



Enhancing the Participation of Community-based Organizations (CBOs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Democratic Governance in Bangladesh



Let the Grassroots Speak

Localizing SDGs for Inclusive Development

Localisation of SDGs in Bangladesh

Reflections from A Set of Lagging Regions

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- ❑ Efficacious way of implementing SDGs, is to contextualise these goals in local perspective
- ❑ The ‘localisation’ concept emerged from experience of MDGs which followed a top-down approach and failed to capture the notion of inclusive development
- ❑ For ensuring inclusive participation, SDGs need to be localised to achieve the agenda’s goal to “endeavour to reach the furthest behind first”
- ❑ The ownership of implementation of SDGs is not only on central government but also lies on the sub-national and local authority
- ❑ Thus, empowering local governments and providing them with required resources are very important to mitigate SDG challenges
- ❑ Also, partnership among local stakeholders and effective monitoring and evaluation process is something to be emphasised on

According to the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, UNDP and UN Habitat

- ❑ *Localization is the process of taking into account subnational contexts in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, from setting the Goals and targets to determining the means of implementation and using indicators to measure and monitor progress.*
- ❑ *Localization relates both to:*
 - *how local and regional governments can support the achievement of the SDGs at national level by means of action carried out from the bottom-up*
 - *how the SDGs can provide a framework for local development policy*

Awareness raising

- getting to know the SDGs at subnational level

- It is critical raise awareness about the importance of the SDGs and their relevance to local communities
- It is also important that the local governments and authorities are aware of the global and national development strategies and link them with local priorities
- But awareness-raising is not only about letting citizens know about the existence of the SDGs. It is also about empowering them to participate in the achievement of the SDGs in their daily lives

Advocacy

- including a subnational perspective in national SDG strategies

- ❑ Promoting local ownership of national strategies is vital
- ❑ It is critical to ensure that the process is bottom-up, and that local needs, priorities and expectations frame national strategies
- ❑ Elements of an enabling environment –
 - A legal and political framework
 - Recognition of the need to make financial transfers
 - Capacity building
 - Measures to monitor and assess the performance
 - A national strategy to adopt localization

Implementation

- *the SDGs go local!*

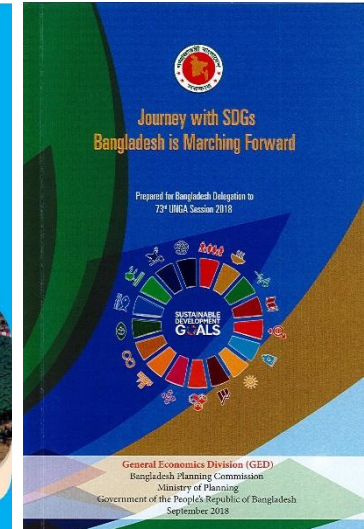
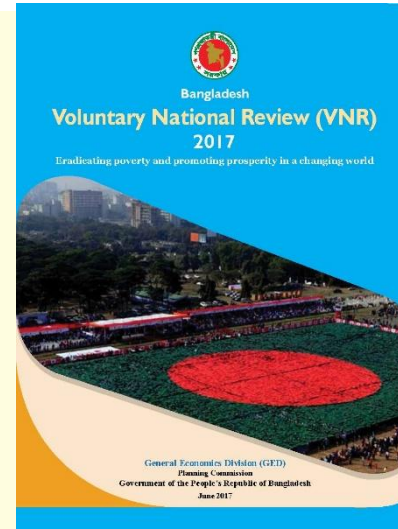
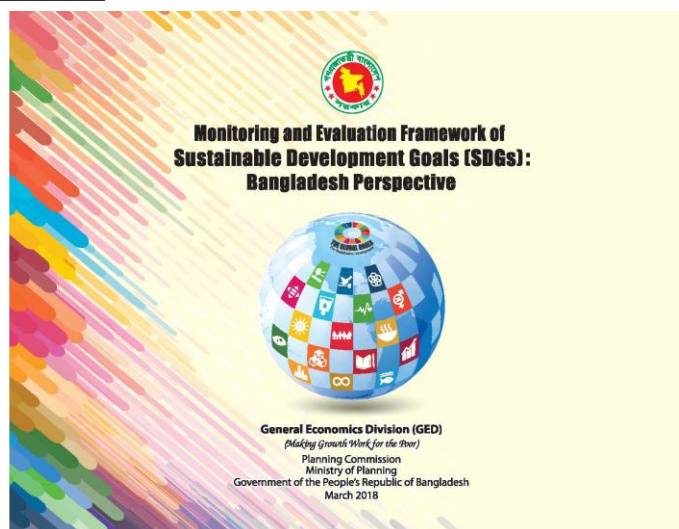
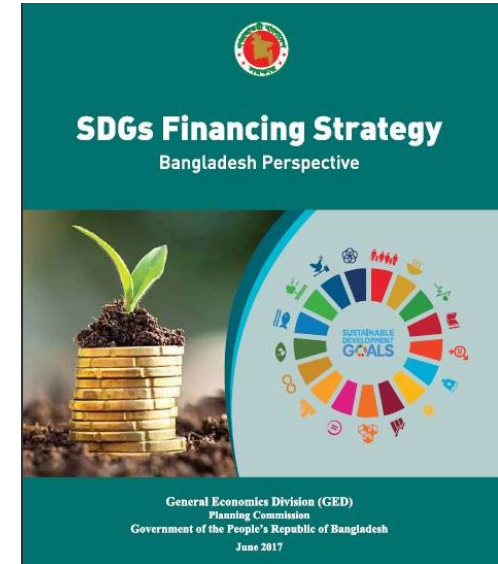
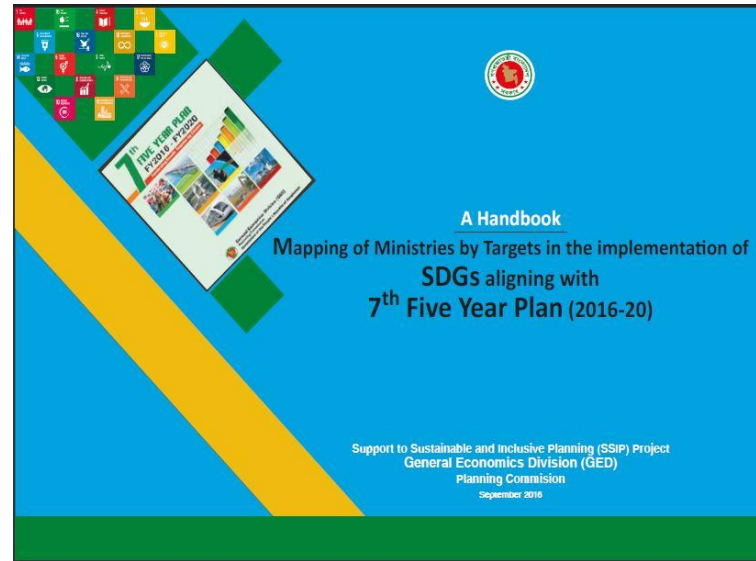
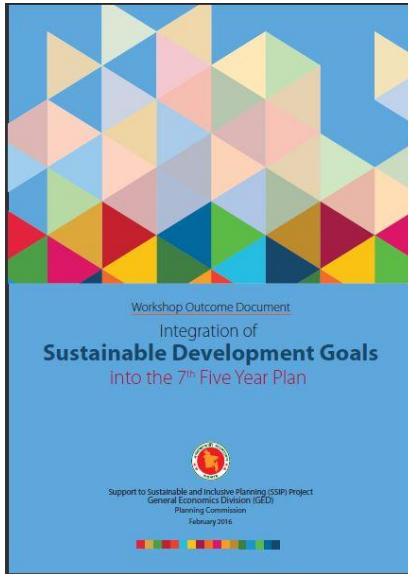
- Conduct a needs assessment to define priorities and localize the SDGs
- Engage in cooperative governance to establish shared priorities
- Mobilize local resources
- Build capacities for effective and responsive leadership
- Promote ownership and coresponsibility for the implementation of strategic projects
- Participate in development cooperation and peer-to-peer learning

