

# 2010 Global Child Nutrition Forum

## The Multisectoral Approach

Linking School Health and Nutrition,  
School Feeding, and Local Agricultural Production

1 – 5 June 2010, Accra, Ghana

## Country programme snapshot

Country: **Bangladesh**

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## **Programme start**

- *Launched in 2001 and included in CP 2002-2006*
- *Ongoing under current CP 2007-2010*

## **Beneficiaries and future plans**

### ***Current Beneficiaries:***

*600,000 primary school children under CP/SF 2007-2010; under EMOP/ESF: 530,000*

### ***Future plans:***

- *Scaling –up of SF with GoB and targeted 2 million children over a period of three years*
- *Partnership with World Bank*
- *Re-costing of SF as a safety net*
- *Transition of EMOP/ESF into CP/SF*

## **Objectives**

### ***Long –Term:***

*Contribute to the Government policy of universal primary education by improving access to basic education of school-age children, particularly those living in poverty prone areas.*

### ***Short-term:***

- Increase primary school enrolment, attendance and reduce drop –out rates;*
- Improve attention span and learning capacity of students through addressing short-term hunger*
- Sensitize and build up capacities of local communities to operate school feeding programme*

<b>Institution responsible</b>	<i>Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Directorate of Primary Education</i>
<b>Implementation modality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Production and delivery of Biscuits: WFP and local Factory</i></li> <li>• <i>Distribution of Biscuits: WFP, NGO &amp; GoB</i></li> <li>• <i>Essential Package: NGO, WFP, Community and SMC</i></li> </ul>
<b>Funding</b>	<i>US\$ 13 Million Annually (USDA, Japan, Spain, AusAID and GoB)</i>
<b>Key successes</b>	<p><i>Study Findings (Follow-up survey of Cp2007-2010)</i></p> <p><b><i>Educational Outcomes</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Average enrolment increased to 17 percent</i></li> <li>• <i>Drop out decreased by 6.6 percent</i></li> <li>• <i>Attendance increased by 8 percent</i></li> </ul> <p><b><i>Nutritional Outcome</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Prevalence of anaemia in FFE-assisted schools (10.3%) is estimated less than half of the non-assisted (21.9%)</i></li> <li>• <i>The proportion of underweight (classified as BMI for age) students was found to much lower in the (Boy-11%, Girl-8%) FFE assisted schools</i></li> <li>• <i>The infestation of Soil Transmitted Helminthes (STH) in FFE-assisted school children (4.7%) is</i></li> </ul>

## **Key success continued**

- *Involvement of SMCs/Parents and communities, off-set the opportunity costs and enable poor families to send their children to schools*
- *Women are employed in the biscuit factory which contributing directly to the empowerment of women*

## **Challenges moving forward**

- *Increased commitments from GOB and Donors will give SF a much firmer foundation to move ahead*
- *More than 11 million boys and 8 million girls will need to receive primary education by 2015 to achieve MDG 2*
- *Still SF has to cover a millions of children who are living in high and very high poverty prone areas*
- *Partnership with World Bank: safety net lays greater emphasis on SF*
- *SF design may focus on nutrition to improve concentration, cognitive development and educational performance*
- *WFP Bangladesh has the capacity to expand SF assistance to reach the millions of children with availability of donor funding*
- *SF can be sustainable through transitioning from external support to domestic linked (might be home-grown as an option) activity which is under way of implementation with MDG SF in some pocket areas*