



BIDS newsletter

Vol. 1 Issue 2 December 2013

BIDS Improves Ranking in TTCSP

BIDS has been ranked 15th in the 'Top 40 Think Tanks in Asia' category (except China, India, Japan and Republic of Korea) in the recently released ranking using The Global Go To Think Tank Index by the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Programme (TTCSP) of the University of Pennsylvania. In the rankings released in January 2013, BIDS was placed 28th in the 'Top 80 International Development Think Tanks' category. The results are based on an international survey of over 1,950 scholars, public and private donors, policy makers, and journalists who helped rank more than 6,500 think tanks using a set of eighteen criteria developed by the TTCSP. The purpose of these rankings is to help improve the profile and performance of think tanks while highlighting the important work they do for governments and civil societies around the world. In 2010, BIDS was ranked 16th amongst the top 25 think tanks in Asia and 23rd in the top 25 think tanks by research area (Global) while, in 2011, BIDS was ranked 29th amongst the top 30 think tanks in Asia and 28th in the top 30 international development think tanks category. ■



Grameenphone congratulates Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) for improving its ranking in TTCSP

Study Highlights

Child Equity Atlas: Pockets of Social Deprivation in Bangladesh

The 'Child Equity Atlas: Pockets of Social Deprivation in Bangladesh' has been prepared jointly by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) and UNICEF-Bangladesh under a tripartite agreement for promoting evidence-led equity-based policy on children and women in Bangladesh.

Using the data from the Population and Housing Census 2011, the Atlas unpacks the patterns of progress recorded by Bangladesh and maps the prevailing pockets of key social deprivations faced by children, youth and

From the Editor

The year 2013 was unique and a busy year for BIDS especially due to the wide diversity of research and other activities taken up by its researchers during the year. During 2013, BIDS completed a total of 23 research studies and initiated 19 new studies. More than 20 studies remain ongoing at the end of December 2013. These research studies relate to both macroeconomic and sectoral priority issues covering a wide range including poverty and vulnerability, macroeconomic policy and regional development, agriculture and food security, education and health, social protection, population dynamics, energy policies, decentralisation and governance, climate change impacts and others.

BIDS organised a number of policy workshops, dialogues and seminars on important issues during the year. Publication and dissemination activities also got a boost with the publication of books, monographs, research reports, and other dissemination materials. One noteworthy development of 2013 is the start of regular publication of BIDS newsletter, annual research programme, and summary of major findings and policy implications of completed research studies. The BIDS researchers also had to their credit a number of prestigious publications in journals and books that came out during the year.

We are confident that our friends and well wishers both at home and abroad will appreciate our untiring effort to make more effective contribution to the policy making community and civil society through our research and other activities. We hope they will continue to endorse our efforts and extend their support.

We wish all our friends a very happy 2014. ■

women over the decade since 2001 Population Census; analyses the pockets of social deprivations for implementing concerted actions to close the inequities between different areas and population groups in the country; and contributes to policy dialogue for reforming and refocusing relevant policies and programmes towards more equitable socioeconomic development in Bangladesh's quest towards reaching the middle income status by 2021.

The analysis covers three groups: children up to 18 years of age, youth as defined by demographic and international standards, and women aged 15-49 years. Beyond demographics and social services and facilities, the Atlas uses a composite deprivation index to measure progress and provides maps and charts to show the pattern of social development outcomes across areas and population groups, with focus on children, youth and women. About 14 indicators have been extracted and computed from the Census data to produce the Atlas. The Atlas provides important observations about the remarkable social achievements in Bangladesh while the equity focus unearths inequities that still exist in the country.

There are several dimensions and advantages to the evidence generated by the Equity Atlas. Firstly, the Census has no sampling errors since it includes all households, a distinct advantage over all surveys especially at the lower geographical levels. Secondly, the Atlas powerfully displays the geographical location of the major problems. The maps provide a unique visualisation of the issues facing different sub-national areas and populations across the country, providing a holistic picture yet revealing greater details to illuminate inequities by showing patterns and trends, how children, youth and women are able to access vital resources and opportunities, and how these patterns correlate with key socioeconomic outcomes. For instance, the out of school children maps clearly show where policy instruments such as the Primary Education Stipend Programme (PESP) and the Upazila Primary Education Plans (UPEP) should focus more resources and efforts towards ensuring educational equity.

