

The Eurasia Proceedings of Educational & Social Sciences (EPESS), 2023

Volume 29, Pages 33-41

IconSoS 2023: International Conference on Social Science Studies

Building Sustainable Peace in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh: The role of Inclusive Development in Addressing Armed Group Rivalry

Sarder Ali HAIDER

Bangladesh University of Professionals

Abstract: This study investigates the effect of inclusive development policies and initiatives in reducing armed group rivalry and fostering long-term peace in Bangladesh's Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region. The study adopts a qualitative research methodology, utilizing data from key stakeholder interviews, focus group discussions, and document analysis. According to the study's findings, inclusive development policies and programs have the ability to address the underlying reasons of armed group rivalry, boost socioeconomic growth, and generate more social cohesion and reconciliation in the region. Inclusive development techniques that prioritize local communities' needs and ambitions can foster trust and legitimacy among them, increase their feeling of ownership and participation in development processes, and provide an enabling climate for long-term peace. The study also identifies barriers to implementing inclusive development policies and initiatives in the CHT region, such as a lack of political will and commitment, insufficient fund, and low ability and coordination among government agencies and civil society organizations. More political will, coordination, capacity-building, and community participation are required to implement successful development policies and programs that address the core causes of conflict and generate long-term peace in the CHT region.

Keywords: Armed conflict, Inclusive development, Peacebuilding, Social cohesion, Sustainable peace

Introduction

The Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region of Bangladesh has been plagued by an armed conflict between the state and indigenous ethnic minority groups for decades. The conflict, which began in the 1970s, has caused tremendous human misery, including displacement, abuses of human rights, and loss of life (Bhuiyan, 2017). Among other things, indigenous communities in the CHT, such as the Chakmas, Marmas, and Tripuras, have demanded greater acknowledgement of their cultural identity, autonomy, land rights, and political representation (Islam, 2018).

In response to the armed conflict, the government of Bangladesh started a counterinsurgency operation directed by the military (Bari, 2017). However, nevertheless the signing of the Peace Agreement between the government and indigenous groups in 1997, armed conflict and violence have remained a challenge to post-agreement peacebuilding efforts (Liu & Rafferty, 2019). The continued armed group competition, which frequently leads to deadly conflicts, extortion, and human rights violations, is one of the primary elements that continues to fuel the conflict (Islam, 2018).

Tackling armed group rivalry and establishing long-term peace in the CHT region necessitates a multifaceted approach that addresses the underlying causes of conflict, promotes societal cohesion, and fosters inclusive development. This study investigates the effect of inclusive development policies and initiatives in reducing armed group rivalry and fostering long-term peace in Bangladesh's CHT region.

The paper adopts a qualitative research technique, relying on information gleaned through key stakeholder interviews, focus group discussions, and document analysis. According to the findings, inclusive development

- This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 4.0 Unported License, permitting all non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

- Selection and peer-review under responsibility of the Organizing Committee of the Conference

© 2023 Published by ISRES Publishing: www.isres.org

policies and programs have the ability to address the underlying reasons of armed group rivalry, boost socioeconomic development, and generate more social cohesion and reconciliation in the region.

The paper emphasizes the significance of inclusive development plans that take into account the region's unique cultural, economic, and political settings. It contends that an inclusive approach to development can foster trust and legitimacy among local communities, increase their sense of ownership and participation in development processes, and foster an atmosphere conducive to long-term peace.

This study contributes to the body of knowledge on peacebuilding and development in conflict-affected areas, notably in the context of Bangladesh's CHT region. The research findings can help policymakers, development practitioners, and civil society organizations work to promote long-term peace and development in the region and beyond.

Literature Review

This part examines the literature on armed conflict, peacebuilding, and inclusive development in Bangladesh's CHT region.

