

# **Assessing Push-Pull Factors of Migration in Urban Area Using PRA Method: A case study of Tankir Pahar Slum, Lalkhan Chattogram**

**Rafee Ahmed\***  
**Ashikuzzaman\***  
**M.M.Mustakim Billah\***  
**Md. Naimul Anwar Mozumder\***  
**Debasish Roy Raja\*\***  
**Jobyda Sultana\*\*\***

## **Abstract**

Migration is a natural process where normally surplus manpower released from the rural sector is needed for urban industrial growth. The PRA method, a community-based participatory research approach, was used to gather data from the local residents through focus group discussions and individual interviews. The purpose of this paper is to investigate why so many people from rural Bangladesh are migrating to this city and what effects this migration has on the physical and social environment of the city. The study found that the main push factors for migration in the urban area were poverty, unemployment, and a lack of economic opportunities in the rural areas. The pull factors, on the other hand, were better living conditions, access to education and healthcare, and employment opportunities in the urban area. Additionally, many migrants were unable to find stable employment in the urban area, leading to financial insecurity and poverty. The study recommends that to address the push and pull factors of migration, policies and programs that address the root causes of poverty and unemployment in rural areas should be implemented. Overall, this study highlights the complex interplay of push and pull factors that drive migration in urban areas, and the importance of addressing the root causes of poverty and unemployment in rural areas to effectively manage migration and promote sustainable development.

**Key Words: Migration, PRA method, Urban Area, Push-Pull Factor**

## **Introduction**

As a developing nation, Bangladesh exhibits a greater rate of internal migration owing to a variety of variables. Internal migration is one of the primary causes of urban population growth. The movement of mostly low-income individuals from urban to rural regions is known as rural-urban migration (Firoj, 2018). This phenomenon has a considerable influence on bigger megacities such as Chattogram due to a combination of both push and pull forces. Port city Chattogram is the second-largest city in Bangladesh and offers greater employment prospects; hence, migration is obvious. Technology has advanced with the growth of civilization (Uddin & Firoj, 2013). The increasing use of technology has enhanced the productivity of industry and the service sector,

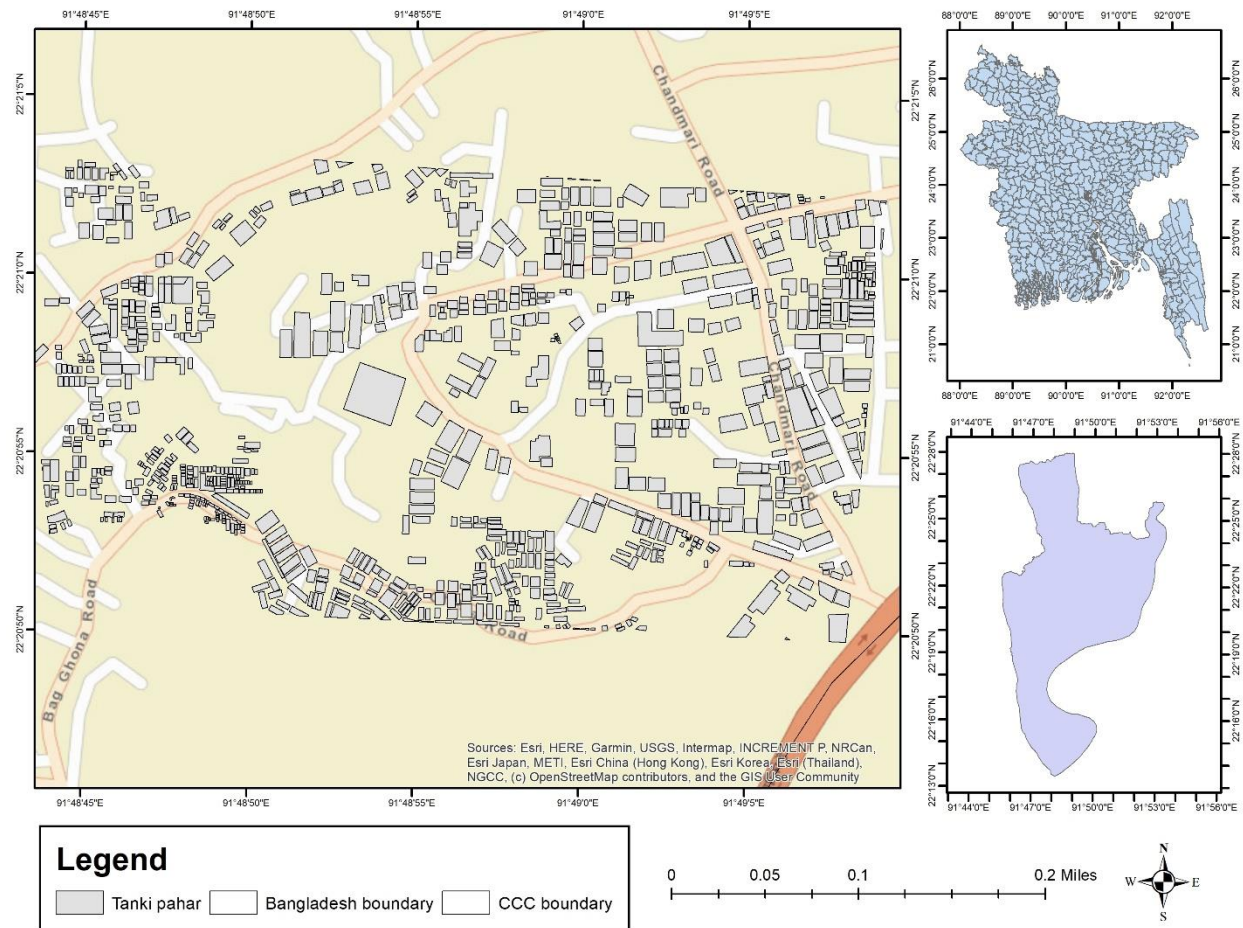
resulting in a huge structural shift in the economy (Afsar, 2000). The majority of these economic activities are centered in metropolitan regions, although a considerable proportion of economically engaged individuals reside in rural areas. Therefore, unskilled, semi-educated, illiterate, landless, destitute, and jobless rural residents relocate to metropolitan regions in search of better non-agricultural work prospects (Firoj, 2018) . Consequently, the urban growth rate accelerates. Migration is one of the key contributors to rapid urbanization, which is often associated with better levels of development and productivity. Like other developing countries, the rapid growth of rural-urban migration has been a common feature of Bangladesh. Rural-urban migration is the most crucial component of internal migration in any country. Most of the migrants are rural poor who take shelter in slums, squatters, footpaths, rail stations, and other scattered places. In recent years, most of the cities in Bangladesh are experiencing rapid urbanization and rural-urban migration is the most important factor behind it. Bangladesh is one of the highest rates of growth in urban population. Millions of rural people are migrating to the divisional cities of Bangladesh (Uddin & Firoj, 2013) .

There are 491 cities in Bangladesh, however, only four of those cities are officially recognized as metropolitan cities. These cities are Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, and Khulna. These large cities have all of the conveniences that come along with urbanization grouped in one place. As a result, there is a greater flow of migration in these four cities, particularly in Dhaka. Other thana, Upazilas, and districts do not show any notable signs of migration. The towns of Zila. Migration from rural areas to urban centers has been one of the primary contributors to Bangladesh's major cities' fast and uncontrolled urbanization in recent years. According to Toufique and Turton's research, rural-urban migration is responsible for roughly 60 percent of urban growth(Toufique & Turton, 2002). Migration has developed into a crucial means of subsistence for the economically disadvantaged people of Bangladesh. When a person may believe that his or her home is no longer a safe haven for him or her to continue making a livelihood when one of the following occurs: Because for whatever reason, he or she moves to other locations in the hopes of improving their quality of life. At the moment, there are individuals who are both affluent and impoverished. People are moving to urban areas to take advantage of the higher quality of life offered by urban areas. The location of your choice and your current degree of Furthermore, the rewards, costs, and hazards all vary significantly depending on the social and economic strength of the migrants (Siddiqui, 2003). Because of the quickening rate of population growth and the limited number of available jobs in rural areas places, labor productivity is very poor, and in other cases, it is almost nonexistent. In addition to that, the majority of the laborers work for a salary sufficient for survival, on the other hand, it is much simpler to get employment in the unofficial sectors of the economy in cities. As a result, individuals living in poor nations such as Bangladesh often move to urban areas in the hope of finding a better way of life there. Again, People whose lives are upended by a variety of natural calamities feel they have little choice but to go to cities in order to survive. Every year, thousands of impoverished people who have been affected by natural disasters move from rural regions to the city (Haider, n.d.,2010). There is a substantial amount of rural-to-urban migration in Bangladesh, which may be attributed to the push forces. Extreme Poverty, the hunt for jobs,

homelessness, landlessness, an excessively large family size, and maladjustment of are all factors that contribute to the community, the loss of an important source of revenue, the erosion of a river, and several other natural disasters are among them. The local government The lack of amenities has not brought the rural poor into the cities; rather, the economic backwardness of their residents have driven them there. The purpose of this paper is to investigate why so many people from rural Bangladesh are migrating to this city and what effects this migration has on the physical and social environment of the city. Migration to Chittagong, the port city and commercial capital of Bangladesh. There are various reasons for its occurrence and these reasons may vary from country to country. However, the consequences of this type of migration have similar effects for different countries. This study's objectives are to investigate the causes of poor migrants' migration and to determine the effect of urban migration on poverty reduction. The studies demonstrate that greater earning possibilities and economic progress were early motivations for migration, but in the majority of instances, these factors just assured their survival. Better living conditions and a few municipal utilities have boosted their livelihoods, hence promoting migration inside Bangladesh. The rural-to-urban movement has both positive and negative effects, as well as mixed effects on the sending and receiving populations. If we examine employment, job possibilities, and earnings, the existing body of research strongly favors migration. In addition, it supports the democratization of society by keeping individuals socioeconomically and culturally up-to-date with improved contact information technology. Therefore, it is important to consider the country's development processes and programs that are driving rural-urban migration via diverse rural and urban development. The poor migrants of Chittagong, the commercial capital and port city of Bangladesh, are the primary subject of this research, which investigates the causes of migration and the repercussions of movement on migrants' means of subsistence.

