

# CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SCIENCE OF IMPLEMENTATION AND SCALE-UP (COE-SISU)

## 1. Implementation Research Focusing on Health System Strengthening in UNICEF Supported Areas in Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Dr Yameen Mazumder, Project Implementation Specialist

**Focal:** Rajat Das Gupta,

**Coordinator:**

**Objective:** To understand the key implementation challenges/barriers with the implementation of MNCH programme related activities for the FDMNs in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh and explore solutions to overcome the challenges/barriers to propose a policy guideline and to adapt and modify the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR) for emergency setting.

**Timeline:** Jan 2019 - Sept 2019

**Partner:** UNICEF

**Donor:** UNICEF

**Grant Amount:** USD 50,422

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

1. *A day long workshop on IR question prioritization was organized on 19 March 2019 in Cox's Bazar. Several stakeholders from different partner organizations participated in the workshop.*
2. *The district level dissemination workshop took place in Cox's Bazar on 29 October 2019. The main objective of the workshop was to disseminate the findings of the implementation research with donors, key policy-makers and programme implementers working for the FDMNs in Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh. Another dissemination & advocacy seminar was held at BRAC JPGSPH on 5 November 2019, with national level policy makers and participants from other organisations.*

## 2. The Ethics of Health Policy Experiments: A Global Framework for Design and Oversight

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist

**Focal:** Mrityika Barua, Sr Research Fellow

**Objective:** The overall objective is to test and refine "deliberative interviews," a cognitive qualitative interview technique based on deliberation. The study aims to assess such an approach to determine its applicability in designing a framework that examines ethical aspects of health policy experiments. In particular, the research team examines: If deliberative interviews are socially and culturally acceptable in the four study countries. If a higher knowledge level on health issues can be reached by using the deliberative interview style, which takes into account major, widely-known aspects of a particular health theme and has both interviewer and interviewee engage actively in the interview.

**Timeline:**

**Partner:** University of Heidelberg, Germany; TH Chan School of Public Health, Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts; School of Public Health and Social Sciences, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Tanzania.

**Donor:** Wellcome Trust, UK; Heidelberg University

**Grant Amount:** USD 230, 620

**Timeline:** July 2018-August 2021 Oct 2017 - Dec 2020

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

1. *The second international meeting was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on 14-15 January 2019 which was organized by MUHAS.*
2. *A deliberative workshop with national and international stakeholders was organized on 2 July 2019 at BRAC JPGSPH which was attended by partners of ETHIPOLEX from University of Heidelberg.*

### 3. Assessing BRAC's Innovative Health Loans in Protecting the Poor against Health and Asset Vulnerability in Bangladesh

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist

**Coordinator:** Muhammed Nazmul Islam, Research Fellow

**Focal:** Muhammad Nazmul Islam, Research Fellow

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**Objective:** The project aimed to identify demand- and supply-side barriers of the standard MTL program and to improve the program by revising the product design and developing a decentralized implementation protocol that allows both better access for vulnerable clients and a better monitoring system for BRAC. The project also aimed to evaluate whether the revised product MTL+ generates a measurable increase in (a) overall uptakes, (b) equitable inclusiveness into the program, (c) formal healthcare utilization, and (d) reduction in out-of-pocket healthcare expenditures net of loan. Moreover, it also evaluated the implementation process to (a) disentangle the differences in uptakes of MTL and MTL+ due to product design from the differences in implementation protocol (e.g., marketing), and (b) better understand the challenges for scale-up

**Timeline:** Jul 2018 - November 2019

**Partner:** BRAC Microfinance Department; University of Heidelberg, Germany

**Donor:** The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany (BMZ)

**Grant Amount:** € 86,550.00

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

1. *The developed product designed by BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University has been finalized and approved by BRAC Microfinance team. The team worked with BRAC Microfinance team in launching the product among the beneficiaries. Training was conducted among relevant BRAC staff – Regional Managers (RMs), Area Managers (AMs), Branch Managers (BMs), and Program Officers (POs). BRAC JPGSPH team also conducted training among beneficiary groups. BRAC Microfinance effectively launched the developed product by conducting on-board sessions which introduced staff to the new product and assigned their responsibilities.*
2. *Dr Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Professor, BRAC JPGSPH and attended the steering committee meeting in Bonn, Germany on 22 October 2019. During the meeting, Dr Sarker shared the preliminary findings of the project with the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in the presence of all the participating organizations of the Inequality Challenge.*

#### **4. Baseline and End-Line Survey to Measure Changes and Outcomes That Result from the Entertainment Education (EE) Campaign on Selected Adolescent Related Kap Areas with Focus on Child Marriage**

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist

**Focal:** Muhammad Nazmul Islam, Research Fellow

**Objective:** To generate knowledge on edutainment campaigns' aggregate effects on individuals' behaviour and sustainability of the behaviour related to different adolescent development issues including child marriage. The projects also aim to determine whether the campaign caused the effects on adolescents and their caregivers over the period of campaign.

**Timeline:** Mar 2017 - Oct 2019

**Partner:** Asiatic Marketing Communication Limited

**Donor:** UNICEF, Bangladesh

**Grant Amount:** USD 156,431 (?? BDT 5,239,275.65)

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

#### **5. Health, Housing, and Hygiene (HHH) in Bangladesh (PHASE II) UPDATED**

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist

**Focal:** Mushfiquur Rahman, Research Associate

**Objective:** To reduce the risk of bacterial and parasitic infection through flooring reconstruction in homes that currently have dirt/mud floors.

**Timeline:** Nov 2018- Sept 2019

**Partner:** Association of Development for Economic and Social Help (ADESH)

**Donor:** ARCHIVE Global

**Grant Amount:** USD 23,490

## **6. Partnership to Ensure the Sustainability of a Public Health Palliative Care Project in Bangladesh through Community Theatre- A follow on**

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Local PI-

Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU;

International PI- Shahaduz Zaman, Senior Lecturer at Brighton and Sussex Medical School (BSMS), UK

**Co-PI:**

**Coordinated by:** Sayema Akter, Senior Research Associate

**Objective:** The aim of the follow-on project is to expand the project activity to new user communities and audiences namely the peri-urban and rural communities of Bangladesh. The specific objectives are:

- To conduct an exploratory study in the peri-urban and rural community to compare the ideas about death, dying and end of life care that has emerged from the earlier research conducted in the urban slums and use the results for theatre script development
- To adopt the theatre script already developed for urban poor community to fit with the new peri-urban and rural community
- To conduct interactive public engagement through theatre to sensitize the peri-urban and rural community on the end of life care issues.
- To train interested community volunteers on the basics of home-based end of life care
- To develop a comprehensive community engagement strategy for public health palliative care in resource-poor settings through performing arts.

**Timeline:** Nov 2017 - Apr 2019

**Partner:** Brighton Sussex Medical School, University of Sussex,

University of Glasgow,

UNIVERSITY OF LIBERAL ARTS BANGLADESH,

BANGABANDUH SHEIKH MUJIB MEDICAL UNIVERSITY,

BRAC University,

BRAC

**Donor:** AHRC-MRC

**Grant Amount:** USD 43,510

### **Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

1. *A two-day long workshop with UK and Bangladeshi partners took place on 28-29 March 2019 in Brighton, United Kingdom.*
2. *A dissemination and film screening on 'Raising Palliative Care through Community Theatre' was held on 21 April 2019 at ULAB auditorium.*

3. *A meeting was held with all local partners on 23 April 2019 to share the experiences and observation of all participants based on their first-year work experience.*

*A half-day-long training session was held on 5 May 2019 to discuss all the relevant topics for all interdisciplinary partner's mutual understanding such as Public Health, Anthropology, Palliative Care, Art and theatre at Centre for Palliative Care (CPC), BSMMU.*

## **7. Synthesis and Translation of Research and Innovations from Polio Eradication (STRIPE)**

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Dr Yameen Mazumder, Project Implementation Specialist

**Focal:** Humayra Binte Anwar, Research Associate

**Objective:** To map, package and disseminate knowledge assets under the GPEI as academic and training programs for various global health audiences to facilitate effective implementation of life-saving programs globally, and the legacy of the GPEI in advancing global health beyond polio eradication.

**Timeline:** April 2018 - December 2022 **Apr 2018 - Dec 2018**

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

**Donor:** Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

**Grant Amount:** Year 2- \$73,260; \$ **41,131.00**

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

1. *An all-partners meeting was hosted by John Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health on 17-19 April 2019 in Baltimore, Maryland, USA. The objectives of the meeting were to present key findings from each stream of work from year 1, to formulate teaching teams in order to work together over the second year and to outline a plan for validating curricula and rolling out courses over the final 3 years of the project, and to form writing groups and prepare plans for completing scientific products.*
2. *Following the session, STRIPE project conducted a Teaching Team meeting on 3 July 2019 at BRAC JPGSPH with partners from Indonesia, India, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and the USA*
3. *Dr Malabika Sarker, Professor and Associate Dean, and Director Research; Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Consultant; and Dr Humayra Binte Anwar, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH attended the 'STRIPE Teaching Team Regional Workshop' on 26-27 August 2019 in Indonesia.*

## **8. A Media Experiment to Reduce Intimate Partner Violence in Bangladesh**

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist

**Focal:** Mushfiqur Rahman, Research Associate

**Objective:** To reduce the risk of bacterial and parasitic infection through flooring reconstruction in homes that currently have dirt/mud floors.

**Timeline:** Nov 2018- Sept 2019

**Partner:** Association of Development for Economic and Social Help (ADESH)

**Donor:** ARCHIVE Global

**Grant Amount:** USD 23,490

**Donor:** South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) with World Bank; and Canadian Grand Challenges

**Grant Amount:** \$ 99,653.00

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

## 9. Old Age Allowance

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist

**Co-PI:** Viola Asri, Kumar Biswas, Sebastian Fehrler, Urs Fischbacher, Katharina Michaelowa

**Focal:** Viola Asri, Kumar Biswas

**Objective:** The main objective is to make the selection of beneficiaries more pro-poor by enabling the local government representatives to apply the eligibility criteria prescribed by the national government and make the selection based on the provided data on the target group. The impact evaluation will be based on comparing eligibility of the beneficiaries in control and treatment group using one commonly used poverty measure namely the PPI score and one eligibility measure reflecting the rules as formulated in the government guidelines

**Timeline:** February 2019 - December 2020

**Partner:** Department of Social Services, Ministry of Social Welfare; ARCED Foundation

**Donor:** University of Zurich, Switzerland; Thurgau Economic Research Institute, University of Konstanz, Germany

**Grant Amount:** 9,963.00 CHF

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

## 10. Behavioral Diagnostic to Improve Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Nutrition outcomes in Bangladesh: Qualitative Data Collection Activities

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Atonu Rabbani, Associate Scientist

**Co-PI:** N/A

**Focal:** Sayema Akter, Senior Research Associate

**Objective:** The goal is to gain a holistic understanding of the social and behavioral barriers that impede proper feeding practices and identify potential areas of intervention that can lead to sustained behavior change related to consumption of appropriate and diverse food items within the targeted demographic groups.