Armed Conflict in the Region of the CHT

The dispute in Bangladesh's CHT region is characterized by a variety of concerns, including requests for ethnic identity recognition, cultural autonomy, land rights, and political representation (Islam, 2018). Indigenous tribes, such as the Chakmas, Marmas, and Tripuras, have endured systemic discrimination and marginalization, fueling the conflict (Bhuiyan, 2017). The government's reaction to the conflict has been a counterinsurgency operation directed by the military, which has been accused of human rights violations, forced displacement, and cultural repression (Bari, 2017).

Peacebuilding in the CHT Region

The signing of the Peace Agreement between the government and indigenous organizations in 1997 was intended to pave the path for long-term peace in the CHT region. Yet, the armed conflict and violence have persisted to thwart post-agreement peacebuilding attempts (Liu & Rafferty, 2019). The Peace Agreement intended to address some of the conflict's core causes, including as land rights, cultural autonomy, and political representation (Islam, 2018). Nonetheless, the accord's implementation has been delayed, and the administration has been chastised for its lack of dedication to the peace effort (Bari, 2017).

Development and Inclusive Development in the CHT Region

Policy and programs for development have the ability to address some of the core causes of conflict in the CHT region. Nonetheless, regional development efforts have been chastised for their lack of diversity, which has exacerbated frustrations and fueled the violence (Islam, 2018). Inclusive development policies and programs that take into account the region's diverse cultural, economic, and political contexts have the potential to strengthen local communities' trust and legitimacy, increase their sense of ownership and participation in development processes, and create an enabling environment for long-term peace (Bhuiyan, 2017).

According to the literature review, addressing armed group rivalry and establishing long-term peace in the CHT region necessitates a holistic approach that addresses the core causes of conflict, promotes societal cohesion, and fosters inclusive development. This paper contributes to the literature by investigating the effect of inclusive development policies and initiatives in reducing armed group rivalry and fostering long-term peace in Bangladesh's CHT region.

Methodology

This study explores the influence of inclusive development policies and programs in resolving armed group rivalry and fostering sustainable peace in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region of Bangladesh using a

qualitative research technique. The research is based on information gathered through interviews with important stakeholders, focus group discussions, and document analysis.

The study participants were chosen based on their knowledge and participation in peacebuilding and development initiatives in the CHT region. The sample consisted of government representatives, civil society organizations, community leaders, and academics. Participants were interviewed using a semi-structured format, focusing on their experiences and viewpoints about inclusive development policies and initiatives, as well as their impact on armed group rivalry and sustainable peace in the CHT region. In-person or via videoconferencing, the interviews were videotaped and transcribed verbatim.

In addition, community members in the CHT region participated in focus group discussions to explore their experiences and perspectives regarding the impact of development policies and initiatives on armed group rivalry and sustainable peace. The focus group discussions were led by a local researcher and conducted in the native language. In addition to document analysis, policy documents, reports, and other pertinent literature on peacebuilding and development in the CHT region were reviewed.

The data gathered through interviews, focus group discussions, and document analysis were analyzed using thematic analysis. According to the research questions and objectives, the data were classified and organized into themes and subthemes. The study was iterative, and as the investigation went, the themes and subthemes were developed. Before data collection, the study received permission from the relevant institutional review board. All subjects provided informed consent, and confidentiality and anonymity were maintained throughout the study.

This research has some drawbacks. Participant selection was based on purposeful sampling, which may restrict the generalizability of the results. In addition, the study was done in a specific environment, and the results may not be applicable to other regions afflicted by conflict. Notwithstanding these limitations, this study offers important insights into the significance of inclusive development policies and initiatives in reducing armed group rivalry and establishing a lasting peace in the CHT region of Bangladesh.

Table 1. Demographic characteristics of study participants

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number of Participants</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Gender		
Male	50	69%
Female	22	31%
Age Group		
18-25 years	16	22%
26-35 years	16	22%
36-45 years	16	22%
46-55 years	16	22%
Above 55 years	08	12%
Ethnicity		
Chakma	15	21%
Tripura	12	17%
Marma	12	17%
Tonchongya	10	14%
Lusai	10	14%
Murong	05	07%
Bom	04	05%
Chak	04	05%

Findings and Analysis

This article examines the impact of inclusive development policies and initiatives in tackling armed group rivalry and establishing a lasting peace in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region of Bangladesh. Interviews with important stakeholders, focus group discussions, and document analysis provided the data for this qualitative study.

