



Non-State Actor Report

Mapping social protection needs for the
marginalized communities in Bangladesh

Agenda

- **What are Non-State Actors (NSAs)**
- **What do NSAs do**
- **Mapping of marginalized groups**
- **8th Five Year Plan response**
- **Next steps**

NSA (NSA) Legal Framework

NSAs are registered, non-state organizations in Bangladesh.

Includes a range of organizations:

- Charity
- Local non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- International NGOs
- Civil society
- Mixed purpose

**Over 20,000 NSAs
registered in Bangladesh**

Legal Identity for NSAs	Laws regulating NSA relationship with GoB
i. The Societies Registration Act, 1861	i. The Voluntary Social Welfare Agencies (Regulation and Control) (VSW) Ordinance, 1961
i. The Societies Registration Act, 1861	ii. The Foreign Donation (Voluntary Activities Regulation) (FDR) Ordinance, 1978
ii. The Trust Act, 1882	iii. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Ordinance, 1982, Ordinance No XXXI of 1982.
iii. The Cooperative Societies Act, 1925	
iii. The Companies Act, 1913	

Major Types of NSAs

Relief and Welfare

Vital during crises, offering essential services in response to disasters, conflicts, and emergencies. They provide humanitarian aid including food, shelter, water, and medical care.



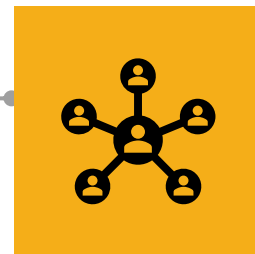
Development

Engage in medium- and long-term activities that promote social and economic progress.



Service

Target underserved communities, covering healthcare, education, job training, and legal representation. Focus on addressing root causes of social issues and offer direct services tailored to identified needs. Often operating where government services are limited and support basic needs of vulnerable populations.



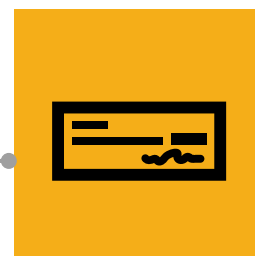
Networking and Coordination

Promote collaboration, knowledge sharing, and advocacy among NSAs and other stakeholders thereby enhancing the development sector's collective impact.



Consulting

Provide consulting services to the GoB, other NSAs, development partners through research, surveys, analysis, evaluation.



Funding

Raise large amounts of resources from a range of contributors, private and public, and distribute funding and grants to other organizations.

Functional Coverage of NSAs

1. Credit/ micro finance
 2. Women development
 3. Non-formal education
 4. Employment generation and income earning
 5. Capacity building in planning and management
 6. Occupational skill training
 7. Political participation
 8. Health and nutritional knowledge
 9. Family planning and development of children
 10. Environment
 11. Mobilization of target group and consciousness-raising
 12. Leadership development
 13. Access to government services and activate local administration
 14. Development of appropriate irrigation technologies
 15. Urban & Rural Development
 16. Humanitarian & Legal Aid
 17. Relief & Rehabilitation
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Strengths of NSAs

