

Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh



GO4IMPact - Improved Climate Resilient Public Service Delivery through Local Government Institutions in Water and Solid Waste Management

Swiss Portfolio Outcome: Improved social well-being for all, including in emergencies

Implementation Period: Phase 1 - 01.07.2023 – 30.06.2027

Implementing Partner: WaterAid Bangladesh and Swisscontact

Swiss Contribution: CHF 9.6 million

Modality: Mandate

General Description

Bangladesh has witnessed high economic growth over the past years with strong macroeconomic stability and poverty reduction. The achievements were noted despite the rural-urban asymmetries in institutional settings along with the challenges to establish equity across all spheres of social and economic development including protection and adaption to climate change. Bangladesh is ranked as the seventh most climate vulnerable country and highly vulnerable to rising sea levels with 50% of its coastal region being affected by salinization. It is also faced with drastic reduction of ground water levels, desertification, biodiversity degradation, and more frequent flooding. This leads to the country's socio-economic development being challenged. The effects of climate change disproportionally affect the rural population.

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) largely depends on local government institutions (LGIs) to provide climate resilient public services and to make progress towards attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Local governments in rural and challenging areas are still frail in their capacities to fulfil their legitimate duties, tasks, and competencies. Two sectors that of particular concern are integrated water resource and solid waste management (IWRM). In the context of Bangladesh, IWRM sector is at the core of climate change adaptation and resilience building. Water is also essential for rural economic sectors and households. On the other hand, solid waste management is also a growing challenge in semi-urban localities. 4.9 million People in Bangladesh still have no access to clean water and many more face growing health and environmental risks due to inadequate solid waste management.

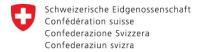
Under this backdrop, Switzerland has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with Government of Bangladesh to support a long-term programme to contribute in strengthening local democracy and improving climate resilient basic public service provision.

Objectives

In line with the Swiss Cooperation Programme for Bangladesh 2022-2025 and contributing to the Swiss portfolio outcome on social well-being for all, GO4IMPact's overall goal is to "contribute to strengthening local government institutions and improving equitable climate resilient basic public service provision in the water and solid waste management sectors".

Lines of Action / Components

- The programme will provide capacity strengthening support for local government institutions and local public service providers for more accountable, inclusive, and responsive climate resilient public services delivery related to water and solid waste management based on democratic principles.
- The programme will work with the citizens at the local level, in particular women, poor, youth and socially excluded groups, and the private sector actors that they can engage more effectively with local government institutions and local public service providers for more accountable, equitable, and impartial climate resilient public services.
- At the national level, the programme will work with the central government institutions so they
 engage more effectively in learning and policy adaptations based on engaging with the local actors
 for achieving equitable and impartial climate resilient basic public service provision related to water
 and solid waste management.



Embassy of Switzerland in Bangladesh



Intended Impact in terms of Systemic Change

The programme will strengthen the capacity of local government institutions and will take a facilitative role in relation to actors within the system, it will act as a catalyst, stimulating stakeholders and drivers of change to play their roles more effectively.

Intervention Targets

- Chairpersons/mayors and members of 4 Upazilas, 39 Union Parishads and 2 Paurashavas, relevant standing committees, deconcentrated officials of the line agencies, civil society organisations, local elites including members of parliament and political actors, and private sector actors concerned with water and solid waste management. Local Government Division (LGD), Water Resource Planning Organisation (WARPO), and Department of Environment (DoE) at the national level.
- Approximately 1.1 million citizens of those Unions and Paurashavas will benefit in accessing climate resilient public services in a more democratic, more effective, accountable and inclusive manner.