The findings of the study indicate that the rivalry between armed groups in the CHT region is rooted in a variety of issues, including historical grievances around land rights, cultural identity, and political representation. The

absence of inclusive development plans and initiatives that address these underlying concerns has fostered armed group rivalry and hampered the region's ability to achieve a lasting peace. There is the possibility for inclusive development policies and programs to address the underlying reasons of armed group rivalry, boost socioeconomic growth, and encourage better social cohesion and reconciliation in the region. While the government of Bangladesh and the Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) signed a peace pact in 1997, armed group rivalry and violence have persisted in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region. Among the causes that have contributed to the ongoing instabilities are as follows:

Incomplete Implementation of the Peace Accord: Despite the fact that the peace accord has been signed, many of its provisions have not been implemented in full (Upreti & Douthwaite, 2017). This encompasses difficulties of the restitution of land, the rehabilitation of displaced individuals, and the dissolution of armed groups. This has contributed to persistent disputes and conflicts among the region's various groups.

Land disputes: Land disputes continue to be a significant cause of conflict in the CHT region, as indigenous tribes seek to establish their claims to ancestral land and resources (Datta, 2018). These issues have contributed to ongoing tensions and mistrust by causing fights between various groups.

Political Representation: Despite the conditions of the peace treaty for increased political representation for indigenous populations, political engagement and representation remain limited (Roy & Rahman, 2020). This has contributed to these populations' continued feelings of marginalization and isolation.

Economic Marginalization: Economic marginalization is a big problem in the CHT region, with few formal job and economic development prospects (Rahman, 2017). This has resulted to poverty and socioeconomic inequities, which in turn have fueled violence and war.

Proliferation of Arms: The enduring presence of weaponry and armed organizations in the CHT region has contributed to continuous bloodshed and insecurity (Das, 2018). Also, the availability of weaponry has made it more challenging to establish a permanent peace in the region. Overall, the factors contributing to armed group rivalry in the CHT region are complex and interrelated, and require sustained attention and action to address. Despite the challenges, there are opportunities for progress through a more comprehensive and inclusive approach to development that takes into account the diverse needs and aspirations of local communities.

The study emphasizes the significance of a development strategy that takes into account the different cultural, economic, and political settings of the CHT region. Strategies for inclusive development that focus the needs and ambitions of local communities can foster trust and legitimacy among them, increase their sense of ownership and participation in development processes, and foster a conducive atmosphere for enduring peace. The report also highlights the need for increased coordination and capacity building between government agencies and civil society organizations in order to effectively implement inclusive development policies and programs. Many stakeholders have various perceptions on inclusive development strategies and programs in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region. Some regard these laws and programs favorably, viewing them as crucial steps toward addressing long-standing marginalization issues and fostering more inclusion for indigenous groups. Others view them as insufficient or even damaging to the interests of these communities. Inconsistent and fragmented implementation of inclusive development policies and programs in the CHT region is a difficulty. While there have been some excellent initiatives, such as the creation of community-based natural resource management programs, there have also been instances of poorly designed or handled projects that failed to address the root causes of conflict and marginalization (Islam & Paul, 2019). The voices and viewpoints of local communities are not always taken into account in the establishment of these policies and programs, which is another obstacle. This might lead to a gap between the programs' intended outcomes and the real needs and priorities of local communities (Hossain, 2019).

Overall, it is evident that perceptions of inclusive development policies and programs in the CHT region are influenced by a number of factors, including the specific design and implementation of these initiatives, the level of community involvement and participation, and the region's underlying political and social dynamics.

