



## RE-VISITING THE FRONT-LINE HEALTH WORKERS' (FLWS) ATTENDING SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED COVID-19 PATIENTS IN BANGLADESH: HOW FAR HAS THE SITUATION IMPROVED IN A MONTH SINCE THE LAST SURVEY?

**Contributors:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH; Mir Raihanul Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Bushra Zarin Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Zakir Hossain Pinto, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Zarin Tasnim, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** The issues raised in the study were quantity and appropriate quality of PPEs supplied, trainings on COVID-19 and use of PPE, measures to ease mental health of the FLWs etc.

*"One major challenge we faced, during the COVID-19 Rapid Researches, was reaching the respondents as there were many times when they were unreachable and unavailable. In order to mitigate this issue interviews were rescheduled multiple times according to the respondent's convenience."*

*Another issue we faced in conducting phone interviews for the rapid research was difficulty in communicating and building rapport with respondents through the phone as one person alone was conducting the interview and taking notes at the same time. In order to sort this issue, we reassured them through referring to the person who gave their name and contact number. Also during the silences and pauses for taking notes, we informed respondents and requested a few minutes for note taking."*

*One other major challenge we faced during the remote interviews for rapid research was interrupted interviews in which cases we had to reschedule each interview multiple times."*

—FARZANA MANZOOR

Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University



## LIVELIHOOD, FOOD SECURITY AND WELL-BEING OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN BANGLADESH DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**Contributors:** Adepto Intisar Ahmed, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Irin Akhter, Deputy Project Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Amina Amin, Research Assistant, BRAC



JPGSPH; Haisom Aftab Even, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Sudipta Das Gupta, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Tareq Hasan, Field Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Bankim Madhu, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Arifa Bente Mohosin, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has initiated many interventions and programmes (e.g. Mass aid services), however, whether persons with disabilities are benefiting from these services still remains to be explored. To better understand the life conditions of persons with disabilities during COVID-19, this rapid qualitative research assessment focused on the dimensions of livelihood, wellbeing and food security of persons with disabilities across six sites of Bangladesh.

*“We performed telephone interviews from Dhaka to Cox's Bazar. The telephone network of Cox's Bazar was not good. It took a whole day or more to complete one interview. In addition, there was a language barrier. The respondents did not speak but understood Bengali. Thus, they responded in their own dialect when we asked them a question. Moreover, we did not have any interpreters. We had to ask a question several times to understand their response and listen to the recordings repeatedly while transcribing.”*

—SAIRA PARVEEN JOLLY, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



Photo: thestatesman.com



## STIGMA, SHAME AND COVID-19: “THEY WON'T EVEN TOUCH THE MONEY WE TOUCHED”

**Contributors:** Nahela Nowshin, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Shahana Siddiqui, Program Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** The research study aimed to explore how the national discourse around COVID-19 had given rise to stigmatising behaviours in Bangladesh. This study looked into where stigmatisation behaviours emerged and how the behaviours transpired in everyday life, especially against those who were either perceived to be, or were COVID-19 positive.



## IMMUNISATION BACKLOG: THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON CHILD VACCINATION IN BANGLADESH USING HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS

**Contributors:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH; Muhammed Nazmul Islam, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Mushfiqur Rahman, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Ribaiya Riya Siddiqua, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** Through this study, in May 2020, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University surveyed women who gave birth between June 2019 and February 2020 to understand the possible effects of COVID-19 on the uptake of prescribed vaccines.



## AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT COVID-19 DURING THE EARLY ONSLAUGHT OF THE PANDEMIC

**Contributor:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** A rapid survey to understand people's awareness and knowledge about COVID-19 during the early onslaught of the pandemic.



## COVID-19 RAPID SURVEY: LOSS OF MENTAL WELL-BEING AT THE TIME OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

**Contributor:** Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** The COVID-19 and its outbreak in Bangladesh has taken a huge toll from both public health and economic points of view. Bangladesh has a large informal sector and a large fraction of its population depends on short-term earnings such as daily wage. The health system also has limitations. Only about 3% of total national income is spent on health, placing it one of the lowest in the region. As a result, the citizens of the country are likely to feel extra mental health duress and face loss of psychological well-being. In this brief BRAC JPGSPH has carried out this rapid survey.



## COVID-19 RAPID SURVEY: DEVELOPING APPROPRIATE HEALTH MESSAGING FOR URBAN AND RURAL POPULATIONS

**Contributor:** Ishrat Jahan, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** The rapid survey focused on understanding the possible effects of the pandemic on several aspects of a household or family such as consumption, income, health beliefs, practices, preventions and coping strategies, psychological well-being, and gender. This brief, however, focuses only on the socio-cultural understandings of health, as shared by respondents.



## IMPACT OF COVID-19: LIVED EXPERIENCES OF THE URBAN POOR IN SLUMS DURING THE SHUTDOWN

**Contributors:** Bachera Aktar, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Nadia Farnaz, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Wafa Alam, Assistant Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Samiha Ali, Md. Abdul Awal, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Farzana Manzoor, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Imran Hossain Mithu, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Ateeb Ahmad Parray, Visiting Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.



**Objective:** The research delved into many aspects of the slum dwellers' lived experiences. This brief of the research focused on issues related to local health beliefs, practices and stigma, impact on mental and emotional health, impact on their economic and social life, and residents coping mechanisms.



### ON THE FRINGES: IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 SHUTDOWN ON HIJRAS DAILY PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LIVES

**Contributors:** Tasfiyah Jalil, Senior Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Maruf Rahman, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Mostafizur Tamal, Assistant Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** The aim of the research was to understand the health, social and economic impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) shutdown on the lives of poor and marginalised hijra population in Bangladesh.

**"We will die of hunger before Corona kills us."**  
- Hijra respondent.

On the Fringes: Impact of the COVID-19 Shutdown on Hijras Daily Personal, Social and Economic Lives.



### RAPID RESEARCH: FRONT LINE HEALTH WORKERS' (FLWS) PERCEPTIONS AND OPINIONS ON THEIR PERSONAL SAFETY WHILE ATTENDING SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED COVID-19 PATIENTS IN BANGLADESH

**Contributors:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH; Mir Raihanul Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Bushra Zarin Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Md Zakir Hossain Pinto, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Zarin Tasnim, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** The survey was done to elicit the perceptions of the FLWs regarding personal safety against contracting the infection when attending suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients. Besides their opinions on the problem of shortage and recommendations on how to resolve it so that the misunderstanding before the media, policy makers, people is mitigated and their morale is boosted to serve the humanity.



### RAPID COVID-19 SURVEY: PINS AND NEEDLES AT THE TIME OF A PANDEMIC: LEARNING FROM THE RMG WORKERS THROUGH A RAPID SURVEY

**Contributor:** Amina Amin, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Farzana A. Misha, Assistant Professor, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** BRAC JPGSPH had undertaken a series of researches to understand how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected different populations and one particular group of people this rapid survey addressed was the Ready-made garment (RMG) workers. A major research activity included a rapid survey where the School reached out to respondents from different surveys that the School carried out in the past.

## ON-GOING COVID-19 RAPID QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE RESEARCH ASSESSMENTS:



### EVALUATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 RESPONSE THROUGH COMMUNITY MOBILISATION AND STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY CLINICS IN BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal/Coordinator:** Animesh Talukder, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU).

**Timeline:** December 2020 – Ongoing

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Objective:** This study is designed to evaluate the effectiveness of a community-based comprehensive COVID-19 response project in Bangladesh by analysing the trend of COVID-19 test positive cases, the trend of Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (MNCH) service availability and utilisation, and the trend of knowledge, perception, attitude, and practice concerning COVID-19 in the study areas. Additionally, this study aims to explore the feasibility and the bottlenecks of the implementation process. The findings derived from this study are expected to help BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP) to tailor their current intervention for possible scale-up of the project in future.

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP).

**Grant Amount:** BDT 14,655,206



### AMPLIFYING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES TO FACILITATE A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW VULNERABLE POPULATIONS RESPOND TO AND RECOVER FROM A CRISIS, SUCH AS COVID-19

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal/Coordinator:** Humayra Binte Anwar, Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU).

**Timeline:** October 2020 – July 2021

**Methodology:** Mixed-method

**Objective:** To provide a deeper understanding of how vulnerable populations interact with healthcare systems during and after the COVID-19 crisis in Bangladesh. These findings aim to inform the rebuilding of better health systems.

**Donor:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Partners:** Ipsos MORI (UK); Quicksand Design Studio (India).

**Grant Amount:** USD 2,063,864





## EVALUATION OF A COMMUNITY-BASED COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 RESPONSE PILOT PROJECT IN KAPASIA, GAZIPUR

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal/Coordinator:** Muhammed Nazmul Islam, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Animesh Talukder, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU).

**Timeline:** September 2020 – Ongoing

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Objective:** This study is designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot project by analysing the trend of COVID-19 test positive cases and the difference in their knowledge and perception about COVID-19 in the study area. Additionally, this study aims to explore the feasibility and the bottlenecks of the implementation process. The findings derived from this study are expected to help BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP) to tailor their current intervention for possible scale-up of the project in future.

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP).

**Grant Amount:** BDT 2,730,000



UNB file photo

## THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING OF THE SEX-WORKERS IN BANGLADESH

**PI and Co-PI:** Md. Maruf Rahman, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Maimuna Zahra Fariha, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Natalie Maren Chen, Research Intern, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Md. Maruf Rahman, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Timeline:** September 2020 – October 2020.

**Objective:** To understand the economic, mental, and physical health burdens imposed female sex workers by the COVID-19 pandemic in Bangladesh.

**Specific Objective:** To document how the COVID-19 pandemic has diminished the economic opportunities for sex workers, and how the sex worker community has changed their behaviour in response to economic burdens; to explore the knowledge, attitudes and response to COVID-19 precautions by female sex workers; to identify the factors associated with or which contribute to strained mental and physical health of the workers in the challenging contours of the pandemic; and to understand the current support networks, and what means of future interventions would be most effective and necessary.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** CREA India.



## EVALUATION OF BRAC-CDC COLLABORATION ON COMMUNITY SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE IN SELECTED AREAS OF GAZIPUR

**PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH; AKM Mazharul Islam, Adjunct Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Bushra Zarin Islam, Senior Research Associate.

**Timeline:** August 2020 - December 2020

**Objective:** To explore the extent targeted communities effectively adopt essential precautionary measures and health commodities necessary for prevention and management of COVID-19.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US-CDC).

**Partner:** BRAC Health, Nutrition and Population Programme (HNPP).

**Grant Amount:** BDT 410,000



## MANAGING IMPACT OF COVID-19 IN ROHINGYA REFUGEE CAMPS AND HOST COMMUNITIES WITH CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS

**PI:** Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-Investigators:** Bachera Aktar, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Nusrat Homaira, Research Fellow, National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) of Australia and Visiting faculty, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Adrita Kaiser, Assistant Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

**Timeline:** August 2020 - January 2023

**Objective:** Undertaking an audit of functioning services to which people of Rohingya and host communities can be referred and establishing clear referral protocols so that service providers are aware and prepared for a potential increased demand on services; contextually adapting Dimagi's contact tracing app, identifying high risk areas within camps and surrounding host communities and ensure community-based monitoring surveillance in place to minimise transmission of COVID-19; contextually adapting Dimagi's CommCare MNCH App for COVID-19 and assessing its effectiveness in improving Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (MNCH) outcomes in the refugee camps and in host communities; building capacities of BRAC CHW midwives and Community Health Worker (CHW). through in-person and online training (conducted by Dimagi staff) and with support from local BRAC programme staff, enabling them apply digital apps for minimising risks of transmission and facilitate in mitigating the medium- and longer-term impacts of COVID-19 in the Rohingya refugee camps and in host communities through ensuring SRH and MNCH services; exploring the benefits (if there is any) of Dimagi's CommCare MNCH App in improving management information system and gaining efficiency in the overall management of SRH including MNCH services of BRAC health programme in Cox's Bazar.

**Methodology:** Mixed method

**Donor:** International Development Research Center (IDRC)

**Partners:** BRAC Humanitarian Crisis Management Programme (HCMP); Dimagi.

**Grant Amount:** BDT 19,776,420





## SKILLS DEMAND ANALYSIS OF HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN BANGLADESH, 2020

**PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2020 – September 2020

**Objective:** To explore the types of health care services in demand among the urban population outside formal health sector (e.g., home-based, palliative, disability, elderly care services) considering the post COVID-19 scenario; to assess the new employment opportunities at hospitals (public and private both) and organisations (e.g., NGOs, training institutions, private organisations) for allied health professionals, para-professionals, technicians who can support the mainstream health care providers in delivery of services at the facilities and also explore the demand for such cadres for home-based services; to identify the current authority certifying the above cadres and explore probable authority that would certify these new and emerging cadres; to explore the availability of trainers for the existing, new and emerging training courses at institution level; to explore the current requirements including education level to be eligible to apply for the existing courses, and assess what may be the future requirements for new and emerging training courses; to explore the organisations that are likely to expand their businesses in the health care sector in urban settings and beyond COVID-19.

**Methodology:** Cross-sectional, Quantitative and Qualitative.

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Skills Development Programme (SDP).

**Grant Amount:** BDT 1,250,000



## GENDER AND COVID-19

**PI:** Professor Kelley Lee, Canada Research Chair Tier 1, Simon Fraser University; Julia Smith, University Research Associate, Simon Fraser University.

**Co-PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Selima Sara Kabir, Assistant Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2020 - July 2021

**Objective:** This project brings together academics from around the world, the School is conducting real time gender analysis to identify and document the gendered dynamics of COVID-19 and gaps in preparedness and response.

**Methodology:** Mixed methods study (Quantitative survey and qualitative IDIs and KIs) to mapping and analyse sex disaggregated data on COVID-19 infections and mortality, and conducting gender-based analysis of policy responses in order to improve national and global responses through policy analysis and key informant interviews.

**Donor:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Grant Amount:** USD 102,149 (Year 1)



## LIFE IN THE TIMES OF CORONAVIRUS: A GENDERED PERSPECTIVE

**PI:** Shahana Siddiqui, Programme Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Dr Farzana A. Misha, Assistant Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** July 2020 - December 2020.

**Objective:** To capture and curate the life stories and experiences of men and women in both rural and urban Bangladesh during the times of the novel coronavirus global pandemic; to understand the gendered nature of the pandemic; to look at both health and socio-economic aspects and how they affect men and women either differently or similarly during this crisis situation.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Partners:** Manusher Jonno Foundation's (MJF); Share-Net International.



## EFFECT AND CHALLENGES OF INTRODUCING REFERRAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PROJECT ON UTILISATION OF COMPREHENSIVE SRHR HEALTH SERVICES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN ROHINGYA POPULATION: AN IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH ON FIDELITY AND COVERAGE

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Focal:** Dr Mrittika Barua, Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Implemented by:** Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR).

**Timeline:** July 2020 - October 2020.

**Objective:** To assess the barriers and the facilitators of utilising referral transportation systems on the utilisation of comprehensive maternal health related services by mothers in Rohingya camps.

**Methodology:** Exploratory mixed method.

**Donor and Partner:** United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

**Grant Amount:** USD 18,500





## EXPLORING THE PERCEPTION OF CAREGIVERS' ENGAGEMENT ABOUT "PASHE ACHI" TELECOMMUNICATION MODEL

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Atiya Rahman, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Researchers:** Nazrana Khaled, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Raafat Hassan, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Mahmuda Sarkar, Qualitative Data Manager, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** June 2020 - December 2020

**Objective:** The global epidemic COVID-19 has severely affected education along with life and livelihood. BRAC Institute of Education and Development (IED) initiated a telecommunication platform named "Pashe Achi" as an alternative communication approach during COVID-19 situation for learning of children and for supporting mothers. The School is conducting qualitative research to explore the perspectives of caregivers including mothers and fathers regarding telecommunication services provided through the platform of "Pashe Achi" during COVID-19 period.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (IED).

**Grant amount:** USD 52,000



## PERCEPTIONS OF FRONTLINE WORKERS ON PSYCHOSOCIAL TRAINING

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Atiya Rahman, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Researchers:** Nazrana Khaled, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Mahmuda Sarkar, Qualitative Data Manager, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2020 - December 2020

**Objectives:** To understand the perception of frontline workers about the training on psychosocial aid; to understand frontline worker's perceptions and knowledge about content of training on psychosocial aid; to know the motivating factors and the challenges in implementing the knowledge gained during psychosocial aid training in telecommunication service delivery.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (IED).

**Grant Amount:** USD 52,000



## A PROCESS DOCUMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL APPROACH TO PREVENTING COVID-19 INFECTIONS IN BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Humayra Binte Anwar, Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Mowtushi Matin, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Humayra Binte Anwar, Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2020 - Ongoing

**Objective:** The general objective of the process documentation is to capture the preventive health measures undertaken by the Government of Bangladesh in COVID-19 response.

**Methodology:** Desk review, KII.

**Donor and Partner:** Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.



## THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE PSYCHOSOCIAL WELLBEING OF THE SEXUALLY MARGINALISED COMMUNITY IN BANGLADESH

**Researchers:** Md. Maruf Rahman, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Researchers:** Maruf Rahman, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University; Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2020 - June 2020

**Objective:** To explore COVID-19 impact on the psycho-social well-being of the sexually marginalised individuals in the Bangladeshi society and identify their coping mechanism; to understand the challenges faced due to lock down and the long-term impact of the pandemic on the platforms/organisations and ongoing rights movements that are working for the sexually marginalised communities in Bangladesh.

**Methodology:** A rapid qualitative study will be conducted on 20 members from the sexually marginalised community who are living in Bangladesh. Telephone interviews were done.

*"As we are not being able to continue our field work due to the pandemic, we are continuing our interviews over the phone. We are glad that our respondents are so helpful and talking with us over the phone for hours to help us identify the facts. As a renowned Public Health research institute, BRAC JPGSPH took a timely response to conduct rapid research on the impact of COVID-19 and lockdown among different communities. I believe these researches are helping the government and different stakeholders to take necessary interventions to address the issues."*

- Md. Maruf Rahman, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.





## COVID-19 SHUTDOWN: A NEW THREAT TO THE PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELLBEING OF DALIT COMMUNITY

**Timeline:** May 2020 - July 2020

**Researchers:** Md. Mostafizur Rahman, Assistant Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Tasfiah Jalil, Senior Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** In the light of coronavirus situation, the objective of the study is to investigate: the state of their physical and mental health; impact on their economic aspect of life; their coping mechanism in this time of crisis; and their overall lifestyle as a marginalised community.

**Methodology:** A qualitative approach was used for this study and interviews were conducted over the telephone.

**Donor and Partner:** CREA, India.



## EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ENABLE BETTER HEALTH SYSTEMS DELIVERY THROUGH MOBILE MONEY: IMPACT OF COVID-19

**Researchers:**

Ishrat Jahan, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Selima Sara Kabir, Assistant Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Farzana A. Misha, Assistant Professor, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2020 - Ongoing

**Researchers:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Farzana Misha, Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Selima Sara Kabir, Assistant Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Ishrat Jahan, Research Associate; BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objectives:** Given the nature of the crisis resulting in enforced “social distancing” measures, the pressure on the poor is immense with larger looming concerns of survival. During crises such as these, liquidity becomes an increasing source of concern – particularly if the quarantining of bank notes receives serious consideration to curb transmission of the virus. A possible alternative in such a scenario is the availability of Mobile Financial Services (MFS) who are well placed to serve millions of registered clients throughout the country including formal and informal workers, businesses and service industries. This research comprising of rapid survey and case studies will examine ways in which mobile financial services can impact on the user health seeking behaviour and outcomes.

**Methodology:** Mixed method study. The qualitative phase has been completed, quantitative will begin.

**Donor:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Partner:** Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

**Grant Amount:** USD 100,000



## COVID-19 MITIGATION STUDY AMONG MIGRANT WORKERS IN SINGAPORE

**Researchers:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Ishrat Jahan, Research Associate; BRAC JPGSPH; Aisha Siddika (BRAC University) in partnership with Zoe Hildon (lead/partner investigator); May O Lwin, Gwen Lai Chan, Jermy Lim, National University Singapore.

**Timeline:** May 2020 - December 2020

**Objective:** In this unprecedented time of global pandemic of COVID-19, each country across the world has taken both public health and medical care measure to protect the populations from the deadly disease. In Singapore, despite taking stringent measures, the case load of COVID-19 is very high among the migrant workers but with very low case fatality rate. This study led by Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health (SSHSPH), National University Singapore seeks to better understand ways to communicate and engage to reduce COVID-19 transmission through community mitigation, while maintaining social cohesion. BRAC JPGSPH partnered with SSHSPH in this qualitative assessment of study along with other partners.

**Methodology:** This is a multicomponent qualitative study using discourse analysis that focuses on knowledge configuration and identifies interpretive schemes or frames which helps in the classification of phenomena. In-depth interviews will be conducted among migrant workers to understand knowledge and risk perceptions and coping mechanisms to improve communication messaging and enhance social cohesion and community empowerment.

**Donor and Partner:** HealthServe; Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health (SSHSPH), National University Singapore.



## WHAT WORKS TO CONTINUE MATERNAL AND NEONATAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC BY MANOSHI PROGRAMME IN URBAN SLUMS OF BANGLADESH: A CASE STUDY

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2020 - August 2020

**Objective:** Despite an unprecedented shutdown of normal life due to COVID-19 pandemic, the BRAC Maternity Centers (BMCs) under BRAC Manoshi programme is working in the urban slums of the City Corporations and providing their regular maternity service. Therefore, it is urgent to understand the factors that are working in both the Manoshi midwives (MMWs) and beneficiaries to provide and receive the services at BMCs and quality of care given by the service providers during this corona disease pandemic for prioritising implementation of need-based intervention by Manoshi programme.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

*"Organisational efforts and the experiences of the programme personnel on the field has strengthened their capacity on how to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic more efficiently. Under the successful leadership of the BRAC Manoshi programme, the BRAC Maternity Centres were fully operational during the pandemic. The health workforce remained active on the field while maintaining all social distancing and safety protocols. While it was quite impossible to ensure quality care to patients in the midst of a pandemic, both the BMCs and health workers on their field provided excellent patient care. They not only gained the trust of the residents of the slums but also ensured patient satisfaction."*

- Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

What Works to Continue Maternal and Neonatal Healthcare Services during COVID-19 Pandemic by Manoshi Programme in Urban Slums of Bangladesh: A Case Study





## TELE COUNSELLING INTERVENTIONS DURING COVID-19 SITUATION IN BANGLADESH: A PROCESS DOCUMENTATION

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Mrinmoy Samadder, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Other Researchers:** Nicholas Turzo Mandol, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Nazrana Khaled, Deputy Research Coordinator; Raafat Hassan, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Nosin Nahian, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** May 2020 - December 2020

**Objective:** The COVID-19 pandemic has a huge effect on mental health which leads to psychological stress and fear of disease. In Bangladesh, people barely have any access or space to express their vulnerable mental condition and get support and empathy from any platform. Based on this context, BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BIED) along with Psychological Health and Wellness Clinic (PHWC) and “Kaan Pete Roi” initiated tele counselling platform “Moner Jotno Mobile E” for the people of Bangladesh is ensuring to provide psychological support so that the callers can overcome their frustration and anxiety. BRAC JPGSPH conducted a process documentation to illustrate the tele counselling programme operations and its current performance during the COVID-19 outbreak.

**Methodology:** Qualitative methods and techniques for the process documentation study. Key informant interview (KII) and in-depth interview (IDI) are the main tools for conducting the research. Besides, researchers will participate as an observer and learner in different training sessions organised by BIED for operating their tele counseling programme hosted on online platforms.

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (IED).



## “PASHE ACHI” TELECOMMUNICATION MODEL DURING COVID-19: A PROCESS DOCUMENTATION

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Atiya Rahman, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Mrinmoy Samadder, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Other Researchers:** Raafat Hassan, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Mahmuda Sarkar, Qualitative Data Manager, BRAC JPGSPH; Nicholas Turzo Mandol, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Nazrana Khaled, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** June 2020 - December 2020

**Objective:** Document the overall development of “Pashe Achi” tele-communication model over time by exploring the overall process and activities of this tele communication platform; Identify the overall challenges and lessons learned throughout the process of implementation.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor and Partner:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (IED).

**Grant Amount:** USD 52,000



## COVID-19: KNOWLEDGE, PERCEPTIONS, AND EXPERIENCE OF LIVES AND LIVELIHOOD AND MENTAL HEALTH OF ROHINGYA REFUGEES IN CAMPS OF BANGLADESH

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Coordinator:** Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** April 2020 – June 2020.

**Objective:** To understand knowledge and perceptions of Rohingya populations about the coronavirus and their lived experience shaping up their lifestyle, livelihood and mental state in the changing environment of COVID-19 response in camps.

**Methodology:** Qualitative

**Donor:** BRAC JPGSPH.



## BRAC COVID-19 RESPONSE PROCESS DOCUMENTATION RESEARCH

**PI:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Co-PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** April 2020 - August 2020.

**Objective:** To document BRAC's innovative response to COVID-19 pandemic.

**Methodology:** Qualitative KIIs and IDIs with BRAC Staff.



## UNDERSTANDING KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS ON COVID-19 (CORONA DISEASE) AND ITS IMPACT ON LIVELIHOODS AND LIFE OF ROHINGYA REFUGEE CAMPS IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

**Researchers:** Saira Parveen Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Mahmuda Akhtar Sarkar, Qualitative Data Manager, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** April 2020 - May 2020

**Objective:** In response to the present threat of COVID-19, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and its partners took several initiatives to address the impending health crisis among the Rohingya refugees in camps of Cox's Bazar. This study aimed to understand the knowledge and awareness of the Rohingya population on the COVID-19 disease and changes transpiring in their livelihood and lives.

**Methodology:** A rapid qualitative study using case study approaches during April 2020 through telephone interviews.





Source: Collected

## MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

**Researchers:** Kuhel Islam, Senior Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Kazi Sameen Nasar, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Rituja Shome, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** April 2020 – July 2020

**Objective:** More than 20% of Bangladesh's population lies between the ages of 10 and 19 years, and around 30% belong to the age group between 15-24 years. Among students aged 13-17, 4% of boys and 6% of girls consider attempting suicide due to depression. With all educational institutions shut under the current COVID-19 environment, the mental and emotional well-being of university going students' risk being further negatively amplified. To address this issue, the School in partnership with Imperial College, UK is carrying out a needs assessment to better understand the emotional and mental effects brought on by the onslaught of the pandemic on university students, and the support required to tend to their concerns.

**Methodology:** Semi-structured telephone interviews, both qualitative and quantitative questions were asked to students.

**Donor and Partner:** Imperial College London, UK.



Photo: topuniversities.com

## COVID-19: KNOWLEDGE, PRACTICES AND IMPACT IN SOUTH-ASIA (BANGLADESH COMPONENT)

**Researchers:** Fahmida Akter, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Mehedi Hasan, Senior Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Mokbul Hossain, Analyst (Statistics), BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH; Abu Ahmed Shamim, Associate Scientist, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH; Nushrat Jahan Umy, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**International:** John C Chambers; Kusuma Dian; Ian Goon; Ananya Gupta; Sujeet Jha; Anuradhani Kasturiratne; Anjana Ranjit Mohan; Franco Sassi.

**Timeline:** April 2020 - June 2020

**Objective:** To determine the prevalence of flu-like symptoms; to assess the knowledge and practices related to the prevention and control of COVID-19; to determine the health, economic and social impact of COVID-19 associated measures e.g., lock-down, social distancing etc.

**Methodology:** Cross-sectional survey using quantitative approach. Data are being collected from all the divisions of Bangladesh.

**Partner:** Imperial College London, UK.

**Donor:** National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), UK.



## A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE, PERCEPTIONS, BARRIERS AND ENABLERS, AND EXPERIENCES OF THE FRONTLINE HEALTH WORKERS (FLWS) VIS-À-VIS COVID-19 EPIDEMIC MANAGEMENT IN BANGLADESH

**Researchers:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH; Mir Raihanul Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Bushra Zarin Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Zakir Hossain Pinto, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Zarin Tasnim, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** March 2020 - May 2020

**Objective:** From World Health Organization's (WHO) declaration of a Global Public Health Emergency in January 2020 to identification of the first case in the country in early March 2020, neither the ministry nor the political establishment was found to rise to the occasion and provide the necessary stewardship for coordinated response to contain the outbreak. Uncertainty about the roles and responsibilities of the different agencies of the health ministry and the government at large and there was lack of coordination among them which baffle any description. It then entered the community transmission phase when experts were expecting a surge in the number of the patients and a catastrophic scenario for the poorly prepared health systems. In this scenario, it was important to look at the conditions of the health workers who are at the frontline of the fight against COVID-19. This quick assessment is being done to elicit the knowledge, perceptions, barriers and enablers, and lived social experiences by the FLWs vis-à-vis management of COVID-19 epidemic currently sweeping the country.

**Methodology:** This time-bond study of cross-sectional design by mixed method approach is currently being conducted.

**Donor:** Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW).



## ADAPTING WITH THE CONTEXT: 'ONE BRAC' STORY IN COVID-19 RESPONSE IN BANGLADESH

**Researchers:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH; Ishrat Jahan, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Selima Sara Kabir, Assistant Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Nazrana Khaled, Deputy Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Fouzia Khanam, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** March 2020 - May 2020

**Objectives:** BRAC's COVID-19 response has a three-pronged approach which will be followed by long term livelihood support work for the economically affected families: Protection of Staff and Community; Communication and mass awareness; New Partnerships for Prevention, Detection, and Response. BRAC's overarching focus for the COVID-19 response in Bangladesh is to prevent community-level outbreak as much as possible in the coming days by mobilising over 90,000 field staff and community health volunteers to reach millions of households. In public health emergencies, we often do not prioritise documentation of the rapid response processes undertaken by large organisations like BRAC that have played a critical role in the history of the country.

**Methodology:** Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and In-depth Interviews (IDIs) were used with chosen participants. Themes included BRAC's overall response to the crisis as well as the particular functional area's responses.

**Partner:** BRAC.





## COVID-19 IMPACT ON URBAN SLUMS AND LOW INCOME SETTLEMENTS: EDUCATION, PSYCHOSOCIAL WELL BEING AND COPING

**Researchers:** Taslima Aktar, BIGD; Farhana Alam, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Mehedi Hasan Anik, BIGD; S Saklain Al Mamun, BIGD; Samira Ahmed Raha, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Sajib Rana, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH; Alvira Farheen Ria; Prantik Roy, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Maheen Sultan, Head, Gender and Social Transformation Cluster, BIGD;

**Timeline:** March 2020 – Ongoing

**Objectives:** To understand the impact of COVID-19 and state sanctioned lockdown on lives and education of adolescents living in urban slums and low income settlements; to identify the factors affecting psychosocial wellbeing of adolescents and to explore their coping strategies during the pandemic.

**Methodology:** Qualitative research methods via phone interviews.

**Donor:** Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence Programme, Overseas Development Institute (GAGE ODI).

**Partners:** BIGD.



## COVID-19 IMPACT IN BANGLADESH: TRANSMISSION DYNAMICS, HEALTH SYSTEM, PREPAREDNESS AND FINANCING BY DISTRICTS

**Researchers:** Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH; Mehedi Hasan, Senior Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Mokbul Hossain, Analyst (Statistics), BRAC JPGSPH; Dr Alain B Labrique, Professor, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University; Dr Dipak Kumar Mitra, Professor and Chair, Department of Public Health, North South University; Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH; Rina Rani Paul, Consultant, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Objective:** To report how COVID-19 cases will evolve in different districts of Bangladesh and what will be the district specific health care needs, resource requirements and its estimated cost, and mortality; to prevent and control COVID-19, and plan for efficient mobilisation and allocation of resources in Bangladesh.

**Methodology:** Mathematical modelling for the 64 districts of Bangladesh.

**Partners:** Department of Public Health, North South University; Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University; Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW).



## SURVEY ON CONSUMER AWARENESS OF NUTRITION, FOOD SAFETY

**Researchers:** Dr Nepal C Dey, Adjunct Professor, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Malay Kanti Mridha, Director, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH; Abu Ahmed Shamim, Associate Scientist, CNCND, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Abdul Awal, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Mahmood Parvez, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Mir Raihanul Islam, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Fahmida Akter, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January 2020 – December 2020

**Objective:** To assess the knowledge of basic nutrition, cooking best practices, food safety and hygiene principles of a sample of the country that will be representative of different:

- Districts of the country as well as nationally,
- Age groups and stages of the life cycle,
- Gender,
- Socio economic groups.

To compare knowledge levels to a simple assessment of people's dietary practices, nutritional behaviour and status, and overall health; to identify factors associated with different levels of knowledge and awareness; changes of hygiene behaviour due to COVID-19 in different settings of Bangladesh.

**Methodology:** A cross sectional study design will be followed to conduct the study.

**Donor and Partner:** Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).



## MEDIA SURVEILLANCE ON CORONAVIRUS

**Researchers:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH; Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH; Md. Zakir Hossain Pinto, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH; Mehedi Hasan, Senior Lecturer, BRAC JPGSPH; Nasir Uddin, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH.

**Timeline:** January, 2020 - ongoing

**Objective:** To document the messages and meanings spread by the print and visual media at the national level in Bangladesh through a selective and ordered collection of news reports, articles and videos; to document the reactions and opinions of the populations to media coverage through the collection of online readers' comments to these articles and reports.

**Methodology:** Four researchers are collecting and reviewing reports, articles, op-ed etc. from newspapers, talk shows/programmes on COVID-19, and selecting websites from Alexa. The extracted data will be summarised, thematically analysed and will be redacted as a report.

**Donor:** BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



# PUBLICATIONS 2019 AND 2020

As part of the research conducted, over 680 peer-reviewed publications (including journal articles, international book chapters etc.) have been published in national and international journals till December, 2020. These publications aimed to shed light on the public health need of developing countries, such as compelling, community-based teachings and learnings to provide

locally pioneered research and sustainable health solutions.

Between January, 2019 and December, 2020 the School has conducted 128 peer-reviewed publications, 4 peer-reviewed publications related to COVID-19 and 5 international book chapters.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

### CLIMATE CHANGE, MIGRATION AND HEALTH SYSTEMS RESILIENCE: NEED FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

**Authors:** Valéry Ridde, Tarik Benmarhnia, Emmanuel Bonnet, Carol Bottger, Patrick Cloos, Christian Dagenais, Manuela De Allegri, Ariadna Nebot, Ludovic Queuille, and Malabika Sarker.

**Published:** 7 January 2019 in F1000 Research.

**DOI:** <https://f1000research.com/articles/8-22/v1>



### 'FEMINIZATION' OF PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE IN BANGLADESH, UNDERLYING FACTORS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR HEALTH SYSTEM: INSIGHTS FROM A MIXED-METHODS STUDY

**Authors:** Puspita Hossain, Rajat Das Gupta, Phyoe YarZar, Mohamed Salieu Jalloh, Nishat Tasnim, Ayesha Afrin, Nahitun Naher, Md. Tarek Hossain, Taufique Joarder, and Syed Masud Ahmed.

**Published:** 11 January 2019 in PLOS|ONE.

**DOI:** <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0210820>



### NUTRITION INTERVENTIONS INTEGRATED INTO AN EXISTING MATERNAL, NEONATAL, AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM REDUCE FOOD INSECURITY AMONG RECENTLY DELIVERED AND PREGNANT WOMEN IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Edward A Frongillo, Phuong H Nguyen, Tina Sanghvi, Zeba Mahmud, Bachera Aktar, Silvia Alayon, and Purnima Menon.

**Published:** 13 January 2019 in Oxford Academic - The Journal of Nutrition, Volume 149, Issue 1, January 2019, Pages 159–166.

**DOI:** <https://academic.oup.com/jn/article/149/1/159/5288239>



## AN INVISIBLE WORKFORCE: THE NEGLECTED ROLE OF CLEANERS IN PATIENT SAFETY ON MATERNITY UNITS

**Authors:** Suzanne Cross, Giorgia Gon, Emma Morrison, Koasar Afsana, Said M. Ali, Tina Manjang, Lamin Manneh, Atiya Rahman, Deepak Saxena, Kranti Vorah, and Wendy J. Graham.



**Published:** 15 January 2019 in Taylor & Francis Online - Global Health Action, Volume 12, 2019-Issue 1.

**DOI:** <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/16549716.2018.1480085>

## WOMEN'S PREFERENCES FOR MATERNAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN BANGLADESH: EVIDENCE FROM A DISCRETE CHOICE EXPERIMENT

**Authors:** Rashidul Alam Mahumud, Nadia Ishrat Alamgir, Md. Tarek Hossain, Elaine Baruwa, Marufa Sultana, Jeff Gow, Khorshed Alam, Syed Masud Ahmed, and Jahangir A.M. Khan.



**Published:** 23 January 2019 in MDPI - Journal of Clinical Medicine, Section-Epidemiology & Public Health.

**DOI:** <https://www.mdpi.com/2077-0383/8/2/132>

## PATHWAYS OF ANTIBIOTIC USE IN BANGLADESH: QUALITATIVE PROTOCOL FOR THE PAUSE STUDY

**Authors:** Emily K Rousham, Mohammad Aminul Islam, Papreen Nahar, Patricia Jane Lucas, Nahitun Naher, Syed Masud Ahmed, Fosiul Alam Nizame, and Leanne Unicomb.



**Published:** 25 January 2019 in BMJ Journals – BMJ Open, Volume 9, Issue 1.

**DOI:** <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/9/1/e028215>

## PREVALENCE AND RISK FACTORS OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE IN BANGLADESH: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

**Authors:** Ipsita Sutradhar, Rajat Das Gupta, Mehedi Hasan, Amit Wazib, Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 28 January 2019 in Cureus - PMC, Volume 11(1).

**DOI:** [10.7759/cureus.3970](https://doi.org/10.7759/cureus.3970)

## EYE DISEASES: THE NEGLECTED HEALTH CONDITION AMONG URBAN SLUM POPULATION OF DHAKA, BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Ipsita Sutradhar, Priyanka Gayen, Mehedi Hasan, Rajat Das Gupta, Tapash Roy, and Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 31 January 2019 in BMC - BMC Ophthalmology Volume 19, Article number: 38 (2019).

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12886-019-1043-z>



## HOW HEALTH SHOCKS AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO REPAYMENTS OF LOANS FROM MICROFINANCE INSTITUTIONS CAN AFFECT MIGRANT HOUSEHOLDS IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Md. Shahadath Hossain, Malabika Sarker, Shaila Nazneen, Bharati Basu, Fatema Binte Rasul & Hossain I. Adib.



**Published:** 8 February 2019 in Taylor & Francis Online - Journal of Migration and Development, Volume 8, 2019-Issue 2, Pages 370-393.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1080/21632324.2019.1565088>

## DETERMINANTS OF EARLY INITIATION OF BREASTFEEDING IN ETHIOPIA: A POPULATION-BASED STUDY USING THE 2016 DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY DATA

**Authors:** James Rufus John, Sabuj Kanti Mistry, Getahun Kebede, Narendar Manohar, and Amit Arora.



**Published:** 13 February 2019 in BMC - BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth, Article Number: 69(2019).

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-019-2211-0>

## A TRANSPARENT UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE INDEX WITH DECOMPOSITION BY SOCIOECONOMIC GROUPS: APPLICATION IN ASIAN AND AFRICAN SETTINGS

**Authors:** Jahangir A.M. Khan, Sayem Ahmed, Tao Chen, Ewan M. Tomeny, Louis W. Niessen.



**Published:** 16 February 2019 in Springer Link - Applied Health Economics and Health Policy volume 17, pages 399–410(2019).

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40258-019-00464-9>

## REASONS FOR FORMULA FEEDING AMONG RURAL BANGLADESHI MOTHERS: A QUALITATIVE EXPLORATION

**Authors:** Atiya Rahman and Fahmida Akter.



**Published:** 26 February 2019 in PLOS ONE 14(2): e0211761.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0211761>

## ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS AND PREVALENCE OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES RISK FACTORS AND COMORBIDITIES IN BANGLADESH: FINDINGS FROM A NATIONWIDE CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEY

**Authors:** Tuhin Biswas, Nick Townsend, Md Saimul Islam, Md Rajibul Islam, Rajat Das Gupta, Sumon Kumar Das, Abdullah Al Mamun.



**Published:** 13 March 2019 in The BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Volume 9, Issue 3.

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2018-025538>

## FREQUENCY OF TELEVISION VIEWING AND ASSOCIATION WITH OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY AMONG WOMEN OF THE REPRODUCTIVE AGE GROUP IN MYANMAR: RESULTS FROM A NATIONWIDE CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEY

**Authors:** Rajat Das Gupta, Ibrahim Hossain Sajal, Mehedi Hasan, Ipsita Sutradhar, Mohammad Rifat Haider, Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 20 March 2019 in The BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Volume 9, Issue 3.

**DOI:** 10.1111/mcn.12816

## OVERALL CARE-SEEKING PATTERN AND GENDER DISPARITY AT A SPECIALIZED MENTAL HOSPITAL IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Nazmun Nahar Nuri, Malabika Sarker, Helal Uddin Ahmed, Mohammad Didar Hossain, Fekri Dureab, Faith Agbozo, Albrecht Jahn.



**Published:** 31 March 2019 in National Library of Medicine, National Center for Biotechnology Information - The Materia Sociomed, 2019 Mar;31(1):35-39.

**DOI:** 10.5455/msm.2019.31.35-39

## SELF-CARE INTERVENTIONS COULD ADVANCE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

**Authors:** Carmen H Logie, Kaveh Khoshnood, Moses Okumu, Sabina Faiz Rashid, Fidan Senova, Hamza Meghari, Claire Uwase Kipenda.



**Published:** 1 April 2019 in The BMJ 2019; 365.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.l1083>

## A NEW SOCIAL SCIENCES NETWORK FOR INFECTIOUS THREATS

**Authors:** Tamara Giles-Vernick, Ruth Kutalek, David Napier, David Kaawa-Mafigiri, Michel Dücker, John Paget, Syed Masud Ahmed, Phaik Yeong Cheah, Alice Desclaux, Daniel De Vries, Anita Hardon, Hayley MacGregor, Christopher Pell, Sabina F Rashid, Roman Rodyna, Constance Schultsz, Khoudia Sow, Annie Wilkinson.



**Published:** May 2019 in the Lancet Infectious Diseases, Volume 19, Issue 5, P 461-463.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099\(19\)30159-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(19)30159-8)

## PREVALENCE AND RISK FACTORS OF POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER BIRTH IN URBAN SLUMS OF DHAKA, BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Rashidul Azad, Rukhshan Fahmi, Sadichhya Shrestha, Hemraj Joshi, Mehedi Hasan, Abdullah Nurus Salam Khan, Mohiuddin Ahsanul Kabir Chowdhury, Shams El Arifeen, Sk Masum Billah.



**Published:** 2 May 2019 in PLOS ONE.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0215735>



## **WILLINGNESS TO PAY FOR CATARACT SURGERIES AMONG PATIENTS VISITING EYE CARE FACILITIES IN DHAKA, BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Muhammed Nazmul Islam, Thomas Engels, Shafayet Hossain, Malabika Sarker, Atonu Rabbani.

**Published:** 7 May 2019 in Springer Link - Applied Health Economics and Health Policy volume 17, pages 545–554(2019).

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40258-019-00478-3>



## **GEOGENIC ARSENIC AND MICROBIAL CONTAMINATION IN DRINKING WATER SOURCES: EXPOSURE RISKS TO THE COASTAL POPULATION IN BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Ratnajit Saha, Nepal C. Dey, Mahfuzar Rahman, Prosun Bhattacharya, and Golam H. Rabbani.

**Published:** 8 May 2019 in Frontiers in Environmental Science.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2019.00057>



## **FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH LOW BIRTH WEIGHT IN AFGHANISTAN: A CROSS-SECTIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2015**

**Authors:** Rajat Das Gupta, Krystal Swasey, Vanessa Burrowes, Mohammad Rashidul Hashan, Gulam Muhammed Al Kibria.

**Published:** 14 May 2019 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Open. Volume 9, Issue 5.

**Online Link:** <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/9/5/e025715.full>



## **WHO TAKES ACTION TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH OF REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS**

**Authors:** Lawrence O Gostin, Ibrahim Abubakar, Ranieri Guerra, Sabina F Rashid, Eric A Friedman, Zsuzsanna Jakab.

**Published:** 18 May 2019 in the Lancet, Volume 393, Issue 10185, P 2016-2018.

**Online Link:** [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(19\)31051-7/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(19)31051-7/fulltext)



## **ASSESSING INFORMED CONSENT PRACTICES DURING NORMAL VAGINAL DELIVERY AND IMMEDIATE POSTPARTUM CARE IN TERTIARY-LEVEL HOSPITALS OF BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Md Abdul Karim, Syed Imran Ahmed, Jannatul Ferdous, Bushra Zarin Islam, Henok Ayalew Tegegne, Bachera Aktar.

**Published:** 21 May 2019 in European Journal of Midwifery, Volume 3.

**Online Link:** <http://www.europeanjournalofmidwifery.eu/Assessing-Informed-Consent-Practices-During-Normal-Vaginal-Delivery-Process-and-Immediate,109311,0,2.html>



## **RETHINKING HEALTH SYSTEMS IN THE CONTEXT OF URBANISATION: CHALLENGES FROM FOUR RAPIDLY URBANISING LOW-INCOME AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES**

**Authors:** Helen Elsey, Irene Agyepong, Rumana Huque, Zahidul Quayyum, Sushil Baral, Bassey Ebenso, Chandani Kharel, Riffat Ara Shawon, Obinna Onwujekwe, Benjamin Uzochukwu, Justice Nonvignon, Genevieve Cecilia Aryeetey, Sumit Kane, Tim Ensor, Tolib Mirzoev.



**Published:** 16 June 2019 in the BMJ Journals - BMJ Global Health, Volume 4, Issue 3.

**Online Link:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2019-001501>

## **EXPERIENCE AND PERCEIVED QUALITY OF CARE OF PATIENTS AND THEIR ATTENDANTS IN A SPECIALIZED MENTAL HOSPITAL IN BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Nazmun Nahar Nuri, Malabika Sarker, Helal Uddin Ahmed, Mohammad Didar Hossain, Claudia Beiersmann and Albrecht Jahn.



**Published:** 22 June 2019 in BMC - International Journal of Mental Health System 13, Article number:46.

**Online Link:** <https://ijmhs.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13033-019-0303-x>

## **ART THERAPY TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE OF CANCER PATIENTS AND THEIR CARERS IN BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Rumana Dowla, Annekathryn Goodman, Tahsin Kashem.



**Published:** 24 June 2019 in the Journal of Cancer Therapy, Volume 10, No.6.

**DOI:** 10.4236/jct.2019.106038

## **KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND PRACTICES REGARDING MALARIA CONTROL AMONG THE SLASH AND BURN CULTIVATORS IN RANGAMATI HILL TRACTS OF BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Avijit Saha, Malabika Sarker, Moktadir Kabir, Guangyu Lu, and Olaf Müller.



**Published:** 25 June 2019 in BMC - Malaria Journal 18. Article number 216.

**Online Link:** <https://malariajournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12936-019-2849-0>

## **PROCESSED FOOD CONSUMPTION AMONG 36 MO-OLD CHILDREN IN RURAL BANGLADESH CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN NUTRITION**

**Authors:** Mridha MK, Hossain MM, Dewey KG.

**Published:** June 2019 in Current Developments in Nutrition, Volume 3, Issue Supplement 1.



**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzz048.P11-088-19>



## **BELIEFS, PRACTICES, AND ADVICE RECEIVED ON NUTRITION AND HEALTH DURING PREGNANCY: QUALITATIVE REPORTS FROM PREGNANT WOMEN IN RURAL BANGLADESH. CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN NUTRITION**

**Authors:** Nath P, Byrd K, Das J, Sharmin A, Amin R, Rahman M, Mridha MK.

**Published:** June 2019 in Current Developments in Nutrition, Volume 3, Issue Supplement 1.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzz034.P10-021-19>



## **WOMEN ARE MORE VULNERABLE TO NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN RURAL AND URBAN BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Mridha MK, Hasan M, Khan S, Hossain MM, Sutradhar I.

**Published:** June 2019 in the Current Developments in Nutrition, Volume 3, Issue Supplement 1.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzz039.P18-082-19>.



## **PERCEPTIONS OF APPROPRIATE TREATMENT AMONG THE INFORMAL ALLOPATHIC PROVIDERS: INSIGHTS FROM A QUALITATIVE STUDY IN TWO PERI-URBAN AREAS IN BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** M. Monaemul Islam, Herfina Y. Nababan, Md. Kaoser Bin Siddique, Shariful Islam, Sukanta Paul, Anup Kumar Paul and Syed Masud Ahmed.

**Published:** 26 June 2019 in BMC - BMC Health Services Research 19, Article number: 424.

**Online Link:** <https://bmchealthservres.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12913-019-4254-3>



## **SITUATION ANALYSIS FOR DELIVERING INTEGRATED COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES IN HUMANITARIAN CRISIS CONDITION FOR ROHINGYA REFUGEES IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH: PROTOCOL FOR A MIXED METHOD STUDY**

**Authors:** Rushdia Ahmed, Nadia Farnaz, Bachera Aktar, Raafat Hassan, Sharid Bin Shafique, Pushpita Ray, Abdul Awal, Atiya Rahman, Veronique Urbaniak, Loulou Hassan Kobeissi, Jeffries Rosie, Lale Say, Md. Tanvir Hasan, Zahidul Quayyum, Sabina Faiz Rashid.

**Published:** 3 July 2019 in the BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Volume 9, Issue 7.

**Online Link:** <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/9/7/e028340.full>



## **PROVISION OF PRE- AND POSTNATAL NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS GENERALLY DID NOT INCREASE OR DECREASE COMMON CHILDHOOD ILLNESSES IN BANGLADESH: A CLUSTER-RANDOMIZED EFFECTIVENESS TRIAL**

**Authors:** Ullah MB, Mridha MK, Arnold CD, Matias SL, Khan MSA, Siddiqui Z, Hossain M, Dewey KG.

**Published:** July 2019 in Oxford Academic - The Journal of Nutrition, Volume 149, Issue 7.

**DOI:** [10.1093/jn/nxz059](https://doi.org/10.1093/jn/nxz059)



**ERRATUM: PRENATAL AND POSTNATAL SUPPLEMENTATION WITH LIPID-BASED NUTRIENT SUPPLEMENTS REDUCES ANEMIA AND IRON DEFICIENCY IN 18-MONTH-OLD BANGLADESHI CHILDREN: A CLUSTER-RANDOMIZED EFFECTIVENESS TRIAL**

**Authors:** Matias SL, Mridha MK, Young RT, Khan MSA, Siddiqui Z, Ullah MB, Vosti SA, Dewey KG.

**Published:** July 2019 in Oxford Academic - Journal of Nutrition, Volume 149, Issue 7.

**DOI:** 10.1093/jn/nxy221.



**'CONNECTING THE DOTS' FOR GENERATING A MOMENTUM FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE IN BANGLADESH: FINDINGS FROM A CROSS-SECTIONAL DESCRIPTIVE STUDY**

**Authors:** Syed Masud Ahmed, Lal B Rawal, Nahitun Naher, Tarek Hossain.

**Published:** 17 July 2019 in The BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Volume 9, Issue 7.

**Online Link:** <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/9/7/e024509>



**FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH HYPERTENSION AMONG ADULTS IN NEPAL AS PER THE JOINT NATIONAL COMMITTEE 7 AND 2017 AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY/AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION HYPERTENSION GUIDELINES: A CROSS-SECTIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2016**

**Authors:** Rajat Das Gupta, Sojib Bin Zaman, Kusum Wagle, Reese Crispen, Mohammad Rashidul Hashan, and Gulam Muhammed Al Kibria.

**Published:** 10 Augusts 2019 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Volume 9, Issue 8.

**Online Link:** <https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/9/8/e030206.full>



**EFFECTIVENESS OF A COMMUNITY-BASED WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH) INTERVENTION IN REDUCTION OF DIARRHOEA AMONG UNDER-FIVE CHILDREN: EVIDENCE FROM A REPEATED CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY (2007-2015) IN RURAL BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Nepal C.Dey, Mahmood Parvez, Mir Raihanul Islam, Sabuj K. Mistry, David I. Levined.

**Published:** 20 August 2019 in Science Direct - International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health, Volume 222, Issue 8.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijheh.2019.08.006>



**RISK ASSESSMENT OF CHRONIC INGESTION - ASSESSING DRINKING WATER QUALITY AT HIGH DEPENDENT POINT OF SOURCES AND POTENTIAL HEALTH RISK OF MASSIVE POPULATION: A VIEW FROM TALA UPAZILA OF SATKHIRA DISTRICT IN BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Saha, R., Dey, N.C., and Rahman, M.

**Published:** 23 August 2019 in the Proceedings of the 7th International Congress and Exhibition 'Environmental Arsenic in a Changing World' under the Book Series 'Arsenic in the Environment - Proceedings'.

**Online Link:** <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/9781351046633>





## TRENDS AND DETERMINANTS OF PERINATAL MORTALITY IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Md. Belal Hossain, Sabuj Kanti Mistry, Md Mohsin, and Md Hasinur Rahaman Khan.



**Published:** 23 August 2019 in PLOS|ONE.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0221503>

## ASSOCIATION OF FREQUENCY OF TELEVISION WATCHING WITH OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY AMONG WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE IN INDIA: EVIDENCE FROM A NATIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE STUDY

**Authors:** Rajat Das Gupta, Shams Shabab Haider, Ipsita Sutradhar, Mohammad Rashidul Hashan, Ibrahim Hossain Sajal, Mehedi Hasan, Mohammad Rifat Haider, and Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 29 August 2019 in PLOS|ONE.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0221758>

## GENDER DIFFERENCES IN HYPERTENSION AWARENESS, ANTIHYPERTENSIVE USE AND BLOOD PRESSURE CONTROL IN NEPALESE ADULTS: FINDINGS FROM A NATIONWIDE CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEY

**Authors:** Rajat Das Gupta, Shams Shabab Haider, Ipsita Sutradhar, Mehedi Hasan, Hemraj Joshi, Mohammad Rifat Haider, and Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 30 August 2019 in Cambridge University Press - Journal of Biosocial Science, Volume 52, Issue 3.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021932019000531>

## PREVALENCE AND RISK FACTORS OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES AMONG BANGLADESHI ADULTS: FINDINGS FROM A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY

**Authors:** Fouzia Khanam, Md. Belal Hossain, Sabuj Kanti Mistry, Kaosar Afsana, Mahfuzar Rahman.



**Published:** September 2019 in Atlantis Press - Journal of Epidemiology and Global Health, Volume 9, Issue 3.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.2991/jegh.k.190531.001>

## DEVELOPING A FRAMEWORK OF CORE COMPETENCIES IN IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH FOR LOW/MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

**Authors:** Olakunle Alonge, Aditi Rao, Anna Kalbarczyk, Dermot Maher, Edwin Rolando Gonzalez Marulanda, Malabika Sarker, Latifat Ibisomi, Phyllis Dako-Gyeke, Yodi Mahendradhata, Pascal Launois, Mahnaz Vahedi.



**Published:** 3 September 2019 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Health, Volume 4, Issue 5.

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2019-001747>

## **IMPACT OF TRAFFIC VARIABILITY ON GEOGRAPHIC ACCESSIBILITY TO 24/7 EMERGENCY HEALTHCARE FOR THE URBAN POOR: A GIS STUDY IN DHAKA, BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Shakil Ahmed, Alayne M. Adams, Rubana Islam, Shaikh Mehdi Hasan, Rocco Panciera.

**Published:** 16 September 2019 in Plos|One.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0222488>



## **ASSOCIATION BETWEEN HOUSEHOLD LIVESTOCK OWNERSHIP AND CHILDHOOD STUNTING IN BANGLADESH – A SPATIAL ANALYSIS**

**Authors:** Md Belal Hossain and Jahidur Rahman Khan.

**Published:** 16 September 2019 in Oxford Academic - Journal of Tropical Pediatrics, Volume 66, Issue 3, June 2020, Pages 248–256.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1093/tropej/fmz061>



## **MATERNAL NUTRITION INTERVENTION AND MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS IN 4 DISTRICTS OF BANGLADESH: A NESTED CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY**

**Authors:** Catherine S. Todd, Zakaria Chowdhury, Zeba Mahmud, Nazia Islam, Sadia Shabnam, Musarrat Parvin, Alissa Bernholc, Andres Martinez, Bachera Aktar, Kaosar Afsana, and Tina Sanghvi.

**Published:** 4 October 2019 in PLOS Medicine.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002927>



## **NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE (NCD) CORNERS IN PUBLIC SECTOR HEALTH FACILITIES IN BANGLADESH: A QUALITATIVE STUDY ASSESSING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVING NCD SERVICES AT THE PRIMARY HEALTHCARE LEVEL**

**Authors:** Lal B Rawal, Kie Kanda, Tuhin Biswas, Md. Imtiaz Tanim, Prakash Poudel, Andre M N Renzaho, Abu S Abdullah, Sheikh Mohammed Shariful Islam, Syed Masud Ahmed.

**Published:** 7 October 2019 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Volume 9, Issue 10.

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2019-029562>



## **MAPPING 123 MILLION NEONATAL, INFANT AND CHILD DEATHS BETWEEN 2000 AND 2017**

**Authors:** Roy B., ..., Rushdia A., ..., Rajat G., ..., and Simon I. Hay.

**Published:** 16 October 2019 in the Nature International Journal of Science, Article 574, pages 353–358.

**Online Link:** <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-019-1545-0>





## DETERMINANTS OF DIABETES IN BANGLADESH USING TWO APPROACHES: AN ANALYSIS OF THE DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2011

**Authors:** Krystal K. Swasey, Rajat Das Gupta, Jannatun Nayeem, and Gulam Muhammed Al Kibria.

**Published:** 21 October 2019 in Cambridge University Press - Journal of Biosocial Science, volume 52, Issue 4.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1017/S002193201900066X>



## FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH DIARRHEA AND ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTION IN CHILDREN UNDER TWO YEARS OF AGE IN RURAL BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Ullah MB, Mridha MK, Arnold CD, Matias SL, Khan MSA, Siddiqui Z, Hossain M, Paul RR, Dewey KG.

**Published:** 27 October 2019 in BMC - BMC Pediatrics 19, Article number 386.

**DOI:** [10.1186/s12887-019-1738-6](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12887-019-1738-6)



## GESTATIONAL WEIGHT GAIN AND NEWBORN ANTHROPOMETRIC OUTCOMES IN RURAL BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Kac G, Arnold CD, Matias SL, Mridha MK, Dewey KG.

**Published:** Matern Child Nutr. 2019 Oct;15(4):e12816.

**DOI:** [10.1111/mcn.12816](https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.12816)



## NEWBORN PHYSICAL CONDITION AND BREASTFEEDING BEHAVIOURS: SECONDARY OUTCOMES OF A CLUSTER-RANDOMIZED TRIAL OF PRENATAL LIPID-BASED NUTRIENT SUPPLEMENTS IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Ullah MB, Mridha MK, Arnold CD, Matias SL, Khan MSA, Siddiqui Z, Hossain M, Paul RR, Dewey KG.

**Published:** 20 May 2019 in Maternal Child Nutrition, Volume 15, Issue 4.

**DOI:** [10.1111/mcn.12844](https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.12844)



## PUTTING HEALTH EQUITY AT THE HEART OF UNIVERSAL COVERAGE - THE NEED FOR NATIONAL PROGRAMMES OF ACTION

**Authors:** Eric A Friedman, Lawrence O Gostin, Matthew M Kavanagh, Mirta Roses Periago, Michael Marmot, Anna Coates, Agnes Binagwaho, Joia Mukherjee, Mushtaque Chowdhury, Tracy Robinson, Valdiléa G Veloso, Chenguang Wang, and Miriam Were.

**Published:** 25 October 2019 in BMJ 2019; 367.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.l5901>



## **STUDY PROTOCOL TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF AN INTEGRATED NUTRITION INTERVENTION ON THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN UNDER TWO IN RURAL BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Gulshan Ara, Kazi Istiaque Sanin, Mansura Khanam, Shafiqul Alam Sarker, Sihan Sadat Khan, Mahfuza Rifat, Imran Ahmed Chowdhury, Sufia Askari, Kaosar Afsana, and Tahmeed Ahmed.



**Published:** 1 November 2019 in BMC - BMC Public Health 19, Article 1437.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-019-7777-y>

## **HEALTH SHOCK AND PREFERENCE INSTABILITY: ASSESSING HEALTH-STATE DEPENDENCY OF WILLINGNESS-TO-PAY FOR CORRECTIVE EYEGLASSES**

**Authors:** Muhammed Nazmul Islam, Atonu Rabbani, and Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 7 November 2019 in BMC - BMC Health Economics Review 9, Article number 32.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13561-019-0249-3>

## **ASSOCIATION BETWEEN HEIGHT AND HYPERTENSION IN THE ADULT NEPALESE POPULATION: FINDINGS FROM A NATIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE SURVEY**

**Authors:** Rajat Das Gupta, Shams Shabab Haider, Mohammad Rashidul Hashan, Muhammad Aziz Rahman, and Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 7 November 2019 in the Wiley Online Library - Health Science Reports, Volume 2, Issue 12.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1002/hsr2.141>

## **ESTIMATED SOCIETAL COSTS OF STROKE IN THE UK BASED ON A DISCRETE EVENT SIMULATION**

**Authors:** Anita Patel, Vladislav Berdunov, Zahidul Quayyum, Derek King, Martin Knapp, and Raphael Wittenberg.



**Published:** 7 November 2019 in the Oxford University Press on behalf of the British Geriatrics Society, Age and Ageing, Volume 49, Issue 2.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afz162>

## **PREVALENCE OF MULTIMORBIDITY AMONG BANGLADESHI ADULT POPULATION: A NATIONWIDE CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY**

**Authors:** Khan N, Rahman M, Mitra D, Afsana K.



**Published:** 28 November 2019 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Volume 9, Issue 11.

**DOI:** [10.1136/bmjopen-2019-030886](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2019-030886)



## DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOR FOR CHRONIC NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND RELATED OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENDITURE: RESULTS FROM A CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEY IN NORTHERN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Rasul BF, Kalmus O, Sarker M, Adib HI, Hossain MS, Hasan MZ, Brenner S, Nazneen S, Islam MN and De Allegri M.

**Published:** December 2019 in BMC - Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition 38, Article number: 48.

**DOI:** 10.1186/s41043-019-0195-z



## MAPPING DISPARITIES IN EDUCATION ACROSS LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

**Authors:** Nicholas Graetz, Lauren Woyczynski, Katherine F. Wilson, Jason B. Hall, Kalkidan Hassen Abate, Rajat Das Gupta, Emmanuela Gakidou & Simon I. Hay.

**Published:** 25 December 2019 in Nature 577, 235-238.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1872-1>



## MAPPING CHILD GROWTH FAILURE ACROSS LOW-AND-MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

**Contributors:** Damaris K. Kinyoki,..., Rajat Das Gupta,...and Simon I. Hay.

**Published:** 8 January 2020 in Nature, volume 577, pages 231-234.



## EXPERIENCING SHAME: AN AFFECTIVE READING OF THE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS CLASSROOM IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Saad Adnan Khan, Farhana Alam, Els Rommes & Sabina Faiz Rashid.

**Published:** 11 January 2020 in Taylor & Francis Online - Sex Education, Sexuality, Society and Learning, Volume 20, Issue 6, Pages 597-611.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1080/14681811.2019.1707651>



## THE FUTURE INCIDENCE, PREVALENCE AND COSTS OF STROKE IN THE UK

**Authors:** Derek King, Raphael Wittenberg, Anita Patel, Zahid Quayyum, Vladislav Berdunov, Martin Knapp.

**Published:** 20 January 2020 in Oxford Academic, Age and Ageing, Volume 49, Issue 2.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1093/ageing/afz163>



## USING RESEARCH NETWORKS TO GENERATE TRUSTWORTHY QUALITATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH FINDINGS FROM MULTIPLE CONTEXTS

**Authors:** Lot Nyirenda, Meghan Bruce Kumar, Sally Theobald, Malabika Sarker, Musonda Simwinda, Moses Kumwenda, Cheryl Johnson, Karin Hatzold, Elizabeth L. Corbett, Euphemia Sibanda & Miriam Taegtmeier.



**Published:** 21 January 2020 in BMC Medical Research Methodology, volume 20, Article number: 13.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12874-019-0895-5>

## TACKLING ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN BANGLADESH: A SCOPING REVIEW OF POLICY AND PRACTICE IN HUMAN, ANIMAL AND ENVIRONMENT SECTORS

**Authors:** Roksana Hoque, Syed Masud Ahmed, Nahitun Naher, Mohammad Aminul Islam, Emily K. Rousham, Bushra Zarin Islam, Shaikh Hassan.



**Published:** 27 January 2020, in PLOS ONE.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0227947>

## FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH TOBACCO USE AMONG NEPALESE MEN AGED 15–49 YEARS: DATA FROM NEPAL DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2016

**Authors:** Rajat Das Gupta, Mahmuda Jahand, Mehedi Hasan, Ipsita Sutradhar, Ibrahim Hossain Sajal, Shams Shabab Haider, Hemraj Joshi, Mohammad Rifat Haider, Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 28 January 2020 in Science Direct, Clinical Epidemiology and Global Health, Volume 8, Issue 3, Pages 748-757.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cegh.2020.01.014>

## "WE STRUGGLE WITH THE EARTH EVERY DAY": PARENTS' PERSPECTIVES ON THE CAPABILITIES FOR HEALTHY CHILD GROWTH IN HAOR REGION OF BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Barnali Chakraborty, Sepideh Yousefzadeh, Shrinivas Darak & Hinke Haisma.

**Published:** 31 January 2020 in BMC - BMC Public Health, Volume 20, Article number: 140.



**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-8196-9>

## DIFFERENCES IN PREVALENCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS OF UNDERWEIGHT AND OVERWEIGHT/OBESITY ACCORDING TO RURAL–URBAN RESIDENCE STRATA AMONG WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE IN BANGLADESH: EVIDENCE FROM A CROSS-SECTIONAL NATIONAL SURVEY

**Authors:** Mohammad Rashidul Hashan, Rajat Das Gupta, Brendan Day, Gulam Muhammed Al Kibria.



**Published:** 4 February 2020, BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Volume 10, Issue 2.

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2019-034321>

## THE IMPACT OF MATERNAL SUPPLEMENTATION DURING PREGNANCY AND THE FIRST 6 MONTHS POSTPARTUM ON THE GROWTH STATUS OF THE NEXT CHILD BORN AFTER THE INTERVENTION PERIOD: FOLLOW-UP RESULTS FROM BANGLADESH AND GHANA

**Authors:** Adams KP, Adu-Afarwuah S, Mridha MK, Oaks BM, Matias SL, Arnold CD, Kumordzie SM, Okronipa H, Ocansey ME, Dewey KG.

**Published:** 5 February 2020, National Library of Medicine, National Center for Biotechnology Information - Maternal Child Nutrition, 2020 Apr;16(2): e12927.

**DOI:** 10.1111/mcn.12927. PMID: 32026568



## ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE FREQUENCY OF TELEVISION WATCHING AND OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY AMONG WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE IN NEPAL: ANALYSIS OF DATA FROM THE NEPAL DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY 2016

**Authors:** Rajat Das Gupta, Shams Shabab Haider, Mohammad Rashidul Hashan, Mehedi Hasan, Ipsita Sutradhar, Ibrahim Hossain Sajal, Hemraj Joshi, Mohammad Rifat Haider, Malabika Sarker.

**Published:** 10 February 2020, in PLOS ONE.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0228862>



## GLOBAL, REGIONAL, AND NATIONAL BURDEN OF CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE, 1990–2017: A SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS FOR THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY 2017

**Authors:** GBD Chronic Kidney Disease Collaboration. (Rajat Das Gupta, Mehedi Hasan, Ipsita Sutradhar from BRAC JPGSPH are a part of this collaboration).

**Published:** 13 February 2020 in THE LANCET, Volume 395, Issue 10225, P 709-733.

**DOI:** [https://www.thelancet.com/article/S0140-6736\(20\)30045-3/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/article/S0140-6736(20)30045-3/fulltext)



## ASSESSMENT OF STAFFING NEEDS FOR PHYSICIANS AND NURSES AT UPAZILA HEALTH COMPLEXES IN BANGLADESH USING WHO WORKLOAD INDICATORS OF STAFFING NEED (WISN) METHOD

**Authors:** Taufique Joarder, Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Md Nuruzzaman, Sabina Alam, Valeria de Oliveira Cruz, Tomas Zapata.

**Published:** 13 February 2020 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Volume 10, Issue 2.

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2019-035183>



## MATERNAL NUTRITIONAL STATUS MEDIATES THE LINKAGE BETWEEN HOUSEHOLD FOOD INSECURITY AND MID-INFANCY SIZE IN RURAL BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Muzi Na, Abu Ahmed Shamim, Sucheta Mehra, Alain Labrique, Hasmot Ali, Lee S.-F. Wu, Saijuddin Shaikh, Rolf Klemm, Parul Christian and Keith P. West.

**Published:** 27 February 2020 in Cambridge University Press - British Journal of Nutrition, Volume 123, Issue 12.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0007114520000707>





## EFFECTIVE MATERNAL, NEW BORN AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAMMING AMONG ROHINGYA REFUGEES IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH: IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

**Authors:** Malabika Sarker, Avijit Saha, Mowtushi Matin, Saima Mehjabeen, Malika Asia Tamim, Alyssa B. Sharkey, Minjoon Kim, Elévanie U. Nyankesha, Yulia Widiati, A.S.M. Shahabuddin.



**Published:** 26 March 2020 in PLOS ONE.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0230732>

## NATIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE SURVEYS SHOW GRADUAL SHIFTING OF OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY TOWARDS POOR AND LESS-EDUCATED WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE IN NEPAL

**Authors:** Ipsita Sutradhar, Tahmina Akter, Mehedi Hasan, Rajat Das Gupta, Hemraj Joshi, Mohammad Rifat Haider and Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 27 March 2020 online by Cambridge University Press - Journal of Biosocial Science, Volume 53, Issue 2.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0021932020000152>

## THINNESS AND FECUNDABILITY: TIME TO PREGNANCY AFTER ADOLESCENT MARRIAGE IN RURAL BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Hur, Jinhee, Keith P. West, Abu Ahmed Shamim, Mahbubur Rashid, Alain B. Labrique, Lee S.F. Wu, Hasmot Ali, Barkat Ullah, Kerry J. Schulze, Rolf D.W. Klemm, Parul Christian.



**Published:** 24 March 2020 in Wiley Online Library - Maternal & Child Nutrition, Volume 16, Issue 3.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.12985>

## NGO CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: CASE STUDIES ON BRAC (BANGLADESH) AND THE COMPREHENSIVE RURAL HEALTH PROJECT, JAMKHEDE (INDIA)

**Authors:** A. Mushtaque R. Chowdhury and Henry B. Perry.

**Published:** April 2020 (online) by Oxford University Press as part of its Oxford Research Encyclopedia in Global Public Health.



**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190632366.013.56>

## SUPPLEMENTATION WITH FORTIFIED LIPID-BASED AND BLENDED COMPLEMENTARY FOODS HAS VARIABLE IMPACT ON BODY COMPOSITION AMONG RURAL BANGLADESHI CHILDREN: A CLUSTER-RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL

**Authors:** Shaikh, Saijuddin, Rebecca K. Campbell, Sucheta Mehra, Alamgir Kabir, Kerry J. Schulze, Lee Wu, Hasmot Ali, Abu Ahmed Shamim, Keith P. West, and Parul Christian.



**Published:** 2 April 2020 in the National Library of Medicine, National Center for Biotechnology Information - Journal of Nutrition, 2020 Jul 1;150(7):1924-1932.

## **BEYOND THE TALKING IMPERATIVE: THE VALUE OF SILENCE ON SEXUALITY IN YOUTH-PARENT RELATIONS IN BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Suborna Camellia, Els Rommes and Willy Jansen.

**Published:** 15 April 2020 in Taylor & Francis Online - Global Public Health, An International Journal for Research, Policy and Practice.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1080/17441692.2020.1751862>



## **ORAL HYGIENE AWARENESS AND PRACTICES AMONG A SAMPLE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN RURAL BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Md. Al-Amin Bhuiyan, Humayra Binte Anwar, Rezwana Binte Anwar, Mir Nowazesh Ali, and Priyanka Agrawal.

**Published:** 16 April 2020 in MDPI - Dentistry Journal, Volume 8, Issue 2.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.3390/dj8020036>



## **MAPPING LOCAL PATTERNS OF CHILDHOOD OVERWEIGHT AND WASTING IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES BETWEEN 2000 AND 2017**

**Authors:** Kinyoki, D.K., Rajat Das Gupta, Rushdia Ahmed et al.

**Published:** 20 April 2020 in National Center for Biotechnology Information Medicine, 2020; 26(5): 750–759.

**DOI:** [10.1038/s41591-020-0807-6](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-020-0807-6)



## **MAPPING GEOGRAPHICAL INEQUALITIES IN CHILDHOOD DIARRHOEAL MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY IN LOW-INCOME AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES, 2000–17: ANALYSIS FOR THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY 2017**

**Authors:** Robert C Reiner Jr, Kirsten E Wiens, Rajat Das Gupta, Rushdia Ahmed, Simon I Hay.

**Published:** 6 May 2020 in The Lancet, 2020 Jun 6;395(10239):1779-1801.

**DOI:** [10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)30114-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)30114-8)



## **HOW TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS IN GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH PROGRAMMES: PRACTICE, PROCESS AND POSITIONALITY IN MARGINALISED SPACES**

**Authors:** Bachera Aktar, Wafa Alam, Samiha Ali, Abdul Awal, Nadia Farnaz, Ateeb Pararray, Sabina Faiz Rashid, Shafnaz Sobhan.

**Published:** 13 May 2020 in BMJ Global Health (Volume 5, Issue 5).

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2019-002253>



## SUPPORTING THE ROLE AND ENABLING THE POTENTIAL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN BANGLADESH'S RURAL MATERNAL AND NEWBORN HEALTH PROGRAMMES: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

**Authors:** Alayne M Adams, Sabina F Rashid, Malabika Sarker, Myriam Vuckovic, Emily Gaul.



**Published:** 16 May 2020 in Journal of Global Health Reports (2020;4:e2020029).

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.29392/001c.12682>

## PREVALENCE OF AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH INSUFFICIENT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AMONG ADOLESCENTS: EVIDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE STUDY

**Authors:** Md Mokbul Hossain, Abu Ahmed Shamim, Mehedi Hasan, Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif, Moyazzam Hossaine, Mohammad Aman Ullah, Samir Kanti Sarker, S M Mustafizur Rahman, Dipak Kumar Mitra, Md Emdadul Haque, Malay Mridha.



**Published:** 29 May 2020 in Oxford Academic - Current Developments in Nutrition, Volume 4, Issue Supplement 2, June 2020, Page 1755.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa066\\_010](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa066_010)

## INADEQUATE DIETARY DIVERSITY AND ITS DETERMINANTS AMONG ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND BOYS: EVIDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE STUDY IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Akter F, Hossain MM, Shamim AA, Hasan M, Hanif AAM, Hossaine M, Ullah MA, Sarker SK, Rahman SMM, Mitra DK, Haque ME, Mridha M.



**Published:** 29 May in Oxford Academic - 2020 Current Developments in Nutrition, Volume 4, Issue Supplement 2, June 2020, Page 502.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa046\\_002](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa046_002)

## DOUBLE BURDEN OF MALNUTRITION AMONG ELDERLY PEOPLE IN BANGLADESH: EVIDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE STUDY

**Authors:** Hasan M, Shamim AA, Hossain MM, Hanif AAM, Hossaine M, Ullah MA, Sarker SK, Rahman SMM, Mitra DK, Haque ME, Mridha M.



**Published:** 29 May 2020 in Oxford Academic - Current Developments in Nutrition, Volume 4, Issue Supplement 2, June 2020, Page 840.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa053\\_045](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa053_045)

## ELDERLY WOMEN ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY VULNERABLE TO HYPERTENSION IN BANGLADESH: EVIDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE STUDY

**Authors:** Hanif AAM, Shamim AA, Hossain MM, Hasan M, Hossaine M, Ullah MA, Sarker SK, Rahman SMM, Mitra DK, Haque ME, Mridha M.



**Published:** 29 May 2020 in Oxford Academic - Current Developments in Nutrition, Volume 4, Issue Supplement 2, June 2020, Page 30.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa040\\_030](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa040_030)



## **PREVALENCE OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE RISK FACTORS AMONG ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND BOYS IN BANGLADESH: EVIDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE STUDY**

**Authors:** Urmy NJ, Shamim AA, Hossain MM, Hasan M, Hanif AAM, Hossaine M, Ullah MA, Sarker SK, Rahman SMM, Mitra DK, Haque ME, Mridha M.



**Published:** 29 May 2020 in Oxford Academic - Current Developments in Nutrition; Volume 4, Issue Supplement 2, June 2020, Page 918.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa053\\_123](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa053_123)

## **DIETARY PRACTICES OF MEN IN BANGLADESH: EVIDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE**

**Authors:** Mridha M, Shamim AA, Hossain MM, Hasan M, Hanif AAM, Hossaine M, Ullah MA, Sarker SK, Rahman SMM, Mitra DK, Haque ME.



**Published:** 29 May 2020 in Oxford Academic - Current Developments in Nutrition; Volume 4, Issue Supplement 2, June 2020, Page 549.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa046\\_049](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa046_049)

## **WHY ARE ADOLESCENT MOTHERS MORE LIKELY TO HAVE STUNTED AND UNDERWEIGHT CHILDREN THAN ADULT MOTHERS? A PATH ANALYSIS USING DATA FROM 30,000 BANGLADESHI MOTHERS, 1996-2014**

**Authors:** Ngyyen P, Scott S, Khuong L, Pramanik P, Ahmed A, Afsana K, Menon P.



**Published:** 29 May 2020 in Oxford Academic - Current Developments in Nutrition, Vol 4, Issue Supplement 2:1463-1463.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa061\\_091](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa061_091)

## **HOW HAS EARLY MARRIAGE, A CRITICAL SOCIAL DETERMINANT OF CHILD STUNTING AND WASTING, CHANGED OVER A DECADE IN SOUTH ASIA? TRENDS, INEQUITIES AND DRIVERS, 2005 TO 2018**

**Authors:** Scott S, Ngyyen P, Neupane, S, Pramanik P, Nanda P, Bhutta Z, Menon P, Afsana K.



**Published:** 29 May 2020 in Oxford Academic - Current Developments in Nutrition, Vol 4, Issue Supplement 2:1484-1484.

**DOI:** [10.1093/cdn/nzaa061\\_112](https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa061_112)

## **DEPRESSION, SLEEPING PATTERN, AND SUICIDAL IDEATION AMONG MEDICAL STUDENTS IN BANGLADESH: A CROSS-SECTIONAL PILOT STUDY**

**Authors:** M. Tasdik Hasan, Sahadat Hossain, Rajat Das Gupta, Vivek Podder, Naima Afroz Mowri, Anindita Ghosh, Hassan Rushekh Mahmood, Faisal Ahmmed, M. S. T. Halima Khatun, Rhedeya Nury Nodi, Kamrun Nahar Koly, Sharmeen Yasmeen, Nazrul Islam.



**Published:** 1 June 2020 in Springer Link, Journal of Public Health.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10389-020-01304-0>

## ESTIMATING CATASTROPHIC COSTS DUE TO PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Anita Sharif Chowdhury, Md Shakil Ahmed, Sayem Ahmed, Fouzia Khanam, Fariha Farjana, Saifur Reza, Shayla Islam, Akramul Islam, Jahangir A.M. Khan, Mahfuzar Rahman.



**Published:** 7 June 2020 in Atlantis Press - Journal of Epidemiology and Global Health, Volume 11, Issue 1, Pages 83 - 91.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.2991/jegh.k.200530.001>

## THE INFLUENCE OF CORRUPTION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE DELIVERY OF FRONTLINE HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR: A SCOPING REVIEW OF CURRENT AND FUTURE PROSPECTS IN LOW AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES OF SOUTH AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA

**Authors:** Nahitun Naher, Roksana Hoque, Muhammad Shaikh Hassan, Dina Balabanova, Alayne M. Adams and Syed Masud Ahmed.



**Published:** 8 June 2020 in BMC - BMC Public Health Volume 20, Article number: 880.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-08975-0>

## COMMUNITY-LEVEL ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS PREDICTIVE OF CHILDHOOD STUNTING IN BANGLADESH - A STUDY BASED ON THE REPEATED CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEYS

**Authors:** Zahidur Rahman Khan, Md. Belal Hossain, Nabil Awan.



**Published:** 30 June 2020 in Taylor & Francis Online - International Journal of Environmental Health Research.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1080/09603123.2020.1777947>

## HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE IN PAROUS WOMEN WITH PELVIC ORGAN PROLAPSE AND/OR URINARY INCONTINENCE IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Atsuko Imoto, Malabika Sarker, Rahima Akter, Akiko Matsuyama & Sumihisa Honda.



**Published:** 1 July 2020 in Springer Link, International Urogynecology Journal, Volume 32, pages 887–895(2021).

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00192-020-04410-5>

## PSYCHO-SOCIAL CORRELATES OF OPIOID USE DISORDER AMONG THE US ADULT POPULATION: EVIDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL SURVEY ON DRUG USE AND HEALTH, 2015–2018

**Authors:** Mohammad Rifat Haider, Monique J. Brown, Rajat Das Gupta, Sabrina Karim, Bankole and Xiaoming Li.



**Published:** 7 July 2020 in Taylor & Francis Online - Substance Use & Misuse, Volume 55, Issue 12.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1080/10826084.2020.1788086>

## PREVENTION OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND ROLE OF ANTENATAL CARE BY BRAC COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN IMPROVING SAFE MOTHERHOOD AND NEONATAL CARE IN URBAN SLUMS OF BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Saira Parveen Jolly, Tridib Roy Chowdhury, Mahfuzar Rahman, Ariful Alam, Kaosar Afsana.



**Published:** 8 July 2020, in PLOS ONE.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0235340>

## ETHICS AND METHODS FOR COLLECTING SENSITIVE DATA: EXAMINING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH NEEDS OF AND SERVICES FOR ROHINGYA REFUGEES AT COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Bachera Aktar, Rushdia Ahmed, Raafat Hassan, Nadia Farnaz, Pushpita Ray, Abdul Awal, Sharid Bin Shafique, Md Tanvir Hasan, Zahidul Quayyum and Sabina Faiz Rashid.



**Published:** 13 July 2020 in The International Journal of Information, Diversity, & Inclusion, 4(2), 2020ISSN 2574-3430.

**DOI:** [10.33137/ijidi.v4i2.33150](https://doi.org/10.33137/ijidi.v4i2.33150)

## TRANSLATING INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR USE IN ROUTINE MATERNAL AND NEONATAL HEALTHCARE QUALITY MEASUREMENT

**Authors:** Karen T. Chang, Puspita Hossain, Malabika Sarker, Dominic Montagu, Nirali M. Chakraborty & Andrea Sprockett.



**Published:** 13 July 2020 in Taylor & Francis Online - Global Health Action, Volume 13, 2020 - Issue 1.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1080/16549716.2020.1783956>

## CARRYING OUT EMBEDDED IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS: A QUALITATIVE STUDY IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

**Authors:** A. S. M. Shahabuddin, Alyssa B. Sharkey, Debra Jackson, Paul Rutter, Andreas Hasman, Malabika Sarker.



**Published:** 16 July 2020 in PLOS Medicine.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003148>

## MAPPING GEOGRAPHICAL INEQUALITIES IN ORAL REHYDRATION THERAPY COVERAGE IN LOW-INCOME AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES, 2000-17

**Authors:** Local Burden of Disease Diarrhoea Collaborators (Rajat Das Gupta and Rushdia Ahmed from BRAC JPGSPH).



**Published:** 1 August 2020 in The Lancet Global Health, Volume 8, Issue 8, E1038-E-1060.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(20\)30230-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30230-8)



## MEASURING MOTIVATION AMONG CLOSE-TO-COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS: DEVELOPING THE CTC PROVIDER MOTIVATIONAL INDICATOR SCALE ACROSS SIX COUNTRIES

**Authors:** Frédérique Vallières, Maryse Kok, Ilias Mahmud, Malabika Sarker, Philippa Jeacocke, Robinson Karuga, Licia Limato, Aschenaki Z. Kea, Kingsley Chikaphupha, Mohsin Sidat, Brynne Gilmore and Miriam Taegtmeier.



**Published:** 1 August 2020 in BMC - Human Resources for Health volume 18, Article number: 54 (2020).

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12960-020-00495-7>

## NUTRIENT SUPPLEMENTATION DURING THE FIRST 1000 DAYS AND GROWTH OF INFANTS BORN TO PREGNANT ADOLESCENTS

**Authors:** Kathryn G Dewey, Susana L Matias, Malay K Mridha, Charles D Arnold.



**Published:** 4 August 2020 in Annals of the New York Academic Sciences, Volume 1468, Issue 1, Special Issue: Adolescent Nutrition, Pages 25-34.

**DOI:** 10.1111/nyas.14191. PMID: 31378980

## SYNTHESIS AND TRANSLATION OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS FROM POLIO ERADICATION (STRIPE): INITIAL FINDINGS FROM A GLOBAL MIXED METHODS STUDY

**Authors:** Olakunle Alonge, Abigail H. Neel, Anna Kalbarczyk, Michael A. Peters, Yodi Mahendradhata, Malabika Sarker, Eme Owoaje, Wakgari Deressa, Patrick Kayembe, Ahmad Shah Salehi, and S. D. Gupta.



**Published:** 12 August 2020 in BMC - BMC Public Health, Volume 20, Supplement 2.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-09156-9>

## SAMPLING METHOD FOR SURVEYING COMPLEX AND MULTI-INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS: LESSONS FROM THE GLOBAL POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE

**Authors:** Michael A. Peters, Wakgari Deressa, Malabika Sarker, Neeraj Sharma, Eme Owoaje, Riris Andono Ahmad, Tawab Saljuqi, Eric Mafuta & Olakunle Alonge



**Published:** 12 August 2020 in BMC - BMC Public Health, Volume 20, Supplement 2.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-08592-x>

## EVALUATING THE PROCESS OF PARTNERSHIP AND RESEARCH IN GLOBAL HEALTH: REFLECTIONS FROM THE STRIPE PROJECT

**Authors:** Anna Kalbarczyk, Aditi Rao, Yodi Mahendradhata, Piyusha Majumdar, Ellie Decker, Humayra Binte Anwar, Oluwaseun O. Akinyemi, Ahmad Omid Rahimi, Patrick Kayembe and Olakunle O. Alonge.



**Published:** 12 August 2020 in BMC - BMC Public Health, Volume 20, Supplement 2.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-08591-y>

## ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES OF PUBLIC HEALTH ACADEMICS TOWARDS RESEARCH FUNDING FROM FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS: CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEY

**Authors:** Rima Nakkash, Ahmed Ali, Hala Alaouie, Khalil Asmar, Norbert Hirschhorn, Sanaa Mugharbil, Iman Nuwayhid, Leslie London, Amina Saban, Sabina Faiz Rashid, Md Koushik Ahmed, Cecile Knai, Charlotte Bigland, Rima A. Afifi (2020).



**Published:** 25 August 2020 in Springer Link, International Journal of Public Health volume 65, pages 1133–1145.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00038-020-01416-0>

## RECLAIMING COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC HEALTH

**Authors:** Rene Loewenson, Kirsten Accoe, Nitin Bajpai, Kent Buse, Thilagawathi Abi Deivanayagam, Leslie London, Claudio A Méndez, Tolib Mirzoev, Erica Nelson, Ateeb Ahmad Parray, Ari Probandari, Eric Sarriot, Moses Tetui, André Janse van Rensburg.



**Published:** 25 September 2020 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Global Health Volume 5, Issue 9.

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2020-003886>

## MAPPING GEOGRAPHICAL INEQUALITIES IN ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION FACILITIES IN LOW-INCOME AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES, 2000–17

**Authors:** Local Burden of Disease WaSH Collaborators (Rajat Das Gupta from BRAC JGPSHP).



**Published:** September 2020 in The Lancet Global Health, 8(9): e1162–e1185.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(20\)30278-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30278-3)

## HEALTH, ILLNESS AND HEALTHCARE - SEEKING BEHAVIOUR OF THE STREET DWELLERS OF DHAKA CITY, BANGLADESH: QUALITATIVE EXPLORATORY STUDY

**Authors:** Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Roksana Hoque, Nahitun Naher, Nazia Islam, Md. Mazedul Islam, Syed Masud Ahmed.



**Published:** 7 October 2020 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Public Health, Volume 10, Issue 10.

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2019-035663>

## ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF CULPRIT LESION ONLY PCI VS. IMMEDIATE MULTIVESSEL PCI IN ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION COMPLICATED BY CARDIOGENIC SHOCK: THE CULPRIT-SHOCK TRIAL

**Authors:** Jose Antonio Robles-Zurita, Andrew Briggs, Dikshyanta Rana, Zahidul Quayyum, Keith G. Oldroyd, Uwe Zeymer, Steffen Desch, Suzanne de Waha-Thiele and Holger Thiele.



**Published:** 7 October 2020 in Springer Link - The European Journal of Health Economics, Volume 21, P 1197–1209.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10198-020-01235-3>

## AVAILABILITY OF EQUIPMENT AND MEDICATIONS FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND INJURIES AT PUBLIC FIRST-REFERRAL LEVEL HOSPITALS: A CROSS-SECTIONAL ANALYSIS OF SERVICE PROVISION ASSESSMENTS IN EIGHT LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES

**Authors:** Gupta N, Coates MM, Bekele A, Dupuy R, Fénelon DL, Gage AD, Getachew T, Karmacharya BM, Kwan GF, Lulebo AM, Masiye JK, Mayige MT, Ndour Mbaye M, Mridha MK, Park PH, Dagnaw WW, Wroe EB, Bukhman G.



**Published:** 10 October 2020 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Open; Volume 10, Issue 10.

**DOI:** 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-038842. PMID: 33040014

## MOTHERS' EDUCATION AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF NUTRITION PROGRAMMES: EVIDENCE FROM A MATCHED CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY IN RURAL BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Thomas de Hoop, Shelby Fallon, Fakir Md Yunus, Sabeth Munrat, Saira Parveen Jolly, Farzana Sehrin, Bachera Aktar, Ruhina Binta A Ghani and Joshua Sennett.



**Published:** 14 October 2020 in Taylor & Francis Online - Journal of Development Effectiveness, Volume 12- Issue 4.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1080/19439342.2020.1828998>

## GLOBAL BURDEN OF 369 DISEASES AND INJURIES IN 204 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, 1990–2019: A SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS FOR THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY 2019

**Authors:** GBD 2019 Diseases and Injuries Collaborators (Rajat Das Gupta from BRAC JPGSPH).



**Published:** 17 October 2020 in The Lancet, Volume 396, Issue 10258, P 1204-1222.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)30925-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)30925-9)

## GLOBAL AGE-SEX-SPECIFIC FERTILITY, MORTALITY, HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY (HALE), AND POPULATION ESTIMATES IN 204 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, 1950–2019: A COMPREHENSIVE DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS FOR THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY 2019

**Authors:** GBD 2019 Demographics Collaborators (Rajat Das Gupta from BRAC JPGSPH).



**Published:** 17 October 2020 in The Lancet, Volume 396, Issue 10258, P 1160-1203.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)30977-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)30977-6)

## GLOBAL BURDEN OF 87 RISK FACTORS IN 204 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, 1990–2019: A SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS FOR THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY 2019

**Authors:** GBD 2019 Risk Factors Collaborators (Rajat Das Gupta from BRAC JPGSPH).



**Published:** 17 October 2020 in The Lancet, Volume 396, Issue 10258, P 1223-1249.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)30752-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)30752-2)



## FIVE INSIGHTS FROM THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY 2019

**Authors:** GBD 2019 Viewpoint Collaborators (Rajat Das Gupta from BRAC JPGSPH).

**Published:** 17 October 2020 in The Lancet, Volume 396, Issue 10258, P 1135-1159.

**DOI:** [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(20\)31404-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(20)31404-5)



## DEVELOPING CORE ECONOMIC PARAMETER SETS FOR ASTHMA STUDIES: A REALIST REVIEW AND AN ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

**Authors:** Chris Roukas, Zahidul Quayyum, Anita Patel, Deborah Fitzsimmons, Ceri Phillips, Natalia Hounsborne.

**Published:** 20 October 2020 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Health Economics, Volume 10, Issue 10.

**DOI:** [10.1136/bmjopen-2020-037889](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2020-037889)



## SHOULD WE CARE: A QUALITATIVE EXPLORATION OF THE FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE THE DECISION OF EARLY MARRIAGE AMONG YOUNG MEN IN URBAN SLUMS OF BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Subas Chandra Biswas, Shuchi Karim, Sabina Faiz Rashid.

**Published:** 26 October 2020 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Open, Public Health, Volume 10, Issue 10.

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2020-039195>



## PREVALENCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS OF UNDERWEIGHT, OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY AMONG WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE GROUP IN THE MALDIVES: EVIDENCE FROM A NATIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE STUDY

**Authors:** Mohammad Rashidul Hashan, Md Fazla Rabbi, Shams Shabab Haider, Rajat Das Gupta.

**Published:** 29 October 2020 in Plos One.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0241621>



## STATUS OF THE WHO RECOMMENDED TIMING AND FREQUENCY OF ANTENATAL CARE VISITS IN NORTHERN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Sarker BK, Rahman M, Rahman T, Rahman T, Khalil JJ, Hasan M, Rahman F, Ahmed A, Mitra DK, Mridha MK, Rahman A.

**Published:** 5 November 2020 in Plos One.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0241185>



## **DO SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY APPROACHES WORK? A REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE FROM SELECTED LOW - AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES IN THE WHO SOUTH-EAST ASIA REGION**

**Authors:** Nahitun Naher, Dina Balabanova, Eleanor Hutchinson, Robert Marten, Roksana Hoque, Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Bushra Zarin Islam, Syed Masud Ahmed.



**Published:** 9 November 2020 in Oxford Academic, Health Policy and Planning, Volume 35, Issue Supplement 1, November 2020, Pages i76–i96.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czaa107>

## **NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASE RISK FACTORS AMONG ADOLESCENT BOYS AND GIRLS IN BANGLADESH: EVIDENCE FROM A NATIONAL SURVEY**

**Authors:** Nushrat Jahan Urmy, Md Mokbul Hossain, Abu Ahmed Shamim, Md Showkat Ali Khan, Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif, Mehedi Hasan, Fahmida Akter, Dipak Kumar Mitra, Moyazzam Hossaine, Mohammad Aman Ullah, Samir Kanti Sarker, Sm Mustafizur Rahman, Md Mofijul Islam Bulbul, Malay Kanti Mridha.



**Published:** December 2020 in National Library of Medicine, National Center for Biotechnology Information - Osong public health and research perspectives, 2020 Dec;11(6):351-364.

**DOI:** <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33403198/>

## **CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES IN CONDUCTING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RESEARCH AMONG ROHINGYA REFUGEES IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH**

**Authors:** Rushdia Ahmed, Bachera Aktar, Nadia Farnaz, Pushpita Ray, Abdul Awal, Raafat Hassan, Sharid Bin Shafique, Md Tanvir Hasan, Zahidul Quayyum, Mohira Babaeva Jafarovna, Loulou Hassan Kobeissi, Khalid El Tahir, Balwinder Singh Chawla and Sabina Faiz Rashid.



**Published:** 1 December 2020 in BMC - Conflict and Health, Volume 14, Article number: 83.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13031-020-00329-2>

## **TARGETING ANTICORRUPTION INTERVENTIONS AT THE FRONT LINE: DEVELOPMENTAL GOVERNANCE IN HEALTH SYSTEMS**

**Authors:** Eleanor Hutchinson, Nahitun Naher, Pallavi Roy, Martin McKee, Susannah H Mayhew, Syed Masud Ahmed, Dina Balabanova.



**Published:** 3 December 2020 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Global Health, Volume 5, Issue 12.

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2020-003092>

## **DOCUMENTING THE CHALLENGES OF CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN A LOW-AND-MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRY SETTING: LESSONS FROM BANGLADESH.**

**Authors:** Amina Amin, Aditya Shayontony Das, Adrita Kaiser, Raia Azmi, Sabina Faiz Rashid, Md Tanvir Hasan.



**Published:** 17 December 2020 in BMJ Journals - BMJ Global Health, Volume 5, Issue 12.

**DOI:** [10.1136/bmjgh-2020-002904](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2020-002904)

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS RELATED TO COVID-19

### SLUM HEALTH: ARRESTING COVID-19 AND IMPROVING WELL-BEING IN URBAN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

**Authors:** Jason Corburn, David Vlahov, Blessing Mberu, Lee Riley, Waleska Teixeira Caiaffa, Sabina Faiz Rashid, Albert Ko, Sheela Patel, Smurti Jukur, Eliana Martínez-Herrera, Saroj Jayasinghe, Siddharth Agarwal, Blaise Nguendo-Yongsi, Jane Weru, Smith Ouma, Katia Edmundo, Tolu Oni and Hany Ayad.



**Published:** 24 April 2020 in National Library of Medicine, National Center for Biotechnology Information - Journal Of Public Health, 2020 Jun;97(3):348-357.

**DOI:** <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32333243/>

### TOWARDS A SOCIALLY JUST MODEL: BALANCING HUNGER AND RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN BANGLADESH

**Authors:** Sabina Faiz Rashid, Sally Theobald, Kim Ozano.



**Published:** 1 June, 2020 in BMJ-BMJ Global Health, Volume 5, Issue 6.

**DOI:** 10.1136/bmjgh-2020-002715

### 'MOST AT RISK' FOR COVID-19? THE IMPERATIVE TO EXPAND THE DEFINITION FROM BIOLOGICAL TO SOCIAL FACTORS FOR EQUITY

**Authors:** Rima A. Afifi, Nicole Novak, Paul A. Gilbert, Bernadette Pauly, Sawsan Abdulrahim, Sabina Faiz Rashid, Fernando Ortega, Rashida A. Ferrand.



**Published:** 6 August, 2020 in Science Direct, Preventive Medicine, Volume 139.

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2020.106229>

### HEALTHCARE WORKER ATTENDANCE DURING THE EARLY STAGES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: A LONGITUDINAL ANALYSIS OF FINGERPRINT VERIFIED DATA FROM ALL PUBLIC-SECTOR SECONDARY AND TERTIARY CARE FACILITIES IN BANGLADESH.

**Authors:** Duy Do, Malabika Sarker, Simiao Chen, Ali Lenjani, Pauli Tikka, Till Bärnighausen, and Pascal Geldsetzer.



**Published:** 1 December 2020 in Journal of Global Health.

**DOI:** 10.1101/2020.09.01.20186445



## BINARY FRAMING OF CONSENT AND COERCION OF CHILD MARRIAGE: A CRITIQUE (2020)

**Authors:** Seama Mowri, Rafia Sultana, Subas Biswas, Raia Azmi, Sairana Ahsan, and Sabina F. Rashid.



**Work:** Dreaming of a Better Life, Child Marriage through Adolescents Eyes, Oxford International Development Research Centre, 2020, Ottawa, Canada.

**Editors:** Gina Crivello and Gillian Mann, Young Lives.

## THE HETEROGENEOUS LIVES OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN IN URBAN SLUMS IN BANGLADESH (2020)

**Authors:** Sairana Ahsan, Seama Mowri, Subas Biswas, Rafia Sultana, Raia Azmi, and Sabina F. Rashid.



**Work:** Dreaming of a Better Life, Child Marriage through Adolescents Eyes, Oxford International Development Research Centre, 2020, Ottawa, Canada.

**Editors:** Gina Crivello and Gillian Mann, Young Lives.

## EARLY MARRIAGE AMONG ADOLESCENT BOYS AND YOUNG MEN IN URBAN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS OF BANGLADESH (2020)

**Authors:** Subas Biswas, Raia Azmi, Seama Mowri, Sairana Ahsan, Rafia Sultana, and Sabina F. Rashid.



**Work:** Dreaming of a Better Life, Child Marriage through Adolescents Eyes, Oxford International Development Research Centre, 2020, Ottawa, Canada.

**Editors:** Gina Crivello and Gillian Mann, Young Lives.

## HEARD AND HARD REALITY OF MATERNAL HEALTH: ARE WE OVERSIMPLIFYING THE CHALLENGES IN BANGLADESH?

**Authors:** Kaosar Afsana.



**Editors:** In Emma J. Flatt, Vani S, Murali, Silvia Tieri (eds).

**Work:** Voices on South Asia: Interdisciplinary perspectives on Women's Status, Challenges and Futures. Singapore: World Scientific, 2020.

## NAVIGATING TOWARDS A 'GOOD FUTURE': SIGNIFICANCE OF APPEARANCE IN ASPIRATIONS OF DHAKA URBAN MIDDLE-CLASS ADOLESCENT GIRLS (2020)

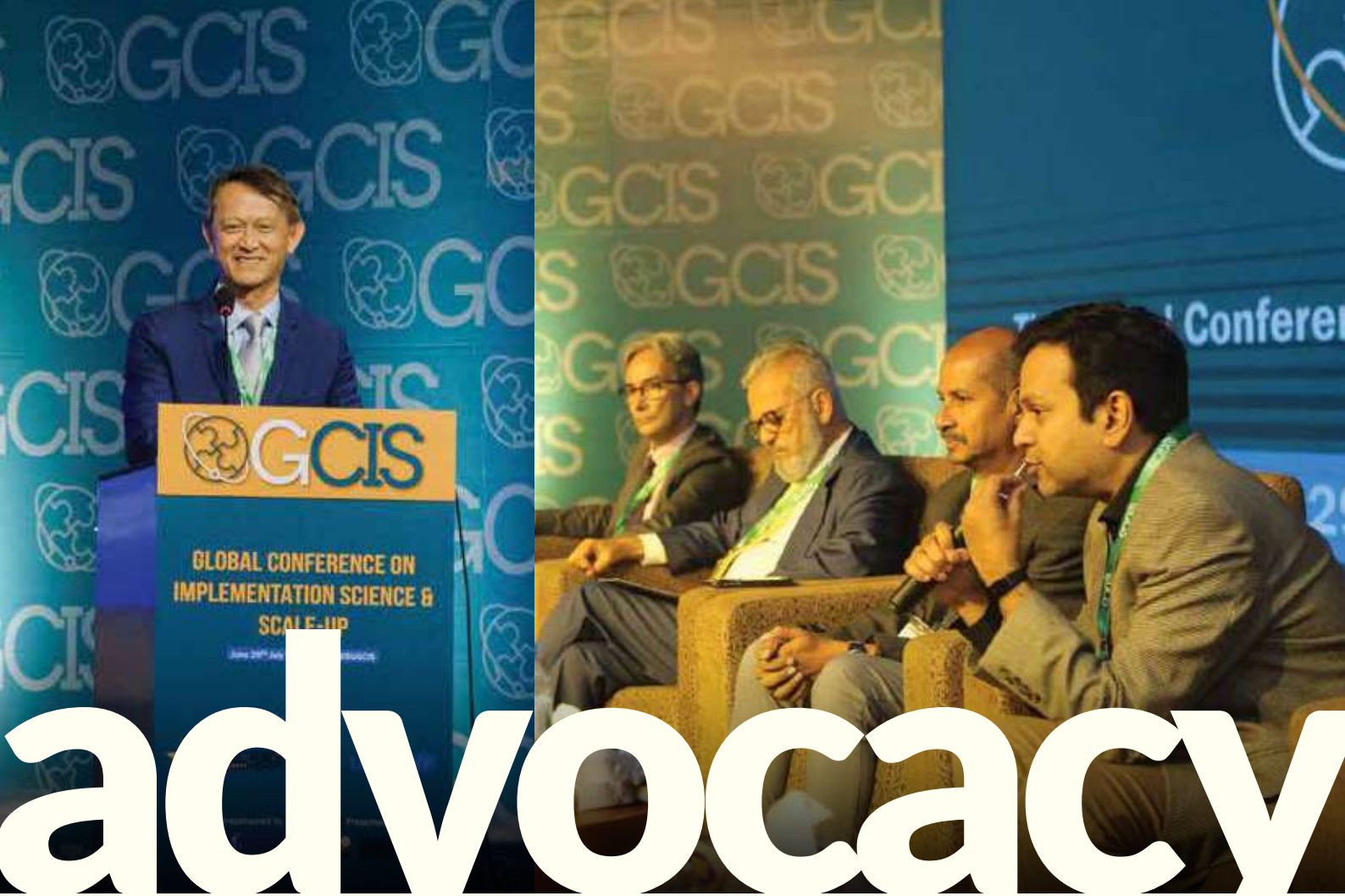
**Authors:** Camellia, Suborna.



