



ECONOMIC LETTER OF BANGLADESH

A LETTER FROM THE ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT
OF THE EMBASSY OF FRANCE IN DHAKA

N°12 – December 2024/January 2025

A. FRANCE-BANGLADESH NEWS

2nd Edition of NGOs/CSOs/Private Sector Forum

The French Embassy hosted a new edition of its NGOs/CSOs/Private Sector Forum at its premises, bringing together key stakeholders to discuss challenges and expectations amid political uncertainty under the recently appointed interim government. With a special focus on the role of youth, participants engaged in meaningful exchanges on navigating the current landscape. The forum also explored ways to strengthen collaboration between banks and the development/humanitarian sectors, identify shared priorities, and establish innovative, project-driven partnerships.



Regional meeting of the Economic Department – South Asia

The Regional Economic Department of New Delhi hosted a regional meeting, bringing together colleagues from the Economic Departments of South Asian countries (Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka) but also colleagues based in Singapore, China and Cambodia. The meeting provided a constructive platform for discussions on the economic challenges and opportunities in the region, comparisons of growth models, and the strengthening of partnerships between France and South Asian countries.

Visit to Fair Electronics and PRAN factories

In December, the Head of our Economic Department visited Fair Electronics, a leader in cutting-edge technology, and PRAN, a pioneer in agro-food processing. The visit provided an excellent opportunity to showcase France's commitment to strengthening partnerships with Bangladesh in tech manufacturing and high-value agriculture.



Discussion with youth leaders and environmental experts on COP29 outcomes

Her Excellency, Marie Masdupuy, recently brought together experts, activists, researchers and youth leaders to reflect on COP29 outcomes. This discussion has aimed to enhance France-Bangladesh collaboration on climate action and to pave the way for COP30.



B. NEWS FROM BANGLADESH

This section provides a brief overview of economic and business-related news from Bangladesh

----- ELECTIONS -----

[General elections between late 2025 and mid-2026, according to Prof. Yunus](#)

During his address to the nation on Victory Day, December 16, Chief Adviser Prof. Yunus stated that the next general elections could take place between late 2025 and the first half of 2026, following the implementation of necessary institutional reforms.

If a political consensus emerges in favor of holding elections after minimal electoral reforms, then they could be held as early as late 2025. However, an additional six months would be required to implement broader reforms.

----- MACRO -----

[Bangladeshi authorities and the IMF reach a staff-level agreement for the third review](#)

During its mission to Bangladesh, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced that it had reached a staff-level agreement with the Bangladeshi authorities as part of the third review of the ongoing program. This review could unlock the disbursement of approximately 645M USD. Additionally, Bangladesh has formally requested an increase of 750M USD in the program, bringing its total to approximately 5.4Bn USD.

The IMF expects real GDP growth to slow to 3.8% in 2024-25 (down from the 6.6% previously estimated in the last review) due to summer protests, floods, and tighter monetary policy. However, growth is projected to rebound to 6.7% in 2025-26.

The IMF highlighted several key challenges facing Bangladesh's economy, including weak tax collection, high inflation, poor governance in the banking sector, endemic corruption, and exposure to climate change.

[Publication of the White Paper on the Economy](#)


A preliminary version of the White Paper on the state of the economy, commissioned by the interim government, was presented to the Chief Adviser early December by Debapriya Bhattacharya, from the Center for Policy Dialogue (CPD), and his team. This 400-page document covers a wide range of topics across 22 chapters, including the state of the banking sector, food security, public debt, inflation, and employment.

Key findings from the research conducted over the past three months include:

- Overestimation of growth since 1995: The report suggests that GDP growth has been consistently overestimated, with a significant exaggeration since 2012-13. Instead of an average of 7% growth between 2013 and 2019, the model used by the authors adjusts it to around 4%.
- 234 Bn USD illicitly transferred abroad (2009-2023): Funds were reportedly siphoned off primarily to the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, and India.
- Ten Banks in Technical Bankruptcy: Among these, two are state-owned banks. Together, they hold 32% of the country's total deposits.

[Government's Tax Reform Announcement Sparks Widespread Backlash](#)

Bangladeshi authorities announced on January 2 an increase in the VAT rate to 15% on 43 goods and



services, including biscuits, restaurants, medicine, and ready-to-wear clothing. Taxes were also raised on imported goods (such as juice and tobacco) and certain services (such as airline tickets).

