



Report  
2021

# Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue

**BCSNPN**

**eminence**<sup>™</sup>  
associates for social development  
[www.eminence-bd.org](http://www.eminence-bd.org)

# Report



## Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue

Summit Dialogue Getway Link: <https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/34342/>

24 August 2021



# Copyright of the Report

**Required Citation:** Eminence, BCSNPN. 2021. Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue. Final Report. Dhaka, Bangladesh. Available from:

© Eminence, September 2021

Some rights are reserved. This work is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share similar to the 3.0 IGO license: (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO; <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo/legalcode>).

Under the terms of this license, this work may be copied, redistributed, and adapted for non-commercial purposes, provided that the work is appropriately cited. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that Eminence Associates for Social Development or Bangladesh Civil Society Network for Promoting Nutrition (BCSNPN) endorses any specific organization, products, or services in any use of this work. The use of the Eminence or BCSNPN logo is not permitted. If the work is adapted, it must be licensed under the same or equivalent Creative Commons license. Suppose a translation of this work is created. In that case, it must include the following disclaimer along with the required citation: Eminence Associates for Social Development or Bangladesh Civil Society Network for Promoting Nutrition (BCSNPN) or Eminence/BCSNPN are not responsible for the content or accuracy of this translation. The original English edition shall be the authoritative edition. A single copy of the information available through this document may be used, solely for personal, noncommercial use. Individuals must preserve any copyright or other notices contained in or associated with them. Users may not distribute such copies to others, whether or not in electronic form, whether or not for a charge or other consideration, without the prior written consent of the copyright holder of the document.

Third-party materials. Users wishing to reuse material from this work attributed to a third party, such as tables, figures, or images, are responsible for determining whether permission is needed for that reuse and obtaining permission from the copyright holder. The risk of claims resulting from infringement of any third-party-owned component in work rests solely with the user.

All photos in this report have been sourced from internet.

This report will be available on Eminence's website: [www.eminence-bd.org/report](http://www.eminence-bd.org/report)

Contact information for requests for permission to commercial use available through this document is as below:



2nd Floor, Hena Nibash, 3/6, Asad Avenue,  
Mohammadpur, Dhaka – 1207, Bangladesh  
Phone: +8801709649901  
Email: [info@eminence-bd.org](mailto:info@eminence-bd.org)  
Website: [www.eminence-bd.org](http://www.eminence-bd.org)

# Disclaimer

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of Eminence Associates for Social Development or Bangladesh Civil Society Network for Promoting Nutrition (BCSNPN) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by Eminence or BCSNPN in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

The views expressed in this information product are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of Eminence.





# Contents

COPYRIGHT OF THE REPORT	i	Prof. Dr. Maniruzzaman Bahadur Professor, Crop Physiology & Ecology Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science & Technology University	11
DISCLAIMER	ii		
FOREWORD	v	Prof. Dr. Fahmida Chowdhury Professor, Agronomy & Agriculture Extension Rajshahi University	11
INTRODUCTION	1		
OBJECTIVES OF THE DIALOGUE	1	Prof. Dr. Hafiza Sultana Head, Health Education Department, NIPSOM	11
DESIGN OF THE DIALOGUE	3		
PARTICIPANTS OF THE DIALOGUE	3	Ahmed Firoz Kabir Member of Parliament, Pabna-2	12
KEY FINDINGS OF THE DIALOGUE	3	Dr. Abdun Noor Tushar Advisor, The Editor 365	12
DISCUSSIONS OF THE DIALOGUE	4		
Session One: How Can We Ensure the Access to Safe and Nutritious Food for All?	5	Session Three Natural Food Production in Twenty-first Century: Obstacles and Opportunities	13
Mandira Guha Neogi Senior Policy Associate, GAIN, Bangladesh	6	Mostafa Faruq Al Banna Associate Research Director Ministry of Food	13
Dr. Zeba Mahmud Senior Advisor, Alive & Thrive, Bangladesh	6	Nurul Islam Hasib Special Correspondent, Bangladesh Post	13
Dr. Mohsin Ali Nutrition Expert, Bangladesh	7	Prof. Dr. AHM Mustafizur Rahman Vice-Chancellor Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University	13
Azad Md. Abul Kalam Head of Program, ICCO, Bangladesh	7		
Dr. Md. Khalilur Rahman Director General, BNNC	8	Prof. Dr. Sadekul Arefin Matin Vice-Chancellor, Barisal University	14
Dr. Shamil Uddin Ahmed Shimul Member of Parliament, Chapai Nawabganj-1	9	Dr. AFM Ruhul Haque Member of Parliament, Satkhira-3	14
Prof. Dr. Shah Monir Hossain Former Director General, DGHS	9	Khaja Abdul Hannan Ministry of Food, Additional Secretary	15
Session Two: The Role of Women and Young People for Shifting the Diet Consumption Patterns Towards Healthy and Sustainable Diets	10	Session Four: The Challenges and Chances of Decent Livelihood for the Farmers and Other Food Workers in Bangladesh	15
Prof. Dr. Sarder Safiqul Islam Professor, Agrotechnology Discipline, KU	10	Prof. Dr. M. Jahangir Alam Professor, Agribusiness and Marketing, Bangladesh Agricultural University	15
Prof. Dr. A.K. Obidul Huq Professor Food Technology & Nutrition Science Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University	10	John Taylor Chief Technical Advisor, FAO	16
		Shykh Seraj Director, Channel I	16

# Contents

Prof. Dr. Md. Nasim Akhtar Vice-Chancellor Chandpur Science and Technology University	17
Shamsul Haque Tuku Member of Parliament, Pabna-1	17
Dr. S M Mustafizur Rahman Line Director, NNS	17
Session Five : Peoples' Engagement for Tackling Vulnerabilities, Shocks, and Stress to Make the Food System Resilient	18
Dr. AFM Iqbal Kabir Lead Consultant, BNNC	18
Prof. Dr. Shamim Ahmed Kamal Uddin Khan Professor, Agrotechnology Discipline Khulna University	18
Toufiq Maruf Senior Journalist, The Daily Kaler Kantho	19
Dr. Abdul Aziz Member of Parliament, Sirajganj-1	19
Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad Chairman, PKSF	20
<b>OUTCOMES OF THE DIALOGUE</b>	21
Session One	21
Session Two	21
Session Three	22
Session Four	22
Session Five	23
<b>REFERENCES</b>	24
<b>ANNEXURE</b>	25



# Foreword



The UN Food Systems Summit 2021 will take place on September 23, 2021. On the eve of this momentous event, we, as a Civil Society Organization (CSO), have organized "Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue" to share the CSOs, academicians, government stakeholders, and policy-makers views and recommendations to the Summit. We acknowledge that our voices from Bangladesh have to play a critical role in realizing the strategies to be determined in the Summit. Therefore, we have compiled the recommendations from the dialogue sessions to present them in the dialogue gateway.

While organizing the dialogue, we got tremendous responses from all, which revealed the heartfelt desire to build cooperation. We are only nine years away from the SDGs, and we are hopeful about achieving the targets within 2030 to eradicate hunger and malnutrition from Bangladesh and the globe.

We wish good health to all.

Dr. Md. Shamim Hayder Talukder  
Convener  
Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue  
&  
Chief Executive Officer  
Eminence Associates for Social Development  
Contact: +8801713-066602  
Email: [ceo@eminence-bd.org](mailto:ceo@eminence-bd.org)



# Introduction

Food and agriculture are central to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) [1]. The second SDG – "Zero Hunger" – aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture within 2030 [2]. Since we are only nine years behind from the end of the time horizon to achieve these goals, the world is witnessing increasing conflict, mass displacement, climate vulnerabilities [3], economic slowdowns and declines [4], public health emergencies [5]. These devastating human experiences have only heightened the challenges of the SDG goals and undermined food security around the world [6]. In this context, the United Nations (UN) will organize a Food System Summit with the global stakeholders of food systems, on September 23, 2021, in conjunction with the UN general assembly [7].

The UN Food Systems Summit 2021 is called a peoples' Summit [8], where everyone will be reinforced from its resources and activities for transforming the world food systems to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs within its timeframe. All the country, the global leader, the people, the networks, and organizations are highly invigorated to hold diversified dialogues to this cause, as the Strategic Framework 2022-2031 by FAO remarked that challenges require cooperation, not only across borders but across society [9].

Eminence Associates for Social Development and Bangladesh Civil Society Network for Promoting Nutrition (BCSNPN) have jointly organized Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogues in a virtual platform to contribute to this global food security and nutrition movement [10], where the participants engaged in rigorous discussion on the five action tracks [11] of the UN Food Systems Summit 2021 in the context of Bangladesh.

## Objectives of the Dialogue

The Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue has the following three specific objectives:

- Analyze the challenges of the access to safe and nutritious food for all;
- Explore promising approaches for transforming the food system;
- Debate pathways and elaborate intentions to achieve the sustainable development goals.

## Enjoy the Dialogue on

Session One:

[f eminencengo/videos/545043309884826/](https://www.facebook.com/eminencengo/videos/545043309884826/)

Session Two:

[f eminencengo/videos/799995014007102/](https://www.facebook.com/eminencengo/videos/799995014007102/)

Session Three:

[f eminencengo/videos/374208964269579/](https://www.facebook.com/eminencengo/videos/374208964269579/)

Session Four:

[f eminencengo/videos/520577332348525/](https://www.facebook.com/eminencengo/videos/520577332348525/)

Session Five:

[f eminencengo/videos/822399748449183/](https://www.facebook.com/eminencengo/videos/822399748449183/)

[YouTube Face Media Eminence](#)

<https://eminence-bd.org/bangladesh-independent-food-systems-dialogue/>





# Design of the Dialogue

The dialogue was a day-long virtual event of five sessions. Each session was participated by six to seven participants, which included the Food Systems Dialogue National Convener of Bangladesh, along with the members of parliaments, high government officials, vice-chancellors of universities, researchers and academia, national and international civil society organization members, individual consultants, celebrities, and journalists. Each of these five sessions was consistent with an action track of the UN Food Systems Summit 2021. Therefore, all five action tracks were covered in the dialogue. Before each session, the dialogue's seven Principles of Engagement, five objectives, and some key milestones, et cetera was projected

through a PowerPoint presentation. A concept note was prepared by incorporating the background, goals, principles of engagement and shared with the participants a week before the dialogue. Moreover, a reconfirmation email attaching the zoom link, guideline, and session presentation was sent two days before the main event. All these documents altogether had set up a pathway through which the discussions moved forward and ensured the incorporation, reinforcement, and enhancement of the Seven Principles of Engagement.

The dialogue sessions followed interaction design by an open discussion on the session topic. After the welcome speech by the convener, each panelist and guest took twelve minutes to discuss the issue, analyze the situation in Bangladesh, give recommendations towards the food systems for the future. Finally, at the end of the discussion, the session's Chair gave concluding remarks and ended the session.



