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BANGLADESH - BASIC DATA



1.0 BANGLADESH AT A GLANCE

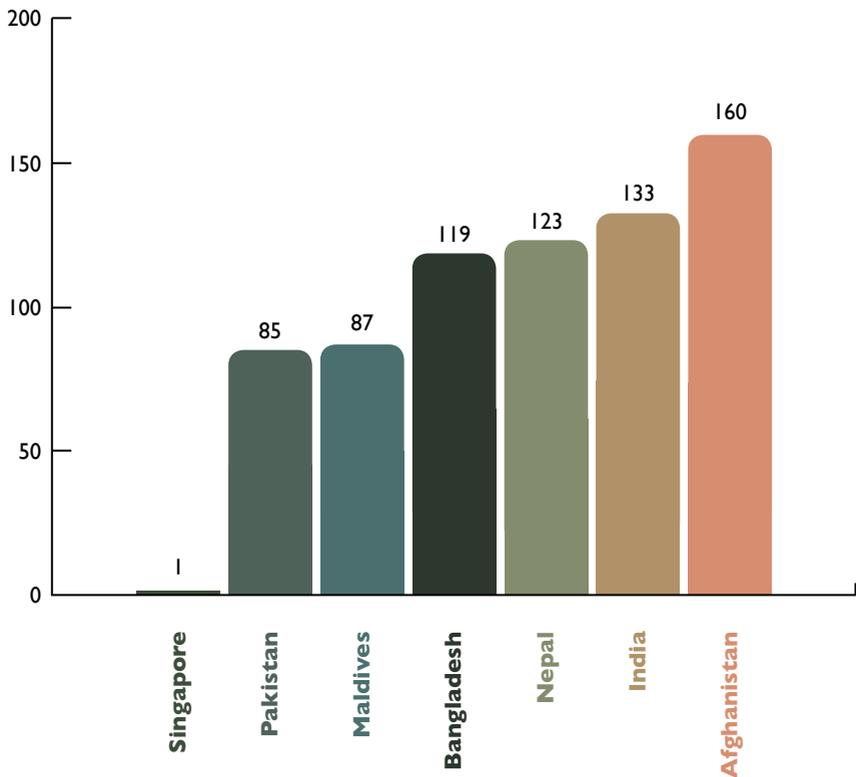
Location	Bangladesh is located in Southern Asia on the northern coast of the Bay of Bengal. Bangladesh is bordered on the west and north by India and towards the east by Myanmar. The country is a low lying riverine land traversed by the many branches and tributaries of the Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers. It has a coastline of 580 kilometers and the terrain is mostly flat alluvial plain and hilly in the south-eastern region. Tropical monsoon and frequent floods and cyclones inflict heavy damage in the delta region.
Area	147,570 km ²
Climate	Sub-tropical monsoon. Winter (December - February) (29°C Maximum; 11°C Minimum) Summer (April - June) (32°C Maximum; 21°C). Heavy rainfall during the monsoons (July-October)
Standart Time	GMT + 6 hours
Population	156,050,883
Languages	The official language is Bangla (Bengali), but English is widely used in Government, business and universities
Religion	The country comprises of Muslims (88.3 %); Hindus (10.5 %); Buddhists (0.6%); Christians (0.3%) and others (0.3%)
Government	Bangladesh is a developing democratic polity based on the Westminster model; secular, but not a Theocratic state.
Money and Currency	The official Currency is Bangladeshi Taka (Tk) [RM 1 ≈ 21.26Tk] (obtained from yahoo currency converter on 16.04.2010)
Real Growth Rate	5.4% (Year 2009)
Inflation:	6.7% (Year 2009)
Industries	Cotton textiles, jute, garments, tea processing, paper Newsprint, cement, chemical fertilizer, light engineering, sugar
Natural Resources	Natural gas, arable land, timber, coal
Exports	USD10,176 billion (est.): garments, jute and jute goods, leather, frozen fish and seafood (Year 2009)
Imports	USD14.97 billion (est.): machinery and equipment, Chemicals, iron and steel, textiles, foodstuffs, petroleum products, Cement. (Year 2009)

1.1 Economy Rankings - Ease Of Doing Business (Based on Publication of the World Rank And International Finance Corporation)

Bangladesh is ranked 119 out of 183 countries. Singapore is the top ranked economy in the Ease of Doing Business.

Bangladesh - Compared to global good practice economy as well as selected economies:

Ease of Doing Business - Global Rank



Source: The World Bank

1.2 Bangladesh's ranking in Doing Business 2010

Rank	Doing Business 2010
Ease of Doing Business	119
Starting a Business	98
Dealing with Construction Permits	118
Employing Workers	124
Registering Property	176
Getting Credit	71
Protecting Investors	20
Paying Taxes	89
Trading Across Borders	107
Enforcing Contracts	180
Closing a Business	108

Source: The World Bank

1.3 Starting a Business in Bangladesh

Starting Business Data	Doing Business		
	2008	2009	2010
Rank		93	98
Procedures (number)	8	7	7
Time (days)	74	73	44
Cost (% of income per capita)	46.2	25.7	36.2
Min. capital (% of income per capita)	0.0	0.0	0.0

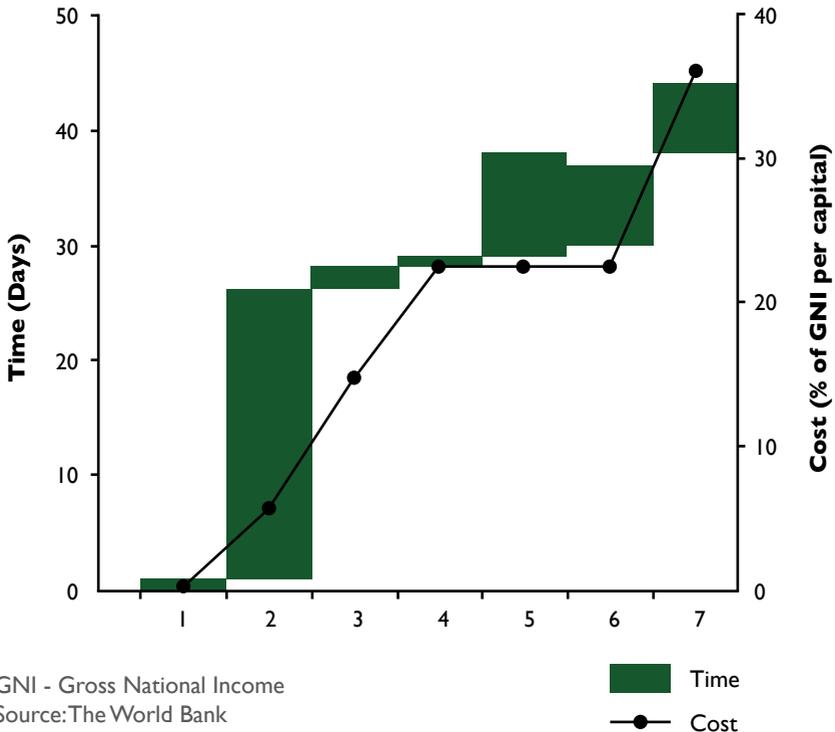
Source: The World Bank

2.0 BANGLADESH INVESTMENT CLIMATE

“Bangladesh is the third easiest country in which to do business in South Asia,” reported a World Bank-International Financial Corporation based on current information as of 1st June 2009. The report further observed that Bangladesh has undertaken steps to improve its business climate and one notable reform made recently was the introduction of a new land registration act to improve security and reduce corruption in land transactions. Among South Asian FDI regimes, a World Bank report (Foreign Direct Investment in Bangladesh: Issues of Long-run Sustainability, 1999) judged the Bangladeshi regime to be the most liberal, with no prior approval requirements or limits on equity participation or on the repatriation of profits and income. According to the report, not only has Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Bangladesh been growing but it may be significantly underreported.