**Timeline:** Sep 2019 - Dec 2019

**Partner:** BRAC

**Donor:** World Bank

**Grant Amount:** USD 14426.10; 12,14,200 BDT

**Advocacy Events:** N/A

## 11. Process Evaluation Protocol of the Integration and Implementation of Verbal Autopsy in the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System of Bangladesh

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Specialist

**Coordinator**

**Focal:** Saima Mehjabeen

**Objective:** To explore whether VA activities have been implemented as intended., assess the fidelity of the implementation process, identify the underlying reasons for what working and what not and recommend potential solutions to improve the VA process further and understand the distribution of causes of reported deaths and its validity for further scale-up of VA across the country.

**Partner:** Cabinet Division, Bangladesh

**Donor:** Bloomberg Foundation, Vital Strategies

**Timeline:** October 2019 - December 2019

**Grant Amount:** \$15,456

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

1. *Verbal Autopsy Workshop was held in Dhaka – Bangladesh (27-31 October 2019). This workshop was organized to review ongoing VA activities in Bangladesh including components relevant to the implementation, questionnaire, software, algorithm and quality of data, prior to scaling Up VA efforts to cover a nationally representative sample of community deaths in Bangladesh. Preliminary findings of one site of this process evaluation was shared by Dr. Malabika Sarker in this workshop*

## 12. Implementation Research on Birth and Death Registration Process in Bangladesh with a special focus on the Kaliganj Model

**Implemented under:** Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Dr Yameen Mazumder, Senior Project Specialist

**Coordinator:** Saima Mehjabeen, Research Associate

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

**Partner:** Cabinet Division, Bangladesh

**Donor:** UNICEF

**Timeline:** May 2019 - October 2019

**Grant Amount:** \$ 64,789.16 (Total)

\$ 49,933.73 (UNICEF)

\$ 14,855.42(JPGSPH)

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

### 13. A Case Study on Universal Health Coverage- Global Health Security- Health Promotion Triangle: Bangladesh

**Implemented under:** (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:** Dr Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC

**Coordinator:**

**Focal:** Mrityika Barua, Sr Research Fellow

**Objective:** This case study was conducted with the following specific objectives:

- a) To explore the characteristics of UHC, HS, and HP in Bangladesh with respect to existing policy and practices, focal agencies, key actors, synergies in the triangle, and identify gaps which needs attention
- b) To explore the perceptions and experiences of the relevant stakeholders in policy and practice regarding the UHC, HS and HP triangle, both when these are aligned ('synergies') and not aligned ('fragmentation'), underlying causes of such alignment (or 'fragmentation'), and identify challenges of overcoming these gaps to build synergy; and to arrive at a consensus on these issues.
- c) To suggest a way forward towards the development of a unified health system which is people centred, equitable, financially protected and resilient to infectious disease threats and AMR

**Partner:** University of Heidelberg, Germany

**Donor:** Wellcome Trust

**Grant Amount:** USD 10885.55

**Timeline:** 01 March 2019 - 31 December 2019

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**

A stakeholder meeting with key members from the Government of Bangladesh was held for Lancet Commission Study project, under the Centre of Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU), BRAC JPGSPH, BRAC University

### 14. Climate Change, Migrations and Health Systems Resilience in Haiti and Bangladesh (ClimHB)

**Implemented under:** (CoE-SISU)

**PI:** Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean, and Director, CoE-SISU

**Co-PI:**

**Coordinator:**

**Focal:** Shams Shabab Haider, Research Associate

**Objective:** The Climate Change, Migration and Health Systems Resilience (ClimHB) project is an applied and interdisciplinary research project in Social Science and Public Health, which aims to analyse the capacities and vulnerabilities of health systems in Haiti and Bangladesh, through the lens of climate change-induced migration flows. Funded by the National Research Agency (ANR) as part of the presidential call "Make Our Planet Great Again" (MOPGA), this project is part of an international research project in the social sciences and public health, focusing on public policies and health systems.

**Partner:** CEPED - IRD

**Donor:** ANR – French National Research Agency **Institut De Recherche Pour LE Developpement**

**Grant Amount:** **USD 158,926.28**

**Timeline:** January 2019-December 2021 **Oct 2019 - Dec 2021**

**Advocacy and/or Training Events:**



1. Dr Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean & Professor, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, and Director of Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU); and Shabab Haider, Research Assistant, CoE-SISU; attended the Launch Workshop for the two-year-long project 'Climate Change, Migration, and Health Systems Resilience in Haiti and Bangladesh (ClimHB).'

## 15. Millions Cool Roofs Challenge

**PI:**

**Co-PI:**

**Coordinator:**

**Focal:** Shams Shabab Haider, ([shabab.haider@bracu.ac.bd](mailto:shabab.haider@bracu.ac.bd))

**Implemented under:** (CoE-SISU)

**Objective:** The objective of this study is to improve access to sustainable cooling through the rapid scaling of cool roofs in countries with large numbers of people facing heat stress risks.

**Timeline:** July 2019-December 2020 Aug 2019 - Dec 2020

**Donor:** The Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), France Nesta Enterprise Ltd

**Partner:**

**Grant Amount:** \$ 100000

**Advocacy/Dissemination Event:**

1. One dissemination event in January 2020

## CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

### 1. Analytical task in support of capacity development in nutrition surveillance and research in Bangladesh

**PI:** Malay Kanti Mridha

**Co-PI:** Md. Tanvir Hasan

**Coordinator:** Md. Mokbul Hossain

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objective:** To support the government of Bangladesh in making evidence-based decision on multi-sectoral nutrition programming for adolescent girls by analyzing nationally representative FSNP data (2009 to 2015).

