

BANGLADESH MOVING AHEAD WITH THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Prepared for Bangladesh Delegation
to the 76th UNGA Session 2021



General Economics Division (GED)
Bangladesh Planning Commission
Ministry of Planning
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
September 2021

BANGLADESH MOVING AHEAD WITH THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Prepared for Bangladesh Delegation
to the 76th UNGA Session 2021



General Economics Division (GED)
Bangladesh Planning Commission
Ministry of Planning
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
September 2021





Bangladesh Moving Ahead with The Sustainable Development Goals

SDGs Publication No. # 27

Editor

Dr. Shamsul Alam

State Minister, Ministry of Planning

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Published By

General Economics Division

Bangladesh Planning Commission

September 2021

This document is prepared with the technical and financial support from the 'Strengthening Institutional Capacity for SDGs Achievement in Bangladesh (SC4SDG)' project of UNDP Bangladesh and UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals project.

Copyright © General Economics Division
Bangladesh Planning Commission
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Block-14, Dhaka-1207

Design and Printed by:

Nymphea

Website: www.nymphea-bd.com





“Let us together create a world
that can eradicate poverty,
hunger, war and human
sufferings and achieve global
peace and security for the well-
being of humanity.”

Father of the Nation
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman





**“I am confident that
Bangladesh could show its
capacity in achieving SDGs the
way it achieved the MDGs.”**

Sheikh Hasina
Hon'ble Prime Minister

CONTENTS

FOREWORD

i

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ii

PART A: SDGs IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

1

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere	2
Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	7
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	11
Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	17
Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	21
Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	24
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	27
Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	30
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	34
Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries	38
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	40
Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	43
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	46
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development	49

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	52
--	-----------

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	55
---	-----------

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development	59
--	-----------

PART B: INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION	65
---	-----------

PART C: IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON SDGs IMPLEMENTATION	69
---	-----------

PART D: SDGs LOCALIZATION	76
----------------------------------	-----------

LIST OF SDG RELATED PUBLICATIONS BY GED, SINCE 2016	78
--	-----------



FOREWORD

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) commits to meet the twin objectives of achieving SDGs and national development aspirations. To do so, the country has done all the preparatory works. Bangladesh has integrated SDGs into its five-year plan, conducted a data gap analysis, completed the SDG financing strategy, developed a national action plan and designed a monitoring and evaluation framework for SDGs. These are expected to be the important building blocks to guide strategies in achieving the SDGs.

Bangladesh has been playing an active role in the global discourse for implementing the SDGs. In recognition of the fact that SDGs are overarching, the GoB has adopted a 'whole of society' approach and engaged the private sector, NGOs, CSOs, think tanks, academia, and media for achieving the SDGs. The Government has taken necessary actions to set a clear pathway, move the trajectory in the right direction, and implement all the 17 SDGs successfully. According to the Sustainable Development Report 2021, Bangladesh has made discernable progress in SDGs 1, 4, and 13, while the headway is moderate in SDGs 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 11. Nevertheless, Bangladesh is yet to achieve satisfactory performance in SDG 15. In the coming days, the country will need to espouse policy measures to surmount the current hurdles so that the 2030 milestones can be reached.

This booklet is prepared to provide a broad picture scenario on the assessment of progress made under each SDG in Bangladesh. It analyses the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships for achieving SDGs, means of SDGs implementation, the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on SDGs implementation, and SDGs localization. However, this booklet does not describe all the SDG indicators for the non-availability of data. To ensure the succinctness of the report, it only covers those indicators for which the latest data/information is available.

I hope this document will be beneficial for the Bangladesh delegation, taking part in the 76th UNGA Session 2021, in understanding the progress made by Bangladesh in attaining the SDGs. Besides, it will help them to comprehend the challenges and stratagems to implement the full course of SDGs agenda.



Dr. Shamsul Alam

State Minister, Ministry of Planning



Bangladesh has been widely acclaimed as one of the forerunners of MDGs implementation and attainments. It achieved many targets ahead of time and others within the 2015 deadline. It made outstanding progress in the areas of poverty alleviation, ensuring food security, primary school enrolment, and gender parity in primary and secondary level education, lowering infant and under-five mortality rate and maternal mortality ratio, improving immunization coverage, and reducing the incidence of communicable diseases. Buoyed by its success Bangladesh became an active participant of the global process underlying the preparation of post-MDG agenda with its domestic and global actions. It is worth mentioning that **Post-2015 Development Agenda: Bangladesh Proposal to UN** came up with 11 goals, 58 targets and 241 indicators. Notably the Bangladesh proposals were consistent with the global aspirations as 9 out of 11 proposals were common to those proposed by Open Working Group (OWG) of the United Nations. The other goal proposed by Bangladesh was reflected as target in SDGs. The SDGs are not legally binding, but governments are expected to take ownership and establish national frameworks for the achievement of the goals.

For successful implementation of SDGs, Bangladesh government, especially GED, came up with studies on SDG Financing Strategy, Mapping of Ministries by SDGs, SDGs Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, Data Gap Analysis etc. Moreover, Bangladesh frequently produces SDGs Implementation Progress Report (2018, 2020) and takes part in the presentation of Voluntary National Review (2017, 2020). The active participation of the government has steered the implementation of SDGs



in the right direction. To strictly monitor the SDGs implementation, a National Data Coordination Committee (NDCC) has been formed in 2018 comprising 50 members from ministries/divisions, public and private organizations including think tanks. This committee helps to make SDGs progress data available so that we can take active actions in cases where we are lagging behind and preparing the progress reports. The Sustainable Development Report 2021 stated that Bangladesh has made remarkable progress (on track) in SDG 1, 4 and 13, whereas they are moderately progressing in SDG 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 11. However, in SDG15 Bangladesh's performance is not satisfactory. Therefore, we need urgent attention for taking appropriate measures to overcome the current obstacles in the implementation of SDGs so that we can achieve the 2030 milestones.

This booklet does not report all the SDGs indicators; it only captures those indicators for which latest information is available so as to ensure the brevity of the report. It is noteworthy to mention that many of the SDGs indicators are updated with the periodic surveys conducted by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). Hence, updates are less frequent for all indicators.



PART A

**SDGs IMPLEMENTATION
PROGRESS, CHALLENGES
AND WAY FORWARD**



GOAL 1

END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

Sustainable Development Goal 1 calls for the eradication of extreme poverty everywhere and halving poverty in all its dimensions over the next 15 years. It envisions poverty reduction of all people irrespective of gender and age and social protection benefits for people including the poor and the vulnerable. It seeks to ensure equal rights and access to economic and natural resources as well as to technology and financial resources. It focuses on building the resilience of the poor and reducing their vulnerability to all types of shocks including climate-related ones. It also emphasizes mobilization of resources from a variety of sources including enhanced development cooperation and creating sound policy frameworks based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies for accelerated poverty reduction.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

Indicator 1.2.1 Proportion of population below the national poverty line

Bangladesh has shown remarkable progress in reducing poverty since 2010. National poverty measured as the proportion of population living below the national upper poverty line (UPL) has consistently declined reaching 20.5 per cent in 2019. The proportion of population living below the lower poverty line or LPL (extreme poverty) also stooped down to 10.5 per cent (2019).

Table 1.1: Trends in poverty using upper poverty line, 1992-2019 (per cent)

	2010		2016		2019 (Estimated)	
	UPL	LPL	UPL	LPL	UPL	LPL
National	31.5	17.6	24.3	12.9	20.5	10.5
Urban	21.3	7.7	18.9	7.6	-	-
Rural	35.2	21.1	26.4	14.9	-	-

Source: BBS, HIES, 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. Bangladesh has shown a significant progress in reducing MPI poor. In 2011, around 51.2 per cent population was MPI poor (Global MPI Report 2014); the figure has gone down to 24.6 per cent in 2019 (Global MPI Report 2020).

Indicator 1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection systems

The coverage of social safety nets program has been increased both in terms of percentage of households as well as percentage of beneficiaries over time. Between 2016 and 2019, the proportion of program beneficiaries has been increased remarkably by more than double. In 2016, around 28 per cent of the poor households were under the coverage of Social Safety Net Programs. It has increased to around 58 per cent in 2019 (Table 1.2). As can be seen, the coverage has increased rapidly between 2016 and 2019 in both rural and urban areas.





Table 1.2: Trends in poor people coverage of social safety net programs (per cent)

Year	National	Urban	Rural
2016	27.8	10.6	34.5
2019	58.1	53.1	59.5

Source: HIES (2016) and MICS (2019), BBS

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

Bangladesh has shown significant progress in terms of accessing to basic services. The following table shows the chronological improvement in basic services.

Table 1.3: Trends in access to basic services

Items	2012	2019
Percentage of household members using improved sanitation facilities	55.9	92.23
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		97*

Source: MICS (2019) and *Power Division



Indicator 1.a.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 that can be seen from the following table.

Table 1.4: Proportion of government expenditure on services as proportion of total government expenditure (per cent)

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Health	5.2%	4.9%	4.53%
Education	12.1%	10.68%	11.35%
Social Protection	12.1%	13.58%	15.6%

Source: Finance Division, Ministry of Finance

Key challenges for achieving SDG1

- The National Social Security Strategy requires substantial increase in resource allocation and streamlined efforts and better targeting techniques for implementation.
- Avoiding 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 SDG1.
- Financing for SDG1, including resource mobilization from external sources, is also a challenge. An additional USD 39.4 billion for 14 years needs to be spent in each year from FY2017 to FY2030 for eliminating extreme poverty.
- The institutional capacity of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), the national statistical organization, 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 organizations.
- In Bangladesh many households live close to the poverty line and any shock, particularly COVID-19, can push these households below the poverty line ruining partly 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.

We have to overcome these challenges to have a greater dent on poverty reduction.





GOAL 2

END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Sustainable Development Goal 2 seeks to end hunger and malnutrition and ensure access to safe and nutritious food. This has to be achieved by significantly increasing agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers (bottom 40 per cent farmers). Sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices are a key factor 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 by reducing trade restrictions and the elimination of export subsidies and export measures with equivalent effects. Proper functioning of food commodity markets will also require access to market information to avoid excessive price fluctuation.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

Indicator 2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment

Bangladesh has made 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.

Indicator 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 which can be considered as a progress over 32.3 per cent in 2014.

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

Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in reducing the percentage of stunted children under 5 years from 36 per cent in 2014 to 28 per cent in 2019 (MICS, 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 declined from 33 per cent in 2007 to 22.6 per cent 2019. MICS (2019) also reported that the percentage of overweight children is around 2.4 per cent.

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

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

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. As per the UN metadata, only livestock breed is considered in this case.

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

The total official flow to Bangladesh's agriculture sector peaked at USD 363 million in 2014 but declined to USD 192.58 million in 2017. In the recent years, the official flow is gradually improving followed by an increase in 2018 (USD194.42 million) and further increased to USD 228.12 million in 2019.

Key challenges for achieving SDG2

- 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.
- The official aid flows to the agriculture sector is slowly increasing 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.



- The budget allocation in the field of agricultural research and development (R&D) is yet comparatively low in Bangladesh.
- Inadequate supply of quality agricultural inputs such as, seed, irrigation, fertilizer, and pesticides is another major problem due to limited fund allocations.
- 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.





GOAL 3

ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

Sustainable Development Goal 3 aspires to ensure health and well-being for all at all ages by improving maternal and child health, ending the epidemics of major communicable diseases, reducing non-communicable and mental diseases and ensuring access to reproductive health-care services. It also intends to reduce behavioural and environmental health risk factors. These objectives will be achieved through realizing other objectives such as providing universal health coverage, ensuring access to safe, affordable and effective medicines and vaccines for all, supporting research and development of vaccines and medicines for communicable and non-communicable, substantially increasing health financing and developing health workforces in developing countries. In addition, the capacity of developing countries for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global risks will need to be enhanced.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

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

Bangladesh has achieved significant success in reducing maternal mortality ratio. It has dropped to 163 per 100,000 live births in 2020 from 181 in 2015 (SVRS). However, in rural areas, the ratio is considerably higher than in urban areas by 40 deaths per 100,000 live births. Moreover, the gap has widened when compared with previous years.

Indicator 3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel

The number of births attended by skilled health personnel has remarkably improved from 9.5 per cent in 1994 to 75.3 per cent in 2020 (SVRS). 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 has access to skilled health personnel compared with around 72 per cent in the rural areas.





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 under-5, neonatal, and infant mortality during 2011-2020. Bangladesh has been successful in achieving the 2020 target for U5MR (which was 34). However, neonatal mortality still remains a challenge in achieving the 2020 target. The infant mortality rate has shown a decreasing trend over the last 8 years.

Table 3.1: Child mortality rates (per 1,000 live births)

	2011	2014	2020
Neonatal mortality rate	32	28	15
Infant mortality rate	43	38	21
Under-5 mortality rate	53	46	28

Source: SVRS (2020), BBS

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

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.

Indicator 3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population

Bangladesh is consistently fighting a successful battle against tuberculosis. According to Global Tuberculosis Report 2020, the incidence



of tuberculosis per 100,000 populations stood at 221 in 2019. The figure has not changed from 2016.

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 2017 from 2.4 in 2015. On the other hand, the incidence is 0.92 in 2019 according to National Malaria Elimination Program (NMEP), DGHS.

Indicators 3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population

Bangladesh, along with other South Asian countries, is recognized 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 in 2015.

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

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 2018.

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

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 2016 which was around 21 per cent in 2015.



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

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 Bangladesh Police (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 DNC, around 38,035 people with substance use disorders received treatment services in 2018.

