covid collective

The Covid Collective offers a rapid social science research response to inform decision-making on some of the most pressing Covid-19 related development challenges

The Covid Collective research platform offers rapid social science research to inform decision-making on some of the most pressing development challenges related to Covid-19. The global Covid-19 pandemic is an unprecedented crisis requiring rapid generation of policy-relevant evidence to inform decision-making as we move from crisis to recovery phase and beyond.

The Covid Collective research platform brings together the expertise of global partner organisations, coordinated by the Institute of Development Studies. The first phase of the Covid Collective ran from August 2020 to March 2022.

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Foreword

In early 2020, the world became aware of a new global threat. Covid-19 spread rapidly, upending the lives and livelihoods of people around the world. With support from the Research and Evidence Division of the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, we initiated a new social science research programme that focused on the impact of the pandemic called the Covid Collective.

Given the scale of the challenge, we wanted the Collective – as its name suggests – to be highly collaborative, involving effective partnerships and engagement. The purpose of the Collective is to generate research and knowledge in response to the most pressing development challenges emerging from the pandemic. This required rapid generation of policy-relevant evidence to inform decision-making, as we moved from crisis to recovery phase and beyond. We saw a need for transformations in perspective, worldview, and practice, and we believed that this could be achieved through a genuine integration of social science alongside other scientific approaches being adopted to address this global crisis.

The situation was fluid and dynamic and it is painful to look back at our project documentation and to see how the numbers of lives lost increased so dramatically: from 650,000 deaths by the end of July 2020 to 6.5m by September 2022. At the same time, we saw the enormous impact on citizens around the world as they came to terms with multiple challenges. These included citizens dealing with unpredictable policy responses, leading in turn to issues of trust in governance institutions; and the negative impacts of the pandemic on the lives and livelihoods of those people who were already experiencing marginalisation, exclusion, and a range of vulnerabilities.

Against this backdrop, the Collective initially brought together the expertise of eight global partner organisations, including and coordinated by, the Institute of Development Studies. The work was extensive, rapid,

and agile, with a growing partnership, complementary funding mechanisms, and a widening geographical and thematic spread.

Over less than two years, we have been privileged to see the initial partnership expand to 28 partners, with 56 projects in 34 countries. Along the way, there were significant challenges in carrying out research due to restrictions on movement, and a changing, dynamic situation that in some countries included outbreaks of conflict. Researchers have reflected on these challenges and important lessons are being learned and shared more widely through different forms of engagement and dialogue. They have provided important real-time evidence, data, and analysis; and generated compelling, research-based arguments and options for doing things differently in a recovery period and beyond.

The Covid Collective has in many ways confirmed a wider reality. The pandemic has created an unprecedented crisis for development with highly uncertain outcomes, affecting and requiring responses from all countries. Dominant development models are being undone, but seeds of hope are also emerging for a radical transformation of development. The Collective's research shows in multiple ways how Covid-19 is threatening livelihoods, economies, and societies. Responses are exposing, and potentially deepening, foundational cracks in society, heightening fragilities and vulnerabilities in systems of all kinds. The impact is playing out at local, national, and global scales.

Whilst the Collective's collaborators, and the many communities and organisations they work with, have helped to identify strategies and approaches to address short- and mid-term needs and challenges, they have also demonstrated that this is a time of opportunity. We are learning together about what could lead to a genuine transformation of ideas, policies, programmes, and practices. We are seeing collective urgency in fostering collaborative and comparative learning across the experience of different countries and localities; and in finding ways to avoid returning (via recovery) to conditions that do not serve us well.

We hope the examples of research in this brochure will provide evidence that a systemic transformation, even going beyond 'building forward better', is not just a possibility but should instead be a priority.

Peter Taylor
Director of Research at the Institute of Development Studies

> **Dominant development models are being undone, but seeds of hope are also emerging for a radical transformation of development.**

56 PROJECTS
28 PARTNERS
34 COUNTRIES

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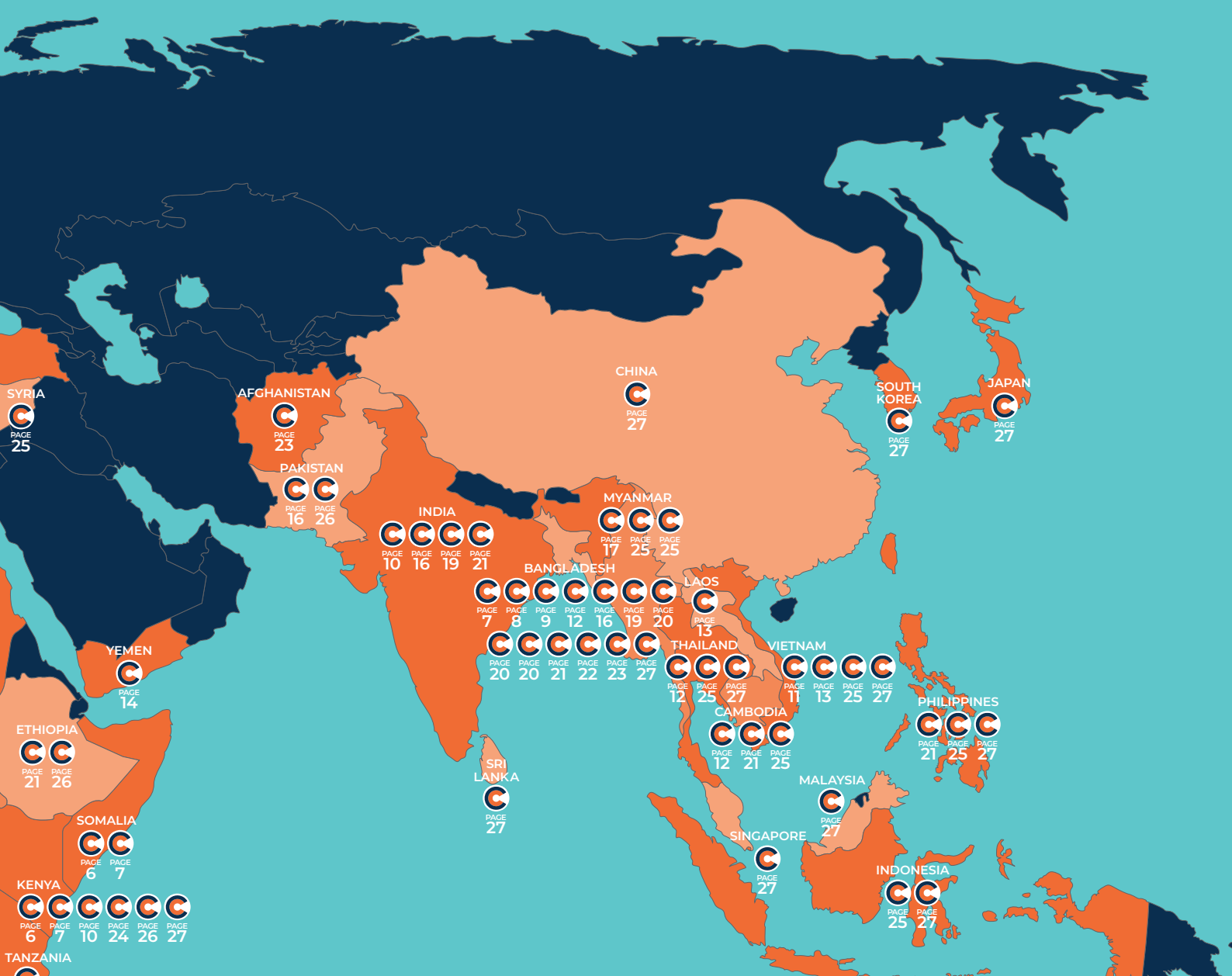
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THEMES

- SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INCLUSION
- GOVERNANCE
- HUMANITARIAN
- CONFLICT

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African Cities and Covid-19 – Learning and Building Knowledge: Developmental Coalitions in Informal Settlements

KENYA, SOMALIA, UGANDA, NIGERIA

Lead partner

University of Manchester Global Development Institute (GDI)

Overview

This action-research project has involved three local research teams in Nairobi, Kampala, and Mogadishu who have carried out focus groups, interviews, and developed outreach activities. The objective of this research is to understand pandemic response and trace how the pandemic has disrupted the everyday life of the majority and often poor households. Moreover, the study seeks to uncover how the Covid-19 pandemic led to collective action in response to various needs, including new collaborations between various state and non-state actors.

