

Curriculum Vitae of
Abdullah Al Hussain

Date of birth: 12/08/1980; Gender: Male

Nationality: Bangladeshi

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Pen Picture: A seasoned professional with over 18 years of experience in socioeconomic research, development project design, implementation, and training, particularly focused on poverty analysis and social protection. I leverage expertise in quantitative and qualitative research, policy analysis and reform, training, and action research to contribute to positive social change. My dedication to evidence-based solutions and collaborative approaches positions me as a valuable asset for organizations committed to tackling complex social challenges. My research portfolio spans a wide array of crucial subjects, encompassing poverty, child poverty, child rights, social protection, violence against women, gender issues, cooperatives, and rural development, among others. However, my primary passion lies in the field of social policies.

Expertise:

- ✓ Proficient in both quantitative and qualitative research and evaluation, with a track record of designing and implementing household surveys, including baseline, mid-term, and end-line studies.
- ✓ Specialized in policy analysis, implementation, and reform.
- ✓ Accomplished in designing training courses, along with the administration and management of training programs.
- ✓ Skilled in the design and implementation of action research for development projects.

Noteworthy Collaborations:

Throughout my career, I have conducted research for esteemed organizations such as the Government of Bangladesh, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, Oxfam, NRECA, FAO, ILO, CARE, and Oxford Policy Management (OPM). I have contributed my skills and expertise to notable entities including the United Nations, the Government of Bangladesh, and various non-governmental organizations.

WORK EXPERIENCE-1

Job Title	Company/Organization	Dates of Employment
Joint Director (Research)	Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD), Kotbari, Cumilla, Bangladesh Website: https://bard.gov.bd	19/10/2021--Present

Responsibilities and Achievements:

As a faculty member of the organization, my duties and responsibilities are to provide all sorts of support to the Academy in performing its functions related to training, research, and action research activities. In particular, I design and supervise training courses, take classes in the training courses organized for government and non-government officials, write research proposals and reports, design and implement small-scale development projects, conduct seminars/workshops, contribute to the formulation/upgradation of national policies/strategies, etc.

- As a trainer, I teach topics such as 'Global poverty reduction models', 'Social Protection in Bangladesh', 'National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh', 'Major Development Policies of Bangladesh' (Perspective Plans, Five Year Plans and Sectoral Strategies), 'Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)', 'Street Children Rehabilitation in Bangladesh' and 'Basics English Skills' in training courses for civil and NGO officials.
- I regularly contribute to policy formulation and the upgradation of various ministries related to poverty alleviation and rural development from my organization.
- I am leading an action research project intending to integrate a conservative Islamic religious group of two million students and teachers (known as Qawmi madrasas) through vocational and skills development training and motivation and creating employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for them. This project idea has already caught the attention of the media and policymakers. If it succeeds in the experimental phase, this will be implemented as a national program.

- I have been working as the **SDGs Focal Point** of my organization (BARD) and oversee the SDGs-related works of my organization. I also regularly report the SDG implementation progress to Rural Development and Cooperative Division.
- I have been working as a technical committee member of the Rural Development and Cooperative Division to **formulate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) action plan** of the Division, prepare implementation and progress reports and carry out related activities.
- As the Joint Director (Research), I am also the research focal point of BARD. In this position, my main responsibilities are to scrutinize all research proposals, provide feedback on proposals, monitor the research budget for each of the approved research projects, supervise the fieldwork, comment on draft reports, facilitate review of research reports, and arrange research dissemination seminars.

Current/Recent Research Involvement:

1. Understanding the drivers of successful and inclusive rural, regional transformation: Sharing experiences and policy advice in Bangladesh, China, Indonesia and Pakistan [Funded by Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)];
2. Impact of National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) Reforms on Social Protection of Bangladesh (ongoing).

WORK EXPERIENCE-2

Job Title	Company/Organization	Dates of Employment
Guest Lecturer	Department of Mass Communication and Journalism Comilla University, Cumilla, Bangladesh Website: https://www.cou.ac.bd/	15/11/2023 – PRESENT

Responsibilities and Achievements:

I have been teaching a course titled "Social Processes and Institutions" at the undergraduate level (BSS Honours) within the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism at Comilla University.

