

A large, stylized illustration of a fish, possibly a tilapia, rendered in various shades of blue. The fish is positioned diagonally, facing towards the right. The background consists of concentric, wavy blue lines that create a sense of movement and depth, resembling water or a fish's scales. The overall color palette is monochromatic, using different tones of blue.

FISH & FISHERIES

BUSINESS START-UP LICENSES

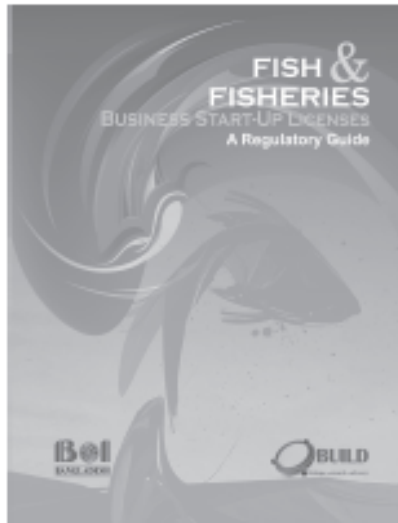
A Regulatory Guide



FISH & FISHERIES

BUSINESS START-UP LICENSES
A Regulatory Guide





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Disclaimer

The Fish and Fisheries Business Start-up Licenses: A Regulatory Guide, a compilation of various licenses, approvals and permits for this sector, is published by the Business Initiative Leading Development (BUILD). The Book is for providing information, guidance and motivation for the aspiring entrepreneurs looking to set-up and operate businesses in Fish and Fish Products in Bangladesh. While best efforts have been given in preparing this publication, BUILD is not offering it as any legal or any other form of professional advice. BUILD makes no representations or warranties and assumes no liabilities of any kind with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the contents. BUILD shall neither be held liable nor responsible to any person or entity with respect to any loss or incidents or consequential damages caused or alleged to have been caused, directly or indirectly by the information contained herein.

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FOREWORD

Fish and Fish products which is the main protein source for Bangladesh is also the third largest export earning sector of the country. BUILD conducted a study on 'Prioritization of Sector Opportunities & Constraints' and identified 12 priority sectors based on the specific criteria. Fish and Fisheries sectors were one of these priority sectors. This promising sector has been enlisted in the Export Policy 2012-15 as a thrust sector. To facilitate existing and new entrepreneurs, both at local and foreign, a regulatory guide has been prepared and published by the Business Initiative Leading development (BUILD) for providing regulatory information on different Licenses/ Registration/ Permit/ Approval/ Certificate, etc. for this sector. This guide can be a handy toolkit for any aspiring or veteran entrepreneurs.

It is common knowledge that in Bangladesh information on these Licenses is rarely offered in a systematic manner because of lack of credible sources, therefore entrepreneurs do have not any clear guidelines in terms of legal compliance. One of the most unique aspects of this guide is visual representation of the steps involved in either obtaining a new or renewing an old License. We have also tried to find out regulatory setbacks of this sector and recommended few way show these can be reduced.

The guide book consists of 3 chapters. Chapter 1 has given a brief information on sectoral profile, size of the sector, potential for growth, production and sectoral mapping of the local business and export requirements etc. Chapter 2 tried to sketch detailed regulatory requirements along with required documents, steps, fees and process maps. Chapter 3 has covered the relevant Laws and Policies.

This guide, through a compilation of basic business information and their renewal procedures will provide potential investors with a heads-up in regulatory requirements of doing business in this sector. This publication is a continuation of Business Start-up Licenses: A regulatory Guide prepared and published by BUILD.

Asif Ibrahim
Chairman, BUILD

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that Business Initiative Leading Development(BUILD) is publishing Fish Fisheries Business Start-up Licenses: A Regulatory Guide with the support from Board of Investment(BOI), Prime Minister's Office. We appreciate this kind gesture extended by BOI, the publication we believe would be helpful for the intending investors.

