

Spatial and Social Dimensions of Poverty: A Multidimensional Approach

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(Link to the report: <https://bids.org.bd/page/researches/?rid=218>)

The Context

- Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in reducing poverty over the past decades;
- However, according to HIES 2016, there are districts where poverty is still pervasive;
- Poverty has also increased in some districts over the past several years;
- It is also anticipated that there are wide variations in experiencing poverty across various social groups;
- Scenario also changes when poverty is considered in multidimensional space.

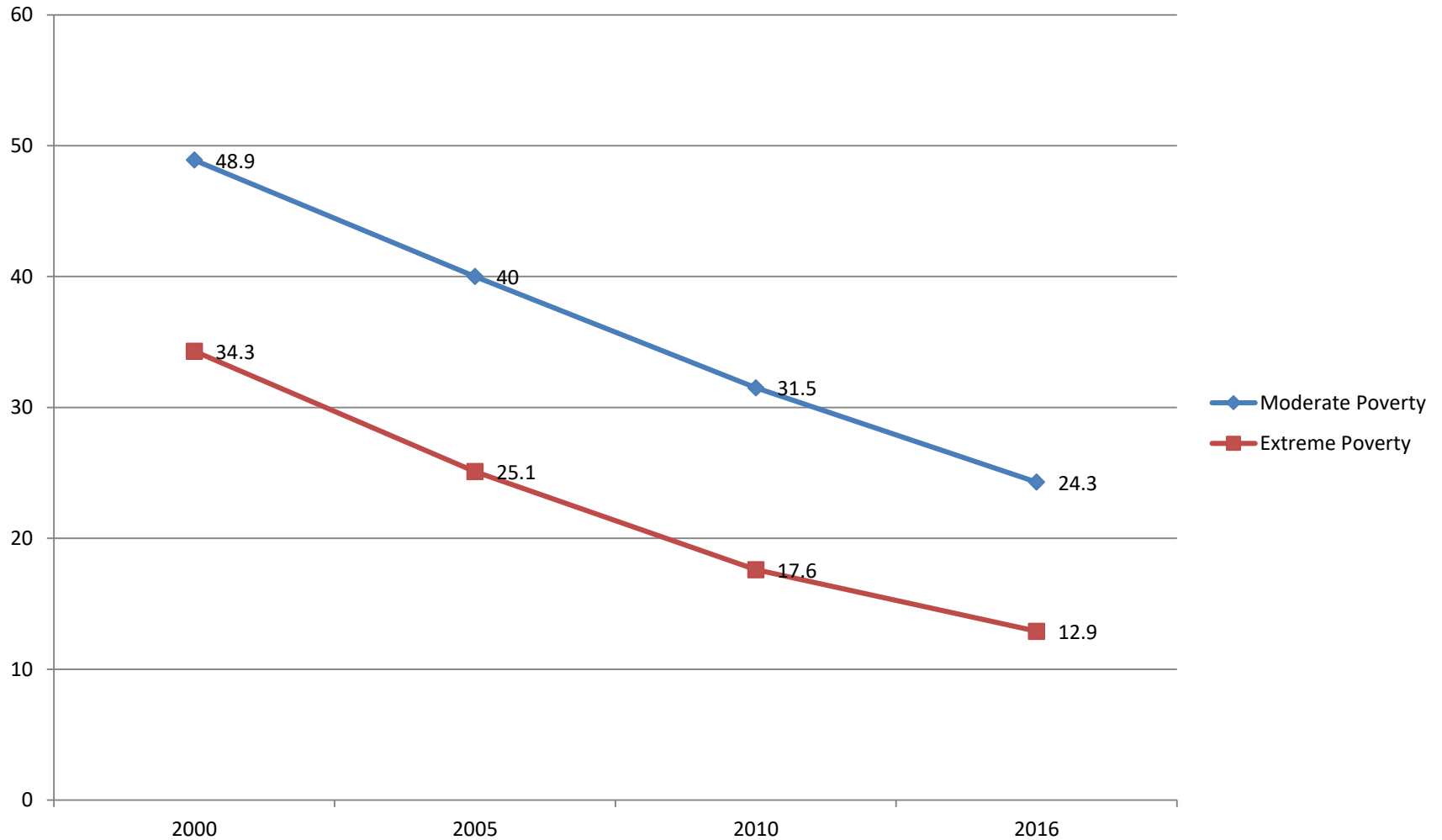
Focus of the Presentation

- Geography of poverty
- Multidimensional poverty
- Horizontal Inequality
- Intersectionality
- Intergenerationality
- Poverty correlates

