

# Quarterly Progress Report

July – September 2021

**Title of Project: Knowledge for Development Management Phase II**

**Atlas Project ID: 00093428**

## List of Acronyms

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| K4DM Phase-II | Knowledge for Development Management Phase II            |
| ERD           | Economic Relations Division                              |
| UNDP          | United Nations development Programme                     |
| NPD           | National Project Director                                |
| NPM           | National Project Manager                                 |
| NIM           | National Implementation Modality                         |
| A2i           | Aspire to Innovation                                     |
| GEPDC         | Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation |
| TAPP          | Technical Assistance Project Proforma/Proposal           |
| NHDR          | National Human Development Report                        |
| PEP           | Policy Expert Pool                                       |
| LDC           | Least-Developed Country                                  |
| COVID-19      | Corona Virus   |
| ADP           | Annual Development Programme                             |
| SSC & TrC     | South-South and Triangular Cooperation                   |
| SDG           | Sustainable Development Goals                            |
| FYP           | Five Year Plan   |

## Project Information

|   |   |   |                  |
|---|---|---|------------------|
| <b>Funded by:</b>                             | UNDP Trac Fund, Seoul Policy Center (UNDP Korea) and GoB Fund   |   |                  |
| <b>Bangladesh National Counterparts:</b>      | Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh  |   |                  |
| <b>Partnerships:</b>                          | Prime Minister's Office<br>Ministry of Foreign Affairs<br>Ministry of Public Administration,<br>General Economic Division, Planning Commission, Ministry of Planning<br>Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment<br>Civil Aviation Authority<br>Aspire to Innovation (A2i)<br>BIDA<br>BEZA<br>BIGM<br>BPATC<br>Institute of Public Finance, Bangladesh (IPF)  |   |                  |
| <b>Project Locations:</b>                     | Dhaka, Bangladesh   |   |                  |
| <b>CPD Output:</b>                            | CPD Output 2.1: Civil society, interest groups, relevant government agencies and political parties have tools and knowledge to set agendas and to develop platforms for <i>building consensus on national issues</i>  |   |                  |
| <b>SP Output:</b>                             | SP Output 1.1.1 (Poverty): Capacities developed across the whole of government to integrate the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other international agreements in development plans and budgets, and to analyze progress towards the SDGs, using innovative and data-driven solutions<br>SP Output 1.2.2 (Governance): Enabling environment strengthened to expand public and private financing for the achievement of the SDG |   |                  |
| <b>SDG Target:</b>                            | SDG Target 17.3.1: Foreign direct investments (FDI), official development assistance and South-South Cooperation as a proportion of total domestic budget.  |   |                  |
| <b>Project Starting Date (DD/MM/YYYY):</b>    | 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021  |   |                  |
| <b>Original Completion Date (DD/MM/YYYY):</b> | 31 December 2023  | <b>Expected Completion Date (DD/MM/YYYY):</b> | 31 December 2023 |
| <b>Project Budget (USD):</b>                  | USD 3,148,900.00  | <b>Fund Received (USD):</b>                   | USD 1,028,000.00 |

