



FINAL REPORT

UNWTO/Chimelong Initiative

Capacity Building Workshop for Public Officials on Wildlife Conservation and Sustainable
Tourism in Bangladesh



11 January 2018

Dhaka, Bangladesh

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Achieving Sustainable Development Goals through Sustainable Tourism with particular Reference to Wildlife Conservation: Ways and Means

1. Introduction

Tourism, being the third largest industry in the world, is contributing a lot to the national economies of many countries in the world. The development of tourism should ensure long-term economic, social, and environmental benefits to make this sector sustainable. Tourism is expanding in many interesting areas including wilderness areas. Visitors are drawn to wild animals and want to be more familiar with the wild flora, biodiversity and ecosystem.

Wildlife means any vertebrate creature, other than human beings and animals of usually domestic species or fish, and includes eggs of birds and reptiles. Wildlife can be used as a tourism product, thus proper protection of wildlife is of utmost importance for the sustainability of tourism. Wildlife conservation is the practice of protecting wild plant and animal species along with their habitats. It can also enhance linkages among tourism businesses, communities and tourists, which ultimately helps sustainable tourism development and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

Wildlife conservation can be associated with sustainable tourism practices which should involve all stakeholders such as tourism businesses, local communities, governments and/or other public entities and tourists.

A capacity building workshop has been organized by the Bangladesh Tourism Board with the support of the UNWTO/Chimelong Initiative for tourism stakeholders of the public sector on the 11 January 2018. The aim of this workshop was to provide an insight on how to enhance human capital and stakeholders' involvement (public and private sector, local communities and tourists) in the areas of wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism.

2. The Program and Delegates

See appendix 1 – [Programme of the Workshop](#)

The workshop was attended by delegates from sixteen government office (thirty in numbers).

See appendix 2 – [The delegates](#)

3. Objective of the Capacity Building Workshop

Tourism has the potential to contribute, directly or indirectly, to all the Sustainable Development Goals. As such, the focus of this paper is to explore how Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs) can be achieved through sustainable tourism with particular reference to wildlife conservation in Bangladesh. It also focuses on how to enhance the human capital in the field of sustainable tourism and wildlife conservation.

The objectives of this workshop have been framed based on the requirements of UNWTO/Chimelong initiative on “Capacity Building Workshop for Public Officials on Wildlife Conservation and Sustainable Tourism in Asia and Pacific”. As such, the key objectives of this initiative are as follow:

1. To understand the current status of wildlife conservation in Bangladesh;
2. To raise awareness on the importance of wildlife conservation in sustainable tourism development amongst public tourism stakeholders;
3. To exchange knowledge and identify the challenges in wildlife tourism development;
4. To address and discuss important issues on policy making regarding wildlife tourism
5. To identify important managerial implications and recommendations for sustainable tourism development through wildlife conservation and thus achieve Sustainable Development Goals; and
6. To share best practices of wildlife tourism in Asia and the Pacific

4. Resources

All of the resources coming out of the workshop have been made available – Including:

- Presentations of the Delegates
- Keynote paper
- Photos of the workshop

5. Tourism Perspective and Wildlife Conservation in Bangladesh

Bangladesh Tourism industry has to reach its optimum position to ensure a handful number of employment opportunities, to earn a significant amount of foreign currency and to contribute to the national economy of the country. But the industry has not been able to achieve its goals due to socio-economic and political practices in the country. Tourism and Travel generates 10.2% of the world GDP, whereas it represents only 2.1% of the Bangladeshi GDP. A total of 10% Global employment is generated by tourism and the travel sector. But in Bangladesh, only 1.30 million people are involved in this sector. During 2016, a total of 1.235 billion tourists visited our country throughout the world. On the other hand, a number of 643,094 foreigners visited Bangladesh during 2015. But, in 2016, about 9.8 million domestic tourists visited different destinations in the country. The government plans to attract 1 million foreign tourists by 2018. The Industrial Policy of 1999 has included a tourism as a thrust sector. The Tourism Policy of 1992 has been revised in 2010.

