

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## NAOMI HOSSAIN



Institute of Development Studies  
Library Road  
Brighton  
BN1 9RE  
UK

E: [n.hossain@ids.ac.uk](mailto:n.hossain@ids.ac.uk)  
T: +44 (0)1273 606261; M: + 1 202 602 9661  
F: +44 (0)1273 621202  
W: <https://www.ids.ac.uk/person/naomi-hossain>

**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT:** Research Fellow, Power and Popular Politics Cluster, Institute of Development Studies (0.6 Full Time Equivalent)

**DATE OF BIRTH:** 7 June 1971

**NATIONALITY:** British

**LANGUAGES:** English (fluent), Bengali (good)

**THEMATIC EXPERTISE:** politics and governance, public services (social protection, food security, education), hunger, poverty and economic crisis, gender

**GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE:** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, UK

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### OVERVIEW

I am a political sociologist with over 20 years' experience of development research and advisory work on poverty, food security, public services, governance and gender issues. My experience includes extensive interdisciplinary field research, multi-country and multi-site research programme management, use of gender and political economy analysis, high-impact communications work, evidence-based programme design and evaluation, and programmatic and research fund-raising. I have taught postgraduate courses on the history of poverty, civil society, power and empowerment, as well as on social protection, gender equality and education, and undergraduate courses across the range of development studies topics. My current research interests focus on the popular politics of subsistence crises, and societal responses to the globalization of food. I am currently based in Washington DC, and have also lived in Bangladesh, Indonesia and the UK.

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### EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

**2003** **DPhil (awarded unconditionally)**  
Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, UK

**1996** **MA (Econ) in Social Anthropology (with Distinction)**  
London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

**1994** **BA (Hons) in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Upper Second/2:1)**  
Somerville College, University of Oxford, UK

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### RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

**2008 – PRESENT** **Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, UK**

**Research themes & projects** Popular politics. Principal Investigator on research project [\*Food Riots and Food Rights: the moral and political economy of accountability for hunger\*](#) in Bangladesh, India, Kenya and Mozambique (DFID-UK Economic and Social Research Council funded; £0.5 million, 2012-14)

Pro-poor public service delivery. Original research on the governance and politics of education, social protection and health, with a focus on Bangladesh and Indonesia. Recent projects include a study of the unconditional cash transfer scheme, and a political economy study of education quality reforms (with ESID/University of Manchester)

Social impacts of economic crises. Coordinator of research on community-level impacts of food, fuel and financial crises. Research in 14 countries since 2009 (funded by DFID, Irish Aid, Oxfam GB, Joseph Rowntree Foundation). Currently coordinating *Life in a Time of Food Price Volatility*, a [10 country 4 year study of the impacts of food price volatility on everyday life in partnership with Oxfam GB](#), coordinating the research in a project worth £1.2m.

Women's empowerment. Research and advisory work on women's political and civic participation, security, access to public services, and on women's unpaid care work, including a partnership with World Food Program on gender mainstreaming.

#### **Other responsibilities and achievements**

Postgraduate teaching on thematic and sectoral issues relating to state-society relations, including power, popular mobilization and public service delivery. PhD supervisees have conducted research on community policing in Tanzania, parental participation in education in Kenya and state-building in the DRC

Member of an interim team leadership group with responsibilities for human resource management (2009-10)

Contributor to fund-raising for recent collective Institute projects include the [Bellagio Initiative partnership with Rockefeller Foundation](#), the SIDA-funded [Gender, Power and Sexuality Programme](#), and a [GRoW-funded project on women's unpaid care work](#).

I am a regular blogger on the IDS website and an [occasional contributor to others](#). Research I have led has featured in news providers including the UK *Guardian*, *El Mundo*, *Der Spiegel*, *The Economist*, BBC Radio and in newspapers and sites from across Sub-Saharan Africa and South and Southeast Asia.

**2007**

#### **Visiting Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore**

Awarded a three month residential fellowship to write up research on accountability in public services in Bangladesh

**2004 – 2008**

#### **Coordinator, Governance Research Group, BRAC Research and Evaluation Division, Bangladesh**

#### **Key responsibilities & achievements**

Designed and lead national research into governance and institutional dimensions of public service delivery including education, social protection, poverty, human security. Led 18-member team of international and national researchers to launch BRAC University's flagship *State of Governance in Bangladesh* Report in 2006. This involved research, partnership and team management, and high-impact dissemination

Led a team of 20 on a large scale qualitative study as part of a public expenditure tracking survey, involving primary research in primary and secondary schools, education administration offices and health facilities

Led a baseline national crime and human security survey of Bangladesh, involving advocacy with aid donors, NGOs, government and security forces and development of gender- and ethnicity-sensitive indicators of crime, violence and human insecurity

Supported design and evaluation of BRAC's antipoverty, human rights, legal, social protection and local governance programmes. Evidence-based design of BRAC programme on local governance

