STATE OF POPULATION DATA IN BANGLADESH

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BACKGROUND

- Understanding progress related to population and requires that up-to-date, high-quality, accurate and reliable data be available, disaggregated by factors such as income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

- Monitoring population and Development for achievement of ICPD and Agenda 2030 such data will assist to identify successes and groups being left behind and should feed into policymaking to ensure that gaps are being filled and that no one is left behind.

  - What is the status on monitoring the ICPD PoA and SDGs in Bangladesh?
  - What is the status of monitoring of population and development in Bangladesh?
  - How are population indicators linked to SDG monitoring in Bangladesh?
  - What needs to be done to strengthen monitoring and what factors might assist this strengthening?
MAIN POPULATION DATA SOURCES TO MONITOR POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING IN BANGLADESH

- Bangladesh Population and Housing Census, BBS
- Bangladesh Sample Vital Statistics (under SVRS, BBS)
- Labour Force Survey (LFS), BBS
- Bangladesh Demographic and Health Surveys (BDHS)
- Multiple Cluster Indicator Survey (MICS), BBS
- Bangladesh Maternal and Health Care Surveys (BMHS)
- Bangladesh Urban Health Survey (BUHS)
- Violence Against Women Survey (VAW)
- Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), BBS
- Others
Where is Bangladesh today since the ICPD and SDGs?

SUBSTANTIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Economic Growth** (4.7% in 1991-2000; 6.3% in 2011-2014, 7.26% in 2017, 7.86% in 2018, GoB) and poverty reduction (headcount poverty rate 51% in 1995-96; 24.3 in 2016, HIES) & Creation of opportunity to achieve **Demographic Dividend**

- **Gender parity in primary school** (Gross enrollment ratio-119% (2012-2017), HDI 2018, UNDP)


- **Gains in life expectancy at birth** (72.3 years in 2018; 70.7 years in 2014, SVRS 2018)

- **TFR reduced** to 2.3 (2014 BDHS from 3.4 in 1994)/ 2.05 (SVRS 2018)

- **CPR increased** to 62% in 2014 (BDHS) from 42.6% in 1993-94

**Figure 1** Total (ratio of population aged 0-14 and 65+ per 100 population 15-64), Child (ratio of population aged 0-14 per 100 population 15-64) and Old Dependency Ratio (ratio of population aged 65+ per 100 population 15-64), 1975-2050

Total Fertility Rate (TFR) & Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (CPR) 1975-2014

Unmet Need for Family Planning among Married Women by Age Group, 1993-2014

Total Fertility Rates and Adolescents' contribution to TFR: 1991-2014, BDHS
New and Emerging Challenges/Unequal Progress:

**KEY CHALLENGES**

- **Child marriage** (58.6% in 2014 BDHS, 73.3% in 1993-94)
- **Early pregnancy/adolescent fertility** (31% in 2014, 30% in 2011, 33% in 1993-94, BDHS)
- **High Unmet Need for Family Planning** (12% in Women aged 15-49 years, 17% in 15-19 years, BDHS 2014; 23% (15-49), 19% (15-19) in 1993-94)
- **Uneven reduction of TFR** in various regions (Syllhet-2.9 and Chittagong- 2.5 in 2014)
- **Epidemiological transition:** NCDs- Double Health Burden (Causes of Death: Heart Disease-14.2%, Heart attack-10.4, Cancer-7.7%, High Blood Pressure-5.3%, SVRS 2018)
- **Prevalence of partner violence** experienced at least once among currently-married women—any types of violence (physical or sexual or economic or emotional violence or controlling behavior): 80.2% in 2015; 87.1% in 2011 (BBS, VAW Survey 2011 & 2015).
- **Threats of climate change**/ Migration due to **environmental reasons** in City Slums (7% of all migration in urban places, BUHS 2013)
- **International migration:** Overseas employment from 1976- 2018: 12,199,124 (less skilled/semi-skilled-62.6%) (BMET, 2019)
- **Rohinga displaced population**: 9,09,000 - until March, 2019, UNHCR/ 7,45,000 arrived after August 25, 2017
New and Emerging Challenges/Unequal Progress:

- **KEY CHALLENGES**
  - **Demographic trend are more diverse:** Youth bulge and rapid ageing (60+ years-8% in 2017, SVRS)
  - **Unemployment** (4.3% in 2016-2017, 4.6% in 2010, HIES)
    - Youth unemployment (aged 15-29: 6% in 1994; 11% in 2017)
    - NEET of Youth (aged 15-29): 29.8% (Female- 49.4%)
  - No improvement in **income inequality** (0.31 in 1995; 0.48 in 2016, HIES)
  - **Schooling- completion of secondary and tertiary** remains a challenge for girls
    - Primary school Drop-out rate-33.8%; secondary enrolment-69%, Tertiary-17% (HDI 2018, UNDP)
    - Illiterate: 26% of adults (aged 15 and over) (SVRS, 2018)
  - **Rapid urbanization** (35.9% in 2017, 2018 HDI/UNDP, 23.3% in 2011 Census, GoB), mobility, displacement: Health, housing, transport, etc.
  - **Maternal mortality** (176 in 2016 HDI/UNDP; 1.69 per 1000 live births in SVRS 2018)
  - **Skilled birth attendants** (42.1% in 2014, 15.6% in 2004, BDHS 2014)
  - **Nutritional Status of Under-Five Aged Children:** Stunting (height for age- 36%) and Under-weight (33% in 2014, BDHS)
Policy Initiatives in Bangladesh

- National Population Policy 2012
- National Health Policy 2011
- Perspective Plan of Bangladesh (2010-2021)
- National Women Development Policy 2011
- National Policy on Older Persons (2013)
- 7th Five Year Plan (2016-2020)
- 4th Health, Population, and Nutrition Sector Programme (4th HPNSP) for 2017-2022
- National Youth Policy 2017
- Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017
- National Plan of Action (NPA) to End Child Marriage (2018-2030)
- Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100
- Others….

