

Book launching outline_V3, 15.07.2026	<i>Sphere Handbook 2018, Bangla version launching event. Name mentioned here does not mean, he / she is confirmed, unless it is written (confirmed)</i>
Event Title	Strengthening humanitarian action through quality & accountability Sphere Handbook 2018 Bangla edition unveiling and launch ceremony
Venue	CIRDAP Auditorium, 17 Topkhana Road, Dhaka 1000.
Dates and Time	25 July, 2026. 10:h30 to 13h00.
Organized by	Sphere Community Bangladesh (SCB) In cooperation with COAST Foundation (www.cooastbd.net). Note: Sphere Community Bangladesh (SCB) initiated in 2012. The SCB Secretariat was first held voluntarily by IFRC, then by CARE, BRAC, Islamic Relief, again by IFRC, and now COAST Foundation is carrying over the secretariat for 2025- 2026. Plan International Bangladesh will act for the next two-year tenure (2027-2028). SCB serves as a platform for local, national, and international NGOs and UN agencies. Its mission is to uphold and promote Sphere principles and standards, fostering quality and accountability in humanitarian responses. SCB members collaborate to share knowledge, address gaps in humanitarian aid, and identify solutions for timely and effective responses as a collective.
Background	Evolution of Sphere Handbook The Sphere project was initiated in 1997 and Sphere Handbook was first published in 2000 following lessons learned from humanitarian responses in the 1990s. It has since been revised in 2004, 2011, and 2018 to reflect evolving humanitarian challenges and global best practices. The 2018 edition strengthens commitments to quality, accountability, protection, participation, and localization while aligning with the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and other key humanitarian frameworks. Why the Bangla Edition? The Bangla edition of the Sphere Handbook aims to make internationally recognized humanitarian standards more accessible to humanitarian practitioners, government officials, volunteers, students, and local communities in Bangladesh. By removing language barriers, it will promote wider understanding and application of the Sphere standards, strengthen the capacity of local and national actors, and support more accountable, inclusive, and high-quality humanitarian action across the country. SCB's Bangla translation journey The initial Bangla translation of the Sphere Handbook was undertaken by the Bangladesh WASH Cluster, Food Security Cluster, Shelter Cluster, and Health Cluster. With support from COAST Foundation, the Foundation for Disaster Forum took responsibility for the comprehensive review of the translation. This process included field-level consultation workshops, a national final validation workshop, professional proofreading, and the printing of the Bangla edition. To strengthen the quality and accuracy of the translation, four field-level consultation workshops were organized in: Khulna – WASH, Gaibandha – Health, Shariatpur – Shelter and Cox's Bazar – Food Security and Nutrition. These workshops brought together humanitarian practitioners and sector specialists to review the translated content, identify technical issues, and ensure that the language was accurate, practical, and easy to understand. During the field-testing sessions, sector experts also actively participated in detailed discussions on the translation of specific words, phrases, sentences, and technical terminology. Based on the recommendations and feedback received during these consultations, the translation was revised and further improved. Following the field-level consultations, a national final validation workshop was held in Dhaka to review and validate all chapters before publication. In addition, the entire manuscript was

