

DELIVERING ON THE PROMISE



Save the Children



Ensuring the Successful Implementation
of the 2030 Agenda in Bangladesh



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Message from Save the Children

Save the Children is the world's leading independent organization for children with presence in 120 countries and in Bangladesh, have been working since 1970. Through our work, we give children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm. We do whatever it takes for children – every day and in times of crisis – transforming their lives and the future we share.

Notwithstanding the numerous challenges Bangladesh and its children are faced with, it is beyond doubt that significant progress has been made. Indeed, Bangladesh's achievements in Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are remarkable at the least. And many of these achievements will be instrumental in providing the necessary foundation for future progress. These include, but are not limited to, the reduction in headcount poverty and poverty gap ratio, reduced infant and under-five mortality rates, close to 100% enrolment in primary education and gender parity at primary and secondary education. Save the Children is proud to be a part of this development.

However, we also recognize that there are areas of concern that require greater attention, and in some cases the achievements are characterized with exclusion. Hunger-poverty still remains, employment generation needs acceleration, primary school completion rate is still low, quality of education remains a big concern at all levels, presence of skilled health professionals at delivery is yet to be ensured to the desired extent.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide us with the opportunity to build on our MDG success and make further progress in areas where gaps endure. Save the Children remains committed to every last child of the country and will continue to work with the people and the government of Bangladesh in realizing the SDGs for children.

To prepare for the journey ahead, it is important that we take stock of our strengths and weaknesses and realign our policies, plans and priorities while maintaining the spotlight fixed on the SDGs. This study is intended to contribute to that initiative.

I would like to thank the authors who put a great effort in bringing out this important document. Special thanks to Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) for this successful partnership. I also take this opportunity to thank Ms. Hagar Russ, former Director - Policy, Rights and Governance (PRG), Save the Children in Bangladesh for leading the task from our end. We also remain thankful to those who enriched the research work through reviewing and providing valuable feedbacks and the distinguished participants of the Expert Group Meeting for their valuable inputs.

I am sure that this great effort will be beneficial for all stakeholders dealing with the SDGs.



Mark T. Pierce
Country Director
Save the Children

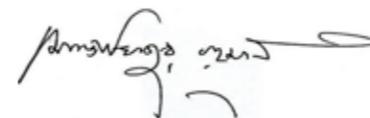
Message from Centre for Policy Dialogue

Now that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been adopted by the global community of nations at the UN Summit held in September 2015, the challenging task of implementing this aspirational and transformative agenda has to begin in all earnest. Whilst these Goals and Targets are universal, these will need to be implemented through concrete initiatives and measures to be undertaken at the country level. For Bangladesh, this would mean aligning national plans and policies with SDGs, mobilising the needed funds, allocating the resources to underwrite the identified activities and monitoring the implementation process towards attaining the SDGs deliverables.

The present publication embodies one of the very first endeavours to examine the state of alignment of Bangladesh's national programmes, policies and plans with actions to be pursued to attain the SDGs, the resource envelope required to finance the envisaged activities, and the monitoring and accountability mechanisms to be put in place in view of this. The report identifies key learnings from the rich track record of MDGs implementation in Bangladesh, draws important lessons from this learning, anticipates the major challenges in implementing the agendas in the Bangladesh context and comes up with a number of concrete policy recommendations to address the attendant tasks.

One recalls that the CPD has been very closely involved in the SDG-related discourse through research and dialogues, and by proactively contributing to the SDGs-related discussions at various national, regional and global fora. The Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals, which by harnessing the collective intellectual prowess of forty-nine leading think tanks in the global South, and of which CPD is serving as the Secretariat, has played an important role in spearheading the endeavours to advance the interests of developing and least developed countries in the context of this discussion. The present volume takes this continuing endeavour one step forward and further. Through this contribution, Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD and Chair of the aforementioned Southern Voice, brings his exceptional knowledge, grasp and understanding in laying the intellectual foundation to the much needed discourse on implementing the SDGs in the Bangladesh context. He, and his co-authors Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan, Research Fellow, CPD and Mr Mostafa Amir Sabbih, Research Associate, CPD present a wealth of data, insights and analyses in this pioneering work which will serve as an important reference material for evidence-based discussion in this respect. I am hopeful that this volume will be found useful by all involved stakeholders including policymakers, development practitioners and non-state actors as also development partners. This, indeed, is a very timely contribution at a time when Bangladesh is gearing up to do the needful to implement the SDGs over the next decade and half.

CPD is very happy that in undertaking this work it has partnered with Save the Children, an organisation whose commitment to the SDGs and whose continuing efforts in advancing the cause of the children are widely known and well-recognised. I would like to take this opportunity to register our deep appreciation of this collaboration which has been a highly rewarding experience for us. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all colleagues from Save the Children for their excellent support and sincere efforts in making our partnership fruitful and successful.



Mustafizur Rahman
Executive Director
Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

Executive summary

At the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2015, member states adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The agenda, which introduced 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets, reflects an ambitious, transformative vision for global development. Unlike the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the SDGs were formulated to be universal. The inclusion of both developing and developed countries merits appreciation, though also implies that SDG targets need to be relevant within very different country contexts. The experience of the MDGs taught us that the achievement of some SDG targets will require comparatively greater efforts in Bangladesh.

The present study discusses the SDG implementation challenges in Bangladesh. It aspires to engage Government of Bangladesh (GoB) officials and other key stakeholders in the country through raising awareness, highlighting key challenges for national-level implementation and prompting action to ensure that they are adequately prepared to implement the SDGs. With a view to identify implementation challenges in Bangladesh, the study analyses available secondary information relating to implementation of the SDGs at the country level. SDG target alignment with the country's Seventh Five Year Plan, sectoral plans and policies is assessed by way of a detailed review of the literature and national- and global-level policy documents. Secondary data on the government budget and financing are then analysed to understand the channelling of funds to SDG areas. Finally, a data mapping exercise, which used the recently adopted list of 230 indicators proposed by the United Nations Statistical Commission, is conducted to discern the data gaps and needs relating to the monitoring of progress on the SDGs in Bangladesh. The perspectives of government officials, civil society experts, think tank members, private sector representatives, and representatives of the national statistical office and development partners inform this exercise.

This study shows that there are several trends that may affect the GoB's ability to achieve the SDGs. There were a number of MDGs left unattained. Further, the progress made in different MDG areas was not uniform for everyone. There are growing gender, group-based and geographical inequalities that alienate large segments of the population. Women and ethnic minorities are particularly vulnerable. Apart from these trends, we identify five major SDG implementation challenges in Bangladesh.

First, national policy alignment with the SDGs is insufficient. An assessment of the alignment between the core or sector-specific targets of the Seventh Five Year Plan and SDG targets shows that there is no alignment with 35 targets (20.7 per cent) of the 169 SDG targets.

Second, resource allocations in both the national budget and official development assistance for different SDG areas are inadequate as per initial global estimates. A national cost estimation to achieve the SDGs has yet to be conducted. The utilisation of resources, particularly the development budget, is also a major concern. There is no geographical reporting for the child-focused budget in particular and the national budget in general, which hampers the tracking of geographical inequalities.

Third, the availability, quality and accessibility of data are inadequate to monitor the SDGs. Of the 209 indicators examined, data for 128 indicators (61.2 per cent) are available (either readily or not readily). Further, available data have quality concerns. Data accessibility also leaves much to be desired. A large proportion of statistics will need to be produced using data from administrative sources and perception surveys, which are not conducted by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

Fourth, institutional architecture has already been established that can deliver the 2030 Agenda over the next 15 years. However, how inter- and intra-ministerial and departmental coordination will take place and which institutions will lead under each SDG are unclear.

Fifth, an ongoing work in progress is the development of a multi-stakeholder partnership that encourages the engagement of all stakeholders, including parliamentarians, regional and local authorities, the private sector, academia and civil society organisations, in addition to governments and development partners. There is further scope for the engagement of stakeholders across the whole process of SDG implementation.

Addressing these challenges will not be easy. Based on the analysis conducted in this study, the following recommendations aim to guide the GoB toward successful SDG implementation in Bangladesh.

Prioritise the unfinished agenda of the MDGs

The GoB should immediately prioritise the unfinished agenda of the MDGs as it facilitates towards identifying country level prioritisation as regards the SDGs and accelerates SDG implementation. In addition, it should not stop its efforts when a SDG target is achieved because some targets could be below national aspirations.

Integrate SDG targets into national and sub-national plans

Implementation relies on the appropriate integration of SDG targets into national and sub-national plans. Such integration may be difficult because a number of national and sectoral development plans already exist. Integration is possible by comparing existing development plans with SDG targets and identifying and mitigating gaps. The GoB should formulate new national or sectoral plans with the SDGs in mind.

Invest more to realise 'core promises' to children

The GoB should put more emphasis on children who are vulnerable and discriminated against. Investing in children should be the GoB's core priority because the country's demographic dividend will be in decline by 2030. The first step should be to better align the SDGs' 'core promises' to children – no child should die from a disease we can prevent, every child should have the food needed to grow normally, every child should be able to read and write and be numerate, and no child should live in fear – with national development plans and policies. Establishing a regular child-focused budget would be a timely, praiseworthy initiative. While the allocation of resources is important, their utilisation must be efficient and reliable to ensure the efficacy of public spending dedicated for children. It is also imperative to have geographical reporting on the child-focused budget to better address geographical inequalities.

Estimate the cost to implement the SDGs at the outset

Resource requirements were not estimated upfront for the MDGs, but rather individually for different goals, which resulted in double counting. Since indicators have been finalised, the GoB should identify the resources required for implementing the SDGs as early as possible. Target-based estimates need to be considered, while synergies among targets and trade-offs should be taken into account. Estimated resource requirements need to be matched with existing resource flows by source. Such matching will lead to more accurate estimates of resource gaps and assist in the identification of alternative financing sources.

Allocate adequate resources and ensure their efficient utilisation

The GoB needs to significantly increase domestic resource mobilisation from its current low level. To this end, curbing illicit financial flows must be a priority. In addition, foreign aid and public expenditure allocation require both qualitative and quantitative improvements. Making strategic use of official development assistance and doubling concessional aid is also crucial, particularly to reduce the cost of financing mega-development projects.

Strengthen the capacities of national statistical offices and build public-private partnerships to address data needs for monitoring the SDGs

The GoB should conduct a data adequacy mapping exercise with the assistance of think tanks, private organisations and experts and consider the use of unofficial data and their validation. Standardisation of relevant concepts and definitions of variables through consultations with major stakeholders is necessary. Data quality should be enhanced

through the use of advanced technologies. The GoB should have a data dissemination plan and update legislation. Coordination among data producers and data users should be strengthened to harness existing capacities in the non-governmental sector. Subsequently, the capacities of national statistical offices and other key institutions responsible for data collections and statistical production will need to be strengthened. To this end, the National Sustainable Development Strategy needs to be revised as appropriate.

Ensure inter- and intra-governmental coordination

SDG implementation necessitates inter- and intra-governmental coordination by the GoB. Integrated actions should therefore be initiated for each goal area. The GoB should establish a mechanism for such coordination that ensures communication among different implementing institutions. The GoB's establishment of an inter-ministerial committee on SDG monitoring and implementation is a very welcome approach. However, coordination between different levels of government is crucial for both monitoring and implementation, hence there should be a clear channel of communication between the GoB and local governments to improve the effectiveness of SDG implementation.

Ensure multi-stakeholder participation and establish a monitoring and review mechanism

The GoB should put in place a mechanism to ensure the proper participation of all stakeholders. Stakeholders can contribute to every step of SDG implementation from agenda setting to ensuring accountability. To ensure transparency and accountability, the GoB should establish a national monitoring and review mechanism, in which every stakeholder should participate.

List of abbreviations and acronyms

7FYP	Seventh Five Year Plan
ADP	Annual Development Programme
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
APSC	Annual Primary School Census
BANBEIS	Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
BDHS	Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey
BEPZA	Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority
BFD	Bangladesh Forest Department
BIP	Biodiversity Indicators Partnership
BNFE	Bureau of Non-Formal Education
BPDB	Bangladesh Power Development Board
BR	Bangladesh Railway
BRTA	Bangladesh Road Transport Authority
BTRC	Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission
CEGIS	Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services
CFB	child-focused budget
CHT	Chittagong Hill Tract
CMNS	Child and Mother Nutrition Survey
CSO	civil society organisation
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DGHS	Directorate General of Health Services
DMIC	Disaster Management Information Centre
DoE	Department of Environment
DoF	Department of Fisheries
DPE	Directorate of Primary Education
EM-DAT	The International Disaster Database
EPB	Export Promotion Bureau
ERD	Economic Relations Division
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFE	Food for Education
FPMU	Food Planning and Monitoring Unit
FY	Fiscal Year
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GED	General Economics Division
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
GPS	Global Positioning System
GNI	Gross National Income
HIES	Household Income and Expenditure Survey

HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IEA	International Energy Agency
ILO	International Labour Organization
ITC	International Trade Centre
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LGD	Local Government Division
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MLO	Ministry of Land
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoC	Ministry of Commerce
MoCAT	Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism
MoDMR	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forest
MoEWOE	Ministry Of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoFL	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
Mol	Ministry of Information
MoL	Ministry of Land
MoLE	Ministry of Labour and Employment
MoLJP	Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
MoP	Ministry of Planning
MoPA	Ministry of Public Administration
MoPME	Ministry of Primary and Mass Education
MoST	Ministry of Science and Technology
MoSW	Ministry of Social Welfare
MoWCA	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
NBR	National Board of Revenue
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NIPORT	National Institute of Population Research and Training
NSDS	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
ODA	Official Development Assistance
ECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PEDP	Primary Education Development Programme
PESP	Primary Education Stipend Program

ROSC	Reaching Out-of-School Children
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SFYP	Sixth Five Year Plan
SID	Statistics and Informatics Division
SMI	Survey of Manufacturing Industries
SVRS	Sample Vital Registration System
TIB	Transparency International Bangladesh
TUS	Time Use Survey
UN	United Nations
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
VAW	Violence Against Women
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WDI	World Development Indicators
WRI	World Resource Index
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

1 Introduction

1.1 Background of the study

At the 70th session of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly on 25 September 2015, 193 member states adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which introduced 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. A powerful message in this agenda is a global commitment to 'leave no one behind'. Member states also committed to implement the universal agenda at the national, regional and global levels. The agenda came into effect on 1 January 2016 and will guide international development over the next 15 years. A global indicator framework comprising 230 indicators was adopted by the UN Statistical Commission in March 2016. There are two paragraphs in the 2030 Agenda dedicated to implementing the SDGs at the national level:

We encourage all Member States to develop as soon as practicable ambitious national responses to the overall implementation of this Agenda. These can support the transition to the Sustainable Development Goals and build on existing planning instruments, such as national development and sustainable development strategies, as appropriate.

We also encourage Member States to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels which are country-led and country-driven. Such reviews should draw on contributions from indigenous peoples, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders, in line with national circumstances, policies and priorities. National parliaments as well as other institutions can also support these processes. (United Nations, 2015b, p.36)

The beginning of the SDGs marked the end of their predecessor, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Progress on the MDGs was made in many areas following their launch in 2000 through 2015, such as alleviating poverty and increasing access to education (United Nations, 2015a). Rahman, Khan and Sadique (2014) showed that those developing countries that performed well had already prioritised issues highlighted by the MDGs, including poverty, health and education, and Bangladesh was one of those early starters.

The MDGs had many shortcomings as a development agenda. The lack of consultations at the design stage led many stakeholders to see the MDGs as donor-centric. The MDGs were also designed with little attention to how they might be implemented. While financing was at least considered, albeit at a late stage, discussions regarding the means of implementation, such as institutional set-up and coordination between partners, were entirely absent (Bhattacharya et al., 2016). Further, progress was uneven across all MDG areas in Bangladesh and there were geographical, gender and group-based disparities. In addition, MDG monitoring and evaluation systems were perceived to be weak in developing countries in general and Bangladesh in particular, despite the country being an exemplary performer on the MDGs.

The SDGs were designed to overcome the weaknesses of the MDGs. The formulation of the SDGs created a good opportunity for national governments to ensure more systematic and regular monitoring of their strategies and actions (United Nations Development Group, 2014). Compared to the MDGs, the design of the SDGs provided greater opportunities to ensure that the international agenda reflects developing country priorities, apart from the capacity and resource challenges that developing country governments and non-state actors may face in engaging in international discussions and negotiations (Kindornay and Samy, 2012). The Government of Bangladesh (GoB),

led by the General Economics Division of the Planning Commission, held its first round of national consultations for the post-2015 agenda between November 2012 and May 2013. The government submitted its report to the UN system in Bangladesh in 2013, proposing 11 goals. A second round of consultations on the means of implementation, led by the UN Development Group, took place in 2014. The GoB recently formulated its Seventh Five Year Plan (7FYP) for the 2016-20 period and took the SDGs into consideration. To date, it has prepared eight MDG monitoring reports. According to the 2015 report, it wants to be an 'early starter' in the SDG implementation process.

Indeed, a matter of great operational interest was to make the universal agenda compatible with national priorities (Bhattacharya, 2015). To address this issue, the GoB established an inter-ministerial committee on SDG monitoring and implementation in November 2015. The Principal Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office chairs the committee, with the General Economics Division of the Planning Commission serving as the secretariat (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2015b).

To capitalise on Bangladesh's success with the MDGs and successfully implement the SDGs, the GoB needs to harmonise existing strategies and policies with the 2030 Agenda. Existing processes and programmes should be improved, with sustainable development objectives incorporated into long-term development planning at the national level. As for financing, the GoB must utilise government expenditure more intensively, with better coordination and streamlining of different funding channels and identification of innovative financing sources to raise available resources. To periodically assess national efforts and implementation progress, multi-stakeholder working groups or forums including government, the private sector, civil society, academia and the media should be formed and institutionalised.

1.2 Objectives of the study

The present study discusses the SDG implementation challenges in Bangladesh. The main purpose of this study is to engage GoB officials and other key stakeholders in Bangladesh through raising awareness, highlighting key challenges for national-level implementation and prompting action to ensure that they are adequately prepared to implement the SDGs. The study has the following objectives:

- Review the lessons learned from the implementation of the MDGs in Bangladesh
- Examine how global SDG targets will be aligned with the national context
- Explore the existing financial, legal and institutional frameworks for operationalising the SDGs in the country
- Investigate which mechanisms can ensure effective monitoring and participatory accountability for delivering the SDGs
- Assess how groups who are discriminated against will be addressed under the SDGs
- Conclude how the better well-being of children could be targeted

1.3 Methodology

The study analyses available secondary information relating to implementation of the SDGs at the country level. SDG target alignment with the country's Seventh Five Year Plan, sectoral plans and policies is assessed by way of a detailed review of the literature and national- and global-level policy documents. Secondary data on the government budget and financing are then analysed. Finally, a data mapping exercise, which used the recently adopted list of 230 indicators proposed by the UN Statistical Commission, is conducted. The perspectives of GoB officials, civil society experts, think tank members, private sector representatives, representatives of the national statistical office and development partners inform this exercise. In-depth key informant interviews with various stakeholders and participants of an expert group meeting are also conducted for the purpose of this study (see Annex 1 for the list of expert group meeting participants and interviews).

1.4 Layout of the study

This study is organised as follows. Following this introduction, section 2 reviews lessons learned from the implementation of the MDGs in Bangladesh. Section 3 assesses how national development plans and policies are aligned with the SDGs. Section 4 analyses the existing financial and institutional frameworks, while the monitoring and accountability mechanism for implementing the SDGs are presented in section 5. Section 6 concludes the study by highlighting the need to strengthen the monitoring and accountability mechanism as well as increase multi-stakeholder ownership at the country level for the successful implementation of the SDGs.

Drivers of change 2 lessons learned from the MDGs in the lead-up to the SDGs

Efforts have been made to ensure that the SDGs are based on lessons learned from the experience of the MDGs, including with respect to country ownership (Kindornay, 2015). The MDGs were criticised for being a top-down development agenda that was established through few consultations with developing countries and then imposed on them (Higgins, 2013; UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda, 2012). Through their influence on the international and national agendas, the MDGs have led to the creation of rigid national policies that are focused on international benchmarks, rather than respecting local conditions and engaging with the complexities of the development process (UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda, 2012; see also Easterly, 2009).

2.1 Bangladesh's progress towards attaining the MDGs

Overall, Bangladesh's achievements as regards the MDGs have been somewhat mixed. There are 25 MDG indicators (38 per cent of all indicators) that still needed attention at the end of 2015 (Figure 1). Many of these MDG indicators were retained to track progress on the SDGs.

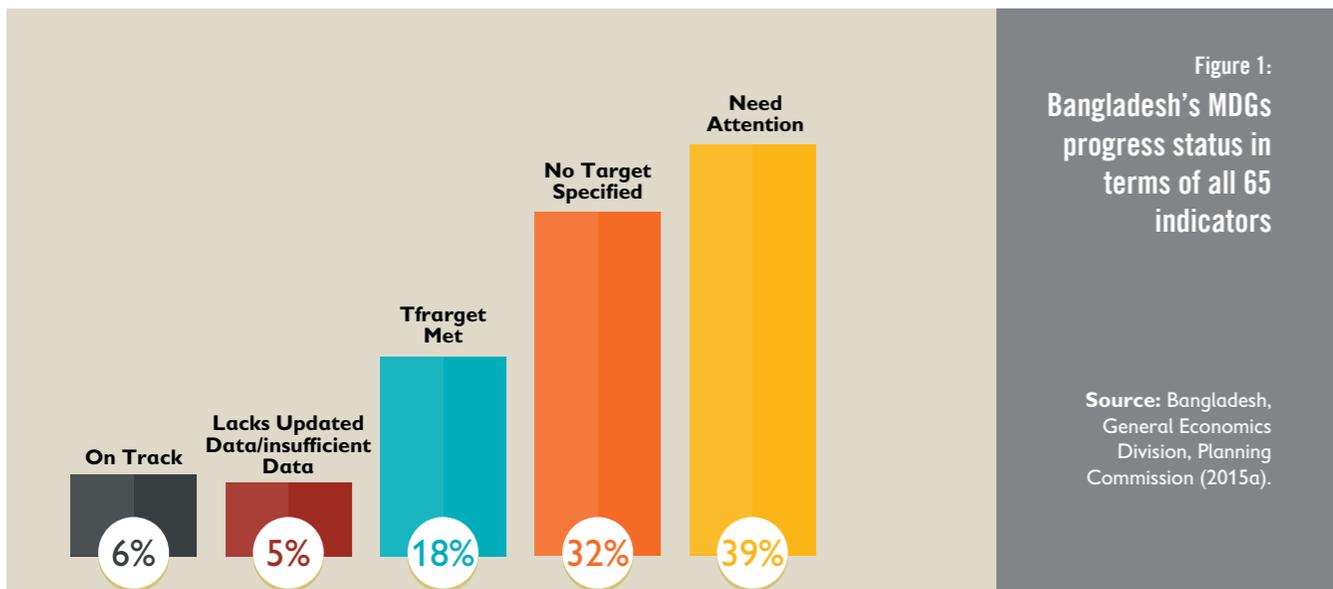


Figure 1:
Bangladesh's MDGs
progress status in
terms of all 65
indicators

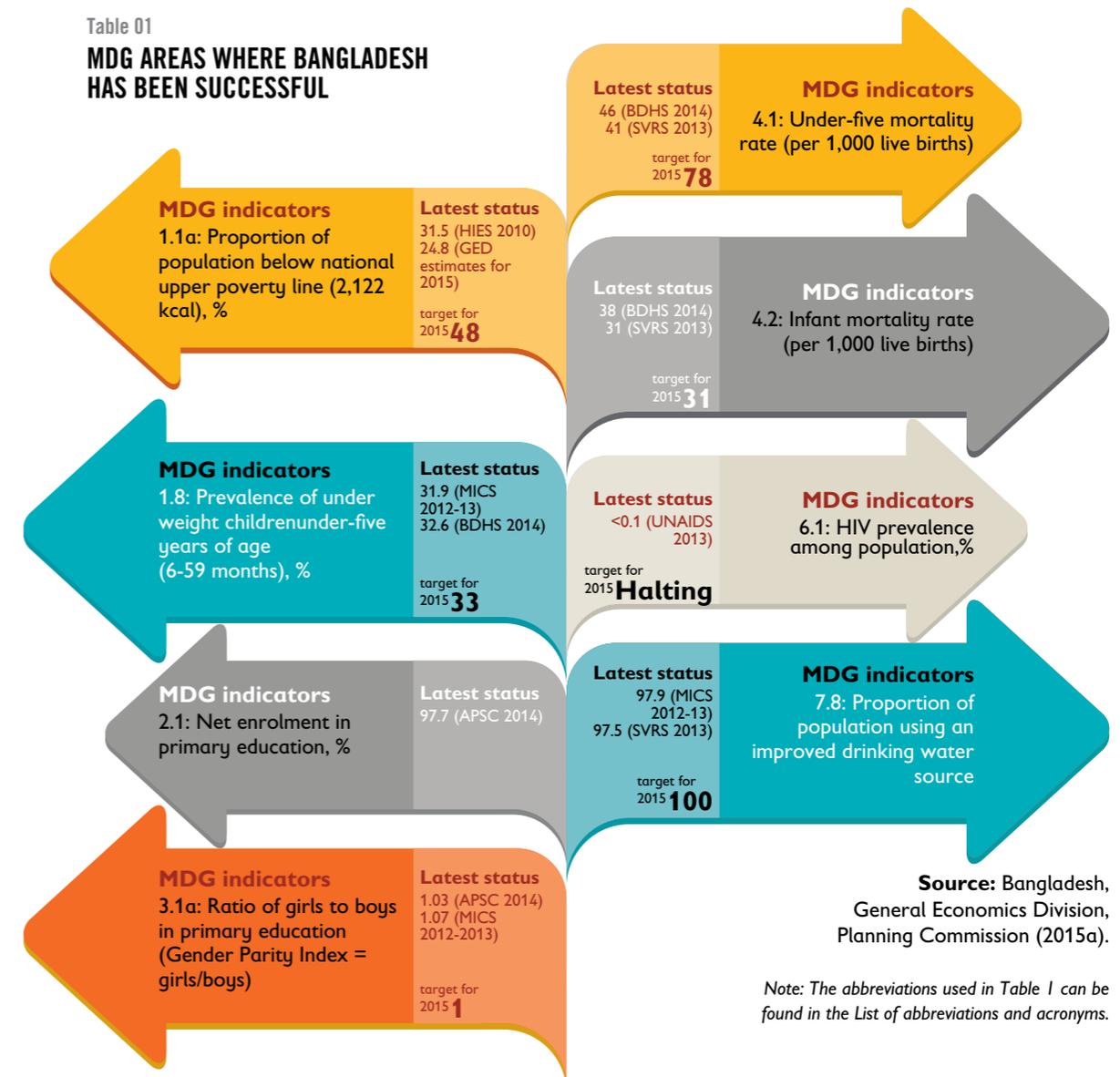
Source: Bangladesh,
General Economics
Division, Planning
Commission (2015a).

