

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

Bachelor of Social Science in Economics

Comilla University | CGPA: 3.66/4

2019

Cumilla, Bangladesh

EXPERIENCE

Bangladesh Institute of Social Research Trust

January 2025- Present

Research Fellow, Economic Division

Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Led completion of two research projects (climate-induced migration for BRAC and gender analysis of plastic waste value chain for UNDP), 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

June 2023- December 2024

Research Associate, Economic Division

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 newspapers, 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

June 2020- April 2022

Graduate Research Assistant

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)
- Does sustainable industrialization reduce climate vulnerability? (Work in progress)
- Macroeconomic Policy Uncertainty, Behavioral Mediators, and the Climate-Poverty Nexus. (Work in progress)

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, monitored students' progress and use the information to help students prepare for exams.

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).