

# Conference Agenda

## 8th SANEM Annual Economists' Conference (SAEC) 2025



## Restoring Stability in the Economic and Political Landscapes: Navigating Fragility to Resilience

21-23 February 2025  
BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

In Partnership with



International  
Labour  
Organization



INTERNATIONAL  
FOOD POLICY  
RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE



Australian High Commission  
Bangladesh



UK International  
Development  
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8th SANEM Annual Economists' Conference (SAEC) 2025

## Restoring Stability in the Economic and Political Landscapes: Navigating Fragility to Resilience

21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

### February 21, 2025

06:00 pm - **Keynote Address:**  
08:00 pm **Implications of Goeconomic Fragmentation For South Asia**

### February 22, 2025

09:00 am - **Registration**  
09:15 am  
09:15 am - **Opening Session**  
09:30 am  
09:30 am - **Breakout Sessions**  
11:00 am **1, 2, 3, 4, 5**  
11:00 am - **Tea/Coffee Break**  
11:30 am  
11:30 am - **Panel Session:**  
01:30 pm **Building Democratic Political Order in Post Insurrection Bangladesh: Putting Citizens in the Driver's Seat**  
01:30 pm - **Lunch**  
02:30 pm  
02:30 pm - **Breakout Sessions**  
04:00 pm **6, 7, 8, 9, 10**  
04:00 pm - **Tea/Coffee Break**  
04:15 pm  
04:15 pm - **Panel Session:**  
05:45 pm **Trade and Investment in Turbulent Time**  
05:45 pm - **Break**  
06:00 pm  
06:00 pm - **Panel Session:**  
07:30 pm **Investing in the Future: Education, Healthcare, and Child Protection for a Resilient Bangladesh**  
07:30 pm **Dinner**

### February 23, 2025

09:15 am - **Recap Session**  
09:30 am  
09:30 am - **Breakout Sessions**  
11:00 am **11, 12, 13, 14, 15**  
11:00 am - **Tea/Coffee Break**  
11:30 am  
11:30 am - **Breakout Sessions**  
01:00 pm **16, 17, 18, 19, 20**  
01:00 pm - **Lunch**  
02:00 pm  
02:00 pm - **Panel Session:**  
04:00 pm **Restoring Stability in Economic Landscape in Bangladesh: Navigating Reform Agendas**  
04:00 pm - **Tea/Coffee Break**  
04:15 pm  
04:15 pm - **Panel Session:**  
05:45 pm **Setting the Labour Market Priorities Right for Bangladesh**  
05:45 pm - **Break**  
06:00 pm  
06:00 pm - **Panel Session:**  
07:30 pm **Unpacking Bangladesh's Economic Resilience**  
07:30 pm - **Closing and Cultural Ceremony**  
08:00 pm  
08:00 pm **Dinner**

\*All times are in GMT+6, Bangladesh Standard Time

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Partnership | Progress | Prosperity





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21-23 February 2025

BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

*All times are in GMT+6, Bangladesh Standard Time*

### Day 01 | 21 February 2025 | Friday

06:00 pm – 08:00 pm

Keynote Address: "Implications of Geoeconomic Fragmentation For South Asia"

#### **Platform: Zoom**

Moderator

**Dr Selim Raihan**, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Executive Director, SANEM

Conference Keynote Speaker

**Dr Franziska Ohnsorge**, Chief Economist, South Asia Region, The World Bank

Distinguished Discussants

**Dr Shantayanan Devarajan**, Professor of the Practice and Chair, International Development Concentration, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University

**Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya**, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

**Dr Deepak Mishra**, Director and Chief Executive, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)



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21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

### Day 02 | 22 February 2025 | Saturday

09:00 am – 09:15 am

Registration

09:15 am – 09:30 am

Opening Session

#### **Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

Welcome Remarks

**Dr Selim Raihan**, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Executive Director, SANEM

**Owais Parray**, Senior Economic Adviser, UNDP Bangladesh

09:30 am – 11:00 am

Breakout Sessions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Breakout Session 1

Enhancing Agricultural Growth

#### **Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

**(In Association with IFPRI)**

Chair

**Dr Daniel Gilligan**, Director, Poverty, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) Unit, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

#### **Paper Presentations:**

- “Boosting Agricultural Growth to Improve Lives and Livelihoods” by **Dr Akhter Ahmed**, Country Representative for Bangladesh, IFPRI
- “Promoting Agricultural Development through Farm Mechanization” by **Dr Ben Belton**, Research Fellow; **Dr Mehrab Bakhtiar**, Research Fellow and **Dr Moogdho Mahzab**, Associate Research Fellow, IFPRI
- “Resource Allocation to Address Food Insecurity and Environmental Vulnerabilities” by **Dr Moogdho Mahzab**, Associate Research Fellow, IFPRI