Wildlife conservation is the attempt to protect endangered animal and plant species, along with their natural habitat. The main objective is to make sure that their habitats will be preserved so that future

generations of both wildlife and human can benefit from it. Controlled tourism helps conserve sensitive areas and wildlife and their habitats through its activities. Well managed tourism practices could play a catalyst role for wildlife conservation in sensitive areas.

If wildlife tourism is properly managed and its expansion controlled, it could help ensure sustainable form of tourism in terms of long-term economic benefits at the local and national level, community involvement and support for wildlife. Thus, wildlife conservation is an inherent part of sustainable tourism.

Sustainable wildlife tourism practices result in economic benefits to local people, enhancement of their well-being and improvement of human capital. It also encourages private operators to adhere to corporate social responsibility by encouraging cautious use of wildlife and other natural resources. Here, public policy actions, government intervention and awareness programmes of public and private stakeholders will play a significant role in the synergy of wildlife management and the development of sustainable tourism practices.

Wildlife tourism mainly takes place in protected natural areas, like national parks and biodiversity conservation sites. The huge variety of wildlife from insects to tigers and the variety of trees from small mushrooms to giant banyan trees are referred to as biodiversity. It relies on diverse ecosystems. Tourists tend to show a keen interest to observe biodiversity and visit different ecosystems.

6. Challenges in Wildlife Tourism Development

Uncontrolled tourism brings damaging effects on nature, society and culture, especially in its extensive development. Large number of visitor's arrivals to protected areas may disturb local wildlife's environment and have negative impacts on their behaviour such as littering damages to vegetation, creating traffic congestion and degrading environmental standards and biodiversity.

A majority of animals in the wild setting are afraid of human being and so they usually stay away at a safe distance. There have been numerous occurrences in the past when wild animals have been jumped on, shoot at, rammed, grabbed and injured by people for the sake of tourism. As such, many experts argue that the exploitation of wildlife for human entertainment and enjoyment is not always right.

Though several areas are protected under law, a large portion of the Bangladeshi wildlife is threatened due to the growth of population, deforestation and overfishing. As such, the pressure on wildlife and its environment is too high. This leads to the shrinking of the habitats of many species. Ultimately, damages caused to wildlife leads to the exhaustion of biodiversity, natural imbalance and threats to the overall environment.

Many wildlife species have already disappeared from the ecosystem and a further 201 species are endangered and likely to disappear within the next few decades. Endangered animals are animals

whose numbers have decreased due to either natural causes or human intervention. The Bangladeshi tourism sector is developing in an unplanned and unsustainable manner because of the lack of specific strategic planning. As such, it is important to introduce specific national strategy or directive pertaining to sustainable tourism development in Bangladesh.

7. Policy Issues for Wildlife Tourism and Sustainable Tourism Development

A discussion session was organized to identify important issues on policy making about wildlife tourism and important managerial implications and recommendations for sustainable tourism development through wildlife conservation and thus achieve Sustainable Development Goals.

Following five thematic areas have been identified for further discussion:

7.1 Sustainable Tourism through Wildlife Conservation and Achievement of SDGs

According to UN Secretary General, Mr. António Guterres, harnessing tourism's benefits will be critical for achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and implementing the post-2015 development agenda. Sustainable tourism is playing an important role in identifying the ways of securing positive benefits as well as in imposing regulation and control mechanism. The tourism industry should be encouraged to develop 'clean and green' practices in order to ensure the reduction of environmental impacts of their operations and thus achieve the commitments stated by the SDGs. There are seventeen Sustainable Development Goals. The achievement of three of these goals is directly related to tourism activities in the destination. *(These include (nos. 8, 12 & 14) decent work and sustainable economic growth; sustainable consumption and production; and sustainable use of oceans and marine resources)*. Nevertheless, other goals are also indirectly dependent upon the development and operation of tourism activities in a destination such as Goal 1 (ending poverty in all its forms) or Goal 5 (Achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls).

Goal 8 intends to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. Tourism works as a driving force for global economic growth since it currently provides 8.9% of the world jobs. By providing decent work opportunities in the tourism sector, society – particularly youth and women – can benefit from enhanced skills and professional development. Goal 12 attempts to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. Thus tourism can contribute to sustainable development significantly. The Sustainable Tourism Program creates jobs, promotes local culture and products which ultimately ensures Sustainable Production and Consumption Patterns.