However, following an important backlash from the private sector and consumer associations, the NBR reversed many of its initial tax measures. The VAT increase on restaurant services (from 5% to 15%) was cancelled, as were the hikes on clothing, mobile data (from 20% to 23%), and medicines (from 3% to 2.4%). For other goods and services, the NBR opted to lower tax rates without fully returning to previous levels.

Initially, the government expected to generate an additional 120Bn BDT (1.02 Bn USD) in tax revenue between January and June. However, due to the policy reversal, the estimated shortfall could reach 37Bn BDT (290M USD), according to press reports.

Foreign exchange reserves hit lowest level since start of the IMF Program

At the end of November, Bangladesh's foreign exchange reserves fell to 18.61 Bn USD (according to BPM6 standards)—their lowest level since the IMF program was signed in early 2023. A similar level was recorded in May 2024 (18.6Bn USD) before reserves increased by 3Bn USD due to financial support from international donors.

Similarly, the Bangladeshi government was seeking additional loans at the end of the year to stabilize reserves and offset their depletion. Between July and October, the balance of payments deficit reached 2.1Bn USD, forcing the country to dip into its reserves. Early December, the Asian Development Bank provided 600M USD to the Finance Ministry, helping reserves recover to 19.2Bn USD by December 11.

Under the IMF program, Bangladesh must maintain reserves of at least 15.3Bn USD, using a stricter definition than BPM6. However, the central bank does not publicly disclose reserves based on this specific definition.

Central bank predicts inflation slowdown from January 2025

The Governor of Bangladesh Bank announced that inflation is expected to slow from January 2025 and reach 4-5% by the end of the 2025-26 fiscal year. The central bank forecasts inflation at 7% by June 2025.

To achieve this target, Bangladesh Bank is relying on corrective measures implemented in recent months, particularly addressing supply-side challenges. It has lowered import duties on essential food products, including rice and edible oils, and maintained a tight monetary policy, which is expected to continue at least until June 2025.

As a reminder, inflation stood at 10.9% in December 2024.

Net FDI inflows plunge by 71% in first quarter of the fiscal year

Between July and September 2024, net Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows dropped by 71% year-on-year, falling from 360M USD to 104M USD. This sharp decline is primarily attributed to political instability during the period.

Currently, the business climate remains challenging, with high inflation, an energy crisis, an unstable exchange rate, and political uncertainty.

To address this situation, the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) has announced a list of 19 priority sectors aimed at enhancing investment attractiveness. These sectors

range from textiles to renewable energy, digital technology, and agriculture.

This initiative aims to highlight strategic sectors where Bangladesh has a competitive advantage and growth potential. Additionally, BIDA plans to simplify investment regulations to encourage foreign and domestic investments.

----- BANKING -----

Central bank drastically reduces dollar sales to commercial banks

According to Bangladesh Bank, dollar sales to commercial banks plummeted by nearly 89% year-on-year between July and December 2024. Since the appointment of the new governor, Ahsan Mansur, the central bank has encouraged commercial banks to rely on interbank market transactions rather than direct dollar sales from the central bank.

This policy has led to a 23% drop in commercial banks' foreign currency holdings over the past year, bringing them down to 4.2Bn USD by the end of December 2024, compared to 5.5Bn USD at the end of the previous year.

However, the central bank argues that this approach has helped slow the depletion of foreign exchange reserves and stabilize the market. As of December 2024, gross foreign exchange reserves stood at 21.4Bn USD (BPM6), compared to 21.9Bn USD a year earlier.

Bangladesh Bank adopts stricter definition for non-performing loans

Bangladesh Bank has announced that it will implement a stricter definition of non-performing loans (NPLs) starting in April 2025. These new regulations will align with international loan classification practices recommended by the IMF and the World Bank.

From now on, a loan will be classified as non-performing after a 90-day (three-month) payment default, compared to the previous nine-month threshold, regardless of the loan type. A loan will be classified as substandard if the delay is between 3 to 6 months. It will be considered doubtful if overdue for 6 to 12 months. If the delay exceeds 12 months, the loan will be marked as "loss" (irrecoverable).

