



Sustainable Finance Department Bangladesh Bank Head Office

# Quarterly Review Report on Sustainable Finance of Banks & Financial Institutions



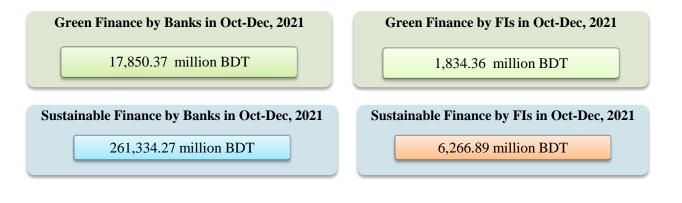
**October-December**, 2021

#### **Executive Summary**

The concern for environmental sustainability and inclusive growth has given mass recognition to the concept of corporate social responsibility and inclusive finance. In an emerging economy like Bangladesh, environmental management needs to be the key focus area of the business fraternity especially the banking industry being the major intermediary. Addressing environmental and social risks associated with financing activities by banks/FIs is a "must do" step in overall Credit Rating for credit approval. Stricter monitoring thereafter disbursement must go on. Accordingly, Bangladesh Bank has also integrated issues of socially responsible initiatives along with core activities of banks/FIs driving towards sustainable finance strategies.

Green and sustainable interventions and frameworks are crucial for making future development more sustainable. Forming sustainable frameworks are very much within the broader scope of sustainable development agenda of a country like Bangladesh. Banks and financial institutions (FIs) hold a unique position in an economic system that can affect production, business and other economic activities through their financing activities, and thus also influence environmental risk management in real economy, and sustainable growth. These institutions can accelerate the movement of a clean world to a large extent. For instance, these institutions can implement a 'go-green' policy for themselves and encourage client firms to adopt clean technology. In the long-term, this strategy is expected to be favorable for firms, to reduce the cost and induce the access to the new market. To advance their interest, all the financial institutions should follow the carbon footprint of their clients or projects to ensure overall sustainability.

For the first time Bangladesh Bank (BB) has defined 'Sustainable Finance' for Banks & FIs. This report entails the information on all the policy initiatives and operational approaches on Sustainable finance taken by BB, and the Sustainable Finance activities of Banks & FIs from October 01 to December 31, 2021 timeline. It also covers green finance/investment by 61 scheduled banks and 34 FIs under refinance scheme.



## **Table of Contents**

SI No.	Topics	Page No.
1	Introduction	1
2	Policy Chronology and Refinancing Initiatives of BB	2
3	At a Glance Sustainable Finance in July-September, 2021	3-7
4	Review on Sustainable Finance Activities of Banks and Financial Institutions (FIs)	8-11
5	Review on Refinancing Schemes of BB for Green Finance	12-13
6	Concluding Remarks	14

#### 1. Introduction

Sustainability has become one of the mainstream considerations in the financial sector. Bangladesh by its geography is a highly vulnerable country of climate change. Recognizing that the financial sector can play a catalytic role in speeding up adoption of environmentally friendlier output practices in the real economy; Bangladesh Bank (BB) has become role model by pioneering green banking initiatives by guiding proactively the banks and NBFIs since 2011. In this context, Sustainable Finance initiatives of BB broadly categorized into the following aspects: policy initiatives, monitoring of Sustainable Finance activities of banks and NBFIs, refinance support from BB in diverse green products/sectors, and BB's own initiatives for environmental management. Introduction of Sustainable Finance Policy has given an ample opportunity for the banks and FIs to contribute to inclusive Sustainable Green Growth where Green Finance, Sustainable Agriculture, Sustainable CMSME, Socially Responsible Financing, other financing and CSR activities linked to sustainability is structurally addressed. Sustainable Finance refers to the business conducted in such areas and in such a manner that help the overall reduction of external carbon emission and internal carbon footprint.

The banking sector is one of the major sources of financing industrial projects such as steel, paper, cement, chemicals, fertilizers, power, textiles, etc., which cause maximum carbon emission. Therefore, the banking sector can play an intermediary role between economic & social development and environmental protection, for promoting environmentally sustainable and socially responsible investment.

