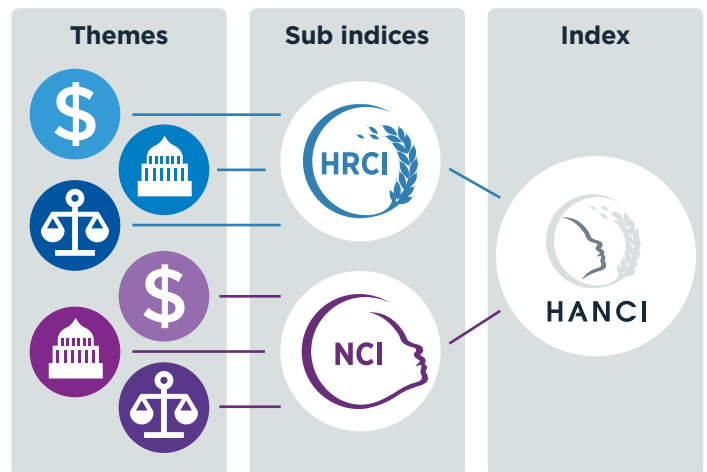
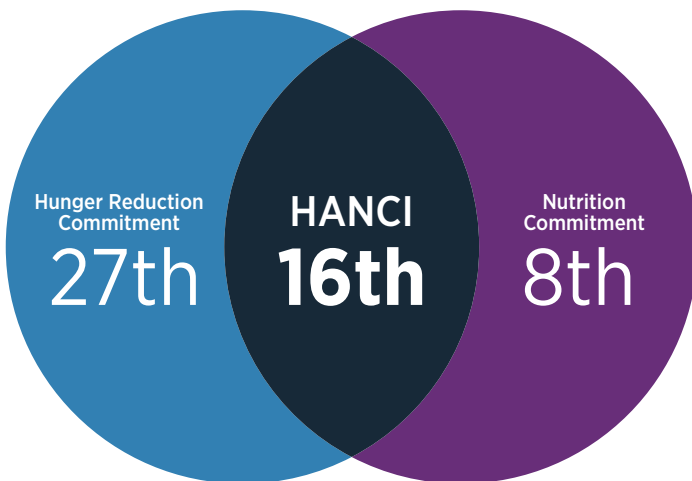


# Key data for Bangladesh



1. Guatemala	8. Gambia	15. Vietnam	22. Ethiopia	29. Sierra Leone	36. Togo	43. Myanmar
2. Peru	9. Burkina Faso	<b>16. Bangladesh</b>	23. Niger	30. Zambia	37. Mauritania	44. Sudan
3. Malawi	10. Ghana	17. Uganda	24. Mali	31. Liberia	38. Cameroon	45. Guinea Bissau
4. Brazil	11. Philippines	18. South Africa	25. Mozambique	32. Burundi	39. Afghanistan	
5. Madagascar	12. Indonesia	19. India	26. Cambodia	33. Cote d'Ivoire	40. Yemen	
6. Nepal	13. Rwanda	20. China	27. Kenya	34. Nigeria	41. Congo,DR	
7. Tanzania	14. Senegal	21. Benin	28. Pakistan	35. Lesotho	42. Angola	

 Spending Y  
 Policies E  
 Laws K

Existing rates of: **Stunting: 41.3%** **Wasting: 15.6%** **Proportion of population underweight: 36.4%** Source: Bangladesh DHS (2011)

HANCI compares 45 developing countries for their performance on 22 indicators of political commitment to reduce hunger and undernutrition. All the countries compared in the index have high rates of hunger and undernutrition. The comparative approach of the index means that country scores are calculated in relation to the political commitment of the other countries in the index.

## Strong Performance

- Government investment in the agricultural and health sectors is comparatively high within the region at 8.9% of total public spending for each sector.
- The government promotes complementary feeding practices and 94% of children aged 6–59 months received 2 high doses of vitamin A supplements within the last year.
- A range of nutrition focused policies have been put in place in the last decade.
- The National Nutrition Policy and Strategic Plan sets out time bound nutrition targets and has introduced an intersectoral coordinating body (National Nutrition Committee).
- Bangladesh has instituted a separate budget line for nutrition, improving public oversight and accountability for spending.
- Regular (once every three years) nutrition surveys enable policymakers to have access to up to date information. The most recent ones were the MICS (2012/13) and the DHS (2011).
- The government has enshrined many, though not all provisions of the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes into domestic law.

