



Australian Government
AusAID



Australia's strategic approach to aid in Bangladesh

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1 Key development issues in Bangladesh

This document outlines Australia's proposed strategy for its aid program in Bangladesh. This strategy will be subject to further negotiation and agreement in consultation with the Bangladesh Government and a final strategy will be released by June 2011.

1.1 Summary

Bangladesh's international profile is gradually changing from one of poverty to potential and attracting international attention on the back of steady economic and social progress. The country is in a relatively stable period in politics. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's democratically-elected Awami League Government has established an ambitious economic and social reform agenda and is promoting stronger international and regional cooperation. While significant development challenges remain, steady economic growth and a reduction in overall poverty levels have improved the living conditions for many Bangladeshi people. At the United Nations General Assembly Millennium Development Goal (MDG) summit in New York in September 2010, Bangladesh received a MDG award—one of only six countries to do so—in recognition of its achievements (in particular for reducing child mortality).

The Bangladesh Government has placed poverty alleviation at the centre of its development agenda. While progress has been very good, Bangladesh continues to have high levels of poverty by global standards ranking 129 out of 169 on the 2010 United Nations human development index. Inequality is growing and many people are not benefiting from social and economic development. Food insecurity is widespread and levels of child malnutrition remain some of the highest in the world. Maternal and neonatal mortality rates remain unacceptably high. The extreme poor are particularly vulnerable. Health, education and social protection services need further attention and public sector strengthening is much needed, but is a difficult, complex and long-term process.

Key emerging challenges include increasing vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change pressures, accompanied by a rapidly growing urban population. Situated on a low lying delta and with a very high population density, Bangladesh is extremely vulnerable to natural disasters including floods, cyclones, tidal surges and earthquakes with often catastrophic consequences. By 2050 the global sea level rise is expected to inundate 1000 km² of Bangladesh's land mass, displacing millions of people.¹ It is predicted by this time that more than 50% of the population will be living in urban areas as people leave rural areas to seek economic opportunities. The textile and manufacturing sectors offer good prospects for generating employment and underpinning economic growth, but they require structural and infrastructure support to do so.

With Australia's growing interest in development needs and MDG progress in the South Asia region, Australia's aid program has doubled in size from 2006 to its current commitment of \$70 million for 2011.

¹ IPCC 2007, contribution of working group II, p. 480.

Moving forward, Australia will seek to continue to grow our aid program in Bangladesh and become more active in selected strategic programming and policy discussions in partnership with the Bangladesh Government, civil society and other development partners. With a clear focus on reducing poverty and vulnerability, the key priorities for Australian development assistance over the next five years will be to contribute to improved maternal and child health, primary education, extreme poverty reduction and climate change adaptation outcomes in poor rural and urban areas. Australia will also seek to strengthen our effectiveness through better alignment and evaluation of Australian Government efforts in Bangladesh.

1.2 Key development challenges in Bangladesh

Impressive economic and social progress

Despite a range of development challenges, Bangladesh has experienced strong economic and social progress over the past decade. Economic growth is progressing at a steady rate of 6% per year on average and Bangladesh is aspiring to middle income status by 2021, coinciding with its fiftieth anniversary of independence. Overall poverty levels fell from 57% in 1990 to 40% in 2005—lifting out of poverty more than 2.8 million people a year. The country has been recognised globally for its progress towards meeting the MDGs, particularly in the areas of gender equality in education, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, and significantly reducing infant and child mortality rates (from 2004 to 2007 by 88 to 52 deaths per 1000 births). The impact of natural disasters has also been reduced due to better disaster response.

As the birthplace of micro-finance and with a history of vibrant civil society activity, Bangladesh has been at the forefront of innovation for poverty reduction. Micro-finance reaches about 65% of the country's poor and the majority of these beneficiaries are women. Bangladesh's BRAC, one of the largest non-government organisations (NGOs) in the world, is recognised globally for its innovative approaches to poverty reduction.

But poverty levels remain high by global standards and there remains a critical need to strengthen social services

Despite this progress, Bangladesh remains one of the poorest countries in the world. It ranked 129 out of 169 on the 2010 United Nations Human Development Index. Eighty per cent of the population live on less than US\$2 a day.