- Ability to work with multiple stakeholders



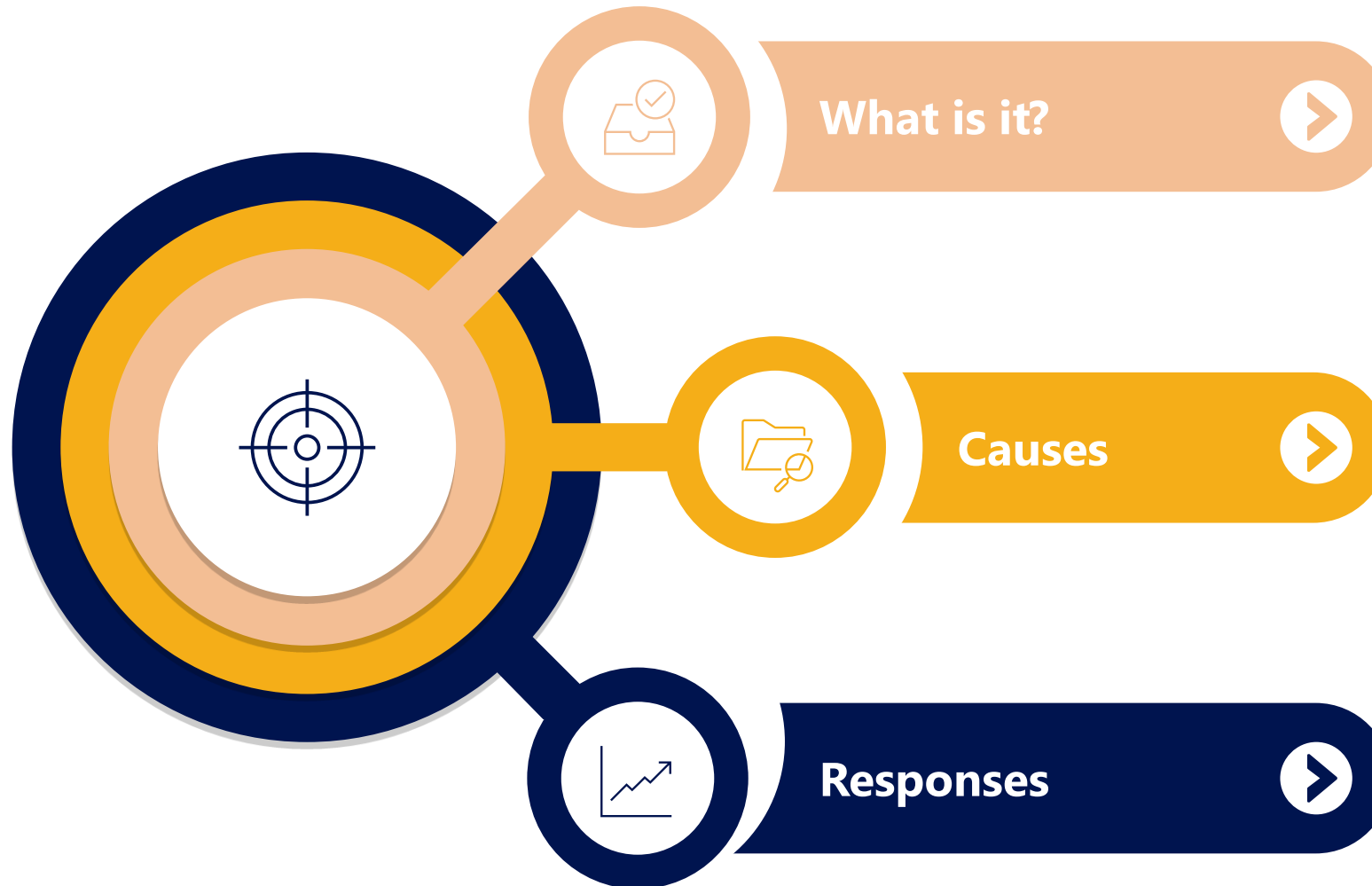
- Reaching poor and remote
- Rapid response

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- Capacity to operate on low budgets
 - Advocacy

- Local insights and understanding
- Promote local participation
- Local resource mobilization

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- Operational and programmatic flexibility
 - Innovate and adapt
 - Risk and experimentation

Marginalization



A lack of awareness or negative attitudes of the larger society, by which certain population groups are denied access to resources and services essential for living a decent life. For example, they are deprived of basic human rights like food, health, shelter, education, etc.

The process of unequal access to resources, unequal participation, and denial of opportunities. Prevailing attitudes and practices in the society 'conscious or unconscious, intended or unintended, explicit or informal', may also contribute to the process of marginalization and ultimately, exclusion from health care-seeking from the mainstream health systems.

Private citizens, NSAs, and governments can respond with direct charity through goods and services, promoting and changing legal frameworks, and advocating for socio-cultural shifts in societal behaviours and acceptance.

Leave No One Behind (LNOB)

In the context of LNOB, inequalities of outcomes and inequalities of opportunities are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.

The 8th Five Year Plan adopts a comprehensive policy framework to address both in Bangladesh.