## **Study Area**

The name of the selected area is Tankir Pahar Slum Area. Tanki Pahar is a hilly area located in Chittagong, Bangladesh. The latitude and longitude of the area is 22°21'09.7"N and 91°49'00.4"E. It is known for its natural beauty and is a popular tourist destination. The area is also known for its rich biodiversity and is home to a variety of plants and animals. Tanki Pahar is located in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region, which is known for its diverse ethnic and cultural heritage. The CHT is home to several indigenous communities, including the Chakma, Marma, and Tripura, who have distinct cultures, languages, and traditions. The economy of Tanki Pahar mainly relies on agriculture and tourism. The area is known for its hillside terraced fields and traditional farming practices. The area also has potential for eco-tourism, as it offers opportunities to explore the natural beauty and biodiversity of the region. However, the area also faces a number of challenges, such as poverty, deforestation, and land degradation. These issues are mainly due to population growth, lack of development, and poor land management practices. Overall, Tanki Pahar is a unique and diverse area with rich cultural and natural resources, but it is important to address the challenges facing the region to ensure sustainable development for the local communities.



Source: Field Survey,2023

**Figure 1: Study Area Map**

## Methodology and Data

### Data

The Participatory Rural Appraisal method focuses mostly on gathering qualitative data with the help of community members and relies on their involvement. To fulfill aim 1 road, drain, income sanitation, and natural \ resources are required. Again, in order to fulfill the requirements of goal 2, we need to do a visual analysis of the factors that are contributing to a bad scenario in order to bring about a positive change and also determine the movement pattern of the community. The final aim is that we determine the locations that get the greatest number of visitors, as well as compile a seasonal activity profile and conduct a seasonal study of the community.

## Methodology

In this case, both the Social Map and the Resource Map are required for understanding the area. The habitation pattern of the region is shown on the social map, while the resource map focuses on the many natural resources present in the area. The Seasonal Diagram will provide a distinct picture of the seasonal differences in migration. It is a reflection of how people in the area think seasonal changes affect a variety of goods and services. These tools allow one to determine the factors that contribute the most often to migration in the chosen region. After discovering the most prevalent reasons Services and Opportunities Map, with an emphasis on the availability of services and opportunities in this Services and Opportunities Map. It also reveals the locations that the locals frequent the most. In addition to this, it reveals the potential reasons why the local people left their homes. The Force Field Study performs a visual analysis of the components that are contributing to a terrible circumstance in order to bring about a good transformation.