WORK EXPERIENCE-3

Job Title	Company/Organization	Dates of Employment
Deputy Director	Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD), Kotbari, Cumilla, Bangladesh Website: https://bard.gov.bd	01/08/2012 – 18/10/2021 [Except for two years with UNDP on lien]

Responsibilities and Achievements:

Training: As a Deputy Director, I played the role of Associate Course Director in one six months-long Foundation Training Course for probationer civil officers, one four months-long foundation course, and two 2 months-long special foundation courses. I also supervised as many as 12 short training courses for various categories of clients.

Policy: I contributed to the finalization of the following draft national policy documents through official comments, namely, 'Agricultural and Rural Credit Policy and Programme 2018-2019' of Bangladesh Bank', 'Integrated Savings and Microcredit Programmes Implementation Policy 2019' of the Department of Social Services, 'Urban Community Development Programme Implementation Policy 2018' of the Department of Social Services, etc. I also regularly contributed to policy-related works on social protection in the Cabinet Division.

Action Research: I designed the first-ever action research project to create employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for unregulated Islamic schools (Qawmi Madrasa students) through vocational and skills development training.

WORK EXPERIENCE-4

Job Title	Company/Organization	Dates of Employment
Research Officer	United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Dhaka, Bangladesh Website: https://www.undp.org/bangladesh	08/03/2015 – 21/02/2017

Responsibilities and Achievements:

The Social Protection Policy Support (SPPS) Project provided technical support to the Government of

Bangladesh in formulating the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh, the first-ever umbrella policy on social security to reconfigure the existing social protection system in Bangladesh. For two years, I served this project as the research focal point.

- I reviewed national and international policies and strategies, collected and analyzed qualitative and quantitative data, and drafted policy briefs and reports.
- I collected beneficiary and budget data of 180 past and current public Social Protection programs from the Ministry of Finance and 25 other ministries/divisions and prepared a database on the public Social Protection Programmes with their budget, beneficiary, and implementing ministries since F.Y. 2008-2009 (9 years). This database is being used as a significant source for analyzing sector-wise interventions, financial trends, coverage etc.
- I analyzed the current public Social Protection Programmes as per the NSSS life cycle categories
- I collected basic information on all the 142 existing (F.Y. 2015-16 and 2016-17) public social protection programs from different ministries and prepared program summaries (one-pager/program at a glance) for information flyer
- I shared policy updates, programs initiatives, ministerial decisions, and significant changes in the social protection sector with colleagues
- I drafted the NSSS Action Plan content and toolkit with the International Social Protection Specialist for the 25 social protection program implementation ministries/divisions, which are now being used for the NSSS Action Plan.
- I also coauthored the Political Economy Assessment of the implementation of the National Social Security Strategy of Bangladesh titled "Assessment to Enhance Implementation of the National Social Security Strategy", and "Measures to Enhance Urban Inclusion in the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS)".

WORK EXPERIENCE-5

Job Title	Company/Organization	Dates of Employment
Sub-district Election Officer (Assistant Secretary)	Bangladesh Election Commission Dhaka, Bangladesh Website: http://ecs.gov.bd/	03/06/2012 – 31/07/2012
Responsibilities and Achievements:		
I supported the Election Commission with election-related works as the sub-district election focal point.		

WORK EXPERIENCE-6

Job Title	Company/Organization	Dates of Employment
Sr. Research Associate/Research Associate	Human Development Research Centre (HDRC) Dhaka, Bangladesh Website: https://www.hdrc-bd.com/	16/04/2005–02/06/2012 [Except for study leave period for masters]
Responsibilities and Achievements:		
My duties and responsibilities included mainly study conduction planning, writing research proposals, designing qualitative & quantitative research and developing research tools, maintaining liaison with the clients/donors, training field-level researchers, participating in data collection and supervising data collection, planning of data analysis and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data, writing research reports, editing reports, presenting research findings in seminars. In my six years period at HDRC, I conducted over 20 research studies, including:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improving the Targeting Effectiveness of Social Safety Nets in Bangladesh. Dhaka: Conducted for NFPCSP-FAO, 2012-13 2. Study on Women in Parliament: Process & Extent of Participation, and Scope for Strengthening their Role. Dhaka: for PRODIP, Asia Foundation, Bangladesh, 2012 3. Delivering Babies in Emergency Situation: Where and under Which Circumstances. With Professor Abul Barkat, PhD and Others. Dhaka: Conducted for UNFPA Bangladesh by HDRC, 2008 4. Socio-economic Impact Study of the Rural Electrification Development Project (REDP): Focusing the Microfinance Component of the Project in Brahmanbaria PBS. Dhaka: Conducted for NRECA Intl. Ltd. by HDRC, 2010 		

