



Formulaire CH@WORLD: **A754**

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| Swiss Representation in: Dhaka | |
| Country: Bangladesh | Last updated: November 2019 |

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| <h2 style="text-align: center;">Annual Economic Report</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Fiscal Year 2019 (July 2018 – June 2019)</h3> |
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Summary

The Bangladeshi economy again fared considerably well in the reporting period between July 2018 and June 2019 amid robust growth in export and remittance earnings and a considerable increase in foreign investments. However, irregularities reported in the banking sector, particularly mounting pressure of non-performing loans, as well as a slower growth in revenue generation may pose challenges in the near to medium-term. Over the last years, Bangladesh remained active in the WTO and other multilateral fora with the objective of benefiting from duty and quota free market access (mainly to the European market) and seeking similar preferential tariff rates in the aftermath of the LDC graduation slated for 2024. Bangladesh is maintaining strong economic relations with its traditional economic partners but at the same time endeavouring to deepen ties with its regional neighbours. The bilateral trade volume with Switzerland stood at CHF 714 million in 2018, while Swiss investments jumped to around \$50 million in the concluded fiscal year, marking a 35% growth (according to local statistics). The Inter-Agency Committee, which the Government of Bangladesh constituted to promote bilateral trade and investment with Switzerland and to address specific business issues, held its first meeting in April 2019.

1. Economic issues

Amid favourable internal and external conditions, several macroeconomic indicators of the Bangladeshi economy performed strongly in the concluded Fiscal Year 2018-2019 (FY2019).¹ According to provisional estimates² published by the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), the economy boasted a **record GDP growth of 8.13%** in FY2019, buoyed by impressive performances of the services and manufacturing sectors.³ The country's exports registered a **double-digit growth (+10.55%)** on the back of a surge in ready-made garment shipments abroad. The inward **remittances** sent home by migrant workers hit a **new record** (\$16.4 billion) despite ongoing ruckus in the labour migration sector. Thanks to increased export and remittances earnings, the country's current account deficits narrowed in the last fiscal year. The inflationary pressure remained moderate and within the target of 5.5%. The **FDI** receipt also rose to record heights in the reporting period.

According to the World Bank, Bangladesh's GDP growth is projected to remain above 7% in the medium-term, fuelled by a demand-driven expansion of the economy.⁴ It is also foreseen that an improved **business climate** and continued public sector investment in **physical infrastructure** projects (governmental "mega projects") will have a positive impact on private investment and FDI

¹ Fiscal year in Bangladesh covers the period from 1 July to 30 June.

² Bangladesh Economic Review 2019

³ The IMF in a report titled "World Economic Outlook, April 2019: Growth Slowdown, Precarious Recovery" named Bangladesh as one of the fastest growing economies in the world

⁴ World Bank report: Bangladesh Development Update, October 2019

inflows. Although export growth has slightly lost traction in the first quarter of FY2020, export earnings are likely to continue to surge, as Bangladesh is receiving increased manufacturing **orders for ready-made garments diverted from China.**⁵

Despite this overall positive performance and outlook, the economy is also facing multiple **challenges**. Soaring **non-performing loans** in commercial banks and continued volatility of the stock market caused concerns over the financial sector's stability. Defaulted loans in various commercial banks were estimated to stand at \$13 billion in June 2019, creating a major risk for the economy.⁶ **Revenue** generation growth **slowed** down to 10% (a ten-year low). There was also a mismatch between high GDP growth and revenue mobilization in FY2019.⁷ The government relied heavily on bank borrowings and funds drawn from national saving certificates to offset budgetary deficits. Despite the fact that the country's poverty rate is said to have decreased to 21.8% in 2018, **rising social inequality** remain a major challenge. The country's Gini coefficient increased to 0.482 in 2016 from 0.458 in 2010.

After several rounds of postponements, the government rolled out a new Value Added Tax (VAT) law in FY 2020 to help the National Board of Revenue (NBR) shore up revenue collection. The corporate tax structure remained unchanged, despite continued demands from the private sector for tax cuts. The GoB continued to reiterate its intention to align fiscal measures with **SDG implementation**, which was a positive sign as Bangladesh is set graduate from LDC status in 2024. According to the GoB's Finance Minister, 82% of SDGs have been incorporated in the 7th Five Year Plan and are currently being implemented. The current government set an ambitious target to transform Bangladesh into a **developed nation by 2041**.

