

Chapter V
STS Implementation Mechanisms



STS implementation mechanisms: Role of different stakeholders



Role of government ministries and departments

- Adhere strictly to the STS timeline and execution plan
- Improve coordination and collaboration with others
- Announce any policy changes in advance to give time to prepare and adapt
- Conduct reviews to obtain practical recommendations
- Integrate STS-specific targets and milestones into the Annual Performance Agreement.



Role of the private sector

- Embrace improved labour standards and compliance
- Proactively support various policy actions included in the STS
- Improve product quality and standards
- Increase the R&D spending
- Help to identify defensive and offensive interests of the country during trade negotiation.



Role of public-private partnerships

- Work on the improvement of transport and logistics, social and physical infrastructural projects.



Role of civil society organisations

- Act as a watchdog to ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of STS
- Offer expertise and specialised knowledge in various aspects of STS implementation
- Bridge between the government and the public to identify the ground-level problems and their solutions.



Role of development and trading partners

- Provide support for STS implementation
- Extend the transition period and preferences
- Provide assistance to comply with international conventions and standards
- Help with trade policy and negotiation capacity building
- Provide additional assistance for SDGs
- Provide support for productive capacity development.

Effective implementation arrangements are pivotal to the success of the Smooth Transition Strategy (STS). For Bangladesh, a country navigating the complex challenges of LDC graduation, ensuring the seamless execution of this strategy is not just desirable but essential for sustaining its development momentum. In developing economies, capacity constraints, fragmented institutional frameworks, and governance challenges often impede policy implementation. These issues are further compounded by the need to coordinate across multiple stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector actors, development partners, and civil society. Robust implementation mechanisms must address these challenges by ensuring clarity in roles, responsibilities, and accountability at all levels. Equally important is the integration of data-driven monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress, identify bottlenecks, and adapt strategies as needed. Given the dynamic global landscape, these mechanisms should also be flexible enough to respond to emerging challenges, such as economic shocks, geopolitical shifts, and climate-related disruptions.

A well-designed implementation framework should not only focus on operational efficiency but also foster inclusivity, ensuring that all stakeholders are actively engaged in the process. By aligning the strategy's goals with the broader development priorities of the country, such mechanisms can act as a catalyst for structural transformation, enabling Bangladesh to secure a smooth and sustainable transition from LDC status.

5.1 STS implementation framework

The STS provides a strategic approach to address the potential consequences of LDC graduation. While mitigating the loss of international support measures that impact competitiveness, the strategy takes a transformative approach, moving from a model based on low wages, weak compliance, and preference-driven competitiveness to one focused on quality, innovation, and higher standards. It outlines specific implementation strategies and institutional arrangements, clearly defining the roles of various stakeholders, including the government, private sector, public-private partnerships, civil society, and development and trade partners. Additionally, the STS includes a time-bound action plan to ensure a smooth transition, prioritising and accelerating the necessary reforms for sustainable graduation.

Strong leadership and political commitment for STS implementation: Strong political commitment is essential for the successful implementation of the STS, as it ensures the alignment of national policies, resource mobilisation, and ongoing support for the economic transformation required to achieve sustainable development. This commitment is reflected in the STS vision, robust political ownership, the establishment of a high-level National Committee for Graduation, and a country-led preparatory process. With the highest level of political support and under the leadership of the head of the government's office, the implementation of the action plans and required reforms will be fast-tracked and considered a high priority in all government plans, policies, and strategies.

Upholding solidarity and partnership: The successful and effective implementation of the STS demands collaborative partnerships amongst all stakeholders. Anchored in the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development and global commitments for graduating and graduated LDCs outlined in the Doha Programme of Action (DPoA), these partnerships will be instrumental in realising Bangladesh's development aspirations. The formulation of the STS involved an extensive and inclusive consultation process, incorporating feedback and suggestions from diverse stakeholders. The action matrix of the STS reflects the outcomes of this consultation process. As implementation advances, a dedicated collaboration and support mechanism will be established to ensure sustained, effective multi-stakeholder cooperation. Bangladesh remains unwavering in its commitment to fostering meaningful partnerships with the international community, including UN organisations, international development and financial institutions, and key development and trade partners. These stakeholders are equally committed to supporting Bangladesh's socio-economic progress, ensuring that the country maintains its momentum and continues on its path of advancement in the years to come.

Integrating STS into national development policies and plans: The STS is meticulously crafted in alignment with various national policies, plans, and sectoral strategies while at the same time being consistent with the SDG framework and the DPoA. The strategic pillars and corresponding actions will be integrated into the forthcoming medium-term plans as well as sectoral policies. To ensure effective implementation, relevant ministries/agencies will take proactive roles to make progress on the relevant actions as outlined in the STS action matrix.

Financing STS implementation: Given Bangladesh's constrained fiscal space resulting from limited government revenue mobilisation, the implementation of the STS cannot rely solely on public resources. In this context, the critical role of partnerships cannot be overemphasised. Relevant government ministries, departments, and agencies will integrate their measures and actions into the Medium-Term Expenditure Frameworks and annual budgets, aligning them with the STS. In addition to government support, the private sector will invest in and implement measures related to firm-level and supply-side capacity enhancement, technological adaptation, improving standards and compliance, job training initiatives, and more. At the implementation level, technical and financial assistance, in the form of concessional loans and grants, will be sought from development partners.

A result-oriented M&E system and institutional arrangements for STS implementation: A monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system will be an integral part of STS implementation. An appropriate M&E framework will be prepared, based on the action matrix of the STS, to track the progress of the strategy, evaluate the effectiveness of the actions, and suggest appropriate measures to achieve the desired outcomes. The M&E should not be seen as disjointed activities; rather, it will be a process that involves regular consultation exercises. The following measures will be implemented:

- A high-level LDC Graduation Steering Committee, chaired by the Chief Adviser/Head of the Government, will be established, comprising relevant advisers/ministers. This committee will offer strategic policy direction for the effective implementation of the STS.

It will convene biannually to review progress and provide policy directives based on the progress made.

- The National Committee on LDC Graduation (NCG) will serve as the central monitoring and evaluation (M&E) body for STS implementation. Responsible for tracking progress against the STS and its action matrix, the committee will develop a comprehensive M&E framework, conduct annual assessments, and coordinate with relevant stakeholders to ensure effective and efficient implementation.
- To assist the NCG in implementing the STS, the Support to Sustainable Graduation Project (SSGP) under the Economic Relations Division (ERD) will take on the necessary tasks on a regular basis. With its established knowledge base and extensive experience in stakeholder consultations, extending the mandate of the SSGP to include M&E responsibilities would ensure seamless continuity from policy development through to implementation.
- To facilitate this, the current capacity of the SSGP project should be enhanced to ensure that it is well-equipped to support the NCG in implementing the STS effectively.
- Relevant ministries/divisions/agencies will prepare and undertake specific measures to help implement the STS, and inform the progress made against each indicator as part of the M&E exercise.
- The M&E reports, identifying the areas of limited or no progress, will make specific recommendations for improved implementation. The reports will be shared in public consultations.

5.2 Roles of stakeholders in STS implementation

5.2.1 Role of government ministries and departments

The governmental ministries and departments will have major roles and responsibilities in STS implementation as outlined below:

- At the outset, government ministries and departments will conduct a thorough assessment of the specific action measures relevant to their respective spheres of work and undertake the necessary measures and follow-up activities to ensure steady progress can be made on these actions.
- Adhere strictly to the STS timeline and execution plan to ensure timely implementation and impactful results, emphasising the importance of maintaining objectivity and a constructive approach throughout the process.
- Assess the scope of coordination and collaboration, whether inter-ministry, with the private sector, or with DPs and proactively pursue these partnerships to facilitate progress on the implementation.
- Undertake/adjust existing work programme/policy measures to prioritise implementation of specific actions mentioned in the STS and continue to take follow-up actions to make progress towards effective implementation of STS. In the process, announce any policy changes in advance to give the relevant stakeholders time to prepare and adapt.

- Optimise budget management through support from development partners and other trading partners to ensure uninterrupted implementation of the STS. Also, facilitate coordination with the private sector, DPs, and civil society to mobilise technical expertise essential for the effective implementation of this strategy.
- Identify any areas where implementation may be slow and consider remedial measures for accelerating progress.
- If needed, conduct reviews/commission studies to obtain practical recommendations on making progress on implementation.
- Integrate the specific targets and milestones of the Smooth Transition Strategy (STS) into the Annual Performance Agreement (APA) of each relevant ministry and department. This integration will ensure that the implementation of the STS is prioritised and monitored regularly, fostering accountability and providing a clear framework for evaluating progress. By aligning the STS targets with the performance objectives of government entities, it will be possible to systematically track achievements and address any challenges promptly, thereby enhancing the overall effectiveness of the strategy.

