



Making a Case for the Sustainable Development Goals from Asia

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Introduction

“ This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. [...] If we realize our ambitions across the full extent of the Agenda, the lives of all will be profoundly improved and our world will be transformed for the better ”¹

In September 2015, all member states of the United Nations adopted the new global development framework, namely the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With this Agenda, the global community aims at transforming the world for the better: by the year 2030, extreme poverty and hunger shall be eliminated, natural resources shall be protected and development opportunities shall be created equally for all people.

The Agenda derives from two different processes: the Post-2015 process of the Poverty and Development Agenda with its Millennium Development Goals and the Rio-process of the Sustainability Agenda. Hence, the new Agenda combines development and environmental matters and strives for the equal consideration of the social, ecological, and economic dimension of sustainability.

In order to transform the world for the better, the Agenda contains 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) along with 169 targets. The contents of these 17 SDGs reflect the complex reality in which we live. However, the 2030 Agenda is more than the SDGs. The Preamble of the 2030 Agenda names five overarching core messages, which precede the 17 SDGs: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership. These core messages, the so-called “5 Ps”, clarify the interdependencies between the goals. Concise messages improve the communicability of the 2030 Agenda.

Moreover, overarching principles guide its implementation. These five principles are derived from different points in the text of the Agenda:

UNIVERSALITY: The 2030 Agenda is universally applicable to all countries and all countries contribute according to their national capacities.

INTEGRATED APPROACH: The 17 SDGs are integrated and indivisible. Synergies as well as trade-offs have to be identified. The social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability as mutually depending factors are given equal importance.

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: Marginalised groups and the poorest of the poor are in the centre of the Agenda, as they should be reached first in order to achieve sustainable development.

ACCOUNTABILITY: Regular and inclusive reviews take place on a national, regional and global level in order to guarantee the successful implementation of measures.

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY: The successful implementation of the Agenda requires contributions from all relevant stakeholders. Besides governments, these include companies, civil society groups, citizens and academia.

Following this call for institutions and organisations to further engage in the implementation process of the 2030 Agenda, the Sector Network Rural Development (SNRD) Asia together with the Sector Network Transport, Environment, Energy and Water (TUEWAS) Asia, has established a joint Task Force on SDGs among the two sector networks. The objective of the Task Force has been to provide learning, knowledge and information services for enhancing integrated approaches for member projects of TUEWAS and SNRD Asia. To foster in-depth knowledge exchange and the development of GIZ contributions to implementing the 2030 Agenda in Asia, the Task Force has developed the present knowledge product. As one of its outputs, the SNRD and TUEWAS member projects were mapped according to their contributions to the SDGs. The findings of this mapping are now presented in this publication. Furthermore, this knowledge product consists of a collection of project cases that showcase practical implementation experiences and learnings related to the SDGs. Each of the case studies has identified the main SDG and target the project contributes to. After identifying in which way the project is contributing to the achievement of the mentioned SDG, special features of the project and the corresponding success story are highlighted. The project cases collected in this study shall serve as best practices for SDG implementation on the regional level and thus motivate further action.

¹ United Nations 2015, online available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf>

SDG Mapping



During the preparatory period of the Task Force development in 2016, 106 projects of both Sector Networks were mapped in order to get a clearer picture to which SDGs the member projects are contributing to. Based on the project proposals, both the project outcome and outputs - and where applicable also the indicators - were aligned to the 17 SDGs, 169 targets and 241 indicators. Please watch the video on how to use the Excel based SDG mapping tool at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7MvK5AdM70M> feature=youtu.be

Both Sector Networks now provide an interactive website function, where visitors can click on one SDG and directly find all projects contributing to the respective goal. This website tool was elected as Best Practice and presented during the Best of Sector Network Forum in 2017 at GIZ Head Office in Eschborn.*

The result of the mapping showed that both Sector Networks have most projects contributing to SDG 13 Climate Action (63%) and SDG 17 Partnership for the Goals (50%), focusing on SDG target 17.6 and 17.19 reflecting capacity development and knowledge management. Besides these major goals, SNRD Asia is mainly working on SDG 15 - Life on Land and SDG 2 - Zero Hunger, while TUEWAS has a strong focus on SDG 7 - Energy. For more information on the results, please visit the website: <https://snrd-asia.org/joint-task-force-sustainable-development-goals-is-on-the-move/>

The following SWOT table summarizes the strength, weakness, opportunities and threats of the mapping undertaken.

