Evidences

Study #2662

Contributing Projects:
- P688 - 4.1.2 Improving Design and Delivery of Social protection for Nutrition and Other Outcomes
- P690 - 2.4.5 Support to Bangladesh Policies

Part I: Public communications

Type: OICR: Outcome Impact Case Report

Status: Ready to be reported on

Year: 2018

Title: Strengthening the targeting performance of a child nutrition-oriented safety net in Bangladesh: the Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance

Short outcome/impact statement:
Upon request of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs of Bangladesh, IFPRI/PIM proposed eligibility criteria to strengthen the targeting performance of the Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance program in Bangladesh. The government accepted IFPRI's recommendations, which are anticipated to benefit approximately 700,000 poor rural and 250,000 poor urban women in 2018-2019.

Outcome story for communications use:
Strengthening the performance of a child nutrition-oriented safety net in Bangladesh: the Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance

Child stunting (i.e. when children are too small for their age) reduces the chance that children will develop well, do well in school, earn a living, and escape poverty. Although stunting in Bangladesh has dropped over the past two decades, one out of three children is still stunted. Stunting is a consequence of inadequate nutrition and health: mothers do not eat enough healthy, nutritious food during pregnancy, and the diets of young children do not provide the nutrients they need to grow.

The 2015 National Social Security Strategy of Bangladesh called for the development of a national Child Benefit Program to improve the nutrition and health of pregnant women and of children below the age of four. In a first step, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is combining two existing cash-based safety nets, the rural Maternity Allowance and the urban Lactating Mother Allowance, into an improved program called "Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance" which will serve as the basis for the future Child Benefit Program.

In 2018, upon request of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and of the World Food Program, IFPRI/PIM conducted a study funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates foundation to propose selection criteria for the Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance. The data for the analysis came from two sources: the 2010 Household Income and Expenditure Survey conducted by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and IFPRI's 2015 Bangladesh Integrated Household Survey.

Based on this study [1], the research team proposed six rural and five urban indicators to strengthen the targeting performance of the program. The Ministry accepted these recommendations and incorporated them in the program implementation directive [2]. The consolidated program will benefit approximately 700,000 poor rural and 250,000 poor urban women in 2018-2019. This research is also likely to inform the design of the future Child Benefit Program.

Links to any communications materials relating to this outcome:
- https://tinyurl.com/y3hw4m83

Part II: CGIAR system level reporting

Link to Common Results Reporting Indicator of Policies : Yes

Policies contribution:
- 166 - Bangladesh's Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance (improved targeting criteria)

Level of maturity of change reported: Level 2

Links to the Strategic Results Framework:
Sub-IDOs:
- Increased access to diverse nutrient-rich foods
- Increased household capacity to cope with shocks

Is this OICR linked to some SRF 2022/2030 target?: Yes

SRF 2022/2030 targets:
- \# of more people, of which 50% are women, meeting minimum dietary energy requirements
- \# of people, of which 50% are women, assisted to exit poverty

Comment: <Not Defined>

Geographic scope:
- National

Country(ies):
- Bangladesh

Comments: <Not Defined>

Key Contributors:
Contributing CRPs/Platforms: <Not Defined>

Contributing Flagships:
- F4: Social Protection for Agriculture and Resilience
- F2: Economywide Factors Affecting Agricultural Growth and Rural Transformation

Contributing Regional programs: <Not Defined>
Contributing external partners:
- Ministry of Planning (Bangladesh)
- BMGF - Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- WFP - World Food Programme
- Government of Bangladesh

CGIAR innovation(s) or findings that have resulted in this outcome or impact:
N/A

Innovations: <Not Defined>

Elaboration of Outcome/Impact Statement:
Child stunting (i.e. when children are too small for their age) reduces the chance that children will develop well, do well in school, earn a living, and escape poverty. Although stunting in Bangladesh has dropped over the past two decades, one out of three children is still stunted. Stunting is a consequence of inadequate nutrition and health: mothers do not eat enough healthy, nutritious food during pregnancy, and the diets of young children do not provide the nutrients they need to grow.

The National Social Security Strategy of Bangladesh has called for the development of a national Child Benefit Program to improve the nutrition and health of pregnant women and of children below the age of four. In a first step, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is combining two existing cash-based safety nets, the rural Maternity Allowance and the urban Lactating Mother Allowance, into an improved program called "Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance" which will serve as the basis for the future Child Benefit Program.

In 2018, upon request of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and of the World Food Program, IFPRI/PIM conducted a study funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates foundation to propose selection criteria for the Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance. The data for the analysis came from two sources: the 2010 Household Income and Expenditure Survey conducted by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (Ministry of Planning, Government of Bangladesh), and IFPRI's 2015 Bangladesh Integrated Household Survey.

Based on this study [1], the research team proposed six rural and five urban indicators to strengthen the targeting performance of the program. The Ministry accepted these recommendations and incorporated them in the program implementation directive. The consolidated program will benefit approximately 700,000 poor rural and 250,000 poor urban women in 2018-2019.

The program implementation directive (in Bangla) [2] includes the IFPRI/PIM recommendations in the section about the selection criteria. Other evidence of this outcome includes an email from a World Food Programme staff [3] indicating that the Government of Bangladesh has accepted the recommended criteria.

References cited:
[1] "Assessing indicators for targeting the needy under Improved Maternity and Lactating Allowance Program in rural and urban Bangladesh", IFPRI report prepared for the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs of Bangladesh: https://tinyurl.com/y4ml8uz2
[2] Implementation directive of the Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance (in Bangla): https://tinyurl.com/y5hrvwts
[3] E-mail from WFP indicating that the Government of Bangladesh has accepted IFPRI's recommended criteria (confidential)

Quantification:

> **Type of quantification:** b) Extrapolated estimates
> **Number:** 950000.00
> **Unit:** poor women
> **Comments:** This number has been provided by Ms. Arifeen Akter, Program Officer, World Food Program (WFP)/Bangladesh in an e-mail sent on July 29, 2018. WFP provides technical assistance to the Bangladesh Ministry of Women and Children Affairs for implementing its safety net programs.

Gender, Youth, Capacity Development and Climate Change:
Gender relevance: 1 - Significant
Main achievements with specific **Gender** relevance: PIM recommendations on how to strengthen the targeting performance of the Improved Maternity and Lactating Mother Allowance program are anticipated to benefit approximately 700,000 poor rural and 250,000 poor urban women in 2018-2019
Youth relevance: 0 - Not Targeted
CapDev relevance: 0 - Not Targeted
Climate Change relevance: 0 - Not Targeted

Other cross-cutting dimensions: NA

Other cross-cutting dimensions description: <Not Defined>

Outcome Impact Case Report link: Study #2662

Contact person:
Akhter Ahmed
Senior Research Fellow
Chief of Party of the Bangladesh Policy Research and Strategy Support Program
PIM/IFPRI
a.ahmed@cgiar.org

Julie Ghostlaw
Country Program Manager
PIM/IFPRI
j.ghostlaw@cgiar.org