

Bi weekly knowledge sharing Virtual Seminar Session

Date: October 16, 2024 (Wednesday)

Time: 16:00 – 17:30 BST(GMT+6)

Topic: Career Pathway and Scopes for Service Providers in Urban Health Services of Different Ministries or Government Bodies

Seminar Minutes

The bi-weekly Knowledge Sharing Virtual Seminar Session on "Career Pathway and Scopes for Service Providers in Urban Health Services of Different Ministries or Government Bodies," organized by the Bangladesh Urban Health Network (BUHN), took place on October 16, 2024, from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM (BST) via the Zoom platform. The event was moderated by Dr. Maliha Khan Majlish, Senior Technical and Development Officer at Eminence Associates for Social Development. Participants engaged in discussions about the various career opportunities available to service providers in urban health, highlighting the significance of interdisciplinary collaboration and the need for effective workforce planning within different government sectors.

Seminar Agendas:

- Welcome speech
- Presentation on “Capacity Building and Staff Retention Challenges in Urban Public Health Program in Bangladesh” and “Urban Health in Bangladesh; Navigating governance, key players and uncovering opportunities”
- Open Discussion/ Q&A Session
- Speech by the Chief Guest
- Speech by the Session Chair
- Closing remarks and next step

Seminar Discussions:

SN	Discussion Points	Seminar Discussion
1	Welcome Speech	The seminar commenced as <i>Dr. Tasrina Rahman, Urban Health Consultant, UNICEF</i> , extended a warm greeting to the participants, emphasizing the growing demand for diverse roles in urban health, the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration across government sectors, and the critical impact health professionals can have in shaping the future of urban health systems.
2	Presentation on “Capacity Building and Staff Retention Challenges in Urban Public Health Program in Bangladesh”	<i>Dr. Sayed Rubayet, Country Director, Ipas Bangladesh</i> highlighted the challenges of capacity building and retention of public health workers in Dhaka, emphasizing the need for long-term government commitment to urban health, structured career paths, continuous training, skill retention incentives, and emergency preparedness to address the growing urban population.

	Presentation on “Urban Health in Bangladesh; Navigating governance, key players and uncovering opportunities”	<i>Fatema Showkot Jahan Rojy, Senior Deputy Director at Partners in Health and Development (PHD), addressed the challenges of urban health governance in Bangladesh, highlighting issues like ministry coordination gaps, uneven workforce distribution, high population density, and socioeconomic factors, while emphasizing the need for unified governance, collaborative initiatives, long-term workforce planning, digital solutions, and climate change adaptation to improve urban healthcare.</i>
3	Open Discussion/ Q&A Session	<i>Dr. Md. Saidur Rahman, Team Leader, Partners in Health and Development (PHD), outlined targets for consultations, lab services, community outreach, and household registrations, which will guide expenditures and demonstrate the Alo Clinic model’s scalability, with normal delivery services added to four clinics to reduce maternal mortality.</i> <i>Rokhsana Yasmin, a participant, raised concerns about service delivery and retention challenges for marginalized groups, emphasizing the need for inclusive strategies to ensure equitable access and sustained healthcare services.</i> <i>Dr. Sayed Rubayet, Country Director, Ipas Bangladesh emphasized the need for clear career pathways, skill-based training, and a strong mentoring system to enhance service providers' growth and effectiveness in urban health services.</i> <i>Fatema Showkot Jahan Rojy, Senior Deputy Director at Partners in Health and Development (PHD), discussed the feasibility and sustainability of the Allo clinic model as a long-term solution, highlighting advocacy initiatives with the government for strategic purchasing and the role of mobile healthcare teams in serving non-formal or low-income communities.</i> <i>Dr. Md. Saidur Rahman, Team Leader, Partners in Health and Development (PHD), emphasized the shortage of service providers in city corporations and stressed the urgent need for updated organizational structures to improve urban health services.</i> <i>Dr. Sainath Banerjee, the founder director of Urban Plus Solutions in New Delhi, India, stated that while mobile clinics are acceptable as a temporary solution, a permanent structure like the Delhi Model Clinic is essential for long-term healthcare needs.</i>
4	Speech by the Chief Guest	<i>Dr. Sainath Banerjee, Chief of Party cum Senior Director Samagra USAIDIndia Flagship Urban Health Program, emphasized the need for an integrated approach to urban health, highlighting the importance of understanding local health ecosystems, the role of environmental, social, and commercial determinants of health, and the prevalence of non-communicable diseases in urban areas, while stressing the</i>

		need for a structured workforce, political will, dedicated resources, and specialized training to effectively implement and manage urban health services.
5	Speech by the Session Chair	<i>Giselle Sebag, MPH, LEED AP, Executive Director, International Society for Urban Health (ISUH)</i> , emphasized the significance of interdisciplinary collaboration and the active involvement of residents in tackling urban health challenges, particularly the impacts of climate change and the rising burden of non-communicable diseases, highlighting that a collective, inclusive approach is essential for building healthier, more resilient urban communities.
6	Closing remarks and next step	<i>Dr. Shamim Hayder Talukder Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Eminence Associates for Social Development</i> thanked all participants, expressed the hope of transforming the seminar into a global event with ISUH's support, discussed Bangladesh's interim government and urban healthcare leadership, proposed integrating the 3 Zero philosophy into urban health, and suggested involving <i>Professor Muhammad Yunus (Chief Adviser of Bangladesh)</i> to enhance the event's global profile.

