Institutional Perspectives of Social Protection in Bangladesh

Presented by Cabinet Division

Current Challenges

Fragmented Programs

145 programs in 2015, reduced to 95 by 2025

Inadequate Coverage

Many vulnerable populations still excluded

Inefficient Delivery

Duplication of beneficiaries and resources

Institutional Framework

Central Management Committee

1

Apex body chaired by Cabinet Secretary

Coordinates, monitors, approves programs

Thematic Clusters

2

Five coordinated clusters to reduce fragmentation
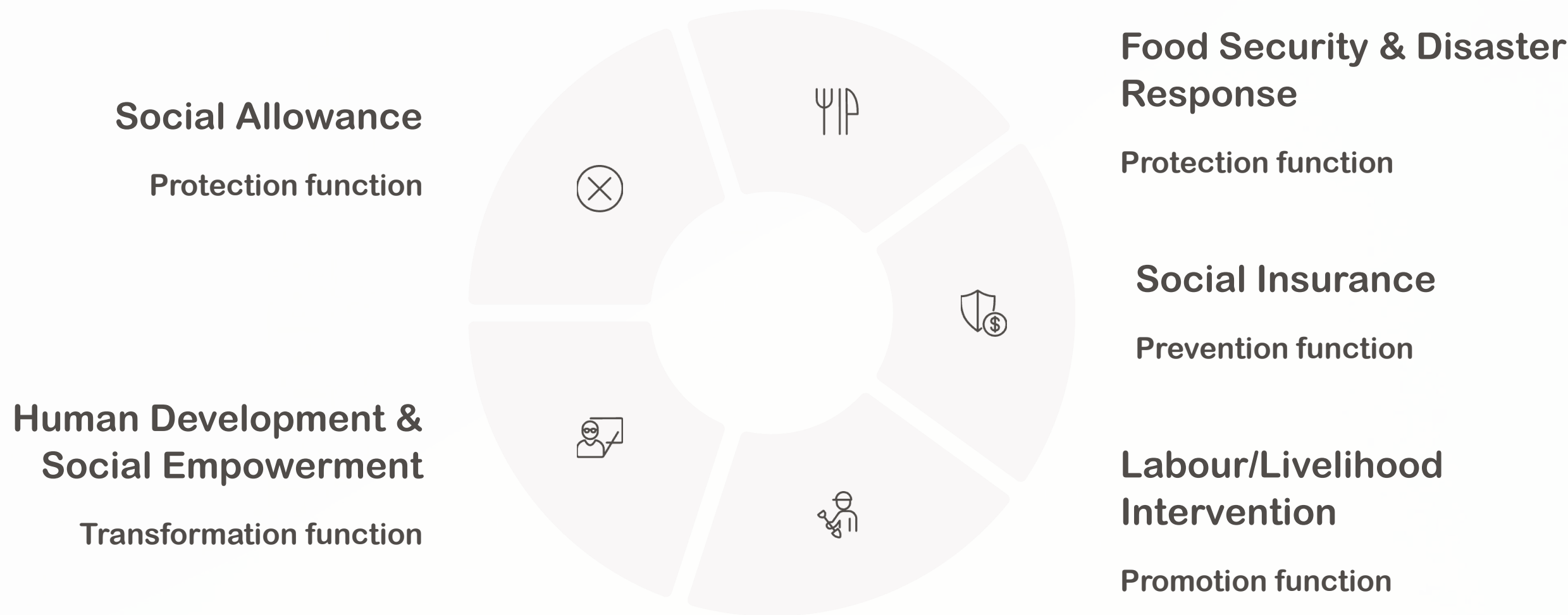
Led by designated ministries

Field Coordination

3

Divisional, District, and Upazila committees

Grassroots implementation and monitoring

Five Thematic Clusters

Social Allowance

Protection function

Food Security & Disaster Response

Protection function

Social Insurance

Prevention function

Human Development & Social Empowerment

Transformation function

Labour/Livelihood Intervention

Promotion function

Cluster Composition

Social Allowance — 1

Led by: Ministry of Social Welfare

Includes: Women & Children Affairs, Cultural Affairs,
Liberation War Affairs

2 — **Food Security & Disaster**

Led by: Ministry of Food

Includes: Disaster Management, Agriculture, Health Services

Social Insurance — 3

Led by: Finance Division

Includes: Financial Institutions, Health Services, Labour &
Employment

4 — **Labour/Livelihood**

Led by: Disaster Management & Relief

Includes: Local Government, Rural Development, Women &
Children

Human Development — 5

Led by: Ministry of Primary Education

Includes: PMO, Land, Technical Education, Higher
Education, Social Welfare

Cluster Objectives

Consolidate Programs

Reduce total number of schemes

Coordinate Ministries

Quarterly meetings to harmonize efforts

Support CMC

Serve as supportive organs for apex body

Primary goal: Streamline program classification and consolidation

Field-Level Implementation

Upazila Management

Led by Upazila Nirbahi Officers

Direct beneficiary selection and monitoring

District Management

Chaired by Deputy Commissioners

Coordinate implementation across upazilas

Divisional Management

Chaired by Divisional Commissioners

Regional oversight and coordination

Digital Infrastructure

Single Registry MIS

- Links scheme-specific systems

- Connects to national identity system

- Minimizes duplication and fraud

Bangladesh Household Database

- Proxy Means Test methodology

- Objective targeting mechanism

- Led by Statistics Division

Citizen Engagement Systems

Grievance Redress System

- Appeal beneficiary selection decisions
- Report service delivery misconduct
- Central online platform

G2P Payment Systems

- Financial inclusion via bank accounts
- Prevent leakages in fund transfer
- Digital tracking of payments

Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

Data Collection

Gathering performance metrics across programs

Analysis

Using Core Diagnostic Instrument (CODI)

Reporting

GED prepares annual reports for CMC

Policy Refinement

Identifying duplications and inefficiencies

Building data-driven decision making capabilities

Functional Categories

Protection

Guards against vulnerability

Cash transfers and food security

Prevention

Mitigates future risks

Social insurance programs

Promotion

Enhances livelihoods

Employment and skill development

Transformation

Empowers socially

Human development and inclusion

Many programs serve multiple functions simultaneously

Cluster Terms of Reference

1 **Reform & Integration**

Consolidate programs per NSSS guidelines

2 **Action Plan Coordination**

Submit integrated plans to CMC

3 **Budget Advocacy**

Secure funding with Finance Division

4 **Regulatory Review**

Identify needed rule amendments

5 **Implementation Monitoring**

Track progress of cluster action plans

Coordination Framework

- Cluster committees send minutes to CMC

- Cross-cutting issues referred to CMC

- CMC monitors overall interventions

- Regular coordination meetings

- Clear communication channels

Challenges & Barriers

Information Gaps

Lack of unified data and shared understanding across ministries

Irregular Meetings

Inconsistent scheduling hinders timely decision-making

Overlapping Components

Many programs fit in multiple clusters

Definition Gaps

Lack of consensus on thematic boundaries

Strategic Solutions

Unified Data Systems

Standardized collection across ministries

Structured Coordination

Mandated regular meetings with documentation

Objective Alignment

Clear KPIs and periodic reviews

Program Rationalization

Criteria for classifying and integrating initiatives

Thank You