

# Bangladesh



**Joined Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement:** September 2012

**National multi-stakeholder platform for nutrition:** SUN MSP

**SUN government focal point/country coordinator:** Ms. Kazi Zebunnesa Begum, Additional Secretary, Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

## COUNTRY NUTRITION STATUS

### → Annual country nutrition indicators from the Global Nutrition Report:

<https://globalnutritionreport.org/resources/nutrition-profiles/asia/southern-asia/bangladesh>

### ● National multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)

Date established: 2012

### ● MSP annual action plan exists

### ● Subnational nutrition coordination mechanism

● Subnational MSPs exist

● Subnational MSPs have annual action plans

### ●●● National nutrition plan

Second National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN 2) (2016–2025) –

<https://scalingupnutrition.org/resource-library/national-nutrition-plan-bangladesh>

### ● Advocacy and communications framework/plan

#### SUN networks in-country presence

● SUN Civil Society Network

● SUN Business Network

● UN Nutrition

● SUN Academia Network

● SUN Donor Network

● Others: e.g. youth, parliamentarian, media

#### Finance for nutrition

● Resource mobilization strategy exists

● Budget tracking exercise done this year

● Funding gaps identified this year

● Domestic expenditures on nutrition tracked

● Yes ● In process ● No ● Costed ● M&E framework

## COUNTRY PRIORITIES 2022

→ Recruiting District Nutrition Officers.

→ Developing an operational plan for the implementation of Bangladesh's 12 Nutrition for Growth (N4G) commitments.

→ Developing a multisectoral urban nutrition strategy.

## 2021 SHARED COUNTRY GOOD PRACTICE

**Topic:** Multisectoral coordination

**Title:** Multisectoral coordination improves nutrition

**About:** NPAN 2 involves relevant ministries in a multisectoral response and represents the Government's commitment to end malnutrition. With a robust policy framework and strong political commitment, Bangladesh aims to achieve nutrition-related Sustainable Development Goal and World Health Assembly targets.

Second National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN 2) –

<https://scalingupnutrition.org/resource-library/second-national-plan-of-action-for-nutrition-bangladesh>

## PROGRESS TOWARDS

### SUN 3.0 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES (SO)

#### → SO.1 Strengthen and sustain strong policy and advocacy environments

Bangladesh has undertaken several initiatives to create strong policy and advocacy environments, with 22 ministries brought together under the implementation plan of the Second National Plan of Action for Nutrition. Policymakers regularly have their awareness raised on nutrition issues and actions needed. An advocacy strategy has been developed to support better nutrition results.

#### → SO.2 Develop and align shared country priorities for action

The Government of Bangladesh is highly committed to improving coordination among stakeholders working on nutrition. The country has a joint declaration under the SUN Secretariat, enabling all platforms to work towards the same target and achieve the same goals. An assessment was carried out on the current situation of nutrition-sensitive indicator coverage in key sectors, with gaps identified. A strategy was then developed to overcome bottlenecks relating to underlying causes and to assist in the preparation of a community-based model to improve coverage and the nutrition of children and women. The framework for the model of community-targeted actions has been prepared and approved.

#### → SO.3 Build and strengthen country capacity

Bangladesh is trying to improve both human resource capacity and institutional capacity. Under the National Nutrition Services Operational Plan, training is provided to field workers, managers and the central-level monitoring entity to build their capacity. Fundraising is another important area to strengthen the country's capacity. The Prime Minister is very keen to improve the nutrition situation, as evidenced during the COVID-19 pandemic through her directions for all relevant ministries to work on improving the nutritional status of children, adolescents and mothers. This resulted in more funds being directed towards the food, agriculture and livestock sectors.

#### → SO.4 Ensure governance of SUN that promotes country leadership and responsibilities of government, aligns the resources of all SUN Movement stakeholders behind country priorities and strengthens 360 mutual accountability

The SUN MSP has provided opportunities for collaboration among partners and stakeholders. Multisectoral coordination platforms and mechanisms also exist under the National Nutrition Council (NNC), such as the Executive Committee, headed by the Minister of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), to which relevant ministries and partners are members. There are five nutrition-specific and -sensitive platforms under the NNC that focus on capacity-building, advocacy, communication, monitoring, evaluation and research. Under the MoHFW, 11 operational plans have been developed, with 21 ministries and 16 districts having prepared individual annual nutrition workplans budgeted using their own resources.