It requires 7 procedures, takes 44 days, and cost 36.22% GNI per capita to start a business in Bangladesh.

Starting a Business in Bangladesh



2.1 Economic Overview

Although the transition process from an agrarian economy to a manufacturing and service based economy has only begun, the common consensus between all political parties is that the market-oriented economic policy must be promoted. The private sector is now the major source of investment in the country. Policies of liberalization, deregulation and reforms have been combined together to bring about changes in almost all sectors of the economy in tune with globalization challenges. By removing all barriers to investment and business, Bangladesh has opened up its economy.

Bangladesh is currently one of the top exporters of Readymade garments (RMG) to the USA and Europe. Fisheries (Shrimp mainly) and leather products are also being exported at an increasing rate. The Government has decided to make no new investment in the manufacturing sector, except for its reserved areas (defence, forestry, nuclear power and security printing). The population reaching nearly 160 million, Bangladesh is one of the most populous countries of the world and potentially a sizeable market due to relatively high growth rates and an expanding middle class with increasing purchasing power.

2.2 Investment Opportunities

Investment opportunities in Bangladesh can be seen as falling into two broad categories:

2.2.1 Resource Advantages

Areas in which Bangladesh offers substantial resource advantages:

Example: Natural gas, fisheries and low-cost labour

2.2.2 Development Opportunities

Areas in which Bangladesh needs to develop.

Example: Upgrading of infrastructure (power, telecommunications, ports, water supply, roads and railways) Note: For this category, financing is largely available through multilateral and bilateral sources.

2.3 Foreign Investors

Bangladesh offers important investment opportunities which are reflected in the inflows of foreign direct investment which increased from virtually zero in the 1980s to over USD760 million in the year 2007. (Statistics Department, Bangladesh Bank) Bangladesh has adopted a liberal approach to foreign investment with schemes such as no restrictions on equity participation, repatriation of profits or income and no prior approval requirements.

Bangladesh has a substantial gas reserve of about 20 trillion cubic feet (tcf). Opportunities exist in developing new plants (barge mounted and other, large, small and mini), constructing transmission and distribution system; rehabilitating or upgrading existing plants and supplying a variety of support Services. Investment opportunities are available on a build operate-transfer (BOT) basis.

Bangladesh has entered into many investment and taxation agreement. With Malaysia, it has entered into a Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) on investment promotion and protection and an Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaty (DTT).

2.4 General Incentives for Foreign Investment

The government has been keen in promoting foreign investment and continues in its efforts to attract such investment as a means of alleviating the economy. Furthermore, the government has liberalized the industrial and investment policies in recent years by reducing bureaucratic control over private investment.

Tax Exemptions	Generally 5 to 7 years. However, for power generation exemption is allowed for 15 years.
Duty	No import duty for export oriented Industry. For other industry it is at 5% ad valorem.
Tax law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Double taxation can be avoided in case of foreign investors on the basis of bilateral agreements. ii. Exemption of income tax up to 3 years for the expatriate employees in industries specified in the relevant schedule of Income Tax ordinance.
Remittance	Facilities for full repatriation of invested capital, profit and dividend.
Exit	An investor can wind up an investment either through a decision of the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting. Once a foreign investor completes the formalities to exit the country, he or she can repatriate the sales proceeds after securing proper authorization from the central bank.
Ownership	Foreign investors can set up ventures which are either wholly owned or in collaboration with a local partner.

2.5 Access to Foreign Investors

Access to the Sectors and Industries

Foreign investment is encouraged in all industrial activities. Such investment may be undertaken either independently or through joint ventures with the local private or public sector.

Reserved Industries

Foreign direct investment is not encouraged in the following four industries:

- a. Readymade garments
- b. Banks
- c. Insurance companies
- d. Other financial institutions

If foreign investment is aimed at one of these sectors, then Pre-Registration Clearance would need to be obtained.

Acquisition

There is no barrier to the acquisition of local enterprises by foreign investors. Foreign investors may also buy enterprises reserved for privatization.

Ownership, Property and Management Control

There is no general restriction on equity participation, acquisition of property or management control for a foreign firm.

Ownership

Bangladesh welcomes foreign investors in all forms and types.

Equity Participation

There is no limitation on equity participation for foreign investment in Bangladesh.

Foreign Participation

Foreign Participation is allowed up to 100 per cent under the existing laws in all areas except the four reserved ones.

Shares and Securities

Foreign investors may invest in shares and securities quoted on the stock exchange with foreign exchange sent or brought into Bangladesh.

Easy Access

Foreign investors may invest in new private allocation of shares of industrial enterprises. Foreign investors are not required to carry out such transactions through registered brokers or members of the stock exchange. There are no restrictions on the transfer of shares to other non-residents.

Restrictions

Foreign investors may not buy national savings bonds. They cannot sell their shares, irrespective of their Percentage of equity and paid-up capital through public issues.

2.6 Investment Protection for Foreign Investors

The Foreign Private Investment (Promotion and Protection) Act of 1980 guarantees protection against expropriation. If a foreign investor becomes subject to a legal measure that has the effect of expropriation, adequate compensation will be paid and it will be freely repatriable. The amount of the compensation will be determined in accordance to the market value of the investment immediately before the measure went into effect. There has been no instance of expropriation of foreign property since the Foreign Investment Act was passed in 1980.

2.7 Foreign Investors and Loans

Local Borrowings

Foreign investors have full access to local capital sources. Banks in Bangladesh may extend working capital loans or term loans in local currency to foreign-controlled or foreign-owned firms companies (manufacturing or non-manufacturing) operating in Bangladesh on the basis of normal banker-customer relationship, without reference to Bangladesh Bank. Interest rates vary from 9 to 16 per cent.

Foreign Loans

Industrial enterprises in Bangladesh (local, foreign or joint venture) may borrow abroad with prior Board Of Investment approval. Remittances towards payment of interest and repayment of principal as per terms of Board of Investment approved borrowing may be made through advertisements without prior Bangladesh Bank approval.

3.0 STRUCTURES FOR DOING BUSINESS

3.1 Registered Companies

Any company with unlimited liability, liability limited by shares or by guarantee may register as a company under the Companies Act 1994 provided it consists of 7 members or more. Forms for incorporation and registration are available with the office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms. Nominal fees are charged for registering the Memorandum and Articles of association of a proposed company.

3.2 Limited liability - Companies Limited by Shares

There are two types of companies limited by shares, the public and the private.

3.3 Private Limited Companies

A private limited company is restricted in its rights to transfer its shares and it is also limited in the number of its members.

The following are the essential features of a private limited company:

- a. Its members will have restricted rights to transfer shares.
- b. It will consist of a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 50 members. Members do not include persons employed in the company.
- c. It will prohibit any invitation to the public to subscribe to its shares or debentures.
- d. Trading and business may commence from the date of its incorporation.

3.4 Public Limited Companies

A public limited company offers shares and debentures to the public through a prospectus which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 1994 and the Securities and Exchange Commission Act 1993.

The features of a public limited company are as follows:-

- a. A public limited company may issue invitation to the members of the public to subscribe to the shares and debentures of the Company.
- b. It will consist of a minimum of 7 members. There is no limit as to the maximum number of its members.
- c. It must have at least 3 Directors.
- d. A public limited company may be formed after conversion of a private company.
- e. Publicly traded companies pay a lower rate of corporate tax - 35 per cent rather than 40 per cent.

3.5 Companies Limited by Guarantees

When a company is incorporated with the liability of the shareholders limited by guarantee, the shareholder will only be required to pay capital when the company commences its winding up.

3.6 Features of a Guarantee Company

- a. A Guarantee company will be wound up if it is unable to discharge its liabilities due to inadequate funds.
- b. Each member who is shareholder at the time of Commencement of winding up is liable to pay an amount prescribed in the Memorandum of association.

4.0 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BUSINESS

4.1 Establishing a Construction Firm

Currently in Bangladesh, construction firms are not required to be licensed under any specific legislation but are expected to be registered as a company by the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms. Business in Bangladesh may be carried out by a company formed and incorporated locally or by a company incorporated abroad but registered in Bangladesh. No prior approval or no objection certificate is required for setting up of a joint venture or 100% foreign direct investment.

Government and International Funding agencies issue procurement notices calling for pre-qualifications or categorically stating the technical and financing capabilities expected. The procurement notices are quite transparent indicating the estimated cost and construction period, enhancing the competition.

4.2 A. Place of Business

Foreign companies not registered in Bangladesh can set up a place of business in Bangladesh in the form of a Branch Office or a Liaison Office. Permission will be required from the Bangladesh Bank and the Board Of Investment in order to open up a Branch Office or a Liaison Office.

4.3 B. Foreign Investment

As mentioned earlier, foreign investors may set up an industrial entity which is wholly owned or set up in collaboration with local investors. There is no requirement to obtain prior permission to set up such enterprises if the entrepreneurs use their own funds.

4.4 C. Registration of Foreign Direct Investment

Although prior permission is not required, it is advised that a business entity is registered in order to benefit from various facilities and institutional support provided by the government, entrepreneurs and sponsors.

4.5 D. Manufacturing Firm

A manufacturing firm employing ten or more workers must also register with the Chief Inspector of Factories and Establishments.

Businesses Requiring Pre-Registration Clearance A Pre-Registration Clearance is required for investment in the following areas as Foreign Direct Investments are discouraged in these areas:

- a. Ready-made garments
- b. Banks
- c. Insurance companies
- d. Other financial institutions

5.0 FINANCIAL FACILITIES

5.1 Banking/Financial Facilities

Bangladesh offers adequate banking facilities to the investors, both domestic and foreign, for establishment of industries and to facilitate their business transactions.

1. The Role of Bangladesh Bank, as the central bank, has legal authority to supervise and regulate commercial banks and banking institutions. It performs the traditional central banking role of note issuance and as banker to the government and banks. It formulates and implements monetary policies, manages foreign exchange reserves and supervises banks and non-bank financial institutions.
2. The Local Banks of Bangladesh:
3. State-owned Commercial Banks

5.2 Local Borrowings

Foreign investors have full access to local capital sources. Banks in Bangladesh may extend working capital loans or term loans in local currency to foreign-controlled or foreign-owned firms/companies (manufacturing or non-manufacturing) operating in Bangladesh on the basis of normal banker-customer relationship, without reference to Bangladesh Bank. Interest rates vary from 9 to 16 per cent.

5.3 Foreign Loans

Industrial enterprises in Bangladesh (local, foreign or joint venture) may borrow abroad with prior Board Of Investment approval. Remittances towards payment of interest and repayment of principal as per terms of Board Of Investment approved borrowing may be made through advertisements without prior Bangladesh Bank approval.

- a. A public limited company may issue invitation to the members of the public to subscribe to the shares and debentures of the Company.
- b. It will consist of a minimum of 7 members. There is no limit as to the maximum number of its members.
- c. It must have at least 3 Directors.
- d. A public limited company may be formed after conversion of a private company.
- e. Publicly traded companies pay a lower rate of corporate tax - 35 per cent rather than 40 per cent.

5.4 Environmental Regulations

All industrial and other projects that may be potentially polluting are required, in accordance with the Environment Conservation Act 1995, to undertake some form of environmental impact assessment. Environmental clearance must be obtained from the Department of Environment. The process takes 15 days for projects with low levels of potentially adverse impact and 30 days for projects with significant impact.

5.5 Zonal Restrictions

There are no regional or zonal restrictions on investment.

1. Investors can set up businesses in any part of the country except in the areas reserved for the armed forces or declared environmental preserves (e.g., the mangrove Forests in the Sunder bans).
2. The availability of investment incentives including tariff Concessions and tax-holiday periods varies according to location, with the less developed regions providing the best offers.

5.6 Building and Related Permits

A foreign investor will receive assistance to acquire buildings and industrial plots depending on the nature of the business.

1. Businesses in the Export Processing Zones (EPZ)
 - a. Investors can rent custom-made premises within the EPZs.
 - b. Investors need to have the designs of their buildings approved by the city development authorities.
2. Businesses outside the EPZs
Investors requiring industrial plots to set up factories in areas outside of the Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority zones and Bangladesh Small And Cottage Industry Corporation estates may approach the Board of Investment for assistance. Board of Investment requirements for providing assistance are as follows:-
 - a. The company must be registered
 - b. The Company must have an industrial layout plan to justify actual requirements.

5.7 Termination Of Business

A company can wind up on its own initiative or the court may intervene to wind up the company.

5.7.1 Investor's Decision to Wind up

- a. The decision must be made at the annual general meeting or the extraordinary general meeting
- b. The Company must inform the public through the Government gazette or a newspaper within 10 days of taking such a decision.
- c. The directors of the company must agree to pay off any liabilities of the enterprise within 3 years of the winding up and this agreement must be backed by an auditor's report.
- d. The company can appoint liquidators to pay off its liabilities. After completing the task, the liquidator must prepare a report on the liquidation process and explain how liabilities have been paid off. This report should be submitted to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

5.7.2 Court's Initiative to Wind up

The Court may, by its own initiative wind up a company if it is satisfied that the company has failed to pay off its liabilities.

5.7.3 Repatriation of Capital

Foreign investors have the right to sell their concerns to local entrepreneurs. Once a foreign investor has completed the formalities to exit the country, (s) he can repatriate the sales proceeds or the balance after securing proper authorizations from the Bangladesh Bank. Fully documented applications are disposed of promptly. No approval by the Bank is required for the repatriation of portfolio investment.

