

PROJECT BRIEF 01: DECEMBER 2021

End-line Data Collection Surveys for a Randomized Controlled Trial on a Virtual Job Fair and Job Preference Signaling in ICT Sector

Funding authority

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Project Investigators

1. Dr. Norihiko Matsuda, Department of Economics, Florida International University (FIU), USA.
2. Mr. Ryotaro Hayashi, Social Sector Economist, Human and Social Development Division, South Asia Department, ADB

Project Duration

1 YEAR +

Project Period

From November 2021 to December 2022

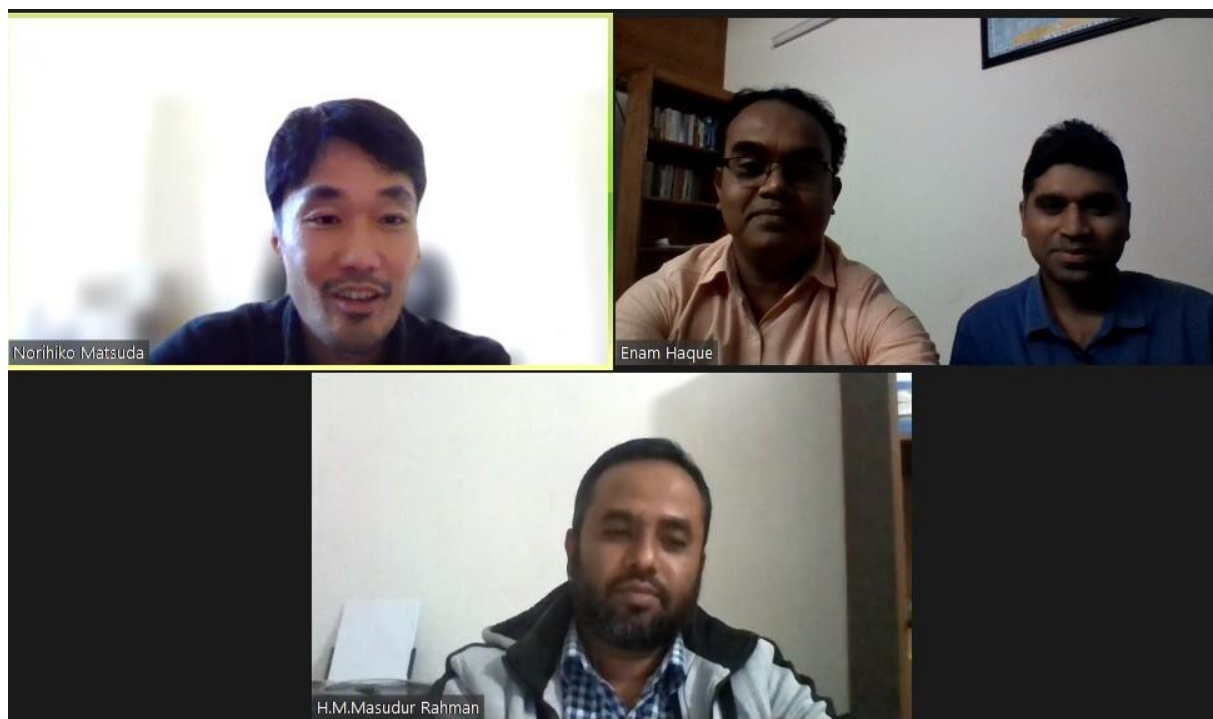
BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

Despite several potential economic and social advantages especially during this Covid-19 pandemic time, virtual job fairs are rarely conducted in Bangladesh and other developing countries, and their effectiveness is unknown. Hence, by conducting a randomized control trial (RCT) under the joint initiative between the Asian Development Bank, a Bangladesh online job platform, Bdjobs.com, and a research team of Florida International University, this study aims to rigorously evaluate the effectiveness of virtual job fairs in Bangladesh. Additionally, this study aims to evaluate the impacts of a job preference signaling mechanism that allows job applicants to credibly express their true interest to employers.

The ADB has chosen MOMODa FOUNDATION, which is a research-oriented development organization in Bangladesh, as the survey firm for its rich experience in project implementation in collaboration with international academic and research institutions. As the survey firm, the MOMODa Foundation, will conduct two end line surveys of employers and jobseekers.

The project is now at Preparatory Phase. In this phase, an experienced survey team from the MOMODa is ready for a pilot testing for this study. Based on the pilot testing, the MOMODa

Team will assess the procedure used for testing, check product readiness for full-scale implementation, better decision on time and resources allocation, target population's reaction to the study, and measuring success of the study. It will also give team a chance to practice activities they will use for usability test. Then 1st end-line survey (December 2021 -January 2022) and 2nd end-line survey (July-August 2022) will be conducted from 110 employers and 2560 jobseekers (1280 treatment and 1280 control) based on telephonic survey of the job seekers and in-person interviews of the employers.



Project Investigator Dr. Norihiko Matsuda (left, top) from the Florida International University, USA joined in the discussion with Mr. Enamul Haque (middle, top) & Dr. Foyasal Khan (right, top) and Mr.H.M. Masudur Rahman (down) of the MOMODa FOUNDATION in one of the meetings at the preparatory phase for Online Job Fair End-line Surveys held on Tuesday, 30 November 2021 at 5:45 pm through a virtual platform.

KEY FEATURES OF THE PROJECT

1. Objectives: The purpose of the study is to rigorously evaluate the effectiveness of virtual job fairs and job preference signaling.
2. Sample Size: 110 employers and 2560 jobseekers who took part in the ICT virtual job fair organized jointly by Bdjobs.com, FIU and ADB.
3. Data Collection: 110 employers and 2560 jobseekers (1280 treatment and 1280 control) will participate in the study. 1st end-line survey will be conducted from December 2021 to January 2022 and 2nd end-line survey will be conducted from July to August 2022.

4. Outcome: this research will help improve future virtual job fairs and job search platforms.