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

Death rate due to road traffic injuries is increasing in Bangladesh. In 2016, around 2.65 persons per 100,000 population died due to road traffic injuries. In 2019, the figure increased to 7 (SVRS, 2020). However, WHO provides a higher rate of death due to traffic injuries which increased to 15.56 in 2017 from 13.6 in 2013.

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

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

Adolescent birth rate per 1,000 women in 15-19 age groups has significantly declined in Bangladesh from 83 in 2014 to 74 in 2020 (SVRS, 2020). With the expansion of higher education for women, increased labor 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.

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. According to the Bangladesh Health SDG Profile (2019) by WHO, it is currently 54, which is yet a challenge to meet the SDGs 2025 milestone of 80.

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

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.

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

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. It was also 0.3 in 2016.

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. According to Health SDG Profile: Bangladesh (WHO, 2019), the index has increased from 67 in 2019 from 58 in 2018; however, it is much below the 2020 milestone of 90.



Key challenges for achieving SDG3

- COVID-19 pandemic has added high pressure on health services delivery.
- Disparities between various groups (e.g. rural vs. urban areas, poor vs. non-poor, literate vs. illiterate) in accessing the health services.
- Limited number of medically-trained care provider during child birth.
- Inefficient urban primary health care service delivery, especially for the poor.
- High out of pocket medical expenditure.
- Low 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.

For improvement in health sector and in SDGs indicators, these challenges need to be overcome gradually.





GOAL 4

ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Sustainable Development Goal 4 emphasizes attaining proficiency in primary and lower secondary education, ensuring access of both boys and girls to quality early childhood development and pre-primary education, ensuring access to quality technical, vocational and tertiary education and eliminating disparities in education and ensuring equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable population especially persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations. Employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship will require a substantial increase in skilled adult and youth population. Achieving literacy and numeracy by all youths and a substantial proportion of adults is also emphasized in the Agenda 2030. Providing skills and education to promote sustainable development and facilities that are child, disability, and gender-sensitive is also stressed. The goal cannot be achieved without increasing the supply of quality teachers including through international cooperation for teachers' training and increase in the number of scholarships available to developing countries for higher education in developed countries.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

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 grade 2 and 3. We gave to go long way in improving proficiency level in primary and secondary education.

Indicator 4.2.1 Proportion of children aged 24-59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex

The data of this indicator is slightly refined in the MICS survey. According to MICS (2019) reports this indicator has been estimated for the children aged 36-59 months. It is observed that around 74.5 per cent of the children are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being. It is also noted that urban areas (77.9 per cent) have more 'developmentally on track' children than rural areas (73.7 per cent). During 2012-13, only 63.9 per cent of the children were developmentally on track in the abovementioned criteria.

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

MICS (2019) reports that, the participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age) is 77.5 per cent with 80.0 per cent for urban and 76.8 per cent for rural areas. This can be considered encouraging while situation has been improving.





Indicator 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

Around 80.06 per cent of the teachers received the training at the pre-primary level in 2018 (APSE, DPE, 2018). The shares, however, are around 62.01 per cent and 59.01 per cent for primary and lower secondary level respectively in 2019 (BES, BANBEIS, 2019).

Key challenges for achieving SDG4

- 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.



- The dropout rate is also high and a large proportion of the primary students cannot make the transition to secondary schools.
- Lack of teachers with professional training, adequate knowledge in their subjects and pedagogical skills in secondary schools.
- Education service delivery is heavily centralized.
- Rural-urban and economic disparity in the enrolment of secondary school children aged 11-15 years are also critical challenges to achieve SDG4.
- The government needs to invest more in education, particularly in TVET.





GOAL 5

ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS

Women's human capabilities deal with women's and girl's access to healthcare, nutrition, reproductive health, education, information, training, and other services that enable women to achieve better health and educational outcomes. This also includes women's freedom from violence and coercion. Discrimination against women in law and in practice tends to confine them to unskilled, underpaid or unpaid work. Women's economic benefits relate 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. Achieving women's empowerment and realizing the human rights, dignity and capabilities of diverse groups of women is a central requirement of a just and sustainable world. The Sustainable Development Goal 5 is a stand-alone goal on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. In addition, there are gender equality targets in other goals and a more consistent call for sex disaggregation of data across many indicators.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

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 (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, which were 22 per cent and 59 per cent respectively in 2015.

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

There has been a sharp increase in the number of elected women parliamentarians. The following table shows the proportion of female member of parliaments over time.





Table 5.1: Proportions of female members in the parliament, 1991-2019

	2017	2018	2019
No. of women member of parliament	72	71	73
No. of total seats	350	350	350
Percentage	20.57	20.30	20.86

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

Indicator 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).

Key challenges for achieving SDG5

- Eradicating violence against women remains a big challenge for achieving SDG5.
- Even though government has been fighting against child marriage, the incidence of child marriage is still higher.
- 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.



- Gender aspects of inequality of opportunities are in existence. Disparities in labor force participation, wage rates, along with limited access to and control over resources, and decision-making positions seriously limit women's economic opportunities.
- 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. This shows unequal financial inclusion.
- 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.
- Take account of gender equality concerns in all policies, programs, administrative and financial activities and in organizational procedures, thereby contributing to a profound organizational transformation.
- Promotion of gender education, training and analysis to social transformation and more equitable distribution of power in the lives of women and men.
- Fully integrate a gender perspective and an active role for women in decision making in development and poverty/inequality reduction.
- 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.





GOAL 6

ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

Sustainable Development Goal 6 aims to tackle challenges related to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene for population, as well as to water-related ecosystems. Without quality, sustainable water resources and sanitation, progress in many other areas across the SDGs, including health, education and poverty reduction, will also be held back. To ensure sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, it is essential to look at the water cycle in its entirety, including all uses and users. Bringing these aspects together under one goal is a first step towards addressing sector fragmentation and enabling coherent and sustainable management of water resources, in favour of a more integrated approach that can balance different needs in a just manner. Thus going beyond just drinking water and basic sanitation, SDG6 includes water, wastewater, and ecosystem to ensure sustainable water future.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

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). Besides in 2019, 98.5 per cent of household members have access to improved sources of drinking water (MICS 2019).

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

In 2019, 42.8 per cent of household members used safely managed sanitation facilities. In the same year, 74.8 per cent households reported practicing a hand-washing facility with soap and water (MICS 2019, BBS).





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

According to FAO data, freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources was at 6 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).

Indicator 6.5.2 Proportion of trans-boundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation

In Bangladesh, 38 per cent of trans-boundary basin areas have an operational arrangement for water cooperation (JRC, 2018).

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 USD 301.1 million; which has increased to USD 526.64 million in FY 2018-19 (ERD, FY 2018-19).