MDG areas where significant progress was made

Bangladesh made moderate progress on many MDG indicators, particularly those under MDG 1 on eradicating extreme poverty, MDG 4 on reducing child mortality and MDG 6 on combatting HIV/AIDS, malaria and other major diseases (Table 1). The proportion of the population below US\$1.25 (purchasing power parity) per day decreased from 70.2 per cent in 1992 to 43.3 per cent in 2010. The poverty rate – the proportion of the population below the national poverty line – fell from 56.7 per cent in 1991/92 to

31.5 per cent in 2010 and further to 24.8 per cent according to the estimate by the General Economics Division (GED) for 2015, surpassing the MDG target of 29 per cent by 2015 (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2015a). In fact, the rate of poverty reduction has been higher in the present decade compared to previous ones (General Economics Division, Planning Commission and United Nations Development Programme, Bangladesh, 2009). According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), gender parity was achieved at the primary and secondary education levels. On the demographic front, life expectancy at birth increased to 70.4 years in 2013, with a slightly higher life expectancy for females, while the maternal mortality rate fell markedly to 1.97 per 1,000 live births. The rate of under-five mortality also came down to 41 per 1,000 live births in 2013 from 146 per 1,000 live births in 1990-91, against the MDG target of 48 per 1,000 live births by 2015. Similar success was achieved as regards reducing infant mortality and prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age, although more efforts are needed to increase the coverage of immunisation against measles (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2015b). This scenario clearly demonstrates Bangladesh's significant contribution to reducing child mortality in the South Asian region.

Table 01
MDG AREAS WHERE BANGLADESH
HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL



Source: Bangladesh,
General Economics
Division,
Planning Commission (2015a).

Note: The abbreviations used in Table 1 can be found in the List of abbreviations and acronyms.

MDG areas where little or no progress was made

There are a few MDG areas that lagged behind others in terms of progress made. These include the employment-to-population ratio, the drop-out rate at the primary and secondary levels (see Annex 2, case studies 1 and 2), literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds; share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector; improving maternal health (MDG 5); prevalence of tuberculosis; and proportion of land area covered by forest (Table 2).

Progress was not equal for everyone

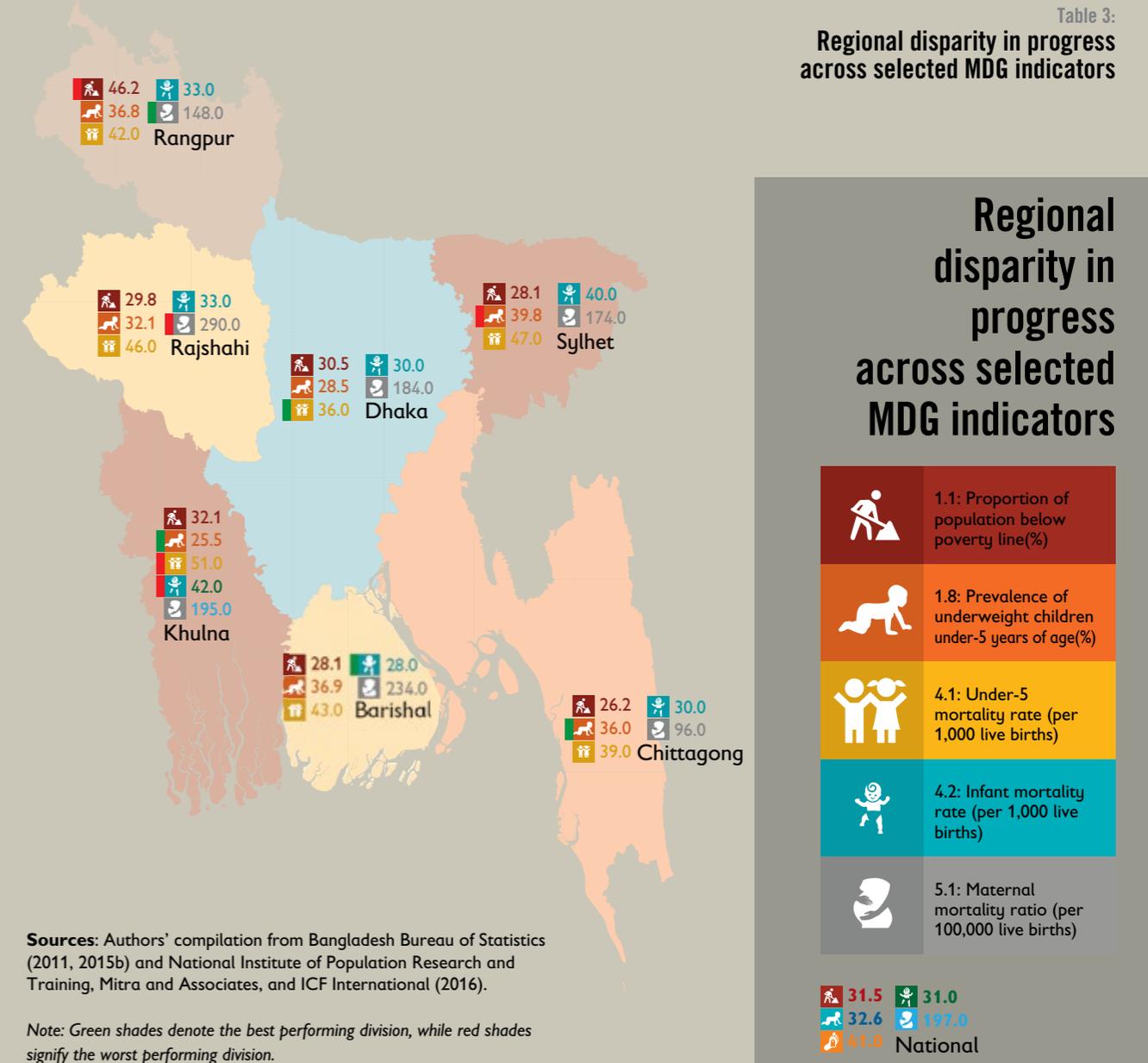
The progress made in different MDG areas was not uniform for everyone. There are growing gender and group-based inequalities that alienate large segments of the population. Women and ethnic minorities are particularly vulnerable. Data also suggest that MDG progress was uneven across different regions within Bangladesh (Table 3). For example, while Khulna had the lowest prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age, it had the highest rates of under-5 and infant mortality (per 1,000 live births) among the seven divisions. In Rangpur, the proportion of population below the poverty line was relatively the highest, but the maternal mortality ratio was relatively the lowest. Evidently, there was wide variability across and within different regions as regards progress in various MDG areas.

Table 02
MDG areas that need further attention in Bangladesh



Source: Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission (2015a).

Table 3:
Regional disparity in progress across selected MDG indicators



Regional disparity in progress across selected MDG indicators

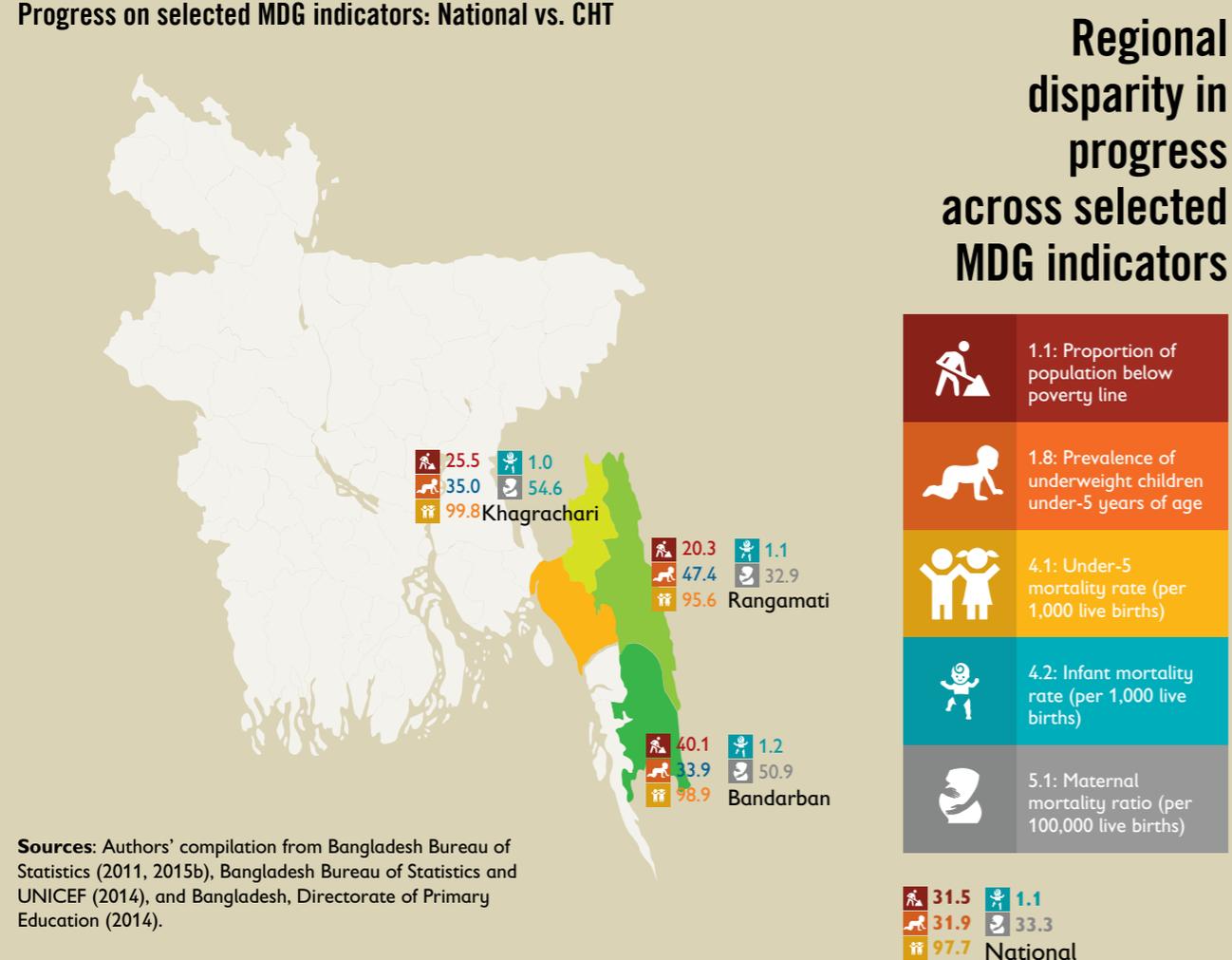
	1.1: Proportion of population below poverty line(%)
	1.8: Prevalence of underweight children under-5 years of age(%)
	4.1: Under-5 mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
	4.2: Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)
	5.1: Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)

31.5
32.6
41.0 National

The Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHTs) is a unique area that is geographically and ethnically distinct from other parts of Bangladesh. MDG progress in the three CHT districts – Khagrachari, Rangamati and Bandarban – lagged behind national figures. The *Child Equity Atlas* ranked the districts among the worst performing in Bangladesh (Bureau of Statistics, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies and UNICEF Bangladesh, 2013). Further, National Malaria Control Programme data shows that three hilly CHT districts alone accounted for 90 percent of the total burden of malaria in the country in 2014. In 2012 and 2014, the three Hill District Councils conducted MDG mapping exercises with the participation of development actors, line departments, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and UN agencies (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2014). Aligning the MDGs and associated targets with local contexts was a major component of this exercise.

A recent district-based poverty map (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2010) with relevant data for the three CHT districts shows that a higher proportion of the population in Bandarban fell below the national upper poverty line when compared to the national average, while the other two districts were comparatively in a better position. Similar divergence from the national average can be observed in CHTs as regards child nutrition and health, specifically the prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age and infant mortality rate. Interestingly, Rangamati, which had the highest prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age (47.4 per cent), had the lowest infant mortality rate (32.9 per cent), suggesting a variability in progress in various MDG areas within the region. Better performance than the national average can be observed as regards net enrolment and gender parity in primary education (Table 4).

Table 4:
Progress on selected MDG indicators: National vs. CHT



Sources: Authors' compilation from Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (2011, 2015b), Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and UNICEF (2014), and Bangladesh, Directorate of Primary Education (2014).

2.2 Political economy dimensions: Drivers of success and barriers to progress

Sensitivity of national plans and policies to the MDGs

Bangladesh has been in the process of development since its independence in 1971, well before the inception of the MDGs. A recent study by Rahman, Khan and Sadique (2014) found that the development plans that were formulated by the GoB before the adoption of the MDGs incorporated a number of MDG-relevant areas as high policy priorities. They found that among the nine MDG indicators¹ that were selected for study, the GoB gave priority to seven in its pre-MDGs development plan, the Fifth Five Year Plan for the 1997-2002 period. However, specific targets in that plan were not set for three issues, namely gender disparity in primary and secondary education, prevalence of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, and forest coverage.

Following the adoption of the MDGs in 2000, the GoB incorporated them into national policies, which increasingly dealt with MDG issues and related concerns in a more comprehensive and focused manner. Urgency was reflected in all key policy documents including national development plans. The MDGs eventually drove Bangladesh's development process. In 2005, the GoB started to implement its first Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. Rahman, Khan and Sadique (2014) found that eight out of the nine MDG targets selected for study – halve poverty from the 1990 level by 2015, halve the prevalence of underweight children of under-five years of age, achieve net primary enrolment ratio of 100 per cent, adult literacy of 100 per cent, achieve gender parity in primary and secondary education, reduce infant mortality and maternal mortality, reduce prevalence of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, and increase forest coverage as a per cent of total land area – were addressed in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. However, out of the eight targets that were addressed, no specific commitments were made in the paper on two MDG issues, adult literacy and prevalence of HIV/AIDS.

The GoB's Sixth Five Year Plan (SFYP) for the 2011-15 period was the final national development plan during the MDG period, which came to a close at the end of 2015. The GoB continued to address the same number of MDG targets in the SFYP as it did in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. It set specific targets in seven MDG areas and the target on gender parity was reported to have been met. Curiously, to address the issue of forest coverage, an additional target – increase productive forest coverage by 2 per cent – was adopted in the SFYP. Unfortunately, the reduction of CO₂ emissions was not specifically mentioned in the national development plans probably because it is not a national priority (Rahman, Khan and Sadique, 2014).

Major programmes

In the post-2000 period, the GoB has put in place institutional arrangements and implemented initiatives to fulfil its development objectives. Some of the major programmes, projects and policies include the Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP II in 2004-09 and PEDP III in 2011-16), National Education Policy 2010, the Education Assistance Trust Act 2012, the National Policy for Women's Advancement (2011), the Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Development Programme (2011-16), and National Children Policy 2011. In addition, an overarching National Sustainable Development Strategy (2010-21) is in place to guide sustainable development of the country. The strategy is in line with the GoB's other key plans and programmes, most notably the SFYP and Perspective Plan of Bangladesh (2010-2021) (Rahman, Khan and Sadique, 2014). Apart from these major initiatives, the Primary Education Stipend Programme was a complementary government programme that helped increase primary school enrolment and achieve gender parity in Bangladesh (see Annex 2, case studies 3 and 4). For students receiving stipends, higher attendance rates were recorded at 89 per cent among boys and 91 per cent among girls. This programme largely contributed to achieving gender parity in primary education, with the direct beneficiaries being girls (Bangladesh, Directorate of Primary Education, 2014) (see Annex 2, case study 4).

NGOs played a major role in complementing the GoB in driving the progress that was possible, particularly in the education and health sectors. Moreover, madrassas also played a key role in attaining gender parity, as pointed out by Asadullah (2009). Other non-state actors, including development partners such as the World Bank, UNICEF and the United States Agency for International Development, also played a key role in driving progress, particularly in the health sector (see Annex 2, case study 5).

¹ The nine MDG indicators include income poverty, prevalence of underweight children of under-5 years age, net primary enrolment ratio, adult literacy, gender disparity in primary and secondary education, reduction of infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate, prevalence of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, forest coverage, and CO₂ emissions.

Institutional arrangements for MDG attainment

There was no dedicated institutional mechanism in place to ensure the successful implementation of the MDGs in Bangladesh. Monitoring was mainly based on reporting. The GED of the Planning Commission is the government institution that led the preparation of MDG monitoring reports. There was no detailed process analysis. The engagement of parliament in reviewing and reporting on the MDGs was weak. Private sector actors had little space to engage in accountability mechanisms for the MDGs. While in some cases MDG monitoring reports were prepared with some degree of civil society engagement, reports by and large did not involve an inclusive process that included the GoB, civil society and UN collaboration. Non-state actors and the parliament were inadequately integrated into the official monitoring process. Local governments hardly had any space for engagement in the whole MGD process.

Financing

Estimations of financing costs were made very late during the MDG period. The United Nations (2003) introduced the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development in 2002, while the MDG needs assessment and costing exercise for Bangladesh conducted in 2009. In a joint effort, the GoB and UN Development Programme estimated the resources needed for achieving the MDGs in Bangladesh by the end of 2015 (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2009). The GED of the Planning Commission was the focal point for the activities.

As regards financing, a sector-wide approach was taken. The GoB and donors mainly followed the sector-wide approach to finance the implementation of the MDGs. Development partners created an effective partnership with the GoB through implementation of the Harmonisation Action Plan in 2006. The main objective of the plan was to reduce poverty, improve partnership collaboration and sustain development gains towards achieving the MDGs (Bangladesh, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance, 2006). The sector-wide approaches in primary education and health are known as the PEDP and Health and Population Sector Programme, respectively, and are both now in their third iterations. The programmes evolved as natural steps in the early 2000s based on development partners' long-term experience of having close coordination in primary education and health, starting from the first investment cycle in 1990 through the project-type modality and then in the second investment cycle in the late 1990s through the programme-type modality within the GoB policy framework (Asian Development Bank, 2008). The sector-wide approach allowed development partners to coordinate more closely using pooled funding resources and engage the GoB to take the lead and drive the programmes for improving the primary education and health sectors. It was also found to be an effective modality in achieving many access- and gender-related outcomes by jointly identifying key priorities to mainstream implementation arrangements. However, due to the sector-wide approach and concentration on education and health, other areas like employment generation and forestry did not get much attention and could not attract donor financing (see Annex 1, case study 5).

As regards the domestic financing situation, revenue generation was very flat in Bangladesh. The country's ratio of revenue to gross domestic product (GDP) is one of the lowest in the world (Rahman, Khan and Sabbih, 2016). The average revenue-GDP ratio was 9.6 per cent over the last 14 years and has been declining recently (Rahman et al., 2016). The private sector played no role, as it had no clear understanding, guidelines or scope with regard to finance for the MDGs in the country.

Data and monitoring

More and better data are key to measuring progress. It is important to ensure that adequate preparations are made upfront to generate data for the SDGs. Availability of data helps in keeping track of progress and achievement of goals and targets. In Bangladesh, the MDGs were constrained by inadequate data and information to assess progress and, consequently, transparency and accountability were undermined (Rahman et al., 2015b). Out of the total 60 indicators for the eight MDGs and associated 21 targets (United Nations Statistics Division, 2008), data were available for 44 indicators (73 per cent of the total). Partially available data, which refer to data that may not be available at disaggregated levels or updated regularly, were considered to be available in this context (Rahman et al., 2015b). One of the major concerns in monitoring and accountability in the country is the status of data accessibility. It is often difficult to access data due to different administrative bottlenecks. The status of electronic dissemination of data is also very poor.

The data concerns of civil society are motivated primarily by three lessons from the MDGs: (a) lack of data did not permit establishment of reference indicators for a number of MDGs, (b) inadequacy and paucity of data did not allow real-time measurement of progress with respect to a number of MDG targets and indicators and (c) a number of MDG indicators did not have quantifiable targets in absence of the required data (Rahman et al., 2015b).

2.3 Lessons for the SDGs

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The 2030 Agenda is universal, transformative, inclusive and integrated.

Sustainable Development Goals

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere | Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries |
| Goal 2. End hunger , achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture | Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive , safe, resilient and sustainable |
| Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages | Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns |
| Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all | Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts |
| Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls | Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development |
| Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all | Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems , sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss |
| Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all | Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development , provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels |
| Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth , full and productive employment and decent work for all | Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development |
| Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure , promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation | |



The Un Secretary-General's Synthesis Report On The 2030 Agenda Presents Six Elements For Delivering The Sdgs (Figure 2) That "Would Help Frame And Reinforce The Universal, Integrated And Transformative Nature Of A Sustainable Development Agenda" (United Nations, 2014B).

Figure 2:
Six elements for delivering the SDGs

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Lessons for the SDGs

Learning from the experience of the MDGs, there is a wide consensus that national and local governments, international institutions, civil society, the media, academia and the private sector need to be involved in the creation and implementation of the SDGs (High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, 2013; United Nations, 2014b). The SDGs were negotiated at the inter-governmental level through a transparent, inclusive process that involved a significant number of national, regional and thematic consultations carried out by the UN.

