

# Achieving Sustainable Development Goal-16 in Bangladesh: The Institutional Issues and Challenges

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## Abstract

This study intends to evaluate the success of local governments in Bangladesh in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets by comparing them to current measures taken by the government. It also looks at the institutional obstacles that come with implementing the SDGs. Goal 16 was created to foster peace and create a more inclusive society. The significant thing to note here is that in the most recent UP Act of 2009, GOB endorsed several of those pilot ideas, such as Ward Shava, Open Budgeting, and Standing Committees, which ensure bottom-up planning at UPs. According to the Local Government (Union Parishad) Act of 2009, several methods finally become dominant actors to promote peace, fairness, and strong institutions. To build a framework for incorporating the SDGs into local government activities, the study adopts an exploratory approach. Secondary data was gathered from books, articles, websites, and newspapers, among other sources. The existing literature on SDG implementation issues, institutional weaknesses, public policy flaws, and legal framework was examined to gain a better understanding of the data collected and to establish an analytical methodology. To enable effective decision-making, the government, international organizations, the academic community, and our development agencies must build new connections with local politicians and civil society.

**Keywords:** Sustainable Development Goals, Right to Information, Open Budget Session, Ward Shava, Standing Committees, Citizen's Charter

## Introduction

The United Nations General Assembly endorsed Agenda 2030, also known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as a "plan of action for people, planet, and prosperity" (United Nations, 2015). The most significant event at the end of the twentieth century was the invasion of the sustainable development idea and its sustainability dimension into both private and public, local and global, and economic and political disputes (Khan et al., 2017). The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a comprehensive and diversified approach to development that emphasizes the importance of collaboration and alignment among various stakeholders (Pradhan et al., 2017). It was an urgent need to take the lessons and experience from the Millennium Development Goals into account when attempting to move the world sustainably. The 2030 Agenda consists of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets, which reflect a globally shared vision, a beautiful to-do list, and a blueprint for a better future (Rahman, 2021). Public governance is critical for all countries to properly execute Agenda 2030, as it plays a larger role in the SDGs than in the MDGs (Morton et al., 2017). Regional and local governments

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have been placed at the center of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to adapt to the continuously changing rural landscape and to play a diverse and efficient role in accomplishing the linked targets throughout time. Even the 11th SDG target abandons the top-down strategy used by local governments in favor of a bottom-up approach in planning and design at local bodies (LGIs) (Khan et al., 2017; Oosterhof, 2018). There are reasons to be optimistic as well as concerned. Bangladeshis are resilient and resourceful, creating inventive and low-cost remedies and strengthening individual 'agency,' particularly among women, to address difficulties such as school enrollment, public health, and poverty reduction. Both inside and outside the government, Bangladesh has humongous service providers. Climate change, corruption, and other governance failings, as well as institutional deficiencies and rising violence, pose a threat to continued progress (CPD, 2017). This paper intends to evaluate the success of local governments in Bangladesh in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets by comparing them to current measures taken by the government. It also looks at the institutional obstacles that come with implementing the SDGs. This type of research aids in determining the extent to which critical implementation stages are still on the deck. Similarly, the evaluation might reveal whether or not progress was made during the early stages of planning. The study will assist policymakers in establishing links between target relationships, trade-offs, and efficiency. The next section examines the literature to provide an analytical framework for Bangladesh's progress and challenges in achieving the SDGs related to local governance. The findings of the study can contribute to the better implementation of SDG -16 strategies in Bangladesh.

