

Urban Governance and Infrastructure Improvement Project (UGIIP)

2003 - 2009

Supported by Asian Development Bank (ADB)

A New Horizon for Development

1.1 An Overview of UGIIP Project

Urban population is growing very fast in Bangladesh. According to population census 2011, the urbanization rate is 23.30% (BBS 2011). The urban areas are facing different problems such as water logging, traffic jam, lack of waste management service, pollution and so on.

To address the following issues, ADB launched UGIIP project at 22 municipalities in Bangladesh. Narayanganj Municipality is one of the grant recipients from the development partner. UGIIP had five components which are mentioned below.

1. Citizen Awareness and participation;
2. Women's participation;
3. Integration of the Urban Poor;
4. Financial Accountability and Sustainability; and
5. Administrative Transparency

The project was implemented in three phases from 2003 to 2008. Almost 30 million taka (BDT) was spent to materialize the objectives of the project in Narayanganj Municipality.

1.2 A Milestone for Development

Urban Governance and Infrastructure Improvement Project played significant role for infrastructure improvement as well as good governance. The project provided different assistance in different phases to achieve the desired objectives. UGIIP helped to make the municipality self-reliant. The project was acted as driving force for development in the municipal area.

1.2.1 Infrastructure Development (Roads, Drains)

The project developed several infrastructures such as roads, drains which are mentioned in the following table. Almost 283.43 million taka (BDT) was spent for infrastructure development in three phases.

Infrastructure	Phase –I		Phase –II		Phase -III	
	Physical	Total Cost(BDT)	Physical	Total Cost(BDT)	Physical	Total Cost(BDT)
Road (Km)	9.03	41.27	0.70	15.47	4.63	65.90
Drain (km)	5.00	35.96	5.085	31.15	4.45	59.46
Bus Terminal	-	-	-	-	1 nos.	24.43
Box Culvert	-	-	-	-	1 nos.	2.21
Traffic Management	-	-	-	-	1 nos.	4.11
Public Toilet	-	-	-	-	4 nos.	3.47
Total		77.23		46.62		159.58

Preparation of Municipal Infrastructure Development Plan

Municipal Infrastructure Development Plan (MIDP) was prepared under the UGIIP. Municipal Infrastructure Development Plan (MIDP) with an updated Land use Plan for Narayanganj Municipality had some broad objectives. These objectives were outlined as follows:

- To increase planning practice in the Municipality.
- To enhance the capacity of the Municipality personnel by engaging them directly in the plan preparation process.
- To ensure rigorous public participation in the process of preparation of the plan.
- To ensure planned infrastructure development and improvement after preparation of the plan.
- To control unplanned urbanization through effective land use planning and management.

The plan was prepared from the grass root level through huge people's participation. Regular ward visits were made accompanied with concerned ward commissioners and female ward commissioners. During the ward visits, people's opinions were taken regarding the problems and prospects of their locality, and also for finding out the solutions for resolving the existing problems. Finally, the MIDP with an updated Land use Plan was prepared through rigorous analyses of all collected information, forecasted demand and thorough public participation.

1.2.2 Institutional Strengthening Programme (Training, Software development, trade Licence, Holding tax Automation)

Institutional Strengthening Programme was comprised of training, software development, holding tax automation, double entry system which brought significant changes in office management and improved tax collection system.

1.2.3 Community Development Programme (Slum Improvement)

Poverty Reduction and slum development programme was started in 2006 under the project. The following activities were performed which is mentioned below.

1.2.3.1 Community Development Committee Formation

Primary team was consisted of 15 women from 15 families of the selected 12 slums. Approximately 5-8 primary teams formed Community Development Committee (CDC). The CDC implemented infrastructure development project in the slum areas.

1.2.3.1 Deposit Scheme

The deposit scheme was launched in slum areas to make capital for the poor people. At present the primary team has deposited 6 million taka (BDT) from their own contribution.

Micro-Credit Programme for Self-Employment

About BDT 4000-48000 was disbursed among the slum dwellers. Approximately 4 million taka (BDT) was allocated for Micro-Credit programme. 15% service charge was imposed and finally 5% money was returned to the recipient as their capital.

Now this programme is going on under the guidance of the city corporation and 5 CDCs were also formed to expand the services. NCC has taken initiatives to gear up the activities for poor community development.

Training programme

Different training programmes were arrangement under the UGIIP project for human resource development. About 160 trainees got training for their skill development.

Primary Health Care and Training

About 24 health workers were selected to provide primary health service in the slum areas especially child and maternal care. Each health workers served 50 families in the slum areas. Training was provided on child care and maternity to the health workers under the UGIIP.

Academic programme

A good number of children drops out from the primary education due to poverty. UGIIP started 8 satellite schools to regularize the drop out students in the mainstream education. In the meantime, 669 students enrolled in the mainstream education.

Infrastructure Development

The following infrastructures were developed in the slum areas under the project to improve the environment and utility services.

Id	Category	Quantity	Expenditure (BDT)
1	Footpath (0.5 m)	1500 m	335100
2	Footpath (1.0 m)	1722 m	677951
3	Drain with slab	1956 nos	2112167

4	Swallow tube well	09 nos	261621
5	Sub-mergible	11 nos	1411300
6	Street Light (Sunlight)	10 nos	290530
7	Street Light (Electricity)	31 nos	222666
8	Latrine	65 nos	931684
Total			6272088

Financial Support (Graphs and charts)

Narayanganj City Corporation (former Narayanganj Municipality) received financial support under the Urban Governance and Infrastructure Improvement Project. The following table illustrates the phase wise financial contribution from the project.

Phase	Received Amount (BDT)	Project No.	Total expenditure of the project(BDT)	Actual Payment (BDT)
I (2003-2004)	76375000	11	77726732	76554148
II (2006-2007)	56925000	06	46417700	44656975
III (2008-2009)	157000000	13	178350052	168033354
Total	290300000	30	302494484	289244477

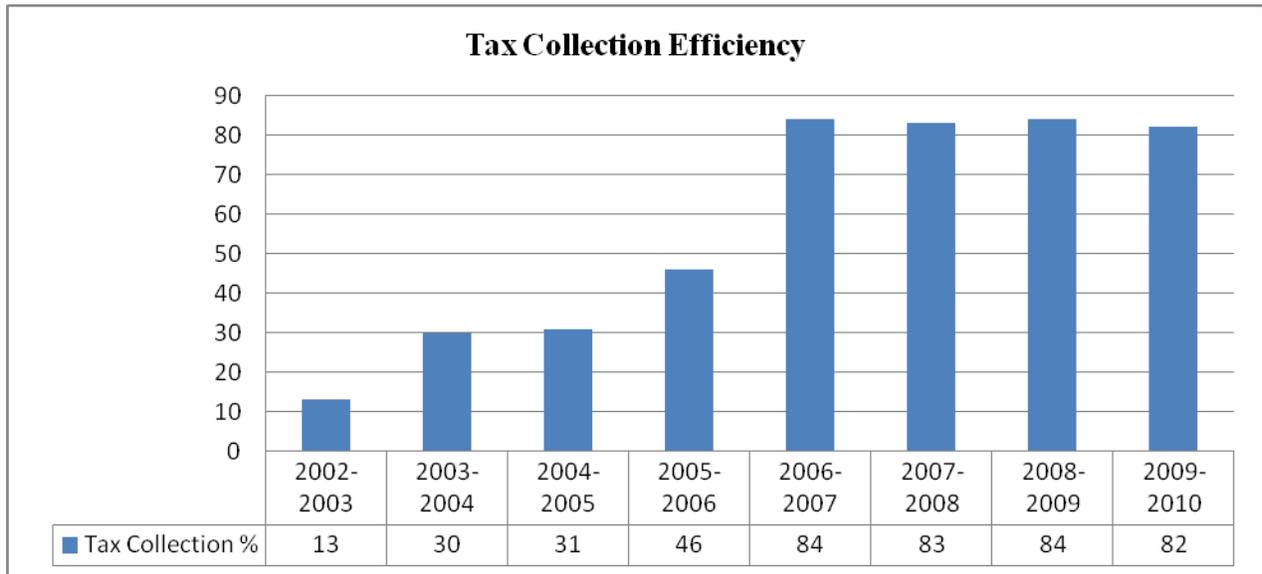
The project disbursed almost 30 million taka (BDT) to implement different development activities in the city corporation area including infrastructure improvement.

Achievements of the Project

Town Level Co-ordination Committee was formed under the UGIIP to ensure public engagement in decision making process through democratic approach. The members of the committee were selected from the stakeholders from the society. The total members of the TLCC were 63 and they arranged meeting after each three months. The committee is still in operation for public participation in development process.

Tax Collection Efficiency

Tax is one of the dominant income sources for the city corporation. The tax collection efficiency was very vulnerable which almost 13% was in 2003. The tax collection was increased sharply during the project time which is described below.



Conclusion

Urban Governance and Infrastructure Improvement Project has brought new development paradigm for the city corporation. The project also introduced new participatory development approach which integrated the public from all strata of the society.