The country faces high levels of food insecurity with around 40% of children and 30% of women malnourished. While 90% of children start school, 46% of children do not complete primary school and around 45% of the population over 15 years of age are unable to read.

Gender indicators are improving but many women still face extreme social and economic disadvantage. Domestic violence is common, affecting one out of every two women. Maternal and neonatal mortality rates remain unacceptably high. According to Bangladesh's 2007 Demographic and Health Survey, 21 000 mothers die annually of pregnancy and childbirth-related causes: almost 60 deaths per day. Neonatal deaths account for about half of all deaths among children under 5 years of age and most of these deaths are as a result of easily preventable causes. Around 25% of the population are without access to safe drinking water and 60% of the population still does not have access to adequate sanitation facilities. This lack of adequate water and sanitation contributes to poor health outcomes in Bangladesh, particularly for infants and children (see Annex 1).

Growing inequality and high levels of extreme poverty needs targeted attention

The extreme poor are those who live below or on the lower poverty line. These people, who account for up to 25%² of the population (40 million people), face a multiple set of disadvantages. The extreme poor spend almost all of their income on food and still do not meet their minimum nutritional requirements. They are particularly vulnerable to unexpected health expenses, food and oil price inflation and natural disasters. They are not benefiting from economic growth and are largely unable to access government health, education and social protection services.

Women and female headed households are particularly vulnerable and disproportionately represented in this population, as are people with disability. Minority ethnic groups also contend with high levels of extreme poverty, particularly in regions such as the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the Northern Plains, Mymensingh and Cox's Bazar (where there is a large population of Rohingya refugees from Burma). Bangladeshi NGOs have been active in these areas, providing services to communities in places where the Government does not reach. However further systematic, targeted attention and innovative approaches are required to reduce inequality and ensure social protection for the extreme poor, including in response to expected future economic and environmental challenges.

Bangladesh is extremely vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change

Situated on the Ganges-Brahmaputra Delta (the world's largest delta), Bangladesh is extremely vulnerable to environmental threats. Natural disasters in Bangladesh include floods, cyclones, tidal surges and earthquakes. Around 20% of the country is flooded annually and disastrous floods can inundate more than 60% of the country. In future these challenges are likely to be compounded by the impacts of climate change on a rapidly growing population.

Rising sea levels could potentially displace up to 20 million people over the next 30 years, roughly 10% of total number of affected people globally.³ Approximately 1000 km² of cultivated land and sea product culturing area is likely to become salt marsh. Agricultural production could decline by 8% for rice and 32% for wheat if there is no shift to climate resilient varieties.⁴ The management of trans-boundary resources is likely to become more complex, with an expected decline in water resources from the major regional river systems coupled with glacial melts in the Himalayan and Ganges-Brahmaputra systems.

Rapid urbanisation is an emerging issue.

Coupled with migration for economic opportunity, these climatic impacts are expected to put further pressure on urban areas in Bangladesh. Agriculture currently contributes more than 23% of gross domestic product and employs more than 60% of the labour force, with 80% of the population currently living in rural areas (this is changing rapidly, however). With predicted urban growth rates at 3% to 5% a year, it is expected that by 2050 at least 50% of the population will live in urban areas.

Urban poverty is expected to grow. Statistics indicate that 43% of the urban population is poor and 23% is extreme poor. These circumstances are exacerbated by inadequate housing and sanitation as well as limited access to basic services.

² According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (2007) and the Household Income Expenditure Survey (2005), 25% of the Bangladesh population live below the poverty line based on the cost of basic needs method while the proportion is 19% based on the calorie intake method.

³ The IPCC (2007) estimated that 1 million people living on the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Megha deltas in Bangladesh would be affected by sea level rise by 2050. Other studies predict much higher numbers of up to 20 million. Renner, M, 2008, 'Environment: a Growing Driver in Displacement of People', World Watch Institute: available at <<http://www.worldwatch.org/node/588>> accessed on 1 October 2010.

⁴ IPCC 2007, contribution of working group II, p. 480.

Opportunities to diversify the economy are available through the development of the textiles and other manufacturing sectors. However limited infrastructure and power and energy supply shortages remain key constraints to progress. Efforts are needed to enhance competitiveness, develop rural and urban markets, provide better regulation, improve economic governance, secure energy and electricity supplies as well as create a more highly skilled labour force for a better diversified manufacturing sector. Urbanisation is critical for economic growth. Addressing poverty and service delivery in urban areas, particularly for the poor, will be an important part of strengthening opportunities for inclusive economic growth.

