

BIDS

Biennial Report

2011-2012



The Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies



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Biennial Report
2011-2012

BIDS

Better research... ■ Better policy... ■ Better Bangladesh

January 2013

Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies
www.bids.org.bd



Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies

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Message

from the Chairman
of the Board of Trustees

Air Vice Marshal (Retd.)

A K Khandker

Honourable Minister
Ministry of Planning
Government of the
People's Republic of Bangladesh

It is with great pleasure that I write this message for the BIDS Biennial Report 2011-2012. I am happy to note that BIDS has been striving hard to achieve its goal of conducting policy-relevant research to help shape policy debate, promote research excellence, and strengthen partnerships for development in Bangladesh. In the process, BIDS has also been making valuable contributions in the field of knowledge generation and in improving the quality of policies through research and other activities. I am glad that BIDS is providing a unique, relevant, and valuable service to the policy makers, and has reaffirmed its full commitment to work towards promoting shared and sustained development in Bangladesh.

As the Biennial Report 2011-12 indicates, BIDS has provided analytical input and technical support in a number of critical policy areas during the two years under review. As the think tank with the mandate to assist the policy makers, BIDS suggested credible domestic policies to face the global price hike of food commodities and ensure food security in the country. Moreover, the global financial crisis and the consequent global economic recession had considerable impact on the Bangladesh economy with adverse economic and social consequences. This brought out the need to give a fresh and critical look to the impact of the crisis on our development policy and performance in the context of globalization and economic integration. It became crucial for Bangladesh to mull over this question at this point in time when Bangladesh is charting out a new course of development through framing the long term Perspective Plan (2010-2021) and the Sixth Five Year Plan (2011-2015) with a view to realizing the Vision 2021. I am pleased to note that BIDS has played its due role in these activities.

At this time, it is only natural to expect that BIDS, the country's premier think tank, will reposition itself to play a more pro-active role in shaping the future agenda in the coming days not just for the government but for everyone concerned with the theory and practice of development in general and of Bangladesh in particular.

Looking ahead at the coming years, I am confident BIDS will continue to serve the cause of sustainable and inclusive development in Bangladesh and elsewhere in the developing world.

January 2013

Air Vice Marshal (Retd.) A K Khandker, BU



Message

from the Director General



The Biennial Report 2011-2012 provides summary information on BIDS activities covering the period from July 2010 to December 2012. As we look back to the two and a half years under review, I would like to express our deep appreciation for the guidance, support, and help we have received from the Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board of Trustees, Distinguished Senior Fellows, and all our partners both in the government and in civil society.

It is my privilege to inform you that BIDS has made considerable progress in scope, depth, and scale of its activities during this period. We are thankful to the government, our national and global partners, other partner organisations, and our friends and well-wishers both at home and abroad who continue to endorse our efforts and contribute to our success.

Over the last two and a half years, BIDS has moved forward in its mission of building research capacity and conducting in-depth and policy relevant research. BIDS has strived towards generating research outputs to address some of the difficult issues of development facing Bangladesh as well as other developing countries. In particular, the creation of the BIDS Research Endowment Fund (REF) with a grant of Tk. 200 million by the government in 2009 exclusively to carry out policy research at the Institute has significantly enhanced our scope of conducting institutional research. During the period, BIDS has built a team of young professionals capable of bringing them and their knowledge into the mainstream of development research through policy relevant works. The BIDS researchers have provided important professional support to the government, especially to the Planning Commission, in preparing long and medium term plans and programmes for the country.

In research undertakings, our aim is to ensure the quality of research, completeness in terms of interpretation, analysis of available and feasible options, widest possible participation and consultation among concerned stakeholders, and reflec



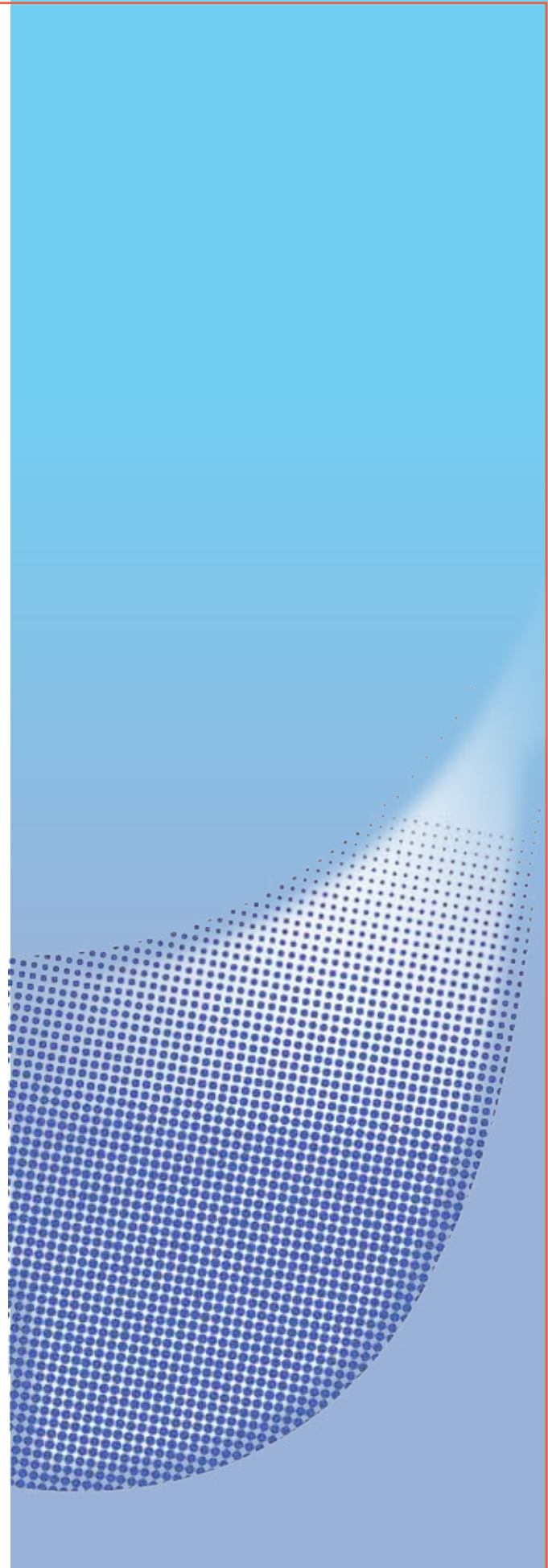
tion of the nature of research-policy nexus surrounding specific issues. In this context, the Secretariat of the South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutes (SANEI) which was re-located in BIDS in October 2009, has been providing unique opportunities to expand the Institute's outreach and network across the region and beyond. In the pursuit of BIDS vision, our continuing priorities remain the following: conduct quality research, facilitate learning in development solutions, foster policy dialogue, disseminate policy options, and develop coalitions for promoting informed policy making. In order to bring success in influencing policies, BIDS researchers always remain prepared to take advantage of policy windows learn to create new windows, and play the role of policy entrepreneurs to tap defining moments in promoting the causes of shared and inclusive development in the country.

In the coming years, we look forward to further concretising this long term vision for being part of a process that places BIDS firmly on the level of engagement in furthering better research and better policy leading to better Bangladesh.

Finally, I would like to express my deep gratitude to all BIDS professionals and other staff who have cooperated and contributed to the preparation and publication of this Report.

Mustafa K. Mujeri
Director General

January 2013



About BIDS





The Institute

The Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), known as Bangladesh Unnayan Gobeshona Protishthan in Bangla, was established in June 1957. It was then called the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) and its mandate was to service the growing demand of policy research in the country. The Institute was moved to Dhaka in January 1971 and was renamed as the Bangladesh Institute of Development Economics after Independence.

Subsequently, a Parliamentary Charter was given to the Institute in 1974 to work as an autonomous institution governed by a Board of Trustees under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Planning and having representatives from both public and civil society institutions. The Institute was renamed as the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) to reflect the multi-disciplinary focus of the country's research needs in support of policy making. The process of restructuring also included the merger of two other national level research institutions, the Population

Study Center and the National Foundation for Research on Human Resource Development, into BIDS in 1982 and 1983 respectively giving the Institute a broad and more policy oriented mandate.

Sustained efforts spanning over nearly 55 years of its existence have enabled BIDS to emerge as the premier research institute and the leading think tank of the country to advance research on critical national and regional development issues, promote coalition and partnerships for dissemination of knowledge and policy options ensuring national ownership and reflecting Bangladesh's perspectives of development, build research excellence to advance credible policy options, provide platforms to promote policy debates, act as a policy entrepreneur to advance research based policies and influence policies and programmes to improve the quality of the country's development process for achieving the cherished development goals within the minimum time horizon.



Vision and Mission

The BIDS shall operate as a dynamic, effective, and forward looking institution and remain as the country's center of excellence for carrying out research on developmental concerns facing Bangladesh and other developing countries. It will act as the bridge and provide the institutional channel among the researchers and the policy makers for disseminating research findings, knowledge and policy implications in order to promote research based policies. This would largely be achieved through ensuring the quality and relevance of BIDS research and other outputs and maintaining high professional competency of its staff.

The mission of BIDS is to facilitate learning in development solutions through conducting credible research, fostering policy dialogue, disseminating policy options and developing coalitions to promote informed policy making. The Institute conducts training on research methodologies and carries out evaluation of development interventions. The BIDS researchers also contribute directly to formulation of government policies through their interactions and participation in the policy making process.

- Assist the policy makers in designing credible development strategies for achieving economic and social goals;
- Expand research outreach to civil society and other stakeholders to help shape policy debates on key development issues, develop broader understanding and consensus and promote knowledge based policy agenda;
- Conduct training and capacity building programmes and promote the application of cutting edge research techniques and appropriate methodologies in economics and allied social sciences to develop human and institutional capacities within the government and in other institutions;
- Promote research communication and networking with national and international partners to share research findings; and
- Stimulate interaction within the research community including policy makers, civil society and other stakeholders through organising workshops, seminars, conferences and using available modes of print and electronic media.

Strategic Objectives

The strategic objectives of BIDS are crystallised around the theme of generating reliable policy oriented research on development issues along with strengthening research-policy links to promote informed policy making in Bangladesh. In the quest of its strategic objectives, BIDS activities are multi-dimensional and inherently straddle several objectives:

- Promote excellence in policy research and extend the knowledge frontiers to facilitate learning in development solutions, especially in priority areas of development related to social well being of the poor and disadvantaged groups in society;
- Generate socioeconomic data to facilitate analytical research on current economic and social issues and enable informed development planning and policy formulation by the government;

Focus and Target Groups

The BIDS undertakes a wide spectrum of activities covering its mandate of enriching the country's policy environment, creating awareness on improving policy responses, creating policy analysis and dissemination capacities, and influencing policies. In order to meet the mandate, BIDS works with a large group of stakeholders including the parliamentarians, policy makers, government functionaries, professionals, business leaders and trade union representatives, civil society organisations, grassroots organisations and nongovernment organisations (NGOs), policy activist groups as well as development partners and other interest groups. Close collaboration of all relevant stakeholders in various processes along with a high quality of research ensures the heightened status of BIDS as the country's premier policy research institute and its wide success in transforming research into policy actions to touch the lives of the common people, especially the poor and disadvantaged groups in society.

Governance and Management Structure

The BIDS has a well structured governance and management structure to guide and support its professional activities. The Director General acts as the Chief Executive Officer of the Institute who is appointed by the Board of Trustees for a period of three years.

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is the highest decision making body of BIDS which is chaired by the Minister of Planning of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. The Board of Trustees usually meets thrice a year and approves the work plan and the budget as well as provides guidelines for developing human and professional capacities. The members of the Board of Trustees as in December 2012 can be seen in Box 1.



Box 1: BIDS Board of Trustees

Chairman

Air Vice Marshal (Retd.) A.K. Khandker

Minister of Planning
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Trustees

Mr. Bhuiyan Shafiqul Islam

Secretary
Planning Division, Ministry of Planning
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Dr. Mustafa K. Mujeri

Director General, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies

Professor Dr. A. K. Azad Chowdhury

Chairman (State Minister)
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

Dr. Atiur Rahman

Governor, Bangladesh Bank

Mr. Fazle Kabir

Secretary, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury

Secretary, Ministry of Education
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Professor Rehman Sobhan

Chairman
Centre for Policy Dialogue

Dr. M. Farashuddin

President, Board of Trustees
East West University

Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud

Department of Economics
University of Dhaka

Mr. Abdul Jalil Mian

Director General
Bangladesh Rural Development Board

Chairman, Social Science Research Council

Dr. Zaid Bakht

Research Director
Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies

Dr. Rushidan Islam Rahman

Research Director
Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies

Dr. Binayak Sen

Research Director
Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies

The Senior Fellows

The Statute of BIDS provides for forming an Advisory Committee of twelve Senior Fellows, who are nominated by the Policy Coordination Committee (PCC) of the Institute and appointed by the Board of Trustees for a period of three years. The Senior Fellows are nominated from among the country's eminent professionals in various fields who can provide guidance in planning, designing and implementing BIDS programmes. The names of the Senior Fellows as in December 2012 are given in Annex 1.

Statutory Committees

The BIDS has three Statutory Committees to assist the Director General in running the Institute and promote shared and decentralised administration. The Statutory Committees are: (i) Policy Coordination Committee (PCC); (ii) Administrative Affairs Committee (AAC); and (iii) Finance Committee (FC).

The Chairperson of PCC is the Director General and the ex-officio members include all Research Directors, Chairpersons of AAC and FC, Chiefs of all Divisions, and the Secretary of BIDS. The PCC advises the Director General on major policy issues of the Institute such as allocation of research funds, awarding of scholarships and fellowships, nominations to workshops and professional meetings, project administration and management, nomination of Senior Fellows and selection of members to other Statutory Committees. The PCC generally meets every week to take stock of BIDS activities and discuss issues related to professional as well as

administrative matters. Minutes of the PCC meetings are circulated among all concerned staff to ensure follow-up actions and monitoring. The PCC also helps in designing the research strategy and research priorities, formulating capacity building programmes and building dissemination strategies for BIDS.

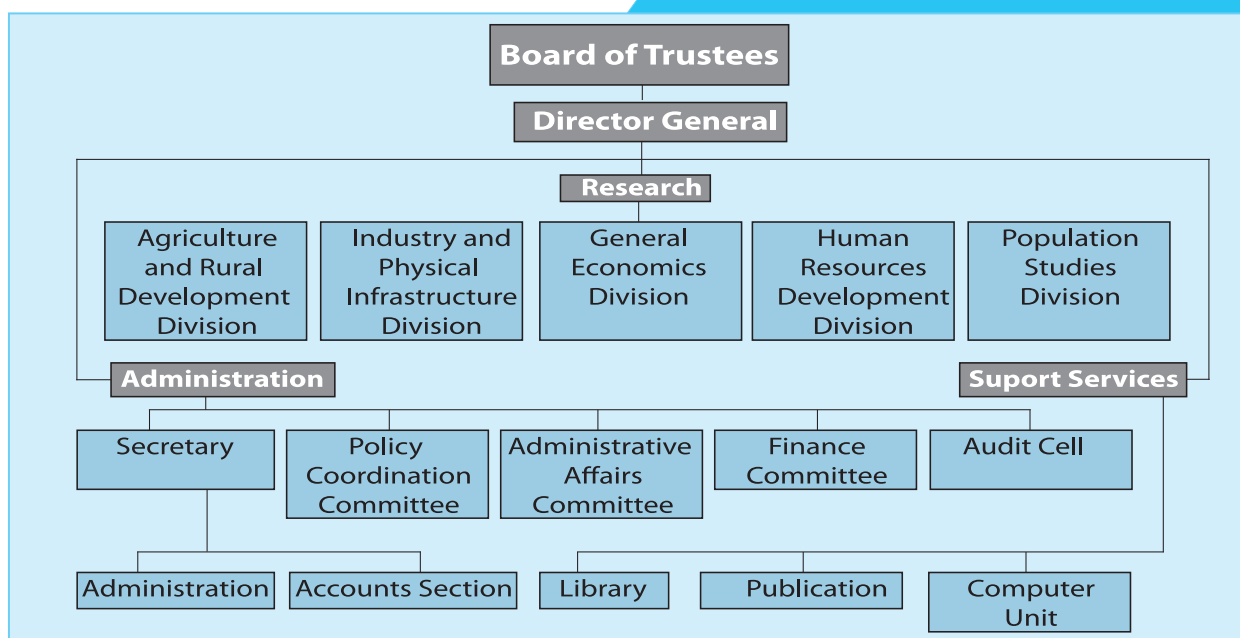
The AAC recommends on administrative matters of the Institute to the Director General for necessary action. The FC is responsible for financial management and makes recommendations on all financial matters to the Director General. The list of the members of the three Statutory Committees as in December 2012 can be seen in Annex 2.

Institutional Structure and Staff

The Institute is run by a group of professional and non-professional staff who work together in implementing the work plan and performing other responsibilities. The Organogram of the administrative structure of BIDS is given in Figure 1.

Each professional staff is a member of one of the five Research Divisions of BIDS. The coordination of the activities in each Division is ensured by the Division Chief who is appointed by the PCC for a period of two years. However, given the highly inter-sectoral nature and cross-cutting dimensions of development issues, the domain of Research Divisions gets blurred in practice and the researchers often conduct research studies within a multi-disciplinary focus ensuring close inter-Divisional linkages.

Figure 1: Organogram of BIDS



Agriculture and Rural Development Division (ARDD)

The Agriculture and Rural Development Division (ARDD) is the home of research and other activities pertaining to agriculture, natural resources management, environment and climate change issues, development of rural non-farm activities and rural infrastructure, and other broader issues of rural development. Many of the activities of the Division relate to identifying the challenges of sustainable food security and nutrition and promoting policy options within the broader frameworks of ensuring livelihood security of the country's rural population. In view of the broad nature and the prime importance of the rural sector in the country, recent analytical research of ARDD provides a broad canvass covering key areas such as rural poverty dynamics and monitoring poverty process, employment and labour market issues, microcredit and financial inclusiveness, land market and tenancy reforms, productivity growth and agricultural diversification, non-crop agriculture and non-farm activities, rural infrastructure development and climate change impacts.

General Economics Division (GED)

The focus of the activities of the General Economics Division (GED) relates to macroeconomic issues including stability and growth, fiscal, monetary and related policy framework, external sector developments, and analysing the framework of inclusive development. The recent research activities have covered wide areas on issues of macroeconomic management including assessing the impact of the global economic crisis, nexus between monetary and fiscal policies for development, creating sustainable livelihoods, analysing human development and assessing progress toward the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and defining the post-MDGs agenda, regional cooperation issues, and analysing the dynamics of chronic poverty.

Human Resources Development Division (HRDD)

The activities of the Human Resources Development Division (HRDD) centres around promoting human development in a broad sense covering all dimensions including education, health, nutrition, gender, social inclusion and empowerment, and key poverty aspects

of human development. The recent research of the Division has covered both cross-cutting and specific dimensions of human development such as equity and efficiency issues in education, health aspects of development, social capital development and empowerment issues, decentralisation and governance, and dynamics of migration and urbanisation.

Industry and Physical Infrastructure Division (IPID)

The Industry and Physical Infrastructure Division (IPID) carries out research and other activities related to industry and infrastructure in general with special emphasis on small and medium enterprises, microenterprises, rural industries and non-farm activities, and infrastructure development, particularly on developing rural infrastructure for balanced and inclusive development of the country. Recent research in the Division covered several areas including labour productivity and decent work issues, globalisation and manufacturing industries, regional trade regimes and manufacturing growth, and competitiveness of export industries in an open regime.

Population Studies Division (PSD)

The activities of the Population Studies Division (PSD) extend beyond the quantitative aspects of population dynamics to cover critical areas for transforming population into an important element and the most significant outcome of the country's development process. The areas cover empowerment and reproductive behaviour, health service provision and health seeking behaviour, child and elderly health and vulnerability, maternal health and household behaviour, poverty-health interfaces, domestic violence and violence against women, citizenship and rights, and adolescent reproductive health.

Professional Staff

The current strength of the research staff in BIDS can be seen in Table 1. At present, 40 positions of the research staff are filled-in out of a total number of 81. The academic profile of BIDS professionals is given in Annex 3. There are more than 100 non-research staff at BIDS who work in various support sections such as Administration, Accounts, Library, Publication, and the Computer Unit. The names of the BIDS staffs as in December 2012 are given in Annex 4.

Table 1: Number of Research Staff in BIDS

Post	Number of position	
	Sanctioned	Filled-in (December 2012)
Director General	1	1
Research Director	5	3
Senior Research Fellow	14	9
Research Fellow	28	10
Research Associate	28	17
Research Assistant	4	...
Statistical Assistant	1	...
Total	81	40

Source: Administration Section, BIDS.

Support Services

The support services of BIDS are organised under different sections/units in order to ensure adequate coordination and efficient delivery of required services. The aim is to facilitate the smooth functioning of the Institute in pursuit of its goals.

The Administration Section

The Administration Section is responsible for providing administrative services to the Institute for its smooth functioning. The Secretary is the head of the administration and also officiates as the Secretary to the Board of Trustees. The total number of staff is around 54 in administration. While the Director General as the Chief Executive oversees the administration, the AAC makes recommendations on administrative matters. During the period under review, physical facilities have been significantly improved and the BIDS building has been renovated to provide needed support to the Institute's research and other activities. A plan has been taken up to construct a new multi-storied building to expand the activities of BIDS.

The BIDS Library

The BIDS Library is the largest social sciences library in Bangladesh. It has a collection of nearly 130,000 books, documents, journals and microfiches. The Library provides a wide range of services to the user community, including current awareness, reproduction, inter-library lending and reading facilities. Annually about 5,000 users visit the Library and avail the facilities. Due to its

rich collections, BIDS Library attracts students, teachers and researchers from different parts of Bangladesh and outside.

The BIDS Library is a participant in information networks to facilitate resource-sharing, and maintains inter-library loan relationships with selected libraries in Dhaka city. The Library operates exchange programme with 360 national and international organisations and receives a large number of documents and journals from them in exchange of BIDS publications.

The Library is the depository of publications of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The BIDS Library also acted as the South Asian nodal centre of the IDRC sponsored DEVINSA Project. The Library procures a large number of journals, books, and other publications every year. Besides, it also procures e-journals' consortia like JSTOR, INASP-PERii Bangladesh, OARE, AGORA, HINARI and aRDi. More than 13 CD-ROM databases are available in the Library such as Econ-Lit, Pop line, World Development Sources, World Development Indicators, Global Development Finance, Program-Procurement in World Bank financed projects, Information USA, Journal of Economic Literature, World Development Report, World Bank Africa Database, Direction of Trade Statistics, International Financial Statistics, Government Finance Statistics, Balance of Payments Statistics and others.



The Library is now computerised which began in 1991. Since 1995, data on new books, documents, journal articles and BIDS publications are regularly maintained in the computers. Up till now, 43,000 records of 85,000 documents/books and more than 33,000

journals, reports, policy briefs, monographs, and other publication formats. The Publication Section is outfitted with all necessary equipment for meeting the Institute's publishing requirements. The Unit also provides sales services to its local and foreign custom-



records of journal articles and 800 records of journal holdings are available in the in-house database (CDS/ISIS).

The Library offers services from these in-house databases. The Library has initiated measures to introduce ILMS with OPAC facilities KOHA for the national and international users and to build a Development Studies Digital Repository using DSpace for the publications of BIDS.

The Publication Section

The main responsibility of the Publication Section is to ensure wide dissemination of BIDS research findings and other activities to policymakers, researchers, members of civil society, and other stakeholders through accessing all available means of electronic and print media including publication of books,

ers and promotes its publication through complimentary and exchange programmes. The outputs of this Section including research reports, research monographs, and the Institute's quarterly journal have wide circulation amongst researchers, policymakers and the concerned citizens in general, both at home and abroad.

The Computer Section

The Computer Section, an important component of the Institute's research infrastructure, provides data processing and other computer technology related support to BIDS researchers. The Computer Section rapidly adjusts to changing technologies to ensure efficient service delivery. All researchers have access to computers and internet services. Support services such as the accounts, administration, publications,



library and documentation are also automated. The computers operate under a single network managed by the Section which is also connected to the internet. A part of the BIDS Library has also been put on-line.

The Computer Section also supports BIDS research through data management, statistical analysis, graphics, simulations and customs programming using different statistical data analysis softwares. The Section manages the dedicated dynamic BIDS website (www.bids.org.bd). The major downloadable files on the BIDS website are PDF formatted. The website also supports UNICODE to access Bangla.

The BIDS has installed its own Server and backup Server to maintain Internet and email system using Open Source Software. The Wi-Fi (Wireless Network) technology has also been set across the BIDS premises to have instating access to Internet. The Broad Band Internet Connectivity is using both Fiber Optic Cable and Radio Link.

The Accounts Section

The Accounts Section is responsible for managing the overall accounting, treasury, financial reporting and financial services operations of the Institute. This includes activities like managing internal controls to mitigate risk, creating and presenting financial status and financial condition reports to internal and external parties, ensuring that the official accounting records of BIDS are up-to-date and accurate, safeguarding the assets of the BIDS to minimise risk of financial loss and developing and maintaining robust accounting systems and reporting tools to provide high-quality financial information in support of the mission of creating BIDS as a centre of excellence.

The Accounts Section also supports the researchers with service functions such as proposal and budget development assistance, proposal review, sign-off and transmission; grant and contract negotiation and acceptance; subcontract preparation and administration; post-award reporting; award close-out; accounting compliance; and providing all necessary accounting support for effective and efficient conduct of research studies.

Research Activities



Two



The research activities of BIDS are planned keeping in view its mandate of promoting research based policies in Bangladesh. The priority agenda is to carry out research on policy relevant issues that meet both short and strategic longer term development challenges facing Bangladesh. The key consideration is the policy content of research so that the research outputs can be of direct relevance to the policymakers and programme implementers, both at macro and micro levels.

In order to reduce the dependence on donor funded research and enhance BIDS capacity to undertake policy oriented research in accordance with the priorities of the government and the policy makers, the government has provided BIDS with Tk. 200 million in the fiscal year 2009-10 to set up a "Research Endowment Fund" (REF). The income from the REF is used exclusively to undertake policy research that caters directly to the needs of the government and the policy makers. The BIDS has adopted guidelines for ensuring proper use of the REF. The Institute seeks other national and international institutions to come forward to contribute to the REF in order to strengthen the capacity of conducting core institutional research by BIDS for fulfilling its mandate.

During the period under review, the research portfolio of BIDS has been classified under six broad thematic areas.

Economic Growth and Macroeconomic Policy Framework

Impact of Inflation on Different Household Groups in Bangladesh

The rising rate of inflation in recent years has raised significant concern regarding its adverse effect on the economy, especially relating to its negative welfare consequences on different socioeconomic groups, particularly the poor. At this backdrop, it is important for the policy makers to know which occupational groups of people are more affected by inflation and what measures can be adopted to redress their disadvantages at least partly. The study identifies major socioeconomic (professional) groups who are most affected by the adverse impact of inflation and recommends policy measures to protect these vulnerable groups from the hardship. In this context, the study also highlights different aspects of wage inflation. It is important to note that the apparent difficulty in curbing inflation expectations by adjusting key policy rates raises questions as to the nature of inflation, the efficacy of the monetary transmission mechanisms as well as the necessity of further monetary and non-monetary policy initiatives. The study explores these aspects of inflation as well as provides a fresh look at the underlying monetary policy framework of the Bangladesh Bank. The study is supported by the BIDS Research Endowment Fund and Monzur Hossain is the Study Director.





Trade Pattern and Trade Policy in Bangladesh

The study analyses the evolving market and trade opportunities in the region and the world that can enhance development in Bangladesh; highlights the state of exports and imports of Bangladesh with their changes; calculates revealed comparative advantage(RCA)indices and market share of major exports products, provides a review of the present export incentive regimes for export development and study their impact; provides systematic comparison of effective rate of protection(ERP) at international level and regional level (SAARC) or at the

level of same category of countries, analyses the trade problem related to food security, addresses the issue of rationalisation of tariff structure and non-tariff measures, and identifies the direction towards which policy challenges and changes can emerge for facilitation of trade in Bangladesh. The study was completed in September 2012 and Monzur Hossain was the Study Director. The study was funded by IFPRI.

Developing a Comprehensive Trade Policy for Bangladesh

This study on framework for the comprehensive trade policy of Bangladesh covers several issues such as to identify (i) gaps of existing export and import policies in order to appreciate the nature and extent of constraints and limitations of these policies in pursuing medium and long term targets set forth for enhancing trade; (ii) gaps as regards coherence of various policies related to monetary, fiscal, industry, FDI and trade which will be necessary for enhancing export, import, production and investment; (iii) issues and concerns related to trade and investment linkages at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels in the coming decades in order to make accommodate relevant strategies under the comprehensive trade policy; (iv) the areas of needs of capacity building and capacity utilisation in the public sector as well as in the private sector in view of strengthening domestic capacity for informed negotiation and policy making; and (v) the mechanism for tracking, measuring and evaluating implementation of stipulated policy in order to achieve targeted level of growth of trade flow, development of capacity of public and private institutions, and strengthened integration between industry, trade and investment. The study was completed in September 2011 and was sponsored by KATALYST. Nazneen Ahmed was the Study Director.

Global Commodity Price Volatility and Domestic Inflation: Impact on the Performance of the Financial Sector in Bangladesh

Bangladesh is experiencing persistent price increases, especially of food items, in the backdrop of rising global commodity prices for the last few years. Rising trend of inflation not only affects the household welfare, it also affects the performance of the financial sector. Inflation affects financial sector through several channels. For example, high inflation rate reduces the rate of return (interest), thereby exacerbates credit market frictions, which lead to credit rationing. If inflation is high enough, it reduces returns on savings, which also limits the supply of loanable funds. Thus, high inflation rate leads to an increase in interest rate that may create credit market frictions. Several cross-country studies suggest that high inflation hampers financial development. These issues are examined in this study to assess the inflation-finance relationship in Bangladesh.

Descriptive analysis suggests that moderate inflation (e.g. 6-7 per cent) is favourable for the development of the financial sector, while very low or high inflation has detrimental effect on the financial sector performance. The analysis also suggests that the impact of inflation on the financial sector might be non-linear and there exists threshold effect of inflation. Therefore, the non-linear Threshold ARCH model has been applied to the aggregate time series (monthly) data of banks' performance indicators (assets, deposits and private credit) as well as capital market indicators (market capitalisation, issued capital and turnover) for the period 1990-2010. The results suggest that inflation has long-term negative effect on the performance of the financial sector in Bangladesh.

In addition, a panel estimation has been conducted to exploit the time-series dimension of the data and control for possible endogeneity and omitted variable bias associated with the financial sector analysis. For the purpose, the Arelano-Bover/Blundell-Bond GMM estimator has been used to assess the variations in the performance of different types of banks for different time-periods during 1990-2010. The results suggest that inflation contributes positively to assets and deposits of banks especially during the post-1999 period when the financial sector became liberalised. However, when inflation threshold dummy is

included, positive effects turn to negative. This implies that while low-to-moderate inflation has positive impact, higher inflation has negative impact on the development of financial sector. The analysis broadly suggests that increasing management and operational efficiency and prudent regulatory and institutional framework might help the financial sector to overcome the negative effect of rising inflation on the performance of the financial sector. The study was completed in 2012 and Monzur Hossain was the Study Director.

Impact of Minimum Wage in the RMG Sector of Bangladesh: A CGE Analysis

This study looks into the impact of increase in minimum wage on income and livelihood of the RMG workers. This also explores the impact of setting minimum wage for all manufacturing enterprises to analyse the impact of minimum wage increase on the livelihood of workers with special attention to RMG workers, explore how the entrepreneurs respond or adjust with the regulation of the increase in the minimum wage, and assess the welfare impact of the wage increase using a CGE framework. Nazneen Ahmed is the Study Director and the study is being conducted with financial support from the BIDS Research Endowment Fund.





Size and Growth of the 'Middle Class' in Bangladesh during 1990-2010: Implications for Broad-Based Growth and Development

The research is specifically designed to work on the emergence and development of the “new” middle class over the last two decades. The argument is that the emergence of a sizable middle class has economic implications for higher savings, productivity growth through development of new technologies, improved functions of cities, and for more broad-based (equitable) growth. The study seeks not only to analyse the social significance of middle class but also its economic significance. The key objective of the study is to quantitatively capture the emergence and growth of the new middle class, especially in the last two decades of economic reform and growth acceleration. This will help to address the question as to how broad-based has been Bangladesh’s economic growth in the past and what additional measures can be undertaken to make such growth process more inclusive in transiting to the middle income status. Consequently, addressing the mobility concerns of the middle class would be an important ingredient of this study. The other objective of the study is to draw implications for developing more inclusive democracy—a factor that would be conducive of political stability and determine the political context for adopting more equitable policy in Bangladesh. Binayak Sen is the Study Director and the study is being conducted with financial support from the BIDS Research Endowment Fund.

Revisiting the East-West Divide: Economics of the Spatial Gaps between the Leading and Lagging Regions of Bangladesh

The study analyses the persistence of the observed living standard differences between the leading regions and the lagging regions of Bangladesh, and suggests concrete policies to address the “avoidable” spatial inequalities. The study also assesses the relative role of Spatially-blind and spatially-targeted policies in addressing the East-West divide. Specifically, the study examines the changing spatial dynamics along the national geographic scale with specific reference to the so-called East-West divide—divergence earlier and convergence later (although the evidence is quite mixed even on the trends aspects of spatial gaps). Binayak Sen is the Study Director and the study is being conducted with financial support from the BIDS Research Endowment Fund.



Impact Assessment of Development Paradigms and Related Policies: Analysis with Dynamic CGE Modeling

This study examines the dynamics of selected aspects of the Bangladesh economy with the help of CGE modeling taking the Perspective Plan (2010-2021) of the government as the base so that various objectives envisaged in that Plan are reflected in the analysis. These include: achieving the target GDP growth rate of 8 per cent within 2015 and 10 per cent within 2021; ensuring food security while supporting the agriculture; employment generation by expanding manufacturing activities; enhancing export earnings, remittance earning, import revenue, FDI, through appropriate policies; augmenting public and private investment for sustainable and pro-poor growth; and reducing income inequality with growth. The study is sponsored by FAO and Nazneen Ahmed is the Study Director.

Poverty, Vulnerability and Inclusive Growth

Livelihood Vulnerability Index for the Coastal Districts of Bangladesh

There are wide impacts of climate change on resource systems and environment. The crucial issue is to examine how do they affect the livelihoods especially of the poor households? To address this and related concerns, vulnerability assessment is required to understand the complex set of factors that contribute to adaptive capacity of the households. Vulnerability assessment describes a diverse set of methods used to systematically integrate and examine interactions



between humans and their physical and social surroundings for which Livelihoods Vulnerability Index (LVI) has been developed as a tool for vulnerability assessment. This study uses and extends LVI to measure the vulnerability of the households living in the coastal region of Bangladesh. Based on available information in the dataset, several indicators have been developed to assess vulnerability covering socio-demographic profile, livelihood strategies, social networks, health, food, water, and natural disasters and climate variability. Each component has several sub-components. The study was completed in November 2012. Kazi Ali Toufique was the Study Director and the study was conducted with financial support from the BIDS Research Endowment Fund.



Investment, Manufacturing Industry and Labour Standards

Industrial Policy and Export Industries of Bangladesh: Analysis for Strengthening External Competitiveness

The study analyses the structure of Bangladesh's exports by commodities and destinations and their trends of growth, explores the problem areas of export industries and reviews existing incentive policy regimes and facilities and the determinants of export performance, reviews the competitiveness of major export items, and identifies new export opportunities and scope for export diversification. The study would help in understanding the changing global environment and identifying the opportunities for export expansion of Bangladesh. N.C. Nath is the Study Director and the study is being conducted with financial support from the BIDS Research Endowment Fund.

Productivity and Efficiency of Rice Mills in Bangladesh: Economic, Social and Food Security Implications

Paddy may be dehusked and bran may be removed in several ways. The traditional milling method known as *dheki* has rapidly been replaced with more mechanised means over time as the total amount to be milled has risen sharply. The mechanised means now come in the form of a variety of machines operated by diesel or electrically driven motors along with various separating tools for the rice and husk and bran at different stages of operation. There is also a bewildering array of rather small, practically portable husking machines which are used by villagers. The productivity, technical efficiency and scale economics of these technologies are likely to be vastly different with major implications for the country. This study examines these issues in the context of food security along with the behaviour of the rice millers. The number of rice millers, their stocking behaviour and the differences in the technologies among different rice mills are highlighted in the study. The study was



completed in September 2012 and Nazneen Ahmed was the Study Director. This was funded by IFPRI.

An Evaluation of the Operations of the Equity Entrepreneurship Fund

For catering to the need for new institutional initiative to resolve the problem of term finance in Bangladesh, the government introduced the Equity Development Fund in 2000-01 with a budget of Tk. 1 billion. In 2001-02, it was renamed as the Equity Entrepreneurship Fund (EEF) and initially its purview was limited to food processing and agro-based industries (excluding the conventional sub-sectors such as rice/flour milling, fishing trawler, cold storage) and IT sector. Since its inception, Bangladesh Bank has handled the Fund through the Investment Corporation of Bangladesh (ICB). The study reviews the past operations of the EEF to examine, among others, issues such as how successful has the EEF been in meeting its prime objectives of raising investments in the two most promising sectors in Bangladesh, namely IT and agro-based industries; how efficient has the operation of the fund been; what factors contributed to its success and what factors hindered its performance; in what ways should the arrangements of the Fund be modified to improve on its performance; what new sectors should be brought under the purview of the fund, and what should be the medium term growth projection of the Fund. The study is sponsored by the Bangladesh Bank and Zaid Bakht is the Study Director.

Employment, Human Development and Social Protection

Impact Evaluation of Vulnerable Group Development Programme in Bangladesh

The study provides an assessment of the impact of the Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) programme on its beneficiaries in reducing poverty and enhancing income and livelihood patterns. Based on the findings, the study concludes that in terms of monthly income, year round food security and housing conditions, the beneficiary households are much better off compared with their non-beneficiary counterparts. Though a significant proportion of beneficiary households still have low incomes, live in poor housing conditions and suffer from food inadequacy for a significant period of the year, compared with their non-beneficiary counterparts, their vulnerability has been reduced to a large extent and their poverty situation has improved significantly.

The main strength of the VGD programme is that it could reach the target group of the hardcore poor women and it is effective in enabling the beneficiaries to improve their socio-economic conditions. In addition to the monthly food grain support, the intervention also delivers income generating activities (IGA) training in several areas (e.g. cow/poultry rearing, vegetable gardening, sewing) and social/awareness training in topics covering health, nutrition and life skills. Sources of livelihood of the beneficiaries are seen to have expanded because of involvement of

women in new and diversified IGAs. However, inadequate coverage of beneficiary is a serious weakness of the Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) programme. It is observed that many eligible poor women who meet all the eligible criteria for VGD card have been left out of the safety net programme mainly because of the limited number of beneficiaries covered by the programme and inadequate financial allocations. The study was completed in 2012 and was the Study Director.

Baseline Survey of the Vulnerable Group Development Programme

The Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) is a multi-dimensional food aid programme in which the target group is mainly the destitute women. These include landless and assetless women who are widowed, divorced, abandoned, having under-nourished children, lactating mothers and women with handicapped husbands. The programme aims to improve the economic and social situation of VGD women so that they may graduate beyond their existing conditions and be able to sustain themselves above the hardcore poverty level. This study generates the initial benchmark on food insecurity and livelihood patterns of programme beneficiaries for future comparison and assesses the targeting effectiveness of beneficiary selection. The study was completed in September 2011 with M.A. Mannan acting as the Study Director. This was sponsored by the Department of Women Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.



Social Safety Net Programme System and Management: Issues Regarding Transparency and Accountability in the Design and Implementation of Selected Programmes in Bangladesh

The study examines issues regarding transparency and accountability in the design and implementation of selected safety net programmes in Bangladesh. For the purpose, the study identifies gaps and overlaps in the existing programmes and suggests ways for improvement. It provides a review of the targeting, selection and disbursement process of selected safety net programmes, a complete scenario on salient features of beneficiary selection, targeting efficiency and leakage in distribution, identifies the extent of leakage in the programmes with a view to drawing necessary policy conclusions, draws appropriate lessons for further developments of these programmes, suggests some crucial policy recommendations for advocacy and campaign; makes a compelling case for policy reform, grounded in social protection's contribution to addressing the drivers of poverty and vulnerability. The study aims specifically to support the development and adoption of a National Social Protection Strategy as well as addresses key design questions within delivery programmes, notably achieving effective targeting alongside wide coverage, securing basic entitlements and capabilities and promoting sustainable graduation from poverty. The study was completed with M.A. Mannan as the Study Director. This was sponsored by the Asia Foundation and the USAID.

Assessing the Performance of FFW, TR and VGF Programmes in Bangladesh

The study provides an assessment of the performance of three safety net programmes—Food for Works (FFW), Test Relief (TR) and Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF). The goal is to enhance the contribution of these programmes to improving food security and reducing poverty. The specific objectives of the study are to review the targeting, selection and disbursement process of FFW, TR and VGF programmes; provide a comprehensive analysis on different aspects of the programme design and implementation process of the selected programmes including beneficiary selection, targeting efficiency and leakage in distribution; and draw appropriate lessons for necessary adjustments for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of these programmes.



The study gives emphasis on several aspects such as efficiency and effectiveness of programme management and delivery and whether there is strong partnership at all levels of implementation. It also examines the nature of coordination among different implementing agencies, bottlenecks in improving the food grain delivery system, barriers to improving access to quality services and better targeting of beneficiaries and measures needed to minimise leakages and improving sound financial management and payment system. M.A. Mannan is the Study Director and the study is sponsored by the Disaster Management and Relief Division, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Impact Evaluation of Maternity Allowance Programme of Bangladesh

The purpose of the Maternity Allowance Programme is to improve the nutritional situation of women during pregnancy, especially poor women without any regular source of household income. The programme was introduced on a pilot basis in 2005; and it was made universal in 3,000 unions throughout the country. From each union, 15 pregnant women are selected who received Tk. 300 per month for a period of 24 months. Since July 2009, the monthly allowance has been increased to Tk. 350, the number of unions has also been increased to 4,508 during 2011-12, with a total of 101,200 beneficiaries under this programme.

This evaluation study assesses the effect of the programme intervention and examines the impact of the allowance programme on the beneficiaries. Moreover, the study reviews existing information on maternity allowance programme; assesses the extent and coverage of the programme, explores beneficiary perceptions about the programme and the impact of the programme towards empowering women; and identifies its successes, challenges and scope for further improvements. M.A. Mannan is the Study Director and Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is the sponsoring agency.

Agriculture, Food Security and Development of the Rural Economy

Estimation of the Parameters Needed for Integrated and Effective PFDS Planning in Bangladesh

There is an unresolved paradox in the Bangladesh public food distribution system (PFDS): the country seems to be surplus in food grains if one believes in the reliability of the prevailing estimates of production, consumption, and population. However, the country imports food every year. It appears that food availability (production plus import plus public stock adjustments) is higher than that of food consumption. Thus, either the current estimate of food gap is erroneous or there is mismatch between the price volatility and the PFDS operations.

The study conducts in-depth analysis to streamline the supply as well as demand side estimates and analyse food gaps in Bangladesh to help the government in determining PFDS size and optimum stock over the months of a year for operating an integrated and effective PFDS. Mohammad Yunus is the Study Director and the study is sponsored by the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Surplus Utilisation and the Pattern of Investment by Farm Households in Bangladesh

The study investigates the dynamic effects of technology adoption on surplus generation, rate of reinvestment and capital formation in Bangladesh agriculture. It estimates the level of surplus generated by farm households of different size and tenure categories in order to assess the magnitude of potential investible capital at their disposal at different technological levels (e.g. traditional, less progressive and progressive levels of technology adoption), examines the pattern of investment and surplus utilisation of selected farm households of different size and tenure categories in relation to technology adoption, and assesses how the surplus is generated and distributed among the classes and/or groups of farms so as to determine their progressive/regressive roles and the inherent conflicts among them for understanding of the dynamics of rural society. Bimal Kumar Saha is the Study Director which is being conducted with financial support from the BIDS Research Endowment Fund.

Improving Food Security through Value Chain Management: A Study of Rice Value Chain in Bangladesh

The study links value chain management and food security and analyses whether value chain management can improve competitive advantage of Bangladesh rice sector. If so, how it can be achieved in practice. It contributes to food security policy because of link between competitive rice value chains and improved food security. Both value chain management and food security have common interest in competitive advantage. Analysing major variants of both modern and traditional rice value chains, the study brings out the nature of products, financial and information flows of rice value chains, nature of relationships, and how consumer value created and distributed. The study also identifies the drivers of firms' competitive advantage in the value chains and explore whether, as rice becomes more differentiated, importance of dependence based relationships rises and farmers' bargaining power reduces as farmers focus



on complying millers' requirements. It examines the asymmetric dependence based relations that lead to reduced farmers' income and force them to sale paddy on farm at low price after harvest. From the food security perspective, the study addresses the issue: whether better for government to adopt a whole chain perspective with a VCM orientation or continue with its current narrow production focus. The study was completed in September 2012 and Mustafa K. Mujeri was the Study Director. The study was funded by IFPRI.

Improving the Effectiveness, Efficiency and Sustainability of Fertiliser Use in South Asia

This study highlights the current issues in fertiliser production, marketing and distribution system in Bangladesh, India and Nepal. It also analyses the current subsidy systems and provides overviews of the impact of fertiliser use on the environment. The study addresses several important questions: (i) What is the evidence of physical rates of return to fertiliser use? Are physical rates of return consistently high? How sensitive are the returns to the availability of other inputs, including water? (ii) How important are transport costs, timeliness of supply and quality issues in affecting farmers' decision about fertiliser use? How do rates of usage differ across crops and production systems? (iii) How significant are the environmental problems associated with fertiliser use and overuse? Are usage levels high enough to create significant problems for water contamination or soil acidification? Do farmers appear to be using fertiliser efficiently and sustainably? The study was completed in November 2012 and Mustafa K. Mujeri was the Study Director. The study was funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through the GDN.

Barriers to the Development of Livestock and Fisheries Sub-Sector: Study on the Livestock Sub-Sector

The livestock sector contributes largely to the rural poor through income and employment generation. It offers sustained employment opportunities, particularly for the rural poor. The potentials of the livestock



sector are, however, not fully utilised. There are considerable opportunities of increasing productivity through scientific application of technologies and appropriate management practices. It is important, therefore, to review the sectoral policies and management of livestock to achieve sustainable development in the sector. Specific research questions of the study include: (i) what are the specific policy barriers in livestock that are hindering the growth of the sector? (ii) what are the management and operational difficulties that the smallholders are facing in the sector? (iii) what are the transaction-cost barriers for commercial producers, smallholders, rural poor and women in livestock product markets? and (iv) what could be the desired roles and responsibilities of the government and other stakeholders to achieve sustainable development in the sector? The study was completed in September 2012 and Zulfqar Ali was the Study Director. The study was funded by IFPRI.

Barriers to the Development of Livestock and Fisheries Sub-Sector: Fisheries Sub-Sector Study

The fisheries sector is a major pillar of the Bangladesh economy and livelihoods of a large group of popula



tion of the country. This sector is also important for food, nutrition, income, and for exports. The fisheries sector is vibrant, which contributes about 20 per cent to agricultural GDP and provides the major dietary protein. The potential of the fisheries sector is, however, not fully utilised. There are barriers at the policy, management, production and distribution levels which should be addressed for realising the potential of this growing sector. The study uses both primary and secondary data to address the challenges and exploit the potentials. The study was completed in September 2012 and Kazi Ali Toufique was the Study Director. This was funded by IFPRI.

An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of Delinking of Local Wholesale Prices with International Prices: The Case of Rice Market in Bangladesh

The study investigates the nature of competition in the rice market by explaining incentives and behaviours of different agents in the market, particularly those of large firms operating in the middle of the rice market supply chain focusing on the incentives and behaviours of agents at different stages in the market. It is imperative to analyse the behaviour of the agents operating at different stages, their incentives and sets of strategies and actions, scope for cooperation or non-cooperation, horizontally or vertically, before one can conclude about the state of competitiveness of the rice market in Bangladesh. This study investigates two key questions: (i) What is the relationship between the international prices and local wholesale prices of rice? and (ii) Is the

domestic rice market in Bangladesh competitive? The study was completed in December 2011 and was sponsored by SANEI under its Regional Research Competition. Minhaj Mahmud was the Study Director.

Sustainable Land Management in Bangladesh: Issues, Constraints and Potentials

Land is an extremely scarce natural resource in Bangladesh. The issue of land, its management and access to it is very important. It has several dimensions. The problem of diversion of land (nearly 1 per cent on an average in a year) from agriculture, which raises the question of land use policy. Similarly, human practice of land use which is more often than not driven by various policies including economic ones such as pricing, taxation and subsidies some time leads to land degradation. The unbalanced application of modern agricultural technologies has seriously degraded the soil quality, fertility and biodiversity. The nature and changes in (average) farm-size, (unequal) distribution pattern of landownership and (exploitative) tenural relations of land have direct influences, sometimes adverse, on the growth and poverty conditions in the country through their deleterious effects on land management. The access to public land is particularly important as a sizeable portion of such land (khas, char and vested land) is under the control of influential private individuals. For addressing the question of productive efficiency and distributive justice, the public lands or at least their use rights may be transferred to the poorer sections of the society.



The present study provides certain services in order to mainstream sustainable land management (SLM) in related policies, institutions and legislation, develop capacity and strengthen institutions for the implementation of the National Land Use Policy; enhance SLM knowledge, and develop human resources for local level institutional coordination and SLM advocacy. The overall objective of the study is to provide an understanding of cost-effectiveness of SLM practices, identify the main economic reasons and/or constraints for adoption of SLM measures and provide policy suggestion in choosing investment alternatives by the farmers. The policy priorities for sustainable land management include the need to identify the “hotspots” of land degradation, and appropriate economic instruments (such as, prices, subsidies, taxes) that can be used to promote optimal use of various inputs for crop cultivation and other agricultural practices. The study was completed in April 2012 and Zulfiqar Ali was the Study Director.

Structure and Growth of Rural Non-Farm Sector in Bangladesh: Implications for Household Income and Employment

The study examines the role of rural non-farm activities (RNF) from the point of view of employment and income generation for poor households. The analysis encompasses both self-employment and wage based employment under different contrac

tual arrangements. An analysis of the prospects that such employment expands with the benefits flowing to low income households requires detailed investigation of rate of return from these activities and wage rates. Therefore, the returns from various sub-sectors of RNF and wages of paid workers of these sub-sectors are compared with wages prevailing among agricultural workers as well as among unskilled urban labourers. The study also examines how far the variation of return and wage takes place within sub-sectors and between sub-sectors to analyse whether the dynamic and stagnant enterprises coexist within the same sub-sector or some sub-sectors are dynamic and others are lagging, which has important policy implications. The study was completed in September 2012 and Rushidan Islam Rahman was the Study Director. This was funded by IFPRI.



Management of Public Stock for Improved Effectiveness of PFDS in Bangladesh

Bangladesh faces difficult challenges resulting from way the regional and global rice markets behaved in 2007-08 and continue to behave rather erratically since then. There will thus be a strong political, even popular pressure, to hold much larger stocks. Some will remember about Bangladesh's extraordinary vulnerability during the mid-1970s and would argue that Bangladesh should increase substantially the size of the public food stock. However, seeking greater food security in this way may not be the answer or at least the complete answer. Proper management of public stock is essential for the improved effectiveness of PFDS. The government has to maintain rolling stocks to cater to the routine needs of the PFDS including safety net programs and open market sales, as well as maintain buffer stocks for emergency distribution in times of natural disasters. This calls for careful planning and management of the amount of grains to be stocked and distributed, and for the establishment of storage facilities and the improved monitoring of existing storage quality. The study provides a comprehensive and rigorous analysis of costs and benefits of alternative PFDS stock options to examine what feasible options the PFDS has in order to meet its objectives in a cost-effective manner. This would contribute towards better management and improved effectiveness of PFDS in Bangladesh. The study was completed in September 2012 and Quazi Shahabuddin was the Study Director. This was funded by IFPRI.

Farmers' Supply Response to Price and Non-Price Factors in Bangladesh

Bangladesh has been implementing agricultural liberalisation measures since 1986 to reduce the biases against agriculture which discourage production. The reforms also introduce greater uncertainty into the domestic market, given increased price volatility in the global market. Besides, Bangladesh agriculture remains exposed to the vagaries of nature. This study models supply responses in Bangladesh agriculture. As the nature of market and non-market factors adds to risk and uncertainty in farm decisions, the study provides models of production and supply response in Bangladesh agriculture by including both the standard arguments and risks. In particular, the study examines whether Bangladesh agricultural supply is price and price risk responsive and evaluates the impact of structural breaks on Bangladesh agricultural supply response. The study was completed in September 2012 and Mohammad Yunus was the Study Director. This was funded by IFPRI.

Population, Health and Gender Issues

Post Enumeration Check (PEC) for the Population and Housing Census 2011

Independence between the PEC and the census is a prime requirement for the dual system of estimation. The validity of the PEC estimates hinges on the assumption of independence between the census and PEC. Independence between the two operations (i.e.



census and PEC) needs to be ensured by maintaining separate operational procedures. In view of the above, the government entrusted the BIDS with the technical responsibility of conducting the PEC for an independent evaluation of the quality and coverage of the Census 2011. The results of PEC have been used to adjust the population estimates of Population Census 2011 which will be the basis of policy and programmes for the coming years. The study was completed in September 2011 with financial support from BBS. M.A. Mannan was the Study Director.

Burden of Disease on the Urban Poor: A Study of Morbidity and Utilisation of Health Care among Slum/Pavement Dwellers in Dhaka City

The study examines the pattern of morbidity and health care utilisation by the urban poor living in the slums and pavements of Dhaka and Chittagong cities to analyse illness factors associated with the types of health care (self-care or medical care) used to resolve health problems of the urban poor living in slums and

Dhaka and Chittagong cities, access to and burden of treatment cost borne by the urban poor households, the morbidity and health-care seeking behaviour of the two vulnerable groups, and the individual and household level factors associated with health care utilisation. M.A. Mannan is the Study Director and the study is being conducted with financial support from the BIDS Research Endowment Fund.

Professional Assistance during Birth, Public-Private Mix and Household Characteristics: Implications for Policy

The study examines the trend of utilisation of maternal health care services (antenatal care, delivery care and facility delivery) by source of use (public, private, NGO) and by socio-economic factors. The study also assesses the structural aspects of facility quality, gaps in service quality and socio-cultural barriers. In addition, it explores the barriers faced by the households in seeking maternal health care from both demand and supply aspects of care and identifies the critical aspects such as female empowerment,



pavements. The study also explores the morbidity pattern and health-seeking behaviour of the urban poor, with the hypothesis that the pavement dwellers are likely to suffer from higher morbidity, and they are also more likely to depend on self-care and traditional treatment compared with their counterparts living in urban slums. The study conducts an assessment on several specific policy issues such as the levels and patterns of morbidity by age, gender and socio-economic characteristics of urban slum dwellers in

availability of transport, travel time, quality of care and referral in influencing professional assistance during care. It also examines the public-private mix in ensuring quality care and the relative effectiveness of both public and private sectors in meeting the expectations of the recently introduced maternal voucher scheme in improving maternal health care. M. Sohail is the Study Director which is being conducted with financial support from the BIDS Research Endowment Fund.

Impact Evaluation of Strengthening the National Menstrual Regulation (MR) Programme in Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, unsafe abortion is one of the leading causes of maternal death. The report of Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) 2007 estimates approximately four million unwanted pregnancies annually in Bangladesh, of which 25 per cent are estimated to be attributed for terminations. While termination of pregnancy is legal only to save the life of the pregnant woman, there is an increasing demand for pregnancy termination despite a steady increase in the contraceptive use rate. A special project on strengthening the national menstrual regulation programme for reduction of maternal mortality and morbidity in Bangladesh was launched in 2008 having four closely inter-linked components: scaling up delivery of quality MR services, generating rights-based demand from underserved women for quality MR services, improving the knowledge / evidence base and strengthening the policy response.

The present study assesses whether and to what extent the implementing agencies have achieved their desired objectives and goals as reflected in their proposals with focus on evaluating the appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of the activities implemented under the MR project, identifying the barriers for women to access and utilise reproductive health services including family planning and MR, and identifying constraints and other factors hampering the effectiveness of the approaches related to introduction and implementation of MR. M.A. Mannan is the Study Director and the Policy and Operations Evaluation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands, is the sponsor of the study.

Public Service Delivery Systems in Bangladesh: Governance Issues in the Health Sector

This study documents and analyses the existing public health service delivery system of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) of Bangladesh, and identifies the technical issues involved in the

service delivery process. The study thus assesses the governance issues in the health sector, which adversely affect efficient health care delivery including the extent of staff absenteeism, leakage in the distribution of medicine and other supplies, lack of public participation in decision-making process, non-coordination between the central and local level, and inadequate communication of local level organisations with the Parliament. The study provides information to the Members of Parliament, planners and policy makers, and contributes to improving their capacity in the areas of policy development, legislation, oversight and representation in order to improve efficiency. M. A. Mannan is the Study Director and the Asia Foundation is the sponsoring agency.



Natural Resources Management and Climate Change

Bangladesh: Integrated Water Resource Assessment

From the socio-economic perspective, mostly localised works are available on different aspects of water resource management such as how the surface water and groundwater are managed today, how this management is impacting livelihoods and how these resources could be managed in the future to promote efficient, sustainable and equitable use of scarce water resources. Little has been done to understand social and economic impacts of water resource management at system scale accounting for cross-sectoral and competing demands (e.g. agriculture and urban water use). This research develops an integrated water resource assessment to provide a national overview of the resource, the impacts of development and climate change on both surface water and ground water resources. It also assesses the way impacts will affect the poor and the vulnerable, the amount of water that could be sustainably supplied to different economic sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, industry and navigation, as well as to the population for drinking and sanitation purposes in order to promote economic growth and improve livelihoods of people. The study will be completed in September 2013 with financial support from AusAid-CSIRO. K.M. Nabiul Islam is the Study Director.

Food Security and Mitigation in Bangladesh Agriculture: Searching for a Low Carbon Path of Development (Carbon Footprint of Bangladesh Agriculture)

The study explores the options to ensure low carbon development without compromising food, livelihood, water and energy security of people as stated in the Bali Action Plan submitted by Bangladesh to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and later enshrined in the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) 2009 as the basic principles behind all climate change management activities by the government. The outcome of the research is a set of recommendations for formulation and implementation of



appropriate policies for agricultural growth within a low carbon development framework of the BCCSAP. The study was completed in September 2011 and M. Asaduzzaman was the Study Director. This was funded by BCCSAP.

Planning for Pro-Poor Sustainable Development in Bangladesh: Climate Sensitive Public Investment in Selected Sectors

The study takes into account three climate change variables: temperature, rainfall, and sea level rise. Four sectors are selected for reviewing the Annual Development Programme (ADP): agriculture, water resources, rural development and institutions, and transport. The study focuses on how climate variables affect different projects under ADP. Any particular variable can affect different project of the same sectors. Each variable has immediate physical impact on different projects of the sector. The study specifically recommends a process of integrating development planning process with climate change concerns, reviews the ADP planning process to recommend how pro-poor climate and environmental issues can be included in its approval process, suggests how selected projects can be modified for adaptation needs and mitigation potentials, and proposes revisions to DPP format and preparing guideline with a set of indicators ensuring poverty reduction, sustainable environment, climate change adaptation and mitigation (where applicable) and disaster risk reduction. The study was completed in December 2011 and M. Asaduzzaman was the Study Director. This was funded by UNDP.

Climate Change, Agriculture and Migration: Evidence from Bangladesh

Bangladesh is recognised as one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change because of its unique geographical location and geo-morphological conditions. These climate-change-induced meteorological conditions have direct bearing on the livelihood of the



people. Among others, migration, both internal and international, is one of the most frequently used coping strategies the affected people adopt to mitigate the income shock. This study primarily focuses on the direct effects of climate change as well as effects through agricultural productivity on migration. It is argued that climatic changes lower the productivity of the crop and this adverse effect depresses the local wages and income opportunities and this, in turn, forces people to migrate. Using the secondary data on population, agriculture and climate for the period of 1974-2010, and exploiting the exogenous variations of the climatic conditions, this study systematically probe three questions: has climate change affected agricultural productivity in different parts of Bangladesh; has

climate change increased domestic and international migration; and has climate change affected migration through lowering agricultural productivity. Md. Iqbal Hossain is the Study Director and the study is funded by South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE).

Infrastructure, Energy and Regional Cooperation

Productivity and Efficiency of Solar House Panels in Bangladesh: Economic, Social and Food Security Implications

The general lack of access to electricity imposes limits on the prospects of growth and increased welfare in Bangladesh. Despite the importance of continued rise in the access to electricity, the question is: if the rate of growth in generation of electricity is slow, and pace of rural electrification and its quality is lackluster, what may be the way out. Herein lies the importance of the solar home system. The study assesses the impact of the solar home system spanning from the benefits of extended lighting to reduced indoor air pollution and gauge the size of the potential market for solar home and efficiency of service delivery mechanism of the partner organisations of the IDCOL. The study is sponsored by the World Bank and the report is expected to be finalised by June 2012. Mohammad Yunus is the Study Director.



Governance: Policies and Institutions

Study on the Assessment of Performance of Union Facilitation Team in Local Government Strengthening Project—Learning and Innovation Component Union Parishads

The Union Facilitation Team (UFT) has been formed in each of the Union Parishads (UPs) under the Local Government Strengthening Project—Learning and Innovation Component (LGSP-LIC) project in order to make a supply driven provision of basic training and technical assistance to Ward Development Committees (WDCs) and Scheme Supervision Committees (SSCs) in a cost effective way. The study makes a general assessment of different aspects of basic service delivery of UPs as well as citizen's perception, current trend and types of UFT performance. This



assessment is expected to create a benchmark to assess the possible scope of improving capacity of UPs.

The Union Facilitation Team in each UP is found useful in providing training to WDC and SSC. However, variation in their performance is also noticed. Such variation mainly comes from their selection and level of cooperation received from the UP chairman/member. In general, the UFT members selected on the basis of nepotism and political consideration provide less satisfactory performance. Moreover, less incentive, that is, low level of engagement and salary is termed as one of the big obstacles for providing satisfactory services to UPs. A sustainable structure of UFT may provide better outcome to fiscal decentralisation process. The study was completed in 2012 and Monzur Hossain was the Study Director.

Study on Results of Use of Supplementary Block Grants Provided to Union Parishads

The study makes a general assessment of how Supplementary Block Grant (SBG) in the Local Government Strengthening Project—Learning and Innovation Component (LGSP-LIC) Union Parishads (UPs) has been managed including assessment of minimum conditions (MC), effectiveness, methods, disbursements, procurement and quality of expenditure. It also assesses the expenditure absorption and revenue mobilisation capacity of LGSP-LIC UPs. The study makes recommendations based on the assessment of SBG system whether SBG system should be continued and expanded and how the system can be improved.

The study observes that the initial promise of building local government capacity has been addressed: expenditure level as well as expenditure growth has increased at a faster rate in LIC UPs than in non-LIC UPs. The component of expenditure, which is classified under "development expenditure," has also increased at a higher rate in LIC UPs (both in level and growth of development spending). In fact, for LIC UPs, development expenditure grew by 21 per cent during 2007-10 compared with 9 per cent for overall spending. The question is: what do these development-spending buy? It is observed that majority works are on road/earth works (85 per cent). Over the time, the number of road projects has increased. On the other hand, projects on education, water and sanitation get less priority. The study was completed in 2012 and Binayak Sen was the Study Director.

Baseline Study on Upazila Parishad Governance Project

Being an integrated local governance framework, Upazilas need to ensure improved governance to become an active and vibrant Local Government Unit for bringing all service providers at the Upazila level under the accountability framework of Upazila and create participatory, democratic and accountable institutional mechanism. With this aim, the Upazila Governance Project (UZGP) has started its implementation in 14 selected Upazilas in 2012. Under the project, conditional fiscal transfers are made to the selected Upazilas to strengthen mechanisms of mutual accountability, reinforce policies on citizen engagement, make the Upazilas as a coordinator of development planning for mainstreaming gender issues, promoting pro-poor and gender sensitive planning and services as well as livelihood supportive environment, and enhancing the oversight, monitoring and policy review functions.

The study aims to conduct a baseline study on the Upazila Governance Project to assess the pre-project governance and development conditions in the project Upazilas as well as non-project Upazilas. Dr. Monzur Hossain is the Study Director and the study is funded by UNDP.

Baseline Study on E-Upazila Initiatives

E-upazilla, an ICT-based innovative programme of Social Development Foundation (SDF), focuses on

providing ICT based social services to escalate the living standard of rural people, especially those from extremely low income groups. Since February 2011, SDF has started E-Upazila ICT Pilot Project in Jamalpur Sadar Upazila in Jamalpur district focusing to expansion of ICT platform in rural areas. Out of 209 villages in Jamalpur Sadar Upazila, SDF started implementation in 89 villages and now SDF intends to expand ICT pilot project areas gradually. In view of the innovative features of the pilot project, baseline survey would be essential before starting the pilot project in full swing.

The present study develops an in-depth understanding of available ICT services with infrastructure that help the community for strengthening of education, health, agriculture and other services in rural areas. The study documents critical variables related to the present phenomena and lay the benchmark for undertaking impact evaluation at the end of project implementation. The baseline survey assesses the ICT knowledge, available services and exploit status especially to the hardcore poor and poor members of the community, determines the access of ICT services and taking maximum benefits by using this platform, examines the skill of the youth on ICT and diversify uses for their employment, examines the available services that could accommodate and affordable to the hardcore poor members of the society and suggests the key indicators for monitoring and impact evaluation. Monzur Hossain is the Study Director and the study is funded by Katalyst.





Publications by BIDS Researchers

The BIDS researchers publish regularly their research and professional work in different forms including journal articles, book chapters, policy briefs, policy papers, working papers, and in the popular media such as newspaper and journal articles.

lead to better implementation of development programmes. It is the institutional endeavour of BIDS to play a key role in providing support to the policy makers and other stakeholders in areas where the Institute has professional advantages in consistent with its institutional mandate and social expectations.

Participation in Policy Making and Other Professional Activities

The BIDS researchers regularly participate in various activities that contribute to enriching policies and



**Dissemination,
Advocacy and
Publication**





During the period 2011-2012, BIDS has invested considerable efforts and resources for strengthening its dissemination, advocacy and publication activities. The efforts were specifically designed keeping in view the need to better understand the constraints associated with bridging the gaps between research and policy and tap the opportunities that could make visible differences in improving the policy making environment. For BIDS, bridging means not only informing policy choices to the policy makers but also be concerned with issues relating to adopting policies in practice and their effective implementation. For the purpose, BIDS makes concerted efforts to improve the understanding of the links between research and policy and bridge the gap between the researchers, policymakers and intermediary organisations such as the media, professional organisations and advocacy groups in order to promote evidence-based policy making in Bangladesh.

BIDS Website

The BIDS website (www.bids.org.bd) has now emerged as the most important mode for communicating research and other activities to researchers, policy makers, civil society, development partners and others interested in BIDS activities. The BIDS website was first built in 2001, but it was totally revamped and

streamlined in 2009. With the successful completion of the streamlining process, a new, dynamic and redesigned website has been created and the institutional process is now in place for its regular maintenance and updating under the supervision of the Website Development and Management Committee and technical support from the BIDS Computer Unit. Most of the research materials and BIDS publications are downloadable from the website. Information on current events is posted regularly on the homepage along with images from the events.

BIDS Publications in 2011-2012

Over the period of 2011-2012, BIDS researchers have upheld their tradition of publishing reports of quality research in various forms including books, monographs, research reports, project reports, occasional papers, articles in different journals, and in the form of popular writings both in English and Bangla.

Journals

The Bangladesh Development Studies (BDS)

The Bangladesh Development Studies (BDS) is the refereed quarterly flag ship journal of the Institute.

This is published in English. It enjoys international reputation and is currently in its 39th year of publication. The journal publishes research articles, notes, and book reviews by BIDS researchers as well as by national and international scholars. The 34th and 35th volumes of BDS were published in 2011 and 2012 respectively.



The Bangladesh Unnayan Samikkhya (BUS)

The Bangladesh Unnayan Samikkhya (BUS) is published annually in Bangla. It contains articles, notes, features, and book reviews. It is widely read by researchers, students, and people of different walks of life who are interested in development issues of Bangladesh. The 28th and 29th issues of BUS were published in 2011 and 2012 respectively.



Books/Special Publications

Sixth Five Year Plan of Bangladesh 2011-2015

Background Papers Volume 1-4

Editors: Mustafa K. Mujeri and Shamsul Alam

The BIDS was assigned the responsibility of preparing the background papers for the Sixth Five Year Plan of Bangladesh (2011-2015) for generating quantitative/qualitative benchmark values and Plan targets and fill-in critical knowledge gaps. The studies, conducted by renowned economists and development practitioners both from BIDS and outside, provided valuable inputs for the Plan and spelled out strategies and agendas for macro and sectoral reforms in the light of current conditions as well as past experience.

Considering the importance of these studies, BIDS, in cooperation with the General

Economic Division of the Planning Commission, has published these studies in four volumes:

- Volume 1: Macroeconomic Issues
- Volume 2: Economic Sectors



Volume 3: Social Sectors

Volume 4: Cross Sectoral Issues

The expectation is that the relevance of the issues and its diverse contents and analysis would make these volumes useful for the research community, policy makers, and others interested in understanding challenges and prospects of the Bangladesh economy.

Sixth Five Year Plan of Bangladesh 2011-2015

Technical Framework Papers Volume 1-2

Editors: Mustafa K. Mujeri and Shamsul Alam

The preparation of the Sixth Five Year Plan (2011-2015) necessitated the formulation of the technical framework for finalising the Plan strategies and identifying the desirable development path that would lead to fulfilling its objectives. A team of renowned economists and technical experts worked together to develop the technical framework in order to prepare alternative development scenarios for the Sixth Plan. Considering the importance of the technical framework related results, BIDS, in cooperation with the General Economics Division of the Planning Commission, has published these studies in two volumes:

Volume 1: Input Output Structure of the Bangladesh Economy 2006-07

Volume 2: Model Structures, Simulation Results and Related Studies

It is expected that the two volumes would be useful for the research community, policy makers and others interested in understanding the structure and prospects of the Bangladesh economy.



BIDS Research Monographs

Research Monograph 22

Household Food Insecurity in Bangladesh: Concepts, Estimates and Determinants

The study analyses the factors that affect the food security status of poor households in Bangladesh. More specifically, it examines the impact of paid employment and self employment on income and prospects of household food security. The study reports that the extent of food insecurity is still high in the country and reduction of extreme form of food insecurity is a policy priority. For these households, employment guarantee scheme or direct food support is necessary. More employment generation in food deficit areas is found to be one of the effective means of ensuring food security for poor households. The authors of the Research Monograph are Rushidan Islam Rahman, Anwara Begum and Md. Harunur Rashid Bhuyan. This was published in 2012.



BIDS Research Reports

Research Report 183

The CEDAW Implementation in Bangladesh: Legal Perspectives and Constraints

The study examines the nature and extent of CEDAW implementation in Bangladesh from a legal perspective and identifies the gaps and barriers that hinder adoption and implementation of policies and programmes in general and in line with CEDAW in particular which embodies the rights of women. The study notes that the achievements made so far with regard to promoting women's causes should not create any complacency as still there is a long way to go to elimi-



nate gender discrimination and comply fully with CEDAW in Bangladesh. The authors of the Research Report are Sharifa Begum, Advocate Salma Ali, Md. Osman Ali and Md. Harunur Rashid Bhuyan. This was published in 2011.

Research Report 184

Integration of Population and Gender Concerns into the National and Sectoral Policies and Programmes: Current Status and Constraints

The study examines the current status and extent of integration of population and gender concerns into the country's development policies, plans, processes and strategies. The study notes that the most important constraint to effective integration of these issues has been the systematic failure and malfunction of the system to address these concerns on a priority basis. An integrated approach by various ministries based on the commitment-cum-ownership concept, is required for mainstreaming population and gender concerns into the country's development efforts. The authors of the Research Report are Sharifa Begum, Md. Osman Ali and Md. Harunur Rashid Bhuyan. This was published in 2012.

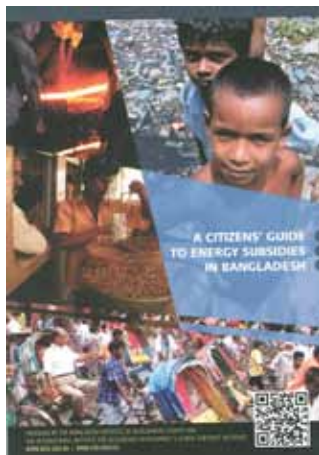


Other Publications

A Citizens' Guide to Energy Subsidies in Bangladesh

This exploratory study examines the fossil fuel subsidy related issues in Bangladesh. There is little public awareness or discussion of subsidy policies, and thus the true benefits and drawbacks of subsidies are often poorly understood. Moreover, whether or not energy subsidies benefit Bangladesh is not a straightforward issue, which requires looking at the economic impacts, the parts of society that benefit the most, and of course the environmental effects. The government has repeatedly expressed its strong desire to rationalise fuel prices and reduce subsidies, in order to promote an efficient and sustainable development process. The

implementation of the policy, however, has not been smooth. It must, however, be recognised that several issues act as strong impediments to implementing reforms, including the absence of strong political will as well as limited capacity to tackle vested interest groups and the administrative tools to provide targeted support for the poor and vulnerable groups adversely



affected by reforms. In this context, improving transparency and raising public awareness about the true cost of subsidies and options for reform, including how the government plans to reinvest that money back into the economy, can go a long way in making the reform process more acceptable to the people. The need is to adopt good practices to support reform which include, for example, a clear communication campaign, transparency about fuel prices, a gradual phase-out of subsidies, and monitoring the impacts of implementation, with adjustments when necessary. The study has been conducted with support from the Global Subsidies Initiative, International Institute for Sustainable Development, Geneva. The study is published in 2012.

BIDS Biennial Report 2009-2010

The BIDS Biennial Report 2009-2010 provides summary information on BIDS activities covering the

period from July 2008 to December 2010. The Report highlights the continuous efforts of BIDS to achieve its goal of conducting policy relevant research to help shape policy debates, promote research excellence, and strengthen partnerships for development in Bangladesh. The report was published in March 2011.



BIDS Annual Research Programme 2011-2012

The BIDS Annual Research Programme 2011-12 provides the summary information on the research studies that the Institute plans to undertake during the financial year 2011-12. The research agenda covers a total of 32 research studies in a number of major themes such as agriculture, food security and the rural economy; water resources development; poverty and vulnerability; gender analysis; growth issues and regional development; health; investment, manufacturing industry and labour standards; macroeconomic and trade policy analysis; energy issues; climate change impacts; and population studies and social protection. The report was published in April 2012.



Capacity Building





Travel Mode Preferences of Urban Commuters: Evidence from a Policy Relevant Choice

Experiment in Bangladesh by Dr. Minhaj Mahmud, Research Fellow of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies on 4 October 2012.

The Green Economy: Old Wine in a New Bottle, or Growth Standing on its Head? by Dr. M. Asaduzzaman, ex-Research Director of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies on 13 June 2012.

Bangladesher Orthonity O Unnayan: Shwadhinotar Por Chollish Bochhor (Bangladesh's Economic Growth and Development: 40 Years after Independence) by Dr. Rushidan Islam Rahman, Research Director of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies on 8 March 2012.

Lessons from the Cluster-Based Industrialization in China by Dr. Xiabo Zhang, Senior Research Fellow, Development Strategy and Governance, IFPRI, Washington, DC on 12 February 2012.

Inequality in Our Age by Dr. Azizur Rahman Khan, Emeritus Professor of Economics at the University of California, Riverside on 8 February 2012.

Bangladesh-India Rice Trade, Public Stocks and Price Stabilization by Dr. Paul Dorosh, Director, Development Strategy and Governance, International Food Policy Research Institute on 26 January 2012.

Estimating the Inflation-Growth Interaction in Bangladesh in a Bivariate EGARCH-M Model by Dr. Biru Paksha Paul, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, State University of New York at Cortland, New York on 17 January 2012.

In addition to research and related activities, institutional capacity building is a key component of BIDS work agenda in order to position the Institute to meet the emerging challenges as well as enhance the professional capacity of young BIDS researchers. In appropriate cases, the scope of capacity building programmes is extended to researchers outside the BIDS including the government officials and the private research organisations. Besides, workshops, lecture series on development issues, internal seminar series and similar events are a regular part of BIDS activities with the aim of developing capacity of researchers and expanding the outreach of research.

BIDS Seminar Series

The Seminar Series is one of the regular programmes of BIDS which is held throughout the year. In the Series, well known policy makers, academicians, researchers, and other professionals from home and abroad present papers on which lively discussions take place by participants from BIDS as well as from outside. The seminar series is a well known program of BIDS and interested participants from relevant government agencies and representatives from civil society, the media, and the development partners regularly participate in the programme. Recent seminars organised under the Series include:

Employment Guarantee Programme and Its Potential as a Safety Net for Social Security: A Reflection on South Asia by Mr. Subhasish Dey, Doctoral Research Fellow, Department of Economics, School of Social Science, University of Manchester on 6 November 2012.

Leadership and Reforms in Economic Development by Dr. M. G. Quibria, Visiting Scholar, BIDS and Professor of Economics, Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland on 15 January 2012.

Development Economics and Comparative Economic Systems: A South Asian Exploration by Professor M Ali Khan, Abram Hutzler Professor of Political Economy, Johns Hopkins University on 24 December 2011.

Ecology and Colonial Agrarian Policy in Bangladesh by Dr. Iftekhar Iqbal, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Dhaka on 18 October 2011.

Long-Term Agricultural Growth in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh by Dr. Takashi Kurosaki, Professor, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University, Japan on 11 October 2011.

Does Infrastructure Facilitate Social Capital Accumulation: Evidence from Natural and Artefactual Field Experiments in a Developing Country by Dr. Yasuyuki Sawada, University of Tokyo on 27 July 2011

Building Productive Capacity in the Least Developed Countries by Dr. Clovis Freire, Development Policy Section, Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on 4 May 2011.

Provision of Microinsurance: The Choice among Delivery and Regulatory Mechanisms by Professor Syed M. Ahsan, Concordia University & the Institute of Microfinance and Dr. Minhaj Mahmud, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies on 15 February 2011.

Must Growth be Disequalizing under Globalization? Glimpses from the Experience of (Mostly) China and India by Dr. A. R. Khan, Professor of Economics Emeritus, University of California, Riverside on 8 February 2011.

Was the Gradual Approach Not Possible in the USSR by Dr. Nazrul Islam, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, Geneva on 12 January 2011

Improved Sales Offers for Improved Cook Stoves by Professor David I. Levine, Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley on 6 January 2011.

Internal Seminar Programme

The BIDS has introduced the Internal Seminar Programme to facilitate internal capacity building through professional interactions amongst the researchers. Under the Programme, every researcher is required to present the outline of his/her study in an internal seminar before he/she actually starts working on any project. The purpose is to improve the study design by getting feedback from the co-researchers on the objectives, scope and methodology of the study. Similarly, the researchers are encouraged to use the Programme to share initial findings and insights and improve study analysis with feedbacks received from the seminar. One auxiliary objective of the Program is to improve the presentation skills of the junior researchers. For this purpose, the junior researchers are especially encouraged to actively participate in the Program. The Programme also provides a forum for introducing visiting research scholars and Interns and their on-going works to



BIDS researchers. Occasionally, brainstorming sessions are also arranged under the Programme to discuss topical economic issues and build consensus on BIDS research related issues. The Internal Seminar Programme is normally organised every alternative week. Dr. Zaid Bakht is the Coordinator of the Program.

Institutional Capacity Building

Professorial Fellowship Programme

The BIDS administers a Professorial Fellowship Programme under which eminent researchers of the country conduct research and undertake capacity building activities for the benefit of the BIDS researchers. The researcher is awarded tenure of two years during which period he/she conducts collaborative research with BIDS researchers and participates in other BIDS activities. Currently, Dr. Quazi Shahabuddin, former Director General of the Institute, is working as a Professorial Fellow at BIDS.

Visiting Scholar Programme

From 2009, BIDS has started the Visiting Scholar Programme (VSP) which is designed to support institutional capacity building programme of the Institute through creating opportunities to professionals/senior researchers from home and abroad to undertake collaborative work/joint research with BIDS researchers in mutually agreed areas. This Programme is especially suitable for Bangladeshi research

ers, academicians, and scholars living and working (temporarily or permanently) abroad. Non-Bangladeshi scholars or scholars living in Bangladesh are also covered under the Programme.

Dr. Naoko Shinkai, Associate Professor, Graduate School of International Development, Nagoya University visited BIDS under the Visiting Scholar Program during April-June 2011 and worked on the theme 'Industrial Growth and the Role of Infrastructure: The Case of South Asia'.

Dr. Yasuyuki Sawada, Professor, Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo visited BIDS under the Visiting Scholar Program during September-December 2012 and worked on the theme, "Saving Habit Formation among garments Workers in Bangladesh."

Internship/Volunteer Programme

The Internship/Volunteer Program (IVP) of BIDS has been designed in 2009 in order to provide opportunities for fresh graduates of related disciplines to learn through active participation in ongoing research and other activities of BIDS. Bangladeshi graduates from recognised educational institutions completing a minimum of four year graduation course in relevant fields are considered for the Programme. Non-Bangladeshi graduates are also covered under Internship/Volunteer Programme. During the period under review, seven young researchers worked under the programme in BIDS.





Participation of BIDS Professionals in National and International Events

The participation in various national and international events is an important component of capacity building programme of BIDS professionals. During the period, BIDS researchers widely participated in such events as Session Chairs, Panelists, Designated Discussants, Keynote Speakers as well as participants. Besides, a number of mid-level and junior researchers participated in various training programmes organised by national and international organisations. The BIDS professionals also participate in seminars, workshops, conferences, and similar events in Bangladesh and outside Bangladesh on a regular basis.



**Networking and
Expanding Outreach**



Five



The principal aim of networking and expanding outreach is to encourage institutional collaboration, engage in research on themes of relevance, and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise between the institutions. The BIDS is also engaged in intellectual partnerships with leading international institutions to support quality research and impact evaluations. The emphasis is on mutual development of capacity, address the knowledge gaps, and gather evidence on what works, when, why, and how much toward improving the lives of the poor people. Under its networking and outreach strategy, BIDS is actively engaged in promoting the exchange of ideas and cooperation for collaborative research and facilitating knowledge sharing among researchers and policy makers.

A major vehicle of expanding outreach is to organise BIDS dialogues involving policy makers, researchers, policy analysts, academicians, and other stakeholders which essentially provide a platform for stimulating evidence-based policy debates on issues of interest so as to bring about greater clarity around the concepts and the solutions. These platforms are also used to stimulate discussion and engage in the widest possible dissemination of BIDS research outcomes and findings from specific studies.

The South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutes (SANEI)

In October 2009, the Secretariat of the South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutes (SANEI) was located at BIDS. The SANEI has completed its decade long existence in pursuit of its goal of establishing

strong research interlinkages and collaboration among the diverse economic research institutes in the South Asia region. The aims are to assist in developing in-country research capacities in promoting research excellence, conducting policy relevant and quality research to help shape policy debates, and strengthening regional partnerships among the countries in the region.

The SANEI is the Global Development Network's Regional Network Partner for the South Asia region. As the Network Partner of Global Development Network (GDN), SANEI works to ensure the generation of research by those best placed to understand the complexities of the challenges faced by South Asia to mitigating poverty and promoting inclusive development.

The SANEI comprises of member institutes based in the countries of South Asia (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka). Recently, initiatives have been taken to expand the SANEI network to remaining SAARC countries (Afghanistan, Bhutan and Maldives). SANEI has a membership of 61 research institutes in the South Asia Region; they are 16 members from Bangladesh, 27 from India, 3 from Nepal, 10 from Pakistan and 5 from Sri Lanka. The Network encourages relevant research institutes of the region to become member of SANEI.

Over the years, SANEI has made valuable contributions in the field of knowledge generation and improving partnerships for generating policy relevant research in South Asia. More importantly, SANEI has provided unique, relevant, and valuable services to the region's research community through networking amongst

economic research institutions and carrying out policy research under the guidance of world renowned members of the SANEI Research Advisory Panel (RAP) and the SANEI Steering Committee (SC).

So far the research carried out under SANEI has addressed some of the difficult questions in development, which are of particular relevance to the countries of South Asia. Through its network and using other channels, SANEI has over the years provided great service in building a team of South Asian researchers capable of undertaking policy relevant research and bringing their work into the mainstream of development research and in support of evidence based policy making. Since inception, SANEI has so far funded 131 research studies through its 12 rounds of Regional Research Competitions (RRCs) and, in the 13th round, 7 more studies have been commissioned in 2011. Till now, SANEI has a membership of 61 research institutes in the South Asia region. The Network encourages all relevant research institutes of the region to become member of SANEI.

As SANEI moves forward, its continuing priorities remain the building of policy research capacity and excellence working through research institutions and individual researchers; promoting networking among research institutions, researchers and policy makers to facilitate beneficial collaborations and interactions; and expanding outreach to encourage effective exchange of ideas and shape policy debates on issues of concern in South Asia. Efforts are also being made to bring the remaining South Asian countries into the fold of SANEI for which SANEI has already become a SAARC recognised body.

Currently, SANEI Secretariat is located at the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Dhaka, Bangladesh and the Director General of BIDS Dr. Mustafa K. Mujeri is the Coordinator of this Network.

SANEI at a Glance

Inception	1998
Member Countries	Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
Member Institutes	61
Regional Research Competition (RRC)	13
Completed Studies	131
Ongoing Studies (13th RRC)	7
Upcoming Studies (14th RRC)	TBC
Conferences	11
Lecture Series	12
Key Fund Contributor	Global Development Network (GDN)
SAARC Recognition	SANEI has been granted the status of a SA ARC Recognized Body in February 2011
Registration	South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutes (SANEI) is registered as a nonprofit economic research society under the Societies Registration Act 1860, Bangladesh



Memorandum of Understanding between BIDS and IFPRI

In July 2009, BIDS and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington DC signed an agreement to establish cooperative relations to promote collaborative research and capacity strengthening activities. Potential collaborative activities would cover a wide range of areas such as building a stronger and more integrated knowledge support system in Bangladesh for future food policy analysis and helping agricultural and rural development strategy decisions, strengthening policies and programmes to reduce poverty and hunger, and evaluating the implementation and impacts of various interventions. The BIDS and IFPRI have already started collaboration under the Policy Research and Strategy Support Program (PRSSP) with support from the USAID.

Research Collaboration between BIDS and Bangladesh Bank

With mutual agreement, BIDS and the Bangladesh Bank (the central bank) have been undertaking joint research and related activities on issues of mutual

interest especially relating to macroeconomic modeling and forecasting and the overall monetary and financial systems of the country. Under the Agreement, the two institutions will collaborate in research, training, joint holding of workshops/seminars, and any other activity agreed upon by both the parties. Currently, BIDS is conducting one study on evaluating the Equity Entrepreneurship Fund operated by the Bangladesh Bank.

Exchange of Letters between BIDS, BBS and UNFPA

An exchange of letters (EoL) has been signed between the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Bangladesh Country Office for unpacking and analysing the Census and





other data for evidence led-equity-based advocacy on children in Bangladesh in 2012. Under the EoL, the parties will harness their respective organisational comparative advantages to undertake the exercise and disseminate and use of the data, the publications, and policy findings and recommendations arising from the analysis. The exercise will cover, among others, analysis of 2011 Population Census data with a focus on children and women equity related indicators and composite indices and recommendations arising from the analysis, production of equity atlas and pockets of poverty map, preparation of policy briefs, and engagement of policy

makers to secure commitment and action. The EoL is effective until 2016.

Memorandum of Understanding between BIDS and DTE

The Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) and the Department of Technical Education (DTE) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2012 to promote collaborative research and capacity strengthening activities for building a stronger and more integrated knowledge support system for the development of technical education system in Bangladesh. Under the MoU, specific topics of mutual interest within their specific mandates for collaborative research will be identified and measures will be taken to strengthen each other's capability through exchange of ideas and technologies.

Under the MoU, specific topics of mutual interest within their specific mandates for collaborative research will be identified and measures will be taken to strengthen each other's capability through exchange of ideas and technologies.



**Looking Ahead: Promoting
the Cause of Shared and
Inclusive Development**





From an operational perspective, promoting research-based policies is the ultimate goal of BIDS activities. The expectation is that research would contribute to bringing a more pro-poor orientation in the country's policy agenda and serve the cause of shared and inclusive development. For achieving this, the endeavor of BIDS is to continue to work on creating strong research-policy links that would ensure the use of research outcomes in policy formulation, directly or indirectly, in a credible manner.

For making the efforts more effective, BIDS continuously strives to take special measures to understand the underlying processes, such as how receptive is the policy framework to research outcomes; what is the extent to which research can influence the processes, activities, and actions underlying the policy making framework; in what ways research affects policy; and how to judge and deepen the influence on policy. No doubt these are complex issues and the effort of BIDS is also to focus on intermediate influences as well that are often important for building policy capacity and furthering dialogues to bring consensus and enhance the chances of adopting research based policies in Bangladesh. In this context, the focus of BIDS is to understand the broader issues of research-policy nexus that exists in the country.

In bringing research closer to policies, BIDS agenda is to develop interactions and linkages with transmitting vehicles such as other think tanks, networks and institutions which work for different targeted policy audiences for ensuring wider and more effective dissemination and use of BIDS policy messages. Along with carrying out policy research, an important agenda for BIDS is therefore to develop advocacy coalitions with various government and non-government actors sharing similar values and beliefs which can emerge as a powerful force in influencing policies.

For ensuring acceptance by the policy makers, BIDS research emphasises several factors, such as its quality, completeness in terms of interpretation, analysis of available and feasible options, widest possible participation and consultation among concerned stakeholders, and the nature of research-policy nexus surrounding specific issues. In effect, in order to bring success in influencing policies, BIDS researchers always remain prepared to take advantage of policy windows, learn to create new windows, and play the role of "policy entrepreneurs" to tap defining moments in promoting the causes of shared and inclusive development as articulated in the BIDS Charter.



BIDS Senior Fellows (as in December 2012)

Annex 1

Dr. A.M.M. Shawkat Ali
Former Secretary
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Dr. Zafrullah Chowdhury
Trustee, Gonoshasthya Kendra

Mr. A.H.M. Moazzem Hossain
Editor, The Financial Express

Dr. Mahabub Hossain
Executive Director
BRAC

Professor Dr. M.A. Sattar Mandal
Member, Agriculture, Water Resources and Rural Institutions Division
Planning Commission
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Dr. Mohammed Farashuddin
President, Board of Trustees
East West University

Professor S.M. Nurul Alam
Department of Anthropology
Jahangirnagar University

Ms. Rasheda K. Choudhury
Executive Director
Campaign for Popular Education

Syeda Rezwana Hasan
Executive Director
BELA

Professor M. Zafar Iqbal
Department of Computer Science & Engineering
Shahjalal University of Science & Technology

Professor Rehman Sobhan
Chairman
Centre for Policy Dialogue

Mr. Annisul Huq
Ex-President, SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Annex 2

Members of BIDS Statutory Committees

Policy Coordination Committee
(as in December 2012)

Dr. Mustafa K. Mujeri
Director General, Chairman

Dr. Zaid Bakht
Research Director, Member

Dr. Rushidan Islam Rahman
Research Director, Member

Dr. Binayak Sen
Research Director, Member

Dr. Kazi Ali Toufique
Senior Research Fellow, Member

Dr. Sharifa Begum
Senior Research Fellow, Member

Dr. Mohammad Yunus
Senior Research Fellow, Member

Dr. S. M. Zulfiqar Ali
Senior Research Fellow, Member

Dr. Nazneen Ahmed
Senior Research Fellow, Member

Dr. Md. Anwarul Islam
Secretary (a.i.), Member Secretary

Administrative Affairs Committee

(as in December 2012)

Dr. Kazi Ali Toufique
Senior Research Fellow, Chairman

Dr. Nazneen Ahmed
Senior Research Fellow, Member

Dr. Md. Anwarul Islam
Secretary (a.i.) and Chief Librarian, Member

Mr. Riton Kumar Roy
IT Manager (c.c.), Member

Mr. Md. Meftaur Rahman
Chief Publication Officer, Member

Mr. Md. Raquib Uddin
Chief Accountant, Member

Finance Committee

(as in December 2012)

Dr. Muhammad Yunus
Senior Research Fellow, Chairman

Dr. S. M. Zulfiqar Ali
Senior Research Fellow, Member

Dr. Monzur Hossain
Research Fellow, Member

Dr. Md. Anwarul Islam
Secretary (a.i.), Member

Mr. Md. Raquib Uddin
Chief Accountant, Member Secretary

Academic Profile of BIDS Professionals

Mustafa K. Mujeri

Director General

Dr. Mustafa K. Mujeri obtained his M.A. in Economics from the University of Rajshahi in 1970; and earned M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from McMaster University in 1974 and 1978 respectively. He has long teaching and research career at different universities and institutions at home and abroad. Before joining BIDS as the Director General in 2009, he served as the Chief Economist of the Bangladesh Bank (central bank). He has published extensively in national and international journals. He has also served in various policy making and other committees at both national and international levels. His current areas of research interest include poverty and MDGs monitoring and analysis; post-2015 development agenda; macro policy analysis and strategic development issues; application of modeling and quantitative techniques in development policy; public policy analysis; food security and sustainable agricultural development; energy and infrastructure issues; social development; poverty reduction strategy and policy/programme development; monitoring and evaluation of programmes/projects, and monetary policy analysis.

M. Asaduzzaman

Research Director

Educated in Dhaka University, London School of Economics and the University of Sussex, Dr. M. Asaduzzaman joined the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics in 1969 as a Staff Economist. He retired as a Research Director of BIDS in 2012. Dr. Asaduzzaman's research interests encompass areas of agriculture, natural resource management and rural development. His recent areas of interest include investment opportunities in agriculture for ensuring food security and transition to a post-green revolution world, energy development in Bangladesh and challenges of climate change and problems of rural energy development. He is one of the Commissioners in the International Commission on Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change under the CGIAR.

Zaid Bakht

Research Director

Dr. Zaid Bakht obtained his Ph.D. in Economics from Cornell University in 1978. His research areas include industrial development, rural non-farm activities, regional trade, rural infrastructure, private sector development, and macroeconomic policy. He is involved in a number of national policy making bodies and advisory committees. Currently, he is working as a Research Director of BIDS.

Khan Ahmed Sayeed Murshid

Research Director

Dr. K.A.S. Murshid obtained a Ph.D. in 1985 from Cambridge University for his thesis on food policy. In addition, he has expanded his research interest to other areas, including infrastructure and irrigation, informal and rural credit markets, food grain markets, food security and poverty, human resources development and rural energy. He has published extensively in national and international journals and contributed to various edited volumes. Dr. Murshid retired as a Research Director of BIDS in 2012.

Rushidan Islam Rahman

Research Director

Dr. Rushidan Islam Rahman obtained her M.A. in Development Economics from the University of Sussex and Ph.D. from Australian National University. She has worked in a number of major research projects covering small scale irrigation projects, agricultural growth performance and its distributional impact, women in poverty, and linkages between employment and poverty. She has published a large number of articles in national and international journals, contributed to edited volumes, and co-edited several books. Her current research interests include education, food security, unemployment and labour market, poverty, rural non-farm activities, gender inequity in the labour market and microfinance. Currently, she is a Research Director of BIDS.

Binayak Sen

Research Director

Dr. Binayak Sen is currently a Research Director at BIDS. He received MA in economics from Moscow State University with distinction (1982) and PhD in economics from Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences (1985). He has served in a number of high-level public committees and commissions and worked earlier in the World Bank for several years including as Senior Economist based on Washington, D.C. He has produced over 30 publications in peer-reviewed national and international academic journals and contributed chapters to several books in the area of poverty analysis, human development, growth economics, labor market and regional inequality issues. He is interested in mix-methods and multidisciplinary research in the broad area of development and keen in working with diverse disciplinary backgrounds and approaches.

M .A. Mannan

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. M. A. Mannan obtained an M.A. in Economics from Dhaka University in 1974, an M.Sc. in Demography from London School of Economics and Political Science in 1976, and a Ph.D. in Economics from Delhi School of Economics in 1987. He has been working in BIDS since November 1974. He has undertaken research focusing primarily on gender dimension of poverty, gender violence, impact evaluation of social safety nets, maternal and child health, and primary health care. His current research interests include: gender issues, reproductive health, rural poverty, and health care financing. He has a number of publications including three books. Currently, he is working as a Senior Research Fellow of BIDS.

Sharifa Begum

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. Sharifa Begum has done M.A in Economics from the University of Dhaka, M.Sc. in Medical Demography from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and Ph.D. in Population Studies from International Institute for Population Sciences, Bombay. Her current areas of work relate to population, health, reproductive health, poverty, water, sanitation and women. Currently, she is working as a Senior Research Fellow of BIDS.

Kazi Ali Toufique

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. Kazi Ali Toufique did his B.S.S. and M.S.S. in Economics in 1982 and 1983 respectively from Dhaka University. He obtained an M.A. from Fordham University in 1987, M.Phil. in 1990 and Ph.D. in 1996, both from the University of Cambridge. He joined BIDS in 1989 as a Research Associate. His main areas of research interest are institutional economics, livelihoods analysis, natural resource management, environment and agricultural economics. He has contributed to many seminars and conferences both at home and abroad and has also published in reputed international journals. At present, he is working as a Senior Research Fellow of BIDS.

Bimal Kumar Saha

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. Bimal Kumar Saha obtained an M.A. in Economics from Dhaka University in 1974, an M. Phil. from the Institute of Bangladesh Studies, Rajshahi University in 1979 and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Calcutta in 1995. He has worked extensively in the fields of agrarian structure, technological change, land reform and development. He has a number of publications, including a book on comparative agrarian development in Bangladesh and West Bengal. His current research interests include political economy of agrarian structure, poverty condition of agricultural labourers and tenants, land acquisition and peasant movement. Currently, he is working as a Senior Research Fellow of BIDS.

Pratima Paul-Majumder

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. Pratima Paul-Majumder completed her Ph.D. from Central School of Planning and Statistics, Warsaw in 1978. She received her B.A. (Honours in Economics) from Chittagong University in 1968 and M.A. in Economics from Dhaka University in 1970 and Dip-in-Planning, Central School of Planning and Statistics, Warsaw in 1973. Her research interests involve a wide range of subjects from sericulture industry to economics of slums and squatter settlements to garment and tea industries and gender issues. She retired as a Senior Research Fellow of BIDS in 2012.

K.M. Nabiul Islam

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. K. M. Nabiul Islam obtained his Masters Degree from Dhaka University in 1970 and later received Post-graduate diploma in National Economic Planning from Warsaw and training in Rural Research and Rural Policy from IDS of Sussex University. He obtained a Ph.D. from the Flood Hazard Research Centre at Middlesex University, London. Dr. Islam joined BIDS in 1972, and has since been involved in a number of major studies relating to, among others, development of rural and small industries, development of large industries, with particular reference to technological capability, floods, famines, water, climate change, flood, disaster and environment management; and monitoring and impact evaluation of rural development and flood control, drainage and irrigation projects. Dr. Islam has published widely in journals, published seven books (mostly on flood management), and co-authored and contributed to several books. Currently, he is working as a Senior Research Fellow at BIDS.

Anwara Begum

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. Anwara Begum obtained her Ph. D. from the University of Liverpool in 1995. She has been an active researcher on rural, urban and international migration having a wide interest in development issues: female entrepreneurs, gender equality and empowerment of women, employment and income programs, rural and urban area development priorities, formal and informal industry worker conditions, informal service sector and poverty issues, housing and settlements and the problems of social and economic deprivation of urban and rural poor dwellers, formal and technical education, human resource development and rural-to-urban migration. Currently she is working as a Senior Research Fellow of BIDS.

Mohammad Yunus

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. Mohammad Yunus obtained his M.S.S. in Economics from the University of Chittagong in 1990, M.Sc. and M. Phil. from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow in 1997 and 1998 respectively, and Ph.D. from the Georgia State University, Atlanta in 2006. He joined BIDS in 1992. His current research interests include taxation, state and local government fiscal

policies, fiscal decentralisation, food security and poverty alleviation, exchange rate issues, tobacco consumption and health hazards, and applied econometrics (time-series and panel data). He has published extensively in both national and international journals. He has also to his credit numerous other publications in the form of research reports, and contribution to various other edited volumes. Currently, he is working as a Senior Research Fellow of BIDS.

Zulfiqar Ali

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. Zulfiqar Ali obtained Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Bath in 1998. Earlier, he obtained B.Sc. (Honours) and M.Sc. in Economics from Jahangirnagar University in 1989 and 1990 respectively. Later, he completed a course on "Economic Theory and Poverty Reduction: Theory, Empirical Evidence and Implication for South Asia" organised by the World Bank Institute in 1998 and another course on "Human Development: From Theory to Practice" from the Queen Elizabeth House of the University of Oxford in 2000. His areas of interest include growth, inequality and poverty; human and social development; human wellbeing; applied economics; natural resources and environmental economics; and climate change. Currently, he is working as a Senior Research Fellow of BIDS.

Nazneen Ahmed

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. Nazneen Ahmed received a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Wageningen, Masters in Development Economics from the University of Sussex, and Masters and Bachelors in Economics from the University of Dhaka. She joined BIDS in 1998. Dr. Ahmed has specialisation in conducting research in the areas of international trade and regional trade issues; value chain analysis, general equilibrium modeling; and institutional, industrial and labour issues. Currently, she is working as a Senior Research Fellow of BIDS.

Mohammad Sohail

Research Fellow

Mr. Mohammad Sohail received his B.A. (Honours) and M.A. in Economics in 1972 and 1973 respectively from Dhaka University. He obtained an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Michigan in 1975. He joined

BIDS in 1973 as a Staff Demographer. His current areas of interest in research include population studies, health, poverty and gender. Currently, he is working as a Research Fellow of BIDS.

Serajul Islam Laskar

Research Fellow

After completing his M.A. in Economics, Mr. S.I. Laskar joined BIDS in 1973. He obtained an M.A. in Demography from the University of Pennsylvania in 1975 and an M.A. in Economics from the University of Hawaii in 1990. His research interests include macroeconomics, population and development, urbanisation and migration, human resources development (education and health), gender issues and development, environmental sustainability, role of ICT in development, and governance and corruption issues. Currently, he is working as a Research Fellow of BIDS.

Narayan Chandra Nath

Research Fellow

Dr. Narayan Chandra Nath did his Ph.D. in Industrial Economics at the Institute of National Economy, Baku in 1978. Dr. Nath served as a Visiting Fellow and did postdoctoral research work on international trade at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow during 1993-94. The areas of his research include: international trade and WTO issues, industrial policy, macroeconomic policies and management, financial sector including micro finance, impact evaluation of development projects, tourism and poverty. He has a number of research publications to his credit. Currently he is serving as a Research Fellow at BIDS.

Md. Mizanur Rahman

Research Fellow

Mr. Mizanur Rahman obtained an M.Sc. in Statistics from Dhaka University in 1973, and received an M. Phil in Economics from Cambridge University in 1981. His areas of research interest include mathematical economics and statistics, econometrics, and internal migration. Currently, he is working as a Research Fellow of BIDS.

Salma Chaudhuri Zohir

Research Fellow

Dr. Salma Chaudhuri Zohir received an M.A. in Economics from the University of Dhaka in 1979 and a

Diploma in Economics from the University of Colorado in 1981. Later on, she received an M.A. in Development Economics from the Williams College in 1982 and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Manchester in 1998. Her research interest covers areas of employment, gender and development, industry, environmental concerns, and economic and social issues, especially in readymade garments industry. Currently, she is working as a Research Fellow of BIDS.

Karimullah Bhuiyan

Research Fellow

Mr. Karimullah Bhuiyan obtained his M.Sc. in Statistics from the University of Dhaka in 1970 and joined BIDS in 1972. In 1976, he received a diploma in National Economic Planning from Poland, and received a graduate degree in law from Dhaka University in 1980. He obtained his M.Sc. in Industrialisation, Trade and Economic Policy from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow in 1996. He completed a course on Demography at the Institute of Statistical Research and Training, Dhaka, and another course on Entrepreneurship at SIET, Hyderabad. Mr. Bhuiyan has been involved in a large number of studies in the field of rural industries, small and large industries, poverty alleviation, food policy and distribution, crop diversification, fish culture, irrigation, water management and sick industries in Bangladesh. He has retired as a Research Fellow of BIDS in 2012.

Md. Salimullah

Research Fellow

Dr. Md. Salimullah obtained his M.Sc. in Statistics from the University of Dhaka in 1969. Later on, he received M.Sc. in Industrialisation, Trade and Economic Policy (ITEP), in 1996 and Ph. D. in Economics in 1998 from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. He also obtained Postgraduate Diploma in National Economic Planning from National School of Planning and Statistics, Warsaw in 1974 and training in Small Industry Management Consultancy from SIET, Hyderabad in 1978. His main research interest includes modeling for development policy, trade, rural industrialisation, poverty alleviation, education and forecasting model using extended input-output analysis. He has retired as a Research Fellow of BIDS in 2012.

ABM Shamsul Islam

Research Fellow

Mr. ABM Shamsul Islam received M. Sc. in Statistics from Dhaka University in 1969. Later on he completed a Postgraduate Course in Economic Development and Planning from the Institute for Studies on Economic Development (ISVE), Naples in 1977-78. His areas of research interest are: ageing population, pension scheme and social safety nets, population development and international migration. He retired as a Research Fellow of BIDS in 2012.

Wajid Hasan Shah

Research Fellow

Mr. Wajid Hasan Shah obtained Master's in Economics from the University of Missouri, Columbia and a Bachelor's from Truman State University with a major in Economics and a minor in Mathematics. He completed MBA in Development Management with an emphasis on Governance and WTO issues from the Institute of Business Administration, University of Dhaka. His major areas of research interest include foreign investment and financial markets, with particular emphasis on the stock market. Currently, he is working as a Research Fellow of BIDS.

Monzur Hossain

Research Fellow

Dr. Monzur Hossain obtained his Ph.D. in International Economics from the National Graduate Institute for Policy studies (GRIPS), Tokyo in 2007 and Master's in Public Policy from the same Institute in 2003. He joined BIDS as a Research Fellow in 2008. He has published a good number of articles both in domestic and international academic journals. His primary areas of interest include macroeconomics, exchange rate, FDI, remittance, trade, banking and financial sector development. He has also interests in the ICT sector, SME development and mobile phone issues.

Minhaj Mahmud

Research Fellow

Dr. Minhaj Mahmud received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Gothenburg in 2005 and MA in Economics from the University of Manitoba in 1999. Dr. Mahmud previously taught at Queens University Belfast (UK), Keele University (UK), Brac University and Jahangirnagar University in Bangladesh. His research

interest is on behavioural and experimental economics, environment, health and development issues. He has published in reputed international journals. He is working as a Research Fellow of BIDS.

Kazi Iqbal

Research Fellow

Dr. Kazi Iqbal received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Washington, Seattle in 2006. He worked for World Bank Institute and taught at the University of Washington and Macalester College, Minnesota. His research interest lies in macroeconomics, public economics and development issues. He has publications in internationally reputed journals. Currently, he is working as a Research Fellow of BIDS.

Abul Basher

Research Fellow

Dr. Abul Basher completed his Bachelor's from Dhaka University and Masters from Strathclyde University (UK) with distinction in economics. After completion of his PhD from University of Washington, he taught economics at Willamette University, USA and worked as a country economist at World Bank Dhaka Office before joining BIDS as a Research Fellow in 2012. He has publications in internationally reputed journals. His research areas include macro and monetary economics, international trade, economic modeling, microfinance, and development issues.

Mohammad Harunur Rashid Bhuyan

Research Associate

Mr. Mohammad Harunur Rashid Bhuyan is currently pursuing his Ph.D. as an Endeavour Scholar in Monash University. He has completed his Master's in Sociology from the New School University, New York in 2007 as a Fulbright Scholar and did his M.S.S. and B.S.S. (Honours) in Sociology from Shahjalal University of Science and Technology. He is a Research Associate of BIDS. His areas of interest include sociology of climate change and natural disasters; social structure, growth, inequality and poverty; social development and human wellbeing; power structure and gender relations; and political economy of good governance.

Muhammad Mudabbir Husain

Research Associate

Mr. Muhammad Mudabbir Husain obtained his B.S.S (Honours) in Economics from the University of Dhaka in 2003 and M.A. from the Georgia State University in 2008. His areas of interest include public finance, international trade, labour economics, theoretical and applied econometrics. He is a Research Associate of BIDS.

Nehraz Mahmud

Research Associate

Ms. Nehraz Mahmud completed her M.A. in Anthropology and Women's Studies from Brandeis University in 2007 and had earlier done MSS in 2003 and BSS in 2002 in Anthropology from Rajshahi University. Her major research interests are in the areas of: gender issues, women's rights, politics and power, economics and societies, and cultural context of healthcare, education and other issues related to development. She joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2004.

S.M. Zahedul Islam Chowdhury

Research Associate

Dr. S.M. Zahedul Islam Chowdhury obtained his Ph.D. in Economics from Istanbul University, Turkey under Turkish Government Scholarship. He completed B. Sc. (Hons.) and M. Sc. in Economics from Jahangirnagar University. He joined BIDS as Research Associate in April 2004. He has published articles in national and international academic journals. His areas of interest include health economics, health and environment issues, human resources development, women's empowerment, poverty alleviation, and financial liberalisation issues.

Mohammad Mainul Hoque

Research Associate

Mr. Mohammad Mainul Hoque is a Research Associate at BIDS since 2006. He completed his M.S.S in Economics in 2005 from University of Dhaka. His areas of interest include fiscal and monetary economics, trade policies and tools of restrictions, economics of exhaustible resources, information economics and healthcare demand.

Humayra Ahmed

Research Associate

Ms. Humayra Ahmed obtained her M.S.S in Economics in 2006 from the University of Dhaka and joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2006. Her areas of interest include environmental economics, health and population economics, macroeconomic issues, regional trade and development economics.

Md. Nazmul Hoque

Research Associate

Mr. Md. Nazmul Hoque completed his M.S.S in Economics in 2005 from Dhaka University. He joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2007. His areas of research interest include macroeconomic policy issues, open economy macroeconomics, international economics, information economics and economics of nonrenewable resources.

Mohammad Golam Nabi Mozumder

Research Associate

Mr. Mohammad Golam Nabi Mozumder completed B.S.S. (Honours) and M.S.S. in Sociology from the University of Dhaka in 2002 and 2003 respectively. He joined BIDS in 2007 as a Research Associate. His major areas of research interests include socio-cultural change and adaptation, religious militancy and social inequality.

Md. Zabid Iqbal

Research Associate

Mr. Md. Zabid Iqbal obtained his M.S.S in Economics in 2007 from the University of Dhaka and joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2008. His areas of interest include macroeconomic policy issues, open economy macroeconomics, international trade, labour economics, development economics, theoretical and applied econometrics and various microeconomic issues.

A T M Shaifullah Mehedi

Research Associate

Mr. A T M Shaifullah Mehedi obtained M.S.S and B.S.S in Anthropology from Jahangirnagar University and joined BIDS in 2008. Apart from environmental adaptation, his research interests include migration, poverty, governance and gender issues as well as nutrition and child mortality in Bangladesh. He is currently working as a Research Associate.

Mansur Ahmed

Research Associate

Mr. Mansur Ahmed completed his graduation in Economics from the University of Dhaka in 2007. He joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2008. His areas of research interest include macroeconomics, international economics, development economics, econometrics and applied economics research.

Mohammad Iqbal Hossain

Research Associate

Mr. Mohammad Iqbal Hossain completed his B.Sc. and M. Sc. in Economics in 2009 from Jahangirnagar University. His areas of interest include macroeconomic policy, international trade, public finance and econometrics. He joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2010.

Mitali Parvin

Research Associate

Ms. Mitali Parvin completed her B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Environmental Science from Khulna University in 2005 and 2008 respectively. She joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2010. Her current areas of interest include ecologically sustainable development and sustainable economy, ecotourism, eco-village development, renewable energy technologies, global environmental issues for global sustainability: food production, green house gas production, climate change and adaptation and renewable transition.

Badrun Nessa Ahmed

Research Associate

Ms. Badrun Nessa Ahmed obtained her M.S.S in Economics in 2008 from the University of Dhaka. She joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2010. Her areas of interest include macroeconomic policy issues, health and population economics, development economics, theoretical and applied econometrics and international trade especially trade policies and regional cooperation.

Moogdho Mim Mahzab

Research Associate

Mr. Moogdho Mim Mahzab joined BIDS in March 2011 as Research Associate. He obtained his BSS and MSS degrees from the Department of Economics, Univer-

sity of Dhaka in 2009 and 2010 respectively. Prior to joining BIDS, he worked as a Research Associate at South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM). His areas of interest lie in the fields of macroeconomics and public policies, international economics, financial economics, behavioural economics, economic modeling and mathematical economic analysis.

Tahreen Tahrima Chowdhury

Research Associate

Ms. Tahreen Tahrima Chowdhury joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2011. She completed her M.S.S. in Economics in 2010 from the University of Dhaka. Prior to joining BIDS, she served as a Lecturer in the Department of Economics at BRAC University. Tahreen's areas of research interests include microeconomic theory, mathematical economics, theoretical and applied econometrics, applied economic research, macroeconomic policy issues, financial economics and international trade.

Siban Shahana

Research Associate

Ms. Siban Shahana joined BIDS as a Research Associate in 2011. She completed her M.S.S in Economics in 2010 from the University of Dhaka. Prior to joining BIDS, she worked as a Lecturer in East West University and also as a Research Associate in Policy Research Institute (PRI) of Bangladesh. Her areas of research interest include macroeconomic policy issues, energy economics and health economics.

Director General

Dr. Mustafa K. Mujeri

P.S. to Director General

Mohammad Faisal Hossain (a.i.)

Research Director

Dr. Zaid Bakht

Dr. Rushidan Islam Rahman

Dr. Binayak Sen

Professorial Fellow

Dr. Quazi Shahabuddin

Senior Research Fellow

Dr. M.A. Mannan

Dr. Sharifa Begum

Dr. K.A. Toufique

Dr. Bimal Kumar Saha

Dr. K.M. Nabiul Islam

Dr. Anwara Begum

Dr. Mohammad Yunus

Dr. S.M. Zulfikar Ali

Dr. Nazneen Ahmed

Research Fellow

Mr. M. Sohail

Mr. Serajul Islam Laskar

Dr. Narayan Chandra Nath

Mr. Md. Mizanur Rahman

Dr. Salma Chaudhuri Zohir

Mr. Wajid Hasan Shah

Dr. Monzur Hossain

Dr. Minhaj uddin Mahmud

Dr. Kazi Iqbal

Dr. Abul Basher

Research Associate

Mr. M. Harunur Rashid Bhuyan

Mr. M. Mudabbir Husain

Mrs. Nehraz Mahmud

Dr. S.M. Zahedul Islam Chowdhury

Mr. Mainul Hoque

Ms. Humayra Ahmed

Mr. Nazmul Hoque

Mr. Golam Nabi Mozumder

Mr. Md. Zabid Iqbal

Mr. A.T.M. Shaifullah Mehedi

Mr. Mansur Ahmed

Mr. Md. Iqbal Hossain

Ms. Mitali Parvin

Ms. Badrun Nessa Ahmed

Mr. Moogdho Mim Mahzab

Ms. Tahreen Tahrira Chowdhury

Ms. Sibana Shahana

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Layla Nusrat Banu

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Mr. Bepari Sayed Ali

Mr. Abul Hossain

Mr. Md. Mokbul Hossain

Mr. Md. Shamsul Alam

Mr. Md. Shahin Hossain

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Accountant

Mr. Md. Bashir Alam

Mr.Md.Kamal Hosen

Asstt. Accountant

Mr. M.A.Gaffar

UDA

Mr. Abu Sayed

Mr. Md. Shafiqul Islam Mollah

Mr. Md. Humayun Kabir

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Mr. Abdur Rouf Khan

Mr. Uzzal Chondro Shaha

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Mr. Md. Khairul Islam

Assistant Telephone Operator

Mr. Md. Tofazzal Hossain

Driver

Mr. Nur Hossain

Mr. Md. Abdur Rashid

Mr. Md. Delwar Hossain

Mr. Md. Azad Hossain

Mr. Md. Serazul Haque

Mr. Md. Shamsul Haque

Mr. Md. Kh. Haiderul Islam

Mr. Md. Abul Kashem

Mr. Raju

Mr. Md. Shamim Nur

Mr. Koushik Ahammed

Mr. Naime Hossain Manik

Maintanance Asstt.

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MLSS

Mr. Abdul Barek

Mr. A.K.M. Lokman

Mr. Mir Salauddin

Mr. Almas Hossain

Mrs. Yasmin

Mr. Md. Jamal Hossain

Mr. Md. Shawpan Sarkar

Mr. Md. Kanchan Mia

Mr. Md.Sohrab Hossain

Mr. Md. Anwar Hossain

Mrs. Rasheda Begum

Mr. Md.Anwar Hossain Babu

Mr. Shah Jalal

Mr. Md. Ali Ajgar

Mr. Md. Shah Alam

Mr. Khorshid Alam

Chowkider

Mr. Md. Billal Hossain

Mr. Md. Shokur Ali

Annex 5

Financial Statements of Fiscal Years 2010-11 and 2011-12

As an accountable and autonomous public research institute, BIDS maintains a sound financial management system which is based on modern and computerised accounting methods to help ensure efficient and effective use of its limited resources. For meeting its expenses, BIDS receives grants from the government on an annual basis to match its own earnings from endowment funds and other sources. The BIDS ensures a transparent and accountable

financial management system supported by high standards of internal and external auditing on a regular basis. On financial matters, BIDS is accountable to its Board of Trustees as well as to the government.

BIDS Financial Statement

The summary statement of financial activities and the balance sheet given reproduced here is taken from the audited reports for the year ending 30 June 2011 and unaudited reports for the financial year ending 30 June 2012.

BIDS STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

(In Million Tk.)

		2010-11	2011-12
A	INCOME		
A1	Government's yearly allocation (grant)	50.000	53.179
A2	Interest from BIDS Trust Fund	9.500	12.000
A3	Interest from BIDS Research Endowment Fund (REF)	19.000	24.000
A4	Interest from research and other funds	0.956	0.650
A5	Sales of BIDS publications	0.453	0.260
A6	Study overhead and levy	5.237	3.120
A7	Income from other sources	7.934	7.620
A8	Income from BIDS Library Endowment Fund	1.438	3.832
	Total income	94.518	104.661
B	EXPENDITURE		
	Revenue expenditure		
B1	Staff salary and allowances	62.000	61.450
B2	Salary and allowances for temporary staff for field and research support	1.862	2.033
	Total salary and allowances	63.862	63.483
B3	Travel expenses	0.450	0.100
B4	Library expenses	0.800	0.900
B5	Stationeries	0.538	0.672
B6	Conveyance and transport expenses	2.019	3.268
B7	Printing and publications	0.963	1.500
B8	Repair and replacement of equipments and furniture	0.300	0.350

B09	Maintenance of office building	0.600	0.700
B10	Postage, telephones and telegrams	0.925	1.018
B11	Electricity and related expenses	0.736	1.050
B12	Network maintenance (LAN, Internet, Server)	0.550	0.500
B13	Insurance, rates and taxes	0.845	0.750
B14	Liveries for low paid employees	0.100	0.243
B15	Depreciation	0.139	0.121
B16	Audit and legal fee	0.135	0.050
B17	Advertisement	0.200	0.100
B18	Operational expense of computers	0.375	0.425
B19	Seminar and meeting expenses	0.400	0.644
B20	Contingencies	0.251	0.330
B21	Training expenses	...	0.100
	Total non-salary revenue expenditure	10.326	12.821
B22	Research expenses of BIDS Research Endowment Fund	19.000	24.000
	Total revenue expenditure	93.188	100.304
C	Capital expenditure		
C1	Procurement of foreign books and journals	0.850	3.832
C2	Procurement of computers/printers/software	0.480	0.525
	Total capital expenditure	1.330	4.357
	Total expenditure	94.518	104.661



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