

## **Purpose**

Sector and country reference for ADB proposal drafting. Country focus: Bangladesh. Not an official document.

## **ADB programming context — Bangladesh**

Bangladesh is one of ADB's largest borrowers with an active portfolio exceeding \$10 billion.

### **Priority sectors:**

- Climate-resilient infrastructure (flood embankments, coastal protection, cyclone shelters).
- Urban development (water supply, sanitation, drainage, solid waste).
- Transport (roads, bridges, railway).
- Energy (power generation, rural electrification, energy efficiency).
- Finance sector development and social protection.

## **ADB Strategy 2030 alignment — Bangladesh**

### **Bangladesh's priority alignment with ADB OPs:**

- OP 1 (Poverty/Inequality): extreme poverty reduction in Char and haor areas.
- OP 2 (Gender): women's economic empowerment, WASH for women, education access.
- OP 3 (Climate): adaptation-focused infrastructure in coastal and riverine zones.
- OP 4 (Cities): urban water supply and sanitation, Dhaka metro, secondary city development.
- OP 5 (Rural): agricultural productivity, rural connectivity, market access.

## **Climate resilience programming**

Bangladesh is among the world's most climate-vulnerable countries.

### **Key climate risks:**

- Annual monsoon flooding affecting 20-30% of land area.
- Cyclone and storm surge risk on 700+ km coastline.
- Sea-level rise threatening coastal embankments (polders).
- Riverbank erosion displacing millions annually.
- Increasing salinity intrusion into freshwater aquifers.

### **ADB-aligned climate adaptation approaches:**

- Polder rehabilitation and tidal river management.

- Cyclone shelter construction with multipurpose use (schools, health posts).
- Climate-resilient road embankment design.
- Early warning system integration into infrastructure O&M.;
- Disaster risk financing through parametric insurance.

## **Climate finance rationale — Bangladesh**

### **Most Bangladesh infrastructure investments qualify for adaptation marker:**

- Infrastructure designed to withstand CC-projected flood levels qualifies as adaptation.
- Renewable energy investments (solar mini-grids, rooftop solar) qualify as mitigation.
- Integrated water resource management projects qualify for both.

Reference: ADB's Climate Change Operational Framework and UNFCCC Adaptation Fund guidelines.

## **Gender considerations — Bangladesh**

Bangladesh has made strong progress on gender equality (GII ranking improved significantly).

### **Programming gender considerations:**

- Women are disproportionately affected by floods and cyclones (mobility constraints).
- WASH infrastructure should address menstrual hygiene management.
- Women's employment in garment sector requires safe transport and childcare.
- Agricultural women farmers face land tenure insecurity.

ADB recommends EGM category for most rural and WASH programmes in Bangladesh.

## **DMF examples — climate infrastructure**

Impact: Resilience of coastal communities to climate shocks improved (aligned with Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100).

Outcome: Flood protection and water management services in coastal polders improved sustainably.

Output 1: Polder embankments and drainage infrastructure rehabilitated to climate-resilient standards.

Output 2: Community-based water management committees established and functional.

Output 3: Early warning and flood response systems operational in project polders.

Assumption (Output 2 → Outcome): Community committees maintain cost-sharing arrangements for O&M.;

Assumption (Outcome → Impact): National government maintains drainage maintenance budget.