

SDG TRACKER

BANGLADESH'S
DEVELOPMENT
MIRROR



SDG Tracker is a simple but powerful tool for comprehensive target setting and progress tracking of each SDG, indicator by indicator. It is an innovative online measurement and analytics platform that takes advantage of the massive data revolution. Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina launched it at a high-level event on the sidelines of the 72nd session of the UN General Assembly in New York.

prologue

November 2017

Photographer - Pusan Shaan



CONTEXT

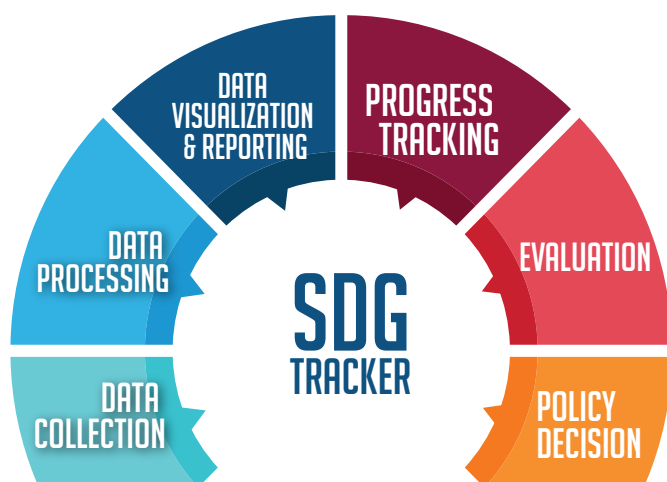
The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by all member states of the United Nations in September 2015 set specific objectives across the three dimensions of sustainable development—economic development, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability, underpinned by good governance. Bangladesh's commendable achievement in implementing MDGs has poised it to do better in achieving the SDGs as well. Unavailability of timely data in some cases was a hindrance to reflect real attainment of MDGs.

Without quality data, providing the right information on the right things at the right time, designing, monitoring and evaluating effective policies becomes almost impossible. In this context, the necessity of developing a tool to monitor the implementation of SDGs becomes vital.

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Scopes



The SDG Tracker is intended to collect data electronically from the relevant sources considering different geographical areas. Collected data are processed in the system to visualize the status and progress of implementation of the SDGs through multiple visualization and reporting schemes. Thus, it supports tracking of each target and indicator against the milestones set to achieve them within a stipulated time period. It further assists in evaluating the overall status and progress and helps in making policy decisions for an effective implementation plan for achieving the SDGs.

Data Sources for Monitoring SDGs



In Bangladesh, data on development progress mainly originates from national censuses, surveys and administrative records. As Bangladesh's National Statistics Office (NSO), the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) produces the majority of available data on development issues. Administrative data are mainly collected from the records of the Ministries/ Divisions, Directorates and other government agencies. Besides some civil society organizations and international organizations also produce some data on development and social issues.

MAIN FEATURES OF SDG TRACKER

Target Setting and
progress tracking

Data from any
geographical
location

Customisable in
any language

Data visualisation
and reporting
progress

Correlation among
multiple SDG
indicators

Dashboard for the
ministries/
directorates



Global Launching of SDG Tracker

"Bangladesh has launched SDG Tracker, a simple but powerful tool which is being used for comprehensive target setting and tracking progress of each SDG, indicator by indicator. It is an innovative platform that takes advantage of unprecedented data revolution. We are making this tool available for countries in the South."

- Sheikh Hasina, Hon'ble Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

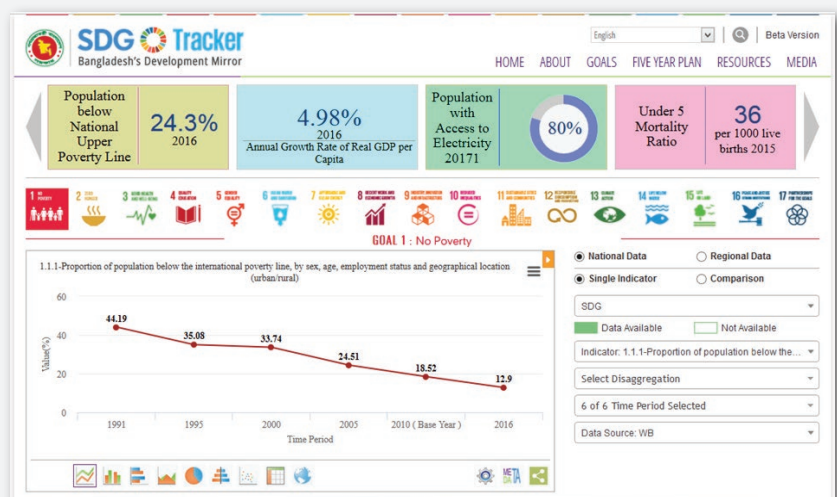
At the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly in a high-level side event titled, 'SDG Implementation, Financing and Monitoring, and Sharing Innovations through South-South and Triangular Cooperation', held on 20 September 2017, Sheikh Hasina, Honourable Prime Minister of Bangladesh launched the SDG Tracker and made this simple but powerful and innovative platform for monitoring and visualizing the progress of SDG initiatives available for all countries, especially ones from the Global South.

