



# GERMAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WITH BANGLADESH



Embassy  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
Dhaka



# A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO OUR ENGAGEMENT

Germany started **Development Cooperation** with Bangladesh soon after its independence, the first such agreement is from **1972**. Since then, the bilateral cooperation has grown into a solid pillar of the overall relations of the two countries. Bangladesh has made noticeable progress in its development. Significant **economic development** has led to gaining middle-income status. The poverty rate has come down markedly and the country is producing food for all. Germany is pleased to have significantly contributed to this **success**.

**Bilateral programs and projects are implemented on behalf of the German Government by:**



In addition a considerable proportion of multilateral cooperation with Bangladesh (e.g. through the EU, IDA/World Bank, Asian Development Bank, UN Funds and Programmes) is financed by Germany. Also activities implemented by NGOs and the work of the German political foundations in Bangladesh (Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation) receive German funds, making valuable contributions to the German-Bangladesh partnership.

This engagement supports Bangladesh mastering the immense challenges to achieve sustainable development exacerbated by the negative impact of climate change, environmental degradation and uncontrolled rapid economic growth. Responding to the most pressing needs and common goals of the SDG framework our cooperation focuses on the core areas Responsibility for our planet – climate and energy, peaceful and inclusive societies and training and sustainable growth for decent jobs. In line with the core areas we have interventions and initiatives in the areas of climate and energy, good governance, displacement and migration, as well as in the textile sector.

Social inclusion, gender equality, the fight against corruption and creating a transparent, effective administration are equally crucial elements to successfully leaving no one behind.

On this basis and together with the development partners in Bangladesh, Germany is determined to further support Bangladesh in its endeavor to attain developed country status by 2041.



*Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance*

# The Three Core Areas of Cooperation



1

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR PLANET - CLIMATE & ENERGY

- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- Sustainable Urban Development



2

## PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES

- Good Governance
- Displacement & Migration



3

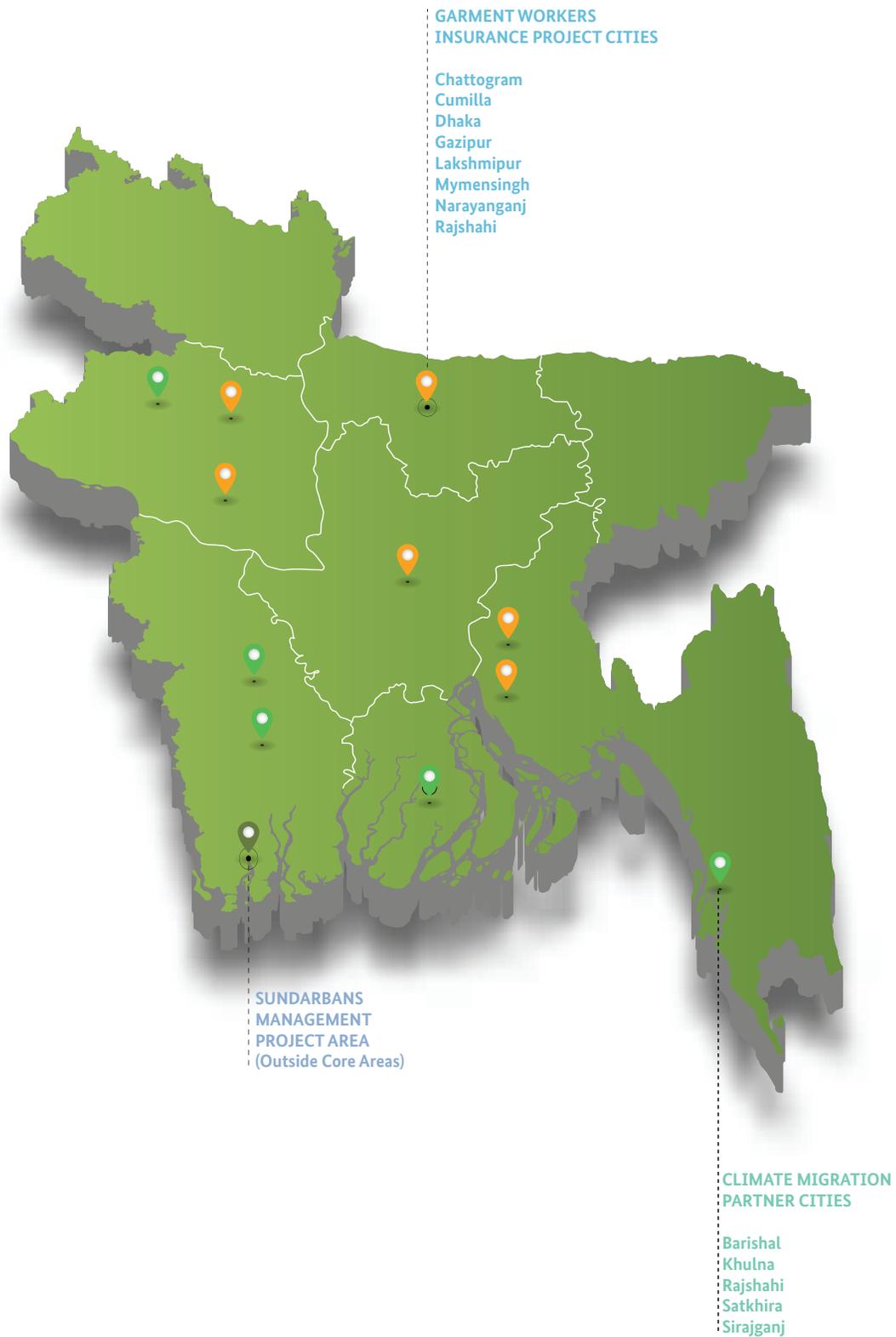
## TRAINING & SUSTAINABLE GROWTH FOR DECENT JOBS

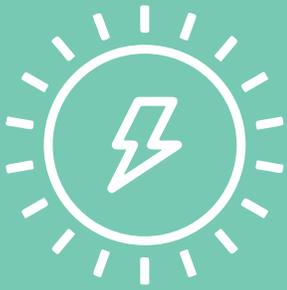
- Sustainable Supply Chains in the  
Textile Sector