**Partners:** UNICEF, GAIN, SKNF

**Donors:** The World Bank

**Grant Amount:** USD 99,999

**Timeline:** 1/4/2017 to 3/31/2019

### 1. Baseline Survey of Strengthening Health Systems through Organizing Communities (SHASTO)

**PI:** Malay Kanti Mridha

**Co-PI:** Mehedi Hasan

**Coordinator:** Moyazzm Hossain

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objective:** To report the current situation of NCDs and their behavioural and clinical risk factors in selected intervention (Narsingdi district and Dhaka City North) and control sites (Gazipur district and Dhaka City South).

**Partner:** Noncommunicable disease control, DGHS

**Donor:** Japan International Cooperation

**Grant Amount:** USD 48,387

**Timeline:** 15/2/2018 to 30/06/2020

## 1. Efficacy of zinc-bio fortified rice in improving zinc status in young Bangladeshi children

**PI:** Malay Kanti Mridha

**Co-PI:** Sabina Faiz Rashid

**Coordinator:** Md. Rabiul Islam

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objective:** To determine the efficacy of newly developed zinc biofortified rice on plasma zinc concentrations in children between 12-36 months of age in a rural area of Bangladesh, using a double blind randomized controlled trial, in an effort to alleviate public health problems, such as impaired child growth or diarrhoea-related morbidity, in a sustainable way.

**Partners:** ETH Zurich, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, icddr,b

**Donors:** HarvestPlus

**Grant Amount:** USD 439,294

**Timeline:** 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2019

## 1. Enhancing nutrition services to improve maternal and child health in Africa and Asia (Enrich)- midline evaluation, Bangladesh

**PI:** Malabika Sarker

**Co-PI:** Avijit Saha

**Coordinator:** Avijit Saha

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objective:** To determine the effectiveness of ENRICH program's monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan (MEP) that guides a coordinated approach to measuring the effectiveness and impact of ENRICH program interventions across the whole implementation cycle- including achievements of immediate and intermediate outcomes and impact evaluation at end-line as identified within the Performance Measurement Framework (PMF).

**Partner:** University of Toronto

**Donors:** World Vision

**Grant Amount:** USD 40,247

**Timeline:** 1/1/2016 to 30/06/2020

## 1. Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance-National Nutrition Services (FSNS-NNS)

**PI:** Malay Kanti Mridha

**Co-PI:** Md. Showkat Ali Khan

**Coordinator:** Moyazzam Hossain

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

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

**Partner:** Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

**Donor:** National Nutrition Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh

**Grant Amount:** USD 236,024

**Timeline:** 1/4/2018 to 31/12/2019

## 1. Formative and Implementation Research: Exploring the implementation setting to better inform the design of the Integrated Nutrition and Deworming Program: Improving Adolescent Girls' Health & Nutrition (DAWN)

**PI:** ASM Shahabuddin

**Co-PI:** Rashida Akhter

**Coordinator:** Priyanka Gayen

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objective:** To obtain an accurate understanding of the Bangladeshi context in relation to weekly iron-folate supplementation, explore the implementation setting for possible intervention delivery mechanisms and to inform the process of developing an effective behaviour change strategy among adolescent girls.

**Donor:** Micronutrient Initiative, Canada

**Grant Amount:** USD 34,238

**Timeline:** 1/4/2017 to 31/7/2017

## 7. Understanding the patterns and determinants of health in South Asians people-South Asia Biobank

**PI:** Malabika Sarker

**Co-PI:** Malay Kanti Mridha

**Coordinator:** Mehedi Hasan

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objective:** Strengthen NCD surveillance systems in Bangladesh by establishing 30 surveillance sites across the country. And complete structured assessments on a representative sample of up to 30,000 Bangladeshi men and women aged 18+ years, living at the 30 surveillance sites

using standardized approaches. Also to provide nationally representative data on the burden of T2D, CVD and their risk factors, and on the quality of care for these major NCDs to quantify needs, in Bangladeshi populations.

**Partners:** Imperial College London, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD), Bangladesh Institute of Research and Rehabilitation in Diabetes, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders (BIRDEM), Bangladesh University of Health Science (BUHS), BRAC

**Donors:** National Institute of Health Research (NIHR)

**Grant Amount:** USD 744,332

**Timeline:** 1/5/2018 to 1/4/2021

## 8. Delivery of training on World Health Organization Bangladesh Package of Essential Noncommunicable Disease Interventions (PEN) for Primary Health Care

**PI:** Malay Kanti Mridha

**Co-PI:** Rina Rani Paul

**Coordinator:** Ali Ahsan

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objective:** To increase the capacity and skills of health care providers

(doctors/nurses/paramedics) in Cox's Bazar district on the implementation of PEN for primary health care in low resource settings, using a team-based approach and to build the capacity of community health volunteer supervisors in Cox's Bazar district on healthy lifestyle promotion related to risk factors for NCDs.

