

## **Platform for Healthier Diets Workshop: Bangladesh Stakeholder Meeting 2018**

On 20 November 2018, the CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH) held a workshop for stakeholders in Bangladesh on the Platform for Healthier Diets. The session was organized by A4NH Lead Center the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and Wageningen University and Research (WUR), which leads A4NH's Food Systems for Healthier Diets flagship research program. The objective of this daylong meeting was to share the findings of a web- and desk-based review of the platform initiatives to see the broad range of diverse initiatives and collaborations working on food security, food safety, nutrition, and agriculture for nutrition.

FSDH Flagship Leader Inge Brouwer, of WUR, updated participants on the learnings of complex food system issues and how food systems are important in shaping healthier diet practices. Marion Herens from WUR presented findings, explaining the web-based search that gave a small picture of platforms and agencies working on nutrition and diets concepts. The secondary analysis of the data shows the presence of 24 national-level platforms, or multiple actors working for a single cause, are working towards the nutrition goals in Bangladesh. However, not a single platform is directly involved with healthier diets – instead, they are more concentrated on malnutrition. Major agencies such as BRAC, the US Agency for International Development, and Save The Children, who have been working in the nutrition platform, were highlighted. Local NGOs with nutrition-focused approaches to projects, such as LANSAs and SHUCHONA, were found interlinked.

Armed with these findings, participants were asked to apply their knowledge of direct linkages to redesign the stakeholders. This mapping exercise was a unique group project, diving into details. The members chose three platforms: the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Business Network, the National Nutrition Services, and BSAFE. The groups also elaborated on work relations among various agencies and platforms and ranked influential agencies across the platform.