



KOCHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Social Design Engineering Series

SDES-2021-8

Cooperation on climate change and ongoing urbanization

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29th September, 2021

School of Economics and Management

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Cooperation on climate change and ongoing urbanization

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September 29, 2021

Abstract

Climate change has become a major threat to existence of humankind on earth. Studies demonstrate that climate change gets exacerbated and people become nonprosocial with urbanization (Ehrlich et al., 2012, Wigginton et al., 2016, Shahrier et al., 2016, 2017, Jingchao et al., 2021). It is hypothesized that people's cooperation on climate change declines as they become nonprosocial with urbanization. To examine the hypothesis, we implement a survey experiment consisting of climate donation (CD) and social value orientation (SVO) games in three areas of a developing country, Bangladesh: (i) rural, (ii) semiurban and (iii) urban ones. In CD game, a respondent splits a fixed endowment between herself and a donation to climate change countermeasures. The analysis reveals that the number of nonprosocials is higher in the semiurban and urban areas than in the rural area, and nonprosocials donate less than do prosocials. It also shows that education, belief in human-induced climate change and natural disasters' experiences increase the donations. However, the magnitudes of the increases are less than the magnitudes of the decline in donations associated with urbanization and SVO from prosocials to nonprosocials. Overall, this research suggests that cooperation on climate change shall be compromised along with further urbanization, and a new paradigm, such as vision and/or core values for society development and education, will be necessary to counter such a trend.

Key Words: Cooperation on climate change; urbanization; prosociality; culture and evolution

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Nomenclature

BDT Bangladeshi currency, Taka

CD Climate donation

SVO Social value orientation

USD US dollar

1 Introduction

Climate change has become a major threat to existence of humankind on earth, and stabilizing the earth's climate is a significant challenge for human society (Ehrlich et al., 2012, Kinzig et al., 2013, Griggs et al., 2013, Costanza et al., 2014, Hauser et al., 2014, Steffen et al., 2015, Amesbury et al., 2017). Studies project the rapid growth of urbanization worldwide and demonstrate that climate change gets exacerbated as societies become urbanized (American Association for the Advancement of Science, 2016, Ehrlich et al., 2012, Wigginton et al., 2016). It is argued that the climate change problem is prone to the "tragedy of commons," and people's cooperation & prosociality are necessary to counter the problem (Milinski et al., 2006, Aitken et al., 2011, Karkowitz and Shariff, 2012, Bernauer and McGratg, 2016, Anderson et al., 2017). Cultural agents are claimed to be very important, bringing changes in human behaviors and facilitating prosociality, trust and fairness among people (see, e.g., Dawkins, 2006, Richerson and Boyd, 2008, Henrich et al., 2010a, Brosig-Koch et al., 2011, Leibbrandt et al., 2013, Moya et al., 2015). Shahrier et al. (2016, 2017) find that with ongoing urbanization of societies as part of a cultural change, individuals tend to be nonprosocial, posing dangers on intragenerational and intergenerational problems. This paper addresses how cooperation on climate change is associated with ongoing urbanization and people's prosociality.

It is found that prosocials tend to care more about environmental protections, show more proenvironmental behaviors and contribute more to the provision of environmental goods than do nonprosocials (Cameron et al., 1998, Joireman et al., 2001, Schultz, 2001, Aitken et al., 2011, Neaman et al., 2018, Asma et al., 2021). Cameron et al. (1998) conduct a classroom experiment, demonstrating that prosocials are more likely to support a program to reduce transportation pollution than do nonprosocials (proselfs). Joireman et al. (2001) show that prosocials are proenvironmental and have a belief in social consequences of environmental problems relative to nonprosocials. The survey experiment of Schultz (2001) demonstrates that nonprosocials score high in egoistic environmental concern (concern for self) in comparison to prosocials. Aitken et al. (2011) find that people with a strong perception of commons dilemma are less willing to mitigate environmental problems than others. Neaman et al. (2018) implement a questionnaire survey in Chile and show that prosocial and proenvironmental be-

28 haviors are positively associated with each other. Asma et al. (2021) administer a field experiment in
29 Bangladesh, demonstrating that prosocials donate more than nonprosocials for salinity risk reduction.
30 Overall, the literature indicates that people's degree of prosociality may be an important determinant of
31 their level of cooperation on climate change.

32 Several studies suggest that people become nonprosocial (proself) with urbanization, affecting their
33 generativity and decisions regarding sustainability of common-pool resources and intergenerational
34 sustainability (Timilsina et al., 2017, 2019, 2021, Shahrier et al., 2017). Timilsina et al. (2019) find that
35 people become less generative with a change in social value orientation from prosocial to nonprosocial
36 as societies become urbanized. Timilsina et al. (2017) administer an experiment of a dynamic common
37 pool resource game in Nepal. They reveal that the sustainability of common pool resources declines
38 as the number of nonprosocial people increases with urbanization. Shahrier et al. (2017) implement
39 a field experiment of intergenerational sustainability dilemma game (ISDG) in urban and rural areas
40 of Bangladesh. They find that the number of prosocial people is higher in the rural area than in the
41 urban area and the probability of choosing intergenerational sustainable options rises with the increase
42 in the number of prosocial people per generation. Therefore, generations in the rural area choose
43 more intergenerational sustainable options than those in the urban area. Timilsina et al. (2021) show
44 that urban society consists of a number of people with stable preferences over maximizing their own
45 generation's payoffs, influencing others to follow them. Thus, generations in urban society endanger
46 intergenerational sustainability, unlike those in rural society. All in all, the literature suggests that the
47 degree of prosociality and urbanization may be two decisive factors that affect people's cooperation on
48 climate change.

49 It is found that climate change gets exacerbated as societies become urbanized (American Asso-
50 ciation for the Advancement of Science, 2016, Ehrlich et al., 2012, Wigginton et al., 2016). Studies
51 also suggest that with the ongoing urbanization of societies, the number of nonprosocial people in-
52 creases, who cooperate less than prosocials on environmental and sustainability issues (Shahrier et al.,
53 2016, 2017, Timilsina et al., 2017, 2019, 2021, Jingchao et al., 2021, Asma et al., 2021). Therefore,
54 we hypothesize that people's cooperation on climate change decline as they become nonprosocial with
55 urbanization. It is projected that the proportion of the urban population will be 66 % and 75 % of the

56 world urbanites will be in developing countries of Africa and Asia by 2050 (American Association for
57 the Advancement of Science, 2016, Wigginton et al., 2016). Considering rapid urbanization in societies
58 and the possible increase in the number of nonprosocials with urbanization, examining our hypothesis
59 is important to address environmental and climate change related issues. Moreover, a majority of the
60 studies of cooperation on climate change have been demonstrated in developed countries. However,
61 to generalize the findings and understand human cooperation on climate change better, more of such
62 studies should be administered in developing countries (Henrich et al., 2005, 2010a,b). In this study,
63 we analyze cooperation on climate changes concerning ongoing urbanization and human prosociality
64 by conducting a survey experiment of climate donation (CD) and social value orientation (SVO) games
65 in three types of fields of a developing country, Bangladesh: (i) rural, (ii) semiurban and (iii) urban
66 ones.

