SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS BANGLADESH PROGRESS REPORT 2020

General Economics Division (GED)
(Making Growth Work for the Poor)
Bangladesh Planning Commission
Ministry of Planning
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

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General Economics Division
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M. A. Mannan, MP
Honourable Minister
Ministry of Planning
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Message

I would like to congratulate the General Economics Division (GED) of Bangladesh Planning Commission for publishing the second formal 'Bangladesh Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Progress Report 2020,' that aimed to review the progress made in implementation and achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the country.

The Government of Bangladesh has always been committed to implement the Global Goals and prepare progress monitoring reports to showcase the achievements of the country. In connection to this, Bangladesh has already prepared its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2017 and Bangladesh Progress Report in 2018.

Bangladesh is in the process to present its second VNR to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in July this year and is going to organize second round of conference on SDGs Implementation Review (SIR) in 2020. Moreover, Bangladesh is preparing its 8th Five Year Plan (8FYP), the socio-economic development blueprint of the country. The success stories of SDGs implementation captured in this Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020 will help preparing the SDGs components of the 8FYP and assist devising strategies for SDGs implementation in our flagship Plan document.

I take this opportunity to thank relevant ministries/divisions, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) and the broader stakeholders for providing valuable inputs in preparation of this publication of SDGs progress monitoring. I would also like to express my appreciation to the SC4SDG project of UNDP for providing financial support in preparing this important publication.

I hope the SDGs Progress Report will be pivotal publication in illustrating advancement towards achieving the SDGs and challenges that the country might face in upcoming years. I hope the GED will take initiative to prepare and publish this progress report on SDGs implementation regularly so that comprehensive report on progress tracking can be made available for wider audience on a regular basis.

(M. A. Mannan, MP)

Zuena Aziz
Principal Coordinator (SDGs Affairs)
Prime Minister's Office (PMO)
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Message

I am pleased to learn that the General Economics Division (GED) of Bangladesh Planning Commission is publishing the "Sustainable Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report 2020", which is the second document of its kind; the first one was published in 2018. Unlike the process to be followed, I hope the updated information of this document will serve to complement data analysis for preparing the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) of SDGs that Bangladesh is going to present at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) of Sustainable Development in July 2020 at the UN.

Our Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is the Champion of SDGs. In the last four years, the SDGs have been aligned with the national planning strategies, Whole of the society approach being followed, Ministries/Divisions given responsibilities for SDGs implementation, National Action Plan finalized, Data gap analysis conducted, Monitoring and Evaluation Framework finalized, Financing strategy conducted, Online trackers inaugurated, and finally efforts are being taken to localize SDGs. The steps taken by the Government and their impacts are revealed by the fact that Bangladesh is on track in some of the targets of SDGs or has achieved the targets set for 2020 by the M&E framework of the Government.

The Government of Bangladesh has constituted National Data Coordination Committee (NDCC) to identify data gaps, ensure the availability of quality data and coordinate among Ministries and Divisions to make data available for SDGs and monitor other international commitments. This process has improved the data available in the second progress report over the earlier one.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the officials of the General Economics Division (GED), Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, and the officials of all data producing agencies for proving updated data based on which the report is prepared.

It is well recognized that a commendable achievement is the localization of the SDGs at the District and Upazila levels of Bangladesh. I would expect that in the next SDGs' progress report, there would be one section on the implementation status of 39+1 indicators of the localization of SDGs in our country. It will incentivize for data collection and reporting at the local level and operationalize a process of accountability that is closer to the people.

I wish everyone greetings of Mujib Year.

(Zuena Aziz)

Dr. Shamsul Alam
Member (Senior Secretary)
General Economics Division (GED)
Bangladesh Planning Commission

Prefatory Note

The 'Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Bangladesh Progress Report 2020' is prepared and published by the General Economics Division (GED) of the Bangladesh Planning Commission with the inputs received from the National Statistical Office and different Ministries/Divisions/Agencies implementing various action programmes/projects.

Bangladesh had completed the preparatory works of SDGs mainstreaming, implementation, making action plan, preparing monitoring and evaluation framework. The Government of Bangladesh has taken initiatives aiming all goals of SDGs through designated Ministry/Divisions in implementing SDGs aligning with the development aspiration of the respective ministries.

National poverty measured as the proportion of population living below the national upper poverty line/lower poverty line has consistently been declined. According to recent estimates, it has declined to 20.5 per cent in 2019. In addition, the population below lower poverty line has also deceased to 10.5 per cent. The government has adopted policies and programmes to address multidimensional nature of poverty in the country including fostering accelerated, inclusive and resilient growth.

Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in reducing the percentage of stunted children under-5 years by almost half from 60 per cent in 1996-97 to 28 per cent in 2019. The proportion of wasted children has gone down to 9.8 per cent in 2019 from 14 per cent in 2014. The proportion of underweight children under five years also reduced by half between 2007 (41 per cent) and 2019 (22.6 per cent).

A continuous decrease has been observed in under 5 mortality rate (U5MR) during 1995-2019 from 125 to 40. The nation is in line in achieving the 2020 milestone for U5MR. Adolescent birth rate per 1,000 women in 15-19 age group has significantly declined from 144 in 1999 to 83 in 2019. The government is implementing the 4th Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme (HPNSP, 2018-2022).

Primary school completion rate increased from 79.5 per cent in 2012-13 to 82.6 per cent in 2019. However, completion rate of lower secondary and upper secondary stood at 64.7 per cent and 29.4 per cent respectively in 2019. Bangladesh is ranked 50th out of 153 countries in 2019 in the Global Gender Gap Index. Furthermore, globally Bangladesh is the 7th ranked country in terms of women's political empowerment. Bangladesh has been ahead of its South Asian neighbours for the fifth time consecutively, indicating significantly better performance in promoting women empowerment.

Bangladesh's upward shift in the average annual growth rate of real GDP per capita to 6.91 per cent in FY2018-19 from 5.1 per cent in the baseline FY 2014-15 is noteworthy. However, there are significant uncertainties over the growth prospects due to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). The government is persistently taking comprehensive measures for developing and flourishing the manufacturing sector. The contribution of the manufacturing sector in real GDP has been reached 24.21 per cent in FY2018-19 which was 17.75 per cent in FY2010-11.

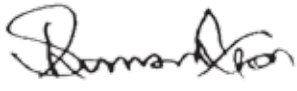
To modernize, develop and expand the country's telecommunication system, various measures have been undertaken by the government. The total number of mobile phone subscriber is 15.75 crore in January 2019. The proportion of population covered by 2G mobile networks have reached close to 100 per cent, while the 2020 milestone has already been achieved in June 2019; with 3G technology and 4G coverage together reaching to 79 per cent in June 2019.

The government is aware of the paucity of relevant data and has taken measures to generate timely and quality data and update data at required intervals. The Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020 allows for adjustments to priorities and course corrections and helps realise the inner Challenges of SDGs implementation. Further, the Report provides a key window of opportunity to inject urgency and catalyse updated or new commitments from all stakeholders for implementing the SDGs agenda by Bangladesh.

The Report helps evaluate progress and adopt necessary actions to be on the right course. This study is also a source of motivation for all stakeholders to undertake actions to enhance performance in SDGs implementation to achieve the milestones in the course of achieving the SDGs by the deadline of 2030. The important priority, in this regard, is to capture real progress (or lack of it) in specific SDGs targets using reliable data for which existing weaknesses in data generation involving timeliness, frequency, quality and disaggregation needs urgent action. I believe this second SDGs progress report will be quite helpful in understanding Bangladesh's position in attaining agenda 2030.

I would like to express my gratitude to the BBS, all relevant ministries, divisions, agencies and custodian agencies for providing data/information in preparation of this report. I am also thankful to all my colleagues in GED and experts of 'Strengthening Institutional Capacity for SDGs Achievement in Bangladesh (SC4SDG)' Project of UNDP and UNEP-PEA for their dedication and working as a team to complete this report.

Finally, we all from GED are grateful to our Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Planning, Mr. M. A. Mannan for his inspiration and wholehearted support in preparing this report on SDGs progress. Prime Minister's Office on SDGs Affairs also supported us in bringing out this report and we earnestly express our thanks to them.



(Shamsul Alam)

Table of Contents :

List of Tables

List of Figures

Acronyms

a2i	Access to Information
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADP	Annual Development Programme
AfT	Aid for Trade
AIMS	Aid Information Management System
AIS	Automatic Identifier System
AOI	Agriculture Orientation Index
APAs	Annual Performance Agreements
APTA	Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement
ATM	Automated Teller Machine
BANBAIS	Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics
BARI	Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute
BB	Bangladesh Bank
BBIN	Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal
BBNJ	Biodiversity in Areas beyond National Jurisdiction
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
BCCSAP	Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy Action Plan
BCCTF	Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund
BCIM	Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar Economic Corridor
BDF	Bangladesh Development Forum
BDHS	Bangladesh Demographic Health Survey
BDP	Bangladesh Delta Plan
BdREN	Bangladesh Research and Education Network
BDT	Bangladesh Taka
BEZA	Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority
BFD	Bangladesh Forest Department
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation

BIWTA	Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority
BLRI	Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute
BMET	Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training
BP	Bangladesh Police
BPFA	Beijing Platform for Action
BPS	Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat
BREB	Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board
BRIS	Birth Registration Information System
BTC	Bangladesh Tariff Commission
BTRC	Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission
CAMS	Continuous Air Monitoring Stations
CBHE	Cross Border Higher Education
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CLS	Child Labour Survey
CO2	Carbon dioxide
CPHS	Citizen Perception Household Survey
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DIFE	Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments
DoE	Department of Environment
DOTs	Directly Observed Treatments
DPE	Directorate of Primary Education
DPs	Development Partners
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DSE	Dhaka Stock Exchange
ECA	Ecologically Critical Area
ECD	Early Childhood Education
EGPP	Employment Generation Programme for the Poorest
EMRD	Energy and Mineral Resource Division
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunisation
EPZs	Export Processing Zones
ERD	Economic Relations Division

ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
ESP	Essential Service Package
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FD	Forest Department
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FFW	Food for Work
FIES	Food Insecurity Experience Scale
FTAs	Free Trade Agreements
FY	Financial Year
FYP	Five Year Plan
GAP	Global Action Programme
GATS	Global Adult Tobacco Survey
GCERF	Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GED	General Economic Division
GER	Gross Enrollment Rate
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GLOF	Glacier Lake Outbursts Flooding
GNI	Gross National Income
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
GPEDC	Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation
GPI	Gender Parity Index
GRB	Gender Responsive Budgeting
GRS	Grievance Redress System
GSP	Generalised System of Preferences
HCWMP	health care waste management plan
HFO	Heavy Fuel Oil
HICs	High Income Countries
HIES	Household Income and Expenditure Survey
HLM	High-Level Meeting

HLPF	High Level Political Forum
HPNSP	Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme
HRH	Resources for Health
HSD	High Speed Diesel
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IDCOL	Infrastructure Development Company Limited
IHR	International Health Regulations
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IORA	Indian Ocean Rim Association
IRF	Institutional and Regulatory Framework
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IUU	Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
JMP	Joint Monitoring Programme
LDCs	Least developed Countries
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LGD	Local Government Division
LGIs	Local Government Institutions
LMIC	low middle-income country
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
LNOB	Leaving No one Behind
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
MCP	Micro Credit Programmes
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MFIs	Microfinance Institutions
MFN	Most Favored Nation
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MIS	Management Information System
MJ	Mega Joule
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio

MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoC	Ministry of Commerce
MoDMR	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoEWOE	Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MoHFW	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MOLGRDC	Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives
MoPME	Ministry of Primary and Mass Education
MoWCA	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MRT	Mass Rapid Transit
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MW	Megawatt
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAW	National Accounting Wing
NBCC	Nutrition Behaviour Change Communication
NCC	Narayanganj City Corporation
NCDs	Non-communicable Diseases
NDC	National Determined Contribution
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NFIS-B	National Financial Inclusion Strategy Bangladesh
NGOs	Non-Government Organisations
NIPORT	National Institute of Population Research and Training
NIS	National Integrity Strategy
NNS	National Nutritional Services
NPA	National Plan of Action
NPDC	National Policy on Development Cooperation
NPDM	National Plan for Disaster Management

NS	National Service
NSDES	National Strategy for Development of Education Statistics
NSSS	National Strategy for Social Protection
NTDs	Neglected Tropical Diseases
NTVQF	Vocational Qualifications Framework
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OPHI	Oxford Poverty and Human Development Institution
PA	Protected Areas
PEDP	Primary Education Development Programme
PMO	Prime Minister's Office
ppm	Parts per Million
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
PSHT	Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking
PSMP	Power System Master Plan
R&D	Research and Development
REACT	Rights, Education, Access, Content, and Targets
RLI	Red List Index
RMGs	Ready Made Garments
ROSC	Reaching-out-of-School Children
RPP	Rental Power Producer
RTIs	Road Traffic Injuries
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEDP	Secondary Education Development Programme
SESIP	Secondary Education Sector Investment Programme
SEZ	Special Economic Zones
SFDRR	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
SHS	Solar Home System
SLR	Sea Level Rise
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SPP	Social Protection Programmes

SSC	South-South Cooperation
SSNPs	Social Safety Net Programmes
SVRS	Bangladesh Sample Vital Statistics
SWAPNO	Strengthening Women's Ability for Productive New Opportunities
T&D	Transmission and Distribution
TB	Tuberculosis
TVET	Technical-Vocational Education and Training
U5MR	Under-Five Mortality Rate
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
ULGIs	Urban Local Government Institutions
UMIC	Upper Middle Income Country
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOSSC	United Nations office for South-South Cooperation
UNSTAT	United Nations Statistics Division
URP	Urban Resilience Project
USD/ US$	US Dollar
VAT	Value Added Tax
VAW	Violence against Women
VGD	Vulnerable Group Development
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WASAs	Water Supply and Sewerage Authorities
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WB	World Bank
WCO	World Customs Organisation
WDI	World Development Indicators
WHO	World Health Organization
WHO FCTC	WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
WPD	Women Development Policy
WTO	World Trade Organisation

Executive Summary

The 'Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020' prepares the ground in the lead up to 2019, highlighting how much more effort will be needed to reach the SDGs and meet the commitment to leave no one behind. The preparation process of the Report replicates the similar methodology as adopted in preparing the Bangladesh's first SDGs Progress Report in 2018. The year 2020 is a critical juncture to reflect on the first four years of the Agenda 2030 implementation and to allow for adjustments to priorities and course corrections. For Bangladesh, it represents a key window of opportunity to inject urgency and catalyse updated or new commitments from all stakeholders – all of which will be necessary if leave no one behind goal and Agenda 2030 are to be achieved.

Bangladesh has adopted the 'whole of society' approach in implementing the SDGs. The SDGs Progress Report 2020 is important for Bangladesh at least on two counts: first, four-years almost represent one-third of the SDGs implementation time, an important milestone to assess the direction of implementation and progress achieved to draw lessons on what has worked, what improvements are still needed, and in which areas major challenges persist; and second, there is still a decade left to achieve SDGs in 2030, and insights and policy implications from the lessons will raise the efficiency of the SDGs implementation process in the coming years.

The methodology involves, among others, a comprehensive review of the 7th Five Year Plan (2016-2020), the Second Perspective Plan (2PP, 2021-2041) and the long-term Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100. Data were collected from secondary sources on all available indicators, using statistics from the BBS (the country's national statistical agency), concerned ministries/divisions, UN and other international organisations where the data is not available nationally. For many indicators, data is available, but major data gaps also remain. Due to non-availability of data, uniform baseline could not be set for all the indicators. Indicators, for which annual data are available for 2014-15, the final year of MDGs, have been taken as the baseline. On the other hand, if an indicator does not have data for 2014-15, the latest available survey data is taken as the baseline. The baseline data is set for 127 indicators and the M&E framework is designed for 108 indicators. Milestones are yet to be set for some of the indicators that are of qualitative in nature.

The country's SDGs implementation process is led by the apex SDGs Implementation and Review Committee supported by implementation committees at the division, district and sub-district levels. The process also incorporates the local level stakeholders' views along with national level consultations. The initiatives taken by the government after the 2018 Report include: (i) ministries have prepared their SDGs action plans; (ii) SDGs Tracker has been launched; (iii) SDGs Financing Strategy has been finalised to determine the financing needs; (iv) First National Conference on SDGs Implementation Review has been convened; (v) National Data Coordination Committee has been formed; (vi) framework of collaboration between the government and the UN agencies working in Bangladesh has been prepared; (vii) the government has approved 40 (39+1) priority indicators for localising SDGs-39 indicators (with 11 national indicators) for 17 goals considered crucial with reinforcing effects on others; and one additional (+1) local indicator to reflect the 'leave no one behind' agenda

Four Years of SDGs

The SDGs were integrated with the country's 7th Five Year Plan (7FYP, 2016-2020) and these were given emphasis while setting the priority areas of the 7FYP such that the achievement of Plan objectives and targets also can contribute towards the achievement of the SDGs. A Development Results Framework (DRF) was also embedded in the Plan and the outcomes and targets in the DRF were aligned with the SDGs.

Over the last four years, Bangladesh's implementation of the 2030 Agenda reflects the adoption of a coordinated approach in which partnership has been integral to 5Ps (people, prosperity, peace, partnership and planet) to define the overall architecture of sustainable development. During the period, the country has taken specific steps to ensure the required institutional framework including resource mobilisation, technology, capacity building, trade and systemic coherence. The systemic issues are sequenced as policy and institutional coherence, multi-stakeholder partnerships and data, and monitoring and accountability. In this context, Bangladesh has taken several measures through embedding SDGs into the 7FYP (2016-2020), 8FYP (2021-2025) and the 2PP (2021-2041); accomplishing mapping of ministries/agencies by targets; preparing action plans for all relevant ministries/agencies; and putting in place the needed monitoring and evaluation framework.

Institutionalising SDGs implementation

The institutionalising of SDGs implementation has covered a number of actions including formation of a high powered Inter-Ministerial Committee on SDGs Monitoring and Implementation; reflecting the relevant goals and targets by the ministries/agencies in their sector plans and annual performance appraisals (APAs); conducting SDGs mapping exercise to identify lead, co-lead and associate ministries/divisions; preparation of action plans by all relevant ministries/divisions/organisations with specific actions/activities and interventions to achieve their respective goals/targets and the National Action Plan (NAP); conducting data gap analysis to identify data gaps and institutionalising measures; putting in place the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework of SDGs; and adopting the SDGs financing strategy.

The 'whole of society' approach

The government has consistently been adopting the 'whole of society' approach throughout the processes of SDGs implementation. Consultations on stakeholders' engagement on the SDGs implementation are regularly held with representatives from NGOs, CSOs, businesses, development partners, ethnic minorities, professional groups, labour associations, women network and the media. The consultations seek to raise more awareness, interest and commitment to create deeper engagement of all stakeholders towards attaining SDGs.

Highlighting 'leave no one behind' agenda

Using the evidence of lagging socioeconomic groups/regions and their underlying causal factors behind backwardness, several agendas with regard to the SDGs have been identified. The policy framework aims to focus on four pillars: (i) moderate income inequality; (ii) reduce gaps in health, nutrition and education; (iii) remove social and gender exclusion and discrimination; and (iv)

introduce explicit budgeting for the marginalised people and lagging behind regions. Further, specific LNOB action programmes have been identified. These will be crafted within the broader LNOB strategies for the 8th Plan (2021-2025) that cover cross-cutting and national level issues, such as strengthening inclusive growth, ensuring financial inclusion, reducing income and social inequality, accessing quality education and health services, adopting appropriate macroeconomic policy, addressing pockets of lagging social groups/regions, and adopting initiatives at the local level for LNOB.

Measuring Progress: Bangladesh's SDGs Tracker

The year 2020 closes the first cycle of the 2030 Agenda implementation. Therefore, the SDGs Progress Report 2020 serves as a basis for the updated experiences like as successes, challenges and gaps, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

SDG 1: End Poverty

National poverty measured as the proportion of population living below the national upper poverty line has consistently declined reaching 31.5 per cent in 2010 and 24.3 per cent in 2016. According to recent estimates, it has further declined to 20.5 per cent in 2019. In addition, the population below lower poverty line has also deceased to 10.5 per cent. Similarly, progress on expanding coverage of social protection and proportion of government expenditure on key services (health, education and social protection) as share of total government expenditure are remarkable. With higher expected economic growth (based on recent positive developments), it is possible to achieve the SDG1 milestones if the increase in income inequality does not offset the impact of higher growth on poverty reduction.

The government has adopted policies and programmes to address multidimensional nature of poverty in the country including fostering accelerated, inclusive and resilient growth. Heavy investments in human development, social safety nets and other programmes for addressing the LNOB issues, achieving gender parity, strengthening rural transformation, promoting financial inclusion, and providing stable macroeconomic environment are key dimensions of the government's efforts to achieve SDG1. The constraints on mobilisation of resources especially external resources, implementation of NSSS, enhancing professional capacity of BBS, middle class vulnerability, and preventing slippage into poverty or deeper poverty are some key challenges in this regard. Bangladesh will continue to strive hard to achieve SDG1 emphasising job creation, social protection, human capital development, improving private investment climate, mitigating various shocks and empowering marginalised communities.

SDG 2: End Hunger

Bangladesh has made some progress in dealing with malnutrition. The percentage of undernourished population in Bangladesh has gone down to 14.7 per cent in 2017 from 16.4 per cent in 2016. Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in reducing the percentage of stunted children under-5 years by almost half from 60 per cent in 1996-97 to 28 per cent in 2019. The proportion of wasted

children has gone down to 9.8 per cent in 2019 from 14 per cent in 2014. The proportion of underweight children under five years also reduced by half between 2007 (41 per cent) and 2019 (22.6 per cent). Agriculture Orientation Index for government expenditures in Bangladesh was 0.20 in 2013; it has doubled in 2016.

The government has adopted the national social security strategy (NSSS) in 2015 which has been made consistent with SDG2. This effort will allow agricultural and overall planning to be adaptive and dynamic to climate change, socioeconomic development, population growth and regional cooperation. The impact of climate change in the food grains sector is not likely to obstruct sustainable agricultural growth in future with the implementation of BDP 2100. Global warming and climate change may trigger major adverse changes in crop production, such as increased incidence of pests, protozoa, bacteria and multicellular parasites. The government has articulated these challenges and policies will be in place to achieve SDG 2.

SDG 3: Healthy Lives and Well-being

Maternal mortality ratio has persistently dropped and the number of births attended by skilled health personnel has remarkably improved. Furthermore, a continuous decrease has been observed in U5MR during 1995-2019 from 125 to 28. The nation is in line in achieving the 2020 milestone for U5MR.

The incidence of HIV is 0.015 per 1,000 uninfected population at the national level in 2019. Bangladesh is consistently fighting a successful battle against tuberculosis. As per report from Directorate General of Health Services, Bangladesh (DGHS), the number of tuberculosis incidence stands at 161 per 100,000 population in 2018. The incidence of malaria has dropped down to 1.6 per 1,000 population in 2019 from 4.3 in 2015. Adolescent birth rate per 1,000 women in 15-19 age group has significantly declined from 144 in 1999 to 83 in 2019. With the expansion of higher education for women, increased labour force participation and delayed marriage, this will continue to fall in future.

The government is implementing the 4th Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme (HPNSP, 2018-2022). The 4th HPNSP is the first of the three successive programmes that would be implemented by 2030 to achieve health, population and nutrition sector targets of Bangladesh and SDG 3. However, there remain disparities between rural and urban areas in accessing health services across different educational levels and wealth quintiles. The health policies focus on improving child and maternal health, reducing disparities in health care services, reducing out of pocket expenses, particularly in the rural and hard to reach areas.

SDG 4: Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education

Bangladesh lacks recent information on global indicator of achieving at least a minimum proficiency level at the end of primary education and lower secondary education. However, as per MICS (2019), the minimum proficiency in reading Bangla is achieved by 25.9 per cent of the students, when it is tested on Grade 2 and 3 students. Math solving proficiency is achieved by only 13 per cent students of grader 2 and 3. It is also observed that around 74.5 per cent of the children are developmentally

on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being with 71.4 per cent males and 78 per cent females. It is also noted that urban areas (77.9 per cent) have more 'developmentally on track' children than rural areas (73.7 per cent). Bangladesh has achieved GPI value higher than one at primary and secondary level as per the latest data of BANBAIS and MICS. Also at the tertiary level, it is not far from one (0.93); however, at the technical level, the value of GPI is only 0.72. The government is taking several initiatives to increase physical access to schools, such as food/cash for education programmes for girls at the primary level and stipend and tuition programmes at the secondary level. The government has also undertaken programmes to enhance girls' enrolment in technical education to improve GPI in technical education.

The adult literacy rate has increased significantly from around 53.5 per cent in 2005 to 73.9 per cent in 2018. Reaching about 4 million out-of-school children at the primary level throughout the country with specific groups of children facing greater constraints to access, such as working children, disabled children, indigenous children and children living in remote areas or slums or living in poverty, is a huge challenge to attain the targets of SDG4. There is a need for targeted public programmes to bring good education to the poor. Education for the poor should not be treated as a political and technical matter only in the presence of high income inequality in the country, which constrains both effective demand for education of the poor households.

SDG 5: Gender Equality and Women Empowerment

Bangladesh is ranked 50th out of 153 countries in 2019 in the Global Gender Gap Index. Furthermore, globally Bangladesh is the 7th ranked country in terms of women's political empowerment. It has stayed ahead of its South Asian neighbours for the fifth time consecutively, indicating significantly better performance in promoting women empowerment.

The MICS 2019 shows that 15.5 per cent women aged 20-24 years were married or in a union before age 15 and 51.4 per cent were married before age 18. Women and girls aged 15 years and over are subjected to different types of violence by their current or former intimate partner as well as by persons who are not intimate partners, and they are significantly more vulnerable to violence by their intimate partners.

For attaining SDG5, the government has adopted several legal and policy actions to advocate the rights of women. Some of the key challenges of achieving gender equality in the country are: eradication of violence against women and inequalities in opportunities, prevention of child marriage and promoting financial empowerment of women.

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

In 2019, the proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services stood at 47.9 per cent at the national level and 98.5 per cent of household members using improved sources of drinking water. In 2019, 84.6 per cent of household members using improved sanitation facilities and 74.8 per cent households reported practicing a hand-washing facility with soap and water. Achieving SDG 6 is crucial for achieving the rest of the SDGs. For sustainable management of water

resources, two key initiatives are improvement of water quality and protection of water ecosystem. Tannery industries in Hazaribag have been relocated to Savar in order to improve the severely degraded water quality of Buriganga River in Dhaka city. The Halda River restoration is an example of changes in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time in Bangladesh.

SDG 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy

In the national grid, around 68.84 per cent of energy production capacity is from natural gas and 19.07 per cent are from liquid fuel. Only 1.03 per cent comes from hydro and 0.17 per cent comes from solar sources. Bangladesh has a national target of increasing the share of renewable energy by 20 per cent of total energy consumption within 2030. According to SDG tracker, only 3.15 per cent of the total energy is produced by renewable energy sources till 2018. In recent years, Bangladesh has been focusing more on renewable energy production. The Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (BREB) has installed 51,364 Solar Home Systems (SHSs), 37 rooftop/hybrid type rooftop solar power plants, 40 solar-powered irrigation pumps, 14 solar charging stations and 40 net metering systems. The total capacities of the installed plants are about 13.31 MWp.

Under this goal, ensuring access to electricity for 100 per cent population is one of the prioritised targets. According to the most recent data, more than 92 per cent of people have access to electricity. The proportion of population with access to clean fuels and technology increased to 19 per cent in 2019 from 7.24 per cent in 2000.

SDG 8: Sustained, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth and Decent Work

With sustained high economic growth, Bangladesh has successfully transited from low to lower middle income country status in 2015 and fulfilled all three criteria for graduation from the UN's LDC status in 2018. Bangladesh's upward shift in the average annual growth rate of real GDP per capita to 6.91 per cent in FY2018-19 from 5.1 per cent in the baseline FY 2014-15 is noteworthy. However, there are significant uncertainties over the growth prospects due to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

In 2017, 85.1 per cent of the total employed persons (age ≥ 15) are in informal employment, lacking legal securities and employment benefits. The unemployment rate in Bangladesh has been closer to 4 per cent for a long time. While significant progress has been made in efforts to reduce child labour, there are still 1.28 million children who are trapped in hazardous works. In 2017, 29.8 per cent of the working age population aged 15-24 is not in education, employment or training (NEET). Higher unemployment rate of women, persons aged 15-29 years, informality in job market, skills demand and supply mismatch, child labour and problems involving migration of workers need to be tackled.

SDG 9: Resilient Infrastructure, Sustainable Industrialisation and Innovation

The share of manufacturing value added in GDP has increased significantly in Bangladesh. The government is persistently taking comprehensive measures for developing and flourishing of the manufacturing sector. The contribution of the manufacturing sector in real GDP has reached 24.21

per cent in FY2018-19 which was 22.85 per cent in FY2017-18. The growth of major manufacturing industries such as garments, textiles, food processing, pharmaceuticals, and leather are the main drivers in the country. There are also emerging signs of diversification in production and exports as Bangladesh is now exporting over 1,600 distinct tradable products and the growth is dominated by large and medium scale industries.

The government has been prioritising the building of resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive sustainable industrialisation and fostering innovation in its overall policy framework. The Road Sector Master Plan (2010-2030) guides the investments in the road sector with the objectives of protecting the value of infrastructure assets, increasing connectivity, and improving road safety, among others.

To modernise, develop and expand the country's telecommunication system, various measures have been undertaken by the government. The total number of mobile phone subscriber is 16.56 crore in January 2020. Bangladesh launched its first satellite 'Bangabondhu Satellite 1' successfully in May 2018. The proportion of population covered by 2G mobile networks have reached close to 100 per cent, while the 2020 milestone has already been achieved in June 2019; with 3G technology and 4G coverage reaching 79 per cent in June 2019. For raising competitiveness, Bangladesh is investing in research and development across sectors and facilitating innovation in science and technology.

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

In Bangladesh, income inequality is much higher than consumption inequality and income inequality has increased while consumption inequality has remained relatively stable over time. Official development assistance and Foreign direct investment shows an increasing trend. In 2018, Bangladesh received US$ 6,369 million as ODA. They also received US$ 4946 million as FDI.

In order to reduce inequality, the 7th FYP (2016-2020) targeted to increase in 2020 the spending on education to 3 per cent of GDP, on health to 1.2 per cent of GDP, and on social protection to 2.3 per cent of GDP. Special focus is needed on budget allocations for health and education, including strengthening of health and education system governance, management and service delivery capacities, and implementation of essential services package, with a focus on the lagging regions.

To facilitate and coordinate inequality reducing efforts, the government has aligned many of the development strategies of the 7th FYP with the SDGs based on which the first phase of SDGs implementation has been carried out. The remaining phases will be covered under the 8th and the 9th Five Year Plans till 2030. Bangladesh has approved Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Policy 2016 with a view to ensuring and encouraging safe migration and protection of migrants and their families. The proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries with zero tariffs remains the same as the Doha round negotiation of WTO.

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

The rapid urbanisation in Bangladesh has led to the growth of slums and the share of urban population living in slums is still unacceptably high. The government is working to develop urban

strategic plans and work with slum-dwellers to improve conditions and provide basic services in slum areas. The Second Perspective Plan (2PP, 2021-2041) and the long-term Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 incorporate the basic recommendations of urban policy regarding urban environmental sustainability. Access to affordable housing, water and sanitation services is also an important issue for making sustainable cities and communities.

About half of all Bangladeshis are expected to live in urban areas by 2035. Currently, more than 60 per cent of the urban population is concentrated mainly in four metropolitan cities: Dhaka, Chattogram, Khulna, and Rajshahi. Dhaka is affected by serious dust pollution, water logging, delayed disposal of waste, and traffic congestion.

SDG 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns

Food loss during consumption and food waste is a major concern of Bangladesh. A recent study shows that food waste is now around 5.5 per cent in the rural areas; 3 per cent during procurement and preparation stages, 1.4 per cent during serving, and 1.1 per cent at the plates. Further, nearly 10 per cent of the crops are lost during post-harvest operations.

Dealing with waste management is a major problem as the country struggles to manage municipal solid wastes, industrial wastes and with air pollution in the cities. Bangladesh has begun to work on smart-cities and take several initiatives both at the public and private levels. The Jasore city has recently developed the first integrated landfill and resource recovery facility in Bangladesh under which it is recycling daily city wastes into biogas, electricity and fertilisers. The Sylhet City Corporation has also promoted the green city concept and recycling of wastes into fertiliser using citizen's initiative.

SDG 13: Climate Action

In Bangladesh, the number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population has fallen over the years. Now it stands at 12,881 with a target of 1,500 by 2030. The government has approved the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies of Bangladesh (2016-2020) in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and other international protocol ratified by the government. As a part of its commitment to the NDC (national determined contribution) to CO2 emission reduction, Bangladesh has pledged to reduce its emissions by 5 per cent from the business-as-usual scenario voluntarily and has agreed to reduce additional 15 per cent with support from the development partners. In addition, the government has also updated its climate change strategy action plan (BCCSAP). For raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management, Bangladesh has received funding from GCF in 2018 for clean cooking programme, enhancing adaptive capacities of coastal communities, and climate resilient infrastructure mainstreaming. The recent outbreak of COVID 19 is a vital event that seriously threatens the achievements that the country has made over the past two decades.

SDG 14: Life below Water

Bangladesh has successfully expanded its marine protected area with the introduction of four zones around the Swatch of No Grounds in the Bay of Bengal. Monitoring and implementation of this vast area to ensure conservation of resources and also to catch illegal fishing vessels in these zones require significant resources. This is also true for the Ilish sanctuaries. However, most of the country's fishing communities are artisanal, and with thousands for small fishing boats catching fish along the coasts, there is a need to develop social safety nets for these fishing communities during the period when they are not allowed to catch fishes. Furthermore, greater coordination of activities in the areas of fisheries, offshore energy, tourism, and shipping; fishery-related issues and the need to strengthen regulatory frameworks for harvesting and addressing overfishing and IUU fishing are important for Bangladesh.

SDG 15: Life on Land

The natural ecosystem of Bangladesh includes several clusters such as, terrestrial, inland waters, coastal and marine ecosystems. Around half of the total area of Bangladesh is wetlands. The total area of forest land is around 15 per cent of the country's area excluding inland water area, which is targeted to increase to 20 per cent by 2030. Increasing tree density is a major target under the 7th FYP. The current estimates show that the proportion of terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, increased from 1.7 per cent in 2013-14 to more than 3 per cent in 2018, and it is expected to rise to 5 per cent by 2030. In addition, Bangladesh has also created vulture safe zone in the northeast and southwest regions of Bangladesh in 2014. The moratorium on tree felling in reserve forests has been extended till 2022. The ban was extended for better conservation of environment and biodiversity.

SDG 16: Ensuring Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Various measures such as the formation of the National Human Rights Commission and the issuance of the Right to Information Act, and the collection and analysis of related data are indicative of the government's enthusiasm towards achieving SDG 16. The number of victims of intentional homicide has reduced significantly in the country. The number of victims of human trafficking has also declined. As of 2018, the number of victims of human trafficking has decreased to 0.61 from the baseline 0.85 in 2015 for every 100,000 population. For effective and accountable institutions, the government has already implemented some governance related initiatives such as annual performance agreement (APA), citizen charter, national integrity strategy (NIS), and grievance redress system (GRS) under social protection programmes.

SDG 17: Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

The majority of the indicators suggest that they have achieved notable success and are on track. The government revenue as a proportion of GDP has increased more than the estimated required rate due mainly to measures undertaken for increasing the number of tax payers, and prudent

tax collection and management mechanism. Data on ODA indicate modest growth although its contribution to the national budget fell in recent years. However, the inflows of FDI and remittance require substantial increase.

Achieving the SDGs will critically depend on the availability of resources including external resources. International community will have to extend their adequate and timely support to Bangladesh in trade and private sector development, identifying and removing barriers to investment, preventing tax avoidance and evasion.

Further, Bangladesh needs an overhaul of the development finance system to improve transparency, set clear international standards, ensure more strategic interplay of suppliers, intermediaries and beneficiaries and empower itself to make optimal choices.

Way Forward

The government is aware of the paucity of relevant data and has taken measures to generate timely and quality data and update data at required intervals. The Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020 allows for adjustments to priorities and course corrections and helps realise the inner problems of SDGs implementation and to be aware of limitations. Further, the Report provides a key window of opportunity to inject urgency and catalyse updated or new commitments from all stakeholders for implementing the SDGs agenda by Bangladesh.

The preparation of the Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020 demonstrates the deep commitment of the government to its pledges made to the international community at the UN by signing the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development to take comprehensive steps to design and implement policies and programmes for achieving the SDGs by 2030. Furthermore, the Report helps evaluate progress and adopt necessary actions to be on the right course. This Report is also a source of motivation for all stakeholders to undertake actions to enhance performance in SDGs implementation to achieve the milestones in the course of achieving the SDGs by the deadline of 2030. The important priority, in this regard, is to capture real progress (or lack of it) in specific SDGs targets using reliable data for which existing weaknesses in data generation involving timeliness, frequency, quality and disaggregation need urgent action.

Inclusive Partnerships and Means of Implementation

While there has been progress in SDGs over the last four years, progress has been uneven within the country. The SDGs are an opportunity to carry forward the unfinished MDG agenda and build on it. In particular, the SDGs address cross-cutting issues such as economic growth, job creation, industrialisation, inequality, good governance, peace and justice, and ecological sustainability, in addition to global partnership to improve implementation.

The present Report shows that under-five mortality and neonatal mortality have already reached the target set for 2020. Prevalence of tobacco use and family planning needs are on track. The reduction rate of poverty and hunger are also on-track. The government's commitment to social protection, enhancing both in budgetary allocation and in coverage, is evident and gender parity in

primary and secondary education has been achieved. The growth rate of real GDP per employed person and share of manufacturing value-added in GDP has crossed the target set for 2020. Access to electricity is 96 per cent in line with the commitment to providing electricity to all by 2021.

The process also identifies several challenges. Sustained GDP growth has not been associated with declining income inequality. Although the health sector has shown great successes, ensuring universal health coverage still remains a daunting task. Quality education at multilevel educational streams is challenging as well. Because of the rapid growth of urbanisation, meeting urban demands is a serious constraint. As a climatically vulnerable country, adaptation and mitigation of climate change remains a threat. The process identifies resource mobilisation, stakeholder engagement, data availability and management, and implementing the 'leave no one behind' agenda as major structural challenges. The suggested approach is to strengthen inclusive dialogues with all stakeholders to identify appropriate pathways.

Effective SDGs implementation requires outcome-based approaches to multidimensional sustainable development challenges, effective decentralisation to empower the local government institutions (LGIs); and institutional reforms to introduce changes in regulations, institutional culture, markets and mind-sets. It is also important to ensure stakeholder participation in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs at all levels. The importance of strong institutions at all levels is also important for Bangladesh.

Bangladesh needs comprehensive support with the means of implementation to achieve the 2030 Agenda. The means of implementation are included under several SDGs, as well as under SDG 17, and covered in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) on Financing for Development. These include finance, technology, capacity building, trade, policy coherence, data and monitoring, and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

In summary, this Report highlights that national coordinating agencies are critical, and that adoption of outcome-based approaches, the empowerment of LGIs, and stakeholder participation are imperative to effectively deliver on the SDGs in Bangladesh. Bangladesh also needs to access means of implementation and close a number of capacity gaps in finance, technology, trade, data, monitoring and accountability. Additional financial resources will have to be mobilised through expanding the tax base, tax reforms, and innovative taxes, harnessing PPP, and through global/regional cooperation complemented by ODA flows and South-South cooperation. Along with this cooperation, technology facilitation mechanisms will be critical to enabling Bangladesh to develop sustainable solutions that harness its frugal engineering capabilities. Such cooperation could help in closing the gaps in statistical capacity as well.

Bangladesh needs enhanced financial assistance to implement national social security strategy, health financing strategy, national voluntary pension scheme, integrated water resources management, and introducing commercial agriculture in smallholder agriculture. Capacity building is required at all levels; for civil servants, entrepreneurs, professionals, and the national statistical organisation. Technology transfer is required to enhance efficiency, augment productivity, reduce wastages, cope with challenges with regard to oncoming 4th IR, and ensure sustainability.

Bangladesh's preparation of the SDGs Progress Report 2020 reflects its strong commitment to track the country's progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda, including the SDGs and targets, in a manner that respects their universal and integrated nature and all dimensions of sustainable development, it is substantive and knowledge based, with a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind.

INTRODUCTION

Bangladesh: Four Years of SDGs

Background

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) constitute a universal, integrated and transformative vision for a sustainable world. For the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part--the government, the private sector and civil society in every country—and apply creativity and innovation to address development challenges and recognise the need to encourage sustainability. The government creates an enabling and monitoring environment for implementation; civil society creates advocacy and awareness; the academic and research community provides knowledge, technologies and innovation for implementation; and the private sector does much of the implementation towards achieving the SDG targets. These different roles and responsibilities imply that the development goals cannot be achieved in isolation. There is a need for integration and partnerships between different role players. These partnerships need to be accountable, as well as people- and planet-centred.

Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development

In the opening declaration of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, the world leaders declared: *'As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society. And we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first'* (UN, 2016).

This 'leave no one behind' commitment aims to address several, interrelated concerns such as ending extreme poverty – in all its forms--and ensuring that those who have been left behind (in either relative or absolute terms) can catch up with those who have experienced greater progress. The key to the implementation of Agenda 2030 is the prioritisation and fast-tracking of action for the furthest behind.

At the core of the 2030 Agenda is a list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, hunger and inequality; take action on climate change and the environment; improve access to health and education; care for people and the planet; and build strong institutions and partnerships. The SDGs are unprecedented in terms of scope and significance and include sustainable and inclusive growth, sustainable production and consumption, sustainable urbanisation, innovation, data generation for tracking progress and the importance of peace and justice for all in the agenda.

Each of the 17 SDGs has specific targets and there are 169 targets to be achieved by 2030. The goals and targets are universal, and reaching the goals requires action on all fronts – governments, businesses, civil society and people everywhere; and all have a role to play.

Bangladesh and the SDGs

Bangladesh, as an active participant in the global process of preparing the Agenda 2030, started its implementation from the very beginning through the integration of SDGs into the national development agenda. The SDGs were integrated with the country's 7th Five Year Plan (7FYP, 2016-2020) and these were given emphasis while setting the priority areas of the 7FYP such that the

achievement of Plan objectives and targets also can contribute towards the achievement of the SDGs. All the 17 goals were integrated into the 7FYP. A Development Results Framework (DRF)--a robust and rigorous result based monitoring and evaluation framework-- was also embedded in the Plan for monitoring the 7FYP. The outcomes and targets in the DRF were aligned with the SDGs focus on macroeconomic development, poverty reduction, employment, education, health, water and sanitation, transport and communication, power, energy and mineral resources, gender and inequality, environment, climate change and disaster management, ICT, urban development, governance, and international cooperation and partnership.

Institutionalising SDGs implementation

A high powered Inter-Ministerial Committee on SDGs Monitoring and Implementation has been formed with the Principal Coordinator (SDGs Affairs) in the Prime Minister's Office as the Chair to coordinate SDGs monitoring and implementation. The Committee comprises of Secretaries from 20 Ministries/ Divisions; and the General Economics Division (GED) of the Planning Commission is the secretariat of the committee which coordinates implementation at the policy level along with monitoring and reporting SDGs attainment status.

The Committee has completed the task of priority setting and contextualising global goals with the national ambitions and the ministries have identified relevant goals and targets and reflected these in their respective sector plans as well as in their annual performance appraisals (APAs).

SDGs mapping

Since the targets of SDGs cover multiple ministries/divisions of the government, they are jointly responsible for attaining a particular target. In order to delineate the responsibilities of different ministries/divisions to each of the targets, a mapping has been done to identify relevant ministries/divisions by goal and associated target. The mapping exercise has assigned the lead role in attaining a target to a particular ministry/division or organisation which is supported in most cases by a co-lead ministry/division. All other ministries/divisions which have a stake in a particular target are grouped under associate ministries/divisions. The SDG mapping is done in the action plan format that identifies the actions during the plan period, existing policy instruments and proposed global indicators for performance measurement.

Preparation of action plans

As a follow up of the mapping exercise, the ministries/divisions/organisations have prepared their respective action plans which have specific actions/activities and interventions to achieve their respective goals/targets. Afterwards, the GED has prepared the National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of the SDGs which coordinates the action plans of 43 lead ministries/divisions through undertaking a rigorous process of consultations, review and feedback. The NAP lists the on-going projects/programmes that contribute to the achievement of a particular goal and its targets, identifies new projects/programmes that need to be undertaken during the remaining period of the 7th Plan and beyond with indicative costs. New policies/strategies that might be needed in the

process are also stipulated. The NAP intends to guide the ministries/divisions/agencies to determine their respective investment portfolio that will attain the SDGs as well as the related objectives of the five year plan; and help assess the performance of the ministries in achieving the goals/targets. The NAP is a dynamic/living document which leaves scope for amendment/revision during the preparation of the 8th five year and subsequent plans.

Data gap analysis

In order to translate the SDGs and related quantitative targets into concrete policies and actions, progress must be regularly tracked through appropriate monitoring, reporting and verification system, in which the indicators remain at the core. The SDG indicators inform policy making by improving the understanding of relevant trends, by raising awareness about the importance of underlying sustainability issues and by motivating action for improvement. Bangladesh's SDGs indicators, both at the national and sub-national levels, have been designed to build on the existing measurement systems, but they have been tailored to the SDGs context and agreed targets.

For meeting the need for data and statistics to monitor the progress on SDGs, two separate exercises have been adopted – one by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) and the other by the Planning Commission (GED) to identify the current state of data availability and explore the nature and extent of data deficit to monitor progress and take informed policy decisions on the implementation of the post-2015 agenda.

Accordingly, the GED undertook in 2017 an assessment of the current status of data in the country – the availability of data from different sources and the gap that needs to be filled through generation of new data. The exercise involved all the relevant data generating agencies including the BBS.

The assessment has divided the indicators into three types depending on the status of data availability: (i) Indicators for which data are readily available, (ii) Indicators for which data are partially available meaning that some modification, addition and analysis are required in the existing census or survey for obtaining the pertinent data, and (iii) Indicators for which data are not available giving rise to need for new census or survey. For the entire data set, 70 indicators (29 per cent) belong to the first category, 63 indicators (26 per cent) belong to the third category, and 108 indicators (45 per cent) belong to the second category. This shows that data availability, including its timeliness and quality, pose a significant challenge to effective monitoring that could help informed policy decisions.

The exercise, undertaken by BBS in 2016, identified the data gaps in setting the base year and the reference year and in monitoring progress on the implementation of the Development Results Framework (DRF) of 7FYP (2016-2020) and the targets of the SDGs. The BBS classified the data into three categories: data available from BBS, data available outside BBS, and data not available. BBS can directly provide the first category of data and it needs to mainstream "administrative data" in the second category. Further, BBS can play a leading role in generating administrative and official data. The exercise also identified relevant short, medium and long term projects and programmes that have to be undertaken to fill the data gaps and establish strong data base for reference/base year for measurement of progress implementation of 7FYP and the SDGs.

Monitoring and evaluation

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework of SDGs (GED, 2018) has been developed to track progress on implementation and achievement of SDGs in Bangladesh over the decade until 2030. Several characteristics of the M&E framework should be highlighted. First, since a wide range of aspects of the economy and their depth are needed to be measured to assess the progress of SDGs, the set of indicators to measure progress is diverse and complex. In many cases, a target is not measured by a single number rather multiple numbers are required depending on the level of disaggregation. Secondly, BBS does not generate data on many aspects of the economy to meet the data requirements of the national development plans and consequently data on many indicators are not available. Thirdly, data are mostly generated by BBS or other government agencies through periodic surveys; and usually the periodicity varies from five years for Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) to three years for Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey (BDHS). The BBS conducts Quarterly Labour Force Survey which it used to conduct traditionally at three years interval. Fourthly, data generation through more frequent surveys as well as generation of more disaggregated data (such as spatial, gender, age-group, ethnicity, employment status) requires additional financial and human resources, logistics support as well as the use of modern technology.

The M&E framework provides baseline data for each indicator for which data are available and the target for the terminal year of SDGs, i.e., 2030 with two milestones -- 2020 and 2025, in the intervening period. Information on relevant agency currently responsible for generating data along with the ministry/division to which the agency belongs as well as the title of the publication where the data appear are provided for quick and easy identification of data sources.

Due to non-availability of data, uniform baseline could not be set for all the indicators. The indicators for which annual data are available for 2014-15, the final year of MDGs, has been taken as the baseline. On the other hand, if an indicator does not have data for 2014-15, the latest available survey data is taken as the baseline. The baseline data is set for 127 indicators and the M&E framework is designed for 108 indicators. Milestones are yet to be set for some of the indicators that are of qualitative in nature.

Following the classification in the data gap analysis, the indicators are also classified into three categories: readily available, partially available, and not available data. Presently, 64 indicators belong to readily available, 58 indicators are in partially available and 110 indicators are in not available categories. Since there is a lack of data from national sources, international sources like WB, FAO, WHO, and ILO have been used to set baseline for 22 indicators. The not available category includes 81 indicators for which metadata is yet to be finalised by the IAEG-SDGs. This indicates the enormity of the data generating task confronting Bangladesh.

Some other aspects of data in terms of availability and sources should also be highlighted. First, an analysis by goals shows that while SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 7, SDG 8, SDG 9, and SDG17 are in better situation in terms of data availability, data availability is challenging for SDG 12, followed by SDG 10, SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 14, SDG 15 and SDG 16. Secondly, the majority of data on SDGs are generated by the Statistics and Informatics Division (SID); out of 244 indicators, data on 105 will be provided by SID. The Ministry of Environment and Forest is the second largest

data provider (42), followed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (34). Economic Relations Division (ERD) provides information for 28 indicators and Finance Division (FD) for 20. Thirdly, considering agencies or units of ministries/divisions that are responsible for data generation for SDGs monitoring, it is seen that BBS, the NSO of the government, is the single most important institution to produce reliable and disaggregated data timely. BBS is followed by DoE, DGHS, BFD, NIPORT and BB.

SDGs financing strategy

A major challenge for Bangladesh is to mobilise and ensure effective use of the resources needed for implementing the SDGs. Under the SDGs financing strategy, Bangladesh has estimated the amount of resources that will be required, financing sources, and financing instruments and strategies. The *SDGs Financing Strategy: Bangladesh Perspective* prepared by the GED provides an estimate of the annual resource gap and an opportunity to revise the government interventions and financing strategies accordingly. The estimates show that an additional amount, over the current provision of investment related to SDGs by public sectors and external sources, would be US$ 928.48 billion at 2015-16 prices. This amount would be required for SDGs implementation over the period of FY 2017-FY 2030, which is 19.75 per cent of the accumulated gross domestic product (GDP) under the 7FYP extended growth scenario. The annual average cost of SDGs would be US$ 66.32 billion (at constant prices) for this period. The costing exercise covers close to 80 per cent of the 169 targets of SDGs.

The financing strategy suggests five potential sources of gap financing. These are: private sector financing, public sector financing, public-private partnership (PPP), external financing comprising foreign direct investment (FDI) and foreign aid and grants, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).On average, public sector would account for around 34 per cent of the financing requirement, whereas private sector has a share of around 42 per cent during 2017-30 period. Many goals and associated targets of SDGs have large public goods aspect whose provision would require higher public funding relative to private sector's contribution. The average share of PPP is 6.0 per cent. The external sources would constitute close to 15 per cent where FDI would make up 10 per cent and foreign aid would comprise 5.0 per cent of financing gap. Finally, the NGOs would contribute around 4.0 per cent during the period.

SDGs targets in performance agreement

The government has introduced Annual Performance Agreement (APA), a results-based performance management system, to help ensure a systematic review of all ministries/divisions to ensure higher accountability and effectiveness in public organisations. Under this system, an APA is signed between the Secretary of concerned ministry/division and the Cabinet Secretary. The APA is expected to enhance the performance of concerned ministries/divisions involved in SDGs implementation.

The 'whole of society' approach to SDGs

The government has consistently been adopting the 'whole of society' approach to the preparation of national development plans and policy documents of national importance. The government has also adopted this approach throughout the processes of SDGs preparation. For example, t*he Post-2015 Development Agenda: Bangladesh Proposal to UN* (GED 2013) was prepared with inputs from multiple stakeholders including national experts, private sector and CSO representatives, and development partners.

The government has adopted this strong tradition to the implementation of ambitious SDGs. Several consultations on 'Stakeholders' Engagement on the SDGs Implementation in Bangladesh' were held with representatives from NGOs, CSOs, businesses, development partners, ethnic minorities, professional groups, labour associations, women network and the media. The consultations have sought to raise more awareness, interest and commitment to create deeper engagement of all stakeholders towards attaining SDGs.

In view of the critical role of the private sector in attaining SDGs, three consultation meetings between the government, private sector and the UN System on the 'Role of the Private Sector in Facilitating the SDGs' were held to highlight the broad outlines for private sector actions on SDGs implementation. The government also appreciated the value of media in creating awareness of people that the agenda guiding development up to 2030 is sustainable development. Effective and coherent role of both print and electronic media in creating SDGs awareness and branding of success is strongly needed.

Highlighting 'Leave No One Behind' Agenda

The above shows that Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in terms of institutionalising the SDGs implementation mechanism and developing the integrated policy framework for the 2030 Agenda. For achieving Vision 2041 and emerging as a high income country by 2041, the country has adopted the Second Perspective Plan 2021-2041 and is currently preparing the 8th Five Year Plan (2021-2025) that aim to 'leave no one behind' (LNOB) and promote equitable and inclusive growth and development. Without quicker improvements among those who are lagging behind presently (e.g. the disadvantaged social groups and those living in the lagging regions), the existing disparities will not narrow down and these groups/regions will continue to be left behind; hence the policy priority is to focus on 'endeavour to reach the furthest behind first'.

Still, nearly 10 per cent of the population in Bangladesh live under extreme poverty and the top 10 per cent of the population hold around 38 per cent of total income; and several regions such as the north western, southern coastal, haor, and the CHT regions are lagging behind. There are also several marginalised and socioeconomically 'fallen behind' communities in the country including ethnic minority groups, tea garden workers, cleaners/sweepers, landless peasants, transgender community, commercial sex workers, environmental refugees, traditional fisher folk, traditional artisans, chronically ill poor people, rural extreme poor groups particularly older women, homeless and unemployed and their families, persons with physical and mental disabilities, and poor female-headed households.

Using the evidence of lagging socioeconomic groups/regions and their underlying causal factors behind backwardness, several agendas for the 8th Five Year Plan (2021-2025) with regard to the SDGs have been identified. The 8th Plan policy framework aims to focus on four pillars: (i) moderate income inequality; (ii) reduce gaps in health, nutrition and education; (iii) remove social and gender exclusion and discrimination; and (iv) introduce explicit budgeting for the marginalised people and lagging behind regions.

Further, six specific LNOB action programmes for the 8th Plan have been identified. These are: **Action 1:** Adopt an integrated strategy to develop a national database and strategic LNOB fund for the marginalised groups within ADP; **Action 2:** Develop and implement region- and community-specific strategic actions to combat marginalities; **Action 3:** Formulate target specific action plans to increase income levels and access to productive resources of the lagging behind communities; **Action 4:** Address limited access to education, health and nutrition services in the lagging regions and marginalised communities on a priority basis; **Action 5:** Increase socio-political participation of marginalised communities through adopting integrated approaches; and **Action 6:** Ensure special focus on lagging behind regions/communities in all national development plans and strategies.

These will be crafted within the broader LNOB strategies for the 8th Plan that cover cross-cutting and national level issues, such as strengthening inclusive growth, ensuring financial inclusion, reducing income and social inequality, accessing quality education and health services, adopting appropriate macroeconomic policy, addressing pockets of lagging social groups/regions, and adopting initiatives at the local level for LNOB.

For addressing LNOB, Bangladesh will use both industrial and agricultural policies to facilitate employment-centred structural transformation. This requires greater public investment in infrastructure; adequate development finance to channel required credit to specific productive activities including MSMEs; and well-managed agricultural and industrial policies with focus on technology and productivity growth.

Bangladesh will also use effective governance capacity to transform the structure of employment, nurture mutual interdependence and symbiotic relationship between industry and agriculture through supporting expansion of agri-based industries and fostering demand and production linkages, generate remunerative employment and productive occupational opportunities, and social policies that improve health, nutrition, education, skill levels and well-being of the lagging population groups and regions.

Along with eliminating gender and other disparities, the policies will underscore the intrinsic value of LNOB in Bangladesh. For practical reasons, the 8th Plan policies will put more emphasis on equality of opportunities relative to equality of outcomes. The action framework of the Plan will strive to install fair processes and interventions to protect those who have fallen behind and emphasise on investments in equal opportunities to produce a more equitable society for the future with LNOB.

Further, regular monitoring of progress is important to assess the degree of convergence between the left behind and the relatively advanced population groups and the lagging and the well-off regions of Bangladesh. In addition to reviewing progress measured by appropriate multi-dimensional indicators adopted for the purpose, trends in policy implementation and government allocations

will be assessed as well. For success, timely availability of data on the indicators disaggregated by different population groups and geographic locations is a major challenge and special efforts will be given to overcome the data availability issue.

Finally, LNOB has issues that are directly or indirectly related to the daily work of the local governments and local institutions. For implementing the LNOB agenda, one important element is to utilise the potential of local action to drive development and create appropriate legal and financial frameworks to support all local partners in playing their part in the achievement of the integrated and universal LNOB agenda.

In this context, four areas are highlighted: (i) Apply LNOB lens to the local strategies and policy/programme tools; (ii) Leverage local institutions' ground-level data and information to help analyse progress in achieving LNOB; (iii) Upgrade in-house capacity for integrated planning and policy-making at the grassroots level, and provide support to the local government to create a space for sharing mutual experiences on implementing the LNOB agenda; and (iv) Raise awareness on LNOB among partners and the people.

Local government and other local institutions (e.g. NGO-MFIs) are the catalysts of change and are best placed to link the LNOB agenda with local communities in Bangladesh. Localising LNOB is a process to empower all local stakeholders especially the local government institutions (LGIs), aimed at making sustainable and inclusive development more responsive, and therefore, relevant to local needs and aspirations. The LNOB goals can be reached only if local actors fully participate, not only in the implementation, but also in agenda-setting and monitoring. Participation requires that all relevant actors are involved in the decision-making process, through consultative and participative mechanisms, at the local and national levels within the overall LNOB framework.

Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020

The first Bangladesh progress report on SDGs implementation was prepared in 2018 following a rigorous methodological framework. This involved a thorough understanding of the 7FYP and other documents related to SDGs prepared by the GED including Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of SDGs: Bangladesh Perspective (2018), National Action Plan of Ministries/Divisions by Targets in the Implementation of SDGs (2018), Data Gap Analysis for SDGs: Bangladesh Perspective (2017) and SDGs Financing Strategy: Bangladesh Perspective (2017). In addition, efforts were made to gather data on the indicators from BBS and other concerned ministries/divisions. Data and information were also collected from international sources such as World Bank, UN, FAO, ILO and OECD to fill the data gap. The preliminary draft of the document was reviewed internally in GED and necessary revisions were carried out. Following the long established tradition of GED of involving stakeholders in the various stages of preparation of national policy and plan documents, two stakeholder consultations were organised. The valuable inputs obtained from these consultations helped improve the document.

Bangladesh, and the global community at large, is now five years into the SDGs. The year 2020 is a critical juncture to reflect on the first four years of the Agenda 2030 implementation and to allow for adjustments to priorities and course corrections. It represents a key window of opportunity to

inject urgency and catalyse updated or new commitments from all stakeholders – all of which will be necessary if leave no one behind and Agenda 2030 are to be achieved.

In the above context, this *Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020* aims to prepare the ground in the lead up to 2019, highlighting how much more effort will be needed to reach the SDGs and the commitment to leave no one behind. The preparation process of the Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020 replicates the similar methodology as adopted in preparing the Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2018.

Further, this Progress Report 2020 is important for Bangladesh at least on two counts: first, four-years represent almost one-third of the SDGs implementation time, an important milestone to assess the direction of implementation and progress achieved to draw lessons on what has worked, what improvements are still needed, and in which areas major challenges persist; and second, there is still a decade left to achieve SDGs in 2030, and insights and policy implications from the lessons will raise the efficiency of the SDGs implementation process in the coming years.

Bangladesh's Progress in South Asian Context

For the South Asian countries, many of the SDGs present formidable challenges as these require a reversal of the past trends, such as reducing inequalities, or promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and meeting the climate change impacts. These countries, therefore, should not be expected to make significant progress on the SDGs in the initial years, but the key concern would be to ensure that the countries have identified the right direction and gathered the required pace towards meeting the SDGs. Table 1 shows the progress of South Asian countries by individual goals. All South Asian countries are both at moderate or good level and on track in meeting SDG1. For the SDGs for which the performance is moderate and shows some improvement, the current rate of progress needs to be accelerated to meet the goals. Most countries also show stagnation or no progress for several SDGs.

Even with optimistic assessments for some indicators, most of the 17 SDGs may be missed by the South Asian countries at the current rate of progress (ESCAP, 2019). The key for South Asia is to address the constraints imposed by inequalities of income, power, access to services, and citizen's entitlements, which affect all SDGs in these countries. Despite the relatively low Gini coefficients of consumption inequality, all South Asian countries suffer from a complex and intersectional system of hierarchy and discrimination in which ethnic and gender discriminations are highly distinct. These significantly influence the opportunities for employment and income, affect access to housing, basic social services including health and education, and amenities like clean water and energy. Thus, reducing inequalities is a critical cross-cutting goal for South Asia; and right strategies of addressing this goal will significantly change the implementation outcomes of SDGs towards achieving the 2030 Agenda.