Monitoring

- *evaluating and learning from our experiences*

- Develop a set of localized indicators
- Ensure that the information gathered by the local and regional governments is used in national monitoring and reporting
- Enable the participation of local governments and stakeholders in the review of national plans
- Ensure that local achievements are recognised and part of the national SDG progress reports

Bangladesh government initiatives so far



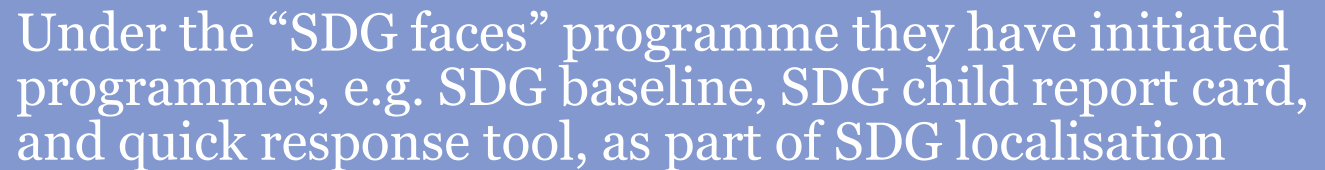
Philippines



Established a platform on SDG localisation in 2015 with national government agencies.



The experiences from MDGs has helped to support localisation of SDGs in over 34 cities since 2015.



Under the “SDG faces” programme they have initiated programmes, e.g. SDG baseline, SDG child report card, and quick response tool, as part of SDG localisation

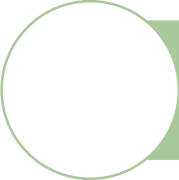
Indonesia



Most of the development programs are implemented at the ground level comprising 416 autonomous districts and 98 municipalities.



The provincial governments coordinate the efforts of district or municipal governments.



A national SDG secretariat has been formed to support the functions of the national SDG coordination team that is guided by steering committee for SDGs



The secretariat will soon prepare national SDG action plan and depending on that document provinces will prepare their own provincial action plan



UNDP has initiated a SDG centre in collaboration with different institution. They are planning to operationalise SDGs in five local governments in Lampung province

China

Though China has properly aligned SDGs in its 13th Five-Year Plan, they have a lot more to do with awareness raising regarding localising SDGs.

There are trade-offs between the country's development challenges that will be difficult to achieve sustainable development.

To address the challenges, China's state council has issued its "Development Plan of China's Innovation Demonstration Zones for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

Under this plan they plan to build SDG pilot zones. The Plan also gave importance on producing replicable and promotable examples.

Many cities have welcomed this idea and initially in 2018, the state council has selected three cities (i.e. Guilin city, Shenzhen city and Taiyuan city) as SDG pilot zones.

India

India is localising SDGs at both state and local level. In states, SDGs are aligned with their own vision documents (i.e. Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, and Odisha).

Local governments have been given the ownership to address issues relevant to their states.

States like Assam and Odisha has developed SDG cell as own approach towards addressing SDGs.

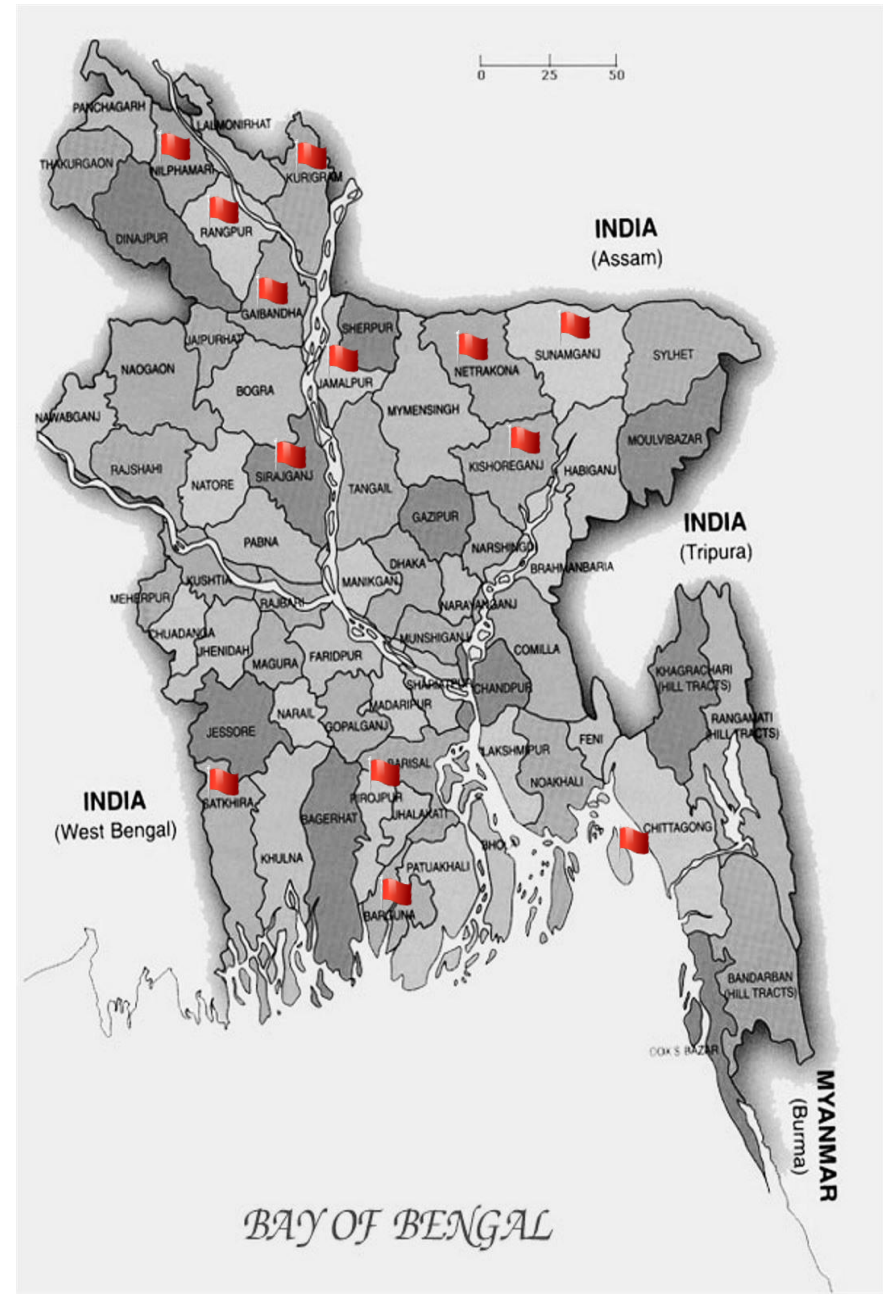
In addition to that, at local level there are Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) under Ministry of Panchayati Raj, which is the nodal Ministry for capacity building these institutions.

PRIs are local authorities and have a central role in ensuring “no one is left behind”. Collectively they are expected to receive USD 30 Billion for development purpose which is also critical for SDG implementation.

