

Right2Grow Bangladesh Annual Report 2024



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List of acronyms

A2i	Access to information
ACF	Action Against Hunger
ACI	Advanced Consumer Industry
ANC	Ante Natal Care
BSAF	Bangladesh Child Rights Forum
BMET	Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking
B4V	Bridge for Voices
BNNC	Bangladesh National Nutrition Council
BMET	Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking
BSAF	Bangladesh Child Rights Forum
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CC	Community Clinic
CCHT	Community Clinic Healthcare Trust
CEGAA	Centre for Economic Governance and Accountability in Africa
CSC	Country Steering Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CBO	Community Based Organization
CU5	Children Under 5
CVA	Citizen Voice and Action
DC	Deputy Commissioner
DD-LG	Deputy Director - Local Government
DGHS	Directorate General of Health Service
DNCC	District Nutrition Coordination Committee
EKN	Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
FNS	Food and Nutrition Security
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GMP	Growth Monitoring Promotion
IDA	International Development Agencies
IGG	Inclusive Green Growth
IPHN	Institute of Public Health and Nutrition
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
L&A	Lobby & Advocacy
L&L	Linking & Learning
LGD	Local Government Division
LEA	Local Entrepreneur Association
LW	Lactating Woman
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MF	Max Foundation
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoWCA	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
MoHFW	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MoLGRD&C	Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTR	Mid-Term Review
NDA	National Development Agencies
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
N4G	Nutrition for Growth
NNS	National Nutrition Service
NPAN	National Plan of Action for Nutrition
PNC	Post Natal Care

PW	Pregnant Woman
RW	Reproductive Woman
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SBCC	Social Behavioural Change Communication
StC	Save the Children
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SMC	Social Marketing Company
CSA-SUN	Civil Society Alliance for Scaling Up Nutrition
THP	The Hunger Project
TOC	Theory of Change
UDCC	Union Development Coordination Committee meeting
UNCC	Upazila Nutrition Coordination Committee
UNO	Upazila Nirbahi Officer
WV	World Vision
YCF	Young Child Feeding

1. Programme overview

Country name	Bangladesh
Programme number	PoV activity number 4000004339 MFA impact number: 100001237
Lead Partner	Max Foundation
Period the report covers	January – December 2024
Lead implementing Partners	Action Against Hunger (ACF) CEGAA Max Foundation Save the Children The Hunger Project World Vision
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Project Intervention Areas

In Bangladesh, the Right2Grow programme is being implemented in four Districts (Khulna, Sathkira, Barguna, and Patuakhali) under two administrative Divisions—Khulna and Barishal. The programme covers 40 Unions of five upazila / sub-districts (Dumuria, Debhata, Taltoli, Golachipa, and Patuakhali Sadar) in the southern coastal region of Bangladesh, which is very vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Area	Scope	Partners
Community	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Around 10,000 awareness sessions on WASH, Nutrition, and Community Health through the courtyard and Community Groups. 2. Meeting with 774 CSOs for data gathering, monitoring progress and review and planning, etc. 3. A school-based awareness and behaviour change campaign on WASH, Nutrition, adolescent health, and MHM in 432 primary and secondary schools. 4. 56 Campaign for Child growth measurement and awareness (Stunting, Wasting, Underweight, and obesity). 5. 1344 orientation sessions with the community to raise awareness on citizens' Access to information (A2i) 6. 125 mass communication and campaigns on WASH, Nutrition, and Community Health issues 	Right2Grow partners: SDA, ACF, JAGONARI, MFB, HLP-F, THP, StC, and WVB

Area	Scope	Partners
	<p>7. 672 Courtyard sessions for facilitating collaboration between communities and private sectors and ensuring access to quality inputs and products (WASH materials, MHM materials, Nutrition, and micronutrient products, primary health care products, and income-generating products such as seed, saplings, improved livestock etc.)</p>	
Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open budget meeting and budget tracking with 40 Unions • Bi-monthly Union Development Coordination Committee meetings with 40 Unions. • Days observation with 40 Unions (e.g., sanitation month, nutrition week, etc.) • Organize 164 meetings between CSOs and the Upazila Standing Committee, Union Parishad (UP), and Upazila Health Committees to collect evidence on public service delivery needs and facilitate network-building. The budget will be formulated at the UP level. • Facilitate 666 orientation and sensitization sessions with CSOs, local communities, community groups, and service providers (Local Entrepreneurs Associations- LEAs) to raise awareness on relevant laws, policies, and implementation guidelines, as well as to promote understanding of citizens' rights, and clarify roles and responsibilities. • Facilitate 41 monitoring standards meetings with CSOs/ CBOs, LEAs, and other service providers on WASH, Nutrition, Child Growth Measurement, and primary health care issues. • Facilitate 17 public hearings through scorecard sessions with stakeholders. 	<p>Right2Grow partners: SDA, ACF, JAGONARI, MFB, HLP-F, THP and WVB Union Parishads CSOs</p>
Upazila	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint multi-sectoral plan development for Upazilas. 2. Monthly Upazila Development Committee meetings. 3. Initiate 32 media advocacy for strong evidence-building across Programme areas/context 4. 43 Local-level policy dialogue for formulating issues for national-level advocacy. 5. 2 High-level policy dialogue to discuss the research findings and evidence from best practice 	<p>Right2Grow partners: SDA, ACF, JAGONARI, MFB, HLP-F, THP and WVB Union Parishads Upazila Parishad CSOs</p>
District/ Regional	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participation and contribution to national level CSO network to uphold community interests utilizing Citizen's Platform for SDGs. 2. Collaboration with the Community Clinic Trust for providing primary health care to Mother & U5C. 3. Conduct evidence-based research and share it with donors and stakeholders through a workshop 	<p>Right2Grow partners Union Parishads Upazila Parishad District Administration CSOs</p>
National	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participate in CSA – SUN networks, ICAN networks and IDA 2. Joint events with the Institution of Public Health Nutrition (IPHN), National Nutrition Services (NNS), Bangladesh National Nutrition Council (BNNC), etc. 3. Participate in UN WASH and Nutrition activities. 4. Strengthen the CSO networking Platform. 5. Collaboration with Bangladesh Child Rights Forum (BSAF) for joint movement. 	<p>Right2Grow partners Union Parishads Upazila Parishad District Administration CSOs Platforms, Bangladesh Child Rights Forum (BSAF) NILG.</p>

Area	Scope	Partners
	6. Collaboration with the National Institute of Local Government (NILG) for introducing BMET and Child Nutrition budget in LGIs, etc.	

1.1 Executive Summary

The Annual Narrative Report 2024 provides a detailed review of the Bangladesh country consortium’s performance, key achievements, challenges faced, and strategic directions for the future. This executive summary offers a comprehensive insight into financial performance, operational milestones, sustainability initiatives, challenges, and future directives for 2025.

Following the most recent political transformation, the country faced significant challenges in governance and administration. The Union Parishads (UPs), which are an important tier of local governance, became largely dysfunctional as a significant number of the Chairmen and Ward Members fled, hampering service delivery and local development. At the same time, the administrative structures from the national secretariat to the Upazila levels experienced instability and disarray while adapting to the new political landscape.

Despite these challenges, some valuable opportunities emerged. Recommendations of the midterm review (MTR) report provided actionable insights to improve implementation strategies. Increased collaboration with Union Parishad bodies and growing ownership, as well as proactiveness among local Civil Society Organisation (CSO) leaders, contributed to strengthened local engagement. Furthermore, increased community awareness and a collective voice advocating for better nutrition, WASH, and healthcare services created a strong foundation for adaptive programming. As part of programme plan adjustments, 779 local CSOs’ received Capacity Strengthening Training, prioritising critical tasks while, discarding lower priority activities.

Similarly, 201 (Female-122, Male-79) entrepreneurs in the Right2Grow programme area received business development training. However, due to the devastating effects of super cyclone Remal in May of 2024, Healthy Village declarations by UPs/CSOs were delayed and shifted to the following quarters. With global-level Technical Support, advocacy, learning and sharing, and capacity-strengthening events have taken place for both the programme staff and local CSO leaders.

Based on the recommendations of the MTR, the programme prioritised the integration of evidence-generation approaches into its activities. This included revising activity plans to better align with local needs and addressing identified gaps in findings. A study was conducted on the correlation between the increase in the nutrition budget by Union Parishad and the significant reduction in stunting among children under five years of age. The sustainability and close-out plan developed earlier in 2024 is being revisited as part of adaptive programming initiatives.

To address limited engagement in Upazila Nutrition Coordination Committee (UNCC) and Union Development Coordination Committee (UDCC) meetings, successful case stories from active committees were shared to inspire inactive members. Regular follow-ups, facilitated by community leaders and project staff members, increased attendance and engagement in coordination meetings. A total of 435 local CSO leaders were included in the local government-level committees and actively participated in the decision-making process of different government committees.

We worked closely with local CSO leaders to, fostering a collaborative approach to governance. To counter bureaucratic challenges, ensure greater accountability, transparency in decision-making processes and enhance governmental engagement, advocacy efforts were intensified. Collaboration with government

officials and department representatives resulted in increased participation in Right2Grow programme field visits, best-practice sharing, and training sessions.

Key achievements of the Right2Grow Programme Consortium Bangladesh

By applying adaptive measures, the following results were achieved:

- Since inception in the year 2021 to 2024, 187 villages have been declared as ‘Healthy Villages’ by meeting the set nine (9) criteria, and one Union has been declared ‘Healthy Union’. 89% of community people in Right2Grow working areas practice essential nutrition behaviors, where 191,920 households (HHs) (87 % of the total HHs) have access to improved sanitation facilities and essential health products.
- A total of 201 (female-122 and male-79) local entrepreneurs (LE) supply Nutrition and WASH products and Services available at the community level. These LEs have signed 12 MoUs with large business development companies/organizations who produce Nutrition and WASH products in large scale.
- Local CSOs (both tier 2 & 3) have been capacitated on different issues to ensure nutrition and WASH services and products available and affordable; 435 local CSO leaders were included in local government-related committees, and are actively engaged in decision-making process to ensure nutrition and WASH products and services at the community level for the children under 5 years of age.
- Effective advocacy initiatives have made 116 Community Clinics vibrant and providing Growth Monitoring Promotion (GMP), antenatal care (ANC), postnatal care (PNC), Vaccination, Primary Health Care, and Referral services regularly in Right2Grow working area (4 Districts, 5 Upazila, 40 UPs).
- 360 local CSOs developed joint action plans, and mobilized communities to improve nutrition- WASH, and health service delivery through advocacy and collaboration with local government, and the provision of medicines and nutritional supplements to 116 community clinics are in place.
- Budget allocation for the Nutrition-WASH-Child Health Care nexus sector in the targeted Union Parishads (the lowest tier of the local government Institution) increased from 1.45% (2021) to 18.49% (2024). Increased budget for children under 5 years (CU5) of marginalized households, declaring a significant number of communities as healthy villages, and reducing the stunting rate from 36.2% to 23.4%, Underweight rate from 26.5% to 18%, and Wasting rate from 14.2% to 12.6% between 2022 and 2024.
- National-level advocacy to allocate a specific budget for U5 child nutrition at UPs is in good shape and progress. The UP Chairmen wrote a letter to the Deputy Director-Local Government (DD-LG) Patuakhali. In this connection, the DD-LG has issued a letter to the Secretary, LGD (Local Government Division), Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives (MoLGRDC). The PMU (Programme Management Unit) has submitted a proposal to the Advisor, MoLGRDC for specific budget allocations for U5 child nutrition.
- Finally, the local government ministry issued a letter to the Finance Ministry to allocate the proposed nutrition fund to the Union Parishads from next year for the children under 5 (five) years of age.
- Right2Grow Bangladesh Consortium and the government agency (BNNC) jointly developed Child profile estimation and costing model-related tools that are being practiced in the Right2Grow working locations by the CSOs with the assistance of respective government department personnel.

Key Indicators progress:

Indicator	Donor Indicator	Target Y4 (2024)	Achievement Y4 (2024)
R2G.OC.2.1	# of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting, influencing the debate, and building space to engage national level	37	78

R2G.OC.2.2	# of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by, or with their membership/ constituency	21	48
R2G.OC.3.2	# of laws, policies, and norms/attitudes, blocked, adopted, and improved for sustainable and inclusive development	2	3
BD.IO.D.2	# of CSOs with increased lobbying and advocacy capacities	21	74 (8/ 74)
R2G.OP. 1.1	# of CSOs involved in Right2Grow	7	7

Key lessons learned:

- **WASH-Nutrition Budget Allocation:** Increased budget allocations in WASH-Nutrition positively impact the reduction of undernutrition in children under 5.
- **Evidence-Based Child Profiling:** Developing child profiling and costing models through data collection strengthens evidence for government and CSO actions.
- **Entrepreneurship and Private Sector Engagement:** Connecting local entrepreneurs with the private sector through an Entrepreneurs Association enhances entrepreneurship and community development.
- **Active Role of Local Committees:** UDCC, UNCC, and DNCC committees effectively guide local governments in utilizing WASH and nutrition support to reduce under-nutrition among children.
- **CSO Engagement:** Empowering CSOs amplifies community voices, leading to greater advocacy for increased funding for WASH and nutrition programs.
- **Government Partnership:** Early government involvement in the Right2Grow program would have improved results; prioritizing this partnership in future initiatives is crucial.
- **Women’s Participation:** Promoting women’s leadership within CSOs and Local Entrepreneurs' Associations strengthens overall child development efforts for those under five.

1.2 Country context

2024 was a volatile year for Bangladesh, marked by significant political and social upheaval. The year began with a controversial national election, widely regarded as distorted, which ensured the continuation of an authoritarian regime that had been in power for the past 15 years. The regime-maintained control through systematic suppression of dissent and the restriction of civic space. However, the growing discontent and frustration of the people, particularly among students and the youth, reached a tipping point. A dynamic and widespread movement demanding change emerged, led by students and supported by citizens from all walks of life. The discontent and frustration of the people, particularly students, reached a tipping point. A dynamic and widespread movement emerged, led by students and supported by citizens from all walks of life. These disruptions also affected initiatives planned for the year due to risky communication and travel from one place to another. In particular, some of the activities related to advocacy could not be implemented properly as intended. The movement quickly gained momentum and finally an end to authoritarian rule on the 5th of August 2024.

Following this political transformation, Bangladesh faced significant governance and administration challenges. The Union Parishads, which are the important tier of local government, became largely dysfunctional as a significant number of the Chairpersons and members fled, disrupting service delivery and local development. Additionally, the administrative machinery—from the national secretariat to the Sub-district (Upazila) levels—was plagued by instability as it struggled to adapt to the new political landscape. These disruptions directly affected interventions planned by Right2Grow for the year. Some advocacy activities could not be implemented as intended.

In addition, 2024 saw a severe environmental crisis as seven unions were affected by prolonged waterlogging. This crisis was triggered by heavy and unrelenting rainfall, which inundated vast areas for nearly six months. This not only disrupted the daily lives of the affected communities but also posed significant challenges to public health, agriculture, and livelihoods.

This dual challenge of socio-political instability and environmental adversity impeded the achievement of the programme's intended outcomes. Even though it was very challenging and the programme struggled, but at the same time that adaptive strategies have been contributed a crucial role to adjust to the context and therefore still met programme objectives/targets; Consequently, the Right2Grow Programme struggled, adapted contextual strategies, and, the team became more capable to meet its objectives by following adaptive programming, highlighting the critical need for adaptive strategies that account for both political and environmental uncertainties.

