

## Ideas to Improve Food Security, Nutrition and Agriculture

- School nutrition programs, milk or hot cook meal, at pre-primary and primary school levels.
- Biofortification of food e.g. Orange Fleshed Sweet Potato (OFSP).
- Package of micronutrients and deworming for 0-2 year olds.
- Expand agricultural research and development investment to 4% of GDP.
- Separate government agricultural extension workers for promoting women sensitive agriculture.
- Behavior Change Communication (BCC) in combination with stipends for increased dietary diversity (DD).
- Food/cash transfer programs to outline roles and responsibilities of actors involved in service delivery process.
- Educating mothers and adolescent girls on nutrition.
- Nourishment program for first 3,000 days of birth (1,000 days before marriage).
- 1,000 days early childhood development (ECD) program for children in slums.
- Addressing geriatric nutrition and health issues.
- Reducing system loss in agricultural production and distribution.
- Awareness about cultural food habits' and the impact on nutrition.
- Food and cash transfer program along with nutrition BCC.
- A targeted nutrition program similar to BRAC's Targeting Ultra-poor Program (TUP).
- Linking WASH components with nutrition initiatives and projects.
- Nutrition program for adolescent boys.
- Use of fortified rice in social safety net programs (SSNPs).
- Ensuring adequate nutrition intake in stipend programs.
- Reduce market price fluctuations of agricultural products.
- Small scale poultry rearing for increased meat and egg consumption by children and mothers.
- Embedding good practices arising via pilot projects through proper BCC initiatives.
- Scale up CARE Bangladesh's EKATA model, a key driver of CARE's SHOUHARDO project.
- Nutrition programs for 5-12 year old children.
- Universal/mobile blood test access to detect undernourishment (e.g. through Union Digital Centers).
- Public food grain stock equal to three months of emergency requirement along with relief system to distribute food, clean water, medicine and other essentials.
- Expansion of agro-processing activities through selection of appropriate technology, compliance with quality standards, training and skill development, and access to finance.
- Programs for micronutrient supplementation and food fortification.
- Raise awareness on child marriage/early pregnancy and childbearing, and their intergenerational malnutrition implications.

- Antenatal and postnatal care (ANC/PNC) services influence nutrition awareness.
- Prioritize the following groups with a focus on the poorest: (i) children under 5; (ii) Pregnant women; (iii) Lactating women; (iv) Married adolescents; (v) Other adolescents; and, (vi) Women caretaker of the family or women headed families.
- Scale up National Nutrition Services (NNS) interventions.
- Ensure current mandatory home visit by the government health worker within 24 hours of child's birth.
- Subsequent follow up of Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices and counseling to take place at Community Clinics (CCs) and Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) outreach centers, where a community based trained volunteer will counsel mothers for breastfeeding and complementary feeding.
- During periods of emergencies and natural disasters, prioritize supporting breastfeeding women.
- Encourage exclusive breastfeeding for first 12 months.
- Development and implementation of nutrition oriented programs in urban slums.
- Food transfer and assistance program to reduce malnutrition.
- Crop insurance for farmers.
- Incorporate nutrition and hygiene education in curriculum, including school vegetable garden and cooking demonstrations.
- Ensure regular Health and Nutrition Days in the schools calendar.
- Prioritize supply of water to women for agriculture and fishing.
- Incorporate basic nutrition into agriculture extension training and tasks.
- Strengthen nutrition surveillance systems.
- Iron-folic acid supplementation among pregnant, lactating women and adolescent girls.
- Implement the national strategy for infant and young child feeding.
- Continue existing half-yearly Vitamin A capsules distribution for children and to postpartum women within 6 weeks of delivery.
- Media campaign on obesity and underweight.
- Maternal health vouchers and allowance to cover women's/girls' nutritional deficiencies particularly in the calamity/poverty prone areas.
- Promotion and expansion of homestead gardening and poultry in rural, remote areas.
- Prioritize inclusion of poor households with children in food transfer programs.
- Reducing male-female agriculture wage gap.
- Open water fisheries management.
- Promote multiple land use technology.
- Continue the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE)'s 'alternate wet and dry' method for irrigation in paddy fields.
- IDCOL's solar based irrigation systems to off-grid areas, reduce dependency on fossil fuel.
- Expand network of integrated pest management with environmental awareness, education and BCC to reduce the impact of agrochemicals.