Approach and limitations

- **Q2 Approach:**
 - Quantitative: HIES, MICS, and EPP
 - Qualitative: EEP/Shiree life histories and working papers; Consultations with regional and national poverty experts; webinars.
- **Limitations:**
 - COVID-19
 - Urban

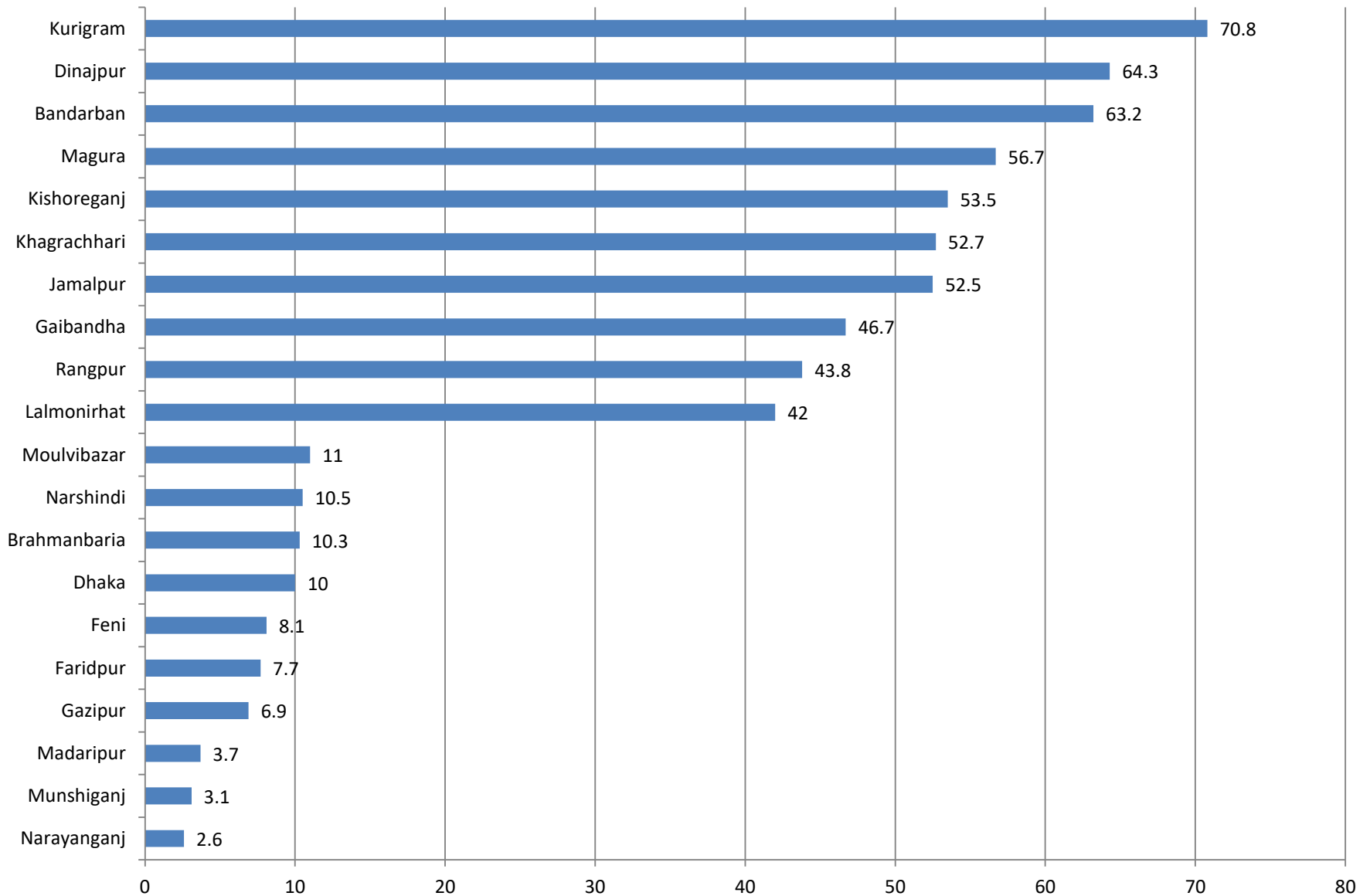
Trends in Poverty: 2000-2016



Districts with Increased Poverty during 2010-2016

Khagrachhari	27.20	Bogra	10.60
Dinajpur	26.40	Rangamati	8.20
Kishoreganj	23.20	Lalmonirhat	7.50
Bandarban	23.10	Kurigram	7.10
