

# Local Initiatives for Achieving SDGs: Ensuring Grassroots Voice

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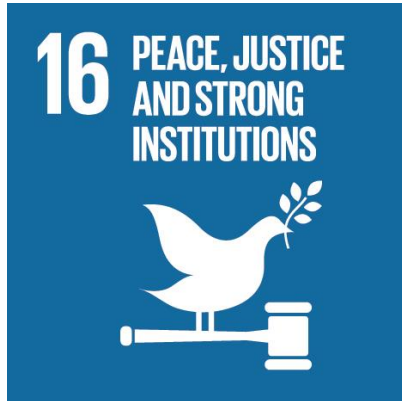


# 2030 Agenda: the SDGs

- September 25, 2015: 17 goals and 169 targets
- MDGs: half way to ending hunger and poverty
- SDGs: **zero** hunger, **zero** poverty
- Universal: both developed & developing nations
- Participatory, Integrated, indivisible, addresses new challenges (e.g. Climate Change, Governance, Youth).
- MDGs: Quantity. SDGs: Quality (e.g. Education)
- Integrates social, economic, environment
- **Leave no one behind - gender, age, disability, income, geography, ethnicity...**



# SDG 16: the Crown Jewel



- Effective, accountable and inclusive institutions *at all levels*.
- Absent in MDGs
- All SDGs depend on Goal 16.

Ensure justice

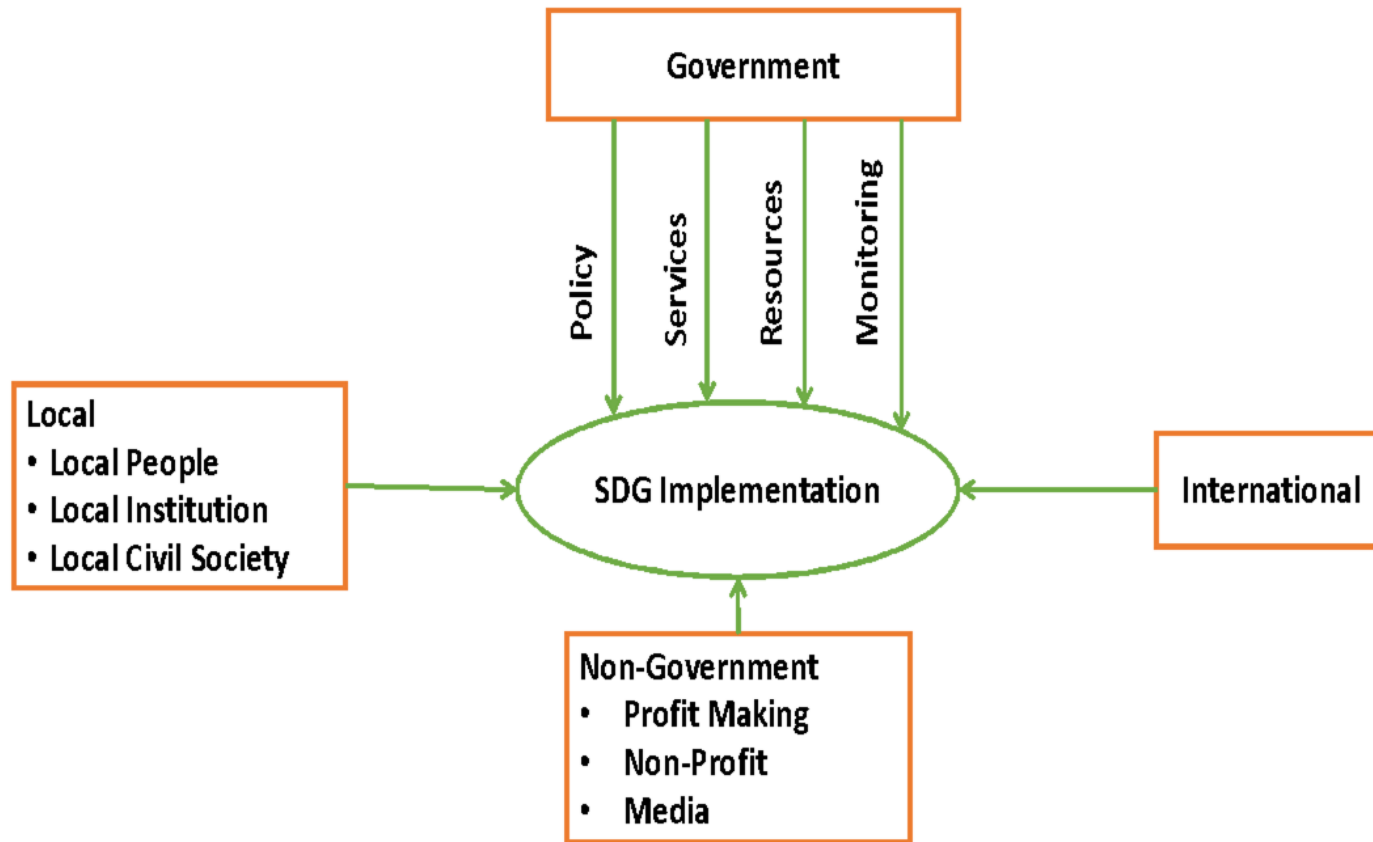
Violence and poverty go hand in hand

Address factors which give rise to violence:

- inequality, corruption, poor governance
- illicit financial and arms flows



# Actors and Actions: Community-led Development

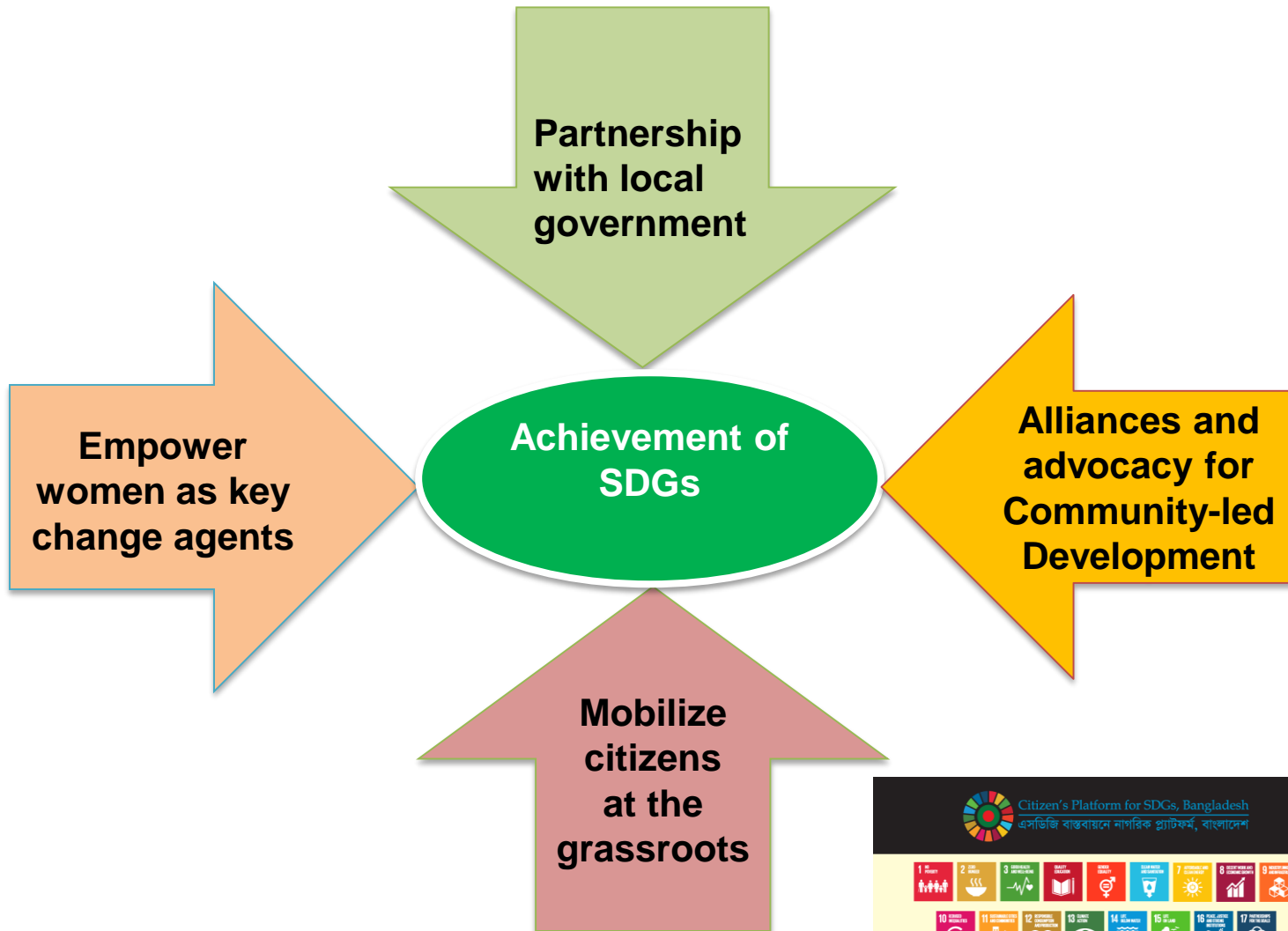


# Bangladesh Govt. Initiatives

- Gov't integrated SDGs in the 7th FYP (2016-2020)
- Mapping of Ministries by SDG targets
- Results-based Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
- National Committee formed to supervise and monitor the SDG implementation process
- **PM on Int'l Implementation Committee of SDG-6: clean water and sanitation**



# The Hunger Project-Bangladesh: Four Pillar Strategy



# SDG Union Model



SDG Union Strategy conceptualized by The Hunger Project, Bangladesh, November 2016.


