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Meghna Guhathakurta is executive director of Research Initiatives, Bangladesh, a research support organization which supports research in poverty alleviation. Meghna ( b. 1956) graduated in International relations at the University of Dhaka and completed her doctoral research at the University of York, UK on the subject of The Politics of British Aid to Bangladesh. Her area of specialization is development, gender, minority rights and South Asian Politics. She has written published extensively on gender issues in Bangladesh, ethnic conflict and peace-building in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, migration and displacement and NGOs in development. She was Professor of International Relations at the University of Dhaka from 1984 to 2006. She served as member of RAWOO from 1998 to 2002 and is currently on a three-month visiting fellowship at the ISS under a link programme with the Dept. of Women and Gender Studies at the University of Dhaka.