<p>STRENGTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tool provides a quick overview to which SDGs and targets the project is contributing to • Projects and Working Groups can easily find which other projects are working towards similar SDGs and targets and therewith identify scope for cooperation 	<p>WEAKNESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals are often only available in German • Not clearly defined what has to be mapped, i.e. for some projects the contribution was “hidden” in an activity which was not mentioned in the proposal • Goals or target “picking” is undermining the integrated approach
<p>OPPORTUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every new member project should update the tool • Result Matrix should be the basis of the mapping, rather than the broader proposal • After the joint procedural reform projects have to report on SDGs and the information can be collected from there 	<p>THREAT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further update of the tool • No clear processes on how to use the information - not using it for identifying interlinkages among the projects or working groups • Projects and Working Groups continue to work in silos

* Explore the SNRD Asia SDG tool here: <https://snrd-asia.org/sustainable-development-goals/> and the TUEWAS SDG tool here: <https://tuewas-asia.org/sdgs/>.

Case 1 Lemongrass - More Than Just a Plant

INCENTIVISING BIO-RESOURCE PRODUCERS IN NORTH INDIA



Goal 15

Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss

Target 15.6

Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed



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Background

India is one of the leading countries, which have signed the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1992 and further adopted the Nagoya Protocol in 2014. Both the CBD and the Nagoya Protocol are pursued by the 2030 Agenda, mainly with SDG 15. Further, the Biological Diversity Act (BDA) 2002 includes the “Guidelines on Access to Biological Resources and Associated Knowledge and Benefits Sharing Regulations, 2014” that covers conservation, use of biological resources and associated knowledge occurring in India for commercial or research purposes. The Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Partnership Project therefore directly contributes to the target 15.6.

Story in Focus

In Uttarakhand, a northern state in India, Lemongrass (*Cymbopogon citratus*) is one of the important tradable bio-resources. It is a well-known cure for common cold, digestive disorders and is also used as mild astringent. Due to surging demands by the pharmaceutical industries for its essential oils, many companies have established contract farming and land lease agreements with local farmers and cultivators. In addition to the cultivation, there is a substantial wild collection of Lemongrass from the forests of Uttarakhand.

As per India's Biodiversity Act, companies that are using bio-resources for commercial purposes have the obligation to share a part of their profits with the local communities who are stewarding bio-resources. Obtaining resources for commercial purposes and sharing benefits arising from the use of biological resources is called "Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)". Legal frameworks under the Act not only support conservation and encourage sustainable utilisation of bio-resources, but also prevent over-exploitation by the companies.

The Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board is a state-level statutory institution established to implement ABS. Similarly, at the local-level, Biodiversity Management Committees

(BMC) are constituted under the Act. The Dudhai BMC in Uttarakhand negotiated benefit-sharing with local traders and companies accessing lemongrass and other important bio-resources, and received an amount of EUR 1,300 (INR 1,00,000) as benefit-sharing obligation from the companies. This amount is being used to develop a Navratna garden for conservation of medicinal plants in the region.

Besides, they also actively participate in the forest fire mitigation and control of mining activities in the village. Mr. Rajesh Mall, President of Dudhai BMC, says,

“The ABS paybacks from Industries and traders have improved our livelihoods. The forest fires in surrounding areas have reduced and resources collected from wild are also getting fair value. In future, we hope to be able to participate in the negotiation process with the industries as well.”

Until December 2016, Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board has received more than EUR 130,000 (INR 10 million) as benefit sharing obligation by 15 companies. 95% of this amount will be shared with BMCs from the locations where the resources are collected from.



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“People, Plants and Profit” at Its Core

By bringing together “People, Plants and Profit”, the ABS project has various interlinkages throughout the 2030 Agenda and therefore mirrors the integrated spirit of the SDGs within the three dimensions of sustainable development – the society, environment and economy.

Rather than being a “one target - one project” approach, ABS is not only being considered under its main target 15.6, but also mentioned under the SDG 2 Zero Hunger with its target 2.5 from the agriculture perspective. In India, however, SDG 15 lies within the responsibility of the

Ministry Environment, Forest and Climate Change, while SDG 2 with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare. A mapping of the goals and targets to the Indian nodal ministries was carried out by the National Institute of Transforming India (NITI Aayog), which has been entrusted with the role to co-ordinate the 2030 Agenda. As an outcome of the new structures expected from NITI Aayog activities, cross-cutting topics like ABS require political coherence among Ministries to successfully implement them with an integrated and holistic approach.

ALSO CONTRIBUTING TO



AUTHOR: Patricia Dorn

PROJECT IN CASE: Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Partnership

COUNTRY: India

COMMISSIONER: The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the National Biodiversity Authority

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CASE 1

LEMONGRASS - MORE THAN JUST A PLANT

CASE 1

LEMONGRASS - MORE THAN JUST A PLANT

Case 2 Promoting a Healthy Lifestyle



Goal 3

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Target 3.7

By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes

Background

Bangladesh is a fast-growing economy witnessing rapid urbanisation with a low-median age of 25 years, which is fuelling the economic growth further. However, like similar economies, this country is also facing health challenges, mainly due to very high population density, lack of public infrastructure and governance mechanisms which are still catching up with the country's economic progress. The challenge is further compounded due to poor health-seeking behaviour amongst the underserved population; a lot which stays in the urban slums having limited or no access to safe water, sanitation, hygiene and health.