Key challenges for achieving SDG6

- Poor water, sanitation and hygiene contribute to under-nutrition by causing frequent parasite infections and episodes of diarrhea, which can result in intestinal dysfunction through chronic ingestion of pathogens.



- Climate change has a significant impact on freshwater systems and their management.
- Water-related hazards account for a large part of disaster loss and impact in the country.
- Increasing the efficiency of existing financial resources and mobilizing additional ones in the form of domestic public finance and domestic and international finance (ODA, loans, grants, etc.) are major challenges for Bangladesh.
- Water pollution (rivers, ponds and natural water bodies) is a serious concern which reduces the availability of safe drinking water.
- Implementation of Polluters Pay Principle to reduce water pollution.





GOAL 7

ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL

The call for affordable and clean energy is captured in a standalone goal 7 within the Agenda 2030. The focus is on ensuring universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. Substantial expansion of renewable energy and an increase in energy efficiency is required for it. International cooperation needs to be enhanced to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology. Expansion of infrastructure and upgrade of technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services will be achieved with the support of foreign resources.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

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. However, recent data in 2020 suggests that the access has almost reached to 97 per cent. The following table also shows that urban-rural disparity in accessing electricity has also gone down over time.

Table 7.1: Proportion of population with access to electricity (per cent)

	2010	2016	2019*	2020
National	55.26	75.92	92.23	97
Urban	90.10	94.01	97.80	-
Rural	42.49	68.85	90.70	-

Source: HIES, BBS and Power Division

* MICS 2020, BBS





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

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 (30 per cent by 2025) unless the rate is further enhanced.

Indicator 7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption

The present share of renewable energy sources in total final energy consumption is 3.49 per cent in 2020. Bangladesh has a target to produce 10 per cent of total power generation from renewable sources by 2030.

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

Energy efficiency has also been improved in 2019 relative to the previous years. The year wise energy intensity level of primary energy is shown below.

**Table 7.2: Energy intensity level of primary energy
(kiloton of oil equivalent per billion BDT)**

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*
3.63	3.67	3.56	3.41	2.15

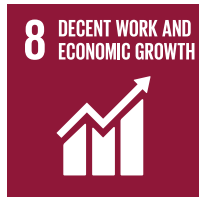
Source: SREDA

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



Key challenges for achieving SDG7

- Bangladesh will require investment of about USD 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.
- The structure and composition of electricity demand will change in future with the likely changes in economic activities. 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.
- 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.



GOAL 8

PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL

SDG8 focuses on improving economic growth that is sustainable while also ensuring that the average real income of both employed and unemployed persons, especially in the least developed countries, is improved significantly. High economic growth will be achieved through increased diversification and continued technological upgrading and innovation that will be biased towards the labour-intensive sectors. More productive employment opportunities and a better work environment will be created for both men and women across all age groups and for the disabled in the formal sector. This will result in a significant reduction in the unemployment rate, the wage gap, and decent work deficits.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

Indicator 8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita

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 FY2014-15 is noteworthy. However, due to COVID-19 the rate went down to 3.98 per cent (National Accounts Wing, BBS 2020 projected). But the government has initiated strategies and actions to mitigate the impact of the pandemic to achieve the 2025 milestone of SDGs (7 per cent).

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 labor input; in other words, labor productivity. Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person





increased to 5.85 per cent in 2019 from 4.99 per cent in 2017. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a dip in this rate as it stood at 2.99 per cent in 2020 (BBS, 2020p).

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 70 in 2020. Non-fatal injuries have also reduced to 118 in 2020 from 246 in 2015.

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

The number of commercial bank branches for every 100,000 adults increased to 9.65 in 2019 from 8.96 in 2016. The access to ATMs has also improved in recent years, from 9.58 in 2016 to 9.98 in 2019 (Source: BB, 2019).

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 70.3 per cent in 2019 from 63.88 per cent in 2017 and 50.80 per cent in 2015 (Source: BB).





Key challenges for achieving SDG8

- High levels of wealth inequalities pose challenges as Bangladesh moves towards achieving the SDG8.
- Progress towards SDG8 alone is not adequate, without addressing the challenges of environmental degradation and social exclusion. There is no substitute for productivity improvement in Bangladesh; rapid productivity growth is needed for decent job creation in the country.
- The challenge is to close the labor-productivity gaps across the formal and informal sectors and the issues facing the segmented labor markets.
- 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.
- The vast majority of the expatriate Bangladeshi workers are unskilled or semi-skilled; therefore, they earn relatively low wages.
- 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.
- There still exists huge gender gap in labor force participation in Bangladesh (women labor force participation is 36.3 per cent of total labor force). 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 labor market.

- The textile and garment manufacturing 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.





GOAL 9

BUILD RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, PROMOTE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION AND FOSTER INNOVATION

Sustainable Development Goal 9 revolves around three interconnected pillars: resilient infrastructure, inclusive and sustainable industrialization and research and innovation, and embrace the common goal of attaining socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable economic development. Infrastructure provides the basic physical facilities and access to services that are critical for economic development. In a world faced with various shocks especially climate change and natural disasters of increasing frequency and greater intensity, infrastructure has to be made resilient to cope with the shocks. Manufacturing has been one of the prime drivers of economic growth and decent job creation and hence has contributed to the reduction of income poverty. There need to be more investments in high-tech products that dominate the manufacturing productions to increase efficiency and productivity on the one hand and address environmental issues on the other. Increased domestic and international financial mobilization, technological and technical support, research and innovation, and increased access to information and communication technology are required to achieve this goal.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

Indicator 9.1.2 Passenger and freight volume, by mode of transport

The volumes of air passenger and freight have increased substantially over the years. During 2019, the passenger and freight volume were 1,30,987,16 and 4,12,28 M.ton respectively. During 2018 these figures were 12,398,000 and 3,83,018 M.ton respectively.





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 24.18 per cent in FY2019-20 (projection) which was 22.85 per cent in FY2017-18. The following table shows the manufacturing value added figure from the start of SDGs era.

Table 9.1: Share of manufacturing value added in GDP (per cent)

2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-2020 ^P
20.16	21.01	21.74	22.85	24.21	24.18

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

P- Projected

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

The volume of official international support to infrastructures stood at USD 4041.90 million in FY 2018-19 which was USD 4564.80 million in FY 2018.

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

There needs to be more investments in medium and high-tech products that dominate the manufacturing productions to increase efficiency. Table 9.2 shows the proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added over time.





Table 9.2 Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added (%)

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 ^a
12.26	12.65	12.79	12.85	11.57	11.54	11.27

Source: National Accounts Wing, BBS

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

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 9.3: Coverage of proportion of population by a mobile network by technology (per cent)

Technology	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
2G	99.4	99.46	99.49	99.54	99.60
3G	71.0	90.02	92.55	95.23	95.23
4G	-	-	-	-	79.0

Source: Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission

Key challenges for achieving SDG9

- 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.





