

## BANGLADESH PROGRAMME PLAN 2017

### 1. Introduction

Bangladesh has registered remarkable progresses in achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) specifically in the areas of poverty alleviation, ensuring food security, primary school enrolment, gender parity in primary and secondary level education, lowering the infant and under-five mortality rate and maternal mortality ratio, improving immunization coverage and reducing the incidence of communicable diseases. The government has demonstrated commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and prepared the 7th Five Year Plan aligned to the targets of SDGs. Despite the progress, Bangladesh remains plagued by key challenges to development such as vulnerability to natural disasters, political instability, extreme poverty, high population growth and violent extremism. July 2016 saw the worst terror attack ever experienced in Bangladesh where 20 people, mostly expatriates, were killed. The attack followed many other previous attacks carried out against foreigners, bloggers, atheists, etc over the previous years. The current level of security risk will impact negatively on the country's economic growth potential. The current government continues to exercise tight control over political opposition resulting in weakening of opposition political parties.

Country Strategic Plan	Time line : 2016– 2020
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**Overall programme plans :** Following a successful implementation of the previous plan, a new Country Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020 has been prepared pending approval. Most of the programmes designed during the previous strategic plan period are coming to end. This will result in a dip in number of active programme and funding in 2017. The country programme will continue to focus on designing new programmes in line with its new strategic plan in 2017.

### 2. Programmes

Haor Programme: Haors are large tectonic depressions spread over 7 districts in the north east part of Bangladesh where the concentration of extreme “poverty pockets” are very high. The population living in these poverty pockets face unique challenges due to seasonal flooding, river erosion and crop loss. Flash floods and other disasters pose additional threat to their fragile livelihoods. Despite the closure of one of the flagship graduation programme (Economic and Social Empowerment of the Extreme Poor – ESEP) in 2016, the Haor programme will continue to cover Sunamgonj and Netrokona districts through implementation of following projects and will be designing new programmes to secure fund from potential donors:

Graduation of Extreme Poor Engaging in Business and Finance (GEP-EBF) Project (Dec 2014-Dec 2017): The overall objective of GEP-EBF project is to graduate 700 extreme poor households (3,150 beneficiaries) out of poverty and facilitate access to the microfinance intuitions. The core programme activities are the creation of aspiration, confidence building and transforming saving habits through self-help groups (SHGs); facilitating business planning based on systematic analysis of capacity and opportunity, transfer of technology, knowledge and skills for income generation with cash/asset transfer and linkages to markets and enabling links with microfinance institutions. GEP-EBF project is implemented in partnership with FIVDB in Sunamgonj District.

WASH for the Wellbeing of the Poor and Extreme Poor in Haor and Coastal Regions of Bangladesh (Feb, 2017 – Jan, 2018 ): The overall objective of the project is to increase access to safe drinking water, reduce health burden and to improve the wellbeing of the underprivileged population in the target region. A total of 55,614 population from Netrakona, Bagerhat and Satkhira districts will directly benefit from the project from which 46,128 will be benefitted in Haor and 9,486 will be benefitted in

the coastal districts. The project is designed following an approach of integrating water, sanitation and hygiene. Along with hygiene promotion both at communities and schools, most appropriate water technologies were identified following a rigorous feasibility analysis carried out by Concern in 2016, based on Concern's past experiences. During 2017, a total of 332 Rain Water Harvesting System (RWHSs) at communities and 16 RWHSs with 11 latrines for schools will be provided in the coastal region; while 170 DTWs at communities and 15 DTWs and 3 latrines will be provided at schools in the Haor region.

Char Integrated Programme: Although the ongoing Char Integrated Programme (CIP) is going to be closed by the end of 2016, Concern is designing new programmes targeting potential donors to extend support to the extreme poor families residing in this region. New programme focusses are Livelihood, Health and Nutrition including WASH. Concern is aiming to reach 10,000 extreme poor households (approx.) during 2017 in this region.

Integrated Coastal Programme: The south-western coastal region of Bangladesh has high levels of poverty and vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change. It has been identified a lag-behind zone due to frequent natural calamities. The programme has good presence at south-west and has targeted to extend towards the south-east to deal with emerging poverty pocket as issues focused in HCUEP. The programme will continue implementing two projects focusing on resilient livelihoods development through addressing climate change impacts and multi type risks.

Building Resilience Of Vulnerable Communities And Institutions To Protect Livelihoods And Reduce Risk From Disasters And Climate Change In Coastal Areas of Bangladesh (2012-2017) : The project aims to build the resilience of coastal communities through facilitating community based adaptive livelihoods, re-orienting their livelihood practices toward resilience, facilitating community risk assessment and subsequent action planning engaging local government, linking community with government service sectors in 12 unions of 3 coastal districts (Satkhira, Khulna and Bagherhat). The project will be implemented by two partners: Jagrata Juba Sangha and Sushilan. The project will carry forward the BBR e-learning course for government and CSOs on humanitarian standards & principles for resilience building mechanisms. The project has a strong focus on Gender Equality, Social Protection, Risk and Vulnerability (Resilience) and Advocacy.

Scaling Up Inclusive Resilience Amongst Water Logged Communities In South Western Bangladesh (April 2016 – September 2017): The project aims to scale up Inclusive Resilience Amongst Water Logged communities in south Western Bangladesh. The project will continue to be operational in two upazillas of two districts (Keshobpur Upazilla of Jessore district and Tala Upazilla of Satkhira district) in 2017. Insufficient drainage system and lack of sufficient management of embankment & sluice gates cause flood and water logging in the targeted areas which causes loss of assets, livelihoods and water borne diseases. The project will institutionalize and facilitate practice of resilience livelihood options. The project will work closely with government and non-government service providers and develop a "Southwest Bangladesh Waterlogging platform" to advocate for communities on water logging issues. The project will support 18,123 beneficiaries in partnership with Shushilan.

Urban Integrated Programme (UIP): The Urban programme will expand to support extreme poor living in under developed slums and squatter settlements. The following projects will be implemented in 2017 in urban areas:

Improving the Lives of the Urban Extreme Poor (pavement, squatter & undeveloped slum dwellers) in Dhaka and Chittagong(ILUEP) (January 2017- December 2021): The programme objective is to improve the livelihood security and increase resilience of targeted urban extreme poor households living in slums, squatter settlements and on the pavements of Dhaka and Chittagong City Corporations. It will deliver integrated multi sectoral interventions such as livelihood enhancement, nutrition support, gender equality and support to girls to address GBV, provision of improved WASH facilities and promotion of improved hygiene practices and advocacy for improved service delivery in meeting the entitlements of the extreme poor in line with the nutrition. Centralized services are provided from the Pavement Dweller Centres (PDC) and the Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) facilities. The programme's target is to support 9000 extreme poor households. The implementing partners are Saijida Foundation, Nari Moitree, Social & Economic Enhancement Programme, RADDA MCH-FP centre, Chittagong Medical College Hospital, Coalition for The Urban Poor (CUP) & All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG).

Transforming the lives of urban pavement dwellers (2017-2019): The project will support the pavement dwellers, covering partially the total number of pavement dwellers targeted by the Urban Integrated Programme. It will provide social protection to the pavement dwellers registered under four pavement dwellers' centres (PDC) located in Dhaka city and ensure improved livelihoods, health, education, ECD and social protection. It will deliver long term benefits for the emotional, psychological, and physical well-being of the beneficiaries targeted through the intervention. In 2017, the project will support 1000 new pavement dwellers.

Improving Health And Nutrition Status Of Urban Extreme Poor In Bangladesh Through Sustainable Health Service Provision (supported by EU)(2016-2020): Concern Worldwide and BRAC, in collaboration with the targeted City Corporations and Municipality and existing health and family planning service providers, will increase the access of the extreme poor people to Primary Health Care (PHC) services; improving the comprehensiveness of PHC services; enhancing the quality coverage of health, nutrition and population (HNP) services; and, strengthening the sustainability of urban health, nutrition and population services in partnership and coordination with Government, NGO service providers and community groups. The action will focus on the extreme poor and most marginalized people living in slum, squatter settlements and on the pavements of Dhaka South and North City Corporations, Chittagong City Corporation and Mymensingh Municipality. The project will cover a total of 878,647 beneficiaries. The partners are: BRAC, Dhaka South, Dhaka North and Chittagong City Corporations and All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG).

*Risk Reduction and Emergency Response:*

Concern in Bangladesh will continue to promote integration of Disaster Risk Reduction in all development programmes to reduce vulnerability and respond to emergencies when local capacity is exhausted. Concern will continue to support and take lead role in strengthening Humanitarian coordination at national and local level.

Relief Support for Cyclone Affected Population in Need in South-East Bangladesh(September 2016-January 2017): The tropical cyclone Roanu made landfall in the southern coast of Bangladesh on 21 May, 2016. 7 districts were severely affected, including Cox's Bazar. Around 50,000 people were affected in the Kutubdia sub-district. Concern has been supporting the affected population in Kutubdia. Currently it has planned a livelihood recovery project which will continue until early next year. Under this project, Concern Worldwide intends to provide food security and WASH (latrines and tube wells) support to affected populations in Kutubdia under Cox'sbazar district and the project will be implemented by local partner NGO Young Power in Social Action (YPSA).

*Preparedness for Effective Emergency Response (PEER):* This is the continuation of the support to the preselected local partners to ensure adequate preparedness for response. PEER process contributes significantly to capacity building of staff and partners, establishment of appropriate financial and human resource management systems, identification and monitoring of disasters, and understanding of the evolving national context in such matters as disaster response policy, role of UN and other humanitarian agencies, and donor requirements and priorities. Under this initiative, Concern will support 34 partner NGOs to strengthen organizational preparedness and train 100 staff of partners.

### 3. Monitoring and Evaluation:

Programme/project	Timeframe	Donors	Events planned in 2017			
			<i>Contextual analysis</i>	<i>Baseline/end line</i>	<i>Midterm review</i>	<i>Final evaluation</i>
Graduation of Extreme Poor Engaging in Business and Finance.	Dec, 2014 – Dec, 2017	MetLife	n/a	n/a	n/a	October
WASH for the Wellbeing of the Poor and Extreme Poor in Haor and Coastal Regions in Bangladesh	Feb, 2017 – Jan, 2018	Charity: water	n/a	March	n/a	December
Scaling up Inclusive Resilience Amongst Water Logged Communities in south Western Bangladesh.	April 2016 – September 2017	ECHO	n/a	End line survey will be held in 2017	N/A	September 2017 at the end of the project
Improving the Lives of the Urban Extreme Poor (ILUEP)	2017 - 2021	Irish Aid	n/a	March 2017		October 2020
EC Health and Nutrition	2016-2020	EC	n/a	January 17	n/a	Dec 2017