

Article

The Impact of the Stimulus Packages on the Economy during COVID-19 in Bangladesh: A Mixed-Method Approach

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Supplementary Materials

Detailed methodology for all Package

Package: Salary Support for Export-Oriented RMG Industries

Quantitative Analysis

A Sample survey was conducted from the third week of February 2022 to the second week of March 2023.

Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workers of BGMEA-certified garments industries that export 80% of their manufactured goods and must have paid off salaries for the months of December 2019 to February 2020. The target population was divided into two groups: (i) the treatment group, that received salary support under the stimulus package, and (ii) the control group that did not receive support from the stimulus package.
Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Areas/clusters were drawn from 3 districts (Dhaka, Narayanganj, and Gazipur) purposively where RMG workers and staff mostly live.
Sample size/selection of beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A cluster sampling is used to randomly selected 1518 RMG workers, 1479 gave their consent for interviewing (97.34%). Workers were selected randomly from each cluster. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment group: 985 (66.60%) and control group: 494 (33.40%) Detailed sample size selection described in Annex- B
Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A structured survey questionnaire was developed focused on RMG workers' welfare aspects, including economic, health, psychological, and social domains. Aiming to enhance data accuracy and quality, data collection was done using tablets with Kobo Toolbox software. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pilot study was conducted for pre-testing the questionnaire. Extensive training was provided to the enumerators
Qualitative Analysis	
Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key-informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted with relevant stakeholders and field experts (a total of 13 people)

Package: Working Capital Loans to Affected Industries and Service Sector

Quantitative Analysis

A Sample survey was conducted from the second week of July 2023 to the second week of August 2023. It was email based survey.

Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field survey of large industries and service sector enterprises.
Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 affected large export-oriented industries and service sector enterprises (RMG, pharma, hospitals, and plastic industries) that received working capital loans during the pandemic from May 2020 to July 2022. The target population was divided into two groups: (i) the treatment group that received working capital loans and (ii) the control group that did not receive the loan.
Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All over the country.
Sample size/selection of beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A simple random sampling technique was used to select a total of 128 industries and service enterprises registered with the Financial Reporting Council (FRC). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment group: 64 and control group: 64 Among the selected 128 industries, only 30 (21 treatments and 9 control) industries and service enterprises provided financial information for pre-COVID-19, COVID-19, and post-COVID-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of Firms described in Table A18 of annex A. Response rate, treatment group- 32.81% and control group 14.06%. Detailed sample size selection described in Annex-B
Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A structured survey questionnaire was formulated to collect information on the financial performance of the industries and service enterprises from FY 2017-18 to FY 2021-22.
Qualitative Analysis	
Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key-informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted with relevant stakeholders and field experts (a total of 13 people)

Package: Working Capital Loans for the Cottage, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Quantitative Analysis

A Sample survey was conducted from the 28th of February to the 15th of March, 2023.

Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field survey
Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business owner of Cottage, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises A focus on identifying business owners who had received the stimulus funds.

Package: Working Capital Loans for the Cottage, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Quantitative Analysis

Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six districts across four divisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Dhaka Division: Dhaka & Tangail (ii) Chattogram Division: Chattogram & Cumilla (iii) Khulna Division: Jashore (iv) Rajshahi Division: Bogura Geographic distribution of responses is presented in Figure A7 of annex A, which offers an overview of the dataset's representation across different regions.
Sample size/selection of beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total sample size of 645 CMSMEs was selected using multi-stage cluster sampling, Out of the 645 CMSMEs contacted for participation in the survey, 585 CMSMEs responded, resulting in a response rate of 90.7 percent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A refusal rate of 9.3% for the data collection phase. Detailed sample size selection described in Annex-B
Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A structured survey questionnaire was developed To enhance data accuracy and quality, data collection was done using tablets with Kobo Toolbox software. The enumerators were trained extensively with both the survey questionnaire and the tablet-base application

Qualitative Analysis

Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key-informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted with relevant stakeholders and field experts (a total of 8 people)
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Package: Revitalizing the rural economy and job creation

Quantitative Analysis

A Sample survey was conducted between the 24th and 27th July.

Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Micro finance/credit to the marginal people and woman entrepreneurs' beneficiaries from five Institutions. The target population was divided into two groups: (i) the treatment group, that received salary support under the stimulus package, and (ii) the control group that did not receive support from the stimulus package.
Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Areas/clusters were drawn from 4 districts (Dhaka city, Cumilla, Jashore, and Mymensingh) .
Sample size/selection of beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A stratified random sampling approach was used to select the respondents and stratification based on the institution under which the respondents got the micro-credit. Due to time and geographic constraints, these institutions were chosen based on their availability and level of cooperation A total of 778 respondents, 756 gave their consent for interviewing (97.17%). Entrepreneurs were selected randomly from each Strata. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment group: 389 (50.00%) and control group: 367 (47.17%) Detailed sample size selection described in Annex- B
Data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A structured questionnaire was designed in order to collect the information on economic activities, employment status, food consumption, and healthy behavior of the respondents. Aiming to enhance data accuracy and quality, data collection was done using tablets with Kobo Toolbox software. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A pilot study was conducted for pre-testing the questionnaire. Extensive training was provided to the enumerators

Qualitative Analysis

Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key-informant interviews of administrators directly responsible for the stimulus disbursal, intermediaries, experts, and academics in the field. (a total of 13 people)
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