GOAL 10

REDUCE INEQUALITY WITHIN AND AMONG COUNTRIES

Inequality is a global phenomenon and pervasive. While the economic activities are in the boom in this era of globalization, every nation is consistently fighting against rising inequalities to instil welfare among its citizens. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the concern of increasing inequalities within and among countries. The disparities of opportunities, wealth and power are skyrocketing day by day and without proper intervention, the dream of an egalitarian world will remain unfulfilled. Sustainable Development Goal 10 calls for nations to increase the income of the bottom 40 per cent of the population by empowering and promoting social, economic and political inclusion of all people irrespective of sex, age, disability, race, class, ethnicity, religion, and opportunity as well as by ensuring equal opportunity and reducing inequalities of the outcome by adopting appropriate legislation, policies and action discarding any discriminatory laws, policies and practices. Achieving greater equality will also depend on the adoption of fiscal, wage and social protection policies.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

Indicator 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 (Source: CHPS, 2018).

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. During 2015-16, the ODA was 3.53 USD billion which increased to 7.12 USD billion in 2020 (Source: ERD). On the other hand, gross FDI also grew from 2.0 USD billion in 2015-16 to 3.38 USD billion in 2020 (Source: BB).

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

Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted was 4.06 per cent in 2015, which has slightly increased at 4.68 per cent in 2019 (BB, 2019).

Key challenges for achieving SDG10

- Inequitable distribution of wealth as well as socio-economic privileges may have implications for poverty reduction and relative deprivation poses a challenge confronting Bangladesh
- Tax reform to bring all types of income under progressive taxation seems to be a challenging task.
- While government expenditure is increased over time, the share of expenditures on education, health, rural development, and social protection could not be raised as per the national target.
- Selection error in social protection services and the proportion of non-poor beneficiaries are two common concerns in Social Safety Net Program.
- Bangladesh is ranked 65th in the world (Global Gender Gap Index in 2021). Despite having scored better than any South Asian neighbors, there is still scope of improvement with regard to women empowerment.





GOAL 11

MAKE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE

Sustainable Development Goal 11 seeks to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. Ensuring access for every citizen to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade of slums are critical for this goal. The goal emphasizes access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems with special attention to the needs of vulnerable people, inclusive and sustainable urbanization and participatory and integrated sustainable planning and management and protection and safeguards the world's cultural and natural heritage. The reduction of the environmental impact of cities and deaths due to disasters is also needed to make cities safer. 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.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

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 has been observed 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.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.

Key challenges for achieving SDG11

- With current rate of urbanization and supply of housing, the deficit is likely to persist in the future with housing remaining unaffordable for low and middle-income households and rising house rents draining a disproportionately large portion of wage income.
- Lack of an efficient public transport system has multiple related effects. Slower vehicle speed costs working hours lowering labor productivity



and incurs higher fuel consumption and emission. Overcrowded bus trip affects comfort and safety of riders, especially of women.

- Rising demand for construction materials fuelled by urbanization and construction itself has been the major cause of air pollution in the country, especially in the cities.
- Rapid urbanization and overall socio-economic development in the country in recent years have substantially increased demand for improved urban services. Many of these services involve modern technology-based solutions that require a large investment. Existing resource bases of Urban Local Government Institutions (ULGIs) are not sufficient to meet these investment requirements.
- Almost all organizations functioning in the City Corporations have their own development policy, strategy and master plans. These master plans are scarcely synchronized resulting in conflicts during implementation.
- There are many service providers and stakeholders in urban areas. Coordination among these stakeholders is inevitable for ensuring safety of drinking water, electricity, gas lines, clay, and drainage system.





GOAL 12

ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS

Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) is defined as “the use of services and related products, which respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimizing 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 jeopardize the needs of future generations”. SDG12 aims at decoupling economic growth from environmental damage and natural resource exploitation. Its major targets include the implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on SCP, efficient management and use of natural resources, reducing various types of waste, and responsible management of wastes and chemicals, and adoption of sustainable practices in companies/business and in public procurement.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

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

Bangladesh, in a bid to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 12 by 2030, aims to develop a 10-year sustainable consumption and production framework very soon.

Indicator 12.2.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP

The material footprint indicates the amount of resources or emissions that can be attributed to national demand (consumption and capital investment) in a country. In 2017, the total material footprint stood at 306.3 Million tons, whereas per capita material footprint was 1.9 tons per capita. The intensity of the material footprint was 2.9 kg per 1 USD (2005 GDP).





Indicator 12.a.1 Installed renewable energy-generating capacity in developing countries (in watts per capita)

In 2016, the installed renewable energy-generating capacity was 2.807 watts per capita. This capacity gradually increased to 3.483 in 2018 and 4.214 watts per capita in 2020 (Source: SREDA).

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

Rationalizing inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies are very important because inefficient subsidies encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions. The latest figure for fossil fuel subsidy per unit of GDP is 0.6 per cent recorded in FY 2018-19.

Key challenges for achieving SDG12

- Baseline data for quite a few indicators under SDG12 is not available in Bangladesh. Therefore, it is very much challenging to monitor the progress in comparison with baseline.
- SDG12 covers almost all related activities/actions regarding production and supply chain for all commodities or services. Therefore, coordination is very much challenging. Although 13 Ministries/divisions are directly involved as lead/co-lead ministry and large number ministries as an associate, the number of related stakeholders is very large. It covers all sectors and sub-sectors along the production and supply chain. The role of the private sector is also very important in this regard.



- Partnership in the form of technical assistance with development partners is not yet fully visible. Although some ministries are closely working with UN agencies.
- Lack of appropriate technology induces production and consumption in an unsustainable way, which is responsible for resource inefficiency.





GOAL 13

TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

With rising greenhouse gas emissions, climate change is occurring at rates much faster than anticipated and its effects are clearly felt worldwide. In SDG13, the focus has been given for strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters, integrating climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning, improving education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning. While there are positive steps in terms of the development of nationally determined contributions, far more ambitious plans and accelerated action are needed on adaptation and mitigation. Access to finance and strengthened capacities need to be scaled up at a much faster rate.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

Indicator 13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population

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 2016, which reduced to 4318 in 2019. 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. The country is on track to reduce these fatalities caused by disasters.



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
2019	4318	0.316

Source: Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, GoB

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 organizations and local government authorities to work together during any natural disasters.

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 program, enhancing adaptive capacities of coastal communities, and climate resilient infrastructure mainstreaming in Bangladesh. Some of these programs are funded by other development partners as well.

Key challenges for achieving SDG13

- Bangladesh regularly faces floods and cyclones as two major natural disasters. Over time, these have intensified and new disasters are also affecting the people of Bangladesh.
- The mitigation strategies are limited in safeguarding jobs, assets for its millions of people.



- Strategies are absent and/or limited 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.
- Fund disbursement from GCF is very slow.
- There is a need to improve the efficiency of the GCF disbursement process in order to ensure that countries like Bangladesh is better prepared against the effects of climate change.
- 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.