*Figure 1: Five Action Tracks of UN Food Systems Summit 2021*





## Discussion Topics of the Dialogue



The first action track of the UN Food Systems Summit 2021 is **to ensure humanitarian access to nutritious food**. Corresponding to this action track, we are going for our first topic of discussion, **"How Can We Ensure the Access to Safe and Nutritious Food for All?"**



The second action track is **to assist in shifting diets to make them healthier and more sustainable**. Consistent with this action track, our second topic of discussion will be **"The Role of Women and Young People in Shifting the Consumption Patterns towards Healthy and Sustainable Diets."**



The third action track is **to make the food production nature friendly**. Therefore, we have decided on our third topic to be **"Natural Food Production in Twenty-first Century: Obstacles and Opportunities."**



The fourth action track is **to find a way for decent livelihood for those involved in the food system**. Aligning to this action track, our fourth topic for discussion will be **"The Challenges and Chances for Decent Livelihood of the Farmers and Other Food Labors in Bangladesh."**



The fifth action track is **to make the food system resilient**. In line with this action track, we want to discuss, in our fifth discussion, **"Peoples' Engagement for Tackling Vulnerabilities, Shocks, and Stress to Make the Food System Resilient."**





# Participants of the Dialogue

The dialogue took place on August 24, 2021, from 10:00 AM. to 08:30 PM. A total of 31 participants attended the dialogue sessions (Table 1). Among the 31 participants, 15 were between 31-50, 12 were between 51-65, and four were between 66-80 years of age, where five were members of the parliament, six were from the government and national institutions, six were from international non-government organizations, ten were from science and academia. Four were from television and print media (Figure 2).



Figure 2: Age and Stakeholder Group of the Participants





## Key Findings of the Dialogue

The key findings of the dialogue were contrived from the discussion. The discussion of the sessions moved around the structure and objectives of UN Food Systems Summit 2021, the importance of the Civil Society Organizations (CSO) engagement, comprehensive understanding of hunger, undernourishment, resilience, healthy food, nutritious food, safe food, food access, food security, and food insecurity, reasonable price of food products and prevention of food wastage, opportunities of engaging the youths with the food production system, examining the prospects of ultra-poor population-friendly food market system, et cetera (Table 2). The followings are the key findings of the dialogue:

- Ensuring reasonable price for the food products, determining ceiling for the food price, prevention of the food waste, and processing surplus food into nutritious food items can be a solution to ensure access to safe and healthy food for all in Bangladesh;
- A resilient market system is the cornerstone of a sustainable food system in Bangladesh;
- The role of civil society organizations is inevitable in ensuring safe and nutritious food, shifting diet consumption patterns, nature positive food production, decent livelihood, and resilient food system; therefore, their capacity strengthening and inclusive programming can be an impactful solution.
- As we cannot deny the reality of food industrialization and processed food in Bangladesh, focusing on the safe and nature positive environment in the industries and the urban food systems can be a game-changer;
- The regulatory authorities in Bangladesh, which are responsible for ensuring food safety, safe environment of the fields and factories, needs to be strengthened under the leadership of relevant ministries, i.e., ministry of agriculture, ministry of food, ministry of law, ministry of state affairs et cetera;
- Agriculture insurance has been proven as an effective solution for compensating the financial loss of farmers due to shocks, vulnerabilities, and stresses in the haor, char, hill tracks, coastal regions, and other hard to reach areas;
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) agriculture or "Smart Farming" is the future of agriculture in Bangladesh;
- The health issues and occupational hazards of the food system workers are neglected in national policies, which are to be addressed very seriously;
- More than 900 billion dollars will be required to meet the expenses of achieving the sustainable development goal in the next nine years, the majority of which must be mobilizing from national income rather than international aid;
- Finally, weak governance and legal system cannot bring any positive change in the food systems; therefore, strengthening the governance and legal system within the food system can be an effective strategy towards transforming the food systems in Bangladesh.

# Discussions of the Dialogue

As the dialogue was a composition of five sessions, the same has been done here in this section. The guests' and panelists' key discussion points have been highlighted as the discussions of the dialogue.

## SESSION ONE:

### How Can We Ensure the Access to Safe and Nutritious Food for All?



**Mandira Guha Neogi**  
*Senior Policy Associate*  
Global Alliance for Improved  
Nutrition (GAIN)  
Bangladesh

If we can start the discussion from the current status of Bangladesh in UN Food Systems Summit 2021, it will be easier to provide the policy recommendations from this session about the activities for the next nine years. By ending the previous year, the initiative of the Summit has been taken, where five action tracks were presented. These five action tracks represent the Summit's central theme – safe and nutritious food for all and making the food system sustainable. Five different organizations lead each of the five action tracks, and the UN organizations are the anchors. Moreover, there are a scientific group, champion group, and advisory committee. In this Summit, Bangladesh is one of the member states participating in the action track one: ensuring safe and nutritious food for all. I must say, the progress of Bangladesh on the action track one is significant. Its initiatives are appreciated already amidst this COVID-19 situation.

Ministry of Food is the responsible entity representing Bangladesh in the action track one, and Mr. Khaja Abdul Hannan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Food, is the national convener of this program. We are also associated with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Prime Ministers Office, et cetera. GAIN is the global Chair, and FAO is the anchor of this action track. There is a core committee for this Summit under the leadership of Mr. Hannan, which has initiated several targeted activities in one year. One of which was the National Dialogue. So far, a total of two national and six sub-national dialogues has been taken place in Bangladesh.

Moreover, including Eminence's dialogue, there are 10-12 independent dialogues held in Bangladesh, focusing on the urban food system, private sector engagement, youth's involvement, the development of food and nutrition in the last 50 years, et cetera. On the pre-summit at Rome on 26-28 July, the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Food, Ministry of Labor have participated in different sessions, and they discussed high-level policy issues on behalf of the state. One of the key findings of the pre-summit suggests developing a national pathway, where there is guidance about our activities of the next nine years towards a sustainable food system, food security, and nutrition.

Moreover, from the pre-summit, there came a series of collisions, where in some cases, Bangladesh will lead, and in some cases, Bangladesh will participate. The proposed coalition includes a healthy diet, zero hunger, school meal, food loss and waste, et cetera. The main Summit will be on September 23, 2021. We will soon know the modality of Bangladesh's participation in the Summit. After the Summit, we are assuming that an action plan will be developed addressing the proposed collisions to work in the next nine years. If I have to recommend something from our end, I will say that we all have to merge to ensure a sustainable food system by focusing on the national priority.



**Dr. Zeba Mahmud**  
*Senior Advisor*  
Alive & Thrive  
Bangladesh

Here in this session, I will talk more about nutrition security. In the discussions on the sustainable food system, the issue of nutrition security is often skipped. Nutrition security means what I am eating, whether it is adequate for my physic or not, whether the quantity of food I intake is sufficient to work, produce, and advance my living. What types of food are good for us? The Bangladeshis have a tradition of having many grains. However, we often lack the intake of an adequate amount of protein and other micro-nutrients. If I cannot have enough protein and micro-nutrient, I will not work correctly, and a gap will remain in my system. We observed disruptions in the supply chain amidst the early wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. These disasters may happen again, and we should be prepared to ensure an undisrupted food system. Otherwise, the foods will become unavailable, and people will face micro-nutrient deficiencies. There must be a sustainable market system that will ensure the profit of the vegetables, fish, chicken, eggs, meats, fruits, et cetera that the farmers are producing along with rice and other cash crops. There can be a ceiling of prices of the products that no farmer will sell their product below that price. Another important cross-cutting issue is the wastage of food items. Farmers use to throw away their produced food due to the indecent rate of the products. Therefore, a resilient market system should be developed to ensure the products' reasonable price and prevent the wastage of precious food items. It can be a solution that Bangladesh can present to the globe.



**Dr. Mohsin Ali**  
*Nutrition Expert*  
Bangladesh

Before entering into the main discussion, I would like to present some operational definitions to clarify our audiences' conceptions about some issues that will come along in my argument. I want to start with 'Hunger.' Hunger refers to the consumption of less than 1800 KCal daily. Similarly, if I say 'Undernourishment,' I mean the proportion of the population whose dietary energy consumption is less than a pre-determined threshold (1800 KCal). By 'Resilience' I mean, the ability to cope with an adverse situation. 'Health Food' refers to adequate in quantity, diverse in composition, low in harmful content (Sugar, Fat). 'Nutritious Food' means the food containing essential micronutrients, EAA, EFA. According to its intended use and utility, 'Safe Food' means pure and hygienic food for public health (Food Safety Act 2013). The concept 'Food Access' refers to the access by individuals to adequate resources (entitlements) for acquiring appropriate foods for a nutritious diet. Whereas, 'Food Security' exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for active and healthy life (WFS 1996). And finally, Food Insecurity refers to a situation that exists when people lack secure access to sufficient amounts of safe and nutritious food for average growth and development and active and healthy life (FAO). Based on these operational definitions, food security has different dimensions: physical availability of food, economic and physical access to food, food utilization, and stability of the measurements mentioned above over time. Our food systems have incorporated within itself some essential facts and paradoxes. Though the global food production is enough to feed one and a half times its population, 81 crores (10%) go hungry, globally 16 crores are undernourished, hunger increased over time, one-third of global food production is never consumed. In these international perspectives, Bangladesh's agricultural growth doubled in the last two decades (3.9% from 2%), where rice production is 3.7 crore MT, one crore MT than the requirement.