Despite these challenges, Right2Grow Bangladesh has achieved remarkable progress in increasing the allocation of budgets from 1.45% (2021) to 18.49% (2024) in the Nutrition-WASH-Mother&Child Health Care nexus sector in the targeted Union Parishads (the lowest tier of the local government Institution). Increased budget for U5Cs of marginalized households, declaring a significant number of communities as healthy villages, and reducing the stunting rate from 36.2% to 23.4%, Underweight rate from 26.5% to 18%, and Wasting rate from 14.2% to 12.6% between 2022 and 2024.

1.3 Risks

Risks identified that also materialized	Impact on the Programme	Mitigation measures taken and the effectiveness of these measures
Escalation of violence around the upcoming national election hampering programme implementation. This risk has been further intensified by the ousting of the government through a mass uprising, leading to widespread instability in administration across the country. And the July Movement 2024.	Field operations, engagement with UP representatives and government officials, and delivery of nutrition, WASH, and primary health care services, were disrupted. Stakeholder's participation in field activities, was significantly affected.	Activities were rescheduled or relocated to ensure the safety and continuity of all stakeholders operating in less affected areas. However, these adjustments may have influenced the programme's overall accomplishment, as activities in high-risk areas may have been reduced or postponed. Collaboration with UP representatives, officials, and community leaders has been strengthened to sustain progress. These proactive measures have been instrumental in ensuring the continued achievement of the Right2Grow programme's outcomes.
In July and August 2024, the students-led mass movement and changing of a 15-year regime created a significant challenge for the implementation of scheduled project activities.	The implementation of the third-quarter programme activities was threatened due to the countrywide shutdown.	The consortium partners developed a business continuity plan, considering the situation. As a result, important events were shifted to the following quarter to ensure the continuity of scheduled activities despite the challenges posed by the student movement and change of regime.
Natural calamities, including prolonged waterlogging and heavy rainfall.	Disruption of access to nutrition and WASH services, impeding Programme delivery. Floods damaged facilities and infrastructure, reducing the effectiveness of interventions. People suffered from waterborne	Implemented flood-resistant designs to safeguard essential services through UPs and local administration with the help of local CSO. Developed flexible and adaptive Programme strategies that allowed quick response and recovery following natural disasters, ensuring

Risks identified that also materialized	Impact on the Programme	Mitigation measures taken and the effectiveness of these measures
	diseases and food insecurity, especially children and mothers.	continuity of services from provider-agencies. These measures aimed to minimise disruption and ensure sustained progress in reducing malnutrition and improving WASH services despite natural calamities.
Decreased interest from Local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) / CBOs and their networks due to the inadequate civic space they require.	Reduced collaboration and participation from CSOs in community engagement and advocacy efforts, CSOs weakened collective advocacy for local-level policy implementation/change and improved nutrition and WASH services.	Strengthened relationships with remaining CSO and explored new alliances to compensate for reduced interest. Enhanced the capacity of local leaders and community members to sustain advocacy and engagement efforts. Advocated intensively for greater civic space and involvement. These strategies were initiated to maintain Programme momentum and effectiveness despite the challenges posed by reduced CSO' interest.
Security concerns during the interim government's transition period.	Some grassroots events, community engagement session like Courtyard (child and youth) and CBO's/CSOs' activities were cancelled. Reduced community participation in the Open Learning Centre initiatives.	In the absence of previous leaders, next-level community leaders and LG representatives were engaged to sustain activities. CHE (Community Health Educator) and HPA (Health Promotion Agent) conducted door to door visits of households to educate mothers of under-five children on specific topics and maintain outreach efforts despite the challenges.
Inflation, and high costs of WASH technologies and nutrition products made it financially difficult for people to afford WASH and nutrition facilities at their households.	Community reduced the consumption of nutritious food due to the price spiral of essential commodities. This directly impacted on their children, ultimately leading to an increase in child malnutrition.	Communities have been supported through close follow up to ensure homestead gardening. They were being provided with vegetable seeds and advice for poultry raising through local entrepreneurs. Additionally, considering the financial constraints of the households, HPAs are offering WASH and nutrition products through installments.

1.4 Adaptive Programming

In response to the political upheaval, the Right2Grow Consortium developed a comprehensive business continuity plan. This plan allowed for the adaptation of key activities within the fourth-quarter implementation plan. Activities involving Members of Parliament (MPs) and Upazila Parishad Chairmen were carried out through consultations with the Deputy Director of Local Government (DD-LG) and the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO). Moreover, due to the political change situation and the absence of some CSO members new members were included by the CSOs to replace those, ensuring continued progress. One significant challenge encountered was the low engagement from line department officials in UDCC meetings and their lack of interest in holding UNCC meetings. Despite these obstacles, we were able to identify and act on various opportunities to enhance the Programme's impact.

The midterm evaluation provided valuable recommendations, which helped us refine our implementation strategies. These insights led to improved collaboration with Union Parishad bodies and greater ownership and proactivity among local CBOs/CSO leaders. Additionally, increased community awareness and collective advocacy efforts for better nutrition, WASH, and healthcare services provided a solid foundation for the adaptive programme. As per the midterm evaluation's suggestions, CSOs Capacity Strengthening Training was prioritized and incorporated into the programme plan, while less critical tasks were de-prioritized.

Because of the devastating effects of Super Cyclone Remal in May 2024, the Healthy Village declarations by CSOs were delayed and rescheduled for subsequent quarters.

Additional adaptive measures implemented to address challenges and leverage emerging opportunities include:

- Based on midterm evaluation recommendations, we prioritized evidence-generation approaches in programme activities, revising plans to better align with local needs and addressing identified gaps.
- To address the lack of engagement in UNCC and UDCC meetings, we showcased success stories from active committees to inspire others. Regular follow-ups, facilitated by community leaders and programme staff, helped increase attendance and engagement.
- To overcome bureaucratic interference and low participation from government officials, we conducted targeted advocacy and lobbying efforts, emphasizing the importance of their involvement in training and coordination meetings.
- We worked closely with CSO leaders to ensure greater accountability and transparency in decision-making, fostering a collaborative governance approach. A total of 435 CSO leaders actively participated in various government committees. To create a navigation space and effectively participate in the decision-making process, Right2Grow initiated intensive contextual demand-driven capacity-strengthening interventions.

By implementing these adaptive measures, the Right2Grow team effectively addressed many of the challenges encountered during its implementation while leveraging emerging opportunities. The lessons learned in 2024 will form the foundation for refining our approach in the final year, ensuring greater impact and sustainability.

2. Programme progress

2.1 Results across the outcomes

2.1.1 Community mobilisation

Right2Grow Outcome 1: Communities demand and invest in basic social services and adopt good nutrition and WASH practices, jointly addressing barriers with private sector partners)

Interventions

This intervention employs a holistic strategy to raise awareness and address critical nutrition, health, and WASH issues in communities. Below are the key interventions:

- Coordinated with government departments to develop and distribute IEC/SBCC materials, guiding local partners in conducting effective campaigns and community sessions. In-person campaigns during Breastfeeding Week, National Nutrition Week, and Global Handwashing Day directly engaged communities and amplified key messages.
- Utilized online platforms such as Facebook, LinkedIn, and WhatsApp to stimulate community demand and encourage investment in social services. Digital campaigns expanded reach, fostered collective action, and minimized risks associated with in-person gatherings in a volatile electoral environment.
- Conducted courtyard sessions to improve nutrition and WASH behaviors, focusing on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), maternal nutrition and care, ANC and PNC services, adolescent health, diverse diets, and proper WASH practices.
- 30,743 children participated in growth monitoring sessions, providing valuable anthropometric data that motivated parents to take action for better nutrition.
- Enhanced the capacity of health promotion agents by training them in entrepreneurship, forming an HPA association, and holding progress-sharing meetings to strengthen business linkages.

Results

Key results:

- Since its inception from 2021 to 2024, 187 villages have been declared 'Healthy Village' by meeting the nine criteria related to Nutrition and WASH. Consequently, the USC stunting rate reduced from 36% to 23%, the Underweight rate from 27% to 18%, and the Wasting rate from 14% to 13% between 2022 and 2024 according to findings of the consortium's periodic progress tracking mechanism, which is technically assisted/ capacitated by the respective government personnel/department.
- The Right2Grow consortium has been working in all the targeted Union parishads under the four upazilas/ sub-districts and some unions as part of another sub-district since Inception (Y1). And mobilizing all relevant stakeholders for both public & private. This progress status update was found by the Outcome tracking assessment survey 2024, and Consortium MIS data, joint monitoring led by UP representatives and CSO leaders, periodic follow-up by the respective government staff; Furthermore, the Right2Grow supported a research study was conducted by a research organization, titled "Influence of Separate Budget for WASH & Nutrition on Nutrition Status of under 5 years of age: The Right2Grow Programme Intervention at Union Level" report also reflected this progress.
- 89 % of people in the Right2Grow intervention areas practice essential nutrition – WASH behavior. 191,920 (87% of the total HHs) households have access to improved sanitation facilities and essential health products.

- A total of 201 (122 female) local entrepreneurs made Nutrition and WASH products and services available at communities with affordable prices. Local Entrepreneurs are being engaged in livelihood opportunities and running their businesses.
- 12 MoUs signed between local entrepreneur associations and large companies/organizations to develop stronger relations between them and ensure entrepreneurs have access to their products at lower (wholesale) prices.
- **Local Entrepreneurs Association- LEAs** are also lobbying with Union Parishads and Upazila Parishads to formal engagement of local entrepreneurs and provide required cooperation for making available Nutrition – WASH – M&C Health products and services at community levels, etc.
- **In Bangladesh**, we have three tiers of CSO: Tier 1: 6, Tier 2: 3, & Tier 3: 770; Tier 1 is all involved INGOs / core partners, Tier 2 is national-level partner organizations, and local-level CSOs or CBOs, etc. Considering the strength and mobilizing stakeholders & resources, the tier 1 level CSOs' performance is outstanding, the tier 2 level CSOs' engagement with this process is excellent, and the tier 3 level CSOs' Involvement is remarkable for mobilizing stakeholders, creating local demands, establishing accountability of local duty bearers through performing Interface meetings and advocacy with decision makers, etc. Tier 2 and Tier 3 level CSOs ensured their representation in the government committees at different levels and took part in the decision-making process.

(Data source: Outcome tracking assessment survey 2024, and Consortium MIS data)

Code	Indicator (disaggregate by sub-indicators where applicable)	Baseline value	Target 2024	Year achievement	Cumulative Achievement
R2G.OC.1.1	# of actions in which communities formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services	0	29	65	86
R2G.OC.1.2	# of barriers to good nutrition and WASH services successfully addressed by joint community, government, and/or private sector initiatives.	0	32	45	65
R2G.OC.1.3	% of households practiced improved WASH and able to consume Nutritional facilities.	47%	48%	87.7%	87.7%
BD.IO.A.1	% of households that practice small doable actions consistently and correctly	5.3%	12%	81%	81%
BD.IO.A.2	% of community that report positive WASH and nutrition practices changed	0	24%	89%	89%
BD.IO.B.1	% of community people received WASH and nutrition services from the government and/or private service provider agencies	12.3%	19%	64%	64%
BD.IO.B.2	% of total cost of services and products borne by communities and out-of-pocket payments	63.4%	56%	92.2%	92.2%
R2G.OP. 1.1	# of CSOs involved in Right2Grow	0	7	7	7
BD.OP. 2.1	# Private sector actors working to increase affordable access to health and nutrition services	0	96	150	150

2.1.2 Strengthening Civil Society Organisations

Right2Grow Outcome 2: Representative and empowered civil society organizations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition

Interventions

Empowerment of CSOs is an integral part of Right2Grow. The success of the Right2Grow depends on the effective functioning of the CSOs through the appropriate utilization of the Right2Grow Bridge4Voices (B4V)

advocacy approach. Therefore, strengthening CSOs has been given the highest priority. Key interventions undertaken in 2024 were:

- A 4-day training in February 2024 enhanced frontline CSO staff capacity on Bridge4Voices, Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET), and shared learning experiences.
- A 3-days intensive training conducted in July 2024 equipped facilitators (local CSOs leaders) with advocacy tools, operational guidelines, and structural insights for CSOs in different tiers.
- The Bridge4Voices Advocacy Framework & Guideline was revised and updated.
- A revised CSO Leaders Training Module, enriched with new content, was published in December 2024 following consultations with Right2Grow Consortium partners.
- Regular technical and logistical support strengthened CSOs in advocacy issue identification, progress review, action planning, public budget monitoring, and evidence generation.
- CSOs/CBO Leaders received training on BMET tools, lobbying, advocacy, child profiling, and costing models.
- CSO leaders were trained in communication, negotiation, and engagement with government entities.

Results

- A total of 779 CSOs (Tier 1: 6 nos., Tier 2: 3 nos., and Tier 3: 700 nos. have been empowered (enhanced skills and capacity on lobby & advocacy, local resource mobilization, demand creation, and enhancing accountability of relevant stakeholders, etc.) to enhance access to Nutrition, WASH, and Child Health products and services for the well-being of children under five.
- 435 CSO leaders actively participate in government committees (UDCC- Union Development Coordination meeting, UNCC- Upazila Nutrition Coordination Committee, different standing committees at UP level, Local level planning committees, etc.), influencing decisions to improve community-level services.
- CSOs are effectively coordinating, monitoring, and tracking 40 Union Parishads' budgets regularly, which led to increased budgets for U5C nutrition in each Union Parishad.
- The nutrition budget has increased remarkably at the UP level, with the budget increasing from 1.45% (2021) to 18.49% (2024) for the Nutrition- WASH – Mother & Child Health Care nexus sector in the targeted Union Parishads for consistent advocacy initiative of the Right2Grow Programme. In addition, the Right2Grow consortium is also advocating for allocating CU5 nutrition budget and creating a social safety net programme for CU5.
- 116 Community Clinics in Right2Grow areas actively provided GMP, ANC, PNC, vaccinations, primary healthcare, and referral services.
- CSOs and CBOs have improved their capacity in community & resource mobilization, facilitation skills, and lobbying & advocacy with UP stakeholders and decision-makers. 116 community clinics in the Right2Grow programme area have been activated, and nutrition budgets have been increased in the targeted 40 Union Parishads (Local government level) for active and consistent advocacy and lobbying of the CSOs.
- CSO worked with stakeholders to address local issues, for example to the Chairman of each Union Parishad has received a list of nutrition services and treatments for critically malnourished children. Provision of clean water for poor families that do not have access to healthy water. Send a list of the poor to install better latrines, a list of the poor to install hand washing devices, a list of the poor to send vegetable seeds to suit their nutritional needs etc., of which around 200 local issues were resolved with the assistance of Union Parishads, government departments, and local administrations.
- Good progress has been made in the formation of a national-level CSO platform that focuses advocacy for children under 5 wellbeing and mother & child health. The platform will be formed within the first half of 2025. CSO platform at the national level will oversee and provide some guidance of the CSO platform at UP/Upazila level. National-level CSO platform members (prominent personalities at the national level) are expected to see the nutritional interest of the CU5 by doing advocacy at the national level beyond the Right2Grow Programme in 2025, independently.