*Current portfolio  
= 706.215m EUR  
(ca. 3 billion EUR in total  
since 1972)*

# Some of Our Project Areas





# Core Area: Responsibility for Our Planet



## Intervention Areas:

Renewable Energy  
And Energy  
Efficiency



Sustainable Urban  
Development



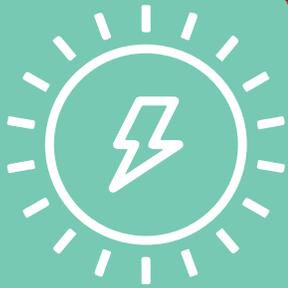
The Government of Bangladesh has identified the energy sector as one of its development priorities to access the untapped industrial and economic growth potential. Although fossil fuels such as gas and oil, and increasingly coal, are prevalent, the Government is actively pursuing to increase the contribution of renewable sources to meet the country's energy demand, especially in rural areas. As of now Bangladesh's power generation is concentrated to a very high extent (more than 95%) on fossil sources. At the same time Bangladesh aims for a share of Renewable Energy supply of 10%. The German Federal Government supports Bangladesh to achieve the 10% target for a more sustainable energy supply and carbon emission reduction

More than 90% of the population has access to electricity - the grid-connection rate lies at around 70%. In the rural areas this rate is considerably lower resulting in a wide use of air polluting kerosene lamps for lighting and cow dung or wood as cooking fuel.

Being a densely populated country, land availability for renewable energy projects is one of the main challenges. At the same time, abundant space is available on companies' rooftops, which is currently not used. Rooftops thus bear a large potential for an environmentally friendly increase of electricity generation from renewable energy. Energy efficiency improvements in generation, transmission, distribution and consumption resulting in energy savings are also gaining importance.

Bangladesh is one of the most climate vulnerable countries on earth. Low elevation, high population density and weak infrastructure make it highly vulnerable to climate change and frequent natural hazards. Natural hazards and climatic change are two important factors that drive people in Bangladesh to leave their homes, seek refuge and search for work in cities, thus contributing to a rapid urbanization.

This rapid urbanization is creating multiple development challenges in the major cities in Bangladesh that the local governments need to address. German Cooperation supports the Government of Bangladesh and particularly the local governments in selected cities to increase their adaptation capacities to better manage the climate change impacts.



# Intervention Area: Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency



## Projects Implemented By

**KFW**



Renewable Energy Program  
(REP)



Productive Use of Renewable Energy  
Program (PUREP)



Improvement of Power Transmission  
Program in the Western Zone / Energy  
Efficiency in the grid-based Power Supply



Modernization of Power Distribution  
– Smart Grids Phase I

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Energising Development  
(EnDev) Bangladesh



Renewable Energy &  
Energy Efficiency Program



Energy Efficiency &  
Grid Integration of Renewable Energy II



Policy Advisory for Promoting Energy  
Efficiency and Renewable Energy (PAP)

# Renewable Energy Program



October 2018 – December 2023



70 Mio EUR



Infrastructure Development Company (IDCOL)

KfW supports the promotion of renewable energy technologies through the non-banking financial institution IDCOL. To this end, KfW follows a twofold approach:

1) Loan funds are provided to IDCOL for commercial and industrial scale solar rooftop project in Bangladesh. Installing rooftop solar power panels is a financially sound investment for companies with positive economic benefits for the whole population.

2) Grant funds are provided to continue the successful approach of IDCOL's Productive Use of Renewable Energy Program with the objective to support off-grid renewable energy projects such as solar irrigation pumps and small, solar-driven electricity grids in remote villages and on river islands that provide energy to the local population. Further technologies promoted are biogas and solar cold storage.

IDCOL is providing sub-loans directly to investors, NGOs or user groups. To support IDCOL with tapping the solar rooftop market the development of suitable financial products, internal procedures and the development and monitoring of technical and quality standards, grant funds for accompanying measures are provided.

## Objectives

- Improving access to electricity from renewable energy sources primarily for income generating purposes.
- Contributing thereby to a relatively cheap, modern and climate friendly energy supply where the national grid does not reach
- Reducing traditional, expensive and harmful energy sources such as diesel, increasing the living conditions of the population, boosting local economies and avoiding green-house gas emissions



Solar Rooftop Potential in  
Bangladesh = at least 400 Mw



**KFW**

# Productive Use of Renewable Energy Program (PUREP)

April 2014 – December 2021 

10.5 Mio EUR 

Infrastructure Development Company (IDCOL) 

This program provides concessional financing for offgrid renewable energy technologies with income generating purposes such as solar irrigation pumps, electricity generation out of biogas on poultry farms, or solar minigrids in remote villages and on river islands that provide energy to the local population. IDCOL is providing sub-loans directly to investors, NGOs or user groups. On behalf of the German Government, KfW provides support to the project to achieve financial viability of projects in an early market and in view of subsidized electricity and diesel prices for consumers. Furthermore, IDCOL is supported to develop suitable financial products, internal procedures as well as to ensure monitoring of technical and quality standards.

## Objectives

- Improving access to electricity from renewable energy sources primarily for income generating purposes.
- Contributing thereby to a relatively cheap, modern and climate friendly energy supply where the national grid does not reach
- Reducing traditional, expensive and harmful energy sources such as diesel, increasing the living conditions of the population, boosting local economies and avoiding green-house gas emissions



1.3 Mio diesel-driven irrigation pumps will be replaced with solar pumps by 2025

# Improvement of Power Transmission Program in The Western Zone/ Energy Efficiency in The Grid-Based Power Supply



May 2016 – June 2024



139.5 Mio EUR



Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd. (PGCB)

Bangladesh's transmission sector is divided into two areas that are split by the river Jamuna /Padma. While the eastern region (Dhaka area) is rapidly developing, the western side lags behind. This is leading to a further segregation between the regions. Only a few connection lines in between those regions contribute to a stable energy transmission. The national grid is also connected to the Indian grid via two transmission lines which substantially supports the stability of the grid.

The first project (Western Zone) comprises the rehabilitation and construction of several key sub-stations and transmission lines in the country's western transmission network (e.g. 3 new substations and 3 new transmission lines).

Similar to the Western Zone Project, the second project (Energy Efficiency) concerns the rehabilitation and construction of key substations and lines in PGCB's transmission network.

By investing into key network components (11 new substations, 200 km new transmission lines) throughout the country, this project contributes to a more reliable and stable electricity supply and CO<sub>2</sub> - emission savings.

The investments are accompanied by investment related trainings and capacity building activities for PGCB. The accompanying measure focuses on supporting PGCB with the setup of an environmental and social unit and is funded with 2 million EUR.