Breakout Session 2

Labour Market Issues I

#### **Venue: Conference Room, 1st Floor**

Chair

**Dr Rizwanul Islam**, Former Special Adviser, Employment Sector, International Labour Office (ILO), Geneva

Discussant

**Kashfi Rayan**, Research Associate, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)



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### Paper Presentations:

- "What Influences the Paycheck: A Macroscopic Analysis of Gender Wage Gaps Across Economies", by **Sabiha Sharmin**, Graduate Student, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- "Factors Affecting Unpaid Care Work in Households of Bangladesh: Findings from the Labour Force Survey 2022", by **Amirus Salehin Ha-meem** and Modassar Munawar Rajgir, Students, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- "Urban Labor Markets & Social Hierarchies: Caste and Gender in Employment", by **Dr Jyoti Thakur**, Associate Fellow, National Institute of Social and Economic Change, India (*Online*)
- "Impact of Government Job Age Cut-off on Labor Market Outcomes of College Graduates", by Dr Md Shahadath Hossain, Assistant Professor, University of Houston and **Elisa Taveras**, Assistant Professor, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, USA (*online*)

Breakout Session 3

Poverty, Inequality and Household Welfare

### Venue: Meeting Room 1, 3rd Floor

Chair	<b>Dr S.M. Zulfiqar Ali</b> , Research Director, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)
Discussant	<b>Dr Azreen Karim</b> , Senior Research Fellow, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

### Paper Presentations:

- "Can Financial Inclusion Reduce Vulnerability to Poverty? Empirical Evidence from Eastern Rural India", by **Dr Sunil Khosla**, Assistant Professor, VIT-AP University, Andhra Pradesh, India and Rajashree Patra, PhD Student, School of Social Sciences and Humanities, VIT-AP University, Andhra Pradesh, India
- "Modern-Day Slavery and Economic Inequality: A Comparative Study of Tea Workers in Bangladesh and Cocoa Workers in Ivory Coast", by **Tasfia Nishat**, Student, Department of Anthropology, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- "Examining the Impact of Financial Sector Development on Health Outcomes in Bangladesh: An ARDL Time-Series Approach", by **Sadia Afrin** and Tazneen Tanha, Graduate Students, Department of Economics, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh
- "Remittances as a Catalyst for Poverty Reduction in Nepal: Insights from National Living Standard Survey IV (NLSS IV)", by **Pawan Singh**, PhD Student and Dr Kalandi C Pradhan, Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Indore (IIT Indore), India





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# Restoring Stability in the Economic and Political Landscapes: Navigating Fragility to Resilience

21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

### Breakout Session 4

### Trade and Regional Integration

#### Venue: Meeting Room 2, 3rd Floor

Chair **Dr Sajjad Zohir**, Executive Director, Economic Research Group (ERG)

Discussant **Dr Md. Deen Islam**, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka

#### Paper Presentations:

- "Comparative Study of the Impact of the Indian Transportation Infrastructure on Firm-level Performance Using with Focus on Inland Waterways", by Archana Srivastava, Associate Professor, Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Hyderabad; Dr Somesh Kumar Mathur, Professor, IIT Kanpur; **Manish Chauhan**, Research Scholar, IIT Kanpur and Dr Prabir De, Professor, RIS, New Delhi, India
- "Determinants of Intra-Industry Trade: A Case of LDC-Nepal", by Sunit Shrestha, Patan Multiple Campus, Tribhuvan University; **Dr Ramesh Paudel**, Associate Professor, Central Department of Economics and Dr Raghubir Bista, Patan Multiple Campus, Tribhuvan University, Nepal
- "Export Granularity and Trade Competitiveness of the Indian Manufacturing Sector", by **Husaindad Hassani**, Research Scholar and Dr Sarath Chandran B.P., Professor of Economics, Goa University, India
- "Indonesia-Sri Lanka Preferential Trade Agreement: A Framework for Product Selection for Liberalization", by **Korathotage Rashmi Anupama**, Research Assistant and Dr Asanka Wijesinghe, Research Fellow, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (*Online*)

### Breakout Session 5

### Gender Economics

#### Venue: Meeting Room 3, 3rd Floor

Chair **Sharmin Islam**, Gender Team Leader, UNDP Bangladesh

Discussant **Aditi Sabur**, Associate Professor, Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Dhaka

