

# Innovations for Climate-smart Urban Development (INCLUDE)

## Background

Bangladesh is one of the countries most affected by climate change. The country regularly experiences intense rainfall, flooding, cyclones, river erosion, heat waves, and other natural calamities. Annually, about 30 per cent of its land is submerged due to monsoon rains and river floods.

The increasing impacts of climate change, combined with the growth of informal settlements, create complex urban problems. Urban institutions are working diligently to address these challenges despite their limited resources. Urban infrastructure and services are striving to enhance their capacity to handle the consequences of climate change and support the most vulnerable communities. Without access to basic services and affordable, needs-based infrastructure, they face challenges in making neighborhoods more resilient. In addition, small and medium-sized cities lack sufficient funds for their own climate-resilient infrastructure measures.

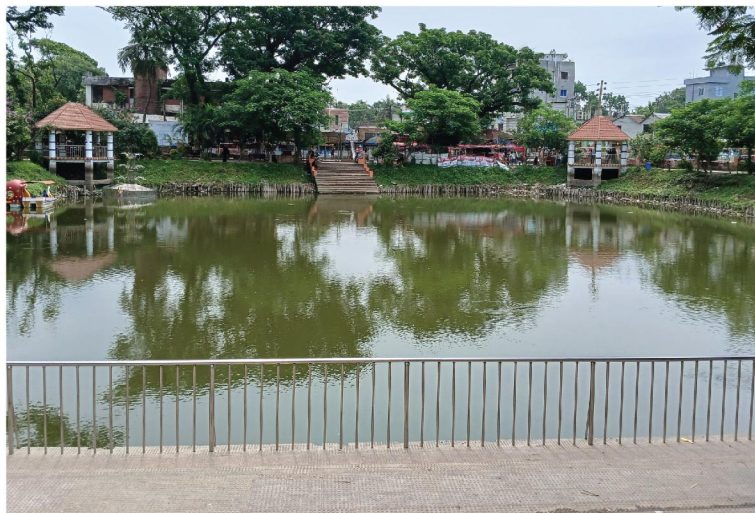
To address these challenges, four municipalities, along with Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) and Local Government Division (LGD) of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C) of Bangladesh, is receiving capacity enhancement measures to apply innovative, digital, and participatory approaches in climate-resilient and inclusive urban development. This effort is contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at

Project name	Innovations for Climate-smart Urban Development (INCLUDE)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Commission value	7 million euro
Project region	Bangladesh
Partner ministry	Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C)
Implementing partner	Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)
SDG contribution	1-No Poverty; 5-Gender Equality; 10- Reduced Inequalities; 11- Sustainable Cities and Communities; 13- Climate Action
Duration	2024 – 2027

the local level, including sustainable cities and communities, climate action, zero poverty, smart cities, digital Bangladesh, and gender equality. The project adopts an inclusive approach, prioritizing vulnerable and marginalized groups, promotes innovation, digitalization, and the 'do no harm' principle in delivering services for innovative climate-resilient urban development.

## Objective

Climate resilient urban development has been strengthened in Bangladesh through locally led, innovative solutions.



Gaibandha Municipality Park, Photo: © GIZ BD/Jasmin Remlinger (left)



INCLUDE Planing Workshop in Gaibandha Municipality, Photo: © GIZ BD/Md. Mehdi Hasan (right)



## Approach

To achieve this objective, the INCLUDE project supports to organise a participatory and inclusive idea competition to identify solutions for municipalities to combat the adverse effects of climate

change. These solutions will then be transformed into actionable packages and implemented in four municipalities. The knowledge and experience gained from this implementation process will be shared with all municipalities (Chapainawabganj, Charghat, Gaibandha and Sirajganj), including an additional four multiplier municipalities (Barguna, Kustia, Natore and Kurigram), and at the national level.

Recommendations derived from the lessons learned during the implementation of these measures are provided to national authorities. This fosters the potential for scaling up successful strategies to additional municipalities across the country. This collaborative approach not only enhances the resilience of the selected municipalities but also establishes a framework for nationwide climate-resilient urban development.

## Intended Results

1

In Bangladesh, climate-resilient urban development has been strengthened through the implementation of locally led, innovative solutions.



2

The operational capacities of selected municipal administrations and other stakeholders have been enhanced, enabling them to better address the challenges of climate resilience.



3

Selected municipal administrations have successfully implemented innovative measures, directly contributing to the increased climate resilience of their municipalities.



4

Additionally, municipalities have improved the sharing of lessons learned and experiences, fostering a collaborative approach to climate-resilient urban development and ensuring that effective strategies and practices are disseminated and adopted more widely.



### Published by

Deutsche Gesellschaft für  
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

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GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.

### On behalf of

German Federal Ministry for Economic  
Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

### In Cooperation with

Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development  
and Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C)  
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh