The Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility (CHTDF) is a multi-dimensional development programme that has been supporting the Government of Bangladesh since 2003. The programme promotes sustainable development and confidence-building in a sensitive post-conflict region, and is guided by the Chittagong Hill Tracts Accord. The current project “Strengthening Inclusive Development in Chittagong Hill Tracts” started on 1 October 2016, with an interim phase of the first three months.

CHTDF’s work is focused on strengthening the capacity of Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) institutions to effectively manage services and to encourage communities to take charge of their own development. CHTDF’s approach is based on the principles of local participation and decentralized development. As a result, over 3,500 communities are now managing their own development affairs and increasing their livelihood options.

UNDP has achieved significant results in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, contributing to policy change, implementation of the Peace Accord, confidence building in local communities, improved local institutional capacity, community empowerment, economic development, more responsive health and education systems, increased access to basic services, agriculture development, gender equality, etc. The partnership initiative “Promotion of Development and Confidence Building in the CHT”, which ended in September 2016, brought together the Government of Bangladesh, CHT institutions, donors and UNDP, and has been first largest scale development intervention implemented in CHT.

In partnership with the Government of Bangladesh, the Facility is committed in continuing the development and confidence building of the people in the region, whilst engaging with key stakeholders at national, regional and local levels along the way.

**Contact address:** Dhaka Office, IDB Bhaban, 7th Floor, Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh  
**Email:** Dejan Drobnjak, Communications Officer, [dejan.drobnjak@undp.org](mailto:dejan.drobnjak@undp.org)  
**Website:** [http://www.bhdcbd.org/](http://www.bhdcbd.org/)  
**Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/Bandarban-Hill-District-Council-985772921442382/](https://www.facebook.com/Bandarban-Hill-District-Council-985772921442382/)

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1 The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is an NGO affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. Since 1990, it has provided training to over 2600 human rights defenders and community advocates. These individuals work for a wide range of organisations working to promote shared values of human rights – in different ways. This profile is part of a series developed by DTP (ww.dtp.unsw.edu.au) to illustrate the richness and diversity of the organisations working to promote human rights more broadly.