The Atlas also summarises the census information in one Composite Deprivation Index (CDI), which coincides with the geographical pattern of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) priority districts derived earlier from the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2009 of BBS and UNICEF.

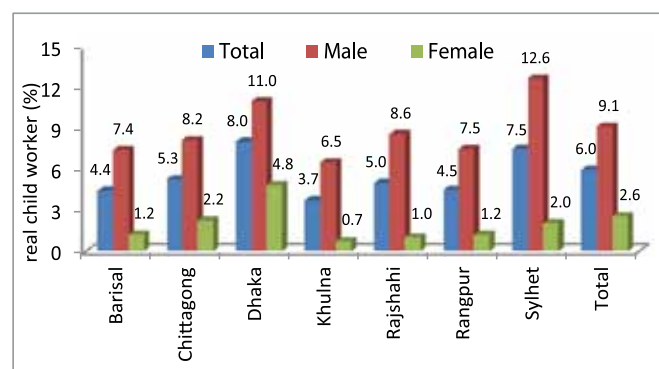
The Atlas shows that the proportion of real child workers (10-14 years old) is high; 6 per cent nationally which is 9.1 per cent for boys and 2.6 per cent for girls. In the urban areas, the proportion is 9 per cent; 11 per cent and 7 per cent for boys and girls respectively. While the proportion of real child workers at the divisional level varies from 3.7 per cent to 8.0 per cent, the variation is from 1.7 per cent to 26.5 per cent at the upazila level. In the Dhaka City Corporation, the proportion of real child workers among the wards varies from 8.3 per cent to 43.8 per cent. Moreover, the lower and higher values of many of the relevant indicators vary enormously, for example, the proportion of households with access to electricity at upazila level varies from 7.8 per

cent to 97.7 per cent, an indication of incredible inequality. The proportion of female real child workers significantly varies as well between upazilas, the lowest being 0.1 per cent and the highest 27.0 per cent, unveiling a factor of 270 times difference between the two upazilas.

Proportion of real child worker (10-14 years): Best and worst districts, Bangladesh, 2011

Sl.	Best districts		Worst districts	
	District	%	District	%
1.	Jhalokati	2.2	Dhaka	14.6
2.	Bagerhat, Chandpur	3.0	Narayanganj	13.2
3.	Manikganj	3.1	Bandarban	11.8
4.	Barguna, Pirojpur	3.2	Cox's Bazar, Sunamganj	9.4
5.	Joypurhat, Satkhira	3.3	Gazipur	8.9
Bangladesh: 6.0 %				

Proportion of real child worker (10-14 years) by administrative divisions, Bangladesh, 2011

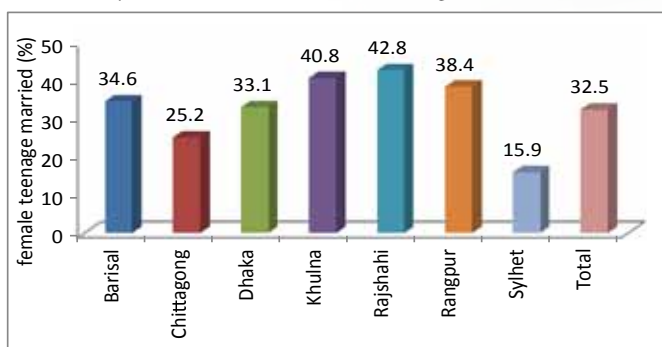


Female teenage marriage remains very high; 32.5 per cent in the country with the highest of 55.2 per cent in one upazila (Nageshwari in Kurigram District). Female education is inversely correlated with female teenage marriage, the higher the female education rate, the lower the teenage marriage rate. Thus education remains the most potent tool to delay the age of marriage for girls and increase human capital substantially.