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The project therefore is designed to identify the gaps in health service provision in the urban settings and strengthen the City Corporations and capacity of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in health systems governance in order to reduce these gaps to improve service delivery through maternal health services, especially for the neglected population living in urban slums.

While health promotion activities have been running in Bangladesh for a number of years, ABDC introduced an innovative approach to improve health-seeking behaviour among the urban slum population by introducing 'Adolescent Corners'; these are small rooms created within the target slums where the health education were provided by 'Peer Educators'. These 'peer educators' are members of the slum, from the target group who received special training on health education and conducted the sessions at 'adolescent corners'. Besides eradicating hesitation among the community to discuss health concerns, using peer educators also ensure longer sustainability of knowledge.



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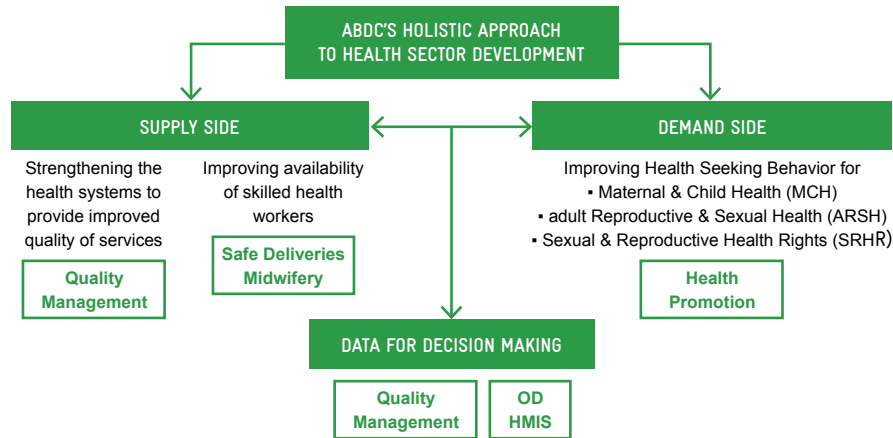
Story in Focus

ABDC is designed in a holistic approach wherein it works on both the supply and demand side of the health sector. Overall, the project has made significant changes in its project areas to improve health-seeking behaviour among the urban population; improved maternal health services; and established a working database that City Corporation can use to make informed decision for the health sector.

Through 12 sessions on basics of health, hygiene as well as sexual and reproductive health (SRH), adolescent boys and girls learned about their basic health rights in separate groups. A different group was set up for elder girls and women in child-bearing age; in addition to the existing 12 topics, these women also learn about maternal and child healthcare. At the end of it all, 32 142 adolescents, 10 635

women in childbearing age (15- 49 years) and 660 men received health education at the project sites in Rajshahi, Sylhet and Narayanganj City Corporation. These boys and girls, men and women are now 'change agents' who are sharing their knowledge to increase awareness about wellbeing and health rights.

However, the project has also faced many roadblocks, which has helped identify areas where further work and coordination is needed. Bangladesh will still need intense support to coordinate the activities of the health department in a manner, which serves the raising concern of a rapidly increasing urban population, to provide effective health services at government health facilities in urban and sub-urban cities.



ALSO CONTRIBUTING TO



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IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)
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Case 3 China, the Lab for the Future Mobility



Goal 13
 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Targets 13.2
 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

Targets 13.3
 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation in the Chinese transport sector



Background

The Chinese transport sector accounts for almost four percent of the global CO₂ emissions and is a major source of particulate matter pollution, significantly contributing to global climate change and decreasing the life quality of millions of people, especially in Chinese urban areas.



Story in Focus

The project Sino-German cooperation on Low Carbon Transport supports Chinese decision makers in relevant governmental positions in promoting climate friendly development and the decarbonisation of the Chinese transportation sector. Main approaches encompass emission quantification, scenario modelling and policy consultation to further exploit technical as well as behavioural mitigation potentials in urban and freight transportation.

Furthermore, guidelines are published with the aim to strengthen intermodal transport, promote the shift of freight transport from road to rail and to improve the energy efficiency. Therefore the impact which the transportation sector has on global climate change is being reduced. The overall objective guiding all of the project activities is to support the integration of GHG and CO₂ mitigation measures into national policies and climate action strategies and finally to counteract climate change.

Project activities enhance the elaboration of climate protection strategies for the transportation sector, the realization of trainings on the development of emission inventories as well as organization of expert knowledge transfer to strengthen the role of public transport in Chinese cities.