Preliminary findings display the complex impacts and often highly inequitable burdens of national restrictions (including lockdowns), while also leading to various bottom-up responses in low-income urban areas. The majority poor households are highly dependent on informal businesses; trade and markets became restricted, sometimes overnight, with loss of income.
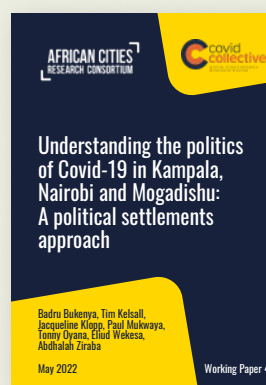
Note: *You can access all key outputs by clicking on the titles.*
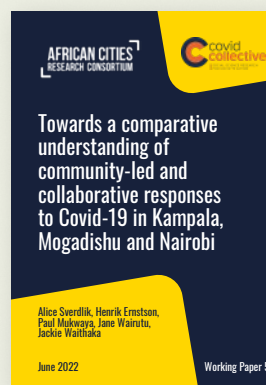
KEY OUTPUTS

◄ **CASE STUDY**
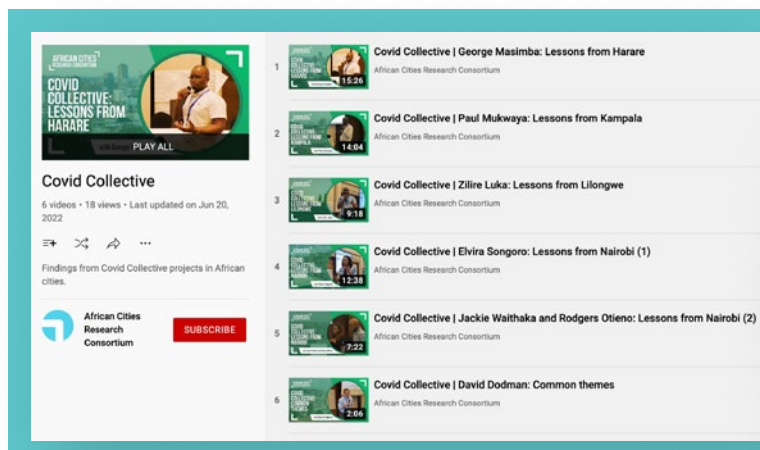Community Mapping in Kenya Improves State Covid-19 Response

◄ **PAPER**
Understanding the politics of Covid-19 in Kampala, Nairobi and Mogadishu: A political settlements approach

◄ **PAPER**
Towards a comparative understanding of community-led and collaborative responses to Covid-19 in Kampala, Mogadishu and Nairobi

Video

Watch researchers from the African Cities consortium share their findings.

African Cities and Covid-19 – Learning and Building Knowledge: Political Settlements

KENYA, SOMALIA, UGANDA

Lead partner

University of Manchester Global Development Institute (GDI)

Overview

Working in three African cities, the project focuses on the ways in which political settlements are influencing government policy, programming, and practice during the Covid-19 crisis. The team analyses pandemic response measures, looking at a range of interventions including health services, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), quarantine measures, the protection of key workers, social protection, and economic assistance programmes.

Through a comparative analysis, the project explores what lessons can be drawn about how political settlements shape the governance variables that have been identified as critical in defining the success of the response – including state capabilities, perceived legitimacy/trust, and the ability to learn lessons from earlier health crises.

KEY OUTPUTS

CASE STUDY
Community Mapping in Kenya Improves State Covid-19 Response

BLOG
The Disproportionate Response to Covid-19 in Informal Urban Settlements

◀ **RESEARCH REPORT**
Covid-19: Community Resilience in Urban Informal Settlements

Agile Grant for Young Researchers for Conducting Small-Scale, Focused Research on Covid-19

BANGLADESH

Lead partner

BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Overview

The rapid accumulation of quantitative and qualitative data on the Covid-19 pandemic in Bangladesh and the broader socioeconomic and humanitarian effects of the pandemic have created a need for small-scale in-depth analysis and/or complementary secondary or primary (qualitative) research.

This project facilitates this type of small-scale study, conducted by promising young researchers competitively selected from among the students of BIGD's Master of Development Studies (MDS) programme. In addition to providing valuable new insights, the study builds the capacity of young social science researchers and practical research capacity for the future.

Authoritarian Responses to Covid-19: Humanitarianism and Displacement

GLOBAL

Lead partner

Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

Research partners

Action Aid international, World Vision International

Overview

This project looks at the links between discrimination and marginalisation of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) and authoritarianism during the Covid-19 pandemic. Using examples and cases from different global contexts, the study examines how the dynamics of marginalisation, authoritarianism, Covid responses, and international humanitarian law obligations interact at local to national scales and explores what the implications are, if any, for humanitarianism, peace, and stability in areas hosting large volumes of displaced populations.

KEY OUTPUTS

PAPER
The Right to Protection of Forcibly Displaced Persons During the Covid-19 Pandemic
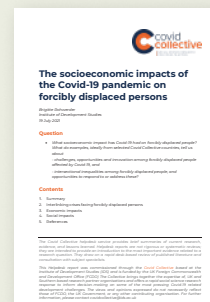
◀ **REPORT**
The Socioeconomic Impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Forcibly Displaced Persons

IDS BULLETIN
Humanitarianism and Covid-19: Structural Dilemmas, Fault Lines and New Perspectives

# Breathing Space: Could Humanitarian Ceasefires Support Covid-19 Health-Care Campaigns?

GLOBAL

Lead partner

University of Edinburgh, PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Overview

This project explores the conflict–peace–Covid-19 nexus by examining how 'humanitarian ceasefires', 'Days of Tranquillity', and 'Health for Peace' initiatives have historically facilitated access for vaccination campaigns in conflict-affected contexts, in order to assess potential opportunities for, and limitations of, Covid-19 vaccination roll-outs and public health campaigns.

KEY OUTPUTS
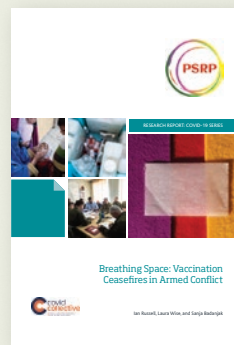
◀ **REPORT**
Breathing Space: Vaccination Ceasefires in Armed Conflict

REPORT
Shots for Peace? Vaccination Ceasefires and the Fight Against Covid-19

DATASET
VaxxPax: A Dataset of Vaccination Ceasefires

Challenges and Prospects of Youth Employment in Post-Covid-19 Scenarios
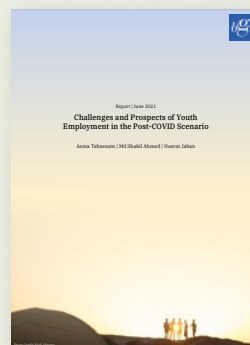
BANGLADESH

Lead partner

BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Overview

This study looks at the employment challenges faced by youth in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic and suggests actionable strategies to policymakers and practitioners. The project examines how youth livelihoods have been affected, which occupations have suffered the most because of Covid-19, and which are creating new opportunities for young people. The study also tries to identify the nature of skill-development activities of the youth during the long closure of educational institutes. The study also looks at the mental health impacts on young people and how their aspirations about the future have changed.