- As a result of evidence-based advocacy, the district administration of Patuakhali issued a letter to the Secretary – Local Government Division (LGD), under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives (MoLGRD&C) to allocate funds for reducing undernutrition. It is being followed up to know the end result and hopeful to get positive results in the FY 2025-2026.
- It is observed from the field report that CSOs have demanded 78 times in 2024, but cumulatively, it is 185 demands to UPs. A total of 78 times they have succeeded in creating space at the union level through agenda setting in 2024. Agenda were nutrition related support for children under 5, confirmed WASH related need based support for under 5 age children's households, increase community clinic (CC) services, ensure necessary tools & equipment support (height-weight) for community clinics, pursue to re-infrastructure construction of CC, ensure regular child growth measurement (height-weight, etc.) by CC and Union Health complex, support to repair damaged DTW facilities of CC, Ensured required staff of CC, ensuring hygienic latrine support for poor communities and Deep Tube-well allocation for need-based poor HHs with CU5, provide child nutrition related support to poor HHs with CU5 (CSOs / CBOs Identified & handed over list), Activating/ functioning UDCC and UNCC meeting on regular basis, etc.
- Capacitated CSOs & CBOs were carried out 48 advocacy agenda during this reporting period, some of them are allocating the Child nutrition budget for reducing undernutrition of CU5 to the UP annual budget, increasing social safety net support for vulnerable and marginalized HHs by the Social SafetyNet program, Initiatives for deep tube-wells installation by UP and government agencies to ensure safe water access for identified poor HHs. and different supports (Child growth measurement - height scales, weighing machines / tools support to CCs, supply micronutrient powder for CU5, and periodic food package support, etc.) to poor and vulnerable HHs. Increasing community clinic services for community people facilitated by UPs. Reconstruction of the damaged infrastructure of the community clinic. Facilitate government frontline health staff and CC staff to ensure height-weight measurement, etc. .

Code	Indicator (disaggregate by sub-indicators where applicable)	Baseline value	Target 2024	Year achievement	Cumulative Achievement
R2G.OC.2.1	# of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting, influencing the debate, and/or creating space to engage national level	0	37	78 (SCS031:10, & SCS032: 68)	185
R2G.OC.2.2	# of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by, or with their membership/constituency	0	21	48 (SCS041:10, & SCS042: 38)	143
R2G.OC.2.3	Established of a common CSO platform regarding WASH and nutrition	0	4	101	107
BD.IO.C.1	# of CBOs and CSOs which are consulted during (multi) annual Programming and budgeting exercises	0	472	779	779
BD.IO.C.3	# of CSOs which have developed and rolled out integrated nutrition and WASH advocacy strategies	0	472	779	779
BD.IO.C.4	# of UP practiced participatory planning and budgeting as per government circular	0	26	40	40
R2G.IO.D.1	% marginalized and disempowered people access to services increased	NA	11%	72%	72%
BD.OP. 3.1	# of CBOs and CSOs trained on basic Public Health expenditure tracking		475		

Code	Indicator (disaggregate by sub-indicators where applicable)	Baseline value	Target 2024	Year 4 achievement	Cumulative Achievement
		0		466	475
BD.OP. 3.2	# of CBOs and CSOs with technical skills on the track, analyse and reporting public sector allocation expenditure	0	555	544	555
BD.OP. 4.1	# of CBOs and CSOs targeting the issues related to adolescent girls, women, and most vulnerable groups	0	579	575	575
BD.OP. 4.2	# CBOs and CSOs who have conducted vulnerability mapping for marginalized groups, adolescent girls and women	0	559	561	561

2.1.3 Multi-sectoral approach to undernutrition

Right2Grow Outcome 3: Adoption and mainstream of a multi-sectoral approach to address undernutrition.

Interventions undertaken in 2024

The key interventions in this pathway include:

- Strengthen multi-sectoral engagement and address undernutrition by providing technical and capacity-enhancing support for UDCC meetings in all 40 unions. Multi-sectoral joint action plans were developed, and budget monitoring and expenditure were tracked by the CSO and diverse stakeholders.
- Organised field visits for government officials from national and local levels to observe the good practices of the Right2Grow consortium.
- Hosted a national-level Roundtable discussion with the daily media outlet *Prothom Alo* on the “Necessity of separate budget allocation for Nutrition – WASH – Maternal & Child Healthcare to reduce undernutrition of U5C”. Right2Grow and The Daily Newspaper '*Prothom Alo*' jointly organized this roundtable participated by the government policy-makers and media personalities.
- Conducted a workshop focused on child nutrition budgeting together with senior officials of the National Institute of Local Government.
- Observed and celebrated different national and international days, and weeks (World Water Day, World Health Day, National Nutrition Week, Breastfeeding Day, Global Handwashing Day, etc.) jointly with government departments and other stakeholders.
- Strengthened/established partnerships with local NGOs and youth clubs, such as SUSHILON, Jagoroni Chakra, and Feed the Future, to address undernutrition and WASH challenges.
- Assisted UPs in arranging pre-budget consultations and open budget meetings.
- Engaged relevant government officials in different learning sharing and research report dissemination events at the national and local level.

Results

- In all Right2Grow intervention areas, joint action plans on child nutrition are being implemented successfully.
- The engagement of 360 CSOs has mobilized communities to enhance nutrition and health services through advocacy and collaboration with local governments.
- Through the Advocacy initiatives of Right2Grow, medicines and nutritional supplements have been provided to 116 community clinics by the government, which was irregular before.
- Building accountability of the Union Parishad and respective government officials through successfully conducting progress reviews of the Joint Action Plans in the UDCC meeting by the CSOs UP platform.

- As an advocacy initiative, the Local government division, under the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development, and Cooperatives, issued a government order / letter to the Ministry of Finance to allocate funds for the Nutrition of CU5 In the Union Parishads budget. The PMU Is following it up and It Is expected to get some good results In the FY 2025-2026.
- Right2Grow facilitated the process of research study conduction to BNNC to develop and started implementing the tools for Child profile estimation and developing a costing model in all five working sub-districts to start practicing at Right2Grow working locations, understand the status of CU5, and develop realistic plans to ensure adequate nutrition for U5C. These tools were developed jointly by the government agency BNNC and the Right2Grow consortium and it will help to plan effectively for ensuring the nutrition of the U5C.
- National Nutrition Policy-2015 is reviewed, and the third national plan of action for nutrition for next period with the recommendation of Right2Grow.

Code	Indicator (disaggregate by sub-indicators where applicable)	Baseline value	Target 2024	Year achievement 4	Cumulative Achievement
R2G.OC.3.1	Improved degree of social accountability	NA	0	0	0
R2G.OC.3.2	# of laws, policies, and norms/attitudes, blocked, adopted, and improved for sustainable and inclusive development	0	2	3	4
R2G.OC.3.3	% of public budgets allocated and implemented for nutrition and WASH services (increased funding).	1.45%	3%	18%	18%
BD.IO.E.1	# of evidence-based research documents have been communicated to policy makers	0	3	7	7
BD.IO.E.2	An open data platform has been established and policy makers used that information to make decisions	0	2	0	1
BD.IO.E.3	# local (UP) and national level monitoring cell established to increase accountability and evidence-based decision making	20	22	40	40
BD.IO.F.1	# of Union Parishad and sub-districts have multi-sectoral joint action plan to address child nutrition	0	37	38	38
BD.IO.F.2	Multi-sectoral approach reflected in Bangladesh National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN)		0	0	1
BD.OP. 5.1	# of targeted communities, CBOs, and CSOs with a system/mechanism to track the quality of nutrition and WASH services	0	165	246	246
BD.OP. 5.2	# of targeted communities, CBOs, and CSOs with a system/mechanism to track the quality of nutrition and WASH services targeting children U5, women, adolescent girls, and marginalized groups	0	185	246	246
BD.OP. 5.3	# of CBOs, CSOs trained in systems/tools on how to track the quality of nutrition and WASH services	0	101	547	547

BD.OP.6.1	# of Learning briefs created		11	12	18
BD.OP.6.2	# of learning briefs targeting gender issues and marginalized groups		5	2	3
BD.OP. 6.4	# of field research conducted	0	3	3	3
BD.OP. 7.1	Attendance rate of Right2Grow partners, CSOs and government in (sub)national platforms	0	78%	91%	91%

2.1.4 Mobilizing international development actors

Right2Grow Outcome 4: Donors and international development actors coordinate and collaborate along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition

Interventions

- The Right2Grow consortium in Bangladesh actively engages with international and national development agencies and INGOs. As we approach the last year of the programme, we had meetings with organizations like Save the Children, GAIN, Nutrition International, and ACF to explore future funding collaborations.
- The consortium scheduled an Event titled ‘Consultation Café- Nutrition, WASH, and Child Health Nexus: Lessons from Right2Grow Good Practices’ with relevant development partners (Donors) in December 2024, but it was postponed to February 2025.
- A Learning Sharing workshop was organized for the partner organizations of the Right2Grow Programme on October 21, 2024. In the workshop the Senior Policy Adviser -Agriculture, Food & Nutrition Security, and Private Sector Engagement of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands was invited as a guest to share updates, engage in discussion and advice the consortium. This person was invited as guest for first time and to pay his guidance for further improvement of the programme.

Results

- An integration plan between the CAS-SUN and the government District Nutrition Coordination Committees was adopted along with a quarterly follow-up progress plan of the National Nutrition Plan of Action 2. It was also decided to regularize the District Nutrition Coordination Committee meeting ensuring participation of representatives from 22 designated Ministries. One of the Right2Grow partners (Save the Children) is secretary to CSA-SUN and can therefore position Right2Grow in the organisation.
- There is now a formal strategic partnership between Right2Grow Consortium Bangladesh and the CSA-SUN Bangladesh network. We move together on advocacy interventions, participated and contributed to different levels from national to sub-district levels. Right2Grow consortium partners contributed to developing multi-sectoral action plans.
- In Right2Grow intervention areas, we contributed to developing 50 multi-sectoral action plans at Union parishad, sub-districts, districts, and national levels.

Code	Indicator (disaggregate by sub-indicators where applicable)	Baseline value	Target 2024	Year achievement 4	Cumulative Achievement
R2G.OC.4.1	Degree to which donors along the humanitarian-development nexus are addressing the underlying determinants of undernutrition through commitments and scaling up of initiatives that have proven successful.	NA	0	0	0
BD.IO.G.1	# of meetings involving multisectoral Coordination between humanitarian and development actors and donors on WASH & nutrition to share experiences and Strengthen the evidence base		2	0	1

BD.OP.8.1	# of meetings held with donors to advocate for multisectoral funding in Nutrition		3	0	6
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2.3 Technical support

Under the TSP (Technical Support Plan), the following activities were undertaken and implemented in 2024:

1. Develop a video documentary

A comprehensive video documentary titled ‘Stories of Change’ was developed to showcase the good practices of interventions undertaken by Right2Grow Bangladesh. The documentary serves as advocacy evidence, highlighting good / best practices implemented by stakeholders, with support from the Programme. All consortium partners, CSOs, relevant government and non-government stakeholders, including the UP representatives, participated in the development of this documentary. The video can be found [here](#).

2. Review and revision of the CSO training manual:

A two-day workshop was conducted to review and update the existing CSO manual and accompanying handouts, covering L&A, skills development, mindset change, and BMET issues and module re-printing. Key staff from partner organisations actively participated in reviewing the existing training manual, ensuring it incorporated practical tools and clearer conceptual guidance on L&A, BMET operations, and roles of CSOs and strategies for shifting attitudes and mindsets. Based on the workshop recommendations, the final revised version of the module was developed, printed and distributed to partners, who have since started planning training courses. An English version of the training module was shared with the other countries in Right2Grow to enable them to learn from Bangladesh’s experience.

3. Staff Training to Engage CSOs for Strengthening Nutrition and WASH Services and Governance

The Right2Grow consortium in Bangladesh developed by-laws and operational guidelines to strengthen the role of local CSOs. To equip the key staff of the consortium with a comprehensive understanding of the CSO platforms (its by-laws, legal context, operational guidelines, organization structure, and power-shifting dynamics for effective partnership), a three-day training was conducted for 39 staff members and partners. This training provided the knowledge and skills needed to mentor and empower local CSOs. As a result, the structured mentoring approach ensures long-term institutional growth, fostering a more resilient and self-sustaining CSO network.

4. Training of Trainers (ToT) on Advocacy and lobbying:

A three-day ToT was designed by the consortium to enhance the advocacy and lobbying capacity of Tier-3 CSOs leaders. The trained facilitators subsequently conducted capacity-building sessions for these CSOs leaders, to empower them to engage in local-level advocacy, influence the decision-making process, and drive positive change in the community.

5. Round Table discussion on “the Necessity of the Child Nutrition Budget for Reducing Undernutrition of CU5 with Relevant Policymakers and Stakeholders” was organised at the national level.

The discussion was organised in collaboration with a popular daily News Paper/ Media house named ‘The Daily Prothom Alo, www.prothomalo.com’ and ‘The Daily Jugantor, www.jugantor.com’. A keynote was presented by a national expert, and Right2Grow shared good practices and evidence. Senior officials from three ministries, INGOs, networking agencies, UN Organizations, UP Chairpersons, and UP Admin Officers participated and shared their practices and achievements in reducing the undernutrition of CU5. As a key outcome of the event, the Secretary of Local Government committed to advocating for a child Nutrition Fund. The Right2Grow consortium subsequently submitted a formal proposal to the ministry with a demand letter from the district-level authority. This has led to the Local Government ministry issuing a letter to the Finance Ministry with a request to allocate a Child Nutrition fund to the UPs.

6. Semi-annual workshop for lessons learned to assess, shape, and distribute insights among consortium partners and CSO leaders:

A two-day lesson-learned workshop was organised in October 2024 for consortium partner staff and selected CSO leaders. Each of them shared their learning briefs with at least two other partners resulting in the development of 12 learning briefs. These will be reviewed before being captured in a learning catalogue for broader dissemination.

7. Formation of National CSO Platform

The establishment of the National CSO Platform is in the final stages. Prominent national level personalities and social activists have expressed interest in joining the National Level CSO Platform. A consensus meeting is planned for March or April 2025, to finalise the platform's strategy and operational framework to move forward beyond Right2Grow consortium.

8. Zoom-based capacity enhancement

Quarterly Zoom-based capacity enhancement sessions have been implemented by the PMU for the local CSOs and field staff.

9. Webinar Advocacy campaigns through Stream Yard to share best practices and evidence through nationally prominent figures:

Quarterly webinars and talk shows are organized through Stream Yard to share best practices and evidence through nationally prominent figures from the WASH and Nutrition sectors. Participants include Governmental relevant Officials, Nutritionists, NGOs personalities, Academia, Public representatives, CSOs members, UPs, Media personnel, Social Media users etc. This initiative contributes to stakeholder awareness and capacity enhancement, supporting the sustainability of the Programme beyond 2025.

Monitoring and Evaluation of R2G Consortium

A well-defined and rigorous Monitoring Evaluation and Learning (MEAL) plan has been developed with the assistance of the PMU Monitoring Manager, which is already in place as a management tool for monitoring and evaluating indicator performance and reporting on progress toward achieving its goals. The MEAL plan includes the programme's Theory of Change (TOC) with outcomes, outputs, frequency of the data collection, methods of data collection, sources of data, responsibilities and operational definition of indicators, Data flow and data management and security, and an evaluation plan. Through the MEAL system PMU Monitoring Manager track outcome and report the performance of the indicators on regular basis and periodically.

Conduct process monitoring: Process monitoring conducted to ensure the quality of the program and obtained expected results of the program, understanding challenges and learnings of the programmes by the PMU monitoring and PNGOs Monitoring Specialist. The PMU will providing necessary recommendations based on the process monitoring findings for remedial measure and appropriate decisions.

Participatory Graduation Monitoring: Participatory graduation monitoring is carried out at the community/courtyard level on bi-monthly basis to measure changes at the community level, and data are being collected through using an Android app and MIS system of Max foundation, data are visualized through a dashboard to support stakeholders in accessing information.