Moreover, the country is self-sufficient in fish, meat, and egg production. However, there is a big gap with milk, fruit, vegetables, pulses, and oilseed. Climate change, economic slowdown and down-turns, unaffordability of healthy diets, and conflicts are the significant causes of food insecurity in the present world. In this context, I want to recommend, climate smart agriculture (early yield, floating cultivation, saline resistant crop), fish feeds to be made cheaper within reach of small farmers, fish culture in cage and culture of high yield fishes, promotion of healthy poultry farming, promotion of cattle farming in the Char areas, reduction of the damage of crops and fisheries during disasters, introduction of agriculture insurance to compensate farmers for loss of crops, cattle, and fisheries resources, 'Emergency Food Bank' for urgent food support during post disaster time, increase participation of women in awareness generation on nutritious food consumption, and eco-friendly crop cultivation, creation

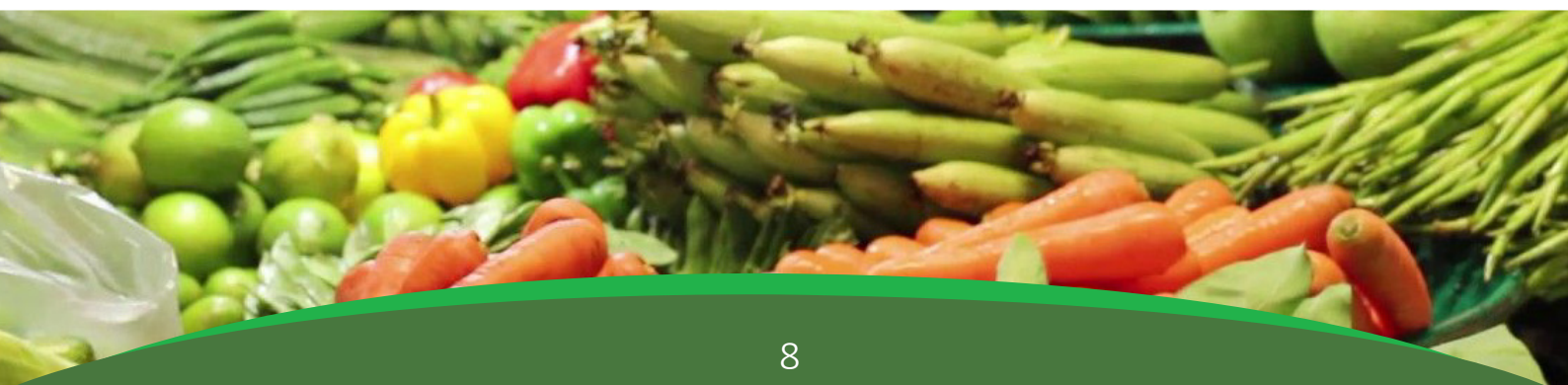
of an enabling environment for healthy food production, and value-added food processing industries, impose tax for unhealthy foods production et cetera, enforcement of relevant laws, public education and information campaign on balanced diet and safe nutrition to improve demand for sustainable healthy diets, broader coverage of coordinated social safety net programs for vulnerable groups, awareness building among the stakeholders regarding food safety, digitization of the market system (giving farmers to sell directly to end customers using online platforms), establishment of local resource based regional industry, establishment of cold storage/warehouse for perishable items like vegetables and fruits, support for SMEs and new entrepreneurs need to be enhanced, infrastructural development and environment creation for encouraging private investment.



**Azad Md. Abul Kalam**  
*Head of Program*  
Interchurch Organisation for  
Development Cooperation (ICCO)  
Bangladesh

As I am privileged with the scopes of working at the grassroots level, my discussion will circulate through my experiences in the field. In this session, we are discussing two things, access to food and the food system. From the perspective of farm to fork, we have the opportunity to improve good agricultural practice, especially in the climate-vulnerable areas, char areas, hilly areas, and the haor areas. In these areas, we have observed some gaps in skill development and practice in food production.

Another thing I must mention is the marketing and processing of food. In this phase of the food system, we observe some unethical practices, which must be addressed. Besides, there are scopes of improvement in our food consumption as well. I would recommend developing a digitalized database to reduce the problems of beneficiaries' selection and ensure transparency and accountability. We should also address the excessive and unplanned use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers, which create significant risks to the health of the land and the farmers. In this context, the youths should be engaged in the process of food production. If we can encourage SMEs, ensure access to finance, strengthen food processing and food marketing, then many youths in this country may get all the positivity to engage themselves with food production, which will, in the long run, ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all. Finally, I will say that a more integrated role should be played to implement NPAN2 at the field level to make the national nutrition agenda successful.





**Dr. Md. Khalilur Rahman**  
*Director General*  
Bangladesh National Nutrition  
Council (BNNC)  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

There are possibilities that even if we manage to ensure the fulfillment of all the pre-contexts towards access to safe and nutritious food, the people might not take the healthy food and act otherwise. I want to talk about this issue. If I want to intervene here and want people to take available nutritious food, we must develop proper knowledge of safe and healthy food. If we can understand and put it into general practice, the national nutrition status will improve drastically. Therefore, I must say, this social awareness about nutritious food is a crucial one. Bangladesh National Nutrition Council has been creating mainly for focusing this issue. This council works with 22 ministries in the country to work for nutrition. We are advocating from this council proper nutrition-related knowledge, nutrition-related behavior, nutrition-related program to eradicate malnutrition from Bangladesh. We have to give particular focus on the food market systems. Our market systems do not allow people to buy, for example, two pcs of fish, 200g of meat, 50g of cooking oil, or say, one piece of mango, et cetera. However, if we want to address the 10 percent ultra-poor population in the country and improve their access to safe and nutritious food, we have to reshape our market system accordingly.



**Dr. Shamil Uddin Ahmed Shimul**  
*Member of Parliament*  
Chapai Nawabganj-1  
Bangladesh

If the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 have to be implemented, no alternatives give food systems the utmost importance. The government of the peoples' republic of Bangladesh is working more than ever to strengthen the food systems. Today, I want to thank all the participants for their excellent presentations, discussions, and recommendations. There were recommendations on a resilient food system, food waste prevention, reasonable price for the food products, promotion of the food-oriented SMEs, reshaping the food marketing, more integrated implementations of the national policies and plans of action, et cetera. We debate some of these issues on the parliament and continue to ensure safe and nutritious food access.



**Prof. Dr. Shah Monir Hossain**  
*Former Director General*  
Directorate General of Health  
Services (DGHS)  
Ministry of Health & Family  
Welfare  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

Food security, food safety, and food system are the three decisive apparatuses for ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all. A comprehensive and clear understanding of these three and addressing the challenges from these perspectives are crucial to improving the nutrition status of all the people in Bangladesh. There is a need for serious recognition of the essential components of the food systems. In Bangladesh, we still cannot manage to see the efficacy of traceability. However, without traceability, one cannot ensure safe food. Previously we had problems with food security. Today, we have pretty much overcome the problem. We have produced an adequate amount of food. Now, this is time to make a sufficient amount of safe food. And, to produce the proper amount of safe food, we have to transform our food systems. The issues of contamination and adulteration should be addressed seriously within the whole chain of the food systems. We have to train the people engaged in trading and transporting and promote the good agricultural, manufacturing, and marketing practice to eradicate contamination. On the other hand, to eliminate adulteration, proper implementation of the legislation should be ensured. I believe, from this session, these issues will be addressed elaborately.



Furthermore, I must say, if we can trace the journey of a food item from its very production point, then it will be easier to identify the contamination point of that food item. Thank you very much for this session.

---

## SESSION TWO: The Role of Women and Young People for Shifting the Diet Consumption Patterns Towards Healthy and Sustainable Diets



**Prof. Dr. Sarder Safiquel Islam**  
*Professor*  
Agrotechnology Discipline  
Khulna University

Sustainable production is the pre-context of sustainable consumption. Another critical component for sustainable consumption is diet shifting in a sustainable, nutritious, and bio-diverse way. With the growing demand for food, we are moving forward towards large-scale production. However, we must understand that over-exploitation of the environment for large-scale production is very risky. On the other hand, today's world uses excessive chemical fertilizers and insecticides for crop production, inorganic foods, hormones, and antibiotics for meat, fish, milk, and egg production. As a result, the world's people are becoming multi-drug resistant by taking antibiotics residue consistently within their food items. All the actors in the food supply chain should be included.

Another critical point to be addressed is consuming a balanced diet sourced from both plants and animals. I will say that women and young people are the most vulnerable population in the context. As mentioned earlier, at the same time, they can play a crucial role in shifting food production and diet consumption patterns.

---



**Prof. Dr. A.K. Obidul Huq**  
*Professor*  
Food Technology & Nutrition  
Science Department  
Mawlana Bhashani Science and  
Technology University

Due to rapid urbanization, many populations, especially the young, are moving towards fast food and processed food. Therefore, if we want to shift our diet consumption patterns to sustainability, we must include the young people and women in this venture with multiple perspectives. From the production perspective, young people and women can come forward to organic food, natural food, bio-diversified food, meat substitutes, et cetera. Again, they can focus on healthy and sustainable food processing and storing techniques. At the production level, there remain surplus products. If we turn these surplus products into value-added products, homemade bread can be prepared by mixing carrot and other vegetables with wheat or flour. This can be a large venture and address malnutrition and unemployment simultaneously. This venture demands a lot of research, where the women and young people can engage themselves too. In a word, learning the healthy food processing technique and transforming the surplus products into value-added products by the women and youth has great potential for sustainable development of the economy and nutrition. And finally, I am proposing a food chain hub at the root level, through which these healthy food products can be quickly delivered and circulated within the country, and if possible, in foreign countries.



**Prof. Dr. Maniruzzaman Bahadur**  
*Professor*  
 Crop Physiology &  
 Ecology Department  
 Hajee Mohammad Danesh  
 Science & Technology University

Traditionally, the Bengalis often substitute 'food' with 'rice.' Today, this habit must be changed to ensure sustainability. To bring this change, we have to provide the production, cultivation, storage, and supply of safe and nutritious food. And, for shifting the diet pattern, we can consider avoiding high calories and fats-rich food, like, red meat, junk food, et cetera. We can substitute these food items with pulses, soya bean, sweet corn, seafood, and turkey. We can also consider having dark chocolate, yogurt, nuts, and other fiber-rich food. Now, when we talk about healthy food, the producers and all other actors of the supply chain have a critical role because healthy food cannot be possible without a healthy production environment. We should consider the safe period of using chemical fertilizers and insecticides over foods, which must not be overstepped at any point of food production, storage, and distribution. Economic solvency, controlled food price, adequate production, knowledge, and practice are crucial aspects to ensure the shift in diet consumption pattern.



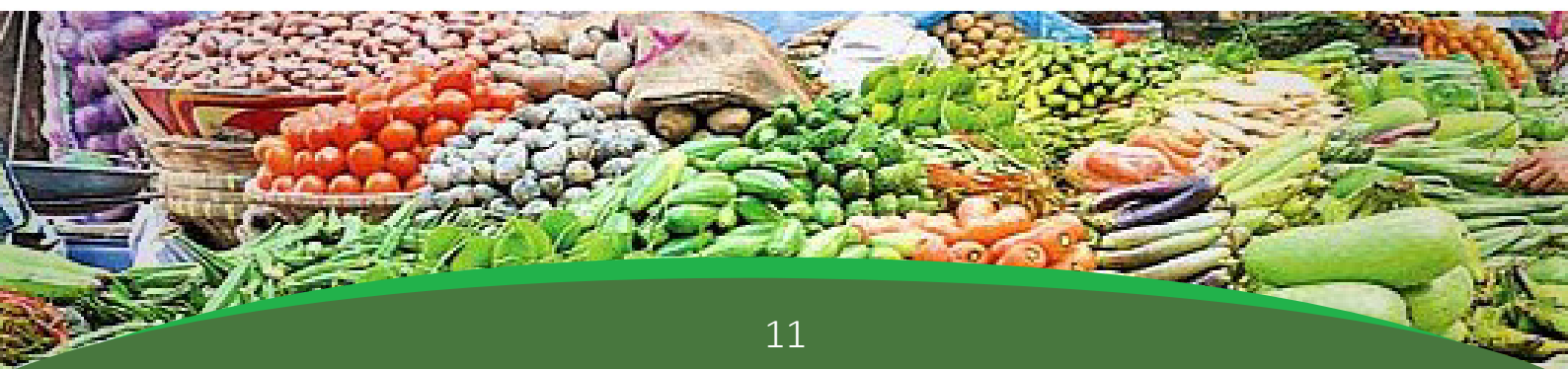
**Prof. Dr. Fahmida Chowdhury**  
*Professor*  
 Agronomy & Agriculture  
 Extension Department  
 Rajshahi University

The reality is, the very soil in which we are producing food is not free from poison. Our lands lack good micro-organisms; instead, they are contaminated by dangerous chemical fertilizers, insecticides, chemical wastage, et cetera. Moreover, sometimes the water used for irrigation becomes contaminated as well. Therefore, from the beginning of production, our seeds and crops layout at risk of contamination. Bangladesh has reached the targets of food security, and now we have thought about food safety. I want to recommend shifting perspectives and awareness of the people—a social movement against all the activities that contaminate the land and water. Women and young people have a vital role in bringing the desired change in the diet consumption pattern. A woman can drive the shift of diet in a family, and if we consider her and the family as a unit, aware them through mass and social media, training, and seminars, it would be a significant change in society.



