

Farmer Nutrition Schools: SPRING/Bangladesh's Experience Towards Improved Household Nutrition

Mohammad Ali Reja, DCOP, SPRING/Bangladesh
Policies against Hunger XII, Berlin, June 22-24, 2016



SPRING's Mission

Strengthen global and country efforts to scale up high impact nutrition practices

Prevent stunting and anemia in the first 1,000 days

Link agriculture and nutrition under Feed the Future

Create social and behavior change for improved nutrition outcomes

Six-year, USAID centrally-funded Cooperative Agreement (October 1, 2011–September 30, 2017)

Partners



SPRING/Bangladesh project description

- Goal of improving the nutritional status of pregnant and lactating women and children under two years of age (“1,000 days”)
 - Special emphasis on two poorest wealth quintiles
- Working inside the Feed the Future ‘Zone of Influence’
 - 40 upazilas along Bangladesh’s coastal belt
- Collaborate with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Agriculture, using multiple channels to reinforce key nutrition messages



SPRING
বিশ্বব্যাপী পুষ্টি বিষয়ে অংশীদারিত্ব,
ফলাফল ও অভিনবত্ব জোরদারকরণ



Farmer Nutrition Schools

- Group-focused, community-based participatory learning for resource-poor households to improve their production and consumption of diversified, micronutrient-rich foods
- Low-cost approach to improve nutrition outcomes with simple technologies
- Builds on evidence and experience of HFP and FFS
- Small "doable" actions to help participants link food production with improved nutrition/hygiene practices
- Integrates nutrition and agriculture: both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions
- Follow-up support to ensure practices will continue in the community



Farmer Nutrition Schools



Vegetable production

Pregnant and lactating women learn by doing

Everything built around and anchored in nutrition and hygiene (the essential nutrition and hygiene actions)



Improved methods for poultry rearing

Egg production from indigenous chickens can be significantly increased



Nutrient-dense small indigenous fish

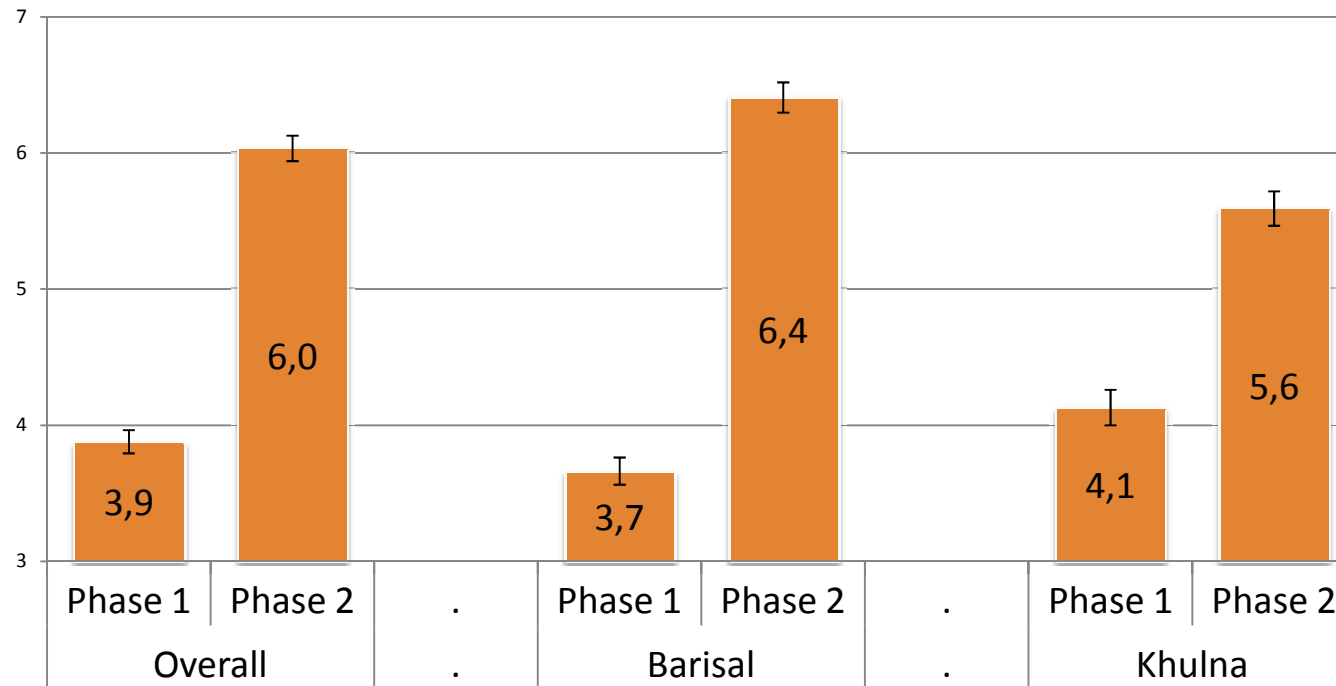
Poor households raise fish to meet the demand for animal source food