Incremental improvements to governance

While Bangladesh is performing well, it is a young, developing democracy that needs international support to make economic and social progress and to achieve its target of becoming a middle income country by 2021. The bureaucracy is large and highly centralised, making providing services on the ground a challenge. A very low tax base and complex processes for development planning, programming and budgeting are further constraints. Strengthening the public service is necessary but will be a difficult, complex and long-term process. Bangladesh ranks 119 on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index and 12 on Transparency International's Corruption Index.

The Bangladesh Government recognises the importance of partnerships (both with NGOs and the private sector) to help Bangladesh achieve the MDGs. But these relationships will take time and effort to develop.

1.3 Partner government's development plans or priorities

The Awami League Government under Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has 'placed poverty reduction at the forefront of its development strategy'. The Bangladesh Government has a vision to: 'make Bangladesh a happy, prosperous nation supported by mutually reinforcing social, economic and political development'. This will involve: accelerating growth rates; stabilising commodity (food) prices; minimising income and human poverty; securing health and education for all; enhancing creativity and building capacity; establishing social justice; reducing social disparity; building the capacity to tackle the adverse affects of climate change; and firmly rooting participatory democracy in the political arena.

The Bangladesh Government's first five-year plan—Making Vision 2021 a Reality—will be released in early 2011. It covers up to 2016 and will be followed by a second five-year plan covering 2016–2021.

1.4 Donor engagement on the development challenges

Many donor agencies deliver their largest development assistance programs in Bangladesh. Total flows to Bangladesh in 2008 were US\$2.1 billion. The World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Japan, the United Kingdom, United States, the European Union are major donors in Bangladesh. Currently aid accounts for around 50% of the national development budget.⁵ Donor flows are expected to grow over the next five years. Other donors include China and India, mainly in the form of large infrastructure loans.

In this context Australia is regarded as a small to medium sized donor. The Bangladesh Government welcomes the prospect of a larger Australian aid program in Bangladesh acknowledging the steady increase to our development cooperation budget, which has doubled since 2006 to \$70 million.

⁵ The national development budget is one component of the overall development budget. The 2010–10 Bangladesh Government budget is 1.32 trillion taka (US\$19 billion) compared with 1.14 trillion taka in 2009–10. National Development spending in 2010–11 is targeted to be 385 billion taka with 71.94 billion taka allocated for local government and rural development and 47.21 billion taka for the ailing power sector.

1.5 Opportunities for donor coordination, harmonisation and alignment

Development partners have formally committed to implementing the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action. There have been renewed efforts recently to revive the Local Consultative Group donor forum. In June 2010, Australia signed a Joint Cooperation Strategy with the Bangladesh Government and 18 development partners to improve aid effectiveness in the country.

Efforts to harmonise assistance have progressed, with joint Bangladesh Government and donor programs in most key sectors. However, the number of donors in Bangladesh presents challenges for donor coordination and harmonisation. Many development partners spread their aid budget over a large number of sectors, creating coordination difficulties for the Bangladesh Government.

While there has been moderate progress in aligning official development assistance flows to national development priorities, alignment with country systems and procedures remains limited. Fiduciary risks remain a key constraint to working through government systems in Bangladesh. Despite this, there is widespread recognition of the need to gradually increase efforts to work through Bangladesh Government systems—to strengthen them and ensure sustainability.

1.6 Lessons learned and key principles

Australian aid has achieved some impressive development results in the areas of health, education and extreme poverty reduction in rural areas, working through development partners such as UNICEF, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID), BRAC and the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B). Key achievements through Australian funded BRAC and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) programs include:

- reduced maternal mortality rates by 15% across 11 target districts by improving the skills and support systems for 16 200 community workers and community volunteers to care for women during childbirth
- contributed to providing better access to primary and pre-primary schooling for 1.5 million children who would otherwise not have attended school—65% of these children were girls
- lifted out of extreme poverty 2.4 million people (mainly women and children) through complementary health, skills training and livelihoods support activities

Broader lessons are being learned by the Bangladesh Government and other development partners through the work of civil society organisations such as BRAC. The Government is beginning to recognise the contribution of untrained community health workers or 'barefoot nurses' in reducing maternal mortality rates. BRAC has also shown that micro-finance programs are not suitable to the extreme poor, who require targeted multi-dimensional extreme poverty programs that work to build sustainable livelihoods, conditions for better health and community advocacy to provide a bridge for the extreme poor to access social protection, health, education and micro-finance services and livelihood opportunities.

