



## European Research Day 2017

4 December | Delegation of the European Union to Japan, Tokyo

### **T08 - Dr. Malek MOHAMMAD ABDUL, Researcher, Bangladeshi Kyoto University, Division of Natural Resource Economics**

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#### **My research project:** (with Md. Amzad Hossain, Minhaj Mahmud and Yasuyuki Sawada)

In this project, we examine the role of an innovative, customized agricultural microcredit program for tenant farmers implemented by BRAC (World Largest NGO) in facilitating farmers risk coping and taking strategies when experiencing various shocks. We use data generated through a [3ie](#) funded impact study project and village level covariate shocks for 2012, 2013 and 2014, collected in 2014. We model farmers' behavior towards technology adoption to show the agricultural micro credit as an insurance mechanism and use the standard two stage regression techniques for empirical investigation. Our first stage regression shows that shocks increase considerably credit uptake among the treatment groups and the second stage local average treatment effect shows significant impact on different outcome indicators, namely, self- reported purpose of BCUP credit use, land use, technology adoption, shifting day laboring to self-employment, farmers' income, consumption independence and subjective wellbeing. To our knowledge, this is the first study that uses a randomized control trial design to examine the impact of a tailored microcredit on facilitating farmers' risk coping capacities.

#### **My career path:**

By training I am a Rural/Agricultural and Development Economist and have been nominated as Executive Committee Member (2017-2020) for the Asian Society of Agricultural Economists ([ASAE](#)). In my post-PhD career (2010 to 2017), while I was working with Bangladesh ([BRAC](#)), Germany (University of Bonn- Centre for Development Research/[ZEF](#)) and Japan (The University of Tokyo and Kyoto University), I had been able to implement seven research projects with the funding support from [3ie](#), [IGC](#), Gates Foundation, DFAT, JSPS, etc. either as PI or Co-PI with globally renowned agricultural and development economists. However, at this stage of my career, I am facing difficulty to initiate new projects/programs without having a tenured/long-term position in more international context.

#### **My relation to Europe:**

I worked with ZEF, Bonn as Senior Researcher from August 2012 to Dec 2014 and as Visiting Senior Researcher at May-Dec 2015 with two projects - [TIGA](#) and [WATSAN](#). Both projects have been successfully completed but not extended due to funding reason. The lessons, experiences and network I gained from those projects and other collaborative/professional works could be instrumental to initiate more challenging projects/programs if I would have a suitable tenured or long-term position, preferably in Germany or any other English speaking working environment of Europe/Asia. Over my 17 years' career, since I have gained diverse perspective on development issues to work with the Government, INGO and University/think tanks, I can initiate the development research/programs which can generate significant international public policy and academic interest especially for the marginalized communities, more specifically, in the areas of bio economy and climate smart agricultural technologies, agricultural microcredit, micro insurance, social business, etc.