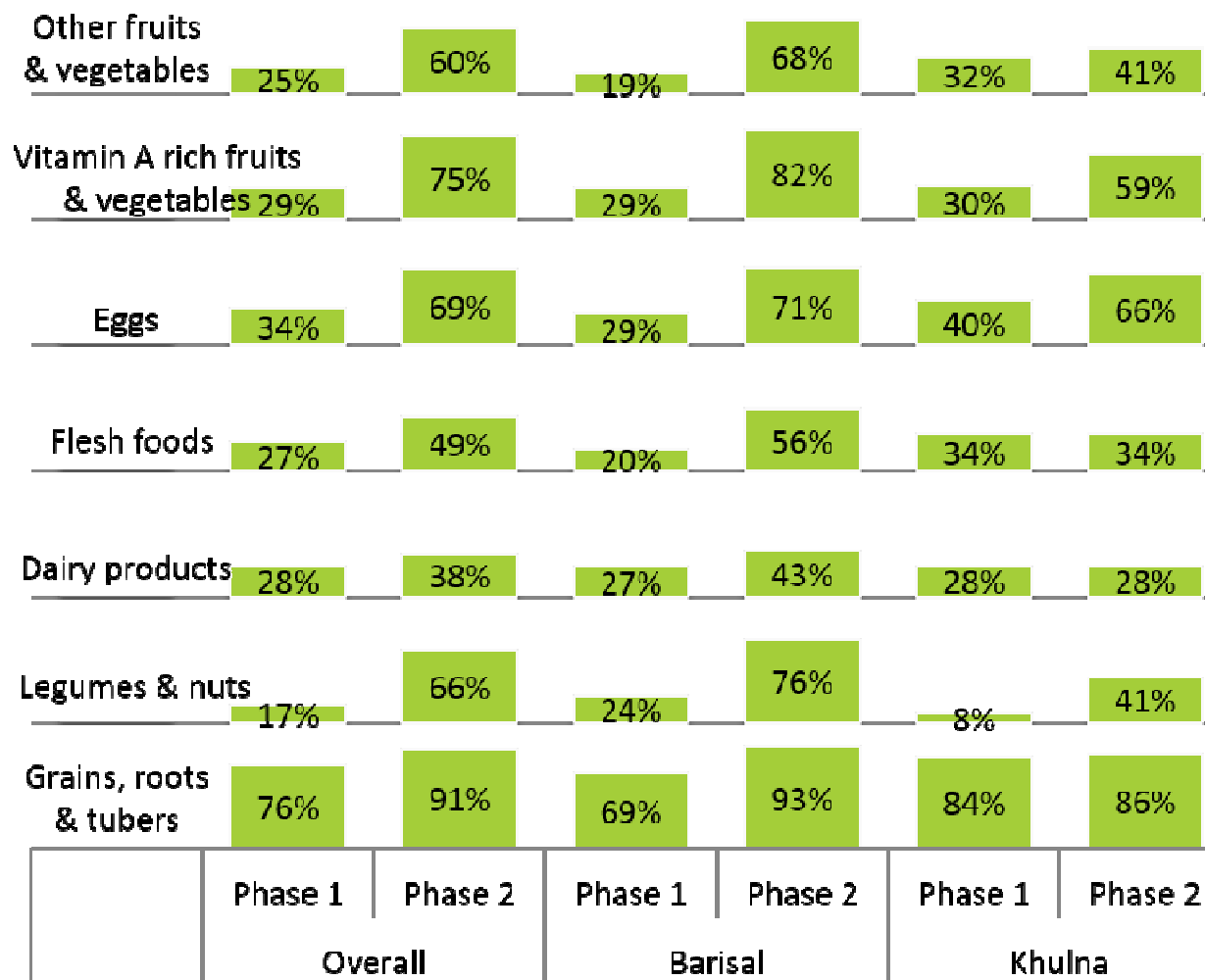
Examining the Outcomes of Farmer Nutrition Schools: A Cohort Study



Mean dietary diversity score of pregnant and lactating women



Improved dietary diversity in children (6-23 months)



Take Away Message

Farmer Nutrition Schools are one example of a low-cost, scalable, and evidence-based multisectoral intervention to improve access to and consumption of a more nutrient-dense and diverse diet at the community level using nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive approaches, simple technologies, and peer-to-peer learning.



ধন্যবাদ
Vielen Dank
Thank you