The 8th Five Year Plan LNOB policy framework entails **4 key pillars**:

Pillar	Agenda
Moderate income inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen inclusive growth• Adopt effective redistribution policies• Promote income opportunities for the low-income population groups and lagging regions
Reduce gaps in health, nutrition, and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure better targeting and pro-poor composition of public expenditures• Improve delivery channels of quality services• Strengthen institutions and improve capacity for the provision of quality services• Implement governance reforms for installing greater responsiveness to disadvantaged groups• Expand access to un/underserved populations and regions
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Explicit budgeting for the marginalized	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a special LNOB fund for marginalized people which will support strategic actions for removing barriers that create hurdles in the progress of specific communities/regions.• Develop a national database on community-specific disaggregated data on lagging behind communities/regions and support effective monitoring of progress on LNOB status at disaggregated levels.

8th Five Year Plan



Action 1: Adopt an integrated strategy to develop a national database and specific funds for the marginalized groups.



Action 2: Develop and implement region- and community-specific strategic actions to combat marginalities



Action 3: Formulate target-specific action plans to increase income levels and access to productive resources of the lagged-behind communities.



Action 4: Address limited access to education, health, and nutrition services in the lagging regions and marginalized communities on a priority basis.



Action 5: Increase socio-political participation of marginalized communities through adopting integrated approaches.



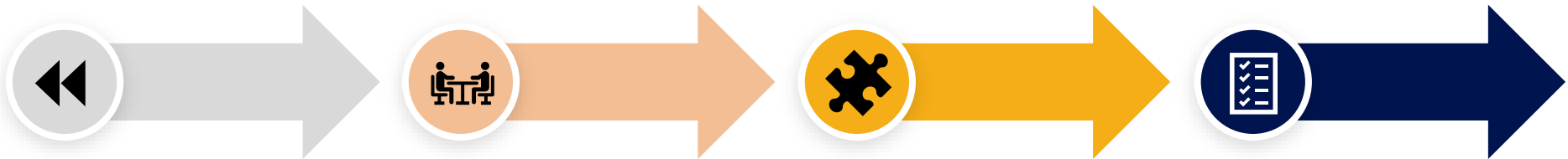
Action 6: Ensure special focus on lagging behind regions/communities in all national development plans and strategies.

Mapping Marginalized Groups

Groups Based On	Population Description	Key Challenges
Socio-economic status	Those living near or below the poverty line	High poverty, malnutrition, limited access to affordable healthcare
Ethnicity	Ethnic and Indigenous minority groups	Higher poverty rates compared to national average
Religion / caste	Religious minority and ostracized castes groups	Discrimination and social exclusion
Disability and disease	Persons with physical or mental disabilities, and persons with communicable or severe diseases	Higher unemployment rates compared to national average; limited access to affordable treatments
Age	Young, adolescent, and elderly persons	Malnutrition; limited training and employment opportunities; high poverty
Migrant and mobile	Cross-border migrants, internal migrants, refugees, landless	Difficulty accessing available social protection programs
Occupation	Tea plantation, sweepers, dom, beggar, child labourer, unemployed, and sex workers	High poverty, discrimination, and social exclusion
Geographic	People living in hard-to-rich, coastal, haor areas, char, hill areas	Difficulty accessing available social protection programs
Sexual orientation	Transgender/third gender (Hijra), gay, lesbian	Discrimination and social exclusion
Violence	Trafficked survivors, acid survivors, sexually violated, raped victims	Limited trauma and mental health support
Climate and Disaster	Victims of natural and man-made disaster, and those impacted by climate change	Increasing vulnerability to cyclones, storms, flooding, etc.

Way Forward

Through the 8th Five Year Plan and National Social Security Strategy (NSSS), and the following 9th Five Year Plan and future social protection strategic reform planning, specific steps can be taken to build a more inclusive and equitable social protection system for marginalized groups.



Review

Review, identify, and plan priority reforms for responding to the specific challenges and needs of marginalized groups within the country.

01

Utilize NSAs

- Incorporate NSA insights into reform planning.
- Consider pathways for NSA decentralized service delivery.
- Expand forums for NSA policy contribution.

02

Future Strategy

The current NSSS expires in 2026. Future strategic plans should incorporate specific chapters and national objectives responding to marginalized challenges and needs.

03

Reforms

Develop action plans and begin implementing specific reforms that respond to each of the marginalized groups.

04



A photograph of a lush green tea plantation. Several workers are visible in the background, tending to the tea bushes. The scene is set in a hilly area with many trees and dense foliage.

Thank You

Non-State Actor Report
Social Security Policy Support (SSPS)