

World Bank praises development efforts in Bangladesh

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development Inger Andersen has lauded Bangladesh for its commitment to growth respecting social and environmental needs at the concluding day of her five-day visit.

"The people and government of Bangladesh have shown what can be achieved by working across sectors to pursue smart policies that respect and protect citizens and the environment they live in," said Andersen.

During her stay, Andersen visited several World Bank financed projects focused on climate change, transport, disaster risk management and rural livelihoods, and studied the upcoming operations.

Andersen also met with Finance Minister AMA Muhith and senior government officials.

Over the course of the visit, Andersen toured the site of the proposed Padma multipurpose bridge, to be financed in part by the World Bank and being built to remove a major logistical roadblock to economic development in the southwest region.

Andersen also visited the southwestern coast to witness the effects of

climate change. She saw and spoke with beneficiaries of Bank-financed projects.

The World Bank plans to allocate an additional \$1.2 billion fund by 2015 to address the climate change and environment related issues in Bangladesh, she said.

The World Bank has an active portfolio of \$500 million addressing climate change and environment related issues in Bangladesh, the vice president added.

The World Bank official also visited Sundarbans, the largest estuary mangrove forest in the world, where the World Bank is supporting analytical work focusing on climate change adaptation, conservation, and alternative livelihoods for forest-dependant poor people.

The World Bank is working on the preparation of a regional wildlife conservation project in partnership with the governments of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and other south and East Asian states.

"We must work together to protect the Sundarbans," said Andersen, "a treasure not just for those in Bangladesh or the region but for everyone in the world. I applaud the efforts underway by the people of Bangladesh and their government to preserve the Sundarbans."



Inger Andersen

BP, India's Reliance in \$20b energy tie-up

AFP, London

British energy giant BP and India's Reliance Industries announced Monday a massive investment deal which could be worth up to \$20 billion with later investment in key Indian oil and gas assets.

BP said it will pay \$7.2 billion (5.3 billion euros) to Mumbai-based Reliance Industries for a 30-percent stake in 23 Indian oil and gas blocks, announcing another major foreign venture as it seeks to put last year's Gulf of Mexico oil spill disaster behind it.

Earlier this year, it joined forces with Russia's Rosneft in what could be another transforming deal to

explore for oil in the Arctic region. "BP will pay Reliance Industries Limited an aggregate consideration of US\$7.2 billion, and completion adjustments, for the interests to be acquired in the 23 production sharing contracts," the two firms said in a joint statement.

"Future performance payments of up to \$1.8 billion could be paid based on exploration success that results in development of commercial discoveries. These payments and combined investment could amount to US\$20 billion."

Mukesh Ambani, chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries Limited, and Robert Dudley, BP chief executive, signed

the deal in London on Monday.

"The partnership will combine BP's world-class deepwater exploration and development capabilities with Reliance's project management and operations expertise," the two groups added.

The Indian news marks BP's latest attempt to move on following the devastating Gulf of Mexico oil spill disaster last year which forced it to set aside billions to cover environmental damage and tainted its reputation.

Crisis-hit BP reported its first annual loss in almost two decades earlier this month, as a result of the oil spill catastrophe, and outlined fresh plans to shift its focus away from the United States.



Md Harun-or-Rashid, chief executive officer of Sylhet Zilla Parishad, inaugurates Bay Emporium's new branch at Ambarkhana in Sylhet recently.

Intel seeks new MeeGo partners

REUTERS, London

Intel Corp said its partner Nokia dropped the MeeGo operating system after Microsoft offered "incredible" amounts of money for the phonemaker to switch to Windows but it would find new partners for MeeGo.

Microsoft was not immediately available for comment.

Google Chief Executive Eric Schmidt said at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona on Wednesday that he had held extensive talks to try to woo Nokia.

Otellini said Nokia would find it hard to differentiate using the Windows platform: "It would have been less hard on Android, on MeeGo he

and Microsoft to switch.

"I wouldn't have made the decision he made, I would probably have gone to Android if I were him," he said. "MeeGo would have been the best strategy but he concluded he couldn't afford it."

Microsoft was not immediately available for comment.

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Otellini said Nokia would find it hard to differentiate using the Windows platform: "It would have been less hard on Android, on MeeGo he

could have done it."