KEY OUTPUTS

◀ **REPORT**
Challenges and Prospects of Youth Employment in the Post-Covid Scenario

BLOG
Bearing the Brunt: The Impact of Covid-19 on Women's Employment in Bangladesh

Co-balt 19 (Covid, Cobalt and Community)

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Lead partner

African Resources Watch (AfreWatch)

Research partner

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Overview

The health impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic in the DRC have been relatively low. However, a six-month 'lockdown' and a slowdown in international markets has exacerbated existing poverty levels and exposed structural weaknesses in the market, social, and political economic system – leaving already vulnerable people unprotected. This research looks at the impacts and experiences of the Covid-19 pandemic on communities dependent on artisanal and small-scale (ASM) cobalt mining in the Kolwezi area of the DRC.

This is a highly politicised sector reliant on international markets, structurally intertwined with large-scale mining companies and buyers, rife with corruption, high levels of informality, low levels of food security, and significant levels of poverty-driven child labour and criminal activity.

KEY OUTPUTS

AFREWATCH 2020

BLOG
Mining Cobalt Better

Covid-19 and Disability 👥🤝

TURKEY

Lead partner

Koç University

Research partner

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

Overview

This research explores the experiences of Syrian refugees living with disabilities in Istanbul during the Covid-19 pandemic, including their inclusion in response measures. The project supports the Turkish government, aid agencies involved in the refugee response, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and other actors' responses to Covid-19 in real time.

The project complements research already being supported by the Covid Collective in Vietnam, Ghana, Bangladesh, and India. Data are being reviewed across all locations to analyse patterns and used to develop guidance on the meaningful inclusion of people with disabilities in future epidemics and emergencies.

KEY OUTPUTS

◄ **ARTICLE**

The pandemic has exacerbated the challenges faced by persons with disabilities

Covid-19 Global Ceasefire Tracker 🤝🌳

GLOBAL

Lead partner

University of Edinburgh, PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Overview

The project explores the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on conflicts and their respective peace processes following the UN call for a global ceasefire, by developing innovative digital tools and data to monitor and track the conflict–peace–Covid-19 nexus. It is creating new digital platforms for visualising and processing peace data, for the benefit of both the research community and those directly involved in resolving armed conflicts by means of peace negotiations.

KEY OUTPUTS

◄ **MEDIA**

Ceasefires in a Time of Covid-19

RESEARCH PAPER

Pandemic Pauses: Understanding Ceasefires in a Time of Covid-19

DATA

Covid-19 Trackers Library

Covid-19 Infections in the Slums: An Anthropological Exploration 👥

BANGLADESH

Lead partner

BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Research partner

University of Sussex

Overview

How are residents of informal settlements coping with the health risks of the Covid-19 pandemic? How are they managing and adapting their lives, protecting themselves, and accessing health services? The findings of this study inform practitioners working in the slum areas of the needs of their target groups, and help them design interventions accordingly.

KEY OUTPUTS

RESEARCH BRIEF

Covid-19: Community Resilience in Urban Informal Settlements

WORKING PAPER

Slums During Covid-19: Exploring the Unlocked Paradoxes

◄ **REPORT**

"Paradox" of Korail Slum During Covid-19: Ethnography of Governance from Below

Covid-19 Vaccination Roll-Out in Informal Low-Income Settlements

INDIA, MALAWI, UGANDA, ZIMBABWE

Lead partner
University of Manchester Global Development Institute (GDI)

Research partners
ACTogether Uganda, Centre for Community Organisation and Development (CCODE), Dialogue on Shelter Trust (DoSt), Zimbabwe, Slum Dwellers International-Kenya (SDI-K), Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centers (SPARC)

Overview
The objective of this study is to contribute to understanding of the vaccine roll-out in inner-city informal settlements and to help ensure equity in vaccine distribution. The project gathered data through a fortnightly survey of community leaders in inner-city settlements in major towns.

The intention behind monitoring in these areas is that they are under-serviced and over-crowded. Hence, they are high-risk locations with respect to Covid-19. Prioritised access to Covid-19 vaccines is therefore one of many measures needed to help.

The provision of the survey data will enable relevant local professionals and national-level advocacy groups to monitor vaccine roll-out for inner-city informal settlement residents, identify potential inequalities in access, and enable public pressure from residents' associations and grass-roots organisations to rectify this situation as required.

KEY OUTPUTS

IDS BULLETIN
Humanitarianism and Covid-19: Structural Dilemmas, Fault Lines, and New Perspectives

◄ BLOG
The Disproportionate Response to Covid-19 in Informal Urban Settlements

VIDEO
Covid-19 Vaccination Chat Film on People's Perspectives on Vaccination Roll-Out

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Covid-19: The Changing Nature of State–Business Relations and Implications for Participation in Global Value Chains

KENYA

Lead partner
Centre for African Bio-Entrepreneurship (CABE)

Research partner
Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

Overview
A significant amount of global trade is conducted through an integrated system of global value chains. Trade through these value chains was already undergoing a process of reconfiguration when the global pandemic hit. This research explores how political economy, specifically domestic state–business relations (SBR) in East Africa, is influencing policy responses to Covid-19, how this response is further reshaping value chains, and the implications of these dynamics for inclusive and sustainable development.

The project identifies two sectors where businesses have experienced contrasting fortunes because of the pandemic, and analyses how policy responses to Covid-19 influenced the interests and capabilities of firms to engage with global and/or regional value chains and the role played by state–business interactions in these dynamics.

KEY OUTPUTS
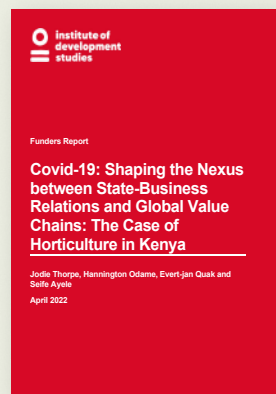
REPORT
Covid-19: Shaping the Nexus between State-Business Relations and Global Value Chains: The Case of Horticulture in Kenya

Creating High-Frequency Economic Time-Series for Better Policymaking Where Official Data are Sparse

GLOBAL

Lead partner

Center for Global Development (CGD)

Overview

The study explores how the high-frequency metrics of household consumption, employment, and commercial activity can be identified, combined, and benchmarked against existing government data to provide accurate and timely information about the economy of low-income countries.

Disability and Covid-19 in Vietnam

VIETNAM

Lead partner

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

Research partner

Hanoi University of Public Health (HUPH)

Overview

This research, led by the International Centre for Evidence in Disability (ICED) at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) provides an additional setting in an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) country from which to explore the experience of people with disabilities during the pandemic.

Vietnam has been considered a model case for its successful containment of Covid-19, although the rigorous containment measures have been acknowledged to have had social and economic consequences amongst the general population. Additionally, the research is exploring the inclusion of people with disabilities in vaccine roll-out and includes a quantitative component, with a survey of people with and without disabilities in the three largest cities to triangulate findings within the qualitative research and offers comparisons of the experience between people with and without disabilities.

European Union External Action Service and the EU's Response to Covid-19: Capacity, Agility, Effectiveness?

GLOBAL

Lead partner

University of Edinburgh, PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Overview

The European Union has been active in providing assistance and humanitarian aid in developing and post-conflict areas. This project considers the internal reporting, media coverage, and social media coverage to answer the question of whether these programmes have had the capacity to deliver their intended aims while disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Evidence to Support the Inclusion of People with Disabilities in the Covid-19 Response

BANGLADESH, GHANA

Lead partner
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

Research partners
BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

University of Ghana

Overview

This project produces evidence and learning to support the inclusion of people with disabilities in the Covid-19 response. In-depth interviews were conducted with people with disabilities in two countries – across a range of impairments, age groups, and contexts – to examine people with disabilities' experiences and their ideas for solutions to the challenges they are facing.

The emphasis is on understanding the needs of people with disabilities, and how the Covid-19 response can be tailored to ensure their inclusion in responses is supported by the FCDO and other agencies. The in-depth interviews with participants in the first phase of the study are repeated at six to nine months, to consider the ongoing impacts of the pandemic, and how people with disabilities can be effectively included in recovery efforts.

