

# Reform Initiative Implementation Action Plan [RIIAP]

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Designation: Chairman (Additional Secretary)  
Work Place: Bangladesh Handloom Board

**Title: Effective Distribution of Imported Materials (dyes, chemicals and yarns) to Members of Sadipur Jamdani Weavers' Co-operative Society, Narayangonj**



# RIIAP Problem Identification

## **RIIAP Problem:**

To provide support to marginal handloom weavers community Bangladesh Handloom Board gives permission to the Handlooms Weavers' Co-operative Societies to import materials like dyes, chemicals and yarns at 35% less of import duties. As the marginal weavers do not have the capacity (knowledge, financial and logistical) to import the materials, after getting the permission letter they hand it over to big importer at Narayangonj.

As the warehouse of the importer is located at Narayanganj and the weavers are at far flung area, the importer prefers to give them some cash incentive (to avoid carrying cost) instead of carrying those imported materials to the community. Community members are also forced to remain happy with the process as they don't have enough cash in hand to buy those materials at a time even if and when the materials are brought to their door steps. As a result, the intended beneficiaries, marginal weavers, are deprived of the actual benefit. As a result they are forced to remain happy with the money (instead of dyes, chemicals and yarn) middle men offer to them.



# RIIAP Problem Identification

## Causes of the Problem:

Despite being the targeted beneficiaries, marginal weavers often do not receive the actual benefit of the duty-free facility due to the following reasons:

- **Limited Capacity:** Weavers cooperative society lacks the financial, administrative and logistical capacity to directly import raw materials.
- **Exploitation by Middlemen:** Traders and influential business actors obtain BHB's recommendations and subsequently sell imported goods at inflated prices
- **Weak Monitoring Mechanism:** There is a lack of effective monitoring and transparency regarding the import and distribution of duty-free goods.
- **Weak National Body:** Absence of elected National Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society

# RIIAP: Details of Action Plan

	Action	Actor	Time Frame
1	<p><b>Training &amp; Capacity Building of import permission receivers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct workshops on import regulations, customs procedures, and tariff benefits.</li><li>• Provide hands-on training in obtaining necessary permissions and completing documentation.</li><li>• Offer mentorship programs where experienced importers guide new cooperatives.</li><li>• Include at least one member in the society who is capable of importing and storing in the locality</li></ul>	<p>Member (S&amp;M) (Joint Secretary) Bangladesh Handloom Board</p>	03 months

## RIIAP: Details of Action Plan

	Action	Actor	Time Frame
2	<b>Establishing a Centralized Support System</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create a dedicated advisory unit to assist with the import process</li><li>• Facilitate bulk imports to reduce costs</li><li>• Assign tag officer from BHB Headquarters to support &amp; monitor closely along with local administration</li></ul>	Chairman (Additional Secretary) Bangladesh Handloom Board.	03 months

# RIIAP: Details of Action Plan

SL	Action	Actor	Time Frame
3	<p><b>Ensure warehouse at locality &amp; maintain register for distribution;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure specific local warehouse for storing imported materials.</li><li>• Implement a structured inventory system to log imported materials.</li><li>• Maintain a detailed <b>register</b> to track material distribution, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Date of receipt</li><li>• Quantity received</li><li>• Batch details (source, importer, quality checks)</li><li>• Names of beneficiaries (cooperatives/weavers)</li><li>• Distribution dates and quantities issued</li></ul></li><li>• Use ledgers for accuracy and transparency</li></ul>	Raton Chandra Saha Deputy General Manager Bangladesh Handloom Board.	03 months

## RIIAP: Details of Action Plan

SL	Action	Actor	Time Frame
4	<p><b>Pre-Inspection of Aspiring Cooperative Societies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct thorough evaluations of cooperative societies applying for duty-free import permission</li><li>• Assess their financial capacity and ability to utilize imported materials effectively</li><li>• Verify the authenticity of members and their engagement in handloom weaving</li><li>• Ensure transparent criteria for eligibility to prevent misuse</li></ul>	<p>Society Officer Bangladesh Handloom Board.</p>	03 months

