



COUNTRY LEARNING HUB  
**IMMUNISATION EQUITY**  
**in BANGLADESH**

ZERO DOSE | UNDER IMMUNISED | MISSED COMMUNITIES

**NEWSLETTER**

December 2024

VOLUME 2

# COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS



# MEETINGS



## 5th Monitoring Committee Meeting

Date: 3rd November, 2024

Venues: TRAction Conference Room, icddr,b

Fifth Monitoring Committee Meeting was held in 3rd of November, 2024 at TRAction Conference Room, icddr,b. Additional Secretary of Health Service Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was the chairperson of this meeting. Decisions of the meeting are as follows,

- icddr,b will share the analyzed data of DHIS2 of 2022 and 2023 on Zero-Dose (ZD) and Under Immunized (UI) children with EPI Stakeholders
- Monitoring committee participants will visit ongoing fieldwork at implementation and Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) research areas
- E-tracker training will take place in Implementation Research (IR) areas of Country Learning Hub on a priority basis
- The schedule of 2nd Co-creation workshop will be finalized by discussing with the chairperson of the Monitoring Committee next week

## 4 Rounds of Sub-National Committee Meetings

4 rounds of Sub-National Committee Meetings were held throughout the year, led by Civil Surgeons in districts and Chief Health Officers in city corporations, to review progress and address challenges in the identification, motivation, and vaccination of zero-dose (ZD) and under-immunized (UI) children. Members included representatives from health offices, EPI staff, WHO, UNICEF, and the project team. Key responsibilities included monitoring activities, providing feedback, ensuring vaccine logistics and cold chain management, and sharing project performance with monitoring committees.

Decisions were taken on the following:

- **Evening sessions:** Extend evening vaccination sessions to more wards in Zone 5, as they significantly increased vaccination among slum children, and reschedule missed sessions due to political disruptions.
- **Vaccine supply:** Zone-5 officials to liaise with EPI headquarters to resolve vaccine shortages.
- **Vaccination of ZD/UI children:** Vaccinators to prioritize immunization of all children identified through e-screening checklists.
- **Supplementary immunization activities:** Increase crash programs to vaccinate eligible children in rural hard-to-reach areas.
- **Nalitabari fixed center:** Provide vaccinations six days a week (up from two) due to a high number of eligible children.
- **Training:** icddr,b to conduct training for newly recruited health assistants and nurses in Dowarabazar. Training has been completed as per the committee's decision.
- **Monthly meetings:** Maintain ZD and UI discussions as agenda items in all monthly upazila and district-level meetings in IR areas.

These decisions aim to address operational challenges, improve vaccination coverage, and ensure that all eligible children receive timely immunization.





## 1st Round of Sub-National Committee Meetings

Date: 3rd January to 23th January, 2024

Venues:

Nalitabari, Sherpur

Saghata, Gaibandha

Hatiya, Noakhali

Kawkhali, Rangamati

Dowarabazar, Sunamganj

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), Dhaka

## 2nd Round of Sub-National Committee Meetings

Date: 15 May to 3 June, 2024

Venues:

Nalitabari, Sherpur

Saghata, Gaibandha

Hatiya, Noakhali

Kawkhali, Rangamati

Dowarabazar, Sunamganj

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), Dhaka



## 3rd Round of Sub-National Committee Meetings

Date: 15 May to 3 June, 2024

Venues:

Nalitabari, Sherpur

Saghata, Gaibandha

Hatiya, Noakhali

Kawkhali, Rangamati

Dowarabazar, Sunamganj

Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC), Dhaka

## 4th Round of Sub-National Committee Meetings

Date: 15 May to 3 June, 2024

Venues:

Nalitabari, Sherpur

Dowarabazar, Sunamganj



# MAPPING AND SURVEY



## Social Mapping and Household Survey

Date: June to December, 2024

Venue: Rohingya Camps in Ukhiya, Teknaf and Bhasan Char

In this quarter, 'Component 5: Assessment of ZD and UI children among FDMN populations and adjacent host community, social mapping with FDMN population' has been completed and a provisional report is prepared.

Additionally, after the completion of social mapping, the household survey started and it is currently ongoing in different camps of Ukhiya, Teknaf and Bhasan Char areas. Data collection commenced on October 07, 2024 and it will be completed at the end of December 2024.