National policy advocacy, dissemination and communications

Managing external relations, fund-raising and partnerships, including drafting a successful \$150 million proposal to a donor consortium for a programme designed to reach 0.8 million ultra poor women

Managed a team of 12 core researchers, including staff career development

**1996-2004**

#### **Researcher (various roles), Institute of Development Studies, UK**

#### **Key activities and projects**

Member of a DFID-funded CERES (Bolivia) and IDS project investigating the sociology of aid donor-recipient relations (2003-4)

Research Officer (1997-9) on a DFID-funded multi-country research project into *Elite Perceptions of Poverty and Inequality*. Responsible for the Bangladesh case study. This led to further commissioned research for DFID and the *World Development Report* on engaging with policy elites. The Bangladesh case was written up as a doctoral dissertation, now published as a book

Joint author of a study on the politics of educational expansion in Bangladesh

In-house Research Assistant (1996-7), providing research support on food security, famine, and livelihood adaptation; gender and poverty; political development and governance

Contracted research outputs, including for ILO, DFID and UNESCO.

Postgraduate teaching, including supervision of MPhil student dissertations.

**1994-1995**

**Staff Economist, BRAC, Bangladesh**

Employed to research the gender impacts of BRAC's antipoverty programmes.

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## SELECTED RECENT ADVISORY/ CONSULTANCY WORK

**2010 - present**

### **Governance, politics and human rights**

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF)/DFID Bangladesh, 2011-12; 2014

Support to development of a multi-million dollar programme on human rights and good governance in Bangladesh, 2011-12

Annual Review of MJF programme

CARE International, 2011

Support to development of Governance Programming Framework

Multi-donor Governance Local Consultative Group, Bangladesh, 2010

Member of a team preparing a country governance assessment for a donor consortium.

### **Social protection / pro-poor public services**

World Food Programme, 2014

Member of a team conducting analytical review of WFP's *Enhancing Resilience* programme in Bangladesh

Australian Government (formerly AusAid), 2014

Member of a team preparing a study on exclusion from social protection

Government of Indonesia/ TNP2K/GRM

Research coordinator for large qualitative study of the social impacts of a conditional cash transfer scheme (BLT), working with Oxford Policy Management Limited)

Chronic Poverty Research Centre and Chronic Poverty Advisory Network, 2010 - 12

Policy guide on chronic poverty and education (for GTZ) 2011-12

Commissioned background papers for multi-country projects on *The Governance of Chronic Poverty* (2010).

UN Secretary General's Office / Global Pulse 2010

Consultant on a report on the global economic crisis, *Voices of the Vulnerable*

### **Gender and women's empowerment**

World Food Program, 2013- ongoing

Member of a team supporting gender mainstreaming across the WFP through a pilot participatory action learning project in 5 Country Offices

World Bank Social Protection Unit, 2011-12

Commissioned paper on Gender, Human Rights and Social Protection in Bangladesh

World Bank World Development Report Team, 2011

Background paper for the 2012 WDR on women's empowerment in Bangladesh

UNDP / Swiss Development Cooperation, Bangladesh, 2011

Led a team investigating issues of gender, power and politics in relation to decentralisation

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## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

### Books and book sections

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- The Aid Lab: Understanding Bangladesh's Unexpected Success*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (forthcoming in 2016)
- Living through Crises: How the food, fuel, and financial shocks affect the poor*. Washington DC: World Bank (2012; editor, with R. Heltberg and A. Reva) (and co-authored chapters within)
- 'Poverty Reduction and MDG Localization: a case study of the IGVGD Programme in Bangladesh'. Chapter in P. Steele, N. Fernando and M. Weddikara (eds) *Poverty Reduction that Works: Experience of Scaling Up Development Success*, UNDP/Earthscan (2008, co-authored with N. Zahra)
- 'Expanding Access to Education in Bangladesh', chapter in D. Narayan and E. Glinskaya (eds) *Ending Poverty: Ideas that work in South Asia*, Washington DC: World Bank (2006)
- So near and yet so far: elites and imagined poverty in Bangladesh', in E. Reis and M. Moore (eds) *Elite Perceptions of Poverty*, London: Zed Press (2005; with M. Moore)
- 'Elites, poverty and public policy', in E. Reis and M. Moore (eds) *Elite Perceptions of Poverty*, London: Zed Press (2005; with M. Moore)
- Elite perceptions of poverty in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: University Press Limited (2005)

