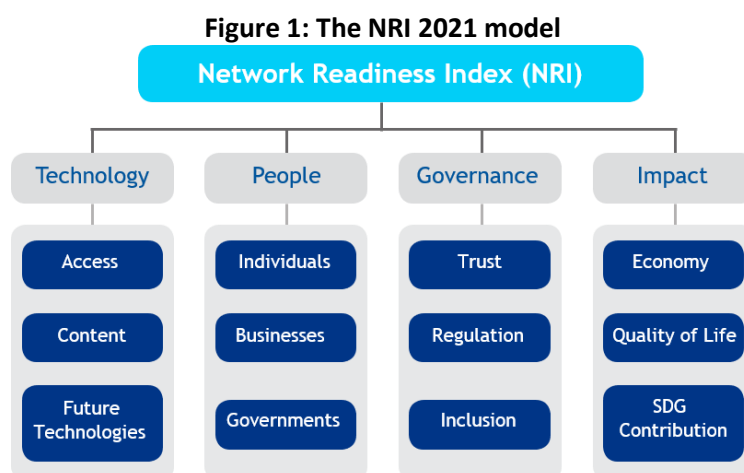


# Network Readiness Index 2021 Bangladesh

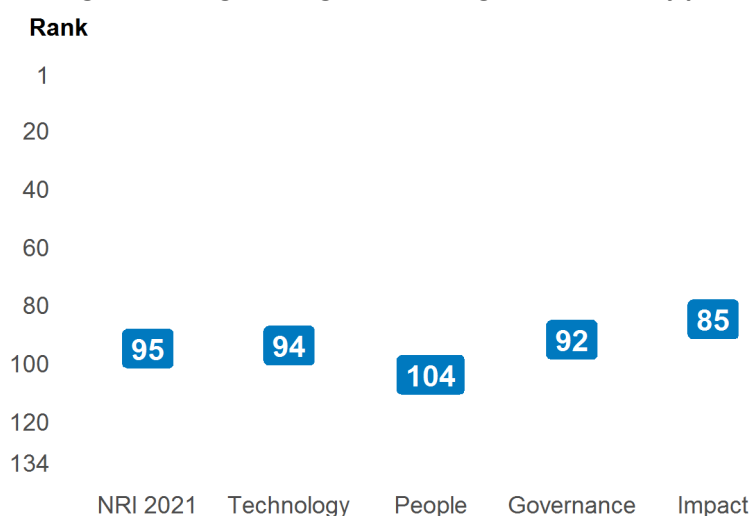
The Network Readiness Index (NRI) is one of the leading global indices on the application and impact of information and communication technology (ICT) in economies around the world. In its latest version of 2021 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 130 economies based on their performances in four different pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact. Each of these pillars is itself comprised of three sub-pillars (see Figure 1) that have been populated by a total of 60 variables.



## Global NRI position of Bangladesh

Bangladesh ranks 95th out of the 130 economies included in the NRI 2021 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Impact. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns People.

**Figure 2: Bangladesh global ranking, overall and by pillar**



### Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Bangladesh relate to Quality of Life, Inclusion and Economy, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Future Technologies, Individuals and Regulation sub-pillars.

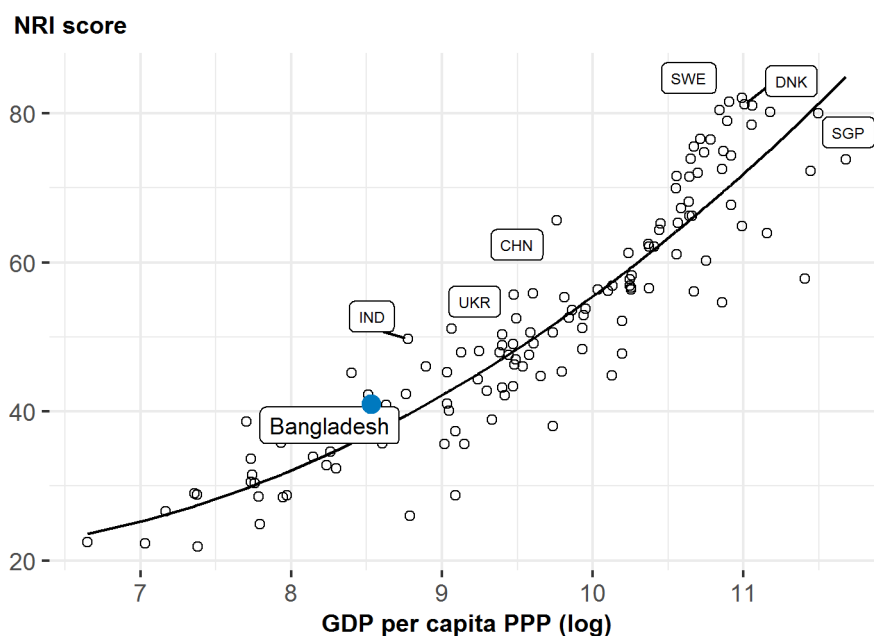
**Table 1: Bangladesh rankings by sub-pillar**

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Quality of Life	69	Access	94
Inclusion	75	Businesses	96
Economy	82	SDG Contribution	97
Trust	84	Future Technologies	99
Governments	90	Individuals	113
Content	91	Regulation	113

### NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Bangladesh in terms of both NRI score and GDP per capita (PPP). The trend line shows the expected NRI score given an economy's income level. As can be seen, Bangladesh is well above the trend line, which suggests that it has a greater network readiness than would be expected given its income level.

