United Nations Development Programme

Bangladesh Country
Initiation Plan (IP)

Project Title: IP Transformative Economic Policy Programme (TEPP) - II

Expected UNSDCF/CPD Outcome(s): UNSDCF Outcome 1: By 2026, more people in Bangladesh, particularly the most vulnerable and marginalised from all gender and social groups, and those from lagging districts benefit from sustainable livelihood and decent work opportunities resulting from responsible, inclusive, sustainable, green, and equitable economic development.
Expected CPD Output (s): CPD Output 1.1: The Government is supported to design and implement conducive policies, regulatory framework, and SDG financing governance mechanism to attract investment from diversified sources in labor-intensive, responsible, and green economic sectors.

Initiation Plan Start/End Dates: 01 July 2024 to 31 December 2025

Implementing Partner: UNDP Bangladesh

Brief Description

While graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) status will be a testament to Bangladesh's developmental progress, it will bring various challenges, requiring adroit policy responses to manage the transition and prepare, especially for the loss of LDC-specific trade preferences. If Bangladesh can successfully navigate and mitigate any adverse implications for its export trade following its graduation from the LDC status, the transition should not precipitate major economic consequences, but will rather represent a natural progression in economic development.

The Ministry of Commerce (MoC) will play a crucial role in the post-LDC scenario, despite facing limited resources—encompassing human, financial, and technical capacities—and programmatic support. The Transformative Economic Policy Programme (TEPP) project, funded by the UK government, aims to bridge these gaps, aligning closely with national priorities for a smooth LDC graduation, particularly on Bangladesh's trade policy and trade negotiation skills, inter-ministerial coordination on compliance issues, the private sector's competitiveness, and evidence-based policy initiatives.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) will also play a crucial role in supporting ongoing growth and economic development and reaping potential benefits from the LDC graduation. In an evolving context, Bangladesh will need to improve investment facilitation, retention, and aftercare services to attract more FDI. This project, through the Research and Analytics Unit (RAU), anchored in the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) of the Prime Minister's Office will also support evidence-based policy reforms for improved investment climate in Bangladesh.

Given the fluid political situation of the country, with an Interim Government installed to hold free and fair elections, it is critical that the management and implementation teams for this IP use a flexible programming approach to manage the uncertainties of the situation. This will enable UNDP to maximise on opportunities and entry points, as well as revise identified sub-outputs and/or activities to correspond to changes in government and the context in contributing to the identified outcome and outputs.

Programme Period: 01 July 2024 to 31 December 2025

Quantum Project Number: 01002809

Quantum Output Number: N/A

Gender Marker: GEN2

Total allocated resources:

Fund Source	Approved Budget
FCDO: TEPP II	USD 5,016,838.93 (Equivalent GBP 3,960,000.00)
FCDO: TEPP I (Carryover)	USD 127,088.11
TRAC I	USD 150,000.00
Total	USD 5,293,927.04

DocuSigned by:
C498F59C1358451...

Cleared by: Sonali Dayaratne, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Bangladesh

DocuSigned by:
AEE468B55716409...

Approved by: Stefan Liller, Resident Representative, UNDP Bangladesh

I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Preparing for a smooth LDC graduation is now considered one of the utmost national priorities. The proposed project not only aligns with national priorities but also effectively complements the whole of the government approach as the project design takes into cognisance of initiatives and activities of various other ministries and agencies that have impacts on trade competitiveness and investment climate. The preparation for LDC graduation means progress will have to be made on every front.

The project is expected to bolster Bangladesh's competitiveness in exports by establishing an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism on compliance issues and awareness building and preparation of the private sector on trade policy and LDC graduation-related issues and support the country in making evidence-based economic policy to improve the overall investment climate. By doing so, it directly contributes to several SDGs, especially those related to gender equality (SDG 5), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), industry, innovation, and infrastructure (SDG 9), reduced inequalities (SDG 10), strong institutions (SDG 16) and partnerships for the goals (SDG 17).

The project is fully aligned with the FCDO's Transformative Economic Policy Programme (TEPP), which is their main economic policy programme in Bangladesh. The programme integrates seamlessly into the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022-26, the UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD) 2022-2026, and the Strategic Plan (SP) 2022-25.

Against this backdrop, IP TEPP II will serve as an important platform to complement all efforts on trade- and investment-related support for LDC graduation. During the preparation of this project, UN agencies operating in Bangladesh, as well as those headquartered elsewhere such as UNCTAD, UNOHRLLS, and ITC, have been consulted.

The recent student movement and shift in the country's political landscape highlight a concerted effort to enhance institutional effectiveness and inter-ministerial coordination, crucial for the country's transition from LDC status. The recently formed interim government has focused on reforms including restructuring key agencies to boost efficiency and effectiveness. It is also expected that they will emphasize on streamlining operations and improving collaboration across ministries, particularly those involved in trade, investment, and economic development.

IP TEPP II embraces a flexible programming approach that aligns with the predefined broad outcome and outputs yet allows flexibility in shaping specific activities throughout the implementation period. The commitment to flexible sub-outputs, activities and strategies will ensure that the project remains dynamic, relevant, and effectively aligned with the evolving needs of Bangladesh's economic landscape. Therefore, the Theory of Change (ToC)[1] of IP TEPP II in the annex A outlines a strategic approach to ensure the country's smooth LDC graduation with momentum and robust integration into the global economy.

It is to be noted that Bangladesh's LDC graduation path is unique in many ways. While there are a few countries that have managed graduation smoothly, none of them at the time of graduation or currently have a large population, labour force, and relatively large share of manufacturing with a concentration in exports. Hence, it will not be easy to learn from the experiences of those graduates. However, the team will look at other middle-income countries which share some of the aforementioned attributes.

[1] MoC and UNDP are working together for the formulation and approval of a multi-year National Implementation Modality (NIM) project. The IP is for 18 months ending on 31 December 2025 to ensure timely implementation of interventions. The IP will be inactive once the Project Document (ProDoc) and Technical Assistance Project Proposal (TAPP) for the NIM project are approved by the government. The ToC is aligned with the proposed NIM project. As this is a policy support initiative, outcomes and outputs may not be immediately visible during the IP. Nevertheless, progress will be tracked through quarterly reports, annual reviews, and qualitative assessments with government partners, allowing for necessary adjustments at the intervention level.

LDC graduation provides an opportunity to diversify the economy, engender competitiveness, and to further advance economic inclusion. Thus, this IP can play a critical role in shaping the future economic development of Bangladesh. The IP will contribute to CPD Outcome 1: By 2026, more people in Bangladesh, particularly the most vulnerable and marginalised from all gender and social groups, and those from lagging districts benefit from sustainable livelihood and decent work opportunities resulting from responsible, inclusive, sustainable, green28, and equitable economic development.

The project will focus on four outputs.

1. Trade policy and negotiation capacity strengthened;
2. Government institutional structures on trade policy assessed to improve effectiveness and coordination;
3. Engagement with the private sector improved through regular consultation on business and trade policies and investment climate; and
4. New research and evidence generated to support effective economic policy-making and institutional reforms.