It is estimated that 80% of Australia's aid in Bangladesh is currently targeted at women and girls. AusAID will continue to measure the impact of assistance for women and girls through better monitoring and evaluation to refine our strategy to improve gender equality.

Moving forward, five principles will underpin AusAID's support:

1. retain an emphasis on strong, direct poverty reduction results
2. remain focused on a small number of large programs to deliver effectiveness
3. work principally with partners who add value, knowledge and ideas
4. progressively lift our engagement with the Bangladesh Government in key program areas
5. expand AusAID's capacity to offer focused assistance in key areas of governance where conditions are conducive to success.

2 Strategic priorities for the Australian aid program in Bangladesh

2.1 Recommendations for the strategic focus of Australia's aid program

With the growth of Australia's global aid program, it is expected that Australia's aid to Bangladesh will continue to expand. The level of growth will depend on overall increases to aid flows and Australian Government priorities, but it is likely that development assistance to Bangladesh will continue to increase from the current annual commitment of 70 million in 2011.

There are strong reasons why Australia should provide aid to Bangladesh. Consistent with Australia's global commitment to help achieve the MDGs by 2015, it is in Australia's interests to help Bangladesh to address lagging MDG progress, reduce extreme poverty and help tackle emerging issues such as climate change and urban poverty. The poverty challenge in Bangladesh is significant by global standards and the Bangladesh Government is firmly committed to reducing inequality and achieving the MDGs, including through improvements to health, education and social protection.

Uneven development and growing inequality in Bangladesh have the potential to undermine stability in Bangladesh and the region. Helping Bangladesh to tackle climate change now will contribute to addressing potential instability as a result of population growth, people displaced by flooding, climate change and natural disasters. In addition, an enhanced and more effective Australian development cooperation program in Bangladesh will potentially help to strengthen Australia's broader strategic relationship as well as institutional and people-to-people links with Bangladesh and the South Asia region.

Australia's current aid program in Bangladesh has achieved some strong results in the areas of maternal and child health, primary education and extreme poverty alleviation. As the program grows, there is scope for Australia to engage more deeply in strategic programming and policy discussion with the Bangladesh Government and civil society, in coordination with our development partners. This will include a sharper focus on helping Bangladesh to tackle poverty in urban areas and prepare for climate change. There is also scope to better link the work of our various Australian Government-funded programs in Bangladesh with our country strategy objectives.

With an emphasis on reducing poverty and vulnerability, particularly for women, Australia's future development cooperation program will concentrate on two main objectives:

(1) Improve basic health and primary education services:

- **Improve health services**—with a focus on the quality, reach and management of women and children's health and nutrition in rural and urban areas.

- **Improve primary education services**—with a focus on the quality, reach and management of pre-primary and primary education for children in rural and urban areas.

(2) Reduce vulnerabilities caused by natural disasters, climate change and lack of social protection:

- **Reduce extreme poverty and food insecurity**—improve the quality and reach of social protection and food security measures for the poorest and most vulnerable in rural and urban areas. Address the multi-dimensional drivers of extreme poverty, including complex issues such as gender inequality.
- **Improve climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction**—support the Bangladesh Government to progress its disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation agenda. Focus on those most vulnerable to the effects of natural disasters and climate change in rural and urban areas. Promote linkages and policy discussion with global and regional disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation groups.

Addressing governance issues across both of these main objectives will be essential for our investment to yield tangible and measurable results.

Working in partnership with our Australian partners, we will seek to better align Australia's Public Sector Linkages Program, Australian Awards (scholarships), Australian – NGO Cooperation Program and volunteers programs with our development cooperation objectives and to respond to the Bangladesh Government's emerging needs. Australia will also seek to strengthen regional coordination and cross-regional approaches to development challenges such as climate change, water resource management, counter-terrorism, human rights and governance.