6.0 LABOUR LEGISLATION, RELATION AND SUPPLY

Workforce

Bangladesh offers an abundant supply of disciplined, easily trainable and low-cost work force suitable for any labour- intensive industry. Furthermore, there is an increasing supply of professionals, technologists and other middle and low level skilled workers who have received technical training from universities, colleges, Technical training centres and polytechnic institutions. The government has recently initiated enhanced training facilities to further develop the skills for the various industries, supported by The International Labour Organization.

6.1 Employment Conditions

1. Minimum Age
The minimum age for workers in Bangladesh is 16 years in factories and establishments.
2. Contracts
Contracts are made in the form of a letter of offer but workers may also be engaged on verbal agreements.

6.2 Labour Laws

Bangladesh currently has 47 labour laws in force relating to wages and employment, trade union & industrial disputes, working environment and labour administration. The main labour laws are stated below:-

1. Workmen's Compensation Act 1923,
2. Payment of Wages Act 1936
3. Maternity Benefit Act 1936
4. Employment of Labour (Standing Orders) Act 1965
5. Shops & Establishments Act 1965
6. Factories Act 1965
7. Industrial Relations Ordinance 1969

6.3 Settlement of Labour Disputes

1. The First Step

Industrial disputes are to be settled and agreed between management and the Collective Bargaining Agent.

2. The Second Step

If the Agreement is unsuccessful, the government may intervene on the request of the aggrieved party to start a conciliation process.

3. The Third Step

If the conciliation fails, the party who has raised the dispute may opt for strike or lock-out. Such an action may be prohibited by the Government if it relates to essential services such as electricity, gas, emergency services, airports and ports.

Wages and Fringe Benefits

Wages and fringe benefits are determined in accordance with the nature of the work and whether it is in the private or the public sector.

Private Sector

In the private sector, wages and fringe benefits of the workers and employees are determined through collective bargaining process. Sometimes private industries follow the public sector wages and salary structure for their employees.

Leave & Holidays

Leave and holidays of the workers & employees are regulated by the Factories Act 1965 and Shops Establishment Act 1965.

Social Security

Workmen Compensation, Maternity Benefit (Tea Estate) Act 1950, Maternity Benefit Act 1939, Employment of Labour (standing orders) Act 1965 deal with provident fund and gratuity.

Labour Union

Industrial Relations Ordinance 1969 deals with trade unions in Bangladesh.

Right to Form an Association

Industrial Relations Ordinance 1969 provides that any worker has the right to form an association/union without previous authorisation. However, such an association/union can only function as a trade union if registered under the law.

Formation

In any industrial and commercial establishment, a trade union may be formed with 30% of the total number of workers employed.

Disputes

Only the Collective Bargaining Agent is authorized to raise industrial disputes and negotiate with management.

Working Hours

The current labour law stipulates 48 hour working week, (8 hours daily) and Friday as the weekly holiday.

Overtime

Work in excess of 48 hours is paid as overtime. The rate of overtime is double, so an hour of overtime work would require the pay of 2 hours work.

7.0 TAXATION

Similar to other countries in South Asia, Bangladesh has a narrow tax base and the revenue is generated mainly from indirect taxes.

7.1 Income Tax

There are three income-tax rates, applicable to income above Tk 100,000 (USD1,481) per annum:

- a. 0% on the first Tk 100,000
- b. 10% on the next Tk 50,000
- c. 18% on the next Tk 125,000;
- d. 25% on the balance

7.2 Corporate Tax

The corporate tax rate is 35 per cent for publicly traded companies and 40 per cent for all other companies. Corporate tax rates are competitive within the region.

7.3 Capital Gains Tax

Capital Gains from the transfer of shares of public limited companies listed with a stock exchange are tax-exempt. In computing capital gain, deductions are made from the full value or sales proceeds or the fair market price (whichever is higher) of the capital assets.

7.4 Dividend Income

The dividend income which is received by shareholders (other than Companies) is tax-exempt. However, this benefit is not available to shareholders of private limited companies.

7.5 Royalties

Royalties and technical know-how fees received by any foreign Collaborator, firm, company or experts are also tax-exempt.

7.6 VAT

Bangladesh has replaced the sales and excise tax by the more modern value added tax (VAT). The VAT is imposed at a flat rate of 15 per cent. Excise duties do exist on a few items and a turnover tax may be imposed on small-scale activities which cannot be taxed through the VAT.

7.7 Salaries of foreign technicians

Salaries of foreign technicians are tax exempt for a period of 3 years from the date of their arrival in Bangladesh provided their salaries are for services stipulated under a contract approved by the National Board of Revenue. A technician in this context is a person with specialized knowledge and experience in the industrial arts and sciences.

8.0 EXCHANGE AND REMITTING FUNDS

8.1 Current Transactions

The Bangladesh Taka was declared convertible for current account transactions in March 1994. As a result, payment settlements against trade in goods and services have been freely permitted.

8.2 Remittances

Before effecting remittances, advertisements must scrutinize the remittance request to be satisfied that these represent bona fide current transactions and are not disguised attempts to circumvent capital transfer restrictions.

9.0 IMMIGRATION

9.1 Work Permits

In order to employ a foreign national, it is imperative that the employer obtain a work permit. The following are the conditions need to be fulfilled before applying for a work permit:-

1. Nationality of Employee
All nationalities, except for Israeli citizens will be permitted to undertake employment in Bangladesh.
2. Registered Industrial Establishments
Employment of expatriate personnel should only be considered in industrial establishments which are sanctioned/registered by the appropriate authority.
3. Minimum Age of Foreign Employee
Persons below 18 years of age are not eligible for employment.
4. Local Experts not Available
Employment of foreign nationals is normally considered for jobs in which local experts/technicians are not available.
5. Decision made by the Board of Directors
The work permit application must include the decision of the Board of Directors to take on new employees.
6. Maximum number of Foreign Employees
Number of foreign employees should not exceed 15% of the total employees including top management personnel.
7. Duration of Employment
Initially employment of any foreign national is considered for a term of 2 years which could then be extended on the basis of merit of the case.
8. Security Clearance
Security clearance must be obtained from the Ministry of Home Affairs.

10.0 BUSINESS ETIQUETTE

Most Bangladeshi businessmen are quite conversant in English although they prefer to converse amongst themselves in Bangla and sometimes quite unintentionally in the presence of foreigners. In Bangladesh, relation building is a pre essential custom to doing business and doing dinner or lunch is an usual practice. It is must be noted that it takes time to build and establish the trust of your host. Business and socials customs are strongly observed. A handshake is common in the business circle and men should not shake hands with woman unless she offers her hand first. Bangladeshi's are fond of exchanging business cards and it is quite essential to carry plenty of cards even at social functions.

It is quite expected to wear a tie and jacket in formal functions, seminars or visiting government offices and wearing shorts or mini skirts is to be avoided. It is quite common to exchange gifts in social events, and corporate gifts are widely used in the business circle.

Public displays of affection even between husband and wife are unacceptable and frowned upon. In the business circle Bangladeshi tend to be formal and addressing a person with a prefix of Mr., Mrs., or Ms (as the situation demands) is a safer form of address until an informal relation is gradually developed to addressing on a first name basis.

