

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Wednesday, 23 June 2021 10:00 GMT +06:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	“Smart Skills for Adolescents and Youth on Nutrition” Nutrition Academy: Smart Skills for Adolescents and Youth in Bangladesh
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Bangladesh Institute of ICT in Development (BIID)/ Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/46755/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/46755/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Independent
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	Bangladesh

The outcomes from a Food Systems Summit Dialogue will be of use in developing the pathway to sustainable food systems within the locality in which they take place. They will be a valuable contribution to the national pathways and also of interest to the different workstreams preparing for the Summit: the Action Tracks, Scientific Groups and Champions as well as for other Dialogues.

# 1. PARTICIPATION

## TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

30 0-18      8 19-30      10 31-50      3 51-65      66-80      80+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

16 Male      35 Female      Prefer not to say or Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

Agriculture/crops	37	Education	Health care
Fish and aquaculture		Communication	Nutrition
Livestock		Food processing	10 National or local government
Agro-forestry		Food retail, markets	Utilities
Environment and ecology		Food industry	Industrial
Trade and commerce		Financial Services	4 Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Small/medium enterprise/artisan	Workers and trade union
Large national business	Member of Parliament
Multi-national corporation	Local authority
Small-scale farmer	10 Government and national institution
Medium-scale farmer	Regional economic community
Large-scale farmer	United Nations
2 Local Non-Governmental Organization	International financial institution
5 International Non-Governmental Organization	Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
Indigenous People	Consumer group
34 Science and academia	Other

## 2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

### HOW DID YOU ORGANIZE THE DIALOGUE SO THAT THE PRINCIPLES WERE INCORPORATED, REINFORCED AND ENHANCED?

The Dialogue was organized to solicit inputs and insights for the Food Systems Summit through an understanding of the issues facing by the youth to avail skill related to nutrition. Organized by BIID along with other co-organizers, the Dialogue brought a diversity of stakeholders from youth, adolescent, academia, government representatives, UN, development partners (I/NGOs), research organizations, civil society representatives working in youth development, food chain, nutrition, and education.

### HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The Dialogue began with familiarizing the participants with the context of the Food Systems Summit, the issues being discussed at the global level including the five action tracks and issues to be addressed in Bangladesh to ensure smart skills on nutrition for adolescents and youth. BIID Foundation jointly with Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) organized the 3rd Independent Summit Dialogue under Action Track 1 of UN Food Systems Summit. BIID Foundation, a social venture of Bangladesh Institute of ICT in Development (BIID) to foster economic and social development through sustainable business model & ICT enabled solutions. Mr. Zakir Hossain Akanda, Secretary (PRL), Ministry of Planning, Member (PRL), Planning Commission, joined the session as the Chief Guest. Ms. Miriam Shindler, Program Lead, Better Diet for Children, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), joined the dialogue as the Special Guest. Each group in the session had a facilitator and a note taker, who together moderated the discussion. The facilitator highlighted the focus of discussion in the group and requested participants to share their thoughts. The key points made in each breakout group were presented by the respective facilitators at the closing plenary, giving an opportunity for participants who had not been in a particular group to further share their thoughts/suggestions. Participants from relevant stakeholders including youth and adolescents, teachers and facilitators, and regulatory and administrative policy makers were invited to participate in the dialogue. Other than this, people from relevant work and industry were invited to join the dialogue as guests.

### DO YOU HAVE ADVICE FOR OTHER DIALOGUE CONVENORS ABOUT APPRECIATING THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT?

The importance of participatory approach in capturing the voice of a significant audience. It is also important to ensure that regional nuances and challenges faced by vulnerable groups are captured.

# 3. METHOD

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The outcomes of a Dialogue are influenced by the method that is used.

