

**Curriculum Vitae
of
Avijit Poddar, Ph.D.**

Dr. Avijit Poddar, currently working as Consultant, is a Socio-economist with over 20 years of research experience. During last ten years he was involved in over 50 research studies in fields of socio-economic development, public health (including sexual and reproductive health), poverty, peace and conflict, human right, gender issues, rural electrification, capacity building and agro-economics.

Most recently Dr. Poddar as conducted a study on Barriers to Access to Maternal Health Services in Burera District, Rwanda conducted for Save the Children UK (SCUK), as Team Leader & Lead Researcher and submitted draft report 2010. He stayed in Rwanda for a period of 2 months (October-November 2009) got familiarized with the SCUK's interventions in Rwanda, visited Burera district extensively, finalized the methodology, prepared, pretested both the quantitative and qualitative data collection tools, trained the field staff, supervised the data collection, conducted key informant interviews and shared some preliminary findings with SCUK.

He worked in 2008 as co-team leader of Mid Term Evaluation Mid-Term Review of FoSHoL-CARE Project, for CARE Bangladesh, EU Representatives Mission in Bangladesh. Dr. Poddar has worked in 2008 as proactive team member and co-author of the report of study titled "Socio-economic Baseline Survey of Chittagong Hill Tracts conducted for UNDP-CHTDF, dealt with peace and conflict, human rights, gender and livelihood issues in a multi-ethnic conflict prawn region with 12 ethnicities. The report is available in UNDP web sight. He also worked as Co-team Leader for the study titled "*Situation Analysis of Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh*" for Save the Children UK.

Earlier in 2007, he worked as proactive team member and co-author of report of Assessment of the Qualitative Changes of Nijera Kori's Social Mobilization, Voice and Democracy Program, prepared for Nijera Kori funded by DFID. The latter study extensively focused on measuring impact of social mobilization, voice of people, Democracy, human rights and gender issues.

Dr. Poddar is well conversant in gender issues and has successfully completed 20 research studies. In 2008 he, along with a team, has completed two studies for UNFPA Bangladesh: (i) "*Delivering Babies in Emergency Situations: Where and under which Circumstances*", and (ii) "*Change in Attitudes and Behavior of Garment Owners, Managers and Workers towards Gender and RH Issues*". Earlier, in 2005, Dr. Poddar was the Team member and co-author of reports for Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (a member organization of UK based International Planned Parenthood Federation): (i) "*Baseline Study on Increasing Access to MH Services for Poor Women in Rural Bangladesh*". (ii) "*Needs Assessment of Young People's Reproductive Health*". He participated in the pioneering technical assistance-providing project for UNFPA as one of the senior consultants, "*Study on Development of Urban Quality Assurance (QA) System for Urban Primary HealthCare Project*".

Dr. Poddar is well acquainted with Save the Children UK's 'Child Safeguarding Policy'. He participated in the studies entitled "*Baseline Survey on Prevalence of Child Labour in Harmful Work in Bangladesh*"

Dr, Avijit Poddar served as Project Coordinator, Research Project: "Identification of Best Practices of People's Participation in Decision Making Process at the Community Level" – a collaborative fact-finding project awarded to PRIP program of PACT Int'l, USA under the Bangladesh Democracy Partnership Program sponsored by USAID, TAF & BRAC.



Personal:

Father's Name: Mr. Amiya Bhushan Poddar

Date of Birth: July 2, 1954

Nationality: Bangladeshi by birth

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Mohammadia Housing Society,
Mohammadpur, Dhaka 1207
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Education:

Ph. D. in Physics and Mathematical Sciences, 1982
Computer Center, The USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow, USSR

Masters in Development Studies, 1979,
Moscow Youth Development Academy, Moscow, USSR

M. A. in Economics (National Economic Planning), 1978
Odessa Institute of National Economic Planning, Odessa. Ukraine,
USSR

H.S. C., 1972, Government Rajendra College, Faridpur

S.S.C., 1970, Faridpur Zila School, Faridpur

Skills:

Multilingual (fluent at understanding, reading, speaking and writing in English, Russian, Urdu and Bengali)

Team player, hard worker, perfectionist, professional thinker, analytic mind, good in numbers, familiar with cross cultural

Proficient in research methods (social anthropology, qualitative and quantitative methods)

