



Regional multisectoral meeting to promote nurturing care for Early Childhood Development (ECD)

Early Childhood Care and Development in Bangladesh

27-29 April 2021

MoH&FW-DGHS





National Nutrition Services







Overview of the national ECCD Policy and program in Bangladesh



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The ECCD Policy 2013 established by the Government of Bangladesh.

Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MOWCA) plays overall coordination with 11 relevant ministries.

Other ECD related guidelines and programmes include

- Early Learning & Development Standards (ELDS)
- Guideline on collaboration for universal Pre-Primary Education (PPE) in Bangladesh between government and NGOs.
- The Child Daycare Centre Act 2020 was approved in principle at the regular cabinet meeting led by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

■ Key ECCD Stakeholders: MoWCA, Min. of Primary and Mass Education, MOHFW, Min. of CHT, Min. of Social Welfare, Bangladesh Sishu Academy, ICMH, NIPORT, CSOs/NGOs.

GAP: Integrated ECCD programme for 0-3 yrs old

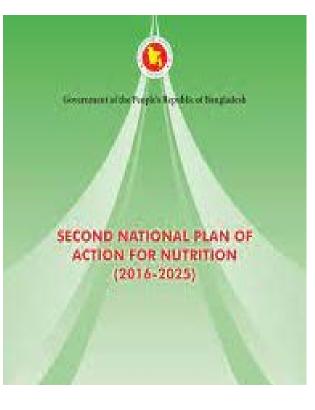
ECCD in the Policies and Action Plans of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

1. <u>The 8th Five-year plan of GoB (2021-2025)</u> includes the focus on Early Childhood development and nutrition services

2. <u>National Nutrition Policy 2015</u>

- Multi-sectoral policy for nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions for nutrition outcomes
- Defined nutrition interventions during early childhood
- Other sectors involved: Agriculture; Food; Fisheries and Livestock; Women and Children Affairs; Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives; Education; Information; Planning; Disaster Management & Relief; Primary and Mass Education; Social Welfare; Finance
- 3. <u>The 2nd National Plan of Action for Nutrition (2016-2025)</u>:

 Life-cycle approach in ensuring adequate nutrition for all Bangladeshis, focus on 1000-day window of opportunity, from conception to 2 yrs of age
National nutrition coordination is with the Bangladesh National Nutrition Council (BNNC)







ECCD in the Operational Plans of the 4th HNPSP (2017-2022)

National Nutrition Services Operational Plan (2017-2023)
Maternal, Newborn, Child and adolescent health Operational Plan
National Newborn Health Program focuses on strengthening immediate and essential newborn care, sick newborn management and kangaroo Mother care contributing to nurturing care

Few examples of current initiatives:

- Paracenters in CHT: platform for Nutrition, Health, ECD interventions (early learning, responsive caregiving) reaching 206,000 families; 40000 children underfive
- Integrated ECCD, Nutrition, Health and Education in Cox's Bazaar among 6000 children
- Workplace platform in selected RMG sector under Nutrition programme to strengthen maternity rights and breastfeeding support (Mothers@Work programme), reaching around 20,000 female workers and 1000 children underfive



Opportunities to strengthen integrated ECCD with Nurturing Care

- Develop strategy and demonstrating a scalable model for a holistic integrated ECCD with focus for 0-3 yrs within MoHFW and interlink and coordination with other ministries i.e. MoWCA, MoLE, MoPME
- □ Strengthening the PHC platform with improved service delivery for IMCI and nutrition services
- Develop comprehensive guidelines, modules, tools and package for integrated ECCD, i.e. Responsive caregiving, parenting
- □ Use existing other platforms of health and nutrition services and the linkage with community-based and workplace (i.e. community clinic, community-based day care, RMG, Tea Garden etc)





Thank You