The Access to Information (a2i) Programme of the Prime Minister's Office—with technical support from UNDP and USAID - in collaboration with the General Economics Division (GED) and Statistics and Informatics Division of the Planning Commission along with other government and private stakeholders, designed and developed the SDG Tracker aimed at creating a data repository for monitoring the implementation of SDGs, to strengthen timely data and improving situation analysis and performance monitoring for achieving the SDGs along with other national development goals.

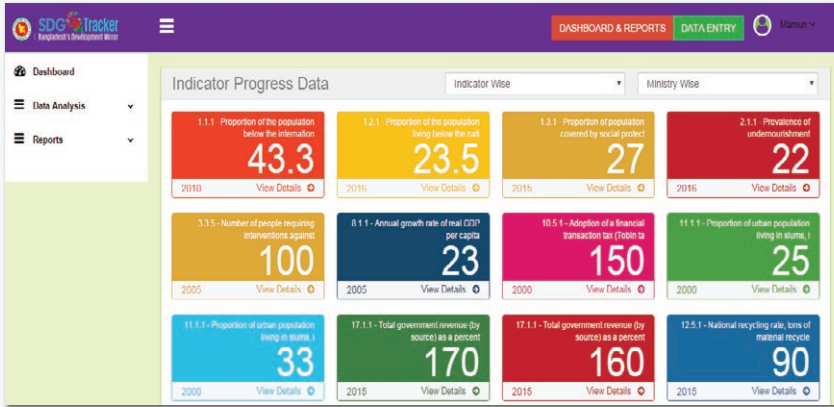
SDG Portal

SDG portal is a crucial part of SDG Tracker which enables users creating multiple visualizations depending on necessities

SDG Portal is a crucial part of the SDG Tracker which enables policy makers, government agencies, private sector, civil society organizations, international organizations, academia, researchers and above all, the citizens to track year on year progress against each indicator and target. Various visualization schemes will enable them to compare the progress against the targets and will support them to understand the trends. Users can create their own visualization depending on their necessities. Apart from this, users can retrieve data related to the MDGs as these data have been archived here. They can also track the progress of implementation of national development plans like the 7th Five Year Plan and other relevant plans using the portal. They will also have access to all resources related to SDGs.



SDG Dashboard



The SDG Dashboards pursue different and complimentary aims. The purpose of the dashboards for individual Ministries/Divisions and Agencies is to consolidate available data for each SDG and compare it visually against performance thresholds. The resulting dashboards highlight areas where a Ministry needs to make the greatest progress towards achieving the Goals by 2030. The SDG Dashboards aim to support the process of operationalizing the Sustainable Goals over the short term. It will help every government agency to prioritize for early action, understand the key implementation challenges and identify the gaps that must be filled in order to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

Institutional Collaboration



Attainment of the SDGs will require a strong and effective institutional collaboration involving all stakeholders including public representatives, government bureaucracy, private sector, civil society, knowledge community, media and development partners. The Prime Minister's Office will play a key role in coordinating the subsequent implementation and monitoring process with support from the General Economics Division of Planning Commission and other relevant Ministries.

SDG Actions

A new high-level post titled the Principal Coordinator for SDGs Affairs has been created at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to spearhead the process and force coordination.

The General Economics Division (GED) of the Planning Commission has formulated a mapping of the Ministries /Divisions by each of the 169 targets of SDGs to identify responsible Ministries /Divisions for achieving the SDGs successfully.

A data gap analysis has been conducted by GED to understand the status of data regarding the SDGs.

GED has prepared an 'SDGs Needs Assessment and Financing Strategy' for Bangladesh to estimate the resources needed for achieving SDGs in Bangladesh by 2030.

Bangladesh has participated in the Voluntary National Review (VNR) of SDGs in July 2017 at the High Level Political Forum depicting the implementation status of SDGs in Bangladesh along with 42 other countries..

SDG localization is taking place involving local policy makers, NGOs and even the private sectors. This promises to play a catalytic role in translating the SDGs into reality. Moreover, an action plan is being developed for this purpose through the identification of priority areas aligning with SDG targets.



Way Forward

Sheikh Hasina, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh, was awarded the 'UN MDG Awards 2010' and numerous other awards in recognition of her dynamic leadership that guided Bangladesh's achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. As SDGs are designed to carry on the momentum gained under the era of the MDGs, Bangladesh's experiences will be supportive for implementing the SDGs as well.

Like other developing nations from the Global South, for Bangladesh to achieve SDGs by 2030 a whole-of-government approach to sustainable development is required. The Government of Bangladesh's commitment for attaining SDG objectives has been reflected in the key development plans like the 7th Five Year Plan and other plans.

