

Preface

The thirty-eighth issue of the flagship publication- “**Flow of External Resources into Bangladesh**” of Economic Relations Division (ERD) is presented with immense pleasure. The first issue was published in 1978, and throughout the publication’s history it has been considered as the main and authentic source of information on external resources and debt. The current issue is no exception. Recent and comprehensive information covering all the details of external aid flows into Bangladesh and relevant reflection of global trends and standard have been incorporated in this book to provide a better understanding to its users.

2. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) and 7th Five Year Plan have reiterated importance on external resources to bridge the financing gap for investment. According the 7th Five Year Plan, around 9.6% of the total investment will be financed through external resources. ERD has made considerable progress in mobilizing foreign assistance since FY 2011. From FY 2010-11 to FY 2014-15 yearly average commitments of aid is US\$ 5.5 billion which was US\$ 2.5 billion during FY 2005-06 to 2009-10. However, the long established policy of following a prudent borrowing strategy still remains as the cornerstone. Aid disbursement has also crossed US\$ 3 billion landmark in last two consecutive financial years since independence.

3. The overview of the book containing information on selected macro-economic indicators and analysis of resource flow and external debt portfolio with meaningful and attractive colored graphs truly provides an insight of detailed information furnished into lots of tables. In addition, methodology of compilation of data and executive summary of this document offer greater clarity of understanding of the data presented. I am pretty sure that this publication will be useful to the policy makers, researchers, academics, students and other readership in their work. To make this publication accessible to all, an electronic version of the publication is made available at ERD’s web site (www.erd.gov.bd).

4. Resource flows from multilateral and bilateral development partners and servicing of loan information of government is presented in this publication. A summary data on borrowings from International Monetary Fund (IMF), external debts of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and grants extended to the Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) are also recorded at aggregate levels in this book. Public debt relating to defense establishment and private sector debt remain outside the remit of the publication. The publication is put together on the basis of information available with ERD and supplemented, where necessary, by the reports of the development partners, project directors, the Bangladesh Bank and other corporate bodies. Some figures shown in the report may need to be revised, based on feedback from the development partners and other concerned.

5. Finally, I appreciate Senior Secretary and his team, specially officers and staff of Foreign Aid Budget and Accounts (FABA) Wing of ERD for their hard works in publishing the book. I hope that ERD would continue publishing this document and at the same time make every effort to improve its scope, analysis and presentation of data. Suggestions for further improvement of the publication are most welcome. If any discrepancy comes to the notice of the readership or any clarification is needed, ERD may please be contacted.

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