

Workshop

**Joint SEAR-WPR workshop
to plan the accelerated
implementation of
new WHO TB policies**

**1-4
APRIL
2025**

**Hanoi,
Viet Nam**

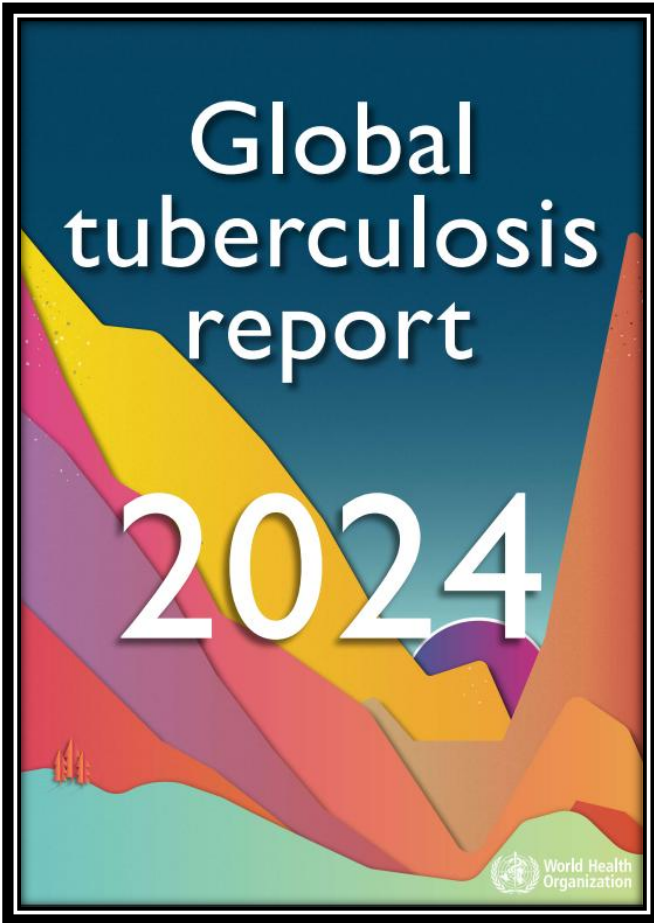
Nutritional interventions for people with TB and their households Bangladesh

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Bangladesh Country Situation

Estimates of TB Burden in Bangladesh, 2023



| Population: 171.5 million | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Indicators | Number | Rate per 100,000 pop |
| Total TB incidence | 379,000 (276 000- 499 000) | 221 (161- 291) |
| TB/HIV incidence | 740 (380- 1200) | 0.43 (0.22- 0.71) |
| MDR/RR-TB incidence | 5 000 (1 400- 8 600) | 2.9 (0.84- 5) |
| HIV -ve TB mortality | 44,000 (26 000- 66 000) | 26 (15- 38) |
| HIV +ve TB mortality | 170 (100- 250) | 0.1 (0.06- 0.15) |