67 **2 Study areas**

68 We demonstrated our survey experiment in three different areas of Bangladesh: (i) Dhaka, the
69 capital city (urban), (ii) several semi-urban areas of Shajahanpur and Sherpur subdistrict in a north-
70 ern district Bogura (semiurban) and (iii) several remote villages of Palashbari subdistrict in a northern
71 district Gaibandha (rural). Since Bangladesh is mostly homogeneous in terms of culture and ethnicity,
72 these three study areas exhibit the same religious, cultural and linguistic variations. They vary from one
73 another in terms of the level of urbanization in society. The first study area, Dhaka consists of all the ar-
74 eas in Dhaka metropolitan. This area is located between $90^{\circ}18'$ and $90^{\circ}57'$ east longitude and between
75 $23^{\circ}55'$ and $24^{\circ}81'$ north latitude. The total population and land area of this area are 14.51 million and
76 1371 km^2 , respectively (Dewan and Corner, 2014). The density of population is $10\,484 \text{ km}^{-2}$ which is
77 approximately 9 times higher than the country average of 1218 km^{-2} and it is the most densely popu-
78 lated city in the world (Dewan and Corner, 2014). Dhaka is known as the headquarter of businesses,
79 industries and services in Bangladesh. Due to the heavy industrialization and lack of arable land, farm-
80 ing activities are almost absent in the Dhaka metropolitan. Thus, its economic activities depend less
81 on ecosystem services and nature. Business, service and some labor intensive occupations such as in-

82 dustrial wage labor, rickshaw-pulling are the major occupations in Dhaka metropolitan. This area is
83 representative of the urbanized society in our study. It is interchangeably addressed as Dhaka or the
84 urban area for the rest of the paper.

85 The second study area comprises several semiurban areas of Shajahanpur and Sherpur subdistricts
86 in the northern district, Bogura. Shajahanpur subdistrict is located between 89°16' and 89°29' east lon-
87 gitudes and between 24°41' and 24°50' north latitudes. Sherpur subdistrict is located between 89°20'
88 and 89°32' east longitudes and between 24°32' and 24°44' north latitudes. The total population, land
89 area and population density of Shajahanpur (Sherpur) are 289 804 (332 825) and 54 783 acres (73 128
90 acres) and 1307 km⁻² (1125 km⁻²), respectively (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2011). The popu-
91 lation densities of Sherpur and Shajahanpur are slightly lower and higher respectively than the coun-
92 try average (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2011). Bogura district is known as the gateway to the
93 northern part of Bangladesh. The city of Bogura is one of the modernized and industrialized cities in
94 Bangladesh. The study area is located adjacent to the Dhaka-Bogura highway and has well by road
95 communication with the city of Bogura. This area is undergoing a process of urbanization. Urbaniza-
96 tion starts with the agricultural revolution lead by some government agencies and NGOs. The increase
97 in agricultural production, infrastructure development and suitable location for industrialization lead
98 to its economic growth. Thus, this area has been experiencing a transition from a rural society into
99 an urbanized society. Economic activities in this area include a mix of farming, small and medium
100 scale businesses, services and labor-intensive occupations, such as industrial labor jobs and rickshaw-
101 pulling. This area stands for the semiurban society and will be addressed interchangeably as Bogura or
102 the semiurban area for the remaining parts of the paper.

103 Several agrarian villages of Palashbari subdistrict in the northern district Gaibandha are included
104 in the third study area. Palashbari is located between 25°11' and 25°19' north latitude and 89°16'
105 and 89°32' east longitude. The total population, land area and population density of Palashbari are
106 244 792, 45 774 acres and 1321 km⁻², respectively (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2011). This area
107 consists of traditional agrarian villages and it is one of the least developed areas in Bangladesh. Industry
108 and service sectors are less developed and only some small agro-industries are available in this area.
109 Almost all the dwellers are engaged with farming either as their main income generating activity or for

110 their self-consumption.¹ Besides farming, economic activities include some small and medium scale
111 businesses and labor intensive occupations such as van-pulling and rickshaw-pulling. Since farming
112 is the major income generating activity in this area, its economy heavily depends on nature and the
113 ecosystem. In summary, with less developed industry and service sector and dependency on agriculture,
114 this study area is the least urbanized among the three study areas. We interchangeably address this study
115 area as Palsahbari or the rural area for the remainder of this paper.

116 [Figure 1 about here.]

117 **3 Methods and materials**

118 **3.1 Experimental setup**

119 We demonstrated a climate donation (CD) game, a social value orientation (SVO) game and ques-
120 tionnaire surveys in the fields.

121 **The climate donation (CD) game**

122 To measure a respondent's level of cooperation on climate change, we implemented a climate do-
123 nation (CD henceforth) game. The structure of CD game is the same as the experiment administered
124 in Asma et al. (2021). CD game is a special variant of a standard dictator game. In a dictator game,
125 a respondent divides a fixed endowment between herself and an unknown other (the receiver) (Bolton
126 et al., 1998, Engel, 2011). In CD game, a respondent is asked to divide an initial endowment of
127 250 BDT into two accounts: (i) an individual account for herself and (ii) a donation to climate change
128 countermeasures. They are free to choose any division of the endowment including a zero donation to
129 climate change countermeasures. We inform the respondents that the total donation collected from this
130 game would be finally donated to the organization named the "Adaptation Fund," and it would spend
131 the money for taking countermeasures against the adverse effects of climate change. They are also
132 informed that the amount of money they keep in the individual account for themselves is their actual
133 earning from the game.

¹Our data confirms that more than 90 % of the people are engaged with farming in this study area.