## Narratives

|   |
|---|
| <p><b>Key Results achieved</b></p> <p>The K4DM project was signed in March 2021 and subsequently, TAPP was submitted to Socio-Economic Infrastructure Division of Planning Commission in the end of May 2021. But due to the priorities for extension of ongoing GOB projects by June and strict lockdown for COVID 19 situation in July and August, the Planning Commission couldn't initiate the process for approval of the K4DM Phase-II TAPP before September 2021. Therefore, K4DM Phase-II has not yet been started operations formally. With this challenge, the project has been able to achieve results in one of its major components during the reporting period-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNDP supported the Government of Bangladesh in finalizing the 'National Human Development Report (NHDR) 2020' through consultation and rigorous review by the Prime Minister's Office along with 16 other line ministries. The report will be published and launched to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the country's independence on 16 December 2021. The NHDR will help the policy makers to ensure that the country's on-going development is both equitable and people-centric, particularly in the context of LDC Graduation and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Gender/ Leaving No One Behind (if any)</b></p> <p><b>Gender</b></p> <p>A fundamental component of K4DM Phase-II is to drive greater gender equality and provide further opportunities, upskilling and career advancement for women in the ERD. In addition, gender equality is promoted across the gender divide with K4DM Phase-II encouraging institutions to promote a greater understanding of contemporary gender equality issues with programme participants. As the programme implementation has not started yet due to delay in approval of TAPP, no tangible result could not be achieved in this area within the reporting period.</p> <p><b>Leave No One Behind (LNOB)/Persons with Disabilities (PWD)</b></p> <p>N/A</p>  |
| <p><b>COVID-19 Responses (if any)</b></p> <p>N/A</p>  |
| <p><b>Innovation (if any)</b></p> <p>A web-based knowledge hub titled 'South-South Knowledge Hub' is in development process which will help the Government of Bangladesh in developing a center of excellence for knowledge generation and creating a space to share knowledge among the developing countries. The main purpose of this knowledge hub is to strengthen the SSC&amp;TrC issues by sharing policy recommendations and best practices on the platform both nationally and internationally including the UN system, development partners and private sector.</p>  |
| <p><b>Monitoring</b></p> <p>K4DM Phase-II management has taken specific measures (such as review of meeting minutes, event reports and questionnaire survey) to monitor the progress data against result indicators in the RRF and analyzed the progress of the project in achieving agreed project outputs. The project management</p>   |

has identified and taken necessary measures to manage the identified risks and maintained a risk log to keep track of the identified risks and actions taken. Within this quarter, the project team has captured relevant lessons and used to inform the management decisions. Quarterly Progress Reports for the first and second quarter of 2021 (January to March and April to June) have been developed and submitted to UNDP CO. The project has also completed Mid-Year Review.

### Project Risks & Mitigation Measures

| Sr | Project Risk   | Likelihood<br>(High/ Moderate/Low) | Mitigation Measure  |
|----|--|------------------------------------|---|
| 1  | <i>Delay in approval of TAPP:</i> The TAPP approval process has been delayed due to the repeated strict lockdowns and the routine procedures (approving the government project's DPP extension) of Planning Commission. Therefore, the longer approval process of the TAPP of K4DM Phase-II has delayed proper implementation of planned activities. | High                               | To address this risk, K4DM Phase-II pursued the issue with the senior management of ERD with both the Planning Minister and the State Minister of Ministry of Planning and the concerned Member (Secretary) of the Planning Ministry for quick approval of the TAPP. The outcomes of these meetings have helped to accelerate the approval process of the TAPP. |

### Project Issues & Remedial Actions

| Sr | Project Issue   | Remedial Action  |
|----|---|--|
| 1  | <i>Delay in approving the AWP:</i> As the Secretary of ERD has not agreed to approve the AWP before the approval of TAPP, therefore implementation of the project activities might be affected. | Alternative modes of executing some activities were explored. For example, K4DM Phase-II has been implementing programme activities on SSC&TrC using the budget from the seed fund provided by USPC Korea. |

### Lessons Learned

1. Collaboration through SSC& TrC programme may play a key role to effectively mobilise resources, identify where resource gaps exist and develop strategies to leverage private sector for alternative sources of knowledge and resources for SDG implementation.
2. Considering the context of the project approval process, planned activities and budget need to be revised in the fourth quarter.

