

# SHYAMAL CHOWDHURY

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Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com.au/citations?user=Yfgg4RoAAAAJ&hl=en>

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## PROFESSIONAL POSITION

Professor, School of Economics, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), The University of Sydney,  
Jan. 2022 – present

## AFFILIATIONS

Research Fellow, IZA, 2012 – present

Fellow, Global Labor Organization, 2018 – present

Associate Investigator, ARC Life Course Centre, 2019 – present

Invited Researcher, J-PAL, 2021 – present

## PAST POSITIONS

Associate Professor, School of Economics, FASS, The University of Sydney, Jan. 2016 – Dec. 2021

Senior Lecturer, School of Economics, FASS, The University of Sydney, Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2015

Senior Lecturer of Agricultural Economics, Faculty of Agriculture and Environment (FAE), The University of Sydney, Jan. 2012 – Dec. 2013

Lecturer of Agricultural Economics, FAE, The University of Sydney, July 2007 – Dec. 2011

Consultant, The World Bank, Washington DC, July 2006 – June 2007

Post-doctoral fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington DC, Aug. 2003 – June 2006

## HONORS AND AWARDS

The University of Sydney Research Accelerator Prize (SOAR), AUD\$100,000, 2020-2021.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economic Development, Agricultural Economics. In particular: migration, social and economic preferences, human capital, micro-finance, technology adoption, field experiments.

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. Agricultural Economics, Bonn University, Bonn, 1999 – 2003

M.A. Economics, Kiel University, Kiel, 1998 – 1999

B.Sc. (Honours) in Economics, Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka, 1989 – 1994

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### *Journal Articles*

- “Resilience of Social Transfer Programs to Large Unexpected Shocks,” with Bin Khaled, N., Mallick, D., Raghunathan, K., and Rashid, S., *Journal of Development Studies*, forthcoming.
- “Encouragement and Distortionary Effects of Conditional Cash Transfers,” (2023), with Bryan, G., Mobarak, A. M., Morten, M., and Smits, J., *Journal of Public Economics*, 228: 105004.
- “Economic Preferences Across Generations and Family Clusters: A Large-Scale Experiment in a Developing Country,” (2022), with Sutter, M., and Zimmermann, K.F., *Journal of Political Economy*, 130(9): 2361-2410.
- “Sooner Rather than Later: Social Networks and Technology Adoption,” (2022), with Satish, V., Sulaiman, M., and Sun, Y., *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 203: 466-482.
- “Access and fees in public health care services for the poor: Bangladesh as a case study,” (2022), with Abdallah, W., and Iqbal, K., *Oxford Development Studies*, 50(3): 209-224.
- “Natural Shocks and Marriage Markets: Fluctuations in Mehr and Dowry in Muslim Marriages,” (2020), with Mallick, D., and Roy Chowdhury, P., *European Economic Review*, 128: 1-28.
- “Economic Development, Food Demand and the Consequences for Agricultural Resource Requirements: An Application to Indonesia,” (2018), with A. Briggs, *Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 62(3): 420 - 437.
- “Eliciting Willingness-to-Pay through Multiple Experimental Procedures: Evidence from Lab-in-the-Field in Rural Ghana,” (2018), with Banerji, A., De Groote, H., Meenakshi, J., Haleegoah, J., and Ewool, M., *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 66(2): 231-254.
- “Underinvestment in a Profitable Technology: The Case of Seasonal Migration in Bangladesh,” (2014), with Bryan, G., and Mobarak, A.M., *Econometrica*, 82(5): 1671-1748.
- “Microfinance and Rural Non-farm Employment in Developing Countries,” (2017), *IZA World of Labor*, 350: 1 - 9.
- “Sequential Lending with Dynamic Joint Liability in Micro-finance,” (2014), with Roy Chowdhury, P., and Sengupta, K., *Journal of Development Economics*, 111: 167-180.
- “Are Consumers in Developing Countries Willing to Pay More for Micronutrient-Dense Biofortified Foods? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Uganda,” (2011), with Meenakshi, J.V., Tomlins, K.I., and Owori, C., *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 93(1): 83-97.
- “Are Schooling and Roads Complementary? Evidence from Income Dynamics in Rural Indonesia,” (2011), with Dewina, R., Muto, M., Sumaryanto, and S., Yamauchi, F., *World Development*, 39(12): 2232-2244.
- “Setting Weights for Aggregate Indices: An Application to the Human Development Index and Commitment to Development Index,” (2006), with Squire, L., *Journal of Development Studies*, 42(5): 761-771.
- “Access to a Telephone and Factor Market Participation of Rural Households in Bangladesh,” (2006), *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 57(3): 563-576.
- “The Effect of Democracy and Press Freedom on Corruption: An Empirical Test,” (2004), *Economics Letters*, 85(1): 93-101.
- “Search Cost and Rural Producers’ Trading Choice between Middlemen and Consumers in Bangladesh,” (2004), *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, 160(3): 522-541.