**Editors:** Mariske Westendorp, Kenneth Finis and Desiree Remmert.

Berghann Books. ISBN 978-1-78920-895-5





- **ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT AND CREATING CHANGE  
TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF  
THE MOST DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS**

- **CONTINUAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT  
WITH GOVERNMENT, KEY STAKEHOLDERS  
(i.e, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS, INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES),  
CIVIL SOCIETY AND DONORS**

- **STRONG NETWORKS OF PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR ADVOCACY: GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL**

- **TO IMPACT ON PROGRAMME DESIGN AND POLICIES**



# ADVOCACY TO INFLUENCE PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES



## 214+

ACTIVE ENGAGEMENTS WITH  
MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS TO DATE

## 17

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS, SEMINARS,  
CONFERENCES, DIALOGUES AND  
MEETINGS WITH DIVERSE PARTNERS AND  
STAKEHOLDERS IN 2019



## 37

WEBINARS, 95 NEWS ARTICLES  
AND 21 BLOGS IN 2020

## 250

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL  
RESEARCHERS, ACADEMICS, IMPLEMENTERS,  
PRACTITIONERS AND PARTNER NETWORKS  
FROM 30 COUNTRIES ATTENDED GCIS 2019



BRAC JPGSPH believes in advocating to impact programme design and policies, closely engaging with government, key stakeholders (i.e., non-government organisations, international agencies), civil society and donors to push agendas of national and global importance. All research evidence undertaken by the School have policy and advocacy as part of their key mandate. The aim of the five Centres of Excellence and the Humanitarian Research Hub is to continually engage in translating research evidence to inform programme and policy interventions.

During this public health emergency of COVID-19, the School is actively engaged in sharing evidence with

mainstream media, government advisors, citizens' platform-Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW) and many other civil society bodies, on current needs of disadvantaged populations.

In 2020, the School has organised more than 37 Webinars related to COVID-19 and published above 95 News Articles and 21 Blogs. The School also actively aggregates and shares useful resource materials, locally and globally to a wider audience, including BRAC university, health organisations, key stakeholders, partners, and networks which include seminars, online dissemination events, policy dialogues, internal blogs, articles published in newspapers, social media campaigns, sharing daily COVID-19 updates, etc.

# ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS



## THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE AND SCALE-UP (GCIS), 2019

From 29 June till 1 July, 2019, the first ever Global Conference on Implementation Science and Scale-Up (GCIS) was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The conference was co-hosted by the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH, UNICEF Bangladesh, and co-sponsored by TDR, Geneva.

GCIS aimed to create a global platform with specialists and implementers from leading organisations to understand and share their experiences on implementation science and research in scaling-up and sustaining social programmes in a national context. With 250 participants from 30 countries, including researchers, implementers, government officials and international donor and partner organisations, the conference held multiple plenary sessions on research capacity on implementation science for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) targets; 15 parallel sessions were held, over the course of the conference on topics ranging from strengthening institutional research (IR) capacity in the TDR supported postgraduate schemes, IR in response to the malnutrition challenge in Bangladesh and involving multi-sectoral collaboration.



## ACTIVE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ON COVID-19 AT BRAC UNIVERSITY

On February, 2020, BRAC JPGSPH organised 'Outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)', an attempt to share the overall COVID-19 situation globally and nationally to discuss how we can prevent an outbreak in Bangladesh, in presence of representatives from Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), Government of Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh.

## ENGAGING COMMUNITIES IN THE TIMES OF COVID-19: SONAR-GLOBAL WEBINAR

On February, 2020 BRAC JPGSPH engaged with regional partners of Sonar-Global; a global platform funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme in a webinar. Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH participated in the webinar and shared the experience from Bangladesh on how can anthropological approaches inform COVID-19 research and interventions.

Partners: Institut Pasteur (IP); Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD); Stichting Nederlands Instituut Voor Onderzoek Van De Gezondheidszorg (NIVEL); Medical University of Vienna (MUW); Mahidol University; Public Health Centre of the MoH of Ukraine; University College London (UCL); Makerere University (MU); Centre Regional De Recherche Et De Formation A La Prise En Charge Clinique Du Vih Sida et Maladies Associees de Dakar (CRCF); Institute of Development Studies (IDS); CENSIS; Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (LMU); University of Malta (UM); University of Ljubljani.

To access all the webinars please go to page 250.





## IMPACTING PROGRAMME DESIGNS: ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS FOR EQUITY (ARISE)

Starting from 25 June, to 29 June, 2019, BRAC JPGSPH successfully hosted the first ARISE Annual Partners' meeting in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Dr Hilary Standing, Professor and Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Chair of ARISE Advisory panel; and Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman, Chairperson BRAC, Executive Chairperson of Power and Participation Research Centre and ARISE Advisory panel member from Bangladesh attended the meeting. The event was organised with a view to finalise the Theory of Change, log frame and Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Plan, communications and stakeholder engagement strategy, safeguarding strategy and action plans; harmonise and agree on social and governance mapping work package ethics protocols; identify capacity development needs and strategies to meet them; to become familiar with BRAC JPGSPH and the Dhaka informal settlement context and to agree on a work plan for the upcoming year. Respected individuals from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSTM), University of Glasgow, Institute of Development Studies, LVCT Health were present along with ARISE Bangladesh team members.

In 2019 the School organised a National Consultation Workshop on "Advancing Inclusive and Resilient Urban Development Targeted at the Urban Poor (ADB TA)" in July; Stakeholder Workshop on "Working Together Towards Health Equity in Urban Informal Settlements"

in September and a National Capacity Development Workshop on "Gender-Biased Sex Selection in Bangladesh", December. In May 2020 they also organised a webinar on "COVID-19 Impact on Urban Informal Settlements: Vulnerabilities, Challenges and Responses from 4 Countries".

ARISE is funded by UK Research and Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund.

Partners: Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK; Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK; Institute of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow, UK; The University of York, UK; George Institute for Global Health, India; Slum/Shack Dwellers' International (SDI), India; African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Kenya; Liverpool VCT Health (LVCT Health), Kenya; Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Njala University, Sierra Leone; College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), University of Sierra Leone.

For more information, please visit <http://www.ariseconsortium.org/category/all-news-events/bangladesh/>





# BANGLADESH HEALTH WATCH (BHW)



Established in 2006, Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW), a multi-stakeholder civil society advocacy and monitoring network is dedicated to improving the health system in Bangladesh through a critical review of policies and programmes and recommendation of appropriate actions for change.

BRAC JPGSPH serves as the Secretariat for BHW, since its inception. Amongst the working group members, The School representatives include The Dean, the Founding Dean and the Director of Centre for Health Systems Research.

## THE WORKING GROUP MEMBERS OF BHW

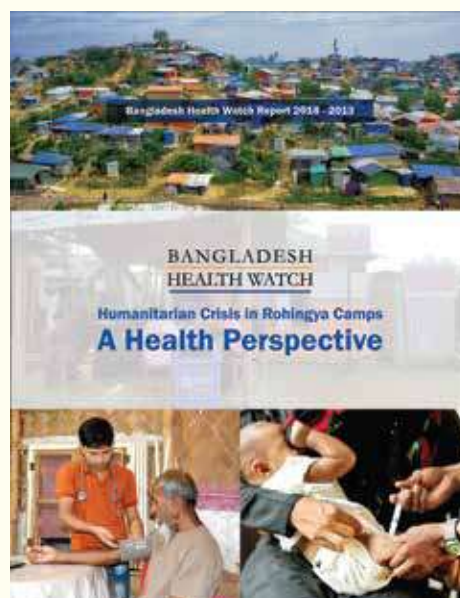
- **Samia Afrin**, Project Director, Sexual Health and Reproductive Rights (SRHR), Project Naripokkho
- **Dr Syed Masud Ahmed**, Professor and Director of CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH
- **Dr Ahmed Al Sabir**, Health Specialist and Independent Consultant
- **Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury**, former Vice Chair of BRAC, Advisor and Founding Dean of BRAC JPGSPH, and Convener of Bangladesh Health Watch
- **Dr AJ Faisal**, former Country Representative of Engender Health Bangladesh and Public Health Physician
- **Dr Rumana Huque**, Professor of Economics, Dhaka University and Executive Director, ARK Foundation
- **Dr A M Zakir Hussain**, Independent Consultant and Honorary CEO of Social Sector Management Foundation(SSMF)
- **Dr Md. Khairul Islam**, Regional Director, WaterAid Bangladesh
- **Dr Sayeedur Rahman Khasru**, Professor of Pharmacology in the Premier Medical Institution of



Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University

- **Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid**, Dean, Professor and Director of CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH
- **Dr Ubaidur Rob**, Senior Associate and Director of the Population Council's office in Bangladesh

BHW began with the publication of a series of reports; the BHW Reports, which identified the most critical challenges to the health sector at particular points of time and published insightful situation analyses leading to practical recommendations, based on evidence from existing secondary resources and primary research. BHW is also engaged to gather evidence through regular research for evidence-based advocacy on topical issues to improve the situation related to quality of care, accountability and equity. BHW is poised to form Regional Chapter at district level which acts as a citizens' platform to hold government (and other actors) accountable for their major health sector commitments in their catchment areas.



In February 2020, BHW published "Humanitarian Crisis in Rohingya Camps: A Health Perspective" A BHW Report 2018-2019. The report included a background on the resource mobilisation and financing the humanitarian crisis, the need assessment for resource mobilisation, the level and estimated amount of funding requirement against the actual amount of funding

requirement against the actual amount of funding obtained during 2018 and in 2019, and the major partners/implementation organisations who mobilised the funding during the period, resource requirements for the future and its fiscal implications.



*Scan the QR code to access the full report*

## PREVIOUS REPORTS

**The State of Health in Bangladesh 2006:**  
Challenges of Achieving Equity in Health  
(Published in 2007)



*Scan the QR code to access the full report*

**Bangladesh Health Watch Report 2011:**  
Moving Towards Universal Health Coverage  
(Published in 2012)



*Scan the QR code to access the full report*

**The State of Health in Bangladesh 2007:**  
Health Workforce in Bangladesh: Who Constitutes the Healthcare System?  
(Published in 2008)



*Scan the QR code to access the full report*

**Bangladesh Health Watch Report 2014:**  
Urban Health Scenario: Looking Beyond 2015  
(Published in 2015)



*Scan the QR code to access the full report*

**Bangladesh Health Watch Report 2009:**  
How Healthy is Health Sector Governance  
(Published in 2010)



*Scan the QR code to access the full report*

**Bangladesh Health Watch Report 2016:**  
Non-Communicable Diseases in Bangladesh: Current Scenario and Future Directions  
(Published in 2017)



*Scan the QR code to access the full report*

*BHW is actively engaged in hosting series of webinars where representatives of BRAC JPGSPH have participated. Please go to page 265 for the list of webinars hosted by BHW.*



At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, BHW in collaboration with BRAC JPGSPH, conducted two research studies on the effects of COVID-19 on Front

Line Health Workers. As part of advocacy, two research reports were prepared and disseminated.

**Re-visiting the Front-Line health Workers' (FLWs) attending suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients in Bangladesh: how far the situation improved in a month since the last survey.**



"We, the nurses always remain on duty, what we will do with the money if we die"

- Nurse (female)

"I am always scared now a days... scared for my family and relatives."

- FWV (female)

"...I am always terrified. Thinking about physical hazard is a mental health hazard, too."

- Physician (female)

**RAPID MINI-RESEARCH REPORT**

**Front Line health Workers' (FLWs) perceptions and opinions on their personal safety while attending suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients in Bangladesh**



Scan the QR code to access the full report

**Front Line Health Workers' (FLWs) perceptions and opinions on their personal safety while attending suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients in Bangladesh**



**Re-visiting the Front Line health Workers' (FLWs) attending suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients in Bangladesh: how far has the situation improved in a month since the last survey?**



Scan the QR code to access the full report

To learn more about BHW, please visit: [www.bangladeshhealthwatch.org](http://www.bangladeshhealthwatch.org)



# ADVOCACY TO INFLUENCE PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES IN 2019

To advocate for change in policies and working closely with stakeholders to push agendas that are of critical national and global importance, 17 advocacy-based events through multi-stakeholder engagements took place in 2019.

JANUARY 2019

## CAPACITY BUILDING IN HIGHER EDUCATION: EUROPEAN UNION FUNDED ERASMUS+ PROJECT 'TRANS4M-PH'

BRAC JPGSPH in collaboration with local partner organisations formally inaugurated the European Union funded "Transformative Competency-Based Public Health Education for Professional Employability in

Bangladesh's Health Sector (TRANS4M-PH)" Project on 24 January, 2019. BRAC JPGSPH; International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), Independent University Bangladesh (IUB) and Asian University for Women (AUW) have been awarded the European Union's 2018 ERASMUS+ Capacity Building in Higher Education Grant of 995,000 Euros. Led by BRAC JPGSPH, the pioneering tripartite



institutional partnership has collaboratively implemented the three-year TRANS4M-PH Project, starting from 2019, till 2021. BRAC JPGSPH, IUB and AUW has designed and offered indigenous competency-based Public Health (PH) curricula which ensures professional skills development and strategically addresses the chronic skilled workforce shortage in Bangladesh's health sector. The University of Maastricht (UM), Netherlands and Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, UK has collaborated as the Project's Technical Partners.

Mario Ronconi, Minister Counselor and Head of Unit-Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union was the Special Guest of the event.



## SHARING EVIDENCE OF “PSYCHODRAMA AS TRANSFORMATIVE INTERVENTION IN SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (SRH) OF YOUNG MEN IN URBAN SLUMS OF DHAKA: PROOF OF A NOVEL APPROACH”

The School organised a dissemination event on the project titled “Psychodrama as Transformative Intervention in SRH of Young Men in Urban Slums of Dhaka” on 25 February, 2019. The aim of the project was to explore the existing sexual practices and risky behaviours of urban young adult men and measure the effectiveness of psychodrama and sociodrama as a transformative intervention to change attitudes associated with traditional gender norms and beliefs.

Funded by the the Dutch Research Council (NWO-WOTRO Science for Global Development Program), a Netherlands based funding agency, and was implemented under the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU) of BRAC JPGSPH.

Asaduzzaman Noor, Honourable Member of Parliament and former Minister of the Cultural Affairs, Government of Bangladesh, was present at the event as the Chief Guest.





## LAUNCHING OF SHORT DOCUMENTARY: “NARRATIVES OF SINGLE WORKING WOMEN IN DHAKA CITY”

On March 4, 2019 the first screening of “Narratives of Single Working Women in Dhaka City”, a short documentary produced by CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH based on the research findings of a Share-Net International funded project, took place at BRAC Inn Auditorium. It was also screened at Dhaka Lit Fest on November, 2019.

The video aimed to help professionals and laypersons to consider the perspective of single working women and

acknowledge the challenges they face to make more inclusive and effective public health policies and programmes. Health professionals and development programmers are encouraged to use this video to facilitate discussions around sex, sexuality, gender roles, societal pressures and more among target audiences including other development workers, working on issues of SRHR and even university students.



To watch the full documentary,  
Scan the QR code or please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yf7H5Y6sE7A&t=2s>





## OFFICIAL LAUNCHING OF THE CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH

On 3 April, 2019 BRAC JPGSPH organised the formal launching ceremony of the 'Centre for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN)' at the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP). The Centre was established in December 2017 at BRAC JPGSPH in collaboration with Non-Communicable Disease Control Programme (NCDC), Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS);

National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD), BRAC JPGSPH; Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation for Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM); BRAC; and Bangladesh University of Health Science (BUHS). CNCDN is funded by National Institute of Health Research, UK and supported by Global Health Research Unit (GHRU) and Imperial College London, UK. The representatives from the founding partner organisation officially launched the Centre by signing the memorandum of understanding.





## SECOND NATIONAL POLICY ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON ADOLESCENT NUTRITION

On 8 April, 2019 the Centre for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCND), BRAC JGPSH and partners hosted the second National Policy Roundtable Discussion on Adolescent Nutrition at Dhaka, as an initiative to address the second window of opportunity for adolescent growth and development. This was the last of a series of activities, since its initiation in 2017, to ensure prioritisation of the issues of adolescent

nutrition into the health and nutrition policy of Bangladesh.

Professor Shamsul Alam, Senior Secretary, General Economics Division, Planning Commission was the Chair and Dr Md Shah Nawaz, Director General, Bangladesh National Nutrition Council (BNNC) Co-Chaired the roundtable. Md Abul Kalam Azad, Principal Coordinator, SDG Affairs, Prime Minister's Office was the Chief Guest. Representatives from ministries, directorates, UN agencies, INGOs and academia participated in the roundtable.



## SHARING EVIDENCE ON PATHWAYS OF ANTIBIOTIC USE IN BANGLADESH: THE PAUSE STUDY

Pathways of Antibiotic Use in Bangladesh: The PAUSE Study worked on the scenario of Antimicrobial Resistance in Bangladesh. It was conducted by icddr,b in collaboration with Loughborough University, Durham University, and the University of Bristol, United Kingdom.

The School's representatives joined as panelist in the dissemination workshop on 10 April, 2019. The study identified important behaviours around antibiotic use: where people go for antibiotics, what illnesses they seek antibiotics for, and their understanding of how antibiotics work.





## DISSEMINATION SEMINAR: HEALTH CARE FOR FORCIBLY DISPLACED MYANMAR NATIONALS (FDMNS) – ACCESS, BEHAVIOUR AND THE CHALLENGES

On 15 April, 2019 a dissemination event was arranged on sharing the evidences from two research studies titled “Health Care and Health-seeking behaviour among Rohingya Refugees in Cox’s Bazar” and “Situation Analysis for Delivering Integrated Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Services for Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh”, funded by the World Health Organization (WHO).

BRAC JPGSPH participated in a panel discussion after the presentations, where they emphasised on the need to focus on infectious diseases and mental health. They recommended a sustainable plan from the government and donors to implement long term health services with respect to the need of the population. The Chief Guest for the event was Mr Mohammed Abul Kalam, Commissioner of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commission (RRRC); with Special Guest Dr Mohammad Abdul Matin, Civil Surgeon at the, Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).





## ADDRESSING GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN BANGLADESH THROUGH STRENGTHENING VOICES AND CAPACITIES

Within April 2019 to September 2020, BRAC JPGSPH and Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) organised four planned skill development courses on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Law funded by Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action (CREA). 16 participants joined the four-day courses which included BLAST Panel Lawyers, District Project Officers, and Paralegals from eight districts across Bangladesh.

Also, there were sessions on struggles and challenges of Hijra community where a transgender and activist, Shova Saker shared her experience with the participants. Other sessions included, Diversity and Sexuality, Domestic Violence and Masculinity, Understanding Bangladesh Legal Framework to SRHR, Laws and Procedure on Rape, Sexual Harassment and Child Sexual Abuse and Issues of Choice and Consent Within the Context of Sexual Assault.





## SHARING EVIDENCE: NATIONWIDE STUDY OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDS) IN BANGLADESH

### *Stakeholder Workshop, April 2019*

Two separate workshops were organised to identify priority areas for sexual and reproductive health (SRH) research, SRH intervention and policy advocacy for

persons with disabilities in Bangladesh. The first brainstorming workshop took place on 23 April, 2019 engaging government officials, academics from Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Dhaka (DU), and BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BRAC IED). On 25 April, 2019 the second brainstorming workshop engaged participants from different Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Disabled Peoples' Organisations (DPOs).



### *Journalist Orientation Workshop, October 2019*

The School arranged a workshop for selected journalists from the leading Bangla and English newspaper and print media houses of the country, including Prothom Alo, New Age, Shomokal, Bhorer Kagoj, Naya Diganta, and Dhaka Tribune. The sessions were geared towards sensitising journalists and emphasising on the importance of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) of PWDS in the country.

### *First Advisory Committee Meeting, October 2019*

An advisory committee meeting was conducted as the advisory panel consisted of renowned development, health, and policy experts from Non-Communicable Diseases Control under Directorate General of Health Services; Disability Detection Survey Programme,

Department of Social Services; Advocacy for Social Change, Technology, Partnership Strengthening Unit of BRAC; Directorate General of Family Planning; Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust, UK; DFID Bangladesh and from College of Public Health and Health Informatics, Qassim University.

During the meeting, the BRAC JPGSPH research team presented the preliminary research findings of the quantitative survey, intervention mapping and policy landscape with the committee for paving the future steps for the project and to impact the policy dialogues with the Government. The project has been funded by the Embassy of the Royal Kingdom of Netherlands and with partnership with the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh.





## DISSEMINATIONS WORKSHOPS ON IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH: HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING IN UNICEF SUPPORTED AREAS UNDER COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

BRAC JPGPSH organised two dissemination workshops with key stakeholders in national and district level for the uptake of actionable strategies and options to improve MNCH programme implementation for the Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMNs). The district level dissemination workshop took place in Cox's Bazar on 29 October 2019. The main objective of the workshop was to disseminate the findings of the implementation research with donors, key

policy-makers and programme implementers working for the FDMNs.

On November 2019, another dissemination and advocacy seminar was held at the School with national level policy makers and participants from multiple organisations. The workshops resulted in the dissemination of results from Phase-2 of the Implementation Research (IR) initiative on MNCH programmes for (FDMN) in Cox's Bazar and agreement on future course of action based on the recommendations received from the findings.

The project was funded by UNICEF New York and partnered with UNICEF Bangladesh.





## ACTIVE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT: SECOND INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

The second International Symposium on Community Health Workers (CHWs) was held from 22, November to 24, November, 2019 in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The symposium was organised by icddr,b in collaboration with BRAC JPGSPH, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Bangladesh; and Save the Children, Bangladesh. Other partners of the symposium were USAID, European Union, UKAID, Management Sciences for Health (MSH), UNICEF, BRAC, UNFPA, WHO, and Vital Strategies.

The symposium facilitated better strategic pathways for developing community-based programmes to prevent and control non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in the context of universal health coverage (UHC) and sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Dr Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury, Adviser and Founding Dean of BRAC JPGSPH, and the former Vice Chair of BRAC, delivered one of the keynote speeches. Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director of CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH chaired two parallel sessions at the symposium. Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH made an oral

presentation, titled, "Learning from Community Health Workers (CHWs) Driven Programmes in Different Contexts in Bangladesh: A Scoping Review". The session was chaired by Dr Kaosar Afsana, Professor, BRAC JPGSPH and moderated by Shahed Hossain, Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.

Dr Afsana also moderated a panel discussion on 'BRAC's Community Health Workers and Impact on Public Health' at the symposium. Dr Selina Amin, Project Director Diploma in Midwifery Project (DMP); and Head, Midwifery Education Programme; and Dr Sharmina Rahman, Strategic Advisor, DMP; participated in a panel discussion, titled 'Midwives as a part of Health Workforce', which was moderated by Dr Afsana. Dr Amin gave a presentation on "Midwife as Community Health Worker" and Dr Rahman gave a presentation on 'Midwife Led Care Centres, Importance for Skills Building' at the panel discussion. DMP also showcased its overall project activities at the CHW Symposium 2019.

On Day Two, a parallel session titled "CHWs and Universal Health Care" was co-chaired by Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Director of Research and Co-Director of CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH and Dr Md. Khalequzzaman Associate Professor, Department of Public Health and Informatics, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMU), Bangladesh.





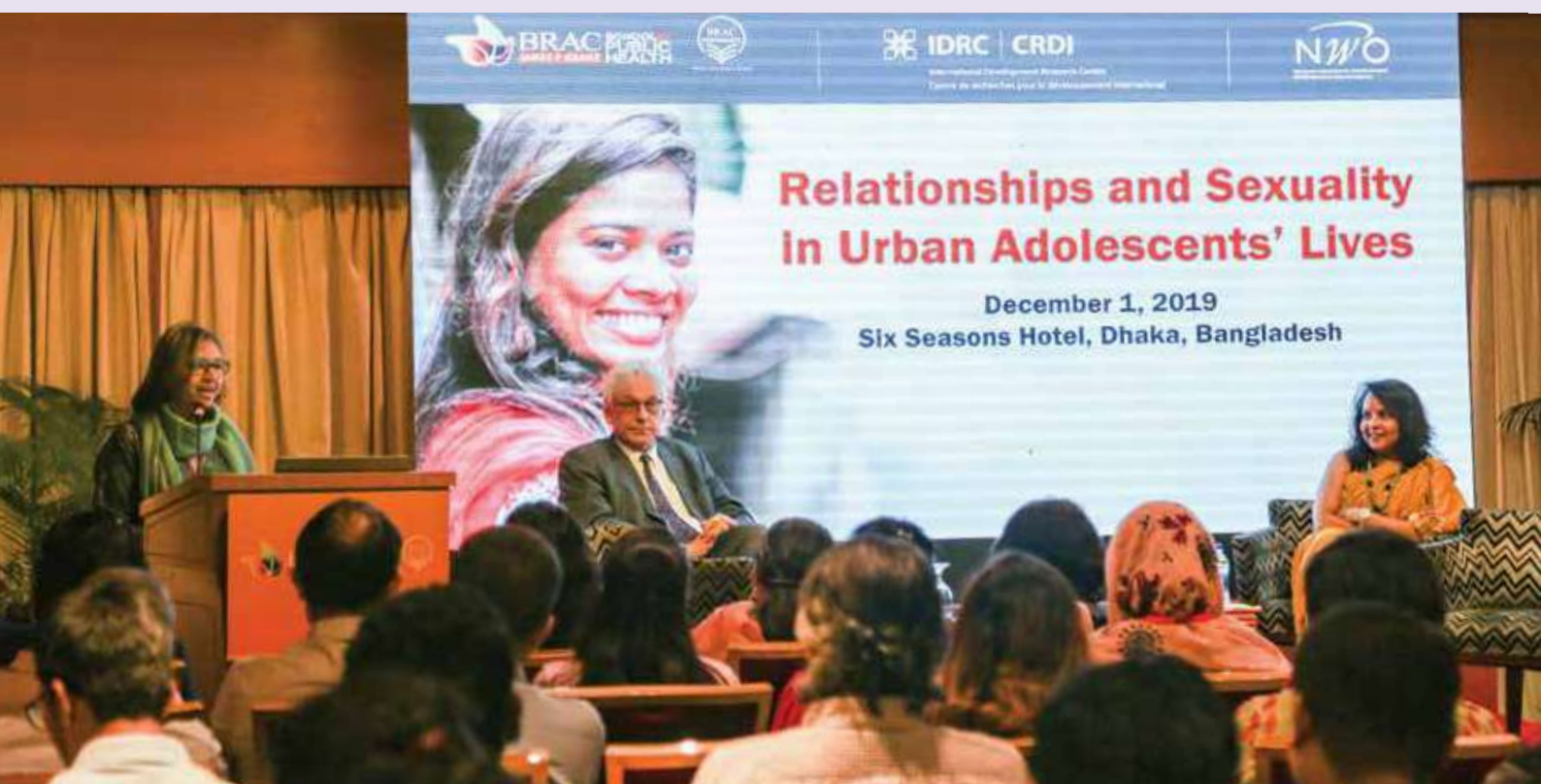
## SHARING FINDINGS FROM EARLY CHILD MARRIAGE

The Centre of Excellence GSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH organised a knowledge dissemination event on December 1, 2019 for the Prevention of Early Child Marriage in Urban Slums of Bangladesh project funded by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada. The study aimed to understand the factors that shape early marriage among adolescent girls in urban slums and to review programmes and policies in relation to early marriage in Bangladesh.