- How will Bangladesh perform in ICPD+25 and SDGs?
- Are the population issues well addressed in policies under changing demographics? Are the policies updated?
- Are there limitations regarding good governance?
- Do we need more coordination and integration of population issues among the policies and plans following the ICPD PoA and SDGs?
- Does funding/resources remain a critical concern to implement ICPD PoA & SDGs?
- Do we need "South-South Cooperation for the achievement of the ICPD PoA and the 2030 Agenda?"
- What are the problems to deal with Policies/Plans?

Implementation challenges/ data non-availability (disaggregated) and quality of data/ political interference or delaying on releasing data on time/not taking lesson from shortcomings/ short term vs. long term success!
Challenges to Provide Disaggregated Population Data for Development to Leave No One Behind

- In Bangladesh, there is a lack of disaggregated population data for development. *To monitor the implementation of the 2030 SDG Agenda, disaggregated data are necessary.*

- Almost half of all indicators (47.4 per cent) to monitor the 17 SDGs are currently not available (out of 232 indicators), 25 per cent are partially available and 27.6 per cent are readily available (GED/GoB, 2018).

- However, no less than 35 per cent of metadata for the indicators are yet to be finalized by the IAEG-SDGs (GED/GoB, 2018).
## Data Availability in Number in Bangladesh: SDGs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDGs</th>
<th>Total Target</th>
<th>Total Indicators</th>
<th>Data Availability for the Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Readily Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 1: Poverty</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 2: Hunger</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 3: Health</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 4: Education</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 5: Gender</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 6: Water &amp; Sanitation</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 7: Energy</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 8: Growth</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 9: Infrastructure</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 10: Inequality</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 11: Community</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 12: Consumption</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 13: Climate</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 14: Life below water</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 15: Life on land</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 16: Peace, Justice</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 17: Partnership</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>169</strong></td>
<td><strong>244</strong></td>
<td><strong>66</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 1: Poverty</td>
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<td>21.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 2: Hunger</td>
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<td>23.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 3: Health</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>48.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 4: Education</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 5: Gender</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 6: Water &amp; Sanitation</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
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<td>SDG 7: Energy</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 8: Growth</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 9: Infrastructure</td>
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<td>25.0%</td>
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<td>SDG 10: Inequality</td>
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<td>36.4%</td>
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<td>SDG 11: Community</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDG 12: Consumption</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 13: Climate</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 14: Life below water</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDG 15: Life on land</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
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<td>SDG 16: Peach, Justice</td>
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</table>
Table 1 summarizes the data availability of each of the indicators against the specific goals. Data availability is comparatively better off for SDG 3, followed by SDG 4, SDG 9, SDG 5, SDG 8, SDG 17, SDG 7 and SDG 2. However, data availability is challenging for SDG 12, followed by SDG 14, SDG 13, SDG 11, SDG 16, SDG 10 and SDG 15.
Key Challenges

- Some of the key challenges to monitor SDG progress includes:
  - Disaggregated data by age, sex, disability and at sub-national level
  - Concepts, definitions and methodologies following international standards
  - Lack of baseline data and managing a large number of new surveys
  - Lack of technical support for regular monitoring
  - Difficulty in initiating new technologies in statistical data collection and immediate dissemination
  - Lack of funding from different sources: private sector, public sector, public-private partnership, NGOs and external financing from foreign direct investment and aid or grants.

- Concerns on Quality of Data and Timeliness: Unfortunately, the quality of the available data does not always meet expectations, and data are not always made readily available to researchers (Hayes and Jones, 2015).
- Moreover, often there are considerable delays in releasing detailed analytical reports of the census and of surveys.
  - These factors may disturb the timely production of indicators and statistical information and hamper evidence-based policymaking.
Ways Forward: Actions Needed

● Only 10 more years ahead to achieve SDGs! Improvements in the availability and quality of data for population and development planning are needed.

● Data authentication, converting statistics into official statistics and establishing targets every 5 years to measure improvements are needed.

● Following the principle that no one should be left behind in the 2030 SDG Agenda, UNFPA can accelerate its efforts on marginalized and vulnerable groups across the country.

● It is necessary to ensure the availability of disaggregated data to monitor the progress and success of the SDGs’ unfinished agenda. Without a strong data base and a body of researchers who utilize and assess this data base, planning is difficult (Hayes and Jones, 2015).

● A systematic assessment of data needs and quality should be conducted for improving the data base for population and development planning.

  ○ E.g. At all levels, for UNFPA there are 16 SDG indicators and linkages between the SDG and ICPD monitoring and reporting mechanisms. The GED (General Economic Division) and BBS (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics) should work on these 16 indicators. In the meantime, UNFPA can provide support with capacity building for administrative data used for SDG monitoring and reporting.
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Thank You!

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