Table 1: SDGs Implementation: Bangladesh and South Asia

Levels and Progress By goal						
	Bhutan	**Sri Lanka**	**Nepal**	**Bangladesh**	**India**	**Pakistan**
1 No Poverty	Good On track	Good On track	Moderate, On Track	Moderate, On Track	Moderate, On Track	Moderate, On Track
2 Zero Hunger	Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving	Moderately Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving
3 Good Health and Wellbeing	Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving	Moderately Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving	Poor, Stagnating
4 Quality Education	Moderate maintaining	Poor, Improving	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Poor, Stagnating
5 Gender Equality	Poor, Improving	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Improving	Moderately Poor, Improving		Poor, Stagnating
6 Clean Water and Sanitation	Insufficient data	Good on track	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Poor, Improving	Insufficient data
7 Affordable and Clean Energy	Insufficient data	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Improving	Moderately Poor, Improving		Poor, Improving
8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	Insufficient data	Good on track	Poor, Improving	Poor, Stagnating	Moderate, On Track	Poor, Improving
9 Industry Innovation and Infrastructure	Insufficient data	Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving	Moderately Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving	Poor, Improving
10 Reduced Inequalities	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Insufficient data
11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	Insufficient data	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Worsening
12 Responsible Consumption and Production	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Insufficient data	Insufficient data
13 Climate Action	Good, Maintaining	Good, Maintaining	Moderate, Stagnating	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Stagnating	Moderate, Stagnating
14 Life Below Water	Insufficient data	Poor, Improving	Insufficient data	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Improving	Poor, Stagnating
15 Life on Land	Poor, Maintaining	Poor, Improving	Poor, Stagnating	Very Poor, Worsening	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Worsening
16 Peace Justice and Strong Institutions	Insufficient data	Poor, Worsening	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Stagnating
17 Partnerships for Goals	Poor, Maintaining	Poor, Worsening	Poor, Improving	Poor, Stagnating	Poor, Stagnating	Insufficient data

Source : SDG Index and Dashboards Report 2018

Industrialisation (SDG 9) and economic growth (SDG 8) are critical for poverty alleviation (SDG 1) and other SDGs. Although South Asia has emerged as the fastest growing sub-region, its growth is creating inadequate jobs for its youthful population and more than 80 per cent of the labour force works in the informal sector. The structural transformation in South Asia has moved from agriculture to services largely bypassing the industry sector; precluding the realisation of the opportunity of harnessing the substantial backward and forward linkages of industry for job-creation. A regionally coordinated industrialisation strategy could leverage spill overs of manufacturing across borders, creating productive capacities across South Asia through regional value chains.

South Asian countries are also characterised by wide infrastructure gaps in transport infrastructure (SDG 9), basic infrastructure such as access to drinking water and sanitation (SDG 6), electricity

(SDG 7), and ICT. Investing in human development through universal health coverage (SDG 3) and quality education and vocational training opportunity to all (SDG 4), will enable South Asia to reap the demographic dividend from its youthful population. Such investment will also allow the sub-region to bridge the global skills deficit with secondary and higher education by 2020. Social protection strategies and financial inclusion are smart investments for accelerating poverty reduction (SDG 1) and reduce inequality (SDG 10). South Asian countries can scale up models of social protection they have evolved over the past decade including those based on income support, employment guarantee and conditional cash transfers. Besides expanding microfinance programmes, the governments may also leverage new innovations such as agent banking and mobile financial services for enhancing financial inclusion. Food security and eradication of hunger (SDG 2) is a key development challenge in South Asia. Policy action is needed to eradicate extreme poverty to ensure better access to food and reduce inequality, combat the high levels of anemia and vitamin A deficiency, extend social protection programmes to improve household incomes and consumption and increasing smallholder agricultural productivity.

Despite achieving gender parity in education, South Asia lags behind in economic and political empowerment of women, as well as other dimensions of gender equality (SDG 5). Promotion of women's entrepreneurship can be a potent catalyst for women's economic empowerment and can be promoted through a gender-responsive policy attention and 'one-stop shops' for information and guidance, incentivising credit availability, and capacity building besides regional sharing of good practices.

Policies for transformative development must reengineer growth towards sustainable development pathways given South Asia's high degree of vulnerability to climate change. Changing the energy mix in favour of renewable sources viz. hydro, solar and wind; moving towards cleaner fuels such as gas-based energy, and employing new technologies for reducing emissions from conventional energy generation will need to form part of decarbonisation strategy for South Asia. Industry needs to move towards sustainable production through enhanced energy efficiency, waste recycling, and cogeneration. Lifestyle changes including 3-R (reduce, reuse and recycle) practices and sustainable solid waste management need to be adopted as a part of sustainable consumption. The rapid rise in urban population in South Asia over the next three decades provides the sub-region with opportunities to leapfrog to greener and more resilient buildings and urban infrastructure, and urban transport systems in sustainably smart cities.

Limitations and way forward

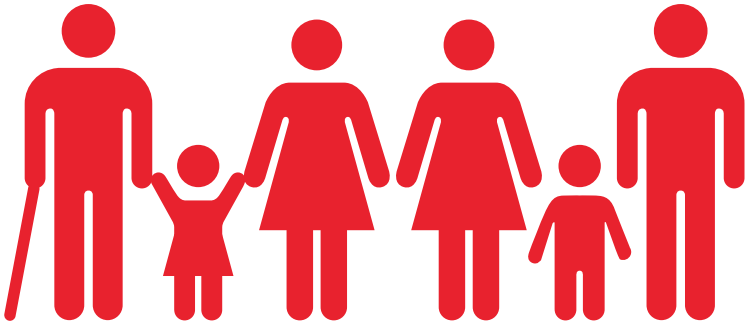
The Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020 has several limitations. It could not provide a uniform degree of assessment for all SDGs due to lack of data altogether and/or non-availability of up-to-date data for the relevant indicators. Where data for two consecutive years from the start of SDGs are available, linear projection has been used to see if the progress is on track to reach the 2020 milestone. In other cases, data from the SDGs period have been used in combination with data from the latest years of MDGs period to make such a judgment. In the case of a single data point the report does not provide any quantitative judgment.

The government is aware of the paucity of relevant data and has taken measures to generate timely and quality data and update data at required intervals. Despite these limitations, GED has decided to produce the Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020 to reflect on the progress of first four years of the Agenda 2030 and to allow for adjustments to priorities and course corrections. This will also help realise the inner problems of SDGs implementation and to be aware of limitations. Further, the report provides a key window of opportunity to inject urgency and catalyse updated or new commitments from all stakeholders for implementing the SDGs agenda by Bangladesh.

The preparation of the Bangladesh SDGs Progress Report 2020 demonstrates the deep commitment of the government to its pledges made to the international community at the UN by signing the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development to take comprehensive steps to design and implement policies and programmes for achieving the SDGs by 2030. Furthermore, the report helps evaluate progress and adopt necessary actions to be on the right course. This report is also a source of motivation for all stakeholders to undertake actions to enhance performance in SDGs implementation to achieve the milestones in the course of achieving the SDGs by the deadline of 2030. The important priority, in this regard, is to capture real progress (or lack of it) in specific SDGs targets using reliable data for which existing weaknesses in data generation involving timeliness, frequency, quality and disaggregation need urgent action.

1 End Poverty

End poverty in all its forms everywhere



1.1 Global Perspectives on SDG1

The world is making rapid progress in overcoming global poverty. Since 1990, a quarter of the world's population has risen out of extreme poverty. Recent estimates for global poverty are that 8.6 per cent or 736 million people live in extreme poverty on $1.90 or less a day. These numbers are based on income and a person's ability to meet basic needs. However, when looking beyond income to people experiencing deprivation in health, education, and living standards, 1.3 billion people are multidimensionally poor, according to a 2018 survey by the UNDP.

More than half of the world's extreme poor, 413 million people, live in sub-Saharan Africa; while in the Middle East and North Africa, the number of people living in extreme poverty has risen to 18.6 million, mainly due to the crises in Syria and Yemen. Two regions, East Asia and the Pacific and Europe and Central Asia, have less than 3 per cent of their populations living in extreme poverty, already reaching the 2030 target to eradicate extreme poverty. South Asia's share of the global poor has increased from 27.3 per cent to 33.4 per cent between 1990 and 2013, despite the number of poor people in South Asia falling by 248.8 million.

In terms of multidimensional poverty, South Asia accounts for the largest share of global multidimensionally poor people. More specifically, South Asia accommodates almost half (48 per cent) of the world's multidimensionally poor people in 2017. The proportion of poor people in South Asia, however, has reduced by 3 per cent while the shares for Sub-Saharan Africa and the Arab States have increased by 8 per cent and 2 per cent respectively.

It is essential to adopt appropriate anti-poverty policies at national level across all regions to eradicate poverty in all its forms to meet the SDG1. This is especially true for regions such as Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia where poverty is still concentrated. Poverty is not reflected in low levels of income alone but it is, rather, multifaceted. Addressing multidimensional poverty implies reaching the last mile of exclusion, those living in remote communities or belonging to marginalised groups facing multiple, compounding sources of social and economic discrimination, that plunge them in a vicious cycle that perpetuates exclusions over generations.

Eradicating extreme poverty by 2030 and ensuring that no one is left behind demands that three key aspects be considered. First, nature of economic growth that sets the way in which the benefits of growth are shared across society. Second, development and the path of poverty eradication are beset with volatility and shocks, which call for sustained attention to risk-informed approaches to development. And third, active policies of inclusion for segments of the population that have been systematically excluded, with a special focus on reducing gender gaps

1.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG1 by Indicators

Indicator 1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line

Despite notable progress in poverty reduction, a large number of population are still poor in Bangladesh. The proportion of the population living on less than $1.90 a day measured at 2011

international prices, adjusted for purchasing power parity (PPP), shows decreasing trend in poverty over the last 30 years. Between 2010 and 2016, the incidence of poverty declined at an average annual rate of 0.87 percentage points.

Table 1.1: Percentage of population below the international poverty line

Poverty measure	1992	2000	2005	2010	2016
$1.90 a day	44.2	33.7	24.5	18.5	14.7

Source: PovcalNet, WB, 2016

Indicator 1.2.1 Proportion of population below the national poverty line

Bangladesh has shown remarkable progress in reducing poverty since 1991-92. National poverty measured as the proportion of population living below the national upper poverty line has consistently declined reaching 31.5 per cent in 2010 and 24.3 per cent in 2016. According to recent estimates it has declined to 20.5 per cent in 2019 (Table 1.2).

Table 1.2: Trends in Poverty Using Upper Poverty Line, 1992-2019 (per cent)

	1992	2000	2005	2010	2016	2019 (estimated)
National	56.7	48.9	40	31.5	24.3	20.5
Urban	42.8	35.2	28.4	21.3	18.9	...
Rural	58.8	52.3	43.8	35.2	26.4	...

Source: BBS, Household Income and Expenditure Survey, various years and Planning Commission

While poverty has consistently declined over the period, the rate of fall shows some weakening during the 2010-2016 period compared with the 2005-2010 period. Poverty rate declined by an average annual 1.7 percentage points in the 2005-2010 period but it fell by 1.2 percentage points in the 2010-2016 period. The weakening of the effect of growth on poverty is attributable to rising inequality in income distribution. It is important to note that income inequality in Bangladesh (Gini coefficient) has increased from 0.36 in 1974 to 0.483 in 2016.

The trend till 2016 shows that rural poverty has been falling at a relatively faster rate compared with urban poverty resulting from rapid transformation of the rural economy. A notable feature of poverty reduction is that not only poverty rate has declined but also the absolute number of the poor has declined from 83.06 million in 1992 to 39.60 million in 2016 implying millions of people have been lifted out of poverty. With sustained growth in excess of 8 per cent in recent years and still higher growth rate expected in the coming years, poverty will continue to fall at a faster rate and may reach the milestone.

The figures for extreme poverty (lower poverty line) imply that it has also declined consistently during the period 2016-2019 (by 0.72 percentage point) compared with the 2010-2016 period (by 0.78 percentage point (Table 1.3).

Table 1.3: Trends in Poverty Using Lower Poverty Line, 1992-2019 (per cent)

	1992	2000	2005	2010	2016	2019 (estimated)
National	41	34.3	25.1	17.6	12.9	10.5
Urban	24	19.9	14.6	7.7	7.6	...
Rural	43.8	37.9	28.6	21.1	14.9	...

Source: BBS, Household Income and Expenditure Survey, various years and Planning Commission

Indicator 1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions

To observe all dimensions of poverty using multidimensional poverty index (MPI), GED has recently constructed the MPI using the MICS (2019) data. It identifies people's deprivations across three key dimensions – health, education and living standards, lacking amenities such as clean water, sanitation, adequate nutrition or primary education. Those who are left behind in at least a third of the MPI's components are defined as multidimensionally poor. The Oxford Poverty and Human Development Institution (OPHI) has calculated MPI for Bangladesh using DHS 2004, 2007 and 2014. Bangladesh has shown a significant progress in reducing MPI poor. In 2004, around 67 per cent of the population was MPI poor. It has gone down to 41.7 per cent in 2014. The MPI also shows that Bangladesh is severely deprived in the indicator 'cooking fuel (40 per cent)', 'housing (38.7 per cent)', 'sanitation' (30.7 per cent), 'assets' (28.3 per cent), 'nutrition' (25.6 per cent) and 'years of schooling' (25.2 per cent). As per BBS (2019), the MPI poor have further gone down to 37.5 per cent.

Table 1.4: Trends in Multidimensional Poverty Index, 2004-2019

	2004	2007	2014	2019
MPI				
National	0.365	0.292	0.198	0.18
Urban	...	...	0.103	...
Rural	...	...	0.233	...
MPI head count, %				
National	67.2	57.8	41.7	37.51
Urban	...	...	23.0	...
Rural	...	...	48.6	...
MPI intensity (% of deprivations suffered by each person on average), %				
National	54.3	50.4	47.5	46.84
Urban	...	...	44.9	...
Rural	...	...	47.9	...

Source: OPHI Country Briefing 2011 & 2019—Bangladesh using DHS 2004, 2007, 2014; GED, 2019

Indicator 1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection systems

Bangladesh has developed a wide network of Social Protection Programmes (SPPs) to address the problems of poverty, vulnerability and marginalisation. The programmes include civil service pensions, allowances for population groups with special needs, food security and disaster assistance programmes, workfare programmes and programmes focused on human development and empowerment. The government has adopted the National Social Security Strategy in 2015 to create a social protection system that is inclusive, better mitigates lifecycle risks and prioritises the poorest and the most vulnerable. The BBS provides data on coverage of Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs) beginning with the Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2005. The number of the programmes included increased in subsequent surveys. The coverage of SSNPs has increased both in terms of percentage of households as well as percentage of beneficiaries over time. Between 2016 and 2019, the proportion of programme beneficiaries has increased remarkably by more than double. In 2016, around 28 per cent of the poor households were under the coverage of SSNPs. It has increased to around 58 per cent in 2019 (Table 1.5). As can be seen, the coverage has increased rapidly between 2016 and 2019 in both rural and urban areas. Although all countries in South Asia recognise the importance of social protection as a tool for reducing poverty and all governments have sets of interventions in place, Bangladesh has emerged as the pioneer in the process of scaling up social protection to a more systemic level.

Table 1.5: Trends in Coverage of Social Safety Net Programs, 2005-2019 (Per cent)

	National	Urban	Rural
2019	58.1	53.1	59.5
2016	27.8	10.6	34.5
2010	24.6	9.4	30.1
2005	13.06	...	...

Sources: BBS, HIES various years, MICS, 2019

Indicator 1.4.1: Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services

The important indicators of access to basic services generally refer to access to basic education, health care services, and access to hygiene and sanitation. Bangladesh has shown significant progress in terms access to basic services (Table 1.6). The percentage of households having access to improved sanitation has gone up to around 84 per cent in 2019 from 56 per cent in 2012. Similarly, the access to clean fuel and antenatal health care services has improved. As per MICS (2019), around 75 per cent of households have antenatal support. However, the rate of increase in primary school completion rate is somewhat stagnant. The primary school completion rate has increased by only 0.65 percentage point per year from 2012 to 2019. Households having access to safe drinking water and electricity are respectively 98.5 per cent and 92.23 per cent.

Table 1.6: Trends in Access to Basic Services

	2012	2019
Percentage of household members using improved sanitation facilities	55.9	84.6
Percentage of household having access to clean fuel	9.9	19
Percentage of household having access to antenatal health care	58.7	75.2
Primary school completion rate	79.5	82.6
Household using improved sources of drinking water	...	98.5
Household having access to electricity	...	92.23

Source: BBS and UNICEF: MICS

Indicator 1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 populations

Bangladesh is prone to various types of natural disasters because of its unique geographical location with the Himalayas to the north and the Bay of Bengal to the south. Key natural disasters are riverine floods, river erosion, flash floods, tropical cyclones, storms/wave surges, water logging, droughts, and landslides. Earthquake is also a potential threat to the country. Bangladesh is one of the countries that are most vulnerable to climate change impacts as well. The frequency and magnitude of the natural disasters will increase with global warming and climate change impact. The government has, over the years, adopted measures to establish an elaborate disaster management system involving the central and local governments, non-government organisations and community level organisations to mitigate impacts of disaster and disaster related risks. This has resulted in significant reduction in natural disaster related deaths. One BBS (2015) report on impact of climate change on human life shows that a total of 12,881 per 100,000 persons were affected by climate related disasters in 2014.

Indicator 1.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global GDP

Direct economic loss is estimated as the monetary value of total or partial destruction of physical assets existing in the affected areas. These include homes, schools, hospitals, commercial and governmental buildings, transport, energy, telecommunications infrastructures and other infrastructures; business assets and industrial plants; production such as standing crops, agricultural infrastructure and livestock. They may also include environmental and cultural heritage (OECD, 2016). The estimates of Bangladesh disaster related statistics by BBS (2015) show the direct economic loss inflicted by disasters as a proportion of GDP stood at 1.3 per cent in 2014 (taken as baseline).

Indicator 1.5.3 Adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

The Sendai Framework is the first major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda which aims to achieve substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries. The agenda includes seven global targets and four priorities for action. The agreement is non-binding and envisages that the government has the primary responsibility to

reduce disaster risk. But the responsibility has to be shared with other stakeholders including the local government, the private sector and other stakeholders. The Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) has prepared the National Plan for Disaster Management (NPDM, 2016-2020) based on Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR, 2015-2030) and other international protocols ratified by the Government of Bangladesh. The NPDM 2016-2020 has a set of strategic aims reflecting its alignment with SFDRR, strategy guidance to relevant stakeholders, recognition of emerging risks and phased implementation of prioritised actions. A set of objectives allow operationalising the aims through identifying priority actions, providing a roadmap for implementation of at least 20 core investments, incorporating DM aspects in sectoral plans, exploring public-private investments, ensuring inclusivity, addressing emerging risks, promoting risk governance and illustrating how the work of various stakeholders can contribute to the government's DM vision.

Indicator 1a.2 Proportion of total government spending on services (education, health, and social protection)

In order to meet its commitments to deliver essential services such as education, health and social protection, Bangladesh has devoted a significant amount of resources to these sectors. There has been an increasing trend in the absolute level of government spending in these sectors as well. However, the share of these sectors in total government expenditure shows annual fluctuations. In FY2015, government spending on these essential services as a proportion of total government expenditure stood at 4.81 per cent for health, 12.82 per cent for education and 12.72 per cent for social protection. The share of health sector peaked at 6.53 per cent in FY 2017. However, it has again dropped to 4.9 per cent in 2020. The share of education sector peaked at 15.15 per cent in FY2016 followed by a decline in the following year. However, it has again paced with its rate in FY2020. Around 15 per cent of the government expenditure is now used in supporting the education sector. The share of social protection peaked at 15.25 per cent in FY2017. But it has gone down to 14.2 per cent in FY 2019.

Table 1.7: Proportion of government expenditure on services as proportion of total government expenditure (per cent)

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2019-20
Education	12.82	15.15	14.42	15.20
Health	4.81	4.80	6.53	4.90
Social protection	12.72	13.60	15.25	14.20

Source: Ministry of Finance

1.3 Government Efforts to Achieve SDG1

The government efforts to achieve SDG1 take into account a series of interlinkages between challenges and opportunities for Bangladesh. The pro-poor and inclusive growth record of Bangladesh shows significant scope for improvement. Rising inequality inhibits poverty reducing economic growth in the country. Similarly, social protection strategies and financial inclusion are important for accelerating poverty reduction and human development by increasing the resilience of populations vulnerable to poverty, especially to adverse income shocks. Therefore,

enhancing social protection strategies and financial inclusion are two important strategies for reduction in poverty and inequalities. With the vast majority of the workforce engaged in informal employment, enhancing the coverage of social protection would be very critical and is a smart investment in SDG1.

Faster, inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth: Bangladesh has adopted strategies for rapid economic growth and complementary strategies and policies to make the growth path inclusive, responsive and adaptable to the transformation process. Policies have been taken to increase investment rate, growth in exports, expansion of skilled labour, major improvement in infrastructure and adoption of new technology for productivity improvements.

Investments in social safety nets to address LNOB: Along with the growth agenda, the policies focus on inclusiveness. The government has invested heavily on social safety net programmes to create opportunities for marginalised communities and the 8th Five Year Plan (2021-2025) places key focus on two core themes: promoting prosperity and fostering inclusiveness. Bangladesh has successfully prepared the National Financial Inclusion Strategy Bangladesh (NFIS-B) 2020-2024 for ensuring financial inclusion for all by 2024. Besides, the 8th Plan incorporates measures for creating a LNOB strategic fund, increasing public expenditure and removing social and gender exclusion and discrimination for eradicating poverty at its root.

Macroeconomic stability: Bangladesh's macroeconomic policy framework consistently aims to ensure a stable macroeconomic environment which contributes to rapid poverty reduction. Macroeconomic stability is underpinned by high growth, stable single digit inflation, low budget deficit, improved external balance, and other positive macroeconomic fundamentals to provide an enabling environment for sustainable growth and development.

SWAPNO—Government Initiative for Eliminating Poverty

Strengthening Women's Ability for Productive New Opportunities (SWAPNO) is a social transfer project by the government for the ultra-poor women to be engaged in public works essential for the economic and social life for the rural communities. It promotes employment, and most importantly, future employability of extreme poor rural women. Creating productive employment opportunities is adopted as the most efficient way to secure poverty reduction and inclusive growth. SWAPNO promotes and tests innovations, offering a replicable model that informs social protection strategy through a parallel policy programme designed to strengthen governance and the systems of social protection programmes in the country. The SWAPNO aims to create a positive impact on 65,000 rural ultra-poor households by improving human capital, livelihood status and living conditions.

Migration and remittances: Remittances are a key driver of economic growth, economic transformation of less well-off households, poverty reduction through positive impact on rural wages and entrepreneurship development in rural areas of the country. But there are concerns about exploitation, human rights violation, and violence against women of the migrated workers. To ensure safe, orderly and regular migration for all workers including women, Overseas Employment and Migrants Act 2013 and Overseas Employment Policy 2016 have been adopted. The government policies aim to encourage human resources development for exports as well as to ensure smooth migration and welfare services for migrant workers. Annual remittance inflows have peaked to US$18.32 billion in 2019.

Gender equality: Gender parity has been achieved in primary and secondary education but its reflection is yet to be visible in the labour market. The government encourages women to enter the rural labour market in larger numbers. The ratio of female to male labour force participation rate has risen to around 45 in 2017 compared with 41 in 2016. Specific strategies have been adopted to narrow the gender wage gap in agriculture, the predominant sector in the rural economy.

Financial inclusion: Access of the poor to finance is a key enabler for poverty reduction. Bangladesh Bank has introduced several innovative ways to promote financial inclusion of the poor who have been beyond the reach of formal financial services. Such initiatives include introducing mobile financial services, requiring banks to establish 50 per cent of their branches in the rural areas, starting agent banking, opening 10 Taka deposit bank account by the farmers, and school banking for the children. Bangladesh has recently prepared the National Financial Inclusion Strategy (2020-2024) for accelerating the progress of financial inclusion in the country.

Rural transformation: A key characteristic of the on-going rural transformation is diversifying the sources of rural income. The government has adopted policies to ensure higher farm and nonfarm productivity, increases in real wages and the inflow of remittances, strengthen inter-district transport connectivity, and ensure growth of mobile financial and ICT services. The 8th Five Year Plan (2021-2025) will further strengthen these drivers of rural prosperity ad adopt measures to diversify their linkages.

Lowering income inequality: Rising income inequality is a major barrier towards promoting prosperity and inclusiveness. To address income inequality, several measures have been incorporated within the policy framework to ensure better distribution of the benefits of development including redistributive fiscal policy that is underpinned by the system of a life-cycle based income transfers to the poor and vulnerable financed through progressive personal income taxation.

1.4 Challenges for Achieving SDG 1

Poverty, extreme poverty in particular, is one of the most complex and multidimensional problems, for which country-specific approaches to curb poverty and coordination of national and international efforts are vital for a way out of this problem. The extremely poor lag behind and cannot make progress because they are not provided with conducive environments for growth. Extreme poverty is the inability to get opportunities and choices, a violation of basic human rights and dignity, and lack of capacity to participate in society effectively. It is the inability to provide health care, lack of enough food and clothing, lack of a job to earn a living or enough land to grow food, and the inability to access credit. It means powerlessness, insecurity and individual, household and community exclusion. It implies vulnerability and it often means living in fragile or marginal environments, short of clean water and sanitation.

As such, a whole-of-the-government approach is required to address SDG1. The mapping of the ministries for various SDGs targets reveals that 44 ministries/divisions are involved in addressing this goal. Effective coordination of these different ministries/divisions is a challenge for success. The major challenges related to SDGs are as follows:

- Resource mobilisation particularly from external sources is also a big challenge;
- The National Social Security Strategy requires substantial increase in resources and streamlined efforts and better targeting techniques for implementation;
- Middle income trap is another challenge for Bangladesh. Bangladesh has attained the low middle-income country (LMIC) status in 2015 and needs to successfully overcome the middle income trap to move towards higher prosperity and achieve MDG1;
- Financing for SDG1 is also a challenge. An additional $39.4 billion for 14 years needs to be spent in each year from FY2017 to FY2030 for eliminating extreme poverty;
- The professional capacity of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), the national statistical organisation, needs to be significantly enhanced to meet the data requirements for tracking the progress of SDG1 through generating quality data and validating data of other organisations;
- In Bangladesh many households live close to the poverty line and any shock can push these households below the poverty line ruining the gains in poverty reduction;
- Bangladesh faces frequent floods, droughts, cyclones, hailstorms and other natural disasters that make implementation of SDG1 greatly challenging particularly in the coastal areas. In addition, managing the Rohingya refugees is another challenge for attaining the goal.

1.5 Way Forward

Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.

Ensure that all men and women, particularly the poor and the vulnerable, have equitable rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership, and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology, and financial services.

Build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations, and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters.

Ensure significant mobilisation of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation to provide adequate and predictable means to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions.

Create sound policy frameworks based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies to support accelerated investments in poverty eradication actions.

Focus on national skills development policy, empowering women and improving the state of the macro-economy. Adopt a job strategy which is not solely skills-based; identifying the sources of jobs should also be a part of the job strategy. Jobs should increasingly be generated by the manufacturing

sector, such as Special Economic Zones (SEZs), Export Processing Zones (EPZs), Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), micro-enterprises, self-employment (both formal and informal), and the agricultural sector (in terms of innovation and expansion of new types of work in fisheries and primary agriculture). Any policy or strategy should include the active participation of youth and women in the labour market. Inclusiveness, in terms of people with disabilities, regional disparities, ethnic minorities, etc., and geographic disparities should also be taken into account. Databases, worker profiles, and skills anticipation plans are required as well. In terms of job creation, infrastructure investments have the potential to generate quality jobs regarding development work on bridges, roads, airports, etc.

More focus should be on developing human capital. A number of measures and reforms are needed to enhance quality education. It is also important to provide training to the poor for making them employable along with enhancing financial inclusion and strengthening the quality of market-linked skill training.

To fulfil the pledge of leaving no one behind, the most disadvantaged needs to be empowered. . With regard to children from small ethnic communities, dalits and disabilities, quota and facilities in education and jobs should be adopted as necessary.

Climate Change is taking a toll on the millions of people in Bangladesh by affecting their livelihood, agriculture, and infrastructure. In compliance to the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, resources need to be mobilised to undertake more programmes in climate change adaptation and mitigation. While the government will provide the regulatory framework, the private sector will be required to comply with the regulations.

Although the role of development partners (DPs) in the development process has been shrinking over time in Bangladesh, they are still a major player as far as socioeconomic development is concerned. The NGOs can also play a significant role in implementing the SDGs at the grassroots level by operating in the remote areas and helping people to combat the adverse effects of climate change.

The government needs to put more emphasis on improving the investment climate to increase private investments in areas such as land development, energy, trade logistics, contract enforcement and tax issues. Though these are long term issues, continued efforts are needed to address them. Public investment will need a boost to reduce the infrastructure-energy deficits and improve trade logistics through increased mobilisation of resources.

The government's broad-based strategy for social protection (NSSS) needs timely implementation to help eliminate extreme poverty, and reduction of vulnerability and inequality. Direct job creation programme or workfare programmes operated by the government such as Employment Generation Programme for the Poorest (EGPP), Food for Work (FFW) programme and National Service (NS) programme are also important for creating jobs for the poorest.

1.6 Summary

Bangladesh has shown remarkable progress in reducing poverty since 1991-92. National poverty measured as the proportion of population living below the national upper poverty line has consistently declined reaching 31.5 per cent in 2010, 24.4 per cent in 2016 and 20.5 per cent in 2019. In addition, the population below lower poverty line has also deceased to 10.5 per cent. Similarly, progress on expanding coverage of social protection and proportion of government expenditure on key services (health, education and social protection) as share of total government expenditure are also remarkable. With higher expected economic growth (based on recent positive developments), it is possible to achieve the SDG1 milestones if the increase in income inequality does not offset the impact of higher growth on poverty reduction.

The government has adopted policies and programmes to address multidimensional nature of poverty in the country including fostering accelerated, inclusive and resilient growth. Heavy investments in human development, social safety nets and other programmes for addressing the LNOB issues, achieving gender parity, strengthening rural transformation, promoting financial inclusion, and providing stable macroeconomic environment are key dimensions of the government's efforts to achieve SDG1. The constraints on mobilisation of resources especially external resources, implementation of NSSS, enhancing professional capacity of BBS, middle class vulnerability, and preventing slippage into poverty or deeper poverty are some key challenges in this regard. Bangladesh will continue to strive hard to achieve SDG1 emphasising job creation, social protection, human capital development, improving private investment climate, mitigating various shocks and empowering marginalised communities.

2 End Hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

2.1 Global Perspective on SDG 2

The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2019 Report shows that more than 820 million people in the world are hungry, underscoring the immense challenge of achieving the zero hunger target by 2030. Hunger is rising in almost all sub-regions of Africa and, to a lesser extent, in Latin America and Western Asia. Southern Asia has achieved good progress in hunger, but the prevalence of undernourishment in this sub-region is still the highest in Asia.

The World 2019 Report highlights that higher unemployment in India and an economic slowdown in Pakistan are the main factors behind increasing food insecurity in South Asia. The Report notes that after nearly a decade of progress, the number of people suffering from hunger has slowly increased in the past three years. Around 821.6 million people – or nearly 11 per cent of the world population – are undernourished in 2018. Of this, Asia has 513.9 million and Africa has 256.1 million.

Another disturbing fact is that about 2 billion people worldwide experience moderate or severe food insecurity. The lack of regular access to nutritious and sufficient food that these people experience puts them at greater risk of malnutrition and poor health. Although primarily concentrated in low- and middle-income countries, moderate or severe food insecurity also affects 8 per cent of the population in Northern America and Europe. Everywhere, the prevalence rate is slightly higher among women than men. With regard to nutrition indicators, the situation is no better. About 9.2 per cent of the world population (more than 700 million people) is exposed to severe levels of food insecurity in 2018, implying reductions in the quantity of food consumed to the extent that they have possibly experienced hunger.

One in seven live births (20.5 million babies born globally) was characterised by low birth weight in 2015 – many of these low birth weight babies were born to adolescent mothers. The trends of overweight and obesity also give additional reason for concern, as they continue to rise in all regions, particularly among school-age children and adults. Obesity is contributing to 4 million deaths globally and is increasing the risk of morbidity for people in all age groups.

The report notes that hunger is increasing in many countries where economic growth is lagging. Economic shocks also prolong and worsen the severity of acute food insecurity in food crisis contexts. For safeguarding food security and nutrition, the need is to invest wisely to reduce economic vulnerability and build capacity to withstand and quickly recover when economic turmoil erupts. The policies must foster pro-poor and inclusive structural transformation focusing on people and placing communities at the centre to reduce economic vulnerabilities and set on track to ending hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition while leaving no one behind.

Government expenditure on agriculture in comparison with agriculture's contribution to the total economy has declined by 37 per cent; the ratio dropped to 0.26 worldwide in 2017 from 0.42 in 2001. Moreover, aid to agriculture in developing countries fell from nearly 25 per cent of all donors' sector-allocable aid in the mid-1980s to only 5 per cent in 2017, indicating a decrease of $12.6 billion.

SDG 2 aims to end hunger and undernourishment and ensure access to enough safe and nutritious food. This has to be attained by increasing agricultural productivity and incomes of the small-scale

food producers. Sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices are the key factors in achieving this goal. Sustainable agricultural practices that protect biodiversity and genetic resources are essential for future food security. This will require increased investment in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and development and extension services. While increased agricultural production will enhance food availability, improved food security will also require efficient food markets through reducing trade restrictions and elimination of export subsidies and other export measures that have similar effects. Proper functioning of food commodity markets will also require access to market information to avoid excessive price fluctuations.

2.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG2 by Indicators

Indicator 2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment

Undernourishment is one of the crucial factors that instigate poverty. Malnutrition at young age can retard the normal growth of children and thus constrain their capacity to learn. An undernourished person is likely to be caught up by diseases easily. Further, treatment cost imposes a burden on the household budget worsening poverty. Bangladesh has made some progress in dealing with malnutrition. As per FAO (2019), the percentage of undernourished population in Bangladesh has gone down to 14.7 per cent in 2018 from 16.4 per cent in 2016. However, FAO (2019) also reported that obesity in adult population has increased to 3.4 per cent. In addition, the prevalence of anaemia among women has decreased between 2012 (40.3 per cent) and 2016 (39.9 per cent).

Table 2.1: Percentage of Undernourishment

	2016	2018
Prevalence of undernourishment among population	16.4	14.7

Source: FAO, The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, 2019

2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)

This indicator provides internationally-comparable estimates of the proportion of the population facing moderate or severe difficulties in accessing food. The Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) produces a measure of the severity of food insecurity experienced by individuals or households. As per FAO (2019), around 30.5 per cent of the population experience moderate or severe food insecurity in Bangladesh. .

Indicator 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) and Wasting and Underweight (height for age >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age

Stunting indicates insufficient access to nutrition over a long period of time and is vulnerable to chronic illness. Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in reducing the percentage of stunted children under 5 years by almost half from 60 per cent in 1996-97 to 28 per cent in 2019 (MICS, 2019). The proportion of wasted children has also gone down by half with some annual fluctuations. The proportion of wasted children has gone down to 9.8 per cent in 2019 from 14 per cent in 2014.

The proportion of underweight children under five years also declined by almost half between 2007 (41 per cent) and 2019 (22.6 per cent). MICS (2019) also reported that the percentage of overweight children is around 2.4 per cent..

Table 2.2: Trends in Nutritional Status of Under 5 Children (per cent)

Indicators	1996-1997	1999-2000	2004	2007	2011	2014	2017	2019
Stunted	60	45	51	43	41	36	31	28
Wasted	17.7	10	15	17	16	14	8	9.8
Underweight	...	...	...	41	36	33	22	22.6
Overweight	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.4

Source: NIPORT, Bangladesh DHS, 2018 and MICS, 2019

Indicator: 2.5.1 Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium or long-term conservation facilities

The conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in medium or long term conservation facilities represents the most trusted means of conserving genetic resources worldwide. This provides an overall assessment of the extent to which we are managing to maintain and/or increase the total genetic diversity available for future use and thus protect it from any permanent loss of genetic diversity which may impact on-farm and the natural habitat. In Bangladesh, the number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium or long-term conservation facilities has gone up from 10,157 in 2015 to 11081 in 2019 as per Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI)..

Indicator: 2.5.2 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not-at-risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction

The indicator reflects the percentage of local livestock breeds among local breeds with known risk status classified as being at risk of extinction at a certain moment in time, as well as the trends of this percentage. This provides a key to safeguarding precious animal varieties and supports the livelihood of the world's population with sufficient, diverse and nutritious diets long into the future. Maintaining plant and animal genetic diversity allows future generations to select stocks or develop new breeds to cope with emerging issues, such as climate change, diseases and changing socioeconomic factors. In this context, it is important to know the percentage of local breeds at risk, not-at risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction at a point in time as well as its trend. In 2015, the percentage of local breeds at risk was 64. As per Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI), it has gone down to 5 in 2019.

Indicator 2.a.1 Agriculture orientation index (AOI) for government expenditures

The agricultural productivity needs to be enhanced to achieve SDG target 2. Public investment in agriculture along with private investment is significantly important in increasing productive capacity. The government seeks to promote the use of agricultural technology with supportive policies, reforms and incentives for raising productivity. Agriculture orientation index (AOI) for government expenditure shows the type of government commitment to agriculture relative to other sectors.

The AOI is the ratio of the share of government expenditures on agriculture to the contribution of agriculture to the economy where agriculture comprises crops, forestry, fishing and hunting sectors. It is calculated as:

AOI = ((Central government expenditures on agriculture/Total government expenditure)/(Agricultural value added/ GDP)

An AOI exceeding one indicates that the government gives more importance to agriculture relative to its contribution to the economy. A value of less than one indicates other sectors receive more importance by the government.

Agriculture Orientation Index for government expenditures in Bangladesh was 0.20 in 2001. It has increased to double in 2016. However, it is the lowest since 2011. This implies that agriculture receives less priority in government investment compared to its contribution to economy's GDP. It also means non-agricultural sectors receive higher priority in budgetary allocations. AOI has wide a range of values with lower values in developing countries where agriculture comprises a relatively larger share of the economy and higher values in developed countries where it has a lower share in GDP. Further, AOI does not bear any systematic relationship with malnutrition rate – countries with same malnutrition rate have very different AOI values. Thus, there is no unique AOI for a country. But a very low AOI involves risks for environmental sustainability and food security, as well as for agricultural research and public infrastructure.

Table 2.3: Trends in Agriculture Orientation Index of Bangladesh, 2001-2016

	2001	2005	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
AOI	0.20	0.28	0.52	0.58	0.78	0.56	0.53	0.41

Source: UNSTATS: SDG Indicators https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/?indicator=2.a.1

Indicator 2.A.2 Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector

Developed countries provide aid to developing countries to close the gap between required investment and available domestic resources for public investment in agriculture. The total official flow to Bangladesh's agriculture sector show an upward trend with annual fluctuations; the flow peaked at US$ 363 million in 2014 but declined to US$ 192.58 million in 2017, which was followed by an increase in 2018 (US$194.42 million) and again a decrease to US$ 131.09 million in 2019.

Table 2.4: Total Official Flows to Agriculture Sector (million US$)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total official flows (loan & grant)	34.99	65.01	363.02	210.57	177.83	192.58	194.42	131.09

Source: Author's calculation using AIMS web portal, Economic Relations Division (ERD).

2.3 Government Efforts to Achieve SDG2

The government has adopted the national social security strategy (NSSS) in 2015 which has been made consistent with SDG2 as well as the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (BDP 2100) in 2018. These efforts will allow agricultural and overall planning to be adaptive and dynamic to climate change, socioeconomic development, population growth and regional cooperation.

To provide regular nutritional services, Bangladesh has undertaken an operational plan titled national nutritional services (NNS) as a part of the country's nutrition programmes. Further, the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) provides extension services for different crops fortified with nutrition elements.

The government has also scaled up post-partum vitamin A distribution along with vitamin A capsules distribution programme for children. Monitoring of salt iodisation has been strengthened. Iron-folic acid supplementation among pregnant, lactating women and adolescent girls are distributed through health and family planning facilities. The government has increased the maternity leave for working mothers from three months to six months. It also plans to distribute albendazole tablets, along with a separate deworming programme as well as distribute zinc tablets to children with diarrhoea. Bangladesh has also started introducing fortified rice distribution, cash grant for vulnerable women and nutrition behaviour change communication (BCC) in the vulnerable group development (VGD) programme.

The nutritional status of children and adults alike is also influenced massively by the quality of water, sanitation, and hygiene—a group of factors that are collectively termed as WASH. Among the three WASH components, Bangladesh has made the most progress in sanitation, followed by access to safe drinking water (albeit spoiled, to a certain extent, by arsenic contamination), but remains below the desired level in terms of personal hygiene. The MICS 2019 shows that around 75 per cent of the households use soap for hand wash. The percentage is lower in rural areas (around 71 per cent). This shows the wide scope that still exists to increase hygiene awareness in the rural areas.

2.4 Key Challenges

Operationalising the National Food Policy Plan of Action (2008-2015) and implementing the Delta Plan 2100 are big challenges for Bangladesh. The impact of climate change in the food grains sector is likely to obstruct sustainable agricultural growth in future. Global warming and climate change will trigger major adverse changes in crop production, such as increased incidence of pests, protozoa, bacteria and multicellular parasites. As added complications, a total of 64 local fish breeds are already identified at risk for extinction in Bangladesh. The official aid flows to the agriculture sector is highly volatile at present. In addition, Bangladesh is losing agriculture land at a rate of 0.5 per cent per year due to various factors including urban encroachment of agriculture land, road infrastructure, water logging, depletion of ground water and soil fertility, erosion, and salinity. In the last three decades, about 170,000 ha of agriculture land has been degraded by increased salinity (MoA and FAO, 2011). Moreover, the budget allocation in the field of agricultural research and development (R&D) is highly limited in Bangladesh. Low investment in agricultural research results in brain drain of qualified agricultural scientists and under-functioning of agricultural research organisations in the country. Inadequate production and supply of quality agricultural inputs such as, seed, irrigation,

fertiliser, and pesticides is another major problem due to limited fund allocations. The fund crisis in agriculture needs to be resolved urgently considering the future prospects of the sector.

The incidence of hunger is distributed unevenly in the country. For example, there has been only little change in the incidence of poverty in the northern Rangpur division during 2010-2016 where close to 70 per cent of the population live in poverty and about half of the population live in extreme poverty. More than one-third of children still suffer from stunting and, during food shortages, women still suffer the most within households.

No target has yet been set for reducing women undernourishment in Bangladesh. Obesity is emerging as another problem among children along with stunting and wasting. Some problems are endemic to leading an urban life which are; lack of food safety (e.g. adulteration); increasing obesity (especially among women); and increasing difficulty of combining the pursuit of work outside home and caregiving which is essential for nutritional well-being of children.

2.5 Way Forward

For moving towards attaining SDG2, Bangladesh's development path has to be guided by agricultural development-led industrialisation strategy which will generate higher rates of economic growth, better income distribution, more rapid industrialisation and a stronger external sector. Under such a strategy, the strong domestic linkages of agriculture with manufacturing, through both the demand and the supply sides, will create high domestic demand multipliers for agriculture creating high rates of return.

For transforming SDG2 into reality in Bangladesh, two issues are important. First, it is critical to make modern technologies available. While modern agricultural technologies would come from private as well as public sectors, the government's central role is important through investing in R&D. This is due to the difficulty for the private enterprises to fully capture the externalities of developing such technologies. The national agricultural research system must work at the local levels to find new technologies suitable for local conditions, and the government needs to have effective extension systems to disseminate these technologies. It is also important to note that the achievement of SDG2 requires that the agri-food sector, people's livelihoods and management of natural resources are addressed in an integrated manner where the focus is not solely on the end goal but also on the process of achieving these to promote sustainability of the food and agriculture system. For the purpose, Bangladesh needs to adopt an approach that can support and accelerate the desired transition that balance the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainability. To achieve the above, special focus should be given to the following areas: facilitate access to productive resources, finance and services; encourage diversification of production and income; connect small farmers to well-functioning markets; build knowledge and develop capacities in agri-food sector; enhance soil health and fertility; adopt sustainable water management; and strengthen the enabling environment and reform the institutional framework.

2.6 Summary

The prevalence of undernourishment has gone down to around 14.7 per cent in 2017 from 16.4 per cent in 2016. This shows that Bangladesh is close to achieving the milepost for 2020 of reducing it to 14 per cent of this SDG2 target. Similarly, remarkable advancement in the reduction of wasting is observed from 14 per cent in 2014 to 9.8 per cent in 2019. The agriculture orientation index (AOI) has however, gone down to 0.4 from 0.5 indicating that agriculture is receiving lesser priority in government investment compared with its contribution to the economy's GDP. Total official flow to the agriculture sector is low mainly because of changing development partners' preferences in aid allocation over time. It will require alignment of aid policy in view of SDGs emphasis on international support to agriculture. The nutritional status of women as measured by the prevalence of anaemia has decreased between 2012 (40.3 per cent) to 2017 (39.9 per cent). Obesity is emerging as a problem for adult population as it has increased to 3.4 per cent in 2017 from 2.6 per cent in 2012.

The government has adopted the national social security strategy in 2015 which is in line with SDG2. The measures have also introduced nutrition fortified rice, and undertaken the distribution of iron-folic supplementation among pregnant and lactating women and adolescent girls, Vitamin A distribution for children, deworming, salt iodisation, maternity leave for mothers to assist breast-feeding, and implementation of WASH programme emphasising quality water, sanitation and hygiene are several steps towards achieving SDG2.

Operationalising the National Food Policy Plan of Action (2008-2015) in line with the Delta Plan 2100 are big challenges for Bangladesh. The impact of climate change in the food grains sector may obstruct the sustainability of agricultural growth in the country. Global warming and climate change will trigger major adverse changes in crop production, such as increased incidence of pests, protozoa, bacteria and multicellular parasites. As added complications, 64 local breeds of fish are at risk of extinction in Bangladesh. The situation of official aid flows to the agriculture sector shows high volatility in recent years. On its part, the government has articulated well-conceived policies and measures to address these challenges and move towards achieving SDG2.

3 Healthy Lives and Well-being

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

3.1 Global Perspective on SDG3

Major progress has been made in improving the health of millions of people, increasing life expectancy, reducing maternal and child mortality and fighting against leading communicable diseases. However, at least half the global population does not have access to essential health services and many suffer from undue financial hardship pushing them into extreme poverty. Concerted efforts are required to achieve universal health coverage and sustainable financing for health, to address the growing burden of non-communicable diseases, including mental health, and to tackle antimicrobial resistance and determinants of health such as air pollution and inadequate water and sanitation.

In 2018, 81 per cent of births took place with the assistance of a skilled birth attendant globally, but the coverage was only 59 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa. The under-5 mortality rate fell to 39 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2017. Still, most of these deaths were from preventable causes and almost half, or 2.5 million, occurred in the first month of life – the most crucial period for child survival. The global neonatal mortality rate has continued to decline after a long downward trend from 31 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2000 to 18 in 2017. Globally, the proportion of women of reproductive age (15 to 49 years old) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern contraceptive methods has risen to 76 per cent in 2019. Adolescent fertility declined from 56 births per 1,000 adolescent women in 2000 to 44 births in 2019. Available data indicate that close to 40 per cent of all countries have fewer than 10 medical doctors per 10,000 people, and more than 55 per cent have fewer than 40 nursing and midwifery personnel per 10,000 people. All LDCs had fewer than 10 medical doctors and fewer than 5 dentists and 5 pharmacists per 10,000 people, and 98 per cent had fewer than 40 nursing and midwifery personnel per 10,000 people.

Official development assistance (ODA) for basic health from all development partners increased by 61 per cent in real terms since 2010 and reached $10.7 billion in 2017. In 2017, some $2.0 billion was spent on malaria control, $1.0 billion on tuberculosis control and $2.3 billion on other infectious diseases, excluding HIV/AIDS. At present, the threat of COVID-19 is an emerging issue and the fight against COVID-19 cannot be carried out by the government alone. It will require an unprecedented level of coordination between the public and private at the local and international level. Bangladesh needs to tap the World Economic Forum's COVID Action Platform to galvanise support for the private sector and share its experience in fighting COVID-19 for increasing economic resilience.

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being at all ages is essential to attaining all SDGs. Many more efforts are needed to fully eradicate a wide range of diseases and address many different persistent and emerging health issues. By focusing on providing more efficient funding of health systems, improved sanitation and hygiene, increased access to physicians and more tips on ways to reduce ambient pollution, significant progress can be made in helping to save the lives of millions and achieve SDG3.

In South Asia, poor health constitutes suffering and deprivation of the most fundamental kind. Over the years, significant strides have been made in increasing life expectancy and reducing some of the common killers associated with child and maternal mortality. Despite global progress, an increasing proportion of child deaths occur in South Asian countries. Globally, the incidence of major infectious diseases has declined since 2000, including HIV/AIDS, malaria, and TB, but the challenge of these

and new pandemics remain in many regions including South Asia. Immense progress has been made globally in finding newer treatments, vaccines, and technologies for healthcare, but universal affordable access to healthcare remains a challenge in South Asia.

3.2 Progress on SDG3 by Indicators

Indicator 3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)

The maternal mortality ratio (MMR) measures the number of women who die from any cause related to pregnancy or child birth per 100,000 live births. It is a crucial mortality indicator of mothers who are vulnerable to risk of death during child birth. Bangladesh has achieved significant success in reducing MMR. It has dropped to 165 per 100,000 live births in 2019 from 447 in 1995. However, in rural areas, the ratio is considerably higher than in urban areas by 68 deaths per 100,000 live births although the gap has narrowed down when compared with previous years.

Table 3.1: Maternal Mortality Ratio, 1995-2019

	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
National	447	318	348	216	181	178	172	169	165
Rural	452	329	358	230	191	190	182	193	192
Urban	380	261	275	178	162	160	157	132	123

Source: Bangladesh Sample Vital Statistics (2018)

Indicator 3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel

The proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel is an important indicator of SDG3. It is a key factor to reduce maternal mortality and infant mortality rates. The number of births attended by skilled health personnel has remarkably improved from 9.5 per cent in 1994 to 75.2 per cent in 2019. However, the urban-rural disparity in terms of access to skilled health personnel is still a challenge for Bangladesh. As per MICS 2019, around 86 per cent of the population in the urban areas have access to skilled health personnel compared with around 72 per cent in the rural areas.

Table 3.2: Births Attended by Skilled Health Personnel, 1994-2019 (per cent)

1994	2004	2007	2009	2010	2011	2013	2014	2016	2019
9.5	15.6	20.9	24.4	26.5	31.7	34.4	42.1	50.0	59%

Source: MICS (2019)

Indicator 3.2.1 and Indicator 3.2.2: Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) and Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)

A continuous decline has been observed in U5MR during 1995-2019 from 125 to 28 (that is, by more than four times), making Bangladesh successful towards achieving the 2020 target for U5MR (which is 34). Similarly, regarding the neonatal mortality rate, there has been a persistent decline. Recent statistics from MICS (2019) shows that the neonatal mortality rate has declined from 28 in 2014 to 15 in 2019 which still remains a challenge in achieving the 2020 target. However, the infant mortality rate has shown a decreasing trend over the last five years.

Table 3.3: Child Mortality Rates (per 1,000 live births)

	1995	2000	2005	2007	2011	2014	2019
Neonatal mortality rate	...	...	...	37	32	28	15
Infant mortality rate	...	...	...	52	43	38	21
Under-5 mortality rate	125	84	68	65	53	46	28

Source: SVRS and DHS, various years, MICS (2019)

Indicator 3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations

Bangladesh is already a low HIV/AIDS prevalence and incidence country. As per the UNAIDS, the incidence of HIV is 0.015 per 1,000 uninfected population at the national level in 2018. The low prevalence rate is due to the preventive efforts targeting the high risk population such as injecting drug users, female sex workers in towns bordering neighbouring countries, unprotected sex partners and returnee migrant workers from abroad.

Indicator 3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population

Bangladesh is consistently fighting a successful battle against tuberculosis. According to DGHS, the incidence of tuberculosis has decreased from 287 per 100,000 population in 2016 to 161 in 2018. According to WHO, Bangladesh is one of the world's 30 high TB burdened countries The spread of TB among temporary migrant workers living in overcrowded and poorly ventilated shacks, lack of awareness about TB infection as well as freely available treatment (DOTS) and lack of access to good quality diagnostic services underlay the high TB prevalence rate.

Table 3.4 Tuberculosis Incidence per 100,000 Population

2016	2017	2018
287	148.56	161

Source: DGHS.

Indicator 3.3.3 Malaria incidence per 1,000 population

Bangladesh has been one of the major malaria endemic countries in South Asia. As per Bangladesh Health SDG Profile (2019) by WHO, the incidence of malaria has dropped down to 1.6 per 1,000 population in 2019 from 4.3 in 2015. Government interventions for malaria eradication independently as well as in collaboration with the NGOs have resulted in decline in incidence nationally, although most endemic areas (northeast and southeast districts) are yet to experience much declines.

Indicators 3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population

Bangladesh, along with other South Asian countries, is recognised as a country with moderate prevalence of hepatitis B. As per Bangladesh SDG tracker, the incidence of hepatitis B was 280 per 100,000 population in 2012. As per Bangladesh Health SDG Profile (2019) by WHO, the incidence of Hepatitis B has decreased to 138 per 100,000 population.

Indicators 3.3.5 Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases (NTD)

The average annual number of people requiring treatment and care for NTDs is the number that is expected to decrease towards the end of NTDs by 2030, as NTDs are eradicated, eliminated or controlled. The number of people requiring other interventions against NTDs (e.g. vector management, veterinary public health, water, sanitation and hygiene) are expected to be maintained beyond 2030 and are therefore to be addressed in the context of other targets and indicators, namely universal health coverage (UHC) and universal access to water and sanitation. As per the latest update from Bangladesh Health SDG Profile (2019) by WHO, there are around 56.34 million people requiring interventions against NTD in 2019.

Indicator 3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to (between 30 and 70 years of age) cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) have been rising rather sharply in Bangladesh as in other developing countries because of ageing and other factors such as food habits, environmental degradation and physical inactivity. Cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases are the main causes of NCD burden in the country. The probability of dying between 30 and 70 years of age from NCDs is defined as the per cent of 30 year old people who would die before their 70th birthday from NCDs. Bangladesh Health SDG Profile (2019) by WHO shows that the mortality rate due to NCDs has been constant. It is 21.6 per cent in 2019 which was around 21 per cent in 2015.

Indicator 3.4.2 Suicide mortality rate (per 100,000 population)

Suicide is one of the most common causes of unnatural death in Bangladesh with higher proportion of women having a tendency to commit suicide. While mental disorders in the form of depression and anxiety are common causes of suicide in many societies, there are other proximate causes of women's suicide in Bangladesh, such as physical and domestic violence. The suicide mortality rate (per 100,000 population) shows a consistent figure hovering around 7 per 100,000 population. However, in 2017, it declined to around 4 per 100,000 population but rose again to 7.56 in 2019 as per BP, MoHA (2019).

Table 3.5: Suicide Mortality Rate (per 100,000 population)

2015	2016	2017	2019
7.68	7.84	3.79	7.56

Source: Bangladesh SDG tracker, BP, MoHA (2019)

Indicators 3.5.1: Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders

The treatment service for substance use disorders indicates the status of treatment services and support to the people using drugs, and to their families and friends. According to Bangladesh SDG tracker, around 54 per cent of the substance use disorders received treatment services in 2019.

Indicators 3.5.2: Harmful use of alcohol, defined according to the national context as alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol

Bangladesh has always been a country with very low use of alcohol due to its cultural and religious practices. Hence, the harmful use of alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) is observed to be unchanged at around 0.08 litres over the last four years.

Table 3.6: Alcohol Consumption Per Capita in Litre of Pure Alcohol per Year

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Alcohol per capita consumption	0.083	0.085	0.084	0.083

Source: Bangladesh SDG tracker http://www.sdg.gov.bd/page/indicator-wise/1/40/3/0#1

Indicator 3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries (per 100,000 population)

Road traffic injury (RTIs) is one of the fastest growing causes of death all over the world, especially in developing countries. Rapid motorisation and lack of road safety awareness result in increasing RTIs causing death, illness and disability. Death rate due to road traffic injuries is defined as the number of road traffic fatal injury deaths per 100.000 population. It is declining at a rather slow rate in Bangladesh. In 2015, around 2.48 persons per 100,000 population died due to road traffic injuries. In 2018, the figure dropped to 1.64. However, WHO provides a higher rate of death due to traffic injuries which increased to 15.56 in 2017 from 13.6 in 2013.

Table 3.7: Death due to Road Traffic Injuries (per 100,000 population)

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Death due to road traffic injuries	2.48	2.65	1.37	1.64

Source: Bangladesh SDG tracker: http://www.sdg.gov.bd/page/indicator-wise/1/48/3/0#1

Indicator 3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods

Family planning with modern methods enable women and their partners to have a stable family life. This also contributes to improve maternal and child health by preventing unwanted pregnancies and enabling planned and spaced pregnancies. If modern methods satisfy 75 per cent or more of the demand, it is termed as high while 50 per cent or less is termed as low. As per MICS (2019), around 77.4 per cent of women of reproductive age (15-49 years) who met their need for family planning and used any modern method report that they are satisfied with the method.

Indicator 3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group

The adolescent birth rate is defined as the number of live births born to women aged 15-19 years during a given year divided by the population of women in the same age group. Adolescent birth rate per 1,000 women in 15-19 age group has significantly declined in Bangladesh from 144 in 1999 to 83 in 2019. With the expansion of higher education for women, increased labour force participation

and delayed marriage, this will continue to fall in future. However, the disparity between urban and rural areas in adolescent birth rate is high. The adolescent birth rate is around 87 in rural areas whereas the figure is about 70 in urban areas.

Table 3.8: Adolescent (aged 15-19 years) Birth Rate per 1000 Women in the Age Group

1999	2004	2007	2011	2014	2019
144	135	126	118	113	83

Source: BBS: MICS (2019)

Indicators 3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population)

The indicator is an index ranging between the scales of 0 to 100, which is computed as the geometric mean of 14 tracer indicators of health service coverage. The tracer indicators are organised by four components of service coverage: (i) reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health; (ii) infectious diseases; (iii) non-communicable diseases; and (iv) service capacity and access. According to the Bangladesh Health SDG Profile (2019) by WHO, it is currently 54, which is yet a challenge to meet the SDGs 2020 milestone of 65.

Indicators 3.8.2 Proportion of population with large household expenditures (>10% of the total household expenditure or income) on health as a share of total household expenditure or income

High health expenditures are likely to expose households to financial hardship in particular when they exceed a pre-defined threshold of a household's ability to pay. When this happens they are characterised as being catastrophic. In Bangladesh, the number is rising at a high rate. According to the Health SDG Profile Bangladesh WHO (2019), around 24.67 per cent of the population (with 26.05 per cent rural population and 21 per cent urban population) spend more than 10 per cent of their total income on health services in 2016 compared with around 15 per cent in 2000.

Table 3.9: Proportion of Population with Large Household Expenditures on Health (per cent)

2000	2005	2010	2019
14.85	12.34	13.86	24.67

Source: Health SDG Profile Bangladesh, WHO (2019)

Indicator 3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)

The mortality as a consequence of exposure to ambient (outdoor) and indoor (household) air pollution from polluting fuels used for cooking is rising in Bangladesh. Mortality rates stood at 68.6 in 2012 (WHO, 2012). As per UNSTAT: SDG Indicators, in 2016, around 74 per 100,000 population died as a result of air pollution in Bangladesh.

Indicator 3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)

Inadequate water, sanitation, and hygiene lead to death which can be prevented by improving these services and practices. Bangladesh has made considerable progress in coverage of water and sanitation services. However, hygiene services require more attention in future. The mortality rate attributed to exposure to unsafe WASH services per 100,000 population is estimated at 5.96 in 2012. As per UNSTAT: SDG Indicators, in 2016, 11.9 per 100,000 population died due to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene.

Indicator 3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning (per 100,000 population) air pollution

Deaths from unintentional poisonings give an indication of the lack of proper management of hazardous chemicals and pollution in a country and lack of an effective health system. These deaths can be prevented with adequate management. According to Health SDG Profile Bangladesh WHO (2019), the mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning in 2019 is 0.3 per 100,000 population in Bangladesh.

Indicator 3.a.1 Age-standardised prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older

Tobacco use is a major cause of illness and death from non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Bangladesh is one of the top 10 countries in the world with high prevalence of current tobacco use. Bangladesh was the first developing country to sign the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) in 2003. The age-standardised prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older is 58 for male and 29 for female in 2015 (WHO, 2017). The Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) shows that age-standardised prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older has declined from 43.3 per cent in 2009 to 35.3 per cent in 2017. Bangladesh has been using different measures including tobacco tax and awareness creation to reduce tobacco use in the country and wants to be a tobacco free country by 2040. There is only one data point for this indicator. More data points are needed to set target and assess progress against target.

