

SPRING/BANGLADESH

MOBILIZING COMMUNITIES FOR IMPROVED NUTRITION

SPRING's work in Bangladesh (2012-2017) aimed to improve the nutritional status of pregnant and lactating women and children under two. By working through multiple channels, SPRING mobilized communities to adopt the essential nutrition actions and essential hygiene actions and consume nutritious and diverse diets throughout the year.



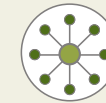
LEVERAGING CHAMPIONS FOR NUTRITION

Community nutrition champions (CNCs) are farmer nutrition school (FNS) graduates elected by their peers to voluntarily spread messages about nutrition and hygiene in their communities. SPRING trained 6,421 CNCs to empower local women to speak up for health and nutrition, to strengthen relationships with health facilities, and encourage other women to use these services.



DIVERSIFYING DIETS THROUGH FNS

SPRING trained 126,255 pregnant and lactating women through 6,421 farmer nutrition schools. By emphasizing small doable actions, FNS participants gain the knowledge and skills they need to link food production (vegetable gardening, poultry rearing, and fish culture) with improved nutrition and hygiene practices.



USING A MULTISECTORAL APPROACH

SPRING trained over 1,000 agriculture extension officers on the essential nutrition actions (ENA) and essential hygiene actions (EHA), and to identify opportunities to incorporate them into their routine work. These extension workers are now strong advocates for nutrition, including the male farmers in their existing farming groups.



STRENGTHENING THE HEALTH SYSTEM

SPRING supported 1,095 community clinics and 309 *upazila* health and family welfare centers to strengthen the nutrition counseling skills of more than 4,000 frontline health and family planning workers and nearly 1,100 supervisors. Through training and supportive supervision visits, SPRING emphasized the delivery of quality nutrition services at all supported frontline health facilities.



EXPANDING REACH THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

SPRING partnered with USAID-funded projects including SHIKHA, NHSDP, AIN and WASHplus, as well as governmental and UN bodies. Partnerships helped SPRING reach more people and ensure that the greatest number of people possible received messages about nutrition and hygiene.

PROGRAM RESULTS



Household members who wash both hands with soap after using the toilet

WITHOUT SPRING INTERVENTION

WITH SPRING INTERVENTION

6%

comparison group in SPRING working area

76%

SPRING FNS participants



Female empowerment score

0.62

comparison group in SPRING working area

0.75

SPRING FNS participants



Women's dietary diversity score

3.9

Pre FNS (2014)

6.0

Post FNS (2015)



Children under 6 months who were exclusively breastfed

28%

within SPRING working areas before SPRING interventions (2011/2012)

51%

within SPRING working areas after SPRING interventions (2016)



Children 6-23 months receiving a minimum diverse diet

15%

within SPRING working areas before SPRING interventions (2011/2012)

38%

within SPRING working areas after SPRING interventions (2016)



2012

Developed Community Worker Guide and Handbook on nutrition for non-health frontline workers

2013

Scaled up from 15 to 40 upazilas

2014

Launched Farmer Nutrition School guide and established 2,560 FNS in 40 upazilas

2015

Conducted refresher trainings on ENA and EHA for 3,275 frontline and 1,058 supervisory level health and family planning workers

2016

Achieved 60% coverage of target population across the 40 upazilas

2017

Launched Farmer Nutrition School toolkit

Visit us at: www.spring-nutrition.org

This graphic is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the terms of the Cooperative Agreement AID-OAA-A-11-00031 (SPRING), managed by JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI) with partners Helen Keller International, the Manoff Group, Save the Children, and the International Food Policy Research Institute. The contents are the responsibility of JSI, and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bdspring