KEY OUTPUTS

ARTICLE

Triple Jeopardy: Disabled People and the Covid-19 Pandemic

◄ JOURNAL

Disability Among Older People: Analysis of Data from Disability Surveys in Six Low- and Middle-Income Countries

JOURNAL

Are Older People with Disabilities Neglected in the Covid-19 Pandemic?

Exploring the Nexus of Covid-19, Precarious Migration, and Child Labour on the Cambodian-Thai Border

CAMBODIA, THAILAND

Lead partner
Analyzing Development Issues Centre (ADIC)

Research partners
Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Akphivat Neary Khmer Organization (ANKO), Aphiwat Strey

Overview

This project investigates the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Cambodian cross-border migrants and explores links between these shifting patterns of migration and the prevalence and type of child labour within this vulnerable population.

Conditions for migrant workers, both in Thailand and at home in Cambodia, have been degrading consistently since the onset of the pandemic. Government restrictions in Thailand, especially the border closure in February 2020, saw the rate of return migration to Cambodia increasing.

The interviews suggested that while not all respondents are children or respondents who engage the children to work with, there are cases of adolescents who left school due to poverty or lack of resources to support their schooling needs. This means that there is an increase in the numbers of children migrating and entering the workforce.

KEY OUTPUTS

POLICY BRIEF

Migrating Perils: Covid-19 Restrictions Disparage Cambodian Migrant Workers, Blurring Legal Status Amid Thai Border Closures

Forgotten Agenda: Including Women with Disabilities and their SRHR Needs Under the Covid-19 Epidemic in South Africa

SOUTH AFRICA

Lead partner
South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC)

Overview
This project seeks to understand the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on young women with disabilities and without disabilities. The project follows 72 young women between 18 and 26 years (half with and half without disabilities) through the pandemic and assesses how these women experience the pandemic over time and during different lockdown levels.

This longitudinal study uses qualitative and quantitative data collection tools and Photovoice to document participants' living conditions; Covid-19 experiences; mental health; sexual and reproductive health (SRH) needs; access to services and commodities; exposure to violence, including intimate partner violence (IPV); and how these changed over time. The project also provides a platform for young women with disabilities to share their experiences in research and their daily lives during the Covid-19 pandemic.
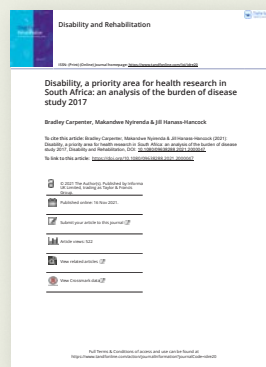
KEY OUTPUTS

WEBINAR
Webinar Tackles the Challenges of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights of Young Women with Disabilities

WEBINAR
People with Disabilities, Research Ethics and Processes Under the Covid-19 Pandemic

◀ **PAPER**
Disability: A Priority Area for Health Research in South Africa: An Analysis of the Burden of Disease Study 2017

Governance of Equitable Access to Vaccination and Food Security for Internal Migrants in Vietnam and Laos

LAOS, VIETNAM

Lead partner
Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

Research partners
Center for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population (CCIHP), Faculty of Public Health, University of Health Sciences, Lao PDR, Vietnamese National University of Agriculture (VNUA)
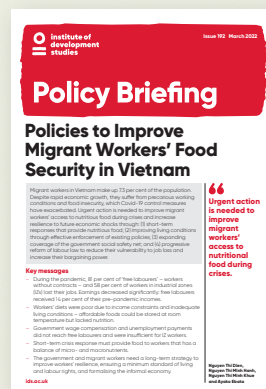
Overview
This project aims to understand the governance of access to vaccination and food for internal migrants in urban and peri-urban areas in Laos and Vietnam to improve policies to ensure both effectiveness and the equity of the state's vaccination and food policies.

The research is working on four levels: (1) exploring the rationales used to explain unequal practices that exclude migrants or vulnerable people from access to health care and services; (2) identifying a fair, transparent, and inclusive response to Covid-19 which includes rural migrants in peri-urban and urban areas; (3) understanding how Covid-19 lockdown measures have affected migrants' access to healthy and nutritious food and; (4) identifying formal or informal mechanisms that might have helped migrant workers maintain access to nutritious food.

KEY OUTPUTS

WORKING PAPER
How Did Covid-19 Affect Food and Nutrition Security of Migrant Workers in Northern Vietnam?

◀ **POLICY BRIEFING**
Policies to Improve Migrant Workers' Food Security in Vietnam

How Countries in Different Contexts Should Manage the Pandemic

GLOBAL

Lead partner
Center for Global Development (CGD)

Overview
The study looks at how differences in incomes affect citizens' willingness to change behaviour and forego consumption to reduce disease risk. This provides important policy input for decision makers trying to identify optimal containment strategies and balance the health, economic, and social costs of the pandemic response.

KEY OUTPUTS

◄ **WORKING PAPER**

The Macro-economics of Pandemics in Developing Countries: An Application to Uganda

BLOG

Lives vs Livelihoods Revisited: Should Poorer Countries with Younger Populations Have Equally Strict Lockdowns?

How is the Peace and Conflict Nexus with Covid-19 Shaping the Responses of Local Actors and Systems of Local Governance in Yemen?

YEMEN

Lead partner
Yemen Polling Centre (YPC)

Research partner
University of Edinburgh, PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Overview
Building on an initial pilot project, this study is conducting a longer-term analysis of how the Covid-19 pandemic is impacting everyday life alongside the ongoing conflict in Yemen. With a focus on security, health response, and community actors, women, and other societal leaders, the project is conducting interviews and running an expert focus group to understand how local systems and stakeholders shape ongoing transitions and processes in conflict settings, and how Covid-19 has impacted ongoing dynamics between conflict actors and daily modalities of societal subsistence.

As an outcome, the project is providing additional indicators as to how local actors shape local systems of societal response, and how women in Yemen and local actors view the current position of the peace process in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.

KEY OUTPUTS

◄ **POLICY REPORT**

Covid-19 and State–Community Relations in Taiz

BLOG

Taiz and the Health–Peace Nexus Governing Covid-19 in the City

RESEARCH FOR POLICY AND PRACTISE PAPER

Covid-19: Community Resilience in Urban Informal Settlements

# How the International Community Needs to Respond to the Pandemic

GLOBAL

Lead partner
Center for Global Development (CGD)

Overview
This project is tracking disbursement of World Bank funds to contribute to understanding the extent to which multilateral institutions and the international community are responding effectively to mitigate the economic effect of the pandemic on low- and middle-income countries.

KEY OUTPUTS
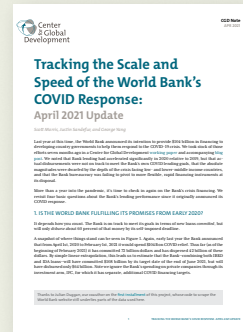
◀ **REPORT**

Tracking the Scale and Speed of the World Bank's Covid-19 Response: April 2021 Update

WORKING PAPER

Is the World Bank's Covid-19 Crisis Lending Big Enough, Fast Enough? New Evidence on Loan Disbursements

BLOG

The World Bank's Response to Our Analysis of its Covid Relief Efforts

How the Pandemic is Affecting the Infection Fatality Rate in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

GLOBAL

Lead partner
Center for Global Development (CGD)

Overview
This research analyses data on levels of exposure to coronavirus, to try to improve infection fatality rate (IFR) predictions and refine epidemiological modelling. The study is examining how differences in demography, comorbidities, and health system capacity affect the mortality risk.