Bangladesh ranked 168th out of 190 countries in the World Bank's **Ease of Doing Business** index 2020, an **8-rank improvement** compared to the previous year, but still lagging behind all other South Asian countries. According to a recent World Bank report, Bangladesh ranked among the top-20 "Improvers in Doing Business 2020" as the country implemented some key reform initiatives, including reducing the costs for setting up a new business, providing better access to credit information and facilitating electricity connection in Dhaka. This positive trend was widely celebrated as a reversal of Bangladesh's lackadaisical ease of doing business performance in recent years. Nevertheless, Bangladesh remained a challenging destination for foreign companies, particularly for small and medium sized enterprises. Many consider the structural and institutional reforms of recent years insufficient and damaging to the country's economic prospects.⁸ Meanwhile, Bangladesh slipped two notches to the 105th position in the **global competitiveness ranking** due to a weaker performance in most of the indicators as per the Global Competitiveness Report 2019. In the 2018 **Corruption Perceptions Index**, Bangladesh was ranked 149th (out of 180 countries), down from the previous year's 143rd rank.

Political unrest, which emerged in the run up to the parliamentary elections, **evaporated** quickly as the ruling party led by PM Sheikh Hasina clinched a landslide victory in December 2018 and resumed its firm control over the country and its economy. While Europe and North America remained the main markets for Bangladesh's exports, the country increasingly engaged with the regional economic powerhouses, i.e. China, India and Japan. Bangladesh was also trying to establish stronger economic and investment relations with countries in the Middle East, particularly with Saudi Arabia and the UAE, where millions of Bangladeshi migrant workers are employed.

2. International and regional economic agreements

2.1 Country's policy and priorities

⁵ Ibid

⁶ State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2019-2020 published by the Center for Policy Dialogue

⁷ Ibid

⁸ Ibid

Bangladesh remained an active player in various multilateral fora, including in the WTO. Effective implementation of the WTO decision on **duty free and quota free (DF-QF)** market access was a priority topic for the country. As of now, Bangladeshi products received DF-QF treatment in the European markets, including Switzerland. Bangladesh currently is on track to graduate from LDC status by 2024.⁹ Following successful graduation in 2024 and completion of a three-year grace period until 2027, the country may lose DF-QF market access to the European Union under the Everything but Arms (EBA) initiative for LDCs. One of the main policy considerations now is to prepare for the **post-graduation scenario**, particularly to gain market access under the Generalised System of Preferences Plus (GSP+) scheme and to avail dedicated preferential tariff rates to the EU market. However, to avail GSP+ after LDC graduation, the EU would have to review its qualification criteria and the country would need to robustly address a number of critical issues regarding human rights, labour rights as well as governance.

The **fifth WTO-review** of the trade policies and practices of Bangladesh, for the period 2012-2018, took place in April 2019.¹⁰ Member states praised Bangladesh for implementing several key economic policies (e.g. Vision 2021, the Export Policy 2018-2021) and for its efforts to initiate reform in critical areas such as taxation and ease of doing business. However, the Chairman of the review committee in his concluding remarks called on the GoB to further strengthen economic reforms, enhance the diversification of its economy and the competitiveness of its industries.¹¹

The **EU-Bangladesh Business Climate Dialogue (BCD)** was established in 2016 to improve the country's regulatory and business environment. The 5th plenary of the BCD took place in Dhaka on 28 April 2019. The EU highlighted that regulatory unpredictability, uncertainty, and the lack of coherence in policy implementation were major barriers for doing business.¹² Under the framework of BCD, discussions took place in five Joint Working Groups focusing on import duties/custom/trade facilitation; licenses and investment in services sector; financial flows; tax regime; and pharmaceuticals. At the 9th session of the EU-Bangladesh Joint Commission held in Dhaka on 21 October 2019, the EU recalled that EBA preferences as well as any future preferential trade relationship were conditional with the respect of human rights, including labour rights, setting a benchmark for the post-2027 bilateral trade relationship.¹³

Bangladesh also engaged in dialogue with the US government, under the frameworks of the **US-BD partnership dialogue** and the Trade and Investment Cooperation Forum Agreement, to get GSP privileges to the US market reinstated. These privileges were suspended following the Rana Plaza tragedy in 2013. The 5th edition of the partnership dialogue took place in Dhaka in June 2019, where the US delegation called on Bangladesh to further improve labour rights and workplace safety.¹⁴

In the **regional** context, Bangladesh remains party to a number of economic agreements¹⁵ and continues to play an active role in various regional and sub-regional initiatives such as BIMSTEC and BCIM Economic Corridor. Bangladesh, India and Nepal are currently engaged in discussions to implement the Motor Vehicle Agreement. Simultaneous discussions continue to open transit access to Bangladesh's Chattogram and Mongla seaports. To this end, in October 2019, India and Bangladesh concluded Standard Operating Procedures for the use of Chattogram and Mongla ports for the movement of goods to and from India. These initiatives offer Bangladesh the prospect to emerge as a regional hub for trade and commerce in the future. At a summit level meeting in July 2019, China assured Bangladesh that it would further align its projects under the Belt and Road Initiative with the country's development priorities. It was reported that Bangladesh remained a

⁹ <https://www.un.org/development/desa/capacity-development/2018/04/10/leaving-the-ldc-category-booming-bangladesh-prepares-to-graduate/>

¹⁰ https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/tp485_e.htm

¹¹ https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/tpr_e/tp485_circ_e.htm

¹² https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/benin/61564/business-climate-bangladesh-european-ambassadors-stressed-need-political-commitment-and_en

¹³ https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/tajikistan/69148/european-union-and-bangladesh-held-9th-session-their-joint-commission_en

¹⁴ <https://bd.usembassy.gov/joint-statement-on-u-s-bangladesh-partnership-dialogue/>

¹⁵ Namely the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), Framework Agreement on Bay of Bengal Initiatives for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation- BIMSTEC FTA, Trade Preferential System among the OIC countries (TPS-OIC) and Developing-8 (D-8) Preferential Trading Arrangement

cautious borrower of Chinese funds and did not shy away from turning down projects which were deemed economically or strategically non-viable (e.g. Sonadia deep sea port project).

As reported previously, Bangladesh has **bilateral** general trade agreements with around 45 countries and continues to endeavour deepening its **economic relations, mainly with its Asian neighbours**. Following the December 2018 election, the “new” government of PM Sheikh Hasina continued to strengthen diplomatic and economic ties with the regional economic powers, namely India, China and Japan. She paid official visits to all three countries between May and October 2019, with economic issues high on the agenda. Bangladesh’s long-awaited conclusion of a Free Trade Agreement with Sri Lanka, however, remains pending.

2.2 Outlook for Switzerland (potential for discrimination)

Switzerland and Swiss companies in general have a strong brand image in Bangladesh. The GoB welcomes and promotes (mainly inward) foreign trade and investments. Nevertheless, foreign companies often face challenges, which could be considered discriminatory in nature.

3. Foreign trade

3.1 Development and general outlook

According to the Export Promotion Bureau of Bangladesh, the country’s total **export earnings** in FY2019 grew by **10.55%** year-on-year to \$40.53 billion “riding on a high volume of garment shipment in a favourable external business environment”. The earnings surpassed the annual target of \$39 billion. Earnings from the export of apparel products, which accounted for over 84% of the national exports, stood at \$34.13 billion, registering an 11.49% growth. According to industry insiders, Bangladesh indirectly benefitted from US-China trade tensions, gaining market share at the expense of Chinese manufacturers. In addition to this, the remediation programmes (e.g. alliance and accord) that were initiated following the Rana Plaza factory collapse (2013) also helped Bangladesh to boost its image abroad. According to the World Statistics Review 2019, Bangladesh achieved the second highest export growth globally over the past decade. The country’s **import payments** stood at \$55.95 billion in FY2019¹⁶ (from \$54.46 billion in FY2018). During this period, the pressure on **trade deficit eased**, as the import growth (1.79%) was outpaced by the export growth and inward remittances.

The **EU** countries (mainly Germany) remained the largest export destination for Bangladesh in the reporting period. Nearly half of the Bangladeshi exports went to the EU markets. The total trade volume between the EU and Bangladesh in 2018 stood at \$24 billion.¹⁷ The **US** remained another important market for the Bangladeshi exports. In FY2019, they rose to \$6.86 billion, compared to \$5.7 billion in 2017.¹⁸ China and India remained the country’s largest import partners. More detailed foreign trade information is provided in annex 3.