## Indicator Progress

| <b>Output 1: Institutional approach for capacity building adopted</b>  |                 |   |  |                           |
|--|-----------------|---|--|---------------------------|
| <b>Indicator</b>   | <b>Baseline</b> | <b>EOP Target</b>                                   | <b>Annual Target (2021)</b>                        | <b>Progress (Q3-2021)</b> |
| <i>1.1.1: Number of formal training courses delivered by e-Centre for capacity development</i>   | 0 (2020)        | 13<br>(December 2023)                               | 3<br>(December 2021)                               | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>1.1.2: Number of follow-up courses provided by e-Centre for capacity development after formal training courses</i>  | 0 (2020)        | 13<br>(December 2023)                               | 3<br>(December 2021)                               | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>1.1.3: Number of government officials who attained a good understanding of contents delivered by e-Centre for capacity development</i>  | 0 (2020)        | 320<br>(Male:224,<br>Female: 96)<br>(December 2023) | 50<br>(Male: 35,<br>Female: 15)<br>(December 2021) | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>1.1.4: Number of early career government officials who attained a good understanding of gender equality and equity through a training course delivered by e-Centre for capacity development<sup>1</sup></i> | 0 (2020)        | 80<br>(Male: 56,<br>Female: 24)<br>(December 2023)  | 20<br>(Male: 14,<br>Female: 6)<br>(December 2021)  | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>1.1.5: Percentage of government officials participating in a training course at e-Centre for capacity development who have reflected their learning in their actual work after training</i>                 | 0% (2020)       | 46%<br>(December 2023)                              | 20%<br>(December 2021)                             | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <b>Output 2: Enabling environment for evidence-based policymaking strengthened</b>   |                 |   |  |                           |
| <b>Indicator</b>   | <b>Baseline</b> | <b>EOP Target</b>                                   | <b>Annual Target (2021)</b>                        | <b>Progress (Q3-2021)</b> |
| <i>1.2.1: Number of government officials who have a good understanding of data</i>   | TBD (2020)      | 165   | 40   | N/A (September 2021)      |

<sup>1</sup> Level of understanding: Based on the score that a participant will obtain in a short test after undertaking a training course; 69 and below = "Poor/ Inadequate understanding" and 70 and above = "Good understanding"

|  |                 |   |   |                           |
|--|-----------------|---|---|---------------------------|
| <i>analytics and evidence-based policymaking<sup>2</sup></i>   |                 | (Male: 116, Female: 49)<br>(December 2023)      | (Male: 28, Female: 12)<br>(December 2021)     |                           |
| <i>1.2.2: Number of data analytical outputs generated by a Centre for Data Analytics for evidence-based policymaking</i>   | 0 (2020)        | 19<br>(December 2023)                           | 3<br>(December 2021)                          | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>1.2.3: Number of government policies backed up by data generated through a Centre for Data Analytics</i>  | 0 (2020)        | 2<br>(December 2023)                            | 0<br>(December 2021)                          | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>1.2.4: Number of government records which have been stored in ERDPEDIA</i>  | 3,000 (2020)    | 3,300<br>(December 2023)                        | 50<br>(December 2021)                         | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>1.2.5: Number of subject matter experts available in Policy Expert Pool (PEP)</i>   | 0 (2020)        | 50<br>(Male: 25, Female: 25)<br>(December 2023) | 15<br>(Male: 8, Female: 7)<br>(December 2021) | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>1.2.6: Number of policy briefs published and shared with relevant ministries and other stakeholders</i>   | 0 (2020)        | 12<br>(December 2023)                           | 2<br>(December 2021)                          | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>1.2.7: Number of NHDR published by ERD</i>  | 0 (2020)        | 2<br>(December 2023)                            | 1<br>(December 2021)                          | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <b>Output 3: External resource mobilization capacity strengthened</b>  |                 |   |   |                           |
| <b>Indicator</b>   | <b>Baseline</b> | <b>EOP Target</b>                               | <b>Annual Target (2021)</b>                   | <b>Progress (Q3-2021)</b> |
| <i>2.1.1: To what extent External Resource Mobilization Strategy developed and adopted by ERD</i>  | 0 (2020)        | 3<br>(December 2023)                            | 1<br>(December 2021)                          | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>2.1.2: Number of Resource Mobilization plans developed by wings of ERD</i>  | 0 (2020)        | 9<br>(December 2023)                            | 2<br>(December 2021)                          | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>2.1.3: To what extent Bangladesh Branding Strategy developed by ERD for promotion of good practices in relation to national development within and outside Bangladesh</i> | 0 (2020)        | 2<br>(December 2023)                            | 0<br>(December 2021)                          | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>2.1.4: Number of funding commitments secured from development partners</i>  | 0 (2020)        | 3<br>(December 2023)                            | 1<br>(December 2021)                          | N/A (September 2021)      |