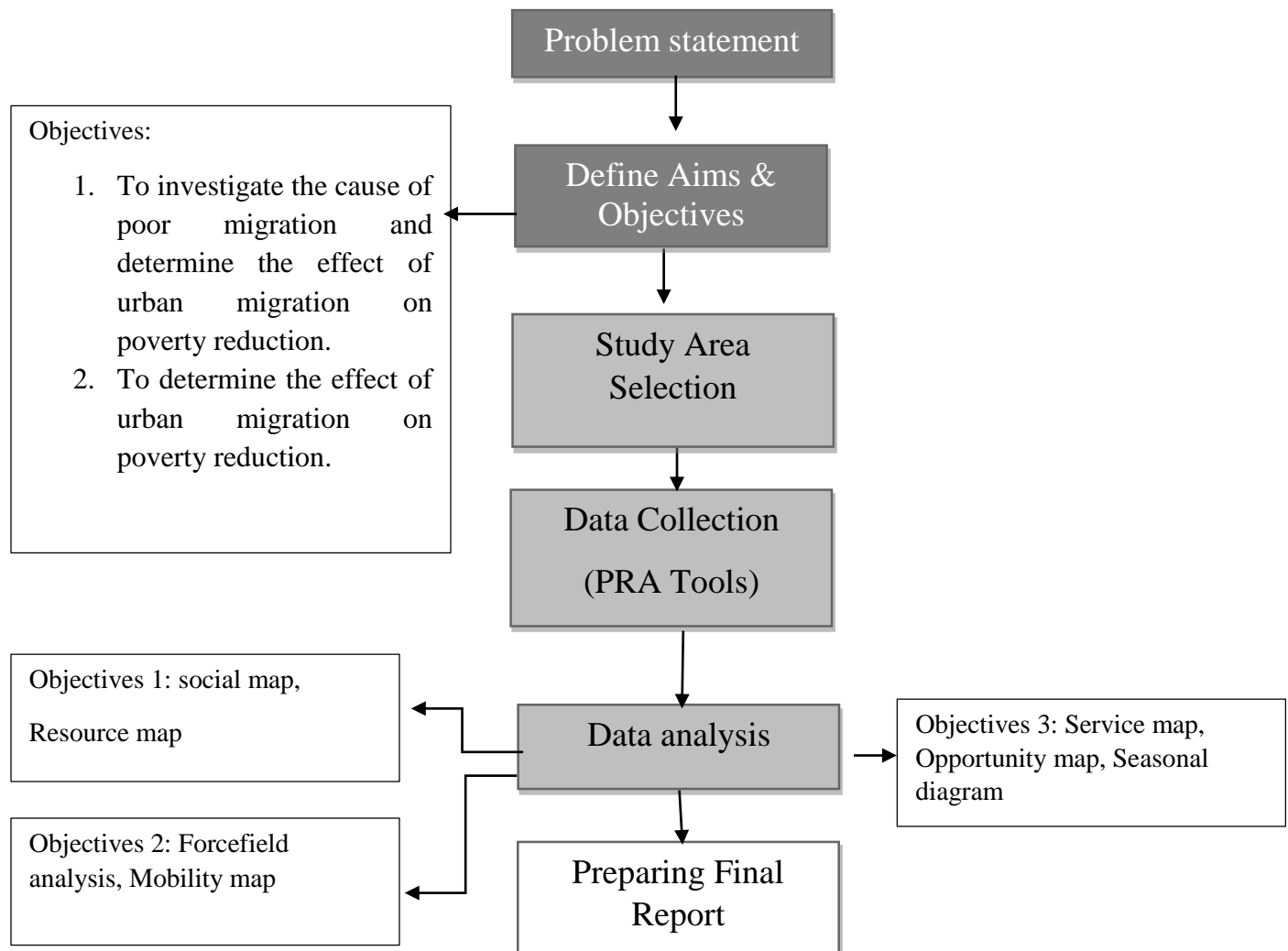


Figure 2: Methodological Flow Chart

## Result & Discussion



Figure 3: Social & Resource Map of the Community; Source: PRA Survey, 2022

The area has about 72 squatter households and 300 people approximately. Most of the people stay here with their families. A mosque along densely vegetation is major social element of this area. Majority of population are illiterate. So they are massively involved in many religious superstitions and follow local preachers. Local Chittagonian people owns most of the lands and they have developed squatter settlements as well as slums and tin sheds for rent. Most of the residents of this area are migrants. They have been migrating from Nikli upazilla of Kishorganj for last 20-25 years. Rest of the local residents of the area are middle class and a few belong to higher middle class. Now the number of settlement has been constant for last some years, though the number of migrants is increasing by a small rate. Majority of working people are day laborer and garments workers. They have been migrating to this urban area from their native for frequent occupations, as there were massive lack of trade. They are in lack of some basic livelihood standards such as primary school, proper medication, enough nutrition, proper drainage and sewerage system. They are economically, socially and politically influenced as well as biased by local land lords and political leaders. . They, normally use local firewood for cooking but sometimes cylinder gases. Every 7-8 house-holds share a common alley to connect them to the access road. Alleys are paved with bricks but the access roads are paved with concrete, though the road along hill is brick paved. Some densely vegetated vacant lands are seen along the hill. Some local people have some grocery

shops, tea stalls, hardware stores, carpenter, barber saloons, shops of food items or snacks; where some migrants find source of their occupations.

Livelihood analysis primarily examines and represents how individuals and communities can sustain their standard of living. The study focuses on a community's innate activities in relation to various activities that the group engages in. (Pieter G, Al, 2007).