The project follows an interrelated multi-layer structure to address different areas of action required for a consistent approach to prepare, induce and promote climate protection policies and measures. One of the core project components

is supposed to strengthen and refine the methodological and data tool-box to quantify GHG emissions in the transportation sector and therefore to provide transparency as well as a sound decision-making basis for Chinese policy makers for designing and promoting climate protection policies in the area of passenger and freight transport. Whereas the modelling of climate protection policy scenarios helps identify and prioritise most effective CO₂ mitigation measures, two other project components support the development and implementation of policy measures as well as demonstration pilots to improve energy efficiency within different areas of the transportation sector, e. g. public transport, urban logistics, freight etc. Finally, all project activities are flanked by the Sino-German policy dialogue on climate protection in the transportation sector to promote the cooperation and strategic alignment between the two countries in order to enhance the effectiveness of policy development and implementation from mutual learning and the exchange of experiences.

The successful characteristic of the project lies in the combination of the very comprehensive and coherent structural approach of the interrelated project components covering all relevant fields of action in the area of climate protection policies and measures with the inherent flexibility of the project framework that allows accounting for upcoming innovations and current policy developments. This is of particular importance if not a decisive success factor for working in the Chinese context where technological innovations paired with strong strategic agenda setting on the political level can unfold unanticipated impact with regard to the potentials of climate protection policies and measures. Hence, the project is designed to work on the fundamentals of climate protection policies such as climate protection scenario modelling but at the same time, it identifies and analyses new trends and technological developments such as shared mobility, exploring their mitigation potentials and integrating them into comprehensive action planning approaches. Another success factor of the project is its strong emphasis



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on the bilateral cooperation and close exchange on policy level between the German BMU and the Chinese MoT. The long-ranged relationship between the political partners is based on an equal footing with the tendency for the learning to go more and more both ways. To identify how the policy dialogue can contribute to more effective, integrative and forward-thinking climate protection action implementation as well as how to mutually increase climate protection ambitions are going to be some of the important challenges for the future of the project.

ALSO CONTRIBUTING TO



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Case 4 Jointly for Sustainable Urbanisation



Goal 17
 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

Targets 17.16
 Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology, and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries



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Background

The *Sino-German Urbanisation Partnership (SGUP)* aims at promoting the exchange of experience, best practice, and expertise between various German, Chinese, and international stakeholders working in China. The project collaborates with partners from the governmental, non-governmental, scientific, and industrial sectors on issues concerning integrated, climate-friendly and sustainable urban development of Chinese and German cities. In order to create synergies and bridge communication to build joint capacities among such international stakeholders, the project has established a liaison office in Germany as an exchange hub. It further organises regular stakeholder meetings to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and information. Moreover, the project has devoted its resources to establish a sound outreach strategy that allows it to bring together stakeholders and disseminate project results. The project runs various social media channels to disseminate information on topics related to sustainable urbanisation, and currently develops an online presence to increase visibility and further advance knowledge and activities exchange.

As a joint initiative of the German and Chinese governments to address the economic, social, and environmental challenges created by fast-paced urbanization processes, and climate change in both countries, SGUP advances the political dialogue and cross-city and institutional exchange of experience to find joint solutions, to build capacities, and to let the countries learn from each other. The exchange targets a reduction of CO2 emissions, a more balanced urban(ization) development, and an improved quality of life in cities.

Story in Focus

One of the features of this project is a bi-directional exchange enabling both (German and Chinese) sides to learn from each other in respective fields. In an increasingly interconnected and globalised world, a sustainable development as such can only be achieved by means of international cooperation and political dialogue; SGUP is the embodiment of such practices when political goodwill is translated into concrete action plans.

SGUP seeks to positively influence environmental policy-making and supports smooth policy implementation. It aims at providing capacity trainings for German and Chinese officials, municipal actors, urban planners, developers, and other relevant stakeholders. Their work supports the exchange of experience, best practice and expertise between cities and provinces of the two countries on issues related to integrated and sustainable urban development.

One such training is the Sino-German Mayors Program (est. 1982; study tour, summit, round tables) which ensures the farthest reaching extend of information dissemination on the highest local/provincial level. These joint initiatives and modes of cooperation resulting from this program therefore directly contribute to the achievement of SDG 17.



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COUNTRY: China
COMMISSIONER: The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)
IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER: Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development
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Case 5 A Ray of Hope

How REEEP's Solar Powered Drinking Water System (SWP) is Contributing to SDGs



7

Goal 7

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Target 7.2

By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix



Background

Bangladesh, the sixth most vulnerable country in the world in the face of climate change, faced 228 climate induced hazards (such as floods, cyclones and storm surges, drought) from 1994 to 2013 with an estimated loss of 1.2% of the country's GDP². During the last severe cyclones Sidr and Aila in 2007 and 2009 respectively, many areas were inundated with sea water. It is also identified that salinity has been sharply increased in Satkhira, one of the districts to be covered under the project³. It is mentionable that 53%⁴ of the coastal areas of target zones are affected with chronic salinity. Therefore, significant percent of population of the target areas do not have access to safe water.

