

UNITED NATIONS



জাতিসংঘ

জাতিসংঘ আবাসিক সমন্বয়কারীর কার্যালয় - বাংলাদেশ
OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS RESIDENT COORDINATOR IN BANGLADESH

MEDIA RELEASE

Attention: Chief Reporter/News Editor

Date: 01 June 2011

UN Pledges US\$ 1.8 Billion for the Development of Bangladesh

United Nations Reaffirms its Commitment to Assist Bangladesh to Achieve the MDGs with Equity

DHAKA: The United Nations (UN) Country Team has signed an agreement today with the Government of Bangladesh pledging US\$ 1.8 Billion dollars (approximately 13,500 crore taka) for the next five years aimed at assisting the nation to meet its development challenges through addressing the central issue of equity.

The agreement, known as the **United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2012 – 2016**, aims to assist Bangladesh in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by focusing on seven priority areas.

The seven areas, each led by one UN agency, as outlined in the UNDAF are: *Democratic Governance and Human Rights; Pro-poor Growth with Equity; Social Services for Human Development; Food Security and Nutrition; Climate Change, Environment, Disaster Risk Reduction and Response; Pro-poor Urban Development; Gender Equality and Women's Advancement.* All UN System agencies will work together to achieve the goals and results set forth in the UNDAF 2012 - 2016.

The UN Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh, Mr. Neal Walker, mentioned that “the UNDAF was elaborated on the basis of rigorous analysis of the challenges facing the country and in close collaboration with Government partners. It defines the areas where UN grant assistance will be able to support the achievement of concrete results for the most vulnerable citizens of the country. The document is clearly linked to the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals, and I am pleased to note that the Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was present at the meeting of the UN General Assembly in the year 2000, when 196 countries, including Bangladesh, committed their governments to achieve these MDGs by 2015”.

The UNDAF process is undertaken every five years with the aim of coordinating UN activities at the country level to enhance the achievement and impact of development results. This approach is one component of the UN Reforms being implemented in countries all over the world, including Bangladesh. Each new Framework builds on the achievements and progress made previously. The new UNDAF is fully aligned with the principles of the Joint Cooperation Strategy (JCS) agreed by the Government and Development Partners (DPs) in June 2010. The

UNITED NATIONS



জাতিসংঘ

জাতিসংঘ আবাসিক সমন্বয়কারীর কার্যালয় - বাংলাদেশ

OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS RESIDENT COORDINATOR IN BANGLADESH

JCS represents the mutual commitment and shared intention of the Government and DPs to develop more effective ways of working together in the spirit of the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action.

“The new UNDAF will allow further opportunities for the UN to work together more systematically and strategically”, Mr. Walker added.

The UNDAF 2012-2016 is anchored around key national priorities as stated in the Government’s *Outline Perspective Plan of Bangladesh 2010–2021 (Making Vision 2021 a Reality)*, the emerging *Sixth Five Year National Development Plan*, and is based on the findings and results captured in the report entitled *The Millennium Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report 2009*. The UNDAF also reflects feedback from the extensive consultative process undertaken to finalize the MDG progress report and UNDAF.

The UNDAF sets out to achieve a range of results through five core strategies, which include high level advocacy; capacity development of individuals; systems’ strengthening; partnership-building, participation and raising the voice of civil society; and targeting interventions on geographic regions, cities and towns.

(The United Nations (UN) Country Team in Bangladesh consists of 10 resident agencies (FAO, ILO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO and WFP) and IOM, and 11 non-resident agencies (UNCDF, UNEP, UNIDO, UN WOMEN, UNODC, UNHABITAT, IAEA, IFAD, OHCHR, UNCTAD and UNOPS))

ENDS

For further information please contact: Mr. Abdullah Al Muyid, Communications Consultant, UNDP via email: abdullah.muyid@undpaffiliates.org, ph: +88 02 815 0088, ext. 1937, mob: +88 01713 068384