## Objectives

- Contributing to a more reliable and efficient transmission and distribution throughout Bangladesh.
- Achieving CO<sub>2</sub> savings, addressing environmental and social issues
- Improving safety of staff, conservation of nature and achieving an equitable situation for affected communities



**KFW**

# Modernization of Power Distribution – Smart Grids Phase I

October 2021 – December 2025 

122.2 Mio EUR 

West Zone Power Distribution Company Limited (WZPDCL),   
Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (BREB)

Picture alliance  
/ Igor zarembo

The existing infrastructure of the downstream transmission and distribution networks is not designed for the immense growth in energy supply. In addition to the existing deficits in the distribution network, this combination leads to frequent power outages and shutdowns, particularly in rural areas. Due to missing instruments for error detection, power outages occur more frequent and last longer. In situations like these, households tend to refer to traditional, but also partially harmful energy sources, such as bio mass or fuel.

KfW supports Bangladesh with the renovation of 43 substations, construction and renovation of distribution lines as well as and introduction of automated, data-based network control system to tackle the challenges with distribution system management.

KfW supports the promotion of safer, more reliable and more stable energy through the two distribution companies WZPDCL and BREB.

The investment measures, namely the renovation of substations, the construction and renovation of distribution lines and the introduction of SCADA enabling automated grid operation aiming at a better supply, reduction of distribution losses and CO2 emissions. In addition, two accompanying measures shall concentrate on strengthening WZPDCL and BREB in the various aspects of their operations.

## Objectives

- Improving the living conditions of the population and working conditions for businesses through reduction of losses
- Achieving a more reliable and efficient electricity supply



**Nationwide grid-connected installed electricity generation capacity**

**5.8 GW → 20.4 GW**

**2010**

**2018**





# Energising Development Bangladesh (EnDev)

 January 2021 – December 2023

 2.25 Mio EUR

 Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (BBF)



EnDev completed a pilot project to promote the market for clean alternative cooking fuels such as briquettes made from waste biomass, including faecal sludge, and for higher-tier stoves.

In 2020, EnDev undertook initiatives to provide support for communities affected by Covid-19. This included support for partner entrepreneurs to restart their businesses, support for local health complex through installation of solar energy, and livelihood support for local community and business through provision of solar and renewable energy.

In the current programme phase (2021 – 2023), EnDev plans to support the development of e-cooking appliance market in Bangladesh through incentives for the manufactures and importers of these appliances under a Result Based Financing (RBF) scheme.

EnDev supports the training of stove builders and sales staff, including local women for repair and after-sales service known as 'Bondhu Chula doctors'. EnDev provides support for development of business model for commercial Bondhu Chula.

The EnDev intervention aims to demonstrate business cases for solar battery charging of e-rickshaws either as stand-alone or grid connected net metering systems. EnDev will collaborate with SREDA, ongoing GIZ energy projects and the planned transformative mobility DKTi project which covers the e-mobility strategies and regulatory framework for the transport sector.

## Objectives

- Provisioning of efficient and clean cooking as well as productive use of solar energy technology
- Supporting development of markets for modern energy facilities, including e-cooking appliances and biomass based improved cooking technologies
- Supporting development of solar battery charging of e-rickshaws



Percentage of population with access to gas for cooking = only 8%



NATIONAL SOLAR  
HELP DESK



# Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Programme (REEEP) II

November 2018 – January 2022



4.15 Mio EUR



**Sustainable And Renewable Energy Development  
Authority (SREDA), Bangladesh Solar & Renewable  
Energy Association (BSREA), Bangladesh Garments  
Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BGMEA), Consumers  
Association of Bangladesh (CAB)**



REEEP II works with the government, private sector and civil society actors to strengthen sustainable energy development in Bangladesh. To promote cooperation among the actors in the area of renewable energy and energy efficiency, REEEP II identifies specific organisational development needs for the national nodal agency SREDA and relevant sector stakeholders.

The TC module is also supporting the government to develop conducive energy policies and regulations to sustain developmental impacts. The project supports SREDA in formulation and implementation of national awareness raising strategy for energy efficiency and conservation. The project further contributes to the capacity development of selected industrial sectors with high potential for energy savings, i.e textile and garment industries.

To maximise the utilisation of solar energy, the government aims to disseminate grid connected rooftop solar systems at a large scale through the net metering regulation.

The project has supported this initiative through facilitating the establishment of a dedicated national rooftop solar service desk at SREDA and accompanying online portal. In addition REEEP II contributes to the standardisation of associated equipment and ancillaries, and capacity development of relevant stakeholder for smooth implementation of rooftop solar projects under net metering guideline.

## Objectives

- Supporting framework improvement and cooperation among SREDA and other stakeholders to achieve national target on renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Supporting implementation of the National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Master Plan (EECMP) through awareness development along the stakeholders' value chain
- Providing technical assistance to the Government to implement solar rooftop programme under Net Metering Guideline

# Policy Advisory for Promoting Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (PAP)



August 2021 – July 2024



5 Mio EUR



Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral  
Resources (MoPEMR)

An efficient power supply based on renewable energies (RE) is a core element for a successful energy transition. Despite their great potential, RE have so far played only a subordinate role (share approx. 3.0% of electricity generation) in power system development planning, i.e., the Power System Master Plan. A strategy for RE which is coordinated between public and private market actors is lacking. The increase of existing energy efficiency potentials as well as measures for energy conservation have also fallen short of expectations so far. This puts the implementation of the energy transition in Bangladesh at risk.

*Support to achieve the 10% goal of  
renewable energy in Bangladesh*

## Objectives

- Improving the policy and regulatory framework to increase the share of renewable energy and energy efficiency in the power sector in Bangladesh
- Raising awareness among policy makers about the potentials and limitations of RE for power generation
- Improving cooperation between public and private institutions in the power sector for RE/EE market development
- Improving the conditions for the dissemination of innovative RE and/or EE technologies in Bangladesh



# Energy Efficiency & Grid Integration of Renewable Energy (EEGIRE) II



June 2021 – May 2024



3 Mio EUR



Power Division, Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral  
Resources (MoPEMR)

The first phase of the Energy Efficiency and Grid Integration of Renewable Energy (EEGIRE I) project (05/2018 – 05/2021) contributed to the integration of solar power into the electrical grid and improved energy efficiency in the electrical grid. The second phase is focusing primarily on the improvement of technical preconditions for the further expansion of grid-connected decentralized solar power plants. To achieve the objective with its implementing partners, the project is pursuing a multi-stakeholder approach at several levels. It is structured in three components that reflect three levels of intervention:

**Level one** aims to enable selected distribution companies to operate their electricity grid more reliably with an increasing share of decentralised solar power plants and more efficiently through increasing digitalisation.