	professionally proofread by an experienced editor from Prothom Alo to ensure linguistic quality and consistency. The field-level consultation workshops were jointly supported by Rupantar, Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK), SDS, and COAST Foundation.
Objectives	1. Promote wider understanding and application of the Sphere standards to strengthen quality and accountability in humanitarian action. 2. Encourage government agencies, UN organizations, NGOs, academia, and development partners to adopt and use the Bangla edition in their humanitarian work and capacity-building initiatives. 3. Foster collaboration to expand orientation, training, and institutional use of the Bangla Sphere Handbook across Bangladesh. 4. Recognize the contributions of organizations and individuals involved in the translation, review, and publication process.
Chair	Gawher Nayeem Wahra, Member Secretary, Disaster Forum.
Chief Guest	Mr. Asadul Habib Dulu (MP), Honourable Minister for Disaster Management and Relief, Government of Bangladesh.
Special Guests	1. Ms. Carol Flore-Smrecznia, the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC), Bangladesh. 2. Mr. Rezwanor Rahman, Honourable DG, Department of Disaster Management. 3. Mr. Netai Chandra De Sarkar, Director (MIM), Directorate of Disaster Management.
Panel speakers	1. Cluster: Food Security, Bangladesh: Mr. M. Mainul Hossain Rony, Cluster Coordinator; 2. Cluster: Health, Bangladesh: Mr. Md. Zahid Rahim; Cluster Coordinator; 3. Cluster: Shelter, Bangladesh: Mr. Zahirul Alam, Cluster Coordinator; 4. Cluster: WASH, Bangladesh: Mst. Saleha Khatun, Cluster Coordinator; 5. Focal person from previous SCB secretariat- (1): Mr. Mehedi Hasan Shishir, Manager- Cash & Livelihood, IFRC; 6. Focal person from previous SCB secretariat- (2): Mr. Moyeen Uddin Ahmed, Program Coordinator, Humanitarian & Resilient Futures Program of CARE Bangladesh. Also, former SCB Focal person at BRAC; 7. Representative from next SCB secretariat- (3): Ms. Kobita Bose, Country Director, Plan International Bangladesh; 8. Contributor: Mr. Shashanka Saadi, Disaster Risk Mgt. & Resilience Expert;
Speakers from Global Sphere and Practitioners	1. William Anderson/ Tristan Hale/ Zunaira Shams, Sphere Secretariat, Geneva; 2. Tooba Siddiqi, Regional Sphere Focal in Asia/ CWSA; 3. Takeshi Komino, Chair of Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN)/ Rita Thakuri, Network Coordinator, ADRRN;
Honourable Guest Participants/SCB Members	1. Action Aid Bangladesh: Mr. Md. Abdul Alim, Director; 2. Aid Cumilla: Mr. Shamim Azaz Shuvo, Manager, Operations; 3. Barokupot Ganochetona Foundation: Mr. Shibu Prasad Baidya, CEO; 4. BDRCS: Mr. Md. Joynal Abedin, Director, Disaster Response Department; and Mr. Shahinur Rahman, Assistant Director & Cash Focal. 5. BRAC: Mr. Farhad Hasan and Ratan Sarker; 6. CARE: Mr. Kaiser Rejvi, Humanitarian director; 7. Caritas Bangladesh: Mr. Daud Jibon Das, Executive Director; 8. CCDB: Ms. Juliet Keya Malakar, Executive Director; 9. Christian Aid: Ms. Shahana Hayat, Humanitarian Lead Asia; and Mr. Md. Shamsuzzaman, Emergency Coordinator; 10. CNRS: Mr. Avijit Paul, MEAL Specialist & Mr. Nadim Hossain Ador, Program Manager;

