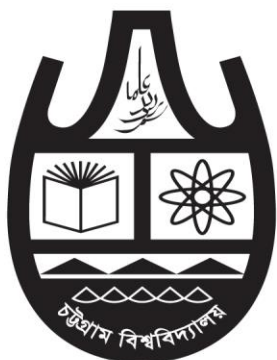


ANNUAL **SDG-17** REPORT PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



**UNIVERSITY OF
CHITTAGONG**

Chittagong-4331, Bangladesh

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Chittagong University (CU) is at the forefront of fostering partnerships that directly align with Sustainable Development Goal 17, which emphasizes the importance of strengthening global partnerships for sustainable development. Through a robust network of local and international collaborations, CU has made remarkable progress in advancing SDG 17, significantly enhancing both research initiatives and community engagement. CU is strategically partnered with numerous prestigious national and international institutions, including medical colleges, diagnostic centers, research institutes, and universities. The university boasts 21 ongoing health research collaborations with key organizations, such as Epic Healthcare Limited in Chittagong, the Marshall Centre for Infectious Diseases at the University of Western Australia, and the Rahman Group at King's College London. These partnerships are pivotal in spearheading impactful research that addresses urgent health challenges. Moreover, CU's collaborations with industry leaders like Beacon Pharma empower the university to engage in essential public health initiatives, including breast cancer awareness seminars and comprehensive screening programs for the community, students, and staff.

Research and innovation are integral to CU's strategy, as evidenced by its Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology leading collaborative efforts, including a significant study on dengue prevalence in Chattogram with icddr. CU has successfully secured funding from USAID's Compass program, which has facilitated critical development opportunities for students and faculty alike. Two students have already benefited from a visit to the University of New Hampshire, while a faculty member was awarded a fellowship to pursue an MS degree, highlighting CU's unwavering commitment to promoting global academic exchange and professional excellence.

Capacity-building initiatives form a cornerstone of CU's partnership strategy. The university actively organizes training programs and workshops in collaboration with various organizations to elevate knowledge and skills within the academic community. A notable example includes the partnership between the Department of Microbiology and the Bangladesh Society of Microbiologists to host a symposium on antimicrobial stewardship, delivering cutting-edge insights to regional scientists. CU faculty members also lend their expertise to government ministries and departments, offering vital policy guidance, serving on key committees, and delivering training and capacity-building support to government staff.

CU promotes knowledge exchange through an array of conferences, seminars, and student exchange programs. The university has successfully hosted international events, such as the International Biotechnology Conference 2024, collaborating with the National Institute of Biotechnology, creating a platform for meaningful global dialogue and knowledge-sharing in biotechnology. The university also facilitates initiatives like the Sakura Exchange Program, allowing students from the Institute of Forestry and Environmental Science to participate in a training program at Nara Women's University in Japan. These programs underscore CU's commitment to broadening the global perspective of its students and faculty.

Beyond academia, CU plays a crucial role in government policymaking. Faculty members provide expert advice on critical issues, including climate policy, refugee challenges, and law

enforcement, thereby contributing to national initiatives such as the reporting of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Bangladesh. The university's collaboration with government departments on numerous funded research projects solidifies its influential role in shaping policy and driving sustainable development. CU places great emphasis on community and civil society engagement. The university collaborates with local NGOs and community groups to drive sustainable development projects, such as its Autism and Disability Research Group, which actively partners with Proyash Chattogram—an organization committed to supporting individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

CU also spearheads public awareness campaigns on pressing environmental issues, celebrating events like World Ocean Day, Fisheries Day, and World River Day to inspire community participation in sustainability initiatives. Financial partnerships are vital to CU's success in advancing its projects and initiatives. The university collaborates with esteemed organizations like the World Bank through the Bangladesh Computer Council to deliver ICT skill training under the EDGE program. Recently, the university has signed a MoU to make paperless payments of all fees through the mobile financial system.

These partnerships not only mobilize essential resources but also provide valuable training opportunities that enhance the employability and development of students and staff. In its pursuit of excellence and transparency, CU ensures that its activities consistently meet global standards while collaborating with both national and international organizations to report progress effectively. The university remains committed to being a key player in driving impactful initiatives and sustained development within local and global contexts.