Coastal residents, especially women and children, collect drinking water from distant sources spending an average of 4-5 hours a day, sometimes walking 2-3 km. Often unable to spend their limited financial resources for transporting or purchasing drinking water, people are forced to drink the unsafe water. This may result in waterborne diseases such as diarrhoea, dysentery, cholera, typhoid, or worm infections, particularly for children. Drinking saline water may cause hypertension, heart diseases, skin diseases, common cold, etc.



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At the time, many affected areas are remote, with no electricity access. As a consequence, drawing clean drinking water with grid electricity was also not feasible. To address this crisis, in 2010, the project started installing solar powered systems. GIZ has supported the construction of 122 such facilities to provide potable drinking water to these regions. The pumps have a capacity to pump and purify 1.9 million litres of water every day. They are now in the process of being handed over to respective local government.

Zooming further in, the project contributes to SDG 7 and 6 to reach following national targets:

- 10% of electricity from renewable energy sources by 2020
- Ensuring safe water facilities for 63,000 households
- The development of different water supply options in affected areas

Groundwater sources are being used for 30 plants, surface water sources for 90 plants, desalination source for two plants. Overall, about one million litres can be drawn from surface water sources and about 0.9 million litres can be drawn from ground water sources. The system also comprises of water distribution channels managed by communities. The technology used is cost-effective with high efficiency for removing turbidity and bacteria. As a result, the communities now have access to safe drinking water, reducing potential health hazard significantly.

Average water consumption is from 3 to 4 litres per person per day in the target areas. A family, with financial capacity, normally purchases 30 litres of water every alternate day at a cost of EUR 0.024 per litre. This results in a monthly spending of EUR 10.8 per month for a household. However, the willingness to pay varies from around EUR 0.26 to EUR 0.50 per month per household.

2 S. Kref, D. Eckstein, L. Junghans, C. Kerestan and U. Hagen, briefing paper: GLOBAL CLIMATE RISK INDEX 2015 - Who Suffers Most From Extreme Weather Events? Weather-related Loss Events in 2013 and 1994 to 2013, 2013; available online at: <https://germanwatch.org/en/download/10333.pdf>

3 Rabbani, G., Rahman, A. Khandaker, M. and Shoef, I.J. (2013). Loss and damage from salinity intrusion in Satkhira District, coastal Bangladesh. Loss and Damage in Vulnerable Countries Initiative, case study report. Bonn: United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security; available online at: <http://loss-and-damage.net/download/7273.pdf>

4 REACH (2015) Country Diagnostic Report, Bangladesh. REACH. Working Paper 1, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK. ISBN: 978-1-874370-58-1; available online at: <http://reachwater.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/CDR-Bangladesh-WEB1.pdf>

Story in Focus

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency is one of the priority areas of German Development Cooperation in Bangladesh. The project directly contributes to SDG 7 through its renewable energy solution by installing solar powered drinking water systems. Additionally, its positive impacts on SDGs with respect to climate, gender, health and water is given below:



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	CONTRIBUTION OF GIZ'S SWP	
Target 7.2 (Main SDG)	Providing clean energy connection to remote regions for drinking water solution.	
Target 3.2	Reduces water-borne diseases through facilitating access to safe drinking water.	
Target 5.4	Eliminates the need to travel long distances (2 to 6 km per day) to collect water, creates more opportunity to contribute to income generation, child care and family decision-making.	
Target 6.1	Enhances access to safe drinking water.	
Target 13.1 and 13.2	Water tanks are mounted on Hurricane proof overhead concrete platforms to facilitate clean water access in disaster prone coastal region of Bangladesh.	Provides climate friendly solution to local infrastructure planning. Connectivity of solar panel replaces diesel fuel, lowering carbon emission.

ALSO CONTRIBUTING TO



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COUNTRY: Bangladesh
COMMISSIONER: The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
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Case 6 Long-Term Promotion of Sustainable Forest Management in Indonesia



Goal 15

Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss

Targets 15.2

By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally Indicator



Background

As about 60% of the Indonesian territory has been declared as forest land, the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry plays an essential role in managing Indonesia's natural resources and the protection of its ecosystems. Regarding the fact that German Development Cooperation has been active in the Indonesian forestry sector since the 1980s, FORCLIME is well known and has established a close relationship with the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry on national, provincial and district level. As a consequence, FORCLIME's expertise on the development of Sustainable Forest Management in Indonesia is well recognized and very much requested by national partners. Consequently, FORCLIME has achieved to support the establishment of 5 different national and subnational regulations aiming to improve Indonesian forest management within the first year of implementation. Supported by FORCLIME's activities and policy advice, the Indonesian state had established 590 FMUs, which cover an area 97,313,097 ha (about 80% of Indonesia's state forests) by the end of year 2016. As the Indonesian government is currently working out how SDGs can be measured and implemented within the Indonesian governance context, FORCLIME uses its expertise and its full alignment to the ministry's mid-term plans to support the Ministry of Environment and Forestry to place its valuable contributions within the Indonesian context of SDG governance. FORCLIME especially advises MoEF representatives on how to integrate SDGs into their planning processes and tools to establish a coherent orientation towards SDGs in the future.