#### Paper Presentations:

- "Econometric Analysis Regarding the Probability of a Woman Justifying Household Physical Abuse Based on Various Economic, Educational, Social, and Circumstantial Factors: Using Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) Data", by **Rassiq Aziz Kabir**, Research Associate, Research and Policy Integration for Development (RAPID), Bangladesh
- "Understanding Female Underrepresentation in Construction: A Bangladesh Case Study" by **Eshrat Sharmin**, Deputy Director, SAMEM; Dipa Das, Research Associate, SANEM and Ekramul Hasan, Research Consultant, World Bank, Bangladesh
- "Exploring Labor Force Participation among Educated Women in Sri Lanka", by **Christeen Masha**, Research Assistant, Centre for Poverty Analysis, Sri Lanka
- "Signing for Safety: Does Mandatory Marriage Registration Reduce Domestic Violence?", by **Rikhia Bhukta**, PhD Student, IIT Kanpur; Debayan Pakrashi, Associate Professor, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) Kolkata; Dr Sarani Saha, Professor, IIT Kanpur, India and Dr Ashish Sedai, Assistant Professor, University of Texas at Arlington, USA (*Online*)



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21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

11:00 am – 11:30 am

Tea/Coffee Break

11:30 am – 01:30 pm

Panel Session: "Building Democratic Political Order in Post Insurrection Bangladesh: Putting Citizens in the Driver's Seat"

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

Special Guest

**Professor Rehman Sobhan**, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

Chair

**Professor Rounaq Jahan**, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

Presentation by

**Dr Mirza M. Hassan**, Senior Research Fellow, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)

Distinguished Panelists

**Dr Ali Riaz**, Head, Constitutional Reform Commission and Distinguished Professor, Illinois State University, USA

**Barrister Sara Hossain**, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh

**Ruhin Hossain Prince**, General Secretary, Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB)

**Dr Asif M. Shahan**, Professor, Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka

**Sarwar Tusher**, Co-convener, Jatiya Nagorik Committee

01:30 pm – 02:30 pm

Lunch

02:30 pm – 04:00 pm

Breakout Sessions 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Breakout Session 6

Revamping Social Protection and Improving Nutrition Outcomes

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

**(In Association with IFPRI)**

Chair

**Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman**, Executive Chairman, Power & Participation Research Centre (PPRC)

Discussant

**Dr Imran Matin**, Executive Director, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)

### Paper Presentations:

- "Reforming the Social Security System in Bangladesh" by **Dr Akhter Ahmed**, Country Representative for Bangladesh, IFPRI
- "Promoting Sustained Poverty Reduction and Resilience through Social Protection" by **Dr Akhter Ahmed**, Country Representative for Bangladesh, IFPRI
- "Inequities in Nutrient Intakes: Intra-household Dynamics" by **Razin Iqbal Kabir**, Senior Program Manager, and **Sonjida Mesket Simi**, Research Analyst, IFPRI



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# Restoring Stability in the Economic and Political Landscapes: Navigating Fragility to Resilience

21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

### Breakout Session 7

### Macroeconomic Issues I

#### Venue: Conference Room, 1st Floor

Chair	<b>Dr Syed M. Ahsan</b> , Professor Emeritus, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada and Visiting Fellow, BIDS
Discussant	<b>Mahtab Uddin</b> , Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Research Director, SANEM

#### Paper Presentations:

- "Impact of Macroeconomic Variables on Common Stock Returns", by **Dr Shiva Raj Poudel**, Assistant Professor, Far Western University, Nepal
- "Responsiveness of Macroeconomic Variables to Interest Rate Shock on the Economy of Bangladesh: A Structural Vector Autoregression (SVAR) Approach", by **Afsara Tasnim**, Research Associate, RAPID, Bangladesh
- "Time-varying Causality between Money Supply Growth and Inflation in Bangladesh: New Evidence from Quantity Theory of Money", by Dr Sayera Younus, Executive Director (Research) and **Dr Ripon Roy**, Additional Director (Research); Bangladesh Bank (*Online*)
- "Asymmetric Nexus between Economic Policy Uncertainty and the Indian Stock market in the Presence of Structural Breaks: Evidence Using NARDL Approach", by **Abdul Moizz**, PhD Student and Dr S.M. Jawed Akhtar, Professor, Department of Economics, Aligarh Muslim University, India (*Online*)
- "What Factors Influence Chinese Government Bond Yields?", by Tanweer Akram, Independent Researcher, USA and **Dr Shahida Pervin**, Assistant Professor, Waseda University, Japan (*Online*)

### Breakout Session 8

### Impacts of Climate Change I

#### Venue: Meeting Room 1, 3rd Floor

Chair	<b>Dr Bazlul Haque Khondker</b> , Chairman, South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM)
Discussant	<b>Syed Yusuf Saadat</b> , Research Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

