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Topic: The impact of food systems on nutrition, diet and health

Title: Understating school children's knowledge and perception of beverage consumption patterns in Dhaka, Bangladesh

Presentation Type: Poster

In the low income countries like Bangladesh, a school based country wide study in 2014 has been demonstrated that among children, 9.6% were overweight and 3.5% children were obese. Children in Dhaka city were two times more likely being obese than children living in other cities in Bangladesh. The aim of the current research is to understand the risk factors associated with 'beverage consumption pattern' among schoolchildren in Dhaka in combination of 'sugary drinks consumption behavior' and 'environmental influences'.

In a baseline survey, seven divisions of Dhaka City Corporation of Bangladesh (Avg 600 children/divisions) encompassing 4,140 school children were surveyed to evaluate the prevalence of obesity. In the next step, a list of total 13 schools was formulated and invited; however only four schools were purposefully selected. All children from Grade 3 to Grade 5 will be surveyed with a 72-hour Beverage Intake Questionnaire. Semi-structured focus group discussions (FGDs) will be developed to discuss the information that parents and teachers share with children about sugary drink consumption, and their opinions on beverage advertisements, premium offers and collectibles with drinks, and child-oriented sugary drinks. For each FGDs participant a socio-economic questionnaire will be filled out. Besides, we will perform key informant interviews to focus more on knowledge about local food environment, attitude of their children and students to wards healthy food from their perspective.

The research will have influence to understand the need for establishing rules and regulations that promote non-sugary healthy drinks consumption by schoolchildren.