Source: WHO Global TB Report 2024

Nutritional Status of Bangladesh

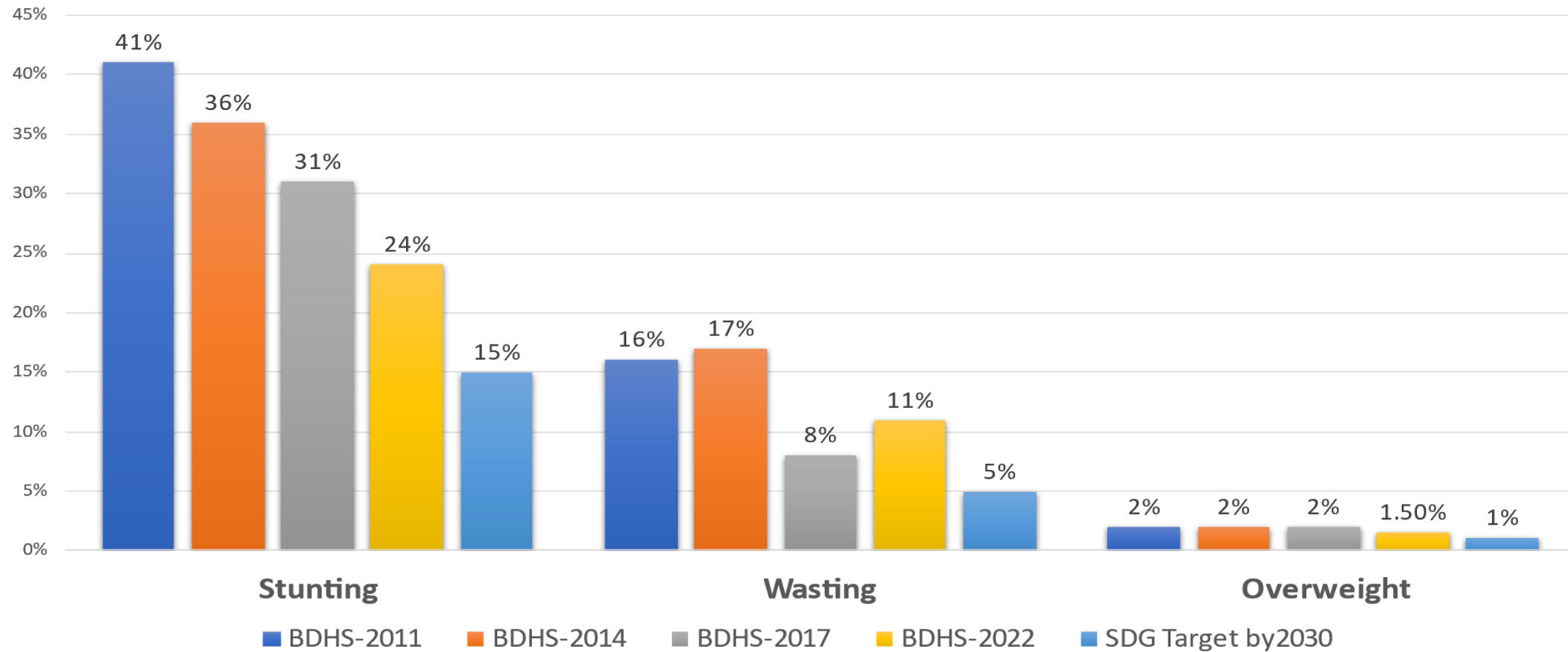
- Child Stunting (Low Height-for-Age): 25% of children under five years of age, indicating chronic undernutrition.
- Child Underweight (Low Weight-for-Age): 22% of children under five.
- Child Wasting (Low Weight-for-Height): 8.4% of children under five, reflecting acute undernutrition
- Coexisting Forms of Malnutrition: Approximately 38.9% of children under five experience multiple forms of undernutrition
- Maternal Malnutrition: Around 10% of women of reproductive age are underweight ($\text{BMI} < 18.5 \text{ kg/m}^2$)

Source: Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey (BDHS) 2022

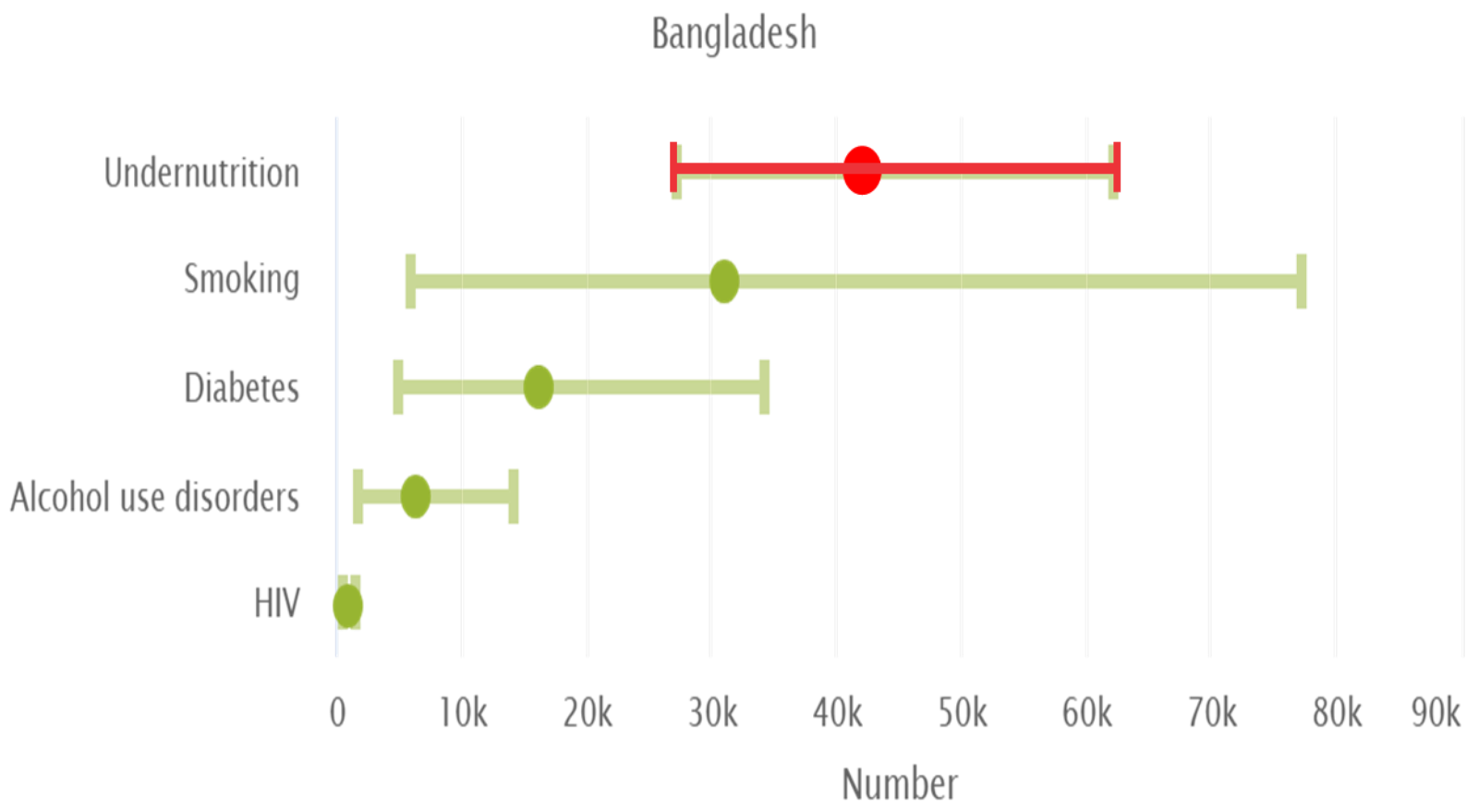


Progress of Nutritional Status towards SDG

Trends of malnutrition among Children (05yrs)



Estimated Number of TB Cases Attributed to Five Risk Factors 2023



Undernutrition contributed to 42,000 (UI 27,000- 62,000) TB cases in Bangladesh



Nutritional Support for TB Patients in Bangladesh

Population:

NTP Bangladesh is implementing nutritional support, especially for-

- All DR-TB patients
- All TB-HIV co-infections
- Poor and ultra-poor-
 - Day laborer
 - Homeless
 - Street beggar
 - River gypsies (Bede community)
 - Transport worker

21,302 TB patients received nutritional support in 2024



Nutritional Support for TB Patients in Bangladesh

Intervention: Cash transfer (BDT 1200 equivalent to USD 10)

Funding source: The Global Fund

Implementing agency: BRAC (PR-2)

Geographic coverage: Whole country

Nutrition counselling: During treatment initiation and every follow-up

Food: Hospitalized patients

* National Nutrition Services (NNS) has recently developed (under printing) disease-specific dietary guidelines which includes TB.

Integration of TB with IMCI corner

USAID's Alliance for Combating TB in Bangladesh (ACTB) was facilitating active screening for TB at IMCI corners of 19 secondary and tertiary healthcare facilities in Dhaka, Rajshahi, and Sylhet Divisions, as well as 109 primary healthcare facilities in Rajshahi and Rangpur Divisions.

| Indicators | Tertiary & Secondary (Urban) | UHC & Community (Rural) | Total |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Screened for TB | 390,994 | 575,341 | 966,335 |
| TB presumptive | 7,579 | 6,908 | 14,487 |
| Presumptive tested | 6,813 | 5,285 | 12,098 |
| All forms of TB | 433 | 207 | 640 |
| Bacteriologically Confirmed (B+) | 55 | 10 | 65 |
| Clinically Diagnosed (CD) | 301 | 148 | 449 |
| Extra-pulmonary TB (EPTB) | 77 | 49 | 126 |

Challenges of Nutrition Intervention among TB Patients

- High Prevalence of Malnutrition
- Inadequate Nutritional Support Programs
- Insufficient coordination between health and nutrition sectors.
- Limited funding for nutrition-focused interventions within the TB control program

Recommendations to Improve Nutrition for TB Patients

- Expanding food support programs for all TB patients, not just MDR-TB cases.
- Conducting regular nutritional assessments for TB patients.
- Raising awareness about the link between nutrition and TB recovery.
- Strengthening partnerships between health, nutrition, and social welfare programs.
- Encouraging community-driven initiatives.

Thank you

