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**Anushka Zafar**

Institute of Development Studies

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OVERVIEW

Currently a PhD candidate at the University of Sussex (UK) with nine years of experience in research, coordination and project management in the development sector including urban health, adolescent health, gender, sexual and reproductive health, and rights, and the Rohingya humanitarian response in Bangladesh.

LANGUAGES

* + Bengali (written and spoken, native)
  + English (written and spoken, native)
  + German (conversational, A1 exam level)

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX, Brighton, UK

PhD in Social Anthropology and International Development (School of Global Studies) 2025 (Projected)

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX, Brighton, UK

Master of Sciences in Social Research Methods Aug 2022

EMERSON COLLEGE, Boston, MA, USA

Master of Arts in Health Communication Aug 2013

CLARK UNIVERSITY, Worcester, MA, USA

Bachelor of Arts in English and Communication May 2010

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, Dhaka, Bangladesh

High School Diploma Jun 2006

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT

BHAI THAMEN MOBILE APP, Dhaka Bangladesh

Oct 2020 – Present

*Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Advisor*

* Providing guidance on strategy and implementation to the development team of a mobile app called Bhai Thamen that is helping women stop sexual harassment on public transport in Bangladesh.

THE WORLD BANK, Dhaka, Bangladesh Apr 2020 – Jun 2021

*Research Consultant*

* Conducted a systematic review and gap assessment of evidence produced on the Rohingya response in Cox’s Bazar, inclusive of both the Displaced Rohingya Population (DRP) and the host communities; this report will form the basis of the upcoming Humanitarian Development Research Network, which will aim to identify bottlenecks and steer national policy with production of evidence relevant to the Cox’s Bazaar development agenda.
* Produced a protocol document for a standardized reporting framework for the literature studied and a final report highlighting key findings and literature gaps across themes including economic development, education, health, sexual reproductive health, gender, protection trends and needs, and other vital sectors of the humanitarian response.

BRAC JAMES P GRANT SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Jan 2019 – Mar 2020

*Research Fellow at the Centre for Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights*

* Conducted research study titled “Digital Sister for Urban Youth” (Funded by NWO-WOTRO Netherlands) which explored the sexual and reproductive health needs of urban, middle class young people in Bangladesh; responsibilities included conducting literature reviews, research, and data collection in the field sites (i.e., schools, universities, etc.), and using findings to generate communication tools for urban young people on digital platforms.
* Coordinated and conducted research on lives of single working women in urban Dhaka (funded by Share Net International); produced short documentary based on study findings.
* Coordinated and led research project about substance abuse among older adolescents (15-19-year-old) in urban slums of Dhaka (Managed by Overseas Development Institute; Funded by UK Aid); part of larger longitudinal study “Gender and Adolescents: Generating Evidence” (GAGE).
* Co-coordinated implementation project funded by feminist organization CREA (New Delhi) which addresses gender- based violence, particularly through the design and implementation of a training on prevention of sexual harassment in the workplace and academic institutions.

*Communications and Knowledge Manager* Jun 2016 – Dec 2018

* Produced content for key publications like Annual Reports highlighting achievements of the school in areas of education, capacity building, research, and advocacy.
* Provided support to communications and writing and editing communication materials like press releases and feature news articles, edited institution’s blog
* Provided support in organizing and implementing two conferences – “Gender and SRHR Conference” (30-31 January 2018) and “What Do Young People Want?” Research Dissemination event and policy dialogue (2 July 2018).

BRAC, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Oct 2013 – Jul 2015

*Senior Communications Officer*

* Interviewed BRAC program participants regarding their experiences and wrote reports and grant narratives.
* Wrote original content for the BRAC Blog and guided other contributing writers from across the organization.
* Arranged content for the monthly e-newsletter.
* Wrote speeches, blogs and op-ed pieces on behalf of BRAC directors.
* Provided general sub-editing support for all external communications materials (ie, program brochures, leaflets, fact sheets, press releases, news articles) and all of BRAC’s website content.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

*Graduate Consultant* - FERTILITY WITHIN REACH, Boston, MA Jan – Aug 2013 Graduate thesis project: Designed communication strategy (advocacy toolkit) to demonstrate value and affordability of insurance coverage for infertility treatment to policymakers; strategy grounded in comprehensive review of the published literature and existing initiatives, interviews, health communication theory and primary research.

*Front Desk Associate* - EMERSON COLLEGE CENTER FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS, Boston, MA Nov 2011 – May 2013

Served as an initial point of contact between nurse practitioners and students, parents, and other members of the Emerson College community.

*Outreach Intern* - ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCE PROJECT, DC, USA Jul 2010 – May 2011

Conducted trainings on gender-based violence and cultural competency for immigrant populations, wrote grant narratives, designed brochures addressing domestic violence laws in USA, and organized media trainings about raising awareness about domestic violence in AP/I communities.

OTHER TRAINING

SEXUALITY, GENDER AND RIGHTS INSTITUTE (SGRI): EXPLORING THEORY AND PRACTICE, Capalbio, Italy (Jun 2018)

Examined links between sexuality, rights, gender, and health and their interface with socio-cultural and legal issues through critical analysis of policy, research, and program interventions using a rights-based approach. Organized by CREA (New Delhi), attended with full scholarship from CREA

THE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, GENDER, SEXUALITY AND RIGHTS, Amsterdam, Netherlands (Dec 2018)

Explored the intersection of theory and practice in the context of social movements, linking them to advocacy, including rights- based claims and strategies that advance the goals of movements working on gender and sexuality using technology. Organized by CREA (New Delhi), attended with full scholarship from CREA.