The proposed strategic priorities for Australian aid build on our strengths in Bangladesh. These priorities also recognise the emerging importance of helping Bangladesh to tackle disaster risk reduction and climate change through Australia's growing expertise in this area.

Infrastructure, transport, energy supply, as well as economic and democratic governance improvements, are areas recognised as critical needs for Bangladesh's development. Australia's direct experience in these areas in South Asia is limited. While we do not envisage that Australia will focus on these areas, our Public Sector Linkages Program will provide opportunities for Australia to provide some targeted assistance.

2.2 Recommended approach and ways of working

Australia will be more deeply engaged in supporting progress toward achieving the MDGs in Bangladesh. The aid program will be guided by the following recommendations.

Direct engagement with the Bangladesh Government—a key priority will be to identify opportunities to build a stronger, more direct policy relationship with the Bangladesh Government. Australia will seek to gradually enhance Australia's strategic programming and policy engagement with the Bangladesh Government, in coordination with our development partners. This will be a significant shift in the way Australia delivers aid in Bangladesh.

Deeper program and policy engagement will require AusAID to build our capacity to assess the institutional and political economy, and to identify entry points to influence policy and systems change.

It will also require us to work with the Bangladesh Government to help strengthen its own capacity, in key areas including public financial management.

Alignment with Bangladesh Government priorities—promote efforts to align our aid with the Bangladesh Government’s strategic priorities. The Bangladesh Poverty Reduction Strategy 2009–11 emphasises the importance of reducing inequality, focusing in particular on women, the regionally disadvantaged and the extreme poor; and protecting the poor from social, economic and natural shocks. It recognises the importance of ensuring access to quality education and health care as a means of building Bangladesh’s human resource capacity and as a building block for pro-poor growth. It also highlights the need for addressing urban poverty and ensuring that the urban poor have access to essential services, including education and health.

The Bangladesh Government also emphasises the importance of improving governance and reducing corruption, strengthening public service delivery, including through the use of Public Private Partnerships and Government-NGO cooperation.

Better targeting of support to the extreme poor and women—promote approaches that help to reach the bottom 25% of the population, who are largely not benefiting from basic health and education services or social protection schemes. Poverty alleviation requires sustained effort by the Bangladesh Government and other development actors. As part of an effective response, targeted interventions are required that systemically address the development impediments faced by the extreme poor.

Development indicators show that women and female headed households are particularly disadvantaged and vulnerable. About 80% of Australia’s aid in Bangladesh is currently targeted at women. Australian development assistance will maintain its strong gender focus. Better monitoring and evaluation of development results for women will be an important part of our agenda going forward.

Strengthen civil society institutions—develop strategic partnerships with key civil society partners, such as BRAC and ICDDR,B to strengthen their performance. The aid program will look to move to a strategic partnership with BRAC aiming over time to enable BRAC to engage more strategically on poverty reduction and service delivery for the poor, including through enhanced strategic planning, impact assessment and relations with the Bangladesh Government. ICDDR,B has a track record of translating operational research into policy change at national and global levels for the treatment of childhood and maternal conditions. Enhanced support for ICDDR,B will aim to develop its institutional capacity and sustainability. These partnership arrangements will align with our strategic priorities and lead to a qualitatively different relationship with our civil society partners with a greater focus on organisational performance and development impact.

In addition, and in recognition of the importance of civil society in Bangladesh, we will look for opportunities to support other NGOs we believe can make a real impact in Bangladesh, in areas aligned with our strategic priorities.

Key risks and mitigation measures

Bangladesh is a complex operating environment and a large number of factors could limit short to long-term development effectiveness. Some key risks and mitigation strategies are listed below.

High propensity to natural disasters—take steps to build resilience to the risk of disasters and climate change impacts across the program. Build in flexibility to respond to disasters quickly, engage in

policy discussion and provide development assistance for disaster risk reduction and climate change across the program.

Political situation and elections in 2013—retain flexibility to respond to different priority needs in the areas of sectoral focus, while addressing cross cutting governance issues.

Commitment to strengthening the public sector—work inside and outside of government to generate a constituency for a stronger public sector, noting this will be incremental and in some instances opportunistic. Governments need to cement the support of their own populations and be confident that donors are worth the effort involved in working with them. This will mean that donor activities need to exhibit early, clear achievements and also that donors need to work to improve local capacity.

