



**AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION  
BANGLADESH**

27 October 2020

**AUSTRALIA RELEASES COVID-19 DEVELOPMENT RESPONSE PLAN FOR  
BANGLADESH**

The Australian High Commission is pleased to announce the release of Australia's [COVID-19 Development Response Plan](#) for Bangladesh for 2020 to 2021.

The COVID-19 Development Response Plan will guide Australia's whole-of-government response to COVID-19 in Bangladesh over the next two years.

Australia will focus on investments in long-term economic growth, underpinned by inclusive education, skills development and private sector engagement. Humanitarian assistance for Rohingya refugees and the host community remains a priority for Australia.

Australia will place a strong emphasis on protecting the most vulnerable, especially women and girls, and people with disabilities.

Australia will work in partnership with the Bangladesh Government to ensure its COVID-19 programs remain closely aligned with key government initiatives. Australia is committed to supporting Bangladesh's longer-term development priorities, as outlined in its 8<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan.

Ms Fatima Yasmin, Secretary Economic Relations Division (ERD), said "The Government of Bangladesh is finalising the 8th Five-Year Plan where COVID-19 recovery strategy has been incorporated. We believe Australia's COVID-19 response plan for Bangladesh will be aligned with the Government's priorities".

This COVID-19 Response Plan is part of Australia's recently released development strategy, [Partnerships for Recovery](#), which outlines how Australia will work with its partners across the globe to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Australia and Bangladesh have shared interests in a secure, prosperous and inclusive Indian Ocean region. Australia appreciates its strong development, people-to-people and trade ties with Bangladesh.

Australia will continue to support Bangladesh through its response and recovery from COVID-19.

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