

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT (ANNUAL) TEMPLATE

January - December 2025

The template below introduces the minimum requirements for the standard reporting done by the Project Manager and team. The report must be reviewed for quality by the Programme Officer. Annotated guidance (in red) is provided and should be removed when using the template.

Project Summary Information	
Project Title	Social Protection Policy Support Programme, Phase II
Quantum Project ID	01001220
Project Duration	3 years
Gender Marker	GEN2
Total Budget	3,183,087 USD
Donors (funding sources)	Australian DFAT
Budget (annual budget)	1,225,476 USD
Expenditure recorded for the reporting period	1,225,476 USD
Expenditure recorded for the total project	2,742,230 USD
Project Manager's Name	Aminul Arifeen

1. Executive Summary (1000 characters maximum)

In 2025, the SPPS Programme demonstrated strong monitoring and advocacy support for social protection (SP) reforms, contributing to **CPD Outcome 1, Output 1.3**. Expanded coverage of Old Age and Disability Allowances reached **6.1 million and 3.5 million beneficiaries respectively**. Social protection schemes were consolidated to **95 programmes**, targeting systems were strengthened through interoperable NID-linked databases, and **41% of SP schemes adopted Government-to-Person (G2P) digital payments**, improving transparency and delivery efficiency.

Strategic policy actions were advanced to sustain reform momentum. The Cabinet Committee on Management (CMC) actively participated in the final evaluation of the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS), with the draft evaluation report now available. The **"Journey Towards an Equitable Social Protection – National Conference 2025"** laid the foundation for developing **NSSS 2026 and beyond**, while in partnership with the ILO, a National Social Insurance Scheme (NSIS) roadmap has been prepared to support policy advocacy and phased reform.

Engagement with NGOs, Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs), and media strengthened the application of the **Leave No One Behind (LNOB)** principle, with disability inclusion placed prominently in reform dialogue. Gender-responsive approaches were piloted in the SWAPNO project through application of gender good practice notes and qualitative methodologies examining agency, capability models, and multidimensional poverty.

Youth engagement was expanded through dedicated workshops, identifying unemployment, skills gaps, digital readiness, and safety as key priorities, and establishing a cohort of Youth SP Champions to inform future programming.

While political transition and leadership turnover delayed formal adoption of NSSS 2026+ and NSIS frameworks, strategic evidence, analytical tools, and draft reform roadmaps are now in place to support government decision-making in the next phase of reform implementation.

2. Progress Review

a) Key results achieved (2000 characters maximum)

In 2025, In 2025, SPPS Programme's strong M&E on the NSSS Action Plan implementation and advocacy to the CMC on social protection reforms impact on CPD Outcome 1 and Output 1.3 - expanded the Old Age and Disability Allowances to 6.1 and 3.5 million, respectivelyⁱ; SP programmes consolidated to 95 and targeting improvements using interoperable NID-linked systemsⁱⁱ; and increased G2P payments to 41% of all social protection schemesⁱⁱⁱ.

Evidence-based policymaking was reinforced through the final NSSS evaluation^{iv}; the National Conference on Social Protection 2025^v created space for presenting 22 social protection research papers, and they together shaped the architecture of NSSS 2026+; while, the SPPS and ILO partnership paved the way to form the MoLE's new Social Protection Unit^{vi} for developing the NSIS – an ABND process mapped out 14 priority worker programmes^{vii}, and drafted the NSIS roadmap^{viii}.

Gender equality and women's empowerment advanced via gender-responsive evidence^{ix} and ICVGD endline highlights^x demonstrating food security, income, and resilience, and SPPS inputs to the Women's Affairs Reform Commission^{xi} on universal social insurance, maternity protection and social pensions for women. LNOB was operationalized through the Disability SP Framework and Outlook 2030^{xii}, national disability dialogue^{xiii}, and structured youth engagement via "Youth Social Protection Champions."^{xiv}

Digitalization and innovation were strengthened through interoperability of NID-linked SP MISs and the SP dashboard^{xv}, and advisory support to the National Data Reform Taskforce^{xvi}. Political transition and delays in Cabinet decisions on NSSS 2026+/NSIS were managed through intensified CMC engagement, strategic policy advice, and decentralized consultations with line ministries and local administrations.