134 CD game is different from the standard dictator game in that in CD game, a respondent knows who
135 is the receiver (the Adaptation Fund), unlike that in the standard dictator game. Since the dictator game
136 is an established method to measure an individual's cooperation with an unknown other, the donation
137 in CD game should be considered as a proxy of a respondent's level of cooperation on climate change.
138 We conduct CD game for its simplicity and to confirm the same environment for every respondent
139 (Engel, 2011). A number of respondents who participate in the survey experiment are less-educated.
140 CD game is suitable for obtaining individual donations for climate change countermeasures, in which
141 even less-educated respondents would express their donation effectively. Besides, in CD game, every
142 respondent has the same initial endowment, and therefore, it measures their level of cooperation on
143 climate change given the same environment to everyone. For the remainder of the paper, we address
144 the climate donation game as CD game and the donation for climate change countermeasures in CD
145 game as the climate donation.

146 **Social value orientation (SVO) game**

147 To figure out individual social value orientations or social preferences, we demonstrated a triple
148 dominance method social value orientation (SVO) game advanced by Van Lange et al. (1997, 2007).
149 This game characterizes a respondent's social value orientation either as competitive, prosocial, indi-
150 vidualistic or unidentified, based on the respondent's choices in the game. In such a game, a respondent
151 is randomly paired with another respondent and asked to choose among three options, where the an-
152 other respondent (referred as "the other") is unknown to the respondent. Each of the options in the
153 game represents two numbers as the outcome for oneself and the other. One example of such a triple
154 dominance decomposed SVO game is the selection problem among the following three options: (i) you
155 get 500 and the other gets 100, (ii) you get 500 and the other gets 500, (iii) you get 560 and the other
156 gets 330. Option (i) in the example represents competitive value orientation. An individual with this
157 preference is called a competitor who wants to maximize the gap between her ownself and the other
158 ($500 - 100 = 400$). Option (ii) corresponds to prosocial value orientation, which maximizes the joint
159 outcome for ownself and the other ($500 + 500 = 1000$). A person with this orientation is regarded as
160 a prosocial. Finally, option (iii) is representative of individualistic orientation. An individual with this

161 orientation is called an individualist who prefers to maximize her outcome 560 and indifferent to the
162 outcome of the other.

163 SVO game consists of 9 selection problems, each selection contains the three options of competi-
164 tive, prosocial and individualistic orientation described above with different ordering and numbers. A
165 respondent needs to choose one option from each of the selections. If at least 6 choices in the 9 selec-
166 tions of a respondent match with one of the orientations (competitive, prosocial or individualistic), we
167 categorize her as a person with that orientation; otherwise, she is characterized as an individual with
168 “unidentified” orientation. After the respondents complete the game, we randomly pair a respondent’s
169 choices with another respondent’s choices to compute their total points. A respondent’s total points are
170 the sum of her points from the 9 choices she made for herself and points she receive from the 9 choices
171 the other respondent in the pair made for “the other.” To calculate the actual earning (cash in BDT), we
172 apply an exchange rate of 63.4, i.e., every 63.4 points received by a respondent deserves to be 1 BDT,
173 such that a respondent would earn 150 BDT (≈ 1.76 USD) at maximum. The respondents are informed
174 that the units represented in this game are points and the more point they get, the more money they
175 would earn. We also explain the procedures of the random matching and calculation of the total points
176 and actual earning to the respondents.

177 **3.2 Random sampling in the field**

178 To include respondents from all the socioeconomic classes, we took different approaches for ran-
179 dom sampling in the three study areas. We did so considering the feasibility of the approaches given
180 the different sociodemographic characteristics of the study areas. In the urban area, we carried out
181 randomization based on occupations, since household based randomization was not feasible there. In
182 rural and semiurban areas, we implemented household based randomization. All the respondents in our
183 survey experiment have individual income and financial contributions to their households. The total
184 number of respondents from urban, Dhaka, semiurban, Bogura and rural, Palashbari are 184, 134 and
185 125, respectively.

186 The urban area, Dhaka is an unorganized megacity with the highest density of population in the
187 world (Dewan and Corner, 2014). Collecting information about the household numbers from the city

188 offices was not feasible in this area. Besides, we assumed that the response rate would be very low if
189 we invite respondents by sending invitation letters, following household based randomization. There-
190 fore, we implemented random sampling based on occupational categories and included respondents
191 through the channels of different organizations. First, following the occupation statistics, we selected
192 a required number of respondents from each of the occupations and randomly picked several organi-
193 zations to collect respondents (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2015). Upon the consent of the orga-
194 nizations, we distributed invitation letters and flyers among the employees. Invitation letters included
195 our contact information, so that interested respondents would contact us directly.² Additionally, we
196 invited respondents by creating an event onto Facebook. Hereafter, following the occupational statis-
197 tics, respondents were randomly chosen from those who contacted us and expressed their interest to
198 participate in the survey experiment. Contacting respondents through the organizations and Facebook
199 event thus increased the credibility of our survey experiment and motivated respondents to participate
200 in it. To include respondents with informal occupations, low-income and frequent movements within
201 the city such as rickshaw-pullers, we selected several slums and hired respondents from those slums
202 using human connections. The show-up rate among those invited was approximately 80 % in this area.

203 In the case of the semiurban, Bogura and rural, Palashbari, we conducted household based random-
204 ization. First, we arbitrarily selected several unions and wards for including respondents.³ Hereafter,
205 we collected household identification numbers from the local union and ward offices. Based on the
206 number of households in each union and ward, we randomly selected the required number of house-
207 holds and invited one earning member from each of the households via invitation letters or local human
208 connections. In the semiurban area, we administered our survey experiment with 134 respondents in
209 two subdistricts of Bogura, namely Shajahanpur and Sherpur. From each of the subdistricts, we in-
210 cluded 67 respondents. Out of the 4 unions of the Shajahanpur subdistrict, which are adjacent to the
211 Dhaka-Bogura highway, we selected 2 unions. The two unions were Aria Bazar and Majhira. The
212 total number of households in these two unions was 14 831. The number of households in Aria Bazar
213 and Majhira were 9664 and 5161, respectively (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2011). Therefore, the
214 number of respondents from Aria Bazar and Majhira were respectively 44 and 23 in our study, follow-

²The first author and research assistants distributed invitation letters.

³Union and ward are the smallest administrative units of rural and urban administration in Bangladesh, respectively.