Skilled in Computer literacy (Word Perfect, MS Word, SPSS, Excel)

Teaching Experience:

- Taught a course for MBA level students on NGO Management entitled "Introduction to Non Government Organization, Management and Sustainability" at Bangladesh Campus (Banani) of Institute of Resource Management (IRM), University of Central California in February – April 2006 semester
- Taught a course for MBA level students on Business Mathematics and Statistics entitled "Introduction to Essential Business Mathematics and Statistics" at Bangladesh Campus (Banani) of Institute of Resource Management (IRM), University of Central California in February – April 2006 semester



Work Experience:

(November 2002 – till date)

Consultant,

Human Development Research Corporation (HDRC),

Responsibilities: Work as a team member, develop new research topics, prepare technical and cost proposals, formulate appropriate methodology for different studies, preparing data collection instruments, conducting pretests and Mock- surveys, analyzing data, report writing, dissemination of findings

(September 1997 – November 2002) Director (Planning, Monitoring, MIS & Evaluation),

“Community Ownership of Reproductive Health Initiatives”, Vision 2000 Project: a multi-dimensional action research on Community Based Health Service Providing Project awarded to Family Planning Association of Bangladesh, under Vision 2000 Fund, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

Responsibilities:

As the second person after the Project Director, responsible for coordination and implementation of the US \$ 2.5 million project in the field of reproductive health in Chittagong (4 sub-districts) and Sylhet (2 sub-districts) Divisions including setting up and functioning of Static Clinics at Project Upazillas (sub-district) and Outreach Clinics at Communities within each community under the Project Upazilla (sub-district), and develop network of field functionaries at each community for domiciliary services (including net work health extension worker, Traditional Birth Attendant, and Trained Quack);

Ensure implementation of Vision 2000 philosophy of organizing sustainable health mechanism managed by the Community as per plan; collection of progress reports in time, analyze and prepare recommendations for taking appropriate measures; designing, trail and installation of MIS system, conducting Indicator Study and Baseline Survey; conduct all evaluation studies and mini surveys; prepare quarterly and annual reports

(1995 – 1997)

Project Coordinator, Research Project: Identification of Best Practices of People's Participation in Decision Making Process at the Community Level – a collaborative fact-finding project awarded to PRIP Trust (formerly known as PRIP program of PACT Int'l, USA) under the Democracy Partnership Program sponsored by USAID, TAF & BRAC

Responsibilities: As the principal coordinating officer, responsible for identification of the salient features and outcomes of NGO interventions among the disadvantaged people in the selected working area of partner NGOs: CARITAS, RDRS & FIVDB, establish working relationship among the People's Organizations, coordination with the sponsors, implementation of the project, documentation, analyzing the outcome and joint-learning, preparation of different reports

As program manager, I had also to manage the financial and administrative affairs in line with the USAID rules and practices



- (1993 - 1995) Research Consultant, University Research Corporation (Bangladesh)
Responsibilities: Work as a team member, develop new research topics, prepare technical and cost proposals, formulate appropriate methodology for different studies, preparing data collection instruments, conducting pretests and Mock- surveys, analyzing data, report writing, dissemination of findings
- (1991 – 1992) Journalist, accredited with Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (stationed at Moscow covering all former Republics of USSR)

Journalist, accredited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, stationed at Moscow covering all former Republics of USSR, 1989-1992.
- (1989 – 1991) Journalist , accredited with Ministry of Foreign Affairs of USSR, (stationed at Moscow covering all Republics of USSR)

Preparation of newspaper features and articles for Agency Press Novesty (APN) on social and economic implication of Perestroyka and Glasnost in the context of USSR and developing countries struggling for democratization
- (1987 - 1988) Radio Featurist, Bangla Service, Radio Moscow, The USSR Committee of State Television and Radio Programs, Moscow, USSR

Preparation of features for Bangla program of Radio Moscow on social and economic implication of Perestroyka and Glasnost

Worked as radio broadcaster
- (1984 - 1986) Junior Research Associate, Research Fellow, Recognition of Sample Objects Laboratory, Computer Center, The USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow, USSR (Team Leader: Academician Zuravlev Uriri)

Team member, Research Group responsible for identification of locations of fish population in the deep seas under conditions of insufficient information (using Zhuravlev algorithm of recognition of objects)
- (1982 – 1983) Research Fellow, Computer Center, The USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow, USSR Practical application of the model of my Ph, D. dissertation, using Pascal program language Published 2 articles on theory of recognition of objects under inadequate information in the Journal of 'Kibernatica' published by the Computer Center of the USSR Academy of Sciences.