b) Output progress

Output statement	Baseline Value type	Indicators	Annual Targets	End of the project target	Progress	Means of verifications and comments to substantiate

						ate the selected response
Research and pilot-generated evidence available to and utilized by policymakers and other stakeholders	Not initiated	Incorporation of research recommendations into social protection policy (Persons with disabilities accessing social protection, targeting and selection, examination of options for expanding the fiscal space for universal allowances for old age, persons with disabilities, and social insurance, NID documentation)	Recommendations incorporated into gender and disability-responsive NSSS 2026+	Recommendations incorporated into gender and disability-responsive NSSS 2026+	Recommendations incorporated into gender and disability-responsive NSSS 2026+ through contribution towards institutionalizing evidence-based research into the NSSS 2026+ framework, focusing on fiscal space, disability, and youth inclusion. <i>(See Annex A: Progress Against Agreed Outcomes and Outputs)</i>	4 researches, OAA + Persons with Disabilities + NSIS policy proposal, NSSS 2026+ draft
	Absence of Bangladesh-specific evidence based on universal old age and persons with disability social protection	Availability, incorporation into policy, and dissemination of case studies for developing an evidence base for universal allowances for old age and persons with disability social protection	Policy briefs from the case study are widely shared	Policy briefs from the case study are widely shared	Policy briefs have been published on the national social protection website ^{xvii} and shared across inter-ministerial platforms, and thus fulfilling the target of making case-study evidence	Pilot design concept note, draft pilot design, final pilot design, pilot MIS reports, final pilot report, policy brief

		policies in Bangladesh.			widely available for policy incorporation . (See Annex A: Progress Against Agreed Outcomes and Outputs)	
Gender responsive policy advice and accountability tools are made available to the line ministries to demonstrate their accountability to social protection reforms	Government monitoring of social protection reforms is manual, and does not cover all areas of reform performance	Functional and utilized web-based social protection dashboard for improved monitoring of social protection reforms incorporated in the Annual Performance Agreement (APA)	NSSS 2026+ incorporates section on dashboard and revised M&E framework	NSSS 2026+ incorporates section on dashboard and revised M&E framework	SPPS developed and circulated the draft outline of NSSS 2026 and beyond ^{xviii} , which includes a section on dashboard and revised M&E framework. (See Annex A: Progress Against Agreed Outcomes and Outputs)	Meeting Minutes, Notes for the record, Workshop reports
	Gender Strategy and Action Plan exists; however, line ministries have a limited understanding of how to implement gender-responsive SP reforms	Strengthened key line ministries (Cabinet Division, GED, MoSW, MoF, MoLE) capacity for gender-responsive SP decision making	SSP policy harmonized and included gender-focused programs for children and women for effective and efficient impact and incorporated into NSSS 2026+	SSP policy harmonized and included gender-focused programs for children and women for effective and efficient impact and incorporated into NSSS 2026+	In 2025, SPPS transitioned from a limited ministerial understanding of gender-responsive reforms to harmonized policy integration, ensuring gender-focused programs are	Review of national policies, set of gender-focused indicators, targeted capacity building reports, integrated gender-responsive guideline, draft gender

					central to the NSSS 2026+. (See Annex A: Progress Against Agreed Outcomes and Outputs)	responsive NSSS 2026+
	Limited knowledge among key line ministries about key reform issues, specifically exclusion, social insurance, gender responsiveness mainstreaming, and Persons with Disabilities	Increase knowledge about reform priorities of 5 key line ministries (Cabinet Division, GED, MoSW, MoF, MoLE) with evidence of support from senior leadership to implement them	Line ministries demonstrate significantly increased capacity to sustain the reform effort	Line ministries demonstrate significantly increased capacity to sustain the reform effort	Line ministries now actively shape and champion SP reform priorities rather than only reacting to technical proposals. (See Annex A: Progress Against Agreed Outcomes and Outputs)	Training reports, dashboard reports, workshop proceedings, proposal inputs, NSSS Final Evaluation
Broadened knowledge base and influence of NGOs working for marginalized and excluded groups, including persons with disabilities in social protection decision-making	DPOs/OPDs are not included in the committees	Influence of non-state actors working for marginalized and excluded groups, including persons with disabilities in the social protection decision-making.	NSSS 2026+ includes the priorities and concerns of marginalized communities, including persons with disabilities. Lowest-income women-headed households in selected areas oriented on sustainable IGA pathways	NSSS 2026+ includes the priorities and concerns of marginalized communities, including persons with disabilities	In 2025, SPPS successfully transitioned from an "absence of non-state actor involvement" to a model of broadened influence, ensuring the priorities of marginalized groups—specifically persons with disabilities (PWDs)—are integrated	Meeting Minutes, Notes for the record, Workshop reports

					into the NSSS 2026+. (See Annex A: Progress Against Agreed Outcomes and Outputs)	
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(See Annex A for detailed Progress Against Agreed Outcomes and Outputs)