215 ing the household proportion of these two unions. From the Sherpur subdistrict, we chose 3 wards out
216 of a total of 9 wards, they were ward no 1, 2 and 6. The total number of households in these three
217 wards was 1869. The number of households in Ward no 1, 2 and 6 were 549, 473 and 847, respectively.
218 We invited 20, 17 and 30 respondents respectively from ward no 1, 2 and 6 based on the proportion of
219 households of these wards in the total number of households. The show-up rate among those invited
220 was approximately 85 % in this area. In the rural area, first, we randomly selected 3 unions out of the
221 total 9 unions of Palashbari subdistrict, they were Harinathpur, Hossainpur and Monoharpur. The total
222 number of households of these three unions was 15 045. The number of households in Harinathpur,
223 Hossainpur and Monoharpur were 4317, 6089 and 5045, respectively (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics,
224 2011). Based on the household proportion of the three unions, we invited 35, 49 and 41 respondents
225 respectively from Harinathpur, Hossainpur and Monoharpur. The show-up rate among those invited
226 was approximately 85 % in this area.

227 **3.3 Experimental procedure**

228 The survey experiment was conducted between June 2016 and August 2016. In the rural and semi-
229 urban areas, we administered the experiment in several elementary schools within the study areas. In
230 the urban area, the experiment had been demonstrated at the Institute of Information Technology, Uni-
231 versity of Dhaka. In urban, semiurban and rural areas, we respectively administered 16, 11 and 11
232 sessions of our experiment. Each session included 10 ~ 16 respondents and took 1.5 ~ 2 hours.
233 Respondents were paid 550 BDT (≈ 6.44 USD) at maximum with a fixed showup fee of 150 BDT
234 (≈ 1.76 USD). The maximum payments from CD and SVO games were 250 BDT (≈ 2.94 USD) and
235 150 BDT (≈ 1.76 USD), respectively. On average we paid 429 BDT (≈ 5.05 USD) to the respon-
236 dents, where average payments from CD and SVO games were respectively 179 BDT (≈ 2.11 USD)
237 and 100 BDT (≈ 1.18 USD). Average household income per day in Bangladesh was 532.93 BDT
238 (≈ 6.27 USD) in 2016 (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2019). The average payment in our survey
239 experiment was 0.80 times of the average household income per day.

240 In a session of the experiment, respondents were gathered in an experimental hall. First, we con-
241 ducted the SVO game. We confirmed the respondent's understanding of the SVO game using printed

242 instructions, verbal presentations and quizzes. Subsequently, we elicited respondent’s choices in the
 243 SVO game. After the completion of SVO game, we provided printed experimental instructions of
 244 CD game to respondents in their native language, Bengali. Besides, we made verbal presentations to
 245 explain the rules of the game and double-checked their understanding of them employing quizzes.⁴
 246 We gave each of the respondents two envelopes: (i) an envelope containing the initial endowment of
 247 250 BDT and (ii) an empty envelope entitled “account for oneself.” Hereafter, they were instructed to
 248 enter a counter in the experimental hall one by one. Each of them was asked to put the donation for
 249 climate change countermeasures in a non-transparent box affixed there and kept the rest of the money
 250 in the envelope entitled “account for oneself.” Respondents were not allowed to discuss and share
 251 information about their donations with one another. Hereafter, we demonstrated a questionnaire survey
 252 to collect information about their science literacy, critical thinking disposition, climate change percep-
 253 tion, environmental concern and sociodemographic information. Finally, respondents received their
 254 payment from the games including the showup fee and left the experimental hall.

255 **3.4 Empirical method**

256 The climate donation in CD game is bounded by 0 BDT and 250 BDT, such that a respondent can
 257 donate 0 BDT, a zero donation, or 250 BDT, a donation of the total stake of money or any other amount
 258 between 0 BDT and 250 BDT. OLS may provide biased estimations for identifying the determinants
 259 of climate donation as it contains several zero donations and donations of the total stake of money.
 260 Therefore, to characterize climate donation, we estimate two-limit Tobit regressions (McMillen and
 261 McDonald, 1990, Zuehlke, 2020). A two-limit Tobit model to deal with zero donations and donations
 262 of the total stake of money in CD game takes the following form:

$$y_i^* = \mathbf{X}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_j + \epsilon_i \quad (1)$$

263 where y_i^* is a contentious latent variable. If observed climate donation by respondent i is denoted by
 264 y_i , then $y_i = y_i^*$ if $0 < y_i^* < 250$, $y_i = 0$ if $y_i^* \leq 0$ and $y_i = 250$ if $y_i^* \geq 250$. Therefore, the dependent

⁴The first author administered the experiment.

265 variable in this model is a censored dependent variable when observations at the limits are present. If
266 there is no observation at the limits, the model is considered as truncated.⁵ \mathbf{X}_i for $i = 1, \dots, 9$ is a
267 vector of independent variables that are expected to affect climate donation. β_j for $j = 0, \dots, 9$ is a
268 vector of parameters associated with the intercept and \mathbf{X}_i . And ϵ_i represents the random error term.
269 To characterize y_i , the parameters are estimated through maximum likelihood estimation in two-limit
270 Tobit regressions that allows us to compute the marginal effects of the independent variables on climate
271 donations (McMillen and McDonald, 1990, Zuehlke, 2020).

272 Table 1 presents the description of the dependent variable and a set of independent variables. The
273 dependent variable is the climate donation (donations in CD game). Sociodemographic controls in-
274 clude income (household income), age, education, gender and family structure. Building upon the past
275 studies, we include the individual belief in whether climate change is human-induced or nature-induced
276 and the number of disaster experiences as independent variables (Kahneman et al., 1993, Walker et al.,
277 1999, Brown et al., 2002, Bulte et al., 2005, Aitken et al., 2011, Spence et al., 2011, Myers et al.,
278 2013, Yu et al., 2013, Walters et al., 2014). To elicit a respondent's belief in whether climate change
279 is human-induced or nature-induced, we ask her to read two statements along with associated figures.
280 The first statement with a figure describes how human activities change the climate and cause harm
281 to the environment. We incorporate the statement from Milinski et al. (2006). The second statement
282 with a figure depicts the scenario opposite to that in the first statement and illustrates the possibilities of
283 nature-induced climate change. This statement is taken from Hulme et al. (1999). Upon reading these
284 two statements, a respondent chooses one option among the following four options: (i) I agree with
285 statement 1, (ii) I agree with statement 2, (iii) both statements are persuasive and I cannot answer and
286 (iv) I do not understand the statements and cannot answer. The variable "Human-induced" captures the
287 individual belief in whether climate change is human-induced. It takes a value of 1 when a respondent

⁵Out of the total 443 respondents in our survey experiment, 21 and 15 respondents respectively express a zero donation and a donation of the total stake of money. A Tobit model assumes the same data-generating process to characterize the decision of whether to donate or not as well as the amount of donations through specifying the latent variable (Yen and Huang, 1996, Forbes and Zampelli, 2013). On the other hand, several other models assume different data-generating processes for the decision of whether to donate or not and the amount of donations, such as two-step hurdle models (James III and Sharpe, 2007, Forbes and Zampelli, 2013). Since our data contains only a small proportion of zero donations, we decide to employ a two-limit Tobit model as suggested by McMillen and McDonald (1990), Brehanu and Fufa (2008), Zuehlke (2020). In fact, we apply some models with the assumptions of "different data-generating processes," and have difficulty obtaining the estimation results because the likelihood functions never converge in optimization due to a small percentage of zero donations in CD game.