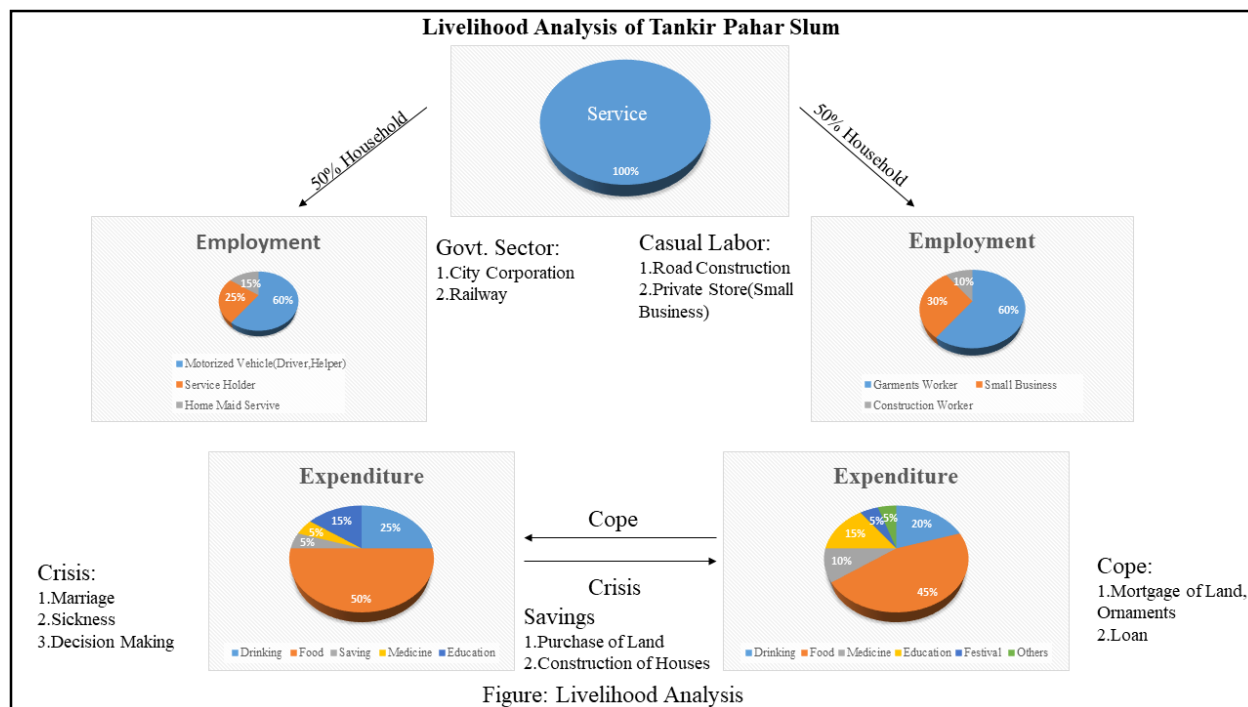


Figure 4: Livelihood Analysis of Tankir Pahar Slum (2022)

Source: PRA survey, 2022

The aforementioned figure-4 depicts the mode of subsistence in Tankir Pahar. The only source of income for the community is services. The percentage of each sort of income category is then represented by different pie charts. Finally, all income groups' percentages of expenditure patterns are displayed. The bulk of people are reported to rely on jobs like Driving and Garments Work for their livelihood. One of the most popular examples of livelihood analysis uses a pie diagram to show an analysis of the revenue sources for the Tankir Pahar Slum in Chattogram, Bangladesh, in 2022. Every single household was reliant on the service industry. Approximately 50% of the homes made up one category, of which 60% relied on services such motorized vehicle drivers and assistants, 25% on service holders, and 15% on home cleaning services. The second group, which includes the remaining 50%, is made up of 10% of construction workers, 30% of small businesses, and 60% of garment workers. The report also includes the two groups' spending patterns. The first category, which comprises 50% of households, spends 50% of their income on food, 25% on drinking water, 15% on education, 5% on medicines, and the remainder is saved for the purchase of land, building of homes, ornaments, and clothing. For the second category, food costs account for 45% of total income, while drinking costs 20% and education costs 15%, while expenses for

medication and festivals are 10% and 5%, respectively. and the remainder is saved for the eventual purchase of land. Therefore, there is no buildup of capital.

Here, we may identify and assess aspects that influence the solution to a problem. There are two types of forces: driving and holding back. In this situation, driving or positive forces produce change, whilst restraining or negative factors maintain the status quo. Figure 5 shows the result of a force field study conducted on migration in the Tankir Pahar village. The most significant factor leading to migration is flooding. Emotional ties to the community and excessive labor during migration were among the most significant factors impeding migration. In addition to these, other key reasons of migration include inhibiting and including factors. A significant cause of migration is the village's limited employment opportunities. People move to satisfy their wants and expectations, as well as to satisfy their basic essential requirements that are not met to their satisfaction.