- “Willingness to Pay for Rural Telephone Service in Bangladesh and Peru,” (2003), with Torero, M., Galdo, V., *Information Economics and Policy*, 15(3): 327-361.

### **Books**

- “*Information and Service Delivery: Case Studies from Kenya and Ethiopia*,” (2008), with Kpundeh, S., Khadiagala, G., Washington, D.C., United States of America: International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The World Bank.

### **Contributed Chapters to Books**

- “Implications of Access to Public Telephones: The Case of Rural Bangladesh,” (2006), In: M. Torero, J. von Braun (Eds.), *Information and Communication Technology for Development and Poverty Reduction: The Potential of Telecommunications*, (pp. 267-276), United States: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- “Telecommunications Infrastructure and Economic Growth: A Cross-Country Analysis, (2006), with Bedi, A., Torero, M., In: M. Torero, J. von Braun (Eds.), *Information and Communication Technology for Development and Poverty Reduction: The Potential of Telecommunications*, (pp. 21-63). United States: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- “Telecommunications and Economic Growth: Implications for India,” (2005), with Bedi, A., Torero, M., In: A. Saith, M. Vijayabaskar (Eds.), *ICTs and Indian Economic Development: Economy, Work, Regulation*, (pp. 231-264). India: Sage Publications.

### **Papers Under Review/Working Papers/Works-in-Progress**

#### **Seasonal migration**

- “Effects of Emigration on the Rural Labor Markets,” (2017), with Akram, A.A., Mobarak, A.M., *NBER Working Paper W23929*.

#### **Socio-emotional skills**

- “The Right Timing Matters: Sensitive Periods in the Formation of Socio-Emotional Skills,” (2023), with Breitkopf, L., Kamhöfer, D., Schildberg-Horisch, H., Sutter, M.
- “The Effects of a Large-Scale Social and Emotional Learning Program on Students’ Education Attainment,” (2023), with Breitkopf, L., Kamhöfer, D., Schildberg-Horisch, H., Sutter, M.
- “Do Economic Preferences of Children Predict Behavior? Evidence from Sibling Comparisons,” (2022), with Breitkopf, L., Priyam, S., Schildberg-Horisch, H., and Sutter, M., under review.
- “Parental Paternalism and Patience,” (2021), with Kiessling, L., Schildberg-Horisch, H., and Sutter, M., *IZA DP No. 14030*, under revision for *the Journal of Public Economics*.
- “Returns to Cognitive and Non-Cognitive Skills in Agrarian Societies: Rural Bangladesh as an Example,” (2017), with Ham, J., Schildberg-Hörisch, H.

#### **Technology adoption**

- “When are Trainings Useful? Evidence from Vocational Training in Nepal,” (2023), with Hasan, S., and Sharma, U.
- “Contract Structure, Time Preference, and Technology Adoption,” (2020), with Smits, J., and Sun, Q., *IZA DP No. 13590*, under review.
- “Unbundling the Process of Agricultural Technology Adoption: Experimental Evidence from Kenya,” (2023), with Mariara, J., Murigi, M., Sharma, U., Smits, J., Sulaiman, M.