As for Goal 14, sustainable tourism can again sustainably conserve and use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. Coastal and maritime tourism, tourism's biggest segment, particularly for Small Island States, rely on healthy marine ecosystems. Tourism development there must conserve and preserve fragile marine ecosystems and serve as a vehicle to promote a blue economy. Here, it is also relevant to highlight Goal 15, which attempts to

protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystem, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt land degradation and hinder biodiversity loss. All the aforementioned Sustainable Development Goals could be applied to sustainable tourism and wildlife conservation.

Recommendations on the Issue

The workshop participants have considered the following actors as the stakeholder of sustainable tourism in Bangladesh:

Public authority

- Bangladesh Tourism board
- Bangladesh Forest Department
- Directorate of Environment
- Chittagong Hill Tract Development Board /authority
- Bangladesh Wetland development department

Three main ways have been identified as the goal for sustainable tourism development:

- a. Setting Sustainable Tourism in the National Development Strategy,
- b. Designign a holistic Plan to implement the Policy,
- c. Identifying the specific roles of the public and private stakeholders

A set of recommendations has been put forward for wildlife conservation and tourism based on the SDGs:

- Eco-tourism should be highlighted in the National Tourism Policy,
- Central Planning aligned with the SDGs to implement the policy,
- Identify the respective roles and responsibilities of concerned departments and ministries and ensure coordination implementation,
- Capacity building for Public Officials,
- Development of a code of conduct and its related regulation

Awareness programme on wildlife protection and tourism needs to be implemented. The following actions could be undertaken in that regard:

- Audio-visual campaign to promote wildlife conservation and code of conducts;
- Workshop/Seminar to increase awareness;
- Social media awareness about conservation;
- Onsite promotion at certain distance of protected areas;
- Skill and capacity building of Management Authority;
- CSR from private entrepreneur to support the mission; and
- Community people trained on conservation and entrepreneurship development.

7.2 Role of Local Government, Community and Public Servants for Sustainable Tourism Development through Wildlife Conservation

Community leaders, local governments and local stakeholders are being more and more conscious about the importance of creating tourism products which aim to preserve the environment, maintain local culture and share tourism revenues with the local communities. In that regard, it is important to set strategies and action plans to interlink wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism development. Imposing responsibility and authority, a Wildlife Conservation and Development committee including experts from the public and private sectors (such as business stakeholders and community leaders) can be formed. The committee should review the facts and figures of both subjective and objective conditions of each individual destination with the purpose to foster economic benefits by using the ideas of wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism.

The holistic approach that would be taken by the committee for this purpose should be implemented with a view to achieving the SDGs.

Furthermore, the involvement of local communities is important to ensure a solid foundation for the development of sustainable tourism. Even in small remote communities wildlife-based tourism can create a significant impact. Capacity building training for them is essential to fully understand the management of wildlife conservation through sustainable tourism development. They will then be able to preserve wildlife successfully and provide the future generation of tourists with the necessary quality of service and interpretation to create sustainable tourism practices and achieve the SDGs.

Recommendations on the Issue

- Identification of existing resources (Wildlife, wetland etc.),
- Delimitation of the Carrying Capacity and demarcation of core zone and buffer zone,
- Awareness building on the resources,
- Formulation of Code of Conduct (if nonexistent),
- Circulation of common rules, regulations and acts using community means,
- Ensure financial support for local communities for a sustainable development,
- Development of local human resources through training.

7.3 Conservation of the Royal Bengal Tiger, Spotted Deer and Dolphins

The preliminary results of the tiger census sends us an alarming message - we have only 106 Royal Bengal Tigers (*Panthera Tigris*) left in the Sundarbans, whereas their number reached 440 eleven years ago. Tigers are threatened in Bangladesh by direct loss, prey depletion, habitat degradation and adverse impact of climate change. Bangladesh suffers high levels of tiger-human conflict, manifested in human killing, livestock depredation and the retribution killings of tigers by local people. The Bengal Tiger is listed as globally endangered: nevertheless, it is

considered as critically endangered in Bangladesh. One another note, few people in the Sundarbans areas are also involved in the killing and the trading of the spotted deer: yet another practice that should be stopped immediately.