Meherpur	16.30	Barguna	6.70
Naogaon	15.30	Chuadanga	4.20
Nawabganj	14.30	Chittagong	2.20
Kushtia	13.90	Jhenaidah	1.80
Noakhali	13.70	Pabna	1.50
Manikganj	12.20	Jamalpur	1.40
Patuakhali	11.40	Lakshmipur	1.30
Magura	11.30		

Top 10 Poorest and Richest Districts, 2016



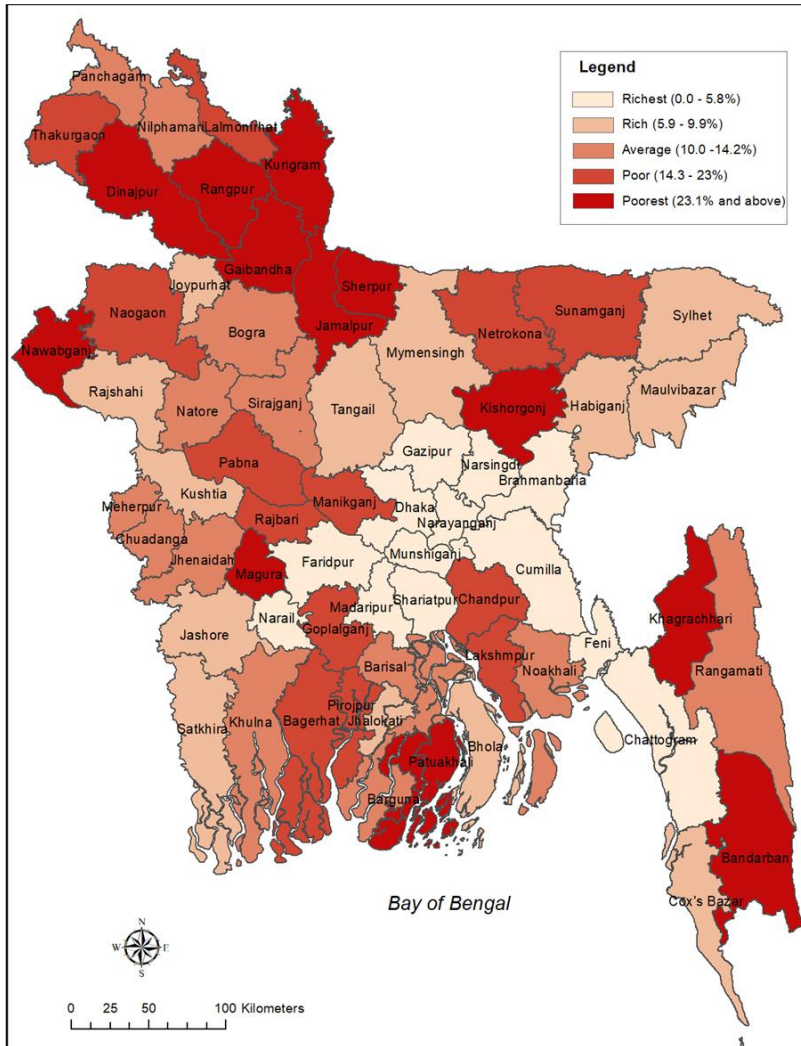
Districts with High and Increased Poverty, 2016

Kurigram	70.8
Dinajpur	64.3
Lalmonirhat	42.0
Bandarban	63.2
Khagrachhari	52.7
Kishoreganj	53.5
Jamalpur	52.5
Magura	56.7

