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Bright City Lights and Slums of Dhaka city: Determinants of rural-urban migration in Bangladesh

Bright City Lights and Slums of Dhaka city: Determinants of rural-urban migration in Bangladesh

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Summary/Abstract: This paper explores the factors contributing to the migration process in Bangladesh. 197 randomly selected migrants and their families were interviewed at both destination and source locations using closed and open-ended questionnaires. The resulting data provided descriptive and analytical statistics. Data analysis reveals that the flow of migration to the major cities in Bangladesh is the result of rural - urban dichotomies in income, employment opportunity and absorptive capacity. A significantly higher percentage of migrants live in slums as compared to other places ($P < 0.003$). Regression analysis shows that migration is influenced by both "push" and "pull" factors, such as the search for work, landlessness, extreme poverty, loss of income, easy access to informal sectors in cities, and joining families or relatives. A factor analysis showed similar determinants. Reducing disparities between rural and urban areas should receive urgent attention to stabilise the migration process in Bangladesh

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Diseases of neglected populations. BMC International Health and Human Rights 7 (2): 1-6. [15]. Financial System Management Unit. 2011. Bangladesh economic review. Dhaka: Finance Division, Ministry of Finance. [16]. Engelgau. Are rural-urban migrants living in urban slums more vulnerable in terms of housing, health knowledge, smoking, mental health and general health?. International Journal of Social Welfare, Vol. 23, Issue. 4, p. 373. Rural-urban migration and child survival in urban bangladesh: are the urban migrants and poor disadvantaged? M. MAZHARUL ISLAM (a1) and KAZI MD ABUL KALAM AZAD (a2). (a1). Department of Statistics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. (a2). The study demonstrates that housing conditions and access to safe drinking water and hygienic toilet facilities are the most critical determinants of child survival in urban areas, even after controlling for migration status. 'Every city has a carrying capacity'. In Dhaka, meanwhile, a teeming megacity of more than 15 million people packed into a 325 sq km radius, the climate refugees are finding a city where everything is clogged – from roads and pavements to rivers and drains. The slums, already home to hundreds of thousands, are expanding rapidly. Within two decades, the city's population could double to 30 million.