



URBAN DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

UDD AT A GLANCE



Urban Development Directorate (UDD)

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Urban Development Directorate

1.0 Introduction

In the backdrop of rapid urbanization associated with increases in population and economic development in the early sixties, it was keenly felt that a regional and central office had to be created for Physical Planning. Accordingly Urban Development Directorate (UDD) was created on the 17th July 1965, under the administrative control of Works, Power and Irrigation Department of the then East Pakistan, vide memo no. 464E, dated, Dhaka, July 17, 1965. Functions allocated to the directorate were enhanced in the year 1983, by the Martial Law Committee on Organizational set up, headed by Brigadier Enamul Haque Khan which was approved by the Review Committee, headed by Major General Atiqur Rahman. The Organogram of UDD is shown in Table-1. The functions as listed below are:

1.1 Functions of Urban Development Directorate

- i. *To advise the Government on matters of policy relating to urbanization, land use and land development.*
- ii. *To prepare and co-ordinate regional plans, master plans and detailed layout and site plans for the existing as well as the new urban centres excluding the areas covered by the present town development authorities of Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna and Rajshahi.*
- iii. *To undertake socio-economic research and collection of data for determination of the location and pattern of future urban development.*
- iv. *To prepare programmes for urban development for execution by the sectoral agencies and secure approval of those from the National Council and assist the agencies in selection of sites for implementation of those programmes.*
- v. *To act as a counterpart organisation and focal point in the Government for all internationally aided physical planning and human settlement programmes in the country.*
- vi. *To organise seminars/workshops for creating better physical planning awareness and to disseminate information through regular publication of the research and planning materials on urbanization and human settlement planning and development.*
- vii. *To conduct in-service training of the officers and staff of organisations involved in spatial planning and development.*
- viii. *To advise the existing urban development authorities on their operations at their request.*

Table-1: Organogram of UDD

URBAN DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

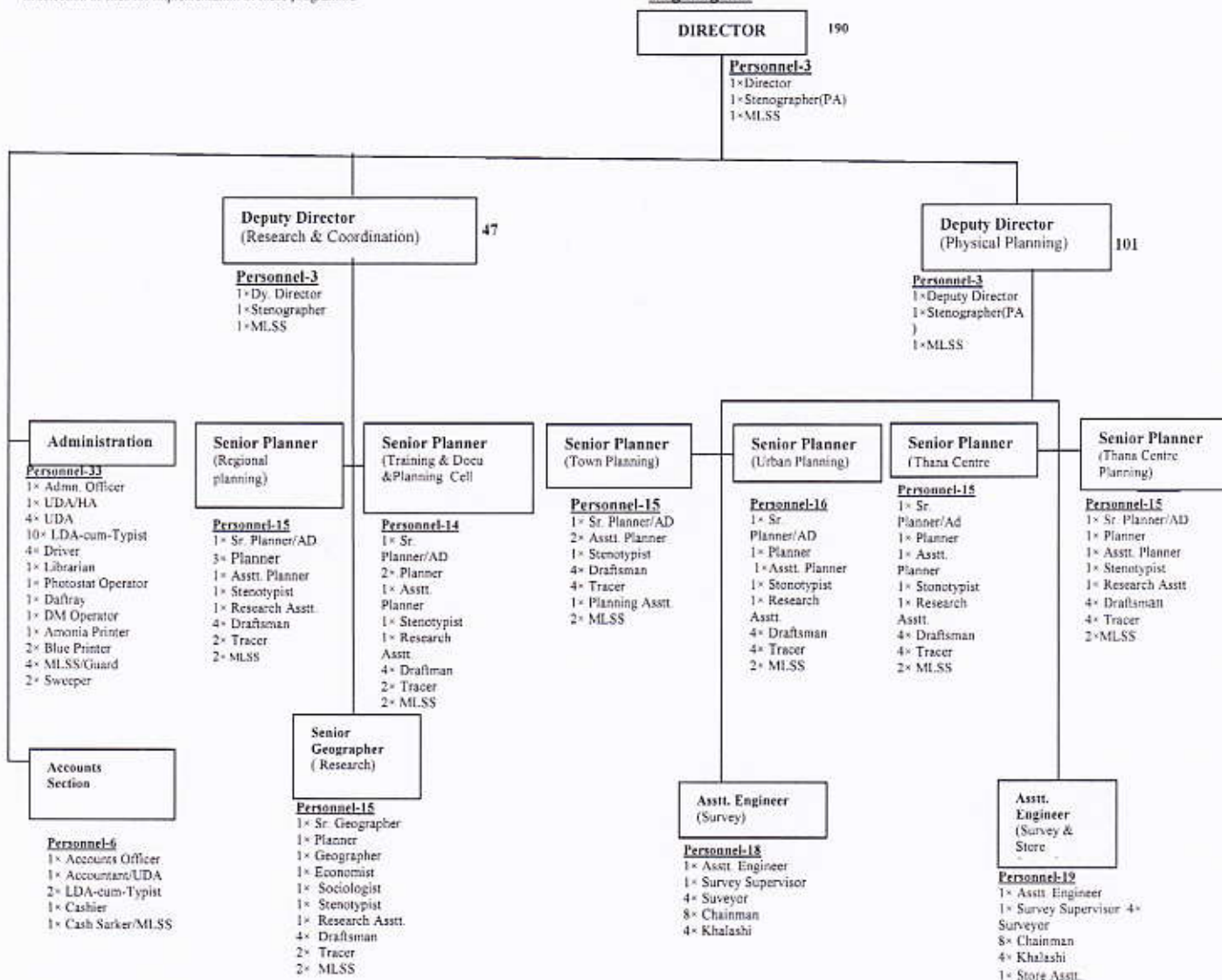
MINISTRY OF WORKS

FUNCTIONS:

1. To advise the Government on matters of policy relating to urbanization, land use and land development.
2. To prepare and co-ordinate regional plans master plans and detailed layout and site plans for the existing as well as the new urban centers excluding the areas cover by the present town development authorities of Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna.
3. To undertake socio-economic research and collection of data for determination of the location and pattern of future urban development.
4. To prepare programmes for urban development for execution by the sectoral agencies and secure approval of these from the National Council and assist the agencies in selection of sites for implementation of these programme.