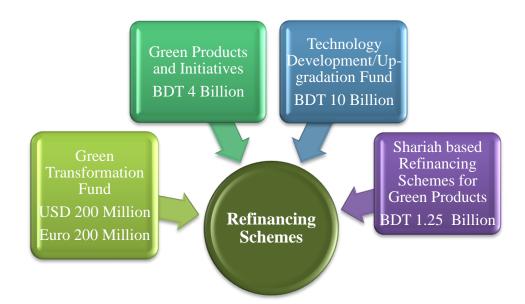
Quarterly Review Report on Sustainable Finance has been introduced for the first time not only for the green banking activities but also covering all the components of sustainable finance under Sustainable Finance Taxonomy. This report reflects a review of banks and FIs' efforts concerning People, Planet and Profit.

# 2. Policy Chronology and Refinancing Initiatives of BB

# **2.1 Policy Chronology:**

2011	<ul> <li>Environmental Risk Management (ERM) Guidelines for Banks and Financial Institutions has been issued.</li> <li>Green Banking Policy Guidelines for Banks has been issued.</li> </ul>	BRPD Circular No.01/2011 & 02/2011
2013	•Policy Guidelines for Green Banking was also issued for the Financial Institutions (FIs) and for the banks scheduled in 2013	GBCSRD Circular No. 04/2013 & Letter No. 05/2013
2014	•From January 2016 onwards minimum target of direct green finance was set at 5% of the total funded loan disbursement/investment for all banks and FIs.	GBCSRD Circular No. 04/2014
2015	•Banks and FIs were instructed to form a 'Climate Risk Fund' having allocation at least 10% of their Corporate Social Responsibility budget.	GBCSRD Circular No. 04/2015
2016	<ul> <li>Banks &amp; FIs have been instructed to set up Solid Waste Management System, Rainwater Harvesting and Solar Power Panel in their newly constructed or arranged building infrastructure.</li> <li>All the banks &amp; FIs must ensure the establishment and activeness of Effluent</li> </ul>	SFD Circular No. 01/2016 & 03/2016
2016	<ul> <li>Treatment Plant (ETP) during financing to all possible clients.</li> <li>All banks and FIs to establish Sustainable Finance Unit and Sustainable Finance Committee by abolishing both Green Banking and CSR units.</li> </ul>	SFD Circular No. 02/2016
2017	<ul> <li>Guidelines on Environmental and Social Risk Management (ESRM) for Banks and Financial Institutions along with an Excel-based Risk Rating Model have been issued.</li> <li>A comprehensive list of product/initiatives of Green Finance for banks and FIs has been circulated.</li> </ul>	SFD Circular No. 02/2017 & 04/2017
2018	•A new uniform reporting format of Quarterly Review Report on Green Banking Activities has been circulated for Banks & FIs to monitor green banking policy & other regulations and to ensure the quality & uniformity of data provided by Banks & FIs.	SFD Circular No. 01/2018
2019	•Insvestment by scheduled banks & FIs in any impact fund which is registered under BSEC (Alternative Investment) Rules, 2015 and formed for environment friendly sectors/purposes (resource & energy efficiency, renewable Energy, waste management and treatment, women & child right protection etc.) will be considered as green finance.	SFD Circular No. 01/2019
2020	•From September, 2020 onwards minimum target of green finance was set at 5% of the total funded term loan disbursement/investment for all banks and FIs.	SFD Circular Letter No. 05/2020
2020	<ul> <li>Sustainable Finance Policy for Banks &amp; FIs was issued and new reporting format of Quarterly Report on Sustainable Finance has been introduced.</li> <li>Sustainability Rating Methodology for Banks &amp; FIs was issued.</li> </ul>	SFD Circular No. 05/2020 & 06/2020
2021	•Yearly 'Target & Achievement' of Green Finance and Sustainable Finance for Banks & FIs has been fixed.	SFD Circular No. 01/2021
2021	<ul><li>Target Fixation of Green Finance &amp; Sustainable Finance.</li><li>About Sustainablitiy Rating Methodology for Banks &amp; FIs.</li></ul>	SFD Circular Letter No. 03/2021 & 05/2021

#### 2.2 Refinancing Initiatives of BB:



## 3. At a Glance Sustainable Finance in October-December, 2021

#### **3.1 Sustainable Finance:**

#### A. Highlights:

Issue	Banks	FIs	Total
Sustainable Finance (in million BDT)	2,61,334.27	6,266.89	2,67,601.16
Sustainable Finance as % of Total Loan Disbursement	9.29%	10.86%	9.32%
Green Finance (in million BDT)	17,850.37	1,834.36	19,684.73
Green Finance as % of Total Term Loan Disbursement	3.09%	4.17%	3.16%
Sustainable Linked Finance (in million BDT)	2,43,483.91	4,432.53	2,47,916.44

#### **B. Sector-wise Sustainable Finance:**

Issue		Sus	DT) by Banks &	FIs			
	Sustainable Linked Finance (SLF)						Sustainable
	Sustainable Agriculture	Sustainable CMSME	Socially Responsible Financing (SRF)	Working Capital & Demand Loan of Green Products/Projects/ Initiatives	Priority Green/Eco- Friendly Products for Trading Sector	Finance	Finance
			1			2	1+2
Banks	77,688.55	36,999.58	64,339.16	57,171.84	7,284.78	17,850.37	2,61,334.27
FIs	523.71	422.14	4 2,616.43	657.85	5 212.39	1,834.36	6,266.89
Total	78,212.26	37,421.72	66,955.59	57,829.69	7,497.17	19,684.73	2,67,601.16

#### **3.2 Borrowers in Sustainable Finance:**

#### A. Sector-wise:

	Borrowers in Sustainable Finance by Banks & FIs							
Issue	Sustainable Linked Finance (SLF)						Sustainable	
	Sustainable Agriculture	Sustainable CMSME	Socially Responsible Financing (SRF)	Working Capital & Demand Loan of Green Products/Projects/ Initiatives	Priority Green/Eco- Friendly Products for Trading Sector	Finance	Finance	
			1			2	1+2	
Banks	633,436	5,898	476,472	2,284	405	2,587	11,21,082	
FIs	583	83	2,859	21	78	318	3,942	
Total	634,019	5,981	479,331	2,305	483	2,905	11,25,024	

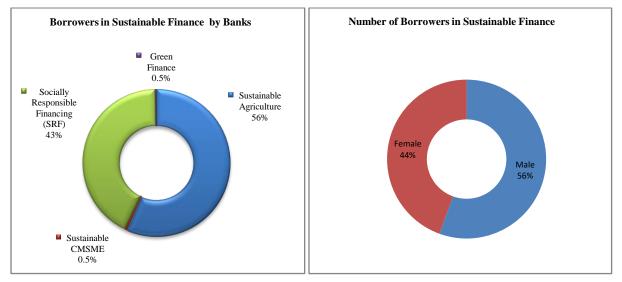
#### **B.** Gender-wise:

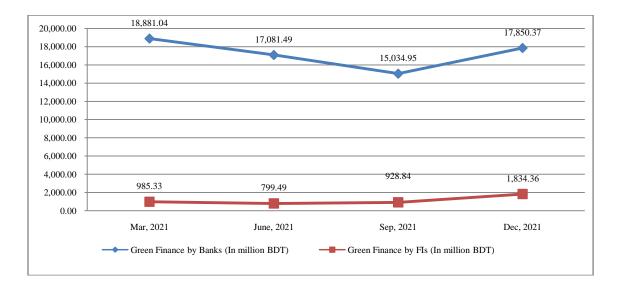
Number of Borrowers in Sustainable Finance	Male	Female	Third Gender	Total
Banks	624,236	496,846	0	11,21,082
FIs	889	3,053	0	3,942
Total	625,125	499,899	0	11,25,024

#### C. Rural-Urban wise:

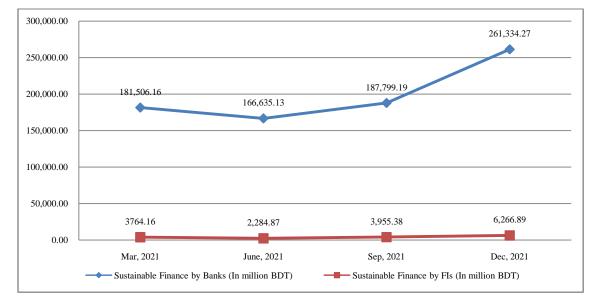
Number of Borrowers in Sustainable Finance	Rural	Urban	Total
Banks	8,18,935	3,02,147	11,21,082
FIs	3,564	378	3,942
Total	8,22,499	3,02,525	11,25,024

## **D.** Graphical Representation of Borrowers in Sustainable Finance





#### E. Quarterly Trend of Green Finance & Sustainable Finance



In October-December, 2021 Quarter contribution to Green Finance is 19,684.73 million taka which is 3,720.94 million taka more than July-September, 2021 Quarter. Similarly, in October-December, 2021 Quarter contribution to Sustainable Finance is 2,67,601.16 million taka which is 75,846.59 million taka higher than July-September, 2021 Quarter. Moreover, due to change in the definition and base for target attainment of Green Finance there is a shuttle change in Green Finance disbursement from January, 2021. Since sustainable finance has been introduced for the first time in Sustainable Finance Policy on 30 December 2020, the data of sustainable finance has been available from March, 2021.

#### 3.3 Utilization of Climate Risk Fund:

Total utilization of Climate Risk Fund in the said quarter is 269.44million taka.

 Banks	
261.86 million BDT in 41 Events	
4.8 million BDT in 1 Projects	
Financial Institutions	 
<b>Financial Institutions</b> 0.15 million BDT in 1 Events	

3.4 Environmental & Social Risk Management:					
Issue	Banks	FIs	Total		
Number of Environmental Risk Rated Projects	33,864	1,177	35,041		
Number of Environmental Risk Rated Projects Financed	49,250	1,283	50,533		
Amount Disbursed Against Rated Projects (in million BDT)	978,106.44	23,049.00	1,001,155.44		

3.5 Environmental Conservation in Business Centers (Data Shown as Cumulative):					
Issue	Banks	FIs	Total		
Number of Solar Powered Branches	792	2	794		
Number of Branches with Rainwater Harvesting	5	2	7		
Number of Branches with Solid Waste Management System	16	2	18		
Number of Solar powered ATM Booths	138	-	138		
Number of Solar Powered Agent Outlets	22	-	22		
Online branches (as % of total branches)	99.28%	N/A	N/A		

## **3.6 Leading Banks & FIs attainment in Sustainable Finance & Green Finance<sup>1</sup>:**

## A. I. Sustainable Finance (Period: October-December, 2021)

Name of the Banks	Target Attainment	Name of the NBFIs	Target Attainment
State Bank of India	80.57%	Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Ltd	100.00%
Bangladesh Krishi Bank	59.15%	Prime Finance and Investment Ltd	87.00%
Eastern Bank Ltd		Industrial and Infrastructure Development Finance Company Ltd	49.34%
National Bank Ltd	30.92%	Agrani SME Financing Company Ltd	36.88%
The City Bank Ltd	22.83%	National Finance	27.10%
Brac Bank Ltd	20.40%	Hajj Finance Company Ltd	26.66%
Bangladesh Commerce Bank	20.30%	IDLC Finance Ltd	21.44%
Bengal Commercial Bank	20.30%	Lankan Alliance Finance Ltd	21.08%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Target attainment in Sustainable Finance (SF): Disbursement in SF >=20% of total loan disbursement. Target attainment in Green Finance (GF): Disbursement in GF >=5% of total term loan disbursement.

Name of the Banks	Target Attainment	Name of the NBFIs	Target Attainment
State Bank of India	70.99%	Prime Finance and Investment Ltd	74.43%
Bangladesh Krishi Bank		Industrial and Infrastructure Development Finance Company Ltd	51.20%
National Bank Ltd	25.50%	Agrani SME Financing Company Ltd	36.55%
Rupali Bank Ltd		Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Ltd (BIFFL)	32.96%
Eastern Bank Ltd	20.99%	National Finance	26.87%
		IDLC Finance Ltd	20.99%

# A. II. Sustainable Finance (Period: January-December, 2021)

## **B. I. Green Finance (Period: October-December, 2021)**

Name of the Banks	Target Attainment	Name of the NBFIs	Target Attainment
State Bank of India	90.58%	Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Ltd	100.00%
Community Bank Bangladesh Ltd	17.25%	CVC Finance Ltd	15.77%
Bank Asia Ltd	16.15%	IDLC Finance Ltd	10.23%
South East Bank Ltd	13.27%	Agrani SME Financing Company Ltd	7.67%
Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd	12.38%	Infrastructure Development Company Ltd	6.11%
Global Islami Bank Ltd	10.01%		
Shahajalam Islami Bank Ltd	8.16%		
EXIM Bank Ltd	7.39%		
Modhumoti Bank Ltd	5.93%		
Eastern Bank Ltd	5.88%		
Brac Bank Ltd	5.57%		

