

Book launch
COVID-19 and Economic Recovery Potential in the CAREC Region

PART III: COVID-19 Impacts on Human Development

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11-12 April 2022

Resilience and Economic Growth in Times of High Uncertainty in CAREC Region

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PART III: COVID-19 Impacts on Human Development

Impacts of COVID-19 on Households in CAREC Countries

Dina Azhgaliyeva, Ranjeeta Mishra, Long Q. Trinh, and Peter Morgan

The Impact of COVID-19 on the Sustainable Development of Central Asian Cities: The Case of Informal Kabul

Madina Junussova and Saniya Soltybayeva

Household Energy Consumption Behaviors During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Mongolia

Dina Azhgaliyeva, Ranjeeta Mishra, and Kamalbek Karymshakov

Impacts of COVID-19 on Households in CAREC Countries: Income, Expenditure and Financial Difficulty

- ADBI Household (Computer-assisted telephone) Survey
- 10 Countries: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan
- N=1,000 households in each country
- December 2020 compared with the base period of June 2020

Household Energy Consumption Behaviors During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Mongolia

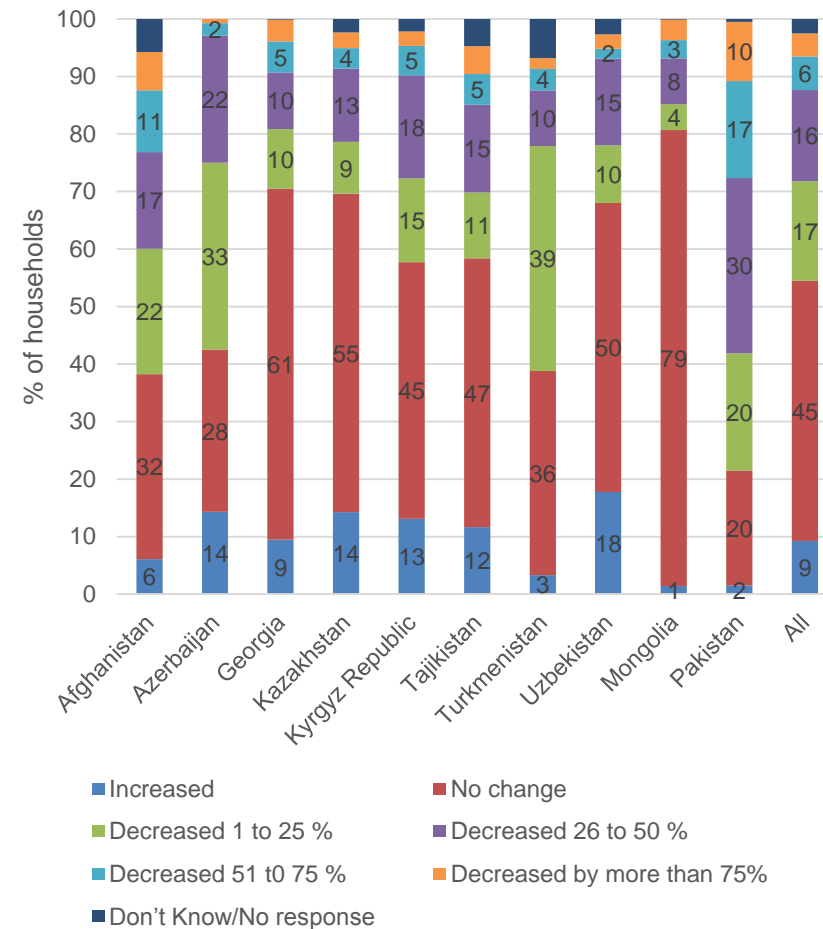
- UNICEF MICS Plus Household (Computer-assisted telephone) Survey
- N=1,987 households in 2020 and 14,500 households in 2018
- Choice of fuel for heating

The Impact of COVID-19 on the Sustainable Development of Central Asian Cities: The Case of Informal Kabul (Afghanistan's capital city)

- key informant interviews (N=12)
- Calls via WhatsApp, Telegram, Zoom, and Skype

Impacts of COVID-19 on Households in CAREC Countries: Income, Expenditure and Financial Difficulty

Nearly half of households (45%) reported income declines. The share of households with income declines ranged widely among CAREC countries from 80% of households (Pakistan) to 20% of households (Mongolia).