Output 1: Trade Policy and Negotiation Capacity Strengthened

As an LDC, Bangladesh has enjoyed unilateral trade preferences in almost all major export destinations, eliminating the need to pursue exporting opportunities through bilateral or regional trade agreements like many other developing countries. When trade preferences are granted unilaterally (i.e., without reciprocity), engaging in negotiated free trade agreements becomes less of an imperative (or, even not rational), meaning the development of elaborate negotiation capacities has not been prioritised. Furthermore, despite having one of the most protected trade regimes globally, with average tariff rates significantly higher than that of many comparator countries, Bangladesh has sustained high economic growth for several decades. Consequently, there was little urgency to reform and strengthen trade policy mechanisms to support economic growth.

Given its socio-economic situation as recently as the late 2000s, Bangladesh qualified for LDC graduation within a relatively short period, pushing it into the unprecedented challenge of transitioning from zero-tariff market access to a regime with very high tariffs post-graduation. Therefore, strengthening trade policy and negotiation capacity-building constitutes one critical component of supporting Bangladesh in the LDC graduation process.

To achieve this output, the project, in consultation with MoC, will create a pool of trade policy and negotiation experts comprising representatives from key government ministries and affiliated institutions, local think tanks, and private sector associations. The pool will also include lawyers, especially those with trade-related legal expertise since the international trade negotiations take place within a legal framework. This pool will be trained through customised residential in-country workshops, short courses offered by reputed international organisations/institutions, and learning missions to gain first-hand experiences of best practices in other countries and/or shared in global forums offered by international organisations. The following issues will be taken into consideration during the creation of the pool.

- The size of the pool is proposed to be around 50 people, a number deemed reasonable considering that policy and negotiation training needs are diverse in nature, and not every member of the pool is required to attend all the training workshops and courses offered as part of this programme. The project will strive for 50% female representation in the pool. In sub-groups where this becomes challenging, the project will ensure at least one-third female representation.
- Of 50 people, 20% (i.e., 10 out of 50) will be allocated to senior- to mid-level staff from local think tanks, business associations and legal professionals to build a support network on trade policy and negotiation and enable spillover effects.
- The rest 80% (i.e., 40 out of 50) of the pool will be for government officials. Here, 75%-70% (i.e., 30-28 out of 40) will be for mid to junior-level officers. This approach will foster a cadre of skilled professionals who will continue to contribute to this field in the future. The remaining

25%-30% (i.e., 10-12 out of 40) will be for senior officials (e.g., joint secretary and above)., ensuring a blend of experience and fresh perspectives within the pool.

- Based on some criteria, the officials will be selected from MoC and other key ministries and their affiliated institutions such as the Ministry of Public Administration (MoPA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Economic Relations Division (ERD), Bangladesh Planning Commission, Bangladesh Bank, Ministry of Industries, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture, National Board of Revenue (NBR), Bangladesh Trade and Tariff Commission (BTTC), Export Promotion Bureau (EPB), Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI), Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), etc. The government ministries and affiliated institutions will be selected based on their relevance and role in the trade policy and negotiations.
- There will be a provision for co-opt to allow future inclusion of additional members to the pool if necessary.

Output 2: Government institutional structures on trade policy assessed to improve effectiveness and coordination

Despite the Ministry of Commerce (MoC) holding the mandate for trade policy, many aspects of trade policy are under the remit of other ministries and government agencies. For example, product standards issues, that are crucial for the export performance of non-RMG sectors, are handled by the Ministry of Industries. Attracting FDI for the export sector falls under the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA); trade negotiations are complemented by efforts from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; compliance with labour laws is overseen by the Ministry of Labour; the implementation of tariff policy is managed by the National Board of Revenue; environmental compliance is under the purview of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change; while industry-specific compliance, such as the CETP of the Savar Tannery Estate, is addressed by the respective ministries, with the Ministry of Industries as an example.

The interconnectedness of these different aspects of trade policy means that the MoC's role extends beyond traditional trade policy and negotiation, encompassing coordination and harmonisation of efforts across the whole of government. A review of current MoC mechanisms for inter-ministerial coordination indicates that this aspect of the MoC's function requires further strengthening.

The government's institutional structure for trade policy needs to be reviewed to assess whether it is fit for purpose in the post-LDC era. The current structures evolved in an era where Bangladesh did not need to strike trade deals, enjoyed special and differential treatment as an LDC on many aspects of international trade. However, as LDC graduation approaches, the policy landscape is changing rapidly. Bangladesh needs to reform its tariff and subsidy regime, strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights, engage in trade negotiations with various countries and increase competitiveness in domestic markets. The government needs the right institutional structures to be in place to effectively respond to these emerging needs and challenges.

In order to support this, the project will commission an expert committee to review the institutional structure, remit and capacity of various government ministries and agencies related to trade policy and recommend changes to create a right-fit structure. The committee will produce a formal report for the government with its assessment and recommendations. The project will also establish formal and regular inter-ministerial/ inter-agency coordination meetings to ensure diligent follow-up on reform implementation and compliance with regulatory standards.

Output 3: Engagement with the private sector improved through regular consultation on business and trade policies and investment climate

The MoC serves as the focal point for the private sector and other stakeholders, including workers, on issues related to international trade and LDC graduation and must maintain strong engagements with them. This engagement will improve coordination with the private sector through regular consultation and information exchange on trade barriers, regulatory barriers, investment climate, trade agreements, export promotional measures, labour standards, product standards, and supporting specific exporter groups (e.g., women traders, SME exporters with new products, etc.) with specialised inputs.

This will support the private sector in their preparation and adjustment to the changing trade landscape. Accommodating and responding to the private sector's specific requests and concerns through the consultative process will ensure that their needs are directly addressed, fostering a more responsive and supportive environment for their growth and adaptation to LDC graduation challenges. The following principles will be followed in engaging with the private sector:

- The topics for discussion will be finalized after consultation with MoC and private sector associations. These will be demand-led and can include but will not be limited to post-LDC trade preferences and other provisions, significance of product standards, changes in rules of origin provisions in different markets, and export incentives.
- At least 20% of the consultations will focus on issues critical for women entrepreneurs/ women-led businesses/ businesses that employ a large number of women. The focus will be on understanding and addressing key barriers and leveraging initiatives like the SheTrades Bangladesh Hub.
- Leveraging and equipping the private sector for an inclusive and sustainable graduation will be a key mandate for these discussions. There will be a special focus in the discussion on labour standards, women's employment, tariff measures, working conditions, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) compliance, and their impact on trade policy.
- The PIU will act as the facilitator for these meetings, ensuring that all discussions are well-informed by high-quality background notes, technical papers, and notes as appropriate.
- The project will ensure diverse participation from the private sector, ensuring a good mix of large corporations, SMEs, and women-owned businesses from diverse sectors.
- The PIU will identify key issues raised during the consultations and proactively follow up on agreed next steps. It will keep records of all these meetings and their follow-up and proactively use them to inform policy development at appropriate times.
- The PIU will regularly monitor and assess the effectiveness of these engagements in improving private sector competitiveness and adjust as needed.

Output 04: New research and evidence generated to support effective economic policy-making and institutional reforms

As the preferential trade regimes change, proactive engagements with trade partners can generate improved and favourable systems for Bangladesh post-LDC graduation. High-quality policy research and regularly updated evidence will be key to producing appropriate and nimble responses to emerging challenges and opportunities. These can include background papers to support discussions with influential policymakers of partner countries to explore trade talk opportunities, undertaking analytical research in requesting adjustments/changes to existing trade preference provisions, generating trade gains for the country, and developing position papers supporting trade negotiations and engagements in various regional and international forums, including meetings and conferences organised by the United Nations and the World Trade Organization.