## Areas for improvement

- Women’s economic rights and agricultural property rights could be more effectively enforced to reduce their vulnerability to hunger. Various discriminatory practices continue to prevent women realising their legal rights to own farmland.
- Institutional, legal and market frameworks for accessing land do not always help poor rural households gain secure land tenure.
- Some efforts are made to improve poor farmers’ access to agricultural extension. However, effective coverage has not been achieved so far.
- At present social protection systems are basic, covering few people and limited risks.
- Only 54.6% of women aged 15–49 were attended once by skilled health workers during their pregnancy.
- Only 54.7% of the population has access to sanitation.
- Clear scope exists to improve the civil registration system; currently 30.5% of life births are covered. This potentially limits nearly 70% of children from access to basic services, including health and education, where this is dependent on proof of legal identity.
- A right to food is enshrined in the Constitution of Bangladesh as part of the directive principles of state policy, and therefore not justiciable.

# Key data for Bangladesh



## Hunger Reduction Commitment Index (HRCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	HRCI Rank of 45
Public spending on agriculture as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>	8.9%	2009	12th
Public spending on health as share of total public spending <sup>1</sup>	8.9%	2011	28th
Policies			
Access to land (security of tenure) <sup>2</sup>	Moderate	2012	Joint 33rd
Access to agricultural research and extension services <sup>2</sup>	Moderate	2011	24th
Civil registration system – coverage of live births (latest year)	30.5%	2011	35th
Functioning of social protection systems <sup>2</sup>	Weak	2012	24th
Laws			
Level of constitutional protection of the right to food <sup>3</sup>	Weak	2011	18th
Equality of women's access to agricultural land (property rights) <sup>4</sup>	In Law, not in Practice	2012	6th
Equality of women's economic rights <sup>4</sup>	In Law, not in Practice	2011	5th
Constitution recognises the right to social security (yes/no) <sup>5</sup>	Yes	2006	Joint 1st

<sup>1</sup> No benchmark.

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are: ● Very Weak ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong ● Very Strong.

<sup>3</sup> Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong.

<sup>4</sup> Possible scores are: ● Not in Law ● In Law Not in Practice ● In Law & Practice.

<sup>5</sup> The right is identified in the Constitution but not as fundamental right, thus not judiciable.

## Nutrition Commitment Index (NCI)

Public spending	Score*	Year	NCI Rank of 45
Separate budget for nutrition (No/Sectoral only/Yes)	Yes	2012	Joint 1st
Policies			
Vitamin A supplementation coverage for children	94.0%	2011	Joint 17th
Government promotes complementary feeding (yes/no)	Yes	2012	Joint 1st
Population with access to an improved water source	83.2%	2011	16th
Population with access to improved sanitation	54.7%	2011	Joint 14th
Health care visits for pregnant women	54.6%	2011	43rd
Nutrition features in national development policies <sup>1</sup>	Strong	2013	3rd
National nutrition plan (yes/no)	Yes	2013	Joint 1st
Multi-sector and multi-stakeholder coordination (yes/no)	Yes	2012	Joint 1st
Time bound nutrition targets (yes/no)	Yes	2012	Joint 1st
National nutrition survey in last 3 years (yes/no)	Yes	2013	Joint 1st
Laws			
International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes Enshrined in domestic law <sup>2</sup>	Aspects Enshrined	2011	19th

<sup>1</sup> Possible scores are: ● Weak ● Moderate ● Strong (Note: Performance relative to other countries).

<sup>2</sup> Possible scores are: ● Not Enshrined in Law ● Voluntary Adoption ● Aspects Enshrined ● Fully enshrined.

\* For full details see [www.hancindex.org](http://www.hancindex.org)