288 believes that climate change is human-induced (chooses option i), otherwise (if a respondent chooses
289 one among options ii, iii and iv) it is coded as 0. The variable, “Disaster experiences” presents the
290 number of disaster experiences, such as the experiences of cyclones, floods and earthquakes in a re-
291 spondent’s lifetime, which causes damages to her physical and/or mental health, livelihood and wealth.
292 The area dummy captures the effect of ongoing urbanization of societies where the rural, Palashbari
293 is the base group. Finally, the dummy variable, “Nonprosocial” represents whether a respondent is
294 nonprosocial or prosocial. It takes a value of 1 if a respondent is characterized as nonprosocial (com-
295 petitive/individualistic/unidentified) in the SVO game, otherwise (prosocial), it is coded as 0.⁶

296 [Table 1 about here.]

297 **4 Results**

298 Table 2 presents the area-wise and overall summary statistics of the dependent variable, climate do-
299 nation and independent variables. It appears that the average climate donation in the rural area is higher
300 than that of the urban and semiurban areas. Mean (median) climate donations from the respondents in
301 the rural, semiurban and urban areas are respectively 91.71 BDT (100 BDT), 55.34 BDT (50 BDT) and
302 67.45 BDT (50 BDT). Figure 2 illustrates the area-wise percentage distribution of climate donation. In
303 this figure, the horizontal and vertical axes respectively denote the amounts of climate donation in BDT
304 and the percentage of respondents who donate those amounts. The rural area has two major moods of
305 climate donation at 50 ~60 BDT and 120 ~130 BDT as approximately 30 % and 31 % of the respon-
306 dents respectively donate these two amounts. In the semiurban area, approximately, 19 % and 43 %
307 of the respondents climate donations are 20 ~30 BDT and 50 ~60 BDT respectively which are the two
308 major moods of climate donation in this area. In the case of the urban area, we find two major moods of
309 climate donations such that approximately 35 % and 22 % of the respondents donate 50 ~60 BDT and
310 100 ~110 BDT, respectively. In all the areas we find two major moods of climate donation. However,
311 in the rural area, the highest spike occurs at 120 ~130 BDT. It is higher than those in the urban and

⁶In the primary analyses, we include respondent’s science literacy, critical thinking disposition, climate change percep-
tion and environmental concern as additional independent variables. Since they neither appear as significant predictors of
climate donation nor do affect the qualitative effects of other independent variables, we exclude them from the final analyses
presented in the paper.

312 semiurban areas. In summary, figure 2 demonstrates that the climate donation from the respondents in
313 the rural area is higher than the respondents in the urban and semiurban areas which is in line with the
314 summary statistics of climate donation in table 2.

315 [Figure 2 about here.]

316 Now we look at summary statistics of the independent variables. Households from the rural area
317 earn 10 060 BDT (\approx 125.75 USD) per month on average which is approximately 1.8 and 5 times lower
318 than that of the households from the semiurban and urban areas, respectively. The standard deviation
319 of income in the urban area is 59 000 BDT (\approx 745 USD) which is very high relative to those in the
320 other two areas. This demonstrates a huge income gap between rich and poor in the urban area as
321 the usual characteristic of urbanized cities in developing countries. On average, respondents from the
322 rural area are relatively older than those from the semiurban and urban areas. Regarding education,
323 respondents from the rural, semiurban and urban areas have 7.02 (median= 5), 9.4 (median= 10) and
324 12 (median= 16) years of schooling on average, indicating that respondents from the rural area are less
325 educated than those from the urban area. Respondents in these three areas are not so different from
326 each other in believing that climate change is human-induced. However, a respondent from the rural
327 area experiences 3.78 natural disasters on average and it is 3 times higher than that of a respondent
328 from the other two areas. Finally, the summary statistics of the nonprosocial dummy show that the
329 number of nonprosicals is higher in the semiurban and urban areas than in the rural area in that 62 %
330 88 % and 89 % of the respondents are nonprosical respectively in the rural, semiurban and urban
331 areas. This finding is consistent with Shahrier et al. (2016, 2017), Timilsina et al. (2019, 2021) and
332 Jingchao et al. (2021), demonstrating that the number of nonprosicals (prosicals) increases (declines)
333 with the maturation of urbanization in societies. In summary, all the sociodemographic characteristics
334 are compatible with our expectations about the ordering of the three areas in terms of the degree of
335 urbanization. On average, respondents from the rural area have the lowest household income and years
336 of schooling and the highest average age among the respondents from the three areas, indicating that it
337 is the least urbanized area followed by the semiurban and urban areas.

338 [Table 2 about here.]

339 Figure 2 and table 2 show that climate donation from the respondents in the rural area is higher than
340 those in the urban and semiurban areas. The summary statistics in table 2 also suggest that the number
341 of nonprosocials rises as society becomes urbanized. These two findings indicate the possibility that
342 people's cooperation on climate change may decline as they become nonprosocial with urbanization.
343 To examine how ongoing urbanization, respondent's level of prosociality (SVO) and other independent
344 variables affect climate donation, we estimate two models of two-limit Tobit regressions. Table 3
345 presents the coefficients and marginal effects of independent variables on climate donation in two-limit
346 Tobit regressions. In model 1, we include all the independent variables except for the nonprosocial
347 dummy. In model 2, we include the nonprosocial dummy as an additional independent variable. Model
348 1 first observes the relationship between climate donation and ongoing urbanization controlling for
349 all other independent variables except for respondent's level of prosociality or SVO. Model 2 then
350 examines the relationship between respondent's climate donation and their level of prosociality and how
351 the impact of the degree of urbanization on climate donation change because of adding the nonprosocial
352 dummy in the analysis. Model 2 thus enables us to examine whether people's cooperation on climate
353 change tends to decline as they become nonprosocial with urbanization. Columns 2 and 3 of table 3
354 respectively report the coefficients and marginal effects of independent variables on climate donation
355 in model 1. Education, human-induced, disaster experience and the area dummies of urban and rural
356 appear as significant predictors of climate donation, statistically and economically.