**Figure 3: NRI score and GDP per capita PPP (log)**



Note: NLD = Netherlands (rank: 1), SWE = Sweden (2), DNK = Denmark (3), CHN = China (29), IND = India (67). USA is ranked 4th. Bangladesh belongs to the group of lower-middle-income countries, where the best performer is Ukraine (UKR). The top performer of its region-Asia & Pacific-is Singapore (SGP).

## Performance against its income group and region

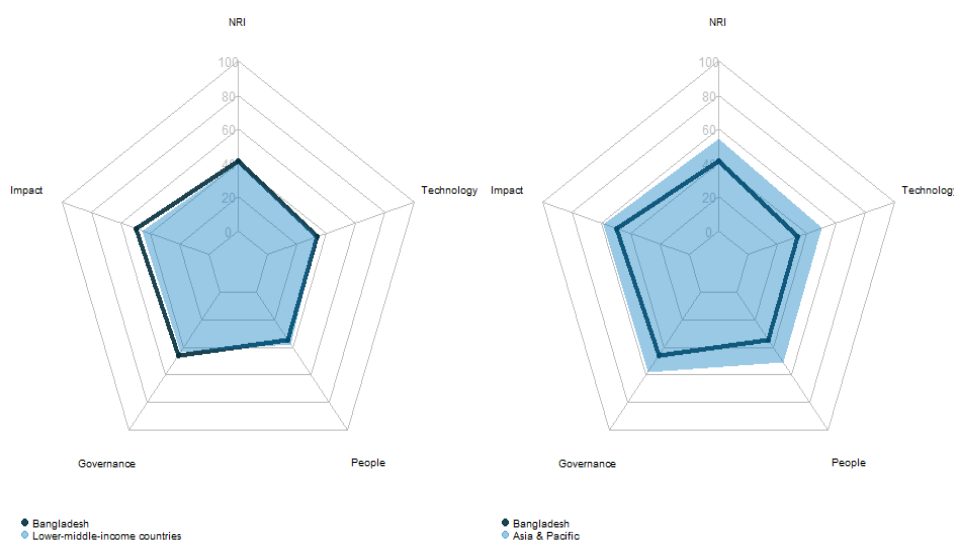
### Lower-middle-income countries

Bangladesh is ranked 15th in the group of lower-middle-income countries (Figure 4, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score higher than the income group average in three of the four pillars: nri.score, technology, governance and impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in seven of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Governments, Trust, Inclusion, Economy and Quality of Life.

### Asia & Pacific

Bangladesh is ranked 17th within Asia & Pacific (Figure 4, right panel). It lags behind its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it trails the regional average in each of them.

**Figure 4: Performance of Bangladesh against its income group and region, overall and by pillar**



**Table 2: Bangladesh scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar**

Dimension	Bangladesh	Lower-middle-income countries	Asia & Pacific
NRI	40.93	40.00	54.38
Technology	33.82	33.64	50.01
People	34.54	37.84	51.22
Governance	46.04	43.38	58.01
Impact	49.31	45.13	58.28

### Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Bangladesh performs particularly well include 4.1.4 Growth rate of GDP per person engaged, 3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments, and 2.1.1 Active mobile broadband subscriptions (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 3.2.1 Regulatory quality, 3.1.4 Internet shopping, and 2.2.4 Technicians and associate professionals.

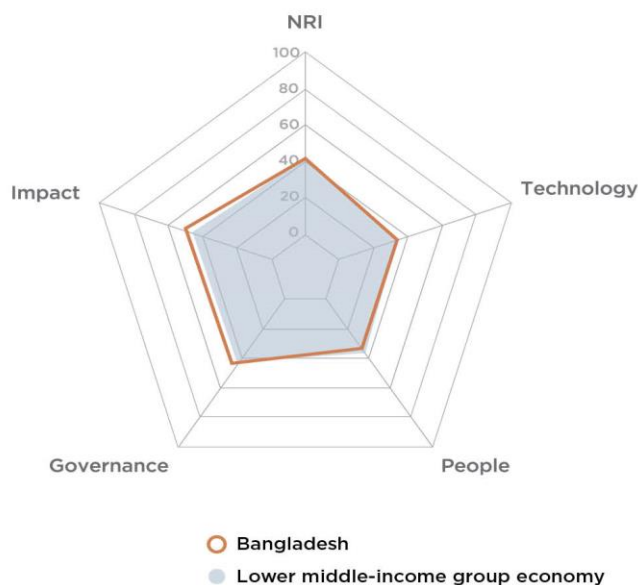
**Table 3: Strongest and weakest indicators of Bangladesh**

