



INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF BANGLADESH'S DEVELOPMENT (IRBD)

# PROMOTING INFORMED POLICY CHOICES INFORMED



# THE PROGRAMME

Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development (IRBD), the flagship programme of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), is a comprehensive assessment of the country's economic development agendas, prepared by a group of Bangladeshi experts. Launched in 1995, it is Bangladesh's first civil society initiative to analyse the trends in the economy, linking economic policies to development efforts. IRBD also seeks to provide voice to marginalised stakeholders.

## BIG FOCUS

### **STATE OF THE BANGLADESH ECONOMY**

The State of the Bangladesh Economy report is a periodic assessment that analyses the country's macroeconomic performance. By scrutinising major economic indicators, it identifies emerging challenges that policymakers need to address urgently, and provides recommendations for future actions.

### **NATIONAL BUDGET ANALYSIS**

After the National Budget announcement every year, IRBD releases its analysis immediately. IRBD evaluates the expenditure and allocation decisions of the Government to ensure efficient and transparent utilisation of resources in alignment with national development priorities.

# THE APPROACH



## RESEARCH

Generating new knowledge and providing fresh perspectives on the country's development problems that demand scrutiny



## DIALOGUE

Providing a platform for constructive discussion and informed exchange of views on developmental issues



## OUTREACH

Reaching out to audiences at local, national and global levels through publications, print, electronic and digital media



## IMPACT

Contributing to policymaking through expert consultations, preparing policy briefs, and by providing inputs as members of the government advisory committees



## CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

CPD is engaged in fostering research-related capacity building for a diverse spectrum of stakeholders including researchers, students, journalists, members of CSOs and NGOs, and government officials, thereby facilitating their journey towards acquiring invaluable knowledge and expertise to thrive in their respective fields



# THEMATIC STUDIES

Under IRBD, in-depth studies on important themes are also undertaken. These are selected on the basis of emerging and relevant issues that can potentially shape Bangladesh's economic growth. Some of these include—poverty and inequality, women's empowerment, climate change, environment, power and energy, banking sector, social sector and economic governance.



POVERTY AND INEQUALITY



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT



CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT



POWER AND ENERGY



BANKING SECTOR



SOCIAL SECTOR



ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE



The IRBD team recommended the Interim Government to take immediate actions for mitigating the challenges facing the banking sector.

Immediate response to fuel price hike and monetary policy.

Prepared recommendations for the then new Government.

Began live streaming of the IRBD events on CPD website and YouTube. Started pre-budget dialogue at the subnational level.

Initiated special lecture series for university students on macroeconomic policy analysis

Introduced providing recommendations for upcoming National Budget to the media.

Introduced immediate reaction on the National Budget.

First dialogue on the proposed National Budget.

Continuing policy advocacy and influencing on critical economic issues.

Organised several events addressing Bangladesh's economic crisis.

During COVID-19, IRBD initiated virtual dialogues and offered assessments of the pandemic situation. CPD also provided recommendations for the banking commission and was involved in the formulation of Eighth Five-Year Plan.

Organised dialogues addressing issues that required quick response, such as Rohingya crisis and flood.

Undertook thematic studies on specific issues such as subsidy and banking sector reform.

First Budget Dialogue at district level.

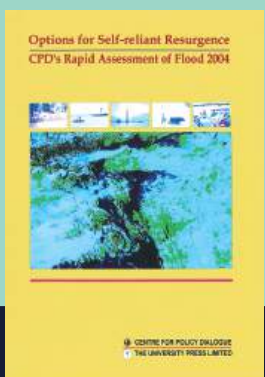
First Live telecast of National Budget analysis on a national TV.

Presented immediate assessments on flood.

Published the first IRBD volume titled 'Experiences with Economic Reform: A Review of Bangladesh's Development 1995'.

## MILESTONES OVER THREE DECADES

## A FEW PUBLICATIONS



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