



Provision For Food & Nutrition in the Context of National Social Security Strategy

Policy Consultation
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Provision for Food and Nutrition: Basic concept

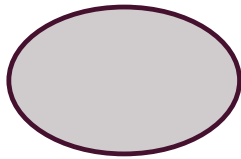
Food security:

- Access to food: Physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life
- ✓ domestic production of foodgrains
- ✓ Procurement of foodgrains through Open Market Operations (OMSs)
- ✓ Import of foodgrains
- Supply of food at affordable price (provision for subsidy, if required)
- Nutrition supplement: added with foodgrain supply

Food security programmes in Bangladesh: types

1. food transfer as a benefit (e.g.VGD)
2. food transfer as compensation for work (e.g. Food for Work)
3. provision for food as a disaster relief (e.g.VGF, TR, GR)
4. stabilizing food prices (e.g. Open Market Sales, Food Card & Fair Price Programmes).

National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) & Reform Commitment



Vision

Build an **inclusive** Social Security System (SSS) for all deserving Bangladeshis that effectively tackles and prevents poverty and inequality and contributes to **broader human development**, employment and economic growth.

- The NSSS has been formulated in 2015 by GED;
- Its action plan has been launched in 2018;
- The main focus of the NSSS vision is inclusive social security and broader human development;
- **Reform areas**
 - Life cycle based harmonisation
 - Strengthening the System of Social Security for People with Disabilities
 - Strengthening the Social Security System for the Urban Poor
 - Consolidate and Reform Food Security Type Programmes
 - Consolidate small and special schemes/programmes

National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) & Reform Commitment (contd.)

➤ Institutional Reform:

- CMC (Central Management Committee)-led Cluster Coordination Approach of Implementing Ministries (till 2025)
- Ministry of Social Welfare to implement Life Cycle Programmes and Coordinate with SSPs (from 2026 onwards)
- Establish a Single Registry Management Information System
- Strengthen Processes for Selecting Recipients of Social Security Schemes
- Establish a Complaints and Grievance Mechanism
- Establish a Results Based Monitoring & Evaluation System (M&E)

Proposed Reforms in NSSS: Consolidate and Reform Food Security Type Programmes

Consolidation principles:

1. Consolidation of Food Transfer Programmes: from food transfer to cash transfer (The Government will in a longer perspective consider converting all workfare based food programmes into cash transfer)
2. The transfer of food during and after disaster will continue as a disaster management response as necessary under the management of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
3. The scope of the Open Market Sales (OMS) and Food Card managed by the Ministry of Food will be expanded as necessary to tackle hunger and food affordability issues as appropriate.
4. The OMS will remain self-targeted as presently
5. Food distribution through OMS and as disaster relief will be coordinated with the Government's Food Stock Policy and Fair Price Policy as appropriate
6. Nutrition programmes like school feeding and therapeutic feeding for children suffering from extreme nutrition) will continue, with proposed engagement of mothers' clubs.

Examples: VGD, Rural Maintenance Programme (workfare programmes for rural employment), OMS, etc.