The SDG Tracker can be adjusted to each development context and set of challenges faced. Supporting partnerships, the availability of quality data and analysis, and accountability are themes which are crucial to successful implementation. Therefore, it has the potential to play a crucial role in facilitating the formulation of more informed policies and guiding resource allocation as well as decision making across the Global South.



a2i, Prime Minister's Office

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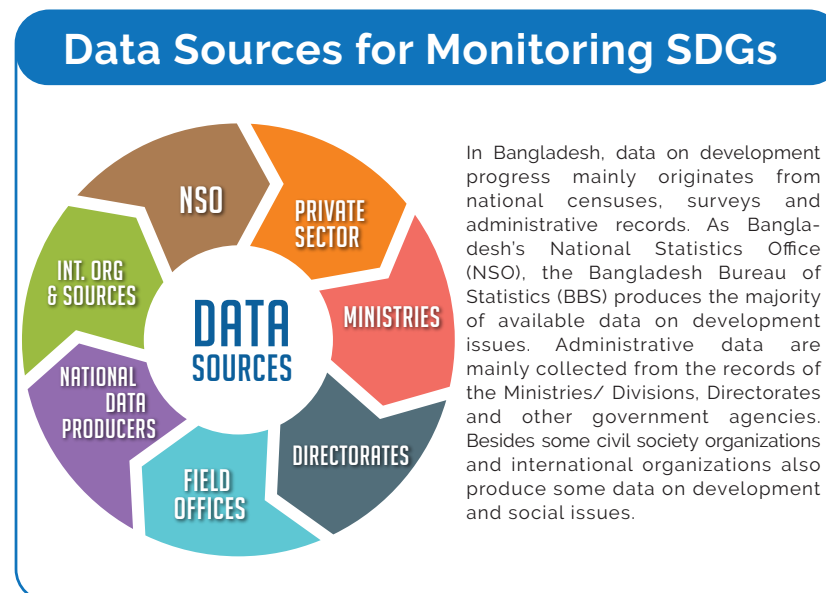
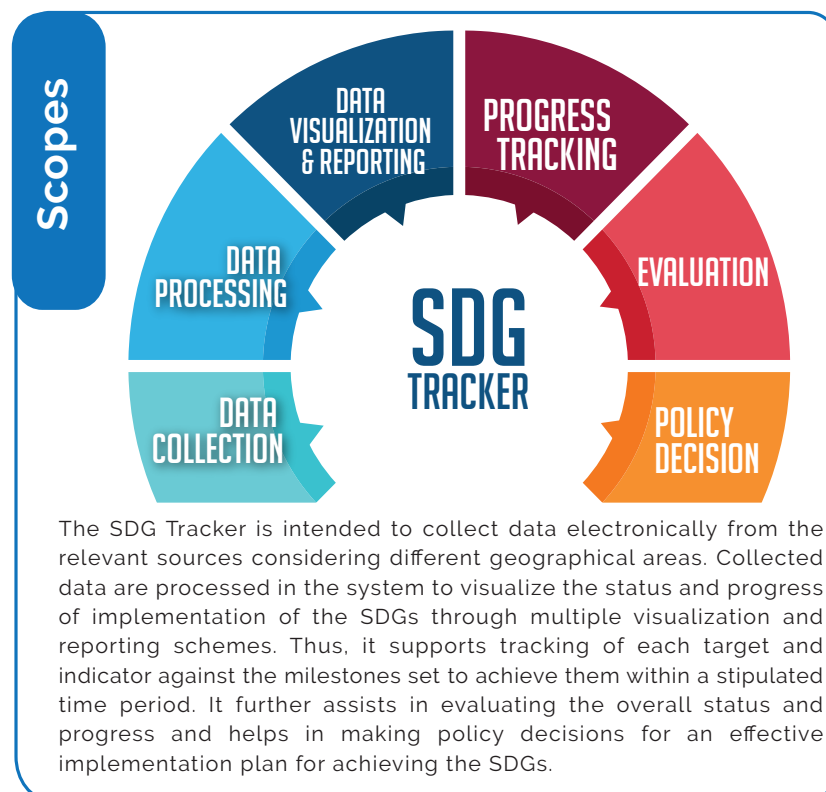
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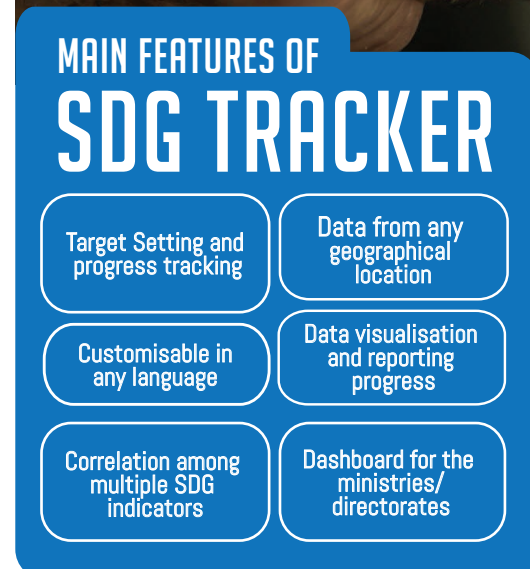
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