# TRAINING



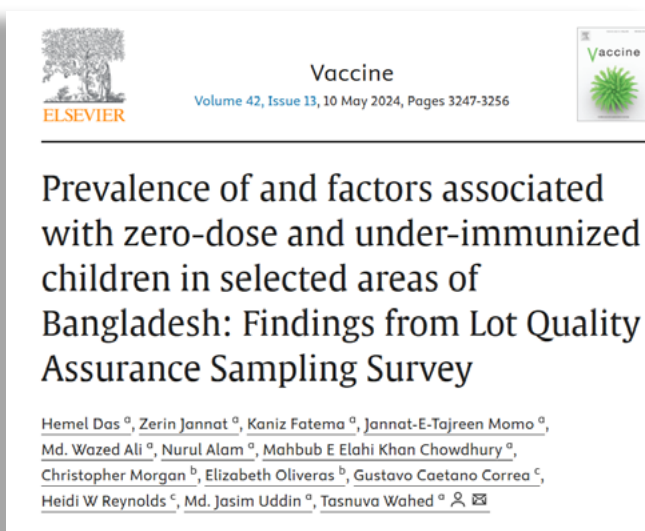
## Training for Newly Recruited Health Assistants (HA) and Nurses

Date: 6 September 2024

Venue: Dowarabazar upazila, Sunamganj

On 6th of September 2024, training was given to newly appointed Health Assistants in Dowarabazar upazila. The training completed as per decision of the sub-national committee meeting.

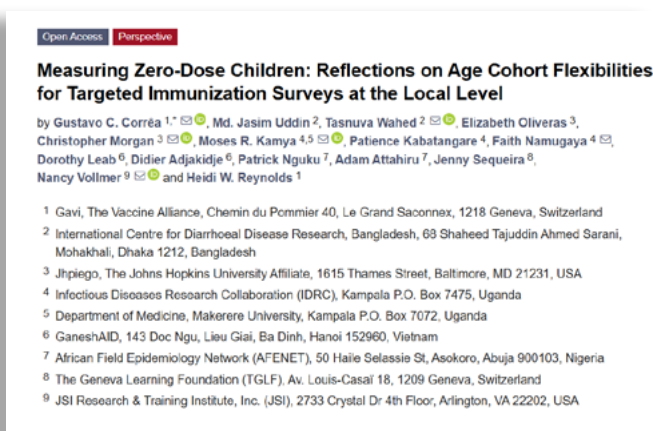
# PUBLICATIONS



## Prevalence of and factors associated with zero-dose and under-immunized children in selected areas of Bangladesh: Findings from Lot Quality Assurance Sampling Survey

Date of Publication: 10 May 2024

Despite having a success story at the national level, low uptake of immunization is still persistent in selected pocket areas of Bangladesh. However, prevalence and the associated factors of zero-dose (ZD) and under-immunization (UI) are still unknown at those geo-pockets of Bangladesh. Thus, the study aims to report and identify the factors associated with ZD and UI in selected geographical locations.



## Measuring Zero-Dose Children: Reflections on Age Cohort Flexibilities for Targeted Immunization Surveys at the Local Level

Date of Publication: 14 February 2024

This paper summarises a recent workshop discussion on ZD measurement for targeted surveys at local levels related to flexibilities in age cohorts of inclusion from the ZD learning Hub (ZDLH) initiative—a learning initiative involving 5 consortia of 14 different organizations across 4 countries—Bangladesh, Mali, Nigeria, and Uganda—and a global learning partner.



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RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Identifying the zero-dose and under-immunized children in Bangladesh: Approaches and experiences

Zerin Jannat , Hemel Das, Md. Wazed Ali, Nurul Alam, Mahbub E. Elahi Khan Chowdhury, Bidhan Krishna Sarker, Md. Mahbubur Rahman, Shehrin Shaila Mahmood, Md. Musfikur Rahman, Christopher Morgan, Elizabeth Oliveras, Gustavo Caetano Correa, Heidi W. Reynolds, Tasnuva Wahed, Md. Jasim Uddin

Published: October 28, 2024 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0312171>

Article	Authors	Metrics	Comments	Media Coverage

## Identifying the zero-dose and under-immunized children in Bangladesh: Approaches and experiences

Date of Publication: 28 October 2024

This paper presents and elaborates on empirical methods and approaches used to identify Zero-Dose (ZD) and Under-immunized (UI) children as well as the communities that these children reside in within Bangladesh. Determinant analysis showed that the mother’s level of education, antenatal visits made, and access to media were significantly associated with children being ZD or UI.





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