As such, the conservation and management of forest and wild animals are vital in terms of economic, environmental and social aspects. More specifically, the Bangladesh Tiger Action Plan (BTAP) marks the beginning of a structured approach to achieve long-term conservation of tigers in Bangladesh. The main goal of BTAP Of 2009-2017 is to stabilize or increase the Sundarbans tiger population

Recommendations on the Issue

Conservation of wild animals including Bengal Tiger is very important since they maintain the ecological balance. Moreover, the Bengal Tiger is a renowned flagship species of the Bangladesh Sundarbans, an habitat with a rich biodiversity which could also benefit from relevant conservation regulations.

Here are the following opportunities that have been identified for the conservation of the Bengal Tiger through tourism practices:

- Ensuring sustainable tourist attractions,
- Enhancing economic growth,
- Generating employment opportunities,
- Foster investment,
- Bangladesh is member of the Global Tiger Forum,
- Bangladesh and India signed protocol on Tiger Conservation,
- UNESCO declared Sundarbans a World Heritage Site for its unique habitat.

As opposed to opportunities tourism may also bring challenges in conservation and on-site management:

- Degradation of the Tiger's habitat,
- Control of irresponsible behavior of tourists/tour operators/local people,
- Increase of water pollution/soil pollution/sound pollution reduce reproduction capacity of wild animals,
- Increased presence of unknown pathogens brought on by visitors that could affect tigers and other wild animal
- Presence of poachers considered as tourists in the Sundarbans.

The way forward to face these challenges:

- Specific guidelines for responsible tourism needs to be drafted,
- A Code of conduct for tourists/tour operators is essential,
- Identification of specific areas where visitors will have restricted access,
- Creation of awareness program for tour operators, transport providers and the local

- community,
- Design of a mass awareness programme to be conducted through social, electronic and printed media.

7.4 Raising Awareness of the People, Stakeholders and Tourists

Raising awareness on wildlife conservation amongst all tourism stakeholders is primordial.

Awareness programs ran by the public and private sectors, NGOs and operators will help educate said stakeholders and thus encourage them to participate in conservation initiatives. As such, taking measures to increase local people's and tourists' awareness on the importance of wildlife conservation for endangered species is particularly important to facilitate sustainable tourism development.

Governments should undertake awareness programmes to educate the general public as to how wildlife can help enhance economic, social and environmental benefits to the society. It is also recommended to include contents in the school curriculum and thus educate students about the importance of wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism.

Recommendations on the Issue

Local communities are important stakeholders that need to be involved in wildlife conservation through sustainable tourism practices: they should be encouraged to play an active role through appropriate dissemination of information and training (e.g. ecological monitoring).

Specific suggestions are put forward on different areas:

Curriculum Development on wildlife conservation:

- Identification of specific areas in the current educational curriculum relevant to include wildlife conservation,
- Incorporate the relevant concepts related to wildlife in the national curriculum (e.g. highlighting the importance of the food chain)

Mass awareness on wildlife conservation:

- Draft specific guidelines on wildlife conservation for tourists.

Media awareness on wildlife conservation:

- Use of social media, Print media and electronic media,
- Introduce nature club for children,
- Creation of a cluster wise Stakeholder awareness programme.

Ecosystem Management:

- Collaboration with GOs and NGOs,
- Valuation of ecosystem services,
- Assessment of the carrying capacity/ ecosystem foot print,
- Involvement of policy makers.

Indigenous knowledge:

- Conservation and dissemination of Indigenous technology in the field of wildlife conservation and tourism development.

Laws and Policies:

- Involvement of local elites and politicians in wildlife conservation,
- Raising awareness about landscape management,
- Controlled entrance in Protected Areas (PA), Ecological Critical Areas (ECAs) and all the sanctuaries,
- Development of relevant wildlife conservation knowledge of journalism specialised in tourism,
- Compilation, dissemination and implementation of all the Laws related to wildlife conservation.

Livelihood:

- Encourage local people to get involved in tourism related and alternative livelihood.