Other critical areas to develop research and evidence include research to inform policy decisions on the investment climate in the post-LDC period and research to measure and address the differential impacts of the implications of LDC graduation, especially on vulnerable groups, including women and youth.

This component of the project will minimise duplication of efforts, acknowledging that numerous studies have already been conducted and are ongoing in the context of Bangladesh's transition from LDC status. Therefore, the focus will be on generating evidence on new or emerging issues, building upon the current body of knowledge. Research and analytical work under this stream will be undertaken only in instances where it adds genuine value, optimising resources and ensuring that the project's contributions are both unique and impactful.

Based on the above, the interventions for achieving the 4th output include the following:

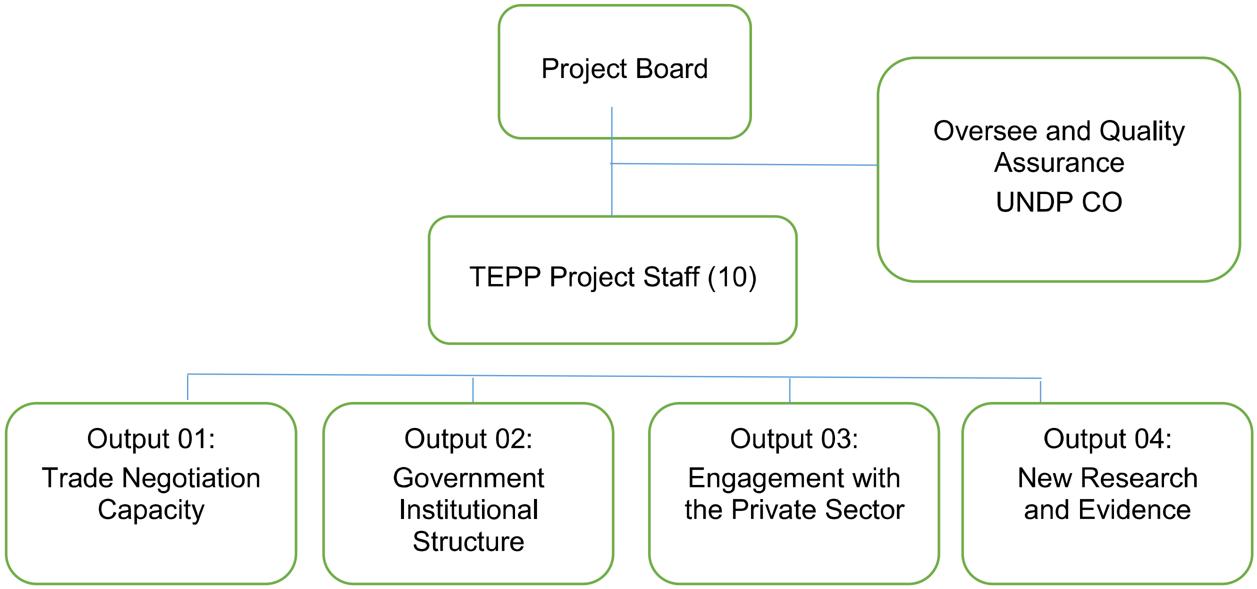
- Evolving trade and investment issues leading up to LDC graduation, generating new data for preparing informed policy inputs, assessing potential gains and consequences of changes in trade preferences, and preparing for possible abrupt shifts in the trade as well as investment landscape.
- This component of work will facilitate proactive engagements with key trade partners to negotiate favorable trade preferences for Bangladesh post-LDC graduation. This includes initiating dialogues and negotiations to explore extended transition periods and new preference schemes.
- The PIU will make use of the studies to develop responsive policy strategies based on the research and analysis. This will involve preparing concept notes and position papers for influencing policymakers and trade negotiations, especially in the context of evolving GSP regimes.
- Special attention will be given to studying the gender implications of trade policy/preference regime changes and the outcomes of LDC graduation. The PIU will conduct at least one study annually to assess these impacts and devise strategies to mitigate any adverse effects on women and other vulnerable groups.
- The project will ensure that gender disaggregated data is both used and generated where appropriate and possible, including disaggregation by male and female workers, male and female business owners etc.
- The PIU will provide up-to-date, actionable insights to policymakers through the socio-economic dashboard (presently in the process of development) to strengthen evidence-based policymaking.
- The project will arrange dialogues with policymakers emphasizing evidence-based strategies and policy-driven initiatives.
- The PIU will engage in sharing knowledge and expertise gained from their research and analysis with relevant stakeholders including government officials, industry representatives, and trade experts to enhance overall trade policy and negotiation competencies within the country.

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Initiation Plan (IP) for the TEPP II will be executed through the guidance of DIM (Direct Implementation Modality) and consultation with the relevant counterparts such as MoC, BIDA and other relevant institutions as and when required. A Project Board (PB) will be formed for overall strategic guidance and feedback for achieving the intended IP outcomes.

Project Board:

The Project Board will direct the IP project. The UNDP Resident Representative will chair the Project Board. It shall consist of representatives from MoC, BIDA, ERD, FCDO, and UNDP Senior Management. The Project Board is responsible for making management decisions of the IP project when the Project/Output Manager requires guidance. This includes a recommendation for UNDP/Implementing Partner, approval of project plans, and revisions. In addition, the Project Board plays a critical role in a) UNDP-commissioned project evaluations by quality assuring the evaluation process and products, b) using evaluations for performance improvement, accountability, and learning, c) approving the appointment and responsibilities of the Project/Output Manager and any delegation of its Project Assurance responsibilities.



Technical Guidance:

The Country Economic Adviser will provide technical oversight for the IP TEPP II project, develop implementation strategies, engage with the Government and local think tanks on technical issues, and integrate global and regional knowledge.

Project Assurance:

The Project Board delegates the project assurance role to the Assistant Resident Representative (Democratic Governance Portfolio)/Senior Governance Specialist of DG Portfolio to carry out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions.

Project Implementation Unit (PIU)[2]: It is located in IDB Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka will be responsible for implementing the day-to-day management affairs of the project. UNDP will onboard a robust team, including senior technical experts, to support the PIU in executing the multifaceted project successfully. This unit will play a crucial role in ensuring seamless execution and operational success and overseeing overall coordination. Additionally, experienced Senior Consultants specializing in international trade policies and legal issues will be hired to offer technical advisory and assistance to the project.

III. MONITORING

The Initiation Plan (IP) will largely contribute to Outcome 1 of the UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), "By 2026, more people in Bangladesh, particularly the most vulnerable and marginalized from all gender and social groups and those from lagging districts benefit from sustainable livelihood and decent work opportunities resulting from responsible, inclusive, sustainable, green, and equitable economic development". In addition, the IP will contribute to the CPD Output 1.1, "The Government is supported to design and implement conducive policies, regulatory framework and SDG financing governance mechanism to attract investment from diversified sources in labor-intensive, responsible and green economic sectors" and Strategic Priority (SP) Output1.3 Access to

[2] The PIU's recruitment preparation is underway. UNDP plans to complete the hiring of human resources by December 2024 in consultation with MoC. The recruitment process will adhere to UNDP's standard procedures. During the interim, the current TEPP team will be given a lateral transfer to IP TEPP II to ensure that planned interventions continue smoothly without any interruptions.

basic services and financial and non-financial assets and services improved to support productive capacities for sustainable livelihoods and jobs to achieve prosperity,

A detailed result framework and M&E plan has been prepared based on the above-mentioned outputs. Necessary indicators have also been incorporated into the M&E plan for conducting routine M&E activities. A detailed work plan with the required budget has been developed and attached below for implementation of intended activities. The IP will regularly prepare necessary reports, i.e. Quarterly Progress Reports, and contribute to the Results Oriented Analysis Report (ROAR) in accordance with UNDP M&E requirements. The M&E Analyst will compile the progress information and regularly update the resulting framework and M&E plan, including uploading it to the UNDP Quantum and Transparency Dashboard. Moreover, necessary M&E-related compliance, i. e. SES, risk, Project Completion Report (PCR) and Lessons Learned Report will be applied in accordance with UNDP corporate M&E strategies.

The Assistant Resident Representative and Programme Analyst of DGC will be responsible for monitoring the project's activities and responsible for ensuring the results of the IP. The progress report will be submitted by the respective officials to DGC to review the progress of the targeted results set for each quarter. A table detailing progress against milestones and targets will be highlighted, including associated issues and risks to keep the CO informed. In addition, quarterly progress review meetings will be arranged. Within the first 6 months of the IP, an M&E results framework will be developed to capture results, including behavioral change and measurement targets. IP risks and issues will also be captured and updated in Quantum to facilitate tracking and resolution. Lessons learned will be included as part of the reporting to ensure learning and adaptation at the implementation stage. The IP will develop a sustainability/exit plan during the inception phase. The Project Board will endorse the results of the IP. The audit of IP activities will be carried out according to UNDP rules and regulations.

IV. Work Plan

Period[3]: 01 July 2024 to 31 December 2025

Note: The cost-sharing agreement has been signed between UNDP and FCDO to implement the activities of the TEPP II for the period July 2024 – March 2028. The IP will run for 18 months from 01 July 2024 to 31 December 2025 and it will no longer remain active once the Project Document and TAPP (NIM modality) are approved by the government during this IP period. The Project Document will be developed and implemented following the National Implementation (NIM) Modality.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	**Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**		**Fund Code**	**Donor Code**	**Budget Code**	**Budget Description**	**Amount 2024 (USD)**	**Amount 2025 (USD)**	**Total amount (USD)**
Output 1: Trade policy and negotiation capacity strengthened. Indicator 1.1: A pool of trade policy and negotiation experts created. Baseline: 0 Target: 1 Indicator 1.2: No. of representatives from government, think tanks, private sector associations and lawyer associations trained on trade policy and	01 week-long in-country residential short training on international trade policy/trade negotiation (ST)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	75700	Workshop/ training	25,000.000	89,000.000	114,000.000
	Fortnight-long (10 working days) in-country residential training on trade policy/negotiation (LT)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	75700	Workshop/ training	-	118,800.00	118,800.00
	Specialised short training programme abroad (SST)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	75700	Workshop/ training	-	400,000.00	400,000.00

[3] Maximum 18 months

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Fund Code	Donor Code	Budget Code	Budget Description	Amount 2024 (USD)	Amount 2025 (USD)	Total amount (USD)
negotiations, at least one-fourth are female. Baseline: 0 Target: 50	01 week-long international learning and best practices immersion programme for government officials	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	75700	Workshop/ training	-	112,500.00	112,500.00
	Senior Policy Advisor (IC), USD 850 per day	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	71200	IC - International	8,500.00	59,500.00	68,000.00
	UNDP Country Economic Advisor (International)-10% (Cost Sharing)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	64397	Direct project cost - Services provided by CO staff	9,400.00	91,650.00	101,050.00
	Assistant Resident Representative (ARR) - 10% (Cost Sharing)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	64397	Direct project cost - Services provided by CO staff	6,690.65	43,489.21	50,179.86
	Economist-1 (National) - 50%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	71400	NPSA	10,655.70	69,262.05	79,917.75
	M&E Analyst-40%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	71400	NPSA	-	41,321.28	41,321.28
	Knowledge Management and Communication Analyst-40%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	13645	71400	NPSA	-	41,321.28	41,321.28
	GMS – 8%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75100	GMS	4,819.708	85,347.506	90,167.214

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	**Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**		**Fund Code**	**Donor Code**	**Budget Code**	**Budget Description**	**Amount 2024 (USD)**	**Amount 2025 (USD)**	**Total amount (USD)**
	Sub-total										**65,066.06**	**1,152,191.33**	**1,217,257.39**
Output 2: Government institutional structures on trade policy assessed to improve effectiveness and coordination. Indicator 2.1: # of expert committee formed on trade institutional diagnostics. Baseline: 0 Target: 1 Indicator 2.2: # of institutional diagnosis conducted to assess the institutional structure, remit and capacity of government ministries and agencies involved in trade policy. Baseline: 0 Target: 1 Indicator 2.3: Establish formal and regular inter-ministerial/inter-agency coordination mechanism on compliance issues. Baseline: 0 Target: 1	Institutional diagnosis for the ministries and agencies involved in trade policy by an expert committee (consultations + report)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75700	Workshop/ training	-	100,000.00	100,000.00
	Interministerial coordination meeting	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75700	Workshop/ training	7,000.00	31,500.00	38,500.00
	Senior Policy Advisor (IC), USD 850 per day	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71200	IC - International	17,000.00	42,500.00	59,500.00
	Economist-2 (National) - 50%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	-	69,262.05	69,262.05
	GMS – 8%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75100	GMS	1,920.00	19,460.96	21,380.96
	Sub-total										**25,920.00**	**262,723.01**	**288,643.01**

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	**Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**		**Fund Code**	**Donor Code**	**Budget Code**	**Budget Description**	**Amount 2024 (USD)**	**Amount 2025 (USD)**	**Total amount (USD)**
Indicator 2.4: No. of inter-ministerial/inter-agency coordination meetings organised to ensure cohesive progress in areas affecting trade policy and competitiveness. Baseline: 0 Target: 11													
Output 3: Engagement with the private sector is improved through regular consultation on business and trade policies and investment climate. Indicator 3.1: No. of consultations with the private sector including women entrepreneurs organised on LDC-related issues such as trade barriers, regulatory barriers, investment climate, trade agreements, export promotional measures, labour standards, and product standards. Baseline: 0 Target: 11	Consultation with the private sector	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75700	Workshop/ Training	5,000.00	50,000.00	55,000.00
	Annual consultative meeting on trade and investment engaging GoB, private sector, and DP	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75700	Workshop/ training	-	60,000.00	60,000.00
	Economist-2 (National) - 50%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	-	69,262.05	69,262.05
	M&E Analyst-30%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	-	30,990.96	30,990.96
	Knowledge Management and Communication Analyst-30%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	-	30,990.96	30,990.96
	GMS – 8%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75100	GMS	400.00	19,299.52	19,699.52
	Sub-total										**5,400.00**	**260,543.49**	**265,943.49**