□ The workshops were conducted across 13 districts

- *Nilphamari*
- *Gaibandha*
- *Ranpur*
- *Barguna*
- *Jamalpur*
- *Kurigram*
- *Pirojpur*
- *Satkhira*
- *Netrakona*
- *Chottogram (Sandwip)*
- *Kishoreganj*
- *Sunamganj*
- *Sirajganj*

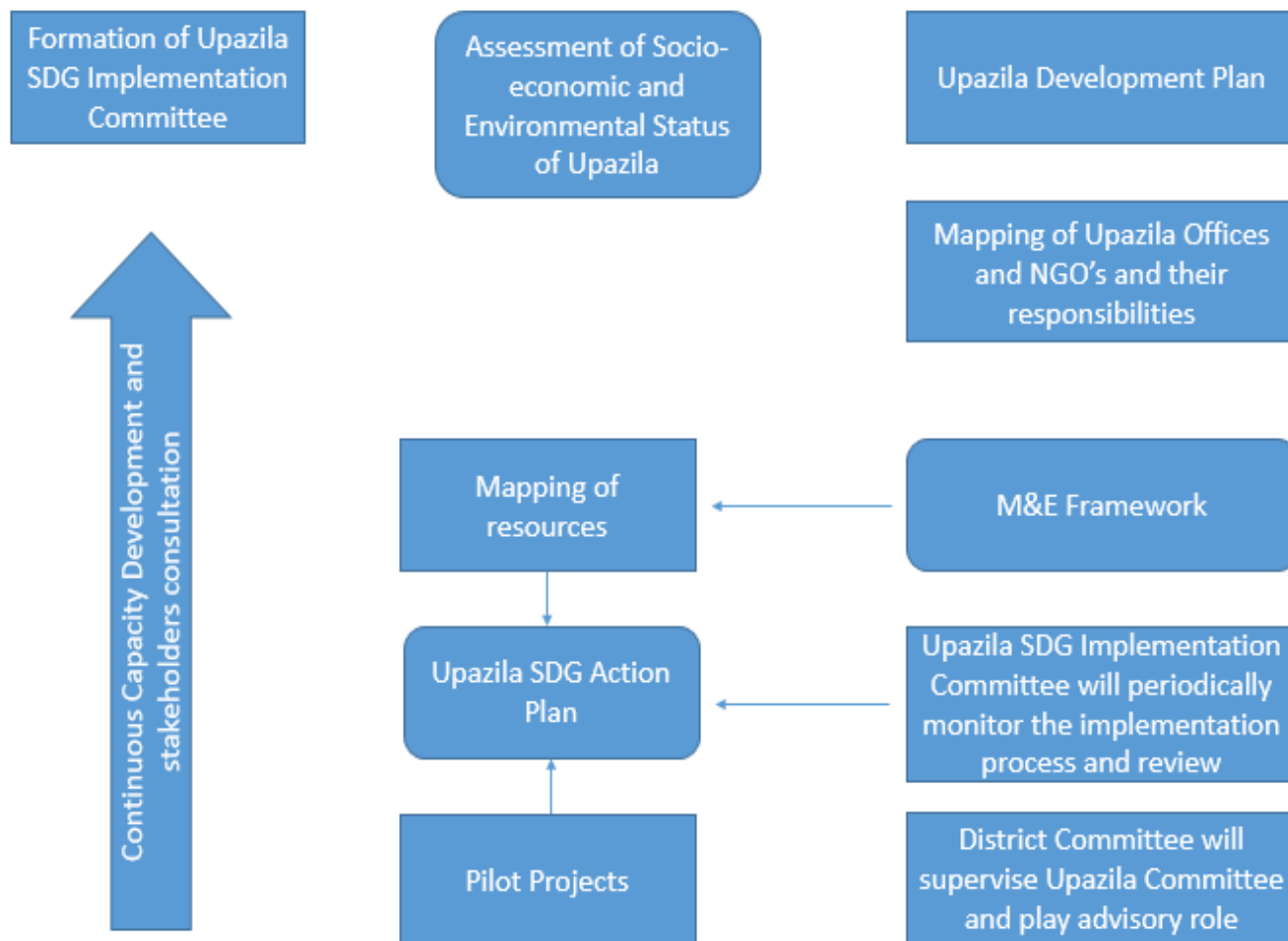
□ A total of around 500 participants attended the workshops – about 65% being representatives of LAs and LGs