**Prof. Dr. Hafiza Sultana**  
*Head*  
 Health Education Department  
 National Institute of Preventive  
 and Social Medicine (NIPSOM)

I want to present some results from the global index regarding food production to understand Bangladesh's current position. Bangladesh is standing third in the production of vegetables, second in the production of fish, first in the production of jute, second in the production of goat milk, 10th in the production of seasonal fruit, sixth position in the production of potato. An 86% of global Hilsa production happens in Bangladesh. According to FAO, Bangladesh is in 10th position in overall food production. No doubt we are self-sufficient in food production. Now, at this point, we have to ensure the quality. To ensure the quality, a safe food authority in Bangladesh has to be strengthened as per the needs. Moreover, in the city corporations, municipalities, and union parishads, a regulatory body should be formed and supported to monitor food quality. We can ensure safe food and shift diets towards health and sustainability with public awareness and legislative regulations.





**Ahmed Firoz Kabir**  
*Member of Parliament*  
Pabna-2  
Bangladesh

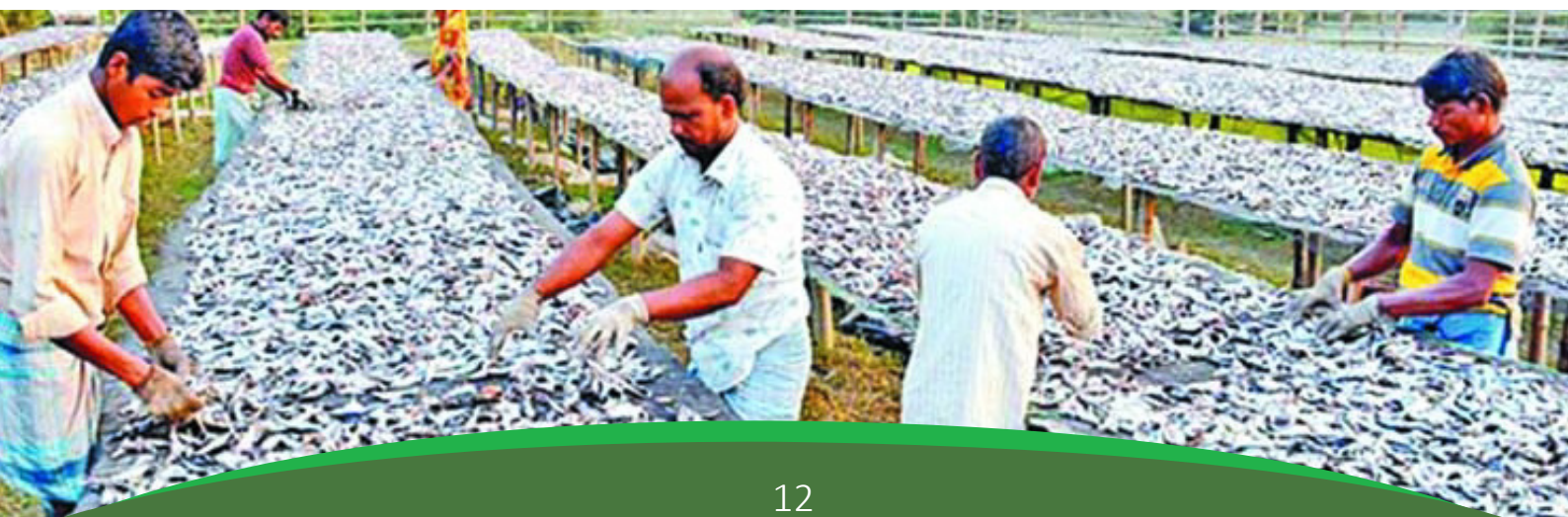
Because of the difference in food habits, primarily influenced by food availability, the urban and rural areas go through different health and nutrition. For example, in general observation, obesity and stunting among the school-going children in the urban areas are more prevalent than their counterparts in the rural areas. This is the outcome of our unawareness about what we eat, how much we eat when we eat, how much we should eat, et cetera. Our country and the world are going through a critical situation. People prefer to have processed food. Therefore, agreeing with the panelists, I want people to adopt healthy techniques of food processing. I also want to emphasize building awareness among young people and women, and I will recommend using the country-wide network of the local government system for this purpose. I believe in integrated action and engagement of multiple stakeholders, like the civil society organization, law-makers, academicians, to address the sustainable diet shifting patterns and the role of women and young people.



**Dr. Abdun Noor Tushar**  
*Advisor*  
The Editor 365  
[www.theeditor365.com](http://www.theeditor365.com)

Today, all of our discussions circulated health and nutrition. However, there is also a relationship between food and the market system. The regulation of the market system is necessary to ensure health and nutrition. The farmer produces food not for consumption but as a source of income to buy the daily necessities. Therefore, when farmers get the opportunity to profit from the crops, they sell their nutrition-rich crops and buy unhealthy food from the market like others. In the urban areas, our women and men get minimal opportunity to cook food, and for this reason, today, we cannot deny the necessity of processed food. In this context, without preparing the market for supplying excellent and healthy food products, we cannot think of healthy food in our kitchen. We have to reform the market, distribution, and storage systems and include the people related to these sectors in this venture. For example, there is no regulation for measuring the nutrition in the imported food items.

Similarly, there is a lack of monitoring to determine whether or not we should import palm oil, how far we should refine soya bean oil, whether our cold storages are healthy, and whether the food stores are keeping food in good condition, et cetera. We have no regulation for street food also. It has to be an inclusive process. If we want to shift the diet consumption pattern, we have to consider the reformation of food production, storage, processing, and distribution system and ensure the health of the land and reasonable price of the products to the farmers. Finally, while reshaping the food system or the food habit, we must again consider the geographical diversity.





## SESSION THREE: Natural Food Production in Twenty-first Century: Obstacles and Opportunities



**Mostafa Faruq Al Banna**  
*Associate Research Director*  
Ministry of Food  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

Access to food and nutrition and food security has been addressed in the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh constitution. When practical actions are taken to ensure access and safety, we come across different challenges. Increasing population, urbanization, and consequently, reduction of arable lands and change in the food habit are challenges. Climate change is another agenda that has to be addressed seriously because reports say that Bangladesh lays at risk of reduced food production due to climate change. Moreover, maintaining good health for soil and water is also a challenge. As a result of using an excessive amount of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and mismanagement of the wastes from the factories is consistently contaminating the soil and water, reducing the fertility and productivity of the land. We have to protect the natural ecosystem and environmentally friendly sustainable food production system to address these challenges. We have to address climate change and increase the collaborative programs of government, CSOs, other national and international partners. We have to follow the 'One Health' policy, ensure proper use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, increase fish production in haor and baor areas, protect the indigenous food production system, practice good agriculture, and join the global collisions to transform the entire food systems towards sustainability.



**Nurul Islam Hasib**  
*Special Correspondent*  
Bangladesh Post  
[www.bangladeshpost.net](http://www.bangladeshpost.net)

In Bangladesh, we observe that 'food safety is based mainly on different conceptions, lacking the scientific approach severely. It is impossible to go back to the primitive mode of production in the twenty-first century, and instead, we have to adopt industrial production. When it comes to the industry, we have to consider the quality of the food produced. Moreover, the safety of the production houses and the safe environment for storing food has to be addressed very seriously. The existing market itself is an opportunity for our food system. If our food products are correctly produced, the nutrition value is protected throughout the supply chain, and people buy them at fair prices, then the country will significantly reduce hunger and malnutrition. What we need is a solid scientific authoritative body to monitor the safety of food. We need a stable legal and governance system within the food systems.

Moreover, the CSOs and journalists also can play vital roles in monitoring the food systems at the community level. The CSOs and journalist forums have to be strengthened and gone through capacity-building initiatives. Together we can transform our food system into a sustainable one.



**Prof. Dr. AHM Mustafizur Rahman**  
*Vice-Chancellor*  
Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul  
Islam University

In my conception, natural food production can take a new shape in the twenty-first century. With the pace of growing urbanization, we have to increase home-grown vegetables, fruits, et cetera on every house's rooftops and yards to meet the in-house food demand. Additionally, market monitoring and retailers' and consumers' awareness have to be strengthened to ensure safe food in the market. The use of modern fertilizers, insecticides, and other chemicals should be strongly regulated through scientific knowledge and a robust legislative body. It strongly defers the concept of beef-fattening, hybridization of crops, genetic enlargement of eggs, et cetera, because we do not need them in this country. Ours is a bio-diverse country, and we can ensure safe and nutritious food for our entire population by protecting, producing, and promoting our indigenous nature-friendly crops, livestock, and fisheries.



