

AGREEMENT BETWEEN SWEDEN AND BANGLADESH ON DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Sweden, represented by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida, and The People's Republic of Bangladesh, represented by the Ministry of Finance have agreed as follows.

ARTICLE 1 SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE OF THE AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall constitute the framework for the development cooperation between Sweden and Bangladesh.

The aim of the cooperation under this Agreement is to contribute to improving the conditions for people to raise themselves out of poverty, strengthening democracy, respect for human rights and gender equality, and sustainable development.

The cooperation shall therefore aim to achieve results within the following areas:

- Strengthening democracy and gender equality, greater respect for human rights and freedom of expression.
- Better opportunities for people living in poverty to contribute to and benefit from economic growth and to obtain a good education.
- A better environment, limited climate impact and greater resilience to environmental impact, climate change and natural disasters.
- Improved basic health, focusing particularly on women and children, as well as sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Enhanced democracy, gender equality and respect for human rights should be mainstreamed in activities, projects and programmes under all sub-objectives.

The responsibility for the development of activities, projects and programmes under this Agreement rests with Bangladesh.

The role of Sweden is limited to the contribution of resources as detailed in specific agreements, and to engage in dialogue on the results of the development cooperation and its impact on people living in poverty in Bangladesh.

Swedish support may also be extended to partners outside the government sphere. Such cooperation falls outside the scope for this agreement.

ARTICLE 2 PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

Sweden and Bangladesh consider adherence to the following principles to be fundamental to the development cooperation in Bangladesh:

- safeguarding peace and respect for human rights, democratic governance, the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary;
- addressing poverty in all its dimensions through Bangladesh policies and plans, and in its patterns of public expenditure;
- pursuing sound economic policies aimed at economically, environmentally and socially sustainable development;
- ensuring transparent and accountable management of resources and integrity in public life, and fighting corruption;
- advancing sustainable management of natural resources and integrating an environmental and climate perspective in development cooperation;
- advancing gender equality and integrating a gender perspective in development cooperation
- pursuing internationally agreed principles of aid effectiveness

Concerns regarding non-compliance with any of these principles will primarily be addressed through dialogue.

ARTICLE 3 THE SWEDISH CONTRIBUTION

Sweden will aim at making available financial resources for development cooperation between Sweden and Bangladesh for the period 1 January 2015-31 December 2020. The contribution of resources aims to be in line with Sweden's Results Strategy 2014-2020 for Bangladesh and Sweden. Disbursements are subject to regular review of contributions.

The contribution of resources shall be made in accordance with the requirements laid down in specific agreements between the Parties on projects/programmes of development cooperation.

ARTICLE 4 FOLLOW-UP OF THE AGREEMENT

The Parties shall regularly review the activities, projects and programmes of the development cooperation between Sweden and Bangladesh.

At these reviews Sweden and Bangladesh shall follow up on the Swedish contribution and on the progress of the activities, projects and programmes.

ARTICLE 5 REFERENCES TO OTHER AGREEMENTS

The development cooperation between the Parties is also governed by:

- the Agreement on General Terms and Conditions for Development Cooperation between Sweden, represented by Sida and the Government of Bangladesh, dated 5 November 1998; and
- specific agreements for activities, projects and programmes of development cooperation.

ARTICLE 6 ENTRY INTO FORCE AND TERMINATION

This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature by both Parties and remain valid until 31 December 2020.

The Agreement may be terminated prior to the end of the agreement period by either Party giving the other Party at least six months written notice.

The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the validity of any specific agreements that are in force between the Parties.

Two originals of the text of this Agreement, written in the English language, have been signed.

Place and date

Sweden, represented by Sida

Place and date

The People's Republic of
Bangladesh, represented by the
Ministry of Finance

Signature

Signature

Name and title in block letters

Name and title in block letters