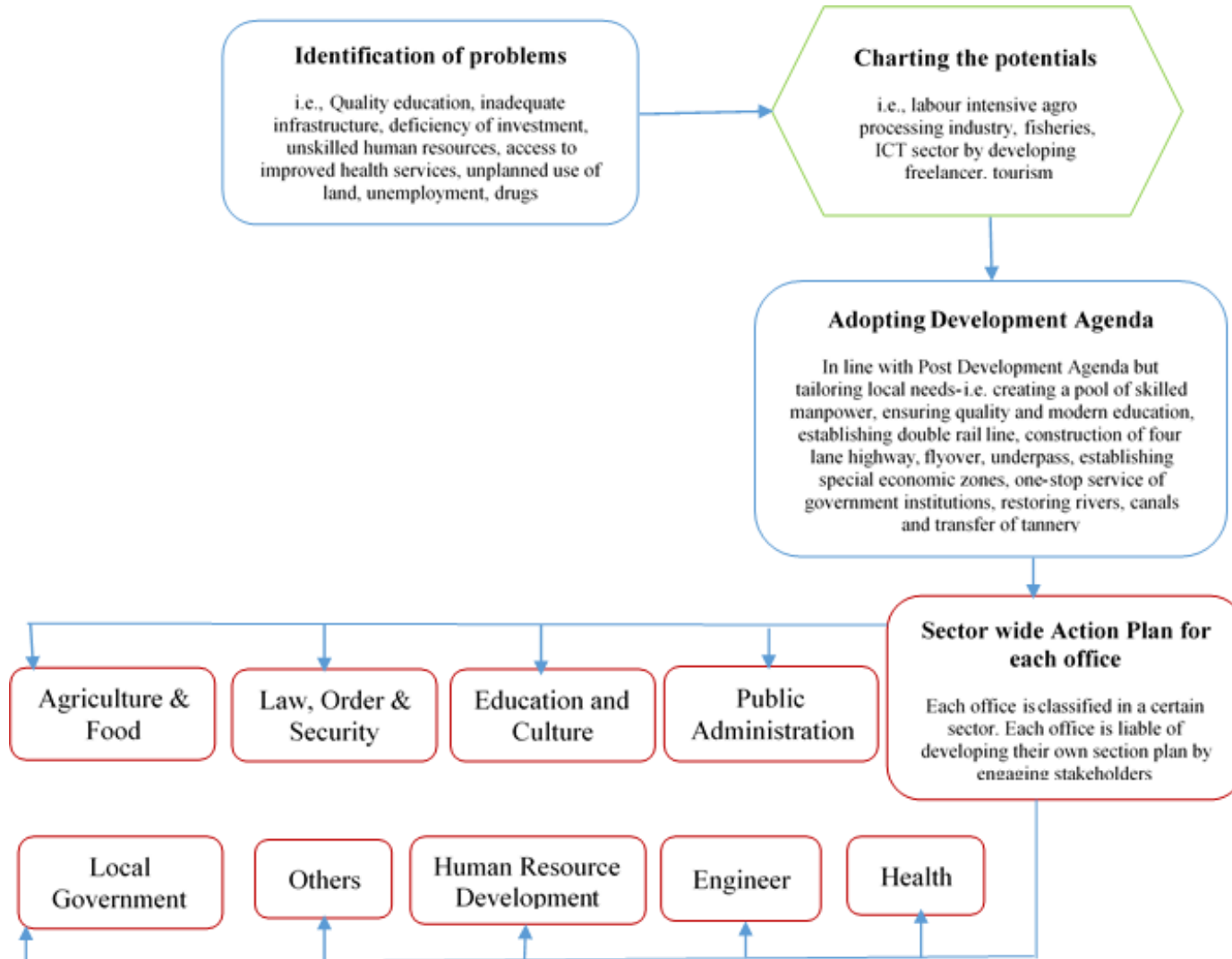
Workshops with Local Authorities

- ❑ Each workshop was divided into three sessions
 - An introductory session briefing the objectives of the project and the importance of the workshop in achieving SDGs at the local level
 - Followed by lectures dedicated to the SDG-linked policies and programmes in Bangladesh
 - In the final session, participants engaged in a lively discussion on SDG localisation
- ❑ The post-presentation discussion was guided by the ‘SDG localisation framework’, being development by the government
- ❑ The participants were encouraged to formulate a SDG localisation framework for their own zilla/upazillas following the ‘Natore SDG Localisation Framework’ model in four steps:
 - Problem identification (priorities)
 - Potentials
 - Adoption of development agenda/action plan
 - Distribution of responsibilities among govt. departments and NGOs

Proposed SDGs localisation framework in Bangladesh



SDG Localisation Framework – Natore Mode



Summary of Findings - *Char*

SDG Localisation Framework – Nilphamari (9 October)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
1. River erosion	1. Tourism	1. Setting up dairy processing industry	Rural and Cooperatives + Livestock (supply) + Youth Development (training) + Milk Vita
2. Child marriage	2. Trade potential with the neighboring country		
3. Lack of employment skills	3. Fish farming in Teesta canel		
4. Repair and renovation of roads (e.g. Dimla)	4. Fish farming in paddy field	2. Construction of the embankment	
5. Fire related accidents	5. Potential of fruit farming (e.g. Dragon, Malta)	3. Repair and renovation of roads at local level	LGED upazilla office
		4. Creating a database at the school level to prevent child marriage	Education + Women and Child affairs Monitoring (Pollishree)

Summary of Findings - Char

SDG Localisation Framework – Gaibandha (10 October)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
1. Desertification	1. Agro-processing industry	1. Increase the duration of the lease term	Fisheries + Deputy Commissioner's Office
2. River erosion due to flood		2. Repair and construction of the embankment	Water Development Board + Disaster Management
3. Absence of dairy processing and marketing facilities	2. Fish farming in an innovative way (e.g. Cage farming)	3. Repair and construction of roads	Disaster Management (Demand submission for more allocation) + Upazilla Chairman (Ensuring the proper use of resources) + SKS (Monitoring- Ground meeting)
4. Child marriage (Pasture)		[40+40 days employment generation programme for the poor, Food for Work, Money for Work, TR]	
5. Communication infrastructure	3. Tourism	4. Prevention of child marriage	Deputy Commissioner's Office + UNO + Upazilla Chairman +
6. Education infrastructure		[Include "whether child marriage has been done in the last one year?" as a criteria for beneficiary selection]	Primay and Mass Education + Women and Child affairs + SKS + Media
7. Youth unemployment		[Affidavit of age will not be acceptable at the time of marriage]	
		[Promotion of messages from the radio] The message will be sent from Deputy Commissioner's Office through Deputy Director (local government)	
		[CBOs' will collect data of class five students]	
		5. Establishment of secondary schools in the pasture (Char)	Education + SKS (Will prioritise activities related to the construction of secondary schools during the selection of their next project/activities)
		['Char' Development Boat]	