**Prof. Dr. Sadekul Arefin Matin**  
Vice-Chancellor  
Barisal University

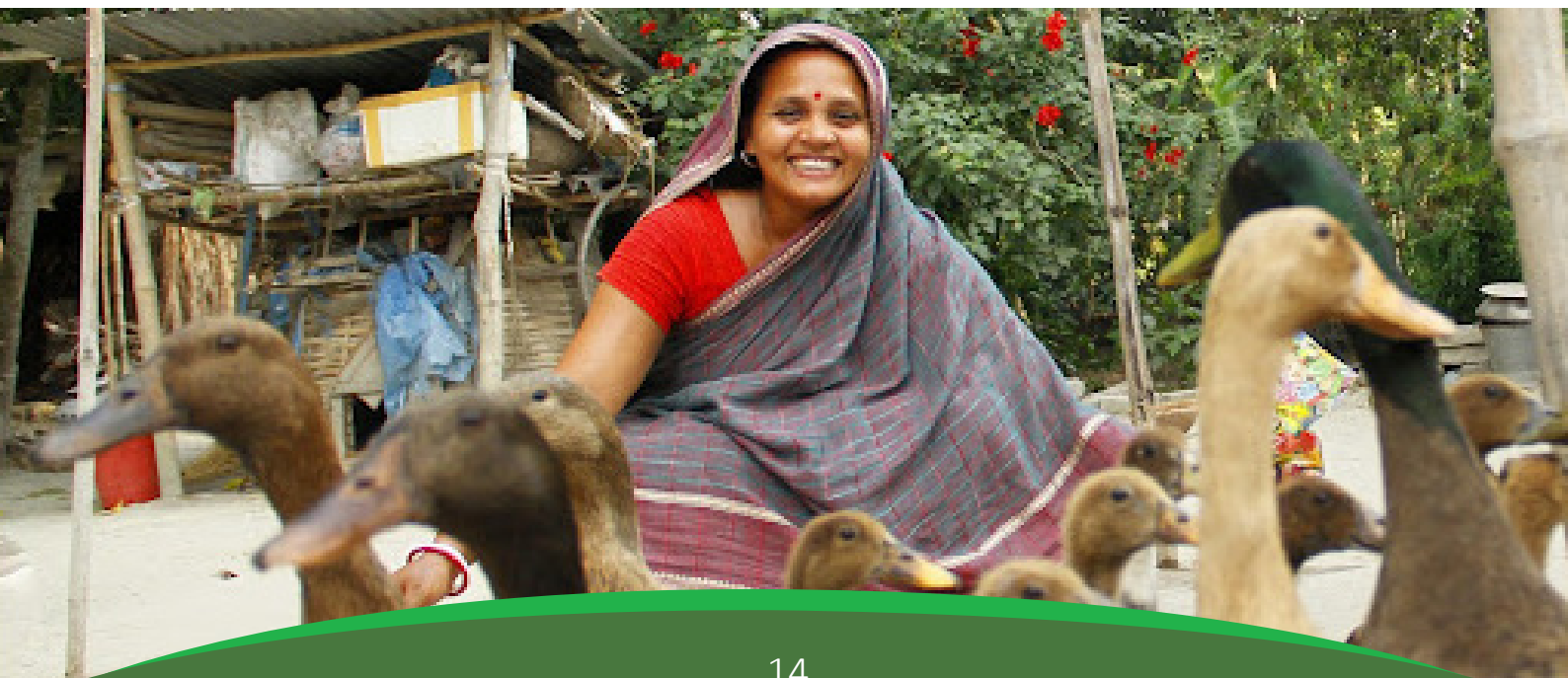
In today's world economy is closely related to the concept of natural food production. The fundamental natural or traditional approach can reduce production that will affect our economy in the long run. Therefore, we have to be aware of the scientific use of external interventive tools in our production. I want to give an example of potato production in the Rajshahi region of Bangladesh, where, to increase potato production, chemical fertilizers and insecticides had been used aggressively for five years. After this five years' production and harvesting period, when the land ownership changed, the owner found that the soil was no more fertile and could produce no crops. So, this is the problem of today's world. From this perspective, I must say that the producers' capacity should be strengthened in terms of skill and scientific knowledge about the land, climate, chemical fertilizers, et cetera.

Moreover, with the adaptation of modern scientific knowledge, we must consider the revival of the traditional scientific knowledge about the climate and food production, which our farmers traditionally used. And finally, importance should be given to the revitalization and preservation of natural seeds and crops. We have to think about the modifications and modernization of our traditional eco-friendly storage system. The private sectors, communities, and civil society organizations can play a significant role in government bodies.



**Dr. AFM Ruhul Haque**  
Member of Parliament  
Satkhira-3  
Former Minister  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

The global food production situation has changed completely. The growing demand for food has to be met with industrial production. This is inevitable in the present context. Our government also is very much interested in improving agriculture in that sense. Our farmers, who were educated in traditional education, have to be educated with scientific education, as the panelists and guests of this session have discussed so far. We have to produce not only for consumption within the national border but also for the people worldwide. To make the best use of our limited amount of arable lands, we have to use modern and safe technology and do constant research for its improvement. The young people, who are the world's future, have to play a crucial role here. I am very hopeful about the progress of safe food production in Bangladesh.





**Khaja Abdul Hannan**  
*Additional Secretary*  
Ministry of Food  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

The ministry of food is overseeing the prospect of Bangladesh in the UN Food Systems Summit 2021. We have organized six sub-national dialogues in Shatkira as a coastal district, Borguna as a cyclone-prone district, Jamalpur as a flood-prone and river erosion district, and Kurigram as a poverty apt Bandarban as a hill track, and Sunamganj as a flash-flood district. In Shatkira, Borguna, and Jamalpur, we have conducted physical dialogues, whereas, in the rest of the neighborhoods, we have conducted dialogues on online platforms. Moreover, we have completed two national dialogues and taken part in the Pre-Summit Dialogue. At present, we are close to the end of developing a pathway document for Bangladesh. The experts and development partners, i.e., WFP, FAO, GAIN, and others, contribute to the document's development.

In comparison with the time of independence, today, Bangladesh is producing 400 times more rice. Bangladesh is food secured country. However, as the other speakers mentioned, climate change, low water levels in the soil, and dangerous chemical components in the crops have been significant challenges for production. Besides, changes are coming in the food habits among the young generation and consequently in the production pattern. In Bangladesh, the demand for wheat and corn is growing more than ever. The pathway document is addressing all these issues, and I hope today's dialogue will contribute to it, which will, in the long run, be used for achieving the sustainable development goal 2030.

---

## SESSION FOUR: The Challenges and Chances of Decent Livelihood for the Farmers and Other Food Workers in Bangladesh



**Prof. Dr. M. Jahangir Alam**  
*Professor*  
Agribusiness & Marketing  
Department  
Bangladesh Agricultural University

When we talk about the food system workers, we include all, who are engaged from production to waste disposal. Within this long chain, food harvesting, processing, packaging, storing, distribution, and consumption exist. There are also actors in support service and policy environment. Within this enormous chain of actors, if I take some – i.e., adequate earning, decent working hours, occupational hazard, et cetera – of a decent livelihood, I observe that we have not taken the livelihood issue of the farmers and other food workers seriously. There is a minimum wage board in 42 industrial sectors in Bangladesh. However, we observe no inclusion of agriculture or agricultural labors in such committee. People tend to engage more in the non-agricultural sector due to more financial benefits. Decent working hour is another critical issue that most of the actors in the food system lack.

Additionally, we observe child labor in our food systems, which must be addressed seriously within this context. We have to address occupational hazards and social security. Though the social security status has improved in Bangladesh, we observe no inclusion of the agriculture sector. Many development partners and government agencies are working in Bangladesh, and I recommend that all these partners and agencies focus not only on the livelihoods of a particular group but also on the groups of different micro and macro level workers. Finally, I want to emphasize the market linkage for the decent livelihood of food system workers.





**John Taylor**  
*Chief Technical Advisor*  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
(FAO)  
Bangladesh

I am an urban planner and want to give an urban perspective to this discussion. When we think about development in Bangladesh, there is much economic growth, and with the transition, there is city-based economic development. Therefore, the people are drawn to the cities, more food demand, and a rise in income, creating economic improvement opportunities. This urbanization is changing the nature of the food system, food consumption, livelihood, employment, and all. We are now having a changing rural landscape in the economy. It has an impact on the rural labor force. People, especially young people, are drawn to the cities for decent livelihood opportunities. As the cities are being populous, more arable lands are being transformed into housings and industries. The nature of the cities, especially Dhaka, is changing the citizens' food habits and, consequently, the food system's job opportunities. Therefore, the growing number of restaurants, processed food, advertisement, supermarkets, food delivery services, fast food has been the new trends of the food system. In this setting, the poor are left behind, and food is becoming inaccessible for them. They are eating poor quality food and very much working in the margins of the economy.

Food system governance is a critical component to deal with the decent livelihood agenda. Another challenge is the lack of awareness and skills about the right kind of food and nutrition. We can also think about effective management, enforcement, and regulations for the market to take people to the standard of access to food and decent livelihood. And finally, it is essential to ensure that no one is left behind. Addressing these challenges, as a project, we are thinking of upgrading the food markets around Dhaka, which may render better livelihood. It can also increase entrepreneurship opportunities. We are going to promote the digital food market. We are helping to develop a food system governance platform by engaging different stakeholders. We are working on consumers awareness and food safety. We are also trying to promote a farmers' market to buy food at a reasonable price directly from the farmers. We are trying to improve the environment of the slaughterhouses. We are promoting urban gardening and rooftop agriculture, which in the long run contributing to a decent livelihood. To wrap up, FAO sees the Food System Summit as an opportunity to transform the food system by identifying the gaps and creating new opportunities for a better life for all.



**Shykh Seraj**  
*Director*  
Channel I  
Bangladesh

Food diversification and quantification have improved a lot in the last 50 years. I observe the improvement in the farmers' food menu. Though the livelihood has increased than before, it is not standard in today's global context. In Bangladesh, the landless people are becoming landowners, and the owners of lands are becoming landless very rapidly. There was a time when Bangladesh emphasized food production only, but today it focuses on nutritious food production. In today's world, all these issues, i.e., food production, food supply, and decent livelihood, have to cope with the trends of artificial intelligence (AI) agriculture, which is the future of agriculture in Bangladesh. When AI agriculture starts to dominate our lands, the traditional 'farmer' will be annihilated. This 'Smart Farming' may cause the creation of more landless farmers. At this point in history, there will arise the need for policy and intervention. Analyzing the upcoming situation, I think that no farmer should be allowed to sell their lands; instead, it is time to prepare them to partner with industries. There is a four trillion-dollar agriculture market in the world.

Bangladesh has to enter this market to improve the livelihoods of the farmers and other food system workers. Discussing decent livelihoods will not lead to something convenient without debating the health and occupational hazard of insecticides, chemical fertilizers, and poor working conditions in the physic of a Bangladeshi farmer. They work with their bare hands and feet without covering them with gloves and boots. Time has come to explore diversified food under the seas and oceans. Rooftop gardening can be another solution to improved diet and livelihood. The gardens can be established in the residents and the industries to meet the workers' demand at a very reasonable price. There will be a creation of business groups that will rent the roofs, grow. By considering all these contexts, the agenda of a decent livelihood for the farmers and other food system workers has to be understood.