Seminar Decisions:

1. Emphasizing the need for unified governance, interdisciplinary collaboration, and workforce planning to enhance urban health services.
2. Addressing challenges in capacity building and retention of public health workers, with a focus on structured training and strong government commitment.
3. Discussing the scalability of urban health models, advocating for strategic government support and mobile healthcare solutions for underserved populations.
4. Recognizing the importance of establishing permanent healthcare structures while utilizing mobile clinics as temporary solutions to meet growing urban health needs.
5. Highlighting the necessity of interdisciplinary collaboration and resident participation to address climate change and the rising burden of non-communicable diseases in urban health.
6. Aiming to elevate the seminar to a global platform by involving key figures and integrating innovative philosophies to advance urban health leadership.

Attendance Sheet of the Seminar:

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

SN	Name	Designation	Organization
1	Giselle Sebag, MPH, LEED AP	Executive Director	International Society for Urban Health (ISUH)
2	Camille Medema	Urban Health Research Collaborator	International Society for Urban Health (ISUH)
3	Atia Hossain	Senior Economist (Health)	World Bank
4	Rachel Horta	Foreign Service Officer - Population, Health & Nutrition	USAID
5	Dr. Md. Shamim Hayder Talukder	Chief Executive Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
6	Dr. Sainath Banerjee	Founder Director	Urban Plus Solutions, New Delhi, India
7	Dr. Sayed Rubayet	Country Director	Ipas Bangladesh
8	Fatema Showkot Jahan Rojy	Senior Deputy Director	Partners in Health and Development (PHD)
9	Dr. Tasrina Rahman	Urban Health Consultant	Unicef Bangladesh
10	Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaqul Alom	National Consultant	Unicef
11	Masuda Begum	Director (Health and Nutrition)	Nari Maitree
12	Dr. Abu Jamil Faisel	Chairman & Treasurer	Health21
13	Dr. Md. Saidur Rahman	Team Leader	PHD
14	Dr. Khairul Islam	Regional Director	WaterAid, South Asia Region
15	Dr. Abdur Razzaque	Emeritus Scientist	ICDDR'B
16	Dr. Md. Samiul Huda	Health Economics Unit	MoHFW
17	Dr. Nazia Rahman	PC-CQI	Partners in Health and Development (PHD)
18	S M Sharif Ahmed	Assistant Director	PHD
19	As- Saba Hossain	Medical Doctor	ICDDR'B
20	Shaikh Masudul Alam	Program Director	Bangladesh Health Watch
21	Dr. K. M. Rezaul Haque	Chairperson	PHD
22	Mujibul Haque Munir	Head of Social Development	RDRS Bangladesh
23	Dr. Subrata Paul	Medical Officer	DGHS
24	Farzana Rahman	Programme Officer - Climate and Sustainable Finance	UNDP
25	Dr. Md. Sohel Rana	Professor	Department of Pharmacy, Jahangirnagar University
26	Chopola Rozario		PHD

27	Ayub Khan		
28	Dr. Amresh Kumar		
29	Sourav Choudhury		
30	Rokshana Yasmin		
31	Tanjina Farhana Upoma	UNV Health Officer	Unicef Bangladesh
32	Dr. Shahin Akter	Technical Operation Director	Eminence Associates for Social Development
33	Ummay Farihin Sultana	Senior Research and Knowledge Management Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
34	Maliha Khan Majlish	Senior Technical & Development Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
35	Md. Wahiduzzaman	Urban Health Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
36	Dr. Md. Asifur Rahman	Health Manager	Eminence Associates for Social Development
37	Mostafizur Rahman	Senior Program Implementation Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
38	Uttam Kumar Roy	Project Manager	Eminence Associates for Social Development
39	Sakera Khatun Mony	Nutrition Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
40	Mohammad Mahtabuddin	Communication Manager	Eminence Associates for Social Development
41	Md. Jahangir Alam	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (MEO)	Eminence Associates for Social Development
42	Md. Dipta Saha	Health and Development Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
43	Md. Sabith Hasan Khan	Health and Development Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
44	Atia Munni	Health and Development Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
45	Mash-oodur Rahman	Research & Communication Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
46	Abhijeet Kumar Singh	Research & Communication Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
47	Sayma Sultana	Communication Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
48	Abir Chowdhury	IT Officer	Eminence Associates for Social Development
49	Md. Shoriful Islam	Graphic Designer	Eminence Associates for Social Development

Snapshot of the Seminar:



