

Quarterly Project Progress Report

(January 2020 – March 2020)

List of Acronyms

A2i	Aspire to innovation
BIDA	Bangladesh Investment Development Authority
BEZA	Bangladesh Export Zone Authority
BRAC	Building Resources Across Communities
CIRDAP	Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific
ERD	Economic Relations Division
ERDPEDIA	An Information Repository of ERD
EPG	Eminent Persons Group
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
HSJ	Hazrat Shah Jalal
MOPA	Ministry of Public Administration
NRB	Non Resident Bangladeshi
NHDR	National Human Development Report
SS&TC	South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Project Name: Knowledge for Development Management

Funded by (1):	UNDP Track Fund	Funded By (2):	
Partnerships:	UN Wing, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance A2i CIRDAP BIDA BEZA Local Administration Ministry of expatriates and overseas employment	BANGLADESH Counterparts:	
Project Location:	Block – 3, Planning Division, Dhaka	Original Completion Date:	August 2017
Project Starting Date:	September 2014	Expected Completion Date:	June 2020
Project Budget:		Fund Received:	
Overall Project Goal/IMPACT:			
Project Outcome 1: Develop and implement improved social policies and programmes that focus on good governance, reduction of structural inequalities and advancement of vulnerable individuals and groups			
Indicator	Target Results 2020		
Indicator 1.2 -			
Indicator 1.1 -			
Project Outcome 2: Development debates and actions at all levels prioritize poverty, inequality, and exclusion, consistent with our engagement principles			
Indicator	Target Results 2020		
Indicator 2.1 -			
Indicator 2.2 -			
Output 1	<i>South-South/Triangular and Public-Private Partnership Promoted</i>		
Indicator	Target Results 2020		

Indicator 1.1 -	<p>Output Indicator 1.1: Number of South-South and triangular cooperation partnership developed by ERD Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership with CIRDAP has been formed and a tentative conference with the partnering countries of CIRDAP is expected to be organized by June 2020
Indicator 1.2 -	<p>Output Indicator 1.2: Number of national SS&TC partnerships delivering measurable and sustainable development benefits for participants Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27 Ministries and BRAC have nominated 01 Focal Point and 01 alternative focal point for their respective institutions to work as the members of national network for working on SS&TC issues in delivering measurable and sustainable development benefits for participants.
Indicator 1.3 -	<p>Output Indicator 1.3: Development of institutional mechanism for promotion of South-South and Triangular cooperation. Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Wing of ERD has established a South-South Cooperation Cell, developed scope of works, developed HR structure for cell and sent to MOPA for vetting and Gazette notification. A yearly plan has been developed and finalized in consultation with the relevant ministries by the guidance of 1st SSC Taskforce Meeting.
Indicator 1.4 -	<p>Output Indicator 1.4: Number of inter-ministerial meetings and consultations organized Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A common understanding on how to work on South-South and Triangular Cooperation issues developed through day long training with the active participation of 45 focal points from the 44 line ministries and BRAC.
Output 2	<i>Programming Manuals Revised and Implemented</i>
Indicator	Target Results 2020
Indicator 2.1 -	<p>Output Indicator 2.1 Number of joint meetings/ consultation sessions organized on NEX/NIM Baseline: 0 Target 2020:0</p> <p>This indicator is still in progress. The following activity will contribute to achieve the output.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 02 Executive board meetings held in every year where these issues are thoroughly discussed and decisions are made
Indicator 2.2 -	<p>Output Indicator 2.2 Approval of NEX/NIM manual by GoB and UNDP Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 0</p>