KEY OUTPUTS

◀ **BLOG**

How Biden Can End "Vaccine Apartheid"

WORKING PAPER

Three New Estimates of India's All-Cause Excess Mortality during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Impact of Covid-19 on Peace Processes: South Sudan and Sudan

SUDAN

Lead partner
University of Edinburgh, PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Research partner
Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ASPR)

Overview
Both the Sudan and the South Sudan peace processes were at critical stages in their development when the pandemic hit, with the Sudan negotiations (Juba process) temporarily stopped, and the South Sudan peace implementation severely delayed. After more than a year of Covid-19 response, the mid-term effects of the pandemic are now possible to assess.

The project explores to what extend the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted ongoing peace negotiations in Sudan and peace process implementation in South Sudan.

Impact of Covid-19 on People with Disabilities in India 👥

INDIA

Lead partner

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

Research partners

Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Hyderabad, Public Health Foundation India (PHFI)

Overview

This research explores the experiences of people with disabilities in India during the Covid-19 pandemic, including their inclusion in response measures. It supports the Indian government, the FCDO, and other actors' responses to Covid-19 in real time.

The project complements research already being supported by the Covid Collective in Bangladesh, Ghana, Vietnam, and Turkey. Data are being reviewed across all locations to analyse patterns and it is being used to develop guidance on the meaningful inclusion of people with disabilities in future epidemics and emergencies.

Impact of Covid-19 on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) 👥

BANGLADESH

Lead partner

BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Research partner

Monash University

Overview

One of two studies building on existing survey work to collect high-frequency longitudinal data to identify trends and inform effective intervention design for vulnerable groups economically affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

This study focuses on the impact of Covid-19 on small and medium enterprises (SMEs), their access to government support, coping mechanisms, and needs.

KEY OUTPUTS

◄ **WORKING PAPER**
The Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Small and Medium Enterprises in Bangladesh

BLOG
Microenterprises are Struggling and in need of Support

REPORT
SMEs During COVID-19: Business Activities, Employability, and Stimulus Package

Informality and Trust in Times of Covid-19 👥👥

PAKISTAN

Lead partner

Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

Research partners

Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Akhuwat, HomeNet, Kashf

Overview

The project looks at how states have engaged with informal economies and workers during the Covid-19 pandemic, how informality has affected workers' access to crisis support, and how these outcomes have affected state–society relationships and the underlying accountability processes. In particular, the project is examining the role of trust between informal workers and state institutions and how differences such as gender, profession, and previous interaction with state institutions have affected engagement with state policies during the pandemic, as well as gender relations within households.

Focusing on four sectors – domestic workers, market vendors, transport workers, and home-based manufacturing – the study provides useful guidance for policymakers on areas such as the inclusiveness and effectiveness of crisis support, and willingness to participate in state-led vaccination initiatives.

KEY OUTPUTS

IDS BULLETIN

Humanitarianism and Covid-19: Structural Dilemmas, Fault Lines, and New Perspectives

Innovative Network Mapping of Post-Coup Governance in the Pandemic 🧑‍🤝‍🧑

MYANMAR

Lead partner

University of Edinburgh, PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Overview

This project is designing a way to track the fast-changing permutations of actors and new institutions being created in Myanmar to support understanding of how these new constellations of actors and competing structures of 'interim governance' are impacting on Covid-19 operations.

The project supports international country teams in the design of constructive interventions and enables better understanding of their different positions and capacity for support – for both Covid-19 relief and for addressing other ongoing health issues.

Intercultural Communication for Effective Covid-19 Response in Amazonian Indigenous Territories 🧑‍🤝‍🧑

BRAZIL

Lead partner

Associação Saúde Sem Limites (SSL)

Research partner

Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

Overview

This action-research study identifies the key barriers to effective communication between government health services and Amazonian indigenous communities who have been found to be particularly vulnerable to Covid-19, and translates the findings into a proof-of-concept design for improved intercultural communication strategies for ensuring (1) access to reliable information on Covid-19 prevention and treatment, and (2) trust and cooperation between communities and non-indigenous health professionals for contact tracing, referral and response monitoring and social accountability.

The project is producing a scalable support platform and accessible guidance materials appropriate for use with indigenous people elsewhere in Brazil and beyond.

Investigating Covid-19 Education Policy Response in Ghana 🧑‍🤝‍🧑

GHANA

Lead partner

Institute for Educational Planning and Administration (IEPA)

Research partner

Center for Global Development (CGD)

Overview

This project supports the Institute for Educational Planning and Administration (IEPA) in Ghana to provide policymakers with rigorous research and data to help them answer the most pressing education policy questions related to the Covid-19 pandemic, prioritising re-enrolment (especially girls); measuring lost learning; and policies for reopening and catch-up.

Similar projects funded by the Covid Collective and supported by the Center for Global Development (CGD) are taking place in Malawi and Senegal.

KEY OUTPUTS

BLOG
Research Consortium on Progress and Resilience in Education

BLOG
What Happened to Dropout Rates After Covid-19 School Closures in Ghana?

◄ **BLOG**
How Did Students Recover Learning Loss During Covid-19 School Closures in Ghana?

Investigating Covid-19 Education Policy Response in Malawi

MALAWI

Lead partner
Centre for Educational Research and Training (CERT)

Research partner
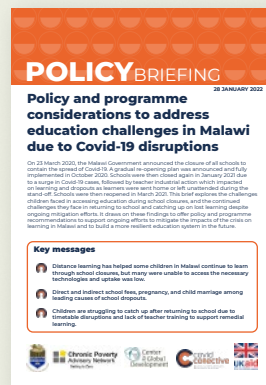Center for Global Development (CGD)

Overview

This project supports the Centre for Educational Research and Training (CERT) in Malawi to provide policymakers with rigorous research and data to help them answer the most pressing education policy questions related to the Covid-19 pandemic, prioritising re-enrolment (especially girls); measuring lost learning; and policies for reopening and catch-up.

Similar projects funded by the Covid Collective and supported by the Center for Global Development (CGD) are taking place in Ghana and Senegal.

KEY OUTPUTS

BLOG

PREPARE to Succeed: A Research Consortium on Progress and Resilience in Education

◀ **POLICY BRIEFING**

Policy and Programme Considerations to Address Education Challenges in Malawi Due to Covid-19 Disruptions

BLOG

Covid-19 Reveals Deep Flaws in Education Systems: Evidence from Malawi

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Investigating Covid-19 Education Policy Response in Senegal

SENEGAL

Lead partner
Centre de Recherche pour le Développement Économique et Social (CDRES), Gaston Berger University of Saint-Louis

Research partner
Center for Global Development (CGD)

Overview

This project supports Centre de Recherche pour le Développement Économique et Social (CDRES) in Senegal to provide policymakers with rigorous research and data to help them answer the most pressing education policy questions related to the Covid-19 pandemic, prioritising re-enrolment (especially girls); measuring lost learning; and policies for reopening and catch-up.

Similar projects funded by the Covid Collective and supported by the Center for Global Development (CGD) are taking place in Malawi and Ghana.

KEY OUTPUTS

BLOG

PREPARE to Succeed: A Research Consortium on Progress and Resilience in Education
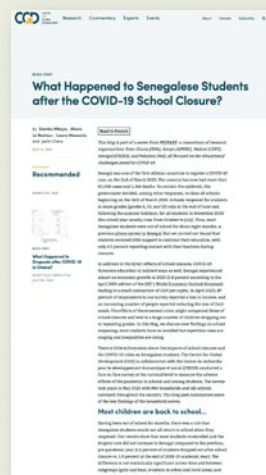
◀ **BLOG**

What Happened to Senegalese Students after the Covid-19 School Closure?

Landscape of RMG-Related Trade Unions in Bangladesh: A Stakeholder Mapping

BANGLADESH

Lead partner

BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Research partner

Accountability Research Centre of American University

Overview

Building on a study of the higher-level political economy of Bangladesh, this project is conducting a deeper stakeholder mapping of Trade Unions (TUs) and Workers' Participatory Councils (WPCs) in the ready-made garment (RMG) sector, a crucial sector for foreign exchange and employment generation for the country.