GOAL 14

CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Oceans cover almost three-quarters of the planet, comprising the largest ecosystem on Earth. The increasingly adverse impacts of climate change (including ocean acidification), overfishing and marine pollution are jeopardizing recent gains in protecting portions of the world's oceans. The average coverage of marine key biodiversity areas (KBAs) by protected areas has been raised from 32 per cent in 2000 to 45.7 per cent in 2018. To achieve sustainable development of fisheries, fish stocks must 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. The SDG aims to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems from pollution, as well as address the impacts of ocean acidification. Enhancing conservation and the sustainable use of ocean-based resources through international law will also help mitigate some of the challenges facing our oceans. As billions of people depend on oceans for their livelihood and food source and on the trans-boundary nature of oceans, increased efforts and interventions are needed to conserve and sustainably use ocean resources at all levels.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

Indicator 14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas

The coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas was 2.05 per cent in 2015 (Source: Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD)), which currently stood at 4.73 per cent in 2020 (Source: DoF).





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. However, the rate recently climbed up to 3.50 per cent (Source: DoF, 2019).

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.

Key challenges for achieving SDG14

- 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 and scientific database.
- Bangladesh needs international cooperation to monitor the area using automatic identifier system (AIS) based technologies. The implementation of Hilsha 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.
- 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 more than 700 small and large rivers, and a large chunk of the country's 169 million people (2021 projection) depend on them for living and for transportation. But many of the rivers are drying up or are choked because of pollution and encroachment.
- Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing represents a major threat to sustainable sea fishing.
- The activities undertaken by Bangladesh to achieve SDG14 and to mainstream Blue Growth into national policies and programs are important steps towards conserving the country's ocean resources and strengthening coastal communities. Most of the relevant ministries and divisions have set up blue economy cells.





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

The targets of SDG15 cover a broad range of issues around the protection of forests, mountains, wetlands and dry lands, include both animal, and plant life. This includes proper use and management of forests, active restoration, conservation and protection of forests, fair and equitable benefit sharing, ending poaching and trafficking of flora and fauna, preventing and reducing the impact of alien species, integrating ecosystem and biodiversity values into planning processes.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

Indicator 15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area

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). The target to be attained by 2030 is 20 per cent.

Indicator 15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type

In Bangladesh, the proportion of terrestrial 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). However, it slightly plummeted to 3.06 per cent in 2019. The target to be attained by 2030 is 5 per cent.





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 per cent (2019); c) 24.11 per cent of land within protected area is under forest cover (June 2018); and d) 35.10 per cent of forest land is currently under a long-term forest management plan in Bangladesh.

Indicator 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).

Key challenges for achieving SDG15

- Lack of appropriate management strategies for protected and critical areas with full participation of the local stakeholders.
- There is an absence of an efficient strategy to restrict the entry into the protected and critical areas. In addition, most of ecologically critical areas have degraded and need to be restored so that its flow of ecosystem services can be reinstated.





- With the influx of Rohingya refugees, the Teknaf peninsula is under severe threat at present.
- 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 fertilizers.
- Capacity building and retaining adequate technical skills for implementing activities related to target achievement is crucial.





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

The 2030 Agenda recognizes the need to establish peaceful, fair and inclusive societies that provide equal access to justice based on respect for human rights, effective rule of law as well as transparent, effective and accountable institutions. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without peace and security. SDG16 has been identified as an outcome and at the same time enabler of sustainable development. In order to create a peaceful state, effective and inclusive institutions that can deliver human needs, like education, healthcare, economics, and environmental protection are essentially required. Without peace, justice, and inclusion, achieving goals such as ending poverty, ensuring education, promoting economic growth can be difficult or impossible to attain. At the same time, various SDGs can help or hinder the achievement of SDG16, for instance, climate change can act as a threat multiplier, aggravating additional social, environmental and political stressors, which could possibly lead to violence.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

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 per 100,000 population (2.1 for males and 0.67 for females) in 2019 which was 1.94 in 2015 (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.





Indicator 16.1.2 Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause

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 16.1.4 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 feels 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.



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 disaggregated figures are given in the following table.

Table 16.1: Victims of human trafficking and sexual violence

Indicator	2015	2018
Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population by sex, age and form of exploitation	0.92	0.61 (Male 0.58, Female 0.63)

Source: Bangladesh Police, 2019

Indicator 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

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 16.5.1 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 bribe to a public official or were asked for bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months in the survey period.

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 than that of 54.0 per cent in urban areas.

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.

Key challenges for achieving SDG16

- 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 supports.
- Inadequate coordination between the relevant authorities has led to a dissonance in budget allocations and estimated costs for SDG related activities. 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.
- 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.





GOAL 17

STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In order to achieve sustainable development goals by 2030, all the participating countries are required to mobilize and effectively utilize necessary means of implementation, financial and non-financial, public and private, domestic and international resources. Major financial resources include domestic taxes, FDI, and ODA. On the other hand, domestic policy frameworks, effective institutions, and support for good governance, democracy, rule of law, human rights, transparency, and accountability fall under the non-financial resources category. While developing countries strive to mobilize required resources, advanced countries actually provide support through ODA to help them shift to sustainable development paths. SDG17 focuses on strengthening the means of implementation of the sustainable development goals through enhancing resource mobilization capacity, domestic and external, of the developing countries, long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies, adopting and implementing investment promotion regimes. It also puts special emphasis on revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development through sharing knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources.

PROGRESS AGAINST MAJOR TARGETS

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

The total government revenue, comprising tax revenue and non-tax revenue, in 2019-20 was BDT 3480.69 billion or 12.41 per cent of GDP. The share is almost stable in recent years. Tax revenue accounts for 89.94 per cent of the total government revenue, which has slightly decreased from its contribution to the domestic budget in 2018-19.



Table 17.1: Total government revenue and proportion of domestic budget

Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 ^R	2020 ^R
Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source	10.78	10.26	10.16	11.60	12.45	12.41
Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	62.00	61.75	61.77	64.16	65.44	62.42

Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2020, Ministry of Finance, FD

R- Revised

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. It needs to be mentioned that, in the recent years, growth in the size of national budget has been slower than the growth in ODA to Bangladesh. The disbursement of the external aid is also 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 17.2: Overseas development assistance and annual budget

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Budget (billion USD)	33.81	33.80	42.58	51.00	55.31	59.16
ODA (billion USD)	3.01	3.53	3.68	6.40	6.21	7.12
ODA as % of budget	8.90	9.60	8.64	12.55	11.23	12.04

Source: ERD & Bangladesh Economic Review 2020, Ministry of Finance

On the other hand, FDI as a proportion of the government budget have surged by 50 per cent in FY2018-19 compared with the previous fiscal year (FY2017-18); however, due to Covid-19 pandemic it decreased in 2019-20.