5. To act as a counterpart organisation and local point in the Government for all internationally aided physical planning and human settlement programme in the country.
6. To organize seminars/workshops for creating better physical planning awareness and to disseminate information through regular publication of the research and planning materials on urbanization and human settlement planning and development.
7. To conduct in-service training of the officers and staff of organization involved in spatial planning and development.
8. To advise the existing urban development authorities on their operations at their request.

Organogram



Summary of Manpower

| Sl. No | Name of Post | Sanctioned | Existing | Revised |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Class - I | | | | |
| 1 | Director | 1 | - | 1 |
| 2 | Town Planner | 1 | - | - |
| 3 | Deputy Director | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 4 | Senior Planner/AD | 5 | 2 | 6 |
| 5 | Asst. Town Planner | 1 | 1 | - |
| 6 | Senior Geographer | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 7 | Executive Engineer | 1 | - | - |
| 8 | Planner | 10 | 1 | 10 |
| 9 | Asst. Engineer | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 10 | Geographer | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 11 | Economist | 1 | - | 1 |
| 12 | Sociologist | 1 | - | 1 |
| 13 | Asst. Planner | 7 | 4 | 7 |
| 14 | Accounts Officer | 1 | - | - |
| 15 | Admin & Asst. Town Planning Officer | 1 | - | - |
| | Total | 38 | 13 | 33 |
| 16 | Class-II | 1 | 1 | - |
| 17 | Class-III | 138 | 89 | 105 |
| 18 | Class-IV | 78 | 48 | 51 |
| | Grand Total - | 255 | 155 | 190 |

* Dy. Chief. Planner redesigned Dy. Director

AUTHORISATION OF TRANSPORT, MAJOR OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS POINTS ETC.

Transport :

1. The office, 1 for the Director and
 - a. 2 x cars, 1 for the Director and 1 x for the 2 Dy. Director.
 - b. 1 x microbus for official use
 - c. 1 x motor Cycle for Dispatch Rider duty.
2. Private use of transports will be as per Government Instructions issued from time to time.
3. Office equipment: The following office equipments may be retained by the Department:
 - a. 1 x plain paper copier.
 - b. 1 x Duplicating Machine.
 - c. 16 x Typewriters. Ratio of Bengali and English typewriters will be 60 : 40.
4. 1x car, 2 x Land cruiser Jeep, 1 Microbus an Station wagon will be retained till project is Implemented. The Vehicles will be deposited to Govt. transport pool on completion of project.
5. The post of Asstt. Town planner will be Predestinated as Senior Planner (Town planning)

(ENAMUL HUQ KHAN)
 CHAIRMAN, MARITAL LAW COMMITTEE
 ON ORGANISATIONAL SET-UP OF
 MINISTRIES/DIVISIONS AND DEPARTMENTS

1.2 UN-UDD Co-operation

Urban Development Directorate (UDD) has been working in close co-operation with UN agencies and other development partners like World Bank, IDA and ADB. Some of the notable projects as mentioned below:

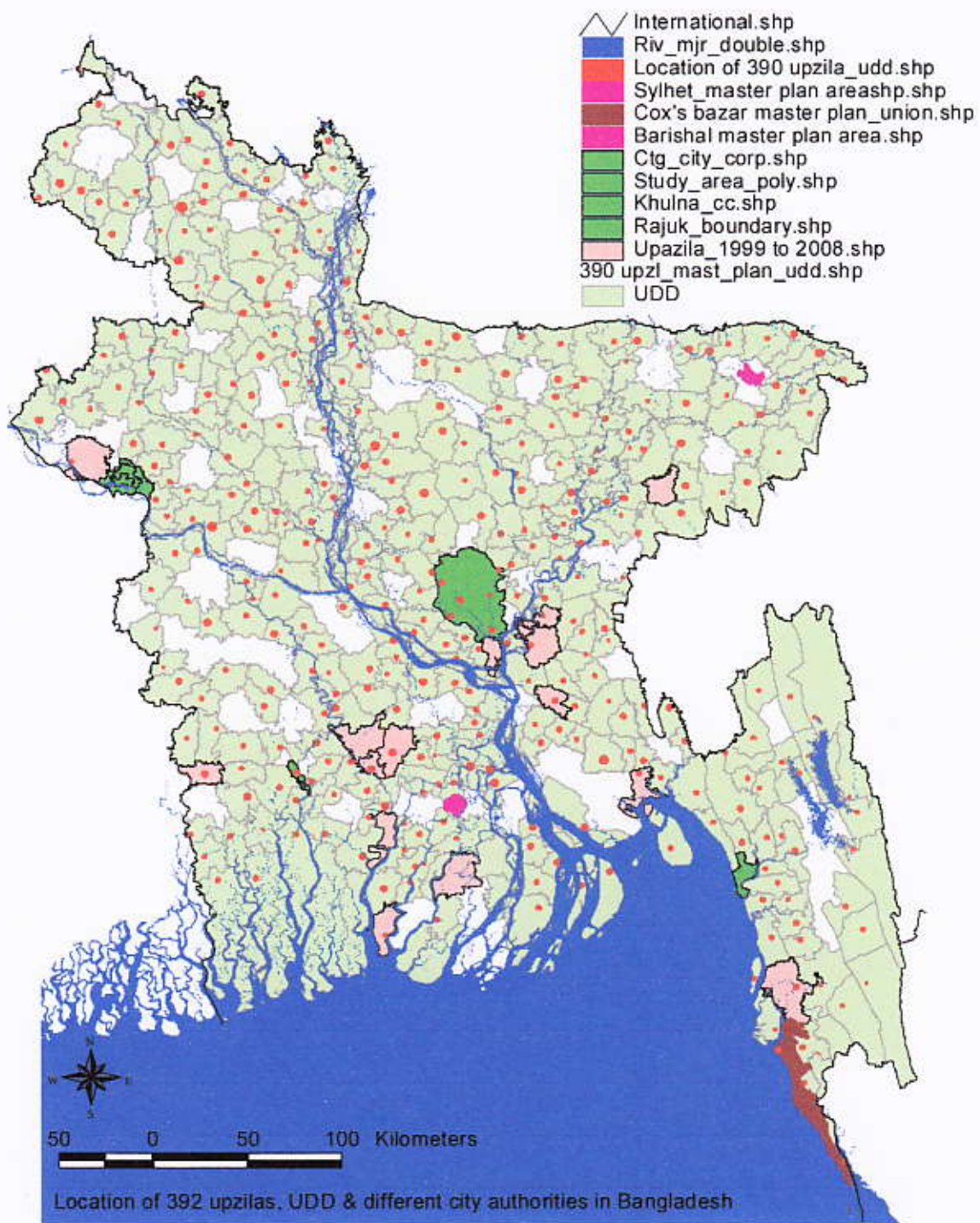
- (i) *National Physical Planning Project (1st phase), in co-operation with UNDP, 1978-1982 as shown in Map-1.*
- (ii) *Urban Housing Policy and Programme Development (1st phase) with UNDP assistance, 1978-1981.*
- (iii) *National Physical Planning Project (2nd phase), with UNDP, UNCHS assistance, 1983-1987.*
- (iv) *Urban Housing Policy and Programme Development (2nd phase) with UNDP, UNCHS assistance, 1984-1986.*
- (v) *Technical Assistance for the Design of Urban Area Development and Environmental Improvement, with World Bank, IDA assistance.*
- (vi) *Housing Sector Institutional Strengthening Project, with ADB assistance, 1992-1993.*
- (vii) *Urban and Shelter Sector Review, with UNDP, UNICEF and UNCHS assistance, 1992-1993.*
- (viii) *A project titled "Pakistan: Location and Planning of Cities in East Pakistan" that was undertaken by the United Nations in the year 1960 and was executed in mid 1960s.*