Between July and September 2024, non-performing loans jumped nearly 20% quarter-on-quarter, reaching a record high of 2.85 trillion BDT (approximately 24Bn USD). This represents 16.9% of total outstanding loans. On a year-over-year basis, the increase is particularly sharp at +84%.

Bangladesh Bank overhauls loan provisioning model

Bangladesh Bank has adopted a new provisioning model in line with international standards to mitigate the liquidity crisis and prevent bank failures linked to non-performing loans (NPLs).

The current system has been deemed ineffective, as several banks have significantly lower provisions than required by regulations, with an overall under-provisioning gap of 20% (1.9Bn BDT).

The existing model will be replaced by the Expected Credit Loss (ECL) approach under the International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS-9). Unlike the current framework, which provisions only when a loan becomes non-performing, the ECL model requires proactive provisioning based on historical credit data, current performance, and future risk outlook. This shift aims to enhance transparency in the banking sector and provide a more accurate reflection of banks' financial health.



According to Bangladesh Bank's roadmap, the transition will be phased in: (1) By September 2026, 25% of loan portfolios will be covered under the ECL model; (2) By June 2027, this coverage will increase to 75%; (3) A full adoption of IFRS-9 across the entire banking sector is planned for December 2027.

----- ENERGY -----

No major companies participate in bidding for oil and gas exploration in the Bay of Bengal

On March 10, Bangladesh launched an international tender for oil and gas exploration in the Bay of Bengal. Despite an extension of the submission deadline by several months, Petrobangla, the state-owned energy agency that issued the tender, has announced that no international oil and gas companies submitted bids. This comes as a surprise, as several companies had initially expressed interest in early 2024.

The tender involved the allocation of 24 offshore blocks—15 in deep water and 9 in shallow water. The government had reformed production-sharing contract (PSC) terms to make exploration more attractive to investors.

The primary goal of the government was to address recent supply shortages and mitigate rising fossil fuel prices, which have surged since the start of the Russia-Ukraine war.

For reference, Bangladesh's onshore natural gas production continued to decline in 2023, averaging 2,090 million cubic feet per day—a 22% drop compared to 2015 levels. As a result, domestic production now meets only half of the country's demand, forcing greater reliance on LNG imports.

A controversial agreement between Bangladesh and a US company for LNG purchase

On January 24, the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) signed a non-binding agreement with the US company Argent LNG for the purchase of 5 million tons of liquefied natural gas (LNG) per year over a 20-year period. Petrobangla, the state-owned entity responsible for gas and mineral resources, stated that it was not informed before the agreement was signed in Washington, D.C.

This deal has sparked strong criticism in Bangladesh, as the interim government had pledged that energy contracts would be awarded through a bidding process. In line with this commitment, it repealed the indemnity law, which had been widely used by the previous government to award contracts without competitive bidding.

Moreover, according to the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), Argent LNG does not yet appear to have the necessary infrastructure to export LNG to Bangladesh and is not expected to be operational before 2030. The company is also reportedly facing difficulties in securing financing and binding contracts.


For BIDA, signing this non-binding agreement represents the first step in a process that will require extensive negotiations.

Since 2018, Bangladesh has reportedly spent over 17 Bn USD on LNG imports. As of last September, outstanding LNG bills totaled 1.4 Bn USD amid a liquidity crisis.

----- INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT -----

China agrees to extend loan maturity from 20 to 30 years

During a visit to Beijing, Md Touhid Hossain, Bangladesh's Foreign Affairs Advisor, reportedly



secured an agreement with his Chinese counterpart to extend the maturity of China's development aid loans from 20 to 30 years. This extension applies to both concessional loans and export credits. Bangladesh has also requested a reduction in interest rates, from 3% to 1%, and the removal of commitment fees.

The visit also served as an opportunity to continue discussions on projects initiated under the previous Bangladeshi administration. Among the key topics discussed were the management of the Teesta River and the development of Mongla Port, both of which are also of interest to New Delhi. Other projects included: 4G network expansion, Dasherbandi wastewater treatment plant in Dhaka, construction of a new hospital in the capital and a potential financing for a metro system.

Asian Development Bank approves 600M USD budget loan for economic reforms

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has recently approved a 600M USD budget support loan to enhance economic governance in Bangladesh. The reforms under this program target critical challenges to ensure a smooth transition out of Least Developed Country (LDC) status. The 2027 goals focus on development project delays, long customs clearance times, and other key economic issues.