**Level two** targets the systematic evaluation of innovative instruments, processes or technologies designed to increase the share of decentralised solar power systems by energy utility companies

**Level three** enables the transmission company in Bangladesh (Power Grid Company of Bangladesh) to improve the stability of the transmission grid as a prerequisite for the further increase of grid-connected decentralised solar power plants.

## Objective

**Improving the technical preconditions for the further expansion of grid-connected decentralized solar power plants**



# Intervention Area : Sustainable Urban Development



## Projects Implemented By

**KFW**

Climate Bridge Fund  
Bangladesh

Climate Change  
Adaption in Urban Areas Barishal

Climate Resilient  
Infrastructure  
Mainstreaming (CRIM)

Climate change Adapted Drinking  
Water Resources Management  
Dhaka – Saidabad Water Treatment  
Plant Project Phase III

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Adaptation of Climate  
Change into the National  
and Local Development  
Planning (ACCNLDP) II

Urban Management of Migration  
and Livelihood (UMML) / Urban  
Management of Internal  
Migration due to Climate Change  
(UMIMCC)

Climate Resilient  
Inclusive Smart  
Cities (CRISC)

National Adaptation Plan  
(NAP) & Nationally Determined  
Contribution (NDC) Support  
Programme

**BGR**

Geo-Information for Urban  
Planning and Adaptation to  
Climate Change



# Climate Bridge Fund Bangladesh (CBF)

 January 2018 – December 2024

 21.735 Mio EUR

 BRAC



Picture Alliance  
| Habibur Rahman

The Climate Bridge Fund (CBF) will provide reliable and sustainable financing to ongoing efforts by civil society in the field of climate induced migration. Through the financing of small-scale projects, it shall enhance the sustainable livelihoods of climate migrants and their resilience to climate-related risks.

The CBF is set up as Trust Fund with BRAC– one of the largest non-governmental organizations in the world - to finance small scale, long-term term. projects in local communities, particularly in vulnerable urban Slums with a significant climate-induced migrant population Furthermore, the CBF seeks to generate knowledge on the relationship of migration and impacts of climate change in Bangladesh by conducting action-oriented researches and improved knowledge management.

The CBF has the character of an endowment fund, using only parts of its capital to support small scale projects by local NGOs. The Fund has received EUR 11,735 million seed funding for the Climate Change Window by the German Government through KfW. The projects will be implemented by BRAC and other local NGOs that will be selected on a competitive process.

In order to be able to react to (non-) climate shocks such as COVID19, the CBF has opened a second window – the Emergency Response Window. In 2020, this window has been equipped by the German Government through KfW with additional EUR 10 million for financing of projects in vulnerable urban areas that help prevent and control COVID-19 and the consequences of the pandemic which is another threat to the resilience of climate migrants.

## Objective

**Providing small-volume, long-term financing for the poorest of the poor and thus planning security and stability in a local context**



# Climate Change Adaption in Urban Areas - Barishal

November 2016 – October 2024 

11.4 Mio EUR 

Barishal City Corporation 



Barishal has experienced rapid growth in recent decades (7.7% per year). As the city grew, so did the poor districts. Ponds and canals have been filled in order to create more living space or are used as garbage dump. In the coastal region, this has serious impacts as the drainage system is not working well. About 150 km of water canals running through the city are dumped with garbage and rubble. In times of monsoon or storm tides, the slums are the first to be flooded. Floods caused by cyclones or damage pose additional dangers for the population.

## Objective

**Providing small-volume, long-term financing for the poorest of the poor and thus planning security and stability in a local context**

With the help of “Economics of Climate Adaptation (ECA)”, a new method introduced by the reinsurance company Swiss Re, the damage caused by global warming can be determined, taking into account economic and population trends for future decades. By applying this method, a risk analysis has been carried out in Barishal to identify appropriate measures for climate-adapted urban development. In addition, other aspects such as poverty relevance are taken into account

Focusing on the high priority measures in terms of cost-benefit assessment with an outlook of a second phase, the City of Barishal is given the opportunity to build up expertise within the framework of pilot projects, but at the same time to increase its own personnel and financial capacities.

The project’s emphasis will be on expanding and increasing the capacity of the drainage network in critical districts as well as on the renewal and elevation of low-lying sections of prioritized inner-city roads - important emergency route during extreme weather events. Community participation is also given high priority in this project.



 *Number of people living in slums  
in Barishal: 110.000+*

# Climate Resilient Infrastructure Mainstreaming (CRIM)

 March 2018 – March 2024

 13.6 Mio EUR

 Local Government Engineering  
Department (LGED)



In spite of investments by the Government of Bangladesh, there is still a lack of climate resilient infrastructures in different parts of the country. Furthermore, the existing infrastructure in Bangladesh remains vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

With finance from Green Climate Fund and the Federal Government of Germany KfW provides support to Bangladesh's own efforts in the CRIM project with the aim of integrating climate change and its risks into planning, construction and maintenance processes of local infrastructure.

The project will establish the Climate Resilient Local Infrastructure Centre (CReLIC), a Centre of Excellence, an institutional think tank and knowledge hub at LGED for adapting local public infrastructure to the effects of climate change.

In the districts of Bhola, Barguna and Satkhira, 45 new buildings will be constructed, providing shelter from cyclones. Another 20 existing shelters will be renovated, and 80 kilometers of new safe concrete roads will be constructed - providing a life-saving access to shelters.

In Satkhira town, several urban infrastructure investments are being made in the drainage system as well as in the rehabilitation and construction of a climate-resilient water supply and water distribution network.

## Objectives

- Improving opportunities for adaptation to climate change for more than 130,000 people through newly built and rehabilitated critical urban infrastructure in three districts
- Providing access to climate-resilient infrastructure for additional 50,000 people in Satkhira
- Expanding benefits to further groups through the Centre of Excellence CReLIC



*Land area under water in big floods: More than 60%*



# Climate Change Adapted Drinking Water Resources Management Dhaka – Saidabad Water Treatment Plant Project Phase III

 October 2018 – December 2026

 90.0 Mio EUR

 Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA)

To ensure access to drinking water and divert the water supply from ground to surface water, two major water treatment plants, Saidabad I and II, have already been implemented. Those extract water from the near by Lakhya River. Yet, during 4-5 months of the dry season the river's ammonium concentration considerably exceeds the WHO-threshold.

Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA) is planning to construct a third water treatment plant (Saidabad III) close by the Meghna River. KfW is supporting this project by contributing in a MRI with AFD to the construction of a pumping station by the Meghna River and a 26 km-long raw water pipeline which will also supply the plants Saidabad I and II and thus ensure their continued existence.

After construction, up to 900.000 m<sup>3</sup> per day of additional raw water will be pumped to the already existing and newly built water treatment plants. This will decrease the pressure on the Lakhya River, as well as counteract the excessive extraction of local ground water.

Furthermore, the water supply network will be expanded to a total of 617 km<sup>2</sup> in 2035, providing water access to all low income communities of the city. Overall 54km of the water distribution network will be newly built or upgraded.

## Objectives

- Providing a sustainable, environmentally friendly, pro-people, diversified and resilient water supply system and reduce the risk of shortages
- Reducing health risks, especially for poor people
- Curbing the extensive exploitation of local ground water resources and thus counteract the continuous sinking of Bangladesh's capital

 *Daily drinking water needs  
in Bangladesh: 2021: 1.48 Mio m<sup>3</sup>  
2035: 4.47 Mio m<sup>3</sup>*

# Adaptation of Climate Change into the National & Local Development Planning (ACCNLDP) II



 June 2019 – May 2022

 4 Mio EUR

 Bangladesh Planning Commission (BPC)

In the first phase of the project the draft of the first Sector Action Plans on “Environment and Climate Change” and “Housing and Community Amenities” was formulated as a new planning instrument of the government of Bangladesh. A process was initiated for the integration of local and national spatial and development planning to strengthen the horizontal and vertical linkages. A digital information management system together with a tool to assess climate risks and vulnerabilities was prepared to enable the process of effective designing and appraising of the projects. As an integral part of the project, several capacity development measures were implemented that resulted in creating awareness on the issues related to climate change on policy-making level of the BPC.

Aiming towards scaling up and mainstreaming these initiatives the follow-on phase of the project continues to focus on integrating climate resilience in the process of appraisal of public investment projects and national development planning.

## Objectives

- Optimizing use of climate risk information in national planning
- Improving examination of climate risks in the context of project appraisals
- Enhancing individual and organisational capacity
- Improving the quality and usability of climate information
- Improving appraisals of development proposals in the context of climate



# Urban Management of Migration and Livelihood (UMML) / Urban Management of Internal Migration due to Climate Change (UMIMCC)

January 2018 – December 2022 

16.5 Mio EUR 

**Government & Non-Government actors in five partner cities (Khulna, Barishal, Sathkira, Rajshahi, Sirajganj)** 

The project aims at improving the living conditions of climate migrants and vulnerable urban poor as well as of EU returnees and to create resilient livelihood. It intends to contribute to the creation of sustained pathways out of poverty in most vulnerable areas through simultaneous investments in livelihoods and social security for long-term resilience.

Crucially, the project adopts a partnership model coordinating a variety of government and non-government actors operating at different layers of society to achieve better and more sustainable programme results.

The geographic focus of the project are city corporations and municipalities of the South-West coastal belt (Khulna, Barishal and Sathkira), and the North-West (Rajshahi and Sirajganj).

## Objectives

- Participatory planning of poverty reduction measures through information hubs in every partner city
- Generating livelihoods through employment qualification
- Facilitating linkage to business and finance (e.g. access to microloans and information about debt prevention)
- Improving Livelihoods through direct support (e.g. COVID relief)
- Identifying poverty reduction measures and their preparation for the national policy dialogue with the Government of Bangladesh



*1st project funded by German Government addressing climate induced migration*



# Climate Resilient Inclusive Smart Cities (CRISC)

 November 2019 – October 2022

 5 Mio EUR

 Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (MoLGRDC) of People's Republic of Bangladesh



Climate Change and unplanned development of cities are major challenges in Bangladesh and recognized by the Government of Bangladesh as these (e.g., 8th Five-Year Plan 2021-2025). The consequences of climate change e.g. sea level rise and loss of land are amplifying internal migration and increases the population in informal urban settlements. However, the integration of these aspects in urban and regional development policies and frameworks in Bangladesh for instance, in land-use planning is insufficient. Investment decisions in urban infrastructure and service deliveries need to be future oriented and protected against the recurring and intensifying negative consequences of climate change.

The CRISC project addresses the challenges and consequences of climate change while aiming to ensure that the urban development planning in selected cities, including corresponding investment projects, is taking into account the local adaptation needs and in particular the needs of the most vulnerable.

## Objective

**Urban development, including corresponding investment projects in selected cities, taking into account local needs for adaptation to the consequences of climate change**





# National Adaptation Plan (NAP) & Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Support Programme

January 2019 – June 2022 

3 Mio EUR 

**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC); Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)** 

Increasingly heavy rainfall, prolonged periods of drought, rising sea levels and salinisation are among the negative effects of climate change in Bangladesh. The consequences are severe: crop failures, floods, scarcity of drinking water, and loss of land including the destruction of infrastructure like schools and hospitals. This could jeopardise the country's development gains unless effective measures are taken.

The “NAP and NDC Support Programme” therefore supports the Government of Bangladesh in achieving an increase in climate resilience through climate-smart development planning, particularly for the most vulnerable populations.

The project works to enhance the evidence-based implementation of national adaptation goals. To this end, the access of government officials to relevant climate information and climate services is being improved. The adequate consideration of climate risks during the planning phase of projects is being supported through capacity development and the development of improved processes in the MoEFCC and the DAE.

## Objectives

- Strengthening capacities and knowledge of the officials in the partner organizations through trainings and peer-to-peer exchanges, enabling them to better integrate climate risks and adaptation goals in the development of projects and strategies
- Providing demand-oriented and up-to-date gender-sensitive climate information for the systematic use by the officials
- Supporting government officials in developing and introducing improved processes for the integration of climate risks and national adaptation goals, e.g. check-lists and guidelines for daily use



# Geo-Information for Urban Planning & Adaptation to Climate Change

 2018-2022

 5 Mio EUR

 **Geological Survey of Bangladesh (GSB)**

In Bangladesh, urban planning still does not adequately factor in Geo-Information, natural hazard susceptibility and the impact of climatic changes. Given the wide range of interests and high level of competition for land and its use, state bodies with a low level of technical expertise and staff demand support to adequately perform their supervisory and regulatory role in approving land use and development plans to:

Centralized structures are still an impediment to gearing planning measurements up to local conditions and requirements. The Bangladeshi civil society is active and engaged but hardly involved in decision-making processes. Within the sector management of urban development several state actors are involved. Their mandates at times overlap or compete with each other, making decision processes for urban planning more complex. The designated project partner GSB is the national advisory body for Geosciences, reporting to the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources (MPEMR).