The project assesses the policy and institutional reforms needed for enabling TUs/WPCs to play a more effective role in establishing and maintaining disciplined, peaceful, productive, and positive industrial relations.

KEY OUTPUTS

◀ **BLOG**

Impact of Covid-19 on RMG Sector: The False Narrative

Leaving No One Behind in Digital Delivery of Public Services

INDIA, PERU, TANZANIA

Lead partner

Southern Voice

Research partners

CBGA, India, IEP, Peru, STIPRO, Tanzania

Overview

The project is generating evidence of how rapid digitalisation of public service delivery due to the pandemic has shaped the lives of those already living in exclusion, especially women. Southern Voice's project is generating evidence on this in three countries – India, Peru, and Tanzania. It examines the extent to which digital policies and practices are increasing inequalities among women and limiting the fulfilment of their economic and social rights.

The aim is to give those working on issues of digital access, at the country and global level, evidence on interventions and practical insights. These can be used for policy reform and global cooperation, ultimately reducing the gender technological divide.

Learn more about Southern Voice's work on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic in the global South from the **website**.

KEY OUTPUTS

BLOG

How Digitalization is Impacting Business Registration in Tanzania
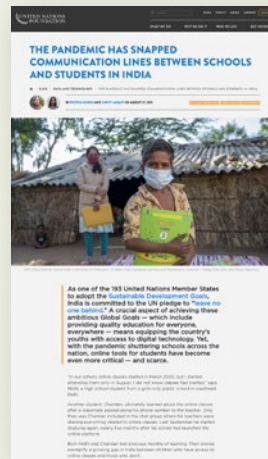
◀ **BLOG**

The Pandemic Has Snapped Communication Lines Between Schools and Students in India

BLOG

Peru: Gender Gaps in Digital Higher Education During the Pandemic

Livelihood Transitions and Coping with Shocks: Women in the RMG Sector Coping with Covid-19 👥

BANGLADESH

Lead partner
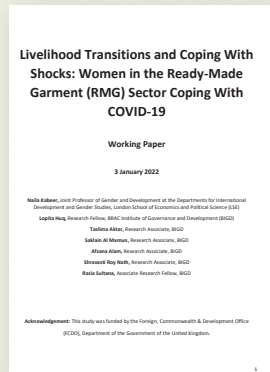BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Research partner
London School of Economics

Overview
One of two gender-focused studies looking at the livelihoods of women working in the ready-made garment (RMG) and domestic service sectors – sectors crucial for women's employment and economic empowerment. The study gathered evidence of how the Covid-19 pandemic is affecting the women working in these sectors, their livelihood transitions, and coping strategies, to help identify interventions that can be useful for their recovery.

KEY OUTPUTS

Livelihood Transitions and Coping With Shocks: Women in the Ready-Made Garment (RMG) Sector Coping With COVID-19

Working Paper

3 January 2022

Naila Kabeer, Joint Professor of Gender and Development at the Departments for International Development and Gender Studies, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
Lopita Huq, Research Fellow, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)
Taslima Aktar, Research Associate, BIGD
Saklain Al Mamun, Research Associate, BIGD
Afsana Alam, Research Associate, BIGD
Shravasti Roy Nath, Research Associate, BIGD
Razia Sultana, Associate Research Fellow, BIGD

Acknowledgement: This study was funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Department of the Government of the United Kingdom.

◀ **WORKING PAPER**
Livelihood Transitions and Coping with Shocks: Women in the Ready-Made Garment (RMG) Sector Coping with Covid-19

MEDIA
Breaks at work: a right, not a privilege

Livelihood Transitions and Coping with Shocks: Women in the Domestic Service Sector Coping with Covid-19 👥
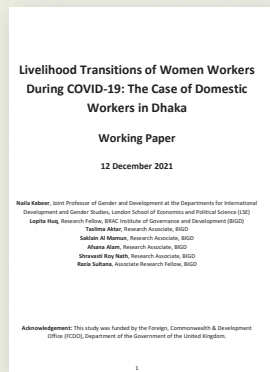
BANGLADESH

Lead partner
BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Overview
One of two gender-focused studies looking at the livelihoods of women working in the ready-made garment (RMG) and domestic service sectors – sectors crucial for women's employment and economic empowerment. The study gathered evidence of how the Covid-19 pandemic is affecting the women working in these sectors, their livelihood transitions, and coping strategies, to help identify interventions that can be useful for their recovery.

KEY OUTPUTS

Livelihood Transitions of Women Workers During COVID-19: The Case of Domestic Workers in Dhaka

Working Paper

12 December 2021

Naila Kabeer, Joint Professor of Gender and Development at the Departments for International Development and Gender Studies, London School of Economics and Development (LSE)
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◀ **WORKING PAPER**
Livelihood Transitions of Women Workers During Covid-19: Domestic Workers in Dhaka

WORKING PAPER
Livelihood Transitions and Coping With Shocks: Women in the Ready-Made Garment (RMG) Sector Coping With COVID-19

Political Economy of Covid-19 Governance in Bangladesh

BANGLADESH

Lead partner
BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Research partner
Accountability Research Centre of American University

Overview
The study inquires into how the state of governance in Bangladesh has affected the management of the Covid-19 pandemic and what the implications are for key affected sectors including health, social protection, and industrial relations.

Based on the assessment, the study identifies the crucial gaps and provides practical suggestions about how to use the pandemic and similar crises in the future as opportunities to build an 'anti-fragile' governance system, one that becomes stronger by facing a crisis.
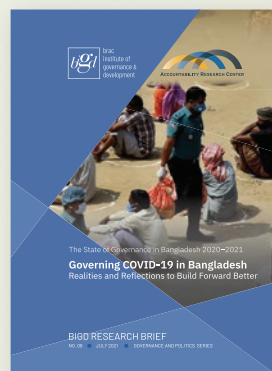
KEY OUTPUTS

EVENT
Governing Covid-19 in Bangladesh: Realities and Reflections to Build Forward Better

RESEARCH REPORT
State of Governance in Bangladesh 2020–2021: Governing COVID-19 in Bangladesh – Realities and Reflections to Build Forward Better

◀ **RESEARCH REPORT**
Governing COVID-19 in Bangladesh – Realities and Reflections to Build Forward Better

Poverty Monitoring in the Context of Covid-19 👥

CAMBODIA, ETHIOPIA, INDIA, MALAWI, PHILIPPINES, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE

Lead partner

Overseas Development Institute (ODI), Chronic Poverty Advisory Network (CPAN)

Research partners

Centre for Development Research, University of Malawi, Institute of Environmental Studies, University of Zimbabwe, Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Zambia, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), Cambodia Development Research Institute (CDRI)

Overview

This Covid Collective grant supports the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) to expand poverty monitoring activities of its Chronic Poverty Advisory Network (CPAN) into seven new countries to provide near real-time qualitative data on how the pandemic, and the response to it, intersects with wider efforts to address poverty and inequality.

The research captures the lived experiences of the poor and vulnerable non-poor groups as the pandemic progresses, with the objective of increasing representation of their interests in programme and policy responses. The team produces the Covid-19 Poverty Monitor, a regular bulletin sharing the ongoing social and economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the poorest and those at risk of impoverishment, and the policies needed to mitigate them. Explore the research by country or sign up to CPAN's newsletter for updates.

KEY OUTPUTS

GLOBAL OUTPUTS

Webinar: Getting Back on Track to End Extreme Poverty

BLOG

How to Get Back on Track to End Extreme Poverty

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC OUTPUTS

India Covid-19 Poverty Monitor: January 2022

Malawi Covid-19 Poverty Monitor: December 2021

Philippines Covid-19 Poverty Monitor: April 2021

Ethiopia Covid-19 Poverty Monitor: November 2021

Zambia Covid-19 Poverty Monitor: April 2021

Reintegration of Failed Migrants 👥

BANGLADESH

Lead partner

BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Overview

Previous research shows that as many as a third of migration attempts in Bangladesh are ending in failure, with large financial losses for the households concerned. The Covid-19 pandemic has further exacerbated these trends, with an estimated two million migrant workers expected to return due to the pandemic-induced recession. The rehabilitation and reintegration into the economy of this influx of return migrants is thus becoming a pressing concern for the country.