#### Paper Presentations:

- "How Much Income Gap Persists Across Gender Dimensions Due to Climate Change? New Evidence from Bangladesh", by **Dr Azreen Karim**, Senior Research Fellow, BIDS, Bangladesh
- "Assessing Out-of-Pocket Healthcare Expenditure Driven by Floods in Bangladesh: Evidence from Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2022", by **Minhajul Hasan Papon**, Junior Officer, NRB Bank PLC and Toumik Akter Snaha, Research Officer, Unnayan Shamannay, Bangladesh
- "Socio-Economic Impacts of Floods on Riverine Households: A Study on Teesta River Basin Area", by **S. M. Samiul Morsaline**, Graduate Student, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh
- "Quantifying The Impact of Economic Resilience and Climate Resilience on Sustainable Economic Development: A Cross-Country Panel Data Analysis", by **Dr Md. Bokhtiar Hasan**, Associate Professor, Department of Finance and Banking, Islamic University, Bangladesh; Gazi Salah Uddin, Biträdande Professor, Department of Management and Engineering, Linköping University, Sweden; Donghyun Park, Economic Adviser, Economic Research and Development Impact Department, Asian Development Bank, Philippines; Md. Sumon Ali, PhD Student, Department of Finance, University of Texas at El Paso, USA and John Beirne, Principal Economist, Macroeconomics Research Division, Asian Development Bank, Philippines





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## Restoring Stability in the Economic and Political Landscapes: Navigating Fragility to Resilience

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Breakout Session 9

Human Capital Development

**Venue: Meeting Room 2, 3rd Floor**

Chair **Dr Atonu Rabbani**, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka  
Discussant **Dr Mohammad Riaz Uddin**, Research Fellow, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

### Paper Presentations:

- "Impact of Government Investment in Human Capital on Harnessing Bangladesh's Demographic Dividend: An ARDL Analysis", by **Shafa Tasneem**, Research Associate, SANEM and Sourav Bhattacharjee, Assistant Officer, NCC Bank PLC, Bangladesh
- "A Cross-Industry Comparison of Intellectual Capital's Impact on Productivity and Financial Performance: A Panel Data Analysis of Pharmaceutical and Banking Sector in Bangladesh", by **Lamisa Ahsan**, Graduate Student, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- "Parent's Assessment of Children's Learning Abilities and their School-based Involvement: Evidence from an Experimental Survey of Low Achieving Learners in Uttar Pradesh, India", by **Rajalaxmi Singh**, PhD Student, Centre for Development Studies (CDS-JNU), Thiruvananthapuram, India; Dr Ricardo Sabates, Professor, University of Cambridge, UK and Dr Thiagu Ranganathan, Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, India (*Online*)
- "Lucas Meets Heckman in India: Expansion, Inequality and Social Stratification in Higher Educational Attainment", by **Kaibalyapati Mishra**, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru, India (*Online*)

Breakout Session 10

Energy Security, Green Growth & Environment I

**Venue: Meeting Room 3, 3rd Floor**

Chair **Md. Shahriar Ahmed Chowdhury**, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, United International University  
Discussant **Shafiqul Alam**, Lead Analyst, Bangladesh Energy, Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA)

### Paper Presentations:

- "Assessing the Investment Needs for A Transition to Renewable Energy in the Power Sector of Bangladesh by 2041", by Dr Selim Raihan, Professor, University of Dhaka; Dr Sayema Haque Bidisha, Pro-VC, University of Dhaka; Israt Hossain, Senior Research Associate, SANEM; **Ekramul Hasan**, Research Consultant, The World Bank and Khandakar Iffah, Graduate Student, University of California, USA
- "Risk Analysis and Cost Implications of LNG Imports in South Asia: Evidence from Bangladesh and Pakistan", by **Nizia Mus-Hiba Ahona**, Graduate Student, East West University, Bangladesh
- "Does Governance Matter for The Transition Toward Renewable Energy? Evidence from the RCEP Countries", by **Sayed Arafat Zubayer**, Graduate Student, Department of Economics, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology and Md. Tuhin Ahmed, Lecturer of Economics, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, Bangladesh
- "Climate Shocks and Income Smoothing Behavior in Nepal: Smoothing Consumption by Smoothing Income", by **Sushant Rijal**, Student, School of Arts, Kathmandu University, Nepal (*Online*)



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21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

04:00 pm - 04:15 pm

Tea/Coffee Break

04:15 pm - 05:45 pm

Panel Session: "Trade and Investment in Turbulent Time"

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

**(In Association with UNDP)**

Chair

**Owais Parray**, Senior Economic Adviser, UNDP Bangladesh

Distinguished Panelists

**Dr Selim Raihan**, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Executive Director, SANEM

**Dr Zaidi Sattar**, Chairman, Policy Research Institute (PRI)

**Dr Mohammad Abdur Razzaque**, Chairman, Research and Policy Integration for Development (RAPID)

**Dr M. Masrur Reaz**, Chairman & CEO, Policy Exchange Bangladesh (PEB)

05:45 pm - 06:00 pm

Break

06:00 pm - 07:30 pm

Panel Session: "Investing in the Future: Education, Healthcare, and Child Protection for a Resilient Bangladesh"