11.0 TRAVELING TO BANGLADESH

11.1 Visa

Malaysians traveling to Bangladesh would require a visa by the Bangladesh High Commission located at Block 1, Lorong Damai 7, Jalan Damai, 55000 Kuala Lumpur. (Telephone no: 03-21487940, 03-21423271, 03-21422505, Fax No: 03-21413381)

The following must be enclosed for an application of a business visa:-

- a. a passport with minimum 6 months validity
- b. a completed application form
- c. a visa fee that varies according validity period and number of entries
- d. three recent photographs of size 37mm x 37mm
- e. an invitation letter from a Bangladeshi Company or local trade promotion agency like MATRADE

A visa on arrival (VOA) can be granted for 15 days for a bon fide businessman. More details are available at the Bangladesh High Commission website www.bangladesh-highcomkl.com. Please note that the procedure for application dictates that the scheduled visa application fee must be banked into the account of The Bangladesh High Commission and the banked-in slip must be produced together with the application forms. The information for banking in is as follows:-

Bank	:	Maybank
Account No	:	564427102268

11.2 Flights

The major international airport in Dhaka is Hasrat Shahjalal International Airports which is located about 18km from the city centre. There are many regular flights between Kuala Lumpur and Dhaka and the major airlines are Malaysian Airlines, Air Asia and Biman Airlines.

11.3 Hotels and Ground Transport

Two 5-Star Hotels, the Pan Pacific Sonargaon and the Sheraton are located about 12km from the Hasrat Shahjalal International Airport. These hotels are located within the city centre. The hotel shuttle service or pre-arranged hotel limousine service is the preferred way to travel to the hotel. The cost of the limousine is about USD30.00. There are other 5-Star hotels like the Radisson Water Garden Hotel and the Western in Dhaka. The rates for the hotels range from USD90.00 to USD200.00 currently.

Car rental including a driver is available and the costs range between USD35.00 to USD50.00 per day. The Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC) a government organization operates a fleet of air-conditioned cars including transfers to and from the Dhaka Airports. Two types of taxis, the yellow cabs with air conditioning and the black cars without, are available. The taxis are economical and reliable and arrangements could be made through call centres.

11.4 Health and Security

Dhaka is generally a safe city but it is advisable to avoid walking through lanes and other dark spots at night.

Travelers are advised to drink bottled or boiled water only and avoid under-cooked food, seafood/shellfish, and ice cream. Generally the food served in the 5-star hotels and established restaurants are considered safe.

11.5 Tipping

Tipping of about five percent is normally expected when eating at restaurants.

11.6 Time Zone

Bangladesh is two hours behind Malaysian Standard time.

11.7 Telecommunication

The country code for Bangladesh is 880. For calls from Bangladesh to Malaysia dial 00 + 60 + area code+ telephone number.

For calls from Malaysia to Bangladesh dial 00 + 880 + area code+ telephone number.

11.8 Business Hours and Public Holidays

The government offices are open between 9.00am till 5.00pm from Sunday to Thursday and some private offices operate from Saturday to Thursday with Friday as the normal week day off. The commercial centres and shops are usually open from 10.00am to 8.00pm with varying days for being closed.

The annual public holidays observed are:-

a. January 1st	-	New Year's Day
b. February 21st	-	Shaheed Day
c. March 20th	-	Independence and National Day
d. April 14th	-	Bengali Solar New Year
e. August 15th	-	National Mourning Day
f. September 10th (2010)	-	Eid-al-Fitri
g. November 17th (2010)	-	Eid-al-adha
h. December 16th	-	Victory Day
i. December 29th (2010)	-	Islamic New Year

I 1.9 Malaysian High Commission

CONTACT DETAILS

High Commission of Malaysia
House 19, Road 6, Baridhara, Dhaka
Tel: 8817760, 8817759
Fax: (880-2) 8813115, 8817761

12.0 CONSTRUCTION OUTLOOK & OPPORTUNITIES

12.1 Economic Forecast

The Asian Development Bank in its Asian Development Outlook 2009 has reported that with the political stability currently prevailing sustains, then the Bangladesh Government should be able to move forward in fulfilling its development priorities, sustain its focus on prudent macroeconomic management, and deepen economic reforms. It is optimistic in its assumption that the measures outlined in the Bangladesh 2010 budget to accelerate the Annual Development Program (ADP) utilization, (focusing on streamlining project approval processes and raising institutional capacities in key line ministries) will be implemented.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate in Financial Year 2010 is forecast at 5.2% but is expected to be further boosted if the government's expansionary measures are implemented promptly. The Annual Development Program includes a large infrastructure investment program in the Financial Year 2010 budget and the new Public – private partnership initiative. The first stimulates package of USD500million announced in April 2009 is carried through Financial Year 2010 with an additional allocation of USD725million. Foreign financing is about 2% and domestic financing is 3.0% of GDP with four fifth coming from the banking system.

The government has planned for the economy to grow at 8% by Financial Year 2013 and at 10% by Financial Year 2017. It estimates that investment of USD28billion above current levels will be needed for infrastructure investment by 2010 to achieve these high growth rates. The government has now initial Public - private partnership to address the weaknesses of relying on the Annual Development Program based approach for delivering infrastructure, which is characterized by complex project clearance procedures, inadequate implementation capacity, and lack of monitoring.

The government feels that successful implementation of the Public - private partnership concept will open opportunities for higher flows of local and foreign investment in infrastructure, particularly in transport and power. The government has implemented special measures in Financial Year 2010 budget to involve the private sector alongside the Government, being well aware that there are vital to address the building constraints to attract greater investment particularly from abroad and accelerate the remedies for power shortages and transportation bottlenecks.

12.2 Country Risks

Bangladesh faces several risks in respect of the country failing to reach its economic projection and forecast. The risks include a delay in the global economic recovery (the chances are slim as currently there are very clear indications on the recovery), shortfalls in revenue collections and mobilization of external financing (in respect of the high targets and measures for effective implementation plans), political turmoil, and natural disasters. For business ventures, there is still room for improvement in bureaucratic procedures but could be mitigated to a large extent. As in most countries, the biggest risk to your investment is associated with the joint venture partner. Careful and meticulous evaluation of your joint venture partner is vital before embarking on your full involvement.

12.3 Project Financing, Infrastructure Development & Procurement

Bangladesh is a recipient of financing from both multilateral and bilateral agencies. The Economic Relations Department (ERD) of the Ministry of Finance of the Government of Bangladesh is responsible for mobilizing external resources for socio-economic development of the country. It is the focal point of the Government for coordination of all external assistance inflows.

In respect of infrastructure developments, amongst the Multilateral Development Partners are:-

1. Asian Development Bank (ADB)
2. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
3. Islamic Development Bank (IDB)
4. OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)
5. International Bank of Reconstruction Development (IBRD)
6. International Development Association (IDA)

Some of the major Bilateral Development Partners are :-

1. United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
2. Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

3. Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), and
4. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

External assistance is considered a significant factor in the economic development of Bangladesh. Up to June 2009, a total of about USD61.48 billion of external assistance was committed of which 71% was for project aid. World Bank is the largest amongst the lenders followed by Asian Development Bank. According to a recent classification by the World Bank, Bangladesh is categorized as a “less indebted” country reflecting the prudent management of its borrowings.

