

# Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) network for Least Developed and Landlocked Countries:

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### 1. Bangladesh at a Glance



Official Name : People's Republic of Bangladesh

Political System : Parliamentary DemocracyPopulation : 150.7 million (census,2011)

Area : 147,570 km2Time Zone : GMT+6 Hours

GDP total : USD 114 billion(FY2011-12)

GDP Per Capita : USD 772 (FY 2011-12)

Total Exports
Total Imports
USD 17.88 billion ((FY 2011-12))
USD 26.94 billion (FY 2011-12)
Total FDI
USD 1,136 billion (CY 2011)
Forex. Reserve
USD 105.698 billion (July, 2012)

Major Maritime Ports: Chittagong, Mongla

Currency : BDT (1 BDT = USD 0.01219)

(Avg FY September, 2012)

Major Cities : Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna

Rajshahi, Sylhet, Barisal

Major Maritime Ports: Chittagong, Mongla

Dialing Code : +880

# Vision 2021: In Quest of a Happy, Prosperous and Inclusive Bangladesh

#### **Medium Term Economic Targets (2013)**

- Raising economic growth rate to 8%
- Reducing poverty rate to 25%
- Reducing absolute poverty rate to 15%
- Enhancing electricity supply to 7,000 MW

#### **Long Term Economic Targets (2021)**

- Boosting economic growth rate to 10% in 2017 and sustaining it till 2021
- Reducing poverty rate to 15%
- Enhancing electricity supply to 20,000 MW
- Raising the economy to the level of a middle-income country

# **FDI Policy Framework & Incentives**

The broader FDI policy & regulatory framework include, among others, the following:

<b>Business Stage</b>		Policy & Regulation
1.	General	- Bangladesh Industrial Policy (as undertaken from time to time)
1.	Business start-up	<ul><li>The Companies Act, 1994</li><li>Securities and Exchange Commission Act, 1993</li></ul>
1.	Protection	- The Foreign Private Investment (Promotion & Protection) Act, 1980
1.	Export Zones	<ul> <li>Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority Act, 1980</li> <li>Bangladesh Private Export Processing Zones Authority Act, 1996</li> </ul>
1.	Facilitation	- The Investment Board Act, 1989
1.	Corporate / Personal Taxation and incentives	<ul> <li>Income Tax Ordinance 1984 and related rules and SROs</li> <li>National Budget</li> <li>The Finance Act/Bill</li> </ul>
1.	International Trade (Export & Import)	<ul> <li>Bangladesh Export Policy (as undertaken from time to time)</li> <li>Bangladesh Import Order (as undertaken from time to time)</li> </ul>
1.	Sectoral	<ul> <li>Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission Act, 2003 (BERC)</li> <li>Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission Act, 2001 (BTRC)</li> <li>The National Drug Policy, 2005</li> </ul>
1.	Foreign Exchange	- Bangladesh Foreign Exchange Guidelines (issued from time to time)

#### **Investment Climate**

Bangladesh is a winning combination with its competitive businessfriendly environment and cost structure can give you best returns:

- Strategic location, regional connectivity and worldwide market access.
- Industrious low-cost workforce
- Strong local market and growth
- Low cost of energy
- Proven export competitiveness
- Competitive incentives
- Export and Economic Zones

### **Investment Climate**

- Bangladesh is one of the top exporters of readymade garments to US & Europe
- Risk factors for FDI are the minimum in Bangladesh
- Bangladesh never posted negative economic growth during the past 30 years
- Bangladesh has never defaulted in its debt repayments, nor asked for their rescheduling
- Bangladesh has an open, market based economy led by a vibrant and innovative private sector which provides the main stimulus to its growth
- Bangladesh is a homogeneous country with no religious, ethnic or other forms of cultural conflicts
- Bangladesh has outstanding records in human rights
- Bangladesh is one of the largest contributors to UN peacekeeping forces and missions and the records of the forces have been exemplary and laudable

## What is told about Bangladesh

- Citi Investment Research & Analysis termed Bangladesh, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam have the most promising (per capita) growth prospects.
- Goldman Sachs branded as Bangladesh is in 'Next 11' list after the BRIC nations
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) commented on the economy of Bangladesh as Resilient export and remittance flows have bolstered growth and external stability
- The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) dismissed the previous branding of Bangladesh as commented Bangladesh, 'Basket Case' No More with a higher growth rate, a lower birth rate, and a more internationally competitive economy,
- JPMorganChase commented Bangladesh The country ranks fourth in growth in economically active population.
- Morgan Stanley has commented Bangladesh is at the very early stages of an investment boom...
- New York Times has termed Bangladesh as "an unlikely corner of Asia, strong promise of growth"...

### **nvestment Climate...**

developed markets have a web of intricate regulations aints which limit investment opportunities

ts, with innovative entrepreneurs, offer greater business i-à-vis old markets with stagnant demand and high taxes apital to emerging markets like the ones represented by th Asia is likely to be profitable with no added risks

in the economy of Bangladesh offer enormous high return and low risk investments in infrastructures, cturing and consumer goods industries

npy investments against this backdrop would not be and is likely to expand the productive capacity of the ang a variety of new goods and services which would sustained economic growth and social development