Research Reports:

Assess the Constraints to Promote Long-acting and Permanent Contraceptive Methods (LAPMs) Prepared for NIPORT Bangladesh 2013

Baseline and Endline Survey on Maternal and Neonatal health Initiatives in Bangladesh Prepared for UNFPA Bangladesh 2013

Proposed National Water and Sanitation Sector Budget FY 2013/14: Minimizing Regional Disparities Prepared for WaterAid Bangladesh 2013

Quality of Care of Maternal and Neonatal Health Services: A Stakeholder Participatory Assessment Prepared for Whit Ribbon Alliance 2013

Baseline Survey: Establish and Manage an External Monitoring System in Dhaka City Covered by WASH Support for LIC Project Prepared for UNICEF 2013

Study on lifecycle cost of water points and affordability of the poor people to access safe water in the urban and rural areas in Bangladesh Prepared for WaterAid Bangladesh 2013

Investment and Trade Need Survey for JICA Preparatory Study of Private Sector Development Program in Bangladesh Prepared for JICA, Japan 2012

Study on Social, Economic and Cultural Factors that Influences FP Acceptance in Low Performance Areas (NAS-4) Prepared for NIPORT Bangladesh, Dhaka 2012

Socio-economic Assessment to Identify the Poor in Pilot Areas and Baseline Studies on Willingness to Pay, Health Seeking Behaviour, Health Expenses and Patient Satisfaction_Prepared for Health Economics Unit Bangladesh, Dhaka 2012

Allocation of funds for Maternal Health in Bangladesh: A Historical Analysis Prepared for White Ribbon Alliance, Bangladesh Dhaka 2011

Study on Allocation, Targeting and Effectiveness of Sanitation Subsidy in Bangladesh: conducted for WaterAid Bangladesh Dhaka 2011

Review of Social Barriers and Limitations of Village Courts: conducted for UNDP Bangladesh, 2011

Socio-economic Impact Study of the Rural Electrification Development Project (REDP) conducted for NRECA International Ltd., 2011

Study on the Unit Cost of Social and Behaviour Change Related to Adolescent Issues conducted for UNICEF Bangladesh, 2010

Basic Education for Hard-to-Reach Urban Working Children: Study on Benefits, Sustainability and Cost conducted for UNICEF Bangladesh, 2010

Assessment of the Situation of Children and Women in the Bihari Camps and Tea Gardens of Bangladesh conducted for UNICEF Bangladesh, 2010

Study on Barriers to Access to Maternal Health Services in Burera District, Rwanda conducted for Save the Children UK, (Team Leader & Lead Researcher), 2010

Socio-economic Baseline Survey of the Rural Electrification Development Program (REDP), conducted for NRECA International (USA), DFID and USAID, (Co-author), 2009

Impact Study on Advancing Sustainable Environmental Health Project (ASEH) conducted for WaterAid Bangladesh, (Co-author), 2009

Socio-economic Baseline Survey of the Rural Electrification Development Program: Bramhanbaria, conducted for NRECA International (USA), DFID and USAID, (Co-author), 2009

Study on the Unit Cost of Hygiene Behavior Change, conducted for UNICEF Bangladesh, (Principal author), 2009

Change in Attitudes and Behavior of Garment Owners, Managers and Workers towards Gender and RH Issues, conducted for UNFPA-Bangladesh (Co-author), 2008

Conducting Qualitative Pandemic Research in Bangladesh conducted for AICOM/AED-USA (Co-author), 2008

Child Poverty and Disparities in Bangladesh, conducted for UNICEF-Bangladesh (Co-author), 2008

Quantitative and Qualitative Research in Bangladesh: Behavior Change and Communication Activities on Avian Influenza (H5N1), conducted for AICOM/AED-USA (Co-author), 2008

Delivering Babies in Emergency Situation: Where and under which Circumstances, conducted for UNFPA-Bangladesh (Co-author), 2008

Situation Analysis of Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh, conducted for Save the Children (UK) (Co-author), 2008

Socio-economic Baseline Survey of Chittagong Hill Tracts, study being conducted for UNDP-CHTDF (Co-author), 2008

Mid-Term Review of FoSHoL-CARE Project, prepared for FoSHoL CARE Bangladesh (Co-author), 2008.

