

Implementation Challenges of SDGs Country Study: Bangladesh

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*Interpreting SDGs for South Asia: In Search of a Regional Framework***

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This presentation is based on
Interpreting SDGs for South Asia: In Search of a Regional Framework
Country Study: Bangladesh

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2. Mainstreaming SDGs into national planning processes in view of national priorities
3. Management, coordination and leadership for SDGs implementation
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1. Implementation Challenges of SDGs in Bangladesh

The Five Challenges



2. Management, coordination and leadership for SDGs implementation

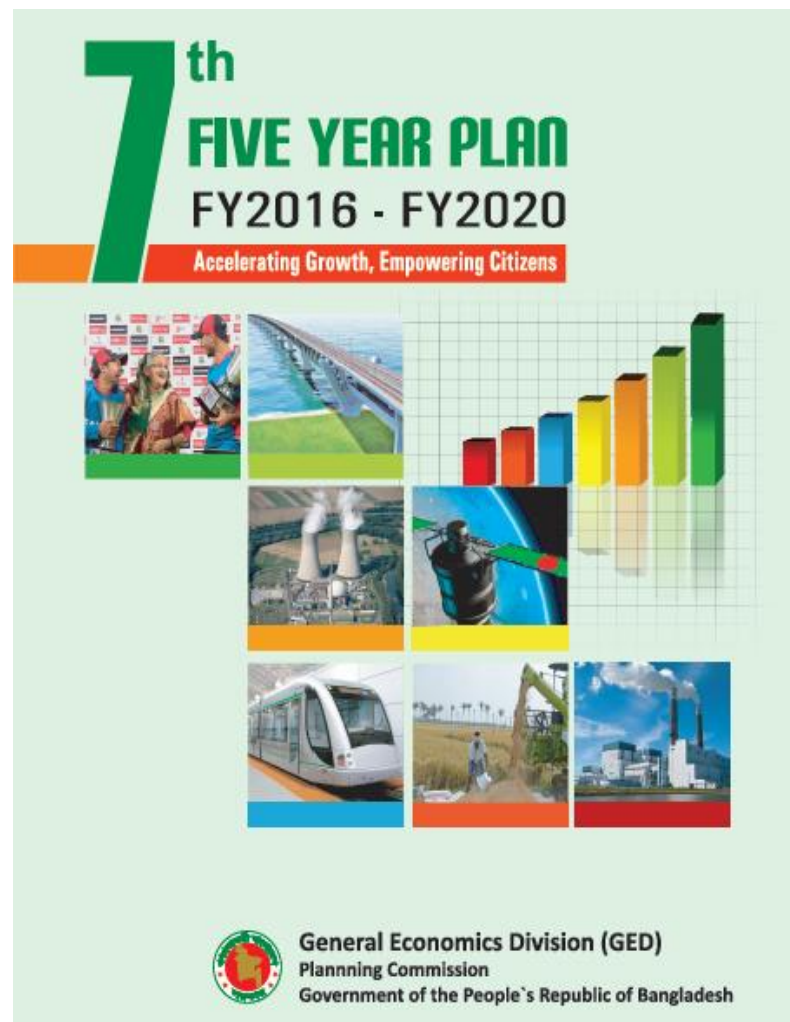
Existing Plan, Policies and Acts

- 7th Five Year Plan
- National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) 2015
- National Food Policy Plan of Action (2008-2015)
- National Health Policy 2011
- Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Development Program (HPNSDP) 2011-16
- National Education Policy 2010; Primary Education Development Program-Revised (PEDP III) 2011-17
- National Women's Development Policy (NWDP) 2011
- Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100
- Power System Master Plan (PSMP) 2016
- National Labor Policy 2012
- National Skills Development Policy (NSDP 2011)
- National Industrial Policy 2016
- Revised Strategic Transport Plan 2016
- National Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-21
- Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) 2009
- National Plan for Disaster Management (NPDM) 2016-2020

2. Mainstreaming SDGs into national planning processes in view of national priorities

Alignment of SDGs with policies

- GoB examined the **alignment of SDGs** targets with the objectives spelt out in the **7FYP document**.
- It was found that **56 SDGs targets** from **14 SDGs** are **fully aligned**
 - **37 SDGs** targets from **13 SDGs** are **partially aligned** and
 - another **65 SDGs** targets from **12 SDGs** are **not aligned** with the objectives of the 7FYP.
- **11 targets** from **7 SDGs** were perceived to be **not relevant** for Bangladesh.



2. Mainstreaming SDGs into national planning processes in view of national priorities

❑ Partially Aligned

- ✓ **Five** of the each targets from Goal 1, 8, and 17 (**No Poverty**, **Decent Work**, and **Partnership**) are the **Partially aligned**
- ✓ **5 out of 7 targets** of **No Poverty** are **Partially aligned**

❑ Not Aligned

- Targets from Goal 2, 3, 4 and 16 (**Zero Hunger**, **Good Health**, **Quality Education**, and **Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions** are mostly **Not Aligned** with the 7FYP
 - Among them, *all of the 10 targets of Quality Education are Not Aligned.*
 - **9 of the 12 targets** of Peace, Justice and Strong Institution are **Not Aligned**
- ❑ **GoB is also in the process of integrating the SDG targets into Annual Performance Agreement (APA) system**

3. Management, coordination and leadership for SDGs implementation

- ❑ The Planning Commission has conducted a **mapping** of all the concerned **ministries/divisions** by SDG areas.
- ❑ Also mapped existing **policies and actions** proposed by **7FYP**.

Ministry/division wise responsibility matrix for all SDG

SDGs	Lead Ministries/Divisions
Goal 1: No poverty	CD; GED; MoEF, MoDMR; FD
Goal 2: Zero hunger	MoA; MoFood; MoHFW; MoInd; ERD; MoC; FD
Goal 3: Good health and well-being	MoHFW; MoHA; RTHD; MoLE; MoEF; ERD
Goal 4: Quality education	MoPME; MoE; ERD
Goal 5: Gender equality	MoWCA; MoSW
Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation	LGD; MoA; MoWR; ERD
Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy	PoD; EMRD; ERD
Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth	FD; MoC; MoInd; MoA; GED; MoLE; MoYS; MoCAT; MoCA; BFID
Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure	RTHD; LGD; MoInd; MoEF; MoST; MoA; ERD; ICTD; PTD

3. Management, coordination and leadership for SDGs implementation

Ministry/division wise responsibility matrix for all SDG

SDGs	Lead Ministries/Divisions
Goal 10: Reduced inequalities	GED; LJD; FD; ERD; MoEWOE; MoC; BFID
Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities	MoHPW; RTHD; MoR; MoCA; MoDMR; LGD; MoWCA; ERD
Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production	MoFA; MoEF; MoF; MoA; LGD; MoInd; IMED (CPTU); MoE; MoPME; ERD; MoCAT; FD
Goal 13: Climate action	MoDMR; GED; MoEF
Goal 14: Life below water	MoWR; MoS; MoST; MoFL; MoEF; MoD
Goal 15: Life and land	MoEF; ERD; FD; MoFA
Goal 16: Peace, Justice and strong institutions	MoHA; MoWCA; MoFA; LJD; LPAD; BB; CD; MoPA; GED; ERD; LGD; MoInf
Goal 17. Partnerships for the goals	IRD; FD; ERD; PMO (BoI); BB; MoST; PTD; MoEF; ICTD; GED; MoC; PMO (PPPA); SID (BBS)

3. Management, coordination and leadership for SDGs implementation

SDGs Implementation Committees

- ❖ In November 2015, the GoB established an **Inter-Ministerial Committee** on '*SDG Monitoring and Implementation*' comprising **20 Secretaries** headed by the **Chief Coordinator** (GED being the Secretariat).
- ❖ The GoB has prepared a '**National Action Plan for SDGs Implementation**'

