



BANGLADESH SOCIAL SECURITY CONFERENCE 2018

**Launching of NSSS Action Plan
National Conference on Social Security Programme Review
and Social Security Fair**

04-06 November 2018, BICC, Dhaka



**Organized by
Cabinet Division, Government of Bangladesh**



Technical Assistance from
Social Security Policy Support (SSPS) Programme of
Cabinet Division and GED



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Introduction

Encouraged by the enhanced economic capacity and driven by constitutional provisions to ensure social security for all deserving people, Bangladesh embarked upon establishing a lifecycle based inclusive social security system building on the existing social safety net programmes. As one of the major milestones towards that goal the government formulated the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh which was approved by the Cabinet on 1st June 2015. Recently the NSSS action plan has been approved by the government and is to be formally launched soon. The launching session will be accompanied with social security conference and fair.

Date and Venue

The date for the programme is 04-06 November 2018. The venue for the programme will be Carnival Hall and Harmony Hall of Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC) at Dhaka. Detailed programme leaf is attached herewith.

Context

The core of the NSSS is programme coordination among the implementing ministries and consolidation of programmes along a lifecycle framework, with programmes for different age groups of people, especially children, vulnerable women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. The NSSS implies a shift from current discretionary approach to a targeted universal approach to avoid leakages and under-coverage.

Another great achievement, in this regard, is formulation of the Action Plan (2016-21) for implementation of the NSSS with concrete and time-bound indicators. The NSSS Action Plan details out major activities to be executed by line ministries till 2021. The Central Management Committee (CMC) on Social Security headed by the Cabinet Secretary assigned upon a sub-committee chaired by Secretary (Coordination and Reform) to complete the process of action plan formulation. The sub-committee, after conducting a series of consultations with stakeholders, finalized the Action Plan which has been approved by the CMC in its 11th meeting by the end of 2017.

The Social Security Policy Support (SSPS) Programme of the Cabinet Division and the General Economics Division (GED) of Planning Commission with funds from DFAT (AusAid), DFID and UNDP provided support in formulation of the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh which was inaugurated in November 2015 with Hon'ble Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament as the Chief Guest. Subsequently the SSPS programme also played critical role in supporting the sub-committee in formulation of the NSSS Action Plan. Now the NSSS Action Plan needs formal launching to focus on the reform agenda of social protection by the policy makers, NGOs, development partners and social protection implementing agencies.

In the meantime, the SSPS Programme has produced a number of other research works and publications on social protection, especially the Background Research on Social Protection, which provided basis base for the NSSS, and the ABCD of Social Protection, which is a very concise booklet to provide quick view of social protection perspectives in Bangladesh. These two publications will also be unwrapped in the launching ceremony.

The launching ceremony will be followed by a three-day conference and a fair on social protection where recent issues and achievement of different social protection implementing agencies of GoB and NGOs can be showcased and discussed. Hon'ble Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, MP has kindly agreed to grace the ceremony as the Chief Guest, while Mr. Muhammad Abdul Mannan, MP, Hon'ble State Minister of Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Planning has agreed to be special guest. H.E. Ms. Julia Niblett, High Commissioner, Australian High Commission in Dhaka, Mr. Jim McAlpine, Country Representative of DFID in Bangladesh, and Mr. Sudipto Mukerjee, Country Director, UNDP Bangladesh will also grace the ceremony as guests of honour. Mr. Mohammad Shafiul Alam, Cabinet Secretary of the Government of Bangladesh will chair the ceremony.

Objectives

The general objectives of the launching ceremony, conference and review are:

- a) To enhance visibility of the of the Government initiatives to reform social protection system of the country to people in general and the policy makers, NGOs, development partners and social protection implementing agencies;
- b) To consolidate supports and cooperation of the government organizations, NGOs, private sectors and development partners in implementing the social protection reform agenda of the NSSS and the Action Plan;
- c) To share knowledge on different issues of social protection and contributions of different ministries and NGOs in this sector and thereby to explore scopes for further boosting the social protection reform process.

The specific objectives of the programmes are as follows:

- a) Provide substantial support to the NSSS mid-term evaluation in the focus areas of life-cycle approach with less exclusion/inclusion errors;
- b) Support mapping out MIS base of different ministries and NGOs. It will contribute to feasibility study on Single Registry MISs at Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) under Statistics and Informatics Division (SID);
- c) Support to establish a GO-NGO platform as well as create bondage in social security programmes with private sectors;
- d) Create a base on practice of integrity in social protection, policy consent on feasibility study and pilot on Social Insurance in Bangladesh; and
- e) Enhance visibility of the Government's initiatives in social security reform, which will provide substantial support to formulating the 8th Five-Year Plan of Bangladesh.