Output 3	<i>Strategic research/collaboration supported</i>
Indicator	Target Results 2020
Indicator 3.1 -	<p>Output Indicator 3.1: Number of eminent persons given consent to join the EPG Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 40</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of 40 Eminent Persons among the Civil Society has been finalized after critical review and their consent.
Indicator 3.2 -	<p>Output Indicator 3.2: Number of consultative session organized by GoB with eminent persons. Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 3</p>
Indicator 3.3 -	<p>Output Indicator 3.3: Number of policy recommendations prepared and published through dialogue with civil society consultative group Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy recommendations on 04 thematic areas have been submitted to the high level policy forum of the Government and those are under consideration.
Output 4	<i>Collaboration on Resource Mobilization Strengthened</i>
Indicator	Target Results 2020
Indicator 4.1 -	<p>Output Indicator 4.1: Number of scopes and areas of collaboration for resource mobilization identified Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives from 10 different Donor Agencies, Embassies and other UN Agencies participated in a dinner meeting and expressed their interest to develop partnership with ERD UN Wing. Among those Swiss Development Cooperation has committed for developing partnership with ERD through K4DM project.
Indicator 4.2 -	<p>Output Indicator 4.2: Number of experience sharing event organized for GoB officials with other countries and partners Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two foreign visit were organized so far for experience sharing by the ERD Officers.
Output 5	<i>Project Information Repository Platform Operationalized</i>
Indicator	Target Results 2020
Indicator 5.1 -	<p>Output Indicator 5.1: Establishment of information repository at ERD Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 0</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ERDPEDIA software has been upgraded along with the user manual which is helping ERD officers to ensure smooth functioning of the ERDPEDIA for archiving the significant documents of the Government digitally.
Indicator 5.2 -	<p>Output Indicator 5.2: Providing increased access to ERD’s information repository within the government Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 focal points and alternative focal points of 10 Wing of ERD are archiving copies of different financial treaties and contracts of loans and grants regularly in the ERDPEDIA, an information repository system.
Indicator 5.3 -	<p>Output Indicator 5.3: % of ERDOC information updated in the repository Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 85</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> So far 120,000 pages have been archived in the ERDPEDIA
Indicator 5.4 -	<p>Output Indicator 5.4: Number of officials trained on relevant development issues and use and administration of the information repository Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A total of 140 officers of ERD have so far been capacitated through numbers of trainings and refreshers courses and given access to ERDPEDIA to better operate the repository
Output 6	<i>Platform for engagement with NRBs established</i>
Indicator	Target Results 2020
Indicator 6.1 -	<p>Output Indicator 6.1: Identified potential areas of diaspora engagement Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An in-depth study titled “Engagement of NRBs in National Development: Strategies, Challenges and Way Forward” has identified three broad areas of diaspora engagement: Philanthropy, investment and sharing Expertise.
Indicator 6.2 -	<p>Output Indicator 6.2: Number of event of engagement of diaspora facilitated by the project Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 4 This indicator is still in progress. The following activities will contribute in achieving the result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project facilitated two Conferences /Conventions and four exposure visits engaging diaspora.in 2018 and 2019; Convention of Expatriate Engineers (CONE) was organized in February26-27, 2019
Indicator 6.3 -	<p>Output Indicator 6.3: Developing institutional arrangement for NRB engagement Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 4</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government approved NRB Cell has been established at ERD, a high-level Task Force has been formed, NRB Website and draft SOP for NRB engagement have been developed.
Output 7.5	<i>South-South and Triangular cooperation partnership established and/or strengthened for development solutions</i>
Indicator	Target Results 2020
Indicator 7.5.1 -	<p>Output Indicator 7.5.1: Number of national SS&TC partnerships delivering measurable and sustainable development benefits for participants Baseline: 0 Target 2020: 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">
Output 2.1	<i>Civil society, interest groups, relevant government agencies and political parties have tools and knowledge to set agendas and to develop platforms for building consensus on national issues</i>
Indicator	Target Results 2020
Indicator 2.1.1 -	<p>Output Indicator 2.1.1: Extent to which there is a strengthened environment for civic engagement, including legal/regulatory framework for civil society organizations to function in the public sphere and contribute to development, and effective mechanism/platforms to engage civil society (with focus on women, youth or excluded groups) Baseline: 3 Target 2020: 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organized 02 meetings of writer's pool for preparation of National Human Development Report in Bangladesh where 10 members of the Writer's pool and 01 lead Advisor participated. Through the meetings structure of NHDR, Division of Responsibilities and time line for preparation of NHDR finalized.

<p>Project Risks & Mitigation Measures</p>	<p>Risks</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Due to long process of the Project extension and fund receipt all activities may not be completed within the stipulated time frame (2) Due to sensitivity of some issues, implementation of project activities is affected. (3) The Project activities have been subject to alterations due to the current nCOVID-19 pandemic that has grasped the whole world, causing major shift in methods of implementation and considering alternative plans. <p>Mitigation measures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Prior approval from senior management has taken before the implementation of any planned activity sensitive in nature. (2) The issues have been discussed in the Project Executive Board meetings and priorities have been decided based on the decisions of the meetings. (3) The Project has been employing alternative measures e.g. virtual that are more suitable for the ongoing crisis.
<p>Project Issues, Remedial Actions & Lessons Learned</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Project initiatives appeared to be unable to achieve the expected outputs because they were not considered as the priorities of the ERD and also lacked the required support from the government. • Capacity Building workshops were not held as per the plan due to the unexpected pandemic crisis. <p>However,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Government support and ownership</i> is one of the key determining factors that led to the successes the Project could attain. • <i>Flexibility in determining project strategies</i> and its implementation depending on the emerging needs has a positive influence on project performance. As per the current needs, the project has chosen virtual and alternative methods of project implementation, coordination which has helped it to continue to run smoothly. • A <i>congenial relationship between the ERD and the UNDP</i> facilitated the Project achieving its objectives
<p>Progress on cross cutting areas- Gender, Youth Empowerment, Curbing Corruption</p>	<p>The K4DM project integrates gender as a cross cutting issue through providing capacity development trainings to ERD officials, of whom at least 30 percent are female. To date, more than 500 ERD officials were provided with capacity development trainings. Gender has also been treated as a cross-cutting issue in the formulation of the National Human Development Report. This will ensure that a special focus is present on gender and inequality in each chapter of the NHDR.</p> <p>The project also prepared a Gender Action Plan which documents the key strategies for meeting the gender goals set for each project component.</p>