# B. II. Green Finance (Period: January-December, 2021)

Name of the Banks	Target Attainment	Name of the NBFIs	Target Attainment
CITI Bank NA	100.00%	Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Ltd	32.96%
State Bank of India	71.80%	Infrastructure Development Company Ltd	16.30%
Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd	14.33%	CVC Finance Ltd	15.22%
Community Bank Bangladesh Ltd	9.70%	Agrani SME Financing Company Ltd	7.66%
NRB Bank Ltd	9.10%	IDLC Finance Ltd	6.43%
BASIC Bank Ltd	7.42%	Prime Finance & Investment Ltd	5.69%
South East Bank Ltd	7.18%		
Bank Asia Ltd	6.81%		
IFIC Bank Ltd	6.56%		
Standard Chartered Bank	5.78%		
Modhumoti Bank Ltd	5.23%		
Rupali Bank Ltd	5.12%		

#### 4. Review on Sustainable Finance Activities of Banks and Financial Institutions (FIs)

#### 4.1 Policy Formulation and Governance:

All scheduled banks and FIs have formed their own Sustainable Finance Unit. Bangladesh Bank has introduced Sustainable Finance Policy in December, 2020. Through this policy BB has defined Sustainable Finance for Banks & FIs. All the Banks and FIs have to form their own Sustainable Finance Policy mandatorily.

#### 4.2 Overview of Sustainable Finance:

53 Banks out of 61 and 16 FIs out of 34 have had exposure in sustainable finance in the reporting quarter. The snapshot of Sustainable Finance by banks and FIs during October-December, 2021 quarter is shown in Table-4.1, 4.2 and 4.3.

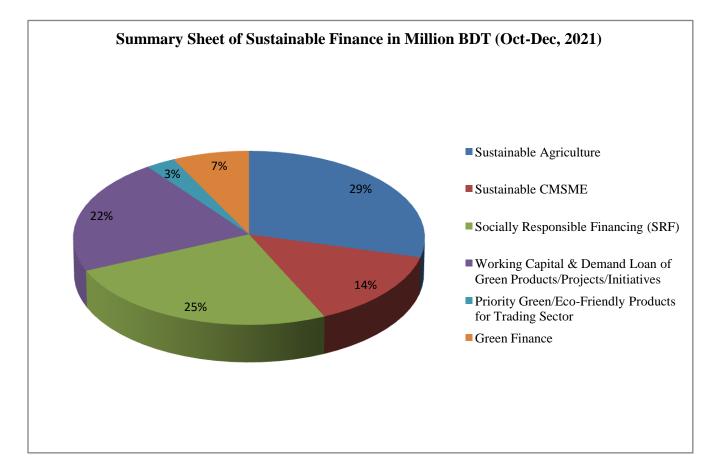
	Table-4.1: Si	ustainable Fi	nance in O	ctober-Decen		million BDT)
Type of	Total Loan	Total Term Loan	Green	Finance	Sustainable Finance	
Bank/FI	Disbursed	Disbursed	Disbursed	Outstanding	Disbursed	Outstanding
<b>SOCBs (06)</b>	234,198.96	71,462.13	179.60	25,948.67	9,879.72	175,002.09
SDBs (03)	58,243.03	15,880.31	4.60	191.71	24,209.29	222,571.02
PCBs (43)	2,245,091.55	466,728.86	17,128.20	239,415.95	195,103.92	682,429.99
FCBs (09)	276,291.96	24,055.01	537.97	4,170.12	32,141.36	57,175.18
Bank's Total	2,813,825.51	578,126.31	17,850.37	269,726.45	261,334.27	1,137,178.29
FIs (34)	57,712.32	43,976.14	1,834.36	36,423.64	6,266.89	54,968.91
Grand Total	2,871,537.83	622,102.45	19,684.73	306,150.09	267,601.16	1,192,147.20

#### Table-4.2: Recovery and Rescheduling of Sustainable Finance in October-December,2021

				(In million BDT)
	Green	Finance	Sustaina	ble Finance
Type of Bank/FI	Recovery	Rescheduled	Recovery	Rescheduled
SOCBs (06)	345.18	0.00	9,521.44	92.49
SDBs (03)	0.51	0.00	24,625.16	0.00
PCBs (43)	26,786.36	154.60	88,950.67	326.49
FCBs (09)	451.32	0.00	33,946.65	0.00
Bank's Total	27,583.37	154.60	157,043.92	418.98
FIs (34)	2,170.14	556.59	6,256.67	630.52
Grand Total	29,753.51	711.19	163,300.59	1,049.50

