**Why did you choose the University of Florida? (Florida)**

* I chose the University of Florida (UF) for its Ph.D. program in Public Health with a One Health concentration, which aligns with my passion for infectious disease research and addressing global health challenges. The program’s focus on human, animal, and environmental health provides a comprehensive framework for tackling complex issues.
* Having previously collaborated with UF researchers, I am impressed by its commitment to global outreach and underserved communities. I am excited to work with faculty on zoonotic diseases, food security, climate change, and social inequalities. My goal is to advance research on emerging diseases and environmental health, ultimately leading a research lab focused on using statistical methods and machine learning to address global health challenges.

**What philosophy guides you in your education? (Florida)**

* Being a first-generation student, I am deeply motivated to complete a PhD since my parents didn’t have the same access to the opportunities.
* Additionally, pursuing a career as a researcher is often not the first choice in low-income countries like Bangladesh. Investing time as a researcher is often perceived as unproductive. However, I aspire to seize the opportunity to become a scientist, serving as an example in my society to inspire the younger generation and contribute to promoting health equity in my community.
* I have always looked to ensure human health through environmental health, since we have an incomparable and extremely important bond and we depend on each other. Therefore, as human beings, we have the responsibility to ensure the health and well-being of ecosystems, not only because that benefits us, but also because other species and forms of life have the right to coexist on this planet.

**What is your research experience? (Florida)**

* **Monitoring and Evaluation Officer on various health projects under national and international organizations:**
  + Over five years of public health project experience in the Rohingya Response, managing inpatient and outpatient data, emergency response efforts such as surveillance and case reports, and conducting fieldwork and community-based data collection and research training/workshops.
  + Collaborated with organizations like Save the Children, UNHCR, and Community Partners International on various humanitarian projects, developing project materials and publishing work using qualitative and quantitative skills. Contributed to program design, implementation, and data collection tools development, as well as analysis of interventions aimed at improving health services.
  + Worked on the Severe Acute Respiratory Infection Isolation and Treatment Centre (SARI ITC), managing the Go.Data software for contact tracing, and maintained the Early Warning, Alert, and Response System (EWARS) and the Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring System (HeRAMS).
* **Research Assistant at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet, and Biomedical Research Foundation:**
  + Developed manuscripts related to maternal and child health using nationally representative data, focusing on topics such as early childhood developmental status, HIV/AIDS among married couples, cesarean delivery, and early childhood diseases.
  + Completed projects on blood donation and breast cancer at the Biomedical Research Foundation.
* **Biostatistician, Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Public Health Research Team:**
  + Worked during the COVID-19 pandemic as a biostatistician with teams from the Royal Veterinary College, Keele University, UF, and Shahjalal University of Science and Technology. Published several manuscripts related to COVID-19.
  + Lead research projects on COVID-19, Monkeypox, and Dengue, and recently collaborated with the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, on rabies control in Bangladesh.
  + Involved in over 50 research themes since the start of my research career.
* **Team Leader, Research & Reporting Team, UNITY Bangladesh (voluntary organization):**
* Focused on ensuring good health and well-being for marginalized communities, particularly the ethnic community of Sylhet.
* **Experience in Presentations:**
* Presented posters and oral presentations at national and international conferences, including the "Global case-fatality rate of COVID-19 is declining since May 2020" at the World One Health Congress 2020.
* **Editorial Board Member, PLOS ONE & Frontiers in Water:**
* Served as an editorial board member, managing several manuscripts, with one already published.
* **Reviewer:**
* Reviewed over 50 research articles for various journals.
* **Mentorship:**
* Mentored young researchers, providing continuous training in data analysis and research methods.

**What are your career goals? (Florida)**

* I aspire to engage in multidisciplinary research, lead innovative public health studies, and translate findings into actionable solutions as a professor in my country. My vision is to train future researchers with a focus on One Health, pursue an independent research career, and strengthen global disease control programs to improve public and environmental health.
* I aim to establish a Center of Excellence to advance One Health principles, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and community engagement. Through research, teaching, policy consultation, and advocacy, I seek to create sustainable solutions for vulnerable populations regionally and globally.
* My research will focus on improving the interconnected relationship between human, animal, and environmental health, with an emphasis on epidemiological modeling, viral diseases, and potential pandemics. I aim to examine the effects of climate change on human and animal health, particularly in the context of zoonotic diseases.
* In the short term, I plan to deepen my expertise in One Health and develop data-driven strategies to address urgent health challenges. Long-term, I aspire to establish a research lab focused on advanced statistical methods, machine learning, and deep learning to tackle emerging health issues. I envision contributing to academia, public health policy, and innovative research to improve global health outcomes.
* The interdisciplinary training I receive at UF will equip me to address complex health challenges from a One Health perspective and drive public health initiatives worldwide.

**Research Interests (Florida)**

* I am interested in studying emerging animal exposure models and their impact on human, animal, and environmental health. My research focus lies in the intersection of One Health, Global Health, and infectious diseases, including Malaria, Dengue, Chikungunya, COVID-19, E. coli, Rabies, Cholera, and others. I aim to explore how environmental stressors like temperature and deforestation influence the spread of diseases such as dengue.
* In addition to infectious disease research, my work centers on global health nutrition, food security, and epidemiology, especially in vulnerable populations in low-resource settings. I seek to understand the intersection of socioeconomic factors, climate change, infectious diseases, and nutrition to improve health outcomes for children and pregnant women. With experience in food security, climate change adaptation, and health interventions, I aim to expand this work through a One Health perspective and data-driven research.
* I am particularly drawn to UF's multidisciplinary faculty and their complementary expertise, which makes it an ideal fit for my research aspirations. Through collaboration and advanced research in epidemiology, biostatistics, and environmental health, I aim to contribute to effective public health interventions and global health solutions.

**If you could solve one environmental and/or global health problem, what would it be? (Florida)**

* I aim to contribute to reducing the impact of emerging and re-emerging zoonotic diseases. My goal is to help eliminate these diseases in the regions most affected by studying how pathogens and vectors adapt to changing environments influenced by climate change. This critical issue has a significant impact on public and environmental health and poses serious risks to communities in close contact with animals.