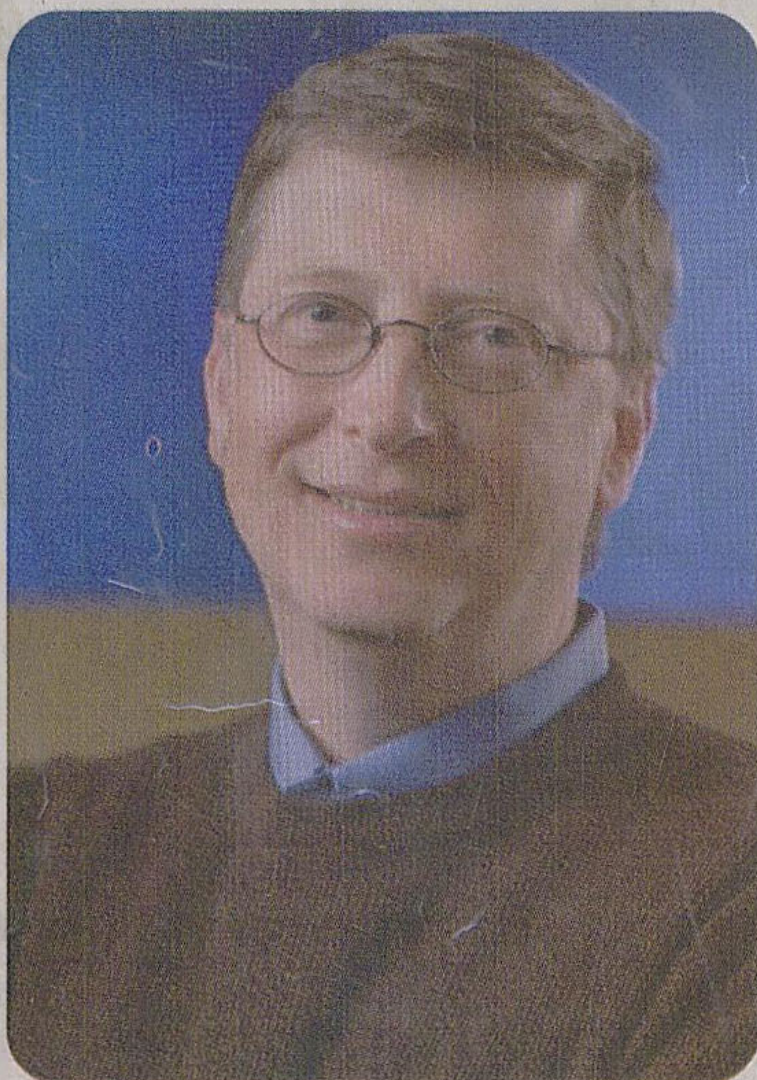


# Heartiest Welcome to Bill Gates



Bill Gates, Chairman and Chief Software Architect  
Microsoft Corporation

**Microsoft**



Bangladesh Association of  
Software & Information Services  
(BASIS)

welcomes

**Bill Gates**

to Bangladesh,

the Emerging Software Outsourcing  
Destination of South Asia

## Bangladesh Software Industry in Brief

- Software industry in Bangladesh thriving on huge enthusiasm of large number of young IT professionals and entrepreneurs
- More than 500 Software companies employing more than 12,000 high skilled IT professionals
- Total pool of 40,000 skilled IT professionals, well-versed in English, with 5,000 new IT graduates coming out from more than 150 Universities and Technology colleges every year
- Domestic Software Market, led by booming demand of large scale enterprise solutions is growing by more than 150% – expected to reach USD 100 million by 2006.
- More than 100 companies exporting software to 30 countries in the world including USA, Canada, Australia, Japan and major European countries. Export growth rate more than 70% last year

## Bangladesh – the Prospective Software Outsourcing Destination for Microsoft

- Microsoft Technology is extensively used in most of the software development houses (more than 60% work is done in Microsoft platform). More than 10,000 Microsoft Certified Professionals working in the software industry
- Most of the Leading Universities have ongoing partnership with Microsoft Education Program
- Recently Bangladesh has been identified by the European Union as one of the top 20 software outsourcing destinations
- Bangladeshi IT professionals have proved their excellence through working in leading technology firms all over the world. More than 50 Bangladeshi IT professionals working in Microsoft development centers
- ICT Infrastructure growing rapidly in the country. Submarine cable link connects Bangladesh through SEAMEWE4 for high speed data communication with rest of the world

## Bangladesh Investment Climate

- One of the best Foreign Investment Incentives Packages offered in Asia
- Foreign investor can set up ventures either wholly owned or in joint collaboration with local partner
- Facilities for full repatriation of invested capital, profit and dividend
- Attractive Tax Holiday facility. Software Development Income is fully tax exempted
- No import duty for export oriented industry. Zero duty on import of Computer Hardware and Software
- Strong IPR law, including software copyright protection, already enacted. Cyber Law to be passed very soon



## About BASIS

Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS) is the national association for Software & IT Enabled Services companies of Bangladesh. Formed in 1997, the association has been working with a vision of developing a vibrant local software & IT service industry in the country. In pursuit of this vision, BASIS has been working relentlessly to create IT awareness in the society through projecting the high importance of making the country more IT enabled for a better future of the nation. At the same time the association has been working hard for creating an enabling environment for the software & ITES industry of the country so that it can flourish by rightly utilizing the huge market potential- both at home and abroad.

The current membership stands at more than 210. Members of BASIS account for the lion share of the total software & IT services revenue of the country.

BASIS tries to pursue the following broad goals through its regular programs and activities:

- Domestic market development by creating awareness
- Helping the local software and ITES companies successfully penetrate the international market
- Capacity building of the member firms
- Lobbying for business friendly government policies for the industry
- Advocating for enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) to protect the local and international software copyright

Bangladesh Association of Software & Information Services (BASIS), BSRS Bhaban (5th Floor - West), 12 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka - 1215. Phone: 880 2 8151196 -7, Fax: 880 2 815 1197. Email: info@basisbd.org, Web: www.basis.org.bd

**Bangladesh is ready to be the Offshore Development Partner of Microsoft**