

Securing Green Transition of the

TEXTILE & READYMADE GARMENTS
SECTOR IN BANGLADESH

THE PROGRAMME

Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) has undertaken a programme titled “Securing Green Transition of the Textile and Readymade Garments Sector in Bangladesh” in collaboration with the Embassy of Sweden in Bangladesh. With three decades of work experience on several areas including macroeconomic and sectoral issues, climate change, environment, and green growth, CPD is committed to undertake programmes which contribute to a green transition of Bangladesh economy. In connection with Sweden’s strong concern over social and environmental issues and subsequent commitments towards Bangladesh’s RMG sector, Sweden Embassy has teamed up with CPD for this programme.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES



Generate evidence on barriers to and drivers of green transition



Understand firms’ knowledge, interest and capacity in adopting green transition initiatives



Elicit entrepreneurs’ views on cost savings and incentives



Disseminate knowledge and evidence of best green practices



Provide policy recommendations



PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

January 2022-February 2023

CPD has conducted a number of activities across the country to successfully implement the programme. The major activities which took place during the January 2022-February 2023 period are briefly described below:

LAUNCHING EVENT

CPD organised the launching event of the programme on 30 January 2022 in Dhaka. Dr Fahmida Khatun, Executive Director, CPD, moderated the event and presented an overview of the programme. In addition to policymakers and representatives of the textile and readymade garments sector, participants from think tanks and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), development partners, sector experts, and media personnel were present at the event. The event was followed by an intriguing open-floor discussion.



The launching event of the programme was held on 30 January 2022

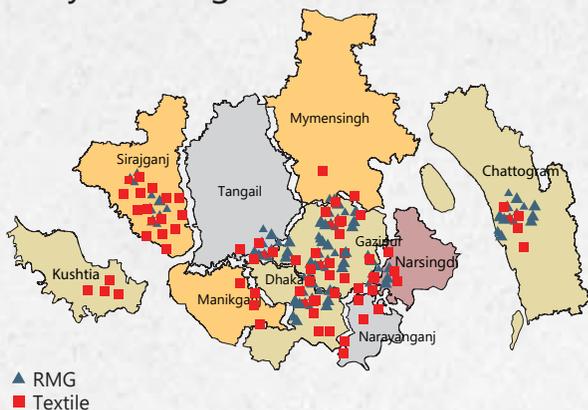
FIRM & WORKER LEVEL SURVEY

CPD carried out a nationally representative survey focusing on the textile and readymade garments sector in Bangladesh. Survey questionnaires were designed to collect information from the firm owners, senior managers, supervisors, and workers.

Consultation on Survey Questionnaire

- Discussion with in-house experts regarding the preliminary survey questionnaire on 30 May 2022
- Consultation with in-house and external experts regarding the modified questionnaire on 4 June 2022
- Meeting on inception report and experience of pilot survey on 21 June 2022

Survey Coverage



FIRMS & RESPONDENTS

403 Textile & RMG Factories



RMG Factories

182



Textile Factories

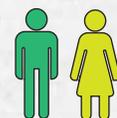
221



RMG Factories

Textile Factories

4,541 Workers & Supervisors



Male Respondents

3312



Female Respondents

1229



FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

As part of the programme activities, seven different FGDs were organised by the study team. These discussions involved stakeholders such as factory owners, senior managers, sustainability managers, environmental officers, factory workers and supervisors, and industry experts.



Participants	Location
Factory Owners and Compliance Managers of export-oriented large RMG Factories	Dhaka
Sustainability Managers and Officers of export-oriented large RMG Factories	Dhaka
Factory Managers, Officers and Executives of export-oriented large RMG Factories	Chattogram
Factory Workers and Supervisors of export-oriented large RMG and Textile Factories	Chattogram
Factory Owners and Operators of local medium size RMG Factories	Narayanganj
Proprietors and Factory Owners of local small and medium size RMG Factories	Narayanganj
Environmental managers and operators of textile processing factories	Narsingdi

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS WITH INDUSTRY INSIDERS

Six key informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted with industry insiders to obtain an in-depth understanding of barriers and challenges towards implementing the green transition at the factory level in Bangladesh.

Participants	Date
Representative of Compliance & Sustainability Team, HAMS Garments Ltd	10 February 2022
Representative of Compliance & Sustainability Team, Cute Dress Limited	13 February 2022
Representative of Compliance & Sustainability Team, Shasha Denims Limited	13 February 2022
Green Building Consultant 360 Total Solution Limited	16 February 2022
Representative of Compliance & Sustainability Team, Hera Sweaters Limited	16 February 2022
Representative of Compliance & Engineering Team, Columbia Washing Plant Ltd	17 February 2022

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEWS WITH BRANDS AND BUYERS

Four KIIs were conducted to understand the motivations behind and initiatives of brands and buyers towards greening at the factory level in Bangladesh.

Participants	Date
Stakeholder Engagement & Public Affairs Team, H&M Group	21 December 2022
Sustainability Team, Bangladesh Liaison Office, Lindex HK Ltd.	21 December 2022
Sustainability & Chemical Management Team, Bangladesh Sourcing Office, Marks & Spencer	22 December 2022
Sustainability Team, Bangladesh Liaison Office, Stanly and Stella S.A.	12 January 2023

FACTORY VISITS

So far, five factories have been visited by the CPD study team to understand the state of ongoing greening initiatives in the textile and RMG sector. The team gained a first-hand knowledge regarding the green initiatives and the practice of environmental compliances in these factories.



WORKSHOPS

Multi-stakeholder Workshop

One multi-stakeholder workshop with the representatives of large factories on 20 February 2023



Discussion on	Participants
How might we create incentives to invest in and implement the green transition among large factories?	11 Large Factory Representatives

Workshops with SMEs

Two exploratory workshops with the representatives of small and medium factories on 22 February 2023



Discussion on	Participants
How might we create incentives to invest in and implement the green transition among SMEs?	17 Small & Medium Factory Representatives



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