Table-4.3: Sustainable Finance in Million BDT (October-December, 2021)									
	(In million BDT)								
Type of		Sustaina	able Linked l	Finance (SLF)		Green	Sustainable		
Bank/FI	Sustainable	Sustainable	Socially	Working Capital	Priority	Finance	Finance		
	Agriculture	CMSME	Responsible	& Demand Loan	Green/Eco-				
	-		Financing	of Green	Friendly				
			(SRF)	Products/Projects	Products for				
				/Initiatives	Trading				
					Sector				
SOCBs (06)	7,017.47	551.48	1,934.87	196.30	0.00	179.60	9,879.72		
SDBs (03)	23,732.63	472.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.60	24,209.29		
PCBs (43)	42,484.86	35,820.02	49,201.79	44,617.72	5,851.33	17,128.20	195,103.92		
FCBs (09)	4,453.59	156.03	13,202.50	12,357.81	1,433.45	537.97	32,141.36		
Bank's Total	77,688.55	36,999.58	64,339.16	57,171.84	7,284.79	17,850.37	261,334.27		
FIs (34)	523.72	422.14	2,616.43	657.85	212.39	1,834.36	6,266.89		
Total	78,212.27	37,421.72	66,955.59	57,829.69	7,497.18	19,684.73	267,601.16		

Figure-4.1: Sustainable Finance by Banks and FIs in different sectors



## 4.3 Green Finance- Category wise:

39 Banks out of 61 and 9 FIs out of 34 have had exposure in green finance in the reporting quarter. Total amount invested as green finance has been BDT 17,850.37 million by banks and 1,834.36 million by FIs in October-December, 2021 quarter. A brief picture of sector wise green finance by Banks and FIs is shown in Table-4.4 & 4.5:

Type of Bank/FI	Sectors of Green Finance						
	Renewable Energy	Energy Efficiency	Alternative Energy	Liquid Waste Management	Solid Waste Management		
<b>SOCBs</b> (06)	8.81	1.60	0.00	15.27	0.00		
SDBs (03)	2.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
PCBs (43)	1,561.68	3,685.56	0.00	613.05	92.13		
FCBs (09)	3.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00		
Bank's Total	1,575.59	3,687.16	0.00	728.32	92.13		
<b>FIs (34)</b>	107.72	132.23	0.00	285.00	0.00		
Grand Total	1,683.31	3,819.39	0.00	1,013.32	92.13		

<b>Table-4.4: Green Financ</b>	e (in million BDT)
--------------------------------	--------------------

Table-4.4: Green Finance (in million BDT)- Table Continued									
		Sectors of Green Finance							
Type of Bank/FI	Recycling &	Environment	Green/	Green	Green	Green			
	Manufacturing	Friendly	Environment	Agriculture	CMSME	SRF			
	of Recyclable	Brick	Friendly						
	Goods	Production	Establishments						
SOCBs (06)	16.79	4.79	18.47	3.88	109.83	0.15			
SDBs (03)	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.50	0.00	0.00			
PCBs (43)	1,293.00	1,129.23	8,331.52	195.28	115.75	111.00			
FCBs (09)	3.10	0.00	71.87	0.00	360.00	0.00			
Banks' Total	1,312.89	1,134.02	8,421.86	201.66	585.58	111.15			
FIs (34)	121.17	0.00	651.49	64.70	442.75	29.30			
Grand Total	1,434.06	1,134.02	9,073.35	266.36	1,028.33	140.45			

#### **Table-4.5: Target Attainment by Banks and FIs**

Type of Bank/FI	Green Finance as % of Total Term Loan Disbursement	Sustainable Finance as % of Total Loan Disbursement
<b>SOCBs (06)</b>	0.25%	4.22%
SDBs (03)	0.03%	41.57%
<b>PCBs</b> (43)	3.67%	8.69%
FCBs (09)	2.24%	11.63%
Banks' Total	3.09%	9.29%
FIs (34)	4.17%	10.86%
Grand Total	3.16%	9.32%

#### 4.4 Compliance Overview of ESRM Framework:

47 banks out of 61 and 14 FIs out of 34 have conducted environmental risk rating in the reporting quarter.