Case Story Collection, documentation and dissemination: The consortium partners are collected successful case stories from the project areas and a number of case stories are documented and shared at various levels.

Real-time monitoring system: Consortium partners are used the real-time monitoring system, database, and dashboard which developed by PMU. Through the system, program will know the real situation of the program.

End line Evaluation: The End-line evaluation of the Right2Grow programme is going to conduct by the international lead consulting firm Impact House country consulting firm are in a process of recruitment. Global MEAL Lead and team has taken initiative to hire international lead consult. The PMU is facilitating the end-line evaluation process by the global consultant. The End-line evaluation will use the same methodology and tools at national level to conduct endline survey. It will assess the achievements against the programme objectives and targets and compare with baseline data to see the performance of the program. It also reflects

on the programme's strengths and sustainability, as well as to understand weaknesses, lessons learned and best practices for implementing future programme. Findings of the end-line evaluation will be disseminated at regional and national level with policymakers and other stakeholders by organizing befitting events.

2.4 Cross-cutting themes

2.4.1 Gender, youth, and inclusion

Youth inclusion presents a significant opportunity for Bangladesh, with 26% of the population aged 15-29, offering a valuable "youth dividend" that can drive national development. The female youth population (24.67 million) exceeds that of males (21.23 million) (Source: Population and Housing Census 2022 BBS), creating incentives for both government and private sectors to adopt women-friendly policies. The Right2Grow Programme aligns with these national efforts by promoting the active participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups in its activities, and integrating them into local community organizations (CSOs), and encourages them to become local entrepreneurs, all to contribute to sustainable development in line with the SDGs.

The Right2Grow Programme integrates the inclusion of women, youth, and persons with disabilities into its core design and implementation. A key example of this is the fact that 57% of local CSO members are women, and 95% of the 201 local entrepreneurs/HPAs working with Right2Grow are female.

Efforts to ensure meaningful participation include pre-meeting briefings, accessible venues, and scheduling meetings at convenient times. Facilitators receive training to actively engage underrepresented groups. Leadership, facilitation, and communication training further empower these groups, with 271 women and youth currently serving on various local committees. Adolescent girls and marginalized communities are prioritized in vulnerability mapping and action plans. CSOs actively advocate for the inclusion of people with disabilities in government social safety net Programmes.

By embedding gender equality and inclusion into its core strategy, the Right2Grow Programme, ensures that women, youth, and persons with disabilities are not only beneficiaries but active participants and key contributors to its success.

2.4.1 Climate Change

Bangladesh remains highly vulnerable to climate change, particularly in coastal regions. On May 12, 2024, Cyclone Remal severely affected programme areas in Khulna, Satkhira, Patuakhali, and Barguna districts, causing widespread flooding and significant damage to homes, agricultural lands, and fisheries. This disaster highlighted the urgent need for effective disaster management and resilience-building to mitigate the impacts of climate change on vulnerable communities. The Right2Grow Programme consortium has integrated adaptive measures and contingency planning to address these climate challenges, ensuring continued progress despite environmental uncertainties.

From July to October 2024, the programme faced significant disruptions due to waterlogging, which impacted operations in 8 UPs, out of 40. The excessive rainfall and subsequent flooding caused widespread damage to agricultural fields, fish cages, water sources, and sanitation systems. This resulted in crop losses, reduced food production, and the spread of waterborne diseases. Additionally, waterlogging affected access to clean water, further compromising nutrition and sanitation.

Local CSOs leaders played a vital role in mobilizing resources for immediate relief and advocating for sustainable solutions that address the root causes of waterlogging and enhance long-term climate resilience, such as improved water management practices, better drainage systems, sustainable agricultural techniques, and infrastructure development to reduce the impact of future climate events. Their efforts have influenced

local governments and departments to prioritize climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, contributing to building climate-resilient communities.

3. Impact stories:

Transforming Kalikapur Union: A Story of Change

Introduction

Kalikapur Union, in Patuakhali District’s Sadar Upazila, faced persistent challenges in improving child nutrition despite its vibrant community of 16,111 people. With 1,281 children under five (U5), 225 were identified as stunted, and the Union lacked a dedicated WASH or nutrition budget, urgent action was needed. Though Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) existed, they lacked involvement in addressing maternal and child nutrition.

Right2Grow’s Intervention

In April 2022, the Right2Grow project introduced the concept of a Healthy Union through an inception meeting with the Union Parishad (UP). With technical support, the UP Chairman took leadership, prioritizing services for U5 children and their mothers. CSOs were mobilized, gaining training in advocacy, budget monitoring, and community engagement.



Recognizing the link between hygiene and nutrition absorption, the UPs held open budget meetings, leading to a **BDT 150,000** child-specific nutrition budget (2023-2024)—the first in the Union’s history. Ten vulnerable households with stunted children received nutrition support. Building on this success, **BDT 100,000** was allocated for hygiene materials in 2024, benefiting 145 families with U5 children.

Measurable Change

Kalikapur Union’s transformation was officially recognized when it was declared a Healthy Union. Key improvements include:

Safe water access: Increased from 14,422 to 16,111 people.

- Improved sanitation: Reached 15,313 individuals.
- Hygiene practices: Maxibasin use at dining places rose from 3,085 to 6,183, and hand wash device usage near latrines from 2,225 to 6,062.
- Child health monitoring: All 1,281 U5 children are now regularly measured.
- Maternal healthcare: 484 pregnant and lactating mothers receive ANC and PNC services.
- Menstrual hygiene: 1,102 reproductive women now practice safe disposal of menstrual products.

Sustaining Impact

By embedding CSOs into UP committees, community voices now shape policies. Kalikapur’s success story is a testament to how local leadership, community-driven advocacy, and strategic partnerships can drive sustainable change in child nutrition and health.



4. Linking & Learning

4.1 Linking and Learning Initiatives

During 2024, a number of key learning activities were implemented. A series of learning sessions on the BMET app, the Child Profile Estimation and Costing Model, and the Capacity Enhancement of the CSOs were held. These engagements facilitated knowledge exchange and helped refine approaches to Programme implementation.

The Programme adapted the lessons learned from various learning briefs and past experiences and shared these with the EKN. Insights gained from these learning activities led to improvements in implementation strategies, and monitoring frameworks, ensuring that interventions remained relevant and effective in addressing community needs.

We have learned some lessons by accomplishing key achievements-

- 187 villages were officially declared "Healthy Villages". Four implementing partners made this thing happened, and the respective local government personnel declared those villages by confirming prior joint monitoring and meeting criteria.
- Kalikapur Union under Patuakhali district was recognized as an "Entrepreneur-Led Healthy Union," achieving 100% safe water and sanitation coverage.
- The Right2Grow Programme facilitated a 16% increase in nutrition budgets and a 14% increase in WASH budgets in targeted unions.
- A 15% reduction in stunted children was recorded in the Golkhali Union.
- The BMET app was effectively utilized for budget tracking and advocacy, leading to increased government accountability.

Some of the key learning questions and activities are below:

Learning questions for Y4	Partners & Stakeholders involved	Outputs from learning activities (ex: workshop, learning brief...)	Summary of the key learnings	Changes made or planned changes based on response to learning question
How can CSOs be more effective change makers for/in Right2Grow?	Consortium Partners, UPs, WL, HPAs, LEs, CSOs, UDCC, Union Parishad Standing Committees, DPHE, DH&FP, UNCC	CSOs were empowered through different training courses. CSOs participated in workshops for developing plans at UP and articulated plans.	Training, Learning and information sharing meetings empowered local CSOs to contribute effectively to Programme planning and implementation. Exposure visits inspired organisations in gearing up their ways of working towards sustainable development.	Worked closely with the UP, community, and other stakeholders to review the progress made and define an action plan during the UP-level periodic CSOs progress review and planning meetings. Continuing Participatory monitoring and follow-up activities, to ensure community awareness and practicing small actions around better WASH and Nutrition, have become regular activities of CSOs due to effective mobilization.
How was the 'Entrepreneur-Led Healthy Union' concept implemented?	Local Entrepreneurs, Consortium Partners, LG, Local Administration	Consortium partners CSOs, and the LEs worked together in Kalikapur Union, Patuakhali Sadar; and have utilized U5 child growth measurement data as a tool for change. Government authority (DC, DD-LG, UNO), UP Chairman	Strong local leadership, showed by Mrs. Hasnehena Begum, President of the Patuakhali HPA Association, has led Kalikapur Union in providing WASH and nutrition products to households, particularly those with children under five.	In Kalikapur UP, 100% of households drink and use safe water, 100% of households use sanitary latrines, 93% of households wash hands in maxibasins, and 100% of households follow 360-degree hygiene practices. Moreover, 100% of households ensure year-round nutrition by creating nutrition plots.

Learning questions for Y4	Partners & Stakeholders involved	Outputs from learning activities (ex: workshop, learning brief...)	Summary of the key learnings	Changes made or planned changes based on response to learning question
		<p>have declared Kalikapur as Healthy Union in December 2024.</p>	<p>in 27 villages in Kalikapur. Undernourished children are identified by measuring the weight and height of under-five children in the village. Coordinated efforts by CSO members have led to the incorporation of a nutrition budget for undernourished children in the Union Parishad budget.</p>	<p>New-born babies are being breastfed within one hour of birth. Children are exclusively breastfed up to six months, and children aged 6-23 months are breastfed with complementary foods.</p> <p>The number of stunted children has decreased by 9% (from a baseline of 22% to a current status of 13%). The turnover of the concerned HPA (Hasna Hena) has increased by 28% compared to the baseline. As a result, the HPA (Hasna Hena) and other members of the HPA Association have declared Kalikapur UP an Entrepreneur-Led Healthy Union.</p>
<p>How does Bridge4Voices establish Good Governance by Strengthening Local CSOs Voices to Prevent Undernutrition?</p>	<p>Consortium Partners, CBOs, CSOs, Union Parishad</p>	<p>The Right2Grow programme or Bridge4Voice approach established a good working relationship among CSOs, HPAs/LEs, LEA, and Local government institutions to actively engage in lobbying & advocacy that effectively tackle child undernutrition and respond to real community needs.</p> <p>CSOs facilitated and played a key role in strengthening the accountability of the respective stakeholders) advocacy with and on behalf of rights-holders and held duty-bearers accountable.</p> <p>Local-level identified more than 185 issues were resolved initiated L&A interventions by the CSO platforms @ upazila and Union levels.</p>	<p>The 27 CSO committees of Golkhali Union have successfully advocated for nutrition support in the Union Parishad budget, leading to a 16% increase in WASH and nutrition funding in 2024. Strong collaboration between CSOs and local government, led by Union Chairman Md. Nasir Uddin Howlader has improved child nutrition and WASH services since 2022. The 2023-2024 budget funded nutrition services, handwashing basins, and toilets for 145 families, along with weight and height measurement tools for three community clinics. Regular monitoring via the BMET app ensures accountability and informed decision-making. As a result, WASH conditions have improved, and child malnutrition has decreased in the union.</p>	<p>In Golkhali Union, 27 CSOs have improved services and impacted policies, making Programmes more appropriate and efficient. They developed the financial accountability capacity of CSOs by focusing on Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET) to hold the government accountable. Relationships between communities and the government have improved, increasing transparency and accountability. Golkhali UP distributed hygiene materials and nutrition products to 145 families of under-5 children's mothers in extreme poverty to ensure proper hygiene and better nutrition.</p> <p>There was a 16% budget increase in the nutrition sector compared to the start of the project, with 100% expenditure for FY 2023-2024. Additionally, there was a 14% budget increase in the WASH sector compared to the start of the project, with 100% expenditure for FY 2023-2024. One Healthy Village was declared as per Max Foundation indicators.</p> <p>In Golkhali Union, there was a 15% reduction in stunted children (from a baseline of</p>

Learning questions for Y4	Partners Stakeholders & involved	Outputs from learning activities (ex: workshop, learning brief...)	Summary of the key learnings	Changes made or planned changes based on response to learning question
				29% to a present status of 14%).
How were the child profile estimation and costing model applied to plan for ensuring nutrition for the U5C.	Right2Grow Consortium Partners, BNNC (Bangladesh National Nutrition Council) and the Consulting firm of the study.	Tools questionnaire simplification in few cases. Further orientation of front-line staff engaged in survey	The participants to be questioned might get confused in answering to the questions if they are not properly and simply briefed. "It is essential to properly and simply brief participants before questioning to avoid confusion. Without clear guidance, the responses may not accurately reflect the real status of the child's profile after analysis.	The wordings of few questions have been revised. Partner organisations' relevant staff have been oriented regarding the techniques of questioning. A plan has been made for refresher training (virtual) on child profile and costing tools for front-line staff in 5 Upazila of Right2Grow Programme area.
How can budget allocation and expenditure tracking for nutrition and WASH be improved?	UP Functionaries (Chairmen, UP-Administrative Officer, Assistant Accountant cum Computer Operator), CSOs Leaders, Consortium Partner.	Orientation, training, meeting, and consultative dialogue.	Engaging CSOs in strategic advocacy has led to increased budget allocations for nutrition and WASH services. The BMET tool equipped CSOs with skills to track and analyze budgets, ensuring resources are effectively allocated.	It is a good achievement that CSOs leaders engaged themselves in constructive dialogues with UP leaders and GoB officials for budget for U5C. Their advocacy efforts are directed towards securing increased budget allocations for Nutrition and WASH.

4.2 Lessons learned

Some of the key learnings are:

- The child profile estimates and costing model has proven very successful. It effectively shows the correlation between increased budget allocation for WASH, nutrition and health, and improvements in undernutrition in children under 5. It therefore helps CSOs identify gaps and decision-makers to address gaps and increase the resources available for improving child health.
- **Local Entrepreneurs Associations and Private Sector Links-** LEA platforms developed at 5 Upazilas. 12 MoUs signed between LEAs and Pvt. companies. 201 Entrepreneurs (Male-79 and Female-122) make WASH & Nutrition products/ services available at community level. Collective and associated efforts make more results.
- **Activation of local Committees can play an effective role in strengthening local WASH–Nutrition-Health services systems CSOs.** 435 CSOs leaders are included in different GoB LG-related committees (UDCC, UNCC) and take part in the decision-making process.
- **Government partnership-** Formal engagement of respective government departments stakeholders from the beginning of the programme would have produced more results. At the design level of the programme, there should have more options both programmatic and budgetary (for bearing the costs of events and honorarium) to Involve governmental officials.
- **Synergistic collaborations between NGOs, government entities, and private sector partners** have amplified the impact of Right2Grow. Future scaling efforts should prioritize building and leveraging diverse partnerships to consolidate resources, knowledge, and influence. A national-level convention with the Local Entrepreneurs, LEAs, and Nutrition-WASH – M&C health companies will

be arranged in the final year of the programme. Other key stakeholders like government departments and senior officials will also take part in the day-long event.

4.3 Best practices

The Right2Grow programme has implemented several successful initiatives to improve the WASH and Nutrition outcomes for under-five children. These best practices show scalable and sustainable approaches that enhance budget allocation, community health and local entrepreneurship.

Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking Tool: a tool to enhance budget allocation for Nutrition and WASH for the USC

One of the most impactful interventions under the Right2Grow programme was the introduction of the Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET) tool across 40 Union Parishads. This tool was designed to enhance transparency, accountability, and strategic budget planning for WASH and nutrition programmes.