Table 17.3: FDI as a proportion of annual budget

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018 ^R	2019 ^P	2020 ^P
FDI (billion USD)	1.83	2.00	2.45	1.78	2.63	1.80
FDI as % of budget	5.41	5.92	5.75	3.49	4.76	3.04

Source: ERD & State of the Macroeconomy, GED



Indicator 17.3.2 Volume of remittances (in USD) as a proportion of total GDP

The annual flow of remittances has been increasing since 2015, reaching a record high of USD 18.2 billion in 2020. Still, the 2020 milestone of reaching the remittance/GDP ratio of 14 per cent appears ambitious.

Indicator 17.4.1 Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services (%)

Debt service burden in recent years has increased from 3.5 per cent in 2015 to 3.9 per cent in 2019 and 4.47 per cent in 2020. 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.

Indicator 17.6.1 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.





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 43.5 per cent in 2020 (SVRS, 2020).

Indicator 17.9.1 Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries

Technical and financial assistance is critical especially for the developing countries having resource mobilization challenges. In 2018, total amount of assistance committed to Bangladesh is USD 382.42 million, which fell to USD 279.7 million in 2019. 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.

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 2016-17, it was 6.13 per cent and in 2019 it has declined to 4.64 per cent.



Indicator 17.12.1 Weighted Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small-island developing States

The Simple Average Tariff (SAT) and Weighed Average Tariff (WAT) were 7.7 per cent and 2.79 per cent respectively in 2017. However, it rose to 8.33 per cent and 2.95 per cent respectively in 2018. 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.

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. According to the Registrar's office, a total of 166 million (which is more than 98 per cent) births were registered in BRIS by 11 October 2018. Death registration was only 8.91 per cent in 2015, which increased to 24.44 per cent in 2018.

Key challenges for achieving SDG17

- Further improve resource mobilization.
- 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 mobilization 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.



PART B

INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SDGs

Effective SDGs implementation requires outcome-based approaches to multidimensional sustainable development challenges, effective decentralization 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 SDG17, 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.



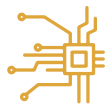


Finance

Implementing the SDGs in Bangladesh will require substantial financial resources, including social and infrastructure investments, as well as investments to enhance environmental sustainability. 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; tax on fuels that supports the development of the national highway program; 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 and other regional cooperation have the potential 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 mobilize an additional USD 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 prioritize the financing of sustainable development in Bangladesh.





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 utilization. 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. At the same time, policies for transformative development should prioritize 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. 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 favor 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 prioritizes the effective functioning of LGIs in order to deliver on the SDGs, along with plans to invest on authority, capacity and resource mobilization. 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. 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.



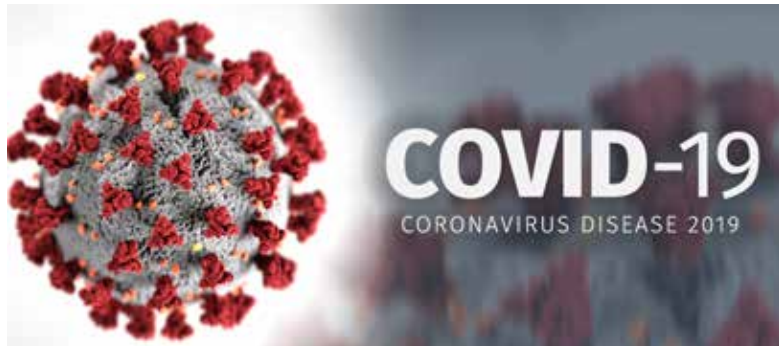
● **Multi-stakeholder partnerships**

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 localization stage of the SDGs during the implementation and monitoring phases as well. Along with optimizing 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.



PART C

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON SDGs IMPLEMENTATION



Introduction

As the COVID-19 global pandemic has mired economies around the world and thrown the future of the global economy into ambiguity, Bangladesh's economy (trade volume to GDP is 31.5 per cent in FY 2018-19), is affected both on the demand and supply sides. Bangladesh reported the first COVID-19 case on 8th March 2020, over two months after the pandemic started in China and about the same time as the infection rates in Europe began to grow exponentially. Many of Bangladesh's trading partners went under complete or partial lockdown to ensure social distancing measures and resulting in widespread disruption of economic activity. The first case of COVID-19 related death in Bangladesh was confirmed on 18th March 2020 and from 26th March to 30th May, the government maintained the lockdown. The government has successfully managed the first wave of the pandemic. Recently in 2021, the government has maintained several lockdown periods to curb the second wave of pandemic. However, continued lockdown is not the solution to this pandemic. As many people, especially those who work in informal sector, have higher likelihood to become jobless. Therefore, we need awareness and proper conscience to fight against this deadly virus.

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on macroeconomic outlook

With COVID-19, the macroeconomic outlook will be different with GDP growth rate expected to plummet to 5.20 per cent which was expected to hit 8.19 per cent without pre COVID-19 situation in 2019-20. The poverty situation also aggravated from 20.5 per cent in 2019 to 23.0 per cent in FY 2021.



Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on SDGs implementation

- Like other parts of the world, Bangladesh's economy is also affected both on the demand and supply sides by COVID-19 pandemic. The closedown of the economy for a couple of months has a detrimental effect on these groups that has every possibility to push them back beneath the poverty line.
- Bangladesh's health sector started the preparation to control and contain the pandemic in the country in January 2020 based on National Preparation and Response Plan. As a living document, the National Guidelines on Clinical Management of Coronavirus Disease 2019 has been prepared with the latest evidence and the WHO guidelines to be followed by every clinician/hospital, who will treat COVID-19 'confirmed', 'probable', or 'suspect' cases. However, challenges are mounting to get access to health services for non-COVID patients throughout the country. SDG4 is the goal that is severely affected.
- Since March 17, 2020, all schools, colleges, universities, and educational institutions- general education to madrasah education, technical education, professional education, teacher education, and specialized education remain closed. Because of COVID-19 impact, the huge number of students, teachers, and staff are at home. Non-government teachers are struggling for their livelihood and students are facing psychological pressure remaining inside the home with social distancing. The government has provided subsidies to 16,197 of the total privately managed schools.
- Hand washing with soap is considered as one of the preconditions to avoid COVID-19 attack. Nationally, 74.8 per cent practiced hand washing (SDG6) meaning one-fourth of the people are at risk of being attached with COVID-19.
- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the natural environment (SDG15) has been complex. On one hand, air pollution has declined on account of slowdown in economic activity. On the other hand, the disposal of large quantities of personal protective equipment poses an environmental threat. The crisis has highlighted the urgency of more sustainable means of production and consumption (SDG12).
- With regard to '*Leave no one behind*', the aspiration of SDGs, it can be said that the pandemic has disproportionately, and more detrimentally,

affected members of most vulnerable social groups—including people living in poverty, elderly, persons with disabilities, youth, women, and transgender. A report by the United Nations on the impacts of COVID-19 on women notes that the compounded economic impacts are felt especially by women and girls who are generally earning less, saving less, and holding insecure jobs or living close to poverty.