Summary of Findings - *Char*

SDG Localisation Framework – Rangpur (11 October)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quality education 2. Absence of dairy and meat processing facilities 3. Employment 4. Storage and marketing of crops 5. Marketing of livestock 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agro-based industry 2. Climate and soil (for agriculture) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Linking the peasants with markets through uniting them in cooperative way. [Cooperative association, Cooperative market] [Making an arrangement to provide agriculturaleal credit from Cooperatives Bank. The second round credit can be made available, but in this case, if someone takes 70% credit in the first round, he/she will be eligible for 30% credit in the second round] 2. Take initiatives for establising dairy and meat processing facilities. [Upazilla Cooperatives will prioritise this issues during the selection of their next project] [Youth Development office will train the youths of dary farms] [Upazilla Women Affairs office will provide value addition training] 	<p>Cooperatives + DAM + DAE + Youth Development + Banking Institutions</p> <p>RDRS (Will play a role in uniting farmers as well as in monitoring the whole process)</p> <p>Upazilla livestock office + Youth Development + Cooperatives + Women Affairs</p> <p>RDRS (Will play a role in monitoring and following-up the whole process)</p>

Summary of Findings - *Char*

SDG Localisation Framework – Jamalpur (24 October)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. River erosion (e.g. Jamuna) 2. Absence of agro-processing and marketing facilities 3. Child marriage and adolescent pregnancy 4. Maternal and infant mortality (Lack of availability, accessibility and affordability of health services) 5. Inadequate communication infrastructure 6. Lack of education infrastructure including teachers 7. Absence of earning opportunities of young women 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Handicraft (Nakshi Kantha) 2. Tourism 3. Agriculture (Jute and jute products, Jackfruit seeds, water tolerant varieties) 4. Protein export (eggs, milk, meat) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. River training and construction of embankment 2. Construction of flood shelter, plinth raise, construction of ‘Mujib Kella’ 	<p>Water Development Board (DC to follow-up) Disaster Management + NGO (US)</p>	
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment of cold storages 	Private sector	
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Providing information on the price of agricultural products and training according to local need 	Upazilla Chairman + DAE + DAM (information on changing demand) + Livestock + Youth Development + Cooperatives + NGO (US)	
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Providing handicraft value-chain and marketing training to women 	Women Affairs + Youth Development + NGO (US)
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cancellation of registration of Kazi’s to prevent child marriage 	DC + Upazilla Chairman
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of delivery hub and demand to use institutional delivery services (including development of skilled midwife) 2. River ambulance 	Upazilla Chairman + Family Planning (medicine, service delivery and technical support)
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. River schools 	NGO (US) + Education

Summary of Findings - *Char*

SDG Localisation Framework – Kurigram (25 October)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. River erosion and associated forced migration (e.g. Brahmaputra) 2. Inadequate marketing facilities of dairy products 3. Inadequate communication infrastructure 4. Inadequate sanitation 5. Lack of access to quality education including adequate teachers (e.g. Lack of awareness among parents due to lack of communication between parents and teachers, non-functional SMCs) 6. Child marriage and adolescent pregnancy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fertility of land 2. Tourism 3. Direct communication link with the capital city 4. Port 5. Fish farming in cages 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction of embankment (Planned and sustainable) 2. Prevention of river bank erosion in the short-term using local knowledge and methods 3. Repair, construction and maintenance of roads (use of safety-net programmes) <p>[40+40 days employment generation programme for the poor, Food for Work, Money for Work, TR]</p>	<p>Water Development Board (UNO to follow-up)</p> <p>Disaster Management + NGO (GUK)</p> <p>Disaster Management (Demand submission for more allocation) + Upazilla Chairman (Ensuring the proper use of resources) + GUK (Monitoring- Ground meeting)</p>

Summary of Findings - *Char*

SDG Localisation Framework – Sirajganj (3 December)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. River erosion and associated forced migration (housing for displaced people) 2. Employment and promoting entrepreneurship 3. Quality education and skills considering employability 4. Inadequate marketing facilities of agricultural products including dairy products 5. Inadequate communication infrastructure at the local level 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Livestock farming 2. Bio-gas 3. Handloom industry 4. Blanket industry 5. Fisheries 6. Use of solar power 7. Mustard oil and honey 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employ local applicants to fill void in educational institutes at primary level from the <i>National Service Programme</i> as an immediate solution 2. Bring reform in teacher recruitment to employ local inhabitants for primary teacher positions 	<p>Primary Education (UNO to follow-up)</p>
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Mobilise producers and entrepreneurs, provide training and facilitate credit 	<p>Youth Development and Cooperative</p>
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Create a Cooperative market for agriculture and handloom industry 	<p>Cooperative</p>
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Award <i>khas</i> land to marginalized farmers through cooperative 	<p>UNO, AC Land and Cooperative</p>