**Prof. Dr. Md. Nasim Akhtar**  
*Vice-Chancellor*  
Chandpur Science and  
Technology University

When a densely populated small country like Bangladesh meets the food demands of the entire population, it proves the country's capacity for growing food. Still, with the growing trends of splitting arable lands among the family members, more people are becoming landless, unable to produce good crops and meet the desired standard of nutrition and livelihood. In our geographical landscape, some unique crops and fruits grow, making a strong position in the global market. I want to say something about the use of IoT or the Internet of Things. IoT can be used as an information hub for the farmers about the health of the soil, water, crops, livestock, and situations of the markets, et cetera. I hope that our farmers will adopt 'Smart Farming' in the future.



**Shamsul Haque Tuku**  
*Member of Parliament*  
Pabna-1  
Bangladesh

Research in the agriculture sector and intervention by the government and private sectors play critical roles in improving the livelihoods of our farmers and other food system workers. Our agriculture is also reaching its milestones by producing surplus crops and livestock. Of course, I agree with the guests and panelists that now, this is time to secure safe production and improve the livelihoods of the farmers and other food system workers consistently with the global standard. I also recognize the challenges of their health and occupational hazards. I commit to discussing these issues in the parliament and working with the people to achieve sustainable development goals by 2030.



**Dr. S M Mustafizur Rahman**  
*Line Director*  
National Nutrition Services (NNS)  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

We are constitutionally responsible to the people of Bangladesh to improve their nutritional and public health status. Nutrition and public health are the basic to sustainable development, and agriculture and food systems are the basic to nutrition and public health. In today's world, agriculture is highly commercialized. Commercialized agriculture will provide us investment opportunities, and therefore, improvement. We want the people of Bangladesh to get a balanced diet and improve their livelihoods. Securing a decent livelihood for the food system workers will encourage the young generation to engage more in the food systems with all their innovative ideas. We will together be working to achieve this milestone.

## SESSION FIVE: Peoples' Engagement for Tackling Vulnerabilities, Shocks, and Stress to Make the Food System Resilient



**Dr. AFM Iqbal Kabir**  
*Lead Consultant*  
Bangladesh National Nutrition  
Council (BNNC)  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
People's Republic of Bangladesh

This year is a milestone for us, who are working in nutrition nationally and globally. UN Food System Summit and Nutrition for Growth Summit are the two most significant events awaiting this year. This session's topic is addressed in one of the action tracks of the UN Food Systems Summit and thematic areas of the Nutrition for Growth Summit. Resilience is essential in the food systems. I have been privileged to work in few conflict-prone regions like Afghanistan, Yemen, and Africa, where disaster, shocks, vulnerabilities, and malnutrition stay hands in hand. So, this session's topic aims to ensure a resilient system in the face of increasing stress, shocks, and vulnerabilities emanating from climate change, population growth, conflicts, et cetera. Resilience in the food system influences safe and nutritious food, shifting diets, decent livelihood, and nature-friendly food production.

Moreover, resilience is also linked with the pillars of our food security. We need to focus on building resilience at the individual community and national level in an equitable financial, social, and environmental way. We have to identify the key trade-offs and synergies in our policy and action. We have to make a balance in our efforts that ensures safeguarding our mother earth. We have to emphasize our capacity to detect, adapt, and prevent the vulnerabilities, shocks, and stress and transform when the food system is not sustainable. We need to think of engaging different institutions at different levels to build this capacity. There is no single game-changing solution. We have to drive our operational aspects towards practical and contextualized solutions. People are the underlying determinants of the problems we are talking about. Therefore, they should and must be part of the solution. Finally, we have to be mindful about engaging the people in tackling climate change, conflicts, and economic shocks.



**Prof. Dr. Shamim Ahmed  
Kamal Uddin Khan**  
*Professor*  
Agrotechnology Discipline  
Khulna University

By resilience, I mean peoples' capacity to adapt to the changes and transforming living standards. Similarly, resilience in the food system includes all the concerned actors who enable people to access the food they need. Looking at our food systems from this perspective, I must recognize the consistent improvement over the last decades. Currently, we are in the fourth position in rice production, first in Hilsa production, sixth in potato production, second in jackfruit production, eighth in mango and guava production, and so on. As a result, we have managed to reduce the food import rate.

On the other hand, the contribution of agriculture to GDP has reduced over the last 50 years too. If we look at the arable lands, we will witness a 17.5 percent reduction over the same period. Today, we are using 70 percent of our total landmass for agriculture, where 60 percent is arable land, and around 40 percent of the employed population is directly involved with the food systems in Bangladesh. Resilience in food systems is synonymous with food security, where all people have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. Here in this point, we need to focus on four components: food availability, peoples' entitlement to food, utilization of food, and crisis prevention management. Therefore, when we talk about shocks, it primarily affects the food security of the people.

Currently, in Bangladesh, 34 percent of households deal with climatic shock, 20-25 percent are going through economic shock, and 5-10 percent are in conflict shocks. To tackle the shocks and make the food system resilient, we can consider developing cooperative societies and cooperative farming in the rural areas and take capacity-building programs within the shock-specific context. Agriculture insurance can be a solution for compensating the economic loss of the farmers due to shocks, vulnerabilities, and stresses. Moreover, the community and civil society organizations should be strengthened to engage and research the vulnerable, shock, and pressure-affected communities. And, finally eradicating corruption will be the cornerstone of this complex and massive venture that we are talking about.



**Toufiq Maruf**  
*Senior Journalist*  
The Daily Kaler Kantho  
[www.kalerkantho.com](http://www.kalerkantho.com)

In Bangladesh, a large amount of loss in food and nutrition occurs due to a lack of management. This lack of management expands from the individual level to the national level. Still now, 4-5 percent of food gets wasted as a result. This amount may seem natural, but it is not. This costs a lot to the vulnerable, shock, and stress-inflicted communities. Though Bangladesh faces crises like this, it has many opportunities too. Its people itself is an opportunity. When discussing a resilient food system amidst vulnerabilities, shocks, and stress, I do put my belief in the people.

On the one hand, we have to improve the management system of our country and strengthen the civil society organizations on the other. We, the journalists, have to play a vital role too. As we bring news to the people and build peoples' conception, it is our moral duty to make people aware of any upcoming shocks and shed light on solutions and answers.



**Dr. Abdul Aziz**  
*Member of parliament*  
Sirajganj-1  
Bangladesh

Bangladesh has improved its nutritional status over the last 50 years. As a result of stable political leadership, the country is managing steady improvement. Moreover, Bangladesh seems out of the risks of significant conflicts and economic vulnerabilities. Climate change, however, has been a risk. This is a global risk. The southern part of Bangladesh is becoming vulnerable to the outcomes of climate change. The government has taken initiatives to tackle the vulnerabilities of climate change. It is constantly taking part in the global platform and raising its voice on this agenda. In the upcoming general assembly and UN Food System Summit 2021, I hope Bangladeshi representatives will raise this agenda again. However, within the country, people have a critical role to play. I want to address the civil society networks and organizations to strengthen their capacities to reach out to young people more than ever. Good coordination among the government and non-government partners is also necessary. I strongly support today's initiative and will continue to take the resilient food system within our parliament against the vulnerabilities, shocks, and stresses.







**Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman  
Ahmad**  
*Chairman*  
Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation  
(PKSF)

I would start by quoting Mr. Hubert Humphrey, former vice president of the USA. He once said, "I hear people around the world depend on us for food. I don't think it's good news, but to me, it is because we can control them through their stomach". Through this statement, we can clearly understand the importance of food. From the 80s to the 90s in Bangladesh, industrialized non-food production was given priority over agriculture. There was a notion that once you have earned enough money through industrialization, you can easily buy food with the money.

However, we witnessed the unavailability of food, even if enough money was available, during disasters and crises. Therefore, being sufficient in food is a critical decision taken by the Bangladeshi government, and for this reason, in the time of disasters, we can tackle the shocks, vulnerabilities, as stresses. When it comes to the discussion of shocks, vulnerabilities, and stresses, I want to shed light on social shocks, where the challenges of discrimination and capacity building have to be addressed, and environmental shocks, where we should give importance to adaptation. To cope with and come out from the vulnerabilities, shocks, and stresses, we have to move forwards with strategic steps. Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan have been reconstituted recently, which will be finalized very shortly. This action plan addresses food security for all, emphasizing food distribution, livelihood, market management, agriculture technology, et cetera. We have to think about the livelihood of the farmers who will become unemployed due to disasters or mechanized agriculture.

The expansion of the non-agricultural sector, such as food processing, can be a solution. Moreover, the mobilization of the community people is a must, where the people will identify their problems and geographical context-specific solutions. Natural production of the high-priced crops and fruits and everyday vegetables are also be considered to make the food system resilient. Eco-friendly production should be adopted. Food waste should be stopped. New crops are being invented in Bangladesh, which are climate-resilient. However, it has to be adopted to take them to the farmers' fields. There is a financial perspective of sustainable development. A report said that from 2017 to 2030, it would take \$928 billion to bring about the desired developments. The majority of this fund has to be generated from own economy. Finally, to achieve this aim, we have to stop the waste of our resources and include as many people as possible in the development process to make our food system resilient amidst vulnerabilities, shocks, and stresses.



# Outcomes of the Dialogue

The outcomes of the dialogue are synonymous with the recommendations from each session. The outcomes are as follows:

## SESSION ONE

- A resilient market system should be developed in Bangladesh to ensure reasonable prices for the food products and prevent the wastage of precious food items; a price-ceiling can be a solution.
- The food product should be traced from the beginning of its journey towards the consumers' kitchen to identify and mitigate food contamination and adulteration. The Bangladesh government should ensure the proper implementation of the legislation and improved awareness to end food adulteration in urban and rural areas.
- Early yielding, floating cultivation, saline resilient crops, et cetera. should be adopted to tackle climate change shocks.
- Agriculture insurance should be introduced to the farmers, especially in the haor, char, and flash flood areas, compensating them for any possible loss of crops, cattle, and fisheries resources.
- Civil society organizations and government bodies should take initiatives to develop and strengthen eco-friendly crop cultivation, environment for healthy food production, and value-added food processing industries in Bangladesh.
- Local resource-based regional industries, cold storage, and warehouses for perishable food items should be established locally.
- The market systems should be digitalized to ensure the flow of authentic information among the producers, dealers, and consumers.
- Ultra-poor friendly food market systems in slum areas should be developed to ensure safe and nutritious food for their families.
- Finally, we should merge all our activities and initiatives towards a sustainable and resilient food system in Bangladesh.

## SESSION TWO

- The Bangladesh Food Safety Authority should ensure a healthy environment in the production, cultivation, storage, and supply of food products.
- Civil society organizations, youth organizations, and women organizations should strengthen their members' capacity to monitor food production, cultivation, storage, supply, and distribution.
- The ministry of education and the department of health education in Bangladesh should provide young people and women with knowledge about nutrition and healthy diet patterns.
- The government of Bangladesh should take commitments from the food industrialists, restaurants owners, fast-food shops, et cetera to engage in the production and distribution of healthy and nutritious food items.
- The professional chefs are to be mobilized and empowered to develop a new healthy menu for their food shop, restaurants, and the community people.
- The legislation system should be strengthened in Bangladesh to prevent contaminated and adulterated food production and distribution.



