

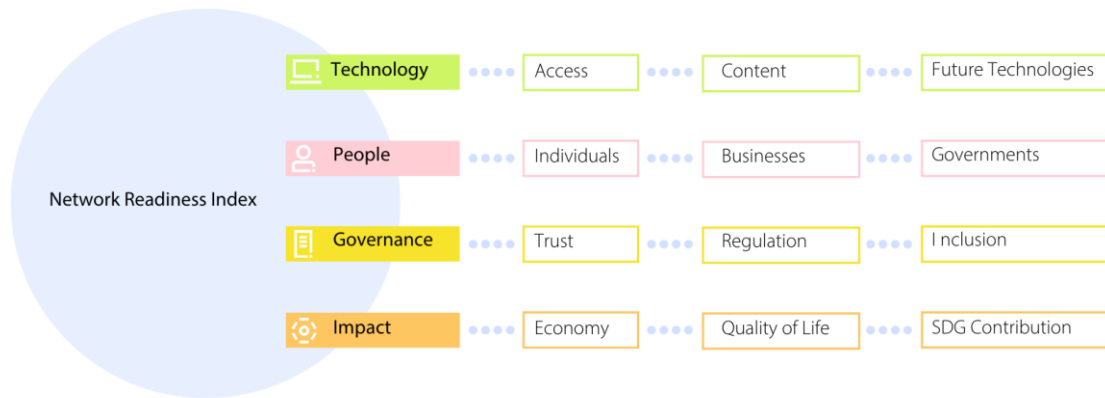
Network Readiness Index 2024



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 2024 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 133 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 54 variables.

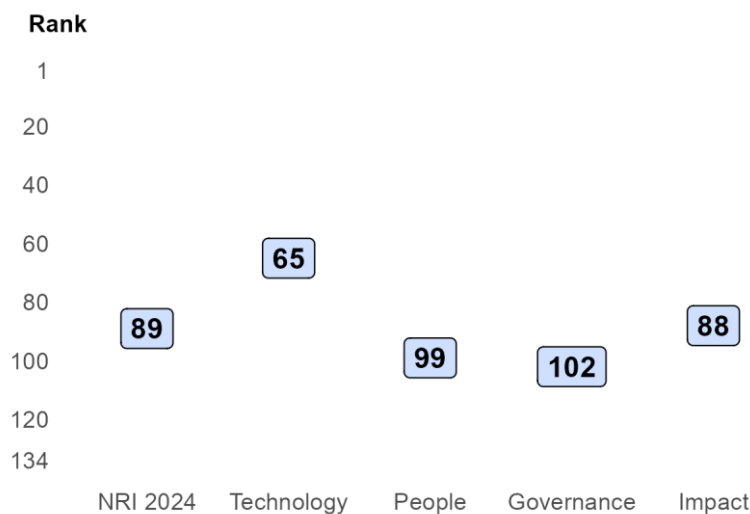
Figure 1: The NRI 2024 model



Global NRI position of Bangladesh

Bangladesh ranks 89th out of the 133 economies included in the NRI 2024 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Technology. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Governance.

Figure 2: Bangladesh global ranking, overall and by pillar



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Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Bangladesh relate to Content, Economy and Access, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the SDG Contribution, Regulation and Businesses sub-pillars.

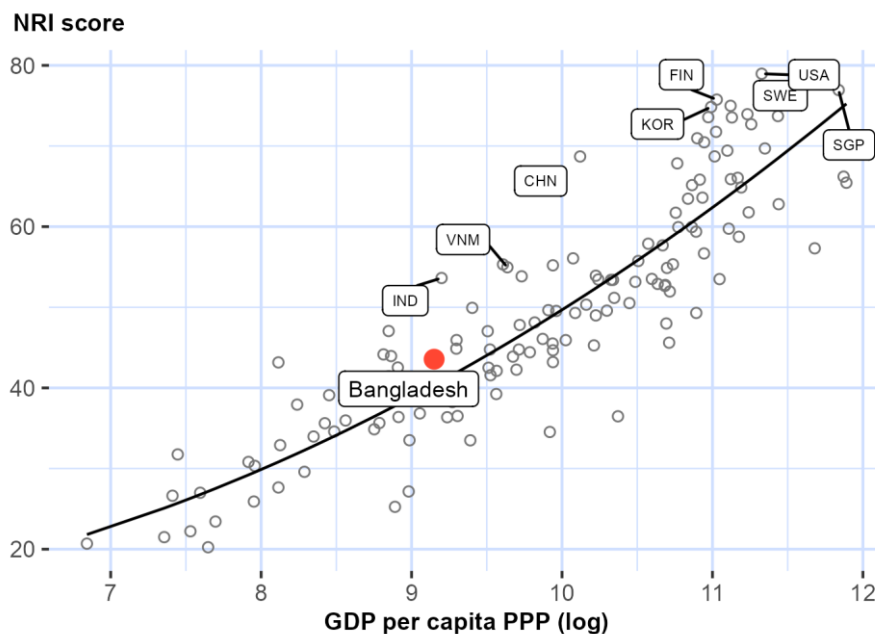
Table 1: Bangladesh rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Content	48	Quality of Life	83
Economy	56	Individuals	93
Access	62	Trust	99
Governments	71	SDG Contribution	99
Future Technologies	77	Regulation	115
Inclusion	78	Businesses	121

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: USA = United States (rank: 1), SGP = Singapore (rank: 2), FIN = Finland (3), SWE = Sweden (4), KOR = Republic of Korea (5), CHN = China (17), and IND = India (49). Bangladesh belongs to the group of lower-middle-income countries, where the best performer is Viet Nam (VNM). The top performer of its region-Asia & Pacific-is Singapore (SGP).

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Performance against its income group and region

Lower-middle-income countries

Bangladesh is ranked 11th 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, Technology, Governance and Impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in eight of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Future Technologies, Governments, Trust, Inclusion, Economy and Quality of Life.

Asia & Pacific

Bangladesh is ranked 16th 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

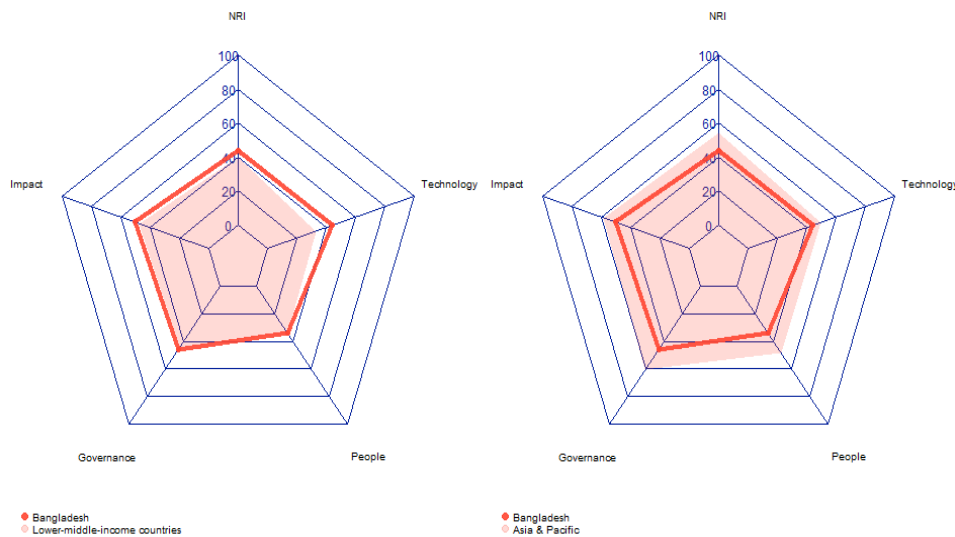


Table 2: Bangladesh scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Bangladesh	Lower-middle-income countries	Asia & Pacific
NRI	43.56	39.67	54.25
Technology	43.73	32.71	49.31
People	34.09	34.14	48.55
Governance	45.88	44.34	60.88
Impact	50.53	47.49	58.26

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Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Bangladesh performs particularly well include 1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions, 4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, and 1.2.4 AI scientific publications (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity, 3.1.3 Online access to financial account, and 3.2.1 Regulatory quality.

Table 3: Highlight of Strengths and Opportunities for Bangladesh

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	5	2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	78
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	7	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	87
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	14	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	101
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	16	2.2.1 Firms with website	113
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	20	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	116
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	23	4.2.1 Happiness	116
4.1.2 Domestic market scale	24	1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	117
3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	36	3.1.4 Internet shopping	117
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	42	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	118
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	45	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	118
		4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	127

Note: For the full list of strengths and weaknesses, see At-A-Glance table.

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NRI 2024 At-A-Glance: Bangladesh

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Rank: 89 (out of 133)

Score: 43.56

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	65	43.73	C. Governance pillar	102	45.88
1st sub-pillar: Access	62	66.54	1st sub-pillar: Trust	99	31.97
2nd sub-pillar: Content	48	32.31	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	115	49.83
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	77	32.35	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	78	55.84
B. People pillar	99	34.09	D. Impact pillar	88	50.53
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	93	42.02	1st sub-pillar: Economy	56	34.20
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	121	22.26	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	83	61.22
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	71	38.00	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	99	56.18

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score	
A. Technology pillar	65	43.73	C. Governance pillar	102	45.88	
<i>1st sub-pillar: Access</i>	62	66.54	<i>1st sub-pillar: Trust</i>	99	31.97	
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	42	75.42	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	98	39.30	
1.1.2 Handset prices	108	36.65	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	61	81.25	
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	5	70.72	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	118	4.53	○
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	73	86.71	3.1.4 Internet shopping	117	2.79	○
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	20	80.45	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Regulation</i>	115	49.83	
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	63	49.30	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	118	26.25	○
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Content</i>	48	32.31	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	116	58.93	○
1.2.1 GitHub commits	96	2.88	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	90	33.76	
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	117	0.20	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	87	75.00	○
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	67	64.45	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	92	55.22	
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	14	61.71	<i>3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion</i>	78	55.84	
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies</i>	77	32.35	3.3.1 E-Participation	74	51.16	
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	81	48.87	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	53	82.35	
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	96	29.00	3.3.3 Availability of local online content	88	50.00	
1.3.3 Robot density	NA	NA	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	101	21.96	○

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Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
1.3.4 Computer software spending	74	19.17	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	36	73.73
B. People pillar	99	34.09	D. Impact pillar	88	50.53
<i>1st sub-pillar: Individuals</i>	93	42.02	<i>1st sub-pillar: Economy</i>	56	34.20
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	23	39.43	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	NA	NA
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	94	40.84	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	24	70.14
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	103	23.60	4.1.3 Prevalence of gig economy	101	24.42
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	89	64.21	4.1.4 ICT services exports	82	8.03
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	NA	NA	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life</i>	83	61.22
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Businesses</i>	121	22.26	4.2.1 Happiness	116	20.55 ○
2.2.1 Firms with website	113	12.34 ○	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	16	92.27
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	78	0.30 ○	4.2.3 Income inequality	43	76.09
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	66	50.01	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	66	65.55
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	45	26.40	<i>3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution</i>	99	56.18
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Governments</i>	71	38.00	4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	107	37.10
2.3.1 Government online services	74	61.55	4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	NA	NA
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	69	24.00	4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	127	30.77 ○
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies	81	28.46	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	7	93.86
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	NA	NA	4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	88	50.75

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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