Summary of Findings - *Coastal*

SDG Localisation Framework – Barguna (15 October)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
1. River erosion and river filling	1. Water resources;	1. Increasing the use of modern technologies in agriculture	DAE
2. Access to electricity	Marine resources	[Innovative irrigation system]	
3. Communication infrastrucutre	2. Agriculture (Crops, i.e. export of ‘mug dal’,	[Saline tolerant seed popularization]	
4. Lack of capacities in coping with disasters	livestock)	2. Construction of embankment (Planned and sustainable)	Water Development Board
5. Inadequate budget allocation	3. Tourism	3. Fish production	Fisheries + Youth
6. Inadequate number of teachers		[Local action plan/integrated project]	Development + Cooperatives
7. Inadequate number of doctors		[Development of entrepreneurs through training and exposure visits]	
8. Lack of local employment opportunities			
9. Inadequate fish production (due to lack of entrepreneurs)			
10. Shortage of manpower in government offices			

Summary of Findings - Coastal

SDG Localisation Framework – Pirojpur (31 October)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
1. Salinity and inadequate access to safe drinking water 2. Lack of disaster management related awareness 3. Limitations (absence of cold storage) with regard to guava processing 4. Lack of implementation of tenders 5. Sanitation for disadvantaged children and old people 6. Child marriage 7. Limited employment opportunities for women and youth	1. Jelly and jam from guava (Swaroopkathi)	1. Ensuring access to safe drinking water (with particular focus on disadvantaged children and old people)	DC
	2. Cottage industry (Swaroopkathi)	1. Construction of cyclone centre, embankments	DC + Disaster Management + WDB + NGO (DDJ)
	3. Production of sports equipment (toys, cricket bats)	2. Training on disaster management	
		3. Providing assistance to the fishermen	
		1. Guava storing and processing	DAE + DAM + Private sector
		1. Cultivation of saline tolerant rice	DAE + DDJ (Popularize the product among the farmers)
	4. Agriculture (e.g. Floating vegetable cultivation)	1. Abolition of child marriage through campaign (e.g. cycle rally)	DDJ (Provide cycle)
	1. Creation of self-employment and other employment generation opportunities through training	Women Affairs (3 years course on sewing) + Youth Development + Cooperatives (Finance and credit) + DDJ (Vocational training and entrepreneurship development)	
	[Enhancing ward/union based sewing and stitching training for women]		
	[Providing training and credit for youth on agriculture and fisheries]		
	[Training on languages for overseas employment]		

Summary of Findings - *Coastal*

SDG Localisation Framework – Satkhira (1 November)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salinity and inadequate access to safe drinking water 2. Lack of educational infrastructure for disadvantaged and marginalised students (lack of teachers for disabled children) 3. Child labour (working in brick kilns) and school drop-out 4. Limited employment opportunities for women and youth 5. Energy crisis 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tourism 2. Crab production and hatchery 3. Can be a ‘Greening Model’ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of self-employment and other employment generation opportunities through training [Enhancing sewing and stitching training for women] [Providing training and credit for youth on agriculture, fisheries and crab farming] 2. Ensuring the delivery of different safety-net allowances including reduction of overlapping 3. Eliminating child labour through raising awareness of parents and motivating them 	<p>Women Affairs + Youth Development + Cooperatives + NGO (Sushilan)</p> <p>Social Welfare + Disaster Management + NGO (DDJ)</p> <p>Education (Parent motivation meeting) + CSO (yard meeting, multi-grade education system) + Social Welfare (targeting beneficiaries who are poor and whose children are working in the brick kilns) ²⁷</p>

Summary of Findings - *Coastal*

SDG Localisation Framework – Sandwip (26 November)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
1. Lack of connectivity within region	1. Tourism 2. Small industries 3. Agriculture	1. Repair and renovation of roads at local level	LGED upazilla office
2. Lack of climate resilient agricultural system		2. Setting up a cold storage	LGED upazilla office+Local producers of agricultural products
3. Lack of efficient marketing system		3. Setting up a cooperative society	Upazilla Cooperative Officer+Producers of agricultural products
4. Use of cultivable land			

Summary of Findings - *Haor*

SDG Localisation Framework – Netrakona (13 November)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities
1. Lack of educational infrastructure for disadvantaged and marginalised students	1. Tourism	1. Providing boats to help disadvantaged children to reach to schools	Development Partners
2. Child labour (working in crop field during season) and school drop-out	2. Fisheries and crops	2. Elimination of child labour through policy measure and safety-net interventions in primary and secondary education [Shifting the summer vacation in the crop harvesting season to reduce drop-out rates] [Introducing mid-day meal] [Increasing the safety-net allowance of children in haors]	Primary and Mass Education + Education + Disaster Management
3. Inadequate communication infrastructure	3. Untapped potentials of women and youth population	3. Increasing the rate of institutional delivery [Raising awareness among women regarding institutional delivery] [Providing gender sensitive training to health service providers]	Family Planning + Women Affairs + Youth and Development + NGO (BNPS)
4. Lack of crop protection dams during floods		4. Empowering women through providing them demand driven training [Training on sewing] [Training on dairy farming and floating vegetable cultivation]	Women Affairs + Youth and Development + Agriculture + NGO (BNPS)
5. Low rate of institutional delivery		5. Empowering youth through providing training and financial support [ICT training for youth in mobile vehicles] [Financial assistance/support for skilled youth]	Youth and Development + ICT + Media [to campaign on youth training]
6. Limited opportunities for decent employment particularly for women and youth			
7. Lack of skilled human resources in majority of govt. service delivery institutions			
8. Arsenic problem in water in few unions			