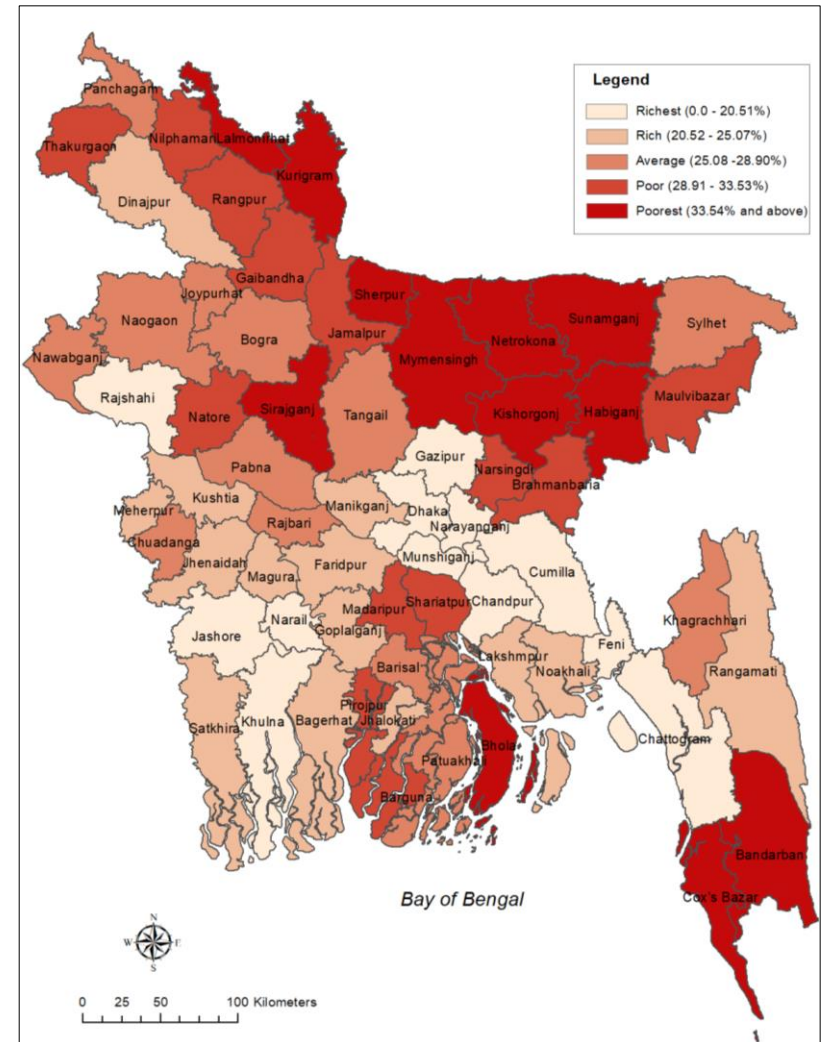
MPI Poverty

Area/Division	MPI Poverty
Rural	28.99
Urban	14.13
<i>Division:</i>	
Mymensingh	37.90
Sylhet	36.67
Rangpur	29.71
Barishal	28.92
Rajshahi	28.01
Chattogram	23.07
Khulna	21.35
Dhaka	20.47
Total	25.87

Income



Multi-dimensional



Note: Little overlap between income poverty and multi-dimensional poverty

Gender and Marginalisation

Household Head	Extreme Poverty Head-count (%)
Female-headed households	12.30
Male-headed households	13.00
All households	12.90

Household Head	MPI Poverty
Female-headed households	25.23
Male-headed households	30.52
All households	25.87

- Counterintuitive findings but
- Strong differences emerge when we look at Upazila level data

Religious Identities and Poverty

Religion	Extreme Poverty Headcount (%)
Islam	11.10
Hinduism	13.90
Buddhism	22.30
Christianity	21.40
Others	32.70

Religion of hh- head	MPI Poverty
Islam	26.36
Hinduism	20.89
Christianity	30.00
Buddhism	27.00
Total	25.87

Ethnic Identities and Poverty

- Higher prevalence of poverty among most non-Bengali ethnic groups
- Suggesting ingroup and outgroup discrimination

Ethnic identity of household head	MPI Poverty
Bangali	25.80
Chakma	29.18
Santal	43.24
Marma	30.35
Tripura	37.31
Garo	20.00
Tonchangya	27.27
Mro	87.50
Manipur	16.67
Other	27.27
Total	25.87

