

Strengthening Public Governance towards a Green and Sustainable Recovery from COVID- 19: A comparative study between Bangladesh and Korea

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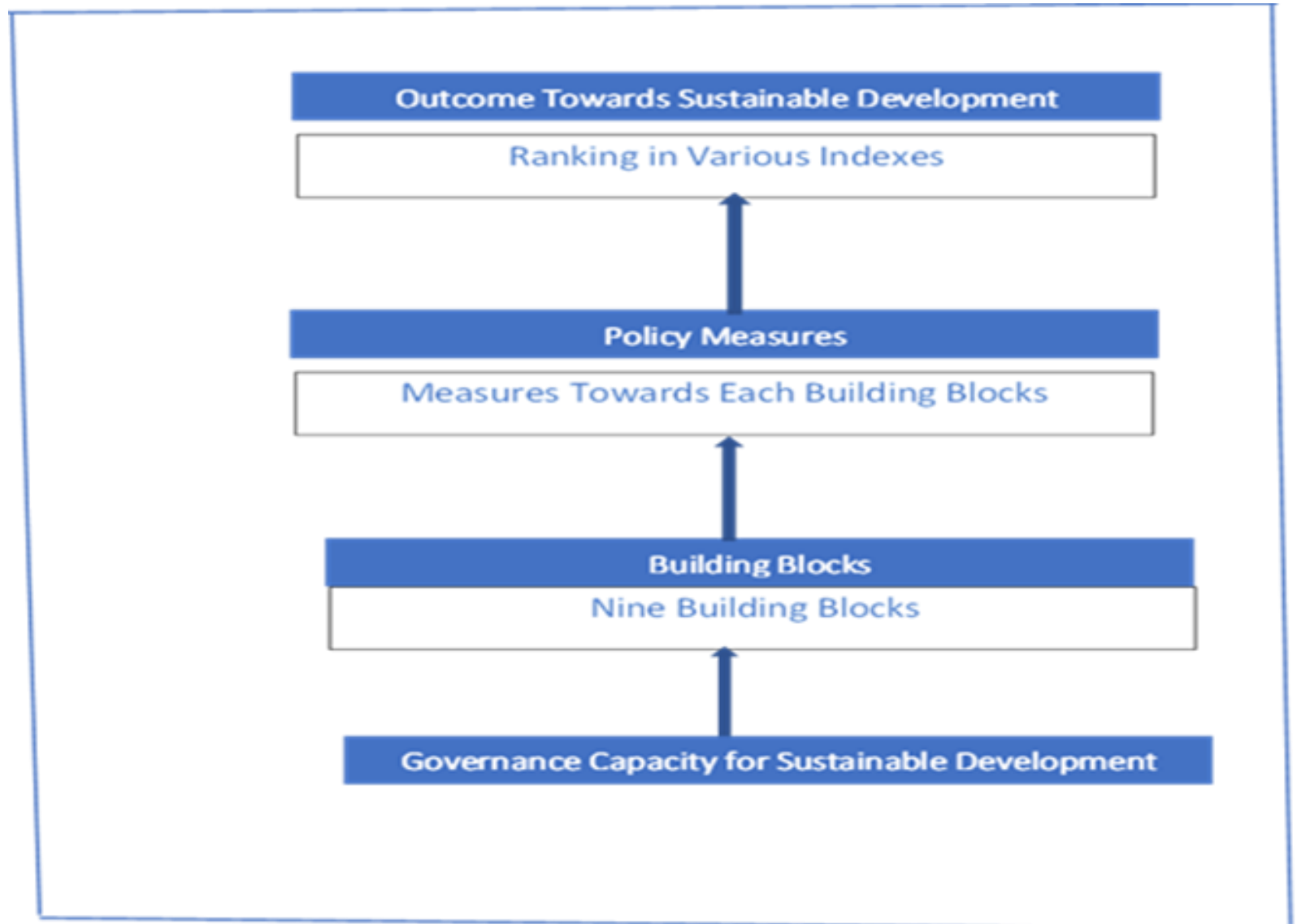
Objectives of the study

- ❑ To examine governance capacities of Korea and Bangladesh to achieve sustainable development, and green recovery from Covid-19.
- ❑ To identify ways to strengthen public governance capacities of developing countries like Bangladesh.

Analytical framework

- ❑ Governance capacity theory as the analytical framework
- ❑ Governance capacity is conceptualized as the abilities of a state— both systemic and organizational level—to formulate sound policies and implement those policies effectively in collaboration with non-state actors to solve collective and complex problems.