357 In model 1, education positively affects cooperation on climate change in that an additional year of
358 education is associated with a 2.05 BDT increase in climate donation. This effect can be considered
359 rather small, however, one-standard-deviation increase in education (≈ 4.92 years) raises climate do-
360 nation by 10.09 BDT. Past studies find a mixed effect of education on cooperation on climate change.
361 Sun et al. (2016) and Diederich and Goeschl (2014) find a positive impact of education on WTPs for
362 smog mitigation and voluntary climate actions. Adaman et al. (2011) show that people with primary
363 and secondary education are willing to pay more than illiterate people do for CO₂ emission control.
364 However, WTPs of university degree holders and illiterate people are not different from one another for
365 the same purpose. Brick and Lewis (2014) demonstrate that education is unrelated to proenvironmental
366 behavior. Unlike developed countries, there exists a huge gap in people's educational attainment in

367 developing countries such as Bangladesh, and people with high education have good knowledge about
368 climate change and its impacts. As a result, highly educated respondents cooperate more than the less
369 educated respondents on climate change.

370 Climate donation from those who believe climate change is human-induced is 17.11 BDT higher
371 than the others. Past studies show that because of the “moral responsibility effect,” people with the
372 belief that climate change is human-induced cooperate on environmental and climate change-related
373 issues (Kahneman et al., 1993, Walker et al., 1999, Brown et al., 2002, Bulte et al., 2005, Aitken et al.,
374 2011, Yu et al., 2013). Our result concerning whether climate change is human or nature-induced is
375 consistent with these studies and suggesting that the “moral responsibility effect” may be a universal
376 predictor of cooperation on climate change. Regarding the impact of disaster experiences, an additional
377 experience of disaster in a respondent’s lifetime is associated with a 3.12 BDT rise in climate donation.
378 It should be noted that climate donation increases by 9.58 BDT in relation to a one-standard-deviation
379 (≈ 3.07 times) rise in disaster experiences. This finding is in line with the past studies demonstrating
380 that the experience of natural disasters induces people to cooperate on climate change (Spence et al.,
381 2011, Myers et al., 2013, Walters et al., 2014).

382 Finally, we examine how the ongoing urbanization of societies affects cooperation for climate
383 change in model 1 by looking at the effect of area dummies on climate donation. Holding all other
384 factors fixed except for the level of prosociality or SVO, Respondents in the semiurban and urban areas
385 respectively donate 37.98 BDT and 26.96 BDT less than those in the rural area on average. This result
386 is in line with the summary statistics and percentage distribution of climate donation respectively in ta-
387 ble 2 and figure 2, suggesting that climate donation declines with ongoing urbanization. Shahrier et al.
388 (2017) and Timilsina et al. (2017) show that as society becomes urbanized and modernized, people
389 care less about intergenerational sustainability and common-pool resource sustainability. Our result is
390 in line with their findings and demonstrates that cooperation on climate change gets exacerbated with
391 the ongoing urbanization of societies.

392 [Table 3 about here.]

393 Now we look at the results in model 2 of the regression analyses. Specifically, we observe the
394 outcomes of the nonprosocial and area dummies in model 2 to answer why cooperation on climate

395 change declines with ongoing urbanization. The nonprosocial dummy appears as the strongest predictor
396 of climate donation among all the independent variables in model 2. Besides, the impacts of area
397 dummies on climate donation change remarkably in comparison to those in model 1. The qualitative
398 effects of the other independent variable in models 2 remain as same as those in model 1. Holding all
399 other factors fixed, a nonprosocial respondent's climate donation is 87.40 BDT less than a prosocial
400 respondent. Past studies show that nonprosocials (proselves) care less about intergenerational and
401 resource sustainability, behave less proenvironmentally and donate and volunteer less for humanitarian
402 activities than prosocials (Joireman et al., 2001, Van Lange et al., 2007, 2011, Shahrier et al., 2017,
403 Timilsina et al., 2017). Consistent with these studies, our result demonstrates that nonprosocials also
404 cooperate less on climate change than prosocials.

405 The urban dummy becomes insignificant and the semiurban dummy becomes weaker, statistically
406 and economically because of the inclusion of the nonprosocial dummy in the analysis. This means,
407 holding all other factors fixed, the urban-rural difference in climate donation is entirely driven by the
408 change in SVO from prosocial to nonprosocial (competitive, individualistic and unidentified) with the
409 urbanization of societies. The semiurban dummy remains significant but the statistical and economic
410 significance of it decline notably relative to those in model 1. The marginal effect of the semiurban
411 dummy in model 2 is -15.01 BDT, which is significant at the 5% level (it is -37.89 BDT at the 1%
412 level in model 1). This means there might be other area-specific changes in addition to the change in
413 SVO that explain the rural-semiurban difference in climate donation. Overall, the summary statistics
414 and regression analyses reveal that the number of nonprosocials is higher in semiurban and urban areas
415 than in the rural area and nonprosocial's climate donation is significantly lower than prosocials on
416 average. As a result, climate donation declines as society becomes urbanized. These findings confirm
417 the hypothesis posed in this study and demonstrate that people's cooperation on climate change decline
418 as they become nonprosocial with urbanization.

419 Results suggest that education, disaster experiences and the belief in human-induced climate change
420 positively impact climate donation. On the other hand, urbanization and the SVO change from prosocial
421 to nonprosocial are negatively associated with donations. In model 2, one standard deviation increase
422 in education and disaster experiences are respectively associated with a 7.04 BDT and 5.95 BDT rise in

423 the climate donation, and those who believe that climate change is human-induced, donate 13.53 BDT
424 more than others. Each of the magnitudes of increase concerning education, disaster experiences and
425 belief in human-induced climate change are less than the magnitudes of decline in climate donation
426 with respect to the transformation of the society from rural to semiurban (15.01 BDT) and an SVO
427 change from prosocial to nonprosocial (87.40 BDT). Therefore, even an increase in education, natural
428 disaster experiences and belief in human-induced climate change might not be sufficient to maintain
429 cooperation on climate change as societies become urbanized and individuals become nonprosocial. It
430 implies that cooperation on climate change will be compromised along with further urbanization.