Proportion of female teenage (15-19 years) married population: Low and high prevalence districts, Bangladesh, 2011

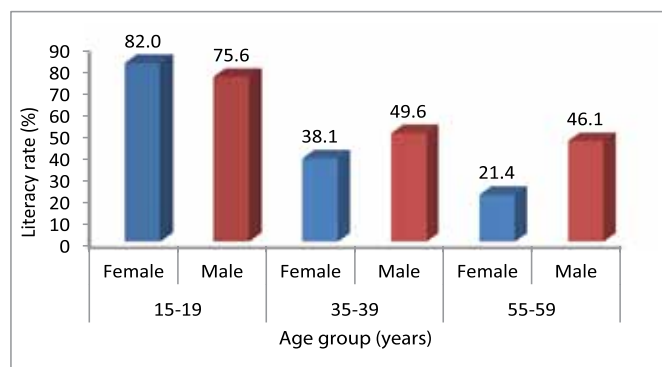
Sl.	Low prevalence districts		High prevalence districts	
	District	%	District	%
1.	Sylhet	13.5	Meherpur	53.7
2.	Maulvibazar	15.5	Chapai Nawabganj	48.0
3.	Sunamganj	16.4	Kurigram	47.8
4.	Chittagong	18.4	Chuadanga	46.7
5.	Habiganj	20.5	Bogra	46.4
Bangladesh: 32.5%				

Per centage of female teenage (15-19 years) married population by administrative divisions, Bangladesh, 2011



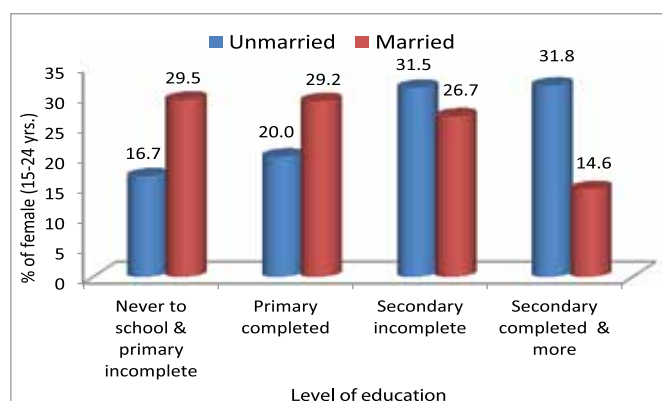
The Atlas shows clear progress in literacy levels in the country, but with high disparities among districts and upazilas; 22.5 per centage points difference for districts and 26.7 per centage points for upazilas. While several districts and upazilas experienced substantial progress, some areas experienced very little progress, justifying the geographic targeting adopted by the government and the development partners in key sectors.

Literacy rates of three generations (three age groups) by gender, Bangladesh, 2011



There has been improvement in girls' education, girls' attendance at secondary schools is higher than that of the boys; 80.2 per cent for girls against 72.2 per cent for boys. Female youth literacy rate is higher (76.6 per cent) than that of the male (74.0 per cent).

Educational attainment (in %) of married and unmarried young women (15-24 years), Bangladesh, 2011



However, significant differences are observed in youth literacy by female and male among the upazilas. Bangladesh has made substantial progress in fostering gender equality in the education sector as investments and social mobilisation efforts continue to close the equity gap. Similar attention is required to address emerging pockets of disparity, for instance in the out of school children and its gender dimension including where boys or girls both are at a disadvantage.

Proportion of out-of-school children (6-10 years): Best and worst districts, Bangladesh, 2011

Sl.	Best districts		Worst districts	
	District	%	District	%
1.	Jhalokati	14.9	Bandarban	31.6
2.	Barguna	16.6	Sunamganj	30.1
3.	Pirojpur	16.8	Bhola	29.0
4.	Feni	17.2	Netrakona	28.9
5.	Jessore	17.6	Cox's Bazar	28.5
Bangladesh: 23.0%				

Net attendance rate at secondary school: Best and worst districts, Bangladesh, 2011

Sl.	Best districts		Worst districts	
	District	%	District	%
1.	Jhalokati	69.6	Sunamganj	34.5
2.	Magura	66.4	Bandarban	36.8
3.	Joypurhat , Panchagarh	64.8	Cox's Bazar	37.2
4.	Pirojpur	64.7	Habiganj	41.1
5.	Satkhira	64.6	Bhola	44.9
Bangladesh: 54.3%				

The proportion of out-of-school children remains alarmingly high, almost one in four, mainly caused by late entrance of children to schools. In this respect, the worst upazila (Khaliajuri in Netrokona District) registered almost half (44.9 per cent) of children out of school, revealing the need for clear and urgent remedial actions by the parents and the policy makers at all levels. ■



(Left) Rasel, 13 and his friend (right) Irin Akter, 11, are heading to go to school at Kazlartek slum, Mirpur, Dhaka, 21 April 2011.

New Research Studies

During recent months, BIDS has initiated eleven new research studies with funding support from several donors. Including these new ones a total of 20 research studies are currently ongoing which cover macro and sectoral issues related to the Bangladesh economy.

Impact assessment of empowerment and livelihood improvement (Notun Jibon) project

The study will assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the 'Notun Jibon' project in achieving its development goals in terms of poverty alleviation, livelihood improvement and inclusiveness. The study will also focus on the effectiveness of the implementation process of the project and recommend adjustments in the project design to overcome the identified constraints. The study will use both quantitative and qualitative methods in its analysis.

Evaluation of relative importance of different products in the transmission of the impacts of euro zone crisis into the Bangladesh economy

The study intends to evaluate how exports of different products from Bangladesh can potentially be affected by the euro zone crisis. Through unbundling the likely effects of euro zone crisis, the study will rank different products according to their export vulnerability, and will provide the specific policy measures required to check these vulnerabilities.

Stakeholder Consultation for the annual programme review 2012 of Health, Population, and Nutrition Sector Development Programme

The study would collect information and analyse the stakeholders' views on Health, Population, and Nutrition Sector Development Programme currently being implemented. This will involve a participatory evaluation process including focus group discussions and regional and central workshops. A review of existing evidence will also be collated. Based on the reviews, FGDs and workshops, a Stakeholder Consultation Report will be prepared.

Joint MFS-II evaluation of selected Dutch funded projects in Bangladesh

The purpose of this study is to account for results of MFS II-funded or co-funded development interventions implemented by the Dutch NGOs and/or their Southern partners and contribute to improving future development interventions. The study will use a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods, customized to meet the demands of the research components.

Problems and prospects of SMEs financing in Bangladesh

This study will explore economic challenges encountered by SME loan recipients in the initial phase in order to help find innovative approaches to counter such problems and design improved products for SME financing. The study will also focus on women entrepreneurs.

Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of fertilizer use in Bangladesh: The quality of fertilizer and fertilizer distribution system

Fertilizer plays an important role in increasing crop production and remains a cornerstone in meeting the increasing demand for food in Bangladesh. For ensuring dynamic transformations in agriculture, one of the key issues is to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of fertilizer use. This study would assess the current status of two important aspects of the fertilizer sector in Bangladesh: (i) fertilizer distribution system and (ii) quality of fertilizers used by the farmers. For the purpose, criteria such as efficiency, equity, and sustainability will be used to provide suggestions to improve the distribution system and the quality of available fertilizers in the market.

Quality of agricultural inputs

The supply of quality seed is inadequate in Bangladesh accounting for only about 40 per cent of its total demand. The situation is similar for other agricultural inputs. It is estimated that rice production can be increased by 10-15 per cent by increasing the supply of quality seed alone. Thus it is important to understand the institutional mechanism through which quality seed and other inputs can be supplied to the farmers. In this context, the critical problem is the supply of agricultural inputs of poor quality to the producers and unavailability of these inputs when they are needed the most. The study will analyse the quality and other related aspects of different seeds covering both supply and demand dimensions which are crucial to promoting growth in the agricultural sector.

Food safety in Bangladesh: Practices, impact, policies and implementation

Besides the nutritional aspect, one major concern related to food utilisation is the issue of food safety which is compromised too often in Bangladesh. While food becomes unsafe due to naturally occurring toxins, pathogens or unintended contamination in processing and storage of food, the intentional debasing of food quality and its safety is a major public health concern in the country. This study will try to understand all these aspects of food safety and its determinants as well as human health and economic impacts, legal and institutional issues related to ensuring food safety and its international dimensions. The study will carry out a science-based economic analysis of food safety in Bangladesh by taking full cognizance of the existing institutional and legal environment surrounding the issue. Furthermore, cognizance will be taken of the disease and health impacts and their economic consequences.

Seed sector development in Bangladesh: Issues, constraints and way forward

There exist several factors that hinder the supply of quality seed in the country. Seed technology is a modern science and the country lacks skill in seed management especially with respect to research, extension, production, processing, marketing and preservation. The study will provide inputs

to establish enabling seed policy and regulations that would lead to enhanced private sector development and delivery of improved seeds of nutrient-dense crops, and more rapid smallholder adoption of improved seeds. The role of the private sector will be thoroughly studied to understand whether there are any structural problems that limit their ability to meet the demand for seeds. The current institutional set up and policy regimes will be examined to assess whether they play a controlling or facilitating role for the development of the seed sector.

Economics of water resource management for balanced development of water resources in Bangladesh

While Bangladesh is abundant in water, the country faces severe seasonal scarcity of water. Total renewable surface water resource is also quite limited because most water flows enter from the upstream riparian India. Groundwater irrigation is generally more flexible and can be used in conjunction with surface water to improve water use efficiency. But heavy dependence on groundwater is costly in terms of resource use. Further, given growing water scarcity, groundwater pumping has become less equitable. Groundwater irrigation management, therefore, requires urgent attention. At the same time, constraints that hinder the cost-effective use of surface water resources need to be addressed urgently to ensure balanced use of available water resources in the country. In this context, the study will examine the economics of water management in general, and ground and surface water

irrigation in particular, for improved agricultural productivity in Bangladesh. Moreover, the regional dimension of water resources development and management will be explored to ensure its balanced use across different regions of the country. In addition, how farmers respond to water scarcity will be examined keeping in view its implications for sustained growth of crop production in Bangladesh.

Workplace safety and industrial relations: Current status of the export oriented readymade garments (RMGs) industry in Bangladesh

In recent years, violent labour unrest and large scale death of workers caused by fire and other accidents have put the export-oriented RMGs industry of Bangladesh under the spotlight. This has put the issue of industrial relations, labour standards and workplace safety in RMGs industry under fresh scrutiny of the stakeholders. A major constraint in drawing up appropriate action plans in this respect is the absence of adequate and up-to-date information on the industry. This study will make a comprehensive assessment of the current status of the RMGs industry with respect to industrial relations and workplace safety covering aspects such as number of factories under production and their size of employment; provisions of the Factory and Labour Act, ILO conventions and compliance criteria used by the major buyers; level of compliance and the state of industrial relations; factors affecting labour standards and state of workplace safety and security, and measures needed to address the challenges. ■

Highlights of Recently Completed Research

BIDS completed a total of eight research studies during July-December 2013. These covered several areas including barriers to the development of livestock and fisheries sectors, impact evaluation of maternity allowance programme, providing support to Parliamentary Standing Committees on oversight of budget implementation, energy subsidies and profile of groups vulnerable to energy sector reforms in Bangladesh, structure and growth of rural non-farm sector in Bangladesh, review of the Equity Entrepreneurship Fund, and long-run socio-economic impact study of rural roads and markets improvement and maintenance project.

Old age allowance programme of Bangladesh: An evaluation

The study, undertaken for the Ministry of Social Welfare, used elderly census and survey data to assess the coverage, targeting accuracy, field level implementation and impact of the programme. It also examined the current status of traditional safety-nets programmes from the perspectives of the country's older people. The study provided recommendations for making the programme more efficient, meaningful and welfare oriented.

Impact evaluation of maternity allowance programme in Bangladesh

The study deals with the impact of the above programme

on the beneficiaries and identifies its positive contribution to overall poverty alleviation and food security. The study recommends better targeting, transparency, reduced leakages, and increased role of monitoring for enhancing the positive impacts of this important programme.

Support to parliamentary standing committees on oversight of budget implementation

Under the programme, BIDS supported the Members of Parliament to evaluate various aspects of the country's annual budget through producing user-friendly reports and direct interactions. The Parliamentary Standing Committees on Assurance with focus on the Ministry of Local Government Rural Development and Cooperatives, Ministry of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, and the Ministry of Environment and Forests were identified as the focal points for interacting with the Members.

Energy subsidies and profile of groups vulnerable to reform in Bangladesh

The study provides inputs for developing a framework for assessing the economic impacts of fossil-fuel subsidies and their reform at both macro and micro levels. It also identifies the options for supporting the low-income households and other vulnerable groups who may be affected adversely due to carrying out credible reforms in the energy sector. Drawing

from the country's past experience and energy reforms in other developing countries, the study also provides policy recommendations for subsidy reform in Bangladesh.

Review of equity entrepreneurship fund

The study was undertaken at the initiative of the Bangladesh Bank to evaluate the credibility and functional efficiency of the Equity Entrepreneurship Fund. The study analyzed the current modality of utilization of the Fund and provided policy and institutional recommendations for improving its performance.

Long-run socio-economic impact study of rural roads and markets improvement and maintenance project-II

The study carried out an assessment of the long-term socio-economic impact of rural transport and trade infrastructure development carried out by the Local Government Engineering Department in Bangladesh during 1997-2002. Through carrying out an in-depth review of the activities of the project, the study provided recommendations for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of project interventions to increase the economic benefits of such projects. ■

BIDS Seminars

How to make the most of science and technology investments in developing countries

A seminar titled "How to Make the Most of Science and Technology Investments in Developing Countries", organised by BIDS, was held on 9 July 2013 in the BIDS Conference Room. The paper was presented by Dr. Julia Lane, Senior Managing Economist, American Institutes for Research, Washington D.C. Dr. Mustafa K. Mujeri, Director General BIDS chaired the session.



Rice stock and trade policy in South Asia: A role for international stock arrangements

A seminar on 'Rice Stock and Trade Policy in South Asia: A Role for International Stock Arrangements' was organized by BIDS on 2 October 2013 at the BIDS Auditorium. Dr. Paul Dorosh, Director, Development Strategy and Governance Division, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington D. C. presented the paper. The seminar was presided over by Dr. Mustafa K. Mujeri, Director General of BIDS. ■



BIDS Sign Research Contract with IMED

A research contract has recently been signed between BIDS and the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED) of the Ministry of Planning to undertake impact evaluation of five government implemented development projects. These are: (1) Small Scale Water Resources Projects-II; (2) National Agricultural Technology Project

(NATP) Phase-I; (3) Technical Training Centers/IGA Institutes in the Districts of Bangladesh under Different ADP Funded Projects of Various Ministries; (4) Reaching Out of School Children (ROSC) Projects (4th revision) of the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education; and (5) Hygiene, Sanitation and Water Supply (HYSAWA). ■

Study Leave

Mohammad Iqbal Hossain, Research Associate

Left BIDS in July 2013 on study leave to attend Masters Programme in Japan under the Japan-IMF Scholarship Programme for Asia.

Mugdho Mim Mahzab, Research Associate

Left BIDS in August 2013 on study leave to attend Masters Programme in the USA under the William Fulbright Scholarship Board, U.S. Department of States. ■

BIDS Researchers in International Meetings

Mustafa K Mujeri, Director General

Participated in the 'Governance Public Administration and Information Technology for Post 2015 Development' in Geneva during 3-5 July 2013 sponsored by United Nations Department of Economics and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

Sharifa Begum, Senior Research Fellow

Presented a paper on 'Relevance of Traditional Safety-Net for Older People in Changing Societies: Some Evidence from Bangladesh' at the 27th IUSSP International Population Conference in Busan during 26-31 August 2013 sponsored by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP).

Muhammad Yunus, Senior Research Fellow

Participated in the workshop on 'Trade and Investment for Tomorrow: Promoting Asia-Pacific Regional Integration' in Macau during 10-12 December 2013 sponsored by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

S M Zulfiqar Ali, Senior Research Fellow

Participated in the workshop on 'Management Consortium' in London during 25-26 November 2013 sponsored by Harewelle International Limited, UK.

Minhaj Mahmud, Research Fellow

- Presented invited talks on 'Field Experiments in Development: Evidence from Bangladesh' and 'Ideas

for Research and Religion, Minority Status and Trust: Evidence from a Field Experiment' at the Vanderbilt University on 26 September 2013.

- Presented an invited talk on 'Happiness in Life Domains: Semi-parametric Evidence from Bangladesh' at the Inception Workshop for the Book Project: Bangladesh Miracle? in Tokyo on 14 November 2013 sponsored by JICA Research Institute (JICA-RI).