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

Moderator

**Mahtab Uddin**, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Research Director, SANEM

Distinguished Panelists

**Dr Shafiun Nahin Shimul**, Professor, Institute of Health Economics, University of Dhaka

**Dr Rubaiya Murshed**, Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka

**Tashmina Rahman**, Senior Education Specialist, The World Bank

07:30 pm

Dinner



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21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

Day 03 | 23 February 2025 | Sunday

09:15 am – 09:30 am

Recap Session

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

Remarks

**Dr Selim Raihan**, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Executive Director, SANEM

09:30 am – 11:00 am

Breakout Sessions 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Breakout Session 11

Macroeconomic Issues II

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

Chair

**Dr Monzur Hossain**, Research Director, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

Discussant

**Jillur Rahman**, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Jagannath University and Deputy Director, RAPID

**Paper Presentations:**

- “The Impact of Central Bank Independence on Inflation: Empirical Evidence from Developing Countries” by **Robin Chandra Paul**, Deputy Director, Bangladesh Bank
- “Central Banks’ Capacity to Intervene and Exchange Rate Volatility” by **Dr Stefy Carmel**, Lecturer, Madras School of Economics and **Dr M Ramachandran**, Professor, Department of Economics, Pondicherry University, India
- “Rethinking Fiscal Policy to Finance SDGs in South Asia” by **Mohammad Nazmul Avi Hossain**, Senior Programme Officer, International Labour Organization (ILO) and **Dr Iyanatul Islam**, Adjunct Professor, Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia
- “Growth Under Uncertainty–Heterogeneous Impacts of Economic Policy Shocks: Evidence from a Panel Quantile Regression”, by **Dr Jadhav Chakradhar**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Economics and Social Studies (CESS) and **Alok Aditya**, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), India (*Online*)
- “The Effects of Macroeconomic Shocks and Uncertainty on Bangladesh’s Fiscal Sustainability”, **Mohammad Mahabub Alam**, PhD Student, Australian National University, Australia (*Online*)



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Breakout Session 12

Governance & Political Economy I

**Venue: Conference Room, 1st Floor**

Chair **Dr Mahbubul Mokaddem**, Former Chairman, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka

Discussant **Towfiqul Islam Khan**, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

**Paper Presentations:**

- "Silicosis Awareness and Policy in Indian Parliament: A Text Data Analysis", by **Akash Pal**, PhD Student and Dr Pratap C Mohanty, Associate Professor, DHSS, IIT Roorkee, India
- "The Impact of Sovereign Defaults on Political Stability in Emerging Market and Developing Economies", by **Thisuri Rojje Ekanayake**, Programme and Research Officer, Arutha Research (Guaranteed) Ltd, Sri Lanka
- "Mega Projects of Bangladesh and the Governance Puzzle: Corruption, Institutional Failures, Policy Strategies for Enhanced Transparency and Efficiency", by **Tomalika Sarker**, Barna Khanam, Tasnim Khan; Graduate Students, Department of International Relations, and Md. Akib Ikbal, Graduate Student, Department of Public Administration, Gopalganj Science and Technology University, Bangladesh
- "The Role of Governance in Assuaging the Effect of Climate Change and Global Uncertainty on Household Consumption: Insights from Selected African Countries", by **Dr Richardson Kojo Edeme**, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Dennis Osadebay University, Nigeria and Sulemana Mumuni, Institute of Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences, Pan African University, Cameroon (*Online*)

Breakout Session 13

Agriculture, Food, Security & Livelihood I

**Venue: Meeting Room 1, 3rd Floor**

Chair **Dr Hasneen Jahan**, Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Bangladesh Agricultural University

Discussant **Dr Badrun Nessa Ahmed**, Senior Research Fellow, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

**Paper Presentations:**

- "Land, Learning, and Lending: How Landholding Size and Education Impact Credit Accessibility for Indian Farmers", by **Dr Zeeshan**, Assistant Professor, New Delhi Institute of Management, India
- "Analysing Cropping Intensity of Different Cropping Seasons in a Coastal Area of Bangladesh by Using Remote Sensing", by **Md. Nasimuzzaman Sabbir**, Graduate Student, Department of Agricultural Finance and Banking, Bangladesh Agricultural University; Md. Abdullah Aziz, Senior Scientific Officer, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute; Mst. Noorunnahar, Associate Professor; Monika Yeasmin Mow, Graduate Student, Gazipur Agricultural University; M. I. Hossain, Chief Scientific Officer; Rokib Ahmed, Cartographer; Md. Abdul Qayum, Senior Scientific Officer and Md. Asadullah, Data Analyst, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute
- "Climate Variability and its Impact on Food Consumption and Expenditure in Rural Bangladesh", by **Sudepto Roy**, Research Associate, SANEM, Bangladesh
- "Effects of Remittance on Dietary Diversity & Food Security: Evidence from HIES 2022", by **Mahjabin Rashid Lamisha**, Student, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh





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Breakout Session 14

Migration & Remittances

**Venue: Meeting Room 2, 3rd Floor**

Chair	<b>Dr Tasneem Arefa Siddiqui</b> , Professor & Chairperson, Department of Political Science, University of Dhaka
Discussant	<b>Rahnuma Salam Khan</b> , National Programme Manager, International Labour Organization (ILO)

### Paper Presentations:

- "Determinants and Challenges of Financial Inclusion in Bangladesh: Evidence from Global Findex Dataset" by Sajib Chowdhury, Research Officer, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB); Ashraful Islam, Adjunct Lecturer of Economics, North Western University, Khulna; Shanzida Akter Shanta, Student, Economics Discipline, Khulna University and **Sharmin Akter Keya**, Lecturer of Economics, Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology (AUST), Bangladesh
- "What Factors Affect Households' Decision to Be a New "International Migrant Household" in Rural Bangladesh? Evidence from a Unique Panel Data" by **Mahtab Uddin**, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Research Director, SANEM, Bangladesh
- "Dutch Disease Effects in a Remittance Economy", by **Ashutosh Ghimire**, Student of Economics and Mathematics, Tribhuvan University, Nepal
- "Analyzing the Impact of Remittance on the Labour Force Participation Rate: Evidence from Bangladesh" by **Afia Mubasshira Tiasha**, Senior Research Associate, SANEM and Tashfia Akan, Former Faculty member, Department of Economics and Business Studies, International Hope School, Bangladesh

Breakout Session 15

Energy Security, Green Growth & Environment II

**Venue: Meeting Room 3, 3rd Floor**

Chair	<b>Dr Mohammad Yunus</b> , Research Director, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)
Discussant	<b>Dr Sakib Bin Amin</b> , Associate Professor, Department of Economics, North South University

### Paper Presentations:

- "Assessing the Impact of EU's CBAM and Domestic Carbon Tax Policies: Implications for India", by **Raktimava Bose**, Consultant, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), India
- "Reducing Energy Use Costs through Solar-Powered Irrigation System in Bangladesh: A Pathway towards Economic Sustainability", by **Shahana Anam**, Graduate Student; Dr M. Nahid Sattar, Professor; Soriya Yeasmin and Israt Jerin Riha, Graduate Students, Department of Agricultural Economics, Bangladesh Agricultural University
- "Households' Willingness to Pay for Improved Solid Waste Disposal Services: A Study on Khulna City", by **Meheub Hassan**, Graduate Student, Economics Discipline, Khulna University, Bangladesh
- "Macropprudential Policy Analysis of Carbon Emission under Macro Dynamic Framework: A Case of India", by **Sayar Ahmad Shah**, PhD Student, Indian Institute of Technology Ropar, Punjab, India

11:00 am - 11:30 am

Tea/Coffee Break





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21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

11:30 am – 01:00 pm

Breakout Sessions 16, 17, 18, 19, 20

Breakout Session 16

Impacts of Climate Change II

**Venue: Conference Room, 1st Floor**

Chair **Professor Helal Ahammad**, Former Dean, School of Business & Economics, North South University

Discussant **Estiaque Bari**, Head of Research, Change Initiative

**Paper Presentations:**

- “Child Marriage, Natural Disaster and Climate Change Nexus in Rural Bangladesh”, by **Nabila Hasan**, PhD Student; Dr Johan Oldekop, Reader in Environment and Development, Global Development Institute and Dr Upasak Das, Senior Lecturer in Global Development Institute, School of Environment, Education and Development, University of Manchester, UK
- “Climate Change Impact on Indian Crop Yields: Retrospective Analysis and Future Projections” by **Amit Mitra**, Research Associate (Economist); Dr Souryabrata Mohapatra, Research Faculty, National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER); Srijia Basu Chaudhury, IIFT, Kolkata; Sovini Mondal and Sanjib Pohit, NCAER, India
- “Climate-Induced Migration: Identification of Alternative Cities to Dhaka and their Economic Opportunities”, by Dr Selim Raihan, Executive Director, SANEM; **Eshrat Sharmin**, Deputy Director, SANEM; and Md. Tuhin Ahmed, Lecturer, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, Bangladesh
- “Environmental Dependence and Economic Vulnerability in Nepal’s Rural Communities”, by **Sanjeev Nhemhafuki**, Graduate Student, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

