

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR HEALTH SYSTEMS AND UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE (CoE-HS&UHC)

Established in 2012, the Centre works with key partners and stakeholders in the government, private and NGO sectors to facilitate the efforts to accelerate evidence-informed, equitable and sustainable action towards Urban Health Coverage (UHC). As part of its core activities, the Centre works to generate essential evidence to further the establishment of UHC in Bangladesh; these include policy briefs and systematic reviews of key determinants of UHC including workforce, management, and information systems. Frameworks are produced on key functions of insurance systems related to provider networks, service packages, premiums, benefits and claims. Implementing research on UHC initiatives is also conducted with real-time monitoring and evaluation systems.

The Centre also develops core competencies around UHC through various accredited training programmes and short courses. These programmes are held with key implementing institutions of UHC in Bangladesh. Advocacy is another major core activity of the Centre, and is facilitated through forums, learning and research dissemination with local and global partners. National and international workshops, seminars and dialogues are also held focusing on key UHC issues.

RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2019

- **TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING AND ADVANCING UHC AGENDA IN BANGLADESH: THE ROLE OF FRONTLINE HEALTHCARE SERVICE PROVIDERS IN IMPROVING PERFORMANCE**

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

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

Coordinator: Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

Timeline: August 2017 - August 2021

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC)

Objective: To explore practices that are related to the delivery of responsive, equitable and quality services by the health care providers and managers at the PHC levels.

Methodology: Mixed method

Donor: UK Department for International Development (DFID)

Partners:

- School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS), University of London;
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), United Kingdom

- **A GLOBAL SOCIAL SCIENCES NETWORK FOR INFECTIOUS THREATS AND
ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (SONAR-GLOBAL)**

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

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

Coordinator: Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH.

Timeline: January 2019 - December 2021

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC)

Objective: Develop an open-access platform to support the Sonar-Global activities and to share them broadly; adapt, test, and evaluate vulnerability assessment tools on the ground and engagement models to facilitate collaboration across multiple stakeholders; create, pilot and evaluate curricula for training social scientists in preparedness and response to infectious threats and through curricular development and piloting social science knowledge of infectious threats among non-social sciences actors.

Methodology: Qualitative

Donor: European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme

Partners:

- Institut Pasteur (IP);
- Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD);
- Stichting Nederlands Instituut Voor Onderzoek Van De Gezondheidszorg (NIVEL);
- Medical University of Vienna (MUW);
- Mahidol University;
- Public Health Centre of the MoH of Ukraine;
- University College London (UCL);
- Makerere University (MU);
- Centre Regional De Recherche Et De Formation A La Prise En Charge Clinique Du Vih Sida et Maladies Associees de Dakar (CRCF);
- Institute of Development Studies (IDS);
- CENSIS;
- Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (LMU);
- University of Malta (UM);
- University of Ljubljani.

- **LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: EXPLORING THE HEALTHCARE-SEEKING BEHAVIOR OF
FLOATING POPULATION/STREET DWELLERS IN DHAKA CITY, BANGLADESH: A PILOT
STUDY**

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

Co-PI:

- Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH;
- Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

Coordinator:

- Dr Nahitun Naher, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC JPGSPH
- Samiun Nazrin Bente Kamal Tune, Senior Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH.

Timeline: January 2019 - June 2019

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC)

Objective:

- To explore the scenario regarding health care seeking behaviour and available health care services;
- To identify gaps at the policy and programme levels for achieving universal health coverage in Bangladesh by 2030 for the street dwellers and floating population.

Methodology: Qualitative

Partner: BRAC Advocacy Department

Donor: BRAC Advocacy Department

- A CASE STUDY ON UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE- GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY- HEALTH PROMOTION TRIANGLE: BANGLADESH

PI: Professor Malabika Sarker, Associate Dean and Director, CoE-SISU, BRAC JPGSPH.

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

Focal: Dr Mrityika Barua, Assistant Scientist, BRAC JPGSPH

Timeline: March 2019 - December 2019

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage (CoE-HS&UHC) and

Centre of Excellence for Science of Implementation and Scale-up (CoE-SISU)

Objective: To explore the characteristics of UHC, HS, and HP in Bangladesh with respect to existing policy and practices, focal agencies, key actors, synergies in the triangle, and identify gaps which needs attention; to explore the perceptions and experiences of the relevant stakeholders in policy and practice regarding the UHC, HS and HP triangle, both when these are aligned ('synergies') and not aligned ('fragmentation'), underlying causes of such alignment (or 'fragmentation'), and identify challenges of overcoming these gaps to build synergy; to arrive at a consensus on these issues and to suggest a way forward towards the development of a unified health system which is people centred, equitable, financially protected and resilient to infectious disease threats and AMR.

Methodology: Qualitative

Donor: Wellcome Trust

Partner: University of Heidelberg, Germany

- **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