5.2.2 Role of the private sector

Bangladesh's graduation from the LDC category is significantly attributed to its dynamic private sector, which has been pivotal in driving economic development, creating employment, generating export earnings, and operating businesses despite numerous challenges. Recognising the private sector's critical role, the Government of Bangladesh has proactively engaged with industry stakeholders and formulated a range of private sector-centric policies and strategies. As some of the issues related to LDC graduation, such as the loss of trade preferences, will directly affect the private sector, their preparedness and resilience will be crucial in determining the course of Bangladesh's transition. In the implementation of the STS, the private sector is, therefore, a key player. Various business organisations and associations have been actively involved in the preparation of the STS, and their collective efforts are essential to ensuring a successful transition. Some of the important specific roles of the private sector are as follows:

- It is important for the private sector to recognise that after LDC graduation, Bangladesh will be under increasing scrutiny for improved labour standards and other compliance issues. Improvements in these areas will have to be made irrespective of government regulatory provisions and capacity.
- Many global firms are self-imposing higher Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) standards across their global value chains because of various factors, including the ever-growing demand of their consumers and shareholders. Therefore, adherence to labour standards, human rights, and workplace safety regulations is critical for participating in global value chains and expanding exports.
- The private sector should proactively support various policy actions included in the STS. Many of the reform proposals and policy measures as part of the STS and other policy instruments might be seen as unfavourable in the short term, but their medium to long-term impacts are important for improving the overall competitiveness of the economy.

Amongst others, these reforms can help attract foreign investment and establish links with global supply chains.

- Private sector associations can make it a priority to improve and comply with product standards even in local sales. A strong domestic market presence with quality and innovative products can also lead to export success.
- Investment in research and development (R&D) is critical for innovation and improving productivity. This is one area where firms should pay more attention. For improved productivity and competitiveness, allocating resources towards cutting-edge technology and enhancing employee skills is essential. Firm-level preparations are central to the national LDC graduation strategy.
- As the respective governmental ministries and departments have initiated trade negotiations with other countries, private sector associations should help identify the defensive and offensive interests of the country while recognising that trade negotiations mean there can be trade-offs and significant opening up of the domestic market may be needed to ensure market access in other countries.
- Private sector associations should work closely and collaboratively with the government, think tanks and development partners to develop themselves and act as knowledge hubs for their members, supporting them on LDC graduation-related issues.

5.2.3 Role of public-private partnerships

Bangladesh has developed a public-private partnership (PPP) regulatory framework that supports investments in development projects. The introduction of a PPP policy in 2010 and the PPP Act in 2015 promoted public infrastructure development, encouraged private sector involvement, and established an institutional arrangement to drive PPP initiatives. In the implementation of STS, there are various areas where the PPP authority could play an important role by undertaking development projects.

As per the framework of PPP, projects under the transport and logistics, energy, water and sanitation, social infrastructure, and other infrastructure sectors, such as ICT and industry-related subsectors, are eligible for PPP.¹⁰² Several infrastructure projects are being implemented under the PPP framework.¹⁰³

According to the National Logistics Policy, various infrastructure development projects will be initiated to enhance connectivity, many of which can be executed through PPP. The establishment of economic zones under PPP is already underway, and more similar projects can be pursued through this model. Similarly, the PPP authority should take the lead in building ICT infrastructure like broadband networks and data centres. Given its track record in implementing mega projects, this initiative could expedite the expansion of ICT services, improve connectivity, and make digital

¹⁰² For more information regarding sectors under PPP can be found here: https://www.pppo.gov.bd/what_we_do.php

¹⁰³ Public Private partnership Authority. Annual Report 2022-23.

https://www.pppo.gov.bd/download/ppp/ar/PPPA_Annual-Report_2022-23.pdf

services more accessible and affordable for citizens and businesses in a timely manner. All this can also help prepare for LDC graduation and implement STS.

5.2.4 Role of civil society organisations (CSOs)

The active involvement of civil society is essential for implementing the STS in an inclusive and transparent manner that responds to the needs of all stakeholders. This engagement can significantly contribute to further sustainable development beyond the transition process.

- Civil societies can act as watchdogs, helping monitor the implementation of STS and hold the process accountable. By fostering transparency, CSOs should ensure that all stakeholders adhere to their promises and responsibilities during the transition. This oversight will not only help to maintain integrity and accountability but also guarantee that the transition process aligns with the broader goals of sustainable development.
- CSOs can offer expertise and specialised knowledge in various aspects of STS implementation. They can also help identify the best practices in global economies that can help Bangladesh with its own implementation programme.
- CSOs should act as bridges between the government and the general public to identify the ground-level problems that can impede the implementation of this strategy. Their constructive assessments and solutions-centric approaches can be extremely helpful in moving forward with the implementation agenda.
- CSOs can greatly contribute to private sector competitiveness. International rules and regulations, including those associated with LDC graduation, are constantly evolving and building awareness about them is very important. CSOs can also help with providing country contexts and practicalities that can improve the perceptions of DPs and buyers, resulting specific technical assistance at the firm level.
- CSOs should play a crucial role in empowering the local governments and communities through organising town hall meetings and expert commentary, confirming that Leave No One Behind (LNOB) and enabling their active participation in the implementation of this strategy. They can undertake prompt studies and analyses identifying any potential impact on any vulnerable groups requiring policy attention.
- By strengthening collaboration with DPs, CSOs can mobilise the necessary resources and expertise to support any key local initiatives that facilitate the implementation of the STS.

5.2.5 Role of development and trading partners

Development and trade partners are critical in supporting Bangladesh's transition from LDC status. The STS presents a unique opportunity for them to align their support with Bangladesh's identified needs across various strategic pillars. Pillar 5 of the STS specifically calls for targeted assistance from development partners in key areas, which will reinforce Bangladesh's preparation for mitigating any challenges while at the same time catalysing transformative changes.

- **Extended transition period:** Advocate for and support an extended transition period to help Bangladesh adjust smoothly to post-graduation challenges, considering the current global economic disruptions.
- **Enhanced technical assistance:** Provide technical assistance to help Bangladesh implement international conventions on human rights, labour rights, environmental protection, climate change, and good governance. Similar assistance and capacity-building support are also needed to improve product standards and quality.
- **Capacity-building trade policy and negotiations:** Offer capacity-building support to government officials and think tanks to enhance their trade negotiation skills and effectively establish FTAs and PTAs.
- **Financial support for SDGs:** Provide multiplied financial assistance to help Bangladesh achieve its SDGs, focusing on areas like quality health and education, food security, gender empowerment, and other key SDG targets.
- **Support for productive capacity development:** Invest in building productive capacities by supporting infrastructure development, state-of-the-art technologies, improved business environments, ICT adoption, and enhanced human capital through education and health investments.
- **Skill development initiatives:** Foster skill development programmes to boost the workforce's capabilities and support research and development efforts to enhance firm-level supply-side capabilities and product quality standards.
- **Climate resilience and adaptation:** Invest in and support climate resilience projects and provide technical assistance for adopting advanced technologies, as well as clean and renewable energy solutions.
- **Mitigate external shocks:** Assist Bangladesh in developing mechanisms to mitigate the adverse effects of external shocks such as food and fuel price hikes and ensure the country benefits from international cooperation amid rising geopolitical competition.
- **Support export diversification:** Aid in diversifying Bangladesh's export portfolio and increase its share in global markets through technical assistance as well as support for productive capacity building, skill development, and facilitation of FDI and resist protectionist measures that could harm the country's economic progress post-graduation.



