

Investing in Health

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Presentation Overview

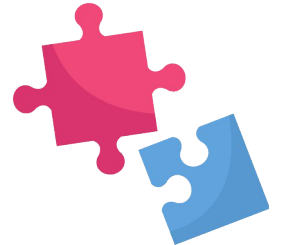


Background

Progress and
Achievements

Challenges

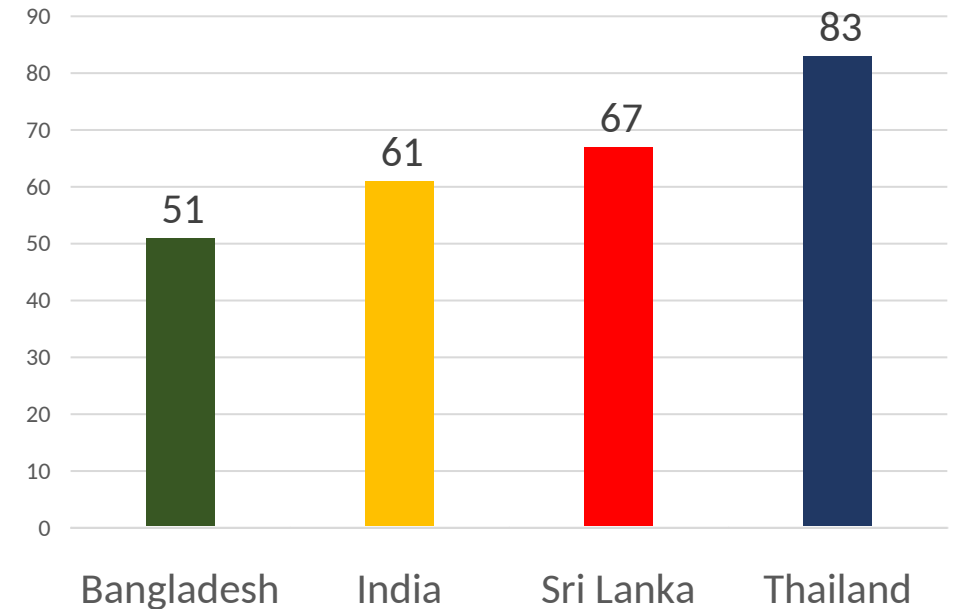
Recommendations



Background

- Bangladesh performed well in achieving health Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with modest investment in health
- Achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) require a big push to reform the health systems and move away from treating disease to creating health
- Around 66% population in working-age group (15-64 years), providing opportunity to enhance productivity and support economic growth through greater investments in health

UHC Service Coverage Index 2019 (SDG 3.8.1):*

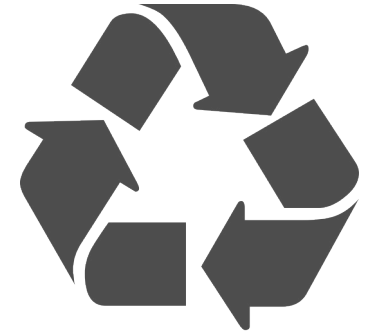


*Source:

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.UHC.SRVS.CV.XD>

Background

- Aging of population
- Emerging new infectious diseases
- Increasing burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs)
- Increasing demand for health care
- Innovation of new medicines and medical devices
- Effects of socio-economic-environmental changes



Challenges: Health Financing

- Overall low expenditure on health
 - WHO recommends to spend USD 88 per capita on health, Bangladesh spends USD 42 per capita
- Low public sector expenditure on health: 5% of national annual budget
- Under utilisation of resources; inefficiency in resource use
- High out-of-pocket payments for healthcare
- Catastrophic health expenditure (increased from 14.8% in 2000 to 26.1% in 2016)
- Low levels of health insurance coverage

Source	1997		2020	
	Spending (current BDT billion)	% THE	Spending (current BDT billion)	% THE
OOP	26.1	55.9	532.7	68.5
Government	16.9	36.1	179.7	23.1
Development partners (contribute directly to NGOs)	2.7	5.8	38.9	5.0
NGOs	0.5	1.0	13.4	1.7
Private sector	0.6	1.3	12.5	1.6

Challenges: Shortage of health personnel

Grades	DGHS		DGFP		DGNM	
	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant	Sanctioned	Vacant
Grade 1-9	38,056	7,253 (19%)	748 (General)	361 (48%)	915	660 (72%)
			1636 (Medical)	686 (42%)		
Grade 10	1,195	584 (49%)	1,163	932 (80%)	47,820	4,106 (9%)
11-16	72,881	24,350 (33%)	17,997	5,003(28%)	972	310 (32%)
17-20	30,538	15,865 (52%)	32,651	9,939 (30%)	768	257 (33%)
Total	142,670	48,052 (34%)	54,195	16,921 (31%)	50,475	5,333 (11%)

