Local Collective Action for Accelerating SDGs

Dumuria | Ulipur
27 unions | 243 wards

AUG 2025 – JAN 2026

UNDP

Why SDG Localization – what is UNDP's target?

Rationale & Target Results

The process of adapting, customizing SDGs and translating them into local-level development plans and strategies that fit the needs, context, and priorities of a particular region or locality in coherence with the national framework.

Target results

Identify upazila-level agreed priority needs that driven by union-level citizen participation, ensuring that these become both union and upazila priority initiatives, and link these priorities with different stakeholders' programs.

Major Deliverables

Core outputs driving SDG localization

- A volunteer-led SDGL facilitation process
- Develop a union-level needs and priority identification process
- Develop participatory, hands-on methods for SDGL
- Develop a community ownership process that is locally led, locally owned, and inclusive of the whole society.

Target Stakeholders' Collaboration

Government:
- Ensure that the identified needs become both union and upazila priority initiatives, and
- Scale up these lessons in different upazilas.

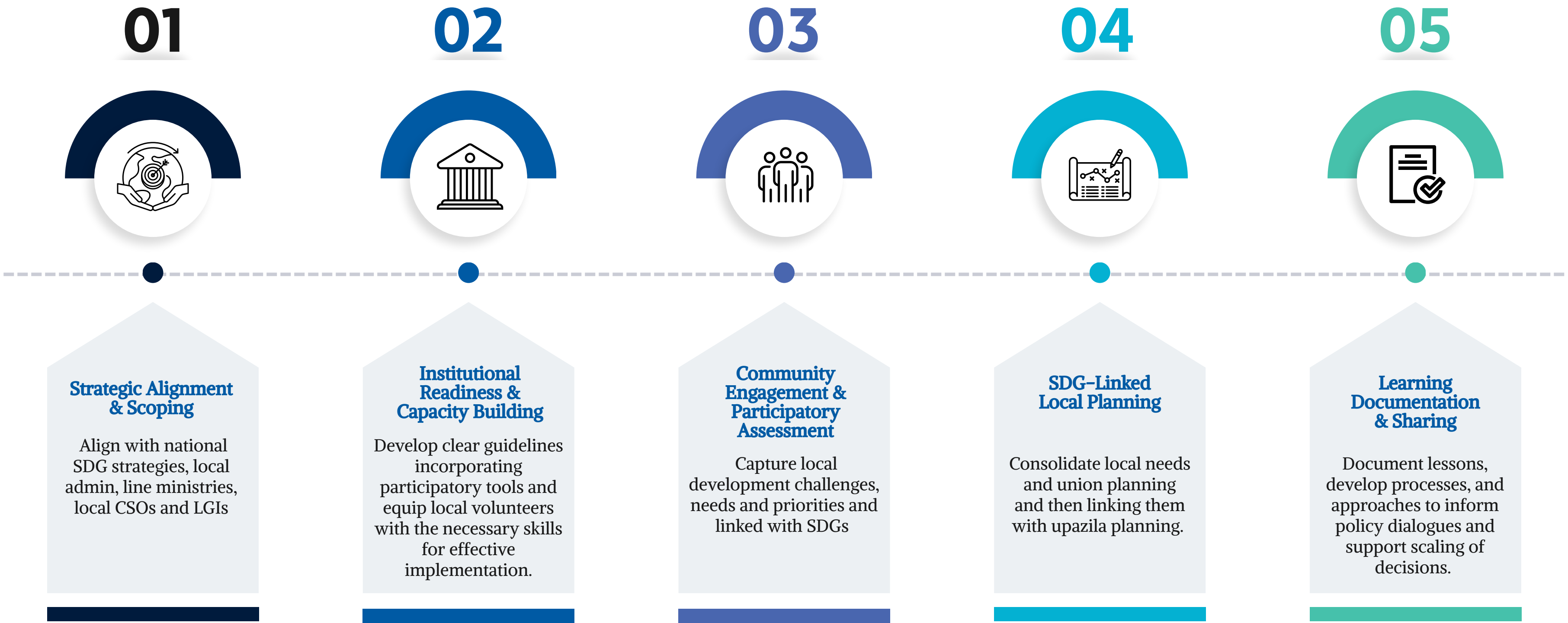**Development Agencies:**
Connect with ongoing programs

NGOs:
Integrate with relevant project

Communities:
Continuously monitor progress with UP and Upazila authorities.

SDG Localization Objectives

01
Strategic Alignment & Scoping
Align with national SDG strategies, local admin, line ministries, local CSOs and LGIs

02
Institutional Readiness & Capacity Building
Develop clear guidelines incorporating participatory tools and equip local volunteers with the necessary skills for effective implementation.

03
Community Engagement & Participatory Assessment
Capture local development challenges, needs and priorities and linked with SDGs

04
SDG–Linked Local Planning
Consolidate local needs and union planning and then linking them with upazila planning.

05
Learning Documentation & Sharing
Document lessons, develop processes, and approaches to inform policy dialogues and support scaling of decisions.

Community Engagement: Purpose, Process, and Actions

01 — Process

- Pre-workshops tasks, Transect walks, informal FGD, mapping local needs, identify service gaps, mapping vulnerabilities & available resources.
- 81 workshops – Problem tree analysis, compile needs, linking with SDGs

01 — Wards

Identify local problems and needs.

02 — Process

- Analysis needs, rank priorities and prepare SDG alignment
- Stakeholders mapping, missing matrix.
- 27 workshops, compile wards needs. .

02 — Unions

Prioritize union needs, identify local actions, and develop union report.

