JANO ICT4Nutrition Initiatives
Multi-sectoral Online M&E System and eLearning Solutions

Multi-sectoral online M&E system

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JANO is facilitating 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).

Immediate outcomes

- **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 and 2021-22 annual nutrition plan data entry
- **14** Upazilas under Rangpur and Nilphamari Districts completed 2020-21 annual nutrition plan progress entry

Talking book: An interactive eLearning 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.
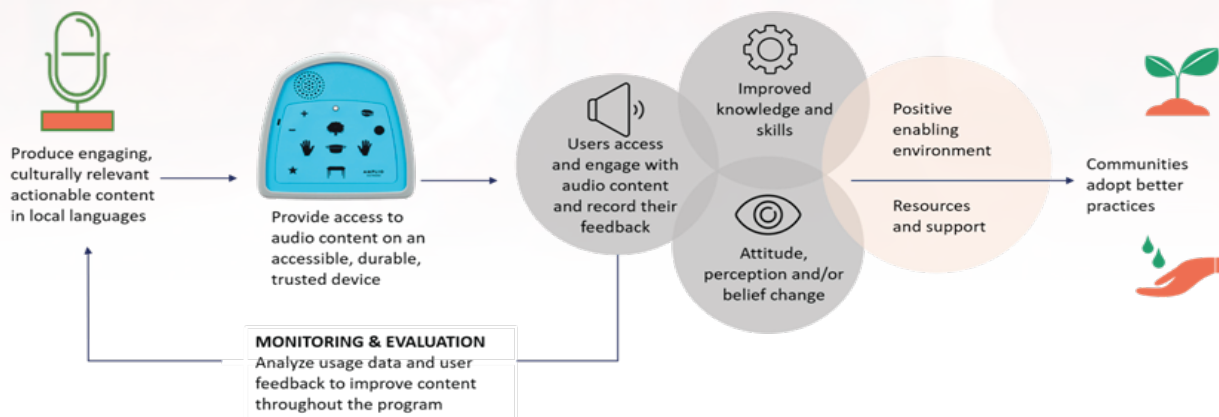
As a part of the technological intervention for social and behavioral change communication on different nutrition sensitive and nutrition specific practices, JANO project deployed 208 talking books through 208 volunteers in Rangpur and Nilphamari. All 208 volunteers are trained and provided with a detailed deployment and operational guideline. The volunteers are applying group approach (5-10 members group) to circulate the talking book messages. The project received a huge positive response from different level of project participants as talking book is playing a vital role to disseminate messages in an interactive and fun manner.

Immediate outcomes

- 100s Audio content development from the government approved information sources
- 8 project staff received 5 training sessions on talking book operation and data dashboard
- 208 volunteers trained and deployed with talking book in all 7 Upazilas
- More than 141,647 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

Nutrition-based SMS System for time sensitive information dissemination

Nutrition-based 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. This will improve the overall nutrition status and create awareness at the individual and family level. The system is compatible with all kind of devices that has SMS service. The eSBCC messaging service was proved to be a very reliable and useful tool for disseminating time-sensitive information.

Immediate outcomes

- System is armed with **47** most important government approved text messages
- **78,000** individual received **46** types nutrition related text messages
- More than **two million** nutrition related text messages delivered so far
- Receivers are sharing message content with others

Development and deployment of eLearning applications

To enhance the nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive knowledge and awareness among frontline workers (FW) and community people the project has developed four eLearning solutions for the volunteers, frontline workers (FW) and community people (particularly targeting pregnant and lactating women, adolescents and children) to enhance their knowledge on nutrition, as well as important health and hygiene topics. 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. In addition, a knowledge repository on nutrition has been developed, with content from relevant government departments. Below are some brief functionalities of each of the eLearning applications:

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eSession for volunteers: eSession 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 voluntters are using eSession app.

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eLearning for volunteer and frontline workers: The eLearning for volunteer and frontline-workers is an android based mobile application. where they can access digital content regarding nutrition. The app can be used for self-learning and evaluation. 208 volunteers and 595 fronline workers are using the eLearning app.

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eLearning for participants: eLearning 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. 9,812 participants are now using the eLearning app.

The project is slowly but steadily progressing on the distribution and use of eLearning applications. Due to the newness and technical aspect of the eLearning apps the level of acceptance and engagement is still low. To facilitate the learning process and engage more users the project is has developed easy to understand interactive eManuals which will stimulate the learning process. So far around 9,812 users added to the eLearning application network.

Immediate outcomes

- **208** community volunteers are trained and are using the eSession and eLearning applications for volunteers and frontline workers
- Around **595** frontline workers are using the eLearning applications for volunteers and frontline workers
- **9,812** community participants are using eLearning application for participants
- Observing the benefit community clinic playing a vital role on sharing eLearning applications

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