Background Information

Social security is mandated by the Constitution of Bangladesh, with Article 15 (d) obligating the State to secure the right to social security for its citizens. At a Social Protection Conference in Dhaka in 2011, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Bangladesh announced a commitment to develop a national strategy for social protection in Bangladesh. Bangladesh has over the years, through an incrementally growing portfolio of social safety nets, built a reasonable foundation for social security as a core strategy to deal with the triple problem of poverty, vulnerability and marginalization. Whilst new challenges have been confronted as they emerged, the response has largely been based on flexible experimentation. There is a need to ensure that policy decisions and programme initiatives are informed by background knowledge of the in-country experiences and better understanding of the dynamics of poverty and vulnerability in relations to social security.

Assisted by the Social Security Policy Support (SSPS) Programme under DFAT, DFID and UNDP fund, the Cabinet Division and the General Economics Division (GED) of Planning Commission with the guidance of Central Management Committee (CMC) the Government of Bangladesh embarked upon the formulation of a comprehensive National Social Security Strategy (NSSS). The National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) was approved by the Cabinet in mid-2015. The core of the strategy is programme coordination and consolidation along life cycle risks, with programmes for children, working age people – including specific focus on youth and vulnerable women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. A Technical Sub-Committee under the leadership of Secretary, Coordination and Reforms of Cabinet Division provided guidance to development of NSSS Action Plan (2016-21) for enrolling the NSSS through effective coordination from national to ministerial and sub-national levels. It provided specific plans to bring reform in existing national social security programmes vis-a-vis service delivery consolidation to achieve better efficiency and results.

The conference on Bangladesh Social Security Programmes will enable social protection actors to understand each and every social security schemes and programmes implemented by government agencies, NGOs, and private sectors with methodology including beneficiaries and programme delivery mechanisms with evidences, which can be scaled up nationally with scope and opportunities. In addition, a national social security fair will increase in-depth knowledge among the social protection actors and policy makers, recognize the knowledge gaps, and establish a scope of work closely, and prompt policy discussions in successful implementation of NSSS and its action plan.

Books for Launching

During the launching session, the Action Plan of NSSS will be the main book to be launched by the honourable guests. In addition, two more books will also be unwrapped, namely “Exploring the Evidence: Background Research Papers for Preparing the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh” and the “ABCD of Social Protection in Bangladesh”.

NSSS Action Plan

The NSSS Action Plan has been developed in line with the NSSS of Bangladesh to deal with the triple problems of poverty, vulnerability and marginalization, which is first of its kind approved by the Cabinet in mid-2015 and launched in November 2015. Both NSSS of Bangladesh and its Action Plan have been developed following a comprehensive and thorough participatory process, comprising of a series of stakeholder consultations and review workshops. The NSSS Action Plan has been an instrument for all ministries involved in social security programmes to rolling out the NSSS of Bangladesh through a reform process to ensure better efficiency and results, and augment Bangladesh’s progress for achieving sustainable Middle-Income Country (MIC) status by 2021.

Background Research Papers

The book “Exploring the Evidence: Background Research Papers for Preparing the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh” is a compendium of nine different research papers and a NSSS framework paper that had been conducted to facilitate the formulation of the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) of Bangladesh in 2015. This compendium has been published with the intention of helping social protection actors and stakeholders to explore a number of evidences surrounding social security in Bangladesh. It will be a useful document which will serve as a knowledge bank for those who want to know about social security issues that exist in Bangladesh.

ABCD of Social Protection

The “ABCD of Social Protection in Bangladesh” has been developed to meet the basic theoretical knowledge on social protection and some practical aspects of social protection in Bangladesh context. The booklet is meant neither to be any research work nor does it deal with any debatable theoretical perspectives of social protection. Rather it has been designed to present the basic issues of social protection. The contents of the booklet have been selected based on experience of numerous orientation sessions organized by the SSPS Programme for the officials of different line ministries, departments and the field administrations involved in social protection. This booklet will prove useful for basic training on social security.

Programme Schedule

This is a three-day long consecutive programmes commencing with the book launch and the inauguration ceremony, followed by Social Security Programme Review Conference and Social Security Fair. The detailed programme schedule is given at the last part of this brochure.

General Guidelines

In order to make all the arrangements for the three-day long programme, the ministries were given some general guidelines pursuant to the decisions of the coordination meeting of social security focal points held on 08 October 2018, for ministries and NGOs for participation in the Launch of NSSS Action Plan.