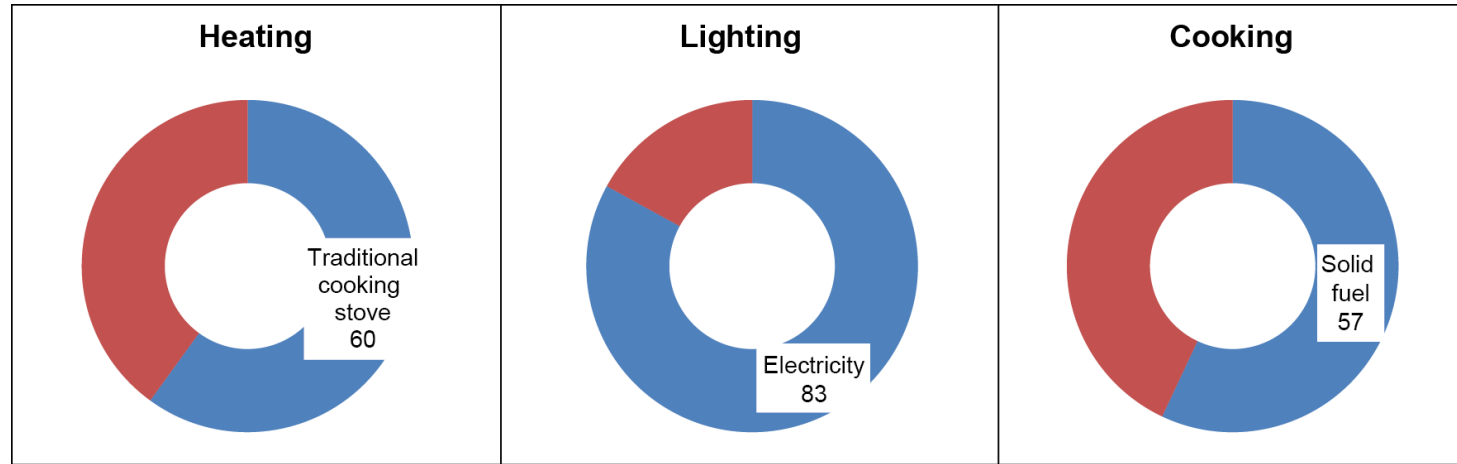


Impacts of COVID-19 on Households in CAREC Countries: Income, Expenditure and Financial Difficulty

Empirical results

- Households with less **educated** household heads were more likely to experience income declines due to COVID-19.
- **Female**-headed households were less likely to experience a decline in income due to COVID-19.
- Households located in a **lockdown** area on average are more likely experiencing an income and expenditure decline and getting into financial difficulty.
- Households in the **lowest income** group were more likely to get into financial difficulty than those households in the highest socio-economic class.
- On average, households with income from **household businesses and/or self-employment** were more likely to suffer from financial difficulty.

Household Energy Consumption Behaviors During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Mongolia



- In 2020 60% of households used a traditional cooking stove for space heating, 83% of households used electricity for lighting requirements, and 57% of households used solid fuel for cooking.
- Main heating energy types in 2020 is reported as coal (20 %), wood (20%), animal dung (17%) and improved fuel (13%).
- The share of households using central heating increased in 2020 to 26% from 19% in 2018.
- The share of households using improved fuel for their heating requirements increased in 2020 as compared to 2018.

Household Energy Consumption Behaviors During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Mongolia

Empirical results

- **Female**-headed households are more likely to have a clean source of heating—a district heating system.
- In December 2020, after the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, households were more likely to use **district heating** and manufactured space heaters than cooking stoves for heating compared to 2018.

The Impact of COVID-19 on the Sustainable Development of Central Asian Cities: The Case of Informal Kabul

The chapter's findings show that people living in informal areas of Kabul experienced a considerable negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and its suppression measures.

- The implementation of **handwashing** became impractical for informal settlements that do not have adequate access to clean water and struggle with poor sanitation.
- Urban poor living in the densely populated informal settlements could not practice social **distancing** or self-isolation.
- Informal settlements with poor sanitary conditions have started to serve as the main hot spots for **transmitting** the virus to the other parts of the city.
- The **lockdowns** and the closure of markets and social spaces left the urban poor without the opportunity to earn and afford living even in an informal setting.

Key takeaways and policy recommendations

- Impact of COVID-19 (and measures) varies across CAREC countries due to differences in the structure of the economy.
- Households located in a **lockdown** area on average are more likely experiencing an income and expenditure decline and getting into financial difficulty.
- The use of **clean heating** is particularly important during lockdowns such as those during the COVID-19 pandemic, in order to avoid the hazardous effects of indoor pollution due to indoor solid fuel combustion.
- Since **female**-household heads are more inclined toward adopting a cleaner source of residential heating governments should include women-centric interventions, where the primary beneficiaries are female household members, to promote the awareness and adoption of cleaner energy sources.
- There is an urgent need to introduce policy actions formulated with the representatives of the local communities of **informal settlements** that are affordable, applicable, and matched with local institutional capacities.

Thank You