The GoB should immediately prioritise the unfinished agenda of the MDGs as it facilitates towards identifying country prioritisation with regards to the SDGs and thereby accelerates its implementation. There are five major lessons for the SDGs. First, policies should be integrated with the SDGs. Second, resources should be used efficiently and duplication should be avoided. *Third*, an institutional mechanism that can deliver the 2030 Agenda should be established. *Fourth*, data availability, quality and accessibility should be increased. *Fifth*, intra-governmental coordination and a multi-stakeholder approach that encourages the participation of all stakeholders, including parliamentarians, regional and local authorities, academia, and civil society organisations, in addition to governments and development partners, should be prioritised (Figure 3).

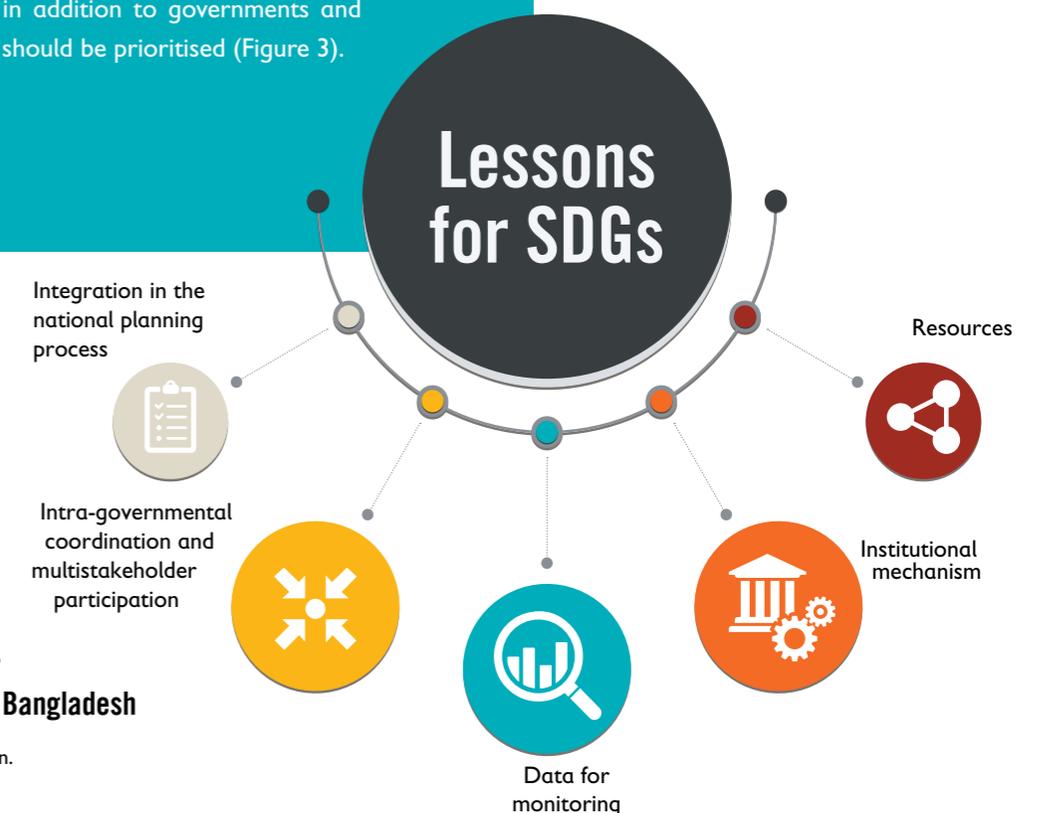


Figure 3:
Five major lessons for implementing SDGs in Bangladesh

Source: Authors' elaboration.

3 Aligning national plans and policies with the SDGs

Following the proposition of the SDGs and their associated targets, the targets that countries already set themselves have tended to go overlooked (Scott, Lucci and Berliner, 2015). Many of the GoB's proposed national development targets analysed in this study are for the period beyond 2015 and overlap with the SDG period. The SDGs need to be aligned with national policy-making and planning processes, often through sectoral processes and strategies, if they are to guide and influence the setting of new national targets and assessment of the level of country ownership of the SDGs. National planning processes may not coincide neatly with the SDG period, given the short- and medium-term nature of national priority setting, but the SDGs accommodate countries' different timetables. In many cases, national targets identified in this study are set for periods of five to 10 years and may be revised more than once during the SDG period.

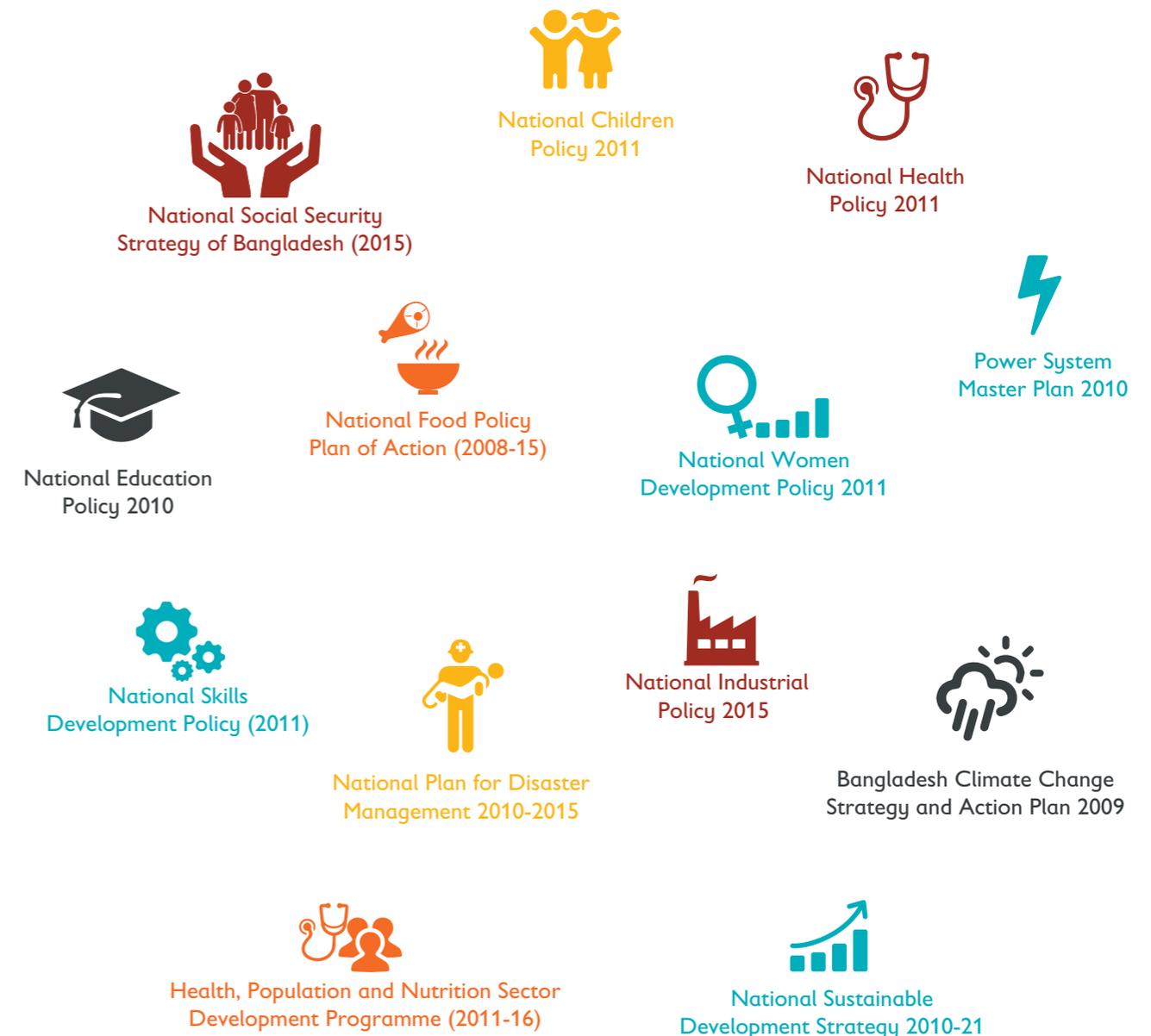
3.1 Reflection of SDG targets in national plans

The review of national targets suggests that indicators are often framed to reflect domestic political conditions. Therefore, the identification of indicators is not just a technical question – greater political oversight is necessary during the identification of indicators for global SDG targets (Scott, Lucci and Berliner, 2015). A review of Bangladesh's national development plan targets and policy commitments revealed that there is considerable variation in the way that national governments articulate and measure progress on their sustainable development objectives. In some cases, international agreements have influenced both the framing and level of national targets, like reduction of deaths from road traffic accidents, eliminating gender disparities in education, improving energy efficiency and increasing use of renewable energy. In others, the framing and measurement of national targets are clearly influenced by domestic factors, such as national poverty lines.

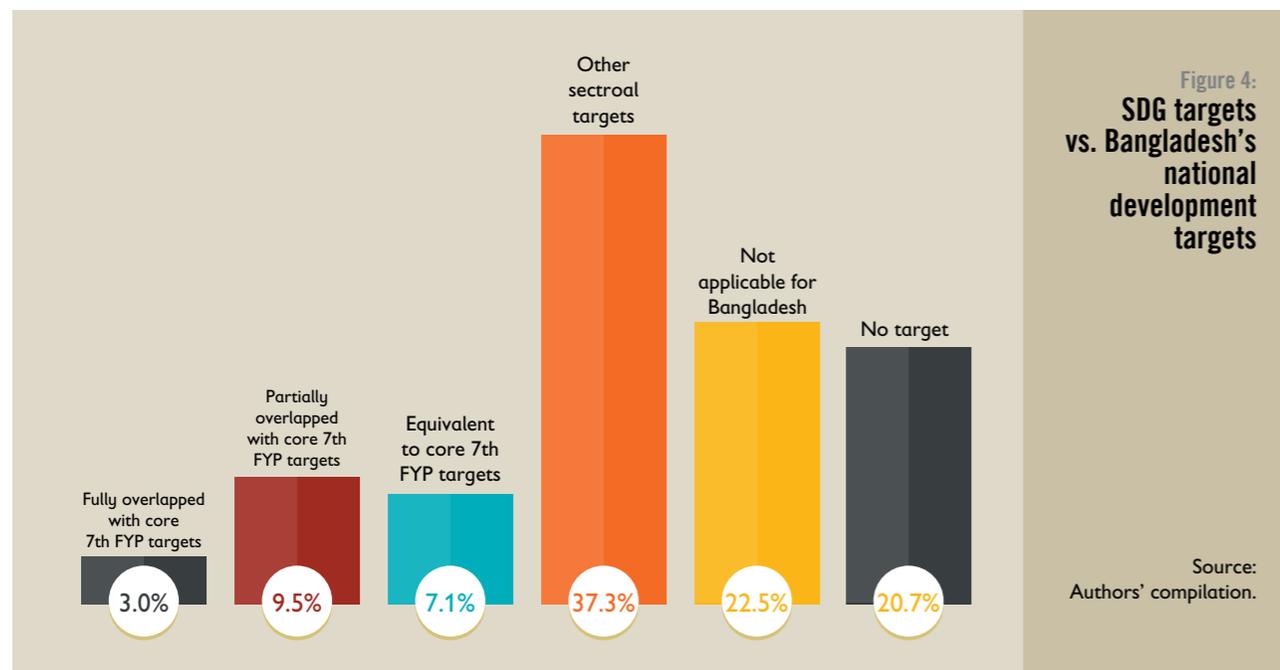
The Perspective Plan of Bangladesh (2010-2021) and Vision 2021 were formulated as long-term visions for accelerated growth and the eradication of poverty, inequality and human deprivation. The SFYP, which defined the first phase of implementation of the Perspective Plan, laid the groundwork for achieving priority national targets related to Bangladesh's economic and social progress by the year 2021 (Bangladesh, Planning Commission, Ministry of Planning, 2013). The 7FYP marks the second implementation phase towards the realisation of Vision 2021 (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2015b). The 7FYP therefore reflects a continuation of efforts towards meeting the major objectives articulated in the SFYP. The core targets are set under 10 broad categories in accordance with the vision and objectives of the Perspective Plan for monitoring progress under the 7FYP.

The 7FYP claims to embrace the objectives set forth in the outcome document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, widely known as Rio+20, which encouraged countries to forge compacts for sustainable and inclusive development in line with the 2030 Agenda. Further, in its 2015 report on the MDGs, the GoB proclaimed that it developed a "Development Results Framework", which considers SDG indicators, to incorporate into the 7FYP (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2015a). However, empirical evidence suggests that the 7FYP does not sufficiently address SDG issues.

An assessment of the alignment between 7FYP targets and SDG targets shows that there is no relevant target for 35 (20.7 per cent) out of 169 SDG targets in either the core or sectoral targets of the 7FYP (Figure 4). The remaining targets were divided into four categories: fully overlapped, partially overlapped, equivalent and not applicable to Bangladesh.² Apart from the 7FYP, some of the major sectoral plans and policies that were consulted for this assessment include the National Social Security Strategy of Bangladesh (2015), National Food Policy Plan of Action (2008-15), National Children Policy 2011, National Health Policy 2011, Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Development Programme (2011-16), National Education Policy 2010, PEDP III (2011-16; extended to June 2017), National Women Development Policy 2011, Power System Master Plan 2010, National Skills Development Policy (2011), National Industrial Policy 2015 (draft), National Sustainable Development Strategy 2010-21, Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2009, and National Plan for Disaster Management 2010-2015.



² The fully overlapped category includes targets that match completely. Partially overlapped targets are those that partly relate to the SDG targets. Equivalent targets are targets that are not directly matched but have the same essence. Targets that are not applicable to Bangladesh are either global in nature or not relevant for the country.



With regards to the list of 59 core 7FYP targets, only 33 targets are aligned with SDG targets. The remaining targets are nevertheless important in the context of national priorities. Only 3 per cent of core 7FYP targets fully overlap with SDG targets. However, about 9.5 per cent of core 7FYP targets partially overlap, while 7.1 per cent of targets are equivalent to SDG targets. Apart from core targets, a total of 63 (37.3 per cent) strategic targets and objectives of sectoral plans, policies and programmes are aligned (fully overlapped, partially overlapped or equivalent) with the SDGs. However, around 22.5 per cent of SDG targets were found to be not applicable to Bangladesh. It should be mentioned here that the essence of a few other SDG targets was found in the GoB's sectoral plans and strategies. Nevertheless, there was still absence of comparable specific targets for those which is a necessary condition for monitoring the SDGs.

The assessment indicates that cases in which there are no 7FYP targets and other sector-specific targets fall into three SDG areas: sustainable cities and communities (40 per cent), life on land (33 per cent), and peace, justice and strong institutions (42 per cent) (Table 5). In addition, three other SDG areas were identified where a major proportion of targets are not applicable to Bangladesh: climate action (40 per cent), life below water (40 per cent), and partnership for the goals (68 per cent).

Table 5: SDG targets vs. Bangladesh national development targets (% of row total)

SDGs	Fully overlapped	Partially overlapped	Equivalent	Not applicable to Bangladesh	No target
Better integration 3					
SDG 1: No poverty	0.0	71.4	14.3	0.0	14.3
SDG 2: Zero hunger	0.0	12.5	75.0	0.0	12.5
SDG 4: Quality education	0.0	70.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
SDG 5: Gender equality	0.0	66.7	22.2	0.0	11.1
SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation	12.5	25.0	37.5	12.5	12.5
SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy	20.0	40.0	20.0	20.0	0.0
SDG 13: Climate action	20.0	20.0	20.0	40.0	0.0
SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals	0.0	15.8	10.5	68.4	5.3
Less integration					
SDG 3: Good health and well-being	23.1	23.1	7.7	15.4	30.8
SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth	8.3	33.3	16.7	16.7	25.0
SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure	0.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
SDG 10: Reduced inequalities	0.0	10.0	40.0	30.0	20.0
SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities	0.0	10.0	40.0	10.0	40.0
SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production	0.0	18.2	27.3	27.3	27.3
SDG 14: Life below water	0.0	10.0	30.0	40.0	20.0
SDG 15: Life on land	0.0	16.7	33.3	16.7	33.3
SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions	0.0	25.0	25.0	8.3	41.7
Total	4.1	27.2	25.4	22.5	20.7

Sources: Compiled by authors based on United Nations (2015b) and Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission (2015b).

3.2 Aligning national targets with core promises to children

According to Steven (2015), 140 million babies will be born globally in 2016 and 4.2 billion people will be children at some stage between 2016 and 2030. The SDGs and associated targets for children are complex. In order to clarify the scale of the delivery challenge, four ambitious 'core promises' to children can be drawn from the child-focused targets – two for survival and one each for protection and development – of the SDGs. These include: (a) no child should die from a disease we can prevent, (b) every child should have the food needed to grow normally, (c) every child should be able to read and write and be numerate and (d) no child should live in fear (Steven, 2015). Targets related to these promises are key for the well-being of children. However, there is some repetition in targets related to each promise.

³ Better integration denotes that there are no relevant targets/strategies in national plans/policies for less than 20 per cent of SDG targets while less integration refers to the absence of relevant targets/strategies in national plans/policies for more than 20 per cent of SDG targets.

Comparison of relevant core and sectoral 7FYP targets (by 2020) to the core promises to children demonstrates that except two, all 19 unique SDG targets related to the core promises are addressed by the 7FYP (Table 6). The two unaddressed SDG targets are reduce premature mortality from non-communicable diseases and reduce all forms of violence and related deaths. Three out of 20 unique 7FYP targets – achieve universal access to safe drinking water in urban areas, achieve universal access to safe drinking water in rural areas and eliminate the worst forms of child labour – fully overlapped with two SDG targets related to the core promises. The rest of the 7FYP targets either partially overlapped or are equivalent to the SDG targets, which suggests that the level of ambition at the national level in setting targets for children is well in line with the SDGs.

Table 6: Comparison between core promises to children in the SDG and 7FYP targets

Core promises to children	SDG targets	7FYP targets
 <p>NO CHILD SHOULD DIE FROM A DISEASE WE CAN PREVENT</p>	3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births	Under 5 mortality rate to be reduced to 37 per 1000 live birth
	3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases	Maintain low prevalence of HIV (<1%)
	3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being	No target
	3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all	To ensure access and utilization of [Health, Nutrition and Population] services for every citizen of the country, particularly elderly, women, children, poor, disadvantaged and those living in difficult areas
	6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	Safe drinking water to be made available for all urban population Safe drinking water to be made available for all urban population
	6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	Proportion of urban population with access to sanitary latrines to be increased to 100 percent. Proportion of rural population with access to sanitary latrines to be raised to 90 percent.

Core promises to children	SDG targets	7FYP targets
 <p>EVERY CHILD SHOULD HAVE THE FOOD NEEDED TO GROW NORMALLY</p>	2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round	To enhance purchasing power of people for increased food accessibility To ensure adequate nutrition for all (especially women and children)
	2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons	Reduction of stunting among under-five children to 25%
	3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all	To ensure access and utilization of [Health, Nutrition and Population] services for every citizen of the country, particularly elderly, women, children, poor, disadvantaged and those living in difficult areas
	4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy	Increase literacy rate (aged 15 and older) to 100%
	6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	Safe drinking water to be made available for all urban population Safe drinking water to be made available for all urban population
	6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	Proportion of urban population with access to sanitary latrines to be increased to 100 percent. Proportion of rural population with access to sanitary latrines to be raised to 90 percent.
 <p>EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO READ AND WRITE AND BE NUMERATE</p>	4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes	Achieving 100 percent net enrolment rate for primary and secondary education
	4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education	Ensure access to urban poor children to early childhood development, education, sports and cultural activities providing knowledge and life skill
	4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy	Increase literacy rate (aged 15 and older) to 100%

Core promises to children	SDG targets	7FYP targets
 <p>NO CHILD SHOULD LIVE IN FEAR</p>	4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all	All children will have access to an appropriate, relevant, affordable and effective education regardless of gender, age, physical or financial ability, ethnicity, autistic and disable, impairment or HIV status
	5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation	Improve women's human capabilities
	5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation	Improve population and family planning services
	8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms	Reduce child labour and eliminate worst forms of child labour with a particular focus on child domestic workers, migrants, refugees and other vulnerable groups
	16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	No target
	16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	Protecting children from all forms of abuse, exploitation and violence
	16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all	Improving judicial effectiveness and strength and reach of rule of law
	16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration	The Municipal Corporations and Pourashavas will be mobilized to register all births

Sources: Compiled by authors based on United Nations (2015b), Steven (2015) and Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission (2015b).

The gaps between existing national targets and SDG targets are indicative of where the SDGs have the most work to do in terms of altering the overall trajectory of national policy-making and how to increase the sensitivity of national development plans and policies to the SDGs. One rationale behind not concentrating on the missing SDG targets in national development plans and policies could be the limited scope of these targets to be included in the 7FYP given country priorities and time scale. Another explanation is that it is almost impossible to integrate such a long list of targets into national development plans and policies, with the issues of country context and priorities playing important roles. In any case, more effort could have been given to increasing the GoB's sensitivity to the SDGs through accepting the reality that the SDGs will lead the global process of development over the next 15 years.

3.3 Recommendations for the prioritisation of SDGs at the country level

Unlike the MDGs, the SDGs were formulated to be universal. The inclusion of both developing and developed countries merits appreciation, though also implies that SDG targets need to be relevant within very different country contexts. The experience of the MDGs taught us that the achievement of some SDG targets will require comparatively greater efforts in Bangladesh. If discussions about the process for country-level prioritisation are not adequately resolved, the SDGs risk repeating the experience of the MDGs regarding the expected adoption of international targets as national ones.

There are three major challenges as regards prioritisation of SDG targets at the country level. First, in view of successes attained in the MDGs, Bangladesh should not opt for 'cherry picking' i.e. putting more difficult targets to the back seat. Emphasis should be on the weaker areas of MDG achievement (e.g., employment-to-population ratio, proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5, births attended by skilled health personnel, share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector, contraceptive prevalence rate and proportion of land area covered by forest). Second, the GoB must integrate SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions substantially into national development plans and policies as country priority. Third, the GoB should not stop its efforts when a SDG target is achieved because some targets could be below national aspirations.

To address the country level SDG prioritisation challenges, Bangladesh's Centre for Policy Dialogue arranged an appreciation course on the "2030 Agenda for sustainable development and implementation challenges at the national level". Approximately 30 government officials, representing various ministries, departments, commissions and training institutions, attended the course (Annex 3). The participants were divided into different thematic groups according to their policy involvement and expertise and asked to rank the SDGs according to their priority in Bangladesh, considering the SDG targets and country context. The participants ranked nine goals as the highest priorities in Bangladesh: SDG 2 on zero hunger, SDG 3 on good health and well-being, SDG 4 on quality education, SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation, SDG 7 on affordable and clean energy, SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, SDG 12 on responsible consumption and production, SDG 15 on life on land, and SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions.

4 Financing the SDGs

The finalised SDGs include some MDG targets that have been carried forward, but with more emphasis on quality aspects (e.g., quality of education, decent work). In Bangladesh, government budgetary allocations and expenditures are made according to the demands of different agencies of the GoB. Thus, it might be possible to meet sector-specific objectives and targets in discrete ways through sectoral resource allocations, but they are generally not specifically outcome-oriented and lack the level of disaggregation and coordination that is required to operationalise the SDGs. As Rahman, Khan and Sadique (2014) argued, one of the reasons for failing to achieve the MDGs is that adequate public resources, including official development assistance (ODA), were not dedicated to attaining the goals, despite some acceleration in public expenditure in certain relevant sectors. In the context of the SDGs, these concerns need to be addressed through targeted interventions and resources both at the national and global levels.