The secretaries of the social security implementing ministries were requested to participate at least in the launching/inaugural session on 4 November 2018 at 11.00 am. In addition, each ministry was requested to ensure participation of 3-4 relevant officers of the ministry and the subordinate agencies in the launching session. A team of 3-4 relevant officers headed by the social protection focal point officer of each line ministry are to participate in all the working sessions of the review conference.

Reports and Presentation in the Conference

The ministries sent reports on each of their major programmes and the programmes they want to scale up. Their reports focused on brief description of the programme (number of participants, budget, coverage area etc.) and the lifecycle stage and thematic clusters in which these fit in. The reports also highlighted the contribution of the programmes to human development and economic growth, poverty reduction etc. Some of the success stories including innovation, efficiency etc. were narrated along with the challenges in delivery of benefits and lessons learned.

If the ministry has plan to expand any of their small programmes these should be reported separately. There should be mention of clear evidence-based justification for scale up in the light of NSSS. Each ministry was requested to send their own report by 25 October 2018 to the Cabinet Division along with soft copy. The report should be confined to two A4 pages for each of the programme. The reports should be preferably in Bangla.

Each participating ministry will have to make presentation on their social protection programmes and future plans by use of power point slides. The ministries which have their membership in more than one thematic clusters will have to make presentation in all the relevant thematic sessions (please refer to the programme schedule). In that case, they will have to classify their programmes according to thematic clusters and make the presentation separately. If some of the social protection programmes have multiple components fitting in different clusters, the programme may be classified according to the most important component of it. It is strongly discouraged to present the same programme in several sessions. The presentation slides may be preferably prepared in English language as a number of foreign delegates will be present there. But the oral presentation may continue in Bangla.

The ministries may have a number of small or limited scale programmes, which they consider for nationwide scale up. Such programmes should present separately. They should provide justification for such scale up. If the NSSS has recommended for such scale up, then only the reference to the NSSS will be sufficient. Otherwise it should be justified in terms of contribution to human development, economic growth, including reduction of poverty and vulnerability.

The social security Fair

National Social Security Fair will be inaugurated after launching programme at the premises of the launching venue. All social security programme implementing ministries and leading NGO in similar field will take part in three day-long social protection fair. The last date for registration is 25 October 2018. Any ministry or NGOs or a private sector organization desiring to participate in the fair have to register for within the date line. The SSPS Programme of the Cabinet Division will prepare stalls for each of the participating organizations. However, the products are to be displayed by the participating ministries or organizations. The participating ministries and organizations will be requested to showcase their flagship programmes in social protection by use of banners, placard, audio-visuals etc. In addition, there will be a big digital screen where the highlights of the programmes of different ministries and NGOs will be shown.

Launching of National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) Action Plan and
Inauguration of Social Security Programme Review Conference (04-06 November 2018)

PROGRAMME

Day – One, 04 November 2018

Book Launching and Inauguration Ceremony
Venue – Carnival Hall, BICC

10:00 - 11:00	Registration and Tea	
11:00- 11:05	Welcome speech	Mr. A K Mohiuddin Ahmad Additional Secretary (Coordination) Cabinet Division
11:05 - 11:20	Brief on NSSS Action Plan	Mr. N M Zeaul Alam Secretary, Coordination and Reforms, Cabinet Division
11:20 – 11:35	Brief on NSSS and Background Research Papers by Special Guest	Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member (Senior Secretary), General Economics Division (GED) of Planning Commission
11:35 - 11:40	Unwrapping of a) NSSS Action Plan b) NSSS Background Studies c) ABCD of Social Protection in Bangladesh	All guests on the podium will unwrap the NSSS Action Plan and other Books
11:40 – 11:50	Speech by Guest of Honour	Mr. Jim McAlpine, Country Representative DFID Bangladesh
11:50 – 12:00	Speech by Guest of Honour	Mr. Sudipto Mukerjee, Country Director, UNDP Bangladesh
12:00 – 12:10	Speech by Guest of Honour	H.E. Ms. Julia Niblett, High Commissioner, Australian High Commission, Bangladesh
12:10 – 12:20	Speech by Special Guest	Mr. M.A. Mannan, MP, Hon'ble State Minister Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Planning
12:20 - 12:30	Speech by Special Guest	Mr. Rashed Khan Menon, MP Hon'ble Minister Ministry of Social Welfare
12:30– 12:50	Speech by Chief Guest followed by Inauguration of National Conference on Social Security Programme Review	Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury MP, Hon'ble Speaker, Bangladesh Parliament
12:50– 01:00	Speech by Chairperson	Mr. Mohammad Shafiul Alam Cabinet Secretary Government of Bangladesh
01:00 - 01:05	Vote of Thanks	Mr. Md. Faizul Islam National Project Director (Joint Chief), SSPS Programme
01:05 – 01:30	Visit of the Fair by Hon'ble Chief Guest	Hon'ble Chief Guest accompanied with other guests
01:30 – 02:15	Lunch	