431 Shahrier et al. (2016) argue that successful individuals in the urbanized societies compete to survive
432 and achieve success through competition. Therefore, with the urbanization of societies, a cultural trait
433 called “competition for survival and success” transfers from one individual to another through a cultural
434 learning system of success bias transmission. This process of transmission makes people nonprosocial
435 (proself), inducing them to maximize their own payoffs rather than cooperating (Shahrier et al., 2016,
436 2017). Thus, the majority of the nonprosocial people in the urbanized areas maximize their payoffs
437 rather donating significantly for the climate change countermeasures. The semiurban dummy remains
438 significant even after adding the nonprosocial dummy in the analysis. While the change in SVO and its
439 impact on climate donation are discussed, it is not clear what is encapsulated in the semiurban dummy.
440 The semiurban area in our study is experiencing a gradual transformation from rural to urban settings.
441 Individuals in the semiurban area may be inclined to give up environmental quality for achieving eco-
442 nomic growth during the transformation from rural to urbanized society, which might be captured by
443 the semiurban dummy. Past studies show that changes in culture affect human behaviors and decisions
444 (Henrich et al., 2010a, Brosig-Koch et al., 2011, Leibbrandt et al., 2013, Shahrier et al., 2016, 2017).
445 Our finding is consistent with these studies, demonstrating that the process of urbanization as part of
446 cultural change brings a change in people’s SVO from prosocial to nonprosocial, which affects their
447 decision to cooperate on climate change.

448 **5 Conclusion**

449 Climate change has become a major threat to existence of humankind on earth, and stabilizing the
450 earth's climate is a significant challenge for human society. It is argued that the climate change problem
451 is prone to the "tragedy of commons," and cooperation & prosociality from the individuals are neces-
452 sary to counter the problem. Studies project the rapid growth of urbanization, especially in developing
453 countries, and demonstrate that climate change gets exacerbated as societies become urbanized (Amer-
454 ican Association for the Advancement of Science, 2016, Ehrlich et al., 2012, Wigginton et al., 2016).
455 Shahrier et al. (2016, 2017) show that because of changes in culture, the number of nonprosocials
456 (prosocials) increases (declines) with ongoing urbanization. Given that climate change gets exacer-
457 bated and people become nonprosocial with urbanization, we hypothesize that people's cooperation on
458 climate change decline as they become nonprosocial with urbanization. Considering rapid urbanization
459 in societies and the possible increase in the number of nonprosocials with urbanization, examining our
460 hypothesis is important to address environmental and climate change related issues.

461 We analyze cooperation on climate changes concerning ongoing urbanization and human prosocial-
462 ity by conducting a survey experiment consists of climate donation (CD) and social value orientation
463 (SVO) games in three areas of a developing country, Bangladesh: (i) rural, (ii) semiurban and (iii)
464 urban ones. In CD game, a respondent splits a fixed endowment between herself and a donation to
465 climate change countermeasures. The analysis reveals that the number of nonprosocials is higher in the
466 semiurban and urban areas than in the rural area, and nonprosocials donate less than do prosocials. It
467 also shows that education, belief in human-induced climate change and natural disasters' experiences
468 increase the donations. However, the magnitudes of the increases are less than the magnitudes of the
469 decline in donations associated with urbanization and SVO from prosocials to nonprosocials. Over-
470 all, this research suggests that cooperation on climate change shall be compromised along with further
471 urbanization, and a new paradigm, such as vision and/or core values for society development and ed-
472 ucation, will be necessary to counter such a trend. It is found that creating an asking situation and
473 social pressure increase voluntary contributions for humanitarian activities (DellaVigna et al., 2012,
474 Andreoni et al., 2017, Meer, 2017). Our study shows that the moral responsibility effect, i.e., the be-

475 lief in human-induced climate change induces people to donate for climate change countermeasures.
476 Therefore, formalized ways of organizing programs for initiating cooperation on climate change should
477 be placed in developing countries, which would create an asking situation and social pressure by em-
478 phasizing human-induced climate changes. Besides, utilizing education and cultural learning systems,
479 moral responsibilities can be promoted for an intentional behavioral change towards cooperating on
480 climate change as suggested by Wilson et al. (2009).

481 To this end, we mention some limitations of our study. Our study does not measure the effect of
482 asking situations, social pressure, social capital, social interaction, market exposure and social learning
483 mechanism on people's cooperation on climate change. Future studies will be able to address these
484 issues by designing and demonstrating surveys and experiments. Besides, our findings should be tested
485 in other developing countries to be generalized. These caveats notwithstanding, this study provides
486 the first evidence that people's donations for climate change countermeasures declines as they become
487 nonprosocial with urbanization, implying that cooperation on climate change shall be compromised
488 along with further urbanization. Therefore, new paradigm, vision and/or core values for development
489 and education will be necessary to maintain people's cooperation on climate change as societies be-
490 come urbanized. We suggest that formalized ways of organizing programs for initiating cooperation on
491 climate change should be placed in developing countries, which would create an asking situation and
492 social pressure by emphasizing human-induced climate changes.

Acknowledgments

The authors thank Raja Rajendra Timilsina, Moinul Islam, Kenta Tanaka, Hiroaki Miyamoto and Makoto Kakinaka for their helpful comments, advice and support.

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Figure 1: Study areas: Dhaka (urban), Bogura (semiurban) and Palashbari (rural)