1 0010-4.0. 12	invironnentai	a social Kisk K	atting
Type of Bank/FI	No. of Projects Rated	No. of Rated Projects Financed	Amount disbursed in Rated projects (in million BDT)
SOCBs (06)	3,870	3,707	5,894.69
SDBs (03)	0	0	0.00
PCBs (43)	27,832	44,661	933,039.84
FCBs (09)	2,162	882	39,171.92
Banks' Total	33,864	49,250	978,106.44
FIs (34)	1,177	1,283	23,049.00
Grand Total	35,041	50,533	1,001,155.44

#### Table-4.6: Environmental & Social Risk Rating

#### 4.5 In-house Environment Management:

Table-4.7: Environmental Conservation in Business Centers								
Type of Bank/FI	No. of Branches	No. of Branches Powered by Solar Energy	Number of Branches with Rainwater Harvesting	Number of Branches with Solid Waste Management System	No. of ATM Booths	No. of ATM Booths powered by Solar Energy	Number of Agent Outlets	Number of Solar Powered Agent Outlets
<b>SOCBs (06)</b>	3,810	83	0	0	365	3	400	0
<b>SDBs (03)</b>	1,500	0	0	0	7	0	0	0
<b>PCBs</b> (43)	5,627	706	3	9	9,643	131	21,204	22
FCBs (09)	72	3	2	7	136	4	0	0
<b>Bank's Total</b>	11,009	792	5	16	10,151	138	21,604	22
<b>FIs</b> (34)	284	2	2	2	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	11,293	794	7	18	10,151	138	21,604	22

#### 4.6 Green Investment

There is no investment in Green Bond, Green SUKUK or Impact Fund by Banks & FIs in this Quarter.

## 4.7 Training, Promotion and Disclosure:

35 Banks and 7 FIs have arranged training programs concerning Sustainable Financing. A snapshot on training in October-December, 2021 quarter is given below:

Table-4.8: Training in October-December, 2021							
Type of Bank/FI	No. of Programs	No. of Programs No. of Employees No. of Cu					
<b>SOCBs (06)</b>	2	63	0				
SDBs (03)	3	155	0				
PCBs (43)	77	4582	102				
FCBs (09)	62	358	0				
Bank's Total	144	5,158	102				
FIs (34)	17	227	0				
Grand Total	161	5385	102				

#### Funding scheme of BB Amount Number of Project Disbursement from Refinance Scheme for Environment Friendly 203.33 7 **Products/Initiatives (in million BDT)** Disbursement from Refinance Scheme for Islamic Banks & **Financial Institutions for Investment in Green Products/Initiatives** (In million BDT) Disbursement from Green Transformation Fund (GTF) (In 4.77 5 million USD) Disbursement from Green Transformation Fund (GTF) (In 15.69 9 million Euro) Disbursement from Technology Development/Up-gradation Fund (TDF) (In million BDT)

#### 5. Review on Refinancing Schemes of BB for Green Finance

#### Table-5.1: At a glance Funding Schemes of BB for Green Finance in October-December, 2021

#### 5.1 Refinance Scheme for Environment Friendly Products/Initiatives:

To broaden the financing avenue for green products like solar energy, bio-gas plant and effluent treatment plant, etc., BB established a revolving refinance scheme amounting to BDT 2 billion (200 crore) from its own fund for solar energy, Bio-gas and Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) in 2009. The size of the fund has been increased from BDT 2 billion to BDT 4 billion in view of the growing demand for financing of environment friendly products/initiatives<sup>2</sup>. The product line has been enhanced to 55 under 09 categories. Since inception, total amount of Tk. 6,116.02 million has been disbursed as refinance facility from the fund till 31 December, 2021. The disbursement scenario of this scheme during October-December, 2021 quarter is furnished below:

Table-5.2: Sub-category/ Product wise Disbursement		
SL. No	Sub-category/ Product	<b>BDT</b> in million
1	Establishment of Certified Green Industry	200.00
2	Solar Home System	0.60
3	Integrated Cow Rearing and Setting up of Bio-gas Plant	1.75
4	Production of Vermicompost	0.98
	Total Disbursement	203.33

# 5.2 Refinance Scheme for Islamic Banks & Financial Institutions for Investment in Green **Products/Initiatives:**

Bangladesh Bank has introduced refinance scheme funded by excess liquidity of shariah based financial institutions to facilitate the shariah based banks and FIs in 2014<sup>3</sup>. In 2018 Bangladesh Bank has issued an integrated and comprehensive "master circular"<sup>4</sup> by revising and incorporating all the existing circular and circular letters related to this refinance scheme. BB has enhanced the product range under this scheme to 51 and segregated these products into 08 categories.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> SFD Circular 02/2020