Indicator 3.b.1 Proportion of the target population covered by all vaccines included in the national programme

Bangladesh has developed an effective national immunisation programme starting in 1979 with the implementation of the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) of the World Health Organisation (WHO). The programme consists of vaccination against six childhood diseases: polio, measles, pertussis, tetanus, diphtheria and tuberculosis. The proportion of the population with access to affordable medicines and vaccines on a sustainable basis stood at 78 per cent in 2014 (BDHS, 2014). According to 2018 BDHS, from both vaccination cards and mother's reports, 89 per cent of children age 12–23 months was fully vaccinated. The coverage in Bangladesh for BCG, three doses of pentavalent vaccine, and three doses of polio vaccine is 95 per cent or higher.

Indicator 3.c.1 Health worker density (per 10,000 population) and distribution (physician: nurse: health technologist)

Resources for health (HRH) constitute a key component of the health system. The success of the health system to deliver quality health services depends largely on the quality of health workers including physicians, nursing and midwifery personnel, dentistry personnel, and pharmaceutical personnel. Bangladesh suffers from a shortage and mal-distribution of health workers. Health worker density per 10,000 population stood at 7.4 in 2016. Physician, nurse and health technologist are distributed in the proportion 1: 0.5: 0.2 indicating imbalances in the composition of the workforce. Now, the density has increased to 8.3 per 10,000 population and the distribution is 1:0.56:0.40 (HRD Unit, HRH Country Profile, 2017, MOHFW) which is on track to reach the target of 2020.

Indicator 3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness

The International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005 define core capacity requirements for each of the 194 countries that are party to the IHR to ensure that all countries have the ability to detect, assess, notify and report events, and respond to public health risks and emergencies of national and international concern. The 13 core capacities are: (i) national legislation, policy, and financing; (ii) coordination and national focal point communications; (iii) surveillance; (iv) response; (v) preparedness; (vi) risk communications; (vii) human resources; (viii) laboratory; (ix) points of entry; (x) zoonotic events; (xi) food safety; (xii) chemical events; and (xiii) radionuclear emergencies. According to Bangladesh SDGs Tracker, the index has dropped to 58 in 2019 from 87 in 2016; and it is much below the 2020 milestone of 90.

3.3 Government's Efforts to Achieve SDG3

The 2030 agenda of SDGs was reflected in the 7th Five Year Plan (2016-2020) as well as the 4th Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme (HPNSP, 2016-2020). Although the government is the largest health care service provider in the country, the share of the private sector is also substantial. As efficient health service delivery depends on effective intra and inter departmental co-ordination involving public and private sectors, the role of all relevant stakeholders for their involvement and relations with other stakeholders for implementation and monitoring SDGs needs to be well-defined.

The 4th HPNSP is the first of the three successive programmes that would be implemented by 2030 to achieve health, population and nutrition sector targets of Bangladesh and SDG3. Bangladesh has also developed a health care waste management plan (HCWMP) and the national strategic plan for TB control (2018-2022) is also under implementation. The government has incorporated cost-free TB control services with general health services and plans to make these services available throughout the country. Bangladesh also wants to be a tobacco free country by 2040. The 8th national road safety strategic action plan (2017-2020) has been adopted which addresses the road safety issues raised in the 2030 agenda.

The 4th HPNSP has been designed to incorporate appropriate strategies and activities for focused improvements in increasing access to, and quality of health care and improving equity along with financial protection in order to meaningfully realise the objectives of UHC by 2030. The SDGs provide new background to looking at health, nutrition and population in a more holistic and multi-sectoral way which is reflected in the 4th HPNSP in Bangladesh.

The 4th HPNSP has three major components: (i) governance and stewardship of the sector; (ii) stronger health systems; and (iii) quality health services. The first component gives priority to addressing issues in the areas of stewardship and governance, regulation of drug administration and quality drug management, legal and regulatory framework, and strengthening roles of the autonomous organisations and effective use of the NGOs and public private partnership. The second component relates to strengthening health system with focus on planning and budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, health sector financing, management information system, research and development, strengthening of human resources for health, pre-service education and in-service training, nursing and midwifery services and training, establishing quality assurance system, procurement and supply chain management, maintenance of physical facilities, inter-sectoral coordination, and financial management for strengthening the health systems. The third component aims at improving priority health services in order to accelerate the achievement of the health related SDGs by capitalising on and scaling up the interventions undertaken under the previous health sector programmes as well as introducing new interventions. This component supports the priority interventions such as reproductive, maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health; immunisation, population and family planning services; nutrition and food safety; communicable and non-communicable diseases; alternative medical care; and behaviour change communication related programmes.

The MOHFW has also developed an updated essential service package (ESP) for the provision of quality health, nutrition and FP services from the community to the district level. In order to implement the updated ESP cost-effectively, a harmonised service delivery system is being put in place during the implementation of the 4th HPNSP.

To ensure effective linkages of SDGs with the communities, the government has undertaken the Upazila Governance Project to orient the key local government functionaries aware about all SDGs and targets including SDG3 and roles and responsibilities of local government institutions (LGIs) in implementing and localising the goals by preparing action plans at the local level.

3.4 Key Challenges

Bangladesh currently lags behind in several SDG3 indicators which may hinder the achievement of 2020 milestones of SDG3. There exist wide disparities between rural and urban areas and the poor and nonpoor population groups as well as among different disadvantaged groups and geographic locations in accessing the health services; and across various educational levels and wealth quintiles. The challenges facing the sector mainly relate to: improving maternal health through medically-trained provider care during child birth; ensuring urban primary health care service delivery

especially for the poor; reducing out of pocket expenditure; improving the doctor-patient ratio (particularly in the rural and hard to reach areas); increasing burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs); rising incidence of injuries including burn and acid injuries, drowning and other accidents including road traffic injuries; ageing and geriatric diseases; spread of infectious diseases; a high incidence of child marriage, health effects of geo-climatic disasters and increasing suicide mortality rate.

There are also some structural challenges that need adequate attention. Ensuring coordination between the two related ministries--MOHFW and MOLGRDC--for developing an effective urban health services delivery mechanism with functional referral between the primary health care providers (LGIs) and secondary/tertiary health care facilities (MOHFW) is a challenge that needs to be effectively resolved.

Bangladesh is committed to achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030; to this end, the government is exploring all policy options to increase the fiscal space for health and expand coverage while improving service quality and availability. The focus is on customised and context-specific policy adjustments for progress towards UHC.

Although in national policies and strategic documents emphasis is given on strengthening of the multi-sectoral approach in implementation of the SDG3, yet necessary actions do not always follow in required quantity and quality for execution of these strategies. In this regard, the lack of leadership is also a major challenge in implementation of the strategies

3.5 Way Forward

Bangladesh has made reasonably good progress is policy planning for implementation of SDG3. The mapping of stakeholders in the public sector has been completed including identification of data gaps. However, relatively less progress has been made in the multi-sectoral engagement for implementation of SDG3, although more initiatives are underway by both the public and private sectors. For SGD3, under the leadership of the MOHFW and applying the health MIS, the country remains on track for monitoring SDG3 by pooling data from various sources. Although Bangladesh has a pool of research institutions and local capacities to contribute in formulation of national health and related policies and programmes, capacity building is needed in health policy institutions in policy synthesis for evidence-based policy making.

For reaching SDG3, specific and targeted efforts are needed to address the limited scope in accessing quality health services in the lagging regions and for the marginalised communities. The policies should focus on improving child and maternal health, reducing disparity regarding health care services, reducing out of pocket expenses, particularly in the rural and hard to reach areas. Focus should also be placed on sectors, geographic locations and groups that are more isolated and disadvantaged through increasing availability and quality of social services and programmes for the poorest and most excluded groups. To improve family planning and welfare services in hard to reach and low performing areas, adequate capacity needs to be developed and trained staff needs to be deployed to accelerate the catching up process

3.6 Summary

Bangladesh has achieved significant success in many of the SDG3 targets. Maternal mortality ratio has persistently dropped and the number of births attended by skilled health personnel has remarkably improved. Furthermore, a continuous decrease has been observed in U5MR during 1995-2019 from 125 to 40 (by more than half). The nation is in line in achieving the 2020 milestone for U5MR.

The incidence of HIV is 0.015 per 1,000 uninfected population at the national level in 2019. Bangladesh is consistently fighting a successful battle against tuberculosis. As per Global Tuberculosis Report 2019 by WHO, this has increased in 2019 to around 221 per 100,000 population. The incidence of malaria has dropped down to 1.6 per 1,000 population in 2019 from 4.3 in 2015. Adolescent birth rate per 1,000 women in 15-19 age group has significantly declined from 144 in 1999 to 83 in 2019. With the expansion of higher education for women, increased labour force participation and delayed marriage, this will continue to fall in future.

The government is implementing the 4th Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme (HPNSP, 2018-2022). The 4th HPNSP is the first of the three successive programmes that would be implemented by 2030 to achieve health, population and nutrition sector targets of Bangladesh and SDG3.Currently, Bangladesh lags behind in several indicators of SDG3 which may hinder the achievement of a few 2020 milestones for SDG3. There remain severe disparities between rural and urban areas in accessing the health services across different educational levels and wealth quintiles. Hence, the health policies need to focus on improving child and maternal health, reducing disparities in health care services, reducing out of pocket expenses, particularly in the rural and hard to reach areas.

4 Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

4.1 Global Perspective on SDG4

Even though considerable progress has been made on education access and participation, 262 million children and youth aged 6 to 17 are still out of school in 2017; and more than half of children and adolescents are not meeting minimum proficiency standards in reading and mathematics. Rapid technological changes present opportunities and challenges, but the learning environment, the capacities of teachers and the quality of education have not kept pace. Refocused efforts are needed to improve learning outcomes for the full life cycle, especially for women, girls and marginalised people in vulnerable settings.

In 72 countries with recent data, approximately 7 in 10 children aged 3 and 4 were developmentally on track in at least three of the following domains: literacy-numeracy, physical development, social-emotional development and learning. In 2017, two out of every three children globally participated in organised learning one year before the official primary entry age. Such learning is linked to fostering children's readiness for school and their future learning experience.

Some 750 million adults – two-thirds of them women – remain illiterate in 2016. Half of the global illiterate population lives in South Asia, and a quarter live in sub-Saharan Africa. Many countries still lack basic infrastructure and facilities to provide effective learning environments. Sub-Saharan Africa faces the biggest challenges: at the primary and lower secondary levels, less than half of schools have access to electricity, the Internet, computers and basic drinking water. Globally, there has been little progress in the percentage of primary school teachers who are trained: it has stagnated at about 85 per cent since 2015. The proportion is lowest in sub-Saharan Africa (64 per cent).

An estimated 11.3 million children of primary school age (5.8 million girls and 5.5 million boys), and 20.6 million children of lower-secondary school age (8.9 million girls and 11.6 million boys) in South Asia do not go to school. Only 69 per cent of children have access to early childhood education in the region. And significantly, more girls than boys will never go to school in South Asia. This is leading to the highest incidents of child marriage and child labour in the world. Only about half of primary-aged children receive an education with minimum learning standards. Clearly, there is also a learning crisis in South Asia. Many classrooms are still characterised by teacher-centred rote learning. Many pupils are also victims of corporal punishment and discrimination. For the young people, only a quarter of them leave school with the secondary skills they need. This growing gap in skills will retard economic growth, with far-reaching social and political repercussions.

There is growing international recognition of education for sustainable development (ESD) as an integral element of quality education and a key enabler for SDGs. The global action programme (GAP) on ESD has identified five priority areas to advance to ESD agenda: policy support, whole-institution approaches, educators, youth, and local communities. While education needs globally are immense, non-government actors can also leverage their resources and core competencies to support the governments in delivering on their promise of education for all. Strong leadership can help unlock the necessary investments to ensure quality learning opportunities for all children and adults.

Education can help address the mismatch between skills of the available workforce and job vacancies, which is a key problem in many markets. Long-term strategic investments in education

are needed that will lead to a larger, more talented pool of future employees. Investing in education can be a source of innovation and facilitate access to new markets. Education is often a local issue, which will require to work within local education systems and in communities to determine the best utilisation of resources. Best practices are needed to engage responsibly in education, including promoting sustainable development topics in higher education, and support the public sector's ability to provide inclusive and equitable quality learning opportunities for all.

4.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG4 by Indicators

Indicator 4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics by sex

Bangladesh lacks recent information on global indicator of achieving at least a minimum proficiency level at the end of primary education and lower secondary education. However, as per MICS (2019), the minimum proficiency in reading Bangla is achieved by 25.9 per cent of the students, when it is tested on Grade 2 and 3 students. Math solving proficiency is achieved by only 13 per cent students of grader 2 and 3. Moreover, according to Learning Assessment of Secondary Institutions (2015), the minimum proficiency in reading Bangla is achieved by 54 per cent of the students at the end of lower secondary level with 55 per cent boys and 54 per cent girls. English reading proficiency, on the other hand, is achieved by only 19 per cent students with 22 per cent boys and 18 per cent girls. The lack of competent teachers is a major reason for this poor performance. In mathematics, the minimum proficiency is achieved by 57 per cent of the students with 62 per cent boys and 52 per cent girls. Bangladesh is thus behind achieving the SDG 2020 milestone for this indicator.

Indicator 4.2.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex

There is no baseline data for this indicator. However, MICS (2019) reports this indicator for 2019 disaggregating by sex and regions. It is observed that around 74.5 per cent of the children are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being with 71.4 per cent males and 78 per cent females. It is also noted that urban areas (77.9 per cent) have more 'developmentally on track' children than rural areas (73.7 per cent).

Indicator 4.2.2 Participation rate in organised learning (one year before the official primary entry age)

Early childhood education (ECD) is extremely important for ensuring effective learning proficiency for the students. The National Education Policy 2010 emphasises ECD in the school system. ECD ensures the rights and opportunities for education from the very early age. According to the World Development Indicators (WDI), Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in this respect over the last two decades, through raising the gross enrolment ratio at the pre-primary level from 17 per cent in 2000 to around 34 per cent in 2016. MICS (2019) reports that, the participation rate in organised learning (one year before the official primary entry age) is 77.4 per cent with 76.1 per cent for males and 78.8 per cent for females. This indicates that at the elementary level, Bangladesh has achieved equality in ensuring access to education.

Indicator 4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill

The data on this indicator is available only for females. As per MICS (2019), around 4.6 per cent of the women have used computers, 71.4 per cent have own a mobile phone and 14.2 per cent of women have used internet. The urban women are more technologically skilled than rural women. It is found that around 11.3 per cent of urban women have used computer against only 2.5 per cent of rural women and, 80.4 per cent of urban women have own a mobile phone against 68.6 per cent of rural women. Moreover, 25.1 per cent of urban women have used internet whereas this figure is around 10.9 per cent for rural women.

Indicator 4.5.1 Gender parity indices in education

The gender parity index (GPI) is defined as the ratio of female to male enrolment rates, gross or net. When GPI has a value of one, female enrolment and male enrolment rates are equal. A value of less (more) than one indicates that proportionately less (more) females have enrolled than males. Bangladesh has achieved GPI value higher than one at primary and secondary level as per the latest data of BANBAIS and MICS. (Table 4.1). Also at the tertiary level, it is not far from one. However, in technical education the value of GPI is 0.72 which is way below one.

Table 4.1: Gender Parity Index in Education, 1990-2019

Level	2005	2011	2013	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Primary	1.05	1.06	1.04	1.08	1.06	...	1.075	...
Secondary	1.07	1.15	1.08	1.13	1.103	1.169	1.162	1.19
Tertiary	0.52	0.69	...	...	0.701	0.7008	0.707	0.93
Technical	0.35	...	0.39	0.315	0.315	0.32	0.329	0.72

Source: WDI, World Bank; BANBEIS, Technical Education Statistics (2018), MICS (2019)

The government has taken several initiatives to increase physical access to schools such as food/cash for education programmes for girls at the primary level and stipend and tuition programmes at the secondary level. The government has also undertaken programmes to enhance girls' enrolment in technical education to improve GPI in technical education. These initiatives need to be continued in primary, secondary and tertiary education to sustain (and increase) gender parity.

Indicator 4.6.1 Percentage of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex

Despite progress in primary school enrolment, the adult literacy rate still needs to be improved. The government has taken several education programmes targeting the adults, both males and females, with poor skills and low income to provide them access to education. There has been a shift in focus of the adult literacy programmes from providing basic literacy skills to basic literacy with skills development linked to livelihood. In addition to the government, NGOs and civil society organisations are also actively engaged in running adult literacy programmes in the country. The adult literacy rate has increased significantly from around 53 per cent in 2005 to around 74 per cent in 2018 (Table 4.2). Also, the differences between male and female adult literacy rates have narrowed down significantly over time.

Table 4.2 Adult Literacy Rate of Population Aged 15 years and above

	2005	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018
All adults	53.5	58.6	64.6	72.3	72.9	73.9
Males	58.3	62.9	67.6	75.2	75.7	76.7
Females	48.6	55.4	61.6	69.5	70.1	71.2

Source: BBS, Sample Vital Registration Statistics, various years

Indicator 4.a.1 Proportion of schools with access to basic services and facilities

Several key basic services and facilities are necessary to provide a safe and effective learning environment in schools for all students. These include electricity to avail the benefits of ICT, internet and computer to enhance teaching and learning, adapted infrastructure (ramp) and materials such as books for students with disabilities, basic drinking water for use during school hours, separate sanitation facilities for boys and girls and hand washing facilities with soap and water. As per GEMR (2016), around 76.86 per cent of the schools have access to electricity, 8.36 per cent have access to internet for pedagogical purposes, and 17.9 per cent of the school have computers for pedagogical purposes. As per POD, DPE (2018), 52.06 per cent of the schools have adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities, 78.88 per cent have access to basic drinking water, and 70.88 per cent have access to single-sex basic sanitation. Moreover, around 43.5 per cent of the schools have basic handwashing facilities. Bangladesh needs to cover a long distance yet to achieve SDGs 2020 milestones for this indicator.

Indicator 4.c.1 Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organised teacher training for teaching at the relevant level

Teachers play a pivotal role in ensuring quality education in any institution. Ideally, all teachers should receive appropriate pedagogical training to teach at the relevant level of education. However, in Bangladesh, the percentage of teachers receiving C-in Ed training shows a declining trend. Around 73 per cent of the teachers received the training in 2015; the share, however, has dropped to around 69 per cent in 2018 although it is higher compared with 2017 (Table 4.3).

Table 4.3: Share of C-in-Ed Teachers in Primary Schools

	2015	2016	2017	2018
% of C-in-Ed teachers	73	75.5	66.3	68.73

Source: Annual Primary School Census, various years, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education

4.3 Government Efforts to Achieve SDG4

The government's education policies and strategies have largely attempted to bring about reforms in the education sector for expanding enrolment and improving its quality and governance. The government has approved the National Education Policy 2010 with the objective to foster humanity among the future citizens of the country. The policy aims to assist the students to grow as creative, rational, tolerant to others' opinion and liberal who will be able to lead the country towards inclusive development and progress.

The government targets to achieve SDG4 by ensuring quality education for all children by 2030. The government's objectives for the primary sub-sector are to improve school quality and system efficiency; establish a sustainable, better-managed education system; and ensure universal coverage and equitable access to quality primary schooling.

To achieve the targets, the government is implementing various programmes such as the third primary education development programme (PEDP-III); stipend programme; reaching-out-of-school children (ROSC) project and the school feeding programme in poverty-prone areas as well as the second chance education programme and basic literacy programme in all 64 districts of the country.

The government's long term vision and framework for the development of secondary education has two major objectives: extension of basic education to eight years; and restructuring and improving the outcome of secondary education. Along with facilities expansion and quality improvement (e.g. teacher training, curriculum and examination reform, and strengthened supervision), the measures for restructuring and improving the secondary education aim to undertake several interventions like strengthened capacity for policy and planning, improved monitoring and evaluation, and efforts to reach the underserved populations.

The government's plan is to expand and enhance the scope and quality of higher education in the country. For this purpose, the government has established 41 public universities and has passed the Cross Border Higher Education (CBHE) Act 2014 to facilitate permanent campus establishment of the world standard private universities in Bangladesh. To encourage the research based educational environment in higher educational institutions, an Academic Innovation Fund is operational. Further, the government has taken initiatives to increase the technological skills and the Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN) has been established. For ensuring the quality of higher education, the National Accreditation Council Act 2016 has been enacted.

The expansion of the country's technical and vocational education aims to transform the young population into productive and skilled manpower. It is targeted that 20 per cent of schools and colleges will be enrolled to Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET) by 2020 and 30 per cent by 2030 for better utilisation of human resources. The National Technical and Vocational Qualifications Framework (NTVQF) has been adopted to widen TVET. Under the leadership of MoPME and MoE, a strategic framework and Action Plan on SD 4 has also been prepared.

4.4 Key Challenges

The public expenditure on education is around 2 per cent of Bangladesh's GDP which is one of the lowest in South Asia and among the developing countries. Reaching almost 4 million out of school children at the primary level throughout the country with specific groups of children facing greater constraints to access, such as working children, disabled children, indigenous children and children living in remote areas or slums or living in poverty, is a huge challenge to attain the targets of SDG4. Although the net enrolment rate is 97.97 per cent, the dropout rate is also high (18.8 per cent) and a large proportion of the primary students cannot make the transition to secondary schools and/or take necessary steps to address the problem. Lack of teachers with professional training, adequate

knowledge in their subjects and pedagogical skills in secondary schools are also some issues which threaten to cripple the education system. Also, education service delivery is heavily centralised, with most policy decisions and implementation managed from the central capital. To eradicate gender discrimination, rural-urban and economic disparity in the enrolment of secondary school children aged 11-15 years are also critical challenges to achieve SDG4. Further, the implementation of any equity-based and quality-assuring educational measures is likely to face difficult challenges under the existing infrastructural settings.

4.5 Way Forward

Although the access to primary education is in good shape, the quality of education is a matter of concern. Also as secondary school enrolment rates lag behind primary completion rates, more efforts are needed towards secondary education. Action plans also need to focus on reaching the out of school children particularly the specific groups facing greater constraints such as working children, disabled children, indigenous children and children living in remote areas or slums or living in poverty.

For the 8th Five Year Plan (2021-2025), the best policy is universal access to good education. In digital Bangladesh, education will be the 'people's asset'; and the more the education for all, the lower the inequality in the long run. But education still remains a vehicle for reinforcing rather than compensating for initial differences across households in income and wealth in Bangladesh. There is a need for targeted public programmes to bring good education to the poor. Education for the poor should not be treated as a political and technical matter only in the presence of high income inequality in the country, which constrains both effective demand for education of the poor households and generates resistance from richer households to allocate needed public resources for effective and quality basic schooling for the poor.

The government has also taken initiative to promote information and communications technology (ICT) for education by equipping all classrooms with audio-visual aids, including multimedia classrooms and digital smart boards. Teachers are also receiving training to ensure interactive classes and on using e-books and e-learning materials. Under the secondary education sector investment programme (SESIP), the MOE is establishing ICT learning in all districts of the country, while ICT for pedagogy is another effort for enhancing ICT.

As a part of this process, the Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (BANBEIS), the statistical office for education, has developed a National Indicator Framework (NIF), along with data mapping and data quality assessment framework and a national strategy for development of education statistics (NSDES) and action plan for Bangladesh. The framework consists of 130 national-level indicators of which 97 will feed directly into the SDG4.

Over the years, the share of domestic financing has increased in the education sector; and Bangladesh has succeeded in raising the education budget in absolute amount every year, but lags behind in terms of share for education in the national budget. Bangladesh is yet to achieve the international benchmark of 15-20 per cent of the national budget for education and 4-6 per cent of GDP for

education. Bangladesh seems to have fallen into the '2 per cent of GDP trap' for education over a long period. Unless the government invests more in education, many of the nation's aspirations will remain unfulfilled. Similarly, ensuring quality education requires a comprehensive review of all curricula, deployment of trained teachers, and increased use of ICT for education.

4.6 Summary

Bangladesh lacks recent information on global indicator of achieving at least a minimum proficiency level at the end of primary education and lower secondary education. However, as per MICS (2019), the minimum proficiency in reading Bangla is achieved by 25.9 per cent of the students, when it is tested on Grade 2 and 3 students. Math solving proficiency, is achieved by only 13 per cent students of grader 2 and 3. It is also observed that around 74.5 per cent of the children are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being with 71.4 per cent males and 78 per cent females. It is also noted that urban areas (77.9 per cent) have more 'developmentally on track' children than rural areas (73.7 per cent). Bangladesh has achieved GPI value higher than one at primary and secondary level as per the latest data of BANBAIS and MICS. Also at the tertiary level, it is not far from one. However, in technical education the value of GPI is 0.72 which is way below one.

The government is taking several initiatives to increase physical access to schools, such as food/cash for education programmes for girls at the primary level and stipend and tuition programmes at the secondary level. The Government has also undertaken programmes to enhance girls' enrolment in technical education to improve GPI in technical education. The adult literacy rate has increased significantly from around 53 per cent in 2005 to 74 per cent in 2018. Reaching about 4 million out-of-school children at the primary level throughout the country with specific groups of children facing greater constraints to access, such as working children, disabled children, indigenous children and children living in remote areas or slums or living in poverty, is a huge challenge to attain the targets of SDG4.

Although the access to primary education is in good shape, the quality of education is a matter of concern. Also as secondary school enrolment rates lag behind primary completion rates, more efforts are needed towards secondary education. For achieving SDG4, the best policy is universal access to good education. In digital Bangladesh, education will be the 'people's asset'; and the more the education for all, the lower the inequality in the long run. But education still remains a vehicle for reinforcing rather than compensating for initial differences across households in income and wealth in Bangladesh. There is a need for targeted public programmes to bring good education to the poor. Education for the poor should not be treated as a political and technical matter only in the presence of high income inequality in the country, which constrains both effective demand for education of the poor households and generates resistance from richer households to allocate needed public resources for effective and quality basic schooling for the poor.

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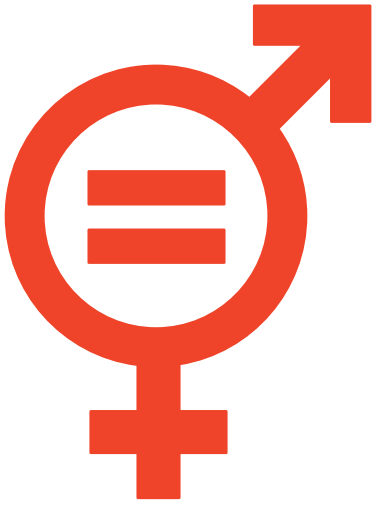
5 Gender Equality and Women Empowerment

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



5.1 Global Perspective on SDG5

While some indicators of gender equality and women empowerment are progressing well, the overall numbers continue to remain high globally. Moreover, insufficient progress on structural issues at the root of gender inequality, such as legal discrimination, unfair social norms and attitudes, decision-making on sexual and reproductive issues, and low levels of political participation, are undermining the countries' abilities to achieve SDG5.

Educational attainment of girls and women's participation in non-agriculture has increased significantly. The practice of child marriage has continued to decline around the world, largely driven by progress in South Asia, where a girl's risk of marrying in childhood decreased by about one quarter between 2013 and 2018. In sub-Saharan Africa, levels of child marriage have declined at a more modest rate.

Although women are participating more in the work force globally, they continue to be disproportionately represented in vulnerable employment. While women represented 39 per cent of world employment, only 27 per cent of managerial positions in the world were occupied by women in 2018, up only marginally from 26 per cent in 2015. The proportion of women in management has increased since 2000 in all regions except in the LDCs. According to recent data from 90 countries, women devote on average roughly three times more hours a day to unpaid care and domestic work than men, limiting the time available for paid work, education and leisure and further reinforcing gender-based socioeconomic disadvantages.

Women also continue to remain underrepresented at all levels of political leadership. In January 2019, women's representation in national Parliaments ranged from 0 to 61.3 per cent, with the average standing at 24.2 per cent, an increase from 19 per cent in 2010. At the local level, data from 99 countries and areas show that women's representation in elected deliberative bodies varies from less than 1 per cent to 48 per cent, with the median of the distribution at 26 per cent. When legislated gender quotas are adopted, significantly higher proportions of women are elected at both national and local levels.

In 51 countries with data, only 57 per cent of women aged 15 to 49, married or in union, make their own decisions about sexual relations and the use of contraceptives and health services. Recent data from 106 countries show that 18 per cent of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 to 49 have experienced physical and/or sexual partner violence in the previous 12 months. The prevalence is highest in LDCs, at 24 per cent.

Over the past 25 years, there has been progress in reforming laws towards improving gender equality, yet discriminatory laws and gaps in legal protection remain in many countries. On the basis of data collected across four areas of law in 2018 from 53 countries, almost a third have legal gaps in the area of overarching legal frameworks and public life (e.g., constitutions, antidiscrimination laws, quotas, legal aid); more than a quarter have legal gaps in the area of violence against women; and 29 per cent and 24 per cent have legal gaps in the employment and economic benefits area and in the marriage and family area, respectively.

Despite progress in implementing gender-responsive budgeting globally, gaps remain in country efforts to establish comprehensive and transparent tracking systems. Based on 2018 data from 69 countries, 13 countries fully met the criteria of having in place a tracking system that measures and makes publicly available gender budget data, and 41 countries approached the requirements.

A growing number of countries in South Asia, including Bangladesh, have undertaken gender-responsive budgeting activities. Gender-responsive budgeting uses a variety of tools to 'follow the money' from government budgets to its impacts and outcomes for different groups of men and women, boys and girls. It also involves strategies for changing budgetary processes and policies so that expenditures and revenues reduce inequalities between men and women. For moving forward, the need for South Asian countries is to highlight the variety of tools and strategies adopted and the factors that enable and constrain the implementation of these initiatives. The efforts need also to examine the potential of different gender-responsive budgeting approaches to progress women's economic empowerment.

To achieve universal realisation of equality and empowerment, it is critical to address key areas of inequality, in particular inequalities in opportunities; discrimination in law and in practice; women's and men's unequal opportunities in the labour market; unequal division of unpaid care and domestic work; women's limited control over assets and property; and their unequal participation in private and public decision making and businesses. Gender equality can improve women's sense of self-worth, their right to have access to opportunities and resources, their right to have the power to control their own lives, both within and outside the household, their right to have and to determine choices and their ability to influence the direction of social changes to create a better social and economic order, at both the national and international level.

5.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG5 by Indicators

A major component of Bangladesh's development strategy is raising gender awareness among the policy makers, planners and programmers. This also underlines the importance of incorporating a gender perspective into the poverty/inequality reduction policies and programmes and actively involving women as decision makers. Bangladesh has achieved significant progress in attaining SDG5 and has closed 72.6 per cent of its overall gender gap and, according to the Global Gender Gap Index 2020 rankings, Bangladesh is placed 50th out of 153 countries. Bangladesh is also the only country in South Asia with a rank in the top 100 of the Index.

Indicator 5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age

Freedom from domination and violence within household is crucial for women's ability to make choices and capacity to gain self-esteem. The Report on Violence against Women (VAW) Survey 2015 conducted by BBS (BBS, 2016) shows that 54.2 per cent of ever-married women (age 15+) faced physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner at least once in their lifetime. Around 27 per cent of ever-married women faced physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner

in the last 12 months. In the absence of updated data and evidence, the most recent situation (after 2015) of this indicator cannot be assessed. However, Global Gender Gap Report 2020 reports that in Bangladesh 53.3 per cent of women faced gender violence in their lifetime.

Indicator 5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence

According to WHO, 'sexual violence is defined as any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person's sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work'. In Bangladesh, 2.5 per cent of women and girls aged 15 years and above were subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months in 2015 (BBS, 2016).

Indicator 5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18

The Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2019 (MICS, BBS/UNICEF, 2019) shows that 15.5 per cent women aged 20-24 years were married or in a union before age 15 and 51.4 per cent were married before age 18. This indicator has improved since 2015. The Report on Violence against Women (VAW) Survey 2015 (BBS, 2016) shows that around 22 per cent were married before the age of 15 and 59 per cent of women were married before age 18. The UNICEF reports that Bangladesh has the fourth highest incidence of child marriage globally and the second highest number of child brides, which is 4.45 million. According to Global Gender Gap Report 2020, in Bangladesh, 45.20 per cent of women were married between 15 to 19 years in 2019.

Indicator 5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location

Evidence shows that women spend three times more unpaid domestic and care work compared with men in Bangladesh. The Labour Force Survey 2016-17 (BBS, 2017) and Gender Statistics of Bangladesh 2018 show that in 2016-17 while men spend on average 7 per cent of their time, women spend 24 per cent of their time on these works. In 2012, women spent 25.8 per cent of their time to unpaid care work, more than five times as much as men. Unpaid domestic and care work refers to household provision of services for own consumption. This indicator has been measured by dividing the average per day number of hours spent on unpaid domestic and care work by 24 hours. Evidence in Bangladesh implies that women are responsible for the vast majority of the unpaid domestic and care work and they generally work longer hours than men.

Indicator 5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments

Bangladesh is one of those countries with the greatest representation of women in national parliaments. Steady improvements have been observed in the social and political empowerment scenario of women in Bangladesh. The government has adopted the National Policy for Women's Development 2011 and a series of programmes for empowerment of women. Women participation in the decision making process has also marked significant improvement in the country. There has been a sharp increase in the number of women parliamentarians elected in 2014 (20 per cent) compared with 1991 (about 13 per cent). At present, 20.86 per cent national parliament members

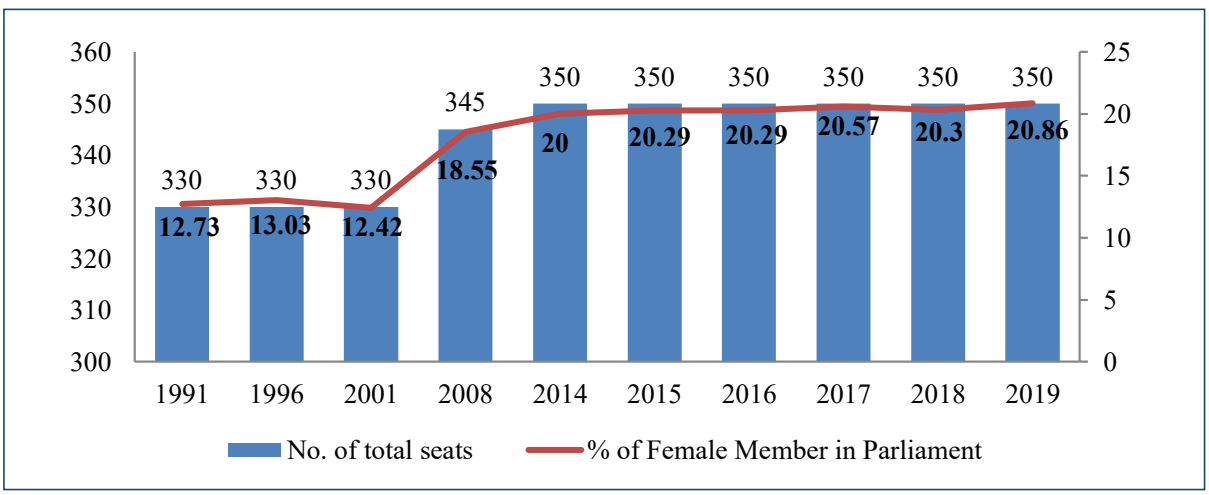
are women (BPS, 2019) and proportion of seats held by women in local governments is 25.21 per cent (LGD, 2018). Currently, the Speaker of the National Parliament, the Prime Minister, and the Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Leader of the House are all women. In terms of Political Empowerment Indicator in the Global Gender Gap Index 2020, Bangladesh is the 7th ranked out of 153 countries in the world.

Table 5.1: Proportions of Female Members in the Parliament, 1991-2019

	1991	1996	2001	2008	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No of female members	42	43	41	64	70	71	71	72	71	73
No of total seats	330	330	330	345	350	350	350	350	350	350
Percentage	12.73	13.03	12.42	18.55	20	20.29	20.29	20.57	20.30	20.86

Source: Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat (BPS) and World Bank data

Figure 5.1: Percentage of Female Members in Parliament



5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex

Over the period of 2015 to 2018, proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone has slightly reduced from 79.76 per cent (BTRC 2015) to 78.1 per cent (CPHS, 2018, BBS).

5.3 Government Efforts to Achieve SDG5

Government's participation in global initiatives

Bangladesh actively participated in the first world conference on women held in Mexico City from June 19–2 July, 1975. The conference was a part of a larger United Nations programme which declared 1976-85 as the 'Decade of Women' and included the drafting of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Since then, March 8 s being celebrated as the International Women's Day. As an approach to include women in development plans, the government sanctioned CEDAW in 1984, endorsed the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) in 1995, and committed itself to the MDGs in 2000 and SDGs in 2015, to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls everywhere.

Policy and legal framework: For attaining SDG5, Bangladesh has adopted several legal and policy actions to advocate the rights of women. The challenge for policy is to combine growth-promoting policies with policies that allow women (especially poor women) to participate fully in the opportunities unleashed and thereby contribute to and benefit from growth. This includes policies to make the labour market work better, remove gender inequalities and increase financial inclusion.

After independence, the government successively took up initiatives in its first five-year plan (1973-78) and has extended these initiatives over the years. The approach has been to focus more on human rights of women and their empowerment in an inclusive development process. Successive five-year plans and poverty reduction strategies have also gradually integrated specific measures and approaches that promote gender equality and women's rights.

Bangladesh has adopted several legal and policy actions to advocate the rights of women like, Overseas Employment and Migration Act 2013; reformulation of the Women Development Policy (WPD) 2011; Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2010; Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Rules 2013; Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking (PSHT) Act 2012; Hindu Marriage Registration Act 2012; National Children's Act 2013; Child Marriage Restraint Act 2014 and others.

Improve women's human capabilities: Bangladesh has already achieved gender parity in primary and secondary education at the national level. This positive development has occurred due to specific public interventions focusing on girl students, such as stipends and exemption of tuition fees for girls in rural areas, and the stipend scheme for girls at the secondary level. This has contributed to promoting the objectives of ensuring gender equality and empowerment of women. Adopting inequality reducing policies such as gender education, quality education for all, health care services, nutritional interventions, free school meals and similar other interventions have greatest impact if introduced at the national level.

Increase women's economic benefits: In terms of economic participation and opportunity indicator in the Global Gender Gap Index 2020, Bangladesh ranked 141 out of 153 countries. Women's economic benefit relates to women's access to or control over productive assets, resources, services, skills, property, employment, income, information, technology, financial services, and other economic opportunities including community resources such as land, water and forest.

Creating an enabling environment for women's advancement: Broadened participation in political and public life; conducive socio-political environment; legal and policy support; effective promotion of greater social justice; and congenial social norms are key issues. Enforcement of laws, regular collection of sex-disaggregated data, gender and social analysis skills including the capacity to develop, implement, and monitor gender strategies, understanding of gender issues in the sector are important considerations.

Gender responsive budget: Gender responsive budget is a gender-based valuation of budgets, integrating a gender perception at all levels of the budgetary process and rearranging revenues and expenditures to promote gender equality. The government has started incorporating gender

dimensions in the budgeting process and also has issued a set of guidelines to prepare development projects in a gender sensitive way. In 2005, the government introduced gender responsive budgeting (GRB). The number of ministries undergoing GRB has increased to 43 in FY2019 from 4 in FY2010. The share of expenditure on women development as proportion of total budget increased to 29.65 per cent in FY2019 (5.43 per cent of GDP) from 24.65 per cent in FY2010.

5.4 Major Challenges

The burden of unpaid care and domestic work disproportionately falls on women and girls and this disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work means that women and girls work longer hours and have less time for rest, learning, self-care and activities like political participation. These gender gaps are one of the most pressing labour market challenges, calling for promoting equal pay for work of equal value; tackling root causes of occupational and sectoral segregation; recognising, reducing and redistributing unpaid care work; and preventing and eliminating discrimination, harassment and violence in the world of work, among other actions, to improve labour equality and reshape gender roles.

A key challenge hindering implementation and monitoring of SDG5 is a lack of adequate gender-sensitive data, including data that is disaggregated by sex, age and other characteristics, as well as a lack of data on trends in SDG5 implementation. There is no comprehensive overview of data on legal frameworks to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of gender.

Eradicating violence against women

Irrespective of how empowered women look in terms of other signs, if they are facing domestic or other violence (physical or sexual or mental or psychological) by their spouse or other family members, they are empowered. While Bangladesh has been progressing towards higher women empowerment and has adopted several initiatives, still there is lots of scope to improve. Awareness against violence towards women should be started from home to work places as well as public domains. These include motivation of family, enhancing community support, enforcement of legal provisions, improving women's capabilities, access to low cost trial services and economic self-reliance of women.

Preventing child marriage

Under the leadership of the Ministry for Women and Children Affairs, the National Plan of Action (NPA) to end child marriage was launched in August 2018. The goal of NPA is to lessen the rate of child marriage of girls aged 18 years by one third in 2021, and to completely eliminate child marriage by 2041. The government has taken several initiatives to prevent and eradicate child marriage in the country and there is a gradual decline in marriage of girls aged below 18. However, dowry, child marriage, wife beating, unfair wages, rape are still prevalent among a major percentage of the population, mostly in poverty-stricken groups. Creation of community awareness and motivation against violence against women, depiction of laws to address sexual harassment, full prosecution of violence against women committed in public spheres and publicising the punishment are some of the areas of action to improve workplace and public place environment.

Gender aspects of inequality of opportunities

Inequalities in opportunities persist in the society due to prevalence of discriminating and dominant norms. The goal of development is to improve the condition of people's lives and outcomes needed to ensure fairness and considerable equity in the society through a process of social transformation. However, socially determined differences, traditional power relations between men and women, and the dominant patriarchal nature of the society frequently disregard women's rights which, as a consequence, affect their roles, quality and behaviour at all levels, from the household to the community and at the national level. Moreover, disparities in labour force participation, wage rates, along with limited access to and control over resources, and decision-making positions seriously limit women's economic opportunities. These disparities are more prevalent among the poverty stricken groups.

Financial empowerment

While 65 per cent of adult male (15 years and older) have an account in a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider, only 36 per cent of women have an account in 2016-17. Financial empowerment and inclusion of women is a route for improving certain critical elements at the household and family levels; but it is certainly not the only solution of empowerment. A contextual milieu is needed whereby people's choices for improving their ability to expand their routes to new livelihoods and better incomes would be possible.

Gender digital divide

The gender digital divide is still an important challenge, with women facing challenges in accessing information and communication technologies (ICT), which affects their educational and employment opportunities. Extreme gender inequalities also exist in internet access, digital skills and online rights, which need a series of actions related to Rights, Education, Access, Content, and Targets (REACT) to close the gender divide.

5.5 Summary

Over the past several years, Bangladesh has made significant progress and has been ranked 50th out of 153 countries in 2019 in the Global Gender Gap Index, calculated by using educational attainment, health and survival, economic participation and political empowerment. Furthermore, globally Bangladesh is the 7th ranked country in terms of political empowerment. Additionally, Bangladesh has stayed ahead of its South Asian neighbours for the fifth time consecutively, indicating significantly better performance in promoting women empowerment compared with its South Asian neighbours.

Table 5.2: Women Empowerment in South Asia

	Bangladesh	Nepal	Sri Lanka	India	Maldives	Bhutan	Pakistan
Global ranking	50	101	102	112	123	131	151
Regional ranking	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Score	0.726	0.68	0.68	0.668	0.646	0.635	0.564

Source: World Economic Forum, Global Gender Gap Report 2020

Still there are some major challenges, including child marriage, domestic violence, sexual violence, burden of unpaid domestic and care work, inequality of opportunity and others. These also underline the importance of incorporating a gender perspective into the poverty/inequality reduction policies and programmes and actively involving women as decision makers. Several specific strategies are needed for better gender equality in Bangladesh.

- Undertake women's right based agenda, programmes and policies which specifically recognise and promote poor women's contribution to family incomes, wealth creation and development of human capital.
- Take account of gender equality concerns in all policies, programmes, administrative and financial activities and in organisational procedures, thereby contributing to a profound organisational transformation.
- Relate gender education, training and analysis to social transformation and more equitable distribution of power in the lives of women and men.
- Implement strategies to expand women's political participation and remove cultural and institutional barriers.
- Learn from the lessons from comparable countries that have experienced considerable success in reducing poverty and inequality, particularly in respect of those strategies that yield greatest benefits for women.
- Work to more fully integrate a gender perspective and an active role for women in decision making in development and poverty/inequality reduction.
- Encourage the collection and dissemination of sex-disaggregated statistics and data on gender issues such as the extent and importance of women's unpaid work, particularly in rural areas, in order to provide a better information base for policy formulation and programming.
- Support the conduct of public information campaigns especially in rural areas to increase recognition of the extent and importance of women's productive work with a view to improving the accuracy of data on women's labour force participation.

The government and other stakeholders need to build accountability mechanisms into interventions and strategies and monitor the effectiveness of these mechanisms, including taking action to ensure that such mechanisms are responsive to rights of women and girls. Increasing investment for gender equality and women and girls' empowerment is important not just in gender equality but across all sectors, including agriculture, education and culture, care services, social protection, health, infrastructure, justice, and water and sanitation. A comprehensive approach to SDG5 that leverages synergies between SDG5 and other goals and promotes systematic mainstreaming of gender perspectives in implementing the SDGs will contribute both to realising gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as well as to ensure progress across all goals and targets in Bangladesh.

6 Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

6.1 Global Perspective on SDG6

Despite considerable progress across most countries, billions of people still lack safe water, sanitation and handwashing facilities. Available data show that achieving universal access to even basic sanitation services by 2030 would require doubling of the current annual rate of global progress. More efficient use and management of water are critical to addressing the growing demand for water, threats to water security and the increasing frequency and severity of droughts and floods resulting from climate change. At present, most countries are unlikely to reach the full implementation of integrated water resources management by 2030.

Globally, the proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services increased from 61 per cent to 71 per cent between 2000 and 2015 and remained unchanged at the level in 2017. An additional 19 per cent of the global population used basic drinking water services. This means that 785 million people still lack even a basic drinking water service.

The global population using safely managed sanitation services increased from 28 per cent in 2000 to 43 per cent in 2015 and further to 45 per cent in 2017, with the greatest increases occurring in Latin America and the Caribbean, sub-Saharan Africa and East and South-East Asia. Between 2000 and 2017, the proportion lacking even a basic sanitation service decreased from 44 per cent to 27 per cent, yet 701 million people still practice open defecation in 2017. In 2017, 60 per cent of the people worldwide and only 38 per cent in LDCs had a basic handwashing facility with soap and water at home, leaving an estimated 3 billion people without basic handwashing facilities at home.

In 2016, one-third of all primary schools lacked basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services, affecting the education of millions of schoolchildren, but particularly girls managing menstruation, and one in four health-care facilities worldwide lacked basic water services, affecting more than 2 billion people.

About one-third of the countries suffer from medium or high levels of water stress. Almost all countries that have registered high water stress are located in North Africa and West Asia or in Central and South Asia, and these levels indicate serious water difficulties in the supply of freshwater, at least during parts of the year. Of 172 countries, 80 per cent have medium-low implementation or better of integrated water resources management. However, 60 per cent of the countries are unlikely to reach the target of full implementation by 2030.

Significant efforts are needed to ensure that cooperation is operational in all transboundary basins. According to data from 67 of 153 countries that share transboundary waters, the average percentage of national transboundary basins covered by an operational arrangement was 59 per cent during the period 2017–2018, with only 17 countries reporting that all their transboundary basins were covered by such arrangements.

As elsewhere, access to water and sanitation is considered a universal human right in South Asia, with efforts for making them available to all. The countries, however, also recognises that access to these resources involves more than simply providing the services. It also requires addressing other water issues related to sustainable management, such as water quality and wastewater management, water scarcity and usage efficiency, water resources management and the protection and restoration of water-related ecosystems. Providing sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation has been a development focus for decades in South Asia. However, progress in

this area has been uneven as between water and access to sanitation, as well as between different countries and demographics.

After several years of steady increases and reaching $9 billion in 2016, ODA disbursements to the water sector declined by 2 per cent in 2017 over the level of 2016. However, ODA commitments to the water sector jumped by 36 per cent between 2016 and 2017, indicating a renewed focus by the donors on the water sector.

6.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG6 by Indicators

Indicator 6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services

The proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services stood at 47.9 per cent at the national level, while the proportion for urban areas is 44.7 per cent and for rural areas, it is 48.8 per cent (MICS 2019). In 2019, 98.5 per cent of household members used improved sources of drinking water (MICS 2019). According to WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (UNJMP) 2017 data, the coverage based only on improved sources of water was 87 per cent in 2017.

6.2.1 Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water

In 2019, 84.6 per cent of household members use improved sanitation facilities, which is 90.6 per cent in urban areas and 82.9 per cent in rural areas (MICS 2019). In the same year, 74.8 per cent households reported practicing a hand-washing facility with soap and water, which is 87 per cent in urban areas and 71.4 per cent in rural areas (MICS 2019, BBS).

According to the 2015 WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) Report, only one per cent of the population were practicing open defecation, 10 per cent using unimproved latrines, 28 per cent enjoyed shared latrines, and 61 per cent used improved latrines (UNICEF & WHO, 2015).

However, the sudden influx of almost one million Rohingya refugees in Teknaf area has put enormous pressure on drinking water and sanitation facilities. It is an extremely difficult situation to arrange safe drinking water and proper sanitation in Teknaf (a geographically challenging area) although the best efforts are being made by all concerned national and international agencies.

Indicator 6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

Bangladesh is traditionally endowed with rich water resources. According to AQUASTAT data, freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources was at 4 per cent in 2017, which is low compared to global average of 13 per cent and the water stress threshold of 25 per cent (FPMU, 2019). In Bangladesh, level of water stress for surface water is 10 per cent and for ground water is 90 per cent (BMDA, 2019).

According to GED (2015), the proportion of total water resources used in Bangladesh was 2.9 per cent in 2010. Based on the National Water Plan Phase II, the internal renewable water resources are estimated at 105 km^3/year, which includes 84 km^3 of surface water and 21 km^3 of groundwater.

Indicator 6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation

In Bangladesh, 38 per cent of transboundary basin areas have an operational arrangement for water cooperation (JRC, 2018). Bangladesh has 57 transboundary rivers. The country shares 54 rivers with India and 3 rivers with Myanmar. Among these rivers, a treaty for Ganges River was signed with India in 1996, which is effective till 2027. According to the treaty, the quantum of waters to be released by India to Bangladesh at Farakka is on the basis of an agreed formula for ten days period from 1 January to 31 May every year. A joint committee monitors the flow below the Farakka point. The committee is responsible for implementing the arrangements and resolving any difficulty arising out of the implementation of the above arrangements and of the operation of the Farakka Barrage. Any difference or dispute, if not resolved by the committee, is referred to the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission.

Both Bangladesh and India recognise the need for cooperation for finding a solution to the long-term problem of augmenting the flows of the Ganges during the dry season. Further, guided by the principles of equity, fairness and no harm to either party, both the countries have agreed to conclude water sharing treaties/agreements with regard to other common rivers as well.

Indicator 6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time

The Halda River restoration project is an example of changes in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time in Bangladesh. The Halda River in Chattogram is an important riverine ecosystem of the country and this is the only tidal freshwater river where major Indian carps spawn naturally. The fish egg collection has dropped rapidly in recent years due to deterioration of the ecosystem. Several human activities such as water abstraction for irrigation, illegal fishing, sand mining of river beds, and industrial pollution are also liable for the decline of the ecosystem.

A committee was formed by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to restore the river where all concerned agencies and local government bodies are directly involved to take necessary steps in this regard. Several measures including stopping sand lifting from the river, plying of mechanised boats, lowering the rubber dams, ban on fishing in a river stretch (to save the broodfish) and raising the local people's awareness are undertaken within a planned approach. The combined outcome has been the turning 2018 as a record year for fish egg collection in the Halda.

Indicator 6.a.1 Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan

The amount of ODA on water and sanitation follows an upward trend in recent years. In FY 2014-15, total ODA on water and sanitation was US$ 301.1 million; which has increased to US$ 496.8 million in FY 2017-18 and further increased to US$ 526.64 million in FY 2018-19 (ERD, FY 2018-19).

6.3 Government Efforts

Bangladesh has by now made tremendous success to ensure people's access to safe drinking water and sanitation and plans to ensure safe water for all people. The government has adopted an action plan and a national policy on water, water supply and sewerage, environment protection rules and water act to facilitate implementation of the SDG6. Although the demand for water is increasing fast in Bangladesh due to industrial and agricultural growth, but a huge volume of water is being wasted as well because of natural adversities including climate change, drought, flood, and water surge.

The government has adopted a water management policy by taking into account all related phenomenon of the country with emphasis on using surface water reducing dependence on aquifer. The government has also adopted the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (BDP 2100) outlining the water resources management strategy for the next 100 years. The BDP 2100 aims to implement adaptive strategies and strengthen governance across the broader water sector over the long-term. As such, financial sector management (FSM) is becoming a new priority in the sector. Bangladesh has been establishing the institutional and regulatory framework for FSM. Several activities are currently on-going to further address the SDG6 issues. For instance, standards for WASH in health care facilities are being established. Bangladesh is also working to establish national targets for sanitation that are both contextually appropriate and aligned with SDG6.

6.4 Major Challenges

Achieving SDG6 is crucial for achieving the rest of the SDGs. There are also significant interdependence among SDG6 targets; for example, the energy sector's role in water withdrawals, and the possibility of reducing water pollution to increase access to freshwater. Achieving universal access to water is linked to SDG6 to achieve gender equality. Women and girls are responsible for water collection in 8 out of 10 households where water is not accessible in the home. Bringing water sources closer to people reduces the time needed to collect water and makes more time available for educational activities, especially for females. Water availability for agricultural activities is essential, as approximately 70 per cent of water withdrawals are for agriculture. Poor water, sanitation and hygiene contributes to undernutrition by causing frequent parasite infections and episodes of diarrhoea, which can result in intestinal dysfunction though chronic ingestion of pathogens. These are just a few examples that illustrate the interlinked and symbiotic nature of water and sanitation to the entire 2030 Agenda.

SDG6 targets present challenges for Bangladesh; and continuing with a business-as-usual scenario will not suffice. Achieving sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, tackling pollution at its source will require profound evolution of actions among the policymakers and decision makers. Actions need to be taken now to move towards a more sustainable and resilient path, leaving no one behind.

Climate change has a significant impact on freshwater systems and their management. Most effects due to climate change will be experienced through changes in the hydrological cycle, such as overall water availability, water quality and frequency of extreme weather events (e.g. floods and droughts). Water-related hazards account for a large part of disaster loss and impact in the country.

Increasing the efficiency of existing financial resources and mobilising additional ones in the form of domestic public finance and domestic and international finance (ODA, loans, grants, etc.) are major challenges for Bangladesh. Domestic and public finance can be leveraged to increase the role of private financing, through promoting innovative financing streams such as blended finance and microfinance. Targeted public finance and reforms are necessary to improve the performance of existing services, increase cost recovery and financial security, and make the sector more attractive to private investment. This can lead to a virtuous circle of improved service levels, attracting further investment until services are financially sustainable.

6.5 Way Forward

Smart technologies supported by information technology can effectively improve all aspects of water resources and WASH management. The use of Earth observations, citizen science and private sector data is increasing, but these are not yet sufficiently incorporated into data-monitoring systems at

all levels. Furthermore, local adaptation of technology and sharing of knowledge can be supported through collaborative partnerships for sustainable development.

More efficient use and management of water are critical to addressing the growing demand for water, threats to water security and the increasing frequency and severity of droughts and floods resulting from climate change. Several actions may be highlighted in this regard, such as: (i) policies on zero discharge for maintaining e-flow in all rivers throughout the country as well as suggesting the government mainstream the value of water in plans and projects; (ii) work towards regional convergences on the use of the outcomes of plans of actions to support regional cooperation/trans-boundary issues through honest brokerage/proactive water diplomacy; (iii) capacity building/ empowerment by educating farmers to increase irrigation efficiency as well as initiating conversations with marginal people in ensuring safe drinking water for all, keeping provision for ample subsidy, where needed; (iv) adopting methods to make valuation more explicit and useful for advocacy and knowledge gathering through updating macro level planning and transparent incorporation of multiple values of water while ensuring involvement of local government in formulating policies; (v) enforcing regulations on the use of groundwater to harmonise a balance between annual abstraction and recharge; and engage in consultation on trans-boundary aquifer management; and (vi) adopt comprehensive framework based on SDGs for creating balance and synergy through reinforcing water allocation rules and applicable compliance mechanisms devised through inter-sectoral conversations and proper and timely dissemination using appropriate media which will also ultimately help in multiplication and scaling up of plans of action to mobilise greater efforts into action.

6.6 Summary

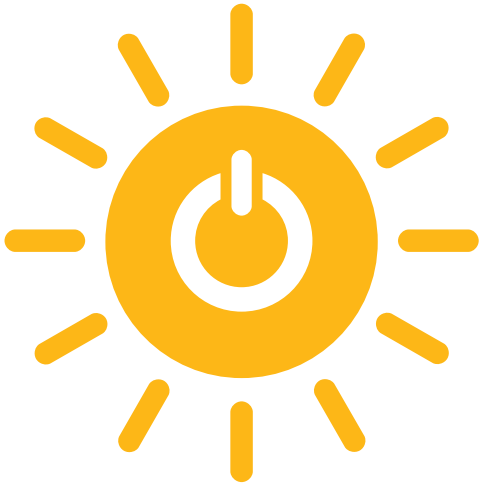
In line with SDG6 of achieving access to adequate water, sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, Bangladesh has achieved several milestones. Around 48 per cent of the population currently use safely managed drinking water services, which is 44.7 per cent in urban areas and 48.8 per cent in rural areas. Further, 84.6 per cent of the population use a safely managed sanitation service, which is 90.6 per cent in urban areas and 82.9 per cent in rural areas. Nearly three-fourths of the population use hand-washing facility with soap and water, which is 87 per cent in urban areas and 71.4 per cent in rural areas.

Nevertheless, awareness on health and hygiene programmes needs to be further improved and more effective implementation needs to be ensured. To safeguard the water resources of the country and to achieve SDG6, more targeted efforts are needed. Similarly, to protect the water flow of trans-boundary rivers, lakes and aquifers, significant efforts are needed to ensure that effective cooperation is forthcoming in all trans-boundary basins.

For Bangladesh, SDG6 brings in issues of equity, quality and sustainability which will require more nuanced, integrated and multi-sectoral ways of working in the sector. Further, the 'leave no one behind' theme of the SDGs requires going beyond broad-brush interventions that raise beneficiary count, to focusing on hard-to-reach areas and populations, which will require innovative, context-specific technology and programmatic solutions. Protecting the water sources and introducing sustainable management of groundwater and surface water are priorities for Bangladesh in view of the country's extreme reliance on limited groundwater sources. Hygiene is perhaps the most lagging area of WASH in Bangladesh, and there is evidence of widespread poor practices. Determining effective ways to improve behaviour will be a key challenge of SDG6.

7 Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



7.1 Global Perspective on SDG7

Globally, the access to electricity has begun to accelerate, energy efficiency continues to improve and renewable energy is making gains in the electricity sector. Despite the progress, about 840 million people remain without access to electricity around the world; while access to clean cooking fuels and technologies needs dedicated attention. In addition, if SDG7 and related goals are to be met, much higher levels of ambition are required with regard to renewable energy, including transportation and heating.

The global electrification rate rose from 83 per cent in 2010 to 87 per cent in 2015, with the increase accelerating to reach 89 per cent in 2017. The global share of the population with access to clean cooking fuels and technologies reached 61 per cent in 2017, up from 57 per cent in 2010. Despite this progress, close to 3 billion people still rely primarily on inefficient and polluting cooking systems.

The renewable energy share of total final energy consumption increased from 16.6 per cent in 2010 to 17.5 per cent in 2016, although much faster change is required to meet climate goals. Even though the absolute level of renewable energy consumption has grown by more than 18 per cent since 2010, only since 2012 has the growth of renewables outpaced the growth of total energy consumption.

South Asia has made huge progress in access to energy goals over the last few years. The unserved population in Central and South Asia has come down to less than 200 million with grid expansion in India being a key driver of electrification for the region over the last two years. In 2017, access to electricity in India reached 93 per cent of the population while it remained at around 70 per cent in Pakistan. Yet, these two countries still have a combined population of almost 150 million unserved people for whom off grid solar could provide life-changing benefits. In addition, grid expansion does not necessarily mean that the connected population receives adequate power. Even in grid-connected homes and businesses, back-up solutions such as off-grid solar continue to have a role to play and a potential market to address.

Global primary energy intensity (ratio of energy used per unit of GDP) improved from 5.9 in 2010 to 5.1 in 2016, a rate of improvement of 2.3 per cent, which is still short of the 2.7 per cent annual rate needed to reach target 3 of SDG7. On the other hand, international financial flows to developing countries in support of clean and renewable energy reached $18.6 billion in 2016, almost doubling from $9.9 billion in 2010. Expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology to provide clean energy sources in all developing countries is a crucial goal that can both encourage growth and help the environment.

7.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG7 by Indicators

Bangladesh is moving steadfastly towards ensuring access of all households to electricity by 2025. Both short- and long term measures have been adopted for increasing electricity supply in the country. The proportion of households with access to electricity has increased to 90.1 per cent in 2018 from a mere 18 per cent in 2000. The installed power generation capacity of the country increased to 18,961 MW at the end of the FY 2018-19; which was 4,005 MW in FY2000-01. Only

few years back High system loss, low plant efficiency, erratic power supply, shortages of funds for power plant maintenance, and absence of new power generation plan were the big problems in Bangladesh's power sector only a few years back; but the scenario is completely different at present.