Linkage between governance capacity and SD outcomes

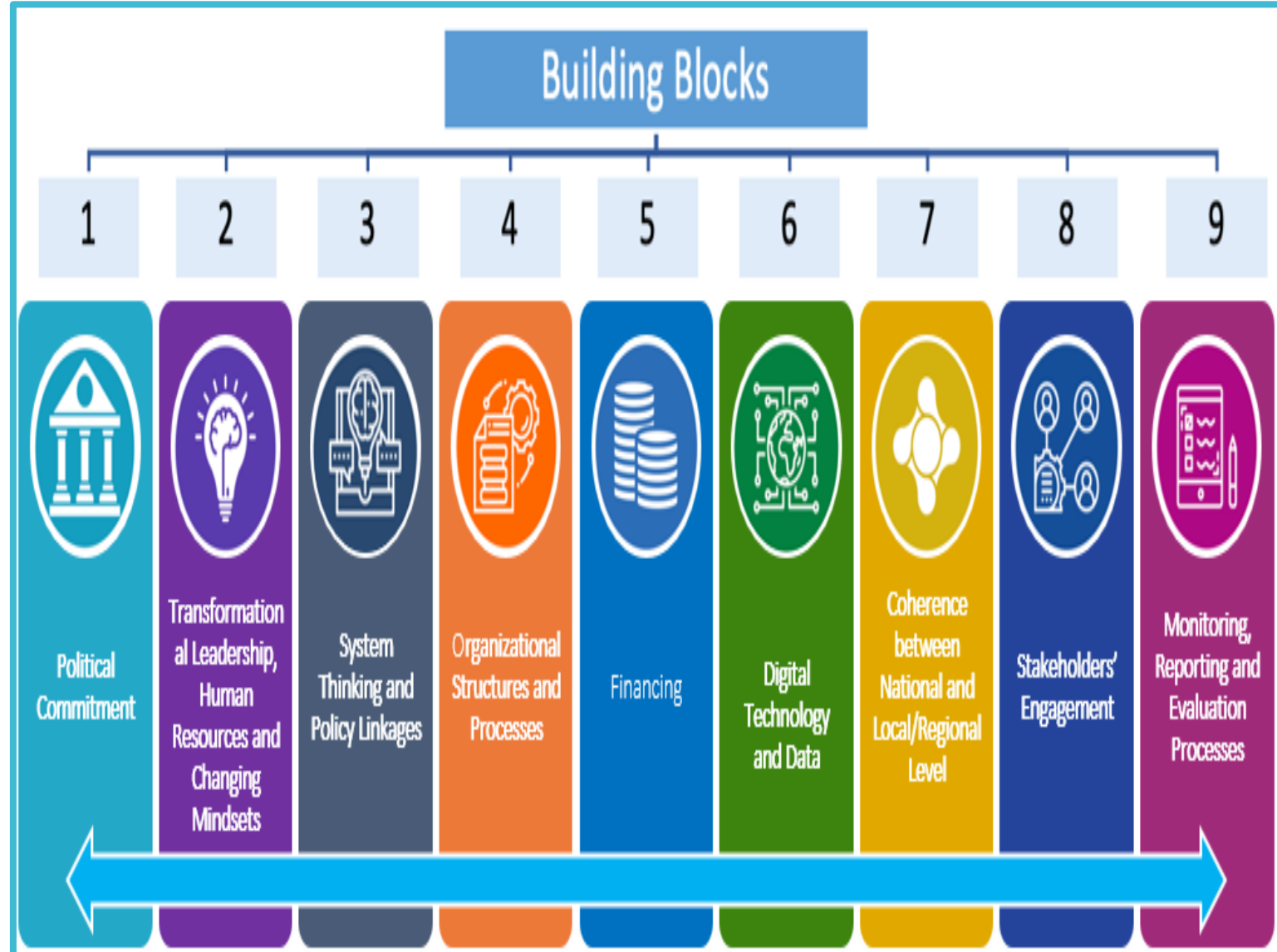


Institutional Readiness Assessment Framework

- ☐ Political commitment
- ☐ Transformative leadership, human resources and changing mindsets
- ☐ System Thinking and Policy Linkages
- ☐ Organizational structures and processes
- ☐ Financing

- ☐ Digital technology and data
- ☐ Coherence between national and local/regional levels
- ☐ Stakeholders' engagement
- ☐ Monitoring, reporting and evaluation processes

IRAF Building Blocks



Key elements of building blocks

Political commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vision setting• Regulatory framework• Normative framework
Transformative leadership, human resources and changing Mindsets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transformational leaders as opposed to transactional leaders• Quantity and quality of human resources• Mindsets: individual, organizational and system levels
System thinking and policy linkages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harmonization of inter-connected policies• Vertical integration• Horizontal integration
Organizational structures and processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Institutional arrangements for policy coordination/integration• Standardization

Key elements of building blocks

Financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrated budgetary allocation• Adequate funding
Digital technology and data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Digital Government Strategy• Digital Security Strategy• National Data Strategy.
Coherence between national and local/ regional levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parity between national, regional and local
Stakeholders' engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mechanisms and tools to engage stakeholders
Monitoring, reporting and evaluation processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring and reporting mechanism• Evaluation methods

