Sub-regional Consultation

On

Strengthening National Academies of Science in LDCs in support of the 2030 Agenda

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Initiative of Government of Bangladesh in implementing the SDGs

Formation of SDGs Implementation and Review Committee: An Inter-Ministerial Committee on SDGs comprising Senior Secretaries/Secretaries from most relevant 20 Ministries/Divisions are coordinating SDGs implementation and review.

The lead Ministries/Divisions in consultation with co-lead and associate Ministries/Divisions have prepared SDGs Action Plan highlighting new projects, programmes and policies to be implemented in coming years to achieve SDGs targets by 2030.

Data gap analysis for SDGs monitoring: For the performance assessment by SDGs indicators, the government of Bangladesh conducted a SDGs Data Gap analysis reviewing existing survey, census, national accounts and data generating system of statistical organizations.

SDGs Monitoring and Evaluation Framework: The monitoring and Evaluation Framework has been finalized by the Government of Bangladesh to set targets of indicators of SDGs i.e. from where we are now (benchmark) and where we want to go by 2030.

SDGs Trackers for Result Based Monitoring: An innovative SDGs tracker (sdg.gov.bd), a web-based data repository system, has been launched to assist the monitoring of the implementation of SDGs in our country SDG tracker will facilitate the tracking of progress against each goal and target of SDGs over the period of time.
National Data Coordination Committee (NDCC): To harmonize data generation from different data producing agencies and to prepare and supply quality, up-to-date and acceptable data of indices intended for sustainable development and for international reporting, the National Data Generation Committee has been constituted.

Assimilation of SDGs target in Annual Performance Agreement (APA): The government has integrated the SDG targets into APA system so that the long-term objectives can be translated into annual work plan of the ministries.

The Government of Bangladesh has approved the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of SDGs where it has targeted three milestones (2020, 2025 and 2030) for indicators following the ending years of planning cycles of 7th, 8th and 9th Five Year Plans of Bangladesh.
Science Information and Communications Technology

- The Academy of Sciences is an apex body of scientists in Bangladesh
- The objective is to promote science, technology and innovation in the country
- To this end, the Academy undertakes a number of activities all through the year:
  1. Organize conference/workshops/symposia of the scientists from home and abroad
  2. Discuss research activities for promoting science
- Use of ICTs in education and health sectors and in enabling e-payment, e-commerce, trade, and e-governance and such other uses will bring a rapid transformation in the socio-economic milieu of the country.
- The Government has formulated several acts, policies and guidelines to ensure rapid expansion and secure use of ICTs.
Digital Centers

There are 5,000 one stop Digital Centres across Bangladesh which ensure that rural people, including women, people with disabilities and the elderly, regardless of their literacy, computer skills or location have effective access to vital information and services. These centers provide free and paid service using modern technology. These include land records, birth registration, telemedicine, passport and overseas job applications as well as mobile financial services, insurance, and online training.

e-Education

The Teachers Portal for school and college teachers is an online social platform with modern, far-reaching supplementary tools to traditional teacher training methods. Over 70% of the 222,69 teachers who are members of this portal have been trained to operate multimedia classrooms.

4G Technologies, Robotics and AI are ongoing in the process of development in Bangladesh.
ERD’s Role in Implementing SDGs

- Economic Relations Division (ERD) is mandated with Assessment, Mobilization and Allocation of External Resources for implementation of development projects/programs.

- ERD has the lead role in implementing 14 targets, co-lead in 3 targets and associate role in 29 targets of SDGs.

- It is directly engaged with the SDG Goal -17 Partnership for the Goals.

- The targets relate to teaming up with the Development Partners (DPs) and External Resource Mobilization.

- ERD is related to 4.b.1 target with the Ministry of Education which pertains to Volume of ODA flows for scholarships (4.76 MUSD).

- This Division assists in implementing the National Plan/Strategy through strengthened partnership with DPs and better aid management.
ERD’s activities in implementing SDGs

- ERD partners with different line Ministries/Divisions to expedite the process of resource mobilization and project implementation

- Challenges regarding fund disbursement are addressed through joint meetings between line Ministries/Divisions and DPs

- ERD plays a pivotal role in the international front for enhanced global support to implement SDGs

- As one of the three Co-chairs of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), ERD strategically places priorities and needs of developing countries in the context of SDGs

- It also steers Asia Pacific Development Effectiveness Facility to strengthen and promote development goals and priorities of Asia-Pacific countries
Major Challenges in Implementing SDGs

- Resource gap
- Data gap
- Institutional and human capacity: Despite improvements, still many public sector institutions face capacity challenge
- Effective collaboration and coordination among the development actors (GoB, DPs, Private Sector & CSO etc)
- Non-inclusive partnership
Contd.

- Continued coherent policy support to private sector: Any challenge to private sector would undermine financing plan as private sector is key to development

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- Effective collaboration and coordination among the development actors (GoB, DPs, Private Sector & CSO etc)

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Contd.

- **Resource constraints:** Bangladesh needs resources in some key areas particularly in transformative infrastructure, education and health. External borrowing is required to minimize the financing gap.

- **Stability in external trade performance:** Several internal and external factors can affect international trade performance resulting in having negative effect on private sector growth and contribution.

- **Natural disasters, disasters due to climate change**
Harnessing International Cooperation for Attaining SDGs

- Numerous multilateral and bi-lateral donors are actively supporting government’s development targets

- Despite Bangladesh’s economic progress, there is ample scope for the DPs in financing the SDGs

- National Policy on Development Cooperation will ensure coherent approach in development cooperation and best use of resources

- DPs can team up with the private sector going beyond public sector engagement
A vibrant platform for meaningful dialogue (inclusive and participation of all development actors) is essential;

Revitalizing sectoral working groups for having continuous dialogues on sector specific SDGs targets and bridging the groups through national partnership platform is required;

Easier access to climate financing alongside traditional ODA
Thank You