This study provides a qualitative assessment of the needs of migrant workers involuntarily repatriated due to the pandemic, as well as the likelihood of unsafe re-migration in this population. A special focus of the qualitative study is on female returnees, who face additional sociocultural obstacles to reintegration.

KEY OUTPUTS

ARTICLE

Our migrants are suffering. What can we do to help?
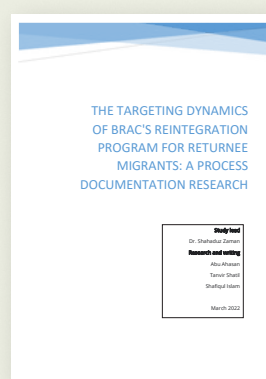
◀ **WORKING PAPER**

The Targeting Dynamics of BRAC's Reintegration Program for Returnee Migrants: A Process Documentation Research

THE TARGETING DYNAMICS OF BRAC'S REINTEGRATION PROGRAM FOR RETURNEE MIGRANTS: A PROCESS DOCUMENTATION RESEARCH

Resilience of the Ultra-Poor People in the Face of Covid-19

BANGLADESH

Lead partner
BRAC Institute for Governance and Development (BIGD)

Research partner
London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Overview
One of two studies building on existing survey work to collect high-frequency longitudinal data to identify trends and inform effective intervention design for vulnerable groups economically affected by the Covid-19 pandemic in Bangladesh. This study focuses on those who previously escaped extreme poverty through BRAC's ultra-poor graduation (UPG) programme and tries to understand the factors, for example, the nature of occupation, that make them economically resilient against shocks such as Covid-19.

KEY OUTPUTS

◄ **POLICY BRIEFING**

Building the Resilience of the Poor through Graduation in the Post Covid-19 Global Context

REPORT
Covid-19: Community Resilience in Urban Informal Settlements

RESEARCH REPORT
COVID-19 vs. UPG: Evidence From the 2007 Cohort in Bangladesh

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Responding to Covid: Identifying Transformative Urban Pathways

ZIMBABWE

Lead partner
Dialogue on Shelter Trust (DoSt), Zimbabwe

Research partner
International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Overview
In Zimbabwe, many households depend on informal employment and live in crowded settlements with unreliable, shared access to water and sanitation. DoSt have identified an opportunity to incorporate a 'people-centred slum upgrade protocol' in Zimbabwe's pending national development plan (2021–2025). If the protocol is incorporated into the national development plan, Zimbabweans are likely to mobilise funding more readily to upgrade informal settlements, with the potential to address Covid-19-related risks and support equitable urban development pathways.

To support this process, the project is conducting a detailed case study analysis of community-led responses to the Covid-19 pandemic in Zimbabwe, including efforts around the National Development Policy. The project is documenting local responses and government interventions, undertaking a comparative analysis of Covid-19 responses and synthesising insights from Zimbabwe and Kenya.

KEY OUTPUTS

◄ **BLOG**

The Disproportionate Response to Covid-19 in Informal Urban Settlements

VIDEO
Pandemic preparedness and community-led solutions in African cities

MULTIMEADI
Zimbabwe homeless peoples' federation: Covid-19 Phase II Lockdown Diaries

Rohingya Youth Action Research in Cox's Bazar Camps: Covid-19 and Everyday Conflict Resolution

**BANGLADESH**

Lead partner

University of Edinburgh, PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Overview

There is a significant number of international agencies present on the ground in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, delivering humanitarian services and engaging in protection-related activities with Rohingya communities living in the camps. To date, there has been minimal effort to build the capacity of displaced Rohingya so that they have adequate legal literacy to understand and articulate the challenges they are facing. Training youth in basic research skills is also not addressed, which hampers the ability of young Rohingya to identify and communicate their own and their fellow camp residents' needs.

The Rohingya Youth Action Research Project is working to remedy this problem, training and supporting locally based research teams in Cox's Bazar to produce research on community needs during the Covid-19 pandemic.

KEY OUTPUTS
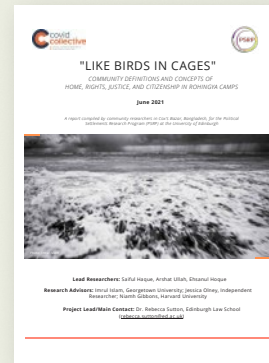
◄ **RESEARCH REPORT**

'Like Birds in Cages': Community Definitions and Concepts of Home, Rights, Justice, and Citizenship in Rohingya Camps

Strategies and Policy Supports to Increase Resilience for Poor and Vulnerable Women and Youth Facing the Addition of Covid-19 to Afghanistan's Multiple Pre-existing Crises

AFGHANISTAN

Lead partner

Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU)

Research partner

Overseas Development Institute (ODI), Chronic Poverty Advisory Network (CPAN)

Overview

This project seeks to explore poverty dynamics and inclusive governance in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, conflict, and significant return of labour migrants from Iran and Pakistan. In particular, the project is focusing on three key aspects.

Firstly, it examines how the Covid-19 pandemic has affected labour market precarity and livelihood stability for young women and men – how have they coped (differentially) and what types of collective action and sources of resilience have they employed? Secondly, the project looks at how the state has repositioned itself in terms of the provision of health services and economic packages to respond to the pandemic. And finally, the project explores how opposition armed groups' legitimacy strategies have changed, for example, through public health policies, humanitarian aid, and economic measures.

KEY OUTPUTS

◄ **BULLETIN**

Afghanistan Covid-19 Poverty Monitor

Strengthening Advocacy and Mobilisation on the Frontlines: Action-Research to Address Covid-Related and Other Risks in Mathare, Nairobi

KENYA

Lead partners

Mathare Social Justice Centre (MSJC)

Slum Dwellers International-Kenya (SDI-K)

Research partner

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Overview

Many residents of informal settlements, such as Mathare in Nairobi, struggle to observe Covid-19 social distancing measures and face increasingly precarious livelihoods alongside escalating care burdens, inadequate health-care access, and deepening political exclusion.

This project uses action-research methods to analyse grassroots-led Covid-19 responses in Nairobi's informal settlements and supports community mobilisation and advocacy. The projects are creating co-produced knowledge on risks and grass-roots responses that can foster mutual learning and facilitate exchanges with other grass-roots organisations, leading to more equitable and inclusive governance in the city. The findings are informing advocacy for a Special Planning Area (SPA) in Mathare, building on recent experience of similar multisectoral action research.

The Governance Response to Covid-19 in Lilongwe, Malawi: A Political Settlements Approach

MALAWI

Lead partner

Development Management Associates

Research partner

University of Manchester, Global Development Institute (GDI)

Overview

This study identifies and tracks a menu of government responses to the pandemic in Malawi including health services, health information, WASH services, key worker protection, social distancing, and social protection measures. It analyses the governance of these services, including who is responsible for providing them and what decision-making, accountability, and conflict-resolution arrangements prevail.

Findings are linked to an analysis of the evolving political settlement in Malawi. These enable a better understanding of how traditionally marginalised populations in informal settlements are incorporated or not within national political settlements, and the impact this has on governance response. By tracking and analysing these responses, the study is helping to better inform collective action around global challenges, especially pandemic response, and preparedness.

The Impacts of Covid-19 on Trafficking and Child Labour in Myanmar, Cambodia, and Vietnam 👥🤝

CAMBODIA, MYANMAR, VIETNAM

Lead partner
Humanity Research Consultancy

Research partner
Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

Overview

The project looks at the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the survivors of trafficking and children in the worst forms of child labour in Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam.

The project provides important and timely evidence on how crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic intersect with and exacerbate factors that drive vulnerability to trafficking and modern slavery. This evidence base is supporting strategic decision-making for donors, policy advocates, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and humanitarian agencies working to support child rights and child protection as they look for ways to reduce vulnerabilities during crises.

KEY OUTPUTS
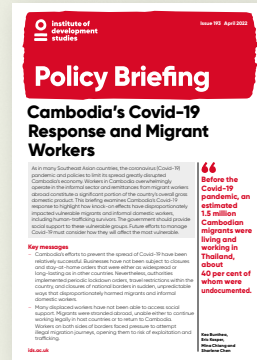
◀ **POLICY BRIEFING**
Cambodia's Covid-19 Response and Migrant Workers

POLICY BRIEFING
Impact of Vietnam's Covid-19 Response on Vulnerable Groups

POLICY BRIEFING
The Impact of Myanmar's Response to Covid-19 on the Most Vulnerable

Towards a Greater Role of Civil Society in Conflict Management in Syria: The Impact of Covid-19 🌳

SYRIA

Lead partner
University of Edinburgh, PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Overview

The project is a collaborative action that engages with local actors to investigate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on local practices of peace in Syria. The project develops analysis on how issues of political trust, social cohesion, governance, and the role of civil society have been reshaped by pandemic-related dynamics.

KEY OUTPUTS

◀ **POLICY BRIEFING**
Covid-19: Tool of Conflict or Opportunity for Local Peace in Northwest Syria?

BLOG
Art as a Tool for Local Peace

BLOG
Young Artists Illustrate Life in Syrian Opposition-Held Areas

Towards Community-Led, Inclusive Covid-19 Partnerships in ASEAN Cities 👥

INDONESIA, MYANMAR, PHILIPPINES, THAILAND

Lead partner
International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Research partner
Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR)

Overview

The project critically examines lessons from the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR) community-led responses to the pandemic and explores how these strategies can influence official partnerships or other policy interventions in Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, and Thailand.

Using a combination of action research, ongoing reflection, and comparative analysis, the project analyses how to enhance urban food security and explores the contributions of grass-roots partnerships with local authorities, health-care providers, and other government stakeholders.

KEY OUTPUTS

◀ **BLOG**
The Disproportionate Response to Covid-19 in Informal Urban Settlements

Trees Kill Covid: Politics, Tree-Planting, and Post-Pandemic Rural Resurgence

ETHIOPIA, KENYA, PAKISTAN

Lead partner

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Overview

This project examines the potential to promote sustainable social, economic, and environmental recovery through tree-planting initiatives. Working with relevant in-country partners, IIED is looking at how the pandemic has impacted the political dynamics surrounding citizen, government, and private sector support for tree-planting programmes as well as broader questions of governance, accountability, and social and environmental cost/benefits.

The reaerch framework of the project is resulting in practical guidelines for decision makers in institutions and programmes seeking to promote Covid-19 recovery through tree-planting initiatives. This guidance addresses questions including how to provide short-term social and economic benefits to communities, provide long-term carbon and biodiversity benefits, and generate political economy incentives for inclusive, sustainable action programmes around trees.

KEY OUTPUTS

BLOG

Getting the Politics Right to Grow the Trees Right
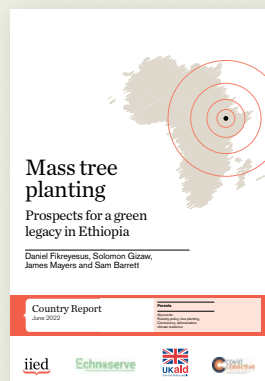
◄ COUNTRY REPORT

Mass tree planting: prospects for a green legacy in Ethiopia

COUNTRY REPORT

Participation and exclusion in mega tree-planting projects: a case study of the Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Programme, Pakistan

Understanding Conflict-Sensitive Regional Responses to Covid-19

GLOBAL

Lead partner

University of Edinburgh, PeaceRep: The Peace and Conflict Resolution Evidence Platform

Research partner

African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF)

Overview

The project maps and analyses the responses of intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) in Latin America, Africa, South and Southeast Asia, and the Middle East to the Covid-19 pandemic.

It provides a comparative lens to illuminate the similar but, at times, unique challenges that regions have faced during the pandemic and the collective action taken to mitigate the crisis.

In addition, the project examined the impact of the African Union's regional response on national Covid-19 response efforts in Kenya and South Sudan.
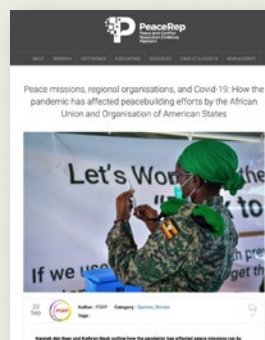
KEY OUTPUTS

RESEARCH REPORT

Regional Responses to Covid-19: The Role of Intergovernmental Organisations in Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East

BLOG

Regional Responses to Conflict During the Covid-19 Pandemic

◄ BLOG

Peace Missions, Regional Organisations, and Covid-19: How the Pandemic Has Affected Peacebuilding Efforts by the African Union and Organisation of American States

Understanding the Impact of Covid-19 on Asian Health and Care Worker Migration to Support Older People Care 👥

CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, SOUTH KOREA, TAIWAN, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, THE PHILIPPINES, SRI LANKA, THAILAND, AND VIETNAM

Lead partner
Center for Global Development (CGD)

Research partner
GaneshAid

Overview
This research is working towards a better understanding of the patterns of health and care worker migration for older people care throughout Asia, and the potential for expanding ethical and sustainable migration pathways.

Working in partnership with local researchers and the Asian Development Bank, the Center for Global Development (CGD) is undertaking research and outreach to understand these factors and present policy recommendations to relevant governments and stakeholders. In doing so, the project is building on CGD's experience in building ethical, sustainable, and mutually beneficial migration programmes, responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, and improving health systems overall.

Understanding the Impacts of Covid-19 in Fragile and Conflict Affected Regions: A Case Study of Northern Kenya 🌳

KENYA

Lead partner
IMPACT Trust Kenya

Research partner
Pastoralists Alliance for Resilience and Adaptation in Northern Rangelands (PARAN Alliance)

Overview
The project aims to investigate the impacts of Covid-19 responses on conflict dynamics in fragile and conflict-affected regions, to document examples of conflict-sensitive Covid-19 responses that contribute to peace-building, and to collate lessons learned to inform practice, policy, and decision-making in northern Kenya, as well as in other contexts and during future crises.

The project team collects data on Covid-19 responses and conflict dynamics in northern Kenya by working in collaboration with the Pastoralists Alliance for Resilience and Adaptation in Northern Rangelands (PARAN Alliance). IMPACT is using the data generated to produce new guidance for local county governments on conflict-sensitive responses to future crises and to disseminate project findings through policy briefs and webinars, targeting international policymakers and practitioners working in the field.

Voices from the Margins and Inclusive Policy Responses to Covid-19 Pandemic 👥

BANGLADESH

Lead partner
Centre for Peace and Justice

Overview
The project aims to inform and influence public policies and state responses on Covid-19-related relief, recovery, and resilience measures in Bangladesh, based on a representative household panel survey of marginalised groups. These groups consist of citizens at the margins of power and influence whose voices and agency are barely represented in policymaking spaces and processes. Moreover, an 'interactive web-based dashboard' has been established that uses empirical evidence and reporting of perceptions and feedbacks from marginalised groups. Alongside this is an innovative platform called 'Policy Clinic' which is being accommodated periodically to validate evidence and to identify appropriate policy responses.

The project builds on and complements other recent research initiatives that seek to understand the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on communities at the margins through the lens of humanitarian responses.

KEY OUTPUTS

◀ **BLOG**
Covid-19 vaccination and digital exclusion at the margins

BLOG
What local responses to Covid-19 can teach us about decolonising development

POLICY CLINIC
Voices from the Margins and Inclusive Policy Responses to Covid-19 Pandemic