National measures to tackle COVID-19 pandemic

The national response is being overseen by the Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who has outlined clear directives for the citizens for their health and safety. Taking feedback through several video conferencing from the grassroots participated by government officials, political leaders, and different stakeholders, she instructed necessary directives to them. The Honourable Prime Minister has given 31-point directives to the citizens to follow to mitigate the risk.

A National Committee headed by the Honourable Minister of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has been constituted to take necessary steps for the prevention and control of coronavirus. Besides, committees have been formed at City Corporation, municipality, district, upazila, and union levels. Specific hospitals have been set up in Dhaka for coronavirus patients. Besides, more hospitals are being prepared. Separate beds have been provided for coronavirus patients in district and upazila level hospitals. In addition to government hospitals, a significant number of private sector hospitals are involved in the treatment of coronavirus. On an emergency basis, 2,000 doctors and 5,000 nurses have been recruited and they have already started working. Additional 2,000 doctors and 3,000 health technicians will be recruited soon.

On March 15, Honourable Prime Minister joined a video conferencing with the Heads of State and Government of the SAARC countries to prevent coronavirus on the basis of international and regional cooperation. She urged the leaders of the SAARC countries to make a concerted regional effort to curb the spread of this disease. The foreign ministries of the SAARC countries are working together to implement the proposed recommendations. The leaders have decided to form a joint fund where Bangladesh has announced to give 1.5 million USD.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in order to support the economy and livelihood of the poor and vulnerable people, the government of



Bangladesh has announced 21 stimulus packages worth BDT 1,213,350 million till November, 2020, details of which are furnished below:

Sl.	Name of the Packages	Allocation (BDT in Million)
1	Special allocation for export-oriented industries	50,000
2	Providing working capital facilities for the affected industry and service sector organizations	400,000
3	Providing working capital facilities to small (including cottage industries) and medium enterprises	200,000
4	To increase the facilities of EDF (Export Development Fund) introduced by Bangladesh Bank	127,500
5	Pre-shipment Credit Refinance Scheme	50,000
6	Special Honorarium to doctors, nurses and health workers	1,000
7	Health insurance and life insurance	7,500
8	Distribution of free food items	25,000
9	Distribution of rice at the rate of BDT 10 per kg	7,700
10	Distribution of cash among the targeted population	12,580
11	Increase the coverage of the allowance programmes	8,150
12	Construction of houses for homeless people	21,300
13	Procurement of Boro paddy/rice (additional two lakh MT)	8,600
14	Mechanization of agricultural work	32,200
15	Agricultural subsidies	95,000
16	Agricultural refinancing scheme	50,000
17	Refinancing scheme for low income farmers/small traders	30,000
18	Creation of jobs (through Village Savings Bank, Employment Bank, Expatriates' Welfare Bank and PKSF)	32,000
19	Social Protection for jobless and poor labour of export oriented industries	15,000
20	Government subsidy for interest waiver of deferred bank loans for the month of April-May/2020	20,000
21	Credit Guarantee Scheme for SME sector	20,000
	Total stimulus packages in million BDT	1,213,530
	Total stimulus packages as % of GDP	4.34

Source: Finance Division, 2020



Moreover, the government aims to incorporate a one-year recovery plan in its Five Year national development plan, which will be instrumental for implementing SDGs in the next five years. It will guide the country on how socio-economic and environmental development will take place, how resources will be mobilized and how and where they will be spent. In the next financial year, the allocation of development budget in the health sector will be enhanced substantially.

COVID-19 vaccination in Bangladesh

Government of Bangladesh is very much committed to fully vaccinate its people from the deadly COVID-19 virus. Following the COVID-19 pandemic in Bangladesh, government has been working with different countries and vaccine producing companies/institutions to arrange vaccines for its people. As of July 2021, general people aged at least 30 are eligible to receive the vaccines along with important professionals and government officials for whom there is no age restriction. However, government is fully determined to gradually include all citizens under the vaccination program. According to a report by Health Services Division (HSD), the government is in a contract with Serum Institute of India for procuring 30 million doses of Oxford Astrazeneca vaccine out of which 7 million doses have arrived (Source: HSD, April 2021). Besides, Indian government gifted 3.2 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine. Bangladesh has also negotiated with other governments for procuring Sinovac, Moderna and Pfizer vaccines. Hence, Bangladesh's effort in ensuring vaccination for its national is praiseworthy. As of 4 August 2021, total 100,09,952 persons have been given the first dose of Covid-19 vaccine and 44,16,131 persons have been given the second dose of the vaccine (Source: DGHS).



Data intelligence for COVID-19 response in Bangladesh

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, *Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS)* together with a2i Programme and other stakeholders (Government institutions, telecom companies, development partners, NGOs, Academia, etc.) has developed data intelligence platform (<https://www.corona.gov.bd>) to minimize the fatalities based on data-driven decision-making. The analytics helps to identify hotspots and high-risk cases, analyse and predict requirements for additional patient management, guide resource allocation (health workers, testing facilities, hospitals, isolation units, ICT, etc.) and guide the government with timely policy response visualizing insights to them.



PART D

SDGs LOCALIZATION

LOCALIZING THE SDGs

The Government of Bangladesh has already initiated action for localizing SDGs, particularly in the district and upazila level. On 3rd December 2018, the Cabinet approved 40 (39+1) priority indicators for localization of SDGs; 39 indicators from 17 Goals were selected which were considered to be (a) crucial for the local level of our country and (b) producing reinforcing effects on other targets. An additional priority indicator was taken to achieve 'leaving no one behind' according to the circumstances of a specific district or Sub-district, meeting the ground reality of that particular geographical area. 'Natore Model' is developed for district level and a framework is finalized by GED for localizing SDGs at the Sub-district level. Awareness programmes through workshops at the divisions and district levels have been done. It is hoped that local level people and institutions would fix the targets and prepare corresponding action plans to implement the SDGs. Before full-fledged localization, a piloting will be undertaken by GED. This piloting will be done in one upazila of each of the 8 divisions. For this, two studies have been completed by GED; one on the selection criteria of the upazilas and the other on the resource mapping required for SDGs localization. Localizing the SDGs means making SDG aspirations become real to communities, households, and individuals, particularly to those who are at risk of falling behind. Local communities and stakeholders, whose knowledge about the needs and capacities of their communities down even to the individual level, are critical partners in implementing and realizing the global accord. Divisional level Training of Trainers (ToT) has been conducted in June 2019, and the Upazila Action Plan and the District Action Plan for SDGs are currently being planned and finalized soon.



- 78





General Economics Division (GED)
Bangladesh Planning Commission
Ministry of Planning
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