Abul Basher, Research Fellow

- Participated in the workshop on 'Trade Mapping and Market Analysis' in Bandung during 25-26 November 2013 sponsored by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).
- Participated in the workshop on 'ADB Training of Trainers' in Manila during 4-5 December 2013 sponsored by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Tahreen Tahrima Chowdhury, Research Associate

Participated in the Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on 'Graduation Strategies' in Siem Riep during 4-6 December 2013 sponsored by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

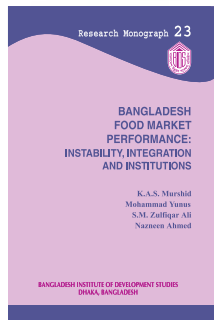
Siban Shahana, Research Associate

Participated in training on 'Contemporary Issues in Labor Economics' in New Delhi during 2-13 December 2013 sponsored by South Asia Research Network (SARNET). ■

Recent BIDS Publications

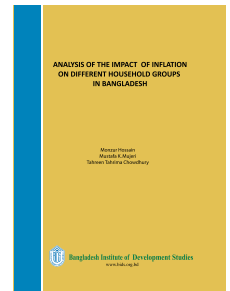
Research Monograph 23: Bangladesh food market performance: Instability, integration and institutions

The study examines the performance of food market in Bangladesh with a particular focus on three aspects: instability, integration, and institutions. The issues covered include tracking instability in production and prices of selected food items and assessing their impact on household food consumption; examining vertical and spatial integration of the markets for rice, potato and brinjal; and exploring the relationships between different market actors and institutions in markets that underpin exchanges. The study also examines the impact of price volatility on household consumption, and the manner in which micro level adjustments take place.



BIDS-REF Study Series No. 13-01: Analysis of the impact of inflation on different household groups in Bangladesh

The study identifies major socioeconomic groups who are most affected by the adverse impact of inflation in Bangladesh and recommends policy measures to protect the vulnerable groups from the hardship. In this context, the study highlights different aspects of wage adjustment in relation to inflationary pressures. The study also examines the apparent difficulty in curbing inflation expectations by adjusting key policy rates in relation to the nature of inflation, the efficacy of the monetary transmission mechanisms, and the necessity of implementing monetary and non-monetary policy initiatives.



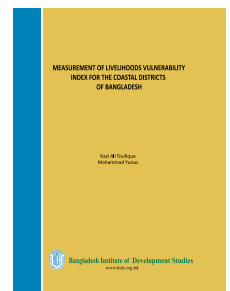
Research Report 185: An economic analysis of resource extraction from Sundarban reserve forest in Bangladesh

The Report investigates the economics of resource extraction and marketing of products from the Sundarban Reserve Forest (SRF). The study finds huge income inequality among the main actors in the value chain. The study also notes that given the existing economic situation, the process of SRF extraction is deepening poverty levels, which may widen the income gap between the rich and the poor in the region. The study provides specific policy recommendations for improving the value chain, terms of trade, marketing system, economic conditions of the poor actors in the value chain, and the scope for co-management, conservation and sustainable harvest management.



BIDS-REF Study Series No.13-02: Measurement of livelihoods vulnerability index for the coastal districts of Bangladesh

The study adopts the Livelihood Vulnerability Index (LVI) approach to measure the vulnerability of households living in the coastal region of Bangladesh. The results indicate that rural households are more vulnerable than urban households, while households living in coastal districts are more vulnerable than those living in interior districts. In addition, households affected primarily by cyclones are found to be more vulnerable than those affected by floods. The higher vulnerability of rural households is also explained by poor health factors including adverse social and demographic profile and weaker social networks. ■



Call for Journal Articles

Articles are invited for the 'Bangladesh Development Studies' (quarterly journal published in English) and the 'Bangladesh Unnayan Samiksha' (annual journal published in Bangla) from researchers and academics who are interested in development issues of Bangladesh and other developing countries. The topics could cover a wide range of socio-economic development issues such as agriculture, rural development, industry, population, energy, environment, education, international relations, gender and macroeconomic issues. For details on submission procedure and authors' guidelines, please visit the BIDS website (www.bids.org.bd/publications). ■

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Mustafa K. Mujeri

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