Australia will support Bangladesh’s COVID-19 recovery with a focus on investments in long-term economic growth, underpinned by inclusive education, skills development and private sector engagement.

### Strategic direction

Australia enjoys a strong trade and development relationship with Bangladesh and will continue to support Bangladesh through its response and recovery from COVID-19. Australia and Bangladesh have shared interests in a secure, prosperous and inclusive Indian Ocean region; we support independent, sovereign and resilient states.

Australia’s development cooperation supports Bangladesh’s health security, stability and economic recovery to COVID-19. We are placing a strong emphasis on protecting the most vulnerable, especially women and girls and people with disabilities. We are working in partnership with the Bangladesh Government and other donors in a targeted and flexible way, and maximise our impact by strengthening development, economic, diplomatic, trade and security capabilities, including in multilateral fora.

In 2020-21 Australia is supporting Rohingya refugees and host communities in the provision of life-saving assistance and support for the impacts of COVID-19. More than 1.3 million people remain in need in Bangladesh’s Cox’s Bazar district, including over 860,000 Rohingya refugees who fled to Bangladesh in response to the violence in Rakhine State, Myanmar in August 2017.

### Program highlights

- In 2019-20, Australia supported 1.4 million young people (55 per cent women and girls) to access skills training, and half a million children (50 per cent girls) to complete primary or pre-primary education courses (SDG4).
- Australia provided assistance to over 111,000 households to help them graduate from ultra-poverty, making a significant improvement to the lives of poor people (SDG 1 and 5).
- Since 2017, Australia has provided $250 million in Bangladesh for humanitarian assistance to respond to the Rohingya crisis, including contributions to the construction of COVID-19 treatment facilities with capacity for 1,900 beds.

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**ESTIMATED AUSTRALIAN ODA 2021-22**

$133.8 MILLION

**GROSS NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA**

US$1,940 (2019)*

**POPULATION**

163.0 MILLION (2019)*

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**BANGLADESH**

Development Cooperation Factsheet: May 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Australian ODA</th>
<th>2019-20 Actual ($m)*</th>
<th>2020-21 Budget Estimate ($m)*</th>
<th>2021-22 Budget Estimate ($m)*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Country Programs</td>
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<td>30.8**</td>
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<td>Regional</td>
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<td>4.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Government Departments</td>
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<td><strong>Total Australian ODA to Bangladesh</strong></td>
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<td><strong>55.7</strong></td>
<td><strong>133.8</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>% of Total Australian ODA</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Due to rounding, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

**Funding figure subject to change due to additional humanitarian funds flowing to Rohingya crisis.**