Strengthen Programmes for Managing Covariate Risks

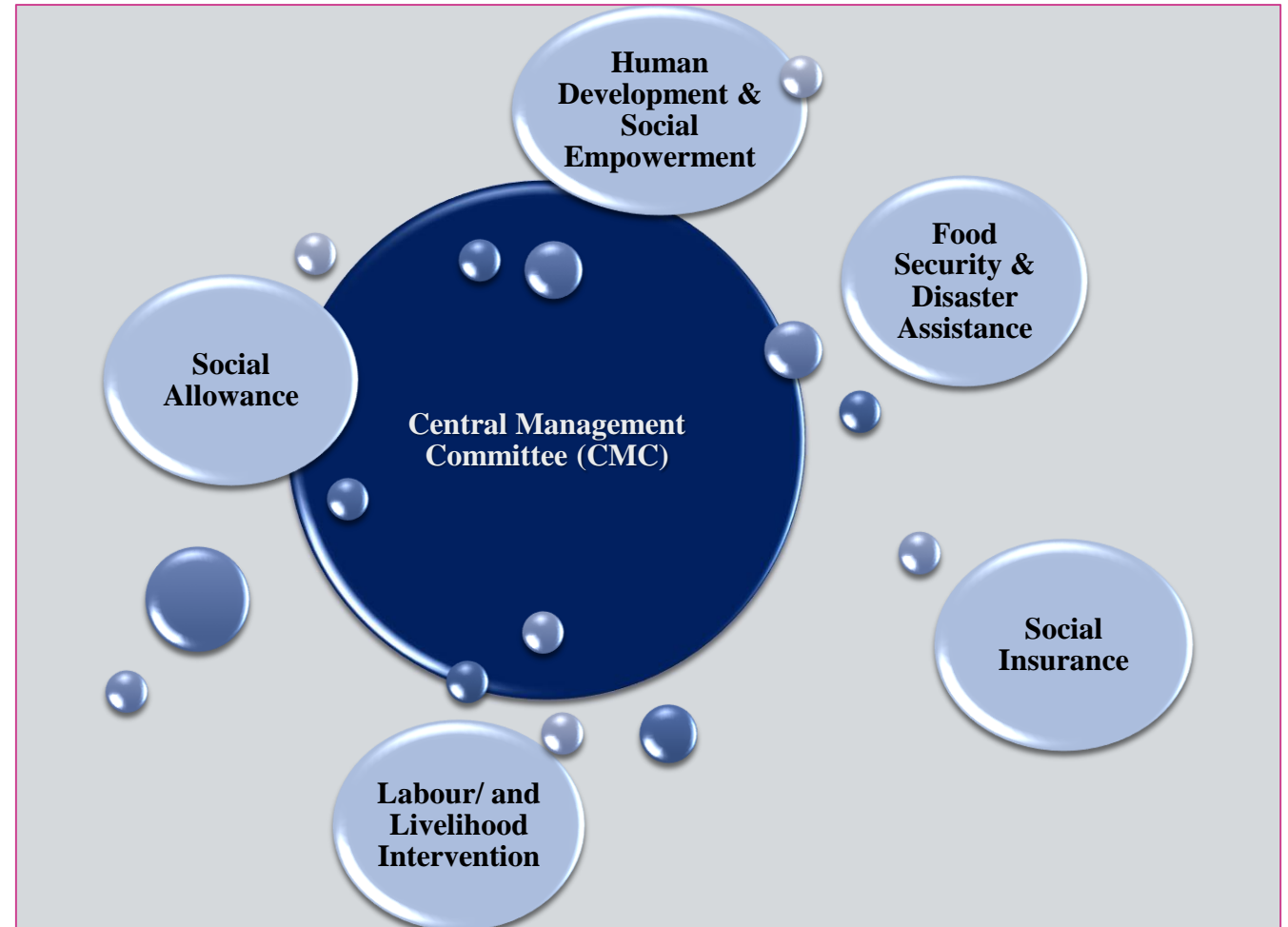
- Strengthen OMS To Serve Food Security Needs
- Align Disaster Management with Social Security programmes:
 - ✓ Vulnerable Group Feeding
 - ✓ Test Relief Food
 - ✓ Gratuitous Relief
 - ✓ Open Market Sales (OMS)

Administrative Reorganization of the Delivery of Social Security Programmes

- In an Initial Consolidation and Coordination Phase-I (2015 – 2025) of NSSS Reform: Ministries engaged in implementation of Social Security Programmes are grouped into **five thematic clusters**: Social Allowances; Food Security and Disaster Assistance; Social Insurance; Labour/Livelihoods Interventions; and Human Development and Social Empowerment.
- **Food Security and Disaster Assistance Cluster:**
 - **Lead coordination ministry:** Ministry of Food
 - **Other ministries:** Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Finance Division, Ministry of Social Welfare and Ministry of Commerce.

NSSS: Thematic Clusters

- Five thematic clusters have been formulated for different thematic areas of social protection.
- Food security and disaster response cluster is one of them
- Ministry of Food is in charge of coordinating the food security cluster
- But nutrition is such a wide sector that it cuts across all the five clusters
- The issues which are beyond the purview of the this cluster need to be coordinated in the Central Management Committee (CMC) in the Cabinet Division.



Significance of Nutrition in Bangladesh

1

In Bangladesh, like many Asian countries, chronic malnutrition or undernutrition among children under 5 has reduced the potential of the young generation.

2

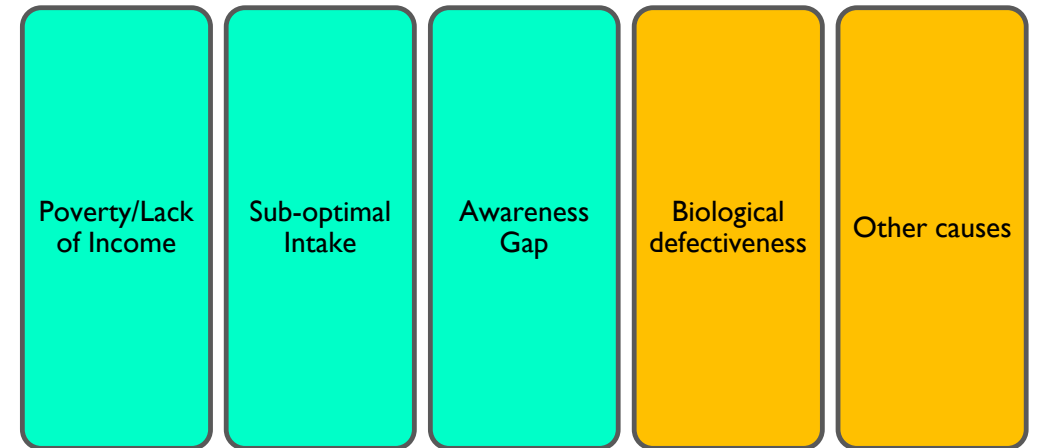
Bangladesh incurs annual loss of more than one billion USD worth of productivity due to malnutrition. The problem could be overcome by allocating very little resource if this is planned in the early ages.

3

In view of demographic dividend, ensuring nutritional standard of younger generation is one of the preconditions for turning them into productive assets for the country.

Social Protection in Tackling Malnutrition

- The problem of malnutrition is linked to various causes as is shown in the figure. For mitigation of these problems cross-sectoral interventions are required.
- Most of the cases of malnutrition are caused by lack of sufficient nutrients intake due to poverty and lack of awareness.
- Social protection programmes may play very instrumental role in reducing the malnutrition of people induced by first three causes.



Malnutrition

Constitutional Provision for Nutrition

The State shall regard the raising of the level of nutrition and the improvement of public health as among its primary dutiesArticle 18 (1)

- Ensuring standard level of nutrition is the constitutional obligation of the government as envisaged in Article 18 (1). The issue of human rights was the main motivation when this was incorporated.
- But in the context of present economic goals and demographic features, ensuring sufficient nutrition for the people may be rather regarded as an essential factor for achieving the economic growth.