### **SDGs and Bangladesh**

The United Nations (UN) approved the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the end of 2015, shortly after the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were met (Datta, 2017). After extensive deliberations with governments, civil society, business, and development partners, the SDG Framework was accepted as a new and inspiring agenda for global development. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) integrate people, the environment, and prosperity, and establish a platform for all countries, industrialized and underdeveloped, to pursue better development routes. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to achieve what the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) did not. On September 25, 2015, the United Nations General Assembly approved the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was developed during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012 (Paul, 2019). Bangladesh, a signatory to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, has been actively implementing the SDGs and impacting the worldwide discourse on their importance. The administration has taken a 'whole-of-society approach' to execute the SDGs. Nonetheless,

developing countries, including Bangladesh, face challenges in implementing the SDGs, such as aligning the SDGs with nationwide, subnational, and local development plans, establishing an organizational structure that can deliver the SDGs, mobilizing funds, generating data for monitoring and assessment, and developing effective multi-stakeholder partnerships (Khatun & Saadat, 2021). The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) attempt to ensure that all people in World live in a secure, peacefully, affluent, and fairway today and in the future. The goals address global issues that are critical to humanity's survival. They establish environmental restrictions as well as essential thresholds for natural resource utilization. The goals emphasize that alleviating poverty requires economic development. They cover a variety of societal requirements, such as education, health, social protection, and job possibilities, while also addressing climate change and environmental issues. One of the key structural barriers to sustainable development emphasized by the SDGs is inequality. Other structural obstacles to sustainable development include unsustainable consumption levels, a lack of organizational capacity, and environmental degradation. The universality and indivisibility of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a major element. It identifies all countries as target countries, from the Global South to the Global North. To achieve sustainable development, all countries that have signed on to the 2030 Agenda must connect their development efforts to improve prosperity while safeguarding the environment.

Sustainable development is considered a holistic agenda and guiding principle that aims to address financial, societal, and environmental issues comprehensively. Governments and public organizations will also collaborate closely on execution with regional and municipal governments, sub-regional and international institutions, academics, voluntary organizations, and local charities, among others. Increasingly, the global development community and state parliaments are realizing that local governments are best positioned to mobilize local development stakeholders, including NGO and private sector, community groups, and global organizations, to achieve inclusive sustainable development in their respective localities. As a result, participatory grassroots local governance is critical for achieving the SDGs, especially in impoverished and marginalized communities (Islam, 2020).

### **Objectives of the Study**

- ❖ Firstly, the study aims to determine and explain the SDG targets that are particularly relevant to and achievable by local government operations.
- ❖ Second, the study intends to identify and define the roles and methods that local governments should play in achieving the SDGs in Bangladesh.

## **Research Methodology**

To build a framework for promoting inclusive SDGs in local government activities, the study adopts an exploratory approach. Secondary data was gathered from books, articles, websites, and newspapers, among other sources. The existing literature on SDG implementation issues, institutional weaknesses, public policy flaws, and legal framework was examined to gain a better understanding of the information collected and to establish an analytical methodology. The study is primarily concerned with Goal 16 and SDG initiatives. It connects the agencies of the central government and generally higher government authorities with Union Parishad, the lowest layer of government (UP). For a better result, a progressive methodical research technique was adopted.

## **Justification of the Study**

Bangladesh has incorporated worldwide objectives and outcomes into its national five-year plan, as part of a "whole of society approach" that involves all government ministries, the corporate sector, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), development partners, and other stakeholders in SDG implementation. Meanwhile, Bangladesh has built an online tool called "SDG Tracker" to track sustainable development targets in its effort as the first country. The Prime Minister is effectively supervising all actions related to the implementation of the SDGs through this tool. This tool monitors field-level development progress in addition to guaranteeing greater transparency and accountability in the implementation of operational initiatives. Bangladesh already has a strong position in eight of the 17 targets. In addition to poverty, starvation, and nutrition, there are also challenges like education for women, access to safe drinking water, and the protection of the environment. Nutrition, inequality, metropolitan and human settlement, sustainable consumption and production, the use of the sea and oceanic resources, ecosystems, and wildlife, good governance, infrastructural facilities, employment creation for all, and industrialization and innovation are among the goals where the country lags and needs to work hard. Nevertheless, within the next five years, the country will make significant progress in terms of infrastructure, inclusive growth, employment, industrialization, and technology (Paul, 2019). According to Khatun (2021), there are five problems in achieving the SDGs in Bangladesh, including (i) aligning the SDGs with national, subnational, and regional development plans; (ii) creating institutional architectures capable of delivering the SDGs; (iii) mobilizing funds; (iv) creating data for planning and assessment; and (v) improving partnerships for multi-stakeholder involvement. To achieve the SDGs, all people should have access to justice, and all organizations must be efficient, responsible, and inclusive, as stated directly in SDG 16. "Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory, and inclusive decision-making at all levels,"