4.1 Tracking government budgeting and spending on the SDGs

The expenditure side of the government budget consists of two components – current expenditure (or non-development expenditure) and capital expenditure (or development expenditure). The purpose of the former is to ensure the smooth functioning of government institutions and the latter is to promote private sector growth and to broaden access to public goods through provisioning. Revenue earnings are the main source of finance for government expenditure. Typically, current expenditure is fully covered by revenue earnings, while the revenue surplus (revenue earnings minus current expenditure) is allocated to finance capital expenditure. Total budgetary allocations to different ministries and divisions for development and non-development spending are grouped under 13 broad sectors and their actual spending is reported by the Ministry of Finance (MoF) in its monthly fiscal reports. The 13 broad sectors include: general public services, local government and rural development, defense, public order and safety, education, health, social security and welfare, housing, recreation, culture and religious affairs, fuel and energy, agriculture, fisheries and livestock, industrial and economic service, transport and communication.

Defining the budgetary sectors according to the SDGs

An attempt was made to define the extent to which the SDGs complement each of the 13 broad sectors to which budget allocations are made. The government budget for poverty reduction that has been prepared since 2007 matches with SDG 1 on no poverty. However, actual government expenditure is not published, which reduces transparency as regards tracing the distribution efficiency against allocations. The budget allocation for the agriculture, fisheries and livestock sector is relevant for SDG 2 on zero hunger. SDG 3 on good health and well-being and SDG 4 on quality education can be tracked through government spending on the health and education sectors, respectively. Since 2007, the GoB has been publishing a Gender Budget that shows the government allocation for addressing gender-based social inequalities. This budget is relevant for tracking SDG 5 on gender equality. However, the actual expenditure of this budget is also never published like in the case of the government expenditure on poverty reduction. The budgetary allocation for the fuel and energy sector falls under SDG 7 on affordable and clean energy. The broad industrial and economic service sector can be sub-grouped into two sectors namely labour and employment sector and industries and commerce sector. SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth complements the labour and employment sector. SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure is cross-cutting in nature and can be tracked through combined government allocations for the industries and commerce and transport and communication sectors. The government budgetary allocation for

social safety net programmes is a good proxy for tracking SDG 10 on reduced Inequalities. SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions is another goal that is cross-cutting in nature and can partially be tracked through government spending on public order and safety.

Development expenditure includes the Annual Development Programme (ADP) and non-ADP Food for Work programme and transfers (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2014). The ADP constitutes more than 90 per cent of total development expenditure. Project-wise development allocations are reported in the ADP. Programmes and projects under the ADP are classified under 17 broad sectors. Even though all ADP projects are in principle directed for development, not all of them are SDG oriented. Accordingly, out of 17 ADP sectors⁴, 13 sectors are considered to be SDG oriented, which covers nine SDGs (Table 7).

Table 7: Tracking sector- and ministry-wise budgets for the SDGs⁵

SDGs	ADP sectors	Ministries/budget
SDG 1: No poverty		Poverty reduction budget
SDG 2: Zero hunger	Agriculture	Ministry of Food, Ministry of Agriculture
SDG 3: Good health and well-being	Health, Nutrition, Population and Family Welfare	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
SDG 4: Quality education	Education and Religious Affairs	Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Ministry of Education
SDG 5: Gender equality	Social Welfare, Women Affairs and Youth Development	Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs/gender budget
SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation	Water Resources	Ministry of Water Resources
SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy	Power, Oil, Gas and Natural Resources	Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth	Labour and Employment	Ministry of Labour and Employment
SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure	Industries, Transport, Communication Science, Information and communication Technology	Ministry of Industries, Ministry of Road, Transport and Bridges, Ministry of Science and Technology
SDG 10: Reduced inequalities		Social Safety Net budget
SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities	Physical Planning, Water Supply and Housing	Ministry of Housing and Public Works
SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production		Cross-cutting
SDG 13: Climate action		Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief

4 The 17 ADP sectors include: Agriculture; Rural Development and Institutions; Water Resources; Industries; Power; Oil, Gas and Natural Resources; Transport; Communication; Physical Planning, Water Supply and Housing; Education and Religious Affairs; Sports and Culture; Health, Nutrition, Population and Family Welfare; Mass Media; Social Welfare, Women Affairs and Youth Development; Public Administration; Science, Information and Communication Technology; Labour and Employment

5 Development projects for agriculture, food, fisheries, livestock and forestry are included in the broad Agriculture sector.

SDG 14: Life below water	Department of Fisheries
SDG 15: Life and land	Ministry of Environment and Forest
SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions	Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Anti-Corruption Commission
SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals	Ministry of Finance

Source: Compiled by authors based on United Nations (2015b), Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission data.

According to the categorisation of current expenditure, the items identified as SDG oriented include salary and allowance, subsidies, grants-in-aid, pension and gratuity, construction and works, net outlay for food account operation, non-ADP employment generation programmes, and structural adjustment expenditure. The salary and allowance item includes salary and allowance for public servants of all ministries, whereas activities of 18 ministries/divisions are considered to be SDG oriented. These include: Ministry of Food, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Industries, Ministry of Road, Transport and Bridges, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Housing and Public Works, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Environment and Forest, and Ministry of Finance.

Defining child-focused budget

Additional opportunities for children and groups who are discriminated against are scarce. The GoB incorporated a child-focused budget into the national budget for the first time in fiscal year (FY)⁶ 2016, though in a very restricted manner (Bangladesh, Ministry of Finance, 2015). The child-focused budget (CFB) report for FY2017 titled *Blooming Children: Prosperous Bangladesh* is the second of its kind (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2016a). The CFB is defined as the amount of financial resources in national budget that government allocates for the benefit of children. The CFB takes into account the budgetary allocations of seven ministries/divisions directly related to the socio-economic development of children.⁷ It involves examining the extent to which the rights and needs of children are being addressed in the GoB's overall budget. In formulating the CFB, projects, programmes and other initiatives that directly deal with the needs, rights and welfare of children were considered. All expenditures identified and apportioned for selected seven ministries/divisions were grouped into four clusters of rights by the Ministry of Finance in the CFB. Five out of the seven ministries/divisions were included under more than one cluster. The clusters of rights include: right to survival – Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) and Local Government Division (LGD); right to development – Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME), Ministry of Education (MoE) and Ministry of Women and children Affairs (MoWCA); right to protection – MoPME, MoE, Ministry of Social Welfare, MoWCA and MoDMR; and right to participation – LGD (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2016a).

Such grouping gives an idea about allocations in the national budget, the programmes being implemented and policies being formulated for the socio-economic development of children. It will also help in keeping track of child-focused expenditures for fulfilling the four 'core promises' to children as regards the SDGs. Analysing the clusters, we can see that most of the ministries have cross-cutting functions. Assessing the themes, targets and functions, we can establish a link between the clusters and the core promises to children. Public expenditure for core promise 1 (no child should die from a disease we can prevent) and core promise 2 (every child should have the food needed to grow normally) can be tracked through right to survival cluster of the CFB. Financing for core promise 3 (every child should be able to read and write and be numerate) can be tracked through right to development cluster, while allocations and expenditures dedicated for right to protection cluster can help in tracking core promise 4 (no child should live in fear).

⁶ In Bangladesh, a fiscal year starts in July and ends in June.

⁷ Five ministries were included in the FY2016 budget. MoDMR and LGD were included in the FY2017 budget.

4.2 Costing and financing gaps

It is essential to know the scale of resources required to successfully deliver the SDGs at the country level and their composition. Although, GoB has taken a project to estimate the cost of implementing the SDGs in Bangladesh, certain global estimates are worth reviewing to gain an indication. According to the estimates of the UN Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, achieving the SDGs in all countries will require additional global investments in the range of USD 5 trillion to USD 7 trillion per year up to 2030 (United Nations, 2014a). The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (2014) estimated that developing countries will need between USD 3.3 trillion and USD 4.5 trillion per year in financing for basic infrastructure (roads, railways and ports, power stations, water and sanitation), food security (agriculture and rural development), climate change mitigation and adaptation, health and education. At current levels of public and private investment, there will be an annual financing gap of USD 2.5 trillion for these five areas.

Notably, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia (2013) estimated the public investment needs to deliver a package of policies that includes six elements to promote inclusive and sustainable development in 10 Asia-Pacific countries. Asia-Pacific countries include Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Russia, Thailand and Turkey. Among the elements, two are consistent with the SDGs and apply to Bangladesh. First, providing benefits to all persons with disabilities between the ages of 15 and 65 equivalent to the national poverty line would require public expenditure of 0.9 per cent of GDP in Bangladesh by 2030. Second, three energy goals to be achieved by 2030 are (a) universal access to modern energy services, (b) doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency and (c) doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix. The average annual additional investment required to achieve these goals is about 3 per cent of GDP in Bangladesh.

According to a joint report by the African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, and World Bank, achieving the proposed SDGs globally will require the best possible use of each available grant dollar, beginning with USD 13.5 trillion in ODA from governments and also including philanthropy, remittances, South-South flows, other official assistance and foreign direct investment (African Development Bank et al., 2015). At the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in October 2014, sessions on financing for development concluded that the SDGs would cost three times more than the MDGs. Developing countries may require doubling public spending, but it will be difficult to mobilise additional aid.

According to a recent Government Spending Watch report, the SDGs will require at least an extra USD 1.5 trillion per year (Martin and Walker, 2015). The report recommended how the SDGs should be financed based on lessons from tracking country budgets. These include doubling developing country tax revenues, which would require radically overhauling global tax rules, and doubling concessional development cooperation and improving its allocation and effectiveness. Following through on the commitment of 0.7 per cent of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) countries' gross national income (GNI) as ODA by 2025 could mobilise an additional USD 25 trillion per year. Notably, accelerating concessional flows from the South rose by 300 per cent over the 2000-15 period – a similar increase for the SDGs would raise USD 8 trillion. The report also recommended raising between USD 450 billion and USD 550 billion in innovative public financing, including taxes on carbon, bunker fuels and air travel (between USD 250 billion and USD 300 billion), financial transactions and currency (between USD 100 and USD 150 billion) and issuance of the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights (at least USD 100 billion).

4.3 Means of implementation

Sources of finance

To mobilise the needed finance for SDG implementation, additional flows must come from two main pillars – the public and private sectors. Public sector sources of finance include domestic resource mobilisation (i.e., government revenue collection), curbing illicit financial flows, foreign aid and public investment. Going forward, the private sector will have to be a major source of finance for the SDGs. Private sources of finance include private investment, foreign direct investment and remittances. Apart from these financial resources, non-financial resources, such as technology transfer and market access, are also needed to implement such an ambitious agenda.

Adequacy of financing

In Bangladesh, the share of capital expenditure (development expenditure) in total government expenditure has historically been low. Moreover, capital expenditure as a proportion of GDP has been showing a declining trend in recent years. Currently, public investment is only 6.9 per cent of GDP in (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2016b). The average tax-GDP ratio over the last decade was only 8.5 per cent. At present, domestic resource mobilisation is 12.1 per cent of GDP (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2016b). The low revenue-to-GDP ratio can be attributed to low taxes, coupled with major shortfalls in tax administration and high levels of tax evasion. Inadequate revenue collection has increased the debt burden and has made budget deficit financing more and more dependent on high-interest domestic borrowing and foreign loans. In addition, it has significantly constrained the scope and reach of poverty reduction strategies in the country. Meanwhile, the limited tax base fundamentally constrains the delivery of universal health, education and housing services, which are desperately needed by families living in poverty. Another major concern is the outflow of illicit finance, which is estimated to be 6.4 per cent of GDP in 2013 (Kar and Spanjers, 2015). Curbing illicit financial flows is necessary to secure additional finance for development. The average amount of foreign aid marginally increased in the country during the 2001-10 period compared to the 1991-2000 period. Foreign aid currently totals 1.6 per cent of GDP (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2016b).

The prospects for private sector finance are not so bright in Bangladesh. Private sector investment has been stagnant at 22 per cent over the last three years, which is low compared to other low-income and lower-middle-income countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Also, foreign direct investment is below 1 per cent of GDP (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2016b), which is a major bottleneck in the overall private finance architecture in the country. Remittances, however, are one of the strong private sources of finance and currently account for 7.9 per cent of GDP. Volatility due to the current economic and political crises in the Middle East and Europe has affected the prospects for private sector finance in Bangladesh.

4.4 Distribution of government expenditure across the SDGs

Budgeting and financing are the most important factors in successful implementation of the SDGs. Domestic resource mobilisation will play a vital role going forward. SDG 17.1 states “Strengthen domestic resource mobilisation, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection.”

Sectoral priorities in budgetary allocations

Government budget across different sectors assesses GoB’s sectoral priorities in terms of the size of budgetary allocations (see Annex 4). Starting with the budgetary allocation for ‘Poverty reduction’, a large proportion of the budget – above 50 per cent – has been allocated to poverty reduction activities. Achieving gender equality has been given the second highest priority, with above 25 per cent of the budget going to ‘Gender’.

The ‘**Education**’ sector comes in third with an average allocation of 13.7 per cent of the budget between FY2002 and FY2015. Relatively large allocations have been due to the GoB’s active interventions and strategies to achieve high enrolment and gender parity at the primary and secondary education levels. However, allocations have been on a downward trend in recent years.

The share of ‘**Social Safety Net Programmes**’, which aim to reduce inequalities, has been on average 13.1 per cent of the budget between FY2010 and FY2015. It has also been on a downward trend in recent years, which is problematic because inequalities have been growing in Bangladesh.

Initially the ‘**Transport and Communication**’ sector received a relatively large allocation – 12.6 per cent of the budget – in FY2002, but its allocation declined to 9.8 per cent in FY2015. One plausible reason behind the decline is in fact the completion of major transport infrastructure networks and a subsequent shift towards transport infrastructure maintenance and improvement (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2009).

The allocation to the ‘**Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock**’ sector increased from FY2002 until FY2009, after which it declined as a share of the budget. Public spending on this sector had been on a continuous upward trend due to policies to promote self-sufficiency in rice production. Some of the measures implemented by the GoB include the introduction of agro-inputs assistance cards for farmers, disbursement of diesel subsidies directly to farmers’ bank accounts, free electricity for irrigation to compensate for early drought during the monsoon season, a new mechanism for fertiliser delivery and collateral-free credit for tenant farmers. The GoB continued providing a 20 per cent subsidy for electricity used by irrigation pumps and raised the amount of agricultural credit for farmers during this time (Bangladesh, General Economic Division, 2012).

Although ‘**Health**’ is a priority sector in Bangladesh and the country has achieved commendable progress on health-related SDGs, the share of the budget allocated to ‘Health’ has been declining since FY2009, probably reflecting the fact that the impact of the global financial crisis during this time affected foreign aid channelled to this sector and partly due to the GoB’s prioritisation of infrastructure development.

The share of the budget allocated to ‘**Public Order and Safety**’ increased gradually to 6.2 per cent in FY2009 before falling to 5 per cent in FY2015. Even though there have been slight ups and downs in the allocation as a percentage of the budget, it has remained largely stable over time.

Similarly, the share of the budget allocated to the ‘**Fuel and Energy**’ sector reached a peak of 7.8 per cent in FY2004, after which it declined to 4.6 per cent in FY2015. The sector’s share hit a low of 3.8 per cent in FY2010, which coincided with the global financial crisis, a period when no substantive investment took place in this sector (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2009). The GoB had to spend significant amounts on subsidising oil imports for consumers. Oil prices have been on the decline recently, which significantly reduces the cost that the ‘Fuel and Energy’ sector has had to bear. Nonetheless, major infrastructure projects, such as the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant, and quick rental plants were taken up by the GoB after FY2011 to address basic utilities shortages and have been the main factors behind the sharp rise in the allocation to the sector recently.

Historically, the GoB has not made any significant increases in allocations to the ‘**Labour and Employment**’ and ‘**Industries and Commerce**’ sectors, with the average sectoral allocation as a percentage of the total budget remaining stable at 0.2 per cent for the ‘**Labour and Employment**’ sector and 0.8 per cent for the ‘**Industries and Commerce**’ sector. In order to address underemployment and unemployment, the GoB has to not only increase the level of budgetary allocations, but also employ effective strategies and policies to promote employment opportunities in a country known for its abundance of cheap labour.

The GoB plans to spend 14.6 per cent of the national budget on children in FY2017 (Bangladesh, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, 2016a). This is 29.2 per cent more in terms of the budgetary allocation to children compared to FY2016, a significant increase by any measure. Allocations to child-focused education (core promise 3 to children) alone constitutes about 80.4 per cent of the child-focused budget, the rest going to health as well as social protection and welfare of children. Notably, only 8.5 per cent of the child-focused budget was financed from foreign aid in FY2016. The contribution of aid was the lowest for child education at only 4.4 per cent, suggesting either a low priority for education in donor strategies or lack of donor confidence in the GoB’s education sector achievements (Save the Children, 2016).

Public spending as percentage of GDP

Total public spending as a percentage of GDP has been rising steadily in Bangladesh and stood at around 17 per cent in FY2015. It remains insufficient, however, to help the country to attain economic growth of 8 per cent by 2020, let alone implement the ambitious SDG agenda (see Annex 5).

<p>1 NO POVERTY</p> 	<p>Public spending on poverty reduction has been over 8 per cent on average over the FY2007-FY2015 period, which is a good figure compared to other sectors and reflects the GoB's prioritisation of poverty reduction and progress on the MDGs in terms of reducing poverty.</p>
<p>2 ZERO HUNGER</p> 	<p>Spending on agriculture and food security has been declining both as a percentage of GDP and a share of the total budget, which has seriously threatened food security in Bangladesh. The average share of the budget allocated to 'Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock' was around 1.1 per cent of GDP during the FY2002-FY2014 period.</p>
<p>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p> 	<p>Since FY2003, spending on health both as a percentage of GDP and a share of the total budget has been decreasing. In contrast, private, out-of-pocket spending on health has been increasing, which compensates for the growing financing gap. Out-of-pocket health expenditure has increased from 56 per cent in 1997 to 63 per cent in 2012 (United States Agency for International Development, Bangladesh, 2016). However, per capita health expenditure both in nominal and real terms has been increasing since the 2000s.</p>
<p>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</p> 	<p>Regarding public spending on education, growth has decelerated since FY2000 in Bangladesh, where performance in terms of attaining the MDGs has been otherwise commendable. The share of the budget – in terms of allocation and expenditure – on education has been hovering around 2 per cent of GDP over the last 10 years, but the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) stipulates that the allocation should be 6 per cent of GDP. Per capita allocation and expenditure both in nominal and real terms has increased nonetheless, which is a positive sign.</p>
<p>5 GENDER EQUALITY</p> 	<p>Spending on reducing gender inequality has been around 4 per cent on average over the FY2007-FY2015 period, which is second in terms of sectoral priorities and reflects the GoB's emphasis on reducing gender inequality and achieving gender parity in education.</p>

<p>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</p> 	<p>There is no specific sectoral allocation for water and sanitation in the budget. The share of the budget allocated to 'Water and Sanitation' in the ADP declined from 6.1 per cent in FY1996 to only 3.2 per cent in FY2014.</p>
<p>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</p> 	<p>Although public spending on the 'Fuel and Energy' has been on an upward trend in recent years, their share of the budget, which has been hovering around less than or equal to 1 per cent of GDP, is inadequate.</p>
<p>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p> 	<p>The share of spending allocated to the 'Labour and Employment' sector as a percentage of GDP is insignificant. The share in the ADP – in terms of allocation and expenditure – has been between 0.3 per cent and 0.6 per cent over the last decade, which is one of the lowest among the 17 sectors of the ADP and reflects a major financing gap that affects the generation of productive employment and decent work in Bangladesh.</p>
<p>9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</p> 	<p>Government expenditure on the 'Transport and Communication' and 'Industries and Commerce' sectors has been on the rise, particularly in the last couple of years, but is still inadequate to achieve higher economic growth. Another concern is that the prioritisation of infrastructural spending, which is nevertheless very important, has driven away resources from social sectors. The GoB must confront the dilemmas of resource constraints and wasteful spending.</p>
<p>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</p> 	<p>Public expenditure on social safety net programmes is also hovering between 2 per cent and 2.5 per cent of GDP, which is below the SFYP target of 3 per cent. About 25-30 per cent of this spending is on pensions for retired government employees. Without the allocation for government pensions, spending on social security has stagnated at 1.5 per cent of GDP.</p>
<p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p> 	<p>There is no specific sectoral allocation for sustainable cities and communities in the national budget. Public spending on this SDG can be partially tracked through the ADP allocation for 'Physical Planning, Water Supply and Housing'. Spending on this sector as a share of the total ADP was 4.6 per cent in FY1996 and 8.9 per cent in FY2014.</p>



Environmental sustainability directly or indirectly involves at least four SDGs – SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 14 and SDG 15. Major financing gaps exist, but spending by different ministries under the broad umbrella of environment protection has increased as a share of total public spending in Bangladesh since 2006 (Rahman, Khan and Sadique, 2014). However, the quality of expenditure is questionable.



Government expenditure to maintain 'Public Order and Safety' has been hovering around 1 per cent over the last 14 years. It increased to 0.9 per cent of GDP in FY2015 from 0.6 per cent of GDP in FY2002.



Net ODA received increased both in nominal and per capita terms in Bangladesh over the 2001-10 period when compared to 1991-2000 (Rahman, Khan and Sadique, 2014). Still, a higher level of development assistance is needed to implement the large SDG agenda in a populous lower-middle-income country like Bangladesh.

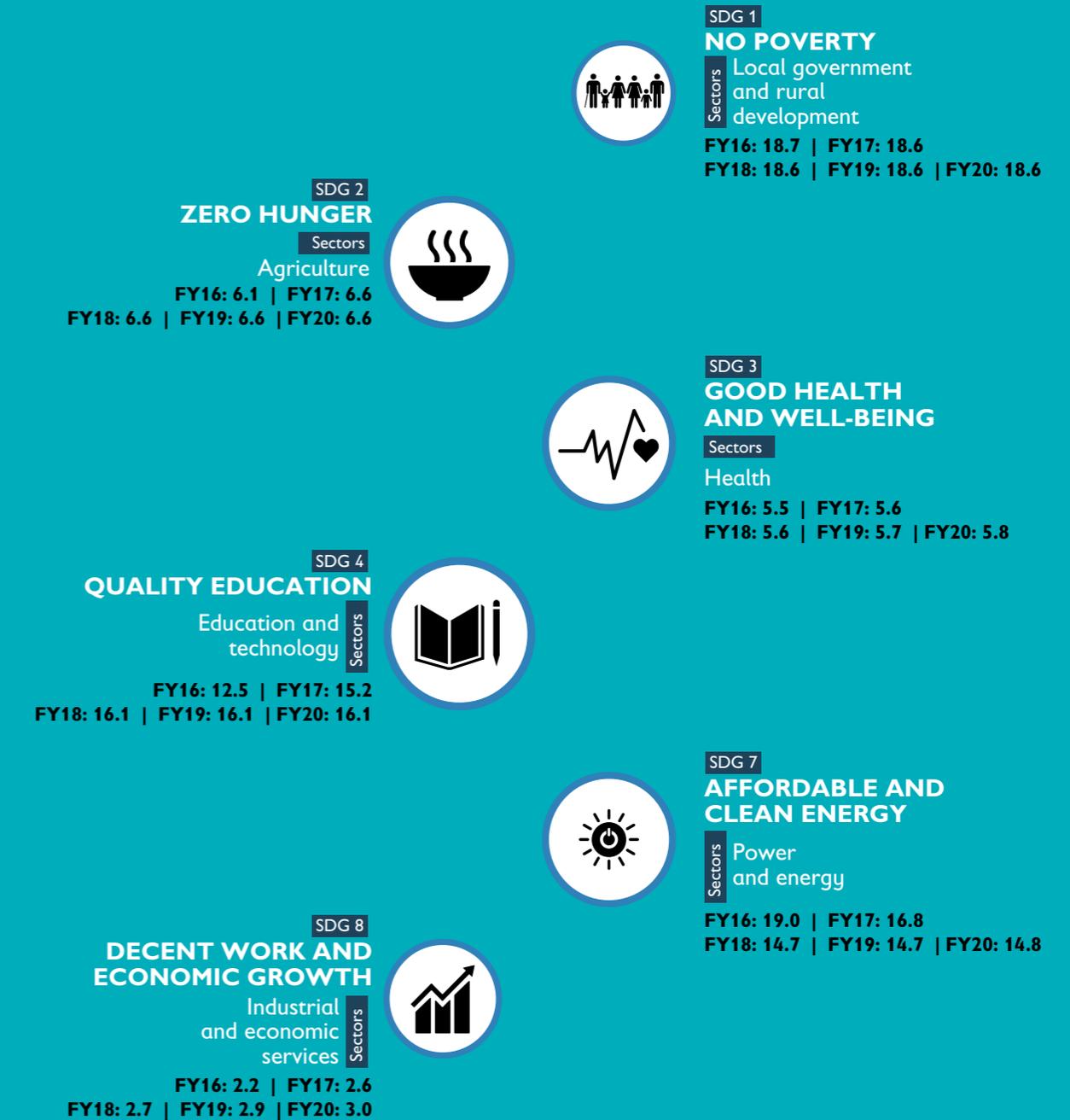
With regards to fulfilling the core promises to children, the combined spending of all seven ministries included in the CFB for FY2017 constitutes 2.5 per cent of GDP, which is an increase over 2.2 per cent of GDP in FY2016. However, while the allocation of resources is important, their utilisation is even more important for our children. Only 42.4 per cent of the allocations for children made through the ADP was utilised during the first nine months of FY2016, which is a serious efficiency concern. Such inefficiency has costs associated with it. Save the Children (2016) estimated that if 20 per cent of education allocations remain unutilised at the end of FY2016, it would be equivalent to the construction costs of 2,500 schools, which could have been used to create access to education for 1.3 million additional children. Further, if 17 per cent of the health allocations for children remain unutilised, it would be equivalent to the establishment of 195 community health facilities with birth delivery services, with which about 2,000 more assisted births could have been achieved each month across the country.