<sup>3</sup> GBCSRD circular no. 06 /2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> SFD Circular No.02/2018

#### 5.3 Green Transformation Fund (GTF):

In January 2016, a longer-term refinancing window named Green Transformation Fund (GTF) of 200 million USD was launched to ensure sustainable growth in export oriented textile and leather sectors conducive to transformation of green economy in the country<sup>5</sup>. To further fortify the financing arrangement under GTF, it was decided to provision for a Participation Agreement to be signed between Bangladesh Bank and intended banks. To widen the scope of this fund, it has been opened for all manufacturer-exporters irrespective of sectors against import of capital machinery and accessories for implementing specified green/environment–friendly initiatives since September, 2019<sup>6</sup>. Recently, 200 million Euros has been added to the fund<sup>7</sup>. This Euro component of GTF can be used to import not only green machineries but also industrial raw materials (only Buyer's Credit) used in all manufacturing enterprises including both export oriented and deem exporters. Under the GTF in USD and Euro Component, consecutively 30 banks and 26 banks have signed participation agreement with BB. The disbursement from this Fund is 134.66 million USD & 45.22 million Euro till 31 December, 2021. In October-December, 2021 quarter disbursement from this fund is 4.77 million USD & 15.69 million Euro.

#### 5.4 Technology Development/Up-gradation Fund

Refinance Fund for Technology Development/Up-gradation of BDT 10 (Ten) billion offers refinance facility for the modernization and technological development/up-gradation of export oriented industries in Bangladesh<sup>8</sup>. So far 32 industrial sectors mentioned in Export Policy 2018-2021 under 11 initiatives/categories are included in the fund. The fund has been circulated for banks and FIs through the SFD Circular No-02 dated 17 January 2021. So far 25 banks and 8 FIs became Participating Financial Institution or PFI till 31 December 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> FE Circular No. 02/2016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> FE Circular Letter No. 14/2019

<sup>7</sup> FE Circular No. 20/2020

<sup>8</sup> SFD Circular No 02/2021

#### 6. Concluding Remarks:

Shaping a secure and sustainable finance future for all is essential for national level coordination, as well as international cooperation and international coordination. Recognizing this reality, BB has gone to a paradigm shift by introducing Sustainable Finance Policy for Banks & NBFIs. During the quarter under consideration, after introducing the policy, country has been severely affected by the COVID-19 scenario. Despite of this adverse situation, followings are the outcome:

- In 2021 few banks have surpassed the yearly target of green finance compared to the total term loan disbursement (5%). CITI Bank N.A., State Bank of India, Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd, Community Bank Bangladesh Ltd, NRB Bank Ltd, BASIC Bank Ltd, South East Bank Ltd, Bank Asia Ltd, IFIC Bank Ltd, Standard Chartered Bank, Modhumoti Bank Ltd, and Rupali Bank Ltd belong to that league. NBFIs like, Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Ltd, Infrastructure Development Company Ltd, CVC Finance Ltd, Agrani SME Financing Company Ltd, IDLC Finance and Prime Finance and Investment Ltd have done a decent job.
- Simultaneously, in 2021 very few banks have been able to stand up against their yearly target (20%) of sustainable finance compared to the total loan disbursement. Among the banks, State Bank of India, Bangladesh Krishi Bank, National bank Ltd, Rupali Bank Ltd and Eastern Bank Ltd have performed well. Among the NBFIs, performance of Bangladesh Prime Finance and Investment Ltd, Industrial and Infrastructure Development Finance Company Ltd, Agrani SME Financing Company Ltd, Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Ltd, National Finance Ltd and IDLC Finance Ltd were significant.

BB is pursuing to boost up the whole scenario by taking appropriate policy initiatives. Refinance support from BB is also playing an important role to incentivize the green banking activities. As the outcome of these initiatives, it is expected that positive impact will be evidenced in the trend of sustainable finance by banks and FIs in gradual manner. Sustainable Finance Department, BB also anticipates robust, effective and coherent efforts from banks and FIs in the field of sustainable finance.

Preserve nature & reduce pollution



for the sustainability of human race......