## SESSION THREE

- Legal and governance systems should be introduced in the Bangladeshi food system to ensure the quality of the food products, both traditional and industrialized production, and in the storage, supply chain, and markets.
- The food storage system should be modernized by fusing it with the traditional preservation system to make it efficient and eco-friendly.
- Knowledge and skill development programs should be conducted among the farmers, retailers, supply chain actors, and young people to provide them evidence-based knowledge about the appropriate process of applying chemical fertilizers and pesticides, adverse effects of inappropriate use, food contamination, land and water contamination, climate change et cetera.
- Adequate research initiatives should be taken to innovate, adapt, and upgrade safe technologies for the food system.
- The indigenous seeds and crops of Bangladesh should be preserved, and the extinct crops should be revitalized to ensure diversity in our food production.
- Civil society organizations and journalist forums should play a key role in monitoring the food systems and the agriculture, food, and other relevant ministries.

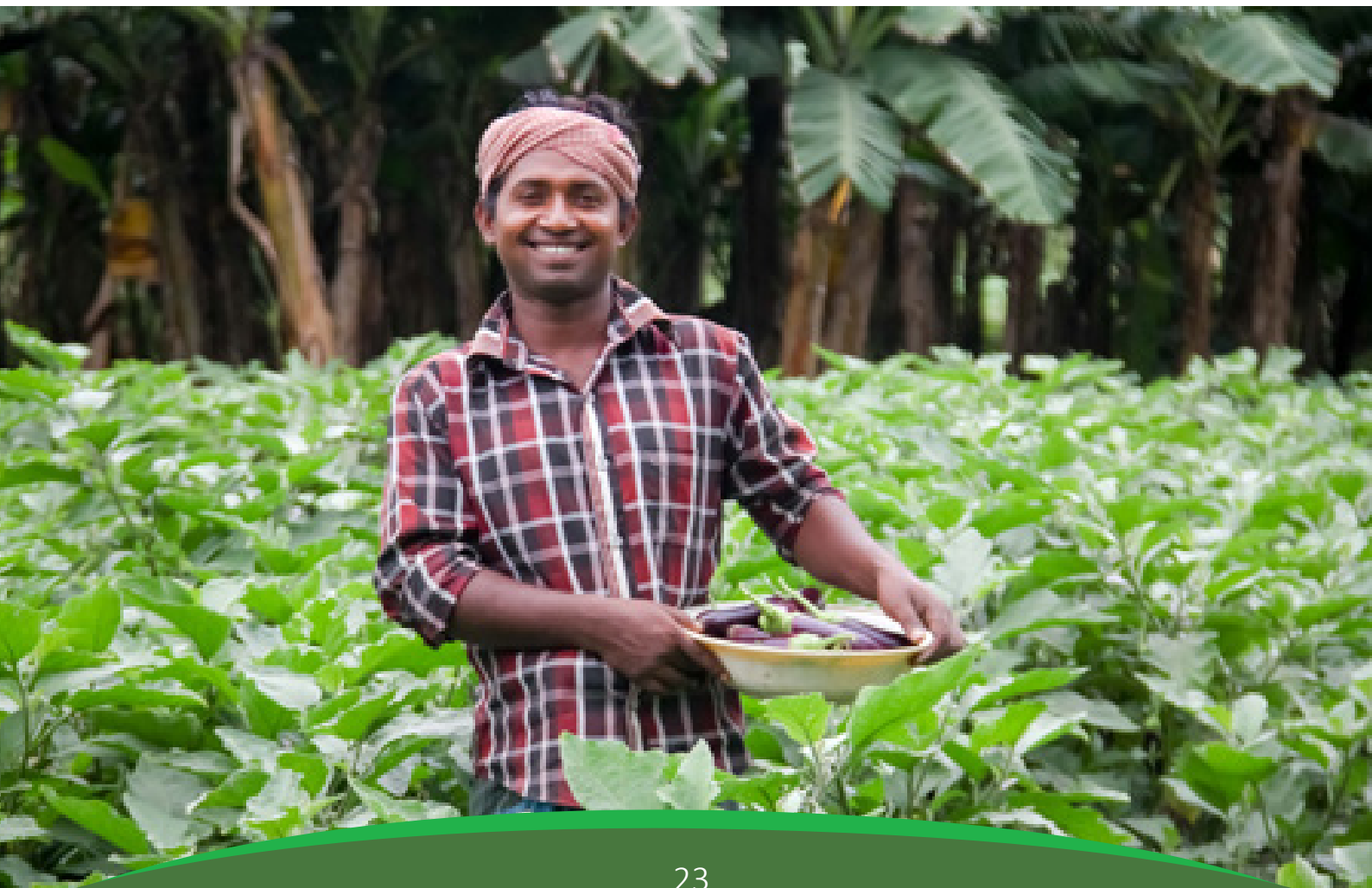
## SESSION FOUR

- The Bangladeshi food system workers' health and occupational hazards should be addressed seriously to ensure their safe and healthy lives.
- The Bangladesh government, private sector, and civil society organizations should give special attention to the food system workers' knowledge and skill development.
- A robust market system has to be developed which will be friendly to safe and nutritious food for the consumers and decent livelihood for the workers in Bangladesh.
- New innovative business ideas, like, rooftop gardening, smart farming, IoT in the food systems, should be adopted to make life easier for the food system workers.
- The farmers should be strongly discouraged from selling their lands; instead, they should be linked to make partnerships with the industries for industrialized agriculture.
- The livelihood of the food system workers should be linked with the minimum wage board.
- Food system governance and legislation should be strengthened to provide adequate support and improved policies for improving the livelihoods of the food system workers.
- Bangladeshi food system should consider entering the global markets in a more integrated manner with its unique products.



## SESSION FIVE

- Importance should be given to community mobilization and capacity building of the civil society organizations to detect, adapt, and prevent the shocks, stresses, and vulnerabilities and transform the food systems of Bangladesh when required.
- In the global forums, the Government of Bangladesh should raise climate change issues and their economic consequences and mobilize the international communities.
- The people of Bangladesh should stop wasting their resources and use them strategically.
- Eco-friendly modes of production should be adopted to prevent more destruction to nature.
- Cooperative farming can be restarted in vulnerable areas to make the food system resilient.
- The expansion of the non-agriculture sector in the food systems, i.e., processed food, should be considered.
- Agriculture insurance can be introduced to compensate for the economic loss due to shocks, stress, and vulnerabilities.
- Economic empowerment initiatives should be taken to improve the financial condition of the vulnerable people of shock and stress-prone areas, i.e., haor, char, hill tracks, coastal regions in Bangladesh.



# References

1. Sustainable Development Goals | United Nations Development Programme [Internet]. United Nations Development Programme. [cited August 25 2021]. Available from: [https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals?utm\\_source=EN&utm\\_medium=GSR&utm\\_content=US\\_UNDP\\_PaidSearch\\_Brand\\_English&utm\\_campaign=CENTRAL&c\\_src=CENTRAL&c\\_src2=GSR&gclid=CjwKCAjwj8eJBhA5EiwAg3z0mzetwkOD\\_nvNDUCOAz-Aw6xPOxE3vHT-0W0l27u30QifGyMvZjQUmhoCEcEQAvD\\_BwE#zero-hung](https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals?utm_source=EN&utm_medium=GSR&utm_content=US_UNDP_PaidSearch_Brand_English&utm_campaign=CENTRAL&c_src=CENTRAL&c_src2=GSR&gclid=CjwKCAjwj8eJBhA5EiwAg3z0mzetwkOD_nvNDUCOAz-Aw6xPOxE3vHT-0W0l27u30QifGyMvZjQUmhoCEcEQAvD_BwE#zero-hung)
2. SDG 2. Zero hunger | Sustainable Development Goals | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [Internet]. Fao.org. 2021 [cited 25 August 2021]. Available from: <http://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/goals/goal-2/en/>
3. Refugees U. 'Climate change is the defining crisis of our time and it particularly impacts the displaced' [Internet]. UNHCR. 2020 [cited 25 August 2021]. Available from: <https://www.unhcr.org/news/latest/2020/11/5fbf73384/climate-change-defining-crisis-time-particularly-impacts-displaced.html>
4. The Global Economic Outlook During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Changed World [Internet]. 2020 [cited 25 August 2021]. Available from: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2020/06/08/the-global-economic-outlook-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-a-changed-world>
5. World Health Organization Emergencies Programme [Internet]. Who.int. 2021 [cited 25 August 2021]. Available from: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/overview>
6. FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2021. The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021. Transforming food systems for food security, improved nutrition and affordable healthy diets for all. Rome, FAO. [cited August 25 2021]. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb4474en>
7. Nations U. Food Systems Summit | United Nations [Internet]. United Nations. 2021 [cited 25 August 2021]. Available from: <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit>
8. UN Food Systems Summit 2021 [Internet]. SDG2 Advocacy Hub. 2021 [cited 25 August 2021]. Available from: <https://sdg2advocacyhub.org/actions/un-food-systems-summit-2021>
9. FAO. Strategic Framework 2022-31 [Internet]. Fao.org. 2021 [cited 25 August 2021]. Available from: <http://www.fao.org/3/ne577en/ne577en.pdf>
10. Eminence Associates for Social Development, Bangladesh Civil Society Organization for Promoting Nutrition (BCSNPN). Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue [Internet]. Food Systems Summit Dialogues. 2021 [cited 24 August 2021]. Available from: <https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/34342/>
11. Nations U. Action Tracks | United Nations [Internet]. United Nations. 2020 [cited 25 August 2021]. Available from: <https://www.un.org/en/food-systems-summit/action-tracks>