Future investment plan

For the future development of the country, the GoB has already proposed the size of the ADP budget in the 7FYP, which reflects sectoral priorities in terms of development allocations for the next five years. The ADP budget also gives us an indication about the amount of resources that will be allocated to SDG-relevant sectors. Analysis of the top 10 sectors of ADP allocation, which constitute around 95 per cent of the total ADP allocation in the 7FYP, suggests that a major proportion of resources are planned to be allocated to transport and communication (24.1 per cent), local government and rural development (18.6 per cent), power and energy (average of 16 per cent for FY2016-FY2020), and education and technology (15.2 per cent), which are partially aligned with SDG 9, SDG 7, SDG 1 and SDG 4, respectively (Table 8).

Table 8: Top 10 sectors according to ADP allocation in 7FYP (%)

Source: Compiled by authors based on Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission (2015b).



SDG 9
**INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Transport and
communication



FY16: 24.1 | FY17: 24.4
FY18: 24.1 | FY19: 24.0 | FY20: 24.1

SDG 13:
CLIMATE ACTION
SDG 14:
LIFE BELOW WATER
SDG 15:
LIFE AND LAND

Environment
and climate
change



FY16: 0.5 | FY17: 0.6
FY18: 0.6 | FY19: 0.6 | FY20: 0.6

SDG 10
**REDUCED
INEQUALITIES**

Sectors

Social protection

FY16: 3.9 | FY17: 4.1
FY18: 4.1 | FY19: 4.1 | FY20: 4.2



SDG 1
**PEACE, JUSTICE AND
STRONG INSTITUTIONS**

Public order
and safety

FY16: 1.6 | FY17: 1.6
FY18: 1.6 | FY19: 1.6 | FY20: 1.6



The size of the budget increases significantly each year, but the allocation amounts expressed as percentages are large for these sectors, which implies that the GoB has prioritised the improvement of these sectors as part of achieving Vision 2021. It can be implied from the large allocations for the Transportation and Communication sector that the GoB recognises this sector is vibrant and effective, plus it may play a key role in facilitating the diffusion of information that will eventually lead to lower transaction costs for the economy (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2012).

As the GoB has envisioned electricity for all by FY2021, certain key policies have been already taken into account to promote globalisation and integration into the global economy. Serious efforts are already underway regarding the construction of power plants so that electricity supply is in line with the continuous increase in demand. In order to be

in line with the SDGs, the GoB has to significantly increase public spending on the sectors aligned with the goals. At present, only 2.2 per cent of GDP is spent on the education sector. The GoB plans to realise proper education with 100 per cent literacy up until grade 12 by 2021 and beyond, among other targets. However, given the existing expenditure on education, such a target is not viable without a substantial increase in public spending. It also has to raise the level of expenditure on health and skills development for better human development, which would eventually lead to an equitable economy and promote sustainable development in the long run.

To realise the GoB's plans, the budget size has to increase by an estimated 21.1 per cent of GDP, which is a 5 per cent increase in relation to GDP at the terminal year of the 7FYP (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2015b). Public spending has to increase by at least 1 percentage point per year. This increase in the size of the budget would stimulate higher spending on the education sector by 0.8 per cent to 3 per cent of GDP. Similarly, the health budget would increase by 0.4 per cent to 1.2 per cent of GDP and social welfare budget would increase by 0.3 per cent to 2.3 per cent of GDP. Even though the added demand from social spending will be close to 1.5 per cent of GDP, the GoB will face further pressure due to challenges like public investment, public administration and interest payments (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2015b).

Below is a comparison of the resource allocation in the 7FYP against policy alignment with the SDGs (Table 9). Resource allocation in the 7FYP is better for the sectors that are better aligned with the SDGs at the planning level. For example, SDGs 1, SDG 4 and SDG 7 are better aligned with the 7FYP and three among the four top resource-allocated sectors in the 7FYP. Sectors like health (SDG 3) and employment (SDG 10), which are immensely important, lag behind both in terms of policy targets and resource allocation.

Table 9: **SDG integration vs. resource allocation in the 7FYP**

Alignment with the SDGs	Better allocation	Less allocation
Better integrated	SDG 1, SDG 4, SDG 7	SDG 2, SDG 13
Less integrated	SDG 9	SDG 3, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 14, SDG 15, SDG 16

Source: Authors' elaboration.

Apart from the 7FYP, there is a road map for investment in Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition named the Bangladesh Country Investment Plan. The plan is a five-year comprehensive investment plan prepared with a view to ensure implementation of the National Food Policy, which is a country-led planning, fund mobilisation and alignment tool. The plan is anchored in the policy, programmatic and financial framework of Bangladesh as (a) the investment arm of the National Food Policy (2006) and its Plan of Action (2008-15) and (b) an advocacy and financial tool for increased resource allocation from the national budget and development partners. The share of the budget allocated to current and future food security and nutrition programmes indicates that fiscal space for nutrition is still inadequate, although signs of improvement are visible, specifically in the post-plan resource allocation (Bangladesh, Food Planning and Monitoring Unit, Ministry of Food, 2015).

4.5 Equitability of national budget allocation

To tackle inequalities in Bangladesh, improving public revenue management and the efficiency and effectiveness of public administration are urgent priorities. Although the equitability aspect, or gender sensitivity, of budget allocations has been improved in recent years, there are still shortcomings in the budget preparation process due to its non-participatory nature. The GoB recently initiated stakeholder discussions during the budget preparation process, but they are not comprehensive in nature and concerns or demands of stakeholders who are discriminated against are seldom reflected in the process and distribution of allocations based on the equity perspective.

The budget preparation process in Bangladesh was lengthy and not linked to any strategic objectives until recently. In order to improve fiscal discipline and bring a more strategic and performance-oriented approach to budgetary allocations, the GoB introduced the Medium-Term Budget Framework, replacing the traditional budget preparation process. The framework was first rolled out across four ministries in FY2006 and was being applied to all ministries and divisions by FY2012. The main features of the framework's approach are: (a) a medium-term outlook to budget planning, (b) explicit linkages between policy priorities and resource allocation and (c) an emphasis on the efficient use of limited public resources (Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Policy Research Institute and UNICEF Bangladesh, 2013). The framework incorporates programme- and project-wise development and non-development resource allocation and expenditure data with a two-year lag, allowing analysts to assess how much finance is being allocated and spent on different vulnerable groups and groups who are discriminated against, thus making it more equitable than previous practices. However, building the required capacity to implement the framework and entrench accountability for meeting budget targets across the GoB remain key challenges, while capacity to measure and estimate the demand for services remains a critical weakness. Sound auditing practices together with effective financial accountability need to be consolidated. Building a participatory budget preparation process through citizen engagement is also a priority.

Moreover, a few aspects of the child budget need attention. First, unlike the first child budget report, the CFB report for FY2017 only provides aggregate allocations at the ministry level and does not identify individual projects that have been included in estimates, which is critical to ensure transparency in reporting. Second, in Bangladesh, if a child is born in hard-to-reach areas like chars, haors or hilly regions, he or she may be deprived from accessing vital health, education or other services (Save the Children, 2016). In addition, if a child lives in urban slums, he or she may be excluded from accessing those vital services deliberately by the vital registration system, given the legitimacy of the settlement despite physical proximity to those services. This geographical factor of children's well-being compels targeted and differential investments and programming. Unfortunately, the national budget and the GoB's CFB report do not include geographical disaggregation of resource allocations, which is a major setback to ensuring that no children are left behind with regards to the core promises made to them in the SDGs (Save the Children, 2016).

4.6 Recommendations for addressing financing challenges

For the MDGs, resource requirements were not estimated upfront. Resource needs for the MDGs were estimated individually for different goals, which resulted in double counting. Since the SDG indicators have been finalised, the resources required for implementing the SDGs need to be identified at both the country and global levels. Target-based estimates need to be considered in this context. Simultaneously, synergies among targets and trade-offs should be taken into account. Estimated resource requirements need to be matched with existing resource flows by source. Such matching will lead to more accurate estimates of resource gaps and assist in the identification of alternative financing sources (Bhattacharya et al., 2016). There is a need to place emphasis on the following: (a) the cost of achieving the SDGs needs to be estimated upfront, (b) ODA commitments need to be secured in tandem with this anticipated expenditure and (c) it needs to be recognised that without enhancing institutional capacity (MoF data show that on an average 10 per cent of the total budget and 20 per cent of the ADP were unutilised in the last 14 years), implementation and hence the attainment of the SDGs may suffer despite adequate public resources. Regular monitoring as well as mid-course corrections and calibration of government expenditure to attain the SDGs and their associated targets will be the keys to successful SDG implementation. For this purpose, a separate and dedicated budgetary committee including the MoF and Economic Relations Division (ERD) should be formulated for ensuring SDG target-oriented and outcome-based budgeting and financing practices.

As regards the CFB it is imperative to have geographical reporting for the budget to better address geographical inequalities as discussed in section 2. It is also of critical importance from the targeted investment point of view that the CFB gradually evolves to be a tool to track equity and inclusion rather than remain as a tool for reporting on allocations and expenditure. At this critical stage, when GoB is incorporating the SDGs into policy priorities, it is important that the CFB report overcomes its current limitations and develops as an effective tool to track progress on realising the SDGs' core promises to children.

5 Monitoring and accountability mechanisms for delivering the SDGs

The current state of data relating to the 230 SDG indicators is a considerable impediment to setting benchmarks and monitoring progress. Further, the findings of the Post-2015 Data Test initiative for Bangladesh, indicate that available data often suffer from a lack of: accuracy and reliability, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, and coherence and comparability, updated and adequate legislation for data dissemination, availability of metadata and baseline data availability (Rahman et al., 2015b).

5.1 Availability and adequacy of data to monitor the SDGs

Data availability refers to data being available to end users when they are needed. More specifically, it refers to the extent to which data are readily usable along with the necessary tools and technologies required to enable usage, manage data and continue to make data available. 'Readily available' refers to data that are available in a usable format (hard copy, electronic version) that enables users to measure the progress of indicators. 'Not readily available' refers to data that are not currently reported in Bangladesh, but can be estimated or calculated from existing administrative information and available surveys. Data are deemed adequate if they are accurate and reliable, produced frequently and at a short interval, have a clear and updated dissemination policy or legislation, ensure the availability of metadata and have a baseline or benchmark year. 'Available sources' refer to sources where data is either readily available or can be made available through estimation using those sources. 'Potential sources' indicate sources (both official and unofficial) that can be used to generate or collect data for the indicators for which no data is currently available.

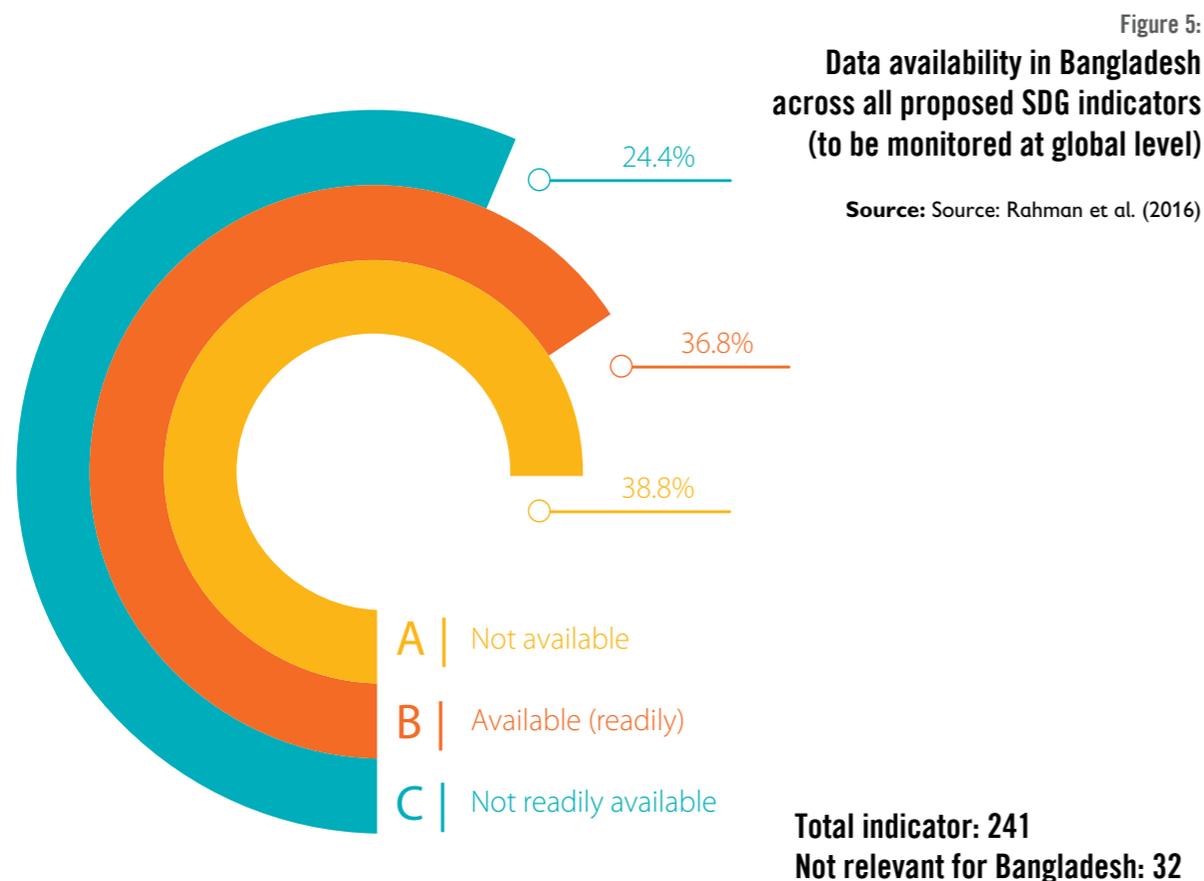
Data availability

Rahman et al. (2016) undertook a data-mapping exercise to assess the availability of data for Bangladesh in light of the SDG indicators that were proposed by the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators for adoption by the UN Statistical Commission in March 2016. By February 2016, the group included a total of 241 indicators in its revised proposal. Of these 241 indicators, nine were repeated separately under 20 targets – as such, the actual number of indicators was 230, which were adopted as a global indicator framework by the UN Statistical Commission (United Nations Economic and Social Council, 2016).

Of the 241 indicators (with repetition), 32 indicators were not relevant for Bangladesh (either not applicable at the individual country level or the indicators had not yet been fully developed). It was found that of the 209 indicators examined, data for 128 indicators (61.2 per cent) were available (either readily or not readily) (Figure 5). As such, data availability for Bangladesh across all proposed indicators is unsatisfactory overall. It should also be noted that of the 128 indicators for which data are considered to be available, data are not in a usable format for 51 of these indicators and will therefore need to be produced from existing information (see Annex 6 for details). Of these 51 indicators, 30 require estimations to be made using various administrative records (Rahman et al., 2016). Moreover, data need to be made available at disaggregated levels for many of the proposed SDG indicators.

Among the aforementioned 32 indicators that were not relevant for Bangladesh, 30 indicators are appropriate for global or regional monitoring, or in other words they are not applicable to an individual country (e.g., percentage of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment). However, information needs to be generated for these indicators at the country level to pursue country-specific interests, as well as in the light of negotiations at the global level. There are also indicators that are more targeted to specific countries

(or regions) and as such are not especially relevant to Bangladesh.⁸ There are also a few indicators that are confusing and therefore require greater definitional clarity, such as the “proportion of the population living in households with access to basic services”. In this particular case, it is not clear how “basic services” are defined (Rahman et al., 2016).



In Bangladesh, data availability for the SDGs on poverty, affordable and clean energy, and decent work was found to be relatively strong. Data were available for at least 80 per cent of these indicators (Figure 6). For the SDGs on reduced inequalities, life and land, good health and well-being, industry, innovation and infrastructure, gender equality, peace, justice and strong institutions, and global partnership, data were available for 50-79 per cent of indicators. In fact, 100 per cent of data was found to be available for the SDG on climate action, although this does not take into consideration the indicators that are not applicable to an individual country, which constitute the majority of indicators for this SDG.

Serious data scarcity was found for the SDGs on life below water, sustainable cities and communities, responsible consumption and production, hunger, and quality education, each of which have less than 50 per cent of the required available data. It is worth noting that each of these areas are new in the SDGs, or in other words they were not in the MDGs.

⁸ For example, the percentage of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting. While this is particularly relevant for countries of Africa, this indicator may not be appropriate (or a priority) for Bangladesh.

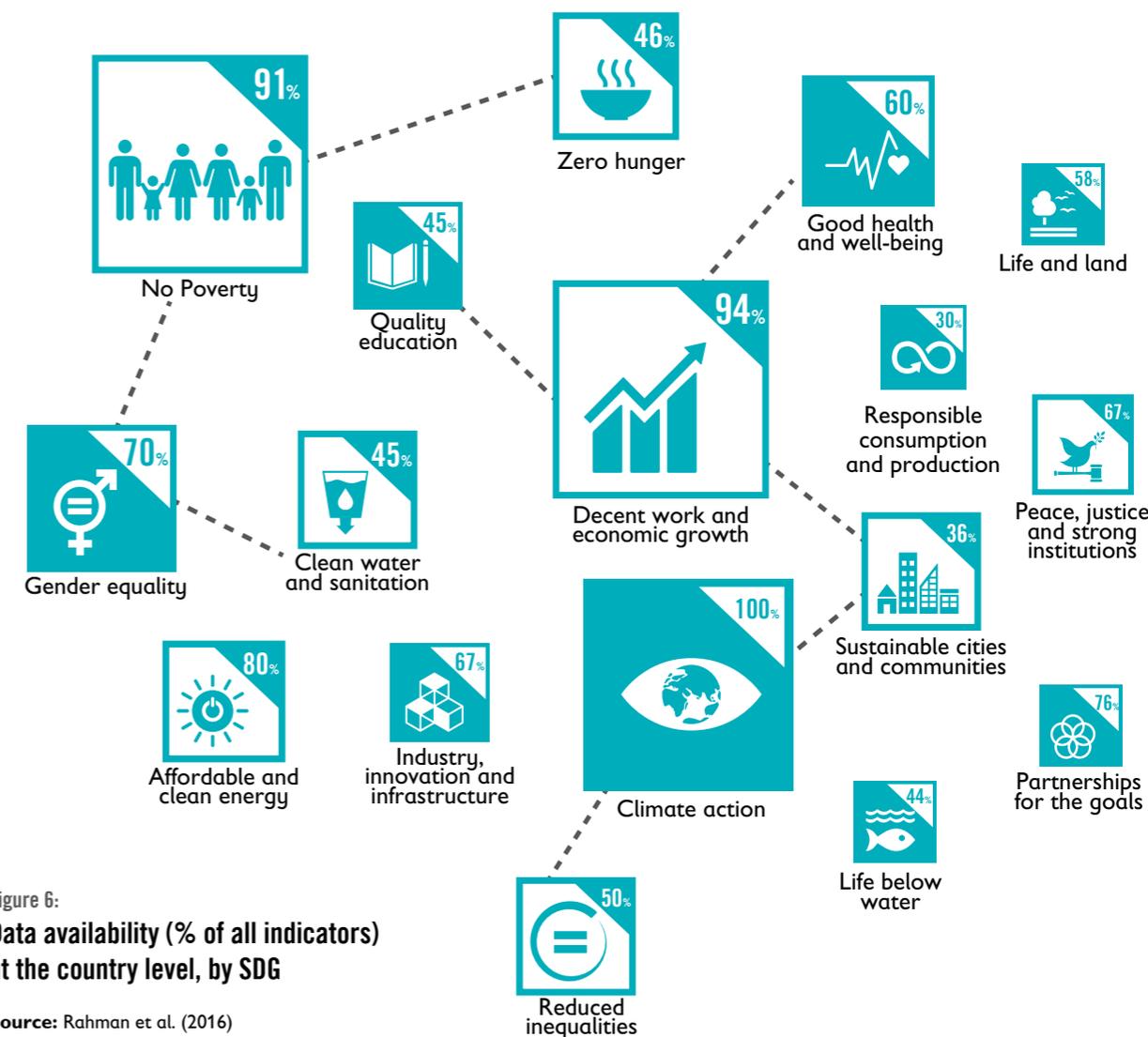


Figure 6:
Data availability (% of all indicators)
at the country level, by SDG

Source: Rahman et al. (2016)

Data production challenges

The data-mapping exercise suggested that five types of data are needed to monitor the SDGs in Bangladesh: survey-based, administrative, technical, perception-based and international data. Out of the 128 indicators for which data are either readily or not readily available at the country level, major sources include administrative records (46.1 per cent) and surveys (32 per cent). Data are available from technical sources (1.6 per cent) and perception surveys conducted by non-official entities (0.8 per cent). A significant number of indicators for which data are not available from national sources may use data from international sources (19.5 per cent) (Rahman et al., 2016). Each type of data poses multi-dimensional challenges that require prudent measures.

Regarding survey based data, data for a large number of indicators need to be sourced from a range of regular and ad hoc surveys administered by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), which is the national statistical office, and National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT), specifically the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), Labour Force Survey (LFS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), Sample Vital Registration System (SVRS), Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey (BDHS), Violence Against Women (VAW) Survey and Survey of

Manufacturing Industries (SMI). However, a major drawback with regard to data collection in Bangladesh is that many data are only available after a time lag of three to five years. For example, the BBS conducts large-scale surveys such as the HIES once every five years and the LFS and MICS once every three years. Up-to-date data for the interim periods are not available in most cases. Aware of this, the GED of the Planning Commission recently put forward a proposal to the BBS to shorten the intervals between survey periods and/or use proxy estimations to enable the updating of data on an ongoing basis (Rahman et al., 2015b). Another major concern is ensuring that data are generated to the needed levels of disaggregation.