Other Important Committees

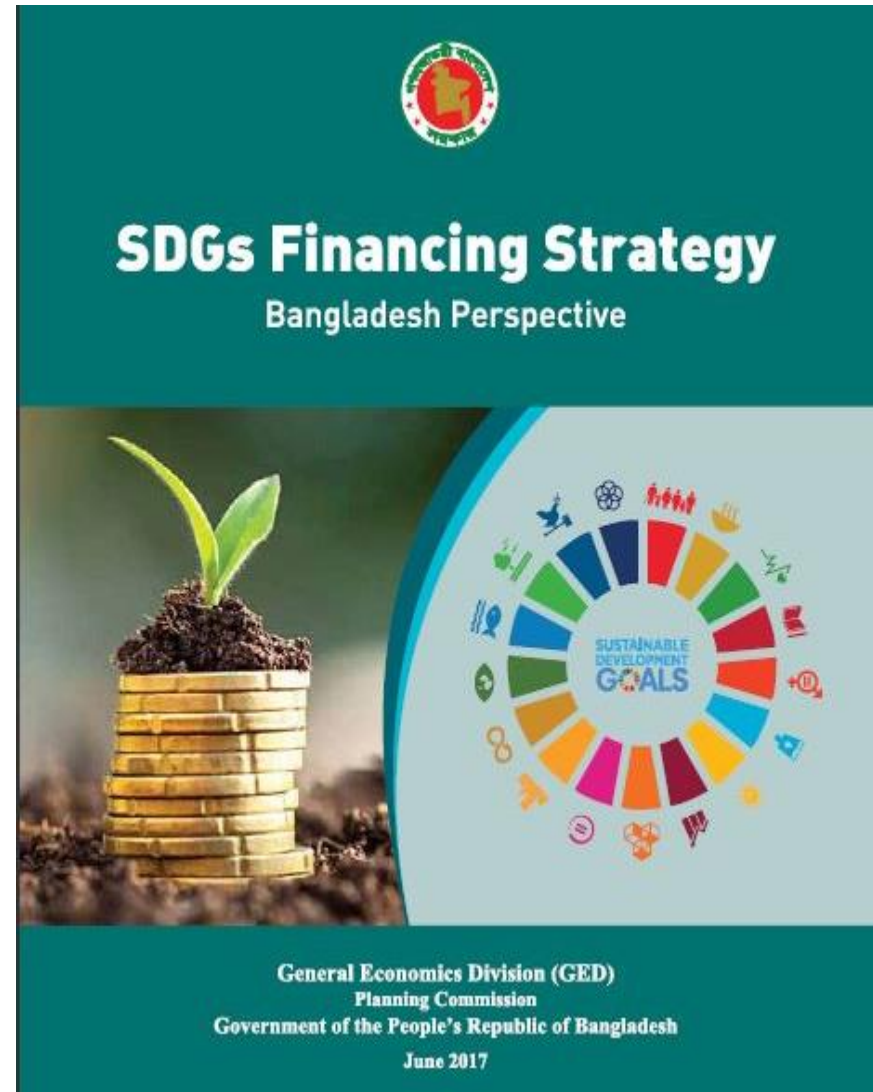
- ❖ '**SDGs Working Team**' hosted by the **Governance Innovation Unit**, Prime Minister's Office
- ❖ '**SDGs Implementation Sub-committee**' by the **NGO Affairs Bureau**
- ❖ '**National Data Coordination Committee-NDDC**' to deal with *data gap* under **Statistics and Informatics Division**, (SID)

3. Management, coordination and leadership for SDGs implementation

- ❖ The GoB has also published the **Monitoring and Evaluation Framework** for SDGs implementation
- ❖ **Voluntary National Review (VNR)** of SDGs was also prepared in **2017** and presented at the UN
- ❖ **SDG Implementation Review (SIR)** conference was held on **4-6th July 2018**. **Government organizations**, in collaboration with **development partners** and **NGOs** expressed their views on current state of SDGs implementation in Bangladesh
- ❖ GED has also put forward a proposal to localise SDGs in Bangladesh

4. Financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

- ❑ The GoB has conducted an *exercise* to **assess additional funding** needs for SDG implementation.
- ❑ GoB (ERD) also produced an **independent development finance assessment** titled ‘Strengthening Finance for the 7th Five Year Plan and SDGs in Bangladesh’.



4. Financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

Key Cost Estimations

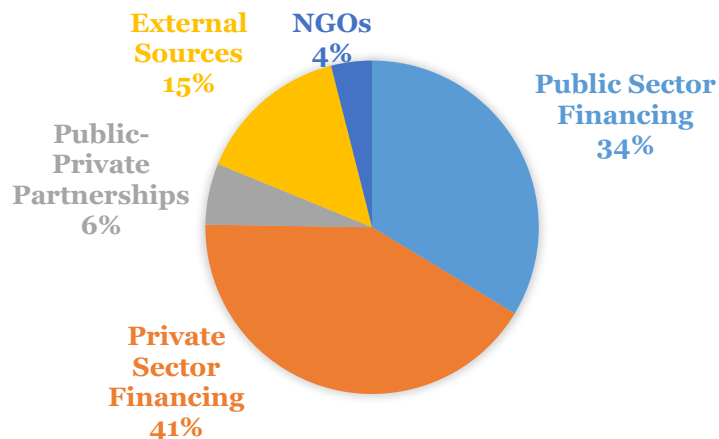
Summary of costing exercise (USD in billion)

	FY 17-FY20	FY 21-FY 25	FY 26-FY 30	FY 17-FY 30
Total additional synchronized cost	129.79	300.65	498.04	928.48
Annual average additional synchronized cost	32.45	60.13	99.61	66.32

- The additional synchronized cost for all **17 goals** would **be 10.2%** of the **projected GDP** (at 2015-16 constant prices) under the **7FYP** extended growth scenario in FY17 which would increase to **24.1%** in FY30.
- Under BAU growth scenario, the estimated total additional synchronized cost for all **17 goals** would increase to **28.1%** in FY30.
- The **highest cost** would be incurred for **implementation** of **SDG 8** while the least cost will be incurred for implementation of **SDG 17**.

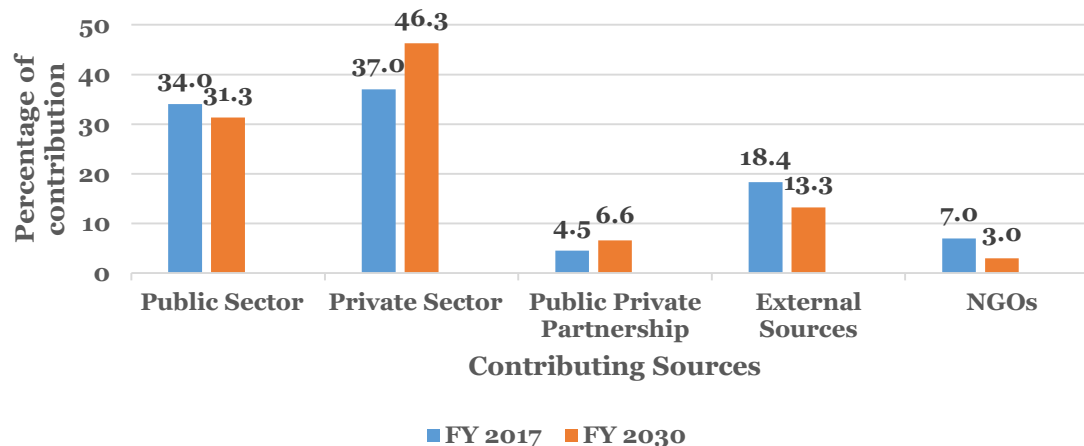
4. Financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

Five potential sources of gap financing



- Revenue collection
- Introducing bond financing
- Deregulating energy prices
- Debt financing
- Savings from efficiency gains

Contribution of different sources in gap financing



4. Finance for implementing SDGs in Bangladesh

Trends in major financing sources (% of GDP)

Source	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
Private Investment	21.1	21.7	21.9	21.6	22.2	22.5	21.7	22.0	22.1	23.0	23.1	23.3
Public Investment	5.1	4.5	4.3	4.7	5.3	5.8	6.6	6.5	6.8	6.7	7.4	8.0
Domestic Revenue	8.5	9.5	9.1	9.5	10.2	10.9	10.7	10.4	9.6	10.0	10.2	--
Remittance	7.5	8.6	9.5	9.5	9.1	9.6	9.6	8.2	7.8	6.7	5.1	5.5
FDI	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.6
ODA	2.0	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.4	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.8