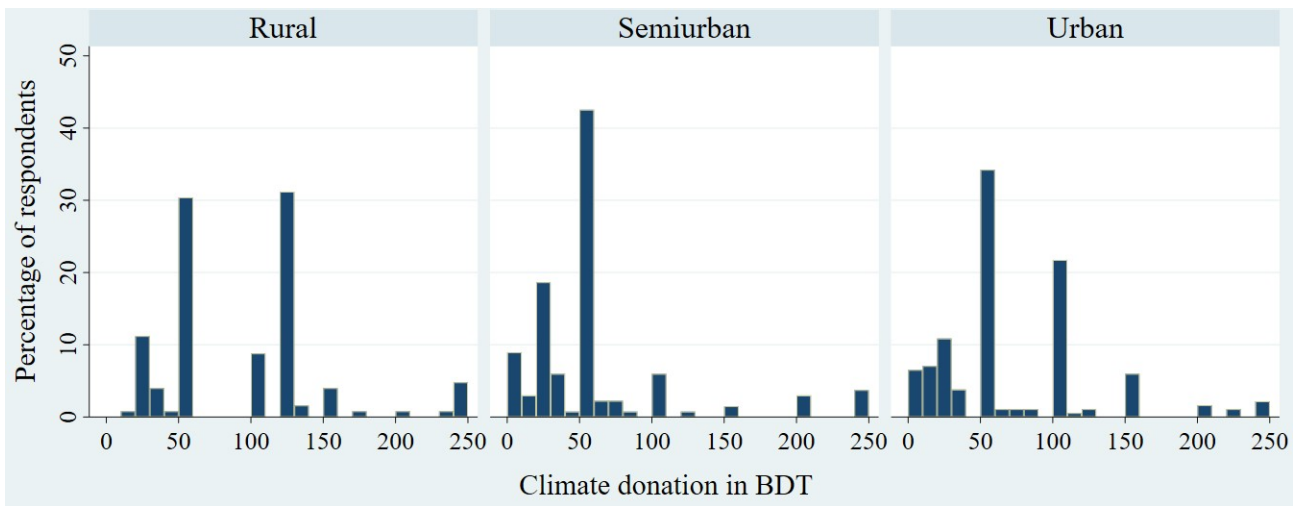


Figure 2: The percentage distribution of climate donation by study areas.

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Table 1: Description of dependent and independent variables

Variables	Description
Climate donation	The donations by a respondent for climate change countermeasures in CD game.
Income	Household income per month in 1000 BDT.
Age	Categorical variable of {0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5} where ages between 20 and 29, 30 and 39, 40 and 49, 50 and 59, 60 and 69, and 70 and over are coded as 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively.
Education	Years of schooling.
Gender	Dummy variable that takes 1 when the a respondent is a female, otherwise 0.
Family structure	Joint family structures are coded as 1, otherwise (single family) 0.
Human-induced	Dummy variable that takes 1 when a respondent believe that climate change is human-induced, otherwise 0.
Disaster experiences	The Number of disasters (such as cyclone, flood and earthquake) experience in a respondent's lifetime.
Area dummies	Two dummy variables are defined for semiurban, Bogra and urban, Dhaka, rural, Palashbari is the reference group.
Nonprosocial dummy	Dummy variable that takes 1 if a respondent is nonprosocial (competitive/individualistic/unidentified), otherwise (prosocial) 0.

Table 2: Summary statistics for the dependent and independent variables

	Areas			Overall (<i>N</i> = 443)
	Rural (<i>N</i> = 125)	Semiurban (<i>N</i> = 134)	Urban (<i>N</i> = 184)	
Climate donation				
Average (Median) ¹	91.71 (100.00)	55.34 (50)	67.45 (50)	70.73 (50.00)
SD	58.07	54.59	53.74	56.92
Min	10	3	0	0
Max	250	250	250	250
Income				
Average (Median)	10.06 (7.00)	18.49 (15.00)	51.42 (33.00)	29.79 (15.00)
SD	10.84	12.24	59.17	43.26
Min	0.50	4	3	0.50
Max	75	80	600	600
Age (ordered categories)³				
Average (Median)	1.19 (1.00)	1.23 (1.00)	0.82 (1.00)	1.05 (1.00)
SD	3.35	1.25	0.99	1.18
Min	0	0	0	0
Max	5	5	4	5
Education (years)				
Average (Median)	7.02 (5.00)	9.47 (10.00)	12.61 (16.00)	10.08 (10.00)
SD	3.35	4.01	5.11	4.92
Min	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Max	16.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
Gender (Male = 0)				
Average (Median)	0.07 (0.00)	0.00 (0.00)	0.17 (0.00)	0.09 (0.00)
SD	0.26	0.00	0.38	0.29
Min	0	0	0	0
Max	1	0	1	1
Family structure (Single family = 0)				
Average (Median)	0.26 (0.00)	0.35 (0.00)	0.35 (0.00)	0.33 (0.00)
SD	0.44	0.48	0.48	0.47
Min	0	0	0	0
Max	1	1	1	1
Human-induced (Nature-induced = 0)				
Average (Median)	0.84 (1.00)	0.95 (1.00)	0.78 (1.00)	0.85 (1.00)
SD	0.37	0.22	0.42	0.36
Min	0	0	0	0
Max	1	1	1	1
Disaster experience				
Average (Median)	3.78 (3.00)	1.25 (0.50)	1.12 (0.00)	1.90 (1.00)
SD	4.62	1.73	1.67	3.07
Min	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Max	35.00	10.00	10.00	35.00
Nonprosocal dummy (prosocial = 0)				
Average (Median)	0.62 (1.00)	0.88 (1.00)	0.89 (1.00)	0.81(1.00)
SD	0.49	0.33	0.31	0.39
Min	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Max	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

¹ Median in parentheses.

² SD stands for standard deviation.

³ The age variable is defined as an ordered categorical variable (table 1).

Table 3: Models 1 and 2: Coefficients and marginal effects of independent variables on climate donation in two-limit Tobit regressions

	Model 1 ($N = 443$)		Model 2 ($N = 443$)	
	Coefficient	Marginal effect	Coefficient	Marginal effect
Income	-0.00 (0.15)	-0.03 (0.13)	-0.07 (0.13)	-0.09 (0.11)
Income squared	-0.00 (0.00)	- -	-0.00 (0.00)	- -
Age	-2.78 (2.45)	-2.78 (2.45)	-2.88 (2.00)	-2.88 (2.00)
Education	2.05*** (0.70)	2.05*** (0.70)	1.43*** (0.57)	1.43*** (0.57)
Gender	-0.91 (10.01)	-0.91 (10.01)	-7.05 (8.18)	-7.05 (8.18)
Family structure	-2.97 (6.07)	-2.97 (6.07)	-6.24 (4.96)	-6.24 (4.96)
Human-induced	17.11** (7.93)	17.11** (7.93)	13.53** (6.47)	13.53** (6.47)
Disaster experience	3.13*** (0.98)	3.13*** (0.98)	1.94** (0.80)	1.94** (0.80)
Area dummies (base group = semiurban)				
Semiurban	-37.98*** (7.89)	-37.98*** (7.89)	-15.01** (6.62)	-15.01** (6.62)
Urban	-26.96*** (8.45)	-26.96*** (8.45)	0.52 (7.15)	0.52 (7.15)
Nonprosocial dummy (base group = prosocial)	- -	- -	-87.40*** (6.09)	-87.40*** (6.09)
Constant	56.28*** (11.00)	- -	36.54*** (9.08)	- -
Log Likelihood	-2272.28	-	-2187.64	-

***significant at the 1 percent level, **significant at the 5 percent level and *significant at 10 percent level.