Eco-friendly tourism facilities development:

- Food safety and lodging,
- Safe transport,
- Educate tour operator.

Others:

- Creation of a reward programme for local conservationist,
- Enhancement of environmental connectivity,
- Fostering more applied research,
- Dissemination of video clips and thematic movies related to conservation,
- Advocacy of integrity and honesty from wildlife tourism stakeholders,
- Ensuring proper hygienic facilities,
- Development of awareness materials : Banner, Bill board etc.,
- Development of E-tourism to tackle wildlife tourism and conservation issues.

7.5 Strengthening Public-Public and Public-Private Partnership for Capacity Building of Public Servants and Stakeholders to Achieve SDGs through Wildlife Conservation and Sustainable Tourism Development

Private sector initiatives are necessary in the conservation of wildlife and the development of sustainable tourism. As such, the involvement in operation and consultation in strategy formulation for wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism development should be prioritized. The participation of public institutions in the development and monitoring of sustainable tourism through wildlife conservation is also essential. Institutional pressures can be seen as a key driving force in

stimulating the adoption of environmental legislation and wildlife conservation. In addition, initiatives through Public Private Partnership should also be considered to address the issue of wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism development.

The Forest Department of the Government of Bangladesh is responsible for the preservation, conservation and management of wildlife in the country. The Bangladesh tourism Board has the responsibility of monitoring tourism perspectives. As such, proper and specific training programmes should be developed for the public servants working with different government agencies for better understanding of sustainable management of wildlife tourism and achievement of SDGs. Partnerships or synergies amongst tourism related public departments created under the scope of wildlife conservation efforts could develop favourable schemes for the implementation of sustainable tourism practices.

Recommendations on the Issue

To strengthen public-public partnership an emphasis should be made on:

- Raising awareness among the relevant stakeholders,
- Improving exchange of knowledge regarding wildlife conservation,
- Engaging the public sector on policy level regarding wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism practices,
- Developing policies identifying specific policies and code of conduct for each stakeholder involved in wildlife conservation,
- Creating new laws/ legislations in favor of partnerships and synergies related to wildlife conservation and sustainable tourism practices.

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Programme of the Workshop

Achieving Sustainable Development Goals through Sustainable Tourism with particular Reference to Wildlife Conservation: Ways and Means

11 January 2018
Dhaka, Bangladesh

- 09.00 - 09.30** Registration
- 09.30 - 10.00** **Inauguration Ceremony**
Welcome Speech by Dr. Md. Nasir Uddin, Chief Executive Officer (Additional Secretary), Bangladesh Tourism Board and Program Adviser
Speech by Special Guest, Mr. S. M. Ghulam Farooque, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Bangladesh
Speech by Hon. Chief Guest, H E Mr. A K M Shahjahan Kamal, MP, Minister, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Bangladesh
- 10.00 - 10.30** Tea/Coffee Break
- 10.30 - 10.45** Key-note Presentation by Dr. Md. Afjal Hossain, Professor, Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, University of Dhaka
Topic: **“Achieving Sustainable Development Goals through Sustainable Tourism with particular Reference to Wildlife Conservation: Ways and Means”**
- 10.45 - 13.00** Group Discussion (5 Groups)
Topics for Group Discussions:
- Group 01: Conservation of Wildlife for Sustainable Tourism Development as a means of achieving SDGs
 - Group 02: Role of the Local Government, Community people and Public Servants for Sustainable Tourism Development through Wildlife Conservation
 - Group 03: Focus on the Conservation of the Royal Bengal Tiger: Opportunities and Challenges
 - Group 04: Raising Awareness of Stakeholders related to Wildlife Conservation and Tourism Development in Bangladesh
 - Group 05: Strengthening Public-Public Partnership and Public-Private Partnership for the Skill Development of the related stakeholders and Development of Tourist attractions based on Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- 13.00 - 14.30** Lunch Break

