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GIANG THU THAI

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EDUCATION

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities   September 2021 - Present
PhD in Applied Economics

University of California, San Diego, School of Global Policy and Strategy   September 2015 - June 2017
Master of International Affairs in International Development (Dean's fellow)

Denison University   August 2009 - May 2013
Bachelor of Arts, Economics and minor in Sociology/Anthropology (cum laude, Dean's list, Omicron Delta Epsilon)

WORKING PAPERS

Giang Thai, Amy Margolies, Aulo Gelli, Neha Kumar, Nasrin Sultana, Carol Levin. 2020. The economic costs of a multisectoral nutrition intervention implemented through a credit platform in Bangladesh. IFPRI.

Akhter Ahmed, M. Mehrab Bakhtiar, Daniel Gilligan, Giang Thai. 2021. Determinants of the Reduction of Child Stunting and Wasting in Bangladesh, 2011-2019. IFPRI.

Akhter Ahmed, M. Mehrab Bakhtiar, Daniel Gilligan, Giang Thai. 2021. An Evaluation of the Impact of Feed the Future in Bangladesh. IFPRI.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Ahmed, Akhter; Bakhtiar, M. Mehrab; Gilligan, Daniel; Hoddinott, John; Roy, Shalini; Anowar, Sadat; Ghostlaw, Julie; and Thai, Giang. 2021. Signs of recovery: Patterns of livelihoods and food security before and during COVID-19 in rural Bangladesh. IFPRI Policy Note 2021. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.134351.

Ahmed, Akhter; Bakhtiar, M. Mehrab; Ghostlaw, Julie; Gilligan, Daniel; Hoddinott, John; Roy, Shalini; and Thai, Giang. 2020. Troubling signs: Patterns of livelihood and food security changes during COVID-19 in rural and urban Bangladesh (June-July 2020). IFPRI Policy Brief 2020. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). https://doi.org/10.2499/p15738coll2.133996.

Breisinger, Clemens; Gilligan, Daniel; Karachiwalla, Naureen; Kurdi, Sikandra; El-Enbaby, Hoda; Jilani, Amir; and Thai, Giang. 2018. Impact evaluation study for Egypt's Takaful and Karama cash transfer program: Quantitative report. IFPRI Working Paper 2018. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

Breisinger, Clemens; ElDidi, Hagar; El-Enbaby, Hoda; Gilligan, Daniel; Karachiwalla, Naureen; Kassim, Yumna; Kurdi, Sikandra; Jilani, Amir Hamza; and Thai, Giang. 2018. Egypt's Takaful and Karama cash transfer program: Evaluation of program impacts and recommendations. IFPRI Policy Brief October 2018. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). https://doi.org/10.2499/9780896295964.

DONOR REPORTS

Daniel O. Gilligan, Naureen Karachiwalla, and Giang Thai. Evaluation of the Impact of E-verification on Counterfeit Agricultural Inputs and Technology Adoption in Uganda – Endline Report. Submitted to USAID.

Marie Ruel, Neha Kumar, Agnes Quisumbing, John Hoddinott, Giordano Palloni, Purnima Menon, Esha Farooqe, Wahid Quabili, Alejandra Arrieta, Giang Thai, Hagar Eldidi, and Emily Myers. Targeting and Re-aligning Agriculture to Improve Nutrition in Bangladesh – Process Evaluation Results 2019. Submitted to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

International Food Policy Research Institute   Washington, DC
Research Analyst | Poverty, Health, and Nutrition Division   August 2017 – August 2021

Pay for Percentile in Uganda - PIs: Derek Neal, Dan Gilligan, Adrienne Lucas, Naureen Karachiwalla
- Assisted survey instrument development and developed CAPI via CSPro; led field staff training on data collection, conducted data monitoring and high frequency data checks and data cleaning

E-verification on Counterfeit Agricultural Inputs in Uganda - PIs: Dan Gilligan, Naureen Karachiwalla
- Led data collection and enumerator training of phone surveys; conducted data cleaning; took part in data analysis and prepared results for donor reports

- Contributed to the conceptualization, literature review, and analysis of a paper on technology adoption
- Conducted literature review on agricultural inputs in East Africa, provided data analysis support to 2 other papers on related topics

Targeting and Re-aligning Agriculture to Improve Nutrition in Bangladesh - PI: Neha Kumar
- Conducted data cleaning; supported data analysis in donor reports
- Led focus group interviews, data collection and data analysis for the cost study; participated in writing manuscript for a cost analysis paper

Women Improving Nutrition through Group-based Strategies in India - PI: Neha Kumar
- Supported data collection and monitored a survey firm on data quality; conducted data cleaning
- Contributed to data analysis for main impact papers with co-authors

Bangladesh Feed the Future Impact Analysis and Child Malnutrition Determinant Study - PI: Dan Gilligan
- Prepared the datasets for analysis; worked on matching analysis for the FTF impact study and determinant analysis for the child malnutrition study

Women's Empowerment Metric for National Statistical Systems - PI: Agnes Quisumbing
- Provided support for survey development and standardization in Bangladesh, Nepal and Malawi; prepared for survey pilots and data collection in Bangladesh

University of California, San Diego   San Diego, CA
Research Assistant | Big Pixel Initiative   June 2017 – August 2017
- Conducted statistical analysis that combined remote sensing data (nighttime lights, deforestation, and built-up areas) and socio-economic data to assess the economic growth pattern in Macedonia; presented preliminary results and drafted report to the World Bank
- Provided descriptive and regression analysis of remote sensing data to assess the impact of the Golden Quadrilateral in India; presented preliminary results and drafted report to the World Bank

Research Assistant | PI: Teevrat Garg   October 2016 – June 2017
- Cleaned and merged multiple rounds of individual-level and household-level data from Demographic and Health Surveys for 50+ countries using Stata, maintaining consistency across rounds and countries

Innovations for Poverty Action   Freetown, Sierra Leone and remotely
Social Incentives for Immunization Intern | PI: Anne Karing   June - December 2016
- Transformed 13 different paper survey forms into mobile device application through the use of SurveyCTO
- Established indicators to assess and monitor data quality on high frequency checks; cleaned data and extracted information to inform donors of project progress and developed database of information
- Communicated with enumerators daily to ensure smooth survey probing and retrained enumerators in concepts of social incentives, project treatment and control groups, and messages to work with the nurses

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Plan International Vietnam	Hanoi, Vietnam
Business Development Assistant, Business Development Unit	October 2014 - August 2015
Plan International USA	Washington, DC
Global Women in Management Intern, Leadership and Capacity Building	May - August 2014
PYXERA Global	Washington, DC
Program Intern	January - April 2014
Atlantic Council	Washington, DC
International Security Intern	August - December 2013

PRESENTATIONS

2020	International Food Policy Research Institute, PHND brown bag seminar (virtual)
2020	Agriculture, Nutrition & Health Academy (virtual)

OTHER INFORMATION

Citizenship: Vietnam
Languages: Vietnamese (native), English (fluent), Japanese (basic)
Software: proficient in Stata, R, Cspro and SurveyCTO