3.2 Bilateral trade

Bilateral trade between Switzerland and Bangladesh is increasing rapidly and has almost tripled since 2010. According to the Swiss customs authority, the **bilateral trade** volume of 2018 stood at CHF 713.86 million, marking a 5% growth. The trade balance is currently in Bangladesh’s favour. Swiss exports (CHF 133.63 million) to Bangladesh include mainly textile machinery, chemical and pharmaceutical products. Bangladesh primarily (94%) exported apparel products to Switzerland. According to trade statistics available for the period between January and August 2019, Swiss exports to Bangladesh increased by 52% on the back of a stronger demand for machinery and

¹⁶ Bangladesh Bank statistics

¹⁷ <https://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/countries/bangladesh/>

¹⁸ Bangladesh Export Promotion Bureau

chemical products. Current projections indicate that bilateral trade is on course to touch the \$1 billion mark by 2021, when Bangladesh will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its independence.

4. Direct investments

4.1 Development and general outlook

According to official data released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Bangladesh received **Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** amounting to **\$3.61 billion** in 2018¹⁹, up by 68% and setting a new record. Top FDI receiving sectors were the power, food, textile and weaving industries. According to UNTACD, equity investments during this period increased by 108.6% to \$1.12 billion, while reinvestment increased by 2.32% to \$1.30 billion. The report observed that investors' confidence in Bangladesh improved over the years. Local experts noted that a relatively stable political environment in the country also contributed positively in gaining investors' confidence.

China was the biggest source of FDI inflows at \$1.03 billion in 2018. The \$1 billion acquisition of a local tobacco company by Japan Tobacco International (JTI)²⁰ constituted a major FDI inflow. These trends indicate increased interests of foreign companies in the local market. The GoB in 2015 decided to set up 100 Economic Zones across the country to attract local and foreign investments. A number of these economic zones are currently coming into operation. However, experts stress that further improved business conditions, physical infrastructure, legal and regulatory protection are required to draw more FDI in a more sustainable and expedited manner.

Bangladesh's two largest (foreign) mobile phone operators were in a dispute with the telecom regulatory commission over claims of unpaid taxes during the reporting period. While both companies challenged the veracity of the claims, the regulator was considering to take punitive actions (deemed extraordinary) against these companies, potentially risking to upset existing and prospective foreign investors.

4.2 Bilateral investment

Numerous Swiss companies are operating in Bangladesh, some with their own production facilities. Swiss investments are present in some of the crucial economic sectors in the country namely construction, agro-food industry, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and services. Investments and reinvestments from Swiss companies are increasing steadily. According to information provided by the Bangladesh Bank to the Embassy of Switzerland, net Swiss FDI to Bangladesh in FY2019 stood at \$ 49.69 million, a 35% increase over FY2018. According to Bangladeshi statistics, the Swiss FDI stock in Bangladesh since 2010 stood at **US\$223 million**. However, local data significantly differs from that of the Swiss National Bank, which provides a much lower figure.

5. Trade, economic and tourism promotion

5.1 Foreign economic promotion instruments

A highlight in the area of bilateral economic relations in the reporting period was the operationalization of the "**inter-agency committee to promote bilateral trade and investment between Switzerland and Bangladesh**" (IAC). This committee, comprising relevant ministries and public agencies, was formed by the GoB in September 2018 as a follow up measure to the Swiss presidential visit of February 2018. Its aim is to promote bilateral trade and investment as well as to address specific business issues and company cases. The first meeting between Switzerland and

¹⁹ According to Bangladesh Bank, the country received \$3.88 billion in FDI in FY2019. More information in annex 5.

²⁰ While JTI is headquartered in Geneva, majority of the funds were drawn from its Dutch subsidiary. Therefore, \$1 billion JTI investments were not attributed as Swiss FDI.

the IAC took place in April 2019 in Dhaka, on the side-line of the biennial bilateral political consultations. Switzerland raised a number of specific company cases and business issues vis-à-vis the Bangladeshi authorities, based on the inputs and position papers received from various Swiss companies. The formation and operationalization of this committee allows Switzerland to address specific cases to the authorities in Bangladesh in a more direct, systematic and formal manner. Switzerland has already expressed its wish to meet with the IAC at least once every year. Bilateral economic issues were also discussed between the two countries at the fourth edition of the **political consultations**. During the reporting period, the Embassy regularly organized seminars, Swiss business roundtables and social gatherings to promote economic interests in Bangladesh.

The Embassy continued to maintain regular contacts and provide support to Swiss SMEs who were showing interest in the Bangladeshi market. The Embassy also maintained close cooperation with **Switzerland Global Enterprise (S-GE)** to discuss various business promotion activities. The activities of Switzerland Bangladesh **Chamber of Commerce** and Industry SBCCI remain limited. However, SBCCI members showed interest to take up efforts to revamp the organization. SBCCI is planning to organize a trade and business promotion event in Switzerland in 2020.

5.2 The host country's interest in Switzerland

Switzerland has a particularly good reputation in Bangladesh, also due to its long-standing relations with the host country. The Father of the Nation of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujibur Rahman very famously commented in the early 1970s that he envisioned to make Bangladesh a “Switzerland of the East”. Switzerland as a brand is well appreciated by the business community as well as the general public. This good reputation can be an important asset for Swiss companies to consider, as Bangladesh has a growing number of middle class consumers (approximately 30 million²¹) who are increasingly willing to spend more for better products and known brands.

The GoB regularly called upon Switzerland and Swiss companies to increase investments in Bangladesh. In the past, Bangladesh suggested that Swiss companies could explore possibilities in the following sectors: renewable energy, finance, IT, energy, frozen food, leather industry and pharmaceutical. The position of a Commerce Secretary was recently established at the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh in Geneva to promote bilateral trade and investment.

According to the report published by the Swiss National Bank, **deposits from Bangladesh in Swiss banks** rose by around 28% year-on-year in 2018 to a total of CHF 617.72 million.²² This annual report by the SNB traditionally generates controversial discussions in Bangladesh, where many suspect that the deposits originate from ill-gotten money siphoned off by Bangladeshis to evade taxes. Nevertheless, Switzerland in general has a good image as a financial centre, despite being overshadowed by regional financial hubs such as Singapore.

While the number of Bangladeshi tourists going abroad is growing rapidly, Switzerland still does not seem to be on the radar of local tourists.

²¹ <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/10/bangladesh-is-booming/>

²² <https://www.dhakatribune.com/business/2019/06/28/bangladeshis-deposits-in-swiss-banks-rise-to-tk5-347-crore>

Economic structure

| | 2012-2013 | 2018-2019* |
|----------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Distribution of GDP | | |
| Agriculture sector | 18.7% | 13.6% |
| Manufacturing sector | 32% | 35.14% |
| Services | 49.3% | 51.26% |

| Distribution of employment | n/a | 2018** |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Agriculture | | 40.6 % |
| Manufacturing sector | | 20.4 % |
| Services | | 39 % |

Source:

*Bangladesh Economic Review Published by the Ministry of Finance of Bangladesh (provisional data)
(https://mof.gov.bd/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=403&Itemid=1)

**Labour Force Survey conducted by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
(<http://www.bbs.gov.bd/site/page/23b9eb9e-160e-4407-a49f-5722bc57f528/Statistical-Pocketbook>)

Main economic data

| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019* |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| GDP (USDbn) | 249.7 | 274 | 301.8 |
| GDP per capita (USD) | 1'610 | 1'751 | 1'909 |
| Growth rate (% of GDP) | 7.3% | 7.86% | 8.13% |
| Inflation rate (%) | 5.9 | 5.5 | 5.6 |
| | | | |
| Unemployment rate (%) | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.4 |
| Fiscal deficit (% of GDP) | 5 | 4.8 | 5 |
| Current account balance (% of GDP) | -2.5 | -2.6 | -1.8 |
| | | | |
| Total external debt (% of GDP) | 12.8 | 14.3 | Not available |
| Debt-service ratio (% of exports) | 4.4 | Not available | Not available |
| Reserves (months of imports) | 6.7 | 6.6 | 6.8 |

Source:

- World Bank (<https://data.worldbank.org/country/bangladesh>)
- Bangladesh Bank (<https://www.bb.org.bd/econdata/index.php>)
- Economic Intelligence Unit Country Report

*Projected data

Trade partners year: 2018-2019

| Rank | Country | Exports from the host country (USD million) | Share % | Rank | Country | Imports to the host country (USD million) | Share % |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | USA | 6876 | 17 | 1 | China | 13651 | 24 |
| 2 | Germany | 6173 | 15 | 2 | India | 7645 | 14 |
| 4 | UK | 4169 | 10 | 4 | Singapore | 3144 | 5.6 |
| 4 | Spain | 2554 | 6.3 | 4 | Indonesia | 1928 | 3.4 |
| 5 | France | 2217 | 5.4 | 5 | Japan | 1852 | 3.3 |
| 6 | Italy | 1643 | 4 | 6 | USA | 1774 | 3.2 |
| 7 | Japan | 1365 | 3.3 | 7 | Malaysia | 1481 | 2.6 |
| 19 | Switzerland* | (CHF) 580 | 1.4 | ... | Switzerland | (CHF) 134 | ... |
| | | | | | | | |
| | Total | 40535 | | | Total | 55957 | |