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Story in Focus

FORCLIME supports the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) to promote sustainable Forest Management and to establish coherent policy and management frameworks for long-term Sustainable Forest Management within Indonesia. FORCLIME accordingly supports governance processes, which lead to the recentralization of forest management and the establishment of Forest Management Units (FMUs). FORCLIME has already achieved the establishment of key regulations supporting the legal framework of Sustainable Forest Management on national and subnational level by imple-

menting a multilevel approach, focusing on 4 pilot-FMUs.

Next to the policy level, FORCLIME actively supports the implementation of such FMUs on the local level. By supporting 4 Pilot-FMUs in 4 different districts, FORCLIME is aiming to integrate topics enhancing Sustainable Forest Management such as community-based forestry, conflict resolution and biodiversity protection in the planning processes of FMUs in the pilot areas. In line with the Indonesian government the project's aspirations are to achieve an up-scaling of the current efforts.



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In order to achieve long-term effects, one of the programme's foci is to support human resource development within the Indonesian forestry sector. A cornerstone for Sustainable Forest Management is that public servants working in the sector understand the importance of sustainability within their field. Hence, procurement standards and staff training on selected topics is essential for achieving long-term and lasting effects within the sector – even after GIZ withdraws from the sector.

FORCLIME is aiming to successfully train 80% of the FMU staff within the programme's selected provinces. FORCLIME's approach is to conduct needs assessments within the pilot-FMUs and transfer the assessed knowledge gaps into coherent training modules. Topics focusing on long-term Sustainable Forestry Management, such as sustainable business development and conflict resolution approaches are being taught.

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Case 7 Technical Support for SDG Reporting of MGNREGA – World’s Largest Public Works Programme



Goal 17
Partnership for Goals: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Target 17.9
Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation

Background

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is the employment guarantee programme of the Government of India by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). The MoRD-GIZ bilateral project, MGNREGA-EB is being implemented since 2013, and is aimed at enhancing the Natural Resource Management (NRM) focus in planning and implementation of MGNREGA works. Currently, the project is supporting the MoRD in identifying and reporting the contributions from MGNREGA programme to the SDGs.

MoRD has been identified by NITI Aayog (coordinating agency for SDGs in India) as the nodal agency, and MGNREGA as the ‘core of the core’ scheme for achieving SDG 1 – No Poverty. However, the objectives, implementation and achievements of the MGNREGA programme over the years clearly show the scope for a larger contribution to the SDGs.

A mapping exercise done by the MGNREGA-EB Project in November – December 2017 showed that MGNREGA contributes to at least 13 SDGs and 27 targets. From the current data available in the public Management Information System (MIS) of MGNREGA programme-NREGASoft, MoRD can right-away report MGNREGA contributions to 9 targets under 5 SDGs.

By providing technical and financial assistance to MoRD in mapping the MGNREGA contributions to SDGs, and helping them report the SDG achievements at a national level, the project directly contributes to SDG 17.

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Story in Focus

The World Bank Group Report on ‘The State of Social Safety Nets 2015’ ranked MGNREGA as the world’s largest public works programme, providing social security net to almost 15 per cent of the country’s population. Since its inception in 2006, MGNREGA has been a lifeline to millions providing not only wage employment, but also developing rural infrastructure for enhancing connectivity, management of natural resources, improving the living standards and sustainable livelihoods of the poor and marginalised communities in India. MGNREGA has spent 55.09 Billion Euro in the last 12 years supporting 126.7 million registered households as beneficiaries. Therewith, MGNREGA directly contributes to the SDG indicator 17.9.1: Dollar value of financial and technical assistance committed to developing countries.



© MGNREGA Division, Ministry of Rural Development, India

Being able to support a programme of this scale in reporting its contributions to SDGs is an achievement in itself. While GIZ is globally supporting many initiatives for achieving SDGs, MGNREGA-EB is so far the only project in India implemented by GIZ supporting the national government in reporting on the SDG contributions.

With its impact on 13 SDGs and 27 targets, the MGNREGA programme also showcases how rural development is interlinked across the 2030 Agenda and therefore highlights the necessity to implement the Agenda in an integrated approach. Mapping the MGNREGA contributions to SDGs will be a highly useful and contributing input not only for the MoRD, but also for the Government of India while reporting at the next High Level Political Forum and other global platforms. This exercise will hopefully also inspire other programmes and Ministries in India to analyse the SDG indicators more closely, and devise strategies to report achievements further.



