

SOCIAL SECURITY POLICY SUPPORT (SSPS) PROGRAMME MID-TERM EVALUATION: MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Updated Progress of Works based on MTR Recommendations

Sl. No.	Issues	Management Response	Progress 2023	Progress 2024	Timeframe for completion
01.	Supporting the ongoing work program and preparing for developing the next phase of the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS)	Support to NSSS 2026+ Development To expedite social protection reforms and support the development of the next-generation National Social Security Strategy (NSSS 2026+), with key milestones targeted for 2025–2026.	The next-generation NSSS 2026+ concept notes have been developed and shared with the Cabinet Division. They will be further consulted through a national dialogue in 2024.	<p>The policymakers of key ministries attended the Social Security Policy Support (SSPS) Program-organized national consensus-building workshop and agreed to expedite key social protection reform and the next generation of NSSS 2026+.</p> <p>In a reflection workshop, the SSPS Program appraised the new Cabinet Secretary about the progress of social protection reform, including the draft content of the next-generation NSSS, in an orientation workshop for the Secretaries of NSSS five thematic clusters. The Cabinet Secretary consented to reform and initiated the development of the next-generation NSSS.</p>	<p>Content discussion Aug-Sept 2025</p> <p>NSSS 2026 preparation work Dec 2025</p> <p>NSSS 2026 draft available Mar 2026</p> <p>Submit for Cabinet Approval May 2026</p>
02.	Policy advocacy to create adequate fiscal space and budgetary resources for fulfilling the social protection objectives	Advocacy for Fiscal Space Expansion To advocate for increased fiscal space and beneficiary		The SSPS Program supported the CMC subcommittee of the Action Plan Implementation Monitoring. The SSPS Program's firm persuasion of the	The support to the sub-committee will continue.

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		coverage, supported by an independent review to identify fiscal gaps during 2025–2026.		Government of Bangladesh (GoB) increased fiscal space and beneficiaries for Old Age Allowance (OAA), Widow Allowance, and persons with disabilities as per NSSS guidance.	The independent review of NSSS will identify gaps in fiscal spaces. And accordingly, SSPS program start advocacy with the government Will advocate for fiscal spaces. In Dec 2025-March 2026
03.	Building capacity to generate meaningful data and explore financial resources	Capacity Building on Data Interoperability Further capacity-building initiatives to be scheduled, focusing on data interoperability and fraud reduction		The capacity building of the Management Information System (MIS) officials of 38 ministries on interoperability based on API built confidence in MIS data sharing, reporting, and addressing fraudulence issues, minimizing ghost beneficiaries, and saving resources.	The newly developed Application Programming Interface (API) guideline-based capacity building will be arranged by April 2026.
04.	Identifying best practices and lessons learned that can be applied to future programs to enhance their effectiveness	Documentation of Best Practices Management to ensure that best practices in social protection reforms are documented and reflected in the Annual Reports starting from 2025.		Consensus-building consultative dialogues engaging key ministries proved to be an effective platform that allowed policymakers to openly discuss reform, impediments, program leakage, and the scope of discussion on the program's effectiveness, quick decision-making, and follow-up on key issues in governance meetings.	Best practices will be reflected in the Annual Report 2025 and 2026 onwards.

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05.	Completing the development of a comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) and a database for the social protection system	Monitoring & Evaluation System Enhancement A web-based M&E dashboard to be fully operational by December 2025 to support real-time monitoring of social protection reforms.	Developed a function web-based social protection M&E dashboard for monitoring reforms. Work is in progress on incorporating reform data into the dashboard.	The M&E dashboard is fully functional, ensuring immediate data and information supply to the policy level. Data analytics will give a new dimension to using data for policymaking.	The M&E dashboard will capture the introduction brief of individual SP programs of Bangladesh by December 2025.
06.	Establishing a Single Registry Management System and next steps for developing a social registry	Implementation of Single Registry System To continue discussions in Q3 2025 to advance the implementation of the single registry MIS, including IT solutions and dynamic social registries.	The Statistics and Information Division (SID) and Information and Communication (ICT) Division received orientation on the single registry MIS. The SSPS Program and developed a road map for developing a single registry MIS. The SSPS Program also provided TA support for this IT solution.	The SSPS Program organized a national consensus-building workshop, during which key policymakers of key ministries agreed on an Information and Technology (IT) solution for developing a single registry when the key national household database is useless. The SSPS Program also provided TA support to the Ministry of Finance's conceptualization of reporting social beneficiary registries under the iBASS++ system and G2P e-payment. The SSPS Program also provided support to the World Bank's concept of dynamic social registries under the Ministry of Social Welfare.	SSPS program will place the Single Registry/Dynamic Registry issue in Local Consultative Group (LCG) discussion in the Q3 of 2025.

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07.	Strengthening the social protection system for the urban poor	Urban Social Protection Strategy Findings from ongoing research on urban poverty and shock-responsive models to be shared with wider stakeholders and presented at relevant national platforms to inform NSSS 2026+.	The SSPS supported a study to develop a shock-responsive model for the urban poor to access benefits during crises.	The SSPS Program is conducting a study on rethinking urban poverty and social protection, which may strengthen the case for a new urban social protection program design and support the development of the chapter on urban social protection of NSSS next generation 2026+.	The SSPS Program will organize a Bangladesh social protection conference 2025 in April-May, allowing stakeholders to discuss urban issues based on research findings.
08.	Extending capacity-building support to other ministries, departments, and stakeholders based on robust assessments	Agency Capacity Assessment Tools Tools to assess the capacity of agencies and programs will be developed, with pilot assessments planned	Integrated coordination duties are included in the Annual Performance Agreement (APA) to hold ministries accountable.	The APA under the Interim Government is uncertain. The SSPS Program will take an alternate approach to developing tools to assess the capacity of the concerned agencies and programs' strengths and weaknesses as part of the pilot initiative development of the social protection sectoral plan. The Ministry of Social Welfare and Persons with disabilities could be the case of the pilot.	Tool development August-September 2025. Capacity Assessment Exercise in Nov 2025. A report will be available for dissemination in May 2026.
09.	Commissioning high-level policy engagement initiatives on specific issues	High-Level Policy Engagement Activities A national consensus-	Organized workshops and events to facilitate dialogue and	The SSPS Program organized a national consensus-building workshop, engaging very high-	Bangladesh Social Protection Conference in April/May 2025

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	to reach senior policymakers effectively	building workshop and a social protection conference to be scheduled to engage senior policymakers in reform discussions.	collaboration with senior policymakers.	level policymakers of key ministries of the GoB to discuss and reach a consensus on social protection reform and increase efficiency in social protection programs, beneficiaries, and budgets.	Change Management Committee (CMC) discussion in Feb, June, December 2025, March/April 2026
10.	Explore the feasibility and implications of different tax financing models on social protection initiatives and provide recommendations based on the research findings to optimize fiscal space and tax financing for social protection.	Exploration of Tax-Financed Models To explore tax-financed social protection models and develop a financing framework for dissemination by December 2025/January 2026.		The ToR for NSSS Final Review will allow the future scope of GoB financing for Bangladesh social protection programs and a framework. On the other hand, the SSPS Program partnership with ILO will ensure universal social protection provision in Bangladesh under a tax-financed system and its implementation strategy.	The National Social Insurance Scheme (NSIS) and social protection financing framework will be ready for wider dissemination and consultations in December 2025/ January 2026.
11.	Collaborate with BBS to enhance data generation and analysis capacity for social protection programs.	Improvement of Data Generation and Analysis To strengthen collaboration with BBS to improve data quality and analysis, contributing to the NSSS M&E reporting process		The HIES data analysis on hand capacity was started. The modules were merged. Exploring the use of Sample Vital Statistics for further social analysis is progressing. The changed leadership and key professional persons impact accessing data, and the newly developed White Paper raised many questions on the data quality of BBS. Data	Dec 2025

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				support was also provided to develop the NSSS M&E report.	
12.	Broaden the knowledge base and influence of NGOs working for marginalized and excluded groups, including Persons with Disabilities (PWD), in social protection decision-making and disability and marginalized population inclusive social protection programming.	NGO Engagement for Marginalized Groups To finalize and present the non-state actor report at the Bangladesh Social Protection Conference, contributing to the NSSS chapter on marginalized groups and persons with disabilities by December 2025.	The SSPS Program committed to developing a social protection framework for PwDs and launching a journalist forum.	A non-state actor report, with the participation of NGOs, OPDs, and the marginalized community, was finalized for dissemination. The report will be shared in the Bangladesh Social Protection Conference. A social protection framework for PwDs was developed and shared with OPDs, which will be finalized in the forthcoming conference. Both reports will shape the chapter on marginalized groups and PwDs of NSSS's next generation.	IDPD December 2025
13.	Conduct research and Pilot models of universal, target-based social protection addressing SP errors, Urban and shock-responsive social protection, and PwD.	Research and Piloting of Inclusive Models To support piloting of universal and targeted social protection models, including digital enrolment improvements for OAA, Widow, and PwD allowances, with field monitoring		The OAA, Widow, and PwDs are under the universal social protection system. However, universalism depends on how people use and feel comfort, understand, and access online to apply for allowance and the approval process. The digital divide is high. Recently, government was planning to redo the online enrolment for OAA, Widow, PwD allowances.	Field monitoring to oversee the enrolment process of OAA, Widow and PwD, in consultation with Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW), Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) on Q2, Q3, and Q4 of 2025.