

Executive Summary

Realistic planning is the first step towards optimum resource utilization. Land is the basic resource which embraces all the natural and man-made resources. The project on “Preparation of Development Plan for Fourteen Upazilas Project” is the outcome of such effort in Bangladesh which will promote well organized development and use of land to ensure a balanced economic growth and reduce misuse of limited scarce natural resources that are attached to land and environment.

The development at the upazila level can be generated only when they are linked with national development plans for proper use of resources and participation of the people. Unplanned infrastructure development and expansion will fail to achieve ultimate goals of planned development. Thus, the planning proposals will have to be tailored to the basic national strategies related to poverty alleviation, disaster management MDGs and SDGs.

This inception report has been prepared as part of the requirements set out in the Terms of Reference under the project of Preparation of Development Plan for Fourteen Upazilas. The contents of the report are the reflection on the introductory description of the project, methodology and the task with an overview of the planning area and the activities performed during the Inception Period. The report contains the basic concepts of the planning, goals and objectives to be achieved through planning, methods of plan preparation and the output that will be generated.

The locational advantage of these upazilas along with the several highways makes the areas potentially important for all types of economic and social development. The current project will help utilize the natural and man-made resources of these areas in a sustainable way.

The broad objective of development plan preparation of upazilas to provide guidelines for physical development based on future need and opportunities and constraints. Under this project, five tier plans namely Sub Regional Plan, Structure Plan, Urban Area Plan, Rural Area Plan and Action Area Plan will be prepared to focus on land-use, transportation and traffic management and comprehensive drainage and environment and disaster management. It will also propose multi-sectoral investment plan which will help create employment opportunities in the upazila. The plans will be developed on the basis of information and data collected from secondary sources and findings through various physical and socio-economic surveys and is produced through participation of local stakeholders. Physical survey will be conducted with the use of GPS, DGPS, RTK-GPS, Total Station and Optical Level. Cross checking, internal verification and monitoring will be ensured during the survey work.

During the Inception Period FGD, Court yard meeting and Tea Stall meeting was conducted in Ishwargang upazila under Mymensingh District and Shibpur and Raipura under Narsingdi District to initiate the programme where representatives of all upazilas and individual consultant and members of UDD were present and local stakeholders expressed their strong support for the preparation of Development Plan.

Utmost efforts have been made to collect basic data and primary documents during the reconnaissance survey in all the upazila under the package. Yet in spite of all efforts collection could not been made which will later be completed in a short period.

A detailed revised work plan has been developed to carry out the tasks under package 02 which will help smooth execution of the project.