Through targeted capacity-building efforts, local government officials received training in budget planning, expenditure tracking, and the importance of prioritizing WASH and nutrition in resource allocation. These efforts included training sessions, workshops, and knowledge-sharing activities. Meanwhile, local CSO leaders conducted needs assessments and advocacy campaigns to secure increased budget allocations. In collaboration with community advocates, they engaged in evidence-based lobbying efforts, leading to significant financial commitments from Union Parishads and improved budget alignment with community priorities.

The BMET tool facilitated participatory budget planning, ensuring that local stakeholders—including marginalized groups—had a voice in decision-making. As a result:

- Public budget allocations for WASH and nutrition increased from **1.45% in 2021 to 18.49% in 2024** across 40 Union Parishads.
- **89% of the allocated budget** for Nutrition and WASH at the UP level was effectively utilized.
- Community ownership and participation in budget planning improved, ensuring better access to quality WASH services and nutritious food for vulnerable populations.

This grassroots-centered approach has proven to be both sustainable and impactful, demonstrating how community participation, capacity building, advocacy, and strong monitoring mechanisms can drive significant improvements in resource allocation and service delivery at the Union Parishad level. The BMET tool serves as a **replicable model** for other regions seeking to strengthen their investments in public health and nutrition.

Healthy Village/Community declaration initiatives by LGIs: 187 Villages and 1 UP are declared

Another key initiative successfully implemented across the Programme area was the Healthy Village declaration, which aimed to recognise and incentivise villages that met essential WASH and Nutrition standards. Right2Grow staff, alongside community members, and CSOs actively monitored in community development progress with nine WASH and nutrition indicators. Villages that met the criteria and the cumulative score exceeded 91% compliance, based on the Graduation Monitoring Tool, were recognised as a "Healthy Village" by the local government. As of 2024, the initiative resulted in **187 villages and one entire Union Parishad (Kalikapur, Patuakhali) achieving Healthy Village status**, receiving official certification and public recognition by the top governmental officials at district level, including the Deputy Commissioner (DC) and Deputy Director of Local Government (DD-LG) of Patuakhali, which underscored the importance of leadership support in community health initiatives.

Local Entrepreneurship: a powerful way to ensure nutrition & WASH products and services; and to empower women

Right2Grow also championed Local entrepreneurship as a means to ensure sustained access to essential WASH and nutrition products while economically empowering communities.

Local entrepreneurship links WASH and nutrition products and services, making them accessible and affordable for communities. Through training and market linkages, 201 local entrepreneurs (122 women, 79 men) were equipped with business skills and product knowledge. These entrepreneurs especially women and local Sanimart (ring-slab producers), received entrepreneurship training from Right2Grow Programme consortium, formed an association and secured formal partnerships with 12 private sector companies (such as: national companies like SMC, RFL, ACI, and Square), enabling them to procure goods at competitive prices. The association has applied to the local social cooperative to be registered as an independent organization.

As a result, communities gained improved access to sanitary pads, hygiene kits, Micronutrient powders, Iron-Zinc Tablets, seeds, hand-washing basins, ring slabs, soap, condoms, pills, and women's special clothes and other nutritional supplements, while entrepreneurs achieved financial independence with monthly earnings ranging from BDT 10,000 to 15,000. This initiative not only enhanced product availability but also promoted gender empowerment, as women entrepreneurs gained financial autonomy and increased mobility.

5. Partnership organization and collaboration

5.1 Partnership structure and decision making

In 2024, the collaboration between the Right2Grow Programme Consortium partners and other relevant stakeholders continued effectively, building on the success of the previous year. The Programme in Bangladesh is implemented by six consortium partners who work strategically on thematic areas such as Lobby and Advocacy (L&A), Linking and Learning (L&L), Budget Monitoring and Expenditure Tracking (BMET), Mutual Capacity Development (MCD), and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). At the national level, the consortium partners jointly organize events, combining technical and financial resources from various organizations. A joint action plan is developed for each event, outlining responsibilities, timelines, and roles. The Country Programme Management Unit (PMU) leads the overall coordination, with each consortium partner requiring thematic support to implement activities. Max Foundation, as the lead partner in Bangladesh, collaborates with a local NGO, the Social Development Agency (SDA), to implement the Programme and provide technical and capacity enhancement assistance to SDA. At the national level, the consortium partners jointly organize events, combining technical and financial resources from various organizations. A joint action plan is developed for each event, outlining responsibilities, timelines, and roles. Save the Children leads the Lobby and Advocacy efforts, advocating for increased budget allocations for child nutrition and addressing undernutrition among children under five years old. They also facilitate advocacy with the private sector and the government. ACF, in partnership with the local NGO JAGO NARI, leads the Linking and Learning (L&L) thematic area, strengthening programmatic learning through workshops and seminars. THP focuses on Mutual Capacity Development (MCD), while World Vision concentrates on media outreach, particularly local media coverage.

Through mutual respect and alignment of goals, the partnership between consortium partners, CSOs, the private sector, and the government maximizes the Programme's impact, promoting positive change and sustainable development at the grassroots level.

5.2 Collaboration with other strategic partnerships and Programmes

Since its inception in 2021, the Right2Grow consortium in Bangladesh has collaborated with various organizations and programmes by establishing strategic partnerships, especially with local CSOs and private sector. The Right2Grow consortium has developed strategic partnership through signed MoUs separately with CSA-SUN, CCHST, BNNC, and BSAF to extend its collaboration with these renowned organizations. In the case of CSA-SUN, we have been moving jointly for advocacy at the national level, engaging and contributing to making effective events organized by Right2Grow. CSA-SUN provided technical assistance to review draft concept notes, study reports, etc. Furthermore, Right2Grow trained CSA - SUN partners' leaders at 2 divisional about the Child profile estimation and costing model tools as part of capacity enhancement and creating nation-wide campaigns.

BNNC collaborated with Right2Grow to conduct research on child profile estimation and costing model development for children under five years old. The findings have been used as evidence to advocate for increased government allocations for child nutrition. Following the successfully conducted research, BNNC developed and provided tools and guidelines to the Right2Grow consortium for the collection of data at the field level. Based on these tools, the consortium organized and facilitated orientation for field-level (frontline) government health staff and the CSOs leaders. Mid-2025, Right2Grow and the BNNC will organize an experience-sharing workshop on practicing under five children profile estimations and developing costing model-related learnings. Based on the workshop findings, BNNC will develop a plan to scale up this approach

in other sub-districts. CCHST has supported local communities and CSOs by providing technical assistance to Right2Grow to perform regular growth monitoring and promotion sessions of CU5. All 116 community clinics under Right2Grow are following government instructions accordingly. And ensured the availability of the micro-nutrient powder (for CU5) and relevant medicines (depending on government supply).

BSAF (Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum - a forum of around 300 NGOs working for children's rights) is a strategic partner of Right2Grow that has collaborated to extend the nutrition advocacy-related movement in Bangladesh. Together with ASAF and the government Social Service directorate organized a national event with multi-sectoral stakeholders to jointly for the betterment of distressed children. Right2Grow Consortium and Max Foundation Bangladesh shared their experiences, good practices, learnings, challenges, and probable ways to work together, etc. BSAF representatives also took part in the different advocacy events at national and sub-national levels.

In addition, strong informal collaboration is maintained with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, and Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) to increase the nutrition and health service for children and families.

At the local level partner NGOs and the CSOs platforms played their due role in facilitating regular meetings of the UNCC, DNCC, and UDCC under multisectoral engagement.

5.3 Collaboration with the private sector

Throughout 2024, engagement of the private sector was emphasized following the recommendations from the MTR report. Consortium partners organized and facilitated capacity-strengthening training for the LEs and HPAs in 2024.

To identify effective methods for sustainable engagement and collaboration with the private sector, Right2Grow carried out a research study titled *“Locally-led research for advocacy and “trio fantastico approach for Understanding the Role of Local Entrepreneurs to Improve Nutrition Status, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Conditions of under 5 Children in the Coastal Areas of Bangladesh”*.

Furthermore, a Local Entrepreneurs Association was formed in five sub-districts, representing the entrepreneurs in that area. 12 MoUs were signed between these Local Entrepreneurs' Associations and private companies, like RFL, SMC, Meghna Group, ACF, Lal Teer, SQUARE, and MXN. These initiatives provided LEs and HPAs with access to goods from these companies through the association on favorable terms. The associations now meet quarterly to review the demand and supply needs of its members and take steps to address any gaps. To facilitate demand creation and supply of goods and services at the community level, the CSO Platform signed an MoU with the Entrepreneurs Associations. This aims to create opportunities for the Les and HPAs to supply quality products and services at competitive prices. Furthermore, Union Parishads play an important role in monitoring Les and HPAs to ensure the quality of goods at competitive prices.

This synergy between CSOs, entrepreneurs, and the community has improved the lives of households by fulfilling their demands. Moreover, they are inclined to invest more in WASH and nutrition products to create a healthy environment in their homes. It also creates a self-sustaining system, as the entrepreneurs have an incentive to keep pushing communities to buy more healthy products and services.

5.4 Collaboration with the Dutch Embassy

Right2Grow Bangladesh Programme Management Unit (PMU) maintains professional, systematic and continuous communication with the Dutch Embassy in Bangladesh through the Country Director of Max Foundation Bangladesh.

Key communication strategies include:

Sharing a one pager of monthly key achievements: The PMU compiles and shares a summary of monthly accomplishments with the Dutch Embassy to ensure transparency, accountability, and opportunities for joint action and learning

Quarterly Newsletter: The PMU developed a quarterly newsletter about different events happening at local, regional and national level and shares it with the Dutch Embassy.

Events participation: Right2Grow organized a reflection and learning meeting in Dhaka, bringing together consortium partners and representatives from the Dutch Embassy. These meetings foster learning and knowledge exchange, where consortium members presented their experiences, lessons learned, challenges encountered, and best practices. The event served as a platform for meaningful dialogue, where participants shared insights on effective strategies and areas needing improvement. The EKN representatives were invited and participated in various national-level events organized by Right2Grow, e.g., Advocacy event, learning sharing event, research report sharing/dissemination events, and Round-table meeting.

Publications sharing: Right2Grow developed and produced different publications, including- research reports, policy briefs, advocacy materials, learning documents, good practices, success stories, and a video documentary. These publications are shared with the the Dutch Embassy in Bangladesh.

Field visits: Occasionally and/or as desired by the Embassy, field visits were organized for the officials of the Dutch Embassy in Bangladesh. Ms. Inge Klaassen, the First Secretary to the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Bangladesh made a field visit to Patuakhali Sadar in 2024.

6. Reflection

6.1 Programme progress

In 2024, the Right2Grow partners successfully implemented most of the planned activities, with only a few exceptions. The political turmoil in the country after July caused delays in those activities that were planned jointly with government departments, but the consortium adaptively adjusted the changed situation by making some timely changes.

Despite some challenges, the programme has achieved remarkable progress in increasing the allocation of budgets from 1.45% (2021) to 18.49% (2024) in the nutrition sector in Union Parishads. Increased budget for U5Cs of marginalized households, declaring a significant number of communities as healthy villages, and reducing the stunting rate from 36.2% to 23.4% and underweight rate from 26.5% to 18% between 2022 and 2024 in Right2Grow working area.

Right2Grow has been highly successful in transforming local CSOs into active watchdogs within their communities. These organizations now play a critical role in monitoring the implementation of development projects, ensuring accountability in local government, and raising awareness on issues such as undernutrition. With a deeper understanding of citizen rights, responsibilities, and governance structures, CSOs have become catalysts for positive change, promoting transparency and community-driven initiatives. This collaboration has fostered transparency, accountability, and sustainable solutions at the local level. Furthermore, more than 435 local CSO Leaders included in different local government committees and taking acting part in the decision-making process.

Right2Grow has also significantly improved access to essential services for vulnerable households, including food, sanitary latrines, hygiene kits, tub-wells, and enrolment in government safety net schemes through Union Parishads. Collaborating with local CSOs allowed Right2Grow to adopt an inclusive approach, specifically targeting the poorest households. By creating comprehensive beneficiary lists with Union Parishads, the programme ensured that essential resources reached those most in need.

Local advocacy efforts led by CSOs have created a positive shift in the provision of primary health care (PHC) services. Through the support of Union Parishads, 116 Community Clinics were equipped with the necessary medical supplies, addressing gaps in government provision. Regular joint monitoring by CSOs and UP representatives, along with sharing findings during Union Development Coordination Committee (UDCC) meetings, has created an enabling environment for improved primary healthcare delivery. As a result, there has been an increase in patient visits to PHCs, contributing to the prevention of undernutrition.

6.2 Partnership collaboration

Collaboration is a cornerstone of Right2Grow's success, both in-country and in its linkages with the Right2Grow global team. In 2024, the team has made significant progress in fostering partnerships, aligning efforts, and leveraging collective expertise to address malnutrition. However, there are areas where improvements can be made to further enhance collaboration and maximize impact. Below is a reflection on what is going well, what could be improved, and how:

In-Country Collaboration

What is Going Well:

1. Strong Partnerships with Government:
 - o Right2Grow has successfully built strong partnerships with key government ministries (e.g., MoHFW, MoLGRDC), which have been instrumental in driving policy changes, securing budgetary commitments, and implementing community-led interventions.

- The inclusion of child nutrition in the election manifestos of major political parties is a testament to the effectiveness of these partnerships.
- 2. Multi-Stakeholder Engagement:
 - The initiative has effectively engaged a diverse range of stakeholders, including government officials, CSOs, media, and community leaders. Platforms like the Roundtable Discussion at Daily Prothom Alo have facilitated dialogue and collaboration among these actors.

What Could Be Improved and How:

1. Strengthening Local Government Engagement:
 - While collaboration with national-level government bodies is strong, engagement with local government institutions could be further enhanced.
 - How to Improve: Conduct targeted capacity-enhancement workshops for local government officials and involve them more actively in planning and decision-making processes.
2. Expanding Private Sector Involvement:
 - The private sector remains an underutilized partner in Right2Grow's efforts. Engaging businesses, especially those in the food and health sectors, can bring additional resources and innovation to the initiative.
 - How to Improve: Develop a strategy to engage the private sector, highlighting the mutual benefits of collaboration, such as corporate social responsibility (CSR) opportunities and market potential for nutritious and WASH products like micronutrient powder, sanitary napkin, hand washing basin, soap, ring slab for latrine etc.

Collaboration with the Global Team (Country-Global Linkage)

What Went Well:

1. Technical Support and Knowledge Sharing:
 - The global team has provided valuable technical support, particularly in areas like evidence generation (e.g., Child Profile Estimation, Costing Model) and advocacy strategy development. This support has strengthened the capacity of the in-country team and enhanced the quality of interventions.

What Could Be Improved and How:

1. Strengthening Communication and Coordination:
 - While technical support and resource mobilization are strong, there is room to improve communication and coordination between the global and in-country teams. This could help address challenges more promptly and ensure smoother implementation.
 - How to Improve: Establish regular check-ins and feedback loops between the global and in-country teams, using digital tools to facilitate real-time communication.

6.3 Sustainability and local ownership

The efforts to promote sustainability and local ownership beyond 2025 will be pivotal in ensuring the lasting impact of Right2Grow. Through robust capacity-enhancement, empowerment initiatives, and partnership strengthening, Right2Grow has cultivated a culture of ownership and accountability among communities, CSOs, UPs, and Government.