- Continue with the Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Development Program (HPNSDP).
- Public-private partnerships (PPP) to diversify service provisions for hard to reach areas.
- Address agricultural yield gap through ICT based knowledge management platforms.
- Diffusion and dissemination of best practices and technology in agriculture through ICT.
- Monitoring commitment by Bangladesh as a signatory to the ICN-2 commitment.
- Strengthen market monitoring to curb adulteration and ensure regulatory compliance.
- Strengthen monitoring of salt iodization by BSTI.
- Scale up Micro-nutrient Promotion (MNP).
- Transform semi-subsistence farming to agriculture commercialization.
- Use of super efficient and more accurate electronic equipment, Geographic Information System (GIS), site specific nutrient management based on soil test for macro and micro-nutrient.
- Using Remote Sensing tools (for which expertise exists with CEGIS) for accurately estimating agricultural production and crop damages - under the 7th and subsequent Five Year Plans.
- Development of HYV having with a minimum 10% yield advantage over existing mega varieties, like BRRI Dhan29.
- Use of Crop Zoning and Land Use Planning to optimize land use and land conservation
- Ensure timely supply of fertilizers.
- Support production and use of bio-fertilizers to maintain soil fertility.
- Promotion of Precision Agriculture for optimization of inputs use.
- Shifting from cereal-cereal cropping to cereal and non-cereal based high value cropping patterns- sugar beet production and processing it as sugar crop.
- Continue lower interest rate for agricultural credit especially for pulse, oilseed and spice crops.
- Transfer of technologies through appropriate extension services.
- Strengthen Research –extension - farmer linkages for immediate introduction at farm level of new developed paddy varieties like short duration and zinc enriched paddy.
- Strengthening MIS (ICT) based knowledge management system and e-agriculture.
- Establishment of more Farmer's Information and Advisory Centre (FIAC) at union level.
- Providing price support and input subsidy to farmers.
- Recruit more women agricultural workers.
- Strengthening research and establishment of Research-Extensions linkage for introduction of new profitable cropping patterns in the newly accreted coastal land and marine islands.
- Undertake initiatives to cultivate crops like - Khesari, Mugbean, Water melon, Vegetables, Cowpea, Sesame, Sunflower, Groundnut, Sweet gourd, Chilli, Sweet Potato, Barley, Soybean, Sorghum, Chewing varieties of Sugarcane, Sugar bit etc. - in the coastal area and marine islands.

- Promote production of mixed fruit (saline tolerant fruit trees) orchards with intercropping and coconut and betel nut cultivation.
- Update and extend the Department of Livestock Services (DLS) front line extension services.
- More breeding of the “black Bengal goat.”
- More hygienic slaughter system.
- Implement special projects for buffalo and sheep farming.
- Ensure supply of quality day-old chicks, quality control of poultry feeds and feed ingredients.
- Accelerate development of private and community-based veterinary services, including compliant private veterinary diagnostic center, clinics and hospitals.
- Establishment of an autonomous Quality Control Agency to ensure quality of veterinary drugs, vaccines, feeds, feed ingredients and breeding tools and materials.
- Increase private sector participation for long term fodder development.
- Define shrimp farming zones in the coastal region based on natural advantages of shrimp and prawn farming.
- Promote different methods of aquaculture and farming system based on different zones’ suitability - such as shrimp with salt limited to south eastern Cox’s Bazar district, improved traditional golda farming in areas like Bagerhat, etc.
- Undertake a rapid assessment of fisheries stocks by species in recently resolved South-West waters of EEZ (19,467sq.km).
- Collaborative effort for distant water fishing (beyond 200m of EEZ and ABNJ) to explore and exploit tuna and large pelagic fishes.
- Breed development and increase in milk production through Cooperatives, thereby reducing dependency on imported milk.