



UNDP/ERD/SPPS/2020

31 May 2020

Dear Ms. Yasmin,

Cost Extension Social Security Policy Support (SSPS) Programme Project Document

At the request of the relevant authorities of the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), I seek your approval of a costed extension of the Social Security Policy Support (SSPS) Programme from July 2020 to December 2025. We request for this extension to further UNDP's partnership for GoB's ambition and renewed attention towards social protection reforms, especially in the context of COVID-19.

Initiated in July 2014, SSPS is jointly implemented by the Cabinet Division and the General Economics Division. The project has been supporting GoB in several key reforms, including the formulation and adoption of the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS). As part of NSSS implementation, the project also provided vital support to 35 line-Ministries to develop their reforms plans. Besides, the project assisted in strengthening programmatic and institutional reforms of the social security system, including the Central Management Committee (CMC) coordination structure; and helped conducted the 1st NSSS Mid-Term Implementation Review.

The attached revised project document which incorporates recommendations from the NSSS Mid-Term Review provides for a total budget of US\$ 6,530,540 with a committed resource of 3,100,000. The fund of US\$ 2,100,000 will come from the DFAT (Australian Government) for July 2020 to December 2022; and US\$ 1,000,000 from UNDP for the period 2020 to 2025. We purposively kept an unfunded portion of US\$ 3,430,540 considering growing interest of several development partners, which we would like to mobilise with the active support of ERD. The Programme's TAPP will be revised following your approval.



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Resilient nations.*

We remain available to provide you with any assistance and clarification that you may need to support this extension approval.

I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and excellent cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sudipto Mukerjee', is written over a blue horizontal line.

Sudipto Mukerjee
Resident Representative



Fatima Yasmin
Secretary
Economic Relations Division
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar
Dhaka-1207

Copy to:

- 1) Personal Secretary, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Planning, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka
- 2) Personal Secretary, Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Division, Bangladesh Secretariat
- 3) Personal Secretary, Secretary, Planning Division, Ministry of Planning, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.
- 4) Personal Secretary, Member (Senior Secretary), General Economics Division, Planning Commission, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka