



SDG Priorities for Bangladesh

Partner Organisations of SDG Platform Set Country-level Priorities for Bangladesh

Targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are defined as aspirational and universal. While being guided by the global level of ambition, the SDGs have also allowed national governments to set and prioritise their own development targets taking into account their national circumstances. The methodology for country prioritisation is yet to be fully developed. However, in the context of Bangladesh it may be argued that emphasis should be on weaker areas of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) achievement, while the lowest possible measures should not define the ambition.

The Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh, in partnership with the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), organised a workshop titled, *Appreciation Course on 2030 Agenda: Framework Issues and Implementation Challenges* on 19 November 2016 at the BRAC Centre Inn Conference Room, Dhaka. A total of 42 participants from 36 Partner Organisations of the Platform prioritised the SDG targets, contextualised "leave no one behind" for Bangladesh, and recommended action agenda for implementing SDGs in Bangladesh.

The participants ranked seven SDGs as the highest priority areas in Bangladesh: SDG 1 on eradication of poverty; SDG 3 on good health and well-being; SDG 4 on quality education; SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation; SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth; SDG 13 on climate change; and SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions.

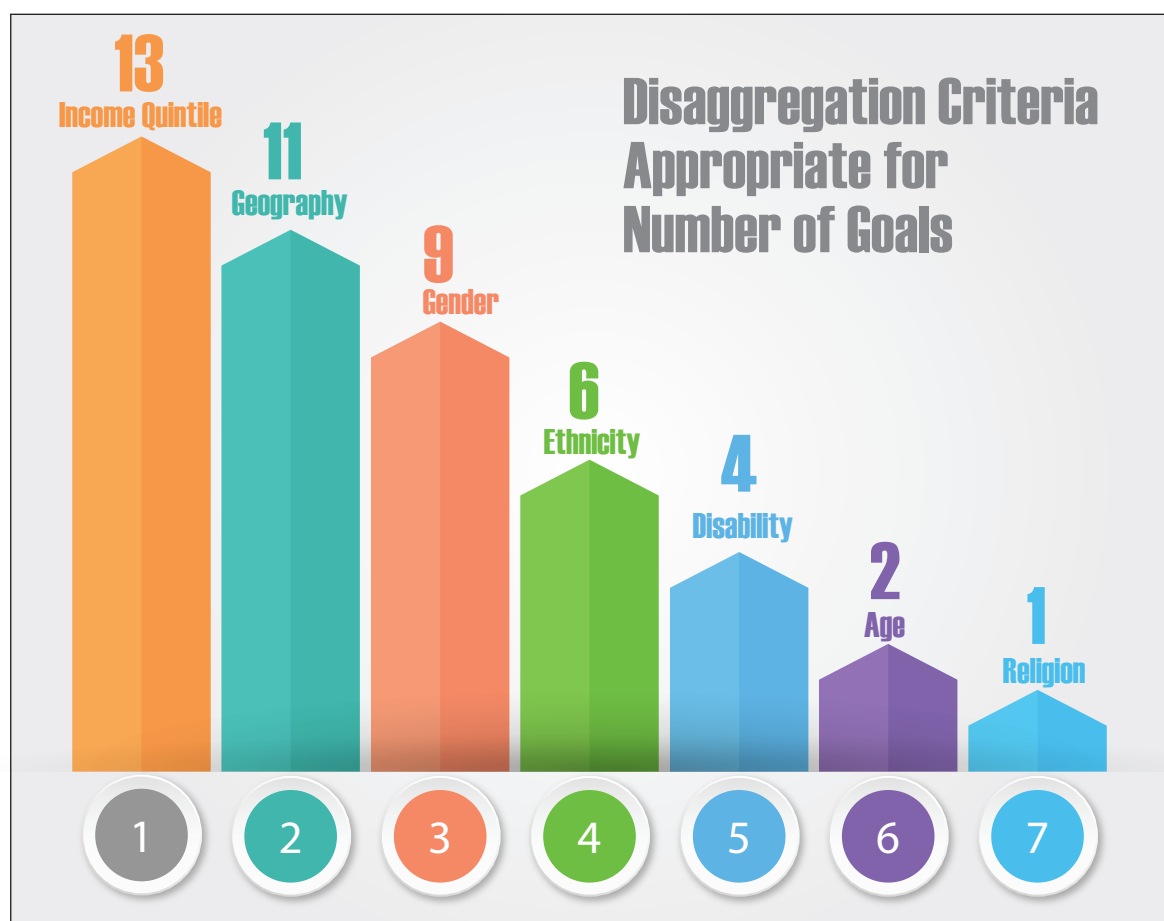
SDG Priorities for Bangladesh Set by the Partner Organisations of Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh



Disaggregation Criteria to Materialise “Leave No One Behind” Prioritised by the Participants

SDGs are to be inclusive in nature. The concept of “leave no one behind” suggests that the goals and targets cover all sections of the society, and all people receive the welfare benefit equally from the SDG implementation. To this end, endeavour will be made to reach the furthest behind first.

