

# Beyond 14 Years



For the last 14 years since its inception, dRi has delivered high-quality social science research, consultancy, and evaluation that have led to better development outcomes across Bangladesh. Together, we've completed 300+ projects and addressed 15+ thematic areas with credible, actionable evidence. As we celebrate this milestone, we are more determined than ever to expand our reach, deepen our quality, and produce even stronger, more significant work in the years ahead. Thank you for believing in us. This journey is far from over.



**Reflecting on dRi's growth over the years, Executive Director Md. Mamun-Ur-Rashid noted:**



*"We have reached this point because of our commitment to quality. Even when things are challenging, protecting that quality and developing the skills to move forward is what gives us strength."*



## PAST QUARTER AT A GLANCE

NEW  
PROJECTS

**16**

ONGOING  
PROJECTS

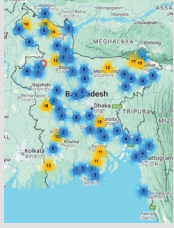
**23**

Maximum  
Sample  
Size

**3738**

## Partner Engagement

### Assessing commodity prices across the nation



Why are essential commodity prices rising so sharply in Bangladesh? To answer this, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) led a major research initiative titled “The Price Pandemic: Drivers and Impacts of Inflation in Bangladesh.” This nationwide study examined inflation drivers, supply constraints, hoarding, and collusion across 10 major markets with 1,000 interviews, with our enumerators spread out through all eight divisions of Bangladesh.

### Advancing Women’s Empowerment through Digital Finance

A Monash University-led study is examining how digital microfinance and household support shape women’s economic and social empowerment in rural Bangladesh. Covering 200 villages and 2,400 households, dRi is leading high-quality surveys and behavioral experiments on household decision-making. The evidence will inform stronger policies to advance women’s agency and inclusive rural development.

### Agents of Change

UNHCR’s “Agents of Change” initiative is transforming energy management in the Rohingya refugee camps of Cox’s Bazar by training young refugees as Energy Ambassadors. dRi is conducting an independent evaluation to assess this program’s impact. The findings will generate practical evidence to support the expansion of this innovative model across refugee communities in Bangladesh and beyond.

### Strengthening Environmental Resilience in Cox’s Bazar

dRi is proud to begin its first collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) through an external final evaluation of the project “Restoring the Environment and Strengthening Resilience of Rohingya Refugees and Host Communities in Cox’s Bazar.” The study covers selected Rohingya camps and adjacent host communities within the Balukhali watershed area of Ukhiya Upazila.

### Engaging Youth for Civic Empowerment

Under the AHEAD Bangladesh Project - “একান্নর জাগরণ (The Rise of 51)”, JAAGO Foundation, in partnership with European Partnership for Democracy (EPD), aimed to empower young people, women, and marginalized groups to participate meaningfully in democracy. With nationwide coverage, dRi developed a woman- and youth-focused civic and voter education curriculum, along with practical training materials and district-level guidelines. Through extensive consultations, interviews, focus groups, and a multi-stakeholder validation workshop, dRi produced 1,400 bilingual printed and digital copies, equipping citizens with the knowledge, confidence, and tools to participate meaningfully in the democratic process.



### Moving towards Zero Hunger

In collaboration with the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), dRi is leading the Contribution Analysis for GAIN’s Nourishing Food Pathways (NFP) Programme. NFP is a multi-country initiative driving inclusive, government-led food systems transformation across ten countries, with the goal of accelerating progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2: Zero Hunger. dRi and IDS aim to generate practical recommendations to strengthen NFP’s impact and guide future initiatives.

*dRi currently has 17 additional projects underway in collaboration with partners including: **BRAC, the University of Oxford, New York University Abu Dhabi, the University of Toronto, Humanity & Inclusion (HI) and others.***

## Partner Engagement



### Tri-partite Discussion Meeting

dRi hosted a tri-partite discussion on the “Digital Microfinance and Women’s Empowerment” project with Monash University and Unnayan. The meeting was attended by Dr. Asad Islam (Monash University), Md. Mamun-Ur-Rashid (dRi), Md. Akteruzzaman (dRi), and Mostafizur Rahman (Unnayan), along with other senior representatives from the participating organizations.

### Validation Workshop

In November 2025, dRi successfully conducted a Validation Workshop on “Curriculum Development under Ekannor Jaagoron (Rise of 51),” under AHEAD Bangladesh Project, JAAGO Foundation, bringing together youth representatives and experts to refine civic education materials. The session strengthened efforts to empower women and young voters and promote active democratic participation nationwide.



## EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

### Seeing Beyond Data: A Knowledge Sharing Session on Visual & Sensory Ethnography



dRi hosted its 2026 Knowledge Sharing session on “Seeing Beyond Data: Visual & Sensory Ethnography in Social Research.” Led by visual anthropologist and documentary filmmaker Sara Noor, the session drew on her project on women’s labor and everyday life in the dried fish community of Daspara, Kishorgonj, Bangladesh. Guests included Professor Dr. Hasan Ashraf and Associate Professor Mohammad Javed Kaisar Ibne Rahman, sparking engaging exchanges on how these methods complement qualitative and quantitative research.

### Exploring the Meaning of Work: Insights from Keiko Yoshida, Ph.D.



In November 2025, dRi’s Knowledge Sharing Session featured Keiko Yoshida, Ph.D., Associate Professor at St. Andrew

University, who shared insights from her study “Meaning of Work and Labor Supply: The Case of the White Puzzle.” Her research explores how even small perceptions of meaning can influence individuals’ willingness to work. The session brought together faculty and researchers, including Professor Dr. Hasan Ashraf and Kazuyo Minamide, Ph.D., and examined Japanese-style employment practices, wage politics, COVID-19–driven labor shifts, and experimental findings on worker motivation.

### Building the Foundation for Future Research Excellence: Training on Qualitative Research

dRi held a brief capacity-building session for newly joined team members, introducing them to the essentials of qualitative research. The training covered core concepts, field preparation, ethical considerations, and effective interviewing techniques.



This initiative aims to strengthen their research skills and ensure they are well-prepared for upcoming fieldwork. Through continuous learning, dRi remains committed to nurturing capable researchers who can contribute to high-quality, insightful work across our projects.

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