



# SDG 17 Progress Report 2023

## University of Dhaka



## SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

SDG 17 highlights the importance of global partnerships in achieving all other SDGs. The University of Dhaka works towards this by building collaborations with various international organizations, research institutions, and local NGOs. These partnerships help in sharing knowledge, conducting joint research, and addressing global sustainability issues. Through such initiatives, the university contributes to creating a more connected and cooperative approach to solving worldwide challenges, ensuring that efforts towards achieving the SDGs are inclusive and impactful.

- The Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Dhaka, collaborated with UNICEF Bangladesh and the Department of Social Services (DSS) under the Ministry of Social Welfare through the "Child Sensitive Social Protection in Bangladesh Project (Phase II)" to enhance child welfare and psychosocial support for underprivileged children, aiming to reduce poverty and attain its SDG 1 goals.
- The Institute of Medicine, Maharajgunj Nursing Campus, Tribhuvan University, collaborates with the University of Dhaka on a study exploring the intersectional effects of gender, disability, and pandemic on health and well-being, particularly for women with disabilities.
- The University of Dhaka collaborated with icddr,b to provide clinical psychological support to healthcare staff in COVID-19 hospitals under a UNFPA-funded project, ensuring mental health care for frontline
- The University of Dhaka's Department of Clinical Psychology partnered with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to conduct a training and supervision program on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), aiming to enhance the mental health resources for vulnerable groups.
- The Nasirullah Psychotherapy Unit (NPU) at the Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Dhaka, collaborated with Winrock International under the "Ashshash Phase II" project to enhance the capacity of counselors in supporting victims of trafficking and promoting mental health and psychosocial well-being.
- The Institute of Health Economics, University of Dhaka, has collaborated with the Health Economics Unit, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Bangladesh, under a five-year agreement

(2020-2025). This partnership has focused on capacity building, collaborative research, and policy advocacy to enhance health and well-being outcomes.

- Health Economics Study Alliance (HESA) has engaged in health promotion through events and workshops, while IHE Green Team has supported the homeless and advocated for environmental sustainability through collection drives.
- University of Dhaka collaborated with the University of Texas at Austin under the PEER-2 program, providing young researchers from the Plant Biotechnology Lab with hands-on experience in advanced sequencing techniques like 2b-RAD and RNA-seq.
- The University of Dhaka has organized a seminar with the University of Melbourne to explore research and academic collaboration opportunities, featuring Dr. Russell G. Thompson, with insights from Professor Dr. Md. Zillur Rahman and Professor Nastreen Rafiq.
- The University of Dhaka and Khulna University have signed an MoU to enhance collaboration between the departments of Printmaking, promoting the exchange of educational opportunities, research, and skill development for students in the fine arts discipline.
- The Extension Agreement between the Institute of Modern Languages, University of Dhaka (Party A), and ABK College (Party B) extends their collaboration from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2026
- The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and the University of Dhaka have signed an MoU to establish the ICCR Chair for Hindi Language, aiming to enhance the teaching and promotion of Hindi language and cultural exchange.
- The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the University of Dhaka have agreed to collaborate on establishing a Korean Language Center at the Institute of Modern Languages (IML), aiming to enhance Korean language education in Bangladesh.
- The agreement between Dagestan State Pedagogical University (Russia) and the University of Dhaka focuses on establishing a Center for Open Education for Russian language training, enhancing academic collaboration, and promoting joint educational project.
- The University of Dhaka and Tokyo University of Foreign Studies have signed an agreement to promote academic exchange, faculty and student cooperation, and research collaboration over a five-year period, contributing to educational and cultural development.

- The Joint PhD Agreement between Queensland University of Technology (QUT) and University of Dhaka aims to develop a collaborative PhD program with shared enrollment and research, fostering international academic partnerships, enhancing educational opportunities.
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), India, and University of Dhaka (DU), Bangladesh, aims to enhance academic cooperation through faculty exchange, joint research, workshops, and conferences. This collaboration seeks to deepen mutual understanding, promote teaching and research activities, and foster knowledge sharing.
- "Gender and Inclusive Pedagogical (GIP) Approaches" project, led by the Institute of Education and Research (IER), University of Dhaka, in partnership with institutions from Bhutan, Nepal, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam, completed a 4-tier teacher training intervention and initiated the endline study across 60 experimental and 60 control schools to measure the impact on teachers' GIP practices, with data being collected for further analysis.
- The collaboration between University College London and the University of Dhaka focuses on gender-responsive resilience and intersectionality in policy and practice, aiming to advance research on building inclusive, resilient systems. This partnership supports efforts in addressing gender-related challenges in policy frameworks.
- The collaboration with the Jamsetji Tata School of Disaster Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and the University of Dhaka focuses on integrating gender-conscious disaster management curricula, emphasizing intersectionality in disaster risk reduction strategies.
- The partnership with Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA Bharat) explores reimagining the world of women's work post-crisis, focusing on research that enhances the resilience and inclusion of women in the workforce.
- The University of Copenhagen (UCPH) and the University of Dhaka (DU) have partnered on the WatScarce project, focusing on investigating water use, hygiene behaviors, and disease patterns in water-stressed low-income households in Tongi, Bangladesh. This 60-month project aims to analyze the impact of climate change and migration on health and hygiene, identifying transmission routes for hygiene-related pathogens.

- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the University of Dhaka collaborate on The Simon Project, focusing on occupational safety and labor insurance for female garment workers, especially those with children, to improve working conditions.
- The University of Dhaka's Nasirullah Psychotherapy Unit collaborated with BRAC to provide counseling services to returning migrant workers under a Swiss-funded program, promoting their socio-economic reintegration and mental well-being.
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Information and Communication Technology (DoICT) of Bangladesh Government and the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSEDU) at the University of Dhaka aims to enhance collaboration in ICT development, e-Governance, IT skill development, and advanced research to promote sustainable growth and innovation in Bangladesh.
- The Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) and the University of Dhaka are working together on strengthening community resilience through disability-inclusive disaster risk management (DiDRM) in both urban and rural areas in Bangladesh.
- The MOU between the University of Dhaka and the Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, focuses on scientific cooperation, including joint academic programs, capacity building, and Ph.D. student supervision in Asian Monsoon research, enhancing academic exchange and research collaboration.
- The Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI), Kyoto University, and the Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Dhaka, have agreed to extend their academic cooperation for another five years, effective from October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2028.
- The Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI), Kyoto University, and the Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Dhaka, have extended their academic cooperation for five more years, focusing on scientific exchange, joint research, faculty and student exchanges, and intellectual property negotiations.
- The partnership between the Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA) and the University of Dhaka aims to create an inclusive green finance ecosystem to scale up climate adaptation and mitigation efforts for vulnerable communities in Asia-Pacific.