Australia’s development cooperation program in Bangladesh aims to reduce inequality and support the drivers of inclusive growth: education, gender equality, skills development and social protection.

Our humanitarian assistance for Rohingya and host communities provides inclusive life-saving assistance such as food, water, sanitation, protection services and shelter. This assistance builds resilience to shocks and aims to increase self-reliance through education and skills development.

We deliver our development and humanitarian assistance through established, trusted implementing partners that can deliver at scale. Through these partners we have focused on the ongoing economic crisis as well as inclusive growth in Bangladesh, preparing the country for graduation from LDC status.

**Strategic direction**

In line with the Sustainable Development Goals, we continue to support social protection reforms, skills development, and gender equality to drive inclusive growth. Australia will support Bangladesh’s economic development, including via economic reforms to assist Bangladesh’s transition to middle-income status and realise its economic and trade potential.

**Program highlights**

- Australia enabled extremely poor children, especially girls and children with disabilities, to access quality basic education through our support to the NGOs BRAC and UCEP.
- Australian humanitarian assistance contributed to emergency support, including food assistance, health services, protection, and basic shelter for over a million vulnerable Rohingya and host community women, men, girls, and boys.
- Australia supported 38,514 young people (including 1,968 with disabilities) to receive technical and vocational training.
- Australia is supporting social protection reforms to ensure support reaches those most in need, including the elderly and people with disabilities. In addition, we are supporting the Maternal and Child Health Benefit program, and have helped 229,815 mothers access benefits.
- In 2022-23, 30 scholars received Australia Awards for master’s level study, and 160 professionals undertook short courses on TVET, policy and governance, environment and climate change, health, countering violent extremism, and trade.