

Status of Rice Fortification in Bangladesh

- ❖ Started in 2013 with 30,000 beneficiaries of VGD program,
- ❖ Acceptability Survey in 2014; well accepted
- ❖ Effectiveness Survey in 2017; reduced vitamin A & Zinc deficiencies along with diarrhea and fever-related diseases
- ❖ Scaled-up; now 8 million beneficiaries through Government's Social Safety-Net Program (VGD Program- 2 million & Food Friendly Program- 6 million)
- ❖ School Feeding Program through Food Fortification supported by WFP is covering 3 million primary students

Production-status and Way Forward

- ❖ Producing 1 million MT fortified rice per year
- ❖ 2 testing laboratories, 8 kernel producers, about 100 blending units all over the country
- ❖ Local technology supported by WFP
- ❖ Cost increased 5-6% of the basic price of rice
- ❖ Government is interested in scaling-up the process, encouraging private sector to invest for commercial sale
- ❖ We consider rice fortification is a cost-effective approach to address micronutrient deficiencies
- ❖ So the country is moving forward to make fortified rice available to all

Thanks a lot
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