Several studies were carried out jointly by UNDP, UNCHS and UDD under the project "Bangladesh Physical Planning Project". Some of the study reports are mentioned below:

- a) *Final Report of Prof. Milton Kaplon, International Consultant in Planning Legislation, National Physical Planning Project (BGD/81/005-BGD/72/104), January 1983.*
- b) *The Draft Physical Planning (Land Use) and Development Control Ordinance in its Land Policy Context, David L. Willcox (26/2/82-28/3/85).*
- c) *The Physical Planning (Land use) and Development Control Ordinance 1985, updated by David L. Willcox and Nuruzzaman Choudhury, March 1985.*
- d) *Final Report of Mr. Nuruzzaman Choudhury, National Consultant in Planning Legislation, 7-21, September 1985.*

As a result of the above mentioned report and studies, the draft "**National Housing Policy 2010**" and "**Urban and Regional Planning and Landuse Management Act 2011**" are in the active consideration of the present government.

Map-1: UDD's jurisdiction area outside areas under the Development Authorities (392 Upazilas)



1.3 Activities in the Recent Past

In the recent past, UDD has completed the following Landuse/Master Plans and Reports:

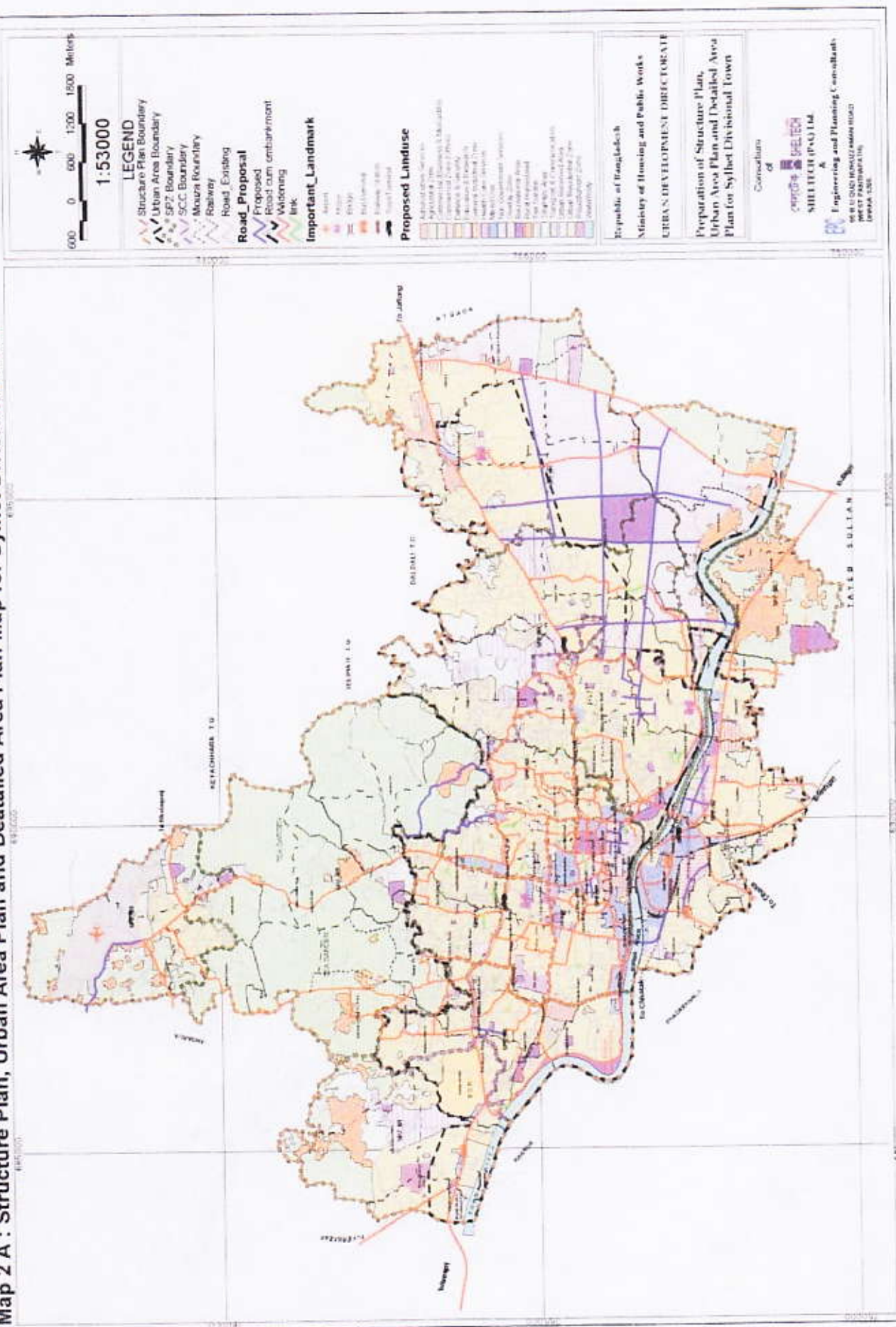
- (i) *Preparation of Master Plans/Land Use Plans for 15 (fifteen) Paurashavas/Upazila Shahar such as Gopalganj, Tungipara, Kotalipara, Godagari, Kalaroa, Patharghata, Homna, Sayestagonj, Pakua, Munshigonj, Zianagar, Basurhat, Dumki, Hajigonj, Daudkandi.*
- (ii) *Bangladesh National Report on Human Settlements (Habitat-II)-1996.*
- (iii) *Bangladesh Country Report on Urban Indicators-2001.*
- (iv) *Bangladesh National Report: Program of Implementation of the Habitat Agenda (1996-2001).*
- (v) *Preparation of Structure Plan, Master Plan and Detailed Area Plan for Sylhet and Barisal Divisional Towns (2006-2010).*
- (vi) *Preparation of Development plan of Cox's Bazar Town and Sea-Beach up to Teknaf.*