Administrative records are an important source of official statistics. Administrative data refer to information collected primarily for administrative or management purposes. Government ministries and departments are the main – though not exclusive – keepers of large administrative databases, including welfare, tax, health and educational record systems. Administrative records can provide a significant amount of data for SDG indicators in Bangladesh, especially in areas like health, education, environment sustainability, governance and global partnership. However, administrative data often suffer from a lack of quality (Rahman et al., 2015b; 2016). There is a need to ensure standardisation and coherence of relevant concepts and definitions in the case of administrative records. Further, these records and statistics are often not readily available in usable format. There is also a lack of coordination among different administrative statistical units, which leads to incoherence and incomprehensiveness and ultimately limits the effectiveness of data to track progress (Rahman et al., 2016). For example, the Department of Environment (DoE) and Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD) generate statistics to conduct their activities as part of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF), but they do not have a comprehensive, clear idea of what other departments are producing and how to conserve data in a common platform to monitor the progress of SDG indicators.

A substantial number of indicators, particularly for the SDGs on sustainable consumption and production, climate action, life below water, and life and land, require the use of frontier technical tools along with the relevant expertise to collect the required data. Additional investment is needed to build the required infrastructural capacity and develop needed human resource skills.

The data required for governance-related indicators under SDG 16 (e.g., the percentage of the population who believe decision-making at all levels is inclusive and responsive) are predominantly perception-based. As such, the private sector can play a large role in collecting such data, either by itself or in collaboration with the GoB. However, a major weakness in most cases is that rigorous methodologies are not followed. The quality of perception-based data is often compromised by small survey sample sizes, which limit the representativeness of data (Rahman et al., 2015b; 2016). The validation of unofficial data is a major concern in this regard.

Further, significant proportion of data need to be collected from international sources. There is a related concern regarding the validation of international statistics, many of which are produced by private international entities.

Data accessibility

Data need to be accessible and usable by all to monitor progress on the SDGs. The full range of underlying information, known as metadata (i.e., concept, definition, classification, methodology, data sources and accuracy), needs to be properly documented and made accessible. The status of data accessibility also leaves much to be desired in Bangladesh. Researchers, academics and students often find it difficult to access data due to different administrative bottlenecks. They also have difficulties contacting responsible authorities to access data. Government institutions do not generally have appropriate data dissemination policies. Thus, analysts cannot have a clear idea about the availability of certain datasets. In addition, there is no clear strategy on releasing data, metadata and microdata. Notably, the electronic dissemination of data is very poor. Except for the BBS, most of the other data-producing institutions do not have interactive websites that allow users to access data and metadata and facilitate self-tabulation in a variety of needed formats. Furthermore, no periodic consultation takes place between producers and users of data to ensure that dissemination formats satisfy user needs (Rahman et al., 2015b). Recently, the GoB began an open data initiative with the objective of ensuring access to all data in one place. This is a positive initiative that should be supported by necessary resources. Appropriate protocols should also be established to ensure proper access and appropriate use of data (Rahman et al., 2016).

Data financing

As is the case in many other developing countries, the capacity of the data producing institutions in Bangladesh is often a major constraint (Rahman et al., 2015; PARIS21, 2015). Generally, public resources are limited in Bangladesh, which means that the selection and prioritisation of which data are to be generated continue to be an issue. In recent years, the BBS has received additional finance from the GoB and development partners to conduct surveys and build capacity (Rahman et al., 2015b). However, the total resources available remain inadequate when taking into account the additional resources needed to realise a ‘data revolution’ in Bangladesh. Rahman et al. (2015a) estimated that the BBS will require a total of USD 148 million to conduct its major surveys and censuses during the SDG period to produce the basic statistics required for monitoring the SDGs. However, it was found that these regular surveys and censuses conducted by the BBS only cover the data requirements of nine out of 17 SDGs.

Recent initiatives to strengthen the national statistical system

Alongside global efforts, various initiatives are being put in place at the national level. In Bangladesh, the BBS has in recent years undertaken a number of initiatives aimed at meeting development data needs and strengthening the national statistical system. Initiatives include the Statistics Act 2013, the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) for the 2013-23 period, the expansion of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure (including the establishment of ICT centres in all upazilas), the initiation of a new Environment Statistics Section under the National Accounting Wing of BBS, and more frequent use of technology (e.g., geographic information systems [GIS]) for data collection purposes.

In response to the concept developed by PARIS21 in 2004, Bangladesh prepared its NSDS, keeping in mind the needs of users of official statistics, the need to promote more effective dissemination of information and the need to strengthen statistical services (Rahman et al., 2015b). The main objective that drove the development of the NSDS was the need to strengthen the national statistical system in order to provide comprehensive, coherent statistics, while simultaneously making efficient and effective use of public resources.

A number of strategic actions have been proposed in order to avoid duplication of data and ensure optimal use of public resources for NSDS programmes that are to be implemented by 2023 (Rahman et al., 2015b). It is expected that the envisioned initiatives will help set standards related to the openness, accessibility, confidentiality and soundness of data collection methods. It is also hoped that the initiatives will contribute to ensuring quality, integrity, impartiality and objectivity, as well as help meeting the needs of users (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2013). Key NSDS actions include: (a) setting up statistical cells in 18 ministries; (b) developing a quality assurance framework by 2014, which is in line with the National Quality Assurance Framework; (c) developing and legally enforcing a common code of practice; and (d) developing a National Population Register, which is expected to be implemented in 2016. In addition, the GoB is set to introduce Open Government Data, which is a portal that will provide all data on a single website, taking advantage of the ongoing work of the BBS to develop an online ‘one-stop shop’ (Rahman et al., 2016).

If these proposed strategic actions could be implemented in practice and in full measure, they will bring about significant changes to current data collection practices. However, the implementation of the NSDS remains a major challenge due to a lack of adequately qualified and skilled human resources (Rahman et al., 2015b). Indeed, a number of proposed actions have already missed their respective deadlines. In its Bangladesh country study, PARIS21 (2015) found that only 50 per cent of the activities originally planned to start by 2014 have been undertaken so far, largely due to the lack of human resources. Potential data producers that are expected to be involved in producing data for measuring progress in Bangladesh on the SDGs were not included in the plan. The existing NSDS should thus be revised according to the emerging demands of an inclusive ‘data revolution’ process.

Further, the estimated cost of implementing the NSDS over a 10-year period is approximately USD 552 million (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2013). Of this total, USD 152 million (27.6 per cent) is expected to be sourced from the GoB, with

the remaining USD 400 million (72.4 per cent) to be sourced from development partners (Rahman et al., 2016). Aid for statistics has been extremely volatile over the last eight years, ranging from just USD 0.5 million in 2009 to USD 47.8 million in 2013, which indicates a significant gap between the resources available and demand (Rahman et al., 2016).

In many developing countries, the reasons for systemic failure in generating necessary data include: (a) as governments aim to reduce administrative costs, budget cuts often disproportionately affect statistical offices, while inadequate investment leaves statistical offices unable to take advantage of new technologies; (b) over-dependence on donor finance leads to donor-driven statistical activities and inadequate resources for maintaining statistical infrastructure and routine data collection; and (c) statistical staffs lack training and find smaller scope for career development (Rahman et al., 2015a). Addressing these causes of failure and undertaking prudent measures might help the existing mechanisms in strengthening and linking to the SDGs accountability.

5.2 Accountability mechanisms

Edward and Hulme (1996) defined accountability as “the means by which individuals and organisations report to a recognised authority (or authorities) and are held responsible for their actions”. There are several underlying notions with this definition: “it is external; it involves social interaction and exchange; and it implies rights of authority” (United Nations Development Programme, 2006). Vertical accountability refers to the direct relationship between government representatives holding public office and the citizens. Vertical accountability, besides periodic elections, “is also a function of political parties, public opinion, media and civil society engagement” (United Nations Development Programme, 2006).

The key channels of accountability in Bangladesh are the existing chains of ministerial responsibility through the departmental hierarchy to parliament, the media and the public. A number of other accountability mechanisms exist, including the accountability of government officials to independent accountability entities such as the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General, the Ombudsman, tribunals of inquiry, commissions of investigation, parliamentary inquiries and the courts. The ability of not-for-profit and civil society organisations to operate in ways consistent with freedom of expression, association and opinion are also channels of accountability. However, transparency in policy formulation and decision-making, creating and using channels to solicit public feedback, and deepening public participation in developing, monitoring and evaluating government activities to ensure government accountability remain weak in Bangladesh. It was found that urban local government institutions’ accountability is very low in the country (Bhattacharya, Monem and Rezvana, 2013). Bhattacharya et al. (2013) found that local governments cannot undertake and execute as many development projects as they would like and cannot provide quality basic services to local communities due to poor tax collection and insufficient grants from the GoB. Such incapacity to generate own resources and dependence on the GoB reduces the autonomy of local government institutions and leads to weaker accountability. Further, Bhattacharya et al. (2013) found that municipalities over the years have not earnestly attempted to make municipal standing committees truly functional, with the absence of these committees adversely affecting their vertical accountability to local citizens.

Intra-governmental coordination

In November 2015, the GoB established an inter-ministerial committee on SDG monitoring and implementation. The principal secretary of the Prime Minister’s Office chairs the committee, while the GED of the Planning Commission serves as the secretariat (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2015b). Secretaries of 11 key ministries/divisions⁹ comprise the membership of the committee, which is designated to oversee the overall progress of implementation and monitoring of the SDGs. The committee has already started working on setting priorities and

⁹ Ministries include the MoF, ERD, GED, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), MoHF, MoE, Ministry of Agriculture, Power Division, LGD, MoWCA and Ministry of Social Welfare.

contextualising global goals with national ambitions by requesting that all ministries identify relevant goals and targets and reflect these in their respective sectoral plans, as well as in newly introduced Annual Performance Appraisal. The committee will report to the prime minister every six months. Further, towards the successful implementation of the SDGs, the GED of the Planning Commission requested that all concerned ministries/divisions prepare their own action plans. Based on these inputs, the GED will prepare a national action plan on implementing the SDGs in a phased manner, following the three cycles of five-year development planning in Bangladesh (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2015b). The Planning Commission has also conducted a mapping of all concerned ministries/divisions by SDG area, but there is no mention of the lead ministry under each SDG and how inter- and intra-ministerial coordination will take place.

Multi-stakeholder participation

One of the major criticisms of the MDGs was the lack of non-governmental involvement in the whole process. The 2030 Agenda is more inclusive and therefore more participatory in its approach (Bhattacharya et al., 2016). To ensure that the SDGs are “people-centred”, an inclusive and participatory policy process, which involves the ability to demand corrective action from decision-makers in both government and parliament, is required (United Nations Development Group, 2014). In the discussions and debates on the 2030 Agenda in Bangladesh, it was emphasised time and again that a multi-stakeholder mechanism including civil society organisations, NGOs, knowledge community (academia, think tanks and the media) together with development partners would be effective in promoting policy coherence, implementing programmes and monitoring for results (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2015b). Stakeholders can contribute to every step of SDG implementation from agenda setting to ensuring accountability (Figure 7). To ensure transparency and accountability, the GoB should establish a national monitoring and review mechanism, in which every stakeholder should participate.



Figure 7:
Six elements for
delivering the SDGs

Source: Authors’ elaboration.

Being particularly encouraged by the transformative and inclusive nature of the SDGs and committed to their implementation, CPD in partnership with 40 organisations of Bangladesh has taken the initiative to set up the Citizens' Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh with the objective to contribute to the delivery of the SDGs and enhance accountability in the process.

5.3 Recommendations for addressing monitoring and accountability challenges

Addressing data-related challenges

The SDGs call for formulating and generating new data and information matrices since it embrace many 'soft issues' such as peace, justice and strong institutions. Rahman et al., (2015b) states that in view of the availability of new techniques and tools such as the Global Positioning System (GPS) for generating and mobilising information, it was felt that the SDGs were designed by keeping in the purview the emerging opportunities in these areas. The GoB should also embrace this opportunity.

Standardisation of relevant concepts and definitions of variables through consultations with major stakeholders is necessary. New surveys are needed to generate data on a number of important indicators, particularly those related to governance and institutional strengthening. It is also necessary to consolidate existing surveys and data collection procedures. In many cases, surveys should be conducted more frequently (e.g., quarterly labour force survey rather than a three-year interval, quarterly GDP estimation, conducting HIES every two or three years). As demand for disaggregated data (e.g., data disaggregated by sex, age, employment status and geographical location) is growing, data producers should take necessary steps to address emerging needs.

Data quality should be enhanced through the use of advanced technologies. Enhancement is necessary to generate data that can be used to not only monitor SDG outcomes, but also the variables that impact outcomes. Data should be made available in a timely manner to facilitate real-time decision making.

The GoB should have a data dissemination plan and updated legislation. Coordination among data producers and data users should be strengthened to harness existing capacities in the non-governmental sector. Civil society and other stakeholder groups can be both producers and users of key data. Analysts, experts and researchers will make use of the data to measure and analyse progress going forward. Hence, a comprehensive plan as regards data needs to be designed, articulating concrete tasks for specific institutions and stakeholders. Institutional capacity needs to be enhanced, keeping needs arising from the 2030 Agenda. In the context of the SDGs, a new set of institutional arrangements is required.

To address the data-related challenges for monitoring the SDGs, Rahman et al. (2016) designed a data action plan, which identifies five emerging priority 'data revolution' actions, each with its own associated sub-actions. The first three actions concern the generation and dissemination of quality data to support policy-making and development-focused research, while the final two actions aim to ensure that there is a conducive environment for this process. The five actions are make data available to meet SDG monitoring needs, ensure national data meet global quality standards, increase data accessibility for all users, strengthen institutional capacity at all levels and ensure sufficient funding for an effective statistical system.

Ensuring intergovernmental coordination and multi-stakeholder participation

The SDGs provide a significant opportunity for the development community to engage strategically with the private sector. Specifically, SDG 8, SDG 9 and SDG 12, which deal with economic growth, employment, industrialisation, innovation, and production and consumption patterns, underline the importance of inclusive and sustainable approaches where the private sector is already very much involved (Bhattacharya et al., 2016). In addition, to finance the ambitious SDG agenda, especially in a least developed country like Bangladesh, development partners including the World Bank, regional development banks and other financial institutions need to play a more critical role. Therefore, aligning development partners' portfolios with the SDGs is also important. However, ensuring that resources are flowing in the

proper directions depends on the GoB. In this case, political good will and good governance are needed to monitor and ensure the efficient use of resources, as well as make both parties – the funder and the beneficiary – accountable (van der Heijden and Bapna, 2015).

Apart from the GoB, the involvement of other stakeholders in the SDG implementation planning process remains inadequate in Bangladesh. In addition, knowledge about the SDGs is still limited among stakeholders, particularly local governments and citizens. Compared to the MDGs, Civil society, NGOs and think tanks will have a greater role in the implementation of the SDGs. For instance, despite playing a very important role in helping the GoB to formulate the SDGs at the global level, there is further scope for NGOs, CSOs and think tanks working at the national level to be involved in country prioritisation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes (Bhattacharya et al., 2016).

Concluding remarks

This study has provided an overview of the broad challenges facing SDG implementation in Bangladesh. It is clear that the country has already shown a strong commitment to the SDGs. It is now important to continue this enthusiasm through timely implementation, which requires efforts by all stakeholders.

The study has shown that there are several trends that may affect the GoB's ability to achieve the SDGs. There were a number of MDGs left unattained. Further, the progress made in different MDG areas was not uniform for everyone. There are growing gender, group-based and geographical inequalities that alienate large segments of the population. Women and ethnic minorities are particularly vulnerable. Apart from these trends, we identify five major SDG implementation challenges in Bangladesh.

First, national policy alignment with the SDGs is insufficient. An assessment of the alignment between the core or sector-specific targets of the 7FYP and SDG targets shows that there is no alignment with 35 targets (20.7 per cent) of the 169 SDG targets.

Second, resource allocations in both the national budget and ODA for different SDG areas are inadequate as per initial global estimates. A national cost estimation to achieve the SDGs has yet to be conducted. The utilisation of resources, particularly the development budget, is also a major concern. There is no geographical reporting for the CFB in particular and the national budget in general, which hampers the tracking of geographical inequalities.

Third, the availability, quality and accessibility of data are inadequate to monitor the SDGs. Of the 209 indicators examined, data for 128 indicators (61.2 per cent) are available (either readily or not readily). Further, available data have quality concerns. Data accessibility also leaves much to be desired. A large proportion of statistics will need to be produced using data from administrative sources and perception surveys, which are not conducted by the BBS.

Fourth, institutional architecture has already been established that can deliver the 2030 Agenda over the next 15 years. However, how inter- and intra-ministerial and departmental coordination will take place and which institutions will lead under each SDG are unclear.

Fifth, an ongoing work in progress is the development of a multi-stakeholder partnership that encourages the engagement of all stakeholders, including parliamentarians, regional and local authorities, the private sector, academia and CSOs, in addition to governments and development partners. There is further scope for the engagement of stakeholders across the whole process of SDG implementation.

Addressing these challenges will not be easy. Based on the analysis conducted in this study, the following recommendations aim to guide the GoB toward successful SDG implementation in Bangladesh.

Prioritise the unfinished agenda of the MDGs

The GoB should immediately prioritise the unfinished agenda of the MDGs. The GoB should immediately prioritise the unfinished agenda of the MDGs as it facilitates towards identifying country level prioritisation as regards the SDGs and accelerates SDG implementation. In addition, it should not stop its efforts when a SDG target is achieved because some targets could be below national aspirations.

Integrate SDG targets into national and sub-national plans

Implementation relies on the appropriate integration of SDG targets into national and sub-national plans. Such

integration may be difficult because a number of national and sectoral development plans already exist. Integration is possible by comparing existing development plans with SDG targets and identifying and mitigating gaps. The GoB should formulate new national or sectoral plans with the SDGs in mind.

Invest more to realise 'core promises' to children

The GoB should put more emphasis on children who are vulnerable and discriminated against. Investing in children should be the GoB's core priority because the country's demographic dividend will be in decline by 2030. The first step should be to better align the SDGs' 'core promises' to children – no child should die from a disease we can prevent, every child should have the food needed to grow normally, every child should be able to read and write and be numerate, and no child should live in fear – with national development plans and policies. Establishing a regular child-focused budget would be a timely, praiseworthy initiative. While the allocation of resources is important, their utilisation must be efficient and reliable to ensure the efficacy of public spending dedicated for children. It is also imperative to have geographical reporting on the CFB to better address geographical inequalities.

Estimate the cost to implement the SDGs at the outset

Resource requirements were not estimated upfront for the MDGs, but rather individually for different goals, which resulted in double counting. Since indicators have been finalised, the GoB should identify the resources required for implementing the SDGs as early as possible. Target-based estimates need to be considered, while synergies among targets and trade-offs should be taken into account. Estimated resource requirements need to be matched with existing resource flows by source. Such matching will lead to more accurate estimates of resource gaps and assist in the identification of alternative financing sources.

Allocate adequate resources and ensure their efficient utilisation

The GoB needs to significantly increase domestic resource mobilisation from its current low level. To this end, curbing illicit financial flows must be a priority. In addition, foreign aid and public expenditure allocation require both qualitative and quantitative improvements. Making strategic use of ODA and doubling concessional aid is also crucial.

Strengthen the capacities of national statistical offices and build public-private partnerships to address data needs for monitoring the SDGs

The GoB should conduct a data adequacy mapping exercise with the assistance of think tanks, private organisations and experts and consider the use of unofficial data and their validation. Standardisation of relevant concepts and definitions of variables through consultations with major stakeholders is necessary. Data quality should be enhanced through the use of advanced technologies. The GoB should have a data dissemination plan and update legislation. Coordination among data producers and data users should be strengthened to harness existing capacities in the non-governmental sector. Subsequently, the capacities of national statistical offices and other key institutions responsible for data collections and statistical production will need to be strengthened. To this end, the NSDS needs to be revised as appropriate.

Ensure inter- and intra-governmental coordination

SDG implementation necessitates inter- and intra-governmental coordination by the GoB. Integrated actions should therefore be initiated for each goal area. The GoB should establish a mechanism for such coordination that ensures communication among different implementing institutions. The GoB's establishment of an inter-ministerial committee on SDG monitoring and implementation is a very welcome approach. However, coordination between different levels of government is crucial for both monitoring and implementation, hence there should be a clear channel of communication between the GoB and local governments to improve the effectiveness of SDG implementation.

Ensure multi-stakeholder participation and establish a monitoring and review mechanism

The GoB should put in place a mechanism to ensure the proper participation of all stakeholders. Stakeholders can contribute to every step of SDG implementation from agenda setting to ensuring accountability. To ensure transparency and accountability, the GoB should establish a national monitoring and review mechanism, in which every stakeholder should participate.

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Annex 1: List of Expert Group Meeting Participants and Interviews

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Annex 2: Case studies on Selected Child Focused Areas

Case study 1

EMPLOYMENT-TO-POPULATION RATIO

According to ILO (2011), “the employment-to-population ratio is the proportion of a country’s working-age population that is employed.” The youth and adult employment-to-population ratios are the proportions of the youth and adult populations – typically people aged 15 to 24 years and 25 years and over, respectively – that are employed. With economic growth, the scope for further employment opportunities increases. Bangladesh has experienced modest economic growth, but employment is inadequate for many people. In addition, the adequacy and consistency of LFS data over time are major concerns. The issue of inadequate data has become a constraint for the development of necessary reforms to increase employment.

Bangladesh did not meet the MDG target of achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all. The labour force participation rate in Bangladesh is relatively low, though it increased from 51.2 per cent in 1990/91 to 59.3 per cent in 2010, after which it declined to 57.1 percent in FY2013. The latest available data based on the LFS 2013 indicate that as of FY2013, only 60.7 million (57.1 percent) population over 15 years of age were economically active. The participation rate of women increased over the last two decades (FY1990-2010) and reached 33.5 percent in FY2013. Overall, however, the unemployment rate is relatively low at about 4.5 per cent (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2015a), but the figure does not provide the complete picture. This figure can be attributed to low labour force participation in the formal sector, with a large informal sector that is characterised by widespread underemployment, especially among women.

In Bangladesh, the share of the manufacturing sector in GDP has increased recently, while that of agriculture has decreased. These changes imply that there has been gradual structural transformation of the country’s economy. However, the service sector remains the dominant contributor to GDP. It sustained a similar level of contribution throughout the 1990s and 2000s and emerged as the most vibrant sector of the economy. The SFYP emphasised on two areas of structural transformation on its development strategy. First, structural transformation in the production side of the economy with strategies put in place towards a more modern manufacturing and service led growth economy from being a primarily agrarian economy. Second, diversify and strengthen the economic activities of the rural economy to address the rural-urban divide.

Statistics shows that all the sectors missed the SFYP sector specific growth targets. The agriculture sector missed the SFYP target by 0.8 percentage point (3.5 per cent against the target of 4.3 per cent) combined with a slow progress in diversification. On the other hand, progress of the non-Ready Made Garment production also fell short of the expected targets under the SFYP. Additionally, lack of dynamism continued to be present in the small and medium-sized enterprises. Finally, services sector fell short of its target mainly due to the limited progress in the expansion of exports of non-factor services.

According to the SFYP, there are two encouraging results. First is the growing size of the labour force due to a demographic transition. Second, the labour force participation rate has been increasing and women have been increasingly participating. Still, only 13 per cent of the population were employed in the formal sector (manufacturing and services), while the remaining 87 per cent were part of the informal sector (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2015a). Evidently, there is a huge surplus of labour that is not actively participating in productive sectors of the economy.