There has been a continuously rising demand for electricity, oil, gas, and natural resources in all production sectors -- agriculture, industry, and services -- as well as in households. In order to mitigate the demand-supply gap, the government has given the top priority to ensuring uninterrupted supply of power and energy. As part of the plan, 50 power generation projects of capacity 15,151 MW are now under construction. The plan envisages around 17,304 MW new generation addition by 2023.

Private sector participation in power generation is also rising. Private investments in the power sector have increased steadily enabling private power generation to increase from 2,096 MW in FY2010 to 7,108 MW in FY2018, which shows an annual growth of 16.5 per cent per year. As a result, the share of private generation increased from 36 per cent in FY2010 to 45 per cent in FY2018. The ability to encourage private financing and supply of power is a major policy success for the energy sector under the First Perspective Plan 2010-2021.

Although the energy sector in Bangladesh covers a wide range of products such as electricity, petroleum products, natural gas, coal, biomass, solar and other renewable sources, the policy-makers have traditionally been pre-occupied mostly with electricity, the most widely used form of energy. The slow increase in renewable energy, along with the fast increase in non-renewable energy, has opened up serious challenges over the years. In recent years, Bangladesh has been focusing more on renewable energy production. The Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (BREB) has installed 51,364 Solar Home Systems (SHSs), 37 rooftop/hybrid type rooftop solar power plants, 40 solar-powered irrigation pumps, 14 Solar Charging Stations and 40 Net Metering Systems. The total capacities of the installed plants are about 13.31 MWp (Mega Watt peak, a solar power measure in photo-voltaic (PV) industry).

To achieve the goals of power production set by the Power System Master Plan (PSMP) 2016, a total of 53 projects (with 14,202 MW capacities) are underway. Most of the new power plants will initiate power generation by 2023. According to PSMP 2016, the national power generation capacity will be 24,000 MW by 2021, 40,000 MW by 2030 and 60,000 MW by 2041. Along with this, Bangladesh is also diversifying its energy sources by emphasising generation of renewable energy such as solar energy, wind energy, and hydro power as Bangladesh has a national target of increasing the share of renewable energy to 20 per cent of total energy consumption within 2030.

Regarding energy diversification, the progress is somewhat mixed. Positive progress has been made in securing energy trade agreements with India. Therefore, imports of power have gone up from zero in FY2010 to 660 MW in FY2018. Regarding energy efficiency, progress in reducing transmission and distribution (T&D) losses has been steady, falling from 16 per cent in FY2010 to 12 per cent in FY2018.

Indicator 7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity

The power sector has experienced considerable progress in meeting the demand for electricity and the level of electricity consumption have significantly increased over the years. The proportion of

population with access to electricity increased to 92.23 per cent in 2019 from 31.2 per cent in 2000. The success has been made as the government focused on a comprehensive energy development strategy. The strategy sought to provide a balanced approach that looked at both supply increases and demand management aspects of the energy market over a longer term horizon.

Specifically, the strategy sought to address what the government could do to strengthen the supply of gas and power and look at options for diversification of fuel for power generation. The strategy also involved exploring alternative solutions such as increased availability of resources, such as coal, oil, and gas through intensified offshore drilling; and balancing of the supply side options with policies for demand management that conserve energy and discourage inefficient use of electricity. The sector was liberalised for private investments as well as foreign direct investment (FDI). Private sector was encouraged to generate electricity under public-private partnership (PPP), rental power producer (RPP), and independent power plant (IPP) arrangements as well as captive power.

The demand side management is ensured through different measures including pre-paid metering, tariff adjustment, rationing of new connections and reduction of system loss. The government has prepared an Action Plan up to 2030 to achieve SDG7. The Power System Master Plan 2016 has been developed for managing the electricity sector up to 2041. The crosscutting issues of the provision of sustainable energy for all have been addressed in different national policies and strategies that seek to implement an overall vision of the society which would ensure affordable, reliable and modern energy services for all citizens.

Table 7.1: Proportion of Population with Access to Electricity (per cent)

	2005	2010	2016	2017	2018	2019*
National	44.23	55.26	75.92	85.3	90.1	92.23
Urban	82.61	90.10	94.01	...	...	97.8
Rural	31.19	42.49	68.85	...	...	90.7

Source: BBS, SVRS, SID, HIES, Power Division, BPDB

* Bangladesh Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2019, BBS

Indicator 7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology

Households that use clean fuels and technologies for cooking are those mainly using electric stove, solar cooker, LPG (liquefied petroleum gas)/cooking gas stove, biogas stove, or a liquid fuel stove burning ethanol/alcohol. But there exists differences in cooling fuels between the urban and rural households. In recent years, energy efficient electric stoves and liquefied natural gas (LNG) are increasingly becoming popular in peri-urban and rural areas. The proportion of population with access to clean fuels and technology increased to 19 per cent in 2019 from 9.74 per cent in 2005. But the rate of this rising trend is unlikely to reach the target unless the rate is further enhanced.

Table 7.2: Proportion of Population with Access to Clean Fuels and Technology for Cooking (per cent)

2005	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
9.74	12.9	16.68	17.72	...	...	19.0

Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank, for 2019 data MICS 2019, BBS

Indicator 7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption

Generally, the available renewable energy sources including solar energy, biomass gasification, waste biogas, hydropower and wind can be harnessed to provide affordable power supply to off-grid rural areas of the country as well as connect to national grid. Solar photovoltaic (PV) is becoming a popular technology mainly in off-grid rural, hill tracts, and coastal areas in the country. Natural gas is still playing a major role as primary energy; followed by heavy fuel oil (HFO) and high speed diesel (HSD); and renewable energy is still playing an insignificant role. The present share of renewable energy sources in total final energy consumption is 3.25 per cent in 2019. Bangladesh has a target to produce 10 per cent of total power generation from renewable sources by 2030. In Bangladesh, total renewable energy installed capacity is estimated at 626.55 MW in recent years.

Table 7.3: Renewable Energy Share in Total Final Energy Consumption (per cent)

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
2.79	2.85	2.87	3.15	3.25

Source: SREDA

Table 7.4: Renewable Energy Installed Capacity

Technology	Off-grid (MW)	On-grid (MW)	Total (MW)
Solar	311.84	80.78	392.62
Wind	2	0.9	2.9
Hydro	0	230	230
Biogas to electricity	0.63	0	0.63
Biomass to electricity	0.4	0	0.4
Total	314.87	311.68	626.55

Source: SREDA

Indicator 7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP

Energy intensity is an indication of how much energy is used to produce one unit of economic output. A lower ratio indicates that less energy is used to produce one unit of output. It is measured as the units of energy (mega joule (MJ)) used to produce one unit of constant PPP dollar GDP. It can be affected by a number of factors such as climate, structure of the economy and nature of economic activities in the economy. Therefore, it is an imperfect proxy for energy efficiency. Energy intensity level of primary energy has shown fluctuation since 2015 in the country. Energy efficiency has also improved in 2019 relative to the previous years.

Table 7.5: Energy Intensity Level of Primary Energy (kiloton of oil equivalent (ktoe) per billion BDT)

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*
3.63	3.67	3.56	3.41	2.15

Source: SREDA

* Hydrocarbon Unit of Energy and Mineral Resource Division (HCU 2019, EMRD)

7.3 Government Efforts

To achieve the goals of power production set by the Power System Master Plan (PSMP) 2016, a total of 53 projects (with 14,202 MW capacities) are underway. Most of the new power plants will initiate power generation by 2023. According to PSMP 2016, the national power generation capacity will be 24,000 MW by 2021, 40,000 MW by 2030 and 60,000 MW by 2041. To improve power distribution system, 15,870 prepaid meters have been installed by power distribution companies. In addition, installation of 20 million smart-prepaid-meters is underway. Moreover, due to the introduction of prepaid meters, system loss has significantly been reduced. The Power Division has set a target to bring all large and medium consumers under the prepaid meter coverage.

The Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources has prepared the SDGs Action Plan up to 2030. To ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services by 2030, several actions are planned:

i. Increase power generation capacity to 23,000 MW by FY2020 (end of the 7th Five Year Plan, 2016-2020), 24,000 MW by 2021, and 40,000 MW by 2030;

ii. Raise the share of coal based power from only 3 per cent (FY2015) to 21 per cent by the end of the Seventh Plan and subsequently to 50 per cent by FY2030;

iii. Expand/upgrade the electric distribution line; construct/upgrade sub-stations; undertake switching station construction and river crossing tower construction; replace overloaded distribution transformer ; replace electromechanical/digital meter by pre-paid meter; rehabilitate and intensify distribution system; establish gas allocation policy (including LPG and biogas alternative policy), domestic gas exploration policy, domestic coal export policy; develop energy subsidy policy; promote use of LPG in domestic and transport sector; adopt LNG import strategy and plan for coal import facilities; and

iv. Provide 7 million new consumer connections and complete 30,000 village electrifications

To increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the total energy mix by 2030, the following actions are under implementation:

i. 500WM solar programme (340MW for commercial purposes and 160MW for the social sectors);

ii. Commercial projects: (a) solar park (grid connected); (b) solar irrigation; (c) solar minigrid/microgrid; and (d) solar rooftop; and

iii. Social projects: (a) rural health centres; (b) remote educational institutes; (c) union e-centres; and (d) remote religious establishments.

To double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency by 2030, the following actions are undertaken:

i. Energy efficiency and conservation programme; and

ii. Financial incentive mechanism for improved cooking stove

7.4 Key Challenges

Although Bangladesh is one of the world's most climate-vulnerable countries, yet it has demonstrated climate leadership, particularly in pioneering solar energy for all. The government has committed to ensuring access to affordable and reliable electricity for all citizens by 2021. Bangladesh is working towards implementing the Paris Agreement on climate change and SDG7 on universal energy access – and blaze a new sustainable development pathway.

Bangladesh has achieved substantial progress in generation capacity along with expansion of transmission and distribution networks, but the financing gap still remains large. Bangladesh faces a number of challenges in attaining SDG7

- The power sector has experienced considerable progress in meeting the demand for electricity. Access, coverage, and level of consumption have significantly increased over the years. Daily load shedding has significantly dropped: from 1,107 MKWH in 2009 to 32 MKWH in 2018. However, Bangladesh's coverage and access are still behind regional standards (as revealed by Bangladesh vs. South Asia average of 76 per cent vs. 85.6 per cent in 2016). Further, according to the SREDA, energy use per GDP (kg OE/1,000 US$) has reduced from 307 kg OE in 2007 to 218 kg OE in 2014. This has happened as a result of strong economic growth backed by the expansion of less-energy-intensive export industries, such as RMGs. As a result, the power sector has been able to come out from the period of crisis (SREDA, 2016).

- However, Bangladesh will require investment of about $35 billion in the power generation sector alone by 2041. Total investment requirements in the energy sector (power plus primary energy) add up to 2.5 per cent of GDP per year, of which it is estimated that the public sector will cover 1.7 per cent per year on average. Private sector investments in the energy sector for 2015–2020 have mainly been pursued through public-private partnership (PPP) and would account for about 1 per cent of GDP per year during the period. The share of ODA in GDP has generally been declining. Therefore, the need for intensifying current efforts and venturing newer avenues are major challenges for the coming years.

- According to the PSMP 2016, the structure and composition of electricity demand will change in future with the likely changes in economic activities. There is a significant rise in demand in industry and commercial and public services (e.g. special economic zones; metro rails and other services). The projected peak electricity demand in the coming years (base case) would be 14,500 MW (in 2021), 27,400 MW (in 2030), and 51,000 MW (in 2041) respectively (PSMP, 2016). In addition to this, the government has set the target to improve energy intensity by 20 per cent by 2030 (SREDA, 2016). Overall, addressing the future demand will need a major shift in demand management. More focus will be needed on quality of electricity services such as uninterrupted supply and emphasis on improvement of users' efficiency.

- The expansion of transmission line as per grid capacity (MW/km) remains at a low level -- this has increased only moderately in recent years. In the FY2018-19 ADP, a considerable number of transmission line related projects have been undertaken by the government along with those related with generation and distribution. On the other hand, the system loss has decreased but it is still at a double digit level.

- The share of use of natural gas in electricity generation has not changed much over the years. The major share of gas is used for power generation, followed by industry, captive power plants and domestic use. Unless proven gas reserve increases, the current reserve will be used up by 2028-2041 and future use of natural gas would be concentrated on power generation and industry. Tariff of gas is administered by the government. Given the unchanged demand for gas, a limited gas reserve would create unwanted pressure to the consumers without any tariff adjustment.

7.5 Way Forward

To promote access to clean energy, and a wider deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and services, capacity-building strategies and activities include knowledge transfers, learning by doing, pilot programmes and knowledge generation and training of the staff. The government will have to take the lead in developing human and institutional capacities in support of energy transformation, advanced through a coordinated approach with the development partners.

Further, the growing fiscal burden due to changing energy-mix needs to be handled with due caution. This is related with decision to close down/setting up high-cost Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) based power plants, Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) based power generation, better understanding of domestic gas reserve, plan for using domestic coal, import of electricity/LNG/petroleum from neighbouring countries and possible scope of exploiting renewable energy.

There should have a gradual shift in energy tariff setting mechanism from administered tariff to market-based tariff. For example, energy tariff should not be biased towards the power sector; on the other hand, the equity issue needs to be taken into account in the case of MSMEs, agriculture, and low-income households.

The largest international commitment mobilised in the area of clean energy has been for the Rooppur Power Plant. If significant progress is to be made towards achieving SDG7, the government must diversity the projects for which it mobilises international development cooperation. Therefore, areas requiring prioritisation include the incentivisation of clean energy utilisation in the private sector, and the integration of solar, wind and hydroelectric power in the national grid.

7.6 Summary

Bangladesh is moving constantly towards ensuring access of all households to clean and reliable electricity well ahead of the target time in 2025; it has already reached 95 per cent in 2019. But the country lags behind in other energy indicators. However, the government's ongoing efforts to ensure reliable energy supply to all households have been complemented by yet another effort to achieve the SDG7. The Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources has prepared the SDGs Action Plan up to 2030 to achieve the targets of SDG7 embracing universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services, increase in the share of renewable energy in total energy, and improving energy efficiency in the country. Along with this, the Power System Master Plan 2016 provides specific guidelines and milestones to be achieved during Bangladesh's journey towards achieving SDG7.

Bangladesh's energy and power sector needs to shift its activities from the 'emergency management' (initiated in the early 2010s) to a 'market-led' management (needs to be adopted during 2021-2030). This will reduce the chances of inadequate transparency, accountability, efficiency, irregularities and corruption.

Ensuring universal access to affordable electricity by 2030 means investing more in clean energy sources, such as solar, wind and thermal in Bangladesh. Adopting cost-effective standards for a wider range of technologies would also reduce the electricity consumption by the buildings and the industry, avoiding costly power generation. Expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology to provide clean energy sources is a crucial goal that can both encourage growth and help the environment in Bangladesh.

8 Sustained, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth and Decent Work

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

8.1 Global Perspective on SDG8

Inclusive, sustainable and rapid economic growth has the ability to drive progress and generate the means to implement the SDGs. Globally, labour productivity has increased and unemployment is back to pre-financial crisis levels. However, the global economy is growing at a relatively slow rate. More and rapid progress is needed to increase employment opportunities, particularly for the young people, reduce informal employment and the gender pay gap and promote safe and secure working environments to create decent work for all.

In 2017, the global growth rate of real GDP per capita was 1.9 per cent and is expected to remain at about 2 per cent from 2018 to 2020. This is significantly less than the 3 per cent rate attained in 2010 and slightly higher than the 2015 rate of 1.63 per cent. Real GDP growth rate for the LDCs is expected to increase from 4.5 per cent in 2017 to 5.7 per cent in 2020, which is less than the 7 per cent envisioned by the 2030 Agenda. However, there are significant uncertainties over the global growth prospects due to the recent outbreak of Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

Since the global economic downturn of 2009, labour productivity (measured as GDP per employed person) has been rising in the world, recording positive annual growth rates consistently since 2010. In 2018, the world's labour productivity increased by 2.1 per cent, its highest annual growth since 2010.

Informal employment, which has an impact on the adequacy of earnings, occupational safety and health and working conditions, remains pervasive: in three quarters of countries with data on the subject, more than half of all persons employed in the non-agriculture sectors are in informal employment. Based on data for 62 countries, the median hourly gender pay gap stood at 12 per cent. The median gender pay gap exceeded 20 per cent in managerial and professional occupations, among workers in crafts and related trades and among plant machine operators and assemblers.

The global unemployment rate has recovered from the global economic crisis. In 2018, the global unemployment rate stood at 5.0 per cent – matching pre-crisis levels. Youths were three times more likely to be unemployed than the adults. In 2018, one fifth of the world's youth were not in education, employment or training (NEET), meaning that they were neither gaining professional experience nor acquiring or developing skills through educational or vocational programmes in their prime years. There is a stark gender difference. Young women were more than twice as likely as young men to be unemployed or outside the labour force and not in education or training.

Many workers around the world are exposed to undue risks in their workplaces. Based on recent data from 55 countries, a median of 3 deaths occurred per 100,000 employees and a median of 889 non-fatal injuries occurred per 100,000 employees.

Worldwide, there is huge gender gap in labour force participation. In 2019, 74 per cent men are engaged in labour force whereas only 47 per cent women are participating in the labour force, around 27 per cent lower than men. Across all country income groups, labour force participation rate is lesser for females than for males. Though women have made significant inroads in the labour market, a huge number of women still are engaged in unpaid domestic works and remain in lack of effective income security. Some 360 million workers, many of them women, are engaged in family work; and, on average, women earn 17 per cent lower than men per hour of work even after

accounting for age, educational level, urban versus rural residence, type of work and household structure. If the number of hours worked per week is taken into account, the gender wage gap increases to almost 25 per cent.

Child labour still remains a serious concern; 218 million children between 5 to 17 years are engaged in any kind of employment and among them 152 million are victims of child labour; almost half of them, 73 million, work in hazardous child labour. The number of children in employment has, however, reduced from 246 million in 2000.

Access to finance is on the rise globally, but the mode of access seems to be changing with growing reliance on technology. From 2010 to 2017, the number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults grew by close to 50 per cent from 45 to 66 globally, and from 2.3 to 5.8 in the LDCs. The number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults grew by only 2 per cent between 2010 and 2017, with more customers using digital banking solutions.

In South Asia, the major focus of SDG 8 is on promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, by promoting development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encouraging the formalisation and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services. In addition, the efforts of the countries target achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

In 2017, aid-for-trade commitments increased to $58 billion and more than doubled when compared with the 2002–2005 baseline, when they represented $23.1 billion. In absolute terms, the increase was highest in the agriculture sector ($1.7 billion), industry sector ($1.0 billion) and in banking and financial services ($1.0 billion).

SDG 8 focuses on sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work. Economic growth will be attained by increasing innovation, diversification and technological progress in labour intensive sectors. More progress is needed to expand employment opportunities especially for youth, reducing gender gap in work place, reducing inequality of opportunities, safe and secure work environment for both men and women to create decent work for all. Proper implementation of policies is needed to reduce unemployment rate, wage gap, and decent work deficits.

8.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG8 by Indicators

Indicator 8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita

Poverty reduction and attaining high economic growth are intertwined. In order to address the country's biggest challenge of reducing poverty, high economic growth has always been given high priority; and Bangladesh has been achieving sustained high economic growth for more than a decade which has already contributed to its transition from low to lower middle income country status in 2015 along with fulfilling all three criteria for graduation from the UN's LDC status in 2018.

Bangladesh's upward shift in the average annual growth rate of real GDP per capita to 6.91 per cent in FY2018-19 from 5.1 per cent in the baseline FY 2014-15 is noteworthy. The growth rate, along with slower growth of population, led to increasing per person GDP growth and the country

is nearly on track to achieve the 2020 milestone of SDGs. There is a substantial growth in real GDP of 8.1 per cent in FY2018-19 from 7.28 per cent in FY 2016-17. GDP per capita based on PPP is USD 5,028 in 2019. In Bangladesh, over the last 20 years, GDP per capita based on PPP grew substantially from USD 1,367 to USD 5,028 at an increasing annual rate that reached a maximum of 9.43 per cent in 2018 which slightly decreased to 8.59 per cent in 2019.

Indicator 8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person

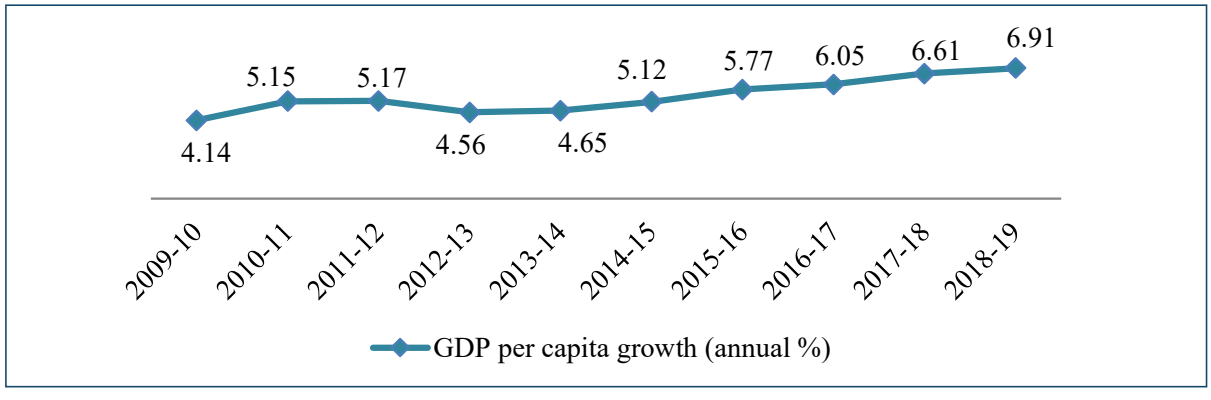
Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person measures the increase in growth rate of output per unit of labour input; in other words, labour productivity. Labour productivity is a crucial driver of any country's economic growth. It helps to understand the country's economic environment to create and sustain decent employment opportunities with fair and equitable remuneration. Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person increased to 5.56 per cent in 2018 from 4.99 per cent in 2017. The indicator has already reached its 2020 milestone which was set at 5 per cent. According to the Labour Force Survey 2016-17, the number of employed persons in Bangladesh increased to 60.80 million in 2016 from 59.50 million in 2015, indicating a 2.18 per cent growth compared with the previous year. The employed population comprises 33.9 per cent women and 29.5 per cent in the younger age group of 15-29 years and 66.5 per cent in adult group of 30-64 years. Special efforts are needed for ensuring more efficient use of physical or human capital, reducing informal employment, and promoting good job environment.

Table 8.1: Economic Growth in Bangladesh (per cent)

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (base year)	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita	4.14	5.15	5.17	4.56	4.65	5.12	5.77	6.05	6.61	6.91
8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person	...	...	...	...	...	5.71	6.27	4.99	5.56	...

Source: LFS, BBS, SID

Figure 8.1: GDP Per Capita Growth in Bangladesh



Indicator 8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex

A large number of people in the labour force are engaged in the informal sector in Bangladesh. Over the last two decades, informal sector involvement has been rising, rather at an accelerated pace. According to the Labour Force Survey 2016-17, 85.1 per cent of the total employed persons (age ≥ 15) are in informal employment, which is 91.8 per cent for females and 82.1 per cent for males. In the urban areas, 13.1 million (77.3 per cent) of the labour force are in informal employment, and in the rural areas, it is 38.6 million (88.1 per cent). Although the informal sectors contribute considerably to the country's economy by creating huge employment opportunities, the high rate of informal employment creates a major challenge for SDG8. These informal sectors lack legal securities and employment benefits as well as include activities that are unregulated and considered less productive.

The proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture sectors, including industry and services, has increased slightly from 77.5 per cent in 2015 to 78 per cent in 2016. The target is to reduce the overall share of informal employment in non-agriculture at 75 per cent by 2020 and 65 per cent by 2030.

Additionally, there has been a clear shift in the age structure of employment in the informal sector. Overall, 15-29 year old youth population accounts for 31 per cent of informal employment, declining from 35.6 per cent in 2015. For the 30-64 year group, the share of informal sector employment has increased from 62.4 per cent in 2015 to 64.9 per cent in 2017. This change in age structure of employment may be due to delays in entering the labour market.

Indicator 8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities

The frequency of payment to the paid employees differs widely across age, sex and locality. According to Bangladesh Labour Force Survey 2016-17, among an estimated 24.2 million paid employees, 56.7 per cent are paid monthly, 34.5 per cent paid daily, 7.3 per cent paid weekly and 1.5 per cent are paid on other terms.

The average monthly wage has improved slightly in FY2016-17 over the baseline of BDT 12,897 although the real wage has declined for both male and female workers over the last four years. The average monthly wage in FY2016-17 has been BDT 13,258 which was BDT 14,152 in 2013.

The Gender based wage gap has shown a worsening trend as the real wage rate of females has declined faster than that of males. For similar type of work, female worker's wage decrease has been 3.8 per cent in 2016 from 2013, whereas the male worker's decline is 1.9 per cent. The monthly average real wage for male workers is estimated at BDT 13,583 in 2016, which was BDT 14,309 in 2013. For female workers, the average real wage declined from BDT 13,712 in 2013 to BDT 12,254 in 2016. Wage disparity by gender exists in several occupations, such as craft and related trade workers, elementary occupations and agriculture workers. Gender differences in earnings between rural and urban areas are also widespread. The estimated number of unemployed persons in rural areas is 1.81 million and, in urban areas, 0.87 million in 2017.

Indicator 8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

The Bangladesh Labour Force Survey 2016-17 provides recent statistics on unemployment which is a crucial indicator for understanding the labour market and the performance of economy. In

Bangladesh, the unemployment rate, defined as the percentage of unemployed persons in the total labour force, does not show any noticeable change over the period from 2013 to 2017; varying between 4.2 per cent and 4.3 per cent.

The recent unemployment scenario has, however, marginally improved. The World Bank puts Bangladesh's unemployment rate at 4.29 per cent in December 2019, slightly declining from 4.31 per cent in December 2018. Along with a fluctuating trend during 1999 to 2012, Bangladesh's long term unemployment rate has been steady at around 4.4 per cent.

However, the unemployment rate of females is more than double the male unemployment rate. Unemployment rate for males has increased marginally from 3 per cent in 2013 to 3.1 per cent in 2016. Among all the age groups, youth in the 15-24 age group has the highest unemployment rate of 12.3 per cent in 2017.

Table 8.2: Unemployment Rate, Non-agriculture Informal Employment and Earnings

	2013	Baseline 2015	2016-2017
8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex (per cent)	78.86 Male: 78.38 Female: 80.32	77.8 Male: 75.2 Female: 88.7	78.0 Male: 76.0 Female: 85.5
8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities (BDT per month)	11,493 Male: 11,621 Female: 11,136	12,897 Male:13,127 Female:12,072 Age group: 15-24: 10,862 25-34: 12,801 35-44: 14,053 45-54: 14,857 55-64: 13,160 65+: 10,844	13,258 Male: 13,583 Female: 12,254 Age group: 15-24: 10,831 25-34: 13,204 35-44: 14,143 45-54: 15,446 55-64: 14,511 65+ : 11,580
8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities (per cent)	4.3 Male: 3.0 Female: 7.3	4.2 Male: 3.0 Female: 6.8 Age group: 15-17: 10.5 18-24: 10.1 25-29: 6.7 30-64: 1.9 65+: 4.2	4.2 Male: 3.1 Female: 6.7 Age group: 15-24: 12.3 25-34: 5.5 35-44: 1.2 45-54: 0.8 55-64: 0.6 65+ : 0.0

Source: BBS, LFS, 2013, QLFS 2015-16 and LFS 2016-17

Indicator 8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training (NEET)

This indicator has a significant impact on the country's overall development and future progress. The proportion of population aged between 15-24 who are not employed and not involved in education or training (NEET) are basically the potential entrants to the labour market. High NEET rate and

lower youth employment rate indicates lower job opportunities in the labour market. In 2016-17, 29.8 per cent of the working age population aged 15-24 is not in education, employment or training (NEET). Among the NEET youths, 13.0 per cent are males and the rest 87.0 per cent females. While the proportion of youth male NEET is closer to 10 per cent, the proportion of youth female NEET is about 50 per cent in 2016-17. The higher percentage of NEET for young women indicates their much greater involvement in household duties, and/or the presence of barriers preventing female participation in the labour market.

Table 8.3: Proportion of Youth Not in Education or Training, Not in Employment (NEET)

	Baseline 2015	2016-2017
8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training (per cent)	28.88 Male: 9.9 Female:46.9	29.8 Male: 10.3 Female: 49.6

Source: BBS, QLFS 2015-16 and LFS 2016-17

Indicator 8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5 17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age

While significant progress has been made in the efforts to reduce child labour, there are still 1.28 million children who are trapped in hazardous works and, among them, 0.26 million child labours are engaged in notified hazardous work according to 2015 National Child Labour Survey. Child labour is harmful and needs to be discouraged in Bangladesh society. The number of children engaged in any kind of work is 2.47 million in rural areas, 0.57 million in urban areas and 0.43 million in city corporations.

Based on the UN convention, the Child Labour Survey (CLS) 2013 has classified children engaged in economic activities into three categories: working children, child labour, and hazardous child labour. According to the CLS 2013, 8.7 per cent (3.45 million) of the 39.65 million populations in the age group of 5-17 years are classified as working children, 4.3 per cent (1.7 million) as child labour, and 3.2 per cent (1.28 million) as hazardous child labour.

Several initiatives have been taken by the government to address the child labour issue. In 2010, the National Child Labour Policy was formulated with the objective of making meaningful changes in the lives of children by withdrawing them from all forms of labour including the hazardous work and worst forms of child labour. The Child Labour National Plan of Action was implemented during 2012-2016 for the elimination of child labour. For example, interventions through Child Sensitive Social Protection Project (2012-2016), Enabling Environment for Child Rights Project, and the Primary Education Stipend Project have been implemented towards eliminating child labour from different sectors. Since 1994, ILO has been supporting the government through its International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour which directly benefited 75,000 working children through various interventions. The US Department of Labour is also supporting the implementation of a project entitled 'Country Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labour' towards realising Bangladesh's commitment to eliminate the worst forms of child labour from the country.

Indicator 8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status

In Bangladesh, the burden of fatal and non-fatal injuries in workplaces is substantial; however, the recent trend is declining. There has been substantial reduction in fatal injuries from 382 in 2015 to 228 in 2019. Non-fatal injuries have also reduced to 111 in 2019 from 246 in 2015. This indicator shows that Bangladesh needs to significantly overhaul the safety of workplaces.

Table 8.4: Fatal and Non-fatal Occupational Injuries

	Baseline 2015	2016	2017	2019
8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status (per year)	Fatal injuries: 382 Male: 362 Female: 20 Non-fatal injuries: 246 Male:177 Female: 19	Fatal injuries: 103 Male: 124 Female: 08 Non-fatal injuries: 90 Male: 62 Female: 39	Fatal injuries: 75 Male: 105 Female: 27 Non-fatal injuries: 488 Male: 285 Female: 248	a) Fatal: 228 (Male: 220; Female: 8) b) Non-fatal: 111 (Male: 94; Female: 17) (DIFE, 2019)

Source: MoLE, Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments (DIFE)

Figure 8.2: Frequency Rates of Non-Fatal Occupational Injuries

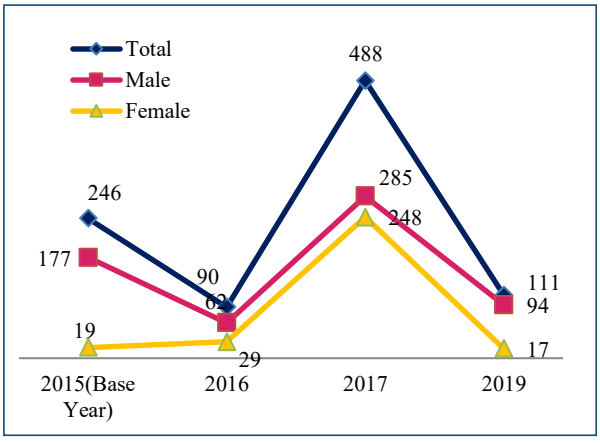
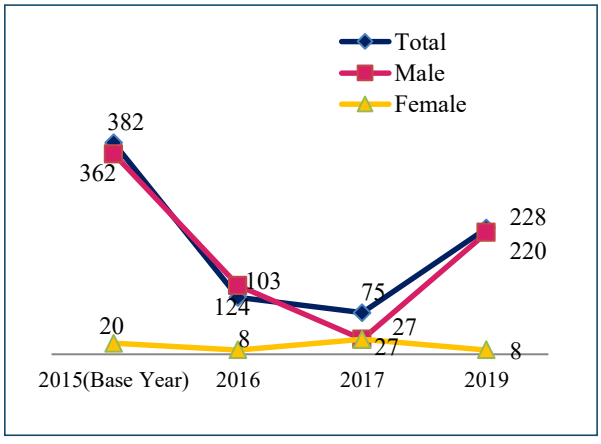


Figure 8.3: Frequency Rates of Fatal Occupational Injuries

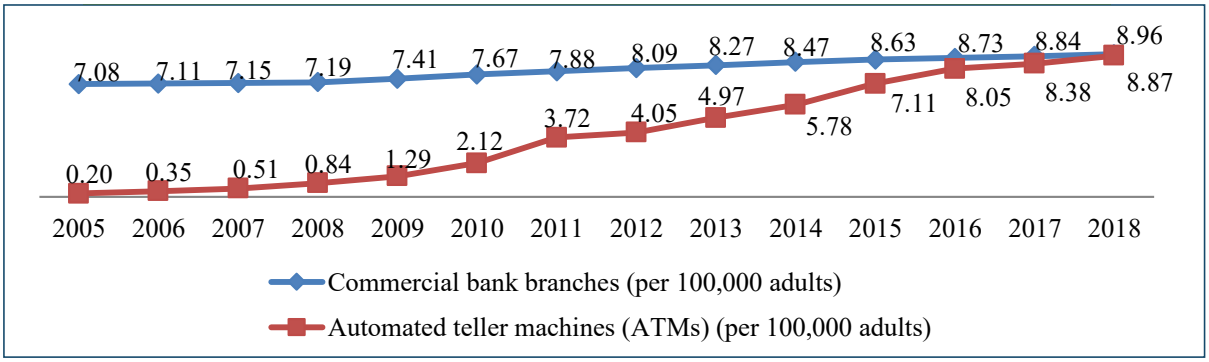


Indicator 8.10.1 (a) Number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults and (b) number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults

Financial inclusion enables people to make day-to-day transactions, maintain and protect own savings, plan and act for regular expenses, invest in small business or microenterprises, alleviate shocks, and boost up economic growth. Bangladesh's policies recognise financial inclusion as one of the crucial elements for economic progress of the society; and the country has prepared the national financial inclusion strategy (2021-2024) for ensuring financial inclusion for all by 2024. Higher access to finance and financial inclusion indicates increased availability and affordability of financial services for the inhabitants of the country.

The number of commercial bank branches for every 100,000 adults increased to 8.96 in 2018 from 8.27 in 2013 and 7.19 in 2008. The access to ATMs has also improved significantly in recent years, from 2.12 in 2010 to 7.11 in 2015 and 8.87 in 2018.

Figure 8.4: Number of Commercial Bank Branches and ATMs per 100,000 Adults



Source: IMF, Financial Access Survey.

Table 8.5: Financial Inclusion Indicators

	2005	2010	Baseline 2015	2016	2017	2018
8.10.1 (a) Number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults (b) number of ATMs per 100,000 adults	a) 7.078 b) 0.202	a) 7.67 b) 2.12	a) 8.63 b) 7.11	a) 8.73 b) 8.045	a) 8.84 b) 8.38	a) 8.96 b) 8.87

Source: IMF, Financial Access Survey.

Indicator 8.10.2 Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider

Significant improvements have been made in financial inclusion indicators by Bangladesh over the years. The proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider has increased to 69.25 per cent in 2018 from 63.88 per cent in 2016 and 50.80 per cent in 2015.

Indicator 8. a.1 Aid for Trade commitments and disbursements

'Aid for Trade' (AfT) provides technical assistance to trade, intended to enhance the ability of the recipient country to comply with international trade rules and to develop its trade, along with other types of trade related aid, such as the provision of physical infrastructure and productive capacity for trade, or adjustment assistance to firms and households in the case of trade liberalisation. Since the launch of AfT, it has contributed towards reducing the costs of export and import as well as global commitments and disbursement have increased for trade related development in Bangladesh. Bangladesh received USD 824.1 million as AfT during the period 2012-2014, against the commitment of USD 1,340.1 million.

8.3 Key Challenges

The key to achieving SDG8 is to promote sustained, inclusive economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. The main challenge for Bangladesh is to realise the mutually supportive relationship between economic and social policies, full employment and decent work. This requires, among others, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, technology, and structural transformation which are guided by strategic considerations. This is more crucial for Bangladesh in view of the unprecedented impacts of new technology on the Bangladesh economy, particularly on the future labour market and the pattern of growth. High levels of inequalities also pose major challenges as Bangladesh moves towards achieving the SDG 8. Mobilising the needed priorities, instruments, partnerships and resources that SDG 8-related interventions demand are also a challenge for Bangladesh. Further, progress towards SDG 8 alone is not adequate, without addressing the challenges of environmental degradation and social exclusion. There is no substitute for productivity growth in Bangladesh; rapid productivity growth is needed for decent job creation in the country.

For Bangladesh, an industry-led economic transformation holds the greatest potential for broad-based improvements in labour productivity and decent jobs. For the purpose, the challenge is to close the labour-productivity gaps across the formal and informal sectors and the issues facing the segmented labour markets. Further, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are crucial to meeting SDG8 in Bangladesh. They are typically the main income source for the poor population segments, especially in the rural areas, and employ a large share of the workforce in the vulnerable sectors. But MSMEs continue to face challenges, including limited access to finance and lack of capacity and knowledge, particularly with regards to business development, marketing and strategic management skills, and weak political, institutional and regulatory mechanisms.

International migration and remittance flows to the country play a significant positive roll to boost up country's overall economy. But among the expatriate Bangladeshi workers, the vast majority are unskilled or semi-skilled; therefore, they earn relatively low wages. Appropriate technical and vocational training could help to increase wages that migrants can earn, thereby increasing remittance inflows and further contributing to reducing poverty. High cost of migration, fraudulent practices, illegal substitution of contracts in destination countries and unacceptable conditions of work hinders the orderly migration process in the country. Lowering the transaction cost of sending remittances and removing obstacles to accessing formal remittance channels would encourage use of formal channels.

There still exists huge gender gap in labour force participation in Bangladesh. Several barriers such as, inequality of opportunities at the household level (e.g., lack of nutrition, education, health care) as well as in the community level, absence of childcare facilities at workplace, lack of women friendly transportation facilities, violence against women both in workplace and outside, social stigma etc. still prevents many women from participating in the labour market.

Bangladesh is creating manufacturing employment especially for women by expanding labour intensive textiles and garment industry. But these sectors face significant supply side bottlenecks, such as, lack of infrastructure, shortage of skilled workers, difficulty in upgrading technology, and shortage of managerial and entrepreneurial skills, all of which need priority for SDG8..

8.4 Way Forward

For Bangladesh, an important step to move forward is to develop and implement the national action plan to achieve SDG8. In this regard, consultations with civil society and the private sector are important, and the strategies need to address the issues of poverty and inequalities, enabling environments for enterprises, new technologies, and the labour market.

Ensuring the access to high-quality education system is important to deliver a broad range of essential skills, ranging from core competences, such as literacy and numeracy, to social and behavioural capabilities. Education investment needs also to be focused on early childhood education, as preschool attendance is low in the country. Bangladesh's growth perspectives need also to look beyond GDP and aim at decent and quality employment and desired structural transformation. Differentiated policy mixes are to be tailored to specific circumstances of the country, especially in the formal and the informal economy. The approach should spur growth from below, in particular in the rural and informal economy.

The focus has to be on economic growth driven by green innovation, investment in sustainable infrastructure and new green industries, and application of technology to efficient resource management and conservation. The key will be to create new decent jobs for low-carbon sustainable transition with new skills and decent jobs.

The compulsions need the promotion of spatially concentrated industrialisation efforts in close partnership between the public and the private (both domestic and foreign) sectors to connect the domestic economy with the global and regional production networks to facilitate technology acquisition and modernisation of management and marketing functions.

Another potential area is to increase productivity in all sectors, with a focus on agriculture and the informal economy. The government will have to pay attention to growth of productivity, and in particular in the small scale agriculture, rural nonfarm, and urban informal sectors. Rapid growth of these segments will determine the extent of economic inclusion of the poor and near-poor people. Coherent efforts are needed to create incentives for entrepreneurship and MSMEs, including supporting knowledge access and skill building, promoting innovations and access to networks, such as employers and business associations and chambers of commerce and industry. They should be provided with support services, such as capacity building, facilitating platforms for exchange of good practices on MSMEs growth and cooperation and trade agreements. These will MSMEs play a vital role in sustainable livelihoods for the majority in the country, especially in the short and medium terms. They need to be integrated into the digital economy and global value chains and should be involved in policy/strategy development.

For Bangladesh, there is a need to promote consistent diversification policies and increase spending on innovation, training, and incorporating new technologies. It will be useful to identify and exploit windows of opportunity for labour-intensive manufacturing. The policies should highlight a pro-employment macroeconomic agenda, with employment at the centre of macroeconomic policies,

Several initiatives, such as, upholding women's education, decreasing fertility rate, reserving certain proportion of jobs in the public sector for women, provision for maternity leave and ensuring women friendly job environment (e.g., providing child care centres at the work place) can increase women's participation in labour market and reduce dropout of women from work tremendously. The government has already developed the legal framework to address issues such as child marriage and violence against women. However, monitoring and proper application of laws should be ensured.

To facilitate overseas migration, the government has to explore and expand new labour markets, especially as the Middle East experiences significant political disruption. Additionally, initiating appropriate technical and vocational training can help to increase wages that the migrants can earn.

8.5 Summary

In the way of achieving SDG8, Bangladesh has made major progresses. Bangladesh has already achieved above 8 per cent of average annual GDP growth rate coupled with falling population growth, thereby significantly raising real GDP growth per capita. The average annual growth rate of GDP per employed person has already reached the 2020 milestone in 2017 and the unemployment rate remains steady at 4 per cent over the last few years. These indicators are nearly on track to achieve the 2020 milestones. However, still there are some aspects of the labour market which need major attention.

Promoting decent employment for youth remains a major area for improvement; for which regulations may be put in place to encourage the establishment of apprenticeships systems; and enhancing cooperation between business and VET institutions as well as universities and secondary schools. Policies should take in to account the heterogeneity of youth and the contexts in which they live. Policies, strategies and interventions towards youth employment need diagnostics, integrated approaches and inter-ministerial coordination while supporting a strong multi-stakeholder inclusion from the design stage.

For ensuring effective integration of persons with disabilities and women into the labour market, more focus is needed on practical measures that contribute to facilitating employment retention and return-to-work opportunities. Support may be provided on how to address the barriers that often prevent persons with disabilities from obtaining jobs in the private sector. In a similar vein, the government should remove any legal and social restrictions that hinder women from participating in the formal labour market and support formal self-employment opportunities.

The policies need to formalise the role of 'learning to learn' in childhood education systems as a fundamental competence and to prioritise lifelong-learning in training and education systems. The government may also collaborate formally with businesses and business organisations in the design of skill-building and re-skilling initiatives, leveraging new technologies and methods. The link between schools and the world of work need strengthening, addressing skills mismatches and gaps, increasing access to vocational education, while taking into consideration the diverse contexts and needs. Effective education and training institutions need to anticipate labour market needs and adapt to new jobs and rapid technological change.

9 Resilient Infrastructure, Sustainable Industrialisation and Innovation

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

9.1 Global Perspective on SDG 9

Several aspects of the prevailing global economic environment have not been conducive to rapid progress on SDG 9. While financing for economic infrastructure has increased in developing countries and impressive progress has been made in mobile connectivity, the countries that are lagging behind, such as the LDCs, face serious challenges in doubling the manufacturing industry's share of GDP by 2030; and their investments in scientific research and innovation remain below the global average.

Efficient transportation services are key drivers of development, and more than 80 per cent of world merchandise trade by volume is transported by sea, making maritime transport a critical enabler of trade and globalisation. International maritime freight increased by an estimated 3.7 per cent globally in 2017 and projected growth will test the capacity of existing maritime transport infrastructure to support increased freight volumes.

In 2018, manufacturing slowed down in both developing and developed regions. The slowdown was attributed mainly to emerging trade and tariff barriers that constrained investment and future growth. Despite the slowdown, the global share of GDP in terms of manufacturing value added increased marginally from 15.9 per cent in 2008 to 16.5 per cent in 2015, but stalled at the same level in 2018. The share of manufacturing in LDCs remained low, posing a serious challenge to the target of doubling the industry's share of GDP by 2030.

Meanwhile, the share of manufacturing employment in total employment declined from 15.3 per cent in 2000 to 14.7 per cent in 2015 and further to 14.2 per cent in 2018, as countries gradually reallocated production factors from agriculture and low-value added manufacturing towards high-value added manufacturing and services.

The intensity of global carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from manufacturing industries declined by more than 20 per cent between 2000 and 2016, to 0.30 kg CO2 per US dollar, showing a general decoupling of CO2 emissions and GDP growth.

The proportion of global GDP invested in research and development increased from 1.52 per cent to 1.68 per cent from 2000 to 2016, with Europe and North America standing at 2.21 per cent of GDP spent on research and development and most developing regions falling short of the world average in 2016. While there has been an increase in the number of researchers per million inhabitants from 804 in 2000 to 1,163 in 2016, the number reached only 91 in sub-Saharan Africa.

Total official flows for economic infrastructure in developing countries reached $59 billion in 2017, an increase of 32.5 per cent in real terms since 2010. Within this total, the main sectors assisted were transport ($21.6 billion) and banking and financial services ($13.4 billion). In 2016, medium-high and high-tech sectors accounted for 44.7 per cent of the global manufacturing value added. Medium-high and high-tech products continued to dominate manufacturing production in North America and Europe, reaching 47.4 per cent in 2016 compared with 10.4 per cent in LDCs.

Almost all people around the world now live within the range of a mobile-cellular network signal, with 90 per cent living within range of a 3G-quality or higher network. This evolution of the mobile network is growing more rapidly than the percentage of the population using the Internet.

At present, more than 4 billion people do not have access to the Internet and 90 per cent of them

are from the developing world. Additionally, with half of the world population now living in cities, mass transport and renewable energy are becoming even more important. More rapid increase in domestic and international financial mobilisation, technological and technical support, research and innovation, and increased access to information and communication technology is required to achieve SDG 9.

The South Asian economies have been deepening their interaction with the global economy through unilateral reforms to enhance economic efficiency, as well as via regional approaches to deepening economic integration, for example, through bilateral and regional free trade agreements (FTAs). Through economic reforms, South Asia has succeeded in significantly reducing poverty, improving social indicators, developing new markets and market niches, and creating an increasingly powerful middle class. Internationalisation of the South Asian economies has been emerging an important engine of growth. Supportive policies will be necessary to sustain them. Further investments in infrastructure and innovation are crucial drivers of economic growth and development in the region. With more than one-third of the population in South Asia now living in cities, mass transport and renewable energy are becoming ever more important, as are the growth of new industries and information and communication technologies.

Technological progress is also key to finding lasting solutions to both economic and environmental challenges, such as providing new jobs and promoting energy efficiency. Promoting sustainable industries, and investing in scientific research and innovation, are all important ways to facilitate sustainable development in South Asia.

9.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG 9 by Indicators

9.1.1a Road density per 100 square kilometer

Bangladesh is investing heavily in infrastructure due to the critical role of essential infrastructure including transport, energy, information and communication technology (ICT), water supply and sanitation, buildings, embankments, and cyclone shelters in accelerating development. As the country is a flat plain, three modes of transport system are considered, i.e. roads, railways, and inland waterways which are widely used in carrying both passengers and cargoes. Considering the urgency of road safety, the National Road Safety Action Plan 2017- 2020 has been adopted. Road density is the ratio of the length of the country's total road network to the country's land area. The road network includes all roads in the country: motorways, highways, main or national roads, secondary or regional roads, and other urban and rural roads. Table 9.1 shows that the length of paved road per 100 square kilometer has increased from 14.09 kilometers in 2000 to 14.61 kilometers in 2017. The rising trend indicates increasing connectivity and further increase is expected as the government has several on-going big infrastructure projects.

Table 9.1: Road Density per 100 Square Kilometer

2000	2010	2015	2016	2017
14.09	14.41	14.48	14.45	14.61

Source: Calculated from RHD and BBS data

Indicator 9.2.1 Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP (per cent)

The share of manufacturing value added in GDP has increased significantly in Bangladesh. The government is persistently taking comprehensive measures for developing and flourishing of the manufacturing sector. As a result, the contribution of the manufacturing sector in real GDP has reached 24.21 per cent in FY2018-19 which was 22.85 per cent in FY2017-18. The share exceeds 20 per cent only for a handful of developing countries. The growth of major manufacturing industries such as garments, textiles, food processing, pharmaceuticals, and leather are the main drivers in the country. There are also emerging signs of diversification in production and exports as Bangladesh is now exporting over 1,600 distinct tradable products and the growth is dominated by large and medium scale industries. There has been a remarkable shift in the composition of manufacturing output from jute goods dominance to one of RMGs dominance. The transition has benefited from supportive government policies including fiscal incentives, favourable policies of the trading partners such as MFA, GSP, and QFDF access, and the existence of surplus labour which keeps the wages relatively low.

Table 9.2: Share of manufacturing value added in GDP (per cent)

2005-06	2010-11	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
16.13	17.75	20.16	21.01	21.74	22.85	24.21

Source: Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh Economic Review, various years

Indicator 9.2.1 Manufacturing value added per capita (constant 2010 US $)

The manufacturing value added per worker is calculated by dividing manufacturing value added at constant 2010 US dollar by the number of workers employed in the manufacturing sector. Per capita manufacturing value added has increased steadily in Bangladesh during FY2002-03 to FY2016-17 with a temporary dip in 2013.

Table 9.3: Manufacturing Value Added per Person (constant 2010 US $)

2002-03	2005-06	2010	2013	2015-16	2016-17
2479	2635	2774	2607	3877	4210

Source: Calculated using GDP data from World Bank and employment data from BBS, Labour Force Survey, various years

Indicator 9.2.2 Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment (per cent)

The manufacturing sector is expanding steadily in Bangladesh over the last two decades. Dominant segments of the sector such as textiles, RMGs, jute goods, leather are labour- intensive and consequently there has also been rapid increase in manufacturing employment. Higher growth of manufacturing output results in higher proportion of employment in the sector. The manufacturing employment share has, however, remained somewhat stable in the last two years which, if continues, may make it difficult to attain the 2025 indicator milestone. Thus, while the share of manufacturing in GDP increases, its employment share in total employment might decrease if increasing productivity of manufacturing workers dominates. The government has enacted the Product Manufacturers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 2018 to implement the recommendations of the National Wage and Productivity Commission, 2015.

Table 9.4: Manufacturing Employment as a Proportion of Total Employment (per cent)

2002-03	2005-06	2008-09	2009-10	2012-13	2015-16	2016-17
9.71	11.03	13.53	12.46	16.4	14.4	14.4

Source: BBS, Labour Force Survey and Quarterly Labour Force Survey, various years

Indicator 9.5.2 Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants

Bangladesh lags behind in scientific research, sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development. Since the private investors mainly depend on imported technology especially in the export oriented manufacturing sector, little motivation exists for having a dedicated unit for research and development. However, Table 9.5 shows that the number of researchers per million inhabitants is increasing over time.

Table 9.5: Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per Million Inhabitants

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
5.56	5.66	5.69	5.98	6.16	6.63

Source: Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of Bangladesh

Indicator 9.a.1 Total official international support (official development assistance plus other official flows) to infrastructure

Bangladesh is implementing a wide range of projects in different sectors including power and energy, roads and bridges, railways, port and deep sea port to remove pressing infrastructure bottlenecks. Development partners help finance the infrastructure projects in Bangladesh. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is an important infrastructure development partner of Bangladesh in railways, roads and bridges, ports and urban infrastructure. Meanwhile, in the power sector, the presence of the World Bank, JICA and ADB is notable. Table 9.6 gives the volume of official support disbursed to transport, power, energy and science and ICT sectors, in which transport and power has high shares. However, total international support to infrastructure shows an upward trend with a dip in 2015 and, in 2018, it shows the highest support from development partners to finance its infrastructure development projects (Table 9.7).

Table 9.6: Aid Disbursement to Infrastructure Sectors ($ million)

Sector	2015	2016	2017	2018
Transport	243.51	283.33	705.92	389.23
Power	362.29	562.40	510.79	953.43
Energy	3.77	4.27	37.93	71.13
Science and ICT	23.56	0.22	...	...
% of total aid disbursement	20.81	23.86	34.12	22.19

Source: Aid Information Management System, ERD

Table 9.7 Total international support to infrastructure (million US$), 2012 to 2018

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
813.1	1167.4	1580.2	1247.2	1736.5	6.63	4041

Source: ERD

Indicator 9.b.1 Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added

Without technology and innovation, industrialisation will not happen, and without industrialisation, development will not accelerate. There needs to be more investments in medium and high-tech products that dominate the manufacturing productions to increase efficiency. Table 9.8 shows the proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added over time.

Table 9.8 Proportion of Medium and High-tech Industry Value Added in Total Value Added (%)

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
14.61	12.64	12.26	12.65	12.79	12.85	11.57	11.54

Source: NAW, BBS, SID

Indicator 9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by a mobile network by technology (per cent)

Mobile phone was first introduced in Bangladesh in 1990. Subsequently, Bangladesh introduced 2G in 1992; and 3G networks succeeded offering faster data transfer rates and enabling video calls. The 4G was launched in 2018. The 2G technology coverage reached close to 100 per cent in 2019; while 3G technology coverage exceeded the target of 92 per cent set for 2020 in 2019. The 4G coverage has reached 79 per cent in June 2019.

Table 9.9: Coverage of Proportion of Population by a Mobile Network by Technology (per cent)

Technology	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(up to June)								
2G	99	99	99	99.4	99.46	99.49	99.54	99.60
3G	...	...	...	71.0	90.2	92.55	95.23	95.23
4G	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79.00

Source: Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission

9.3 Government Efforts

In Bangladesh, the efforts by the government treat investment in infrastructure and innovation as crucial drivers of economic growth and development. With nearly 35 per cent of Bangladesh's population living in cities, mass transport and renewable energy are becoming ever more important in the country, as are the growth of new industries and information and communication technologies. The policies also highlight technological progress as key to finding lasting solutions to both economic and environmental challenges, such as providing new jobs and promoting energy efficiency. Promoting sustainable industries, and investing in scientific research and innovation, are all important ways to facilitate sustainable development in Bangladesh.

The government has been prioritising the building of resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive sustainable industrialisation and fostering innovation in its overall policy framework. In its BDT 2.03 trillion 2019 budget, transport sector infrastructure finance has been allocated over 25 per cent (BDT 582 billion), followed by the power sector (BDT 260.17 billion). The Road Sector Master Plan (2010-2030) guides the investments in the road sector with the objectives of protecting the value of RHD assets, increasing connectivity, and improving road safety, among others.

While projects such as the mass rapid transit (MRT) address connectivity within the country, there have also been several efforts which enhance international trade routes. Financed by ADB, OPEC Fund for International Development and the Abu Dhabi Fund, the 'Bangladesh: South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation Road Connectivity Project' builds the capacity of the Dhaka-Northwest corridor. Improvements of the priority regional transport corridors in Bangladesh will facilitate the movement of around 18 million tons of freight. In addition to boosting the national economy, this will also enhance regional cooperation.

The 'Cross-Border Road Network Improvement Project' financed by JICA is set to improve national and regional transportation and logistics network in Bangladesh. Developing major international roads in Bangladesh will expedite trade and growth in the South Asia region as a whole.

Japan has been given land in the Araihazar Economic Zone (160), while India has been given lands in Bagerhat, Kushtia and Mirsharai Economic Zones (161) for investing in industrial activities. Industrial units in the economic zones will be crucial in providing employment and boosting economic activity in these regions. The economic zones are established and managed by the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA), instituted in 2010 to facilitate local and foreign investment in manufacturing activities.

Under the SASEC Railway Connectivity, 'Akhaura-Laksam Double Track Project' is an ADB financed activity which will develop a 72 km corridor, part of a sub-regional corridor and the Trans-Asia Railway Network.

9.4 Key Challenges

Several key challenges are associated with the implementation of SDG9 in Bangladesh including high cost of doing business; lack of quality infrastructure; delays in developing one stop service points; managing land constraints; scarcity in skilled human resources; shortcomings in attracting FDI; low access to efficient utility services; and shortcomings in ensuring transparent and accountable institutions.

Road transport improvement faces the challenges from complexity of land acquisition along with resettlement and compensation complexities. Other pertinent issues which need urgent and proper alignment include road construction technology, adequate finance, proper data, and axle load. Road safety maintenance requires proper and adequate roads, road accident data, and awareness of users as well as special attention on traffic management. A major challenge in project implementation in transport and communication sector is the capacity constraint often leading to delays in project completion. Delays and underfunding result in cost escalation and lower rate of return on investments. Inadequate maintenance affects reliability and quality of infrastructure services with negative effect on growth.

Bangladesh also needs to achieve requirements of labour compliance, environmental compliance to make the effects of industrialisation more sustainable. In Bangladesh, SDG9 also requires that the markets operate efficiently and provide consistent and right signals at the right time. Bangladesh's major challenges also include bringing more transparencies by digitalisation of business processes; and fostering economic diplomacy to strengthen inter-government initiatives for access to modern technologies and avail best practices. Adequate investments in research and development together with technology transfer and innovation also need greater attention.

Further, bringing effective and timely coordination among various policies and the responsible implementing agencies are challenges that make it difficult for the policies to play their anticipated roles.

9.5 Way Forward

Bangladesh has made relatively good progress on SDG9, but in order to achieve this goal by 2030, the rate of progress must accelerate further. Connectivity as an area of priority for Bangladesh. Connectivity includes transport, information and communications technology and trade. Specific areas include rail, road, and maritime transport, increasing the availability and affordability of broadband internet, and implementing paperless trade. Infrastructure development requires both regional cooperation and national implementation.

Regional cooperation on innovation should also be high on the policy agenda. Bangladesh needs to develop a prudent plan of action on science, technology and innovation for the years until 2030 as well as an implementation plan for it focusing on best practices, practical experiences and success stories and mitigating the challenges.

Financing for SDG9, especially in infrastructure, is a major challenge for Bangladesh to overcome. There is a need to explore innovative financing approaches and models that use public resources to diversify and mobilise additional resources. Such financing should be funnelled into resilient and sustainable infrastructure. Infrastructure and technologies that simultaneously reduce time burdens and drudgery, curb carbon emissions and create jobs are key to meet SDG9 by Bangladesh, such as water pumps, mini grids, electricity, and clean cook stoves.

It is also especially important for Bangladesh to develop those financing models and instruments that can empower women economically, through supporting women entrepreneurs and business owners and through building infrastructure that can empower women. Increased investments in local infrastructure and entrepreneurship can reduce women's burden of unpaid care work and provide women with better access to markets and resources. Investments in rural roads, which facilitate women's freedom of movement, also have positive effects on private sector productivity, poverty reduction, school enrolment, access to health services and economic growth.

In Bangladesh, investments in infrastructure – transport, irrigation, energy and information and communication technology – are crucial to achieving sustainable development and empowering communities especially in rural areas. Growth in productivity and incomes, and improvements in health and education outcomes require investment in essential infrastructure. Manufacturing is already emerging as an important driver of economic development and employment in

Bangladesh. Further, technological progress is the foundation of efforts to achieve environmental objectives, such as increased resource and energy-efficiency. Without technology and innovation, industrialisation will not happen, and without industrialisation, sustainable development will not happen in Bangladesh. Bangladesh needs to invest more in high-tech products that dominate the manufacturing productions to increase efficiency along with greater focus on mobile cellular services that increase connections between people.

9.6 Summary

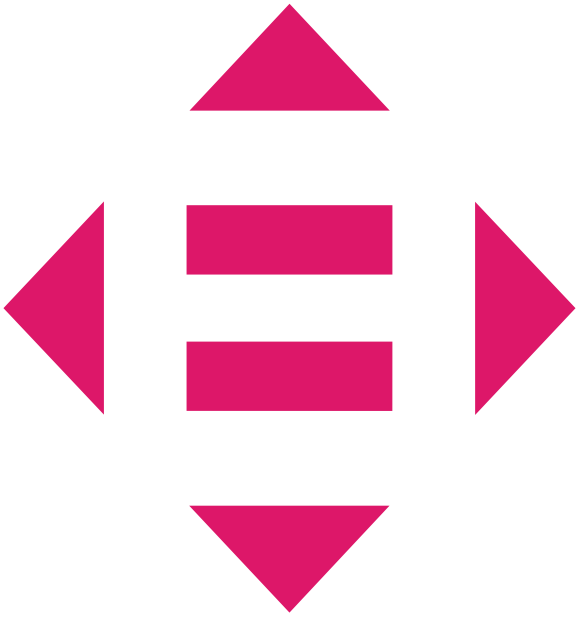
The government's efforts to achieve SDG9 rest on providing infrastructure comprising all modes of transport and ICT infrastructure on the one hand, and on providing policy and institutional support to private sector investments as well as fostering public-private partnerships, on the other. Financing, capacity constraints of implementation agencies, complexity of land acquisition are several key challenges in the area. In the face of vulnerability to natural disasters which are worsening due to climate change impact, Bangladesh's priority is to build resilient infrastructure. Similarly, manufacturing growth has to be inclusive and sustainable.

For Bangladesh, industrial development is the primary means of income generation and the vehicle through which everyone can enjoy a better standard of living. Infrastructure provides facilities for industry and society to transform, while innovation expands technological capacity and leads to the development of new skills. The current global industrial trend towards automation and new technology, known as the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), results in fast and transformative change due to technological advances--from artificial intelligence to robotics, new energy sources and storage.

These changes are likely to happen quickly and disrupt the way manufacturing and services have traditionally been carried out, bringing with it both challenges and opportunities for Bangladesh. Technological innovation is at the root of current industrialisation trends, and among other things, can provide a basis for climate-adapted infrastructure and climate-resilient development in Bangladesh. Bangladesh's implementation of SDG9 needs to be aware of these developments in order to remain relevant in the coming years and should embrace these dimensions in development plans, policies and programmes.

10 Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries



10.1 Global Perspective on SDG10

One core objective of SDGs is to reduce inequalities within and across countries. The SDGs framework identifies inequality as a key issue to tackle since reduced inequalities can ensure truly inclusive development and drive human progress towards sustainability and universal wellbeing.

Inequality within and among countries around the world continues to be a significant concern despite progress in and efforts at narrowing disparities of opportunity, income and power. Relative global inequality has fallen steadily over the decades, driven by a dramatic decline in inequality between countries; but absolute inequality measures show global inequality has increased substantially over the last decades. Income inequality continues to rise in many parts of the world, even as the bottom 40 per cent of the population in many countries has experienced positive growth rates.

The 2016 Global Wealth Report shows that wealth inequalities, measured by the share of the wealthiest 1 per cent and wealthiest 10 per cent of adults, as compared with the rest of the world's adult population, continue to rise. While the bottom half collectively own less than 1 per cent of total wealth, the wealthiest top 10 per cent own 89 per cent of all global assets. The richest 33 million people (0.7 per cent of the world's population) control USD 116 trillion, or 45.6 per cent of the world's wealth, or more than USD 1 million each. On the other hand, the poorest 3.5 billion people (73 per cent of the world's population) control only USD 6.1 trillion of wealth, or less than USD 10, 000 in wealth per person..

In more than half of the 92 countries with comparable data during the period 2011–2016, the bottom 40 per cent of the population experienced a growth rate that was higher than the overall national average. However, the bottom 40 per cent received less than 25 per cent of the overall income or consumption. In many countries, the increasing share of income going to the top 1 per cent of earners is of significant concern. The inequality of incomes between different countries is much higher than the inequality within countries. The consequence of this is that the trend of global inequality is very much driven by what is happening to inequality between countries.

In the past, global distribution of per capita income showed a clear divide between richer and poorer countries; and these between-country differences were equally applicable to other development indicators, notably health and education. However, in the present century, the boundaries between developed and developing regions are becoming less clear because of the extraordinary social and economic progress achieved by a large majority of countries; while global economic activity is becoming less geographically concentrated and increasingly dispersed across production networks around the world.

Robust and sound financial systems are essential for supporting equal access to financial services. High loan asset impairment, measured by the ratio of non-performing loans to total loans for deposit takers, is a potential risk to the soundness of the banking system. For almost half of the 138 reporting countries, the percentage of non-performing loans to total loans was less than 5, while the average median for the period 2010–2017 was 4.3 per cent.

While countries in developing regions represent over 70 per cent of the membership of the UN General Assembly and WTO, which utilise a one member, one vote system, their voting share in other international organisations remains far below these levels. Governance reforms are being negotiated

at the IMF, and changes were adopted at the World Bank in 2018. However, full implementation will leave developing countries with just over 40 per cent of the voting rights, still short of the 75 per cent they represent in World Bank membership in terms of the number of countries.

Duty-free access continued to increase for LDCs, Small Island developing States and developing regions at large. More than 50 per cent of exports from developing countries are now eligible for duty-free treatment. The increase of duty-free access in world markets was the largest for LDCs, namely in the industrial and agriculture sector. In 2017, total receipts by developing countries from donors of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), multilateral agencies and other key providers were $414 billion, of which $163 billion were ODA.

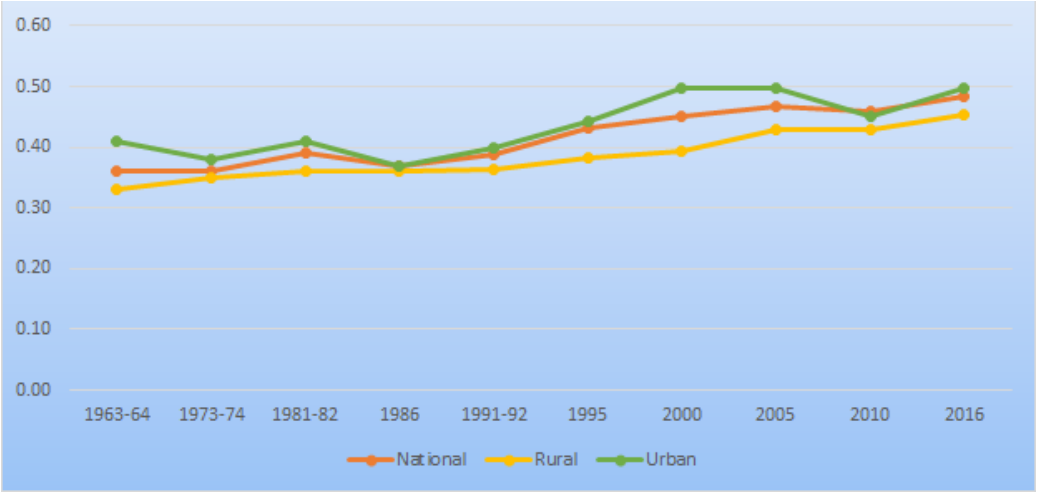
In South Asia, inequality is a roadblock to progress as it deprives people of opportunity, and subjects many to conditions of poverty. For instance, in the late 2000s, children in the wealthiest quintile of South Asia were two times more likely to complete primary school than those in the poorest. There is growing consensus that economic growth is not sufficient to reduce poverty if it is not inclusive and if it does not involve the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental. Rising inequalities adversely impact human development. According to the inequality-adjusted Human Development Index (HDI), South Asia loses 25 per cent of its HDI to inequality. To reduce inequality, policies should be universal in principle, paying attention to the needs of disadvantaged and marginalised populations. Inclusion has to be promoted actively, in social as well as political spheres, for all ages, sexes, races, religions and ethnicities to create conditions of equity within countries in South Asia.

Inequality is not inevitable; the current inequalities are mostly the results of deliberate policy choices. The policy makers need to rectify the harmful tax regimes, including move towards lowering general corporate taxation. In developing countries, inadequate resourcing for health, education, sanitation and investment in the poorest citizens drives extreme inequality. One reason is tax avoidance and other illicit outflows of cash. After falling during much of the twentieth century, current inequality is worsening in the rich countries as well. One suggestion is to reach an international agreement establishing a wealth tax. Since wealth tends to accumulate over generations, fair and well-designed wealth taxes could go a long way towards combating extreme inequality. Further, governments across different countries could establish and enforce national living wages. Low and unlivable wages are a result of worker disempowerment and concentration of wealth at the top — hallmarks of unequal societies.

10.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG10 by Indicators

Rising inequalities have always been considered as a major policy issue in Bangladesh. The Gini coefficient of income distribution stands at 0.483 nationally in 2016; which is 0.498 in rural areas and 0.454 in urban areas. Figure 10.1 shows the trend of income inequality since 1963. Over the entire period of 1963-2016, national Gini has risen from 0.36 to 0.483—an increase by more than 34 per cent—while rural Gini increased by nearly 38 per cent and urban Gini by 21 per cent over the same period. These figures suggest that Bangladesh has experienced increases in the Gini coefficient over the period of last half century but the rate has accelerated especially since the 1990s. Further, inequality increased rather sharply in the rural areas while urban areas experienced somewhat moderate rise in income inequality..

Figure 10.1: Gini Coefficient of Income in Bangladesh, 1963-2016



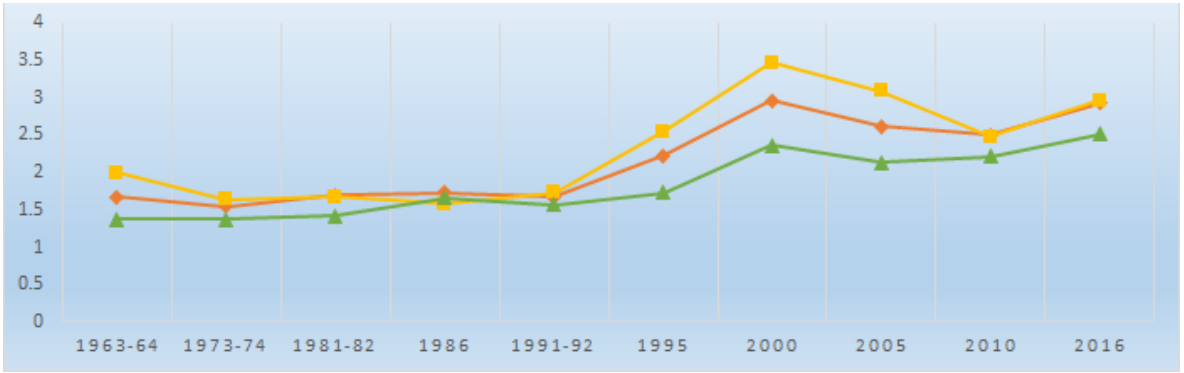
Source: HIES, different years

Over the last decades, Bangladesh has witnessed impressive average gains against multiple indicators of material prosperity. For instance, GDP per capita has more than tripled in real terms; average life expectancy has risen to nearly 73 years. However, this is only part of the picture. Although Bangladesh is richer than ever before today, about 40 million people still live in poverty. The richest 5 per cent of the households gets nearly 28 per cent of the total income, while the bottom 5 per cent gets only 0.23 per cent. Despite overall declines in maternal mortality, women in rural areas are still up to three times more likely to die while giving birth than women living in urban centres. Social protection has been extended, yet persons with disabilities are up to five times more likely than average to incur catastrophic health expenditures. Women are participating more in the work force, but continue to be disproportionately represented in vulnerable employment. Overall, humanity remains deeply divided in Bangladesh.

There is a growing consensus that the best indicator for looking at the worst form of income inequality is the Palma ratio, which effectively focuses on extremes of inequality—the ratio of incomes at the very top to those at the bottom. In Bangladesh, there are changes in these extremes that are most noticeable; while the share of income in the middle is relatively stable (Figure 10.2). As can be seen, the Palma ratio at the national level has consistently increased from 1.68 in 1963-64 to 2.93 in 2016; in urban areas, it rose from 2.00 to 2.96 while, in rural areas, it grew from 1.38 to 2.51 over the same period.

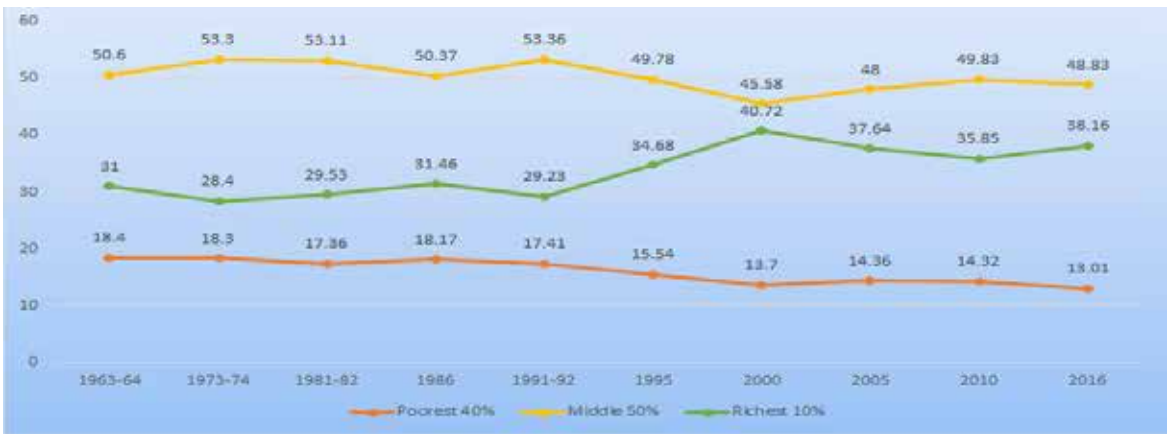
Figure 10.3 shows the changes in the income shares of the poorest 40 per cent, middle 50 per cent and the richest 10 per cent in the income distribution at the national level. It shows that the share of the middle 50 per cent is relatively stable; while the poorest 40 per cent generally loses in terms of income share while the richest 10 per cent gains. The policy implication is that Bangladesh should focus on its 'extreme' inequalities, that is, inequalities that do most harm to inclusive and sustainable economic growth and undermine social and political stability.

Figure 10.2: Palma Ratio in Bangladesh, 1963- 2016



Note: Due to data limitations, the Palma ratio has been constructed using total household income rather than gross national income. Source: GED's calculation using HIES data.

Figure 10.3: Share of Deciles in Total Household Income at National Level, 1963-2016



Source: GED's calculation from HIES data

The household income and expenditure survey (HIES) data show that income inequality is much higher than consumption inequality; and the ratio of income inequality to consumption inequality is rising over time. This means that, given similar poverty thresholds for income and consumption, income poverty reduction would be slower than the reduction in consumption poverty. It is well-known that social indicators vary significantly across countries depending on their level of development; but these may vary widely across different income groups as well in the same country. Table 10.1 shows the glaring social inequalities that exist between the poorest and richest quintiles of Bangladesh population.

Table 10.1: Selected Social Indicators for Poorest and Richest Quintiles in Bangladesh

Indicator	Quintile	
	Poorest	Richest
Percentage of children under age 5 malnutrition rate (Weight-for-age, Percentage below -2 SD2)	45	17.4
Infant mortality rate	43	24
Child (under 5 years) mortality rate	53	30
Total fertility rate	2.8	2
Teenage mothers (% of women 15-19 years)	41.1	22.9
Per cent women receiving Antenatal care (ANC) from medically trained provider	35.6	90
Percentage of women delivered in a health facility	14.9	70.2
Educational attainment of the male household population (More than secondary)	2	31
Educational attainment of the female household population (More than secondary)	1.1	21.2

Source: Demographic and Health Survey 2014, BBS

The table shows that inequalities in education, health and other basic services are significantly related to income and wealth. Recent data available from Demographic and Health Survey 2014 conducted by BBS show that the percentage of malnourished children under 5 (weight-for-age) is about 45 per cent in the poorest quintile whereas it is 17.4 per cent for the richest quintile; and only about 35.6 per cent of population in the poorest quintile in 2014 received antenatal care (ANC) from medically trained provider while it is around 90 per cent for the richest quintile. Around 15 per cent of women in poorest quintile delivered in a health facility while it is around 70 per cent for richest quintile.

Indicator 10.1.1 Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population

The income of the bottom 40 percent of the population compared to the income of the total population is a good indicator of the income distributed in the economy. In Bangladesh, the income of the bottom 40 percent population grows at 7.7 percent per annum based on Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2016. The same survey reported the annual growth rate of income of the total population as 9.1 percent. This result can be attributed to the rising income inequality over the years. With the help of social safety net; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) credit; and public expenditure on socio-economic sectors, government is determined to reduce the income disparities among different faction of the population.

Indicator 10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

According to the HIES 2016, the proportion of people living below 50 percent of median income is 15.98 percent. No disaggregated data was available at present due to the nature of the HIE survey.

10.3.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law

In 2018, 35.6 per cent population reported having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law.

10.5.1 Financial Soundness Indicators

Base year	Current Status
1 - Regulatory Tier 1 capital to assets: 5.40	1 - Regulatory Tier 1 capital to assets: 4.74
2 - Regulatory Tier 1 capital to risk- weighted assets: 8.00	2 - Regulatory Tier 1 capital to risk- weighted assets: 6.77
3 - Nonperforming loans net of provisions to capital: 44.19	3 - Nonperforming loans net of provisions to capital: 53.36
4 - Nonperforming loans to total gross loans: 8.40	4 - Nonperforming loans to total gross loans: 9.89
5 - Return on assets: 1.86	5 - Return on assets: 0.86
6 - Liquid assets to short-term liabilities: 51.13	6 - Liquid assets to short-term liabilities: 44.48
7 - Net open position in foreign exchange to capital: 4.72	7 - Net open position in foreign exchange to capital: 7.43

Source: BB, 2018

Indicator 10.7.2 Number of countries that have implemented well-managed migration policies

In Bangladesh, Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Policy 2016 has been approved in January 2016. This policy is aimed to provide a comprehensive labor migration framework with a particular focus on the protection of migrant workers.

Indicator 10.a 1 Proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries with zero tariffs

The proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries with zero tariffs remains the same as the Doha round negotiation of WTO.

Indicator 10.b.1 Total resource flows for development by type of flow (e.g. official development assistance, foreign direct investment and other flows)

Although Bangladesh is no longer an aid dependent country, still ODA plays a vital role in the country's poverty alleviation, social sector activities and infrastructure development. Data on ODA indicate modest growth although the share of ODA in GDP has been generally declining in recent years. During 2010-2014, ODA registered remarkable growth of 14.97 per cent that slowed down in later years. FDI grew at an average annual rate of 14.4 per cent during 2010-2014 basically due to increased investment in telecommunications, textiles, and power and gas sectors. FDI growth increased to about 18 per cent in the latter period. The above shows that increased flow of FDI as part of the country's strategy to mobilise significantly bigger amount of resources for achieving accelerated growth with renewed emphasis on domestic resource mobilisation can be effective with the adoption of the right approach.

Table 10.2: Resource Flows for Development by Type of Flows (USD million)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
ODA, ml. USD	1777.0	1847.0	2057.2	2760.8	3046.8	3005.5	3531.7	3677.3	6369	...
FDI(net), ml. USD	913.0	779.0	1194.9	1730.6	1438.5	1833.9	2003.5	2454.8	3613.30	4946

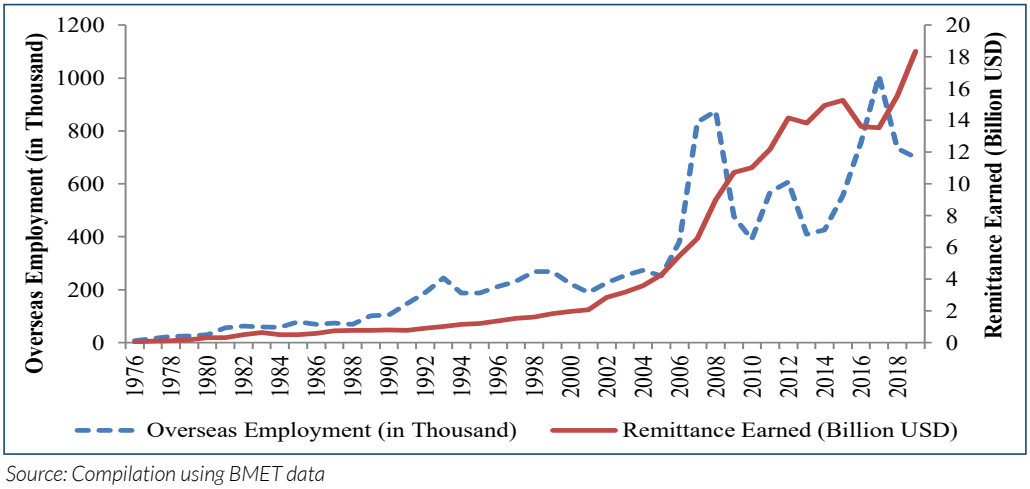
Source: ERD, 2018 and BB, 2018, 2019

Indicator 10.c.1 Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted

Bangladesh is one of the major suppliers of migrant workers and in terms of remittance flows; it is the eighth largest remittance receiving country in the world. According to the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET), about 0.73 million workers went abroad in FY2017-18, which was 1.008 million in the previous fiscal year. Bangladesh earned remittances of USD 15.54 billion in 2018 which increased to USD 18.35 billion in 2019 (Figure 10.4). The remittance sent by Bangladeshi expatriates was 9.44 per cent of GDP and 62.25 per cent of total export earnings during FY 2008-09; and the shares have declined over the years and stood at 5.49 per cent of GDP and 40.86 per cent of total export earnings in FY2017-18.

International migration is costly and compared with other migrant sending countries; Bangladesh has the highest financial cost for migration (IOM, 2018). Because of high migration cost, it is very hard for the poor to migrate to other countries. The exact cost of migration is, however, hard to estimate as the cost varies depending on various factors like, skills, gender, type of visa as well as the extent of involvement of intermediaries (Siddiqui, 2010). The government policy is to lessen the cost of recruitment as proportion of annual income of migrant workers based on the migration cost and income in 17 countries in 2016, taken as the base. Data available from the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEWOE) show that the recruitment cost borne by employees as a percentage of yearly income earned in the country of destination has not changed in 2018 from their base values. Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted was 4.06 per cent in 2015, which has slightly increased at 4.48 per cent in 2018 (BB, 2018).

Figure 10.4: Overseas Employment and Remittance Earned during 1976-2019



Source: Compilation using BMET data

10.3 Government Efforts to Reduce Inequality

To facilitate and coordinate inequality reducing efforts, the government has prepared a mapping document including SDGs needs assessment and financing strategy covering all ministries, divisions, agencies and SDG targets for fast track implementation of the policy agenda (PC, 2017). The government has also aligned many of the development strategies of the Seventh Five Year Plan (2016-2020) with the SDGs based on which the first phase of SDGs implementation has been carried out. The remaining phases are to be covered under the Eighth and the Ninth Five Year Plans till 2030. The General Economics Division (GED) of the Planning Commission, as the government's focal point on poverty and SDGs, plays the coordinating and catalytic role in this regard especially in relation to achieving consensus on feasible action plans and assessing financial requirements. Further, the SDGs Implementation and Monitoring Committee has been formed at the Prime Minister's Office, which is responsible for oversight of the entire process and localisation of SDGs.

According to Planning Commission estimates, the additional synchronised cost of implementing the SDGs would be USD 928.48 billion at constant prices, which is nearly 20 per cent of the accumulated GDP during 2017-2030. The highest cost will be for SDG8 since economic growth is the core for spurring development in all respects. Total additional cost for achieving SDG10 targets over the period 2017-2030 is estimated at USD 6.90 billion at constant 2015-16 prices (PC, 2017). These are additional synchronised costs and hence desired progress in all related areas has to be ensured especially in the case of SDG8 which aims to create decent jobs and ensure sustainable and inclusive growth of the economy.

Inequalities in education, health and other basic services are significantly associated with income and wealth in the country. Bangladesh's policy agenda identifies the issue of inequality as multidimensional and linked to most other SDGs. As such, to achieve universal realisation of equality and empowerment, the agenda focuses on addressing key areas of inequality--in particular inequalities in opportunities; discrimination in law and in practice; women's and men's unequal opportunities in the labour market; unequal division of unpaid care and domestic work; poor's limited control over assets and property; and their unequal participation in private and public decision making and businesses.

In the context of SDG 10, the country's policy framework therefore aims to: progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average; empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status; and ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

At the local level, three key policy pillars are identified: (i) moderate income inequality through inclusive growth, redistributive policies, income opportunities for low income people and other measures; (ii) reduce gaps in health, nutrition and education by better targeting, improved delivery channels, strengthened institutions for quality services, and expanded access to un/underserved locations; and (iii) remove social and gender exclusion and discrimination through affirmative action and institutional policies. In the above context, the policies emphasise three broad avenues:

Make the tax system more progressive: Ensure better access to financial services; and abolish gender-biased rules and regulations;

Accelerate the catching up process: Since most of the Bangladesh's poor live in rural areas and are engaged in farming, for reducing income inequality, agricultural development is essential to directly increase the incomes of the poor who farm. In the context of inequality reduction, it is also important to consider separately the non-tradable and tradable non-farm sectors within a general-equilibrium framework in Bangladesh. While the non-tradable sector is driven by local demand conditions and thus is positively influenced by growth in agricultural productivity, the tradable non-farm sector (e.g. MSMEs) concentrates in areas with relatively low wages and thus is negatively influenced by growth in agricultural productivity. Further, the MSMEs tend to employ low-skilled labour. The growth in such employment increases the incomes of the poor and, given that the landed (better-off) households are net hirers of agricultural labour, this decreases intra-village inequality.

However, these mechanisms can only work in the presence of well-functioning labour and goods markets and an external source of mobile capital. Thus, it is important to reduce the barriers to the movement of capital along with investments in agricultural technology at the local levels.

Improve human capital: An important way to reduce inequality is to ensure access of all people especially the poor and the disadvantaged to quality education and health services as well as quality skills development training.

The framework further emphasises that the SDG10 can be reached only if local actors (e.g. LGIs, NGO-MFIs) fully participate, not only in implementation, but also in the agenda-setting and monitoring. The LGIs can strengthen activities on awareness building for women and men on rights and social issues; facilitate more effective investment in local infrastructure (e.g. water supply, fuel and energy) to reduce the time women spend in household unpaid labour; support IGAs (e.g. CMEs) that would allow women to spend more time in paid labour to reduce income inequality across gender and improve mothers' health, which benefits children's well-being; work towards ensuring access to basic social services in sufficient quantity and of good quality in terms of relevance and cultural acceptability to the poorer groups; raise awareness on ensuring greater flow of public expenditures to areas and groups who need the most; and create the case/opinion for directing public investments in infrastructure, especially in rural and geographically isolated areas, with strong positive growth and inequality-reducing benefits.

The LGIs and NGO-MFIs have rich, varied and successful experience of working at the grassroots level. The breadth of SDG10 means there are many areas where they can contribute to implementing SDG10, drawing on their capacity. The actions should also focus on fine-tuning their existing work. Each LGI should highlight what it could do more of–or do somewhat differently–to support the achievement of SDG10.

The achievement of SDG 10 in Bangladesh requires local action as SDG 10 targets are directly or indirectly related to the daily work of local governments and local institutions. Integrated and transformative nature of SDG10 requires policies that systematically consider sectoral inter-linkages (synergies and trade-offs) between economic, social and environmental spheres. In this respect, the local government and the NGO-MFIs are the catalysts of change and are best placed to

link the SDG10 with local communities. These institutions need to apply an SDG10 lens to integrate SDG10 perspectives; revisit existing thematic strategies (e.g. innovation strategy, skills strategy, green growth strategy, poverty reduction strategy etc.) to make them 'SDG10-aware', ensuring that they support the achievement of SDG10 where relevant. They should also leverage ground-level data and information to help analyse progress in implementation of SDG10. These local institutions hold vast amounts of information – both quantitative and qualitative – that can contribute to SDG10 follow-up efforts in the country.

Evidence shows that the inequality of outcomes and that of opportunities are interlinked and mutually reinforcing in both rural and urban areas, but more so in rural areas. Thus a comprehensive policy framework is needed to address inequality in all of the dimensions that matter for well-being, focusing especially on those households and groups who remain consistently on the margins of economic, social and political life. The policy framework needs to work for the moderation of income inequality through inclusive growth pathways and for increased efforts to close gaps in education, health and nutrition and to tackle prejudice, discrimination and exclusion.

In the above context, the adopted policy framework aims to: (i) Upgrade in-house capacity for integrated planning and policy-making at the grassroots level, and provide support to the local government to create a space for sharing mutual experiences on implementing SDG10; (ii) Consider the role of union parishads, upazila parishads, municipalities and sub-national governments in the implementation of SDG 10; build networks and partnerships to foster cross-sectoral perspective on SDG 10 at subnational level; and enhance thematic programmes on service delivery, which can help foster inter-linkages across several SDGs at local and regional levels; and (iii) Raise awareness on SDG 10 among partners and the people; improve their knowledge of SDG 10; familiarise them with the implications, opportunities and challenges in localising it; and urge local stakeholders to fully realise their crucial role. As an advocacy platform, this will create an enabling environment for the localisation process, to support local ownership and ensure the SDG10 integration in sub-national strategies and plans. This could also point out best practices that are reliable and replicable in order to efficiently design, implement and monitor interventions in line with SDG10. Additionally, the government has been measuring multidimensional poverty index (MPI) which can be used as a tool to reduce spatial inequalities as it can reflect the geographical deprivation of people on several socioeconomic indicators. Therefore, unique targeted policies can be adopted for different lagging regions.

10.4 Key Challenges

Income inequality in Bangladesh has always been a major policy issue. It is further acknowledged that the gravity of the problem of growing income inequality becomes more complex if differentials in wealth accumulation are taken into account. In Bangladesh, the number of poor at USD 3.10 a day (2011 PPP) is 86.12 million who can hardly save for wealth accumulation compared with the richer groups. Thus future levels of inequality are likely to be much worse if existing wealth ownership and prospects of future wealth accumulation are taken into account.

The 2017 Social Progress Index, which measures country performance on a wide range of aspects of social and environmental performance, puts Bangladesh as a 'low social progress' country with

a rank of 97 across 128 countries[1]. Bangladesh is also identified as one of the countries where largest improvements in the Social Progress Index have taken place between 2014 and 2017. This improvement suggests that Bangladesh, with a relatively low level of social progress, can improve more rapidly since it both has more opportunities for improvement and can draw on lessons from success cases in other countries.

There is also a significant correlation between income inequality and (low) quality of institutions. In theory, weak institutions may be conducive to income inequality. Where the poor are not given the protection of an independent judicial system, for example, their ability to extract rents is inferior to that of the rich. It is also suggested that high income inequality allows the rich to wield stronger political influence, thereby subverting institutions. Indeed, global evidence shows that income inequality and poor institutional quality reinforce each other. Thus, institutional reforms could be good instruments to reduce inequality; but political feasibility is also important for implementing such reforms in a country like Bangladesh.

For Bangladesh, three critical challenges are identified in SDG10 implementation:

- **Measurement Challenge:** Only a few of the indicators can currently be measured in a rigorous and regular manner in Bangladesh. The government and the civil society must therefore take the measurement issue deeper with flexibility in data sources to provide a comprehensive estimate of SDG 10 performance even where formal indicators may not exist as yet.
- **Aggregation Challenge:** The SDG10, by definition, provides a list of goals rather than an overarching model. Bangladesh needs to devise a conceptual model that would allow aggregation to explore complementarities and synergies across indicators for carrying the measurement effort forward.
- **Localisation Challenge:** Much of the efforts on SDG10 implementation will take place at the sub-national level, and will require local data to track performance. The local level institutions, including NGO-MFIs and civil society think tanks, need to be deployed extensively by district, city, and upazila/union level LGIs to provide practical tools for SDG10 localisation.

Bangladesh has achieved notable success in steadily accelerating economic growth; along with unprecedented progress in improving key social indicators. Poverty in Bangladesh is usually measured by consumption—instead of income--as the indicator of current living standard, as consumption is considered as a better measure of 'permanent income' than income itself. This, however, does not recognise the fact that the poor are often forced to sustain consumption by liquidating assets or by borrowing; and poverty in the context of SDG10 in Bangladesh should be better conceived in the context of multidimensional deprivations within local social dynamics.

1 The 2017 Social Progress Index covers 12 components and 50 distinct indicators. The framework not only provides an aggregate country score and ranking, but also allows benchmarking on specific areas of strength and weakness. Transparency of measurement based on a comprehensive framework allows change-makers to set strategic priorities, acting upon the most pressing issues in specific societies. The component level framework comprises of basic human needs (nutrition and basic medical care, water and sanitation, shelter, personal safety), foundations of well-being (access to basic knowledge, access to information and communications, health and wellness, environmental quality) and opportunity (personal rights, personal freedom and choice, tolerance and inclusion, access to advanced education). In South Asia, three countries (Sri Lanka, Nepal and India) belong to 'lower middle social progress' country group. See, Porter et al 2017.

In order to reduce inequality, the 7th FYP (2016-2020) targeted to increase in 2020 the spending on education to 3 per cent of GDP, on health to 1.2 per cent of GDP, and on social protection to 2.3 per cent of GDP. However, except for social protection, the other targets are unlikely to be fulfilled. Currently, Bangladesh spends about 1.90 per cent of GDP on education and 0.85 per cent on health. The spending on social protection will also significantly be reduced if public sector pension schemes are excluded. This shows that special focus is needed on budget allocations for health and education, including strengthening of health and education system governance, management and service delivery capacities, and implementation of essential services package, with a focus on the lagging regions.

10.5 Way Forward

Designing the right policy framework for addressing inequalities is the biggest challenging area to work in Bangladesh, as in other developing countries. Inequalities of outcomes and opportunities are highly inter-dependent. Without equal opportunities, systemic patterns of discrimination and exclusion prevent the poor and disadvantaged groups from accessing economic, political and social resources, resulting in inequality traps — and the persistence of inequality across generations. Equal opportunities can level the playing field so that the circumstances of birth (such as race, gender, rural or urban location) do not adversely influence an individual's chances to get ahead in life.

Since inequalities of outcomes and of opportunities are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, a comprehensive policy framework to reduce inequality needs to address both. The mix of policies and how they are sequenced to address inequalities are context-dependent and specific to the needs and requirements of local conditions in Bangladesh. Nevertheless, priority should be given to deeper and more persistent gaps. For example, as Bangladesh is going through rapid urbanisation, it is experiencing slower rise in urban rather than in rural income inequality; and widening gaps in education or health especially in rural and deprived locations need to be prioritised.

Bangladesh needs to adopt a comprehensive policy framework to help the policy makers better navigate the complexities and challenges of forming appropriate policies to address inequality based on three related pillars: (i) moderating income inequality; (ii) closing gaps in health, nutrition and education; and (iii) addressing social exclusion by promoting agency, combating discrimination and transforming inequality-reproducing cultural norms. Bangladesh can also derive substantial growth dividends from inequality reducing policies. To achieve SDG10, several well-targeted policies are needed in Bangladesh:

- **Make the tax system more progressive:** exemptions and other measures that weaken the potential yields of taxes should be reviewed. Bangladesh should transform expenditure policy into a sharper tool for addressing inequalities.
- **Ensure better access to financial services:** Along with financial inclusion for all, establishing credit bureaus, for example, that centralise information can encourage banks to lend to new customers. Access to mobile money increases access to financial services in remote regions. Establishing credit bureaus for NGO-MFIs can go a long way towards expanding financial inclusion especially in rural areas.

- **Abolish any gender-biased rules and regulations that may exist which can provide quick gains for strengthening growth:** Removing the restriction where they exist is a low hanging fruit to support growth, especially when Bangladesh needs a big push to reach the development goals including SDG10.

- **Prioritise agriculture and rural economy:** Most of Bangladesh's poor live in rural areas and are engaged in farming. For reducing income inequality, agriculture and rural development is essential to directly increase the incomes of the poor.

- **Provide explicit focus on tradable and nontradables sectors:** In the context of inequality reduction, it is important to consider separately the non-tradable and tradable non-farm sectors within a general-equilibrium framework. While the non-tradable sector is driven by local demand conditions and thus is positively influenced by growth in agricultural productivity, the tradable non-farm sector (e.g. MSMEs) concentrates in areas with relatively low wages and thus is negatively influenced by growth in agricultural productivity.

- **MSMEs as inequality reduction drivers:** The MSMEs tend to employ low-skilled labour. The growth in such employment increases the incomes of the poor and, given that the landed (better-off) households are net hirers of agricultural labour, this will decrease intra-village inequality in Bangladesh.

- **Create well-functioning input and output markets:** The inequality reduction mechanisms can only work in the presence of well-functioning labour and goods markets and an external source of mobile capital. It is important to reduce the barriers to the movement of capital along with investments in agricultural technology at local levels.

- **Improving human capital:** An important way to reduce inequality is to ensure access of all people especially the poor and the disadvantaged to quality education and health services as well as quality skills development training.

- **Localising development:** SDG10 can be reached only if local actors (e.g. LGIs, NGO-MFIs) fully participate, not only in implementation, but also in the agenda-setting and monitoring. Participation requires that all relevant actors must be involved in the decision-making process, through consultative and participative mechanisms, at the local and national levels within the overall SDG framework; strengthen activities on awareness building for women and men on rights and social issues; invest in local infrastructure (e.g. water supply, fuel and energy) to reduce the time women spend in household unpaid labour; support income generating activities (e.g. cottage and micro enterprises, CMEs) that would allow women to spend more time in paid labour to reduce income inequality across gender and improve mothers' health, which benefits children's well-being; work towards ensuring access to basic social services in sufficient quantity and of good quality in terms of relevance and cultural acceptability to the poorer groups; raise awareness on ensuring greater flow of public expenditures to areas and groups who need the most; create the case/opinion for directing public investments in infrastructure, especially in rural and geographically isolated areas, with strong positive growth and inequality-reducing benefits.

- **Refocusing local efforts:** The SDG10 targets are directly or indirectly related to the daily work of the local governments and local institutions. The LGIs, NGO-MFIs, and other local organisations have rich, varied and successful experience of working at the grassroots level. The breadth of SDG10 means that there are many areas where they can contribute to implementing SDG10, drawing on their capacity. The actions should also focus on fine-tuning their existing work. Each should highlight what it could do more of–or do somewhat differently–to support the achievement of SDG10. The integrated and transformative nature of SDG10 requires policies that systematically consider sectoral inter-linkages (synergies and trade-offs) between economic, social and environmental spheres. The LGIs and local institutions are the catalysts of change and are best placed to link SDG10 with local communities in Bangladesh.

10.6 Summary

Bangladesh's growth record over the last decade has been impressive, but less so on the inclusiveness front. Bangladesh needs to reverse these premises: with yearly GDP growth crossing 8 per cent mark in real terms, it is time for Bangladesh to make better progress on inequality. The narrower the gap between the rich and the poor in society, the better off everyone in the country in terms of health and other indicators, compared with societies where the gap is wider.

The policy frameworks recognise that exclusion may occur due to occupation, disability, location, ethnicity, and many other socioeconomic and other factors. In achieving national development goals and the SDGs, the government aims at removing all forms of exclusions within the shortest possible time. Further, to address persisting structural inequalities, long-term investments and sustainable actions are planned. The local administration system needs to be more supportive of self-reliant, people-centred, and inclusive development which empowers the lagging-behind people by giving them a stake in the development process. Strong local ownership of programmes also needs promotion through more active involvement of the poor. The current decentralised system needs adjustments to provide them with power and resources to act and participate in decision-making about issues that affect their lives.

The government has taken multidimensional steps to reduce inequality such as, following an inclusive development strategy which combines promotion of economic growth and reduction of poverty and inequality. The government has approved the Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Policy 2016 with a view to ensuring and encouraging safe migration and protection of migrants and their families. Further, ODA and FDI are recording rising and more consistent trends over time. Further, location-based community-led actions on issues such as labour market dynamics, use of local productive resources, income opportunities, education, primary health, childcare and nutrition, water supply and sanitation, and related aspects are prioritised that can lead to significant achievements in reducing inequalities at the local level. Moreover, inequality reducing policies including living wages, quality education, health care services, nutritional interventions, free school meals and similar other interventions are focused which can have greatest impact if introduced at the national level.

The government's strategy to develop the growth centres will facilitate pro-poor growth of agriculture, fishery, livestock and other sectors by providing efficient points for buying and selling for the improvement of equitable development and promote social interaction among the people for exchange of ideas regarding use of irrigation, fertiliser or improved variety of seeds and local and global businesses. Growth centres dominate the service delivery and infrastructure development to ensure social sustainability and create productive employment opportunities and economic expansion through initiating various income generating activities and businesses. All these developments will contribute to reducing inequalities and promoting sustainable development in the catchment areas of the growth centres.

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11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

11.1 Global Perspectives on SDG 11

More than half of human population lives in cities. By 2050, two-thirds of all humanity—6.5 billion people—will be urban. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without significantly transforming the way our urban spaces are built and managed. The rapid growth of cities—a result of rising populations and increasing migration—has led to a boom in mega-cities, and slums are becoming a more significant feature of urban life.

Making cities sustainable means creating career and business opportunities, safe and affordable housing, and building resilient societies and economies. It involves investment in public transport, creating green public spaces, and improving urban planning and management in participatory and inclusive ways.

Globally, substantial progress has been made in reducing the proportion of the global urban population living in slums although the vast majority of the urban residents breathes poor-quality air and has limited access to transport and open public spaces. With the areas occupied by cities growing faster than their populations, there are profound repercussions for sustainability.

Between 1990 and 2016, the proportion of the global urban population living in slums fell from 46 to 23 per cent. However, this progress was largely offset by internal population growth and rural-urban migration. In 2016, over 1 billion people lived in slums or informal settlements, with over half (589 million) living in East, South-East, Central and South Asia.

The proportion of urban residents who have convenient access to public transport (defined as living within 500m walking distance of a bus stop and within 1,000m of a railway and/or ferry terminal) remains low. Based on data from 227 cities from 78 countries in 2018, on average, 53 per cent of urban residents in all regions had convenient access to public transport, from a low of 18 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa to a high of 75 per cent in Australia and New Zealand. In some regions that have low access to public transport, informal transport modes are highly prevalent and in many cases provide reliable transport for the majority of urban populations.

Globally, urban areas are expanding at a faster rate than their populations. Between 2000 and 2014, areas occupied by cities grew 1.28 times faster than their populations. Closely related to this trend is that the urban densities of cities have been declining, creating profound repercussions for environmental sustainability at the local, regional and global scale. Better management of urban growth is crucial in order to guarantee sustainable urbanisation.

About 2 billion people do not have access to waste collection services and 3 billion people lack access to controlled waste disposal facilities. While from 2010 to 2018 the proportion of solid waste collected was about 81 per cent globally, in sub-Saharan Africa it was only 52 per cent. In 2016, 9 in 10 people living in urban areas still breathed air that did not meet the WHO's air quality guidelines value for particulate matter and more than half of the world population experienced an increase in PM 2.5 from 2010 to 2016.

Most cities across the world have struggled to ensure that their populations have convenient access to open public spaces (defined as spaces within 400 m walking distance of their residence). Based

on data from 220 cities in 77 countries in 2018, only 21 per cent of the population had convenient access to open public spaces. National urban policies are policy strategies that specifically respond to the urbanisation challenges; and by early 2019, 150 countries have developed such policies, and almost half are already implementing them.

South Asia is home to five out of the twenty three mega cities around the world and around half of their urban populations live in informal settlements, often referred to as 'slums'. Rapid, unplanned urbanisation has rendered South Asian cities into places where multiple deprivations and inequalities are reflected in everyday life. There are examples (Ahmedabad and Lahore) of policy success at achieving sustainability through integration of land use and transport systems, reducing both travel times and greenhouse gas emissions. Dhaka has undertaken multi-disciplinary efforts on reducing vulnerability and increasing the resilience of urban systems towards anticipated climate change risks. Moreover, all South Asian countries have made efforts to decentralise as a part of cross-cutting governance reforms to further the agenda of sustainability and resilience along with establishing democratic institutions.

The greatest sustainability challenges of the twenty-first century will be urban due to unprecedented pressure on the living environment, including freshwater resources, soils and vegetation cover, with direct and indirect consequences for social relations, security, energy and public health. The modern cities will also face several problems such as poverty, social discrimination and inequality, climate change effects, energy inefficiency, weak infrastructure, misuse of land, water and air pollution.

As such, sustainable development will increasingly depend on the successful management of urban growth. The main challenges are to meet the growing urban population needs including housing facilities, transportation, energy systems, water resources and other infrastructure, employment, basic services such as health care, education and so on. The goal emphasises access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport system with special attention to the needs of vulnerable people. The goal focuses on inclusive and sustainable urbanisation and participatory and integrated sustainable planning, strengthening the linkages between urban and rural areas, and management and protection and safe guard of the world's cultural and natural heritage. The quality of life is enhanced by universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.

11.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG11 by Indicators

Indicator 11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing

The rapid urbanisation in Bangladesh has led to the growth of slums and the share of urban population living in slums is still unacceptably high. According to UN-Habitat, 55.1 per cent of the urban population lived in slums in 2014. About half of all Bangladeshis are expected to live in urban areas by 2035. The target for 2030 is to ensure that 20 per cent of the urban population are living in slums. Currently, more than 60 per cent of the urban population is concentrated mainly in four metropolitan cities: Dhaka, Chattogram, Khulna, and Rajshahi. By 2030, this trend in population migration from rural to urban areas will become even more pronounced. At the district level, the

level of urbanisation ranges from 7.20 per cent in Satkhira district to more than 90 per cent in Dhaka district. Dhaka is affected by serious dust pollution, water logging, delayed disposal of waste, and traffic congestion.

Housing demand in urban areas is very high but the supply of housing is very low. The housing market of Dhaka is characterised by poorly managed public land development and a lack of control for access to housing for the poor. Most of the populace in the city is tenant or slum dweller. Nearly 96 per cent of families in slums live in poor quality (not pucca) houses. Nearly 44 per cent of the urban population once lived in purely temporary structures and 29 per cent lived in semi-permanent structures (HIES, 2016). This shows perceptible improvement in the quality of housing in recent years.

Indicator 11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

Transport is the life of a city and choices on public transit options are fundamental decisions about a city's future growth and development. For economic growth and development, transportation sector plays an important role for poverty reduction, regional integration and national development including environmental issues such as limiting GHG emissions. Dhaka is the 7th most stressed city in the world and the most stressed city in Asia for being densely populated and having the worst traffic congestion (Zipjet, 2017). Urban as well as rural transport system is not well developed, cars and slow moving vehicles rapidly increasing rather than considering the road capacity. The incredible demand for transportation services particularly in Dhaka city are leading to the increase in motorised and non-motorised vehicles. This is causing extreme traffic congestion. In Dhaka, traffic congestion creates a loss of estimated 5 million work hours a day. As per World Bank (2017) analysis, in the last 10 years average traffic speed has dropped from 21 km/hour to 7 km/hour, only slightly above the average walking speed. Women public transport system, safe transport facilities, appropriate planning for future transport is essential for urban economic development. To move towards sustainability for cities and communities in Bangladesh, "Revised Strategic Transport Plan 2016" is for implementation within the period 2015-2030. Priorities include the development of roads in the capital city, as well as a coordinated mass transport system. Additionally, traffic safety and management is also identified for development.

Indicator 11.4.1 Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship)

According to MoCA, FY 2015, the share of national (or municipal) budget is 1.72 ppp $ which is dedicated to the safeguarding, protection of national cultural natural heritage.

Indicator 11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population

Many of the cities in Bangladesh are vulnerable to various natural disasters such as river erosion, cyclones, droughts, tornadoes, cold waves, floods, flash floods and earthquakes as well as human induced disasters such as fire and building collapse. Bangladesh has made significant efforts to reduce its disaster vulnerability and is considered today a global leader in coastal resilience due to its significant long term investments in protecting lives. As a result, significant reduction in natural disaster related deaths. According to MoDMR 2019, a total of 4,318 per 100,000 persons were affected by disasters and number of death person was 0.316 per 100,000 persons in 2019.

Indicator 11.5.2 Direct economic loss in relation to global GDP, damage to critical infrastructure and number of disruptions to basic services, attributed to disasters

Direct economic loss includes destruction of physical assets like as homes, schools, hospitals, commercial and governmental buildings, transport, energy, infrastructures, business assets, production such as standing crops, agricultural infrastructure and livestock. Around 1 per cent of GDP is lost annually due to disasters and it will increase due to climate change impact (GED 2015).

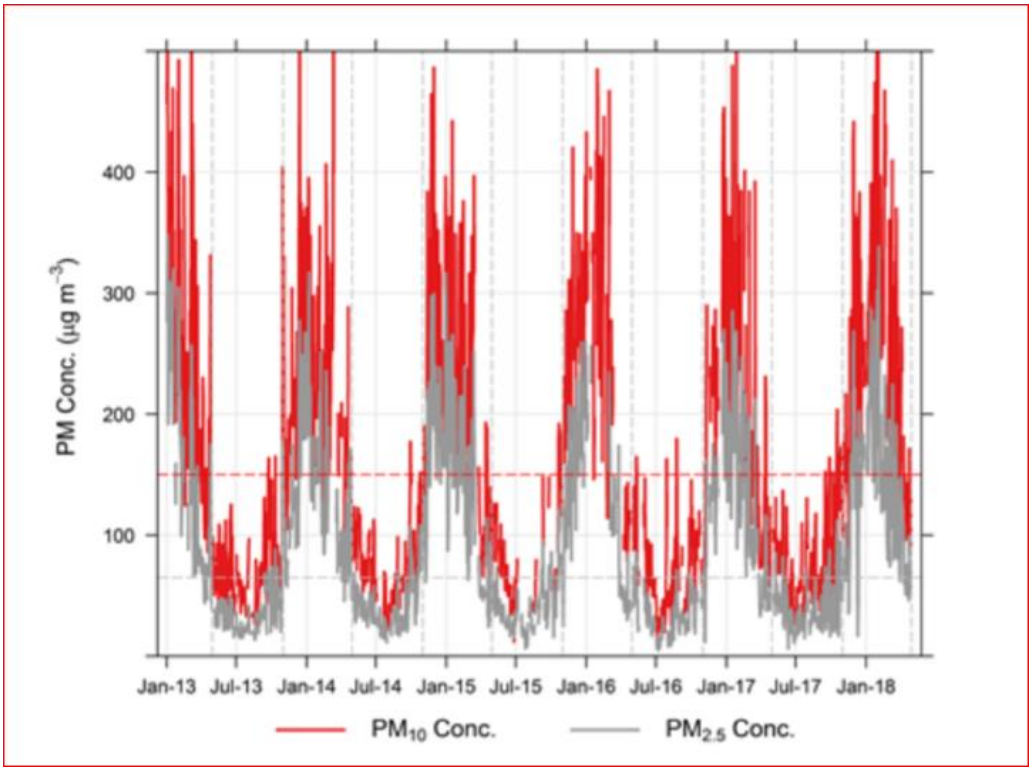
Indicator 11.6.1 Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities

Disposal of solid wastes in all the urban areas is inadequate. In Dhaka City, only 60 per cent of the solid wastes generated daily are collected by the City Corporation. The situation is better in Sylhet and Chattogram with 76 per cent and 70 per cent of solid wastes collected respectively while lower proportions of solid wastes are collected in Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal cities (GED 2015).

Indicator 11.6.2 Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)

Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities indicate the quality of air in urban areas. Particulate matter with a diameter equal or less than 2.5 microns in diameters (PM2.5) is the most commonly used pollutant in epidemiological studies on the health effects due to exposure to air pollution. PM2.5 is a good indicator of complex pollution mixtures and epidemiological findings suggest that it is a major risk to human health. Particulate matter consists of solid particles and liquid droplets both formed by organic and inorganic substances suspended in the air. (UNESCAP 2020)

Figure 11.1: Trends in PM10 and PM2.5 in Dhaka (2013-2018)



Source: DoE, 2019

Indicator 11.b.1 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

The government has approved the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies of Bangladesh (2016-2020) in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. Along with this, Bangladesh has taken several steps to reduce disaster risk with international help.

Indicator 11.b.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies

According to MoDMR 2019, at the local level, the ratio of City Corporation is 0.0833 (1/12) and the ratio for Pourashava is 0.0091 (3/330) have adopted and implemented local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies.

11.3 Government efforts to ensure sustainable cities and communities

Housing: There has been a significant improvement in the quality of housing in recent years. Along with this, the government has taken special programme to improve the living standards of disadvantaged communities such as dalit, harijans, bede, and other ethnic communities The government's Ashrayan-2 is projected to rehabilitate 250,000 homeless families. Besides, flats and houses are being constructed for ensuring housing facilities to public sector employees. In case of urban projects, RAJUK has reserved specific spaces for low-income groups in the Purbachal, Uttara and Jhilmeel projects.

Communication infrastructures: Investing in infrastructure has been a priority for the government. From a low 1.2 per cent of GDP in 2010, spending on infrastructure has steadily increased to 2 per cent of GDP in 2019. Road infrastructure and drainage systems are being developed and maintained by LGED, WASAs and ULGIs.

Roads: For developing a modern transport and communication system, a total of 178 development projects have been included in the Action Plan of Roads and Highways Department for 2018-2019. Improvement of road safety at black spots in national highways project has been implemented for the treatment of 121 identified black spots. Priority is given to national highways with focus on service, quality, and safety.

Initiatives for road safety:

- "National Road Safety Action Plan 2017- 2020" has been formulated.
- In 2018-2019, a total of 325,150 sets Retro Reflective Number Plates and Radio Frequency Identi¬fication (RFID) tags have been produced.
- A total of 335,913 Smart Card Driving Licenses have been distributed.
- The Dhaka-Chittagong Highway (NH1) is to become a six-lane road while the other highways should gradually become four-lane by 2021.

At present, LGED is implementing 20 projects funded by the government for improving urban services. The LGED has another eight infrastructure development projects that are supported by different DPs with significant amount of matching fund from the government. Completion of the on-going urban development projects will lead to creation of 7,360 km road, 1,502 km drain, 3,329 meter bridge/culverts, 36 bus/truck terminals, 22 cyclone shelters, 152 km footpath, 40 solid waste disposal grounds, and 35 faecal sludge treatment plants.

Railways: Bangladesh Railway has around 2,955 km of network, connecting all major points in 44 districts. There are 38 on-going train services in Bangladesh. 1,135.23 kilometres of railway line, 644 bridges, 117 station buildings, modernisation of signalling system at 90 stations, rehabilitation of signalling system at 9 stations, 430 passenger coaches and 277 wagons have been rehabilitated. Since 2009, following achievements are recorded:

- Construction of 330 km railway line
- Setting up 295 bridges, 91 new station buildings
- 248.50 km railway line converted into dual gauge

Water Transport: A total of 23 development projects have recently been rolled out by the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA). To improve the service quality, BIWTC has constructed 19 ferries, 2 inland passenger vessel, 12 water bus, 4 sea-trucks, 4 container transport vessels and overall 41 commercial marine vessels.

Air Transport: Following key activities have been taken by the government for a vibrant and effective transport and communication network.

- Construction of second runway in Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport for Cargo planes.
- Expansion of runways at Chittagong and Sylhet
- Upgradation of air facilities and air security measures to cope with the increasing traffic and upcoming challenges.

Padma Multipurpose Bridge – the Signature Mega Project

The largest infrastructure undertaking in Bangladesh –Padma Multipurpose Bridge– is set to become a landmark of progress. A self-funded project worth $3.65 billion and the bridge has been designed by considering the treats of climate change and with the hope that this bridge will change of fate for 30 million people in southern Bangladesh.

Drainage infrastructure: Dhaka WASA has stepped for dynamic initiatives and has developed a drainage master plan. It has also implemented four projects for sewerage and drainage system. City corporations and pourashavas also have projects to develop and maintain drainage system. With the support of Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund (BCCTF), more than 100 small scale drainage improvement projects have been undertaken by different pourashavas for improving their resilience to climate change. A number of urban sector projects to improve drainage network at selected pourashavas are being implemented through LGED (ERD 2018).

Waste management: The solid waste generation in urban areas of Bangladesh amounts to around 25,000 tons per day and the Dhaka city produces one-quarter of all urban waste in the country. Due to the growth of population and increase in per capita waste generation, the total urban solid waste is projected to grow up to 47,000 tons per day by 2025. Urban local government institutions (ULGIs) are working in this field. Considering the land constraint, the government has decided to go for modern technology based waste management like incineration. To this end, projects for land acquisition have already been approved by ECNEC for DNCC, DSCC and Narayanganj City Corporation (NCC) (ERD 2018). Meanwhile, the city corporations have been emphasising the 3Rs (reduce, recycle and reuse) method. The DoE is implementing a pilot project 'Programmatic CDM Project' to develop environment based waste management. Under this project, compost plants have been built at Narayanganj, Rangpur and Mymensingh city corporations and Cox's Bazar municipality areas.

Water supply: In four City Corporations, Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, and Rajshahi Water Supply and Sewerage Authorities (WASAs) are responsible for water supply and sewerage treatment. The government has undertaken three mega projects, namely, Padma (Jashaldia) Water Treatment Plant Project with 45 crore liters daily capacity, The Saidabad Water Treatment Plant Project (phase-3) with 45 crore liters daily capacity, and Dhaka Environmentally Sustainable Water Supply Project with 50 crore liters daily capacity to reverse the situation. A project namely Bangladesh Municipal Water Supply and Sanitation Project supported by the World Bank has been implemented to increase access to improved water supply and sanitation services in 30 municipalities and strengthen their institutional capacities for delivering water and sanitation services.

Sanitation/sewage management: Bangladesh has done remarkably well in ensuring access to sanitation services to its population. Open defecation has been eradicated and the improved sanitation facility has been increased to 76.8 per cent (BER 2019). The DPHE, the national agency for water sanitation and hygiene initiatives, is active in both urban (except in the four WASA areas) and rural areas, providing both hardware (e.g., pit latrines and shared latrines) and software (e.g., social mobilisation and hygiene behaviour training). The DPHE works closely with the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME) to equip all primary schools with gender segregated WASH-block latrines by 2022. The MoPME is also implementing programmes to address WASH needs of the students. The LGD officially launched the Institutional and Regulatory Framework (IRF) for FSM in October 2017 (GoB 2017). The IRF-FSM aims to address the management of faecal sludge in both rural and urban areas. The IRF-FSM describes FSM as "…also known as septage management, FSM includes the various technologies and mechanisms for collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of sludge produced by septic tanks, pit latrines, and wastewater treatment plants" (GoB 2017, p. ix).

Urban Resilience Project: The overall objective of the 'Urban Resilience Project (URP)' is to strengthen the capacity of GoB agencies (DNCC, DSCC, SCC, DDM, RAJUK, FSCD and PCMU) to efficiently and effectively respond to recurrent as well as large-scale disasters/emergency events and to improve construction permitting and physical audit processes in Dhaka and Sylhet City. Urban Resilience Project seeks to create and enabling environment for centrally coordinated and locally managed Disaster Risk Management (DRM). The URP would serve as the first in a series of investments, which will initially focus on effectively respond to urban disasters. It works for developing city level disaster response system, including emergency operations centre, communications system, plans and related training and drills.

Air pollution: Due to rapid urbanisation, air pollution has been increasing gradually. Air pollution increases as a result of rapid urbanisation, industrialisation, and increasing number of vehicles and mills/factories. A total of 11 continuous air monitoring stations (CAMS) have been operating in Dhaka, Chattogram, Rajshahi, Khulna, Gazipur, Narayanganj and Barisal city corporation areas. The quantity of air pollution elements such as ozone, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon mono-oxide are regularly measured through these CAMS. Easing the huge population of Dhaka city and moving away from the concept of Metropolis, towards self-reliant satellite towns far from the big cities can be solutions towards decentralisation (GED 2019).

11.4 Key Challenges

Bangladesh's rapid urbanisation has accelerated the country's social and economic progress but if we want to make it one of the world's fastest-growing economies, the following challenges have to be addressed.

Adequate, safe and affordable housing: The speed and scale of urbanisation brings challenges, including meeting accelerated demands for affordable housing, particularly for the nearly one billion global urban poor who live in informal settlements. So, developing a sustainable city along with its basic infrastructure is of utmost important to ensure future sustainability. Although the government has initiated huge schemes to solve the housing problem but the implementation of these schemes would be very challenging because of rapid and unplanned urbanisation, excessively high population density especially in urban areas, and resource constraints.

Affordable, accessible and sustainable urban transport: The transport sector, particularly the urban transport is going to encounter profound challenges regarding advances in transportation, technological innovations and solutions in the days ahead, and how these may be able to satisfy the additional transport demands for about six billion urban people by 2050 at the lowest possible social cost without compromising the environment. In this connection, government policies may play a very critical role in defining the most likely pathway into the future. Dhaka city transport system will improve substantially after completion of the construction of five metro rail lines, two rapid bus routes, 1,200km of new roadways, six flyovers and three ring roads in Dhaka by 2035. Revised Strategic Transport Plan 2016 is for implementation within the period 2015-2030. Priorities include the development of roads in the capital city, as well as a coordinated mass transport system. Additionally, traffic safety and management is also identified for development.

Air Quality improvement: Air pollution severely affects human health and is a rising cause of death. At least 123,000 people died in Bangladesh in 2017 due to indoor and outdoor air pollution, according to a global study titled "State of Global Air 2019," Urbanisation, and infrastructure construction cause air pollution to skyrocket in dry season. Industrial emissions, vehicle emissions, and waste burning are other major causes of air pollution. Despite government regulations, numerous brick kilns around Dhaka are producing huge levels of dust and smoke accounting for 52 per cent of the pollution. Around 60 per cent of the brick kilns have switched to efficient energy sources. The government is closely monitoring their operations so that these use efficient and sustainable technology and is also discouraging unregistered brick kilns from operating in the area. The urban traffic system has to be improved and to be made more efficient through reducing traffic jams and taking old vehicles off the road which result in burning fuel inefficiently, adding more particulate matters in the air.

Urban Resilience: Environmentally challenged areas such as coastal, haor, monga and river bank erosion areas have been major sources of poor rural migrants who move to urban areas especially to Dhaka. Climate change will worsen the incidence of natural disasters such as floods/flash floods, cyclones and storm surges, salinity intrusion and climate change induced sea level rise and its impacts mainly in low-lying coastal areas will force millions of people to migrate to Dhaka. In order to relieve pressure on Dhaka, secondary cities that would be climate-resilient and migrant friendly needs to be developed. The government is providing urban services in upazila headquarters (491 in number) to make them grow as smaller towns and trying to develop residential hubs in rural growth centres (1,400 in number) (ERD 2018).