The GSB thus is involved in urban development and land use plans from a technical perspective, by making available the relevant data to the planning bodies. However, the GSB is currently unable to fully perform the tasks it has been assigned to. It is missing an adequate information base on geodata, a lack of methods and equipment, the staff requires further training and practical experience in the use of digital data and the development of user-oriented executive instructions from such data.



## Objectives

- **Strengthening the role of GSB as provider advisory services in the field of geo-information for land use planning and urban development**
- **Enabling the integration of reliable geological knowledge into urban development processes, taking climate change resilience into account**



# Core Area: Peaceful & Inclusive Societies



## Intervention areas:

-  Good Governance
-  Displacement & Migration

## Projects Implemented By



 Justice and Prison Reform for Promoting Human Rights and preventing Corruption

 Supporting Host & Rohingya Communities (shrc)



 Promotion of Structure-Building Measures to Support the Rohingya and Host Communities

 Improved Sanitation and Waste Management for Rohingya Camps and Host Communities in Bangladesh

 Learning Centers for Children Affected by the Rohingya Crisis, Phases II, III

 Promoting the Future of Young People in and Outside the Rohingya Refugee Camps in Bangladesh Phases I, II and III

# Justice and Prison Reform for Promoting Human Rights and Preventing Corruption

 July 2018 – June 2023

 30.449 Mio EUR (4.257 GER, 26.192 GBR)

 Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Law,  
Justice & Parliamentary Affairs



While most Bangladeshis claim they have trust in the justice system, only 13 percent of the people would turn to the formal justice system to seek justice. The Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh states that 'All citizens are equal before law and are entitled to equal protection of law', but in reality, there is little access to justice for the vast majority of the population.

There are multiple reasons for this. Some of the laws on which the criminal justice system is based date back to colonial times. The outdated processes provide room for corruption, undermine the image of the criminal justice system and prevent the reduction of the huge case backlog and prison overcrowding.

The judiciary is currently overburdened with 3.7 million cases. The National Justice Audit shows that the rate of case inflow is much higher than the rate of case disposal. The overcrowding of the prisons, which are on average at 200 percent of their capacity, is aggravated by this.

Prison overcrowding, especially with a large number of under-trial prisoners (approx. 80 percent) creates a challenge to provide proactive legal assistance, rehabilitation services and to ensure human rights.

There has been an increase in the use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms e.g., mediation and restorative justice (RJ) which promote equal access but needs to be implemented on a large-scale ensuring quality and gender-sensitivity.

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has taken several steps in recent years towards reforms in the judiciary and the prison system, including directives from the Supreme Court for more efficient case management. Moreover, the GoB has included key reform approaches of the project such as paralegals and Case Coordination Committees (CCCs) as key elements in the 8th Five-Year Plan.

The reform approaches have been piloted successfully at the district level. These include alternative dispute resolution mechanisms through Restorative Justice (RJ); proactive legal assistance to the disadvantaged through Paralegal Advisory Service (PAS); introduction of rehabilitation as part of the prison system; and improved inter-institutional partnership and cooperation through inter-ministerial meetings and local CCCs.

## Objectives

- Improving quality and delivery of the justice system by creating the organisational and legal framework
- Building up necessary capacities by operating in three main areas: (Institutional Strengthening, Evidence Based Policy Advocacy, Access to Justice for the Vulnerable)



# Supporting Host and Rohingya Communities (SHRC)

July 2019 – June 2023 

13 Mio EUR 

Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) 

In 2017, more than 750,000 Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) from Rakhine state in Myanmar took shelter in Bangladesh. The influx resulted in profound environmental, social, economic, and psychological impacts on the native communities in Cox's Bazar district. As a result, Host Communities are experiencing a severe deterioration of traditional livelihoods and decreased household income.

On the side of the Rohingya population, lack of income opportunities, limited access to education and skills development, combined with mental and psychological problems due to the trauma experienced during the forced displacement increasingly tense the situation in the camps, as well as with the neighboring host communities.

GIZ, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), is implementing this program jointly with its political partner the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR).

The project's aim is to sustainably improve livelihood- and income opportunities in host communities, provide mental health and psychological support services to displaced Rohingya, support and assist conflict resolution mechanism between Host- and Rohingya communities and strengthen the capacity of selected state and non-state actors. All activities are implemented in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders in the Cox's Bazar district, such as: The Local Government; Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC); the Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG); topic related Clusters, including national- and international NGOs, as well as UN organisations.

## Objective

**Improving usage of services that contribute to peaceful co-existence and conflict resolution between host communities and Rohingya refugees**



# Promotion of Structure-Building Measures to Support the Rohingya and Host Communities

 July 2021 – March 2025

 7 Mio EUR

 **World Bank - Emergency Multi-sector Rohingya Crisis Response Project (EMCRP)**

Cox's Bazar is historically one of the poorest and most prone areas of Bangladesh to natural disasters and was already facing substantial socio-economic challenges before the refugee crisis. The country bears the brunt of tropical cyclones worldwide due to its geographical location and lowland topography. A significant increase in extreme weather events during the cyclone season can be observed.

While the Bangladeshi population willingly welcomed the Rohingya refugees in 2017, negative impacts on social cohesion in Cox's Bazar district have been observed due to these developments and pressures.

A needs assessment conducted in 2015 under the World Bank-funded Multi-purpose Disaster Shelter Project (MDSP) revealed an unmet need for a total of 356 cyclone shelters in the district, of which only 62 were implemented through the program. Accordingly, the need for additional cyclone shelters remains very high.

By improving access to adequately equipped, functional, and climate-resilient multifunctional shelters during hurricanes and storm surges and by providing climate-resilient access routes, the climate vulnerability of local populations and the multiple risks associated with hurricanes and storm surges will be reduced.

Through the multifunctional use of the cyclone shelters as elementary schools, the project will also provide new and substantially upgraded school buildings, which will help to improve the living conditions of the host communities in Cox's Bazar affected by the impact of the Rohingya refugee crisis.