5. Understanding the Scope of Social Protection Measures as Means to Improve Child Well-Being. Dhaka: Conducted for Save the Children Sweden-Denmark by HDRC, 2010
6. Socio-economic Baseline Study of the Rural Electrification Development Project (REDP): Focusing the Microfinance Component of the Project in Brahmanbaria PBS. Dhaka: Conducted for NRECA Intl. Ltd. by HDRC, 2010
7. Study on Allocation, Targeting and Effectiveness of Sanitation Subsidy in Bangladesh. Dhaka: Conducted for WaterAid Bangladesh by HDRC, 2011
8. Assessment of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Condition in School. Dhaka: Conducted for UNICEF Bangladesh by HDRC, 2011
9. Mismatch of Minority Population in Bangladesh: Population Census vis-à-vis National Voter List. Dhaka: Conducted for SHAREE, 2011
10. Baseline Survey to Know the Extent and Severity of Violence Against Women at Workplace in Selected Sectors. Dhaka: Conducted for ILO, Bangladesh, 2011
11. Socio-economic Impact Study of the Rural Electrification Development Project (REDP): Conducted for NRECA Intl. Ltd. by HDRC, 2011
12. CARE-Patsy Collins Trust Fund Initiative (PCTFI) School Performance Assessment. Dhaka: Conducted for CARE Bangladesh by HDRC, 2009
13. Study on Change in Attitude and Behaviour of Garment Owners, Managers and Workers towards Gender and RH Issues. Dhaka: Conducted for UNFPA, Bangladesh by HDRC, 2008
14. Assessment of Preparedness for Pandemic Influenza. Dhaka: Conducted for AED, USA by HDRC, 2008
15. Quantitative and Qualitative Research in Bangladesh: Behavior Change and Communication Activities on Avian Influenza (H5N1). Dhaka: Conducted for AED, USA by HDRC, 2008
16. National Report Bangladesh--GLOBAL STUDY ON CHILD POVERTY AND DISPARITIES. Dhaka: UNICEF, 2009
17. Basic Education for Hard-to-Reach Urban Working Children: A Study on Benefits, Sustainability and Cost. Dhaka: Conducted for UNICEF Bangladesh by HDRC, 2009
18. Study on the Unit Cost of Social and Behavior Change Related to Adolescent Issues. Dhaka: Conducted for UNICEF Bangladesh by HDRC, 2009
19. Review of Social Barriers and Limitations of Village Court. Dhaka: Conducted for UNDP, Bangladesh by HDRC, 2010
20. Situational Analysis on the Sexual Harassment at Tertiary Level Education Institutes in and around Dhaka. UN Women Bangladesh (2011-12).

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Date: 01/09/2017 – 14/12/2018

Degree: M.A IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (Major in Social Policy for Development)

University/Institute: International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Hague, The Netherlands

Thesis: State, Qawmi Madrasas and Children in Bangladesh: From a Social Protection Perspective

Honors, achievements: World Bank Scholar 2017

Date: 01/07/2005 – 31/12/2006

Degree: MSS IN SOCIOLOGY

University/Institute: University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Date: 01/07/2000 – 30/06/2005 – Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Degree: BSS IN SOCIOLOGY

University/Institute: University of Dhaka

Date: 28/05/2022 -11/06/2022

Training: Training on Action Research for SDGs Localization In Bangladesh

University/Institute: Curtin University, Perth, Australia

Sponsored by Governance Innovation Unit (GIU), Prime Minister's Office Bangladesh

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): BENGALI

Other languages:

Language	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
ENGLISH	C2	C1	C1	C1	C2
HINDI	B2		B2		A1
ARABIC	A1	A2	A1	A1	A1

**IELTS Band Score: Listening 8, Writing 7, Reading 6.5, Speaking 7, Overall 7.0

REFERENCES

1. Abul Barkat, PhD

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3. Md. Mizanur Rahman, PhD

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I certify that all information stated in this resume is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Abdullah Al Hussain

SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH WORKS AND PUBLICATIONS

1. Karim, M. A., Guha, R. K., Rahman, M., Hussain, A. A., & Khan, M. Z. S. (2024). *Implication of regulation on the microfinance institutions in Bangladesh*. Microcredit Regulatory Authority. ISBN 978-984-35-6539-6.
2. Al Hussain, A., Hasan, K., & Islam, A. A. (2023). *From Crisis to Resilience: Analyzing the Impact of COVID-19 on Rural Livelihoods in Bangladesh*. Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development. ISBN 78-984-35-5359-1
3. Azad, Abul Kalam, Al Hussain A., Islam, A.A, Uddin, Z., and Hossain, B. (2020). *Agricultural Mechanization and Collective Farming Management—An Experimental initiative for Commercialisation of Agriculture*. Rural Development—Annual Bengali Journal of Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD), Number 23 (in Bengali). ISSN: 2222-6869
4. Al Hussain, A. (2020). *Rural and Urban Poverty incidence in Bangladesh and their Reflection in Social Protection Policies and Programmes*. The Journal of Rural Development, 43(1), 101-124. ISSN: 1019-0341
5. Al Hussain, A. (2018). *State, Qawmi Madrasas and Children in Bangladesh: From A Social Protection Perspective*. M.A. Erasmus University Rotterdam. <https://thesis.eur.nl/pub/46690>
6. Yaqub, S., & Al Hussain, A. (2016). *Policy Diagnostic to Enhance Implementation of the National Social Security Strategy*. Dhaka: UNDP Bangladesh.
7. Yaqub, S., & Al Hussain, A. (2016). *Measures to Enhance Urban Inclusion in the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS)*. Dhaka: UNDP Bangladesh.
8. Yaqub, S., & Al Hussain, A. (2016). *Approach and Timeline to Produce the Action Plans for the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS)*. Dhaka: UNDP Bangladesh.
9. Zahid, A., Guha, R., & Al Hussain, A. (2015). *Efficacy of Initiatives/Programmes on Rural Income and Poverty Alleviation: A Way Forward*. Dhaka: Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP).
10. Zahid, A., & Al Hussain, A. (2014). *Assessing Training Needs of Bangladesh Civil Service (Economic) Cadre Officers*. Dhaka: National Academy for Planning and Development (NAPD)
11. Rowe, Georgia and Abdullah Al Hussain (2014). *How Can Social Protection Better Responds to Child Poverty in Bangladesh?* Prepared for Save the Children.
12. Barkat, A., Sengupta, S., Al Hussain, Abdullah, Ahmed, F. and Rahman, M. (2013). *Improving the Targeting Effectiveness of Social Safety Nets in Bangladesh*. [online] Available at: <http://www.nfpcsp.org/agridrupal/content/improving-targeting-effectiveness-social-safety-nets-bangladesh>.
13. Barkat, Abul, Abdullah Al Hussain and Md. Ismail Hossain. *Mismatch of Minority Population in Bangladesh: Population Census vis-à-vis National Voter List*. Bangladesh Journal of Political Economy (ISSN 2227-3182), Volume 27, Number 1 and 2 (2011).
14. Barkat, A., Karim, A. and Al Hussain, Abdullah. (2011). *Social Protection Measures in Bangladesh: As Means to Improve Child Well-Being*. Dhaka: Pathak Shamabesh. (ISBN: 978-984-8866-38-2).
15. Barkat, A., Halim, S., Poddar, A., Badiuzzaman, M. and Al Hussain, A. (2009). *National Report Bangladesh--GLOBAL STUDY ON CHILD POVERTY AND DISPARITIES*. Dhaka: UNICEF, 2009. (ISBN: 984-70292-0004-9).