

“Today, we pledge to address the double burden of malnutrition through 12 commitments.”

– Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, N4G opening session speech 8 December 2021

1. Reduce childhood stunting
2. Reduce the prevalence of wasting
3. Reduce the incidence of low birth-weight
4. No increase of childhood obesity (WHZ >+2) among children under 5 years
5. Reduce the anaemia among women of reproductive age
6. Recruitment of 64 District Nutrition Officers
7. Prevalence of Undernourishment
8. Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale
9. Reduce dependence on cereals for Dietary Energy Intake
10. Increase the coverage of nutrition-related social safety net programs
11. Strengthen and mainstream the multi-sectoral nutrition surveillance system
12. Strengthen multisectoral tracking of financial allocation for nutrition

Bangladesh has made considerable progress in reducing hunger and malnutrition in the country, with progress in reducing child undernutrition on track and well sustained over time. Improvements in nutrition have been driven in part by improved access to and utilization of essential health and nutrition services, and improved access to food, social protection, WASH, overall economic development, etc. However, national progress in reducing malnutrition has slowed and shows considerable inequalities across geographic and economic groups, as still 32 percent of the population are at risk of food insecurity, with 4.5 million children still suffering from stunting and a rising trend in overweight and obesity among women and children. Poor nutrition is an underlying cause of nearly half of all child deaths.

Nutrition for Growth (N4G) is a global effort to transform the way the world tackles malnutrition by uniting knowledge, resources, and commitments from countries, donors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), businesses, and beyond.

The first N4G Summit was held in London in 2013 where more than \$4 billion in new nutrition-specific commitments and \$19 billion in nutrition-sensitive

commitments were pledged. Stakeholders gathered in Milan in 2017 for the Global Nutrition Summit to track pledges made in London and generated an additional \$3.4 billion in nutrition pledges. The latest Summit took place in Tokyo in December 2021—hosted by the Government of Japan—to continue the N4G legacy and further accelerate progress.

The commitments of the Government of Bangladesh and its partner stakeholders to the Tokyo N4G Summit were developed on the basis of previous commitments from Summits in 2013 and 2017. An assessment was made of their continued relevance, and adjustments were made based on this. In addition, new commitments were added. The commitments have been based on the current country nutrition context and emerging needs due to COVID-19. They are aligned with the Government’s Eighth Five-Year Plan (8th FYP), and in Perspective Plan (Vision 2041), as well as the National Nutrition Policy 2015 (NNP), the Second National Plan of Action on Nutrition (NPAN2) 2017-2025, the Second Country Investment Plan (CIP2), the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (NFNSP) 2020, as well as the Bangladesh Roadmap

for the Global Action Plan for Wasting (GAP) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Bangladesh. It thereby complements commitments made during the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) 2021.

The commitments are made towards five thematic areas, and across six commitment types. The five thematic areas consist of three core thematic areas (health, food, and resilience), and two cross-cutting thematic areas (accountability and financing). The six commitment types are: 1) political and governance; 2) policy; 3) financial; 4) operational; 5) monitoring, reporting and research; and 6) impact. Three working groups consisting of the relevant Government officials, SUN networks members, and cluster groups, each responsible for one of the core thematic areas, worked to develop Bangladesh’ commitments. Existing commitments were assessed for their continued relevance and accuracy during a joint workshop, and 12 priority commitment areas were decided upon which were finalized by the groups.

12 Commitments on nutrition

