

সকলের কথা

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Result of

First Performance Assessment of UGDP

The Upazila Governance and Development Project (UGDP) has completed the first Performance Assessment of 488 Upazila and target 100 Upazila have been selected based on the performance assessment results.

The Government of Bangladesh and the Government of Japan have agreed to implement the Upazila Governance and Development Project (UGDP). The Loan Agreement of the UGDP is signed by both sides in December 2015, and the Development Project Proposal (DPP) was approved by the ECNEC in February 2016. The project aims at strengthening Upazila Parishad which was revitalized in 2009 and is expected to play a key role of rural development with good local governance. The objective of the UGDP is to enhance the capacity of Upazila Parishad to deliver effective public services to citizens by providing training programs and fund transfer for development activities to Upazila Parishad,



thereby contributing to reinforcing local government structure of Bangladesh. The project period is six years, from 2015 to 2021.

Toward the objective, the UGDP will provide development funds as the performance-based allocation (PBA) and capacity development supports to all Upazilas. The average size of the PBA is about 50 Lakh Taka per Upazila per year. The target Upazilas will be expanded from 100, 200, 300, 400, up to all 488 Upazilas based on the results of the governance performance assessment. All Upazilas will be assessed every year by an external auditor deployed by the project and ranked from the top to the last. Top 100 Upazilas will be given the PBA and capacity development supports under the UGDP in 2016, top 200 will be covered in 2017, top 300 will be in 2018, 400 will be in 2019, and then all Upazilas which pass the preconditions will be covered in 2020 onward. The outline of the performance assessment under the UGDP is described in Figure 1. Performance Indicators and their means of verifications are shown in the following page.

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1st Step (Screening by Precondition)

1. Status of Upazila Parishad meetings
2. Status of Standing Committees
3. Existence of Budget and Development Plans
4. Status of ADP Implementation and Reporting

Ranking of UZPs which passed 1st Step based on 2nd Step

2nd Step (Performance Assessment)

- 1 Institutional Capacity
 - 1.1. SCs are properly held and recorded
 - 1.2. NBD officers attend respective SC meetings
 - 1.3. Project Selection Committee (PSC) is established and functioning
 - 1.4. Development proposals are submitted from Union Parishad, UDCC, SCs and NBDs
- 2 Financial Management Capacity
 - 2.1. Annual Budget is prepared and approved as stated in UZP Act
 - 2.2. Asset register is properly maintained and updated
 - 2.3. Annual Financial Statement is prepared
 - 2.4. Gap between the initial budget and the actual expenditure is minimized
- 3 Planning and Budgeting Capacity
 - 3.1. Five-Year Development Plan with priority project list is prepared
 - 3.2. Development fund is used as per UZP Development Fund Using Guidelines 2014
 - 3.3. Development project sites are inspected by Upazila officers
 - 3.4. Upazila Project Proposal (UPP) is prepared and discussed at SCs or UZP meeting
- 4 Transparency and Accountability
 - 4.1. UDCCs are held in each Union Parishad
 - 4.2. Annual Budget and Annual Development Plan are displayed for public scrutiny
 - 4.3. Information Focal Point is assigned and such assignment is made public
 - 4.4. Citizen Charter is published

UZP are selected based on the ranking

1st year: 100 UZP
2nd year: 200 UZP
3rd year: 300 UZP
4th year: 400 UZP
5th Year: All UZP*

* Only UZPs which passed 1st Step.

Figure 1: Performance Assessment System under the UGDP

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The first Performance Assessment was implemented in 2016 as follows:

- Duration: January - March 2016
- Assessor: Bangladesh audit firm (AHKC) sub-contracted by the LGD/JICA
- Method: 2 surveyors visited Upazila and checked relevant documents for 2 days

The salient features of the results are as follows:

- Precondition passed: 217 Upazila
- Disqualified Upazil: 271 Upazila
- Highest mark: 82 (Mirpur Upazila in Kushtia District)
- Lowest mark: 0 (5 Upazila)
- Average mark: 34

One hundred one (101) Upazilas are selected from 217 Upazilas which meet the preconditions. The selected Upazilas are entitled to implement sub-projects up to 50 Lakh Taka in the fiscal year 2016. To cover the entire country as much as possible, the following selection method is adopted by the Project Steering Committee / LGD:

- Select one (1) qualified Upazila with the highest mark from each district. If there is no Upazila which passes the preconditions in a district, no Upazilas will be selected from such district.
- From the remaining Upazilas, select Upazilas with higher mark up to approximately 100. The number of selected Upazilas shall be three (3) per district at most, but the number shall be less than 50% of the total number of Upazilas in each district.

The detailed result of the performance assessment on all Upazila in 2016 is shown in Table 1 to 3. 101 Upazilas are selected in 2016, and 3 Upazilas are selected as pilot Upazilas which will be provided capacity development support first.