**Partners:** Non-Communicable Disease Control, DGHS; Community Health Working Group

**Donors:** National Institutes for Health Research (NIHR), UK

**Grant Amount:** USD 80,152

**Timeline:** 9/9/2019 to 31/12/2019

## 9. Scaling up nutritional, psychosocial and environmental interventions for child growth and development through Government system or health system (RINEW-G)

**PI:** Malay anti Mridha

**Co-PI:** Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif

**Coordinator:** Md. Mokbul Hossain

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objective:** To implement an integrated package of interventions (maternal nutrition, infant and young child nutrition, early child stimulation, water, sanitation, hygiene and prevention of arsenic and lead) through the government health system in one sub-district and assess uptake by government personnel, impact on target mother's knowledge and practices, and barriers, prospects and pathways for broader scale-up.

**Partners:** Stanford University, Johns Hopkins University, University of California, Davis, University of California, Berkeley, icddr,b

**Donor:** Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

**Grant Amount:** USD 28,146

**Timeline:**

## 10. Impact Evaluation of the UNICEF Multisector Integrated Program for Improved Nutrition in Urban Slums

**PI:** Esther Heesemann

**Co-PI:** Malay Kanti Mridha

**Coordinator:** Fahmida Akter

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objectives:** To provide evidence on the effectiveness of the UNICEF urban slums nutrition program targeting children and caregiver living in the Sylhet City Corporation

**Partners:** Sylhet City Corporation, UNDP, C4ED

**Donor:** UNICEF, Bangladesh

**Grant Amount:** USD 35,143

**Timeline:** 1/12/2019 to 31/3/2022

## 11. Training and digital care co-ordination for improved prevention of Type 2 Diabetes and Cardiovascular disease by primary health care teams in Bangladesh

**PI:** Malay Kanti Mridha

**Co-PI:** Malabika Sarker

**Coordinator:** Abu Abdullah Mohammad Hanif

**Implemented Under:** CENTRE FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND NUTRITION (CNCDN)

**Objectives:** To develop and evaluate platforms for training and care-co-ordination by PHC team in Bangladesh, to improve prevention of T2D and CVD.

**Partners:** Imperial College London, NCDC, DGHS, BRAC

**Donor:** National Institute of Health Research (NIHR)

**Grant Amount:** USD 116,386

**Timeline:** 1/9/2019 to 30/9/2021

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

### 1. A Qualitative Evaluation of BRAC Humanitarian Play Lab (HPL) Model in Rohingya Camps in Bangladesh

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH

**Technical Advisor:** AKM Mazharul Islam, Adjunct Professor, BRAC JPGSPH; Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR

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

**Objective:** This study aims to understand what makes the HPL model unique in the Rohingya refugee camp setting. We will explore and document the life history and experiences of Rohingya families, learn indigenous knowledge, attitudes and practices of the community in terms of ECD and play-based learning, evaluate HPL's impact on learning, healing and coping of children, children's acceptance of HPL and play based learning, how Rohingya cultural aspects and practices are being preserved through the model and what impact it has on social cohesiveness.

**Partners:**

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

**Grant Amount:** USD 75,000 BDT 6,200,000

**Timeline:** February 2019 – December 2023 Feb 2019 - Jul 2019

**Advocacy Event:** Selected findings from this research were presented at the National ECD Conference arranged by Bangladesh ECD Network in November 2019.

## **2. Health Seeking Behaviour for SRH Services of Rohingya Women in Rohingya Camps of Cox's Bazar: An Ethnographic Study**

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH

**Co-PI:** Atiya Rahman, Senior Research Fellow (former)

**Technical Advisor:** Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR; Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Co-Director, CUEH; AKM Mazharul Islam, Adjunct Professor, BRAC JPGSPG

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

**Objective:** The aim of this ethnographic assessment was to investigate the women's and community perceptions and behaviours influencing healthcare-seeking practices related to pregnancy, childbirth, newborn care and family planning.

**Specific Objectives:**

1. To understand the socio-cultural and religious beliefs and practices around pregnancy, childbirth, newborn care and family planning
2. To understand the decision-making process of family dynamics with regards to seeking antenatal, delivery, postpartum and newborn care
3. To identify the challenges in health-seeking for pregnancy, childbirth, newborn care and family planning services from providers as well as women's perspectives

**Partners:**

**Donor:** World Health Organization (WHO) in Cox's Bazar

**Grant Amount:** USD 144,067

**Timeline:** 18 March 2019 – 31 July 2019

**Advocacy Event:** A dissemination event for the project was held on 28th of November, 2019 in Cox's Bazar

### 3. A study of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Bangladesh

**PI:** Dr Tanvir Hasan, Assistant Professor, and Co-Director, CUEH

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

**Coordinator:** Irin Akhter, Deputy project Coordinator

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

**Objective:**

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

**Partners:** Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) is providing technical assistance

**Donor:** The Royal Kingdom of Netherlands

**Grant Amount:** USD 556,728.55 BDT 47,321,927

**Timeline:** November 2018 to May 2020

**Advocacy Event:**

### 4. Countering Backlash and Reclaiming Gender Justice

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

**Co-PI:**

**Coordinator:** Ishrat Jahan, Aisha Siddika

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

**Objective:**

- (a) Understanding and countering the backlash against gender equality.
- (b) Addressing the erosion of gender justice agendas within the development.
- (c) Identifying new opportunities for feminist action and impact, within a context of shrinking civic space for women's movements and rights defenders.

**Partners:** IDS - Sussex University, BIGD, Centre for Health and Social Justice - CHSJ (India), Kenya (University of Nairobi and Advocates for Social Change – Kenya, ADSOCK), Uganda (Centre for Basic Research, CBR, and the Refugee Law Project, RLP/Makerere University), Lebanon (Arab

Institute for Women, AiW/Lebanese American University, LAU), Egypt (American University in Cairo), Palestine (Birzeit University) and Brazil (University of Bahia).