The research findings from the three-year-long project were shared with multiple stakeholders working on

issues of child marriage and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) both in Bangladesh and the region. Additionally, a book titled “Lives of Adolescent Girls in Urban Slums” based on the research findings was launched at the event.

A mobile app in Bangla for android devices featuring Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) information for young people funded by the Dutch Research Council (NWO-WOTRO) (Netherlands) was launched in the presence of Special Guest Jeroen Steeghs, Deputy Head of Mission and Head of Economic Affairs and Development Cooperation, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.



## ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT AND SHARING EVIDENCE: PROMOTING RIGHTS THROUGH INCLUSION AND EMPOWERMENT (PRITIE)

BRAC JPGSPH and Bangladesh Legal Aid And Services Trust (BLAST) organised 12 discussion sessions on issues related to SRHR and Law with students of six public and private universities across Bangladesh. The sessions provided simple trainings on SRHR topics, hosted film screenings on various issues around sexual and reproductive rights, sexual harassment, etc. These active engagements aimed to create a pool of young people with knowledge, awareness and understanding of SRHR, consent and choice.

Four poster competitions with a selected group of students from public universities and a national film competition with both public and private universities was organised. The selected group of students also received training and awareness around the laws and issues of SRHR which equipped them to engage in these advocacy initiatives and create a peer learning platform. The film competition videos were later shared on social media platforms and used by BRAC JPGSPH and BLAST as resource materials and displayed during various events.

The project was funded by Swedish Associate for Sexuality Education (RFSU).





# PUBLICATIONS 2019

In 2019 researchers, academics, students and staff of the School have actively written articles focusing on socio-economic perspectives of the pandemic for publication in newspapers and blogs. A total of 36 Blogs and News articles have been published on different public health issues in 2019.

## BLOGS

- **"Icchedana": New Innovations in Entertainment Education in Bangladesh**  
Author(s): Monidipa Saha  
Published: 16 January, 2019 in BRAC JPGSPH Blog
- **Learning to Trust "Doctor Apas" and the Midwifery Approach at the Community Level**  
Author(s): Ishrat Jahan  
Published: 14 February, 2019 in BRAC JPGSPH Blog
- **Virtual Love and Friendship: In the Case of Bangladesh**  
Author(s): Sairana Ahsan  
Published: 6 March, 2019 in BRAC JPGSPH Blog

## MAINSTREAM MEDIA PUBLICATIONS

### JANUARY 2019

- **EU awards Erasmus grant to three universities**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 26 January, 2019 in The Daily Star
- **BRAC JPGSPH, ICCCAD-IUB and AUW jointly awarded US\$1 million EU grant for capacity building in higher education**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 25 January, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **১০ লাখ ডলার পেল ব্র্যাক জেমস পি গ্রান্ট স্কুলসহ ৩ প্রতিষ্ঠান**  
(3 organisations including BRAC JPGSPH received 1 million dollar grant)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 25 January, 2019 in Jugantor

### FEBRUARY 2019

- **তরুণদের ঝুঁকিপূর্ণ যৌনআচরণ রোধে 'সাইকোড্রামা' ('Psychodrama' to prevent unsafe sexual behaviour in young people)**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 19 February, 2019 in Palabadal
- **বস্তির ৩৩ ভাগ তরুণ অনিরাপদ যৌন সম্পর্কে জড়ায়**  
(33% of slum youth engage in unprotected sex)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 26 February, 2019 in Samakal
- **সচেতনতা-ই তরুণদেরকে অশ্লীলতা থেকে দূরে রাখতে পারে**  
(Only awareness can keep young people away from vulgarity)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Broadcast: 25 February, 2020 in Ekushey TV Online
- **Psychodrama can change youths' sexual behaviour: Study**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 25 February, 2019 in The Financial Express
- **Psychodrama could be used to bring positive changes**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 26 February, 2019 in New Age

## MARCH 2019

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- **Psychodrama Stressed for Protecting Youths**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 1 March, 2019 in The Daily Sun
- **BRAC University Introduces 'Psycho Drama' for the Youth**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 1 March, 2019 in Dhaka Tribune
- **Meet Nutrition Demand of Adolescents**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 9 April, 2019 in The Daily Star

## APRIL 2019

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- **কিশোরীদের উচ্চতা কম, স্থূলতা বেশি**  
(*Less height, more obesity in young adolescent girls*)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 9 April, 2019 in The Daily Star
- **৭৮ শতাংশ রোহিঙ্গা নারীর প্রসব ঘরেই**  
(*78 percent of Rohingya women give birth at home*)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 20 April, 2019 in Prothom Alo
- **Dissemination Seminar on Health Care for FDMNs – Access, Behaviour and the Challenges**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 18 April, 2019 in Dhaka Tribune

## MAY 2019

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- **Talk Show on Midwifery Ajker Bangladesh Independent Television**  
Broadcast: 13 May, 2019 by Independent TV
- **মায়ের মানসিক স্বাস্থ্য এবং মিজওয়াইফ**  
(*Maternal mental health and midwife*)  
Author(s): Rubina Jahan  
Published: 5 May, 2019 in Bdnews24
- **Talk Show on Midwifery Day at Deepto TV BRAC University**  
Broadcast: 21 May, 2019 in Deepto TV
- **The Invisible Illness of Life: Women's health Narratives in a Dhaka Informal Settlement**  
Authors(s): Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid and Mikhail I. Islam  
Published: 29 May, 2019 in London School of Economics Website

## JUNE 2019

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- **Ashfique Rizwan appeared for a Live Interview at 'Shubho Shokal Bangladesh'**  
Published: 11 June, 2019 in News 24

## AUGUST 2019

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- **এইডিস মশা ও ডেঙ্গু নিয়ন্ত্রণ: পোলিও নির্মূল কার্যক্রমের অভিজ্ঞতা হতে পারে দিশারী**  
(*Aedes Mosquito and Dengue Control: Experiences from Polio Eradication can guide us*)  
Authors(s): Bushra Zarin Islam  
Published: 4 August, 2019 in Bdnews24

## SEPTEMBER 2019

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- **নগর স্বাস্থ্য | বিজয় সংলাপ**  
(*Urban Health | Victory Dialogue*)  
Broadcast: 25 September, 2019 in Bijoy TV

## OCTOBER 2019

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- **নৃবিজ্ঞানীদের কাজের আরো সুযোগ দরকার**  
(*Anthropologists need more opportunities to work*)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 30 October, 2019 in Ittefaq
- **বাংলাদেশে গবেষণা - বিজয় সংলাপ ৭৭**  
(*Research in Bangladesh - Victory Dialogue 77*)  
Author(s): Bijoy TV  
Broadcast: 30 October, 2019 in Bijoy TV

## NOVEMBER 2019

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- **যেহীন আহমদ ও চার দশকের গ্রামোন্নয়ন**  
(*Zahin Ahmed and four decades of rural development*)  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 6 November, 2019 in Bdnews24
- **আমাদের অর্জন আমাদের উদ্বেগ**  
(*Our achievements, Our concerns*)  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 8 November, 2019 in Prothom Alo

## DECEMBER 2019

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- **ব্র্যাক, আবেদ ভাই ও আমি**  
(*BRAC, Abed Bhai and I*)  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 31 December, 2019 in Bonik Barta
- **আবেদ ভাই: সাম্প্রতিক কিছু কথোপকথন**  
(*Abed Bhai: Some recent conversations*)  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 23 December, 2019 in Prothom Alo
- **Professor Mushtaque Chowdhury made Adviser to FAO**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 14 December, 2019 in Dhaka Tribune
- **বস্তিতে বাল্যবিবাহ ৮২%**  
(*Child marriage rate 82% in slums*)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 9 December, 2019 in Prothom Alo
- **Promoting a Broader Understanding of SRHR**  
Author(s): Maisha Islam Monamee  
Published: 27 December, in The Daily Star
- **Harassment in Informal Settlements in Dhaka**  
Author(s): Wafa Alam, Shafinaz Sobhan and Bachera Aktar  
Published: 3 December, 2019 in ARISE Website
- **No Easy Solutions for Urban Informal Settlements: Bangladesh Stakeholder Workshop**  
Author(s): Wafa Alam, Tasnuva Wahed and Bachera Aktar  
Published: 18 December, 2019 in ARISE Website



The School actively initiated events to acknowledge the public health emergency, COVID-19. The public health emergency related to the virus has led active aggregating and sharing of useful resource materials locally and globally to a wider audience, including BRAC university, health organisations, key stakeholders,

partners, and networks which include seminars, online dissemination events, policy dialogues, internal blogs, articles published in newspapers, social media campaigns, sharing daily COVID-19 updates, etc. from February 2020.

## EVENTS, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS: COVID-19 RELATED

FEBRUARY 2020

### SOCIAL MEDIA TO SPREAD AWARENESS ON COVID-19

Early March 2020 onwards, BRAC JPGSPH has been using its social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Medium to spread awareness by disseminating information on the awareness of

COVID-19. The information is being shared both in Bengali and English and covers a range of topics including, Common Symptoms, Modes of Transmission, Prevention, Protection, and Preparedness, Quarantine Protocols, and Hotline numbers.

### 5 Key Messages to kick out coronavirus:

## 5 KEY MESSAGES

**TO KICK OUT CORONAVIRUS**

- Hand Washing**
- Coughing Etiquette**
- Stop Touching Face**
- Maintain Physical Distance**
- If you feel unwell, stay home. If you have a fever, cough and difficult breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance.**

### করোনা ভাইরাস এ আক্রান্ত হবার লক্ষণসমূহ

- জ্বর ( $100^{\circ}\text{F}$  /  $38^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- শুকনো কাশি
- শ্বাসকষ্ট

এছাড়া অন্যান্য লক্ষণসমূহ

- সর্দি, হাঁচি, গলা ব্যথা
- ব্যথাক অথবা অন্যান্য অসুস্থতা (ডায়ারিয়া/ উচ্চ-রক্তচাপ/হৃদরোগ/ কিডনী রোগ/ ক্যান্সার) থাকলে আক্রান্ত হবার সম্ভাবনা বেশি

ভাইরাসটি মানবদেহে প্রবেশ করার পর প্রথম লক্ষণ প্রকাশ পেতে ২-১৪ দিন পর্যন্ত সময় নিতে পারে

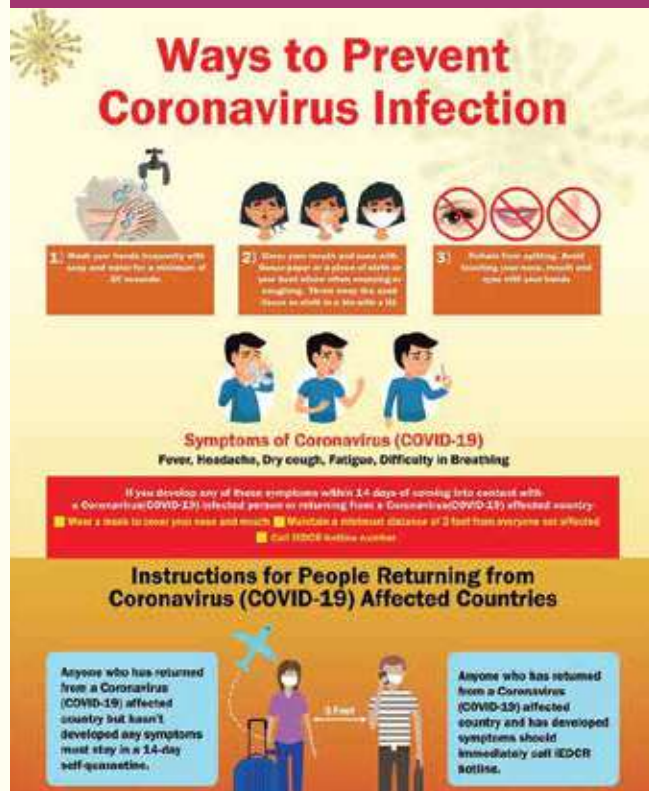
### How to wash hands Properly?:

## করোনা ভাইরাস প্রতিরোধে হাত ধোবেন কিভাবে?

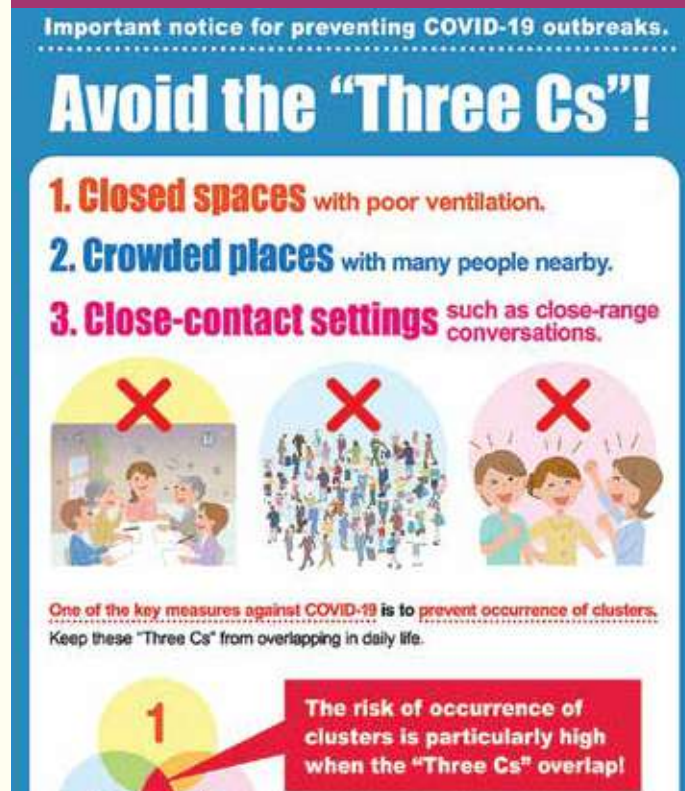
১. পানি নিয়ে হাত ভেজান
২. হাতের তালু করে সর্বান নিল
৩. এক হাতের তালু দিয়ে আরেক হাতের তালু ঘষুন
৪. এক হাতের তালু দিয়ে অন্য হাতের উল্টো দিকে এবং আঙুলের ফাঁকে আঙুল গলিয়ে ঘষুন
৫. এক হাতের তালু আরেক হাতের তালুতে বেধে আঙুলের ফাঁকে আঙুল গলিয়ে ঘষুন
৬. দুই হাতের আঙুলের পৃষ্ঠদেশ হাতের তালুর সঙ্গে ঘষুন
৭. এক হাতের প্রতিটি আঙুল একক করে অন্য হাতের মুঠোয় নিয়ে ঘষুন
৮. এক হাতের তালুতে অন্য হাতের আঙুলচব্বের মাঝা ঘষুন
৯. পানি নিয়ে হাত ভালো করে ধুয়ে নিন
১০. তেয়ানে নিয়ে হাত ভালো করে মুছে নিন। অনেক তেয়ানে ব্যবহার করবেন না
১১. এখন আপনার হাত আঁকামুক্ত

সূত্র: বিশ্ব স্বাস্থ্য সংস্থা

## Ways to Prevent the Coronavirus:



## Avoid the 3 C's:



JULY 2020

## BRAC JPGSPH JOINS GENDER & COVID-19

BRAC JPGSPH and a global team joined in a groundbreaking project titled Gender & COVID-19, conducting real time gender analysis to identify and document the gendered dynamics of COVID-19 and gaps in preparedness and response. This was made possible through a \$1.6 million USD grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The global team includes researchers from the US, Bangladesh, Brazil, Democratic Republic of Congo, Canada, Kenya, Nigeria, UK, Hong Kong and Australia who helped widen their analysis of gendered risks and impacts of the pandemic on health, social and economic welfare.

Further information on:  
<https://www.genderandCOVID-19.org/>





# EVENTS, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS: NON-COVID

JANUARY 2020

## SHARING EVIDENCE: RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW (RHRN)

In 2019 under the project Right Here Right Now (RHRN) the School developed two separate videos through evidence-based research by following a real story-line in collaboration with the targeted community and stakeholders.

The first video titled “Experts’ Opinion on Comprehensive Sexual Education (CSE)” in the government’s school curriculum. ‘Untold Story’, is the second animation video which presented two different stories of two transgender children.

Funded by Rutgers and partnered with BRAC Education Programme; Reproductive Health Services Training and Education Program (RHSTEP); Bandhu

Social Welfare Society (Bandhu); Naripokkho; Socio-Economic Rural Advancement Committee (SERAC)-Bangladesh; Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB); Oboyob; Bangladesh Legal Aid And Services Trust (Blast); United for Body Rights (UBR) Alliance; Bangladesh Mahila Parishad; Dance4Life; Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW) and Humanist Institute for Development Cooperation (Hivos).



Scan the QR Code for more information

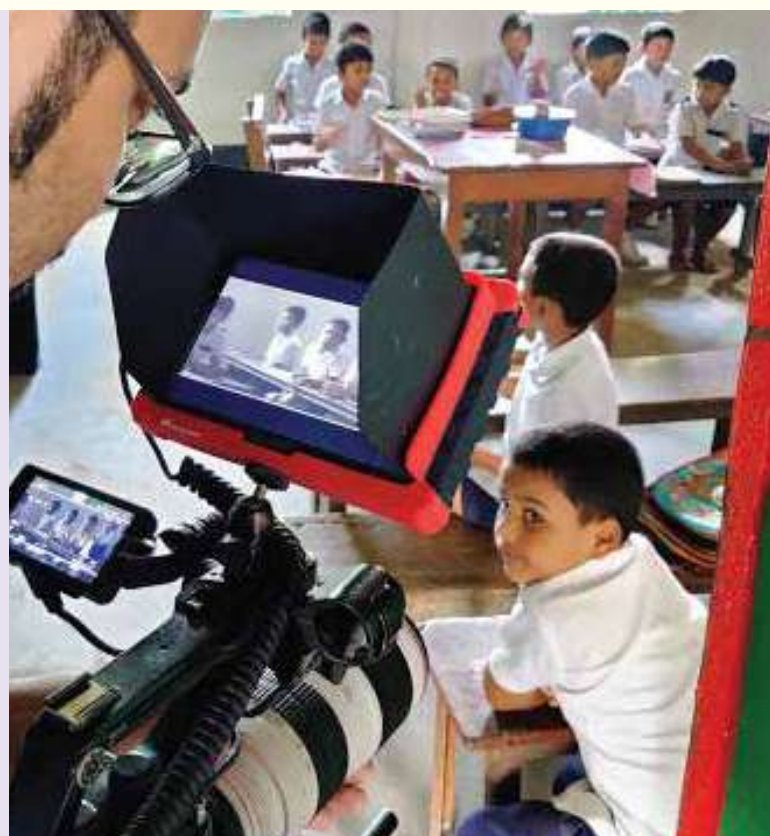


MARCH 2020

## SHARING EVIDENCE: VIDEO DOCUMENTARY ON KALIGANJ BIRTH AND DEATH REGISTRATION IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH

A video documentary on Kaliganj birth and death registrations implementation research was screened at the validation workshop, on March 2020 based on the study report of Kaliganj model assessment on birth registration organised by the Cabinet Division of the Government of Bangladesh. The documentary was made on the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) project in Kaliganj, Gazipur in 2019 by CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH. The objective of the video was to show the implementation process of the birth and death registration in Kaliganj which is known as the Kaliganj Model. Interviews of relevant stakeholders were taken to better understand the process from the birth of a child to the receiving of the birth certificate.

The project was funded by UNICEF Bangladesh.





## MEDICAL TREATMENT LOAN & MEDICAL TREATMENT LOAN PLUS (MTL & MTL+)

A video documentary was created on the Medical Treatment Loan and Medical Treatment Loan Plus (MTL & MTL+) programme that is available through BRAC. The documentary was part of the research project titled, "Assessing BRAC's Innovative Health Loans in Protecting the Poor against Health and Asset Vulnerability in Bangladesh".

The objective of the video was to show how the MTL programme functions and how BRAC has incorporated the research findings by BRAC JPGSPH into their programme MTL+.



## SEPTEMBER 2020



## CREATING OPPORTUNITIES: FELLOWSHIP GRANTS OFFERED BY BRAC JPGSPH

CGSRHR at BRAC JPGSPH, and BLAST jointly provided 13 fellowship grant opportunities for junior and mid-level individuals and organisations from Bangladesh to develop advocacy material around preventing Gender Based Violence (GBV), funded by Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action (CREA). The initiative was targeted to empower early and mid-career researchers, development professionals, legal practitioners, artists and human rights activists focusing on gender and SRHR rights issues.

Different advocacy materials such as documentaries, fiction drama, comic strips, photo narratives, blogs, digital puppet shows, short stories have been developed by the fellows on issues, such as rape culture, realities of transgender and intersex communities, medial representation of gender-based violence etc.

## POLICY DIALOGUE WORKSHOPS: NATIONWIDE STUDY OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDS) IN BANGLADESH

### *Inclusive Health Services for PWDS in Bangladesh, October 2020*

On October 27, BRAC JPGSPH organised a Policy Dialogue Workshop on Inclusive Health Services for Persons with Disabilities in Bangladesh under the “Nationwide Study of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWDS) in Bangladesh”, funded by the Embassy of the Royal Kingdom of Netherlands.

Professor Dr Mohammad Golam Rabbani, Chairperson, Neuro-Developmental Protibondhi Shurakkha Trustee Board, Ministry of Social Welfare, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh attended the policy

dialogue as Chief Guest. Paula Schindeler, Deputy Head of Mission/Head of Development Cooperation, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Bangladesh attended the event as a Special Guest.

### *Promoting SRHR of PWDS in Bangladesh in the Context of SDGs and UNCRPD*

On 23 November, the School organised a Policy Dialogue Workshop on “Promoting SRHR of persons with disabilities in Bangladesh in the context of SDGs and UNCRPD”.

Zuena Aziz, Senior Secretary and Principal Coordinator, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Affairs, Prime Minister’s Office, Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh was the Chief Guest at the event. Dr Veronika Flegar, First Secretary Human Rights, Humanitarian Affairs and Gender, Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Bangladesh was the Special Guest at the event.

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## NOVEMBER 2020

## POLICY DIALOGUE WORKSHOP: “PROMOTING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS OF MALE YOUTHS (15-24 YEARS) IN BANGLADESH: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”

BRAC JPGSPH organised the online Policy Dialogue Workshop titled “Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Male Youths (15-24 years) in Bangladesh: Challenges and Opportunities” to share and discuss their research findings from the study, “Male Youths and their Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in Bangladesh: A Mixed-Methods Nationwide Study”. This research was funded by the Embassy of The Royal Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The discussion ended with a conclusion that addressing male SRHR needs to be included in the national policy

with utmost importance and immediate action which will be mediated not only by the government officials and NGO workers but also with the active participation of the community people.



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# SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

In addition, the School was dedicated to spreading public health awareness, including gender, sexual and reproductive health and mental health issues. To target a much wider population, BRAC JPGSPH constantly ran social media campaigns on different platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Linked In, Instagram etc.

## WOMEN'S DAY 2020

On International Women's Day the School executed two social media campaigns from 29 February, 2020 till 10 March, 2020.

- The first campaign focused on debunking some widely believed misconceptions regarding women, gender roles and sexuality. Based on the findings of multiple studies on SRHR conducted by CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.
- The second campaign celebrated diversity. The School gathered quotes from MPH Students and staff of BRAC JPGSPH from different nations on their versions of a gender equal world.

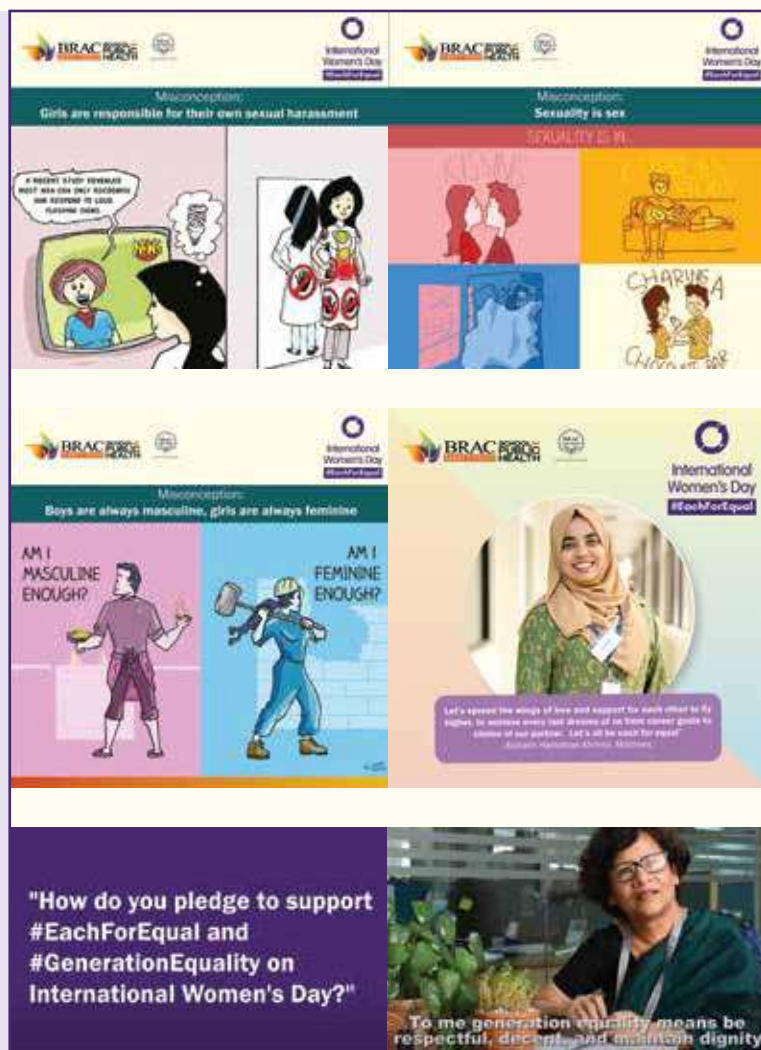


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- In addition to a 10 Day campaign, the School also prepared a video.



