

**Timeline**

8:30AM EDT / 6:30PM BST

**Date**

April 08, 2021

**Supporting Adolescent Girls in the Time of COVID-19: Evidence and Policy for Bangladesh**Thursday, April 8, 2021  
8:00 - 9:30AM EDT / 6:00 - 7:30 PM BST

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on women and girls globally, widening existing inequalities in livelihoods, burden of care, schooling, and violence. Designing social policies to mitigate these impacts and support educational opportunities for girls—including to help them return to school and strengthen the skills they need to succeed in the workforce—is critical to post-pandemic economic recovery and gender equality.

To understand the extent of these issues, and to shed light on the pandemic's particularly hidden impacts on vulnerable girls, policymakers have needed data and evidence. Recent research conducted during and before the pandemic can help the policy and practitioner communities in Bangladesh better understand how adolescent girls have been impacted by the public health crisis and by the measures put in place to contain the virus, helping to shape responses.

This event will convene researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to share research findings and discuss policy solutions to explore the following questions: How have girls' education and livelihoods been impacted? Is early marriage increasing? How can data and evidence be used to support policies that help adolescent girls? A facilitated Q&A session among invitees from government, international and local organizations, and academics will follow the presenters.

The private event is part of IPA's RECOVER Roundtable Series: Bringing Evidence to COVID-19 Policy Responses in the Global South and the Women's Work, Entrepreneurship, and Skills (WWES) Initiative. Together with our partners, we are using this series to exchange learnings between the policy, practice, and research communities to support evidence-informed response efforts. More information about RECOVER is available [here](#) and WWES [here](#).

**Presenters (in alphabetical order)**

- Sarah Baril, Associate Professor of Global Health and Economics, George Washington University
- Abbie de Melker, Research Fellow, Institute of Developing Economies, and Visiting Research Fellow, GIRE Center, Population Council
- Shuhana Naureen, Qualitative Researcher, Girl Empowerment Project, Southern Development, Innovations for Poverty Action
- Kait Vyborg, Research Associate, Oxfam America
- Zaki Wahab, Reader in Economics, University of Kent

**Host**

- Mohammad Ashraful Haque, Country Director, Innovations for Poverty Action Bangladesh

**Moderator**

- Mameen Sultan, GAGE Bangladesh Qualitative Research Colleague at BRAC University

**Policy Discussions**

- Tafsanian Ahmed, Executive Director, Underprivileged Children's Education/Programmes (UCEP) Bangladesh
- Sajeda Ahmed, Senior Advisor, Population Council

**Policy Reflections**

- Md Afzal Hassan Samad, Policy Specialist (Educational Innovations), Apni To-Innovate (a2i) Program, ICT Division, Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology
- Rayhana Taslim, Project Director, e-Government Secretary-Schools Project, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, Ministry of Education

# Roundtable | Supporting Adolescent Girls in the Time of COVID-19: Evidence and Policy for Bangladesh

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**On April 8, 2021, this roundtable event convened researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to share research findings and discuss policy solutions to explore the following questions: How have girls' education and livelihoods been impacted? Is early marriage increasing? How can data and evidence be used to support policies that help adolescent girls?** A facilitated Q&A session among invitees from government, international and local organizations, and academia followed the presentations.

This event was part of **IPA's RECOVR Roundtable Series: Bringing Evidence to COVID-19 Policy Responses in the Global South and the Women's Work, Entrepreneurship, and Skilling (WWES) Initiative**. Together with our partners, we are using this series to exchange learnings between the policy, practice, and research communities to support evidence-informed response efforts. More information about RECOVR is available [here](#) and WWES [here](#).

## Watch the recording below:

## Speakers

### Presenters (in alphabetical order)

- **Sarah Baird**, Associate Professor of Global Health and Economics, George Washington University
- **Momoe Makino**, Research Fellow, Institute of Developing Economies, and Visiting Research Fellow, GIRL Center, Population Council
- **Shahana Nazneen**, Qualitative Researcher, Girls' Empowerment Project, Southern Bangladesh, Innovations for Poverty Action
- **Kate Vyborny**, Research Associate, Duke University
- **Zaki Wahhaj**, Reader in Economics, University of Kent

### Host

- **Mohammad Ashraful Haque**, Country Director, Innovations for Poverty Action Bangladesh

### Moderator

- Maheen Sultan, GAGE Bangladesh Qualitative Research Co-Lead at BRAC University

## Policy Discussants

- Tahsinah Ahmed, Executive Director, Underprivileged Children's Educational Programmes (UCEP) Bangladesh
- Sajeda Amin, Senior Associate, Population Council

## Policy Reflections

- MD Afzal Hossain Sarwar, Policy Specialist (Educational Innovation), Aspire to Innovate (a2i) Program, ICT Division, Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology
- Rayhana Taslim, Project Director, 9 Government Secondary Schools Project, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, Ministry of Education

## City

Webinar

## Country

United States