



PARTNERSHIP POLICY

The Citizen's Platform for SDGs in Bangladesh

1. The Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh (hereinafter "Platform") is an initiative undertaken by a group of CSOs, NGOs and individuals with the objective of contributing to the delivery of the SDGs in a participatory, inclusive and accountable process. With a particular focus on *Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions*, this platform will work inclusively engage with all stakeholders from national to local level to create and strengthen the awareness, demand and capacity to implement the commitment to "leave no one behind". The Platform and its work are conducted in accord with the provisions of the Concept Note adopted by its Core Group at its launch on 18 June 2016 <http://bdplatform4sdgs.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Concept-Note-on-Citizens-Platform-for-SDGs-Bangladesh-English.pdf>

Engagement Modalities

2. This Partnership Policy applies to relationships that the Platform may undertake with organisations to promote the objectives and mandate referred to in the above document. The term "Partnership" implies relationships or arrangements for participation, collaboration, joint organisation, co-sponsoring and other forms institutional arrangements for specific events and/or programmes undertaken to pursue the objective of achieving the SDGs in Bangladesh. The term 'Partner' means an organisation in the non-government and private sector that the Platform has enlisted for partnership.

Terms of Reference

3. Partnership status shall be granted to organisations, compatible with the spirit of the SDGs, in the non-governmental and private sectors subject to the approval of the Core Group based on written request to the Secretariat. Partnerships will be exclusively for the purpose of promoting the objectives of the Platform.

4. Local government organisations/agencies will be considered as important stakeholder for implementing SDGs at the grass-root level and the Platform will engage local government agencies for the purpose.

5. Organisations willing to become a partner of the Platform must have a legal authority to operate in Bangladesh. All partnership applications shall be processed for decision by the Core Group within 3 months of receipt of written request. The process involves due diligence on the legal status, credibility and reputation of the intending partner organisation and its relevance to the objectives of the Platform. The Core Group retains the right to approve or reject any partnership applications.

6. The Platform considers youth community as vital agent of achieving SDGs. Therefore, particular attention will be given in engaging them with relevant activities.

7. The Platform shall participate in, and/or facilitate issue- or event-based cooperation with such partner(s) as are relevant to the specific issue or event.

8. Partners may also participate in, and/or facilitate issue- or event-based partnerships with each other to promote the objectives of the Platform. In such situations partners are encouraged to keep the Platform Secretariat informed to facilitate coordinated communication and advocacy where applicable.

9. All partners are involved in the Platform on a fully voluntary basis with no scope of funding or payment for each other's work or any other purpose except cost-sharing of events or activities on mutually agreeable terms. No partner will have any obligation to make any payment for any expenses incurred for activities implemented by the Platform or any other partner organisation. The Platform shall not make any payments nor shall it take the responsibility to raise funds for events or activities to be undertaken by one or more partners severally or collectively, except on occasions when mutually agreed upon on a case by case basis.

10. All partners shall be involved in the Platform on equal footing, and with due recognition of each other's contributions - organisational, technical, financial and/or otherwise.

11. All partners as well as the Platform are expected to practice the same standard of transparency and accountability individually and collectively as reflected in the letter spirit of SDG Goal 16.

12. The use of the Platform's name and logo in connection with any partnership/cooperation shall be only on the basis of approval of status of partner, and shall be limited to the purpose and duration of the partnership only.

13. The partnership shall not be allowed to impair or constrain each other's independence in pursuance of respective organisational mandate and activities, nor will it affect each other's governance, management, financial independence and self-reliance

14. The Platform shall not engage in any partnership or any other relation with partner(s) that may bring it into disrepute or impair the credibility of the Platform. The partnership shall not promote any partisan objective, ideas, belief or position.

15. The Partnership is not intended to facilitate or potentially influence the prospect of present or future employment, business, financial or any other forms of material interest of partner organisations as well as the Platform.

16. The Platform retains the right to terminate partnership with any partner(s) at any point of time when it deems appropriate in the interest of the Platform. In case at any time after partner status has been granted to any organisation it is proven that the partner by its acts of commission or omission has brought the Platform to disrepute or attempted to do so, the Platform represented by the Core Group shall disown such partnership and shall never again be involved in any partnership with the same organisation.

17. Any amendment of this *Partnership Policy* will require approval of the Core Group first, and then endorsed by the Partners.
