Munem Ahmad Chowdhury

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ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

Master of Social Science in Economics **2020**
Comilla University (Thesis based) | CGPA: 3.54/4 Cumilla, Bangladesh
Thesis: Nexus between Infrastructural Development and Economic Growth | Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Zakir Saadullah Khan

Bachelor of Social Science in Economics **2019**
Comilla University | CGPA: 3.66/4 Cumilla, Bangladesh

Coursework:
Mathematics: Basic Mathematics for Economics; Mathematical Economics I (multivariable calculus, constrained optimisation, linear algebra) and II (differential and difference equations, linear programming)
***Statistics*:** Statistics for Economics I–III (probability, estimation, hypothesis testing, non-parametric tests, ANOVA).
***Econometrics*:** Econometrics I (OLS, multicollinearity, heteroscedasticity, autocorrelation) and II (logit/probit/Tobit, 2SLS, time series); Advanced Econometrics (panel data, cointegration and error-correction models).

Tests: GRE and IELTS Academic scheduled for December 2026 (previous IELTS 2023: overall 7.0).

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Behavioral Economics; Development Economics; Economics of Climate Change.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed (Selected)

Chowdhury, M. A., & Khan, M. Z. S. (2025). Nexus between infrastructural development and economic growth: Evidence from Bangladesh through auto-regressive distributive lag and nonlinear auto-regressive distributive lag analysis. *Journal of Tropical Futures, 2* (1), 37-53.

Idowu, A., **Chowdhury, M. A**., Nijhum, H. R., & Eniola, B. M. (2024). Exploring the Dynamics of Economic Instability: An Analysis of the Interplay between Consumer Spending, Consumer Confidence, and Macroeconomic Factors. *International Journal of Empirical Economics, 3* (1), 2450003.

Idowu, A., Ohikhuare, O. M., & **Chowdhury, M. A**. (2023). Does industrialization trigger carbon emissions through energy consumption? Evidence from OPEC countries and high industrialised countries. *Quantitative Finance and Economics, 7*(1), 165-186.

Five further papers in applied macroeconomics: Google Scholar Profile

Under review and in progress

Chowdhury, M. A., Idowu, A., Ajayi, F., and Rahmawati, Y. (2025). Economic Complexity and Its Role in Shaping Renewable Energy Consumption Patterns in Selected South Asian Countries. [Under review, second round]

Ichsan, A. K. N., Fresky, M. A., **Chowdhury, M. A**., and Rahmawati, Y. (2025). Creative Synergies: An IRIO Analysis of Jakarta's Creative Industry and Its Spillover Effects on National Economic Growth. [Under review, second round]

Chowdhury, M. A., and Kamguia, B. (2026). Does sustainable industrialization reduce climate vulnerability? (Draft near completion)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Co-Researcher, Evolution of business and trade in Bangladesh **Mar 2026 – Present**
Independent Research Project with Professor Dr. Selim Jahan Bangladesh
Research Funding: Equivalent to USD 25,000 (approx.)

- Conducting research on the evolution of business and trade in Bangladesh from 1947 to the present, covering three major historical periods: 1947–1971, 1972–1990, and 1990–present.
- Collecting and reviewing historical documents from major libraries and archives across Bangladesh, as well as online archives and digital libraries worldwide, to support historical analysis of business and trade.

Research Associate to Professor Dr. Selim Jahan, Senior Advisor **Dec 2025 – Jun 2026**
AI Unveils Tomorrow Project, Regional UNDP Office, Bangkok *Remote*

- Produced comprehensive political-economic country analyses tracing historical development trajectories from independence to present across six countries: Thailand, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, and Fiji.
- Documented national development frameworks, including objectives, strategic priorities, reported achievements, and implementation challenges; to support comparative analysis across Asia-Pacific.

Research Fellow **Jan 2025 – Sep 2026**
Research Associate **Jun 2023 – Dec 2024**
Bangladesh Institute of Social Research Trust, Economic Division *Dhaka, Bangladesh*

- Served as Study Manager and Co-Researcher for mixed-methods evaluations of a national skill development initiative (n = 7,000 trainees) and a climate-resilient livelihood programme (n = 400 women entrepreneurs), contributing to study design, sampling, field coordination, and analysis.
- Led two major research projects as Co-Researcher: a climate-induced migration study commissioned by BRAC and a gender analysis of the plastic waste value chain for UNDP Bangladesh, overseeing instrument design, field supervision, data analysis, and final reporting.
- Contributed to winning proposals for UNDP Bangladesh (e-Parliament feasibility study, USD 120,000; gender analysis of the waste value chain, USD 19,850) and Bangladesh Police (public traffic-awareness study, USD 20,000).

Quantitative Researcher (volunteer), Impact Research Team **Jul 2024 – Jan 2025**
Work on Climate *Remote*

- Designed survey instruments and developed sampling strategies to meet quarterly research targets across a global respondent pool.
- Coordinated the end-to-end administration of surveys reaching 34,000+ recipients (3,000 via email; 31,000 via Slack) and performed data analysis.

Independent research consultant (alongside full-time roles) **Oct 2023 – Mar 2024**

- Co-lead Researcher, Situation Analysis of Indigenous Entrepreneurship in Mymensingh, FNF Bangladesh.
- ODK developer and Data Analyst, Gender Transformative Climate Resilient Microfinance Project, Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK).

Research Assistant **May 2022 – Jun 2023**
Change Initiative *Dhaka, Bangladesh*

- Completed five research and consultancy projects for WIN, European Climate Foundation, ALRD, TI Maldives and Oxfam, assisting PI in design survey tools, data cleaning & analysis, policy analysis, and report writing.
- Developed ODK forms for household data collection and managed databases for other projects.
- Contributed to winning a $15,000 consultancy from OXFAM Bangladesh for a comprehensive study on climate risk insurance.

Graduate Research Assistant **Jun 2020 – Apr 2022**
Department of Economics, Comilla University *Cumilla*
Supervising Professor: Dr. Kazi Mohammed Kamal Uddin

- Co-authored three journal articles in applied macroeconomics on FDI and employment, trade openness and income inequality, and external financing and growth.
- Developed course materials and instructed STATA and R training sessions over two semesters, enhancing students' analytical skills.
- Mentored two graduate students in econometrics, data analysis, and academic writing, supporting their thesis development and successful defense.

SKILLS, TRAINING & SERVICE

Econometrics & Data **:** STATA, R (*tidyverse*, *ggplot2*), SPSS, ArcGIS (Basic) and GitHub.
Field Data **:** Kobo Toolbox, Survey CTO, ODK (XLS), Qualtrics.
Training **:** Analytics for a Better World Fellowship (Sep-Nov, 2024); capstone on women's decision making in climate-prone areas of Bangladesh.
Peer-review service **:** Applied Economics Letters; Zagreb International Review of Economics & Business.
Policy writing (selected): Bangladesh needs a national heat action plan (The Daily Star, 2026);
Climate change is blowing up our electricity expenses (The Business Standard, 2024).
Languages **:** Bengali (native); English (professional).

REFERENCES

Professor Dr. Selim Jahan, Former Director, Human Development Report Office and Poverty Division, UNDP, New York, USA. [jahan.selim@gmail.com]
Professor Dr. Kazi Mohammed Kamal Uddin, Department of Economics, Comilla University, Bangladesh. [kamaleco1@cou.ac.bd; kamaleco1@yahoo.com]
Professor Dr. Zakir Saadullah Khan, Department of Economics, Comilla University, Bangladesh (MSS thesis supervisor). [zskbd@yahoo.com; zskbd@cou.ac.bd]