11. **Dhaka Ahsania Mission:** Mr. K M Zahiduzzaman, ED (Program); and Mr. Md. Jahangir Alam, Joint Director, CC & DRR and Rights & Governance Sector.
12. **Disaster Forum:** Ms. Meherun Nesa Jhumur, Coordinator.
13. **Educo:** Mr. Kazi Abdul Kadir, Manager-DRM & CC; and Mr. Abdur Rahman, Director of Program.
14. **ESDO:** Mr. Dr. Md. Shahid Uz Zaman, Executive Director; Mr. Mosheur Rahman, Head;
15. **Friendship:** Mr. Farid Ahmed Sagar, Assistant Director-Climate Action;
16. **GUK:** Mr. Abdus Salam, Founder & CEO;
17. **Islamic Relief Bangladesh:** Mr. Talha Jamal, Country Director; and Mr. Dr. Md. Ikram Hossain Bhuiyan, Project Coordinator;
18. **IFRC:** Mr. Alberto Bocanegra, Head of Country;
19. **Insights:** Mr. Sumon Ahsanul Islam, Advisor;
20. **Jago Nari:** Mr. Duke Ibn Amin, Director;
21. **IRC:** Ms. Hasina Rahman, Country Director;
22. **Jagrata Juba Shangha:** Mr. ATM Zakir Hossain, Executive Director;
23. **Muslim Aid:** Muhsin Siddiquey, Country Director;
24. **NAHAB:** Mr. Md. Roushon Ali, Coordinator;
25. **NDP:** Mr. Abdus Sobhan, Advisor;
26. **NGO Forum:** Mr. Tarikul Islam, Head of Programme;
27. **NIRAPAD:** Mr. Rashedul Hasan, Director; and Md. Ariful Islam;
28. **NSS:** Mr. Shahabuddin Panna, Executive Director; and Shahidul Islam, Director;
29. **NAWG:** Mr. Md. Fuad Ur Rabbi, Coordinator (Confirmed);
30. **Oxfam:** Mr. Fedrick Suvro Nath, Local Humanitarian Partnership Specialist; and Mr. Md. Atwar Hossain, Head of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Resilience;
31. **Plan International Bangladesh:** Mostafa Kamal Zakir (Director of Humanitarian Action and Resilience);
32. **Practical Action:** Ms. Tamanna Rahman, Climate Resilience Thematic Lead;
33. **Rupantor:** Mr. Swapan Kumar Guha; and Mr. Rafiqul Islam Khokan, Founder and Executive Director;
34. **Sangram:** Mr. Chowdhury Munir Hossain M. Yousuf, Sr. Director;
35. **Save the Children:** Mr. Mostak Hussain, Director;
36. **SDS:** Ms. Rabeya Begum, Executive Director; Mr. Mujibur Rahman, Founder;
37. **Shobujer Ovijan Foundation:** Ms. Mahmuda Begum, Executive Director;
38. **SKS Foundation:** Mr. Rasel Ahmed Liton, CEO;
39. **Start Bangladesh:** Mr. Shofiul Alam, Country Manager;
40. **Tearfund:** Mr. Clarence Sutharshan, Country Director;
41. **The Salvation Army Bangladesh:** Ms. Jessica Warkentin, Territorial Development Officer;
42. **United Purpose:** Mr. Masud Rana, Head of DRR;
43. **WVI:** Mr. Dulon Joseph Gomes, Director; and Ms. Rahat Ara, Humanitarian Manager;
44. **IOM:** Dr. Laura Nicole Tomm-Bonde, Chief of Mission for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Bangladesh;
45. **UNHCR:** Mr. Ivo Freijsen, UNHCR Representative in Bangladesh;
46. **UNICEF:** Ms. Rana Flowers, UNICEF Representative to Bangladesh;
47. **USAID:** Mr. Shafiqur Rahman, Project Management Specialist;
48. **WFP:** , Jesse Wood, Head of Program;
49. **WHH:** Mr. Jonas Wiahl, Country Director;/ Octavian Saikat Sarker of Welthungerhilfe (WHH) in Bangladesh;

Individual Humanitarian expert:

50. Mr. Abdul Latif Khan;
51. Mr. Aminul Kawser Dipu;
52. Mr. Dipu Mahmud;
53. Doctor Rezaul Haque;
54. Mr. Jafar Iqbal, American Redcross;
55. Mr. Kazi Shahidur Rahman;

	56. Mr. Kazi Monir Mosharof; 57. Mr. M A Halim, Former Director, BDRCS;
Presentation and moderation	Md. Iqbal Uddin, focal of Sphere Community Bangladesh and Joint Director, COAST Foundation.
Methodology for the Dialogue	1. After welcoming everyone, the Chair and the Moderator will set the ground roles; ie, speech should be brief and dignity to all and as much as possible to avoid duplication, maintain time discipline. 2. Presentation of a video of Sphere Handbook 2018 Bangla translation journey (4 min). 3. After the keynote presentations, there will be space for honorable guests, and there will also be invitation for intervention from floor. For each of the guest, time will be 3 to 4 minutes, and for the participants who will be invited each will get 1 to 2 minutes. 4. The Chair will give summary and conclusion on the session.
Translation	Simultaneous Bangla and English facilitation will be provided.
Dissemination of the Dialogue	1. Press release both in English and Bangla will be given to local, national, and international media by the next 3 hours of the event held. The press release will also be published in our website www.coastbd.net 2. A short video document of the event will be prepared and shared in COAST's social media platform.
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