Effects of Remittance on Dietary Diversity & Food Security: Evidence from HIES 2022

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Overview & Background

- By **analyzing household data** on remittance receipt, dietary patterns, and food security indicators, the study aims to reveal the **relationship between remittances**, **dietary pattern and food insecurity**.
- There is a lack of existing literature that sheds light on the dietary patterns and nutritional status of remittance-receiving households in Bangladesh. Thus, there is a pressing need for further research in this area to identify potential gaps and opportunities to improve the nutritional outcomes of these households.
- Understanding the **nuanced dynamics of remittance-induced changes** in dietary patterns is essential for devising **effective strategies** to promote food security and enhance nutritional wellbeing.
- The research goal is to **inform policymakers and stakeholders** on the role of remittances in **household** welfare and nutrition, contributing to sustainable development efforts.

Data & Methodology

- Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2022
- This dataset comprises an equal number of households from urban and rural areas, totaling 14,395
- Employed the 'Daily consumed food items' and 'Food Security' questionnaire
- Implemented a quasi-experimental procedure like PSM to estimate the causal effect of remittance on a household's dietary diversity and food security
- Explored both the Average Treatment
 Effect on the Treated (ATE) and the
 Average Treatment Effect on the Entire
 Treated (ATT)

Explaining the Steps of Econometric Analysis

Probit Analysis

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Average Marginal Effect Analysis

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Heckman Selection Method

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Propensity Score Matching

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ATE and ATT Estimation

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Satisfying the Balancing Property using Python

Result

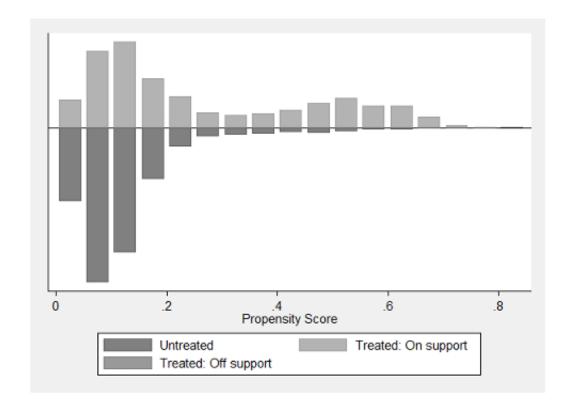


Figure: PSGraph assess the overlap between treated and untreated groups

Average	Coef.	St.Err.	t-	p-	[95%	Interval]	Sig				
Household			value	value	Conf						
Dietary Diversity											
Score											
r1vs0	.422	.049	8.66	0	.326	.517	***				
Mean dependent var		6.551	SD dep	endent va	ar	1.444					
*** p<.01, ** p<.05, * p<.1											

Households that receive remittances experience an increase in Average Household Dietary Diversity by approximately 0.4219 units compared to those who do not.

Food Insecurity	Coef.	St.Err.	t-	p-	[95%	Interval]	Sig				
Experience Scale			value	value	Conf						
r1vs0	208	.025	-8.27	0	257	159	***				
Mean dependent var		0.459	SD dep	endent va	ar	0.813					
*** p<.01, ** p<.05, * p<.1											

Households that receive remittances experience a statistically significant reduction in their HH_FIES score by approximately 0.2077 units compared to those that do not receive remittances

Recommendations

- Government policies regarding food security, nutrition, and diet diversity should consider the impact of remittances.
- Integration of remittance flows into national food security policies is crucial for maximizing their positive impact.
- Migration discourse should extend beyond the economic benefits of remittances to address their impact on food security and diet diversity.
- The negative correlation between earning members and remittance receipt highlights the need for targeted interventions to increase local employment and income levels, thereby reducing reliance on remittances.