Barriers of accessing social protection programmes for the Poor and Marginalised

Background

- Social security programmes are important for addressing poverty and vulnerability

- But, there exist significant exclusion and inclusion errors.

- Problems arise both from supply and demand sides.

- Keeping aside the supply side issues, the objective of this research project is to find out the demand side problems.

- This project thus is about identifying barriers to access SSPs by the poor and marginalized groups.

Research Objectives

- Identifying the reasons behind the high rate of exclusion for poor and marginalized people in SSPs

- Highlighting specific barriers including those at socio-cultural and political spheres

- Devising specific policy recommendations for eliminating the barriers

Methodological approaches

- Desk research for literature review

- Qualitative methods

- Empirical approach using micro-econometrics

- Field survey for gathering firsthand information

Qualitative methods

- **Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)**
  - Local community members, political leaders, community knowledgeable people
  - At least 20 KIIs for citizens from marginalized communities

- **FGDs**
  - 6 FGDs (in six different districts in three different divisions)

- **Case Studies**
  - At least **12** case studies with real life stories on facing barriers to access SSPs
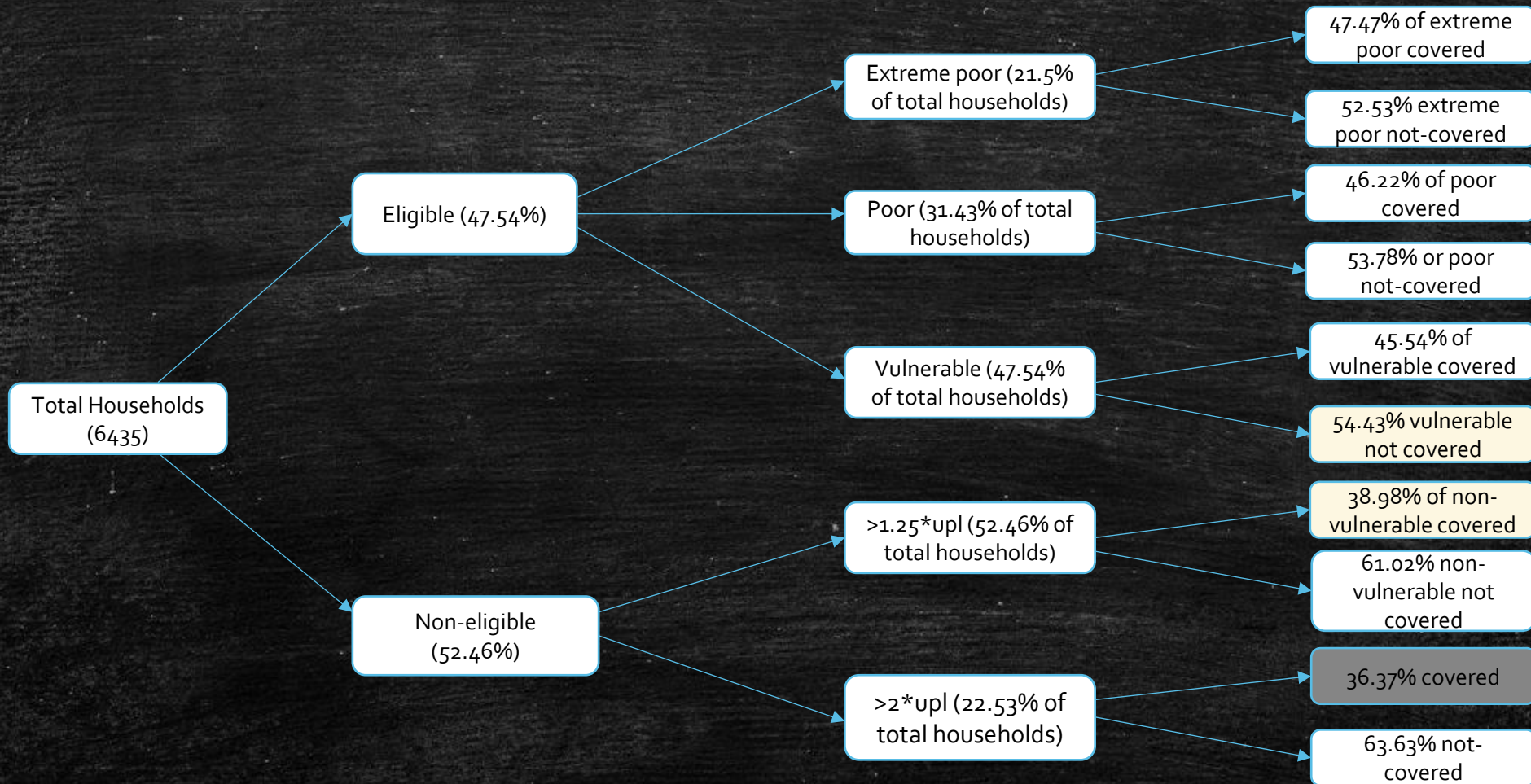
Micro-econometric approaches

- Can be very powerful instruments – using large dataset and sound econometric methods

- HIES 2016 data, as currently available, to gather some insights

- More in-depth use of the Bangladesh Integrated Household Survey 2015 (with 6,500 hhs from 325 villages from 64 districts)

- Descriptive statistics both at the household and individual levels

- A logistic binary response model

- Tackling self-selection problem

- Given the nature of the data, the censored probit regression modelling approach is also experimented with.