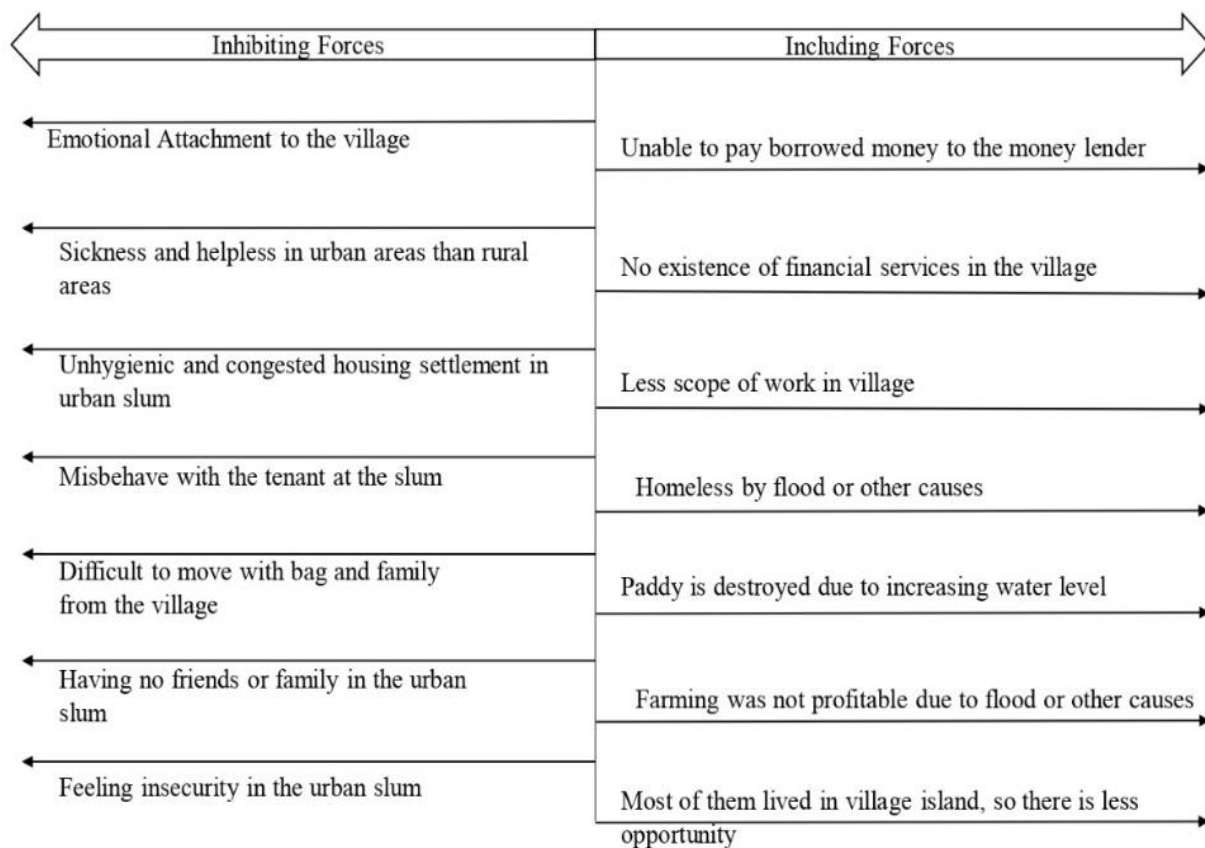


Fig 5: Force Field Analysis of the Tankir Pahar; Source: PRA Survey, 2022



Forgoing Since the Tankir Pahar community is quite a way from the nearest bus stop, train station, clothing store, or market, residents must go some distance to reach them. This neighborhood is also close to Lalkhan Primary School (0.63km, required time 8- 10 minutes). Once upon a time, residents of the Tankir Pahar neighborhood did most of their commuting on foot to local destinations. Here Figure 4 There are bus stops conveniently located at both the Lalkhan Bazar Circle and the Tiger Pass Circle. Schools on both the government and non-government levels are conveniently located nearby. Locals may easily walk or bike to their high school, which is located within a mile of their homes. The office of the Chattogram City Corporation is about 1 km away, or around 10 to 15 minutes of walking. The Ameen Center market may be reached on foot in 15- 29 minutes from the location of choice; it is situated 0.8 kilometers away in the Lalkan Bazar Circle. Tankir Pahar is located next to a hospital and the market town of Kucha Bazar.

