



Gender Statistics in Bangladesh

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Background



- ▶ The Constitution of Bangladesh guarantees *equal rights* for both men and women in all spheres of *state* and *public life*
- ▶ Some of the articles in the Constitution are firmly patronizing towards *women rights*:
 - ▶ The State shall not *discriminate against any citizen* on grounds only of religion, race, caste, *sex* or place of birth- Article 28 (1)
 - ▶ Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making special provision in *favour of women* or children or for the advancement of any backward section of citizens- Article 28 (4)
 - ▶ Steps shall be taken to ensure *participation of women in all spheres of national life* as a fundamental principle of state policy- Article 10
- ▶ Bangladesh has also signed its commitments to the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1984
- ▶ Bangladesh Endorsed Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) in 1995



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- ▶ Bangladesh Government has been actively engaged in *adoption of preemptive policies, legislations, strategies* and taking national affirmative action plans and programmes
- ▶ GoB introduced Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) in an effort to mainstream gender issues at all policies and decision making levels since 2005
- ▶ Actively participated in periodic regional and global review processes and reported on progress of its international developmental commitments, and the Universal Periodic Reports (UPR)
- ▶ Notable actions have been taken by the government to *protect women's legal rights and improve their social status*:
 - ▶ The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1980 which forbids anyone from giving or receiving dowry
 - ▶ The *Nari-O-Shishu Nirjatan Daman Ain, 2000* (Law on the Suppression of Violence against Women and Children, 2000) *expanding the definition of rape and sexual assaults*
 - ▶ Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2000 and Acid control Act, 2000 as a primitive measure *to protect from the acid violence*
 - ▶ *Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act, 2010*
 - ▶ *National Women policy, 2011* was adopted for the empowerment of women



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- ▶ The contribution of *women in employment* is encouraging as about 19.98 million of females are engaged in different economic sectors
- ▶ The women share in *full time worker in Permanent Economic establishment* estimated about 48% while female workers are more than 40% of total person engaged in all permanent economic establishments
- ▶ The Head Count Ratio (HCR) of incidence of poverty observed significantly less (19.9%) for *female-headed households* than that of male-headed households (24.8%)
- ▶ The adjusted net enrolment rate in primary education for girls are 90 percent and Gender parity index in primary level enrolment is 1.03



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- ▶ Women are holding an increasing share in public life and decision making also:
 - 22% of seats held by women in current national parliament
 - The position of prime minister and leader of opposition in the parliament is hold by women since 1991
 - The speaker of the parliament is a woman in the current parliament
 - 23 percent of the local government representatives are female
 - Under the different Local Government Acts three seats have been reserved for direct election of women in each tier of Local Govt.
 - The Local Govt. (Upazilla parishad) Act 1997 provided for two elected Vice-Chairman for Upazila Parishad (Sub-district Council), one of which must be a woman
 - About 12.9% of managerial positions are hold by women



Socioeconomic Status in International Arena



- In the Global Gender Gap Report 2016 published by the World Economic Forum (WEF) Bangladesh ranks 72th among 144 nation of the globe.
- Bangladesh has topped the South Asian countries in gender Gap Index.
- In terms of women empowerment we stand 7th position globally.
- Bangladesh is a good performer in ensuring nutrition and basic medical care and health.



Compilation of Gender Statistics in Bangladesh



Activities related to Gender Statistics by BBS

- Facts and Figures of Gender Compendium of Bangladesh 2009
- Conducted Violence Against Women Survey 2011
- Published Gender Statistics of Bangladesh 2012
- Conducted Time Use Pilot Survey 2012
- Conducted 2nd Round of Violence Against Women Survey 2015
- Compilation of Gender Statistics 2017 (On going)
- Established Gender Statistics Cell in BBS
- Partnership with UN Women for capacity building in gender statistics



BBS & UN Women Partnership: Key activities Planned



- Conduct a national assessment on gender statistics
- Support SID and BBS to formulate recommendations and a costed action plan for implementing provisions of the Statistical Act-2013
- Support SID and BBS to develop gender module and guidelines to be integrated in the NSDS
- Support to address gaps in gender-specific indicators in the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of SDGs and support to identify corresponding data requirements based on systematic review and assessment
- Support BBS and SID in setting up coordination mechanism for gender statistics across the BSS— an Interagency Committee on Gender Statistics