The programme invested significantly in enhancing the capacities of communities and local organizations, equipping them with the necessary skills, knowledge, and resources to independently drive sustainable development initiatives. By fostering participatory decision-making processes and inclusive governance structures, Right2Grow empowered communities to lead their development agendas and advocate for their rights effectively. Collaborative efforts between UPs, CSOs, and CBOs enabled the leveraging of diverse expertise and resources to tackle complex challenges and achieve common objectives. These interventions have laid a solid foundation for sustainability and local ownership, setting the stage for continued progress beyond 2025.

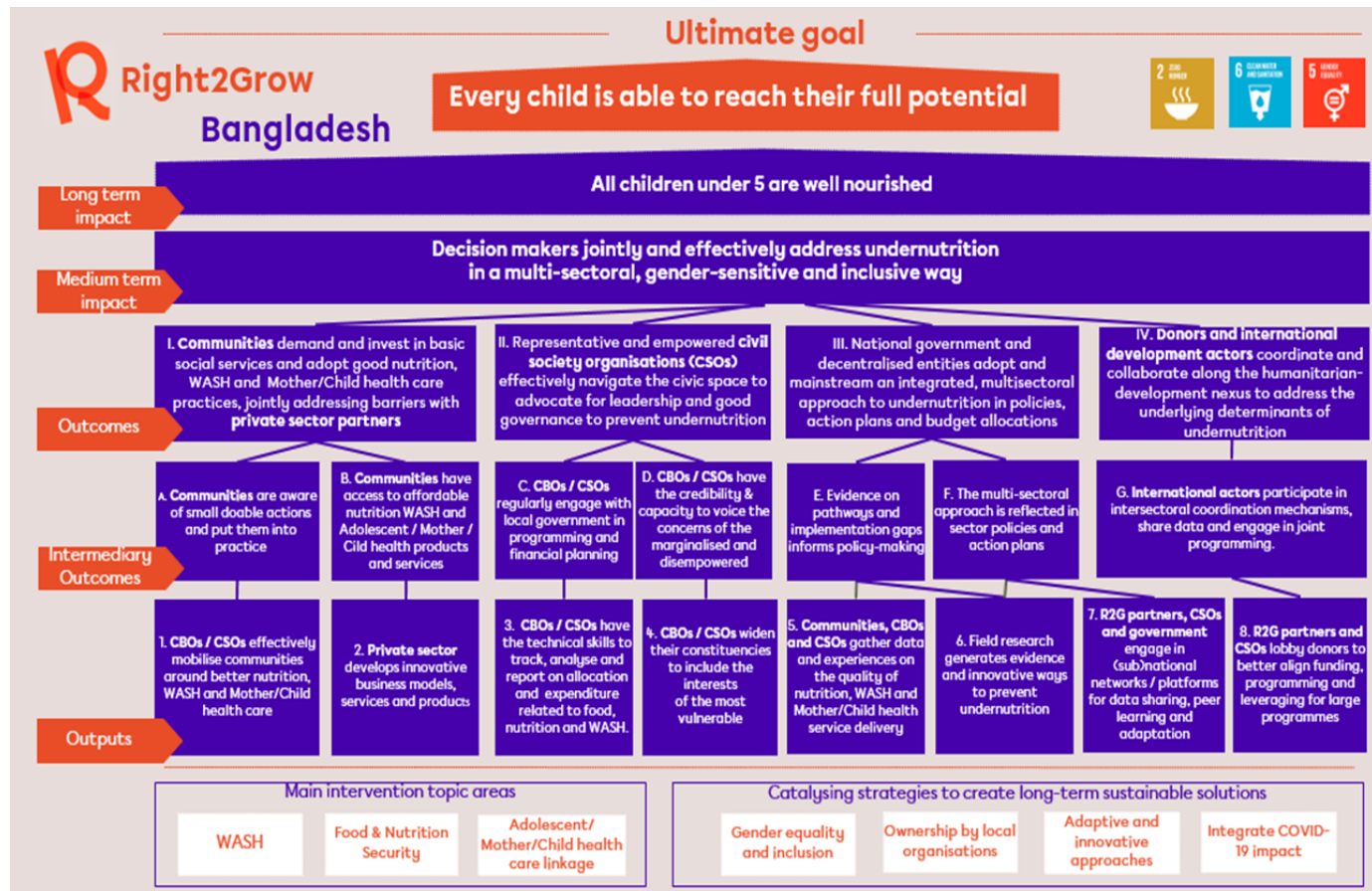
As the programme nears its completion in 2025, there are key gaps that have our attention to ensure a seamless transition and the sustained takeover of responsibilities by local stakeholders. Focus areas for implementation and close out in 2025 include:

Strengthening Capacity: Enhancing the capacity of local CSOs and CBOs in areas such as financial management, monitoring and evaluation, and Programme design to ensure effective independent Programme implementation.

Documentation and Knowledge Sharing: Prioritizing the documentation of best practices, lessons learned, and success stories to facilitate knowledge transfer and continuity of successful approaches post-2025.

Annexes

Annex 1: Country ToC



Annex 2: Results Framework Right2Grow Bangladesh

Particulars	Indicators number	Indicators	Baseline	Overall target (2021-2025)	Target for 2024	Year 4 achievement	Cumulative achievement
Outcome							
Outcome 1. Communities demand and invest in basic social services and adopt good nutrition and WASH practices, jointly addressing barriers with private sector partners	R2G.OC.1.1	# of actions in which communities formulate demands for improved (WASH and nutrition) services	0		29	65	86
	R2G.OC.1.2	# of barriers to good nutrition and WASH services successfully addressed by joint community, government and/or private sector initiatives	0		32	45	65
	R2G.OC.1.3	% of households practiced improved WASH and able to consume Nutritional facilities.	47%		48%	87.7 %	87.7%
Outcome 2. Representative and empowered civil society organisations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition	R2G.OC.2.1	# of times that CSOs succeed in creating space for CSO demands and positions through agenda setting, influencing the debate and/or creating space to engage national level	0	160	37	78 SCS041:10 and SCS042: 68)	185
	R2G.OC.2.2	# of advocacy initiatives carried out by CSOs, for, by or with their membership/ constituency	0	50	21	48	143
	R2G.OC.2.3	Established of a common CSO platform regarding WASH and nutrition	0		4	101	107
Outcome 3. National government and decentralized entities adopt and mainstream an integrated, multispectral approach to undernutrition in	R2G.OC.3.1	Improved degree of social accountability	NA		0	0	0
	R2G.OC.3.2	# of laws, policies and norms/attitudes, blocked, adopted, improved for sustainable and inclusive development	0	3	2	3	4
	R2G.OC.3.3	% of public budgets allocated and implemented for nutrition and WASH services (increased funding).	1.45%		3%	18%	18%

Particulars	Indicators number	Indicators	Baseline	Overall target (2021-2025)	Target for 2024	Year 4 achievement	Cumulative achievement
policies, action plans and budget allocations							
Outcome 4. Donors and international development actors coordinate and collaborate along the humanitarian-development nexus to address the underlying determinants of undernutrition	R2G.OC.4.1	Degree to which donors along the humanitarian-development nexus are addressing the underlying determinants of undernutrition through commitments and scaling up of initiatives that have proven successful.	NA	0	0	0	0
Intermediate Outcome			Baseline	Overall target (2021-2025)	Target 2024	Total achievement	
Intermediate outcome A: Communities are aware of small doable actions and put them into practice	BD.IO.A.1	% of households who practice small doable actions consistently and correctly	5.3%		12%	81%	81%
	BD.IO.A.2	% of community that report positive WASH and nutrition practices changed	0		24%	89%	89%
Intermediate outcome B: Communities have access to affordable nutrition and WASH products and services	BD.IO.B.1	% of community people received WASH and nutrition services from the government and/or private service provider agencies	12.3%		19%	64%	64%
	BD.IO.B.2	% of total cost of services and products borne by communities and out-of-pocket payments	63.4%		56%	92.2%	92.2%
Intermediate outcome C: CBOs and CSOs regularly engage with local government in Programmement and financial planning	BD.IO.C.1	# of CBOs and CSOs which are consulted during (multi) annual Programmement and budgeting exercises	0		472	779	779
	BD.IO.C.2	Degree to which CSOs champion a learning-focused approach that incentivises governments to exchange challenges and successes	0		0	0	Not measured

Particulars	Indicators number	Indicators	Baseline	Overall target (2021-2025)	Target for 2024	Year 4 achievement	Cumulative achievement
	BD.IO.C.3	# of CSOs which have developed and rolled out integrated nutrition and WASH advocacy strategies	0		472	779	779
	BD.IO.C.4	# of UP practiced participatory planning and budgeting as per government circular	0		26	40	40
Intermediate outcome D: CBOs and CSOs have the legitimacy & capacity to voice the concerns of the marginalized and disempowered	R2G.IO.D.1	% marginalized and disempowered people access to services increased	NA		11%	72%	72%
	BD.IO.D.2	# of CSOs with increased lobbying and advocacy capacities	0		8	8 (74)	74 nos. can able to move forward independently.
Intermediate outcome E: Evidence on pathways and implementation gaps informs policymaking	BD.IO.E.1	# of evidence-based research documents have been communicated to policy makers	0		3	7	7
	BD.IO.E.2	An open data platform has been established and policy makers used that information to make decisions	0		2	0	1 (Considered BMET apps practicing and have access to the concerned GoB officials.
	BD.IO.E.3	# local (UP) and national level monitoring cell established to increase accountability and evidence-based decision-making	20		22	40	40
Intermediate outcome F: The multisectoral approach is reflected in sector policies and action plans	BD.IO.F.1	# of Union Parishad and sub-districts have multi-sectoral joint action plan to address child nutrition	0		37	38	38
	BD.IO.F.2	Multi-sectoral approach reflected in Bangladesh National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN)	0		0	-	1
Intermediate outcome G: International actors participate in	BD.IO.G.1	# of meetings involving multi-sectoral coordination between humanitarian and development actors and donors on WASH	0		2	0	1

Particulars	Indicators number	Indicators	Baseline	Overall target (2021-2025)	Target for 2024	Year 4 achievement	Cumulative achievement
intersectoral coordination mechanisms, share data and engage in joint Programmemeing		& nutrition to share experiences and strengthen the evidence base					
Output				Total Target	Target 2024	Total achievement	
Output 1: CBOs effectively mobilise communities around better nutrition, WASH and Mother/Child health care	R2G.OP. 1.1	# of CSOs involved in Right2Grow	0	7	7	7	7
Output 2: Private sector develops innovative business models, services and products	BD.OP. 2.1	# Private sector actors working to increase affordable access to health and nutrition services	0		96	150	150
Output 3: CBOs and CSOs have the technical skills to track, analyse and report on allocation and expenditure	BD.OP. 3.1	# of CBOs and CSOs trained on basic Public Health expenditure tracking	0		475	466	475
	BD.OP. 3.2	# of CBOS and CSOs with technical skills on the track, analyse and reporting public sector allocation expenditure	0		555	544	555
Output 4: CBOs and CSOs widen their constituencies to include the interests of the most vulnerable group	BD.OP. 4.1	# of CBOs and CSOs targeting the issues related to adolescent girls, women and most vulnerable groups	0		579	575	575
	BD.OP. 4.2	# CBOs and CSOs who have conducted vulnerability mapping for marginalized groups, adolescent girls and women	0		559	561	561
Output 5: Communities, CBOs and CSOs gather data and experiences on	BD.OP. 5.1	# of targeted communities, CBOs, and CSOs with a system/mechanism to track the quality of nutrition and WASH services	0		165	246	246

Particulars	Indicators number	Indicators	Baseline	Overall target (2021-2025)	Target for 2024	Year 4 achievement	Cumulative achievement
the quality of nutrition, WASH and Mother/Child health service delivery	BD.OP. 5.2	# of targeted communities, CBOs, and CSOs with a system/mechanism to track the quality of nutrition and WASH services targeting children U5, women, adolescent girls, and marginalized groups	0		185	246	246
	BD.OP. 5.3	# of CBOs, CSOs trained in systems/tools on how to track the quality of nutrition and WASH services	0		101	547	547
Output 6: Field research study generates evidence and innovative ways to prevent undernutrition	BD.OP. 6.1	# of Learning briefs created	0		11	12	18
	BD.OP. 6.2	# of learning briefs targeting gender issues and marginalized groups	0		5	2	3
	BD.OP. 6.4	# of field research conducted	0		3	3	3
Output 7: Right2Grow partners, CSOs and government engage in (sub)national platforms for data sharing, peer learning and adaptation	BD.OP. 7.1	Attendance rate of Right2Grow partners, CSOs and government in (sub)national platforms	0		78%	91%	91%
Output 8: Right2Grow partners and CSOs lobby donors to better align funding, Programmemeing and leveraging for large Programmes.	BD.OP. 8.1	# of meetings held with donors to advocate for multi-sectoral funding in nutrition	0		3	0	6

Right2Grow contributions to MFA IGG indicators

IGG Indicator	Definition	Right2Grow contributions
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		Country	Indicator	2024 achievement	Cumulative	Notes
A.2.2: Number of people directly reached with activities aimed at temporary/partial improvement of their nutritional situation	People reached in a targeted way (i.e. the people who are reached or can be – identified) with an intervention that temporarily and/or partially benefits their nutritional situation	Bangladesh	Number of people directly reached with activities aimed at temporary/partial improvement of their nutritional situation	139,672	185,476	
A.2.3: Number of people indirectly reached	People reached in a non-targeted way (i.e. the people who are reached are not – or cannot be – identified) with an intervention that may bring benefits, but does not structurally contribute to improving their nutritional status. Example: Radio Programme	Bangladesh	Number of people indirectly reached	257,717	282,982	
2.1: Number of companies engaged in inclusive agribusiness		Bangladesh	Number of companies engaged in inclusive agribusiness	14	19	ACI, RFL, AKIJ, SQUARE, Megna Group, Lal Teer Seed, Syngenta Bangladesh.
4.1: Number of reforms/improvements in major (inter)national FNS policies/laws/ regulations (same as SCS 2)		Bangladesh	Number of reforms/improvements in major (inter)national FNS policies/laws/ regulations	3	4	
a. # of people with safely managed drinking water (SDG 6.1.1)		Bangladesh	# of people with safely managed drinking water	288,229	397,794	
b.# of people with safely managed sanitation services (SDG 6.1.2)*		Bangladesh	# of people with safely managed sanitation services	274,028	396,651	
c.# of people living in open defecation-free communities		Bangladesh	# of people living in open defecation-free communities	181,042	555,247	

Annex 3: Outcome Harvesting Statements

Nr	Outcome title	Relevance of the outcome	R2Gs contribution to the outcome	Evidence change for and contribution	External validators	Gender
1 THP	In August 2024, 14 Union Parishads (local government institutes) provided food packages from the Upazila Parishad budget among 98 malnourished children's mothers whereas 95 under five children of R2G registered malnourished children according to the submitted undernutrition child household list by the respective CSOs to overcome children	This achievement relates to Outcome 2 of Right2Grow TOC "CSOs are able to successfully lobby with Union Parishads to allocate the budgets and provide food packages to reduce undernutrition of community children."	CSOs prepared hardcore poor households and malnourished child list through household visit during GMP session and attended community level different events. Right2Grow capacitated CSOs how to make advocacy to allocate budget in Union Parishad for nutrition. CSOs handed over these children lists to sensitized Union Parishad. From CSOs advocacy, Union Parishads distributed food packages allocated from Upazila Parishad to listed malnourished children's mothers. Each food package contained noodles, sugar, milk powder, rice, biscuit, semolina, vermicelli, dates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand over pictures • Distribution Master Roll 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women members are in built with CSOs. • Food packages are distributed to under 5 children's mothers.

	<p>undernutrition in the community.</p>		<p>14 Union Parishads distributed 95 food packages to mothers for overcoming undernutrition of under 5 children in the community. All 95 recipients were female as identified child mother and food packages were distributed among mothers by Union Parishad in presence of CSOs members.</p>			
<p>2 THP</p>	<p>In September 2024, Rangpur Union Parishad and in November 2024, Raghunathpur Union Parishad provided sanitary pads to 727 girls at 04 secondary schools (1 in Rangpur union and 3 in Raghunathpur union) as an effort of CSOs engagement with local government in financial</p>	<p>This achievement relates to Outcome 2 of Right2Grow ToC “CSOs are empowered and representative to effectively advocate in local government financial planning and expenditure to adopt WASH practices for</p>	<p>CSOs identified the necessity of hygiene practices for adolescent girls at school’s level. As marginalized community are not aware of their girl’s hygiene management. CSOs made lobby and advocacy with Union Parishads for providing sanitary pads at institutional level for maximum girls under hygiene practices. Rangpur and Raghunathpur Union Parishads allocated a budget respectively 75,000 taka (BDT) and 93,000 taka (BDT) and provided sanitary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand over pictures • Pad distribution register • Scholl register 	<p>NA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women members are in built with CSOs. • Adolescent Girls received sanitary products at school.

	planning and expenditure around better WASH.	marginalized community”.	pads in four schools named Rangpur Salua Purna Chandra Secondary School, Kumrail Girls School, Shahpur Secondary School, Krishnanagar Secondary School among 727 adolescent girls.			
3 THP	July to November 2024, Rudaghara, Rangpur, Dhamalia, Raghunathpur and Atlia Union Parishads provided rings slabs separately (latrine equipment) as a pit latrines to 240 the vulnerable households to ensure proper sanitation practices for disadvantaged people through lobby and	This achievement relates to Outcome 2 of Right2Grow ToC “CSOs are empowered and representative to effectively advocate in local government financial planning and expenditure to meet identified community demand on WASH” issue.	05 CSOs under five union Rudaghara, Rangpur, Dhamalia, Raghunathpur and Atlia placed community demand at Union Parishads for budget allocation on sanitation. According to CSO demand and community need, Union Parishads allocated budget and provided 240 sets of rings slabs to the vulnerable households (hhs) at Rudaghara (50 hhs), Rangpur (100 hhs), Dhamalia (20 hhs), Raghunathpur (61 hhs) and Atlia (9 hhs). These vulnerable households’ list was prepared and submitted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand over pictures • Distribution rings slabs register at Union level. • Distribution Register at CSO level 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women members are in built with CSOs. • Women engaged in distribution process.

	advocacy of CSOs with union parishads.		earlier to Union Parishads by respective CSOs. To achieve the result, CSOs closely lobbied and advocated Union Parishads strongly on it.			
4 THP	In July 2024, CSO leaders of Raghunathpur Union motivated local elites at union level to provide support to 55 HH Hand washing device, CSO leaders able to collect hand washing device from local elites and distribute hand washing devices among the poor HH through sponsorship for ensuring hand washing practices among marginalized	This achievement relates to Outcome 1 of Right2Grow ToC conducted awareness session on hygiene practice “communities adopt hygiene practices due to easy access to hygiene products through CSO’s community mobilization”.	CSO identified the importance of hand washing practices as there exists lack of capacity among marginalized communities people to manage hygiene device. CSO motivated community philanthropists in unions to provide hand washing devices at community level for vulnerable people under hygiene practices. They managed to collect 9315 taka (BDT) and then provided 55 hand washing devices to 55 community people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand over pictures • Hand washing distribution register doc • Union level hand washing distribution register 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSOs are Women members they took the initiative. • Women engaged in the distribution process .

	community people.					
5 THP	August to December 2024, four Union Parishads (Rudaghara, Ghutudia, Dhamalia and Magurkhali Union Parishads) installed 16 deep tubewells at their respective unions because of 04 union CSOs advocating on the issues to the Union Parishads.	This achievement relates to Outcome 2 of Right2Grow TOC “CSOs successfully advocated to Union Parishads to allocate budget on safe drinking water”.	CSOs identified and placed community demand at Union Parishads for budget allocation and installation of drinking water tub-well. The community people faced scarcity of safe drinking water due to water salinity and insufficient drinking water. Four Union Parishads spent budget and installed 16 deep tubewells from their budget at their respective unions (Rudaghara- 6, Ghutudia- 3, Dhamalia- 3, and Magurkhali- 4). A total of 1370000 taka (BDT) is spent to install tub well at community level. To achieve the result, CSOs closely work /lobbied and advocated with Union Parishads regularly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand over pictures • Handover and distribution register. 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women members are in built with CSOs. • Women engaged in water points installation.
6 THP	In November 2024, climate friendly solar powered safe	This achievement relates to	Community and CSO members installed climate friendly solar powered safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand over pictures 	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women members are in built with VDT.

<p>water center installed at Kadamtola village in Rudaghara union which was financed by the Relief Bangladesh with the help of a Shushilan NGO and Union Parishad. The water center is managed by respective VDT members and community. CSO has advocated and demanded to the UP.</p>	<p>Outcome 2 of Right2Grow ToC "CSO/VDT effectively navigates the civic space to advocate for leadership"</p>	<p>water for safe drinking water in different village. By this time CSO leaders communicated with Shushilan NGO, since it was working on drinking water supply as well provided safe water service at community. Then CSO organized a discussion meeting between Shushilon representative, Union Parishad members, and the community raised their demand regarding safe water. Based on their demand, approximately 8 lacs (BDT) spent by the concern organization through UP. One of the community people provided the land. Its water capacity is 16000 liters. Miksimil Kadamtola CSO are playing key role to maintenance the water center and ensuring the access of safe drinking water to hard core people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members list 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female headed households are prioritized in service delivery.
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<p>1 WV</p>	<p>In July 2024, Debhata Union Parishad (UP) Chairman, with support from the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), established a motor-driven water purifying plant in Azizpur village of Debhata Union where costing BDT 3,60,000 which was the first motor-driven water purifying plant in the area. The plant now supplies safe drinking water to 300 families who previously faced health risks from unsafe water sources.</p>	<p>This outcome is relevant to the 2nd outcome of Right2Grow ToC i.e. Representative and empowered civil society organizations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition.</p>	<p>Right2Grow project has conducted a two-days long training on Healthy Village at Debhata Union covering CSO leaders and members in April 2024. Participants raised high importance on safe water in the that training and also learnt about the important of healthy village.</p> <p>Besides, they continue lobby and advocacy with local government and DPHE adhering with Union Parishad and placed demand in UP standing committee meeting on February and May 2024 as well as Upazila Development Coordination Committee (UDCC) meeting in last February and June 2024 as well as made subsequent influence to UP chairman to take quick steps to solve the safe water problem of the community.</p>	<p>Evidence for change: Photo of water filter Evidence for contribution: Report and Photo of Healthy village Training</p>	<p>Firoz Shah Alom, Town Shreepur Sobuj Sangha Club, Debhata Mob.01736828511 Md Azgor Ali UP member Mob:01735261001</p>	<p>Women, Men, adolescents, children, people with disability and all group of people are getting good benefit</p>
<p>2 WV</p>	<p>During June to July 2024, five water tanks that capacity 3000 liters each have been</p>	<p>This outcome is relevant to the 2nd outcome of Right2Grow ToC</p>	<p>With a facilitative support from CSO leaders, Noapara UP organized Upazila Development Coordination Committee (UDCC) meeting in last</p>	<p>Evidence for change</p>	<p>Md Nazrul Islam</p>	<p>All family members irrespective of male, female,</p>

	<p>provided by Noapara Union Parishad (UP) having support from Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) where liaison between Local Government and DPHE were maintained by CSO leaders. The villagers of Ghonapara and Bejorait were received those water tanks. Now about 250 families stopped collection of pond water and reserving rain water during monsoon for drinking and cooking purpose.</p>	<p>i.e. Representative and empowered civil society organisations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition</p>	<p>February, June, Aug and Nov. 2024 where CSO leaders verbally and written demand for water tanks for the said villages to store safe rain water. As CSOs equipped with improved advocacy knowledge from quarterly progress sharing and review meetings then they planned for action to collect water tank through advocacy. Accordingly, advocacy enforced and put in place covering Union Parishad (UP) and Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE). On a certain stage of advocacy progress, the plan has been materialized by distributing water tanks by DPHE and UP together.</p>	<p>Photo of Water tanks Evidence for contribution Meeting minutes Meeting minutes of UDCC</p>	<p>CSO-Ghonapara Sonali Vobishhat Unnayan Sangha Mob No. 01720589984</p>	<p>adolescent, and children are engage and benefitted.</p>
<p>3 WV</p>	<p>In early July 2024, the Chairman and an administrative officer of Parulia Union Parishad prioritized resolving the Majparulia village waterlogging issue in response to substantial</p>	<p>This outcome is relevant to the 2nd outcome of Right2Grow ToC i.e. Representative and empowered civil society organizations (CSOs) effectively</p>	<p>Quarterly meeting with CSOs organized by the project which was created opportunity to identify advocacy agenda considering contemporary community health and WASH problem. The meeting, which was held on March, June, Sept & Dec 2024 that enable the CSOs to bring this issue, they discussed and</p>	<p>Evidence for change: Photo of Evidence</p>	<p>Safayat Hossain, CSO leader- Parulia Jubok Samity, Parulia Mob no. 01717008484</p>	<p>All community people both male and female, adolescent and children are being benefited and enjoying</p>

	<p>CSO demand. The UP allocated BDT 150,000 (one lac and fifty thousand) and used it wisely, resulting in the problem being solved, community suffering being alleviated, waterborne infections being prevented, and mobility being improved— particularly for children whose lives had been badly disturbed. This was the first time Union Parishad had pushed such a demand from the CSO.</p>	<p>navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition.</p>	<p>considered the issue as good advocacy agenda. The advocacy sensitized once the agenda placed verbally in Union Development Coordination committee meeting and lastly advocacy win thus, solved the problem as well.</p>	<p>Report of CSO quarterly meeting</p>	<p>Prabir Hazari Administrative Officer, Parulia Union Parishad 01970211818</p>	<p>healthy WASH environment.</p>
<p>4 WV</p>	<p>In October 2024 CSOs demanding to Chairman of Parulia Union Parishad to ensured installation of four deep tubewells in Norarchook village expending worth BDT 200,000. Having joint effort with DPHE. This achievement marks the</p>	<p>This outcome is relevant to the 2nd outcome of Right2Grow ToC i.e. Representative and empowered civil society organisations</p>	<p>In July 2024, the Right2Grow project organized an orientation on ‘Lobby and Advocacy’ to empower CSO leaders targeting efficient advocacy with local government considering the contemporary issues. A tangible success achieved by a CSO leader who also a member of UP Standing Committee, applied his advocacy strength that learned from orientation to resolve</p>	<p>evidence for change Photo of Installed tubewell</p>	<p>Baburam Mondol CSO leader Norarchak Jubo Sangha, Parulia Mob No. 01720537861</p>	<p>All community people male female, adolescent and children are being benefited and</p>

	<p>first major success by a CSO leader in his respective assigned areas after engagement in R2G whose endeavors secured safe water access for 40 families with transforming lives and resolving the longstanding safe water crisis.</p>	<p>(CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition</p>	<p>critical water in scarcity in underprivileged areas. He actively engaged with the UP chairman and members, presenting demands of the community in UDCC meeting and ensured subsequent collaboration consistently that brought the success and eliminate burden of women who previously traveled long distances for safe water.</p>	<p>evidence for contribution</p> <p>Report of orientation on 'Lobby & Advocacy' for CSO's</p>		<p>enjoying safe water.</p>
<p>5 WV</p>	<p>In November 2024 CVA working group of Kulia Union advocate and ensured establishing a deep tubewell at Bohera village of Kulia by their strategic advocacy with a private sector named "Qatar Charity" by its contribution BDT 85,000 along with community contribution BDT 20,000. This is the first ever success by CVA working group of Kulia Union. Now more than 30 families are secure with safe water for their families.</p>	<p>This outcome is relevant to the 2nd outcome of Right2Grow ToC i.e. Representative and empowered civil society organisations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition</p>		<p>Evidence for change</p> <p>Photo of tubewell distribution</p> <p>Evidence for contribution</p> <p>Report of CVA training</p>	<p>Ruhul Amin-CVA working group member and CSO</p> <p>Protibondhi Odhikar Sangha, Kulia Union</p> <p>Mob No.:01779419897</p> <p>Didarul Islam</p> <p>Qatar Charity</p> <p>Mob: 01922626531</p>	<p>Community people male female, adolescent and children are being benefited and enjoying safe water.</p>

<p>6 WV</p>	<p>In December 2024 the CVA / CSO working group of Chaltatola Community Clinic (CC) in Parulia Union achieved a first ever remarkable milestone by launching a fund generation program with opening a dedicated bank account for service development for the Community Clinic CCs. The beginning program of fund generation starts by depositing BDT 10,000 at chaltetola and BDT 36,701 in Community Clinic Ticket that full filled the government announced one of the community clinic service standards.</p>	<p>This outcome is relevant to the 2nd outcome of Right2Grow ToC i.e. Representative and empowered civil society organisations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition</p>	<p>The CVA/CSO working group, having support from the Right2Grow project were organized Participatory Monitoring meeting in every two months successively in March, June, September and December 2024 where Follow-up and prepared Joint Action Plan aiming to address the service gaps in the Chaltatola and Ticket Community Clinics (CC) where mate community demands for improving services by introducing fund generation program. Consequently, a foundation was laid down to generate fund to serve underprivileged under the government service standard. The fund management protocols also documented by the CVA groups.</p>	<p>Evidence for change Collected fund handed over to the president of community group of CC for taking the responsibility.</p>	<p>Hazrot Ali, CVA member, Chaltetala CC. Mob no. Farhana Sultana, Chairperson of the Chaltatola Community Clinic Committee Mob: 01731792235</p>	<p>All community people male female, adolescent and children are benefited and enjoyed of better services of CC.</p>
<p>7 WV</p>	<p>From June to October 2024, CSOs from the Debhata and Noapara Unions secured 11 (Debhata-9, Noapara-2) sanitary toilets by constant lobbying and advocacy with the private sector and local</p>	<p>This outcome is relevant to the 2nd outcome of Right2Grow ToC i.e. Representative and empowered civil society</p>	<p>Right2Grow project supported Union Parishad to hold the Standing Committee meeting where CSOs participating as members of the Standing committee and placed the community demands both verbally and written as well as took commitment from UP Chairmen for providing the support to the real service seekers.</p>	<p>Evidence for Changed Evidence for contribution</p>	<p>Ferdous Alom, CSO- Townshreepur Sobuj Sangha Mob: 01851515891</p>	<p>All family members of Debhata-9 and Noapara-2 obtained hygienic toilets, which</p>