- **Private investment** is almost **plateaued** as share of GDP
- **Public investment** has been showing a generally **upward trend**
- **Revenue mobilisation** as share of GDP has been **unsatisfactory**
- **Remittance inflows** have **suffered** in the recent years
- **FDI** as share of GDP is **nearly stagnant**
- Share of **ODA** in GDP has been generally **declining**

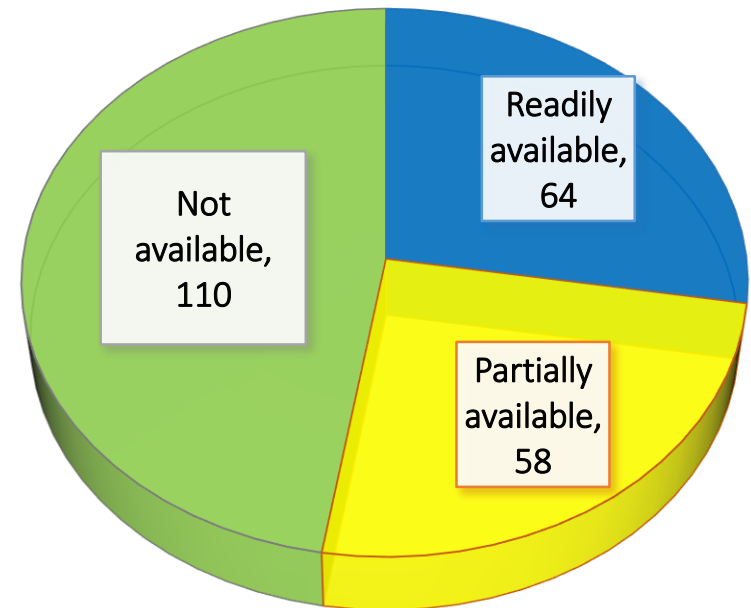
The need for intensifying current efforts and venturing newer avenues has become an exigency

5. Availability and Adequacy of Data to Monitor the SDGs

□ Data availability

- The GoB undertook a **data-mapping** exercise to assess the **availability of data** for Bangladesh in the light of the **SDGs indicators**.
- However, based on the update provided by **Inter Agency and Expert Group on SDG indicators** (IAEG-SDGs), **Monitoring and Evaluation Framework** of SDGs redid the exercise.
- It was found that of the **232 indicators**, data for **110 indicators** (47.4%) are **not available**.

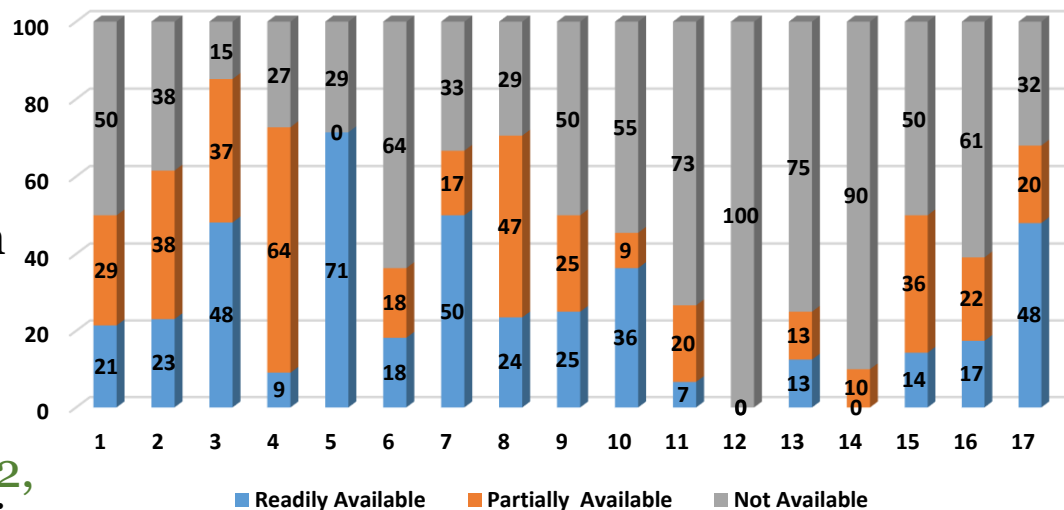
Data availability in Bangladesh across all proposed SDGs indicators



