



## Terms of reference (TOR) Just Energy Transition Media Fellowship

### Overview:

Despite being a climate-vulnerable country, Bangladesh's share in the global readymade garment trade has more than tripled in the past 17 years as the country cemented its position as one of the largest suppliers internationally. In 2005, the country's share was 2.5 percent of the total market, but it rocketed to 7.9 percent last year<sup>1</sup>. It's also the biggest contributor with 4.2 million of the workforce and ensures 81% of total export earnings of the industrial sector which is 14.07% of the total GDP. RMG industries are one of the key reasons behind the fastest-growing economy of Bangladesh. On the other hand, with all praise, RMG industries have a direct relation with the climate change effect of this country. Being one of the most climate-vulnerable countries, Bangladesh has already been affected by more than 200 natural disasters over the last three decades. Alongside natural disasters, although not significant, carbon emissions are another concern for climate change, which has the biggest share by RMG industries in Bangladesh. The operational modalities for running the RMG industry cost massive to the environment, leading to a dependency on the national grid (which is 97% dirty energy). However, the government is willing to promote renewable energies (and it is doing it for many sectors already). According to this, Bangladesh adopted a perspective plan 2021-41 that works as a framework for the development investments of the government. The plan clearly indicates the aspiration to achieve 65,000 MWs capacity of energy to support the industrialization process where, unfortunately, the contribution of renewables is quite low and is only 3% now. Targeting to reduce carbon emissions, Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) signed the UN Fashion Charter and committed to cutting 30% of emissions from the respective sector by 2030, but the progress is not within the planned course. As a result, RMG industries in Bangladesh may lose their business potential if they can't comply with their international buyer's targeted emission cut by 2030, which will lead, 4.2 million of the labour force at risk of losing their job and accelerate inequalities and may trigger the human rights violation.

Keeping this aspect in mind, Oxfam in Bangladesh under its Climate Justice and Natural Resource Rights portfolio, is going to introduce a media fellowship by collaborating with mainstream print, electronic and online media houses aiming to grow public awareness about the just aspect of climate resilience and decarbonization process. Oxfam believes the climate justice movement in Bangladesh needs to move forward with a strong public narrative focusing on climate inequalities.

One of the key objectives of the fellowship is to explore the opportunity together with national media to improve the capacity of climate activists working inside the media so that

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<sup>1</sup> [World Trade Statistical Review 2023](#)



they can contribute effectively to building a strong public narrative against the inequality part of the decarbonization process at the country and global level. That effort will greatly contribute to the CSO movement on Just Energy Transition in Bangladesh and support the decarbonization process mentioned in the Bangladesh NDC plan from the targeted sectors including the energy and industry sectors.

### **About the Fellowship:**

Although climate justice issues are widely discussed in the Bangladeshi media still there are some areas where journalism has space to be critical, particularly in the inequality and justice part of the climate action. Oxfam believes there is a lot of injustice inside the conventional climate action works where media can play a catalyst role to change the public narrative. The Renewable energy transition is a classic example of the Bangladesh case where most of the spotlight is on technology transformation ignoring the rights prospects of the vulnerable groups.

The fellowship will be awarded to **five (5) journalists from** (02 National Newspapers, 02 from National Television Channels and 01 from Online News Portals) aiming to get more visibility in terms of the wide range of audiences including policymakers, owner groups, workers and other relevant stakeholders. Selected Journalists will be given necessary trainings, mentorship sessions, relevant data and other supports.

### **Key Objectives:**

- To portray the true scenario and progress of a just energy transition in the industrial setting at the country level through evidence-based analytical reports.
- To explore the critical part of the technology transformation process at the targeted industries where human rights aspects are being negotiated and raise voices against those inequalities.
- To create discussion among policymakers, industry owners, workers, trade unions and other stakeholders about how the progress can be boosted up by securing the rights of vulnerable groups of the RMG sector.
- To boost advocacy on how the energy transition and decarbonization process can be just and ensure the rights of climate-vulnerable groups.
- To emphasize in building a public narrative on Just Transition that can equally value human rights and social justice parallel to the technological advancement.

### **Scope of Work:**

- The selected fellow will prepare an initial concept of his/her interest to explore climate inequalities within the targeted RMG industry and submit his learning proposal to Oxfam with prior approval from his/her newsroom editor.



- Selected Fellows will be accepted for the foundation training and advanced training under the Just Energy Transition Media Fellowship Programme and receive mentorship support during the fellowship tenure.
- Preparation of a story plan and submit it to Oxfam and the mentor with prior approval from the newsroom editor after the foundation training and submit the final story after one month of the advanced training with the prior approval of his/their mentor and the newsroom editor.

#### **Deliverables:**

- Each fellow will participate in mandatory foundation and advanced training and line up at least one report that will be submitted to Oxfam and a designated media house for publication.
- For Newspaper and Online Portals, it should be treated as a special report by name and for TV, it must be a package story.
- For newspapers, reports must be published both in print and online versions.
- Fellows must submit photos, hand notes, consent papers, audio records, video footage and other documentation-related materials.

#### **Timeline:**

The duration of this fellowship is 6 months. All rights regarding the timeline are reserved for Oxfam in Bangladesh. Any changes will be based on discussion among candidates' evaluation by the Oxfam in Bangladesh Authority.

#### **Eligibility of the Candidates:**

- Journalists working in mainstreamed Daily Newspapers, Television Channels and Online Media Portals and with a minimum 02-05 years of full-time reporting experience.
- He/ She will be nominated by their respective media houses as per the nomination form.
- Prior Experience in reporting on Renewable Energy/Sustainable Environment/Climate Change is a must.

#### **Application Procedure/ How to Apply:**

- Applicants submit their brief resume/CV with recent photographs.
- A detailed concept/proposal in a maximum of 1000 words should be submitted with the application form that would be approved by the newsroom editor of the respective media house. ***The nomination letter signed by the Editor/Chief Reporter/Head of News also must be included with the proposal as a single file.*** Applicants will submit at least 05 previous reports related to Renewable Energy/Sustainable Environment/Climate Change with links in the proposal part.



- *This is a re-advertisement, please don't apply, those who already applied.*

**Selection Process:**

Applicants will primarily be selected by the respective media outlets, and it will be finalized based on the evaluation and interviews of all the information and proposal plans provided by the candidates by the Oxfam Selection Panel.

**Budget:**

Each fellow will be paid 70,000 BDT (including VAT/TAX) as the cost of his/her fieldwork for his story preparation and documentation.

[Note: Fellows must take prior consent in taking photos, audio records, video footage and other related documentation materials and submit written proofs of them to the designated Oxfam official along with collected data under the fellowship programme. Also, they will comply with Oxfam's mandatory data protection policy and child protection policy while working under the fellowship programme.]

***Our values and commitment to safeguarding:***

***Oxfam is committed to preventing any type of unwanted behavior at work including sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse, lack of integrity and financial misconduct; and committed to promoting the welfare of children, young people, adults and beneficiaries with whom Oxfam GB engages. Oxfam expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment through our code of conduct. We place a high priority on ensuring that only those who share and demonstrate our values are recruited to work for us.***

The post holder will undertake the appropriate level of training and is responsible for ensuring that they understand and work within the safeguarding policies of the organisation. All offers of employment will be subject to satisfactory references and appropriate screening checks, which can include criminal records and terrorism finance checks.