Measuring Urban Sanitation and Empowerment (MUSE) in Meherpur Municipality of Bangladesh

Field Completion Report

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Dhaka: April 2022

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Measuring Urban Sanitation and Empowerment (MUSE) in Meherpur Municipality of Bangladesh:

Background & Objectives of the Study

The Measuring Urban Sanitation & Empowerment (MUSE) project aims to develop and validate a scale to measure women's empowerment related to urban sanitation. No WASH-specific measures exist to assess how and to what extent WASH conditions, interventions, and policies impact women's empowerment or how women's empowerment impacts WASH conditions. To address this gap MUSE project operationalizes the conceptual model and definition of empowerment under specific domains and subdomains used by the BMGF and developed by Van Eerdewijk.

Human Development Research Centre (HDRC) has been awarded to conduct 'Measuring Urban Sanitation & Empowerment (MUSE) in Meherpur Municipality of Bangladesh' under Practical Action Bangladesh to understand women's empowerment related to urban sanitation under specific domains and subdomains and determine changes needed in programs, initiatives, and policies to ensure women's empowerment. This survey will also help in identifying areas where programs should focus.

Study Design: Target Population & Sample Size

Target Population

The study design was primarily a quantitative approach where quantitative data was collected from the primary source to meet the objectives. Data was collected through a household survey, and one woman of age 18 years and above were selected from each household only in the targeted area. The study ensured the participation of 720 women of age 18 years and above in the targeted area.

Inclusion criteria
1. Women aged 18 years and above
2. Women willing to participate
3. Women with no symptoms of COVID-19
4. Women have not lived, visited, looked after, or been in a room for a prolonged period with someone under investigation or confirmed for COVID-19 in the 14 days prior

Sample Size

A multi-stage cluster sampling procedure has used in the survey for selecting households. In the first stage, a sample of 34 Mohollas in Meherpur municipality was drawn with the standard probability proportional to size (PPS) method and considered the primary sampling unit (PSU). Each selected Mohallas was divided into several segments of around 150 households treated as a cluster. In the second stage, one cluster from each selected Mohallas was selected with a simple random sampling (SRS) technique. Each selected area or cluster consisted of several households with women aged 18 years or above, called tertiary sampling unit or ultimate sampling unit (USU). In the third stage, households with women aged 18 years or above were selected from each USU. The first household in this process was selected randomly. The surveyors moved to every second household for interviewing. This process was continued until all eligible subjects were found.

Status of field survey

The Enumerator team started the survey on 21 March 2022, in clusters 104 & 105. HDRC proposed to cover 700 women (18 years and above), where 700 women will be interviewed during the field survey. The Enumerator collected 720 surveys in 20 days, and every person collected 60 surveys. Moreover, they filled up 34 neighborhood observation guides.

Table 1: Completion status

Total Cluster	Total Households	Total Respondents	Completed Survey	Data collection per Enumerator	Neighborhood Observation Guide Completed	Successfully uploaded
34	12,440	1,398	720	60	34	720

The Enumerator found 1,398 respondents in 34 clusters during the field data collection. From these respondents, they successfully completed 720 respondents' data collection (51.5% success rate). The rest were no home, locked/inaccessible, refused, not eligible, incomplete, or didn't consent. Below is their status.

Table 2: Status of total respondents

Total Respondents	No Women at Home	Locked/ Inaccessible	Refused	Not eligible	Didn't Consent	Incomplete	Completed Survey
1,398	37	215	295	105	24	2	720

The Description of Field Works

The Recruitment

HDRC recruited experienced field personnel from their panel of field personnel. Also, a recruitment advertisement was placed, and an interview session was arranged. The survey manager and other team members interviewed the interested participants and made the best possible selection.

The Training

HDRC trained 12 enumerators and a supervisor for this survey. The training activities involved training and orientation of different personnel at a different levels. The following table provides the list of different training activities and their duration.

Table 3: Training and duration

Type of training	Duration of training
Training of Data Collectors and Supervisors	8 March 2022 - 10 March 2022
Pilot Survey	14 March 2022 – 15 March 2022
Refresher Training	20 March 2022

Training for Data Collectors and Supervisors took place in at HDRC Conference room, Mohammadpur. The experts from ITN-BUET, Practical Action Bangladesh & HDRC, participated in training the field personnel. The Director-Research of HDRC, Faisal M Ahamed, inaugurated the training. The training took place for three days before the deployment of the field team. The training was conducted through classroom lectures, demonstration interviews, role plays, field practice, data entry and mock interviews,

review of lessons learned, and suggested solutions. Training sessions involved audio and visual devices through multimedia use.

Training Session for Field Personnel



The inauguration of the training session



Roleplay session



KoBo Software Checking



Inauguration Session

Pilot Survey

The trainees moved for a pilot survey on 14 March 2022 in Meherpur Municipality. Every Enumerator completed three surveys in two days (15-16 March 2022). And the first day, they completed one survey, and on the 2nd day, they completed two surveys.

Questionnaire finalization and prepared Kobo tools in Tab

The questionnaire went through necessary revision during the training session to make data collection easier and more accurate. The study team provided suggestions to ITN-BUET to revise the questionnaires accordingly. Moreover, the IT and data analysis team of HDRC provided suggestions on questionnaire logic in Kobo software to implement the survey smoothly. The data collection application was finalized by 19 March 2022.

Refresher Training

Refresher training was arranged with the field personnel upon completing the pilot survey on 20 march 2022 in Meherpur. Mr. Hasan Tanvir from Practical Action was present in the refresher training.

The field works

Upon completion of training, the first round of fieldwork, the pilot survey was initiated on 14 March 2022. A team consisting of 13 members (12 Enumerators and 1 Supervisor) conducted the survey. The survey covered 34 clusters and 28 Mohollas in Meherpur municipality.

The field team provided daily updates on data collection, which were summarised on the prescribed tracking sheet and regularly on a web-based platform.

Some snapshots of data collection








The Data entry activity

Upon receiving the filled-in questionnaire, the field supervisor first rechecks it in the field. After completing each survey, the filled-in questionnaires were sent to the server to maintain real-time data collection. Besides, office editors inspect the questionnaires for errors and inconsistencies, and such inspection is completed for 100 percent of the received questionnaires. The neighborhood observation guide for each cluster was complete and uploaded to the web-based platform.

Table 4: Status of data

Status	Numbers	Completion Percentage
Total Cluster for survey	34	100%
Data collection complete	720	100%
Data verification complete	720	100%
Data Finalized for submission	720	100%

Debriefing Session

A debriefing took place on 13 April 2022 at HDRC about the field experience at Meherpur. Officials and staff from ITN-BUET, Practical Action, and HDRC participated in the session.





Difficulties during field survey

1. The data collection questionnaire was too broad that every survey consumed almost 2 hours or more.
2. Despite being offered payment to the respondent, many refused to talk because they didn't want to talk while leaving work.
3. The language of the questionnaire wasn't smooth. For that reason, sometimes, the respondent didn't understand the question and needed to repeat it multiple times.
4. Around mid-day, the interview was most challenging as the respondent had to engage in cooking and related household chores.
5. Hot weather.