COUNTRY LEARNING HUB
IMMUNISATION EQUITY in BANGLADESH
ZERO DOSE | UNDER IMMUNISED | MISSED COMMUNITIES

NEWSLETTER
December 2023

VOLUME 1

COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Gavi — The Vaccine Alliance | icddr,b | redorange LIMITED | jhpiego — Saving lives. Improving health. Transforming futures.

MEETINGS

Briefing Meeting with EPI Officials

November 30, 2022
Seminar Room, EPI Bhaban, Mohakhali, Dhaka
An overview of the study was presented to the EPI officials by country lead Dr. Md. Jasim Uddin and all the participants committed to provide necessary support for implementation of the study from their end. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Md. Shamsul Haque, Director and Line Director, Maternal and Neonatal, Children & Adolescent Health (MNC&AH), Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS).

Synthesis Meeting with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) Officials

December 13, 2022
Mini Conference Room (Room# 338, Bhaban # 3, 3rd Floor at Bangladesh Secretariat

A synthesis meeting was held to present the study overview to MoHFW officials. Country lead, Dr. Md. Jasim Uddin sought their cordial support in implementing the study. The officials assured that all sorts of necessary support will be provided. The meeting was chaired by Syed Mojibul Huq, Additional Secretary (Public Health Wing), Health Service Division, MoHFW.

Pre-inception Meeting with EPI Officials

January 04, 2023
Seminar Room, EPI Bhaban, Mohakhali, Dhaka

Prior to the inception meeting, icddr,b team shared presentation on the inception meeting with the EPI officials for their valuable comments and feedback. Dr. Muhammad Shariful Islam, Line Director (Acting), MNC&AH, DGHS, MoHFW acted as chair of the meeting.

Meeting with Divisional Scientific Forum Health Systems and Population Studies Division (HSPSD), icddr,b

January 06, 2023
TRAction conference room, level-4, icddr,b.

A brief overview of the study was presented at the divisional scientific forum HSPSD, icddr,b to receive feedback and comment from icddr,b scientific group. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Manzoor Ahmed Hanifi, Acting Senior Director, HSPSD, icddr,b.

Meeting with Consortium Members

January 09, 2023
TRAction Conference Room, Level-4, icddr,b.

Prior to the inception meeting, a discussion meeting was organised with consortium members of icddr,b, Jhpiego, RedOrange Communications, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance to share a presentation on the inception meeting to receive comments and feedback from all members.

EVENTS

Briefing Meeting with Civil Surgeon, Upazila Health & Family Planning Officer and other EPI Stakeholders in Sherpur District

Briefing Meeting with Newly Joined Additional Secretary, Health Service Division, MoHFW

July 30, 2023
TRAction Conference Room, icddr,b

Briefing meeting with Civil Surgeon, UH&FPO and Other EPI stakeholders, Rangamati District

August 12, 2023
Civil Surgeon Office, Rangamati

- Overview of the study
- Finalize study area for hilly site

Briefing Meeting with Officials and Field Managers of Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC)

Date: September 26, 2023
Venue: TRAction Conference Room, icddr,b

Decisions were taken on study updates, proposed interventions at DNCC, and future activities of the "Country Learning Hub for Immunisation Equity in Bangladesh" during a briefing on September 26, 2023, at icddr,b. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Md. Abdur Rahim, Consultant (Coordination & Technical Support), icddr,b; with Lt. Col. Md. Golam Mostafa Sarwar, Deputy Chief Health Officer, DNCC as Chief Guest and other key stakeholders.

TRAINING ON IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH

Training for Newly Recruited Health Assistants (HAs) and Nurses

Date: 6th September, 2023
Venue: Dowarabazar upazila, Sunamganj

On 6th of September, 2023, training was given to newly appointed Health Assistants in Dowarabazar upazila, Sunamganj. The training completed as per decision of the sub-national committee meeting.

Training on Implementation Research, Nalitabari, Sherpur

Date: November 26-28, 2023
Venue: Nalitabari upazila, Sherpur

The training also focused on practical learning. The use of the e-Tracker system, developed by Management Information System (MIS) of Expanded Program on Immunisation (EPI) in Bangladesh, UNICEF, and m-Power; was discussed for registering children in selected research areas.

Training on Implementation Research, Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC)

Date: November 27-28, 2023
Venue: Nari Maitree Nagar Matri Sadan, Mohammadpur, Dhaka.