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
4.1.4 Growth rate of GDP per person engaged	1	2.1.2 ICT skills	72
3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	7	4.3.3 Females employed with advanced degrees	113
2.1.1 Active mobile broadband subscriptions	10	2.2.4 Technicians and associate professionals	116
1.1.4 SMS sent by population 15-69	14	3.1.4 Internet shopping	117
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	18	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	122
1.1.6 International Internet bandwidth	20		
4.2.3 Income inequality	30		
1.2.5 AI scientific publications	45		
2.2.5 Annual investment in telecommunication services	45		
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	54		

# Bangladesh

**Network Readiness Index** Rank (out of 130) **95** Score **40.93**

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
<b>A. Technology pillar</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>33.82</b>
1st sub-pillar: Access	94	50.17
2nd sub-pillar: Content	91	27.34
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	99	23.96
<b>B. People pillar</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>34.54</b>
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	113	39.00
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	96	29.47
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	90	35.16
<b>C. Governance pillar</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>46.04</b>
1st sub-pillar: Trust	84	34.01
2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	113	44.45
3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	75	59.66
<b>D. Impact pillar</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>49.31</b>
1st sub-pillar: Economy	82	32.13
2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	69	65.00
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	97	50.81



## Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score
<b>A. Technology pillar</b>	94	33.82
<b>1st sub-pillar: Access</b>	94	50.17
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	54	65.23 ●
1.1.2 Handset prices	92	39.43
1.1.3 Households with internet access	93	37.50
1.1.4 SMS sent by population 15-69	14	87.12 ●
1.1.5 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	76	99.30
1.1.6 International Internet bandwidth	20	18.43 ●
1.1.7 Internet access in schools	66	4.14
<b>2nd sub-pillar: Content</b>	91	27.34
1.2.1 GitHub commits	96	0.94
1.2.2 Wikipedia edits	107	26.57
1.2.3 Internet domain registrations	*	*
1.2.4 Mobile apps development	107	53.02
1.2.5 AI scientific publications	45	55.96 ●
<b>3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies</b>	99	23.96
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	106	27.75
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	98	29.07
1.3.3 Robot density	NA	NA
1.3.4 Computer software spending	74	15.06
<b>B. People pillar</b>	104	34.54
<b>1st sub-pillar: Individuals</b>	113	39.00
2.1.1 Active mobile broadband subscriptions	10	86.84 ●
2.1.2 ICT skills	72	0.00 ○
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	104	25.36
2.1.4 Tertiary enrollment	91	16.33
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	87	66.44
<b>2nd sub-pillar: Businesses</b>	96	29.47
2.2.1 Firms with website	103	19.44
2.2.2 GERD financed by business enterprise	NA	NA
2.2.3 Professionals	111	10.98
2.2.4 Technicians and associate professionals	116	7.14 ○
2.2.5 Annual investment in telecommunication services	45	80.32 ●
2.2.6 GERD performed by business enterprise	NA	NA
<b>3rd sub-pillar: Governments</b>	90	35.16
2.3.1 Government online services	83	60.00
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	90	10.32
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging tech	70	35.16
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	NA	NA

Indicator	Rank	Score
<b>C. Governance pillar</b>	92	46.04
<b>1st sub-pillar: Trust</b>	84	34.01
3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	95	39.43
3.1.2 Cybersecurity	61	80.94
3.1.3 Online access to financial account	93	14.08
3.1.4 Internet shopping	117	1.59 ○
<b>2nd sub-pillar: Regulation</b>	113	44.45
3.2.1 Regulatory quality	122	15.82 ○
3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	113	61.37
3.2.3 Legal framework's adaptability to emerging technologies	104	18.21
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	76	75.00
3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	96	51.84
<b>3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion</b>	75	59.66
3.3.1 E-Participation	89	55.55
3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	74	53.09
3.3.3 Availability of local online content	89	50.03
3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	NA	NA
3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	7	79.95 ●
<b>D. Impact pillar</b>	85	49.31
<b>1st sub-pillar: Economy</b>	82	32.13
4.1.1 High-tech and medium-high-tech manufacturing	87	9.50
4.1.2 High-tech exports	101	5.71
4.1.3 PCT patent applications	NA	NA
4.1.4 Growth rate of GDP per person engaged	1	100.00 ●
4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	101	25.67
4.1.6 ICT services exports	82	19.79
<b>2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life</b>	69	65.00
4.2.1 Happiness	86	44.83
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	84	68.29
4.2.3 Income inequality	30	79.69 ●
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	82	67.17
<b>3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution</b>	97	50.81
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	107	32.79
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	NA	NA
4.3.3 Females employed with advanced degrees	113	3.71 ○
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	18	88.02 ●
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	71	78.74

NOTE: \* Indicates confidential data; ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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