Action plan for STS implementation

Action plan for STS implementation

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
Strategic pillar 1: Ensuring macroeconomic stability Tackling inflation to restore macroeconomic stability and improve external competitiveness	1.1 Continue with market-oriented interest rate policies.	BB		Continuous	-Expansion of monetary aggregates consistent with real GDP growth and inflation targets in five-year plans. -Trends in public spending consistent with the monetary policy stance
	1.2 Use fiscal policy options to complement the monetary policy objective of tackling inflation.	FD		July 2025- Continuous	
	1.3 Devise an evidence-based mechanism to assess seasonal demand and supply of essential commodities to ensure their seamless and uninterrupted supply.	MoC, BTTC, MoA, MoI, BBS, Ministry of Food	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	-Forecast of monthly/seasonal demand and supply of essential commodities.
	1.4 Establish an effective market monitoring system to gather data on domestic production, imports, and prices of essentials in the country in comparison with global and regional prices.	BBS, BTTC, TCB, MoC, MoFood, MoA, Directorate of National Consumers' Rights Protection	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	-Market monitoring system established, and data gathered and made available
	1.5 Enhance the technical capabilities of the MoC, BTTC, BBS, and TCB in timely data collection and analysis of prices of essential goods to stabilise and generate informed policy inputs to address inflation.	MoC, BBS, MoP, BTTC, TCB, MoA, Ministry of Food	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	-Collection and analysis of data and analysis made available.
	1.6 Adjust tariffs and other trade policy measures associated with essential goods and ease importing procedures to stabilise prices and tackle inflation.	NBR, MoC, BTTC		Continuous	-Reduced tariffs on essential commodities to facilitate imports with the objective of tackling inflation.
	1.7 Sustain a unified and market-oriented exchange rate system.	BB		July 2025-June 2027	-A uniform exchange rate established and sustained with market adjustments allowed
	1.8 Monitor and assess the movements in the real exchange rate (RER) and bilateral RERs with respect to key situation	BB		Continuous	-Analysis of RER movements published regularly.
Boosting foreign reserves and improve the country's Balance of Payments situation					

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Financing budget through sustainable debt and fiscal management	trading partners to assess the trends in external competitiveness for informed policy decisions.				
	1.9 Secure concessional loans on favourable terms and attract FDI.	FD, ERD, BIDA, MoFA, BB	DPs	July 2025- June 2029	-Foreign exchange reserves to cover at least six months' imports.
	1.10 Strengthen collaboration among the NBR, Bangladesh Bank, and the EPB to reconcile data on export shipment and actual export receipts, improve data quality, and take measures for timely receipt of export earnings.	BB, NBR, EPB, BBS, BTTC		July 2025- June 2027	-Ensured better collaboration among BB, NBR, and EPB. -Improved data accuracy of exports. -Periodic review of data on conciliation mechanisms. -Published disaggregated exports and imports data in a usable format.
	1.11 Attract more remittances through formal channels and reduce remittance-sending costs by conducting studies in migrant destination countries to assess informal remittance flows and address the identified reasons through effective policy measures, improved digitalisation, and removal of other barriers.	BB, MEWOE, BMET		Continuous- Informal channel remittance assessment by December 2025	-Study undertaken with analysis and recommendations made available; measures taken to implement the recommended policy actions; improved remittance flows through formal channels.
	1.12 Enhance domestic resource mobilisation efforts.	NBR, IRD		July 2025- June 2029	-The tax net expanded; increased tax-GDP ratio; improved share of direct tax in total tax revenue; reduced foreign financing of budget deficit as a percentage of total public spending and GDP.
	1.13 Implement the Public Financial Management (PFM) to ensure efficient and quality use of public funds, fiscal discipline, and alignment of budget decisions with economic stability.	FD, IMED, ERD, C&AG		July 2025- June 2029	-Effective implementation of the PFM measures -Effective evaluation of public spending projects
	1.14 Continue reforming national saving certificates to encourage the development of domestic debt, facilitate the transition to T-bonds through capital markets while also avoiding interest burdens, and attract more non-debt-creating flows.	FD, IRD, BSEC, BB		July 2025-Continuous	-Increased share of low-interest-bearing debt in total domestic debt; more equity generated from the capital market.

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Improving domestic resource mobilisation (DRM) to broaden fiscal space	1.15 Take measures to mitigate any debt risks and challenges as identified in the Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSA) by MoF and IMF.	FD, ERD	DPs	July 2025- June 2029	-Effective implementation of the recommendations of DSA.
	1.16 Develop and implement a time-bound action plan for tax reform (including enhanced digitalisation and automation, streamlined auditing process, broadening the tax net, improving the significance of direct tax in total tax, reforming the wealth and capital gains taxes, introducing a carbon taxation system, etc.) aiming to create a fair and efficient tax system that boosts government revenues.	NBR, IRD, FD	DPs	July 2025- June 2030	-A time-bound action plan undertaken by NBR -Raise the contribution of direct taxes to the total tax revenue to over 50 per cent by 2035. -At least 70 per cent of TIN holders submitted personal income tax returns. -At least 70 per cent of BIN holders submitted corporate tax returns. -Increased automation in place
	1.17 Consider IMF recommendations and the 8th five-year plan reform plans to boost revenue efforts.	NBR, FD	DPs	July 2025- June 2030	-Assessment undertaken and areas of priority actions identified. -Increase the tax-GDP ratio by 1.7 percentage points by 2026-27. -Continue with raising the tax-GDP ratio as per the FYP documents.
	1.18 Establish a separate tax policy division from the tax administration.	IRD, NBR, FD		July 2025- June 2026	-Separate tax policy division established.
Strengthening the financial sector and capital market to expand the	1.19 Review and reduce tax exemptions to improve revenue mobilisation.	NBR, FD, MoC, MoI, FBCCI	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	- Review report of tax exemptions. - Tax expenditure reduced by 50 per cent by 2029-30.
	1.20 Improve the governance of state-owned enterprises to make them profitable and ensure transparency and accountability of the entities responsible for collecting different fees/non-tax revenue.	IRD, FD, MoI, MoTJ, LGD and relevant organisations		July 2025- Continuous	-The number of SoEs that are profitable increased -The number of SoEs increasing their contributions to government revenue increased -Non-tax revenue grows annually by 20 per cent
	1.21 Establish an independent commission to assess the current health of the financial sectors and	BB, FID, BAB, NBFI, Commercial Banks	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	-Establishment of an independent commission -Environment of financial sector improved.

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opportunities for borrowing and investment	to identify measures to ameliorate the situation.				
	1.22 Ensure Bangladesh Bank's full autonomy.	FID, FD		Immediate and Continuous	-BB independently decides about monetary policy options including interest rates being market-determined.
	1.23 Conduct yearly comprehensive reviews of commercial banks' financial well-being.	BB, FID		July 2025- Continuous	-Review report on commercial banks' financial well-being
	1.24 Reduce stock of NPL by enhancing credit risk management, preventing related lending practices, and drawing insights from other countries' successful NPL resolution policies.	BB, FID, FIU, BAB, NIBFI, Commercial Banks		July 2025-June 2029	- NPLs reduced in alignment with the Bangladesh Bank roadmap
	1.25 Formulate and implement a new Bangladesh Capital Market Development Master Plan to address prevailing issues in the capital market, including efficiency, and governance measures to address capital market weaknesses and facilitate institutional investors in the market; and consider pending strategic reform initiatives as outlined in the White Paper 2024 and 8th Five-Year Plan and to review and implement those under a time-bound action plan.	BSEC, DSE, CSE, FID, BICM, BB	DPs	July 2025 and then make progress on implementation.	-An updated Bangladesh Capital Market Development Master Plan formulated -Achieve a significant increase in the market capitalisation of the capital market over the next five years. -A time-bound action plan for the pending and further reforms developed and implemented accordingly.
	1.26 Explore opportunities to invigorate the securities market and facilitate the issuance of other tradable instruments, such as green bonds, asset-backed securities (ABS), and mortgage-backed securities (MBS).	BSEC, DSE, CSE, BB, FID	DPs	July 2025-June 20297	-Introduction and successful issuance of new financial instruments, including green bonds, asset-backed securities (ABS), and mortgage-backed securities (MBS)
Strategic Pillar 2: Exploring and securing trade preferences and favourable transition measures beyond LDC graduation					
Securing GSP+ and the removal of safeguard measures on	2.1 Engage with the EU to secure the most generous GSP scheme, GSP+, after LDC graduation, including a waiver from EU safeguard measures against textile and		MoC, MoFA, EPB, and BTTC	EU and DPs	-Number of engagements/meetings held -Secure favourable market access in the post-graduation regime

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textiles in the EU market	clothing so that Bangladesh's RMG exporters can continue with duty-free market access after LDC graduation under GSP+.				-Removal of safeguard measures on textile
	2.2 Assess the need for and seek any technical and/or financial assistance for effective implementation of the 32 international conventions, encompassing labour, human rights, and environmental issues, specified by the EU as a precondition for obtaining GSP+ as well as implementing the roadmap on the Labour Sector in Bangladesh (2021–2026) submitted to the International Labour Organization (ILO).	MoLE, MoC, EPB, MoFA, MoEFCC	DPs	November 2026	-Industry consultations undertaken to identify the need. -Areas of technical assistance and financial assistance identified. -An action plan for effective implementation of all required international conventions and standards prepared. -Technical and financial assistance received for the implementation of international conventions.
	2.3 Engage with the EU and the UK on relaxing the rules of origin requirement of double-stage transformation for apparel and reduce the value addition requirement for other products under GSP+ of the EU and the Enhanced Preference scheme of the UK.	MoC, BTTC, EPB, MoFA	EU, UK	December 2026	-A position paper on the need for relaxation of RoO prepared -Number of engagements/meetings held with the EU and UK -Relaxed RoO allowed for Bangladesh and graduating LDCs.
Engaging with major trading partners that currently provide duty-free market access for securing extended transition periods for LDC-specific preferences	2.4 To follow up on WTO General Council's October 2023 decision, engage with all key trading partners that currently provide GSP/duty-free market access for LDCs but have not yet specified granting an additional transition period.	MoC, MoFA	DPs	June 2025	-Number of engagement meetings held, and the specific GSP-providing countries consulted. -GSP-providing trading partners deciding to offer an extended transition period.
	2.5 Undertake an assessment of the Canadian General Preferential Tariff (GPT) plus scheme, when details become available. ¹⁰⁴ Based on the assessment, determine if any	MoC, BTTC, MoFA	Canada	December 2026	-An assessment of the Canadian GPT-plus system undertaken -Scope for further preferences/liberal arrangements, if any, identified.