Some of the ongoing projects that have been approved are as per table following:-	Development Partner	ADB	ADB
	Project	Second Rural Infrastructure Improvement	Jamuna - Meghna River Erosion Mitigation
	Objectives	<p>The project area includes 23 districts of Rajshahi, Dhaka and Chittagong Division covering 182 upazilas. The project objectives are to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. enhance access by the rural communities to basic services, ii. increase on-farm income due to greater availability of agriculture inputs, iii. enhance women empowerment, and iv. improve local governance. 	<p>The objective of the project is to sustain and enhance economic growth, poverty reduction and livelihood security in areas threatened by riverbank erosion. The Project is specifically intended to sustain the incomes of people in the Pabna Irrigation and Rural Development Project (PIRDP) and the Meghna-Dhonagoda Irrigation Project (MDIP) areas through establishing cost effective and sustainable riverbank erosion management systems (ERMS).</p>
	Major Components	<p>The major components of the project are to :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. upgrade and maintain approximately 1360 km of sub-district roads and 780 km of union roads to bitumen surfaced standard, ii. improve approximately 7780 km of selected village roads, iii. improve approximately 60 km of submersible roads, iv. construct bridges and culverts, v. plant trees on roadsides, vi. ensure road safety, vii. upgrade around 364 nos. of markets including growth center markets, viii. upgrade 182 nos. of union council complexes, ix. improve 25 jetties, x. construct flood refuge shelters, xi. improve local governance and LGED capacity through awareness program and training etc 	<p>Part A: Riverbank Protection Works for PIRDP and MDIP areas, Part B: Non-structural River Erosion Impact Mitigation Measures, Part C: Institutional Strengthening</p>

ADB	ADB
Secondary Towns Water Supply & Sanitation	Dhaka Water Supply Section. Development Program
<p>The project objective is to improve the living conditions and health standards of the communities in the participating secondary towns (20 Pourashavas) and improve sustainability of Pourashava-level water utilities.</p>	<p>The program loan will support the reforms in the urban water supply sector as laid out in SDP-WSSB 2006 by assisting the Government's efforts in improving the governance and management of urban water supply institutions, including Pourashavas and WASAs.</p>
<p>The major components of the project are (A) Water Supply Improvements and (B) Sanitation Improvements. The Component (A) will cover rehabilitation, development and expansion of water sources, water treatment facilities and piped water system in selected Pourashavas. It will implement in two phases. Under component (B) sanitation improvement activities will be carried out by conducting public awareness campaigns, providing technical advice and guidance for sanitary latrine construction and constructing community, school and public latrines.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Increasing autonomy, improved local governance and strengthening local institutional management framework ii. improving sector strategy and plan iii. improving financial sustainability and iv. improving and strengthening WASA* organizational structure, governance and financial management <p>(* Water Supply & Sewerage Authority)</p>

Development Partner	ADB	World Bank
Project	Second Urban Governance and Infrastructure Improvement (Sector) Project	Power Development Technical Assistance Project (Cr.No.3913-BD. Grant No.HO92-BD)
Objectives	<p>The objectives of the project are to promote sustainable human development, economic growth and poverty reduction by improving municipal management and strengthening capacity to deliver municipal services and improving physical infrastructure and urban services (especially to the poor) in 35 secondary towns (Pourashavas) of Bangladesh.</p>	<p>The main objective of the project are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop appropriate implementation plans for the power sector reform program based on; the policy guidelines provided in the Vision Statement and Policy Statement. - Implement those to achieve the desirable performance improvements, consumer satisfaction and viability of the sector and accelerated development of the sector with optimal utilization of resources; - Create an environment to facilitate and attract investment both local and foreign in the power sector and to accelerate experience and growth of the power sector to meet the fast growing demand of electricity; - Execution of reform program under this TA project through Power Cell and working groups.
Major Components	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance the capacity of Pourashava to operate, manage and maintain basic urban services; 2. Increase the accountability of Pourashavas towards their clients; and 3. Improve the physical infrastructure and urban services. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Technical Assistance b. Power companies Management Strengthening c. Training and Other Capacity Building Measures d. Goods and Equipment e. Support for Project Implementation Operating Cost.

World Bank	IDA
Rural Electrification & Renewable Energy Development Project (Cr.No.3679-BD. Additional Financing (IDA Credit No 4643 -BD)	2x150 MW Siddhirganj Peaking Power Project
To achieve the target of electrification of 80% HH within 2020, this project would take initiative to further strengthen rural electrification program through strengthening PBS, solar system and promotion of other renewable sources To procure and deploy 10 Million CFL bulbs to save 360 Mega Watt electricity under a new component.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To reduce the very large deficits of generation of electricity at peak times that the country now experiencing. ii. The proposed project will reduce gaps in country's power sector generation by adding 300MW to the existing grids. iii. To reduce transmission loss by local power generation. iv. To meet up emergency power demand in an around Siddhirganj areas including Dhaka Metropolitan city area during peak hour. v. To improve the stability and reliability of the power system. vi. To minimize load shedding, and vii. To develop human resources by technology transfer.
<p>Part A: Riverbank Protection Works for PIRDP and MDIP areas,</p> <p>Part B: Non-structural River Erosion Impact Mitigation Measures,</p> <p>Part C: Institutional Strengthening</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 300 MW peaking power plant ii. 11 KM, 230 KV electricity transmission line iii. 60 KM natural gas pipeline from Bakhrabad to Siddhirganj

Development Partner	IDA
Project	Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project (ECRRP) (Post Side Rehabilitation)
Objectives	<p>The project will support Government of Bangladesh efforts to facilitate restoration and recovery from the damage to livelihoods and infrastructure caused by Cyclone Sidr and build long-term preparedness through strengthened disaster risk reduction and management. By implementation the project will build new disaster shelters, strengthen disaster risk reduction and management, support monitoring and evaluation of the project and its impact, technical assistance, strategic studies and training to strengthen future emergency response and preparedness to disaster.</p>
Major Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Recovery of Agriculture Sector and Improvement Program. ii. Reconstruction and Improvement of Multipurpose Shelters iii. Rehabilitation of Coastal Embankments iv. Long-Term Disaster Risk Management Program v. Monitoring and Evaluation of Project Impact vi. Project Management, Technical Assistance, Strategic Studies and Training, and vii. Support for Future Disaster

World Bank

Rural Transport Improvement Project

The objectives of the project are to provide rural communities with improved access to social services and economic opportunities, and to enhance the capacity of the Borrower's agencies and institutions to better manage rural transport infrastructure. The Project consists of the following Parts, subject to such modifications thereof as the Borrower and the association may agree upon from time to time to achieve such objectives:

- Part A: Improvement of Upazila Roads Improvement of rural access in 21 project districts through paving and minor widening works to be carried out in three phases on about 1,100 km of existing Upazila.
- Part B: Improvement of Union Roads Improvement of rural access in 21 project districts through paving and strengthening works to be carried out in three phases on about 500 km of Union Roads.
- Part C: Periodic Maintenance and Minor Rehabilitation of Upazila Roads Reduction of the periodic backlog in 2 project districts through overlaying, resealing and/or minor rehabilitation in four yearly phases on about 1,500 km of key Upazila Roads.
- Part D: Construction of Culverts and Bridges on union Roads Improvement of rural access by making about 5,000 km of Union Roads passable throughout the year in the 21 project districts through construction of about 15,00 linear meters of mission small culverts and/or bridges.
- Part E: Improvement and Construction of Rural Markets and River Jetties Improvement and/or construction of about 150 rural markets and about 45 river jetties to facilitate the exchange of goods and commodities in the 21 project districts.
- Part F: Addressing Social and Environmental Aspects Mitigation of the social and environmental impacts of the civil works components of the project, including assisting in the carrying out of relocation programs and the implementation of the Frameworks and Plans

- Improvement of Upazila Roads
- Improvement of Union Roads
- Construction of Culverts and Bridges on Union Roads
- Improvement and Construction of rural Markets and River Jetties
- Addressing Social and Environmental Aspect

Development Partner	World Bank	IDA
Project	Bangladesh Water Supply Programme Project	Dhaka Water Supply and Sanitation Project
Objectives	<p>The overall objective of the project is piloting innovative measures to scale up the provision of safe water supply, free from arsenic and pathogens in rural areas and small towns. This will take place by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. promoting rural piped water supply with private sector participation in rural areas; ii. supply safe water in selected pourashavas; iii. implementing arsenic mitigation measures in arsenic affected villages in selected upazilas; iv. supporting capacity building, training, water quality monitoring and communication; v. implementing a monitoring and evaluation system for the project. vi. providing safe water to the flood and cyclone (SIDR) affected areas within the project components. 	<p>The objective of the Project is to improve the sustainable delivery of storm water drainage, wastewater and water services to the population of Dhaka.</p>
Major Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural piped water Supply (RPWS) • Urban Pourashavas Water Supply Schemes (UWSS) • Rural Non-piped Water Supply (RNPWS) • Capacity Building Regulations and Training • Development of Local Credit Market • Monitoring and Evaluation • Project Management 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rehabilitation and Strengthening of Existing Sewerage System; 2. Rehabilitation and Strengthening of Storm water Drainage System; 3. Support to the implementation of environment and social safeguards; 4. Support to service provision of Low Income Communities; 5. Project Management, M&E, Consultation and Communications;

ADB/WB/JBIC	Japan (JICA)
Padma Multipurpose Bridge	The Project for Provision of Portable Steel Bridge on Upazilla Union Roads
<p>The main objective of the project is to construct a road cum rail bridge over the Padma at Mawa- Janjira. The southwest is separated from other parts of the country especially from the north central zone where the national capital of Dhaka is located, by the Padma River. The proposed Padma bridge having a length of 5.58 km at Mawa- Janjira will strengthen the linkage between the southwest and north central zone. A highway bridge, in particular, will improve and enhance the freight and passenger transportation between Dhaka and major points in the southwest zone and contribute substantially to the original development of the southwest zone as well as to national economic growth.</p>	<p>By this projects 26 (twenty six) dilapidated bridges will be improved and thereby to contribute greatly to the transportation networks in the rural areas of 17 districts in Bangladesh.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pay of Officers, Staff and Allowances; b. Supplies and Services for the Bridge; c. Repairs, maintenance and rehabilitation; d. Acquisition of assets; e. Acquisition/Purchase of landed properties of assets; f. Construction of works ; g. Approach roads/toll plaza/service area etc; h. Bridge construction; i. Development Import Duty and VAT; j. Capital Block Allocation & Miscellaneous Capital expenditure 	Civil Works

Development Partner	Japan (JICA)	IDA
Project	Storm Water Drainage System in Dhaka Phase -II	Water Management Improvement Project (WMIP)
Objectives	The project will be enhance the existing drainage capacity of the pump stations to alleviate water-blockage at the adjacent area of Kalayanpur, Mirpur and Mohammadpur	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. to improve national water resources management by involving the local communities to play an expanded role in all stages of the participatory scheme cycle management b. to enhance institutional performance of the Borrower's principal water
Major Components	Machinery and equipment construction works, Rehabilitation works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System improvement and management transfer. • Operations and maintenance performance improvement • Institutional Capacity Building

Japan (JICA)	Japan (JICA)
Jamuna Bridge Access Road	Eastern Bangladesh Rural Infrastructure Development Project
Optimum utilization of Jamuna Bridge by Strengthening Dhaka Tangail Road.	Improve rural transport network, improve physical facilities at the growth centers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. construction/improvement of roads between Joydevpur & Tangail ii. construction of bypass & realignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil works • Procurement of Equipments • Consulting Services

Development Partner	Japan (JICA)	Japan (JICA)
Project	Karnaphuli Water Supply Project	New Haripur Power Plant Development Project
Objectives	Establish a water treatment plant with capacity 136 MLD, Transmission and Distribution pipeline, Reservoir along with other related facilities	To meet the electricity demand of the country by developing a new power generation plant and to develop efficient institution, thereby contributing economic and social growth
Major Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil works • Procurement of Equipments • Consulting Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of Power Generation Plant • Acquisition of machineries • Others.

Japan (JICA)	Japan (JICA)	Japan
Dhaka – Chittagong Railway Development Project	Small – Scale Water Resources Development Project	New Haripur Power Plant Development Project II
To enhance transportation capacity and equality of the services of the Dhaka-Chittagong Railway by developing railway facilities and institutional capacities in Bangladesh Railway.	Increase agricultural and fisheries production Developing infrastructure and beneficiaries participatory institutions for sustainable stakeholder driven Small Scale Water Resources Development and management subprojects in 15 districts in Greater Mymensingh	To meet the electricity demand of the country by developing a new power generation plant and to develop efficient institution, thereby contributing economic and social growth.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track doubling between Laksam & Chikistana • Improvement of Pahartali workshop • Procurement of Equipments • Consulting Services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil works • Procurement of Equipments • Consulting Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of Power Generation Plant • Acquisition of machineries • Others.

Development Partner	ADB	ADB
Project	Dhaka Clean Fuel	Secondary Towns Integrated Flood Protection Phase II
Objectives	<p>The objects of the Project are to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> increase the sustainable use and supply of domestic natural gas resources for the transport sector develop use of compressed natural gas in the transport sector and improve ambient air quality in Dhaka encourage private sector participation in the development of the domestic down stream gas sector improve corporate governance in the gas sector companies. 	<p>The broad objective of the project is to promote economic growth and thereby help to alleviate poverty in the nine secondary towns in Bangladesh: Kushtia, Rajshahi, gaibandha, Jamalpur, Mymensigh, Manikganj, Munshiganj, Brahmanbaria and Sunamganj.</p>
Major Components	<p>Part B: Extension of Gas Distribution Network in Dhaka</p> <p>Part C: Establishment of Compressed Natural Gas Filling Stations</p> <p>Part D: Purchase of Compressed natural Gas-fueled Buses, Auto-rickshaws and Conversion Kits for petrol-fueled Cars.</p>	<p>The project comprises four components:</p> <p>Component - A Flood protection works addressing improvement and extension of flood embankments, flood walls, regulators and riverbank protection works.</p> <p>Component - B Urban drainage system improvement with rehabilitation and provision of new drains and culverts to minimize internal flooding of the towns.</p> <p>Component - C Urban environmental improvement providing sanitation facilities, solid waste management and slum improvement and</p> <p>Component - D Capacity building and implementation assistance through training and consulting services support.</p>