Output wise Progress Against Activities			
Output 1			
Planned Activities (Two Months)	Progress Achieved	Challenges	Planned Activities (Next Two Months)
Activity 6.1: Support to ERD in smooth functioning of the recently established South -South Cooperation Cell (hiring national consultant for 5 months)	A yearly plan has been developed and finalized with the relevant stakeholders from the guidance of 1 st SSC Taskforce Meeting.	Planned activities hindered due to COVID-19 situation.	Organize a Regional conference/workshop on South-south and triangular Cooperation in Dhaka with CIRDAP.
Activity 6.2 Organize training / workshop on developing a common understanding among the focal points of ERD and other relevant ministries and BRAC on SSTC and support smooth functioning of SSC Cell activities;	ERD officials from all wings and the focal points of 27 Ministries and BRAC attended in the course.	A new set of advisors of SSC taskforce has onboard recently. Planned activities hindered due to COVID-19 situation.	Organize a follow up workshop on developing a common understanding among the focal points of ERD and other relevant ministries on SSTC.
Output 4			
Planned Activities (Two Months)	Progress Achieved	Challenges	Planned Activities (Next Two Months)
Activity 4.7: Organize an event for showcasing achievements of K4DM involving the development partners for mobilizing resources	Representatives from 10 different Donor Agencies, Embassies and other UN Agencies participated in a dinner meeting and expressed their interest to develop partnership with ERD UN Wing. Among those Swiss Development Cooperation has committed for developing partnership with ERD through K4DM project.	Due to organizing this program within a short notice expected numbers of donors could not participate in the event.	New Project Document of K4DM project will be shared with large number of Donor agencies, International Organizations and other UN Agencies for mobilizing more resources.
Output 5			
Planned Activities (Two Months)	Progress Achieved	Challenges	Planned Activities (Next Two Months)
Activity 5.1: Ongoing Support NRB Cell for smooth Functioning and setting up an NRB booth at HSZ Int. Airport or Osmani Int. Airport	Functional work of NRB Portal (nrb.gov.bd) has been ensured and three NRB projects facilitated with relevant ministry/division through the portal. The process of setting up an NRB booth at HSZ Int. Airport still	A new set of advisors of NRB taskforce has become onboard recently.	Upgradation of NRB Portal; Setting up an NRB booth at HSJ International Airport

	under process in partnership with Civil Aviation Authority and Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment.	Planned activities hindered due to nCOVID-19 situation.	
Output 2.1			
Planned Activities (Two Months)	Progress Achieved	Challenges	Planned Activities (Next Two Months)
Activity 8.1: Organize meetings of Advisor's committee and writer's pool for Developing NHDR	Two (02) meetings of Writer's Pool were held respectively on 17 th February and 16 th March 2020 with the presence of Dr. Selim Jahan, who will play lead advisory role in NHDR formulation process. In these meetings, the structure of the NHDR report was decided and finalized along with the division of duties i.e. which writers will be responsible for writing which chapter was also decided upon. A tentative timeline for the overall development and publication has also been decided on.	Due to the ongoing nCOVID – 19 situations, the follow ups with the writers may be hindered and become tricky.	Regular follow ups with the Writers' Pool to monitor their progress.
Other Activities			
Planned Activities (Two Months)	Progress Achieved	Challenges	Planned Activities (Next Two Months)
Carry out awareness raising activities to reach out to the general public regarding nCOVID-19.	nCovid-19 awareness leaflet highlighting the precautions were designed and published; 1000 copies were distributed in ERD to 5000 beneficiaries.	Awareness activities mainly must be virtual due to the need for social distancing.	Social media awareness campaign is going to be started on Facebook to promote awareness regarding the myths and facts related to nCOVID-19.

Financial Progress

Total Budget 2020	Total Allocated till date	Total Expenditure (Jan – Mar 2020)	Cumulative Expenditure	Balance
145,500.00	72,750.00	37,609.40	37,609.40	35,140.60