



Fahmida Khatun, PhD
Executive Director
Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh

Dr Fahmida Khatun is the Executive Director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), a leading think tank in Bangladesh. Previously, she worked as a Research Fellow at BIDS, an Environment Specialist at the UNDP, and an Economist at the USAID Mission in Bangladesh. She has taught economics at universities in Bangladesh and England and has been a Visiting Fellow at several international research organisations.

Dr Khatun regularly serves on policy-making and advisory bodies at home and abroad. She is a member of the Board of Bangladesh Bank. She also serves on the BRAC Board, the world's largest non-governmental organisation working for the left-behind population. She is a Member of the Task Force on Re-Strategising the Economy and Mobilising Resources for Equitable and Sustainable Development and the Task Force to Strengthen the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), both formed by the current interim government of Bangladesh.

Dr Khatun is a member of the United Nations Secretary-General's Independent Expert Advisory Panel on the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI). She is a member of the High-level Advisory Board on the Productive Capacities Index of UNCTAD and of the Task Force on Climate, Development, and International Financial Architecture, an initiative of Boston University, USA. In 2023, she served as Co-Chair of the T20 India Task Force on "Accelerating SDGs: Exploring New Pathways to the 2030 Agenda" under the G20 process.

She completed her postdoctoral research at Columbia University, USA and undertook joint research with Professor Jeffrey Sachs. She holds a Masters and a PhD in Economics from University College London (UCL), University of London. She has participated in the Leadership Decision-Making programme at Harvard University, USA.

Dr Khatun's areas of expertise include macroeconomic policy, the financial sector, international trade and WTO issues, climate change, environment, energy economics, the digital economy, youth employment, the interlinkages between digital public infrastructure and health, the interests of Least Developed Countries, and women's contribution to the economy. She has several publications to her credit at home and abroad (https://cpd.org.bd/resources/2024/08/FK_Selected-Publications-August-2024.pdf).

Dr Khatun regularly speaks on economic and national issues in both national and international media, including BBC World Service Television, Al Jazeera Television, and Voice of America Radio. She was a contributor to BBC Bangla at the BBC World Service in London. She hosted popular talk shows on national television, focusing on economic issues. She is a columnist for the Daily Star, a leading daily in Bangladesh (<https://www.thedailystar.net/author/dr-fahmida-khatun>). She is an invited contributor to the East Asia Forum, based at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University (<https://eastasiaforum.org/author/fahmidakhatun/>).

Education

Post Doctorate, **Columbia University**, New York, USA (2015)
PhD (Economics), **University College London**, UK (1995)
MSc (Environmental and Resource Economics) **University College London**, UK (1992)
MSc (Economics), **Jahangirnagar University**, Dhaka, Bangladesh (1988)
BSc Honours (Economics), **Jahangirnagar University**, Dhaka, Bangladesh (1986)

Employment

1. Current Position

Executive Director, *Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)*, Dhaka, Bangladesh, since 1 March 2017 till date.

Employment History

2. Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh

- Research Director: Jan 2013 – Feb 2017
- Additional Director: May 2008 – Dec 2012
- Senior Research Fellow: May 2005 –April 2008
- Research Fellow: Dec 2002 – April 2005

3. Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS)

Research Fellow and Research Associate, March 1989 - Dec 2002 (on study leave during 1991-96, and on consultancy leave during 1996-97 to work at UNDP, Bangladesh and on extraordinary leave during April 1999 to October 1999 to work at the USAID, Bangladesh)

4. United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Bangladesh

Economist: April 1999 - Oct 1999

5. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Bangladesh

Environment Specialist: Aug 1996 - May 1997

6. North- South University, Bangladesh

Assistant Professor (Part-time): Sept-Dec 1997

7. University of Greenwich, UK

Lecturer in Economics (Part-time): Oct 1994 - March 1995

8. Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS)

Research Associate: April 1988 - Feb 1989

Selected Publications

Books

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y. & Richi, A. F. *Harnessing Technology in Bangladesh's Manufacturing Industries: Driving Innovation for Lasting Impact*. [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., Mahbub, A., & Rab, A.S. *Labour Market Reforms in Bangladesh: Realising Youth's Aspirations*. [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., Saadat, S.Y., Ashraf, K. & Mahbub, A. (2023). *Bangladesh-Japan Partnership for the Next Development Journey*, Palgrave Macmillan. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-99-2568-1>

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., Ashraf, K., & Taki, M. A. T. (2022). *Skills Gap and Youth Employment in Bangladesh: An Exploratory Analysis*. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Bangladesh. <https://cpd.org.bd/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Skills-Gap-and-Youth-Employment-in-Bangladesh-An-Exploratory-Analysis.pdf>

Khatun, F. & Saadat, S.Y (2020). *Youth Employment in Bangladesh: Creating Opportunities Reaping Dividends*. Palgrave Macmillan. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-15-1750-1>

