Presentation Outline

- Poverty concerned public policies
- Budgeting system and structure
- NSPAR and our national budget planning
- Poverty lens in national budgets/Plans
- Civil society efforts (DAM & Steps as examples)
- Potentials for Way Forward
Poverty concerned public policies

- National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction II (NSAPR Revised FY 2009 – 11)
- Poverty Reduction Strategy paper (PRSP I)
- Sixth Five Year Plan (2011-15)
- Perspective Plan (2010 - 21)
- National Women Development Policy 2010
- National Education Policy (2010)
- National Skill Development Policy (2011)
Budgeting system and structure

Genesis of Budget 2011–12

- ‘Vision 2021’
- Sixth Five year Plan 2011–15
- National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction
- Sectoral national policies
- National Plan of Action (sectoral)
Budgeting system and structure

Link between ‘aspiration’ & ‘budget’
- Sectoral goals & objectives
- Strategies
- Priority setting & choices
- Macro-allocation in the budget
- Financing programatic efforts
- Budget for qualitative changes
NSPAR & Our budget planning
NSPAR: Critical areas of pro-poor growth

- SME development
- Promoting decent employment
- Private sector development
- Agriculture – productivity & diversification
- Livestock – Dairy, Meat, Poultry, Animal health
- Forestry – Access of poor to ‘public commons’
- Rural development
- Water resource management, including DRR
- Land use & management
- Urban development
Poverty Lens: National Budget 2011–12

- Budget statements in general mention about addressing poverty aspects
- Targeted changes during the year not set
- Social Safety Net Programs continue
- Stipend programs for school children to eliminate gender discrimination
- No specific effort to increase girls’ access to science, technology and vocational education
- Women farmers’ access to agricultural implements not addressed
Strategies and Allocation in Plans and Budgets to reach the Poor

- Expenditure in poverty reduction sectors
- Allocation for Safety Net Programs
- Addressing regional poverty dynamics/disparity and correlative allocation in the budget
- The ‘Ultra Poor’ are not a distinct group in the government’s policy documents….It is difficult to come up with a number to indicate how much resource is exactly allocated for the extreme poor. (CPD, 2011)
Major safety Net programs

Employment Generation

- Employment Generation for Hardcore Poor (EGHP)
- National Service
- Rural Employment and Rural Maintenance Program
- Food-for-Work (FFW)
- Vulnerable Group Development (VGD)
- Test Relief (TR)
Major safety Net programs

Conditional Transfers
- Stipend for Primary Students
- School Feeding Program

Transfers
- Old Age Allowance
- Honorarium for Insolvent Freedom Fighters
- Allowances for the Financially Insolvent Disabled

Emergency Relief
- Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF)
- Open Market Sales (OMS)
Share of Poverty Reducing Sectors in Total Expenditure (%)  [Source: MoF 2010]
SSNP Share in national Budget (%)  
[Source: MoF 2010]
DAM efforts to make budgets responsive to peoples expectation

- Grassroots level dialogue to get peoples’ voice and choice on budget
- Publication of special issue of *Alap* (an easy to read newsletter) compiling peoples views
- Making *Alap* budget issue available to the parliament members before budget announcement
- *Post-budget reflection sessions to check the gap between expectation and allocation*??
Dialogue to reflect needs of diverse geographic zones of Bangladesh
Voice of vulnerable women highlighted
A poem by a school student on budget
Children’s voice reflected through their art
Civil society efforts
to make budgets Gender Responsive

- Publication of monograph ‘A brief gender review of the national budget 2008-9’
- Special bulletin of *Steps*: National Budget 2006-7: Gender Analysis – Moving towards gender budgeting
- Arranging civil society dialogue for gender analysis of the draft budget on the eve of budget announcement
Steps

National Budget 2006-07
Gender Analysis

Moving towards Gender Budgeting

Steps Towards Development

A Brief Gender Review of the National Budget 2008-09
জেডার
সংবেদনশীল
বাজেট

জাতীয় বাজেট কীভাবে
দার সংবেদনশীল হতে পারে

নতুন এম আইন: জেডার প্রকাশ
চতুর্দিন ব্যাটের উৎপাদ সহা করার সিদ্ধান্ত
Recom. In CPD dialogue:

- The government has begun a process of pre-budget consultation with business community, CSOs and NGOs, and academics and experts.
- However, voice of the absentee— the poor are still to be heard by the policy makers.

What can we do in this area?
Potentials for Getting Engaged

Recom. In CPD dialogue:

- While the budget is known to be the most crucial instrument for pro-poor economic growth, it is of utmost importance that the poor, especially the ultra poor, participate in the preparatory process of the national budget.

- What can we do in this area?
Recom. In CPD dialogue:

- Local NGOs often develop local resource maps and poverty maps with grassroots level information.
- Synchronization with these NGOs, and involving them in design, implementation and monitoring process would be beneficial.

- What can we do in this area?
Thank You