Table 2. Perceptions of inclusive development policies and programs

Category	Number of Participants (72)	Percentage
Positive	26	45%
Neutral	22	25%
Negative	24	30%

The study findings have significant policy and practice implications. The study indicates that policymakers and development practitioners should take a more nuanced and context-specific approach to development that addresses the fundamental grievances driving the conflict and promotes more social cohesion and reconciliation in the region. This strategy must involve local people in the development process, encourage their participation and ownership, and give priority to their needs and ambitions.

In addition, the report emphasizes the need for increased political will and commitment, proper money, and capacity training in order to effectively implement inclusive development policies and programs. In recent years, numerous inclusive development strategies and projects have been implemented in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region of Bangladesh. These policies and programs aim to address the root causes of conflict and increase indigenous groups' engagement and inclusion. Among the most important policies and projects for equitable development in the region are:

Land Reform: The government of Bangladesh has taken a number of steps to resolve land rights issues in the CHT region. The establishment of land dispute settlement committees, the distribution of khas land (government-owned property) to landless and indigenous populations, and the registration of indigenous land are some of these initiatives (Kabir, 2015).

Cultural Preservation: Efforts have been made to preserve and promote the indigenous communities' traditional legacy in the CHT region. This involves establishing cultural centers and museums, recognizing indigenous languages, and promoting traditional handicrafts and cultural customs (Sultana, 2017).

Political Representation: The CHT Accord of 1997 established provisions for greater political representation for indigenous communities in the region, including the establishment of reserved seats in local government bodies and the formation of a regional council to oversee development initiatives (Kabir, 2015).

Economic Development: The government of Bangladesh and its development partners have launched a number of initiatives to promote economic growth in the CHT region. They include programs to enhance infrastructure, expand access to finance and markets, and encourage entrepreneurship and small-scale companies (Mahmud & Rabbani, 2017).

Health and Education: Throughout the CHT region, efforts have been made to improve access to health and education services. This involves the creation of schools and health centers in rural regions, the granting of scholarships for indigenous students, and the training of indigenous health personnel (Kabir, 2015).

In general, these inclusive development policies and programs are significant steps towards promoting greater inclusion and involvement among indigenous groups in the CHT region. Yet, implementation and ensuring that these policies and initiatives effectively address the root causes of conflict and marginalization in the region remain obstacles.

Lessons from other regions dealing with comparable circumstances might provide invaluable insight into how to resolve violent conflict and foster equitable development. In Northeast India, for instance, the Indian government has promoted an autonomy strategy for ethnic minority groups, providing them more political representation and sovereignty over their land and resources. This has assisted in addressing some of the underlying issues that drove the violence and promoted better social cohesion and healing among local communities (Pandey, 2019).

In a similar manner, the government of Colombia has enacted peace agreements that contain provisions for land restitution, political representation, and socioeconomic development for neglected areas. These accords have helped to reduce violence and promote equitable development, however implementation and resolving underlying socioeconomic inequities continue to pose obstacles (Belloni & Schneckener, 2020).

In summary, while there have been some positive results and impacts from inclusive development projects in the CHT region, there is still much work to be done to address the underlying causes of conflict and encourage greater inclusion and involvement for marginalized populations in the region.

This study contributes to the literature on peacebuilding and development in conflict-affected regions, especially in the context of the CHT region of Bangladesh, despite its limitations. These findings can inform policymakers, development practitioners, and civil society organizations promoting sustainable peace and development in the region and beyond.