**Donor:** SIDA

**Grant Amount:** USD 176,558

**Timeline:** 2019 -2024

**Advocacy Events:**

## 5. Mobilizing for a Research Revolution to Ensure LGBTIQ Inclusion in Asia: A High-impact, Transformative International Partnership (MFARR-Asia)

**PI:** Sabina Faiz Rashid, Peter Newman (University of Toronto)

**Co-PI:** Farhana Alam

**Coordinator:** Farhana Alam, Maruf Rahman

**Focal:** Maruf Rahman

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

**Objective:**

- To generate a shared understanding of characteristics and priorities of LGBTIQ inclusion in six sectors: education, employment, family, violence/security, health and political participation
- To measure and monitor LGBTIQ inclusion in four countries (India, Thailand, Bangladesh and Hong Kong) over time
- To identify model programs and initiatives, and good practices to support LGBTIQ inclusion
- To increase access to and use of knowledge by community-based organization (CBO) and intergovernmental organization (IGO) partners through innovative knowledge mobilization, including participatory video.

**Partners:** 1. Oboyob – Diversity Circle, 2. Bandhu Social Welfare Society

**Grant Amount:** USD 187652.27

**Donor:** Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

**Timeline:** November 2019 – March 2024

**Advocacy Events:**

## 6. Learning Through Play: Looking into Play Lab in Government Primary School of Bangladesh

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana

**Co-PI:** Mrinmoy Samadder

**Coordinator:** Mrinmoy Samadder

**Focal:**

**Implemented Under:** Centre Of Excellence For Gender, Sexual And Reproductive Health And Rights (CGSRHR)

**Objective:**



-To illustrate the lessons learnt in mainstreaming play based learning model among 4-5 year children into the Government Primary School.

Specific objective:

- To understand the perspectives of community and key stakeholders about play based learning model;
- To describe the changes in the development of children exposed to the activities of the Play Lab; and
- To document the driving force for and the challenges to initiating and implementing the Play Labs in the government primary spaces

**Partners:**

**Grant Amount:** USD 15,243 BDT 6,200,000

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

**Timeline:** 15 September 2019 - January 2020 Feb 2019-Jul 2019

**Advocacy Events:**

## 7. BRAC – Disrupting Cross Border Trafficking Networks in Jashore, Bangladesh

**PI:** Farhana Alam

**Co-PI:** Tanvir Hasan

**Coordinator:** Sophia Kaufman

**Technical Advisor:** Sabina Faiz Rashid

**Focal:** Farhana Alam

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

**Objective:** 1. To conduct formative research during inception to understand the gaps and barriers that might inhibit effective CBT programming in Jashore  
2. To conduct operational research (in close coordination with monitoring teams and the digital monitoring system) to understand how and why the project is able to achieve objectives or not, and inform fast adaptations and improvements on how to move to scale effectively  
3. To conduct baseline and end line surveys and evaluation report to understand project performance against the project results framework

**Partners:** BRAC

**Grant Amount:** USD 100,000

**Donor:** Children Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) - UK

**Timeline:** November 2019-April 2021

**Advocacy Events:**

## 8. Strengthening Voices and Capacities for Addressing Gender Based Violence with BLAST

<b>Name of PI and Co-PI/ Co-PIs</b>	This is an advocacy project, not research. So no PIs.
<b>Name of the Project Coordinator</b> (any colleague who is coordinating the project or is the focal)	Farhana Alam Mostafizur Rahman
<b>Objective</b>	<b>This implementation project aims to address the over-arching goal of reducing gender-based violence (GBV) prevalent in Bangladesh's society.</b> We will build capacity, disseminate knowledge, sensitize and help create voices among the young people from universities, development practitioners, professional legal practitioners, media and other key stakeholders, so that issues raised around the intersectionality of concepts like gender, sexuality SRHR and gender-based violence can be addressed effectively.
<b>Partners</b>	Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST)
<b>Donors</b>	Creating Resources for Empowerment and Action (CREA)
<b>Grant Amount (in USD)</b>	140,346
<b>Duration</b>	January 2019 – September 2020 (21 months)

## 9. Strengthening Voices and Capacities for Addressing Gender Based Violence

<b>Full/Official Project Name</b>	Strengthening Voices and Capacities for Addressing Gender Based Violence
<b>Name of PI and Co-PI/ Co-PIs</b>	This is an advocacy project, not research. So no PIs.

<b>Name of the Project Coordinator</b> (any colleague who is coordinating the project or is the focal)	Farhana Alam Mostafizur Rahman
<b>Objective</b>	
<b>Partners</b>	N/A
<b>Donors</b>	Creating Resources for Empowerment and Action (CREA)
<b>Grant Amount (in USD)</b>	140,054
<b>Duration</b>	January 2019 – September 2020 (21 months)

## 10. Promoting Rights Through Inclusion and Empowerment (PRiTiE)

<b>Name of PI and Co-PI/ Co-PIs</b>	This is an advocacy project, not research. So no PIs.
<b>Name of the Project Coordinator</b> (any colleague who is coordinating the project or is the focal)	Farhana Alam Mostafizur Rahman
<b>Objective</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To address discriminatory laws, policies and practices related to marriage and sexual violence in the context of Bangladesh and international human rights standards.</li> <li>2. To create platforms for university students and young professionals in the project area to express their views and experiences on their freedom to express, choose, and consent to matters related to their own lives, and strengthen their knowledge and understanding and increase their participation in ensuring their rights.</li> <li>3. To enhance the capacity of service providers on SRHR.</li> </ol>
<b>Partners</b>	Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST)
<b>Donors</b>	Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU)