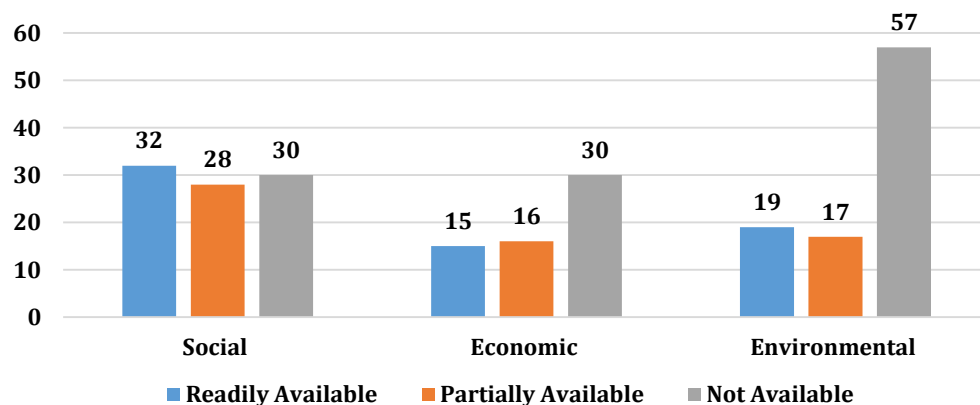
5. Availability and Adequacy of Data to Monitor the SDGs

Data availability by goal areas

- It must be noted that there are recurring **nine indicators** which have been **repeated twice or thrice**.
- Data appears to be **severely limited** for **Goal 1, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16** (based on proportion of **unavailable indicators**).
- Based on proportion of **readily available indicators**, **Goal 3, 5, 7, 17** are in relatively better position
- '**SDG tracker**' has been introduced under Access to Information (a2i) Programme of the Prime Minister's Office



Data availability according to three pillars of SDGs

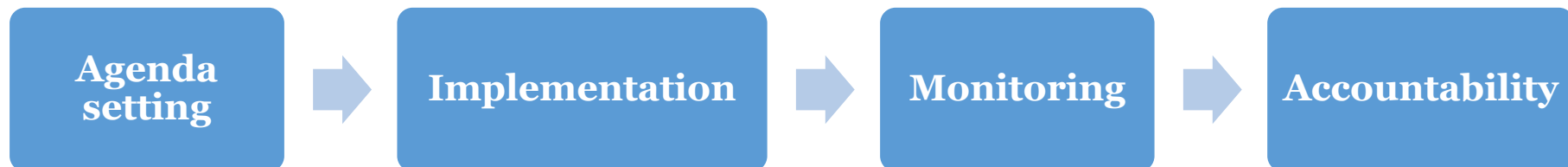


5. Availability and Adequacy of Data to Monitor the SDGs

Key Challenges

- **Accessibility, quality and timeliness of data** will be critical
- Harmonizing **the concepts, definitions, methodologies** following global standards
- Effective use of rapid **technological progress**
- Coordination among **National Statistical Agency** and **private sector** for addressing the **methodological gap**
- Validation of **non-official data**
- Ensuring **finance for data** is a **challenge** given that global support to statistics has declined in recent years
 - Aid for statistics to Bangladesh has been extremely volatile over the last eight years, ranging from just **\$0.5 million** in 2009 to **\$47.8 million** in 2013
- **Independence of statistical office** is important

6. Partnership and Stakeholder Participation Including Institutional Arrangements



- Mode of **participation**
- Instrument for enforcing **accountability**
- Role of **public representatives** (Parliament and local government)



6. Partnership and Stakeholder Participation Including Institutional Arrangements

Involvement of NGOs, CSOs and Think Tanks

▪ Planning process

- Input of all stakeholders in **prioritisation** and **sequencing** of SDGs

▪ Implementation

- Civil society groups can lend a hand in **grant management**
- NGOs work can help in implementing SDGs in the ground

▪ Monitoring and evaluation

- NGOs, CSOs and think tanks can provide **alternative sources of data**
- They can set up **parallel review process** that will ensure **accountability**

6. Partnership and Stakeholder Participation Including Institutional Arrangements

Involvement of Private Sector

- ❑ **Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh** organized a dialogue titled '**Role of Private Sector in SDG Implementation**' at the Chamber on October 2, 2016
- ❑ **GED** organized dialogue on Involving Private Sector with the SDGs implementation mapping
- ❑ **DCCI** also organized a dialogue on Private Sector
- ❑ **UN system** in Bangladesh has organized a dialogue on Private Sector as well

However, an overall **institutional framework** is yet to be defined in the SDG documents

6. Partnership and Stakeholder Participation Including Institutional Arrangements

Follow up and review mechanism

- Follow-up and review processes will be voluntary and will respect policy space and priorities of the countries
- Global review will primarily be based on national official data sources – country reports and thematic reports
- National reviews will be carried out by member states: should be regular and inclusive, and in line with national circumstances, policies and priorities
- National reviews should draw contributions from
 - Marginalized groups (e.g. indigenous people)
 - CSOs
 - Private sector
 - Other stakeholders
- Needs support from the National Parliament and other institutions

6. Partnership and Stakeholder Participation Including Institutional Arrangements

Initiatives taken by NGO Affairs Bureau in collaboration with Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh

❑ The conference titled “**Role of NGOs in Implementation of SDGs in Bangladesh**” was held on 18 May, 2017. Some of the key messages were:

❑ **Effective partnerships** between **GO and NGO**, built on trust, mutual respect and support will help achieve the SDGs in Bangladesh

❑ There should be a set of comprehensive guidelines for such collaborations to work in **implementing and monitoring** the Goals and ensure accountability for their activities at the same time.

❑ **GO-NGO partnership** will also help reach out to vulnerable groups and serve as a platform for sharing resources and knowledge