Intersectionality

Upazila	District	EP Head-count	Remarks	EP among FHHs and HHs with PWDs
NAIKHONGCHHARI	BANDARBAN	81.7 %	CHT/Adibashi	High EP - PWD-HHs
ALIKADAM	BANDARBAN	66.3 %	CHT/Adibashi	High EP - FHHs & High EP - PWD-HHs
CHAR RAJIBPUR	KURIGRAM	64.9 %	Char-land	High EP - FHHs
CHILMARI	KURIGRAM	60.0 %	Char-land	High EP - PWD-HHs
KAHAROLE	DINAJPUR	60.0 %	High % of Hindu popn.	-
KULIAR CHAR	KISHOREGANJ	55.0 %	Haor area	-
KURIGRAM SADAR	KURIGRAM	54.2 %	-	High EP - FHHs & High EP - PWD-HHs
BHURUNGAMARI	KURIGRAM	53.3 %	Remote rural	High EP - PWD-HHs
KHANSAMA	DINAJPUR	52.5 %	High % of Hindu popn.	High EP - PWD-HHs
ULIPUR	KURIGRAM	52.2 %	Remote rural	-

Inter-generationality

	Children not attending prim. school	Children not attending upper sec. school	Children in child labour	Girls married before age 15
Total	14.1	51.9	6.8	19.8
Gender				
Male	16.7	56.9	8.8	-
Female	11.5	46.6	4.0	-
Mother's education				
None	20.0	67.0	10.5	30.8
Primary	14.4	53.1	8.1	28.9
Secondary	11.4	33.6	4.0	17.6
Higher secondary	10.5	17.7	1.5	3.2
Wealth quintile				
Poorest	17.8	70.3	9.9	21.9
Second	14.8	59.0	8.6	23.1
Middle	12.7	49.4	6.1	21.4
Fourth	13.3	46.1	5.7	18.9
Richest	10.8	33.3	2.6	14.6

Correlation between Income Inequality and Poverty

	Mean	Standard Deviation	N
EP head-count rate	15.01	11.59	64
Income inequality (Gini)	0.451	0.077	64
Pearson correlation coefficient	.172		
Significant level	.174		

Determinants of Poverty: A Multi-variate Analysis using Logistic Regression

Explanatory variables	Coefficient	St. Err.	p-value	Sig level
Own cultivable land	-0.007	0.001	0.000	***
Age of HH head	-0.026	0.006	0.000	***
Dependency ratio	0.148	0.130	0.253	
Sex (Female=1)	1.152	0.421	0.006	***
Access to microcredit (Yes=1)	-0.484	0.134	0.000	***
Access to moneylender (Yes=1)	0.062	0.187	0.738	
Crisis faced (Yes=1)	-0.044	0.160	0.784	
Access to SSN (Yes=1)	0.318	0.187	0.090	*
Occupation (reference: self-employed)				
- Day labour	0.946	0.167	0.000	***
- Salaried job	-0.090	0.301	0.766	
- Employer	-1.705	0.561	0.002	***
Education (reference: primary complete)				
- Illiterate	0.444	0.161	0.006	***
- Below primary	0.509	0.227	0.025	**
- SSC/HSC	-0.161	0.235	0.494	
- Higher education	-1.029	0.505	0.042	**
Districts (reference: Gaibandha)				
- Kurigram	0.976	0.198	0.000	***
- Dinajpur	-0.387	0.181	0.033	**
- Thakurgaon	-0.768	0.188	0.000	***
Constant	1.047	0.345	0.002	***

EP Correlates: Evidence from Kurigram

Indicators	Kurigram	National
Female headed households	16.70	12.50
Suffered from major illness	57.00	-
Net enrollment at secondary	56.00	85.40
Land ownership (< 5 decimals)	60.0	-
Occupations: Day labourers	37.2	18.1
Access to credit: money lender	33.0	-
% of HHs experiencing shocks	82	-
Access to SSNP	13.0	35.0
% of HHs with electricity	51.33	68.85

Key Messages

- Income inequality is loosely correlated with the incidence of poverty but horizontal and spatial inequalities are strong.
- Distribution of poverty changes when multi-dimensional poverty is considered.
- EP has poor asset base, limited access to services and institutions, and volatile livelihoods.
- EP is more vulnerable compared to other socio-economic groups in dealing with hazards and shocks.
- Significant overlap observed between incidence of poverty and presence of marginalized groups and communities.
- Visible signs of intergenerational transmission of poverty still exist
- Income or assets are important but do not capture many aspects of poverty/extreme poverty.
- Policy needs to focus on poverty pockets; going beyond division or district narratives, with each pocket presenting distinct challenges.

Need to have better evidence for the future

- Many ongoing questions unanswered by present data sets, requiring ongoing purposive surveys and analysis beyond those conducted by BBS and other surveys
- Need for coordinated national capacity for ongoing research, as well as action-research and evaluation of pilot interventions