3. Communications, visibility, and partnerships (1000 characters maximum)

The SPPS Programme maintained strong visibility and engagement in 2025 through its Cabinet Division's website and knowledge portal, where the key publications, podcasts, conference reports, disability framework, NSIS materials, and budget analyses are hosted. The National Conference on Social Protection 2025, the Youth Perspectives on the Future of Social Protection workshop, Social Insurance Forum, disability-inclusive IDPD event, and OPD open call were covered via web features and social media cross-posting in coordination with UNDP CO communications. SPPS also supported NIMC's disability-inclusive media training and contributed to policy dialogues with CPD/FES, WFP, UNAIDS and others, further amplifying outreach.

Short list of key URLs:

1. Project Website
2. Infographics <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/category/resources/inforaphics/>
3. Policy Briefs <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/category/resources/brief/>
4. Podcasts <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/category/resources/podcast/>
5. National Conference on Social Protection 2025
<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1DFgZsLFGb/>
6. Social Insurance Forum <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/economy/bangladesh-needs-to-introduce-social-insurance-for-all-not-social-safety-net-cpd>
7. Disability-inclusive IDPD event
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/397989/bangladesh-calls-for-stronger-action-on-disability>
8. NIMC's disability-inclusive media training <https://www.undp.org/bangladesh/news/undp-and-nimc-join-forces-promote-disability-inclusion-through-media>

On partnerships, the Programme worked closely with the Cabinet Division, GED, MoSW, MoF, MoLE, UNICEF, ILO, EU, WFP, UNAIDS and multiple OPDs/NGOs; no new cash co-financing was mobilized in 2025, but substantial in-kind and technical contributions were leveraged through joint events, research collaboration and shared DP platforms (e.g., LCG and EU repository).

4. Project risks and mitigation measures (1000 characters maximum)

With the change of government through the February 2026 election, the new leadership may bring shifts in national and socioeconomic priorities, resulting from different political agendas, budget reallocations, or evolving development goals. Specifically, the new government's prioritization of universal family cards over lifecycle-based consolidation may necessitate realignment of the NSSS with national policy

priorities, as set in the government's policy. In anticipation of potential challenges during the change of government in August 2024, a project risk was already in place. In the current scenario, the project will take the following mitigation measures:

- Secure "buy-in" by aligning NSSS goals with the new government's 180-day action plan.
- Technical advocacy to map the new government's "Family Cards" pledges onto the NSSS lifecycle framework to ensure policy coherence.
- Engage veteran civil servants as "Policy advocate" for new decision-makers.

5. Lessons Learned (800 characters maximum)

The 2025 experience reaffirmed that:

- High-level institutional anchoring (Cabinet Division/CMC) is pivotal to sustaining multi-ministry reforms through political and leadership changes.
- Digitalization (NID-linked G2P, dashboard) can both expand coverage and expose structural issues (ghost beneficiaries, exclusion); systems and political will must be in place to act on these findings.
- Flexible planning (DEX backstopping, virtual engagement) helped manage the political and bureaucratic disruptions, capacity gaps in line ministries, and local government tools (dashboard, ASP guidelines, NSIS roadmap, ABCD of SP, SP Toolkit) must be accompanied by simple briefs and tailored training.
- Finally, deliberate engagement of OPDs, women's groups, youth, and other marginalized constituencies is necessary to identify safeguarding and LNOB risks early and feed their perspectives into policy discussions.

6. Way Forward (800 characters maximum)

In the next six months, the focus will be on consolidation and handover. SPPS will support Cabinet Division and GED to complete the NSSS final evaluation, draft NSSS 2026+ (including gender, disability, youth, and migrant lenses), and finalize the NSIS roadmap for GoB consideration. Selective evidence from research (urban poverty, gender good practices, disability, CODI, budget analysis, SDG localization, youth consultations) will be distilled into short briefs and used in targeted dialogues with key ministries and OPDs/NGOs. At the same time, ownership of core tools (dashboard, ASP guidelines, governance arrangements) will be reinforced, and a clear transition/knowledge-handover package will be prepared for the Government and development partners. To strengthen alliances, SPPS will deepen LCG/DP coordination, systematically engage new parliamentarians on SP priorities, and leverage NIMC and media partnerships in future efforts to promote inclusive development and social accountability. Finally, it will consolidate a clear reform agenda and theory of change to inform the design of a successor programme.