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Khatun, F. & Saadat, S.Y (2018). *The Ignored Generation: Exploring the Dynamics of Youth Employment in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) and Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh. <https://cpd.org.bd/the-ignored-generation-exploring-the-dynamics-of-youth-employment-in-bangladesh/>

Khatun, F., Towfiqul Islam Khan, Shahida Pervin and Hosna Jahan (2015). *Estimating Women's Contribution to the Economy: The Case of Bangladesh*. Centre for Policy Dialogue. December 2015. <https://cpd.org.bd/estimating-womens-contribution-to-the-economy-the-case-of-bangladesh/>

Khatun, F., Jahan, F., & Yousuf, A. F. (2010). *Missing Dynamics of Spousal Violence Discourse in Bangladesh: Measuring the Economic Costs*. Centre for Policy Dialogue.

Khatun, F. (2014). *বাংলাদেশের অর্থনীতির ভিতর ও বাহির (Bangladesh's Economy: Inside and Outside)*, Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) and Agamee Prakashani.

Khatun, F (2005) (co-author). *Options for Self-Reliant Resurgence: CPD's Rapid Assessment of Flood 2004*, University Press Limited, Dhaka, Bangladesh, February 2005.

Book Chapters

Khatun, F., & Mahbub, A. (2025). Investment Opportunities for Least Developed Countries through BIMSTEC.

Khatun, F., Nawrin, N., Mahbub, A., & Islam, M. B. (2024). Equity for the Women in Workplace in Bangladesh: An Exploratory Study. In Empowering and Advancing Women Leaders and Entrepreneurs. IGI Global. <https://www.igi-global.com/chapter/equity-for-the-women-in-workplace-in-bangladesh/348644>.

Khatun, F. (2022). Issues for Bangladesh. In Mathur, V. & Roy, A. (Eds.) *Towards a Low- Carbon and Climate Resilient World: Expectations from COP26*. Special Report No. 165. Observer Research Foundation (ORF). https://www.orfonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/ORF_SpecialReport_165_Expectations-COP26.pdf

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Khatun, F. (2016). [Thematic contributor for the report] State of the Least Developed Countries 2016: Coherence and Synergies between the IPoA and the 2030 Agenda. New York: United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS). <http://unohrlls.org/custom-content/uploads/2016/08/State-of-LDCs2016.pdf>

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(University of Melbourne), Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (Colombo) and Manohar Publishers.

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Bhattacharya, D., M. Rahman, U. Deb and F. Khatun (eds). The Hong Kong Declaration of the WTO: What is achieved and what should be done by Bangladesh, (in Bangla) Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka, February 2006.

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Khatun, F (2003). "Population and Environment in Bangladesh: Designing a Policy Accounting for Linkages", in: Demographic Dynamics in Bangladesh: Looking at the Larger Picture, Centre for Policy Dialogue, UNFPA, Pathak Shamabesh, 2003.

Khatun, F (1999). "Environmental Valuation: Concepts and Issues", in: Qazi Khaliquzzaman and others (eds). Environmental Economics, International Union of Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), Dhaka, 1999.

Journal Articles

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., Richi, A. F., & Rab, A. S. From Idea to Impact: Intellectual Property's Role in Advancing Climate Solutions. [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., Mahbub, A., & Islam, M. B. Plastic Pollution: The Case of Dhaka City. [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., Mahbub, A., & Islam, M. B. Cost of Breathable Air: Air Pollution in Dhaka City. [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., & Islam, A. Impact of Monetary Policy on Inflation in Bangladesh: An Empirical Analysis. [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., & Saadat, S. Y. Impact of Early Warnings on Climate Change-Induced Loss and Damage: Evidence from Bangladesh. [Forthcoming].

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Khatun, F., Mallick D., Kabir, F.A., Huq, P.K. Nexus Between Climate Migration and Poverty in Bangladesh. [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., & Saadat, S. (2021). Climate Change in Bangladesh: A Sustainable Development Perspective. *Journal of New Economics*, 1(2), 79-103.

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Khatun, F. & Saadat, S.Y. (2021). Returns to Computer Use in Bangladesh: An Econometric Analysis, *The Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, Vol 64, Pp. 175-198. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41027-021-00304-2>

Khatun, F (2020). 'Growth Narrative of Bangladesh Economy', *Journal of Governance, Security & Development* ISSN: 2708-2490 Vol 1 No. 1 2020: 73-107. <http://jgsd.cgs-bd.com/realtech/pdf/03-Fahmida-Khatun.pdf>

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Khatun, F. and Saadat, S.Y. (2020). Bangladesh's Participation in the Belt and Road Initiative: Interests and Problems. *South and Southeast Asian Studies*, Vol. 2, No. 2 pp. 31-43.