"We will find another partner. The carriers still want a third ecosystem and the carriers want an open ecosystem, and that's the thing that drives our motivation," he said.

MeeGo was created last year by the merger of Nokia and Intel's Linux-based platforms Maemo and Moblin.

Otellini said in Barcelona that open systems had the edge over closed systems: "Some closed models will certainly survive, because you can optimise the experience, but in general, if you harness the ability of all the engineers in the world and the developers in the world, open wins."

Dialogue calls for business friendly policy

SUSHANTYA GHOSH, Barisal

Infrastructure development, simplification of administrative procedures and improved law and order are necessary for better regional business and economic advancement, said participants of a dialogue.

The fifth public-private dialogue (DPDD) under the economic governance programme of The Asia Foundation was held at the BDS auditorium in Barisal on Sunday.

Representatives from different business association, journalists, lawyers, NGO officials participated in the dialogue to discuss socioeconomic issues and review the results of the previous dialogues. International Finance Corporation under Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund organised the session.

The participants expressed their satisfaction over the implementation of 11 out of their 17 recommendations made at the previous dialogues.

They also emphasised the need to strengthen the activities of grass root level business community associations and properly executing one-stop services related to business by coordinating between public and private sectors.

The participants reviewed the government's performance on the issues like transparency and access to information, time costs of regulatory compliance, informal charges, crime prevention and dispute resolution.

Government policies must be business friendly as they are often victimised by public officials, law enforcers, political parties and financial institutions, the participants said.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Project Director
Buffalo Development Project
Department of Livestock Services (3rd Floor)
Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215

Date: 15/02/2011

Invitation for Tender (Works)