On behalf of BUILD I would like to thank the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock and Department of Fisheries (DOF) for providing all kinds of information and support for the preparation of the guide. We also extend our gratitude to the stakeholders and participants of the Focus Group Discussion (FGD) held at BUILD for providing inputs for making the study enriched with required information. Our special thanks go to the officials of Department of Fisheries for their continuous support. Bangladesh Frozen Food Exporters Association (BFFEA) and Bangladesh Shrimp and Fish Foundation (BSFF) are also some very reputed organizations who have extended all supports in preparing the guide book. BUILD has been benefited from the seminar organized by the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce & Industry(CCCI) to collect inputs from the business entrepreneurs working in this sector in Chittagong and would like to acknowledge gratefully their wholehearted support in preparing the book.

BUILD specially acknowledges the contribution of several government agencies, organizations and private sectors such as the Fish Inspection and Quality Control Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Information (MOI), Ministry of Commerce (MOC), National Board of Revenue (NBR), Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI), Department of Environment (DOE), Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA), Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishment (DIFE), Board of Investment (BOI), Chief Controller of Imports and Exports (CCI&E), Marine Fisheries Office, Mercantile Marine Department, Bangladesh Small & Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC), Fire Service and Civil Defense, the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI), and dozens of entrepreneurs.

I would like to congratulate and thank the BUILD team that has made this publication in reality. Fish and Fisheries Business Start-up Licenses: A Regulatory Guide- is the first ever of such a kind of publication in Bangladesh and it is really a wonderful job done by BUILD. It is a great combination of legal and other relevant information highlighting the importance of the sector.

Beside this, BUILD is grateful to the Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund (BICF), managed by IFC in partnership with the UK Government and the European Union, for their technical support.

BUILD once again would like to acknowledge sincerely the supports of the Board of Investment-Prime Minister's Office for getting sponsorships for publishing the book, it would have been a difficult task for BUILD without their cooperation.

Last but not the least, BUILD likes to express gratitude, to all those who have directly or indirectly helped in preparing the publication.

Mehbubul Alam
President, CCCI

INTRODUCING BUILD

BUILD is a unified voice of the private sector representatives of Bangladesh. It was born out of strong, timely emphasis on private sector led growth targeted through Vision 2021 and the Sixth Five Year Plan of the Government. It acts as the bridge that connects the private and public sector for better communication, coordination and collaboration in bringing reforms to improve the country's investment climate.

BUILD was established in October 2011 and registered under Trusts Act, is a joint initiative of the Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) & the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCCI). BUILD signed MOU with Board of Investment (BOI) and Bangladesh Bank (BB) and working very Closely with a number of public and private sector organizations.

BUILD can provide access to the premier private sector development thought leaders, with access to the most recent and relevant data, information and analysis on the private sector. It can help establish strong and effective partnerships with think-tanks, academics, chambers and private sector development experts. BUILD provides a sustainable platform to advocate reforms to the government on behalf of the private sector, under an institutional framework. Reform recommendations from BUILD are backed by sound research and analysis to focus on concrete and demonstrable business friendly policies.

BUILD receives Technical support from Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund (BICF) managed by IFC in partnerships with UK Government and the European Union.

HOW CAN BUILD HELP YOU

- BUILD can provide access to the premier private sector development thought leaders, with access to the most recent and relevant data, information and analysis on different business of the private sector.
- BUILD can help you establish strong and effective partnerships with think-tanks, academics, chambers and private sector development experts. By working together, it will provide a united voice on business reforms.
- BUILD can advocate for business reforms in Bangladesh that directly improve the environment in which you do business. It can pursue business reforms that are of interest in business development, making it easier, faster and cheaper to conduct business in Bangladesh.
- BUILD can allow you to participate in making concrete and positive changes, the benefits of which BUILD can later quantify through monitoring and evaluation.
- BUILD can analyze business process and suggest for changes through business process reengineering.
- BUILD takes-up cases from the private sector for simplifying those through policy reforms without involving additional expenditure of the government exchequers.