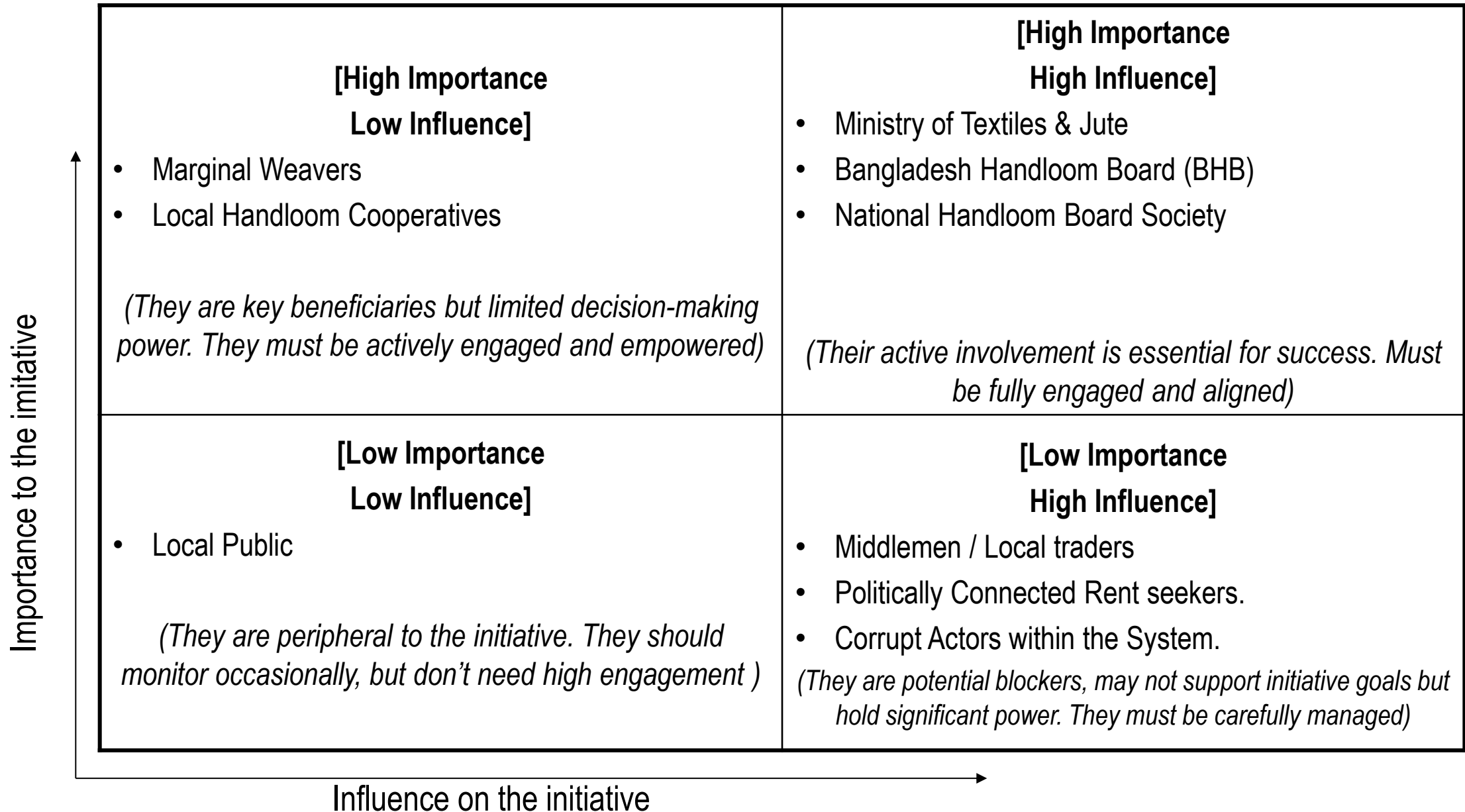
# RIIAP: Details of Action Plan

SL	Action	Actor	Time Frame
5	<b>Informing Members and other About Duty-Free Import Permission</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct stakeholder meeting prior to issuing permission outlining the terms, benefits, and responsibilities associated with the permission</li><li>• Make information of all permissions issued available to all concerned both in online and offline</li></ul>	Concerned Liaison Officer Concerned Basic Center Bangladesh Handloom Board	03 months

# RIIAP: Details of Action Plan

SL	Action	Actor	Time Frame
6	<p><b>Publishing periodic reports on the use and distribution of duty-free imports;</b></p> <p><b><u>Key Components of the Reports</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Import Summary: Details of materials imported, quantities, and importers involved.</li> <li>• Distribution Records: Breakdown of materials allocated to cooperative societies and individual weavers.</li> <li>• Usage Assessment: Reports from weavers on the impact of received materials on their production.</li> <li>• Challenges &amp; Recommendations: Identification of obstacles in distribution and suggestions for improvement.</li> <li>• Compliance Status: Evaluation of adherence to regulations and corrective actions taken (if necessary).</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">Research Officer Bangladesh Handloom Board.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">03 months</p>

# Stakeholder Analysis of RIAP



# SWOT Analysis of RIAP

	<b>Policy</b> [vision, mission, goals, rules, regulations, SOPs]	<b>Executives</b> [actors' competencies, training, their sufficiency]	<b>Resources</b> [budget, technology, materials, linkage with external organizations]	<b>Culture</b> [actors' behavioral patterns: beliefs, norms, relations, attitude, practice]
<b>S</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BHB has a policy and authority to change/ upgrade existing policy/SOP and has a fund to use</li> <li>BHB's institutional authority to supervise the whole process.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aspiring cooperative society's executive members are aware of the rules, regulations and their responsibilities</li> <li>Local importers may be involved with the process and they know the process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a Board it has its own fund which can be used subject to the approval of the Board</li> <li>Bunch of expert officials to help co-operative members</li> <li>Cooperative societies do not have money to import</li> </ul>	

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<b>W</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political influence and middle men's connection with politicians</li> <li>SOP has not been upgraded to establish effective monitoring system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weak National Handloom Somity</li> <li>Unelected National Handloom Samity for last 10 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Handloom Somity does not have any capacity or resource to supervise the local somities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Malpractice and misuse of permission</li> <li>Middlemanship</li> </ul>

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<b>O</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesser political influence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Administration is always providing support to ensure materials distribution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local importers would love to be involved with the process who has enough money and know how to import</li> </ul>	

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<b>T</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political changes could disrupt long-term continuity of reform.</li> <li>Middlemen would try to disengage local administration to ease their malpractice</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distance between importers' warehouses and weavers results in inefficient distribution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pushback from powerful traders or interest groups currently benefiting from the existing system.</li> </ul>

Thank you