¹⁰⁴ The Canadian Parliament already passed a bill named General Preferential Tariff (GPT), which will come into force on 1 January 2025. Under GPT scheme most of the developing countries will be eligible for tariff concessions with flexible terms and conditions.

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	further engagements with Canada will be needed for further preference after LDC graduation.				-Secure an extended transition period for LDC-specific preferential market access in the Canadian market -Number of engagements/meetings held -GPT+ preference secured for post-LDC period.
	2.6 Pursue maintaining the existing trade preference in the Chinese market until the conclusion and signing of an FTA arrangement.	MoC, EPB, BTTC, MoFA	China	November 2026	-A position paper prepared for continued preferential market access in China -Engagements undertaken, and number of engagements/meetings held -Secured extension of LDC benefits in China
	2.7 Negotiate with India for continued duty-free access utilising the precedence of the Maldives's continuing benefitting from such access under SAFTA even after its LDC graduation in 2011.	MoC, MoFA, BTTC	SAFTA members	November 2026	-A position paper prepared for continued preferential market access in India -Engagements undertaken, and number of engagements/meetings held -LDC preference continued after graduation
	2.8 Engaging with Japan for an extended transition period until the completion of the ongoing Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations are concluded.	MoC, BTTC, MoFA	Japan	November 2026	-A position paper prepared for continued preferential market access in Japan -Engagements undertaken, and number of engagements/meetings held -Secured extension of LDC benefits in Japan
	2.9 Securing an extended transition period for LDC-specific preferential access in the Republic of Korea.	MoC, MoFA	Republic of Korea	November 2026	-A position paper prepared for continued preferential market access in the Republic of Korea -Engagements undertaken, and number of engagements/meetings held -Secured extension of LDC benefits
Undertaking bilateral economic partnership/free trade agreements	2.10 Make progress and conclude the EPA negotiations with Japan, to retain the preferential market access, enhance economic	MoC, BTTC, EPB, MoFA	Japan	June 2026	-Numbers/rounds of negotiations covering different areas (such as goods, services, investment, etc.)

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with key trading partners to retain/broaden market access by addressing both tariffs and non-tariff measures.	cooperation, and foster mutually beneficial relations between the two countries.				- Likely liberalisation commitments to be undertaken by Bangladesh are analysed for informed negotiations - Conclude and sign EPA with Japan
	2.11 Make progress and conclude negotiations with China and India for FTA and CEPA based on the basis of less-than-full reciprocity principles for gradual opening of Bangladesh's domestic market and ensuring reasonable protection for the local enterprises.	MoC, BTTC, MoFA	China and India	June 2026	- Numbers/rounds of negotiations covering different areas (such as goods, services, investment, etc.) - Likely liberalisation commitments to be undertaken by Bangladesh are analysed for informed negotiations - Conclude and sign CEPA with China and FTA with India
	2.12 Negotiating trade agreements with other trade partners of strategic importance, e.g., Regional Comprehensive Partnership Agreement (RCEP).	MoC, BTTC, MoFA	Trading partners	Continuous	- Initiate negotiations with important trading partners - Numbers/rounds of negotiations covering different areas (such as goods, services, investment, etc.) - Likely liberalisation commitments to be undertaken by Bangladesh are analysed for informed negotiations
	2.13 Engage with trading partners to reduce/eliminate non-tariff measures for exporting products and services from Bangladesh.	MoC, BTTC, MoFA	Trading partners	Continuous	- Reduction or elimination of non-tariff measures (NTMs)
Increase the number of personnel with trade policymaking and negotiation capacity	2.14 Establish a pool of trade negotiators by drawing on suitable officials and representatives from various government ministries, departments, relevant specialised institutions, trade bodies, and think tanks.	MoC, BFTI, BTTC, relevant ministries, trade bodies	DPs	June 2026	- A pool of trade negotiators established - Number of pool officials getting involved in negotiations.
	2.15 Organise capacity-building programmes to enhance negotiators' skills in both the technical aspects of the subject matter and the art of negotiation.	MoC, BFTI, BTTC, relevant ministries, trade bodies	DPs	Continuous	- Number of capacity-building programmes undertaken for the negotiators' pool - The MoC and others have dedicated programmatic interventions for developing trade policy and negotiation capacity. - Negotiation capacity strengthened
Engaging with the WTO to secure various policy spaces	2.16 Pursue the extension of TRIPS transition period (66.1) and waivers till the originally declared period of extension for LDCs.	MoC, MoFA		December 2026	- Engagements in different WTO forums based on the submissions made by the LDCs

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	2.17 Continue to engage with the WTO for Bangladesh's inclusion in Annex VII (b) list under the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures to retain the policy flexibility of providing export subsidies for some additional years.	MoC, MoFA		December 2026	-Number of engagements for the specific issues -Formal requests sent to the WTO -Policy space/flexibilities secured under WTO agreements (extension of TRIPS waiver, inclusion in Annex VII(b), inclusion in NFIDCs, Fisheries Subsidy, WTO reforms, and E-Commerce)
	2.18 Pursue with the WTO for inclusion in the Net Food-Importing Developing Countries' (NFIDCs) list	MoC, MoFA		December 2026	-Assessment/study undertaken with recommendations for policy options.
	2.19 Assess relevant WTO S&DT provisions in place for developing countries and make the best use of those for Bangladesh. ¹⁰⁵	MoC, MoFA		December 2026	-Number of technology transfer agreements facilitated or supported by WTO assistance involving developed and developing countries.
	2.20 Seeking assistance from developed and developing countries through WTO to ensure technology transfer.	MoC, MoFA	DPs	December 2026	
	2.21 Make a contingency plan to provide support, including financial assistance/compensation to the employees, especially women workers, who could lose jobs due to LDC graduation-related consequences.	FD, MoC, Mol, MoLE	DPs	January 2027 to continuous	-Actual Assessments of impact on sectors and employment undertaken -Financial assistance/compensation provided to any employees who lost jobs
Undertaking contingency measures to mitigate any potential adverse impact of LDC graduation on employment	2.22 Undertake skilling, reskilling, and upskilling initiatives for the employees affected by LDC graduation-related adjustments.	NSDA, MoC, Mol	DPs	January 2027 to continuous	-Training initiatives available for affected workers -Number of people (who lost jobs) received training
Strategic Pillar 3: Improving export diversification and competitiveness					
Implementing sector-specific action plans identified in the DTIS Update to address immediate trade-related graduation	3.1 Expedite the implementation of the 12 sector-specific time-bound action plans as mentioned in the Updated DTIS.	MoC EPB, and relevant ministries	DPs	December 2026	-Review the DTIS Update sectoral action plans to identify measures for implementation. -Successful and timely implementation of the sector-specific measures

¹⁰⁵ There are more than 130 provisions under various Agreements in the WTO that provides flexibilities to developing countries in the form of (a) increased trade opportunities, (b) enhanced safeguards, (c) flexibilities in commitment, actions and policy instruments, (d) additional transitional time for ensuring compliance with obligations and (e) technical assistance.