 Citizen's Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh  
 এসভিভি বাস্তবায়নে নাগরিক প্ল্যাটফর্ম, বাংলাদেশ



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# Community-led Development Stages

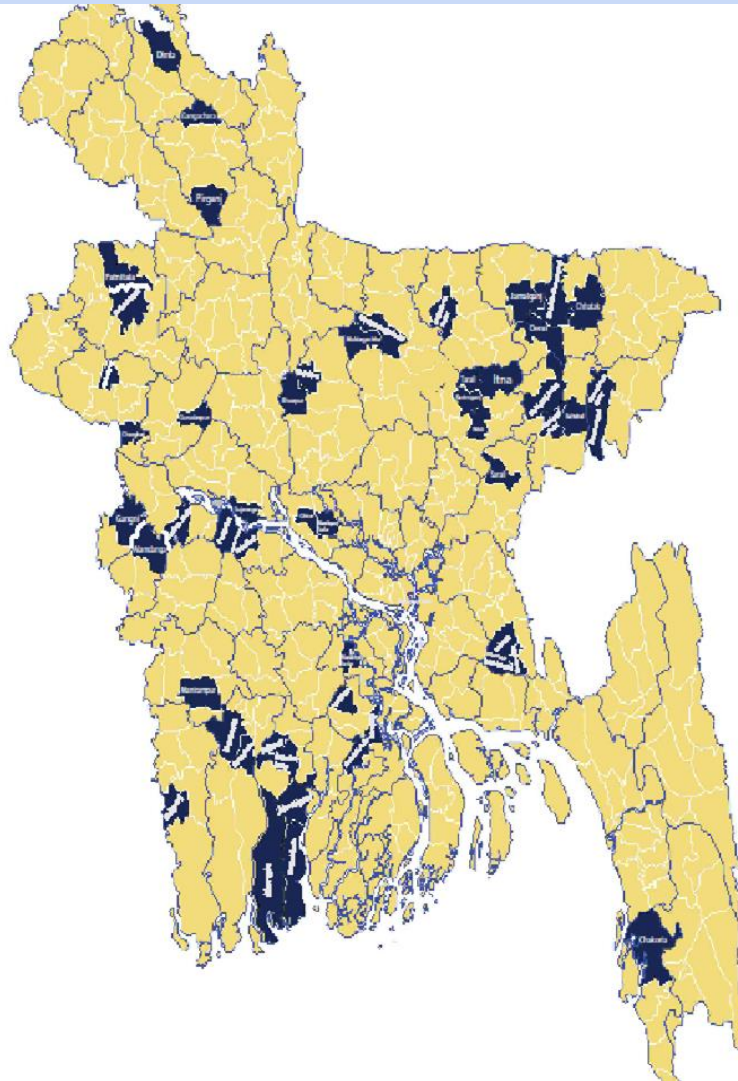
The “Science” of catalyzing a 4-stage process:





# Snapshot of THP in Bangladesh

4.5m people  
185 Unions  
52 Upazilas  
29 Districts,  
8 Divisions



156,000

Trained  
volunteers,  
40% women

10,000

Trained women  
leaders/  
Bikoshito Nari  
Network

100,000

Youth leaders



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# Major Achievements/Learning

- Partnership of four stakeholders: UPs, functionaries, local civil society, people as a means of localizing SDGs
- Social Units: animators, youth, women leaders and thoughtful individuals. Village Development Committees
- Civil society from the bottom up: agents of change, creators of social capital
- Sustainability requires institutional ownership
- Volunteerism: Makes interventions low costs and sustainable



# Major Achievements/Learnings ... continued

- Peace dividend: Greater social harmony in SDG unions
- People are **not** passive recipient of largess but agents of change
- Poor can be mobilized to work together using their own creativity and resources
- Sense of community belonging and community trust are important in poor's decision making
- Citizen activism: Knowledge, attitudes and behavioral change needed



# Findings of independent third party evaluations

- Prof. Pranab Panday (Rajshahi Univ) - “effective community development initiative for achieving the MDGs”
- Dr. Tofail Ahmed - “positive effect on knowledge, attitude and practice” - “should scale up to at least 1,000 unions”
- UNDEF - “wider dissemination... essential to gradually support the aim of nation-wide implementation of the policies envisaged by the UP / local government act”
- HYSAWA (Denmark): “social mobilization approach more effective and sustainable than the traditional service-delivery”
- Columbia/Princeton/Cambridge - builds community trust - leads to better long-term decisions by the poor



# Betaga Union: A Success Story



# Recommendations

- Localization of SDGs: UP-led partnerships
- Devolve resources/personnel to UP per 2009 law
- Statutory and transformative trainings for UP to be effective and people centric.
- Advocacy at policy level for effective decentralization
- Make Ward Shava effective for inclusive and participatory planning, and ensuring transparency and accountability per 2009 law
- Promote social movement for collective action to solve local problems with minimum resources
- Initiate participatory monitoring at UP level Local



# Thank you!

