BANGLADESH CALL FOR ACTION FOR INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION INTERVENTIONS TOWARDS ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

2.4 MILLION PEOPLE are experiencing SEVERE CHRONIC FOOD INSECURITY across 10 DISTRICTS OF BANGLADESH and are IN NEED of support to improve their quantity and quality of food consumption and decrease chronic child malnutrition.

HOW MANY & WHEN
- Currently, 12.4 million people are chronically food insecure across 10 districts; out of them, 2.4 million are experiencing severe chronic food insecurity (IPC Level 4), and 3.6 million are moderately chronically food insecure (IPC Level 3).
- The population classified in level 3 and 4 are of major concern and warrant action from the government and the development community.
- The analysis was conducted in December 2015 and will remain valid for next 3 to 5 years, in the absence of any structural changes.

WHERE
- Of major concern are the districts of Sunamganj and Bandarban, which fall in severe chronic food insecurity (IPC Level 4). Other districts with higher proportion of chronically food insecure population are Netrakona, Habiganj, Khagrachar, and Rangamati.

WHO
- The populations most in need are those who depend on low valued livelihoods such as marginal farmers, agriculture wage laborers and marginal fishermen.

WHY
- The major factors contributing to the severe and moderate chronic food insecurity conditions are:
  - low valued livelihood strategies (providing inadequate and often unpredictable income) combined with high dependency on single livelihood and low literacy rates, which result in high poverty (27 percent);
  - poor sanitation and lack of infrastructural facilities such as electricity, roads, and growth centers.
- Other factors that contribute to aggravate the chronic food insecurity include inadequate financial access to food, and climatic hazards such as excessive rainfall and pre-monsoon flash floods that significantly affect households’ production of food.

Implications for Response
- The Government and partners are recommended to scale up the on-going efforts and prioritize the most affected populations by focusing on:
  - Enhancing and diversifying income generation opportunities in order to strengthen livelihoods and economic empowerment. These interventions need to include the development of an operational plan to expand the markets as well as value chain analysis.
  - Improving “Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), promoting behavior change, education, care practices and nutrition.

*The key findings of the IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Analysis have been produced by the IPC Multi-stakeholders Technical Working Group and reviewed by IPC Senior Level Stakeholder Consultation Meeting.

IPC in Bangladesh
IPC is a set of protocols to classify chronic and acute food insecurity. The core IPC parameters include consensus building, convergence of evidence, accountability, transparency and comparability. These are the results of the 2nd round of the IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Analysis which was conducted by the IPC National Technical Working Group (TWG) chaired by the Director General of Food Planning and Monitoring Unit (FPMU), in the Ministry of Food. Members of the NTWG comprised of government officials from different Ministries, UN Agencies, national and international NGOs. The 1st round of IPC Chronic Food Insecurity analysis was conducted in November 2014 and covered 18 districts and are available at: www.ipcinfo.org
IPC CHRONIC FOOD INSECURITY SITUATION IN 10 DISTRICTS OF BANGLADESH – DECEMBER 2015 - 2018/20

The implementation of the IPC Chronic Food Insecurity Classification in Bangladesh is also made possible with the support of the European Union, the government of the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

IPC Supporting Organizations and Analysis Partners and in Bangladesh

Full Analysis available at: www.ipcinfo.org
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