The number five mentioned project is the recently completed project of UDD. The estimated cost of the project was Tk. 551.89 Lakh which was solely borne by the govt. of Bangladesh from Revenue budget. The project started since 2005 and finished on June 2010. The objectives of the project were to prepare Structure Plan, Master Plan and Detailed Area Plan to control overall development of Sylhet and Barisal Divisional towns for the next 20 years; to prepare guidelines to ensure maximum use of land and to control landuse in the divisional towns. The project has ensured planned landuse of 21,039 acres of land in Sylhet and 1867.16 acres of land in Barisal divisional towns. Project outputs of recently completed Sylhet and Barisal project are shown in *Map-2* and *Map-3*.

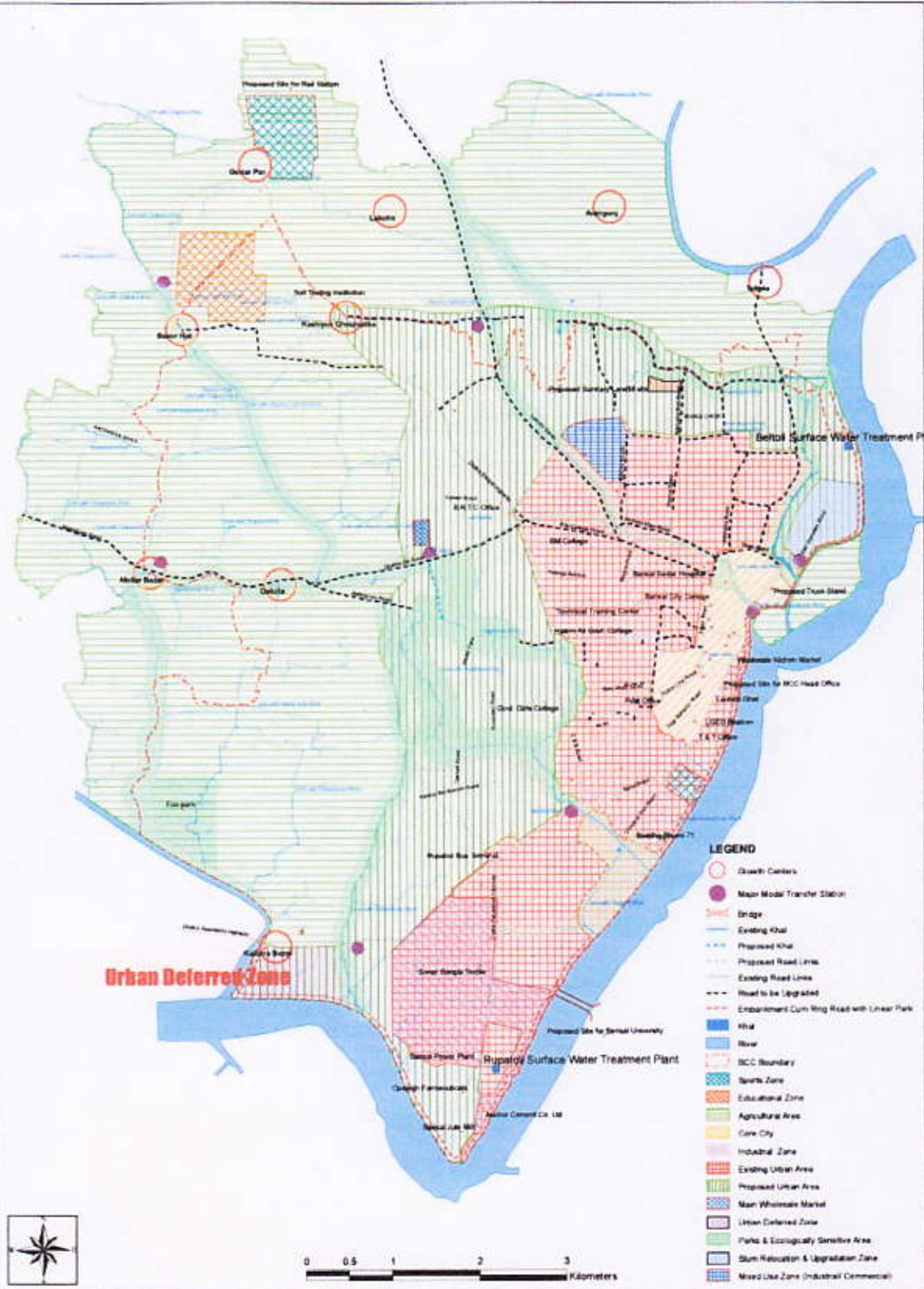
The last mentioned project is the latest completed project of UDD entitled "Preparation of Development Plan of Cox's Bazar town and Sea-beach up to Teknaf". The estimated cost of the project was Tk. 384.671 Lack which was solely borne from Revenue Budget of the Govt. As per approved PP, the duration of the project was from January 2009 to December 2009. But due to unavoidable circumstances, the project had extended to another one year without changing the project cost. The objectives of the project were: to prepare Structure Plan, Urban Area Plan and Action Area Plan to develop Cox's Bazar town, Sea-Beach from Cox's Bazar to Teknaf, Moheshkhali Upazila town and St. Martin Island as tourist development area; to ensure maximum landuse of these areas as well as preparation of landuse control guidelines; develop beach cultural tourism; recreational tourism, city based tourism; to identify adequate area for eco-tourism development; to identify cultural pattern and coastal characteristics to develop guidelines & strategies for sustainable tourism development; to suggest institutional arrangements and activities for environment based management planning and finally suggest standard design of different govt., semi-govt. and autonomous institutions engaged in city development, economic development, employment, housing open space, education, health and recreation. The Project has ensured planned landuse for around 25,000 acres of land in the project area with a time frame of 20 years (From 2010 A.D.) to 2030 A.D. Though the project has no direct scope of employment generation, there will be huge employment generation through physical planning oriented planned development activities. A project output of latest completed Cox'sBazar Development Plan project is shown in *Map-4*.