Source: Bangladesh Bank, Export Promotion Bureau of Bangladesh, Swiss Customs* (trade figures of Switzerland)

ANNEX 4 CH@WORLD module: A750
Bilateral trade

Seite 138

Datum: 17.01.2019

Eidgenössische Zollverwaltung EZV, Aussenhandelsstatistik, 30. Jern

TW103: Schweizerischer Aussenhandel nach Ländern und Kapiteln

Periode: Januar bis Dezember 2018

Land: 337 Bangladesch

| | Import in Mio. CHF | | +/- % Anteil | | Export in Mio. CHF | | +/- % Anteil | | Saldo in Mio. CHF | | Gesamthandelsvolumen | | +/- % Anteil | |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|--------------|-------|--------------------|--------|--------------|-------|-------------------|---------|----------------------|--------|--------------|-------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 |
| Total 2 | 500.27 | 580.23 | 16.0 | 100.0 | 176.61 | 139.63 | -24.3 | 100.0 | -323.66 | -446.60 | 676.88 | 713.85 | 5.5 | 100.0 |
| 01 - 24 Landwirtschaftliche Produkte | 3.11 | 4.54 | 45.8 | 0.8 | 0.81 | 0.57 | -29.6 | 0.4 | -2.30 | -3.96 | 3.92 | 5.11 | 30.2 | 0.7 |
| 25 - 26 Mineralische Stoffe | . | 0.00 | * | 0.0 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 50.2 | 0.0 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 51.8 | 0.0 |
| 27 Energieträger | . | 0.00 | * | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 13.7 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 15.2 | 0.0 |
| 28 - 29 Chemische Grundprodukte | . | 0.00 | * | 0.0 | 14.53 | 6.69 | -53.9 | 5.0 | 14.53 | 6.69 | 14.53 | 6.70 | -53.9 | 0.9 |
| 30 Pharmazeutische Erzeugnisse | 0.01 | 0.00 | -96.4 | 0.0 | 24.58 | 10.46 | -57.5 | 7.8 | 24.57 | 10.46 | 24.60 | 10.46 | -57.5 | 1.5 |
| 31 - 32 Düngemittel, Farbstoffe, Pigmente | 0.08 | 0.00 | -99.4 | 0.0 | 16.30 | 12.58 | -22.8 | 9.4 | 16.22 | 12.58 | 16.38 | 12.58 | -23.2 | 1.8 |
| 33 - 34 Schönheitsmittel, Waschmittel | 0.00 | 0.01 | 227.9 | 0.0 | 0.76 | 2.03 | 166.9 | 1.5 | 0.76 | 2.02 | 0.76 | 2.04 | 167.1 | 0.3 |
| 35 - 38 Stärke, versch. chemische Erzeugnisse | 0.00 | 0.00 | -9.6 | 0.0 | 1.72 | 0.80 | -53.3 | 0.6 | 1.72 | 0.80 | 1.72 | 0.80 | -53.3 | 0.1 |
| 39 - 40 Kunststoffe, Kautschuk | 0.20 | 0.12 | -37.3 | 0.0 | 1.01 | 0.42 | -58.3 | 0.3 | 0.81 | 0.30 | 1.21 | 0.54 | -54.9 | 0.1 |
| 41 - 43 Felle, Lederwaren | 3.35 | 3.56 | 6.3 | 0.6 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 613.0 | 0.0 | -3.35 | -3.55 | 3.35 | 3.56 | 6.5 | 0.5 |
| 44 - 46 Holz, Kork, Flechtwaren | 0.23 | 0.31 | 32.9 | 0.1 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 219.4 | 0.0 | -0.23 | -0.29 | 0.24 | 0.33 | 38.1 | 0.0 |
