



## Strengthening Institutions, Policies and Services (SIPS)

<b>Swiss Portfolio Outcome:</b>	Improved Social Wellbeing for all
<b>Implementation Period:</b>	01 January 2023 to 31 December 2026
<b>Implementing Partner:</b>	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
<b>Swiss Contribution:</b>	3.6 million CHF
<b>Modality:</b>	Contribution

### General Description

Bangladesh has made significant progress in poverty reduction and human and economic development, making it eligible to graduate from Least Developed Country status by 2026. Bangladesh has made great strides in implementing many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, it has lagged behind in achieving SDG 16 - promoting peace, justice and strong institutions. This programme builds on Switzerland's democratic tradition to promote citizen-centred governance. It addresses the supply and demand sides of governance by providing technical support to public institutions and government agencies/ministries to promote citizens' voices and human rights, and by raising the awareness and capacity of representatives of public institutions to be more responsive to these voices, more gender-sensitive and more accountable to human rights and the SDGs. By strengthening checks and balances at all levels, it contributes to a more peaceful, just and inclusive Bangladesh.

### Objectives

The overall objective of the programme is to strengthen democratic governance through better checks and balances, leading to a more peaceful, just and inclusive society. The programme has three defined outputs: (i) strengthening the capacity of public institutions to effectively contribute to national and international commitments, while improving service delivery; (ii) creating an enabling policy environment that embraces the core principle of the SDGs, 'leaving no one behind'; and (iii) harnessing innovation to optimise the efficiency of service delivery.

### Action lines / components

- The programme provides representatives of targeted government agencies/ministries with capacity building and assessment tools to become more citizen-centred and gender-sensitive, in order to deliver better public services in line with the SDGs.
- The programme works with representatives of targeted public institutions. Through targeted capacity building, these institutions will become more citizen-centred and effective in fulfilling their mandates. In its support to the National Parliament of Bangladesh, the programme will strengthen the parliamentary secretariat and selected standing committees, and support the establishment of coordination mechanisms between the parliament and other public institutions.
- The programme will focus on establishing a multi-stakeholder policy dialogue platform on the SDGs, anchored within and chaired by the SDG Coordination Cell of the Prime Minister's Office.

### Intended Impact in terms of Systemic Change

Bangladesh's government agencies/ministries and public institutions will be more responsive to citizens' voices, gender sensitive, and accountable to human rights and the SDGs. Democratic governance will be strengthened through better checks and balances, leading to a more peaceful, just and inclusive society. Public institutions will be more citizen-centred, while civil society actors will effectively hold public institutions accountable and influence public dialogue and policies to leave no one behind through new and more effective civic engagement practices and platforms.

### Intervention Targets

More than 1,000 representatives from targeted government agencies/ministries and public institutions will receive institutional and capacity-building support, ultimately benefiting all citizens through a more peaceful, equitable and inclusive system of governance in Bangladesh.