

## Bi weekly knowledge Sharing Virtual Seminar Session

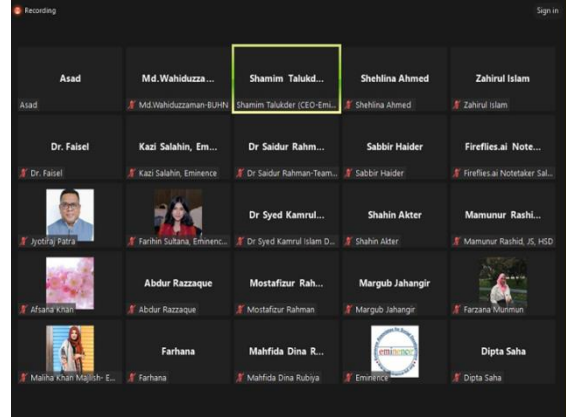
Date: 16 January 2024 (Tuesday)

Time: 20:00 – 21:30 BST(GMT+6)

### Topic: Urban Health and Upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Five Years Plan in Bangladesh

#### Seminar Minutes

The Bangladesh Urban Health Network (BUHN) conducted its First Bi-weekly Knowledge Sharing Virtual Seminar Session on Urban Health and the Upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan in Bangladesh on **January 16, 2024, from 8.00 PM (BST) to 9.30 PM (BST)**, via online through the Zoom platform. The meeting was led by *Dr. Shamim Hayder Talukder* (CEO, Eminence), Member Secretary of BUHN, and commenced with a brief introduction of the attendees.



#### Seminar Agenda:

- Welcome speech
- Presentation on “Urban Health: Bangladesh's Next Five-Year Plan” and “Present Urban Health Scenario, Best Practices and Challenges in Bangladesh”
- Panel Discussion followed by Open Discussion/ Q&A Session
- Speech by the Chief Guest
- Closing remarks and next step

#### Seminar Discussions:

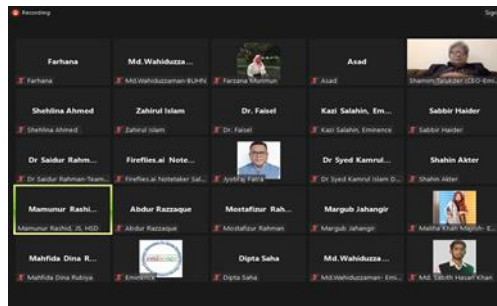
SN	Discussion Points	Seminar Discussion
1	Welcome Speech	<i>Dr. Shamim Hayder Talukder</i> (CEO, Eminence), Member Secretary of BUHN, began the seminar with a cordial greeting to the participants and delivered the welcome address, setting the tone for the seminar.
2	Presentation on “Urban Health: Bangladesh's Next Five-Year Plan”	<i>Dr. Mohammad Sabbir Haider</i> , Senior Scientific Officer (Epidemiology), IEDCR led a presentation on the next five-year plan for urban health in Bangladesh through emphasizing the crucial role of primary healthcare in achieving universal health coverage by 2030, highlighting growing health issues and challenges in urban areas, proposing a community-based primary healthcare centers to offer a comprehensive range of services and advocating for prioritizing urban health in the next sector program.
3	Presentation on “Present Urban Health Scenario, Best Practices and Challenges in Bangladesh”	Presentation by <i>Dr. Md. Saidur Rahman</i> , Team Leader (Aalo Clinics), focused on urban health initiatives, emphasizing the disorganization of urban health and various projects aiming to improve the situation in Bangladesh alongside identified lack of coordination between ministries, rapid urbanization, climate effects, high out-of-pocket expenses, absence of visible stewardship for urban primary healthcare, lack of organized referral mechanisms and digital health records, as challenges in providing sustainable primary healthcare to the urban population.