Khatun, F. and Syed Yusuf Saadat (2019). 'Governance and Competitiveness: An Econometric Analysis of the Banking Sector of Bangladesh'. *Journal of Statistical and Econometric Methods*, vol.8, no.4, 2019, 51-77. http://www.scienpress.com/Upload/JSEM/Vol%208_4_4.pdf

Khatun, F. and Ahamad, M.G. (2015). "Foreign Direct Investment in the Energy and Power Sector in Bangladesh: How does it contribute to Economic Growth?" in *Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews*. Volume 52, December 2015, Pages 1369-77. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S136403211500862X>

Khatun, F. and Ahamad, M.G. (2013). "Liberalising Trade in Health Services: Constraints and Prospects for South Asian Countries." *The International Journal of Health Planning and Management*. Volume 30, Issue 1, Pages 57-70, January-March 2015. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/hpm.2205/abstract>

Khatun, F. (2012). "Trade in Environmental Goods by Least Developed Countries: Issues for Negotiations", *South Asian Economic Journal (SAEJ)*, 13(2): pp 157-182; September 2012.

Khatun, F (2007). "Minimum Wage in the Ready-Made Garments in Bangladesh" in: *Bangladesh Unnayan Shomikhkha* (in Bangla). Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, February 2007.

Bhattacharya, D., M. Rahman., U. Deb and F. Khatun (2006). "Hong Kong Declaration of the WTO: Reflections on the Outcomes from Bangladesh Perspective", in: *Journal of the Cost and Management*, Vol. 34, No.2, March-April 2006, pp 68-83, Bangladesh.

Khatun, F (2005). "Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights and Public Health in Least Developed Countries" (in Bangla), *Bangladesh Unnayan Shamikhkha*, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), February 2005.

Khatun, F (1999). "An Economic Analysis of Protecting Bangladesh from Sea Level Rise" Bangladesh Unnayan Shamikhkha, Bangla journal of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Vol. 16, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, February 1999.

Khatun, F (1998). "Environmental Degradation and Sustainable Development", Bangladesh Unnayan Shamikhkha, Bangla journal of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Vol. 15, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies, February 1998.

Khatun, F (1998). "Environment and Sustainable Development in Bangladesh", Journal of Social Studies, No. 80, Dhaka University, April 1998.

Khatun, F (1997). "Foreign Private Investment in Bangladesh BIISS Journal, Vol. 9, No. 3, September 1988", Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies, Dhaka.

Khatun, F (1997). "The Cost of Particulate Air Pollution in Dhaka City", The Bangladesh Development Studies (BDS), Nos. 1 and 2, Vol. XXV, March-June 1997.

Khatun, F (1991). "Poverty Alleviation and Economic Development in Bangladesh", Journal of Social Studies, No. 41, Dhaka University, August 1991.

Khatun, F (1990). "Devaluation and the Economy of Bangladesh", Bangladesh Unnayan Shamikhkha, Bangla journal of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Vol 8, February 1990.

Khatun, F (1989). "Socio-economic Condition of Female Workers in Garments Industries in Bangladesh", Bangladesh Unnayan Shamikhkha, Bangla journal of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Vol. 6, February 1989.

Monographs and Working Papers

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., & Mahbub, A. The Resilience and Sustainability Facility: A Case Study on Bangladesh. [CPD Working Paper]. Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., & Mahbub, A. The Price Pandemic: An Overview of Inflation in Bangladesh [CPD Working Paper]. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., Ashraf, K. & Mahbub, A. Bangladesh-Denmark Economic Cooperation for the Way Forward [CPD Working Paper]. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). [Forthcoming].

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Khatun, F., Saadat, S.Y., Mahbub, A., Islam, I. & Kamal, S. Universal Social Protection in Bangladesh: Financing Requirements and Future Outlook. [Forthcoming].

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., Mahbub, A., & Saleh, Z. W. (October 2025) Navigating Debt and Development: Making Debt Sustainability Analyses Work for Bangladesh [Technical Paper]. Boston: Boston University Global Development Policy Center. <https://www.bu.edu/gdp/files/2025/10/TF-WP-020-FIN.pdf>

Khatun, F., Khan, M.R., Kabir, F.A., Raya, T.Z. (2025) The nexus between economic, social and

environmental sustainability. <https://cpd.org.bd/publication/the-nexus-between-economic-social-and-environmental-sustainability/>

Khatun, F., Saadat, S. Y., Mahbub, A., Joita, M. R., & Taki, M. A. T. (2024, September) Gen Z's Employment Expectations - An Exploratory Study in Bangladesh [CPD-FES Working Paper]. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). <https://cpd.org.bd/publication/gen-zs-employment-expectations-an-exploratory-study-in-bangladesh/>

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Khatun, F., Saadat, S.Y. & Islam, M.J. (2021). Digital Platform Economy in Bangladesh: Opportunities and Challenges, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). <https://cpd.org.bd/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Digital-Platform-Economy-in- Bangladesh.pdf>

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