

Gender Equality and Empower Girls and Young Women

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এসডিজি বাস্তবায়নে নাগরিক প্ল্যাটফর্ম, বাংলাদেশ



Statement of the Problematic

- Bangladesh still has two reservations of CEDAW article 2 & 16.1.C
- Gender Inequality Index value of 0.542, ranking it 134 out of 160 countries in the 2017 index
- 82% approx. of young girls become victims of different type of violence, like– rape, murder after rape, sexual abuse, child marriage, child labor, intimate partner violence before they turn 14 years old.
- 60 % girls married of before their age of 18

Source:

1. *Human Development Indices and Indicators: 2018 Statistical Update, UNDP, 2018*
2. *Bangladesh Statistics 2017; Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS); Statistics and Informatics Division; Ministry of Planning. <http://www.bbs.gov.bd/>*
3. *Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey, UNICEF, 2019*
4. *Demography dividend survey 2017-2018 (BDHS)*



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Trends and Analysis, SDG 5

End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage

Percentage of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location

Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences



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Target 5.1: End discrimination against women and girls

Progress:

- List of Laws and Policies have in place i.e. Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017, Dowry Prohibition Act 2018, the Prevention of Women and Child Repression Act 2000 (amend 2003), The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2010 and its Rules 2013 aims to prevent and protect women and children from domestic violence
- National Helpline (999, 109)

Gap:

- Discriminatory legislative provisions are in place , including in family, divorce and personal laws, penal codes, nationality laws, and laws relating to inheritance and ownership and control over land and other resources. This is the high time to be review such provisions through gender lance.



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Target 5.2: End all violence against and exploitation of women and girls

Progress:

- Bangladesh High Court gave a list of 18 instructions for making the complaining process easier for the victims.
- High court verdict on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Educational Institution and Workplace 2009.
- Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012

Gap:

- Enact comprehensive law for the prevention of Sexual Harassment Law



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Target 5.3: Eliminate forced marriages and genital mutilation

Progress:

- GoB has set a goal of eliminating CM by 2041.
- GoB has set two intermediate targets - to end marriage for children younger than 15 by 2021, and for all girls under age 18 by 2041.

However, according to the 2019 data, it is a challenge for GoB to achieve first target by 2021.

Gap:

- Appropriate Budget Allocation to implement NPA and proper monitoring and reporting mechanism



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Target 5.4: Value unpaid care and promote shared domestic responsibilities

Progress:

- Bangladesh Women Development Policy 2011
- The National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) 2010-2021, Labor Policy 2012 and National Skill Development Policy 2011

Gap:

- Women's Unpaid Care Work out of its consideration as mostly women belonging to informal sectors.
- Though day care service for children is being promoted by the Government and in private sector especially at factory levels but is highly inadequate and the need for developing a low-cost care economy is pronounced to support women's public participation.
- Domestic Workers Protection and Welfare Policy 2015 does not use 'care work' as an analytical framework to categorize and analyses the work done by paid care workers



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Target 5.5: Ensure full participation in leadership and decision-making

Progress:

- Enacted a law with the provision of direct election of women for three reserved ward member seats to each UPP

Gap:

- Security is a significant issue that discourages women and young generation to participate in Bangladesh politics.
- Traditional election procedure is related to the power relation where the less powered people always stay at behind
- Educational qualification .



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Target 5.6: Universal access to reproductive rights and health

Progress:

- Developed National Strategy for Adolescent Health 2017-2030
- SRHR content embedded in text book through the capacity of the facilitator to deliver this content as age appropriate and friendly way

Gap:

- No specific provisions on laws and regulations that guarantee young women and men aged 15 and older for the full and equal access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education.



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Specific Policy Recommendation

- Ensure appropriate budget for the effective and efficient implementation of laws and policies; Child Marriage Restraints Act 2017, the Prevention of Women and Child Repression Act 2000 (amend 2003), Children Act 2013, Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012 etc. Take into account for the withdrawn of CEDAW reservation.
- Initiate detail analysis of existing laws and policies and amendment of all discriminatory laws and policies. Strengthen existing sexual violence legislation implementation and costing, including implementation of the High Court Directive on Sexual Harassment. Enact the proposed comprehensive Sexual Harassment Law and amend the Penal Code by changing the discriminatory definition of rape to make it more inclusive.
- Strengthen district-based monitoring and supervision system to implement the Child Marriage Restraint Rules 2018, Children Act 2013 in an effective way.



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Specific Policy Recommendation

- Established collaboration with CSOs for field knowledge and experience for mobilization of resource and social awareness.
- Recognize, reduce and redistribute women's unpaid care work in regional frameworks and national policies, i.e. Women Development Policy 2011. Improve financing to recognize and redistribute of Unpaid Care Work.
- Ensure safe political and civic spaces for young women should be created to encourage young women & girls agency building and active participation in leadership role.
- Ensure active participation of youth specially young women in policy formulation process at all level



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- Number of Young people who are participating FGD
- Bangladesh Shishu Adikar Forum
- Ain O Shalish Kendra
- Oxfam
- ActionAid Bangladesh
- Girls Not Bride (GNB)
- Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF)
- Democracy International
- Shushilon
- UNFPA
- SERAC
- BRAC

Thank you



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