PROGRAMME

Day – One, (Second Half) 04 November 2018

National Conference on Social Security Programme Review
Venue – Carnival Hall, BICC

02:15– 03:30	Consolidation of Social Allowance Programmes – Way forward	Social Allowance Cluster Ministry of Social Welfare	Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Social Welfare Presentation: Focal Points of Cluster Ministries
03:30 – 03:45	Tea Break		
03:45 – 05:00	Consolidation of Social Allowance Programmes – Way forward (Continuation)		
05:00 – 05:15	Closing of the Session		
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Social Welfare 2. Ministry of Women and Children Affairs 3. Ministry of Cultural Affairs 4. Ministry of Liberation War Affairs 5. Health Services Division 6. Medical Education & Family Welfare Division 7. Local Government Division 8. Ministry of Labour and Employment 9. Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs 10. Finance Division

Day – Two, 05 November 2018

National Conference on Social Security Programme Review
Venue – Carnival Hall, BICC

Time	Review Sessions	Cluster/Ministry	Presentation/Responsibility
09:30 – 10:00	Registration		
10:00 – 11:30	Food Security Preparedness and Efficiency in Emergency Response	Food Security and Disaster Response Cluster Ministry of Food	Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Food Presentation: Focal Points of Cluster Ministries – 1. Ministry of Food 2. Ministry of Disaster Management & Relief 3. Health Services Division 4. Medical Education and Family Welfare 5. Ministry of Agriculture 6. Ministry of Women and Children Affairs 7. Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock 8. Ministry of Social Welfare 9. Ministry of Commerce
11:30– 11:45	Tea Break		
11:45 – 01:15	Social Security for Development of Human Capital and Transformation of Marginalized Groups	Human Development and Social Empowerment, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education	Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education Presentation: Focal Points of Cluster Ministries: 1. Ministry of Primary & Mass Education 2. Prime Minister's Office 3. Ministry of Land 4. Secondary and Higher Education Division 5. Technical and Madrasah Education Division 6. Ministry of Social Welfare 7. Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment 8. Health Services Division 9. Medical Education and Family Welfare 10. Ministry of Labour and Employment 11. Ministry of Industry 12. Ministry of Women and Children Affairs 13. Information & Communication Technology Division 14. Ministry of Youth and Sports
01:15 – 02:00	Lunch		
02:00 – 03:30	Challenges and prospects of consolidating workfare programmes	Labour and Livelihood Intervention, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief	Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief

Day – Two, 05 November 2018

National Conference on Social Security Programme Review

Venue – Carnival Hall, BICC

Time	Review Sessions	Cluster/Ministry	Presentation/Responsibility
02:00 – 03:30	Challenges and prospects of consolidating workfare programmes	Labour and Livelihood Intervention, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief	<p>Presentation: Focal Points of Cluster Ministries</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief 2. Local Government Division 3. Rural Development and Cooperatives Division 4. Ministry of Women and Children Affairs 5. Ministry of Social Welfare 6. Finance Division 7. Ministry of Labour and Employment 8. Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock 9. Ministry of Agriculture 10. Ministry of Water Resources
03:30 – 03:45	Tea		
11:45 – 01:15	Social Insurance Prospect in Bangladesh	Social Insurance, Ministry of Labour and Employment	<p>Special Guest: Secretary, Financial Institution Division</p> <p>Chair: Secretary, Ministry Labour and Employment</p> <p>Presenters: SSPS Programme and IDRA</p> <p>Review by: Social Insurance Cluster Ministries</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial Institutions Division 2. Finance Division 3. Health Services Division 4. Medical Education and Family Welfare 5. Ministry of Labour and Employment 6. Ministry of Social Welfare 7. Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment; Insurance Companies
05:15 - 05:30	Closing of the Session		

**Launch of National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) Action Plan and
Inauguration of Social Security Programme Review Conference
04-06 November 2018**

