

Researcher's Short Bio

Principal Researcher:

Ruma Parvin, Senior Lecturer, Department of Sociology, East West University

Ruma Parvin is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at East West University, Dhaka, Bangladesh. She completed her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Sociology from the University of Dhaka and has successfully completed the first part of her Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.). Alongside her academic career, she has demonstrated strong expertise in translation and academic communication, which earned her the position of Regional Editor of *Global Dialogue*, a quarterly magazine published by the International Sociological Association (ISA). She has published several research articles in both national and international academic journals, reflecting her ongoing engagement with scholarly research and contribution to contemporary sociological debates. Her scholarly interests are interdisciplinary with a particular focus on gender and media, health and disaster, Indigenous peoples, social change, sociology of gender, women and labor rights, women and water, and environment and climate change. Through her teaching, research, and editorial work, she focuses on applying sociological knowledge to real-world issues related to social justice, inequality, and sustainable development.

Internal Co- researcher

1. Manzuma Ahsan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Sociology, East West University

Manzuma Ahsan is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at East West University, Dhaka, Bangladesh, with nearly seven years of academic experience. She completed her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Sociology from the University of Dhaka, graduating with First Class results in both programs. As an academic, she is committed to engaging undergraduate students and fostering critical thinking and meaningful learning, alongside maintaining an active research profile. Prior to entering academia, she gained nearly a decade of experience in the research and development sector, providing consultancy services to major UN agencies, national and international NGOs, and government autonomous bodies in Bangladesh. She has strong methodological expertise in mixed-method research, with particular emphasis on qualitative and participatory approaches, including research design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation across diverse socio-cultural contexts. Her research interests focus on the gender-development nexus, including women's empowerment, urban issues, education, migration, poverty, indigenous peoples, human rights, and culture. She has published in national and international forums and continues to contribute to collaborative and interdisciplinary research initiatives that link sociological scholarship with development practice.

Internal Co- researcher

2. Dr. Fouzia Mannan, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Sociology, East West University

Dr. Fouzia Mannan is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology at East West University, Dhaka. She completed her Ph.D. in Sociology with a concentration in gender and development in 2002 at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). She was awarded the University Grants Commission (UGC) Scholarship in India to pursue her Ph.D. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute of Development Studies (ISS), The Hague, Netherlands, in 2009. She served as a faculty member in the Department of Women and Gender Studies at the University of Dhaka from January 2005 to 2010. She was a U.S. State Department SUSI Scholar in the Dialogue Institute on religious pluralism at Temple University in Philadelphia, USA, in 2018. She began her career at the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) and has researched and published on Sociology of Gender, Culture, Education, Religion, Livelihood Vulnerabilities, Gender and Water, and Social Empowerment.