## Objective

**Strengthening disaster resilience as well as social resilience of the population in Cox's Bazar district**



# Improved Sanitation and Waste Management for Rohingya Camps and Host communities in Bangladesh

April 2021 – March 2023 

19 Mio EUR 

International Organization for Migration (IOM) 

The core problems addressed through this project are the overloaded and, especially for women, inadequate sanitation and waste disposal facilities (WASH), contaminated drainage channels and insufficiently paved access roads in densely populated Rohingya refugee camps.

Inadequate waste disposal and sanitation facilities also lead to unsanitary living conditions in the surrounding host communities. This leads to health risks for the population, especially during monsoon seasons. The overloading of sanitation facilities is of particular concern in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, but also with regard to other diseases. In addition, the region is repeatedly hit by natural disasters such as cyclones and heavy rainfall.

Measures include the improvement and construction of latrines, the installation of fecal sludge treatment facilities, the construction of decentralized waste sorting and composting facilities, and the provision of hygiene items (including soap).

In addition, activities in the areas of site development of the camps (for example, expansion and repair of the rainwater drainage system) and protective measures (for example, awareness-raising and support measures on menstrual hygiene) are parts of the project.

## Objective

**Ensuring equal access to adequate sanitation services and providing basic infrastructure for 310.000 men, women, boys and girls in need in Rohingya and host communities alike**



## Learning Centers for Children Affected by the Rohingya Crisis, Phases II, III

 January 2019 – June 2022

 15 Mio EUR

 UNICEF



In August 2017 violence erupted in the Rakhine State of Myanmar, targeting the Rohingya people. This led to a massive refugee influx to Bangladesh, triggering one of the fastest growing humanitarian crises. Bangladesh is hosting over 884,000 Rohingya refugees from Myanmar in the world's largest refugee settlement in Cox's Bazar District.

It is estimated that 51 percent of the Rohingya community living in Cox's Bazar are under the age of 18. Adolescents and young Rohingyas aged 15-24 account for about 21% of the population, putting children and young Rohingyas at the heart of the crisis. Those without access to education lack the necessary skills they need in order to lead a productive, healthy life. Enabling children and adolescents access to learning and participation in learning processes while ensuring equity, gender equality and quality education for all, especially the most marginalized, is therefore of high importance.

In cooperation with UNICEF, the project aims to provide access to quality non-formal basic education - since 2020 formal education on the basis of the Myanmar Curriculum - to more than 37,000 children in 350 Learning Centers and learning pilots.

Additionally, the project aims to improve the learning environment and conditions in the camps, to procure education supplies for distribution to targeted children and adolescents and to build capacities of recruited teachers and education stakeholders.

### Objective

**Enhancing the resilience of Rohingya refugees and host communities most affected by the refugee crisis by ensuring access to quality learning**





# Promoting the Future of Young People in and Outside the Rohingya Refugee Camps in Bangladesh Phases I, II and III

 December 2018 – December 2023

 25.5 Mio EUR

 UNICEF

It is estimated that 51 % of the Rohingya community living in Cox's Bazar are under the age of 18. Adolescents and young Rohingya aged 15-24 account for about 21% of the population. Those without access to education lack the necessary skills they need in order to lead a productive, healthy life. High levels of poverty and multiple deprivations mean that children, adolescents and youth in Rohingya camps face heightened risks to their safety and dignity, including violence, child labour, child marriage, exploitation and abuse, and gender-based violence (GBV).

The project with three phases on-going is designed to provide vocational training, skills development and access to psychosocial support and protection services for children, adolescents and youth in the Rohingya camps and host communities of Cox's Bazar.

The activities under the project are intended to open up new perspectives, offer alternatives to criminal activities, political extremism or early marriage. Additionally, the project aims to raise awareness towards the importance of education of young girls through a sensitive and balanced strategy to be developed jointly with parents and the community.

Additional financings of EUR 1,5 Mio were provided within phase II to support prevention measures for tackling the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as an additional EUR 2 Mio for the reconstruction of WASH-infrastructure after a devastating fire in March 2021.

## Objective

**Enhancing the resilience of Rohingya refugees and host communities most affected by the refugee crisis by ensuring access to quality learning**



# Core Area: Training & Sustainable Development for Decent Jobs



## Initiative area:



Sustainable Supply Chains in the Textile Sector

## Projects Implemented By



Promoting Sustainability in the Textile and Garment Industry in Asia



Employment Injury Protection Scheme for Workers in the Textile and Leather Industries



Programme for Sustainability in the Textile & Leather Sector (STILE)



Higher Education and Leadership Development for Sustainable Textiles in Bangladesh (HELD)



Financing Environment and Safety Retrofits in the Bangladesh RMG sector



April 2019 – March 2023



2.834 Mio EUR



Ministry of Commerce



# Promoting Sustainability in the Textile and Garment Industry in Asia

Although the underlying conditions of textile and garment industries in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Myanmar, Pakistan and China vary considerably, the major challenges they face are similar: ensuring decent conditions for workers and reducing environmental impacts. Social, ecological and economic conditions in the industry need to be improved in order to overcome these challenges while ensuring continued growth. However, this can only be done by adopting a joint approach.

To reduce negative environmental impacts in textile and garment production, topics such as reduction of water use and water recovery, consistent treatment of wastewater, comprehensive chemicals management and the reduction of energy demand and associated emissions are particularly relevant. In these areas, the regional project coordinates a focused implementation of measures and promotes regional exchange and knowledge transfer.

## Objectives

- Fostering joint strategy development and joint initiatives by national decision makers, in particular with regard to economic transformations and the significance of sustainability standards
- Establishing the first inter-Asian network of producer associations allowing participants from Bangladesh, China, Cambodia, Myanmar, Pakistan and Vietnam to come together and find solutions to shared challenges
- Establishing a virtual information and knowledge platform, which provides content including examples of workplace health, women's promotion, and waste management
- Establishing a regional network of NGOs working on Women's Cafés for garment workers from Bangladesh, Cambodia and Myanmar They met in Myanmar (2017) and Cambodia (2018) focusing on cooperation to develop models for social business to secure financial independence of the Cafés





January 2017 – December 2021 

5.999 Mio EUR 

International Labor Organization   
(ILO), Embassy of the Kingdom of the  
Netherlands Dhaka, Government of  
Bangladesh

# Employment Injury Protection Scheme for Workers in the Textile and Leather Industries (EIPS)

Major industrial accidents demonstrated that workers are not fully protected against the risks of workplace accidents or occupational diseases

Although legal provisions and strategies for prevention, rehabilitation and compensation exist, these are fragmented and have yet to be embedded in an overall strategy. The Government of Bangladesh is aware of the issues and plans to introduce an employment injury protection scheme aiming at prevention, rehabilitation and compensation. However, the legislative frameworks, administrative structures and processes required for the roll-out of a statutory employment injury protection schemes are not yet in place.