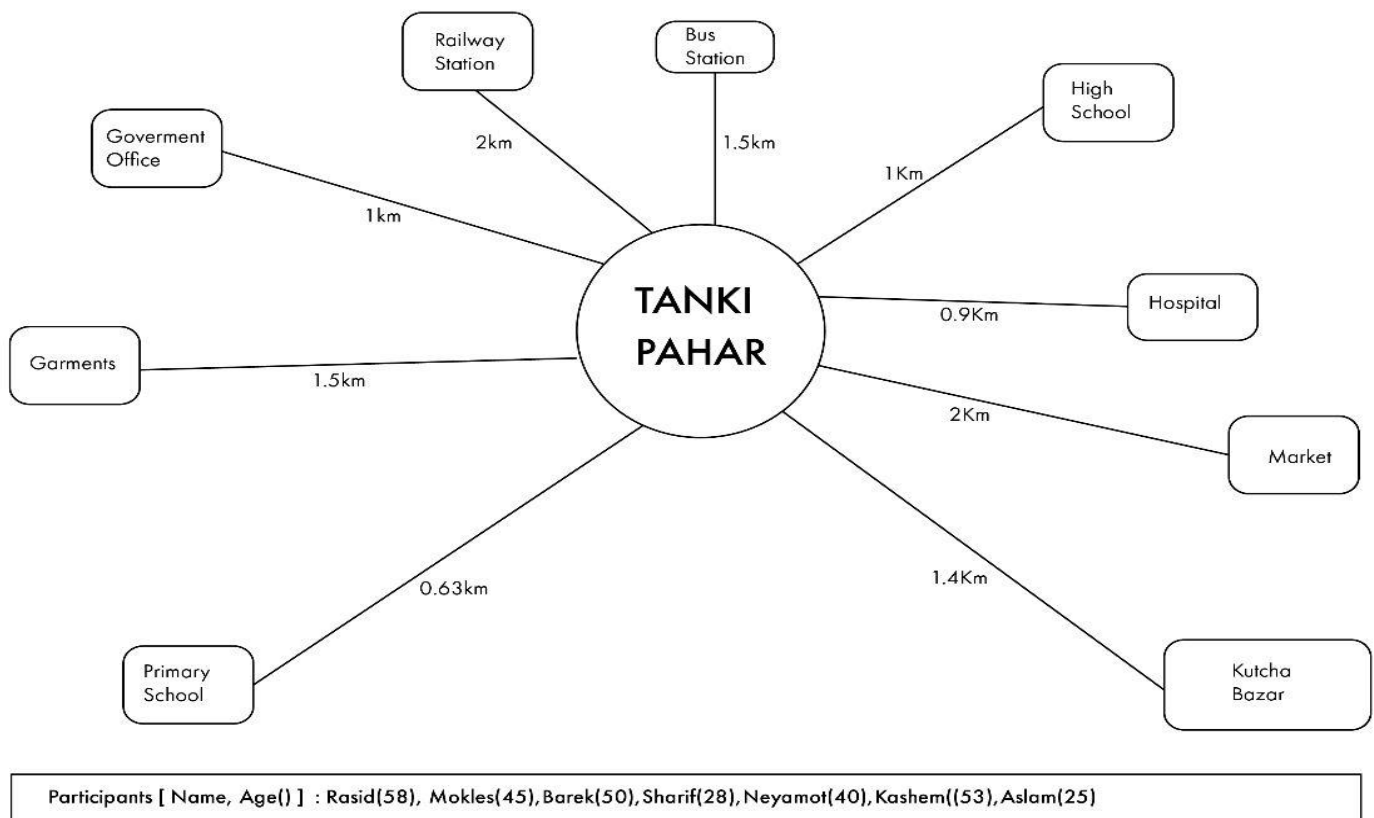


Figure 6: Service & opportunity map of the Tankir Pahar; Source: PRA Survey, 2022

The service and opportunity map may give useful insights into how people see the services and possibilities in their communities, as well as their perspectives and goals for their own growth. This strategy gives insight into people's sentiments of deprivation, their needs, the significance of services, and planning the development of a region in accordance with the desires of the local population. Consequently, it is an essential approach in the area of participatory planning. We can

see that every service is in close proximity to the neighborhood, allowing residents quick access to opportunities and services. It facilitates the discovery of required services.

It is evident through Force Field Analysis that residents in this community are unable to make loan installments and have no legal options for obtaining loans. The absence of employment prospects in the village also plays a significant influence in migration, as shown by a number of noteworthy results from this study. Flood is the leading cause of migration, and as a result, farmers discover their paddy or jute submerged. The inability to get adequate public services on the remote island is prompting residents to move.

The ability to relocate from one country or region to another in search of employment opportunities is referred to as "working mobility." Migrants, or people who move from one place to another, frequently experience job mobility as they seek better job opportunities or income. This can also include seasonal or temporary jobs, such as agricultural or construction work. Factors that can affect the mobility of migrants include economic conditions, labor market demand, and immigration policies. While the bulk of mobility maps are generic in nature and cover multiple aspects, they may also be specialized. The migratory tendency of migrant laborers from numerous

Place of Migration	Mode of migration	Previous work	Work after migration	Terms of employment	Self/With Family	Time Period	Temporary Residence after Migration
Nikhli, Kishorgonj	Bus	Agriculture (Ternary)	Excavation (Day labor)	Temporary Contract	Family	15-16 years	In a squatter, beside the canal, recently by CC
	Train	Agriculture	CNG Driver	Permanent	Self	3 years	In a friend's house
	Bus	Day Laboring	Welding	Permanent	Family	2 years	Rent a house
Dampara, Kishorgonj	Train	Agriculture (paddy)	Construction work	Contract	Family	7 years	In a relation
	Train	Agriculture (Jute)	Garments worker	Permanent contract	Family	20 years	In a friend's house
Cumilla	Bus	Agriculture	Rickshaw pulling	Permanent	Family	6 years	Rent a house
Barisal	Launch	Agriculture (Fishing)	Temporary contract	Permanent	Family	3 years	Rent a house
Mymensingh	Train	Nothing	Garments worker	Permanent	Self	1 year	Rent a room

Fig 7: Mobility Map of Migrant People; Source: PRA Survey, 2022

places (Kishorgonj, Cumilla, Barisal, Mymensingh) to Tankir Pahar, Chattogram As shown in the table, there are five destinations for migrant workers (see figure 6). Other information includes the transit station where they depart, the type of their job, their employment conditions, the character

of their migration, i.e., alone or with their family, and the duration of their travel. This information has been extended in a matrix that has been added to the mobility map.

The relationship between migration and push-pull elements in an urban area can be visualized and examined using a seasonal diagram. A seasonal diagram of migration patterns in an urban area may show that the population increases during certain times of the year and decreases during others. This can indicate that there is a significant amount of seasonal migration, possibly tied to seasonal work opportunities. In this case, the pull factors would be the job opportunities, and the push factors could be the lack of employment in the place of origin.