Assessment of the Qualitative Changes of Nijera Kori's Social Mobilization, Voice and Democracy Program, prepared for *Nijera Kori*, (Co-author), 2007

Assessment of Socio-Economic Improvement in the life of Targeted people with special Focus on Extreme poor, Women & Girls Because of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Intervention: An Impact Study, prepared for WaterAid -Bangladesh. (Co-author), 2007



Study on Capacity Assessment of Local Institutions, study being conducted for SHOUHARDO/CARE, (Co-author), 2007

Detail Study on the People (poor, landless and vulnerable) Having Livelihood Based on Agriculture and Marketing in Eastern Coastal Area, study being conducted for SHOUHARDO/CARE (Co-author), 2007

Study on Mainstreaming Gender and Reaching Poor in Environmental Sanitation, Hygiene and Water Supply in Rural Areas, conducted for WES/Unicef Bangladesh, (Co-author), 2007

Baseline Survey on Prevalence of Child Labour in Harmful Work, conducted for Save the Children UK, (Co-author), 2007

Social and Economic Cost Benefit Analysis of Rural Maintenance Programme in Bangladesh (Co-author), conducted for RMP/CARE, 2006

A Study on Well-being Status of Graduated Rural Maintenance Programme Women, conducted for RMP/CARE-Bangladesh (Co-author), 2006

Budget Allocation in Gender Perspective: Methodological Issues, conducted for ActionAid Bangladesh (Co-author), 2006

Baseline Study on Increasing Access to MH Services for Poor Women in Rural Bangladesh, conducted for FPAB, funded by IPPF (Co-author), 2005

Needs Assessment of Young People's Reproductive Health, prepared for FPAB, funded by Youth Incentive Fund (Netherlands) (Co-author), 2005

Census of Non Motorized Transport Pullers and Owners in Corridor 1 (Gabtoli - Russel Square Corridor), conducted for Dhaka Transport Coordination Board (DTCB) under financial assistance from the World Bank, (Co-author), 2005

Assessment of Livelihood Security of Graduated RMP Women, Health and Nutrition Pilot and Rural Sales Programme, funded by CARE Bangladesh (Co-author), 2005

Study on Aid Effectiveness of ADB Projects in Water and Sanitation Sector in Bangladesh, undertaken for WaterAid Bangladesh, (Co-author), 2005

Study on Cost Structure and Staff Utilization in NSDP supported Clinics, undertaken for NGO Service Delivery Program (NSDP) and Research Triangle Institute (RTI) with financial support from USAID/Dhaka, (Co-author), 2005

Study on Development of Urban Quality Assurance (QA) System for Urban Primary HealthCare Project, study undertaken for UNFPA, (Co-author), 2004



Census of Non Motorized Transport Pullers and Owners in Russel Square – Azimpur Corridor, conducted for Dhaka Transport Coordination Board (DTCB) under financial assistance from the World Bank, (Co-author), 2004

Formative Research for National Nutrition Project: Behavior Change Communication, study undertaken for UNICEF, (Co-author), 2004

After Study on the Impact of Mirpur Demonstration Corridor Project (Gabtoli – Russel Square) study conducted for Dhaka Transport Coordination Board (DTCB) under financial assistance from the World Bank, (Co-author), 2004

Infrastructure Development and Reforms including Power, Energy and Communication (Transport), study undertaken for Thematic Group 3, Poverty Reduction Strategic Paper, (Co-author), 2004

Chronic Poverty Among Older People in Bangladesh, study undertaken for HelpAge International (Co-author), 2003

Case Study Evaluation on Rural Electrification Project (ACRE IV-C): Catalytic Role of Electrification in Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation, undertaken for Japan Bank for International Cooperation, Team Member, (Co-author), 2003

Study on "Strengthening Sterilization and Other Clinical Methods Service Delivery in Bangladesh", undertaken for EngenderHealth under financial assistance from USAID, Team Member, (Co-author), 2003

Study on "Community Perception of Quality of Health Services in NSDP Clinics" undertaken for URC LLC (a NSDP Partner responsible for Quality Improvement) funded by USAID (Author), 2003