**Table 1: Participants of the Dialogue**

<b>Session One: How Can We Ensure the Access to Safe and Nutritious Food for All?</b>	
Chief Guest	Dr. Shamil Uddin Ahmed Shimul, MP, Chapai Nawabganj-1
Chair	Prof. Dr. Shah Monir Hossain, Former DG, DGHS
Special Guest	Dr. Md. Khalilur Rahman, DG, BNNC
Panelists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dr. Zeba Mahmud, Senior Advisor, Alive &amp; Thrive, Bangladesh</li> <li>● Dr. Mohsin Ali, Nutrition Expert</li> <li>● Azad Md. Abul Kalam, Head of Program, ICCO, Bangladesh</li> <li>● Mandira Guha Neogi, Senior Policy Associate, GAIN, Bangladesh</li> </ul>
<b>Session Two: The Role of Women and Young People for Shifting the Diet Consumption Patterns Towards Healthy and Sustainable Diets</b>	
Chief Guest	Ahmed Firoz Kabir, MP, Pabna-2
Chair	Dr. Abdun Noor Tushar, Advisor, The Editor 365
Panelists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prof. Dr. Hafiza Sultana, Head, Health Education Department, NIPSOM</li> <li>● Prof. Dr. Fahmida Chowdhury, Professor, Agronomy &amp; Agriculture Extension Department, Rajshahi University</li> <li>● Prof. Dr. Maniruzzaman Bahadur, Professor, Crop Physiology &amp; Ecology Department, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science &amp; Technology University</li> <li>● Prof. Dr. A.K. Obidul Huq, Professor, Food Technology &amp; Nutrition Science Department, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University</li> <li>● Prof. Dr. Sarder Safiqul Islam, Professor, Agrotechnology Discipline, Khulna University</li> </ul>
<b>Session Three: Natural Food Production in Twenty-first Century: Obstacles and Opportunities</b>	
Chief Guest	Dr. AFM Ruhul Haque, Member of Parliament, Satkhira-3
Chair	Khaja Abdul Hannan, Ministry of Food, Additional Secretary
Special Guests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prof. Dr. Sadekul Arefin Matin, Vice-Chancellor, Barishal University</li> <li>● Prof. Dr. AHM Mustafizur Rahman, Vice-Chancellor, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University</li> </ul>
Panelists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mostafa Faruq Al Banna, Associate Research Director, Ministry of Food</li> <li>● Nurul Islam Hasib, Special Correspondent, Bangladesh Post</li> </ul>



#### Session Four: The Challenges and Chances of Decent Livelihood for the Farmers and Other Food Workers in Bangladesh

Chief Guest	Shamsul Haque Tuku, MP, Pabna-1
Chair	Dr. S M Mustafizur Rahman, Line Director, NNS
Special Guest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Prof. Dr. Md. Nasim Akhtar, Vice-Chancellor, Chandpur Science and Technology University</li><li>● Shykh Seraj, Director, Channel I</li></ul>
Panelists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Prof. Dr. M. Jahangir Alam, Professor, Agribusiness and Marketing Department, Bangladesh Agricultural University</li><li>● John Taylor, Chief Technical Advisor, FAO, Bangladesh</li></ul>

#### Session Five: Peoples' Engagement for Tackling Vulnerabilities, Shocks, and Stress to Make the Food System Resilient

Chief Guest	Dr. Abdul Aziz, MP, Sirajganj-1
Chair	Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, PKSF
Panelists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Prof. Dr. Shamim Ahmed Kamal Uddin Khan</li><li>● Professor, Agrotechnology Discipline, Khulna University</li><li>● Dr. AFM Iqbal Kabir, Lead Consultant, Bangladesh National Nutrition Council</li><li>● Toufiq Maruf, Senior Journalist, The Daily Kaler Kantho</li></ul>



## Table 2: Major Focus of the Dialogue

Session One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Exploration of the structure and objectives of UN Food Systems summit 2021;</li> <li>● Engagement of the CSOs;</li> <li>● Comprehensive understanding of hunger, undernourishment, resilience, healthy food, nutritious food, safe food, food access, food security, and food insecurity;</li> <li>● Discussion on the reasonable price of food products and prevention of food wastage;</li> <li>● Exploration of the opportunities of engaging the youths with the food production system</li> </ul>
Session Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Engagement of the CSOs</li> <li>● Exploration of the outcomes of production and consumption of industrialized foods;</li> <li>● Understanding the concepts of food transformation and wastage prevention;</li> <li>● Exploration of the ways of changing the traditional diet;</li> <li>● Examining the constraints for soil and water health;</li> <li>● The process of strengthening the safe food system authority;</li> <li>● Emphasizing capacity building and awareness of the women and young people;</li> <li>● Opening up the importance of reshaping the market system.</li> </ul>
Session Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Exploration of the adverse environmental and public health impact of using hybrid seeds, chemical fertilizers, and insecticides;</li> <li>● Engagement of the CSOs;</li> <li>● Examining the prospects of adopting modern technology in the food system;</li> <li>● Challenges and opportunities of industrialized food production;</li> <li>● Importance of reshaping the market system;</li> </ul>



#### Session Four

- Decent wages and working hours for the food system workers;
- Health issues and occupational hazards of the food system workers;
- Food system governance;
- Rooftop agriculture;
- Artificial Intelligence Agriculture or 'Smart Farming';
- Safe and hygienic equipment for the food system workers;
- Use of IoT or the Internet of Things in the food system;
- Engagement of the CSOs.

#### Session Five

- Major types and causes of shocks, vulnerabilities, and stresses;
- Engagement of the CSOs;
- Trade-offs and synergies in policy and action;
- Capacity building to detect, adapt, prevent, and transform shocks, stress, and vulnerabilities;
- Contextualization of the operational aspects;
- Role of the civil society organizations;
- Climate-friendly policies and plans of actions;
- Prevention of resource wastage;
- Natural production.

Figure: Flyers of the Dialogue Sessions

### Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue

**Session Topic: How Can We Ensure the Access to Safe and Nutritious Food for All?**

**Chief Guest**



**Dr. Shamil Uddin Ahmed Shimul**  
Member of Parliament  
Chapai Nawabganj-1

**Chair**



**Dr. Shah Monir Hossain**  
Former DG  
DGHS

**Special Guest**



**Dr. Md. Khalilur Rahman**  
Director-General  
BNNC

**Panel Speakers**



**Dr. Mohsin Ali**  
Nutrition Expert  
Bangladesh



**Dr. Zeba Mahmud**  
Senior Advisor  
Alive & Thrive  
Bangladesh



**Azad Md. Abul Kalam**  
Head of Program  
ICCO, Bangladesh



**Mandira Guha Neogi**  
Senior Policy Associate  
GAIN, Bangladesh

**Convenor**



**Dr. Shamim Hayder Talukder**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh

**Moderator**



**Naznin Jannat**  
Business Development Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh

**24 August 2021**  
Tuesday

**10:00 AM - 11:30 AM**  
Bangladesh Time





### Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue

**Session Topic: The Role of Women and Young People for Shifting the Diet Consumption Patterns towards Healthy and Sustainable Diets**

**Chief Guest**



**Ahmed Firoz Kabir**  
Member of Parliament  
Pabna-2

**Chair**



**Dr. Abdun Noor Tushar**  
Advisor  
The Editor 365

**Panel Speakers**



**Saiqa Siraj**  
Country Director  
Nutrition International  
Bangladesh



**Prof. Dr. Hafiza Sultana**  
Head  
Health Education Department  
NIPSOM



**Prof. Dr. Fahmida Chowdhury**  
Professor  
Agronomy & Agriculture  
Extension, Rajshahi University



**Prof. Dr. Maniruzzaman Bahadur**  
Professor  
Crop Physiology & Ecology  
HSTU



**Prof. Dr. A.K. Obidul Huq**  
Professor  
Food Technology &  
Nutrition Science, MBSTU



**Prof. Dr. Sarder Safiqul Islam**  
Professor  
Agrotechnology Discipline  
Khulna University

**Convenor**



**Dr. Shamim Hayder Talukder**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh

**Moderator**



**Naznin Jannat**  
Business Development Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh

**24 August 2021**  
Tuesday

**12:00 PM - 01:30 PM**  
Bangladesh Time







## Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue



### Session Topic: Natural Food Production in Twenty-first Century: Obstacles and Opportunities



**Chief Guest**  
**Dr. AFM Ruhul Haque**  
Member of Parliament  
Satkhira-3



**Chair**  
**Khaja Abdul Hannan**  
Additional Secretary  
Ministry of Food



**Prof. Dr. Sadekul Arefin**  
Martin  
Vice-Chancellor  
Barishal University



**Prof. Dr. AHM Mustafizur**  
Rahman  
Vice-Chancellor  
Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam  
University



**Md. Ruhul Amin Talukder**  
Additional Secretary  
Ministry of Agriculture

#### Special Guests



**Mostafa Faruq Al Banna**  
Associate Research Director  
Ministry of Food



**Nurul Islam Hasib**  
Special Correspondent  
Bangladesh Post



**Convenor**  
**Dr. Shamim Hayder Talukder**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh



**Moderator**  
**Naznin Jannat**  
Business Development Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh

24 August 2021  
Tuesday

03:00 PM - 04:30 PM  
Bangladesh Time



## Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue



### Session Topic: The Challenges and Chances for Decent Livelihood for the farmers and Other Food Workers in Bangladesh



**Chief Guest**  
**Shamsul Haque Tuku**  
Member of Parliament  
Pabna-1



**Chair**  
**Dr. SM Mustafizur Rahman**  
Line Director  
National Nutrition Service



**Special Guest**  
**Prof. Dr. Nasim Akhtar**  
Vice-Chancellor  
Chandpur Science and  
Technology University



**Special Guest**  
**Shykh Seraj**  
Director  
Channel i

#### Panel Speakers



**Prof. Dr. M. Jahangir Alam**  
Professor  
Agribusiness & Marketing  
Bangladesh Agricultural University



**John Taylor**  
Chief Technical Advisor  
FAO



**Nazia Zabeen**  
Socio-Economic & Nutrition  
Expert, UNDP



**Convenor**  
**Dr. Shamim Hayder Talukder**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh



**Moderator**  
**Naznin Jannat**  
Business Development Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh

24 August 2021  
Tuesday

05:00 PM - 06:30 PM  
Bangladesh Time



## Bangladesh Independent Food Systems Dialogue



### Session Topic: Peoples' Engagement for Tackling Vulnerabilities, Shocks, and Stress to Make the Food System Resilient

#### Chief Guest



**Dr. Abdul Aziz**  
Member of Parliament  
Sirajganj-1

#### Chair



**Dr. Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad**  
Chairman  
PKSF

#### Special Guest



**Md. Atiqul Haque**  
Director General  
Dept. of Disaster Management

#### Panel Speakers



**Prof. Dr. Shamim Ahmed**  
**Kamal Uddin Khan**  
Professor  
Khulna University



**Dr. AFM Iqbal Kabir**  
Lead Consultant  
Bangladesh National Nutrition  
Council



**Toufiq Maruf**  
Senior Journalist  
The Daily Kaler Kantho



**Convenor**  
**Dr. Shamim Hayder Talukder**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh



**Moderator**  
**Naznin Jannat**  
Business Development Officer  
Eminence, Bangladesh

24 August 2021  
Tuesday

07:00 PM - 08:30 PM  
Bangladesh Time





📍 2nd Floor, Hena Nibash, 3/6, Asad Avenue, Mohammadpur  
Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh.

☎ +8801709649901 ✉ [info@eminence-bd.org](mailto:info@eminence-bd.org)

📘 [eminencengo](#) 🐦 [@eminencengo](#) 🔗 [eminencengo](#) 📷 [eminencengo](#)

📺 [FaceMediaEminence](#) 🌐 [www.eminence-bd.org](http://www.eminence-bd.org)