Moreover, UDD has recently completed one research/study entitled "Landslide in Chittagong: Causes, Effects and Counteractions".

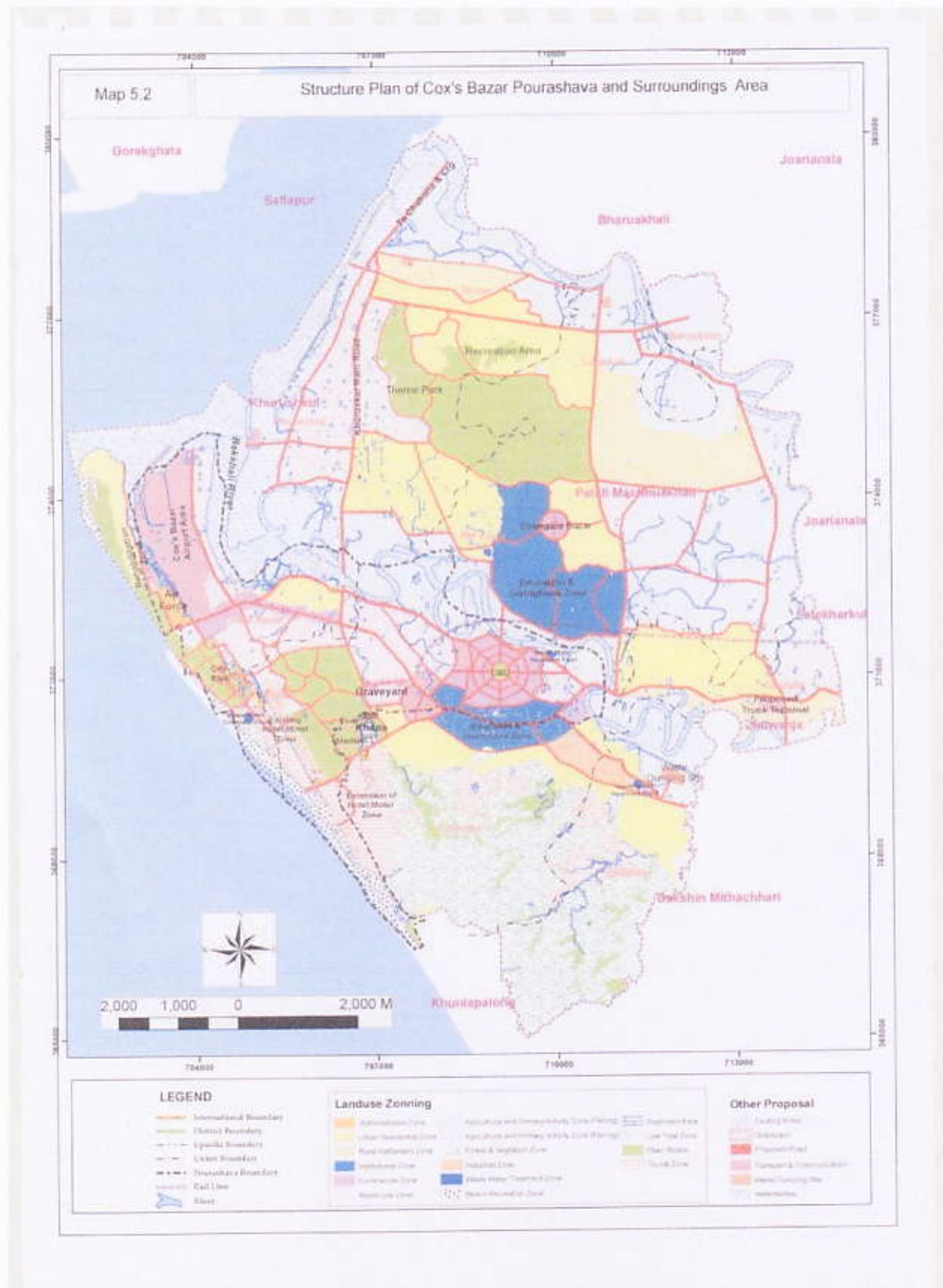
Map 2 A : Structure Plan, Urban Area Plan and Deatailed Area Plan Map for Sylhet Divisional Town



Map 3a:



Map-4: Preparation of Development Plan of Cox's Bazar Town and Sea Beach up to Teknaf