	<p>government. This success provided 11 sanitary toilets to households, encouraging healthier practices and boosting overall sanitation standards.</p>	<p>organisations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition</p>	<p>During the reporting period, four Standing Committee meetings held in each Union Parishads where CSO leaders collectively influenced to take decisions how can UP able to provide sanitary latrine to mitigate WASH problems gradually and fulfill the healthy village standard/indicator.</p>	<p>Report of Standing Committee meeting</p>	<p>Nur Alam Siddiqui- CSO Dadpur Ma O Shishu Kollyan Sangathan Mob: 01738126677</p>	<p>helped children and family members stay healthy.</p>
<p>1 MF B</p>	<p>In July 2024, Morisbunia Union Parishad under Patuakhali Sadar Subdistrict of Patuakhali District distributed child growth measurement tools like height measurement machines to 3 community clinics (CC) and repaired 1 damaged tubewell of community clinic for the first-time to ensure quality service of community people and under 5 aged children. This is a result of continuous demand by CSO members, CVA committee (Citizen Voice and Action) and community people with the technical support of Right2Grow program consortium Bangladesh.</p>	<p>CVAs will regularly engage with local government, and they have capacity to raise their voice and take leadership to advocate for good governance to prevent under nutrition in line with that this outcome directly contributes to outcome 2 and related to intermediate outcome of ToC. In order to address community, CVA, CSO's demand about the gaps in the delivery of nutrition services for children under 5 age, duty bearers take the initiative in corrective</p>	<p>R2G project capacitated CSO, CVA and UP representatives through capacity building training. As a result, they became aware of the services of duty bearers and learned how to follow up the services they provided to the community. In August and September 2023 CSO and CVA conducted monitoring standard meeting, score card session with community clinic and identified their present situation where they need to improve. Moreover, in May & July 2023 the Right2Grow project conducted a child campaign program for creating awareness among the community people to create awareness on regularly child growth measurement. Then, in October 2023 interface meeting was conducted in Union Parishad by CVA and CSO. After the event the Union Parishad took necessary steps considering the issues. Moreover, after activation of UNCC by the contribution of Upazila CSO platform and Right2Grow consortium Bangladesh at Patuakhali</p>	<p>Evidence for change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution register master roll. • Program picture. <p>Evidence for contribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO capacity building training register and picture. • Scorecard, interface meeting picture and attendance sheet. 	<p>The Union CSO platform members visited the community clinic and observed the changes.</p>	<p>The result will contribute to under 5 years children and their mothers and also marginalized community people. In CSO committees there are representatives of woman, men, adolescent and vulnerable group.</p>

		action and manage resources.	subdistrict, Upazila Nirbahi Officer encourages to all UP chairman to provide child growth measurement tools to Community Clinic. Finally, as per the demand of CVA, CSO and community people, the Union Parishad distributes child growth measurement tools to CC and repairs one deep tubewell for better facilities of community people.			
2 MF B	In October 2024, the Itbaria Union Parishad under Patuakhali Sadar Subdistrict of Patuakhali District distributed 130 hygiene materials (basin, tap and magic pipe) to 130 household from UP nutrition budget to ensuring handwashing and proper nutrition absorption to those families. It is a result of continuous demand by CSO members, CVA committee (Citizen Voice and Action) and community people. This is the first time this UP has distributed hygiene materials to the community HHs.	It is directly contributes to outcome 2 and related to intermediate outcome C&D of ToC. Representative and empowered civil society organizations (CSOs) have been capacitated and able to effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent under nutrition.	The R2G project provided orientation to CSO on their roles and responsibilities and provided capacity building training to CSOs how to raise their voice. In November 2023 they also got a refreshers training. As a result, they became capable and aware of their rights and able to raise their voice. Besides, in 2022 & 2023, CSO and CVA committee's members were also included in different committees of Union Parishad (UDCC, UP standing) and got the opportunity to talk on communities' regarding needs and child nutrition. Besides, CSO members identified the poor and hardcore household list and submitted it to the Union Parishad to ask for their support and according to their demand UP act on this.	Evidence for change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution register master roll. • Distribution picture. Evidence for contribution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO capacity building training register and picture • Picture of UP meeting with CSO representatives. 	Union CSO platform members visited the beneficiaries house and observed practice and Media representative of Patuakhali district also visited the beneficiaries' house and observed the practice.	1.This result will contribute to marginalized and vulnerable households, under 5 aged children's households and their caretakers to access proper hygiene. 2.In CSO committees there are representatives of woman, men, adolescent and vulnerable group.
3 MF B	In August 2024, for the first time two UP (Madarbunia, Kamlapur) under Patuakhali Sadar subdistrict of	CSOs and CVAs will regularly engage with local government, and they have capacity to	R2G project capacitated CSO, CVA and UP representatives through capacity building training on skill development, WASH and nutrition, gender, leadership, BMET,	Evidence for change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old and new building picture of 	Union CSO platform committee members visited the CC and	1.Specially marginalized, vulnerable people, U5

	<p>Patuakhali district renovated old building at three community clinics (Maderbunia CC, Nandipara CC, Akhaura CC) to ensure providing improved facilities and services to community people and under 5 aged children. This is a result of the continuous lobby of the CSO members, CVA committee (Citizen Voice and Action) with the technical support of Right2Grow programme consortium Bangladesh.</p>	<p>raise their voice in line with that this outcome is directly related to outcome-2 of TOC, where representative and empowered civil society organizations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent under nutrition.</p>	<p>scorecard session, monitoring standard and interface meeting. As a result, they became aware of the services of duty bearers and learned how to follow up the services and ensure facilities they provided to the rights holders. In attending various meetings with UP, CSO raised their voice and stated that community clinic proper services are hampered for the hazardous infrastructure. In line with that in August & September 2023 CSO and CVA conducted monitoring standard meeting, score card session considering community clinic and identified their present situation where needs to improve. Then, in September & October 2023 interface meeting was conducted in Union Parishad by CVA and CSO. After the event, the Union Parishad took necessary steps considering the old and hazardous community clinic building. As a result of CSOs demand, UP and CC communicated with District Health and Facilities department and after processing they got approval to renovate the old buildings.</p>	<p>community clinic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample of renovation related document for Community Clinic (CC). <p>Evidence for contribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSO capacity building training picture. Picture of monitoring standard and interface meeting picture and attendance sheet. 	<p>observed the changes.</p>	<p>children and pregnant woman are getting more services from here.</p> <p>2.In CSO committees there are representatives of woman, men, adolescent and vulnerable group.</p>
<p>4 MF B</p>	<p>In July 2024, the Dhaniapur Union Health Centre (UHC) at Kamlapur Union under Patuakhali Sadar subdistrict of Patuakhali district started distribution of free sanitary pads to the poor adolescent girl for the first time in UHC history. This great initiative is a result of the</p>	<p>CSOs and CVAs will regularly engage with local government, and they have the capacity to raise their voice in line with that this outcome is related to outcome-2 of TOC. It is also related to outcome-1 and output</p>	<p>R2G project capacitated CSO, CVA and UP representatives through training. As a result, they became aware of the services of duty bearers and learned how to follow up the services they provided to the rights holders. During August and September 2023 CVA conducted score card session with community people to identify the service standard and satisfaction of the right holders and monitoring standard meetings</p>	<p>Evidence for change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanitary pad distribution picture. Sanitary pad distribution master roll by Union Health Center. <p>Evidence for contribution:</p>	<p>Union CSO platform committee members visited the community clinic and observed the changes.</p>	<p>1.This result will contribute to safe menstrual hygiene management of adolescent girls in the community.</p> <p>2.In CSO committees there</p>

	involvement of the CSO members, CVA committee (Citizen Voice and Action) and HPA (Health Promotion Agent-Entrepreneur) through the technical support of Right2Grow program consortium Bangladesh.	2 where community jointly addressing the barriers with private sector partners and private sector develops innovative business model, services and products.	with Union Health Center and identified their present service situation where they need to improve. After identification, child growth measurement, adolescent girls support, and pregnancy services were priority where some issues were found. Then interface meeting was conducted with related stakeholders like Union Health Center, Community Clinic, HPA (Entrepreneur), Union Parishad and CSO member by CVA in September 2023. After all of this action, through the leadership of Union Parishad the services of UHC have increased and taken this great initiative.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO capacity building training picture. • Monitoring standard, interface meeting picture and attendance. 		are representatives of woman, men, adolescent and vulnerable group.
1 AC F	In December 2024, capacity of the Upazila level CSO , has been upgraded noticeably in terms of local level decision making. As a result, CSO's are now capable to create evidence generation and advocate independently for Union Parishad budget allocation to address malnutrition of under-5 children.	Outcome-2. Representative and empowered civil society organizations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition.	In the Right2Grow programme, one of the pivotal issues is addressing community needs and overcoming challenges by involving Civil Society Organization (CSO) platforms in different level. To achieve this objective, CSOs undergo specialized training that emphasizes on various important issues, e.g., leadership, resource mobilization, BMET, lobbying, advocacy, networking, gender and inclusion , WASH, and nutrition. Empowered CSOs are engaged in community outreach, raising awareness among the people about their health and nutrition	https://alokitosakal.net/news/taltleet-e-iunizn-prishdmhila-odhidptrsmajseba-oo-swasthz-bivager-sathesmudr-smajer-edvokesi-sva	1.Md. Alomgir Mia Chairmen, Borobogi Union Parishad Taltoli, Barguna. Mobile: 01716 706631 2.Md. Golam Mowla Acting President Somudro Somaj, Taltoli Upazilla. Mobile: 01714-644001	6 out of 14 Union CSO Leaders (president 7 and secretary 7) are women. 53% of CSO members are women engaging with community and CSO activities.

			rights. They assess needs, act as a Bridge for Voice, and actively participate in advocacy on WASH and Nutrition issues at both the local and community levels. Right2Grow in Bangladesh places a strong emphasis on building robust and empowered CSOs that can effectively communicate with duty-bearers, leading to meaningful changes in the community's child health and undernutrition practices.		3.Mrs. Shahinur Asst. General Sceretary, Somudro Somaj, Taltoli Upazilla. Mobile: 01768- 166972	
2 AC F	In December 2024, 28 local entrepreneurs from the Right2grow project are play critical roles as change agents in Taltali Upazilla's WASH and Nutrition sectors. They distribute inexpensive WASH, nutrition, and health items and services door-to-door among the community members and made a substantial contribution	Intermediate Outcomes 2: Private sector develops innovative business models, services and products.	Right to Grow programs are designed to focus on women in all types of project events. One of the key events of the project is to empower CSOs and create local women entrepreneurs. Through CSO's advocacy activities involving men and women a Local Entrepreneurial Associations (LEA) engaging 28 local entrepreneurs. They have been trained for different durations from the Right to Grow programme. LEA members are also playing an important role in healthy communities by addressing	LEA Quarterly Meeting	1.Umme Salma UNO, Taltoli Upazilla Barguna. Mobile: 01733348027 2.Mrs Morium Akter General Secretary, Taltali Local Entrepreneur Association, Taltoli, Barguna.	13 women entrepreneurs out of 28 Entrepreneur were engaged in the process.

<p>to fostering beneficial WASH-Nutrition-related behavioral change and practices at the community level.</p>		<p>community needs. They regularly visits community households to collect needs from the community and based on their demand provide wash and nutritional products. The registration of Taltali LEA is in process. The members of the society are depositing savings every month and till the reporting period the total amount of saving stands at BDT 24560 taka. Right to Grow project focuses on prioritizing local entrepreneurial association and findings shows that trained local entrepreneurs are playing an impactfult role in changing the people of the community.</p>		<p>Mobile: 01780431162</p> <p>3.Md. Golam Mowla</p> <p>Acting President</p> <p>Somudro Somaj, Taltoli Upazilla.</p> <p>Mobile: 01714-644001</p> <p>4.Mrs. Shahinur</p> <p>Asst. General Sceretary, Somudro Somaj, Taltoli, Upazilla.</p> <p>Mobile: 01768-166972</p>	
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<p>3 AC F</p>	<p>In December 2024, 84 villages of 7 unions were announced as “Healthy Villages” by Taltali Upazilla with collaboration</p>	<p>Outcomes-1</p> <p>“Communities are aware of small doable actions and put</p>	<p>Right2Grow is working intensively with the community to declare Healthy village from the initial stage of the project. A healthy community defines that the majority of people in the</p>	<p><i>Social Map Analysis by CSO Attend Regular GMP</i></p>	<p>CSO members were involved in the entire process of making a Healthy Community.</p>	<p>Healthy communities are being created through 13 Court Yard groups. All the members of this group are women.</p>
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	<p>of Samudra Samaj organization.</p>	<p>them into practice”.</p>	<p>community use safe water, use hygienic latrines, install and use home basins for proper hand washing, maintain cleanliness around the house, grow vegetables in the home yard. Pregnant and post-natal mothers get regular health check-ups, children get regular weight and height measurements, adolescents get sexual and reproductive health care, it's called a healthy village.</p> <p>CSOs play a crucial role in establishing healthy villages and they are supported by Right2Grow project staffs, such as- Sensitizing community people through court yard meetings and tagging local entrepreneurs. On the other hand, the CSO advocates to the Union Parishad and provides financial/commodity assistance to those poor</p>		<p>Also, the Union Parishad has also applied to the upazila administration for validation and declared it as a healthy community. Finally Upazila Health Department visited the community and gave a positive report for declaration.</p> <p>1.Md. Alomgir Mia Chairmen, Borobogi Union Parishad Taltoli, Barguna. Mobile: 01716 706631 2.Md. Golam Mowla</p>	<p>Court Yard group leaders are Women.</p> <p>13 women entrepreneur out of 28 Entrepreneurs were engaged in the process.</p>
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			<p>families who are unable to purchase WASH and nutrition products.</p> <p>With the guidance of R2G 84 healthy villages have improved their wash and nutrition services. Most of the household members are now practicing safe water for drinking water and other regular activities such as-regular hand washing with soap, improved condition of latrine, getting GMP services for their child, getting ANC & PNC services for their pregnant and lactating mothers, every family ensures nutrition plot and adolescents receive sexual and reproductive health services.</p>		<p>Acting President Somudro Somaj Sushil Songothon TaltoliUpazilla. Mobile: 01714-644001</p>	
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<p>04. AC F</p>	<p>Women leadership in CSO and private sector introduced by Right2Grow project is playing a significant role and acted as change agents in community-level of Taltali Upzilla. This has led to the inclusion of 162 empowered women Leaders who actively generates evidence and advocating for budget allocations to address health and nutrition issues of under-5 children at the union parishad level.</p>	<p>Outcome-2. Representative and empowered civil society organisations (CSOs) effectively navigate the civic space to advocate for leadership and good governance to prevent undernutrition.</p>	<p>In the Right2Grow programme, one of the pivotal issues is addressing community needs and overcoming challenges by involving Women leadership at different level. To achieve this objective, Women Leaders has received training on leadership, entrepreneurship, lobby-Advocacy and communication. Empowered Women Leaders then, engage in local business, community outreach, raising awareness among the people about their health and nutrition rights. Empowered Women Leaders were integrated into various committees of the Union and Upazila / sub-district level standing committees, as well as local and regional platforms / networks, providing opportunities to advocate for community needs. Women Leaders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Morium Akter General Secretary, Taltali Local Entrepreneur Association, Taltoli, Barguna. Mobile: 01780431162 • Md. Golam Mowla Acting President Somudro Somaj Sushil Songothon TaltoliUpazilla. Mobile: 01714644001 	<p>1.Mrs Morium Akter General Secretary, Taltali Local Entrepreneur Association, Taltoli, Barguna. Mobile: 01780431162</p> <p>2.Md. Golam Mowla Acting President Somudro Somaj Sushil Songothon TaltoliUpazilla. Mobile: 01714-644001</p> <p>3.Mrs. Shahinur Asst. General Sceretary, Somudro Somaj Sushil Songothon TaltoliUpazilla. Mobile:</p>	<p>Support 100% women headed family.</p>
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			engagement created opportunities for government stakeholders involvement in the planning of project interventions and contributing in strengthening existing systems along with addressing undernutrition of U5C.		01768-166972	
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