1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock.			
2. Agency	Department of Livestock Services.			
3. Procuring entity name	Project Director, Buffalo Development Project, Department of Livestock Services (3rd Floor), Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215.			
4. Procuring entity code	7053.			
5. Procuring entity district	Dhaka.			
6. Invitation for	Construction works as described Sl. No. 15.			
7. Invitation Ref. No.	40.			
8. Date	15/02/2011.			
KEY INFORMATION				
9. Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).			
FUNDING INFORMATION				
10. Budget and source of fund	Government of Bangladesh (GOB).			
11. Development partners (if applicable)	N/A.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
12. Project/programme code	7053			
13. Project/programme name (if applicable)	Project Director, Buffalo Development Project, Department of Livestock Services (3rd Floor), Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215.			
14. Tender package No. & name	01 & 02			
15. Tender package name	Package No. WD 01 Lot-1 Land Development Work at Bagerhat Buffalo Farms, Bagerhat. Lot-2 Construction of Semi-Pucca Buffalo Dairy Shed with Run at Bagerhat Buffalo Farms, Bagerhat. Lot-3 Construction of Semi-Pucca Buffalo Calf Shed with Run at Bagerhat Buffalo Farms, Bagerhat. Lot-4 Construction of Semi-Pucca Growing Buffalo Shed with Run at Bagerhat Buffalo Farms, Bagerhat. Package No. WD 02 Lot-1 Construction of Semi-Pucca Buffalo Calf Rearing Shed with Run at Sontosh Buffalo Farms, Tangail. Lot-2 Construction of Feed Godown with Mixing Room, Dormitory Building and Semi-Pucca Isolation Shed at Sontosh Buffalo Farms, Tangail. Lot-3 Construction of Boundary Wall at Sontosh Buffalo Farms, Tangail. Lot-4 Construction of Internal Road (RCC & HBB) and Land Development Work at Sontosh Buffalo Farms, Tangail.			
16. Tender publication date	17/02/2011			
17. Tender last selling date	13/03/2011			
18. Tender closing date & time	14/03/2011 at 9:30am to 12:00 noon.			
19. Tender opening date & time	14/03/2011 at 3:30pm.			
20. Name & address of the office(s)	Address. - Selling tender document Office of the Project Director, Buffalo Development Project, Department of Livestock Services (3rd Floor), Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215. - Selling tender document Office of the Deputy Director (Central Store), Livestock Department, 48, Kazi Alauddin Road, Dhaka. - Receiving tender document Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Segunbagicha, Dhaka. - Opening tender documents Office of the Project Director, Buffalo Development Project, Department of Livestock Services (3rd Floor), Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka. N/A.			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
22. Eligibility of tenderer	As stated in TDS, ITT and GCC clauses of the tender documents.			
23. Brief description of works	Construction of all Civil, Sanitary, Electrical, Electro-mechanical, Water Supply & Ancillary Works.			
24. Brief description of physical services	Construction and other works as described in tender documents.			
25. Price of tender document (Tk)	Tk. 1000.00 (one thousand) for each Lot, Package No. 01 (Lot-2, 3, 4), Package No. 2 (Lot-1, 2, 3) and Tk. 750.00 for package No. 1 (Lot-1), Package No. 2 (Lot-4).			
PKG No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount in Taka	Completion time in months
26. WD 01	Lot-1 Land Development Work at Bagerhat Buffalo Farms, Bagerhat. Lot-2 Construction of Semi-Pucca Buffalo Dairy Shed with Run at Bagerhat Buffalo Farms, Bagerhat. Lot-3 Construction of Semi-Pucca Buffalo Calf Shed with Run at Bagerhat Buffalo Farms, Bagerhat. Lot-4 Construction of Semi-Pucca Growing Buffalo Shed with Run at Bagerhat Buffalo Farms, Bagerhat.	Bagerhat Buffalo Farm Campus, Bagerhat	25,000.00	2 months
			3,80,000.00	10 months
			1,07,000.00	5 months
			2,15,000.00	6 months
02	Lot-1 Construction of Semi-Pucca Buffalo Calf Rearing Shed with Run at Tangail Buffalo Farms, Tangail. Lot-2 Construction of Feed Godown with Mixing Room, Dormitory Building and Semi-Pucca Isolation Shed at Tangail Buffalo Farms, Tangail. Lot-3 Construction of Boundary Wall at Tangail Buffalo Farms, Tangail. Lot-4 Construction of Internal Road (RCC & HBB) and Land Development Work at Tangail Buffalo Farms, Tangail.	Sontosh Buffalo Farm Campus, Tangail	2,50,000.00	8 months
			1,47,000.00	5 months
			1,14,000.00	5 months
			29,000.00	3 months
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
27. Name of official inviting tender	Dr. Monjur Kadir.			
28. Designation of official inviting tender	Project Director.			
29. Address of official inviting tender	Project Director, Buffalo Development Project, Department of Livestock Services (3rd Floor), Krishi Khamar Sarak, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215.			
30. Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 9103316 e-mail: Kadir_munjur@yahoo.com			
31. Special instruction:	a) Due to unavoidable circumstances, if the tender can not be received and opened in the schedule date and time, the same will be shifted on the next working day. b) All other instructions are described in tender documents. c) The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject whole or part of any tender/offer.			
32. Tender will publish also in CPTU website: www.cptu.gov.bd				

GD-872

Ericsson lights up off-grid Liberia, wins GSMA award

STAR BUSINESS DESK

The community power solution of leading telecom technology provider Ericsson has received global recognition and won GSMA Global Mobile Award at the 2011 Mobile World Congress in Barcelona for best use of mobile for social and economic development, said a statement.

The "Ericsson Community Power" solution was developed in partnership with Swedish green site solution specialist Flexenclosure as part of a portfolio of innovative services and products for the Millennium Villages Project (MVP). Ericsson and Flexenclosure jointly won the award.

Having adopted the power solution, MTN in Liberia becomes the first operator in the world to implement a system of this type. With this, many of the residents of Liberia's Kokoyah district could soon enjoy access to electricity in their homes for the first time, said the statement.

Comprising Ericsson Community Power and Flexenclosure's E-site solution, this is a revolutionary product that combines an off-grid base-station site powered mainly by renewable energy sources such as sun and wind, with the ability to share excess power with surrounding local communities, institutions and individuals.

Lars Linden, head of Ericsson Sub-Saharan Africa, said: "We are honoured to have been presented with this award. This initiative reflects Ericsson's ongoing commitment to harnessing our technical leadership in developing innovative products and sustainable business models that form the building blocks of a connected and sustainable Africa. We will continue to seek new ways of driving sustainable business growth for our customers and expand the reach of networks in Africa."

This will take what has started in some markets as a way of charging mobile phones to a whole new level, enabling the electrification of the world's remotest