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
challenges in priority sectors Addressing anti-export bias in the current trade policy regime with a view to striking a balance between protecting domestic industries and promoting export sector competitiveness	3.2 Prepare a time-bound action plan for National Tariff Policy 2023 and ensure its effective and timely implementation.	NBR, MOC, BTTC, Duty Exemption and Drawback Office		July 2025 for preparing the action plan and then implementing it.	-A time-bound action plan for effective implementation of NTP 2023 -Effective and time implementation reviewed and monitored by the National Tariff Policy Monitoring and Review Committee
	3.3 Rationalise tariffs (including supplementary and regulatory duties) progressively as stated in NTP.	NBR, MOC, BTTC, Duty Exemption and Drawback Office		Continuous	- Supplementary/regulatory duties are reduced/eliminated -Applied tariff rates are reduced -Bonded imports with bank guarantee allowed for all exporters -Expanding the partial bonded warehouse facility for all sectors
	3.4 Introduce bonded import of duty-free intermediate inputs of up to 70 per cent of export value.	NBR, MOC, BTTC, Duty Exemption and Drawback Office		December 2025	-Percentage of duty drawback claims processed and refunded within the stipulated time frame.
	3.5 Make the duty-drawback scheme for exports transparent and simplified to promptly refund all duties and taxes paid on raw materials, as emphasized in NTP.	NBR, MOC, BTTC, Duty Exemption and Drawback Office		December 2025	
	3.6 Gradual phasing out the minimum import price to comply with WTO rules.	NBR, MOC, BTTC, Duty Exemption and Drawback Office		November 2026	-Complete elimination of minimum import price
	3.7 Review international quality standards (e.g., ISO, IEC) and best practices to prepare and update national standards and conduct a detailed analysis of different sectors to identify specific quality requirements and existing gaps.	Mol, BSTI, BAB, MoA, DIFE, DAE	DPs	June 2026 – Continues	-Detailed analysis of quality and standards requirements undertaken
Strengthening product quality and standards by introducing and enforcing standards in the domestic market aligning with international requirements	3.8 Update Bangladesh standards aligning with international markets.	BSTI, DAE, DLS, BFSA, BCSIR		June 2026 – Continues	-Updating BDS standards -Better understanding of the private sector with international standards -Expansion of compulsory product list for certification marks
	3.9 Expand the compulsory products list for certification marks and strengthen the monitoring mechanism	BSTI, DAE, DLS, BFSA, BCSIR		June 2026 – Continues	
	3.10 Prepare and officially publish the quality standards for all sectors, making them accessible to all relevant parties.	Mol, BSTI, MoA, DIFE, DAE, DLS		June 2026 – Continues	-Published quality and standards for all sectors

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	3.11 Develop a comprehensive inspection framework that outlines procedures for regular and random inspections, audits, and sampling.	Mol, BSTI, MoA, DIFE, DAE, DLS		June 2026 – Continues	-Develop and enforce a compliance framework for all sectors
	3.12 Implement regular audits and inspections to ensure compliance and address any discrepancies.	Mol, BSTI, MoA, DIFE, DAE, DLS		June 2026 – Continues	-Frequency of audits and inspection
	3.13 Raise awareness of the private sector, including MSMEs, about standards and their compliance.	Mol, BSTI, MoA, DIFE, DAE, DLS	DPs	June 2026 – Continues	-Number of awareness campaigns undertaken
	3.14 Enhance the capacity of BSTI, BAB, and other related institutions and obtain accreditation from internationally recognized authorities for testing labs.	Mol, BSTI, BAB	DPs	June 2026 – Continues	-Enhanced capacity of BSTI in terms of human and financial resources, testing facilities, developing standards, certification capacity, etc. -Number of BSTI labs accredited by internationally recognised bodies -Number of testing labs upgraded with modern equipment and facilities
Negotiating for mutual recognition agreements (MRAs) with major export destinations	3.15 Encourage private sector initiatives in standardisation, certification, and testing laboratories to provide timely and quality services.	MOI, MoC, BSTI, MoA, MoFL, BAB, all testing labs of public and private sector	DPs	June 2026 – Continues	-Approve and monitor private certification and testing laboratories
	3.16 Identify countries with whom undertaking MRAs will have the most significant impact on expanding exports and take the necessary initiatives.	Mol, MoC, MoFA, BAB, BTTC, BSTI, MoA, MoFL	Trading partners	December 2026	- Countries identified for MRAs -Initiatives taken for undertaking MRAs.
	3.17 Engage with counterpart relevant authorities in export destination countries for standards harmonization policies and practices, develop mutually agreeable terms, and establish MRAs	Mol, MoC, MoFA, BSTI	Trading partners	December 2026	- Number of countries with MRAs
Improve trade logistics and trade facilitation measures by implementing the National Logistic Policy 2024	3.18 Ensure the effective implementation and monitoring of NLP as directed by Section 4.2 of the NLP 2024 and some actions that need to be implemented immediately: (i) Identified policy reforms in annexe 3.1 of NLP 2024.	CAO, NBR, Bangladesh Customs, Ministry of Shipping, MoFA, relevant ministries	DPs	December 2027	-Number of commitments under TFA are implemented -Number of initiatives implemented pursuant to National Logistics Policy 2024 -Improvement in the various indices of logistics performance

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
	should be made time-bound; (ii) Immediate implementation National Single Window (NSW); (iii) Implement necessary steps to fulfil the commitment under the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement; (iv)-Enhance the capacity of land and seaports; (v) Expand the cold chain storage infrastructure; (vi) Launch container tracking system; (vii) Digitalise all clearance steps with visibility on waiting times and ASYCUDA performance; and (viii) Revise the Bangladesh Flag Vessels (Protection) Act, (ix) establish dedicated customs houses in the functional SEZs and EPZs.				- Revision of the Bangladesh Flag Vessels (Protection) Act - All other short- to medium-term efforts are undertaken - Dedicated customs houses established
Amending/enacting relevant laws to strengthen the legal framework for labour standards and ESG compliance	3.19 Undertake the necessary legal amendments to strengthen labour standards and ESG compliance and engage stakeholders in the ongoing development and enforcement of labour standards and ESG compliance	Mol, MoLE, MoEFCC, MoC	DPs	December 2026	-Reporting mechanism established for mandatory ESG reporting
	3.20 Implement Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as per the Solid Waste Management Rules 2021.	MoEFCC, DoE		December 2026	-Efficient management of solid waste
	3.21 Expand the workforce to ensure adequate inspection coverage across all regions and sectors.	Mol, MoLE, MoEFCC, MoC	DPs	December 2026	- Increase in the number of workforces
	3.22 Ensure robust enforcement of labour laws through regular, effective inspection and other compliance measures.	Mol, MoLE, MoEFCC, MoC	DPs	Continuous	- Percentage of factories inspected out of the total number of factories in operation -Improvement in the percentage of factories complying with safety standards -Decrease in the number of reported labour law violations over time

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
Strengthening the capacity of priority sectors for export diversification	3.23 Take focused efforts for export diversification within the RMG sector to increase the share of man-made fibre (MMF) and other natural fibre-based apparel production to catch up with the global market.	MoC, MoTJ, FD, NBR, DOT, Industry Associations		December 2025	- Expansion and diversification of MMF products and markets
	3.24 Follow a uniform fibre import policy: Allow zero duty on imports of all types of textile fibres.	NBR, MoC		December 2025	- Allow duty-free imports of all types of textile fibre
	3.25 Fully operationalise Tannery Estate Dhaka.	BSCIC, Mol, MoC, MoTJ	DPs	July 2025 – June 2026	-Tannery Estate Dhaka fully operationalised
	3.26 Develop policies, schemes, and supporting environment for attaining LWG certification for the factories in the leather and leather goods sector.	Mol	DPs	December 2025	-Number of factories with LWG certification
	3.27 Develop social, environmental, chemical, safety, occupational, and health, compliance guidelines and certification schemes for ensuring ESG and ESG standards, especially for leather and light engineering sectors.	Mol, Industry organisations	DPs	December 2025	-Leather, leather goods and footwear exports increased
	3.28 Identify and designate the most suitable areas for shrimp aquaculture, ensure the provision of essential logistics for zoning, and establish the necessary processing and preservation facilities within shrimp zones.	MoFL, MoA, MoWR, MoEFC, BEZA, MoC, BB, Mol, LGED		Continuous	- Increased production & quality of shrimp
	3.29 Provide support for the increased farming of highly productive Vannamei shrimp along with traditional Golda and Bagda varieties.	BFSA, MoFL		Continuous	
	3.30 Strengthen the Bangladesh Food Safety Authority (BFSA) to monitor the overall food safety in the agro and food processing sector.	BFSA, MoFL		Continuous	