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## 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

In solidarity with the global 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence which is used as an organising strategy by individuals and organisations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH launched a social media campaign to celebrate this noble cause with a view to spread awareness, capacity building and advocacy for change.

<p><b>#16DAYSOFACTIVISM</b></p> <p>Possession of essential personal health hygiene material, including GBV awareness information</p> <p><b>ENHANCES GIRLS AND WOMEN'S CONFIDENCE TO PROTECT THEMSELVES.</b></p> <p>Where women's health needs in normal circumstances are often deprioritized, these items will now be first to be left out.</p> <p>BRAC JPGSPH</p>	<p><b>ORANGE THE WORLD</b> #16DAYSOFACTIVISM</p> <p>The Needs Assessment Working Group's (NAWG) Anticipatory assessment report reveals that <b>49.2% of WOMEN and GIRLS feel SAFETY and SECURITY is an issue in the current lockdown.</b></p> <p>BRAC JPGSPH</p>	<p><b>ORANGE THE WORLD</b> #16DAYSOFACTIVISM</p> <p>In the month of April, <b>19 CASES OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE</b> have been reported in media – the majority of which were <b>RAPE AND PHYSICAL ASSAULT</b></p> <p>BRAC JPGSPH</p>
<p><b>ORANGE THE WORLD</b> #16DAYSOFACTIVISM</p> <p>Emerging data shows that since the outbreak of COVID-19, violence against women and girls, particularly <b>domestic violence has INTENSIFIED.</b></p> <p>BRAC JPGSPH</p>	<p><b>ORANGE THE WORLD</b> #16DAYSOFACTIVISM</p> <p>The Needs Assessment Working Group's Anticipatory assessment report reveals <b>49.2% of women and girls feel safety and security is an issue in the current lockdown.</b></p> <p>BRAC JPGSPH</p>	<p><b>ORANGE THE WORLD</b> #16DAYSOFACTIVISM</p> <p>The Needs Assessment Working Group's Anticipatory assessment report reveals <b>49.2% of women and girls feel safety and security is an issue in the current lockdown.</b></p> <p>BRAC JPGSPH</p>



As part of the research, each year, many peer-reviewed articles, co-authored by our researchers, were published in reputed international and national journals. In 2020, a total of 80 peer-reviewed articles and international book chapters co-authored by staff at the School, including papers on COVID-19, were published in international journals.

## COVID-19 RELATED BLOGS

### MARCH 2020

- Pandora's box- what will remain?**  
 Author(s): Dr Farzana A. Misha  
 Published: 26 March, 2020
- The early German response to SARS-CoV-2: Perspectives from a guinea-pig patient**  
 Author(s): Astrid Berner-Rodoreda  
 Published: 27 March, 2020
- Self-isolation and Realizations**  
 Author(s): Nahela Nowshin  
 Published: 29 March, 2020
- Is History Repeating Itself!**  
 Author(s): Kuhel Faizul Islam  
 Published: 30 March, 2020
- করোনা ভাইরাস মোকাবেলায় কতটা প্রস্তুত বাংলাদেশের জনগনের শরীর?**  
*(To what extent are Bangladeshis prepared health wise to combat the coronavirus infection)*  
 Author(s): Dr Fouzia Khanam and Abdul Jabbar Topu  
 Published: 30 March, 2020
- হোম কোয়ারেন্টিন: অভিজ্ঞতা থেকে 'পেশাদার' জনস্বাস্থ্যকর্মী হয়ে ওঠার গল্প**  
*(Quarantine at home: The story of leveraging personal experiences in becoming a professional healthcare worker)*  
 Author(s): Saima Akhtar  
 Published: 31 March, 2020
- কোয়ারান্টাইন জীবনঃ আলো ও অন্ধকারের আবোলকন**  
*(Life in Quarantine: Observe light and dark)*  
 Author(s): Mohammed Imran Hossain  
 Published: 31 March, 2020

### APRIL 2020

- Social Distance is a Privilege: Let's Be Empathetic and Supportive**  
 Author(s): Dr Mrittika Barua  
 Published: 4 April 2020
- Quarantine vs. coronavirus: A Story of Survival**  
 Author(s): Malika Tamim  
 Published: 15 April, 2020
- Pandemic in the face of parental obstinacy**  
 Author(s): Farzana Manzoor  
 Published: 8 April, 2020
- Every Cloud has a Silver lining**  
 Author(s): Abdul Jabbar Topu  
 Published: 19 April, 2020
- Winning the corona war and more**  
 Author(s): The Health Watch Group  
 Published: 12 April, 2020
- New Normal**  
 Author(s): Taslima Akhtar  
 Published: 22 April, 2020

## MAY 2020

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- **Maternity care amid COVID-19 outbreak: Story of midwives in a remote Union Health Centre**  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury, Dr Selina Amin, Bilkis Ara and ATM Nayeem  
Published: 8 May, 2020
- **COVID-19 and the missing data conundrum**  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury and Dr Farzana A. Misha  
Published: 9 May, 2020
- **Making best of COVID-19: Pushing online learning in higher education in Bangladesh**  
Author(s): Dr Mohammed Shahidullah and Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 8 May, 2020
- **লকডাউন, বাস্তবতা, শিথিলতা ও করণীয়: বাংলাদেশ প্রেক্ষিত (Lockdown, reality, incoherenc and the needful: Bangladesh's Perspective)**  
Author(s): Abdul Jabbar Topu  
Published: 13 May, 2020

## JUNE 2020

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- **"We are trapped"- The unwritten stories of diversified occupations**  
Authors(s): A.S.M Nadim  
Published: 7 June, 2020

## JULY 2020

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- **Protect me with PPE gears and I will protect the innocent lives**  
Author(s): Dr Zarin Tasnim  
Published: 26 July, 2020

## COVID-19 RELATED MAINSTREAM MEDIA PUBLICATIONS

### FEBRUARY 2020

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- **Coronavirus: People need to free themselves of fear and take necessary measures**  
Author(s): Saudia Afrin  
Published: 19 February, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health hosts seminar on Coronavirus outbreak**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 20 February, 2020 in Kaler Kantho

### MARCH 2020

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- **Pandora's box- what will remain?**  
Author(s): Dr Farzana A. Misha  
Published: 25 March, 2020 in Kaler Kantho
- **হোম কোয়ারেন্টিন: অভিজ্ঞতা থেকে 'পেশাদার' জনস্বাস্থ্যকর্মী হয়ে ওঠার গল্প (Quarantine at home: The story of leveraging personal experiences in becoming a professional healthcare worker)**  
Author(s): Saima Akhtar  
Published: 30 March, 2020 in Bdnews24.com

- **Homebound: The first eight days**  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 1 April, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **করোনা ভাইরাসের নিজস্ব কোন উচ্চাশা নেই**  
(*Coronavirus has no high hopes for itself*)  
Author(s): AKM Mazharul Islam  
Published: 2 April, 2020 in Shampratik Deshkal
- **Lessons from the Past: What the Ebola outbreak -- and other experiences -- teach us about containment**  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 3 April, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **Financial Mobility in an Immobile World: Strengthening the Footprint of Mobile Services in Bangladesh**  
Author(s): Dr Farzana A. Misha  
Published: 5 April, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **Lives of others**  
Author(s): Anushka Zafar, Samira Ahmed Raha and Sajib Rana  
Published: 6 April, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **Social distance is a privilege**  
Author(s): Dr Mrityika Barua  
Published: 9 April, 2020 in Prothom Alo English
- **Winning the corona war and more**  
Author(s): The Health Watch Group  
Published: 10 April, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **অফুরন্ত সূর্যালোক, বুকভরা হাওয়া**  
(*Endless sunlight, Air Filled Lungs*)  
Author(s): A.K.M Mazharul Islam  
Published: 11 April, 2020 in E-Prothom Alo
- **The dilemma between hunger and a pandemic**  
Author(s): Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid  
Published: 17 April, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **Survey: 47% RMG workers now without any income amid COVID-19**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 18 April, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **COVID-19 taking toll on people's general mental health, six studies show**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 18 April, 2020 in the Daily Star
- **Coronavirus: Transgenders hit hard as lockdown bites**  
Author(s): Kohinoor Khyum Tithila  
Published: 18 April, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **Frontline healthcare workers question quality of PPE provided**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 18 April, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **Health workers sceptical about the quality of PPEs: survey**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 18 April, 2020 in bdnews24.com
- **BRAC Rapid Survey: 47% garment workers yet to be paid**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 19 April, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **Pins and needles at the time of a pandemic**  
Author(s): Dr Atonu Rabbani, Dr Farzana A. Misha and Amina Amin  
Published: 20 April, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **RMG workers in disarray as factories cut jobs, fail to pay wages**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 20 April, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **What dragged N95 face masks into controversy?**  
Author(s): Mehedi Al Amin  
Published: 23 April, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune



- **COVID-19 Alumni Stories:**  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 2 May, 2020 in the Website of London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- **BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health surveys on social stigma**  
Published: 2 May, 2020 in Kaler Kantho
- **করোনাভাইরাস ঘিরে সামাজিক নিগ্রহের ভয়-অপবাদ নিয়ন্ত্রণ 'জরুরি'**  
(*Fear of social harassment surrounding the coronavirus needs to be addressed*)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 2 May, 2020 in Bdnews24.com
- **They won't even touch the money we touched**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 3 May, 2020 in The Business Standard
- **'They bully us when we queue up for relief': The transgender community during the pandemic**  
Author(s): Sadia Rahman  
Published: 5 May, 2020 in The Business Standard
- **What the pandemic means for RMG**  
Author(s): Shahidur Rahman  
Published: 5 May, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **Making best of COVID-19: Pushing online learning in higher education in Bangladesh**  
Author(s): Dr Mohammed Shahidullah and Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 13 May, 2020 in bdnews24.com
- **Time to push online learning in higher education**  
Author(s): Dr Mohammed Shahidullah and Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 14 May, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **COVID-19 and the missing data conundrum**  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury and Dr Farzana A. Misha  
Published: 19 May, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **There are coronavirus solutions for resource-poor countries, too**  
Author(s): Fawzia Rashed  
Published: 28 May, 2020 in Aljazeera
- **Rural water safety and community participation to fight COVID-19**  
Author(s): Nepal C. Dey  
Published: 31 May, 2020 in The Financial Express

- **Maternity care amid COVID-19 outbreak: Story of midwives in a remote Union Health Centre**  
Published: 3 June, 2020 in Kaler Kantho
- **করোনা মোকাবিলায় দরকার পুরো সমাজের অংশগ্রহণ**  
(*Whole society's participation needed to deal with Corona*)  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 7 June, 2020 in Prothom Alo
- **Are we planning ahead for coronavirus frontliners' PTSD?**  
Author(s): Hossain Mohammed Omar Khayum  
Published: 11 June, 2020 in The Business Standard
- **Budget for health care**  
Author(s): A.M Zakir Hussain  
Published: 14 June, 2020 in New Age
- **More money, thanks. But what's next?**  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 14 June, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **বাড়তি টাকা পেলাম, এখন কী করব?**  
(*More money, But what's next?*)  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 16 June, 2020 in Bonik Barta

- **২৪ ভাগ স্বাস্থ্যসেবাদানকারী এখনো পিপিই পাননি: জরিপ**  
(24% health workers still don't have PPE: Survey)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 20 June, 2020 in Prothom Alo
- **স্বাস্থ্য খাতের বরাদ্দে করোনা ব্যবস্থাপনা গুরুত্ব পায়নি: গবেষণা**  
(Corona management not prioritised in the allocation of health sector: Research)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 20 June, 2020 in Prothom Alo
- **24% health workers still don't have PPE: Research**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 20 June, 2020 in The Business Standard
- **দু'মাসেও উপযুক্ত প্রশিক্ষণ মেলেনি সম্মুখসারির স্বাস্থ্যসেবাদানকারীদের : গবেষণা**  
(Frontline health workers did not receive proper training even after 2 months: Research)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 20 June, 2020 in Bonik Barta
- **আইসোলেশন এবং আমাদের বাস্তবতা**  
(Isolation and our realities)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 21 June, 2020 in Banglanews24.com
- **করোনাযুদ্ধে এখনো ঘাটতি**  
(Deficit in the Corona War)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 21 June, 2020 in Prothom Alo
- **Dilemma of an epidemiologist**  
Author(s): A.M Zakir Hussain  
Published: 22 June, 2020 in New Age
- **Doctors and health workers die from lack of quality protective equipment**  
Author(s): Sumon Corraya  
Published: 23 June, 2020 in AsiaNews.it
- **What would be most effective against COVID-19?**  
Author(s): Shamim Ahmed and Rajat Das Gupta  
Published: 25 June, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune

## JULY 2020

- **Unsung heroes for urban informal settlement dwellers during COVID-19 pandemic**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 4 July, 2020 in Kaler Kantho
- **COVID-19 response: Inclusion as the first mantra**  
Published: 5 July, 2020 in the Business Standard
- **COVID-19 response: Inclusion as the first mantra**  
Authors(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury and Dr Fawzia Rasheed  
Published: 5 July, 2020 in The Business Standard
- **The Pandemic: A Bangladeshi perspective**  
Author(s): Dr Nazmunnessa Mahtab  
Published: 7 July, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **The Pandemic: A Bangladeshi Perspective**  
Authors(s): Dr Nazmunnessa Mahtab  
Published: 7 July, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **World Population Day 2020: Stalled progress, COVID-19 and the road to SDG**  
Author(s): Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury  
Published: 11 July, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **Online centre launched to expand COVID-19 and gender studies**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 26 July, in The Business Standard
- **Dhaka Slums: Where Covid is curiously quiet**  
Authors(s): Shaheen Mollah and Zyma Islam  
Published: 26 July, in The Daily Star
- **Our puzzling daily death toll**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 26 July, 2020 in The Business Standard

## AUGUST 2020

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- **COVID-19 and gender study expanded to low and middle-income countries and launches a new online data and evidence hub**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 1 August, 2020 in News Hour Media
- **Youth Associate: A light of hope for Dholpur slum residents during the COVID-19 pandemic**  
Author(s): Imran Hossain Mithu  
Published: 27 August, 2020 on the ARISE Consortium
- **Experts: Marginalized people must get equitable access to stimulus incentives**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 7 August, 2020 in the Dhaka Tribune
- **COVID-19: A gender-based analysis**  
Author(s): Dr Ateeb Ahmad Parray  
Published: 28 August, 2020 in The Great Kashmir
- **The more things change**  
Author(s): Tanvir Alim  
Published: 9 August, 2020 in New Age Youth

## NOVEMBER 2020

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- **BRAC University sets an example of successful online education for midwifery students**  
Author(s): Dr Selina Amin and Dr Sharmina Rahman  
Published: 28 November, 2020 in The Financial Express

## NON-COVID-19 BLOGS

### MARCH 2020

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- **“Now women run the show”: Equality or Illusion?**  
Author(s): Ateeb Ahmed Parray  
Published: 7 March, 2020 in ARISE Blog

### APRIL 2020

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- **A Tale of a Woman with Autism Spectrum Disorder**  
Author(s): Fatema Akter Bonny and Amina Amin  
Published: 2 April, 2020 in BRAC JPGSPH Blog
- **Experiences of conducting research in an informal settlement**  
Author(s): Samiha Ali  
Published: 2 April, 2020 in ARISE Blog

### DECEMBER 2020

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- **Remote GIS mapping in Dholpur: Co-production with co-researchers**  
Author(s): Abdul Awal and Imran Hossain Mithu  
Published: 14 December, 2020 in ARISE Blog



## JULY 2020

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- **Sabina Faiz Rashid: Research on community resilience**  
Author(s): Andréia Azevedo Soares  
Published: July, 2020 in Bulletin of the World Health Organization (WHO)

## OCTOBER 2020

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- **যখন কর্মক্ষেত্রে নারী তখন গৃহস্থালীর কাজ কার?**  
**বাংলাদেশের কিশোর ও তরুণদের ভাবনা**  
(*Who should take care of households if women go to work? Opinions from teenagers and youth in Bangladesh*)  
Author(s): Abdul Jabbar Topu  
Published: 5 October, 2020 in Dhaka Tribune
- **62% males believe women 'deserve to be beaten at times'**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 30 October, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **63% men agree beating their wives is justified if denied sex: Study**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 29 October, 2020 in The Daily Star

## NOVEMBER 2020

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- **How to Build A World for Persons with Disability**  
Author(s): Selima Sara Kabir and Adepto Intisar Ahmed  
Published: 12 November, 2020 in The Daily Star
- **"Leave no one behind" Bangladesh gives equal rights and dignity to each and every citizen'**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 24 November, 2020 in News Flash
- **প্রতিবন্ধী নারীদের তিন-চতুর্থাংশ মানসিক নির্যাতনের শিকার**  
(*Three-quarters of women with disabilities are victims of psychological abuse*)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 23 November, 2020 in Prothom Alo
- **বাংলাদেশে প্রতিবন্ধীদের যৌন স্বাস্থ্য ও প্রজনন অধিকার বিষয়ক ব্র্যাক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের কর্মশালা**  
(*BRAC University Workshop on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Bangladesh*)  
Author(s): Siddiquir Rahman  
Published: 24 November, 2020 in News Flash
- **Workshop on promoting SRHR of persons with disabilities held**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 23 November, 2020 in Samakal
- **SDGs cannot be achieved without bringing disable persons**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 25 November, 2020 in The Daily Observer

## DECEMBER 2020

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- **তরুণদের যৌন ও প্রজনন স্বাস্থ্য অধিকার নিয়ে ওয়েবিনার**  
(*Webinar on the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young adolescents*)  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 1 December, 2020 in Desh Rupantor
- **Thrust on sex edn for boys in school textbook**  
Author(s): Staff Correspondent  
Published: 2 December, 2020 in The Daily Observer

Since April 2020, BRAC JPGSPH has been hosting a series of webinars every week to address the public health emergency related to the virus, through sharing of useful resource materials locally and globally to a wider audience, including BRAC University, health organisations, key stakeholders, partners, and networks. Faculty

and staff from the School are being invited to webinars hosted by national and international organisations. The School has hosted and participated in more than 37 webinars between April 2020 and December 2020. Representatives from the School has also participated several webinars between the time of COVID-19 pandemic.

*\*Scan the QR Codes to access the webinars.*



## YOUNG PEOPLE'S VOICES DURING COVID-19: HOW THE PANDEMIC AFFECTED ADOLESCENTS IN URBAN SLUMS AND LOW-INCOME

**Topic:** The effect of the pandemic on young adolescents in urban slums and low income settlements.

**Date:** 15 December, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**S M Latif**

Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and Project Director, Accelerating Protection for Children (APO) Project.



**Workneh Yadete**

GAGE Ethiopia Qualitative Research Lead and Research Uptake and Impact Coordinator.



**Dr Jennifer Seager**

Assistant Professor, George Washington University.

**Moderator:**



**Dr Imran Matin**

Executive Director, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), BRAC University

**Closing Remarks:**



**Dr Sabina F Rashid**

Dean and Professor, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University

**Presenter:**



**Maheen Sultan**

Senior Fellow of Practice and Head, Gender and Social Transformation Cluster, BIGD.



**Farhana Alam**

Assistant Director, Center of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH

**Chair:**



**Rasheda K Chowdhury**

Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government and Honorary Executive Director, CAMPE



## HEALTH, FITNESS, AND NUTRITION DURING COVID-19

**Topic:** The importance of physical well-being to maintain mental health and proper nutrition intake to reduce the risks of non-communicable diseases.

**Date :** 3 December, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Professor Malay Kanti Mridha**

Director, Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH.



**Tanjim Ahmad Sohel Taj**

Former State Minister of Home Affairs, Social Activist and Founder of Inspire Fitness, Host and Creator of Hotline Commando.



## COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS DURING COVID-19

**Topic:** The role of community health workers in creating awareness, adapting and providing services to their communities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Date :** 11 October, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr AKM Rezaul Haque**

Senior Director, Health and Training, Gonoshasthaya Kendra (GK).



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**

Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH, Convener, Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW).



**Dr Morseda Chowdhury**

Associate Director at Health, Nutrition and Population Programme, BRAC Bangladesh.



**Dr Fawzia Rasheed**

Senior Adviser to the Director of Health of the Aga Khan Development Network.





## COLOURISM IN SOUTH ASIA

**Topic:** Discrimination that individuals face within their own racial group for having dark skin/complexion in the context of South Asia.

**Date :** 24 September, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Welcome:**



**Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid**

Dean and Director, Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH

**Speaker:**



**Nandita Das**

Actor, Director and Social Activist, India.



## WEBINAR ON MASCULINITY AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

**Topic:** How the concept of masculinity differs in various cultures and its link and importance in the context of gender-based violence.

**Date :** 17 September, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Farzana A. Misha**

Assistant Professor,  
BRAC JPGSPH



**Imtiaz Pavel Neel**

Gender and Diversity  
Justice, Analyst and  
Filmmaker.



**Anand Pawar**

Executive Director,  
SAMYAK, Pune, India.



## WEBINAR ON MEDIA AND GENDER

**Topic:** The positive and negative impact of media on how people perceive gender.

**Date :** 10 September, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Professor Shohini Ghosh**

Officiating Director, Anwar  
Jamal Kidwai Mass  
Communication Research  
Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia,  
New Delhi, India.



**Sushmita Preetha**

Deputy Editor, Editorial and  
Op-ed, The Daily Star.



**Sara Zaker**

Media personnel and Social  
Activist, Vice-Chairperson,  
Asiatic3sixty.



## CONTINUATION OF MIDWIFERY EDUCATION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**Topic:** Adapting and ensuring the continuation of Midwifery education across various countries amidst the COVID-19 pandemic

**Date :** 25 August, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Andrea Gilkison**  
Associate Head,  
Postgraduate Midwifery,  
Senior Lecturer, Midwifery,  
Auckland University of  
Technology.



**Sheena Halder**  
Instructor, Dhaka Academic  
Site, Developing Midwives  
Project, BRAC JPGSPH.



**Lastri Mei Winarni**  
Lecturer in Midwifery  
Programme, Yatsi Nursing  
and Midwifery College,  
Karawaci, Tangerang,  
Banten, Indonesia.



## COVID-19 AND YOUTH INITIATIVES

**Topic:** A look at the initiatives undertaken by youth centric organisations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Date :** 12 August, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Md. Sadequl Arefeen**  
Co-founder, The Earth  
Society.



**Sharnila Nuzhat Kabir**  
Youth Advocate.



**Sarah Kamal**  
2020 National President,  
Junior Chamber  
International (JCI)  
Bangladesh.



**Tawhida Shiropa**  
Founder and CEO, Moner  
Bondhu.



## COVID-19: KNOWLEDGE, PRACTICES, HEALTH AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT IN BANGLADESH

**Topic:** A discussion on the findings and results, of the study "COVID-19 in Bangladesh: Knowledge, Practices and Impact", as a part of the multi-country research, funded by National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Global Health Research Unit for diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease in South Asians.

**Date :** 14 July, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Professor John Chambers**  
Director, NIHR Global Health  
Research Unit for Diabetes and  
Cardiovascular Disease in South  
Asians; Professor of Cardiovascular  
Epidemiology, Imperial College  
London, UK; Consultant  
Cardiologist, London North West  
Hospitals NHS Trust, UK.



**Mehedi Hasan**  
Senior Lecturer and  
Coordinator, Centre for  
Non-Communicable  
Diseases and Nutrition  
(CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH



**Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif**  
Senior Research Fellow,  
Centre for  
Non-Communicable  
Diseases and Nutrition  
(CNCDN) BRAC JPGSPH



**Professor Malay Kanti Mridha**  
Director, Centre of  
Excellence for  
Non-Communicable  
Diseases and Nutrition  
(CNCDN), BRAC JPGSPH



## IMPACT OF COVID-19 SHUTDOWN ON THE HIJRA COMMUNITY

**Topic:** A discussion on the findings from the rapid research titled, "Impact of COVID-19 shutdown on the hijra community and how they are coping with the challenges: A rapid research on people living on the fringes".

**Date :** 9 July, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Md Helal Uddin Ahmed**  
Deputy Director (Social  
Safety Net), Department of  
Social Services, Ministry of  
Social Welfare, Government  
of Bangladesh.



**Anindya Hajra**  
Director, Pratyay Gender  
Trust Transfeminist,  
Transgender Rights and  
Social Justice Activist,  
Kolkata, India.



**Tasfiyah Jalil**  
Senior Coordinator, BRAC  
JPGSPH.



**Ivan Ahamed Katha**  
President, Shacheton Hijra  
Odhikar Shangha, Human  
Rights Activist.



**Md. Mostafizue Rahman**  
Assistant Coordinator,  
BRAC JPGSPH.



## WASTE MANAGEMENT DURING COVID-19

**Topic:** Finding ways to cope with the increase in medical waste and ensure the protection of waste management workers during COVID-19.

**Date :** 1 July, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Abdullah Al-Muyeed**  
Head of Policy and  
Advocacy, WaterAid  
Bangladesh.



**Md. Shoriful Alam Mondal**  
PhD Researcher  
(Waste-to-Energy), Tokyo  
University, Tokyo; Former  
National Team Leader, JICA  
Expert Team.



**Fahim Uddin Shuvo**  
Founder & CEO,  
GARBAGEMAN.





## FOOD CONSUMPTION AMONG LOW INCOME POPULATION IN BANGLADESH DURING COVID-19: IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**Topic:** A look at the savings of low-income people during COVID-19 and how it affects their dietary choices.

**Date :** 23 June, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Sadruddin Imran**  
Chairman and Lead  
Consultant, Innovision  
Consulting Private Limited.



**Professor Malay Kanti Mridha**  
Director, Centre of Excellence  
for Non-Communicable  
Diseases and Nutrition  
(CNCND), BRAC JPGSPH



**Md. Rubaiyath Sarwar**  
Managing Director and Lead  
Consultant, Innovision  
Consulting Private Limited.



**Abu Ahmed Shamim**  
Associate Scientist,  
BRAC JPGSPH.



## IMMUNIZATION BACKLOG DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC: A HOUSEHOLD-BASED ASSESSMENT

**Topic:** A discussion on the impact of vaccine deliveries that has been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Date :** 16 June, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Jucy Merina Adhikari**  
Immunization Specialist,  
UNICEF Bangladesh.



**Dr Tajul Islam A Bari**  
Associate Professor and  
Former Programme  
Manager, EPI, DGHS;  
Consultant, icddr,b.



**Dr Atonu Rabbani**  
Associate Professor,  
Department of Economics,  
University of Dhaka.  
Associate Scientist, BRAC  
JPGSPH.