The project is structured around three main pillars:

- Strengthening revenue collection – Establishing specialized units at the National Board of Revenue for online tax processing and tax credits, and removing VAT exemptions.
- Improving corporate governance – Introducing a code of conduct for businesses and expanding

the One-Stop Service (OSS) platform under BIDA.

- Diversifying the economy – Implementing the National Logistics Policy to enhance supply chain efficiency.

Initially, the project had a 400M USD budget, but at the request of the interim government, the ADB agreed to increase it by 200M USD. A second phase of the program is expected to follow.

----- TRADE -----

China remains Bangladesh's top trading partner in FY24


China maintained its position as Bangladesh's largest trading partner in FY 2023-24, with bilateral trade reaching Tk 2.246 trillion, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). India remained the second-largest trading partner, with Tk 1.463 trillion in trade during the same period.

China overtook India in imports as early as 2010 and became Bangladesh's top trading partner in 2018, according to the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD). This growing trade relationship has been further reinforced by China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Bangladesh's garment exports to the EU could drop by 20% due to EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement

A study conducted by the Research and Policy Integration for Development (RAPID) suggests that Bangladesh's garment exports to the European Union could decline by 20% due to the country's graduation from the Least Developed Country (LDC) list by 2026 and the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement (EVFTA), which gives Vietnam preferential access to the European market.

Currently, Vietnam's garment exports to the EU face an average tariff of 9.6%, which will gradually



be reduced to zero by 2027 under the EVFTA. In contrast, Bangladesh could face a higher tariff of 12% from 2029, once it loses its duty-free access under the "Everything But Arms" (EBA) initiative. In 2023, the EU accounted for 46% of Bangladesh's total exports, with 90% coming from the ready-made garment (RMG) sector.

Key Insights from the Study:

- Bangladesh's garment exports are highly concentrated in cotton-based apparel, which accounts for 69% of its total RMG exports.
- The EU imports one-third of its cotton-based apparel from non-European markets, but Vietnam holds only 3% of this market, suggesting limited direct competition between Bangladesh and Vietnam in this segment.
- However, Bangladesh faces strong competition from Vietnam in synthetic fiber garments, where both countries hold around 10% market share in the EU.
- The lack of product diversification in Bangladesh's textile sector makes it more vulnerable to trade shifts and tariff changes.

This analysis highlights the need for Bangladesh to diversify its textile sector, particularly by expanding into synthetic fiber garments, to remain competitive in the post-LDC era.



C. Climate and Biodiversity in Bangladesh

Bangladesh is considered one of the countries most affected by climate change. The country is experiencing a significant increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events (cyclones, floods, droughts) and is facing the long-term effects of climate change (rising sea levels, land salinization). This situation poses numerous risks to its population and biodiversity, which are increasingly threatened, particularly in coastal areas. To address these climate challenges, Bangladesh has been proactive in policy-making, implementing a range of strategies and action plans, as well as concrete adaptation projects. However, the main challenge in achieving its climate goals remains financial, as the government estimates its funding needs at 534 billion USD by 2050, including 230 billion USD for adaptation.


1. Bangladesh is facing major climate challenges

One of the most affected countries in the world by climate change. With an estimated population of 170 million and an area of 148,460 km², Bangladesh is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. Largely located within a river delta, it is exposed to extreme weather events such as cyclones, floods, and droughts (see Annex 1). While approximately 20% of the population lives in coastal areas, rising sea levels, which erode the Bangladeshi coastline and increase soil salinity, also pose a critical challenge for the country and its biodiversity.

Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to climate change. From 2000 to 2019, it ranked 7th among the most affected countries according to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021, published by Germanwatch. Over the past decades, Bangladesh has faced a significant increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events. Each year, millions of hectares of land are submerged, destroying crops, homes, and infrastructure, with notable impacts on the biodiversity of the country's terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

Climate disasters will intensify, accompanied by long-term sea level rise. Currently, floods submerge an average of 20 to 25% of Bangladesh's land area each year, with extreme floods capable of submerging up to 60% of the country. In 2022, floods in north-eastern Bangladesh affected more than 6 million people. Research suggests that the maximum river discharge could increase by an average of 36% under a high greenhouse gas emissions scenario and by 16% under a low-emissions scenario by 2070-2099 compared to 1971-2000.

Tropical cyclones also regularly strike Bangladesh's coasts, causing strong winds, storm surges, and torrential rainfall. On average, more than one tropical cyclone per year hits Bangladesh's shores, with an annual estimated cost of about 1 billion USD (0.7% of GDP in 2022). The most significant recent cyclones struck in 1991 and 2007, causing the deaths of over 130,000 people and economic losses exceeding 6 billion USD. Climate change is expected to accelerate both the frequency and intensity of these cyclones.



Bangladesh also faces long-term effects of climate change, mainly rising sea levels (see Annex 2). Nearly one-third of the population, or 50 million people, lives less than 5 meters above sea level. Over the past 50 years, sea levels in Bangladesh's coastal zone have risen by 3.8 to 5.8 mm per year, exceeding the global average of 2.1 mm per year. The direct consequence of rising sea levels is soil salinization. Since the 1970s, the extent of coastal areas affected by salinization has increased by 26%, impacting agriculture and livelihoods. In southern Bangladesh, projected sea level rise and land salinization could displace 0.9 million people by 2050.

Additionally, the country faces other natural hazards such as lightning (over 200 deaths in 2023), increasing landslides, and droughts.

In parallel, Bangladesh's biodiversity is at serious risk. The consequences of climate change have direct effects on Bangladesh's biodiversity. The country is home to more than 227 globally threatened species (IUCN Red List, 2015).

Increasing soil salinity and habitat destruction threaten many animal and plant species. Over the past decade, climate factors have already contributed to a 20% decline in fish biodiversity in the country. Rising sea levels could submerge up to 23% of the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, by 2100, potentially leading to the extinction of numerous species, including Bengal tigers, Irrawaddy dolphins, and marine turtles.

2. The country has become a global leader in adaptation


Bangladesh has implemented a range of strategies to combat climate change and preserve biodiversity.

Bangladesh has gradually positioned itself as a global leader in adaptation and resilience by swiftly adopting responses to climate challenges. The country's climate action is primarily based on various strategies implemented in recent years.

As early as 2005, Bangladesh presented its National Adaptation Program of Action. This was followed by the adoption of a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (2008) and a Climate Change and Gender Action Plan (2013) to ensure women's representation in climate policies and strategies. These programs paved the way for ambitious political initiatives. For example, in 2014, Bangladesh became one of the first Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to establish a climate budget framework to integrate climate change considerations into budgetary processes and public financial management. In 2023-2024, climate-related expenditures accounted for 9% of the total budget across 25 relevant ministries, amounting to 3.4 billion USD.

In 2018, the government adopted the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, which primarily focuses on food and water security in relation to climate challenges in the delta. The plan proposes national-level strategies to mitigate flood risks and improve freshwater management.

In 2021, the Mujib Climate Prosperity Plan 2030 was published, aiming to shift Bangladesh's development trajectory "from vulnerability to resilience and prosperity." The plan targets 3.89 billion USD in investment and an additional 1 billion USD in mobilized funds by 2030 for local adaptation



projects, particularly in vulnerable regions. It also aims for 30% renewable energy by 2030 and at least 40% by 2041.

The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2023-2050, adopted in 2022, provides a medium- and long-term adaptation vision. It emphasizes community-led adaptation projects, ensuring equity, inclusion, and sustainability. The NAP identifies 113 key interventions across 11 climate-vulnerable regions, focusing on ecosystem management, the blue economy, and nature-based solutions (NbS).

Regarding biodiversity, Bangladesh has signed and ratified major international treaties, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the BBNJ Treaty. Since 2011, its Constitution has explicitly mandated environmental protection and conservation (Article 18A). In line with this, the Bangladesh Biodiversity Act 2017 commits the country to protecting local biodiversity and promoting sustainable and equitable natural resource use. However, crucial biodiversity conservation funds have yet to be operationalized.

Despite progress in fostering a locally-led adaptation approach, major gaps remain in policy implementation and project monitoring. A lack of coordination between ministries and agencies hampers the scaling of local projects to national and regional levels. However, the main challenge remains financial, with the government estimating funding needs at 534 billion USD by 2050, including 230 billion USD for adaptation.

Several initiatives have been launched to strengthen resilience. Apart from government plans, concrete initiatives have been implemented to adapt to climate change and enhance resilience.