Even though the informal sector is a source of employment for the majority of the population, jobs in this sector involve low levels of productivity. Recent trends show that the contribution of agriculture to GDP has been declining, yet its share of employment has not followed suit. Over 45 per cent of the labour force remain employed in the agricultural sector (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2015a). Evidently, economic growth and structural transformation have not been resulting in significant employment generation. The lack of skills is a major issue. Further, limited growth of the formal sector has been a constraint for the promotion of decent jobs as stated in SDG 8. A range of policy and institutional constraints restrain the expansion of the manufacturing sector. These constraints include weak infrastructure, lack of long-term institutional financing, protective trade policies and speculative stock market activities,

as opposed to investment in the formal sector. Weak technological progress due to lack of foreign investment as well as an inadequate information technology sector are other important constraints.

One of the main reasons that Bangladesh did not achieve full employment is that the GoB’s strategies were too ambitious. It must be considered that MDG stated in Target 1.B: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people, whilst the SDG 8 addresses not only full employment, but also considers productive employment and decent work for all along with promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth. This may turn out to be a major challenge for the government to overcome. Between LFS 2006 and LFS 2010, the pace of employment generation has been slower than the growth of the labour force. As a result, both unemployment and the share of the unemployed working-age population have increased.

Case study 2:

DROP-OUT RATES AT THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION LEVELS

Bangladesh has made notable improvements in reducing drop-out rates at the primary and secondary education levels since 1990 due to various government and non-governmental initiatives, but further progress needs to be made. Drop-out rates have remained high, while learning outcomes have not met expectations. On many occasions, child drop-outs have gotten involved in the worst forms of child labour. The transition rate to secondary education has also remained below expectations. The primary school survival rate has not kept pace with the impressive progress achieved so far in the case of net and gross enrolment rates. The primary school survival rate was 81 percent in 2014 (boys: 77.7 percent, girls: 84.5 percent) (Bangladesh, Directorate of Primary Education, 2014).

The high drop-out rate at the primary level can be ascribed to several factors. Household poverty is one of the major determining factors that lead to student absenteeism. In general, there are high opportunity costs to staying in school for children living in poverty. Dropping out is the result of many inter-related factors rather than a single factor. For instance, poverty has inter-linkages with other factors such as quality of education and parental attitude that influence the likelihood of dropping out. Factors such as the opportunity cost of schooling, other direct/indirect cost associated with schooling and early marriage are also interlinked with poverty (Ahmed et al., 2015).

Primary education is declared free with regard to tuition, but there are other direct costs associated with it. Certain examples of such cost include the payment of an examination fees, enrolment fees etc. For the poorer households, dealing with these expenses become a major hurdle when such households are struggling to survive with a limited source of income. Factors mentioned above, thus influence students to drop-out as the opportunity cost of receiving education becomes relatively higher (Sabates, Hossain and Lewin, 2010). Furthermore, there is the problem of hidden costs which exists through that of school uniforms and necessary stationaries. As already mentioned, for households belonging to the lower percentile of the income group, the opportunity cost of schooling is much higher. The children may have been more useful doing the daily chores, taking care of siblings and contributing to family income etc. which combine the opportunity cost of schooling of these children which is very high for the poor families (Ahmed et al., 2007). Usually the females in such families are unpaid household labourers. Female labour frees other to ear outside and therefore becomes an economic necessity for these households. Drop-out children with larger families, less earning members and unstable earnings had to get involved in wage work when any earning member of the family suffers from illness.

Poorer households are unable to afford schooling of their children during crucial periods of the agricultural cycle. During this time, the need for children’s contribution to economic survival is more than that of attending school. As explained by Ahmed et al. (2007), the existence of such hidden costs causes dismal attendance rate. Further, as the school term clashes with that of the agricultural cycle, the rate of drop-outs rise. Ultimately, the students fall behind and in most instances get disqualified for stipend, which eventually leads to children abandoning the school altogether.

The drop-out of children especially that of girls, can also be blamed on certain societal reasons. Ahmed et al. (2010) found that the drop-out rate for girls is higher in rural areas of Bangladesh. This confirms the prevailing observations that girls are subject to early marriages, the role girls play in households, in addition to the lack of recognition they need for their education. There are also evidences of eve teasing and for the family this indicates that their girl might

earn a bad reputation and her prospect of marriage will be ruined. Such societal pressures are further interlinked with unsupportive parental attitudes. Parents belonging to poor households are usually marginalised and do not have much of a say in the society. In such situations, the parents of a girl child prefer marriage over education as they believe this is what the society wants and the safest option available. However, the effects of such early marriages are very severe for girls. They are not allowed to get educated (International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, 2007). In this connection, all of such various concerns are interlinked with each other which eventually result in dropping out of children from schools.

Evidently, despite having government programmes and allocating resources, cultural attitudes and societal norms can contribute to the failure of initiatives. The GoB must be cautious when designing policies and programmes, implementing them and monitoring progress.

Case study 3:

ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

Bangladesh made positive advancements towards achieving MDG 2 on universal primary education. The country has improved considerably in terms of net enrolment, gender parity in primary education, reduction of drop-outs, improvement in completion of the cycle, and implementation of a number of quality enhancement measures. According to data from the 2014 Annual Primary School Census (APSC), Bangladesh was close to the required target (97.7 out of 100) in terms of net enrolment (Bangladesh, Directorate of Primary Education, 2014). The reasons for such success were GoB and NGO programmes to help the country achieve MDG 2.

Apart from the fact that the Constitution of Bangladesh has a provision for free and compulsory primary education, which includes supplying free textbooks along with the help of the National Curriculum and Textbook Board, there are four major GoB programmes: the Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP), Food for Education (FFE), the Primary Stipend Programme (PESP) and Reaching Out-of-School Children (ROSC). FFE, the PESP and ROSC are some of the programmes that were implemented in order to complete the criteria set by PEDP.

Bangladesh has had three primary education development programmes, each with a distinct set of components or outcome areas:

- PEDP I (1997-2003): enrolment, completion, quality and monitoring
- PEDP II (2004-11): organisational development and capacity building, improved quality in schools and classrooms, infrastructure development, and equitable access to quality schooling
- PEDP III (2011-16): learning outcomes, participation, regional and other disparities, decentralisation, and increased effectiveness of budget allocation

According to Bangladesh Directorate of Primary Education (2011), Bangladesh has been busy working to achieve the targets set by the programmes. PEDP III is the follow-up phase of PEDP I and II that is currently being implemented over a six-year period with the support of a number of development partners including the Asian Development Bank, Australian Agency for International Development, Canadian International Development Agency, United Kingdom's Department for International Development, European Commission, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Netherlands Development Cooperation, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, UNICEF and International Development Association of the World Bank. The programme proposes to provide technical and financial support to combine achievements under PEDP II, further improve quality, equitable access and efficiency in primary education through a sector-wide approach, and achieve PEDP III targets.

The GoB launched the first-ever FFE programme in 1993 on a large-scale pilot basis. The programme was designed to

fight poverty and malnutrition by developing long-term human capital. According to Ahmed, Ninno and Chowdhury (2002), the programme started at a cost of Tk. 68.3 crore (USD 17 million) in 1993/94, involving the distribution of 79,553 metric tons of food grains. By the year 2000, it had enrolled almost one-third of all primary school students in Bangladesh. Ahmad and Babu (2007) noted that FFE has been implemented in two basic forms: school feeding, where children are fed in school, and food for schooling, where families are given food if their children attend school. Out of 5.2 million students enrolled in schools with FFE, about 40 per cent receive food grains (mostly wheat) through the programme. About two million families benefit from the FFE programme. Results have indicated that it has been successful in increasing primary school enrolment, promoting school attendance and reducing drop-outs. FFE has raised school enrolment by 14.2 per cent, reduced the probability of dropping out of school by 7.5 per cent and increased school attendance by about 1.3 days per month (Ahmed and Babu, 2007).

The PESP replaced the FFE programme in July 2002. It aims to increase educational participation through enrolment, attendance and performance of primary school-aged children from poor families throughout Bangladesh by providing cash payments to targeted low-income households. The goal of the PESP at its inception was to provide support to more than 5 million students (Ali and Kafi, 2010). It has evolved its targeting and currently reaches 7.8 million children per year, mostly from poor households. The programme has strengthened social interest in primary schooling, particularly among families living in poverty and groups who are discriminated against. Its impact has been multidimensional with noticeable improvement in enrolment and attendance and a reduction in drop-outs. These achievements have laid an important foundation for the larger policy goal of inclusive and quality education. The PESP remains critical in sustaining this process (Directorate of Primary Education, Power and Participation Research Centre and UNICEF Bangladesh, 2013).

The GoB recently launched ROSC Project Phase II with the financial help of the International Development Association and World Bank. The project was taken up to create equal opportunities for 0.72 million out-of-school children in 52 districts of the country. According to Billah (2013), ROSC has provided "second-chance" primary education to over 0.79 million out-of-school children in more than 23,000 learning centres since its inception in 2004. The second phase of the project, which started in October 2012, aims to reduce the number of out-of-school children through improved access, quality and efficiency in primary education, providing disadvantaged children with an opportunity to complete grade 5 and transition to secondary education.

Alongside the GoB, NGOs played a key role in helping Bangladesh get on track to achieve MDG 2. BRAC has numerous programmes aimed at primary education, including the BRAC Non-Formal Primary Education Programme, BRAC Education Programme and BRAC Primary School. When the BRAC Non-Formal Primary Education Programme was launched in the mid-1980s, more than half of primary school-aged children were not reached by the formal education system. Starting with 22 schools in 1985, BRAC now operates over 47,000 schools of various categories covering different age and social groups – pre-primary schools, primary schools, adolescent primary schools and ethnic schools – across Bangladesh. Some 1.4 million children from families living in poverty are currently enrolled in BRAC schools, comprising around 20 per cent of all students outside publicly owned primary schools. Aledin (2009) stated that BRAC took into account the difficulties of a rigid educational system and then initiated the development of the BRAC Non-Formal Primary Education Programme, aiming to satisfy the educational needs of rural children from families living in extreme poverty who either had never been to school or dropped out of the formal schooling system. A diverse range of products and services have covered the basic educational needs of millions of children living in poverty.

Case study 4:

PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

Bangladesh exceeded the goal of gender parity in primary education at the national level. The positive advancement occurred due to specific GoB interventions that focused on female students (United Nations Development Programme, 2015). The main objective was to raise the enrolment of girls at the primary level. According to the APSC, Bangladesh scored 1.07, with the intended target being 1.0, which indicates that currently more girls are being enrolled than boys at the primary level, reflecting healthy progress from where the country stood earlier. Such success can be linked to government efforts on free and compulsory education at the primary levels, including supplying free primary-level textbooks with the help of the National Curriculum and Textbook Board.

Some major interventions were implemented by the GoB with the help of development partners and NGOs as complementary efforts to achieve the objectives set out by PEDP I, II and III. Interventions that helped the government achieve the gender parity target coincided with interventions introduced by the government to increase net enrolment at the primary level. The achievement of one could not be done without achievement in the other. Examples of those interventions include FFE, PESP, and ROSC Project Phases I and II.

According to the World Food Programme (2016), the GoB's FFE programme, which started in 2011 and supported numerous underprivileged students, was successful while considering the issue of gender parity. Results from a recent survey conducted by the World Food Programme indicate that a higher number of girls than boys have been attending school due to the initiation of this programme which can be explained by the facts that this programme was targeted at very low-income households and the parents of girls were motivated to send their child to school not only for education, but also getting a free meal. Most targeted households may not have access to meals every day.

The PESP was also a vital intervention by the GoB and its partnering development partners in terms of achieving gender parity at the primary level. For families living in poverty, schooling has opportunity costs including lost earning opportunities. One of the objectives of the primary education stipend was to offset such concerns and provide an incentive to such families to prioritise schooling over opportunity costs. The programme, currently in its second phase, is one of the GoB's biggest educational programmes (Bangladesh, Directorate of Primary Education, 2014). Stipend recipients who are conditioned to be present at school to receive a stipend recorded higher attendance rates, specifically 89 per cent among boys and 91 per cent among girls (Bangladesh, Directorate of Primary Education, 2014).

According to Asadullah and Chaudhury (2009), madrassas have contributed to achieve gender parity in primary education. There had been certain essential reforms of madrassas that include changes in both policy and curriculum. Due to such reforms the admission of female students have been on the rise. Furthermore, following the introduction of the female stipend program, madrassas have embraced female students in recent years. Asadullah and Chaudhury (2009) further showed, using aggregate school enrolment data at the regional level for 1999-2003 period while holding constant the number of secondary secular schools, that regions were more likely to achieve gender parity that had more madrassas. This suggests that religious schools had played a pivotal role with regard to removing gender disparity in rural areas of Bangladesh which had been undocumented previously.

A substantial number of NGOs operate 121,135 basic education centres and 55 per cent of the students enrolled are females, which reflects the attainment of gender parity. About 31 per cent of NGOs are involved in the BRAC Non-Formal Primary Education programme and there are 38,288 participating schools with an enrolment of which 63 per cent are girls (Bangladesh, EFA Assessment Committee, Ministry of Education, 2000). Sukontamarn (in Asadullah and Choudhury, 2009) found that compared to boys, the enrolment of girls increased considerably since the entry of BRAC schools. Cohorts were found to have higher probability of enrolment which were exposed to these BRAC schools. A majority of the BRAC primary school attending students are from the poorest 20 per cent of the population of which 70 per cent are female. A survey was conducted by Sukontamarn (2005) regarding whether being in a village with an NGO school rises the probability of enrolment for children belonging to the age group 6-10. From his subsequent analysis Sukontamarn identified that NGO schools' presence played a crucial role in increasing girls' enrolment. One possible reason of this was the convenient location of NGO schools in rural areas, particularly at regions which are difficult to access. As state run schools and other types of schools are likely to be located at a distance in rural areas, the presence of a NGO school in those areas encourages parents to send the girls to school.

However, strong, influential political commitments are needed, combined with appropriate strategies to target beneficiary households. Other areas that need attention are children with special needs, children from groups that are discriminated against and children in remote and hard-to-reach locations (Bangladesh, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, 2014). These areas need to be addressed with greater responsiveness as there are numerous children, particularly girls, whose needs must be addressed in due time.

In the case of the PESP, major policy adjustments require better monitoring. Practical thinking on how to improve the primary education stipend is necessary as regards monetary value and provision of identified priority items, like bags and clothes. The Directorate of Primary Education, Power and Participation Research Centre and UNICEF Bangladesh (2013) identified a number of steps to improve the implementation process in the areas of disbursement and programme management. To maximise the impact of the stipend programme, several supply-side factors need to be addressed, such as improving teacher-student ratio, user-friendly text-books, infrastructural improvements and maintenance, alongside demand-side interventions

Case study 5:

REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

Bangladesh made significant progress on improving the health of children. It is one of the few countries in the developing world that was on track to achieve MDG 4 on reducing child mortality by 2015. According to SVRS 2013 data, Bangladesh had already achieved the targets for under-five mortality rate (41 against the target of 48 per 1,000 live births) and infant mortality rate (31 against the target of 31 per 1,000 live births). The GoB's successful programmes for immunisation, control of diarrhoeal diseases and treatment of respiratory infections are considered to be the most significant contributors to the decline in child and infant deaths.

The GoB has been implementing a sector-wide approach to health, population and nutrition since 1998. After the Health and Population Sector Programme (1998-2003) and Health, Nutrition and Population Sector Programme (2003-11), the Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Development Programme (2011-16) is the third sector-wide programme (Bangladesh, Planning Wing, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2011). The Health and Population Sector Programme marked a shift from a multiple project approach to a single-sector programme. This shift ensured the GoB's leadership in preparing and implementing the programme and created an opportunity for better coordination, harmonisation and alignment of multiple donor-funded projects and resources. Four complementary government interventions have helped reduce under-five child mortality in Bangladesh as part of the sector-wide approach: the Expanded Programme of Immunisation, treatment of acute respiratory infections, control of diarrhoeal diseases and Integrated Management of Childhood Illness.

One of the major government interventions towards achieving MDG 4 was the Expanded Programme of Immunisation, which was recognised for its sustained high vaccination coverage and significant contribution to the reduction of childhood morbidity and mortality. In collaboration with UNICEF, the WHO and partner organisations, the GoB made every effort to reach hard-to-reach children by using the Reach Every Community strategy. The Expanded Programme of Immunisation in Bangladesh prevented an estimated 200,000 child deaths each year since its inception (Begum, 2009). Through the programme, 80.7 per cent of one-year-olds are fully immunised (Bangladesh, Directorate General of Health Services, 2014). As a result of the outstanding performance in improving the immunisation status of children, Bangladesh achieved the GAVI Alliance Award in 2009 and 2012.

In Bangladesh, it is estimated that one in five deaths of under-five children is due to pneumonia (UNICEF Bangladesh, 2010). However, only 42 per cent of children affected by acute respiratory infections were taken to a facility or health worker and only 34 per cent received antibiotics in 2014 (National Institute of Population Research and Training, Mitra and Associates, and ICF International, 2016). Unlike with acute respiratory infections, there has been significant progress in the management of diarrhoea (Sack, 2008). In 1993/94, only 50 per cent of children with diarrhoea received oral rehydration therapy. The corresponding figure increased to 84 per cent according to BDHS 2014 data. Although used to treat diarrhoea, zinc tablets may have their greatest benefit in reducing rates of severe pneumonia among children who receive them consistently for diarrhoea (Sayem, Nury and Hossain, 2011). Supplementation of zinc for

10-14 days, given during a diarrhoeal episode, has been shown to decrease diarrhoea and acute lower respiratory infections in two to three months following the episode (Baqui et al., 2002). Moreover, supplementing newborns with vitamin A within days of being born was found to reduce mortality for infants under 6 months of age by 15 per cent (Klemm et al., 2008). The GoB distributes vitamin A through 140,000 fixed sites in communities all over the country. In 2013, 20 million children were reached with vitamin A, corresponding to a 98 per cent coverage rate (UNICEF Bangladesh, 2014).

The GoB and NGOs, with the support of UNICEF, have been working through the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness approach since 1998, with the objective to reduce child deaths due to neonatal infections, pneumonia, diarrhoea, malaria and malnutrition. Interventions in public health facilities have been rapidly expanding and more than 405 of 482 sub-districts were covered as of December 2011 (Bangladesh, Management Information System, Directorate General of Health Services, 2013).

However, the benefits of the four complementary government interventions have not been evenly distributed. Rural-urban, regional and gender inequalities have been identified. Gender inequalities in the use of licensed care providers and purchase of antibiotics were identified (Larson et al. 2006). In addition, most public health facilities were found to be

in a state of disrepair and the availability of drugs and medical supplies were found to be very limited (Bhuyan, 2006).

Annex 3: List of Participants of the Appreciation Course on SDGs for Government Officials

Mr Md Sufian Ahmed

Additional Superintendent of Police, Administration
Bangladesh Police Academy

Mr S M Shakil Akhter

Deputy Chief
Rural Development and Co-operatives Division
Ministry of Local Government
Government of Bangladesh

Ms Ayasha Akter

Deputy Director, Research
Bangladesh Bank

Mr Mohsin Alam

Director
Public Service Commission (PSC)
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Syed Mamunul Alam

Joint Chief, Health Wing
Socio-Economic Infrastructure Division
Planning Commission
Ministry of Planning
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Abul Kalam Azad

Director
National Accounting Wing
Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Devabrata Chakraborty

Director, Governance Innovation Unit (GIU)
Prime Minister's Office
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Hafizur Rahman Chowdhury

Deputy Secretary
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Jafor R Chowdhury

Director, Research, Publication and Training
Information Commission

Mr Shirajun Noor Chowdhury

Deputy Secretary
Finance Division
Ministry of Finance
Government of Bangladesh

Major Md Saiful Islam, psc, ASC

Staff Officer (Grade-2)
Administrative Branch
National Defence College (NDC)

Mr Md Abdul Karim

Joint Director
Monetary Policy Department
Bangladesh Bank

Dr Rizwan Khair

Director
Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre
(BPATC)

Mr Sultan Mahmud

Joint Secretary
Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
Government of Bangladesh

Dr Mehedi Masud

Deputy Director
Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre
(BPATC)

Ms Mahmuda Masum

Assistant Chief (Monitoring-2)
Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
Government of Bangladesh

Ms Mahbooba Panna

Deputy Secretary
Information and Communication Technology Division
Ministry of Science and Information and Communication
Technology
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Mahbubur Rahman
Deputy Director
National Accounting Wing
Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Md Aminur Rahman
Deputy Director (Gas)
Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC)

Mr Md Hasan Hasibur Rahman
Research Officer
Department of Environment
Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Sheikh Md Abdur Rahman
Deputy Director
Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED)
Ministry of Planning
Government of Bangladesh

Ms Sufia Akhter Rumi
Senior Assistant Secretary
Statistics and Informatics Division
Ministry of Planning
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Mohammed Ali Nause Russel
Deputy Director
Governance Innovation Unit (GIU)
Prime Minister's Office
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Prodip Kumar Saha
Deputy Secretary
Statistics and Informatics Division
Ministry of Planning
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Tanvir Ahmad Torophder
Assistant Secretary (Americas-2)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of Bangladesh

Ms Farida Yasmin
Deputy Director
Poverty Reduction and Micro Credit
Department of Youth Development
Ministry of Youth and Sports
Government of Bangladesh

Annex 4: Sectoral allocation as % of budget

FY	Public order and safety	Educa-tion	Health	Fuel and energy	Agricul-ture, fish-eries and livestock	Indus-tries and com-merce	Labour and em-ployment	Trans- port and commu-nication	Poverty reduction	Gender budget	Social safety net pro-grammes
FY02	4.3	14.2	6.6	6.7	6.6	0.9	0.1	12.6			
FY03	4.4	15.3	6.8	6.4	6.3	0.7	0.1	13.0			
FY04	4.1	13.3	5.6	7.8	5.5	0.6	0.2	11.4			
FY05	4.5	13.7	6.5	7.6	7.1	0.8	0.2	10.7			
FY06	5.1	15.0	6.6	6.7	7.3	0.7	0.2	10.3			
FY07	5.3	15.9	6.9	6.1	8.3	0.7	0.2	10.6	56.3	20.3	
FY08	6.0	15.5	6.9	5.8	8.7	0.6	0.2	8.8	57.0	23.5	
FY09	6.2	13.8	6.3	4.3	8.9	0.8	0.2	6.1	58.3	26.3	
FY10	5.5	12.6	6.1	3.8	7.9	0.6	0.2	6.5	60.1	29.7	15.2
FY11	5.2	13.9	6.2	4.6	8.6	0.7	0.2	6.7	57.5	26.0	14.8
FY12	5.2	12.4	5.4	5.1	7.7	0.6	0.2	6.9	53.1	26.4	13.8
FY13	4.8	11.5	4.9	5.0	7.5	1.2	0.3	6.9	50.8	26.3	11.9
FY14	4.7	11.7	4.3	5.1	7.9	1.2	0.2	9.3	51.8	27.7	11.4
FY15	5.0	13.1	4.4	4.6	7.6	0.9	0.3	9.8	52.2	26.6	12.3

Source: Compiled by the authors from the Ministry of Finance (MoF) data.

Annex 5: Sectoral public spending as % of GDP

FY	Public order and safety	Education	Health	Fuel and energy	Agriculture, fisheries and livestock	Industries and commerce	Labour and employment	Transport and communication	Poverty reduction	Gender	Social safety net programmes
FY02	0.6	1.9	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.1	0.0	1.7			
FY03	0.6	1.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.0	1.7			
FY04	0.6	1.7	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.1	0.0	1.3			
FY05	0.7	1.6	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.1	0.0	1.5			
FY06	0.6	1.8	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.1	0.0	1.1			
FY07	0.8	1.8	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.9	7.1	2.6	
FY08	0.7	1.7	0.7	0.5	1.3	0.1	0.0	0.8	7.2	3.0	
FY09	0.8	1.7	0.7	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.6	8.3	3.7	
FY10	0.8	2.0	0.8	0.4	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.8	8.6	4.2	2.2
FY11	0.9	2.1	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.8	8.3	3.7	2.1
FY12	0.8	1.8	0.7	0.7	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.8	8.2	4.1	2.1
FY13	0.8	1.8	0.7	0.8	1.6	0.2	0.0	1.0	8.1	4.2	1.9
FY14	0.9	2.0	0.7	0.5	1.3	0.1	0.0	1.0	8.6	4.6	1.9
FY15	0.9	1.9	0.7	0.4	1.0	0.2	0.0	1.2	8.6	4.4	2.0

Source: Compiled by the authors from the Ministry of Finance (MoF) data.