| 47 - 49 Papier und Papierwaren | 0.07 | 0.04 | -44.0 | 0.0 | 0.18 | 0.24 | 30.9 | 0.2 | 0.12 | 0.20 | 0.25 | 0.28 | 11.2 | 0.0 |
| 50 - 63 Textilien und Bekleidung | 468.78 | 543.15 | 15.9 | 93.6 | 0.37 | 0.54 | 47.6 | 0.4 | -468.41 | -542.61 | 469.14 | 543.70 | 15.9 | 76.2 |
| 64 - 67 Schuhe, Schirme usw. | 21.39 | 21.90 | 2.4 | 3.8 | . | . | * | * | -21.39 | -21.90 | 21.39 | 21.90 | 2.4 | 3.1 |
| 68 - 70 Waren aus Steinen, Keramik, Glas | 0.19 | 0.25 | 27.2 | 0.0 | 0.07 | 0.13 | 88.5 | 0.1 | -0.12 | -0.12 | 0.26 | 0.38 | 43.4 | 0.1 |
| 71 Edelsteine, Edelmetalle, Bijouterie | 0.03 | 0.02 | -34.8 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | -96.0 | 0.0 | -0.03 | -0.02 | 0.03 | 0.02 | -37.4 | 0.0 |
| 72 - 83 Unedle Metalle und Waren daraus | 0.56 | 0.04 | -93.3 | 0.0 | 2.41 | 2.93 | 21.3 | 2.2 | 1.85 | 2.89 | 2.97 | 2.96 | -0.3 | 0.4 |
| 84 Maschinen (nicht elektrisch) | 0.01 | 3.67 | ** | 0.6 | 94.60 | 62.27 | -34.2 | 46.6 | 94.59 | 58.60 | 94.62 | 65.95 | -30.3 | 9.2 |
| 85 Maschinen (elektrisch) | 0.03 | 0.04 | 62.6 | 0.0 | 9.97 | 23.02 | 130.9 | 17.2 | 9.94 | 22.97 | 9.99 | 23.06 | 130.7 | 3.2 |
| 86 - 89 Fahrzeuge, Flugzeuge usw. | 1.01 | 1.31 | 29.0 | 0.2 | 0.99 | 0.63 | -36.5 | 0.5 | -0.03 | -0.68 | 2.00 | 1.93 | -3.3 | 0.3 |
| 90 Opt. / medizin. Instrumente | 0.03 | 0.11 | 235.9 | 0.0 | 7.06 | 7.75 | 9.9 | 5.8 | 7.02 | 7.64 | 7.09 | 7.66 | 10.9 | 1.1 |
| 91 Uhrmacherwaren | 0.04 | 0.01 | -70.2 | 0.0 | 1.15 | 1.96 | 69.6 | 1.5 | 1.12 | 1.95 | 1.19 | 1.97 | 65.1 | 0.3 |
| 92 Musikinstrumente | 0.00 | 0.00 | ** | 0.0 | . | . | * | * | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | ** | 0.0 |
| 94 Möbel, Bettzeug usw. | 0.89 | 0.99 | 10.6 | 0.2 | 0.01 | 0.05 | 505.9 | 0.0 | -0.88 | -0.94 | 0.90 | 1.04 | 15.1 | 0.1 |
| 95 - 96 Spielzeuge, Sportgeräte usw. | 0.25 | 0.14 | -42.0 | 0.0 | 0.08 | 0.50 | 560.7 | 0.4 | -0.17 | 0.36 | 0.32 | 0.65 | 100.8 | 0.1 |
| 97 Kunstgegenstände, Antiquitäten | . | 0.01 | * | 0.0 | . | . | * | * | . | -0.01 | . | 0.01 | * | 0.0 |

Main investing countries**Year: 2018-2019**

| Rank | Country | Direct investments (US\$ million) | Inflows in past year (US\$ million) |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | China | 1159.42 | 506.13 |
| 2 | The Netherlands | 802.84 | 108.63 |
| 3 | UK | 358.85 | 372.72 |
| 4 | Singapore | 254.01 | 158.48 |
| 5 | USA | 187.35 | 170.57 |
| 6 | Hong Kong | 134.37 | 190.73 |
| 7 | Norway | 133.40 | 135.39 |
| 8 | India | 113.70 | 125.28 |
| 9 | Sri Lanka | 90.84 | 71.97 |
| 10 | Japan | 72.91 | 28.05 |
| 19 | <i>Switzerland</i> | 49.69 | 36.70 |
| | Total | 3888.99 | |

Source(s): Statistics provided by Bangladesh Bank