Resource constraints: Rapid urbanisation and overall socioeconomic development in the country in recent years have substantially increased demand for improved urban services. The GED's SDGs Finance Strategy 2018 estimates that projects related to SDG11 will require additional costs of $0.26 billion by 2020, $0.28 billion by 2025, $0.34 billion by 2030. About 20 per cent of this is anticipated to come from the public sector, 60 per cent from the private sector, and 20 per cent from PPPs.

Coordination amongst key stakeholders in Dhaka and other cities: There are many service providers and stakeholders in urban areas. In many urban areas of Bangladesh, there is insecurity of drinking water, electricity, gas lines, clay, and drainage system. As Bangladesh plans to become

an upper middle income country by 2031, and work towards greening the transportation system, ecological hazards free high-rise buildings, co-ordination among RAJUK, DCC, WASA; polluters-pay industrial system, the contexts demand that the country should employ the theory of intelligent urbanism in all its aspects in an integrated manner.

Synchronisation of policies, strategies and master plans: Almost all organisations functioning in the CCs have their own development policy, strategy and master plans. These master plans are scarcely synchronised resulting in conflicts between master plans during implementation. Development interventions cause sufferings of the people during implementation which could be avoided along with significant wastage of resources. The CCs have been given the authority to ensure coordination and synchronisation amongst these master plans.

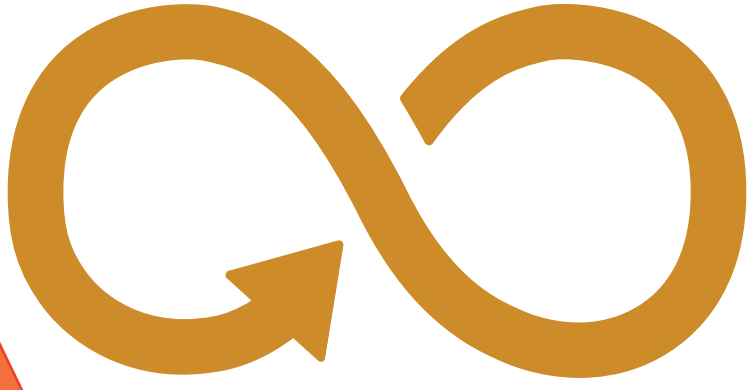
1.5 Summary

Due to global warming and climate change effect, the planetary crises both for rural and urban areas are worsening with time. As Bangladesh targets to become an upper middle income country by 2031, along with greening the transportation system, ecological hazards free high-rise buildings, co-ordination among RAJUK, DCC, WASA; polluters-pay industrial system, these contexts demand that urbanisation in Bangladesh be based on the theory of intelligent urbanism. The need is to address the disparities between the rich and the poor, along with insecurity and social unrest for ensuring sustainable urbanisation.

Still there are urban areas with insecurity of drinking water, electricity, gas lines, clay, drainage system and housing facilities. For sustainable cities and communities, the need is to put more focus on environmental security, heritage conservation, adopt people oriented appropriate technology, infrastructure, time-oriented land use planning, social security access, transit-oriented development, decentralisation, public participation and regional integration. Generally, these depend on how well urban development is planned, coordinated, and managed. For proper urban development and strengthen the country's position against climate change, growing population and other sustainable urban development obstacles, Bangladesh has already put in place well-conceived national policies on waste management, urban transport access and development, and disaster management, the challenge is now to ensure timely implementation with required coordination and quality.

12 Sustainable consumption and production patterns

Ensure sustainable production patterns and sustainable consumption



12.1 Global Perspectives on SDG12

Material consumption has expanded rapidly across the world, including material footprint per capita, which are seriously jeopardising the achievement of SDG12 and adversely affecting other SDGs. The urgent compulsion is to ensure that current material production and consumption do not result in over extraction of resources and degradation of environmental resources. Policies need to improve resource efficiency, reduce waste, and mainstream sustainability practices across all sectors of the global economy.

In 2017, worldwide material consumption reached 92.1 billion tons, up from 87 billion in 2015, with the rate of extraction accelerating every year since 2000. This reflects the increased demand for natural resources, resulting in undue burden on environmental resources. Without urgent and concerted action, the global resource extraction could grow to 190 billion tons by 2060.

Material footprint per capita has increased considerably: in 1990, about 8.1 tons of natural resources were used to satisfy an individual's needs, in 2015, nearly 12 tons of resources were extracted per person.

For South Asia, the decoupling of economic growth from natural resource use is much needed, as material footprints and domestic material consumption are rising fast. Decisions made now are locking in resource-intensive consumption and production patterns for generations. In South Asia, a significant portion of its revenues comes from exporting food and other commodities to developed countries. As such, much of the region's environmental damage comes from the manufacture of products consumed outside the region. With respect to SDG 12, South Asian priorities relate to lifestyles and behaviour, and chemicals and waste specifically. The focus is on promoting sustainable public procurement practices; encouraging companies to adopt sustainable practices and sustainability reporting; substantially reducing waste generation; responsible management of chemicals and wastes, significantly reducing releases to air, water, and soil; and halving per capita food waste. All these targets aim to achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources by 2030 and implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP) on Sustainable Consumption and Production. The 10YFP, adopted at Rio+20 Conference in 2012, is designed to develop, replicate, and scale up sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and resource efficiency initiatives at the regional and national levels, while decoupling environmental degradation and resource use from economic growth.

Postharvest losses (PHL) are also alarmingly high across the globe and efficient postharvest technologies can contribute to food security in multiple ways. They can reduce PHL, thereby increasing the amount of food available for consumption by farmers and poor rural and urban consumers. The benefits to consumers from reducing losses include lower prices and improved food security. In addition, postharvest activities such as processing and marketing can create employment (and thus incomes) and better food security in the agricultural sector. Reducing PHL clearly complements other efforts to enhance food security through improved farm-level productivity. Techniques to reduce food losses require cultural and economic adaption. This is so because all food losses occur at a particular socio-cultural environment. The issue of food losses is of high importance in the efforts to combat hunger, raise income and improve food security in the world's low income countries.

Well-designed national policy frameworks are necessary to enable a fundamental shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns. In 2018, 71 countries and the European Union reported on a total of 303 policy instruments. The parties to the Montreal Protocol and the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions have agreed to transmit information on the implementation of their obligations under these agreements. However, the rate of transmission varies widely, with the average compliance rate over these four agreements at 70 per cent.

12.2 Status of SDG 12 in Bangladesh

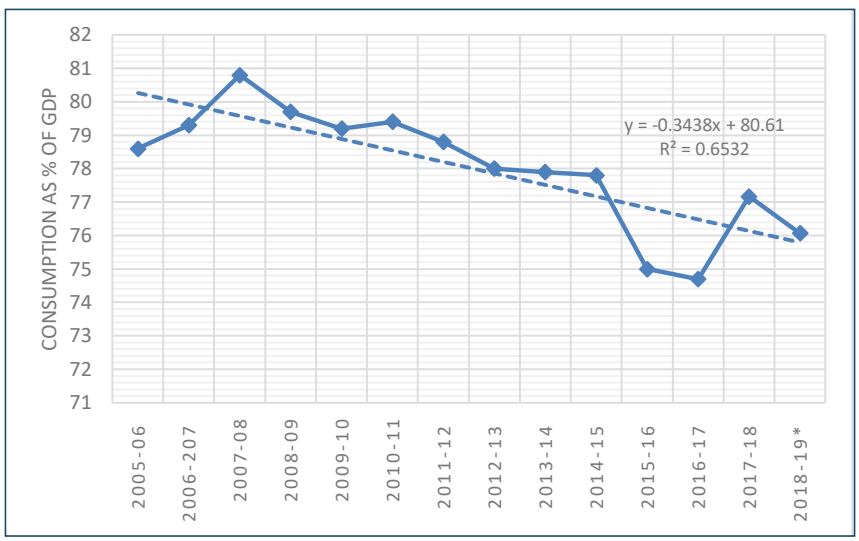
Indicator 12.1.1 Number of countries with sustainable consumption and production (SCP) national action plans or SCP mainstreamed as a priority or target into national policies

This indicator allows for the quantification and monitoring of countries making progress along the policy cycle of binding and non-binding policy instruments aimed at supporting Sustainable Consumption and Production. The working definition used in the context of this framework is: "The use of services and related products, which respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimising the use of natural resources and toxic materials as well as the emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle of the service or product so as not to jeopardise the needs of future generation." (UNESCAP, 2020)

Bangladesh, in a bid to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 12 by 2030, is aiming to develop a 10-year sustainable consumption and production framework by 2020.

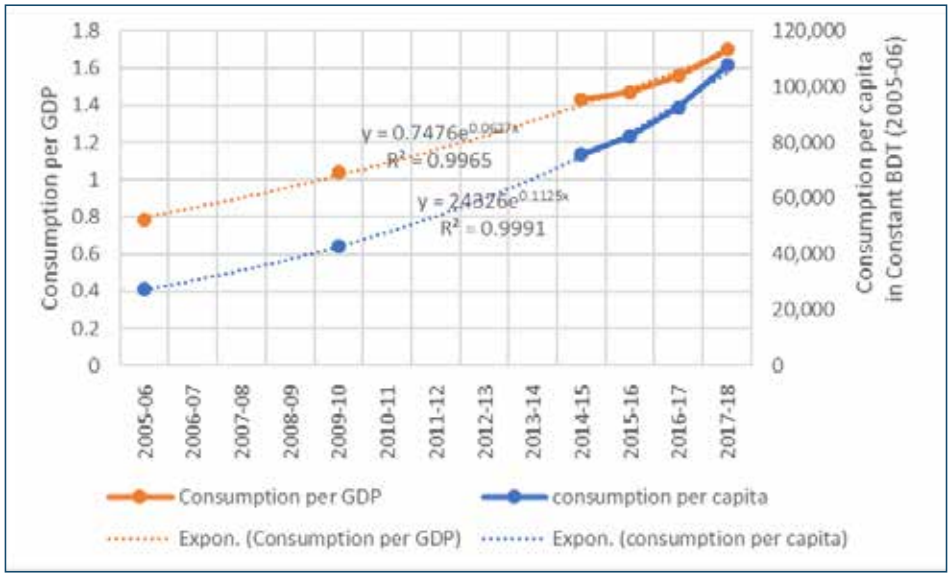
The footprint of aggregate consumption shows that the overall trend in consumption-GDP ratio is declining in Bangladesh despite significant rise in the standard of living (Figure 12.1). The trends in consumption in terms of per unit of GDP (constant prices) and per capita consumption show a growing convergence between the two implying that while individual consumption expenditure (at constant BDT) is growing at 11.2 per cent, the trend in consumption expenditure per unit of GDP (in constant value) is growing at 6.27 per cent indicating that the economy is heading towards a path of sustainable consumption (Figure 12.2)

Figure 12.1: Trends in Consumption as per cent of GDP



Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2019

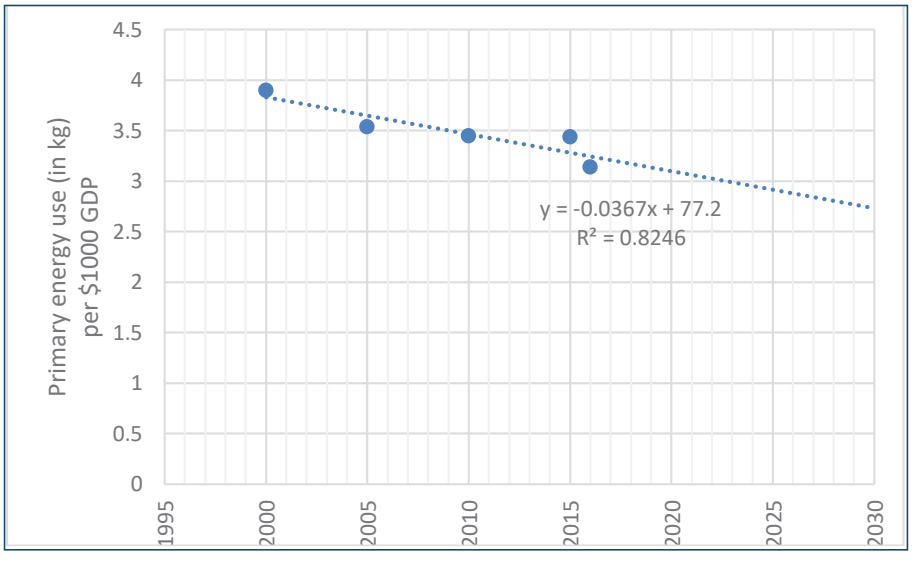
Figure 12.2: Trends in Consumption Expenditure



Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2019

In the case of sustainable production, a reduction of energy consumption per unit of production means that the economy is moving towards a sustainable path through efficient utilisation of energy resources. Energy consumption (primary energy) per $1,000 GDP is declining over time in Bangladesh showing an increasing energy efficiency in production (Figure 12.3).

Figure 12.3: Primary Energy Consumption per $1,000 of GDP



Source: World Bank data.

Indicator 12.2.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP

Material Footprint (MF) is the attribution of global material extraction to domestic final demand of a country. The total material footprint is the sum of the material footprint for biomass, fossil fuels, metal ores and non-metal ores. It is calculated as raw material equivalent of imports plus domestic extraction, minus raw material equivalents of exports. The material footprint indicates the amount of resources or emissions that can be attributed to ¬national demand (consumption and capital investment) in a country. It shows the responsibility of a country's consumption along the supply chain of resources and emissions which may occur anywhere in the world to satisfy ¬national demand of that country. The footprint approach corrects the direct indicators for the upstream requirements of trade (source: UNEP, Resource use in the Asia-Pacific).

Table 12.1: Material Footprint of Bangladesh

country	Biomass (Tons per capita)	Non-metallic minerals (Kg per 1 USD (2010) GDP)	Fossil Fuels (Tons per capita)	Material Footprint, Total (Million tons)
2000	1.00813	1.3594	0.0622425	228.107
2005	1.01226	1.22487	0.0820399	259.207
2010	1.12289	1.02762	0.120879	304.99
2015	1.14456	1.01459	0.156907	367.467
2016	1.15829	0.979071	0.161623	378.168
2017	1.17181	0.943513	0.166256	388.87

Source: (UNESCAP, 2020)

Indicator 12.2.2 Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP

Domestic Material Consumption (DMC) is a measure of material flow accounting (MFA) and reports the apparent annual consumption of materials in a national economy. It can be measured as domestic material consumption per capita (excluding imports), consumption of biomass (kg per constant 1 USD GDP), non-metallic minerals (kg per Const 1USD GDP), Fossil fuel (tons per capita or Kg per 1 USD GDP) or in terms of metal ores. This is shown in Table 12.2.

Table 12.2: Domestic Material Consumption of Bangladesh

Time period	Domestic material consumption per capita (Tons per capita)	Domestic material consumption - Biomass (Kg per 1 USD (2010) GDP)	Domestic material consumption - Non-metallic minerals (Kg per 1 USD (2010) GDP)	Domestic material consumption - Fossil fuels (Tons per capita)	Domestic material consumption - Fossil fuels (Kg per 1 USD (2010) GDP)	Domestic material consumption - Metal ores (Million tons)
2000	2.00	2.71	1.00	0.07	0.15	2.10
2005	2.22	2.29	1.14	0.09	0.16	2.00
2010	2.47	2.07	0.92	0.13	0.17	2.52
2015	2.65	1.67	0.80	0.16	0.16	3.75
2016	2.70	1.60	0.77	0.17	0.16	3.88
2017	2.74	1.52	0.74	0.17	0.15	4.00

Source: (UNESCAP, 2020)

Indicator 12.3.1 Global food loss index

Food loss during consumption and food waste has been a major concern of Bangladesh as in many other developing countries. It is particularly true when there are millions of people who remain malnourished and are suffering due to acute food shortages. With increasing access to electricity (currently more than 92 per cent), and use of refrigerators, a significant reduction in food wastes during preparation is taking place. In addition, improvement in the transport networks, training and other interventions is contributing towards improved efficiency in food consumption during the storage, transportation and preparation stages. A recent study shows that food waste is now around 5.5 per cent in the rural areas; 3 per cent during procurement and preparation stages, 1.4 per cent during serving, and 1.1 per cent at the plates (Ahmed, 2016). However, urban food waste is a major concern as in many parts of the world. Further, nearly 10 per cent of the crops are lost during post-harvest operations.

Indicator 12.4.1 Number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous and other chemicals and waste that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement

On hazardous waste management there are several international agreements: a) Basel Convention of the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wates and their Disposal; b) Rotterdam Convention on the prior informed consent procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade; c) Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants; d) Montreal Protocol on substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer; e) Minamata Convention on Mercury; Based on the following points scale, the score is determined using the following points distributions for each of the conventions: (UNESCAP, 2020).

A. Basel Convention:

1. Designation of the Focal Point and one or more Competent Authorities (1 point);
2. Submission of the annual national reports during the reporting period (1 point per report).

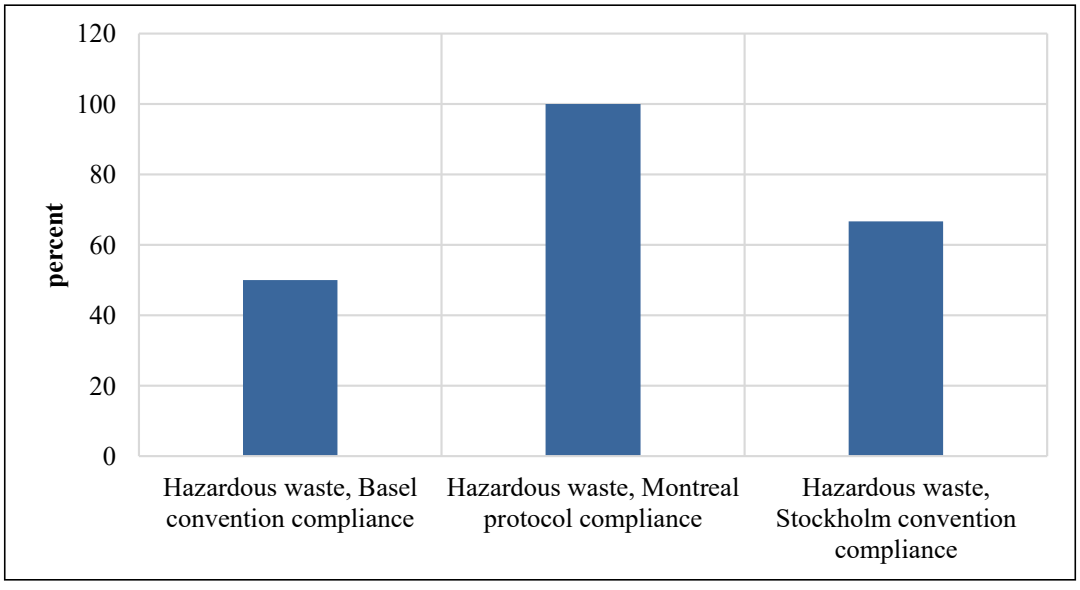
B. Stockholm Convention:

1. Designation of the Stockholm Convention official contact point and national focal point (1 points);
2. Submission of the national implementation plan (1 points);
3. Submission of the revised national implementation plan(s) addressing the amendments adopted by the Conference of the Parties within the reporting period (1 point per revised and updated plan).

C. Montreal Protocol:

1. Compliance with reporting requirements for production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances under the Montreal Protocol (15 points);
2. Submission of information on Licensing systems under (Article 4B of) the Montreal Protocol (5 points).

Figure 12.4: Compliance Score on Agreements on Hazardous Wastes



Source: (UNESCAP, 2020)

Indicator 12.4.2 Hazardous waste generated per capita and proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment

Dealing with waste management is a major problem as the country struggles to manage municipal solid wastes, industrial wastes and with air pollution in the cities. As with many other countries, Bangladesh has also begun to work on smart-cities. While it has remained a challenges for big metropolis like Dhaka and Chittagong, smaller cities have been working with a target to promote recycling, reuse and composting of wastes.

There are several initiatives both at the public and private levels to promote 'smart-city' concepts in Bangladesh. The Jessore city has recently developed the first integrated landfill and resource recovery facility in Bangladesh under which it is recycling daily city wastes into biogas, electricity and fertilisers. The Sylhet City Corporation has also promoted the green city concept and promoted recycling of wastes into fertiliser using citizen's initiative.

Indicator 12.c.1 Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP (production and consumption) and as a proportion of total national expenditure on fossil fuels

Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP (production and consumption) and as a proportion of total national expenditure on fossil fuels

In order to measure fossil fuel subsidies at the national, regional and global level, three sub-indicators are recommended for reporting on this indicator: 1) direct transfer of government funds; 2) induced transfers (price support); and as an optional sub-indicator 3) tax expenditure, other revenue foregone, and under-pricing of goods and services. The definitions of the IEA Statistical Manual (IEA, 2005) and the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM) under the World Trade Organization (WTO) (WTO, 1994) are used to define fossil fuel subsidies. Standardised descriptions from the United Nations Statistical Office's Central Product Classification should be used to classify individual energy products.

Table 12.3: Fossil-Fuel Subsidy

Time period	Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies (consumption and production) (US dollars per capita)	Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies (consumption and production) (Million US dollars)	Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies (consumption and production) (% of GDP)
2013	27.40	4,289.97	2.652
2015	15.52	2,481.64	1.186
2018	1.80	294.11	0.63

Source: Finance Division, Government of Bangladesh and (UNESCAP, 2020)

12.3 Key Challenges

Overall, the development of national policy on sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns indicates the challenge of documenting the country's macro-policies, regulatory, voluntary or economic instruments that support the shift towards SCP. Further, the application and implementation of these to foster concrete and tangible changes in practices and impacts are major issues.

Moreover, as fossil fuels directly impact the environment in various ways, the need to decouple their use from economic growth is key to achieving SCP. Regarding food loss and waste, several efforts and interventions designed to tackle food loss and waste are being implemented in Bangladesh by a broad spectrum of stakeholders including public and private sectors. However, more targeted efforts are needed including research to identify the causes and to recommend solutions to the problems; target-setting, development of policies, frameworks and the enactment of legislation, use of market-

based instruments (e.g. taxes, incentives and subsidy schemes), investment in infrastructure as well as the implementation of national campaigns and education to promote awareness and advocacy on the issue.

Serious challenges also exist in relation to the lack of adequate monitoring framework for many of the targets under SDG12; many indicators remain as tier III indicators, meaning that no internationally established methodology or standards are yet available for the indicator with the challenge to develop and test methodology/standards.

Monitoring of the shift to SCP across sectors and organisations is essential to identify emerging trends and strategic gaps, to scale-up and replicate innovative and impactful practices, and to demonstrate and showcase the benefits of SCP to build greater momentum for change.

A high proportion (estimated at around a quarter) of all food produced in the country is lost or wasted before people consume it, which threaten the entire food production chain. Innovations and new technologies including mechanisation can help reduce waste and losses at all stages e.g. sowing, pre-harvesting, harvesting, storage, processing, logistics/transportation, and household consumption.

To respond to different levels in development and differing capacities to address the challenges of SDG12, capacity-building and sustainable finance are critical for Bangladesh. In particular, availability of, and access to, financial resources to support actions that are transformational and at scale are key challenges in successful implementation.

12.4 Way Forward

The Seventh Five Year Plan (7FYP, 2016-2020) has specially focused on promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth in Bangladesh. While the Plan stipulates an average yearly growth rate of 7.4 per cent, it also includes strategies and policies to ensure that the growth is both "inclusive and sustainable for a long period without damaging the environment" (GED, 2016). Among others, the strategies include: empowering people by creating jobs, fostering greater labour force participation of women, supporting skills development among the workforce, providing access to credit to small and medium enterprises and so on.

The government plans to work with the producers and provide them with training and materials to reduce the wastes. Some of the steps taken by the Ministry of Agriculture include: partnership among the public-private and international organisations to make sustainable agriculture to work; protecting and conserving the environment by promoting ICM, INM, IDM, IPM (Sexpheromone, botanical pesticides, biological control, etc.), surface and rainwater utilisation, utilisation of solar energy in farm activities; capacity building at all segments of agriculture: farmers, extension providers, dealers, distributors, entrepreneurs, agribusiness people, trainers and researchers (man, woman, youth will be the target groups) through knowledge and skill development; improving rain-fed agriculture; technology transfer through famer group approach; protecting biodiversity (plant, animal, fisheries, pollinator, etc.); promoting food safety, nutrition and dietary diversification; sustainable natural resource management (land, water and biodiversity); sustaining economic viability of farming practices; and creating enabling environment for institutions.

The government has set several targets to meet the SDG12 commitments. It plans to ensure that 100 per cent industries install and operate waste management system by 2030. As of 2015, there were 60,000 industries in Bangladesh which had installed ETPs in their premises. Of the brickfields operating in the country which are emitting into air, nearly 65.6 per cent of the brickfields have been equipped with new technologies by 2018, which was 50.2 per cent in 2015 (base year). If the trend continues, 100 per cent of the brickfields will be equipped with environment friendly technologies by 2025.

Municipal waste management is a priority of the country. Waste management requires working with households, manufacturers, and construction companies to ensure that all wastes (including e-waste) are either converted into energy or fertilisers, or recycled through the manufacturers or through other industries in order to reduce the growing volume of municipal wastes. More importantly, municipal solid wastes often find their ways into the aquifers to increase the risk of contaminating the ground water tables. Studies show that per capita generation of solid wastes in cities are increasing with rising standard of living in the absence of effective policies; and it has increased from 0.5 kg per capita per day to nearly one kg per capita per day for households living in high-rise apartments.

12.5 Summary

Bangladesh has been working relentlessly towards meeting the SDG12 targets. In terms of reducing emissions from the brickfields (which is a major air polluting activity), the country is on target and is likely to convert all its brickfields to adopt environment friendly technologies by 2025. In terms of waste management, there are several initiatives to deal with solid waste management in cities. The need is to adopt a comprehensive strategy for managing municipal solid wastes and ensuring that industrial wastes are managed efficiently. In this context, there is a risk of using factory based ETPs since monitoring is challenging; instead the strategy could be to equip agencies engaged in managing the industrial sites to install CETPs and the municipalities to install STPs in major urban centres. At the same time, policies are needed to transform waste into energy and fertiliser involving the private sector.

13 Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13.1 Global Perspective on SDG 13

With rising greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions globally, the current rate of climate change is much faster than anticipated and its effects are clearly felt across the world. Despite positive steps in terms of climate finance flows and development of national targets, far more ambitious plans and accelerated action are needed on mitigation and adaptation. Access to finance and strengthened capacities need much faster scaling up, particularly for the less developed and more climate change impact countries.

At present, increasing GHG emissions are driving climate change. In 2017, GHG concentrations reached new highs, with globally averaged mole fractions of CO2 at 405.5 parts per million (ppm), up from 400.1 ppm in 2015. Moving towards 2030 emission objectives compatible with the 2°C and 1.5°C pathways requires a peak to be achieved as soon as possible, followed by rapid reductions.

During the period 1998–2017, direct economic losses from disasters are estimated at almost $3 trillion. Climate-related and geophysical disasters claimed an estimated 1.3 million lives. Until 2019, 185 parties have ratified the Paris Agreement. Parties to the Paris Agreement are required to prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions, and 183 parties have communicated their first nationally determined contributions to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Under the Agreement, all parties are required to submit new nationally determined contributions, containing revised and much more ambitious targets, by 2020.

In South Asia, all countries are experiencing the drastic effects of climate change. Greenhouse gas emissions are higher than ever, and global warming is causing long-lasting changes to the climate system, which threatens irreversible consequences if no action is taken. The annual average economic losses from climate-related disasters are rising sharply; along with the human impact of geo-physical disasters, which are mostly climate-related. As one of the most climate vulnerable region, countries in South Asia urgently need both to adapt to climate change and invest in low-carbon development.

Supporting vulnerable regions will directly contribute not only to Goal 13 but also to the other SDGs. These actions must also go hand in hand with efforts to integrate disaster risk measures, sustainable natural resource management, and human security into national development strategies. It is still possible, with strong political will, increased investment, and using existing technology, to limit the increase in global mean temperature to two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, aiming at 1.5°C, but this requires urgent and ambitious collective action.

The global climate finance flows increased by 17 per cent in the period 2015–2016 compared with the period 2013–2014. Till the first half of 2019, 28 countries have accessed Green Climate Fund grant financing for the formulation of national adaptation plans and other adaptation planning processes, with a value of $75 million. In total, 75 countries are seeking support from the Green Climate Fund for national adaptation plans and other adaptation planning processes, with a combined value of $191 million.

13.2 Assessment of Progress

Indicator 13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population

Bangladesh's flat topography, low-lying and climatic features combined with its population density and socioeconomic environment, make it highly vulnerable to many natural hazards, including unpredictable rainfalls and increased number of intensified floods, droughts and extreme temperature. The Bangladesh Disaster-related Statistics 2015 shows that about 13 per cent households and 12.65 per cent population live in disaster prone areas. The number of persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people is counted as 12,881 in 2014. The Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (BDP 2100) suggests that "with the intensification of climate change and other delta related environmental risks, total loss would be the highest in river estuary, but in terms of magnitude of loss, coastal area would be affected more relative to its economic size due to the climate change impact". As the disasters are likely to increase with intensification of global temperature rise, the government has set a target to reduce the number of persons affected by disaster to 1,500 per 100,000 population by 2030.

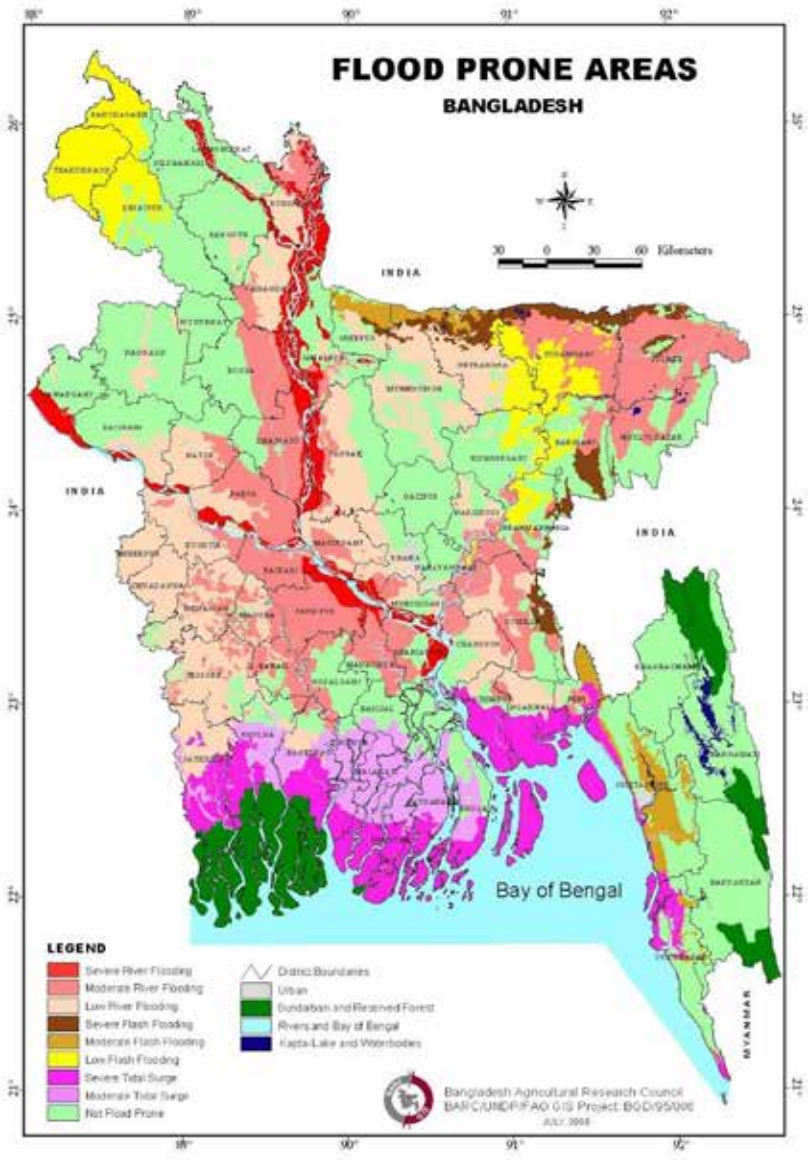
Table 13.1: Deaths and Damages due to Disasters

Year	Affected person per 100,000	Death per 100,000
2016	12881	0.2045
2017	7656	0.4427
2018	22	0.2375
2019	4318	0.316

Source: Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, GOB.

The main disasters affecting Bangladesh are floods, cyclones, tornadoes and earthquakes among others. Figure 13.1 shows that nearly 70 per cent of the land mass of Bangladesh is prone to flooding. As climate change is expected to bring in changes in precipitation and also the risk of GLOF (glacier lake outbursts flooding) in the Himalayan region increases, Bangladesh is likely to face increased risk of flooding in future. This, combined with forecasts of SLR (sea level rise) due to climate change will further aggravate the situation. In addition there are risks of increased cyclones and droughts in coastal regions and in the northwestern regions

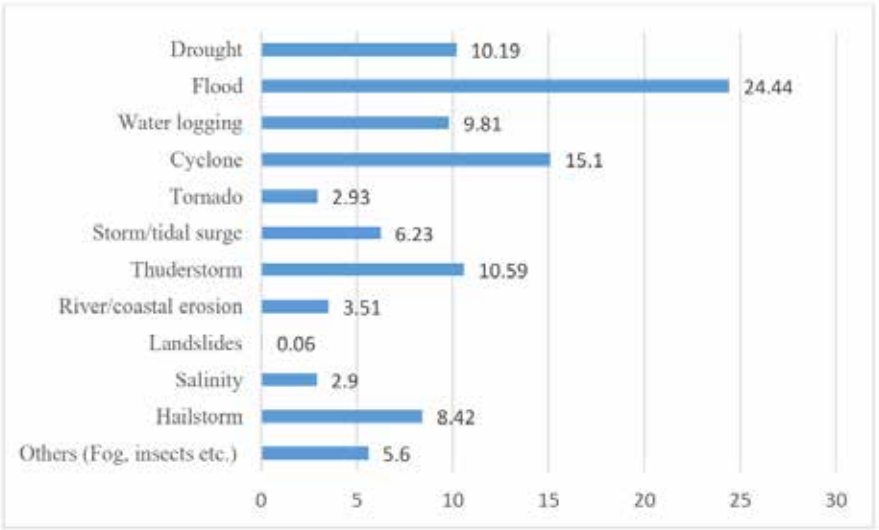
Figure 13.1: Flood Prone Areas of Bangladesh



Bangladesh has suffered from many cyclones over the past years. However, the government with support from the development partners has created an exemplary disaster-management programme – a role model for disaster preparedness for many countries - and has effectively reduced the number of fatalities from cyclones.

Increased precipitation is likely to affect landslides in Bangladesh and studies show that the trend is also rising along with increasing trends in fatalities due to landslides which is often caused by heavy rainfall in the hilly regions of Bangladesh. There are also several other type of disasters that affect Bangladesh. Figure 13.2 shows that disaster affected households vary from 0.6 per cent in case of landslides to nearly 24.44 per cent due to floods. Most of these disasters are also climate related and hence Bangladesh needs to develop multi-prone strategies to deal with natural disasters.

Figure 13.2: Per cent of Affected Households by Disasters during 2009-2014



Source: GED, Planning Commission, 2018

Indicator 13.1.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

The government has approved the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies of Bangladesh (2016-2020) in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and other international protocol ratified by the Government of Bangladesh.

The government has also adopted the National Disaster Management Plan along with provisions to engage civil society organisations and local government authorities to work together during any natural disasters. The DRR approach to natural disasters has led to orient disasters through a risk-lens and Bangladesh has integrated it within its national planning framework. With support from the development partners, Bangladesh has been working on construction of disaster-resilient homes, disaster-resistant crops, and disaster-tolerant livelihood strategies.

The government has approved the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies of Bangladesh (2016-2020) in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and other international protocol ratified by the Government of Bangladesh. One (1) of the 12 city corporations and 3 of the 330 municipalities have implemented local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies until 2019.

Indicator 13.2.1 Number of countries that have communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a national adaptation plan, nationally determined contribution, National communication, biennial update report or other)

As a part of its commitment to the NDC (national determined contribution) to CO2 emission reduction, Bangladesh has pledged to reduce its emissions by 5 per cent from the business-as-

usual scenario voluntarily and has agreed to reduce additional 15 per cent with support from the development partners. In addition, the government has also updated its climate change strategy action plan (BCCSAP). In NDC, Bangladesh has prioritised investments in power, transport, energy and industries to ensure upgrading so that CO2 emissions are reduced. The country is also working towards a low emission strategy of green growth.

Indicator 13.b.1 Number of least developed countries and small island developing States that are receiving specialized support, and amount of support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for mechanisms for raising capacities for effective climate change-related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

Bangladesh has received funding from Green Climate Fund (GCF) in 2018 for three projects namely clean cooking programme, enhancing adaptive capacities of coastal communities, and climate resilient infrastructure mainstreaming in Bangladesh. Some of these programmes are funded by other development partners as well.

Clean cooking programme

Under the programme, barriers are being removed to allow rural communities to adopt improved cook stoves to reduce fuel-wood consumption, promote substitute fuels like briquette, LPG and biogas use at the household level. In 2019, more than 211,000 Rohingya refugee families received LPGs and this has reduced fuel wood consumption in the camp and adjacent areas by about 80 per cent.

Solar irrigation pumps

The Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL) – a public-private partnership financing company – is providing financial support to promote solar powered irrigation pumps in Bangladesh. Up to 2019, Bangladesh has installed 1,630 solar irrigation pumps that replaced pumps run by diesels or electricity (50 per cent electricity in Bangladesh is produced by using fossil fuel). These pumps have a total capacity of about 32MWp.

Capacity building in vulnerable communities

The coastal belt of Bangladesh is vulnerable to cyclones, storm surges, and sea-level rise, and so the government had several programmes like building cyclone shelters, developing alternative livelihood strategies, promoting saline-resistant varieties of rice and green belt development projects to build resilience among the vulnerable communities.

13.3 Key Challenges

Bangladesh regularly faces floods and cyclones as two major natural disasters. However, over time, these have intensified and new disasters are also affecting the people of Bangladesh. As such, there has been a shift in the strategy to deal with mitigation. However, as Bangladesh is moving towards the goal of becoming an upper middle income country (UMIC) by 2030, it needs to expand

its mitigation strategies to include safeguarding jobs, assets for its millions of people. It has to develop strategies to protect income sources of the large number of rural population whose life is dependent on agriculture, poultry, livestock, and fisheries. Most of them face a significant negative effect during disasters. The recent outbreak of COVID 19 is another event that seriously threatens the achievements that the country has made over the past two decades.

13.4 Way Forward

Bangladesh has signed the Paris Climate Agreement and is expected to receive funds for strengthening its capacity to adapt against the onslaught of the climate change. However, fund disbursement from GCF is rather slow. As of 2019, only 32.4 per cent of the approved funds for the low income countries has been disbursed. It is 34.4 per cent in case of low middle income countries and 25.1 per cent for upper middle income countries. There is a need to improve the efficiency of the fund disbursement process in order to ensure that countries like Bangladesh is better prepared against the effects of climate change. In addition, the government needs to undertake necessary steps to effectively implement the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, a forward looking adaptive plan which has been adopted to address climate change adverse impacts.

Further, women are more vulnerable to climate change because they are more likely to be multidimensionally poor. They are more likely to die in a climate-fueled disaster than men, and more likely to be displaced. There are clear synergies between climate change and gender inequality, and as the group most affected by climate change, climate change responses should not be 'gender blind', ignoring existing gender inequalities. The measurement of progress on SDG13 needs to assess how climate change affects women and whether climate programmes tackle gender inequality, requiring a shift from readily available data to more 'difficult-to-measure' gender sensitive indicators.

13.5 Summary

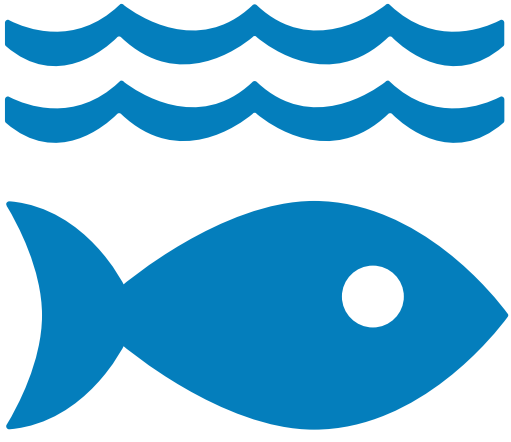
Bangladesh has taken several steps in reducing sufferings of the people from disasters. It is the result of a combination of both hard and soft strategies ranging from building shelters, and embankments to improved housing, building capacity among the people, expanding the network of volunteers to inform people ahead of disasters and so on. However, unlike cyclones, floods are more complex and require regular monitoring of multiple parameters. In addition, many of the cities have been built on the flood plains and so the risk of flooding and water logging has significantly increased. For effectively dealing with the situation, coordination both within and outside the national boundaries is of utmost importance. The new disasters include slow-onset disasters like drought, low level cyclone warnings, etc. have potentials to disrupt life of millions of people in coastal and rural Bangladesh. This requires a new approach to disaster not only to save life and also to protect the sources of income and the assets.

Climate change is also having profound consequences on diversity of life and people's lives. Sea levels are rising and oceans are warming. Longer, more intense droughts threaten freshwater supplies and crops, endangering efforts to feed the country's growing population. Without action, the changing climate will seriously compromise food production in the country that is already food insecure. It will affect food availability by reducing the productivity of crops, livestock and fisheries, and hinder access to food by disrupting the livelihoods of millions of rural people who depend on agriculture for their incomes.

In addition, as the global economy as well as the Bangladesh economy face the Covid-19 pandemic effects, it is necessary to rebuild the post-pandemic economy as an environment friendly green economy.

14 Life below Water

Conserve and Sustainably Use of Ocean, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development



14.1 Global Perspective on SDG14

Globally, the expansion of protected areas for marine biodiversity and existing policies and treaties that encourage responsible use of ocean resources are still inadequate to combat the adverse effects of overfishing, growing ocean acidification due to climate change and worsening coastal eutrophication. Since billions of people depend on oceans for their livelihood and food source and on the transboundary nature of oceans, increased efforts and interventions are needed to conserve and sustainably use ocean resources at all levels.

Ocean acidification is caused by the uptake of atmospheric CO2 by the ocean, which changes the chemical composition of the seawater. Long-term observation of ocean acidification over the past 30 years shows an average increase of acidity of 26 per cent since pre-industrial times, and at this rate, an increase of 100 to 150 per cent is predicted by the end of the century, with serious consequences for marine life.

To achieve sustainable development of fisheries, fish stocks need to be maintained at a biologically sustainable level. Analyses reveal that the fraction of world marine fish stocks that are within biologically sustainable levels declined from 90 per cent in 1974 to 66.9 per cent in 2015.

Till the end of 2018, over 24 million km2 (17.2 per cent) of waters under national jurisdiction (0–200 nautical miles from a national border) are covered by protected areas, a significant increase from 12 per cent in 2015 and more than double the extent covered in 2010. The global mean percentage of each marine key biodiversity area covered by protected areas increased from 31.2 per cent in 2000 to 44.7 per cent in 2015 and to 45.7 per cent in 2018.

Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing remains one of the greatest threats to sustainable fisheries, the livelihoods of those who depend upon them and marine ecosystems. A framework of international instruments has been developed that addresses different aspects of fisheries management. Most countries have taken measures to combat such fishing and have adopted an increasing number of fisheries management instruments. The Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, the first international binding agreement to combat such fishing, came into force in June 2016. The number of parties to the Agreement has rapidly increased and stood at 58 in early 2019, including Bangladesh.

Small-scale fisheries exist in almost all countries, accounting for more than half of total production on average, in terms of both quantity and value. To promote small-scale fishers' access to productive resources, services and markets, most countries have developed targeted regulatory and institutional frameworks. However, more than 20 per cent of the countries have a low to medium level of implementation of such frameworks.

14.2 Status of SDG14 in Bangladesh

Marine protected areas are designed to protect critical resources (both biotic and abiotic) in order to preserve them in-situ for the benefit of the future generations. Bangladesh recognises the value of ocean resources and has established a total of 38 protected areas in Bangladesh of which eight are coastal and marine protected areas.

Bangladesh has 710 km-long coastline starting from the Sundarbans to the island of St. Martin. St. Martin Island is a hotspot of critical ecosystem with corals on its south and west coasts, and a turtle breeding ground it is the only coral community located on the east coast in association with high diversity and moderate density of marine algae and mollusks. Sundarbans, on the other hand, is a hotspot for protection of the Royal Bengal Tigers, and saline crocodiles.

Bangladesh has been producing more than 626,000 tons (in 2015-16) of fish from the marine areas as against 3,251,000 tons from inland resources. It shows that Bangladesh's ability to capture deep sea resources is still very limited. In addition, it has not yet developed strategies to extract oil and gas from its deep-sea reserves. Locally known as Ilish, the fish has been designated as the national fish of Bangladesh. In 2017 it has been patented as a GI for Bangladesh by the Patent Authority. It is one of the major marine fish in Bangladesh and accounts for nearly 16 per cent of the total fish catch.

Indicator 14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas

Table 14.1 gives the existing protected areas in Bangladesh which are located in the coastal districts of Bangladesh and in the Bay of Bengal. Table 14.2 shows how marine protected areas (MPAs) in Bangladesh are growing over time which reflect a steady growth. The jump in 2014 occurred when the government declared 4 zones in the Bay of Bengal as a part of the MPAs.

Table 14.1: Coverage of Marine Protected Areas

Time period	Protected areas in relation to marine area (EEZ) (% of territorial water)	Protected marine area (EEZ) (KM2)	Proportion of marine key biodiversity areas covered by protected area status (Percentage)
2014			34.4686
2015			34.4686
2016			34.4686
2017	5.35694	4,529.99	34.4686
2018	5.27221	4,458.35	34.4686

Source: UNESCAP, 2020

The government has established the country's first marine protected area 'the Swatch of No Ground Marine Protected Area' in October 2014 to protect whales, dolphins, turtles, sharks, and other marine animals under the Bangladesh Wildlife (Conservation and Security) Act, 2012. Another area in the 'Middle Ground and South Patches' of Bay of Bengal, has been declared under the Marine Fisheries Ordinance 1983 together comprise 243,600 hectares (see Table 14.2) constituting 2.05 per cent of the total marine area of 11,881,300 hectares (118,813 sq. km) of Bangladesh. If the area protected during the spawning season of Hilsa fish is included, then the protected area rises to 7.94 per cent. The target is to reach a 10 per cent level by 2030.

Table 14.2: List of Marine Protected Areas in Bangladesh

Year of Establishment	Location	Area in ha	Name of the PA
1980	Cox's Bazar	1729	Himchhari NP
1981	Bhola	40	Char Kukrimukri WS
1983	Cox's Bazar	11614.57	Teknaf WS
1996	Khulna	36970.45	Sundarban South WS
2001	Noakhali	16352.23	Nijhum Dweep NP
2004	Cox's Bazar	395.92	Medha-Kachchhapia WS
2007	Cox's Bazar	1302.42	Fashiakhali WS
2010	Chattogram	4716.57	Dudpukuria-Dhopachhari WS
2010	Patuakhali	1613	Kuakata NP
2012	Patuakhali	560	Sonar Char WS
2014	Bay of Bengal	243600	Swatch of No Ground park (4 zones)

Source: Chowdhury, 2015

Indicator 14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries

This indicator measures the value of sustainable fisheries. Fisheries and aquaculture offer ample opportunities to alleviate poverty, hunger and malnutrition, generate economic growth and ensure better use of natural resources. As per NAW (2018), Bangladesh has sustainable fisheries valued at 3.14 per cent of the total GDP. It has decreased compared with the base year 2015 when the value was 3.29 per cent of the total GDP.

Indicator 14.c.1 Number of countries making progress in ratifying, accepting and implementing through legal, policy and institutional frameworks, ocean-related instruments that implement international law, as reflected in the United Nation Convention on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources

As per the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2019), Bangladesh has ratification of or accession to 100 ocean-related instruments that implement international law, as endorsed by the United Nations. The Convention on the Law of the Sea relates to the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources. Moreover, Bangladesh has implemented around 90 ocean related instruments.

14.3 Government Efforts

Sustainable use of ocean resources is one of the priorities of Bangladesh because it is still under-exploited and with advent of technologies, there is a growing competition to use ocean resources. It is a reservoir for future supplier of food, protecting the climate – a great carbon sink, providing energy resources, minerals and also supplier of medical care. It is essential for Bangladesh to ensure that it is not polluted but protected and that its resources can be used sustainably. In 2014, Bangladesh hosted a conference in Dhaka on the theme of developing a blue economy with partnership around the Bay of Bengal. In addition, Bangladesh is also part of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

with the objective to strengthen cooperation and dialogue to promote sustainable and a balanced growth within the Indian Ocean Region.

Oceans and seas are the source of a huge variety of life forms including macro and micro-organisms. Bangladesh attaches great importance to living marine resources which have huge potential for developing new food, biochemical, pharmaceutical, cosmetics and bio-energy applications. Bangladesh has high potential to electricity generation from the offshore wind by using turbines. Coral reefs are not only eye-catching, but rich in marine biota and endowed with subsidence to coastal people. Coral reefs are serene of mostly calcium carbonate (caco3). In general, more than 50 per cent of calcium carbonates of coral reefs are contributed by algae. It consists of corals, their skeletons and reef as fundamental ingredients. The marine sciences institute, Chittagong--have isolated 13 genera of corals including several species of fish and algae. The St. Martin' s Island supports 85 species of birds, 12 species of mammals, more than 20 species of reptiles and 4 species of amphibians.

The Bay of Bengal is full of fisheries resources. The government policies aim to easily access the benefits from utilising fisheries resources from the sea. Marine fisheries contribute at least 20 per cent of the total fish production in Bangladesh and more than 500,000 people are fully and directly dependent on the sector.

In terms of salt manufacture, Bangladesh produces salt by using small refinery units. The quantity of production is inadequate. Production of industrial salt can be undertaken using advanced technologies and eventually it can emerge as an export product. Natural resources particularly, minerals--copper, magnesium, nickel and precious metals, including cobalt are available in the seabed in Bangladesh. Through exploring these mineral resources, industrial raw materials may be supplied to different industries. The government is taking different steps to exploit all potentials from the available sea resources.

14.4 Key Challenges

The biggest challenge of managing protecting areas in Bangladesh is the pressure of population on its protected area both in terms of recreation use as well as intrusion inside these areas. Monitoring the marine protected areas is also a major challenge for Bangladesh due to resource limitations. Total sea area of Bangladesh is 118,813 square km which is similar to the size of Bangladesh. As such, Bangladesh needs international cooperation to monitor the area using automatic identifier system (AIS) based technologies. The implementation of Ilish catch-ban for 65 days in a year is also a challenge given 433 km long stretch of several rivers in the coastal areas of Bangladesh.

Besides, ocean science needs to adopt a holistic approach towards understanding and addressing cumulative impacts of various threats such as climate change, acidification, pollution, coastal erosion, sedimentation and erosion and overfishing. Ocean research or related services and acquisition of sufficient credible scientific data and information are weak in Bangladesh mainly due to high cost. Technical education in marine related fields is also inadequate.

Another major challenge for Bangladesh is river water pollution and survival of riverine life. Bangladesh has about 230 small and large rivers, and a large chunk of the country's 165 million

people depend on them for a living and for transportation. But many of them are drying up or are choked because of pollution and encroachment. A World Bank study reports that four major rivers near Dhaka city— the Buriganga, Shitalakhya, Turag and Balu — receive 1.5 million cubic metres of waste water every day from 7,000 industrial units in surrounding areas and another 0.5 million cubic meters from other sources. Unabated encroachment that prevents the free flow of water, dumping of medicinal waste and waste of river passengers has compounded the problem, making the water unusable for humans and livestock. The water of the Buriganga is now so polluted that all fish have died, and increasing filth and human waste have turned it like a black gel. Even rowing across the river is difficult as it smells so badly. However, the plight of the Buriganga symbolises the general state of many rivers in Bangladesh, a large flat land criss-crossed by hundreds of rivers which faces an uphill battle to keep them navigable and their waters safe for human and aquatic lives. The government has taken measures to combat waste disposal and secure the rivers from the illegal encroachers.

14.5 Way Forward

Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing represents a major threat to sustainable sea fishing. In 2016, the Port State Measures Agreement entered into force as an international treaty. The Agreement recognises the special requirements of developing states such as Bangladesh and includes provisions to establish funding mechanisms for implementation. These mechanisms are intended to be directed towards developing and enhancing capacity for monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance activities relevant to port state measures, as well as training for port managers, inspectors and enforcement and legal personnel.

The Blue Growth Initiative, launched at the initiative of FAO in 2013, prioritises sustainable management of natural aquatic resources, fully taking into consideration environmental, social and economic needs. Blue Growth emphasises efficient resource use in capture fisheries and aquaculture, ecosystem services, trade, livelihoods and food systems. The approach minimises environmental degradation, biodiversity loss and the unsustainable use of resources, while maximising the economic and social benefits that build strong communities. The approach also aims at creating an enabling environment for workers involved in fisheries and aquaculture, and those workers along the entire seafood value chain, to act not only as resources users, but also to play an active role in protecting and safeguarding these natural resources for the benefit of future generations.

The activities undertaken by Bangladesh to achieve SDG14 and to mainstream Blue Growth into national policies and programmes are important steps towards conserving the country's ocean resources and strengthening coastal communities.

14.6 Summary

Bangladesh has successfully expanded its marine protected area significantly with the introduction of four zones around the Swatch of No Grounds in the Bay of Bengal. Monitoring and implementation of this vast area to ensure conservation of resources and also to catch illegal fishing vessels in these zones require significant resources. This is also true for the Ilish sanctuaries. However, most of the country's fishing communities are artisanal fishers and so they stay for fishing near the coasts. With thousands for small fishing boats catching fish along the coasts of Bangladesh, there is a need to develop social safety nets for these fishing communities during the period when they are not allowed to catch fishes.

Further, the importance of international cooperation in addressing the ocean's issues, including through compliance with the UNCLOS framework, through regional agreements, and through strengthening existing frameworks, such as the negotiations for biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ); ocean governance as a critical means to sustain peace, maritime security, and friendly relations among nations, including through greater coordination of activities in the areas of fisheries, offshore energy, tourism, and shipping; fishery-related issues and the need to strengthen regulatory frameworks for harvesting and addressing overfishing and IUU fishing are important for Bangladesh n the context of SDG14.

15 Life on Land

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

15.1 Global Perspective on SDG15

There are several positive global trends in protecting terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity in recent years. Forest loss is slowing down, more key biodiversity areas are protected and more financial assistance is flowing towards biodiversity protection. Yet, the 2020 targets of SDG15 are unlikely to be achieved; as land degradation continues, biodiversity loss is occurring at an alarming rate, and invasive species and the illicit poaching and trafficking of wildlife continue to thwart efforts to protect and restore vital ecosystems and species.

Protecting important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity is vital for ensuring long-term and sustainable use of terrestrial and freshwater natural resources. The global mean percentage of each key biodiversity area covered by protected areas increased from 33.1 per cent in 2000 to 46.1 per cent in 2018 for terrestrial areas, from 30.5 per cent in 2000 to 43.2 per cent in 2018 for freshwater areas, and from 32.9 per cent in 2000 to 44.7 per cent in 2018 for mountain areas.

Healthy mountain ecosystems are fundamental to ensuring the provision of ecosystem services to upland communities as well as lowland peoples. In 2017, 76 per cent of the world's mountain areas are covered by a form of green coverage: 41 per cent by forests, 29 per cent by grassland/shrubland and only 6 per cent by cropland.

From 2000 to 2015, more than one-fifth of the global land area was degraded, largely due to human-induced processes, such as desertification, cropland expansion and urbanisation. During the same period, there were significant productivity declines in land cover, with grasslands incurring some of the greatest losses.

The most fundamental and irreversible human impact on nature is species extinction. The Red List Index – which measures the risk of extinction, in which a value of one indicates no threat to any species, and a value of zero indicates that all species are extinct – has deteriorated from 0.82 in 1993 to 0.73 globally in 2019.

The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation to the Convention on Biological Diversity creates incentives to conserve and sustainably use genetic resources and biodiversity. Until early 2019, 116 countries have ratified the Nagoya Protocol (an increase of 46 since 2016) and 61 countries have shared information on their access and benefit-sharing frameworks through the Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House (representing an increase of 55 countries). In 2017, bilateral ODA in support of biodiversity was $8.7 billion, an increase of 15 per cent in real terms over 2016.

In South Asia, SDG 15 requires the maintenance of life on land and the priorities established through international conventions and agreements. The scale and complexity of forest loss and biodiversity decline versus the limited resources for conservation and forestry pose many challenges in the South Asian countries. The main innovation for South Asia would be to integrate this goal with other SDGs. However, there are both opportunities and challenges. There will be trade-offs between SDG 15 and other SDGs resulting from competition for land, but there are also synergies and opportunities that require recognition.

15.2 Assessment of Progress

Terrestrial Ecosystems

Despite the fact that Bangladesh is a small country in terms of land area and a densely populated region, there is significant diversity in its ecosystems. Located in the northeastern part of the South Asian subcontinent, Bangladesh is located between 20°25' and 26°38' north latitude and 88°01' and 92°40' east longitude.

Total area of Bangladesh is around 14.4 million hectares with three broad physiographic regions viz. the flood plain, the terraces and the hills with a land area of 80 per cent, 8 per cent and 12 per cent respectively. Most parts of Bangladesh are less than 12 meters (39 ft) above the sea level, hilly regions on the northeast and southeast have an average elevation of 244m and 610m respectively. The climate in Bangladesh is sub-tropical, maximum summer temperatures range between 32°C and 38°C; and in January, the coldest month, the average temperature for most of the country is 10°C. Annual rainfall ranges from 200 to 400 mm. The country has four main seasons, Winter (Dec-Feb), Summer (Mar-May), Monsoon (Jun-Sep) and Autumn (Oct-Nov).

The natural ecosystem of Bangladesh includes several clusters such as, terrestrial, inland waters, coastal and marine ecosystems. The major terrestrial forest types in Bangladesh are: Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests; Tropical Semi-Evergreen Forests; Tropical Moist Deciduous Forest (Sal Forests); Mangrove Forests; Freshwater Swamp Forest; Homestead Forests; and Plantation Forests. Around half of the total area of Bangladesh is wetlands. These ecosystems are made up of a wide variety of habitat, including the main three rivers (the Ganges, the Brahmaputra and the Meghna) and their 700-plus tributaries and distributaries and their floodplains; about 6,300 beels (permanent and seasonal shallow lakes in floodplain depressions); at least 47 major haors (deeply flooded depressions in the north east), baors (oxbow lakes); vast areas of seasonally flooded land; and fish ponds and tanks. The country is located at the cross roads of the Indo-Himalayan and Indo-Chinese sub-regions under the Oriental region. Thus, the country acts as an important merging and sharing habitat, land bridge and biological corridors of the flora and fauna between these sub-regions. There are about 750 species of animal group and 10,300 species of plant group that cover the diversity of the country and the North-East region of India.

Indicator 15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area

This indicator is measured as the proportion of forest area in square kilometres, and as a proportion of land area. "Forest area" is defined as: "land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 metres and a canopy cover of more than 10 per cent, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use". More specifically: Forest includes both with presence of trees and absence of other predominant land uses. The trees should be able to reach a minimum height of 5 meters. It includes areas with young trees that have not yet reached but which are expected to reach a canopy cover of at least 10 per cent and tree height of 5 meters or more. It also includes areas that are temporarily unstocked due to clear-cutting as part of a forest management practice or natural disasters, and which are

expected to be regenerated within 5 years. Local conditions may, in exceptional cases, justify that a longer time frame is used. It includes forest roads, firebreaks and other small open areas; forest in national parks, nature reserves and other protected areas such as those of specific environmental, scientific, historical, cultural or spiritual interest. Furthermore, it includes windbreaks, shelterbelts and corridors of trees with an area of more than 0.5 hectares and width of more than 20 metres and also abandoned shifting cultivation land with a regeneration of trees that have, or are expected to reach, a canopy cover of at least 10 per cent and tree height of at least 5 meters. Finally, it includes areas with mangroves in tidal zones, regardless whether this area is classified as land area or not and also rubberwood, cork oak and Christmas tree plantations. It includes areas with bamboo and palms provided that land use, height and canopy cover criteria are met. However, it excludes tree stands in agricultural production systems, such as fruit tree plantations, oil palm plantations, olive orchards and agroforestry systems when crops are grown under tree cover. According to Bangladesh Forest Department, the total area of forest land is 14.47 per cent of the country's area excluding inland water area (BFD, 2018).

Indicator 15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type

This indicator measures account for sites protected under for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity and shows temporal trends in the percentage of each important site for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity (i.e., those that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity) that is covered by designated protected areas. Protected areas, as defined by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), are clearly defined geographical spaces, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values (UNESCAP, 2020).

In Bangladesh, the proportion of terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, increased from 1.7 per cent in 2013-14 (2013-14, MoEF) to 3.08 per cent in 2018 (BFD, 2018).