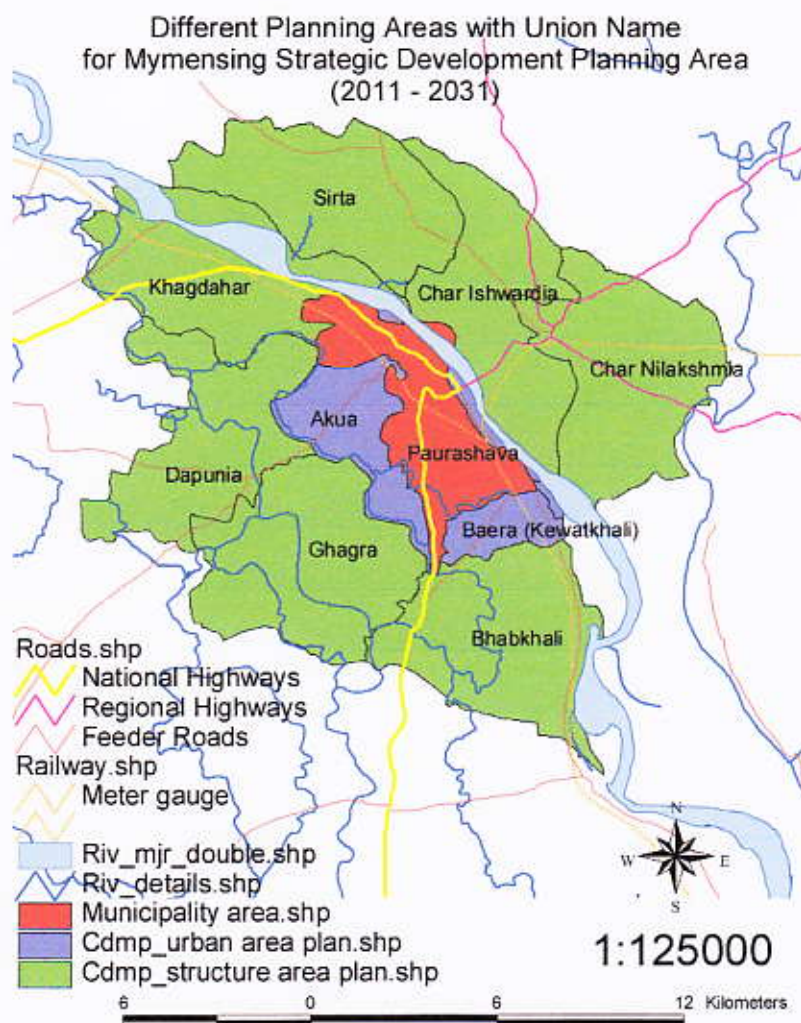
1.4 Present Activities

Presently UDD is involved in the following activities:

- i. Preparation of Master Plan/Landuse Plan of Galachipa Pourashava of Patuakhali district.
- ii. Collaboration with Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP-II) and Urban Development Directorate (UDD).

A MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) has been signed between CDMP-II of Disaster Management Relief Cell of Ministry of Food and Disaster Management and UDD on 21/03/2011 to formulate Plan co-ordinating urban planning with disaster mitigation in order to expedite future town-centered disaster preparedness and vulnerability reduction program through Comprehensive Disaster Management Program (CDMP-II) under the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management. Moreover, a Financial Agreement was signed between CDMP-II and UDD on 12-04-2011.

Map-05: Different Planning Areas with Union Name for MSDP Area (2011-2031)



It is worthy to mention that UDD is one of the important govt. organizations engaged in Physical/Infrastructure/Landuse Planning in Bangladesh. But unfortunately, no data related to disaster reduction has been incorporated in these plans so far. CDMP has been involved in formulating different disaster oriented Risk and Vulnerability Maps and respective Response related Plans. The primary step of disaster vulnerability reduction can be achieved if these maps and data are incorporated in Landuse/Infrastructure Planning. With this objective, CDMP-II has taken huge training program to enhance technical knowledge of all town planners of UDD. These practical trainings will be facilitated by national/internationally recognized trainers. After these trainings, disaster related data will be incorporated to the Landuse Plans of all Pourashavas of Bangladesh and implementation program will be arranged. CDMP-II will assist in establishing a modern GIS Laboratory at UDD which will consequently build the institutional setup of this plan/program.

iii. Collaboration with Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and Urban Development Directorate (UDD)

A MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between UDD and Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Thailand was signed on 26 September, 2011 in order to incorporate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in preparation of Physical Plan/Landuse Plan for different areas of Bangladesh. On the follow up of the MOU, an agreement was signed on 4 December 2011 between ADPC and UDD to conduct a research study entitled "Disaster Risk Reduction in Landuse Planning in Bangladesh (DRRLP,B)". The research work is now in progress. It is expected that through this research work, a framework for integration of DRR in Landuse Planning will be formulated.

1.5 Future Activities of UDD

Urban Development Directorate is actively involved in preparing Study Proposals (SPs) and subsequently submitting to the appropriate Ministries of Bangladesh for approval. Some notable SPs under process are as follows:

A. Planning Project on Approval Stage at Planning Commission Under Ministry of Planning:

- i. Preparation of Development Plan for Seven constitutional areas of Honorable Parliament Members of the Standing Committee for Ministry of Housing and Public Works
- ii. Preparation of Master Plan and Action Area Plan for Madaripur and Rajoire Upazila
- iii. Preparation of Comprehensive Regional Development Plan for Rangpur Region.

B. Planning Project on Approval Stage at Ministry of Housing and Public Works:

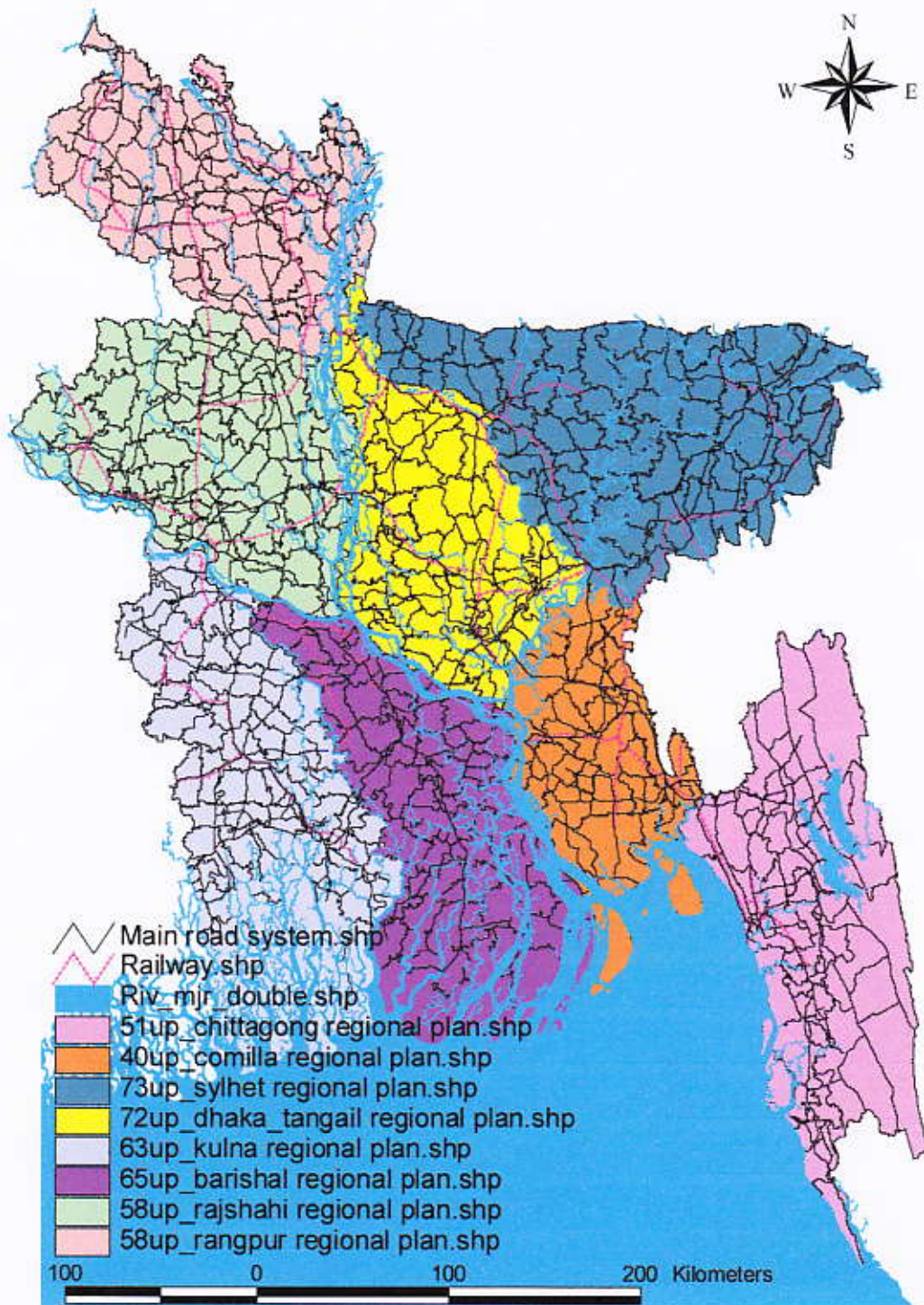
- i. Preparation of Eco-tourism development plan for kuakata Coastal Region
- ii. Preparation of Regional Plan, Structure Plan ,Urban Area Plan and Detailed Area plan of Tungipara, Kutalipara and Gopalganj Upazila