Table3. Examples of inclusive development programs in the CHT region

Program Name	Description	Results/Impact
Community-based natural resource management:	Several programs have been implemented to promote community-based natural resource management in the CHT region. These programs aim to empower local communities to manage their natural resources in a sustainable manner, while also promoting greater social inclusion and participation (Islam & Paul, 2019).	The results and impact of inclusive development programs in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region of Bangladesh have been mixed. While these programs have contributed to some positive outcomes, such as increased access to education and healthcare, economic opportunities, and cultural preservation, challenges and limitations remain.
Health and education initiatives:	Various health and education initiatives have been implemented in the CHT region, with a focus on improving access to these services for indigenous communities. For example, the government of Bangladesh has established schools and health centers in remote areas, while development partners have provided scholarships for indigenous students and training for indigenous health workers (Kabir, 2015).	One challenge is the uneven and fragmented implementation of these programs, which has resulted in disparities in access and outcomes among different communities in the region (Mahmud & Rabbani, 2017). For example, while some communities have benefited from microfinance and entrepreneurship development programs, others have not had the same opportunities or resources.
Microfinance and entrepreneurship development:	Microfinance programs and entrepreneurship development initiatives have been implemented in the CHT region to promote economic development and increase access to finance for marginalized communities (Mahmud & Rabbani, 2017).	Another challenge is the ongoing conflicts and tensions in the region, which have hindered the effectiveness of these programs and limited their impact. Disputes over land rights, political representation, and cultural identity continue to be major sources of conflict in the CHT region, and these issues are often intertwined with broader issues of marginalization and inequality (Kabir, 2015).
Land rights programs:	Programs aimed at addressing land rights issues in the CHT region have been implemented, including the distribution of khas land to landless and indigenous communities, the registration of indigenous land, and the establishment of land dispute resolution committees (Kabir, 2015).	Despite these challenges, there have been some positive outcomes from inclusive development programs in the CHT region. For example, community-based natural resource management programs have helped to promote sustainable management of natural resources and empower local communities to take control of their own development (Islam & Paul, 2019). Health and education initiatives have also contributed to improved access to these services for indigenous communities, particularly in remote and underserved areas (Kabir, 2015).

Discussion

Decades of armed strife have plagued the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region of Bangladesh between the state and the indigenous ethnic minority groups. This essay examines the role inclusive development policies and programs play in reducing armed group rivalry and establishing a lasting peace in the CHT region.

The findings of the study indicate that the rivalry between armed groups in the CHT region is rooted in a variety of issues, including historical grievances around land rights, cultural identity, and political representation. The absence of inclusive development plans and initiatives that address these underlying concerns has fostered armed group rivalry and hampered the region's ability to achieve a lasting peace. This finding is consistent with the literature on conflict and development, which stresses the necessity of addressing the core causes of conflict in order to achieve permanent peace (Lederach, 2015).

There is the possibility for inclusive development policies and programs to address the underlying reasons of armed group rivalry, boost socioeconomic growth, and encourage better social cohesion and reconciliation in the region. Strategies for inclusive development that focus the needs and ambitions of local communities can foster trust and legitimacy among them, increase their sense of ownership and participation in development processes, and foster a conducive atmosphere for enduring peace. Literature on development and peacebuilding, which emphasizes the significance of community engagement and ownership in development processes, also supports this conclusion (Bryant, 2002).

In addition, the report identifies several obstacles to implementing inclusive development policies and programs in the CHT region. These obstacles include a lack of political will and commitment, insufficient budget, and poor ability and cooperation between government institutions and civil society organizations. According with the literature on development and conflict, which emphasizes the necessity of political will, money, and coordination for the implementation of effective development policies and programs, these obstacles are compatible with these themes (Brinkerhoff, 2002).

The study's conclusions have significant policy and practice implications. An inclusive approach to development that prioritizes the needs and aspirations of local populations, according to the study, is essential for establishing a lasting peace in the CHT region. Policymakers and development practitioners must take a more nuanced and context-specific approach to development that addresses the root causes of the conflict and promotes more social cohesion and reconciliation in the region. In addition, the report emphasizes the need for increased political will and commitment, proper money, and capacity training in order to effectively implement inclusive development policies and programs.

Northeast India and Colombia provide evidence that an inclusive approach to development that prioritizes the needs and ambitions of local communities, encourages political representation, and addresses past grievances can contribute to the establishment of enduring peace. Such lessons might be extended to the CHT region in Bangladesh, where addressing land rights, cultural autonomy, and political participation could be crucial for encouraging equitable development and fostering peace. The following are obstacles to implementing policies and initiatives for equitable development in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region of Bangladesh:

Political Instability: Political instability and changes in government have contributed to inconsistent implementation of policies and programs in the CHT region, hampering the efficacy of development initiatives (Kabir, 2015).