Breakout Session 17

Governance & Political Economy II

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

Chair **Dr Kazi Maruful Islam**, Professor, Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka

Discussant **Dr Amin Masud Ali**, Professor, Department of Economics, Jahangirnagar University

**Paper Presentations:**

- “Do Ethics Matter in Economic Development? An Analysis of the Sri Lankan Experience”, by **Professor J. G. Sri Ranjith**, Department of Economics, University of Peradeniya and R.M. Malsha Mayoshi, Senior Lecturer, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka
- “Navigating Reforms: Sri Lanka’s Experience from Repeated Engagements with the IMF”, by **Dr Roshan Anne Perera**, Research Fellow; Suramyia Ameresekera, Research Consultant and Yasmin Raji, Deputy Manager Research; Advocata Institute, Sri Lanka
- “Beyond Traditional Metrics: Analyzing Sector-Specific Economic Trends for Bangladesh using Sentiment-driven Data”, by **Md Mashrukuzzaman**, Research Officer, RAPID and Dr Syed Abul Basher, Professor of Economics, East West University, Bangladesh
- “Media, Democracy and Globalization: A Micro-Theoretic Model of Politics of Perception”, **Sushobhan Mahata**, Senior Research Fellow, University of Calcutta; Ranjanendra Narayan Nag, St. Xavier’s College; Late Sarbajit Chaudhuri and Kausik Gupta, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, India



## 8th SANEM Annual Economists' Conference (SAEC) 2025

# Restoring Stability in the Economic and Political Landscapes: Navigating Fragility to Resilience

21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

Breakout Session 18

Agriculture, Food Security & Livelihood II

**Venue: Meeting Room 1, 3rd Floor**

Chair **Dr M. Nahid Sattar**, Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Bangladesh Agricultural University

Discussant **Md Jahid Ebn Jalal**, Deputy Director, Research and Policy Integration for Development (RAPID)

**Paper Presentations:**

- "Adoption of Multiple Agricultural Technologies Among Climate Smart Rice Farmers in Bangladesh", by **Mostafizur Rahman**, Research Officer, North South University, Bangladesh; Amin Mugeru, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, The University of Western Australia, Perth and Nazrul Islam, Visiting Professor, Department of Economics, North South University, Bangladesh
- "Adoption of Drought Tolerant Rice Variety (DTR) in a Climatic Vulnerable Area of Northern Bangladesh: An Economic Implication", by **Md. Rubel Ahmed**, Research Assistant; Dr Hasneen Jahan, Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics; Dr Md. Akhtaruzzaman Khan, Professor, Department of Agricultural Finance and Banking and Sawvik Kumar Ghosh, Graduate Student, Department of Agricultural Economics, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Bangladesh
- "Exploring the Impact of Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture on School Children's Nutrition and Local Farmers through Diversified Production Systems: A Case Study of the Pilot Home-Grown School Feeding Program in Sri Lanka", by **A.D.K.S.S. Somarathna**, Manager- Project; T. Devasagayam, MERL Specialist; P.S.S. Perera, Grant Implementation Manager; and R. Thavaseelan, Programme Director, ChildFund Sri Lanka
- "Structural Inequality and Socioeconomic Marginalization of Santal Women in Bangladesh's Agricultural Sector", by **Tasfia Rabbi Urnisha** and Owakila Tabassum Mumu, Graduate Students, BRAC University, Bangladesh

Breakout Session 19

Labour Market Issues II

**Venue: Meeting Room 2, 3rd Floor**

Chair **Dr Narayan C. Das**, Professor and Senior Research Fellow, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)

Discussant **Mahtab Uddin**, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Research Director, SANEM



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### Paper Presentations:

- "Pathways to Self-Employment and Employer Status: The Role of Demographic, Socioeconomic and Regional Factors in Shifting from Unpaid Labour", by Ekramul Hasan, Research Consultant, World Bank; **Dipa Das**, Research Associate, SANEM and Md Tuhin Ahmed, Lecturer of Economics, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, Bangladesh
- "Automation and Manufacturing Labor Market: A Quasi-Experimental Evidence from Bangladesh", by **Mohammad Mohidul Islam**, Additional Director, Bangladesh Bank
- "Invisible but Indispensable: Unpacking the Female Unpaid Work in India", by Dr Chayanika Mitra, Assistant Professor, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata and **Oishidatta Mukherjee**, Economic Analyst, Re-emerging World Pvt. Ltd, India (*Online*)

Breakout Session 20

Health Economics

**Venue: Meeting Room 3, 3rd Floor**

Chair **Professor Nahid Akhter Jahan**, Institute of Health Economics, University of Dhaka

Discussant **Dr Shafiun Nahin Shimul**, Professor, Institute of Health Economics, University of Dhaka

### Paper Presentations:

- "From Services to Outcomes: Evaluating Maternal Healthcare Service Efficiency across Indian Districts", by **Rashi Jain**, Senior Research Fellow and Pratap Chandra Mohanty, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India
- "Institutional Births and Child Mortality: Evidence from the Janani Suraksha Yojana in India", by **Ontiq Dey**, Graduate Student, Aalto University, Finland; Md Shahadath Hossain, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Houston and Syeda Tasnime Kabir, South Dakota State University, Brookings, USA
- "Does Mother's Bargaining Power Have Any Impact on Daughter's Menstrual Hygiene Practices? Evidence from Rural Bangladesh", by **Fariha Khan**, Research Associate, SANEM
- "Period. Not the end of sentence, opening discussion about period and putting men in hygienic menstrual practices in India", by **Dr Sukanya Sarkhel**, Assistant Professor, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata and Dr Prasenjit Sarkhel, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Kalyani, India (*Online*)

01:00 pm – 02:00 pm

Lunch



8th SANEM Annual Economists' Conference (SAEC) 2025

## Restoring Stability in the Economic and Political Landscapes: Navigating Fragility to Resilience

21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

02:00 pm – 04:00 pm

Panel Session: “Restoring Stability in Economic Landscape in Bangladesh: Navigating Reform Agendas”

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

Moderator

**Dr Selim Raihan**, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Executive Director, SANEM

Distinguished Panelists

**Dr KAS Murshid**, Former Director General, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

**Dr Zahid Hussain**, Former Lead Economist, World Bank Dhaka office

**Professor Mustafizur Rahman**, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

**Professor Sharmind Neelormi**, Department of Economics, Jahangirnagar University

**Dr Rumana Haque**, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka

04:00 pm – 04:15 pm

Tea/Coffee Break

04:15 pm – 05:45 pm

Panel Session: “Setting the Labour Market Priorities Right for Bangladesh”

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

**(In Association with ILO)**

Chair

**Dr Bazlul Haque Khondker**, Chairman, SANEM

Presentation by

**Dr Radhicka Kapoor**, Senior Specialist, Employment, ILO Decent Work Team – South Asia (*Online*)

Special Guest

**Tuomo Poutiainen**, Country Director, International Labour Organization (ILO), Bangladesh

Distinguished Panelists

**Dr Iyanatul Islam**, Adjunct Professor, Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University, Australia

**Dr Kazi Iqbal**, Research Director, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

**Syed Sultan Uddin Ahmmed**, Executive Director, Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies (BILS)

05:45 pm – 06:00 pm

Break



8th SANEM Annual Economists' Conference (SAEC) 2025

## Restoring Stability in the Economic and Political Landscapes: Navigating Fragility to Resilience

21-23 February 2025 | BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka

06:00 pm – 07:30 pm

Panel Session: “Unpacking Bangladesh’s Economic Resilience”

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

**(In Association with DFAT)**

Chair	<b>Ambassador Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury (Retd.) PhD</b> , Former Foreign Advisor, Caretaker Government of Bangladesh
Guest of Honour	<b>Clinton Pobke</b> , Deputy High Commissioner, Australian High Commission, Bangladesh
Presentation by	<b>Dr Selim Raihan</b> , Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Executive Director, SANEM
Distinguished Panelists	<b>Dr Fahmida Khatun</b> , Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) <b>Dr Lailufar Yasmin</b> , Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka <b>A.K.M Fahim Mashroor</b> , Co-founder and CEO, Bdjobs <b>Parvez Karim Abbasi</b> , Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, East West University

07:30 pm – 08:00 pm

Closing and Cultural Ceremony

**Venue: Auditorium, 2nd Floor**

Closing Remarks	<b>Dr Bazlul Haque Khondker</b> , Chairman, SANEM <b>Dr Selim Raihan</b> , Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Executive Director, SANEM <b>Mahtab Uddin</b> , Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka and Research Director, SANEM
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08:00 pm






Dinner





**SANEM, launched in January 2007 in Dhaka, is a non-profit research organization. It is a network of economists and policymakers with a special emphasis on economic modelling. The organization aims to promote objective and high-quality research in the areas of international trade, macroeconomy, poverty, labour market, environment, political economy and economic modelling. SANEM contributes to governments' policy-making by providing research support both at individual and organizational capacities. The organization prides itself on its robust research collaborations spanning global, regional, and local spectrums, including think tanks, research and development entities, academic institutions, and independent scholars.**



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