A symbolic initiative is the Bangladesh Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP), launched in 1972 after the 1970 Bhola cyclone that killed over 300,000 people. The CPP operates in 13 coastal districts, with wireless communication systems, cyclone shelters, and rescue resources. Thanks to its success, cyclone-related fatalities have dramatically reduced—from hundreds of thousands (e.g., 300,000 in 1970) to a few dozen (e.g., 35 in 2022's Cyclone Sitrang).

Another adaptation measure is the construction of polders (land enclosed by embankments) to protect low-lying areas from tidal floods and salinity intrusion. Currently, 139 polders protect 1.2 million hectares. A 400 million USD World Bank-funded coastal embankment improvement project is rehabilitating 600 km of embankments, with 380 km completed by September 2023.

Despite climate commitments, Bangladesh increases coal dependency. Despite ambitions to boost renewables, their share remains low (around 3% of total capacity in 2023). The country remains reliant on fossil fuels, with gas (50%) and oil (17%) dominating its energy mix. Alarmingly, new coal plants raised coal's share from 9% in 2022 to over 20% in 2023, though no further coal projects are expected due to financing constraints.



Key Takeaways

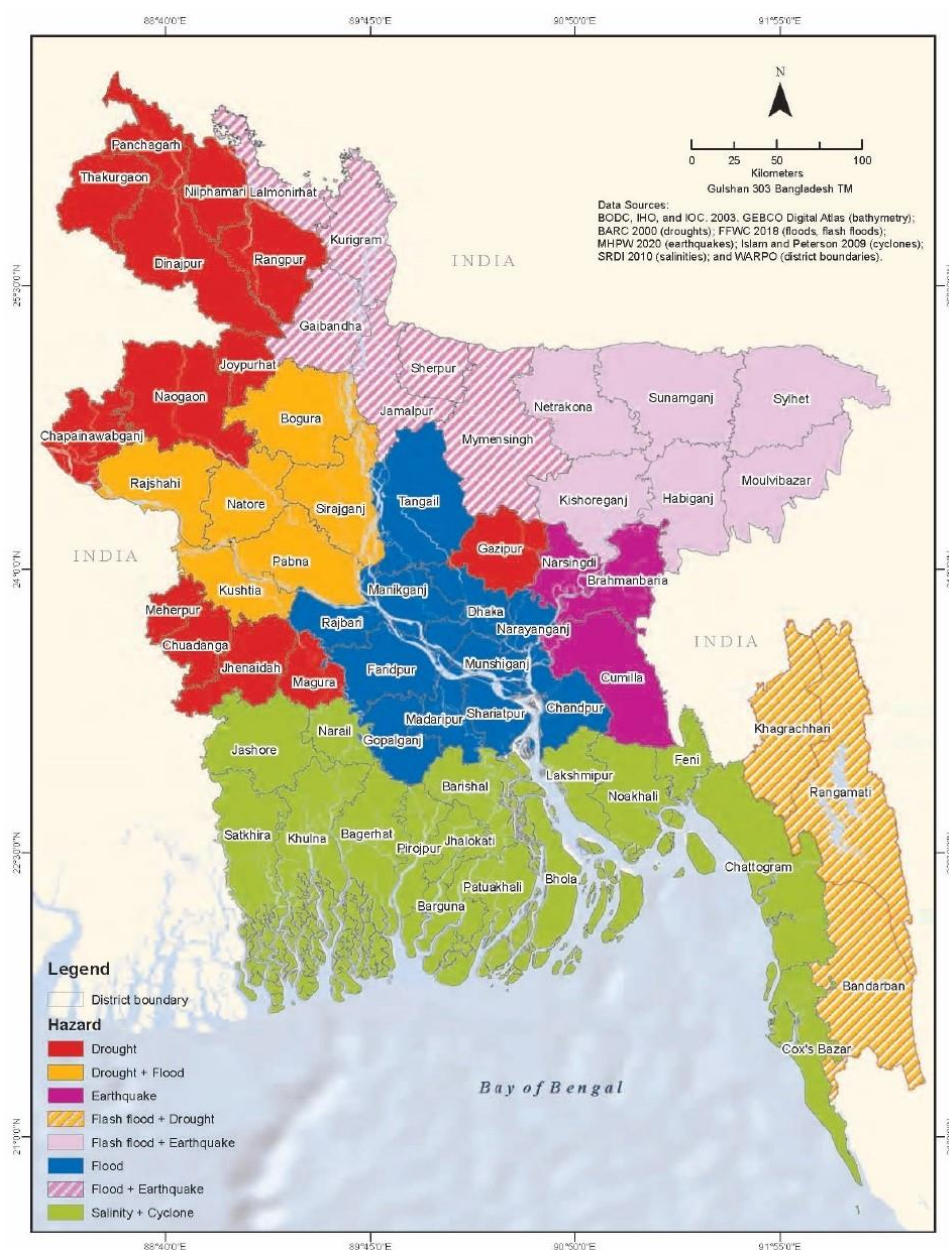
Three ideas

1. Bangladesh is **one of the most vulnerable countries** in the world to climate change. From 2000 to 2019, it ranked 7th among the most affected countries according to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021, published by Germanwatch.
2. Bangladesh has gradually positioned itself as a **global leader in adaptation** and resilience by swiftly adopting responses to climate challenges.
3. Despite climate commitments, **Bangladesh increases coal dependency** with coal's share raising from 9% in 2022 to over 20% in 2023.

Three figures

1. On average, more than one tropical cyclone per year hits Bangladesh's shores, with an annual estimated cost of about **1 billion USD** (0.7% of GDP in 2022).
2. The Bangladesh Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP) has contributed to dramatically reduce cyclone-related fatalities—from **300,000 in 1970 to a dozen today** (e.g., 35 in 2022's Cyclone Sitrang).
3. The main challenge in achieving its climate goals remains financial, as the government estimates its funding needs at **534 billion USD by 2050**, including 230 billion USD for adaptation.

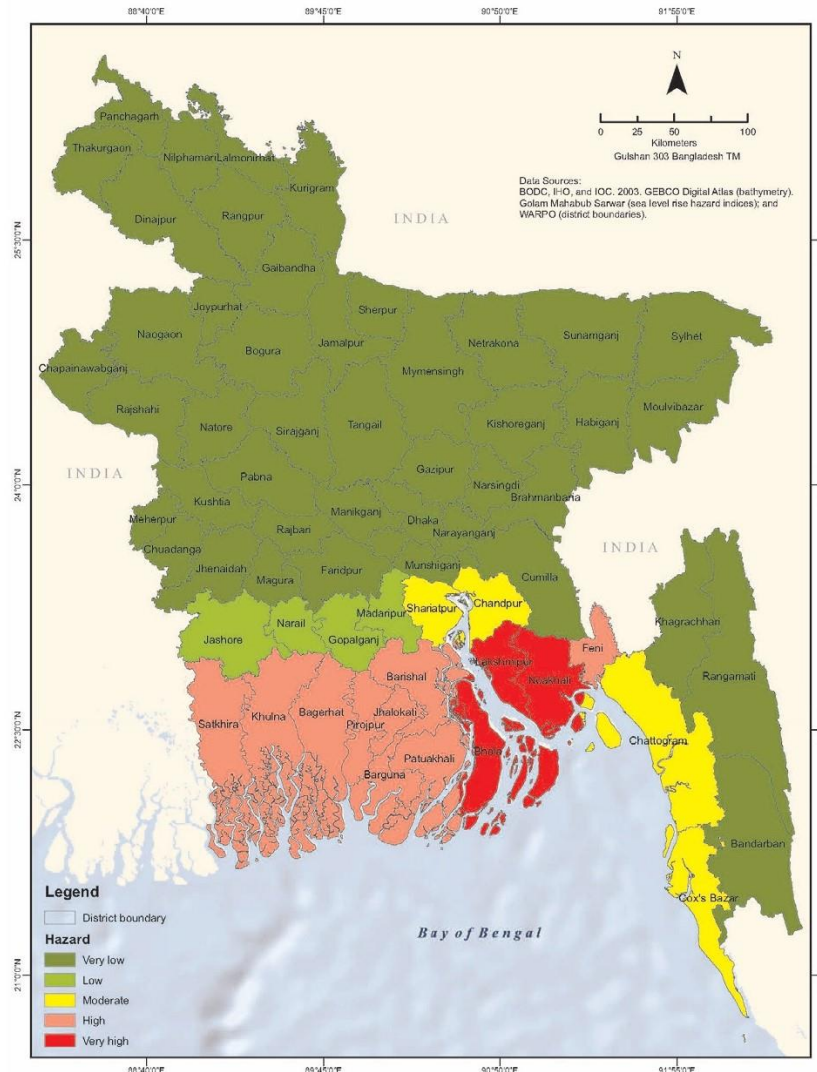
Annex 1: Map of natural disasters risks in Bangladesh