### Peer reviewed journal articles

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- 'Moral Economy in a Global Era: The Politics of Provisions during Contemporary Food Price Spikes'. *Journal of Peasant Studies* 41 (5) 815-31 (2014; with D. Kalita)
- 'Coping and resilience during the food, fuel and financial crises'. *Journal of Development Studies* (2013; with R. Heltberg, C. Turk. and A. Reva)
- 'A 'lost generation'? Impacts of complex compound crises on children and young people'. *Development Policy Review* (2011; with J. A. McGregor)
- 'Rude Accountability: Informal Pressures on Frontline Bureaucrats in Bangladesh'. *Development and Change* (2010) 41 (5) 907-928
- 'Invisible impacts and lost opportunities: evidence of the global recession in developing countries'. *Journal of Poverty and Social Justice* (2010; lead author, with co-authors R. Fillaili and G. Lubaale)
- 'School exclusion as social exclusion: the practices and effects of a conditional cash transfer programme for the poor in Bangladesh'. *Journal of Development Studies* Volume 46, Issue 7, 1264 – 1282 (2010)
- 'National Discourses on Women's Empowerment in Bangladesh: Enabling or constraining women's choices?' *Development* 53(2) 239–246, (2010; with M. Sultan and S. Nazneen)
- 'Reading Political Responses to Food, Fuel and Financial Crises: The return of the moral economy?' *Development* 52 (3) 329-333 (2009)
- 'Engaging elite support for the poorest? BRAC's Targeted Ultra Poor programme for rural women in Bangladesh', *Development in Practice* (2007; with I. Matin)
- 'Productivity and virtue: elite categories of the poor in Bangladesh', *World Development* 33 (6) (2005) 965-977

### Major reports since 2010

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- 'Delicious, Disgusting, Dangerous: Eating in a Time of Food Price Volatility, Year 3'. Brighton: Institute of Development Studies/Oxfam GB (2015; with A. W. Kelbert, P. Scott-Villiers, R. King, N. Chisholm)
- 'Help Yourself! Findings from Life in a Time of Food Price Volatility, Year 2'. Oxford: Oxfam GB (with Richard King and Alexandra Wanjiku Kelbert; 2014)
- 'Squeezed: Findings from Life in a Time of Food Price Volatility, Year 1'. Oxford: Oxfam GB (with Richard King and Alexandra Wanjiku Kelbert; 2013)
- 'The social impacts of cash transfer programmes in Indonesia: a qualitative assessment'. Paper prepared for TNP2K/Government of Indonesia (with co-authors; 2012)

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- Exports, equity and empowerment: The effects of readymade garments manufacturing employment on gender equality in Bangladesh'. Background paper for the *World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development*. Washington DC: World Bank (2011)
- 'Prospects and pitfalls: Gender, human rights and social protection in Bangladesh'. Paper commissioned by the World Bank Social Protection Unit (2012)
- 'Security and the Pathways of Women's Empowerment: Findings from a Thematic Synthesis of the Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research'. Pathways of Women's Empowerment RPC paper (2011)
- 'Living on a Spike: How is the 2011 food crisis affecting poor people?' Oxford: IDS/Oxfam GB (2011, with D. Green)
- 'The impact of the global economic downturn on communities and poverty in the UK'. York: Joseph Rowntree Foundation (2011; lead author)
- 'Corruption, Accountability and Gender: Understanding the Connections'. UNDP Primers in Gender and Democratic Governance. New York: United Nations Development Programme (2011; with C. Nyamu-Musembi).
- 'Voices of the Vulnerable: Recovery from the Ground Up'. New York: Global Pulse/ United Nations Secretary General's Office (2010; co-authored on behalf of UN Secretary-General Ban-Ki Moon, with J. A. McGregor)
- 'The Social Impacts of Crisis: Findings from community-level research in five developing countries'. Mimeo, Brighton:

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### **Other publications since 2010**

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- 'A Common Sense Approach to the Right to Food'. *IDS working paper 458*. Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (with Dolf te Lintelo and Alexandra Wanjiku Kelbert. 2015)
- 'Them Belly Full (But We Hungry): Food Rights Struggles in Bangladesh, India, Kenya and Mozambique'. Synthesis report from the DFID-ESRC Food Riots and Food Rights project. Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (with Team; 2014).
- 'The food riots that never were: the moral and political economy of food security in Bangladesh'. Brighton: Institute of Development Studies. Output from a DFID-ESRC research project *Food Riots and Food Rights*. (2014; with Ferdous Jahan)
- 'Who Wants to Farm? Youth Aspirations, Opportunities and Rising Food Prices'. *IDS working paper 439*. Brighton: Institute of Development Studies (with Jennifer Leavy; 2014).
- 'Poor Man's Patriarchy: gender roles and global crises'. *IDS Bulletin 45* (1) 20-8 (2013; with Alexandra Wanjiku Kelbert)
- 'Security and the Pathways of Women's Empowerment: Findings from a Thematic Synthesis of the Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research'. *IDS working paper 406* (2012).
- 'Women's empowerment revisited'. *IDS working paper 389* (2012)
- 'Time to Reimagine Development?'. *IDS Bulletin* vol.42 (5) September 2011 (editor, with L. Haddad, L. Mehta and J. A. McGregor)
- 'National Discourses on Women's Empowerment in Bangladesh: Continuities and Change', *IDS working paper* no. 368 (2011; with S. Nazneen and M. Sultan)