

RCC member countries

Bangladesh



Country Information

Region: South Asia

Population: Approximately 165 million

Capital: Dhaka

GDP (Million US\$): \$249.274 billion

Geography: Low-lying country on the largest delta in the world formed by the Ganges, the Brahmaputra and the Meghna rivers.

General climate: Tropical monsoon climate with high temperatures, heavy rainfall, high humidity and three seasonal variations (summer, winter, rainy season).

INFORM Risk Rating: 5.8

Risk Summary

- Bangladesh's flat and low-lying landscape, multiplicity of rivers and the monsoon climate make it prone to recurring natural hazards, including floods, cyclones, storm surge, river bank erosion, earthquakes, drought, salinity intrusion, fires and tsunamis.

- Climate change is predicted to increase the number of natural disasters, bringing about devastating effects on the country's health, shelter, food resources, water supply and agriculture, and generating more than 20 million climate refugees.
- More than 80% of the population is potentially exposed to floods.
- Severe flooding occurs every 4-5 years, covering 60% of the landmass; 25% of the landmass is inundated with flood waters every year.
- Coastal areas of Bangladesh are hit by cyclones almost every year, with storm surges and rouge waves causing the most damage.
- Bangladesh is located in one of the most seismically active regions globally, and Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet are at risk of massive destruction from earthquakes.
- Man-made disasters have had some of the most destructive effects on the nation, with fires and infrastructural collapse occurring frequently.

Disaster Management System

Disaster Management in Bangladesh is guided by a number of national and international drivers, which include:

- Disaster Management Act 2012
- Standing Orders on Disasters
- National Plan for Disaster Management 2010-2015
- Disaster Policy Act 2015
- SAARC Framework for Action (SFA) 2006-2015
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030
- Asian Regional Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Sustainable Development Goals

Institutional Structure

National Level

- **National Disaster Management Council (NDMC)**

The NDMC is headed by the Prime Minister, and is the supreme body for providing overall direction for disaster management, including DRR, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. The NDMC, along with the **Inter-Ministerial Disaster Management Coordination Committee (IMDMCC)**, coordinate disaster-related activities at the national level.

- **Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR)**

The MoDMR is responsible for coordinating national disaster management efforts across all agencies and acts Secretariat to the NDMC. The field level activities of the MoDMR are carried out by two subordinate offices, the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) and the Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP).

- **Department of Disaster Management (DDM)**

The DDM is responsible for information dissemination on natural disasters, including flood information at the community level, flood preparedness, awareness-raising, capacity-building, and relief and rehabilitation activities, with the support of district and upazila administrations.

Sub-National Level

- **Disaster Management Committees (DMCs)**

DMCs coordinate disaster-related activities at the district, Thana and Union levels.

Functional and hazard-specific planning and execution responsibilities are vested in agencies with related primary technical/management expertise.

Helpful Links and Sources

Bangladesh Country Profile:

<https://data.worldbank.org/country/bangladesh>

Bangladesh Disaster Management Reference Handbook:

https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/disaster-mgmt-ref-hdbk-bangladesh_0.pdf

Bangladesh National Portal:

<http://www.bangladesh.gov.bd/index.php?lang=en>

Disaster Risk Reduction Profile:

<http://www.adrc.asia/nationinformation.php?NationCode=50&Lang=en&Mode=country>

Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR):

<https://modmr.gov.bd/>

National Plan for Disaster Management (2008-2015):

<http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/bgd146945.pdf>