**DID YOU USE THE SAME METHOD AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONVENORS REFERENCE MANUAL?**

**Yes**

**No**

# 4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

## MAJOR FOCUS

The focus for this dialogue is to develop a conceptual framework for a Nutrition Academy for adolescents and youth. Adolescents and youth can play important role for improvement of national nutrition status at community level, to make youth more competent to address malnutrition, institutional interventions to make them capable to understand nutrition in a better way, and build their skills to assess local nutritional challenges, identify solutions, design action points and engage & lead local level initiatives like gardening, smart cooking, mental health, use social media, healthy life style, awareness of safe & nutrition food and engage community.

Based on experiences of Nutrition Club and Nutrition Olympiad, BIID Foundation along with partners foresee a Nutrition Academy can become a national institution to build smart skills for adolescents and youth. BIID already conducted several Design Camps as a part of Nutrition Olympiad activities which demonstrated the impact of such engaging interventions (Field visit, interaction with community and understanding agricultural works) to influence the participants.

### ACTION TRACKS

- Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
- Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
- Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
- Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
- Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

### KEYWORDS

- Finance
- Innovation
- Human rights
- Women & Youth Empowerment
- Policy
- Data & Evidence
- Governance
- Trade-offs
- Environment and Climate

## MAIN FINDINGS

The dialogue started with the introduction and opening remarks by Dr. Rudaba Khondker, Country Director, GAIN. Mr. Then the keynote speech has been presented by Dr. Nazma Shaheen, Professor, Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Dhaka. After the keynote speech, three categories of stakeholders were divided into three different breakout rooms as per below:

1. Adolescents & Youth Representatives: In this room the overall discussion took place on the adolescents' needs, challenges, solutions and expectations regarding the skills required to be nutrition leaders. The discussion was conducted focusing on few significant questions as given below:

1. What are the skills you think required to be a nutrition representative/leader?
2. In the current scenario how are you trying to adapt these skills?
3. What are the challenges you are facing in order to get these skills?
4. How do you think we can solve these challenges?
5. Would you be interested to participate in nutrition-based skill programs/trainings?
6. What type of platform do you consider to participate in the trainings (online, in person, other)?
7. What are your expectations regarding the nutrition-based skill programs?
8. What supports you think is needed to become the nutrition representative/leader starting from your locality?
9. List the most significant skills on which different training programs should be organized?

2. Teachers & Facilitators: The group of the teachers and facilitators had their very important discussion on the present and expected curriculum; challenges, support needed for facilitating different nutritional learning programs for adolescents and youth. The discussion was conducted around few pre-arranged questions on the specific topic as given below:

1. What is the current scenario of the different learning programs, skill development programs related to nutrition for adolescents and youth?
2. How interested the adolescents are towards these programs?
3. What platforms (in-person/virtual/others) are more accessible/preferable for these trainings/programs?
4. What challenges are there in terms of initiating or implementing these programs?
5. What support do you need to facilitate these different learning programs?
6. How best these learning programs can be designed in one platform?
7. What are the most significant training topics that will help adolescents and youth to become the nutrition representative/leader starting from their locality?
8. What is the nutrition curriculum situation at present?
9. What are your expectations about the curriculum structure and features?

3. Regulatory & Administrative (Policy): The participants at the room of regulatory and administrative discussed on supportive and regulatory measures to promote a Nutrition Academy to build basic nutrition skills for adolescents and youth to conduct regular learning programs.

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/3

### Adolescents & Youth Representatives:

After the very interactive session among the youth and adolescents, two of them presented the overall findings and summary.

They started by pointing out few important skills that are considered to be essential to be a nutrition leader according to them, these skills are – 1. Communication skills 2. Knowledge 3. Problem solving skills 4. Motivating others 5. Positive attitude. Different online workshops will be helpful keeping the present Covid-19 situation in mind. Through virtual platforms, debate and quiz on nutritional topics can be arranged, which covers skills like knowledge, communication, leadership, etc. A very interesting idea came up, to control individual health diet chart by taking it as a challenge individually.