The EIPS project is working towards a national employment injury protection scheme in Bangladesh to ensure long-term protection for the workforce against work-related accidents and occupational diseases. The project's target group comprises of industrial workers who are usually unskilled workers in low-wage jobs, with women accounting for the majority of the workforce. The envisaged employment injury protection scheme will be introduced first for workers in the textile, garment and leather industries.

The EIPS project will pave the way for the integration of other social protection programmes such as social health protection schemes and unemployment benefits.

## Objectives

- Developing and implementing two gender-sensitive prevention campaigns, reaching more than 150.000 employees
- Working towards reintegration of injured workers in 111 factories through return to work (RTW) clauses in human resources policies
- Implementing the so-called Bridging Solution, a pilot project of a statutory employment injury insurance scheme on a limited scale for the Ready-Made-Garment sector





 July 2020 – June 2024

 15.5 Mio EUR

 Ministry of Commerce



# Programme for Sustainability in the Textile and Leather Sector (STILE)

Bangladesh is the world's second largest exporter of clothing and textiles after China. Its biggest export market in the European Union is Germany, where it generates a volume of USD 6.4 billion. Following tragic accidents in factories, Bangladesh has made considerable efforts to comply with sustainability standards. Nevertheless, additional measures are needed to ensure social security and to safeguard employees and the environment

## Objective

**Improving the government and private sector stakeholders' capacity to better fulfil their mandates to comply with social and environmental standards**

The political partner is the Ministry of Commerce, important implementation partners are the Ministry of Labour and Employment as well as the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change. GIZ supports government and private sector stakeholders to better fulfil their mandates to comply with social and environmental standards.

In order to achieve sustainable and structural results on a broad scale, the methodological approach focuses on interventions at the meso and macro level. On the one hand, capacity development will enable state institutions to better fulfil their mandate to protect workers and the environment. On the other hand, private sector actors are supported through organizational development and advisory services to fulfil their responsibility of implementing government requirements.





January 2021 – December 2023 

3 Mio EUR 

Secondary and Higher Education Division (SHED), Ministry of Education (MoE) and University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) 

# Higher Education and Leadership Development for Sustainable Textiles in Bangladesh (HELD)

Bangladesh is the world's second largest exporter of clothing and textiles after China. While the industry has been enjoying an impressive growth over the last two decades, further progress in sustainable development in social, ecological and economic terms remains a challenge. A lack of skills in sustainable business practices on the part of the industry's mid-level managers is one of the major challenges which needs to be addressed.

The political partner is the Ministry of Education, important implementation partners are the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) as well as the Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB). GIZ supports them as well as the subordinate educational institutions to strengthen the application-oriented competencies of future specialists and managers in the textile industry in the field of sustainable corporate management.

The HELD project builds on the achievements of the 2017 to 2020 forerunner project HEST ("German-Bangladesh Higher Education Network for Sustainable Textiles") where German and Bangladeshi universities cooperated in curriculum development and training.

Therefore, the main interventions of the HELD project relate to implementation and standardization of curricula as well as training of faculty members and trainings/dialogue events for junior executives from the industry and trade unions.

## Objective

**Strengthening the application-oriented competencies of future specialists and managers in the textile industry in the field of sustainable corporate management**





**KFW**



**March 2018 – July 2023**



**64.29 Mio EUR**



**Government of Bangladesh, AFD,  
GIZ, EU-AIF**



# Financing Environment and Safety Retrofits in the Bangladesh RMG Sector

The program has been initiated by the Government of Bangladesh with support of international development partners. The objective of the program is to provide Bangladeshi Ready-Made Garment (RMG) manufacturers financial and technical assistance to undertake safety retrofits, environmental and social upgradation of their factories.

A significant number of international fashion brands have decided to make their commercial contracts with Bangladesh partners conditional to the satisfactory safety standards of RMG factories.

Besides, foreign buyers are also requesting their suppliers to provide evidence that their activities are not unfavorable to workers or to the environment. It is expected that in the coming years, social and environmental standards will be a crucial factor of progress for Bangladeshi RMG factories.

In particular, the project aims at facilitating the access of funds for RMG factories to make investments related to safety retrofits and environmental upgrades via subsidized loans and additional performance based grants and assists RMG factories in implementing the measures with the support of external consultants. The grants will only be provided after the retrofits and investments have been audited.

## Objectives

- Improving Fire Protection, Electrical Safety systems, building strength and safety
- Upgrading environmental standards; pollution control, energy and resource efficiency



# Engagement Outside of Core Areas Sundarbans Management Project



 **May 2019 – April 2022**

 **4 Mio EUR**

 **Bangladesh Forest Department**

Bangladesh's part of the largely undisturbed Sundarbans mangrove forest remains one of the last habitats of the endangered Royal Bengal Tigers, 315 species of birds and rare river dolphins. The primary forest is - together with the smaller Indian part of the Sundarbans - the largest patch of mangrove forest in the world and paramount stronghold for biodiversity in Bangladesh. Sundarbans conservation is also a matter of regional and international food security.

With increasing climate change impacts, the importance of this natural buffer against cyclones and storm surges cannot be overstated and its conservation is essential to protect millions of people in the hinterland of the mangrove forest.

Although there are no permanent settlements, human activities continue to affect the Sundarbans. Harmful practices like poison fishing, logging and poaching threaten the unique biodiversity. Unsustainable aqua- and agricultural practices as well as the fast industrial development jeopardise its delicate ecosystem.

Essential parts of the Sundarbans Reserved Forest are declared UNESCO World Heritage Site, however, there is still a lack of capacity to monitor this large wilderness, to enforce existing regulations and to involve the dependent local people in the management of the natural resources in a participatory way.

## Objectives

- Implementing the of Spatial Monitoring And Recording Tool (SMART) for effective law enforcement and standardized monitoring
- Implementing a long-term Ecological Monitoring system
- Installing local Co-Management organisations





## IMPLEMENTED BY



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