- 14.30 - 15.30** Group Presentation (5 Groups)
- Group 01: Conservation of Wildlife for Sustainable Tourism Development as a means of achieving SDGs
 - Group 02: Role of the Local Government, Community people and Public Servants for Sustainable Tourism Development through Wildlife Conservation
 - Group 03: Focus on the Conservation of the Royal Bengal Tiger: Opportunities and Challenges
 - Group 04: Raising Awareness of Stakeholders related to Wildlife Conservation and Tourism Development in Bangladesh
 - Group 05: Strengthening Public-Public Partnership and Public-Private Partnership for the Skill Development of the related stakeholders and Development of Tourist attractions based on Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- 15.30 - 16.00** Q/A session on the Group Discussion
- 16.00 - 16.15** Tea/Coffee Break
- 16.15 - 16.45** **Closing Ceremony**
- 16.15 - 16.30** Summary Presentation by the Moderator, Mr. Ishtiaq Ahmad, Ex Country Representative of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Bangladesh Office.
- 16.30 - 16.40** Special Remarks by Mr. Akhtaruz Zaman Khan Kabir, Chairman (Additional Secretary), Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation
- 16.40 - 16.45** Chairperson's Remarks by Mr. Md. Emran, Additional Secretary (Administration & Tourism), Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Bangladesh
- 16.45 - 16.50** Vote of Thanks by Nikhil Ranjan Roy, Director, Bangladesh Tourism Board and Program Coordinator

Appendix 2 – The Delegates

Group 1

- Mr. Ashok Kumar Debnath, Joint Secretary, Blue Economy cell
- A.K. M. Rafiqul Islam, Executive Officer, Bangladesh Tourism Board
- Ms. Shipra Dey, Deputy Manager, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation
- Ms. Shamshad Nowreen, Asst. Professor, THM, DU
- Mr. Kahandakar Mahfuz Alam, Assistant Architect, Dept. of Archaeology
- Mr. Mahbubur Rahman, PRO, MoCAT

Group 2

- Abdullah Al Muneem, Lecturer, Dhaka University
- Tahmida Ahmad, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism
- Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, ULO, Department of Livestock
- Md. Khalid Bin Majid (PTS), Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation
- Jeshan Ahmed, FO, Department of Archeology
- Md. Mazharul Islam, AD, Bangladesh Tourism Board

Group 3

- Mr. Md. Salah Uddin, Director (Education) Bangladesh Bater
- Mr. A.N.M. Mostadud Dastagir, Manager, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation
- Dr. Abu Naser Md. Abdullah, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest
- Mr. Md. Sayedur Rahman, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Dept. of Forest
- Ms. Anjana Khan Mojlish, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism
- Ms. Taharin Touhida, Assistant Director, Bangladesh Tourism Board

Group 4

- Cdr. Sanaul Nomun, Bangladesh Coast Guard
- Mohammad Nazmul Ahasan, Department of Bangladesh Haor and Wetland Development
- AKM Rafiqul Islam, Department of Environment
- Mst. Papia Sultana, Department of Environment
- Mohibul Islam, Bangladesh Tourism Board
- Mohammad Nizam Uddin, Bangladesh Tourism Board

Group 5

- Mohammed Solaiman Haider, Director, Department of Environment
- Quazi Md. Nurul Karim, ACF, Department of Forest

- Nasir Mahmud, Controller, Bangladesh Television
- Mst. Yasmin Khatun, Additional SP, Tourist Police
- Md. Abul Amin, Senior Assistant Secretary Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism
- Md. Burhan Uddin, Assistant Director, Bangladesh Tourism Board

9. Organizing Committee

- Program Adviser: Dr. Md. Nasir Uddin, CEO (Additional Secretary), Bangladesh Tourism Board
- Program Coordinator: Mr. Nikhil Ranjan Roy, Director, Bangladesh Tourism Board
- Key-Note Speaker: Dr. Md. Afjal Hossain, Professor, Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, University of Dhaka
- Convener of the Key-note Paper preparation Committee: Dr. Bhubon Chandra Biswas, Director, Bangladesh Tourism Board
- Moderator: Mr. Ishtiaq Ahmad, Ex Country Representative of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Bangladesh Office.
- Focal Point of the Workshop: Mr. Aktar Ahamed, Deputy Manager, Bangladesh Tourism Board
- Assistant Focal Point of the Workshop: Mr. Fawuzul Kabir Moeen, Assistant Director, Bangladesh Tourism Board.