Proxy measures for
sustainable
development
outcomes

Name of Index	Korea Ranking/ Score	Bangladesh Ranking/ Score
Sustainable Development Index 2021	27	104
E-Government Development Index 2020	2	119
Online Service Index 2020	1.00	0.6118
Telecom Infrastructure Index 2020	0.9684	0.3711
Human Capital Index 2020	0.8997	0.5731
Human Development Index 2020	23	133
Green Future Index 2022	10	62

Findings

- ❑ Korea's successful march towards green and sustainable recovery is a result of a strong public governance mechanism, demonstrated by nine building blocks, facilitating policy coherence towards SDGs.
- ❑ For Bangladesh, inadequacies in building blocks are impeding progress towards SDGs as well as a green and sustainable recovery
- ❑ Developing countries like Bangladesh should focus on enhancing nine building blocks to strengthen the governance capacity, and there by ensure green and sustainable recovery from Covid-19 as well as realization of the 2030 Agenda.

Policy implications

Political commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bangladesh may consider reformulation of the national sustainable development strategy for the period up to 2041• Enactment of Sustainable Development Act• Establishing a National Sustainable Development Council• Establishing a parliamentary standing committee on sustainable development
Transformative leadership, human resources and changing mindsets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishing political (instead of bureaucratic) leadership on sustainable development.• The Academy for Planning and Development under the Ministry of Public Administration may be transformed into a National Sustainable Development Academy (NSDA).• The NSDA should offer massive open online courses (MOOCs) on sustainable development accessible to all public officials.• The government should make undergoing this online training programs mandatory for all public servants.• The National Institute for Local Government (NILG) should implement similar measures for local government officials.• The BPATC and other cadre-specific training institutes should impart mindset changing training programs for all levels of public officials.

Policy implications

System Thinking and Policy Linkages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bangladesh may establish a ministerial level policy coordination office at the PMO.• The IMPOC may form Working Groups comprising Secretaries of relevant ministries.
Organizational structures and processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The establishment of a National Sustainable Development Council (NSDC).• Establishing a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Sustainable Development.• Inter-Ministerial Policy Coordination Committee at the PMO.• Empowering the IMED of Ministry of Planning for monitoring and evaluation.• Empowering the Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh to carry out policy effectiveness audit on SDGs.• Establishing policy coordination mechanism at the local levels

Policy implications

Financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bangladesh may follow the Korean example of significantly enhancing Tax-GDP ratio by increasing efficiency in the tax system and ensuring tax fairness.• The government may also consider finding innovative financing for sustainable development, such as Public-Private-People Partnership (PPPP).
Digital technology and data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formulation of an informationization master plan.• Establishing an e-Government Taskforce, led by the ICT Adviser to the PM• Fostering a culture of faster citizen services through one-stop-shops.
Coherence between national and local/ regional levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishing a Field Administration SDG Cell (FASC) at the Cabinet Division.• The FASC should launch an online platform through which various units of field administration can submit their reports on SDG related activities.• The Local Government Division of the Government may establish a Local Government Network for Sustainable Development (LGNSD).• LGNSD may provide a platform for information and knowledge sharing as well as capacity building of LGIs.• LGIs of Bangladesh may be encouraged to join international network of LGIs.• Representatives from both SNGs and LGNSD may be included in the national level SDG forums to ensure coherence between the national and local levels.

Policy implications

Stakeholders' engagement

- The proposed NSDC may include representatives from all strata of the government and the society.
- In the interim, the SIMC may include more members from various section of the Bangladesh society.
- The SDG Trekker, Bangladesh should launch a discussion forum to receive citizen feedback on posted data.

Monitoring, reporting and evaluation processes

- The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) may publish annual progress report on SDGs.
- The SIMC should hold annual feedback workshops on SDG progress reports.
- The BBS SDG Trekker may create options for collecting data from non-state actors, such as private sector and NGOs.
- The IMED of the Ministry of Planning may be involved in evaluation of SDG progresses.
- The Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh may evaluate SDG progresses and submit biennial report to the president.
- The government may submit the annual report on SDG progress to the national parliament for debate before finalizing the document.

Policy implications for Korea

- ❑ Firstly, under the 3rd Mid Term ODA Policy 2021-2025, Korea may launch training programs on strengthening the governance capacity for sustainable development for the relevant government officials from ODA partner countries.
- ❑ Secondly, the Korea Economic Cooperation Agency (KOICA) may launch dialogue with Bangladesh counterparts to strengthen the governance capacity for sustainable development in Bangladesh, and offer technical assistance to implement recommendations.
- ❑ Thirdly, similar dialogues may be held with other partner countries as well.
- ❑ Fourthly, the Government of Korea may allocate resources for implementing the above.

Queries and
Comments

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THANKYOUVERYMUCH