

Civil Registration & Vital Statistics Program



# Rapid Mortality Surveillance in Bangladesh

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DATA FOR  
HEALTH INITIATIVE

 Vital  
Strategies



# Objective

- **Counting of all deaths, and comparing this to historically expected mortality**, to create a picture of excess death in Bangladesh, capturing both
  - the **direct burden of the epidemic**; and
  - its **indirect mortality burden**, caused by disruptions to the access, use and provision of health-care services
- Useful in the emergency response of the country to the Covid-19 pandemic



# Establishing Rapid Mortality Surveillance

- **Define country objectives**
  - Confirm country government buy-in
  - Engage relevant Ministries, partners, and other stakeholders
  - Identify scope
    - Facility-based data, community-based, or both?
    - Urban, semi-urban, rural?
    - How many sites/facilities/cities/districts?
    - High-risk populations?
  - Identify desired indicators
- **Differentiate between short-term and long-term goals and solutions**
  - Short-term: e.g. rapid total/excess mortality
  - Long-term: e.g. comprehensive CRVS/unified mortality surveillance



# Establishing Rapid Mortality Surveillance

- **Assess the existing mortality information landscape (and pandemic-specific systems)**
  - Where is data available? Assess coverage, completeness, quality, etc.
  - Where is baseline data available?
- **Identify opportunities to adapt and strengthen existing systems**
  - Where can simple modifications of existing systems lead to rapid data
  - Where may existing electronic systems be leveraged?
- **Consider implementation requirements/feasibility**
  - What human, financial, and technical resources will be required?
  - Assess whether any proposals will require additional protective measures for surveillance workers, e.g. PPE?



# Sources of Mortality Data from Bangladesh

- **Community Deaths**

- [Temporary] real-time data collected in 13 sub-districts by Health Assistants and baseline data from BDRIS (May – October 2020)
- [Long-term] death registration data from BDRIS from 13 sub-districts

- **Facility Deaths**

- Utilizing data collected from hospitals routinely through DHIS2
  - Aggregated reporting module
  - Event capture module
  - Linkage with hospital dashboards

- **Burial Sites**

- Data from burial sites and crematoriums will commence in 2 Dhaka City Corporations and 1 Sylhet City Corporation shortly through a collaboration with National Heart Foundation

- **HDSS Sites**

- In collaboration with icddr,b using present-day and historical data from HDSS sites



# Excess Mortality Calculator