A total of 1,443,000 ha of land of Bangladesh are now labelled as the protected area which is about 9.7 per cent of the total land area. This land area, however, excludes areas of wetland protected as fisheries sanctuaries. In addition to these protected areas, the government has converted all its forestland as parks with no provision for collecting timber except firewood and other non-timber forests. As such, estimates show that total area of land under protected areas and parks is around 17.5 per cent of the land mass of Bangladesh and Bangladesh intends to raise it to 20 per cent by 2030 (Figure 15.1). Currently, Bangladesh has 40 protected areas (PAs), as shown in Figure 15.3 and given in Table 15.4. In addition, Bangladesh has about 10,000 ha of land protected for ex-situ conservation (Table 15.2).

To conserve its rich biodiversity, Bangladesh has listed two RAMSAR sites (Tanguar Haor and three Wildlife Sanctuaries of Sundarbans, 1992) and the entire Sundarban Forest (the largest mangrove tract) is also listed in the World Heritage Site in 1997. It has defined its protected areas under two different laws – the Wildlife Preservation Act 1974 and Wildlife Conservation and Security Act 2012. Under the first law, there are three different types of protected areas: National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, and Game Reserves; and under the second law, protected areas are defined as

National Park, Sanctuary, Ecopark, Botanical Garden, Community Conservation Area, Safari Park, and Kunjaban.

Figure 15.1: Map of Protected Areas (two Marine Protected Areas are not shown in the map)

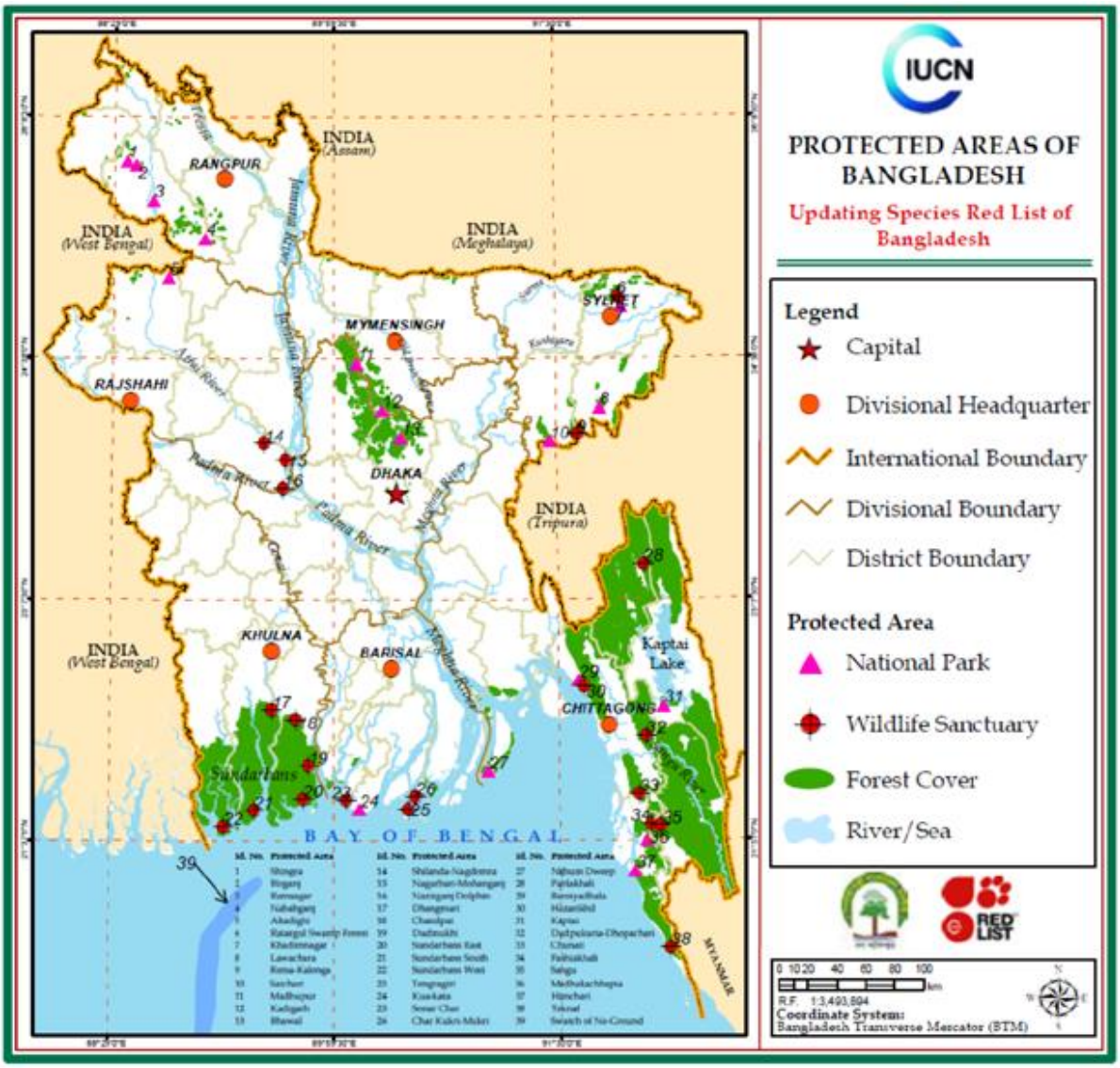


Table 15.1: Protected Areas of Bangladesh

Sl. No.	Year	Protected Area	Ecosystem	District/Location	Areas (ha.)
1	2006	Khadimnagar NP	Mixed Evergreen	Sylhet	678.8
2	1996	Lawachhara NP	Mixed Evergreen	Maulvibazar	1250
3	2005	Satchhari NP	Mixed Evergreen	Habiganj	242.91
4	1996	Rema-Kalenga NP	Mixed Evergreen	Habiganj	1795.54
5	1983	Pablakhali NP	Mixed Evergreen	Khagrachhari	42069.37
6	1999	Kaptai NS	Mixed Evergreen	Rangamati	5464.78
7	2010	Shangu WS	Mixed Evergreen	Bandarban	2331.98
8	1983	Teknaf WS	Mixed Evergreen	Cox's Bazar	11614.57
9	1980	Himchhari NP	Mixed Evergreen	Cox's Bazar	1729
10	2004	Medha-Kachchhapia WS	Mixed Evergreen	Cox's Bazar	395.92
11	2007	Fashiakhali WS	Mixed Evergreen	Cox's Bazar	1302.42
12	1996	Chunati WS	Mixed Evergreen	Chattogram	7763.97
13	2010	Dudpukuria-Dhopachhari WS	Mixed Evergreen	Chattogram	4716.57
14	2010	Hazarikhil WS	Mixed Evergreen	Chattogram	1177.53
15	2010	Baroiyadhala NP	Mixed Evergreen	Chattogram	2933.61
16	2001	Nijhum Dweep NP	Planted Mangrove Forest	Noakhali	16352.23
17	1981	Char-Kukri-Mukri WS	Planted Mangrove Forest	Bhola	40
18	2010	Kuakata NP	Planted Mangrove Forest	Patuakhali	1613
19	2012	Sonar Char WS	Planted Mangrove Forest	Patuakhali	560
20	2010	Tengragree WS	Natural Mangrove Forest	Barguna	4048.58
21	1996	Sundarban East WS	Natural Mangrove Forest	Bagerhat	31226.94
22	1996	Sundarban West WS	Natural Mangrove Forest	Satkhira	71502.1
23	1996	Sundarban South WS	Natural Mangrove Forest	Khulna	36970.45
24	2012	Chandpai WS	River/Marine	Bagerhat	560
25	2012	Dudmukhi WS	River/Marine	Bagerhat	170
26	2012	Daingmari WS	River/Marine	Bagerhat	340
27	1982	Bhawal NP	Shal Forest	Gazipur	5022.29
28	1982	Madhupur NP	Shal Forest	Tangail/Mymensingh	8436.13

Sl. No.	Year	Protected Area	Ecosystem	District/Location	Areas (ha.)
29	2010	Kadigarh NP		Mymensingh	344.13
30	2001	Ramsagar NP		Dinajpur	27.75
31	2010	Shingra NP		Dinajpur	305.69
32	2010	Nababgonj NP		Dinajpur	517.61
33	2011	Birgonj NP		Dinajpur	168.56
34	2011	Altadighi NP		Naogaon	264.12
35	2013	Nogorbari-Mohongonj WS	River	Pabna	408.11
36	2013	Shilonda-Nagdemra WS	River	Pabna	24.17
37	2013	Nazirgonj WS	River	Sirajgonj/Pabna	146
38	2014	Swatch of No Ground park		Bay of Bengal	173800
39	2014	Ratargul Swamp Forest		Bay of Bengal	69800
40		Marine		Sylhet	204.25

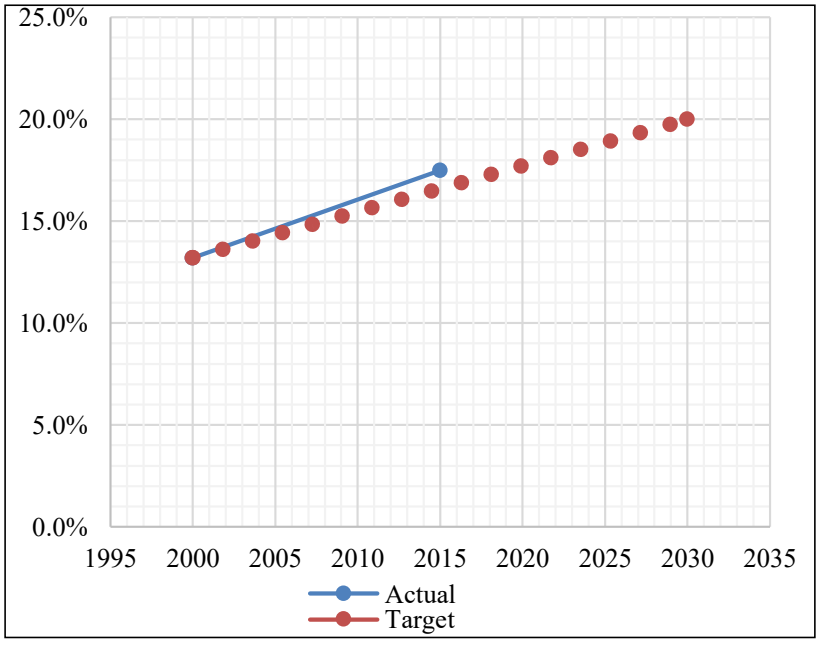
Note: WS – Wildlife Sanctuary, NP – National Park

Source: Ahsan et al., 2016

Table 15.2: List of Ex-Situ Conservation Areas

	Protected areas	Ecosystem	District	Area in ha	Year
1	Baldha Garden	Man made	Dhaka	1.37	1909
2	National Botanical Garden	Man made	Dhaka	84.21	1961
3	Dulahazara Safari Parks	Mixed Evergreen	Cox's Bazar	600	1999
4	Sitakunda Botanical Garden & Eco Park	Mixed Evergreen	Chittagong	808	2000
5	Madhabkunda Eco Park	Mixed Evergreen	Moulvibazar	265.68	2001
6	Madhutila Eco Park t	Deciduous Forest	Sherpur	100	2001
7	Banshkhali Eco-Park	Mixed Evergreen	Chittagong	1,200.00	2003
8	Kuakata Eco-Park	Eco-Park	Patuakhali	45.34	2006
9	Tilagorh Eco-Park	Mixed Evergreen	Sylhet	5,661.00	2005
10	Borshijora Eco-Park	Mixed Evergreen	Moulvibazar	326.07	2006
11	Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Safari Park	Mujib Safari	Gazipur	1,542.51	2014

Figure 15.2: Trends in Protected Areas in Bangladesh



Indicator 15.2.1 -Progress towards sustainable forest management

There are several sub-categories to measure progress in this indicator. These are: a) changes in the net forest area; b) changes in the above ground biomass stock in forest; c) proportion of forest area with the protected areas; and d) proportion of forest area under a long-term forest management plan. On this, existing information suggest that a) a national land cover map will be done in 2020, b) above ground biomass is 67.66% (2015, 2019); c) 24.11% of land within protected area is under forest cover (June 2018); and d) 35.10% of forest land is currently under a long term forest management plan in Bangladesh.

15.4.1: Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity

Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity is 0.35 per cent in Bangladesh (BFD, 2019).

Indicator 15.5.1 Red List Index (RLI)

The IUCN's Red List assessed 138 species under Class Mammalia, 566 species under Class Aves, 167 species under Class Reptiles, 49 species under Class Amphibia, 253 species under Class Osteichthyes, Class Crustacea and Class Insecta. The report mentions that "out of 1,619, the remaining species, 90 or 6% species were assessed under the Near Threatened Category and 802 species or 50% as Least Concern. Another 278 species or 17% were being assessed as Data Deficient, meaning no Threatened Category could be assigned to these species due to lack of sufficient supporting documents or literature or field information when 28 species or just 2% were considered being under the Category of Not Evaluated" (IUCN, 2015).

For Bangladesh, Table 15.3 compares the status of species belonging to different animal groups in 2000 and 2015. The statuses are not directly comparable as protocol and criteria of assessment for 2015 are different than those of 2000. What can be said is that among the animal groups, mammals and fishes are facing greater threats. Some improvements are also observed, such as the reduction in the Least Concern Category from 53 per cent in 2000 under Not Threatened Category versus 50 per cent as Least Concern in 2015. Eleven resident bird species have been identified and 2 mammal species among 11 mammal species reported to be extinct in 2000 have been traced in 2015.

Table 15.3: Comparison of Species Status in 2000 and 2015

Group	Red List species in 2000		Red List species in 2015	
	No. of species	Threatened	No. of species	Threatened
Fish (Freshwater				
and brackish water)	266	54 (20%)	235	59 (23%)
Amphibians	22	8 (36%)	49	10 (20%)
Reptiles	127	63 (50%)	167	38 (23%)
Birds	628	47 (7%)	566	39 (7%)
Mammals	113	43 (38%)	138	36 (26%)
Crustaceans	...	141	12 (8.7%)	...
Butterflies	...	305	57 (19%)	...

Source: IUCN, 2015

Indicator 15.6.1 Number of countries that have adopted legislative, administrative and policy frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits

This indicator account for compliance of legislative, administrative and policy frameworks for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2010). This indicator is an international indicator and not monitored at the national level. The Nagoya Protocol, also referred to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) is a 2010 supplementary agreement to the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) that aims to implement the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The indicator is calculated as the sum of the number of parties to the CBD who have submitted ABS legislative, administrative or policy measures to the ABS Clearing-House (UNESCAP, 2020).

So far, Bangladesh has complied with the international Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA).

15.3 Government Efforts

Moratorium on tree felling

The moratorium on tree felling in reserve forests has been extended till 2022 in August, 2016. The ban was extended for better conservation of environment and biodiversity.

Ecologically critical areas (ECAs)

In addition, the Department of Environment has also declared several areas as ecologically critical areas (ECAs) and protected under the Environment Conservation Rules. Figure 15.3 and Figure 15.4 show the area distribution of threatened species across Bangladesh. Finally, given all different types of protection areas, the current estimates show that terrestrial critical area is about 1.7 per cent (in 2014-15) and freshwater critical area is about 1.8 per cent (in 2013-14) of the land area in Bangladesh and it is expected to rise to 2.4 per cent and 5 per cent respectively by 2030.

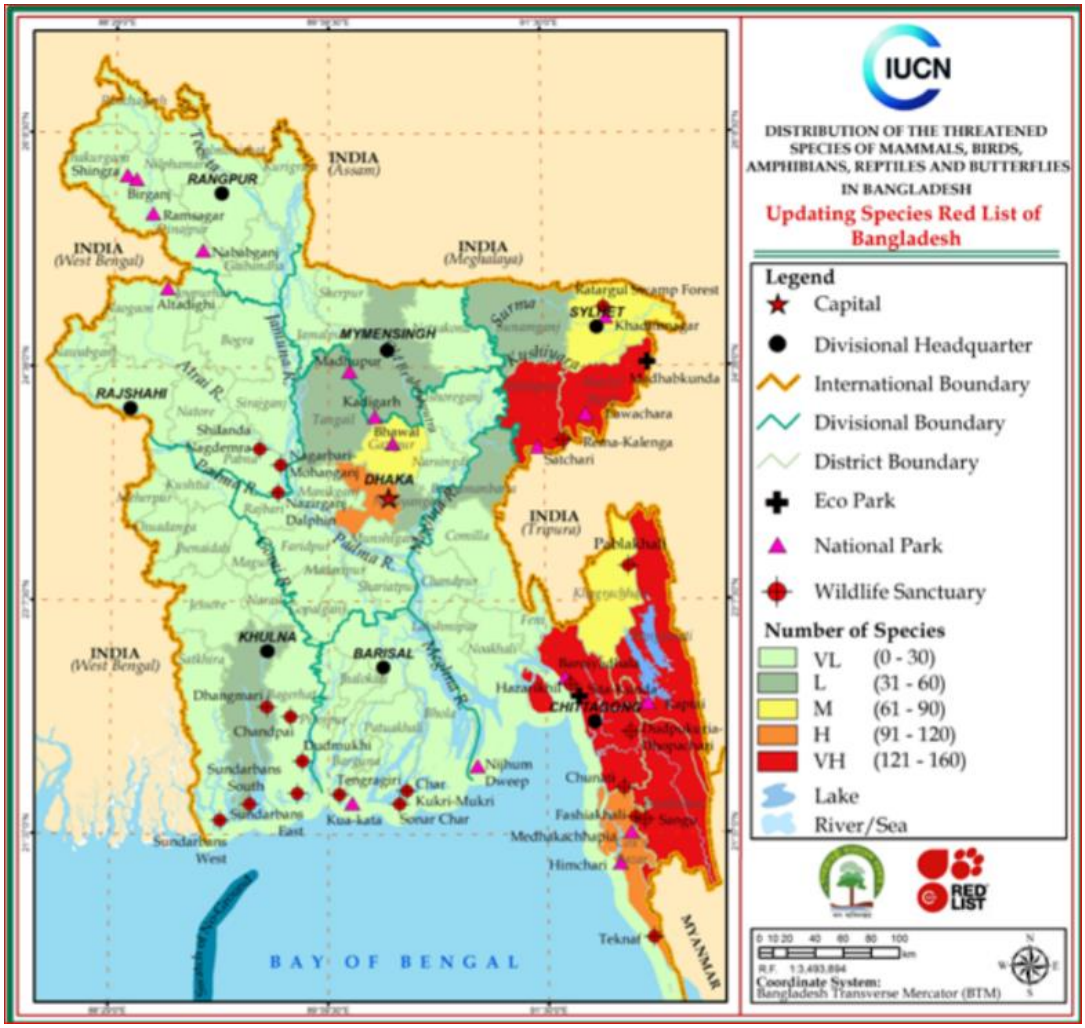
In addition, Bangladesh has also created vulture safe zone in the northeast and southwest regions of Bangladesh in 2014. In the Sylhet region, the total area of safe zone within Bangladesh is 19,663 sq. km and the core area is 7,459 sq. km. while in Khulna region the total area of safe zone within Bangladesh is 27,717 sq. km. and the core area is 7,846 sq. km.

Table 15.4: Ecologically Critical Areas (ECAs) of Bangladesh

No	Ecologically Critical Areas	Ecosystem	Location	Area in ha	Year
1	Cox's Bazar Teknaf Peninsula	Coastal-Marine	Cox's Bazar	20.373	1999
2	Sunadarban Coast	Coastal-Marine	Bagerhat, Barguna, Pirojpur, Satkhira	292.926	1999
3	St. Martin Island	Coral reefs	Cox's Bazar	1214	1999
4	Hakaluki Haor	Freshwater wetland	Sylhet and Moulvibazar	40466	1999
5	Sonadia Island	Marine Island	Cox's Bazar	10298	1999
6	Tanguar Haor	Freshwater wetland	Sunamganj	9727	1999
7	Marjat Baor	Oxbow Lake	Jhenaidah and Jashore	326	1999
8	Gulshan-Baridhara Lake	Urban wetland	Dhaka	101	2001
9	Buriganga River	River	Dhaka	1336	2009
10	Turag River	River	Dhaka	1184	2009
11	Sitalakhya River	River	Dhaka	3771	2009
12	Balu River and Tongi Khal	River and Canal	Dhaka	1315	2009
13	Jaflong-Dawki	River	Sylhet	1493	2015

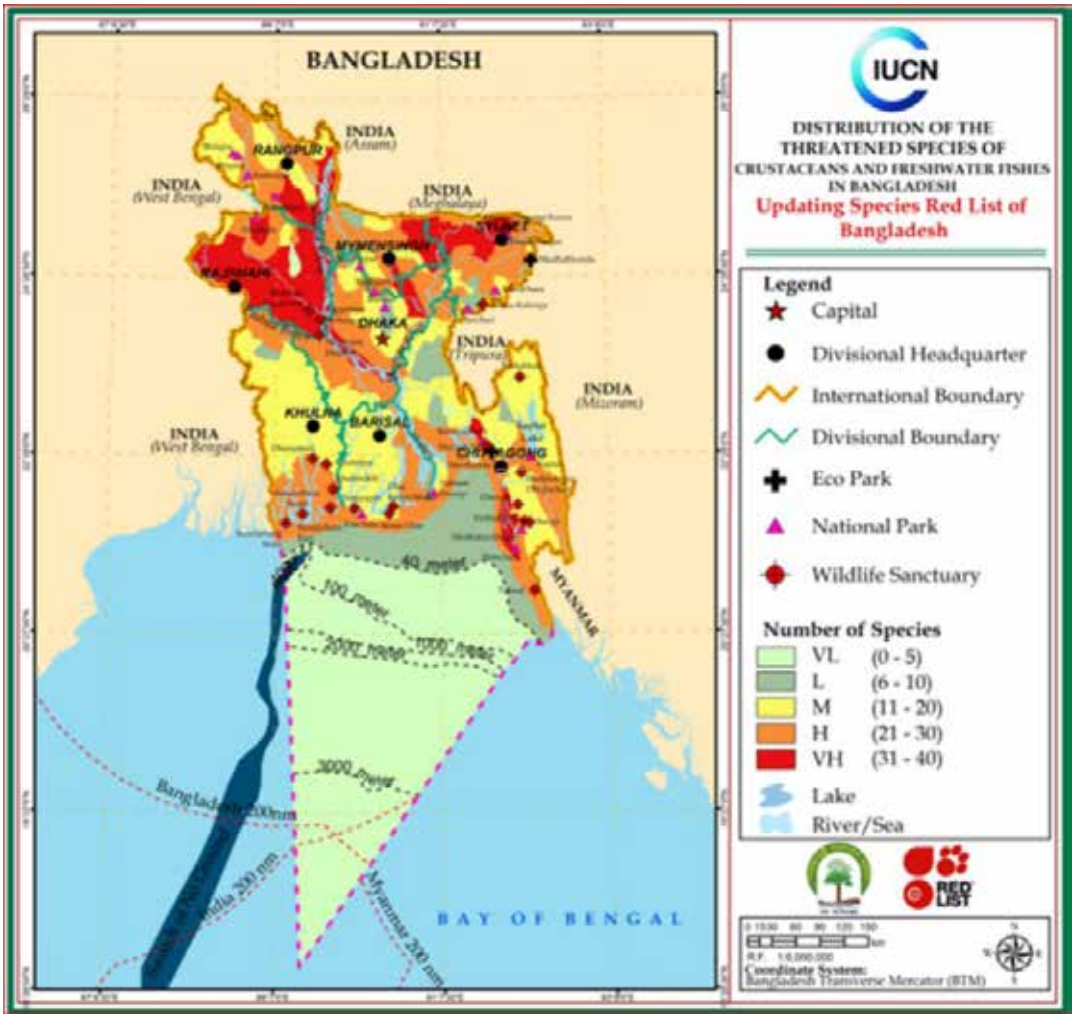
Source: IUCN Bangladesh, 2015

Figure 15.3: Concentration of Threatened Mammals, Birds and Other Amphibian Animals



Source: IUCN, 2015

Figure 15.4: Distribution of Threatened Aquatic Species



Source: IUC, 2015

Special biosphere reserve - Ratargul swamp forest

Ratargul is a small freshwater swamp in the haor basin of the northeast region of Bangladesh. It is the last stronghold and refuge of fresh water swamp forest biodiversity in the country. The ecosystem is a typical freshwater wetland forest that remains dry in winter but inundated to a depth of about eight feet during the monsoon. In order to protect the forest's environment and ecosystem, the government declared Ratargul as a special biosphere reserve in 2015 .

15.4 Key Challenges

Key challenges of Bangladesh to protect life on land are to develop and effectively implement appropriate management strategies for its protected and critical areas with full participation of the local stakeholders. Bangladesh recognises the value of engaging stakeholders and has developed

mechanisms for benefit sharing with local communities. In five of the national parks, 50 per cent of the entry fee is allowed to be used for the benefit of the local communities. The challenge is to develop an efficient strategy to ensure that the entry into these areas is also controlled keeping in view the carrying capacity of these ecosystems. In addition, most of ecologically critical areas have degraded and need to be restored so that its flow of ecosystem services can be reinstated.

In addition, with the influx of Rohingya refugees, the Teknaf peninsula is under severe threat at present. For example, there has emerged more intense conflicts between humans and elephants, and humans and snakes due to more than a million of the refugees settled in the area. Bangladesh is faced with the huge ecological cost of harbouring the refugees on humanitarian grounds.

The concept of protected areas and its benefits to the humans need to be widely promoted across all sections of the population to ensure that the visitors entering in these areas respect the temperament and do not lit fires, or create loud noises and disturbs the wildlife in the areas.

Several direct threats and challenges to biodiversity also exist in Bangladesh. The pressure of the huge number of population on environment, expansion of human settlements and agriculture, shifting cultivation, habitat degradation and destruction are several major threats to biodiversity in Bangladesh. Overexploitation of natural resources, like fishes, freshwater mollusks, corals, turtles, frogs, snakes, birds, and swans is also a major threat to biodiversity. Terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems are polluted by discharges of untreated industrial effluents, domestic organic and inorganic wastes and agro-chemicals, such as pesticides, insecticides, herbicides and chemical fertilisers.

15.5 Way Forward

Bangladesh has adopted a holistic approach to ecosystems, which also includes the people who use them sustainably and focuses on their experiences in dealing with changes in ecosystems for sustainable implementation of SDG15. The approach recognises that biodiversity and its conservation should not be reduced to monetary valuation and ecosystem services, but non-monetary and intangible assets as well as non-economic incentives such as appropriate recognition of indigenous territories should be given greater consideration. The contribution of indigenous peoples with their knowledge and their diverse approaches and strategies of locally adapted models of life, economy and development are of great importance for the conservation of ecosystems with their biological diversity. This contribution is inseparable from the protection of their rights.

Plants and their products represent about 80 per cent of the human diet, recreation and medicine worldwide. Forests provide habitats for species and are sources of clean air and clean drinking water. The destruction of ecosystems therefore threatens not only the habitat of plants and animals but also human beings. In addition, ecosystems with their natural biodiversity protect against environmental disasters, such as flooding and landslides and are more adaptable to climate change.

The 7th Five Year Plan (2016-2020; GED, 2015) targets to increase the tree density by more than 70 per cent by halting on felling in the natural forests, increasing tree density of the existing forests and older plantations through 'enrichment planting' and 'assisted natural regeneration', and intensification of plantation activities in the coastal zones. About 50,000 ha of land in hill forests and

5,000 ha in plain land forests will be planted during the period. The productivity of the plantations will also be increased manifold. Multi-purpose trees will receive special attention to increase the productivity of land under forests. The existing coastal afforestation and enrichment plantation will also be continued. The existing mature coastal plantations will remain for reinforcing the green belt. An area of 30,000 ha will be planted and replanted in the coastal areas.

15.6 Summary

In terms of SDG 15 targets, Bangladesh is mostly on track as it has increased its reach and expanded the land area and also has diversified its strategy to protect different ecosystems and different threatened plants and animals. The country has increased the forest protected area to 17.5 per cent but the forest cover needs to improve in quality. The country has also identified the ecologically critical areas and has used legal institutions to restrict harmful economic activities including designated areas for protection of vulture and protection of migratory birds.

Bangladesh has adopted a holistic approach to ecosystems, which also includes the people who use them sustainably. The approach recognises that biodiversity and its conservation should not be reduced to monetary valuation and ecosystem services, but non-monetary and intangible assets as well as non-economic incentives such as appropriate recognition of indigenous territories should be given greater consideration. The contribution of indigenous peoples with their knowledge and their diverse approaches and strategies of locally adapted models of life, economy and development are of great importance for the conservation of ecosystems with their biological diversity.

Bangladesh has already taken steps to incorporate these concerns in its medium and longer term development strategies through different measures, such as their proper integration in the national planning process; mobilising financial and non-financial resources; creating institutional mechanisms for implementation; taking steps for collection of required data for monitoring; and ensuring participation and accountability.

16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

16.1 Global Perspective on SDG16

Throughout the world, advances in ending violence, promoting the rule of law, strengthening institutions and increasing access to justice remain uneven and continue to deprive millions of their security, rights and opportunities; as well as undermine the delivery of public services and broader and inclusive development. Attacks on civil society are also retarding development. Other forms of violence – crime and sexual and gender based violence – are also holding back the progress in development. Renewed efforts are essential to move towards the achievement of SDG16.

The number of intentional homicides per 100,000 people increased from 6.0 in 2015 to 6.1 in 2017. This is largely the result of an increase in the homicide rates in Latin America and the Caribbean and in some countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Various forms of violence against children persist. In 83 countries (mostly from developing regions) with recent data, nearly 8 in 10 children from 1 to 14 years of age were subjected to some form of psychological aggression and/or physical punishment at home. In all but seven of these countries, at least half of children experienced violent disciplinary methods. Sexual violence is perhaps the most disturbing of children's rights violations. In 14 of 46 countries having limited comparable data, at least 5 per cent of women between the ages of 18 and 29 experienced sexual intercourse or other sexual acts that were forced, physically or in other ways, for the first time before they were 18 years of age.

There has also been an overall increase in the detection of victims of trafficking in persons, which could reflect either a positive (enhanced efforts by authorities to identify victims) or negative (larger trafficking problem) development. In a departure from prior findings, recent data show that most trafficking victims were detected domestically: 58 per cent in 2016, up from 43 per cent in 2014. The vast majority (70 per cent) of detected victims of human trafficking were women and girls, and most were trafficked for sexual exploitation.

The share of unsentenced detainees in the overall prison population remains largely unchanged at 30 per cent in recent years. This occurred in a context where the total prison population grew in absolute values while remaining constant as a share of the total population. Killings of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists are on the rise. From 2017 to 2018, the UN recorded and verified 431 killings across 41 countries. Every passing week saw at least eight people murdered at the front lines of efforts to build more inclusive and equal societies – a worrying increase from the previous average of one victim per day observed from 2015 to 2017. Birth registration plays a primary role in ensuring individual rights and access to justice and social services. Although many regions have reached universal or near universal birth registration, globally the average is 73 per cent. Fewer than half (46 per cent) of all children under the age of 5 in sub-Saharan Africa have had their births registered. Binding laws and policies giving individuals a right to access information held by public authorities have been adopted by 125 countries, with at least 31 countries adopting such laws since 2013. Among the 123 countries for which data on the legal framework is available, 40 countries do not include the right to appeal to an independent administrative body, which has been assessed as key for the proper implementation of this right.

The pace of progress to put in place national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles needs acceleration. In 2018, a total of 39 per cent of all countries had in place an institution

that was fully compliant with the internationally agreed standard. If growth continues at the same rate, by 2030 only a little over one half (54 per cent) of all countries worldwide will have compliant national human rights institutions.

The difference between the approved and the implemented budget reflects a government's ability to achieve development objectives, including delivering services to the public. Deviation between the approved and actual spending during the period 2006–2017 in 108 countries shows that actual spending was within plus or minus 5 per cent of the approved budget in about half of the countries. One out of 10 countries had a deviation of more than plus or minus 15 per cent. Almost half of the low-income economies showed more than plus or minus 10 per cent deviation in budget execution.

In South Asia, SDG 16 requires a vast array of resources from both the country and global levels, including financing, technology, capacity, and trade. The largest challenge to achieving SDG 16 in the region is addressing systemic issues. Fixing any systemic issue is challenging because it often requires complicated and controversial legislation. For example, SDG 16.5 (substantially reduce corruption) is measured by proportions of individuals and businesses that are asked to pay or do pay a bribe to an official. However, in order to combat corruption, countries must have a sufficient legal framework to deter it. Countries in the region must also address the societal norms regarding frequent small scale bribes. Until now, the vast majority of indicators for SDG 16 are classified as Tier II (data is not regularly produced by the countries) in South Asia.

16.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG 16 by Indicators

Without peace, human rights, stability, and effective governance it is impossible to think about sustainable development. But in reality, we live in a world that is increasingly divided. Some regions enjoy sustained levels of peace, security and prosperity, while others fall into seemingly endless cycles of conflict and violence. This is by no means inevitable and must be addressed.

For sustainable development, the government looks to uphold the values of peace, justice and strong institutions put forward by SDG16. Various measures such as the formation of the National Human Rights Commission and the issuance of the Right to Information Act, and the collection and analysis of related data are indicative of the government's enthusiasm towards achieving SDG16. As a result, the number of victims of intentional homicide has reduced significantly in Bangladesh. The number of victims of human trafficking has also declined by more than the average rate. To build accountable institutions and combat corruption in public services, the government has been implementing various governance related initiatives. Some initiatives are: Annual Performance Agreements (APAs), Citizen Charters, National Integrity Strategy (NIS), and Grievance Redress System (GRS) for the social protection programmes.

Indicator 16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age

Intentional homicide rate decreased to 1.39 in 2019; 2.1 for males and 0.67 for females (BP, 2019). The active moves by the law enforcement agencies have contributed significantly to improving the law and order situation and reducing the violent crime rates in the country.

Table 16.1: Number of Victims of Intentional Homicide

Indicator	2010	Baseline [2015]	2019	Milestone by 2020	Milestone by 2025	Target by 2030
16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age	2.6	Total: 1.94 Male: 3.1 Female: 0.76	Total: 1.39 Male: 2.1 Female: 0.67	Total: 1.6 Male: 1.3 Female: 0.3	Total: 1.5 Male: 1.2 Female: 0.3	Total: 1 Male: 0.9 Female: 0.2

Source: BP 2015, 2019

Indicator 16.1.2 Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause

Conflict-related deaths are defined as "deaths in battle-related conflicts between warring parties in the conflict dyad (two conflict units that are parties to a conflict). All deaths—military as well as civilian—incurred in such situations, are counted as battle-related deaths" (UN, n.d.). According to BP 2018, conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population is 0.17; of which 0.08 are males and 0.09 are females. As Bangladesh is not directly involved in any war or conflict with any country, many of its troops are stationed in highly conflict-prone countries on duty as UN peacekeeping forces.

Indicator 16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months

According to the VAW (Violence against Women) Survey 2015, 72.6 per cent of the ever-married women experienced any form of violence by their husbands. The proportion of women subjected to any form of violence in the previous 12 months was 54.7 per cent.

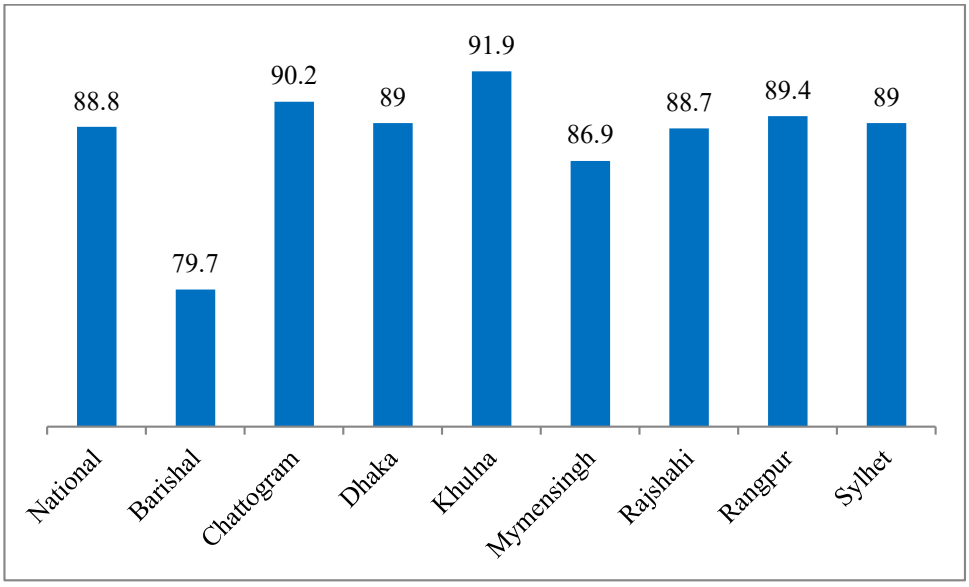
Indicator 16.1.4 Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live

According to the Citizen Perception Household Survey (CPHS) 2018, 85.85 per cent of the population feel safe walking alone around the area they live of which 87.88 per cent are males and 83.71 per cent are females. According to MICS 2019, 74.8 per cent of women aged 15-49 years feel safe walking alone around.

Indicator 16.2.1 Proportion of children aged 1-17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month

The proportion of children aged between 1 to 14 years who experienced corporal punishment or psychological aggression was 88.8 per cent in Bangladesh in 2019 (MICS, 2019), which is 89.2 per cent for males and 88.5 per cent for females. The highest incidence of corporal punishment or psychological aggression against children is found to be 91.9 per cent in the Khulna division (MICS, 2019) (Figure 16.1). For all geographic divisions of the country, the incidence of corporal punishment or psychological aggression against children is higher than 85 per cent. Thus, the belief in the adage that "spare the rod, and spoil the child" seems to be widespread all over Bangladesh.

Figure 16.1: Percentage of children age 1-14 years who experienced by any violent discipline method during the last one month, Bangladesh, 2019



Source: MICS, 2019

Indicator 16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation

As of 2018, the number of victims of human trafficking has decreased to 0.61 from the baseline 0.85 in 2015 for every 100,000 population. The number of victims of human trafficking for male is 0.58 and for female 0.63.

Table 16.2: Victims of Human Trafficking and Sexual Violence

Indicator	Baseline [2015]	2018	Milestone by 2025
Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	0.85 (Male: 0.53; Female: 0.32)	0.61 (Male: 0.58; Female: 0.63)	Total: 0.30

Source: BP 2019

Indicator 16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimisation to competent authorities or other officially recognised conflict resolution mechanisms

In 2015, 72.7 per cent of women who experienced violence from their partners never reported their experience to others. Only 2.1 per cent victims reported to local leaders and 1.1 per cent sought help from the police. Since 2015, impressive progress has been achieved in this area. Although an annual target of providing legal aid to 37,000 beneficiaries by 2020 was set, in 2017 legal aid was provided to 80,000 beneficiaries. According to MICS 2019, 10.3 per cent of women who experienced violence reported to the police.

Indicator 16.3.2 Un-sentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population

This indicator helps assess performance of judicial system in finalising cases and providing access to an effective judicial system. Available data suggest that, currently, the proportion of un-sentenced detainees is high (83.60 per cent in 2018) in Bangladesh, more than double the target rate for 2030 indicating the need for more intensified efforts in meeting the target.

Indicator 16.5.1 Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months

According to the Citizen Perception Household Survey (CPHS) 2018, 31.32 per cent of the population had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months.

Indicator 16.6.2 Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services

According to the Citizen Perception Household Survey (CPHS) 2018, 39.69 per cent of the population are satisfied with their last experience of public services.

Indicator 16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age

The percentage of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority has increased from 37.0 per cent in 2012-13 to 56.2 per cent in 2019. The proportion is higher in rural areas at 56.8 per cent that that of 54.0 per cent in urban areas.

Indicator 16.10.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information

The Right to Information Act 2009 has been enacted making provisions for ensuring free flow of information and people's right to information. The freedom of thought, conscience and speech is recognised in the Constitution as a fundamental right. In line with the Act, an Independent Information Commission has also been established. The Commission is responsible for undertaking five main types of functions: issuing directives and guidelines, conducting research and advising the government on improving the access to information regime and compliance with international instruments, building institutional capacity, conducting promotional activities, and resolving complaints. The responsibility of implementing the Right to Information (RTI) Act also largely lies on the Information Commission.

Indicator 116.a.1 Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles

In accordance with the provision of National Human Rights Commission Act 2009, a statutory independent National Human Rights Commission has been established in the country. The purpose of establishing such an institution is to contribute to the embodiment of human dignity and integrity as well as to safeguard fundamental human rights of all individuals. The Human Rights Commission was instrumental in adopting the Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017. The Commission plays

a significant role in establishing a culture of respect for human rights with the cooperation of all concerned including the civil society, the public and private organisations. The Commission has been working to raise awareness on human rights issues through research, seminars, symposiums, workshops, and through any other means; conduct investigation of any allegation of human rights violations; investigate particular human rights violation allegations discovered through the Commission's own monitoring; settle the matter or pass it on to the court or relevant authorities; and mediate and/or conciliate in human rights disputes.

Indicator 16.b.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law

According to the CPHS 2018, 35.6 per cent of the population has reported having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law. According to MICS 2019, 10.5 per cent of women age 15-49 years having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months.

16.3 Key Challenges

Although several actions have been implemented, but there still exist a number of factors that impede success in these areas. First, available data are not updated regularly by the line ministries, making it difficult to undertake appropriate actions and guide them properly. It also makes it difficult to ascertain priority areas and adopt appropriate financing strategies, including seeking international cooperation.

Second, inadequate coordination between the relevant authorities has led to a dissonance in budget allocations and estimated costs for SDG-related activities. The SDGs Financing Strategy, published by the GED in 2018, predicts additional costs required to achieve SDG16 to amount to USD 1.08 billion in FY2020, USD 1.78 billion in FY2025, USD 2.33 billion in FY2030. It is posited that 80 per cent of these additional costs would come from public sources and 20 per cent from external sources. As the additional budget for public order and safety in 2020 amounts to approximately USD 0.4 billion i.e. only 36.6 per cent of the additional costs projected by the SDG Financing Strategy, it would be prudent to enlist further cooperation with international agencies and development partners to bridge the financing gap.

Capacity building of the law enforcing agencies and a properly functioning accountability mechanism can significantly improve the situation. Thirdly, ensuring access to an effective judicial system is also a key challenge in achieving the relevant SDG targets. The shortage in human and technical resources in the judicial department has been constraining the quick settlement of disputes. Reporting incidence of violence, particularly domestic violence and violence against women is a major issue in the country. Actually preventing violence, protecting the at-risk, supporting victims and making the perpetrators more accountable requires timely reporting of the issues to the appropriate authority.

16.4 Way Forward

As the proportion of women subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence seems to be high among the poorest households, mass awareness, intensified efforts, and engagement of local elected representatives along with enforcement of law and order will be required.

Currently, the Rohingya refugees inflow is an important issue for SDG16 in Bangladesh. This is not only worrying for national peace and stability in Bangladesh, but also for regional stability and progress. The Rohingyas have fled to Bangladesh following persecution against the community in the Rakhine state in Myanmar. Safe and orderly return of these refugees, with due citizenship status, to their homes will ensure peace and stability in the region and release resources for use in achieving the SDGs. Pressure must be given on Myanmar to take back its citizens with honour and dignity.

International cooperation needs to be strengthened to prevent and suppress human trafficking by way of legalising entry of guest workers in developed and oil rich middle-eastern countries as thousands of Bangladeshis look for opportunities abroad. Many of them fall into the hands of human trafficking networks, ending up in forced labour or other exploitative situations abroad.

Extremist threat has also been raising its head in Bangladesh over the last few years and Bangladesh has already adopted a zero tolerance policy to firmly deal with this challenge. In addition to updating relevance laws and rules, the government has sought support from various stakeholders from civil society and the members of the international community. In the domestic arena, several civil society think tanks are working with multiple stakeholders, including the students, youth, teachers, faith leaders, parents and government agencies and local government officials to address the challenges.

16.5 Summary

In many areas under SDG 16, Bangladesh has made good progress till now, including success in significantly reducing all forms of violence and related death rates; giving legal identity for all including birth registration; and developing effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. The country is also working hard to ensure public access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms; end of abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children; substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms; and strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.

In Bangladesh, a mixed mode approach has also been promoted under the multi donor Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), where the government and civil society actors join hands to mobilise and enhance the resilience of the community at the grassroots level against radicalisation and extremist tendencies. More effective organisation of workshops, seminars, symposiums and grassroots level movements are taken as instrumental in reducing acts of discrimination against women by persons, organisations or enterprises.

Sustainable development is unlikely to be realised without peace, stability, human rights and effective governance, based on the rule of law. Violence and insecurity have a destructive impact on Bangladesh's development, affecting economic growth, and often resulting in grievances that last for generations. Sexual violence, crime, exploitation and torture are also prevalent and Bangladesh is working towards protecting those who are most at risk. Promoting the rule of law and human rights are keys to this process, as is strengthening the participation of all communities in the institutions of governance in the country.

17 Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

17.1 Global Perspectives on SDG17

For successfully achieving the 2030 sustainable development agenda, inclusive partnerships across all stakeholders—the governments, private sector, civil society and the people, built upon universal principles and values, a shared vision, and shared goals that place the people and the planet at the centre--are needed at the global, regional, national and local levels. Such partnerships require effective and equitable actions to mobilise, redirect and unlock the transformative power of all resources to deliver on the sustainable development objectives.

Long-term investments, including FDIs, are needed in critical sectors, especially in sustainable energy, infrastructure and transport, as well as information and communications technologies. The public sector needs to set a clear direction. Monitoring and evaluation frameworks, regulations and incentive structures that ensure such investments are to be revamped to attract investments and reinforce sustainable development. National oversight mechanisms such as audit mechanisms and oversight functions need to be strengthened.

In addition, enhancing the resource mobilisation capacity--both domestic and external, ensuring long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies, adopting and implementing investment promotion regimes, and revitalising the global partnership through sharing knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources is necessary to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

For the low and middle income countries (LMICs), major financial resources include domestic taxes, FDI, and ODA; while domestic policy frameworks, effective institutions and support for good governance, democracy, rule of law, human rights, transparency and accountability are essential ingredients of non-financial resources. The flow of ODA remains steady; but below its target of US$147 billion in 2017. In 2018, only five DAC members from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) – Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom – met or exceeded the 0.7 per cent GNI target.

The progress on several means of implementation is quite fast, such as personal remittances are at an all-time high; there has been rapid increase in the proportion of the global population with access to the internet; and the Technology Bank for the LDCs has been established. In 2019, annual remittance flow to low and middle-income countries reached nearly $550 billion which had place it ahead of FDI and ODA flows to low and middle-income countries. More than half of the world's population (3.9 billion) have access to the Internet at the end of 2018 which is considered a massive step towards a more inclusive global information society.

In 2017, trade-weighted tariffs decreased to an average of 2.2 per cent worldwide meaning wider access to goods and services creating a more open trading system, but there still remain large differences at the regional level that reflect global economic imbalances. Bilateral development partners' respect for country policies declined from 64 per cent in 2016 to 57 per cent in 2018. In 2018, 51 of 114 countries reported overall progress towards strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships and the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Improvements are reported with regard to the quality and use of public financial management and reporting systems for development cooperation activities and flows channelled through the public sector.

17.2 Assessment of Progress on SDG17 by Indicators

Resource mobilisation

The SDG Financing Strategy: Bangladesh Perspective provides a well-defined work plan that highlights the actions necessary to achieve the SDGs. Bangladesh's SDG financing strategy requires additional US$928.48 billion which is around 19.75 per cent of country's GDP at constant 2015-16 prices. In 2018, Bangladesh fulfilled all three eligibility criteria for graduation from the UN's LDC list for the first time and is on track for graduation in 2024 which may pose additional challenges in future in terms of losing international trade preferences and support mechanism.

The government recognises that the current progress in resource mobilisation, both domestic and external, needs substantial improvement for delivering on the SDGs by 2030. Bangladesh's tax-GDP ratio is estimated at 13.05 per cent in FY2019-20 and needs major improvement. Even though Bangladesh is no longer an aid dependent country, still ODA plays a vital role in poverty reduction, social sector and infrastructural development. The ODA shows modest growth although the share of ODA in GDP has been generally declining in the recent years. Increased flow of FDI as part of the strategy to mobilise significantly bigger amount of resources for achieving accelerated growth with renewed emphasis on domestic resource mobilisation would be effective.

In FY2018-19 Bangladesh earned US$16400 million as remittances which is around 10 per cent higher than remittance inflows than the previous year. The remittance sent by Bangladeshi expatriates is 5.4 per cent of GDP in FY2018-19.

Table 17.1: External Financing Sources

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*
ODA, ml.US$	3005.5	3531.7	3677.3	6400.0	6210.0
FDI(net), ml.US$	1830	2000	2450	2580	3880
Remittances, bl. US$	15.3	14.9	12.8	14.9	16.4

**Up to February 2019. Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2019, Ministry of Finance; Bangladesh Bank*

The Economic Relations Division (ERD) of the Ministry of Finance, which is responsible for managing external resources from different sources, has implemented several strategic institutional and policy measures to harness resources to support Bangladesh's SDGs implementation. Along with strengthening its collaboration with different line ministries/divisions to speed up the process of resource mobilisation and project implementation, ERD has prepared the National Policy on Development Cooperation (NPDC) to ensure predictable and beneficial development cooperation. In addition, active participation in High Level Political Forum (HLPF) and presenting Voluntary National Review (VNR), High-Level Meeting (HLM2) of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), and later becoming elected the Co-Chair of GPEDC in HLM2 in December 2017 are some of the major steps towards developing effective global partnership.

Regular local consultative group meetings, introduction of online aid portal 'Aid Information

Management System', strategic transformation of cash flow through comprehensive government financing and debt management strategy, and organising the Bangladesh Development Forum (BDF) in 2018 are some of the efforts for mobilising and efficiently managing external resources.

Indicator 17.1.1 and 17.1.2 Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source and proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes

Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, along with measuring the government's control on economic resources, indicates the government capacity to meet budget requirements. The total government revenue, comprising tax revenue and non-tax revenue, in 2018-19 was Tk.3165.99 billion or 12.48 per cent of GDP. The share has improved significantly in recent years due to substantial increase in the number of registered tax payers, rise in tax revenue collection, and prudent tax collection and management mechanism. Tax revenue, accounting for over 90 per cent of the total government revenue, increased its contribution to the domestic budget in the recent years. The contribution of taxes to budget financing has already surpassed the 2020 milestone in 2017.

Table 17.2: Total Government Revenue and Proportion of Domestic Budget

Indicators	2010	Baseline 2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source	10.4	10.78	10.26	10.16	11.6	12.48
Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	60.8	62	61.75	61.77	64.16	65.85

Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2019, Ministry of Finance, FD

Indicator 17.3.1 Foreign direct investments (FDI), official development assistance (ODA) and South-South Cooperation (SSC) as a proportion of total domestic budget

External sources, consisting of FDI and ODA, play critical role in financing Bangladesh's budgetary expenses with a share of around 15 per cent. Net ODA in 2016 was US$3.5 billion, about 17.27 per cent higher than in the previous year. It needs to be mentioned that, in the recent years, growth in the size of national budget has been faster than the growth in ODA to Bangladesh (although in 2018, the amount of ODA was US$6.40 billion, almost twice the amount in the previous year). The commitment of the external aid is rising year-on-year which implies that the foreign aid inflow to Bangladesh would also be increasing resulting in more investments for developing infrastructure and other sectors.

Table 17.3: Overseas Development Assistance and Annual Budget

	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Budget (billon US$)	18.27	23.69	27.82	30.86	33.81	33.80	42.58	51.00	55.31
ODA (in bill US$)	1.78	2.06	2.76	3.05	3.01	3.53	3.68	6.40	6.21
ODA as % of budget	9.7	8.7	9.9	9.9	8.9	9.6	8.64	12.55	11.23

Source: ERD, Bangladesh Economic Review 2019, Ministry of Finance.

On the other hand, FDI as a proportion of the government budget have surged by 50 per cent or over 1 billion US dollars in FY2018-19 compared with the previous fiscal year (FY2017-18). It was driven by significant Chinese investments in Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) and in a leading mobile financial service company. However, it seems that the 2030 milestone is somewhat ambitious. As a share in financing domestic investment, FDI has fluctuated at around 3.00 per cent of domestic investment in recent years without any observable trend. More attention is thus needed in order to achieve the 2030 milestone and develop an investment friendly climate for attracting substantial FDI into the country.

Table 17.4: FDI as a Proportion of Annual Budget

	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
FDI (in billion US$)	1.83	2.00	2.45	2.58	3.88
FDI as % of budget	5.41	5.92	5.75	5.06	7.02
FDI as proportion of domestic investment (%)	3.2	3.6	3.6	2.9	2.8

Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2019, Ministry of Finance, UNCTAD 2019

Indicator 17.3.2 Volume of remittances (in United States dollars) as a proportion of total GDP

The annual flow of remittances has been increasing since 2015, reaching a record high of $16.42 billion in 2019. Still, the 2020 milestone of reaching the remittance/GDP ratio of 14 per cent appears ambitious.

Table 17.5: Remittance as a Proportion of GDP

Remittance	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
Remittance (in bill US$)	15.31	14.93	12.77	14.98	16.42
Remittance as % of GDP	7.8	6.7	5.1	5.5	5.4

Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2019, Ministry of Finance; World Bank Data.

Indicator 17.4.1 Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services (%)

The indicator measures the proportion of debt service, interest and principal payments, to total export earnings. Large debt service payments reduce the government capacity to increase development expenditure and therefore impede economic growth. Debt service burden in recent years has improved from 3.5 per cent in 2015 to 3.9 per cent in 2019. However, it is within safe limits, but the government should carefully watch the trend to take appropriate measures, if necessary, to keep it under control.

Table 17.6: Debt Service as a Percentage of Exports

Indicator	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
17.4.1 Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services (%)	3.5	3.1	3.2	3.8	3.9

Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2019, Ministry of Finance, World Bank Data.

Indicator 17.6.2 Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed

Fixed broadband subscription provides wide scope for searching and sharing knowledge. Connectivity to broadband internet is steadily rising in the country. As per BTRC (2019), 4.80 subscriptions are recorded for every 100 population, more than double the 2014 rate. The 3G connections are expected to surpass 2G connections in 2020, reaching 46 per cent of total connections – and this requires continued investment and maintenance on behalf of the mobile operators. The 4G adoption may initially lag that of 3G in the years following the launch of services, but will accelerate from 2025, at which point 4G is likely to represent half of total connections. The number of mobile internet subscribers in Bangladesh is forecasted to reach 73 million by the end of 2025, representing 41 per cent of the population. In addition, continuously increasing subscription rate and the indicator requires only around 10 per cent annual growth in the remaining years to achieve 20 per cent target by 2030.

Table 17.7: Fixed Internet Broadband Subscriptions

Indicator	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015 (Baseline)	2016	2017	2018	2019
Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed	0.27	0.39	0.99	2.00	3.13	4.17	4.57	6.34	4.80

Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank Data 2019, and BTRC

Figure 17.1: Fixed Broadband Subscriptions in Bangladesh (Per 1000 People)

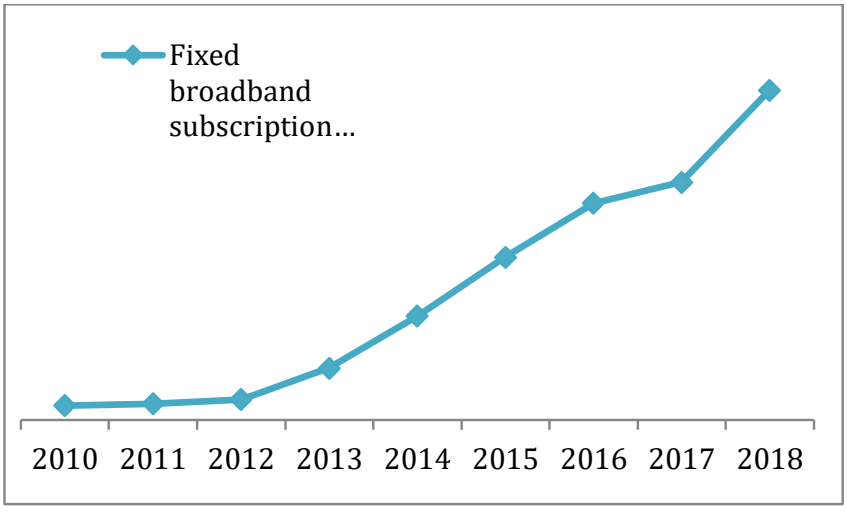
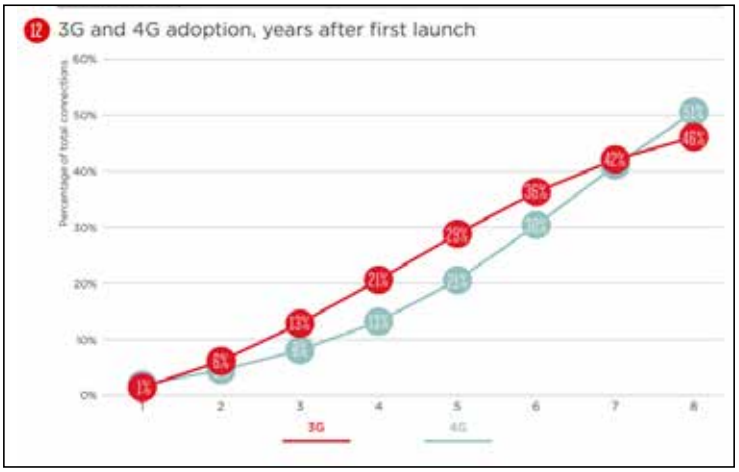


Figure 17.2: Trend of 3G and 4G Adoption in Bangladesh, years after first launch



Indicator 17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using Internet

The proportion of the population using internet measures access to modern communication medium and it has increased significantly in the country. The number of internet users in 2015 increased to 34.63 per cent from 3.7 per cent in 2010. This new communication technology has been adopted at a fast rate with the proportion of population reaching 56.6 per cent in 2018 and 60.4 per cent in 2019. The 2020 milestone has been surpassed in 2016.

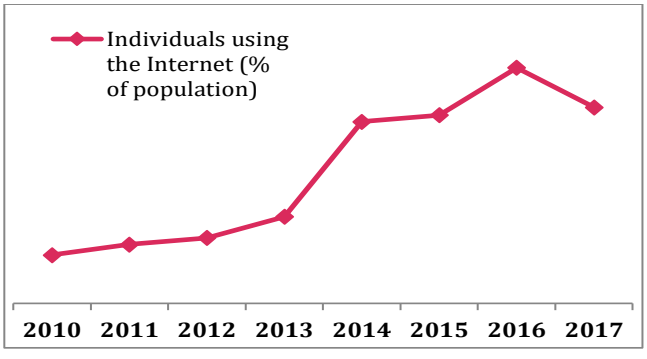
The total number of Bangladeshi Internet users reached nearly 100 million at the end of December 2019. The number of subscribers in the country reached 99.428 million, which accounts for a little less than two-thirds of the country's population.

Table 17.8: Proportion of Individuals using Internet (per cent)

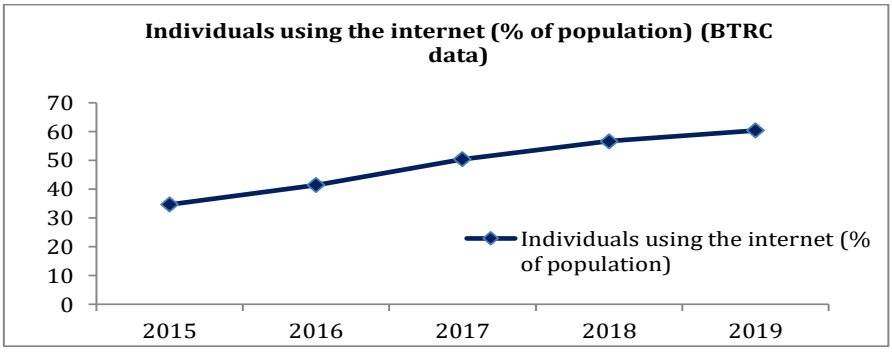
Indicator	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using the Internet	3.7	5.0	6.63	13.9	14.4 34.63 (BTRC, 2015)	18.02 41.4 (BTRC 2016)	15 50.4 (BTRC)	56.6 (BTRC)	60.4 (BTRC)

Source: World Development Indicators 2019, World Bank Data and calculated from BTRC

Figure 17.3: Individuals using the Internet in Bangladesh (% of population)



Source: World Bank



Indicator 17.9.1 Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries

This indicator helps assess the level of assistance, both technical and financial, in building capacity of the developing countries to implement plans for achieving the SDGs. Technical and financial assistance is critical especially for the developing countries having resource mobilisation challenges. In 2018, total amount of assistance committed to Bangladesh is USD 382.42 million. This indicator is showing decreasing trend which is far below the target for 2030 (USD 1,500 million). These changes are mainly due to structural bottlenecks, absence of strong aid management system and inadequate initiatives towards aid effectiveness. Bangladesh's graduation from LDCs will entail the loss of a small number of LDC-specific mechanisms for technical or financial support which are not expected to be of major consequences. After a smooth transition period of five years, Bangladesh would no longer have access to the LDC Technology Bank. Bangladesh has been an active partner in South-South cooperation (UNOSSC, 2017). A PPP Technical Assistance Fund with an initial endowment of approximately $12 million has been established to provide early stage project development funding support to the sanctioned PPP projects.

Table 17.9: Value of Technical Assistance committed to Bangladesh (million US $)

Indicator	2012	2013	2014	Baseline 2015	2016	2017	2018
17.9.1 Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries (in million US$)	588.0	726.3	680.7	570.8	530.6	367.72	382.42

Source: ERD, Ministry of Finance

Indicator 17.10.1 Worldwide weighted tariff-average

The weighted tariff average for Bangladesh shows more or less a constant rate from 2015 to 2019 with some annual fluctuations. In 2015, it was 4.85 and in 2019 it has slightly declined to 4.64. However, within 2020 the indicator will meet its target of 5.5 as it is not very far from its target.