according to Target 16.7. Goal 16 is thus the cornerstone of the SDGs, and the accomplishment of other goals is in large part dependent on it (CPD, 2017). Citizens' participation in decision-making is essential to SDG 16.7, which can only be achieved at the village and UP levels for most citizens (Coonrod, 2016). The study is highly justified to understand the success of local government, particularly Union Parishad (UP) as it is the lowest tier and closest to the citizen in perspective of service delivery.

### **Local Government and Sustainable Development in Bangladesh**

The most serious challenge facing the globe now is sustainable development. The key difficulty is to combine global economic growth and development while maintaining inclusion (Rahman, 2021). Institutional delivery systems and allocation of responsibilities might not even be adequate for the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Institutional good governance is critical to achieving the SDGs by 2030 (Bhattacharya et al, 2016). While local governments aim to improve access to essential services, they also serve as an effective platform for the poor, peasants, workers, and women to engage in decision-making and development processes that are carried out for the benefit of the community. To achieve inclusive economic prosperity in rural Bangladesh, local governance must be strengthened. To achieve the SDGs, improvement initiatives and programming must be contextualized, and local government is the perfect suited for executing policies and programs that can alleviate poverty, reduce inequality, reduce climate vulnerability, and promote gender parity. The participation in the process of peasants, workers, and females in local government is critical for achieving the SDGs in Bangladesh's rural areas, and the greater polity should sacrifice its resources and capabilities to do so by providing more space and participation to marginalized segments of the rural area. Bangladesh has been hailed as a pioneer in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. The Bangladesh government's effort to "localize" global goals is gradually spreading to the grassroots. It is a clear demonstration of collective effort. The interaction between SDGs and local government in rural Areas was addressed in depth in this paper, as well as the obstacles that Union Parishad faces in contributing to the achievement of sustainable development goals (Islam, 2020). Bangladesh must localize the SDGs as a result of this constitutional duty, which means it must provide the UPs with the knowledge and resources they need to assess their local situation, determine objectives for each of the essential SDGs, and track the progress of their achievements.

The UP, the lowest tier of local administration in rural areas, was established in 1870 and has existed (under several titles) for nearly 140 years (Aminuzzaman, 2013). It gives individuals services right at their doorstep. A union is split into 3 wards that are deemed its authority, according to the provisions of the UP Act 2009. A UP consists of 13 members: one chairman, nine elected members, and three women from reserved seats (Uddin, 2019).

The Local Government (UP) Act of 2009 is a watershed moment in Bangladesh's history, aimed at ensuring people's participation and good governance in government institutions. This Act gives UP limited authority to conduct more than 40 responsibilities, including social and public welfare, infrastructure, tax, development, and judicial functions. The UP seems to be the only local government entity that has held regular elections for decades (Sarker, 2003). Through ward shavas (meetings) for public participation, citizen charters, open budget meetings, and annual reporting, the Local Government (UP) Act of 2009 ("the Act") strengthens local government by incorporating global best practices for actively participating in engaged citizens in planning and accountability mechanisms (GoB, 2009). The SDG Union Strategy advocates for collaboration between (a) the people; (b) their local elected representatives; (c) a grassroots civil society; and (d) government employees required to deliver services to the people. A shared goal of achieving the SDGs at the union level brings these stakeholders together (CPD, 2017). However, a variety of external and internal factors may have an impact on an organization's ability to attain long-term sustainability (Hahn & Kühnen, 2013). The SDGs specifically demand activity by local authorities, although the ultimate responsibility for achieving them rests with states. At least 12 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals - with the exception of Goals 9, 12, 13, 14, and 17 - necessitate the development of integrated community-based initiatives to address the interconnected issues such as poverty, ill-health, societal problems, and ecological harm. Fortunately, Bangladesh's constitution wisely delegated key social and economic development responsibilities, such as "the management and execution of plans regarding public services and economic development," to local government bodies, especially the union Parishad (UP), the authority at the people's doorstep [Article 59(2) (c)] 2017 (CPD). According to Rahman (2021), confusing mandates of many departments and divisions have resulted in overlapping authority, conflicts of interest, and a lack of cohesiveness. The key institutional impediments in achieving the SDGs are erroneous stakeholder analysis, data scarcity, a lack of skill and transparency, and a key policy approach.

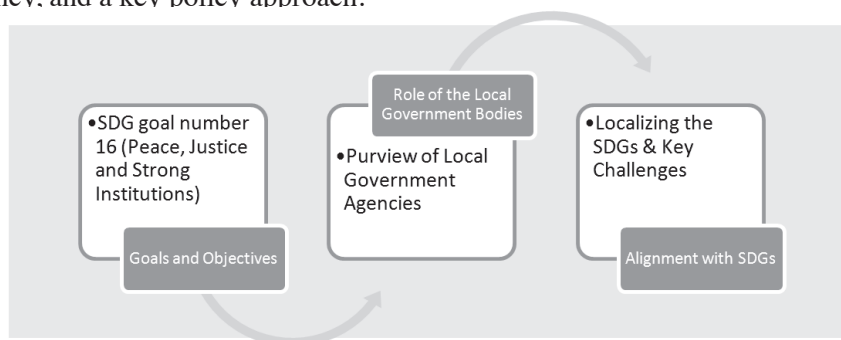


Figure 1: Analytical Framework

The study identified and detailed the role of local government agencies in achieving SDG goal 16 and the significant problems associated with executing SDGs in the perspective of local Bangladesh using the analytical framework (Figure 1). The analytical framework reveals that goal number 16 incorporates the issue of peace, justice, and institutional strength. However, the goals can be well served by the local government agencies. Here, the purview of local government to serve the people is also significant. The ultimate achievement is localizing the SDGs and facing the key challenges to run the SDG programs at the union level.

### **Discussion & Analysis: SDG 16 and Working of Local Government**

The role of local government in maintaining inclusive and transparent institutions at the local level cannot be overstated. Among the many tasks that local government can play in promoting social harmony and equity (i.e., targets 16.1 and 16.2) is assisting law enforcement agencies to keep the community safe, preventing and resolving conflicts, and making citizens aware of their legal rights to justice, as well as aiding those in need of it. Additionally, local government could make the budgeting and planning process more transparent and inclusive (i.e. 16.5, 16.6, and 16.7) at the local level by involving the public. Local governments have been given more important responsibilities, such as providing birth certificates and assisting government agencies with the creation of National Identification Cards (i.e. target 16.9) (Khan et al., 2017). Those experimental programs like Ward Shava, open budgeting, and standing committees that are assuring bottom-up planning at UPs were endorsed by the GOB in the newest UP Act of 2009. The Local Government (Union Parishad) Act 2009 mandates the use of a variety of procedures to guarantee peace, justice, and strong institutions in the local community. If a state wants peace, it needs to include elements such as fulfillment and harmony as well as safety and well-being. This study, on either hand, considers Union Parishads to be just in their governance of their Parishad and to ensure equality and inclusiveness among their residents. If Union Parishads are to be regarded as strong institutions that provide peace and justice, they must have their standing committees operational, according to the aims and priorities of SDG 16 and SDG-driven national guidelines for local government in Bangladesh (Haque et al., 2021). At the municipal level, we need to be more efficient and transparent to our constituents. As a result, we must combat corruption and improve public information accessibility. Governments at all levels around the country have spent decades experimenting with novel ways to involve citizens in decision-making, like interactive budgeting and planning. When we meet this goal, we should keep up with our communities and make sure that no group is left out of the facilities. For rural communities to thrive democratically and to flourish in a way that lasts, the LG's lowest tier, known as UP, must be strengthened. It is the sole institution in Bangladesh that ensures rural communities have