- iii. Preparation of Structure Plan, Master Plan and Detailed Area Plan for 56 Strategic Upazilas along Development Corridors
- iv. Preparation of Structure Plan, Urban Area Plan and Local Area Plan of 15 Upazilas of Habiganj and Brahmanbaria District
- v. Preparation of Structure Plan, Urban Area Plan and Local Area Plan of 11 Upazilas for Tangail District
- vi. Preparation of Structure Plan, Master Plan and Local Area Plan for 56 Upazilas along Dhaka-Chittagong Development Corridor
- vii. Preparation of Comprehensive Regional Development Plan for Rajshahi Region.
- viii. Preparation of Structure Plan, Urban Area Plan and Action Area Plan for 14 District Towns (Comilla, Kishorganj, Manikganj, Munshiganj, Mymensingh, Narayanganj, Narsingdi, Jessore, Jhenaidah, Bogra, Pabna, Kushtia, Joipurhat and Moulvibazar).
- ix. Preparation of Strategic Integrated Development Plan for Bangladesh (Phase-1).

C. Planning Project at Conceptual Stage as shown in Map-5:

- 1. *Preparation of Comprehensive Regional Development Plan for Sylhet Region.*
- 2. *Preparation of Comprehensive Regional Development Plan for Khulna Region.*
- 3. *Preparation of Comprehensive Regional Development Plan for Chittagong Region.*
- 4. *Preparation of Comprehensive Regional Development Plan for Barisal Region.*
- 5. *Preparation of Comprehensive Regional Development Plan for Comilla Region.*
- 6. *Preparation of Comprehensive Regional Development Plan for Dhaka Region excluding RAJUK Area.*
- 7. *Preparation of Comprehensive Development Plan for South-West Region.*

Map-6 : Proposed Planning Areas of Regional Planning Study Proposal



D. Proposed Study/Research Project:

1. *Determination of Ecological Footprint of Megacity Dhaka and its surrounding Region.*
2. *Study of Urbanization Process of Greater Dhaka and to find out the Potential Urban Network around Mega city.*
3. *Impact on Urbanization due to climate change in respect to Dhaka City.*

1.6 National Support behind UDD

Along with the official responsibility of advising the government on matters of policy relating to urbanization, land use and land development, Planning Commission of Bangladesh has taken decisions to-

- ✓ *Make UDD involved in the preparation of Regional Plans in the "Rural Town Development Project" ("গ্রামীণ শহর উন্নয়ন")- An EC aided project proposed by LGED.*
- ✓ *To participate in preparing the Master Plan etc in the "Infrastructure Development in the Upazila/Paurashava" ("উপ-জেলা শহর অবকাঠামো উন্নয়ন প্রকল্প")- a GOB financed mega project proposed by LGED.*
- ✓ *To participate in updating Master Plans of "Infrastructure Development Project of LGED" ("জেলা শহর অবকাঠামো উন্নয়ন প্রকল্প").*
- ✓ *To review project documents and provide planning advices to "Project Preparatory Technical Assistance for Preparing City Region Development Project (ADB TA 7231-BAN)" under LGED.*

2.0 Climate Change and Role of UDD

Due to the green house impact, since the middle of last century, world has experienced increased temperatures, a rise in sea level, enhanced monsoon precipitation and runoff, increased frequency of tropical cyclones and storm surges etc. Bangladesh is the most populated country in the world and having 26% level of urbanization. The total population of Bangladesh is growing at a rate of 4% per annum while the capital city-Dhaka, port city-Chittagong and other secondary and tertiary level urban centers are growing even faster by the poor migrants from the rural areas. Their contribution to GDP is approximately 50% indicating that the productivity in urban areas is much higher than that of rural areas (Policy Dialogue Series no.: 23, Towards a National Urban Sector Policy, September, 2007). Therefore, cities and urban centers are the only resources cumulative centers, which are distributed all over Bangladesh without having any sort of hierarchic level. Though it has 06 divisional cities, 64 secondary cities, 490 Upazila towns and pourashava as growth centre which are demarcated according to administrative purpose only.

Due to this climate changes, all the adverse effects are being and will be demonstrated in those urban centers in first hand. Therefore, it is our prime responsibility to adopt policies to address those eco-variables considering different urban centers in Bangladesh to ensure economic growth and stabilities. It is unfortunate that there were fewer policies regarding urban issues adopted in BCCSAP, 2008.