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	3.31 Make API Parks fully functional with all required infrastructural facilities, utilities, and services.	Mol, MoC, FD, MoPEMR, DGDA	DPs	December 2025	- Increased volume of API production
	3.32 Continue excluding patent-free products for an additional three years, leveraging the WTO MC13 decision.	MoC			-Continued production and exports of patented drugs
	3.33 Modernise the drug-testing labs in Dhaka and Chittagong to meet EU and US standards, including facilities for testing biologics and biological ingredients, and ensure their accreditation by EU or US accreditation bodies.	Mol, MoC, FD, MoPEMR, DGDA	DPs	Continuous	-Establishment of drug testing labs, accredited by the EU and USA
	3.34 Enhance sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) compliance capacity.	MoA, MoFL, DAE, DoF, DoL	DPs	December 2024	-Developed sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) compliance system
Enabling the environment for businesses and trade	3.35 Develop a digital and holistic One-Stop Service (OSS) model and identify and engage all relevant institutions, including government agencies, regulatory bodies, and financial institutions, to streamline the business registration process.	MoC, BIDA, Mol, MoLJPA, MoF, MoLGRDC, relevant agencies, ICT Division	DPs	June 2026	- Operationalisation OSS - Reduction in the amount of paperwork required for business operation
	3.36 Review and simplify existing regulations to remove redundant or outdated rules that hinder business operations.	ICT Division, MoC, Mol		December 2026	- Reduction in registration time
Enforcement of Intellectual property rights (IPR)	3.37 Enhance the capacity of the Department of Patent, Design and Trademarks (DPDT) and Copyright Offices to fully leverage the digital ecosystem for IP management and improve the effectiveness of the collective management organisation (CMO) in the digital rights management (DRM) system.	MoLJPA, Mol, DPDT, Copyright Office, MoHA, MoCA	DPs	Continuous	- Number of training sessions conducted for judges, legal personnel, and IP office staff -Number of human resources
	3.38 Decentralise DPDT and Copyright offices to divisional levels to enhance the effectiveness of IP enforcement and increase public awareness across all regions.	MoLJPA, Mol, DPDT, Copyright Office, MoHA, MoCA		December 2026	-Number of DPDT and Copyright Offices established at the divisional level.

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Developing WTO-compatible support measures to help exporters improve competitiveness	3.39 Establish a specialised IP court and enhance the capacity of judiciaries, attorneys, lawyers, and legal enforcement agencies for effective IP protection enforcement.	MoLJA , MOHA, Copyright Office, Customs, DPDT , MoF		June 2026	-Establishment of the IP court -Enhancement of the capacity of judiciaries services related to IP protection.
	3.40 Set up an IP academy to raise public and private sector awareness about IP protection.	MoLJA , MOHA, Copyright Office, Customs, DPDT , MoCA, MoF		December 2026	-Number of awareness programmes
	3.41 Document genetic resources and traditional knowledge through a national database and enhance market value by registering products with geographical indications (GIs) and implementing benefit-sharing mechanisms.	Mol , MoFA , NBR, Copyright Office, DPDT	DPs	Continuous	-Number of projects taken and completion -Number of publications
	3.42 Ensure enforcement of IP laws at the border to reduce the trade of fake and counterfeit products.	MoC , Mol , NBR, Copyright Office	DPs	Continuous	-Number of IP infringement cases processed by law enforcement agencies
	3.43 Identify WTO-consistent support measures related to exports and formulate the required mechanisms for the implementation.	MoC , BB , BEPZA , Business Association	DPs	Continuous	-Study report on WTO-compliant support measures
Strategic Pillar 4: Building productive capacity	3.44 Expand and ensure the effectiveness of the existing support measures that comply with WTO regulations (e.g., duty drawback and special bonded warehouse facilities, back-to-back LC, EPZs and SEZs, etc).	MoC , BB , BEPZA , Business Association		Continuous	-Enhancement of the existing support access process (duty drawback time, operationalisation of new EPZ).
	4.1 Effectively implement the strategies and actions in the Bangladesh National Productivity Masterplan FY2021-FY2030.	NPO , Mol , FD , MoFECC , and other relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025-Continuous	-Outcomes of strategies and action plan are identified to track progress -Average annual productivity growth as targeted during 2021-31 achieved.
	4.2 Ensure the effective implementation of the National Industrial Policy 2022, with particular emphasis on specific development initiatives, including the enhancement of the informal	Mol , SME Foundation , BSCIC , BIDA , ICT Division , MoC , FD , NBR , BB , State-owned corporation and Industry Associations	DPs	December 2026	-Number of informal businesses registered and formalized annually -Number of new startups established in the industrial sector annually.

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Enhancing productivity through expanded and deepened use of the information and communication technology (ICT)	industrial sector (Chapter 5), the promotion of startups in industrialization (Chapter 6), the advancement of women entrepreneurship (Chapter 7), the reform and management of state-owned industries (Chapter 9), and efforts to improve productivity to globally competitive levels (Chapter 10).				-Amount of funding and resources allocated to startup incubators and accelerators. -Success rate of startups in scaling up and achieving sustainability. -Number of women-led businesses registered and supported annually. -Impact assessments of initiatives aimed at supporting women's entrepreneurship. -Progress reports on the implementation of reforms and management strategies for state-owned enterprises. -Annual reports on the performance and financial status of state-owned industries. -Comparative analyses of productivity levels against global standards and competitors.
	4.3 Strengthen the capacity of the National Productivity Organisation (NPO), by undertaking skill development initiatives and improving R&D capacity, as it is the sole public entity working on productivity improvement.	NPO , Mol, FD, MoFECC, and other relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	-Number of capacity development programmes undertaken -Number of research outputs -Comparative analysis of productivity gains from previous year and global landscape.
	4.4 Provide support and incentives for technological adaptation and upgradation, especially related to ICT and green transformation.	FD, NBR, BB, Mol, ICT Division	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	-Number of policy support measures increased -Increased adoption of industrial and technological upgradation.
	4.5 Effectively implement the National ICT Policy, and other policies and strategies related to the ICT sector, including infrastructure and skill development.	ICT Division, a2i, Industry Associations	DPs	July 2025-June 2030	- Policies are implemented, and technological infrastructures and skills are enhanced.
	4.6 Assess global 4IR technologies to identify the most relevant ones for Bangladesh and develop and implement recommendations for their effective adaptation.	ICT Division	DPs	July 2025 and continuous	- Assessment and actions undertaken

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Building supply-side capacity by strengthening backward and forward linkages	4.7 Establish a low-cost strategic investment fund for developing man-made fibre and fabric production capacity and for promoting similar backward linkage activities in other priority sectors.	FD, MoI, MoC, BB	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	- Investment fund established -Amount of funds allocated -Number of firms received support
	4.8 Provide targeted support to cottage, micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (CSMEs) especially related to the export sector.	FD, MoI, BB, SMEF, NBR		Continuous	-Number of supports received by the CSMEs -Number of firms collaborated with SMEs
	4.9 Make Export Credit Guarantee Scheme effective and attract SMEs to make use of it.	FID, BB, MoC, MoI		July 2025-June 2029	-Number of SMEs entered into the export markets
Supporting SMEs for private sector development	4.10 Promote women entrepreneurs, especially in export-oriented sectors, through targeted loan schemes and other policy support measures.	FD, MoI, BB, SMEF, NBR, Industry Associations	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	-Participation of women entrepreneurs in the exporting sector increased
	4.11 Implement the National Action Plan 2022-2027 for Skills Development in Bangladesh, and implement the National Skills, Qualification Framework (NSQF) and Competency Based Training and Assessment (CBT&A) system nationwide.	NSDA, 16 ISCs, relevant agencies	DPs	Continuous until 2027 and consider next strategy/plan	-Targets in the National Action Plan 2022-2027 for skills development achieved -Mid-term review of the action plan undertaken -An assessment of the implementation of NSQF and CBT&A undertaken
	4.12 Assess skills demand, analyse gender-specific labour market trends, and identify skills gaps to create a demand-driven, flexible, and responsive skills development framework for domestic and overseas markets.	NSDA, DTE, BMET, BITAC, 16 ISCs, Industry Associations	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	-Assessment undertaken -Women labour force participation increased -Skills development framework developed
Skiing, re-skilling and up-skilling of the workforce (both domestic and overseas workers) by implementing national action plans, updating course curricula, and ensuring access to high-quality training resources	4.13 Strengthen Industry Skills Councils (ISCs) to support skills development activities and update course curricula to match industry demand by collaborating with educational institutions and the private sector.	NSDA, 16 ISCs, FD	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	- Course curricula updated regularly to match the industry demand - Industry Skills Councils (ISCs) strengthened to support skill development activities