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ALSO CONTRIBUTING TO



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Case 8 An Integrated Approach for Sustainable Management

OF COASTAL AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS IS THE KEY TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION OF THE SUNDARBANS MANGROVE FOREST



Goal 14
 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Target 14.2
 Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.



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Background

The Bangladesh Sundarbans Mangrove Forest (6,000km²), UNESCO World Heritage Site, is part of the world’s largest continuous mangrove forest and global biodiversity hotspot. The coastal mangrove ecosystem plays a crucial role as a protective wall against tropical cyclones. Before the background of progressing climate change, this is of increasing importance for the resilience of the people living in its periphery. At the local and regional level, the livelihood of the people in the districts adjacent to the forest largely depends on benefits derived from harvesting of natural resources, tourism, and transport. On a larger scale, the Sundarbans play an indispensable role as breeding and nursery ground for economically important fish species in the Bay of Bengal. Through these functions the mangrove ecosystem supports income generation and food security far beyond the direct boundaries of the forest and significantly contributes to the national economy of Bangladesh and of the wider region.



The SDGs Create New Opportunities for Portfolio Development



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The Government of Bangladesh has publicly declared its intention to be one of the countries to perform towards the highest achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Bangladesh Government recently published a mapping of the SDGs against the national five year development strategy titled “Aligning SDGs with the 7th Five Year Plan”⁵. In this document, “the involvement of local communities [...] in the management of the Sundarbans mangrove forest” is specifically mentioned as necessary action to achieve target 14.2. SMP is therefore directly contributing to achieving this target in line with the government priorities.

The Bangladesh Government has realized that conservation and management of the coastal mangrove forest needs to be integrated with the wider marine seascape. Only when such a holistic strategy can be developed and implemented marine resources and other services of coastal and marine ecosystems, such as the Sundarbans mangrove forest, can be sustained on the long term. For instance, “exploring the concept of blue economy” has been identified as another strategic action under target 14.2.

However, integrated management of seascapes and marine conservation are relatively new concepts in Bangladesh.

At the same time, the German Government identified marine conservation as one of its strategic priorities and formulated concrete targets in the “10 Point Action Plan on Marine Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries”⁶. While GIZ has ample expertise in the marine sector, projects with a focus on SDG 14 “life below water” are currently underrepresented among member projects of SNRD Asia and TUEWAS (see SDG mapping on page 6).

This opens a window of opportunity for portfolio development by tapping the SDGs as leverage and entry point to set the strategic agenda of development cooperation between Germany and Bangladesh (and potentially other partner countries). In this way, technical assistance can support partner countries more effectively in achieving the SDGs in line with their national policy strategies and priorities of German foreign aid.

5 Planning Commission, General Economics Division, A Handbook: Mapping of Ministries by Targets in the implementation of SDGs aligning with 7th Five Year Plan (2016-20), first edition, 2016 ; available online: <http://www.plancomm.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/A-Handbook-Mapping-of-Ministries-targets-SDG-7-FYP-2016.pdf>

6 German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Marine Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries - 10 Point Action Plan, 2016; available online: https://www.bmz.de/en/publications/topics/environment/Materialie262_marine_conservation.pdf

Story in Focus

The Management of the Sundarbans Mangrove Forests for Biodiversity Conservation and Increased Adaptation to Climate Change Project (SMP) supports the Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD) in better fulfilling their role as official custodian of the Sundarbans.

Some highlights of the project include:

- More equitable and long-term natural resource conservation backed by resource users and management authorities through strengthening the co-management approach around the Sundarbans.

Only when the needs and concerns of those people depending on the Sundarbans are considered in decision making about the forest and its natural resources, its governance can be sustainable on the long term. To better incorporate resource users in decision-making processes as well as to increase accountability and the sharing of responsibility, SMP strengthens collaborative management (co-management) around the Sundarbans. Concretely, SMP undertakes capacity and organisational development of co-management organisations and its members at the community-level. By better organising resource users and women in dedicated groups their participation in co-management structures is enshrined institutionally.

- More effective law enforcement and biodiversity monitoring in the Sundarbans through capacity development measures for BFD frontline staffs to use the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART).

Worldwide, SMART is one of the most successful tools to help wildlife managers plan, evaluate and implement

effective law enforcement and monitoring. The SMART approach is a user-friendly combination of software, geo-referenced observation and event logging, training materials, and implementation standards. It empowers managers to plan a strategic response to threats and improve conservation efforts. SMP has established a trainer pool within the BFD who in turn are training staffs who are charged with front-line efforts to patrol the Sundarbans. SMART patrols were conducted for the first time covering the entire Sundarbans and are now regularly ongoing.