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Fund Code	Donor Code	Budget Code	Budget Description	Amount 2024 (USD)	Amount 2025 (USD)	Total amount (USD)
Output 4: New research and evidence generated to support effective economic policy-making and institutional reforms. Indicator 4.1: No. of gap-filling analysis/evidence-based research conducted. Baseline: 0 Target: 9 Indicator 4.2: Socio-economic dashboard enhanced and hosted on a website[4]. Baseline: 3 Target: 5 Indicator 4.3: No. of expert group meetings, policy dialogues, and dissemination events organised. Baseline: 0 Target: Expert group meeting – 04, Policy dialogue – 04, Dissemination event – 08	Gap-filling analytical studies/generating evidence through surveys to support policymaking	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72100	Contractual services-Companies	-	488,000.00	488,000.00
	Developing prompt policy responses to support proactive engagements on emerging trade issues	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72100	Contractual services-Companies	-	60,000.00	60,000.00
	Partnership cum dissemination events (on LDC graduation-related trade issues)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75700	Workshop/ training	-	30,000.00	30,000.00
	Expert group network meeting on LDC graduation	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75700	Workshop/ training	30,000	70,000.00	100,000.00
	High-level evidence-based advocacy and policy dialogue with policymakers	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75700	Workshop/ training	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
	Trade Specialist - International Consultant	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71200	IC - International	-	120,000.00	120,000.00
	Legal Expert- International Consultant	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71200	IC - International	-	120,000.00	120,000.00

[4] 0 = Not in place, 1 = ToR developed, 2 = IT Firm hired, 3 = A prototype developed, 4 = Dashboard further enhanced, 5 = Dashboard hosted on a website

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Fund Code	Donor Code	Budget Code	Budget Description	Amount 2024 (USD)	Amount 2025 (USD)	Total amount (USD)
	Research and Analytics Unit (RAU): Conduct evidence-based research (e.g., sectoral investment, assessment of BIDA-registered projects, etc.) for policy reforms on investment climate	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72100	Contractual services-Companies	-	530,000.00	530,000.00
	Maintenance and upgradation of socio-economic dashboard	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72100	Contractual services-Companies	-	90,000.00	90,000.00
	Senior Policy Advisor (IC), USD 850 per day	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71200	IC - International	8,500.00	59,500.00	68,000.00
	Economist-1 (National) - 50%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	10,655.70	69,262.05	79,917.75
	M&E Analyst-30%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	-	30,990.96	30,990.96
	Knowledge Management and Communication Analyst-30%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	-	30,990.96	30,990.96
	Policy Analyst for RAU	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	10,655.70	138,524.10	149,179.80
	Research Associate - 02 positions	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	20,017.80	130,115.70	150,133.50
	Impact Assessment Survey (Baseline, Mid and End)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72100	Contractual services-Companies	-	126,713.91	126,713.91

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	**Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**		**Fund Code**	**Donor Code**	**Budget Code**	**Budget Description**	**Amount 2024 (USD)**	**Amount 2025 (USD)**	**Total amount (USD)**
	Mid-Year Evaluation	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72100	Contractual services-Companies	-	30,000.00	30,000.00
	Final Evaluation	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72100	Contractual services-Companies	-	30,000.00	30,000.00
	International Consultant for TEPP II ProDoc (PO carryover from TEPP-I)			X		001981	30000	0013645	71200	IC - International	8,250.00	-	8,250.00
	Study on "Investment Diversification of Priority Sectors After LDC Graduation." (PO carryover from TEPP-)			X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	67,629.11	-	67,629.11
	Socio-Economic Dashboard (PO Carryover from TEPP-I)			X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	15,081.16	-	15,081.16
	GMS-8%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75100	GMS	13,663.16	173,527.81	187,190.97
	Data Archiving for the BIDA-registered Companies (PO carryover from TEPP-I)			X	X	001981	04000	00012	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	116,000.00	-	116,000.00
	International Consultant for Regional LDC			X		001981	04000	00012	71200	IC - International	4,000.00	-	4,000.00

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	**Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**		**Fund Code**	**Donor Code**	**Budget Code**	**Budget Description**	**Amount 2024 (USD)**	**Amount 2025 (USD)**	**Total amount (USD)**
	Graduation Conference												
	Workshop				X	001981	04000	00012	75700	Workshop/Training	21,509.43	-	21,509.43
	DPC-6.5%				X	001981	04000	00012	64397	Direct Project Cost - Services provided by CO Staff	8,490.57	-	8,490.57
	Sub-total - FCDO										**184,452.63**	**2,342,625.49**	**2,527,078.12**
	Sub-total – TRAC I										**150,000.00**	**-**	**150,000.00**
Effective and Efficient Project Management	Project Manager	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	-	186,829.50	186,829.50
	Finance and Procurement Analyst	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	22,717.20	147,661.80	170,379.00
	Admin Assistant	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71400	NPSA	6,600.00	42,900.00	49,500.00
	Delivery enabling services (services provided by CO operations, finance, procurement, and partnership)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	64397	Direct project cost - Services provided by CO staff	14,543.76	94,534.44	109,078.20
	Project office rent	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	73100	Rental & maintenance -premises	-	50,000.00	50,000.00
	Project office decoration with furniture and fixers	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72200	Furniture	-	34,500.00	34,500.00

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	**Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q4**		**Fund Code**	**Donor Code**	**Budget Code**	**Budget Description**	**Amount 2024 (USD)**	**Amount 2025 (USD)**	**Total amount (USD)**
	including fire safety equipment												
	ICT equipment: Laptop with docking & monitor, mouse, keyboard, etc. for project	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72800	ICT equipment	15,000.00	14,000.00	29,000.00
	Computer software (Operating, application, anti-virus, DocuSign, etc.) for the project	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72800	ICT equipment	-	6,000.00	6,000.00
	Multimedia projector, printer, digital sender, digital camera, LAN system, etc. for project	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72200	Office equipment	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
	Office equipment: Photocopier, water dispenser, refrigerator, oven, etc. for project	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72200	Office equipment	-	16,000.00	16,000.00
	Project office supplies & stationery, mobile & internet bills, email access, office printer toner, photocopier toner, etc.	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72500	Stationery & other office supp	1,000.00	19,000.00	20,000.00
	Vehicle-rental services for the project	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	73400	Vehicle rent	2,000.00	46,998.01	48,998.01

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Timeframe				Resp. Party	Planned Budget						
Components or major interim Results of the project; To be shown as Activities in ATLAS	Activity Results are the Outputs of the Project and Actions are the activities for achieving each output- not to be included in ATLAS	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Fund Code	Donor Code	Budget Code	Budget Description	Amount 2024 (USD)	Amount 2025 (USD)	Total amount (USD)
	Other project office services cost (i.e., courier, electric works, modem, PSC/PIC/meeting, MOSS compliance equipment, water bill, miscellaneous, etc.)	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	72500	Stationery & other office supp	2,000.00	7,727.36	9,727.36
	Cleaner cum Messenger and Security Guard services	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	73100	Custodial and cleaning services	1,400.00	7,000.00	8,400.00
	UN clinic and security	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	74300	Contribution to CO common security	-	21,000.00	21,000.00
	Travel exp (DSA & transportation) for monitoring, evaluation & mobilization visit	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	71600	Travel	1,000.00	7,000.00	8,000.00
	GMS - 8%	X	X	X	X	001981	30000	0013645	75100	GMS	5,300.88	57,292.09	62,592.97
	Sub-total										**71,561.84**	**773,443.20**	**845,005.04**
	Grand Total										502,400.52	4,791,526.52	5,293,927.04

Note: Total FCDO contribution is GBP 4,000,000.00 including 1% levy. After the exclusion of the 1% levy, the total contribution is GBP 3,960,000.00 and equivalent to USD 5,016,838.93 (conversion rate is USD 1 = GBP 0.789341).