Priority actions for the project and other teams before the next reporting cycle.

Issue/observation	Action to be taken	Responsible	Timeline
Need for timely adoption of NSSS 2026+	Support the Cabinet Division/CMC to finalize the evaluation,	SPPS & Cabinet Division	May 2026

	consolidate recommendations, and package inputs for the new government's decisions.		
The NSIS roadmap is to be finalized for national dissemination, and the draft is ready to be placed before the government's approval.	Complete and validate the NSIS roadmap (including integration of existing schemes and implementation options) and hand it over to the Cabinet Division, clearly indicating next steps for GoB follow-up beyond SPPS.	SPPS and ILO	May 2026
Need for concise policy briefs, case notes, and clearer concepts (OAA exclusion, SPPS impact, single vs social registry, etc.)	Produce a small set of concise knowledge products: (i) OAA policy brief (coverage, exclusion, options); (ii) 1–2 SPPS policy-impact case notes (e.g., universal disability allowance, NID–G2P & consolidation); (iii) 1–2 issue briefs from existing studies; and all archived and shared with GoB.	SPPS Project Team	May 2026
Communications, outreach, and knowledge uptake still need strategic anchoring	Through the Advocacy, Communications & KM consultant: deliver (i) an SPPS advocacy & communication strategy, (ii) a simple stakeholder email list, and (iii) update sharing key SPPS publications, events, and evaluation findings with GoB, DPs, NGOs, and the research community.	SPPS Project Team and Advocacy, Communications & KM consultant	May 2026

Transition and closure require clear documentation and communication	A clear transition/knowledge-handover package will be prepared for the Government and development partners	UNDP CO, SPPS Team	June 2026
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7. Annexures

Annex A: Progress Against Agreed Outcomes and Outputs Alignment with the Results Framework

Outcome: Social Protection System Strengthening

Output – 2: Research and pilot-generated evidence available to and utilized by policymakers and other stakeholders		
Indicators	Target for 2025	SSPS Program Contribution in Progress
Incorporation of research recommendations into social protection policy (Persons with disabilities accessing social protection, targeting and selection, examination of options for expanding the fiscal space for universal allowances for old age, persons with disabilities, and social insurance, NID documentation)	Recommendations incorporated into gender and disability-responsive NSSS 2026+	In 2025, SPPS contributed to institutionalizing evidence-based research into the NSSS 2026+ framework, focusing on fiscal space, disability, and youth inclusion. Policy Evidence and Fiscal Space The program produced high-level policy briefs on <i>Land Development Tax (LDT)</i>^{xix} and <i>Labour Migration</i>^{xx}, providing pathways for domestic resource mobilization and institutional reform. SPPS further provided strategic advisory to the White Paper on the State of Bangladesh Economy^{xxi} and the National Task Force, ensuring social protection remains a pillar of equitable development. Strategic Dialogues and Universalism: SPPS refined the feasibility of Universal Social Protection through technical dialogues with CPD and ILO^{xxii}. By applying the ILO Social Protection Floor Calculator, the team provided robust financing models for old-age, disability, and maternity allowances, aligning them with national commitments from the 2025 <i>National Conference on Social Protection</i>^{xxiii}. Inclusion and LNOB: Disability: Partnering with the Ministry of Social Welfare, SPPS empowered 10 Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) to present successful practices at a <i>National Symposium</i>^{xxiv}, directly informing disability-responsive policy. Youth: The program institutionalized <i>Youth Social Protection Champions</i>^{xxv}, creating a network that provided life-cycle-based recommendations for the next-generation NSSS. SDG Localization:

Output – 2: Research and pilot-generated evidence available to and utilized by policymakers and other stakeholders		
		A joint field <i>assessment</i>^{xxvi} in Ulipur, Kurigram (SDGs 4, 5, 16) identified climate-induced vulnerabilities, such as recurrent flooding, as critical factors for improving beneficiary selection and community-driven planning. Recommendations from the above and also from the Final NSSS evaluation is being incorporated with a draft outline^{xxvii} for NSSS 2026 and beyond already been developed and circulated.
Availability, incorporation into policy, and dissemination of case studies for developing an evidence base for universal allowances for old age and persons with disability social protection policies in Bangladesh.	Policy briefs from the case study are widely shared	In 2025, SPPS contributed to a robust knowledge base, delivering high-impact analytical tools to inform universal old-age and disability protection. Urban Poverty and Lifecycle-Based Recommendations: The brief <i>Understanding Urban Poverty and Strengthening Social Protection</i>^{xxviii} addresses the unique vulnerabilities of the urban poor, such as informal employment and high living costs. It advocates for expanding lifecycle-based programs—including Old Age and Disability allowances—into urban centers. Key recommendations emphasize digital registries and Adaptive Social Protection to build urban resilience against economic and climate shocks. Fiscal Analysis and Strategic Budgeting: SPPS finalized a comprehensive analysis of the FY 2025–26 Social Protection Budget^{xxix}. This report serves as a critical evidence tool for policymakers, identifying allocation gaps and providing a roadmap for resource mobilization to support the transition toward universal coverage for the elderly and persons with disabilities. Dissemination and Impact: These findings have been published on the national social protection website^{xxx} and shared across inter-ministerial platforms, fulfilling the target of making case-study evidence widely available for policy incorporation.

Outcome: Governance System Strengthened

Output – 3: Gender-responsive strategy including policy advice and accountability tools are made available to the line ministries to demonstrate their accountability for social protection reforms		
Indicators	Target for 2025	SSPS Program Contribution in Progress
Functional and utilized web-based social protection dashboard for improved monitoring of social protection reforms incorporated in the Annual Performance Agreement (APA).	NSSS 2026+ incorporates a section on the dashboard and revised M&E framework	In 2025, SPPS successfully transitioned government monitoring from manual processes toward an institutionalized, digitalized M&E framework, directly informing the NSSS 2026+ and national statistical reforms. Institutionalizing Digital Monitoring (NSSS 2026+): SPPS developed and circulated the draft outline^{xxxi} for the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) 2026 and beyond, which now features a dedicated chapter on M&E. This strategic inclusion formalizes the shift toward dashboard-based monitoring and system-wide performance tracking. By identifying existing gaps and proposing structured feedback mechanisms, the framework ensures that individual programs and the broader social security system are monitored through an evidence-informed, result-oriented lens. Advancing Data Governance and Statistical Reform: SPPS played a pivotal role in national data integrity by providing policy advice to the Data Reform Taskforce^{xxxii} and the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). Key contributions include: Macroeconomic Credibility: Supporting the BBS National Accounting Wing in reviewing indicators and recalculating the national GDP to ensure a credible baseline for social spending. Strategic Partnerships: Collaborating with UNICEF for the NSSS final review^{xxxiii}. Accountability and Transparency: These engagements have strengthened the institutional and legal frameworks of the BBS, promoting greater public access to data for researchers and development partners.
Strengthened key line ministries/ divisions (Cabinet	SSP policy harmonized and included gender-focused	In 2025, SPPS transitioned from a limited ministerial understanding of gender-responsive reforms to harmonized policy integration, ensuring gender-focused

Output – 3: Gender-responsive strategy including policy advice and accountability tools are made available to the line ministries to demonstrate their accountability for social protection reforms		
Indicators	Target for 2025	SSPS Program Contribution in Progress
Division, GED, MoSW, MoF, MoLE) capacity for gender-responsive social protection decision-making.	programs for children and women for effective and efficient impact and incorporated into NSSS 2026	programs are central to the NSSS 2026+. Line ministries are now actively shaping and championing SP reform priorities rather than only reacting to technical proposals. Evidence-Based Learning and Practice: SPPS bridged the gap between policy and practice by synthesizing field evidence from the SWAPNO project. Two major field visits to Rangpur^{xxxiv}, Cumilla, and Chandpur^{xxxv} resulted in qualitative reports and the development of a Gender Good Practice Note. Additionally, SPPS disseminated an ICVGD Phase II Endline infographic^{xxxvi}, providing ministries with visual, tangible evidence of how social protection drives women’s economic empowerment and household resilience. Institutional Capacity Building: The National Conference on Social Protection 2025^{xxxvii} served as a massive capacity-building platform for 41 ministries. A dedicated session on gender, featuring the Senior Secretary of MoWCA, facilitated high-level learning on integrating gender-responsive approaches. By drawing on practical lessons from SWAPNO and ICVGD, the conference strengthened cross-ministerial capacity for gender-responsive decision-making and policy harmonization. Strategic Policy Influence: SPPS achieved a significant milestone by providing technical input to the Women’s Affairs Reform Commission^{xxxviii}. The Commission’s final report^{xxxix} (published April 2025) officially incorporated SPPS recommendations on: universal social insurance and maternity insurance, Employment injury protection for women, and social pensions specifically tailored for women’s needs. Accountability and Harmonization: By embedding these gender-transformative elements into national reform reports and the NSSS 2026+ outline^{xl}, SPPS has equipped line ministries with the necessary strategies to move beyond theoretical understanding toward effective, efficient implementation.