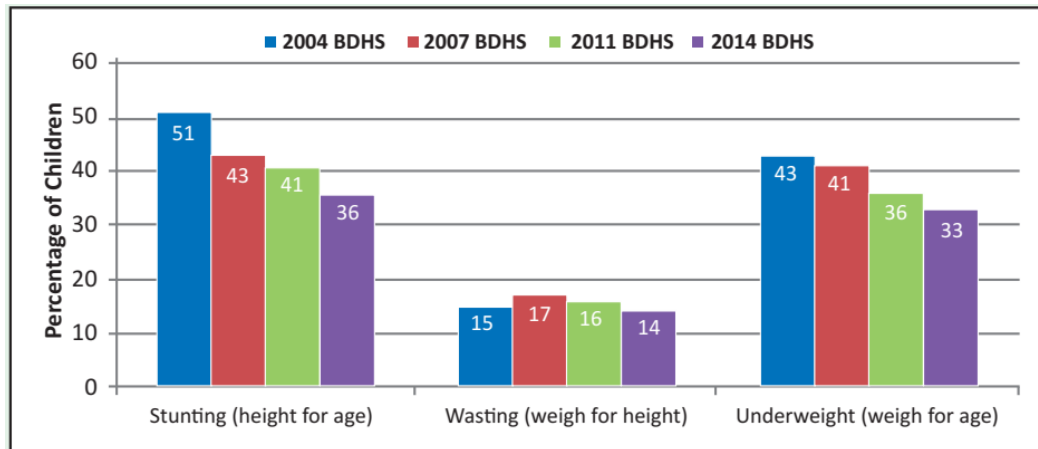
2 ZERO HUNGER



- SDG – 2: End hunger, achieve food security and **improved nutrition** and promote sustainable agriculture
 - By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, **nutritious** and sufficient food all year round.
 - By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets **on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age**, and address the **nutritional needs** of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons

- Government puts utmost emphasis on achieving all the goals of the SDG including the targets of nutrition.
- The NSSS which was formulated a few months before SDG, is consistent with each other as both are based on some common principles including those of the social protection floors. Therefore, implementation of NSSS will complement the achievement of the SDG targets of nutrition.

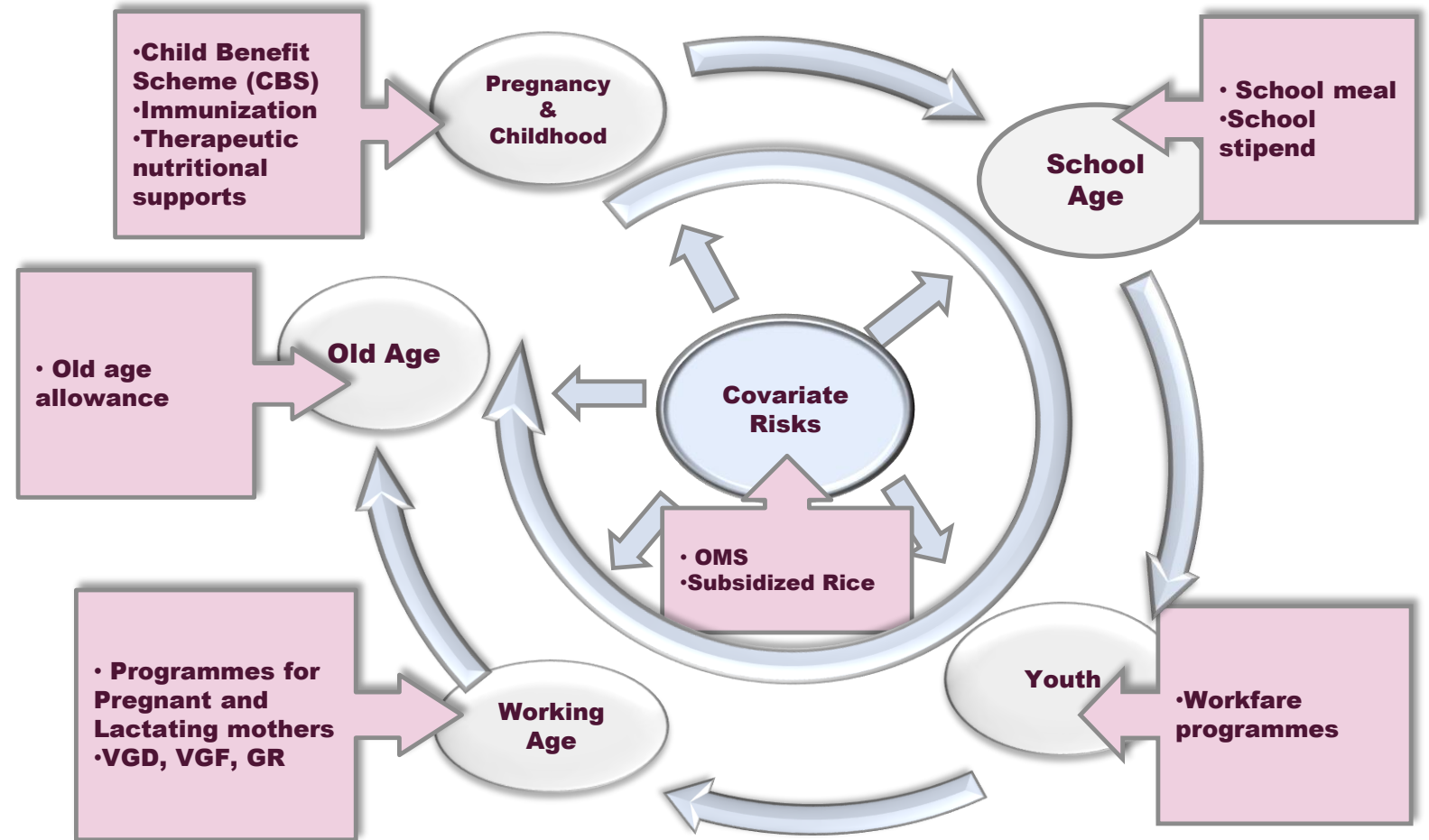
Status of Nutrition in Bangladesh



- The graph on nutrition indicates how the children were deprived of nutrition. The stunting rate was 36% and wasting was 14% in 2014. We hope that the picture improved during the last five years.
- NSSS takes the scenario as a challenge and recommended for more child focused programmes.
- Before 2014 social protection spending was less than one percent which was raised to more than 3% within a few years of NSSS launching.
- According to NSSS this spending for children would increase to 14%. Bangladesh is working for introducing child benefit schemes.

Nutrition focused Programmes

- Some of the Lifecycle based nutrition programmes of NSSS are CBS, school meals, OMS, VGD, VGF etc s shown in diagram.
- Therapeutic nutritional supports for infants is micro-nutritional support.
- The child benefit scheme will need more than 4500 Crore Taka per year to implement.



NSSS Reform: New Programmes

Child benefit scheme (0-4 yrs)

National Social Insurance Scheme (NSIS)

- **Unemployment, accident, sickness and maternity insurance under NSIS**

Private voluntary pension

Formulation of policy for maintenance of abandoned children

NSSS Reform: Up-Scalable Programmes



**Primary and
Secondary Stipend**



**Immunization, child
healthcare, nutrition,
water and sanitation**



**Strengthen education
and training**



**Strengthen workfare
programmes**



**Strengthen
Vulnerable Women
Benefit programme**



**Childcare across
formal and informal
employment**



Old age allowance



**Strengthening
programmes for
people with disability**

NSSS Reform: **Unchanged Programmes**

**Orphan's
programme**

**School
meals
programme**

**Maternal
health care**

**Training
programme
(for women)**

**Government
service
pension**

Formation of Food Security and DA Cluster

Secretary, Ministry of Food is the Chair of this committee. The focal points (Additional/Joint Secretaries) of related ministries are members. The committee hold quarterly meetings on food security and disaster response.

Food Security and Disaster Assistance	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ministry of Food2. Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief3. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare4. Ministry of Agriculture5. Ministry of Women and Children Affairs6. Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock7. Finance Division8. Ministry of Social Welfare9. Ministry of Commerce
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Action Plan of Food Cluster (2016-2021)

- The Ministry of Food periodically reviews the progress of achievement and reports to the Cabinet Division.
- The food stock policy and fair price policy are most important action of this cluster. The ministry monitoring food stock status regularly on daily basis.
- Already a small project on nutrition has been taken by Cabinet Division with supports from the WFP.

No.	Objectives	Activities	Performance Indicators	Timeframe	Responsible Ministry	Shared Responsibility
1.	Consolidation of food security type programmes	Coordinate with the implementing ministries to consolidate the food security type programmes	Programmes consolidated	July 2019	Ministry of Food, MoDMR	Finance Division
2.	Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB) programme	Change into cash based transfer, where applicable	Cash transfer is introduced in most of the programmes	July 2018	MoWCA, Ministry of Food	
3.	Food supply in food shortage area	Ensure food supply in disaster and drought affected areas, or areas where money supply cannot ensure availability of food	Food supply continued in relevant areas	July 2018	Ministry of Food, MoDMR	
4.	Food stock policy and fair price policy	Monitor the consistency of OMS and relief programmes with food stock policy and fair price policy of the government	Food stock policy and fair price policy are consistent with food security programmes	Continuous	Ministry of Food,	MoDMR



- Thank you