The following key challenges are discussed in the “Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2008”:

1. *Ensure food security and comprehensive disaster management*
2. *Address water scarcity and health and insecurity and*
3. *Deal with forced migration and overall environmental degradation*

All those key challenges are being addressed in six different thematic areas which are the following:

1. *Food security, social protection and health*
2. *Comprehensive disaster management*
3. *Infrastructure development*
4. *Research and knowledge management*
5. *Mitigation and low-carbon development*
6. *Capacity building and institutional strengthening*

There were very few issues discussed which concern regarding the urban centers and its growth capabilities. In capitalist system of the world, the cities and urban centers are the engine of nation's economic growth and prosperity. Apart from those urban centers, rest of Bangladesh is rural in nature. Addressing this climate agenda, it is necessary to include urban centers while taking actions. The necessary actions could be applicable in three different scales such as National, Regional and Local level and proposed thematic areas could be further clustered in three different groups according to their nature with the contributory departments of MoHPW which are the following:

Table-2: Thematic clustered area

| | |
|--|--|
| <i>Group – A (Social thematic area)</i> | <i>Food security, social protection and health Comprehensive disaster management</i> |
| <i>Group – B (Physical thematic area)</i> | <i>Infrastructure development Mitigation and low-carbon development</i> |
| <i>Group – C (Knowledge based thematic area)</i> | <i>Research and knowledge management Capacity building and institutional strengthening</i> |

Table-3: Departments of MoHPW and their contributory areas

| | National level | Regional level | Local level |
|------------------|--|--|--|
| <i>Group – A</i> | <i>UDD, PWD, HBRI</i> | <i>UDD, PWD, HBRI</i> | <i>UDD, PWD, HBRI, different Authorities,</i> |
| <i>Group – B</i> | <i>UDD, PWD, NHA</i> | <i>UDD, PWD, NHA</i> | <i>PWD, different Authorities, NHA</i> |
| <i>Group – C</i> | <i>UDD, PWD, different Authorities, Dept. of Architecture, NHA, HBRI</i> | <i>UDD, PWD, different Authorities, Dept. of Architecture, NHA, HBRI</i> | <i>UDD, PWD, different Authorities, Dept. of Architecture, NHA, HBRI</i> |

From the above table, it is clearly understood that Urban Development Directorate (UDD) could contribute in all the three level of actions to address the climate change strategy in Bangladesh. The possible performances in three different level of UDD are discussed below.

Group –A:

Considering (1) Food security, Social protection and health and (2) Comprehensive disaster management, UDD can work as a hub of MoHPW within GoB. It can work with other different ministries (agriculture, water, energy, power, industry, communication, health etc.) of GoB together to build-up the comprehensive strategic plan regarding the issues of climate changes and communicate the necessary information to it's sister agencies of MoHPW. According to the allocation of functions by GoB (Report of the martial law committee on organizational set up, June, 1983, p. 01) to UDD, the main responsibilities regarding "Group-A" are:

- a. To advise the Government on matters of policy relating to urbanization, land use and land development.*
- b. To undertake socio-economic research and collection of data for determination of the location and pattern of future urban development.*
- c. To act as a counterpart organization and focal point in the Government for all internationally aided physical planning and human settlement of those programmes in the country.*

From the above mentioned work, UDD can design and prepare the strategic planning on existing human settlement (urban & rural) in Bangladesh which is vulnerable to climate change and prepare the hierarchy of urban centers in respect to ecologically sensitive zones with joint collaboration to ministry of water, agriculture, and forest which will address the possible mitigate measures against the issues.

Group –B:

Considering (3) Infrastructure development and (5) Mitigation and low-carbon development, UDD can prepare the structure plan for its working area based on the comprehensive strategic plan mentioned above group –A. And, it can further inform and supply it to its sister agencies. The main responsibilities of UDD in "Group-B" are:

- a. To prepare and co-ordinate regional plans, master plans and detailed layout and site plans for the existing as well as the new urban centers excluding the areas covered by the present town development authorities of Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna.*
- b. To prepare programmes for urban development for execution by the sectoral agencies and secure approval of those from National Council and assist the agencies in selection of sites for implementation of those programmes.*
- c. To advise the existing urban development authorities on their operations at their request. UDD will prepare the national comprehensive plan, regional plan, detail Upazila and municipality plan considering the strategic plan in Group-A. In this scale of spatial planning, UDD will consider the GoB's multi-sectoral investment plan while design all level of plans. In this level, it can work as a planning and monitoring of human settlements and its hinterland.*

Group –C:

Considering (4) Research and knowledge management and (6) Capacity building and institutional strengthening, each and every agencies of MoHPW are responsible to have their own relevant institutions to address the climate change. Relevant responsibilities of UDD in this group are:

- a. *To organise seminars / Workshops for creating better physical planning awareness and to disseminate information through regular publication of the research and planning materials on urbanization and human settlement planning and development.*
- b. *To conduct in – service training of the officers and staff of organizations involved in spatial planning and development.*

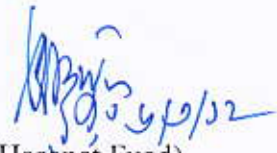
Addressing climate change, creating knowledge is the key issues for sustainable development of the country. The main actors of the climate changes scenario of the world are operating outside Bangladesh and she is the one of the main victim of their activities. Therefore, knowledge is the only survival tool for Bangladesh to over come the eco-vulnerabilities regarding land, water, air and natural calamities. Considering human settlement and its related development, both urban & rural, UDD can play a vital role as a hub of the Ministry of Housing and Public Works under the Government of Bangladesh.

3.0 Vision of UDD

Vision of UDD is to augment the quality of life of the people by improving the environment through planned development activities for adequate infrastructure, service and utility provisions, to make optimum utilization of resources especially land and to ensure a geographically balance urbanization. It also aims to reduce local and regional disparity by alleviating poverty and to create good governance in the country through people's participation, empowering of woman and developing gender equality. Urban Development Directorate would welcome any co-operation, assistance and patronage from national and international arenas.

4.0 Conclusion

UDD would prefer to participate in wider scale in nation building activities in the planning sector with national and international development partners like UNDP, World Bank, IDA, ADB, EC, GIZ, JICA and other organizations.



(Abul Hasanat Fuad)

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