access to excellent governance, development planning, execution, and accountability (Islam, 2020). According to Ashraf et al. (2019), organizations can play the most important role in promoting democratic values, and ensuring transparency, justice, and fairness. In any state, weak institutions might be viewed as a burden. In any state, weak institutions can only be considered a burden. The government must continue its efforts to establish strong institutions led by skilled employees. The utilization of public resources, the provision of services by institutions, transportation, law enforcement, the court, land administration, taxation and customs administration, and the administration of justice are all seen as particularly vulnerable to corruption in Bangladesh.

### **Open Budget Session**

The Local Government (UP) Act of 2009 made it legal for people to be a part of the policy-making and budgeting process at the local level. Under the UP Act 2009, the UP must hold two open budget sessions each year, one in February and one in April. The UP tells and invites everyone in the community, regardless of gender, sex, social position, or class, to come to the session. In the budget session, the UP shares the proposed budget, which includes income and expenses and a revised budget, and asks for feedback from people who are there. It is important to note that the budget proposal is based on Ward Shava's suggestions. Then, the participants talk about the budget and give their ideas and suggestions for the final budget. After taking into account the feedback from the open budget session, the UPs vote on the final budget in their full meeting. Notice boards are used to show the final budget to the public (Uddin, 2019). The goal of the open budget session is to talk about and debate the UP budget so that people can hold their representatives accountable through their voices. The open budget session is one of the most important things that UP has to do. It means that the people can see how much money the UP makes and how much money it spends. People can ask questions, voice concerns, and offer suggestions about any aspect of the budget proposal and plan (Ahmed et al., 2016). People who live in the area can speak up during an open session. They can also be involved in the decision process and development work, and they can hold the council responsible (Chowdhury, 2018). According to Eusuf (2020), Bangladesh's budget supervision issues need to be solved as soon as possible, are (i) not informing legislators in advance of the Executive's budget proposal, (ii) legislative committees failing to review or prepare reports on the year implementation of the budget various websites, and (iii) very little interaction with the legislature during the budget's implementation.



### **Ward Shava**

Ward Shava is another official instrument for UP involvement entrenched in the Act (Articles 4–6). Ward Shava is a public gathering made up of all individuals on a ward's voter list that holds meetings led by the corresponding ward member and advised by a female member. As per the Act, there is a mechanism for holding two open meetings per year at each ward level if a sufficient number of residents (at least 5% of total voters) participate. To ensure Ward Shava members' attendance, the UP issues a public notice at least 7 days before the meeting. During these sessions, citizens are given information about current development initiatives, financial affairs, and schemes, allowing them to evaluate UP's activities. Moreover, the Ward Shava can propose initiatives, prioritize schemes and growth opportunities to be executed, identify and prioritize recipients of social safety net programs, examine UP reports, and detect flaws (Ahmed et al., 2016; Uddin, 2019). It should be emphasized that the suggested budget is based on WS's recommendations. It is important to remember that the estimated budget is based on Ward Shava's suggestions. At the end of their complete meeting, the UPs accept the final budget, which incorporates OBS feedback. The budget is made public by putting it on the notice board when it has been officially approved (Ehsan, 2021). Panday (2019) states, "Virtually, Ward Shava meetings are being organized for compliance only, as holding these meetings has been made mandatory for the UP to qualify for the development grants under Local Government Support Projects (LGSP-III), which is being provided by the government with financial assistance from the World Bank." Most crucially, people's spontaneous engagement in these meetings has yet to occur.

### **Right to Information**

In Bangladesh, people's right to information is legally and constitutionally protected. Article 39 of Bangladesh's Constitution provides freedom of opinion, conscience, speech, and expression as one of the essential rights (Uddin, 2019). It ensures that all government-held information is available to the public. In Bangladesh, the Right to Information Act of 2009 established a legal framework for this. In reality, both the SDGs and RTI are prominent in the modern development debate. Goal No. 16 in the previous set of goals is the right to information. Its inclusion underlines the international community's growing realization that peace and justice, as well as competent, responsible, and inclusive institutions, are at the heart of sustainable development (Bari & Naz, 2016). People are empowered by the availability and transmission of information. Because the people own all of the Republic's authorities, it is critical to protect their access to knowledge to empower them and hold the relevant institution accountable. Furthermore, under the UP Act (Article 49), the UPs are required to adopt a citizen's charter that includes a description of different services, terms, and time limits for specific services, who will be the concerned people

responsible for offering quality service along with his/her contact details, and who will be the next concerned person to ameliorate the issue, among other things. The citizen's charter's simple goal is to educate citizens regarding civic service delivery. Citizens are more aware of their rights and privileges as a result of the citizen's charter (Ehsan, 2021). Huque and Ahsan (2016) state that the union is normally administered by a Chairman with the assistance of a Secretary. Most union members have other jobs and do not consider their council members to be a full-time commitment. The charter experiment in Bangladesh shows minor improvement in terms of citizens' entitlement to public services with clear indications of time, cost, and a commitment to courteous treatment. Furthermore, the government of Bangladesh must strengthen the manner and processes of contact with the areas to better understand their needs and act in response to residents' voices. If properly implemented, the citizen's charter can improve the number and quality of services provided to people while also making the process more responsible and transparent.

### **Standing Committees**

The role of local government is much broader than simply providing local services. It can provide stimulating facilities, such as a platform for locals to engage in civic discussion. Efficient local government can also provide a forum for citizens to address any government issue, and the SC is the one to take into account and express this to a policy. Because the right practice of local government and the SC scrutinizes and discusses all affairs, the execution is more effective and environmentally friendly. However, the primary goal of local government has never been to provide every local service. Maintaining peace, resolving local conflicts, ensuring liberty for the population, and ensuring justice at the local level are all responsibilities of the local government. As a result, SC is an absolute necessity for municipal governance (Rahman, 2018). More individuals can take roles in the decision of development planning and execution now that the most recent Local Government (UP) Act 2009 has been passed. There is a provision in the UP Act, 2009, for the establishment of 13 Standing Committees (SCs) to support the Parishad in promoting openness, accountability, and public engagement in designing and executing better governance and service following the Act. They can aid the UP in improving services and addressing various issues through committees made up of elected officials from the Parishad as well as members of the civil society, socially acclaimed individuals, and women from the area.

Every SC must meet at least once every two months; however, additional sessions can be called at any time in the event of an emergency (Ahmed et al., 2016). The key functions of the SCs are as follows: (i) monitoring service providers' activities and providing feedback to citizens based on their needs and desire; (ii) providing planning support to service delivery providers and monitoring the implementation process; and (iii) supplying periodic

reports to the UP about the committee's activities, decisions, and monitoring at two-month intervals (Ehsan, 2021). The existing law mandates that the UPs take into account and act on the recommendations and remarks made by the standing committees (Ahmed et al., 2016). SC serves as a driving force for decision-making and a key tool for ensuring that governing bodies are doing their jobs properly. They actively monitor all social issues and interact with local residents about all of the issues that affect them. If there is a crisis or program that needs to be addressed, committees can discuss it and make recommendations to Parishad. Local authorities who have been given the responsibility to work locally are required to provide comments to the SC in question. As an added benefit, SCs provide inhabitants with the chance to join the cooperative and take part in meetings, which are conducted every two months. There is no specific law that binds the committees, thus they are free to discuss anything and make a report to the Parishad. As mandated by the Local Government (Union Parishad) Act 2009, the SCs can assure participation and make the local body more inclusive than ever by conducting these functions following their mandate. These committees also can help local institutions be more accountable and guarantee good governance (Haque et al., 2021). Islam (2020) mentions several factors for SC's sluggish performance, including a lack of enthusiasm by UP members, an absence of democratic compression, a lack of public compression, an absence of the skills required to formulate and execute development efforts at the grassroots level, a lack of particular SC terms of reference, and even the non-existence of SC. Unfortunately, the many parties engaged in the operation of committees have not taken them seriously. Lack of awareness and unwillingness appear to be hurdles to the success of the committee, and a low level of engagement by the committee members in committee meetings indicates that constructive conversations are not taking place during the committee sessions.

