

Summary of findings and recommendations





# Health Financing Progress Matrix assessment Bangladesh 2021

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Health Financing Progress Matrix assessment, Bangladesh 2021: summary of findings and recommendations

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## About the Health Financing Progress Matrix

The Health Financing Progress Matrix (HFPM) is WHO's standardized qualitative assessment of a country's health financing system. The assessment builds on an extensive body of conceptual and empirical work and summarizes "what matters in health financing for UHC" into nineteen desirable attributes, which form the basis of the assessment. By identifying areas of strength and weakness in the current health financing system, together with priority policy directions, HFPM assessments complement monitoring of key quantitative indicators on service coverage and financial protection, now enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals agenda.

HFPM assessments can be implemented within a short time period and provide close-to-real time information for policy makers. Findings support the development of health financing strategies, technical alignment across government and external technical assistance agencies, and provide the basis for monitoring progress over time. The HFPM is the first instrument which allows the systematic tracking of the development and implementation of health financing policies which matter for UHC.

In summary, HFPM country assessments consists of two stages:

- Stage 1: a mapping of the health financing landscape consisting of a description of the key health coverage schemes in a country. For each, the key design elements are mapped, such as the basis for entitlement, benefits, and provider payment mechanisms, providing an initial picture of the extent of fragmentation in the health system.
- Stage 2: a detailed assessment of thirty-three areas of health financing policy. Each question builds on one or more desirable attribute of health financing and is linked to relevant intermediate objectives and the final goals of UHC.

Further details about the HFPM are available here:

 $\underline{https://www.who.int/teams/health-systems-governance-and-financing/health-financing/diagnostics/health-financing/progress-matrix}$ 

#### **About this report**

This Health Financing Progress Matrix high-level summary report provides a concise summary, based on the response and rating for each assessment question, of the key strengths and weaknesses in a country's health financing system.

Using the structure of assessment areas and the desirable attributes of health financing system, the report identifies key areas of health financing policy which need to be addressed to drive progress towards UHC. Looking both at the current situation, and what needs to happen in the future, helps to identify the priority areas for further analytical work, technical support, and implementation.

Also included in this report is the latest information on how the country is performing on key UHC indicators (SDG 3.8.1 and 3.8.2), together with key health expenditure indicators.

Detailed responses for each question are available in a separate annex and can also be found on the HFPM Country Assessment database.

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