Source : Planning Ministry and ADB, 2021

Bangladesh Climate and Disaster Risk Atlas: Exposures, Vulnerabilities, and Risks

Annex 2 : Sea level rise risk index in Bangladesh



Source : Planning Ministry and ADB, 2021

Bangladesh Climate and Disaster Risk Atlas: Exposures, Vulnerabilities, and Risks

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Disclaimer: This publication intends to share accurate and up-to-date information. If errors are brought to our attention, we will try to correct them. However, the Economic Department of Dhaka accepts no responsibility or liability with regard to the information included on this publication.

KEY INFORMATION

Demographic Data

170M including **31%**
Population (2022) Urban Population

Land area

147 570 km² including **17,4%** **4,5%**
Forests Protected areas coverage

Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

118 813 km² **9%** of EEZ concerns marine protected areas

CLIMATE

CCNUCC : Kyoto 2001 & Paris 2016

CDN : 26/08/2021

National Adaptation Plan : 2023-2050

Current GHG Emissions (2022)

34th **281**
Global Emitter MtCO₂eq

Per Capita GHG Emissions (tCO₂eq)

178th **1,62** **6,76**
Global Emitter Bangladesh Average Global Average

Climate Vulnerability and Risks

7th most vulnerable country to CC (2000- 2019)
Source: Climate Risk Index 2021

223 lightning deaths in 2023

1/3 of the population lives less than 5 meters above sea level

1 Bn annual damage costs from cyclones



Natural Disasters Risk

GHG Emissions

22% GHG reduction target by 2030

Forest

20% Forest cover target by 2030

Energy

40% Clean energy target by 2040 (3% in 2023)

BIODIVERSITY

Convention on Biological Diversity : ratified in 1994

HAC for Nature & People : Yes

BBNJ Agreement : ratified in 2024

Ecosystem Protection

56 Protected Areas

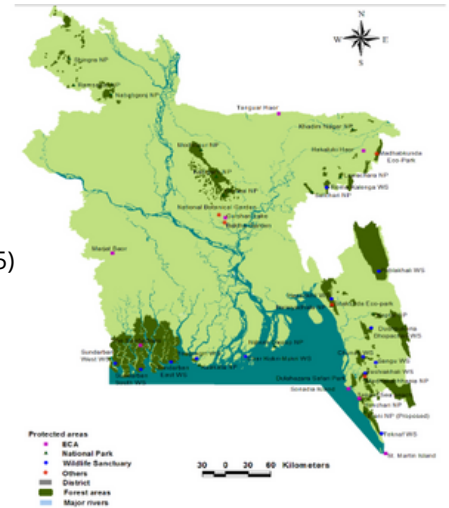
25 Sanctuaries

390 Endangered Species (IUCN,2015)

6000 km² of mangrove Area in the Sundarbans (UNESCO World Heritage Site)

Flagship Species : Bengal tigers, Ganges river dolphins

i The eastern part of the country is an integral part of the Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot.



Biodiversity Conservation Initiatives

- Bangladesh Biodiversity Act - 2017**
Strengthening the legal framework; establishment of local biodiversity protection committees; creation of a Biodiversity Conservation Fund
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2016-2021)**
National operational implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity

POLLUTION

17% Cost of pollution in 2019 (as a percentage of GDP), with one-third related to lead (6.9 IQ points lost on average in children)

Plastic Pollution

Global Plastics Treaty : Member of negotiations

HAC End Plastic Pollution : No

Act to ban single-use plastic bags : 2002

12% of plastic is discarded into Dhaka's rivers

37% of plastic is recycled, mostly by informal networks

i Single-use plastic has been banned in the Sundarbans since March 2023.

Air Pollution

(source AQL/ 2023)

1st most polluted country in the world (estimated cost 4.55% of GDP in 2019)

74 µg/m³ of PM_{2.5} on average
WHO recommendation : 5µg/m³

6,8 years of life expectancy lost on average (90,000 deaths/year)