

Social Security Policy Support (SSPS) Programme

Project ID
00090394

Time Frame
01/07/2014 – 30/06/2026

Overall Budget¹
USD 13.18 Million

Development Partners
DFAT, Australian Government &
UNDP

Implementing Partners
Cabinet Division & General
Economic Division (GED), Planning
Commission, Ministry of Planning



Background Context

- Operating within a complex developmental, political, and social context in Bangladesh that faces challenges related to poverty, inequality, and achieving the SDGs.
- Advancing further reforms in the Bangladesh social security system, and catalyzing enrollment in the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS).
- Supporting the Cabinet Division and General Economics Division in their role as drivers of NSSS reforms.
- Engaging NGOs and CSOs in social protection programming.
- Addressing reform gaps in NSSS action plans and their implementation.
- Building policy, strategy, governance, and systems development in social protection areas.
- Improving people's resilience to climate-induced shocks and stresses, with a focus on gender and disability inclusion.
- Ensuring broad stakeholder participation, expert advice, conducting necessary research, policy diagnostics to inform policy for further reform, and capacity development.

Objectives

The Social Security Policy Support (SSPS) Programme supports the government in reforming the current social security system based on the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS), ensuring that economic growth is achieved more inclusively.

It aids the Government of Bangladesh in developing a fully functional social protection system that supports and facilitates best practice delivery models.

SDGs Addressed

- SDG 1: No poverty
- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being.
- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
- SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Area of Work

- Establish systems of universal pension, entitlements for persons with disabilities, social insurance, and shock-responsive schemes in line with the Government of Bangladesh's commitment to human rights and the right to social protection.
- Governance systems strengthened and made inclusive of building the case for and managing universal lifecycle-based social security.

¹ Agency-wise Budget Breakdown: DFAT- \$ 8,500,847; DFID- \$ 3,147,576

Significant Achievements

- National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh.
- Mid-term review of the NSSS.
- Political economy analysis in relation to social protection and address COVID-19 and inclusion in the 8th Five-year plan.
- Formulation of the NSSS Action Plan 2015 -2021; and the NSSS Action Plan 2021-26 involving 39 ministries.
- Set up the social protection governance structures from the national to the upazila (sub-district) level.
- Enabled the Govt. to introduce Universal Private Insurance.
- Single Registry MIS, M&E Dashboard, GRS, and G2P piloted in a selected district integrated with GoB financial inclusion system.
- Capacity needs assessment of the Union Parishad and building the capacity of UP Chairmen and Secretaries, including District and sub-district government officials.
- Policy Advocacy with the Members of Parliament on social protection issues.
- Knowledge products: ABCD of social protection, background papers, and compendium of social protection,
- NSSS Mid-term Review and Gender-responsive Adaptive Social Protection.
- NSSS background studies, social protection diagnostic and research, social insurance studies, PwDs perception study, and blue economy background papers.
- National capacity building on social protection integration with public service foundation training curricula and Local Government orientation curricula under NILG.

Expected Results

- National Social Protection Strategy 2026+
- The existence of gender and disability-responsive National Social Insurance Scheme (NSIS).
- Build capacity of key social protection ministries based on needs assessment for establishing social protection programme leadership.
- Establishment of a single registry MIS.
- Functional and utilized web-based social protection M&E dashboard for improved monitoring of social protection reforms and population with gender and sex-disaggregated data.
- Research and Pilot models of universal, target-based social protection, Urban and shock-responsive social protection, and Persons with Disabilities (PWD).
- Broadened knowledge base and influence of NGOs working for marginalized and excluded groups, including PwDs, in social protection decision-making and disability and marginalized population inclusive social protection programming.
- People living in ocean economy (blue economy) and hard to reach areas.
- Shock-responsive (adaptive social protection) framework.
- Social protection diagnostic and research, including briefs and papers.

Implementation Collaboration

With the Government of Bangladesh (GoB)

- Cabinet Division
- General Economics Division (GED)
- Ministry of Finance (Finance Division and Financial Institutions Division)
- Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoL&E)
- Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW)
- Statistics and Informatics Division (SID)
- Information Communication Technology Division (ICTD)
- Prime Minister's Office (PMO)
- 39 Ministries of Central Management Committee (CMC) of National Social Security

With the Development Partners (DPs) and Others

- UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)
- DFAT (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade)
- FCDO (Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office)
- European Union (EU)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- World Bank (WB)
- Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
- Private Sectors
- Media Agencies

Contact

Office 1: SSPS Programme Office, 9th Floor, IDB Bhaban, Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka 1207

Office 2: SSPS Programme Office, Room 1207, 11th Floor, Government Transport Pool Building, Secretariat Link Road, Ramna, Dhaka 1000

Office 3: SSPS Programme Office, Block 13, General Economics Division, Planning Commission, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon, Dhaka

Website: www.socialprotection.gov.bd

Partners

Australian Aid

