

# BANGLADESH DEVELOPMENT FORUM 2015

(15-16 November 2015)

Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC), Dhaka

## Draft Agenda [as of 12 Oct 2015]

The forum will have one inauguration session, one key note session, 6 thematic working sessions and one closing session. Thematic working sessions will center on 7<sup>th</sup> FYP, Government's key priority areas and SDG implementation. A central question will be formulated for each working session. Each working session will conclude with specific actionable outcomes.

The format of the working session will be:

Presentation (10 min)

Panel discussion (5 to 7 min each)

Plenary discussion with the room (30 to 40 min)

Conclusion by the session chair (5 min): presenting the way forward.

### DAY 1: Sunday, 15 November 2015

#### 09.30-10.30 OPENING PLENARY

*Opening statement by Senior Secretary, ERD*  
*Statement by local DP representative (LCG DP Co-chair)*  
*Statement by DP Minister or HQ Head of Agency*  
*Statement by Hon State Minister for Finance*  
*Statement by the Hon Minister for Finance*  
*Speech by the Hon PM*

10:30-11.00  
Inauguration of Development Fair by Hon'ble Prime Minister

10.30-11:00 Refreshment - for Guests [Parallel Event]

#### 11:00-13.00 KEYNOTE SESSION

*Macro-economic management: A journey from lower to higher middle income country through an inclusive growth strategy ensuring SDG*

Chair: Hon'ble Minister for Finance

Keynote Presenter: General Economics Division

Panelists: 1. Finance Division (GoB)

2. DPs -two [tbd]

3. CSO/others- Dr. Ahsan H. Mansur, Executive Director, Policy Research Institute (PRI)

This session will set the scene for the Forum through a key note presentation highlighting Bangladesh's economic achievements, the core macroeconomic indicators,

the climate for investment, trade and employment. The session will explore the related priorities for action over the next 5 years, challenges and possible action to mitigate these challenges, in order to achieve Vision 2021 and SDG8. The session will build on the strategies set out in the 7<sup>th</sup> five year plan.

### **13.00-13.45 Lunch and Prayer**

**13.45-15.15**

#### **WORKING SESSION-ONE**

##### **Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change**

**Chair: Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture**

**Keynote Presenter: Ministry of Agriculture**

**Panelists: 1.GoB -Ministry of Environment**

**2.GoB - Ministry of Food**

**2. DPs -two [tbd]**

**3. CSO/others- Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation**

Food security depends on three elements - the availability of food, access to food and the effective utilization of food. Climate change - in the form of rising temperatures, less predictable rainfall and more extreme weather events - is likely to affect Bangladesh in coming decades, and will have a direct bearing on agriculture and food security. Climate change hits hardest at the most vulnerable in society, including the rural poor and landless. Adaptation measures are needed to support these groups, as well as those farmers who are moving into more commercial operations. This session will aim to identify the main thrusts of a new food security Country Investment Plan and highlight some of the key options for climate change adaptation in agriculture.

### **15.15-15.30 Tea Break**

**15.30-17.00**

#### **WORKING SESSION-TWO**

##### **Strengthening the economic foundation: Strategies for development of infrastructure**

**Chair: Hon'ble Minister for Planning**

**Keynote Presenter: Physical Infrastructure Division, Planning Commission**

**Panelist 1. Principal Secretary, Prime Minister's Office [TBD]**

**2. DPs -two [tbd]**

**3. CSO/others- Professor Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Vice Chancellor, University of Asia Pacific**

This session will discuss selected areas which are critical for economic growth over the next five years. These sectors are (1) **power and energy - SDG7** (2) **infrastructure (roads, railway, water transport and regional connectivity- SDG 9** (3) **ICT**. Panelists will discuss how to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, how to build resilient infrastructure, land and water transport, regional connectivity and accessible ICT.

**17.15-18.45**  
**WORKING SESSION-THREE**

**Governance and Development: Strengthening partnership for effective development cooperation**

**Chair: Hon'ble Economic Adviser**

**Keynote Presenter: Economic Relations Division (ERD)**

**Panelists: 1. Cabinet Division**

**2. DPs -two [tbd]**

**3. CSO/others- Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue**

This session will discuss how to realize SDG17 at the national level and make the most out of domestic and external sources for development. Government may highlight measures taken to further strengthen governance, such as the RTI, the APA, the National Integrity Strategy, PFM reform and domestic resource mobilization and expectations from DPs in terms of synchronizing with government priorities, monitoring and evaluation arrangement, PFM, and using country systems. Development partners may present the measures they can take to strengthen efficiency and impact of development partnerships. In addition, the session can explore the potential of private financing.

**19.00**  
**Cultural Show & Dinner: Hosted by GoB**

**DAY 2: Monday, 16 November 2015**

**08.30-10.00**  
**WORKING SESSION-FOUR**

**Health and quality education: Offering a secure future for all**

**Chair: Hon'ble Minister for Education**

**Keynote Presenter: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Ministry of Education**

**Panelists: 1. GoB -one [tbd]**

**2. DPs -two [tbd]**

**3. CSO/others- Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Founder and Chairperson of BRAC**

This session will explore how to ensure the commitment to inclusive, quality education and health for all over the next five years. The session will highlight the challenges of public health and its mitigation measures for reaching national health targets. The session will link quality life skill education with future employment opportunities for the youth. It will build on lessons learnt from the Primary Education sector (PEDP).

**10.00-10.15 Tea Break**

**10.15 - 11.45**  
**WORKING SESSION-FIVE**

## **Social Protection: Leaving no one behind**

**Chair: TBD**

**Keynote Presenter: Cabinet Division**

**Panelists: 1. Secretary, Social Welfare [TBD]**

**2. DPs-two [TBD]**

**3. CSO/others- Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Executive Chairman, Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC)**

Bangladesh is breaking new ground with the recent adoption of its National Social Security Strategy (NSSS). With this Strategy, the Government recognizes that, notwithstanding impressive progress in poverty reduction, there is a considerable part of the population that remains vulnerable and exposed to poverty. This session will explore how government and Development Partners can join hands to broaden the scope of the safety net programmes and strengthen the social security system, in line with the NSSS, to reduce poverty and inequality in line with SDG 1 (target 1.3) and SDG 10 (target 10.4) and enhance resilience of the Bangladeshi people.

**12.00 -13.30**

### **WORKING SESSION-SIX**

#### **Mainstreaming Gender in Economic Development**

**Chair: Hon'ble Speaker, Bangladesh Parliament**

**Keynote Presenter: Ministry of Women and Children Affairs**

**Panelists: 1. GoB - State Minister of Women and Children Affairs [tbc]**

**2. DPs -two [tbd]**

**3. CSO/others- Dr. Nazmunnessa Mahtab, Professor, Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh**

This section will look at the current progress and strategies with regard to economic opportunities for women and explore, in line with SDG5, how to further empower women economically.

**13.30-14.30 Lunch and Prayer**

**14.30 - 15.00**

#### **Summing-up and Next Steps**

The objective of this session is for the GoB to present its ideas for implementing the strategy and sector plans in close collaboration with the DPs as well as to build consensus on key issues.

**15.30**

**Media Briefing : HFM, HSMF&P, LCG Co-Chairs**