<b>Grant Amount (in USD)</b>	311,515
<b>Duration</b>	June 2018 – December 2020 (31 months)

### 11. Where Do They Go? Documentary on Accessibility of SRHR Services for Single Working Women in Urban Bangladesh

<b>Name of PI and Co-PI/ Co-PIs</b>	PI: Farhana Alam
<b>Name of the Project Coordinator</b> (any colleague who is coordinating the project or is the focal)	Farhana Alam
<b>Objective</b>	This documentary aims at breaking the silence and knowledge gap around the SRHR needs of single/unmarried young women in Bangladesh.
<b>Partners</b>	Bohnishikha-Unlearn Gender
<b>Donors</b>	Sharenet International
<b>Grant Amount (in USD)</b>	10,800
<b>Duration</b>	July 2018-February 2019

### 12. Photo narrative: Effective inclusion through skills development

<b>Name of PI and Co-PI/ Co-PIs</b>	PI: Farhana Alam Co-PI: Wafa Alam
<b>Name of the Project Coordinator</b> (any colleague who is coordinating the project or is the focal)	Farhana Alam Wafa Alam
<b>Objective</b>	-To explore the experiences of women in non-conventional trades, Transgender (TG) individuals and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) after graduation from SDP STAR Program -To understand their need for support after graduation in order to ensure sustainable social inclusion.

<b>Partners</b>	BRAC Skill Development Program
<b>Donors</b>	BRAC Skill Development Program
<b>Grant Amount (in USD)</b>	24000
<b>Duration</b>	September 2019-February 2020

### 13. RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW (RHRN)

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

**Co-PI and Focal Person:** Kuhel Islam, Senior Coordinator

**Coordinated by:** Gazi Sakir Mohammad Pritom, Senior Research Associate

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

**Objective:** To harness the collective and catalytic strengths of inclusive and diverse partnerships to drive multi-level advocacy initiatives in a policy environment that is responsive to young people's realistic needs. RHRN Bangladesh performs Multi-level advocacy for: Comprehensive Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education for youth and adolescents, increased social tolerance towards gender expressions and youth-friendly SRHR services.

**Grant Amount:** USD 42,554

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

**Donor:** RUTGERS

**Timeline:** July 2017-October 2020

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

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

**Coordinated by:** Farzana Misha, Research Coordinator

**Qualitative Lead:** Subas Chandra Biswas, Senior Research Fellow

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

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

**Grant Amount:** USD 521,938

**Partners:** N/A

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

**Timeline:** December 2018-December 2020

## 15. A Story of the Evolution of BRAC Humanitarian Play Lab (HPL) in Rohingya Camps of Bangladesh

**PI:** Professor Kaosar Afsana

**Coordinator:** Nazrana Khaled

**Objective:** To undertake a process documentation study outlining the story of BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BIED) and BRAC Humanitarian Crisis Management Programme (HCMP) run Humanitarian Play Lab (HPL) for children aged 0-6 years in the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazaar.

**Grant Amount:**

**Timeline:** The PD began in Feb 2019 and will continue till 2023. The first phase of the process documentation exercise is complete.

**Donor:** BRAC Institute of Educational Development (BIED)

**Partners:**

## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR HEALTH SYSTEMS AND UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE (COE-HS&UHC)

### 1. Transparency, Accountability and Good Governance for Health System Strengthening and Advancing UHC Agenda in Bangladesh: The Role of Frontline Healthcare Service Providers in Improving Performance

**PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC

**Co-PI:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow

**Coordinator:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow

**Implemented Under:** Centre Of Excellence For Health Systems And Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC)

**Objective:** To tackle the situation, a study with the above title has been proposed which seeks to explore practices that are related to the delivery of responsive, equitable and quality services

by the health care providers and managers at the PHC levels. This is expected to align motivation of the frontline health workers with the macro level expectations from the health services delivery network, and strengthen the PHC system for better performance.

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

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

**Grant Amount:** USD 207,378

**Timeline:** August 2017 - Ongoing

**Advocacy Event:**

## 2. A Global Social Sciences Network for Infectious Threats and Antimicrobial Resistance (SoNAR Global)

**PI:** Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC

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

**Coordinator:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow

**Implemented Under:** Centre Of Excellence For Health Systems And Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC)

**Objective:** 1. Develop an open-access platform to support the SoNAR-Global activities and to share them broadly.

2. Adapt, test, and evaluate vulnerability assessment tools on the ground and engagement models to facilitate collaboration across multiple stakeholders.

3. Create, pilot and evaluate curricula for training social scientists in preparedness and response to infectious threats and through curricular development and piloting social science knowledge of infectious threats among non-social sciences actors.

**Partners:** AIGHD, NIVEL, MUW, Mahidol, PHC, BRAC JPGSPH, UCL, MU, CRCF

**Donor:** European Commission

**Grant Amount:** Total Consortium Budget: USD 322,6625.67

JPG Budget: USD 290,682 € 260,738.75

**Timeline:** 2019 - Ongoing Jan 2019 - Dec 2021

**Advocacy Event:**

## 3. Health Care Needs and Health Seeking Behavior among Rohingya Refugees in Cox's Bazar

**PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH

**Co-PI:** Md Tanvir Hasan, Assistant Professor and Co-Director, CUEH

**Coordinator:** Irin Akhter, Deputy Project Coordinator

**Implemented Under:** CoE-HS&UHC

**Objective:** To determine the illness patterns, access and utilization of health services and health facilities in selected Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar.

