



Country Fact Sheet

The MDG-F in Bangladesh	
Joint Programmes: 2	Total Budget: USD 16,082,251
National Steering Committee Members: ERD, Spanish Government Representative and UN Resident Coordinator	
Joint Programmes Information	
Joint Programme	<i>“Joint UN Programme to Address Violence against Women in Bangladesh”</i>
Thematic Window	Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment
Budget	USD 7,997,378
Participating Agencies	UNDP, ILO, UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS, UNWOMEN, UNESCO, UNICEF, IOM.
Participating Government Agencies	Ministry of Information (MoI), the Department of Mass Communication (DMC); Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW), the Department of Social Services (DSS); Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA), the Department of Women Affairs; Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA); Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS); Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), the Directorate General of Health; Services (DGHS) and Gender, the NGO and Stakeholder Participation Unit (GNSPU); Ministry of Labor and Employment (MoLE); Ministry of Education (MoE), the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB); Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEWOE), the Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET); Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (MoLGRDC); Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (MoLJPA), the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division, and the Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI), and CSOs.
Dates	09 April 2010 – 30 June 2013
Regions of Intervention	Districts of: Sylhet, Cox’s Bazar, Gopalganj, Natore, Jessore, Kushtia, Barisal,

	Faridpur, Bogra, Dhaka, Chittagong, Dinajpur, Khulna, Rajshahi, Comilla, Kurigram, Mymensingh, Noakhali, Rangpur, Bhola, Hobiganj, Feni, Narsingdi, Sirajganj, Satkhira, Madaripur, Moulvibazar, Gazipur, Narail, Tangail.
Programme in Brief: This joint programme to address violence against women (VAW) in Bangladesh aimed to have a positive effect on the lives of women and girls of Bangladesh by reducing, preventing and responding to violence against women (VAW) through the promotion of i) an adequate policy legal framework; ii) changes in behaviors and attitudes that condone gender violence; and iii) comprehensive and culturally appropriate support to survivors through improved care and access to justice.	
Main Achievements¹	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced capacity of Government officials in 11 ministries and many civil society organizations. • Increased awareness on specific lesser known areas of VAW such as VAW in the workplace, for vulnerable groups such as sex workers or persons infected and affected by HIV/ AIDS; Use of textbooks and education in defining gender roles. • Increased awareness of existing gaps in the justice system together with recommendations for addressing these, and a better understanding of how to apply CEDAW. • Pilot for a database on VAW which would provide evidence on causes, prevalence and needs to fight VAW in Bangladesh. • Courtyard meetings on internal and international migration; community drama sessions; awareness raising with communities and parliamentarians on sex workers and victims of trafficking; 16 day campaign as a UN-wide model to build on; community dialogue addressing masculinity using positive deviance. • Strengthening of a culturally sensitive gender approach to healthcare making it more accessible for women, capacity building for a more adequate treatment for VAW survivors together with linkages to legal support and counseling services. 	
More information	http://www.mdgfund.org/program/jointunprogrammeaddressviolenceagainstwomenbangladesh
Joint Programme	<i>“Protecting and Promoting Food Security and Nutrition for Families and Children in Bangladesh”</i>
Thematic Window	Children, Food Security and Nutrition
Budget	USD 8,084,873
Participating Agencies	UNICEF, FAO, WFP.
Participating Government Agencies	Coordinating Agency Economic Relations Division (ERD)-Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Women’s and children's affairs (MOWCHA); Ministry of Health

¹ Arbulu A; Ali M (2013) Independent Joint Programme Final Evaluation: *Joint UN Programme to Address Violence against Women in Bangladesh*.

	and Family Welfare (MOHFW); Ministry of Agriculture (MOAG); Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MOFLS); Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MOPME); Ministry of Food (MOF); Department of Livestock (DLS); Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE); Save the Children; Shushilan; Muslim Aid UK.
Dates	16 March 2010 – 30 June 2013
Regions of Intervention	
Programme in Brief: The objective of the joint programme was to contribute to the reduction of underweight prevalence and to reduce the proportion of the population which is food insecure having inadequate calorie and nutrient intake. The programme addressed malnutrition and food insecurity with an emphasis on children and women. The programme contributed to Bangladesh's accelerated achievement of the MDG-1 hunger reduction target. Elements include homestead food production, in-kind food transfers, community based management of acute malnutrition, school feeding and gardening, and strengthening food security and nutrition information systems.	
Main Achievements²	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The JPs targeting of agricultural, health and educational inputs in particularly vulnerable coastal areas of southern Bangladesh resulted in an almost total elimination of young child wasting in program areas, a significant but smaller reduction in malnutrition among pregnant and lactating women, and significant improvements in household food security. • The prevalence of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in children under age 5 fell to zero from initial prevalence rates of between 2.12% and 0.89%, rising subsequently only to 0.02% and 0.04%. Moderate acute malnutrition fell from between 9 and 11% to 1% with rare occasions of relapse. Malnutrition in pregnant and lactating women using mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) tapes – an inadequate measure when used alone, fell less sharply – from 7.0% to 5.1%. • The programme also improved household food consumption. The percentage of households in program areas with gardens increased over four fold, and the percentage of household income derived from gardens and poultry increased more than three times, from 2.7% at baseline to 9.3% at end line. As a result, the percentage of households with food consumption scores considered minimally adequate – 42 or higher – is 86.7% in program areas compared with 63.9% in control areas. In the poorest wealth quintile, the actual average FCS in program areas was found to be 51.8 compared with 40.0 in control areas. • The percentage of households consuming eggs or meat on the day previous to the survey more than doubled between baseline and end line (from 20.4% to 44.1%), while the percentage consuming a milk product increased significantly from 16.8 to 24.7%. • Monitoring of the school program found significant increases in both enrollment and attendance. • The initiative improved nutrition and food security-related data and information produced an important health/nutrition assessment of urban slums in the country, a valuable mapping 	

² Levinson F.J.; Hussain D. (2013) Independent Joint Programme Final Evaluation: *Protecting and Promoting Food Security and Nutrition for Families and Children in Bangladesh*.

exercise and studies on women's empowerment and MUAC, and permitted the development of an integrated database likely to be useful in future multi-sectoral pursuits.

More information

<http://www.mdgfund.org/node/999>