**Professor Samir Kumar Saha**  
Executive Director, Child  
Health Research Foundation  
(CHRF); Head of the  
Department of Microbiology,  
Dhaka Shishu Hospital.

**Chair:**



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH;  
Convener, Bangladesh  
Health Watch.



## DISABILITY AND COVID-19

**Topic:** The webinar discusses about the limited access and increased risk that persons with disabilities face, due to COVID-19.

**Date :** 10 June, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Fatema Akter Bonny**  
Deputy Research  
Coordinator,  
BRAC JPGSPH.



**Dr Tanvir Hasan**  
Associate Professor and Co-Director  
of the Centre of Excellence for Urban  
Equity and Health (CUEH), Recently  
appointed Research Co-Director,  
BRAC JPGSPH.



**Dr Rajib Hasan**  
Disability and Rehabilitation  
Specialist, Deputy Director  
(Planning), Jatiyo  
Protibondhi Unnayan  
Foundation, [Eng: National  
Disability Dev. Foundation],  
Ministry of Social Welfare.



**K M Amran Hossain**  
Lecturer and Researcher,  
Physiotherapy Department,  
BHPI, Centre for the  
Rehabilitation of the  
Paralysed (CRP).



**Nazma Ara Begum Poppy**  
Project Officer, Handicap  
International.



## SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES AND MEDICAL CARE IN COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THE FUTURE

**Topic:** Sharing findings to collectively develop strategies across borders to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, in the context of different cultures and countries.

**Date :** 1 June, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Kaosar Afsana**  
Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.



**Natasha Howard**  
Associate Professor, NUS  
Saw Swee Hock School of  
Public Health, India.



**Jeremy Lim**  
Co-Director of Global  
Health; Associate Professor,  
NUS Saw Swee Hock School  
of Public Health.



**Hsu Li Yang**  
Co-Director of Global  
Health; Associate Professor,  
NUS Saw Swee Hock School  
of Public Health.

**Special Guest:**



**Professor Teo Yik Ying**  
Dean, NUS Saw Swee Hock  
School of Public Health.



## GENDER, VIOLENCE AND WOMEN'S EXPERIENCES DURING COVID-19

**Topic:** A discussion on the findings and initiatives taken to address the increased cases of violence against women during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Date :** 20 May, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Shaheen Anam**  
Executive Director,  
Manusher Jonno  
Foundation.



**Shahana Siddiqui**  
Adjunct Faculty, BRAC  
JPGSPH.



## COVID-19 IMPACT ON URBAN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS: VULNERABILITIES, CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES FROM FOUR COUNTRIES

**Topic:** A discussion on the challenges, insights and key findings from four different countries on how urban informal settlements have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Date :** 14 May, 2020 | Published in Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Abu Conteh**

Urban Health Research Officer, Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Freetown, Sierra Leone.



**Smruti Srinivas Jukur**

Urban Planner and Architect, SPARC, India.



**Dr Lilian Otiso**

Executive Director, LVCT Health Nairobi, Kenya.



**Varun Sai**

Research Assistant, The George Institute for Global Health India (TGI), New Delhi, India.



**Samuel Saidu**

Research Assistant, COMAHS, University of Sierra Leone, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

**Chair:**



**Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman**

Chairperson, BRAC; Executive Chairman, Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC); ARISE Bangladesh Advisory Board Member.



## SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF A PANDEMIC: STIGMA, GENDER AND COVID-19

**Topic:** The webinar discusses on the rise in fear, discrimination and stigma and its impact on marginalised populations.

**Date :** 7 May, 2020 | Published in Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Nahela Nowshin**

Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University.



**Din M. Sumon Rahman**

University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB).



**Shahana Siddiqui**

Adjunct Faculty, BRAC JPGSPH.



**Dr Shahaduz Zaman**

Senior Lecturer, Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS), UK.





## EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING DURING COVID-19: LEARNING FROM DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES

**Topic:** A look at a number of factors that contribute to mental instability during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Date :** 5 May, 2020 | Published in Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Helal Uddin Ahmed**  
M.D., Associate Professor,  
Child Adolescent and Family  
Psychiatry in National  
Institute of Mental Health  
(NIMH).



**Muhammad Shadab  
Chowdhury**  
Student, Independent  
University, Bangladesh.



**Sadeka Halim PhD**  
Dean, Faculty of Social  
Sciences, University of  
Dhaka; Professor of  
Sociology, Former  
Information Commissioner,  
Bangladesh.



**Dr Atonu Rabbani**  
Associate Professor,  
Department of Economics,  
University of Dhaka;  
Associate Scientist,  
BRAC JPGSPH.



## COVID-19: WHAT WE KNOW AND WHAT WE DON'T KNOW AND WHY THIS MATTERS

**Topic:** The importance of preparedness, how efficiently health systems can prepare and the need for innovations to combat the global pandemic.

**Date :** 30 April, 2020 | Published in Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Michael Friedman**  
Former Country Director, Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
(CDC), USA.

**Moderator:**



**Dr Kaosar Afsana**  
Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.



## PRODUCING A SAFE AND EFFECTIVE VACCINE: ALIGN PUBLIC HEALTH NEEDS WITH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

**Topic:** A discussion on the challenges and leverages to develop safe and effective vaccine from the need to produce.

**Date :** 23 November, 2020 | Published in Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Michael Moore AM**  
Former President, World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA).



**Dr Jane Barratt**  
Secretary General, International Federation of Aging (IFA)



**Professor Ian Frazer**  
Nobel prize and inventor of the vaccine against human papillomavirus (HPV).



**Professor Walter Ricciardi**  
President, World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA).



**Professor Malabika Sarker**  
Associate Dean and Director of the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), Former Director of Research, BRAC JPGSPH.



## IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH: A CATALYST FOR BRIDGING THE KNOWLEDGE GAP BETWEEN DISCOVERY TO DELIVERY

**Date :** 19 November, 2020

**Panelist:**



**Professor Malabika Sarker**  
Associate Dean and Director of the Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU), Former Director of Research, BRAC JPGSPH.



## ROLE OF INFORMAL HEALTH PROVIDERS IN COVID-19

**Topic:** Informal health providers such as pharmacies and village doctors have historically dominated the provision of primary healthcare in Bangladesh, and has had an even more pronounced role during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, significant regulatory and policy gaps prevent their capacity building, mainstreaming and formal sector linkages. Renowned experts and public officials through discussion, attempt to get to the bottom of the issue, and suggest ways forward for Bangladesh on how to deal with this sector productively.

**Date :** 13 August, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Professor Jishnu Das**  
Professor at GWU; Former-Senior Economist in the Development Research Group at the World Bank.



**Dr A. E. Md. Muhiuddin Osmani**  
MBBS, FCPS (Medicine), Joint Chief (Health Wing), Planning Commission, Ministry of Planning.



**Professor Malabika Sarker**  
Associate Dean and  
Director of the Centre of  
Excellence for Science of  
Implementation and  
Scale-Up (CoE-SISU),  
Former Director of  
Research, BRAC JPGSPH.



**Dr Aftab Uddin**  
Public Health Expert and  
Medical Educationalist.

**Session Chair:**



**Dr Abu Mohammad Zakir Hussain**  
Primary Health Care and Disease Control  
(PH&DC), Institute of Epidemiology  
Disease Control And Research (IEDCR);  
Former Regional Advisor South-East Asia  
Regional Office (SEARO), WHO.



## MIB WEBINAR ON “IMPACTS OF CORONAVIRUS ON NON-MEMBER RMG FACTORIES IN BANGLADESH”

**Topic:** To know the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the non-member ready-made garments factories of Bangladesh, the MiB project discusses the findings of a study titled "Impact of Coronavirus on Non-Member RMG Factories in Bangladesh".

**Date :** 12 August, 2020 | Published on Youtube

**Panelist:**



**Jenefa Jabbar**  
Advocate Supreme Court  
of Bangladesh, Director  
Human Rights and Legal  
Aid Services (HRLS) and  
Social Compliance, BRAC.



**Md. Kamrul Hasan**  
Deputy Inspector General,  
Department Of Inspection  
for Factories and  
Establishment (DIFE).



**Dr Khondakar Golam Moazzem**  
Research Director, Centre  
for Policy Dialogue (CPD).



**Mossamat Parvin**  
RMG worker



**Tapan Shaha**  
General Secretary, Textile  
Garments Workers  
Federation.



**Tania Taslima**  
Managing Director,  
2Ts Creation.



**Sharif Zahif**  
Managing Director, Ananta Group,  
Director Bangladesh Garment  
Manufacturers and Exporters  
Association (BGMEA).

**Chair:**



**Professor Dr Rahim B. Talukdar**  
Adviser, Centre for  
Entrepreneurship (CED),  
Team Leader, Mapped in  
Bangladesh (MiB), CED-  
Brac University.



**Dr Atonu Rabbani**  
Associate Professor,  
Department of Economics,  
University of Dhaka;  
Associate Scientist,  
BRAC JPGSPH.

**Keynote Presenters:**





## ROHINGYA CRISIS: A PERSPECTIVE FROM BANGLADESH

**Topic:** As a developing nation and with the added dimension of managing the Rohingya refugee community, Bangladesh faces its own unique set of challenges. The panel of experts discuss about the challenges, successes of improving the lives of refugees and what future steps must be taken to support the community further.

**Date :** 10 July, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Kaosar Afsana**  
Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.



**Md. Shamsud Douza**  
Additional Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (Deputy Secretary), Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner Office, Cox's Bazar.



**AKM Mazharul Islam**  
Professor of Anthropology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST); Executive Director, Institute of Applied Anthropology.



**Md Rashadul Islam**  
Senior Assistant Secretary and Camp in Charge in Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Camps (FDMN) 11, 12 and 18, Cox's Bazar.



## SOUTH ASIA: THE PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO COVID-19

**Topic:** Assessment of the public health policies and infrastructural facilities to mitigate further spread and another spike of COVID-19 with experts from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.

**Date :** 2 July, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH; Convener, Bangladesh Health Watch.



**Dr Mishal S Khan**  
Associate Professor, Health Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



**K Srinath Reddy**  
President Public Health Foundation of India.



**Dr Faisal Sultan**  
CEO, Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, Lahore.



## ENGAGING COMMUNITIES IN TIMES OF COVID-19

**Topic:** A discussion on communication strategies around COVID-19 response that together illustrate the intrinsic, ethical, instrumental values with their active communities.

**Date :** 16 June, 2020 | Published on Youtube

**Panelist:**



**Ruth Rutalek**  
Medical University of Vienna.



**Oksana Koshalko**  
Ministry of Health (MoH), Ukraine.



**Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid**  
Dean and Director, Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH.

Chair:



**Phaik Yeong**  
Mahidol University, Thailand.



## WHY AND HOW SOCIO-ANTHROPOLOGY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

**Topic:** The spread of COVID-19 depends on the the lifestyles and behaviour of people. This webinar attempts to help policymakers, COVID-19 responders and the public health community understand what socio anthropology can contribute to COVID-19 and how it can be made an integral part of the response.

**Date :** 15 June, 2020 | Uploaded on Microsoft Stream

Panelist:



**Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid**  
Dean and Director, Centre of Excellence for Gender,  
Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR),  
BRAC JPGSPH.



## COVID-19 AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

**Topic:** How social science knowledge and practice can be used to tackle the COVID-19 crises and beyond.

**Date :** 5 June 2020 | Published on Facebook

Panelist:



**Dr Nestro Castro**  
Professor of Anthropology  
and Former Vice Chancellor  
for Community Affairs,  
University of Philippines.



**AKM Mazharul Islam**  
Professor of Anthropology,  
Shahjalal University of Science  
and Technology (SUST);  
Executive Director, Institute of  
Applied Anthropology.



**Dr Darunee Phukao**  
Department of Society and  
Health, Mahidol University,  
Thailand.



**Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid**  
Dean and Director, Centre of  
Excellence for Gender, Sexual  
and Reproductive Health and  
Rights (CGSRHR),  
BRAC JPGSPH.



## POST- 'GENERAL HOLIDAY' HEALTH RISKS

**Topic:** The webinar brought together experts to discuss how the gradual easing of lockdown restrictions after three months will impact the COVID-19 situation of the country and how people will adapt to the changes and possible issues that may arise

**Date :** 1 June, 2020 | Published on Facebook

Panelist:



**Dr Rowshan Ara Begum**  
Member, National Technical  
Advisory Committee (NTAC)  
on COVID-19 Professor,  
Gynecology and Obstetrics  
Department, Holy Family  
Red Crescent Medical  
College & Hospital.



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
former Vice Chair of BRAC;  
Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH;  
Convener, Bangladesh  
Health Watch.



**Dr Abu Jamil Faisal**  
Public Health Expert  
Advisor, Assigned to Sylhet  
Division, Ministry of Health  
and Family Welfare  
(MoHFW), GoB Adjunct  
Faculty at State University  
of Bangladesh (SUB),  
Bangladesh University of  
Health Sciences (BUHS) and  
University of Dhaka.



**Dr Firdausi Qadri**  
Senior Scientist, Head  
Mucosal Immunology and  
Vaccinology Unit, Infectious  
Diseases Division, icddr,b;  
Chairman, IDESHI.

**Introductory  
Remarks:**



**Dr Debapriya  
Bhattacharya**  
Citizen's Platform for  
SDGs, Bangladesh and  
Distinguished Fellow,  
Centre for Policy  
Dialogue (CPD).



## EFFECTIVENESS OF ONE HEALTH PLATFORMS FOR PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE: LESSONS LEARNED

**Topic:** The findings from the integrated efforts of multiple disciplines to achieve optimal health for humans, animals and the environment.

**Date :** 29 May, 2020 | Published on Youtube

**Panelist:**



**Professor Dirk Pfeiffer**  
Chair of One Health;  
Professor of the  
Department of Infectious  
Diseases and Public Health,  
Director (OHRP), Centre for  
Applied One Health  
Research and Policy Advice  
at the City University of  
Hong Kong.



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
former Vice Chair of BRAC;  
Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH;  
Convener, Bangladesh  
Health Watch.



## IMPACTS OF COVID-19 ON TERTIARY EDUCATION: NATIONS' RESPONSES

**Topic:** Educators from Bangladesh, USA and Canada speak on their nation's response to the virus's impact on tertiary education.

**Date :** 29 May, 2020 | | Published on Youtube

**Panelist:**



**Professor Dr Sadeka Halim**  
Dean, faculty of Social  
Sciences and Professor of  
Sociology, University of  
Dhaka (Former Information  
Commissioner of  
Bangladesh).



**Izzeddin Hawamda**  
Educator - Seven Oaks  
School Division, Winnipeg  
PhD Candidate, Peace and  
Conflict Studies, University  
of Manitoba.



**Professor Dr Bob Hopkins**  
Business Studies, University  
of Texas, Arlington and  
Philanthropist.



**AKM Mazharul Islam**  
Professor of Anthropology,  
Shahjalal University of Science  
and Technology (SUST);  
Executive Director, Institute of  
Applied Anthropology.





## VULNERABLE POPULATIONS AND COVID-19: BANGLADESH DURING A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

**Topic:** A discussion on the state of various vulnerable groups in Bangladesh due to COVID-19.

**Date :** 27 May, 2020 | Published on Youtube

**Panelist:**



**Maburur Ahmed**  
Founder/Director, Restless  
Beings, UK.



**Rahima Begum**  
Founder/Co-Director,  
Restless Beings, UK.



**Naomi Hossain**  
Senior Professorial Lecturer,  
School of International  
Service, American University.



**Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid,**  
Dean and Director, Centre  
of Excellence for Gender,  
Sexual and Reproductive  
Health and Rights  
(CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH.



**Ali Riaz**  
Professor, Political Science  
at Illinois State University;  
Nonresident Senior Fellow  
of Atlantic Council.



**Sanchita Saxena**  
Director, Subir and Malini  
Chowdhury Center for  
Bangladesh Studies,  
University of California,  
Berkeley.



## NUTRITION FOR MOTHER AND CHILDREN DURING COVID-19 IN BANGLADESH

**Topic:** Addressing and adapting to the challenges of a global pandemic to ensure access of nutrition to mothers and children.

**Date :** 21 May, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Kaosar Afsana**  
Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.



**Dr AFM Iqbal Kabir**  
Consultant, Bangladesh  
National Nutrition Council  
(BNNC).



**Abu Sayeed Khan**  
Senior Journalist, Daily  
Samakal, Bangladesh.



**Saiqa Siraj**  
Nutrition International  
Bangladesh.



**Piyali Mustaphi**  
Chief, Nutrition Section,  
UNICEF Bangladesh.



## TARGETING COVID-19 RELIEF PAYMENTS IN BANGLADESH

**Topic:** Coronavirus is creating new vulnerable groups who have experienced a sudden loss of income. In response, the government of Bangladesh has committed to support at least four million vulnerable families through immediate emergency cash transfers. The webinar discusses about how these payments should be targeted to households that have been affected.

**Date :** 7 May, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Anir Chowdhury**  
Policy Adviser, A2i.



**Mushfiq Mobarak**  
Professor of Economics,  
Yale University.



**Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid**  
Dean and Director, Centre  
of Excellence for Gender,  
Sexual and Reproductive  
Health and Rights  
(CGSRHR), BRAC JPGSPH.



**Asif Saleh**  
Executive Director, BRAC.



## STARTUP TALKS: THE FUTURE OF HEALTHTECH IN BANGLADESH

**Topic:** Industry leading experts discuss the future of healthcare post-COVID-19, the potential for emerging opportunities for the industry, and the impact of investment in AI assisted vaccination process.

**Date :** 5 May, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Kaosar Afsana**  
Professor, BRAC JPGSPH.



**Shohorab Ahmed Chowdhury**  
Managing Director and  
Co-Founder, Synesis IT Ltd.



**Sajid Rahman**  
Founder and Chief  
Executive Officer, Digital  
Healthcare Solutions.



## THE RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IN SOUTH ASIA

**Topic:** An overview of the varied in-region responses to the COVID-19 and their impact on the health system and social sector.

**Date :** 17 April, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Richard Cash**  
Senior Lecturer on Global  
Health, Department of  
Global Health and  
Population, Harvard  
University T.H. Chan School  
of Public Health.



**Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid**  
Dean and Director, Centre  
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**Dr Shamika Ravi**  
Senior Fellow of the  
Governance Studies  
Programme, Brookings  
Institution.



**Dr Srinath Reddy**  
President, Public Health  
Foundation of India (PHFI).

BRAC JPGSPH serves as the Secretariat for Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW), which is a multi-stakeholder civil society advocacy and monitoring network dedicated to improving the health system in Bangladesh through a critical review of policies and programmes and recommendation of appropriate actions for change. Six webinars have also been hosted by BHW where representatives of the School has participated.



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN COVID-19 PANDEMIC: LESSONS LEARNED FROM BRAC, HUNGER PROJECT AND SAJIDA FOUNDATION

**Topic:** Shared experiences on the community engagement of development organisations in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

**Date :** 31 August, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Dr Morseda Chowdhury**  
Associate Director at Health, Nutrition and Population Programme, BRAC Bangladesh.



**Md. Fazlul Haque**  
Senior Director, Development Programme, SAJIDA Foundation.



**Dr Badiul Alam Majumdar**  
Country Director, The Hunger Project, Bangladesh.

**Moderator:**



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
former Vice Chair of BRAC; Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH; Convener, Bangladesh Health Watch.



## SUCCESS WITH COVID-19: LEARNING FROM KERALA (INDIA), THAILAND AND VIETNAM

**Topic:** To improve learnings and to inspire policymakers to implement good practices that were undertaken in Thailand, Vietnam and Kerala (India), to manage this pandemic more effectively.

**Date :** 20 July, 2020 | Published on Facebook

**Panelist:**



**Chawetsan Namwat**  
Chief, Field Epidemiology Training Programme (FETP), Bangkok, Thailand.



**Tran Mai Oanh**  
Director, Health Strategy and Policy Institute (HSPI), Hanoi, Vietnam.



**K.R. Thankappan**  
Professor, Central University of Kerala, India.

**Moderator:**

**Chair:**



**Abul Kalam Azad**  
Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
former Vice Chair of BRAC; Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH; Convener, Bangladesh Health Watch.





## APPLICATION OF ANTIBODY TESTING TO MONITOR, TREAT AND PREVENT SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN BANGLADESH

**Topic:** This webinar invites health experts from around the country to discuss on the possibilities and prospects of using the antibody testing to ensure a more effective approach to treating COVID-19 infection and reducing its spread.

**Date :** 5 July, 2020 | Published on Facebook

### Panelist:



**Dr Be-Nazir Ahmed**  
Infectious Disease Specialist, Former Director, Disease Control, Director General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)



**Dr Yasmin Ahmed**  
Adviser, Bangladesh Health Watch.



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
former Vice Chair of BRAC; Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH; Convener, Bangladesh Health Watch.



**Dr Mohammad Shawkat Hassan**  
Immunologist, Director, Department of Laboratory Medicine, BIRDEM Hospital.



**Dr Khairul Islam**  
Bangladesh Health Watch.



**Dr Nazrul Islam**  
Virologist, Former Vice Chancellor, BSMMU.



**Mahrukh Mohiuddin**  
Bangladesh Health Watch.



**Professor Md. Sayedur Rahman**  
Chairman, Department of Pharmacology, BSMMU  
Chairman of Bangladesh Pharmacological Society.



**Sadaf Saaz**  
Molecular Biologist, CEO, EskeGen.



## RAPID ASSESSMENT ON FEAR AND STIGMA ASSOCIATED WITH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN BANGLADESH

**Topic:** Sharing the results of a rapid assessment on fear and stigma associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in Bangladesh.

**Date :** 2 May, 2020 | Published on Facebook

### Panelist:



**Dr Shahaduz Zaman**  
Senior Lecturer, Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS), UK.

### Moderator:



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
former Vice Chair of BRAC; Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH; Convener, Bangladesh Health Watch.



## FUTURE HEALTH SYSTEMS FOR BANGLADESH: THE CASE FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE (UHC)

Date : 5 June, 2020

Panelist:



**Md. Asadul Islam**  
Health Services Division,  
Ministry of Health and  
Family Welfare (MoHFW).



**Fahmida Khatun**  
Executive Director, Centre  
for Policy Dialogue (CPD).



**Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman**  
Chairperson, BRAC;  
Executive Chairman, Power  
and Participation Research  
Centre (PPRC).



**Mohammad Shahidullah**  
Former Pro-VC of BSMMU  
and Lead of COVID-19  
National Technical Advisory  
Committee.



**Robert Yates**  
Executive Director, Centre  
for Universal Health at  
Chatham House, UK.

Moderator:



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
former Vice Chair of  
BRAC; Advisor, BRAC  
JPGSPH; Convener,  
Bangladesh Health Watch.



## BRAC JPGSPH AND BHW: LAUNCH OF 6 RESEARCH STUDIES

**Topic:** BRAC JPGSPH and BHW unveiled the research findings of six different studies through a virtual press launch. The studies that looked at the impact of the coronavirus outbreak on the general and mental health of the population at large, RMG workers, frontline health workers and marginalised groups – including the transgender community in Bangladesh.

Date : 18 April, 2020

Panelist:



**Dr Yasmin Ahmed**  
Adviser,  
Bangladesh Health Watch.



**Dr Mushtaque Chowdhury**  
former Vice Chair of BRAC;  
Advisor, BRAC JPGSPH;  
Convener, Bangladesh  
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**Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid**  
Dean and Director, Centre  
of Excellence for Gender,  
Sexual and Reproductive  
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# FAMILY OF BRAC JPGSPH SCHOOL

(The following list has been updated till 31 May, 2021)

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT

- **Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid**, Dean, Professor and Director, Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CHSRHR)
- **Dr Malabika Sarker**, Associate Dean, Professor and Director, Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale Up (CoE-SISU)
- **Dr Syed Masud Ahmed**, Professor and Director, Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage
- **Dr Zahidul Quayyum**, Professor, Director of Research and Co-Director, Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)
- **Dr Kaosar Afsana**, Professor, oversees Humanitarian Research Hub
- **Dr Selina Amin**, Head, Midwifery Education Programme and Project Director, Developing Midwives Project Phase 2 (DMP-2)
- **Sharmina Rahman**, Strategy Advisor & Assistant Director in-charge
- **Dr Malay Kanti Mridha**, Professor and Director, Centre of Excellence for Non-Communicable Diseases and Nutrition (CNCDN)
- **Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan**, Associate Professor, Co-Director of Research and Co-Director, Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)
- **Zahid Imtiaz Mannan**, Senior Manager, Finance and Accounts
- **Dr Atonu Rabbani**, Associate Scientist
- **Dr Yameen Mazumder**, Senior Project Consultant
- **Shaikh A. Shahed Hossain**, Adjunct Professor
- **Barnali Chakraborty**, Assistant Scientist
- **Mikhail I. Islam**, Learning Design Consultant

## FACULTY, RESEARCHERS AND FACILITATORS

- **Professor Abu Hena M. Mahbub Latif**, Scientist (Part time)

(Arranged alphabetically by last name)

- **Dr Md. Musharraf Ashraf**, Research Advisor (Analytical Chemistry)
- **Professor Syed M Hashemi**, Research Advisor
- **Dr Sharin Shahjahan Naomi**, Technical Expert (Gender) (Part time)
- **Muhammad Ruhul Quddus**, Research Advisor (Policy advocacy)
- **Dr Fawzia Rasheed**, Visiting Professor of Practice
- **Dr M Shafiqur Rahman**, Technical Advisor (Part time)
- **Dr Nazma Shaheen**, Research Advisor (Investigator, Co-PI)
- **Dr Abu Ahmed Shamim**, Associate Scientist (Part time)

- **Bachera Aktar**, Assistant Director
- **Dr Humayra Binte Anwar**, Lecturer
- **Dr Mrityika Barua**, Assistant Scientist
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- **Tahsin Madani Hossain**, Assistant MPH Coordinator, Administration & Student Affairs and Coordinator, Erasmus
- **Fauzul Kabir**, Assistant MPH Coordinator
- **Moontaka Tuba**, Senior Manager - Legal, Administration and Education

(Please see page 22 for list of Faculty and Facilitators teaching in the MPH Programme)

### Developing Midwifery Programme (DMP) Phase-2

- **Taslima Akter**, Operations Manager
- **Md. Jahangir Alom**, Deputy Manager, Finance and Accounts
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- **Kalpana Roy**, Team Leader



- **Kazi Mohammad Abu Yusuf**, Admin and Procurement Officer
- **Tabassum Tahrima Zahan**, Student Affairs and Human Resource Support Officer

*(Please see page 59 for list of Faculty and Facilitators teaching in the DMP Programme)*

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- **Fatema Akter Bonny**, Deputy Research Coordinator
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