**Partners:**

**Donor:** BRAC

**Grant Amount:** USD 30,120.48

**Timeline:** October 2018 to April 2019

**Advocacy Event:**

#### 4. LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: Exploring the healthcare-seeking behavior of floating population/street dwellers in Dhaka city, Bangladesh: a pilot study

**PI:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow

**Co-PI:** Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate and Roksana Haque, Senior Research Associate

**Coordinator:** Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow and Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate

**Implemented Under:** CoE-HS&UHC

**Objective:** To explore the scenario regarding health care seeking behaviour and available health care services, and identify gaps at the policy and programme levels for achieving universal health coverage in Bangladesh by 2030 for the street dwellers and floating population.

**Partners:** BRAC Advocacy Department

**Donor:** BRAC Advocacy Department

**Grant Amount:** USD 10,930

**Timeline:** January 2019 - June 2019

**Advocacy Event:**

## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR URBAN EQUITY AND HEALTH (CUEH)

### 1. Pathways to Equitable Healthy Cities

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

**Co-PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH; Md Tanvir Hasan, Assistant Professor and Co-Director, CUEH

**Coordinator:** Marzuka Ahmad Radia

**Implemented Under:** Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)

**Objective:** To develop actionable policy scenarios bearing in mind the health impact of different sectors on health outcomes and validate them with stakeholders and engage and build the capacity of these stakeholders to facilitate policy implementation. In addition, the project aims to develop an integrated analytical framework and develop locally-parameterized models for Dhaka that will guide forming and integrating policy scenarios across sectors and quantify their impacts on health outcomes.

**Partners:** Imperial College London

**Donor:** Wellcome Trust, UK

**Grant Amount:** USD 490,295.01

**Timeline:** 1 September 2018 to 30 April 2022

**Advocacy Event:**



## 2. Advancing Inclusive and Resilient Development Targeted at the Urban Poor

**PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH

**Co-PI:** Md Tanvir Hasan, Assistant Professor and Co-Director, CUEH

**Coordinator:** Md. Uzzal Chowdhury, Senior Statistician

**Implemented Under:** Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)

**Objective:** To conduct social and poverty assessment of urban poor households of the low-income communities at the city level in Bangladesh through desk review and consultation with community based organizations at city grass root level. The study also aims at documenting the existing good practices, challenges and identifying investment opportunities in strengthening resilience for the urban poor.

**Partners:** BRAC Urban Development Program (BRAC UDP)

**Donor:** Asian Development Bank

**Grant Amount:** USD 25,706

**Timeline:**

**Advocacy Event:**

## 3. ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS FOR EQUITY

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

**Co-PI:** Bachera Akter, Assistant Director, CGSRHR

**Coordinator:** Bachera Akter, Assistant Director, CGSRHR

**Implemented Under:** The Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)

**Objective:** The objective is to catalyze change in approaches to enhancing accountability and improving the health and wellbeing of poor, marginalized people living in informal urban settlements.

**Partners:** 1. BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Bangladesh

2. Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK

3. Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

4. Institute of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow, UK

5. The University of York, UK

6. George Institute for Global Health, India

7. Slum/Shack Dwellers' International (SDI), India

8. African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Kenya

9. Liverpool VCT Health (LVCT), Kenya

10. Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Njala University, Sierra Leone

11. Sierra Leone: College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), Sierra Leone

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

**Grant Amount:** USD 1,350,793

**Timeline:** December 2018 - February 2024

## Advocacy Event:

### 4. Forced Displacement and Education: Building the Evidence for What Works

**PI:** Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH

**Co-PI:** Samir Ranjan Nath, Programme Head of BIED

**Coordinator:** Rasel Babu, Research Fellow, BIED

**Focal:** Saira Parvin, [saira.jolly@bracu.ac.bd](mailto:saira.jolly@bracu.ac.bd)

**Implemented Under:** The Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)

**Objective:** The study will work towards advancing its understanding on education for the forcibly displaced as part of a broader education sector agenda of improving learning outcomes for populations living in poverty, exclusion, or distress. Additionally, the study aims to improve its effectiveness regarding its role and contributions to facilitating transition and uptake from humanitarian education responses to long-term development agendas that can support sustainable access to quality education for the forcibly displaced and the communities that host them.

**Partners:** AIR

**Donor:** The World Bank Group

**Grant Amount:** USD 48,000

**Timeline:** October 2019 – April 2021

## OTHERS

### Exploring Older Adolescents' (Age 15-19) Reasons for Substance Abuse to Inform Youth Intervention Policies and Programs

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

**Co-PI:** Anushka Zafar, Research Fellow

**Coordinator:**

**Implemented Under:**

**Objective:** This research project titled 'Exploring Older Adolescents' (Age 15-19) Reasons for Substance Abuse to Inform Youth Intervention Programs' aims to explore the prevalence and pattern of addictive substance abuse among the slum dwelling adolescents of Dhaka. The study will delve into comprehending the conditions that instigate substance abuse of adolescents living in urban slums. Investigation of factors will bring a relatively unexplored domain of research with Bangladeshi youth into context. For vulnerable adolescents to transition to better adulthood, conditions facilitating substance abuse must be addressed. Listening to slum-dwelling youth and understanding the complexities will bring forth their lived experiences while giving them voice and agency. Thus, the findings from this research can be used to directly inform effective youth interventions and policy recommendations.

**Partners:** ODI GAGE

**Donor:** ODI GAGE, UK Aid (DFID)

**Grant Amount:** USD 38,183.25  
**Timeline:** Sept 2019 – Feb 2020  
**Advocacy Event:**