

# EXTREME POVERTY

*Does it matter....?*

*What to do about it....?*

# *Poverty - All In Proportion*

## **Good News**

- Proportion of poor declined in 1990s
- HIES indicates process continuing
- Might be on track to meet MDG 1

## ***But.....***

- With population growth, poor *increased*
- *Proportion* of extreme poor not declining

# *Why The Extreme Poor?*

- Numbers still +/- 30 million
- Inequality increasing
- Urbanisation looming problem
- Hard to reach – NGOs & MF not worked
- Citizenship & rights issues unresolved
- ***Not:***

“extreme poor are like average poor, but only poorer”

# *Marginalisation*

## ■ **Spatial**

– Marginal environments – *haor, chars, sea fish*

## ■ **Social**

– Ethnicity, exclusion, gender etc

## ■ **Physical**

– Age, infirmity, disability

*“Rising tide since 1990 did not lift all boats”*

*Chronic Poverty Report*

# *Who Are They?*

*Extremely poor people suffer multiple deprivation and have limited or no:*

- Assets – Land, Livestock, Shelter
- Livelihood & personal security
- Social or political capital
- Ability to resist or recover from shocks
- Access to health, education & services

# *Confusion in Terminology*

*Very, ultra, extreme, hard-core, poorest*

- Many ways to measure
  - Direct Calorie Intake, Cost of Basic Needs etc
- Differing environments
  - Monga, chars, haors, urban, coastal*
- Socio-cultural dimensions
  - Adivasi, caste, occupation*
- Economic
  - Land, assets, income, shelter
- Individual
  - Divorced, abandoned, elderly, disabled, orphans, lack of able bodied

# *Approaches*

- **Asset transfer**

Provide resources & support

- **Social environment**

Address elites & language

- **Market forces**

Avoid adverse incorporation

- **Urban**

Tackle legality & recognition

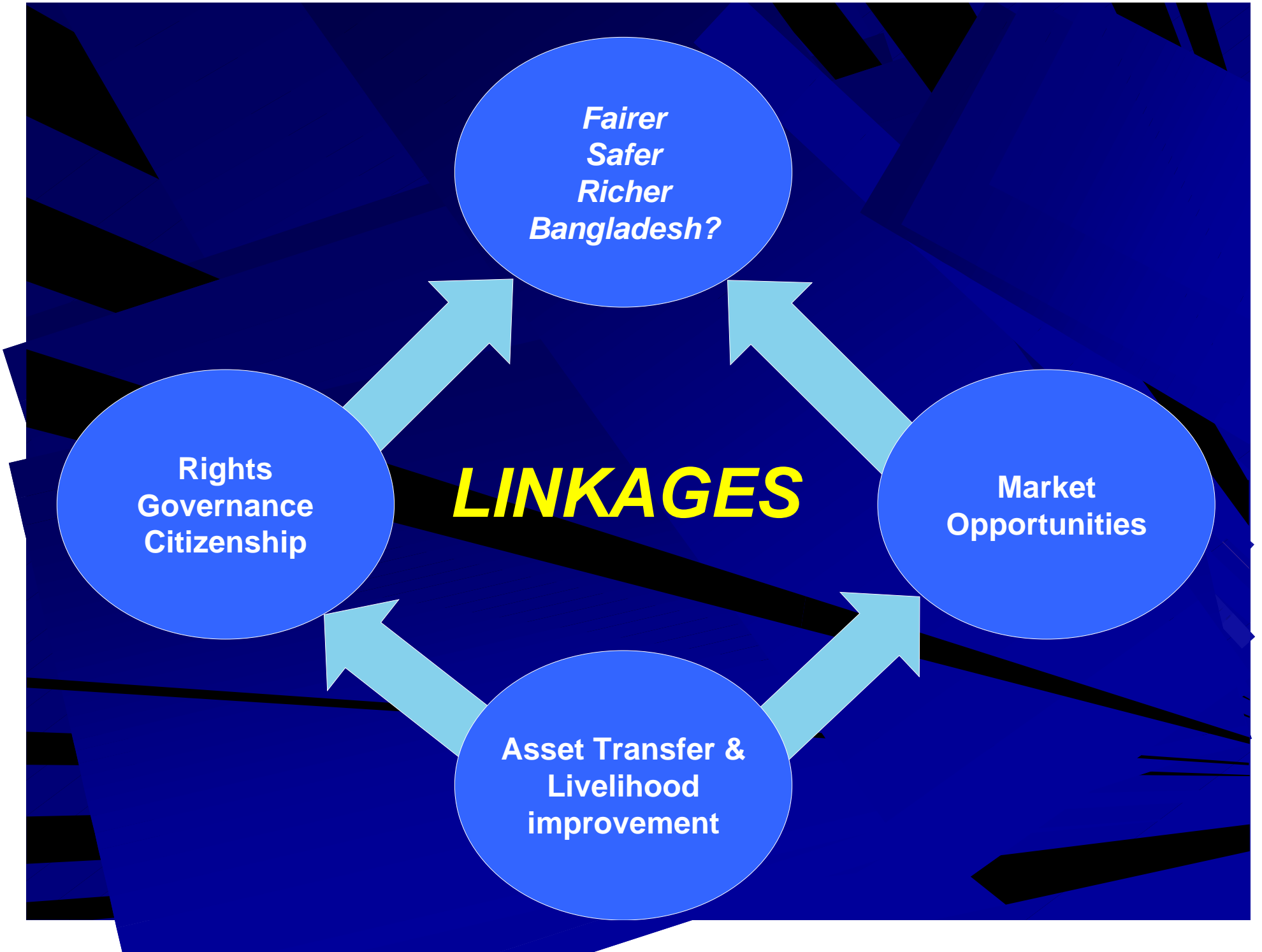
*Fairer  
Safer  
Richer  
Bangladesh?*

***LINKAGES***

Rights  
Governance  
Citizenship

Market  
Opportunities

Asset Transfer &  
Livelihood  
improvement





# *RISKS*

Community support

Market opportunities

Health Services

Education

Assets

Loss of land

Environment shock

Population

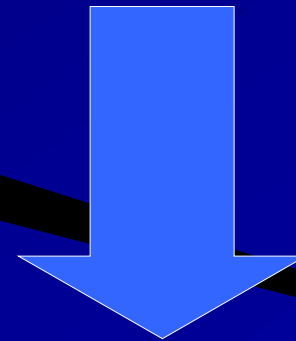
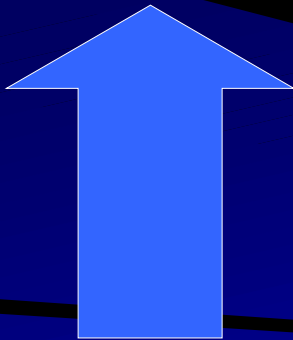
Unemployment

Health shock

**SUSTAINABILITY**

**POVERTY REDUCTION**

**VULNERABILITY**



# Putting Our Money.....

- Chars Livelihood Programme £50m\*  
Asset transfer, Economic, Community
- BRAC Challenging Frontiers of Poverty Reduction £75m  
Asset transfer, Support, Micro-Finance, Services
- Economic Empowerment of Poorest £65m  
NGO Challenge Fund
- Urban Programme £60m  
Infrastructure, Income, Community
- Rights & Governance £35m\*  
Support to Samata, MJ, Nijera Kori, TIB etc

**£285m**

# *Processes*

- Increased opportunities

Access to services, micro-finance, employment

- Reduce vulnerability

Secure assets, resistance to shocks, greater security

- Less social, economic & political exclusion

Voice, poor people obtain entitlements

- Greater coherence

GoB, donors & NGOs work to reduce extreme poverty

# Threats.....

## ■ Climate change

- Reduced land area for agriculture
- Displacement & disruption

## ■ Globalisation

- Churning & insecurity – the Dark Side.....
- Lack of autonomy

## ■ Population growth

- 100 million *more* by 2050

## ■ Stability

- Disaffected

# *Wider Synergies*

- Pro-poor growth
- Ladders out of poverty
- GoB Safety Nets
- Social protection
- Health vulnerability
- Economic vulnerability
- Resource allocation
- PRSP
- Economic links & Social Transfers
- Improved targeting
- Community focus
- Vouchers
- Insurance
- Citizenship

# ***A Gleam In The Eye.....***

## ***IF we can.....***

find cost of taking a household out of extreme poverty, with phasing, support etc

## ***We could:***

- üagree cost of ending extreme poverty
- üfeed this into PRSP development
- ülink to Scaling Up, IFF planning etc....

The background is a solid blue color with several abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in black and white. These shapes include triangles, rectangles, and irregular polygons, some of which are tilted or rotated. The overall effect is a dynamic, layered composition.

Why not go for it.....?