

Impact of COVID 19 Pandemic on Rural Livelihood

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Abstract

This study was undertaken in July 2020 to capture the immediate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on rural livelihood and how the people tackled the immediate crisis. Following a mixed-method approach, the data collection took place in August and September 2020, surveying 332 rural households from three upazilas of Cumilla district. Many interesting findings have come up on the coping mechanisms. A comparative picture of the supports from the government, individuals, and non-government organizations has also been obtained. About rural people's resilience to such shocks, the study has found two crucial factors—individual's adaptability to the situation and support from the community. Strong social bonding of the rural people is their main asset. As a result, the pandemic could not cause too many losses at the micro-level as expected. However, students, particularly those in primary and secondary schools, have been the worst victims of the pandemic. If no serious policy and programmatic intervention are made, the nation may need to pay a lot in the future due to the losses in the academic life of the rural children during the last year.