Source: HRH data sheet, MOHFW, 2023

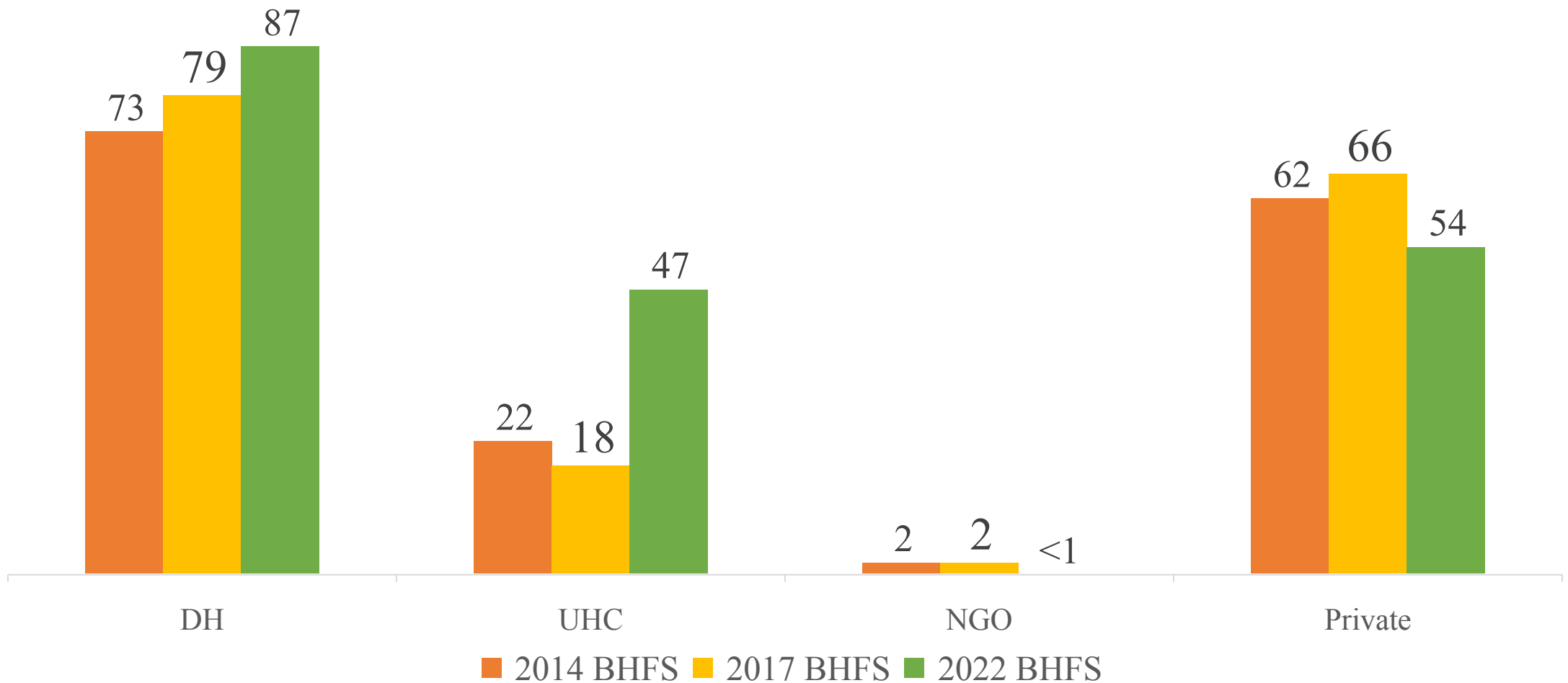
Challenges

Area	Challenges
Human resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Salary based payment mechanism - less incentives – less motivation• Inadequate capacity of PFM - planning, budgeting, audit
Medicine and equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High price of medicine• Inadequate and non-functional equipment
Service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sub-optimal quality of care• Urban primary health care – neglected• No structured referral systems
Governance and leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unregulated private sector• Non-coordination• Lack of strategic mechanisms to purchase from private sector

Challenges: Inadequate infrastructure and equipment

Percentage of Health Facilities (public) having functioning x-ray machine, by facility type

Source: Bangladesh Health Facility Survey (2014-2022)



Recommendations

- Long-term commitments are essential to achieve and sustain universal health coverage
- Short-term wins are also important to gain public support for reforms
- Economic growth is not sufficient to ensure equitable health coverage, policies and appropriate measures need to be taken to allocate and redistribute resources as per need, and reduce inequity in access to affordable and quality health care

Recommendations

Immediate to short term strategies

- Update the Essential Service Package (ESP)
- Update the National List of Essential Medicine
- Model hospital for integrated healthcare
- Initiate a pilot project in one district to strengthen primary health care (rural) and document the lessons learnt for future scale up
- Strengthen urban PHC

Immediate to short term strategies

- Design and implement social and behaviour change communications (SBCC)
- Increase capacity of PFM and resolve the pending audit objections
- Promote digitalisation and use of technology
- Detail implementation plan for phase out of SWAp
- Encourage Foreign Direct Investment

Medium to long-term strategies

- Initiatives to reduce drug price
- Private sector regulation
- Develop career path for health professional
- Initiate institutional reforms
- Set strategic direction for health care financing
- Policy review
- Address challenges related to environment and climate change

THANK YOU