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## Plastic recycling in Bangladesh

**Nasrin Sultana**

Bangladesh Water Development Board, Bangladesh

Plastic recycling is a livelihood for the marginalized society in Bangladesh. Plastics are cheap, durable and lightweight materials. It meets the domestic demand in Bangladesh as well as some products are exported. The plastic industry has emerged as an important industrial sector in Bangladesh during the last three decades. At present, there are 5000 plastic manufacturing units, 95% of which belong to the Small-Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Domestic market size is Tk 10,300 crore (US\$ 1425 million). Per capita consumption of plastics in Bangladesh is 5kg per year. The Plastic sector constitutes 1.0 of GDP and provides employment for half a million people. Total export earnings for both direct and deem (RMG accessories) export is about the US \$ 537 million. The availability of cheap labor and the fast developing plastic waste recycling industry, provide Bangladesh potential advantage of competitiveness in the global market. It is observed that a major portion of plastic produced each year is used to make disposable items of packaging and other short-lived products that are discarded within a year of manufacture. So our current use of plastic is not sustainable. Recycling is one of the most important actions currently available to reduce these impacts and represents one of the most dynamic areas in the plastics industry today. Recycling provides opportunities to reduce oil usage, carbon-dioxide emissions and the quantities of waste requiring disposal. Recycling of packaging materials has seen rapid expansion over the last decades in a number of countries. Advances in technologies and systems for the collection, sorting and reprocessing of recyclable plastics are creating new opportunities for recycling and with the concerted efforts of the people, industry, and government. A thorough analysis of the relevant issues using Triple Triangle Framework (TTF) model helps to understand the competitive dynamics of the Bangladesh SME Plastic industry.

## Biography

Nasrin Sultana, System Analyst of Bangladesh Water Development Board, Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of Bangladesh, has her expertise in ICT, human resource management, Climate Change, Disaster Management, and Gender Equity issues. She has to maintain personnel Management and Information Service, Recruitment and Promotion of officers and employees. She maintains Personal Data of 7558 male and female employees of BWDB. She also maintains necessary databases of flood control, river erosion, losses of properties due to the flood, adverse effects and flood and other natural disaster-related databases. She is also discharging the environment pollution and climate change issues, especially the environment pollution due to old and useless plastic materials. She is monitoring gender-related activities. Also, supervise the Gender Equity Committee since 2014. She has to organize training for female WMG members. Focal Point of e-filing of Bangladesh Water Development Board. Former resource person of 'Gender Equity Strategy Action Plan' of ADP Bangladesh.

nasrin\_sul4tana@yahoo.com

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