

## Institute for Social Science Research - PhD Student Project

**ISSR Impact Area:** Health

**Title:** *Reducing maternal and child dual burden of malnutrition through social protection*

**Supervisor/s:** [Associate Professor Abdullah Al Mamun](#) and others as appropriate

### **Funding:**

Student Scholarship required, top-up funding may be available to suitable candidate

### **Project description:**

Dual burden of malnutrition, co-existence of both under and overweight, continues as a vital public health challenge in the globe, predominantly in low- and middle-income countries. The global health agenda highlighted in SDGs of eradicating all forms of malnutrition by 2030. Given the trends, current progress and inequalities in the prevalence of maternal and child malnutrition, it is unlikely SDGs goal by 2030 will be achieved for most LMICs. A holistic approach, such as social protection that consists of policies and programs designed to reduce poverty, food insecurity, and vulnerability is warranted to overcome situations that adversely affect people's wellbeing. The aim of this project is to monitor, forecast and quantify inequalities of malnutrition and determine how to reduce this malnutrition through social protection within and across LMICs.

Through this project the PhD student will gain experience in state-of-the-art nationally representative repeated large cross-sectional data analyses techniques, as well as theoretical and practical experience in the intersection of health and policy in the LMICs.

### **The candidate:**

We are seeking a candidate who has an excellent academic record and a particular interest in the topic. A strong background in public health (nutrition) or social policy is essential as is a commitment to conduct high quality research.

### **Achievable Outcomes:**

- A PhD from the UQ in relevant area
- Multiple scientific papers in high impact research journals
- Experience with oral/written presentations at national/international conferences
- Interact with an interdisciplinary team of researchers in order to optimise research outcomes