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
	4.14 Strengthen skills training providers (STPs) and establish international training of trainers (TOT) institutes in collaboration with renowned international skills training institutes, Centres of Excellence, ISCS, and industries, and implement international certificate courses.	NSDA , 16 ISCs, FD	DPs	December 2025 and - Continuous	- Capacity of STPs increased -International training of trainers (TOT) institutes established -At least 8 international certificate courses offered by 2026 -Access to skills courses with international certification increased for potential migrant workers (at least 10 per cent of women)
	4.15 Create and implement industry-d demanded advanced technical skills courses, including green technical skills, and redesign and implement competency-based, job-ready entry and mid-level skills for priority sectors with industry partnerships.	NSDA, DTE, BMET, BITAC , 16 ISCs, Industry Associations	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	-Competency-based, job-ready entry and mid-level skills courses redesigned and implemented for priority sectors - Number of people enrolled in sector-specific training, with 30 per cent women
	4.16 Equip the socially disadvantaged groups and promote women's participation in the labour market through specially targeted training programmes.	NSDA , MoLE, MoSW, 16 ISCs, FD	DPs	June 2025- Continuous	-Women and people from socially disadvantaged groups with employable work and life skills increased through specially targeted programmes (e.g., people with disabilities, orphans, transgender people, people from small ethnic communities)
	4.17 Enhance capacities of NSDA and related stakeholders and undertake awareness-building activities through media and social marketing about the skill development opportunities and eco-system.	FD , MoCA, NSDA	DPs	June 2025- Continuous	-Number of capacity development programmes undertaken for NSDA and related stakeholders -Number of awareness-building activities undertaken
	4.18 Sign mutual recognition agreements with major trading partners.	NSDA , MoFA	DPs	June 2025- Continuous	-Number of internationally recognised local skill development certificates
	4.19 Undertake performance audits of all implementing partners, issue performance audit reports, and take remedial actions if required.	NSDA , relevant organisations	DPs	Continuous	-Performance audits of implementing partners completed, performance audit report issued, and remedial actions are taken
	4.20 Increase budgetary allocation for children, education, skill	FD , MoWCA, MoE, MoPME, NSDA, Health Services Division, MoSW, and	DPs	Continuous	-Publication of skill auditing report -Allocation as per cent of the budget and as per cent of GDP increased
Supporting human capital					

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
development through providing quality education, affordable healthcare, and improving access to social protection Revitalising domestic investment and attracting foreign direct investment by improving the overall business climate and making the most of the SEZs and EPZs	development, health care, and social protection. 4.21 Improve the quality of health services.	other relevant ministries/agencies Health Services Division, DGHS	DPs	Continuous	-Quality assessment of health services in public hospitals undertaken to assess improvements
	4.22 Fully implement the Bangladesh Investment Climate Improvement Program (BICIP) and develop a new Foreign Private Investment Promotion and Protection Act to establish investment-friendly profit repatriation rules, safeguard investors' interests, reduce red tape, and enhance the transparency of investment measures where necessary.	BIDA, CAO, MoI, McEFCC, Industry Associations	DPs	July 2025- December 2027	-BICIP rolled out fully and all the actions implemented -Formulation of Foreign Private Investment Promotion and Protection Act - All the necessary indicators are included in CRM and IRMS -Red tape barriers reduced -Transparency of investment measures improved
	4.23 Consider joining the Joint Initiative of the World Trade Organization on Investment Facilitation for Development.	MoC, BIDA, CAO, Industry Associations	DPs	Continuous	-Review of benefits from joining the WTO's Investment Facilitation for Development initiative -Decisions taken/joined in the initiative
	4.24 Establish commercial courts for foreign investors to streamline dispute resolution processes, ensuring that their concerns are addressed promptly and fairly.	MLPA, BIDA, Law and Justice Division	DPs	July 2025- December 2026	-Commercial courts for foreign investors established
	4.25 Undertake public-private dialogues and investor surveys to collect feedback on investment climate challenges and build trust with businesses.	BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA, BHTPA, Industry Associations		June 2025- Continuous	-Number of dialogues undertaken -Investor survey implemented
	4.26 Bring all the investment promotion agencies (BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA, and HTPA) under one institution and expand the OSS coverage and streamline the services into such main categories as land, buildings, fire safety, environmental compliance, and taxation.	CAO, BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA, BHTPA	DPs	July 2025-June 2027	-One separate authorisation institution established -Expanded OSS coverage and streamline the services -Participation of the investors increased

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	4.27 Strengthening the capacity of BIDA to fully function as an OSS provider for the investors and encouraging the participating agencies to channel their services through BIDA OSS services.	BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA, BHTPA		January 2025- Continuous	-Improved capacity of BIDA -Additional services channelled through OSS
	4.28 Review and update the legal framework for corporate governance of public and private enterprises.	BIDA, Cabinet Division, MoLJPA, Industry Associations	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	-Legal framework for corporate governance updated
	4.29 Improve investment regulatory environment by ensuring policy predictability through announcing anticipated changes in facilities and provisions in advance, developing proactive regulatory plans, systematically publishing drafts for stakeholder review, and conducting regulatory impact assessments.	NBR, BIDA, MoI, MoC		July 2025- Continuous	-Regulatory impact assessment conducted, and policy predictability environment improved
	4.30 Undertake a review of existing international investment agreements and engage with important trading partners for investment treaties to make the investment regime more attractive.	BIDA, MoC	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	-Engagement in international investment treaties increased
	4.31 Provide robust investment support measures and make five to ten model SEZs and EPZs fully functional instead of 100 with all necessary facilities.	BEZA, BIDA, Industry Associations	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	-The number of operationalised SEZs increased
Providing incentives, and undertaking investment promotional measures to attract more private investment	4.32 Undertake and publish tax expenditure reports with a greater degree of detail (e.g., by listing each incentive measure), including estimations of tax revenues forgone and assessment of the impact of incentives on generating investment, promoting exports, and generating employment.	NBR, MoC, BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA		July 2025- Continuous	-Tax expenditure report published -Assessment incentive schemes undertaken and published

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
(domestic and foreign)	4.33 Commence investment promotional activities and involve foreign missions in seeking FDI	BIDA, MoFA, MoC, Mol	DPs	July 2025- June 2029	- Number of campaigns and investment promotion activities - Number of promotional activities in coordination with foreign mission - FDI in complex sectors increased substantially
	4.34 Prioritise attracting FDI in technologically advanced export-oriented sectors such as man-made fibre/fabric-based apparel products, electrical and electronic equipment and components, ICT, Pharmaceuticals, chemicals, etc.	BIDA, MOFA, Industry Associations, MoC, Mol	DPs	July 2025- June 2029	
	4.35 Ensure adequate, uninterrupted, and quality power supply and increase investment in renewable energy generation	Power Division, BPDB, MoEFCC, BIDA	DPs	Continuous	- Supply uninterrupted power to industrial sectors - Share of renewable energy in total energy generation increased
Strengthening inter-agency coordination for investment promotion and facilitation	4.36 Reinforce informal and formal coordination mechanisms and systems across agencies, including information-sharing agreements, memorandums of understanding, or an inter-institutional meeting outcome; connect all agencies through CRM systems to track and coordinate services more efficiently	BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA, BHTPA and all other relevant ministries/departments		July 2025- December 2026	- Agreements, MoU signed - Coordination strengthened - All agencies are connected through CRM for better coordination
	4.37 Undertake studies to explore areas for improvement in the current production practices for green transformation.	Mol, FD, MoC	DPs	July 2025- December 2026	- Study reports published
Advancing green transformation for improved competitiveness and future-readiness, by increasing funds for green financing, reducing carbon emissions, and improving climate resilience	4.38 Conduct evidence-based research to identify areas and modalities of green financing and increase funds for green financing.	BB, FID, Mol,	DPs	January 2025- December 2026	- Total funds for green financing increased
	4.39 Make an assessment for introducing a domestic carbon market and establish a domestic carbon market.	Mol, MoC, MoFECC, Cabinet Division, MoFA	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	- Study report published - Assessment report published - Domestic carbon market policy approved

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
	4.40 Facilitate awareness campaigns on sustainable production practices, different countries' introducing border carbon measures, and other ESG-related regulations, including the EU's Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive.	MoC, Mol, MoFECC, Industry Associations	DPs	July 2025-Continuous	-Carbon market established -Number of awareness campaigns
	4.41 Implement the actions mentioned in updated NDCs and conform to the goals set in the five-year plans regarding green industrialisation.	MoFECC, Mol, Power Division Industry Associations	DPs	July 2025- December 2029	-NDCs target achieved in reducing carbon emission -Immediate priority actions of NDCs outlined in the national plan documents. -Achieving the SDGs and complying with environmental regulations set in the EU, North America etc.
	4.42 Formulate a medium to long-term climate financing strategy.	FD, MoFECC, MoF	DPs	July 2025-June 2026	-Medium to long-term climate financing strategy developed
	4.43 Increase funds for R&D with measurable targets under some selected strategically important sectors, and develop R&D strategy of Bangladesh to create an innovation ecosystem.	FD, Mol, BCSIR, MoST	DPs	December 2025 and continuous	-Funds for R&D increased every year -Capacity development initiatives for research institutes undertaken -Number of publications in internationally reputed journals -Number of patents -A national strategy document on R&D
Strengthening Research and development capacities	4.44 Provide capacity development support for research institutes contributing to product development and quality improvement, establishing links of domestic suppliers with international supply chains, etc.	MoST, FD, Mol, MoFA, BCSIR,	DPs	December 2025-Continuous	-New international supply chain participation established through export orders
	4.45 Undertake capacity development programmes for government officials in all relevant ministries and agencies on LDC graduation-related issues and STS policy actions.	CAO, SSGP/ERD, Relevant ministries and agencies	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	- Number of capacity development initiatives undertaken
	4.46 Improve the statistical and research capabilities of EPB, NBR, and BBS to monitor and analyse trade flows and capture any	FD, MoC, EPB, BBS	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	-Number of staff trained -Pre- and post-evaluation of the capacity development training workshops
Strengthen institutional capacity by undertaking capacity development initiatives, enhancing accountability and transparency of					