- Better conservation of wild crab populations through further development of mud crab hatchery technology in Bangladesh.

SMP has supported capacity development, technical advice and two trials on hatchery production of mud crab. Successful hatchery production at a commercial scale would reduce the pressure on wild stocks from the Sundarbans and increase the availability of seed stock to serve a growing demand. This would consequently lead to higher and uninterrupted production and improved livelihoods for those involved in the value chain, especially producers living in the periphery of the forest. Furthermore, mud crab farming is regarded as less vulnerable to local effects of climate change and can therefore also be interpreted as climate-resilient.

To sum up, by supporting conservation and better management of the Sundarbans, the project increases resilience of both the ecosystem and the people depending on it against human impacts and the consequences of climate change.

ALSO CONTRIBUTING TO



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CASE 8

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH FOR SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL & MARINE ECOSYSTEMS IS THE KEY TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION OF THE SUNDARBANS MANGROVE FOREST

CASE 8

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH FOR SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL & MARINE ECOSYSTEMS IS THE KEY TO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION OF THE SUNDARBANS MANGROVE FOREST

Conclusion

The project cases featured in this knowledge product range across a diverse spectrum of intervention areas and SDGs. At the same time, best practices and success factors that most cases have in common can be identified.

While all cases were designed to highlight their concrete contribution to one major SDG, the problem situations that projects are designed to address typically is set in a complex and interconnected context where changes should be made at different levels. Therefore, most crucial of all is to further incorporate the integrated and cross-cutting character of the SDGs. The integrated character of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs fosters such an approach and creates scope for higher relevance and larger impacts. For instance, larger impacts to “transform the world for the better” have reportedly been achieved by projects that have contributed to more than one SDG. Success factors in this regard include a comprehensive and coherent structural approach of the project design mirroring the complex situation on the ground; a multi-level approach, where interventions address the local, regional and national level; and flexibility in conceptual framework to be able to react on emerging policies, technologies and trends related to the relatively new field of the 2030 Agenda during implementation.

Technical cooperation projects can increase their relevance by closely aligning their conceptual design and expected outputs with national policies, strategy documents and (international) commitments of the partner country. When aiming at contributing to achieving the SDGs, political coherence across ministries (horizontal) and across all government levels (vertical) is essential. Many partner countries have conducted a mapping of ministries and their roles and responsibilities as to corresponding SDGs and their indicators. As most GIZ projects work with one partner ministry (or a similar government unit), considering these national strategies in the project design and implementation, offers an opportunity for creating more ownership of the partner and higher leverage of project impacts.

Contributions to policies and their targets relevant for the partner country should be as concrete as possible. Given the nature of technical cooperation projects for sustainable development, all GIZ projects in a way contribute to the SDGs. The more tangible and measurable this is integrated in the project design, the higher the benefits for the implementation partner. For example, achievements that can be directly reported either via reporting on national

implementation to the UN High-Level Political Forum (though Voluntary National Reviews) or via regional and related global reviews (annual SDG progress report). This provides a clear and tangible benefit for the partner government with an impact beyond national boundaries. As another example, capacity development measures for the partner on ministerial or departmental level on policy coherence and integrating the SDGs into their daily work has been perceived as highly beneficial. As a result, government staff has been capacitated to act as agents of change and multiplier. Through such measures, political goodwill can be translated into concrete action, which is a clear success factor of the project cases. In order to create ownership for the 2030 Agenda throughout the government, improve coherence and avoid silo thinking, it is helpful to mandate high-level institutions or key ministries and offices with overseeing the national implementation. This can be seen in e.g. China where the top leadership has taken the implementation of the 2030 Agenda as high priority and has provided clear guidance for implementation.

Strong bilateral relations between the implementing partner and GIZ have also been identified as crucial for successful project contributions to the SDGs. In this regard, long standing cooperation, mutual trust and recognition of GIZ's expertise by partner governments in the respective field of technical assistance. In having generated solid evidence of successful impacts of past projects partner countries have requested GIZ's support in fulfilling their commitments to the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Also, cooperation between the German and the partner government should create scope for mutual learning as policies related to the 2030 Agenda and experiences with its implementation evolve.

These best practices are a valuable learning for current and future projects of the German development cooperation that aim at contributing to the achievement of the SDGs. By following an integrated design of project concepts across several SDGs in line with the policies and needs of the partner country, the impacts and leverage of technical cooperation projects can be achieved. In this way windows of opportunity for portfolio development arise and can be considered by SNRD and TUEWAS member projects and countries in their future strategic approach. In line with Germany's commitments to the 2030 Agenda and GIZ's companywide strategies, not only this publication, but also GIZ's work for sustainable development on the ground shall aim at making a case for the SDGs.





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