Institutional capacity—think carefully about the way the program builds institutional capacity. Look at incentives, for example, recognising there will be winners and losers in any change process. Understand the political economy and look for strategic entry points. Recognise the range of ways available to build institutional capacity and remember that the answer is not in technical advice alone.

Corruption and misuse of funds—mitigated by initial risk assessments to identify areas that will require close monitoring.

Capacity of local government and civil society institutions—demonstrate strong results and contribution to MDG progress and promote benefits to the country as a whole. Promote links and share approaches with the national Bangladesh Government. Promote civil society and local government as bridges between citizen and the state.

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Annex 1: MDG progress⁶

GOAL 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER		
<p>Target 1.A Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day</p> <p>Target 1.B Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people</p> <p>Target 1.C Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.</p>	Partially on track	<p>T1.A: Significant growth has been translated into poverty reduction of 1.8% a year, with the poverty rate in 2005—standing at 40% of the population.</p> <p>T1.C: Malnutrition remains a very serious problem, and reaching this MDG is still a major challenge.</p>
GOAL 2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION		
<p>Target 2.A Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.</p>	Partially on track	<p>A specific program aimed at girls has seen (gross) primary school enrolment reach 91.1%. However, decreasing completion rates means that a sharper focus is required on developing a child friendly curriculum as well as materials and improved teaching methods. Decentralising education management is also a key priority.</p>
GOAL 3: PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN		
<p>Target 3.A Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education—no later than 2015. Indicator 1—political representation of women in senior positions. Indicator 2—percentage of women in non-agricultural employment.</p>	Partially on track	<p>Bangladesh is on track to achieve equal numbers of boys and girls enrolled in primary and secondary schools. Target for women in non agricultural employment will not be met. Political participation is difficult to judge.</p>
GOAL 4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY		
<p>Target 4.A Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.</p>	Partially on track.	<p>The infant mortality rate declined from 88 deaths per 1000 live births in 2004 to 52 deaths per 1000 live births in 2007.</p>
GOAL 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH		
<p>Target 5.A Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.</p> <p>Target 5.B Achieve universal access to reproductive health.</p>	Off track	<p>T5.A and T5.B: Rates of death of women fell from 574 per 100 000 live births (1990) to 320 (2007), but remains very high by global standards. At 18% (2007), the proportion of births carried out by skilled attendants is also very low. Costs and poor availability of services are the main reasons for poor progress.</p>

⁶ AusAID post analysis; United Nations Development Programme 2010, 'Millennium Development Goals: Progress at a Glance for Bangladesh'.

GOAL 6: COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA & OTHER DISEASES		
<p><u>Target 6.A</u> Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS</p> <p><u>Target 6.C</u> Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.</p>	Partially on track	<p>T6.A: HIV prevalence rate among injecting drug users increased significantly since 1988—could seed a generalised epidemic.</p> <p>T6.C: Tuberculosis in rural areas where burden is high. Malaria: 50 million people at risk on the Burmese border.</p>
GOAL 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY		
<p><u>Target 7.A</u> Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.</p> <p><u>Target 7.B</u> Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in rate of loss.</p> <p><u>Target 7.C</u> Halve, by 2015, the population of the people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation</p> <p><u>Target 7.D</u> By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers.</p>	Partially on track	<p>T 7.C: 30 million people still do not have access to clean drinking water and 50% of Bangladeshis are exposed to arsenic poisoning through contaminated water.</p>
GOAL 8: DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT		
<p><u>Target 8.A</u></p> <p>Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.</p> <p><u>Target 8.B&C</u></p> <p>Address the special needs of least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing states.</p> <p><u>Target 8.D</u></p> <p>Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt.</p> <p><u>Target 8.E</u></p> <p>In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.</p> <p><u>Target 8.F</u></p> <p>In cooperation with the private sector, make available benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications.</p>	Insufficient information	<p>T8.F: In 2005, 6 out of every 100 people had a mobile phone; in 2006 it was 13 out of 100.</p> <p>In June 2010 a Joint Cooperation Strategy was signed by the Government of Bangladesh and 18 development partners to improve aid effectiveness in line with Accra Agenda for Action and the Paris Agenda.</p>