<sup>2</sup>Level of understanding: Based on the score that a participant will obtain in a short test after undertaking a training course; 69 and below = "Poor/ Inadequate understanding" and 70 and above = "Good understanding"

| <i>through international aid forum supported by the project</i>   |                 |  |   |                           |
|---|-----------------|--|---|---------------------------|
| <b>Output 4: Engagement of NRBs with the Government improved</b>  |                 |  |   |                           |
| <b>Indicator</b>  | <b>Baseline</b> | <b>EOP Target</b>                                  | <b>Annual Target (2021)</b>                     | <b>Progress (Q3-2021)</b> |
| <i>2.2.1: Number of NRBs who received services from NRB booths established in international airports in Bangladesh</i>                    | 0 (2020)        | 750<br>(Male: 525, Female: 225)<br>(December 2023) | 50<br>(Male: 35, Female: 15)<br>(December 2021) | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>2.2.2: Number of active NRBs listed on NRB Database</i>  | 0 (2020)        | 100<br>(Male: 80, Female: 20)<br>(December 2023)   | 20<br>(Male: 16, Female: 4)<br>(December 2021)  | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>2.2.3: Number of NRBs who attended conference/ convention held within and outside Bangladesh for promotion of national development</i> | 0 (2020)        | 220<br>(Male: 154, Female: 66)<br>(December 2023)  | 40<br>(Male: 28, Female: 12)<br>(December 2021) | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>2.2.4: Number of projects engaging NRBs in national development</i>  | 13 (2020)       | 35<br>(December 2023)                              | 5<br>(December 2021)                            | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <b>Output 5: Institutions and modality for South-South &amp; Triangular Cooperation strengthened</b>                                      |                 |  |   |                           |
| <b>Indicator</b>  | <b>Baseline</b> | <b>EOP Target</b>                                  | <b>Annual Target (2021)</b>                     | <b>Progress (Q3-2021)</b> |
| <i>2.3.1: Number of partnerships established by ERD for the promotion of SSTC</i>   | 2 (2020)        | 10<br>(December 2023)                              | 2<br>(December 2021)                            | 4 (September 2021)        |
| <i>2.3.2: Number of best practices of national development disseminated through international/ national SSTC events</i>                   | 0 (2020)        | 14<br>(December 2023)                              | 3<br>(December 2021)                            | N/A (September 2021)      |
| <i>2.3.3: Number of Bangladeshi youth members involved in international SSTC forums</i>   | 0 (2020)        | 170<br>(Male: 85, Female: 85)<br>(December 2023)   | 20<br>(Male: 10, Female: 10)<br>(December 2021) | N/A (September 2021)      |