Study on 'Assessment of Skill Mix Requirement of the Personnel for Implementing ESP at the Upazilla and Below' Level, undertaken for HRD Unit and Policy Research Unit, MOHFW (Co-author), 2003

Economic and Social Impact Evaluation Study of Rural Electrification Program in Bangladesh, A Study Undertaken for National Rural Electrification Cooperative Association (NERCA) International Ltd., Partners of REB and USAID for the Rural Power for Poverty Reduction (RPPR) Program (Co-author), 2002
<http://www.coopdevelopmentcenter.coop/Sector/Energy%20and%20Rural%20Electrification/ReadmoreCH8-Bangladesh.pdf>

Baseline Survey on Reproductive Health, prepared for "An Initiative for Improving Reproductive Health of Adolescent Girls in Bangladesh through Peer Education and Personal Social Education" Project, Ministry of Youth and Sports, GOB sponsored by UNFPA (Co-author), 2002

A study on Decentralized approach to In – Service Training within the Health and Population Sector Program (HPSP), sponsored by HRD – GTZ , (Co-author), 2002



An investigation into Fertility Behavior of Married Adolescent Girls, sponsored by UNFPA & Center for Policy Dialog (CPD) under Population and Sustainable Development Program, Principal Investigator, (Co-author), 2001

A Programmatic Profile of Married Adolescent Girls in the Vision 2000 Project Area; Analysis based on Baseline survey 1998 and Field Observation, (Author), 2000

Reproductive Health Profile of Married 20 –25 Years Young Women: in the Vision 2000 Project Area, 2000, Principal Investigator

Quality Assurance in CORHI Clinics: How does bottom-up approach works, for Community Ownership of Reproductive Health Initiatives Project (CORHI), Vision 2000 Fund, IPPF, London, (Co-author), 2000
RTI/STI Case Management in CORHI: A Clinics Situation Assessment Study, Community Ownership of Reproductive Health Initiatives Project (CORHI), Vision 2000 Fund, IPPF, London, (Co-author), 2000

Reproductive & Primary Health Service Package: Detail of Levels of Services and Contents at Different Service Delivery Levels, (Co-author), 1999

Baseline Survey, Community Ownership of Reproductive Health Initiatives Project (CORHI), conducted jointly by University Research Corporation (Bangladesh) and CORHI Project, (Co-author), 1998

Indicator Study, Community Ownership of Reproductive Health Initiatives Project (CORHI) conducted jointly by University Research Corporation (Bangladesh) and CORHI Project, (Co-author), 1998

The Vested Property Act: Towards a Feasible Solution, conducted by University Research Corporation (Bangladesh), (Co-author), 1997

The BRAC Non Formal Primary Schools: Learning the Experiences, Conducted for Teachers Academy of USA, (Co-author), 1997

Community Ownership of Family Planning Initiatives: A Needs Assessment Study, prepared for Vision 2000 Fund, IPPF, conducted by University Research Corporation (Bangladesh), (Co-author), 1996

Exploratory Survey on Key Components of Bangladesh Democracy Partnership conducted jointly by USAID/ Bangladesh (Good Governance Team) and The Asia Foundation (Bangladesh Country Office), (Co-author), 1996

Impact of Vested Property Act in Rural Bangladesh, prepared for Association for Land Reform and Development, conducted by University Research Corporation (Bangladesh), (Co-author), 1995

Publications:

Barkat A., Khan S.H., Rahman M., Zaman S., Poddar A., Halim S., Ratna N. N., Majid M., Maksud A.K.M., Karim A., Islam S., (2002), Economic and Social Impact Evaluation Study of Rural Electrification Program in Bangladesh, HDRC, NERCA International Ltd, USAID., Dhaka, 2002 < http://www.dec.org/pdf_docs/PDABZ148.pdf.>



Barkat A., Zaman S., Rahman A., Poddar, A., Ullah M., Hossain K. A., Sen-Gupta S. C., (2000), "An Inquiry into Causes and Consequences of Deprivation of Hindu Minorities in Bangladesh through the Vested Property Act: Framework for a Realistic Solution", A. Barkat (Ed.), Dhaka, The PRIP Trust Publications

Barkat A., Rahman A., Zaman S., Poddar A., (1997), " Political Economy of the Vested Property Act in Bangladesh", Dhaka, ALRD Publication



Reference:

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