A list of challenges the adolescents are facing now to gain these skills have been mentioned as – 1. The pandemic 2. Social insecurity and gender discrimination 3. Negative criticism from society. The two solution they came up to overcome these challenges were said to be, firstly avoiding the negativities as much as possible, and secondly by being more confident and knowledgeable about the ultimate topic nutrition. The adolescents and youth shared about how this kind of sessions helps them not only to express their thoughts but also to hear from others too and learn from each other. An idea was proposed from them to involve the parents and teachers in few monthly/bi-monthly nutritional meetings, that will help the parents to understand the adolescents' nutrition related activities better and support more. Also, as mother and father are the ultimate decision makers of a household, so if they are aware of the important nutrition related positivities and negativities, they would take the necessary decisions accordingly. This will effectively serve the overall purpose of the adolescents as the nutrition leaders. Having nutrition leaders in different layers like, area, sub-district, district levels has been suggested. Also, as leaders to talk about the nutrition related activities through different communication materials and events are to be considered. About the expectation from the trainings, Dipty Chowdhury, a youth leader of Act4Food Act4Change Global Pledge for UN Food System Summit Action Track 1, stated, "Our expectation will be our involvement, only one-sided format of training is very much discouraged, the trainings should be fun, interactive, directly involving the youth and adolescents." They ended their presentation by an expectation of a digital platform that will be fully focused on the nutrition leaders' program involving the youth and adolescents.

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/3

### Teachers & Facilitators:

The teachers and facilitators summarized their group discussion focusing on the pre-arranged questions on the topic. They started by describing the present scenario of these skills training. They mentioned that there are few skill trainings that are available in the field but in a very small volume. They said about how important it is to get the adolescents' interest in the field. The adolescents and youth are interested, but more measurable ways to be considered for communicating in order to engage them. Though physical trainings are usually more effective, but considering present Covid-19 situation, the virtual trainings also has its own positivities, as per their statement. The learning programs should be connected with Scout, Girls' Guide, Nutrition Clubs, and other related associations' programs. Different activities like arranging small events, gardening at schools and home can effectively engage more adolescents. As the adolescents, the facilitators' group also mentioned the importance of involving the parents to fully serve the ultimate purpose of nutrition activities. Ms Madhure Majumder, Senior Assistant Teacher, Hafiza Khatun Girls' High School, stated, "Through arranging workshop events, where demonstration of cooking procedure and skills, washing fruits and vegetables can be shown, it will be effective for engagement and better understanding." The present nutrition scenario for the youth and adolescents needs to be taken very seriously and proper action plan to be implemented for making the situation better.

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/3

### Regulatory and Administrative (Policy):

From the group discussion in the regulators group, few discussion points were sorted out and presented to everyone. It started by talking about the latest trend of today's generation to be too much engaged in social media rather than real time activities, and how it is affecting their concentration by being a very big distraction. The importance of the overall learning process to be connected with local government level, and then national and global initiatives, has been mentioned. The students' participation should be on a regular basis through different nutrition related events and activities. An idea of Nutri-Retreat came up through the discussion, which refers to the beyond nutrition aspects, like mental health to be added in the annual nutrition programs. The innovation process of the youth and adolescents to be targeted by incentivizing through different accelerator programs. Also, how these skills will benefit in the adolescents and youths' future employment to be described. Not only working individually, but also the significance of working in a team coordination has been pointed out. An idea of creating an internship program that will help in their future professional career has been thought of for further planning and detailing. Multi sectoral, multi inter-ministerial stake to be considered in the overall program.

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## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There were no major areas of divergence among participants.

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# CORRECTIONS, ADJUSTMENTS, OR CHANGES

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Title Report\_Independent Dialogue- Smart Skills

Date 07/11/2021

Array

## ATTACHMENTS

- **Report\_Independent Dialogue- Smart Skills**  
[https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Report\\_Independent-Dialogue-Smart-Skills.docx.pdf](https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Report_Independent-Dialogue-Smart-Skills.docx.pdf)