Output – 3: Gender-responsive strategy including policy advice and accountability tools are made available to the line ministries to demonstrate their accountability for social protection reforms		
Indicators	Target for 2025	SSPS Program Contribution in Progress
Increased knowledge about reform priorities of 5 key line ministries/ divisions (Cabinet Division, GED, MoSW, MoF, MoLE) with evidence of support from senior leadership to implement them.	Line ministries demonstrate significantly increased capacity to sustain the reform effort	In 2025, SSPS successfully transitioned government monitoring from manual processes toward an institutionalized, digitalized M&E framework^{xli}, directly informing the NSSS 2026+ and national statistical reforms. Institutionalizing Digital Monitoring (NSSS 2026+): SSPS developed and circulated the draft outline^{xlii} for NSSS 2026 and beyond, which now features a dedicated chapter on M&E. This strategic inclusion formalizes the shift toward dashboard-based monitoring and system-wide performance tracking. By identifying existing gaps and proposing structured feedback mechanisms, the framework ensures that individual programs and the broader social security system are monitored through an evidence-informed, result-oriented lens. Advancing Data Governance and Statistical Reform: SSPS played a pivotal role in national data integrity by providing policy advisory to the Data Reform Taskforce and the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). Key contributions include: National Statistics Reform: Assisting the eight-member expert taskforce^{xliii} in redefining macroeconomic indicators and enhancing the transparency of data used for social protection planning. Strategic Partnerships: Collaborating with UNICEF for the NSSS final review^{xliv} and partnering with the UNRC and the Bangladesh Statistical Association for the upcoming Statistics Conference. Accountability and Transparency: These engagements have strengthened the institutional and legal frameworks of the BBS, promoting greater public access to data for researchers and development partners.

Output – 4: Broadened knowledge base and influence of NGOs working for marginalized and excluded groups, including persons with disabilities in social protection decision-making		
Indicators	Target	SSPS Program Contribution in Progress
Influence of non-state actors working for marginalized and excluded groups, including persons with disabilities in the social protection decision-making.	NSSS 2026+ includes the priorities and concerns of marginalized communities, including persons with disabilities. Lowest-income women-headed households in selected areas oriented on sustainable IGA pathways	In 2025, SPPS successfully transitioned from an "absence of non-state actor involvement" to a model of broadened influence, ensuring the priorities of marginalized groups—specifically persons with disabilities (PWDs)—are integrated into the NSSS 2026+. Mainstreaming Highly Marginalized Groups: Disability-Inclusive Policy and Visibility: To celebrate IDPD 2025^{xlv}, SPPS and the Ministry of Social Welfare hosted a national symposium where 10 selected OPDs (including CDD and YPSA) presented their work directly to senior Cabinet and Ministry advisers. This "Open Call" model gave grassroots organizations a unique platform to influence high-level policy. Digital Accessibility and Media Advocacy: SPPS advanced the "Rights-Based" narrative through several innovative tools: Digital Inclusion: SPPS Contributed to the study^{xlvi} "Accessibility Matters," reviewing government digital services to inform policy decisions, ensuring digital transformation is accessible to all. Inclusive Media: Partnered with NIMC to train journalists, trained journalists and media professionals^{xlvii} to promote accurate, ethical, and rights-based reporting on disability. Focused on legal frameworks such as the RPPD Act 2013 and UNCRPD, the workshop established a network of 25 trained reporters committed to advancing disability-inclusive journalism. This pilot initiative marks the beginning of a nationwide series across all 64 districts to foster a media environment supportive of persons with disabilities. Accessible Policy: Published the first-ever audio version of the National Social Protection Framework^{xlviii} for PWDs and a podcast series^{xlix} to reach persons with visual impairments.

Output – 4: Broadened knowledge base and influence of NGOs working for marginalized and excluded groups, including persons with disabilities in social protection decision-making		
		Strategic Coordination: An UN-wide workshop hosted by SPPS aligned disability interventions with the UNCF and UNDIS Action Planⁱ, creating a shared roadmap for 2026–2027. Furthermore, by supporting the #EqualBangladesh workshopⁱⁱ, SPPS reinforced the leadership of youth with disabilities, ensuring the sustainability of advocacy efforts.

Provide links to the sources of evidence (based on entries described in Q2 and 3)

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- ⁱ NSSS M&E Dashboard (Social Protection Programme and Reform tracking) <https://mne.socialprotection.gov.bd/>
- ⁱⁱ Decisions of the 20th Central Management Committee (CMC) Meeting <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/PDF-20th-CMC-Meeting-Decisions-for-Website.pdf>
- ⁱⁱⁱ Journey Towards an Equitable Society - Social Security Budget Report 2025-26 <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Social-Security-Budget-Report-2025-26.pdf>
- ^{iv} Draft Final Review of National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) and Action Plan Phase II (2021-26) <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rjOi2nJuxeD2oQM7QU11TsDgGzAeS24Z/view?usp=sharing>
- ^v National Conference on Social Protection 2025 <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/conference/2025/>
- ^{vi} Notification - Ministry of Labour and Employment established Social Protection Unit <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Memo-Social-Protection-Unit-MoLE.jpeg>
- ^{vii} 14 priority programmes identified for workers to guide future policy formulation and costing <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/09/14-priority-programmes-identified-for-workers-to-guide-future-policy-formulation-and-costing/>
- ^{viii} Draft Roadmap for the National Social Insurance Scheme (NSIS) in Bangladesh <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tCr6V4PtFsmQz2N0rZ7PGHU8azqolsTF/view?usp=sharing>
- ^{ix} Qualitative Findings from the Field Visit to the SWAPNO Project Areas in Rangpur: Pirganj and Pirgacha Unions <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/06/qualitative-findings-from-the-field-visit-to-theswapno-project-areas-in-rangpur-pirganj-andpirgacha-unions/>
- ^x ICVGD Phase II Endline Highlights (2019–2025) <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2026/01/icvgd-phase-ii-endline-highlights-2019-2025/>
- ^{xi} Meeting on reforms on gender equality <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/04/meeting-on-reforms-on-gender-equality/>
- ^{xii} Social Protection Framework for Persons with Disabilities <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2024/11/social-protection-framework-for-persons-with-disabilities-in-bangladesh-draft/>
- ^{xiii} National Symposium on International Day of Persons with Disabilities International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2025 – Summary Report <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/IDPD-Symposium-Report.pdf>
- ^{xiv} Workshop Report on Youth Perspectives on the Future of Social Protection in Bangladesh <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/12/workshop-report-on-youth-perspectives-on-the-future-of-social-protection-in-bangladesh/>
- ^{xv} Minutes of Review meeting with the participation of focal point officers and technical representatives of Ministries/Departments to establish interoperability among social security programmes. (Single Registry MIS) <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Interoperitibility-review-meeting-with-the-participation-o.pdf>
- ^{xvi} Taskforce Formed to Reform Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/04/taskforce-formed-to-reform-bangladesh-bureau-of-statistics/>
- ^{xvii} National Social Protection Website of Bangladesh <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/>
- ^{xviii} National Social Security Strategy 2026 and Beyond <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zj4m0sxZdkXA7zUWE-9q4wG4XC0OHdO-/view?usp=sharing>
- ^{xix} Unlocking the Revenue Potential of Land Development Tax in Bangladesh: Governance Challenges and Reform Pathways <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/10/unlocking-the-revenue-potential-of-land-development-tax-in-bangladesh-governance-challenges-and-reform-pathways/>
- ^{xx} Strengthening Bangladesh's Labour Migration Institutions for Skilled and Competitive Migration <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/12/strengthening-bangladeshs-labour-migration-institutions-for-skilled-and-competitive-migration/>
- ^{xxi} Re-strategising the Economy and Mobilizing Resources for Equitable and Sustainable Development
- ^{xxii} Experts Push for Universal Pension to Fix Bangladesh's Fragmented Safety Net <https://cpd.org.bd/experts-push-for-universal-pension-to-fix-bangladeshs-fragmented-safety-net/>
- ^{xxiii} National Conference on Social Protection 2025 <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/conference/2025/>