### *Natural shocks*

- “Information Campaign on Arsenic Poisoning: Unintended Consequences in Marriage Market,” (2023), with Singh, P. IZA DP No. 16214, under revision for *the Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*.
- “Information Provision over the Phone Saves Lives: An RCT to Contain COVID-19 in Rural Bangladesh at the Pandemic’s Onset,” (2022), with Schildberg-Horisch, H., Schneider, S.O., and Sutter, M., IZA DP No. 15768, under revision for *the Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics*.
- “Resilience of Social Transfer Programs to Large Unexpected Shocks,” (2022), with Bin Khaledb, M.N., Mallick, D., Raghunathan, K., Rashid, S., under revision for *the Journal of Development Studies*.
- “Arsenic Contamination of Drinking Water and Mental Health,” (2015), with Krause-Pilatus, A., Zimmermann, K.F., IZA DP No. 9400.

### *Other papers*

- “The Role of Trainee Selection in the Effectiveness of Vocational Training: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial in Nepal,” (2024), with Hasan, S., and Sharma, U. No. 16705. Institute of Labor Economics (IZA).
- “Microfinance and Employment,” (2023), with Roy Chowdhury, P., Saha, D., under review.
- “Racial Discrimination and White First Name Adoption: Evidence from a Correspondence Study in the Australian Labour Market,” (2020), with Ooi, E., Slonim, R., IZA DP No. 13208, under review.
- “What is in a Name? Does Racial or Gender Discrimination in Marking Exist?,” (2020), with Klauzner, I., Slonim, R., IZA DP No. 13890, under review.

### RESEARCH IMPACTS

- In ARC’s inaugural Engagement and Impact Assessment (EI 2018), my research into rural labour markets in developing countries was rated as “High” – the highest possible impact rating – and featured on the university’s website (<https://sydney.edu.au/research/researchimpact/fighting-famine-in-bangladesh.html>) (accessed: May 11, 2023).

### SELECTED RESEARCH GRANTS RECEIVED

- *The Effect of Maternal Beliefs, Mental Health, and Economic Resources on Human Capital Accumulation in Early Life.* Source: J-PAL. Total value: US\$74,708. Time period: 2022-23. Role: Principal Investigator (PI). Other PIs: Victoria Baranov and Valentina Duque.
- *Building Resilience Through Self-Control Among Disadvantaged Adolescents in Rural Areas of Bangladesh.* Source: FASS External Engagement Fund, The University of Sydney. Total value: AUD\$21,290. Time period: 2022. Role: PI. Other PI: Deborah Cobb-Clark.
- *Towards a Better Understanding of the Development of Non-Cognitive Skills in Children: The Role of Parents, Local Environment and Exogenous Shocks.* Source: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Science Foundation). Total value: €854,490. Time period: 2021-23. Role: PI. Other PIs: Hannah Schildberg-Horisch and Matthias Sutter.
- *Women's Leadership in VSLAs.* Source: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Total value: US\$446,723. Time Period: 2020-2023. Role: PI. Other PIs: Kjetil Bjorvatn, Daniela Serra, and Munshi Sulaiman.
- *Seasonal Migration to Alleviate Seasonal Poverty: A Randomized Social Experiment in Myanmar.* Source: G2LM | LIC Gender, Growth, and Labour Markets in Low Income Countries Programme. Total

value: €334,777. Time Period: 2020-2023. Role: PI. Other PIs: Gharad Bryan, A. Mushfiq Mobarak, Melanie Morten, and Joeri Smits.