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
public institutions and agencies,	implications related to LDC graduation.				
	4.47 Make public institutions accountable for the effective use of public resources, timely project implementation, utilisation of ADP budget, and improved governance.	Cabinet Division, MoPA, MoLJA	DPs	July 2025- Continuous	-APA targets and their review are strengthened -Project implementation review processes are strengthened further and undertaken rigorously
	4.48 Leverage ICT in all public institutions and service delivery mechanisms to improve efficiency and transparency	ICT Division, a2i, All government ministries/institutions/agencies	DPs	July 2025-June 2029	-Expanded adoption of ICT in public service delivery
	4.49 Facilitate biannual dialogues among the relevant ministries, and with the involvement of the private sector and other stakeholders, related to STS implementation.	National Committee for LDC graduation, ERD, SSGP, relevant ministries/institutions/agencies	DPs	July 2025-Continuous	- Number of dialogues undertaken among the ministries/agencies improved - Number of dialogues undertaken involving the private sector and other stakeholders
Strategic Pillar 5: Fostering partnerships and international cooperation to enhance sustainable development and bolster resilience amidst global uncertainty					
Mapping of international support for the implementation of the STS	5.1 Undertake a mapping of DPs' interest in supporting STS implementation in different areas to ensure that the support provided is impactful and aligns with the STS and the country's development goals.	SSGP/ERD, and other relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025	-Completion of the mapping exercise
	5.2 Mobilise financial and technical assistance to implement international agreements and conventions related to human rights, labour rights, environmental protection and climate change, good governance, and ESG compliance.	FD, ERD, MoFA	DPs	July 2025-Continuous	-Number of countries provided additional transition period. -Important international agreements and conventions are effectively implemented.
	5.3 Secure financial and technical support for developing productive capacities, particularly in technological adaptation, and	MoC, relevant ministries/agencies	DPs	July 2025-Continuous	-Productive and supply side capacity improved

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
Supporting SDG implementation for boosting LDC graduation-related preparedness and building resilience against climate change-related adversities	infrastructure and human capital development.				
	5.4 Strengthen capacity-building initiatives in trade negotiations and trade policymaking.	MoC , relevant ministries/agencies	DPs	July 2025–June 2029	-Trade negotiation capacity improved -Financial and technical support for developing technological adaptation, infrastructure development, ICT advancement, human capital development, and skill enhancements increased -Number of awareness campaigns. -ESG compliance improved
	5.5 Undertake awareness-building initiatives for post-graduation policy changes.	MoC , relevant ministries/agencies	DPs	July 2025–November 2029	
	5.6 Identify areas to support specific SDGs targets and provide financial assistance in achieving SDGs.	GED, ERD, MOFA, FD, Mol, MoFECC , relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025–June 2030	-Development partners identified the areas of support -Financial support targeting SDGs increased
	5.7 Secure financial and technical assistance in fulfilling the commitments under NDCs and in implementing the National Adaptation Plan of Bangladesh 2023–2050.	GED, ERD, MOFA, FD, Mol, MoFECC , relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025–June 2029	-Progress made against NDCs targets -Collaboration undertaken in NAP implementation
Fostering South-South partnership and triangular cooperation	5.8 Address climate financing needs, with a particular emphasis on Just Energy Transition Partnerships, Green Climate Fund, Climate Investment Funds, and bilateral climate change funds	GED, ERD, MOFA, FD, Mol, MoFECC , and relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025–June 2029	-Funds for climate adaptation and mitigation increased
	5.9 Facilitate expert knowledge exchange to foster collaboration and technical capacity building.	MoFA, ERD, Mol, MoC, MoF , and other relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025–June 2029	-Strengthened South-South collaboration -Number of dialogues facilitated -Number of collaborative infrastructural development projects
	5.10 Support the implementation of best practices in such areas as logistics enhancement and improving the ease of doing business.	MoFA, ERD, Mol, MoC, FD and other relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025–Continuous	-Logistics performance improved -Ease of doing business improved

Recommended Smooth Transition Measures	Specific Action(s)	Responsible Agency (In Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential Role of Development Partners (DPs)	Recommended Target Completion Date	Means of Verification
	5.11 Support the adoption of sustainable energy solutions, drawing on successful experiences from other developing countries.	MoFA , ERD, Mol, MoC, FD, and other relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025–June 2029	- Adaptability of sustainable energy solutions expanded
	5.12 Expand collaboration to strengthen regional and global value chain participation.	MoFA , ERD, Mol, MoC, FD, and other relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025–Continuous	-Regional and global value chain participation of Bangladesh strengthened and competitiveness improved
	5.13 Promote effective participation of LDCs, and graduating and graduated LDCs in global trade.	MoFA , Mol, MoC, FD, and other relevant ministries	DPs	July 2025–Continuous	-LDCs' and graduating LDCs' share in global trade, both merchandise goods and commercial services increased. -Development issues are prioritised in global trade talks.
Support for strengthening the multilateral global trading system to promote a fair and development-friendly trade regime	5.14 Strengthen rules-based, fair, and development-friendly multilateral trading systems.	MoFA , MoC and FD	DPs	July 2025–June 2029	-Rules-based WTO trading system strengthened. Extension of S&DT measures, and secure market access
	5.15 Work with WTO members to extend trade preferences and TRIPs waiver for graduated LDCs.	MoFA , MoC and FD	DPs	July 2025–June 2029	- TRIPS waiver extended for graduated LDCs - Increased participation of LDCs and graduated LDCs in WTO decision-making - Extended benefits in regional trade agreements extended for Bangladesh
Mitigating the consequences of unfolding geo-political competition	5.16 Safeguard interest of graduating and graduated LDCs from geo-political competition.	MoFA	DPs	July 2025–June 2029	- Safeguards provided to protect the interest of graduated LDCs - No trade and investment restrictions applied

STS Implementation Actions

Implementation mechanism actions	Responsible Agency (in Bold) and Supporting Agency(s)	Potential role of Development Partners (DPs)	Timeframe for review and development	Means of Verification
Establish a high-level LDC Graduation Steering Committee to provide strategic policy directions for the effective implementation of the STS.	Chief Adviser's Office , relevant ministries, and departments		July 2025	- High-level LDC graduation committee chaired by the Honourable Chief Adviser established
Establish a central monitoring and evaluation committee led by the National Committee on Graduation (NCG) to oversee progress of STS implementation and its action matrix.	Chief Adviser's Office, Steering Committee , relevant departments and agencies		July 2025	- A central monitoring and evaluation committee (NCG) established
Set up an institutional mechanism (e.g., SSGP under ERD) to assist the NCG with providing support in the STS related M&E tasks and activities.	Steering Committee, Central Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (NCG) , relevant departments and agencies		July 2025	- An STS national coordination committee established
Undertake yearly progress reports on the STS implementation.	ERD, SSGP	DPs	July 2026-Continuous	- Yearly STS implementation progress report published
Organise biannual STS implementation progress meetings with the relevant stakeholders to identify any challenges and ways to foster the STS implementation process.	ERD, SSGP	DPs	July 2026-Continuous	- Number of biannual meetings during the STS implementation process and meeting outcome report published
Coordinate with all the implementing agencies, including ministries and departments, the private sector, civil society organisations (CSOs) and development partners (DPs) to facilitate progress on the STS implementation.	ERD, SSGP , relevant departments and agencies, Private sectors, CSOs	DPs	July 2026-Continuous	- Number of coordination meetings with the relevant stakeholders

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Support to Sustainable Graduation Project
Economic Relations Division
Ministry of Finance
Government of Bangladesh

Sech Bhaban, Level 05 & 06
22 Manik Mia Avenue, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
erd.gov.bd
ssgp.erd.gov.bd