A seasonal diagram demonstrates in figure 8 how a significant population shift in a particular area causes a daily family income to fall by Tk 200. Furthermore, it demonstrates how, following the migration, women began working as housemaids and seamstresses, and how children occasionally did a variety of jobs outside the home.

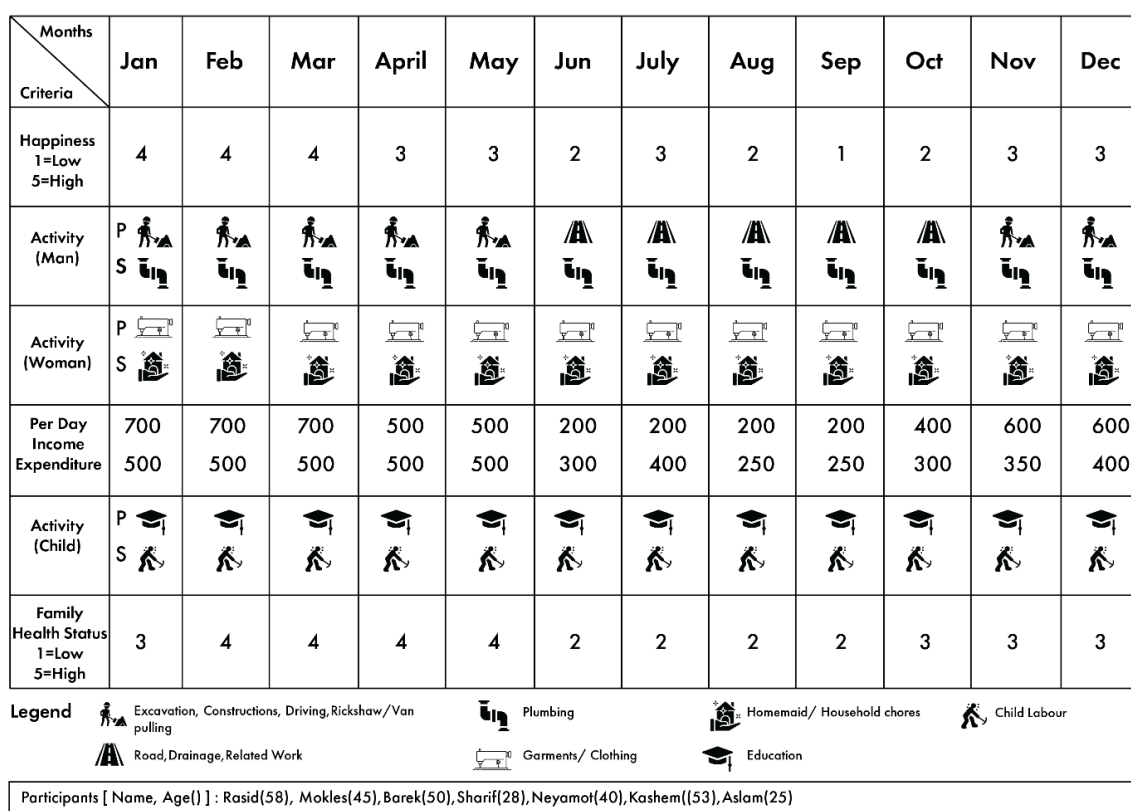


Fig 8: Seasonal Diagram of Migrant People; Source: PRA Survey, 2022

## Recommendation

Push factors refer to the reasons why people leave their home country, such as poverty, unemployment, political instability, war, and persecution. Pull factors, on the other hand, refer to the reasons why people are attracted to a new country, such as economic opportunities, better

living conditions, political freedom, and education. To develop a migration policy that addresses both push and pull factors, it is important to address the root causes of migration, such as poverty and political instability, while also creating opportunities for people to build better lives in their home countries. This can be done by investing in economic development, education, and job training programs, as well as providing support for small businesses and services. Additionally, providing access to healthcare, clean water, and sanitation can help improve living conditions in home countries. In the destination country, policies that encourage the integration of immigrants into society, such as language classes and job training programs, can help them to find work and improve their living conditions. This can help to reduce the pull factors that attract people to migrate. Overall, a comprehensive approach that addresses both the push and pull factors of migration is needed to effectively manage migration and promote sustainable development.

## References

Afsar, R. (2000). *Rural-urban migration in Bangladesh: Causes, consequences, and challenges*. University Press.

Firoj, M. (2018). *Internal Migration and Migrants Livelihood Aspects: A Study of the Rural-Out Migrants into the Slums of Chittagong City*. 17.

Haider, S. K. U. (n.d.). *Factors of Migration on Urban Bangladesh: An Empirical Study of Poor Migrants in Rajshahi City*. 17.

Siddiqui, T. (2003). *Migration as a Livelihood Strategy of the Poor: The Bangladesh Case*.

Toufique, K. A., & Turton, C. (2002). *Hands not land: How livelihoods are changing in rural Bangladesh*. Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies [u.a.].

Uddin, N., & Firoj, M. (2013). *Causes and Consequences of Rural- Urban Migration in Bangladesh: An Empirical Study in Chittagong City*. 1(1), 16.