

Munem Ahmad Chowdhury

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ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

Masters of Social Science in Economics

Comilla University (Thesis based) | CGPA: 3.54/4

2020

Cumilla, Bangladesh

Thesis Title: Nexus between Infrastructural Development and Economic Growth: Evidence from Bangladesh through ARDL and NARDL

Bachelor of Social Science in Economics

Comilla University | CGPA: 3.66/4

2019

Cumilla, Bangladesh

RESEARCH INTEREST

Behavioral Economics, Development Economics, Economics of Climate Change, and Energy Economics.

EXPERIENCE

Bangladesh Institute of Social Research Trust

Research Fellow, Economic Division

January 2025- Present

Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Led completion of a research project on climate-induced migration for BRAC, overseeing survey tool design, field supervision, data analysis, and report writing.
- Mentored a team of 3 interns and junior researchers in developing research proposals and implementing studies.
- Secured competitive consultancies from UNDP Bangladesh, including \$120,000 for an e-Parliament Feasibility Study and \$19,850 for a gender analysis of the waste value chain in Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, and Tangail, through competitive proposal development.

Work on Climate

July 2024 – January 2025

Quantitative Researcher, Impact Research Team

Remote

- Assisted the team lead in designing the survey tool to meet quarterly survey targets.
- Supported survey implementation by developing sampling strategies, administering surveys, and coordinating distribution to 3,000 recipients via email and 31,000 via Slack.
- Performed quantitative analysis of survey data, including data cleaning and summarization in Google Sheets, to address key research questions.

Bangladesh Institute of Social Research Trust

Research Associate, Economic Division

June 2023- December 2024

Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Executed three research projects for TdH Netherlands, Chattogram City Corporation, and Ministry of Planning of GoB, contributing to methodology development, data collection, analysis, and reporting.
- Facilitated an eight-day training for 42 enumerators, supervised the month-long data collection and managed field logistics for the End-line Evaluation of BRAC's Gender Responsive Education and Skill Programme in Chattogram Hill Tracts (a hard-to-reach hilly area).
- Authored two peer-reviewed journal articles and five op-eds in national dailies, enhancing the organization's academic presence.
- Reviewed 16 research articles and organized two national-level conferences, fostering academic discourse.
- Secured a \$20,000 research grant from Bangladesh Police through a successful proposal for a study on public traffic awareness, collaborating with a co-researcher in proposal development.

Change Initiative

May 2022- June 2023

Research Assistant

Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Completed five research and consultancy projects for WIN, European Climate Foundation, ALRD, TI Maldives and Oxfam, assisting PI in design survey tools, data cleaning & analysis, policy analysis, and report writing.
- Developed ODK forms for household data collection and managed databases for other projects.
- Organized the Dhaka Renewable Energy and Finance Talk (DREFT), facilitating international discourse on renewable energy financing, with participation from over 300 stakeholders.
- Secured a \$15,000 consultancy from OXFAM Bangladesh through a competitive proposal process for a comprehensive study on climate risk insurance, supporting the PI in proposal development.

Department of Economics, Comilla University

Graduate Research Assistant

June 2020- April 2022

Cumilla

Supervising Professor: Dr. Kazi Mohammed Kamal Uddin

- Contributed to a research project focusing on economic growth and external financial means of implementation, assisting PI in literature review, methodology development, data analysis, and report writing.
- Published three research articles in peer-reviewed journals, expanding academic contributions and visibility.
- Developed course materials and instructed STATA and R training sessions over two semesters, enhancing students' analytical skills.
- Mentored two graduate students in econometrics, data analysis, and academic writing, supporting their thesis development and successful defense.

RESEARCH

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- [2025] Nexus between Infrastructural Development and Economic Growth: Evidence from Bangladesh through ARDL and NARDL. *Journal of Tropical Futures*. 2 (1), 37-53.
- [2024] Exploring the Dynamics of Economic Instability: An Analysis of the Interplay between Consumer Spending, Consumer Confidence, and Macroeconomic Factors. *International Journal of Empirical Economics*. 3 (1), 1-25.
- [2023] Interaction of market size, inflation and trade openness on foreign direct investment inflows in India, China and Japan: panel dynamic analysis. *International Journal of Indian Culture and Business Management*, 29(1), 45-64.
- [2023] Does industrialization trigger carbon emissions through energy consumption? Evidence from OPEC countries and high industrialised countries. *Quantitative Finance and Economics*, 7(1), 165-186.
- [2021] Disintegrated Impact of Trade Openness on Income Inequality: Empirical Evidence from Bangladesh. *Business and Economic Research*, 11(3), 1-18.
- [2021] Attaining Sustainable Economic Growth in Bangladesh: Role of External Financial Means of Implementation. *Asian Journal of Economic Modelling*, 9(1), 1-14.
- [2020] Impact of FDI on Employment Level in Bangladesh: A VECM Approach. *International Journal of Applied Economics, Finance, and Accounting*, 8(1), 30-37.
- [2020] Facilitating Higher Education: Differential Status of Public and Private Universities in Bangladesh. *IOSR Journal of Research & Method in Education (IOSR- JRME)*, 10(3), 14-23.

Forthcoming Peer-Reviewed Publication

- Economic Complexity and Its Role in Shaping Renewable Energy Consumption Patterns in Selected South Asian Countries. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.5240104> (Under Review)
- Creative Synergies: an IRIO Analysis of Jakarta's Creative Industry and its Spillover Effects on National Economic Growth. (Under Review)

SOFTWARE SKILLS

E-views, SPSS, STATA, R (Basic), Kobo Toolbox, Survey CTO, ODK (XLS), ArcGIS (Basic) and GitHub.

FELLOWSHIP

Analytics for a Better World Fellowship

September – November 2024

Data Science Practitioner Fellow

Remote

- Completed a rigorous curriculum covering data management, engineering, geospatial analytics, machine learning, optimization, and natural language processing, with hands-on training in R, and ArcGIS.
- Collaborated with mentors and peers to develop a capstone project titled as “Power of Women in Decision Making and Control over Resources in Climate Prone Areas of Bangladesh”.

CONSULTANCY

[2023] Situation Analysis of Indigenous Entrepreneurship in Mymensingh for FNF Bangladesh.

Responsibility: Co-lead Researcher

[2023] Gender Transformative Climate Resilient Microfinance Project for Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK).

Responsibility: Questionnaire development in ODK platform, Data Base management, Data Analysis

JOURNAL REVIEWER

Applied Economics Letter; Zagreb International Review of Economics & Business.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Tutoring Center

March 2016 - April 2022

Freelance Educator

Cumilla

- Provided in-person lessons to help students prepare for exams.
- Created and followed lesson plans to keep students on track with their studies.
- Monitored student progress and used the information to help them improve in weak areas.

Rotary Club of Cumilla

April 2018 - June 2018

Trainee, Outsourcing project

Cumilla

- Trained in video editing; produced multimedia projects that successfully raised funds for volunteer initiatives.

Aslam Student Hostel

January 2017 - December 2019

Mentor

Cumilla

- Volunteered to guide students on undergrad entrance exam of Bangladesh through weekly sessions.

Ispahanian Family, Comilla University

January 2019 - December 2021

Vice president

Cumilla

- Facilitated the welfare of Ispahani School & College alumni at Comilla University through a strong alumni network.

Comilla University Economics Cricket Team

March 2016 – December 2019

Bowling All-rounder

Cumilla

- Champion of 2018, Runners-up of 2017 (Man of the Semi-final).