A 2-day training workshop was held for DNCC. Decisions were taken to enhance immunisation practices, involving health officials, vaccinators, and paramedics. Brig. Gen. A.K.M Shafiqur Rahman (Chief Health Officer, DNCC) was invited as the chief guest. Special guests Mutakabbir Ahmed, Zonal Executive Officer (Deputy Secretary), Zone 5, DNCC, and Dr. S M Wasimul Islam, Assistant Health Officer, DNCC, participated and contributed to the discussions.

Training on Implementation Research, Saghata, Gaibandha

Date: December 2-3, 2023
Venue: Saghata upazila, Gaibandha

This 2-day training session presided over by Dr. Arifuzzaman (Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer), was also attended by Mr. Rayhana Islam (representing Civil Surgeon Dr. Md. Abdullah Mafi who was unavailable due to a departmental meeting). Key attendees included Dr. Azizul Haque Tanzil (WHO) and Dr. Md. Jasim Uddin (Emeritus Scientist), icddr,b; emphasising collaborative efforts to improve immunisation equity.

Training on Implementation Research, Kawkhali, Rangamati

Date: December 03-05, 2023
Venue: Kawkhali upazila, Rangamati.

The training, presided over by Dr. Suimipru Roaja (Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer), included participation from all levels of health officials and field workers. Key attendees included Dr. Md. Mohiuddin (Director, Health, Chittagong Division), Dr. Nihar Ranjan Nandi (Civil Surgeon, Rangamati), Syeda Sadia Nooria (Upazila Executive Officer), Dr. Jaydhan Tanchangya (WHO), and Dr. Uching Marma (UNICEF).

Training on Implementation Research, Dowarabazar, Sunamganj

Date: December 13-14, 2023
Venue: Dowarabazar upazila, Sunamganj.

A 2-day (December 13-14, 2023) training was held with all levels of health department officials and field workers working in Dowarabazar upazila of Sunamganj district under the program titled 'Country Learning Hub for Immunisation Equity in Bangladesh'. Dowarabazar Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer Dr. Abu Salehin Khan presided over the training.

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On 6th of September 2023, training was given to the newly appointed Health Assistants in Dowarabazar upazila, Sunamganj. The training completed as per decision of the sub-national committee meeting.

MEETING WITH GAVI MISSION

Review Meeting of Gavi Supports & Updates with EPI and Partners

June 04, 2023
Seminar Room, EPI Bhaban, Mohakhali, Dhaka

- Overview of the study and sharing updates of rapid assessment
- Update on rapid assessment of CLH

MONITORING COMMITTEE FORMATION & MEETING

Monitoring Committee Meeting

19 February, 2023
TRAction Conference Room, Level-4, icddr,b.

The first monitoring committee meeting was held as per the pre-scheduled date. All members of the monitoring committee were present and followed-up on updates of the study. The meeting was chaired by Syed Mojibul Huq, Additional Secretary (PH Wing), Health Service Division, MoHFW.

2nd Monitoring Committee Meeting

28 May 2023
Mini Conference Room, (Room # 338, Bhaban # 3, Floor-4), Bangladesh Secretariate

The 2nd monitoring committee meeting was held as per the pre-scheduled date. All members of the monitoring committee were present and followed-up on updates of the study. The meeting was chaired by Nazmul Haque Khan, Additional Secretary (Hospital Wing) and additional duties Additional Secretary (PH Wing), HSD, MoHFW.

SEMINAR

Inception meeting

January 10, 2023
CIRDAP auditorium, Topkhana road, Dhaka

Overview of the study

Sharing Findings from Rapid Assessment

July 25, 2023
IPH conference room, Mohakhali, Dhaka

Sharing the findings from rapid assessment

TRAININGS ON DATA COLLECTION

Training for Qualitative Data Collection of Rapid Assessment

March 13-16, 2023
RA conference room, (Level-3), icddr,b

Training session conducted on

- Overview of the study
- Immunisation Systems in Bangladesh
- Routine immunisation activities
- Basics of qualitative research methodology
- Guideline review: KII
- Transcript writing
- Research Ethics and Consent
- Data collection plan

Training for LQAS Data Collection

March 20-24, 2023
RA conference room, (Level-3), icddr,b

Training session conducted on
- Overview of the study
- LQAS technique
- Study procedures and data collection
- Electronic data collection procedures
- Sample size and Sampling
- LQAS Survey Questionnaire in KoboToolbox
- Mapping checklist