Table 17.10: Weighted Tariff Average

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
4.85	5.74	6.13	5.08	4.64

Source: Bangladesh SDG Tracker, BTC, MoC (2018-19)

Indicator 17.11.1 Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports

Bangladesh has one of the lowest shares of global export in the world. According to BTC, MoC (2017), Bangladesh has only 0.23 per cent of share in global export of goods. In terms of global export of services, the share is around 0.07 per cent.

Indicator 17.12.1: Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small-island developing States

The process of reducing import tariff rates in Bangladesh has been continuing in order to increase the efficiency of the indigenous industries and keep consistency with the process of world-wide tariff reduction. In addition, membership in different bilateral and multilateral agreements provides special tariff rates to the country's exports. The un-weighted average import tariff rate in FY1991-92 was 57.22 per cent which decreased to 14.50 per cent in FY2018-19. As an LDC, Bangladesh used to enjoy preferential tariff rates in the developed country markets which would no more be accessible to Bangladesh due to its graduation from the LDC status after 2027. Bangladesh would in principle have access to the standard GSP, whereby it would face higher, but still preferential tariffs. Bangladesh's export would have to comply with more stringent rules of origin to benefit from the GSP than it is required to, as an LDC, to benefit from the everything but arms scheme (EBA). This indicator particularly demonstrates that with further trade liberalisation in the importing countries, Bangladesh would meet the SDG target by 2030.

Table 17.11: Average Tariff Rate

Indicator	2010	Baseline 2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
17.12.1 Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States	MFN: 14.97% (un-weighted average)	MFN: 14.44% (un-weighted average) Preferential: 3.88%	MFN: 14.37% (un-weighted average) Preferential: 9.47%	MFN: 14.61% (un-weighted average)	MFN: 14.56% (un-weighted average)	MFN: 14.60% (un-weighted average)

Source: NBR 2020, MoC

Indicator 17.19.2 Proportion of countries that (a) have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years; and (b) have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration

Birth registrations in Bangladesh are regulated according to the Births and Deaths Registration Act 2004 which was effectuated in 2006. The Act was amended in 2013 in order to make the process sustainable. It has made it mandatory to provide a birth certificate when, among other things, applying for a passport, an ID card and when enrolling a child into the school. Bangladeshi births have since 2010 been registered directly into the database Birth Registration Information System (BRIS). According to the Registrar's office, a total of 164 million (which is approximately 98 per cent) births were registered in BRIS by 11 October 2018. Marriage and divorce registration in Bangladesh is still a paper based system, but it is quite simple. Currently, the Law and Justice Division is digitising the marriage and divorce registration system with the technical support from the Access to Information (a2i) Programme of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

17.3 Key Challenges

Bangladesh has taken the initiatives to develop an effective Aid Information Management System (AIMS) while emphasising on ensuring development partner's policy alignment and system harmonisation. One of the challenges is to further improve resource mobilisation. Domestic resource mobilisation potential is yet to be fully utilised. Enforcing VAT collection is a big challenge due to human and technical capacity constraints of the concerned departments. Capacity building involves large financial resources as well. Illicit financial flows are one of the major obstacles which hinder domestic resource mobilisation as required.

Although ODA is one of the major external sources of financing budgetary expenses, its contribution in terms of the size of the national budget is shrinking. Moreover, developing country status will pose additional challenges in future in terms of getting grants and low interest loans. Remittance sources need diversification. The skill related issues of the potential migrant workers require significant attention. The FDI is yet to register high and sustained growth. Access to power and gas, property registration, intellectual property rights are the leading factors behind low foreign investments. The rapid development of the economic zones by the government is expected to accelerate FDI inflows in the country.

Increasing the space for civil society's contribution to sustainable development and for a more inclusive and relevant dialogue between the public and private sectors also need more attention. Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) will be necessary in near future as Bangladesh will no more enjoy any tariff concession or preferential market access once the graduation from LDC status is completed.

17.4 Summary

The majority of the indicators of SDG17 having available data suggest that they have achieved notable success and are on track. The government revenue as a proportion of GDP has increased more than the estimated required rate due mainly to measures undertaken for increasing the number of tax payers, and prudent tax collection and management mechanism. Data on ODA

indicate modest growth although its contribution to the national budget fell marginally in recent years. However, the inflows of FDI and remittance require substantial increase.

Other indicators such as access to Internet, and fixed broadband subscriptions by individuals have multiplied due to expansion of fibre optics cable network and increase in optical fibre capacity in recent years. The need for developing strategic policy that enables business environment for private investment including FDI; promoting bilateral free trade areas (FTAs) and other trade agreements with potential countries are becoming more pronounced as Bangladesh moves forward. Bangladesh is already a member of several regional (e.g. BBIN, BCIM, BIMSTEC, APTA) and international organisations (e.g. WTO, WCO) and initiatives. However, for more meaningful partnership, Bangladesh has to become more proactive in realising potential benefits.

Achieving the SDGs will critically depend on the availability of resources including external resources. International community will have to extend their adequate and timely support to Bangladesh in trade and private sector development, identifying and removing barriers to investment, preventing tax avoidance and evasion.

Further, Bangladesh needs an overhaul of the development finance system to improve transparency, set clear international standards, ensure more strategic interplay of suppliers, intermediaries and beneficiaries and empower itself to make optimal choices.

Inclusive Partnerships and Means of Implementation

The SDGs present a unique opportunity for Bangladesh to eradicate all forms of deprivation and inequality, and provide a life of dignity to its entire population. Despite its economic dynamism and remarkable achievements, Bangladesh still accounts for a large number of poor, malnourished children, and suffer from a number of development and infrastructure gaps. While there has been progress in SDGs over the last five years, progress has been uneven within the country. The SDGs are an opportunity to carry forward the unfinished MDG agenda and build on it. In particular, the SDGs address cross-cutting issues such as economic growth, job creation, industrialisation, inequality, and peace and justice, and ecological sustainability, in addition to global partnership to improve implementation.

The initiatives taken by the government under the SDGs implementation process include the following major ones: (i) ministries have prepared SDGs action plan highlighting new projects and programmes to be implemented; (ii) SDGs Tracker has been launched to assist the monitoring of the implementation in terms of data updating by indicators; (iii) SDGs financing strategy has been finalised to determine the financing needs that indicates an additional amount of US$ 928.5 billion would be required from FY 2017 to FY 2030; (iv) convening the 1st National Conference on SDGs Implementation Review participated by representatives from the government, NGOs, CSOs, private sector and DPs; (v) forming the National Data Coordination Committee to harmonise data generation; (vi) preparing a framework of collaboration between the government and the UN agencies working in Bangladesh; (vii) approval of 40 (39+1) priority indicators for localising SDGs--39 indicators (with 11 national indicators) for 17 goals considered crucial and having reinforcing effects on others; and one additional (+1) local indicator is to reflect the 'leave no one behind' agenda.

The progress of SDGs shows that under-5 mortality and neonatal mortality has already reached the target set for 2020. The prevalence of tobacco use and family planning needs are on track. The reduction rates of poverty and hunger are also on-track. The government's commitment to social protection, enhancing both in budgetary allocation and in coverage, is already evident. Further, gender parity in primary and secondary education has been achieved. The annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person and manufacturing value-added as a proportion of GDP has already crossed the target set for 2020. Access to electricity is 96 per cent in line with the commitment to providing electricity to all by 2021. Considering women and children the most vulnerable section of the society, numerous initiatives have been taken to ensure their safety and security.

To address the key SDGs challenges, the Report highlights several strategic policy priorities for Bangladesh:

- **Address extreme poverty, food security and hunger with sustainable agricultural productivity growth**

Food security and the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger is a key development challenge in Bangladesh. The country needs to strengthen its food security and enhance research and development (R&D) on productivity. Doubling agricultural productivity in Bangladesh would increase food security and household incomes. Enhancing agricultural productivity could lift more people out of poverty and create additional jobs.

- **Create jobs through balanced economic transformation and sustainable industrialisation**

Industrialisation and robust inclusive economic growth, including the creation of productive jobs, are critical enablers for poverty alleviation and other SDGs. Bangladesh has already emerged as one of the fastest growing countries in the world, but the growth needs to create adequate jobs for its youth population as nearly 85 per cent of the workforce remains in the informal sector. The Bangladesh economy has witnessed a shift from agriculture towards services, largely bypassing the industrial sector and its job-creating capacity. An industry oriented structural transformation in Bangladesh could create more productive jobs and lift the people out of poverty. A well-coordinated sustainable industrialisation strategy could leverage the spillovers across borders, creating productive capacities in the country through linkages with regional and global value chains.

- **Provide basic services to all and accelerate sustainable infrastructure development**

Bangladesh is characterised by wide gaps in transport infrastructure, basic infrastructure such as drinking water and sanitation, energy, and ICT. Increased infrastructure availability would significantly increase per capita incomes and welfare of the population.

- **Ensure universal access to education and health to harness Bangladesh's demographic dividends**

Investing in universal health coverage and quality education and vocational training opportunities for all will enable Bangladesh to reap the demographic dividend from its youth population. Such investments will also allow the country to bridge global skills deficit for which the need is to prioritise the quality of education and training.

- **Provide universal social protection and financial inclusion**

Social protection strategies and financial inclusion are effective investments for accelerating poverty reduction and reducing inequality. Bangladesh needs to scale up its model of social protection that has evolved over the past decades, including those based on income support, employment guarantee and conditional cash transfers. Besides expanding microfinance programmes, the government needs also to leverage new innovations, such as agent banking and mobile financial services to improve financial inclusion.

- **Promote gender equality and women's entrepreneurship**

Despite achieving gender parity in primary and secondary education, Bangladesh lags in economic and social empowerment of women and other dimensions of gender equality. Women entrepreneurship needs to be promoted through gender-responsive policies including one-stop service centres, women specific credit programmes, and capacity building and adopting good practices.

- **Adopt low-carbon climate-resilient pathways**

For Bangladesh, environmental sustainability is an important element of closing development gaps and promoting sustainable economic growth. Environmental degradation, such as water quality and availability, has emerged as an impediment to development, and Bangladesh is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, extreme weather events and natural disasters. Measures to boost access to energy and reduce air pollution would address social needs, as well as increase

economic competitiveness. These include wider use of renewable energy sources, such as hydro, solar and wind; moving towards cleaner gas-based fuels; and employing new technologies to reduce emissions from conventional electricity generation. The industry sector also needs to decouple its growth from resource use and pollution through energy efficiency, recycling, and cogeneration, which are all becoming increasingly viable. Lifestyle changes, including sustainable solid waste management, need to be adopted as a part of sustainable consumption. The rapid rise in urban population provides Bangladesh with opportunities to leapfrog less sustainable technologies and urban patterns in favour of smart cities with greener and more resilient buildings and infrastructure, including transport systems. Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in development is also critical for Bangladesh given its vulnerability to disasters.

Strengthening Institutional Framework for SDGs

Effective SDGs implementation requires outcome-based approaches to multidimensional sustainable development challenges, effective decentralisation to empower the local government institutions (LGIs); and institutional reforms to introduce changes in regulations, institutional culture, markets and mind-sets. It is also important to ensure stakeholder participation in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs at all levels. The importance of strong institutions at all levels is important for Bangladesh.

Bangladesh needs comprehensive support with the means of implementation to achieve the 2030 Agenda. The means of implementation are included under several SDGs, as well as under SDG 17, and covered in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) on Financing for Development. These include finance, technology, capacity building, trade, policy coherence, data and monitoring, and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Finance: Implementing the SDGs in Bangladesh will require substantial financial resources, including social and infrastructure investments, as well as investments to enhance environmental sustainability. Social investments including employment for all, income security for the elderly and persons with disabilities, health, education and energy for all represent up to 20 per cent of GDP in Bangladesh by 2030. With relatively low tax-to-GDP ratio, Bangladesh has the potential to enhance domestic resources through expanding tax base, undertaking tax reforms, strengthening tax administration and through adopting innovative tax regimes. Examples of innovative taxes aligned with SDG priorities in Bangladesh may include: green tourist taxes; and a number of cess (tax on taxes, such as an education cess imposed on income taxes, funding the universal education campaign in India); tax on fuels that supports the development of the national highway programme; and a cess imposed on service tax to finance the sanitation campaign. Public-private partnerships (PPP) can also supplement public investments. Bangladesh has already started to implement policies to encourage the development of PPPs through adopting the 2010 Policy and Strategy for PPPs. Bangladesh is also harnessing the potential of corporate social responsibility (CSR) to supplement public resources.

While conventional flows of ODA remain critical for Bangladesh, South-South cooperation can also supplement development resources for Bangladesh. There is considerable potential for regional cooperation to assist Bangladesh in meeting its development financing and resource management needs. In addition to regional cooperation, international development cooperation also has a role to play in helping Bangladesh meet its development financing needs. Under the 2030 Agenda and the AAAA, developed countries are to provide ODA equivalent to 0.7 per cent of their gross

national income, including 0.2 per cent allocated to the support of LDCs. The COP21 reiterated the commitment of developed countries to mobilise an additional $100 billion per year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries through the Green Climate Fund. Keeping in view the staggering needs, the Green Climate Fund should prioritise the financing of sustainable development in Bangladesh. In recent years, South-South cooperation has emerged as an important supplement to ODA in Bangladesh. It has become an increasingly important channel for funding development programmes and for providing new opportunities to share best practices among developing countries and regions.

Technology: The global technology facilitation mechanism and a technology bank for the LDCs are critical for Bangladesh. Along with low spending on R&D, Bangladesh lags behind in other aspects of science, technology and innovation (STI), which determine the country's ability to absorb, assimilate and benefit from technology.

To meet the SDG targets, Bangladesh needs access to environmentally sound technologies for energy generation and utilisation. Bangladesh lags behind in all STI indicators, which include per capita R&D expenditure, R&D manpower per million people, technology, receipts and payments, and patents registered. Bangladesh needs to refocus and strengthen its STI policies to provide the necessary ecosystem for stakeholders to develop and adopt sustainable development tools and practices. A collaborative regional approach may be useful for Bangladesh in several areas, such as agricultural and food-related R&D as well as sharing of good agricultural practices (GAPs); and varieties and germplasm to improve crop productivity and land use. Regional cooperation would also spur innovation in diverse areas, from geographical information system (GIS), to seed production, to livestock rearing and disease management. At the same time, policies for transformative development should prioritise investment in skills formation and R&D geared to foster structural transformation, especially towards more efficient, less resource intensive industrial development.

Bangladesh has demonstrated potential in developing affordable products and processes with its frugal engineering capacities (such as, affordable life-saving medicines like oral saline and affordable water purifiers). This capability could help create pathways for development with lower CO2 emissions and natural resource consumption. This could also lead to the creation of more affordable products and services for low-income people in Bangladesh. In order to promote such frugal innovations, Bangladesh could adopt utility models or petty patents that provide protection for incremental innovations for a limited duration and exploit other flexibilities provided in the TRIPs Agreement for fostering domestic innovation.

Data and monitoring: System to accurately track SDGs progress is a big challenge for Bangladesh. The country faces significant constraints in providing regular, timely and quality disaggregated data on different SDGs. Strengthening regional/global cooperation for monitoring and evaluation, especially on developing statistical capacity, can help develop common standards and perspectives for methodological processes, and for regular reporting of progress on SDGs.

Policy coherence: Bangladesh has moved away from the silo-like approach of SDGs implementation primarily undertaken by the ministry/agency of the respective sector in favour of effective multi-sectoral and crosscutting approach to harness the cross-sectoral synergies through identifying lead, co-lead and associate ministries/agencies. The approach focuses on outcome-based delivery, reducing trade-offs and exploiting synergies.

The government also prioritises the effective functioning of LGIs in order to deliver on the SDGs, along with plans to invest on authority, capacity and resource mobilisation. The efforts also target developing strong vertical coordination between the LGIs and the national government, along with developing horizontal coordination at the local level among the various LGIs tasked with carrying out the SDGs implementation. Institutional changes to mobilise effective stakeholder participation at the local level are also planned.

Rapid progress in social development also requires changes in a wide range of areas, including social practices, gender equality, social protection, laws and regulations relating to health and education, and private participation. These include incentives and regulations to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships: Stakeholder participation at national, subnational and local levels is critical for the effective implementation of the SDGs. Bangladesh plans to continue with the participatory process initiated during the design and localisation stage of the SDGs during the implementation and monitoring phases as well. Along with optimising benefits and ensuring access to the most underserved, such as the poor and those who are left behind, such participation also serves to enhance effective monitoring to enable better provision of public services. Bangladesh has developed the tradition of involving all relevant stakeholders including beneficiaries, civil society, the private sector and development partners.

Key areas of International Cooperation

A review of the targets of the SDGs with provision of international cooperation in Bangladesh identifies potential areas where development partners can contribute towards meeting the SDGs (GED, 2019). However, Bangladesh also needs to overcome a few challenges to receive further international cooperation. First, there is a lack of data for indicators for monitoring the progress on SDG targets, especially those related to international cooperation. Second, there is insufficient domestic spending on key areas such as social protection (SDG 1), health (SDG 3) and education (SDG 4). Third, the absorptive capacity of different line ministries impedes disbursement of funds despite donor commitments. Fourth, the executing agencies lack adequate capacity and need significant capacity building. In the above context, international cooperation in several areas is crucial:

- Tax reforms and decentralisation of revenue collection is essential. Technical assistance in the analysis of development impact when tax regimes are changed is another area where the development partners can contribute. Tax and tariff reforms by lowering tax and tariff rates and reducing dispersions between rates, and withdrawal of numerous exemptions would help Bangladesh achieve a satisfactory tax-GDP ratio. Decentralisation of revenue administration by allowing local authorities to collect some taxes, tackling corruption in revenue administration should help Bangladesh reach its revenue potential.

- Expenditure programs need to be streamlined. It is necessary that efficiency improvements are ensured in the expenditure programmes to get value for money.

- For ODA, international cooperation is needed to develop capacity of the implementing agencies to efficiently utilise the funds. Development partners need to entrust more responsibilities to their country offices to ease procurement and disbursement bottlenecks

and speed up project implementation. More involvement of relevant government agencies in donor project preparation and more donor participation in project implementation would help the process.

- For FDI, the need is to reform rules and regulations, especially foreign exchange regulations. Bangladesh needs to disseminate more information about its potential and areas of investment. Improvements in doing business index of the World Bank could be the first step in this regard. Transparent procurement is another area that will help attract globally credible investors. Introduction of international standard auditing and accounting of business firms and corporate houses may increase flow of FDI in larger volume.

- For the private sector, it is important to align their business objectives with the SDGs. Internationally, private sector has collaborated on various fronts to create practical tools and guidelines that assist businesses in sorting out how to put the SDGs into action, which might be adopted by Bangladesh. In addition, an attractive CSR market could also be leveraged to serve useful social objectives, and in this context the guidelines developed under the UN Compact could serve a useful purpose. Bangladesh has a successful track-record of attracting private sector investments in telecommunications and power generation. The experience should be extended by further liberalising the market and offering business models acceptable to private investors.

- In the case of PPP, the framework needs to be further liberalised. Experts in various infrastructure technologies, innovative financing methods, and legal experts may be recruited from the private sector to increase the project processing capacity of the PPP office. Projects with higher commercial potential should be earmarked for the private sector implementation rather than donor or government budgetary financing.

- To improve remittances, best practices in diaspora engagement need to be adopted. Despite increase in remittance flows in recent years, hundi remains a channel used by the overseas workers to take advantage of exchange rate mismatch and avoid taxation. Unnecessary interference in the foreign exchange rate market and harassment by tax officials has to be reduced for the overseas workers to choose the official channel of remittance.

- For debt sustainability, Bangladesh need to monitor debt services in association with the development partners. This is needed as Bangladesh is moving from an era of concessional finance to finances of more commercial nature involving much higher debt service liabilities. The support should act as an early warning system and help avoid any possible systemic shock to the Bangladesh economy.

- To scale up South-South cooperation, Bangladesh needs to adopt reference benchmarks to assess performance. International cooperation is needed to develop common reference indicators and a central database for this important source of cooperation. Tracking data in a systematic manner will allow the government agencies to effectively understand the extent of cooperation and engage further. For effective South-South cooperation, lessons may be drawn from experiences of such cooperation in other countries and avoiding pitfalls such as debt trap.

- For technology, the government needs to formulate a roadmap for acceleration which needs to be nurtured by the ICT Division. There is further scope for developing environmentally sound technologies with international cooperation. To save displacement of jobs that comes with technological development, updated curriculum in education and training is crucial for Bangladesh.

- For trade, Bangladesh needs to actively engage in the negotiations by forming coalitions with other graduating LDCs or non- LDC developing countries in various areas of interests. This needs international cooperation e.g. capacity development of MoC. To increase its share in global exports, Bangladesh needs to diversify its export basket to non-RMG products and destinations outside EU and USA. Trade creating customs union and trade with neighbours may be pursued vigorously. Spaghetti-bowl effects of bilateral or regional free trade areas should be borne in mind while negotiating such treaties.

- For systemic issues, Bangladesh's SDG monitoring and evaluation framework might recognise CSOs, NGOs and the private sector as 'associate partners' alongside 'lead ministries' and 'associate ministries'. Under the 'associate partners', a group of CSOs/private firms/leading NGOs which specialise on specific goals could be considered.

- Localisation, particularly of community and social networks, is required to complement the overall SDG efforts. The localisation effort will help generate knowledge, skills, and network at the community level to advance the collective efforts to achieve SDGs. The NGOs, civil society groups, academia, business community and other professional bodies can play a significant role in the form of creating social and human capital and network to address many of the challenges.

In summary, this Report highlights that national coordinating agencies are critical, and that adoption of outcome-based approaches, the empowerment of LGIs, and stakeholder participation are imperative to effectively deliver on the SDGs in Bangladesh. Bangladesh also needs to access means of implementation and close a number of capacity gaps in finance, technology, trade, data, monitoring and accountability. Additional financial resources will have to be mobilised through expanding the tax base, tax reforms, and innovative taxes, harnessing PPP, and through global/regional cooperation complemented by ODA flows and South-South cooperation. Along with this cooperation, technology facilitation mechanisms will be critical to enabling Bangladesh to develop sustainable solutions that harness its frugal engineering capabilities. Such cooperation could help in closing the gaps in statistical capacity as well.

Bangladesh's preparation of the SDGs Progress Report 2020 reflects its strong commitment to track the country's progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda, including the SDGs and targets, in a manner that respects their universal and integrated nature and all dimensions of sustainable development, it is substantive and knowledge based, with a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind.

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Annex

Annex: Updated Status of 2020 Progress against Baselines of SDGs Indicators

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere			
1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)	14.77% (PovcalNet, WB, 2016)	9.30%	14.77% (PovcalNet, WB, 2016)
1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age	UPL: 24.3% LPL: 12.9% (HIES, 2016, BBS)	UPL: 18.6% LPL: 8.9%	UPL: 20.5% LPL: 10.5% (HIES Projection 2019, BBS
1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	MPI: 0.18 HC: 37.51 Intensity: 46.84 (BBS, 2019)	-	MPI: 0.18 HC: 37.51 Intensity: 46.84 (BBS, 2019)
1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable	28.7% (number of program beneficiary) (HIES, 2016)	30%	58.1% (MICS 2019, BBS)
1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services	Sanitation: 55.9% Hygiene: 59.1% Clean Fuel: 9.9% Antenatal Health care: 58.7% Primary completion rate: 79.5% Electricity: 77.9% (SVRS, 2017, BBS)	-	Electricity: 92.23% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	Affected Persons: 12,881 per 100,000 people Death Person: 0.2045 (MoDMR, 2016)	Affected Persons: 6,500	Affected Persons: 4,318 Death Person: 0.316 (MoDMR, 2019)
1.5.4 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies	City Corp: 0.0833 (1/12) Pourashava: 0.0091 (3/330) (MoDMR, 2019)	-	City Corp: 0.0833 (1/12) Pourashava: 0.0091 (3/330) (MoDMR, 2019)
1.a.1 Proportion of domestically generated resources allocated by the government directly to poverty reduction programmes	80.07% (FD, 2014-15)	-	80.60% (FD, 2019)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)	Health: 4.81% Education: 12.82% SP: 12.72% (FD: FY 15)	Health: 5% Education: 15% SP: 15%	Health: 4.9% Education: 15.20% SP: 14.20% (FD, 2019-20)
1.b.1 Proportion of government recurrent and capital spending to sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups	Proportion of spending (recurrent & capital) to total budget for women: 26.60% Proportion of spending (recurrent & capital) to total budget for social protection: 14.99% (FD, 2015)	-	Proportion of spending (recurrent & capital) to total budget for women: 30.60% Proportion of spending (recurrent & capital) to total budget for social protection: 14.55% (FD, 2018-19)
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture			
2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment	15.1% (FAO, 2016)	14%	14.7% (FAO, 2019
2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)	Moderate: 32.3% Severe: 11.1% (FAO 2016)	-	Moderate: 30.5% Severe: 10.2% (FAO 2016)
2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age	42% (MICS 2012-13)	25%	28.0% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)	a) Wasting: 14.3% (BDHS, 2014) b) Overweight: 1.6% (MICS, 2012-13)	a) 12% b) 1.5%	a) Wasting: 9.8% b) Overweight: 2.4% (MICS 2019, BBS)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
2.5.1 Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities	BARI: 10157 BRRI: 7,420 BINA: 1,700 BJRI: 6,012 BSRI: 1136 CDB: 520 BFRI: 213 (Fisheries) BFRI: 18,000 (Forests) BTRI: 475 BSRTI: 68 BLRI: Animal: 30 Plant: 40 (MoA, 2015	BARI: 9,884 BRRI: 8,281 BINA: 2,100 BJRI: 6,030 BSRI: 1,250 CDB: 545 BFRI: 270 (Fisheries) BFRI: 18,500 (Forests) BTRI: 575 BSRTI: 86	BARI:11081 BRRI: 8582 BFRI-260 BLRI: Animal: 33 Plant: 44 (MoA, 2019)
2.5.2 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not at risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction	BLRI: 64 (BLRI, 2015)	-	BLRI: 5 (BLRI, 2019)
2.a.1 The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures	0.53 (FAO, 2015)	0.800	0.409 (FAO, 2016)
2.a.2 Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector	210.57 MUS$ (ERD, FY 15)	300 MUS$	131.0 MUS$ (ERD, FY 2019)
2.b.1 Agricultural export subsidies	76.9 MUS$ (BB, FY 15-16)	0	73.74 MU$ (BB, FY 2018-19)
2.c.1 Indicator of food price anomalies	Consumer Food Price Index: (-) 0.20 Rice: 0.60 Wheat: (-) 0.70 (FAO, 2016)	-	Consumer Food Price Index: 1.20 Rice: 1.60 Wheat: 0.60 (FAO, 2017)
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages			
3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio	181 (SVRS, 2015)	105	165 (SVRS, 2019)
3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	43.5% (MICS, 2012-13)	65%	59% V:73.7% R: 54.8% (MICS, 2019)
3.2.1 Under 5 mortality rate	36 (SVRS, 2015)	34	28 (MICS, 2019)
3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate	20 (SVRS-2015)	19	15 (MICS, 2019)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations	All ages: 0.01 (Women 15-49 years: <0.01, Men 15-49 years: <0.01) (UNAIDS, 2016)	0.03	All ages: <0.01 Adults 15-49 years: 0.015 (UNAIDS, 2018)
3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population	287 (NTP 2016)	250	161 (DGHS)
3.3.3 Malaria incidence per 1,000 population	4.3 (MCP, 2015)	3	1.6 (WHO, 2019)
3.3.5 Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases	49,873,889 (WHO, 2016)	45,000,000	56,339,392 (WHO, 2019)
3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease	21.0% (WHO, 2016)	15%	21.6% (WHO, 2019)
3.4.2 Suicide mortality rate	7.68 (BP, 2015)	5.5	7.56 (BP, 2019)
3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders	16,416 (DNC, 2015, MoHA)	-	38,035 (DNC, 2018)
3.5.2 Harmful use of alcohol, defined according to the national context as alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol	0.083 (WHO, 2016)	0.2	0.083 (DNC, 2018)
3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries	2.48 (PSD, 2015)	2.0	1.64 (PSD, 2018)
3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods	72.6% (BDHS, 2014)	75%	77.4% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 10–14 years; aged 15–19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group	75 (SVRS-2015)	70	83 (MICS, 2019, BBS)
3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population)	52 (WHO-2016)	65	54 (WHO, 2019)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
3.8.2 Proportion of population with large household expenditures on health as a share of total household expenditure or income	10% National: 24.67 Rural: 26.05 Urban: 21.00 Poorest 20% (q1): 24.05 Second poorest 20% (q2): 24.55 Middle 20% (q3): 24.91 Second richest 20% (q4): 25.92 Richest 20% (q5): 23.92 25% National: 09.53 Rural: 10.22 Urban: 07.71 Poorest 20% (q1): 09.36 Second poorest 20% (q2): 09.30 Middle 20% (q3): 10.04 Second richest 20% (q4): 09.70 Richest 20% (q5): 09.24 (HIES-2016, BBS)	-	10% National: 24.67 Rural: 26.05 Urban: 21.00 Poorest 20% (q1): 24.05 Second poorest 20% (q2): 24.55 Middle 20% (q3): 24.91 Second richest 20% (q4): 25.92 Richest 20% (q5): 23.92 25% National: 09.53 Rural: 10.22 Urban: 07.71 Poorest 20% (q1): 09.36 Second poorest 20% (q2): 09.30 Middle 20% (q3): 10.04 Second richest 20% (q4): 09.70 Richest 20% (q5): 09.24 (HIES-2016, BBS)
3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning	0.30 (WHO 2016)	0.3	0.3 (WHO, 2019)
3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older	43.3% (GATS, 2009, WHO)	35%	35.3% (GATS, 2017, WHO)
3.b.1 Proportion of the target population covered by all vaccines included in their national programme	78% (BDHS, 2014)	95%	85.6% (BDHS, 2017-18)
3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution	(a) 7.4 (WHO, 2016) (b) 1: 0.5: 0.2 (HRH Data Sheet, 2014 HSD)	(a) 18.9 (b) 1: 1.3: 1.8	(a) 8.3 (b) 1: 0.56: 40 (HRD, 2017, MoHFW)
3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness	78.0 (WHO, 2016)	95	58 (WHO, 2019)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all			
4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex	(a) Grade 3 (Reading Bangla – Total 41%, Maths – Total 28%) (b) End of primary – grade 5 (Reading Bangla – Total 45%, Maths – Total 25%) (NSA, 2015, DPE) (c) End of lower Secondary Reading: Bangla – B: 55, G: 54, T: 54 English – B: 22, G:18, T:19 Math - B: 62, G: 52, T: 57 (LASI, 2015)	c) End of lower Secondary Reading: Bangla – B: 65, G: 65, T: 65 English – B: 40, G: 40, T: 40 Math: B: 65, G: 60, T: 63	a) Grade 2/3 (Reading Bangla – 25.9%, Math – 13.0%) (MICS, 2019, BBS)
4.2.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex	63.9% (MICS 2012-13)	-	74.5% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex	Boys: 38% Girls: 40% Total:39% (APSC, 2015) Total: 34% (WDI, 2016)	Boys: 80% Girls: 80% Total: 80%	Boys: 76.1% Girls: 78.8% National: 77.5% (MICS, 2019, BBS)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated	a) Primary GPI: 1.02 b) Secondary GPI: 1.15 Rural: 1.19 Urban: 1.09 c) Higher Secondary GPI: 0.85 Rural: 0.86 Urban: 0.84 d) Tertiary GPI: 0.65 e) Technical GPI: 0.38 f) Disability GPI (6-10): 0.61 g) Teacher (Secondary) GPI: 0.26 h) Teacher (Tertiary) GPI: 0.21 (APSC, 2015 for Primary and BES, 2015 for others)	a) GPI: 1.00 b) GPI: 1.14 c) GPI: 0.90 d) GPI: 0.70 e) GPI: 0.41 f) GPI (6-10): 0.74 g) GPI: 0.34 h) GPI: 0.30	b) GPI: 1.19 c) GPI: 0.93 d) GPI: 0.72 (AEIS, BANBEIS, 2017)
4.6.1 Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex	(a) Functional Literacy (15-45 yrs): 53.6% (b) Functional Numeracy (15-45 yrs): 52.8% (LAS 2011, BBS)		73.9% (BBS, SVRS, 2018)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
4.a.1 Proportion of schools with access to (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions)	Primary (a) 58% (b) 0.8% (c) 0.8% (d) 34% (e) 82% schools (f) 48% schools (g) n/a (APSC, 2015) Secondary (a) 86.03% (b) 26.49% (c) 82% (d) Ramp: 14% (BES, 2015) (e) 96.61% (f) 95.55% (g) 19.68% (BANBEIS-BES, 2017	Primary (a) 100% (b) 80% (c) 85% (d) 60% (e) 90% schools (f) 70% schools (g) 70% Secondary (a) 95% (b) 95% (c) 95% (d) 60%	Primary (a) 76.86% (b) 8.36% (c) 17.9% (GEMR, 2016) (d) 52.06% (POD, DPE,2018 (e) 78.88% schools (f) 70.88% schools (g) 43.5% (POD, DPE, 2018)
4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary; (b) primary; (c) lower secondary; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country	Primary (b) Total: 73% (M: 77% F: 70%) (APSC, 2015) Secondary (c) 59.61% (d) 44.10% (BES, 2015)	Primary (b) Total: 75% (Male: 80% Female: 75%) Secondary (c) 73% (d) 60%	Primary (b) Total: 68.73% (APSC- 2018, DPE)
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls			
5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18	Before 15: 23.8% Before 18: 58.6% (MICS, 2012-13)	Before 15: 15% Before 18: 30%	Before 15: 15.5% Before 18: 51.4% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location	Female: 25.8% Male: 5% (TUS, 2012)	Female: 25% Male: 6%	Female: 23.6% Male: 6.9% (LFS 2016-17, BBS)
5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments	(a) 20% (BPS, 2014) (b) 23% (LGD, 2016)	(a) 33% (b) 25%	(a) 20.86% (BPS, 2019) (b) 25.21% (LGD, 2018)
5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions	11.4% (LFS, 2015-16)	18%	10.7% (LFS, 2016-17)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex	Both sex: 79.76% (BTRC, 2015)	85%	78.1% (CPHS, 2018, BBS)
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all			
6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	National: 47.9% Urban: 44.7% Rural: 48.8% (MICS 2019, BBS)		National: 47.9% Urban: 44.7% Rural: 48.8% (MICS 2019, BBS)
6.2.1 Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water	(a) 61% (UNJMP, 2015) a) National: 84.6 Urban: 90.6 Rural: 82.9 b) National: 74.8 Urban: 87.0 Rural: 71.4 (MICS 2019, BBS)	(a) 76%	(a) 84.6% (b) 74.8% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0–100)	50 (UNEP, 2017)	-	52 (BWDB, 2019)
6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation	38% (JRC, 2016)	-	38% (JRC, 2018)
6.a.1 Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan	301.1 MUS$ (ERD FY15)	350 MUS$	526.64 MUS$ (ERD, FY 2018-19)
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all			
7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity	78% (SVRS, 2015)	96%	92.23% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	20.8% (SVRS, 2015)	25%	19% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption	2.79% (SREDA, 2015)	10%	3.25% (SREDA, 2019)
7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP	2.66 Ktoe/billion BDT (HCU, 2016)	3 MJ	2.15 Ktoe/billion BDT (HCU, 2019)
7.a.1 International financial flows to developing countries in support of clean energy research and development and renewable energy production, including in hybrid systems	301.1 MUS$ (ERD FY 15)	-	496.80 MUS$ (ERD, FY 2018-19)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all			
8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita	5.12% (BBS, FY 15)	6.7%	6.91% (NAW, 2018-19, BBS)
8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person	5.71% (NAW, BBS, 2016)	5%	5.85% (NAW, 2018-19, BBS)
8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non agriculture employment, by sex	77.5% (M: 74.9%, F: 88.4%) (LFS, 2015-16)	75%	78.0% (LFS, 2016-17, BBS)
8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities	Average Monthly earning: Tk. 12,897 (Male: 13,127 Female:12,072) 15-24: 10862 25-34: 12801 35-44: 14053 45-54: 14857 55-64: 13160 65+: 10844 (LFS, 2015-16)	20% increased	Average Monthly earning: Tk. 13,258 (Male: 13,583 Female:12,254) (LFS, 2016-17, BBS)
8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	By sex Male: 3.0% Female: 6.8% By Age 15-17 years: 10.5% 18-24 years: 10.1% 25-29 years: 6.7% 30-64 years : 1.9% 65+ years: 0.9% (LFS 2015-16)	By sex Male: 2.7% Female: 4.2%	By sex Male: 3.1% Female: 6.7% By Age 15-17 years: 12.3% 18-24 years: 5.7% 25-29 years: 1.2% 30-64 years : 0.8% 65+ years: 0.6% (LFS 2016-17)
8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training	28.9% (M: 10.3%, F: 46.7%) (LFS, 2015-16)	22%	26.8% (M: 9.2%, F: 43.9%) (LFS, 2016-17, BBS)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status	a) Fatal injuries: 382 per year (M: 362; F: 20) b) Non-fatal injuries: 246 per year (M:177; F: 19) (DIFE, 2015)	a) Fatal: <300 b) Non-Fetal: <200	a) Fatal: 228 (M: 220; F: 8) b) Non-fatal: 111 (M: 94; F: 17) (DIFE, 2019)
8.10.1 (a) Number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults and (b) number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults	(a) 8.37 (b) 6.79 (IMF, 2015)	(a) 9.0 (b) 7.0	(a) 8.96 (b) 8.87 (IMF, 2018)
8.10.2 Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider	(a) Bank: 31% (b) FI: 29.1% (c) Mobile: 2.7% (Global Findex, WB, 2014) 50.80 % (bb, 2015)	(a) Bank: 33% (b) FI: 30% (c) Mobile: 3%	Total: 69.25% (BB, 2018)
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation			
9.1.2 Passenger and freight volumes, by mode of transport	Passenger: 7,938,000 Freight: 2,79,286 M. ton (CAAB, 2015)	-	Passenger: 12,398,000 Freight: 3,83,018 M. ton (CAAB, 2018)
9.2.1 Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP and per capita	Proportion of GDP: 20.16% Per Capita: $ 130 (NAW, FY 2014-15, BBS)	21.5%	Proportion of GDP: 24.21% Per Capita: $ 184 (NAW, FY 2018-19, BBS)
9.2.2 Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment	14.4% (LFS 2015-16)	20%	14.4% (LFS, 2016-17, BBS)
9.a.1 Total official international support (official development assistance plus other official flows) to infrastructure	1247 US$M (ERD, FY 15)	2100 MUS$	4041 MUS$ (ERD, FY 2018-19)
9.b.1 Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added	12.65 (NAW, 2015, BBS)	-	11.57 (NAW, 2018, BBS)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by a mobile network, by technology	2G: 99.4% 3G: 71% (BTRC, 2015)	2G: 100% 3G: 92%	2G: 99.60% 3G: 95.23% 4G: 79.0% (BTRC, 2019)
Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries			
10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	15.98% (HIES, 2016, BBS)		15.98% (HIES, 2016, BBS)
10.3.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law	35.6% (CPHS, 2018, BBS)	-	35.6% (CPHS, 2018, BBS)
10.5.1 Financial Soundness Indicators	1 - Regulatory Tier 1 capital to assets: 5.40 2 - Regulatory Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets: 8.00 3 - Nonperforming loans net of provisions to capital: 44.19 4 - Nonperforming loans to total gross loans: 8.40 5 - Return on assets: 1.86 6 - Liquid assets to short-term liabilities: 51.13 7 - Net open position in foreign exchange to capital: 4.72 (BB, 2015)	-	1 - Regulatory Tier 1 capital to assets: 4.74 2 - Regulatory Tier 1 capital to risk- weighted assets: 6.77 3 - Nonperforming loans net of provisions to capital: 53.36 4 - Nonperforming loans to total gross loans: 9.89 5 - Return on assets: 0.86 6 - Liquid assets to short-term liabilities: 44.48 7 - Net open position in foreign exchange to capital: 7.43 (BB, 2018)
10.b.1 Total resource flows for development, by recipient and donor countries and type of flow (e.g. official development assistance, foreign direct investment and other flows)	a) ODA: 3006 MUS$ (2014-15), ERD b) FDI: 1834 MUS$ (BIDA, 2014-15)	a) ODA: 6000 MUS$ b) FDI: 9000 MUS$	a) ODA: 6369 MUS$ (ERD, FY 2017-18)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
10.c.1 Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted	4.06% (BB, 2015)	5%	4.48% (BB, 2018)
Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable			
11.4.1 Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/ investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship)	1.72 ppp $ (MoCA, FY 2015-16)	-	1.75 ppp $ (MoCA, FY 2018-19)
11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	Affected Persons: 12,881 per 100,000 people Death Person: 0.2045 (MoDMR, 2016)	Affected Persons: 6,500	Affected Persons: 4,318 Death Person: 0.316 (MoDMR, 2019)
11.b.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies	City Corp: 0.0833 (1/12) Pourashava: 0.0091 (3/330) (MoDMR, 2019)	-	City Corp: 0.0833 (1/12) Pourashava: 0.0091 (3/330) (MoDMR, 2019)
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns			
12.c.1 Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP (production and consumption) and as a proportion of total national expenditure on fossil fuels	0.04% of GDP 0.06% of expenditure on FF (FD, FY 2014-15)	-	0.6% of GDP 1.3% of expenditure on FF (FD, FY 2018-19)
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts			
13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	Affected Persons: 12,881 per 100,000 people Death Person: 0.2045 (MoDMR, 2016)	Affected Persons: 6,500	Affected Persons: 4,318 Death Person: 0.316 (MoDMR, 2019)
13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies	City Corp: 0.0833 (1/12) Pourashava: 0.0091 (3/330) (MoDMR, 2019)	-	City Corp: 0.0833 (1/12) Pourashava: 0.0091 (3/330) (MoDMR, 2019)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development			
14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas	2.05% (BDF)		5.27% (UNESCAP, 2020)
14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries	3.29 (NAW, 2015, BBS)	-	3.14 (NAW, 2018, BBS)
14.c.1 Number of countries making progress in ratifying, accepting and implementing through legal, policy and institutional frameworks, ocean-related instruments that implement international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources	-	-	Ratification of or accession to relevant instruments: 100 Implementation of the Relevant Instruments: 90 [MoFA, 2019]
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss			
15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area	14.10% (BFD, 2015, MoEFCC)	15%	14.47% (Excluding inland water area) (BFD, 2018)
15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type	a) Terrestrial: 1.7% (2014-15, MoEFCC) b) Freshwater: 1.8% (2013-14, MoEFCC)	a) 2.4% b) 5%	a) 3.06% (BFD, 2019) b) 3.08% (BFD, 2018)
15.4.1 Coverage of protected areas of important sites for mountain biodivesity relation to marine areas	0.35 % (BFD, 2019)		0.35 % (BFD, 2019)
Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels			
16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age	Total: 1.94 Male: 3.1 Female: 0.76 (BP, 2015)	Total: 1.6 Male: 1.3 Female: 0.3	Total: 1.39 Male: 2.1 Female: 0.67 (BP, 2019)
16.1.2 Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause	0.85 (BP, 2015)	-	0.17 (BP, 2018)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
16.1.4 Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live	Always: 85.85% (Male: 87.88%, Female: 83.71%) Sometimes: 9.55% (Male: 8.35%, Female: 10.82%) (CPHS, 2018, BBS)		Always: 85.85% (Male: 87.88%, Female: 83.71%) Sometimes: 9.55% (Male: 8.35%, Female: 10.82%) (CPHS, 2018, BBS)
16.2.1 Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month	82.3 (MICS, 2012-13)	-	88.8 (MICS, 2019, BBS)
16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	Total: 0.85 Male: 1.14 Female: 0.64 (BP 2015)	Total: 0.5	Total: 0.61 Male: 0.58 Female: 0.63 (BP 2019)
16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms	Female: 2.45% (VAW Survey, 2015)	Female: 10%	Female: 10.3% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population	76.5 (DoP, SSD, 2016, MoHA)	70%	83.60% (DoP, SSD, 2018, MoHA)
16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)	Education & Technology: 92% Health: 93% Social Protection: 73% Agriculture: 84% LGD & RD: 103% Housing: 95% (FD, FY 2015)	-	Education & Technology: 93% Health: 80% Social Protection: 88% Agriculture: 90% LGD & RD: 96% Housing: 121% (FD, FY 2018-19)
16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age	37% (MICS 2012-13)	60%	56.2% (MICS, 2019, BBS)
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development			
Finance			
17.1.1 Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source	10.78% (FD, FY15)	16%	12.48% (FD, FY 2019-20)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
17.1.2 Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	63% (FD, FY15)	65%	65.85% (FD, FY 2018-19)
17.2.1 Net official development assistance, total and to least developed countries, as a proportion of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee donors' gross national income (GNI)	a) Total net ODA: 131.6 billion US$ b) Total net ODA to LDCs: 37.3 billion US$ c) Net ODA to Bangladesh: 3.00 billion US$ (OECD, 2015 & ERD, 2015)	-	a) Total net ODA: 146.6 billion US$ b) Total net ODA to LDCs: 65.97 billion US$ c) Net ODA to Bangladesh: 6.21 billion US$ (OECD, 2017 & ERD, 2019)
17.3.2 Volume of remittances (in United States dollars) as a proportion of total GDP	6.7% Economic Review BB 2016	-	5.4% (Bangladesh Economic Review, MoF, 2019)
17.4.1 Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services	3.1% (BB & Bangladesh Economic Review, MoF 2016	-	3.9% (BB & Bangladesh Economic Review 2019
Technology			
17.6.2 Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed	2.41 (BTRC, 2015)	8	4.80 (BTRC, 2019)
Capacity-building			
17.9.1 Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries	570.8 MUS$ (ERD, 2015)	900 MUS$	382.42 MUS$ (ERD, 2018)
Trade			
17.10.1 Worldwide weighted tariff-average	4.85% (MoC, 2015)	5.5%	4.64% (BTC, 2018-19, MoC)

Indicator	Baseline Data (Year, Source)	Milestone by 2020	Current Status
17.11.1 Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports	a) Global Service Exports => Developing: 31.04%; LDCs: 0.84% b) Global Merchandise Exports => Developing: 44.56%; LDCs: 0.94% c) Global Service Imports => Developing: 39.20%; LDCs: 1.68% d) Global Merchandise Imports=> Developing: 42.19%; LDC: 1.45% (2015, UNSTATS)		a) Bangladesh share in Global Export of Goods: 0.23% b) Bangladesh share in Global Export of Services: 0.07% (BTC, 2017, MoC)
17.12.1 Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States	a) MFN: 14.44% b) Preferential: 3.88% (NBR, 2015)	a) 8.25% b) 3.88%	MFN: 14.60% SAT: 8.33% WAT: 2.95% (BTC, 2018, MoC)
Systemic issues			
Multi-stakeholder partnerships			
17.17.1 Amount of United States dollars committed to (a) public-private partnerships and (b) civil society partnerships	$ 807,164,027.86 (NGOAB, 2015-16)	-	$ 1, 098,598,021.83 (NGOAB, 2018-19)
Data, monitoring and accountability			
17.18.2 Number of countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	Bangladesh has Statistics Act, 2013 which is under review to comply with FPOS.	-	A committee has been formed in BBS to review the act and put the recommendations.
17.18.3 Number of countries with a national statistical plan that is fully funded and under implementation, by source of funding	BBS has approved NSDS covering 2014-2023 which needs to be updated	-	A project has been taken to support implementation of NSDS.

List of Notable Publications by General Economics Division (GED), Bangladesh Planning Commission since 2009

1.	Policy Study on Financing Growth and Poverty Reduction: Policy Challenges and Options in Bangladesh (May 2009)
2.	Policy Study on Responding to the Millennium Development Challenge Through Private Sectors Involvement in Bangladesh (May 2009)
3.	Policy Study on The Probable Impacts of Climate Change on Poverty and Economic Growth and the Options of Coping with Adverse Effect of Climate Change in Bangladesh (May 2009)
4.	Steps Towards Change: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction II (Revised) FY 2009 -11 (December 2009)
5.	Millennium Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report-2009 (2009)
6.	Millennium Development Goals: Needs Assessment and Costing 2009-2015 Bangladesh (July 2009)
7.	**এমডিজি কর্ম-পরিকল্পনা (৫১টি উপজেলা) (জানুয়ারি-জুন ২০১০)**
8.	MDG Action Plan (51 Upazillas) (January 2011)
9.	MDG Financing Strategy for Bangladesh (April 2011)
10.	SAARC Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report-2011 (August 2011)
11.	Background Papers of the Sixth Five Year Plan (Volume 1-4) (September 2011)
12.	6th Five Year Plan (FY 2011-FY 2015) (December 2011)
13.	Millennium Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report-2011 (February 2012)
14.	Perspective Plan of Bangladesh 2010-2021: Making Vision 2021 a Reality (April 2012)
15.	Public Expenditure for Climate Change: Bangladesh Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (October 2012)
16.	Development of Results Framework for Private Sectors Development in Bangladesh (2012)
17.	**ষষ্ঠ পঞ্চবার্ষিক পরিকল্পনা (২০১১-১৫) বাংলা অনুবাদ (অক্টোবর ২০১২)**
18.	Climate Fiscal Framework (October 2012)
19.	Public Expenditure for Climate Change: Bangladesh CPEIR 2012
20.	First Implementation Review of the Sixth Five year Plan -2012 (January 2013)
21.	**বাংলাদেশের প্রথম প্রেক্ষিত পরিকল্পনা ২০১০-২০২১ রূপকল্প ২০২১ বাস্তবে রূপায়ণ (ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৩)**
22.	National Sustainable Development Strategy (2010-2021) (May 2013)
23.	**জাতীয় টেকসই উন্নয়ন কৌশলপত্র (২০১০-২০২১) [মূল ইংরেজি থেকে বাংলায় অনুদিত] (মে ২০১৩)**
24.	Millennium Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report-2012 (June 2013)
25	Post 2015 Development Agenda: Bangladesh Proposal to UN (June 2013)
26.	National Policy Dialogue on Population Dynamics, Demographic Dividend, Ageing Population & Capacity Building of GED [UNFPA Supported GED Project Output1] (December 2013)
27.	Capacity Building Strategy for Climate Mainstreaming: A Strategy for Public Sector Planning Professionals (2013)

28.	Revealing Changes: An Impact Assessment of Training on Poverty-Environment Climate-Disaster Nexus (January 2014)
29.	Towards Resilient Development: Scope for Mainstreaming Poverty, Environment, Climate Change and Disaster in Development Projects (January 2014)
30.	An Indicator Framework for Inclusive and Resilient Development (January 2014)
31.	Manual of Instructions for Preparation of Development Project Proposal/Performa Part-1 & Part 2 (March 2014)
32.	SAARC Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report-2013 (June 2014)
33.	The Mid Term-Implementation Review of the Sixth Five Year Plan 2014 (July 2014)
34.	Millennium Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report 2013 (August 2014)
35.	Population Management Issues: Monograph-2 (March 2015)
36.	GED Policy Papers and Manuals (Volume 1-4) (June 2015)
37.	National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh (July 2015)
38.	MDGs to Sustainable Development Transforming our World: SDG Agenda for Global Action (2015-2030)- A Brief for Bangladesh Delegation UNGA 70th Session, 2015 (September 2015)
39.	7th Five Year Plan (2015/16-2019/20) (December 2015)
40.	**সপ্তম পঞ্চবার্ষিক পরিকল্পনা ২০১৫/১৬-২০১৯/২০ (ইংরেজি থেকে বাংলা অনূদিত) (অক্টোবর ২০১৬)**
41.	**জাতীয় সামাজিক নিরাপত্তা কৌশলপত্র (অক্টোবর ২০১৬)**
42.	Population Management Issues: Monograph-3 (March 2016)
43.	Bangladesh ICPD 1994-2014 Country Report (March 2016)
44.	Policy Coherence: Mainstreaming SDGs into National Plan and Implementation (Prepared for Bangladesh Delegation to 71st UNGA session, 2016) (September 2016)
45.	Millennium Development Goals: End- period Stocktaking and Final Evaluation Report (2000-2015) (September 2016)
46.	A Handbook on Mapping of Ministries by Targets in the implementation of SDGs aligning with 7th Five Year Plan (2016-20) (September 2016)
47.	Data Gap Analysis for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Bangladesh Perspective (January 2017)
48.	Environment and Climate Change Policy Gap Analysis in Haor Areas (February 2017)
49.	Integration of Sustainable Development Goals into the 7th Five Year Plan (February 2017)
50.	Banking ATLAS (February 2017)
51.	**টেকসই উন্নয়ন অভীষ্ট, লক্ষ্যমাত্রা ও সূচকসমূহ (মূল ইংরেজি থেকে বাংলায় অনুদিত) (এপ্রিল ২০১৭)**
52.	EXPLORING THE EVIDENCE : Background Research Papers for Preparing the National Social Security Strategy of Bangladesh (June 2017)
53.	Bangladesh Voluntary National Review (VNR) 2017 : Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world, (June 2017)
54.	SDGs Financing Strategy: Bangladesh Perspective (June 2017)
55.	A Training Handbook on Implementation of the 7th Five Year Plan (June 2017)
56.	7th Five Year Plan (FY 2015/16-FY 2019/20): Background Papers Volume 01: Macro Economic Management & Poverty Issues (June 2017)

57.	7th Five Year Plan (FY 2015/16-FY 2019/20): Background Papers Volume 02: Socio-Economic Issues (June 2017)
58.	7th Five Year Plan (FY 2015/16-FY 2019/20): Background Papers Volume 03: Infrastructure, Manufacturing & Service Sector (June 2017)
59.	7th Five Year Plan (FY 2015/16-FY 2019/20): Background Papers Volume 04: Agriculture, Water & Climate Change (June 2017)
60.	7th Five Year Plan (FY 2015/16-FY 2019/20): Background Papers Volume 05: Governance, Gender & Urban Development (June 2017)
61.	Education Sector Strategy and Actions for Implementation of the 7th Five Year Plan (FY2016-20)
62.	GED Policy Study: Effective Use of Human Resources for Inclusive Economic Growth and Income Distribution-An Application of National Transfer Accounts (February 2018)
63.	Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Bangladesh Perspective (March 2018)
64.	National Action Plan of Ministries/Divisions by Targets for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (June 2018)
65.	Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: Baseline Studies: Volume 1: Water Resources Management (June 2018)
66.	Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: Baseline Studies: Volume 2: Disaster and Environmental Management (June 2018)
67.	Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: Baseline Studies: Volume 3: Land use and Infrastructure Development (June 2018)
68.	Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: Baseline Studies: Volume 4: Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition (June 2018)
69.	Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: Baseline Studies: Volume 5: Socio-economic Aspects of the Bangladesh (June 2018)
70.	Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: Baseline Studies: Volume 6: Governance and Institutional Development(June 2018)
71.	Journey with SDGs, Bangladesh is Marching Forward (Prepared for 73rd UNGA Session 2018) (September 2018)
72.	এসডিজি অভিযাত্রা: এগিয়ে যাচ্ছে বাংলাদেশ (জাতিসংঘ সাধারণ পরিষদের ৭৩তম অধিবেশনের জন্য প্রণীত) (সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৮)
73.	Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (Bangladesh in the 21st Century) Volume 1: Strategy (October 2018)
74.	Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (Bangladesh in the 21st Century) Volume 2: Investment Plan (October 2018)
75.	বাংলাদেশ ব-দ্বীপ পরিকল্পনা ২১০০: একুশ শতকের বাংলাদেশ (সংক্ষিপ্ত বাংলা সংস্করণ) (অক্টোবর ২০১৮)
76.	Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100: Bangladesh in the 21st Century (Abridged Version) (October 2018)
77.	Synthesis Report on First National Conference on SDGs Implementation (November 2018)
78.	Sustainable Development Goals: Bangladesh First Progress Report 2018 (December 2018)
79.	টেকসই উন্নয়ন অভীষ্টঃ বাংলাদেশ অগ্রগতি প্রতিবেদন ২০১৮ (ইংরেজি থেকে অনূদিত) (এপ্রিল ২০১৯)
80.	Study on Employment, Productivity and Sectoral Investment in Bangladesh (May 2019)
81.	Implementation Review of the Sixth Five Year Plan (FY 2011-FY 2015) and its Attainments (May 2019)
82.	Mid-term Implementation Review of the Seventh Five Year Plan (FY 2016-FY 2020) May 2019
83.	Background Studies for the Second Perspective Plan of Bangladesh (2021-2041) Volume-1 June 2019
84.	Background Studies for the Second Perspective Plan of Bangladesh (2021-2041) Volume-2 June 2019
85.	Empowering people: ensuring inclusiveness and equality For Bangladesh Delegation to HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2019 (July, 2019)
86.	Implementation Review of the perspective plan 2010-2021 (September 2019)

87.	Bangladesh Moving Ahead with SDGs (Prepared for Bangladesh Delegation to 74th UNGA session 2019) (September 2019)
88.	**টেকসই উন্নয়ন অভীষ্ট অর্জনে এগিয়ে যাচ্ছে বাংলাদেশ (জাতিসংঘ সাধারণ পরিষদের ৭৪তম অধিবেশনে বাংলাদেশ প্রতিনিধিগণের জন্য প্রণীত) (সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৯)**
89	Prospects and Opportunities of International Cooperation in Attaining SDG Targets in Bangladesh (Global Partnership in Attainment of the SDGs) (September 2019)
90	Background Studies for the Second Perspective Plan of Bangladesh (2021-2041) Volume-3 October 2019
91	Background Studies for the Second Perspective Plan of Bangladesh (2021-2041) Volume-4 October 2019
92	Background Studies for the Second Perspective Plan of Bangladesh (2021-2041) Volume-5 October 2019
93	Background Studies for the Second Perspective Plan of Bangladesh (2021-2041) Volume-6 October 2019
94	Monograph 4: Population Management Issues (December 2019)
95	Monograph 5: Population Management Issues (December 2019)
96	Consultation on Private Sector Engagement (PSE) in attaining Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Bangladesh: Bonding & Beyond. Proceedings (January 2020)
97	Impact Assessment and Coping up Strategies of Graduation from LDC Status for Bangladesh (March 2020)
98	Revised Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Bangladesh Perspective (April 2020)
99	Sustainable Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report 2020 (June 2020)

List of SDGs Publication by GED since 2016

1	Integration of Sustainable Development Goals into the 7th Five Year Plan (February 2016)
2	Policy Coherence: Mainstreaming SDGs into National Plan and Implementation [Prepared for Bangladesh Delegation to 71st UNGA session 2016] (September 2016)
3	A Handbook on Mapping of Ministries by Targets in the Implementation of SDGs aligning with 7th Five Year Plan (2016-20) (September 2016)
4	Data Gap Analysis for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Bangladesh Perspective (January 2017)
5	টেকসই উন্নয়ন অভীষ্ট, লক্ষ্যমাত্রা ও সূচকসমূহ (মূল ইংরেজী থেকে বাংলায় অনুদিত) (এপ্রিল ২০১৭)
6	Bangladesh Voluntary National Review (VNR) 2017: Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world (June 2017)
7	SDGs Financing Strategy: Bangladesh Perspective (June 2017)
8	A Training Handbook on Implementation of the 7th Five Year Plan (June 2017)
9	Bangladesh Development Journey with SDGs [Prepared for Bangladesh Delegation to 72nd UNGA Session 2017] (September 2017)
10	Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Bangladesh Perspective (March 2018)
11	National Action Plan of Ministries/Divisions by Targets for the Implementation of SDGs (June 2018)
12	Journey with SDGs: Bangladesh is Marching Forward [Prepared for Bangladesh Delegation to 73rd UNGA Session 2018] (September 2018)
13	এসডিজি অভিযাত্রা : এগিয়ে যাচ্ছে বাংলাদেশ (জাতিসংঘ সাধারণ পরিষদের ৭৩তম অধিবেশনের জন্য প্রণীত) (সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৮)
14	Synthesis Report on First National Conference on SDGs Implementation (November 2018)
15	Sustainable Development Goals: Bangladesh First Progress Report 2018 (December 2018)
16	টেকসই উন্নয়ন অভীষ্টঃ বাংলাদেশ অগ্রগতি প্রতিবেদন ২০১৮ (ইংরেজী থেকে বাংলায় অনুদিত) (এপ্রিল ২০১৯)
17	Empowering People: Ensuring Inclusiveness and Equality [For Bangladesh Delegation to High-Level Political Forum 2019] (July 2019)
18	Prospects and Opportunities of International Cooperation in Attaining SDG targets in Bangladesh (September 2019)
19	Bangladesh Moving Ahead with SDGs [Prepared for Bangladesh Delegation to 74th UNGA Session 2019] (September 2018)
20	টেকসই উন্নয়ন অভীষ্ট অর্জনে এগিয়ে যাচ্ছে বাংলাদেশ (জাতিসংঘ সাধারণ পরিষদের ৭৪তম অধিবেশনের জন্য প্রণীত) (সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৯)
21	Consultation on Private Sector Engagement (PSE) in attaining Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Bangladesh: Bonding & Beyond. Proceedings (January 2020)
22	Revised Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Bangladesh Perspective (April 2020)
23	Sustainable Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report 2020 (June 2020)

General Economics Division (GED)
(Making Growth Work for the Poor)
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