Note: Allocation instead of actual spending was considered for poverty reduction, gender and Social Safety Net Programmes as their actual spending are not reported.

Annex 6: Availability status and available sources for all indicators

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere				
1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day				
1.1.1	Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)	Not readily available	BBS (HIES); World Bank (World Development Indicator (WDI))	
1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions				
1.2.1	Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age	Not readily available	BBS (HIES)	
1.2.2	Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	Not readily available	UNDP	
1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable				
1.3.1	Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable	Not readily available	BBS (HIES); MoF	
1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance				
1.4.1	Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services	Not readily available	BBS (HIES, (MICS); NIPORT (BDHS)	
1.4.2	Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure	Not available		
1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
1.5.1	Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people	Readily available	MoDMR (DMIC)	
1.5.2	Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)	Not readily available	World Bank (WDI), EM-DAT	
1.5.3	Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies	Not applicable to an individual country		MoDMR, MoP, MoFA
1.a Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions				
1.a.1	Proportion of resources allocated by the government directly to poverty reduction programmes	Readily available	MoF	
1.a.2	Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)	Readily available	MoF	
1.b Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions				
1.b.1	Proportion of government recurrent and capital spending to sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups	Not readily available	MoF	
Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture				
2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round				
2.1.1	Prevalence of undernourishment	Readily available	FAO (data to be reported by FPMU)	
2.1.2	Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)	Not available		FAO
2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons				
2.2.1	Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age	Readily available	BBS (CMNS); NIPORT (BDHS)	

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
2.2.2	Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)	Readily available	BBS (CMNS); NIPORT (BDHS)	
2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment				
2.3.1	Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size	Not available		FAO, BBS
2.3.2	Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status	Not available		BBS
2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality				
2.4.1	Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture	Not available		FAO
2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed				
2.5.1	Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium or long-term conservation facilities	Not available		MoA, BBS
2.5.2	Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not-at-risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction	Not available		MoA, BBS
2.a Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries				
2.a.1	The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures	Not readily available	BBS (National Accounts); MoF	
2.a.2	Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector	Readily available	MoF (ERD)	

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round				
2.b.1	Producer Support Estimate	Not available		OECD
2.b.2	Agricultural export subsidies	Not readily available	Bangladesh Bank; MoF	
2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility				
2.c.1	Indicator of food price anomalies	Indicator yet to be fully developed		
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages				
3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births				
3.1.1	Maternal mortality ratio	Readily available	NIPORT (BMMS); BBS (SVRS)	
3.1.2	Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	Readily available	NIPORT (BDHS); BBS (CMNS)	
3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births				
3.2.1	Under-five mortality rate	Readily available	NIPORT (BDHS); BBS (MICS), (SVRS)	
3.2.2	Neonatal mortality rate	Readily available	BBS (SVRS)	
3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases				
3.3.1	Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations	Not available		MoHFW (DGHS), NIPORT (BDHS)
3.3.2	Tuberculosis incidence per 1,000 population	Readily available	MoHFW (DGHS)	
3.3.3	Malaria incidence per 1,000 population	Readily available	MoHFW (DGHS)	

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
3.3.4	Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population	Readily available	NIPORT (BDHS)	
3.3.5	Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases	Readily available	WHO (data to be reported by MoHFW (DGHS))	
3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being				
3.4.1	Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease	Readily available	WHO	
3.4.2	Suicide mortality rate	Readily available	WHO	
3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol				
3.5.1	Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders	Not available		MoHFW (DGHS)
3.5.2	Harmful use of alcohol, defined according to the national context as alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol	Not available		MoHFW (DGHS)
3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents				
3.6.1	Death rate due to road traffic injuries	Not readily available	BRTA	
3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes				
3.7.1	Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods	Readily available	NIPORT (BDHS); BBS (SVRS)	
3.7.2	Adolescent birth rate (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group	Readily available	NIPORT (BMMS); BBS (MICS)	
3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
3.8.1	Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population)	Not available		NIPORT
3.8.2	Number of people covered by health insurance or a public health system per 1,000 population	Not available		MoHFW (DGHS)
3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination				
3.9.1	Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution	Indicator yet to be fully developed		
3.9.2	Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)	Not available		MoHFW (DGHS)
3.9.3	Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning	Not available		MoHFW (DGHS)
3.a Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate				
3.a.1	Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older	Not available		WHO (data to be reported by MoHFW (DGHS))
3.b Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all				
3.b.1	Proportion of the population with access to affordable medicines and vaccines on a sustainable basis	Not available		WHO (data to be reported by MOHFW (DGHS))
3.b.2	Total net official development assistance to medical research and basic health sectors	Not readily available	MoF (ERD)	
3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
3.c.1	Health worker density and distribution	Not readily available	MoHFW (DGHS)	
3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks				
3.d.1	International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness	Not available		WHO (data to be reported by MoHFW (DGHS))
Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education promote lifelong learning opportunities for all				
4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes				
4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people: (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex	Not available		BBS
4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education				
4.2.1	Proportion of children under 5 years of age who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex	Not available		BBS
4.2.2	Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex	Readily available	DPE (APSC); BBS (MICS)	
4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university				
4.3.1	Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex	Readily available	BANBEIS; MoF (BNFE)	
4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship				
4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill	Not available		BBS

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations				
4.5.1	Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated	Not readily available	DPE (APSC); BANBEIS; BBS	
4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy				
4.6.1	Percentage of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex	Not available		BBS
4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development				
4.7.1	Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in: (a) national education policies, (b) curricula, (c) teacher education and (d) student assessment	Not available		MoE, MoPME, MoP, MoWCA
4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all				
4.a.1	Proportion of schools with access to: (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions)	Readily available	BANBEIS	
4.b By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
4.b.1	Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships by sector and type of study	Not available		MoF (ERD), BANBEIS
4.c By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States				
4.c.1	Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary; (b) primary; (c) lower secondary; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country	Readily available	BANBEIS	
Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls				
5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere				
5.1.1	Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex	Not applicable to an individual country		MoLJP, MoFA
5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation				
5.2.1	Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age	Readily available	BBS (VAW); NIPORT (BDHS)	
5.2.2	Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence	Not readily available	BBS (VAW)	
5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation				
5.3.1	Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18	Readily available	BBS (MICS)	
5.3.2	Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age	Not available		BBS (VAW)

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate				
5.4.1	Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location	Not readily available	BBS (LFS), (TUS)	
5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life				
5.5.1	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments	Readily available	Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat; Election Commission	
5.5.2	Proportion of women in managerial positions	Not readily available	BBS (Business Register)	
5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences				
5.6.1	Proportion of women aged 15-49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care	Not available		BBS (BMMS, CMNS)
5.6.2	Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee women aged 15-49 years access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education	Not applicable to an individual country		MoLJP
5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws				
5.a.1	(a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure	Not available		MoL, MoWCA
5.a.2	Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control	Not applicable to an individual country		MoLJP, FAO
5.b Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
5.b.1	Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex	Not readily available	BTRC	
5.c Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels				
5.c.1	Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment	Not applicable to an individual country		MoF
Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all				
6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all				
6.1.1	Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	Readily available	BBS (MICS)	
6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations				
6.2.1	Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water	Readily available	BBS (MICS)	
6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally				
6.3.1	Proportion of wastewater safely treated	Not available		MoEF
6.3.2	Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality	Not available		MoEF
6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity				
6.4.1	Change in water-use efficiency over time	Readily available	World Resource Institute (WRI)	
6.4.2	Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources	Not available		WRI
6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate				
6.5.1	Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0-100)	Not available		MoWR, CEGIS

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
6.5.2	Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation	Not available		MoWR, MoFA
6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes				
6.6.1	Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time	Not readily available	MoEF	
6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies				
6.a.1	Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan	Readily available	MoF (ERD)	
6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management				
6.b.1	Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management	Not available		MoWR, LGD
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all				
7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services				
7.1.1	Proportion of population with access to electricity	Readily available	BBS (SVRS)	
7.1.2	Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	Not readily available	BBS (SVRS)	
7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix				
7.2.1	Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption	Readily available	IEA	BPDB
7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency				
7.3.1	Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP	Not readily available	IEA; World Bank (WDI)	BPDB, BBS (National Accounts)
7.a By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology				
7.a.1	Mobilized amount of United States dollars per year starting in 2020 accountable towards the \$100 billion commitment	Not applicable to an individual country		OECD

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
7.b By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support				
7.b.1	Investments in energy efficiency as a percentage of GDP and the amount of foreign direct investment in financial transfer for infrastructure and technology to sustainable development services	Not available		BBS, Bangladesh Bank
Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all				
8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries				
8.1.1	Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita	Readily available	BBS (National Accounts)	
8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors				
8.2.1	Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person	Readily available	BBS (LFS)	
8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services				
8.3.1	Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex	Readily available	BBS (LFS)	
8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead				
8.4.1	Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP	Readily available	The Material Footprint of Nations (2008) by Wiedmann, Schandl, Lenzen, Moran, Suh, West & Kanemoto	
8.4.2	Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP	Not available		Eurostat
8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
8.5.1	Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities	Readily available	BBS (LFS)	
8.5.2	Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Readily available	BBS (LFS)	
8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training				
8.6.1	Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training	Not readily available	BBS (LFS)	
8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms				
8.7.1	Proportion and number of children aged 5-17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age	Readily available	BBS (MICS, CLS, LFS)	
8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment				
8.8.1	Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status	Readily available	ILO (ILOSTAT)	
8.8.2	Increase in national compliance of labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status	Not readily available	MoLE	
8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products				
8.9.1	Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP and in growth rate	Readily available	BBS (National Accounts)	
8.9.2	Number of jobs in tourism industries as a proportion of total jobs and growth rate of jobs, by sex	Not readily available	BBS (LFS)	
8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all				
8.10.1	Number of commercial bank branches and automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults	Readily available	Bangladesh Bank	

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
8.10.2	Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider	Readily available	Bangladesh Bank; BBS (HIES)	
8.a Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries				
8.a.1	Aid for Trade commitments and disbursements	Readily available	OECD (Creditor Reporting System database)	
8.b By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization				
8.b.1	Total government spending in social protection and employment programmes as a proportion of the national budgets and GDP	Readily available	MoF	
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation				
9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all				
9.1.1	Proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road	Not available		World Bank (GIS based Rural Access Index)
9.1.2	Passenger and freight volumes, by mode of transport	Readily available	BRTA, BR, BIWTA	BBS (Statistical Yearbook), World Bank (WDI)
9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries				
9.2.1	Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP and per capita	Readily available	BBS (National Accounts)	
9.2.2	Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment	Readily available	BBS (LFS)	
9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets				
9.3.1	Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added	Readily available	BBS (SMI)	

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
9.3.2	Proportion of small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit	Not available		BBS
9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities				
9.4.1	CO ₂ emission per unit of value added	Readily available	World Bank (WDI)	
9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending				
9.5.1	Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP	Not available		World Bank (WDI)
9.5.2	Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants	Not available		World Bank (WDI)
9.a Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States				
9.a.1	Total official international support (official development assistance plus other official flows) to infrastructure	Not readily available	BBS (National Accounts)	
9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities				
9.b.1	Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added	Not readily available	BBS (National Accounts)	
9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020				
9.c.1	Proportion of population covered by a mobile network, by technology	Readily available	BTRC	
Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries				
10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average				
10.1.1	Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population	Not readily available	BBS (HIES)	
10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
10.2.1	Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by age, sex and persons with disabilities	Not readily available	BBS (HIES)	
10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard				
10.3.1	Proportion of the population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed within the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law	Not available		Private sector data, perception surveys
10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality				
10.4.1	Labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers	Not available		BBS (National Accounts)
10.5 Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations				
10.5.1	Financial Soundness Indicators	Not available		Bangladesh Bank
10.6 Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions				
10.6.1	Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations	Not available		International organisations
10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies				
10.7.1	Recruitment cost borne by employee as a proportion of yearly income earned in country of destination	Not available		BBS, MoEWOE
10.7.2	Number of countries that have implemented well-managed migration policies	Not applicable to an individual country		Global Migration Group, MoEWOE
10.a Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
10.a.1	Proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero-tariff	Not readily available	MoC (Bangladesh Tariff Commission)	
10.b Encourage official development assistance and financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes				
10.b.1	Total resource flows for development, by recipient and donor countries and type of flow (e.g. official development assistance, foreign direct investment and other flows)	Readily available	OECD; World Bank (WDI)	
10.c By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent				
10.c.1	Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted	Readily available	World Bank (Remittance Prices Worldwide)	
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable				
11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums				
11.1.1	Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing	Readily available	BBS (Slum Census)	
11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons				
11.2.1	Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Not available		BBS
11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries				
11.3.1	Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate	Not available		BBS
11.3.2	Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically	Not available		
11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
11.4.1	Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/ investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship)	Not available		MoF, BBS, UNESCO Institute for Statistics
11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations				
11.5.1	Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people	Readily available	MoDMR (DMIC)	
11.5.2	Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global GDP, including disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services	Not readily available	World Bank (WDI); EM-DAT	
11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management				
11.6.1	Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities	Not readily available	Waste Concern, MoEF	
11.6.2	Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)	Readily available	Monthly Air Quality Monitoring Report, DoE (MoEF)	
11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities				
11.7.1	Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Not available		MoL

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
11.7.2	Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months	Not available		BBS
11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning				
11.a.1	Proportion of population living in cities that implement urban and regional development plans integrating population projections and resource needs, by size of city	Not available		LGD
11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels				
11.b.1	Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030	Not available		LGD
11.b.2	Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies	Not applicable to an individual country		MoDMR, MoP, MoFA
11.c Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials				
11.c.1	Proportion of financial support to the least developed countries that is allocated to the construction and retrofitting of sustainable, resilient and resource-efficient buildings utilizing local materials	Not available		LGD
Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns				
12.1 Implement the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries				
12.1.1	Number of countries with sustainable consumption and production (SCP) national action plans or SCP mainstreamed as a priority or a target into national policies	Not applicable to an individual country		GED
12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
12.2.1	Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP	Readily available	The Material Footprint of Nations (2008) by Wiedmann, Schandl, Lenzen, Moran, Suh, West & Kanemoto	
12.2.2	Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP	Not available		Eurostat
12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses				
12.3.1	Global food loss index	Not available		FAO
12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment				
12.4.1	Number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste, and other chemicals that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement	Not applicable to an individual country		MoEF
12.4.2	Hazardous waste generated per capita and proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment	Not available		MoEF
12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse				
12.5.1	National recycling rate, tons of material recycled	Not readily available	Waste Concern, MoEF	
12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle				
12.6.1	Number of companies publishing sustainability reports	Not available		BBS
12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities				
12.7.1	Number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement policies and action plans	Not applicable to an individual country		MoLJP

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature				
12.8.1	Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment	Not available		MoE, MoPME, MoP, MoWCA
12.a Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production				
12.a.1	Amount of support to developing countries on research and development for sustainable consumption and production and environmentally sound technologies	Not available		OECD, MoF (ERD)
12.b Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products				
12.b.1	Number of sustainable tourism strategies or policies and implemented action plans with agreed monitoring and evaluation tools	Not available		MoCAT
12.c Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities				
12.c.1	Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP (production and consumption) and as a proportion of total national expenditure on fossil fuels	Not readily available	IEA	
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts				
13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries				
13.1.1	Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies	Not applicable to an individual country		MoDMR, MoP, MoFA
13.1.2	Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people	Readily available	MoDMR (DMIC)	
13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
13.2.1	Number of countries that have communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a national adaptation plan, nationally determined contribution, national communication, biennial update report or other)	Not applicable to an individual country		MoEF, MoDMR
13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning				
13.3.1	Number of countries that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into primary, secondary and tertiary curricula	Not applicable to an individual country		MoEF
13.3.2	Number of countries that have communicated the strengthening of institutional, systemic and individual capacity-building to implement adaptation, mitigation and technology transfer, and development actions	Not applicable to an individual country		MoP, MoDMR, MoEF
13.a Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible				
13.a.1	Mobilized amount of United States dollars per year starting in 2020 accountable towards the \$100 billion commitment	Not applicable to an individual country		OECD
13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities				
13.b.1	Number of least developed countries and small island developing States that are receiving specialized support, and amount of support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for mechanisms for raising capacities for effective climate change-related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities	Not applicable to an individual country		MoF (ERD), MoDMR

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development				
14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution				
14.1.1	Index of coastal eutrophication and floating plastic debris density	Not available		UNEP
14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans				
14.2.1	Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches	Not available		MoEF, BEPZA
14.3 Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels				
14.3.1	Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations	Not available		MoFL
14.4 By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics				
14.4.1	Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels	Not readily available	DoF, MoFL to report to FAO	
14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information				
14.5.1	Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas	Readily available	UNEP (WCMC), IUCN (World Database on Protected Areas)	
14.6 By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation				
14.6.1	Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing	Not available		MoFL

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
14.7 By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism				
14.7.1	Sustainable fisheries as a percentage of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries	Not readily available	BBS (National Accounts)	
14.a Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries				
14.a.1	Proportion of total research budget allocated to research in the field of marine technology	Not readily available	MoF	
14.b Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets				
14.b.1	Progress by countries in the degree of application of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries	Not available		MoFL
14.c Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of "The future we want"				
14.c.1	Number of countries making progress in ratifying, accepting and implementing through legal, policy and institutional frameworks, ocean-related instruments that implement international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources	Not applicable to an individual country		MoWR
Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss				
15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements				
15.1.1	Forest area as a proportion of total land area	Readily available	World Bank (WDI)	
15.1.2	Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type	Not available		MoEF

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally				
15.2.1	Progress towards sustainable forest management	Readily available	FAO (Global Forest Resources Assessment), data to be reported by MoEF	
15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world				
15.3.1	Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area	Readily available	FAO (FAOSTAT)	
15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development				
15.4.1	Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity	Readily available	MoEF (Forest Department)	
15.4.2	Mountain Green Cover Index	Not readily available	FAO (GLC SHARE)	
15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species				
15.5.1	Red List Index	Not available		UNEP (WCMC), IUCN
15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed				
15.6.1	Number of countries that have adopted legislative, administrative and policy frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits	Not applicable to an individual country		
15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products				
15.7.1	Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked	Not available		UNEP (WCMC), IUCN
15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species				
15.8.1	Proportion of countries adopting relevant national legislation and adequately resourcing the prevention or control of invasive alien species	Not applicable to an individual country		MoLJP

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts				
15.9.1	Progress towards national targets established in accordance with Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020	Not available		GED, MoEF
15.a Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems				
15.a.1	Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems	Readily available	OECD-DAC (indicator under the BIP)	
15.b Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation				
15.b.1	Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems	Not readily available	OECD-DAC (Indicator under the BIP)	
15.c Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities				
15.c.1	Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked	Not available		UNEP-(WCMC), and IUCN
Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels				
16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere				
16.1.1	Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age	Not readily available	UNODC (Global Study on Homicide), data to be reported by MoHA (Bangladesh Police)	
16.1.2	Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause	Not readily available	MoHA	

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
16.1.3	Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months	Not available		MoHA
16.1.4	Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live	Not available		Private sector data, CSOs
16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children				
16.2.1	Proportion of children aged 1-17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month	Readily available	BBS (MICS)	
16.2.2	Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	Not readily available	MoHA; Private data; CSOs	
16.2.3	Proportion of young women and men aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18	Readily available	BBS (VAW)	
16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all				
16.3.1	Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms	Not available		MoHA (Bangladesh Police)
16.3.2	Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population	Not readily available	MoHA	
16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime				
16.4.1	Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)	Readily available	World Bank (Global Financial Integrity)	
16.4.2	Proportion of seized small arms and light weapons that are recorded and traced, in accordance with international standards and legal instruments	Not readily available	MoHA	
16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
16.5.1	Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months	Not available		CSO
16.5.2	Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months	Not available		CSO
16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels				
16.6.1	Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)	Readily available	MoF	
16.6.2	Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services	Not available		Private sector data, CSOs, perception surveys
16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels				
16.7.1	Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, public service, and judiciary) compared to national distributions	Not readily available	Election Commission; MoLJP; MoPA	
16.7.2	Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group	Not available		CSO
16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance				
16.8.1	Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations	Not readily available		
16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration				
16.9.1	Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age	Readily available	BBS (MICS), (SVRS)	
16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
16.10.1	Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months	Not readily available	MoHA	
16.10.2	Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information	Not applicable to an individual country		Mol
16.a Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime				
16.a.1	Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles	Not applicable to an individual country		
16.b Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development				
16.b.1	Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law	Not readily available	MoHA	
Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development				
17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection				
17.1.1	Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source	Readily available	MoF	
17.1.2	Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	Readily available	MoF	
17.2 Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
17.2.1	Net official development assistance, total and to least developed countries, as a proportion of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee donors' gross national income (GNI)	Readily available	OECD-DAC	
17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources				
17.3.1	Foreign direct investments (FDI), official development assistance and South-South Cooperation as a proportion of total domestic budget	Not readily available	Bangladesh Bank; MoF (ERD)	
17.3.2	Volume of remittances (in United States dollars) as a proportion of total GDP	Readily available	Bangladesh Bank	
17.4 Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress				
17.4.1	Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services	Readily available	MoF (ERD); MoC (EPB)	
17.5 Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries				
17.5.1	Number of countries that adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries	Not applicable to an individual country		OECD
17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism				
17.6.1	Number of science and/or technology cooperation agreements and programmes between countries, by type of cooperation	Not available		WIPO, MoFA, MoST
17.6.2	Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed	Not readily available	BTRC	
17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed				
17.7.1	Total amount of approved funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies	Not applicable to an individual country		MoF(ERD)
17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology				

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
17.8.1	Proportion of individuals using the Internet	Readily available	BTRC	
17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation				
17.9.1	Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries	Not available		MoF (ERD)
17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda				
17.10.1	Worldwide weighted tariff-average	Not readily available	MoC; MoF (NBR)	
17.11 Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020				
17.11.1	Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports	Not readily available	Bangladesh Bank; MoC (EPB)	
17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access				
17.12.1	Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States	Readily available	WTO; UNCTAD; ITC	
17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence				
17.13.1	Macroeconomic Dashboard	Not available		MoF, MoC (EPB), Bangladesh Bank
17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development				
17.14.1	Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development	Not applicable to an individual country		GED
17.15 Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development				
17.15.1	Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools by providers of development cooperation	Not applicable to an individual country		MoF (ERD)

Sl. No.	Indicators	Availability status	Available sources	Potential sources
17.16 Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries				
17.16.1	Number of countries reporting progress in multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the sustainable development goals	Not applicable to an individual country		GED
17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships				
17.17.1	Amount of United States dollars committed to public-private and civil society partnerships	Readily available	MoF (ERD)	
17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts				
17.18.1	Proportion of sustainable development indicators produced at the national level with full disaggregation when relevant to the target, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	Not readily available	GED	
17.18.2	Number of countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	Not applicable to an individual country		MoP (SID)
17.18.3	Number of countries with a national statistical plan that is fully funded and under implementation, by source of funding	Not applicable to an individual country		MoP (SID), MoF (ERD)
17.19 By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries				
17.19.1	Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries	Not available		MoF (ERD)
17.19.2	Proportion of countries that (a) have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years; and (b) have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration	Not applicable to an individual country		BBS

Source: Rahman et al. (2016)

Note: Indicators were compiled by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (2016) and the consulted meta-data for the data mapping exercise were provided by the United Nations Statistics Division (2016). The abbreviations used in Annex 6 can be found in the List of abbreviations and acronyms.



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