

Parallel Session B2



## **NGOs' contribution in reducing inequality** *SDG 10*

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Encompass the universality of the 2030 Agenda 'no one will be left behind'



- Linkages with
  60 SDG targets
- Linkages with 9 international HR instruments

### SDG 10- Reducing inequality within and among countries

- Reducing income inequality (10.1)
- Promoting social, political and economic inclusion (10.2)
- Addressing discrimination and inequalities of opportunity and outcomes, and ensuring equal opportunities and ending discrimination (10.3).
- Adopting fiscal and social policies that promote equality (10.4),
- Improving regulation of global financial markets and institutions (10.5),
- Enhancing representation for developing countries in financial institutions (10.6)
- Pursuing responsible and well-managed migration policies (10.7).
- According special and differential treatment for developing countries (10.A)
- Encouraging development assistance and investment in the least developed countries (10.B)
- Taking steps to reduce transaction costs for migrant remittances (10.C).

# Approach and methodology

14 NGOs, MJF Anchor, Oxfam Co-Anchor

**Objective:** a) capture NGOs' contribution in SDG 10 b) highlight lessons learnt c) offers recommendations to address challenges in attaining the targets of Goal 10 by 2030.

#### METHODOLOGY

- Group formation
- Workshop
- Review of secondary material (GOB, UN, CSOs, newspapers, websites
- Data collection from associate NGOs
- Draft by MJF
- Peer reviewed by Secretariat and finalization

# Background

### Article 19 Constitutional obligations

7FYP target Gini Co-efficient 0.45 or below

Inequality on the rise at national, rural and urban levels

Inequality increased in last 6 years: 0.483 in 2016 Income disparity: bottom 5% (32 times) Top 5% (121 times)

Wealth inequality at 0.74

148 out of 157 countries in global index 2018 of Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI)

## Findings: NGOs' contributions in SDG 10

- **10.1**: Human development programmes with emphasis on:
  - alleviating access gap for the poor
  - vocational trainings for facilitating livelihood activities
- 10.2: Social inclusion programmes
  - irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity and origin, religious or economic or other status.
  - Specific programmes for marginalized people, Adibashis, Dalits, fisher-folks, Hijras, third gender, MSMs, AIDS patients
  - Specific programmes for persons with disabilities.
  - Women empowerment programmes for excluded women to attain knowledge and skills in income opportunity activities

# Continued...

- **10:3**: Advocating for equal opportunities for all and the elimination of all discriminatory laws
  - Anti-Discrimination Act
- **10.4**: Promoting the cause of fiscal justice and progressive fiscal policies, and for better and universal social protection
- 10.5 and 10.6: engaged in various global fora demanding greater voice and representation of the countries from the South in various global rules-setting institutions that deal with trade, finance, technology transfer etc.
- **10.7:** A few NGOs facilitating **safe migration** including implementation of planned migration policies.
- 10a, 10b and 10c :cross-national; some think tanks are strongly arguing for more effective contribution by developed countries in making the three means of implementation work for attaining SDG 10

## Learning

- Social safety net programmes can reduce vulnerabilities
- Education, health and livelihood support like skills training, asset transfer and creation of income opportunities are crucial
- GO-NGO well-coordinated and well-sequenced collaboration can generate important synergies
- When NGOs and other non-state actors work in tandem and collaborate, the likelihood of success in Goal 10 areas is found to increase manifold
- Concerted campaigns by NGOs, civil society, media and social support groups can play a catalytic role in protecting the rights of various marginalized communities

# Challenges

- Dearth of community-specific and disaggregated data on Dalit, Harijan, *Hijra*/third gender, *Bede* and other marginalized groups.
- No formal coordination mechanism among Law, Social Welfare and GED with NGOs
- Exclusion of indigenous peoples from decision-making process
- Urgent need for job creation, enhancing labour productivity and wages, expansion of micro-credit and loans to SME and effective women empowerment initiatives

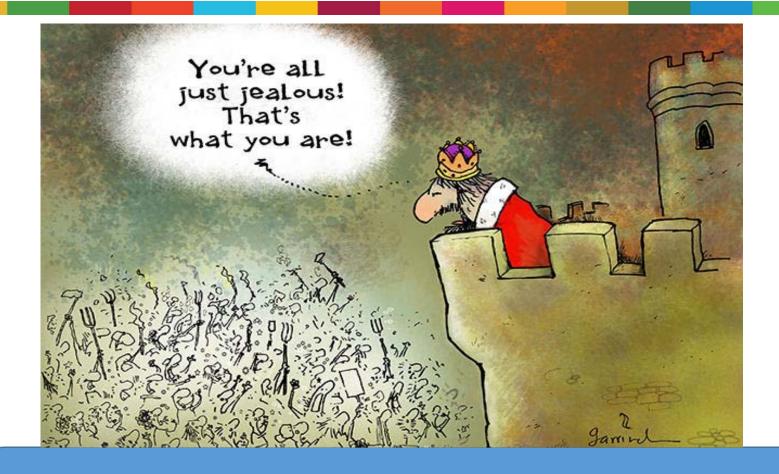
# Recommendations

- Introduce prudent fiscal policies t o help reduce inequality and lead to better distributive justice.
- Enact Anti-discrimination Act
- Accelerate implementation of work plans under National Social Security Strategy (NSSS)
- Separate comprehensive database for all types of marginalized communities
- A separate table showing annual allocation in national budget under Leave No One Behind theme of SDG
- Ministries should introduce official coordination forum involving relevant NGOs
- Further strengthen local government institutions
- Non-state actors should be engaged in monitoring, reporting and holding relevant government agencies accountable
- Accelerate implementation in the areas of
  - Job creation
  - enhancing labour productivity and wages
  - expansion of micro-credit and loans to SME
  - effective women empowerment initiatives

# Conclusion

- The growing inequality over income, wealth, access to resources and justice <u>poses a serious threat</u> to disadvantaged and marginalized population
- While political commitment of the government is laudable, the implementation of various government programmes through
  - transparent and accountable governance and
  - <u>creating enabling environment to exercise</u> <u>constitutional rights to have all voices heard and</u> <u>represented</u>

will help Bangladesh to reduce inequality and become a more inclusive society



Let's meaningfully celebrate 50 years of Bangladesh by reducing all types of inequality among marginalized people