

JANO ICT4NUTRITION INITIATIVES

MULTI-SECTORAL ONLINE M&E SYSTEM AND e-LEARNING SOLUTIONS



JANO developed a web-based nutrition information system facilitating data flow between ministries and committees to monitor progress. Information and Communications Technology (ICT) innovations, including e-Session and e-Learning apps, empowered service providers and communities with nutrition knowledge. These apps, now available on Google Play, offer government-approved information through text, images, and videos.

The impact was significant, with **100% of volunteers and 28% of frontline workers using the ICT based e-learning platforms, and nearly half of the community accessing nutrition information.** Frontline workers praised the ease and effectiveness of these apps in counseling and disseminating information. Furthermore, all project districts completed data upload for National Plan of Action II, highlighting the success and integration of these ICT solutions.

ICT4Nutrition: Key Progress

- Web-based platform developed and Govt officials started using the platform
- **100%** of volunteers and **28%** of frontline workers using the ICT based e-learning platform (0% at baseline)
- **44.1%** community members received ICT based nutritional information (4.2% at baseline)

WHERE:

Rangpur and Nilphamari Districts in Bangladesh

WHEN:

September 2018- June 2024

DONORS:

European Union (EU)
Austrian Development Cooperation

PARTNERS:

CARE Bangladesh
PLAN International Bangladesh
Eco-Social Development Organization (ESDO)



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| Multi-sectoral online M&E system

JANO facilitated the operationalization and action planning processes of the District Nutrition Coordination Committee (DNCC) and Upazila Nutrition Coordination Committees (UNCC) in Rangpur and Nilphamari Districts to foster and coordinate nutrition initiatives at local level. In order for the Committees to effectively and efficiently support and deliver nutrition related services, coordination among all the respective departments/ministries is key. However, there was no unified, systematic and centralized information flow, which would enable the DNCCs and UNCCs to implement, monitor and review progress of their nutrition action plans, and the Bangladesh National Nutrition Council (BNNC) to conduct its regular monitoring over the Committees' performances.

To enable the information flow on nutrition between all relevant ministries and nutrition committees under the BNNC to implement, monitor and review progress of their annual nutrition plans, contributing to the realization of NPAN-2; the project supported BNNC to develop a multi-sectoral online monitoring and evaluation system.

This system has strengthened planning, monitoring, coordination, accountability and decision making through easy access and sharing of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive information between the different government departments, both vertically and horizontally. This system is particularly helping eight prioritized ministries of Bangladesh (Health and Family Welfare; Agriculture; Livestock and Fisheries; Local Government and Rural Development Cooperatives; Education; Women and Children Affairs; Disaster Management and Relief; and Social Welfare) which are related with the Multi-sectoral Minimum Nutrition Package (MMNP).

Key Progress

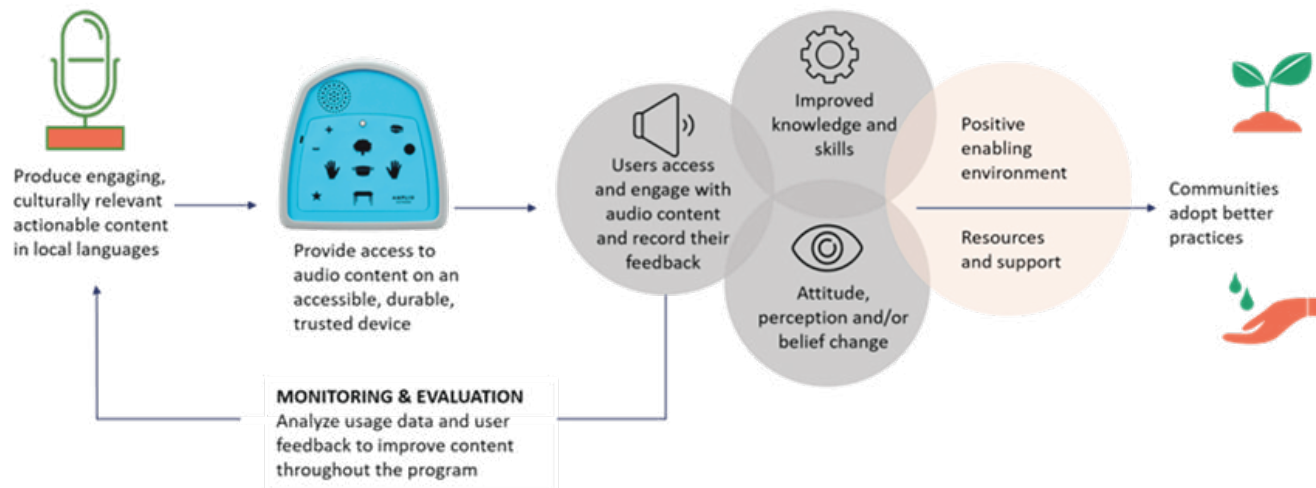
- 72 District level government officials received orientation on the M&E system
- 356 sub-district level government officials trained on the M&E system
- System handed over to BNNC and deployed to the government server
- A mobile-based application is also developed, deployed and integrated with the system
- 14 Upazilas under Rangpur and Nilphamari Districts completed 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 annual nutrition plan & progress data entry and currently working on 2023-24 annual nutrition plan and progress data entry.