Limited Community Participation: Despite efforts to incorporate local people in the development process, it remains difficult to ensure that their voices and viewpoints are fully considered. This might result in a mismatch between the objectives of development projects and the actual needs and priorities of local communities (Sultana, 2017).

Limited Access to Resources: Restricted access to resources, especially for marginalized and indigenous people, can be a substantial impediment to the implementation of inclusive development policies and programs. This involves access to land, financial resources, education, and health care. (Mahmud & Rabbani, 2017)

Land Rights Issues: Land rights concerns are a major cause of conflict in the CHT region, as well as a formidable obstacle to the implementation of development programs. Land conflicts can impede the completion of infrastructure projects and reduce the efficacy of programs designed to promote economic growth and alleviate poverty (Kabir, 2015).

Tensions and Conflict: Persistent tensions and conflict in the CHT region can be a substantial barrier to the implementation of inclusive development policies and programs. Conflicts between various ethnic and religious groups, as well as disagreements over property rights and political representation, can impair the efficacy of development projects and impede progress toward greater inclusiveness and social justice (Sultana, 2017).

Conclusion

Decades of armed strife have plagued the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) region of Bangladesh between the state and the indigenous ethnic minority groups. This essay examines the function of inclusive development policies and programs in reducing armed group rivalry and establishing a lasting peace in the CHT region.

The findings of the study indicate that inclusive development policies and initiatives have the ability to address the underlying reasons of armed group rivalry, promote socioeconomic growth, and generate more social cohesion and reconciliation in the region. Strategies for inclusive development that focus the needs and ambitions of local communities can foster trust and legitimacy among them, increase their sense of ownership and participation in development processes, and foster a conducive atmosphere for enduring peace. In addition, the report identifies the obstacles to implementing inclusive development policies and initiatives in the CHT region, including a lack of political will and commitment, inadequate money, and low ability and coordination across government agencies and civil society organizations. To overcome these obstacles, stronger political will, coordination, capacity-building, and community participation are required to implement successful development policies and programs that address the core causes of conflict and promote long-term peace in the CHT region.

This study highlights the significance of a development strategy that takes into account the different cultural, economic, and political settings of the CHT region. Policymakers and development practitioners must take a more nuanced and context-specific approach to development that addresses the root causes of the conflict and promotes more social cohesion and reconciliation in the region. Ultimately, inclusive development policies and initiatives that prioritize the needs and aspirations of local communities are essential for establishing a lasting peace in the CHT region and other conflict-affected regions around the globe.

Recommendations

Based on the findings and analyses of this study, the following policy and practice suggestions are made:

Develop more political will and commitment to inclusive development: Bangladeshi policymakers must prioritize inclusive development policies and programs that address the underlying grievances of the CHT conflict. This necessitates stronger political will and dedication to peacebuilding and development, as well as ongoing funding and support for development programs.

Enhance coordination and capacity-building between government agencies and civil society organizations: Effective implementation of inclusive development policies and programs in the CHT region requires increased coordination and capacity-building between government agencies and civil society organizations. This can be accomplished through improved training, technical help, and the dissemination of knowledge.

Prioritize community participation and ownership in development processes: Inclusive development policies and programs should prioritize community engagement and ownership in the development process. This can be accomplished through participatory planning and decision-making, community-driven development projects, and local organization capacity building.

Address land rights, cultural autonomy, and political representation: Policies and initiatives for inclusive development must address the core reasons of armed group rivalry in the CHT region, such as land rights, cultural autonomy, and political representation. This necessitates a more sophisticated and context-specific approach to development that considers the region's unique cultural, economic, and political situations.

Foster greater social cohesion and reconciliation: Promote more social cohesion and reconciliation Inclusive development policies and programs can play an important role in promoting greater social cohesion and reconciliation in the CHT region. This needs an emphasis on fostering trust and legitimacy within local communities, fostering inter-community discussion and collaboration, and addressing the social and economic disparities that fuel conflict.

