# Bangladesh Initiative to Enhance Nutrition Security and Governance (BleNGS) Project



## What is BleNGS about?

BleNGS is a Multisector Nutrition Project aiming at improving maternal and child nutrition of 153,825 nutritionally vulnerable families (1,701,100 people) in Jamalpur and Sherpur districts, and strengthen health and nutrition service delivery systems through a pro-poor governance model.

The project is co-funded by the European Union and is being implemented by a consortium of national and international development entities—Unnyan Sangha (US), International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI-HarvestPlus, USA), Institute of Development Studies (IDS, University of Sussex, UK), and World Vision (Bangladesh, Australia and the UK).

#### Where do we work?



Sreebordi, Jhenaigati and Sherpur Sadar Upazila of **Sherpur District** 



Dewanganj, Islampur and Jamalpur Sadar Upazila of Jamalpur District

# What is the life-span, Resources?



54 Months, September 1, 2018 – February 28, 2023



Euro €9,654,962.39 (85% from the European Union), Remaining 15% is from DFAT, IFPRI-HP and IDS.

### What we do, how?



**Promote IYCF**—Infant and Young Child Feeding (Group Sessions at courtyard, Counselling to mothers and caregivers of Children under 5).



**Impart SBCC**—Social and Behavior Change Communication to improve nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive behavior (Courtyard sessions, Interactive Popular Theatre/folk songs, Campaign etc.).



**Provide ttC**—Timed and Targeted Counselling to Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLWs), Spouses, and In-laws).



**PDH**—Positive Deviance/Hearth (Group sessions with identified mothers and caregivers of malnourished children; hands on practices of cooking and feeding, using locally available nutritious food items).



**MenCare**—An approach to facilitate transformational gender role for women's empowerment and equity, promoted by trained change-maker couples.



**School Task-Force**—School based nutrition and WASH education through trained teachers and task-force members.



**Adolescent Clubs**—Group sessions and peer-education for health, nutrition, WASH and life-skills of the adolescents.



**LVCD**—Local Value Chain Development (producer groups with backward and forward linkages to promote high value nutritious crops across the communities).



**Nutrition Graduation**—Skills training for the poor and extreme poor households to establish nutrition garden with high value nutritious vegetables, fruits and rearing of small livestock projects.



Promotion of **Bio-fortified crops** to address micro-nutrient deficiencies.



**CVA**—Citizen Voice and Action to ensure voices of the poor are heard and responded by the relevant services providers toward realization of their rights and entitlements.



Strengthening capacities CG (Community Groups) and CSG (Community Support Groups) to improve governance and services of the **Community Clinics**.



Strengthening Multi-sectoral Platform (Upazila Nutrition Coordination Committee—UNCC and District Nutrition Coordination Committee-DNCC) for improved governance towards sustainable nutrition

Co-funded by:











services.



Consortium Partners: Lead Coordinator

# **Project Outreach**



93,087 Children Under 5, Mothers and Caregivers improved nutrition behavior



Pregnant and Lactating Women

Ante Natal and Post Natal Care improved diet and nutrition behavior



44,735 Adolescents

improved life skills health, nutrition and WASH behavior



Poor and Extreme Poor HHs

Nutrition Graduation



960 Producer Groups (24000 HHs)

production increased, diversified, linked to value chains



mall farmer

grows and promotes bio-fortified crops



#### 92

Communities

participate in PDH sessions to address malnutrition of children



Couples, Change-maker

practice and promote MenCare approach



224 Community Clinics

improved governance and services



34 SVA (Citizen Voice

advocate to improve government services



#### 1,030

trained on nutrition sensitive services



36

promotes Nutrition and WASH Education



# 20,370 People with disabilities

community sensitization to enabling participation



#### 1,000

Handwashing stations help prevent COVID-19



# 20,846

practice COVID-19 prevention measures



#### **Key Contacts**