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Talking book: An interactive e-Learning tool

A talking book is an audio device that can hold a library of informational audio content in the form of songs, interviews and dramas to influence the behavior and enhance the lives of project participants by providing them with information pertaining to best practices. The audios are stored in an interactive manner guided by different icon-based button where a non-literate user can choose the topics that interest them most, replay content as often as they want, and record their own messages and feedback. The Talking Book also collects usage statistics and user feedback, which helps partners evaluate user engagement, identify barriers to program goals, and gain greater insight into the communities they serve.



Key Progress

- **100** Audio content development from the government approved information sources
- **208** volunteers trained and deployed with talking book in all 7 Upazilas
- More than **203,107** participants covered under this talking book interventions A deployment guideline has been developed for volunteers
- An animated video manual has been developed for the easy learning of the end users



SMS System: Nutrition-based information

Nutrition-based Short Message Service (SMS) platform is one of the key interventions of JANO project where various information is shared with the target participants via configured SMS service. The main objective of this service is to develop and disseminate nutrition sensitive and nutrition specific messages among the targeted audience within the project coverage area who have limited or no access to smart phones. The target group include pregnant and lactating women, mothers of children under 5 years of age and adolescent girls and boys. Another purpose of the intervention is to make the participants aware so, that they can apply the learnings from these SMS in their daily lives to overcome many health complications such as malnutrition, anemia, and blindness.

Key Progress

- System is armed with **57** most important government approved text messages
- **78,000** individuals received **48** types of nutrition related text messages
- Near about three million nutrition related text messages delivered so far

Development and deployment of e-Learning applications

To enhance the health, hygiene and nutrition specific and sensitive knowledge and awareness among frontline workers and community people the project has developed four e-Learning solutions for the volunteers, frontline workers and community people, particularly targeting pregnant and lactating women, adolescents and children. These directly accessible applications will increase the quality of nutrition and health related services received, and promote a healthier and service oriented behavior among community people. Customized modules has been developed for different user's knowledge levels.

e-Session app for volunteers: e-Session is a primarily tab-focused mobile application intended to be used by volunteers who will use it to teach project participants like they do with flipcharts. A digital learning system containing GoB certified nutritional information, curated for educational purposes, for field workers, beneficiaries and others which can be used for teaching. **208 volunteers are using e-Session app.**

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e-Learning app for volunteer and frontline workers: The e-Learning for volunteer and frontline-workers is an android mobile based application. where they can access digital content regarding nutrition. The app can be used for self-learning and evaluation. 208 volunteers and **700 frontline workers are using the e-Learning app.**

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e-Learning app for participants: e-Learning for participants is an android app for the project participants where they can access digital content regarding nutrition. The app can be used for registration, content viewing and self-learning. There are multiple types of contents that can be uploaded through the portal and Managers can view system reports. **12,789 participants are now using the e-Learning app.**

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To facilitate the learning process and engage more users the project has developed easy to understand interactive e-Manuals which will stimulate the learning process. The ICT innovations have accelerated the Bangladesh government's targeted community-level nutrition activities and have made nutrition information available and accessible to the general population. The project demonstrated adoption of the ICT platforms and applications, with uptake and usage meeting or exceeding the life of project targets with **100% of volunteers and 28% of frontline workers using the ICT-based e-learning platforms, and nearly half of the community accessing nutrition information.**

"I have an eApp which contains audio, video and pictures related to family planning methods, ANC, PNC, breastfeeding, nutrition counselling, adolescent counselling, hygiene and sanitation. I use this apps during counselling the adolescent girls and boys. It is easy to use these apps and people are getting benefit from these information," said one frontline worker.

JANO implemented a multi-sectoral initiative to improve food and nutrition security in rural areas of Rangpur and Nilphamari districts in Bangladesh. JANO aimed to help end malnutrition for children under five and address the nutritional needs of pregnant and lactating women and adolescent girls through a multi-sectoral, integrated, collaborative processes with community engagement.

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