Scientific Ethics Declaration

The author declares that the scientific ethical and legal responsibility of this article published in EPESS journal belongs to the author.

Acknowledgements or Notes

* This article was presented as oral presentation at the International Conference on Social Science Studies (www.iconsos.net) held in Marmaris/Turkey on April 27-30, 2023

References:

- Bari, M. A. (2017). State, society, and ethnic conflict in the Chittagong hill tracts of Bangladesh. *Journal of International and Area Studies*, 24(2), 45-61.
- Belloni, R., & Schneekener, U. (2020). *From violence to sustainable peace: An analytical framework*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Bhuiyan, M. R. (2017). Colonial and postcolonial land grabbing in the Chittagong hill tracts of Bangladesh. *Journal of Peasant Studies*, 44(2), 357-378.
- Bryant, R. L. (2002). Power, knowledge and political ecology in the third world: A review. *Progress in Physical Geography*, 26(1), 79-94.
- Brinkerhoff, D. W. (2002). Governance and development: A conceptual framework. *International Journal of Public Administration*, 25(8), 917-937.
- Das, P. (2018). Disarming for peace: Challenges and prospects in the Chittagong hill tracts of Bangladesh. *Journal of International Affairs*, 72(2), 183-201.
- Datta, D. (2018). *Chittagong hill tracts: A study of ethnic identity and conflict*. Gyan Publishing House.
- Hossain, M. (2019). Inclusive development in the Chittagong hill tracts of Bangladesh: A critical review. *Journal of Bangladesh Studies*, 21(2), 47-64.
- Islam, R. (2018). Ethnic identity and insurgency in Bangladesh: The Chittagong hill tracts. *South Asian History and Culture*, 9(2), 194-209.
- Islam, M. R., & Paul, A. (2019). Community-based natural resource management in Chittagong hill tracts: A critical review. *Journal of Forest and Environmental Science*, 35(3), 221-233.
- Kabir, H. (2015). Chittagong hill tracts: An unsolved problem of Bangladesh. *Journal of International Studies*, 11(1), 103-114.
- Lederach, J. P. (2015). *Building peace: Sustainable reconciliation in divided societies*. US Institute of Peace Press.
- Liu, X., & Rafferty, A. (2019). Political inclusion and power sharing in post-peace accord societies: Evidence from the Chittagong hill tracts, Bangladesh. *Conflict, Security & Development*, 19(3), 263-284.
- Mahmud, M., & Rabbani, M. G. (2017). A review of inclusive development and livelihood promotion programs in Chittagong hill tracts of Bangladesh. *Journal of Forest and Environmental Science*, 33(2), 133-146.
- Pandey, D. (2019). Autonomy and political representation: The Naga experience in Northeast India. *Economic & Political Weekly*, 54(4), 19-22.
- Rahman, M. (2017). *Ethnic conflict in the Chittagong hill tracts, Bangladesh: A historical study, 1860-2016*. Lexington Books.
- Roy, P., & Rahman, M. (2020). The Chittagong hill tracts peace accord: Opportunities and challenges. *Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs*, 7(1), 75-97.
- Sultana, T. (2017). Ethnic minority and cultural identity in Bangladesh: The Chittagong hill tracts. *Asian Ethnicity*, 18(4), 478-492.
- Upreti, B. R., & Douthwaite, B. (2017). The Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) peace accord and its aftermath: Lessons for peacebuilding in South Asia. *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development*, 6(1), 1-15.

Author Information

Sarder Ali Haider

Bangladesh University of Professionals,
Mirpur, Bangladesh,
Contact Email: alihaiders5235@gmail.com

To cite this article:

Haider, S. A. (2023). Building sustainable peace in the Chittagong hill tracts of Bangladesh: The role of inclusive development in addressing armed group rivalry. *The Eurasia Proceedings of Educational & Social Sciences (EPESS)*, 29, 33-41.