- ***An Impact Assessment of EAMDA's Banana Initiative to Increase Technology Adoption by Smallholder Farmers in Kenya - Publication support.*** Source: International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie). Total value: US\$24,295. Time period: May 2019-April, 2020. Role: PI.
- ***Towards a Better Understanding of the Development of Non-cognitive Skills in Children: Malleability, Sensitive Periods, Typical Trajectories, and Transmission within the Family.*** Source: German Science Foundation (DFG). Total value: €777,501. Time period: 2018-2020. Role: PI. Other PIs: Hannah Schildberg-Horisch and Matthias Sutter.
- ***An Impact Assessment of EAMDA's Banana Initiative to Increase Technology Adoption by Smallholder Farmers in Kenya.*** Source: International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie). Total value: US\$723,260. Time period: 2015-2019. Role: PI. Other PIs: Jane Mariara, Uttam Sharma, and Munshi Sulaiman.
- ***Using ICTs to Enhance Adoption of New Agricultural Technologies and Innovations.*** Source: Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). Total value: AUD\$170,341. Time period: 2015-2016. Role: PI.
- ***Spatial Disparity and Seasonal Poverty in Indonesia.*** Source: Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL). Total value: US\$56,049. Time period: 2014-2015. Role: PI. Other PIs: Gharad Bryan, A. Mushfiq Mobarak, and Melanie Morten.
- ***3ie, Proposal Preparation Grants Under Agricultural Innovation Thematic Window.*** Source: International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie). Total value: US\$20,000. Time period: 2014. Role: PI.
- ***How Does Competition Among Microfinance Institutions Affect Lenders and Investment in Agriculture? A Randomized Field Experiment in Bangladesh.*** Source: FRSS Large Grant, The University of Sydney. Total value: AUD\$30,000. Time period: 2014. Role: PI
- ***Labour Supply and Productivity in Times of Environmental Shocks: The Case of Arsenic Contamination in Bangladesh.*** Source: Institute for the Study of Labour (IZA). Total value: €529,024. Time period: 2014-2016. Role: PI. Other PIs: Raymond Guiteras, and Klaus F. Zimmermann.
- ***Persistence of Dowry in West Bengal, India.*** Source: Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Delhi, India. Total value: Rs.808,500. Time period: 2014-2015. Role: PI. Other PI: Prabal Roy Chowdhury.
- ***Does Sanitation Behaviour Migrate? Evidence from Seasonal Migrant Workers in Bangladesh.*** Source: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Total value: US\$396,655. Time period: 2013-2014. Role: PI. Other PI: A. Mushfiq Mobarak.
- ***3ie, Proposal Preparation Grants Under Agricultural Innovation Thematic Window.*** Source: International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie). Total value: US\$25,000. Time period: 2013. Role: PI.
- ***Migrating Away from Seasonal Famine in Bangladesh.*** Source: US Department of Labor. Total value: US\$82,000. Time period: 2011. Role: PI. Other PI: A. Mushfiq Mobarak.
- ***Can Competition Lead to Adverse Outcomes in Rural Credit Market?*** Source: DVC Research/Bridging Support Grant. Total value: AUD\$50,000. Time period: 2011. Role: PI. Other PI: Kunal Sengupta.
- ***Designing Micro-Insurance Schemes for Farmers in South Asia and Africa*** Source: IPDF, The University of Sydney. Total value: AUD\$21,000. Time period: 2011. Role: PI.
- ***Impact of Decentralization on Public Goods Provision, Participation and Development in Indonesia.*** Source: Australian Development Research Award (ADRA), AusAID. Total value: AUD\$377,478. Time period: 2010-2012. Role: PI. Other PI: Anu Rammohan.

- *From Microfinance to Rural Credit: Evidence from a Panel Survey and Field Experiments in Bangladesh.* Source: ADRA, AusAID. Total value: AUD\$385,072. Time period: 2010-2012. Role: PI. Other PI: Kunal Sengupta.
- *Migration as a Labour Market Intervention: Mitigating Severe Seasonal Deprivation or Monga in North-Western Bangladesh.* Source: ADRA, AusAID. Total value: AUD\$320,300. Time period: 2008-2010. Role: PI. Other PIs: A. Mushfiq Mobarak, and Umar Serajuddin.

## **SUPERVISION/ADVISING**

### ***Postdoctoral***

Uttam Sharma, University of Sydney (Jan. 2012-Dec.2014)

### ***Current PhD student***

Xiru Li

*Thesis:* Evaluation of the Targeted Poverty Alleviation Programs in China

*Role:* I am the primary supervisor.

### ***Past PhD students***

#### ***Ilmiawan Auwalin***

*Year of completion:* 2018.

*Thesis:* Three Essays on the Microeconomics of Economic Development in Indonesia.

*Job placement:* Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia

*Role:* I was the primary supervisor.

#### ***Evann Ooi***

*Year of completion:* 2016.

*Thesis:* On Racial Discrimination in the Labour Market.

*Job placement:* NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR), Australia

*Role:* I was the primary supervisor.

#### ***Shahid Razzaque***

*Year of completion:* 2014

*Thesis:* Comparative Analysis of Interest and Non-Interest Based Micro-Finance Contracts. An Experimental Approach.

*Job placement:* Pakistan Institute of Development Studies, Islamabad, Pakistan

*Role:* I was the associate supervisor.

#### ***Youhua Shu***

*Year of completion:* 2010

*Thesis:* Fiscal Decentralization in China: An Empirical Analysis of the Impact of the Election of Community Politicians on Local Public Spending

*Job placement:* Wuhan University of Technology, Hubei, China

*Role:* I was the primary supervisor.

## *Master*

- Eric Bachar (Thesis title: Economic Factors Responsible For Suicides Among Indian Farmers: A Longitudinal Data Analysis, completed in 2010)
- Addis Kebede (Thesis title: How does food aid effects farmers food production in Ethiopia?, completed in 2013)
- Esther Ememandu (Thesis title: Impact of Cassava Commercialization in Nigeria on Rural Livelihood and Poverty Reduction, completed in 2015).

## *Undergraduate Honours*

- Naomi Krystal Rose McCall (Economics, completed in 2022)
- Varun Satish (Economics, completed in 2019)
- Ilya Klauzner (Economics, completed in 2019)
- Yuan Tuo (Economics, completed in 2019)
- Qigang Sun (Commerce, completed in 2018)
- Adam Briggs (Environmental and Resource Economics, completed in 2012)
- Richard Porter (Environmental and Resource Economics, completed in 2011)
- Christopher Karagiannis (Agricultural Economics, completed in 2011)
- Felicia Cheng (Agricultural Economics, completed in 2010)
- Ella B Shannon (Environmental and Resource Economics, completed in 2010)
- Laura Peden (Environmental and Resource Economics, completed in 2010)
- Matthew Simshauser (Environmental and Resource Economics, completed in 2009)

## **MEDIA/EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT/OUTREACH**

### *Media*

- Interview with [Bonik Barta](#) on Mar. 7, 2024, about my research on social and emotional skills involving public primary school students in Bangladesh, also published on [YouTube](#).
- Multiple media outlets covered my seminar that I delivered on Mar. 3, 2024 at BIDS Bangladesh including [Bonik Barta](#), [The Daily Star](#), [Jugantor](#), and [Prothom Alo](#)
- Multiple media outlets covered my public lecture that I delivered on Nov. 15, 2022 at NSU Bangladesh including [The Daily Samakal](#), [Daily Bonik Barta](#), [Daily News Times](#), [Daily Sun 2](#), [Daily Swadesh Pratidin](#), [Daily Bd Journal](#) and the [Daily Bonik Barta 2](#).
- VOX CEPR Policy Portal, April 28, 2016. [Arsenic contamination of drinking water and mental health \(with A. Krause and K. Zimmermann\)](#) (<https://voxeu.org/article/contaminated-water-and-mental-health-evidence-bangladesh>)
- Interview with the SBS World News on Sept. 19, 2018 about a new report from the Center for Global Development which showed Australia ranked 14th in the world for domestic policies that improve lives in the developing world.
- Live interview with a local radio station on Sept 19, 2018 (<https://2ser.com/australianotdoingenoughfordevelopingworld>)
- Interviewed by ABC News about the wages in the garment industry in Bangladesh, Feb. 25, 2019.



- The Sydney Morning Herald quoted my research on racial discrimination in Australia, April 4, 2019.
- The Financial Express in Bangladesh published an [op-ed](https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/views/analysis/public-food-transfers-during-pandemic-insights-from-an-ifpri-survey-in-bangladesh-1608651756) on Dec 22, 2020, that researchers from IFPRI and I wrote (<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/views/analysis/public-food-transfers-during-pandemic-insights-from-an-ifpri-survey-in-bangladesh-1608651756>).
- The Dhaka Tribune, a popular daily in Bangladesh, published an [op-ed](https://www.dhakatribune.com/opinion/op-ed/2020/12/26/op-ed-a-lifeline-against-hunger) on Dec 26, 2020, that I wrote with researchers from IFPRI (<https://www.dhakatribune.com/opinion/op-ed/2020/12/26/op-ed-a-lifeline-against-hunger>).
- Bonik Barta, a popular Bangla newspaper, published [news](#) on our research on Dec 31, 2020.
- The Business Standard, a popular business news portal in Bangladesh, has published an [op-ed](https://tbsnews.net/thoughts/public-food-transfers-during-pandemic-insights-ifpri-survey-182464) on Jan 08, 2021 (<https://tbsnews.net/thoughts/public-food-transfers-during-pandemic-insights-ifpri-survey-182464>).

