During the course of my internship, I studied the Grameen model and the impact of microfinance on developing countries. This was accomplished through field study, work completed for the institution, and first-hand experience with the mechanics of the Bank itself. During the internship I completed minor clerical tasks at the central office of Grameen Bank, stayed in a Branch office in rural Bangladesh, made field visits to Grameen’s sister companies in rural Bangladesh, and studied information and tactics concerning microfinance compiled by the Grameen Bank.

The clerical tasks at the central office consisted mainly of filing documents, and compiling lists of visitors and previous interns. Once the lists were compiled I cataloged the names, dates and institutions in Grameen’s computer system, thus contributing to their “computerization” as they called it. At the central office, I also met with heads of the accounting, management, and various other departments, to interview them and gain some insight into the structure of the bank and the modes in which it operates.

The most important and informative portion of the internship was conducted during the extended village stay. During this time my group stayed at one of the bank’s branch offices in rural Bangladesh. Here we traveled with the bank employees to center meetings at the villages under the jurisdiction of that particular branch office. We witnessed the accounting and disbursement as well as collection of the loans. We were also allowed the opportunity to interview the loan recipients and collect information based on their responses, living conditions etc. During our village stay we also traveled to the area office which oversees a number of branch offices in its jurisdiction. We witnessed the collection of information at this area office which is then sent to the central office in Mirpur, Dhaka. While in the village we were also able to collect information concerning the age, gender, education level, and general welfare of the loan recipients.

During the field visits, I visited various sister companies of the Grameen Bank and gathered information about them. I visited a branch of Grameen Hatcheries, which is a program dedicated to establishing fish hatcheries, allowing the villagers a source of income and food. I also visited Grameen Shakti, which provides employment and energy (electric and gas) to some rural villages. I also visited a Grameen eye clinic which is a part of Grameen’s burgeoning entry into the realm of healthcare. Here I was given the opportunity to speak with a medical professional who had moved from Dhaka into the countryside to work for Grameen and provide cheap healthcare to the surrounding villages.

This is a short summation of my internship for Grameen bank. I mainly studied the impact of economic theorem, particularly microfinance, in a developing country. I was also able to view some of this development first hand through Grameen’s sister companies, as well as through the obvious economic growth which is becoming more apparent in the country due in large part to the efforts of organizations such as Grameen Bank.