ADB	ADB
Gas Transmission and Development	Southwest Area integrated Water Residence Plan & Management
<p>The project will improve and expand natural gas infrastructure and delivery system through an improvement and expanded transmission and distribution network and field appraisal support for gas sector companies. The Project will also enhance financial performance, governance, and efficiency indicators of gas sector entities through capacity building and implementation of the Gas Sector Reform Roadmap.</p>	<p>The goal of the Project is to reduce poverty incidence measured in terms of incomes and nutritional status of the population. The purpose of the Project is to institutionalize effective mechanisms for enhancing and sustaining the performance of FCD system.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Part A: Gas Transmission Expansion and Reinforcement) b. Part B: Field Appraisal c. Rajshahi Gas Distribution Network and d. Part D: Institutional Strengthening 	<p>Part A: Participatory IWMPs, Part B: Productive and Sustainable Water Management Systems</p>

Development Partner	ADB
Project	Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development
Objectives	<p>The primary objective of the Project is to reduce the incidence of absolute poverty among the rural population of the CHT through developing the basic physical infrastructure and expanding income and employment-generating opportunities that will substantially raise the standard of living of the landless and small marginal farmers.</p>
Major Components	<p>The project components includes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. upgrading of feeder roads, rural roads, trails, bridges, and culverts; ii. a community development component that will establish a community investment fund to provide funds for small-scale activities at the village level; iii. improved and increased productivity through better access to microfinance, training, and other support services to enable the poor to improve their income generating capacity; and iv. project management support. The project area includes the three CHT districts: Bandarban, Khagrachari, and Rangamati.

ADB

Road Network Improvement & Maintenance II

Specific Major Objectives of the Project are :

- a. RIC : Under this component total 229.0 km road will be improved . 1. Rehabilitation of 81.0 km National Highways [(i) Chittagong-Dohazari: 27.0 km and (ii) Panchagarh-Tetulia-Bangladbandh; 54.0 km] 2. Reconstruction of 16.0 km Regional Highway [Nandail-Kishoregonj] 3.Reconstruction of 132.0km Zilla Roads [(i) Bhaluka-Gffargaon-Kishergonj; 47.0 km Parbotipur-Fulbari-Madhyapara : 33.0 km and ((iii) Boda-Debiganj-Domar-Nilphamari: 52.0 km]
- b. PRMC: Periodic Road Maintenance of 449.0 km of Roads c0 PBRRMC: Routine Road Maintenance of 105.0 km Regional or Zilla Roads through Performance based Contract.
- d. RSC: Civil works at selected accident-prone areas or black spots, safety audit for project roads, safety assessment for about 800.00 km of existing roads with the highest accident rate and safety improvement civil works of 194.0 km roads. 2.

- a. Road Improvement Component (RIC)
- b. Periodic Road Maintenance Component (PRMC)
- c. Performance Based Routine Road Maintenance Component (PBRRMC)
- d. Road Safety Component (RSC)

Development Partner	ADB
Project	Sustainable Power Sector Development
Objectives	It is expected that “Sustainable Power Sector Development Program” (SPSDP) through ensuring continuous inflow of Power transmission to power clientele and enhancing capacity of power sector; will accelerate the pace of economic growth rate. SPSDP Program will strengthen financial capacity of organizations under power sector including increasing power generation capacity, enhancing power network and developing distribution system.
Major Components	<p>Part A: Clean Energy Capacity Expansion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Construction of a new 150 MW natural gas-fired simple cycle gas turbine peaking power plant in Sirajganj along with its auxiliaries; ii. Construction of a new 150 MW natural gas fires simple cycle gas turbine peaking power plant in Khulna including its auxiliaries and associated underground connecting transmission line to Khulna central substation. Executing Agency: Northwest Power Generation Company <p>Part B: Transmission System Efficiency Improvements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Construction of a new 400 kV overhead transmission line from Meghnaghat to Aminbazar including bay extensions ii. Augmentation of 230 kV transmission system improvements in Aminbazar-Old Dhaka Airport and Dhaka University areas along with associated substations; iii. Construction of three new 132 kV transmission lines and associated substations in western and northwestern regions of the country. Executing Agency: Power Grid Company of Bangladesh <p>Part C: Distribution System Efficiency Improvements in DESA Area.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Reinforcement, renovation and augmentation of 10 existing 33/11 kV Substations; ii. Development of new 132/33 kV and 33/11 kV substations; iii. Procurements and installation of 3 B 50/75 MVA, 132/33 kV transformers and associated equipment in three existing 132/33 kV substations; iv. Upgradation of Shyampur Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation 11 kV switching station. Executing Agency: DESA <p>Part D: Distribution System Efficiency Improvements in DESCO Area.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Upgrading and expanding distribution in Gulshan Circle including Tongi area; ii. Upgrading and expanding distribution system in Mirpur Circle.

Development Partner	ADB
Project	Road Network Improvement & Maintenance
Objectives	<p>The specific objectives of this Project includes mainly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. RIC: Reconstruction of 48.50 km. Regional highway: Mymensingh-Nandail Rd & 127 km. Feeder ‘A Type’ Road (Muktagacha-Cechua: 10.30 km. Jamalpur-Dewanganj; 41.00 km. Mithapukur-Madhyapara: 24.025 km. Thakurgaon-Ranisankail: 37.00 km. Saidpur-Parbatipur: 14 km and consulting services for its design and supervision of civil works. ii. PRMC: Periodic road maintenance of about 392 km. of RHD’s roads and consultancy services for its design and construction supervision of civil works. iii. RRMC: Routine road maintenance of about 51 km of project roads through performance based contract and construction supervision of civil works. iv. RSC: Civil works at selected accident-prone areas or black spots, safety audit for project roads, safety assessment for about 205 km of existing roads with the highest accident rate and training /public awareness campaign on road safety improvement.
Major Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Revenue Component: GOB’s establishment Officers Salary Staff Salary Allowance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Design and Supervision Consultancy ii. Follow up Project Preparation B. Capital Component : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Road Improvement ii. Road Maintenance iii. Road Safety iv. Transport Vehicle v. Land Acquisition vi. Resettlement Compensation Cost Utility relocation

12.4 Procurement Notices

Information and notifications on major infrastructure projects being planned and tendered are published regularly through the various agencies responsible. The public procurement procedures in Bangladesh calls for open tendering system and is accompanied either through pre-qualifications or post-qualifications processes. This system has been enforced for all public procurements, but recently in the face of severe power shortage crisis, the government has relented to strategize the acceleration through direct negotiation with capable developers either local, foreign or joint ventures.

Tender notices including international tenders are regularly posted on the following websites:-

1. Bangladesh Railways - www.railway.gov.bd
2. Bangladesh Roads & Highways Department - www.rhd.gov.bd
3. Bangladesh Water Department Board - www.bwdb.gov.bd
4. Local Government Engineering Department - www.lged.gov.bd
5. Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority - www.dwasa.org.bd
6. Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources - www.powercell.gov.bd