Day – Three, 06 November 2018

**National Conference on Social Security Programme Review
Venue – Carnival Hall, BICC**

Time	Review Sessions	Cluster/Ministry	Presentation/Responsibility
9:30 – 10:00	Registration		
10:00 – 11:30	Review of Social Security Initiatives of NGOs in the Light of NSSS	Cabinet Division	Chair: Secretary Coordination and Reforms, Cabinet Division Participation: Representatives of invited NGOs ASA, BRAC, MJF, Action Aid Bangladesh, PKSF, TMSS, CARE, Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha, MRDI, Save the Children, HelpAge International Bangladesh, World Vision Bangladesh, RDRS Bangladesh, Plan International Bangladesh, Gonoshasthaya Kendra, Sushilan, bKash, Bank Asia, SureCash, Rocket
11:30 – 11:45	Tea Break		
11:30 – 11:45	Review of Social Security Initiatives of NGOs in the Light of NSSS (Continuation)	Cabinet Division	
01:15 – 02:15	Lunch		
02:15 – 03:30	Governance and Integrity in Social Security Programmes	Cabinet Division	Chair: Secretary, Coordination and Reforms, Cabinet Division Keynote speech: Cabinet Division
03:30 -04:00	Tea Break		
04:00 - 05:00	Wrapping up session	Cabinet Division	Chief Guest: Cabinet Secretary Special Guest: Member (Senior Secretary) GED Chair: Secretary Coordination and Reforms, Cabinet Division
05:00	Tea and closing of the session		

National Social Security Fair, 04-06 November 2018
Harmony Hall
Bangabandhu International Conference Centre (BICC)

PROGRAMME

Date and Time	Items	Responsibility
25 October	Confirmation of Participation	Expecting Ministries and NGOs
03 November		
08:00 pm	Setting up of stalls	Cabinet Division, SSPS Programme
04 November		
08:00 pm	Hand over the stalls to the representatives of participating ministries and NGOs	SSPS Programme
08:00 – 11:00	Decorate the stalls with demonstrable products/items/graphics/audio-visual etc.	Respective Ministries and NGOs
12:30 pm	Make the stalls ready for visit	Respective Ministries and NGOs
01:05– 01:30 (to be adjusted with the end of preceding inauguration ceremony)	Visit of stalls by Hon'ble Chief Guest and special guests and guests of honour (two/three officers from each ministry/NGO will be ready to brief the guests)	Respective Ministries and NGOs
01:30 – 06:00	Open for visitors	Respective Ministries and NGOs
06:00	Closing for the day	Respective Ministries and NGOs
05 November		
10:00 -06:00	Open the stalls for visitors	Respective Ministries and NGOs
06 November		
06:00	Closing and Winding up	Cabinet Division, SSPS Programme

Contact Persons

Please contact the following persons for any clarification:

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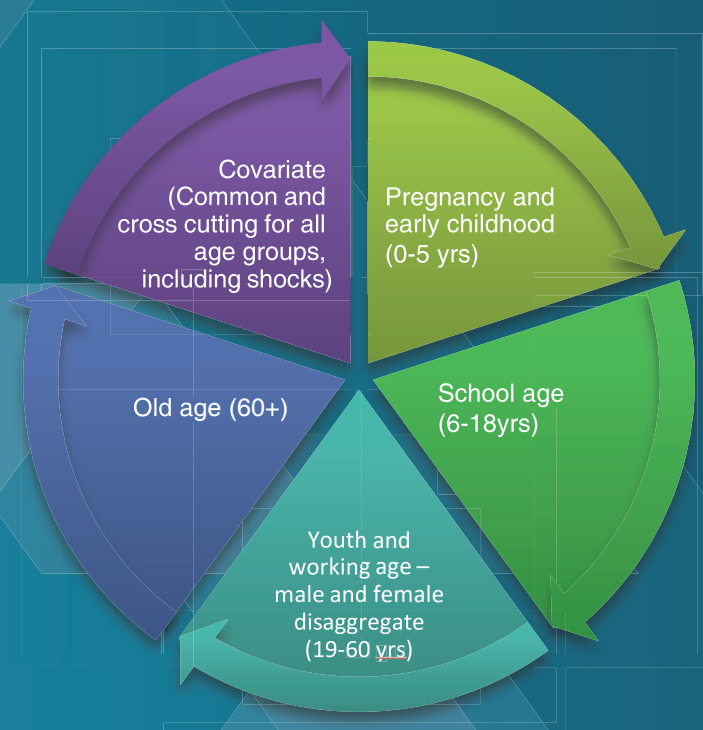
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SSPS Programme