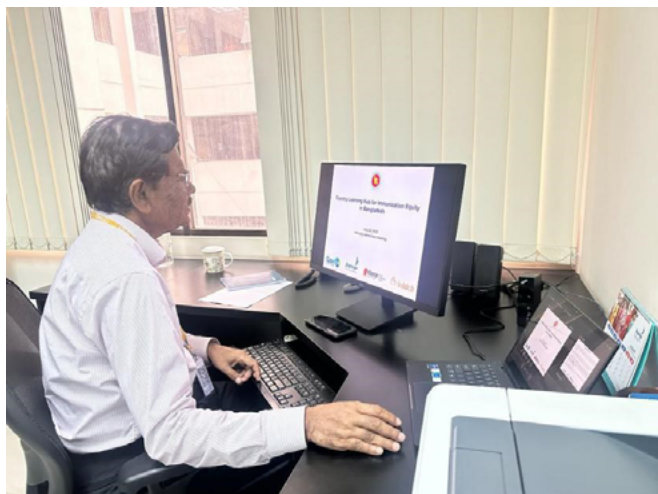# DATA COLLECTION FOR CLH BANGLADESH

Secondary Data

- District Health Information System 2 (DHIS2)
- Coverage Evaluation Survey (CES)
- Bangladesh Demographic Health Survey (BDHS)

Primary Data

- Key Informant Interviews (KII)
- In-depth Interviews (IDI)
- Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS)
- Human Centric Design (HCD)

GLOBAL MEETINGS & VIRTUAL PARTICIPATIONS

Virtual Advisory Committee Meeting

July 20, 2023

Overview of the study and sharing the findings from rapid assessment.
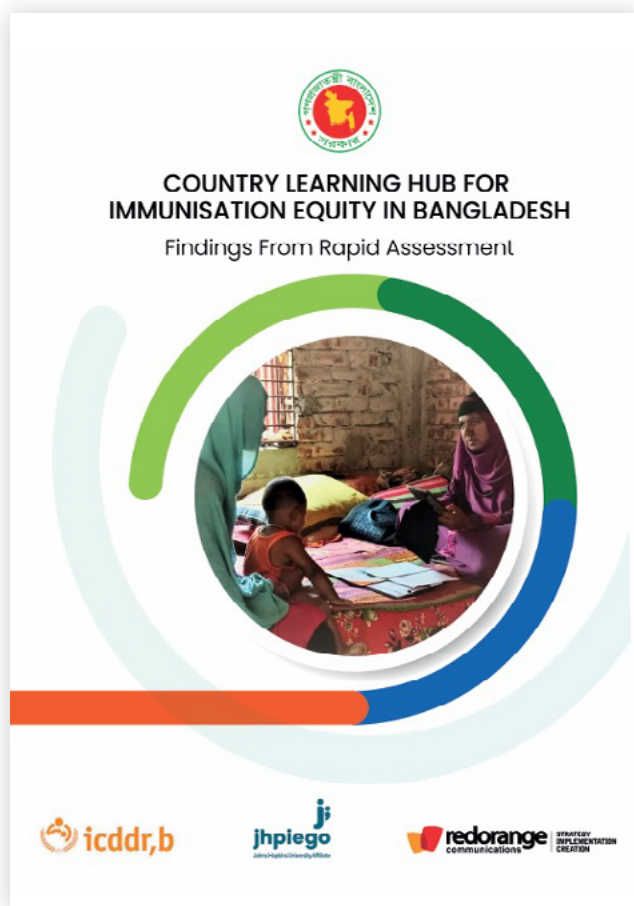
Multi-Country Meeting

June 04-06, 2023
Kampala, Uganda

Overview of the study and sharing the findings from rapid assessment

PUBLICATIONS

COUNTRY LEARNING HUB FOR IMMUNISATION EQUITY IN BANGLADESH: FINDINGS FROM RAPID ASSESSMENT

Date of Publication: July, 2023

The rapid assessment, conducted from December 2022 to May 2023, employs a comprehensive methodology involving both secondary and primary data sources. The assessment reveals stark disparities in immunisation coverage across various geographic regions in Bangladesh. Insights gained through LQAS in the identified missed communities offer a vivid picture of the socio-economic landscape. The assessment also uncovers a complex interplay of demand and supply-side factors contributing to ZD and UI children.