4	Panel Discussion	<p><i>Dr. Abu Jamil Faisal</i>, Chairman and Treasurer, Health21, emphasized on identifying a lack of coordination in contraceptive provision between the Directorate General of Family Planning and the Directorate General of Health, absence of a system to count served couples in urban areas, the need for reforms and better coordination within the Ministry. Additionally, he pointed out the potential of existing infrastructure, including district hospitals and medical colleges, to serve the urban poor if their outpatient departments were efficiently organized.</p> <p><i>Dr. Mohammad Zahirul Islam</i>; Senior Pogram Officer, SIDA discussed the challenges and strategies for primary healthcare in urban areas through highlighting the need for coordination with various organizations and models; the importance of human resources, both existing and new, for facility-based and community-based services as well as potential resistance to proactive measures, such as developing procurement of primary services from NGOs and private sectors.</p>
5	Open Discussion/ Q&A Session	<p>The importance of enhancing awareness and better coordination among both the public and private sectors ( <i>Dr. Shehlina Ahmed</i>, Consultant, Unicef)The involvement of experts connected to the network in designing service delivery models.( <i>Md. Ashadul Islam</i>, Former Secretary, MoHFW)Preparing a specific note to discuss with the Minister and emphasized the need to move forward.( <i>VFF Mohammad Abdullah</i>, Consultant, Unicef) are the highlights in open discussion session.</p>
6	Speech by the Chief Guest	<p><i>Mr. Md. Mamunur Rashid</i>, Joint Secretary, MoHFW discussed the importance of addressing coordination gaps in the health sector in Bangladesh aligning the successes in health sector, notably achieving the status of the world's first Filariasis and Kala-azar free country, the need for improved coordination within the health sector, the significance of addressing health issues, particularly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, the development of a comprehensive paper summarizing all relevant issues on urban for inclusion in the 5th health sector plan and suggested presenting the paper to the honorable minister for consideration and action.</p>
7	Closing remarks and next step	<p>In conclusion, <i>Dr. Margub Aref Jahangir</i> (Unicef, Bangladesh), Technical Support Team Member of BUHN, proposed reviving the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee to address coordination gaps and announced plans for future virtual discussion sessions on health-related topics followed by thanking all participants for attending the seminar.</p>

### Seminar Decisions:

1. Address the coordination issues between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Local Government and revitalize the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee
2. Consider implementing the Aalo clinic's digital model in other government facilities

3. Reorganize the outpatient departments of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare facilities to provide primary healthcare services to the urban poor
4. Take active steps to address NCDs and mental health issues, including preventive activities
5. Consider organizing a future meeting to gather all relevant stakeholders for a comprehensive discussion on urban health and making a note for the honorable Minister with the insights and recommendations from the seminar



### Attendance Sheet of the Seminar:

Following attendees from BUHN, DGHS and other partner organizations joined the Virtual Seminar-

SN	Name	Designation	Organization
1	Mr. Md. Mamunur Rashid	Joint Secretary	MoHFW
2	Dr. Md. Shamim Hayder Talukder	Chief Executive Officer	Eminence
3	Dr. Mohammad Sabbir Haider	Senior Scientific Officer	IEDCR
4	Dr. Afsana Alamgir Khan	Additional Director	DGHS
5	Dr. Syed Kamrul Islam	Deputy Director	UHC, DGHS
6	Dr. Margub Aref Jahangir	Health Officer	Unicef Bangladesh
7	Dr. Mohammad Zahirul Islam	Senior Program Officer	SIDA
8	Dr. Farzana Taher Munmun	DPM	UHC, DGHS
9	Dr. Md. Saiful Islam	MO	DGHS
10	Dr. Md. Saidur Rahman	Team Leader	Aalo Clinic
11	Md. Ashadul Islam	Former Secretary	MoHFW
12	VFF Mohammad Abdullah	Consultant	Unicef Bangladesh
13	Dr. Abu Jamil Faisel	Chairman & Treasurer	Health21
14	Dr. Md. Abdur Razzakul Alom	National Consultant	Unicef, Bangladesh
15	Dr. Shehlina Ahmed	Individual Consultant	Unicef, Bangladesh
16	Jyotiraj Patra	Programme Director	Concern Worldwide
17	Dr. Farhana Rahman		BRAC
18	Daniel Brame	Senior Program Officer	Jhpiego
19	Ruma Khondaker	MHPSS Technical Advisor	Save the Children
20	Khaled		Nari Maitree
21	Mostafizur Rahman		
22	Pallab		
23	Dr. Shahin Akter	Technical Operation Director	Eminence
24	Kazi Fayzus Salahin	Senior Data Analyst	Eminence
25	Ummay Farihin Sultana	Senior Research and Knowledge	Eminence
26	Maliha Khan Majlish	Senior Technical & Development	Eminence
27	Md. Wahiduzzaman	Urban Health Officer	Eminence
28	Md. Dipta Saha	Health and Development Officer	Eminence
29	Md. Sabith Hasan Khan	Health and Development Officer	Eminence