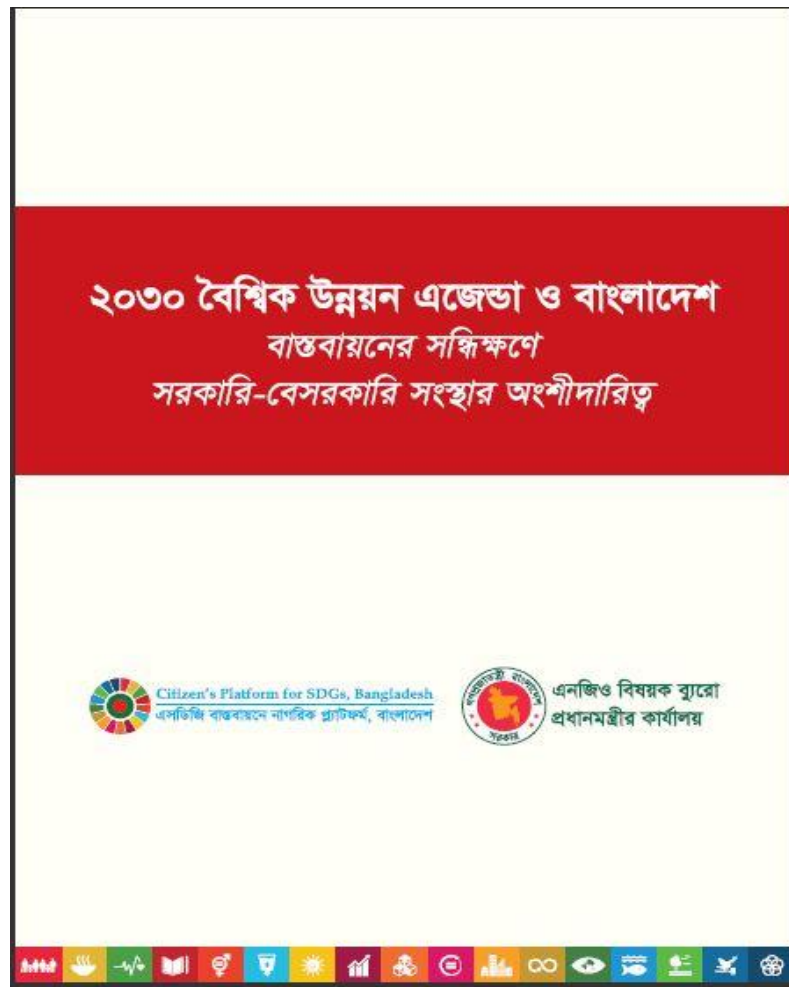


6. Partnership and Stakeholder Participation Including Institutional Arrangements

Initiatives taken by NGO Affairs Bureau in collaboration with Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh (contd.)

❑ Based on the proceedings of the conference regarding “**Role of NGOs in Implementation of SDGs in Bangladesh**”, the book titled “২০৩০ বৈশ্বিক উন্নয়ন এজেন্ডা ও বাংলাদেশঃ বাস্তবায়নের সক্ষিক্ষণে সরকারি-বেসরকারি সংস্থার অংশীদারিত্ব” was published.

❑ The goal of the publication was to reach a greater audience and familiarize them with the ongoing discourse as regards the **scopes** and **challenges** of **GO-NGO** collaboration.



6. Partnership and Stakeholder Participation Including Institutional Arrangements

Initiatives taken by NGO Affairs Bureau in collaboration with Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh (contd.)

- ❑ A dialogue on “এসডিজি বাস্তবায়নে এনজিওদের কর্মপরিকল্পনা গ্রহণ এবং এলডিসি গ্র্যাজুয়েশন” was held on 10 March 2018.
- ❑ The issues of developing **institutional and policy framework** to facilitate GO-NGO collaboration and creating a **SDGs Trust Fund** through **government finance** was discussed



6. Partnership and Stakeholder Participation Including Institutional Arrangements

Latest developments

- NGOAB is coordinating the efforts
- Formulation of “SDGs NGO Sub-Committee”
- Piloting of NGO Action Plan
- NGO SIR reports will be prepared

6. Partnership and Stakeholder Participation Including Institutional Arrangements

Being inspired by the commitment to ‘**Leave NO one Behind**’, The Citizen’s Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh has organized a day-long **symposium** titled “**Citizen’s Conference on SDGs in Bangladesh**” on 6 December, 2017.

- The main objectives of the conference are to create **mass awareness** about the SDGs in Bangladesh, develop more **clarity** and **cohesion** among the **NGOs** in its **implementation process** and explore further opportunities for **GO – NGO** partnership in the country.

The *Citizen’s Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh* also organized a day-long Conference titled **Youth Conference 2018: Bangladesh and Agenda 2030 – Aspirations of the Youth** on 14 October 2018 in Dhaka.



7. Conclusion

Bangladesh has been one of the front-runners in institutionalising SDG implementation

More success in the “upstream”, but lack of progress in the “downstream”

More attention required

- Policy alignment: No clear direction how the ‘not-aligned’ targets (e.g. ‘Quality Education’)
- Institutional framework: Localisation (**Will it be possible without overcoming the structural bottlenecks?**)
- Financing: Lack of concrete steps (e.g. tax reforms, debt-burden, foreign aid policy)
- Data: Limited or no progress in generating new data including from administrative sources, recognising unofficial data or harnessing more disaggregated data
- Partnership: discrete attempts have been made but no institutional mechanism

7. Conclusion

Other issues where more attention is required

- LNOB: importance given to LNOB concept but identification and issues of mitigating vulnerabilities remain weak
- Trade-off and synergies not adequately conceptualised and put into policy priorities
- Opportunities of collaboration at sub-regional level not adequately explored
- Systemic concerns: Trade war, Deteriorating global and regional circumstances, National transition

Often, *BAU* actions are put under ‘SDG bracket’ rather than transforming *BAU* for delivery of SDG aspirations

‘Theories’ need to be translated into ‘practice’



THANK YOU

Please visit:

<http://cpd.org.bd/>

www.bdplatform4sdgs.net

<http://southernvoice.org/>