Primary field work

- A total of 360 citizens from the poor and marginalized groups

- Among the sample, 120 respondents are currently beneficiaries while the remaining 240 can't access despite being eligible

- Who are these people?
  - Living below the lower poverty line income
  - women-headed households below the poverty line
  - persons with disabilities
  - people with serious illness and HIV, Dalits, etc
  - people living in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT)
  - people living in remote border areas

Coverage of SSNP by HH types – BIHS data

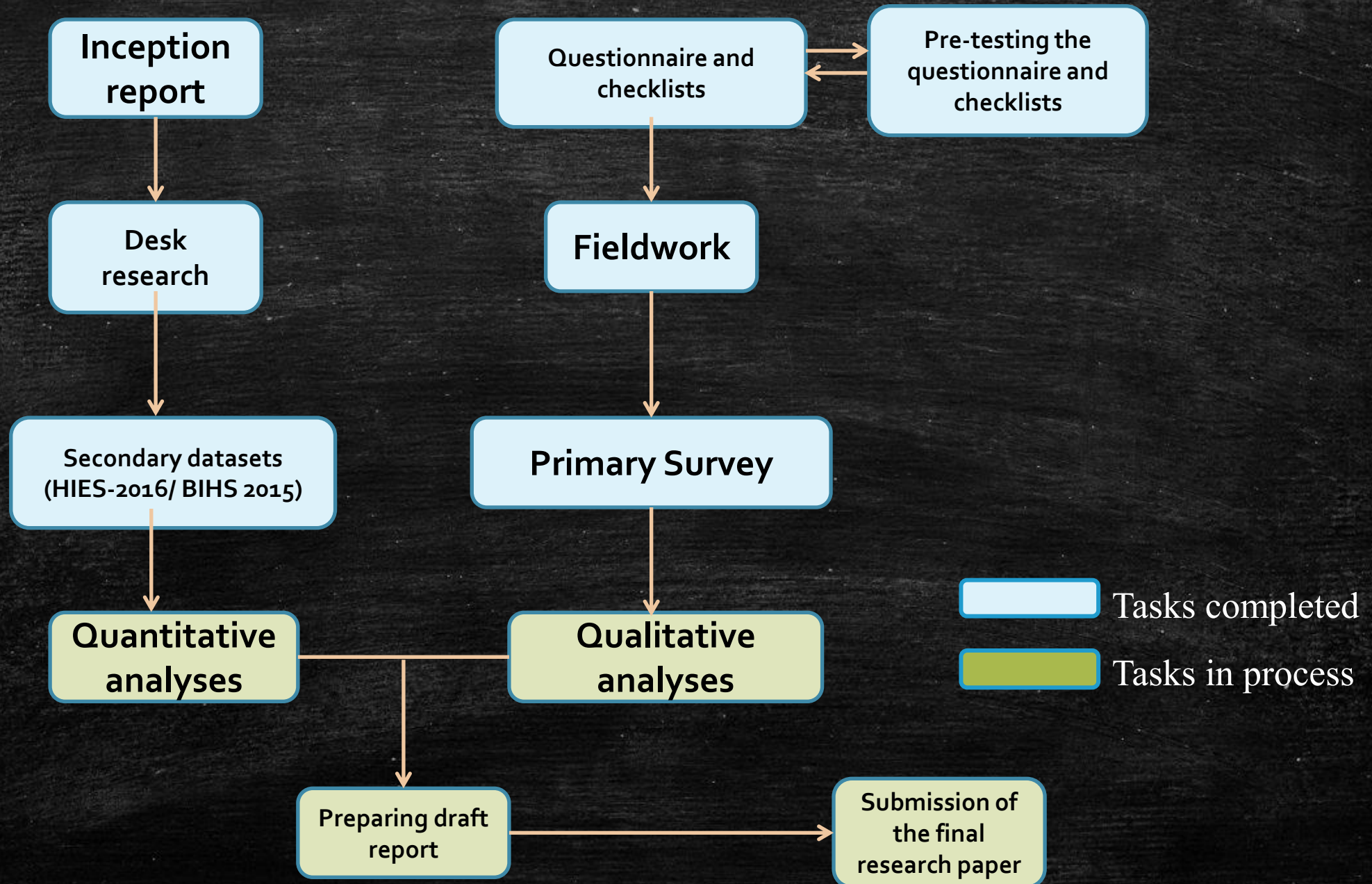# Household characteristics of recipient and non-recipients

Household characteristics	without SPP	with SPP	p-value
Number of households	3,725	2,710	
Household-head's age (mean)	47.2	52.3	<0.001
Household-head's education (mean) (years)	3.3	1.9	<0.001
Household size (mean)	4.86	5.17	<0.001
Household's outstanding loan (mean) (Tk)	49,151	34814	<0.001
Household's total asset (Tk)	77,693	49,086	<0.001
Household's monthly expenditure (Tk)	3,426	3,080	<0.001
Household's total land (median) (dcl)	60.0	39.7	<0.001
Households with roof of tin	89.7%	93.9%	<0.001
Households with roof/bricks	7.50%	2.30%	<0.001
Experienced negative economic shock since 2012	37.7%	41.4%	0.002
Household dependency ratio	58.0	83.8	<0.001

Putting everything together

- Literature shows a set of known barriers

- Exclusion and Inclusion errors are calculated form BIHS and HIES data

- Empirical exercise will explain how the known factors affect participation in SPP

- Primary field survey brings some direct evidence any obvious difference between eligible participating hhs and eligible non-participants (including validation of a

- FGDs, KIIs, and case studies provide further insights into the problems

- Inputs for developing recommendations

Status of the project

Inception report → Desk research → Secondary datasets (HIES-2016/ BIHS 2015) → Quantitative analyses

Questionnaire and checklists ⇄ Pre-testing the questionnaire and checklists

Questionnaire and checklists → Fieldwork → Primary Survey → Qualitative analyses

Quantitative analyses — Qualitative analyses → Preparing draft report → Submission of the final research paper

Tasks completed

Tasks in process

Thank you.