Prioritized Activities for Gender Related SDG Indicators



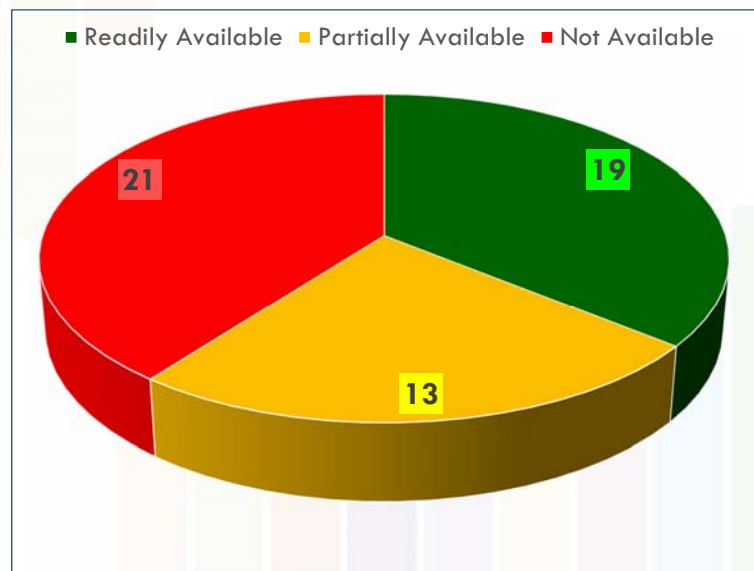
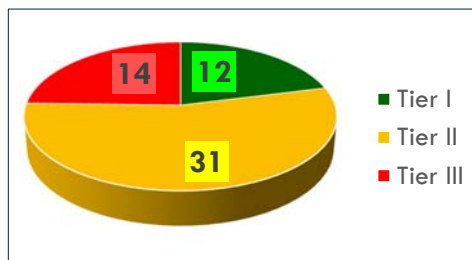
- Population and Housing Census
- Time use survey
- Gender Based Violence Survey
- Informal Sector Survey
- Labour Force Survey
- Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
- Child and Mother Nutrition Survey



Challenges in Data Generation in Bangladesh



Tier Classifications of Gender Related SDG Indicators and Data Availability in Bangladesh

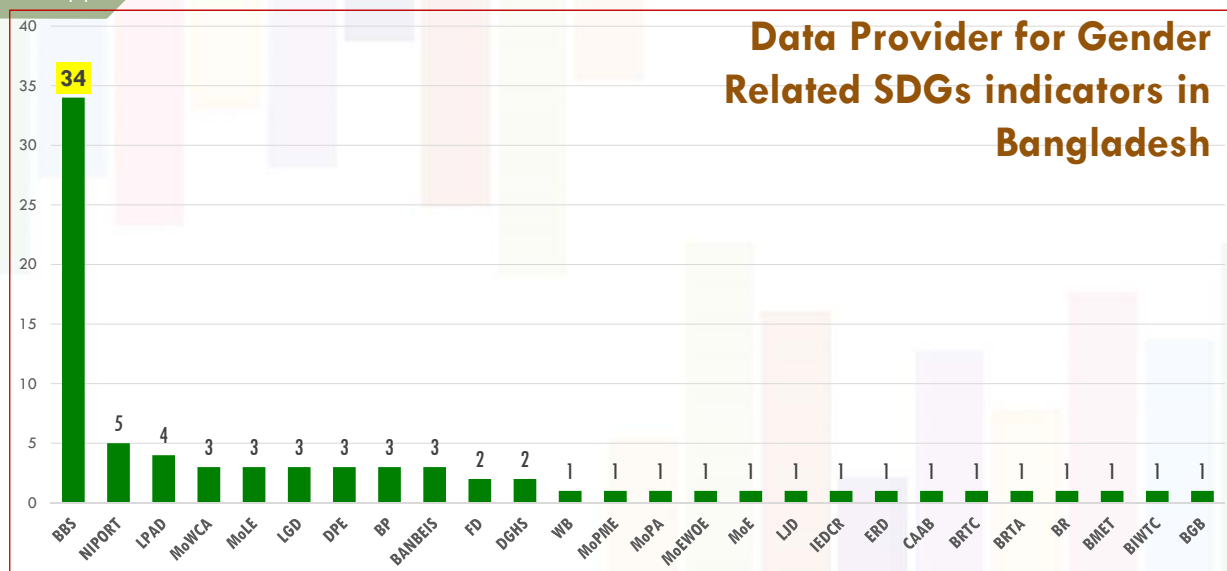




Challenges in Data Generation in Bangladesh



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Challenges: Data Support to Gender Related SDG Indicators



- Production of gender disaggregated and frequent statistics
- Comparability of Data: Harmonizing the concepts, definitions, methodologies etc. following international standards among the data providing agencies
- Availability of baseline gender data for setting milestones
- Lack of technical and financial support for gender related statistics from development partners
- Initiation of modern innovative technologies in generation of gender related statistical data



Policy Related Challenges for Women Advancement



- The implementation of laws
- The Government's monitoring capacity of domestic violence against women
- Progress in the area of economic equality is lagging behind. With regards to women accessing important factors of production such as land and credit
- The women's labour force participation rate still remains low by international standards.
- They are more prone to under employment and wage and occupational gender gaps remain significant
- Lack of gender responsive working environment including inadequate facilities of child care, transport, occupational health and safety discourage women from accessing the job market
- Women workers in the informal sector have no legal protection against abuse, discrimination, irregular employment, low wages, and long work hours



Thank You

