

IGC SOUTH ASIA GROWTH CONFERENCE

Jointly organised by Economic Research Group, Dhaka
July 15-16, 2012; Grand Ball Room, Hotel Pan Pacific Sonargaon Dhaka

Day 1: Sunday, July15, 2012

08.30 – 09.00	Registration
09.00 – 10.30	<p>Session 1: Inauguration: Major Issues in South Asian Economic Growth</p> <p>Chair: Wahiduddin Mahmud (Economic Research Group, Dhaka, and IGC)</p> <p>Chief Guest: Mr. A M A Muhith, Hon'ble Minister of Finance, GoB</p> <p>Special Guest: Dr. Mashiur Rahman, Economic Affairs Adviser to Hon'ble Prime Minister, GoB</p> <p>Speakers: Robin Burgess (London School of Economics and IGC), Tony Venables (Oxford University and IGC), Mark Rosenzweig (Yale University), Ijaz Nabi (Lahore University of Management Sciences and IGC), Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University and IGC)</p>
10.30 – 10.45	Tea Break
10.45 – 12.30	<p>Session 2: Economic Costs of Arsenic Contamination</p> <p>Chair: Siddiq Osmani (ERG and University of Ulster, UK)</p> <p>Presenters: Mark Rosenzweig (Yale University) on <i>Identifying the hidden costs of a public health success: arsenic well water contamination and productivity in Bangladesh</i> (co-authored with Mark M. Pitt, Brown University, and Nazmul Hassan, Dhaka University); Alexander van Geen (Lamont-Doherty Observatory of Columbia University) and Kazi Matin Ahmed (Dhaka University) on <i>Recommendations based on twelve years of arsenic mitigation in Araihaazar, Bangladesh</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch
13.30 – 15.15	<p>Session 3: Agriculture, Manufacturing and Land Issues</p> <p>Chair: Robin Burgess, Professor of Economics, LSE</p> <p>Presenters: Andrew D. Foster (Brown University) on <i>Are Indian farms too small? Mechanization agency costs, and farm efficiency</i> (co-authored with M. Rosenzweig, Yale University); Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University) on <i>Land acquisition and compensation in Singur: What really happened?</i> (co-authored with Maitreesh Ghatak, LSE, Sandip Mitra, ISI and Anusha Nath, Boston University); Rocco MacChiavello (University of Warwick) on <i>Firm capabilities and value-chain upgrading in garment industry in Bangladesh</i> (co-authored with Christopher Woodruff, University of Warwick)</p> <p>Discussion</p>
15.15 – 15.30	Tea Break
15.30 – 17.30	<p>Session 4: Human Development</p> <p>Chair: Rohini Pande (Harvard University)</p> <p>Presenters: Costas Meghir (Yale University) on <i>Early childhood development in India</i>; Rachel Heath (University of Washington and World Bank) on <i>Does demand or supply constrain investment in education? Evidence from garment sector jobs in Bangladesh</i> (co-authored with A. Mushfiq Mobarak, Yale University); Pascaline Dupas (Stanford University) on <i>Experimental results on responses to health interventions</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>

Day 2: Monday, July 16, 2012

09.00 – 10.30	<p>Session 5: Poverty and Grassroots Entrepreneurship</p> <p>Special Guest: Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor, Bangladesh Bank</p> <p>Chair: Wahiduddin Mahmud, Chairman, Economic Research Group</p> <p>Presenters: Robin Burgess (LSE) on <i>Estimating the impact of TUP program in Bangladesh</i>, Adnan Khan (IGC)/Asim Khwaja (Harvard University) on <i>Skills and livestock projects in Punjab Economic Opportunities Program</i></p>
10.30 – 10.45	Tea Break
10.45 – 12.30	<p>Presenters: A. Mushfiq Mobarak (Yale University and IGC) on <i>Longer run effects of seasonal migration</i>; Forhad Shilpi (World Bank) on <i>Microfinance, moneylending and interest rate</i>; Wahiduddin Mahmud (Economic Research Group) on the book <i>Seasonal Hunger and Public Policies: Evidence from Northwest Bangladesh</i> (World Bank Publications, co-authored with Shahid Khandker, World Bank)</p> <p>Discussion</p>
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch
13.30 – 15.15	<p>Session 6: Regional Economic Integration</p> <p>Chief Guest: Dr. Mashiur Rahman, Economic Affairs Adviser to Hon'ble Prime Minister, GoB</p> <p>Special Guest: Ambassador Muhammad Zamir, Chief Information Commissioner, Bangladesh Tony Venables (Oxford University) on <i>Geography and economic integration</i>; Ijaz Nabi (Lahore University of Management Sciences, and IGC) on <i>India-Pakistan trade</i>; Shaibal Gupta (Centre for Economic Policy and Public Finance, and IGC) on <i>Economic History of Bengal Presidency</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
15.15 – 15.30	Tea Break
15.30 – 18.00	<p>Session 7: Issues in Environment and Governance</p> <p>Chair: Pronab Sen, Principle Advisor, Planning Commission, Govt. of India</p> <p>Presenters: Rema Hanna (Harvard University) on <i>Up in smoke: The influence of household behaviour on the long run impact of improved cooking stoves</i> (co-authored with Esther Duflo, MIT and Michael Greenstone, MIT); Rohini Pande (Harvard University) on <i>Truth telling by third party auditors: Evidence from a randomized field experiment in India</i> (co-authored with Esther Duflo, MIT, Michale Greenstone, MIT, Nicholas Ryan, MIT); Raymond Guiteras (University of Maryland) on <i>Access to water</i> (on-going research); Minhaj Mahmud (Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies) and Atonu Rabbani (Dhaka University) on <i>Travel Mode Choice Preferences of Urban Commuters in Dhaka: A Pilot Study</i>; Michael Callen (University of California, San Diego), <i>Monitoring the Monitors: Using ICT to improve government monitoring in Punjab, Pakistan</i>, M. Fouzul Kabir Khan (North South University) on <i>Problems and Prospects of PPP in Bangladesh</i>.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Closing of the conference</p>