03 — Process

- Alignment with union needs and priorities.
- Integration of priorities with public and private stakeholders.
- Identification of missing institutional, service & data links.
- Two workshops

03 — Upazila

Ensure agreed upazila priorities and action plan, identify roles of stakeholders, develop upazila report.

How We Have Started

The Hunger Project–Bangladesh

1. Co-creation process with THP and local orgs
2. CapDev – hands-on exercise, volunteers union facilitators pool
3. Identify wards needs - transect walks, FGD, KII
4. Compile wards needs
5. Compile wards needs and prioritization

Problem case in 6 Unions in Dumuria, Khulna (training phase)

Problems

4–5 months of recurring waterlogging (Rangpur, Gutudia, Dhamalia, Raghunathpur, Atlia, Maguraghona unions)

Needs

Restoration of livelihoods, and ecosystem

Gap

Identify and map the main causes — why did this happen, and what are the local reasons?

Impact

Ecosystem in danger, cropping pattern changed, and poor people lost livelihoods

Scopes

Ask and engage relevant government agencies, NGOs, businesses, and development partners, and link their actions to address this issue —agriculture, poultry, health, education, employment, drinking water, social safety nets, and social cohesion.

Problem case of Gunaigach Union in Ulipur, Kurigram (training phase)

Problems

60% of roads are kancha, and 15% of HHs have no road access, affecting vulnerable of ward 1.

Gap

Less priority of UP and Upazila parishad authorities on roads and communications improvement

Needs

Construction of pucca roads. At least construction of kancha roads for households with no road access. Basic service delivery needs to drastically improve.

Impact

Limited livelihood opportunities. Poor access to health, nutrition and education services.

Scopes

Advocate with the UDCC and the UP Standing Committee (Infrastructure) to prioritize the issue.
Coordinated efforts between the Government, NGOs and development partners on improving basic service delivery

Lesson Leanred

What not Worked

NGOs were involved but showed limited interest in contribution
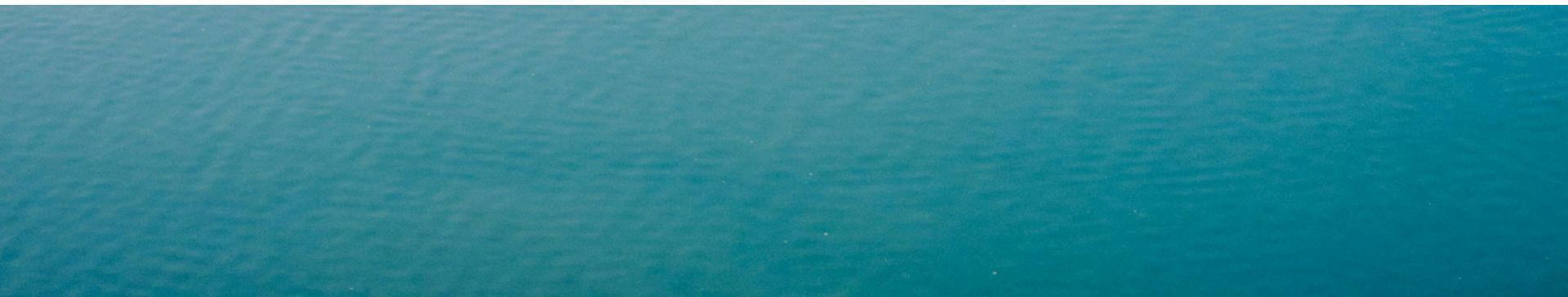

What Worked

- **Participatory process** – informal approach built strong connections.
- **Union facilitators** – demonstrated actionable ownership.
- **Local government officials' engagement** – felt honored and shared valuable insights.
- **Co-creation model** – self recognized

Recommendations

- **Union to Upazila government officials** – establish a clear SDGL work chain.
- **Co-creation approach for NGOs** – engage UNO actively.
- **SDG village piloting** – focus on action-oriented engagement and testing, not just planning.
- **Approach** – emphasize bottom-up processes, while incorporating both top-down and bottom-up discussions.

SDG Village Selection Framework

Purpose of the Framework

- Ensure transparent and evidence-based village selection.
- Maximize impact through targeted SDG interventions.
- Strengthen local government ownership and systems.
- Support scalable models for replication

Five Selection Domains

- Multi-Dimensional Deprivation — 40%
- Climate & Environmental Vulnerability — 20%
- Social Inclusion & Equity Risks — 15%
- Institutional Readiness — 15%
- Operational Feasibility — 10%

SDG Village Selection Framework

Data Sources

- Union Parishad records
- PRA tools & social maps
- Secondary data (BBS, DGHS, MoE)
- Field observations & KIIs
- Climate vulnerability maps

Scoring Framework

- Each domain scored 0–100 based on assessment
- Weighted formula applied according to domain importance
- Villages scoring ≥70 qualify strongly
- Framework ensures fairness and comparability

Process Flow

1. Pre-screening
2. Field assessment
3. Scoring & ranking
4. Validation by local govt
5. Final endorsement

Road Map

Aug–Spt 2025
- Develop Concept
- Align with GED, CAO, and CabDiv Identify volunteers and build their capacity to create a union facilitators pool
- Develop toolboxes, manuals, and guidelines
- Begin mapping union-level needs

Oct–Dec 2025
- Complete mapping of union needs
- Finalize union-level needs prioritization
- Complete agreed upazila-level prioritization
- Identify projects and local resources, and link them with the identified priorities
- Compile all findings and prepare upazila action plan

Jan–Mar 2026
- Conduct a national-level policy dialogue on the draft report
- Prepare the final report

Thank You

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