Summary of Findings - *Haor*

SDG Localisation Framework – Kishoreganj (26 November)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inadequate communication infrastructure 2. Lack of crop protection dams during floods 3. Inadequate number of teachers in educational institutions 4. Haor land management 5. Limited access of fishermen community in water bodies 6. Seasonal unemployment 7. Lack of access to educational institutions during monsoon period 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Renewable energy from biogas 2. Duck rearing 3. Cheese production 4. Tourism 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construct, repair and renovation of roads at local level 2. Introduce alternative cropping/floating vegetables 	DC office + LGED	
				DAE
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Employment generation and energy production using livestock and poultry resources [Biogas plant using poultry and dairy wastes] [Corn production and processing] [Plantation of fruit trees in homestead to address the nutritional aspect of children] [Training on duck rearing on a large scale] 	LG + DPHE + Livestock + DAE + Youth and Development
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Enhancing coordination between department of land and fisheries to reduce disputes related to access to water bodies 	DC office + Land + Fisheries + NGO (POPI)
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Empowering women and youth through providing them demand driven training [Training on sewing] [Training on dairy farming and floating vegetable cultivation] [Life skill training] 	Women Affairs + Youth and Development + Agriculture + NGO (POPI)

Summary of Findings - *Haor*

SDG Localisation Framework – Sunamganj (27 November)

Problem Identification	Potentials	Adoption of Development Agenda	Distribution of responsibilities	
<p>1. Education (drop-out of children due to poor access to schools in remote areas, inadequate number of qualified teachers, teacher absenteeism, lack of awareness at guardian level)</p> <p>2. Lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation (poor sanitation in schools)</p> <p>3. Low level of institutional delivery</p> <p>4. Adverse effect on climate change on agriculture</p> <p>5. Exclusion of fishermen from water bodies</p>	<p>1. Tourism</p> <p>2. Handicraft</p> <p>3. Folk song</p> <p>4. Sand and stone mining</p>	<p>1. Invest in schools and early childhood development to create skilled human resources</p> <p>[Need based education materials to all govt. primary schools]</p> <p>[Plantation of fruit trees and vegetable gardening at home for addressing the nutritional aspects of children]</p> <p>[Equality in recruitment of teachers in primary schools to avoid any gender bias and imbalance]</p> <p>[Building residential facilities for teachers and students in haor areas]</p> <p>[Raising awareness of guardians on quality education]</p>	<p>DC office + Primary and Mass Education + Secondary Education + NGO (SWF)</p>	
		<p>2. Address the sanitation problem</p> <p>[Community based public toilets]</p> <p>[Adolescent corner in schools for girls]</p>	<p>DC office + DPHE+ Secondary Education + NGO (SWF)</p>	
		<p>3. Increasing the rate of institutional delivery</p> <p>[Essential materials and equipment in community clinics]</p> <p>[Provide trainings to mid-wives]</p> <p>[Providing gender sensitive training to health service providers]</p>	<p>LG + Family Planning + DPHE + Youth and Development</p>	

Concluding Remarks

- ❑ There is a ‘common but differentiated’ set of priorities identified
 - They vary according to existing socio-economic context, geographic and climatic nature, cultural diversity as well as the level of political will
- ❑ An overwhelming focus was on decent employment –
 - Using the potential of the region
 - Fair prices of production
 - Connecting with value chain
 - Quality education and skills
- ❑ Communication infrastructure is a common priority
- ❑ Social issues including gender equality, health and, water and sanitation were also highlighted

- ❑ Relevant government officials committed that they will prioritise and try to include their set development agenda in their future action plans, activities and budgetary plans
- ❑ NGOs, media and other stakeholders committed to work closely with government to follow-up the progress in the realisation of SDGs at the local level
- ❑ LA representatives highlighted the need for enhancing coordination among different departments and offices towards
 - better utilisation of limited resources
 - knowledge sharing and partnership among LAs as well as with NGOs and CSOs
 - avoidance of duplication of programmes and
 - Speeding up the pace of implementing SDG-related programmes and projects at the local level

Concluding Remarks

- ❑ The lagging regions find it difficult to break vicious structural cycle of underdevelopment
- ❑ National solutions often do not work for regions with special needs
 - However, it is possible to bring more positive outputs with more coordinated efforts and political will
- ❑ Resources are limited – often solutions can be delivered only by the central government
- ❑ It is critical to have a (permanant) Local Government Financing Commission
- ❑ A specialized plan and fund for *Lagging Regions* will need to be considered
- ❑ Without a strong decentralized local governance system, successful localization of SDGs in Bangladesh will be difficult

THANK YOU