

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR URBAN EQUITY AND HEALTH (CUEH)

Established in 2013, with the focus on health equity challenges of the urban poor, particularly on urban health governance; the Centre works in inter-sectoral research, training, policy and results-based action. The Centre motivates evidence-based dialogue and decision-making, and supports partnerships and networking among government policymakers, private and public service providers, researchers and development partners.

The key areas of the Centre's work include training and capacity development to enhance skills and competencies for better urban health governance, inter-sectoral action, needs and impact assessments as well as programme design, implementation and evaluation. Research at the Centre focuses on urban health governance, community engagement and accountability, and facility mapping and innovations in service delivery models for the urban poor. With broad participation of relevant sectors (health, housing, transport, etc.) and stakeholders (development partners, local government, NGOs, etc.), the Centre applies an evidence-based approach to building consensus, aligning resources and coordinating action towards better governance practices.

RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2019

- **PATHWAYS TO EQUITABLE HEALTHY CITIES**

PI: Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

Co-PI: Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

Technical Advisor: Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

Coordinator: Marzuka Ahmad Radia, Research Coordinator, BRAC JPGSPH.

Timeline: September 2018 - April 2022

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)

Objective: To develop actionable policy scenarios bearing in mind the health impact of different sectors on health outcomes and validate them with stakeholders; to engage and build the capacity of these stakeholders to facilitate policy implementation; to develop an integrated analytical framework and develop locally-parameterised models for Dhaka city that will guide forming and integrating policy scenarios across sectors and quantify their impacts on health outcomes.

Methodology: Quantitative and Qualitative methods, spatial analysis and modelling with simulation.

Donor: Wellcome Trust, UK

Partner:

- Ames Research Center;
- Anzhen Hospital China;
- Arizona State University;
- Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research Consortium (CANUE);

- McGill University, Canada;
- Imperial College London, UK;
- Public Health England;
- Simon Fraser University Canada;
- Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health;
- The University of Chicago;
- Tsinghua University, China;
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst;
- University of British Columbia;
- University of Ghana.

- **ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS IN INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS FOR EQUITY (ARISE)**

PI: Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

Co-PI: Bachera Aktar, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

Coordinator: Bachera Aktar, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

Timeline: December 2018 - February 2024

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)

Objective: To catalyse change in approaches to enhancing accountability and improving the health and wellbeing of poor, marginalised people living in informal urban settlements.

Methodology: Mixed method

Donor: UK Research and Innovation's Global Challenges Research Fund.

Partners:

- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK;
- Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK;
- Institute of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow, UK;
- The University of York, UK;
- George Institute for Global Health, India;
- Slum/Shack Dwellers' International (SDI), India;
- African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Kenya;
- Liverpool VCT Health (LVCT Health), Kenya;
- Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), Njala University, Sierra Leone;
- College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), University of Sierra Leone.

- **ADVANCING INCLUSIVE AND RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT TARGETED AT THE URBAN POOR**

PI: Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

Co-PI: Dr Md. Tanvir Hasan, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

Coordinator:

- Md. Uzzal Chowdhury, Senior Statistician, BRAC JPGSPH;
- Rafiul Alam, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH

Timeline: August 2019 - June 2020

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)

Objective: To conduct social and poverty assessment of urban poor households of the low-income communities at the city level in Bangladesh through desk review and consultation with community-based organisations at city grass root level; to document the existing good practices, challenges and identifying investment opportunities in strengthening resilience for the urban poor.

Methodology: Mixed method

Donor: Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Partner: BRAC Urban Development Programme (UDP)

- **FORCED DISPLACEMENT AND EDUCATION: BUILDING THE EVIDENCE FOR WHAT WORKS**

PI: Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH

Co-PI: Samir Ranjan Nath, Programme Lead, BRAC IED.

Coordinator: Rasel Babu, Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

Focal: Saira Parvin, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

Timeline: October 2019 - April 2021.

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)

Objective: To Advance the understanding on education for the forcibly displaced as part of a broader education sector agenda of improving learning outcomes for populations living in poverty, exclusion, or distress; to improve its effectiveness regarding its role and contributions to facilitating transition and uptake from humanitarian education responses to long-term development agendas that can support sustainable access to quality education for the forcibly displaced and the communities that host them.

Methodology: Qualitative

Donor: The World Bank Group

Partner: American Institutes for Research (AIR)

- **BRAC HEALTH, NUTRITION AND POPULATION PROGRAMME (HNPP): IMPACT EVALUATION AND SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT OF SELECTED PROGRAMMES**

PI: Professor Zahidul Quayyum, Co-Director Research and Co-Director, CUEH, BRAC JPGSPH.

Co-Lead: Professor Syed Masud Ahmed, Director, CoE-HS&UHC, BRAC JPGSPH.

Technical Advisor:

- Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH;
- Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH.

Coordinator: Saira Parvin Jolly, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

Timeline: December 2019 - December 2020

Implemented Under:

- Centre of Excellence for Urban Equity and Health (CUEH)
- Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC)
- Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-Up (CoE-SISU)

Objective: The main objective of this study is to identify and evaluate the contributions of BRAC HNPP programmes as a set of changes in the lives of the disadvantaged population not limited to health only but spanning beyond to other sectors of development. A 'contribution analysis' approach is adopted by comparing between what happened and what would have happened in the absence of the programme. Thus, along with a credible and evidence-based narrative, the study aims at reviewing the 'value for money' propositions of the investments made based on the 'social return of investment' concept and DALYs averted to evaluate the overall impact of BRAC HNPP.

Methodology:

Cross-sectional study (both qualitative and quantitative approach)

Donor: BRAC HNPP