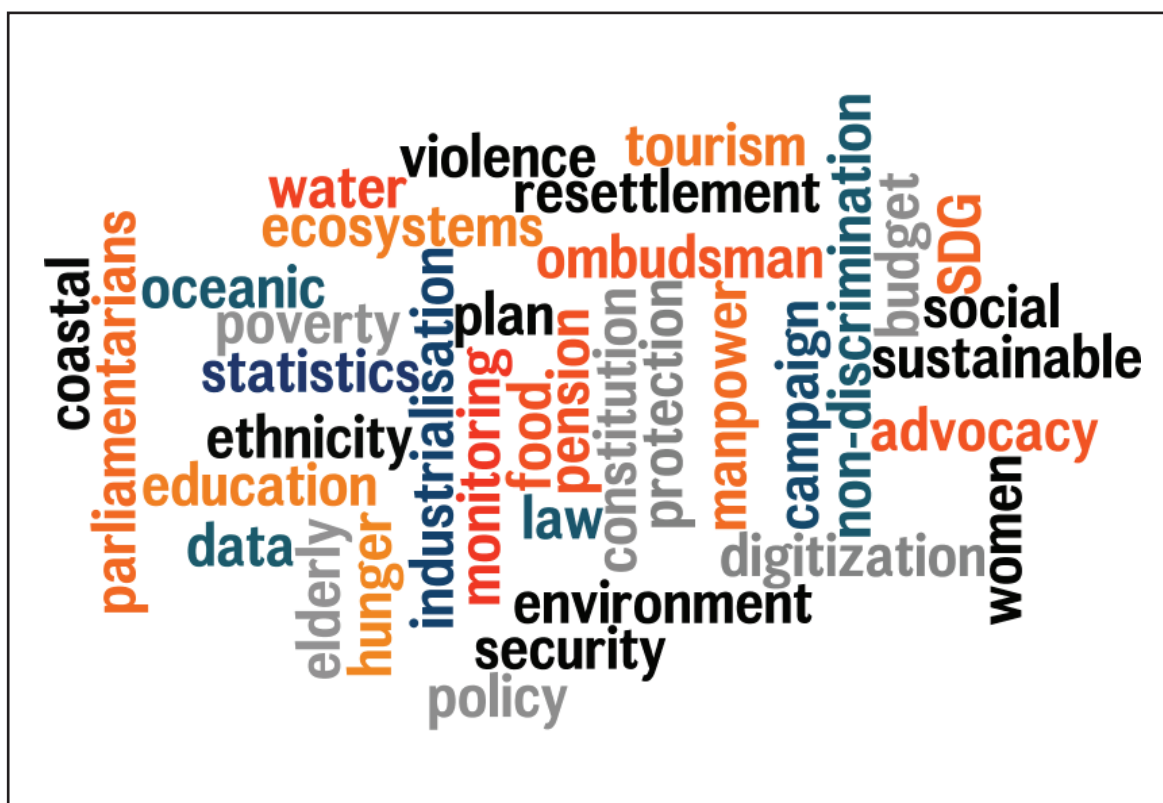
Participants from the Partner Organisations identified and ranked the level of disaggregation that Bangladesh should target to cover under every goal to realise the “leave no one behind” concept of SDGs.



Action Agenda Recommended by Platform’s Partner Organisations

Participants from the Partner Organisations proposed the following priority action agenda for implementing SDGs in Bangladesh:

- Enact National Pension Scheme to ensure the right of the elderly to social security;
- Operationalise National Food Policy Plan of Action (2008-2015) through better integrating, and if needed, revising it, in accordance with the hunger and food security-related targets of the SDGs;
- Take necessary steps to increase the doctor-patient ratio, particularly in the rural and hard-to-reach areas;
- Finalise the Education Act by keeping in the purview the broad objectives of establishing an equity-based and quality-assuring education system;
- Accelerate the enforcement of National Tourism Policy 2010;
- Improve land management system to promote industrialisation through digitisation of land-related acts/rules and regulations;
- Formulate and implement policy for the protection, support and resettlement of the displaced, marginalised and ethnic groups;



- Raise public awareness on environmental issues through advocacy and campaign activities;
- Enact policy/act for water protection and for ensuring sustainable use of oceanic, coastal, terrestrial and inland fresh water ecosystems;
- Promote 'non-discrimination' at every level as per the Constitution of Bangladesh (Clause 28.4);
- Make a uniform Family Law to increase the participation of women in family decision-making, exercise their right to property and reduce gender-based violence;
- Strengthen capacity of national statistics organisations (NSOs) through allocating adequate resources and increasing skilled manpower to generate the data needed for monitoring the SDGs;
- Introduce Office of the Ombudsman to enhance the role of the parliamentarians as the overseeing body;
- Ensure effective implementation of the existing laws and policies towards ensuring social justice by allocating required budgetary resources.

The **Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh** is a civil society initiative, taken at the national front, to contribute to the implementation of globally adopted 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Platform was formally launched in June 2016, at the initiative of a group of individuals; the objective has been to track the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Bangladesh and enhance accountability in its implementation process. The concept of the Platform was inspired by the participatory and multi-stakeholder approach promoted as a vital element for success in the attainment of all the SDGs. The Platform currently includes 40 Partner Organisations working on SDG issues across the country.



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