



COVID-19 Impact on Urban Slums and Low Income Settlement: Education, Psychosocial Wellbeing and Coping

Timeline: 1st March- Ongoing

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Brief Overview: In Bangladesh, the total number of slum dwellers accounts for 6.33% of the urban population and 1.48% of the total population of the country (Population and Housing Census 2011). Most residents of slums and low income settlements, survive on daily wages which only allows them to have little to no savings. Moreover, these low income settlements are crowded, where big families live in single rooms with shared latrines and kitchens, and also lack basic health services. Thus, preventive measures for this pandemic such as maintaining hygiene and distancing from others is not a feasible option in such areas. Adolescents, who are in a transition period in their lives both physically and emotionally tend to be affected in

specific ways in such conditions. This rapid qualitative research therefore attempts to understand the impact of the pandemic and countrywide lockdown on the lived realities of adolescent boys and girls, living in slums and low- income settlements in Dhaka.

Objectives:

1. To understand the impact of Covid-19 and state sanctioned lockdown on lives and education of adolescents living in urban slums and low income settlements.
2. To identify the factors affecting psychosocial wellbeing of adolescents and to explore their coping strategies during the pandemic.

Methodology: Qualitative research methods via phone interviews

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