### *External engagement/outreach*

- Presented at a policy forum organized by IFPRI titled “Resilience of Transfer Programs to Unanticipated Shocks: The Food Friendly Program in Bangladesh in light of the COVID-19 crisis”, held (virtually) on Nov. 11, 2020.
- Presented at a Policy workshop organized by the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) and Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) titled “An impact assessment of EAMDA's banana initiative to increase technology adoption by smallholder farmers: Preliminary results” held on 28-29 Nov. 2019, in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Organized a policy workshop titled “Evaluating EAMDA's Interventions for Building a competitive banana industry in Kenya” held on Feb. 7, 2019, in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Organized a stakeholder workshop titled “Evaluating EAMDA's Interventions for Building a competitive banana industry in Kenya” held on Feb. 6, 2019, in Kerugoya, Kenya.
- Organized a capacity building workshop titled "Workshop on Impact Evaluation" held on Jan. 9 -11, 2018, in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop was sponsored by the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) and supported by the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), East Africa Market Development Association, and the University of Nairobi. More than 30 local participants, many of them PhD students and professionals, attended the three-day long capacity building workshop.
- Organized a policy workshop titled "Evaluating EAMDA's Interventions for Building a competitive banana industry in Kenya" held on Jan. 12, 2018, in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Co-organized with Professor Robert Slonim a policy and engagement workshop titled "Behavioural Economics and Applied Policy (BEAP) Workshop: Addressing Diversity" held on Jul 27, 2018, in Sydney, Australia.
- Co-organized with Dr. Russell Toth a research workshop titled “Workshop on Development Economics” held on Dec. 5, 2017, in Sydney.
- Organized a media round table in Dhaka, Bangladesh titled “Arsenic Contamination of Drinking Water: Looking back after two Decades” held on Dec 17, 2016.
- Co-organized with Dr. Russell Toth a research and policy workshop titled “The Role of the Private Sector in Economic Development: Evidence, Policy and Practice” held on Oct. 17-18, 2016, in Sydney.

### **SELECTED KEYNOTE ADDRESSES**

- 18<sup>th</sup> IRSA International Conference, Bogor, July 17-18, 2023, Invited Plenary Session Speaker. “Migration from Agriculture to Non-Agriculture and Structural Transformation with an Example from Indonesia.”



- North South University, November 2022. "Social and Economic Preferences in Children: Formation, Malleability, and Significance."
- 41<sup>st</sup> EBES Conference, Berlin, October 2022. "Economic Preferences Across Generations."
- Dhaka University, May 2022. "Economic Preferences Across Generations and Family Clusters: A Large-Scale Experiment in a Developing Country."