### **Recommendations for Better Implementation of SDG 16**

Developing countries have already demonstrated a full dedication to SDG implementation, as seen by this paper's prompt implementation of early planned measures. It is now critical to maintain this excitement through timely execution, with all stakeholders playing a role.

- In the present situation, where accomplishing the SDGs by 2030 is a top priority, the importance of building local institutions is greater than ever. In this aspect, well-functioning SCs can provide a solution for both local institutions and the Bangladesh government. The local government of Bangladesh will undoubtedly become more inclusive, accessible, accountable, and effective if the SCs are patronized, supervised, and placed under official legislation, as well as given logistics and training for committee members.

- Through the Local 2030 action plan, it must seek to encourage dialogue with all stakeholders and mobilize a multi-level alliance all over localization that can speed up our efforts, while also establishing facilitating national frameworks that benefit the local actors to improve and lead their SDG-aligned strategies.
- It will have to make sure that residents have a say in decisions that influence their future. To define priorities and plan of action, "effective, accountable, and transparent organizations" and "responsive, inclusive, participatory, and indicative decision-making at all levels" necessitate a clear institutional framework, strengthened planning and management capacities, participatory mechanisms, and existing financial deliberations between all levels of the government and local communities.
- To promote popular engagement, initiatives including interactive budgeting and societal audits can be implemented to facilitate citizen-government dialogue. Furthermore, preparing audit reports regularly and conducting legislative hearings on them with the public or civil society organizations might help to increase popular engagement in the budget process.
- To assist in effective decision-making, the central government, international organizations, academicians, and development agencies must build new connections with local politicians and civil society.

### **Concluding Remarks**

The SDGs are a bold development goal with an innovative vision that each of the UN's 193 member states supports. As a result, it is not an exaggeration to suggest that the SDGs present great opportunities as well as enormous problems for developing countries all over the world. Whereas the SDGs reflect a worldwide agreement on "the future we want", they were established at a difficult time. The global economy is recovering slowly and unevenly, and new crises, including the present refugee problem, are expected to influence many development strategies during at least the first few years of the Sustainable Development Goals timeframe. Developing countries are at risk of dropping into an ownership trap in this setting (Bhattacharya et al., 2016). This document provides an introduction and outline of the various problems that developing nations face in implementing the SDGs, as well as a review of the early initiatives taken by these countries. Governments at all levels have experimented for decades with novel ways to include individuals in decision-making, such as interactive fiscal management. When we achieve this goal, we must stay in touch with our communities and make sure that no minority is left out of the benefits. In order for

distant communities to grow democratically and sustainably, the LG's lowest tier, known as UP, must be enhanced. It is Bangladesh's primary institution committed to providing rural regions with superior government, development policies, execution, and accountability. Organizations have the strongest potential for promoting democratic ideals and ensuring transparency, justice, and opportunity. Some systems, such as open budget proceedings, wardshava, availability of information, and appointing, were already in place under the Local Government (UP) Act of 2009. A weak management mechanism can be seen as a burden in any state. Weak organizations may only be regarded as a burden in the state. The government must keep working to build stable governments led by qualified personnel, a good management system, and a corruption-free environment. The major lack of the present study is that it is dependent on secondary literature. The analytical framework can be used for primary data collection and the output will be robust as well. The study document can be served well for policymakers, researchers and local government concerned stakeholders.

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