## Activity Progress

| Output wise Progress against Activities  |   |   |   |                    |
|--|---|---|---|--------------------|
| <b>Output 1:</b>   |   |   |   |                    |
| Planned Activities (Three Months)  | Progress Achieved   | Challenges  | Planned Activities (Next Three Months)  | Financial Progress |
| N/A  | N/A   | Due to delay in approval of TAPP, implementation of any planned activities could not be initiated within the reporting period.  | It is expected that the TAPP will be approved by the end of October 2021 and the project will initiate implementation in full swing as per the revised AWP. | 6%                 |
| <b>Output 2:</b>   |   |   |   |                    |
| Planned Activities (Three Months)  | Progress Achieved   | Challenges  | Planned Activities (Next Three Months)  | Financial Progress |
| Activity 1.2.6: National Human Development Report (NHDR) published every alternative year. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft NHDR has been reviewed by the high-level policy makers and the draft has been finalized for printing.</li> </ul> | Reviewing the NHDR drafts by different ministries took longer time and therefore the printing and publication has been delayed. | The NHDR will be printed by mid-November 2021 and nationally launched on 16 December 2021.  | 70%                |
| <b>Output 3:</b>   |   |   |   |                    |
| Planned Activities (Three Months)  | Progress Achieved   | Challenges  | Planned Activities (Next Three Months)  | Financial Progress |
| N/A  | N/A   | Due to delay in approval of TAPP, implementation of any planned activities could not be initiated within the reporting period.  | It is expected that TAPP will be approved by the planning commission and the project will initiate implementation in full swing as per the revised AWP.     | N/A                |
| <b>Output 4:</b>   |   |   |   |                    |



| Planned Activities (Three Months)   | Progress Achieved   | Challenges   | Planned Activities (Next Three Months)  | Financial Progress |
|---|---|--|---|--------------------|
| N/A   | N/A   | Due to delay in approval of TAPP, implementation of any planned activities could not be initiated within the reporting period. | It is expected that TAPP will be approved by the planning commission and the project will initiate implementation in full swing as per the revised AWP.   | N/A                |
| <b>Output 5:</b>  |   |  |   |                    |
| Planned Activities (Three Months)   | Progress Achieved   | Challenges   | Planned Activities (Next Three Months)  |                    |
| <p><b>Activity 2.3.1:</b> SSTC Knowledge Centre and Knowledge Accelerator Lab</p> <p><b>Activity 2.3.8:</b> Organize periodic convention, conference or event regarding SSTC collaboration and knowledge-sharing issues at home and abroad.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ An IT firm has been hired to develop ‘SSTC Knowledge Hub’ utilizing the RoK fund.</li> <li>✓ Two follow-up meetings with APC Colombia held to strengthen partnership regarding development of effective monitoring system of country-led initiatives of SSC&amp;TrC issues.</li> <li>✓ One meeting held between Bureau for Policy and Programme Support of UNDP New York and ERD, where ERD has been given the responsibility to organize an action dialogue for engaging private sector in SDG implementation.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The firm hiring process took longer time than stipulated.</li> </ul>                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ To launch the knowledge hub in the ERD by December 2021.</li> <li>✓ To organize an action dialogue for engaging private sector in SDG implementation.</li> </ul> | 92%                |

## Financial Progress

Currency: USD

(As of 30 September 2021)

| Output             | Total Budget<br>(2021) | Allocated Budget<br>(Q2: 2021) | Expenditure<br>(Q2: 2021) | Cumulative<br>Expenditure<br>(Q1+Q2: 2021) | Balance<br>(Cumulative) | Delivery Rate<br>(Cumulative) |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Output 1:          | 54,000                 | 4,000                          | 3,093.00                  | 3,093.00                                   | 50,907.00               | 6%                            |
| Output 2:          | 104,050                | 25,000                         | 18,304.00                 | 72,931.00                                  | 31,119.00               | 70%                           |
| Output 3:          | 35,500                 | 4,000                          | -                         | -  | 35,500.00               | 0                             |
| Output 4:          | 22,000                 | 4,000                          | -                         | -  | 22,000.00               | 0                             |
| Output 5:          | 12,500                 | 7,000                          | 7,087.00                  | 11,500.00                                  | 1,000.00                | 92%                           |
| Output 6:          | 121,950                | 40,000                         | 29,468.00                 | 80,809.00                                  | 41,141.00               | 66%                           |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>350,000</b>         | <b>84,000</b>                  | <b>57,952.00</b>          | <b>168,333.00</b>                          | <b>181,667.00</b>       | <b>48%</b>                    |

## Annex

N/A