The second performance assessment will be implemented in early 2017. It is hoped that more numbers of Upazila will pass the preconditions. All Upazila are expected to improve the indicators which are marked lower in the first performance assessment.

For further information about UGDF, please contact with the Union Parishad Helpline in NILG, telephone number is 16256.

Regarding the governance performance assessment and its results, please send an e-mail in written form to:

jica.ugd@sapi@gmail.com

Table 1: Result of the Performance Assessment (Upazila which passed preconditions)
Table 2: Result of the Performance Assessment (Upazila which didn't pass preconditions)
Table 3: Result of the Performance Assessment (Pilot Upazila for capacity development)

Note: All Upazilas are ranked based on the assessment result, following the steps described below.

- 1) Among Upazilas which passed preconditions, Upazilas whose mark is the highest in each district are ranked as "1". As the result, total 63 Upazilas are ranked as "1".
- 2) After selecting the rank of "1", the remaining Upazilas which passed preconditions are ranked from "64" to "217" based on their marks.
- 3) Upazilas which failed to pass preconditions are ranked from "218" based on their marks.

Precondition Indicators		
Performance Indicator	Means of Verification	Pass/Fail
1. Status of Upazila Parishad meetings		
1.1 Upazila Parishad (UZP) meetings are held regularly.	Minutes of UZP meetings	9 or more meetings were held.
1.2 UZP meetings are held with proper attendance.	Attendance lists of UZP meeting	Average attendance in UZP meetings is 40% or more.
2. Status of Standing Committees		
2.1 Standing Committees (SCs) are established.	Minutes of UZP meeting or other official documents	6 or more SCs are established.
2.2 SCs are functioning.	Minutes of SC meetings	At least one SC meeting is held
3. Existence of Budget and Development Plans		
3.1 Annual Budget is prepared and approved.	Annual budget	At least one prescribed template was used in the annual budget
3.2 Development Plan is prepared.	Either Five-Year Plan or Annual Development Plan	Five-Year Plan or Annual Development Plan are prepared.
4. Status of ADP Implementation and Reporting		
4.1 ADP reports are prepared.	ADP reports for the last 3 FYs	ADP reports of all 3 years are stored.
4.2 ADP reports are sent to LGD	Copy of letter sent to LGD	At least one copy of letter for 2014-15 are found.

Performance Indicators	
Performance Indicator	Means of Verification
1. Institutional Capacity (7 marks for each indicator)	
1.1. SCs are properly held and recorded	(1) Notices for SC meetings or decision of fixed dates of SC meetings (2) Minutes of SC meetings
1.2. NBD officers attend respective SC meetings	Attendance lists of SC meetings during the last FY
1.3. Project Selection Committee (PSC) is established and functioning	Minutes of PSC meetings PSC's recommendations to UPZ meetings
1.4. Development proposals are submitted from Union Parishad, UDCC, SCs and NBDs	Number of proposals from various sources ("Unions", "UDCC", "SCs", "NBDs" and "Others")
2. Financial Management Capacity (7 marks for each indicator)	
2.1. Annual Budget is prepared and approved as stated in UZP Act	Minutes of UZP meetings (Date of final approval by Upazila Parishad)
2.2. Asset register is properly maintained and updated	Asset register (for immovable and movable assets)
2.3. Annual Financial Statement is prepared	Annual Financial Statement
2.4. Gap between the initial budget and the actual expenditure is minimized	Annual Budget (Initial)
3. Planning and Budgeting Capacity (7 marks for each indicator)	
3.1. Five-Year Development Plan with priority project list is prepared	Five-Year Development Plan book
3.2. Development fund is used as per UZP Development Fund Using Guidelines 2014	ADP List and interview with Upazila Engineer (Number of sectors covered)
3.3. Development project sites are inspected by Upazila officers	Site Inspection Checklist and interview with UNO and Upazila Engineer
3.4. Upazila Project Proposal (UPP) is prepared for each project and discussed at SCs or Upazila Parishad meeting	UPP documents
4. Transparency and Accountability (4 marks for each indicator)	
4.1. UDCCs are held in each Union Parishad	UDCC minutes at Upazila Parishad
4.2. Annual Budget and Annual Development Plan are displayed for public scrutiny on notice boards and websites	Notice board, Website (Annual Budget and Annual Development Plan)
4.3. Information Focal Point is assigned and such assignment is made public	Notice board and/or Website (Appointment)
4.4. Citizen Charter is published	Notice board and/or Website (Citizen Charter)

Table:1

Result of Performance Assessment 2016 (Upazilas which passed preconditions)

Table with 25 columns: Sl. No, District, Upazila, Precondition Indicators (4.2 columns), Performance Indicators (13 columns), Total Score, Rank, Rank in District, Selected as 1st Round Upazilas. Rows 1-62 list various upazilas across districts like Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchgarh, Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Nilphamari, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Joypurhat, Rajshahi, Naogaon, Natore, Chapainabagarj, Pabna, Sirajganj, Kushtia, Chuadanga.