- xxiv National Symposium on International Day of Persons with Disabilities International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2025 – Summary Report <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/IDPD-Symposium-Report.pdf>
- xxv Workshop Report on Youth Perspectives on the Future of Social Protection in Bangladesh https://plandiv.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/plandiv.portal.gov.bd/notices/6913b4c2_1320_4034_9b10_c1dec2e9788/Task-Force-Report_Final_11-Feb-2025-with-Cover.pdf
<https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/12/workshop-report-on-youth-perspectives-on-the-future-of-social-protection-in-bangladesh/>
- xxvi Local Collective Action for Accelerating SDGs <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2026/01/local-collective-action-for-accelerating-sdgs/>
- xxvii National Social Security Strategy 2026 and Beyond <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zj4m0sxZdkXA7zUWE-9q4wG4XC0OHdO-/view?usp=sharing>
- xxviii Policy Brief – Understanding Urban Poverty and Strengthening Social Protection for Urban Poor and Vulnerable Population <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/03/policy-brief-understanding-urban-poverty-and-strengthening-social-protection-for-urban-poor-and-vulnerable-population/>
- xxix Journey Towards an Equitable Society – Social Protection Budget In FY 2025-26 <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/07/journey-towards-an-equitable-society-social-protection-budget-in-fy-2025-26/>
- xxx National Social Protection Website of Bangladesh <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/>
- xxxi National Social Security Strategy 2026 and Beyond <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zj4m0sxZdkXA7zUWE-9q4wG4XC0OHdO-/view?usp=sharing>
- xxxii Taskforce Formed to Reform Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/04/taskforce-formed-to-reform-bangladesh-bureau-of-statistics/>
- xxxiii NSSS Final Review draft <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rjOi2nJuxeD2oQM7QUI1TsDgGzAeS24Z/view?usp=sharing>
- xxxiv Qualitative Findings from the Field Visit to the SWAPNO Project Areas in Rangpur: Pirganj and Pirgacha Unions <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/06/qualitative-findings-from-the-field-visit-to-theswapno-project-areas-in-rangpur-pirganj-andpirgacha-unions/>
- xxxv Negotiating Social Norms: Expanding Women’s Capabilities and Economic Agency <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/12/negotiating-social-norms-expanding-womens-capabilities-and-economic-agency/>
- xxxvi ICVGD Phase II Endline Highlights (2019–2025) <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2026/01/icvgd-phase-ii-endline-highlights-2019-2025/>
- xxxvii National Conference on Social Protection 2025 <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/conference/2025/>
- xxxviii Meeting on reforms on gender equality <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/04/meeting-on-reforms-on-gender-equality/>
- xxxix Women Affairs Commission’s Final Report <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g6W5n9BTX5bPK7X6ZRIAdmST0nr24juO/view?usp=sharing>
- xl National Social Security Strategy 2026 and Beyond <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zj4m0sxZdkXA7zUWE-9q4wG4XC0OHdO-/view?usp=sharing>
- xli NSSS M&E Dashboard (Social Protection Programme and Reform tracking) <https://mne.socialprotection.gov.bd/>
- xlii National Social Security Strategy 2026 and Beyond <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Zj4m0sxZdkXA7zUWE-9q4wG4XC0OHdO-/view?usp=sharing>
- xliii Taskforce Formed to Reform Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/04/taskforce-formed-to-reform-bangladesh-bureau-of-statistics/>
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- xlv National Symposium on International Day of Persons with Disabilities International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2025 – Summary Report <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/IDPD-Symposium-Report.pdf>
- xlvi Validation Workshop on the Review of Disability Inclusion in the Digital Ecosystem held on 25 November 2025 <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/11/validation-workshop-on-the-review-of-disability-inclusion-in-the-digital-ecosystem-held-on-25-november-2025/>

^{xlvii} Capacity Building Workshop on “Disability Inclusive Reporting for Media Professionals”
<https://socialprotection.gov.bd/2025/05/capacity-building-workshop-on-disability-inclusive-reporting-for-media-professionals/>

^{xlviii} Audio version of the Social Protection Framework for Persons with Disability
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LeZBejql985VeKenisZsHARpjM_au7o?usp=sharing

^{xlix} Podcast series <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/category/resources/podcast/Podcasts>
<https://socialprotection.gov.bd/category/resources/podcast/>

ⁱ UNDIS Disability Inclusion Action Plan
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1o9YCvdasvDr7SuRJsds4mnwZvJnoM25T/view?usp=sharing>

ⁱⁱ National Symposium on International Day of Persons with Disabilities International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2025 – Summary Report <https://socialprotection.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/IDPD-Symposium-Report.pdf>