ANNEX A: ToC For IP TEPP II

Outputs	Trade policy and negotiation capacity strengthened	Government institutional structures on trade policy assessed to improve effectiveness and coordination	Engagement with the private sector is improved through regular consultation on business and trade policies and investment climate	New research and evidence generated to support effective economic policy-making and institutional reforms
Major Interventions	• Create a pool of trade policy and negotiation experts comprising government officials, from the Ministry of Commerce and its affiliates and other relevant ministries/institutions including think tanks, private sector associations, and lawyers' associations. • Provide training to the pool through customised workshops and the most relevant courses. • Arrange international learning missions.	• Form an expert committee (EC) to assess the institutional structure, remit and capacity of government ministries and agencies involved in trade policy. • Prepare an institutional diagnosis report for GoB based on the assessment and recommendations of EC. • Establish a formal and regular inter-ministerial/inter-agency coordination mechanism on compliance issues. • Organize inter-ministerial/interagency coordination meetings focusing on aligning inter-ministerial strategies and actions to ensure cohesive progress in areas affecting trade policy and competitiveness.	• Organise regular consultations with the private sector including women entrepreneurs on LDC graduation-related issues such as trade barriers, regulatory barriers, investment climate, trade agreements, export promotional measures, labour standards, and product standards.	• Conduct gap-filling, demand-driven analysis generating evidence to support policymaking, trade negotiations, and assessing consequences of policy and negotiation outcomes, including implications for women and other vulnerable groups. • Provide prompt policy responses to support engagements on emerging trade preference issues. • Conduct evidence-based research for policy reforms on investment climate (RAU). • Maintain and enhance a socio-economic dashboard to inform policymakers about the country's economic status. • Organise expert group network meetings. • Arrange evidence-based advocacy/policy dialogues with policymakers • Hold dissemination and knowledge-sharing events.

Assumptions

- Global trade regimes remain liberal with international trade being recognised as an important driver of economic development in developing countries.
- Bangladesh continues to attach priority to trade-led economic growth and structural transformation.
- Political developments and domestic economic situations do not compromise the government's capacity to engage in trade preference issues and/or trade negotiations.
- Political economy factors, such as protectionist lobbying, do not become overwhelmingly influential to the detriment of the economy's external competitiveness.
- A smooth graduation from LDC status continues to be regarded as a pressing development priority to consolidate the socio-economic progress made, including women's economic opportunities and employment, and to build upon further.

ANNEX B: OFFLINE PROJECT RISK REGISTER

Project Title: IP Transformative Economic Policy Programme (TEPP) - II	Project Number: 01002809	Date: 01-Jul-24

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category *(including Risk Appetite)*	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level *(see Annex 3 Risk Matrix)*	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(team accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
1	There is a risk that Bangladesh's capacity to engage with important trade partners on preference issues and/or favourable trading arrangements post-LDC graduation might be affected.	If the scope of trade talks and proactive engagements with critical and influential trade partners needed for securing favourable post-LDC trade preferences is reduced due to unresolved issues, and the policy priorities and actions change because of the aggravated economic situation during the project period.	Which will impact achieving output 1 of the project.	**7. STRATEGIC (7.7. Alignment with national priorities) - UNDP Risk Appetite: OPEN TO SEEKING**	Likelihood: **3 - Moderately likely** Impact: **4 - Extensive** Risk level: **SUBSTANTIAL (equates to a risk appetite of OPEN)**	From: 01-Jul-24 To: 31-Dec-25	Tanvir Mahmud, Senior Governance Specialist, Democratic Governance Cluster	Risk Treatment 1.1: The trade policymaking and negotiation capacity will be enhanced by creating a trade negotiators pool and providing capacity-building training to the pool. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
								Risk Treatment 1.2: The political and economic changes will be monitored constantly to allow for adaptive programming. This may entail identifying a few champions to advocate for the necessary actions in

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category *(including Risk Appetite)*	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level *(see Annex 3 Risk Matrix)*	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(team accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
								the shifting context and who can help engage with other key stakeholders/ influential trade partners. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
2	There is a risk that the project activities might get delayed, or some activities might not be implemented most effectively as envisaged in the project document.	If the senior government officials in the MoC get a transfer or change during the project implementation period.	Which will impact implementing outputs 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the project.	**7. STRATEGIC (7.6. Change/turnover in government) - UNDP Risk Appetite: OPEN TO SEEKING**	Likelihood: **3 - Moderately likely** Impact: **3 - Intermediate** Risk level: **MODERATE (equates to a risk appetite of EXPLORATORY)**	From: 01-Jul-24 To: 31-Dec-25	Tanvir Mahmud, Senior Governance Specialist, Democratic Governance Cluster	Risk Treatment 2.1: A strong relationship with the MoC will be maintained and rapport will be built with any changes providing background information, project rationale and intended outputs. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
								Risk Treatment 2.2: A strong contact will be maintained with mid-junior level officials which will help retain the wider ownership of the project pushing for

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category *(including Risk Appetite)*	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level *(see Annex 3 Risk Matrix)*	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(team accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
								its effective implementation irrespective of changes in officials. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
3	There is a risk that the smooth functioning of project events can be impacted and could cause delays or prevent expected changes.	If there is a lack of coordination among ministries and agencies during the project implementation.	Which will impact the timely achievement of outputs 1, 2, 3, and 4.	**7. STRATEGIC (7.3. Stakeholder relations and partnerships) - UNDP Risk Appetite: OPEN TO SEEKING**	Likelihood: **3 - Moderately likely** Impact: **3 - Intermediate** Risk level: **MODERATE (equates to a risk appetite of EXPLORATORY)**	From: 01-Jul-24): 31-Dec-25	Tanvir Mahmud, Senior Governance Specialist, Democratic Governance Cluster	Risk Treatment 3.1: The project will work with the MoC to build and maintain close relationships with other relevant ministries and stakeholders. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
								Risk Treatment 3.2: All relevant ministries will be provided with the information, briefs, sharing of good practices, and comparative country contexts on the significance of the intended outputs to be attained for supporting

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category *(including Risk Appetite)*	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level *(see Annex 3 Risk Matrix)*	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(team accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
								smooth LDC graduation, which is a national priority. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
4	There is a risk that the trade policy engagements with the government and private sector and the required reforms (e.g., compliance issues) could be hampered.	If the policy changes that are critical for promoting export competitiveness are resisted by the protectionists.	Which will impact implementing outputs 2 and 4.	**7. STRATEGIC (7.4. Competition) - UNDP Risk Appetite: OPEN TO SEEKING**	Likelihood: **4 - Highly likely** Impact: **4 - Extensive** Risk level: **SUBSTANTIAL (equates to a risk appetite of OPEN)**	From: 01-Jul-24 To: 31-Dec-25	Tanvir Mahmud, Senior Governance Specialist, Democratic Governance Cluster	Risk Treatment 4.1: The project will work closely with the MoC to record the meeting decisions so that follow-up actions can be undertaken. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
								Risk Treatment 4.2: The slow progress areas will be analysed for discussion during stakeholder events/meetings so that collective pressure can be exerted to move forward with the intended measures.