### *Invited seminars*

- BRAC Institute of Governance and Development, BRAC University, Dhaka, July 9, 2023. "Information Campaign on Arsenic Poisoning: Unintended Consequences in Marriage Market."
- Melbourne Business School, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, March 16, 2023. "The Right Timing Matters: Identifying Sensitive Periods in the Formation of Socio-Emotional Skills."
- Crawford School of Public Policy, The Australian National University, ACT, May 31, 2022. "The Right Timing Matters: Identifying Sensitive Periods in the Formation of Socio-Emotional Skills."
- Japanese Association for Development Economics (JADE)/National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) Development Workshop & GRIPS Graduate Seminar, July 15, 2020. "Information Campaign on Water Quality and Marriage Market: The Case of Arsenic Exposure in Rural Bangladesh."
- The School of Economics and Finance, Massey University, Auckland, March 13, 2020. "If You Go, I Go: Strategic Complementarities in the Decision to Migrate."
- The School of Economics and Finance, Massey University, Palmerston North, March 11, 2020. "Racial discrimination and white first name adoption: a field experiment in the Australian labour market."
- Arndt-Corden Department of Economics, The Australian National University, Canberra, February 25, 2020. "If You Go, I Go: Strategic Complementarities in the Decision to Migrate."
- 3ie Agricultural Innovation Evidence Programme Workshop, Nairobi, November 28-29, 2019. "An Impact Assessment of EAMDA's Banana Initiative to Increase Technology Adoption by Smallholder Farmers."
- The University of Nairobi, Nairobi, February 8, 2019. "An impact assessment of EAMDA's banana initiative to increase technology adoption by smallholder farmers: Preliminary results."
- The Department of Economics, Deakin University, November 7, 2018. "Racial discrimination and white first name adoption: a field experiment in the Australian labour market."
- The School of Business and Finance, QUT Business School, September 27, 2018. "Racial discrimination and white first name adoption: a field experiment in the Australian labour market."
- The Australian Human Rights Commission, Canberra, June 14, 2018. "Seeing the unseen: A forum and workshop for developing public sector and professional leadership on institutional racism."
- The Department of Economics, Macquarie University, May 17, 2018. "Racial Discrimination and White First Name Adoption: A Field Experiment in the Australian Labour Market."
- The Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGDRI), Mumbai, January 5, 2018. "Natural Shocks and Marriage Markets: Evolution of Mehr and Dowry in Muslim Marriages."
- Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Dhaka, January 3, 2018. "Natural Shocks and Marriage Markets: Evolution of Mehr and Dowry in Muslim Marriages."
- The National University of Singapore, March 28, 2017. "Returns to Cognitive and Non-cognitive Skills in Poor Rural Economics: The Case of Bangladesh."
- Experimental Brownbag, UTS, April 4, 2017. "What Determines Children's Preferences? Evidence from a Large-Scale Experiment."

- Workshop on Emerging Economics, UNSW, October 21, 2016. "Effects of Migration on Rural Labor Markets."
- UNSW School of Economics Workshop: Development Challenges in a South Asian Context, September 15-16, 2011. "Underinvestment in Profitable Technologies when Experimentation is Costly: Evidence from a Migration Experiment in Bangladesh."
- International Growth Centre (IGC) Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh, December 20, 2011. "Seasonal Migration and Risk Aversion: Experimental Evidence in Bangladesh."
- HarvestPlus Workshop on Farmer Adoption and Consumer Acceptance of Biofortified Varieties of Staple Crops, IFPRI, Washington DC, November 8-9, 2011. "Using Elicitation Mechanisms to Elicit the Demand for Nutritious Maize: Evidence from Experiments in rural Ghana".
- HarvestPlus Workshop on Farmer Adoption and Consumer Acceptance of Biofortified Varieties of Staple Crops, IFPRI, Washington DC, November 8-9, 2011. "Are Consumers in Developing Countries Willing-to-Pay More for Micronutrient-Dense Biofortified Foods? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Uganda."
- The Faculty of Business and Economics, Macquarie University, September 9, 2011. "Underinvestment in Profitable Technologies when Experimentation is Costly: Evidence from a Migration Experiment in Bangladesh."
- Creating Useful Knowledge for Africa's Development, Makerere University, Kampala, January 14, 2011. "Are Consumers in Developing Countries Willing-to-Pay More for Micronutrient-Dense Biofortified Foods? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Uganda."
- Center for Development Research (ZFF), University of Bonn, Germany, December 16, 2011. "Seasonal Migration and Risk Aversion: Experimental Evidence in Bangladesh."
- Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, Dhaka, December 23, 2010. "Gradual Repayment and sequential lending in micro-finance."
- Crawford School of Economics and Government, The Australian National University, October 5, 2010. "Ethnicity and Conflict in Indonesia."
- Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan, Hubei, China, August 12, 2009. "Migrating away from a seasonal famine in Bangladesh."
- 2009 Breaking Silos: Integrated approaches to achieving the Millennium Development Goals arranged by GLOBALHOME, the Sydney Medical School Office for Global Health and the University of Sydney Institute of Sustainable Solutions, September 20, 2009. "Interventions to achieve the MDGs."
- 2008 Workshop on Design of Consumer Acceptance Study in Ghana, Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich, May 12-13, 2008. "Hypothetical bias and cheap talk in eliciting WTP for OFSP in Uganda."
- The Department of Economics, Dhaka University, July 24, 2008. "WTP for OFSP in Uganda, Hypothetical Bias and the Role of Cheap Talk in Mitigating it."

#### *Refereed conference presentations*

- Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Conference, Christchurch, New Zealand, February 7-10, 2023. "Unbundling the Process of Agricultural Technology Adoption: Experimental Evidence from Kenya."

- 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Workshop on Natural Experiments, Deakin Business School, Melbourne, December 7, 2022. "Information Campaign on Arsenic Poisoning: Unintended Consequences in Marriage Market."
- 16<sup>th</sup> Australasian Development Economics Workshop, Monash Business School, Melbourne, June 6-7, 2021, Virtual. "The Encouraging and Distortionary Effects of Conditional Cash Transfers."
- 12<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the Econometric Society, Bocconi University, August 17-21, 2020, (virtual). "Too Much of a Good Thing? The Encouraging and Distortionary Effects of Conditional Cash Transfers."
- Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Conference, UWA, Perth, February 11-14, 2020. "Does Access to Microcredit Lead to Technology Adoption by Smallholder Farmers? Experimental Evidence from Rural Bangladesh."
- 15<sup>th</sup> Australasian Development Economics Workshop, UWA, Perth, June 6-7, 2019. "Information, procrastination and neighbour's actions: Experimental evidence of adopting improved banana variety in Kenya."
- Econometric Society Australasian Meeting (ESAM) 2018, AUT, Auckland, July 1-4. "Racial discrimination and White first name adoption: A field experiment in the Australian labour market."
- Australasian Development Economics Workshop 2018, ANU, Canberra, June 6-7. "Natural shocks and marriage market: The case of arsenic exposure in rural Bangladesh."
- 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi, December 18-20, 2017. "Effects of Emigration on Rural Labor Markets."
- 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi, December 19-21, 2016, "How Does Competition among MFIs Affect Lenders and Borrowers? Theory and Evidence from Bangladesh."
- Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics (AASLE) Inaugural Conference, Canberra, December 7-9, 2017. "Effects of Emigration on Rural Labor Markets."
- The Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) Annual Meeting 2015, Boston, January 3-5. "Evolution of Mehr and Dowry among Muslims in Bangladesh: Natural Shocks as an Explanation."
- The Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) Annual Meeting 2013, San Diego, January 4-6. "Seasonal Migration and Risk Aversion."
- Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference 2011, Yale University, November 12-13. "Seasonal Migration and Risk Aversion: Experimental Evidence in Bangladesh."
- AARES 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Adelaide, February 8-12, 2010. "Hypothetical Bias and Cheap Talk in Eliciting WTP for OFSP in Uganda."
- 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, ISI, New Delhi, December 16-18, 2010. "Migration as a Labor Market Intervention: Results from a Randomized Experiment in Bangladesh."
- 6<sup>th</sup> Australian Development Economics Workshop, University of Western Sydney, June 10-11, 2010. "Ethnicity and Conflict in Indonesia."
- IAAE Conference, Beijing, August 16-22, 2009. "Are Consumers in Developing Countries Willing-to-Pay More for Micronutrient-Dense Biofortified Foods? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Uganda."
- 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi, December 16-18, 2009. "Corruption in Health Sector: Evidence from Unofficial Consultation fees in Bangladesh."
- 5<sup>th</sup> Australasian Development Economics Workshop, University of Melbourne, June 4-5, 2009. "Migration as a Labor Market Intervention: Results from a Randomized Experiment in Bangladesh."

- 36th Australian Conference of Economists, Hobart, September 24–26, 2007. “Governance Decentralization and Local Infrastructure Provision in Indonesia.”

#### **RECENT SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

- Co-Editor, *The Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* (2020–2023)
- Served as a referee for papers on economic development for many general economics journals and field journals in economics including *American Economic Review*, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Agricultural Economics*, *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of European Economic Association*, *Journal of Population Economics*, *Review of Income and Wealth*, *World Development*, *IAAE conference papers*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Labour Economics*, *Economics of Education Review*, *The Manchester School*, and *Science Advances*.
- Served as a reviewer for grant applications for National Science Foundation (US), Time-sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS), European Research Council, IZA, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and Israel Science Foundation.

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Economic Association, Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society, Econometric Society, Royal Economic Society, Society of Labor Economists, European Association of Labour Economists.