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category *(including Risk Appetite)*	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level *(see Annex 3 Risk Matrix)*	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(team accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
								Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
5	There is a risk that the prospect of achieving the objective of generous trade preferential regimes after LDC graduation could be adversely affected.	If the trade engagements in the multilateral and regional trade forum change due to the changing global trade regimes.	Which will impact attaining the outputs 1 and 4.	**3. OPERATIONAL (3.8. Capacities of the partners) - UNDP Risk Appetite: EXPLORATORY TO OPEN**	Likelihood: **3 - Moderately likely** Impact: **4 - Extensive** Risk level: **SUBSTANTIAL (equates to a risk appetite of OPEN)**	From: 01-Jul-24 To: 31-Dec-25	Tanvir Mahmud, Senior Governance Specialist, Democratic Governance Cluster	Risk Treatment 5.1: Evidence on trade policy stances of different countries and heightened trade tensions amongst influential trade partners will be gathered and the government officials of Bangladesh will be supported to highlight the concerning issues and press for a liberal and flexible approach to capacity-constrained developing countries including the graduating LDCs. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
								Risk Treatment 5.2: Effective implementation of

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category *(including Risk Appetite)*	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level *(see Annex 3 Risk Matrix)*	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(team accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
								trade negotiation capacity building as included in this project will help Bangladesh prepare well for effective trade engagements considering the risk. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
6	There is a risk that the trade transformation priorities (e.g., capacity building, trade policy reform, private sector competitiveness, etc.) of the country might change.	If regional conflicts and/or internal unrest happen(s) during the project implementation.	Which will impact the effective attainment of outputs 1, 2, 3, and 4.	**8. SAFETY AND SECURITY (8.5. Civil unrest) - UNDP Risk Appetite: CAUTIOUS**	Likelihood: **4 - Highly likely** Impact: **3 - Intermediate** Risk level: **MODERATE (equates to a risk appetite of EXPLORATORY)**	From: 01-Jul-24 To: 31-Dec-25	Tanvir Mahmud, Senior Governance Specialist, Democratic Governance Cluster	Risk Treatment 6.1: The project will embrace an adaptive strategy that conforms to the overarching goals and objectives outlined in the project document, while also permitting flexibility to tailor specific activities as needed during the implementation phase. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
7	There is a risk that the project	If PIU and implementing	Which will impact the attainment of	**3. OPERATIONAL (3.8. Capacities of**	Likelihood:	From: 01-Jul-24	Tanvir Mahmud,	Risk Treatment 7.1: The project outputs

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category *(including Risk Appetite)*	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level *(see Annex 3 Risk Matrix)*	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(team accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
	activities could generate suboptimal outputs.	partner/resource persons underperform.	outputs 1, 2, 3, and 4.	**the partners) - UNDP Risk Appetite: EXPLORATORY TO OPEN** **4. ORGANIZATIONAL (4.7. Human Resources) - UNDP Risk Appetite: EXPLORATORY TO OPEN**	**2 - Low likelihood** Impact: **4 - Extensive** Risk level: **MODERATE (equates to a risk appetite of EXPLORATORY)**	To: 31-Dec-25	Senior Governance Specialist, Democratic Governance Cluster	will be monitored effectively, and adequate feedback will be gathered from all the concerned stakeholders so that any corrective actions can be taken promptly. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
								Risk Treatment 7.2: Formal evaluation exercises will be undertaken regularly, and the recommendations of evaluation exercises will be implemented. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
8	There is a risk that the interventions on negotiation capacity, engagement with the private sector and evidence-based policy	If female participation and engagement, particularly from government offices and the private sector, are not actively ensured	Which will impact the achievement of outputs 1, 3, and 4.	**1. SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL (1.2. Gender equality and women's empowerment)**	Likelihood: **1 - Not likely** Impact: **3 - Intermediate**	From: 01-Jul-24 To: 31-Dec-25	Tanvir Mahmud, Senior Governance Specialist,	Risk Treatment 8.1: The project will integrate Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) principles into all aspects of trade policy development and capacity

#	Event	Cause	Impact(s)	Risk Category and Sub-category *(including Risk Appetite)*	Impact, Likelihood & Risk Level *(see Annex 3 Risk Matrix)*	Risk Valid From/To	Risk Owner *(team accountable for managing the risk)*	Risk Treatment and Treatment Owner
	reforms may lead to reproduction discrimination against women.	throughout the implementation of the project's various interventions.		**- UNDP Risk Appetite: CAUTIOUS**	Risk level: **LOW (equates to a risk appetite of CAUTIOUS)**		Democratic Governance Cluster	building. This will involve incorporating gender-sensitive components into trade policies to address the needs of women and marginalized groups, supporting women entrepreneurs, and promoting gender-sensitive business practices. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist
								Risk Treatment 8.2: The research will be geared towards optimizing trade policies for gender equality, and the project will apply a gender lens in its planning and execution. Additionally, the project will track data on gender impacts to ensure equitable benefits and monitor progress, thereby ensuring that female participation and engagement are effectively promoted throughout the project's implementation. Risk Treatment Owner: Zubayer Hossen, Coordinator and Economist

ANNEX C: UNDP SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING TEMPLATE

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	IP Transformative Economic Policy Programme (TEPP) - II
2. Project Number (i.e., Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	01002809
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Bangladesh
4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design
5. Date	01/07/2024

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?
Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach
Adhering to human rights standards is crucial in international trade, especially for countries like Bangladesh seeking to enhance trade opportunities and move beyond LDC status. Meeting these standards is both a moral obligation and a strategic necessity, as global markets increasingly demand ethical practices. To this connection, the project aims to enhance capacity in human rights governance. This initiative will focus on strengthening regulatory frameworks, improving enforcement mechanisms, and fostering a culture of ethical practices within the private sector. Efforts will include educating stakeholders on the importance of human rights, equipping them with the tools and knowledge needed to meet international expectations, and promoting more responsible and humane business models. By advancing these areas, the project aims to position Bangladesh as a leader in ethical trade practices, benefiting its economic growth and reinforcing its reputation as a responsible and sustainable trading partner.
Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment
The project targets to contribute to enhancing gender equality and women's empowerment by integrating Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) principles into trade policy development and capacity building. It will ensure that trade policies address the needs of women and marginalized groups, support women entrepreneurs, and promote gender-sensitive business practices. The research will focus on optimizing trade policies for gender equality. The project will use a gender lens in planning, include gender-focused components in interventions, and track data on gender impacts to ensure equitable benefits for all.
Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience
The project aspires to mainstream sustainability and resilience by helping Bangladesh navigate its transition from LDC status through several key initiatives. It will focus on enhancing export competitiveness by strengthening trade policies and negotiation skills. Institutional capacity will be bolstered by supporting the Ministry of Commerce with additional resources to effectively manage trade policy and inter-ministerial coordination. Additionally, the project will support improving the country's

investment climate by evidence-based policy reforms, as led by RAU within BIDA. These combined efforts aim to ensure a smooth transition and foster sustained economic growth for Bangladesh.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders

The project will strengthen accountability to stakeholders through several key mechanisms. By clearly defining roles and aligning support with national priorities, the project will ensure that entities such as MoC and BIDA can effectively fulfil their responsibilities despite existing resource limitations. This targeted support will enhance the MoC's capacity in trade policy, negotiation skills, and inter-ministerial coordination, promoting accountability through improved performance. The project's focus on evidence-based policy reforms, facilitated by RAU, will ensure transparency and informed decision-making, holding policymakers accountable for creating effective and fair policies. Additionally, by bolstering Bangladesh's negotiation capabilities and investment facilitation efforts, the project will help the country advocate for its interests and meet its commitments to investors, fostering trust and long-term relationships. Overall, these efforts will contribute to ensuring that all stakeholders are engaged and accountable in managing the transition from LDC status.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? *Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.*	**QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?** *Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5below before proceeding to Question 5*			**QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High**
Risk Description (broken down by event, cause, impact)	***Impact and Likelihood (1-5)***	***Significance (Low, Moderate Substantial, High)***	***Comments (optional)***	***Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High***
Event: There is a risk that the interventions on negotiation capacity, egagement with the private sector and evidence-based policy reforms may lead to reproduction discrimination against women. Cause: If female participation and engagement, particularly from government offices and the private sector, are not actively ensured throughout the implementation of the project's various	I = 3 L = 1	Low		The project will integrate Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) principles into all aspects of trade policy development and capacity building. This will involve incorporating gender-sensitive components into trade policies to address the needs of women and marginalized groups, supporting women entrepreneurs, and promoting gender-sensitive business practices. The research will be geared towards optimizing trade policies for gender equality, and the project will apply a gender lens in its planning and execution. Additionally, the

interventions. Impact: Which will impact the achievement of outputs 1, 3, and 4.				project will track data on gender impacts to ensure equitable benefits and monitor progress, thereby ensuring that female participation and engagement are effectively promoted throughout the project's implementation.	
	QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?				
	Low Risk	☐✓			
	Moderate Risk	☐			
	Substantial Risk	☐			
	High Risk	☐			
	QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)				
	Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High-Risk projects				
	Is assessment required? (check if "yes")	☐			***Status? (completed, planned)***
	if yes, indicate overall type and status		☐	Targeted assessment(s)	
			☐	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	
			☐	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)	
	Are management plans required? (check if "yes)	☐			
	If yes, indicate overall type		☐	Targeted management plans (e.g. Gender Action Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Waste Management Plan, others)	
			☐	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)	
			☐	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)	

	Based on identified risks, which Principles/Project- level Standards triggered?		**Comments (not required)**
	Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind		
	Human Rights	☐	
	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	☐✓	
	Accountability	☐	
	1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	☐	
	2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks	☐	
	3. Community Health, Safety and Security	☐	
	4. Cultural Heritage	☐	
	5. Displacement and Resettlement	☐	
	6. Indigenous Peoples	☐	
	7. Labour and Working Conditions	☐	
	8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	☐	

Final Sign Off

Final Screening at the design-stage is not complete until the following signatures are included

Signature	***Date***	***Description***
QA Assessor		UNDP staff member responsible for the project, typically a UNDP Programme Officer. Final signature confirms they have "checked" to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted.
QA Approver		UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD), Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have "cleared" the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC.
PAC Chair		UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC.

SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks	
INSTRUCTIONS: The risk screening checklist will assist in answering Questions 2-6 of the Screening Template. Answers to the checklist questions help to (1) identify potential risks, (2) determine the overall risk categorization of the project, and (3) determine required level of assessment and management measures. Refer to the SES toolkit for further guidance on addressing screening questions.	
Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind **Human Rights**	**Answer (Yes/No)**
P.1 Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the project (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No
P.2 Is there a risk that duty-bearers (e.g. government agencies) do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project?	No
P.3 Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. project-affected persons) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	No
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:	
P.4 adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	No
P.5 inequitable or discriminatory impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities? [16]	No

P.6 restrictions in availability, quality of and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	No
P.7 exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	No
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	
P.8 Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the project, (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:	
P.9 adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	No
P.10 reproducing discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	Yes
P.11 limitations on women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? *For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being*	No
P.12 exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence? *For example, through the influx of workers to a community, changes in community and household power dynamics, increased exposure to unsafe public places and/or transport, etc*.	No

16 Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, sex, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender and transsexual people.

Sustainability and Resilience: Screening questions regarding risks associated with sustainability and resilience are encompassed by the Standard-specific questions below	
Accountability	
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:	
P.13 exclusion of any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups and excluded individuals (including persons with disabilities), from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	No
P.14 grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders?	No
P.15 risks of retaliation or reprisals against stakeholders who express concerns or grievances, or who seek to participate in or to obtain information on the project?	No
Project-Level Standards	
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:	
1.1 adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? *For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes*	No
1.2 activities within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including (but not limited to) legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	No
1.3 changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	No
1.4 risks to endangered species (e.g. reduction, encroachment on habitat)?	No
1.5 exacerbation of illegal wildlife trade?	No
1.6 introduction of invasive alien species?	No
1.7 adverse impacts on soils?	No
1.8 harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	No
1.9 significant agricultural production?	No
1.10 animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	No

1.11	significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? *For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction*	No
1.12	handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms?[17]	No
1.13	utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)[18]	No
1.14	adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		

17 See the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

18 See the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing from use of genetic resources.

2.1	areas subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, severe winds, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions?	No
2.2	outputs and outcomes sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change or disasters? *For example, through increased precipitation, drought, temperature, salinity, extreme events, earthquakes*	No
2.3	increases in vulnerability to climate change impacts or disaster risks now or in the future (also known as maladaptive or negative coping practices)? *For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding*	No
2.4	increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change?	No
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
3.1	construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g. roads, buildings, dams)? (Note: the GEF does not finance projects that would involve the construction or rehabilitation of large or complex dams)	No
3.2	air pollution, noise, vibration, traffic, injuries, physical hazards, poor surface water quality due to runoff, erosion, sanitation?	No
3.3	harm or losses due to failure of structural elements of the project (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)?	No

3.4	risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g. temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health?	No
3.5	transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	No
3.6	adverse impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services relevant to communities' health (e.g. food, surface water purification, natural buffers from flooding)?	No
3.7	influx of project workers to project areas?	No
3.8	engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support project activities?	No
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
4.1	activities adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site?	No
4.2	significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes?	No
4.3	adverse impacts to sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
4.4	alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance?	No
4.5	utilization of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g. practices, traditional knowledge) of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
5.1	temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement (including people without legally recognizable claims to land)?	No
5.2	economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	No
5.3	risk of forced evictions?[19]	No
5.4	impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	No
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
6.1	areas where indigenous peoples are present (including project area of influence)?	No
6.2	activities located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.3	impacts (positive or negative) to the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? *If the answer to screening question 6.3 is "yes", then Standard 6 requirements apply, and the potential significance of risks related to impacts on indigenous peoples must be Moderate or above.* [*]	No
6.4	the absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	No
6.5	the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.6	forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources? *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 5 above*	No
6.7	adverse impacts on the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.8	risks to the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.9	impacts on the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices? *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 4 above.*	No
Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to: (note: applies to project and contractor workers)		
7.1	working conditions that do not meet national labour laws and international commitments?	No
7.2	working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining?	No
7.3	use of child labour?	No
7.4	use of forced labour?	No

[*] Note: revised July 2022 modifying presumption of risk significance from Substantial or higher to Moderate or higher.

7.5	discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity?	No
7.6	occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the project life-cycle?	No

19 Forced eviction is defined here as the permanent or temporary removal against their will of individuals, families or communities from the homes and/or land which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection. Forced evictions constitute gross violations of a range of internationally recognized human rights.

Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
Would the project potentially involve or lead to:		
8.1	the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	No
8.2	the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	No
8.3	the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous materials and/or chemicals?	No
8.4	the use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? *For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Montreal Protocol, Minamata Convention, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention*	No
8.5	the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	No
8.6	significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No